

May 2025

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<https://dorchesteranglican.org.uk>

the Dorchester Messenger

A magazine for Dorchester
brought to you by
the Anglican Church

The Harmony Festival

June 11th - 14th

Daily 10.30 - 4.30



Flowers Art & Music

St Mary's Church

Dorchester DT1 2HJ

www.artattheduchess.com



Flowers

The Harmony Festival

Daily 10.30am - 4.30pm

An array of glorious floral designs created by the professional team of Jo Richards, Helen Joyce and Melanie Smith of The Academy of Floristry, Bournemouth.

SATURDAY JUNE 14TH Floral demonstration 11am by Jo and Helen.

Art

An exhibition of art from artists across Dorset together with textile, ceramics and glass works. Including a small herd of “arty” baby elephants (Wednesday to Friday only) from Stampede by the Sea. All work available to buy (excluding elephants).

FRIDAY AND SATURDAY 13th and 14th June, Artisan Traders. A varied range of artistic items available to purchase from skilled crafts people.

Special Guest Artist Saturday June 14th

BEN MCGREGOR winner of Sky Arts Landscape Artist of the Year 2025, will be painting live.

& Music

Concerts:

Wednesday - **The West Dorset Singers** 7.30

<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/EQYK>

Thursday - **Dorchester Rock Choir & Guests** 7.30

<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/EQYN>

Saturday - **Matt Walters**, Organ Recital 7.30

<https://www.trybooking.com/uk/EFXV>



Supporting Weldmar Hospicecare
Stampede by the Sea



An Art at the Duchess presentation
check for up to date information on
www.artattheduchess.com

Welcome

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the May edition of the Dorchester Messenger.

As I write this article Holy Week has just begun, but by the time you read it, Easter will be over, and we will be looking forward to summer. However, as I was recently reminded by a wise colleague, Easter is never really over, since we celebrate Easter every time we share Holy Communion.

This was a helpful reminder of how we can carry the joy of that first Easter Sunday as we journey through the rest of the year. Easter is not just a one-day celebration marked by daffodils, chocolate eggs, and joyful hymns—as lovely as all these things are! Easter is a reminder of hope, new beginnings, and life overcoming death themes that we can lean on when we face life's challenges.

With the start of May comes a sense of good things to come, the weather is improving, the days are getting longer the gardens are coming into their own and the trees are displaying those fresh, spring green leaves. Yet despite the hope that this time of the year brings, our news feeds

serve as a constant reminder that all is not well in the world. Stories of war, oppression and bullying behaviours dominate the news, and it can leave us feeling hopeless. My day is often interrupted by “breaking news” flashing up on my phone (I am yet to discover how to turn off this function.) Although it does not necessarily herald bad news the phrase carries with it a sense of apprehension and memories of past tragedies and worse.

Breaking news does not have to carry negative associations. The New Testament is full of such news. News of the Incarnation, the birth of God's Son heralded by a host of angels. News of the empty tomb and the risen Jesus carried to the disciples by a group of women. Breaking news or as Christians prefer to call it 'The Good News'. The Good News that is at the heart of our faith The Good News that we have just celebrated at Easter, the Good News of Jesus' resurrection. And as we journey through May we will receive more breaking news, the news of Jesus' Ascension which marks a time of active and expectant waiting for God's gift of the Holy Spirit. Breaking news in our modern

world may continue to be filled with stories that bring apprehension and anxiety, but I encourage you all to remember that we can find joy, peace and love in the breaking news that we find running through the New Testament, the news of the birth, life, death and resurrection of Jesus.

Every Blessing to you all,

Rev'd Heidi



News & Views

The organisers of **The Harmony Festival** are looking for volunteers to “meet and greet” during the four days of the festival. 10.30am - 1.30pm and 1.30pm - 4.30pm. If you would like to assist in welcoming visitors to the festival and providing information both about the festival and St Mary's, David Kingman the festival director would love to hear from you. Please contact david@artattheduchess.com

The Parish of Dorchester & West Stafford **Annual Vestry Meeting of Parishioners**, to elect churchwardens, and **Annual Parochial Church Meeting** will be held on **Thursday 22 May** at 7.30pm in St. George's Church Hall, Fordington. The Annual Report & Financial Statements, and the Group & Team Reports for the year 2024 will be displayed in each of the churches before the APCM, additional paper or email copies can be obtained by contacting the Parish Office. All welcome. Refreshments. For further details contact Janet Cooper, PCC Secretary, janetcooper@hotmail.com or 260259.

Tea Toast And Toddlers starts again on Monday, the 28th of April at 9:30 Newcomers are always welcome.

Volunteers needed to help support this group. If you're interested, please contact Ruth Magee on Tel. 07984 621132

Music at St Peter's Dorchester

We hope you can join us for the concerts, services and musical events taking place at St Peter's Church Dorchester (DT1 1XA) during May. On Sunday 11th May our monthly, cathedral-style service of Choral Eucharist takes place at 10.30am. The music includes William Harris's 'Holy is the true light', Gabrielli's 'Missa brevis in F' and Philip Stopford's 'God be in my head'. The service is, of course, free to attend and you are warmly invited to stay for refreshments afterwards.

Our monthly lunchtime concert will be given by flautist Nadia Divincenzo, accompanied by Rob Taylor. This takes place on Saturday 17th May between 12.30pm and 1pm. Nadia and Rob's programme includes works by Frank Martin, Charles-Marie Widor and J.S. Bach. Nadia is in her final year studying Animation at Bournemouth University, where she is also a music scholar. This performance is a sneak preview of her LTCL diploma programme, so we hope you will come and support this outstandingly talented young musician! Admission is free and all are welcome.

Finally, our monthly service of Choral Evensong takes place on Saturday 31st May at 4.30pm. The music, marking Ascension Day, includes Stanford's 'Coelos Ascendit', the Radcliffe 'Preces & Responses', the 'Kings College Service' by Joanna Forbes L'Estrange and Finzi's 'God is gone up'. We are delighted to welcome David Bednall (choral Director at Clifton Cathedral) as guest organist. Admission is free and there is a glass of wine to follow. All are very welcome.

Looking ahead to September, we are thrilled to announce that our Autumn

programme of events launches with a concert given by the Gents of St John's College, Cambridge on Saturday 6th September at 7pm.

A septet of singers will perform a programme of music drawn from their eclectic repertoire, which spans 600 years! The performance will last approximately one hour and fifteen minutes and be presented without interval. Tickets priced £18 and £14 (side aisle with more limited view) are now on sale at: <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-peters-church-dorchester>

Keep up with events via our website: www.musicatstpetersdorchester.org or by following us on social media: Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/musicatstpetersdorch> - X (Twitter): @musicatstpeter - Instagram @musicatstpetersdorch. If you would like to receive our monthly newsletter, subscribe through the website or drop us a line at: musicatstpeters@mail.com All of our social media and contact details can be found at: linktr.ee/musicatstpeters

PLANT SALE

08/05/2025 10:00am

8 Grosvenor Rd

The plant sale has become a popular event in the Dorchester Branch of the Children's Society fundraising calendar. The sale this year will take place on Thursday 8th May from 10 am – 3pm. Once again, the venue will be 8 Grosvenor Road, Dorchester, DT1 2BB, for which we thank Jane and Nigel Culliford for their hospitality. In preparation for the sale, any plant donations will be gratefully received, either on the day or beforehand and can be delivered to Jane Culliford (Grosvenor Road) or Annette Aldridge (16 Manor Road). Collection can also be arranged by ringing Annette on 01305 269245. There are generally a wide range of plants available for sale on the day including annuals, perennials and vegetable plants. We hope to see you there.

Badminton Club



- Monday mornings 10:00am to approx. 12:00noon
- Friday evenings 8:00pm to approx. 10:00pm
- Venue: United Church Hall, Dorchester (opposite The Library)

- Have you played badminton before?
- Are you a beginner who wants to play a new sport?
- Are you new to the area and want to meet new

Everyone is very welcome from all levels of ability. A great way to keep fit with a friendly group of people

All for Only £2 per session!!!!



For the further information, please contact Colin Tizzard (email: c_tizzard@hotmail.com)

YOUR CHURCH & HUMAN RIGHTS

A Conference in association with Christian Action Dorset

Does your church support all human rights?

Are you worried about the erosion of human rights in UK?

How does your church speak up against human rights abuses?

Come and be inspired and informed.



Andrea Williams
from Christian Concern

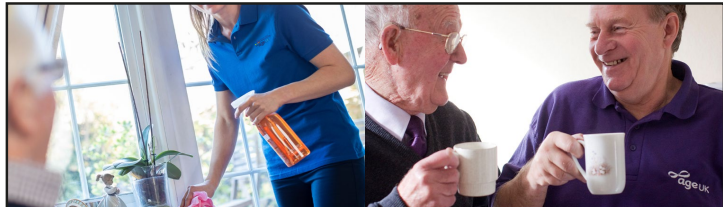


Dave Brennan
from Brephos



Maureen Martin
from Christian People's Alliance

Saturday May 17th 2025, 9am-5pm
Hotel Collingwood, Bournemouth
Entry Free



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MUSIC AT ST PETER'S
Dorchester



Lunchtime Concert

Saturday 17th May 12.30-1.00pm

A programme of music for flute and piano, including works by Bach, Widor and Martin.

Flute: Nadia Divincenzo

Piano: Rob Taylor



Free admission. All welcome.

From the Churches

ST PETER'S

Church correspondent, Keith Magee



Visit of Bishop Karen

On Sunday 16th March, it was wonderful for us to have Bishop Karen with us at St Peter's as our Celebrant and Preacher at our Sung Eucharist. It was the first time that she had been to our church on a Sunday morning and so both she and us were excited at the prospect. A good sized congregation gathered and many remarked on the wonderfully relaxed and inclusive way in which Bishop Karen preached and presided. During coffee after the service, she stayed around for a good amount of time, happily talking to a wide breadth of those who had come to the service. It was a very special morning for St Peter's.

Team Eucharist at St George's

On Sunday 15th June, Trinity Sunday, we will be gathering for a Team Eucharist at St George's Church at 10.30 am. Our guest Celebrant and Preacher will be Revd Dr James Woodward. James is the principal of Sarum College in Salisbury. The college enjoys a lovely location in the cathedral close and is where Heidi and Lydia trained for ordination. The service will be followed by a lunch in St George's Hall. There will be no other services in the team on that day, so please do join us for this special morning.

Summer Ordinations

On 28th June at 4.30 pm, Revd Lydia Reese will be ordained priest in Salisbury Cathedral. She has thrown herself into diaconal ministry during this past year, serving as a Curate in the West Purbeck benefice. Lydia is fondly remembered at St Peter's from when she served her placement here as an ordinand. Please continue to remember Lydia in your prayers, and if you are able to, travel up to Salisbury to attend her ordination.

Garden Party

We will be hosting a Garden Party at The Rectory on Saturday 5th July at 2.00 pm. We are hoping that it will be a wonderful sunny afternoon when we can peruse a variety of stalls, play some games in the garden, enjoy an excellent cream tea and enjoy each other's relaxing company.

Further details will be published as we get nearer to the date. Please place the date in your diaries and pray for a seasonably glorious day.

Gentlemen of St John's

It will be our joy and pleasure to welcome back to St Peter's, the Gentlemen of St John's for our Autumn concert on Saturday 6th September at 7.00 pm. Many of you will remember the excellent performance they gave back in the Autumn of 2022. Tickets are priced £18 and £14 and are available from <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-peters-church-dorchester>. If you have any difficulty booking online please see David Elliott. This promises to be a wonderful evening that will be well worth attending.

**Rebecca
Arman**

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replacement zip.

ST MARY'S

Church correspondent, Moira Farley



Sanctuary Lamps for May

Sunday 4 May given by Janet Cooper in memory of her mother Melita whose years mind falls on 1 May and for her sister Val whose years mind falls on 9 May

Sunday 11 May given by Trudy Tabone in memory of her father Ernest Dessin whose years mind falls on 12 May. And also by Jan Milree in thanksgiving for her grandson Theo whose birthday is on 13 May

Sunday 18 May given by Cynthia Fry in thanksgiving for her grandson Brenden whose birthday is on 24 May

Sunday 25 May given by Rosemary Bassett in memory of her father Edward Turner whose years mind falls on 26 May

Dorchester Family Support

DFS have started their planning for this Summer. We are in the process of organising our food supplies and putting together volunteer rotas. Our first week starts on Thursday 24 July and, as usual we shall be working from the Thomas Hardy site. Feedback from our families highlighted the need for dental products for the children so we are hoping to incorporate those items in the hampers this year. If you could support us with a donation we would be very grateful.

Kath Joslin - joslinkath@gmail.com

Easter Egg Hunt

On Monday 7 April a group of excited children and their parents and carers joined us at St Mary's for our now annual Easter Egg Hunt. This year we began proceedings with a demonstration of Godly Play, led by Barbara Pover from the Salvation Army. We were able to think about Lent and the meaning of the cross, time was given for reflection and the children were all engaged and talked about their feelings. Then down to the important part of the day, children scattered all over the church hunting for the plastic eggs, they were then rewarded with a FairTrade Easter egg and book about Easter in exchange for their collections.

It is wonderful to welcome young people to church at any time, and maybe particularly on the first Sunday of the month when there will be organised activities available to all children.

Plant Sale – Thursday 8 May

The plant sale has become a popular event in the Dorchester Branch of the Children's Society fundraising calendar. The sale this year will take place on Thursday 8 May from 10.00 am – 3.00pm. Once again, the venue will be 8 Grosvenor Road, Dorchester DT1 2BB, for which we thank Jane and Nigel Culliford for their hospitality. In preparation for the sale, any plant donations will be gratefully received, either on the day or beforehand and can be delivered to Jane Culliford (Grosvenor Road) or Annette Aldridge (16 Manor Road). Collection can also be arranged by ringing Annette on 01305 269245. There are generally a wide range of plants available for sale on the day including annuals, perennials and vegetable plants. We hope to see you there.

More stations!

A couple of months ago my contribution to the St Mary's page was about stations – the damage suffered by one of the Stations of the Cross plaques in the church and, in contrast, the refurbishment of South railway station. You may think that the latter is not church magazine material but the station is an important feature of our town and its development may be a matter of general interest. Planning of what is known as a mid-tier programme started a long time ago; one thing I learnt is that everything takes a long time but everyone hopes for a satisfactory conclusion. Discussions led by South Western Railway involved the Town Council and Dorset Council and the Friends of the station were asked to comment and make suggestions. Before this mid-tier work started there was a comprehensive replacement of the lighting in the station, on the platforms and in the car park. The next stage was the building of new, larger passenger shelters on both platforms. Then a temporary booking office was installed in the car park so that the station building could be closed and internal work started. At the same time the unsightly grassy area in front of the station was excavated, a long and interesting process when watched on a daily basis. A succession of large lorries took the spoil away, a digger prepared the ground and when the various levels had been prepared and consolidated the brick layers arrived. A couple of men carefully laid thousands of bricks to form the walls of the new ramp and the two flights of steps, taking a great pride in their work. Coping stones of inferior quality were delivered and the brickly team, so they said, wouldn't use them as it reflected badly on their work. Gradually the final layout became clear and the site was cleared of miscellaneous clutter. The two new

plant beds were filled with soil, and the odd faults put right and eventually the outside area was finished. Meanwhile the inside of the building was gutted and a new arrangement of walls was built, providing a much more spacious passenger area and a smaller (but better equipped) office. There are more seats, with better train and bus information and display panels. The front entrance has wide, movement-activated sliding doors giving easy access for mobility scooters, push chairs and heavy luggage; the door to the platform also has a push button automatic opening facility so access is easier for everyone. There is a disabled toilet and a male/female one. On the outside walls are 3 new 'murals' depicting Maiden Castle, Thomas Hardy and the Borough Gardens, adding colour to the general appearance as you approach.

Then a formal opening was arranged for Monday 4 April and in the preceding week there was a flurry of last minute work. The two plant beds had compost and mulch added and the plants arrived to be planted by the Friends with the help of Friends from West Station.. The Beryl bike area was prepared and bikes were delivered - they have been well used every day since their arrival. Then the climax with the opening by our MP, Edward Morello with speeches by him, our mayor, Robin Potter and a SW Railway manager. A ribbon was cut (using scissors with gold plated handles!) and two Daphne bushes were planted in prepared holes. Refreshments for the large number of invited guests were provided by the Copper Street Brewery and the whole sunny and warm afternoon was a social success and good publicity for the greatly improved rail access to our town. It no longer has a tired and uncared for appearance but looks (and is) up to date and welcoming.

This station, like most of the local SWR stations, has a small band of Friends which is part of the officially recognised Purbeck Community Rail Partnership. We have been unable to do much while the building work has been in progress but we planted Spring bulbs along the down platform 2 or 3 years ago and in the new planters on the same platform this year; the daffodils have been showy and the colour is now being provided by the tulips. We provided a decorated Christmas tree in the waiting area for 3 years and plan to do the same again now that the building work has finished.

There are plans to add local artwork in the waiting shelters, to develop – and maintain – the planting, to work with the Town Council on improving signage to West station and into the town with information boards about local attractions and facilities and we hope to continue to make constructive suggestions to management based on knowledge of local needs. We do need to increase the size of the group involved; if you'd like to find out more about the Friends and how you could be involved please do ask me.

Robert Potter

When I was young there was no National Health Service. We had to pay for visits to the doctor and for medication. Some people were in schemes and paid so much a week or month, others had to rely on well known remedies.

Our doctor, Doctor L- had his surgery in our road. There were no appointments, the waiting room opened at 8.30 am and the surgery started at 9.00 am – first come, first served. Our family would get to the surgery at 8.30 am and wait. As people came in they worked out where they were in the queue. There were chairs all around the room and the first there got the most comfortable. Dr L- dispensed his own medicine and employed a dispenser. Part of the waiting room was sectioned off for this purpose. I don't remember much about the medicine except that there was red and brown coloured medicine. The brown tasted horrible, at least I thought so. We paid half a crown (about 12.5 pence in today's money) a visit. The medicine was in glass bottles with corks. On the side were marks which measured a dose. There were separate bottles for children. Embrocation was in a blue bottle, I think six-sided. This was to distinguish a poison from others. If you needed eye drops you had a little glass bottle with a glass dropper that had a rubber top which you pressed to get the right amount of liquid.

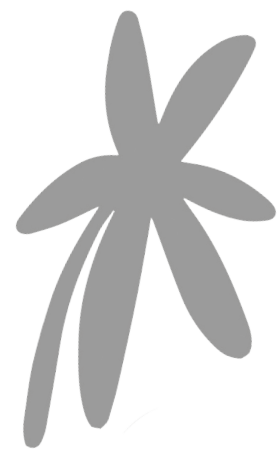
There were then as now remedies you could buy over the counter. My brother and I had spoonfuls of cod liver oil and malt. (Do you remember Kanga and Baby Roo in the House at Pooh Corner?). There were kaolin poltices or bread ones to 'draw out the poison'.

Eventually Dr L- moved to Harley Street and Dr D- came instead. He had a partner in another surgery seven miles away. Now we had to go to the chemist for our medication, I expect he was glad of the extra custom. We would take the prescription and either wait or come back later. The chemist had a very high counter. He was Mr T-.

Remember, most people didn't live to a very old age, my father died in his early 80's, many men would not have received an Old Age Pension for many years as they do now. My mother's family were longer lived. Great grandpa lived to be 94 and grandpa Stephens died in his late 80's. He received Maundy Money from the Queen in Chelmsford Cathedral. The advent of antibiotics helped many to live longer, but now they are used more sparingly. There are so many modern inventions and robotic surgery. Even so, we cannot live for ever and hospice care has helped many.

So thank you health professionals and voluntary organisations for your contribution to the health of our nation.

Katherine Marr
(aged 96)



ST ANDREW'S

Church correspondent, Roger Lane



AN EARNEST SUPPLICATION"

BY A VICTORIAN TEENAGER

Back in the 1850s, a young Bosworth Southwell Smith, second son of Reginald, the Rector of West Stafford and his wife Emily, was shocked to hear that one of his uncles had ordered the killing of owls that were attacking game on his estates. This light-hearted, hand-written plea, signed by himself and two of his sisters (not to mention by Cock & Hen Owls), is among the diaries kept by his dotting mother and held in the Dorset History Centre. She encouraged Bos's life-long interest in birds, and deserved the tributes to her in his "Dorset Bird Life and Bird Lore", first published in 1905 & republished as recently as 2013.

An earnest supplication for a respite of the sentence of death passed (it is believed unjustly) on certain inhabitants of the plantations at the Down House & humbly showing:

1st That the said inhabitants are Birds of great beauty and of the rare species called Horned owls. (Now known as Long-eared Owls and protected by the RSPB, founded 1889)

2nd That they are of the most grave judicial aspect suggesting lessons of consideration and calm deliberation to all beholders.

3rd That they have actually exercised the judicial with great firmness and impartiality and have protected the public interest specially those of the Farmer by exerting the sentence of death on a multitude of robbers- viz on young rats, mice and other vermin.

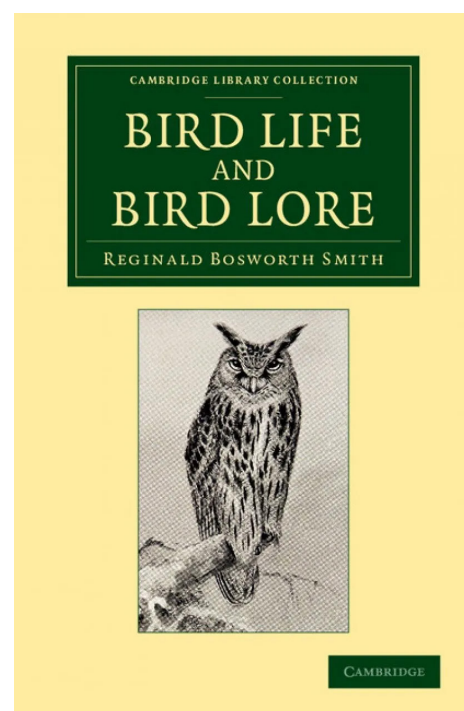
4th That in these and other accounts they have deserved well of the state and the owner of the said Plantations and therefore ought not to be put to death but rather to be treated with that indulgence and respect which is due to their usefulness and dignity.

5th That in proof of the above assertions reference is made to the authority of Yarrell and other eminent ornithologists and naturalists and an earnest supplication is made for the respite of the sentence of death now so cruelly passed on the aforesaid Horned owls.

It seems probable that the new instructions to gamekeepers were given after a change of ownership at Down House. For many years this property was owned by Sir John Wyldbore Smith; it passed to Reggy's elder brother, who often welcomed the children from West Stafford Rectory there. The Down House caught fire in 1941 and was demolished in 1954.

Was Bosworth being hypocritical in expressing these views while being an enthusiastic collector of birds' eggs? Certainly not by the standards of his time; on one occasion he even encouraged school-children at their prize-giving to scramble over Dorset cliffs to add to their collections. No doubt he would have fully supported the RSPB and current laws forbidding this practice. He wrote that: "Birds have been to me the solace, the recreation, the passion of a lifetime." This passion, born in the West Stafford Rectory, may be shared in an illustrated edition of Bosworth's book from the Cambridge University Press with a Long-eared Owl on its front cover. "Bird Lore" boosted the Royal Society for the

Protection of Birds which had 500,000 members supporting 'Bird Laws' by its 1989 centenary.



ST GEORGE'S

Church correspondent, Jenny Russell



A warm welcome awaits you at St George's from the Rev. Cora Yarrien and the St George's Church family.

The church is open daily from 9 am to 4 pm for private prayer and access to the community larder.

There are a variety of services on a Sunday and during the week that you can attend.

Sunday 8 am BCP holy communion on the first and third Sundays in the Edward Chapel.

Sunday 9:45 am service with holy communion every Sunday. Tea and coffee are served in the hall after this service.

Sunday school "dragons" meet in the church hall every Sunday during the 9:45 service, all children welcome. Volunteers needed to help with Sunday school if you are able to help, please contact Rev. Cora Yarrien.

Wednesday 9:30 a.m. morning prayer in the choir stalls.

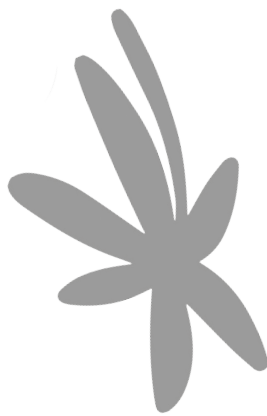
Thursday 11 am mid week holy communion. Tea and coffee served after the service.

Confirmation classes will be starting soon. For further information and dates, please contact the Reverend Cora Yarrien. Confirmation service will be held on Saturday, the 21st of June at 5 pm at St George's Church led by Bishop Stephen.

Saturday, the 10th of May 2 to 4 pm there will be an afternoon tea to celebrate VE Day anniversary anniversary at St George's Church Hall.

Benefice service on Trinity Sunday 15th of June at 10:30 in St George's church followed by lunch in the church hall.

The St George's community larder and hot soup lunch on Wednesdays from 1230 to 130 in the church hall is proving very popular. You will be welcomed with a bowl of soup and a variety of rolls, bread and pastries followed by the offer of a hot drink. It's a very friendly environment with access to the community larder and selection of bread and pastries to take with you before you leave. Volunteers are still needed to help with this very worthwhile project. Please contact Rev Cora Yarrien If you are able to help.



Churchwardens

St George
Vacancy

St Mary the Virgin
Janet Cooper, 01305 260259

St Peter
Val Hellin, 01305 268844

St Andrews
Vacancy

St Simon & St Jude
Charles Norman, 01305 262719
Judy Norman, 01305 262719

St Martin
Dick Corbett-Winder, 01305 889410

St Mary
Joy Parsons, 01305 889611

St Michael
Ellie Sturrock, 07980 089470
Roddy Kilpatrick, 01305 889238

St Thomas
Peter Steel, 01308 482782
Jeremy Russell, 01308 482227

Licensed Lay Ministers
David Bowen, 01305 263584
Allen Knott, 01305 267217
Caroline McMeiken, 07555 967387

Lay Worship Leader, St Mary's
Cynthia Fry

Chaplaincy at Dorset
County Hospital

Reverend Jean Saddington
(CofE), Chaplain
revjeanwinterbournes@hotmail.com

Reverend Jimmy Holden
revjimmyholden@gmail.com



MUSIC AT ST PETER'S
Dorchester

Stanford:
Coelos ascendit

Radcliffe:
Preces & Responses

Joanna Forbes L'Estrange:
Kings College Service

Finzi:
God is gone up



CHORAL EVENSONG

Saturday 31st May at 4.30pm

St. Peter's Church, Dorchester, DT1 1XA

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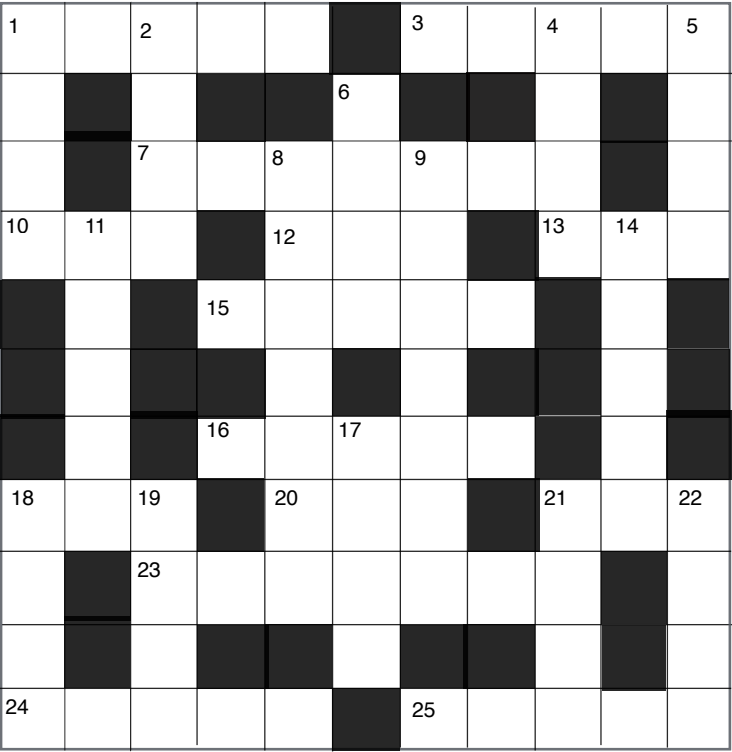
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CROSSWORD



May Quiz

1. What's the birthstone of May - it represents love and success?
2. Which tennis Open Championship normally begins in the last week of May?
3. What are the two zodiac signs for the month of May?
4. May in the Northern Hemisphere is similar to which month in the Southern Hemisphere?
5. Which sweetly scented, highly poisonous woodland flowering plant is the birth flower of May?
6. Historically, what sort of dancing has been linked to May Day celebrations?
7. Who did Queen guitarist Brian May marry in November 2000?
8. 'The Third of May 1808', is a painting completed in 1814 by which Spanish painter?
9. How long is the lifespan for the adult female Mayfly, Dolania americana: 5 minutes, 5 hours, or 5 days?
10. According to a 1732 traditional saying, what should you never cast till May be out?

ACROSS

1. In Mali citizenship is lawful (5)
3. Turned palms reveal a sacred song (5)
7. The Good Samaritan for example (7)
10. Dude loses five hundred when expected (3)
12. Initially it starts at East Midlands Airport (3)
13. Sleepy in this land (3)
15. Driver hails a cab by waving (5)
16. Engines cut out in stable (5)
18. Period for a historian (3)
20. Useful little cube in the kitchen (3)
21. Also as well (3)
23. Cords to be pulled or plucked (7)
24. Pleasant and delicious (5)
25. Bitter limes might not produce one (5)

DOWN

1. Lots of cargo (4)
2. Manage priest's cloak (4)
4. Praying it's the end (4)
5. Doom reflects emotional state of mind (4)
6. Balm for a baby animal (4)
8. Nuclear device (7)
9. A baby longs to find a place of exile (7)
11. Higher room for a last supper (5)
14. A cone leads to a larger stretch of water (5)
17. Pivot point in World War 2 (4)
18. Way out (4)
19. Requests and prays (4)
21. It's a back up wine from Italy (4)
22. Dried fruit at a rendezvous (4)

1. Emerald
2. French Open
3. Taurus (until May 20) and Gemini
4. November
5. Lily of the Valley
6. Morris Dancing
7. Anita Dobson
8. Francisco Goya
9. 5 minutes
10. A clout (an old word for a piece of clothing)

1. Load
2. Cope
3. Amen
4. Mood
5. Upper
6. Reactor
7. Babylon
8. Exit
9. Asks
10. Ocean
11. Axis
12. Date
13. Asti
14. Asks

DOWN

1. Licit
2. Psalm
3. Parable
4. Due
5. Stall
6. Cabby
7. Nod
8. EMA
9. Era
10. Oxo
11. And
12. Strings
13. Tasty
14. Smile

ACROSS

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Churches Together in the Dorchester Area

Celebrating Easter Together

Good Friday saw hundreds of people of all ages join together to follow the cross through the town, with short stops for readings and reflection. On Easter Day those who rose early came to Maumbury Rings for the joyful Sunrise Service at 6.00, a wonderful celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus, which is the heart of our Christian faith.

Great News in South Street!

It was a great day when we joined the shops and businesses in lower South Street and Hardye Ar-cade in celebrating the opening of a pathway connecting directly with the rest of South Street and giving access to the arcade. The chaplains have been supporting the businesses throughout the difficult time of barriers and diversions which reduced business in that part of town after the fire in the Gorge cafe in December.

We encourage everyone to rediscover this fascinating area of the town with businesses as varied as locally produced gifts, toys, traditional butcher, jewellers, fishing tackle, dog grooming and cafe. These individual shops are what make our town special and deserve our custom. They also have lovely friendly, helpful people to serve you.



Mayor and Mayoress Robin and Val Potter (one of the town chaplains), with Sandy and Frenny of Jordans Jewellers, and enjoying the wide path down South Street.

Working Together at the Community Farm

Dorchester Churches Ecology Group spent a hard-working day helping out at our local Community Farm in Poundbury. We cut back the brambles, did some weeding - and moved a shed!

We met the regular volunteers and learned more about the farm, which is on land owned and lent to Transition Town Dorchester by the Duchy of Cornwall. It has an enormous poly-tunnel for growing vegetables and herbs, an orchard, geese and hens, a pond and several colonies of bees. Local residents are welcome to help and to share in the produce,

and some goes to the local foodbank. A recent development is a partnership with the mental health charity MIND, who bring volunteers to tend their own area of the farm. Anyone can turn up and help on Sunday afternoons, from 2.30 or Wednesday mornings from 10.30.

The farm shows what can be achieved when local people, landowners, and wider organisations pool their ideas and work together so that all can benefit. See transitiontowndorchester.org for more information on the community farm.



Dorchester Community Church is hosting an event for everyone. Gram Seed tells his dramatic story. After years In prison, and addicted to drink and drugs, his body finally gave up. Kept alive on 'life support', he was prayed for by Christians. He came round from the six-day coma, spent time in rehabilitation and subsequently attended an Alpha Course. His life was transformed when he became a Christian.



Dorset Retreat Day

It is good to see that Churches Together in Dorset is holding a quiet day for anyone from across the county who wishes to attend. The theme is 'Beauty for Brokenness' and it will be held on Saturday, 10th May, from 10am-3pm, at St Mark's Church Hall, Talbot Village, BH10 4HY, led by our Chair, Major Katrina Greetham of the Salvation Army. For more information or to book, please email Katja Babei, the County Ecumenical Officer, on katjactd@gmail.com tel: 07789 952472

WHAT'S ON

May

On Going	Gladiators Of Britain Exhibition, Dorset Museum
3	The Script's The Thing King's Arms, 10am
8	Plant Sale 8 Grosvenor Rd, 10am to 3pm
10	Casterbridge Male Voice Choir Corn Exchange, 12.15pm
10	Beethoven Gala Concert St Mary's, 7.30pm
10-13	Dorchester Walking Festival
11	Jumble Trail Monmouth Road <i>et al</i>
11	Choral Eucharist St Peter's, 10.30am
14	Dorcas Mothers' Union 4 Bellever Court, 10am
17	Lunchtime Concert St Peter's, 12.30pm
17	Steeleye Span Thomas Hardy Theatre, 7.30pm
18	The Occasional Singers St Mary's, 3pm
24	Bernard Butler Corn Exchange, 7.30pm
28	Dorcas Mothers' Union 155 Damers Road, 10am
31	Music From The Courts Of Europe St Mary's, 3pm
31	Choral Evensong St Peter's, 4.30pm
31	Rossini, Barber Of Seville Plaza Cinema, 6pm
31	The Darkening Shire Hall, 3pm



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Monday-Thursday 8am – 4pm

Friday 8am-9.30pm

Saturday. 8.30 am – 9.30 pm

Matt McCaurtie was brought up in Martinstown, so he is a local boy. After finishing university, he decided to open Crossroads, which he did in August 2024. It is a bright, airy welcoming space with an inviting coffee aroma. The coffee is 918 coffee which Matt buys from Shaftesbury. As well as delicious coffee and other hot beverages, Matt serves pastries and cakes, light lunches and toasties. There is plenty of off-road parking in the square.

Once a month there is music on a Saturday night. You can also hold private events at Crossroads. Matt is very accommodating and will do his best to make your occasion special.

Art by local artists is displayed on the walls. These are available for sale. Any enquiries about the art can be made to Fran Griffiths tel: 07817 527939. She will be able to give you details about exhibiting your art – although I understand there is a waiting list. They hold a “Meet the Artists” evening once a month. The next one is one 8th May.

This is a vibrant, friendly place to meet friends and chat. You will get a warm welcome and Matt does beautiful patterns on the coffee!



Jill Bryant

the Dorchester Messenger

The Dorchester Messenger is published monthly 10 times a year (omitting January and August) on the first Sunday of the month. It's distributed around the Dorchester Benefice.

Editorial and advertising enquiries to Kevin Whitchurch at thedorchestermessenger@gmail.com.

Editorial submissions should be made before the 14th of the preceding month. All submissions, from all faiths and none, are welcomed.



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to the relevant place

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Hall bookings: John Williams: bookstmarys@live.co.uk
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eastcoombe@btinternet.com
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Church Committee Secretary: Janet Ranger-Dennis 01305 849259
Treasurer/Envelopes: Kaye Kerridge 268641
Electoral Roll: Tim Dennis 01305 849259
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Organist: Duncan Honeybourne 761881
Flowers: Rota of PCC Members
Church Committee Secretary: Judy Norman 262719
Treasurer: Adair Williams aw@herringston.co.uk
Electoral Roll: Wendy Frost 889510
Safeguarding: Peter Vojak 265994



MUSIC AT ST PETER'S
Dorchester



CHORAL EUCHARIST

Harris: Holy is the true light

Gabrielli: Missa brevis in F

Stopford: God be in my head

SUNDAY 11TH MAY, 10.30AM

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**gave the
best hugs**

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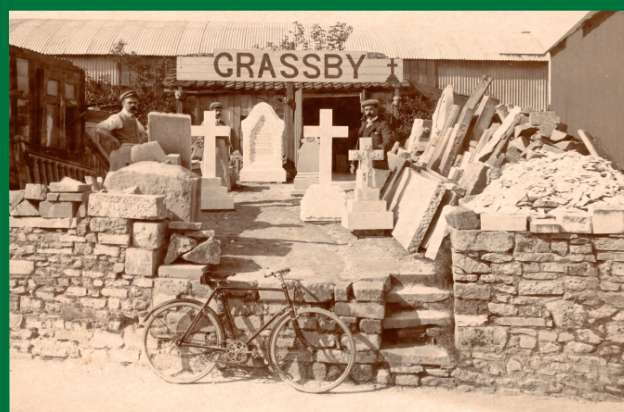
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