

Studland Parish News



May
2026



... When Jesus had finished speaking, as His disciples watched intently, He was taken up into heaven and a cloud hid Him from their sight. Acts 1:7-9



St Nicholas Church Studland

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

JUNE deadline: FRIDAY 22nd MAY 10am

sharonywestman@gmail.com / 01929 450358

Late contributions cannot be guaranteed.

Note from the editor...

It sure is nice to see the sun shining out of my window as I put this month's edition together. And there seems to be more and more sunny days at the moment, which is lovely – I hope you are enjoying them as much as me.

It is always a pleasure to compile this publication, but this month I felt a true synergy with some of the features and themes. The concept of pilgrimage in particular (P19) got me thinking. It evoked in my mind the difference between mazes and labyrinths. Some people relate to a maze when pondering the journey of life - hitting dead ends and having to make U-turns, getting lost and feeling unsure if they are on the right path. Others, and I include myself here, consider the path of life more like a Labyrinth – one path, and yes, it still meanders closer to sometimes, and further away at other times, to a central point – but the concept is that the path we are on is the one we are meant to be on, working through whatever happens along the way. This concept gives me faith and I use the analogy to support my own wellbeing.

That leads me nicely into the second feature that is close to my heart, mental health (P24). May hosts Mental Health Month, which is rather timely for me as I have just launched my own therapy business, 'Last of the Leaves Therapy', taking the leap from service practice to private practice. Wish me luck, and if you would like to know more, do get in touch.

I am sure you will enjoy this month's submissions, so much on offer.

Look after yourselves.

Sharon Westman, Editor

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Hon. Secretary: VACANT

St Nicholas Church, Studland

Rota of Readers and Sides Persons - May 2026

Date	Service	Sides Person	Readers	Readings
Sunday 3 rd May at 10.00am	Family Communion & Baptisms. Easter 5 <i>Revd. Tony Edmonds & Revd. Natalie Davies.</i>	Ginny Stobart	David Hogsflesh Margaret Chinchin	Acts 7, v55 to end. John 14, v1 to 14.
Sunday 10 th May at 10.00am	Morning Prayer. Easter 6. <i>Jane Hawksworth.</i>	Sally Hogsflesh	Susie Marsh Sara-Jayne Smith	Acts 17, v22 to 31. John 14, v15-21.
Thursday 14 th May at 6.30am	Holy Communion. Ascension Day. <i>Revd. John Cooper.</i>	TBA	Clergy Clergy	Acts 1, v1 to 11. Luke 24, v44 to end.
Sunday 17 th May at 10.00am	Holy Communion. Easter 7. <i>Revd. Tony Edmonds.</i>	Carol Wadley	Eric Stobart Cindy Yeandle	Acts 1, v6 to 14. John 17, v1 to 11.
Sunday 24 th May at 10.00am	Holy Communion. Pentecost. <i>Revd. Tony Edmonds.</i>	Sally Hogsflesh	Polly Warner Diana Edmonds	Acts 2, v1 to 21. John 7, v37-39.
Sunday 31 st May at 10.00am	Holy Communion. Trinity Sunday. <i>Revd. Dr. Ian Bird.</i>	Ginny Stobart	Eric Stobart Keith Tillyard	1 Chronicles 29 vs 10 to 20 Matthew 20 vs 1-16

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

St Nicholas Parish News

Dear Friends...There are so many reasons to celebrate the arrival of May: there's the promise of summer in the air as buds burst and blossoms appear; the swallows have arrived and the cuckoo's call can be heard. Everywhere seems full of possibilities and life...and best of all... the cricket season is upon us. Ah, bliss.

For those who attend to the Christian calendar May too is a full, busy and hopeful month. At Easter we celebrated the glorious light of Jesus' resurrection and now in May we journey with him as he meets his often shocked, surprised, sometimes doubtful, but in the end delighted disciples. There's an early morning breakfast on the beach. Food is eaten on several occasions (the resurrected Christ seems to have been quite hungry!) Mary Magdalen realises that he's not the gardener and becomes the primary witness to the resurrected Christ, Peter is forgiven and restored after his betrayal and desertion, Thomas' doubts are confronted and two disciples walking to Emmaus find themselves in the presence of a very special guest.

Yes, May is a very busy time: but there's even more to come. On May 14th the church remembers Ascension Day (we do a 06:30am service followed by breakfast for you early risers), the day that Christ moves from the local and particular to the global. No longer confined to first century Palestine, he becomes available to all people, in all places and at all times. Anyone can get in touch with him and follow him. On the 24th May we celebrate the Church's birthday, the feast of Pentecost. Together we recall that the disciples were gathered together in the upper room when God's Spirit descended on them like a wind and like fire. This small group of unsure believers became energised and enthused with the story of God's love and Jesus' resurrection. They stormed out into the city and turned it upside down with their preaching, teaching and lifestyle. I like to think of the Spirit as the one that puts the "snap crackle and pop" into our faith lives. Finally, on the 31st we round off the month with Trinity Sunday. On this day we try to put into words our understanding and experience of God as the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Although the word "Trinity" is never mentioned in the Bible, it is clear that the people of the New Testament felt God working in their lives and in the world in three quite distinct but unified ways. Down through the centuries Christians have tried to understand and verbalise this essential mystery of the Trinity, but in the end, like so much of faith, the best thing is to experience it and live it.

Emily Bronte wrote: "*May is the month of expectation, the month of wishes, the month of hope.*" May we all find in this month our hopes, expectations and wishes brought to fulness by the Christ who is risen and ascended, the Spirit who brings life and energy and the Father who sustains and purposes all things.

From the Registers

The Interment of the Ashes of Anne Mary Spurgeon 31st March 2026 Aged 96
The Baptism of Nina Grace Votier 11th April 2026

Rev Tony Edmonds

Church Alive Writes...

The late Cheslyn Jones, Principal of Pusey House in Oxford, was heard to say that it is much easier to endure the 40 days of Lenten Penance than celebrate the 50 days of Easter Alleluias. Maybe that says something about his approach to faith, but it does remind us that Easter is more than one day – it is with us right through Ascension to the Day of Pentecost, (24th May this year, if you were wondering). That's a lot of Alleluias!

Pentecost is the culmination of the Church year:

From then on, we are in “ordinary time” right through to Advent – the great story has been told and we are working out its implications. Pentecost is a theological high point; Jesus died, he rose again, he ascended to heaven, now he leaves us the great gift of His Spirit – His presence with us for all time. Immediately after his Resurrection, (Luke 24:49), and before his Ascension, (Acts 1:4f), Jesus tells his disciples to, *“Wait for the gift my Father promised...you will be baptised with the Holy Spirit...You will receive power....”*

The Holy Spirit is the least well-known person of the Trinity:

Try some research: ask people what they know about God the Father, and about Jesus His Son; you will get some reasonable answers. Ask people what they know about the Holy Spirit and you will often get a resounding “ummmm....”. (Sadly, this response is often similar for those inside and outside the church).

This should not be so!

Jesus left us with His Spirit so that we can:

- Witness to the great things God has done (Acts 1:8)
- Be taught all things and be reminded of what Jesus has said (John 14:26)
- Know the truth (John 15:27)
- Glorify God (John 16:13)
- Receive gifts to enable us to continue the work of Jesus in the world (1 Corinthians 12:4-11)

In short, the Spirit makes the difference between a rather lost, inward-looking and aimless church (see Acts 1) and a church which is dynamic, effective, outgoing and able to change lives (see Acts 2).

It's beyond sad that we know so little about the Holy Spirit:

It's a tragedy for the church and for the world. I have this awful picture of the devil sitting in Hell saying to himself: *“I'm safe, because those Christians will never threaten me until they learn to let the Holy Spirit free them, guide them, empower them, and make the Gospel of Jesus known to the right people, in the right manner, at the right time”*.

Jesus promises:

We will not be left as orphans. He will always be with us through His Spirit. Let us pray for that Spirit to be with us and in us.

Almighty God, who on the day of Pentecost
sent your Holy Spirit to the disciples
with the wind from heaven and in tongues of flame,
filling them with joy and boldness to preach the Gospel:
send us out in the power of the same Spirit
to witness to your truth
and to draw all people to the fire of your love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

May God continue to bless us this Easter as we look forward to Pentecost.

Rev. David Richards



STUDLAND WI – Wednesday 8th April 2026

The President welcomed all members who attended the meeting. Apologies were given for those who were unable to attend.

It was with great sadness the President announced that our dear friend and WI member Angela Myerscough has passed away. A wonderful lady and she will be missed by us all.

This month's meeting was also our AGM.

Our accounts were presented by our Treasurer, and these were adopted and seconded. Cindy, our secretary, gave the Committee's annual report detailing everything our WI had been doing over the last year. Then followed the President's address giving thanks to all committee members for all their hard work and everyone in the WI for being part of a wonderful group.

The present committee all agreed to stand for another year, and members were asked if anyone wished to join. Lynn Elliott was proposed for President for the forthcoming year; Lynn was willing to stand. No other members asked to take on the role and Lynn was duly elected for President.

A wonderful vote of thanks was given by Christine Turner on behalf of all the members thanking the President and all the committee for all their work over the past year.

This concluded our AGM, and we then moved onto our monthly meeting.

Subs are now due for the forthcoming year.

We also had to vote on the proposed 2026 resolutions. This year the NFWI have decided to campaign for the top two resolutions, these resolutions will be presented at the NFWI AGM, and should they pass "Accessible Toilets for all" will be campaigned locally and "Homelessness" will go forward as a national campaign. Our voting result was in favour of both resolutions; we will therefore notify our delegate for the NFWI meeting to vote on behalf of Studland WI for the resolution at the National AGM.

Our sustainability coordinator, Anne-Marie informed us that she had received a response from her letter to Lloyd Hutton, MP for South Dorset, regarding microplastics and the need for all washing machines to include filters as standard. A positive response from him saying it will be discussed in Parliament. We look forward to this and hearing more news.

Trips were discussed. Our spring outing is on the 21st May where we are off to Brownsea Island for a wander of the island, a look at the castle and an afternoon tea.

As it had been our AGM there was no speaker at our April Meeting.

Our next meeting is Wednesday 13th May at Studland Village Hall at 7.30pm. Speakers for the evening are Councillor Ben Wilson and Luke M Luke of Planet Purbeck talking about "Environmental Action in Purbeck: ahead of "Green Month" which is June.

WI is here for all ladies of all ages, so why not come along and join our friendly group. Fun, friendship and plenty of laughter. We meet the 2nd Wednesday of the month, and we would love to welcome you to join us.

Lynn Elliott - President.



STUDLAND GARDENING ASSOCIATION

May is a busy time in the garden; the spring bulbs are coming to an end and need some attention to ensure a good display next year. Daffodils should be dead headed but the green left to die down naturally, not tied. Feed clumps with a slow-release fertiliser like grow more.

If you have a free draining soil, you can leave your tulips in the ground but if you have clay soil, they're best to lift and dry, store in a cool dark place. High bred tulips are not guaranteed to flower again next year.

Vegetable seeds can be sown directly into the ground or young plants transferred outside although it's still possible to get a frost so be vigilant. Also, watch out for slugs who love to feast on young plants.

Dahlia's can be potted up and brought on in a sheltered position until ready to plant out when about 12" high.

Sweet peas should be in the ground and you may get some early flowers at the end of the month.

Studland History Group

On the 20th May at 2:30pm in the Village Hall, we have “On the Parish, Life in the Victorian Workhouse” with Luke Moulard. Going back through the Studland records many of the local residents were unfortunate enough to end up in the workhouse. The nearest was at West Walls, Wareham. This was later known as Christmas Close and became a geriatric hospital in the 1960’s and was rather a grim place. I remember visiting Mary Loveless, (Aunt Polly), there when I was 10 and felt sorry for the poor souls there. It was later turned into flats.



All welcome. Visitors £4 to include tea/coffee and biscuits.

On Tuesday June 16th at 2pm we have arranged a visit to Studland Bay House by kind invitation of Sarah Ferguson. This will be a pre-booked visit, details to follow next month.

On 15th July I will be unable to give my talk on “Growing up in Studland” so Carlton has kindly stepped in with “John Harris and the Squatters” or “The True Story of Agglestone House”.

Joyce Meates. Secretary. 07816 988890



Updates from the National Trust

Cameras to curb crime

We’re disappointed to report that livestock fencing is still being cut in the Studland area, particularly at Harmony Valley and Godlingston Heath. Gates have also been deliberately propped open. This could lead to serious road traffic accidents (with injury to people and animals), as well as putting properties and gardens at risk.

Repairing fencing is time-consuming, pulling rangers away from their vital work protecting wildlife, managing habitats and providing access to the countryside. And to pay for the vandalism, we’re having to use charitable funds that were intended for conservation.

We’ve been working with the police, and with their advice, we’re installing cameras on the heaths to hopefully deter the perpetrator(s) and also gather evidence of any further vandalism.

If you see any suspicious behaviour, please contact the police – you can do so anonymously using crime number: 55260043000.#

<https://www.police.uk/pu/contact-us/>

(Photo: Cattle, Rebecca Eddy)



Adder appreciation



We've had lots of sightings of adders recently, especially on the dunes and heathland. Adders come in a range of colours, from silvery-grey to coppery brown – and some are even completely black! The zig-zag pattern along the back makes them easy to recognise.

Yes, adders are venomous – but they're also incredibly shy. They'll disappear as soon as they sense your footfall. Their venom is used to

catch prey such as mice, voles, lizards, frogs, newts and small birds.

When you're out in the countryside, remember:

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

(Photo: Adder, Dave Hutton)

Help ground-nesting birds

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

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

(Photo: Skylark, Pete Christie)



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

Cathy Lewis, the National Trust

Corfe Castle Surgery/The Patient Participation Group News

At our recent PPG meeting we were delighted to hear that the exercise classes organised by the PPG and held at Corfe Village hall on Thursday mornings are going well with new 'classmates' joining but there are a few vacancies so if you are a patient of Corfe Surgery and would like to come along to a free taster session between 1030 - 1130 please come to the village hall where Sally will be pleased to welcome you. The camaraderie and the exercise are highlights of the sessions.

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

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

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

Best wishes
Maggie, PPG Chair

Swanage Medical Practice Patient Participation Group

Making the best use of local health services

The PPG is currently producing a series of newsletters giving the latest information about making the best use of local health services. These will include information about:

1. Sources of Information, advice and support on health issues
2. Keeping well
3. Self-care
4. Services you can refer yourself to without needing to see a GP first, including: Community Pharmacies; Community Health Services; Contraception and Sexual Health Services; Maternity Services; Services for Children, Young People and Families; and Mental Health Services.

Do look out for the text, which will be sent out to you by the Practice when the newsletters are published on the Practice website.

Getting protected this Spring with a COVID-19 Vaccination

If you are over 75 years old, aged 6 months and over and have a weakened immune system because of a health condition or treatment, or you are a resident of a care home for older adults, you can now get your COVID-19 Spring Vaccination. Vaccinations will be available until 30th June 2026.

More information about the COVID-19 vaccination can be found on the Stay Well Dorset website at <https://staywelldorset.nhs.uk/vaccinations/covid/>.

The NHS will be sending invites to those who are eligible, but you do not need to wait for an invite to book an appointment. You can book an appointment now in any of the following ways:

- Via the NHS App
- Online on the National Booking System at <https://www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/vaccination-and-booking-services/book-covid-19-vaccination/>
- By calling 119.

You can also attend a walk-in clinic without an appointment. Locations of walk-in clinics near you can be at <https://staywelldorset.nhs.uk/vaccinations/walkin/> or on the NHS website at <https://www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/vaccination-and-booking-services/find-a-walk-in-covid-19-vaccination-site/>.

Our next PPG meeting

The PPG will next be meeting at the Surgery on Tuesday 12th May 2026 at 6:00pm.

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

What a great time of year!

Spring has arrived, bringing longer days, warmer weather, and the welcome return of the golfing season. It's the perfect time to get back on the course and enjoy everything the club has to offer.

From May through October, we're pleased to offer Twilight Rates on the Purbeck Course:

Monday–Thursday: After 1:00pm – £75 / After 2:00pm – £55

Friday & Sunday: After 1:00pm – £85 / After 2:00pm – £65

Saturday: After 1:00pm – £100 / After 2:00pm – £80

Please check the

website for further details

Live Jazz Returns!

Our fourth Jazz Evening takes place on **Saturday, 30th May**, and we're thrilled to welcome the **João Menezes Trio**, with João alongside Marcinho Pereira on drums and Matheus Nova on bass, bringing an intimate night of Brazilian music to the stage. João Menezes is a Portuguese singer, guitarist, and composer based in London and has a deep passion for blending the rhythmic traditions of Brazilian music with the harmonic and improvisational language of jazz. They continue to captivate audiences with their soulful performances and passion for musical innovation.

Tickets: £20 (£5 discount for members)

Book at: www.swanagejazzclub.com (non-reserved seats in the bar)

Bar Menu available: 6:00–8:00pm | Music from 8:00pm (bar open all evening)

New Golf Simulator Studio

We are excited to announce that our brand-new Strike Zone Golf Studio is nearly complete. It will offer players the chance to practice, as it delivers some of the most detailed statistics possible about how the ball was played. You will also have the opportunity to play 20 professional golf courses all year round. There is a beautifully furnished waiting area where friends or other players can relax in-between play.

We hope to see you soon. A gentle reminder that our dress code is Smart Casual.

For more details, bookings, or questions:

01929 450361 • purbeckgolf.co.uk • lop@purbeckgolf.co.uk

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

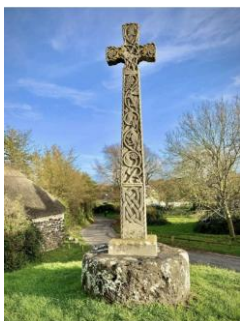
Virginia Lynch 01929 450177



Studland Village Hall

On Friday 10th April, Studland embraced the chic vibes of Paris and Milan with a highly successful **Ladies' Fashion Show**. A huge thank you goes to committee member Agi Churchill and her team for organising the event. The evening raised over £1,300 for Village Hall funds to support upcoming refurbishment projects.

The next ArtsReach Event will feature Rachel McShane & The Cartographers and will take place on Saturday 18th July at 7:30pm.



From Soil to Sky

A service of Celtic Evening Worship

6:30pm Sunday 17th May

St Nicholas Church Studland

All welcome



Come along and Celebrate May's arrival at The Old Harry Bar!
We have been supplying beers, ciders, wines, spirits & soft drinks to Studland locals and visitors for 30 years in our family friendly bar.
Well-behaved dogs on leads are also welcome; we even have treats on the bar for them!

Enjoy sunny evenings outside on our terrace.
Challenge your friends to a game of Pool on our full-sized table.

At Old Harry Bar strangers may be friends you haven't met yet!

OPENING HOURS

MONDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY & SATURDAY: 5pm – 10.30pm

SUNDAY: 3pm – 8pm

Please note: We are open 7 days a week for the Summer from Monday 25th May!

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!)

MAY EVENTS - What's happening at Old Harry Bar?

AGM (Annual General Meeting):

Friday 8th May - 8pm

Come along and support your local bar & social club.

Free Drink for members!

LIVE MUSIC: 'Stone Cold Sober' (Indie/Rock Covers)

Sunday 24th May – 9pm

(Bar Open 3pm – 11pm)

Have you tried our delicious freshly made Italian Stone baked Pizzas yet?

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

12" Margherita - £11 - (Tomato sauce and mozzarella cheese)

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

See: Facebook, Instagram, our member's newsletter or visit:

www.oldharrybar.co.uk



studlandparishcouncil.org

Update from Studland Parish Council April 2026

Studland Parish Council met on 20th April. All councillors were present, as were Cllr Ben Wilson of Dorset Council, and Emma Wright of the National Trust (NT).

During “Public Participation” a member of the team looking to develop more recreational facilities for residents gave an update. Costs of a paddle court could range from £10,000 to £80,000. Due to issues of costs, and location, the team were looking at other partners to share the costs and also other sites for development e.g. in some parishes, barns had been converted. One possible partner could be Knoll House Hotel.

Also, during “Public Participation”, representatives of the Ferry Company – Mike Kean and Rosie Kean – gave an update on the Ferry Company’s plans to fully move to paperless tickets and to go cashless. Essentially:

- The current supplier of the software for the current toll system is withdrawing use of the software from June 1st. This means the Ferry Company will no longer be able to operate the toll gates or to accept cash, paper tickets or even the current passes / white cards.
- All suitable tolling solutions now operate using ANPR technology.
- The Ferry Company is in negotiation with suitable ANPR system providers to get an ANPR system set up by June. They believe that they do not require planning permission if the cameras are installed on existing buildings / structures – Dorset Council have confirmed this.
- Paper tickets will need to be transferred to the SFTC passes / cards, and then to the new system.
- As the system is paperless and cashless, there will be up to 8 potential redundancies. The timescale of this is not clear but it is likely to be soon after the introduction of the new system.
- Car users will have until midnight on the following day to pay their toll; car users who do not pay their toll charges will be pursued by the ANPR provider in the name of the Ferry Company, with civil action taken.
- ANPR cameras will be in place on the current toll booths, and also on Ferry Road near to Hardy Road: The Ferry Company will monitor any overnight parking and pass details of vans etc. to Dorset Council for fines – as these will be in breach of the current TRO for Ferry Road.
- The Ferry Company says there will be a 2-week window for SFTC users to transfer their bulk purchases to the new system.

Clearly these are significant changes; residents will have an opportunity to further question Mike Kean on May 18th at the Annual Parish Meeting.

Emma Wright gave a report on behalf of the NT:

- Cattle will be returning to the heath from the end of April – initially on the harbour side, and then on the beach side. They will be moved off at the end of August.

- From May 22nd security personnel will be patrolling the beach and dunes.
- The Reese Cox bird hide on Little Sea is being well used, and is now wheelchair accessible.

CLlr Ben Wilson gave an update on behalf of Dorset Council:

- Ben would like the PSPO covering Studland beaches to also cover Bramble Bay: he is asking residents with any information on anti-social behaviour there to contact him.
- The B3351 is desperately in need of resurfacing near the water park: apparently Dorset Council will not be carrying out this resurfacing until next year some time.
- Dorset Council have in principle agreed now that there should be a 20mph speed zone through the village; this means that Dorset Council will carry out formal consultations – probably in 2027.

No planning applications were received this month.

On Highways:

- The blocked gully outside 21 Woodside has been reported to Dorset Council.
- The STOP sign at the top of School Lane is badly faded: this also has been reported.
- Some residents in Heath Green Road have complained about the parking on the road and pavement / grass by walkers and other visitors: this is blocking the flow of traffic. There are even cases of overnight parking. The residents are to be asked if they would like double yellow lines to be installed along some or all of Heath Green Road.
- Residents of Heath Green Road have also spotted cars entering Heath Green Road via the no-entry signs, and are therefore heading down a one-way road the wrong way. Residents are reminded not to do this, and to forward any photos of cars doing so to the Clerk or a councillor.

The only crime reported was some anti-social behaviour on the Naturist Beach – which had been reported to the police.

Under Officer reports:

- Chrissie Neville, the Tree Officer, said she and the Volunteer Tree Wardens, had surveyed the 5 orchards in Studland: the best maintained one is the one between the Tranquillity Garden and the Banks Arms car park. This could represent a model for the 4 other orchards – all of which are overgrown and unloved. The Tree Officers are planning actions to improve these.

Peter Hammond had attended the Wytch Farm Liaison Committee: he reported that the enforcement actions introduced after the 2023 spillages were still in

place; also, that sites are being transferred to the National Nature Reserve following decommissioning.

Lynn Hool reported that 3 police officers had attended the Community Speed Watch session at 7.30am that morning: 13 “speeders” were identified and some fined out of a total of 119 vehicles passing by. Now the weather has improved, further CSW sessions will be taking place. Any resident wishing to join the team should contact Lynn.

SPC approved the payment of all invoices.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Monday 18th May, before the SPC meeting. Mike Kean of the Ferry Company has been invited to this to explain the new ANPR system and transition to this.

The Clerk had prepared a series of important documents for SPC. These are:

- Our Publication policy and scheme.
- Our Privacy Statement and Policy.
- A draft Data Audit.

With very minor modifications, these were approved. These documents can be found on our website.

Our next meeting will be on Monday May 18th. There will be 2 components to this meeting:

- Firstly, at 19.00, the Annual Parish Meeting – all resident’s welcome
- Secondly, at 19.30, the May SPC meeting

As usual, further details from our meetings can be found on our website: www.studlandparishcouncil.org

Nick Boulter, Chairman

Annual Parish Meeting 2026

This will take place on May 18th at 19.00 in the Village Hall

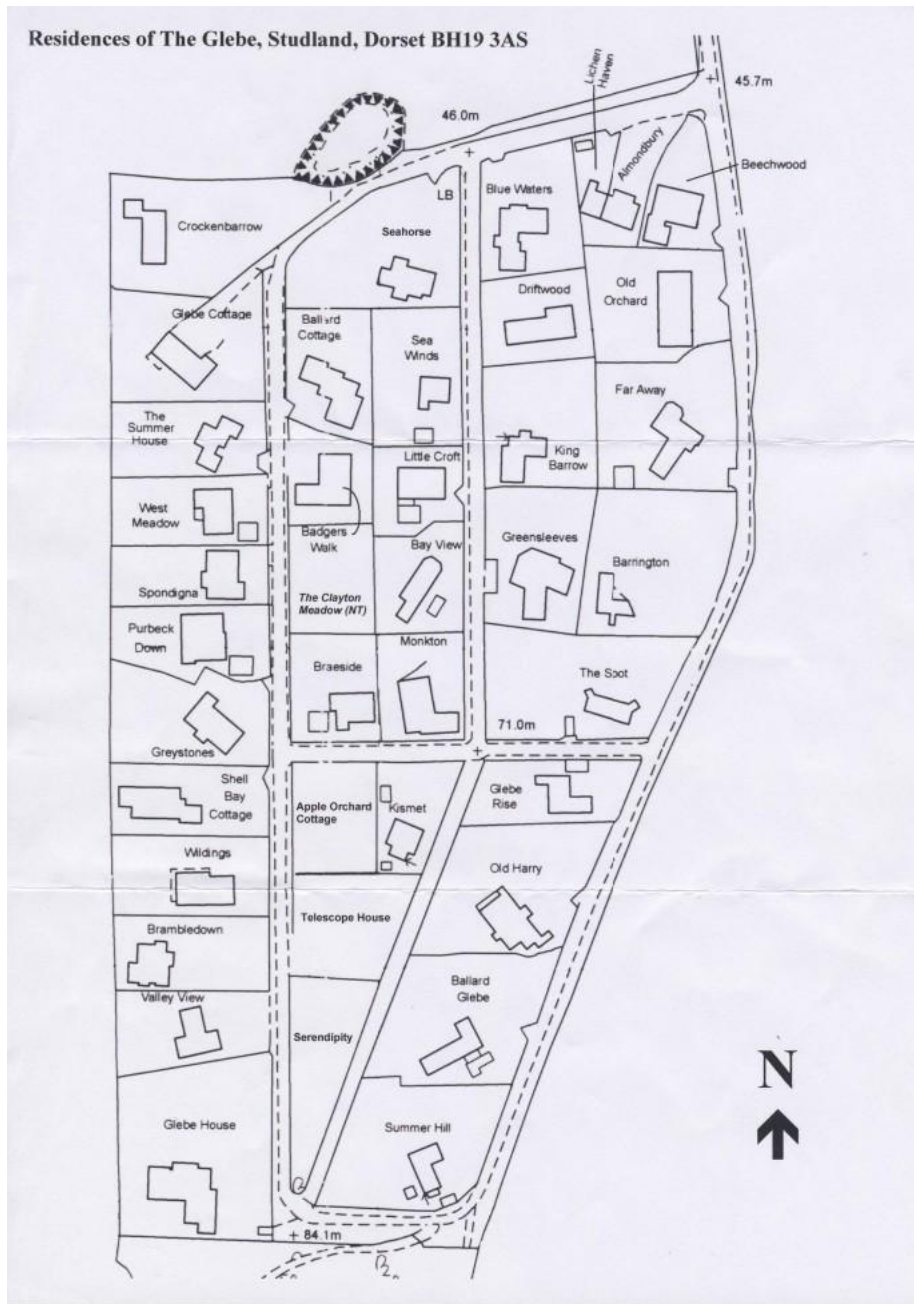
This is an opportunity for residents to raise any issues of concern.

The Ferry Company have been invited to explain the changes in the tolling system to ANPR.

All residents welcome.

The meeting will finish at 19.30 or soon after.

Glebe Map: Shared by a resident who thought it would be helpful.



DISCOVER 3. EXPLORING PILGRIMAGE

Many of us are familiar with pilgrimage as meaning a special journey to a special place with a special meaning. It is a concept shared by most faiths, but it's not just linked to religion. For example, you could make a pilgrimage to the place where you grew up or somewhere linked to a personal passion like a football stadium, music venue or special event like the Chelsea Flower Show, Glastonbury, or the Edinburgh Festival. You could also choose to visit somewhere with obvious spiritual links, such as a cathedral or other holy site.

The idea of pilgrimage has become very popular again in recent decades. It is estimated that 200-300 million people around the world take part in religious pilgrimage every year. Others travel for a multitude of reasons. Pilgrims often embark on journeys to a significant place, not just to reach their destination but to be changed as they travel. Many see it as a rare opportunity to leave behind the busyness and stress of everyday life and discover refreshment and spiritual renewal. Some travel with a desire to grow in their belief and trust through walking in the footsteps of others. Others have a practical aim such as seeking prayer for illness.

A journey through life: Pilgrimage also has a broader meaning. The idea of pilgrimage is often used to describe our journey through the twists and turns of life. It suggests that there can be purpose and movement towards a destination, even when life feels difficult and confusing.

Pilgrimage suggests travel of some kind, but that is not always the case. For Christians, it can also be a spiritual or inner journey of discovering more about God and his love for us shown through Jesus Christ. This kind of pilgrimage can happen through prayer, meditation or using music, art or the written word to stimulate our senses.

Christian pilgrimage – an ancient practice enjoying a revival: Since the fourth century, Christians have made special journeys to significant places, large and small. These have included Jerusalem, Rome, Canterbury, Iona, and Holy Island (Lindisfarne). Pilgrimages were central to the growth of many cathedrals. There are many pilgrim routes, old and new, to be explored today all over the UK, across Europe, and beyond. For many it offers 'time out'; for others it is a special opportunity to learn more about God and to seek his help and encouragement.

But Christianity teaches that it is not necessary to go on a special trip to discover God and experience his love, care and forgiveness. As we pray and learn to listen to him, he can be found anywhere – in our homes, at work, at school, or wherever we are.

(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...

One night my sister and I came home from seeing a film in the cinema in Swanage and found soldiers sleeping everywhere. In the sitting room, the dining room, stairs, hall landing. They were some of those evacuated from Dunkirk; the year I was told 1939, it must have been the end of 1939.

Something else I want to mention when I was a teenager. We had gymkhanas, regattas, and the summer Flower Show held under two large marquees. And which one year my daughter Claire won a prize for being the best baby. Later, Sarah, my younger daughter, presented a bouquet of flowers to the lady who opened the show, 'Jill Fletcher'. We also had dances, whist, drives, badminton and socials.

...

My doctor said to me one day when I went to see him, 'Factory work does not suit you. Is there anything else you would like to do?' I said, '*Yes, I would like to go into the Land Army*', so he arranged it for me.

So, I became a Land Army girl. I was sent to a lovely little village called Ashmore in Dorset. I lodged with a small farmer and his family that worked for a bigger farmer. My first day in the land army was spent cleaning out the calf pen. They had been in the pen for six months. There was manure, straw and maggots. The smell!!! Then after dinner, I tidied up the yard and then it was time to drive the cows in to be milked. One black cow would not let me go near her and kicked out at me whenever I went close to her. The farmer's son had to milk her. I think she may have been ill treated by a woman before coming to the farm perhaps.

My lodgings were clean but the youngest daughter never spoke to me once all the time I was there because she had had to give up her bedroom to me and had to share a bedroom with her sister. Mrs. Lloyd, the farmer's wife, had a small bowl in which she washed smalls, socks and handkerchiefs, peeled the vegetables and made cakes and pastry!!!.

To be continued...

Swanage Town Band Events for May 2026

The Swanage Town Band are kicking off their summer season of concerts with a new item on their calendar! For the first time there will be a “Spring Concert” in the Swanage Methodist Church on Saturday 16th May at 7pm. As always this will be a FREE concert with a retiring collection for Town Band funds. Following closely on from the concert is a “Quiz Night” at the Swanage Royal British Legion on Thursday 21st May (7.30pm to register for 8pm start). Friends and supporters of the band will be most welcome for this fun event which will be a very sociable way to help raise funds for the band. £3.00 entry per person – cash prizes and a raffle.

On Saturday 23rd May at 2.30pm the band will be playing their first bandstand gig of 2026 during the Swanage Pirate Festival – so it’s “Ahoy Me Hearties”, “Yo Ho Ho and a Bottle of Rum” and plenty of maritime music! Check out the Band’s website for more Summer 2026 gigs: <https://www.swanagetownband.co.uk/>
Or contact them on swanagetownband@gmail.com



Belvedere Singers' Spring Concert

Fancy a walk in the woods or rebellion against the establishment? Well, you can experience this and more at the Belvedere Singers' spring concert at 7.30pm on 16th May at St Mary's church, Swanage. Flowers, trees and birds also feature in music by Saint-Saëns (Les Fleurs et Les Arbres) and Stanford (The Bluebird). Saint-Saëns, with the exception of a handful of very well-known works, is perhaps a rather neglected composer in this country, and his lesser-known Ave Maria, composed in 1914, is a subtle and beautiful work not to be missed. Solos by Amy Jerman and Martha Harwood, both Purbeck Youth Music Ambassadors, and our endlessly talented choir accompanist Angus Murray-Brown, will round off an excellent evening

of music proving that we all still possess the 'Rhythm of Life!'

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

Clive Watkiss



You are invited to this powerful exhibition, sharing in Karen's personal pilgrimage from brokenness to healing through artworks she crafted along the way. Struggling in the darkness of mental and physical ill-health, Karen was encouraged to creatively document her journey. The resulting exhibition is a captivating story of God's

love that challenges us at each step, but ultimately invites us to a place of wholeness.

Exploring a range of media including photos, oils, acrylics, charcoal, sculpture and textiles, Karen shares a story of redemption and healing. Her pilgrimage.

Public consultation continues into proposed fire station closures

The ongoing public consultation into the potential closure of eight fire stations by Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service will run until Friday 15 May.

The eight locations under consultation are all on-call fire stations: Bradford on Avon, Charmouth, Cranborne, Hamworthy, Maiden Newton, Mere, Ramsbury and Wilton.

Chief Fire Officer Andy Cole said: *"Nobody wants to close fire stations but, despite saving over £15 million in the last ten years, our financial position remains very challenging due to a 19.5% cut in funding provided directly from Government. We still need to make sure our operational staff have the equipment and training they need to stay safe,*

DORSET & WILTSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE AUTHORITY

Fire Station Closure Consultation

PUBLIC CONSULTATION IS OPEN FROM:
Friday 13th February 2026
until Friday 15th May 2026

This is your chance to have your say about our proposals

and we've pared back our corporate staff numbers as much as possible. This isn't Plan A; we've worked through many difficult options before this point. The elected Members of Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Authority are responsible for keeping the Service sustainable, and they recognise that tough decisions need to be considered. This consultation is therefore essential. We understand that people care about what this means for their community. That is why we want them to tell us what they think, and if there's anything important that we might have missed. No decisions have been made. The final decision will be made by the Fire & Rescue Authority at their meeting on 30th June. We would urge our residents to have their say via our survey or the upcoming online meetings."

In-person meetings have been held already in six of the eight locations, with further dates booked for Charmouth and Maiden Newton in April. There will also be an online meeting for each location during April.

Full details of these, FAQs, station-specific data, the consultation leaflet and the survey can be found at www.dwfire.org.uk/proposed-station-closures

A paper copy of the survey can be requested by calling 01722 691000 during office hours, or by emailing consultation@dwfire.org.uk

Quotes for May:

Some observations on our walk with God...

'A Christian is never in a state of completion but always in a process of becoming.' Martin Luther

'God never put anyone in a place too small to grow in.' Henrietta Mears

14th May is Ascension Day....

'Hail the day that sees him rise. To his throne above the skies; Christ, a while to mortals given, Reascends his native heaven.' Charles Wesley

Christ was taken up into heaven, not to enjoy blessed rest at a distance from us, but to govern the world for the salvation of all believers.' John Calvin

24th May is Pentecost – the birthday of the Christian Church...

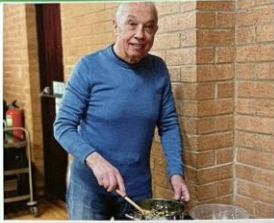
'Only Jesus Christ by His Holy Spirit can open blind eyes, give life to the dead and rescue souls from Satanic bondage.' John Stott

'He who has the Holy Spirit in his heart and the Scriptures in his hands has all he needs.' A MacLaren

31st May is Trinity Sunday...

'The divine nature is really and entirely identical with each of the three persons, all of whom can therefore be called one. 'I and the Father are One'. St Thomas Aquinas

'Thousands of the ablest minds of the centuries have pondered this problem and no man has been able to explain it; who then invented it? What man can invent, man can explain: what man cannot explain, man cannot have. It must be a revelation.' GH Lang



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Monthly Awareness: Mental Health Awareness Month 2026

Mental Health Awareness Month is the longest-running awareness campaign dedicated to mental health. Founded by Mental Health America (MHA) in 1949, the month-long observance encourages open conversation about mental illness, promotes access to treatment and support services, and works to dismantle the stigma that still prevents millions of people from seeking help. While the observance originated in the US, its influence has spread globally. Here in the UK the related Mental Health Awareness Week takes place from 11th to 17th May 2026, organised by the Mental Health Foundation. Each year themes are chosen. In 2026 the MHA's theme is "More Good Days, Together" and the Mental Health Foundations theme is "ACTION: for yourself, for someone else, for all of us."

Why Mental Health Awareness Month Matters: The numbers paint a stark picture. According to the World Health Organisation, more than one billion people worldwide live with a mental disorder – roughly one in every seven people on the planet. Anxiety and depressive disorders account for more than two-thirds of all cases, and depression alone is the leading cause of disability among people aged 15 to 29. By bringing mental health into mainstream conversation every May, the campaign helps normalise help-seeking behaviour, challenges harmful stereotypes, and pushes for policy changes that expand access to affordable, quality mental health care.

Actions to improve mental health in the long term: Prioritise your health - Connect with others - Be present - Learn a new skill - Learn to understand and manage your emotions - Set boundaries - Prioritise sleep - Seek support

How to Get Involved in Mental Health Awareness Month: Wear It Green - Share your story on social media - Organise a mental health event - Light up a building or landmark in green - Volunteer with or donate to a mental health charity - Learn Mental Health First Aid - Check in on someone you care about.

The Green Ribbon: Symbol of Mental Health: The green ribbon is the international symbol of mental health awareness. Wearing one during May signals support for people affected by mental health conditions and a commitment to ending stigma.

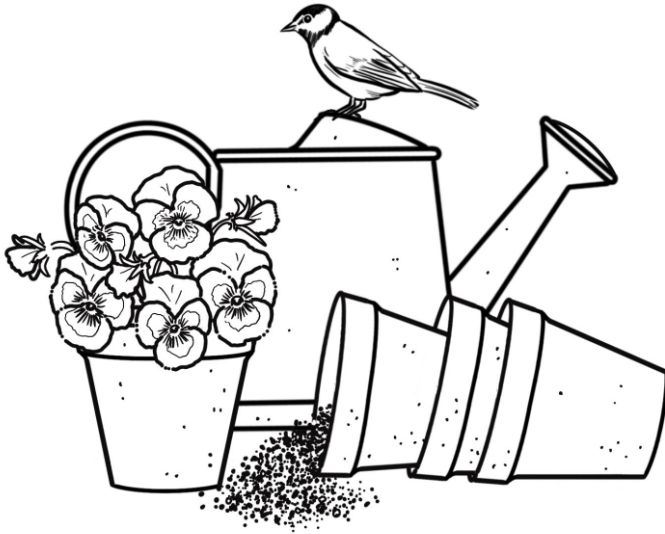
The green ribbon emerged as the international symbol of mental health awareness during the 1990s, modelled on the red ribbon adopted by the HIV/AIDS movement. Green was chosen for its associations with growth, renewal, and hope – qualities central to the recovery journey. During Mental Health Awareness Month, green ribbons are worn by individuals, distributed in workplaces and schools, and displayed on social media profiles worldwide.

Wear It Green Day is on Thursday may 14th

For more information and resources: Mentalhealth.org.uk/mhaw

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Studland Picture Gallery...



Sunrise: E Jones

Adder: Ian Grenfell (taken on the path to South beach)

Peregrine Falcons: Mike Cheeseman (male & female near OH Rocks)



Wreath Laying

Nick Reed and Iain Westman from the Isle of Purbeck Sub-aqua Club laid a wreath in remembrance of those Royal Dragoon Guards who lost their lives during Exercise Smash One eighty-two years ago in their amphibious, Duplex Drive tanks – more commonly known to us as “Valentine Tanks”.

It was because of this exercise and the courage displayed by those crews that the initial D-Day Landings would be so successful.

A Roll of Honour was read out in proud memory of those who lost their lives during Exercise Smash 1 in preparation for D-Day as follows:

Robert Gould, Victor Hartley, Albert Kirby, Arthur Park,
Ernest Petty, Victor Townson



Please share your photos - email sharonwestman@gmail.com