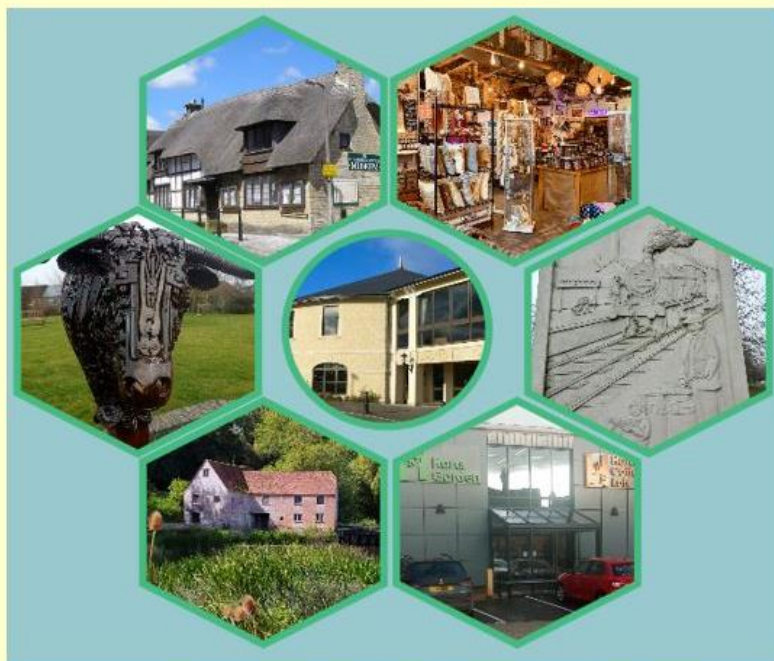


What's Happening in Stur

Bi-Monthly: April/May 2023

Sturminster Newton in the heart of the Blackmore Vale



The Stur Shopping Experience
Shops Facilities Services Eat&Drink
Culture & Recreation Map

The month's feature "The Stur Shopping Experience" is inside printed copies and alongside Emailed copies of the newsletter. It is published separately on Facebook and our web page.

EDITORIAL

The feature in/with this edition – "The Stur Shopping Experience" is a guide for visitors but also a reminder to residents of how fortunate we are to have such a range of independent shops and other facilities for a small town. So don't drive off to a big supermarket, save the planet and the £5 of petrol to spend locally. Our bakers, butchers and greengrocers are no further apart than the aisles of a supermarket.

The full edition of the newsletter is on line (at snclc.org.uk then click [What's Happening in Stur](#)) together with previous editions and features; or request copies to be Emailed to you, contact whatshappeninginstur@btconnect.com.

A compact version in A5 booklet format is available to collect from The Exchange, Emporium, Library, Church and Vale Pantry and available to read in cafés & pubs.

To include your regular or one-off event and other contributions, please Email it to whatshappeninginstur@btconnect.com See our webpage (snclc.org.uk and click 'Whatshappeninginstur') to view acceptable and desirable formats for your item. If you need help with your entry or anything else regarding the newsletter, please call in to the Learning Centre in The Exchange on Mon(am) or Wed.

Production Team: David Shepherd; Penny Mountain; Ann Baseden; Kate Squire; Louise Plumridge.

WE WISH YOU A HAPPY CORONATION DAY

CONTACT

whatshappeninginstur@btconnect.com

snclc.org.uk/whatshappeninginstur.html

Please note that all @ symbols in **personal** Email addresses are displayed as AT and leading zeros in phone numbers are letter 'O' in this on-line newsletter. This prevents automatic harvesting of numbers & addresses in on-line documents and their use in spam.

COPY DATES

3rd Friday of the month:

May 19th for June & July

July 21st for Aug & Sept

NEWS HEADLINES



News from Carole Jones –

Town County Councillor

It has been a difficult few months for so many within our community with food costs rising, - hitting a record high of 17.6% in February and energy costs are beyond frightening. Help may be available and it's worth checking out: [Dorset Council's Cost of Living Help](#) Page.

If you use alternative fuels as your main form of heating & if your home is not connected to the mains gas grid then there is a scheme that can provide a £200 Alternative Fuels Payment. Most homes that are eligible for the AFP will get it automatically through your electricity provider. If you do not have a direct relationship with an energy supplier, search Alternative Fuel Payment Alternative Fund in the GOV.UK webpage search bar.

I am in the process of printing an 'In Touch' newsletter which has a survey on the rear. The survey is to try and understand concerns and issues which the community would like to see improved, and I will see what traction I can bring. So far the survey has gone out through social media, and I can report the findings thus far:

The main concerns affecting households right now are the Cost of living, and electricity prices (no surprises there)

- 86.5% of people feel that Sturminster Newton needs another supermarket.
- 59.5% of people believe there is a road which warrants a 20mph zone.
- 43.2% of people believe there are enough play spaces for children locally, whereas 37.8% do not believe this to be the case.
- Unsurprisingly, 81.1% of people feel that the Town lacks facilities for teens.
- 81.1% of people feel that our town needs a second chemist

- Almost 68% of people are either definitely interested or could be interested in taking part in a Befriending Scheme – which is fantastic, and I would very much like to get this underway. I have come across a number of people that live on their own who are lonely and would love someone to chat to. If this resonates with you – please pick up the phone to me. Let's try and make this happen!

You will receive the In Touch Newsletter through your doors very soon, - please fill the survey out so we can really pull numbers together. Please drop any completed surveys into The Vale Pantry. I have just over a further year in my elected term and if I can make headway in any of any of the issues, I will. I have said I will stand again next May – but politics can be strange, and I know the Conservative Party might not be in everyone's good books – but I stand as one and hope that actions and work I do will count for your vote next year but take nothing for granted.

With regards to the never-ending saga of the works along the riverbank to the Bridge by the Traffic Lights, the works needed have been far more complex than ever anticipated. Measurements of the slippage were taken every 3 weeks, and if you look over the road to the walls and drives on the other side you will see cracks that are the result of the bank slipping. The good news (I touch wood at this point...) is that a detailed scheme of works has been devised and it is hoped that works will commence in the Autumn at an eye-watering sum of well over £1M which needs to be approved through Cabinet in their April Meeting.

Onto something completely different... If you have ever thought about fostering, Dorset Council would absolutely love to hear from you. We are having to send more youngsters outside of County than we would like, but we simply don't have enough foster carers. Currently, we have over 440 youngsters in care, and we really want them close to home. If you have a room, and more importantly space in your heart to really make that difference – check out: [Foster with Dorset Council](#).

And finally, if there are any kind-hearted fabulous people out there that could deliver my leaflets in their road – let me know I shall be forever grateful! 😊

Carole can be reached at: River House, Stalbridge Lane, Sturminster Newton, Tel: 07968 348481, carole4stur@gmail.com

News from Sturminster Newton Town Council

Kate Squire – Town Clerk

With the end of the current municipal year approaching, we will be holding the Annual Town Public Meeting. We have a presentation of the Swanskin project from the Heritage Trust, and it is also your chance to ask questions of the Council. All are welcome!

ANNUAL TOWN PUBLIC MEETING
to be held on Thursday 27th April 2023 at 7.30pm
in the Council Chamber

1. Welcome and Introductions.
2. Presentation from The Mill on the Swanskin Project.
3. Community Awards.
4. To approve and sign the minutes of the Annual Town Public Meeting held on 28th April 2022.
5. To receive the Annual Report from the Town Mayor.
6. Open Forum – an opportunity for members of the public to raise questions or comments on any of the topics already presented or to raise new items for discussion.

Trees

We have now finished the first phase of our tree planting scheme which we started with the Jubilee tree in the Railway Gardens in response to the Queen's Green Canopy Project. If you/your organisation have planted a tree for this project please let us know at the Town Council office and we can record it on the Queen's Green Canopy website. We have planted new trees in the War Memorial Recreation Ground, Riverside Meadows and Butts Pond Nature Reserve. This project will continue in the Autumn.

Further details on the community pages.

CORONATION

The bunting and flags will be put up ready for Coronation Celebrations and we are working closely with the Sturminster Newton Branch of the Royal British Legion on an event for families at the British Legion on the Bank Holiday, Monday 8th May. We are running a flag competition with the primary and high schools and Yewstock pupils are designing bunting for display at the Town Council office and the Legion.

A Civic Service will be held at St Mary's Church on Sunday 7th May at 11am with refreshments afterwards in the Church Hall and, as part of the Coronation "Big Help Out" we are organising a community litterpick from 10.30am on Monday 8th May. Watch out for more details shortly.



*A Civic Service to Celebrate the
Coronation of His Majesty The King
is being held at:
St Mary's Church, Sturminster Newton
Sunday 7th May 2023 at 11am
Refreshments afterwards
in the Church Hall
All are welcome
R.S.V.P. or for more information please
ring: Mrs Louise Plumridge, Mayor's
Secretary on 01258 475136*

Blackmore Vale Half Marathon The Lions event on 5th February raised just over £3000 for the designated charities and was well supported on the day.

Emporium The Furniture Store at Barclay's is now open on Saturdays (other days view catalogue and ask for access at the Emporium).

VALE PANTRY

Our challenges continue at The Vale Pantry with increasing numbers of households needing help, (currently now at over 350 households at any time) - some in pretty desperate situations and often we find that the underlying causes of food insecurity are far more complex than previously.



Food costs have risen sharply as we have all seen in our weekly shops. Our Pantry spend is now double what it was a year, eighteen months ago, per month, and it's a real worry as most of the food we provide has to be purchased. We are looking to cut back now on some household goods which we can no longer help our members with, so as to concentrate specifically on fresh foods.

The good news is that we now have our own dedicated Citizen's Advisor who works directly face-to-face with our members on an appointment system, this is hugely helpful in helping people to deal with a number of issues. Having our own Van AKA Pantry on Tour is allowing us to reach families who are isolated, without transport, who are frail, disabled, or simply ill – and each week you will see us out and about throughout North Dorset with our brilliant volunteers. Incidentally – this is a shout out to anyone who might like to give half a day a week to help our team to drive the van.

As we look back, we are now seeing the results of the damage inflicted through the Pandemic – especially in terms of mental health issues. The number of people who are incredibly anxious and worry about leaving the house for anything is disturbing. For so many, visiting us in the Pantry has become their social outing where they can enjoy a good laugh along with sharing issues which they need help with, - and which we can and do help with.

We are so much more than food, we help our members with crisis goods, and personal much-needed items, and we delve into statutory services to help with areas such as housing, social services and more. More recently we have been asked to help a small number of very elderly and frail people who are unable to leave their homes and who need a week's worth of easy-to-heat meals and snacks and when we visit, we check their fridges and do a simple welfare check to make sure everything is as it should be. We have run people to Doctor's, advocated for them in meetings, managed to find carpeting for bare floors, distributed children's winter coats and the list goes on. We are so grateful to the community who offer us items that can be upcycled, and when we can't – The Emporium is always most happy to take them.



What we really need is to ensure our long-term sustainability – I write funding bid after funding bid, but it's regular income that we can rely on which is so crucial. We are so

delighted to have a number of people who help us monthly with a regular standing order, or through a card payment on our website but we really want to build on this. Whether someone can contribute £2, £10, or more – we desperately would love any person that can help us, no matter how small – every penny and pound helps. If you can help, check out our website at: <https://valepantry.co.uk/>

STURBIZ – NEWS OF BUSINESSES & SERVICES



SturBiz Breakfasts Every first Tuesday in the month 8am to 9am in The Bibbarn Gallery, The Exchange. An excellent opportunity for business and voluntary bodies to catch up and discuss what is happening in the town, what events are planned, who is doing what. All are welcome.

FEATURED BUSINESSES

WOODEN – A Student Young Enterprise Company

WOODEN are a student Young Enterprise company from Sturminster Newton High School.

We handmade keyrings from reclaimed wood and sell them for £1.50 in 1855, Sturminster Newton.

Alternatively, you can order a personalised keyring by contacting: enterpriseATmysnhs.net.

Reviews:

"They represent real value for money." – Sturminster Newton Heritage Trust

"The design and production quality are excellent." - Caleva

Winners of the **Sustainability Award** at 2023 Dorset Dragons' Den contest.

Thank you for your support,



The Newsletter is happy to mention new or enhanced businesses in and around the town. We don't do on going advertising at present.

SWEETSOLUTIONS: Health and Beauty.

Catherine has moved premises from Corner House to just around the corner at The Physio Station. I will be working on Thursdays and Fridays but can be contacted any day by Text or phone for appointments on 07443 510564. The treatments that I provide are waxing, sugaring, lash and brow tints, dermalogical facials, pedicures & foot care for corns, calluses, nail cutting.

Front Page Print - a family run design & printing business based in Sturminster Newton. We have been printing for artists and businesses since 1999 and have worked with and helped many artists and small businesses to market and promote themselves using printed and digital materials. We have a hands-on approach and pride ourselves on working closely with our customers to achieve their vision. Find us at www.frontpageprint.co.uk

Does your business or home need broadband speed of up to 1000Mbps/sec?

Local company **Wessex Internet** are accelerating availability in Sturminster Newton by installing their own Fibre to Premises Network throughout the town.

Wessex Internet broadband packages start from just £29 per month for homes and £44 per month for small businesses, plus installation is free for all properties in Sturminster Newton. If you need more from your connection, leased lines with 24/7 supports and symmetric bandwidth up to 10Gbps are also available.

To register your interest for a full fibre connection, visit www.wessexinternet.com or call 0333 240 7997.

Other suppliers are able to offer Full Fibre currently or in the near future.

Note: Full Fibre to premises offers speed and more reliability. The switch to digital phones - applying to all customers of all suppliers by 2025 – is a separate technology upgrade. Ed.



Free support to help farmers navigate the Agricultural Transition expanded in the South West

Business Information Point, alongside other local agencies are providing free, tailored one to one advice, workshops, and specialist webinars to help farmers and land managers navigate the changes brought about by the Agricultural Transition: Defra funding now expanded to include Dorset. The support will include:

Transition workshops: Local workshops to discuss the changes coming through the transition and look at new funding options, as well as planning strategies for the future. The upcoming workshops we are running locally are:

- Wednesday, 19th April - 7pm to 10p at Buckland Newton Village Hall, Buckland Newton
- Tuesday, 23rd May- 7pm to 9.30pm at Pamela Hambro Hall, Winterbourne Stickland

One-to-one support: Access free one-to-one support with an experienced agricultural advisor to talk specifically about your farm business and develop an agreed and documented action plan.

Small group webinars: Attend small group webinars covering topics such as digital skills, succession planning, woodlands, environmental schemes, soil management, diversification, marketing, business planning and grant schemes.

Digital training: Build digital confidence and gain IT skills to better manage your farm business. The sessions are delivered in a no-nonsense, practical, and supportive manner, free of jargon!

For full details of the support and to register on any of the workshops please visit our website - <https://businessinfopoint.co.uk/ffr/> or call 0800 592 872.



Farming is Changing

NEWS OF THE CHURCHES

St Mary's Sturminster



Services:

Date	St Mary's	St. Thomas'	St. Peter's
02 April (Palm Sunday)(1 st Sunday)	9:30am – Morning Prayer 6:00pm – Evensong	11:00am – Holy Communion	9:30am – Morning Prayer
05 April Wednesday	10:00am – Holy Communion		
06 April (Maundy Thursday)	7:00pm – Holy Communion		
07 April (Good Friday)	2:00pm – Holy Communion	10:00am – Hour at the Cross	10:00am – Hour at the Cross
09 April (Easter Sunday)	11:00am – Holy Communion	11:00am – Holy Communion	9:30am – Holy Communion
12 April Wednesday	10:00am – Holy Communion		
16 April (3 rd Sunday)	11:00am – Holy Communion 4:00pm – Taizé Service	6:00pm – Evensong	9:30am – Morning Prayer
19 April Wednesday	10:00am – Holy Communion		
23 April (4 th Sunday)	9:30am – Morning Prayer 6:00pm – Evensong	11:00am – Holy Communion	9:30am – Holy Communion
26 April Wednesday	10:00am – Holy Communion		
30 April (5 th Sunday)			11:00am – Holy Communion

Catholic Easter Services:

Holy Week Services Our Lady's Marnhull.

Maundy Thursday 6th April 6:30 pm Mass of the Lord's Supper

Good Friday 7th April 3:00 pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion

Holy Saturday 8th April 11:00 am at ST BENEDICT'S Gillingham

Polish Blessing of the food

Holy Saturday 8th April Marnhull 9:00 pm Easter Vigil Mass

Easter Sunday 9th April 9:30 am Mass Marnhull 11:00 am Mass Gillingham

WHAT'S ON IN STUR IN APR/MAY



The Exchange

- For full details of all Exchange events, including extra events, see website stur-exchange.co.uk - buy tickets on the website, on 01258 475137 or at reception in The Exchange.
- All events evening (except SNADS Matinées, 'When you're smiling' & 'The Earl & the Pharaoh'), start times vary - check your ticket.

Theatre & Dance

- Friday 28th April: **The Earl and the Pharaoh.** Talk + Q&A with The Countess of Carnarvon
- Thursday 18th May: **John Suchet presents Beethoven - The Man Revealed.**
- Thursday May 25th: **Living Spit - One Man and His Cow.**
- Fri/Sat 9th/10th June: **SNADS Dorset Smugglers** (details - community pages)

Film

- Thursday 30th March: **"Emily"** The imagined life of Emily Bronte. Cert 15
- Thursday 13th April: **Fisherman's Friends 2** - Following the success of their first album, the Fisherman's Friends struggle to adjust to their new-found fame and work towards a second album. Cert 12.
- Thursday 11th May: **Tar** -Renowned musician Lydia Tár is days away from recording the symphony that will elevate her career. When all elements seem to conspire against her. Cert 15

Music

- Saturday 1st April: **Bare Jams** - a sonically tight tour-de-force of experienced musical alchemists effortlessly cooking up a credible fusion of musical styles with a sound that is uniquely their own.
- Thursday 20th April : **When You're Smiling** - Neil Sands and his wonderful West End cast are back with a brand new spirit lifting afternoon of marvellous musical memories.
- Friday 21st April: **The Daisy Bowlers** - are a quirky and fun vintage band performing songs from the Charleston to Jive with 3 part vocal harmony, ukulele, double bass and guitar.
- Saturday 29th April: **Johnny Cash Roadshow** - Tribute Show endorsed by the Cash family.
- Saturday 13th May: **Simon & Garfunkel** - Seventh Avenue Arts presents: Simon & Garfunkel Through the Years. Tribute Show.
- Saturday 27th May: **The Cory Band** - hail from the Rhondda Valley in South Wales. They were crowned Grand Slam champions in 2019 having won the European, British Open, National Championships of Great Britain plus Brass in Concert

The Exchange will be offering discounted ticket prices to some events for groups. If any community group (or large family) might want to attend a film/play/show as a group please register to receive information by emailing shows@stur-exchange.co.uk or leave a message at reception.

Sturminstrels

- Sat 8th April 10am-12:00pm.
- Poets Corner, Sturminster. Free.

Milling Weekend

- 8th & 9th April - Flour Production at The Mill

W.I.

- See panel in community pages

Floral Group

- Wednesday 12th April 2023 at 7.30pm at The Exchange Workshop by Debbie Clark "Creative Clay for All" Members only please.

Family History

- Wednesday 19th April 7pm The Exchange
- Demystifying DNA
- Details community pages.

u3a

- Thur 20th April, 3:15 The Exchange. Talk by Operation Mincemeat.
- Details on community pages.

Exhibition

- April 22- May 5 Workhouse Chapel Gallery
- Word - Paper - Book
- Details on community pages.

Garden Club

- Talk by Jo Lewis on Sharing your Garden with Bees, on Wednesday 26th April 2023 at the Exchange at 7.30 pm. Visitors and new members welcome. Contact paula@gasons.plus.com

1855

- Last Fridays of month - late night opening to 8pm & "Meet the traders" & wine tasting

Coronation Civic Service

- Sunday 7th May St Mary's Church 11am
- Details on news pages

Coronation Tea Milling Weekend

- 8th May - Monday To celebrate the Coronation we will provide delicious homemade tea and cakes at the mill.
- 13th & 14h May - Flour Production at The Mill

30 Minute Makeover

- Wednesday 10th May 10am-7pm. Enzo's Hair and Beauty will be hosting a make up event with the Jane Iredale Skincare Makeup line which will give you the chance to try out the foundations for free, receive a 30 minute make over for only £10, browse all Jane Iredale and purchase at 25% off or just pop in to chat to one of our Beauty Therapists. Book 01258 473123

Plant Sale

- Saturday 13th May 9-12am Garden Club
- Beside the Railway Garden Gates. Local plants and cakes for sale in aid of Club funds

Family History

- Wednesday 17th May 7:15pm - The Exchange
- Sin, Sex & Probate
- Details Community Pages

Garden Club

- Talk by Mark Read on Dahlias, on Wednesday 24th May 2023 at the Exchange at 7.30 pm. Visitors and New members welcome
- Contact paula@gasons.plus.net

Hedgehog Rescue Fayre

- Sat 3rd June 1-5pm
- Alec's Field, Hazlebury Bryan
- Details on Community Pages

WHAT'S ON IN VILLAGES

There must be more going on!
It's a Free ad reaching at least
1000 people. Send us your
June/July events.



Sturminster
Newton Floral
Group

Marhull: Wednesday May 10th 2pm

- The Royal British Legion Club Marhull. Flower arranging demonstration entitled "Hearts and Flowers" by Carole Norman. Non-members very welcome £10 or £25 to join as a new member.

Farmers Transition
Workshop

Buckland Newton: Wednesday 19th April: 7-10pm

- Buckland Newton Village Hall - Details on Business page.

Farmers Transition
Workshop

Winterbourne Stickland: Wednesday 23rd May: 7-9:30pm

- Pamela Hambro Hall - Details on Business page

Hedghog Rescue
Fayre

Hazlebury Bryan, Sat 3rd Jun 1-5pm

- Alec's Field (opposite The Antelope Inn)
- Details in Community pages

Gillingham Singers

East Stour, Sat 23 Apr, 2:30pm

- For The Beauty of The Earth
- East Stour Church

Gillingham Singers
"For the Beauty of the Earth"
Saturday 22nd April 2023, 7:30pm
East Stour Church
 Oboe: Allison Gosney
 Cello: Jane Needle
 Accompanist: David Grierson
 Musical Director: Geoff Allan
Choral and Instrumental Music
 On themes of
 Moon
 Sun
 Air and Water
 Earth
 and
 Spirit
Tickets: £7.50 on the door
 (Interval drinks included)
<https://gillinghamsingers.org>
 Charity No. 1164535

**Bere Marsh Farm – Shillingstone
Countryside Regeneration Trust**

Native Reptile Discovery
 Wednesday 12 April | 11am-2pm
 Dawn Chorus Walk
 Saturday 12 May 4.30am-6.30am
 Creative Workshops at Bere
 Marsh Farm May – July

Book your place today:
www.thecrt.co.uk/events



COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS & EVENTS



The Learning Centre in The Exchange

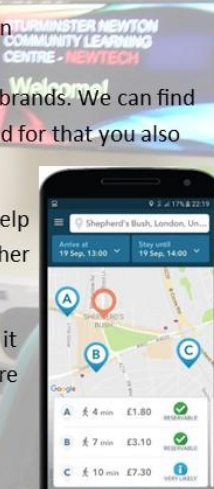
One more reason why a mobile phone is becoming an essential part of modern life is the increasing number of car parks that only accept payment by 'App'. If you don't have a Smartphone yet there is no need to pay big money for big brands. We can find you one for under £100 and help you set it up and show you how to use it. And for that you also get a good camera, and all the facilities of a tablet computer.

If you have a Smartphone but have not added a parking app yet we can also help you get started. The app JustPark is used in all Dorset Council car parks but other places may require different apps, common examples are RingGo and NCP.

No need to regard these apps as a nuisance, once you have set it up and used it a first time it becomes a convenience. JustPark and some of the others do more than just allow you to pay—they can guide you to nearest car park with free spaces in an unfamiliar place, JustPark even allows you to book spaces in advance at places like Lulworth Cove.



The Learning Centre is open as a drop-in on Monday mornings and all day Wednesdays for help with problems, set-up & learning on computers, tablets, smartphones etc. No charge, coin donation helpful.



Hedgehog Rescue Fayre

Hedgehog Rescue of Hazelbury Bryan is holding its annual fund-raising day on 3rd June at Alec's Field, Hazelbury Bryan (opposite The Antelope). We would love your support either selling your crafts, donating raffle prizes, or helping on the day with beverages, stalls and games. Bric a brac stall, games for children ice creams, tea and coffee, craft stalls as well as our famous raffle. Please contact 01258 818266. Everyone welcome from 1 - 5pm.

u3a
Sturminster Newton

Our Next Meeting:

Thursday 20th April at 3.15pm

At the Exchange

(This will include our AGM)

KEVIN PATIENCE – “Operation Mincemeat” The Man Who Never Was



Kevin Patience grew up in Kenya and served in the Royal Air Force. He has written a number of books on military history and articles for aviation, medal and railway journals. Now resident in Poole he gives talks on a variety of subjects.

“Operation Mincemeat”, a 1943 British intelligence plan to deceive the Axis powers into thinking the Allied invasion of Sicily would take place elsewhere in the Mediterranean. A corpse with a fictional identity is released into the waters off the coast of Spain, where strong currents will carry it ashore near to where a known German agent operates. The non-existent Royal Marine courier, Major William Martin, would appear to be a plane crash victim carrying documents about a planned Allied invasion of German-occupied Greece, rather than Sicily, the more obvious target. The Germans dispatch an Irish spy to London to investigate.



Entry £1 for members £2 for visitors

Refreshments afterwards!

STURMINSTER NEWTON HERITAGE TRUST

(more on back page)

Welcome back to the mill after a long winter with several floods, at least 5! We will be open on Saturdays, Sundays, Mondays and Thursdays from 11am – 5pm, until the end of September. Enjoy a tour to see all the machinery working and producing our tasty wholegrain flour. Browse in the shop which has mostly local products, flour, jams, chutneys, wooden crafts, fudge and sit in our beautiful surroundings with a cup of tea and a biscuit or ice cream. We also sell 'kitchenalia', bottles, jars, tins, stone hot water bottles and similar items. We have a wonderful display of information boards created by students at the High School, explaining our historical links with Newfoundland and Swanskin.

Sturminster
Choral Society
Spring concert 2023

Rutter
FEEL THE SPIRIT

Elgar
THE ANGEL'S FAREWELL

with alto **Charlotte Collier**

and arrangements of
Shenandoah
Stranger in Paradise
Vocalise

Conductor:
Annemarie Lees
Accompanist:
Caroline D'Cruz

SATURDAY
29th April
7.30pm

www.sturminsterchoral.org.uk

**ST MARY'S
CHURCH**
STURMINSTER NEWTON

Tickets £10 on the door
Enquiries 01258 820755

The saints go marching in at Sturminster Choral Society's Spring Concert. John Rutter's 'Feel the Spirit' leads the programme which includes 'The Angel's Farewell' from 'The Dream of Gerontius' (Elgar), and arrangements of 'Shenandoah', 'Stranger in Paradise' and 'Vocalise.' The soloist is Charlotte Collier, conductor Annemarie Lees and accompanist Caroline D'Cruz.

SNADS Presents 

DORSET SMUGGLERS
Revolutionaries or Common Thieves
Written by Sue Ashby

9th & 10th June 2023 7.30pm
The Exchange, Sturminster Newton

Tickets £10.00 from
The Exchange Box Office
01258 475137 or
www.stur-exchange.co.uk

Find us on

www.snads.biz
snadsdorset1930@outlook.com

SNADS' next production, Dorset Smugglers: Revolutionaries or Common Thieves? due to be performed on 9th & 10th June, is a play written especially for the Society by professional playwright Sue Ashby.

Dorset Smugglers: Revolutionaries or Common Thieves? is a dramatic tale of the derring-do of Isaac Gulliver between 1760 and 1822, when he rose to prominence as Dorset's most daring smuggler and a wealthy property speculator.

While Gulliver was running contraband along the coasts of Hampshire, Dorset and Devon, his notoriety eventually caught the attention of King George III. Aided by his right-hand man, Roger Ridout, Gulliver was given free passage to take English spies to France during the Revolution and to bring back French aristocrats fearful of being beheaded as traitors.

SNADS' 100 Club helps to raise funds towards the costs of putting on productions and the storage charges for costumes, sets and props etc. The 100 Club is open to everyone over the age of 16 who wishes to support SNADS. A number costs £1.00 per month, for the chance to win a cash prize.

We ask you to pay up-front for the year Jan – Dec (or pro-rata, if joining during the year). The draw takes place each month, usually at a committee meeting, and the winners are notified.

If you'd like to join in or for further details, please contact Chris Hawkins at chrishawkinssnads@hotmail.com or ask at the Exchange for an application form.

The Workhouse Chapel Gallery showcases work from some of the finest local craftspeople. Opening after the winter break on April 22, the Spring/Summer programme starts with:

WORD - PAPER - BOOK - An Exhibition and Exploration

Looking at the Power of Words, the Possibilities of Paper and the Potential of Books. An invited group of local makers and artists will present work that may make you look at these commonplace items in a new light.

WPB is open daily until May 5, after which time the Chapel will be open on Thursdays and Fridays every week.

Check www.workhousechapel.co.uk for opening times, exhibitions and workshops.

The Workhouse Chapel, Bath Road, Sturminster Newton, Dorset. DT10 1EN

DORSET PERENNIAL GROUP

The Dorset Perennial Group is a membership organisation made up of local people who enjoy visiting interesting gardens during the Spring and Summer. We also hold two garden related talks in the Spring and the Autumn.

New members welcomed and the membership price for 2023 is £6.50pp.

For more information call 01258 861 566



STURMINSTER NEWTON LITERARY FESTIVAL 2023

Sturminster Newton Literary Festival will run from 5-10 June 2023 and includes a range of fiction and nonfiction events this year. The festival focuses on the three writers associated with the town (Robert Young, Thomas Hardy, and William Barnes, current Dorset and Wessex writers, and aspiring writers from Dorset and Wessex.

All events are on our website www.sturlitfest.com and on Eventbrite. We plan to have a stall in Sturminster Newton to sell tickets in person during May (dates to be announced). Readers can follow us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram and subscribe to our free newsletter.

From 5-8 May, St Mary's Church will host talks on their stained-glass windows.

Walking and outdoor programme

30 April. Robert Young's Sturminster Newton. Led by David Fox

25 May. Tess' Marlott. A guided walk around Marnhull

3 June. Rupert Brooke's poetry at Shillingstone Station. David Caddy will lead a short walk on the North Dorset Trailway and read some of Brooke's poems in the railway carriage at Shillingstone Station.

Talks and drama: 11 More Events in June – details in next newsletter or look now on sturlitfest.com

Family History Group

19th April, 7pm, Bow Room at The Exchange.

Demystifying DNA * 7pm start*****

We've all got it – what is it? Have you done a test and you're not sure what the results mean? Or, are you not sure whether to even do a DNA test? Different DNA testing companies test slightly different things, each company has its own advantages and disadvantages, and different useful extra tools, so which test is best for your research? This presentation will walk you through the initial stages of understanding your DNA test results. **Speaker: Dr Penny Walters**

17th May, 7.30pm, Bow Room at The Exchange

Sin, Sex & Probate

Church courts were busy, particularly prior to the mid-nineteenth century: they heard cases of, and passed judgement on, ecclesiastical sins, defamation and sexual misconduct of parishioners and clergy, issued marriage licences and honorary degrees, and granted probate (wills and letters of administration). In this illustrated lecture, Dr Chapman provides many examples of the depositions (statements) of witnesses whilst explaining how these courts operated and where their records may be accessed today. Were your ancestors even properly married?? **Speaker: Dr Colin Chapman**

All are welcome at our meetings. To help defray costs we ask £3.00 per meeting for members of the S&DFHS and £4.00 for non-members

Details of April-May Women's Institute Meetings

Tuesday April 4th at 1.45 ..Annual Mtg. 1.45 to 3.30 Chivrick room/Exchange

Thursday 20th April ..from 7.00pm with refreshments W.I. Local Groups Area Get Together .Bow Room the Exchange. Speaker Taprisha Juett ..presentation "Through the Eyes of a Child...Growing up in Uganda "

Tuesday 2nd MayNew Members especially Welcome to "Come and See"

1.45 to 3.30pm Chivrick room/Exchange ...Speaker to be announced.

Dorset Doodlers -the local running club

The Doodlers hold sessions weekly on Mondays for their C25K in Sturminster, Tuesdays in Shaftesbury, Thursdays in Sturminster, along with organising and supporting many local races and social runs. Each year we organise local races such as the Sturminster Half, North Dorset Village Marathon, Wessex Ridgeway and the Stickler.

The Dorset Doodlers running club has invested in a new piece of kit...one they hope will never get used. The club has taken delivery of a new Defibrillator, and 12 of its members have completed basic training on how to use the device along with CPR training.



Tree Planting / Queens Green Canopy

The time has come to wrap up our community efforts to plant trees in Sturminster in memory of her Majesty.

I apologise to all those good people who attended our first public information sessions in the Exchange a year ago, representing their community groups. We were not able to call on you for public space planting but in the end, much was done.

A Dogwood Tree (with plaque) was planted in the Railway Gardens on "Civic Officers Day" last March to kick off the yearlong project.

William Barnes Primary School, the High School and Yewstock School have all planted trees with their pupils, Well Done kids!

Newstone House and Nazareth House have planted Jubilee/Legacy trees too.

The Dorset Rangers have planted Apple Trees and Nut Trees for us all to enjoy on the edges of the nature preserve and in Riverside Meadows opposite the Bull Tavern - as have the Council Grounds Team.

That Groundsmen have been busy in other areas too, finding 7 sites around the town to put in new trees (see if you can find them)..and a new hedge for the Cemetery. Also last year they replanted many boxed trees from the community garden below the Exchange into Rixon Recreation Ground.

Sovereign Housing has authorised the planting of 7 trees on and around Filbridge Green and a hedge along the metal fence to shield the houses from the newly extended factory. This was a community planting event with the trees and saplings donated by the council and private donors.

Finally the group has received notification of a few trees that have been planted in private gardens, by neighbourhood groups. and, over 1000 trees Native English Species saplings that have been planted on the Island in the river above the Mill on land leased from the Pitt Rivers Estates by Peter Marks who is now the Council Member whose liaison with "The Tree Group" has been most helpful.

Taprisha Juett



We are a friendly group of gardeners, and we meet on the 4th Wednesday of every month at The Exchange at 7.30 pm. Our meetings vary from serious gardening to a few light-hearted meetings with a sprinkling of shows which brings out the competitive spirit in our members. We are now going on outings once again.

Going forward we are looking for new members with new ideas so that the club can encompass some modern trends.

Gardening is popular at the moment especially with people growing their own and sharing ideas lead to more productive gardening.

More members are going organic and the wildlife in our gardens certainly needs addressing - subjects we try to cover.

So, if you are gardening now or would like to garden in the future and, would like to learn more or share your ideas, come along.

Contact Paula Harris; paula@gasons.plus.com

WEEKLY/MONTHLY EVENTS IN STUR

Mondays

New regular items in red type



Community Learning Centre

- 9am to 12:30, The Exchange
- Help with Computers, Tablets, Phones etc.
- Learning from basic to advanced

Sweaty Mama

- 10am The Exchange Sam Smith 07999459571
- samanthaATsweatymama.com
- Effective Fun Workouts with your child

Parent & Carer Support Group

- 9.30-11.30am Term Times, Stour Connect
- Details on the Community pages of July issue.

Mellulah Yoga

- 7-8.30pm The Exchange
- 07809 141815 sairaATmellulah.co.uk

Rhyme Time (under 5s)

- 10-10.30am Term Time, The Library. Free.
- For more info, call 01258 472669

Blackmore Vale Lions

- 7 for 7.30pm 2nd Monday every month at The Hub, off Station Road, Stalbridge. Social / meal often on 3rd Monday at various locations. facebook.com/Blackmore.Vale.Lions contact bvlions@gmail.com New members keen to serve the community actively sought.

Tuesdays

Country Market

- 9am till 12; The Exchange Atrium
- LocCraft, cards by Side Ray, fresh meat, eggs, fresh baking, small portions suitable for one, fresh veg, plants & seasonal produce; Crafts.

Coffee Companions Hour

- 10 till 11am at The County Market in The Exchange
- Coffee Companions sit and chat and get to know folk. Very friendly, social morning.

Womens Institute

- 1:45pm First Tuesdays, The Exchange
- Jill 01258 817197 jillendellion@hotmail.com

Rotary Club

- 6.45 for 7pm; 2nd and 4th Tuesdays
- Details: secretary@sturminsternewton.rotary1110.org

Short Mat Bowls

- 6.45pm to 9.45pm every week. Meets in the sports hall of Stour Connect (Tricuro) premises, Stour View Close DT10 1JF (off Bath Road). New members very welcome – just turn up. Bowls loaned and instruction given. David Birt 01258 472219

Wednesdays

Mother's Union

- 2.30 pm 3rd Wednesdays in members' homes, Brenda Stables 01258 471487

Wednesdays

Zumba

• 9.30-10.30am The Exchange Nicola 0788792171

Community Learning Centre

• 9.30am-4.30pm The Exchange Drop-in for help, advice, problems with computers, tablets, smartphones...
snclc@btconnect.com snclc.org.uk 01258 475272

BCP Holy Communion

• 10am St Marys

Creative Writing Group

• 3-5pm 2nd Wednesdays; Exchange Cafe
• Richard: 07535534295, rik.hewittAToutlook.com
• Jane: 01258 269508 scarletmermaidATyahoo.co.uk

Pilates

• 11am-12 noon 07730380471 The Exchange
zane.pilatesATgmail.com

Chair Based Exercise Group

• 1.45pm, The Exchange, Jenny 07762 93488

Sturminster Dance School

• The Exchange, Jill 07792 294261

Knit & Natter

• 1st & 3rd Wednesdays; 2-3:30pm; The Library; Free Drop-in.

Garden Club

• 7.30pm 4th Wednesdays
• The Exchange paulaATgasons.plus.com

Blackmore Vale Family History Goup

• 7.30pm 3rd Wednesdays, On Winter break, back in Spring.
• Felicity Harrison 01258 472942. The Exchange

Floral Group

• **Sturminster Newton Floral Group is moving to the afternoons at 2 pm at The Royal British Legion Club Marnhull from May onwards.**

Bell Ringing Practice

• 7:30pm St Mary's Church; New Members Welcome.
• Nick Dallison 07532 092030

Thursdays

Friends Coffee Morning

• 10am-12 noon 1st Thursday The Library

Open Mic Night

• 7.30pm 2nd Thursdays The Swan Inn

Learning Together

• 10-11:30 Thursdays in term time (starting November); the Library; Free
• Activities for Children 18months - 5yrs, Info 01258 472669

Lego Fun Ages 3+

• 3-5pm; The Library; Free Drop-in.
• For more info, call 01258 472669.

Fridays

Menopause Support Group

• 2.30-4.30pm, 4th Fridays, The Medical Centre.
• Details on the community pages of July issue

Reminiscence

• 2:30-3:30pm 2nd Fridays; Library; Free
• Share recollections and memories over a cuppa
• Info 01258 472669

Cuppa & Company

• Every Friday during winter. The library. Free drop-in

Saturdays

Sturminster Newton Orchestra

- Do you enjoy playing a musical instrument? Why not join us in The Exchange 9.30am
- No auditions. All levels and ages welcome
- Contact: Diana Harris 01747 854 481, or John Savage 01258 473 838, johnATjagsav.com
SturminsterNewtonOrchestra.com

Car & Bike Enthusiasts

- First Saturdays 9am till 12 noon
- Health Centre car park or Recreation Ground

Arts & Crafts for All

- 10.30am-12.30pm Twice Monthly: The Exchange
- Shelly 01258 817682

Code Club

- 1st & 3rd Sats 10-11am.
- For children 8-13yrs. Computer Activities.
- Free at The Library, 01258 472669 for info & booking.

Sundays -Sunday Services St Mary's

1st Sunday 11am **Holy Communion (CW Order 1)** 6pm **BCP Evensong**

2nd Sunday 9.30am **CW Morning Prayer** 6pm **BCP Evensong**
4pm **TAIZÉ** service (details of Taizé on community pages Aug22)

3rd Sunday 11am **Holy Communion (CW Order 1)** 6pm **BCP Evensong**

4th Sunday 9.30am **CW Morning Prayer** 6pm **BCP Evensong**

5th Sunday 11am **Benefice Holy Communion (CW Order 1)**

The nearest Roman Catholic Church is at Old Mill Lane, Marnhull, DT10 1JX.

Nearest Orthodox Church is at Athelhampton Road, opposite Athelhampton House, Puddletown, DT2 7LG Father David Harris, tel: 01305 849 410 e-mail: frdavidharris@hotmail.co.uk

Or St Dunstan of Canterbury Orthodox Church is an Antiochian Orthodox Church 94a, Bournemouth Rd., Parkstone, Poole, Dorset. BH14 9HY.

Regular Events at Stour Connect

Men's Shed Stour - a woodworking/recycling project, where all can meet to socialise and learn new skills or share existing skills, is open Tuesday and Thursday 9.30am to 3pm

Carers/parents support group for carers of loved ones with lifelong conditions - every Monday morning

Life is for Living - for those with memory issues/dementia diagnosis every Wednesday from 1.30pm

Connect to Employment - employability and life skills qualifications for people with additional needs every Thursday 9.30am to 2.30pm

Social Fridays - every Friday morning

Lunch Clubs - every Monday with FREE transport. Meal costs from £6.50

Meals on Wheels - Hot meals direct to your door weekdays from £6.50 delivered

2023 Diary

April 7th to 10th – various Easter events plus possible links with Orthodox celebrations to reach out to our Eastern European residents.

May 4th – working with the Town Council etc. The Coronation celebrations

June 3rd and 4th – The Big Weekend

- Real Ale and Cider Festival at The Exchange
- Rotary Garden Sale
- the Big Lunch

June 4th to 9th - SturLit Festival (walks plus “meet the author” events)

June 25th Cream Tea at The Mill

July - first weekend – it is not yet known if there will be any Boogie Woogie events this coming year.

August 21st to 26th - “SturBuzz” ecologically themed events and possible community fete.

November 25th - Christmas Event

December 2nd - Small Business Saturday

WEEKLY/MONTHLY EVENTS IN VILLAGES

Please tell us about other regular
events in your village.



Monday

- **Qigong & Tai Chi, 1pm Marnhull Methodist Hall** Stress busting, fastest growing health system. geoffrey1145ATgmail.com
- **Strictly SINGING Okeford Fitzpaine 11.15am first Monday (some exceptions)** Fun hour of singing to hits or show numbers from 1950+. Meet St Andrew's, Greenhayes, DT11 ORD. Timed for X10 Yeovil to Blandford bus. Hot drinks. Donation to 'Andrew needs a Loo'. Contact Dilys 01258 860157
- **3rd Mondays 7:15pm Marhull Music Society.** Village Hall. Yvonne on 01258 820247 or mikyonaTao.com . More on community pages.

Tuesday

- **Short Mat Bowls Okeford Fitzpaine 7:15pm Village Hall** Equipment provided; Barbara 01258 861524
- **Stretch & Tone Classes Ibberton 9:30am Village Hall; £7; Contact: James Self 07985 194994**
- **Vinyasa Flow Yoga Hazlebury Bryan Village Hall 9:30am.** Mixed Ability. sairaATmelluah.co.uk 07809 141815
- **Stretch & Tone with James Ibberton Village Hall 9:30-10:15; £7 pay at door**

Wednesday

- **9:30am & 11am Qigong & Tai Chi, Big Yellow Bus Project Shillingstone** Try this lovely art outside and feel invigorated geoffrey1145ATgmail.com 07941 15352
- **10 am, Art 4 Pleasure, Manston Village Hall; Pat 01258 721467**
- **2pm Sturminster Newton Floral Group** 2nd Wednesdays Royal British Legion Club Marnhull (no meeting in August) Libby 01258 863740

Thursday

- **AM Recorder Group: 1st&3rd Thurs Child Okeford Jill 07905 926268**
- **Youth Club (10-14s), Shillingstone Church Centre, Last Thursday; Judith Compton 07404 737687**
- **Short Mat Bowls Okeford Fitzpaine 7:15pm Village Hall**
- **Stretch & Tone Classes Ibberton 9:30am Village Hall; £7; Contact: James Self 07985 194994**

Friday

- **7.30pm Barn Dance.** First Fridays. Portman Hall, Shillingstone 01258 861184
- **2nd Fridays 10:30-3:30 Blackmore Vale Arts Group.** Marhull Village Hall. Yvonne on 01258 820247 or mikyonaTao.com . More on community pages.
- **Last Friday; Hazlebury Brian, Community Lunch, Noon, Village Hall, min £5**

Saturday

- **Blandford Hospital Shop:** Collection point incl. larger items. First Saturdays. 10am-12noon Old Poisedale Building, Hinton St Mary.
- **Village Market/ Coffee Morning;** Shillingstone Church Centre; first Saturdays

Sunday

- **9:30am & 6pm Mass RC Church Marnhull:** Fr Francis Straw 01258 820388 marnhullandgillinghamrc.org.uk

Daily

- **Boules Pitches** and equipment now available. The cricket pitches Hinton St Mary. Anytime except 4-6pm. Janet 01258 472300
- **Shillingstone Station:** Open Weds / Sat/ Sun 10-4

STURFIT:

Gym (membership & PAYG),
classes, clubs, facilities hire.

Sturminster Newton Leisure Centre,
Honeymead Lane, DT10 1EW
01258 471774 hello@sturfit.org
www.sturfit.org



Centre/Gym Opening times:

- Weekdays 7am to 1pm and 4:30pm to 8:30pm
- Weekends & Bank Holidays 8am to 12 noon

Mondays

For all classes & clubs please contact the leader

- Badminton Club over 50's 7:30am - Ashley O1258 473297
- Pilates 10:30am - Mark Thistlewood, 07850 130539
- Spinning 6.15pm; - Sally Lipop 07989 880370
- Taekwando 6:30pm, - Sam Donahoo 07388 342625
- Boxercise 7.30pm; - Roger Teasdale 07824 612078
- Dance Fitness 7:15pm - Katie Ball 07824 8818133

Tuesdays

- Taekwando 4.30pm, - Kim Robinson 07989 928403 01258 721808
- Step 6pm; - Sally Lipop 07989 880370
- Hatha Yoga 7.15pm - Zane Eglite 07730 380471
- Kickboxing 6pm, - Karen Mayne 07710 238600
- Netball 8pm - Lucy Johnson 07715 332611

Wednesdays

- Balance for Health & Wellbeing. 11:15 and 11:45. Age Concern 01258 475582
- Zumba 6pm. - Abby Down 01747 850867 07901 597129
- Ariel Hoop 5-6 & 6-7pm - Fran Drake 07854 144283
- Iwerne Minster Badminton Club 7:30pm (Sept-Apr) - Richard 01258 830906

Thursdays

- Badminton Club over 50's 7:30am; Ashley O1258 473297
- Spinning 6.15pm, - Sally Lipop 07989 880370
- Dorset Doodlers 7pm;
- Taekwando 7.15pm; - Sam Donahoo 07388 342625
- Stretch & Tone 7:15; - Katie Ball 07824 8818133

Fridays

- Circuits 10am; - Mel Mitchell 07912 564160
- Dance Academy 4pm; - Louise Ward 07919 690354
- Ariel Hoop 5.30pm; - Fran Drake 07854 144283

UNDER THE BLUE LAMP



GOODBYE! From Mandy Robinson PCSO 5352

This is my final article for Whatshappeninginstur and by the time you read this I will have retired from Dorset Police. Over and out!

**A huge thank you to Mandy for her service to the town and every
best wish for the future.**

Since my last article there have been 3 reported crimes; theft of tools from a vehicle, a shed was broken in to and a van was criminally damaged.

SCAMS

Please be aware that scams change, however there are still some old ones going around, but they are all after the same thing - your money! Please be on your guard. We have received reports of scam calls from the 01258 dialling code, this does not necessarily mean that this is a local caller and may have been spoofed by the scammer to encourage the recipient of the call to pick up. General rule of thumb is if you don't know who is calling don't pick up. You can help protect yourself from scam callers by contacting your call provider and asking about call guardian or call blocker. You can also purchase phones with integrated call blocker with answering service included. **HANG UP ON FRAUDSTERS!**

ROGUE TRADERS

Hopefully as I write this Spring is on its way! This is the time of year when **ROGUE TRADERS** are out and about offering to tarmac your drive, cut down trees, offer general gardening work, building maintenance and power washing drives to name a few. They will ask for payment in cash after completing substandard work for an extortionate amount of money and have been known to take the victim, who is often elderly and/or vulnerable, to the bank to obtain more funds. If your property or garden needs maintenance visit www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk or call 0345 404 05 06 or ask family or friends who they would recommend. Please keep an eye out for elderly neighbours who often fall victim to these unscrupulous traders.

DO NOT BUY FROM DOORSTEP TRADERS!

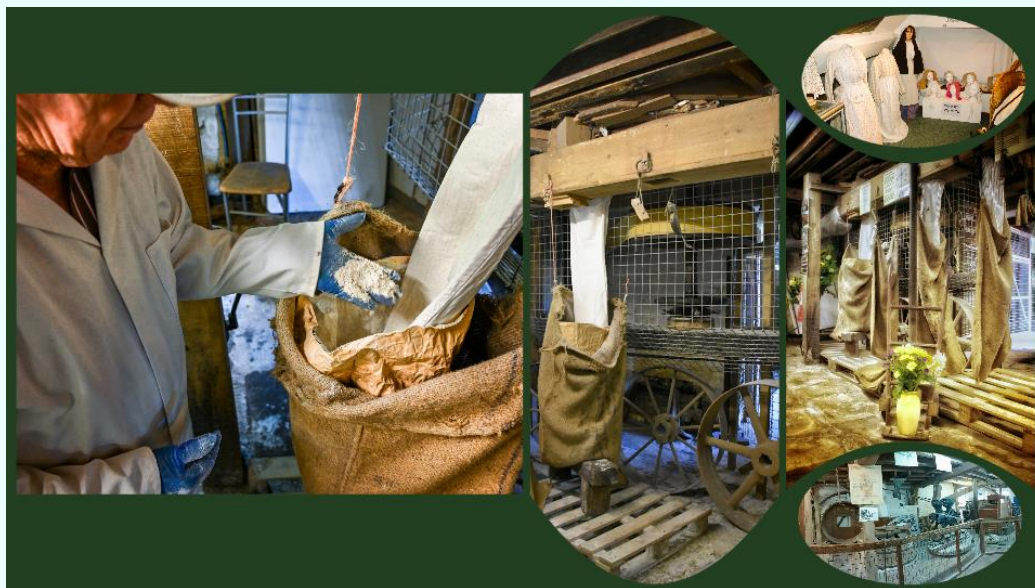
You can contact Dorset Police via 101 or via the police web site www.dorset.police.uk, If a life is danger, a crime is occurring, or someone is missing phone 999.

If you need to contact your local NPT the email address is below this however is NOT for reporting crimes as it is not monitored 24/7.

Email: northdorsetruralnpt@dorset.pnn.police.uk

Bygone Sturminster

The Mill & Museum



The Museum starts the 2023 season with a new display telling the story of the Town's history from pre-Iron Age to current times. Artefacts include a hand knapped flint axe, Iron Age pottery, Roman pin brooch and a gold Noble coin from the 1400s. Come and find out where the "Great Fire of Stur started, learn about the "Castle", who were the Club Men and why was there an elephant in the river?

A second display of Original rural Victorian clothing will be ready to view from Easter. A range of clothing from working smocks to pleated Dorset bonnets will illustrate craftsmanship and intricate sewing skills.

The Mill opens in late March, the ideal place to relax, spot an otter or kingfisher or soak up the atmosphere of the unchanging rhythm of the machinery grinding grain.