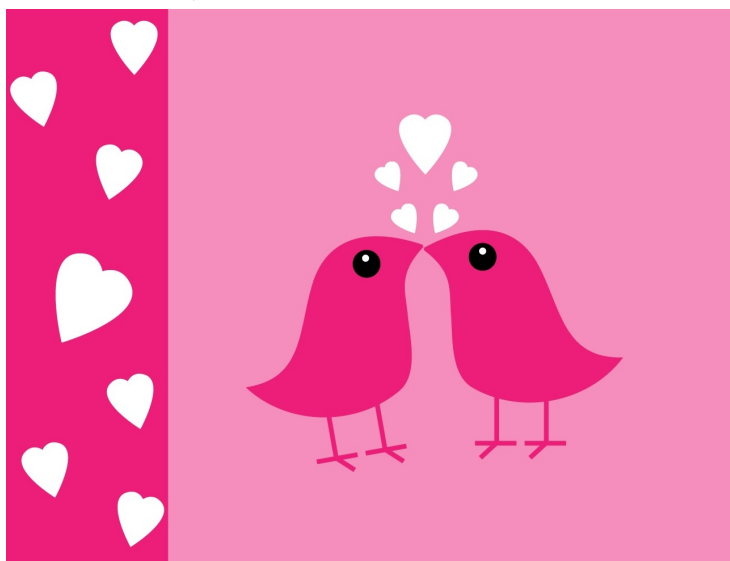




THE BRIDGE

THE MAGAZINE FOR THE COMMUNITIES OF
STURMINSTER MARSHALL,
SHAPWICK, PAMPHILL & COWGROVE



February 2026

You can now read The Bridge in colour
online:

www.bridgemagazinedorset.com

www.redpostbenefice.com

and

www.mackrellcharity.org.uk

or scan the QR code



**The Bridge Magazine is sponsored by
The Red Lion, Sturminster Marshall**

THE BRIDGE MAGAZINE

Bridge Publications is the committee which produces the Bridge Magazine for the communities of Sturminster Marshall, Shapwick, Pamphill and Cowgrove. It is financially independent of these communities: its revenue comes from advertising fees and fundraising activities. Our Chairman is Barry Johnson, our Editor is Sally Plowright and our Advertising Manager is Liz York.

Articles

Contributions are welcome from all sectors of the community served by the parishes. Please email your article, which should be prepared on **A5** size pages, in MS Word (.doc or .docx), or it can be a .jpg file or .pdf file, to bridgemagazinedorset@gmail.com

You will receive a reply. If you do not receive a reply, please make enquiries.

If you have no email then please print your copy and send it to 7 Parkelea, Sturminster Marshall BH21 4DG, FAO: Editor of The Bridge Magazine.

The submission deadline for the next issue is the 15th of the month

Advertisements

Our advertising fees are as shown on page 3. If you would like to place a commercial advertisement then please submit it by email to bridgeadvertising@outlook.com

Please do not send any advertisements directly to the Editor.

If you need help with producing your advert you may contact Liz by post at 7 Parkelea, Sturminster Marshall, BH21 4DG (marking the envelope Bridge Advertising) or by phone at **01258 857528**. We will then be in touch. Please call **01258 857528** if you do not get an acknowledgement, and ask for Liz. This is the number for all advertising enquiries.

The submission deadline for adverts for the next issue is the 12th of the month

Inserts: Your loose leaf inserts or flyers can also be inserted in The Bridge for £20.

Please provide 300 copies of your leaflet, in banded bundles of 25, folded to A5 size if larger, to tbc, between the **27th and 28th** of the month.

If you follow up any advertisement could you please mention that you saw it in The Bridge.

The Bridge is printed by CMP UK, www.cmp-uk.com, tel. 01202 739993

From the Chair - Bridge Publications

The Bridge Magazine is entirely funded by advertising and generous donations from our sponsors. We are particularly grateful to our main sponsor, the excellent Red Lion pub, who support many other activities in Sturminster Marshall and are truly the centre of our community.

If you run a small business in the village why not consider advertising with us, which could not only bring you customers, but also demonstrate your support for the community. If you enjoy reading The Bridge and would like to support us with a monthly or one-off donation, the amount would be up to you, our bank details are below. In order that we can keep a record we would be grateful if you could send an email confirming your action to ebarryjohnson@aol.com

Bank Details: Bridge Publications – Sort Code 209696 - Account 00026530

Barry Johnson

.....

The Bridge Magazine – Collection Points

Sturminster Marshall:

Premier, Spar, The Red Lion, St. Mary's Church, Memorial Hall, Vines Close.

Shapwick:

St. Bartholomew's Church, The Anchor.

Pamphill and Cowgrove:

St. Stephen's Church, Pamphill Dairy.

.....

Bridge Magazine advertising fees

Duration	full page	1/2 page	1/4 page	1/8 page
12 months	£220	£120	£65	£35
6 months	£120	£65	£35	£30
3 months	£60	£30	£20	£15
1 month	£20	£15		

From The Church

My name is David. You'll be seeing me around the Red Post churches over the next few months. I've joined you for a short placement, serving alongside Jane as Curate to help me better understand rural ministry.

I am probably not the sort of person you would have expected to become a vicar. As a child, I was the noisy oik disrupting services — running around the pews, tripping people up, and even sneaking under the altar to light matches.



As a teenager, I gave my mum no end of grief for dragging me to church, making sure everyone noticed the scowl on my face as I played my Gameboy with my knees propped on the pew in front. By the time I was a young adult, I was a perfectly convinced atheist: a lost cause.

When my wife and I decided to get married, we chose a church as a beautiful venue that would keep our parents happy. Faith wasn't part of the plan. All this is to say, until the age of 26, I had given every churchgoer I'd ever met good reason to feel cynical about visitors.

What changed? To prepare for our wedding, we took a marriage course with an older couple from the church. They were generous with their time, honest about their own lives, and quietly wise. On our wedding day, the vicar who married us spoke with a visible sense of joy and hope for our future. And at our reception in Morden Village Hall, all my mum's church friends turned up to serve the buffet and wash up mugs.

Standing at the top table and looking out at these people, something clicked. This is "grace". Simple, unearned, undeserved kindness that can't be repaid. In that moment, I realised I wanted this thing called grace to shape my own life. This is what led me to Jesus.

That's my story — but it's also a story about the people we're likely to meet in church every week. The noisy children who seem to be taking nothing in. The guests who come for a baptism and never return. The people with folded arms, scowls, or polite disinterest. If Jesus can make himself known in my life, I believe he can do it for anyone. Never underestimate the quiet power of a faithful welcome — you never know whose life God is changing through it.

Come and meet me between now and Easter! I'd love to hear your story too.

David

Revd David Reed
Assistant Curate



Peter Newman FLOORING LTD

Carpet & Flooring Specialists

- Hardwood & Laminate Flooring
- Carpet & Carpet Tiles
- Wood Sanding & Restoration
- Home selection service
- Free quotes and advice

Come and visit our showroom to see the ranges for yourself

11 Cabot Lane, **Poole**, Dorset, BH17 7BY

Open 9am-5pm Mon-Fri & 9am-1pm Sat

348 Ringwood Road, **Ferndown**, Dorset, BH22 9AT

Open 10.30am-4pm Mon-Fri & 9am-1pm Sat

Tel: 01202 672222 Web: www.pnfl.co.uk Email: info@pnfl.co.uk

St. Mary's Church, 100 Club Lottery

January Draw

Main draw

£50	57	David and Lindy Whitmarsh
£30	53	Heather Trenchard
£20	32	Maurice and Carol Kershaw

Congratulations to this month's winners.

And thank you to everyone who has bought NUMBER(S) for 2026. It's not too late to join — please contact one of the committee members below. NUMBERS cost just £2 per month.

Liz Jones: 49 Railway Drive, Sturminster Marshall. (01258 857076)

Karen Royles: Parkfield, Newton Road, Sturminster Marshall. (07761 867738)

Sonia Cade: Bailie View, 24 Dullar Lane, Sturminster Marshall (07717 614270)

Parkfield Cottage



1 Parkfield
Newton Road
Sturminster Marshall
Mike and Karen Royles
07887353118
01258 857804

Parkfield Cottage is a fully furnished self-catering, cosy holiday cottage on the edge of the village.

The cottage sleeps 2 adults and 2 children plus cot and benefits from central heating, a woodburning stove, TV and fully fitted kitchen including microwave.

Own secluded garden and patio plus off road parking.

Weekly rates, short breaks or just overnight deals available.

Open all year round. Call us for more details.

Tivoli Theatre

BOX OFFICE & ENQUIRIES 01202 885566 www.tivoliwimborne.co.uk

FEBRUARY FILMS

Please check all start times

9th - 12th	Nuremberg
14th	Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour 2026
16h - 18th	Fackham Hall

FEBRUARY SHOWS

1st	Geoff Norcott: Basic Bloke 2: There's No Bloke Without Fire
4th	Justin Hawkins Rides Again ...Again
5th	Simon & Garfunkel Through the Years
6th	Showaddywaddy in Concert
11th	The Irish House Party
13th	Luther UK: the ultimate Luther Vandross experience
19th - 21st	Von Ribbentrop's Watch Wimborne Drama Productions
24th	Simon Evans: Staring at the Sun
25th	Coleen Nolan: This Is Me
26th	The Wonder of Stevie
27th	From Gold To Rio
28th	Brave Rival 2026 Tour

This magazine accepts no responsibility for the products and services advertised.

All adverts are accepted and published in good faith.

Payments made by advertisers contribute to the cost of publishing this magazine.

THE RED LION INN



STURMINSTER MARSHALL

THE RED LION INN STURMINSTER MARSHALL

OPEN EVERY DAY!

LUNCH 12PM - 2.30PM & **DINNER** 6PM - 9PM
WITH A LIMITED MENU SERVED BETWEEN 2.30PM & 6PM



THE LANDLADY SARAH WELCOMES YOU TO
EAT, DRINK AND RELAX AT THE RED LION INN!
FAMILY & DOG FRIENDLY PUB IN THE HEART
OF STURMINSTER MARSHALL.

Quiz Nights • Live Sport • Bingo Nights • Live Music

01258 857319

INFO@REDLIONSTURMINSTERMARSHALL.CO.UK



MINSTER PROBUS CLUB OF WIMBORNE

Founded 1988

Our club comprises retired or semi-retired men who have held a position of responsibility during their professional life. We meet at the well-appointed Hamworthy Club in Canford Magna, near Wimborne, on the first Wednesday of the month. Before lunch, we are entertained by speakers, who cover a full and interesting range of subjects. In addition, our club holds social functions and arranges visits and other activities, involving wives and partners, throughout the year.

But above all, we are a friendly club with a great spirit and a warm welcome to new members. If you would like to learn more about us, please contact John Lewis on 01929 459357 or by email at dilyn76@hotmail.com



All About Chimneys Ltd

£50 per chimney on production of this advert.

"We are proud to support our local community"

- All chimneys and flues professionally Swept
- HETAS registered solid fuel installation specialists
- Institute of Chimneys Sweeps (ICS) Registered
- Bird nest removal
- Bird guards and cowls sourced and fitted
- Restoration and full maintenances of solid fuel appliances
- Fully insured and certificated

Call Paul on 01258 858334 or 07415449800

Email: paul@all-about-chimneys.co.uk

Visit: www.all-about-chimneys.co.uk





HETAS



ICS

REGISTERED MEMBER

www.allaboutchimneys.co.uk

www.mackrellcharity.org.uk



February Activities at The Old School

+++++

Discovery Café - Saturday 7th February at 2.30pm

"The Rise and Fall of Captain Jack"

A dramatic flight through the first half of the 20th-century

An illustrated talk by Adrian Holden

+++++

Film Society - Thursday 12th February at 7.30pm

By special request:

"Dr Zhivago" (1965), dir. David Lean

+++++

Mackrell Lecture - Saturday 14th February at 2.30pm

"Art in 19th-century Venice"

Poets, Painters and Private Lives

An illustrated talk by Douglas Skeggs

+++++

Bridge group continues on Thursday mornings at 10am

for more info contact Katy Norman on 01258 857081

or katy.norman1@btinternet.com

+++++

***See our website and separate posters in the Bridge
for details of all our activities.***

The Old School
'Discovery Cafe'
presents



The Rise and Fall of Captain Jack



an illustrated talk by Adrian Holden

Sturminster Marshall BH21 4BU

Saturday 7th February 2026

2.30pm £8 inc refreshments

Tickets on the door

www.mackrellcharity.org.uk



The
Old School Film Society
presents



Dir:
David Lean
1966

Thursday 12th February 7.30pm
sturminster marshall
BH21 4BU

'Mackrell Lectures'
presents



www.mackrellcharity.org.uk

Art in 19th Century Venice

Poets, Painters & Private Lives



an illustrated talk by Douglas Skeggs

at The Old School, Sturminster Marshall

Saturday 14th February 2026

2.30pm

Tickets on the door: £10

(Tea & Cake included)



The Mackrell Charity
Registered Charity No. 306275



Winter Warmer **Concert**

Sunday 1st February 2.30 pm
St Marys Sturminster Marshall



Free Admission: retiring collection
Tea and Cake



EXPRESS GASES

FREE DELIVERY ON ALL CALOR GAS CYLINDERS
TO BH POSTCODES.

ORDER ONLINE OR OVER THE PHONE FOR
DELIVERY OR 24/7 COLLECTION.

FUEL YOUR BBQ, CAMPERVAN, HOME HEATING
AND MORE WITH EXPRESS GASES.

WHY CHOOSE EXPRESS GASES?

- ✓ **CHEAPER THAN PETROL STATIONS**
- ✓ **LARGEST STOCKIST OF CALOR GAS IN DORSET**
- ✓ **SUPPLYING THE WHOLE OF DORSET**



CONTACT US

01202 017 297

WWW.EXPRESS-GASES.CO.UK



• OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK •

Pamphill Dairy is an idyllic spot nestled in the village of Pamphill, just outside of Wimborne Minster. Our family run business has flourished for many years and is a collective of the finest in local produce, farm shop, café, butchery and artisans, making it one of Dorset's best loved places to visit all year around.

Come and explore Pamphill Dairy today:

- FARM SHOP • BUTCHERY • PARLOUR CAFÉ • ARTISANS
- THE NEST
- MIRROR MIRROR HAIR DESIGN
- WIMBORNE PICTURE FRAMING
- ALLEN VALLEY MILK MACHINE
- HAPPY STITCHER
- RENÉE BESPOKE
- NURTURING BY NATURE
- SEASONAL PLANTS & FLOWERS

Also home to PAMPHILL DAIRY ICE CREAM

www.pamphilldairy.co.uk

Abbott Street, Pamphill, Wimborne, Dorset, BH21 4ED

01202 880618





LEAKSTREE CARE

ALL TYPES OF TREE WORK FULLY INSURED



All our tree care services are of a
High Standard and always
to your Satisfaction

Checkatrade.com
Where reputation matters

TEL: 07519 664197

EMAIL: leakstreecare@gmail.com

www.leakstreecare.com

Coffee and Cake in St Bartholomew's Church, Shapwick

On the 2nd Monday of every month,
10.00am till 12 noon



(DONATIONS ONLY)

See you on
Monday 9th February!

A warm welcome awaits you all!

MOBILE HAIRDRESSER

Reliable Professional

30+ Years' Experience

Daytime & Evening
appointments in the
comfort of your own
home

Telephone: Sarah
01258 451386

Hannah's Cleaning Services

Reliable house cleaning services.

DBS checked and fully Insured.

Please contact me for more
information: 07712 288880

PURBECKAERIALS.COM

SAME DAY
SERVICE

SKY
WIFI

OAP
DISCOUNT

TV AERIALS
SATELLITE
FREESAT

CALL 07568 456962
JOSH 01929 553705

WIFI HOME HELP

Scott's Private Hire

NEED A LIFT?



AIRPORT – DOCKS – VISITING FAMILY

DOCTORS – HOSPITAL – SHOPPING

NEAR OR FAR, FRIENDLY RELIABLE
COMPETITIVE SERVICE

CALL US FOR A QUOTATION. LADY DRIVER AVAILABLE.

Tel: **01258 858072** or **07886 825446**
scottsprivatehire@gmail.com

Licensed by East Dorset District Council

Thank You from the Social Lunch Club

Heather, Gladys and the team would like to extend heartfelt thanks to everyone who has joined us since the club's relaunch after the Covid pandemic.

It was so nice to see so many familiar faces gathered together at our Christmas meal. This event was especially meaningful, as it marked our final gathering for the time being. Although this chapter is ending for us now, we remain hopeful that a new team will come forward and carry on the Social Lunch Club tradition in 2026.

Thanks to your generosity, funds raised by the raffle have enabled us to make a donation to the Wimborne Food Bank.

The Court Henbury 150th Anniversary Award

To commemorate its 150 years association with Sturminster Marshall, Court 'Henbury', the local Foresters Friendly Society branch, is making a grant of **£250** each year in March to help a young person in their education, vocation or hobby.

To be eligible, you must be aged 11-19 on 1 March of the award year and either live in or have a connection with Sturminster Marshall, Shapwick, Pamphill, Wimborne or Corfe Mullen or be a Court Henbury member.

To apply, simply write a recital of no more than 500 words about the activity you wish to pursue and how the grant would help you towards your goal. You can send it by post to: **The Court Secretary, 7 Gladelands Way, Broadstone BH18 9JB** or by email to: **court5779@forestersfriendlysociety.co.uk**.

The closing date for applications for the next Award is 1 March 2025. The winner will be decided at the Court's March 2025 meeting.

Please note: the successful applicant may be asked to be photographed for publicity purposes.



Foresters
Friendly Society

For more information visit:
www.forestersfriendlysociety.co.uk
or scan the QR code



SCAN ME

Foresters Membership benefits are not regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority or the Prudential Regulation Authority and are reviewed regularly to ensure they are relevant to our members.
Foresters Friendly Society is the trading name of The Ancient Order of Foresters Friendly Society Limited which is an Incorporated Friendly Society (Registration No. 513P) and is authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority and the Prudential Regulation Authority (Registration No. 310029).

RETIRED SOLICITOR



**45+ YEARS EXPERIENCE
FIXED REASONABLE FEES**

**HOME VISITS
TO DISCUSS:
WILLS
POWERS OF ATTORNEY
PROBATE MATTERS**

FOR A **FREE** TELEPHONE
CONSULTATION CALL **JOHN EDGE**
01202-883293 or 07415-512148
or email **johnedge007@gmail.com**

**IF YOU DON'T NEED MY SERVICES YOU ALMOST
CERTAINLY KNOW SOMEBODY WHO DOES !**

WHY SHOULD I MAKE A LASTING POWER OF ATTORNEY ?

You should make provision in advance for the possibility of you becoming incapable of managing your own financial and welfare affairs during your lifetime.....this could be because of dementia or a stroke or an accident causing brain damage.

If you don't have Lasting Powers of Attorney in place the Court of Protection may appoint people to manage your affairs, but the procedure is **VERY COSTLY** and time-consuming. More importantly, you will have lost the right for you to choose who will have the responsibility for looking after your affairs at a time when it is vital that they are dealt efficiently & sympathetically; **and by somebody who knows you !**

Property and Financial Affairs LPA

These are designed for you to appoint attorneys to make a range of decisions including the buying and selling of your house and other assets, dealing with your tax affairs, operating bank and building society accounts and claiming benefits on your behalf. These can be used at your direction whilst you are still mentally capable and also by the Attorneys if you lack mental capacity to make these decisions.

Health & Welfare LPA

Attorneys appointed under this document can make decisions relating to your living accommodation and care, consenting to or refusing medical treatment on your behalf, and on day-to-day matters such as diet and dress. This LPA can only be used if you have lost the mental capacity to make decisions for yourself.

Fees

Because my overheads are much lower **MY FIXED FEES** are usually lower than those charged by local solicitors who usually charge on an hourly basis.....so you never know the cost until you get the bill !

Convenience

You do not have to make two or more visits to a local solicitor instead (at no extra charge) I can visit you and I am contactable by phone 9am-7pm...7 days a week !

Experience

In addition to being a retired local solicitor with over 45 years' experience I have appropriate professional indemnity insurance for LPA/Wills/Probate work with a cover of up to £1,000,000 per case.

Contact me now for a friendly "jargon free" - "no obligation" initial chat to discuss your requirements.

JOHN EDGE (Retired Solicitor)
Knoll Cottage Furzehill
Wimborne BH21 4HD
[H] 01202-883293 or [M] 07415-512148
Johnedge007@gmail.com



SPONSOR A CHAIR IN ST MARY'S

Major changes will be taking place in St Mary's, Sturminster Marshall over the next few months.

An arch will be created in the west wall to access the old shed and boiler room which will be renovated to create a fully accessible WC; a kitchen servery within oak units will be installed along the north wall and the pews in the north aisle will be removed. The church path will be resurfaced in fully accessible bound gravel.

Work started on 5th January so there may be some disruption and the church could be closed at times during the week. Please bear with us while the work is taking place. Fundraising activities will continue and all events will be advertised here in the Bridge magazine, on the website (redpostbenefice.com) and in the weekly Red Post newsletter. Do come and support them when you can.

The redundant pews are for sale and if you are interested in buying one, please contact Katy or Carol. These will be replaced by stackable chairs and tables making the church a more flexible and comfortable space enabling a wider variety of services and activities, as well as the creation of a community space.



If you would like to help us achieve this objective by making a donation of £168 (£140 +VAT) for each chair, we shall place a plaque on a chair in your name or in memory of a loved one. You are of course welcome to sponsor more than one chair.

Donation forms are available in church but if you would like more information, please speak to Katy (07815 610595) or Carol (07400 356901) or email us at nhaswell@stmarysprojectwelcome.org.uk

With every blessing,

The Reverend Jane Williams

English Usage: a personal view by Michael Evans

Word Games

Scrabble is one of the most popular word games, played in dozens of languages. I enjoy tackling one friend in the UK and two in France. I sometimes win in the French one, but not often. As in cricket, one game can last for days!

Playing Scrabble is not a good way to learn a language, as you do not need to know the meaning of all the words you create. To score well, you can use some words you have never heard of, such as qi, zo, ka.

I don't go in for Scrabble competitions, and I play the game only for fun. It has been said that it can appeal positively to something in our brains. I can't explain that, except to say that it's a pleasant way to keep in touch with distant friends.

Last month's anagrams

SORT A FEW - SOFTWARE
CLAIMED - MEDICAL

This month's anagrams

PIG REASON - Eastern city state (one word)
REDUNDANT SIGN - sympathetic awareness (one word)

Lys de Bray Blonstein

It is with great sorrow that we announce the passing of Lys de Bray FRHS, peacefully in her sleep on the last day of 2025. She was a world-renowned author of a dozen books and a gold medal RHS botanical artist. She was a regular contributor to this magazine.

Church Services in February

Sunday 1st: 4th Sunday of Epiphany

9.15pm Sung Eucharist with choir at St Mary's, Stur Marshall

Sunday 8th: 2nd Sunday before Lent

9.15am Sung Eucharist at St Mary's, Stur. Marshall

9.15am Holy Communion at St Stephen's, Kingston Lacy

Sunday 15th: Next Sunday before Lent

9.15am Holy Communion at St. Bartholomew's, Shapwick

9.15am Café Church at St. Mary's, Stur. Marshall

Wednesday 18th: ASH WEDNESDAY

9.00am Holy Communion at St Mary's, Stur. Marshall

Sunday 22nd: 1st Sunday of Lent

9.15am Family Service at St Stephen's, Kingston Lacy

9.15am Family Communion at St Mary's, Stur. Marshall

Weekday Services

Wednesdays at 9am: Holy Communion at St. Mary's, Stur. Marshall

Wednesdays at 11am: Midweek Communion, Wimborne Minster

All services and times are correct at date of going to press



**Coffee
Mornings
Tuesdays
9.30 – 11.00**





St Mary's, Sturminster Marshall

A Message of Thanks from Revd Bill French

Dear Friends

Many of you will know of the sudden death of my daughter, Becky, just before Christmas 2025 in a car collision.

The manner of her passing was deeply shocking to myself and her siblings so it is with much gratitude that I can say that your prayers, cards and messages gave us great comfort; also our heavenly Father has poured his love and grace upon us, giving to us his Peace for the now and much, much hope for the future.

With God's blessings to you all, and our heartfelt thanks.

Revd. Bill French

Thank You

Vicky Wood would like to thank all the people who knitted and stitched, and purchased items from my stall for my charity.

Donations amounted to £520.00, which I handed to Poole Hospital for the Ladybird Breast Care Unit before Christmas.

STITCH, KNIT & NATTER CLUB

STURMINSTER MARSHALL MEMORIAL HALL,
CHURCHILL CLOSE, BH21 4BQ

MONDAY 2-4PM

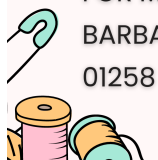
ALL AGES, CRAFTS AND ABILITIES WELCOME.
BRING YOUR OWN PROJECT TO WORK ON.

*WHERE PURLS MEET PALS AND
CHAT IS ALWAYS IN STITCHES!*

**STARTING SEPTEMBER 8TH
£10 PER MONTH**

TEA, COFFEE AND BISCUITS PROVIDED.

FOR MORE DETAILS CONTACT
BARBARA BEAVES
01258 858404



Bailie Cross Garage

MOT Testing Classes 4, 5 & 7

Servicing & Repairs

Bodywork & Welding

Electrical Diagnostics

Air Conditioning

Free Fit Exhausts

Free Courtesy Cars

By Appointment

Free Collection &
Delivery Service

Unit 18

Henbury Farm

Dorchester Road

Sturminster Marshall

Wimborne

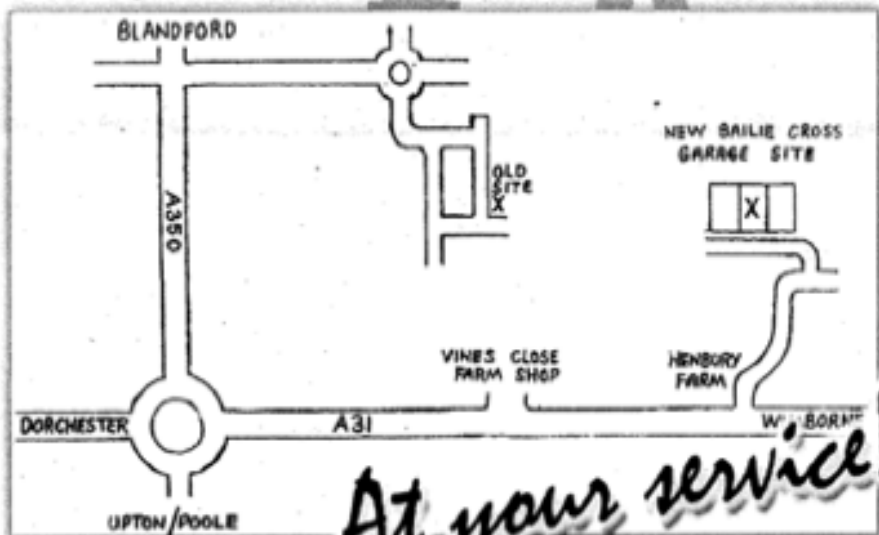
Dorset

BH21 3RN

Telephone 01258 857309

Fax 01258 857045

VAT No 837 0268 25



At your service!

STURMINSTER MARSHALL PARISH JOTTINGS

www.sturminstermarshall-pc.gov.uk

At the moment the weather is mixed, one day grey with heavy rain, then the next day frost and clear skies. We were lucky during the recent storm to only suffer rain and high winds and not the heavy snow they experienced up north.

The Annual Litter Pick will be on Saturday 28th March 2025 and we will meet as usual at the Memorial Hall at 2.00pm. Equipment will be provided along with refreshments afterwards. Sadly, the bird's nest swing was damaged over the holiday period. Thank you to the member of the public who reported it, so that it could be removed safely. We have ordered a replacement and hopefully it will be installed soon, we know it is a much loved and popular piece of equipment. Another item that has been removed is the WI Seat at the end of Millmoor by the bus stop. Unfortunately, this was found to be completely rotten, and we are currently investigating a replacement. The new EV Charge Point is operational in the Memorial Hall car park and has already been used several times. We applied for funding to place defibrillator at Jubilee Cross but unfortunately we were unsuccessful.

Following the consultation, the majority of residents support a 20mph Speed Limit in the village. As a result, we are moving ahead with the application, and the next step will be traffic speed surveys in the High Street, Kings Street and Station Road.

The Parish Council has approved the budget for 2026/27. The precept will increase by 8.55%, which equates to an additional £6.59 per year. (All figures based on an average Band D property). In case you are not familiar, the precept is the Parish Council's share of the Council Tax. It helps fund local services and projects, such as maintaining community facilities and supporting initiatives.

We currently have a vacancy for a Parish Councillor. If you'd like to help shape the future of our village, please get in touch with the Parish Council at parishclerk@sturminstermarshall-pc.gov.uk

Recent Plans:

P/HOU/2025/06662 170 Church Street Sturminster Marshall BH21 4BU

Proposed single and two storey extensions and reconstruction of garage.

P/VOC/2025/07321 97 High Street Sturminster Marshall BH21 4AT
Outline application P/OUT/2021/04873 for Access and Layout to 'demolish a pair of semi-detached bungalows and replace with 5 x 3 bedroom dwellinghouses' (with variation to condition 4 of planning permission P/OUT/2021/04873 (approved plans))

P/VOC/2025/07479 Location: 97 & 99, High Street, Sturminster Marshall
Variation of Condition 1 - to amend the existing plans to provide 2x four-bedroom detached houses with access

P/CLP/2025/07553 20 Henbury House Gardens, Sturminster Marshall BH21 3TZ
Alterations within the existing roof utilising the permitted development rights.

P/VOC/2026/00050 15 Churchill Close, Sturminster Marshall, BH21 4BQ
Demolish the garage, sever land and erect a bungalow with shared vehicular access and parking amended by P/NMA/2025/05549 (with variation of Condition 2 of Permission P/FUL/2024/01770 to amend the scheme to a 2no bedroom chalet bungalow and reposition the car parking)

P/FUL/2025/07597 Riverside House, Back Lane, Sturminster Marshall, BH21 4BP
Erect a detached house with garage and vehicular access.



Julia's House
Support & Welfare Children's Hospitals

My mum, always
gave the best hugs

Mum left a gift in her Will to Julia's House.
Now she's helping their nurses and carers to always be
there with special care and the best hugs.

Find out how to leave a gift in your Will at
juliashouse.org/always there 01202 644220
Registered Charity No. 1067126

always there



HEATHLAND
HOUSE
CINNAMON LUXURY CARE

TAKE A
PERSONALISED
TOUR
BOOK TODAY

OPENING PROMOTION **PRICES FIXED UNTIL APRIL 2024**

LUXURY CARE HOME NOW OPEN

Heathland House Care Home in Ferndown is now open, bringing first-class care and superb facilities for older people to the local community.

Call the team today on 01202 139 693 or email heathland.enquiries@cinnamoncc.com for more information or to book your personal tour.

At Heathland House, people will always come first

 @heathlandhouse

RESIDENTIAL CARE | DEMENTIA CARE | RESPITE CARE

Luxury Care Home in Ferndown
Heathland House Care Home, 405 Wimborne Road East, Ferndown, Dorset BH22 9LZ
www.cinnamoncc.com/heathland

For details of Murrington Court, New Milton and our other homes in Hampshire visit www.cinnamoncc.com/hampshire



A February Quiz

(answers on p.33)

1. What star sign are you if you were born in early February?
2. February gets its name from the word 'februa', which comes from which language?
3. Valentine's Day is celebrated on which date in February?
4. The February Revolution was the first of two revolutions which took place in Russia in which year?
5. What happened in Britain on the 15th of February, 1971?
6. Februalia was the Roman festival of what ritual?
7. On 16th February, 1659, what was used for the first time in Britain as Mr Nicholas Vanacker settles a debt?
8. In leap years, February starts on the same day of the week as which other month?
9. Which violet variety of quartz, often used in jewellery, is the traditional birthstone for February?
10. In the DC Comics, on which date in February is Superman's birthday?
11. In which resort city on the Black Sea was the Crimea Conference held in February, 1945?
12. On the 12 February, 1554, who was beheaded at the tower of London?
13. Which country's leader once said, "I have two generals who will not fail me: Generals January and February"?
14. In the poem called 'The Months' by Sara Coleridge, if 'hot july brings cooling shower' what does February bring?
15. True or false. It is possible to have Easter in late February?



VINES

FARM SHOP & COUNTRY STORE

A local friendly shop, to suit all needs

Fresh Produce and Groceries

Horse, Dog, Cat, Bird, Poultry & Livestock Feed

Country & Equine Clothing

Gifts & Homeware

Plants, Garden Supplies & Compost

Refill Station

Locally produced products

Very competitive prices

Horse Feed Ambassador available to give advice

01258 857278

Also on site:

Dorset Farm Butchers — 01258 857547

Vines Kitchen — 01258 858095

Both open 7 days a week

Dorchester Road (A31), Henbury, near Sturminster Marshall, BH21 3RW

STURMINSTER MARSHALL SHORT MAT BOWLS AND SOCIAL CLUB



TRY YOUR HAND AT INDOOR BOWLS



We are currently looking for new members, no experience necessary. We pride ourselves as being a very sociable, friendly and non-League Club; our aim is to have fun and enjoy our game.

The Club plays on the following days:-

Monday afternoons 2.00pm – 5.00pm,

Thursday evenings 6.15pm – 9.15pm,

All sessions are held in the Sturminster Marshall Memorial Hall.

It is a great sport for all ages and we would welcome some younger players, so do come along. The club owns several sets of bowls and these can be lent to players who do not have their own, but they must remain on the premises. Completely flat shoes must be worn on the mats.

We are a mixed club and we do not compete in leagues, so the emphasis is on pleasure and not pressure. We do join other local clubs for just friendly matches.

INTERESTED? – come along, your first three sessions will be free, so give it a try.

For information telephone:- John on 01202 690718 or Jean on 01258 857308.

St Mary's Christmas Tree Festival

The whole weekend raised a total of almost £1,120. £530 of this has now been donated to the various charities. The Market Stall accounted for the rest. A wonderful effort! Very many thanks go to all who were involved.



Answers: A February Quiz (p.4)

1. Aquarius 2. Latin 3. 14th February 4. 1917 5. Decimalisation
6. Purification 7. A cheque 8. August 9. Amethyst 10. 29th February
11. Yalta 12. Lady Jane Grey 13. Russia's (Tsar Nicholas I) 14. The rain
15. False (22nd March is the earliest Easter can occur)

**NEW LIFE CHURCH
STURMINSTER MARSHALL**

Charismatic Church

**Join us on Sundays at 10.30am
In the Memorial Hall**

All welcome

www.nlbc.me for more info

HIRE

**PAMPHILL PARISH HALL
FOR YOUR EVENT**

Contact: David Wright

pamphillparishhall@gmail.com



**Dorset's most qualified
carpet cleaning specialist**

**Call Andrew on
07940 461380**

- ✓ carpets and rugs
- ✓ sofas and curtains
- ✓ stone and tile floors

**Accredited and
fully insured**



www.dorsetcarpetcare.co.uk

**Marshalls On The Green Restaurant
at Sturminster Marshall Golf Club**

New Ownership in Place.

We are open for Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner.

Come and enjoy our freshly prepared, home cooked meals.

Members & non-members - All are welcome plus well behaved dogs.

Rachelle and Kozy look forward to seeing you soon.

Opening Hours:

Monday - Closed

Tuesday - 8.30 to 3pm

Wednesday to Saturday 8:30am to 3pm & 5pm to 8pm

Sunday 8:30 to 4pm

**Sturminster Marshall Golf Club,
Moor Lane, Sturminster Marshall. BH21 4BD
Tel: 01258 858444**



**THE WILD WHISK
CREATIVE CATERING**



EST. 2004

COMPTON SMITH INTERIORS

- Interior decorating consultancy.
 - Bespoke curtains, blinds and upholstery.
 - Suppliers of well-known specialist paints.
 - Extensive fabric & wallpaper library.
- Farrow & Ball, Edward Bulmer, Little Greene, Pierre Frey, Colefax & Fowler, Fermoie, Lewis and Wood, Sanderson Design Group and many more designers.



Mondays to Thursdays: 08.30 - 17.30

Fridays: 08.30 - 17.00

Saturdays: 09.30 - 13.00

Tel: +44 (0)1747 850150

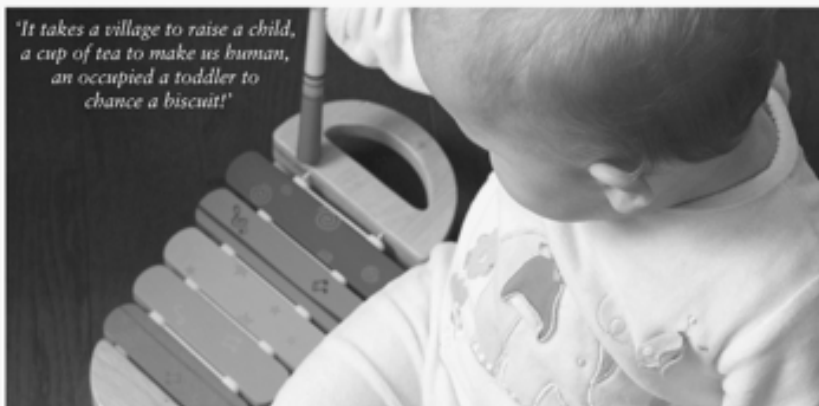
info@comptonsmith.co.uk

10d Wincombe Business Park, Shaftesbury, Dorset, SP7 9QJ

WWW.COMPTONSMITH.CO.UK

Tea ☕ And 👶 Toddlers

*'It takes a village to raise a child,
a cup of tea to make us human,
an occupied toddler to
chance a biscuit!'*



Parent Lead Childrens' Group 0-5 Years
Sturminster Marshall Memorial Hall
Wednesdays 9:45-11:45

teaandtoddlers18@gmail.com
fb.me/teaandtoddlers

POETRY CORNER

A Country Church

This country church
Of crafted stone
Through gated drive
Stands proud and strong

Approached along an avenue
Of majestic aging oaks
'Twas built by gentry long ago
For their worship and for village folk

With stately village manor house
'Longside the cricket green
Many a pretty, happy bride
This church has often seen

The solemnity of Easter
And the joy of Christmas time
The sound of choral voices
Singing as one in rhyme

Sweet sorrow of departure
As we bid our last farewells
These thick stone walls bring comfort
They've many a tale to tell

The delight of new born babies
Being blessed with holy water
The alabaster angels
Keep watch and never falter

This sanctuary has nestled here
A century and more
A place of prayer and
contemplation
Built in parkland of The Squire

It stores a village history
Within its ancient walls
Of gentry and its village folk
A common ground for all

Of generations past
And those still to grace its pews
It holds a wealth of memories
That forever we can muse.....

JRL



LOGON-WOODBURNERS LTD

SALES & INSTALLATIONS

20% DISCOUNT

**ON STOVES FOR SUMMER INSTALLATIONS FROM
MAY TO SEPTEMBER...BEAT THE WINTER RUSH !!!**

**WOOD
AND MULTI FUEL
STOVES**

**CHIMNEY & ROOF
REPAIRS**

**FREE QUOTATIONS
& FULLY INSURED**

**FLEXIBLE FLUE
LINERS & RIGID
FLUE SYSTEMS**

**ALL BUILDING WORK
UNDERTAKEN**



Checkatrade.com

WWW.LOGON-WOODBURNERS.COM

CALL STEVE GUSCOTT

M: 07733 477729 T: 01258 858537



We are a passionate small carpentry workshop who pride ourselves on providing quality installations that will stand the test of time.

We only use **sustainable materials** from approved suppliers, natural eco friendly finishes and the best hardware.

Our timber is sourced as locally as possible, in most cases we can identify the precise woodlands.

We specialise in bespoke home storage solutions

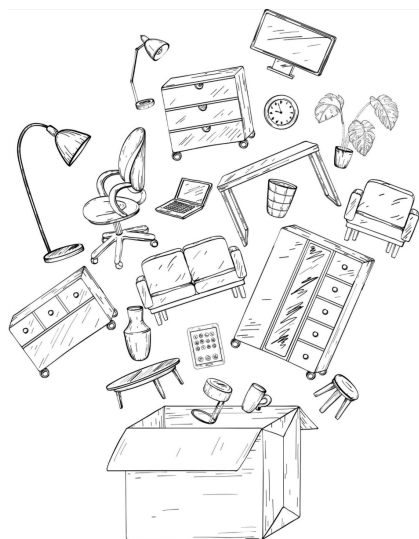
- **UNDER STAIR STORAGE • SHELVING • WALL UNITS • TV UNITS •**
- **HOME OFFICES • FITTED WARDROBES • BOOKCASE DOORS •**

OTHER PROJECTS CONSIDERED

**We can provide: Full site survey • No obligation quotation
3D design service • Installation service • On site carpentry**

Fully insured. Covering Dorset, Hampshire and surrounding areas.

Please feel free to call or message to discuss your project - **07822 014312**
email - **info@stourjoinery.co.uk**



Bailie House Self-Storage

De-cluttering? Moving house? Or just need some extra space? We have the solution with our secure, fully-insured indoor storage units available to rent in a secure gated yard with easy access.

Sizes include 10'x10', 6'x8' and 6'x6'.

We can offer short- or long-term rentals and are happy to work to suit your requirements.

Please contact us for more details or if you would like to view the units.

Sturminster Marshall, Dorset BH21 4AD
Tel: 07889 081346. kmsalvage@aol.com

LESLEY SHAND

FUNERAL SERVICE

Your music. Your flowers.
Your theme. Your choice

Every service we arrange is customised to reflect the unique life being celebrated.
Whether it's incorporating your loved one's personality and preferences or
honouring their passions, we'll create a meaningful and personalised farewell.



SELECTED
Independent
Funeral Directors
Member of the Association

★ Trustpilot



LESLEYSHAND.CO.UK • 01202 658 833

OFFICE@LESLEYSHAND.CO.UK • 184 WAREHAM ROAD, CORFE HULLEN, WIMBORNE BH21 3LL



Quality Hardwood Logs

Barn-Dried Hard and Soft wood

Large nets of Kindling

Premium & Household Coal

Smokeless Fuel

Firelighters

Home Deliveries

or

Cash & Carry

The Woodshed Ltd

**Poplar Farm, Cowgrove, Wimborne
BH21 4EL**

Tel: 01202 881370

www.thewoodshed-firelogs.co.uk

A. White Painter & Decorator

Excellent professional service

- 33 years experience
- Interior & exterior decorating
- No job too small
- Very reliable service
- Top standard of workmanship
- Fully insured

Call Adrian on:

Tel: 01258 268735

Mob: 07718 370024

Proud members of

Checkatrade.com
Where reputation matters



OSC Locksmiths

INTEGRITY ASSURED

Andy Merritt

07356 007278

Domestic & Commercial Services

Locked Out / Lost Keys - Locks Repaired & Upgraded

Door & Window Repairs - Burglary Repairs

Free Security Surveys - Sealed Unit Replacements



In December we had some festive fun at our Christmas Party hosted by The Barn Café in Lytchett Matravers. They looked after us well and provided a cosy venue and great food. A Christmas themed Dingbats quiz kept us entertained and Secret Santa Baubles saw us unwrapping a wonderful variety of Christmas tree decorations.



Over the last 110 years, WI members have campaigned on an incredible range of issues, increasing public awareness and bringing about real change. We are now in the process of voting for our preference from five shortlisted resolutions, one of which will become the WI's 2025/2026 national campaign. This year's shortlist of five resolutions are:

- 1.Accessible public toilet facilities to promote dignity, health and social inclusion
- 2.Action on women's homelessness
- 3.Every child needs a friend
- 4.Love your vulva – self checking is your best defence against vulval cancer
- 5.Nearer to Nature

At our meeting we will receive background information on each resolution to help us select and vote individually and then all votes are counted. The resolution with the most votes from our group will be sent to the Dorset Federation of WI and then eventually to the National Federation of WI.

Our next meeting is on Thursday 19th February at The Old School starting at 7.30pm. Our speaker is Trisha Lewis who will be doing a talk titled 'The Striking 70's in the WI' delivered in the style of Joyce Grenfell!

We are always delighted to welcome new members and you don't need to be a resident of Sturminster Marshall to be able to attend.

For more information about SMEWI, please contact Christine Rainsford on 01258 857413 or visit our website: www.sturminstermarshalleveningwi.weebly.com

Follow us on Facebook: Sturminster Marshall Evening WI

Karen West



DOUCH & SMALL

FUNERAL DIRECTORS

Life's choices
shape last wishes

Life is about choices. So is celebrating life. That's why our services can be tailored to your loved one's preferences and passions so your final farewell is unique to them and truly honours their legacy.



SELECTED
Independent
Funeral Directors
Approved by the
Crematorium & Burial
Authorities

★ Trustpilot



DOUCHANDSMALL.CO.UK • 01202 882 936

OFFICE@DOUCHANDSMALL.CO.UK • 7 LEIGH ROAD, WINBORNE BH21 1AB

Kingston Lacy Estate News

With the start of the year comes the annual glory that is the snowdrop display at Kingston Lacy. It's always a joy to welcome back these little heralds of spring, and with more than 40 varieties the season is spread over several weeks. Of course, snowdrops aren't the only flowers blooming now – the Camellia Walk is coming into its own, and in Nursery Wood witch hazel and winter cherries are putting on a show.

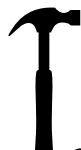
But we love to celebrate the snowdrops, and this year we've got a range of guided walks, special early morning photography sessions and a stencil workshop inspired by Kingston Lacy's snowdrops. Check the website to book these and lots of other events.

We've also welcomed back the wonderful Rembrandt self-portrait, on loan from Buckland Abbey. It's on display in a new, wheel-chair accessible space on the ground floor, with specially commissioned audio guides to help you slow down and look more deeply at the painting, as well as discover more about its



history and Rembrandt himself. You don't need to book, but we are operating a timed ticket system to make sure the space and the experience is open to everyone. Head over to the house and pick up a ticket from the Entrance Hall to see this amazing work of art.

For half term, we've got a special seed planting and craft activities in the tipi (which has been repositioned at the start of the Woodland Walk) - bring your little ones over to decorate an eco pot before planting a sunflower or pumpkin seed to take home. We look forward to welcoming you soon.



**D.W. CRANE
GENERAL BUILDER**



Over 20 years experience

Specialising in brickwork, blockwork,
porches, driveways,
conservatories, patios
and decking.

Also: internal & external decorating,
landscaping and gardens.

Tel: 01258 454104 OR 07835 112802

Professional & Reliable Service

YES! A diet
that's
proven
to work.



Regional Consultant of the Year

Email: nicki-edwards@btconnect.com

Facebook: [nickiedwardsthecambridgelady](https://www.facebook.com/nickiedwardsthecambridgelady)

Web: www.one2onediet.com/NickiE

Nicki Edwards



The Cambridge Lady

07904 331589

now with
virtual get-
togethers and
delivery to
your door!

THE 1:1 DIET

by Cambridge Weight Plan

February Joys (by Alex Pearce-Broomhead, *adapted*)

Despite celebrating the solstice in December, sometimes the depths of winter can't really be felt until February. The nights are still long and often finish with frosted mornings. The medieval-named 'snow' or 'ice' full moon falls early in the month, reminding us of the potential weather ahead. February tends to be the coldest month in England; average temperatures are around 4 degrees, but bitter winds can make it feel much colder.

Yet February isn't all bleak. Its arrival brings with it the gentle awakening of the earth and the small signs that we are on the cusp of spring. Badgers birth cubs in setts lined with dry grasses beneath the frost-bitten soil, hazel trees are decorated with garlands of catkins. Sparrows, blue tits, and long-tailed tits begin to gather nesting materials in anticipation of the warmer days ahead.

Look out for the Scarlet Elf Cup that 'blooms' in shades of red and orange in winter, bringing colour to the woodland floor. Although not considered common, scarlet elf cups prefer damp spots, growing in little clusters beneath moss and leaf litter, on decaying sticks and branches, especially on the banks of streams and rivers.



Short-eared owls are one of the few owls that can be seen flying during the day, although dawn and dusk are still their most active periods, and you might even be lucky enough to hear their haunting and rhythmic hooting in February.



February is the time when primroses, one of the first native wildflowers to bloom in significant numbers, can be seen. Also snowdrops and winter aconites appear.

Common toads wake up during February. They will have spent their winters tucked away from the cold, hibernating in mud at the bottom of ponds, but as mating season dawns, they will leave their place of safety and make their way to water to breed, arriving to mate and lay string-necklaces of eggs draped around vegetation beneath the water.

Parish Directory

The Parish of Kingston Lacy and Shapwick

Rector: Revd Canon Andrew Rowland	01202 882340
(The Rector's day off is Friday)	rector@wimborneminster.org.uk
Organists: contact Churchwarden	
Churchwarden K Lacy: Rob Langdown	01202 841381
	KL-CW@wimborneminster.org.uk
Churchwarden Shapwick: Anne Tillin	01258 858208
PCC Secretary: Margaret Langdown	01202 841381
Treasurer: Christine Cosgrove	01258 858876
Electoral Roll Officer: Janet Tory	01258 857531

Sturminster Marshall Parish Church

Vicar: Rev Jane Williams	01258 858604
(Jane's day off is Friday)	janewilliamsrpc@outlook.com
Red Post Benefice Clerk: Vicky Harrison-King	redpostbenefice@outlook.com
Organists: contact Churchwarden	
Churchwardens: Katy Norman	07815 610595
Carol Johnson	07400 356901
PCC Secretary: Liz York	01258 857528
PCC Treasurer: Ed Warren	01258 857467
Verger: Vacant	
Captain of the Ringers: Mr M Stickley	01202 021895
Electoral Roll Officer: Elaine Huntriss	07818 280800

Schools

Sturminster Marshall First School: Mrs N Charman	01258 857348
Sturminster Marshall Pre-school: Mrs Patsy Barnes	01258 858395
Pamphill CE First School: Mr Michael Wheeler	01202 883008
Pamphill Pre-School Nursery: Mrs D Gould	07415 473977
The Old School Shapwick Nursery: Ms E Praschma	01258 857922

Police

Police station (non-emergency number)	101
---------------------------------------	-----

Hall Bookings

Old School, Stur Marshall: Val Brown	hall.mackrell@outlook.com
--------------------------------------	---------------------------

Memorial Hall, Stur Marshall: Mrs K Kollberg	07729 712429
	sturhallbookings@gmail.com
Pamphill Parish Hall: David Wright	07789 368044
	pamphillparishhall@gmail.com

Councillors

Dorset Councillor: Cllr. Mr Will Chakawhata	
	cllwill.chakawhata@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk
Stur Marshall Parish Council Chair: Mrs Sonia Cade	
Stur Marshall Parish Council Clerk: Mrs Alison Clothier	07469 780548
	sturminstermarshall@dorset-aptc.gov.uk
Pamphill & Shapwick Parish Council Chair: Mr Martin Underhill	
Pamphill & Shapwick Parish Council Clerk: Mrs Lindsay Hole	

For Sturminster Marshall

Sturminster Marshall FC: Mr D Miller	01258 857314
Church Preservation Trust: Philip Cubitt	philipcubitt@btinternet.com
School Society: Liz Naulls & Amelia Atkins (Co-Chairs)	
	schoolsociety@sturminstermarshall.sch.uk
WI Evening Secretary: Mrs Gladys Quick	07720 343897
Sports Association: Mr R Haysom	01258 857616
Stur Marshall Craft Club: Mrs Barbara Beaves	01258 858404
Brownies: Miss J Hayter	01202 885309
Guides: Mrs L Seare	07759 892965
Henbury Residents' Association: Mr M Soper	01258 857647
Homewatch Co-ordinator: Mr Adrian Holden	01258 858884
Stur Marshall Short Mat Bowls & Social Club: Mr J Case	01202 690718
Stur Marshall Village History Website	07469 780548

For Pamphill

Kingston Lacy Skittles Club: Mr R Frost	01202 883084
Kingston Lacy Cricket Club: Mr S Maine	07969 883814
Pamphill Pre-School: Mrs D Gould	07415 473977

For Shapwick

S.C.T. (Village Green): Jez Bragg	07813 925681
-----------------------------------	--------------



© National Trust 2025. Registered charity no. 205846.
© National Trust Images/Nick Ashby.

Sunshine and snowdrops at Kingston Lacy

The welcome heralds of spring in the garden,
the magnificent art of Rembrandt in the house.
Renew your spirit with nature and beauty
this January.

nationaltrust.org.uk/kingston-lacy

For everyone, for ever