

Studland Parish News



August
2026



The Lord supports those that stumble,
and lifts up those who are down. Ps 145:14



St Nicholas Church Studland

See the Parish News in full colour –

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/9423/>

September deadline is: Friday August 21st 10am

sharonwestman@gmail.com / 01929 450358

Late contributions cannot be guaranteed.

Note from the editor...

The final month of the summer is upon us, how has it come around so quickly? Have you been taking the time to enjoy it, or is it perhaps too much for you? We all experience the seasons differently after all. For me I do love the lighter mornings and getting out before it gets too hot, stopping and chatting with other people doing the same. But I admit, the change of season is already on my mind for some reason and I don't think I am quite ready to see the summer behind me so I for one will be doing my best to savour this last month, make memories, and ensure I create some work life balance more in favour for life, I hope.

I will also be reflecting on Tony's words and his focus on how we 'shall just be'. Once again, he has got me thinking that bit more deeply, which I welcome. To experience a world where there is no need for masks, no need to measure ourselves against anyone's gaze, no pressure to perform, no anxiety about how we're seen, no bending ourselves to fit others' expectations. A world where we can simply exist, free and unfiltered with no fear of not being ourselves. For me I think this starts from the inside out.

I draw attention to P20. Our village is full of 'Deborahs', and I express my thanks and gratitude to all you silent warriors of courage and faith.

Whatever your perspectives on summer, Tonys words, or 'Deborahs', I hope you enjoy the August edition of your Parish News.

Sharon Westman, Editor

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Hon. Secretary: VACANT

St Nicholas Church, Studland.
Rota of Readers and Sides Persons - August 2026

Date	Service	Sides Person	Readers	Readings
Sunday 2 nd August at 10.00am.	Family Communion and Baptisms. Trinity 9. <i>Rev. Tony Edmonds & Rev. Natalie Davies.</i>	Carol Wadley.	Cindy Yeandle.	Matthew 14, v 13 to 21.
Sunday 9 th August at 10.00am.	Holy Communion. Trinity 10. <i>Rev. Tony Edmonds.</i>	Ginny Stobart.	Margaret Chinchen. Keith Tillyard.	Romans 10, v 5 to 15. Matthew 14, v 22 to 33.
Sunday 16 th August at 10.00am.	Morning Prayer. Trinity 11. <i>Rev. Tony Higgins.</i>	Sally Hogsflesh.	June Fletcher. Eric Stobart.	Romans 11, v 1 to 2a & v 29 to 32. Matthew 15, v 21 to 28.
Sunday 23 rd August at 10.00am.	Holy Communion. Trinity 12. <i>Rev. Tony Edmonds.</i>	Carol Wadley.	David Hogsflesh. David Harley.	Romans 12, v 1 to 8. Matthew 16, v 13 to 20.
Sunday 23 rd August at 6.30pm.	Hymns & Pimm's. <i>Rev. Tony Edmonds.</i>	Eric Stobart.	TBA	TBA
Sunday 30 th August at 10.00am.	Holy Communion. Trinity 13. <i>Rev. Tony Higgins.</i>	Sally Hogsflesh.	Polly Warner. Jane Hawksworth.	Romans 12, v 9 to end. Matthew 16, v 21 to end.

Please contact Eric Stobart by email: eric@thestobarts.co.uk if any matters arise.

St Nicholas Parish News

Dear Friends,

Well, it's August, the month of sunshine, warm days, bright sands and the sparkling sea. It's time to hit the beach. Needless to say, the advertisers are busy extolling the virtues of holidays, beachwear and sunscreen. Reminding us of everything we need to stay healthy and look beautiful in the summer days that lie ahead.

In the Church Year, August brings us a truly bright and sparkling event: the Transfiguration. You can find it in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke. Jesus took his inner circle of friends, Peter, John and James, up to a mountain to pray. While they were there Jesus' appearance was utterly changed, there was dazzling light and he seemed to be accompanied by two of the "Old Testament Greats", Moses and Elijah. Unsurprisingly, Jesus' friends were terrified and Peter started yacking away about building shelters and so on. In the end they heard a voice which simply said: "This is my Son my Chosen, listen to Him". Whatever the interpretation, of this event, one thing is clear, these close friends were enabled to see Jesus for who he really is: not just a great teacher and preacher and healer, but God's special one, God's Son.

Now, if you're a bit squeamish you may not want to read the next bit...The great eighteenth century Scots poet, Robbie Burns wrote a poem entitled: "To A Louse, On Seeing One on a Lady's Bonnet at Church". It was clear to him that the lady in question had no idea of the creature's presence but just continued to toss and preen her hair. And let's not be sexist here...he could probably have seen the same thing on a gentleman's wig!

The final verse is:

*O wad some Pow'r the giftie gie us
To see oursel's as ithers see us!
It wad frae mony a blunder free us,
An' foolish notion:
What airs in dress an' gait wad lea'e us,
An' ev'n devotion!*

Burns challenges his readers to ask "Who am I pretending to be?" and "Would it be so awful if people saw me as I really am?". These seem like very modern questions in the age of seemingly wall-to-wall advertising, TikTok, Instagram and social media influencers.

The good news is, as God sees us through Jesus as amazing and beautiful. The ancient song writer, the psalmist writes:

*For it was you who formed my inward parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
¹⁴ I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
Wonderful are your works;
that I know very well. [Psalm 139 vs 14]*

The Christian belief is that if we can open our eyes and see Jesus for who he really is (just like Peter, James and John) then we can see and become who we are really meant to be. We are fully human people made in the image of God, infinitely loved, and redeemed by the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. There will be no need to pretend, no need to be concerned about how others see us, no need to worry whether we will be beautiful, bright and sparkly enough for the beach or anywhere else. We shall just be. As the Television Meerkat, Oleg would say: "Simple"

From the Registers information

Baptism:

James Charles Ignacy Hewitson - 5th July 2026

Marriages:

Jack Wood and Shannon Donelly - 6th June 2026

Antony Claud Raymond and Gabriella Leonie Bagnall - 4th July 2026

Huw John Reynolds and Georgina Isabella Daisy D'Arcy - 11th July 2026

Rev Tony Edmonds

Sally Maureen Wright

(Nee Boniface)

Woodhouse to Woodside.

1938 to 2026.

A big thank you to all who have been so kind with their words and thoughts. As of 04.06.26 the Air Ambulance donations in Mums name was £250. Thank you for your help for this so needed service here in the village.

A Poem in the Dorset dialect penned by Mum.

Whome.

Yer I be

Tiz the ony playe to be

In Studlan by the zee

Thick playe is for I

Till the day I do die

So yer I be

an this will do vor me.

From Karen, Adrian and Natalie.

Church Alive Writes...

I must admit to the last few months feeling somewhat of a blur. It feels like only yesterday that I was ordained priest, and yet Joseph and I are already preparing for our next chapter as we get ready to move to Windsor.



In September I will take up the role of Succentor at St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle, and Chaplain to St George's School. As Succentor, I will help lead and sing the daily worship, support the planning and administration of the Chapel's rich liturgical life, and share in the pastoral and teaching ministry of the College of St George. Alongside this, as School Chaplain, I will have the privilege of supporting the spiritual, emotional, and pastoral wellbeing of the pupils, staff, and families of St George's School.

It is both an exciting and a daunting opportunity to serve the community of St George's, Windsor Castle, the wider town, and, through the life of the Chapel, to support the King and the Royal Family. As we prepare for this move, I have found myself returning often to the words of Jeremiah 29:11: *"For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope."* They have been a great source of encouragement as we step into all that God has in store.

Leaving Swanage, Studland, and the Diocese of Salisbury will not be easy. We have had the most wonderful time here and have thoroughly enjoyed getting to know and serve this community. From the moment we arrived, we received such a warm welcome, and I have been so grateful for all the encouragement and support I have received as I have been getting to grips with being a priest and completing my training. Along the way I have met and worked with many wonderful people who have become dear friends, and for that I shall always be thankful.

My particular thanks must, of course, go to Revd Ian, who has been my Training Incumbent during my curacy. His wisdom, generosity, and deep love for priestly ministry have been an extraordinary gift to me during these formative years, and I will always be grateful for his guidance, encouragement, and example.

It has been a privilege for Joseph and I to serve this community and to share this chapter of our lives with you all. Please be assured that you will continue to be in our prayers, and we hope that you will remember us in yours as we begin this new season of ministry.

May God continue to bless each of our churches, and may he guide us all as we seek to follow him wherever he leads.

**With every blessing,
Revd Natalie**

Revd. Natalie's last Sunday in Swanage will be **9th August**. That day Natalie will be presiding and preaching at the 8am and 10.30am Eucharists at St Mary's with her final service being Choral Evensong at 6.30pm followed by refreshments. Natalie's installation in St George's Chapel will take place at Evensong at 5.15pm on 1st September. All are welcome. Parking is available in the town centre car parks. Please arrive to King Henry VIII gate by 5pm, the police officers on duty will let you know when the Chapel doors have opened (seating in the Quire is limited so early arrival is recommended to give the best chance of a view- the screen between Quire and Nave is unfortunately solid!).

Purbeck Deanery Link with Terekeka, South Sudan

The Purbeck Deanery is exploring how to build on the long-standing relationship between St Stephen's School, Terekeka, South Sudan, which has been nurtured for many years by the Wareham Benefice.

While the existing link has focused on supporting St Stephen's School, there is now an opportunity to widen this into a Deanery-wide partnership, strengthening our relationship not only with the school but also with the wider Diocese of Terekeka in line with the Salisbury Diocese's Sudan partnership.

A meeting of Deanery clergy in May considered how this link could be developed so that it becomes a shared ministry across Purbeck rather than relying on the enthusiasm of just a few individuals.

What happens next?

The immediate priority is to establish a Deanery Working Group to help develop and coordinate the partnership.

Each benefice is being asked to nominate:

- one lay representative with an interest in global mission or overseas partnerships; and
- The working group will meet with Mike Quinlan in Wareham to shape the future of the partnership and consider practical ways of engaging churches across the Deanery.

The **ideal volunteer** is someone who is enthusiastic about developing relationships, communicating stories to the congregation, and helping keep this international partnership alive. Previous experience of overseas mission, education or working abroad is welcome but not essential.

If you are interested in becoming our church's representative, please make your interest to one of the clergy team.

Together we have an opportunity to build a meaningful partnership that enables us to learn from, pray for, and support our siblings in Christ in South Sudan, while enriching the life and mission of our own churches.

Revd Natalie Davies



STUDLAND WI – Wednesday 8th July 2026

The President welcomed all members who attended the meeting. Apologies were given for those who were unable to attend.

Our meeting started with an update from County giving us information on our annual meeting on October 15th at The Lighthouse in Poole. Ladies were able to sign up for tickets and get info on the speakers that will be attending. We were also given information on the newly elected Board of Trustees.

Our “grockles” evening is next month, and all information was given for our annual trip to Swanage to play croquet followed by a fish & chip supper. This year we are getting take away and having supper at the croquet club, so let’s hope the weather is kind to us.

We had a change to our advertised speaker at this month’s meeting, and we were delighted to welcome Sue Outhwaite from T. Snooks of Bridport talking all things hats.

What an enjoyable evening we all had learning the history of many different types of hats. Sue had brought with her a very large collection for us all to admire, learn how to wear correctly and to try on. Not just lady’s hats but men’s, lady’s fascinators and parasols. The hall was an array of colour and laughter as we passed them around and tried them on.

Sue was full of knowledge about them all and clearly loved her subject. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the evening.

Our competition for the evening was a “specimen bloom” which was won by Sarah Ferguson.

With August being our Croquet evening there will be no meeting.

Next meeting is Wednesday 9th September 7.30pm at Studland Village Hall.

Speaker is Nicola Fidgen talking about “The Labyrinth Pathway to Peace in a Stressful World”.

WI is here for all ladies of all ages, so why not come along and join our friendly group. Fun, friendship and plenty of laughter. We meet the 2nd Wednesday of the month, and we would love to welcome you to join us.

Lynn Elliott - President



STUDLAND GARDENING ASSOCIATION

Whilst the prolonged sunshine, extreme temperature and lack of rain is great if you are on holiday, it has put a big strain on our gardens.

Our water butts are empty and we are depending on our hose pipes. Pick what you water carefully, new plants and containers are particularly vulnerable.

It's the time to prune your wisteria and trained apples and pears. Deadhead your flowers regularly to encourage more flowers, snip back to the first leaf below the flower. Collect seeds as they form seed heads for next year.

Harvest your courgettes and beans and lift your root vegetables and cut back your herbs. Spinach, Lettuce and rocket, spring onions and cabbage can be planted now and seeds such as California poppies, cornflowers, pot marigolds and forget me knots can be planted for next year's flowering.

Don't forget to submit your entries for the Summer Show or if you're not entering, pop into the Village Hall on the 1st August to admire the flowers, vegetables and crafts, there are some great raffle prizes and as always delicious cake to have with your tea. We have a plant store selling various plants and also, we are selling off some of the entry produce.

If you have any spare produce or potted plants you've grown on or split, please drop them in to the village hall on the morning of the show to be added to the plant stand.

Studland History Group

The next meeting is on Wednesday 19th August at 2.30pm in the Village Hall. The speaker is John Patrick with "A Random Look at Old Swanage".

All welcome Visitors £4 To include tea/coffee and biscuits.

On 16th September we have "The Bournemouth Tram Disaster 1908", with Stephen Yeoman.



Joyce Meates Secretary 07816 988890



Updates from the National Trust:

Puffling in Purbeck! For the first time in decades, there has been a confirmed sighting of a puffin fledgling in Purbeck (known as a

puffling). It was spotted in a rock crevice near Dancing Ledge by the volunteers who have been monitoring the puffins over the summer. The sighting was the culmination of weeks of watching the adult birds courting, mating, nest building, and then carrying fish to their chicks. The project is being led by marine ornithologist, Dr Richard Caldow, with volunteers from the Purbeck Natural History Forum.

Pufflings are distinguished from the adult birds by their beaks, which are smaller and grey, without the iconic orange and blue colours. This puffling has now left the ledge and will stay alone far out at sea, before possibly returning to its birthplace in two years' time.

(Photo: Adult puffins, Martin Shaw)





Spotlight on our most theatrical birds: We're very happy to report that lapwings have successfully raised chicks on the Studland Heaths this year. These ground-nesting birds are incredibly vulnerable, so a huge thank you to everyone who has kept dogs on leads and given them the space they need to thrive.

With their shimmering green-and-purple plumage and distinctive crests, lapwings were once common

breeding birds in Purbeck but are now a rare sight outside the winter months.

Their theatrical antics include:

- Males tumble and zoom through the air in dramatic courtship displays.
- Parents bravely defend their nests, even faking injury to lure predators away.
- They do 'foot-trembling', vibrating their feet on the ground to disturb invertebrates in the soil.
- The haunting 'pee wit-wit-wit' call gave rise to their other name, 'peewit'.

(Photo: Lapwing, Rob Coleman)

New website for marine partnership: The Studland Bay Marine Partnership now has a new website – showcasing the seagrass beds and seahorses, how the eco-moorings are conserving this fragile habitat, and all the organisations who are working together to protect this special place.

Monitoring of the seahorses is now underway every two weeks by students from the University of Southampton, The Seahorse Trust and local volunteer divers. So far numbers have been good – we'll update you with the results at the end of the season.

Check out the website here: <https://www.studlandbay.org/>

(Photo: Spiny seahorse, The Seahorse Trust)



Lighting up the hedgerows: We are hearing reports of encouraging numbers of glow-worms this year along the Purbeck coastline. We are hugely grateful to the volunteers from the Purbeck Natural History Forum who give up their time to monitor glow-worms and other species.

Glow-worms have a fascinating life cycle. The larvae can live for up to three years, feeding on snails. The adult beetles only live for a few weeks and don't feed at all – all their energy is spent on mating. Although the eggs, larvae and adult males all glow, it's the adult females who shine the brightest.

(Photo: Glow-worm, Mike Wenham)

Goat grazing on Purbeck Heaths: Goats are currently grazing on National Trust land on the Purbeck Heaths. This is part of a carefully-managed conservation grazing trial designed to help restore and maintain this important wetland habitat.



Due to warmer conditions, bog myrtle, a native but fast-growing species, has increasingly dominated parts of the heaths. This is affecting species that depend on these wetlands, including the rare southern damselfly. The goats, owned by the Salt Pig, are being managed within a secure electric-fenced enclosure and the site is regularly monitored. Please don't approach or feed the goats and keep dogs on a short lead when near the grazing area.

(Photo: Southern damselfly, Mark Singleton)

If you have any queries, email us on purbeck@nationaltrust.org.uk.

Cathy Lewis, National Trust

Corfe Castle Surgery/The Patient Participation Group News

As we continue to deal with the hot weather, we just wanted to remind all patients that if on the day of your appointment the heat is too much for travelling to the practice, we can change certain appointments to telephone calls.

Please look out for family, friends and neighbours who may be more vulnerable in the heat and follow NHS guidance regarding how to stay cool, avoiding sun exposure in the hottest part of the day and staying in the shade where possible.

Although I have just talked about the heat, we are fast approaching flu season! We will start vaccinating from 1st October so please await your invitation to the practice for your appointment. The vaccines are ordered and we look forward to vaccinating you soon.

Finally, and on a less positive note, we have started to display figures on missed appointments for the previous month. We have noticed that the amount of wasted clinic hours has recently increased and we would like to remind patients to cancel appointments in good time if it is not needed so that we have the opportunity to offer the appointment to another patient.

May -71 'Did not attend' appointments = 14 and a half hours wasted clinic time
June - 72 'Did not attend' appointments = 15 and a half hours wasted clinic time
We appreciate your support of the whole practice team.
Please contact us with any queries.

Kerry Norman, Practice Manager

Swanage Medical Practice Patient Participation Group

Newsletters about making the best use of local health services

The Patient Participation Group (PPG) has produced a series of six newsletters about making the best use of local health services. All six newsletters can now be found on the Practice website.

The newsletters cover the following topics:

1. Sources of information, advice and support on health issues
2. Keeping Well and Self Care
3. Services provided by Community Pharmacies
4. Community Health Services you can refer yourself to
5. Maternity Services and Services for Children, Young People and Families
6. Mental Health Services.

Please do take a look. Printable versions of the six newsletters have now also been produced by the PPG. Hard copies are available at the Surgery and at The Focus Centre in Swanage. The printable versions of the newsletters will also be made available on the Practice website, so you can print out your own copies.

PPG Meetings

The PPG last met on 14th July 2026, when we were pleased to hear that more patients are choosing to use SystmConnect to communicate with the Practice and to request medical advice. Please note that this service is only available during Surgery Opening Hours: 8:00am - 6.30pm, Monday to Friday (excluding all UK bank holidays). We also discussed the results of this year's national GP Patient Survey. More information about the GP Patient Survey can be found at: www.gp-patient.co.uk.

The PPG will next be meeting at the Surgery on Tuesday 8th September 2026 at 6:00pm. You can find out more about the PPG, including Minutes of our meetings and our current priorities, on the Practice website at: www.swanagemedical.org.uk/pages/Patient-Participation-Group – or just click on the PPG tab on the homepage.

If you are interested in joining the PPG, please contact Natasha Ritchie, the Practice Manager, or email the PPG directly at ppgswanage@gmail.com.

We would be particularly pleased to hear from anyone who would be interested in taking on the role of Secretary for the PPG.

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

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

Virginia Lynch 01929 450177



Studland Village Hall

Can you help? We are looking for volunteers to help us with grant applications. There are several organisations that provide funding for village halls and help with tapping this potential source of income would be much appreciated. You would not have to join the committee (unless you wanted to!) and no previous experience is necessary. If you are interested, please email info@studlandvillagehall.co.uk

One future project requiring funding are the drains. A recent survey has exposed extensive damage to the original system and we are awaiting the quote with some trepidation!



Isle of Purbeck Golf Club

August on the Fairway, Christmas on the Calendar

There's still plenty of summer golf to enjoy and August is shaping up to be a great month on the course. We've got a couple of Open events lined up, giving non-members the chance to play our Purbeck Course at a discounted rate alongside some friendly competition, good food, and the possibility of winning a prize!

Here's a list of the August Opens:

- Junior Boys' & Girls' Open – 3rd August
- Seniors' Open – 5th August
- Ladies' Open – 7th August
- Texas Scramble Open – 29th August

If an Open isn't your idea of a relaxing afternoon, come play with your mates and chill with some beers afterwards or have lunch or breakfast first and then go out for some fun on the course after your meal. Our 18-hole green fees on the Purbeck course are £120 on Saturdays, £95 on Fridays and Sundays, and £85 from Monday to Thursday. Looking for a later tee time? Take advantage of our twilight rates after 2PM: just £55 Monday through Thursday, £65 on Friday and Sunday, and £80 on Saturdays.

People are booking Christmas early this year so we have published our Christmas Menu early! We're now taking bookings for weekend parties and lunchtime celebrations. All the details are on our website.

Whether you're coming for golf, food, or festivities — we look forward to welcoming you! Please do remember our dress code is Smart Casual.

See our website for more details. If you have any questions or wish to book, feel free to call or email us.

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



Join us for our 9th Annual Beer Festival

(Bank Holiday weekend – 28th – 31st August 2025)

4 days of Live Music - Huge range of Real Ales & Ciders - Tasty Food!

LIVE MUSIC LINE UP:

- Friday 28th August: Open 3pm – 11pm
6pm: Phil King / 9pm: Peter Cooley
- Saturday 29th August: Open 1pm – 11pm
3pm: Jim Etherington / 6pm: Surfing Birds / 9pm: Decatonics
- Sunday 30th August: Open 1pm – 11pm
3pm: Dorset Gene Pool / 6pm: Millie Watson / 9pm: Nory J
- Monday 31st August: Open 1pm 11pm
3pm: The Martin Warman Duo / 6pm: Feverstreet

*(Please note we will not be serving pizzas during the beer festival
but various other food options will be available!)*

At Old Harry Bar we serve beers, ciders, wines, spirits & soft drinks to Studland locals and we particularly welcome visitors in our family and dog friendly bar.

You will find us opposite the shop, tucked just behind the village hall.

We have a full-sized pool table; board games and we also serve tasty stone baked pizzas!

Usual OPENING HOURS – 7 Days a week for Summer

MON, TUES, WED, THURS, FRI & SAT Open: 5 pm - 11 pm

SUNDAYS Open: 3pm – 10pm

SATURDAY NIGHT MEMBERS DRAW – weekly at 9pm

(You must be a member and be there in person for a chance to win!)

Italian Stone baked Pizzas

(Available to eat in or take away - Order on 01929 450561)

12" Margherita - £12 - (Tomato sauce and mozzarella cheese)

Plus, a wide selection of extra toppings to choose from at 50p each

Try our deal: Pizza with 2 toppings and 2 drinks (pint, wine or spirit & mixer) for £20!

Why not let us do the cooking? Perfect after a long day at the beach!

See: Facebook, Instagram, our members newsletter or visit:

www.oldharrybar.co.uk

Update from Studland Parish Council July 2026

Studland Parish Council met on July 20th. All Councillors were present: Steve Smith was given a special welcome back from his illness. Emma Wright from the National Trust also attended.

Under Public Participation, a resident commented that the Fire Brigade claimed that – during the recent fire near Agglestone Rock – residents were warned about the fire by the fire brigade. However, no residents say they were contacted. Mark Elliott is going to contact the fire brigade to ask who they contacted and what was the cause of the fire.

Emma Wright had submitted a report on behalf of the National Trust (NT):

- *Owners of beach huts on South Beach have been contacted by the NT to “prepare for the future” and to indicate their preference for hut removal. The NT is organising an online meeting for beach hut owners in September.

- *Emergency works are being undertaken to Shell Bay toilets; temporary ones are in place. The work should have been completed by 24th July.

- *During the summer holidays, the Salt Pig will be operating a pop-up food offer on Friday evenings at Knoll Beach; and the Sandy Salt Pig at Middle Beach will also be operating later during the summer.

- *British rowing U19 championships will be taking place off Knoll Brach on 10th and 11th August.

Emma was asked about motor homes / converted horse boxes overnighiting at Middle Beach car park. Residents are concerned that this could be the start of a trend. Emma says the NT has a plan to move these motor homes on.

Councillors were also concerned about the risk of fires from portable barbecues, and asked the NT to put up more “no Barbecue” signs, and to take action quickly when barbecues on / near the beach are spotted.

No report had been received from Cllr Ben Wilson. He did however send the draft of an article for the Purbeck Gazette calling on local shops to stop selling portable barbecues.

On Highways, Stephen Yeoman reported that he had told Dorset Council about a blocked drain in Heath Green Road, and that Dorset Council cleared this within a few days. He also reported that a new “Stop” sign has been placed at the School Lane / Swanage Road junction.

No crime has been reported in the past month.

Under Officer reports:

- *Chrissie Neville (Environment and Trees) had met with Mike Singleton of the NT about plans for our volunteer tree wardens to prune / tidy up the six orchards in Studland this Autumn. Chrissie and the Tree Wardens are being advised by Gerry Edwards, who the RHS national expert on apple trees and their pruning.

- *Mark Elliott (currently Studland Care Officer) had the broken locks repaired on the Beach Road toilets.

Stephen Yeoman reported he had attended a meeting at Morden Village Hall organised by Dorset Council on “Community Conversations”: this is part of a programme to see which services can be devolved to a more local level. There is a follow up meeting in September which Stephen will also attend.

Lyn Hool reported that Community Speed Watch activities had been reduced during the very hot weather, at the advice of Dorset Police. However, new sessions are now being organized.

SPC approved the costs and design of a new bench to celebrate the contribution made by Alan Churchill to SPC and to the community; this will be sited opposite the Village Hall.

At previous meetings, residents had expressed concerns about parking along Heath Green Road – particularly about overnight camper vans, and excessive parking from visitors to the heath. Some proposals had been discussed about increasing parking restrictions, and organizing a consultation of local residents. There was a further discussion about this issue at this SPC meeting; several local residents participated in this. On one hand, more restrictions on parking could be welcome to deter overnight campers, and to keep the road free for traffic. On the overhand, concerns were raised about where would visitors to the Village Hall park if they could not park on Heath Green Road; and having cars parked along Heath Green Road slowed down traffic.

It was decided to defer any consultation or decisions until after the 20mph consultations this Autumn.

On the proposed 2mph speed limit for Ferry / Swanage Roads, it is likely that Dorset Council will be organizing a consultation in the Autumn. We are awaiting more information and a schedule. SPC supports the introduction of a 20mph zone, and will be encouraging residents to support this.

The Clerk (Tim Watton) and Peter Hammond had conducted a review of our insurance requirements. Their proposals were approved.

The organisers submitting a bid for Swanage / Purbeck to be a Town of Culture have been renamed as Cultural Purbeck. Whilst SPC is supportive of the bid, the status of this body is not yet clear. SPC will not make financial contributions until the legal status of the bid body is clear.

Concern over the use of the B3351 by large / heavy vehicles is a perennial issue. SPC will ask Dorset Council to place signs at the junction with the A351 advising that the B3351 is suitable only for vehicles of 7cwt or less. SPC also encourages any residents who have been forced to take evasive action to avoid large lorries of buses to log their near misses on the Dorset Highways site: <https://dorset-self.achieveservice.com/service/Report-a-non-injury-collision-or-near-miss>

The next meeting will take place on 17th August.

As always, more details of our meetings can be found on our website: www.studlandparishcouncil.org

Nick Boulter, Chairman

PICMF

Purbeck
International
Chamber
Music
Festival

3rd – 6th Sept 2026

‘THE SEA’

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Mozart — Divertimento in E-flat major, K.563

Nurit Stark, violin · Henning Kraggerud, viola · Natalie Clein, cello

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QUESTION No.4. AM I GOOD ENOUGH FOR GOD?

It is a common idea that you need to be perfect to be acceptable to God. The trouble with that is that none of us is perfect. We have all made mistakes and done things wrong. Perhaps we have let someone down, or hurt someone, or have developed habits or a way of life which we know are destructive, but cannot stop.

You might have tried to make a fresh start but got discouraged when you slipped up again. The good news of Christianity is that there is hope: whatever mistakes you have made, God is always ready to help us begin again when we come to him. It is never too late. The Bible teaches that God knows that we all mess up and fall short of perfection, but he created us to have a relationship with him and he is always willing to forgive us, accept us and change our lives.

You don't need to be a 'religious' person to have that relationship with God. The stereotypical religious person is not very attractive: they are often portrayed as dull, humourless, judgemental and even hypocritical. Most Christians are nothing like that. And nor was Jesus Christ, the founder of Christianity. The Bible tells us that Jesus enjoyed parties and celebrations and spent most of his time with ordinary people and outsiders, rather than the 'in' crowd. And he had very little time for hypocritical religious types.

Society can be particularly harsh with older people, sometimes making them feel overlooked or even invisible. God sees things differently. For him all lives matter and every single person is of infinite value, regardless of age. It is never too late to find out how much God loves you.

If you want to know about God, where do you start? The Bible teaches that God came to live among us in human form around 2,000 years ago as Jesus Christ. The best way to find out about God is to learn more about Jesus Christ. Jesus came to restore the relationship between God and humanity. He took the initiative. God wants a personal relationship with each of us.

The Bible tells us that God is perfect. He is good, kind, compassionate and loving. He wants all of us to flourish. When bad things happen, people often conclude that this is not true. But God's character doesn't change. He shows us mercy even when we don't deserve it. Christians all over the world would say that they have a personal relationship with God, not because they are good enough but because they are loved by God.

A relationship with God is not an isolated one. Becoming a follower of Jesus brings you into his family, the Church, a place where your faith can be nurtured, and you can love and serve others. Of course, the Church is not perfect, but at heart, it is a place of welcome and acceptance – for everyone.

(Shared with permission. Further resources from: <https://explorechristianity.info/>.)

Acknowledgments: Allchurches Trust [now Benefact Trust], Jerusalem Trust, Kirby Laing Foundation, The Diocese of London)



Linda's Story

Linda Jacson wrote this charming account of her life, as a daughter of a farm worker raised in Studland in the mid 1920's/30's for her grand-daughter.

As editor, I have been asked to share her memories here for readers...

Continuation...

By this time Ron and I were engaged and 12 months later we were married. We had no clothes coupons to speak of so had to borrow my wedding dress from the Women's Land Army. My father and I walked to the church, it was about 50 yards from the house. My cousin Sally and Mary were my bridesmaids. Ron's brother-in-law was his best man.

We had our reception in the Bankes Arms Hotel in Studland, where my mum had lived for some time before marrying my father. Richard Sutton Clark was the licensee. The army had given Ron a week's leave then changed it to a long weekend so had to cancel our honeymoon. My lovely aunt Nessie asked us to stay at their house, which we did, and each morning my aunt and uncle would appear with two breakfasts on a tray. Such kindness and thoughtfulness. On the Monday, Ron went back to his regiment, the Royal Welsh Fusiliers.

I met him when he was stationed at the Knoll House Hotel. His company commander would arrange a dance at the Victoria Hotel in Swanage once a week. He would also provide a truck and a driver for any one from Studland who wanted to go. Not knowing how to dance, I don't know why I went! Ron was at the end of the bar. I was sitting at a table the other end of the room. Ron came up and said, *'would I like a drink?'* I didn't know what to say but said, *'I would like a tomato juice please.'* After that we saw a lot of each other and became engaged.

We spent a lovely six years in North Wales. We went to parties and to Liverpool to the Royal Welsh Fusiliers club. At weekends, if we went out, we never got back until two or three in the morning. One time we went to the Chester races and Ron did not have a winner until the last race. He said here is my slip, you go and get the winnings, but oh dear, I lost the slip!

One Christmas, Ron and our friend Kathy went to a WISP drive and came home with a live duck!

We had an Alsatian dog and a small black and white kitten. When the dog was lying in front of the fire, the kitten would walk up one of his legs and lie over his heart and went up and down as the dog breathed.

To be continued...

Deborah: Woman of Faith and Courage

Some people are good working behind the scenes. They don't make a fuss or want to grab your attention. Instead, they quietly do a job which always gets done, and it is only when they are missing for some reason do we realise the important work that they do!

Deborah was a bit like that. Her name may not be familiar to us, but her story is recorded in the Old Testament Book of Judges. She lived many years after Joshua had taken the former Egyptian captives into the Promised Land. After Joshua's death the Israelites disregarded God's laws. They intermarried with the heathen nations around them, practiced all kinds of wickedness and worshipped at pagan shrines.

So, God responded by punishing His people. He allowed them to fall into the hands of their enemies which resulted in a period of oppression during which the Israelites pleaded to God for mercy. God answered their cries with a judge to deliver them, and Deborah appeared.

A judge in those days was a compelling figure who rallied the nation at times of defeat and called them back to God's laws and standards. These judges delivered the people from danger and out of sin and rebellion. Into this male dominated society God gave them Deborah, a kind of mother figure. As far as spiritual things were concerned, they were like children and needed mothering.

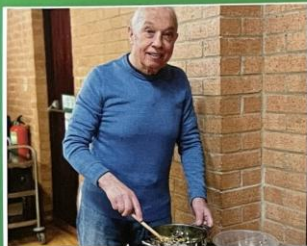
God revealed to Deborah His plan to save Israel from their enemy. She rallied Barak, to muster the tribes of Israel and lead them into battle against the Canaanites. In an act of great faith, Barak agreed to do this, and Israel entered a period of peace which lasted 40 years.

The Book of Judges demonstrates God's grace in using unlikely people for His work. At a time when women were regarded of low status and expected to be silent, Deborah responded to God's call and became an unlikely hero.

Deborah's great achievement was to inspire faith in others. Do we know a Deborah? Someone who encourages and supports us or helps another Christian in some vital way?

Deborah was decisive, determined and dauntless in bringing deliverance to her people. Once God had spoken to Deborah, she knew Israel would be victorious.

We need the faith of Deborah. She believed that God was on her side, and He would not fail her. So must we.



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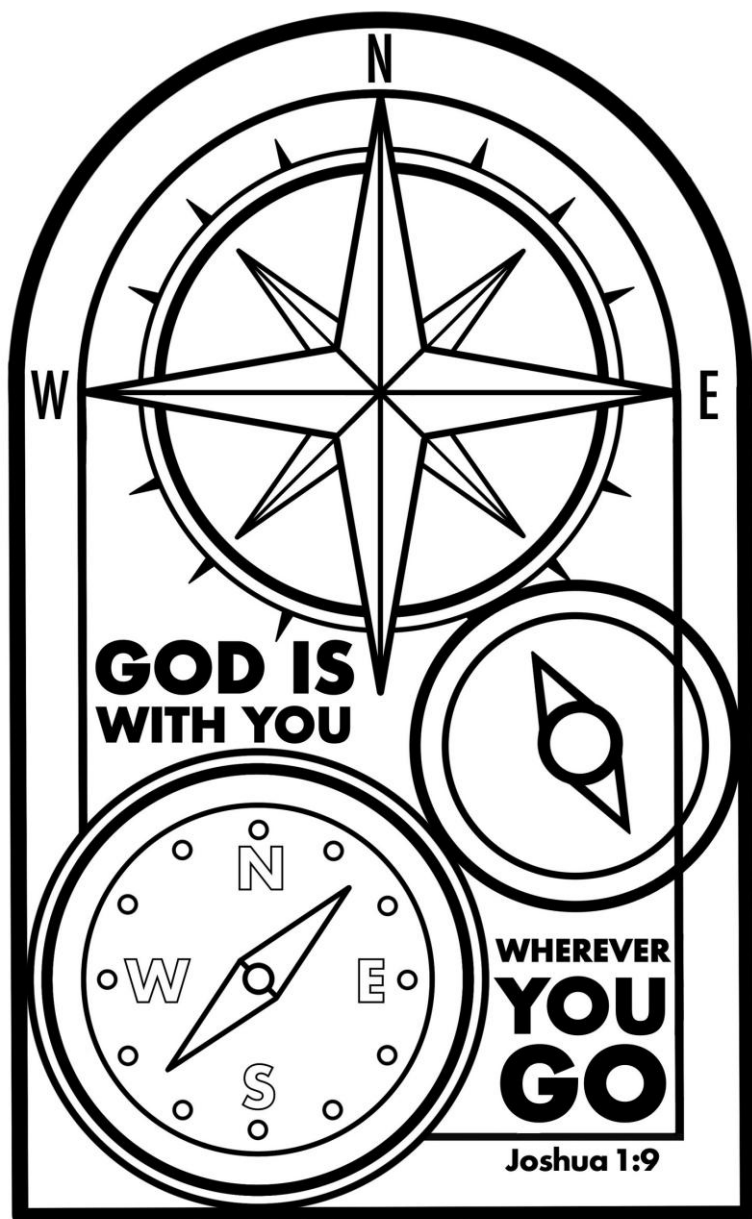
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Quotes for August

This month the Church remembers the beheading of John the Baptist – a good time to think of all those who engage in the work of the gospel, regardless of their personal safety...

'I have found the paradox that if I love until it hurts, then there is no hurt, but only more love.' - Mother Teresa

'Be patterns, be examples in all countries, places, islands, nations, wherever you come, that your carriage and life may preach among all sorts of people, and to them; then you will come to walk cheerfully all over the world, answering that of God in everyone.' - George Fox

'All that Jesus was and taught and did is but a revealing of the eternal God.' - E F Hallock

'Let a man really dare to be a New Testament Christian and take Christ seriously, beginning on Monday morning, and he will wake up to the fact that he is a sheep among wolves.' - V Havner

'If you were not strangers here, the hounds of the world would not bark at you.' - S Rutherford

This month the church remembers the transfiguration of Jesus on Mount Tabor – time to remember some eternal realities....

'Joy is the serious business of heaven.' - C S Lewis

'It is not the number of books you read, nor the variety of sermons you hear, nor the amount of religious conversation in which you mix, but it is the frequency and earnestness with which you meditate on these things till the truth in them becomes your own and part of your being, that ensure your growth.' - F W Robertson

'Prayer is the pulse of life.' - Anon

'Every prayer is an inverted promise...If God teaches us to pray for any good thing, we may gather by implication the assurance that He means to give it.' - C H Spurgeon

'Eternal life does not begin with death; it begins with faith.' - Sam Shoemaker

Monthly Awareness

International Peace Month

What is International Peace Month?

Rooted in the pacifist movement that emerged after the First World War, it began as an effort to remember the millions who died in that conflict and to commit to preventing future wars. Today it is marked by peace organisations, faith communities, schools, and grassroots groups, who use the month to host discussions, vigils, educational events, and acts of kindness. The observance carries no single governing body; instead, it is sustained by many organisations and individuals who share a commitment to harmony and human rights.

Why International Peace Month Matters

The First World War, the catalyst for this observance, killed an estimated 16 million people and wounded more than 20 million, reshaping the political map of Europe and leaving scars that lasted for generations. International Peace Month exists to keep that memory alive and to remind us that peace is not simply the absence of war but something that must be actively built through dialogue, justice, and everyday choices. With armed conflicts continuing to displace tens of millions of people worldwide, the observance offers a structured moment to learn from history, support those affected by violence, and consider how small individual actions contribute to wider social harmony. It connects personal conduct, such as resolving disagreements peacefully, with global concerns like disarmament and human rights.

How to Get Involved in International Peace Month

- Host a peace-themed gathering – Invite friends or neighbours to a discussion, film screening, or book club focused on peace, conflict resolution, and understanding. Creating a calm, respectful space encourages honest conversation.
- Perform deliberate acts of kindness – Leave an encouraging note for a colleague or classmate, then invite them to pass the gesture on. Small kindnesses spread quickly when others see them in action.
- Support a peace organisation – Donate to, volunteer with, or simply share the work of local and international groups campaigning for justice, reconciliation, and non-violence.
- Learn from history – Visit a war memorial, museum, or cultural centre, or read about the First World War and the pacifist movement that followed it. Understanding the past helps us avoid repeating it.
- Practice conflict resolution at home – Use the month to model calm, fair ways of settling disagreements within your family, workplace, or friendship group.
- Advocate for human rights – Write to elected representatives, sign petitions, or raise awareness of issues affecting vulnerable communities both locally and globally.



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