

^{the} Bridge

July/August 2026

A community magazine for Bridport
supported by churches in the town



**CELEBRATING
10 YEARS OF**



Inside the magazine:

- We meet Melplash President Peter Hardwill
- It's fun to play – and more – at the BYCC
- Four foodie businesses feeding Bridport
- Nature's buzzing at the community orchard

THE PARISH OF BRIDPORT

Team Rector vacant

Interim Team Rector

The Revd Cally Burch Day off Friday
cally@parishofbridport.org / 07746 561144

Associate Priests

The Revd Lorna Johnson Day off Saturday
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The Revd John Rees Day off Monday
john@parishofbridport.org / 07340 589375

Permission to officiate

The Revd Janis Moore Day off Wednesday
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The Revd Margaret Preuss-Higham
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Diana Wright, Caroline Cooke, Anne Rees, Jane Trower,
Kathrine O'Brien, Virginia Bowley, Helen Thomas.
*If you cannot get to church and would like home
communion or a visit, please contact Diana (456967).*

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Bookings at www.hallbookingonline.com/bradpole
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OTHER CHURCHES IN BRIDPORT

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The Christian Fellowship 458227

St Mary & St Catherine (Roman Catholic)

Father Colin Groombridge / Faith Leborgne (secretary)
bridport@predtr.org.uk 07544 595633

Bridport Quaker Meeting

clerka@bridportquakers.org
Room hire enquiries roomhire@bridportquakers.org

United Church (Methodist & United Reformed)

The Revd Jane Wilson 341159
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Jane Clinton, secretary bucchurchsec@gmail.com

*All phone numbers are Bridport (01308) unless
otherwise stated.*

The advertising and copy deadline for the September 2026 issue is 5pm on Monday 10 August

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Advertising rates appear at www.thebridgemagazine.org/advertising. If you have an idea for an article, please contact the editor. Otherwise send copy to parish editors (details in Parish Pages) at least three days before the deadline, or a week for handwritten/typed copy. We cannot guarantee to include unsolicited contributions.

Opinions expressed in The Bridge are not necessarily those of either the editorial team or the clergy. While we make every effort to ensure the accuracy of the magazine's contents, we cannot accept responsibility for information given or claims made by our contributors or advertisers.

Celebrating the best of rural life by the sea

Farmers, food producers and rural families across the South West will be flocking to Bridport for this year's Melplash Agricultural Show on Thursday 27 August.

With a packed programme of livestock competitions, countryside skills, food experiences and main ring entertainment, the event is one of the biggest one-day celebrations of farming in the region.

This year, as always, farming is firmly at the show's heart. Livestock classes for cattle, pigs, sheep and goats, offer farmers of all ages the chance to compete (competition schedules are at melplashshow.co.uk).

Alongside the main classes, there will be opportunities for young handlers and farming families to get involved in the floral and homecraft competitions, reinforcing the show's commitment to supporting the next generation of rural talent.

A visit to the Discover Farming area is a must for all families. The marquees will be packed with free 'farm to food' activities to help educate children about the essential role farmers have in bringing food to the table and in protecting the countryside.

Visitors can explore more than 400 trade stands, meet local producers, and discover the latest innovations in farming and land management. The Symonds Estate Food Hall and Moores Biscuits Cookery Theatre will showcase regional flavours, artisan producers and live demonstrations from chefs celebrating the area's rich food culture.

The Countryside Area brings together rural crafts, traditional skills and countryside sports, including gun dogs, falconry and demonstrations that highlight the heritage and expertise of rural life.

Highlights in the main ring include: BrokeFX motorbike stunt displays; the Shetland Grand National; showjumping; a tractor pull; and the show's crowning glory, the parade of award-winning animals.

The Melplash Show is a day out for the whole rural community – whether you're a farmer entering livestock, a food producer showcasing your work, or a family looking for a great day out, the show remains one of the most important annual gatherings for the region's agricultural community. It's a place to compete, celebrate and connect.



MELPLASH SHOW

THURSDAY 27th AUGUST



CELEBRATING FARMING & RURAL LIFE BY THE SEA!





Buy Early Bird tickets and save!

Adult Advance Ticket **£23.50** (on the day £26 card only)

FREE ADMISSION FOR CHILDREN AGED 16 YEARS & UNDER



Advance ticket savings available now online

For more information visit www.melplashshow.co.uk





JULY 2026 – see below for an explanation of the abbreviations						
Date	St Mary's Bridport	St Swithun's Allington	Holy Trinity Bothenhampton	Holy Trinity Bradpole	St Mary's Walditch	St John's West Bay
Wed 1	2.30pm HC					
Thurs 2		10am Eucharist				
Sun 5 <i>Trinity 5</i>	8am BCP HC	4pm CC (hall)				10am Parish HC service
Mon 6						10am MPR
Tues 7				2.30pm HC		
Wed 8		2pm Centering Prayer* (hall)				
Thur 9		10am Eucharist 3.30pm Wild & Messy Church				
Sun 12 <i>Trinity 6</i>	8am BCP HC 11am All Age MPR	9.30am Eucharist	11am HC	9.30am MP	11am MPR	11am HC
Mon 13						10am MPR
Sun 19 <i>Trinity 7</i>	8am BCP HC 11am MP	9.30am MPR		9.30am HC 11.30am Baptism		
Mon 20						10am MPR
Wed 22		2pm Centering Prayer* (hall)				
Thurs 23		10am Eucharist				
Sun 26 <i>Trinity 8</i>	8am BCP HC 11am HC	9.30am Eucharist	11am Pet service	9.30am MP	11am HC	11am MP
Mon 27						10am MPR
Thurs 30		10am Eucharist				

ST. SWITHUN'S CHURCH
Allington Bridport, DT6 5DU
SATURDAY 18 JULY 2.30 – 4.30 PM
ST. SWITHUN'S BRASS BAND
FANCY DRESS COMPETITION for Children and Adults
Home Produce Stall
Tombola, Raffle
Fun and Games,
Teddy Bears Tombola




CREAM TEA
EXTRA PARKING AT AMSAFE
FREE ENTRY ALL WELCOME

HC = Holy Communion / BCP = Book of Common Prayer / CC = Contemplative Church / MP = Morning Praise / MPR = Morning Prayer *Centering Prayer takes place on the second and fourth Wednesdays. For details email carolinepuntismoore@gmail.com

Coffee morning: At St Swithun's, Allington, there is a community coffee morning in the hall on the first Thursday of each month from 9.30 to 11.15am. Free coffee, cakes and snacks plus a raffle in aid of a local charity. All welcome!



AUGUST 2026

Date	St Mary's Bridport	St Swithun's Allington	Holy Trinity Bothenhampton	Holy Trinity Bradpole	St Mary's Walditch	St John's West Bay
Sun 2 <i>Trinity 9</i>	8am BCP HC 10am Parish HC service	4pm CC (hall)				
<i>Mon 3</i>						10am MPR
<i>Tues 4</i>				2.30pm HC		
<i>Wed 5</i>	2.30pm HC					
<i>Thur 6</i>		10am Eucharist				
Sun 9 <i>Trinity 10</i>	8am BCP HC	9.30am Eucharist	11am HC	9.30am MP	11am MPR	11am All Age HC
<i>Mon 10</i>						10am MPR
<i>Wed 12</i>		2pm Centering Prayer* (hall)				
<i>Thurs 13</i>		10am Eucharist 3.30pm Wild & Messy Church				
Sun 16 <i>Trinity 11</i>	8am BCP HC 11am MP	9.30am MPR		9.30am HC		
<i>Mon 17</i>						10am MPR
Sun 23 <i>Trinity 12</i>	8am BCP HC 11am HC	9.30am Eucharist	11am Matins	9.30am MP	11am HC	11am MP
<i>Mon 24</i>						10am MPR
<i>Wed 26</i>		2pm Centering Prayer* (hall)				
<i>Thurs 27</i>		10am Eucharist				
Sun 30 <i>Trinity 13</i>	8am BCP HC 11am MPR	9.30am Eucharist	4pm Choral Evensong	9.30am HC		
<i>Mon 31</i>						10am MPR

SEPTEMBER 2026

<i>Tues 1</i>				2.30pm HC		
<i>Wed 2</i>	2.30pm HC					
<i>Thurs 3</i>		10am Eucharist				
Sun 6 <i>Creation- tide</i>	8am BCP HC	10am Parish HC service 4pm CC (hall)				
<i>Mon 7</i>						10am MPR
<i>Wed 9</i>		2pm Centering Prayer* (hall)				
Sun 13	8am BCP HC 11am All Age HC	9.30am Eucharist	11am HC	9.30am MP	11am MPR	11am HC
<i>Mon 14</i>						10am MPR

The September services are subject to change, so please check details in that month's magazine (published 27 August) before setting out.

News in brief

Supporting the young from Cradle to Career

An ambitious project to improve the lives of young people launched in Bridport in mid-June. Cradle to Career is a 10-year programme that will take a whole-community approach to providing support from early childhood through to adulthood and employment. At a lively interactive meeting at the BYCC, Adam Shelley, head teacher at The Sir John Colfox Academy, presented the project to a group including representatives from education, business, health, media and the public and voluntary sectors.

The Bridge will feature the Cradle to Career programme in more detail later this year.

Landscape through the Kaleidoscope

A group of eight local artists have an exhibition called Kaleidoscope at Eype Centre for the Arts, near Bridport, from 23 July to 2 August. Alison Boyland, Sally Bowsher, Richard Corbett, Jane Coxhill, Deborah Harris, Tash Hayball and Hank Harp all live within 15 miles of Eype and have joined together to present a show of colourful paintings, drawings and prints inspired by the landscape of the Jurassic Coast. Open 10.30am to 4.30pm daily; admission free.

Enjoy Jurassic Fields this August

This year's Jurassic Fields music festival takes place from Friday 14 to Sunday 16 August in West Bay Fields near Broomhills Farm. Headline acts include Scouting For Girls, Feeder and Goldie Lookin Chain, and there are free children's activities every day. The second release of tickets runs until 5 July; adult prices from £40.70 (single day, no camping). jurassicfieldsfestival.com

Joyful artworks on display at Salisbury

Joyful Noise is a new contemporary art exhibition at Salisbury Cathedral with works by multiple internationally renowned artists. The show brings together painting, sculpture, text, video and sound artworks to explore how joyful noise can affirm presence, belief, community and care. The exhibition is on until 25 October and entry is included with general admission to the cathedral. salisburycathedral.org.uk/joyful-noise-art-exhibition

The Churches Together tent at a previous Melpash Show



Churches Together in Bridport & District What's on in July and August

On the Village Green at the Melpash Show you will find the Churches Together tent.



Outside will be simple crafts for children and toys to play with, while inside will be a refreshment area with cake, biscuits and drinks. We will also have our popular changing area for babies and small children and a quiet feeding area. We will be happy to see you. The show date is Thursday 27 August. Donations of cake can be given in at Bridport United Church during their coffee morning on Wednesday 26 August. Please remember to supply a list of ingredients with the cake.

Pray Bridport is at 6pm on Tuesday 14 July at the Beacon Church. We will not be holding this in August so the following one will be on Tuesday 8 September at the Christian Fellowship.

Please come and support our services on The Green at West Bay on Sundays in August at 4pm (not 30 August). For further details please look out for posters.

There will be a Tea and Chat in July at the Christian Fellowship but I have not yet received a firm date, so again look out for a poster in your church.

Heather Purse, Secretary, CTiBD

If you enjoy The Bridge, and would like to make a donation towards our expenses, please visit www.thebridgemagazine.org/donate-to-our-work for a link to our Charities Aid Foundation page.

Grateful thanks to those of our readers who have already donated.

Our magnificent humanity

I am on the committee of the Association for Church Editors (it's ACE!) and I have agreed to lead a session at their conference in September.

The organisers have asked me to speak about Artificial Intelligence (AI) and what it can offer people who work on publications like this one. But as I start to think about what I'm going to say, I find myself planning a presentation about the nascent threat AI presents to the humanity of those using it for creative tasks.

For the March 2025 issue of *The Bridge*, I used an AI feature in my desktop publishing software to create our cover image, a March hare. It worked really well, but as soon as the magazine had gone to press, I felt guilty. I have quite a few friends who are artists: what would they think? I would never use AI for writing – the process of putting words together is sacred to me – so how could I use a machine to clone someone else's creative practice?

In his recent encyclical *Magnifica Humanitas* (Magnificent Humanity), Pope Leo urges caution in AI development, suggests that the technology should support us in striving for a life of "openness and communion", and stresses that humans are not projects to be optimised. No machine can replace the magnificence of the human person, flaws and all – and surely this is a meaningful statement, whether or not you believe in God.

Of course, AI is inevitably going to be central to many areas of life – in medicine, for instance, it will be a literal lifesaver – but I hope in other fields we will continue to feel our humanity through the process of doing the work, even if we get it wrong.

The US poet Joseph Fasano has written much on this topic, including a poem called 'For a student who used AI to write a paper'. Here's an excerpt:

I hear you. I know
this life is hard now.
I know your days are precious
on this earth.
But what are you trying
to be free of?
The living? The miraculous
task of it?

Olivia Daly, Editor



Olivia Daly, Editor

A good-news fishy tale

Every family has favourite tales of adventures.

One of my family legends is a fishing trip that my mother and younger brother, aged about 10, took one summer in West Bay in the late '80s.

My mum wanted to fulfil my brother's adventurous request to go deep sea fishing for conger eels. Off they went; my brother was a natural, while my mum was horribly seasick and while recovering in the fishing boat wheelhouse came face to face with a six-foot conger eel – teeth bared – that had recovered from being stunned and had slithered out of its fish locker.

Back then there was little awareness of Lyme Bay's beautiful reefs and wealth of marine life, and fish were being devastated by overfishing. Beam trawlers, back in the news now, were making desert-like motorways on the seabed as fishermen dragged weighted beams and nets to gather up valuable scallops and overfished lobster and crab.

Then something remarkable happened. In 2011 some passionate people formed a partnership between the Blue Marine Foundation (a marine conservation charity), local fishermen, scientists and local councils. In a tense first meeting, the challenges were bravely and clearly laid out; fisherman were for the first time asked for solutions, and scientists monitored these solutions in action. The good news is that the seabed and its creatures are now regenerating, fishermen are making a sustainable living, and this home-grown solution is being shared with other coastal communities.

The Parish of Bridport team will share this story with visitors at the St John's West Bay Come and Sea events (see ad on page 8 for details) and there's more info online at lymebayreserve.co.uk.

Christians believe we all have gifts and are called by Jesus to use them for the common good so desolate sites can become places where all flourish and thrive. If you went snorkelling in Lyme Bay today you would see this for yourself... but watch out for the conger eels!

Your local church believes you have gifts, too, so if you need support discovering and using them, come and see us!

The Revd Lorna Johnson, Associate Priest

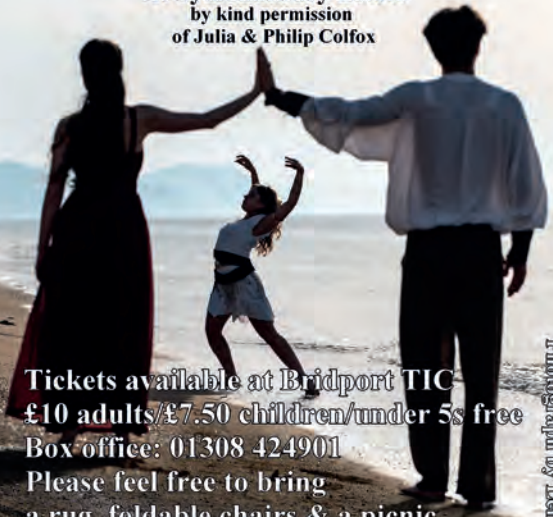


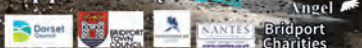
**The Revd
Lorna Johnson**

BRIDPORT YOUTH DANCE contemporary company presents
Choreography Geography

The Homecoming

An adaptation of Homer's *The Odyssey*
Produced by Nikki Northover
Friday 28th August 2pm & 6pm
At Symondsbur Estate
by kind permission
of Julia & Philip Colfox



Tickets available at Bridport TIC
£10 adults/£7.50 children/under 5s free
Box office: 01308 424901
Please feel free to bring
a rug, foldable chairs & a picnic.
Supported by:  An Anonymous
Angel

Photograph by Len Copland

Celebrating
25 years
of BYD

Bridport Stage Company has now raised over
£10,000 for Samaritans through their last four shows.
They are a fully inclusive company and particularly
open to 'newbies' of all ages with no experience.
Their next show is an all-new version of Cabaret.
**The read-through is on Monday 6 July at The
Bull Hotel.** Contact tasterella@hotmail.co.uk for info.



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FREE Fun Holiday Activities this summer 8 - 9 August

The Parish of Bridport

COME and SEA

for accompanied children and adults

St John's Church West Bay & Harbour Green
Saturday 8th August Activities: 10.30am - 4pm
Sunday 9th August 11am Church Service
Activities 12 noon - 4pm



Bridport Stage Company presents an all-new version of

CABARET



See left for details
of how to get
involved...



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A record total for this year's Christian Aid Week

Jill Henderson, the local organiser for Christian Aid Week, writes...



THANK YOU!

Weary walkers, history talkers,
Quizzical thinkers, coffee drinkers,
Street collectors, car boot sellers,
Cake bakers and Lent Lunch makers,
Envelope droppers – lots and lots of
E-envelope gifters and techy wizards
Of sound, screen and contactless givers.
All these kindly people made us
Record-breaking Christian Aiders!

We raised an impressive total of £7,342.74, made up of:

Lent Lunches	£725.00
Events	£4,872.24
E-envelope donations	£641.25
'70K in May' sponsorships	£1,104.25

Thank you so much to everyone who helped make 2026 an outstanding year for Christian Aid Week – and particularly to the people and parishioners of Bridport who responded so positively and generously.

The money will help the people living in Dagoretti in Nairobi, Kenya, to escape poverty. People like Fridah Moraa (*pictured*), a mother and grandmother who lives with her twin 13-year-old sons, Eliud and Abiud, plus her daughter and four-year-old grandson, Quillan, in a



Pictured: urban farmer Fridah Moraa is growing crops and making a living, thanks to Christian Aid's work in Nairobi, Kenya

rented corrugated metal shelter with no running water and shared toilet facilities. She used to buy vegetables from a wholesaler (a two-hour round trip) six days a week to sell on her market stall.

Happily, Fridah's life has changed, thanks to Christian Aid's local partner, Beacon of Hope. They are training aspiring urban farmers like Fridah to cultivate their own vegetables in small unused city spaces, using tools and ingenious techniques to make the most of every inch of ground. Fridah now has a small urban 'farm' hidden at the end of a concrete alley where she grows her own nutritious produce to feed her family as well as to sell.



The Revd Ann Ayling (pictured far left) retired from active ministry after the parish service at Walditch on 7 June. She is shown above with the Revds Janis Moore and Margaret Preuss-Higham – they have all known each other since their time at theological college. See page 22 for more about Ann's special day.

Announcement

A big move for Lorna

The Revd Lorna Johnson, Associate Priest in the Parish of Bridport, has been appointed Community Missioner and Parish Priest of Holy Trinity Weymouth. She will be licensed for this new role on 17 September.

Holy Trinity is Weymouth's harbour church and has an inclusive, Anglo-Catholic ethos. Lorna will also minister in the next-door parish of Wyke Regis and in south Weymouth, engaging children, young people and families.

"I am hugely grateful to everyone who has played a part in my formation, training and ongoing journey of living out the wonder of this Christian life that we are all exploring and trying to share with others," says Lorna. "It is a dear hope that we can share notes on Anglo-Catholic mission and what Wild and Messy Church and Come and Sea do next, and all the other wonderful mission initiatives you will be up to in Bridport. Please pray for me; I will continue to pray for you all every day."

The Revd Cally Burch, Interim Rector, says: "I am sure you will all join me in wishing Lorna well on this next exciting stage in her journey of Christian leadership. She is ideally suited to her new role, which is the obvious next step for her in ministry. Of course we are sad to see her go and we will miss her, but one of Lorna's great strengths is her prayerful ability to work with others to develop initiatives that God is leading the whole community towards. Lorna goes with our blessing and with gratitude for all that she has done for this parish."

Could you deliver The Bridge?

The Bridge's delivery network has a few gaps and we'd love to recruit some new volunteers so our existing distributors don't have to double up.

We are currently looking for people to cover the following areas: West Bay Road (you'd collect your copies from St John's West Bay), East Road (St Mary's Walditch), Wanderwell Farm Lane and Bridport Community Hospital (St Mary's Bridport).

There are 10 issues a year. Please contact me (details on p2) if you can help or for delivery dates.
Olivia Daly, Editor

News about Piano Play Dates at St Swithun's

Piano Play Dates have been running monthly at St Swithun's for two years, but are taking an enforced break this summer and autumn.

The interior of St Swithun's is badly in need of repair and redecoration and, during the autumn, the church will become a building site. It will be dusty, messy work and the piano and organ will be out of action; they will need to be 'shrink wrapped' to protect them. All this means that St Swithun's will be a music-less place for a while.

Watch this space, however, and when the work is all finished, we will have a glorious, noisy celebration to welcome our newly refurbished interior!

Mandi Sturrock



An email scam close to home

In early June a scammer impersonated the Revd Cally Burch by sending fake emails to random members of the congregation. At least 18 people notified the parish office that they had received such an email.

The scammer sent their emails from *callyparishbridport@gmail.com*, which is not an address that Cally owns or uses. They asked the recipients to buy vouchers or gift cards (Apple, Boots, etc.) and to email photos of these vouchers by return.

Please, if you receive a similar email purporting to be from Cally – or anyone else – do not respond. You can report fake emails like this to report@phishing.gov.uk.

If you have interacted with a fake email, thinking it was genuinely from someone you know, please report your interaction by calling 0300 123 2040 or online via www.reportfraud.police.co.uk.

It is always advisable to contact the person by phone or a different (confirmed) email address if you receive a request by email asking you to spend money.



Still time to visit Short Ends at Bridport Museum

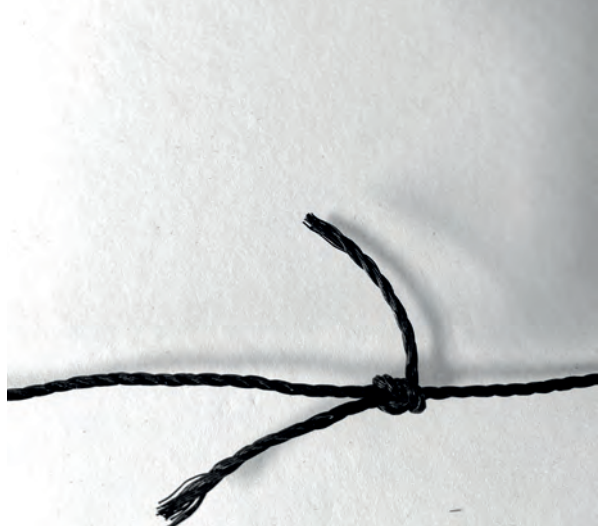
An exhibition exploring Bridport's historic rope- and net-making industries is running until 16 July at Bridport Museum.

Short Ends, by Portland artist Carrie Mason, features contemporary sculpture, drawing and installation inspired by the museum's internationally significant rope and net collection, the Sanctuary Collection.

The exhibition follows Mason's 2025 residency at Bridport Museum, where she researched objects and materials connected to the town's rope- and net-making heritage — industries that have shaped Bridport for more than 800 years.

Bridport Museum's rope- and net-related items form its most significant collection and include historic net-making machines alongside samples of rope, twine and net. In 2012, the museum acquired the Sanctuary Collection from the former Museum of Rope and Net in Uploders, creating a unique and comprehensive archive of this important local industry. The collection was named after Anthony Sanctuary, once a director of Bridport Gundry, and his wife Frances, who together collected the images and objects.

Carrie Mason works across drawing, sculpture and printmaking, and her practice explores repetitive hand processes and the physical act of making, using techniques such as knotting, twining and basketry to create sculptural forms. During her residency, she selected a number of objects from the collection that inspired the works now on display alongside her contemporary responses.



"I learned so much during my residency," she says. "I made rope and net with the volunteers and really got an understanding of the materials and processes involved. And the opportunity to delve behind the scenes into the Sanctuary Collection archive was invaluable; the wealth of treasures there provided so much inspiration for the work in the exhibition. It will also inspire new work as I continue with my Time & Twine project, which has been kindly supported by Bridport Museum and funded by Arts Council England."

Bridport Museum is open 10am to 4pm, Tuesday to Saturday, and admission to the exhibition is included in the price of an annual pass (£5).



Bridport Mayor Cllr Jonathan Bourbon opened the 22nd Bridport Food Festival on Saturday 13 June. He was joined by the Revd Cally Burch, Interim Rector, who added a prayer and finished with the appropriate words, "For what we are about to receive, may we be truly thankful!"

The festival was as popular as ever – helped by the glorious sunny weather – with delicious food and drink from nearly 100 traders based in and around Bridport, as well as a huge range of activities.

Local food network Bridport Food Matters inspired and delighted visitors to their Big Tea Tent, which was sponsored by Oxford's Bakery. The tent offered refreshments alongside a series of 'live podcasts', with speakers including Lily Brett of Edible Acre, Lucinda Ackland of Modbury Farm Shop and Peter Lemmey of Liberty Farm.

From home cooking to fine dining:

Hypothetically, readers, writes Annette Shaw, if you attempted to count all the places to eat and drink on the final approach to West Bay you'd run out of fingers.

Add in Bridport and it would be a five-bar-gate project. Having so much choice is awesome. Choosing wisely can add even more to a culinary experience – particularly relevant in the current economic climate, and while being mindful about our health.

A new book, *The Age Code*, by specialist health and medical journalist Dr David Cox, is a science-based yet highly accessible guide to the process of biological ageing. The perils of ultra-processed foods have been widely reported and David guides us towards positive options, pinpointing the steps we can all take to enhance our wellbeing and live longer.



To this end, we visited four local businesses from home cooking to fine dining, each with its own unique selling point (USP), to discuss their passionate approach to real food.

Pictured: Sue Smith serving breakfasts at Windy Corner Café



Windy Corner Café, West Bay

With sea views, fishing boats bobbing in the harbour and music in the background, the family-run Windy Corner at West Bay ticks all the boxes. There's always a happy atmosphere and a sizzling English breakfast comes in three portion sizes, from £8.95.

Sue Smith is a partner in this family business. "We use local suppliers," she says, "and with eggs, beans, tomatoes, bacon and toast cooked to order, this is a hearty start to the day." She's right. Whatever the weather, being up and out, connecting with the world, is uplifting. "A cheery welcome, views of the Jurassic Coast and yards

Lovely Lunches (also trading as Eggardon Country Cooks)

Each Sunday – that's roast day – Shirley Jarman and her team cook up to 50 meals served with seasonal vegetables, roasties and great gravy. "We have a range of lunches during the week," says Shirley. "Unsurprisingly, the traditional weekend option is the most popular, freshly prepared in our kitchen and with free delivery to your dining table."

From their base in Nettlecombe, Shirley's drivers cover Axminster to Dorchester via Bridport and villages. Each order is presented on white crockery in thermal boxes that are collected the following day. "We have several customers over the age of 100! Also families, single households, holidaymakers in cottages, and quite a few farmers."

Regular portions are £14 for two courses. Smaller sizes are available and Shirley will cater for other dietary requirements.

USP: Eating together at home with defined financial boundaries. All you need is the cutlery!
lovelylunches.co.uk



Pictured: Shirley Jarman (far left) and the team at Lovely Lunches/Eggardon Country Cooks; a fresh, home-cooked roast delivered to your door (below)



delicious choices across the town

from the beach. Or just pop in for a coffee – smiles free of charge.”

USP: Extensive breakfast menu including porridge, pancakes, fruit and eggs all ways.

windycornercafe.co.uk

Washingpool Farm Shop

Simon Holland's enthusiasm for fresh produce is infectious. He's surrounded by colour, from greens to soft fruit, and a wander round the shop makes you feel good. His family have owned Washingpool for decades, supplying customers and businesses in and around Bridport.

“We're constantly in touch with growers, making seasonal eating readily available,” says Simon. “Yes, we have challenges, as everyone in business faces right now. For instance, the demand for potatoes has fallen and whereas we once grew 15 acres, that's now dropped to four. We have to watch trends and keep evolving. And we have a lot of support from our regular shoppers.”

Salad crops are currently in abundance and if there's ever a truly fast food, this is it. A versatile and creative home preparation could be cubes of water melon and feta cheese topped with mint leaves, with a drizzle of balsamic vinegar. Or the classic Italian panzanella, a



celebration of luscious tomatoes.

USP: Knowing the provenance within the southwest. Good honest fruit and vegetables with minimal air miles. All the ingredients in one place for supper.

washingpool.co.uk

Platform Restaurant

Housed in West Bay's old railway station with two fabulously restored carriages, Platform has become a favourite in the media as well as locally. Think elevated gastro and ever-changing seasonal menus.

“I'd describe our style as Modern British,” says owner Claire Moore, who opened the restaurant a decade ago with her husband Ross.

Pictured: Simon Holland at Washingpool Farm Shop

“Foodies are attracted to our style and layers of flavour meld to create a fine-dining experience.” For example, smoked leek purée and truffle jus accompanies chicken and ham hock terrine as a starter. If you appreciate food as an art form, or relish afternoon tea with all the theatre of luxury train travel, this is the place to be.

The original station closed before Dr Beeching finalised his infamous 1960s report on the railways, but no doubt he'd be impressed by its current incarnation.

USP: Quality menu and quirky surroundings. Multi-award-winning 2 AA Rosette restaurant.

platformrestaurant.co.uk

And for doing it yourself...

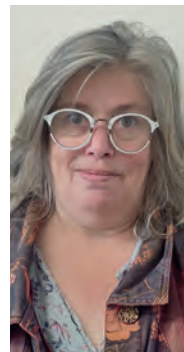
For 80 fuss-free and nutritious recipes, The National Trust has released a new book: Sophie Knox Richmond's *Irresistible Salads*. A good guide to mixing food groups, e.g. pear, chicory and blue cheese salad, which takes only 10 minutes.



Pictured: Platform restaurant at West Bay (right); Platform's yummy lemon curd cheesecake



The vital role of Bridport's representatives on Dorset Council



Your Dorset councillors

With a newly elected representative joining Bridport Ward, now is a good time to look at the role Dorset councillors play in representing local residents and shaping decisions across the county. Dorset councillors act as the voice of their communities at Dorset Council, ensuring that the concerns, ideas and priorities of local people are heard when important decisions are made.

One of the most important aspects of the role is community advocacy. Councillors work closely with residents, local businesses, voluntary organisations and community groups to understand the issues that matter most locally. They regularly attend community meetings, local events and discussions with organisations across the area.

A significant amount of a councillor's time is spent dealing with casework. Residents may contact their councillor about housing concerns, planning applications or issues with public rights of way. While councillors do not directly deliver council services, they can help residents navigate procedures, raise concerns with the relevant departments and follow up unresolved problems. Often a simple conversation can help someone access the right support or information.

At its heart, being a councillor is about representing people, listening carefully and helping to ensure that Bridport's voice is heard in decisions affecting both the town and the wider Dorset community.

Newly elected councillor Paddy Mooney says he is looking forward to the challenge of the role and to working collaboratively on local priorities. "As a newly elected councillor I am very excited but also a bit in awe of the amount of knowledge that I am going to have to acquire as quickly as possible in the coming weeks and months. It will be a steep learning curve, but I'm sure it will stand me in good stead."

Paddy adds that one of his main priorities is finding ways for Dorset Council and Bridport Town Council to work more closely together to support genuinely affordable housing and strengthen jobs and businesses in the local economy.

Pictured left to right: Bridport Ward councillors on Dorset Council, Cllr Bridget Bolwell, Cllr Paddy Mooney and Cllr Sarah Williams

Looking after Dorset's most vulnerable children

Every Dorset councillor also has a special responsibility as a Corporate Parent. This means helping to ensure that children in care and care leavers receive the support, opportunities and care they deserve.

Cllr Bridget Bolwell chairs the Corporate Parenting Board and brings her background in education and special educational needs to the role. She also contributes to the Dorset Education Board, Schools Forum, the Dorset Inclusive Education Alliance and the Dorset Education Safeguarding Board. Through policy decisions and support for services, councillors play an important part in improving outcomes for some of Dorset's most vulnerable young people.

Making important decisions

Councillors are responsible for making decisions that affect communities across Dorset and can have long-term impacts on local services, infrastructure and the environment. At full council meetings they help set the council's budget and agree key policies.

Bridport Ward councillors also serve on a range of committees. Cllr Sarah Williams contributes her experience to the Police and Crime Panel, the Harbours Advisory Committee, and the Licensing and Gambling Acts Committee, while Cllr Bridget Bolwell serves on the People and Health Scrutiny Committee.

Caroline Pearce, Project Mgr, Bridport Town Council

Bridport Ward councillors on Dorset Council

Cllr Bridget Bolwell

cllrbridget.bolwell@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Cllr Sarah Williams

cllrsarah.williams@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Cllr Paddy Mooney

cllrpaddy.mooney@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

A life in agriculture and engineering: Melplash President Peter Hardwill



Earlier this year, The Melplash Agricultural Society introduced their 2026 President, Peter Hardwill from Blackdown in the Parish of Broadwindsor.

As this year's Melplash Show draws closer, Annette Shaw catches up with Peter to hear about his fondness for the farming of yesterday and hopes for the future...

The Bridge: You speak with great pride about your appointment as President; it clearly means a lot to you.

Peter Hardwill: Yes, it does. I'm a fully-fledged octogenarian and when I was approached about being President, well, I didn't hesitate. It's a tremendous privilege to share what I've learned over decades. And to see the next generation come through. I'm also looking forward to the actual day and watching the various classes and judging. People from all walks of life really do come together and it's heartwarming to be part of it.

TB: Although you're a farmer born and bred, the family business you founded in 1966 still continues. What's the exact nature of this?



PH: Peter Hardwill Ltd is a family-run steel fabrication, structural engineering & building contractors in Beaminster supplying turn-key solutions. I set the original boundaries at the outset – meaning it's very much a Dorset business. West of Bournemouth, south of Bristol and east of Exeter.

TB: How does engineering fit into a background in farming?

PH: With hindsight, I always had an interest in making and mending. When I was three my maternal grandmother gave me a wheelbarrow, sign-written like my grandfather's agricultural wagon.

Doing jobs on the farm was second nature, and slowly opportunities cropped up to enable me to pursue this. At the age of eight I drove a tractor!

TB: How did the switch to all things mechanical begin?

PH: At Beaminster Grammar School I took an O-level in agriculture. With extra lessons in metalwork and carpentry it wasn't long before I became known for fixing things and was inspired to set up a little workshop at home. For example, our farm was very wet. This was years before we had excavators but I managed to construct a land drain.

TB: You must have seen so many changes in terms of technology. Can we talk about what stands out for you?

PH: Let's go back in time! I was born in 1943 when we still had loose haymaking using pitchforks. There were no combines or balers. That continued unto the end of the 1950s when the move into more sophisticated mechanisation kept on coming. Dairies were automated and milking cows by hand became a thing of the past. The whole industry evolved, with sophisticated fertilisers increasing crop yields. We grew more and more as farming entered a new era. ➔



Pictured: future farmers – like these young people helping to show animals at a previous Melplash Show – are high on Peter's list of priorities as President

Melplash President Peter Hardwill continued

TB: Can you expand on the shift into engineering?

PH: On leaving school I worked with my father on the family farm. By chance, and although I was living in Dorset, two friends who shared my interest encouraged me to pop over the border to Somerset and join Crewkerne Young Farmers and to enrol on an engineering course at Yeovil College. Again, it's all those small things that are cumulative. Young Farmers was a good grounding in learning skills such as public speaking and developing a business mindset.

TB: You mention the up-and-coming farmers and your hopes. How do you actively lend your support and what will be your legacy as President?

PH: I'm passionate about the Melplash Agricultural Society's Discover Farming project and how showing primary school children about growing food and farming can last a lifetime. At Washingpool Farm there's a classroom available as part of the educational



Pictured: Peter watches chef Andy Tyrell making nettle soup

programme set up and operated by the society. We donated what's known as the Hardwill Building, providing much-needed shelter at the site and allowing more outdoor sessions for visiting pupils. On one occasion the guest chef, Andy Tyrell from Soulshine, had them pick nettles, peel potatoes and make a delicious soup. There were sessions on how to pull radishes and pick a lettuce without damaging the roots. From sowing the seeds of a career in this sector to appreciating the importance of growing and

cooking good food for health, our local children are given insights and rural memories that could change their lives.

phardwill.co.uk

P H Hardwill Ltd is now in its 60th year and has been managed by Peter's sons, Philip and Michael, since Peter's retirement at the age of 70. The company will have a trade stand at this year's Melplash Show to mark its 60th anniversary.

nfyc.org.uk

The National Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs is a community for young people to gain hands-on experience and meet like-minded people.

discoverfarming.co.uk

More information about the Discover Farming project at Washingpool Farm.

melplashshow.co.uk

This year's Melplash Show is on Thursday 27 August. Advance tickets are available online as well as from a number of outlets including Bridport TIC.

From Trading Standards: always check the hallmark!

The hallmarking of gold and silver dates right back to 1300.

Introduced by Edward I, it aimed to protect standards and prevent craftsmen committing fraud when making jewellery. The first stamp was a leopard's head, symbolising the King's mark of authentication. However, the word 'hallmark' didn't appear until the 15th century, when craftsmen took their artefacts to Goldsmiths Hall in London to be checked for quality and content. The quality mark was applied at the hall, hence the word 'hallmark'. Today there are hallmarking offices, known as assay offices, in London, Birmingham, Edinburgh and Sheffield.

Hallmarking today is enforced by Trading Standards and is governed by the 1973 Hallmarking Act. The legislation applies to items made of silver, gold, platinum and, since 2010, palladium.

The last national survey looking at fake jewellery found that up to a third of precious metal products supplied online were unhallmarked and could be fake. Since that survey, the price of gold has risen by over 200%, meaning more potential profit for fraudsters.

If you think you may have bought fake jewellery, report it at www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer or phone the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on 0808 223 1133.

It's fun to play – and more – at the BYCC!

Bridport's vibrant community centre celebrates its 10th anniversary

On 9 April 2016 the Dorset Echo's front page headline read: "Worrying news over Dorset youth centre closures."

The article went on to say: "Local communities are fighting to save their youth clubs and centres because of the invaluable work that they do."

And that is exactly what happened here in Bridport. A group of volunteers from the community established a charitable trust, Bridport Youth and Community Centre Trust (BYCC), on 27 July 2016. Since then BYCC has been running twice-weekly youth clubs for young people alongside various activities – often organised in partnership with other community groups – to help people of all ages keep fit, active and healthy.

Despite support from both Dorset Council and Bridport Town Council, there have been times when BYCC

has faced an uncertain future and needed to work hard to raise the funds to keep going. Thanks to the dedication of trustees, staff and support from the local community, BYCC is still here, doing what it has always done and more, and this is testament to their efforts over the past decade.

"As BYCC celebrates its 10th anniversary, it has become so much more than the fondly remembered Youth Club attended by many generations of Bridport residents," says Ian Bark, Chair of Trustees. "With an ever-increasing range of activities and events, BYCC really does offer something for everyone."

These activities include art and craft workshops, bingo nights, boxing, badminton, band and choir practices, basketball, cookery classes, health and wellbeing sessions, table tennis, football, and 'Stay and Play' for the under-fives.

BYCC's youth clubs provide a wide range of positive activities that help young people try new things, build confidence, improve social skills and improve their overall wellbeing. The clubs regularly support 100 young people aged 7 to 17 each week across two youth club sessions.

The newest initiative is the 'Not So Youth Club', formed after Jurassic Coast Social Prescribers and the BYCC's Community Development Coordinator recognised the need for a group aimed at the over-50s. This is a space where people can get together, make friends and enjoy each other's company while having fun playing games or learning a new skill. It happens on the third Wednesday of the month between 11am and 2pm.

"It's like a youth club, but for the not-so-young!" says Lesley Windsor, BYCC Community Coordinator. "It's wonderful to see people brought together over a hot lunch after enjoying table tennis, playing cards and chess, joining the art class with a local artist or just →

Pictured: The Friendly Food Club for young people and the Forget Me Not Fiesta for people living with dementia and their carers are just two of BYCC's many activities. Last year's Fiesta led to the formation of a Forget Me Not singing group, which now meets twice a month at the centre



It's fun to play – and more – at the BYCC *continued*

adding a few pieces to a jigsaw or sitting down with friends, old and new, to chat.”

To mark this special year, BYCC is launching its 10th anniversary appeal to spread the word about the centre and what it delivers, while fundraising to enable it to continue and expand what it delivers.

“BYCC is now a jewel in the centre of Bridport that is rapidly becoming the key venue for community activities and events,” says Ian Bark. “We invite you to come along to one of our

anniversary events [listed below], make a donation, become a sponsor or just come along to the centre and use our facilities.”

BYCC 10th Anniversary events:

- *Sunday 13 July*
Big TEN Quiz Night
- *Saturday 19 September*
Open Day at BYCC
- *Saturday 3 October*
Bingo Night

Look out for posters and social media notifications – the BYCC

team look forward to welcoming you. Follow ‘bridportycc’ on Facebook or for more information contact Kat Polanska at office@bridportycc.org.

To support the future of Bridport Youth & Community Centre, you can donate to its 10th anniversary appeal by scanning this QR code or by visiting the centre’s website, bridportycc.org



A new partnership sees nature buzzing at Bridport Community Orchard

There is a new collaboration between Bridport’s Community Orchard Group and Nature Buzz, a community interest company working alongside the social prescribing team at Bridport Medical Centre.

Nature Buzz began with a simple idea: that time spent in close connection with nature, especially with bees, can support wellbeing, bring calm, and help people feel more grounded in themselves and the world around them.

Building on a space that already holds strong ecological and community value, Nature Buzz has carefully added to the orchard’s existing apiary and pollinator areas to create more of a community space around the bees – something for local people to enjoy and become involved with.

A key part of this has been the creation of the Hum Hut, a small

purpose-built space designed for calm, sensory engagement with bees. Inside the hut, people can experience the sound of the hive and the gentle inhalation of beehive air. It is a quiet, bee-free space where people can feel the natural rhythm of the bees without disturbance.

“Many people find this experience deeply grounding,” says Helen Bolter-Griffin from Nature Buzz. “The hum of the hive, combined with the warm, living air of the bees, creates an immediate sense of stillness and calm.” Apitherapy huts originated in Eastern Europe centuries ago, and in the UK people have often found sanctuary sitting by the bees in quiet contemplation and communion.

One of the most compelling things about bees is that they cannot survive alone. A single bee is fragile, but a colony is strong. Bees live and work entirely for

the good of the whole hive, in a shared system of cooperation, care and balance. Many people find this interdependence deeply moving, especially in a world where independence is often prized above connection.

Working with the orchard team, Nature Buzz has also improved access around the apiary, so that more people, including those with reduced mobility, can spend time near the hives. Alongside this, the group has developed safe nesting spaces for bumblebees and solitary bees, and planting designed to provide reliable food sources throughout the year. These pollinators are essential to the orchard and the wider landscape. Healthy bee populations depend on healthy ecological systems, so there are also enhanced areas for other insects and invertebrates to underpin the entire ecosystem.





Pictured: The Bee Bar (left) and the interior and exterior of the Hum Hut, two recent additions to the apiary and pollinator areas at Bridport Community Orchard

Supported by the Woodland Trust, the team have planted a double hedge with pollinator-friendly saplings to improve wildlife habitat. The addition of the Bee Bar highlights the need for water in any wildlife space, and is a delightful spot to watch bees collecting water.

The Hum Hut and wider apiary work were possible thanks to financial support from Clipper Teas and volunteer support through the SAMEE charity. Community groups Ripple and Conquest Art contributed the beautiful artwork that adorns the hives. Their support has helped link the project to other local groups, as well as helping to create something unique – a space where bees and people can meet in a calm, sensory way that supports both wellbeing and ecological awareness.

“This is what social prescribing through nature can be like – not clinical or complex, but quiet, sensory and accessible,” says Helen. “Bees become part of that experience, offering a living rhythm that people find restorative. Sitting listening to bees, and being present with the hive, can create



a simple but powerful shift in attention, bringing people into the present moment in a way that feels natural.”

Nature Buzz is now seeking funding for information panels about bees and their habitats, to help people visiting the orchard to notice more of what is already happening around them and encourage similar habitat creation at home.

The team are also exploring ways to fund the development of guidance and resources to share

the model with other community orchards and similar projects.

“We are very grateful to have been part of this collaboration, alongside a community that already cares deeply for land, bees, and biodiversity,” says Helen. “More than a finished project, it’s an evolving relationship, one where bees, people and place continue to support one another over time.”

Thanks to Helen Bolter-Griffin, Gareth Flux, Nicole Collins and Alison Todd for this article

Step outside with a Nature Buddy

The Nature Buddies Network is a county-wide project from Dorset National Landscape offering free, friendly support to help people spend more time in nature.



Being outdoors has been shown to boost mood, reduce stress and improve wellbeing, and Nature Buddies can help people do this in a safe and supportive way. The scheme works with local organisations and activity providers to train volunteers as Nature Buddies. Activities range from walks and nature watching to gardening and conservation.

For Nature Buddies opportunities, visit the online activities finder at dorset-nl.org.uk/nature-buddies-activities or for more info contact 01305 228246 / kate.townsend@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk.

ST MARY'S Bridport

Parish editor – Peter Wright 456967
 Director of music – Tim Linsley
 07830 308701
 Tower captain – Bob Hardwick
 07977 989263

An eventful summer coming up at St Mary's

In this busy summer season, when the streets of Bridport fill with visitors, at St Mary's we aim to provide a welcoming and historic open space for reflection, for worship and for community gathering. Here are some of the events in July and August...

The pattern of services includes All Age Worship on the second Sunday, Celtic Worship on the third Sunday, and an afternoon service of Holy Communion on the first Wednesday. On the first Sunday in August we welcome the whole parish to the 10am Holy Communion service. For full service details see the tables on pages 4 and 5.

The Tots Time group holds its last session this term on 16 July, and opens again on 10 September. The



group meets in St Mary's Church House Hall every Thursday morning and has welcomed 52 babies and toddlers this year.

The popular Coffee & Cake event takes place on the mornings of 18 July and 15 August, with an extra one for Carnival Day on 22 August.

Every Monday evening and Wednesday morning, Bridport Food Bank operates out of the church, offering support to individuals and families experiencing food poverty. At the Wednesday sessions, representatives from Citizens Advice, The You Trust's First Point service (housing) and Harmony (mental health) come along to give advice and support. There are also monthly visits from Bridport Library, 'Ripple' (cooking advice), a town councillor and a social prescriber.

We continue to support the parish initiatives of Lifeline Bereavement Support, which meets every fourth Monday afternoon in the month at Bridport Hospital, and Come and Sea, the creative family event at St John's West Bay on 8 and 9 August.



The Red Dress is
 an award-winning
 collaborative
 embroidery project
 coming to Bridport
 next year



Red Dress Embroidery

Future dates for your diary

Following last year's successful Bridport Bright & Beautiful exhibition, when over 30 quilts were hung in the church with matching flower displays, we will be taking part in the 'Quilt Walkabout 2' from 4 to 13 September. St Mary's will again display some quilts hung between the pillars in the nave and we have also offered to host examples of other creative work during this time, culminating in a vintage fashion show on the evening of 11 September to raise funds to bring The Red Dress to Bridport in August 2027.

The Red Dress (pictured above) is an award-winning 14-year project that has allowed communities, particularly women, to tell their stories through embroidery (for more information visit reddressembroidery.com). The gorgeous dress will be on display in the Town Hall for two weeks and there are several initiatives being planned for this year to raise the necessary funding.

Then on 12 September we will have a sustainable fashion show and our regular coffee and cake morning.

The success of all these events depends on careful thought and planning. We are thankful to all those who have committed their time and skills to enable the events to happen.

Peter Wright

Covid-19 made an impact in many ways, and a lot of our regular donors haven't been able to support the church as they once did. If you can make a donation, whatever you can give, you'll be helping to maintain our beautiful church and its ministry in the heart of Bridport.



Bridport Town Council CENTRAL WARD

Contact 01308 456722
enquiries@bridport-tc.gov.uk

The history of Mountfield

Mountfield House, overlooking Millennium Green, is one of Bridport's most recognisable historic buildings and now serves as the offices of Bridport Town Council.

The estate was originally owned by William Downe, a textile merchant who purchased land between Rax Lane and Coneygar Hill in 1786. His intention was that it would be occupied by members of his extended family. He later developed several properties on the site, including Downe Hall in 1789 and Mountfield House around 1812. Downe also owned Dung Wharf and Downes Wharf at East Smithfield, which became important centres for exporting Bridport goods.

Although Downe appeared financially successful, his estate fell into debt after his death in 1810. The Napoleonic Wars had damaged his warehouse trade, and the Court of Chancery eventually declared the estate insolvent. Following years of legal disputes, the estate was sold at auction in 1823. Mountfield House was bought by Henry Templer, whose wealth came from shipping and maritime trade. The Templer family owned the property throughout the 19th century and carried out several improvements, including enlargements and decorative alterations.

In 1915, the estate was sold to Lonsdale Holden, whose family lived there until 1953. Auction records described the property as a large, detached residence

Mountfield



Amy Stephenson

with extensive gardens, a tennis court and glasshouses. During the Second World War, the house was occupied by troops and American nurses. In the late 1940s, it became home to the Grove School for Girls.

In 1954, Bridport Rural District Council bought Mountfield House, including surrounding land stretching towards North Street, for £6,000. The building continued to be used as council offices after local government reorganisation in 1974 transferred ownership to Dorset District Council, although the property became increasingly expensive to maintain and was not fully used.

Discussions between Dorset District Council and Bridport Town Council eventually led to a shared-use arrangement, which aimed to improve cooperation between the two authorities. The town council later bought the building, while a separate trust acquired the surrounding gardens and nearby land. Mountfield House is now shared by the town council and several other organisations and businesses.

Amy Stephenson

HOLY TRINITY Bothenhampton

Parish editor – Barbara Ffooks 423122
Children & youth worker –
Jean Mitchell 422127
Director of music – vacancy

From the parish editor

This summer sees the Village Show of Produce and Baking in the village hall on Saturday 8 August. The hall will be open from 10 to 11.30am to receive entries, and these can be viewed by the public from 2pm. Exhibits left on the table at the end of the show will be auctioned

at 5pm. Schedules of classes will be available from Pennie Jones (tel. 458006) and in Holy Trinity church. Do have a look to see what you can enter!

Morris dancing will be back in Bothenhampton when Wyld Morris and Festus Derriman return on Wednesday 12 August. Dancing in Main Street starts at 7pm, with refreshments in the village hall.

Summer coffee mornings at Holy Trinity are on Saturdays 4 July and 1 August, 10am till 12 noon, with coffee, tea, homemade cakes for sale, books, jigsaw puzzles and raffle. Come and meet others in a friendly atmosphere – there's a warm welcome for newcomers.

Our village hall is a great asset to Bothenhampton and is well looked after by the hall committee so it can be hired out for meetings and events. However, the committee would like to respectfully remind users to



HOLY TRINITY Bothenhampton continued...

ensure the hall is left in a tidy state at the end of their hire period.

There will be a service of choral Evensong at Holy Trinity on Sunday 30 August at 4pm. All welcome.
Barbara Ffooks

FILM NIGHT in Bothenhampton Village Hall

Saturday 25 July (no film in August)

Doors open 7pm, film starts at 7.30pm

Admission £5 • Refreshments available

For film details and to be added to the mailing list, please email Nick Child: lcnc2413@outlook.com

Bothenhampton Village Hall Committee

An Evening of Morris Dancing in the Street

With Wyld Morris & Festus Derriman

Wednesday 12 August at 7pm

**Main Street, Bothenhampton
(in the village hall if wet)**

Refreshments available



Bothenhampton Village Hall Committee

Summer Village Show of Produce and Baking

Saturday 8 August, 2 to 4pm

Hall opens from 10 to 11.30am for entries for display.

Hall closed from 11.30am for judging.

Collect items not for sale between 4.15 and 4.45pm.

Auction of produce and bakes at 5pm.

Proceeds to the village hall.



Programmes listing the class entry categories are available in the church (or ask Pennie).

ST MARY'S Walditch

Parish editor –

James Craddock 458725

walditchbridgejsc@outlook.com

Verger – Pat Stapleton 456421

The Revd Ann Ayling's retirement service

On Sunday 7 June, an overcast but dry morning, there was a combined Parish of Bridport service of Holy Communion at St Mary's Walditch. This was the last service led by the Revd Ann Ayling, who has now retired from active ministry.

St Mary's was packed with its regular congregation, worshippers from the other five churches in the parish, many local villagers and the parish ministry team. There was a lingering gentle scent from various beautiful floral decorations.

Ann had chosen four hymns for the service: Great Is Thy Faithfulness; Brother, Sister Let Me Serve You; Make



Me a Channel of Your Peace; and One More Step Along the World I Go.

Ann began her sermon with an anecdote about Bassett's Liquorice Allsorts, sweets that had long been a favourite in her family. She said that tradition has it that Charlie Thompson, a Bassett's sales representative, tripped over and dropped a tray of samples he was showing a client in Leicester, mixing up the various sweets. Charlie scrambled to re-arrange them, but the client was intrigued by the accidental creation. The company then began to mass-produce the Allsorts, as they have done ever since. While the sermon continued, Allsorts were handed out to the congregation.

Ann's theme was that, like these sweets, people are 'all sorts' of characters: artistic and musical creatives;

born leaders; those who are naturally empathetic; practically minded people; the highly imaginative; and many others besides. As a priest, she said, one works with such characters, and more, following the example of Jesus Christ, who called a diverse group of first-century Jews to be his disciples and create his church. Our skills and talents are gifts from God

expressed in so many ways throughout our lifetimes.

Ann said she was blessed to practise her ministry in this wonderful town of Bridport, with its diverse artistic and musical talents and surrounded by the beautiful West Dorset countryside. She enjoyed holding services at the local care homes, especially Walditch's own Hyde Care Home, where she learnt so much about the elderly residents' interesting lives. She has also been a chaplain to the local Burma Star Association for many years.

She thanked the regular Walditch congregation for their many years of devotion, her ministry team colleagues for their support, all those attending on the day, and the many local people who had prepared the church and the village hall for the occasion.

At the end of her sermon, Ann quoted a short poem by Ann Lewin, an accomplished poet known for her

reflective, nature-inspired poetry and devotional writings. Like Ann Ayling, the poet is a former secondary school teacher, and she tutored ordinands at Sarum Theological College, where our Ann did her training.

The Revd Cally Burch, Interim Rector, gave an original and moving set of prayers highlighting Ann's personal and spiritual gifts through various objects.

After the service, Ann entered Walditch Village Hall where she was greeted by the Walditch Singers singing the theme tune from the TV series *The Vicar of Dibley*. She was presented with various gifts including a beautiful picture of St Mary's Walditch by local artist Terry Whitworth. A wonderfully decorated cake was cut and we all toasted Ann with glasses of fizz.

James Craddock

Bridport Town Council BOTHENHAMPTON & WALDITCH WARD

Ward clerk – Jo Hughes
bandw.ward@bridport-tc.gov.uk

The ward clerk writes...

At our last public engagement drop-in meeting, residents raised concerns about the new 30mph speed limit on Sea Road South, particularly the risk of unintentional speeding where in-car sat nav systems have not yet updated, and the absence of reminder signs along this stretch of road. In response, National Highways have said that drivers should follow the physical road signs rather than sat nav systems, while work continues to explore how sat navs can be updated. Temporary 'New Speed Limit Ahead' signs have also been installed on approaches to both the Crown roundabout and East roundabout to alert drivers to the change. National Highways further commented that, under government guidance, roads with street lighting are subject to a 30mph limit unless signs indicate otherwise. Should compliance remain an issue, additional signage will be considered. Your ward councillors will continue to monitor the situation with residents and raise any ongoing concerns with National Highways as needed.

In other ward news, the town council is working with Bothenhampton residents to develop a management plan for land at Green Lane and Slades Green. Extending from the junction of Crock Lane through



Pictured: The grass verge at Slades Green, part of an area in Bothenhampton for which the town council is working on a management plan

to Green Lane and Slades Green, the site comprises several grassed verges, some on sloping ground and some bordered by trees. It also includes a public right of way accessible from Crock Lane. The project will review how the land is currently used and consider opportunities to enhance it for both wildlife and community benefit. It is important that any future management reflects the needs of residents, protects the local environment, and respects the way the space is already enjoyed. A consultation phase is therefore a key part of the process, helping to identify what is working well and what improvements should be considered as part of the next five-year management plan.

The town council is currently inviting residents and the wider community to take part. The draft management plan and consultation documents are available online at www.bridport-tc.gov.uk/slades-green-and-green-lane-consultation. Paper copies, and the consultation postcard, can also be viewed



BTC Bothenhampton & Walditch Ward continued...

at Bridport Town Council Office, Mountfield, Rax Lane, Bridport, DT6 3JP, and at Bridport TIC in Bucky Doo Square. The consultation closes on 30 August.

Our next public engagement meeting will take place on Monday 6 July from 6 to 7pm at Walditch Village Hall. Meanwhile, if you would like to raise any ward-related matters, please email me at bandw.ward@bridport-tc.gov.uk.

Jo Hughes

HOLY TRINITY Bradpole

Parish editor –

Douglas Baldwin 424232

douglas.baldwin@seaside20.plus.com

Bell enquiries – Wendy Carnell 420716

htbrabells@parishofbridport.org

For pastoral or personal issues, please contact the Revd Janis Moore 425644 (Wednesday is her day off)

The Friends of Holy Trinity

The fashion show (pictured right) in May was a great success. Terri Weller and her nine models treated the audience to an inspiring glimpse into the 1910s, 20s and 30s through precious costumes she has collected over many years, with accompanying music from those eras. The stories and anecdotes she recounted brought them all to life.

It was a very interesting, happy evening and people in the audience felt pleased and privileged to be there. The seating was arranged so the models could parade between the tables and show off the lovely dresses and fabrics, and the models enjoyed themselves too! The event raised a good sum for the church's ongoing work.

Parochial Church Council (PCC)

At the Annual Parochial Church Meeting on 17 May, John Adams and Sharon Morgan from the Holy Trinity Bradpole congregation were appointed parish churchwardens along with Michele Craddock from St Mary's Walditch. Peter Carnell and Julia Whiting, also regular members of Holy Trinity, were re-elected as PCC members.

Village lunch club

Lunch at the Haddon House Hotel will be on Tuesdays 14 July and 11 August at 12.30pm. If you haven't already booked, please give Jean Hutchings a ring on 427697. There is plenty of parking space at the hotel.

The club is open to anyone from the village and their friends so do contact Jean if you would like to have a reasonably priced lunch and a good chat!



photos by Fiona Baldwin

Pictured: May's fashion show was a stylish success!

Other groups

The Mothers' Union will meet at 2.30pm on Tuesday 21 July and the Knitting Group on Thursdays 2 and 16 July. No meetings are planned for August, but that will be confirmed at the July meetings. Contact Daphne King (427552) for more information.



Tots@Ten

Pre-school children are welcome to join others, with parents and carers, normally every Wednesday at 10am in the church during term time. The seats are pushed to the side so there is a lot of space and toys to play with.

Refreshments are served for the children and adults. There is no charge.

The summer term finishes on 22 July. There are no meetings in August and the new term begins on Wednesday 9 September.

Bradpole Buzz Group

The team will be meeting on Wednesdays 8 and 29 and Saturday 18 July, and Saturdays 8 and 29 and Wednesday 19 August.

They would welcome anyone who'd like to join them to offer practical help with planting as well as donations of wild plants and seeds from your garden, suggestions and general support.



For more information, email bradpolebuzz@gmail.com or phone Rose Van den Akker on 425756.

Bradpole Forster Village Hall

The main hall (*pictured*) is available for hire by local community groups and for private events and is fully accessible with facilities for disabled people.

Hall bookings can be made online at www.hallbookingonline.com/bradpole, where you'll also find more information and photographs of the facilities.



Bridport Town Council BRADPOLE WARD

Ward clerk – Sandy Goldsmith

07944 523084

bradpole.ward@bridport-tc.gov.uk

The ward clerk writes...

I'd like to start by apologising for wrongly labelling the photo of the crimson hawthorn in last month's issue. This lovely tree is growing along the footpath leading from the Co-op to Jessopp Avenue, a path that cyclists should *not* ride along. Sadly the signs telling cyclists to dismount have been vandalised several times, and I have reported the damage to Dorset Council's footpaths officers.

Our Bradpole Ward litter pick on Sunday 17 May went well, with several members of the community taking part (*pictured right*). Two of your ward councillors, Nigel Amor and Rob Casey were there too. Thanks to all of you who came along to help make Bradpole a cleaner place for us to live in and enjoy our green open spaces. Thanks also go to the management of Seal's Cove for hosting the event.

At this time of year, the hedges alongside pavements and footpaths are in full flourish. Should you find that a hedge is causing an obstruction, please report it to Dorset Council via their online portal at www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/w/verges-trees-and-hedges. Alternatively, if you know the owner of the hedge, maybe have a word with them.

The Bradpole Buzzers, our volunteer gardening group, are busy at this time of the year helping to make



Pictured: Members of the community and two Bradpole Ward councillors took part in the local litter pick in May. Cllr Nigel Amor (second from right) is shown here with volunteers

our council-owned open spaces in Bradpole Village more inviting for the community to enjoy. They are always looking for new members to help, if you have any time to spare and like to be out in the open air, please see their entry in the Bradpole parish column above for contact details.

Our next community engagement meeting will be held on Saturday 22 August from 10am to 12 noon in the foyer of Bridport Co-op.

You can keep up to date with all the latest ward news on our Facebook page, Bradpole Ward Matters. Please email me at bradpole.ward@bridport-tc.gov.uk if you want to get in touch about anything in the ward.

Sandy Goldsmith

ST SWITHUN'S Allington

Parish editor – please contact the magazine's editor (details on p2)

Distribution – Kevin Payne

07976 534517

payne.kevin6@gmail.com

Verger – Graham Williams

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grahamwilliams386@gmail.com

St Swithun's is always busy!

On Thursday 4 June the church celebrated the feast of Corpus Christi. This feast, officially added to the church's calendar in the 13th century by Pope Urban IV at the prompting of St Thomas Aquinas, is a joyful day to thank God for the gift of Holy Communion. In the past there would have been processions and great rejoicing quite different from Maundy Thursday, the day of the Last Supper, which is bound up with the suffering of Our Lord before the Crucifixion. This year it fell on a Thursday – at St Swithun's the day of our regular midweek Eucharist – and the service was reflective and full of thanksgiving.

But feasting wasn't far away. As we ended the Eucharist, the enticing smell of bacon butties as part of our community coffee morning (on the first Thursday of the month and free to all) was wafting through and drew us from contemplation of the sacrament to feeding our physical needs in the church hall. The coffee morning followed the Glut food bank and the Clothes Bank sessions, both in the church hall. It is interesting that the church ran a clothes bank in the 19th century – good things come round again and again!

The hall was very busy, as it is throughout the week. Equipped with a fully working kitchen and modern dishwasher, it is a popular venue for a variety of organisations. Users range from the Bridge Club through to kickboxing and a tango club, from embroiderers to the St Swithun's Band and from Tripudio exercise classes to the Dorset Rural Music Society. It is part of our service to the community and, at the same time, a welcome source of income for the church. Although the car park isn't very big it does add some flexibility and the defibrillator (thankfully rarely used) is a welcome reassurance.

There are a number of one-off bookings, too, for family occasions and civic participation, and we are also usually a polling station for local and national elections. To check the hall's availability, go to the parish website www.parishofbridport.org, scroll down



Pictured, clockwise from top: June's community coffee morning was as busy as ever following the Corpus Christi Eucharist; the Clothes Bank rail is available whenever the hall is open, as well as at the official Thursday morning session

to 'Need a venue' and find St Swithun's Church Hall. Our booking service is always willing to help (email ssvbookings@parishofbridport.org).

On 15 July we celebrate St Swithun's Day, our patronal festival. St Swithun was a ninth-century Anglo-Saxon Bishop of Winchester. According to British folklore, whatever the weather is like on this day – whether rain or sunshine – it will continue unchanged for the following 40 days and 40 nights. So please pray for good weather and come and help us celebrate the feast day on the following Saturday afternoon (18 July) from 2.30 to 4.30pm. There will be a great cream tea, the St Swithun's Band, a children's fancy dress competition, tombola, a home produce stall and much more. You will be very welcome.

Philip Sturrock

Bridport Town Council WEST & ALLINGTON WARD

Ward clerk – Amy Stephenson
bridportwest.ward@bridport-tc.gov.uk

The ward clerk writes...

Our play area inspector discovered that an item of play equipment at the North Mills play area had some bent ground struts. The struts were in the ground so required partial excavation. A new base was ordered all the way from Germany and was quickly put in place once it arrived (*pictured*).

All our play areas are regularly inspected but if you happen to spot anything that requires attention, please let us know. We are usually aware of things and sometimes it is a case of waiting for parts, but we welcome keen-eyed members of the public to tell us if they happen to see something we may not be aware of. It is far better that items of concern are reported multiple times than not at all.

Back in May we held our Street to Sea Litter Pick in various locations across Bridport and West Bay. Bridport West & Allington Ward held theirs at One Stop Shop in Skilling. Although we had advertised the event, volunteers were few and it was our own staff

Pictured: A new base has been fitted to this piece of play equipment at the North Mills play area



and councillors from Bridport Town Council that ended up being the ‘pickers’ around that area.

They managed to gather a good amount of rubbish, and happily noted that the play area in Skilling had only one tiny bit of litter on it. Hopefully this means users are disposing of their rubbish well or that the town council’s grounds staff are doing their job well in collecting litter – or it could be a combination of both! We would welcome more volunteers to help keep the areas where YOU live, work and play as free from rubbish as can be. Please keep an eye on noticeboards and our Facebook page for details of the next event.

Our next ward meeting is on Friday 17 July at 6.30pm in St Swithun’s Church Hall. All ward residents are welcome to attend and you will find a warm, friendly atmosphere in which to raise any concerns with your ward councillors and ward clerk.

Amy Stephenson

ST JOHN’S West Bay

Parish editor – Sue Pollock
07903 558568
Chapel warden –
Rosemary Russell 423013

News from St John’s

Regular Sunday services are held at 11am at St John’s except on 5 July when the parish service of Holy Communion at St John’s will start at 10am. See the services table on pages 4 and 5 for more info. We also have Morning Prayer every Monday at 10am.

On Wednesday 5 and Thursday 6 August we are hosting another of the very popular Come & Sea events (the last one was in the Easter holidays). See the advert on page 8 for details.

You may have noticed scaffolding on the exterior of the church next to the vestry (*pictured right*). This is the first part of essential work to make the church

Pictured: Scaffolding outside the church is enabling essential waterproofing work before the new heating can be installed



waterproof before the installation of the long-awaited heating system, although this is waiting for approval. The parish is running a fundraising campaign for this work, and donations are very welcome via the parish website at www.parishofbridport.org/donate.

West Bay WI

The regular Knit & Natter session is on Wednesday 1 July, 10am–12 noon. At the meeting on Wednesday 8 July, 2.30–4.30pm, the speaker will be retired vet Hilary Green on the topic ‘The pet the vet would most like to take home’. There are no meetings in August. ➔

ST JOHN’S West Bay continued...

If you are interested in joining this small, friendly group, please contact Alison Ridge on 01308 897293 or Maggie Hooper on 07720 056310. New members are always welcome.

Round and about the Bay

The weather over the Whitsun bank holiday was amazing, but rather too hot for me I’m afraid, so on the Friday evening we decided to have fish and chips from the kiosks. Needless to say, so did quite a number of people, including of course the bikers! The selection of bikes was (and always is) truly staggering, and we got chatting to a number of the riders. They love West Bay and seemed to spend the majority of their time at the Hub wandering around admiring the bikes parked up and generally comparing notes. Apparently it started back in the 60s and West Bay is now seen as an iconic coastal destination for riders with Thursday nights being the ‘bike night’. Bearing in mind the cost of these bikes, it is hardly surprising that most of the bikers are of an older generation!

A very successful Pirates Weekend attracted many people to West Bay to make the most of the entertainment on offer, and particularly the fireworks on the Sunday night.

The Discovery Centre put on a number of events during half term including the arrival of two mermaids who were seated outside the centre. An impressive total of 62 children, plus a few grownups, had their photo taken with the mermaids (pictured right). Not quite sure how they arrived at the centre but there was a pirate in tow!

During the summer holidays the Discovery Centre is putting on the following events:

- Tuesday 28 July from 12 noon at Fisherman’s Green, an outdoor performance by the Iguanodon Restaurant;
 - Thursday 6 August, 10am–4pm at The Salt House, clay workshop and making ammonites.
- For details check out West Bay Discovery Centre’s Facebook page.

It was great to see Neil Barnes, often seen in and around the Bay with his drones taking some amazing photos, elected as a councillor for West Bay Ward. Well done, Neil.

The replacement black hut on East Pier, constructed off site, should be in place in time for the main summer season, as should the refurbished food kiosk. The matting is once again up on West Beach allowing disabled people to access the beach; they can also hire one of the beach buggies by calling 07342 236443.



Pictured: It’s good to see the boats back in the harbour (above); people flocked to have their photo taken with two visiting mermaids outside the Discovery Centre



I took a nice photo of the boats all back in the harbour (pictured top). As well as the events listed below, the camp site on West Bay road opens up and the funfair arrives, no doubt with all the usual stalls and rides.
Sue Pollock

Forthcoming events

RNLI raft race	23 July
Powerboat racing	25 and 26 July
West Bay Days	1 and 2 August
Come and Sea event in St John’s	8 and 9 August
Jurassic Fields music festival	14 to 16 August
Torchlight parade	23 August
Melplash Show	27 August

Bridport Town Council WEST BAY WARD

Ward clerk – Amy Stephenson
enquiries@bridport-tc.gov.uk

The ward clerk writes...

Here comes July, and with it the start of the summer tourist season. This is always a busy time for West Bay and we would ask that people park with consideration for others, including the emergency services who can struggle to gain access. The housing estates in and around West Bay are subject to inconsiderate parking at the best of times, and the tourist season affects them even further. Please be thoughtful, please be nice, and let's make the summer season a happy one for all.

We have already had some events at West Bay, including the West Bay Days Pirates Weekend back in May. West Bay Days is run by a dedicated group of community volunteers who



all share a singular mission: to run the very best, free to attend, local events and invest back into the community by raising money. These funds – last year more than £22,000 – are then distributed to local groups and charities. For more information, or if you would like to help them in any way, email info@westbaydays.uk or check out their website at www.westbaydays.com.

The summer season will see many more events and activities, and we will advertise what we can. The Discovery Centre will continue to be open throughout the summer holidays, Tuesday to Sunday between 11am and 4pm. There are always interesting exhibits to see there as well as children's activities.

Our West Bay Car Boot will also be continuing on throughout the summer every Sunday morning. The town council collects all the pitch fees and distributes the money annually as grants to local organisation.

There is also our summer market from 22 July to 6 September, 2 to 8pm. It's held inside The Salt House and spills out onto Fisherman's Green.

Our next ward meeting is likely to be in August or September. Details will be posted on noticeboards, our Facebook page and our ward page on the town council website.

Amy Stephenson

Bridport UNITED CHURCH

Minister – The Revd Jane Wilson
01308 341159

Church secretary – Jane Clinton
bucchurchsec@gmail.com

Church bookings – Sue Herman
422598 / *bucoffice1@gmail.com*

Hope – not just for Easter

During a recent service at Bridport United Church, we talked, listened and thought about how things don't always go as we expect or hope – and how it can be easy for any of us to lose hope when that happens.

I think about those two people on the road to Emmaus in the Bible account (Luke 24:13–35). They'd known Jesus, had hoped he was the one who was going to redeem Israel, and then watched him die on the cross. And now they're walking the seven miles back to Emmaus from Jerusalem. They are downcast. They don't understand what's happening or why it had to happen. And they've lost hope.

This got me thinking about the importance of hope.



Whether it's hope that we'll get better if we're ill, or hope that we'll find a job if we don't have one, or hope that the local foodbank will have food if we have none, or the hope of eternal life. We all need hope.

Collins Dictionary defines hope as wanting something to be true or to happen, and believing it is possible or likely. That got me thinking about how hope is defined in other languages. Luke's gospel was written in Greek; the Ancient Greek word for hope is 'elpis', representing a joyful, confident expectation of future good. It carries a much stronger sense of certainty than the English word 'hope'.

And then I wondered how hope is described in the Old Testament. In Hebrew the word used for hope is



Bridport UNITED CHURCH continued...

‘tikvah’, which means a confident, active expectation or a cord that binds. It’s derived from the Hebrew word ‘qavah’, which means to bind together (often described as twisting strands or cords together to form a strong rope) and to wait with confident anticipation.

A cord or rope connecting each one of us to God – and, I think, to each other – while we can wait with confident anticipation of what’s to come. And the rope analogy struck me as particularly apt for Bridport, a town with an 800-year history of rope making.

So, when I think of hope now, I picture a rope: a rope that is strengthened by prayer, our own prayers and the prayers of others for us. And I think about how I can strengthen other people’s ropes – how I can give hope – whether that’s by praying, by listening, by helping, by talking about my faith.

I don’t understand why certain things happen, why some prayers are answered and others aren’t (or don’t appear to be) but I do have faith. And I have hope.

A hope that is a joyful, confident, active expectation; a rope binding each one of us to God and to each other. Both in the Easter season and throughout the year, may we all have and give tikvah.

Jane Bryant

July services at Bridport United Church:

Sunday 5	10.30am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion:
		The Revd Jane Wilson
	4pm	Soul Space
Sunday 12	10.30am	Morning Worship: The Revd Michael Hopkins
Sunday 19	10.30am	Morning Worship: church members

July services continued:

Sunday 26	10.30am	Morning Worship:
		The Revd Jane Wilson

August services at Bridport United Church:

Sunday 2	10.30am	Morning Worship with Holy Communion:
		The Revd Jane Wilson
	4pm	Soul Space
Sunday 9	10.30am	Morning Worship:
		The Revd Peter Clark
Sunday 16	10.30am	Morning Worship: The Revd Ruth Lownsbrough
Sunday 23	10.30am	Morning Worship:
		The Revd Jane Wilson
Sunday 30	10.30am	Mr C Smith

Regular events

Mondays	9.30–11am	Little Lambs toddlers group (term time only)
Wednesdays	9.30–10am	Prayer meeting in church
	10am–noon	Coffee morning in the hall
	12.30pm	Lunch Club (4th only)
		Please book on 422598
Thursdays	2.30–4pm	Friendship Club (3rd only)
	3.30–5.30pm	Messy Church (4th only)
Saturdays	10am–noon	Coffee morning in the hall
	9–11.30am	Big Breakfast in the hall (1st only)

For more details of our services and other events, please visit our website www.buc.cool or our Facebook page.

We have a number of rooms available for hire. For more information and to make a booking, please contact Sue Herman: bucoffice1@gmail.com.

St MARY & St CATHERINE Roman Catholic Church

Parish priest – Fr Colin Groombridge
colin.groombridge@prcdtr.org.uk
 Secretary – Faith Leborgne
bridport@prcdtr.org.uk
 Phone 07544 595633

We can be neighbourly to strangers, too

We have great neighbours. The sort of people I can call friends. The sort of people who regularly help each

other out, putting out bins, collecting parcels from the doorstep as well as being happy to share a glass or two on a warm summer’s evening.

Being neighbours to those you know and like isn’t much of a challenge. The vast majority of us would hopefully put ourselves out a little with the certain knowledge that others would do the same for us. But Jesus challenges us to go further. To care for and show love for the stranger. I have been reminded of this twice in the last few days.

While I was returning from a visit to Bothenhampton, the heavens opened and I found myself sheltering under a tree, hoping the rain would stop. I was delighted when a very kind gentleman stopped, and with a cheerful smile offered me a lift back into town.

Two days later a stranger appeared at my door. In his hand was a phone case, which he had found while walking in the fields near West Bay. He had spotted it in the grass, picked it up and discovered it belonged to my neighbour. Thankfully he had decided to go out of his way to return it. My neighbour was out so he had left it with me.

Simple acts of kindness. As Mother Teresa once said, "Not all of us can do great things: but we can do small things with great love." Who will you help this week?
Deacon Mark Brown

Sunday Mass is at 10am at the Roman Catholic church in Victoria Grove and is streamed online at www.bridportcatholics.org.uk and the Bridport Catholic Parish Facebook page.



For updates about Sunday and weekday Mass, see the weekly newsletter on the website or look for updates on Facebook.

BEACON CHURCH Priory Lane, Bridport

Church office 456031
office@beaconchurchbridport.co.uk
www.beaconchurchbridport.co.uk

The Community Kitchen at the Beacon Church is open Wednesday and Friday every week from 10.30am to 2pm. Please feel free to drop in for a chat and a meal.

If you'd like to volunteer at the Community Kitchen, please email us as above. Or you can help financially: a monthly donation is particularly useful as it helps us to budget, but we hugely appreciate any donations, no matter how small. Our bank details are as follows:
Sort code: 08-92-99 / account number: 65773479
Reference: Kitchen

We meet on Sundays from 10am for prayer, worship and coffee (the service starts at 10.30am). We also meet for prayer on Thursdays from 5 to 6pm.

We run Sparklers (for children up to 11) and Youth (for 11- to 18-year-olds) three Sundays a month, with an all-age service and fellowship once a month as a whole church family. All our children and youth provision is led by DBS-checked leaders.

On the first Wednesday of the month we have our Messy Church, where there is food, craft, games and a bible story. Come along with your children and have a time to relax, play and eat.

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FOOD HYGIENE RATING
5

Women Together @ Beacon is on Thursdays from 10.30am to 12.30pm in the church (on the last Thursday in the month this is held at Coffee#1 in East Street). Come along for a drink and chat. There are also craft opportunities at this group.

Wherever you are at with your own faith, you are always welcome to come and join us. We pray you can find a home from home with us at Beacon.

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

King's Lane (in East St car park)

Office 424437 • David Collins 458227
info@bridportchristianfellowship.org
www.bridportchristianfellowship.org



BRIDPORT CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

We are a member church of the UK Evangelical Alliance and an Ichthus Link Church.

We meet every Sunday at 10.30am for worship and Bible teaching, and at other times during the week.

We seek to bless the community of Bridport with the Good News of Jesus; you would be most welcome to join us on Sundays or at any of our other meetings during the week.

Our normal weekly meetings are as follows but can change during festivals such as Christmas and Easter. Please see our website for more information.

Mondays: Meals outreach project for those who find themselves in difficult times. Weekly discipleship group meets at 5.30pm.

Tuesdays: House groups meet at 2–3pm, 2.30–4pm and 7.30–9.30pm.

Wednesdays: House groups meet at 10.30am–12 noon and at 7–8pm.

Saturdays: From 10.30am to 12 noon we have our 'Pray: Chat' coffee bar with free refreshments.

Sundays: 10.30am–12 noon is our weekly service. Once a month we have a meal after the service.

Bridport QUAKER MEETING

The Meeting House 97 South Street

Correspondent – Jeni Edwards
 538105 / jeni.edwards69@gmail.com



Honesty is at the heart of human relationships

"Are you honest and truthful in all you say and do? Do you maintain strict integrity in business transactions and in your dealings with individuals and organisations? Do you use money and information entrusted to you with discretion and responsibility?" (Advice and Query no 17.)

Before you can drive on your own, you have to take a

Looking for our Get Involved listings for local non-profit groups?

We're no longer including them in the printed magazine, although you can find the list on our website: thebridgemagazine.org/get-involved.

In each issue we will feature one or two organisations in more detail, so please email editor@thebridgemagazine.org if you'd like to appear.

test to check that you know how to be safe, to indicate left and right, how to use a roundabout, etc., and so you learn how to navigate safely. It is assumed that everyone then knows how to respond to other drivers and hopefully not too many end up colliding.

Quakers believe that the same sort of skills are needed in our everyday relationships with each other and the wider world: that being straightforward and considerate as well as clear in our actions will see us more safely through each day. Like learning to drive, it's not easy, but useful.

Meeting is held at the Meeting House on South Street at 10.30am for an hour on Sunday mornings and 10.30am for half an hour on Wednesday mornings. All are welcome.

The Quaker website at www.bridportquakers.org contains all the information you need to book a room for an event or to find out more about us.

Jeni Edwards

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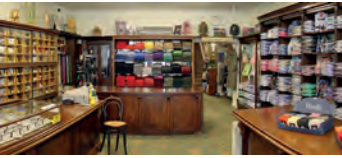
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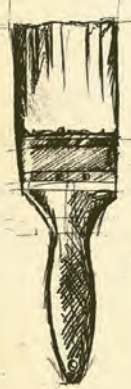


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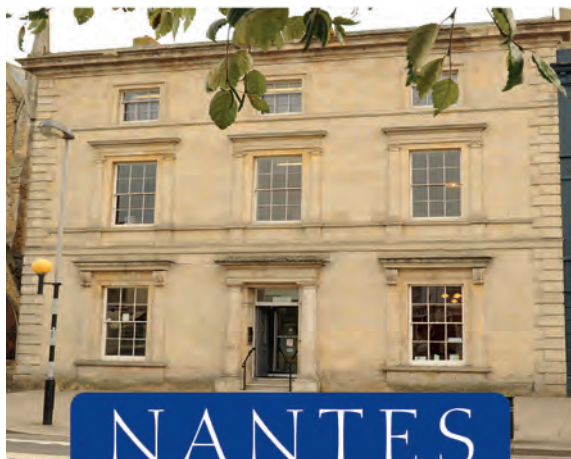
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