



NEWSLETTER – May 2026



Church Paths

Now that all the permissions to resurface the church paths have been obtained, the work is at last under way. A site meeting marked the start of the work (right) and dry weather saw a good continuation during the first week.



STOP PRESS Working on the south side, the contractors found the roof of a brick-vaulted grave. The Council is seeking advice about how to proceed.

New Bunting in the VSR

We are now able to enjoy wonderful bunting hanging above the hatch in the VSR. This beautiful new craft work celebrates Eden Cafe and all it does. It is the creative invention of Caroline Winton and Jo Hall. Each of the 18 participants were supplied with the materials and encouraged to embroider and embellish their piece as they chose. All worked together so they could share ideas. We are delighted to have this beautiful piece and thanks to Anthony Mitchell for suspending it so effectively. The names of the makers are displayed below it.



Spring Celebration Concert



A wonderful evening of musical entertainment was provided by Maria Danishvar (soprano), Arabella Heaton (mezzo), Christopher Vale (bassoon) and Simon Twiselton (piano) on Saturday 25th April in support of the St Mary's Roof Fund. They played and sang a wide variety of music from Mozart to Irving Berlin, via Rachmaninov and Puccini. Over 80 people attended. We offer many thanks to the performers and all who arranged this splendid event which raised over £1,160. Revd Becca offered a welcome and the Mayor, Councillor Fiona Cullen, proposed a vote of thanks.

North Dorset Scouts Service

On Sunday 26th April over 200 members of seven groups from the Scouts and Guides family of organisations held their St George's Day Parade from School Lane along Gillingham High Street with banners flying. They then assembled in St Mary's, where Revd Becca led a service including Renewal of Promises. Refreshments were served to all after the service.

Pictured right the Parade crosses the Town Bridge.

