





# **BRIDPORT UNITED CHURCH**

**East Street** 

## 14th ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

Dedication Service and switching on the lights by Deputy Mayor - Tues 6 December 7pm Wednesday 7 - 14 December Open weekdays from 10am Sunday from 2pm

Free admission **Donations for Charities appreciated** 

# **Bridport Christmas Festival** Wednesday 7 December from 5.45pm

Craft and charity stalls in the WI Hall, the Bridport Arts Centre and around the town, plenty of entertainment and Santa's Grotto and sleigh in Bucky Doo, fairground rides, Farmers' Market, Vintage Market, Bridport Museum and shops open for late night shopping and lots of festive food and drink - something for everyone young and old.

THE BRIDGE TEAM WISH YOU ALL A **VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND NEW** YEAR

# **CHURCHES TOGETHER in BRIDPORT & DISTRICT** THE BRIDPORT NATIVITY



After a break last year due to snow and ice, Churches Together in Bridport & District are delighted to announce that once again that lovely community event, The Bridport Nativity, will take place amongst the Saturday market in

Bridport. Bridport will become Bethlehem for the morning and we invite everyone to come and see a live outdoor nativity, bringing the true message of Christmas to the streets of Bridport!

Watch Mary and Joseph coming from the west with their donkey (kindly loaned by Freshwater Holiday Park), the Magi coming from the east, and the shepherds from the south and, of course, angels!! Tableaux, drama, and songs will take place in Bucky Doo Square.

This will all happen on Saturday morning, 17th December from 11.00 am.

Do come and watch, sing and feel the real Christmas begin! Would you like to help - see page 3



TEAM RECTOR: The Revd Canon Andrew Evans	422138	The Rectory, South Street, Bridport. DT6 3NW
email: andrew@bridport-team-ministry.org		(Day off Monday)
TEAM VICAR: The Revd Peter Edwards	456588	The Vicarage, Parsonage Road, Allington DT6 5ET
email: peter@bridport-team-ministry.org ASSOCIATE PRIESTS:		(Day off Friday)
The Revd Liz Campling	425670	Harbour Lights, Coneygar Park, Bridport DT6 3BA
email: liz@bridport-team-ministry.org		(Day off Thursday)
The Revd Janis Moore	425644	61 North Allington, Bridport
email: janis@bridport-team-ministry.org		(Day off Wednesday)
The Revd Dan Shackell	426514	146 West Bay Rd, Bridport DT6 4AZ
email: danshackell@gmail.com		47
ASSISTANT CURATES:		
The Revd Ann Ayling	424896	4 Manor Farm Court, Walditch DT6 4LQ
email: ann@bridport-team-ministry.org		
The Revd Margaret Preuss-Higham	424234	70 Alexandra Road Bridport DT6 5QP
email: margaret@bridport-team-ministry.org		·
TEAM DEACONS:		
The Revd <b>Duncan Wilson</b> (Tug)	420651	40 Alexandra Court, Bridport DT6 5QP
email: tugwilson963@btinternet.com		
The Revd Shuna George 0797	1759997	7 Windsor Terrace, Lyme Regis DT7 3AN
email: shuna@bridport-team-ministry.org		, ,
HOSPITAL CHAPLAIN: The Revd Philip Ringer	425774	7 Wanderwell Farm Lane, Bridport DT6 4JW
email: philipringer@aol.com		
TEAM ADMINISTRATOR: Mrs Dianne Sinclair	424747	Office is inside St Mary's Church, South St, Bridport
email: di@bridport-team-ministry.org (Available morning		oo
LICENSED LAY MINISTERS:	90	HALL BOOKING SECRETARIES:
Mr Phil Doughty	422096	St Swithun's Vestry:
Mrs Valerie Payne		Mrs Shirley Bugler425103
Mr Graham Purse		Bothenhampton Village Hall:
Mrs Shirley Smith Mrs Coral Hatton	425959	Mr Ray Gibbs423071
		Bradpole Village Hall:
LAY PASTORAL ASSISTANTS: Mrs Janet Belton	100600	Mrs Diane Ellis420771
Mr Robin Belton		Church House, South St. Bridport:
Mrs Chris Evans		Mr Tony Nott
Mrs Isabel Green		Walditch Village Hall:
Mr Peter Green		Mr & Mrs Peter Tobutt458999
Mrs Hilda Gudge		
Mrs Vyv Haydon		OTHER CHURCH LEADERS IN THE AREA:
Mrs Shirley Jezard	422136	The Christian Fellowship:
Mrs Rosemary Parker		Mr Ray Dobson424047
Mrs Marian Scott		St Mary and St Catherine (RC):
Mrs Elizabeth Squirrell		Fr Richard Meyer 422594
Mrs Sue Smith		The Religious Society of Friends:
Mrs Pat Stapleton Mr John Ward		The Warden 456336
Mrs Muriel Ward		United Church (Vacancy)
Mrs Jocelyn Williams		(Methodist & United Reformed Church) Unitarian & Free Christian Chapel:
		Mr Philip Sealey (Secretary)427931
SECRETARY to the PCC Mrs Rosemary Russell	423013	Will I Tillip Gealey (Secietary)
The Bridge Parish Magazine		
EDITOR: Mrs Valerie Payne	458867	Priory Cottage, Priory Lane, Bridport DT6 3RW
email: valerie@valatpriory.plus.com		
CEOPETADV. Mrs. Devile Die-	000400	Lours Cottons Chamb Office Develop
SECRETARY: Mrs Paula Biss		Laurel Cottage, Church Street, Puncknowle,
email: pb@paulabiss.plus.com	•	DT2 9BL
ADVERTISING MANAGER: Mrs Rosemary Parker	456648	Please contact Mrs Parker for <b>all</b> advertising.
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hristmas is not a time which one normally associates with belt-tightening; indeed it's usual to complain early in the New Year that the exact opposite is necessary!

et this year 'belt-tightening' seems to have been very much the order of the day. As I write this, the outcome of events in Greece are still far from certain and more turmoil in the 'markets' seems likely; more people are sadly losing their jobs and there is a general gloom and concern uppermost in people's minds.

aybe though, just maybe, we will be able, as we have done during difficult times in the past, to put these concerns to one side, at least for a few days as we celebrate the Christmas and New Year season once more.

Jesus was born into a world of great uncertainty. Israel was long occupied by hated foreigners and the local rulers were despised collaborators fearful for their own positions of power. Although Joseph's trade was a skilled one, Jesus' home life would have been quite humble by even our austerity touched modern standards.

remember talking to a group of older ladies about Christmas's past, especially during the very bleak wartime years when they were growing up. And yet, do you know, they all had the fondest memories of those times. Food and fuel was short. There were no big piles of presents, electronic or otherwise. There was a 'blackout' still in force and imagine, no Christmas television! How did they ever manage?

They were not, of course, wedded to our modern culture of celebrity and consumerism. Having a good time meant perhaps a simple meal with a few treats made with sugar that had not been used but saved just for this occasion. It meant family gathering together and enjoying each other's company, finding love and laughter to be the perfect antidote for a pretty cold and dark world.

he past is, so it is said, a different land, and I suppose I am of sufficient years to be able to look back to the 'good old days' when the was 'Christmas Night with the Stars' on the television. If you remember that, you will probably get excited at the mention of Spangles, too.

There is no doubt that we live in troubled and doubt-filled times. No-one can be certain what the next year will hold, other than it's likely to continue to be very tough for an awful lot of us

would, however, want us to be hopeful. That next year might be a time when we begin once again to discover a sense of care, community and loving service for each other. A time to find joy and pleasure in those things which cost little but which are priceless, a time to love and laugh even if the going gets tougher than perhaps it's been for more than a generation.

he prophet Isaiah, whose wise words we will hear again in our
Christmas services, promised that the long-awaited Messiah would be called 'Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.'

hat promise was fulfilled in the birth, life, death and resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ. What a gift that was!

I wish you a very happy Christmas and New Year. May the peace of God rest in your home and your heart and may you know the riches of true contentment.

Andrew Evans Team Rector, Bridport Team Ministry: 'Loving God, loving neighbour'.

#### AN APPEAL - Would you like to help?

Accompany an angel, stroll with a shepherd, walk with a wise man! **Bridport Nativity on Saturday 17th December** are looking for some people to assist with stewarding. If you can sacrifice two or three hours on this day to assist with stewarding then please contact <a href="mailto:philipoli.jeffris@yahoo.co.uk">philipoli.jeffris@yahoo.co.uk</a>.

# "WHAT'S ON AND WHERE"

This **Toddler Group** offers an exciting opportunity to come along and enjoy **toys**, **songs**, a **story & lunch!** 

All caregivers with children aged 0-5 are welcome
Cost £1.50 per adult & 50p per child
Every Friday 12.30 - 2.30pm
Church House, South St.

# nclub

#### **RED CROSS**

Medical Equipment Loan Service
Youth Centre Car Park,
Gundry Lane, Bridport
Every Tuesday 11am - 3pm
At other times or in emergency contact:
Tel: 0845331 3331

#### **TEA AND CHAT**

Volunteer drivers urgently required to transport guests to and from the monthly Tea and Chat event held in the Bridport United Church main hall on the third Sunday of the month. **NO MEETING IN DECEMBER** 

If you can help please contact Tom Murphy on 455674 or Harry Britton on 421225.

The next Tea and Chat is on Sunday 15 January 2012 at 3pm.

#### **BRIDPORT CARERS SUPPORT GROUP**

The group meets on the first Friday of the month at Bridport Community Hospital in the Health Education Room at 10.15 am - 12 noon. All carers are welcome to come, have a chat and refreshments. Information, books, leaflets are also available. There are speakers on various subjects. Ex-carers are also welcome for the help they can give. For further information please contact M. Wrighton Tel. 01308 427494.

#### TUESDAY CLUB

Are you 6-11 years old? THEN COME AND JOIN US!!

Bring your best friend for an hour of FUN AND CREATIVITY

At the Bradpole Village Hall TUESDAYS 5.45-6.45pm (term time)

#### **WOMEN'S INSTITUTE MEETINGS**

BRIDPORT WI WI Hall - 2.30pm

Tues 6 December CHRISTMAS PARTY

Tues 10 January Mr Bob Jukes of "Shelter Box!"

Each Monday Craft 2pm Tues 17 January Scrabble 2pm

> COLMER WI (Contact No 423546) United Church Hall - 7.30pm

Thurs 9 Dec Christmas Party

Thurs 12 Jan Delhi to Katmandu - Christine Shaw



# WEST DORSET FLOWER CLUB (BRIDPORT)

**12 December - Home Team** "Christmas around the Home" **10 January -** AGM

New members and visitors welcome. We meet at the WI Hall, North Street, Bridport at 2.30pm For further information please telephone 01308 424319



# BRITISH SUGARCRAFT GUILD BRIDPORT BRANCH

# Come along to our meetings to find out more!

We meet on the 2nd Tuesday in every month in the Citrus Grove Cafe at Groves Garden Centre, West Bay Road, Bridport.

7.15pm for 7.30pm - 9.30pm

We have demonstrations and workshops on all aspects of sugar craft. All levels of experience are welcome.

Please contact Merril on 01297 24708 for more details



#### <u>1st Wednesday in the month</u> Club for children aged 7 - 12 years

Where: Church House

South Street, Bridport

Time: 7pm - 8.30pm

1st Session FREE COME AND FIND OUT MORE

Games, craft, activities and lots more!!
For more information ring Margaret 424234

#### Bereavement Support

Cruse Bereavement Care is now running a monthly meeting at Bridport Hospital. This is for any who have been bereaved and would like to have an opportunity to meet with others who have been bereaved. It is an informal group, hosted by Cruse volunteers. We meet on the third Friday of the month from 10am to 12noon. (Come and go as you please within these times), for a "cuppa" and a chat. At the moment we are a small group and would welcome new comers. You do not have to have had any previous contact with Cruse.



# DO YOU HAVE ARTHRITIS?

Visit the Bridport Arthritis Care group which meets in the WI Hall, North Street, Bridport on the first Wednesday in the month at 2pm to find out what they do and the benefits of belonging to the Association, or contact the membership secretary on 01308 862998



Bridport Probus is a luncheon club for retired and semi-retired professional and business men with the object of promo ting good fellowship. It meets at the Eype's Mouth Hotel on the third Wednesday of the month for drinks at 12.noon, followed by lunch and a speaker.

The required dress code is jacket and tie.

Prospective members are invited to attend a lunch as the paying guest of a member to enable them to experience the club's principle activity before making the commitment to join. It has a ladies' section, mainly the wives of members, which meets at the same time and place but has a separate lunch and different speakers.

Anyone interested or requiring further information should contact the club secretary as follows: -

D.T. Batty, 7, Roundham Gardens, Bridport, DT6 4BD Tel: 01308 424457 E Mail: magndave.batty@yahoo.co.uk



# West Dorset Decorative & Fine Arts Society

**BRIDPORT ARTS CENTRE** 

Wednesday 14 December - 2pm for 2.30pm Speaker: Jackie Marsh-Hobbs

"A Passion for Piers"

Wednesday 18 January - HIGHLANDS END

Lunch 12noon for 12.30pm

Meeting 2pm for 2.30pm

Speaker: **Eveline Eaton** - "A Visit to New York: Art and Architecture"

For information please telephone 01297 443615

The National Association of Decorative & Fine Arts Societies

#### A Welcome Awaits you

**Chancery House Day Centre,** 



OPEN FOR
MORNING COFFEE - 3-COURSE LUNCH
POP-IN CENTRE - NEW-TO-YOU SHOP
HAIRDRESSERS
Contact Chancery House
Bridport, Dorset DT6 4AJ
on 01308 424357 or
email bridport424@btinternet.com

Volunteer Car Driver wanted - telephone as above Registered Charity No. 229199

#### Pathways to Care

Co-ordinates both Bridport & District Good Neighbours scheme, providing help where needed (gardening, shopping, transport, changing a light bulb etc) and Hopeful Hampers, food for those in need.

We'd welcome more volunteers but are also happy to hear from anyone who might need our help.

Find out more by calling in at Good Books or Tel: 01308 420483.

# BRIDPORT AND DISTRICT DUPLICATE BRIDGE CLUB

We are a small and friendly bridge club and we encourage players who want a pleasant evening without pressure or fear of criticism.

We meet every Thursday evening at 6pm in the Bridport United Church middle hall for duplicate bridge from 7pm to 10pm.

For more information contact Roy Tarsnane on 425298 or Bob Barker on 424981.



Bridport and District Friendship Centre
We meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday each month at St
John's Ambulance Hall, Rax Lane at 7.30pm
(2.30pm in winter) We have some interesting

(2.30pm in winter). We have some interesting speakers and a welcome cuppa.

We also have a monthly pub lunch and afternoon outings. Interested?

Contact Joy on 01308 424557 or David on 01308 424144





Moving On is a social club for people who have suffered from mental illness. You are welcome to come along on Tuesday mornings from 10.30 to 1.30 to the first floor of the Community and Youth Centre, Gundry Lane, Bridport. For information please ring Mary on 07812128085.

We are a registered charity.



Present

# CHRISTMAS CAROLS AND READINGS

Tuesday 13 December, 7.30pm St John's Church, West Bay

Donations for St John's and The New Elizabethan Singers

Refreshments

Registered Charity No 1125032



## ST SWITHUN'S BAND

**Christmas Concert** 

Monday 12 December at 7.30pm in St Swithun's Church.

Adults £3.50 Children under 16 years free

# **Christmas & New Year at GOOD BOOKS**

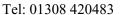
Write for Rights is this year's Amnesty International Greetings Card Campaign which runs till 31 December - please consider sending a card to someone in prison or facing human rights abuse. Pick up a leaflet from us with full details of how to go about it.

Look out for us at the Christmas Tree Festival 7-14 December and do visit our stall at the **Bridport** Christmas Festival on Wednesday 7 December 6.00-8.30pm. Good Books will be open up to and including Christmas Eve for last minute cards and gifts (and a hot drink!) and then closed until Tuesday 3 January.

Come to our **Grand January Sale** on Friday 13 January, Open House from 10am-2pm with the usual tasty refreshments. Wishing you a blessed Christmas and a very happy New Year.

#### **GOOD BOOKS**

St Mary's Old School Gundry Lane, Bridport DT6 3RL



E-mail: orders@goodbooksbridport.co.uk

Website: www.goodbooksbridport.co.uk

**Home of:** Bridport Book of Hours, Threads of Hope, Pathways to Care (Bridport & District Good Neighbours & Hopeful Hampers).

Opening hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs 9am-1.00pm, Wed & Fri 9am-3pm,

Saturday 10am-12.00. New volunteers always welcome!

# **Churches Together**

An Invitation to:-

# **Christmas Lunch**

at Bridport United Church East Street, Bridport 12noon - 3.00pm

#### **Christmas Day**

Name
Address
Tel
If you would like to join us please fill in the above form and send to 34, West Walk , West Bay, DT6 4HT or phone Grant & Elaine on 01308 456066 by 21st December at the latest
Please let us know if you have any special dietary
needs or need transport?

#### **Bridport Young Performers Scholarship - BYPS**

For young artistes in the Bridport area aspiring to become professional theatre performers – singers, actors, dancers and more - getting the right performing arts training is crucial. But with tuition fees rising and scholarships becoming increasingly rare, realising your dreams can be tough and many will need substantial help to meet the costs.

Founded by Jodie Glover in April 2011, BYPS helps financially with training when it's needed, both locally and at performing arts schools. The scholars themselves help organise fundraising events and are able to draw on the fund according to the hours they've put in. BYPS provide workshop and performance opportunities too.

Two ways to support BYPS in December:

- 2pm on Saturday 17th, Music & Mince Pies at Church House, South Street. Tickets & info from Good Books 01308 420483, proceeds shared between BYPS and The Uparo Project.
- 7.30pm on Wednesday 20th, BYPS Christmas Show at Bridport Arts Centre. Contact Tracey for tickets 07703030317.

To find out more: www.bvps.co.uk E-mail: Info@bvps.co.uk Tel: 01308 427851

#### **One World Fellowship**

Thursday 26 January 2012

in the Strode Room, next to St Mary's Church, Beaminster

A talk by Revd Canon Barney Milligan, OBE, about his recent book

The Bridge Reflections by an Unreconstructed Ecumaniac. (to include book signing) Willing to discuss issues raised in the book.

Visitors (£2.00 entry) and new members very welcome. Refreshments, tea and coffee.

# **Bridport Choral Society CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

7.30pm Saturday 10 December at Bridport United Church

Introducina Musical Director -Kris Emmett Accompanist - David Illingworth Anna-Maria Geare - Soprano

Admission by programme £6 adults, £3.50 children From Bridport Music, Tourist Office or at the door.



**BRADPOLE** has a knitted Nativity set, consisting of the Holy Family, shepherds, angels, kings and animals. Story books and colouring cards.

The family is looking for shelter for

the night in various homes during Advent.

The set is suitable for all ages

If you want more information or you are able to shelter them for one or two nights, please contact Ruth Morse on 01308 424641

#### CONTROVERSY CORNER

## Have you ever wondered ...

.....about human organ transplants?

Tremendous advances have been made in medical science since Christian Barnard carried out the first human heart transplant on Louis Washkansy in 1967. Now it seems that almost any organ in the human body can be moved from one body to another, that is of course, other than the brain.

It is also a fact of life that there is never enough body parts to meet the demands made on the health authorities.

So many lives have been transformed by the skill of the surgeons and for the generosity of those who have donated their organs for transplanting after their death. Because of the shortage of organs, a lack of donors, it has been mooted that it should be automatically accepted that any suitable organs can be taken immediately following the death of anyone, unless that person opts out of the scheme. This I cannot accept. It is not for a bureaucrat to say what I can or cannot do, under these circumstances. The parts in my body are mine and it is up to me to say what I would like done with the useful ones after I no longer need them.

To be required to 'opt out' could lead to the discrimination of the individual, also it takes away the feeling that you are making a voluntary substantial donation to an unknown individual.

Another aspect of this body part transplant that I personally find distressing, is when we see parents of a very sick small child pleading for a new heart for the child. In effect they are asking for another child to die so their child can live. I have no doubt that it is all done with the very best of intentions, and no doubt it sells newspapers, but I still find it a trifle distasteful.

Organ transplanting is a scientific wonder, but not content with these advances they have to go one further and try and play God, with IVF and designer babies for those who can afford the treatment.

This is where the scientists and I part company. The reproduction of the animal world (in all its widest aspect - and that means us!) has been decreed by nature and it is not up to mankind to dabble in this delicate and very private exercise. I am sure I am treading on some very delicate egg shells in even raising the subject, but I think there are very strong Christian ethics to be considered here.

I get very annoyed with lesbian women who say "it is my right as a woman to have a baby" but is not prepared to go about getting one in the manner laid down by nature. Madam, it is not your 'right', the only right any one of us have guaranteed in this life is the air that we breath. Anything else we have to work for. By the same token it cannot be right that homosexual men should be allowed to father babies via a surrogate mother, who is nothing more than an incubator.

This then opens up another can of worms - should an infant be brought up in a household with two same sex parents? The liberals among us will say yes, and the zealots will say no.

I will retire to my bunker and await the flack! Tug

## 'Tots @ Ten'

Tots @ Ten was developed out of an idea from a group of Holy Trinity, Bradpole members who were wishing to provide a facility for parents/carers of pre-school children to meet together. After much thought and prayer and with the support of the Church Council, Tots @ Ten began to meet weekly on Wednesdays during term time from 10.00 until 11.30 in the Church at the beginning of the Autumn Term.

Parents/Carers are offered refreshments while their children play with the many lovely toys that have been donated to the Group. The morning is drawn to a conclusion with the children singing some of their favourite songs - "Sleeping Bunnies" being a firm favourite with children and leaders alike! Numbers fluctuate from week to week but at the time of writing there are 20 children on the register.

ocal Food Links is a community owned social enterprise providing freshly prepared meals made with local and organic ingredients to primary schools, nurseries and lunch clubs across Dorset. More recently we started working in partnership with Agincare to offer hot, tasty meals delivered direct to your door to help older people continue living independently at home.

Our menus include traditional favourites such as beef stew and dumplings, turkey, leek and ham pie and roasts followed by puddings such as home-made crumbles and sponges, all made in our Bridport kitchen. We use local, seasonal ingredients from Dorset suppliers wherever possible, including Washingpool Farm, Elwell Fruit Farm and Denhay. We can also cater for special dietary requirements, including diabetic and coeliac diets.

People can order meals on wheels as often or as little as suits them, without the need for a social care assessment. If you would like to find out more please contact Suzie King, Community Development Worker on 01308 428924.

## **Christmas Services in Bridport**



#### ST MARY'S BRIDPORT

Sun 18 Dec 4pm Carol Service

Tues 20 Dec 7.30pm Blue Light Carol Service - for all

members families and friends of the

emergency services

Sat 24 Dec 4pm Christmas Eve Crib Service

11.30pm Midnight Holy Communion

Sun 25 8am Holy Communion

9.30am Parish Communion

#### HOLY TRINITY, BOTHENHAMPTON

**Sun 18 Dec** 6pm Nine Lessons and Carols

Sat 24 Dec 4pm Crib Service

11.30pm Midnight Communion

Sun 25 Dec 11am Family Communion

#### **HOLY TRINITY, BRADPOLE**

Sun 18 Dec 3pm Carol service

Sat 24 Dec 3pm Crib Service - a special welcome to

children

11.30pm Midnight communion service

Sun 25 Dec 9.30am Parish Communion

#### ST MARY'S, WALDITCH

Sun 18 Dec 3pm Carol Service Sat 24 Dec 4pm Crib Service

Sun 25 Dec 11.15am Parish Eucharist, Common Worship

#### ST SWITHUN'S, ALLINGTON

Sun 18 Dec 6pm Carol Service

Sat 24 Dec 11am Christmas Eve Crib Service (families

warmly invited)

11.30pm Midnight Mass

Sun 25 Dec 8am Mass

9.30am Sung Mass

#### ST JOHN'S, WEST BAY

Thurs 15 Dec 2.30pm Carol Service West Bay/Bridport

Womens' Institute. All welcome

Sun 18 Dec 3pm Signed Deaf Church Service

Sat 24 Dec 4pm Crib Service Sun 25 Dec 11.15am Holy Communion

#### **BRIDPORT UNITED CHURCH**

Tues 6 Dec 7pm Dedication Service for Christmas Tree

Festival

Wed 7 - 14 Dec Christmas Tree Festival open

Sun 18 Dec 6.30pm Carols by Candlelight

St 24 Dec 11.30pm Christmas Eve Carols and Communion by

Candlelight

Sun 25 Dec 10.30am Christmas Day All Age Worship

#### CHRISTIAN FELLLOWSHIP, Old School, King Street, Bridport

**Sun 11 Dec** 10.30am Carol Service

Sun 18 Dec 11am Open Air Service Bucky Doo Square

6.30pm Christingle

Sun 25 Dec 10.30am Christmas Day Service

#### **BRIDPORT MEETING HOUSE**

Sun 25 Dec 10.30am Meeting for Worship

#### **BRIDPORT CATHOLIC CHURCH**

Tues 20 Dec 7pm Parish Carol Service - St Mary & St

Catherine's Church, Bridport

Sat 24 Dec 6pm Mass at St Mary & St Catherine's

Church, Bridport (preceded by carols at 5.30pm)

12 Midnight Mass at St. John's Church,

Beaminster

Sun 25 Dec 10am Mass at Our Lady Queen of Martyrs & St

Ignatius, Chideock

Mon 26 Dec 10am St Stephen's Day - Mass at St John's

Church, Beaminster

#### October in the Roumois

Sixteen Bridport parishioners made the traditional exchange trip to the Roumois, a sparsely inhabited area of agricultural Normandy, a gently rolling landscape with a network of lanes between the hamlets where our hosts live. Piles of an unfamiliar white root crop could be seen in the fields. 'Betaraves' turned out to be sugar beet, the autumn harvest awaiting transport to the processing plant.

Sleep was at a premium on the night ferry at half term, but we managed to put on a bright British face to meet our hosts at Le Bec Hellouin, the abbey with a typically turbulent medieval history, abandoned and ruined after the Revolution, but now a peaceful refuge run by Benedictine monks. Dejeuner at the house of a 92-year-old in full hostess mode, was a communal effort with colleagues bringing in an apparently endless supply of casseroles to feed 30 people, something that the Roumois community take in their stride. On to our hosts' houses – in our case a tall and narrow half-timbered 'country house' typical of the area.

Sunday brought us to morning service at one of the small churches in the widespread rural area. Our hostess ushered us into a front seat. Our priests, Peter and Margaret, took only a small part, but we managed to follow most of the fairly informal service. After another communal farmhouse meal, we were taken to Giverny to see an exhibition of the Clark collection of impressionist paintings, many of which were early examples by the best known Impressionists, Renoir portraits and Sisley landscapes.

Monday morning's entertainment proved to be a visit to the street market at Pont Audemer: traffic was diverted from the town centre and the cobbled street occupied by ten times the number of stalls at Bridport's Saturday market. After an indoor 'pique-nique' we said our 'au revoirs' and thanks for all the excellent hospitality. The minibus returned, expertly driven by Roger with true sangfroid, unfazed by the front bench navigators' last minute search for a Carrefour in the industrial sprawl of le Havre; after the crossing there followed a frustrating delay at Portsmouth to clear passport control. To cap it all, a diversion on the M27 at midnight, but we were home at 1am thanks to our driver's determination to ignore all such trifling obstacles.

Next year there will be a return visit: Bridport will have to show its prowess as hosts, and keep this long-standing exchange of goodwill and friendship alive. **Philip Saunders** 

# **Mobile Chiropodist/Podiatrist**

**HPC Registered** 

For friendly professional care Contact Graig Lynham BSc, M.Ch. 01308 868108 or mobile 07867 643425



# of.......... TOM GLOVER Reporter



OARING highs and crashing lows are what link the two aspects of my double life.

By day I am the Chief Reporter for the View From Bridport and Beaminster and by night I'm an amateur stand up comedian, like a poor Westcountry imitation of Clark Kent. The best and worst part about both "careers" is that you never know what to expect from one day to the next. When I arrive in the office each morning my daily tasks will be dictated by what ever has landed in my email inbox overnight. Likewise my comedy career is dictated by who books me, where and when. I've been known to get a call to do a gig just as I sit down to dinner and what was meant to be a quiet night is suddenly spent on stage in front of 100 strangers.

The spontaneity does keep me on my toes and has led to some great experiences, and some not so great ones. As a reporter I've had the chance to meet and talk to some of my childhood heroes, such as Adrian Edmondson and Phil Jupitus, but it has also led me to being shouted at by Martin Clunes in a charity shop. A situation I had never expected to arise two weeks earlier when he made me a cup of tea and signed my Men Behaving Badly box set. Comedy is even more unpredictable, you're the next big thing one night and the following day you can perform the same set to complete silence.

Finding a single day which simultaneously sums up both aspects of my life is a difficult task but hopefully Friday, October 21st can give you a little insight into my world. Of my working week Friday is probably my most relaxed day. Monday and Tuesday are frantic as I beaver away to get my stories finished for deadline. Wednesday, Thursday and Friday are the calm before the storm, driving around in the company Smart car visiting the various events Bridport and Beaminster have to offer.

My jobs in the diary for Friday October 21st both, fittingly, had a religious link. My first visit was to the St Mary's Church Munch Club where volunteers, parents and children were celebrating the club's first birthday. The Munch Club is a great little group which has gone from strength to strength since its launch, offering parents a chance to enjoy a hot lunch and a chat with friends, and little ones a chance to run riot. One of the highlights of being a community reporter is that you are always where the action is happening, whether it's one of the town's many popular festivals or a little celebration such as the Munch Club's first birthday. Like at most of these events I was embraced into the club, had a jacket potato lunch and homemade cake, and then got snapping with my camera as the children played and parents chatted.

After the Munch Club I headed off to St Catherine's Primary School where the pupils had spent the day studying the religion of Islam. The school is taking time this year to study different faiths and had spent that Friday designing prayer mats, learning religious dances and baking star and moon biscuits. I took my pictures and headed back to the office to download my days work and write the stories up for next week's paper.

As Friday is our quietist day at the View From, and because I often find myself working throughout the weekend, I finished at 4pm.

The early finish was a blessing this week as I was heading up to London after work to compete in the first round of the Laughing Horse New Act of the year Competition. Unfortunately there weren't any heats closer to home so it meant a three-hour drive to do five minutes of comedy and then a three-hour drive back. I've done 53 gigs in my first year of comedy and travelled over 6000 miles for the privilege. It's the comedy apprenticeship that every big name comic has gone through at some stage. Comedy is as much about hard graft as it is talent. You've got to be committed to drive 100 miles to a town you've never heard of to perform for five minutes in front of people who potentially couldn't care less if you're there or not. It's worth it though for the times you have the audience hanging on your every word and laughing and applauding at every punch line.

The trouble with gigging in London is that both Land the

The trouble with gigging in London is that both I and the audience are from different worlds. In the same way London comics struggle when they come to Dorset and talk about tube travel and Oyster cards, I struggle when I go to London and talk about the West country.

I had a good gig that night but unfortunately I wasn't voted through to the next round. Three audience members are given voting cards and unless you impress them you're going home empty handed. My stories of holidays in Cornwall and funny West country newspaper headlines didn't impress them. Of course it's disappointing but eventually only one person will win that competition and thousands will go home defeated. As a wise man once said, fall down seven times, stand up eight, and tomorrow I'll be ready to stand up and do it all again.

Tom Glover

#### Singing for the Brain at St Swithun's

This group run by Alzheimer's Society meets every Wednesday afternoon at St Swithun's Church Hall between 1.15pm and 2.45pm and is open to anyone with memory problems, friends, family and carers.

The group meet for tea and coffee followed by a singing session led by trained facilitator and Bridport Town Crier, Jane Silver-Corren. The session starts with some simple breathing exercises and techniques to warm up the voice and Jane incorporates a mixture of familiar songs as well as new songs.

Jane says, "The group provides a stimulating environment for those with memory problems, and their partners or carers. When other parts of the memory appear to be fading, we work with and build on the preservation of musical memory."

Angie Gape, Dementia Support Worker for Alzheimer's Society says:

"Singing for the Brain is an enjoyable, friendly and uplifting experience giving many people a much needed boost. It's amazing to see the change in people from when they first join the group to a few weeks later when they recognise the new songs they have learnt and are so much more confident."

Some members of the group recently took part in the Alzheimer's Society Memory Walk around Bridport which coincided with The Bridport Hat Festival. The group were not only raising funds but used the opportunity to hold a mini Singing for the Brain session along the way to raise awareness about dementia.

If anyone would like more information about this group, please contact Angie Gape from Alzheimer's Society on 01305 259740

#### ST. MARY'S BRIDPORT

Parish Editor - Valerie Payne (temporary)
Churchwardens

Mr Ivor Parker 456648, Mr John Cooke 423004 Children's & Youth Leader - Mrs Valerie Payne 458867 Director of Music - Mr Peter Jezard 422136 Tower Captain - Mrs Dinah Wilson 422788

Church Services				
December	•			
Sunday 4	iday 4 8am	Holy Communion		
	9.30am	Parish Communion		
	4pm	Choral Evensong (BCP)		
Sunday 11	8am	Holy Communion		
	9.30am	Parish Communion		
	4pm	X-Alt Informal Service		
Sunday 18	8am	Holy Communion		
	9.30am	Parish Communion		
	4pm	Carol Service		
Tues 20	7.30pm	Blue Light Carol Service - for all		
		members families and friends of the emergency services		
Sat 24	4.pm	Christmas Eve Crib Service		
Jul 2	11.30pm	Midnight Holy Communion		
Sunday 25	-	Christmas Day Holy Communion		
	9.30am	Parish Communion		
January				
Sunday 1	8am	Holy Communion		
Sunday 8	8am	Holy Communion		
and 22	9.30am	Parish Communion		
	4pm	X-Alt Informal Service		
Sunday 15	8am	Holy Communion		
	9.30am	Parish Communion		
	4pm	Christingle		
Sunday 29	8am	Holy Communion		
	9.30am	Parish Communion		
Every Wed 10.30am Holy Communion				

There is a plethora of opportunities for meaningful worship in St Mary's over the Christmas period. The Carol Service, as always will be a veritable feast of wonderful music and the Crib Service this year will be 'Café Style' with all the usual ingredients and Christmas fare for all the family.

Come and Enjoy!

#### **Travelling Nativity**

St Mary's Mothers' Union are again looking for families to shelter the Holy Family for one or two nights during Advent. The Nativity set is hand knitted so is quite safe for small children and it includes a flock of sheep, one of which may be kept as a memento. If you have family or friends who would like to take part in this, or for futher information, please telephone Eileen Fuszard on Bridport 422590

#### ST MARY'S MOTHERS' UNION

The Carols and Christmas Party on **Tuesday 13 December** at 2.30pm is as usual shared with Bothenhampton Branch; this year it will be at Bothenhampton - Transport can be arranged.

The January meeting on Tuesday 10 at 2.30pm in Church House is our AGM. Come and hear the report of last year's achievements and help discuss the way forward for 2012.

#### HOLY TRINITY BOTHENHAMPTON

Village Editor - Mrs Barbara Ffooks 423122 Churchwardens - Mrs Pat Scott 423447, David Weston 424597 Children & Youth Worker - Mrs Jean Mitchell 422127

Church Services				
December				
Sunday 4	11am Sung Communion, 6pm Evensong			
Sundays 11&18	11am Sung Communion			
Sunday 18	6pm Nine Lessons and Carols			
Saturday 24	4pm Crib Service			
	11.30 Midnight Mass			
Sunday 25	11am Family Communion			
January	43			
Sundays 1&15	11am Sung Communion, 6pm Evensong			
Sunday 8	11am Sung Communion			
Sunday 22	11am Matins			
Sunday 29	11am Holy Communion (BCP)			

The Charity Collection at Holy Trinity in December is for The Bible Society which works tirelessly to provide bibles around the world. In January we support the Millenium Centre, helping young people in Bridport.

#### Come to a Carol singing get-together

Wednesday 14 December, Holy Trinity Church, 7.30pm A festive occasion to choose your favourites. Collection for children's charity. Refreshments

#### QUIZ NIGHT - SUNDAY 4 DECEMBER - 7.30pm

In aid of The Children's Society and Save the Children

Bothenhampton Village Hall. Teams up to 4 people £10.00. Supper £5.00 per person

THE VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE invites you to an Evening of Christmas Cheer Saturday 10 December, 7.30pm in the Hall

The Parish Council wishes to mark the Queen's Jubilee next June with a memento for families. Please ring 458006/424300 now if you have children under 11 years in Bothenhampton or Walditch

#### **COFFEE MORNINGS in Holy Trinity**

10am - 12 noon with books and raffle Sat 3 December - Christmas parcels and handbells Sat 7 January - New Year swap shop

#### **MOTHERS' UNION**

Tuesday 13 December at 2.30pm Village Hall.

Joined by St Mary's, Bridport for Christmas Party.

10 January - AGM

#### **EVENING WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

Monday **12 December** 7.30pm Village Hall - Christmas Party Monday **16 January** - Mrs Vanessa Hughes "Food for Thought"

Next Film Evening - Saturday 21 January 7.30pm Bothenhampton Village Hall - details 423071/458006

Frome Valley Mummers are performing their traditional play in the Village Hall on Friday 6 January, 7.30pm.

Refreshments

#### HOLY TRINITY BRADPOLE

Village Editor - Douglas Baldwin 424232 Churchwarden - Mr David Coe 421352 Verger - Mrs Sheena Ascott 456373 Children & Youth Worker - Mrs Vyv Haydon 420367 Tower Captain - Mr Peter Carnell 420716 If you have any Pastoral/personal issues please contact The Revd Janis Moore 425644 (Day off Wednesday)

Church Services				
December				
Sunday 4	9.30	Worship service, coffee afterwards		
Tuesday 6	2.30pm	'Tuesdays Together' (with teas)		
Sunday 11	9.30am	Parish communion		
	6.30pm	Evensong		
Sunday 18	3pm	Carol service, followed by mince pies		
		(Note: there will be no 9.30 service)		
Saturday 24	3pm	Crib service – a special invitation to		
		children		
		Midnight communion service		
Sunday 25	9.30am	Parish communion		
January				
Sunday 1	9.30am	Service celebrating New Year with		
		communion – theme 'New Beginnings'		
Tuesday 3		'Tuesdays Together' (with teas)		
Sunday 8		Parish communion		
Sunday 15		Worship service		
Sunday 22		Parish communion		
Sunday 29		Parish communion		
	6.30pm	Evensong		

#### **CAROLS IN BRADPOLE**

If you like singing carols please join us in The King's Head at 8pm on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December and at the Co-op on Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December between 2 and 4pm.

#### **HOUSEWIVES UNITED**

The Christmas event with festive refreshments on December 14<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 in the village hall, will include entertainment with popular songs by Harry on accordion and Ruth on guitar. The New Year lunch is at 'The Loders Arms' on January 11<sup>th</sup> and on the 25<sup>th</sup> January Bruce Upton will give a talk 'A glimpse of Old Bridport' at 7.30 in the village hall.

#### 'TOTS @ TEN'

Parents and carers are invited to come and meet with others with pre-school children for coffee and tea and lots of fun for the children, in Holy Trinity from 10-11.30 every Wednesday in term time.

#### **FELLOWSHIP GROUPS**

If you would like to join an afternoon group, please call David Coe (421232). There is also an evening group and Phil Doughty (422096) will be happy to talk to you about that.

#### **MOTHERS' UNION**

Christmas tea will be served in the village hall on Wednesday December 7<sup>th</sup> at 3pm. The AGM will be held in church on January 17<sup>th</sup> at 2.30.

#### **VILLAGE LUNCH CLUB**

Lunch at The King's Head in December is on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> which will be Christmas fare, and in January on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> at 12.30. New members are welcome. Contact Daphne King on 427552.

#### **TUESDAY CLUB**

Kids aged 6-11 are invited to the village hall on Tuesdays at 5.45pm in term time. Come along for some fun.

#### ST. MARY'S WALDITCH

Village Editor - Penny Hall penatgold@gmail.com



#### **Church Services**

#### **December**

Sundays 4 & 11 11.15am Parish Eucharist, Common Worship

Sunday 18 3pm Carol Service Saturday 24 4pm Crib Service

Sunday 25 11.15am Parish Eucharist, Common Worship

**January** Sundays 1, 8,

22 11.15am Parish Eucharist, Common Worship Sunday 15 11.15am Parish Eucharist, Book of Common

11.15am Parish Eucharist, Book of Common Prayer

Sunday 29 11.15am Morning Prayer

#### LIGHT UP THE CHURCH

The church is lit during December and January:

In loving memory of Alexander John Scott (John and Marian Scott)

"In loving memory of my parents,

**Emily Irene and Harold Bellamy Brailsford**"

Your daughter, Anne

#### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Village Lunch at The Crown, Uploders on Friday 13th January (please let Pat Stapleton know if you would like to join us – first come first served as numbers are limited!)

**Quiz Evening** in the village hall on Friday 27th January at 7pm

#### ST. MARY'S CHURCH FELLOWSHIP GROUP

The Fellowship Group (The Walditch Wonderers) meet twice a month on Friday mornings at 4 The Green, Walditch. If you'd like to come along, please contact: Pat Stapleton (456421) or Ann Ayling (424896). Anyone interested would be most welcome.

#### **WALDITCH WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

Meets in the village hall in Walditch on the third Tuesday of each month, from 10am to 12 noon. For more details, please contact Pat Pullen on 01308 425703.

December 13th Christmas Celebration

January 17th Speaker: Tom Baldry 'The story of Britain's

furniture.' (open meeting, guests welcome)

#### **Walditch Yuletide Party**

Village Hall, 16th December 7.30pm

Yule (which is Norse for wheel) celebrates the turning point of the seasonal year - Time for passing the dark hours with Feasting, Singing and Dancing

Entertainment: Chris Prideaux and Friends

Finger Food and Mulled Cider

Dress: Masks (optional)

Tickets (limited) £7 Reserve by 1st December Phone: Val 427430; Angela 456427; Sally 420697

#### 'OLD' WALDITCH HOME WATCH

At the time of writing (early November) nobody has come forward to consider becoming the new Co-ordinator. Unless this changes in the meantime, the present whole-village scheme will close on 31st December. If this happens, it is probable there may be smaller schemes for particular parts of the village. To qualify for any insurance company discounts and the free 'Neighbourhood Watch Public Liability Insurance', new schemes must be registered with Dorset Police indicating which part of the village is included. If you have previously told your home insurer you are in a HW and this will no longer be the case after 31 December, it is important to notify the insurer. Please contact Robin Stapleton, 4 The Green if you need advice or information.

#### ST. SWITHUN'S ALLINGTON

Village Editor - Mrs June Goodburn 423061

Churchwarden

Mr Graham Williams 425375

Children & Youth Workers - - Saturday Club 423061 Organist/Choirmaster - Mr Donald Allcock 485402

#### **Church Services**

December

Sundays 4, 18, 25 8am Mass, 9.30am Sung Mass Sunday 11 8am Mass, 9.30am Sung Mass

6pm Evensong and Benediction

Sunday 18 6pm Lessons and Carols

Saturday 24 11am Christmas Eve Crib Service (families

warmly invited)

11.30pm Midnight Mass

#### **Weekday Services**

Tuesdays 12noon Mass Mass Wednesdays 9am Thursdays 10am Mass

2nd Saturday 9.30am Mass. Walsingham Cell

January

Sundays 1, 15, 22 8am Mass, 9.30am Sung Mass 8am Mass, 9.30am Sung Mass Sunday 8

6pm Team Epiphany Carol service

Sunday 29 8am Mass, 9.30am Sung Mass

6pm Evensong led by Deacon Duncan as a

retirement service

#### **Weekday Services**

Tuesdays 12noon Mass Wednesdays Mass 9am 10am Mass Thursdays

2nd Saturday 9.30am Mass. Walsingham Cell

#### **PARISH EVENTS - DECEMBER**

Friday 2 2.30pm - Guild and Prayer Group - Christmas Party with guest entertainer - St Swithun's Hall.

2pm - Prayer Meeting - St Swithun's Hall

Tuesday 6

Saturday 10 10am - Children's Saturday Club Christmas

Partv

Monday 12 7.30pm St Swithun's Band Christmas Concert

in Church. Adults £3.50 Children under 16 free.

11am Christmas Eve Crib Service Saturday 24

#### **PARISH EVENTS - JANUARY**

Thursday 5 10am - Mass. The Guild followed by coffee and

mince pies.

10am - 12noon Children's Saturday Club Saturdays 7

and 21 begins. Please note new time.

Tuesdays 17 2pm. Prayers for Healing Group.

For details tel: 422045 and 31

#### What is a name? that which we call a rose, by any other name would smell as sweet.

It is amazing some of the names parents give their children. There was a craze a few decades ago to name your son with all the names of your favourite football team. Others don't seem to look at the names and initials before committing them to the registrar. The other thing I cannot really understand is when after the birth the parents say they don't know what the name will be. Goodness me they have had nine months to think about it!

Mary and Joseph had none of these worries as they knew their baby was to be called Jesus. Jesus was named after the great Jewish leader Joshua who led the people of Israel into the promised land. This name is still widely used in Jewish families and in many South American countries.

When we speak of Jesus we usually say "Jesus Christ" and the two names come readily to our lips, but it would be more appropriate to turn them round and say Christ Jesus. Jesus is an ordinary name and still in much use today, where as 'Christ' is a title like 'Lord' or 'Sir' or 'King' and means 'The Anointed

Names really are very important, so maybe a little more thought should go into what you are going to call your child, rather than just pleasing granny......D.D.

#### ST. JOHN'S WEST BAY

Village Editor - Philip Ringer 425774 philipringer@aol.com Chapel Warden - Mrs Rosemary Russell 423013

#### **Church Services**

**December** Sun 18 3pm Deaf Church Service Sat 24 4pm Crib Service Sun 25 11.15am Holy Communion Other Sunday Services in December and January 11.15am All welcome

If you are looking for a unique Christmas Gift why not visit the WI Bring and Buy on Wednesday 7th December at their Hall in George Street? The event will be held between 10.30am and 12.30pm.

We welcome the Allington Strings, under their conductor Wendy Seal, for a concert on SATURDAY 11th DECEMBER at 3.00pm. The programme will include Bach, Telemann, Howells, Finzi and Rutter. The tickets are £6 and can be obtained from the Book Shop, Bridport Music or at the door on the afternoon.

The following Thursday 15, the West Bay Women's Institute will hold their Carol Service in St John's at 2.30pm. I understand that they will be joined by Bridport WI and members of the public are also welcome.

One of the ventures that has recently found a place in the calendar at St. John's is Deaf Church. Their next service will be at 3.00pm on 18th December, the Sunday before Christmas. If you know of anyone who would be interested in attending this service which is 'signed' using 'British Sign Language, then please tell them or consider accompanying them on 18th to discover how extremely powerful and uplifting worship can be using this method of communication. You will be made very welcome.

The much awaited work around the Mound appears to be progressing well at the time of going to press and I hope to be able to report successful completion in the next edition of the Bridge.

The Crib Service on Christmas Eve at 4.00pm will offer a warm and seasonal welcome to all who consider this to be a significant part of their 'keeping of Christmas'. Following last year's temporary power interruption with the 'star over the stable' I hope it will be alright on the night of 24th. Come and see for yourself and sing some favourite carols. Holy Communion on Christmas Day will be at 11.15am. We look forward to seeing many people on this second greatest of all Christian festivals.

As we come to the end of December I would like to take the opportunity to thank everyone who has helped keep the activities at St. John's maintained throughout the year. In addition to weekly services the Church has hosted a wide variety of events, ranging from the extended exhibition of the West Bay Regeneration scheme to the televised Royal Wedding service from Westminster Abbey. Our Chapel Warden, Rosemary Russell, successfully committed her own time and encouraged others to do likewise to ensure all these events went according to plan. Even the untimely visit of recalcitrant pigeons is now a matter of distant memory. Thank you also to the many visitors to St. John's who left complimentary remarks in our well used visitors' book.

# Funeral

We entrust to God's merciful keeping



Elsie Mary Copp	98 years	Bridport
Brian (Victor) Cary	71 years	Bradpole
Henry Medway Dommett	91 years	Bridport
Joan Mary Fevin	67 years	Bridport
Reginald (Peter) Hansford	81 years	Bradpole
Ronald Stephen Hill	88 years	Bothenhampton
Winifred Margaret Joyce	84 years	Bradpole
Frederick William Knight	84 years	Bridport
Beryl Knapman-Powell	69 years	St Swithun's
Louise Florence Maidment	89 years	Bothenhampton
Vera Mary Painter	91 years	Bothenhampton
Helen Marie Pitcher	47 years	Bridport
George Pollitt	91 years	Bothenhampton
Alfred Thomas Reynolds	87 years	Bridport
Doris Eileen West	83 years	Bridport
Michael Wright	87 years	Bridport
Lily Woodruff	97 years	Bridport

# Baptisms/Thanksgiving



Jake Matthew Condliffe Bradpole 23 October Bradpole 20 November Imogen Iris Dunn Kian Myles Paul Harrison St Swithun's 6 November Kirsty Thomas St Swithun's 5 November

Thomas Oscar Morgan

St Swithun's 16 October Wallbridge Bethany Rose Watkins St Swithun's 16 October

#### **PARISH COUNCIL NEWS**

#### **Bradpole**

Parish Clerk Mrs Goldsmith. Tel 01308 422140 Next Parish Council Meeting Thursday 1 December 2011

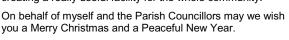
As you will have seen by now the Parish Council has purchased several salt bins for the Parish, they have been positioned in priority sites after gaining permission from DCC Highways Department. The salt in these bins is for use by the general public on the roads and pavements in their area. If you notice that the bins are in need of refilling please inform the Parish Clerk.

DCC Highways Department will the refill them IF they have salt available. Please remember a little salt will cover a large area.

Web Site: www.bradpole.org.uk

The PC has a new web site over the coming weeks additional features will be added and we are looking forward to creating a really useful facility for the whole community.

On behalf of myself and the Parish Councillors may we wish



Mrs Sandra Goldsmith Parish Clerk 01308 422140

#### **Bothenhampton & Walditch**

Monthly Parish Council meeting - Monday 12 December 2011 Parish Clerk Christopher Dobbs. Tel 01308 424300 Further general information on:

Bothenhampton@dorsetparishes.gov.uk



We are hoping to produce a special Jubilee Edition of The Bridge with extra pages in colour.

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Please contact the Editor, Valerie Payne, 458867



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Andrew Evans, Ann Ayling or Diana and Peter Wright, Tel 456967

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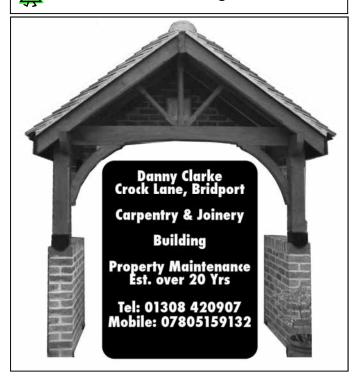


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Apologies to Paul Waite for publishing incorrect telephone number in September issue

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