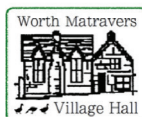


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May 2026

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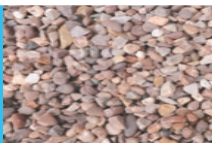
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From the Editor

Please come to the Christian Aid Plant Sale on 9 May. There will be perennials, bedding plants and all types of vegetables to buy at amazing prices. We would much appreciate your donations of plants and cakes etc. Anyone needing plant collection or who are willing to help on the day, please contact 427202.



Many thanks
Angela

IMPORTANT * PLEASE NOTE!

Deadlines are the second Thursday of the month unless otherwise stated

**June issue deadline
is 14 May**

5	WELCOME FROM THE EDITOR
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13	HAVE YOUR SAY
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 **June** issue is noon on **Thursday, 14 May** & it will hopefully be ready for collection circa **29 May** (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

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Richard Earl ☎ 01929 475822

Janet Robinson ☎ 07986 553969

May 2026

Hello from the Rectory

I am sitting outside, what a joy this sunny weather is, writing to you from the Rectory garden. I'm listening to the bird song on this bright morning and using the Merlin app to find out who I have the pleasure of listening to. So far as I write I have, the Coal Tit, Great Tit, Linnet, Crow, Robin, Jackdaw, Chaffinch, Chiff Chaff, Wren, Cuckoo, Long-tailed Tit, Blackcap, Collared Dove, Wood-Pigeon and the Blue Tits as they feed youngsters in the bird box. I am watching them hurriedly going in and out.

As I sit here and look at my list of birds all beginning with a capital letter I am reminded that we are all called by name by God,

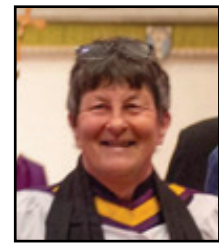
and, yes, we each have a capital letter in front of our name declaring that we are important, precious and loved by God as each of these birds are.

Purbeck is alive with wildlife and

activity with so much for us, and our many visitors to be doing as they make their way back to us after our long, wet winter. So much to be thankful for but still there are those that need our love, prayers and care as they navigate difficult times. So as an amazing village community, let's continue to be mindful of those who need us right now.

*Every Blessing,
Revd Lindy Jane*

*Pioneer Priest,
Benefice of St Aldhelm
Salisbury Diocese*



**Community
Coffee Morning**

Thurs 21 May
10am – 11.30am

Langton Village Hall

All Welcome!

a few words

A short daily audio reflection.
A few words from the Bible,
and a few words to carry into the day.



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Christian Aid Coffee Morning & Plant Sale

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Saturday 9 May
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hope
alive

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St George's Church*

*10-11.30am Thursday 7 May
& Thursday, 4 June
Good company & chat
All welcome!*

SERVICE TIMES IN THE PARISHES

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

SUNDAY 3 MAY

9.45am	Breakfast Church	Langton
10.30am	Holy Communion	Corfe
5pm	Celtic Evening Prayer	Worth

WEDNESDAY 6 MAY

8.30am	Morning Prayer	Corfe
10am	Holy Communion	Langton

SUNDAY 10 MAY

8am	Holy Communion BCP	Worth
9.30am	Holy Communion	Steeple
9.45am	Holy Communion	Langton
10.30am	Informal Worship	Kingston
10.30am	Morning Prayer	Corfe
11am	Walking Church	TBC

WEDNESDAY 13 MAY

8.30am	Morning Prayer	Corfe
10am	Holy Communion	Langton
11am	Rogation	Worth

SUNDAY 17 MAY

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

WEDNESDAY 20 MAY

8.30am	Morning Prayer	Corfe
10am	Holy Communion	Langton

SUNDAY 24 MAY

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 27 MAY

8.30am	Morning Prayer	Corfe
10am	Holy Communion	Langton

SUNDAY 31 MAY

10.30am	Benefice Service	Church Knowle
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WEDNESDAY 3 JUNE

10am	Holy Communion	Langton
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ALL KNITTERS & CROCHETERS – UPDATE!

The Tank Museum has kindly donated a camouflage net for us to display our poppies! We are hoping to create a cascade inside St George's Church. Please keep crafting!

It would be lovely if we, as a parish, could help mark Remembrance Day this year with a display of handmade poppies in St George's Church. If you enjoy knitting or crochet, please do join in. There are patterns available online including on the Royal British Legion website. Patterns will also be available inside St George's church alongside a box to put finished poppies in.

With a community effort, we can make a fitting tribute! Thank you.
Janet Robinson & Elizabeth Earl

GENERAL NEWS

WHERE AM I IN PURBECK?



Hello! What's this then? And where am I?

Chris Meadows

SWANAGE TOWN BAND IN MAY

The Swanage Town Band are kicking off their summer season of concerts with a new item on their calendar! For the first time there will be a "Spring Concert" in the Swanage Methodist Church on Saturday, 16 May at 7pm. As always this will be a FREE concert with a retiring collection for Town Band funds.

Following closely on from the concert is a "Quiz Night" at the Swanage Royal British Legion on Thursday, 21 May (7.30pm to register for 8pm start). Friends and supporters of the band will be most welcome for this fun event which will be a very sociable way to help raise funds for the band. £3 entry per person – cash prizes and a raffle.

On Saturday, 23 May at 2.30pm the band will be playing their first bandstand gig of 2026 during the Swanage Pirate Festival – so it's "Ahoy Me Hearties", "Yo Ho Ho and a Bottle of Rum" and plenty of maritime music! Any enquiries please contact 07843289483.

Liz Roberts

NATIONAL TRUST

ADDER APPRECIATION

We've had lots of sightings of adders recently, especially in the countryside around Worth and Langton. These beautiful native reptiles have emerged from hibernation, and are soaking up the sun to build up their energy.

Adders come in a range of colours, from silvery-grey to coppery brown – and some are even completely black! The zig zag pattern along the back makes them easy to recognise.

Yes, adders are venomous – but they're also incredibly shy. They'll disappear as soon as they sense your footfall. Their venom is used to catch prey such as mice, voles, lizards, frogs, newts and small birds.

8 The Dubber

When you're out in the countryside, remember:

- Never try to handle adders.
- Keep to paths rather than walking in long vegetation.
- Keep dogs from rooting around in long grass, deep heather or gorse.
- If you are bitten, seek medical help immediately. Not all adder bites cause a serious reaction, but it's worth being cautious.

Find out more here: <https://www.arc-trust.org/facts-and-advice-on-adder-bites>

HELP GROUND-NESTING BIRDS

From March to August, some of our favourite birds are nesting – including skylarks, meadow pipits and corn buntings. But these birds nest on the ground which makes them very vulnerable. You can help by:

- Staying on the main paths
- Respecting seasonal restrictions, such as keeping your dog on a lead
- Not lighting fires or using disposable BBQs
- Spreading the word!

DAM IMPRESSIVE!

One year after we released beavers into the wild at Little Sea, Studland, their activity has dramatically reshaped part of the nearby landscape – turning a previously dense area of woodland into a thriving wetland habitat.

One of the two pairs of beavers we introduced in March 2025 have built an impressive 35-metre-long dam, which has slowed the flow of a small stream, creating a deep and extensive pond. Their coppicing of trees has opened up the canopy, allowing light to flood in and creating ideal habitat for plants, insects, amphibians, birds and bats. The trail cameras have already picked up an otter fishing in the pond, as well as a barn owl hunting there.

Gen Crisford, Wetlands Project Officer, said: "The effect on the eco-system is astonishing. From dense tangled woodland, the beavers have created a light and airy wetland teeming with life above and below the water. We can't wait to see what wildlife appears this spring – from dragonflies, diving beetles and butterflies to frogs and newts – and of course, all the animals that feed off them.

"It's important to remember that the trees the beavers fell don't die – they quickly sprout new shoots." Info: purbeck@nationaltrust.org.uk.

Cathy Lewis, National Trust

UK TOWN OF CULTURE 2028

Swanage and the Isle of Purbeck have come together to bid for UK Town of Culture 2028, coordinated by Cultural Purbeck and supported by local partners.

This bid is about celebrating what makes Swanage and Purbeck distinctive – our landscape, heritage and creative communities. UK Town of Culture 2028 is an opportunity to bring that story together in a bold, collaborative way. Culture already thrives here, from grassroots groups to established organisations. This bid will help connect those energies, strengthen partnerships, and open up more opportunities for people to take part.

FROM STONE TO SEA – THEME SHAPED BY COMMUNITY

Following workshops and conversations with creatives, community groups, businesses and residents, the bid has adopted the theme From Stone to Sea. It reflects Purbeck's distinctive geology, natural landscapes, heritage and creativity, and provides a unifying narrative for events, education

and creative programmes.

A TRULY COLLABORATIVE EFFORT

A well-attended workshop on 27 February brought together voices from across Purbeck to explore the area's identity – from landscape and heritage to creativity and community life. Insights from these sessions have directly shaped the bid.

CELEBRATING A VIBRANT CULTURAL LANDSCAPE

Swanage and the Isle of Purbeck is home to a dynamic cultural scene, from festivals including Purbeck Art Weeks, Purbeck Folk Festival, Swanage Jazz Festival and Swanage Fish & Food Festival, to a wide range of local organisations, galleries, theatres and community projects. This creative energy sits alongside a remarkable natural and heritage landscape, making the area a place where local voices and wider talent come together.

OPENING UP OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL

While rich in culture, not everyone currently benefits. Young people can face barriers to access, while older or isolated residents may be limited by health, mobility or rural challenges.

The bid aims to break down these barriers and expand access to cultural opportunities, recognising culture's role in strengthening communities, supporting wellbeing and inspiring participation.

By securing UK Town of Culture status, Swanage and Purbeck aim to ensure the benefits of creativity and cultural engagement are shared across all ages, communities and backgrounds.

Laurel Hart, Cultural Purbeck

PURBECK ART WEEKS FESTIVAL 2026

WHERE ART AND MUSIC COME ALIVE

23 MAY – 7 JUNE 2026

Get ready for a spectacular Purbeck Art Weeks Festival 2026 (May 23 to June 7) when Purbeck comes alive with creativity, music, and community spirit! This year's festival promises an exciting mix of exhibitions, open studios, live performances, talks, and hands-on activities, featuring both local talent and internationally acclaimed performers. Whether you love the arts, music, or cultural experiences, there's something for everyone.

DISCOVER PURBECK'S LOCAL TALENT

Set against Purbeck's beautiful landscape, this year's visual arts programme reflects the extraordinary breadth of creativity across the region - from intricate jewellery and ceramics to bold paintings and contemporary sculpture. You'll find a full range of exciting treasures at the much-loved Rollington Barn Collective Exhibition, near Corfe Castle. In the Byre you'll see our Purbeck Young Artists (PYA) Exhibition, celebrating the imagination and ambition of young local schoolchildren - providing an important platform for the next generation.

Across the Festival, Open Studios invite audiences behind the scenes to meet artists, explore their processes and discover the stories behind the work. It's a rare chance to step into creative spaces and experience art not only as a finished product, but as a living, evolving practice!

Meanwhile, the Castle View Exhibition is back by popular demand, offering visitors another opportunity to experience high-quality art against one of the area's most iconic backdrops at the National Trust Corfe Castle Visitor Centre.

AN OPENING NIGHT FULL OF ENERGY

Join us for an unforgettable opening evening on 23 May,

where I Fagiolini return to PAW to bring their signature blend of creativity and imagination to the stage. They will be performing an anniversary programme for their 40th year: 'We're not dead yet'. A defining thread running through the 2026 programme is the dialogue between art forms. The Parnassus Ensemble joins forces with visual artist Jérémie Queyras in a striking interdisciplinary performance where live painting unfolds alongside early vocal music.

Elsewhere, audiences are invited to look both backwards and forwards. A special talk on 26 May by Dr Gill Clarke, Guest Curator Russell-Cotes Art Gallery & Museum, Bournemouth explores the artists who lived and worked in Purbeck during the early twentieth century, revealing the area's long-standing role as a place of inspiration.

The late-May Festival Weekend offers a particularly rich sequence of events, spanning folk, medieval, Renaissance and contemporary music. Grace Newcombe's exploration of thirteenth-century repertoire offers an intimate glimpse into Britain's medieval sound world, while vibrant South-West folk traditions are reimagined for modern audiences. Lutenist Toby Carr's Softest Thunder reveals the quiet intensity of an instrument whose delicate voice carries remarkable emotional depth, while ensemble performances explore centuries of vocal music shaped by extraordinary female performers and composers.

A special five-concert Festival Weekend package is available, offering audiences the chance to experience this concentrated burst of musical creativity as a mini-festival - an opportunity to move through centuries of sound over the course of a single weekend.

Singing and children's workshops, talks and pop-up demonstrations also offer plenty of opportunities to get involved and explore new things. Visitors are invited not simply to observe, but to get stuck in, ask questions and become part of a creative exchange!

Find out more about PAW's 2026 programme at purbeckartweeksfestival.co.uk.

Laurel Hart

GRIEF BY THE CASTLE

A special workshop created for people who are grieving will bring mindful painting and writing to Sandy Hill Arts this spring and summer.

On Friday 15 May and Sunday 12 July (10-3.30pm), Purbeck landscape painter Jessamy Hawke and acclaimed non-fiction author Georgie Codd will host Grief by the Castle: a creative day of writing and painting in the beautiful natural setting of Sandy Hill Arts, a short walk from the ruins of Corfe Castle. Up to ten people will be supported to paint, write and connect with the landscape of the valley, in the company of others who know what it's like to feel loss.

Georgie Codd said: "Spring and summer are gorgeous times to be outdoors in Purbeck. They can also be painful times for people who are bereaved, and feeling disconnected from the world. Grief by the Castle is the latest in a new workshop series we created to support people who want a safe space to grieve, breathe and express themselves creatively."

Open since 2021, Sandy Hill Arts is a collective space for artists, creative people and communities, set in a wooded valley beneath Purbeck Ridge. Its lush leafy grounds, babbling stream, abundant wildlife and proximity to Corfe Castle offer lots of opportunities for creative and mindful exercises, along with a sheltered indoors space made for working in all weathers.

Tickets to Grief by the Castle include hot drinks on-site. By the end of the day, members of the group will also take home their own framed self-made artwork, bringing together what they have experienced across the day. Find FAQs about the workshop and book places at <https://jes-samyhawke.bigcartel.com/product/by-the-castle>. Advance booking is essential.

Georgie and Jessamy

HARMONY ROCKS CHOIR

We are so looking forward to our Songs & Scones concert Wednesday afternoon 10 June 2026 at 2pm at Emmanuel Baptist Church, Swanage.

Tickets are £12 each including a cream tea. These will be available from Swanage News, Station Road, Swanage from 6 May 2026. We hope this will be more convenient for many people. Tickets will also still be available from Sue Smith on 01929 477148 (emailthequilter@yahoo.co.uk) and Anne Elford on 01929 288325 (anne.elford10@icloud.com) and choir members.

This is always a very popular event so please make sure you have a note of the date - 10 June - for a lovely afternoon's entertainment.

Anne Elford

PURBECK FOLK CLUB

Resident reviewer Bod writes: "There was another good turn-out for the April gig, rewarded by a night to remember. Local singer-songwriter, Karl Thomson, opened the evening with a selection of his own material, expressing youthful angst, very much in his own style, although at times reminiscent of both early Bob Dylan and Donovan. He was followed by Polly Morris, who really set the hall alight! Polly's material, all original, is extremely funny and draws on everyday life. She had the room in stitches but then slipped into a powerful rendition of a Tanzanian greeting song and an extremely poignant song about dementia which had many of us reaching for tissues. Polly is a consummate performer and I for one can't wait for her to return!"

Our next gig will be on Thursday, 7 May and will feature Amica and Roxanne Philips. Amica is a Bournemouth-based trio, who play a diverse range of original and traditional tunes, featuring vocals, accordion, cello and violin. Roxanne Philips, also Bournemouth-based, has a delicate but powerful voice accompanied by intricate acoustic guitar melodies.

We meet at Langton Matravers Village Hall. Doors open at 7.30 for an 8pm start. Admission is £8 on the door (cash only) although it is now possible to buy tickets online (see website for details). 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.

On Saturday, 30 May, we have a special concert featuring Winter Wilson, who played at last year's Swanage Folk Festival before heading off to play in Canada. They are currently on tour in Australia with their new album "Home". Kip Winter (vocals, flute, piano accordion and guitar) and Dave Wilson (vocals, guitar and banjo) are widely recognised as one of the UK's very best contemporary folk and blues performers. Tickets are £12 and are available on line (ticketsource.com - Winter Wilson at Purbeck Folk Club). Watch out for posters!

John Kirwin

BELVEDERE SINGERS' SPRING CONCERT

Fancy a walk in the woods or rebellion against the establishment? Well, you can experience this and more at the

10 The Dubber

Belvedere Singers' spring concert at 7.30pm on 16 May at St Mary's Church, Swanage. Flowers, trees and birds also feature in music by Saint-Saëns (Les Fleurs et Les Arbres) and Stanford (The Bluebird). Saint-Saëns, with the exception of a handful of very well-known works, is perhaps a rather neglected composer in this country, and his lesser-known Ave Maria, composed in 1914, is a subtle and beautiful work not to be missed. Solos by Amy Jerman and Martha Harwood, both Purbeck Youth Music Ambassadors, and our endlessly talented choir accompanist Angus Murray-Brown, will round off an excellent evening of music proving that we all still possess the 'Rhythm of Life'!

This spring, the retiring collection is for Forest Holme Hospice.

Clive Watkiss

CORFE CASTLE SURGERY & PATIENT PARTICIPATION GROUP

At our recent PPG meeting we were delighted to hear that the exercise classes organised by the PPG and held at Corfe Village hall on Thursday mornings are going well with new 'classmates' joining but there are a few vacancies so if you are a patient of Corfe Surgery and would like to come along to a free taster session between 10.30 - 11.30 please come to the village hall where Sally will be pleased to welcome you. The camaraderie and the exercise are highlights of the sessions.

During the month of May PPG members will be in the surgery, at variable times, to meet patients to talk about the role of the PPG and to complete a survey form. They will be easily recognisable so please do have a quick chat if you have the time and would like to do so - no pressure - but it will be helpful to know if the surgery is meeting your health access needs particularly if you are of work age.

With so many world-wide challenges at present it makes us even more appreciative of the service we receive as patients from the Corfe Surgery. The surgery is getting busier with increasing pressures so please let us help the surgery team as best we can so that they can help us. We are indeed fortunate to have an excellent Reception and Dispensary team who do their best for us often at challenging times for both patient and staff members.

We are seeking a new PPG representative from Studland Tony Higgins having retired from his role. Please contact us if you would like to join us. Info: corfecastleppg@gmail.com or through the surgery. Thank you, Tony for your past support.

Maggie, PPG Chair

WHERE AM I ANSWER

These are in the field adjacent to gully and are water calming measures put in by the National Trust.

Chris Meadows

Langton Matravers Scout & Guide HQ

Are you looking for a hall to hire?

Do you need somewhere to run a weekly club?

Langton Scout & Guide HQ is available to book for mornings/afternoons/evenings/whole days and weekends.

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

CORFE CASTLE COMMUNITY LAND TRUST

We are delighted to advise that Corfe Castle Community Land Trust (CCCLT) has been working with the Corfe Castle Charity (land owner) and Aster Group (registered provider) to bring forward a piece of land off Tabbitt's Hill Lane, Harmans Cross, for affordable rented homes for those with local connection. This land sits within the Corfe Castle Parish boundary.

As this land is adjacent to Worth Matravers Parish Council and on the edge of Harmans Cross we are keen to involve both Corfe Castle and Worth Matravers Parish Councils in the development of this project.

Aster, in collaboration with CCCLT, are preparing to submit a planning application for the site later in the year and will engage with both Corfe Castle and Harmans Cross villages to discuss plans when they are drawn up.

OUR COMMITMENT TO THE COMMUNITY:

- CCCLT and Aster are keen that this project is community-led with a strong focus on meeting the needs of the community.
- Our commitment to the Community:
- We will communicate with you at all key times in the project so you are made aware of what is happening and why
- We will engage with you so your views are heard and understood
- We will build a shared understanding of the benefits and endeavour to deliver those benefits with and to the community.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED:

In the short term there are 4 key ways of getting involved in this project:

- CCCLT will be convening a Community Reference Group particularly for those who might need to return or be helped to stay in the community through access to affordable homes. Dates for these group meetings will be advertised on local Facebook pages
- CCCLT will be attending the Worth Matravers Annual Parish Council meeting at Harman's Cross Village Hall on 28 April, so do pop in and chat with us
- CCCLT will also be attending the Corfe Castle Parish Council meeting on 11 May (public session) so do come along and contribute to the discussion
- In June, Dorset Council will collect views via a Housing Needs Survey. This aims to find out whether the community supports the idea of more affordable housing and also to find out the scale of housing need.

If you wish to ask any further questions or contribute to the conversation please do get in touch via the CLT email: corfecastlecommunitylandtrust@gmail.com. *Sue Loseby*

WORTH CHARITY FETE

BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY 25 MAY 10AM - 2.30PM

Our ever popular Fête will be held in the village on Bank Holiday Monday, 25 May 10am to 2.30pm to raise much-needed funds for the next phase of our Village Hall refurbishment programme.

It promises to be a fun filled day for the whole family, including games on the Village Green and Stalls offering a fabulous array of plants, eco-friendly gifts, cakes, arts & crafts, refreshments, barbecue, traditional and non-alcohol-

ic Pimms, locally grown watercress and much more.

We are still welcoming donations of:

- Bric-a-Brac, Books, Toys and Pre-loved Clothes – Peter or Debbie Handy (01929) 439013 - peterhandy1952@outlook.com
- Raffle prizes - Liz Hoad 01929 439380
- Tombola prizes – Adults' and/or Childrens' - Jane Griffiths – 07779 637143 - griffiths.sjane@gmail.com
- Plants - Yvonne Spencer - 01929 439946
- Cakes & Produce - Angela Wenham - ang.wenham@googlemail.com - 07779 519399

If you'd like to join in with the Fête team on the day on one of the Stalls or on one of the Games, or be part of the Setting Up or Packing Down team before and after the Fete, all great ways to get involved and have some fun with others from the village, please contact events@worthmatraversvillagehall.org or davidainscough@btinternet.com

Whatever you decide to do, we look forward to hearing from you and to seeing you on the day. *Jack Ross*

WORTH FILM CLUB

Our next screening, on Thursday, 21 May, will be *The President's Cake*, a tender portrait of fear and resilience from director Hasan Hadi.

Set in 1990s Iraq, it tells the story of a young girl tasked with baking a birthday cake in honour of Saddam Hussein despite crippling US sanctions and the near-total absence of even the most basic ingredients.

At a time when authoritarian impulses are raging globally, the film asks us to examine closely and uncomfortably how unbridled power really works: by outsourcing its cruelty to ordinary people, by turning survival into compliance, and by making celebration compulsory while resources run dry.

Winner of the Directors' Fortnight Audience Award and the Caméra d'Or at Cannes, it's a darkly comic work that's not be missed.

Wine will be served from 7pm and the film will begin at 7.30pm. To avoid disappointment at the door, book early online at www.worthmatraversvillagehall.org

Tickets are £5.

Claude Bonfanti

WORTH MATRAVERS PARISH COUNCIL

APRIL MEETING

As spring arrives across the parish, the April meeting of Worth Matravers Parish Council brought together a lively mix of community planning, practical improvements, and forward-looking ideas. From preparations for the much-loved Worth Matravers Village Fete to new measures aimed at improving road safety, protecting local spaces, and strengthening village facilities, the parish Council continues to focus on the things that matter most to residents. With several new initiatives underway and opportunities for community involvement ahead, this month's update highlights how local decisions are helping shape the future of Worth Matravers and Harmans Cross.

Village Fete – May 2026: Preparations are underway for the Worth Matravers Village Fete, which will take place on 25 May 2026. The Parish Council agreed: the Village Green may be used for the event; Car park donations (including JustPark income) on the day will go directly to the fete charity and requested additional signage be installed to support visitors and clarify arrangements

LANGTON MATRAVERS PARISH COUNCIL

APRIL MEETING

Langton Matravers Parish Council discussed a range of local matters, including planning applications, finance, parish projects, and community initiatives.

The Council received its regular reports, including updates from the National Trust and Dorset Council's Ward Member, helping to keep councillors informed about wider issues affecting the parish and surrounding area.

PLANNING AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENTS

Councillors considered a number of planning-related matters. Of particular note was an application for a new agricultural dwelling at a farm, located just outside the parish boundary. Members acknowledged the importance of supporting rural and agricultural businesses, whilst also noting the need for appropriate planning conditions to ensure such developments remain tied to agricultural use in perpetuity.

A proposal for temporary bell tents on land west of Valley Road was noted for information, alongside a tree works application in Acton relating to a hazel tree affecting a dry stone wall. Members were satisfied that the application had been appropriately assessed.

FINANCE AND YEAR-END POSITION

The Council reviewed its financial position as the 2025/26 financial year draws to a close.

Year-end processes are now underway, including preparation for the annual audit. Councillors approved payments, noted income received, and reviewed regular financial monitoring reports.

ALLOTMENTS

Members considered a report following a Wessex Water inspection of the parish allotments. Only a small number of compliance measures were required, including lagging pipes to the water troughs and the installation of a tap.

An update was also received on ongoing allotment fencing works, which continue to progress despite recent wet weather.

HIGHWAYS, SAFETY AND ONGOING PROJECTS

A number of ongoing issues and projects were discussed. Members noted continued concerns regarding construction traffic and road safety, and agreed that evidence should be collated and shared with relevant authorities where appropriate. A collision between a bus and a lorry exiting the site was also noted.

Further work is planned in relation to the Speed Indicator Device (SID), including the potential to enable access to data.

Updates from BT Openreach will be reported to a future meeting as more information becomes available.

COMMUNITY MATTERS

The Council considered recent correspondence, including a query from a resident regarding changes to the post box on the High Street. As Langton Matravers lies within a conservation area, the Council has raised this with Royal Mail due to the lack of consultation and is awaiting a response.

DORSET COUNCIL

The consultation regarding ward boundaries was discussed, and the potential changes to local areas were noted. As the deadline is in June, it was agreed to defer this item to allow further review of the consultation documents.

A draft letter to Dorset Council's Chief Executive was

Dorset Councillor Update: Cllr Wilson provided updates on several local matters:

- Hill Bottom road repairs are being progressed, although no timescale has yet been confirmed
- Clarification on coach permits: coaches may drop off in Worth Matravers but must not wait in the village
- Plans for a pedestrian crossing at Harmans Cross are advancing, with final designs expected soon
- Investigation into reinstating double yellow lines in Worth Matravers is ongoing

Car Parks & Facilities: Harmans Cross Car Park height barrier was unfortunately damaged recently. The Parish Council are arranged for the height barrier to be re-instated, but there is a three week lead time for the wood. Hopefully though, by the time you read this, the barrier will be back in place! The Parish Council have now approved the CCTV in-situ in Harmans Cross to be recording 24 hours a day, noting only the Clerk as the Data controller will have access to the footage.

Fly tipping: Dorset Council is investigating recent fly-tipping in the Worth Matravers car park bins, supported by CCTV footage. Please remember public general waste bins are not for household rubbish and you can be fined for using them incorrectly.

Office & Equipment: Following the end of the existing broadband contract, the Council agreed to purchase a refurbished mobile phone, with a SIM-only contract for flexibility and cost savings. The new number will be advertised soon.

Duck Pond: Concerns were raised about increasing weed growth in the duck pond. Actions agreed included the formation of a volunteer working group to clear the pond, and to repositioned the duck house onto the pond to simplify care. The water quality situation will be monitored following the clean-up.

Haycrafts Lane Speed Concerns: The Parish Council approved a traffic speed survey at a cost of £295 + VAT to assess the case for a 20mph limit.

Planning Matters: Brier Patch, Harmans Cross (Tree Works) – Partial support, with a request for a crown reduction on one tree rather than full removal

Swanage Army Links Dawn Patrol: Thank you to the Dawn Patrol representative who singlehandedly collected two and a half large black bin bags of litter from the Valley Road through Harmans Cross in April.

Community Partnerships with Corfe Castle Community Land Trust: The Council met with representatives from the Corfe Castle Community Land Trust regarding a proposed development near the parish boundary. Agreements included; Appointing a Parish Council liaison representative, supporting promotion of the Dorset Council housing register; and encouraging residents to take part in the upcoming housing needs survey. Further engagement will take place at a residents' meeting in May.

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, 5 May 2026, at 7.30pm in the Harmans Cross Village Hall. Please come and join us and have your say.

Parish Council Contact Details on 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

also considered as part of ongoing dialogue between local councils and the unitary authority.

ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY

Preparations are well underway for the Annual Parish Assembly, which will take place on Thursday, 23 April. This provides an opportunity for residents to hear updates on local matters, meet representatives from local organisations, and raise any questions or issues of interest.

COMMUNITY EVENTS AND ENVIRONMENT

Councillors were pleased to note a number of upcoming local events, including activities organised through Planet Purbeck, focusing on environmental awareness, biodiversity, and sustainability. These include practical volunteering opportunities, water conservation sessions, and a flood defence tour in Swanage.

Residents may also be interested in a special event at the Etches Museum on 8 May celebrating Sir David Attenborough's 100th birthday.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be the Annual Council Meeting, to be held on Thursday, 14 May 2026 at Langton Matravers Village Hall, starting at 7pm.

Members of the public are warmly encouraged to attend. For enquiries, please contact the Parish Clerk (details p5).

Emma Evans, Parish Clerk

NEWS FROM NOWHERE

In May, as the days grow longer and memories of winter weather fade, buds are breaking getting bigger each day and giving shade which will be much needed as the sun grows stronger. Fresh leaves are unfurling and one has the simple joy of watching things come back to life after hiding for months from cold and wet. After the welcome April showers that we have had this year, there will be lots of seedlings germinating; sorting them out will keep us busy.

May, to me, means Chelsea Flower Show. It was too crowded when I went to see it, but it is presented wonderfully on TV and I get a lot of inspiration from the gardens shown and learn about the latest gardening ideas. One of my favourites is the Japanese garden as I spent six weeks in Kyoto in 1980 and enjoyed the peace that I felt in the gardens with their simple designs of pine, rocks, water and moss. This year there are many show gardens that support charities, and there is a lot about community gardens which I think is the future in towns as gardening together is a wonderful way to make new friends of all ages.

Of course, there is a lot to do in our own gardens in Spring. For a beautiful garden summer annuals can be planted out, and others sown for autumn show, also climbers like clematis and wisteria need to be tied in place, and the early flowering shrubs like winter honeysuckle and forsythia need pruning when they have finished flowering. Sadly, the early spring bedding like wallflowers are no longer a good show and will need to be tidied away and on a dry day you can cut unwanted seedlings just under the surface and leave them for a mulch that both feeds and protects the soil.

Feed the wild birds as recommended and do be careful to keep all watering and feeding places clean to prevent bird diseases. If possible, do avoid using chemicals for pest control, but you can decrease slug and snail damage by going out at night and collecting these pests from the affected plants. Other ecofriendly controls include putting a barrier of wool, egg shells or gravel round plants, and planting tender plants

with plants that slugs and snails avoid like lavender, geraniums or ferns. I mostly use ducks for slug and snail control.

I am glad to see that although there are few honey bees around, we seem to have many bumble bees, especially the big Buff-tailed bumbles. Please encourage them by planting early flowering species like comfrey and crocuses and try to leave their underground nests undisturbed. A Dorset Wildlife article stated that a bumble bee may visit 5,000 flowers in one day which is great for pollination.

Many vegetables can be started this month: salad vegetables like lettuce, radish and rocket can be sown, and carrots can be thinned from earlier sowing or newly planted. A second sowing of the early peas like Early Onward, French Beans and Swiss Chard could be put in this month and Dwarf French beans and Runner Beans can also be sown now though they may be safer started in a greenhouse or cold frame, given fleece protection, or started inside. Some tender plants like tomatoes or courgettes could be carefully hardened off now, and do keep earthing up potatoes for a good harvest.

I hope that your garden gives you as much happiness as mine gives me. If you would like to visit my garden for a cuppa and chat then please do contact me. Email: rjehelfer@gmail.com. Telephone: 01929421681.

Rachel

HAVE YOUR SAY

DEAR DUBBER

Myself and my young family reside at Eventide in Harmans Cross, and only yesterday found out that planning has been approved by Dorset East for five dwellings in the field behind our home.

We were wondering if the community can help us halt this. The area is of great wildlife and ecological significance, we regularly see bats, nesting birds, deer families, slow worms etc....

The site itself is not large enough to accommodate the plans to inkeep with the character of Harmans Cross and indeed will not be community homes, they are large and imposing (as is our home but unfortunately we did not have a say on this as we moved in as it looks! It would not have been our choice of design) and it incorporates roads for dwelling vehicles. The Infrastructure is already stretched in our community and we are always losing our green space to out of town developers looking to place wealth over community values.

The planning number is ; P/FUL/2022/01798

At no point were we consulted or indeed had we seen any notices of proposed developments.

JODIE EDMUNDS

Ceilidh and Cake!

Sunday 10 May, 3 pm - 6 pm

at Harman's Cross Village Hall

with ceilidh band Maiden Oak and caller Malcolm Churchill

£5 entrance, children free

Bring cash for tea, cake and raffle

Doors open at 3.00, dancing starts at 3.30 pm

For tickets contact Lucinda Neall

lucindaneall@proton.me 01929-423965

Hosted by your local branch of the Labour Party

SUMMER Craft Fair

Saturday 16th May
10am – 2pm

Langton Matravers
Village Hall

*Local artists, crafters, makers & produce
free entry, refreshments & raffle*

Contact Nicky on 07754374620 for further information

BELVEDERE SINGERS

BELVEDERE SINGERS CHARITY NO. 1160197
Music Director Clive Watkiss

Spring Concert

Saturday
7.30

May 16th

St Mary's Church Swanage

with special guests -

Purbeck Youth Music
ambassadors
Amy Jerman and
Martha Harwood

Tickets £10
under 18's free
from choir members
or on the door

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FOREST HOLME HOSPICE
Charity No. 1038021

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John Waltham, The Living Tradition



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John Roffee, Maverick Magazine

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Tony Smith, Trad & Now Magazine (Australia)

"Everything that defines folk music and what makes it great... deserve to be as widely known as Woody Guthrie."

Barry Hammond, Penguin Eggs Magazine



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Saturday 30th May, 8pm

Tickets £12. Scan QR code or visit website for details
www.winterwilson.com/dates

www.winterwilson.com



May UPCOMING EVENTS

02
MAY

Stu Walker

TIME: 21.00

09
MAY

Aaron O'shea

TIME: 21.00

16
MAY

Elvis Tribute

TIME: 19.00
Dinner & Dance - £30pp

23
MAY

2Ward Duo

TIME: 21.00

30
MAY

Karaoke

TIME: 20.00

Swanage Con Club



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EVENTS

Saturday 9 May
Aba Shanti-I

Wednesday 13 May
Curry & Games Night

Saturday 18 July
**Richard Bertinet
Cooking Demo Day**

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May, 10-6pm. Corfe
Castle, Sandy Hill Ln,
BH20 5JF. PV, 26th
May 6-8 pm. Parking
available.**

**PAW Festival
Concert Programme 2026**

Sat 23rd May | 6pm | Lady St Mary, Wareham
WE'RE NOT DEAD YET: 40TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT
I FAGIOLINI

Sun 24th May | 6pm | Lady St Mary, Wareham
3IN1: A TRIADIC REFLECTION
PARNASSUS WITH ARTIST JÉRÉMIE QUEYRAS

Fri 29th May | 7pm | Sandy Hill, Corfe Castle
CHALK: SONGS FOR THE SOUTH WEST
GRACE NEWCOMBE, LIANE SADLER, COLIN HELLER

Sat 30th May | 2pm | United Reformed Church, Wareham
**A MUSICAL PORTRAIT OF COCO CHANEL
AND IGOR STRAVINSKY**
LIZZIE BALL (VIOLIN, VOCALS) AND
MILOŠ MILIVOJEVIĆ (ACCORDION)

Sat 30th May | 6pm | Lady St Mary, Wareham
FREEING THE MUSE FIERI CONSORT

Sat 30th May | 8.30pm | Lady St Mary, Wareham
SOFTTEST THUNDER TOBY CARR, LUTE

Sun 31st May | 3pm | St Peter's Church, Church Knowle
ALYSOUN: MEDIEVAL SONGS
GRACE NEWCOMBE AND ELIZABETH SOMMERS

Fri 5th June | 6pm | Mowlem Theatre, Swanage
THE WHISPERING DOME

Sat 6th June | 6pm | St James's Church, Kingston
WAFT HER, ANGELS, THROUGH THE SKIES
HANDEL ARIAS WITH GUY CUTTING

For more information and event ticket sales visit
www.purbeckartweeksfestival.co.uk

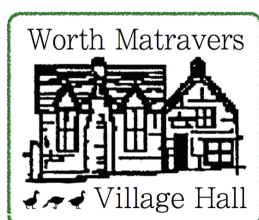


REGULAR EVENTS

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

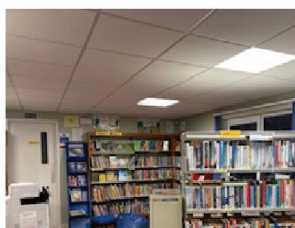
Corfe Castle Community Library

Free To Join

Volunteer led, Community Library, providing Corfe Castle with Library and Information Services. Supported by Dorset Council.

Opening Hours:

Monday 3.00pm-5.00pm
Wednesday 10.00am-12.00pm
and 3.00pm-5.00pm
Friday 3.00pm-5.00pm
Saturday 10.00am-12.00pm
(Closed on Public Holidays)



MAY 2026

5	9-12pm	Post Office	Putlake Cafe
5	7.30pm	WMPC Meeting	HXVH
7	10-11.30pm	Coffee Pot	St George's Ch
7	7.30pm	PFC: Amica & Roxanne	LMVH
9	10-Noon	Christian Aid Coffee Morning & Plant Sale	St George's Ch
10	3-6pm	Ceilidh and Cake	HXVH
12	9-12pm	Post Office	Putlake Cafe
12	6.30pm	Film: <i>Song Sung Blue</i>	HXVH
14	10.30-noon	Coffee Junction	HXVH
14	7pm	LMPC Meeting	LMVH
15	10-3.30pm	Wortkshop: Grief by the Castle	Sandy Hill Arts
16	9.30-Noon	Stalls in the Hall	HXVH
16	10-2pm	Summer Craft Fair	LMVH
16	7pm	Swanage Town Band	Methodist Ch
16	7.30pm	Belvedere Singers: Spring Concert	St Mary's Ch
19	9-12pm	Post Office	Putlake Cafe
21	10-11.30am	Community Coffee Morning	LMVH
21	6.30pm	Any Questions: Science & God	All Saints' Ch
21	7pm	WFC: Film <i>The President's Cake</i>	WMVH
21	7.30pm	Swanage Town Band Quiz Night	British Legion
23 May -7 June	Purbeck Art Weeks	Various art & music events (See p15 for concerts)	Various Venues
23-29	10-6pm	Susan Cox Art (26 May also 6-8pm)	Sandy Hill Arts
23	2.30pm	Swanage Town Band	Bandstand
23	10-6pm	Pilgrimage: The Exhibition	Emmanuel Ch
24	12.30-6pm	Pilgrimage: The Exhibition	Emmanuel Ch
25	10-2.30pm	Worth Fête	Worth Green
26	9-12pm	Post Office	Putlake Cafe
28	10.30-noon	Coffee Junction	HXVH
30	6pm	HXVH Summer Barn Dance	HXVH
30	8pm	PFC: Winter Wilson	LMVH



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