

February

EVENTS

Friday, 31 January

Oh La La! Quintet - A Night of French Music. A fabulous quintet led by Parisian-born Fifi la Mer, featuring French jazz at its best. 7:30pm at Ilminster Arts Centre, TA19 0AN. Tickets: £20 01460 54973 www.ilminsterartscentre.com.

Saturday, 1 - 9 February

Compton Valence Snowdrops villafe lunches & teas. Come and walk/drive through our beautiful village and see the stunning white drifts of snowdrops. The village hall is just below the church open (weather permitting) 11.00am-3.30pm. To book please ring or email so that we can cater accordingly. Tessa Russell – Tel ; 01308482227 mob: 07818037184 email; tessa@cvfarms.co.uk. Pre booked guests will take priority as the hall is small. In bad/icy weather we may not be open Please be considerate of our village/verges etc when parking. Or ring us to discuss your needs so that we can advise you where to go. We very much look forward to seeing you/ Cash Only Please.

Saturday, 1 - 16 February

Groves Nurseries in Bridport are hosting their Violet Festival to celebrate their world-famous collection of these timeless flowers, steeped in history, charm and family tradition. Groves Nurseries 74 W Bay Rd, Bridport DT6 4BA.

Saturday, 1 February

West Dorset Ramblers, 8 mile circular walk on coast and country in Ringstead area. To book and for details please phone 07974 756107.

Bridport & West Dorset Rambling Club 6 mile walk from Tibbs Hollow. For further information please ring 01308 898484 or 01308 863340. New members/visitors welcome.

The friends of Weymouth Library (F.O.W.L.) talk at 10-30a.m. in the Library, will be by Peter Down from Dorchester Museum. He will talk about Mabel Stobart, who led a group of doctors and nurses in France during WWI. She was a born leader. She was given a black horse by a Serbian general and became known as “The Lady of the Black Horse”. Tickets are available at the Library and are £2 for members and £3 for non-members. Everyone is welcome. Refreshments will be available. For any other

information phone Chris Brackner on 01305832613, or contact the Library on 01305762410.

Monday, 3 February

Hawkchurch Film Nights, in association with Moviola.org, proudly presents ‘The Critic’ (101 mins, Cert. 15 - strong language). In this deliciously dark and sharp-witted 1930s-set thriller, the most feared and vicious theatre critic in London, Jimmy Erskine (Ian McKellen), finds himself in the cross hairs of the Daily Chronicle’s new owner David Brooke (Mark Strong), and strikes a sinister Faustian pact with struggling actress Nina Land (Gemma Arterton), who is desperate to win his favour. Romola Garai and Lesley Manville lead a strong supporting cast. Doors open 6.30pm, film starts 7.00pm at Hawkchurch Village Hall, EX13 5XD. Ticket reservations £6.50 from csma95@gmail.com or leave a message on 07753 603219 (socially-distanced seating available if reserved in advance); tickets also available in advance for £6.50 from Hawkchurch Community Shop or £7.00 on the door (cash only). Subtitles for hearing-impaired patrons provided if available. Home-made cake, teas, coffees, soft drinks, wine and other tasty refreshments available.

Bridport Folk Dance Group Meets every Monday 7.15 –9.30pm in The WI.Hall, North Street. No partner needed and no experience necessary. Refreshments and social chat. Only £3. All welcome. Tel- 863552 or text 07456730753.

Tuesday, 4 February

Scottish Country dancing at Horton Village Hall TA19 9QR every Tuesday evening from 7.30 to 9.30 pm with tea / coffee break, £3.00 pay on the door. Everyone welcome from beginner level to experienced, so why not come along and join our friendly group of dancers. For more information email Anita at anitaandjim22@gmail.com or phone 01460 929383 and visit our web site at www.ashillscd.wordpress.com

Wednesday, 5 February

Entertaining talk, with pudding – popular, well known speaker Francis Burroughes will give a lively and humorous discourse ‘Don’t Put Your Daughter on the Stage’. 7.30pm, at Clapton & Wayford Village Hall. £8 includes a choice of hot puddings; please book and



pay in advance, by contacting Mary (01460 74849) or Julia (01460 72769).

Meeting Voices Community Choir, Chard. 19.30 to 21.15. Sing for fun. Learn songs in harmony by ear. Everyone welcome. Chard Guildhall. Fore St, Chard TA20 1PP. Phone 07534 116502 or email mvsecretary@outlook.com.

Thursday, 6 February

Lyme Regis Museum Friends offer an illustrated talk, 'William Buckland: his Career & Character and Collaboration with William Conybeare' by David Knapman at 2.30 pm in the Woodmead Hall, Hill Road, Lyme Regis DT7 3PG. David is a local historian based at Axminster Heritage Centre. William Buckland was Dean of Westminster and Professor of Geology & Minerology at Oxford (1819). Both Buckland & Conybeare, also a prominent geologist,

lived in Axminster and were contemporary with Mary Anning who they supported. Members £3 visitors £5. Enquiries to David Cox, 01297 443156.

Foursquare Rum Tasting Event at Mercato Italiano, from 7pm. An exclusive rum tasting, hosted by Peter Holland their UK Ambassador, he will be taking you on a journey tasting through some of the world's best rums from the multi award winning distillery in Barbados. Ticket £15. Unit 3b, Dreadnought Trading Estate, Bridport DT6 5BU. 01308 459274. <https://mercatoitaliano.uk>.

Lyme Voices Community Choir. 19.30 to 21.15. Sing for fun. Learn songs in harmony by ear. Everyone welcome. Baptist Church (Pine Hall round the back), Silver St., Lyme Regis, DT7 3NY. Phone 07534 116502 or email petelinnett2@hotmail.com.

Close (2022, Dutch, 12A, 100 mins, s/titles Director

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Lucas Dhont). This film follows two teenage boys whose close friendship is thrown into disarray when their schoolmates notice their intimacy, causing a rift between them. Doors 7:00 pm, 7:30 pm start. Clapton & Wayford Village Hall (TA18 8PS). Membership £25, guests £5 per film. For more details, contact mickpwilson53@btinternet.com or ring Mick Wilson on 01460 74849 or Kathy Everard on 01460 30646.

Folk dancing at Combe St Nicholas village hall (TA20 3LT) at 1930 hrs. Derek Boles will be calling and Chris Toyne be providing the music. It's £4.00 per person which includes a cuppa and cake, all welcome and it is a lot of fun! Further details from Elaine on 01460 65909.

Friday, 7 February

Fleetwood Shack - A Tribute to Fleetwood Mac. Prepare to be transported on a remarkable musical journey as Fleetwood Shack delivers an extraordinary performance, featuring an impressive repertoire of the biggest and most beloved Fleetwood Mac hits. Guaranteed to be an unforgettable experience that captures the essence of Fleetwood Mac's love, emotion, and mystical aura. 7:30pm at Ilminster Arts Centre, TA19 0AN. Tickets: £22. 01460 54973 www.ilminsterartscentre.com

Saturday, 8 February

Bridport & West Dorset Rambling Club 7 mile walk from Beaminster. For further information please ring 01308 898484 or 01308 863340. New members/visitors welcome.

Come and Sing choruses from Haydn's Creation and other works with the theme of Nature The Mid-Wessex Singers and their Musical Director, Alice Dicker, invite you to a Come and Sing day at Long Sutton Village Hall (TA10 9NT) from 9.30 am until 5pm. Bring your own lunch; teas, coffees and light refreshments will be provided. Cost £20. To register interest and for any further information please contact Steph Taylor by e-mail on info@midwessexsingers.co.uk through the website at www.midwessexsingers.co.uk or on 07502 280596.

Uplyme and Lyme Regis Horticultural Society. Coffee morning, Uplyme Village Hall, 10am-12noon. Free entry.

Table Top Sale. Clear out your cupboards or grab a bargain. 1-4 pm At Forster Memorial Hall, Bradpole. Sellers £6 a table. 50p entry teas coffees and raffle Contact Dawn 07825707623.

The Stanchester Quire Spring term learning some of the old songs of the South West of England depicting "Love and Courtship". New members very welcome and ability to read music not essential as we learn everything by ear. £10, new members first session free.

At 10:30am, Leigh Village Hall, Nr Sherborne, DT9 6HL. Further details from stanchesterquire2@gmail.com or visit our website stanchesterquire.org.

Sunday, 9 February

Spitz & Co - Elvis in Blue Hawaii. Expect the usual mayhem and lots of audience interaction, plus all your favourite Elvis songs in this hit comedy show from the award-winning comedy theatre company Spitz & Co, who have built a reputation for creating funny, original and playful shows, including Gloriator, Gloria in The Mist and Les Gloriables! "The funniest and silliest thing I've ever seen - pure joy" StageTalk Magazine. Award-winning Elvis impersonator Joe Reeve (Best Sideburns, GlosVegas 2014) stars in his version of the classic Elvis film Blue Hawaii, whilst his long-time tour manager, Josephine Cunningham, is there to keep the show on the road - next stop, Vegas! Dig out your favourite Hawaiian shirt and escape to Paradise in this raucous musical comedy, guaranteed to leave you all shook up! Touring Dorset with Artsreach, the county's rural arts charity. Recommended 8+ www.artsreach.co.uk 7:30pm. Wootton Fitzpaine Village Hall. 01297 560948. £12.50, £6 u18s, £35 fam.

How to Discover Your Inner Idiot! A clowning workshop with Susie Donkin of Spitz & Co. Come and do some clowning with experienced comedy performer and writer Susie Donkin and learn that it's not all about oversized shoes and red noses! Clowning comedy is about being playful, and open, and yourself. Participants will take part in some simple games like Mr Hit and Follow The Leader and learn some basic theatre exercises which focus on status and relationship with an audience, to help you discover what it is about you that can make people laugh. Suitable for adults, no experience is required, just a willingness to be silly and to have fun! 4pm-6pm. Wootton Fitzpaine. 01297 560948. £10.

Dance Connection Workshop, 10:30am-1pm, Bridport St Mary's CHH, DT6 3NN, 07787752201, danceconnectionwessex@gmail.com, www.joysofdance.co.uk

Monday, 10 February

Winsham Art Club, 2pm at Jubilee Hall TA20 4HU. The theme this practical session is Exploring Charcoal. It is a 2.5 hr. session led by a visiting tutor. Small friendly group of mixed abilities. Members £5, non-members £7. Annual membership £15. All welcome. Contact: Email : suzyna48@gmail.com for further details.

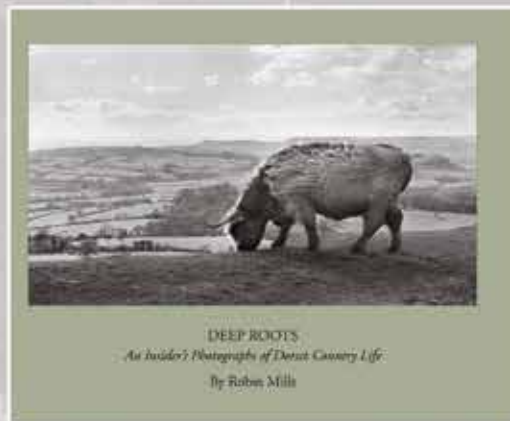
Dorchester Townswomen's Guild 2 p.m. After a short business meeting a representative from The Medical Detection Dogs will be informing us of the work of the charity at Dorchester Community Church, Liscombe Street Poundbury DT1 3DF. Visitors would

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be made very welcome (£3). Tea and coffee available. Enquiries 01305 832857.

Bridport Folk Dance Group Meets every Monday 7.15—9.30pm in The W.I.Hall, North Street. No partner needed and no experience necessary. Refreshments and social chat. Only £3. All welcome. Tel-863552 or text 07456730753.

Tuesday, 11 February

Scottish Country dancing at Horton Village Hall TA19 9QR every Tuesday evening from 7.30 to 9.30 pm with tea / coffee break, £3.00 pay on the door. Everyone welcome from beginner level to experienced, so why not come along and join our friendly group of dancers. For more information email Anita at anitaandjim22@gmail.com or phone 01460 929383 and visit our web site at www.ashillscd.wordpress.com

Divine Union Soundbath 9 PM Digby Memorial Hall, Digby Rd, Sherborne DT9 3LN Lie down, relax, and allow the Pure Sounds of a crystal and Tibetan bowl soundbath plus sacred vocal overtone give you a sonic deep-tissue massage, taking you into the deeper brainwave states of 'the relaxation response', while charging and balancing the aura and chakras of the subtle body, and detoxing the physical body £16 Please book in advance 01935 389655 ahiahel@live.com.

Beaminster Museum Winter Talk Discover how the shops in Beaminster have changed over time, from the 1800s to the present day. Find out which shop has continued to sell the same items, which shops disappeared, and why Manchester House is not in Manchester. The talk starts at 2pm, tickets are £5.00 on the door. Beaminster Museum, Whitcombe Rd, Beaminster DT8 3NB. www.beaminstermuseum.co.uk.

Dance Connection, 7-8:30pm, Uplyme Village Hall, DT7 3UY 07787752201, danceconnectionwessex@gmail.com, www.joysofdance.co.uk

Wednesday, 12 February

Kilminster Film Night The Critic (15) .Is a deliciously dark and sharp-witted thriller set in the 1930s theatreland with an all-star cast including Ian McKellan & Gemma Arterton. Doors and bar open 6.45 film start 7.15 at Kilminster Village Hall EX13 7RF. Tickets @ £6, or £650 on the door, can be ordered by contacting: John at wattsjohn307@gmail.com or Tel: 01297 521681.

Meeting Voices Community Choir, Chard. 19.30 to 21.15. Sing for fun. Learn songs in harmony by ear. Everyone welcome. Chard Guildhall. Fore St, Chard TA20 1PP. Phone 07534 116502 or email mvsecretary@outlook.com.

Thursday, 13 February

Kilminster Film Matinee The Critic (15) (See 12th Feb) Matinee, doors open 1.45pm film starts 2pm,

cream-teas served during the interval but must be pre-booked with your seats @ £3.50. see above and www.kilminstervillage.com/other-organisations.html for more information.

The Shanty Sessions The Marine Theatre, Lyme Regis. 7.30pm. Come and join local Sea Shanty group, The Chantry Buoys, from East Devon, singing traditional sea shanties and other well known songs of the sea. Audience participation is welcome and encouraged. Entry is free and all proceeds go to support local charities. A licensed bar will be open, The Buoys start at 7.30pm. Tel 07761 469676.

Chesil Bank Writing Shed. Do you write? Would you like to be a writer? Whatever you want to write why not come and learn with our creative writing group. New writers always welcome. 7pm - 9pm, Portesham Village Hall. Find out more by calling Linda on 01305 871802.

Bridport History Society will be welcoming Richard Sims who will give a talk titled 'From Bridport Harbour to West Bay: The Story of its Industrial Past'. The talk includes new research. The talk will be held at the United Church Hall on East Street, Bridport. Doors open at 2.15pm for a prompt 2.30pm start. All are welcome, members £1pp, visitors £5pp. Bridport History Society meets on the second Thursday of each month (except July and August). Membership is open to all (£12 individual / £18 couple). For more information visit: www.bridporthistorysociety.org.uk.

Seaton Garden Club. A talk by Julia tremlett entitled The Devon National Trust Scheme. Venue The Masonic Hall Seaton. Time 2.30p.m. Members free visitors £2.00 plus refreshments.

Lyme Voices Community Choir. 19.30 to 21.15. Sing for fun. Learn songs in harmony by ear. Everyone welcome. Baptist Church (Pine Hall round the back), Silver St., Lyme Regis, DT7 3NY. Phone 07534 116502 or email petelinnett2@hotmail.com.

Friday, 14 February

Ensemble Hesperis - Baroque Music at its Best. Ensemble Hesperis is a dynamic and innovative London-based period ensemble, with a reputation for showcasing Baroque Music through intelligent, research-led programming. 7:30pm at Ilminster Arts Centre, TA19 0AN. Tickets: £20. 01460 54973 www.ilminsterartscentre.com.

NGS Snowdrop Open Day at East Lambrook Manor. 10am - 5pm. A popular day to come and see the snowdrops. All admission charges donated to the National Garden Scheme therefore all 2-for-1 and other offers are not valid on the 14th February as we are raising money for charity. East Lambrook Manor Gardens, South Petherton, Somerset, TA13 5HH. Visit www.ngs.org.uk for more details of the NGS and the great work it does.

Venetian Masked Ball at Mercato Italiano from 8pm. Ticket £19. Unit 3b, Dreadnought Trading Estate, Bridport DT6 5BU. 01308 459274. <https://mercatoitaliano.uk>.

The Love Stories Show - the interactive story-telling show. A Valentine's Day you'll never forget Are you wondering how to earn some extra love points on Valentine's Day? Do flowers and chocolate feel a bit unoriginal? The Love Stories Show is here to save your day and take you on a whirlwind romance of love and laughs at The David Hall, South Petherton. But just like love itself, this is not a sit back and listen affair. The Love Stories Show is a double-act between Mark Rutterford and the audience. Mark will share some tales of happiness and heartache and he will wear his big red shiny heart for all to see. In return for some Love Hearts, you can decide the course of a first date and you won't even have to sing to get a winner's medal in 'The World Cup of Love Songs'. Mark will share his best and worst romantic moments and you might share yours too. There have been first-kisses and proposals, knock-out sex, a broken back and a second date that was accidentally set on fire. Romantics and cynics alike, take a chance on love and make Somerset sizzle at The David Hall. Take your loved one to The Love Stories Show and make it a Valentine's Day you'll never forget. At 8pm. The David Hall, South Petherton, Somerset, TA13 5AA. Tickets: <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/thepethertonartstrust/1427943>. £11.50 Full £9.50 Concessions.

Saturday, 15 February

Chard History Group The History of Axminster Harbour by Nigel Daniel. 7pm for 7.30pm. At Chard Guildhall. £2.50 members £3.50 guests all welcome. Contact Tessa on 07984481634..

Bridport & West Dorset Rambling Club 7 mile walk from Symondsburry. For further information please ring 01308 898484 or 01308 863340. New members/visitors welcome.

Sunday, 16 February

Beaminster Museum Winter Talk Discover how the shops in Beaminster have changed over time, from the 1800s to the present day. Find out which shop has continued to sell the same items, which shops disappeared, and why Manchester House is not in Manchester. The talk starts at 2pm, tickets are £5.00 on the door. Beaminster Museum, Whitcombe Rd, Beaminster DT8 3NB. www.beaminstermuseum.co.uk.

French + Breton Folk Dance, Bal Crewkerne with live house band, in the Speedwell Hall, Abbey Street, Crewkerne, TA18 7HY. All welcome, no experience necessary. Dance workshop for beginners 6-7pm followed by main dance 7-9.30pm. Admission £4 at the door. Tea and coffee available or bring your own

drinks. Free parking in the town centre car parks. More information on our website: <https://balcrew.wixsite.com/balcrewkerne>.

Monday, 17 February

Bridport Folk Dance Group Meets every Monday 7.15 --9.30pm in The W.I.Hall, North Street. No partner needed and no experience necessary. Refreshments and social chat. Only £3. All welcome. Tel-863552 or text 07456730753.

Tuesday, 18 February

Scottish Country dancing at Horton Village Hall TA19 9QR every Tuesday evening from 7.30 to 9.30 pm with tea / coffee break, £3.00 pay on the door. Everyone welcome from beginner level to experienced, so why not come along and join our friendly group of dancers. For more information email Anita at anitaandjim22@gmail.com or phone 01460 929383 and visit our web site at www.ashillscd.wordpress.com.

Turn Lyme Green Talk "Quarries to Nature Reserves" Andy Littler has spent 40 years pioneering the restoration of quarries to bio-diverse habitats. He is a geologist, chartered engineer and quarry manager with a passion for natural history. He writes action plans and runs courses for quarry professionals. He will give a lively and richly illustrated talk. 6.45 for 7pm start at the Driftwood Cafe, Baptist Church, top of Broad Street, Lyme Regis, DT7 3NY. FREE Event, Refreshments available. Visit www.turnlymegreen.co.uk or 01297 446066.

Wednesday, 19 February

Coffee Morning, including cakes, scones & savouries, and bacon/egg rolls (made to order), 10.30am – noon; all welcome. Clapton & Wayford Village Hall. More details from Julia (01460 72769).

Colyton & District Garden Society Talk 'Water Water Everywhere' by Rebecca Flintham, Environmental Educator. Colyford Memorial Hall, EX24 6QJ, start 7.30 pm. Parking in the hall car park. Members free, guests £3.00. Information : Sue Price 01297 552362.

Thursday, 20 February

Chesil Bank Writing Shed. Writers Feedback Workshop. 7pm - 9pm, Portesham Village Hall. Find out more by calling Linda on 01305 871802.

Folk dancing at Combe St Nicholas village hall (TA20 3LT) at 1930 hrs. Mary Blackborow and her merry band will be providing the music and the Mary herself will be calling and keeping the class in order! It's £4.00 per person which includes a cuppa and cake, all welcome and it is a lot of fun! Further details from Elaine on 01460 65909.

The New Arts Group, Alfred Hitchcock: Master of

Suspense Speaker: John Francis Cost: £10.00 Time: 2.00pm (tea/coffee from 1.30pm) Bridport Town Hall.

South Somerset RSPB Local Group Farming

the Wildlife Friendly Way. An illustrated talk presented by Mark Musgrave who is the Lead Ranger at the National Trust's Lytes Cary Manor, nr. Somerton. Mark's talk will focus on the management of the 350 acres of farmland and its wildlife. 7.30pm The Millennium Hall, Seavington St. Mary, Ilminster, TA19 0QH. Entry: Group members £4, non-group members £5, under 25's Free. Tea/coffee & biscuits included – Wheelchair access. Further details from Denise Chamings on 01781473846 or www.rspb.org.uk/groups/southsomerset. Everyone welcome.

Friday, 21 February

Cole Stacey- Postcards From Lost Places album launch Friday 21st Feb, doors 6.30 for 7pm. St Michael & All Angels Church, Stockland EX14 9BR Cole Stacey is a visceral and lyrical songwriter, singer and musician who has roamed the highest diverse echelons of British folk, 80s pop, spoken word and ambient electronics. With explorations into traditional song writing and verse in his blood, Cole will be releasing his extraordinarily honest debut album 'Postcards From Lost Places' in early 2025 to audiences far beyond his Dartmoorian horizons. Offering regeneration as its theme while being rooted in tradition, at its heart is a symbiosis of 'lost' places and forgotten words, stretching as far back as the 13th century, paired with Cole's distinctive lyrical song writing and soft pop vocals mixed with singular field recordings. "Cole's soaring vocals were a highlight of an electrifying performance, nothing short of mesmerizing" – Scottish Music Network Website www.colestacey.net Tickets may be purchased £14 from <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/stockland-promoters/t-jzyrxox> Or call Wendy for access arrangements on 01404881207.

Half-Term Film Night at Milborne St Andrew Village Hall: A Special Screening of Wonka Looking for a fun family outing this half-term? Join us for a magical evening as we screen Wonka (2023), a heartwarming prequel to the beloved Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. Discover the story of how Willy Wonka's dreams (and chocolate factory) began in this dazzling, musical adventure that's perfect for all ages! Doors open at 7pm | Film starts at 7.30pm. Adults: £6.50 (includes a drink or ice cream). Accompanied children: Just £1 (includes a free glass of squash!) Bring the whole family for a fun and affordable night out!

"Nature as your Neighbour" A talk by Higgy (a nickname inherited as a boy that has stuck) about how he developed his own garden for wildlife, whilst keeping it as a safe, child friendly and usable space for

his family and friends to enjoy. Over the past 14 years he has photographed almost 800 different species in his garden and it would be fantastic if by putting into practice some of his ideas we could encourage the same diversity of creatures into our gardens. The presentation will be held in Winsham's Jubilee Hall, starting at 7.30pm, and will cover topics such as how to provide food and shelter and the use of water within the wildlife garden. It will feature Higgy's photography and use his experiences and knowledge of wildlife gardens and habitats. There will be the usual raffle, and refreshments will be available during the question & answer session at the end of the talk. Higgy will also have a selection of wildlife themed items for sale such as cards, calendars, bird boxes, bug houses (all made from reclaimed timber) and possibly a selection of perennial plants. We all need to be more sympathetic towards our garden insects and wildlife and with an entry fee of £4.50 for WHS members (please bring your membership cards) and £5.50 for non members Higgy's talk seems like a very cost effective way to get started. For more information call Debbie 07808 505357

Friday, 21 - 22 February

Angela Brownridge from London "One of the world's finest pianists". New York Times, - CPE Bach : Fantasy in C and Prussian sonata; Beethoven : sonata no. 14. "Moonlight" and sonata no 30 with variations Tickets £20 each. All concerts start playing at 8pm. Please arrive after 7:30pm. Pre booking and prepayment only. Each party of guests must give a contact. We will give refunds if we need to cancel the concert for whatever reason. We will not refund if you need to cancel as that would disadvantage the musician(s), unless we can resell your seat. As usual price includes drinks & nibbles which are served in the interval, but exactly what, how and where depend on our discretion & weather. To order tickets please email info@tinctongallery.com or phone the gallery on 01305 848909. More information on website at www.tinctongallery.com Tincton Gallery, The Old School House, Tincton, Dorset, DT2 8QR.

Saturday, 22 February

Bridport & West Dorset Rambling Club walk from Toller Porcorum. For further information please ring 01308 898484 or 01308 863340. New members/visitors welcome.

Beaminster Museum Paperback Sale This year we're offering a special 'buy five and a get a sixth free' deal, along with raffle tickets at £1 a pop. Drop your books off at the museum between 10am and 12pm on a Friday. The sale takes place from 9.30am to 12.30pm, admission free. Beaminster Museum, Whitcombe Rd, Beaminster DT8 3NB. www.beaminstermuseum.co.uk

Sunday, 23 February

Axe Vale Orchestra invites you to a tuneful afternoon concert at The Feoffees Hall, Colyton, EX24 6JR, at 3.00pm. Tickets are £15, (free for under 18s or students) and are available from www.axevaleorchestra.co.uk or on the door. Humperdinck: Hansel and Gretel Overture, Alwyn: Suite of Scottish Dances, Bizet: L'Arlesienne Suite no 2 and Mozart: Symphony no 39 K543. With Walter Brewster conducting and Jane Bultz leading, it's going to be a real treat!

Divine Union Soundbath 2pm Osborne Village Hall, Osborne, nr. Sherborne, Dorset DT9 4LA Lie down, relax, and allow the Pure Sounds of a crystal and Tibetan bowl soundbath plus sacred vocal overtone give you a sonic deep-tissue massage, taking you into the deeper brainwave states of 'the relaxation response', while charging and balancing the aura and chakras of the subtle body, and detoxing the physical body £16 Please book in advance 01935 389655 ahiahel@live.com

Dalwood Jazz Club presents Zoe Lambeth's "Vintage Jazz Collective" with Zoe Lambeth - clarinet, sax and vocals, Steve Dow - guitar, Martin Jenkins - keyboard and Jim Rintoul - double bass. At 3pm Dalwood Village Hall, EX13 7EG, near Axminster. Bar for beer/wine/soft drinks and teas/coffees/cake etc. Parking at the Village Hall £12.50p If possible, please book in advance and pay (cash or card) at the door. t.mackenny111@btinternet.com www.dalwoodvillage.co.uk.

Monday, 24 February

Winsham Art Club, 2pm at Jubilee Hall TA20 4HU. The activity this practical session is Creating Relief Plaques using Black and White Clays. It is a 2.5 hr. session led by a tutor. Small friendly group of mixed abilities. Members £5, non-members £7. Annual membership £15. All welcome. Contact: Email : suzyna48@gmail.com for further details.

Bridport Dance Group. Meets every Monday 7.15—9.30pm in The .I.Hall, North Street. No partner needed and no experience necessary. Refreshments and social chat. Only £3. All welcome. Tel-863552 or text 07456730753.

"The Royal visit that went wrong" – An talk by Alan Jenkins a retired Dorset Police Inspector who was involved in planning and commanding Royal visits. On one royal visit in Dorchester everything that could go wrong did! The talk is an



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EVENTS IN MARCH

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info@marshwoodvale.com

BY FEBRUARY 12th

informative and humorous account of that day. United Church Main Hall, East Street, Bridport at 2.30 pm. Members £3, Visitors £5. National Trust Golden Cap Association. Contact: Mike Nicks 01308 45855.

Tuesday, 25 February

Scottish Country dancing at Horton Village Hall TA19 9QR every Tuesday evening from 7.30 to 9.30 pm with tea / coffee break, £3.00 pay on the door. Everyone welcome from beginner level to experienced, so why not come along and join our friendly group of dancers. For more information email Anita at anitaandjim22@gmail.com or phone 01460 929383 and visit our web site at www.ashillscd.wordpress.com.

Beaminster Museum Winter Talk Martin Papworth spent 38 years as the National Trust's archaeologist in the South West. This talk highlights some of the discoveries on National Trust properties during that time. Beaminster Museum, Whitcombe Rd, Beaminster DT8 3NB. The talk starts at 2pm, tickets are £5.00 on the door. Beaminster Museum, Whitcombe Rd, Beaminster DT8 3NB www.beaminstermuseum.co.uk.

U3A The next talk is at 2pm in the Bridport United Church Hall, East Street, Bridport. DT6 3LJ. Free to members, £3 for visitors. The speaker is Michael Roberts of Dukes Antiques. He is an auctioneer and valuer, and will describe his business and make valuations if attendees bring their heirlooms.

Dance Connection, 7-8:30pm, Uplyme Village Hall, DT7 3UY 07787752201, danceconnectionwessex@gmail.com, www.joysofdance.co.uk

Wednesday, 26 February

Uplyme and Lyme Regis Horticultural Society. Talk 'How to Add Colour in the Garden' by Claire Greenslade. 'Potato in a Bucket' kit for sale £3. Uplyme Village Hall. Doors open 7pm, talk 7.30pm. Members free; guests £3. More information <https://ulrhs.wordpress.com>.

Meeting Voices Community Choir, Chard. 19.30 to 21.15. Sing for fun. Learn songs in harmony by ear. Everyone welcome. Chard Guildhall. Fore St, Chard TA20 1PP. Phone 07534 116502 or email mvssecretary@outlook.com.

Thursday, 27 February

Lyme Voices Community Choir. 19.30 to 21.15. Sing for fun. Learn songs in harmony by ear. Everyone welcome. Baptist Church (Pine Hall round the back), Silver St., Lyme Regis, DT7 3NY. Phone 07534 116502 or email petelinnett2@hotmail.com.

Dance Connection Open Class, 7:15-8:45pm, Bridport St Mary's CHH, DT6 3NN, 07787752201,

danceconnectionwessex@gmail.com, www.joysofdance.co.uk

Friday, 28 February

Coming to Milborne St Andrew Village Hall; courtesy of Artsreach. Arthur Coates and Kerran Cotterell are an exciting and energetic young folk duo who are quickly carving out a name for themselves with their unique style, rooted in Quebecois traditional music fused with songs from around the British Isles and North America. Arthur Coates is an award-nominated musician who studied violin and piano at the Aberdeen City Music School. Guitarist Kerran Cotterell has garnered numerous plaudits having performed at Cambridge Folk Festival, and the BBC Proms in the Royal Albert Hall. Together Arthur and Kerran produce a versatile mix of instrumentals and song, true to the roots of traditional music and featuring fiddle, guitar, bouzouki and feet percussion. Now the duo are heading to Dorset following the release of their debut album, Music for Cows. Don't miss these rising stars on tour. For tickets call 01258839060 or see <https://artsreach.co.uk/event/coates-cotterell>.

Saturday, 1 March

Free Celebrating Women event hosted by UNISON Somerset Health, to mark International Women's Day - join in the festivities and enjoy a range of free practical workshops available for sign-up on the day. Support local crafters and artists by purchasing distinctive, handcrafted Mother's Day gifts. Connect with various participating organizations, including St. Margaret's Hospice, which will be hosting the refreshments area, Yeovil Diversity Project and Wessex Water. In support of the Smalls for All Charity, donations of 'gently worn' laundered bras and new pants will be collected for distribution to women and girls in need around the world. Timing: 10.00-13.30 at The Gateway Centre Addlewell Lane, Yeovil Contact Susan Bickle on susanbickle.unison@gmail.com for details.

Sunday, 2 March

More Tales from under Shady Tree: Disappearing Lyme. Ken Gollop remembers growing up during 1940s and 1950s with the families fishing boat trips from Cobb Gate beach. The new sea walls and sewerage works have altered that part of Lyme and a generation has passed since Cobb Gate and Church Cliff beaches were working beaches, and the holiday trade is totally different now. Woodmead Halls, Lyme Regis. Doors open at 2pm for talk at 2.30pm. Admission £4, proceeds in aid of the friends of Lyme Regis Museum.

LYME REGIS

No nominations for council

No nominations were received for a town councillor vacancy in Lyme Regis, so a new election process will now begin. Cllr John Trevena stepped down for personal reasons in December. Dorset Council gave notice of an election in January but as there were no nominations, a new notice of election will be given and an election will be held within 35 days of Thursday 13 February.

SIDMOUTH

Grant for Rugby Club

East Devon District Council has awarded Carbon Action Fund (CAF) grant to Sidmouth Rugby Club as part of a series of grants to local businesses. Matthew Barrett, Chairman, of the club said it will help the club to 'take meaningful steps toward decarbonisation.' The awards will help the club to promote environmental responsibility.

ROUNDHAM

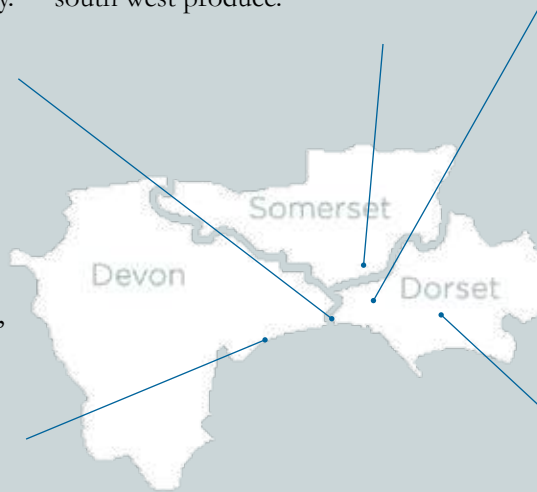
Farm Shop plan

An application for a farm shop and café at Lower Farm, Roundham, part of Coombe Farm, seeks to strengthen the local economy. A H Warren Trust has submitted the planning application which it hopes will create at least ten more full-time jobs and additional part-time positions. The shop would sell home-produced dairy as well as other south west produce.

BEAMINSTER

Beavers escape in storm

The hunt is on for a pair of West Dorset beavers who took advantage of winter storms to escape their enclosure on the Mapperton Estate near Beaminster. Woody and Twiggy, the four-year-old beavers made their escape during the bad weather in the run-up to Christmas. Anyone with any information about the beavers is asked to email office@mapperton.com or call 01308 862645.



DORSET

Local men row 3,000 miles

41 days, 10 hours and 5 minutes after leaving the Canary Islands, Rex Fisher, Sam Weston and Daragh MacDonagh and Ed Hughes arrived in English Harbour, Antigua & Barbuda after a gruelling 3,000 mile row. Supporting the charity Tackling Minds the four men met many challenges including a US warship, whales, sharks, migrants and massive waves but arrived on dry land in 8th place to cheers from family and friends.

Violet Festival to brighten up February

A small and beautiful Violet Festival at Groves Nurseries in Bridport is a sure sign that there is much to look forward to in the coming Spring and Summer. Groves are hosting the Festival from 1st to 16th of February to celebrate their world-famous collection of these timeless flowers, steeped in history, charm and family tradition.

Clive Groves holds the largest collection of Sweet and Parma Violets in the world. With over 200 varieties, this National Collection is a treasure trove of botanical history, cultivated over generations by the Groves family. Clive achieved National Collection status in 2002, adding to a list of accolades including a silver medal at Hampton Court Flower Show in 2007 and a knighthood from La Confrerie de la Violette in the city hall of Toulouse, France.

Groves Nurseries' violets have been featured on *Gardeners' World*, Alan Titchmarsh's *Love Your Weekend*, and even earned a special place at the 2007 Hampton



Clive and Becky Groves with their violets

Court Flower Show, where their Violet Garden dazzled visitors.

The appeal of violets has endured for centuries. In the 1890s, they were the world's third most important commercial flower, right after roses and carnations. And they're not just for show—violets are edible. The flowers can be crystallised for cakes or eaten raw, while the leaves are a fresh addition to salads.

The Groves family's passion for violets dates back to the 1960s when Charles William Groves—Becky and Charlie's grandfather—began the collection and rescued the famous Zambra collection. The very first violet he bred was named 'Clive Groves' and most members of the family now have violets named after them.

So, whether you're a lifelong fan of violets or simply curious to learn more, come along and see these wonderful little flowers at their very best this February.

Groves Nurseries, 74 W Bay Rd, Bridport DT6 4BA. Open Monday - Saturday, 8 am - 5pm; Sunday, 10 am - 4 pm. <https://www.grovesnurseries.co.uk/>