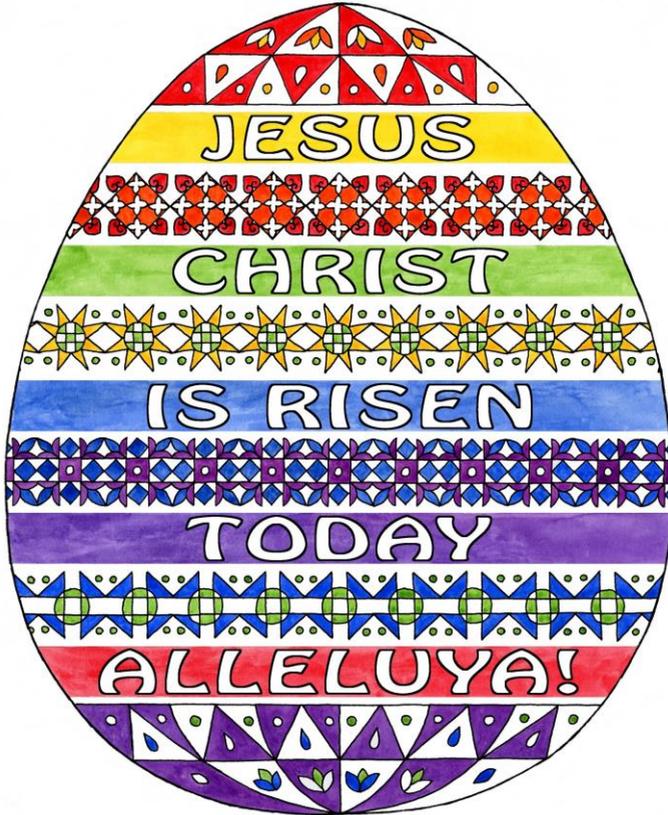


Studland Parish News



April
2025



St Nicholas Church Studland

See the Parish News in full colour – www.studlandchurch.com

St Nicholas Rota of Readers and Sides persons April 2025

Date	Service	Sides Person	Readers	Readings
Sunday 6 th April Passion Sunday 10.00am	Family Comm.+ Baptism Rev Tony Higgins	Peter Jennings	Cindy Yeandle Sara-Jayne Smith	Isaiah 43.16-21 John 12.1-8
Sunday 13 th April Palm Sunday 10.00am	Rev Tony Higgins Holy Comm.	Sally Hogsflesh	David Hogsflesh Jane Hawksworth	Liturgy of the Palms Luke 19.28-40 Psalm 118. 19-24
Friday 18 th April Good Friday 6.30pm	Music & Meditation Rev Tony Higgins & Rev Tony Edmonds	Doris Royal		Readings as allocated
Sunday 20 th April Easter Day 10.00am	Easter Family Comm. Rev Tony	Eric Stobart	Diana Edmonds June Fletcher	Acts 10.34-43 Luke 24.1-12
Sunday 27 th April 2 nd Sunday of Easter	Rev Tony Edmonds Holy Comm.	Carol Wadley	Lesley Cocks Polly Warner	Acts 5.27-32 John 20.19-end
Sunday 27 th ZOOM Service 6.30pm	Zoom Service Rev Tony Higgins		TBA TBA	Acts 5.27-32 John 20.19-end

Please contact Eric Stobart
email: eric@thestobarts.co.uk if there are any problems.

Swanage and Studland Team Ministry

Team Rector:

Rev Dr Ian Bird

Team Office:

Tel. 01929 421117 / Email: swanage.team@btconnect.com

St Nicholas Church, Studland

Resident Priest:

Rev'd Tony Higgins - Tel. 07761 658124 / Email: revtonyhiggins@btinternet.com

Church Wardens:

Barbara Matthews - Tel. 01929 450218 / Email: barmat18@btinternet.com

Mr Eric Stobart - Tel: 01929 450222 / Email: eric@thestobarts.co.uk

Hon. Treasurer:

Mr Andrew Goodwin - Email: bayviewgardens@btinternet.com

Hon. Secretary:

Mrs Carol Wadley - 01929 424388 / caroljwadley@icloud.com

Can You Help?

St Nicholas are seeking a PCC Secretary:

To attend 6 meetings a year plus 1 annual meeting.
These meetings can be recorded for ease of transcribing later.

The primary responsibilities of the PCC Secretary are to support the PCC Chair in the preparation and organisation of meetings and to handle all correspondence.

Please contact Barbara Matthews (Churchwarden) for more information or for an informal chat

Tel: 01929 450218 Email: barmat18@btinternet.com

Note from the editor...

I have to say it feels strange as I type this, knowing that our beloved Tony and Feli are retiring this month. I recall when Tony asked me to take on the role of editor for this Parish News and I admit I was not so sure it would be for me. However, the kindness and support from Tony, and the freedom he bestowed upon me to add my personal touch to the publication swayed me, and 7 years on, I still have no regrets and am thankful for Tony for having faith in me to take on such a task.

I look forward to being able to express my gratitude and celebrate a wonderful couple next month at their retirement tea party, which will no doubt be packed to the rafters. Full details are on the back page.

The rest of the pages are as ever, full of community events and happenings to delight in and experience – enjoy.

We have also been updating and getting on top of advertisers (thank you Barbara). This means a few businesses no longer require space, and that opens up opportunity for other local businesses and people to advertise with us. The adverts support this publication, so if you know of anyone who would like to capture the Studland audience for a very fair price, then put them in touch.

Many thanks,

Sharon Westman, Editor

May deadline is:

Friday April 18th 10am

sharonwestman@gmail.com

01929 450358

Late contributions cannot be guaranteed.

Mini Prayer/Poem of the Month

'An after-Easter prayer'

Don't leave our Lord amidst the lilies
Within a hallowed sphere
Don't praise Him only in your churches
In Easter hymn and prayer...
Keep Him beside you through
The business of ordinary days,
In the common place encounters
Along the humdrum ways.
Our Master told us very simply
What He would have us do....
He taught: "Love one another
Even as I love you."

By Elsie Campbell



St Nicholas Parish News... Hope springs eternal is a good phrase to describe Easter. As I approach retirement as Resident Priest at St Nicholas I can reflect upon a happy and welcoming time spent over the last 15+ years. Felicity has been my “cornerstone” throughout

this period. We would not have had such a happy time, as well as sometimes turbulent times without the love, prayers and support of so many people in the church and wider community. There are so many people to thank, too many to name here so I hope you accept this general thankyou to the whole community. I will be saying thank you individually as well.

March saw a busy start to Lent. Both the Ash Wednesday and World Day of Prayer were well supported, and we had a good number of readers for the World Day of Prayer service, which was very moving according to many who attended the service. Thank you to all who helped and especially Annie and Doris for the lovely teas. After the main morning service on the 16th of March, a full church attended the baptism of Romi Roo Bridges and Bettie Churchill. This was a happy family occasion with many members of the Churchill family present. On the 17th of March the final PCC for this church year took place. My thanks to Andrew Goodwin who retires as treasurer this year after many years, also to Carol Wadley who retires as Secretary. Both jobs have been done with great commitment. Although retiring as PCC Secretary Carol is taking over as Electoral Roll officer. Thank you to Jane Hawksworth for all that she has done setting up and being our Safeguarding officer. I am delighted to say Sara Jayne Smith is taking over this important role. Thanks, must include the Church Wardens Eric Stobart and Barbara Matthews along with all who have been part of the PCC. Eric will take over as Treasurer at the Annual Parish meeting on April 8th at 7.00pm.

Barbara Matthews is a person I believe all will agree deserves a special thank you. Barbara has tirelessly carried out or overseen so many different tasks with such good humour, efficiency and love for everything that involves St Nicholas Church. This year has been particularly onerous with the complexities of the Organ restoration, The Meadow, and fund raising to go towards costs. She has been so supportive and willing even when her own health and family needed her to slow down a bit. I persuaded Barbara to be Church warden without realising just how much was involved. She has been a wonderful support and been wonderful to work with.

On the 22nd of March we had a wonderful gentle gathering of family to ask God’s blessing on the special friendship of Sue White and Robin Field. Such events remind us how blessings can come along when we least expect them.

As we came to the end of March Mothering Sunday was celebrated. Mothering Sunday is a popular day when Christians choose to use the occasion to think about all things which concern motherhood. We give thanks for the Church as

Mother, the Virgin Mary as the mother of Jesus, we remember that God cares for us like a mother and last but not least we give thanks for our own mothers. Mothering Sunday is the fourth Sunday in Lent, and it is a time of special thanksgiving. It is a day in Lent when people are encouraged to share a time for refreshment in the penitential season. In so many ways this sums up St Nicholas approach to Christian faith, looking outwards to the whole community.

As April begins and a new chapter in the history of St Nicholas begins, Hope springs eternal. The church has stood a thousand years as a beacon of hope, not just a vague idea but a certainty. We live in challenging times, but history tells us that though life may be messy at times our hope is justified, and Easter Sunday is the proof we often seek. "Hope springs eternal" We send our love and prayers to everyone in Studland.

From the Registers:

Baptisms:

16th March - Bettie Lou Churchill and Romi Roo Bridges

Weddings:

1st March - Mark Stuart Barry and Amy Joanne Tucker

God bless, Rev Tony Higgins (Resident Priest)

Church Alive Writes... We are now in the season of Lent which lasts between Ash Wednesday (5th March) and Easter Day (20th April). Now of course this is not 40 days as we might expect from our Biblical narratives. If you count between Ash Wednesday and Easter Day you actually come up with 46 days. So why is this? Well Sundays are not included in this calculation as Sundays always celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. When I was at theological college however, one of the biggest debates of the year was whether you kept your Lenten fast throughout the 46 days, or whether you took Sundays off. If this seems like a pretty niche argument to you, well you're right, it is, but I can tell you the annual debate between the two sides got pretty heated!

All of this aside, the main point in all this is that in our fasting, or indeed in our taking up something new for Lent, if that is your preference, we are imitating the 40 days and nights that Jesus spent in the wilderness. We are remembering that he suffered and that he was tempted, revealing his identity as Son of God, and foreshadowing the further temptations he would have to save himself before his death on the cross.

The spiritual process of journeying through Lent is like starting with a wide-angle lens, which focuses down and down over the weeks as we get closer to Easter, ending in sharp focus on the events of Holy Week. In this special week we will walk beside Jesus as he enters Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, as he sits with his disciples at the Last Supper, is betrayed, nailed to the cross, as he dies, as he is placed in the tomb and as Mary weeps... but then, most wonderfully, we will see

the stone being rolled away and his body found to be absent as he has risen indeed. These are events that we will mark in our services taking place across the Team. Further details on these services are in the church pages and will be available on a handy card to pick up in our churches. Please do join us if you can. To help you with your Lenten journey you may also be taking part in one of the Lent Groups running across the Team. Or perhaps you are reading a book of Lenten reflections. There are also many resources on the Church of England website such as the Dust and Glory app or you can also sign up to receive the Living Hope daily reflections.

However you mark this season, I pray that Lent will be blessed and fruitful time for you all and a time of drawing closer to God.

Rev'd Natalie Davies



STUDLAND WI – Wednesday 12th March 2025

The Secretary welcomed all members who attended the meeting. Thank you, Cindy, for standing in for the President. Apologies were given for those who were unable to attend.

Information had been received from National about this year's resolution. Over 90,000 votes for the 2025 Resolutions were collected from all WI's and the resolution, "Bystanders can be Lifesavers", received the most votes at 36% and will therefore go forward for debate at the NFWI Annual Meeting on 4th June. Information about this resolution was out at the meeting. At our April meeting we will be voting on whether to accept this resolution. Other resolutions received: 29% of the votes for Let's Talk about Incontinence / 23% for Eliminate Medical Packaging landfill / 12% for Join the Repair Revolution.

Next month's meeting is our AGM - All members of the existing committee are willing to stand again next year. If any of our members wish to join committee, in any capacity please talk to the committee about it or, if you would like to nominate another member, please make sure you have their agreement. We will have some forms out at the April meeting for nominations.

Unfortunately, our Skittles B Team did not make it through to the County finals. A thoroughly enjoyable evening was spent playing against Wool A Team but sadly it was not to be this year.

Our speaker for our March meeting was Miranda Pender presenting "Musical Musings"; Miranda entertained with a mixture of conversational musings & witty songs. She is from Sherborne and started playing the guitar & song writing 15 years ago. Miranda started off by playing & joining our singing of Jerusalem, at the beginning of the meeting. She then talked about a variety of topics which had provided inspiration for her songs. Her talk introduced each witty & amusing song on a range of subjects, including the ideal care home, remembrance of Nora (her relative who's first book was banned in 1929 under the Obscene Publications Act!), the ship wreck of the Costa Concordia in Italy, books as

inspirations for writing songs and her first love (the man on the Scott's Porridge oats box, aged 9). Miranda also read a poem, "The Drawer" which was thought provoking (we all have one of these!). She writes poems as an alternative to a song as sometimes the nuances are missed if put to music. Miranda provided a fun and entertaining evening, and members greatly enjoyed her musical musings. "Better than the TV" noted one member!

Our next meeting is Wednesday 9th April at Studland Village Hall at 7.30pm. As this will be our AGM, we look forward to seeing as many members as possible.

WI is here for all ladies of all ages. We welcome you to join us, so why not come along and join our friendly group. Fun, friendship and plenty of laughter.

Lynn Elliott



STUDLAND GARDENING ASSOCIATION: April is a quiet month for the Gardening Association. In previous years we held a Plant Sale, but this year as an experiment we included it as part of the Spring Show. One of the reasons for this was growing demand (no pun intended) but falling supply, with fewer and fewer people

donating spare stock for sale.

Future dates to put in your diary: Visit to Morval at 2:30pm on 22nd June to view the recently remodelled garden. Then on for tea at Coombe House. This is a member only event. Dogs are not allowed. Summer Show entries Tuesday 29th July. Summer Show Saturday 2nd August.

On Sunday 7th September Morval will be open for the first time as part of the NGS Yellow Book scheme. It is envisaged that this will be very well attended. The Studland Gardening Association has been asked by Simon Goldsack if we could help by providing Marshalls. If interested please let me know.

Geoff Willcocks, Secretary

01929 450342 geoff.studland@gmail.com

Studland History Group: The History Group meets again on Wednesday 16th April at 2.30pm in the Village Hall. The speaker is Alan Smith with "One Man and His Dog". Alan farmed at Prospect Farm in Swanage for many years and will entertain us with tales from his farming life.



All welcome. Visitors £3.50 or an annual subscription of £17.50 is payable at this meeting.

On the 21st May we have Peter Sills with a talk on the Purbeck Mining Museum at Norden. On 18th June we will have a visit to the mining museum.

Joyce Meates. Secretary. 01929 439245



Updates from the National Trust:

Beaver fever! In March, we released two pairs of beavers into Little Sea, Studland. Purbeck was the first place in England to be granted a government licence for a 'wild' beaver release like this – and the story attracted the attention of national TV, radio and newspapers.

The new beavers now join the family that arrived there in 2024 by unknown means – so hopefully we'll have the start of a viable population. By creating sunny glades, new water channels and deep pools, the beavers will enhance the habitat for lots of other species, especially dragonflies, wetland birds, amphibians, bats and water voles. Beavers are a native species and were present across the country – but were hunted to extinction in the UK around 400 years ago. So, we're thrilled to welcome them back! Please remember that although beavers aren't naturally aggressive, they will defend themselves, especially if cornered by dogs. So, please keep your dogs on leads by the waterside and don't let them swim in the lake.



www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/dorset/studland-bay/re-introducing-beavers-to-studland

(Photo: Beaver taking its first steps into Little Sea, © Beaver Trust)

Eco-moorings go back into the bay: Plans are underway to get the eco-moorings back out into the bay before Easter. The moorings are a vital part of protecting the precious seagrass meadows, offering an alternative to traditional anchors which scour the seabed and destroy the seagrass.

The seagrass meadows are carefully monitored each year by various means – from remote technology to volunteer divers – and all the evidence shows that not only are the scars from traditional anchoring healing, but also that seahorse numbers are increasing.

All aboard! If you spend time on or in the water, why not become an ambassador for the eco-moorings project? Find out more at a free online workshop, Weds 9 April, 7-8pm. <https://shorturl.at/1I85V>

Love Studland's beaches? If so, Dorset Council wants to hear from you about a new Anti-social Behaviour Public Spaces Protection Order for Studland. This order aims to address issues like wild camping, littering and lighting fires on the beaches and in the dunes. Your feedback will help shape the final decisions made by the council. The deadline is 20th April.

<https://consultation.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/c-e/studland/>

Explore Studland's WW2 defences: After the evacuation of Dunkirk in July 1940, it was thought that Studland Bay, with its shallow seas and sandy beaches, was a prime location for a German invasion. Join us as we look at maps and photographs from the War Department detailing the anti-invasion plans, then explore the heath visiting the ruins of an anti-tank ditch, a pill box and other structures. The walks take place on 6 and 8 May, 2-4pm. £5 per person, booking essential. www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/dorset/studland-bay/events

Cathy Lewis, National Trust

Corfe Castle Surgery/The Patient Participation Group News:

As I sit in the warm March sunshine, we can all feel spring is finally on its way, which means Easter isn't too far away either.

Our opening hours over the easter break are;

Thursday 17th April Surgery open **8.30am-6.30pm**

Thursday 17th April Dispensary open **8.30am- 1.00pm**

Friday 18th April Surgery and Dispensary **CLOSED**

Monday 21st April Surgery and Dispensary **CLOSED**

Tuesday 22nd April Surgery and Dispensary open **8.30am- 6.30pm**

For non-life-threatening medical issues or for medication during easter, please call 111 or visit a local pharmacy. For life threatening problems call 999.

In other news, due to time pressures in the reception/admin area we are reducing the number of calls we make to patients and trialling a new system where we will send you a text message with a time and date for routine appointments. If this appointment is not convenient, please call us on 01929 480441.

Please contact us with any queries.

Kerry Norman, Practice Manager

Swanage Medical Practice Patient Participation Group:

Swanage Medical Practice Patient Participation Group (PPG) works with the Practice Manager and the GPs at Swanage Medical Practice to help improve and shape local services. The PPG is made up of patients registered with the Practice who have volunteered to get involved. We meet every two months – and we are always looking for new members!

We last met on 11th March 2025, when we welcomed two new PPG members. We were joined by David Sale, the Volunteering and Community Services Officer for Dorset at the South Western Ambulance Service, who explained the important role Community First Responders play in helping patients receive immediate life-saving care within Swanage and the surrounding area. You can find out more about Community First Responders at:

www.swast.nhs.uk/community-first-responders.

Maggie Hardy also joined us to explain how the Swanage Community Defibrillator Project interfaces with the Ambulance Service.

Natasha Ritchie, Practice Manager, also attended our meeting and explained that the Practice is now inviting some patients to book appointments via a personalised link sent by text. Please do not ignore any such texts sent to you by the Practice.

We also received updates from Purbeck Parky's and Dementia Friendly Purbeck.

Our next meeting will be held at the Surgery on **Tuesday 13 May 2025 at 6:00pm**, when we will be agreeing our priorities for the next year.

You can find more information about the PPG, including Minutes of our meetings and our current Priorities, at: www.swanagemedical.org.uk/pages/Patient-Participation-Group. If you are interested in joining the PPG, please contact Natasha Ritchie, the Practice Manager, or email the PPG directly at ppgswanage@gmail.com.

New 10 Year Health Plan for England

Please may I also draw your attention to a new survey on the Change NHS website (www.change.nhs.uk), which seeks people's views on their priorities for change in the NHS. The survey focuses on the ideas that have emerged from the engagement process, which has been taking place since the Autumn, and will help finalise the new 10 Year Health Plan for England. The Survey will close on **Friday 14th April 2025**.

Mrs Margaret Broadhurst (Dr Margaret Guy)
Chair, Swanage Medical Practice PPG



Isle of Purbeck Golf Club - Spring is on its Way!

Spring is just around the corner, bringing warmer weather and longer days—we can't wait!

In the meantime, we're keeping things lively with plenty of events to get us through the last of the cold days. March wraps up with our Mother's Day Celebration and a delightful Sunday Roast. Then, on Saturday, April 5th, we welcome Helena Debono and Charlie Bates for our next Jazz Evening. Fresh off a string of sold-out shows in London's West End, they're now touring the UK to promote their extraordinary new album—featuring a 55-piece orchestra, orchestrated by Bates and sung beautifully by Debono. Expect swinging jazz classics, heartfelt ballads, and some original songs they've crafted together. This will be a night to remember at the Isle of Purbeck Golf Club—don't miss it!

Looking ahead, we're excited to celebrate Easter on Sunday, April 20th, with a special Sunday menu. We're offering two 2 seatings, the first from 12:00-12:30pm and the second seating from 3:00-3:30pm. Reservations are required, so be sure to book your spot early!

Golf Season is Finally Here! At long last, golf weather is making a return! We can't wait to see golfers back on the course, enjoying the ever-improving greens. Here are our April rates for the Purbeck Course (18 Holes): Saturday: £75 / Friday & Sunday: £70 / Monday–Thursday: £65 / Twilight Rates (after 2 PM): £45 (Mon–Thurs), £50 (Fri & Sun), £55 (Sat).

The Dene Course (9 Holes) remains a fantastic deal at just £14, or £18 for two rounds. Juniors can play for £8 (9 Holes) or £12 (18 Holes)—a great opportunity to get out on the course before peak green fees rise in May!

We're Moving Up in the Rankings! We're thrilled to share that Isle of Purbeck Golf Club has been ranked #78 in England's Top 100 Courses by National Club Golfer — an 11-spot improvement from last year! Come experience the course for yourself — we've made some fantastic enhancements, and we think you'll love how it plays.

For more details or to book your spot, visit our website, call, or email us. We look forward to seeing you soon!

01929 450361 • www.purbeckgolf.co.uk • iop@purbeckgolf.co.uk



The Village Hall Committee comprises representatives from various user groups including the Parish Council, Saint Nicholas' Church, the WI, the gardening club etc. In addition, there are up to six independent trustees representing the village. There have recently been a number of retirements so we are looking for some new Trustees to help run this essential part of the village community. If you're interested, please email

info@studlandvillagehall.co.uk

We're delighted to welcome our new Treasurer, Fiona Tucker. Fiona takes over from Peter Hool. The Committee want to express their gratitude for Peter's excellent work in keeping our finances "ship shape" over the last five years.

A reminder that we are still raising funds to replace our doors. If you would like to help, please go to our dedicated "gofundme" page at: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/help-us-keep-the-water-out-and-the-fun-in>

BRIDGE CLUB Meets every Monday from 6-8PM in Old Harry's Bar. Experienced players and beginner's welcome.

Virginia Lynch 01929 450177



Let us put a Spring in your step this April!
Serving a range of beers, ciders, cocktails and soft drinks, and we have a pool table!

Have you tried our super tasty freshly baked pizzas?
(You will find opposite Studland Stores, next to the Village Hall)
A warm welcome awaits you from our team
“Strangers may be friends you haven’t met yet at Old Harry Bar!”

April Events:

The Grand National – Live on our Big Screen!

Saturday 5th April – Open from 2pm - Race is at 4pm
Join us for a sweepstake and nibbles

A special date for your April diary:

*Old Harry Bar’s 30th Anniversary Party - Saturday 12th of April - 7pm
Buffet & Music. First drink at 1995 Prices on selected beers!*

Live Music:

Easter Saturday 19th April - 7pm – “Jim Etherington”

We will be Open EVERY DAY in The Easter Holidays!

USUAL OPENING HOURS

MONDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY & SATURDAY: 5 pm - 11 pm
SUNDAY: 3pm – 10pm

FRIDAY MEAT RAFFLE & SATURDAY MEMBERS DRAW – weekly at 9pm.

Tasty Italian Stone Baked Pizza -Available to eat in or take away
Order on 01929 450561

12" Margherita - £11 - (Tomato sauce and mozzarella cheese)
Plus, a wide selection of extra toppings to choose from at 50p each

See: Facebook, Instagram, our member’s newsletter or visit:

www.OLDHARRYBAR.CO.UK



studlandparishcouncil.org

Update from Studland Parish Council March

2025: Studland Parish Council (SPC) met on 17th March.

All Councillors were present, with the exception of Mike Ferguson and Peter Bowyer, who are currently ill. Emma Wright represented the National Trust, and Cllr Ben Wilson also attended.

Minutes of the SPC meeting of 17th February were confirmed.

Emma Wright, in the National Trust report, informed SPC:

*The Beaver release in Little Sea had been completed. There are now 7 beavers in Little Sea.

*Dorset Beach PSPO (Public Space Protection Order) is open to comment until 20th April: this sets out to ban antisocial behaviours in specific parts of Dorset, including lighting disposable barbecues on heathlands or camping on the beach.

*The NT are organizing various running events, plus a beach clean-up on Shell Beach on 13th April.

*The Middle Beach toilet block will be moved shortly; some redundant telegraph poles removed from the car park, and some work will be done to the entrance.

Cllr Ben Wilson, our Dorset councillor, reported:

*Residents could request that the proposed PSPO be extended to also cover Ferry Road – in order to ban overnight parking - and also to Heath Green Road. Residents have until April 20th to register their views. This can be accessed at <https://consultation.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/c-e/studland/>.

*Ben, and our Clerk, Tim Watton, have prepared a submission to request a 20mph throughout the village. This application will be submitted imminently.

*Ben also reported that the planning application for Sweet Haven had been approved, despite opposition from many residents. Details of this application are on the Dorset Council website.

Three further planning applications had been received – for a new garden room at The Knapp, a single storey extension at 10 Heatherside, and some changes to the chimneys at 4 Alma Cottage. SPC had no objections to these.

Cllr Lyn Hool reported that the Community Speed Watch team was being reactivated; also, that the team would be participating in Dorset Speed Awareness Week in early April. If any residents would like to join the team, please contact Lyn Hool.

One item of crime was reported: someone had broken into the telephone box on The Green. Apart from damage to the lock, little other damage was done.

The Clerk reported a major water leak was discovered in external pipes supplying Beach Road toilets. The Clerk and Cllr Steve Smith are dealing with this.

Our Tree Officer, Chrissie Neville, commented that several residents participated in the recent Veteran Tree Day, helping in both planting trees and clearing unwanted vegetation. Chrissie has asked the NT for a copy of the Ancient Tree survey for Studland, which was undertaken by a resident several years ago.

David Battle reported that the eco-moorings will be refitted off South Beach soon, starting on 31st March.

Steve Smith also commented on the works to reinstate the water supply to the Beach Road toilets, and the telephone box. He is also going to inspect the boundary posts around the playing field, as some have rotted.

Tim Yeandle, our Rights of Way Officer, had discovered a fallen tree on footpath 22; he reported this to the NT, who cleared it within a week.

It was agreed to pay outstanding invoices.

The ballot on pedestrian safety had been completed, and a report received from those doing the counting/analysis: a total of 263 residents had voted in the ballot, which is a large number given the size of our village. 85 residents had voted in favour of a pedestrian crossing, and 162 against; 162 residents voted for a form of traffic calming in support of a 20mph speed zone. The results of this ballot means that SPC will inform Dorset Council that there is insufficient support in the village at present for a pedestrian crossing.

The Chairman thanked all residents for participating in this ballot, and also thanked those residents responsible for the counting/analysis. He also said that whilst the mood of the village was not to have a pedestrian crossing, the issue of crossing Ferry and Swanage Roads was a significant concern for some residents; he asked all residents to be vigilant in assisting other residents who might need assistance in crossing the road.

In response to a grant application from the Purbeck Film Festival, SPC agreed to donate £250.

The schedule of SPC meetings for the rest of the year was considered. The main change from the norm (i.e. meetings on the third Monday of the month) was for the April meeting – which will be held on April 28th – to avoid the Bank Holiday.

No update had been received on either the Knoll House or Ferry inquiries.

We are obliged to hold an Annual Parish Meeting each year, on a late afternoon on a Saturday in May. This year this will take place on Saturday 17th May at 18.30 in the Village Hall. All residents will be welcome. More details on this will be given after the next SPC meeting.

Residents may also like to note that some activities are being planned to celebrate VE Day on Thursday May 8th, and on Saturday May 10th. Again, more details will follow.

Our next SPC meeting will be held on Monday 28th April at 19.30. items for the agenda will include: next funding round from Perenco / Wytch Farm, planning for the Annual Parish Meeting, update on VE Day celebrations, hopefully the results of the Ferry and Knoll House inquiries, plus a review of Standing Orders and appointment of our Internal Auditor.

Nick Boulter, Chairman

Words of Hope and Inspiration by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

‘People Matter’

“All the great works of charity have always been inspired by a flame of compassion which has burnt brightly in the hearts of men and women. Humanity has its many blemishes, but deep down in every soul there is a store of good will waiting to be called upon”

1966

“Whether we believe in God or not, I think most of us have a sense of the spiritual, that recognition of a deeper meaning and purpose in our lives, and I believe that this sense flourishes despite the pressures of our world.

To many of us, our beliefs are of fundamental importance. For me, the teachings of Christ and my own personal accountability before God provide a framework in which I try to lead my life.

I believe that the Christian message, in the words of a familiar blessing, remains profoundly important to us all:

‘Go forth into the world in peace, be of good courage, hold fast that which is good, render to no man evil for evil, strengthen the faint-hearted, support the weak, help the afflicted, honour all men’

It is a simple message of compassion and yet as powerful as ever today, two thousand years after Christ’s birth”

2000

“Over the years, those who have seemed to me to be the most happy, contented and fulfilled have always been the people who have lived the most outgoing and unselfish lives; the kind of people who are generous with their talents or their time. They tend to have some sense that life itself is full of blessings and is a precious gift for which we should be thankful.”

2008

What's the Big Idea? Introducing the Books of the Bible:

An Introduction to the Old Testament: 1 & 2 Samuel: Originally a single work, focusing on Samuel, Saul and David, around 1,000 BC, mid-way between Abraham and Jesus. It was Samuel who established the monarchy in Israel after the period of the judges. He was commanded by God to give the people a king, although their request is seen as a rejection of God's rule over Israel (8:7). The people simply wanted to be like other nations, however their king was still subject to God's law and the word of the prophet. Although Samuel anointed Saul, he soon showed an unwillingness to submit to these requirements, leading to his rejection as king (15:23). God chose David as Saul's successor, and 1 Samuel depicts David's years of waiting until the right time arrived to claim the throne. 2 Samuel depicts David's rule, where the nation prospers and its enemies defeated. The promise of the perfect king is fulfilled in Jesus Himself, as David's descendant. The second half of the book depicts the darker side of David's reign, describing his weaknesses and failures, including his adultery with Bathsheba and the rebellion of his son Absalom. Nevertheless, David remained a man after God's own heart: *'The LORD does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.'* (1 Samuel 16:7). The characters in this book are not always great examples of faith, however, *'They do not show us how we should live but how in fact we do live, authenticating the reality of our daily experience as the stuff that God uses to work his purposes of salvation in us and in the world.'* (Eugene Peterson).

An Introduction to 1 & 2 Kings: A single literary work telling the history of Israel's monarchy from the end of David's reign until the Babylonian exile following the fall of Jerusalem (586 BC). After Solomon's reign, Israel was divided into two kingdoms: Israel to the north and Judah in the south. In the north 20 rulers reigned over 210 years until the fall of Samaria (722 BC). In the southern kingdom there were also 20 rulers, spanning a period of 345 years. This account is not like reading a modern history book. The author views the story through the lens of God's relationship with His people. The welfare of Israel depended on their leaders' trust and obedience in God, e.g. Solomon building the Temple, as well as listening to the prophets e.g. Elijah and Elisha. The kings who receive the most attention are those whose disobedience is greatest (e.g. Ahab and Manasseh) or those who truly follow God (e.g. Hezekiah and Josiah). The book ends with exile in Babylon, fulfilling God's warning of the consequences of disobedience for both kingdoms (cf Dt 28:64–68). However, this doesn't mean that there is no hope for the future. At the end of the book, Jehoiachin is released from prison in Babylon, and he is given a place of honour (2Ki 25:27–30). The future remains open for God to fulfill His promises to the house of David. *'We begin to realise that if God's sovereignty is never cancelled out by the so deeply sin-flawed leaders ('kings') in both our culture and our church, we can quite cheerfully exult in God's sovereignty as it is being exercised in all the circumstantial details of the actual present.'* (E Peterson).



World Day of Prayer

Thank you to all those who attended or supported our service this year and helped bake and set up on 7th March 2025.

A total of **£299.50** was raised for the benefit of the women of the Cook Islands.

Barbara Matthews



Christian Aid 2025

Thank you to all those who attended, supported, baked and helped set up the Ash Wednesday Service on 5th March 2025.

£100.95 was raised from the Service and the Tea for the benefit of Christian Aid.

Barbara Matthews

Don't be an April Fool – come to the Studland Men's Breakfast on 5th April

The Studland Men's Breakfast is held on the first Saturday of each month in the Church Hall. It runs on a café style – so come any time between 8.30am – 10am for a great breakfast – and great conversation. The menu includes bacon rolls, sausages and black pudding, together with cereals, toast and marmalade (or honey) – with unlimited tea and coffee. There are options for vegetarians and vegans too – and, of course, we provide gluten free choices, too. There is no charge for the breakfast, but if you feel you can make a donation, we would be most grateful. The important thing is that you join us!

The Purbeck Six

- Six-foot-high enclosures have been put up in preparation of the arrival of the organic pigs that will forage the heathland in the spring. It is believed the pigs are capable of jumping normal stock fencing but by keeping them in pens for a few days' beforehand tricks there eye sight. The pigs are to be known as the Purbeck Six.

Songs for Spring: This spring, the Belvedere Singers are delighted to welcome a very special soloist to their concert on 17th May.



Miro Treharne (previously Miro Vosper) is a mezzo-soprano who has been involved since her early school days with musical groups in Swanage. The connection to the Belvedere Singers is strong. She was a singing pupil with the Belvedere's former Music Director, Helen Attfield, and has been performing at the choir's concerts since she was a very young singer.

This May, Miro will perform three songs from Schumann's 12 Gedichte von Justinus Kerner; Le Temps des Lilas from Chausson's Poème de l'Amour et de la Mer; and the UK premier of the song cycle 'Crossings', written by the choir's

Music Director Clive Watkiss, and his daughter, Arabella Watkiss.

Miro is currently studying at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance, and this September she will further her musical studies at The Royal Academy of Music. She has performed as a soloist with established organisations on numerous occasions, including in 'Music for A While' with the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, and regularly performs song recitals at the Old Naval College, St James Piccadilly and the Polish Hearth Club. Miro has a particular interest in English Song. Along with collaborative pianist Pietro Iacopini, she was winner of the English Song Duo Competition in 2023 and the Elisabeth Schumann Lieder Competition in 2024.

The choir will perform its usual eclectic mixture of choral works, including Ubi Caritas by Ole Gjeilo; As Torrents in Summer by Edward Elgar; some beautiful madrigals; and lighter pieces inspired by Flanders and Swann, and Gilbert and Sullivan. There will be something for everyone.

The concert will be held at 7.30pm in St Mary's Church, Church Hill, Swanage BH19 1HU. Tickets are £9 on the door or from choir members. Under 18s free.

There will be a retiring collection for Swanage Dementia Friendly Group.

Follow the choir on Facebook, The Belvedere Singers, or go to their website www.belvederesingers.org.uk

ACCLAIMED actor Sir Mark Rylance has become the Patron of Planet Purbeck in a major boost for the growing community group:

The Oscar-winning star of stage and screen – best-known recently for his brilliant portrayal of scheming Thomas Cromwell in TV's *Wolf Hall* – said he was “honoured” to accept the position. And Planet Purbeck said it was “beyond thrilled” to have the support of such a significant figurehead.



Sir Mark, a dedicated environmentalist who regards Purbeck as his home, is a firm believer in the “bonding” power of local communities to influence an uncertain future. He considers Planet Purbeck to be a prime example. And he shares its vision of protecting and enhancing the area’s glorious natural resources, involving residents in conservation projects and doing what it can to alleviate climate change.

Sir Mark said: “I’m honoured to become the Patron of Planet Purbeck. When I was asked to do so, I had no hesitation in accepting. I note wise advice, as the international scene becomes so volatile, that forming stronger bonds amongst ourselves in local communities is the best way to prepare for all possible futures. Working together as a community to appreciate and improve our relationship with our small portion of earth, water, air and fire and all our fellow plant and animal communities is the best insurance we can procure for the future.”

When acting commitments allow, Sir Mark hopes to actively support Planet Purbeck beyond his patronage and is currently formulating possibilities. He said: *“I have been aware for some time of the group’s determined work in conservation and ecology, which is dear to my heart. It seems to me that in recent times they have stepped up a gear by becoming directly involved in some fantastic local projects such as the Swanage Streams Partnership to revitalise the Swan Brook and efforts to introduce Purbeck’s natural wonders to more schoolchildren via the Purbeck Goes Wild initiative. It will be a pleasure for me to see how these programmes progress.”*

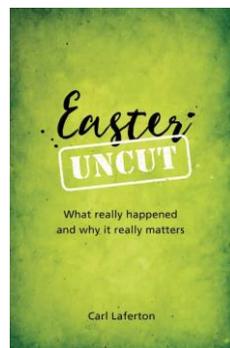
Planet Purbeck’s chair Doug Skinner said: *“I am beyond thrilled that Sir Mark has become our Patron. It is so important for Planet Purbeck, at this stage in its development, in terms of raising awareness and attracting additional support. An endorsement from such a renowned figure is both a big thankyou to all those who have worked tirelessly to get us where we are and massive encouragement for us to push further with our aims. We have a large programme of activities planned and we are hugely grateful for Sir Mark’s support.”*

See planetpurbeck.org for upcoming events.

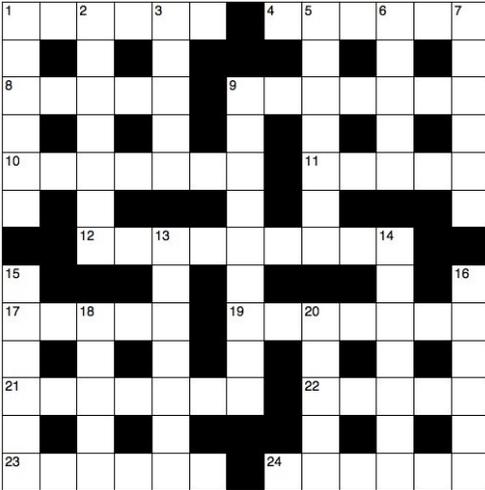
Book Review: Easter Uncut – what really happened and why it really matters, By Carl Laferton.

Most diaries are boring. This one isn’t.

Easter Uncut takes readers to one man’s account of a week of his life: a week of great plans, shattered dreams, nightmare scenes and renewed hope. It’s what we call Easter, without any of the fluffy bits. This accessible, faithful book will engage, inform and excite non-Christians by taking them to the uncut Easter story, and to the wonder of the message of the cross and empty tomb.



Puzzle Place – Crossword – Ans P31



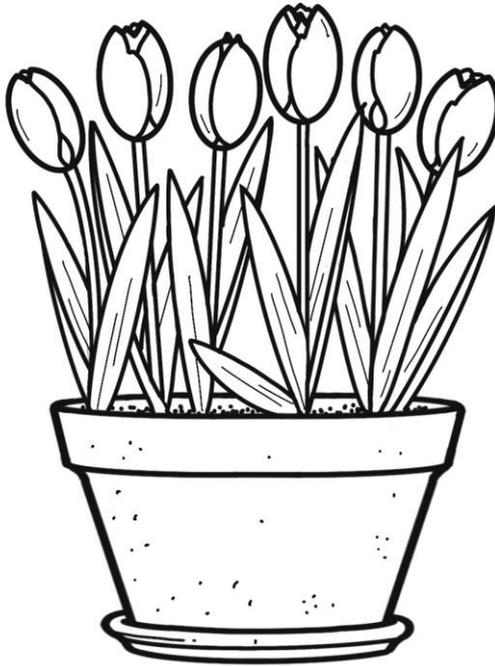
Across

1. Relating to the whole universe (6)
4. The disciple who made the remark in 8 Across (John 20:24) (6)
8. 'Unless I see the nail marks — — hands, I will not believe it' (John 20:25) (2,3)
9. He urged King Jehoiakim not to burn the scroll containing Jeremiah's message (Jeremiah 36:25) (7)
10. Baptist minister and controversial founder of America's Moral Majority, Jerry — (7)
11. 'Look, here is — . Why shouldn't I be baptized?' (Acts 8:36) (5)
12. Repossessed (Genesis 14:16) (9)
17. Port from which Paul sailed on his last journey to Rome (Acts 27:3–4) (5)
19. 'Moses was not aware that his face was — because he had spoken with the Lord' (Exodus 34:29) (7)
21. Roonwit, C.S. Lewis's half-man, half-horse (7)
22. Grill (Luke 24:42) (5)
23. 'The lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the — apostles' (Acts 1:26) (6)
24. 'I was sick and you looked after me, I was in — and you came to visit me' (Matthew 25:36) (6)

Down

1. Coastal rockfaces (Psalm 141:6) (6)
2. Academic (1 Corinthians 1:20) (7)
3. Publish (Daniel 6:26) (5)
5. For example, the Crusades (4,3)
6. 11 Across is certainly this (5)
7. He reps (anag.) (6)
9. Liberator (Psalm 18:2) (9)
13. Man who asked the question in 11 Across was in charge of all her treasury (Acts 8:27) (7)
14. They must be 'worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine' (1 Timothy 3:8) (7)
15. The human mind or soul (6)
16. 'O Lord, while precious children starve, the tools of war increase; their bread is — ' (Graham Kendrick) (6)
18. 'We played the flute for you, and you did not — ' (Matthew 11:17) (5)
20. Bared (anag.) (5)

Colouring in – for the children and the adults...



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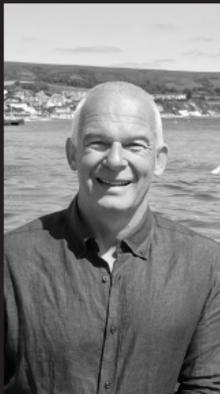
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Crossword Ans:

ACROSS: 1, Cosmic. 4, Thomas. 8, In his. 9, Delaiah. 10, Falwell. 11, Water. 12, Recovered. 17, Sidon. 19, Radiant. 21, Centaur. 22, Broil. 23, Eleven. 24, Prison.

DOWN: 1, Cliffs. 2, Scholar. 3, Issue. 5, Holy war. 6, Moist. 7, Sphere. 9, Deliverer. 13, Candace. 14, Deacons. 15, Psyche. 16, Stolen. 18, Dance. 20, Debar.



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