

COMMUNITY NOTICES



**SHERBORNE ABBEY with CASTLETON,
SAINT PAUL'S, LILLINGTON and LONGBURTON
NOTICE SHEET
19th April 2026
BENEFACTIC NOTICES**

**WORSHIP NEXT WEEK
26th April 2026**

ABBEY

8.00 am BCP Holy Communion

Celebrant: The Reverend Martin Lee

9.30 am Parish Eucharist

Celebrant: The Reverend Martin Lee

Preacher: The Reverend Martin Lee

6.00 pm Choral Evensong

Officiant: The Reverend Martin Lee

CASTLETON

11.15 am Mattins

Officiant: The Reverend Jim Edie

ST PAUL'S@THE GRYPHON

10.30 am Morning Worship

Leader: Kathy Pinsent

Speaker: Tabitha Smith

LILLINGTON

9.30 am Morning Service

Officiant: The Reverend Jim Edie

LONGBURTON

10.00 am Family Communion

Celebrant: The Reverend Lesley McCreadie

Countrymen UK: Based in Dorset, Countrymen UK supports men – especially those living with long-term health conditions, dementia, or isolation – to reconnect with nature, community and themselves. Through gentle farm-based activities, animal care, gardening, woodworking and shared conversation, our members find renewed confidence, companionship and joy. We also offer support and respite for carers, creating a welcoming space for everyone. New members are always welcome. Helping men thrive through nature, purpose and friendship. If you'd like to find out more please get in touch: Phone 01963 210789, email: admin@countrymenuk.org www.countrymenuk.org

Local Vocals: Come and sing with us. Fun & friendly harmony choir, no auditions, beginners welcome, no need to read music. Just turn up on a Thursday morning (term time) 10.15-12.00, first session free. For more details visit localvocals.org or contact Lesley on 07933 928122 or email whlesley58@gmail.com

The Arts Society Sherborne. 'Going With The Flow', presented by David Winpenny, looks at all things watery, from ancient oases to Egyptian and Roman gardens, pools in Persian Paradises, cascades in Italian jardini and their progeny in later centuries. Expect some surprises. Wednesday 6th May 3.00 pm & 7.00 pm, Digby Hall, Hound Street, Sherborne. Members free, visitors welcome £10.

Pilgrim Places of Dorset. Illustrated lecture on 23rd April at Shaftesbury Arts Centre exploring Dorset's Sacred Heritage, Pilgrim Places. Dr Nick Mayhew-Smith, author & researcher, will present an illustrated talk to guide us through the county's many Pilgrim Places. Tickets from Shaftesbury Arts Centre Box Office Tel: 01747 854321, Adults £15, Friends of Shaftesbury Abbey & Students £12.

Sherborne Abbey Festival: The Music Festival begins on Thursday 30th April and runs until Tuesday 7th May. Concerts include The Festival Chorus, Julian Bliss and Iuventus Chamber Orchestra, Ruth Rogers and Simon Callaghan, Solomons Knot, James Pearson Trio, The Tallis Scholars and our own Abbey Choir. There will also be many daytime concerts including our local schools.

Visiting Hours: The Abbey is open to visitors (free of charge) on Mondays to Saturdays (8.00 am – 5.00 pm) and on Sundays (11.00 am – 5.00 pm). The Abbey may close when private services are taking place.

Safeguarding: Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. We are committed to the support, nurture, and protection of all in our church community. If you have any concerns about the safety or wellbeing of a child or vulnerable adult, do not keep them to yourself. Contact immediately the Parish Safeguarding Officer, Jon Massey at safeguarding@sherborneabbey.com.

Parish Giving Scheme (PGS): Sherborne Abbey joined the Parish Giving Scheme in September 2025. The scheme is designed to enable donors to give monthly, quarterly or annually by direct debit to the Abbey. Donors have the option to index link their

gifts. Admin is reduced as the PGS collect the gift aid. For further information please contact liz.ashmead@sherborneabbey.com

Sherborne Abbey Reordering:

Abbey members and members of the public are invited to join us on Thursday 7th May at 7.00 pm in the Abbey for a public launch evening of the Sherborne Abbey Reordering, an opportunity to learn more about the plans to enhance accessibility and provide necessary amenities within the Abbey. A glass of wine will be served, and all are warmly welcome.

Mothers Union: The next meeting will take place on 24th April 2026 in the Griffiths Room, Digby Memorial Church Hall, Digby Road. 10.00 am for 10.30 am start. Katherine Howe will bring her guide dog and tell of their training and life together. All very welcome.
Eileen Heath

Castleton AGM: The Castleton Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday 26th April after Mattins.
Diana Cooper

Electoral Roll: Commencing Monday 6th April, the Electoral Roll is being updated in anticipation of the APCM on 17th May. If you completed the Electoral Roll form last year you need to do nothing. If you are new to the Abbey or are not on the roll from last year, then please collect a form from the back of the Abbey and return it to the Parish Office by Saturday 2nd May.
Chris Hamon

Longburton Village Café: The next Village Café will take place on Tuesday 21st April.

Friends of Sherborne Abbey: Have you thought about becoming a Friend? Through subscriptions, donations and legacies the Friends have supported the Abbey fabric & repairs for over 90 years and have donated over £750,000 in the last five years alone! Recent projects have included new lighting and heating and currently the stonemasonry and gates of the west wall and porch. A further £200,000 will go towards the new facilities project. A Friends subscription is £30 per annum or £40 for a couple. As well as knowing that you will be contributing towards this magnificent building, being a Friend also includes enjoying coffee mornings, talks and outings; this year to Gloucester cathedral, in September. Please pick up a leaflet from the back of the Abbey or speak to Bill McDermott or Chris Hamon.

Bill McDermott, Friends Committee Secretary

This year the Mothers' Union is 150 years old. Mary Sumner founded the organisation to help women from all backgrounds to bring up their children in a positive way. From this humble beginning has come the worldwide movement which now works to end injustice, domestic violence and poverty. To acknowledge this landmark, a group from the Sherborne MU are walking the St Edward's Way, beginning in Wareham on May 6th and finishing in Shaftesbury on May 8th. We would like to raise money for a project run by MU which seeks to improve the literacy standard in some of the countries MU works in. The paragraph below gives an idea of the work.

Over 480,000,000 women worldwide are illiterate. Millions of women can't register the birth of their child, read a medicine packet or apply for a job in a world where technology and instant communication are everywhere. Education for children is a fundamental right yet millions of women missed out on an education due to conflict, financial barriers or just because they are girls. The Mothers' Union aims to prioritise education for women and girls of all ages across countries such as Uganda, Kenya, India, Bangladesh, South Sudan and many more. We seek to empower mothers with the confidence and knowledge that literacy brings by equipping them with essential reading and writing skills which enable them to better support their children and engage more fully in their communities and access opportunities that were previously out of reach. It is our hope that through faith commitment and shared purpose, The Literacy Programme will open doors, inspire change and nurture a future where every individual has a chance to thrive.

If you would like to support us as we walk, there are sponsor forms at the back of The Abbey or you could contact me, Jo Higgs or Eileen Heath. Thank you.

Lesley McCreadie

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