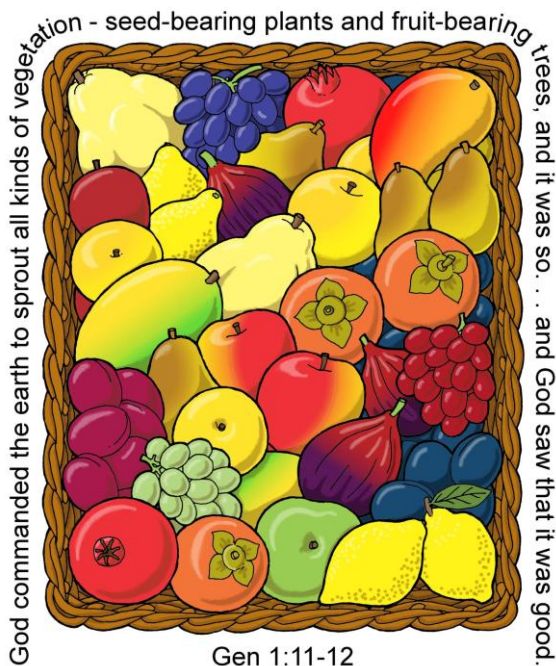


Studland Parish News



October
2026



St Nicholas Church Studland

See the Parish News in full colour –

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

November deadline is WEDNESDAY OCT 21ST 10am

sharonywestman@gmail.com / 01929 450358

Late contributions cannot be guaranteed.

Note from the editor...

As I compile this edition we have just experienced a week of more summer conditions rather than an autumnal environment. But on my walk this morning I took note of the signs of autumn slowly taking over, especially marvelling at the changing of colours on the trees, which is always so rich and vibrant, with a sense of optimism and hope.

It makes me consider current changes in my own life; how can I bring in a more optimistic approach? Can I search for the richness and vibrancy in a situation rather than focussing on the pessimism and doubt that often arises in times of change?

What do you think about change? Can you approach it differently perhaps?

And as Autumn truly starts to set in, one of my favourite celebrations of the season is approaching; the Studland Harvest Supper. Find details on Page 25.

I was charmed to see the WI ladies being introduced to the concept of labyrinths in wellbeing; something I have been using for many years in my own life. I hope the ladies found it of interest. See what they learnt on Page 7

It is also getting to that time of year when I am contemplating your Parish News for 2028! So, if you do have any ideas or thoughts of what you might like to see in the pages next year, please do get in touch. This is your publication and your input makes it amazing, so don't be afraid to reach out.

Take care everyone

Sharon Westman, Editor

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Hon. Secretary:

VACANT

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

Date	Service	Sides Person	Readers	Readings
Sunday 4 th October at 10.00am.	Family Communion. Trinity 18. <i>Rev. Tony Edmonds.</i>	Ginny Stobart	Cindy Yeandle	Matthew 21, v 33 to end.
Sunday 11 th October at 10.00am.	Holy Communion. Trinity 19. <i>Rev. Tony Edmonds.</i>	Sally Hogsflesh	June Fletcher David Hogsflesh	Philippians 4, v 1 to 9. Matthew 22, v 1 to 14.
Sunday 18 th October at 10.00am.	Morning Prayer. Feast of St. Luke. <i>Jane Hawksworth.</i>	Sally Hogsflesh	Keith Tillyard Sophie Jenkinson	2 Timothy 4, v 5 to 17 Luke 10, v 1 to 9.
Sunday 25th October at 10.00am.	Holy Communion. Last Sunday of Trinity. <i>Rev. Tony Edmonds.</i>	Carol Wadley	David Harley Diana Edmonds	1 Thessalonians 2, v 1 to 8. Matthew 22, v 34 to end.

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

St Nicholas Parish News

Dear Friends,

We have turned the corner of the year. The autumnal equinox has come and gone, daylight hours are shorter, more precious and the natural world begins its journey towards winter. At the end of this month British Summer Time will finish and the evenings will certainly come upon us more quickly. I have never felt the arrival of Autumn to be a time of darkness, though, rather it speaks to me of completeness: a beautiful completeness. Trees and shrubs bear their fruits of nuts and berries, of apples and plums. The oaks and ash, beech and birch, field maples and rowans shed the seasons leaves in a riot of browns and gold and reds and yellows. The French existential author, Albert Camus said, *"Autumn is a second spring when every leaf is a flower"*. Many of our summer visitor birds will have returned to their southern homes, but we may still see the swallows and House Martins for a while. Their place will be taken by Redwings, Fieldfares and Bramblings, coming here to escape the harsher winters of the far north. All that change, all that colour: in the end, October is a rather exciting month!

In the church year, many of us will be celebrating Harvest Festivals, singing the lovely familiar hymns, "We plough the fields and scatter" and "Fill your hearts with joy and gladness". We shall celebrate the generosity of our creator God and speak of the wonder of creation and the beauty of the rhythm of the seasons. There will be so much to say "Thank You" for and much to reflect on as we confront the terrible inequalities in our world, where a few have far too much and many have not enough. I think my favourite harvest hymn is "Come ye thankful people come". It was written by Henry Alford who lived in the parish in which I did my curacy, (but somewhat before my time!) his rather grand rectory now a private home. He went on to be the Dean of Canterbury Cathedral. Alford gives thanks to God for the harvest, but then goes on to picture us as God's harvest:

We ourselves are God's own field,
Fruit unto His praise to yield;
Wheat and tares together sown,
Unto joy or sorrow grown.
First the blade, and then the ear,
Then the full corn shall appear;
Lord of harvest, grant that we
Wholesome grain and pure may be.

I like that picture. I like to think of us growing from seed, coming into vigorous growth and our full fruitfulness and then entering the beauty of Autumn, and finally being gathered into God's eternal loving purposes. There is so much that is life-giving in that image. It points to a direction and meaning in our lives. It points to our lives as gifts to the world, to one another and to God. But perhaps best of all, it points to the value and beauty of getting older, entering that

Autumn of life, where we can become more beautiful, where we can become more fully the person God made us to be. That is such a counter-cultural image, where age is more associated with decline and loss of worth.

Whether we are young or old, I hope we shall all enjoy October and its Autumnal feel. I hope we shall take time to stop and celebrate and give thanks to God for times and seasons and for His abundant gifts in creation. I hope we shall reflect on the vast inequalities that we see in this world and ask ourselves how we might make sure that all share in the Earth's abundance. I hope we shall be inspired by the colour and fruitfulness around us to see through them to a creator and creative God, who shows us such kindness and love, especially in the gift of His Son, Jesus.

From the Registers

Baptism:

Robert Charles Williams born 26th June 2025, Baptised 6th September 2026

Weddings:

James Handley and Elizabeth Price 5th September 2026

Nicholas Spingall and Vanessa Wilson 19th September 2026

Henry Goode and Holly Smith 26th September 2026

Blessing of Marriage:

Michael Curran and Anna Harrison 12th September 2026

Funeral:

Michael John Frith R.I.P. Died 26th August 2026; Memorial Service and Interment of Ashes Friday 25th September 2026

Rev Tony Edmonds

Church Alive Writes...

I have had an interesting few months. Since June I have:

Helped bless a sea rowing gig

Helped with a large event for Primary School Leavers

Presented Bibles to St Mark's School Leavers

Taken part in a service in the Carnival Marquee

Helped staff the Churches Tent at the Carnival

Co-led a service from the Lifeboat (not for the sea-sick...)

Led Prayers at 2 Town Council meetings

Apart from keeping me quite busy, these events show that **the Church is an important part of the wider community**, and that we have many opportunities to serve our community in Swanage. It may be significant that most of this ministry took place away from our Church buildings and regular services. It is

good to be reminded that there is life beyond our Churches, and that Jesus' commission is to be "salt and light" to the world around us.

Invitations for the Church to be involved in wider community events is part of a legacy, (possibly a dwindling legacy), of Britain as a "Christian country". They remind us that the hard work and service of previous generations of Christians have opened doors for ministry today. We should, however, never take these opportunities for granted; in a changing society they could disappear very quickly. There was, for example, a significant move, some years ago, to shift the Remembrance focus from Remembrance Sunday to Armistice Day; this was partly due to pressure from those who want to see a greater secularisation of society. In Swanage, at least, Remembrance Sunday remains an important event – possible because we are able to offer such a good Remembrance Service.

Service, (not only the sort with choirs and candles), is the key word here. We need to be ready meet people where they have a need – physically, (Foodbanks, Warm Spaces etc.), and spiritually. It is my experience that people are seeking a spiritual dimension in an increasingly materialistic world. Sometimes what we normally offer in Church just does not resonate with people; (if it did, we would be full every Sunday). Some people would not even think of entering a church building – they feel there is nothing there for them.

We Christians know that we have a great deal to offer people. We can introduce people to Jesus, who can transform lives in a way beyond our imagining. To do this successfully, we need to take every God-given opportunity to share what we have with the wider community. This might mean clergy blessing all sorts of things; (which will mean our congregations will need to free us for wider ministry). It will mean thinking and praying about services and events which reach out to those outside, rather than just satisfying those inside, our churches. It may, as in the case of St Mark's, mean adapting our buildings for wider ministry to the community.

All these things will be challenging, but the Christian message of the Cross challenges us to think, pray, and work in the service of others. We live in interesting times; post-Christian, but with a growing interest in "spiritual" things. We still have God-given opportunities to fill this spiritual void. The question I ask is: "do we have the faith and courage to take these opportunities?"

May the love of God, the new life of Jesus and the power and guidance of the Holy Spirit bless us and send us out in His service.

Rev. David Richards

STUDLAND WI – Wednesday 9th September 2026

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

September the 16th was WI Day. National WI had asked members to celebrate in style during September by wearing the colour purple. Suffragettes wore this as it symbolized loyalty, dignity and royal heritage. Our ladies looked a picture!



TRIPS & EVENTS:

Plans for our next trip out in October - we are hoping to head over to the newly refurbished Escoffier restaurant in Bournemouth.

We are underway with planning Christmas, it's never too early to start. We will be having a stall at the Studland Tabletop on Saturday 28th November, and all our ladies will soon be busy crafting and producing jams, chutneys and an array of lovely items to be available to buy on the day. We hope to see you there.

Our speaker for the evening was Nicola Fidgen talking about "The Labyrinth Pathway to Peace in a Stressful World".

Nicola gave a very personal and informative talk about labyrinths, which are growing in popularity. Unlike a maze which is designed to trick you, a labyrinth is symbolic of life's journey, one path, no tricks, they are designed not to confuse. They are spaces people have used for thousands of years, to help them relax, give them clarity, peace, wisdom and an open heart.

They are found on the coast, in Seaton and Weymouth. In hospitals, churches, Cathedrals and Universities all over the world. It was surprising to learn how many are close to us, Braemar Estate, near Salisbury, Frome, Romsey, Glastonbury. There are 270 finger labyrinth pictures in each of the London Underground stations, how many have you noticed?

Since covid we are discovering that we need spaces where we can be still, Grove Farm, Melbury Abbas occasionally opens its valley grounds and reflective labyrinth; there is a sign there that reads:

*"Very seldom do you come upon a space
where you may stop and simply be,
or wonder who, after all you are"*

Our next meeting is Wednesday 14th October this will be our annual harvest supper social event and will be a member only meeting.

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

Lynn Elliott



STUDLAND GARDENING ASSOCIATION

It's good to see the grass springing back to life after the harsh summer. There is still time to give a few light mows before winter. Also scarify and rake out thatch.

Divide established rhubarb crowns to create new plants.

Spring cabbages can be planted, garlic cloves and overwintering onion sets.

Cut back perennials and prune climbing and rambling roses.

Rake up fallen leaves weekly from lawns and pathways to prevent fungal diseases and stop grass from suffocating. Make leaf mulch, an easy way is to put the leaves into black bin bags and leave them tucked away until next year. Leaf mulch is extremely beneficial in improving the quality of your soil especially in sandy gardens.

SGA is very proud of Andrew Churchill, one of our members who entered the Dorchester County Show and achieved some great results for his vegetables.

Studland History Group

There is a change of speaker for the next meeting on Wednesday 21st October at 2.30pm in the Village Hall. "A Random Look at Old Swanage", with John Patrick, looking at how Swanage has changed. All welcome. Visitors £4. To include tea/coffee and biscuits.



On the 18th November Carlton Hobbs will be the speaker with "Studland 1840".

Joyce Meates. Secretary. (07816 988890)



Updates from the National Trust:

Safe travels, songbirds! Did you know that thousands of songbirds fly over Purbeck on autumn nights? Willow warblers, blackcaps, wheatears and whitethroats are on the move, migrating to Africa and southern Europe.



They fly under the cover of darkness, taking advantage of cooler temperatures and avoiding daytime predators. Incredibly, they're thought to be guided by the stars and the Earth's magnetic field.

Most of them are insect-eaters, so they leave the UK as their food supply dwindles. You might spot them in your garden by day, feasting before their long journey. Next time there's a calm, dry night, step outside and listen. You may hear their faint whistles and calls as they say goodbye...until next year.

(Photo: Willow warbler, Mark Singleton)



Love is in the...water! Over the summer, volunteer divers in Studland Bay spotted several seahorses engaged in elaborate courtship displays involving dancing, colour-changing and tail-twining. They also saw several heavily pregnant males (yes, seahorses and their kin are the only animals where the male has a true pregnancy!).

Find out more on the new Studland Bay Marine Partnership website, where you can explore the incredible underwater world of the bay's seagrass meadows. www.studlandbay.org

(Photo: Pregnant male seahorse, Dr Ken Collins)

Scars can heal...For the first time, we have scientific evidence that the scars left in Studland Bay's seagrass meadows by dragging anchor chains are healing. Thanks to more boaters choosing eco-moorings that don't damage the seabed, some of these bare patches have shrunk by more than 90% over five years.

This is a huge win for our precious seagrass meadows, which provide a home for countless marine species, including seahorses. It also shows what can be achieved when organisations, volunteers, boaters and the local community work together to protect this special place.

The research was carried out by MSc student Kira Dunn of the University of Southampton on behalf of the Studland Bay Marine Partnership. Find out more at www.studlandbay.org

(Photo: Anchor scars, The Seahorse Trust)



Mission accomplished! The three puffin cameras were successfully retrieved from the cliff near Dancing Ledge. The motion-activated cameras captured an incredible 50,000 images, which our dedicated volunteers are now cataloguing to uncover more about puffin life, nesting habits and potential chick predators.

We're especially excited because one camera was focused directly on the ledge where a puffling emerged in July. We can't wait to see whether it documented the chick as it grew.

We'd like to give a huge thanks to Dr Richard Caldow for the time and expertise he has devoted to this project, and to the volunteers from the Purbeck History Forum who monitored the ledge throughout the seabird breeding season.

(Photo: Puffin camera retrieval, Cathy Lewis)



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

Cathy Lewis, National Trust

Corfe Castle Surgery/The Patient Participation Group News

Flu season is upon us!

All eligible patients will have received a text message inviting you to the annual walk-in Saturday clinic on 3rd October. If you cannot make this date, please be rest assured that we will have alternative dates as soon as possible. If you cannot get into the practice at all and we are aware, we will contact you to arrange your vaccination as in previous years.

Please support the practice as much as possible during vaccination season, as I have mentioned before if you normally get your flu jab here, I will have ordered you one for this year too!

The Saturday clinic will run as before, please allow parking at the surgery for those that cannot walk far and either walk in or park in the pay or display car park - we look forward to seeing you all there.

Bring your change if you would like cake after your flu jab as weather permitting, there will be the Macmillan Coffee Morning in the back garden thanks to Dilys Thomas.

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

Winter 2026 Flu Vaccination Campaign

It's that time of year again! We urge everyone who is eligible to book their flu jabs as soon as possible. You can have a free NHS flu vaccination if you:

- are aged 65 or older
- are aged 6 months to 65 years and have certain long-term health conditions
- are a child / young person aged 2 to 16 years (up to Year 11)
- are pregnant
- live in a Care Home
- are the main Carer of an older or disabled person, or receive a Carer's Allowance
- live with someone with a weak immune system
- are experiencing homelessness or are staying in a homeless hostel or night shelter
- are a frontline health or social care worker (vaccine offered through your employer).

The Practice is sending text invites to those eligible, if they have a mobile phone number for them. The text includes a link to book an appointment on either 3rd, 10th or 17th October. Those eligible who do not have a mobile number on their record will receive a letter inviting them to make an appointment.

The majority of school-aged children will get their flu vaccine at school - although the Practice is inviting children aged 6 months to 17 years with certain long-term health conditions to attend the Surgery for their flu vaccine.

More information about flu vaccination can be found on the Stay Well Dorset website at: www.staywelldorset.nhs.uk/vaccinations/flu/.

Winter 2026 COVID-19 Vaccination Campaign

People eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccination can now book an appointment - appointments are available from 1st October 2026. We encourage everyone eligible to book their COVID-19 vaccination now. You can have a free NHS COVID-19 vaccination this Autumn, if you are:

- aged 75 or over
- living in a Care Home for older adults
- aged 6 months to 74 years and have a weakened immune system.

You can either book online via the National Booking System on the NHS website, or through the NHS App or by calling 119. You can also visit a walk-in clinic, without needing to book an appointment.

More information about COVID-19 vaccination can be found on the Stay Well Dorset website at: www.staywelldorset.nhs.uk/vaccinations/covid/.

PPG Meetings

The PPG last met on 8th September, 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 were also pleased to hear that a new senior Practice Nurse has joined the Practice. A second Admiral Nurse, funded by Dementia Friendly Purbeck, is now also working in Purbeck.

The PPG will next be meeting at the Surgery on Tuesday 10th November 2026 at 12:30pm. You can find out more 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.

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
Chair, Swanage Medical Practice PPG



Isle of Purbeck Golf Club

There's More Than Golf at the Isle of Purbeck Golf Club This Autumn. As the weather gets cooler and the days a little shorter, life at Purbeck begins to move beyond just golf!

Purbeck Film Festival at the Club: We're delighted to once again be part of the Purbeck Film Festival, with two special screenings:

Hamnet – Thursday 22nd October, 7:30pm. Starring Jessie Buckley and Paul Mescal, *Hamnet* tells the moving story of William Shakespeare and his wife Agnes as they cope with the death of their 11-year-old son. Also starring Emily Watson.

Tuner – Tuesday 27th October, 7:30pm. Leo Woodall stars as a gifted young piano tuner whose extraordinary sense of hearing attracts the attention of criminals who discover his talents are useful for opening safes. When his mentor, played by Dustin Hoffman, faces mounting medical bills, he is drawn into their world – with life-changing consequences.

Tickets: £8 (£6.50 for students and under 25s and UC) at www.purbeckfilm.com.

Christmas at Purbeck: Christmas may still seem a little way off, but bookings are already filling fast!

Christmas Lunches – 1st – 23rd December

Christmas Party Nights – 4th, 5th, 11th, 12th, 18th & 19th December

Christmas Eve Brunch – Thursday 24th December, 9:00am–1:00pm

Golf in October: There's still plenty of time to enjoy a round before the days really draw in.

Purbeck Course – 18 holes: £120 Saturdays • £105 Fridays & Sundays • £95 Mon–Thursday

Twilight rates after 2pm: £55 Monday–Thursday • £65 Friday & Sunday • £80 Saturday

Winter Warmers Return: 1st November through 31st March. Monday–Friday £40 • Saturday & Sunday £50. Includes a Bacon Bap and Coffee, or for just £5 extra, upgrade to an English Breakfast.

Step Inside the Strike Zone: As the weather turns, our new indoor golf studio really comes into its own. Strike Zone is open every day from 8:00am–9:00pm, offering the chance to practice, play virtual courses or challenge your friends – whatever the weather outside. Visitors £35 per hour • Isle of Purbeck Members £24 per hour

Don't leave it too late – visit our website for menus, party details and booking information. We look forward to welcoming you soon!

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

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

Virginia Lynch 01929 450177



Studland Village Hall Some dates for your diary:

ArtsReach Event - Saturday 21st November at 7:30pm.

Award Winning Canadian Trio, Duane Edwards and the Hot Club of Conception Bay. Tickets available here:

<https://artsreach.co.uk/event/duane-andrews>

Snow Angel - Friday 11th December at 7 pm.

Charlie Bicknell and Louise Innes present a Christmas show that is just that little bit different! After appearing at Studland Village Hall for a private event in August, Charlie Bicknell and Louise Innes will return in December to perform their Christmas Show, 'Snow Angel'. A shamelessly festive show celebrating all that is Christmassy. From Michael Bubl  and Tiny Tim to Frozen mashups and the return of the small and ever-popular Eskimo. (Age guidance 16+).

Tickets available here:

https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/charlie-bicknell-and-louise-innes-snow-angel-tickets-1998954114567?aff=oddttdtcreator&keep_tld=true



Come celebrate Autumn's arrival at your local 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!

OPENING HOURS

We are now open 5 days a week for the Autumn/Winter Season

MON, TUES, FRI & SAT Open: 5pm – 10.30pm

SUNDAYS Open: 3pm – 8pm

(Closed on Tuesday and Wednesday)

What's Happening at Old Harry Bar?

LIVE MUSIC – Celebrate Swanage Blues Festival with us...

- **Friday 2nd October – CHICAGO 9** (*Rhythm & blues, Boogie and a sprinkle of Rock n Roll*)
- **Saturday 3rd October – HOT TAMALES** (*Sizzling guitars, smokin' harp, pounding rhythm*)

MONDAY – Bridge Club – Beginners Welcome - 6pm

THURSDAY – Crochet Club – Yap and Yarn – 5.30pm

FRIDAY NIGHT - MEAT RAFFLE – weekly at 9pm

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

See our 5 Star Reviews on TRIPADVISOR

Keep an eye on our socials for special weekend dates over winter that we will be opening from 12noon for soup and coffee!

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

www.oldharrybar.co.uk

Purbeck Integrated Neighbourhood Team

*Our Vision: To have a community approach to
living well in Purbeck.*

Annual Update

Hear what's been happening over the last year, ask
questions and get involved.

Thursday 19th November
2-4pm
The D'Urberville Centre
Collier's
Wool
BH20 6DL



Tea and Coffee provided!
No booking needed.



Purbeck Youth Music News

The Purbeck Youth Trad Folk Collective has had a summer of exciting performances. After the very successful end of year concert at Emmanuel Baptist Church, they made an appearance at the Purbeck Valley Folk Festival in August and then had a guest slot in the Chamber Music Festival's Family Concert in the Studio at the Mowlem where they were joined by the extraordinary Irish violinist Aoife Ni Bhriain in a hectic rendition of Kerfunken, Lisnagun and The Finnish.

The last of the events was the Swanage Folk Festival on Saturday 12th September when the full complement of the Trad Folk group joined with Voicewaves singers to perform on the main stage. Music directors Matt Tarling and Rebecca Field Bunney urged the enthusiastic audience to join in some of the more energetic songs which created a joyful noise in the main marquee. Dancing was also encouraged! This collaboration is to continue with the development of the Funk Folk Fusion project going forward.

Purbeck Youth Music is grateful to the Swanage Folk Festival for their support of the Trad Folk Collective and also for the ongoing work with Voicewaves to develop the Funk Folk Fusion project.

This group grows from strength to strength as it expands and gather new members. We'll keep you posted!

SWANAGE & PURBECK ROTARY CIO - PEOPLE OF ACTION

As an International Organisation Rotarians around the World are known as People of Action and within Swanage & Purbeck, we live up to that definition!

Since starting our new Rotary year on July 1st, we have organised street collections for Venezuela and Nepal, organised a successful Community Fete in August, and held a Rotary stall along the sea front to highlight the END POLIO NOW initiative - a project we have supported for many years and are so pleased that Polio eradication is almost complete.

The Summer Community Fete held on sandpit field, overlooking the Swanage Bay and blessed with sunshine for the whole day, provided a wonderful setting for the fete which brought together many local charitable organizations who were able to highlight their own charities and raise valuable funds with Swanage & Purbeck Rotary also able to raise £5053.59 for our funds which will support the work we do both locally and internationally.

We are so grateful for the many raffle prizes kindly donated from local businesses and Rotarians and to those who gave up their time to provide musical entertainment throughout the day. Of course, our biggest thanks go to those who continue to support this family event every year which provides value for money with our games, entertainment and free face painting!

Responding to International Emergencies. As local Rotarians we are swift to respond to international emergency situations and have been overwhelmed with the support and generosity we received in our recent street collections for the earthquake victims in Venezuela when we raised £1333.75 and earlier this month when we were able, with a top up from S&P Rotary, to send a further £3000 to SHELTERBOX in support of these disaster areas. This is an amazing response from our local community - "thank you"

Our Autumn plans are progressing:

In early October we will be supporting our District Governor Steve Parsons at his District Conference in Torquay; Steve is a local and a member of Swanage & Purbeck Rotary whom we are proud to support.

We will be holding a 'Soup and Sweet 'lunch on Saturday 24th October, World Polio Day, at the Catholic Hall, Swanage ,12 for 1230, choice of 2 soups and 2 puds, in aid of End Polio Now. £12.00 a ticket.

And we will be running the successful Christmas Market on Saturday December 5th as we have had many offers of volunteer support to hold the event.

We will be out with Santa on his sleigh in Swanage during the first two weeks of December and providing a local Christmas Mail service in early December.

If you too are a 'person of action ' please visit our website to find out more about Rotary or contact us by email secretary@swanagerotary.org and consider joining us - you will be warmly welcomed.



studlandparishcouncil.org

Update from Studland Parish Council September 2026

Studland Parish Council met on Monday 21st September.

All councillors were present, with the exception of Cllrs Lynn Hool and Peter Hammond. Emma Wright of the National Trust was also present.

Donovan Van Staden, of Knoll House Hotel, also attended to answer questions about the Knoll House planning application. The plans are broadly those that residents will have seen at recent presentations, but with some modifications / improvements to the number of trees. The planning application has now been submitted and will probably be reviewed by Dorset Council in October. Donovan said that the Dorset Council Planning Officer had indicated his support for the current proposals. If approved, the works to demolish the existing hotel and build the new one will start in 2028. The cost is likely to be approximately £60m. SPC voted to support the plans.

The minutes of the SPC meeting of August 17th were approved.

Emma Wright had submitted an update on behalf of the National Trust:

- NT car parks and toilets will open from 9am – 5pm from September 28th

- The NT is collating information on the number of incidents – camping, fires, barbecues, etc. – that occurred over the summer
- Various events are taking place e.g. the Studland Stampede run on October 4th, and a British naturism litter pick up on October 10th

Emma also reported that a meeting with South Beach hut owners, scheduled for early September, has been rescheduled to a time when the NT feel they are clearer about their plans. No planning applications have been submitted yet. Emma said there would be no demolition over the winter period.

Emma also said the NT had considered the request from a resident to cut back bracken on some paths, but asked for more specific information on the required locations. SPC will obtain this and pass that onto Emma.

Cllr Ben Wilson was absent (on holiday).

Four planning applications were reviewed:

- An extension at 4 Harmony Terrace
- An extension at Handfast House
- The Knoll House Hotel plans
- Some tree works requested by the NT near the Coombe

SPC had no objections to these.

On Highways, the main issue raised was the number of A boards on the triangle at the top of Beach Road and Rectory Lane: some residents said that these obliterated their vision when trying to turn onto Ferry Road, and represented a danger for drivers. The issue here is that the A Boards are lined up like a wall, and are too close to the edge of the road: from where a driver sits, when turning onto Ferry Road to go either towards the shop / Swanage, or towards the ferry, it is totally impossible to see ongoing traffic. They thus represent a hazard, and a danger to residents and other drivers. The Clerk has been asked to write to the owners of these – particularly those belonging to the Seaweed Spa and Fore Adventure – and ask them to move these away from Ferry Road. The owners are also to be reminded that Studland and Dorset Council policy is for no signage within a meter of the road, and for the signs to be removed at night when the businesses are shut. The Salt Pig café is also to be asked to remove their sign from the main road signs.

No items of crime were reported.

Under Officer reports:

- Chrissie Neville (Environment and Trees) reported that some work to improve the orchards in Studland will be started on October 18th, with the assistance of Gerry Edwards, the RHS apple tree expert.
- David Battle (Marine and Beaches) said that the Eco mooring scheme had worked well. The buoys will be taken up over the winter for maintenance
- Stephen Yeoman (Planning and Transport) reported on a number of issues:

*The ferry will be out of action for 7 weeks from November 2nd for refitting. Stephen will be writing to the owners to request that pass users have 2 months added to the period in which they can use their discounted tolls.

*The number 50 bus has reverted to its winter schedule of one bus an hour. Stephen says the buses are overcrowded and will be writing to Morebus to ask that they start their winter schedule later in the year.

*Stephen has also attended the “Community Conversations” organised by Dorset Council to get feedback on local challenges, and how to get better local involvement in decision making and the provision of some services. This process is at an early stage, and Stephen will attend further meetings and represent our interests.

- Steve Smith and Mark Elliott (Studland Care) are having a seat repaired in the playing field. They will also be checking on drains in the village and ensuring they are cleared before the start of the winter rains. The Clerk was asked to request that the Dorset Council road-sweeper visit the village in November to clear all the leaves from the roads.
- Lyn Hool (Community Speed Watch) reported that 3 sessions had taken place over the past month. One session was in the afternoon, and the others in the morning: the latter logged a total of 17 cars speeding. Lyn also reported that one speeding car had entered Heath Green Road, going the wrong way through the “No Entry” sign, and had been reported to the police. The team also reported a motorbike driving erratically.
- Tim Yeandle (Rights of Way) said that project to build a footpath at Currendon would start on January 27th.

The Clerk had submitted financial reports for SPC. SPC approved all outstanding invoices.

Stephen Yeoman reported that he been in discussions with Dorset Council about the proposed consultation for a 20mph speed limit along Ferry and Swanage Roads in Studland: this is likely to take place in October.

The Clerk reported that SPC’s new website was up and running. A useful addition in this website is a list of contact details for residents.

The next SPC will take place on October 19th. Some items for that agenda will include: the proposed 20mph consultation, an update on cutting back the bracken, and planning for the 2027 / 28 budget and precept.

As always, more information about our meetings can be found on our website, now: <https://www.studlandparishcouncil.gov.uk>

Nick Boulter, Chairman

QUESTION No. 5. WHERE IS MY LIFE GOING?

Our ultimate purpose is found in God: Christians believe that life is not meaningless or random but has significance and purpose. And that purpose isn't found by looking deeper at ourselves – but by looking outwards. We have restless hearts. We look for purpose, meaning, love, happiness... We try to find them through work, other people, money, experiences... Many of these things can be good in themselves – but they don't resolve that inner restlessness.

(Most) desires are ok but...Our human desires for love, happiness, a fulfilling job, etc, are not bad in themselves. In fact, the best desires actually come from God. The Bible tells us that God created work – it is good for us –, that he is passionate about justice, that he loves people and wants us to flourish and that he loves the downtrodden and the outsider. We know this because of the Bible and because these were characteristics of Jesus Christ – God in human form – during his life on earth 2,000 years ago.

Christians believe that our desire for love and close relationships is because, deep down, we were made to experience a relationship with God. We want to be creative because God is the ultimate source of creativity. Our deepest desires point to a longing for God.

How should we respond? In the Bible, Jesus Christ says a lot about purpose and desire. He does not dismiss our everyday desires and concerns as wrong – but he wants us to focus on God first. So how can we have a clearer sense of purpose for our lives? We can start by thinking about how God has made us.

You could ask yourself some questions: What makes you tick? What matters to you? What are you good at and what gives you joy when you do it? Or you could think about what makes you angry or upset. These thoughts might give you a clue about a passion that God has given you which could give a real focus to your life.

Next, think about God. Try talking to him by praying. Thank him for the special gifts and passions he has put in you. Ask him how he wants you to use them to make the world a better place. And then watch for how he will answer you. And keep talking to God about how he sees you and what purpose he has given you.

If you do develop a relationship with God, your sense of restlessness might not go away! Instead, it will evolve into a new form – provoked by God himself. It's a restlessness for a world of peace, justice and fulfilment where everyone knows God for themselves.

If you would like to buy a longer booklet exploring this question, please go to <https://www.cpo.org.uk/explore-project>

(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....

In 2002, Ron became ill and passed away in the November that year. I made a very different life for myself afterwards.

Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays I go to the Swedish Day Centre. On Thursday I go to the post office for my pension, pay for the papers and buy a few groceries. Over to the village hall for a coffee and a chat, and then home again to watch Cash in the Attic and Bargain Hunt. Then Thursday afternoon, take it easy. Fridays I go to Swanage to shop, have coffee and home by 11:15 when June comes in to do my hair. At 12 noon, Oak-House Food bring my frozen dinners. Friday afternoon, take it easy, mainly sleeping. On Saturday I work, walk and sleep. On Sunday I go to Sarah's for lunch. The other Sundays I go to the Village Inn after going to church in the morning.

We have games and quizzes at the centre, bingo, musical bingo, shove halfpenny, skittles, carpet bowls, racing and many other activities. Sometimes we have entertainment, music and plays. We have an excellent meal at 12:30 and the staff are wonderful. We have two nice drivers on the centre buses.

In my garden I have a buddleia, honeysuckle, peony and daffodils. I have a trough outside the front door in which I have tulips and pansies. I feed the birds with suet balls and nuts and seeds. I have always kept a cat (female). The one I have now, however, is male. He is very intelligent and very clean and affectionate. He always greets me when I come in, pats my face, and says purrr quite often and he comes to bed with me when I go. Last, but not least, I help an old lady called Mrs. Shaw. I wash her sheets for her every Monday and I make a cake for her on Saturday.

Ron used to love it when we house-sat for a friend of ours called Ruth. He would garden all morning and then we would sit in the conservatory after dinner and read or sleep or watch the birds. Ron really loved looking after the Red House when his daughter and family were away on holiday. But better still, he loved Christmas with his daughters and granddaughter.

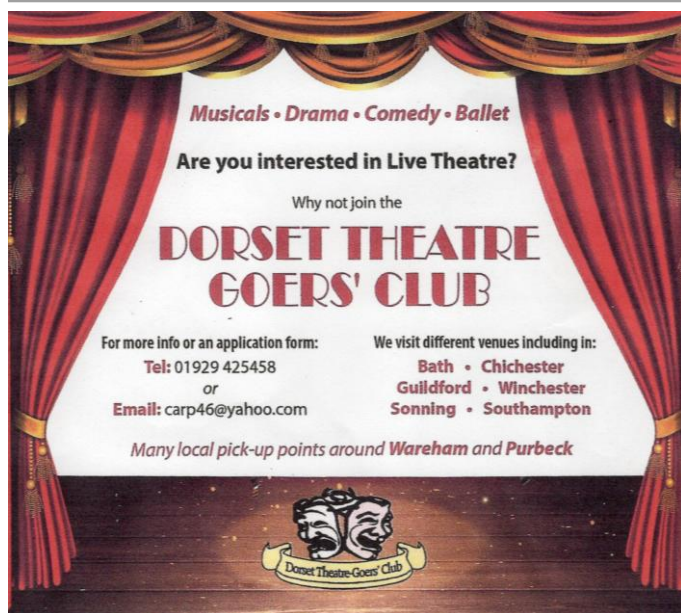
To be continued...

Clayton Meadow

For the last 5 years volunteers on The Glebe have been looking after Clayton Meadow to improve its nature conservation interest. The conservation work has resulted in increasing numbers of orchids year on year, alongside many other wildflowers and wildlife. It is home to three species of native orchid: Pyramidal orchids, Bee orchids and Autumn Lady's-tresses.

A short video was put together to showcase Clayton Meadow and we are delighted that it won the 2026 Video Competition at the Hardy Orchid Society.

Link to video: [The Story of Clayton Meadow on the Isle of Purbeck in Dorset.](#)



Dorset Theatre Goers Club

Do you like live theatre...if so, why not join the Dorset Theatre Goers Club.

The club has been going for over 40 years. We travel by coach to our venues and have many pick-up points from Swanage to Sandford.

We are out all day as we go to matinee performances at many different venues.

For more information, please email or phone as below:
Email: carp46@yahoo.com or Tel: 01929 425458

Letter to the Parish News

'In reply to the eloquent, persuasive letter (unsigned) in the September month's parish mag: I agree with everything the writer says except his/her conclusion. The beach huts are great for those who have them but they create a divided society - those who have them and those who don't. I would miss Joe's cafe and hope that isn't removed, but I won't miss the beach huts. In fact, South Beach might be nicer if the woods at the back sloped gently down to the beach without the gabions creating a platform to accommodate the huts.'

Virginia Lynch

The Kanji Project QUIZ

WHERE

Studland Village Hall

WHEN

Saturday 14th November 2026 - 6:30 for 7pm

HOW

Tickets £18 from Studland Stores

WHAT

Teams of 8 per table or just turn up & join an ad hoc team

- Supper Included

Wonderful home cooked local feast

Please let us know any dietary requirements in advance

- Licensed Bar

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WHY

The Kanji Project is a small UK charity run entirely by volunteers. We raise funds to give poor children in Tamil Nadu, India, the chance of a good education and a safe place to live. All the proceeds of the quiz go directly to the centre.

Volunteering



JOIN OUR TEAM OF VOLUNTERS

Swanage Museum & Heritage Centre

Be part of a lively, welcoming team of volunteers who help bring local history to life. We have a variety of roles to suit different interests and abilities, and we'll give you all the training and support you need.

You might uncover strengths you didn't know you had, pick up new skills, and gain real hands-on experience. It's a great way to meet people, make friends, and feel connected to the community — all while helping keep our museum running for everyone who visits.



Contact: **01929 421427**

or email **museumswanage@gmail.com**



Village Orchard Maintenance Morning

SPC Volunteer Tree Wardens are holding a morning of fruit tree pruning, bramble clearing and general orchard maintenance on

Sunday 18th October 2026

At the orchard off the Village Green (on Heath Green Road, next to the OHB).

For further information please contact
Chrisse on 07920 065803.



The poster has a dark brown background. It is decorated with several autumn leaves in shades of yellow and orange, scattered around the edges. There are also two stylized corn cobs, one in the top right and one in the bottom left, rendered in yellow and white. The text is centered and uses a mix of bold, serif, and sans-serif fonts.

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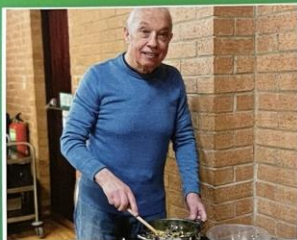
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Monthly Awareness - The Big Draw 2026

The Big Draw was launched in 2000 by The Campaign for Drawing, a UK-based charity. Over the years, it has grown into an international movement, celebrating the universal act of drawing with thousands of events taking place in schools, museums, galleries, and community spaces worldwide.

It promotes drawing as a powerful tool for communication, expression, and learning. The Big Draw provides a platform for individuals and communities to come together and enjoy the act of drawing, fostering a sense of connection and creative exploration.

It's a time to unleash your inner artist and discover the countless ways drawing can enrich your life.

How to Participate in The Big Draw 2026:

Participating in The Big Draw 2026 is easy and enjoyable, whether you're an experienced artist or just starting your artistic journey:

- **Attend Drawing Workshops:** Look for drawing workshops, classes, and events happening in your community or online.
- **Organise Your Event:** Consider hosting a drawing event or activity for your friends, family, or community members.
- **Create Art:** Spend time drawing, sketching, or doodling, and share your creations on social media using [#TheBigDraw](#).
- **Visit Galleries and Museums:** Explore art exhibitions and installations related to drawing at local museums and galleries.
- **Engage in Collaborative Projects:** Join group drawing projects and collaborative art activities that promote teamwork and creativity.
- **Support Art Education:** Contribute to organisations that promote art education and accessibility.

Space to draw...



Colouring in – for the children and the adults...
Colouring benefit No.10 - Colour & Pattern Recognition:
Helps in learning and discerning colours and intricate patterns.



October Quotes

With Harvest in mind...

'The Christian is suspended between blessings received and blessings hoped for, so he should always give thanks'. - M R Vincent

*'... it's strange to me
How very full the church can be
With people I don't see at all
Except at Harvest Festival'*
John Betjeman

With Animal Welfare Sunday in mind...

'I really don't think I could consent to go to Heaven if I thought there were to be no animals there.' - George Bernard Shaw

'As far as the Bible is concerned, God only threw the humans out of Paradise.' - Bruce Foyle

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Studland Picture Gallery...

Award Winning Clayton Meadow:



A visit to Windsor Castle for Natalie's installation as Succentor at Windsor Castle Chapel:



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