

The Dubber

DECEMBER 2022



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From the Editor

Many thanks, to the pupils at St George's School who have delighted us, once again, with their lovely Christmas illustrations. We found it very hard to choose the cover this year as there were many worthy winners.

We are enormously lucky to have such a wonderful school on our doorstep. My own granddaughter started at the Pre-school aged two and then was in the first cohort of children to go through to 11- with the change to the two tier system. She had a superb education and is now, like many of her St George's peer group, studying hard at university.

Thank you St George's School!



HAPPY CHRISTMAS
TO ALL

Angela

Ed@thedubber.co.uk

PS Don't forget the early deadline for the January issue - Thursday, 15 December!

Inside this issue...

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Deadline for Next Issue

The editor, Angela Bell, appreciates the early submission of contributions but, for those cutting it fine, the deadline for the **January** issue is noon on **Thursday, 15 December** & it will be ready for collection on **Tuesday, 20 December**.

Contributions & Notifications

The editor welcomes news contributions and letters as well as notifications of events within the Parishes for the **What's On** section and, space permitting, for free 'one off' box adverts which are included at the Editor's discretion. These can be submitted online to ed@thedubber.co.uk or by post to The Editor, 2 The Steddings, Langton Matravers, BH19 3EU (☎427202).

How to Format Submissions

Preferably, all emailed *Dubber* submissions should be sent as **12 point Times New Roman** (or Minion Pro, if you have it) **plain type** (i.e. no bold, italic or underlining) **aligned left with single line spacing**.

Advertising & Distribution

The Dubber Secretary deals with enquiries regarding Distribution and Yearly advertising. The secretary is Lewis Dyke, (secretary@thedubber.co.uk); The Vestry, St George's Church, St George's Close, Langton Matravers, Swanage, BH19 3HZ (☎427822). Please contact Lewis (office hours on page 6) if you have any queries about the receipt of your *Dubber* copy or if you would like to know more about advertising in *The Dubber*; If you are a distributor in need of help or advice please speak to the person who delivers your bundles to you and escalate to Lewis in plenty of time if you have an issue. Additionally, if you, or someone you know, is leaving/have left the parishes and would like to continue to receive a copy of *The Dubber*, please contact the Secretary via email or telephone to arrange this. *Dubber* distributors are always needed!

PARISH COUNCIL INFORMATION

Langton Matravers PC

Parish Clerk - Dr Jenny Marshall
Address - The Parish Office, 1A High Street, Langton Matravers. (Open: Tues, Weds, Fri, 9-10.30am)
Email: langtonmatravers@dorset-aptc.gov.uk
Web: www.langtonmatravers-pc.org
Phone: 01929 425100

Worth Matravers PC

Parish Clerk - Roger Khanna
Email: worthmatraversparishclerk@gmail.com

Web: www.worthmatraversparishcouncil.org
Phone: 01929 439044

Corfe Castle PC (Kingston)

Parish Clerk - Michelle Harrington
Address: 34 Egmont Road, Poole Dorset BH16 5BZ
Email: clerk@corfecastleparishcouncil.gov.uk
Web: www.corfecastleparishcouncil.gov.uk
Facebook: www.facebook.com/CorfeCastlePC
Phone: 01202 670105

PRE-SCHOOL SERVICE

a service for pre-school
children and parents

7 December

St George's Church
Weather Permitting

The Dubber is the mouthpiece of the Parishes of St Aldhelm's

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St George's, Langton Matravers

St Nicholas of Myra, Worth Matravers

with Harmans Cross

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Lewis Dyke

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Aldhelm Benefice

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RECTORY REFLECTIONS

December 2022

Three 'norths' and the Star of Bethlehem

On Wednesday 2 November Langton Matravers made history when Ordnance Survey announced to an unexpected world, that a historic triple alignment of true north, magnetic north and grid north had made landfall at Langton Matravers.



The Wednesday morning congregation at St George's marked the event by posing along an imagined alignment through the Church (actually the 'norths' converged a few degrees to the west, but we wouldn't want that to spoil a good story...).

Grid north is the blue line on an OS map that points to the North Pole, whereas true north is the direction of the lines of longitude that all converge at the North Pole; true north varies from grid north as it reflects the curve of the earth. Magnetic north marks the northward line to the magnetic North Pole.

A spokesperson for OS said: "This is a once in a lifetime occurrence. Due to the unpredictability of the magnetic field on long timescales it's not possible to say when the alignment of the three norths will happen again."

This alignment prompted a thought about another unusual event that features in the telling of the Christmas story, the fabled 'Star of Bethlehem'. What astronomical occurrence was behind this anciently recorded celestial event?

The account of the Star of Bethlehem appears only in the Book of Matthew. The gospel tells us that a bright star appeared in the eastern sky when Jesus was born, famously seen by a group of wise men. These biblical "Magi," often called kings, now adorn nativity scenes around the world.

When today's astronomers rewind the motion of the planets; something that it is apparently relatively easy to do with observing software; interesting astronomical alignments can be seen to have played out in the years around the life of Jesus.

In the year 7 BC, Jupiter and Saturn had three alignments (or conjunctions) in the same constellation, Pisces. Because the planets move in their orbits at different speeds and are located at different distances, sometimes they appear to pass one another in the night sky. They can also appear to hold still or move backward in the sky, a phenomenon astronomers describe as retrograde motion. With Jupiter and Saturn having three close conjunctions in a relatively brief period of time, it is possible to imagine that ancient astronomers would have taken note and subsequently ascribed meaning to the event.

Matthew describes how these wise men (the Bible doesn't record how many of them there were) saw the new star as a portent foretelling the birth of the King of the Jews; an event they understood to have significance for the nations beyond Israel. They duly set forth to pay homage. On arrival in Bethlehem they (inadvertently) enquired about the baby at the court of the insecure, self-serving Herod, the ruler appointed by Rome as 'King of the Jews'.

Their journey of exploration took them, according to Matthew, to Bethlehem where they paid their anticipated homage to the child. The child, who as a man, would be revealed to an unexpected world as the Christ, the Messiah, the Saviour; and, as the wise men foresaw, King of the Jews; to the undoubted chagrin of Herod. An event that would indeed prove to have profound implications for Israel and the nations beyond - to this very day.

And is it true? For if it is,
No loving fingers tying strings
Around those tissued fripperies,
The sweet and silly Christmas things,
Bath salts and inexpensive scent
And hideous tie so kindly meant,

No love that in a family dwells,
No carolling in frosty air,
Nor all the steeple-shaking bells
Can with this single Truth compare –
That God was man in Palestine
And lives today in Bread and Wine.

John Betjeman 'Christmas' 1954

James

James Mercer
Priest with Responsibility
for the Parishes of St Aldhelm's



Advent at Kingston
St James' Church
Sunday 4th December
6.00pm

A service of seasonal readings, music
and hymns, followed by mulled wine and
mince pies.

Do join us!



SERVICE TIMES IN THE PARISHES

SUNDAY	4 DECEMBER - ADVENT 2	
10am	Celtic Eucharist	Worth
10.30am	Holy Communion	Corfe
6pm	Advent Service: From Darkness to Light	Kingston
SUNDAY	11 DECEMBER - ADVENT 3	
8am	Holy Communion BCP	Worth
9.30am	Holy Communion	Steeple
10am	Holy Communion	Langton
10.30am	Morning Prayer	Corfe
11.15am	Informal Worship with Christmas Carols	Kingston
6pm	Evensong	Langton
SATURDAY	17 DECEMBER	
5.30pm	Lessons & Carols	5.30pm
SUNDAY	18 DECEMBER - ADVENT 4	
10am	Carols & Readings	Worth
10am	Late Breakfast Church	Langton
10.30am	Lessons & Carols	Corfe
5pm	Christmas Play	HX
TUESDAY	20 DECEMBER	
7pm	Christmas Play	Langton
SATURDAY	24 DECEMBER - CHRISTMAS EVE	
3pm	Christingle	Worth
4pm	Christingle	Corfe
4.30pm	Christingle	Langton
9pm	Christmas Communion	Worth
11.30pm	Midnight Communion	Langton
11.30pm	Midnight Communion	Corfe
SUNDAY	25 DECEMBER - CHRISTMAS DAY	
9.30am	Christmas Communion	Steeple
10am	Family Christmas Worship	Langton
11am	Christmas Morning Worship	Corfe Castle
SUNDAY	1 JANUARY - EPIPHANY	
11am	Benefice Communion	Kingston
EVERY WEDNESDAY		
10am	Communion, contemplation & conversation	Langton

The Coffee Pot

Meet for real coffee & cake on
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St George's Church

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Thursday, 1 December

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THE DUBBER CHRISTMAS COVER COMPETITION

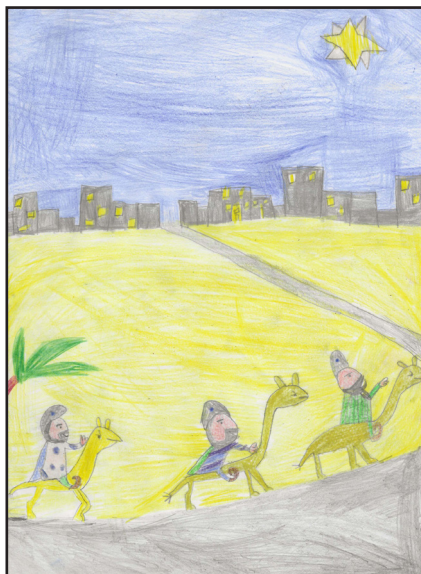
Every year, *The Dubber* runs a competition for the children at St George's School to design a Christmas front cover. The theme this year was 'We Three Kings'; the entries were judged by Chris Meadows.

The overall winner, this year, (seen on the front cover) is Charlie Legg, Year 6, and the runners up - one from each year group - can be viewed below.

The overall winner receives a £10 book token and the runners up each receive a £5 book token.



*Year R:
Bella
Turner-Paull*



*Year 3:
Edith Sizer*



*Year 1:
Ludo Bryant*



*Year 4:
Elsie McNeilly*



*Year 2:
Hermione
Young*



*Year 5:
Daisy Mehers*



GENERAL NEWS

SWANAGE FOOD BANK

A very big thank you to St George's Church, Harmans Cross and Langton School for the very generous donations of food following their Harvest Services.

As you can imagine the need for food is very great during these difficult and challenging times and the Food bank would be very grateful for your contributions of tinned and dried foods. There are collection boxes in the back of Worth and Langton churches. Many thanks. *Liz Hoad*

ARTSREACH TO CONTINUE

In November, Arts Council England announced that Dorset based charity Artsreach will remain as a National Portfolio Organisation, successfully securing three years of funding to support rural touring in partnership with Dorset's rural communities.

Since 1990, Artsreach has provided people living in rural Dorset with access to professional live performances and creative arts projects in rural venues and communities, at affordable and accessible prices. Its programme is delivered in partnership with a large network of community volunteers and together the scheme coordinates around 150 high quality professional events every year, usually in village halls and often in rural isolated communities right across rural Dorset.

The confirmation of this grant funding, combined with the support Artsreach receives from Dorset Council, will ensure that the scheme is able to continue to bring professional live performances and creative arts projects to rural venues right across Dorset, in turn helping to nurture strong, healthy communities. *Kerry Bartlett*

SINGERS TO 'RING CHRISTMAS BELLS'

The long established, Swanage-based choir, Belvedere Singers, is looking forward to performing a wonderful mix of music to ring in the festive period. They would love everyone to join them for what promises to be a most enjoyable evening, on Saturday 10 December, at 7.30pm.

The Choir's concerts are known to provide 'something for everyone' and Music Director Clive Watkiss has made sure this year is no exception; there will be many popular carols, some with organ accompaniment and audience participation. Concert-goers can also look forward to some well-known Christmas songs, plus a Ukrainian carol which the choir, always up for a challenge, will attempt to sing in its original language – Fortunately, one of the choir speaks Ukrainian, so they have a slight advantage!

A retiring collection will benefit Purbeck Connect Ukraine, a local charity set up through Swanage Action for Refugees, which aims to provide help and support for Ukrainian people who have come to Purbeck to flee the war in Ukraine.

'Ring Christmas Bells' will be at St Mary's Church, Kings Road, Swanage. Tickets are just £7 (under 18s free) and are available from choir members or on the door. *Sue Eady*

CORFE CASTLE SURGERY

As I type this article, we are about to push the 'Go Live' button on our new website. I would appreciate any feedback on what you think, and please let me know if there is anything you would like to see updated in the future to make it as patient friendly as possible. I personally think it's great and appreciate the time Jen has taken to add all of the details onto it. I hope that you find the contents relevant and helpful.

The next big thing in the calendar is Christmas. Please remember to allow extra time between ordering and collecting your medication during the busy weeks before Christmas. The dispensary staff will try and accommodate all medication requests made but please do not order any earlier than you need to or request additional medication unnecessarily as we have limited time and space.

Our Christmas opening hours: We will close at 6.30pm on Friday, 23 December and reopen at 8am on Wednesday, 28 December. We will also be closed on Monday, 2 January 2023 and reopen at 8am on Tuesday, 3 January.

During these times (and whenever the surgery is closed), you can call 111 for any non-emergency requirements. For any life-threatening emergency requirements, call 999 and ask for the ambulance service.

We would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. *Kerry Norman, Practice Manager*

CORFE CASTLE PATIENT PG

Having worked for the majority of my NHS career in Purbeck I have seen many changes -some have been positive and some not so but I have always been proud of our local services in Purbeck and have been keen to see them preserved where possible whilst recognising that change and adaptation are essential elements for our future.

I am fortunate to now chair the Friends of Wareham Hospital and the Corfe PPG so have continued access to those who provide our local services and as someone who has always promoted Purbeck wide services, I am delighted to hear of local developments which have become necessary within a changing NHS with a shortage of resources, including personnel.

Last week, I needed to seek medical help at our Surgery (fortunately a rare occurrence for me so far) and was delighted to see that the Surgery is supporting the training of the next generation of doctors. I was interviewed by a med-

ical student on the phone and at face -to- face consultation who was supported by a Junior Doctor (F2) - both of whom referred to Dr Lepper to confirm the final diagnosis. I was so grateful for such a proficient and reassuring service and thank Dr Lepper and his whole team for their support of us all as patients and providing encouragement and training to new doctors and students who are so needed for the future of our NHS.

It is hoped that we will be able to hold a PPG committee meeting in the New Year but please do contact us through the surgery or by email (corfecastleppg@gmail.com) if you would like us to raise an issue with the Surgery. **PPG**

CHRISTMAS CONCERT AT CORFE CASTLE.

This year will see the return of a Christmas concert in St Edward's Church in the heart of Corfe Castle, famed for its Christmas lights and decorations. The Church itself will be decorated with candles and a Christmas tree.

The concert on Thursday, 8 December will start at 7pm and while there is no need to purchase a ticket or pay for admission, there will be a retiring collection in aid of Disasters Emergency Committee Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal. There will be an interval during which refreshments will be served.

In addition to the audience singing well known Christmas carols, there will also be seasonal readings and music from Wareham Town Band, St Edward's singers and singing from Corfe Castle Primary school. **John Beauchamp**

KINGSTON

KINGSTON NEWS

The evening film showing held at St James' for the Purbeck Film Festival was very well attended and much enjoyed. Thanks to everyone who helped organise it and served the refreshments. Hopefully it will be the first of many such events.

The Advent service will be on Sunday, 4 December at 6pm. Please join us if you can as it is always a lovely service.

Our Carol service will be at the Informal service on 11 December at 11.15 led by Becca Charron, a bit early, but it is our last service before Christmas. Unfortunately, we are not able to have a Christingle again this year but these are being held at Langton and Worth on Christmas eve. There will be a Benefice service at Kingston on Sunday, 1 January.

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy and, most of all, a Peaceful New Year.

Doreen Farr, CCT Secretary

CORFE CASTLE PARISH COUNCIL NOVEMBER MEETING

Budget 2023 / 24 – It is that time of year again when Corfe Castle Parish Council start to consider the future financial demands for the parish. This month saw a report presented to council which included a 0% increase in Precept. Corfe Castle Parish Council, understand what impact the cost-of-living crisis is having for some of our residents and therefore if we can our aim is to not make times harder than they already are. A final report will be presented to Council in the December meeting.

Gods Acre Rules and Regulations – Following the adoption of the new Rules and Regulations document for Gods Acre Cemetery, Corfe Castle Parish Council will in

early 2023, be carrying out a clearance within Gods Acre of any item which is deemed to be in breach of these rules. All items will be placed to one side near the pedestrian entrance in the new extension area for the period of one month before being disposed of.

Bus Stop – Corfe Castle Parish Council, were recently asked to consider asking Dorset Council to move a bus stop in Kingston. The change in location to just outside the Kingston Courtyard Centre, would mean visitors and local residents working at the Centre, would not have to walk down the road, daytime or night-time, when visiting / going to work at the Courtyard Centre. Corfe Castle Parish Council agreed to support the idea in principle subject to a safe location being determined by Dorset Council.

Corfe Castle Youth Club – Corfe Castle Parish Council, approved a Memorandum of Understanding between Purbeck Youth & Community Foundation and the Parish Council which sees the Council assisting financially to enable the club to run for this academic year.

Civility & Respect – Corfe Castle Parish Council agreed to take the NALC Civility & Respect Pledge. The pledge means: * Council agree that it will treat all councillors, clerk and all employees, members of the public, representatives of partner organisations and volunteers with civility and respect in their role. * Council has put in place a training programme for councillors and staff. * Council has signed up to Code of Conduct for councillor. * Council has good governance arrangements in place including, staff contracts, and Dignity at Work Policy. * Council will commit to seeking professional help at early stages should civility and respect issues arise. * Council will commit to calling out bullying and harassment if and when it happens. * Council will continue to learn from best practice in the sector and aspire to being a role model / champion council e.g., via Local Council Award Scheme & * Council supports the continued lobbying for the change in legislation to support the Civility and Respect Pledge including sanctions for elected members where appropriate.

Planning Application & Treework Application update: The following applications have been received by Corfe Castle Parish Council, for full details including proposed works please see the Dorset Council website:

- P/CLP/2022/06442 – Location: Old Dairy Cottage, Woolgarston Road, BH20 5JD. Recommend: No objection
- P/HOU/2022/06603 - Location: Tapers Barn Tabbits Hill Lane BH20 5HZ . Recommend: No objection
- P/LBC/20228/06040 & P/HOU/2022/05969 - Location: 18 West Street, Kingston BH20 5LH. Recommend: No objection
- P/TRC/2022/06600 - Location: 77 West Street, Corfe Castle BH20 5HB. Recommend: No objection
- Full details can be found on the Dorset Council website, <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/planning-buildings-land/planning>

Out of Hours Service – In October Dorset Council changed the way they provide out of hours services. This service is no longer being contracted out to agencies and is being handled in house.

West Street Road Works – The works planned for the 1 November 2022, were delayed due to health and safety reasons. Dorset Council is now considering if the works should take place at night. No revised date has been confirmed yet.

Temporary Traffic Lights – The work being carried out between Castle view & the Norden roundabout is to replace a manhole cover by BT Open Reach. When BT Open Reach went to replace a manhole cover they discovered the chamber underneath had collapsed. Dorset Council have now requested BT Open Reach in day light hours use manual stop-go boards so there should be better control of traffic. Services would usually get a licence for the work required from Dorset Council, but if it's an emergency they do not need to inform Dorset Council beforehand.

Community & cultural organisation – A new funding round for community and cultural organisations is open now. The focus for the funding is cost of living and warm spaces. Funding is up to max of £5,000. More details can be found on the Dorset Council website.

Sofa sessions – Dorset Councillors have taken to the streets armed with a sofa to speak face-to-face with residents. Four 'sofa sessions' were held in town centres across Dorset to allow councillors and officials to hear what matters most within communities.

Local plan– The latest version has now been published and is on the Dorset Council website.

Cost of Living Crisis – For free, independent, and CONFIDENTIAL advice on cost-of-living help available to you, contact citizens advice either by calling 0800 144 8848 or by visiting www.citizensadvice.org.uk. You could also try the Dorset Council page <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/w/cost-of-living-help> which will sign-post you to webpages with advice and tips.

Free School Meals - There's a lot to think about now the children are back at school, so families on qualifying benefits are reminded to check if their child or children could receive a free school meal. This could save families up to £450 per year per child and their school could get extra government funding, known as the Pupil Premium, to boost their education. It is easy to find out if your children qualify for free school meals. Complete the confidential checker at dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/free-school-meals or telephone 01305 221090.

You can make a Difference: Councillors make a huge difference to the quality of life of local people and how local issues are dealt with. Council's need people from all backgrounds and experiences who reflect the communities they serve.

In May 2024 Dorset will be holding the next local elections where your Parish Councillors will be elected. If you want to make a difference to your community, why not think about standing? You will need to start becoming aware of issues in your local area; what your local council is doing about these issues; come to a couple of our meetings, watch what it is all about, and if you feel you could make a difference think about standing.

Next Council Meeting – Monday, 12 December 2022, at 7pm in the Corfe Castle Village Hall, Bill Carter Room. To start the meeting is a public half hour, so please come and join us and have your say. *Michelle Harrington, Parish Clerk*

Don't miss
Downton Abbey at HXVH
Tuesday, 13 December at 7.30pm

HARMANS CROSS VILLAGE HALL

Christmas is coming and soon we will have our traditional Christmas tree up and decorated at the cross-roads in Harmans Cross. The Hall will also have a festive feel, in readiness for our very special Christmas Play and Carol Service which is taking place on Sunday, 18 December starting at 6pm. The play is a unique festive piece written by local resident David Nunn. It will be followed by a carol service with all our favourite carols, with refreshments to conclude. Everyone is welcome.

This year, we are also participating in the Christmas Tree Festival at St George's Church in Langton Matravers. It's a lovely display so please come along and see all the beautifully decorated Christmas trees on display, including our Harmans Cross Village Hall tree.

Before Christmas, we have our regular monthly Movie Night. Our next film barely needs an introduction:

TUESDAY 13 DECEMBER

– DOWNTON ABBEY: A NEW ERA

The much-anticipated return to the big screen of *Downton Abbey* reunites the beloved cast as they go on a grand journey to the South of France to uncover the mystery of the Dowager Countess' newly inherited villa.

And just to get the date in your diaries, our first Movie Night for 2023 is:

TUESDAY 10 JANUARY – TOP GUN MAVERICK

It's 36 years since Tom Cruise brought us *Maverick* in the original *Top Gun*. Well buckle up, because he's back and little has changed. *Maverick* may be testing jets out in the Mojave desert, but he's still got the jacket, the bike(s), the aviator shades and (most importantly) the "need for speed" that made him a hit back in 1986. He also has the rebellious streak that has prevented him rising above the level of captain – showcased in an opening Mach 10 sequence. *Maverick* has in fact been called back to the *Top Gun* programme – not to fly, but to teach the "best of the best" how to blow up a uranium enrichment plant at face-melting velocity, a mission that will require not one but "two consecutive miracles".

The doors and bar open at 7pm for our Movie Nights, with the film starting at 7.30pm and admission is just £5 on the door.

COFFEE JUNCTION IS BACK

We welcome everyone to Coffee Junction every other Thursday morning from 10.30am in the small meeting room, HXVH. A chance to chat to other local residents sponsored by St Aldhelm's Parish (the new parish covering Langton, Worth and Kingston churches and Harmans Cross). Next dates are December 1, 15, 29

That's all for now. We wish everyone a very Happy Christmas.
Alison and the HXVH Committee



A date for your diaries!
Langton Wassail 2023
Tuesday 17 January

NATIONAL TRUST & WESTON FARM

We had a very informative and well attended event in the Village Hall in November when Tom Clarke, David Brown and Paul Bradley from the National Trust shared with us their activities and plans for 350-acre Weston Farm purchased earlier this year. The key priority will be conservation and to restore the land for carbon and nature. The National Trust is keen to work collaboratively with people who live in the village. Some of us are already engaged in activities to help monitor change and improvements concerning local wildlife through Sustainable Worth. For more information about getting involved in this contact kathy.hollidge@gmail.com. For more information about National Trust contact the Project Officer for Weston Farm paul.bradley@nationaltrust.org.uk

PURBECK ARTISTS & STALLHOLDERS

PASH are looking forward to welcoming local friends and visitors at their Christmas arts, crafts and produce fair in the Village Hall from 3 - 11 December. Open times are 11am to 4pm. Lots of unusual handmade gifts for all the family. Mince pies and cakes will be available too.

WORTH CAROLS ON THE GREEN

A reminder that everyone is invited to Carols on the Green on Thursday, 22 December, starting at 5pm. We'll be keeping warm with mulled wine and festive nibbles and hope to have a few local musicians keeping us in tune - all instruments welcome! If it rains, we will move into the village hall. Proceeds from the event will be donated to Swanage Food Bank.

We look forward to seeing you! *The Village Events Team*

SUSTAINABLE WORTH TREE PLANTING

The Queen's Green Canopy is a nationwide initiative to honour Queen Elizabeth II in her Platinum Jubilee year. Over a million trees have already been planted by individuals, schools, charities and local councils.

Of course, it must be 'the right tree in the right place'. So, we have chosen a Wild Service Tree which we hope will do well in the alkaline soil and challenging conditions of Worth. The National Trust have offered a suitable site in Front Field at Weston Farm.

Do join us on Saturday, 10 December at 10.30am to plant the tree and then you are welcome to adjourn to The Green for a chat about all things environmental and a coffee from Di and Dave's.

Heading West beyond the Church and the Village Hall, Front Field is just after the Playing Field and the Winspit Road turning.

Kathy Hollidge

WORTH FILM CLUB

We're delighted to announce that our Wednesday, 14 December screening will be a special Christmas evening with all proceeds and donations going directly to the Swanage Food Bank.

While You Were Sleeping is a simple and unassuming movie that blind-sides you with its charm. It tells the story of a lonely subway worker (best actress winner Sandra Bullock) who becomes smitten with a handsome stranger. When she saves his life after he's been mugged and fallen into a coma, his hilariously offbeat family mistakes her for his fiancée. The mix-ups escalate as she fabricates a life between herself

12 *The Dubber*

and a man she's never met.

While the romantic comedy is a popular genre all year round, there's just something extra special about a couple falling in love amid the magic of the season. Even the hardest of seasonal cynics won't be able to resist this Christmas classic.

Please join us for mulled wine and Christmas goodies at 7pm and the film will begin at 7.30pm. *Claude Bonfanti*

WORTH MATRAVERS PARISH COUNCIL

NOVEMBER MEETING CORRESPONDENCE

The PC considered a request from the Benefice for a supporting letter to the Heritage Lottery endorsing their £250 K bid for rebuilding of Worth Church Roof. Cllrs agreed the draft prepared by the Clerk and the Chairman signed for this letter to be sent on to the National Heritage Fund offices in London.

The Clerk confirmed the completion of the new HX Open Space small children's area fencing and the PC agreed the funding of £3615.15. The PC noted the proposals for new children's equipment at HXOS and agreed in principle to make a donation towards the approximate cost estimate of £20,000. The Clerk was instructed to liaise with the HXMC to find the most effective method of funding taking into account that the PC could reclaim VAT whereas the VH could not do so on such purchases.

HIGHWAY MATTERS

The Chairman raised the current dangerous situation opposite Compact farm where DC Highways had replaced the kerb line but had not maintained the road edge with a result the kerb line was overgrown and a hazard to vehicles. He explained that it had been agreed on site with DC Highways that they would erect boundary bollards to remedy such a situation but no action to date had been carried out by DC.

It was agreed to pursue this outstanding action, which had resulted in at least one damage only collision with the new now obscured kerblines, with DC Highways and Cllr Brooks. The PC agreed to instruct its contractor to cut the grass verges on the highway approaches to Worth village. The Clerk reported no comeback yet from DC Highways representative who had agreed to review it.

Cllr Vosper raised her continuing concerns about the speed of traffic between Kingston and Langton Matravers. It was agreed to raise this again with the Safety Partnership and to also investigate whether the trained Langton Matravers Community Speed Watch volunteers would be willing to monitor speeds adjacent to the Stone Carving Centre as it was just inside the Langton Matravers Parish Boundary.

Concern was expressed about the overgrown nature of the immediate access into Begbie Field from the village centre. It was agreed for the PC contractor to liaise with the local owner to resolve this situation by cutting back overhanging bushes. Concern was expressed that whilst minor footway individual stone flag repairs had been satisfactorily completed outside the Worth village hall there was an urgent need for the comprehensive scheme of lift and relay kerb and stone should not be delayed.

PLANNING AND TREE WORK APPLICATIONS

- P/HOU/2022/06438: Knoll-down Valley Road Harman's Cross Dorset BH20 5HU

Erect single storey rear extension. Councillors tried to consider this application but found great difficulty with the

unsatisfactory size now at A 4 of the complicated existing site and the new detailed proposals. This made it very difficult to distinguish proposed from existing and it would help at least if the new build was shown in a different colour. Cllrs requested the Clerk to make formal representations for an urgent need for consultation details improvements both to their Dorset Councillor and directly to the DC Planning Department Managers.

DISCUSSION AND INFORMATION

Cllrs discussed the issue of public transport access along the A351 Valley road through Harmans Cross. Cllr Hooper was concerned about a number of residents reported as leaving the road solely due to the lack of public transport facilities. The Clerk reported that the new Summer time Bus routes 30 and 35 initiative seemed to have been a success with more local usage especially from the Haycrafts Lane camp sites this summer. All Cllrs were aware that such routes operate on the 'Use it or Lose it' principles. The Clerk would forward on details of Cllr Hooper's interest in participating to the Purbeck Transport Action Group DAPTC.

Roger Khanna, Parish Clerk

LANGTON MATRAVERS

LANGTON MATRAVERS VILLAGE HALL

The Village Hall is being well used! Maintenance and improvements to the Hall are progressing.

Artsreach events have been well supported. Tango Calor raised a total of £254.40 from ticket sales and refreshments. The Odyssey, performed by David Mynne was enjoyed by all. Refreshments are served from the VH pop up café and bar. Thank you to Keith and helpers for co-ordinating these events.

The Christmas Fair was busy. 17 stalls sold a range of arts and crafts. Maggie's soup was popular and home-made cakes were served. Thank you, Gail, for co-ordinating the event and helpers including those not on the committee. The Fair raised a total of £410.50.

Daryle has taken on the role of booking officer. The new kitchen is a great facility. Please refer to the Langton Matravers Village Hall website for information about booking the hall.

Minor roof repairs have been done, and (fingers crossed) this seems to have solved the damp problem on the North wall. Part of the main hall has been painted, and also the toilets. There is further maintenance work to be carried out. Local tradespeople are used where possible.

The Village Hall has an environmental policy. It aims to reduce its carbon footprint. However, it's an old draughty building! Members of the VH have attended meetings with Dorset Community Action/Langton Planet Action to discuss positive solutions.

FUTURE EVENTS AT THE HALL

Light Up Langton – Thursday 1 December, 6pm. St George's Church/refreshments served at the Village Hall. Thank you to Julian Harris Electricians and team for setting up the lights.

The Wassail – Tuesday 17 January - a joint event including The Village Hall, The Kings Arms, Friends of the Woodland Trail. Please look out for further details in the January Dubber and posters around the village.

Table Tennis, Pilates, Country Dancing, Short Mat Bowls and the Community Library (2nd and 4th Wednesday) are

regular events.

A CALL OUT FOR CAKE MAKERS

Please contact Collette if you would be happy to make an occasional cake for VH fundraising events. 01929 422832 or email colletedrayson@gmail.com. Thank you to all for your support during the past year. Very best wishes to all.

The Village Hall Management Committee

NEWS FROM THE OLD RECTORY

Our activity leaders have been busy creating; there has been pumpkin carving, flower arranging, firework themed arts and crafts and making Christmas bunting using recycled materials, the dashes of colour in the house have been welcomed now that the nights are much darker, much earlier.

Residents, families, and friends are looking forward to the upcoming pantomime Jack and the Beanstalk which will be performed by staff, oh yes they are!

We would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas from all at The Old Rectory. *Sally Lowry, Deputy Manager*

LANGTON MATRAVERS PARISH COUNCIL

NOVEMBER MEETING

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- P/HOU/2022/0513, Location: 1 Acton Vale, The Lane, Langton Matravers, BH19 3JU; Proposal: Erect a single occupancy pod. The clerk is to request the planning officer to review whether the building is listed, and to consider the listing in light of this situation.
- P/HOU/2022/06512; Location: Pond Cottage, Steppes, Langton Matravers, BH19 3EU; Proposal: erect single storey near extension; No objection.
- P/MPO/2022/06498; Location: Spyway Orchard, Durnford Drove, LM, BH19 3HG. This application has been withdrawn.

The Parish Council is in the process of negotiating a new noticeboard to go outside the churchyard and at Acton as the existing ones are in a state of disrepair.

Councillor Pearson praised the allotment working party on completing the rabbit proof fencing.

The Council agreed to support the notion put forward by Swanage Town Council to the Dorset Association of Parish and Town Councils (DAPTC) regarding the deterioration in Health Care to rural areas.

The extension of the 30 mph zone on the A321 highway has now been successfully completed; and an electronic bid is now in and been received by Road Safety for a 20 mph zone in Langton Matravers.

To commemorate the Three Norths Combine the council is considering placing a plaque on the Great Wall.

Jenny Marshall, Parish Clerk

NEWS FROM NOWHERE

RAMBLINGS OF A LOCAL GARDENER

Wishing all my readers a Happy Christmas and prosperous 2023.

2022 has been a challenging year, hotter, dryer and windier than I can remember over the last eighty years. Food supplies are short, and the economic situation due to Covid, climate change and the Ukraine war is going to make this Christmas hard.

Forgetting the present, I am thinking about Christmas time in the lean years after the war, when we had problems with finances and food supply. We were living on a small farm in an old stone house that had no hot water, it was cold, and the only warm place was in front of a 7-foot open fire in the evenings. We kept warm working outside; my favourite job was sitting on my 3-legged stool milking my Jersey cow as she was like a hot water bottle! In December, in the evenings, we sat in front of the big fire eating mince pies with pastry made with dripping and served with some cream and strong home-made alcohol. Everything tasted wonderful to me, and doing the cooking with my mother was such fun too.

Christmas dinner was arranged weeks and months before. Saving and bartering rationing points to get the ingredients to make Christmas pudding and mincemeat for the mince pies. My mother's mincemeat recipe, which I still use every year, was from her mother and from Lincolnshire.

The Christmas meal for the seven of us was likely to be a nine-pound chicken served with bread sauce, a rich gravy, sprouts, potatoes (roasted in dripping maybe) and cabbage just cooked in a little milk. Our Christmas pudding, flaming with a tablespoon of burning brandy, contained a few hidden three-penny bits that brought luck to their finders.

Back to the present, I heard David Attenborough say we have no right to take anything's life, from the smallest micro-organism to the largest whale. In the past, I thought I was not hurting anything that mattered and I cared for everything. But Health and Safety demanded that, (because I was then, providing bed and breakfast) I must use sprays to keep flies off food and disinfectants everywhere. Now we know that all organisms are interactive, their populations have social structure, and even trees communicate with each other. Scientists have seen that bees like to play with little beads, and wasps and bumblebees are essential for pollination. Small micro-organisms in our gut are so essential to our health. Pest control is no longer easy in the house, garden or workplace.

Another area in gardening which has been difficult for people who care for the environment is the need for using really good compost that does not have peat in it. The RHS at Wisley has been able to cut out all peat composts and they still grow beautiful pot-plants and seedlings by using leaf mulch. We must collect lots of leaves from lawns, roads and paths to make leaf mulch for next year, which will save fuel cleaning the roads and make them safer.

In the house or greenhouse some vegetables could still be sown like rocket, peas for shoots, and some of the Asian greens like Pak Choi and Mizuna. This month winter pruning is also important, especially for tall shrubs that can get wind-blown. If you are working on dry plants, you can gather grasses, pretty flower heads such as fennel and the Compositae family, and green sprigs to create Christmas decorations.

I will be making wreaths and table decorations from garden trimmings in the first couple of weeks of December, and if you would like to join me I would love to have the company, just call (01929 421681) so that we can arrange a mutually suitable time. Happy Christmas.

Rachel



Purbeck Art Weeks Festival is looking for additional Trustees

Purbeck Art Weeks Festival (PAW) is a vibrant community organisation supporting the arts across Purbeck. Our annual two week Festival, at the end of May/beginning of

June, includes open studios, a collective exhibition in Rollington Barn, concerts, and talks. Our outreach programme for young people/community projects takes place before and during the Festival period.

The present trustees would welcome additional members to strengthen the profile of the group and contribute to PAW's strategic direction. Anyone interested in joining and working with us should be a proven team player with experience or interest in the arts. Most importantly we are looking for the enthusiasm, skills and commitment needed to enable PAW to continue supporting the arts and artists in Purbeck. The trustees are particularly looking for people with a background in any of the following areas: marketing, fundraising, community engagement, visual arts and music.

If you are interested, please complete a short statement outlining the reason for your application and send with accompanying CV, if appropriate, to info@purbeckartweeks.co.uk by 1 January 2023.

More details about PAW can be found at www.purbeckartweeksfestival.co.uk

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REGULAR EVENTS

Folk Dancing	Tues 7.30-9.45pm	LMVH
Langton PO	Tues 9-12pm	Putlake Tea Rooms
Community Library	2 nd & 4 th Weds	LMVH
Harmans Cross PO	Thurs 9.30-11.30	HXVH

NOVEMBER 2022

29	9-12pm	Post Office	Putlake Cafe
30	7.30pm	Swanage Town Band in Concert	Methodist Ch

DECEMBER 2022

1	10-11.30am	Coffee Pot	St George's Ch
1	10.30-noon	Coffee Junction Post Office (9.30-11.30)	HXVH
1	6pm	Langton Light Up	St George's Ch
2	7.30pm	Karen G's Xmas Show	Mowlem
3-5	10-5pm	Christmas Tree Festival	St George's Ch
3-11	11-4pm	PASH stalls	WMVH
6	9-12pm	Post Office	Putlake Cafe
6	7.30pm	WMPC Meeting	HXVH
8	9.30-11.30am	Post Office	HXVH
8	4pm	Mayday Singers	St George's Ch
8	7pm	Christmas Concert	St Edwards
8	7pm	LMPC Meeting	LMVH
9	Dusk?	Swanage Pier Lights on	Swanage Pier
10	10.30am	Tree Planting	Front Field, Worth
10	7.30pm	Belvedere Singers	St Mary's
12	7pm	CCPC Meeting	CCVH
13	9-12pm	Post Office	Putlake Cafe
13	7.30pm	Film: <i>Downron Abbey: A New Era</i>	HXVH
14	7.30pm	WMFC: <i>While You Were Sleeping</i>	WMVH
15	10.30-noon	Coffee Junction Post Office (9.30-11.30)	HXVH
20	9-12pm	Post Office	Putlake Cafe
22	5pm	Carols on the Green	Worth Green
22	9.30-11.30am	Post Office	HXVH
29	10.30-noon	Coffee Junction Post Office (9.30-11.30)	HXVH

JANUARY 2023

17	3.15pm	Wassail	LMVH
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communityspeedwatch
VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

Can you spare an hour a month to help make Langton Matravers a safer and more pleasant place to live?

If so, please contact Ian Vaughan-Arbuckle 01929 426956 or email vaughanarbuckle@gmail.com to join the Langton Community Speed Watch or to get more information. Thank you!



Mayday Singers
winter celebration **Sunday**
January 8th
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St George's Church Langton Matravers
Tickets £8 on the door

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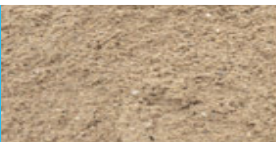
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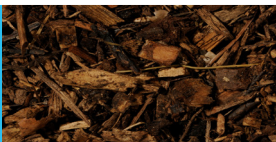
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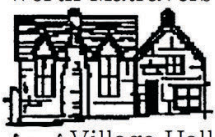
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