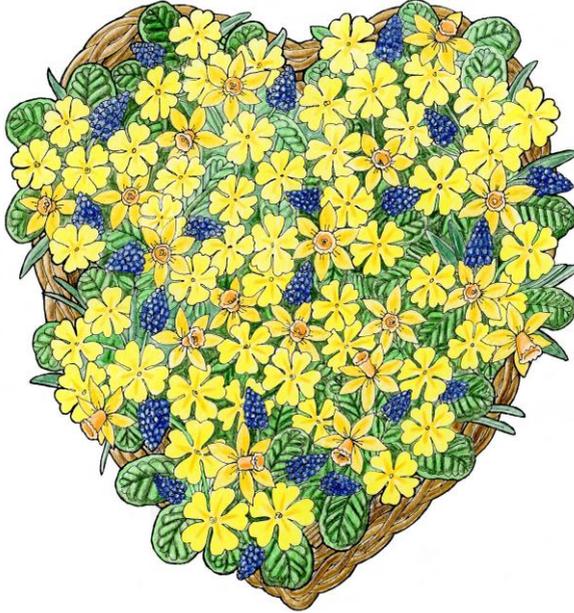


Studland Parish News



March
2026

THANK YOU



St Nicholas Church Studland

See the Parish News in full colour – www.studlandchurch.com

April deadline is **Friday 20th March 10am**

sharonywestman@gmail.com / 01929 450358

Late contributions cannot be guaranteed.

Note from the editor...

As I compile this month's edition, there is a gap in the weather and the rain has stopped. I hope this is the case by the time you are reading this and that we have some drier and brighter weather for spring on the horizon. If not, then I hope the pages of this edition can bring some brightness to your month.

As we continue to travel through the period of Lent. I have to say that reflection and contemplation for me have proved valuable, paying deliberate attention to my thoughts, emotions, decisions, and behaviours.

We live in a fast-paced world where our definitions, even of ourselves, are being constantly influenced by external factors that tell us what to believe, think, and feel. Rarely do we take time to investigate who we are in relation to our current reality when we are living in this conventional environment.

But self-reflection and contemplation increase our awareness of our motivations, providing insights into who we are to and for others and the person who we want to be, switching focus to what really matters to us, and gaining emotional independence.

Why not take the time to pause during this Lent, welcome contemplation and space into your world and see what you discover.

Enjoy the pages of this publication, enjoy the days of spring as they continue to grow and offer us remarkable sights and scenes.

Take care

Sharon Westman, Editor

Swanage and Studland Team Ministry

Team Rector:

Rev Dr Ian Bird

Team Office:

T: 01929 421117 / E: swanage.team@btconnect.com

St Nicholas Church, Studland

Associate Minister:

Revd Dr Tony Edmonds / T: 07837 009147 / E: revtonyedmonds@outlook.com

Church Wardens:

Barbara Matthews – T: 01929 450218 / E: barmat18@btinternet.com

Hon. Treasurer:

Mr Eric Stobart - T: 01929 450222 / E: eric@thestobarts.co.uk

Hon. Secretary:

VACANT

St Nicholas Church, Studland
Rota of Readers and Sides Persons
March 2026

Date	Service	Sides Person	Readers	Readings
Sunday 1 st March at 10.00am	Family Communion and Baptisms. Lent 2. <i>Revd. Tony Edmonds & Revd. Natalie Davies.</i>	Ginny Stobart	Keith Tillyard Sara Jayne Smith	Psalms 121. John 3, 1-17.
Sunday 8 th March at 10.00am	Holy Communion. Lent 3 <i>Revd. Dr Ian Bird.</i>	Carol Wadley	Cindy Yeandle Peter Jennings	Romans 5, 1-11. John 4, 5-42.
Sunday 15 th March at 10.00am	Morning Prayer. Mothering Sunday. <i>Revd. Tony Edmonds.</i>	Sally Hogsflesh	Sara Jayne Smith David Hogsflesh	Exodus 2, 1-10. Luke 2, 33-35.
Sunday 22 nd March at 10.00am	Holy Communion. Lent 5 Revd. John Cooper.	Ginny Stobart	June Fletcher Eric Stobart	Romans 8, 6-11 John 11, 1-45.
Sunday 29 th March at 10.00am	Holy Communion. Palm Sunday. Revd. Tony Edmonds	Sally Hogsflesh	Eric Stobart Diana Edmonds	Psalms 118, 1-2 Matthew 21, 1 - 11

Please contact Eric Stobart by email: eric@thestobarts.co.uk if any matters arise.

St Nicholas Parish News

Dear Friends...Returning to competitive chess after a forty-year break has been a little dispiriting to say the least. I have reminded myself of the basic rules and the fancy ones; revised some openings and defences; practised some positional play; played many friendly games against a range of opponents. But when I get to the official match, with clocks and notation and the silent concentration, oh dear, somehow it all seems to fall apart. The most notable result so far has been a draw (but actually I missed a checkmate!). Ah well. A friend who plays rather well provided me with some helpful encouragement, *"It's not the knowledge of the individual parts of the game that counts, it's the integration of all these into the whole way you play....it will come with time and practice"*.

If you drop into St Nicholas this month, you will find the church rather bare and austere. There are no flowers and the colour used for the altar, lectern and the priest's vestments is purple, the colour of reflection and repentance. By tradition the word *"Alleluia"* will not be used. It is the season of Lent. A solemn time of forty days leading up to the great celebration of Easter. Lent encourages us to reflect carefully on who we are and how we live. Are we truly living lives that bring delight and hope and beauty and kindness to the world? Are we leading lives that direct our gaze towards God and His grace and kindness towards us shown by the gift of his Son Jesus? Day by day, through prayer, Bible reading and meditation we can open ourselves to the truth of who we are and the possibility of who we can be. In some traditions it is a time of fasting or abstinence. Many folk *"give up something for Lent"*. These are ways not just of marking the season, but as a help towards reflection and thought and yes, repentance....it turns out that saying *"sorry"* is a powerful way of allowing change to happen.

Each Sunday in Lent has a different character. This year we shall first consider the story of Nicodemus who came sneaking up to Jesus at night to ask him an important question. Then we shall drop in on an intriguing conversation between Jesus and a Samaritan woman. On Mothering Sunday, we shall give thanks for all those who have *"mothered"* us and see how the most powerful man in the ancient world was outwitted by three courageous, compassionate women. After that we shall look at the story of the raising of Lazarus before we head to Palm Sunday and Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. The days following we shall follow the story of Jesus as the storm clouds gather and the events of the Last Supper, the betrayal in the garden of Gethsemane, the mock trial and beatings take place. Then on Good Friday we are confronted by the awful events of the crucifixion. These are hard days to get through.

Our journey through Lent and our Sunday-by-Sunday worship are all there to help us. As my friendly chess guru said, it's not about knowing all the individual bits, it's about integrating them into your being. Lent does just that, pulling together all the bits and pieces of our lives, all that we know, all that we are, all that we regret and integrating them into one being in Jesus. Lent helps us to

become more fully the person God made us to be. And then, we come to the glorious light that is Easter...and yes, I am going to say it.....“Alleluia”

From the Registers

Funeral: John Ormerod Pounder 24th February aged 92 years
Interment of Ashes: Mary Elenor Worger 26th February aged 102 years

Rev Tony Edmonds

Church Alive Writes...

True or False? How are you at quizzes? As I write this, we are just getting ready for our version of Tearfund’s Big Quiz Night up at All Saints. A great way to have fun and raise money for one of our Mission Partners. We particularly enjoyed the quiz last year because it was multiple choice (or multi-guess as I used to call it at school!) at least you know the right answer is in there somewhere! True or False questions are of course, even better – with a 50% chance of being correct, getting at least some of them right seems likely. So how do you get on with these ones:

True or false...

*K is worth five points in Scrabble.

*English is the most spoken language in world.

*The black box in a plane is black.

*If I give money to our Swanage Team account, part of it will go to pay for national C of E like the slavery reparation fund.

You may feel that perhaps that last one statements is not your standard quiz question, but for a church like ours that is facing a big deficit, with the membership that we have – it is one of those ideas that need to be addressed (albeit perhaps not in a Saturday night quiz setting).

At risk of spoiling your fun, I have to tell you that all of those statements are in fact FALSE. (I’ll fill you in on the first three at the end of the article.) But it is amazing how many people don’t give to our church account because they think that is true. Just in case you are tempted to leave out your local Anglican church from your financial giving because you know we give money to the Diocese as a “parish share” and you are worried about where that (your) money is going to, let me also tell you some other true false things that you might be unaware of.

Our Parish Share **DOES** pay for:

*175½ paid clergy posts (as well as contribute to their housing, training and pensions) This is far and away the largest chunk of the Diocesan budget.

*A reasonably small central team to support parishes in ministry.

The Parish Share **DOES NOT** pay for:

*Our Cathedral or Cathedral staff

*Our diocesan Bishop – stipend, house & working expenses

*Our Suffragan Bishops’ stipends & working expenses

- *National priorities & schemes e.g. the 'slavery reparations' fund
- *Every diocesan office role (10 funded by national church & other resources)
- *A huge HQ staff (only 40 full time equivalent posts in key areas e.g. HR, Safeguarding, church buildings, finance, fundraising, parish support & training)
- *Running costs of Church of England schools

Seeing things clearly and being prepared to rethink, when necessary, is actually an important part of what it means to be a Christian. God calls us to stop and examine our tightly-held beliefs, to always be ready to recognise we might have got things wrong and start over. I have certainly had some very tightly-held but totally inaccurate beliefs along the way (just ask me about my intensely embarrassing Dutch flag moment sometime!)

Recognising we have got stuff wrong and starting over is a constant activity for those who want to follow Jesus! On the 321 outreach course that we have just been doing up at All Saints, there is a really powerful description of baptism – that ultimate moment of recognising we have got life wrong and need a really good wash on the inside and a reboot into a new life and a new way of thinking.

Historical accounts tell us that when some Vikings became Christians and were baptised in the North Sea, many of them held their sword arms above the water. They wanted Jesus and all that he offered, but they weren't prepared to stop their way of life that depended on wielding a sword. I don't claim to know exactly how God responds to this kind of conversion, but I do wonder if sometimes we 20th & 21st century Christians metaphorically hold our wallets and bank accounts out of the water! Somehow, we have swallowed the false idea that following Jesus is not really related to what we do with our money! (check out the New Testament – you will see Jesus talked about money A LOT!)

Now it may be that our parish deficit is not something that you are able to help resolve – but it may be that God is prompting you to relook at some of your thoughts related to finance and some of the decisions you make about your financial resources. Whatever you decide to do, let's make sure it is based on accurate facts rather than urban myths!

With every blessing
Jo Levasier

PS If you were still wondering: K is worth 4 points in Scrabble. Mandarin is the most spoken language in the world. Black boxes on planes are in fact orange (I'll leave you to ponder why they are not called Orange Boxes!)



STUDLAND WI – Wednesday 11th February 2026

The President welcomed all members who attended the meeting. A good turn out with three new ladies joining us. We look forward to being able to come to meetings when it is not raining and the nights are lighter. Roll on spring!

Apologies were given for those who were unable to attend.

Matters arising covered the new fees set by NFWI for our forthcoming year yet again gone up and the cost is £54 for the year.

Studland WI is very lucky to have a fantastic team of ladies who can help when we are asked to do teas for events. By doing these events our WI can offer our returning members a small subsidy to their membership along with other discounts on trips when it is possible. So, a big thank you goes out to these ladies, we are very grateful for all the help they give, and we are always happy for more of our members to donate their time or baking skills at these events.

Information was given on our plans for our Spring outing to Brownsea Island on the 21st of May. We will be taking the boat from Poole and will have access to the castle along with a full afternoon tea. We hope many of our members will be able to join us.

Easter crafting session for members is on the 26th of March.

Anne Marie gave us some interesting information on Micro plastic pollution caused when fibres are shed from artificial fabrics during washing. The wastewater from washing machines release thousands of fibres, many carrying harmful chemicals which cannot be filtered fully at water treatment plants. These then end up in water ways, the food chain and our oceans. A solution has been identified by having special filters in washing machines. Not all machines have these, and Anne Marie has written to our MP Lloyd Hatton and Councillor Ben Wilson to highlight this issue and urge focus to take this forward to make it compulsory for all new washing machines to be fitted with these filters. We look forward to seeing a reply and things changing in the future.

Our speaker for the evening was Kirsty Rafferty who came to speak to us about "My Time" Young careers charity.

Kirsty gave us an insight on the work the charity does supporting under 18's who are physically and emotionally supporting family members. The charity has been in place for 12 years and is run with the financial support of donations and funds such as Children in Need. They have no government funding. This charity is specific to Dorset and very well established in the BCP area.

My Time work with 92% of BCP schools and 60% in Dorset. 1.9% of Children in BCP are identified as carers. The charity works with schools, doctors' surgeries and youth organisations to identify young carers.

The charity works with the carers with 2 programmes for them. One is "Making Memories" days. This allows the carers to enjoy some time out with other children carers, and they enjoy activities such as art, sport, overnight stays. The second program is for the over 14-year-old. They are given advice on career planning and opportunities to experience work environments to help them go forward after school.

Sadly, some of our ladies had a few problems hearing Kirsty and we apologise for this. The Committee are looking to remedy this in the future by getting a hands-free microphone to allow our speakers to be able to conduct their talks for us all to hear clearly.



Studland B won the Dorset Federation Skittles Final on Thursday 19th Feb.

They played Shillingstone WI in the final at Lulworth Village Hall and the score was 234 to 227. A close final.

Well done to all the ladies who form the Studland B Skittle Team.

Our next meeting is Wednesday 11th March in the village hall at 7.30pm.

Our speaker is Christian Orner who is a multi-award-winning chef and Chocolatier.

WI is here for all ladies of all ages, and we would love to welcome you to join us, so why not come along and join our friendly group. Fun, friendship and plenty of laughter.

Lynn Elliott - President

STUDLAND GARDENING ASSOCIATION

News this month, Spring is in the air and that means its Showtime!

Join us on Saturday March 28th for the SGA ANNUAL SPRING SHOW AND PLANT SALE. Enjoy a wonderful display of flowers, veg, crafts and home produce, raffle and refreshments

– or join in the fun with your own entries!

Schedules and Entry forms will be available at Studland Stores from early March. To enter, hand in your entry form to the committee on Tuesday 24th March between 6.30 and 8.00 at the Village Hall (Committee Room). Entries to be staged on the day (strictly!) between 9.00-12.00am. Show opens at 2:30. Everyone Welcome! Admission 50p.

A plea – can the cup winners from last year return their (polished!) cups by March 15th to Sarah Ferguson at the Old Police House, Heath Green Road, Studland BH19 3BX (call ahead to arrange on 01929 450664).

We hope you all enjoyed February's pruning demonstration with Gerry Edwards. There will be no talk this month due to pressures of organising the show with a reduced committee. On that note, we are still on the lookout for more committee members and a secretary. We need some help to keep the organisation going into its Centenary year in 2028! Anyone interested then please contact Clare to find out more at the email below.

Finally, thanks to all who renewed their membership for the forthcoming year. Payment of £5 subs can be made online to Studland Gardening Association: sort code 30-99-50/Act: 52727768 (with your name as reference) or cash payment made at the events.

Happy Gardening!

Studland Gardening Association.
Clare Harwood, Treasurer, (harwood.clare@gmail.com)
Mandy Suhr, Membership, (mandysuhr250@gmail.com)

Studland History Group

The next meeting will be the AGM on Wednesday 11th March at 2.30pm in the Village Hall. This will be followed by a talk given by Karen Wright on her mother's life growing up in Studland. All welcome.

On Wednesday 15th April there will be a talk on the Purbeck Heath Nature Reserve by Michelle Brown.

On Wednesday 20th May the speaker will be Luke Moulard with "On the Parish". Life in the Victorian Workhouse.



Joyce Meates, Secretary.
07816988890



Updates from the National Trust:

Rare glimpse of our past

You'll have seen in the news that the recent winter storms revealed historic timbers on Studland beach. Maritime archaeologists from Bournemouth University believe the timbers are a section of hull from the Swash Channel wreck, thought to be the Fame of Hoorn, a Dutch merchant ship that sank in 1631.

Four hundred years ago, this section of coast would have been open sea which is why the timbers were buried under the sand dunes rather than lying on the seabed. It highlights the dynamic and ever-changing nature of the coast here.

Excavation was carried out by the university, under licence from Historic England. Dendrochronology testing will establish whether the timbers match those from the Swash Channel wreck. They will then join the collection at Poole Museum.

(Photo: Jamie Lamb-Shine)



Stranger things... on our shores!



As well as a shipwreck, there have been other seriously strange things washing up on our beaches over the last few weeks – but the weirdest must be the masses of otter shell clams!

A Dorset Wildlife Trust marine expert told us that these bivalves normally live buried deep beneath the seabed, using their siphons (the fleshy tubes) to filter plankton and algae from the water. But the recent easterly winds whipped up waves powerful enough to scour the seabed and lift them out of their hiding places.

He estimated these clams to be around seven years old based on the growth rings on their shells – and reminded us that even after dramatic natural events, marine life can bounce back.

(Photo: Thea Sonne)



Love is in the air (or water)!

It looks like we could be welcoming more baby beavers (kits) at Studland this summer.

Earlier this year, our trail camera picked up rare footage of beavers mating. It's the pair we released last year (the same female that took a trip to Swanage before settling back down in Studland!).

It's a clear sign that they have now

settled into their new home, and if they're successful, the kits will be born in June (up to four).

You can see the video clip on our Studland Bay Facebook and Instagram pages, or here: <https://www.youtube.com/shorts/kn6y20WpCLQ>. Our monitoring programme, using dedicated volunteers and trail cameras, keeps us informed about the wellbeing of the beavers.

(Photo: The 'Swanage' beaver, Mark Singleton)

Heralding the spring

It feels like it's been a long winter, but at last nature is heralding the spring. Have you noticed that skylarks are in full voice – filling the air with their unmistakable, uplifting song? It's the males that sing, to defend their territory and attract a mate. They sing as they spiral higher and higher into the sky, then hover in mid-air before plummeting back to earth.



Another early joy of spring is a glimpse of a male brimstone butterfly. Often one of the first butterflies to emerge, they're so vividly lemon-yellow that environment writer, Michael McCarthy, wrote: "The brimstone is so bright it looks like a piece of sunlight that has become detached from the sun's rays and freed to wander."

And of course, we'll soon see the return of swallows – flashes of iridescent blue and streaming tail feathers as they dart and dive through the air. For many, they are the happiest, most hopeful harbingers of summer.

(Photo: Swallow, Steve Smith)

If you have any queries, email us on purbeck@nationaltrust.org.uk.

Cathy Lewis, National Trust

Corfe Castle Surgery/The Patient Participation Group News

Many may be aware that our Surgery is part of the Purbeck Primary Care Network (PCN) which covers the six GP Practices within our local area. Also, as PPG Chair I meet with my colleagues from across Purbeck on a regular basis to maintain links and support each other in an ever-changing NHS environment where we are all aiming for the best care for our local patients and support for the Surgery teams.

At the end of January, Dr Mark, Kerry our Practice Manager, and I attended a PCN meeting held at the Corfe Village Hall to hear the results of the recent survey undertaken by the PCN when, as residents, we were all invited to give feedback about our health needs and how they were being met. This was a public meeting which also gave those present feedback on the Purbeck Integrated Neighbourhood (INT) projects. The priority areas identified for the projects were Communication & Public Engagement; Mental Health and Wellbeing; Obesity; Frailty; Estates and Pharmacy.

It was impressive to note the work undertaken in the last year by the PCN and to see again the film prepared by the PCN which highlighted the services available to us in Purbeck (I was invited to be the spokesperson for the PPGs!)

The link for this film is as follows;

<https://vimeo.com/1094006054aaba93ad?ts=0&share=copy>

We have a good infrastructure in place in Purbeck where health care professionals are working hard together to provide us all with the best care possible. There will be 'hiccups and concerns' which is where we can help as a PPG. If there is something you would like us to raise with the practice on your behalf (although the Corfe team is always willing to help where they can) please get in touch corfecastleppg@gmail.com or by leaving a message at the Surgery and I will contact you.

**Kind regards
Maggie, PPG Chair**

Swanage Medical Practice Patient Participation Group

NHS App



NHS England has launched a campaign to encourage more people to use the NHS App. There is much more you can do with the NHS App than you may realise:

- *You can quickly and easily request your repeat prescriptions
- *You can view your GP health record
- *You can access your test results
- *If you turn on notifications, you'll get messages from the NHS, including appointment reminders, as soon as they're sent.

PPG Meetings

Our next meeting will be held at the Surgery on Tuesday 10th March 2026 at 12:30pm. You can find out more about the PPG, including Minutes of our meetings and our current Priorities, at:

www.swanagemedical.org.uk/pages/Patient-Participation-Group.

If you are interested in joining the PPG, please contact Natasha Ritchie, the Practice Manager, or email the PPG directly at ppgswanage@gmail.com.

Dr Margaret Guy (Mrs Broadhurst)
Chair, Swanage Medical Practice PPG



Isle of Purbeck Golf Club

Step Into Spring with Great Events, Great Food & Great Company!

Lighter evenings and brighter days are on the way, and March is packed with reasons to come for a visit. From live music to quiz nights and special Sunday celebrations, there's something for everyone to enjoy here.

Live Jazz – Saturday 21st March

Our Jazz Nights bring a little extra magic to a Saturday night. After a brilliant February session, we're turning up the tempo again with the superb Ben Creighton Griffin Trio for a night of effortless, cool and first-class musicianship. The trio is led by Ben Creighton Griffiths on harp, and you can expect to hear Swing classics, Django standards, and Latin Bossa Nova during this unique performance.

Ease into the evening with drinks and our Bar Menu, if you like, between 6–8 PM, then settle in as the music takes over at 8PM.

Tickets for the music are £20, with members enjoying a £5 discount. Now that's music to your ears. Book online at swanagejazzclub.com and grab your seat before they're gone.

Quiz Night – Saturday 21st March

Think you've got what it takes? With the golfing season nearly upon us, this could be your final chance to challenge our seasoned quiz regulars!

Food is optional and will be served from 6PM, the quiz kicks off at 7:30 PM, and entry is just £1 per person — winner takes the pot. Gather your team and sign up soon.

Mother's Day Lunch – Sunday 15th March

Make Mum's day truly special with a relaxed and delicious Mother's Day Lunch. We're offering two sittings: 12:00–12:30PM and 3:00–3:30PM. Tables fill quickly for this popular occasion, so we recommend booking early to secure your preferred time.

Winter Warmers – Last Chance This March!

There's still time to take advantage of our Winter Warmers Special before it wraps up on 31st March 2026. Enjoy 18 holes for £40 (Monday–Friday) or £50 (Saturday–Sunday), including a bacon bap and coffee when booked at least 24 hours in advance. The perfect excuse for one more crisp morning round.

We're open daily for breakfast and lunch, with traditional Sunday Roasts and most Friday and Saturday evenings available for dinner.

01929 450361 • www.purbeckgolf.co.uk • iop@purbeckgolf.co.uk



Studland Village Hall

Notice of AGM: The Annual General Meeting of Studland Village Hall will be held at the hall on 26th March 2026 at 7pm.

The meeting will present the annual report and accounts of the charity for 2025 and confirm membership of the Management

Committee.

The meeting is open to all. Please email info@studlandvillagehall.co.uk if you plan to attend.



Join us on Friday 10th April for a fun evening of style with Colours Fashion Shows!

Enjoy a catwalk show featuring all your favourite high street brands, then browse the clothes rails to find a bargain or two with up to 70% off. There'll be over 100 styles available in a range of sizes to suit all ages. The event also includes a raffle with fabulous raffle prizes.

Tickets are £10 (to be purchased in advance)

Please call 07590357763 or email info@studlandvillagehall.co.uk

We hope to see you there



Daffodils are dancing all over Studland and Spring is in the air at Old Harry Bar this March

We serve a full range of beers, ciders, wines, spirits & soft drinks to Studland locals and visitors to the village in our family and dog friendly bar. Our team are ready to greet you with a warm welcome this Winter. You will find us opposite the shop, tucked just behind the village hall. We have a full-sized pool table, board games and delicious stone baked pizzas!

OPENING HOURS

We are open 5 days a week for the Winter Season
MON, THURS, FRI & SAT Open: 5 pm – 10.30pm
SUNDAYS Open: 3pm – 8pm
(Closed on Tuesday and Wednesday)

What's Happening at Old Harry Bar?

Live Music: Sunday 29th March - 5pm - 8pm - Millie Watson

MONDAY – Bridge Club – Beginners Welcome - 6pm

THURSDAY – Craft Club – Bring your own crafty projects to work on from 5.30pm

FRIDAY NIGHT MEAT RAFFLE – weekly at 9pm

SATURDAY NIGHT MEMBERS DRAW – weekly at 9pm

(You must be a member and be there in person for a chance to win!)

Italian Stone baked Pizzas

(Available to eat in or take away - Order on 01929 450561)

12" Margherita - £12 - (Tomato sauce and mozzarella cheese)

Plus, a wide selection of extra toppings to choose from at 50p each

We also have a deal for 2 pizzas and 2 drinks

See our 5 Star ***** Reviews on TRIPADVISOR

See: Facebook, Instagram, our members newsletter or visit:

www.oldharrybar.co.uk

BRIDGE CLUB Meets every Monday from 6-8PM in Old Harry's Bar. Experienced players and beginner's welcome.

Virginia Lynch 01929 450177

Purbeck Youth Music Trustees enjoyed a very jolly afternoon in the Mowlem Showbar on Saturday 7th February when together with Matt Tarling they received a generous cheque from Jon Baker, Chair of the Swanage Folk Festival.

Matt runs the Purbeck Trad Folk Collective for PYM and the group made up of Purbeck school students ranging in age from 8-16 had been invited to perform. Their set of jigs and polkas soon had the feet tapping and they received a most enthusiastic reception from the audience. They played Irish, Cornish and Finnish tunes to the accompaniment of huge waves crashing on to the shore outside the Mowlem. An exciting sound!

Jon Baker was keen to emphasise that unless young people learn the traditional tunes of our isles and beyond, the future existence of our Swanage Folk Festival which has been going for many years is under threat. For centuries the aural tradition of learning tunes by listening, watching and copying older players has stood the test of time and Matt teaches his students to play by ear in this way. Most of the violin students learn in the classical way at their individual lessons but their experience is enhanced by being able to learn by ear too in the Folk Collective.

The plan is to expand the group to include other instruments in time.

In other PYM news, some PYM students took part in the first round of the Rotary Music Competition in Swanage on Sunday February 8th.

Sing for Joy! After delivering signing lessons for Yrs 3 and 4 in all 10 primary schools from Swanage at one end to Winfrith at the other, Susannah Nettleton will be presenting two concerts for PYM entitled Sing for Joy: March 6th at Lady St Mary's Church Wareham at 2pm and March 16th for the Swanage schools in Emmanuel Church at 2pm.

Around 150 pupils across Purbeck are now learning an instrument with the support of PYM and over 350 young singers are involved on the PYM singing groups.

We are immensely grateful to all our generous contributors who enable PYM to fund this important work which enriches the lives of so many young people.

All contributions gladly received at www.purbeckyouthmusic.org

Dilys Thomas (PYM Trustee)



studlandparishcouncil.org

Update from Studland Parish Council February 2026

Studland Parish Council (SPC) met on Monday 16th February. All Councillors were present with the exception of Chrissie Neville, who had given her apologies. Emma Wright of the National Trust, and Cllr Ben Wilson of Dorset Council also attended.

Under Public Participation a resident asked:

- *Could the time for the lighting of the Christmas Tree be published in advance?
- *Could there be appropriate public participation for the proposed developments in the Playing Field?
- *If a bench were to be provided for Alan Churchill, could the seats be higher and have arms?

The Minutes of our meeting on 19th January were confirmed.

Emma Wright had submitted a report:

*Damage caused by Storm Chandra to the beaches was extensive, with approximately a 10metre reduction of dune width in some areas. The storm damage and erosion so far have been greater than anticipated by the NT.

*As widely publicised timbers from the 1630s vessel – the “Fame of Hoorne” – have been uncovered. These will be excavated and donated to Poole Museum.

*On March 12th the shop, café and visitor reception at Knoll Beach will be closed for an annual staff conference.

Ben Wilson gave an update on behalf of Dorset Council (DC). This focused mainly on DC’s work on flood protection, and – as mentioned in the last Parish News – on finalization of the DC budget for 2026/27. Ben also shared a paper he had written – called “Playing by the rules” – where he raised his concerns about the growing number of retrospective planning applications being made. He makes the point that there is no justification for this, as there is a pre-app process in place. Ben also mentioned that Bramble Bay had been omitted from last year’s PSPO (Public Spaces Protection Order) for Studland beaches: he thinks Bramble Bay should be added to this.

Only one Planning application had been received – for a small project to install showers at South Shore Lodge on Brownsea Island. There were no objections to this.

On Highways, the main concern was the number of potholes, especially on the B3351. Councillors – and all residents – were encouraged to log these on the DC site – so that DC Highways can repair them. Potholes in Wash Pond Lane were also mentioned.

It was also noted that the Ferry company are hosting several “community events” to which all residents are welcome: the one closest to us is at the Grand Hotel, Swanage, on Wednesday 11th March, 16.00 to 20.00.

No incidents of crime have been reported this month.

Under Chairman’s Announcements, the Chairman said he was saddened by the number of deaths – 6 - in the village over the last 2 months. All these residents had played their part in the well-being of the village and will be missed.

Under Officer reports:

*Chrissie Neville (Environment and Trees) had given a written report on collaborating with the NT to clean and upgrade the village pond. She also mentioned that there are a number of orchards in Studland, and that residents

could be more involved in the pruning and maintenance of these. Chrissie also reported that she and the Volunteer Tree Wardens were continuing to document all trees in the village that have TPOs, and also trees that potentially should have TPOs.

*David Battle (Marine) mentioned a consultation on speed restrictions in Studland Bay, and also that the eco-moorings would be reinstalled from March 16th / 17th onwards.

*Stephen Yeoman (Planning and Transport) said he would be attending a PTAG (Purbeck Transport Action Group) meeting soon.

*Steve Smith (Studland Care) said that clearing out the pond will need to be done later in the year – so that wildlife in the pond is not disrupted.

*Mark Elliott (Resilience) said that Neil Wedge of the DAPTC (Dorset Association of Parish and Town Councils) is going to take the lead in Dorset on resilience planning.

*Lyn Hool (Community Speed Watch) said that no CSW sessions had taken place so far in February due to the wet weather. CSW sessions will resume as and when the roads dry out. Lyn is also attending a Dorset wide CSW event at Winfrith on March 7th.

The state of our finances was noted, and we agreed to pay all outstanding invoices.

SPC decided to make a donation of £250 to the East Dorset and Purbeck branch of the Citizens Advice Bureau.

There was no update on the proposed developments for the Playing Field. However, the team leading this want to assure local residents that there will be full consultation around any proposals.

SPC passed a motion to request that DC mark the drop kerb at the base of the steps to the Studland Social Club with a white line “bar” ASAP. We also have requested that DC apply a TRO prohibiting parking at any time (i.e. double yellow lines) along the south side of Heath Green Road from the entrance to the Village Hall to the drop kerb.

The Clerk had prepared a series of updates to governance issues; these included:

*The Council’s schedule of governance / internal control responsibilities

*The Council’s Standing Orders

*A review of the Council’s Financial Regulations

These were all approved.

The Clerk, together with Peter Hammond, will also conduct a review of the Council’s insurance cover.

The next meeting of SPC will be on March 16th at 19.30.

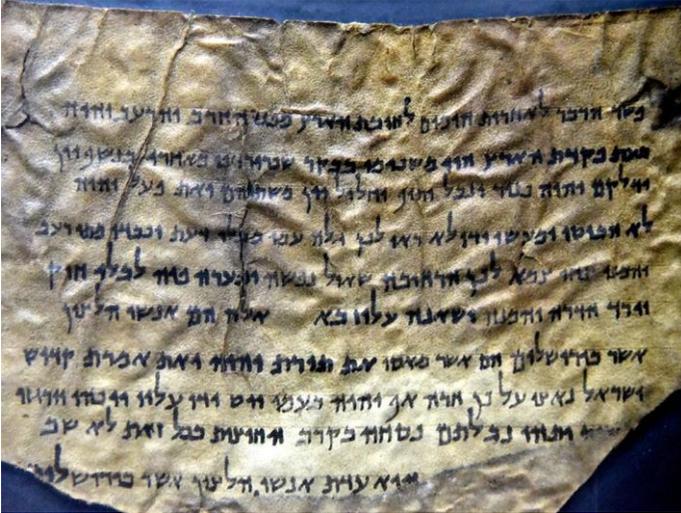
As usual, fuller information on our meetings is available on our website: www.studlandparishcouncil.org

Nick Boulter, Chairman

DISCOVER 2. EXPLORING THE BIBLE

The Bible is the most important book in Christianity. Christians believe it is inspired by God and very relevant for life today but must be interpreted carefully to be understood properly. The Bible's literary influence is huge, and our everyday language includes many words and phrases taken from it such as 'scapegoat', 'Good Samaritan' and 'from strength to strength'.

The Bible's structure



The Bible is not one book but a collection of 66 writings, or 'books', written over a period of 1,200 years by many different authors. They are grouped into two sections: the Old Testament and the New Testament. The Old Testament makes up the first 39 'books' of the Bible. Most of it is the story of the Jewish people including great

figures such as **Abraham**, **Moses**, and **King David**. It spans from around 2,000 BCE to 400 BCE. The earliest surviving manuscripts are the **Dead Sea Scrolls**. The Old Testament contains accounts of the history of Israel, such as the **Exodus** from Egypt and the exile in Babylon; poetry; **prophetic writings** and wise sayings.

The New Testament comprises 27 books which include descriptions of the life and teachings of Jesus Christ and letters to the growing Christian communities of the first century CE. It starts with four accounts of the life of Jesus, known as the Gospels. The next book, Acts, describes the birth and growth of the Christian Church. As well as the **Gospels**, the New Testament contains letters to various early Christian churches and their leaders. The last book, Revelation, is very different and is full of vivid imagery about heaven and the future.

Many organisations offer free copies of the New Testament or the whole Bible either digitally or in hard copy:

Christianity.org.uk / The Bible Society / Bible Gateway

(Pic: A fragment of the Dead Sea Scrolls from the Book of Isaiah)

(Shared with permission. Further resources from: <https://explorechristianity.info/>. Acknowledgments: Allchurches Trust [now Benefact Trust], Jerusalem Trust, Kirby Laing Foundation, The Diocese of London)



Linda's Story

Linda Jacskon wrote this charming account of her life, as a daughter of a farm worker raised in Studland in the mid 1920's/30's for her grand-daughter. As editor, I have been asked to share her memories here for readers...

Continuation...

...By now I was at school

I was always top in spelling, and my reading was good and I did quite well at sums (Maths) and I enjoyed singing lessons.

We competed at country dancing. The girls had yellow dresses, white socks and black shoes.

Miss Winger took us to South Beach and taught us to swim in the Bay.

The dentist came regularly to the school and one time I had a loose tooth. So, the dentist pulled it out, put some cotton wool in the hole, and I went around to the schoolhouse to rinse my mouth out with cold water and put the cotton wool back and then went back to the classroom.

The girls and boys went once a week to Mount Scar School for cookery and carpentry lessons.

Mr. Loveless, the carriers, took us in his covered wagon, and in the summer, he took the canvas cover off.

One day we went in a big black car with a table down the middle which my mum said was a hearse.

Going to Sunday school meant going on the Sunday school outing. One year we went to Weymouth, another year to Bournemouth. For those children who never left the village except once a week to Swanage, it was quite exciting. One year I was able to read out of the Bible at the Christmas Tree service. This was a service where the children and adults took a nearly new book or toy to the tree to be given to a home for orphans in Dorset.

My coat was shabby so my mum asked her friend Mrs. Churchill to make me a coat out of her coat and I can hear Missus Churchill to this day saying, *'Elsie you will have no coat, what are you going to do if you have to go out?'* and my mum saying, *'I will have to stay in until I can get another one.'*

I took the 11plus, but Mum couldn't afford to send me to the grammar school and at 14 I left school on the Friday and started work on the following Monday.

To be continued...

On behalf of Jason du Toit, Managing Director, Sandbanks Ferry

Following our community events in late 2024 and early 2025, we're pleased to invite members of the local community to connect with us once again at our upcoming drop-in events.

It's important to us that we stay connected to, engage with, and are visible to the communities that use the ferry the most.

We are running two events, one on either side of the ferry crossing, making it as simple as possible to pop in.

- Swanage: 4pm – 8pm, Wednesday 11th March
The Grand Hotel, Burlington Road, Swanage, BH19 1LU
- Sandbanks: 4pm – 8pm, Thursday 12th March
North Haven Yacht Club, 2b Banks Rd, Sandbanks Poole, BH13 7QB

There is no need for residents to RSVP; they can simply drop in at a convenient time. If you would like to attend, we look forward to welcoming you.

**Many thanks,
Jason du Toit, Managing Director of the Sandbanks Ferry**

Palliative care practitioner Louise Macintyre joins Lewis-Manning to support Purbeck community



Lewis-Manning Hospice Care has appointed Louise Macintyre as a Palliative Care Practitioner for the Purbeck area, including Swanage and its surrounding communities. Louise brings more than 20 years of nursing experience to the role, with a background spanning cardiology, general medicine, and seven years in specialist palliative care within the

Bournemouth Macmillan unit.

Commenting on her new role, Louise said: *“Working in palliative care is where my heart has always been. Lewis-Manning’s approach really stood out to me because it focuses on helping people live well and feel supported, rather than*

waiting for things to reach a crisis point. Being able to spend time with patients building relationships, easing worries, and helping people feel confident and reassured has reminded me why I became a nurse in the first place."

Based in Purbeck, Louise works closely with patients, families and carers in Purbeck, offering ongoing support and helping people understand what care is available to them locally. Louise recently organised and hosted a community drop-in event in Purbeck, bringing together existing patients, people new to the charity, and members of the local community. The event created space for open conversations and questions about palliative care the support Lewis-Manning can offer. There are plans in place to host further drop-in sessions and community events as part of ongoing local engagement.

Later this spring, Lewis-Manning is opening a new Health and Wellbeing Centre in partnership with Wareham Connect. At the Centre, patients will be able to access Lewis-Manning's 12-week Health and Wellbeing Programme, alongside one-to-one sessions, complementary therapies and support for carers.

Louise added: *"The drop-in event was a really positive day. I was able to speak with everyone who came along, whether they were already known to us or simply curious to learn more. We're looking forward to opening the Health & Wellbeing centre, which will create a welcoming space for people in Purbeck to access care closer to home. As part of our role, we spend a lot of time out in the community, visiting organisations and helping people understand what support is available to them. There's often a real sense of relief when people realise a wide array of support is available nearby, from breathlessness clinics and lymphoedema care through to counselling and complementary therapies. Creating those spaces for conversation and reassurance is something I'm keen to build on through future events."*

Thank You

I would like to say a big thank you to everyone in Studland who has supported me through the first few weeks of my broken ankle – cooking meals, shopping, lending equipment and giving me lifts. I couldn't have managed without, and it shows once again what a caring and supportive community we live in. And I must also compliment Poole Hospital on the standard of their service and care of me, contrary to the negative stories about the NHS we see on the news.

Stephen Yeoman

OPEN EVENING

**We are launching
A Band of Brothers in Purbeck**

 **Newton Manor Hall, Swanage**

 **Wed 18 March**

 **7-8.30pm**

A Band of Brothers is a national, award-winning charity, providing mentoring & brotherhood to support young men.

Interested in supporting this work?

Come along and find out more...
All welcome!



More info? Contact Rob
07874 705466
robbiewaitt@gmail.com
Visit: abandofbrothers.org.uk

 **abandofbrothers**
Purbeck

Monthly Awareness: National Bed Month

There's something universally comforting about crawling into a cozy bed after a long day. National Bed Month is our annual reminder of the critical role a good bed plays not only in our sleep but in our overall health and well-being. Let's dive into this unique month of restful recognition and celebration.

What is National Bed Month?

At its heart, National Bed Month is an enlightening initiative that champions the importance of a quality bed in achieving restorative sleep. It's a time where manufacturers, retailers, and health professionals come together to inform the public about the latest innovations in bed design and the science of sleep. Ultimately, it's our collective wake-up call to prioritize and invest in our sleep environment.

When is National Bed Month?

Set your alarms (or perhaps, turn them off for a snooze)! March is the month we lovingly dedicate to the importance of beds and quality sleep. It's packed with events, promotions, and activities emphasizing the significance of our sleep sanctuaries.

How to Get Involved:

Ready to make the most of this restful month? Here are some delightful ways to participate:

- **Upgrade Your Sleep:** Consider investing in a new mattress or bed. The comfort and support of a quality bed can make a world of difference.
- **Share Sleep Tips:** Use this month as an opportunity to exchange sleep hygiene habits with friends and family.
- **Attend Bed Exhibitions:** Many retailers host special exhibitions or promotions this month. It's a great chance to learn and perhaps find your next perfect bed.
- **Engage in Workshops:** Many communities host workshops on sleep health. Attend and learn how to optimize your bedtime routine.
- **Spread the Word:** Advocate for the importance of sleep health in your community and workplace.

History of the Event:

Initiated by The Sleep Council in the late 20th century, National Bed Month began as a campaign to raise awareness about the direct correlation between bed quality and a good night's sleep. Recognizing that many individuals were sleeping on old, inadequate beds, the event sought to educate about the health benefits of an upgraded sleep environment. Today, the event continues to grow in popularity, prompting innovation and emphasis on sleep health across the globe.

Colouring in – for the children and the adults...

Colouring benefit No. 3 - Enhanced Creativity:

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Quotes for March

Lent is the time for spiritual self-examination, for taking stock of oneself before God. With that in mind....

'Holiness consists of doing the will of God with a smile.' - Mother Teresa

'God often works more by the illiterate seeking the things that are God's than by the learned seeking the things that are their own.' - St Anselm

'It is His long-term policy, I fear, to restore to them a new kind of self-love – a charity and gratitude for all selves including their own; when they have really learned to love their neighbours as themselves, they will be allowed to love themselves as their neighbours.' - CS Lewis

'Monasteries are houses of the soul, and their deepest language comes from the depths of silence.' - Peter Levi

'Mysteries are not dark shadows, before which we must shut our eyes and be silent. On the contrary, they are dazzling splendours, with which we ought to sate our gaze.' - A Carthusian

'Be simple; take our Lord's hand and walk through things.' - Fr Andrew SDC

'As thy days, so shall thy strength be.' - Deuteronomy 33.25

'Your foolish fears about the future come from the devil. Think only of the present, abandon the future to Providence. It is the good use of the present that assures the future.' - Jean-Pierre de Caussade SJ

'Laughter is a property in man essential to his reason.' - Lewis Carroll

March is also the month of Mothering Sunday, when we think of motherhood in general....

'Children are the anchors that hold a mother to life.' - Sophocles

'What's done to children, they will do to society.' - Karl Menninger

'For a wife, take the daughter of a good mother.' - Fuller.

'Simply having children does not make a mother.' - Anon

'Her children arise up and call her blessed.' - Proverbs 31.28

'What is Raphael's Madonna but the shadow of a mother's love, fixed in permanent outline forever?' - T W Higginson

'One good mother is worth a hundred schoolmasters.' - George Herbert

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Late contributions cannot be guaranteed.

Studland Picture Gallery...

Lovely Weather for Ducks...



Pictures courtesy of Mike Cheesman:
TEAL
CANADA GOOSE
MALE PINTAIL
SMALL FLOCK OF SHELDUCK IN FLIGHT
MALE WIGEON

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