The Dubber

November 2026

Remembrance Services

Sunday, 8 November, 10.30am St George's Langton
Sunday, 8 November, 10.50am St Nicholas' Worth
Sunday, 8 November, 10.50am St James' Kingston



LEST WE FORGET



All Souls Services

Sun, 1 Nov, 6pm, St George's
Sun 1 Nov, 5pm, St Nicholas
Celtic Evening Prayer & All Souls

Ian Bugler

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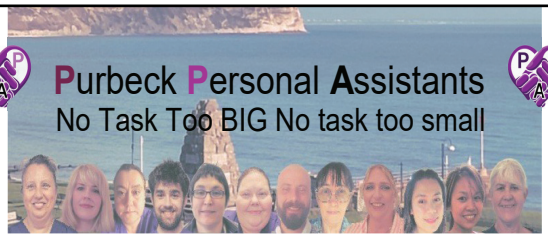
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From the Editor



This is another plea to regular contributors to try and keep your event adverts small. I am being bombarded by A4 posters which I just can't fit in. Also, please check that all photos/images have copyright permissions. Thanks.
Angela
ed@thedubber.co.uk



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IMPORTANT * PLEASE NOTE!

Deadlines are the second Thursday of the month unless otherwise stated

December issue deadline is Thursday, 12 November
January issue deadline is 10 December

Deadline for Next Issue
The editor, Angela Bell, appreciates the early submission of contributions but, for those cutting it fine, the deadline for the **December** issue is noon on **Thursday, 12 November** & it will hopefully be ready for collection circa **27 November** (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 distributer 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*** distributers 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.gov.uk
Phone: 07767 599670

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
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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
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Tues, Thurs & Frid mornings
8am (doors open at 7.50pm)

Tuesday evening prayer
space to listen & pray
5.00pm (doors open at 4.50pm)

Everyone welcome

November 2026



Hello from the Rectory

So how can it possibly be nearly November and by the time you read this it will be! We will have had our Harvest and 150 year celebrations and be looking towards All Souls and Remembrance services. Today as I look out across my garden the leaves are falling and berries are ripe on the branches providing sustenance for my many birds. The Squirrels have been exceptionally busy of late and have buried many conkers in my lawn!

It is a time of change as we look Autumn in the face and know we will need to embrace the colder winter months ahead. A time for remembering all that has been good and a time to reflect on the many memories we have of those who have so faithfully served us and our country over the decades. I look forward to welcoming you to share in our services across the parish when we can gather, remember and support each other knowing that God offers to hold each one of us in the palm of his hand through all the seasons of life.



With every blessing this Autumn,
Revd Lindy Jane

Pioneer Priest,
Benefice of St Aldhelm
Salisbury Diocese



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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How many more times am I going to have to ask you to sing with us?

This is your final chance! You don't have to be a 'church person'. You won't have to join the coffee rota, or clean the brass, or sign away your life savings. **We're recruiting singers, not saints!** No long-term commitment, no audition and no pressure to join the church! Sounds good?

For our **150th Anniversary Carol Service**, we're inviting anyone who is feeling brave and has some experience in singing, whether it be in the bathroom or the concert hall, to join us.

Can you sing in tune? **Excellent**. Are you a tenor or bass? **Even better** although sopranos, altos and "not sures" are **very welcome too**.

Just bring your voice and we'll worry about the notes!

Carol Service: Saturday 19th December, 6pm, St George's Church, LM

Rehearsals: Four preceding Fridays (from 27th Nov), 6–7.30pm, St George's School, LM

Come on … you know you want to. Drop me an email richard@staldhelm-purbeck.org and I'll send you more details.



SERVICE TIMES IN THE PARISHES

SUNDAY 1 NOVEMBER		
9.45am	Breakfast Church	Langton
10.30am	Holy Communion	Corfe
5pm	Celtic Evening Prayer + All Souls' Service	Worth
6pm	All Souls' Service	Langton
WEDNESDAY 4 NOVEMBER		
8.30am	Morning Prayer	Corfe
10am	Holy Communion	Langton
SUNDAY 8 NOVEMBER		
10.30am	Remembrance Service + Communion	Langton
10.30am	Remembrance Sunday	Corfe
10.50am	Remembrance	Worth Churchyard
10.50am	Remembrance	Kingston
11 am	Walking Church	TBC
3pm	Remembrance Service	Tyneham
WEDNESDAY 11 NOVEMBER		
8.30am	Morning Prayer	Corfe
10am	Holy Communion	Langton
SUNDAY 15 NOVEMBER		
9.45am	Morning Worship	Langton
10am	Celtic Eucharist	Worth
10.30am	Holy Communion	Corfe
6pm	Evening Prayer	HX
WEDNESDAY 18 NOVEMBER		
8.30am	Morning Prayer	Corfe
10am	Holy Communion	Langton
SUNDAY 22 NOVEMBER		
9.45am	Holy Communion	Langton
10am	Celtic Morning Prayer	Worth
10.30am	Morning Worship	Corfe
11am	Walking Church	TBC
11.30am	Holy Communion	Kingston
WEDNESDAY 25 NOVEMBER		
8.30am	Morning Prayer	Corfe
10am	Holy Communion	Langton
SUNDAY 29 NOVEMBER		
10.30am	Benefice Service	Church Knowle
6pm	Darkness to Light	Kingston

The Coffee Pot



Meet for real coffee & cake
on the first Thursday of each month
St George's Church
10-11.30am
Thursday, 5 November & 3 December
Good company & chat. All welcome!

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

There are just a few weeks to go before Christmas: no doubt, it will be a busy time for most of us. We will certainly be busy at the end of November putting on our tenth Christmas tree festival,

If you can spare the time please do come along, view the display of decorated trees relax over a cup of coffee and maybe a piece of homemade cake.

A full programme of entertainment provided by local performers can be found on our website (www.staldhelmxmastreefestival.wordpress.com) or facebook page (www.facebook.com/groups/staldhelmchristmastreefestival/).

The Mayday singers will be performing their one and only Christmas Concert at the festival at 4pm on the Saturday, Kelp will be performing for the first time at the festival 2pm on the Sunday followed by Miro Treharne returning to sing in the church for the first time in many years.

We still have a few places available for anyone wanting to decorate a tree, either for themselves or to promote an organisation, application forms are also available on our website.

The festival runs from 28 -30 November, 10am - 5pm at St George's Church, Langton Matravers there is no admission charge. For more information phone 01929 424431, or email staldhelmxmastreefest@gmail.com.

Colin & Sandy Garner

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

Thanks to all who made cakes, provided raffle prizes and came along to support our Macmillan Coffee Morning on Thursday, 1 October. It was a lovely morning, with lots of friends catching up over coffee and cake!

We manage to raise £240 for this wonderful charity, so thank you for all your support.

Nicky Glassock, St Aldhelm Parish Administrator

PURBECK YOUTH MUSIC NEWS

The Purbeck Youth Trad Folk Collective has had a summer of exciting performances.

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

The last of the events was the Swanage Folk Festival in September when the full complement of the Trad Folk group joined with Voicewaves singers to perform on the main stage.

Music directors Matt Tarling and Rebecca Field Bunney urged the enthusiastic audience to join in some of the more energetic songs which created a joyful noise in the main marquee. Dancing was also encouraged! This collaboration is to continue with the development of the Funk Folk Fusion project going forward. Purbeck Youth Music is grateful to the Swanage Folk Festival for their support of the Trad Folk Collective and also for the ongoing work with Voicewaves to develop the Funk Folk Fusion project. This group grows from strength to strength as it expands and gather new members. We'll keep you posted! *Dilys Thomas*

CORFE CASTLE PPG

"**What a lovely surprise to be given a flu jab** and offered cake and coffee!" said a grateful patient.

At the beginning of October, the Corfe Surgery team, supported by PPG members, provided 460 flu vaccinations - a record number of attendances for the hard-working team who coped admirably with a steady flow of patients for the whole session. Team work at its best for this very well organised morning. Thanks to you all.

The flu-jab morning which becomes a "social gathering" for many, also benefited from a Macmillan coffee morning organised by Dilys Thomas raising an amazing £435.65 for this excellent cause.(twice as much as last year).

For those who missed the session, appointments can be made through the surgery and Dr Lepper may be leading another Saturday session later in the month (but no coffee and cake this time).

I have now become a member of the PPG led Exercise group which meets on Thursday mornings at Corfe Village Hall at the new time of 10-11.The benefits of this chair based exercise class, in a friendly group led by Vanessa Neish, are valuable and recommended. If you are interested please contact Sally on 01929 439052 to book a place. Session cost is £8 with some concessions available for Corfe residents.

The Surgery is still losing a lot of clinical time due to patients not attending booked appointments. Please cancel any unwanted appointments so that they can be offered to other patients.

Our recently extended PPG group will be meeting later this month to discuss any issues, ideas that have been raised during our PPG survey - we will feedback in this column.

Maggie Hardy, PPG Chair

HARMONY ROCKS CHOIR

All Saints Church, Ulwell Road, Swanage is the new venue for our 'Singing for Christmas' concert this year. There will be a warm Christmassy atmosphere awaiting you on 5 December for our concert starting at 2pm. We have a very seasonal programme of traditional and festive songs for you to enjoy and, yes, your favourite part is still included!

In support of our chosen charity PurbeckParkys a Christmas themed raffle gives you the chance of a prize to enhance your festive celebrations. And to follow the concert, those light refreshments that get more delicious each year.

Tickets are £5 on sale from 4 November from Swanage News, Station Road, Swanage or Sue Smith 01929 477148 or Anne Elford 01929 288325. *Anne Elford*

NATIONAL TRUST

SAFETY MEASURES AT QUARRIES

A comprehensive geological survey of the quarries in South Purbeck revealed several areas that were at high risk of rock falls, including Winspit and East Man. We have been working with partners to devise a plan that provides wider access, while demarcating the highest risk areas. Planning has included consultation with ecologists to mitigate any risk to the important bat roosting sites. The British Mountaineering Council has also been involved in consultations about climbing routes.

Over the next month, the signage at Winspit will change to allow people into the main quarry area, while stone and chain barriers will close off sections which have been identified as potentially hazardous.

Although these areas have been identified as being the most unstable sections on this coast, cliffs should always be considered potentially dangerous. Rocks can fall anywhere, at any time, without notice.

NEW INSIGHTS INTO WINSPIT'S BATS

Many of you were interested in the bat poles that were erected at Winspit in 2024, holding detectors which recorded the main bat species in the caves. It has taken some time to analyse the recordings – the detectors generated almost 4Tb of data!

Cricket calls and other species were removed from the dataset leaving almost 150,000 files of bat recordings. Analysis was done with specialist software and expertise from the RSPB. We are now summarising the findings, but the headlines are:

- The most recordings were from the common pipistrelle.
- There was a high proportion of barbastelle bats, a woodland specialist species which is drawn to Winspit in the autumn swarming season.

Amongst the rarest bat to be recorded was the grey long-eared, along with a number of greater horseshoes, our largest bat species. Overall, 15 of the UK's 17 native breeding bat species of bat have now been recorded at Winspit. The findings add weight to Winspit being one of the most important bat swarming sites in the country due to the number and variety of bats.

LETTING IN LIGHT

In October, our rangers began coppicing work in Langton West Wood with the help of volunteers. Coppicing is a traditional woodland management technique where trees are cut down close to ground level. New shoots grow quickly from the stump.

Coppicing benefits the woodland by creating a diverse age structure. It also opens up areas of the woodland floor, creating open, sunlit areas where wildflowers can thrive. This attracts insects, birds and mammals. The cut material will be used to create a dead hedge to protect the regrowth from deer browsing.

The rangers have also been working with pupils at St George's School, teaching them about the benefits of wood pasture habitats, and carrying out seed harvesting. Email: purbeck@nationaltrust.org.uk. *Cathy Lewis, National Trust*

SWANAGE MEDICAL PRACTICE PPG

PURBECK INTEGRATED NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM

Everyone is invited to the Purbeck Integrated Neighbourhood Team's next Annual Update, which will be held on Thursday, 19 November 2026, from 2- 4pm, at The D'Urberville Centre, Collier's Lane, Wool, BH20 6DL. This is your opportunity to hear what's been happening over the last year, to ask questions - and to get involved! No booking is needed. Tea and coffee will be provided.

PPG MEETINGS

The PPG will next be meeting at the Surgery on Tuesday, 10 November 2026 at 12.30pm. You can find out more about the PPG on the Practice website – just click on the PPG tab on the homepage. If you are interested in joining the PPG, please contact Natasha Ritchie, the Practice Manager, or email the PPG directly at: ppgswanage@gmail.com. We would be particularly pleased to hear from anyone who would be interested in taking on the role of Secretary for the PPG. *Dr Margaret Guy, Chair*

LOST IN RIDDLELAND

The Children of St George's School are in full swing preparing for the Christmas School Play on 12 December in the Langton Matravers Village Hall. The out of School Drama Group commenced at the beginning of September. The Cast is set the Characters are formed. The Children are practising their lines. The Village Hall Craft Group are volunteering their services for costumes. There is a frenzy on Riddlebug wings, the RiddleMaster costume and the Yeti outfit already underway due to some very generous fabric and coat donations. Please if you have any suitable bright fabric for costume making please can you bring to the Village Hall either on a Monday or Thursday afternoon between 2-5 pm when the Art or Craft Group are in full swing.

The Children are doing some artwork for the poster, advertising and tickets and these should be on sale in November and December. Watch out for some colourful presentations in The Dubber and on the Village Hall & School Website and Facebook pages.

Make a diary note now for 12 December for either Matinee or evening performance. More details soon.

Louise Counsell

PURBECK FOLK CLUB

On the eve of Swanage Blues Festival, local musicians - Malcolm Lageu (guitar and harmonica), Owen Tuckett (guitar), Buzz Burrell (guitar and cajon), Tony Gilmore (guitar) and Jigger (bodhran) - gave us a really enjoyable evening of folky blues/bluesy folk and a lot of laughter. Their musical talent and irrepressible humour kept us all relaxed and entertained and, despite the threat of chaos, both sets were delivered without major mishap! A different, and very special, evening.

We are back to the usual format for our next gig on Thursday, 5 November, when we will be competing with any local fireworks with some musical sparklers of our own. Greg Harper, accompanied by Nigel Ratcliffe on keyboard, will open up the evening, followed by a long overdue return of Milton Hide, a delightful wife and husband duo who sing gorgeous harmonies and play multiple instruments.

The club is open to all and meets at Langton Matravers Village Hall. Doors open at 7.30pm for an 8pm start. We usually finish about 10.30pm. Admission is just £8 (cash only) on the door or by ticket bought on line (see poster for link). Collete and Richard's pop-up cafe will be selling tea, coffee and delicious home-made cakes. Glasses are provided for those who wish to being their own drinks. Do brave the cold - you can be assured of a warm welcome and an evening of great live music. *Bod Harris*

VILLAGE CAROL PARTY 2026

Come and join us in the weeks before Christmas to informally join in singing The Worth and other local Carols and Songs. No experience necessary, just come along to enjoy singing great songs – words/accompaniment/music provided.

We're planning two initial 'get togethers' the first at Langton Matravers Village Hall at 2.30 pm on Saturday afternoon 7 November, followed by another session at the URC Church Hall in Swanage 2.30pm on Sunday 22 November.

We want these events to be informal, social and convivial occasions. We don't wish to 'perform' these old Carols, but

enjoy singing and hearing them in the Communities where they belong.

Words & Music plus Recordings (CDs) are available for those who are not familiar with the material. Just ask Robin

All abilities are welcome, especially those who say (think) they can't sing but are just interested. Feel free to drop into any of our Sessions and give it a go. tTo register an interest or more information please contact Robin 01929 427037 / plowmanswanage@gmail.com. *Robin Plowman*

LM LOCAL HISTORY & PRESERVATION SOCIETY

www.langtonmatraversmuseum.org

Calling all people of Langton and Acton! Does your home have a story to tell? As part of our work on reviewing our documentary archive, we're gathering stories about homes in the parish where interesting people lived, or things happened, or finding documents which show, perhaps, when or how a particular house was built or changed. We've found letters, centuries-old shopping lists, tales of marital misbehaviour and fraternal fall-outs, legal documents and even a carer's bill for an elderly parishioner from 1894. These all help to tell us more about the past life of our village. You could help us to expand this knowledge and understanding by sending any information about the past history of your home, its residents and their lives. The 20th Century is as important as earlier times. Go to our website (above) and contribute your history through our contact form, giving your home's address at the start. To do this, click on the 'About Us' drop-down menu and go to 'Contact Us'. We are hoping to develop an interactive map of the village which can include images of some of the documents which tell these stories, and also, following David Olusoga's lead on the television, are preparing a talk on 'Cottages Through Time' (working title) to bring some of these stories to a wider public. Watch this space!

The Museum closed its doors for the Winter at the end of September: we've had lots of interest and positive feedback, with more groups of walkers etc. Many thanks to all our wonderful custodians who make this possible, welcoming visitors throughout the season. Could you join the team next year, or perhaps help with chairs, teas etc. at one of our talks? For further details, make contact via the website as above.

The first of our Winter series of talks was 'History in the Purbeck Landscape', by Brian Margetson. Louise Haywood follows on Thursday 19 November with 'Corfe - then and now'. Ben Buxton will talk on 'Secrets of Sandford and Holton Heath' on 21 January 2027. Further dates for 2027 will follow in future newsletters. We hope that Mary Sparks' new booklet, 'Mapping the Manors' will be available to purchase at these talks, as will the full range of other booklets. The latest edition of *The Stone Quarries of Langton Matravers* by Reg Saville, with new additional material, will shortly be going to print: watch out for this.

Autumn is the time to renew your membership, or think about joining us! We are always pleased to welcome new members. Annual Membership is £10 for individuals or £15 for family/joint membership. For just £100 you can become a member for life.

Subs are payable by BACS (Langton Matravers LH & PS, Account number: 69042977 Sort code: 55-61-19) or in person at the talks (Contactless or Cash). An application form is available online, or you can join at one of the talks.

Daryle Pearson & Mary Sparks, LMLHPS

LANGTON MATRAVERS PARISH COUNCIL

OCTOBER MEETING

Langton Matravers Parish Council met on Thursday 8 October. The meeting covered a range of local matters, including St George's School and Preschool, allotment fencing, planning applications, highways and infrastructure. Six members of the public attended.

NATIONAL TRUST UPDATE

Tom could not come along to the meeting but provided a written update noting that coppicing work in Langton West Wood will be starting re-cutting trees previously cut in 2014. Coppicing benefits woodland by creating a diverse age structure and open areas of the woodland floor allowing space for woodland flora, nurturing multiple species of insect, birds, and mammals. The cut material will be used to create a dead-hedge to protect the regrowth from deer browsing. Tom also noted that Rangers have been working with St Georges pupils talking about the benefits of Wood-pasture habitats and carrying out a seed harvesting activity with the students.

DORSET COUNCILLOR REPORT

Ben provided a report in advance of the meeting and attended to highlight that September was "back to work" for DC with a focus on budgeting for the 2027/28 Financial Year. Residents are invited to try their own hand at balancing priorities and how they are funded using the DC Budget Simulator on the DC website https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/budget-simulator-2026 to see just how difficult some decisions are.

Ben also briefed the meeting on two aspects of planning:

A) The new national regulations mean matters will only be referred to the Eastern Area Planning Committee if it is a larger development (10+ dwellings) or listed buildings and the application raises an economic, social or environmental issue of significance to the local area – otherwise decisions sit with the officer. One LPMC member opined that the slow death of the EAPC would not be much mourned in Langton since all it ever seemed to do was rubber stamp DC officer views – even when it was pointed out that the Officers were demonstrably misleading the committee – the headline should be "performative planning politics perish" even if the new process removes a democratic layer.

B) The DLP Scoping Consultation which kicks off the next round of DLP planning (the last one was curtailed in July) with the target of a new local plan being in force in 2030. LMPC has prepared a draft response which focuses on the issue of new-build second homes and holiday lets (Question 9) and encourages residents to do the same as this is one of the few areas where the DLP can have a real impact and local residents' voices might be heard (perhaps we are "easy to deceive for we readily hope"). Deadline for responses is 26 October and the Link is here: https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/w/dorset-council-local-plan-consultation. LMPC agreed to meet to review and submit the PC's response as well as co-ordinate with neighbouring PCs.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Comments focused on several items most of which are covered elsewhere in this report but one which was not, relates to the decayed pavement on the northern side of the High Street. A resident made the point to DC that the situation was of such duration, and the "Temporary Pavement" sign had been up for so many years, that it had faded badly. DC sprang into action and replaced the sign.

There were several comments on the busing arrangements for school children which seem to involve organised school transport from Swanage to the Purbeck School, only public transport from Langton to and from the same destination, as well as only public transport for children travelling from Wareham to Swanage. There was an animated discussion on DC's guiding rationale here and Ben indicated that he was attempting to find a way forward within DC.

ST GEORGE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

After the September meeting's determination to re-engage with the Coastal Learning Partnership, the meeting was informed that there has been some contact and the PC is hopeful that a meeting with CLP can be arranged in the coming weeks. The objective is to see if or how the Parish Council and the community can play a useful role in securing the future of St. George's despite the challenges of falling pupil numbers which affect most primary schools nationally.

PLANNING AND LICENSING

Members considered two applications:

- (a) P/HOU/2026/04105 at 26 High Street, Langton Matravers BH19 3HB, being a full refurbishment (No Objection) and P/HOU/2026/05029 at The Knap in Acton BH19 3JS, being the conversion of existing single storey garage to living accommodation and modifications to the house (No Objection)

BADGERS BOUNCE BACK!

The September meeting heard from members of the public that the pestiferous varmints preying on the bounty of hardworking allotment holders had not been deterred by the badger proof fencing (badgers can't read!). The Clerk has investigated more effective alternatives including a solar powered ultrasonic badger deterrent which it was feared may have the unintended drawback of scaring away every other animal in the vicinity as well as some humans (not a good look in the National Landscape). The clerk was deputed to seek other alternatives while the near-term focus remains on making the fencing, um, well badger-proof.

The solution clearly lies in an AI-power drone swarm deterrent maintained in flight over the allotments continually – the Purbeck Dome or perhaps Stone Dome! This was thought to exceed the financial resources of the PC so residents keenly await reports on the clerk's efforts to dig-up some non-traditional critter counter-measures.

HIGHWAYS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Members – and members of the public - discussed the B3069 and Acton-to-Worth road closures which started 8 October and will progress in stages through the rest of the month. This will impact the 40 bus service. More Bus has noted "The contractor working on the road between Kingston and Langton Matravers has refused to alter their working plans as agreed with Dorset Council. Therefore from 8.30am on the 8/10/26 to 3.30pm each week-day until 30 October [note weekends excepted] there will be NO 40 bus along this road."

Members noted that there would be some overlap with the the Garfield Lane and OMH road closures due to proposed ENS works to provision electricity to the OMH (Phase 1) site. The works are currently scheduled to take place between Monday 26 October and Friday 13 November 2026, in three consecutive phases: (26–30 October) – High Street: Excavation and cable installation within the public highway; (2–6 November) – Garfield Lane: Excavation and cable installation along Garfield Lane, including installation of the cable into the existing electricity substation; (9–13 November) – Old Malthouse Lane: Completion of the remaining cable installation works within Old Malthouse Lane. Should anyone have concerns, the contact details for the operations director are here: Aaron Lee Mobile: 07875373838 Email: aaron@energynetworkservices.co.uk

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Thursday, 12 November at Langton Matravers Village Hall, commencing at 7pm.

Residents are warmly encouraged to attend- companion pets welcome – but please no badgers! ***Peter Golob, LMPC***

WORTH MATRAVERS

CHURCHYARD CLEAR-UP

On Saturday, 7 November from 10am-Noon there will be a clear up at St Nicholas Church, Worth.

Autumn has come and although we always leave plenty of wild corners in the churchyard for winter shelter for animals, there is still tidying up to do. It's just a case of balancing things, so that we can continue to avoid using weed-killers, and keep the churchyard looking cared for and well-loved, but full of richness and interest.

Do join us, there are jobs for all abilities, from easy weeding to clearing the long meadow area. Things to remember... Strong shoes/wellies, gardening gloves, any tools you think might be useful. No need to stay for the whole session.

Bring a mug for coffee/tea and biscuits at half time! Contact: 07493 199665. ***Kathy Hollidge***

SUSTAINABLE WORTH AGM AND SOCIAL

This is on Thursday, 12 November at 7pm in Worth Village Hall. We know an AGM isn't always a number one draw, but this will mainly be a social occasion to celebrate everything we have achieved this year and to find out your ideas about how we can develop. There'll be a paying bar and some nibbles.

We're also holding a Seed Swap. Just bring any seeds you have spare, flowers or veg, in a labelled envelope and see what interesting plants you might pick up. Contact: 07493 199665. ***Kathy Hollidge, Chair of Sustainable Worth***

WORTH FILM CLUB

Our Film Club's next screening will be *No Other Choice* on Wednesday, 18 November, the latest film of Korean director Park Chan Wook. Man Su is a long term employee of a pulp manufacturer, he enjoys a picture perfect life in the country with a wife and two children who he adores. No choice is the line given to the workers by the new owner of the paper factory when mass layoffs are announced. There is, you see, no alternative.

Man Su is devastated, he is fanatically desperate to get a new job within the three months before his severance pay runs out. Unfortunately, he must compete with several other candidates who might be more attractive, so he decides to kill the others… but his bursts of ingenuity are often waylaid by bumbling ineptitude. The film is a black comedy, a social satire, a domestic drama and a moral nightmare. It is original, savage and funny.

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***

WORTH MATRAVERS PARISH COUNCIL

OCTOBER MEETING

Worth Matravers Parish Council has discussed a range of local issues, including proposed car park charges, the Community Land Trust development in Harmans Cross, community transport and next year's budget. The latest meeting also saw councillors reject proposals for food and drink vans at the village car park and review plans to address local parking concerns.

Community Land Trust: The housing proposals being discussed by the Community Land Trust (CLT) in Harmans Cross remains a sensitive local issue. Worth Matravers Parish Council wishes to clarify that, as no planning application has yet been submitted to Dorset Council, it has no formal position on the proposed development. Until plans are submitted, the details and potential impact of the development are not known, and it would be inappropriate for the Parish Council to support or oppose a proposal that has not yet been formally presented.

The Parish Council is happy to listen to residents' views and concerns. However, residents are encouraged to contact Dorset Council directly when a planning application is submitted, as Dorset Council is the local planning authority responsible for assessing the application and making the final decision.

The Parish Council currently attends CLT Board meetings as an invited liaison. This role does not give the Parish Council any authority over, or influence on, the CLT's policies or procedures. Nevertheless, the Parish Council will seek to ensure that, when the time comes, opportunities for public consultation on design aspects are pursued and that the Harmans Cross community is involved as fully as possible, given the proposed location of the development.

The Parish Council remains committed to listening to residents and ensuring that their views are appropriately represented where it can do so.

Coffee van and pizza van: Councillors decided not to permit a commercial coffee van or pizza van to operate from Worth Matravers car park, after considering a request from two operators.

The council said it was concerned that allowing one commercial van could set a precedent for similar requests. It also wished to support existing local businesses providing food and refreshments within the village.

Community transport project: Worth Matravers Parish Council has agreed to join other Southeast Purbeck town and parish councils in investigating local community transport needs. The proposal was discussed at a meeting of council chairs and clerks, with Swanage Town Council, Langton Matravers Parish Council, Studland Parish Council and Corfe Castle Parish Council all expressing initial interest in working together. Each council will now consider the proposed partnership through its own decision-making process.

Budget and reserves reviewed: Councillors considered the proposed budget for 2027–28 and agreed to adopt the budget as presented, with a reported 4% increase from forecast yearend figures for 2026–27. Forecast expenditure for 2027–28 was set at £62,278.92.

The council agreed to retain its existing earmarked reserves and rebuild its general reserve gradually, rather than making more substantial changes to its current arrangements.

Councillors acknowledged that, should car park income unexpectedly cease, the council would have sufficient overall reserves to continue meeting its normal running costs for a period. However, there would be limited capacity for discretionary projects or major repairs until income resumed or alternative funding was secured.

Local consultations: Councillors reviewed both the Dorset Council's Local Plan scoping consultation and the Dorset Council Ward Boundary Consultation. The parish Council agreed to submit a response to the ward boundary consultation.

Next Council Meeting: Our meetings are usually held on the first Tuesday of each month, alternating between Worth Matravers Village Hall and Harmans Cross Village Hall when possible. The next meeting will be Tuesday, 3 November, 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*

HARMANS CROSS VILLAGE HALL

COFFEE JUNCTION

Our next Coffee Junction mornings are Thursday, 12 and 26 November.

Everyone is welcome to come along for a relaxed and informal get-together over coffee or tea. Whether you'd like a chat, fancy a game of cards, want to bring along your favourite board game, or simply enjoy some company, Coffee Junction is open to all.

After many years of helping to make Coffee Junction such a welcoming part of village life, the lovely Pat Wright will be retiring from her role at the end of this year.

We would like to thank Pat for all her time, kindness and dedication, and we're now looking for someone who might be interested in taking over the role and helping to keep Coffee Junction going.

Coffee Junction is fully funded by the church, so we're simply looking for someone who would enjoy helping to organise these friendly mornings and bringing people together.

If you think this might be something you'd enjoy, or would like to find out a little more about what's involved, please get in touch.

We'd love to see Coffee Junction continue to be a place where everyone feels welcome!

HXVH CHURCH

Our next gatherings are Sunday, 15 and 20 December at 6pm – a very friendly, informal and happy service for anyone and everyone.

FRIDAY 6 NOVEMBER – THE CHURCHFITTERS

Almost sold out – don't miss out!

Following their completely sold-out Christmas Cracker at the hall in 2025, we are delighted to welcome The Churchfitters back to Harmans Cross!

This wonderfully unique folk trio combine everything from fiddle, flute and banjo to musical saw, saxophone and even a bass guitar made from a frying pan!

Expect fantastic musicianship, beautiful harmonies, humour and a high-energy evening of live music.

Doors and bar open at 7pm. Tickets are £17.50. With tickets almost sold out, we strongly recommend booking as soon as possible to avoid disappointment!

SATURDAY, 14 NOVEMBER – HXVH'S FIRST QUIZ NIGHT

Get your thinking caps ready!

Harmans Cross Village Hall is hosting its very first Quiz Night on Saturday, 14 November, and we're looking forward to a fantastic evening of friendly competition, laughter and a little healthy rivalry!

Gather your friends, family or neighbours and put your general knowledge to the test, with a fantastic £100 cash prize for the winning team!

Teams can have up to six people, and individuals are also welcome to join in on the night.

Doors open at 6.30pm, with the quiz starting at 7pm. Entry is just £5 per person.

There will also be a bar available throughout the evening, along with a raffle featuring some great prizes. All proceeds will go towards supporting Harmans Cross Village Hall.

We hope you'll join us for what promises to be a fun-filled evening while helping to raise funds for our lovely village hall!

SATURDAY 28 NOVEMBER – STALLS AT THE HALL

All stallholder tables are now fully booked!

Our popular Stalls at the Hall returns for a special pre-Christmas morning on Saturday 28 November, from 9.30am to noon.

With every stallholder table now booked, we're looking forward to a wonderful selection of local stalls offering homemade crafts, gifts, produce, jewellery, cards, bric-a-brac and much more.

It's the perfect opportunity to pick up some early Christmas presents, support local sellers and enjoy a lovely morning in the village.

Hot drinks and delicious cakes will also be available from the kitchen.

Entry is completely free, and everyone is welcome!

We look forward to seeing you there.

For more information about our upcoming events or to book tickets, please visit: www.harmanscrosshall.co.uk/Special-Events/

For any enquiries, please contact Bethani Rawlings: bethanirawlings.hxvh@gmail.com or 07384 848419.

HXVH Committee

KINGSTON

FOOD FESTIVAL THANKYOU

The villagers of Kingston would like to say an enormous thank you to everyone who came along and supported the inaugural Kingston Food Festival.

Not only for your financial support, but for the many kind words and messages of encouragement we received throughout the day.

Quite simply, it was successful beyond our wildest dreams.

We are still counting the final numbers, but we believe getting on for 1,000 people joined us during the afternoon, together with a considerable number of dogs and, of course, a few well-coiffured sheep!

What began as an idea for a village event grew into a wonderful showcase for just how much food, produce, talent and enthusiasm we have here in Purbeck. The stalls brought together some well-known local names alongside smaller producers and individuals who surprised many visitors with what is being grown, made and marketed on our doorstep. Outside was the fire pit, where venison and lamb were slowly cooked over the flames and served alongside salads. The demonstrations proved popular. The Salt Pig generously gave a great deal of their time, first demonstrating how to prepare and cook local venison and later preparing and cooking fish. Sacha Dorey, The Truffle Huntress, and her dogs gave a live demonstration of truffle hunting, while The Aloe Bar followed their demonstration by promptly selling all of their stock…orders still being taken!

At the end of the day, some of the rather exhausted volunteers collapsed around a few tables at The Scott Arms, raised a glass and started talking about Kingston Food Festival 2027. If you are a Purbeck food producer, grower or maker and would like to register interest in Kingston Food Festival 2027, please contact us at kingstonfoodfest2027@btinternet.com

Thank you to everyone who came, whether by bus, car or on foot. You turned up in numbers we could never have imagined, and enjoyed live music, food, drink and, most importantly, a village full of people. Now we have to do it all again!

John Beauchamp

HAVE YOUR SAY

Dear Dubber

There is clearly a desire *for lower-cost housing in Purbeck. However, surveys are only the start of assessing need, and not everyone hoping for affordable or social housing would qualify for it. Surveys are also susceptible to multiple and self-selecting responses that can distort the statistics. The true size of the need is therefore uncertain, but Dorset Council's housing register is arguably a reliable guide.*

Whatever the need, housing should be built where there is both a need and infrastructure to support it.

In 2021, Corfe Castle Community Land Trust Ltd. (CCCLT) and Aster Group made a planning application for affordable housing in Corfe Castle. A trustee of the Corfe Castle Charity wrote at the time, "We support the application because we want to ensure local people can stay in the village to send their children to school here and work in local businesses. This will keep the village vibrant. We do not want the village to become a ghost village of second homes and holiday lets." This application matched local needs and objectives with local infrastructure, but was withdrawn before a planning decision. The landowner is still willing to revisit this proposal, but CCCLT has so far rejected the option.

By contrast, CCCLT has a new proposal in Tabbits Hill Lane, just outside Harmans Cross, for up to 25 houses for social rent. This is not close to the bulk of the need (Corfe Castle is over two miles away) and there is no infrastructure to warrant a 15% increase in the size of a small rural village to accommodate it. Nor would this site fulfil most of the objectives for Corfe Castle quoted above. The only justification for the location seems to be the fortuitous ownership of the land by Corfe Castle Charity.

The green-field site is also within the Dorset National Landscape. It is a privilege to live there and we have a duty to look after it for residents and visitors alike. The Corfe Valley between Swanage and Corfe Castle is already under pressure from developments, and a sizeable housing estate next to Harmans Cross would only add to it. Housing close to Swanage,

Wareham or Corfe Castle, where most of the need lies, would be much less damaging and more sustainable.

Sue Hine, spokesperson for Harmans Cross Residents, said, "Good planning means the right development in the right place, and CCCLT's new proposal is not. We call on CCCLT and the Corfe Castle Charity to reconsider the aims and consequences of their plans and to find a sustainable solution to Corfe Castle's needs." ***Harmans Cross Residents***

Dear Dubber

Purbeck is a beautiful place *to live and both Corfe Castle and Harmans Cross have many facilities to make them desirable. Unfortunately, the population is aging and the housing stock is becoming very expensive. Both of these problems are largely caused by us, the 'incomers' of whom very few are of working age. This results in a shortage of people to service the facilities and trades that we need (surgery, carers and school especially).*

The Corfe Castle Charities have 31 properties, houses and flats, which are run as affordable housing for people with connections to the area. These are vetted by the Charity and are provided to people who live in, or have family connections to the Parish. I have been fortunate enough to live in Corfe Castle since 2000 and am not aware of any problems that have been caused by the tenants.

The proposed CLT housing project at Tabbits Hill will also be for locally connected people (Corfe Castle and Worth Matravers Parishes).

I feel that we, who have contributed very little to the upkeep of the area that we enjoy so much, should at least do what we can to enable the families of those who have maintained it over generations, to remain in the area. Without affordable housing I fear we will lose families who are deeply connected to Purbeck who add so much value by their presence in the area. With Tabbits Hill Lane being the only viable option available at the moment, I encourage the community to get behind this much needed project. ***Tessa Somerville***

NEWS FROM NOWHERE

THE RAMBLING GARDENER

We used to think of November as cold, wet and windy, but with the wonderful Indian summer that we are experiencing as I write, I wonder what we will get this year. Cold or warm, windy or still? There is just no reason to expect anything so let's see what happens, enjoy the good weather, and be happy to spend the poor days inside the house relaxing. You could be reading and watching amazing programmes like the David Attenborough Blue Planet. Did you know that 90% of fish are rarely seen as they live in the "twilight" zone; there is so much more to learn about our world.

One book I've been reading lately is Knitson book club choice of Rav Patel's Stuffed and Starved about the terrible management of food production and distribution in the world. Two big messages are that we should eat local food, and that we should spend more time to really enjoy cooking and eating it. People wanting to eat ready prepared quick meals is a big part of the problems of supply and demand. So our gardening is important.

In the vegetable patch (especially after this Indian summer that has kept the warmth in the soil through early autumn), or in grow bags on the window sill if you have no garden, there are still plants to sow. For winter greens you can grow perpetual spinach, hardy lettuces, land cress, Pak Choi and mustards. And for early spring meals you can still put in hardy onion and garlic, spring onions, some hardy peas, carrots and broad beans. If you already have your autumn broad beans growing, and improving the soil for another crop next spring, they may need to be transplanted to 9 inches apart and staked for support.

In the flower garden do check that you have staked the tall autumn flowering plants and prune the spring flowering plants; but leave the autumn flowering plant pruning to next spring. Keep dead-heading, and I hope that you are able to still enjoy some beautiful flowers like dahlias, if we've not had frost, and some roses in any garden that you see.

Other garden jobs? Have you collected, dried and stored seeds from annuals like the Calendula? Perennials, like Crocosmia, hardy geraniums, and phlox, if they survived the drought, could be divided or propagated to get lots of plants for next year and some of them, like Pelargoniums and Arum Lilies may need to be stored somewhere fairly frost free. The soil, and plants in it, will benefit from the protection of wool, leaf mould or pebbles.

We need to get more water into the subsoil to prepare for another possible drought next year, and it is bad for the sea to have soil put in it from runoff, so do take a garden fork and make holes to get the water deeper into the soil. Furthermore, more rain water butts for storage, and a big pile of leaf mould collected now can be used next year to keep our gardens growing.

Have a lovely month, perhaps thinking about family and Christmas plans. If you would like to visit, or would like any advice, please do contact me rjehelfer@gmail.com, or telephone 01929 421681. ***Rachel***













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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

Community Coffee Morning

Thurs 19th November
10am – 11.30am
Langton Village Hall
All Welcome!





NOVEMBER 2026

3	7.30pm	WMPC Meeting	HXVH
5	10-11.30pm	Coffee Pot	St George's Ch
5	7.30pm	Purbeck Folk Club	LMVH
6	7pm	The Churchfitters	HXVH
7	10-Noon	Churchyard Clear Up	St Nicholas' Ch
7	2.30pm	Village Carol Party Meet	LMVH
12	10.30-noon	Coffee Junction	HXVH
12	7pm	LMPC Meeting	LMVH
12	7pm	Sustainable Worth AGM	WMVH
14	10-2pm	Christmas Craft Fair	LMVH
14	6.30pm	HX Quiz Night	HXVH
16	7-9.30pm	Wreath Making Work-shop	LMVH
17	2.30-5pm	Wreath Making Work-shop	LMVH
18	7pm	WFC: *No Other Choice*	WMVH
19	10-11.30am	Community Coffee Morning	LMVH
19	2-4pm	Purbeck Integrated Neighbourhood Meeting	D'Urberville Centre, Wool
19	7pm	LMLHPS Talk: 'Corfe then and Now'	LMVH
22	2.30pm	Village Carol Party Meet	URC Hall
26	10.30-noon	Coffee Junction	HXVH
28	9.30-Noon	Stalls in the Hall	HXVH
28-30	10-5pm	St Aldhelm Christmas Tree Festival	St George's Ch
28-6 Dec	11-4	Purbeck Artists & Stall-holders	WMVH

DECEMBER 2026

3-5	10-6pm	Purbeck Xmas Tree Festival	Emmanuel Ch
5	2pm	Singing for Christmas: Harmony Rocks	All Saints Ch



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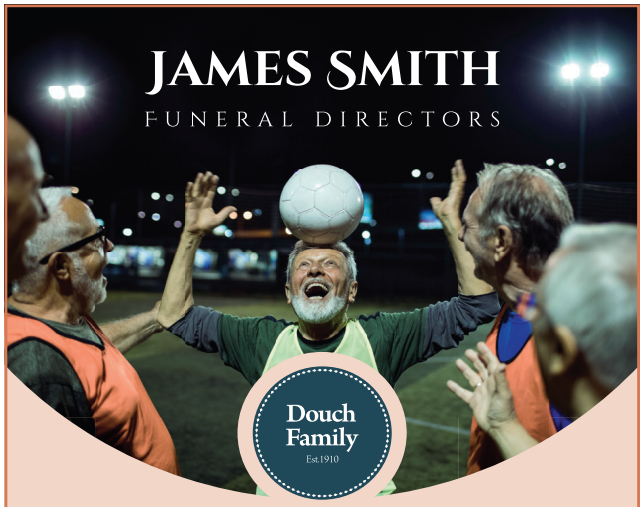
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