

# The Pilot

December 2021



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**It's beginning to feel a lot like Christmas...! Certainly at Pilot HQ there's a festive air about the place. And we can thank the elves at Poundbury Garden Centre for getting us into the spirit of Yuletide by letting us photograph part of their stunning Christmas display for our front cover.**

Everyone's welcome to have a good old sing in the churchyard at St Mary's on December 18 at 4pm at the outdoor carol service—there's nothing like a few verses of O Come All Ye Faithful to get the Christmas vibe!

And talking of welcomes—it's good to have the Scout Post back in action after being shelved by Covid last year.

### **Family traditions**

We've popped in a couple of Christmas recipes for you to try, and asked a few questions about family Christmas traditions. Hope you enjoy. After Christmas was effectively cancelled at the last minute last year, we're keep-

ing fingers firmly crossed that there'll be a bit more fun this 2021.

In the meantime, we've looked at some of the concerns about the new road layout in North Street and East Hill, and we've taken a further look at the eco-systems of our precious river.

### **Merry Christmas**

Thank you to all of those who rallied to our appeal for distribution and delivery help to get The Pilot to 1650 homes throughout our villages, and thanks as always to those already on board along with our advertisers and contributors.

Our copy deadline for the January edition is **December 10** and all contributions should be sent to [editor@charpilot.com](mailto:editor@charpilot.com).

So from all at The Pilot, we wish you a very Merry Christmas.

*Marilyn Kay (Editor)*



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# New road layout fails to stop parking at village hall

*Village Hall committee chairman Nigel Kay takes a look.*

**When the Village Hall was built almost 150 years ago there were no cars on the road, and so parking wasn't an issue. The hall was ideally located in the centre of the village for the working men who wanted an alternative to the pub. There was a reading room and a smoking room – but temperance was the order of the day.**

Since then, the village has expanded considerably and so has the range of people who use the hall on a frequent basis. And when there's a free afternoon or evening, it's a popular choice for family parties. So the village hall continues to play a central role in village life.

The lack of parking places outside the hall is a longstanding problem – and not just when the hall is in use. For many years vans and cars have been parked outside the hall's North Street entrance throughout the day and

often overnight too. The recent changes to the layout of the junction of North Street and West Hill were, in part, an attempt to improve visibility at the crossroads by discouraging parking. But importantly, it was also hoped the new layout would create a safer crossing point for children on their way to and from school.

Within 24 hours of the work being completed there were concerns among people living nearby that the new layout wasn't having the desired effect. People were still parking outside the hall when attending events.

We're all keen to find a solution that meets the needs of our users and does not compromise road safety at the junction. The North Street entrance is used by visitors with disabilities and event organisers who need to load and unload. Highway engineers know that vehicles need to be able to pull up outside the door for a few minutes at a time before being parked elsewhere.

So the position remains the same as it was before the new layout was introduced. Please don't park outside, but leave your cars in the square outside the Three Compasses or in the new car park at the community hall.

# Protecting the River Cerne

In last month's edition Parish Councilor Keith Beeson explained why he's concerned about the quality of the water in the River Cerne. In this article we look at what's being done to improve the river that flows through the heart of our community.

Keith Beeson says the River Cerne needs improving. One of very few chalk streams in the world, the gravel bed is buried in silt and the river's delicate eco-system is being damaged by pollution.



Plants like the Water Crowfoot (*Ranunculus*) pictured above by the DWT, which float on the surface like a matt of white buttercups are vital to maintain a rich diversity of species. And yet they are increasingly under

threat from phosphorus and other fertilisers which are washed off agricultural land. The crowfoot provides food and shelter for invertebrates including the increasingly rare, White-clawed crayfish. This is the only native crayfish found in British rivers.



*A white-clawed crayfish pictured by Amanda Broom*

The White-clawed crayfish is small and bronze-coloured, with pale cream or rose undersides on its claws. It lives in small freshwater streams, hiding underneath stones and rocks and in small crevices where they forage for food. And although it's disappeared from many rivers, we still have a small population in the Cerne.

Amanda Broom, catchment manager for the Dorset Wildlife Trust, says the crayfish is being wiped out by a disease which was introduced into our water courses by non-native crayfish which have escaped from fish farms.

How do these non-native species “jump” from one river to another? Well often they are spread by us – on fishing kit, boats, and our boots. The government’s “Check, Clean, Dry” campaign acts as a reminder to clean and dry our kit before moving on.

([marinescience.blog.gov.uk/](http://marinescience.blog.gov.uk/))



*Part of the £4million scheme at Cerne Abbas*

2019/05/13 how-check-clean-dry-can-help-protect-our-freshwater-environment-and-animals)

What else is being done to improve the quality of the River Cerne?

Wessex Water says water quality in chalk streams (and rivers in general) is affected by numerous factors.

They’re investing record amounts in phosphorus removal at their water recycling centres – including a £4 million scheme at Cerne Abbas.

“We’ve long recognised the importance of chalk streams and have taken steps to protect them.”

In the Poole Harbour catchment, Wessex Water is trialling an online auction for farmers to bid to deliver nitrogen offsetting measures such as growing cover crops.

## ***Dates for your diaries...***

There’s a **Christmas wreath-making workshop** at Charminster village hall on Sunday November 28 and Saturday December 11 from 2.30-4.30. It’s £45 to include all tuition, wreath materials, mulled wine and a mince pie. Call 07798 800825 to reserve one of the few places left.

**Creative Christmas** session at St Mary’s Church weekly from December 1 starting at 7pm. Call Rev Leila to book your place.

Every Thursday during term time there’s **coffee at the community hall** from 8.45 to 9.45 for parents and carers dropping their kids at school.



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# Food banks a lifeline at Christmas

**Despite some dire warnings of shortages this Christmas through lack of abattoir staff, lorry drivers, sprout pickers, turkeys and toys, most of us are hardly going to do without very much.**

But for some families, just getting basic food on the table can be a bit of a nightmare.

Which is where the food bank system comes in.

And while there'll always be those cynics who sneer "give 'em owt for nowt and they'll bring a barrow", for frighteningly large numbers of people food banks are a lifeline.

## Extra help

St. Mary's Rector, Rev'd Mark Phillips, has said in the past that there are more people that most of us would think who need that extra help, and so the food bank collection point at Charminster church needs your support.

If you donate just that little bit extra this festive season, you could make this year a much happier Christmas for a local family.

So if you can pop an extra item in your trolley when doing the weekly shop, please do.

## Tins and toilet rolls

It seems that there's no real shortage of pasta, baked beans, soups, tinned fish and tea in the food bank but what's now needed are ready to eat custard, coffee, long life milk, tinned fruit, tinned potatoes, packets of mashed potato, pasta sauce, tinned rice pudding, tinned spaghetti, tinned vegetables and toilet rolls.

If you have any queries please contact local co-ordinator Stephen Milner: Tel: 01305 266197 Email: [stephenmilner222@btinternet.com](mailto:stephenmilner222@btinternet.com).



# Puppets, owls and chips for Charminster Guides and Brownies

**Charminster Brownies** ended their first half of term having a wonderful time making sock puppets. This was a project that was meant to be split into 3 sessions of 20 minutes, but the girls had so much fun perfecting their puppets that we spent the whole evening doing them. It was a really lovely evening and after tidying up, we gave our puppets names and personalities.



Girls had to tell a little story in their groups using the puppets' voices and personalities. This was really fun and time ran out. I am sure there will be many more moments like this. ☺

Brownies are so good at putting their all into every task that is set. It is great to see their confidence growing and lovely getting to know how clever they are! We have so many fun and educational things planned for the rest of the term and are looking forward to sharing them with you.

Stay safe x

Brown Owl (Alli) Snowy Owl (Sue)  
Barn Owl (Simone) and our YL's Little Owl and Chestnut Owl

**Charminster Guides** have had a great time chilling with their friends and sewing owls that they stuffed and turned into little hanging decorations. Very cute! We had a lot of fun choosing the right threads and sorting out needles. No trouble with threading and we were extremely pleased how these little beauties turned out.

The Guides had a great evening wandering around town doing our chip shop survey. The weather was lovely and the chips were tasty! Re-



sults next month!! One chip shop was closed so we can't at present give an accurate result. Ten young ladies made their Promise and received a little bag of treats. This included their badge book to help at home as well as unit meetings. We've had a really lovely beginning to our term and looking forward to planning Christmas bits.

Alli, Ann and all of our brilliant leadership team - Christine, Rachel, Lauren and Lulu

07483429596 email: charminstergirl-guiding21@aol.com

### **Trefoilers keep knitting!**

Last Month, we were able to make a delivery of several blankets, twiddle-muffs and shawls to the Stroke, Barnes and Day-Lewis wards at DCH. The shawls can be worn 'back to front' by dementia patients when they are sitting up in bed.



We have had a couple of donations of lovely wool recently – thank you

Wendy and Chris. Donations help us to keep knitting for DCH. You can also help by knitting squares or knitting or crocheting shawls for us. I can give you dimensions.

Our speakers last meeting were Liz See and Lesley Platt from Project Linus, who brought some of their lovely quilts to show us, as well as some wool for us. Project Linus is similar to our Memory Blanket project, except the volunteers make patchwork quilt cuddle blankets for children in hospital, children who are carers and children in refuges. Their volunteers also knit small blankets for babies. I can pass on any donations of fabric to Project Linus.

Our café Catch-up is a relaxing coffee and chat – in the Relax café near Waitrose at 11am on the third Wednesday of most months. Anyone is welcome to join us, but in November, we are not there. We're having an early Christmas lunch instead!

We meet in St George's church hall - the first Wednesday afternoon of each month from 2.30 – 4pm. Everyone aged 18 and over is welcome to come along and join in.

Judy Thompson

Chairperson. 01305 263783. E-mail: jct231@outlook.com



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AND BAR. WE LOOK FORWARD TO CREATING NEW MEMORIES AND SEEING YOU ALL  
SOON AGAIN. PS - LOOK OUT FOR ONGOING SPECIALS ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE

# ***It's your Christmassy Quiz!***

**Every month we bring you a fun quiz for all the family, with local - knowledge questions and those associated with the time of year. So good luck, and off you go!**

1. It's a Wonderful Life is many people's favourite Christmas film. Who plays the lead role?
2. Why is the filling of a mince pie called mincemeat?
3. What is a Mumming?
4. In which ocean is Christmas Island?
5. Which plant has bright red and green leaves and is sometimes known as the Christmas Flower?
6. Where is the Boxing Day Test Match played?
7. What do ex-footballer Chris Kamara and Canadian PM Justin Trudeau have in common?
8. Who wrote the children's story The Thieves Who Couldn't Help Sneezing?
9. Who does Charles Dickens describe as: "a squeezing, wrenching, grasping, scraping, clutching, covetous, old sinner"?
10. What does Auld Lang Syne mean?



***Answers on page 43***

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# The Scouts' Christmas Post is back!

There's welcome news from Charminster Scouts—the Christmas post will be back in action this year after being a victim of Covid restrictions in 2020.

Most years there are a few changes to how and where the team operate. Covid and two years off mean there have been a few more changes than usual.

Scout leader Ruth Young says the biggest change you will notice is that the yellow forms will not be delivered in our area this year, but you can still get all the information you will need

from the Scout Post page on their web site at [www.dwdscouts.org.uk](http://www.dwdscouts.org.uk). Information is also available in some local shops and on the post boxes themselves.

The most important changes are to the delivery areas with some being discontinued and others being added so please check that your card is in an area where we can deliver it before you put it in the box.

And Ruth adds: "Remember nothing beats a proper card sent through the post to say Happy Christmas"

Wishing you all the best for a fabulous Christmas from the Christmas Post Team

Email [scoutpost@dwdscouts.org.uk](mailto:scoutpost@dwdscouts.org.uk)  
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# Fears of Covid still plague WI



**Our November meeting was a completely unexpected pleasure after things did not look promising when our speaker let us know at midday that he had to self-isolate.**

It was too late to find another, so we look forward to Oxford Bakery's 'History of Baking on another day.

But Mary Hayes gallantly stepped in and after a brief business meeting the village Hall was buzzing contentedly to the sound of friendly chatter as people in small groups made Christmas Trees and Angel baubles as hanging decorations.

## **Infection still dangerous**

For the moment this was our last meeting in the village hall since the risk assessment indicates only 30 people while there is still a covid problem. With great regret we have had to reverse our decision to keep most of our meetings there until the pandemic is over as we cannot expect some of our 49 plus membership stay away.

We have also had to cancel next months Christmas lunch as not enough of us feel confident while infection is still dangerous.

Instead, we shall have our usual 7.30

meeting in the Community Hall on December 14<sup>th</sup> with prosecco and a quiz and a few other items which are being arranged.

Our walking group, book group, lunch group and various outings are all going ahead though sometimes we zoom if things look worrying.

## **New members**

However, our craft group is going from strength to strength as is 'Charminster Whispers', which is a project open to anyone who likes to join in. We simply have a topic to act as inspiration and make something it suggests, which may be anything from a piece of craft work to a cake or photo of something in the garden.

We hope to resume skittles in the new year! We have been delighted to welcome a number of new members recently. Charminster WI is a wonderful way to make friends and get to know people. Meetings are at 7.30 in the Community Hall (until further notice) on the second Tuesday of each month. Do come and see whether you would like to join.



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# ***Stinsford News...***

**Frosts and sunshine gave us the opportunity to stack last year's wood for the winter fires and to prepare for next year by collecting new wood so allowing it to season. Now most crops in the garden are over and have been replaced with plants that will cope with the weather.**

Last year the small important Stinsford finger post renovation was completed and now the renovated Bockhampton Cross sign is almost ready now to be put up. The finger post at the West Stafford end of Lower Bockhampton lane has been replaced by Lord Fellowes as apparently the Parish Council considered it too expensive and outmoded.

## **Hooray!**

It will be an enormous pleasure to have our Christmas Services this year and be able to sing at the Carol Service (I might cheer 'hooray'!). See the centre pages of this magazine for the dates and times and to remind all that tickets for the Grand Draw are available from any of the church officials. The Draw will take place following the

## ***...from Michael Clarke***

Carol Service with, as ever, some great prizes.

If you receive this edition early enough and have missed the banner on Grey's Bridge, the Christmas Fayre is on SATURDAY, 28TH NOVEMBER FROM 11.00 A.M. Come along and enjoy.

## **Font found**

There is also sad news. Bill Jesty, who took a great part in the life of St Michael's Church, died last month at the age of 94. Our sincere condolences go to Vera and the family. Bill led the search for the "Grey" font, given to St Michael's by Laura Grey in the 1770s, and in turn given to St Luke's Stanmore, Winchester. It was replaced at Stinsford with the Norman font found in the churchyard during refurbishment in the early 20th C. What concerned us was news that the Winchester Diocese were to demolish St Luke's, but we've been reassured that great care will be taken of the "Grey" font while waiting for a new church to be built.

Merry Christmas!

  
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# Young artists get a boost

**St Mary's First School in Charminster has been selected by the Dorset Arts Society for a "Young Arts" grant towards an arts-based project of their choice.**

The school decided to use the funding in two ways.



Firstly, a Dinosaur workshop, professionally led by Darrell Wakelam, who is a Dorset 3D artist. The workshop took place earlier in the year and the school's arts lead teacher said it was a great success enthusiastically enjoyed by all the children.

St Mary's now plans to buy a sketch book and art project materials for every child in the school with the second phase of the grant. This would otherwise not be affordable within the school budget.



\*The Arts Society Dorset County is an affiliated member of The Arts Society, a leading education charity. Their objective, through lectures and visits, is to bring people together through a shared appreciation and curiosity for all the arts. The Arts Society run a Young Arts Programme giving grants to support arts related projects for the students and specialist training for staff in our local schools. Some of the previous grants have included an annual History of Art Lecture at the Thomas Hardy school, support for the Middle Schools and help for Sculpture Students at Weymouth College.

For more information, including Membership details, visit the website - <http://theartsocietydorsetcounty.org.uk>.



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# Beavers, Cubs and Scouts get out and about.

**The Charminster Scout Group have had a busy summer, with most of our meeting outdoors in the fresh air, writes leader Ruth Young.**

The Beavers and Cubs have completed their Gardeners Badge and grown some lovely flowers, cress and mange tout but the herb cuttings and potatoes were not so successful.

The Beavers also completed their International Badge and learnt about the customs, traditions and food of Holland.

## **Taking pictures**

The Cubs have been discussing the start of Scouting, traditions, uniforms, ceremonies and badges which included the Worldwide Membership Badge and the Cub Scout Law and Promise

The Scouts have been out and about taking pictures for their Photographic Badge.

All sections have enjoyed outdoor games, camp fires and activities.

In the summer the whole Group spent a day on Portland. All sections went Sailing in the morning, the Scouts continued with Water Sports in the afternoon while the Cubs and Beavers had a Beach Picnic and a visit to the D Day Museum.

The Beavers spent a day with Puddletown Beavers at Brown Johns Copse Crossways and the Cubs and Scouts a weekend at PGL with Puddletown Cubs and Scouts, They all had a great time and made new friends. It was lovely to see our young people out enjoying themselves once again.



*Water sports in Portland*

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# Cash for Kids for Kids

**Stinsford supporters of the charity Kids for Kids have sent £100 towards a 'Harvest Appeal' in Darfur.** Darfur has been experiencing extremes in weather, intense heat, floods which have washed away the seedlings that have been planted, and drought. The fear is, if it continues, is that families who have no way of diversifying from their subsistence crops will starve.

Many families have had to eat the seed they had saved to plant, hence the appeal for help to provide emergency seed so the families have

something to feed themselves with in 2022.

Covid-19 continues to disrupt supply chains and shortages of basic food items and fuel are causing immense hardship. Kids for Kids, which originally provided goats for families to breed from and use for milk and meat, are also working hard to provide soap for families so they can wash their hands to help prevent the Covid virus from spreading. Simple soap it can make a real impact on the lives of the children in Darfur.

Patricia Parker, M.B.E., also received the O.B.E. this year for her incredible work with Kids for Kids. An honour well deserved, says Marion P Cooper, who co-ordinates the appeals at St Michael's Church.

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## **DECEMBER 2021 AT ST MARY'S, CHARMINSTER**

Sunday 5th December - The Second Sunday of Advent

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)

9.30 am Holy Communion (CW)

**4.00 pm Christingle Service**

Sunday 12th December - The Third Sunday of Advent

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)

9.30 am Breakfast Church with Baptism

Saturday 18th December 2.00 pm - 3.45 pm - Christmas Explored

**4.00 pm Carol Service Outside in Churchyard**

Sunday 19th December - The Fourth Sunday of Advent

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)

9.30 am Holy Communion (CW)

6.00 pm Evensong



Friday 24th December - Christmas Eve

**4.00 pm Crib & Nativity Service**

**11.00 pm Midnight Mass**

Saturday 25th December - Christmas Day

8.00 am Holy Communion (BCP)

9.30 am Holy Communion (CW) –  
All Age Service

Sunday 26th December - First Sunday of Christmas

9.30 am Holy Communion (CW)



## **DECEMBER 2021 AT ST MICHAEL'S, STINSFORD**

Sunday 5th December - 2nd Sunday of Advent

**4.00 pm      Christingle**



Sunday 12th December - The 3rd Sunday of Advent

10.00 am      Holy Communion (CW)

Sunday 19th December - The 4th Sunday of Advent

**6.00 pm      Carol Service**

Friday 24th December - Christmas Eve

8.00 pm      **Christmas Eve Mass**

Saturday 25th December - Christmas Day

10.00 am      Holy Communion (CW)

Sunday 26th December - 1st Sunday of Christmas

No Service



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## ***From the Clergy...***

***...With Rev'd Leila***

**St Mary's Church, in Charminster, takes its name from one of the bravest teenagers who ever lived.**

We often hear the epic story of the nativity around this time of year, made a lot sweeter by our angelic First School and Pre-School children taking on the roles of the different characters. But some 2000 years ago the story wasn't quite so nostalgic.

Mary, the mother of Jesus, was an extraordinary young woman who moved away from home, with a man she barely knew, heavily pregnant, not married, facing the rejection of innkeepers and no doubt the judgemental comments, looks and actions of her new community.

### **Passionate activists**

But she still did it, and her actions rested on a simple promise: That despite persecution, exile, slavery and oppression –in this world of political turmoil, God was about to step into the narrative and live amongst his people in order to save them.

It shouldn't surprise us that God

chose to work through a teenager, as we know them to be passionate activists and determined protectors of the people and ideas they love. Mary's determination to let God use her love, her protection and her devotion for her child changed the course of our history for ever. As God stepped into human history as a vulnerable baby, God welcomed each and every one of us into the love of God.

### **All are welcome**

Too often, we hear the words 'you're not welcome' resonating in our culture, just as Mary and Joseph famously heard them when they tried to find shelter in Bethlehem.

What we want you to know, right now, is that whoever you are, wherever you may feel you are with life or with faith, you are always welcome amongst the church families of St Mary's, Charminster, or St Michael's, Stinsford. Why not come and join us over the Advent and Christmas season and let us extend God's love and God's welcome to you.

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# Get tweaking for a family Christmas

**Christmas is a great time of tradition – from the carols that we sing and the decorated tree in the corner of the living room, to the turkey and pudding that we eat (whether we like it or not!) on the Big Day.**

But one the best things about Christmas is the way families tweak the traditions to create their own special Christmases.

## Real or fake?

There's the argument over whether to have stockings or pillowcases, and the big debate over whether Santa prefers to be left a glass of sherry or whisky when he calls at your house.

And let's not get started on the real tree or artificial one!

My own family always have the tradition of the "Magic Bag" which emerges at the pudding stage of the Christmas dinner and provides a small but hopefully amusing gift for everyone around the table. The gifts have to be

handed out by the youngest female, usually equipped with a wand (it is after all a Magic bag), and opened in unison.

There is often more thought and angst put into the Magic Bag gifts than anything else. But once, when it was suggested that perhaps the youngest children in the family were now a bit grown up for the dear old bag, there was an outcry. And so it continues.

## Weird breakfast

Coming from Leicestershire, we also have a weird breakfast tradition – Stilton cheese, pork pie, ham and boiled eggs.

Many countries in Europe traditionally have their feast and presents, on Christmas Eve, and while we tend not to go the whole hog on December 24 for me it's one of the best bits of the holiday. All the shopping's been done, most of the food is prepared, gifts are ready to be put around the tree and it's time to relax and anticipate the day to come with a glass of something chilled and possibly sparkling.

So cheers everyone – and Merry Christmas!



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# First responders back in action

**New equipment, new technology and a new recruit have been welcomed by local First Responder Dave Carr of Charlton Down.**

A responder for 14 years, Dave has now been joined by Mike Carter, also from Charlton Down, to help out local residents with accidents and emergencies.

Now, after the ups and downs of Covid restrictions, which at one stage saw all responders stood down from duties, the two are planning defibrillator training sessions early in 2022 for residents of CD and Charminster.

## Life threatening

Community First Responders have been operating in this area for 13 years now and have attended many residents over this time. The volunteers are trained and initially equipped by South Western Ambulance Service Trust (SWAST) and are dispatched to 999 calls which are either life threatening or suitable for responders to attend (not traffic accidents or violent situations).

Said Dave: "SWAST provided us with an additional piece of equipment called a Raizer chair, which allows us to attend patients who have fallen and can mean there is no need for an ambulance to attend."

And instead of a pager, a new smartphone with a special app gives much more information, even navigating the team to the patient's door.

Throughout 2021 Dave and Mike continued to provide cover but were not sent to positive Covid cases. At present there is still a hold on new recruitment due to COVID restrictions on training and having volunteers on ambulances.

For the first time in 12 months they have held a defibrillator training session for the public at Stratton, so look out for the posters advertising similar sessions for Charminster and CD.



*Dave (left) and Mike with a defibrillator*

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# Christmas cheer

**OK, so it's easy just to grab a jar off the supermarket shelf, but home made cranberry sauce is in a different league and helps make Christmas special.**

For cranberry sauce, Pilot style, you need :

250g fresh cranberries

100g light brown sugar

100ml fresh orange juice

Strips of orange zest

(Really) good glug of port

Dissolve the sugar in the orange juice and bring to the boil. Add the cranberries and zest and simmer for about 8-10 minutes until the berries are tender and popping. Add the port and let it cool. It should keep for at least a week in the fridge and will be enough for about eight people.



And if you're worried about a shortage of pigs in blankets to go with your main course, then help is at hand.



Simply do what many of us have been doing all our lives—make your own!

All you need are some cocktail sausages (or chipolatas that you can twist in half) and some streaky bacon. Wrap bacon around the sausage and your pig in a blanket is done.

Get the kids to make them well in advance and pop them in the freezer until needed. Job done!

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Rector	The Reverend Mark Phillips	262477
House for Duty Priest (The Chalk Stream)	The Reverend Pene Kennedy	251422
Curate, Charminster, Stinsford & Chalk Stream Villages	The Reverend Leila Mather	263761
Hon. Associate Minister	The Reverend Dr Hugh Willis	262940
Associate Minister	The Reverend Dr Rob Van der Hart	852130

## ST MARY THE VIRGIN, CHARMINSTER

Churchwarden	Andrew Morgan	259664
PCC Secretary	Jean Garrard	259083
PCC Treasurer	Andrew Jones	264316

## ST MICHAEL'S, STINSFORD

Churchwardens	Shirley Churchill	260159
	Sally Warburton	07587177735
PCC Treasurer	Michael A Clarke	267611

## FOR BAPTISMS AND MARRIAGES

Contact the Administrator for the Parish of St Mary's Charminster and St Michael's Stinsford, Jean Garrard [stmaryschurchcharminster@outlook.com](mailto:stmaryschurchcharminster@outlook.com)



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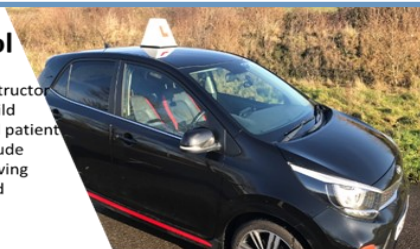
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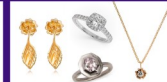
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## ***The Christmassy Quiz answers***

1. James Stewart
2. In the middle ages, the pies were filled with a mixture of minced meats – often mutton and rabbit – as well as chopped up fruit
3. A folk play, usually performed at Christmas. The Symondsbury Mumming Play is the most complete of any of these plays and was regularly performed at the Ilchester Arms in Abbotsbury.
4. The Indian Ocean
5. Poinsettia
6. Melbourne Cricket Ground, Australia. This year Australia play England in the third Ashes Test.
7. They were both born on Christmas Day.
8. Thomas Hardy. First published in December 1877 in a Christmas annual the story is set in the Vale of Blackmore.
9. Ebenezer Scrooge in A Christmas Carol
10. “Auld Lang Syne” was originally a Scottish poem. The phrase “auld lang syne” translates literally to “old long since” in English or “times gone by.”



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[joan@dorchesterframing.com](mailto:joan@dorchesterframing.com)

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[enquiries@woodsfuneralservices.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@woodsfuneralservices.co.uk)

[www.woodsfuneralservices.co.uk](http://www.woodsfuneralservices.co.uk)

# Villages' Directory

## DORSET COUNCILLOR

Cllr David Taylor 07905 352710 [cllr david.taylor@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:cllr david.taylor@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

## LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICE TEAM

All villages are covered by Neighbourhood Police Teams (NPT). We're looked after by Sgt.1756 Andy Napper, PC 0229 Pete Moore and Police Community Support Officer (PCSO 5410) Sarah Pilcher. If you want to contact one of the team for any reason then go online to Dorset Police website at [dorchester-rural-npt@dorset.police.uk](http://dorchester-rural-npt@dorset.police.uk) and follow 'Do It Online' to access a range of services. Or there's always 111 or for more serious emergencies, 999.

## CHARMINSTER CONTACTS

Parish Council	Chairman: Mark Simons	260055
	Vice chair: Carol Matthews	751535
	Parish Clerk: Sarah Davies	07947 622326
Flood Wardens	Keith Beeson	264032
	Bob Brinton	260511
	Tim Yarker	265942
St Mary's First School	Headteacher: Suzanne Garner	263880
	Caretaker: Belinda Bessant	266598
Pre-School	Vanessa Thomas	251512
Village Hall	Bookings: Sarah Bird	266478
Women's Institute	Judy Thompson	263783
Bell ringers	Captain: Chris White	07783555199

Girl Guides	Alison Barlow	07918 745017
Brownies	Lisa Upwards Charminsterbrownies@gmail.com	
Scouts, Cubs, Beavers	Ruth Young	268208
Scottish Country Dancing	Val Scriven	265177
Charminster Stores & Post Office	Louise Christopher	264312
Art Group	Dudley Kemp	757151

### **CHARLTON DOWN CONTACTS**

Village Hall	Sarah Davies enquiries@charltondownvillagehall.info	
CD Women's Institute	Brenda Down	251499
Jellytots	Emma	07791 204323
Flood Warden	Carol Matthews	751535

### **STINSFORD CONTACTS**

Stinsford Parish Council	Parish Clerk: Kirsty Rigler stinsfordclerk@googlemail.com	268818
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# Charminster & Charlton Down

**Q. Do you have an electric car or are you thinking of getting one in the near future?**

A: Dorset Council are encouraging Parish Councils to take up opportunities to install public charging points in locations across the county. To facilitate the introduction of electric vehicles (ev) we need to drastically expand the network of charging points. Whilst some people may be able to charge their electric cars at home on their drive, this isn't possible for everyone. Also when people are mid-journey they need to be able to charge up their cars to continue their trip.



Two suggested locations have been made by Dorset Council. One charging point outside the new Community Hall in Weir View and one near Herrison Hall at Charlton Down. Whilst grants are available charging points are not cheap so it is important to install the right amount in the right places. Shortly we will be doing a survey to better understand local needs and potential demand.

## **South Ward** (Charminster village)

Keith Beeson	264032
Peter Dangerfield	260543
Richard East	264724
Alan Rolls	267863
Mark Simons (Chairman)	260055
Tim Yarker	265942
Louisa Swabey-Payne	TBC

## **North Ward** (Charlton Down & Forston)

Carol Matthews (Vice-chair)	751535
Geri Brown	07789 756610
Susan Fraser	TBC
Julie Jackson	TBC
Richard Wareham	07710 938 959
Vacancy	

Contact: Parish Clerk, Sarah Davies, 25 Strodes Lane, Charlton Down, DT2 9UB  
07947 622326 [clerk@charminster.info](mailto:clerk@charminster.info)

Please see our website or contact the clerk for details of any forthcoming meetings

[www.charminster.info](http://www.charminster.info)

## Charminster Parish Council