

The Pennant



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Please email your entries for the June 2026 issue to: ThePennant@mail.com by 21st May 2026

Upcoming events at Mill Farm

Rebecca Chambers' New Tricks

Rebecca Chambers' New Tricks comes to Mill Farm on **Friday 22nd May** in an intimate trio format, featuring the ever-gorgeous double bass playing of Dave Roberts and the totally beautiful piano artistry of Chris Knight, both of whom you might recognise from Rebecca's bigger Jazz band, The New Jazz Code. Led by one of Dorset's most respected Blues and Jazz vocalists, Rebecca Chambers brings 28 years of performance experience to the stage. Her rich, expressive voice and natural storytelling ability have made her a favourite across the South West, captivating audiences with warmth, sophistication and soul.

Tickets for this event are available from the Mill Farm website: <https://www.millfarmmusic.com/events/>

St. Mary's Primary School Summer Fair

Friday 12th June, 3.00 – 5.00pm

Are you ready for a fun afternoon in the sun?

We look forward to welcoming you to the school's Summer Fair on Friday 12th June 3.00 - 5.00 pm, where there will be fete-style games and activities including Hook the Highland, Splat the Rat, Dig for Diamonds, Donkey Grooming, Penalty Shoot Out, Goat & Poultry Corner, Bouncy Castle & Forest School Fun. There will also be local community stalls (handmade children's clothing, meat boxes & charcuterie, local honey & crafts) plus food and refreshments. So come along for a couple of hours of fun for all the family!

St. Mary's CE Primary School PTA

Feel Good Fitness Classes in the Village Hall

One hour of full body work every Thursday in the Village Hall 6.30 – 7.30 pm. Any level of fitness. £6 per person. Bring a mat and lots of enthusiasm. Let's get the village fit!!

Bradford Abbas Open Gardens 2026

It is a couple of years since we organised opening our gardens to friends and relatives in Bradford Abbas. There are so many lovely, interesting gardens in the village, many hidden away, and it is so much fun to walk through the wonderful streets of our village and visit gardens on a glorious summer Sunday afternoon (not forgetting the rain a few years ago when people sat under umbrellas drinking tea, having fun and enjoying the English weather!).

Gardens do not need to be big, perfect or amazing, just loved. Some are very small, some encourage wild flowers, butterflies and bees, some may still in the process of change or construction and some just a perfect place to sit and enjoy the beauty of nature and perhaps enjoy a cream tea with friends.

If you feel that you could open your garden on a Sunday afternoon in June, date yet to be decided, just for our village folk, their friends and families and to raise some money for a good cause, please contact Jenny Thomas at Tudor Cottage (opposite the pub carpark) 07961877929 tudorcottageba@gmail.com.

Chatty Crafters

The May meeting of the Chatty Crafters is on Friday, 15th May at the Rose & Crown, Bradford Abbas between 2.00 -4.00 pm. Join us for a couple of hours of crafting, big or small projects, and some friendly chatting with a cup of tea/coffee and biscuit. New members will be made very welcome. For more information please contact Brenda on 07970159093 or Sue on 07812430092.

ST MARY'S CHURCH, BRADFORD ABBAS

After conducting a small experiment in the run up to Easter, we have decided to keep offering a variety of services in Bradford Abbas most Sundays. Although there are sometimes differences, the normal pattern at St Mary's is that we have a lay-led Morning Worship service on the first Sunday of the month (lasting about 45 minutes) and a clergy-led Holy Communion service on the third Sunday of the month (lasting about an hour).

On other Sundays, we encourage villagers to take in a service at one of the nearby churches (typically at Beer Hackett, Thornford or Yetminster) and we always have a list of services available in the church porch. However, we know that some people can't or don't want to travel outside the village for their worship. So, on the second Sunday and the fourth Sunday of the month, we are now offering a short Morning Prayer service with no singing and no sermon – just a simple 20-minute service. So far, the number of attendees at these services has been fairly modest but, now that you know it is available, we hope more of you will wish to come along. We look forward to seeing you there.

UPCOMING SERVICES - EVERYBODY IS WELCOME

SUNDAY 3 MAY 10am Morning Worship (lay-led)

SUNDAY 10 MAY 10am short Morning Prayer service

SUNDAY 17 MAY 10am Holy Communion (led by Rector George Moody)

SUNDAY 24 MAY 10am short Morning Prayer service

Please note that on Thursday 14 May at 6pm there will be a Eucharist service to celebrate Ascension Day at Yetminster church. The benefice choir will sing and the service will be led by our new team vicar James Clark.

A message from the Team Vicar

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

It's a common refrain at this time of year isn't it? The usual response is, *He is risen indeed! Alleluia!*

It's an easy thing to say but I often find myself wondering about a potential gap between the words and our experience of the reality of the Resurrection. Does the astonishing news of Jesus' triumph over death actually find its way into the marrow of our bones and make a tangible difference to our lives?

I suspect that there are different responses to that question. I know that there have been Easters when I have felt down, and flat, and lifeless, while everything around me seemed to be stirring into life.

There are signs of new life everywhere. The landscape is exploding and we've been treated to some beautiful sunshine lately, but what if we find ourselves feeling as though our inner world still feels like winter?

Well in my experience it's always a good idea to begin with honesty.

Life can get very tiring, and very dispiriting, when we are expending lots of energy putting on our best 'spring-face' when our hearts are still clothed in the darkness of winter.

I hope that as you read this you will be able to bring at least one person to mind with whom you can be really honest. At least one person who you know won't run away or change the subject when you bring them your 'winter-face'. But if you don't (and I know how that feels because I have had my seasons of isolation and loneliness) then I do hope that at the very least you can be honest with God.

I have no idea whether or not you have a prayer-life. I sincerely hope you do. What's more I hope that you can bring your whole self to God when you do talk to Him, not just your 'sunny-self'.

The discovery that God loves us no matter what 'face' we bring to Him is the beginning of the most wonderful adventure.

That discovery is what turns 'inner-winter' into 'inner-spring'.

God bless you all. The Reverend James Clark, Three Valleys Benefice (Tel: 01935 872600)

Mixed Ability Yoga

Saturdays 8.30am-9.30am Bradford Abbas Village Hall

Come along and join us! These are friendly and fun classes, suitable for most. Start your weekend with movement and relaxation. £9 per session. Email emmarileyoga@gmail.com for further details

The Friendship Club

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 5th May at 2.00 pm at Bradford Abbas Sports and Social Club. There is Bingo, a small draw, tea & biscuits and a chance to have a chat and a laugh with fellow villagers. New members will be warmly welcomed. Generally, our meetings are always on the first Tuesday afternoon of the month.

Rose and Crown, Bradford Abbas

- **Opening hours:** Tuesday 5- close; Wednesday - Thursday 12-3 & 5-close; Friday 12-close; Saturday 12 noon – close; Sunday 12 noon – 6pm.
- **Restaurant:** Wednesday – Friday 12 noon - 2pm & 5.30pm - 8.30pm; Saturday 12 noon - 2pm & 5.30 - 8.30pm, Sun 12 noon - 4pm
- **Specials:** Pop in to see our specials board! Served Wednesday - Saturday (limited availability)
- **Pie Night** – 2 meals and 2 drinks for £35! Every Wednesday from 5.30pm
- **Grill Night** – 2 meals and a bottle of wine for £35!! Every Thursday from 5.30pm
- **Fish & Chip Friday:** Served every Friday lunchtime 12 noon - 2pm
- **Curry night** – Curry and a pint £15. Every Friday from 5.30pm
- **Sunday Carvery** - Limited availability, please contact us to book
- **Meat Draw** every Sunday at 4.30pm

May events:

Breakfast: The first Saturday of every month, Saturday 2nd: served 10am -12 noon.

Saturday 9th - live music by Karla Oaks, 8.30pm

Quiz Night: The 3rd Thursday of every Month. On Thursday 21st May come and test your knowledge! Teams of 4-6, £2pp. From 8pm. The winning team hosts the next Quiz!

Future events:

Father's Day - book in now for Father's Day Carvery on Sunday 21st June

June 28th - 90's Garden Party with DJ Emma

Rose and Crown Big Summer Party - Saturday 15th August, more information coming soon

You can hire our skittle alley - please pop in or contact us to discuss further.

Contact us on: 01935 423199, email info@therosecrownbradfordabbas.co.uk. Visit our website <https://www.therosecrownbradfordabbas.co.uk>

Yeovil Railway Centre

The model railway weekend will be held on 23rd/24th May with optional Diesel rides. On Saturday 23rd 35028 *Clan Line* is due at Yeovil junction at 11.19 and runs into 'our' heritage platform to take water. The train is then pulled back by the diesel on the back prior to continuing its journey to Exeter. Admission to our

site will only be by payment of £5 for the Model Railway Exhibition and not by donation or membership card. We will see *Clan line* on Thursday 9th July when we can revert to entry by donation or membership card.

For more information please go to yeovilrailwaycentre.co.uk

St. Mary's Bradford Abbas Heritage Fund: Annual General Meeting

Help preserve our cherished St. Mary's Church, a peaceful retreat and historic landmark at the heart of our village. Since 1995, the Heritage Fund has supported the maintenance of this gem for future generations. Join us by attending our Annual General Meeting on **Thursday, June 4th, at 8:00 PM** in the village hall. Support our cause with an annual subscription or one-time donation. Membership forms are available in the church.

Let's ensure St. Mary's continues to be a pillar of our community!

Bradford Abbas Variety Club

After our very successful Christmas Special Show before Christmas, we have now distributed the funds back into the community for many of you to enjoy. Thank you to everyone who was able to support us and the community.

We will be holding our annual BBQ at the Sports & Social Club on Sunday 5th July at 1530 to 1930 hrs. We hope you will be able to join us for a hot dog or burger and contribute your ideas or offer of help to participate in this year's show! There will be a donation box.

Enjoy your May Bank Holidays!

Mixed Ability Pilates at the Village Hall, Mondays 6-7 pm

Come and join this friendly class, all abilities and ages welcome. Equipment supplied. (mats excluded)

All sessions £10 pay as you go.

If you need any more information, please contact Lisa Brett 07760-169707 befitbewellwithlisa@gmail.com

Monday Night Bingo

Every Monday at 6.30pm with eyes down at 7.00pm. at Bradford Abbas Sports and Social Club. Everyone 18 and over is welcome to our weekly light-hearted evening which also includes a small draw and a chance to win the SNOW BALL and of course a laugh and chat, we finish at about 8.30pm.

Sherborne Bradford Abbas Camera Club

- Tuesday 12th May; Annual Open Competition for prints and digital images, judged by Janet Miles
- Tuesday 26th May: Print Exhibition / Social Event — bring along some of your prints for display and discussion and maybe pick the brains of more expert printers. No themes, size or framing. Oh, and did someone mention cakes, or was it wishful thinking??

See our website sbacameraclub.co.uk for information about our forthcoming meetings, or follow our Facebook page.

Bradford Abbas and Clifton Maybank Village Hall - Bookings

Bradford Abbas Community Village Hall, with its central location opposite the St Marys Church, is a cosy space for Birthday Parties, young & older, family get togethers, wedding receptions and anything else you may be celebrating. Check the website for availability <https://bradford-abbas.uk/>, or email bacmvh@gmail.com and complete the booking form, or ring 01935 602279 for a form. A form must be completed to finalise booking the hall for insurance purposes.