

The Dubber

April 2026

Easter Services

2 April Maundy Thursday

6.30pm Holy Communion, Langton

6.30pm Holy Communion, Corfe Castle

3 April Good Friday

10am Stations of the Cross, Worth

10.30am Good Friday Service, Corfe Castle

2pm Hour at the Cross, Langton

5 April Easter Sunday

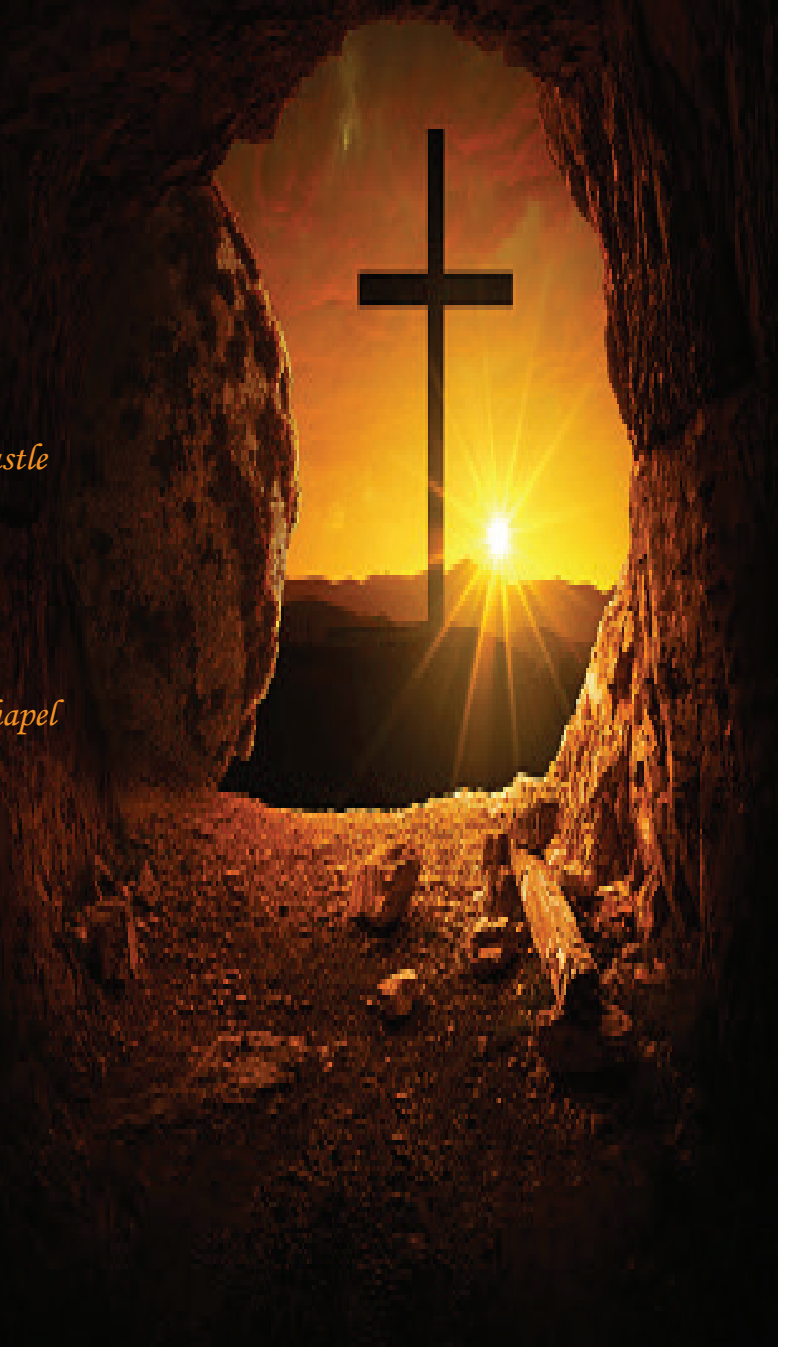
6am Holy Communion, St Aldhelm's Chapel

9.30am Easter Communion, Steeple

9.45am Easter Communion, Langton

10am Easter Communion, Worth

11am Holy Communion, Corfe Castle



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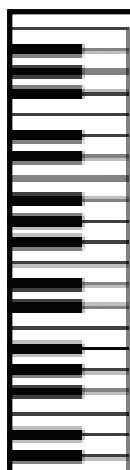
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From the Editor

Mary Bell and I are, once again, running our plant sale and coffee morning at St George's Church in May. As usual, we would appreciate volunteers who will help on the day as well as donations of plants and cakes. Last year, we raised £600 for the School but this year we are once again collecting for Christian Aid as it is the beginning of Christian Aid Week.



Many thanks
Angela

IMPORTANT * PLEASE NOTE!

Deadlines are the second Thursday of the month unless otherwise stated

**May issue deadline
is 14 April**

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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 May issue is noon on **Thursday, 14 April** & it will hopefully be ready for collection circa **29 April** (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

Phone: 01202 670105

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

St James', Kingston
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
St George's Church
St George's Close
Langton Matravers
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Tuesday & Wednesday mornings

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Keep updated with events and visit the
website, Facebook or Twitter



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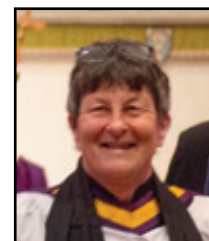
@StAldhelm Aldhelm Benefice

Churchwardens

Parishes of St Aldhelm's Benefice
Richard Earl ☎ 01929 475822
Janet Robinson ☎ 07986 553969

April 2026

Hello from the Rectory



The sun is shining today as I write this, the daffodils are in full bloom and spring has definitely sprung. The lambs are in our fields and my garden is definitely coming to life. Unfortunately, that also means the bind weed is appearing! I have been sowing seeds in



the new poly tunnel and the garlic is in the ground along with other things. I am still doing battle with the brambles at the side of the property but by the time you read this I hope that we will have conquered them at least for now.

Spring brings visible hope as we watch the

new leaves and blossom appear and the birds begin to choose their nesting sites. I have a wonderful Pheasant who sits on the Mulberry Tree while we do morning prayer. He sits there in all his splendour and calls loudly announcing the morning like a Cockerel. All these things and many more give us joy at this time of year.

This month brings us Easter, the culmination of Christ's work on earth as we remember his last supper with his disciples on Maundy Thursday and his sacrifice on the cross on Good Friday leading to the celebration of the resurrection when we experience the joy of new life for us all. Do come and celebrate with us at the many opportunities throughout the parish which are all in this Dubber.

*Every Blessing,
Revd Lindy Jane*

*Pioneer Priest,
Benefice of St Aldhelm Salisbury Diocese*

**Community
Coffee Morning**

Thursday 16th April

10am – 11.30am
Langton Village Hall
All Welcome!

The Coffee Pot



*Meet for real coffee & cake
on the first Thursday of each month
St George's Church*

*10-11.30am Thursday, 2 April
& Thursday, 7 May
Good company & chat
All welcome!*

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

Christian Aid Coffee Morning & Plant Sale

10am - Noon

Saturday 9 May

St George's Church

keeping hope alive

Plant & cake contributions and helpers needed

(Contact: Angela Bell, 427202 or Mary Bell 427590)

The Destruction of Arctic Convoy PQ17

Talk by local historian & writer **Andy Boyd**

Friday 24 April at 6.30pm

Church Knowle Village Hall

Tickets £10. Book online at www.ticketsource.co.uk/cklive or contact cklive@churchknowle.com

Wine & soft drinks available

Proceeds to Friends of St Peter's, Church Knowle

SERVICE TIMES IN THE PARISHES

SUNDAY 29 MARCH

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

WEDNESDAY 1 APRIL

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

SUNDAY 5 APRIL **EASTER SUNDAY**

6am	Holy Communion	St Aldhelm's
9.30am	Easter Communion	Steeple
9.45am	Sunday Worship	Langton
10am	Easter Communion	Worth
11am	Easter Communion	Corfe

WEDNESDAY 8 APRIL

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

SUNDAY 12 APRIL

10.30am	Joint Parish Holy Communion	Kingston
10.30am	Morning Worship	Corfe
11am	Walking Church	TBC

WEDNESDAY 15 APRIL

8.30am	Morning Prayer	Corfe
10am	Holy Communion	Langton

SUNDAY 19 APRIL

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

WEDNESDAY 22 APRIL

8.30am	Morning Prayer	Corfe
10am	Holy Communion	Langton

SUNDAY 26 APRIL

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

WEDNESDAY 29 APRIL

8.30am	Morning Prayer	Corfe
10am	Holy Communion	Langton

LILIES FOR EASTER

There has been a long tradition of purchasing a lily in memory of a loved one at Easter at St Nicholas church for Easter Sunday, this costs £7.50 and if anyone would like to, could they please contact myself Bladonemma@gmail.com or ring on 07974952190 by 2 April? Alternatively, we are looking towards donations for the flower fund which is somewhat depleted due to Covid and the Church being closed for building works.

Emma O'Reilly

GENERAL NEWS

PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP (PPG)

The Swanage Medical Practice PPG last met in March. One of the issues we discussed was SystmConnect, the new way to contact the Practice online. The Practice started using SystmConnect last October, instead of eConsult, and they would like to encourage patients to use SystmConnect, where appropriate.

SystmConnect allows you to make admin requests, such as requesting a Fit note or cancelling an appointment, as well as to request medical advice about new or existing health problems and to submit medication queries. You can access SystmConnect via the Practice website on your smartphone, tablet or desktop computer.

We also discussed what to do if you develop an urgent dental issue.

If you have any of the following problems, you can still get an urgent dental appointment by calling NHS 111 – even if you do not have a regular dentist:

- Broken or lost filling or crown
- Toothache that's not getting better
- Sensitivity or swelling in the mouth
- Gum problems causing pain or bleeding

You'll be assessed and directed to a local dentist for the right treatment. Urgent appointments are there to help manage these problems quickly – before they get worse.

The PPG will next be meeting at the Surgery on Tuesday 12 May, at 6pm.

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*

PURBECK FILM FESTIVAL CELEBRATES

The Purbeck Film Festival will celebrate its 30th anniversary in 2026, launching the milestone year with a special celebratory event at Encombe House.

Founded to bring a rich mix of cinema to Purbeck, the festival now screens films in distinctive venues across the region each October, while its popular Cinema Under the Stars series brings outdoor screenings to iconic locations including Corfe Castle and the Blue Pool.

Reflecting on the milestone, festival patron Sir Mark Ryland described the event as "quite remarkable", saying that at a time when many cinemas and festivals struggle to survive rapid technological change, small festivals like Purbeck are a "godsend for filmmakers" that help nurture the human

heart of cinema.

The anniversary year will launch with a special Afternoon Tea at Encombe House on Saturday 16 May, where guests will enjoy a garden stroll and entertainment from the Fingask Follies.

Andrea Etherington, Chair of PFF said:

"Reaching 30 years is a wonderful moment for the festival and for everyone who has supported us along the way. We're thrilled to begin our anniversary celebrations at Encombe House, one of Purbeck's most beautiful settings.

"Our sincere thanks go to James and Arabella Gaggero for so generously opening their home to help us mark this special occasion. Special thanks are also extended to the Dick Odgers Memorial Trust whose generosity has made this event possible."

More information and tickets are available via the Purbeck Film Festival website: www.purbeckfilm.com.

Richard Brown

NATIONAL TRUST

PERILOUS TIME FOR PUFFINS

At the time of writing, we're anxiously awaiting the return of the puffins to Dancing Ledge. There is concern for the colony following recent reports of thousands of dead puffins washing up on Europe's beaches during this winter's storms.

Historically home to more than 80 puffins, the colony at Dancing Ledge has dwindled to just three pairs. Although these birds have shown signs of nest building, they haven't successfully raised any fledglings in recent years. The suspicion has long been that predators such as rats or crows are taking the eggs or chicks.

We have again commissioned high ropes experts to install remote, motion-sensor cameras on the narrow fissure where the seabirds breed. The previous exercise captured fascinating insights into the behaviours of puffins and other seabirds, but didn't reveal any culprits.

Learning from last time, we have placed robust, high spec cameras in specific locations to film deep into the ledge. There was some concern from locals that the cameras themselves might disturb the puffins, but this wasn't the case – in fact, we have many shots of puffins and other seabirds sitting right beside them!

There has also been speculation locally about whether human activity, such as coastering, rock climbing or boating is adversely affecting the puffin colony, but the monitoring team believes this to be unlikely. The cameras revealed that the puffins are most active overnight, when human activity is minimal.

WALKING AT WINSPIT

We've recently completed a project to provide alternative access along the coast at Winspit. We've added new steps, as well as a permissive path which gives people the option of walking within our field rather than along the path by the quarry edge.

Please note that there have recently been several rock falls at Winspit and the surrounding coastline – probably as a result of the cliffs being saturated during the winter storms, then beginning to dry out.

Do take care, especially if you are going into the cove. Don't sit under the cliff, and avoid areas where there's evidence of recent rock falls. Remember that rocks can come crashing down with little or no notice.

NATURE'S SYMPHONY

Now's the time to get out and enjoy nature's symphony. The dawn chorus is performed by birds looking for love, and to defend their patch. It starts at sunrise, and the loudest singers are the males. Thrushes, blackbirds and robins are among the first to rise, then others gradually join in – wrens, chiffchaffs, blackcaps and willow warblers. In the fields around Worth and Langton, you might also be lucky enough to hear a yellowhammer, linnet or stonechat. If you're not an early riser, remember there's the dusk chorus too. It might not be quite so loud, but it's guaranteed to soothe your soul!

Cathy Lewis, National Trust

PURBECK SOUNDS



Purbeck Sounds presenters, Pierre Martel, Fiona Sturrock & O'Neill visited Langton Matravers Scout Troop to help them with their Media badge

Purbeck Sounds, the community radio for Purbeck and far beyond, shares the stories, knowledge and expertise which make this area so special.

Purbeck Sounds is a volunteer-led radio station, based in the heart of Swanage with its ears open to new ideas and subjects local people love to listen to. Broadcasting live from 8am the breakfast crew bring a smile to start the day. Brighten your Monday with Hannah aka the landlady who will make you giggle no matter how grey the weather.

Our presenters love to bring their experience to listeners. Walker David Wise talks about unknown tracks and Chris Bradey gets to the heart of a good book with his guests. Hour Local History brings history of the local area with familiar guests to the area such as DaveBurt talking with us about quarrying and Jasmine Cattle the changes over her lifetime in Langton. Driving you home, local radio legend, David Hollister, keeps you company.

Purbeck Sounds provides young people with opportunities to learn skills and develop confidence as they present live programmes on subjects they enjoy. The Young Stars are led by Pierre Martel a young man with experience and knowledge far beyond his teenage years simply because he has been a volunteer with our radio station.

We provide a dedicated service to the hearing impaired, using Verbatim to access our interviews. Our Listen Again service provides a selection of our talk shows so that you can listen to them whenever it's convenient to you.

It's easy to listen to us on your computer, phone Alexa or Smart TV. Type in www.purbecksounds.com in your search engine or say 'Alexa, enable Purbeck Sounds' then 'play Purbeck Sounds'. To join us as a volunteer, technician or become a sponsor or advertiser go to contact@purbecksounds.co.uk.

Maggie O'Neill

HARMONY ROCKS CHOIR

Songs & Scones this year will be Wednesday afternoon, 2pm, 10 June 2026 at Emmanuel Baptist Church Swan-

age.

This is our annual summer songs and cream tea event taking place a month earlier than usual.

Tickets will be £12 each which includes a cream tea. These will be available from 6 May 2026 from emailthequilter@yahoo.co.uk and anne.elford10@icloud.com.

Our chosen charity for this event is PurbeckParkys who are the local support group for people in our area with Parkinson's, their carers, families, and friends, and operates under the umbrella of Parkinson's UK.

Please make a note in your diaries - 10 June - for an enjoyable summer afternoon's entertainment. By the way, the scones last year were amazing!

Anne Elford

HARMANS CROSS

APRIL & MAY AT HXVH

MOVIE NIGHTS – F1: THE MOVIE

Tuesday 14 April – doors open at 6.30pm

Starring Brad Pitt as a former driver who returns to Formula 1*, alongside Damon 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

FOR HARMANS CROSS RESIDENTS – HXVH AGM WITH CHEESE AND WINE SOCIAL

Friday, 24 April at 6pm

Our ever popular AGM followed by a cheese and wine social event. All Harmans Cross residents welcome. Please book with Jenny Frankland at secretary@harmanscrosshall.co.uk if you would like stay for the cheese and wine.

MOVIE NIGHTS – SONG SUNG BLUE

Tuesday, 12 May – doors open at 6.30pm

We are hoping to secure a licence to show *Song Sung Blue* in May - the inspiring true story of two down-on-their-luck performers who form a joyous Neil Diamond tribute band, proving it's never too late to find love and follow your dreams.

STALLS AT THE HALL

Saturday, 16 May 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 on bookings@harmanscrosshall.co.uk

HXVH SUMMER BARN DANCE

Saturday, 30 May starting at 6pm

We welcome back the brilliant Black Sheep Band to guide us through the dancing. Tom's Bar will be open selling a full range of refreshments and Kingston Country Courtyard will be on site selling food. Early bird tickets at £12 – please go to the website at <https://www.harmanscrosshall.co.uk/Special-Events/> for more details and to get your tickets online through Ticketsource.

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 2, 16 and 30 April

The Dubber 9

and May 14 and 28 from 10.30am in the small committee room.

HXVH CHURCH

Our next gatherings are Sunday 19 April and Sunday 17 May at 6pm – a very friendly, informal and happy service for anyone and everyone. *Alison & the HXVH Committee*

LANGTON MATRAVERS

LM LOCAL HISTORY & PRESERVATION SOCIETY WWW.LANGTONMATRAVERSMUSEUM.ORG

The Village Hall was packed for Jonathan Sells' talk about his 'Wareham Market' sculpture, and I am sure that, by the time you read this, there will have been a similarly-enthusiastic audience for Chris Suttle's presentation about his family's life in quarrying in Purbeck over the generations. Our final talk of the winter is all about the ongoing archaeological dig at Afflington, which is supported by the Society and now in its third season. Mary Sparks will introduce the topic, giving a brief account with maps of the spatial and historical context of the site and explaining the research questions. Chris Tripp, leader of the Dorset Diggers Community Archaeology Group will then tell us all about what has been found, and how it advances our understanding. The team have made some exciting discoveries! If you'd like to get involved in the dig this year, do get in touch for more information via the website, or come to the talk and find out more.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY.

Thursday, 16 April: The Deserted Medieval Village at Afflington - a talk by Chris Tripp, 'Dorset Diggers' Community Archaeology Group, with introduction by Mary Sparks.

All talks are held at Langton Village Hall at 7.30pm, doors open 7pm. Everyone is welcome to attend: £3 for members, £4 for non-members.

Museum re-opening: Tuesday, 7 April. Note change from previous date given.

It was decided to slightly delay the museum opening to give us time to prepare over the holiday period. We have a wonderful team of volunteer custodians who give up two hours a week (or fortnight) to greet visitors and help them to make the most of their visit. It's a hugely valuable contribution which means we can keep the museum open over the summer. However, are again looking for new custodians: if you feel this could be you, or to find out more, please contact Keith Coombs or go to our website and use the contact form.

The editorial committee are making good progress: a new edition of 'Old Swanwic', with additional material on the medieval period, is nearly ready to go to print. A full list of our current publications can be seen on the website, and you can buy in person at the museum. www.langtonmatravermuseum.org The Society has also been asked by the Dorset Family History Society to contribute an article on the Purbeck Stone industry for the next edition of its Journal, which will feature the Isle of Purbeck.

We look forward to seeing you at the final talk of the season, in the Museum or perhaps at the Afflington dig in the next few months. *Daryle Pearson & Mary Sparks, LMLHPS*

PURBECK FOLK CLUB

While not reaching the stupendous total from last month, our March gig saw a good turn-out of 50

people.

Thanks as always to Pete Christie for the use of his brilliant sound system and even more brilliant sound engineering skills.

Our next gig will be on Thursday, 2 April when Polly Morris makes her debut at the Club, having been talent-spotted at the Square and Compass. Polly has been described as "the Flanders and Swann of our day. A cultural commentator with her tongue firmly in her cheek" (David Gillard MBE). Polly uses the description "music to make you smile" to describe her style. Her lyrics, like Mandy's, are very witty with a bit of poignancy thrown in. The second performer, also making his debut, will be Karl Thompson, a local young man who describes himself as "blending rock, folk and alternative styles".

We meet at Langton Matravers Village Hall - doors open at 7.30 for an 8pm start. Admission still at the bargain price of £8 (cash only) on the door. 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.

This promises to be another great evening of music and fun so come along. It will be great to see you. *John Kirwin*

LANGTON MATRAVERS PARISH COUNCIL

MARCH MEETING

NATIONAL TRUST REPORT

Puffin Project Trail cameras are on and will stay until July. PNHF volunteers will also be out carrying out monitoring from Scratch Arse, followed by analysis in the summer and results shared in the Autumn. Assuming our 'breeding' Puffins have survived the winter storms and the significant seabird wreck across Western Europe, we will continue to monitor our colony and hopefully capture evidence of why they repeatedly fail to breed successfully

LOVE LANGTON

The NT is supporting the Love Langton Litter Group again this year, installing signage at Spyway Farm and encouraging visitors to take their littler home/keep the area beautiful. The NT will help with litter collections from their volunteer litter pick events.

BEN WILSON, DORSET COUNCILLOR

DC have £5m more funding for road repairs to rectify damage from flooding. Any road damage should be reported to DC through the on-line portal but if the damage appears to present a risk to public safety, then please escalate via Ben or LMPC.

SWANAGE SHORE ROAD PLANS

After lots of consultations, Swanage Town Council has opted to keep two-way traffic while removing on-street parking to create wider footways, and introduce a 20mph speed limit. More detailed design work will proceed and additional refinements will be presented as a full package for formal consultation later this year.

Coastal Consultation launched to improve coastal safety and protect marine habitats

<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/news/consultation-launched-to-improve-coastal-safety-and-protect-marine-habitats> The deadline for responses is 15 April.

Durnford Drove Track to NT Car Park – Solutions in Sight?

Recent on-site meetings have led to an agreement among all stakeholders to tackle the condition of the Durnford Drove track to the NT Car Park in the course of 2026. BT

Openreach has initiated the approval processes to remove their cable from the drainage ditch and relocate it to new poles which will assist in mechanical dredging in the future. TBF the Natural Flood Defences seem to have done their job in the second wettest winter for Dorset since 1836 (2014 still takes the biscuit) and flooding from excess surface water coming down the track has not been much of an issue this year (we still have the next two months to prove that comment premature).

CULTURAL PURBECK

Richard Brown graced the meeting speaking with passion and entreating support for Cultural Purbeck (CP Charitable Incorporated Organisation – or “CIO”) which is submitting an Expression of Interest to the Dept. of Culture, Media and Sport at the end of the month, in pursuit of Swanage and the Isle of Purbeck to be chosen as (small) UK Town of Culture 2028. Success or even shortlisting brings new funding for the projects Cultural Purbeck and its members are developing. More information on CP is available here <https://www.instagram.com/culturalpurbeck/>

PLANNING

The meeting discussed the Eastern Area Planning Committee review of the Old Malthouse development proposal (P/FUL/2025/04406) and received reports and comments from three attendees which gave the impression of a poorly managed meeting designed to assist DC Planning in deflecting any criticism of their methodology or approach in order to guide the vote toward a pre-determined conclusion. “Dispiriting” seemed to be the general take on matters as the committee brushed aside ample local objections relating to traffic management, the construction plan and the absence of restrictions on further development. Meanwhile, DC Cabinet reached a formal decision in March “to strengthen partnership working with town and parish councils...[and] understand how to best meet community needs and improve outcomes for residents in a sustainable and effective way.”

INCIDENT LOG – LMPC NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Speed watch data does not seem to be sufficient for DC Highways to think constructively about traffic calming measures – so we need more hard data on incidents / near misses / dangerous driving. Any observations – please include date, time, description of incident and photos of damage if available – and send to clerk@langtonmatravers-pc.gov.uk. The aim is to develop a more complete log of incidents which we can deploy to encourage DC Highways to take speeding and driving through the village more seriously than at present.

Next Council Meeting: The next Parish Council meeting will be held on 9 April in the Langton Matravers Village Hall - please come along and carp at your convivial councillors.

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)**

WORTH VILLAGE HALL AGM

Please join the Village Hall Trustees for drinks on Wednesday, 8 April at 6.30 pm followed by the AGM at 7pm. This is a chance for you to meet up with others from the Village and hear more about the significant refurbishment of both the Village Hall & the Old School House. And about the amazing Fund Raising successes, something that involved many, many people in Worth, without which these projects could not have been completed.

We will review the events of the last year and preview those lined up for this coming year and discuss how you might get even more involved in some of these activities; as a participant or an attendee.

This is another opportunity for the Trustees to hear your thoughts and suggestions to make this much-loved village facility of even more value to us all. Please bring along any questions and suggestions and be prepared to share your thoughts with the meeting. As always, we very much value your involvement and hope to welcome you in the Hall on the 8 April from 6.30pm.

The Agenda and supporting papers can be read and downloaded on this link to the Village Hall website and selecting Minutes of Previous AGMs, Reports or Legal: <https://www.worthmatraversvillagehall.org/minutes-reports.html>

Tim Arnold

EXPRESSING THE EARTH

A reminder that the 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 was previously previewed in the March Issue of *The Dubber*. To book a place(s) please email: geopoetrick@gmail.com.

We will follow up with a repeat showing of the film as part of a geopoetics mini-festival, organized by Burngate Purbeck Stone Centre, in May-June as part of Purbeck Arts Week. Details of the events at Burngate and at other locations in the community, and booking pages where appropriate, are available at <https://burngatestonecentre.co.uk/PAW26/>.

Patrick Corbett

WORTH MATRAVERS PARISH COUNCIL MARCH MEETING

The meeting included an in-depth discussion on Dark Skies status for Purbeck, grant awards to local organisations, highways updates, and routine finance and planning matters. Below is a summary of the key points.

Dark Skies for Purbeck: Dr Richard Miles attended the meeting to speak about the potential for parts of Purbeck to apply for Dark Sky designation. After discussion and questions from councillors and residents, the Council agreed to begin exploring a possible application for Dark Sky Reserve Status, which could take two to three years to achieve.

Grants Awarded: Alongside awarding a grant to Cultural Purbeck the Parish Council agreed to support Cultural Purbeck's Expression of Interest to DCMS for Swanage and the Isle of Purbeck to be considered for UK Town of Culture 2028, confirming its role as a supportive partner.

Highways & Flooding Update: An update received from Dorset Council noted: An additional £5 million has been allocated for highway repairs following recent flooding. A

multi-agency review of the flooding response will take place. Residents are reminded to report road damage via the Dorset Council online portal

Planning Matters: Location 2 Bonvils Road, Worth Matravers. Proposal: Ground floor extensions and garden room. Parish Council Comment: No objection

Haycrafts Lane – 20mph Enquiry: The Parish Council agreed to contact Dorset Council to obtain costs for carrying out a speed survey on Haycrafts Lane, following concerns raised locally.

KEEP OUR HIGHWAYS SAFE: Reporting a near miss helps improve road safety, even if there was no injury or damage. You can report these incidents online so they count towards evidence for change. Information helps Dorset Council identify hotspots where improvements, such as better signage or junction design, may be needed.

Please report any near miss you experience. Social media comments don't provide usable evidence, but official reports do. By sharing what happened, you help build the case for road safety improvements in our area.

For serious collisions or incidents involving injury, contact Dorset Police. For damage-only incidents and near misses, use the council's online reporting system so your experience can contribute to safer roads. www.dorset-self.achieveservice.com/service/Report-a-non-injury-collision-or-near-miss

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, 7 April 2026, at 7.30pm in the Worth Matravers Village Hall. Please come and join us and have your say.

Parish Council Contact Details p5: (Please remember to give permission for your details to be shared with Councillors, but note your details will NOT be shared with anyone else).

Michelle Harrington, Parish Clerk

WORTH FILM CLUB

Our next screening on Thursday, 30 April will be *Touch*, a strikingly tender film from Icelandic director Baltasar Kormákur.

Full of quiet optimism, the film follows a widower with early-onset dementia who, against the background of the pandemic, embarks on a journey stretching across continents and cultures to find his long-lost soulmate. Moving between Iceland, London and Japan, the story unfolds as a deeply moving reflection on memory, love, and the enduring power of human connection.

Wine will be served from 7pm and the film will begin at 7.30pm.

To avoid disappointment at the door, book early online. www.worthmatraversvillagehall.org

Tickets are £5.

Claude Bonfanti

NEWS FROM NOWHERE

THE RAMBLING GARDENER

Spring is coming, it's beautiful and every day is different as the leaves on the deciduous trees and plants start their regrowth. They start red, yellow or green and change colour so every day different even if you are just looking out of the window. We hope for gentle April showers and not the floods and droughts of some previous years.

12 The Dubber

Easter egg hunts are such fun, as a child I remember loving them and then having them here at Knitson for children and then grandchildren. We would always lose a few nests, which I would enjoy finding later in the year. We preferred to hunt for nests of little eggs instead of having one big one that I would eat far too fast! I love rabbits, but I don't want to have an Easter bunny in my garden as they eat the plants that I am growing for the family to eat in summer and winter. Luckily rabbits are deterred by my excellent cats.

The RHS March magazine suggested making a wreath for Easter with violets and moss which would be fun to do. Also, they recommend Japanese quince for flowering in February and March because they are hardy and long lived. They come in a range of colours from white to bright red, some are small and others reach for the sky. As a bonus their fruit makes a good jelly which is great eaten with cheese so they would be good for any garden.

One lovely flower that comes back every year is the Forget-me-not, what a lovely name. They flower every spring, self-seed and are very easy to weed when you need the space. They are also good for putting with white tulips for purity in church decorations for Easter Sunday, and for our homes.

Many years ago, I knitted a thick sweater to keep me warm and it's so nice to have so I have just spun and knitted another one for a friend who needs to keep his back warm. It has taken a long time to make, and knitting without a pattern means that I have made mistakes but in one more day I will have finished it! The sweater that I made over 30 years ago is still as soft and warm as it was when I made it so I trust this one will last as long.

April is a good time to plant and sow, but do use plenty of compost and water well at the start of the season to get your plant roots established. Now is the time to sow broad, French and runner beans, early peas, leeks, some cabbages, and brussel sprouts in the seed bed and tomatoes and courgettes inside to be hardened off when there is no chance of frost. I like the summer yellow courgettes best, but green ones often have heavier crops and keep better. Various squash, (that also need to be started inside in April), are a must for the winter as different ones ripen in every month so choose your favourite for each month. There are lots of varieties of lettuce to choose. I go for a small cos variety which, like radish, can grow quickly between slow growing plants like parsnips and winter cabbage. Do sow herbs, some are hardier than others and put near your kitchen door for frequent use in tasty meals.

Hopefully many of you are planting saved seeds and tubers from last year's best plants. The saved seed plants will be healthier, and crop better each year. For example, I had a blight resistant red skin potato growing under nasturtiums which produced 14lbs of potatoes off one plant last year. It has been producing more every year for 10 years now, familiarity to home soil. Nasturtiums are often very good companion plants, increasing their partners' yields, looking beautiful, edible, self-sowing and easy to clear when no longer needed.

If any of you would like to visit do call and arrange it, I love to talk about gardening and sharing ideas with other people. Contact: 01929421681 Email: rjehelfer@gmail.com

Rachel

Photos displayed opposite anticlockwise from top left: Interior scaffolding; Hely Hutchinson painting; first ridge tile removed; new roof and sign; new rafters.

St Nicholas of Myra Roof Appeal

What a memorable year 2025 turned out to be for St Nicholas of Myra, Worth Matrovers. Following nearly two years of closure, uncertainty, fund raising and project management the church finally reopened on Sunday, 8 June with Bishop Karen in attendance, a full house, a splendid buffet lunch and an afternoon demonstration of stone carving. Gone were the memories of that awful day in September 2021 when the church architect, now retired, condemned the roof and advised us that we must close the church with immediate effect. With an initial estimated cost of £350,000 we were faced with a seemingly impossible task of how we would raise funds, subsequently this figure doubled with the need to replace all the rafters and other costs.



Eighth of June was a day for celebration, the new roof looked splendid and what had seemed like an almost impossible task had been completed thanks to the generosity and support of parishioners. Much of the workload of the project fell on a small team of volunteers with mixed backgrounds and generally limited experience of such projects. Stimulated by cups of tea and a liberal supply of cakes and biscuits we endeavoured to work our way through the various components of the project.



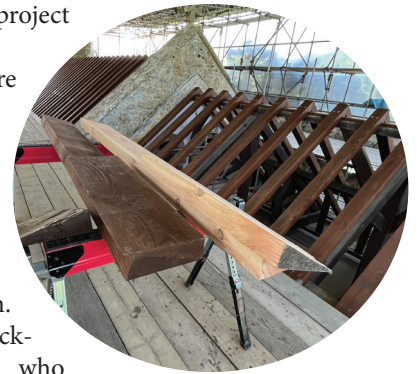
Without the support of the many individuals who organised fundraising events, donated funds or simply came up with brilliant ideas as to how we could raise the money the church might still be roofless. The raffle of a painting of the church, kindly donated by the artist Nicholas Hely Hutchinson, raised £20,000, other magnificent contributions came from a Literary lunch sponsored by The Oldie magazine, Open Gardens, Fetes, Film evening and a variety of other events. Our most grateful thanks to all those who organised or supported these events and to everyone who kindly donated to the project.

Particular thanks go to our neighbours who were overlooked by a mountain of plastic sheeting with its associated noise as well as the comings and goings of workmen for nearly two years yet kindly supported the project in a variety of ways.

We would also like to thank our contractors, Tudor Rose Masonry and Conservation Limited



who were faced with a project that became considerably bigger and more complex when it was discovered that all the rafters had to be replaced. Their good humour and extraordinary skills made it a joy to work with them. Also our thanks to Crickmay Stark Architects who guided us through the intricacies of the entire project and to the National Trust who allowed us to use one of their barns at Weston Farm to store equipment and materials.



Since June we have been completing the project, particularly those items required to satisfy the Heritage Lottery Fund requirement that the project should engage with the public by telling the story of the church and its community. New Interpretation Boards have appeared in the church and in the churchyard, a new information leaflet is now available as is educational information to support school visits, see <https://staldhelm-purbeck.org/st-nicholas-of-myra-worth/>.



Throughout the project a video had been filmed of all significant stages of the works, this impressive film had its premier in a crowded Village Hall in mid-December when, for the first time the audience was able to see the complexity and magnitude of the restoration. Our thanks to Tim Arnold and Greg Hollidge for all their work in producing the video. The video can now be seen on the Benefice website, <https://staldhelm-purbeck.org/st-nicholas-of-myra-worth/>, and also the Worth Matrovers Village Hall and YouTube websites, <https://www.worthmatroversvillagehall.org/videos.html> or <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4EDrEzc2uxc>

The project was finally signed off with an impressive Evaluation report (<https://staldhelm-purbeck.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/Evaluation-HLF-Final.pdf>) written by James Mercer which was submitted to the Heritage Lottery Fund shortly before the year end and received the following response 'Congratulations on delivering such an important and well managed project. Wishing you and your team all the best for the future.'

For those of you who would like to learn more about the project we suggest you refer to the St Nicholas of Myra Roof Restoration 2021/25 -section of the Benefice website <https://staldhelm-purbeck.org/st-nicholas-of-myra-worth/>.

Finally, our thanks again to all those who have contributed in whatever way to the success of this project. We are delighted that the church is now reopened and holding regular services. THANK YOU.

Hugh Cochrane, on behalf of the Project Team

Langton Matravers Parish Council
ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY



Thursday, 23 April 2026

6pm

Langton Matravers Village Hall

This is your meeting – a chance for all residents to hear updates,
raise questions, and speak about village matters.

Highlights of the Evening:

-  Presentation by the National Trust
-  Singing by pupils from St George's Primary School
-  Updates from local groups
-  Free tea, coffee & cakes!
-  Come along, have your say, and meet your community

Parishioners are welcome to submit items for consideration on the agenda.
If there is a matter you would like to raise or discuss at the Annual Parish Assembly,
please contact the Parish Clerk by **Monday, 13 April 2026**

This is not a council meeting – this is a meeting for the people of Langton Matravers

For more information, or to include an item on the agenda, please contact:

Emma Evans – Parish Clerk

clerk@langtonmatravers-pc.gov.uk

07745 934263

We look forward to seeing you there!

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and 3.00pm–5.00pm
Friday 3.00pm–5.00pm
Saturday 10.00am–12.00pm
(Closed on Public Holidays)

- Free hot drink and biscuits every session
- Free Car Park



Any Questions?

A Date for Your Diary

We next meet on Thursday 21st May when speaker and subject will be:

Professor Andrew Halestrap

"Science and God – friends or foes?"

Andrew is Emeritus Professor of Biochemistry at Bristol University, and Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences



He is passionate about helping people to see how Science is a friend and not an enemy of the Christian faith.

Venue: All Saints' Church, Redcliffe Road, Swanage.

Doors open at 6.30 pm coffee/tea. Presentation 7.00 pm.

All welcome!

The Orlando Singers
Sam Hanson
St. James' Kingston
Sat 25th April
7.00pm
'There is an old belief'
Frank Martin Mass for Double Choir
Martin described his mass as an affair
between God and himself
Parry's Songs of Farewell
Tickets £15, £5 under 18 and students
www.ticketsource.co.uk/orlandosingersdorset
www.facebook.com/orlandosingersdorset
Registered Charity number: 1085312

Mayday Singers
Musical Director: John Watkins
Spring Concert
Guest soloist: Rosie Kent (Violin)
Sunday 26th April 2026, 4pm
St George's Church,
Langton Matravers
Tickets £8 on the door
Whitacre's 5 Hebrew Love Songs,
Holst's Part Songs,
Madrigals, and more!
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EVENTS
Wednesday 8 April Curry & Games Night
Saturday 25 April Seafood Evening
Saturday 9 May Aba Shanti-I
Wednesday 13 May Curry & Games Night

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APRIL Events



**4th
Kids
Party**
£10 per Child
3-6pm

**4th
Vici Jo**
9pm

**18th
Alexis**
9pm

**25th
Karaoke**
8pm

Swanage Con Club



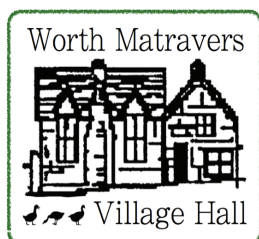
Swanage Con Club
Little Gizmos Entertainment with
Super Si!
KIDS EASTER PARTY!
£10 PER TICKET

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



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bookings@worthmatraversvillagehall.org

APRIL 2026

2	10-11.30pm	Coffee Pot	St George's Ch
2	10.30-noon	Coffee Junction	HXVH
2	7.30	PFC: Polly Morris & Karl Thomson	LMVH
7	9-12pm	Post Office	Putlake Cafe
7	7.30pm	WMPC Meeting	WMVH
8	6.30pm	WMVH AGM	WMVH
8	?	Curry & Games	Scott Arms
9	7pm	LMPC Meeting	LMVH
14	9-12pm	Post Office	Putlake Cafe
14	6.30pm	Film: <i>F1 Movie</i>	HXVH
16	10-11.30am	Community Coffee Morning	LMVH
16	10.30-noon	Coffee Junction	HXVH
16	7pm	Film: <i>Expressing the Earth</i>	WMVH
16	7.30pm	LMLHPS Talk: Medieval Village at Afflington	LMVH
21	9-12pm	Post Office	Putlake Cafe
23	6pm	Langton Parish Assembly	LMVH
24	6pm	HXVH AGM	HXVH
24	6.30pm	Talk: <i>The Destruction of Arctic Convoy PQ17</i>	Church Knowle VH
25	?	Seafood Evening	Scott Arms
25	7pm	Orlando Singers	St James' Ch
26	4pm	Mayday Singers	St George's Ch
28	9-12pm	Post Office	Putlake Cafe
30	10.30-noon	Coffee Junction	HXVH
30	7pm	WFC: Film <i>Touch</i>	WMVH

Langton Matravers Scout & Guide HQ

Are you looking for a hall to hire?

Do you need somewhere to run a weekly club?

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Please call Nicky on 01929 422732 for more information and prices.

PURBECK

Polly Morris

plus

FOLK CLUB

Karl Thomson

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For more details see website (scan QR code below)

THURSDAY 2nd APRIL 2026 at 8.00 PM

(DOORS 7.30 PM)

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For further details of LMVH clubs and events, visit
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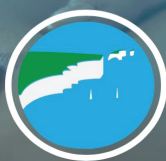
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