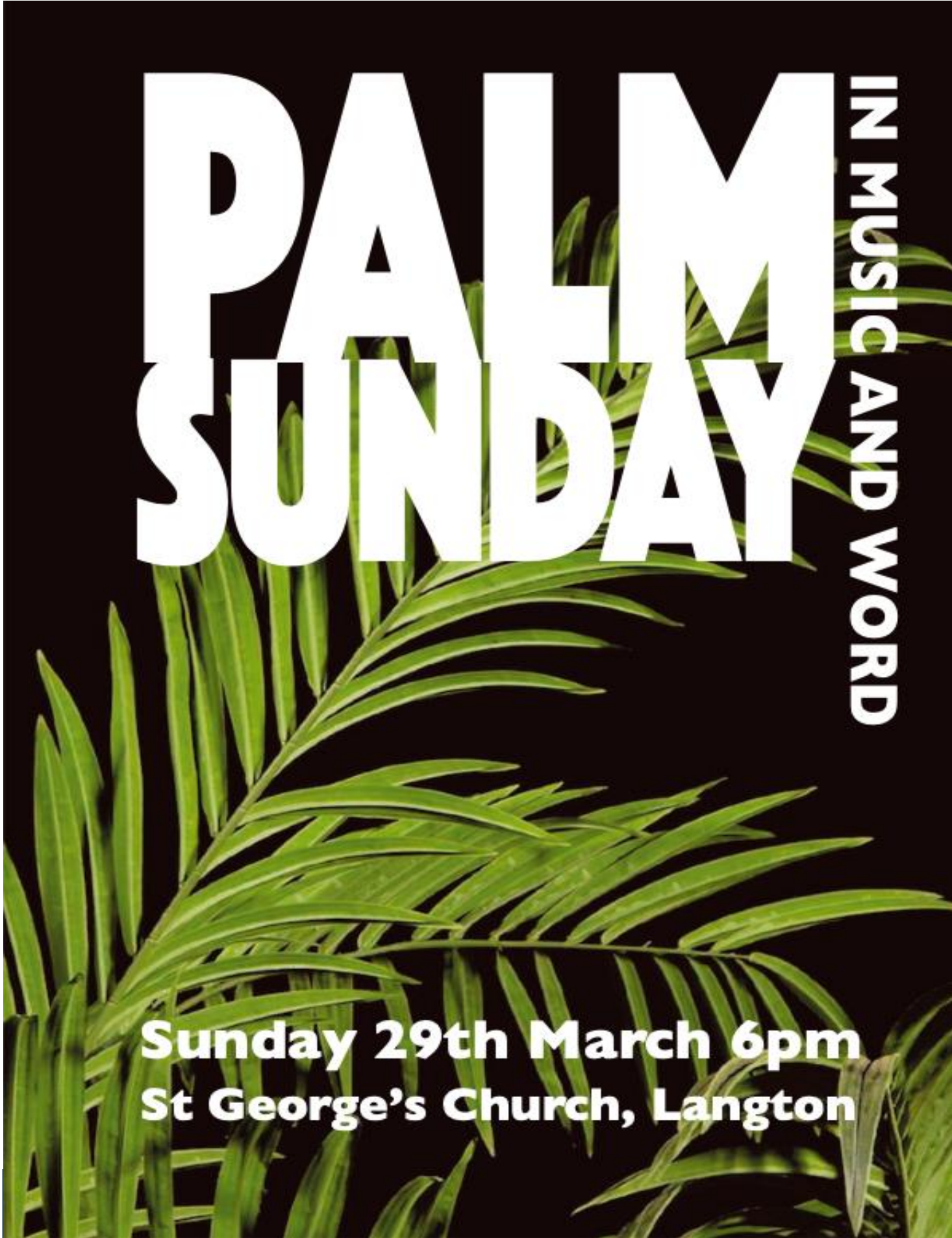




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The Dubber

March 2026

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From the Editor

*I'm afraid that I had a bit of a meltdown while editing this issue as I had received a vast quantity of A4 posters to reduce and fit. I realise that AI has opened up the delights of graphic design to one and all (myself included) but many events don't warrant a quarter page advert in **The Dubber**! I would urge contributors to curb their enthusiasm for colourful quarter pagers and remember a small box will often suffice!*



Many thanks
Angela

IMPORTANT * PLEASE NOTE!

Deadlines are the second Thursday of the month unless otherwise stated

**April issue deadline
is 12 March**

5	WELCOME FROM THE EDITOR
5	PARISH COUNCIL INFORMATION
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10	LANGTON MATRAVERS
12	WORTH MATRAVERS
14	HARMANS CROSS
16	WHAT'S ON

Deadline for Next Issue

The editor, Angela Bell, appreciates the early submission of contributions but, for those cutting it fine, the deadline for the **April** issue is noon on **Thursday, 12 March** & it will hopefully be ready for collection circa **28 March** (Chris will email when ready).

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 Nicky Glassock, (admin@staldhelm-purbeck.org); The Vestry, St George's Church, St George's Close, Langton Matravers, Swanage, BH19 3HZ (☎427822). Please contact Nicky (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 Nicky 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 - Emma Evans

Address - The Parish Office, 1A High Street, Langton Matravers. (Open: TBC)

Email: clerk@langtonmatravers-pc.gov.uk

Web: www.langtonmatravers-pc.org

Phone: 07745 934263

Worth Matravers PC

Parish Clerk - Michelle Harrington

Address: 34 Egmont Road, Poole Dorset BH16 5BZ

Email: clerk@worthmatraversparishcouncil.gov.uk

Web: www.worthmatraversparishcouncil.org.uk

Phone: 01202 670105

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

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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
The Chapel of St Aldhelm's Head

Pioneer Associate Priest

Revd Lindy Jane
✉ revlindyjane@gmail.com

☎ c/o 01929 208469

Associate Priest

Revd Nick Webb

Benefice Administrator

Nicky Glassock
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St George's Close
Langton Matravers
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Keep updated with events and visit the
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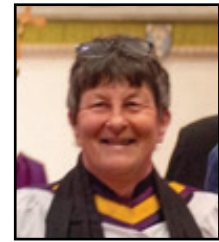
Parishes of St Aldhelm's Benefice

Richard Earl ☎ 01929 475822

Janet Robinson ☎ 07986 553969

March 2026

Hello from the Rectory



What a lot of rain we have been having! Our hearts go out to all who have suffered flooding whether that be houses or land. I am hoping by the time you read this we will be having more dry days. Despite the rain I am noticing the first signs that the trees



are beginning to awake from their slumber and the sound of bird song is increasing in preparation for spring. What a joy it is to hear and see them around the Rectory garden. The snowdrops, daffodils and primroses are out, along with some early blossom on the trees, all giving me the hope of

spring and the new life that brings. As we haven't been able to sleep or hibernate, we have endured the colder wetter months with all its good and challenging features.

For me a roaring open fire has been a highlight and the opportunity to prepare the garden for spring growth. I have a type of sedge (*Carex Pendula*) that is rather invasive and for the last two years I have been preparing to remove the majority of it releasing other plants in the garden to thrive and now it is done. It is interesting that people and plants alike need the space to grow and develop so that they can thrive. Let us always be mindful of what helps us to thrive and what might help others too. For me being out in God's creation helps me to grow and thrive, being able to be thankful for the beauty I see around me. I wonder what will help you to grow this spring time?

Every Blessing,
Revd Lindy Jane

**Community
Coffee Morning**

Thursday 19th March

10am – 11.30am

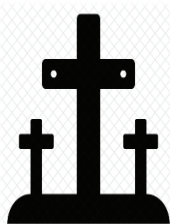
**Langton Village Hall
All Welcome!**

The Coffee Pot



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

*10-11.30am Thursday, 5 March
& Thursday, 2 April
Good company & chat
All welcome!*



The Stations of the Cross or the Way of the Cross refers to a series of images depicting Jesus Christ on the day of his crucifixion and is usually accompanied by prayers at each one.

We are holding two services using these images

(painted by local artist Alan Hudson)

on

Sunday Evening March 1st 2026

at 5pm

and Good Friday 3rd April 2026

at 10am

All are most welcome.

St Nicholas of Myra Church

and

Wild Goose Group

Invite you to a Lent lunch

at Worth Village Hall

Thursday 12th March 2026

Homemade Soup and bread and Cheese

will be served from 1-2.30pm

Donations please in aid of;

A Rocha Eco Church

and

Christian Aid

Please contact Liz Hoad on 07841014506 by 6th March if you are coming along

SERVICE TIMES IN THE PARISHES

SUNDAY 1 MARCH

9.45am	Breakfast Church	Langton
10.30am	Holy Communion	Corfe
5pm	Celtic Stations of the Cross	Worth

WEDNESDAY 4 MARCH

8.30am	Morning Prayer	Corfe
10am	Prayer in the Morning	Langton

SUNDAY 8 MARCH

8am	Holy Communion BCP	Worth
9.45am	Holy Communion	Langton
10.30am	Morning Prayer	Corfe
11am	Walking Church	Durlston
10.30am	Informal Worship	Kingston

WEDNESDAY 11 MARCH

8.30am	Morning Prayer	Corfe
10am	Holy Communion	Langton

SUNDAY 15 MARCH **MOTHERING SUNDAY**

9.45am	Sunday Worship	Langton
10am	Celtic Eucharist	Worth
10.30am	Holy Communion	Corfe
6pm	Evening Prayer	HXXVH

WEDNESDAY 18 MARCH

8.30am	Morning Prayer	Corfe
10am	Prayer in the Morning	Langton

SUNDAY 22 MARCH

9.45am	Holy Communion	Langton
10am	Celtic Morning Prayer	Worth
10.30am	Holy Communion	Corfe
11am	Walking Church	Worth Duck Pond
11.30am	Holy Communion	Kingston

WEDNESDAY 25 MARCH

8.30am	Morning Prayer	Corfe
10am	Holy Communion	Langton

SUNDAY 29 MARCH

10.30am	Benefice Service	Church Knowle
6pm	Music and Words for Palm Sunday	Langton

WEDNESDAY 1 APRIL **ASH WEDNESDAY**

10am	Holy Communion	Langton
3pm	Holy Week HC	Kimmeridge

THURSDAY 2 APRIL **MAUNDY THURSDAY**

6.30pm	Holy Communion	Langton
6.30pm	Holy Communion	Corfe

FRIDAY 3 APRIL **GOOD FRIDAY**

10am	Stations of the Cross	Worth
10.30am	Good Friday	Corfe
2pm	Hour at the Cross	Langton

THE POWER IN A 23 SECOND PRAYER

It takes around twenty three seconds to pray the Lord's Prayer without racing through it. Just seventy words in the traditional version, sixty three in the modern.

Many of us could say the Lord's Prayer without even thinking. Its familiar words are spoken at baptisms and weddings, at Sunday services, in schools, at bedsides, and in moments of national remembrance. It is probably the best-loved prayer in the world.

It's the prayer Jesus gave his disciples when they asked how to pray. Passed on from generation to generation over two thousand years. But what did Jesus' first hearers understand when they heard these words? What do phrases like "your kingdom come" or "give us today our daily bread" really mean? And how might this prayer shape the way we live, forgive, hope, and trust in our everyday lives?

In the four weeks leading up to Easter, we are offering a relaxed and friendly four-week course exploring the prayer Jesus taught his disciples. Together we'll look at each line, uncover its background, and reflect on what it might mean for our daily lives today. There will be space for discussion, questions, and quiet reflection – whether you've been coming to church for years or are simply curious about what Christians pray and why, you will be very welcome.

Many people find that when they pause and pray these words more thoughtfully, they open up new ways of understanding God's love, our dependence on him, and our calling to care for one another.

Running at Harmans Cross Village Hall on 11 March, 18 March, 25 March and 1 April. 7pm to 8.30pm.

Everyone is very welcome, and there's no charge to attend.

Revds Lindy, Louise & Richard

EXPRESSING THE EARTH

A prize-winning documentary film on geopoetics will be shown at Worth Matravers Village Hall on the evening of 16 April 2026 in Association with Sustainable Worth (tickets £5 on the door @ 7 for 7.30, with bar). This is an opportunity to experience "a brilliant film – it awakens, inspires and humbles – outstanding" (Fiona Sturrock, Purbeck Sounds Community Radio).

Geopoetics has real relevance to us here in Worth, because, although the film 'Expressing the Earth' is focussed on the Scottish coasts, it illustrates a similar profound connection with the Earth that people living in Purbeck must always have had. We too can feel that perspective that underpins our own lived relationship to our landscape. When we feel that belonging, we value where we live all the more and will feel encouraged to care for what we are part of!

The world premiere of the feature documentary film Expressing the Earth took place on 20 September 2025 at Sea Change Film Festival on the Isle of Tiree. For this film, Glenda Rome won Best Director at the Stratford on Avon Film Festival in August 2025 where it was also shortlisted for Best Documentary Film. It was also selected for the New Renaissance Film Festival in London in September 2026, where it's one of two shortlisted Best Documentary Films and for the Docuworld Film Festival in October 2026 in London.

The film was crowdfunded by the Scottish Centre for Geopoetics based on the Isle of Luing in Argyll and was sponsored by RSK environmental consultancy, the Geological Association and Edinburgh Geological Society. It explores geopoetics as the creative expression of the Earth through the eyes of painters, geologists, a slate mosaic sculptor, a dancer/choreographer, a musician/composer and an island author in stunning locations on the west and east coasts of Scotland. In doing so its beautiful cinematography also reveals the captivating poetry of the Scottish writer and thinker Kenneth White who was born in Glasgow, grew up in Fairlie in Ayrshire and lived much of his life in France.

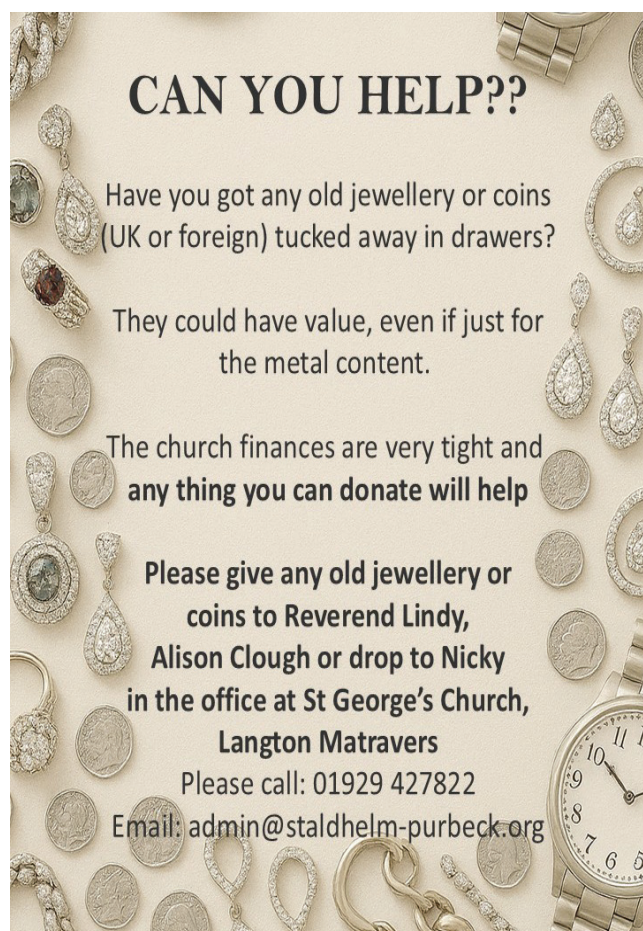
The film will also be shown in the same venue on 4 June 2026 as part of Purbeck Arts week in a geopoetics programme organized by Burngate Purbeck Stone Centre.

Patrick Corbett & Kathy Hollidge

SWANAGE DEPRESSION SUPPORT

We are a small peer support group for adults experiencing, depression, anxiety or extreme stress, either in themselves or people close to them. We meet fortnightly on Wednesday evenings for confidential sharing and craft activities. Our meetings are usually positive as we share our problems and successes and talk over our lives. We have room for more members! Please get in touch if you are interested and we will arrange an informal meet-up. Alan's contact details are below.

Sadly, Natalie, one of our meeting facilitators, is having to resign due to pressure of work. That leaves us very fragile, so we are anxious to recruit a successor. Facilitators have some experience of depression - their own, in family or friends, or as mental health professionals. They need to be empathetic, good listeners and have skills in overseeing group discussions. Facilitators work in pairs, have time after each session to de-brief and engage in professional supervision sessions, paid for by SDS. Appropriate insurance is in place. Commitment is one or two evenings a month.



CAN YOU HELP??

Have you got any old jewellery or coins (UK or foreign) tucked away in drawers?

They could have value, even if just for the metal content.

The church finances are very tight and **any thing you can donate will help**

Please give any old jewellery or coins to Reverend Lindy, Alison Clough or drop to Nicky in the office at St George's Church, Langton Matravers

Please call: 01929 427822
Email: admin@staldhelm-purbeck.org

If you think this could be you, please contact Alan at swanagedepression@outlook.com (phone 07748 672069) for a chat. We shall require a DBS check, references and an interview.

Alan Dominy

MARK RYLANCE PRAISES PFF

The Purbeck Film Festival was established in 1996 with the aim of bringing a variety of cinematic experiences to the area. Scores of films will be shown across Purbeck in the autumn, from cinemas and church halls to village halls and sports clubs, as well as a number of special events throughout the year.

Sir Mark, who is a patron of the festival, said: "We are indisputably lovers of film as our Purbeck Film Festival celebrates its 30th anniversary this year.

"Quite remarkable when most cinema festivals and indeed cinemas themselves are struggling to survive the juggernaut of new technology.

"Of course, cinema has survived the invention of sound, of tv and computers. Will it survive the isolating technology of AI. Artificial intelligence, which puts the mind and knowledge before the heart and soul of what it is to be human?

"I know small festivals like ours are a god send for film makers, often imagining something different than the mainstream world, as we all do who live on the beautiful Isle of Purbeck."

The festival began by showing films in two local cinemas but has grown to screen scores of UK and international films including outdoor summer events at local landmarks including Corfe Castle. The main festival runs from 16 October to 1 November this year.

FOOD2YOU

Iam the founder of Food2You - a local delivery service created to support people, businesses, and communities across Swanage and the surrounding villages.

Swanage is a true community town. Local, independently owned shops are at the heart of the town, and people genuinely care about supporting them. I didn't want to introduce a service that would take money out of the area or treat local businesses as just numbers.

That's why I created Food2You around locally owned businesses only. Unlike national platforms that sign up anyone purely for profit, Food2You is designed to support independent shops and takeaways, keeping money circulating within the local economy.

Over the years, I've also noticed how heavily many businesses rely on the busy summer months to keep going. During winter, trade can drop significantly, even though local residents still want good food -especially on cold, wet evenings when you fancy something nice but don't want to leave the house. Food2You helps local businesses reach customers all year round, not just during tourist season.

Another major reason I started Food2You was to support the elderly and less mobile members of our community. During the Covid lockdowns, I began helping less able residents by doing their shopping. For a few people, I continued doing this even after lockdown ended because they found it so helpful. That experience showed me how many people are effectively cut off from shops or takeaways without support - particularly in poor weather or rural locations.

Food2You was created to help bridge that gap.

I will be serving areas that are often cut off from Swanage's shops, including Worth Matravers, Langton Matravers, Acton, Harmans Cross, and Studland, with plans to eventually expand to Corfe Castle. These areas often have limited transport options, making access to shops and takeaways difficult for many residents.

Sarah Tones

CORFE PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP

Many may be aware that our Surgery is part of the Purbeck Primary Care Network (PCN) which covers the six GP Practices within our local area. Also as PPG Chair I meet with my colleagues from across Purbeck on a regular basis to maintain links and support each other in an ever-changing NHS environment where we are all aiming for the best care for our local patients and support for the Surgery teams.

At the end of January '26, Dr Mark, Kerry our Practice Manager and I attended a PCN meeting held at the Corfe Village hall to hear the results of the recent survey undertaken by the PCN when, as residents, we were all invited to give feedback about our health needs and how they were being met. This was a public meeting which also gave those present feedback on the Purbeck Integrated Neighbourhood (INT) projects.

The priority areas identified for the projects were Communication & Public Engagement; Mental Health and Well-being; Obesity; Frailty; Estates and Pharmacy.

It was impressive to note the work undertaken in the last year by the PCN and to see again the film prepared by the PCN which highlighted the services available to us in Purbeck. (I was invited to be the spokesperson for the PPGs)

The link for this film is: <https://vimeo.com/1094006054aaba93ad?ts=0&share=copy>

We have a good infrastructure in place in Purbeck where health care professionals are working hard together to provide us all with the best care possible. There will be 'hiccups and concerns' which is where we can help as a PPG. If there is something you would like us to raise with the practice on your behalf (although the Corfe team is always willing to help where they can) please get in touch corfecastleppg@gmail.com or by leaving a message at the Surgery and I will contact you.

Maggie Hardy, PPG Chair

PURBECK YOUTH MUSIC

Purbeck Youth Music Trustees enjoyed a very jolly afternoon in the Mowlem Showbar in February when, together with Matt Tarling, they received a generous cheque from Jon Baker, Chair of the Swanage Folk Festival.

Matt runs the Purbeck Trad Folk Collective for PYM and the group made up of Purbeck school students ranging in age from 8 to 16 had been invited to perform. Their set of jigs and polkas soon had the feet tapping and they received a most enthusiastic reception from the audience. They played Irish, Cornish and Finnish tunes.

Jon Baker was keen to emphasise to the audience that unless young people learn the traditional tunes of our isles and beyond, the future existence of our Swanage Folk Festival which has been going for many years, is under threat. For centuries the aural tradition of learning tunes by listening, watching and copying older players has stood the test of time and Matt teaches his students to play by ear in this way. Most of the violin students learn in the classical way at their individual lessons but their experience is enhanced by being

able to learn by ear too in the Folk Collective. The plan is to expand the group to include other instruments in time.

ROTARY MUSIC COMPETITION

In other PYM news, some PYM students took part in the first round of the Rotary Music Competition in Swanage in February.

Sing for Joy! After delivering singing lessons for Yrs 3 and 4 in all 10 primary schools from Swanage at one end to Winfrith at the other, Susannah Nettleton will be presenting two concerts for PYM entitled Sing for Joy: 6 March at Lady St Mary's Church Wareham at 2pm and 16 March for the Swanage schools in Emmanuel Church at 2pm.

Around 150 pupils across Purbeck are now learning an instrument with the support of PYM and over 350 young singers are involved on the PYM singing groups.

We are immensely grateful to all our generous contributors who enable PYM to fund this important work which enriches the lives of so many young people.

If you would like to contribute, please visit our website www.purbeckyouthmusic.org. *Dilys Thomas, PYM Trustee*

SWANAGE PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP NHS APP

NHS England has launched a campaign to encourage more people to use the NHS App.

There is much more you can do with the NHS App than you may realise. You can quickly and easily request your repeat prescriptions, you can view your GP health record and you can access your test results - and, if you turn on notifications, you'll get messages from the NHS, including appointment reminders, as soon as they're sent.

PPG MEETINGS

Our next PPG meeting will be held at the Surgery on Tuesday, 10 March 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're interested in joining the PPG, please contact Natasha Ritchie, Practice Manager, or email the PPG directly at ppgswanage@gmail.com. *Dr Margaret Guy, Chair*

NATIONAL TRUST

CAN YOU HELP PURBECK'S PRECIOUS SEABIRDS?

Purbeck's stunning coastline is home to many breeding seabirds. Some are thriving, but sadly, others are struggling. Guillemot and razorbill numbers are steady, but kittiwakes and fulmars have been in decline for decades. And our much-loved puffins are on the brink of survival.

In 1965, Trev Haysom of Langton Matravers, a skilled ornithologist, started keeping records of the seabirds here, and his work has continued almost every year since. In recent years, the surveys have been carried out by the National Trust and Durlston Country Park. But with rising costs and reduced budgets, the 2026 survey is under threat. So, Birds of Poole Harbour has launched a fundraiser to ensure this vital data gathering continues.

Your donation would help with chartering the survey boat, commissioning professional seabird surveyors and analysing the data. You can find out more and donate here: <https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/purbeck-seabirds>

NATURAL FLOOD MANAGEMENT

In summer, it was hard to see how our natural flood management techniques on farmland around Langton

Matravers might work. But it's all become clear in the recent storms. One of the methods was tree trunks, pinned down in fields where flood water was known to run. Seeing the amount of water they have been holding back is staggering - slowing the flow as it runs off the fields in heavy rainfall. By holding and spreading the water, it helps reduce the risk of flash flooding downstream. It's just one of several methods we are trialling. Find out more here: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/visit/dorset/spyway/reducing-flood-risk-along-swanage-streams

SIGNS OF SPRING

This year has been relentlessly wet and windy, but nature is giving us teasers of spring! Several people have mentioned that they're suddenly hearing skylarks in the fields - such a joyous sound. And hares have been, well, mad as March hares! The males chase females, and when the females become fed up, they stand on their hind legs and 'box' with the males to fend them off. Soon we'll have the return of swallows and house martins - surely the happiest heralds of spring!

WILDLIFE WALK - WESTON FARM

We're offering a free guided walk around Weston Farm to show Worth Matravers residents how our plans for restoring nature are progressing. It's your chance to learn more about local wildlife and ask your burning questions. Meet at the bottom of Bonvils Road, on the hardstanding just beyond the old dairy. Saturday 14 March, 10am. (contact: purbeck@nationaltrust.org.uk). *Cathy Lewis, National Trust*

LANGTON MATRAVERS

PURBECK FOLK CLUB

Resident reviewer Bod writes: "What a night that was! Despite the pouring rain, 82 people crammed in to the village hall for the gig in February - a good local audience plus a number of fans from "across the water". We almost ran out of space! The evening kicked off with a hugely enjoyable and lively set from Millie Watson on 12-string guitar and vocals, accompanied by Jason Bowles on double bass. Most of their songs were original and the lyrics thoughtful and provocative. The village hall reverberated with their energy and beat. They were followed by Langton's own Pete Christie. With his phenomenal finger-picking guitar skills and distinctive vocals, Pete impressed both his new and established fans. Who knew there was such prodigious talent on our doorstep! Pete concluded his set with a beautiful rendition of The Boxer, the Simon and Garfunkel classic, played to perfection."

The next gig is on Thursday, 5 March when we have a very different but equally enjoyable line-up. Back by popular demand, Mandy Woods is returning with her distinctive brand of music - guitar, harmonica and songs drawn from her own life experience - many of which are very witty. This time she will be accompanied by multi-instrumentalist, Jenny Bliss. To open the evening, we have another debut act, What Could Possibly Go Wrong! Malcolm, Tony and Owen describe themselves as "a disparate group of characters drawn together by their love of music, of a certain age and still dreaming of becoming rock and roll legends!" An evening of laughter as well as great music is guaranteed.

We meet at Langton Matravers Village Hall. Doors open at 7.30 for an 8pm start. Admission is £8 on the door (cash only).

Collette and Richard's pop-up cafe will be selling tea, coffee and home-made cakes. Glasses are provided for those who wish to bring their own drinks.

Come early to be sure of a good seat! We look forward to seeing you there.

John Kirwin

LANGTON MATRAVERS VILLAGE HALL

It's a busy March for the Hall with all the regular clubs running throughout the cold months keeping our community active and participating in such a wide variety of groups. The Village Hall fundraising community groups are proving so successful. The Art Group which meets every Monday is nine participants strong and we are all now good friends and it has become a highlight of our week with a new subject every week. We have two tutorials coming up from outside artists one doing a watercolour sea demonstration at the end of Feb and one doing a Soft Pastels workshop at the end of March. Anyone is welcome if you would like more details email louise.counsell@yahoo.com. The Art Group will be showcasing its year's-worth of art with an Exhibition over a whole weekend on 22 and 23 August in the Hall. The new Textiles/Sewing Group that runs every Thursday afternoon launched with eight attendees. It runs as a drop in fundraiser for the Village Hall from 2 - 5 with breaks for hot drinks and biscuits. So far, knitters and crocheters have been making red, purple and white poppies for the church. The sewers are making bunting for the events room, and everyone has also been working on individual projects too. Newcomers are welcome and each month we will aim to have one collaborative project, picking up new skills each time. Contact clare@clarecoleman.net if you would like to join us or have a skill set that we could benefit from.

Please also log in to our website to see all the other regular groups to include, Table Tennis, Curling, Pilates, Yoga, Tai Chi, Folk Dancing, Dance groups and more. Our Short Mat Bowling group which meets on Fridays is also celebrating its 25 year anniversary! Thank you for all your support so far this year to the groups and a special thanks to the Friends of the Village Hall who help out on the odd occasion. If you would like to add your name to this list of happy helpers please email Louise - Secretary to the Hall on the address above in confidence.

Louise Counsell, LMVH

LANGTON MATRAVERS PARISH COUNCIL FEBRUARY MEETING

The Parish Council met to discuss a range of local matters including flooding, planning, highways, community projects and parish administration.

NATIONAL TRUST UPDATE

The Council received an update on drainage works at Durnford Drove and the Natural Flood Management (NFM) project. Rangers have re-cleared sections of ditch by hand and discussions are ongoing with BT/Openreach about relocating a cable that is restricting maintenance access. Recent winter storms have shown the NFM features to be coping well, although members noted that once systems reach capacity, overflow can still occur.

Particular concern was raised regarding flooding along the footpath between Durnford Drove and The Hyde. A further meeting is planned to identify the outstanding works, including drainage at Spyway Orchard, are properly completed. Councillors will continue to liaise with Highways regarding kerbing and water run-off from surrounding land

and tracks.

DORSET COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Councillor Ben Wilson updated members on county-wide flooding following recent storms. Dorset Council is strengthening its proactive approach through a Flood Resilience Partnership, due to be considered by Cabinet next month, to improve clarity over responsibilities and preparedness. Additional funding of £5 million is expected for highways repairs, and resources have been allocated for ditch clearance. Residents were reminded to report blocked drains so that action can be taken.

Members discussed improving emergency communication with residents during incidents such as flooding or ferry disruption, including the use of social media updates.

The Council also noted that Dorset Council has approved a 4.99% council tax increase as part of its budget.

PLANNING MATTERS

The Council discussed the application for 15 dwellings at the former Old Malthouse School site. The proposal will be considered by Dorset Council's Eastern Planning Committee on 18 February 2026. Councillors focused on highways and transport implications and the need for robust construction traffic management. Two Council representatives have requested to speak at the committee meeting and Councillor Wilson will speak remotely.

Several tree work applications were also reviewed, including proposals in High Street and North Street. Members felt that the works had been properly assessed by Dorset Council's Tree Works Team and had no further comments.

CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk reported on finance and administration, including current bank balances, training opportunities and community events:

- Enforcement enquiries relating to construction management were discussed, and members noted that Dorset Council is taking steps to strengthen its enforcement processes.
- Discussions continue regarding speed limits and signage, with Dorset Council undertaking a site assessment to consider reducing the speed limit from the Worth Matravers junction to the 20 mph zone at the Acton end of the village. A further request was discussed to extend the 20 mph zone at the bottom of the village to the Coombe junction.
- Members expressed their appreciation for the work of the Community Speedwatch volunteers. Their monitoring highlights ongoing concerns about vehicle speeds, and they support proposals aimed at improving road safety in the area.

Preparations have begun for the Annual Parish Assembly, and invitations will be issued to prospective speakers and local groups.

Recent correspondence included flooding updates, BT Openreach liaison, cemetery matters and installation of the new Speed Indicator Device post.

The Clerk also reported attending a recent Clerks' Conference and highlighted upcoming Dorset Council forums.

GRANT APPLICATIONS

The Council considered grant applications from The Dubber, Citizens Advice and the Purbeck Film Festival. Recognising the value these organisations bring to the local community through communication, advice services and cultural events, members unanimously agreed to award the

requested grants, totalling £950.

ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY 2026 – 23RD APRIL 2026

Preparations are underway for the Annual Parish Assembly. Suggestions for speakers included Dorset Council representatives, environmental and community groups, youth organisations, and local volunteers involved in litter and conservation initiatives.

CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman reported attending a recent community event hosted by the local MP, where topics discussed included transport, dark skies, environmental concerns, emergency services and local infrastructure. The event provided a useful opportunity to hear perspectives from across the wider area.

The Chairman and Clerk will also be attending a South East Purbeck Parishes meeting on 13 February, providing an opportunity to discuss common areas of concern with neighbouring parishes. A report will be brought back to a future Council meeting.

ALLOTMENT FENCING WORKS

An update was received confirming that the allotment fencing project is progressing well, despite being hampered by the wet weather. Contractors will also address the damp access area affected by recent weather.

COOK AND CONNECT GROUP

A new Cook and Connect group will begin on 26 February at the United Reformed Church, Swanage, running from 10am to noon (arrive from 9.30am for a cup of tea or coffee). The sessions are suitable for beginners and improvers, offering an opportunity to learn cooking skills and enjoy social time with others. For more details please call 01202 057100.

SANDBANKS FERRY

COMMUNITY DROP-IN SESSIONS

Community drop-in sessions will be held in March with no need to book in advance:

- Wednesday, 11 March, 4pm – 8pm at The Grand Hotel, Swanage
- Thursday 12 March, 4pm – 8pm at Sandbanks Yacht Club

Residents are welcome to attend at any time during these sessions.

NEXT MEETING

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on Thursday, 12 March 2026 at 7pm in Langton Matravers Village Hall. Members of the public are warmly encouraged to attend. For enquiries, please contact the Parish Clerk.

Emma Evans, Parish Clerk

Harmans Cross Village Hall AGM

6pm Friday 24 April

Come along to hear what's been happening at your village over the past year, share ideas and find out what's planned



CHEESE AND WINE SOCIAL

Stay after the meeting for a relaxed cheese & wine evening

**Suggested donations £7.50 (Cheese & wine)
£4 (soft drink and cheese)**

All Harmans Cross residents welcome

**To book: secretary@harmanscrosshall.co.uk
Please RSVP if you are staying for cheese and wine**

WORTH MATRAVERS

WORTH MATRAVERS VILLAGE HALL

Worth Matravers Village Hall will be celebrating the completion of a major refurbishment project with a busy day of events on Thursday, 19 March.

The day will start with an Open Morning between 10 and 11.30am, to which anyone is invited to look round the hall and chat with committee members over a cup of coffee and biscuits.

At midday we will be holding a drinks reception to thank invited guests, donors and grant givers for their support.

And at 3pm, the renowned BBC journalist Kate Adie will be joining us for an interview-style talk about her fascinating career, after which she will join audience members for afternoon tea. Tickets for this event (at £25) are available on the Worth Matravers Village Hall website.

The refurbishment would not have been possible without generous grants from the Platinum Jubilee Village Halls Fund, Worth Matravers Parish Council, Dorset County Council and the Bernard Sunley Trust, as well as significant donations from many local residents. The Village Hall Trustees are hugely grateful to all the organisations and individuals who have supported the project.

The hall is an ideal venue for a wedding reception or party for up to 50 people. It also hosts regular film showings, a book club, talks, meetings, art classes, bring and share meals – and since the refurbishment was completed, a supper club and sound baths. A snooker table and table tennis table are available for use by residents. Anyone interested in hiring the hall is encouraged to get in touch through our website, www.worthmatraversvillagehall.org.

Frances Dinnick

SUSTAINABLE WORTH

At our January Sustainable Worth meeting we welcomed photographer Kevin Ferrioli with his presentation 'Infinity Nights of Worth Matravers'.

Forty of us heard Kevin speak passionately about the dark skies of Worth and how we are so lucky to live somewhere where we can still all experience the night sky without artificial lighting.

His enthusiasm and the drama of his photos gave us a new appreciation of darkness.

It was also an opportunity to talk about the negative effects of night time light on wildlife, as we are only just beginning to understand how it can affect the lives of insects, bats and other mammals and birds.

Ceri Vosper, one of our Worth Parish Councillors was at the meeting and after discussion at the February Parish Council meeting we agreed it was worthwhile liaising and republishing her contribution to *The Dubber* from a year or two ago.

'The Parish Council simply ask those living within the parish to not only help the astronomers amongst us but the casual star gazers, the confused wildlife and the drivers who misinterpret poorly placed lights by considering - whether lights at night are necessary and the impact of their location?'

Everyone needs to be safe within their own home environment and so the periodic use of light is essential, but please can we all be aware that the ongoing and persistent use of lights at night is both disruptive and unnecessary.

Your individual help in creating our own 'Dark skies' will be celebrated by all creatures, enjoyed by the community and further enhance our amazing environment."

Thanking everyone in anticipation. Ceri Vosper on behalf of Worth Parish Council.

Preserving our dark skies doesn't mean living in total darkness—it means lighting smarter.

Direct it Down: Use shrouded fixtures to ensure light hits the ground, not the sky

Choose Warmth: Use lower-intensity LED bulbs (ideally 3000K or below) to reduce the harmful blue light that confuses wildlife.

Use Sensors: Install PIR motion sensors so lights are only active when actually needed.

Close curtains or blinds.

Turn it Off: Sometimes, the best lighting choice is none at all.

Kevin has generously donated one of his photos to Worth Village Hall, but you can also see his work online at www.nightskydreams.com.

Kathy Hollidge

WORTH FILM CLUB

Oscar-nominated for Best International Feature, our next screening on Thursday 12 March is Wim Wenders' *Perfect Days*.

A film of rare gentleness, it makes a persuasive case for simple living. Kōji Yakusho stars as Hirayama, a Tokyo public toilet cleaner whose days unfold through work, music, books, and long walks through the city. As small disruptions begin to ripple through his carefully ordered routine, the film becomes a quietly beautiful meditation on solitude, connection, and finding meaning in the everyday.

Drinks will be served from 7pm and the film will begin at 7.30. To avoid disappointment at the door, book early online: www.worthmatraversvillagehall.org. Tickets are £5.

Claude Bonfanti

WORTH MATRAVERS PARISH COUNCIL FEBRUARY MEETING

Welcome to Your Parish Update! The Parish Council met in February at Worth Matravers Village Hall to discuss a range of matters including planning applications, community support, play park responsibilities, policies, and preparations for the Annual Parish Meeting. Here's a summary of the key updates.

Finance Update: Financial support for *The Dubber* was agreed for this financial year to the amount of £250.00.

Annual Parish Meeting: The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on: Tuesday, 28 April 2026 at Harmans Cross Village Hall. Local groups and organisations will be invited to exhibit, including community groups, charities, and local services. The event will be promoted via noticeboards, social media, the website. If you are interested in exhibiting please contact the Clerk via email. clerk@worthmatraversparishcouncil.gov.uk

COMMUNITY GRANTS & CORRESPONDENCE

A £250 donation was approved for Citizens Advice and *The Dubber*. A request from Purbeck Girl Guides will be considered formally at the March meeting, with support agreed in principle.

PLANNING MATTERS:

- Railway Campsite, Haycrafts Lane: Proposal: Seasonal campsite for up to 100 pitches. Parish Council Comment: The Council supported the proposal recognising the benefits of seasonal tourism, but requested conditions to protect neighbours and

the countryside, including: * Maximum 90 days of overnight use between April and September * 10pm noise curfew * Strict controls on fire pits and wood use * On-site management presence at all times * Clear fire safety procedures

- Weston Farm Grain Store Conversion Proposal: Conversion of grain store to a dwelling. Council Comment: No objection, subject to conditions * A primary residence condition * No upward or sky-facing external lighting, to protect dark skies and the rural setting.

Dorset Council Asset Register: The Parish Council noted that Begbie Field was incorrectly listed as a Dorset Council asset. Most of this land was transferred to the Parish Council in 2019, and steps will be taken to correct the register.

Tree Maintenance: A quote of £500 + VAT was approved to remove dead and diseased ash trees at Worth Matravers Car Park.

Harmans Cross Play Park & Village Hall Matters:

The Council agreed several measures relating to the Harmans Cross play park:

A £864.20 contribution towards recent repair works

Ownership of the play park will transfer to the Parish Council, with support from trustees for maintenance

Additional items: The Council approved the purchase of a community marquee, to be stored at the village hall and hired out for local use.

Highways: Help Keep Our Roads Clean. Have you noticed a road in your area that hasn't been cleaned for a long time? You can help by reporting it to Dorset Council and requesting a mechanical road sweep. Visit the Dorset Council website: www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk or <https://dorset-self.achieveservice.com/service/report-a-road-that-requires-sweeping>

Reporting unclean roads helps keep our neighbourhoods safer, cleaner, and looking their best.

Parking: The Parish Council often received parking complaints however we have no power to act on parking problems. Parking problems are dealt with by either Dorset Council or Dorset Police.

Dorset Police will get involved if:

A car is parked in contravention to the Highway code. <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/the-highway-code/waiting-and-parking-238-to-252>

If there is a car parked and if a road is obstructed by a vehicle to the point where it is not passable. (The police will only come out at the time of the obstruction.) Contact Dorset Police by calling 101 or use <https://www.dorset.police.uk/contact/af/contact-us-beta/contact-us/>

Dorset Council will get involved if:

A vehicle is parked in areas where there are local parking restrictions such as double yellow lines. Contact Parking Services by calling 01305 228110 or email customerservices@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Next Council Meeting: Our meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month, alternating between Worth Matravers Village Hall and Harmans Cross Village Hall when possible. Next meeting Tuesday, 3 March 2026, at 7.30pm in the Harmans Cross Village Hall. Please come and join us and have your say.

Michelle Harrington

HARMANS CROSS VILLAGE HALL LIVE MUSIC -POP-UP DAVID BOWIE

Saturday, 14 March

Super talented local Swanage artist Paul Antony is an award-winning Bowie tribute act and he's coming to Harmans Cross Village Hall with his fantastic Pop-Up Bowie concert. Tickets available on our HXVH website at <https://www.harmanscrosshall.co.uk/Special-Events/throughTicketsource> at just £13. Doors and bar open at 7pm

STALLS AT THE HALL

Saturday 14 March 9.30am to 12 noon

Homemade delights, crafts and curios plus coffee and conversation with the amazing array of home baked HX cakes. Browse, buy and chat from 9.30am to Noon. Free parking and entry. To book a table, contact Bethani at the Hall.

MOVIE NIGHTS

We don't have a Movie Night in March, but our next movie on Tuesday 14 April is *F1: The Movie*. Starring Brad Pitt as a former driver who returns to Formula 1*, alongside Damson Idris as his teammate at APXGP, a fictional team on the grid, *F1* was shot during actual Grand Prix weekends as the team competes against the titans of the sport. The film was made in collaboration with Formula 1 and the F1 community, including the 10 F1 teams and their drivers, the FIA and race promoters.

Please note that following feedback from our movie fans, we are now starting half an hour earlier. Doors and bar will open at 6.30pm, and the film will start at 7pm

COFFEE JUNCTION

Everyone is welcome to come along for a very relaxed and informal get together over coffee or tea. Have a chat, bring a deck of cards or your favourite board game, and see where the morning takes you. Thursday 5 and 19 March, and Thursday 2, 16 and 30 April from 10.30am in the small committee room.

HXVH CHURCH

Our next gatherings are Sunday 15 March and Sunday 19 April at 6pm – a very friendly, informal and happy service for anyone and everyone. *Alison & the HXVH Committee*

NEWS FROM NOWHERE

THE RAMBLING GARDENER

March is a great month as each day is longer and by the end of the month the sun will be up for twelve hours a day. Also crocus, daffodils and camellias will be coming into flower and the sun will get warmer. Spring is on its way.

We hope that the sun will dry up the mud! The mud in February reminded me of the shock when my family and I came back to muddy England from the clean snows of Canada in 1946. It wasn't fun to clean the mud off the cows before milking them when they had come in from eating cabbage or kale in knee-deep mud. We were so happy to see the spring flowers coming up.

The snowdrops look lovely at the end of winter and they don't mind what the weather does, live for a long time and flower beautifully unless they get overcrowded. The best time to divide them is after they finish flowering but while the leaves are still green. In this way a few snowdrops can become a carpet in a few years. You can buy hundreds of different varieties if you wish.

14 The Dubber

March is the time to start preparing the garden to look beautiful and produce for the year. If you have compost put it on as a mulch. Prune shrubs that are growing too big; cut out weak growth, any canker that you see, and long growth that could be hurt by wind. Nearly everything likes being cut back hard.

Sow seeds of all the vegetables and flowers that you like and do try something new; immigrants to Britain have had great success growing quite exotic vegetables here as seen on Gardeners World. Many old fashioned and new seeds are best started in pots in the house or in a cloche or green house. Some, like peppers, tomatoes, okra and aubergines need 22°C to germinate. Others, including cabbages, peas, beans, lettuce and celery, only need lower temperatures though they would grow best if started inside for later transplanting outside.

One lovely tuber that I want to try is the Peruvian Oca which is similar to potato in growth, but needs germinating inside and a good crop needs a longer warm season, which we are getting more often now.

Unprocessed food is good for you so do keep sowing mustard, cress and peas in the house to garnish your food, and I hope that many people have still got some stored food like squash and apples.

Sow hardy annuals like love-in-the-mist and cornflowers which make a good show for a long time. Do sow flowers in the vegetable plot as well as the flower garden to attract pollinators and get good crops.

March is a good time to plant for long-term beauty too; the RHS magazine suggests planting a small tree called *Prunus x subhirtella autumnalis* that has pale pink flowers all winter and *Chimonanthus praecox* which has a wonderful scent. They both like growing here and don't take up a lot of space.

I hope that you enjoy the Spring in your garden and if you would like any advice, or just a chat, please do come and visit me. (Contact: Tel: 01929421681. Email: rjehelfer@gmail.com)

Rachel

STALLS AT THE HALL
— Harmans Cross Village Hall —
Saturday 14th March
9:30am – 12:00pm
A friendly morning of local stalls
and community shopping
Produce • Crafts • Gifts • Bric-a-brac
Tables **£6** each
To book a table contact Bethani Rawlings
bethanirawlings.hxvh@gmail.com
07384 848419
FREE entry for the public

TABLE TOP SALE

Langton Matravers
Village Hall

SATURDAY 28th MARCH



10.00 AM - 2.00 PM

With refreshments and a raffle

All proceeds go to the upkeep of the Village Hall

To book a table please contact louise.counsell@yahoo.com
Tables are supplied (6ft) at a cost of £10.



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- Sunday Roast Lunch - Booking advised.



EVENTS

Wednesday 11 March
Curry & Games Night

Saturday 21 March
**Barn Dance with
The Black Sheep**

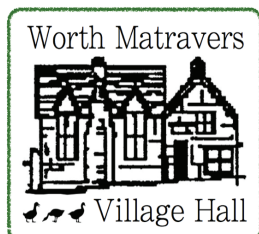
Wednesday 8 April
Curry & Games Night

Saturday 25 April
Seafood Night

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- Wi-Fi and portable sound system
- Ceiling mounted AV system with large screen

bookings@worthmatraversvillagehall.org

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plus Tallis, Howells, Ireland and others

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Conductor **SAM HANSON**

**7.00pm SATURDAY 7th
MARCH**

**LADY ST. MARY CHURCH
WAREHAM**

Tickets £15 /£5 Under 18s & students

www.ticketsource.co.uk/orlandosingersdorset

www.facebook.com/orlandosingersdorset

Reg. Charity no.1085312

REGULAR EVENTS

Art Group	Mon 2-5pm	LMVH
Beaver Scouts	Mon 5.45-6.45pm	Scout Hut*
Table Tennis	Mon 7-9pm	LMVH
Langton PO	Tues 9-Noon	Salt Pig Putlake
Folk Dancing	Tues 7.30-9.45pm	LMVH
Explorer Scouts	Tues 7-9pm	Scout Hut*
Scout Troop	Weds 7-8.30pm	Scout Hut*
Rainbows & Brownies	Thurs 5.30-6.30pm	Scout Hut*
Short Mat Bowls	Friday 7-9pm	LMVH

* Scout info from:

Langton.swanagescouts@hotmail.co.uk

MARCH 2026

3	9-12pm	Post Office	Putlake Cafe
3	7.30pm	WMPC Meeting	WMVH
5	10-11.30pm	Coffee Pot	St George's Ch
5	10.30-noon	Coffee Junction	HXVH
5	7.30	PFC: Pete Christie & Millie Watson	LMVH
6	2pm	PYM: Sing for Joy	Lady St Mary, Wareham
7	10-2pm	Table Top Sale	Scout Hut
7	7pm	Orlando Singers: Rheinberger Mass in E Flat	Lady St Mary, Wareham
10	9-12pm	Post Office	Putlake Cafe
11, 18, 25, 1 Apr	7-8.30pm	Lent Course: 23 Second Prayer	HXVH
11	4-8pm	Ferry consult drop in	The Gand
11	?	Curry & Games	Scott Arms
12	4-8pm	Ferry consult drop in	Sandbanks YC
12	7pm	LMPC Meeting	LMVH
14	9.30-noon	Stalls in the Hall	HXVH
14	10am	NT: Guided Walk of Weston Farm	Bottom of Bonvils Rd
14	7pm	Pop-Up David Bowie	HXVH
16	2pm	PYM: Sing for Joy	Emmanuel Ch
17	9-12pm	Post Office	Putlake Cafe
19	10-11.30	WMVH Open Morning	WMVH
19	10-11.30am	Community Coffee Morning	LMVH
19	10.30-noon	Coffee Junction	HXVH
19	3pm	WMVH Open Day Kate Adie Talk	WMVH
19	7.30pm	LMLHPS: Quarrying – a talk by Chris Suttle.	LMVH
24	9-12pm	Post Office	Putlake Cafe
28	10-2pm	Table Top Sale	LMVH

TREASURER REQUIRED

Following the very sad loss of our Treasurer, the Langton Village Hall Committee are looking to find someone to take over this role.

If you are interested, please email our secretary

Louise Counsell:

louise.counsell@yahoo.com



TABLE TOP SALE

SATURDAY 7th MARCH
10am - 2pm

LANGTON MATRAVERS
SCOUT & GUIDE HUT

RESIDENTS' MEETING!

LOCAL CHARITIES & ORGANISATIONS
WILL EXHIBIT THEIR SERVICES

FREE TEA, COFFEE
& BISCUITS
FOR ALL ATTENDEES!

LEARN WHAT THE PARISH COUNCIL HAS ACHIEVED
& THEIR PLANS FOR THE NEXT YEAR.

DATE:	TIME:	LOCATION:
28 th April	6pm - 8pm	Harmans Cross Village Hall



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Large Hall, Small Room, Events Room,
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01929 425587 / 07786 433442

For further details of LMVH clubs and events, visit
www.langtonmatraversvillagehall.co.uk

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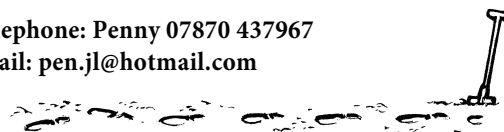
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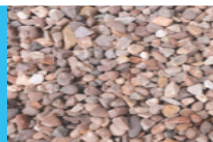
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