

MARCH 2011

# *Bembridge Parish News*



## **BEMBRIDGE PARISH NEWS**

SERVES

**THE PARISH CHURCH • THE CATHOLIC CHURCH • THE METHODIST CHURCH**

*Please inform the clergy of sick persons and other needs for visiting and prayers*

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## **Lent**

When we receive ashes on our foreheads to mark the beginning of Lent we are so to speak 'signing up'. What are we 'signing up' to do? We are signing up to join Jesus in the desert - to imitate Him in prayer and fasting. For what? To prepare ourselves for the great events of our salvation, for the trials and tribulations of Jesus' Passion, for the suffering and death of our God and His Holy and joyful Resurrection. Thus we may become closer disciples.

Lent provides us with a window of opportunity to look at ourselves to see how we can become better followers of Jesus. Many of us will make promises at the beginning of Lent - maybe a bit tongue in cheek - about giving up something. This will mean exercising restraint in our consumption of chocolates or some other little pleasure which, largely due to the intolerable pain of temptation, will by the second Sunday of Lent have been quietly forgotten. Why? Because we fell by the wayside at the first 'temptation'. Here we are talking about chocolates but in reality they may stand as being symbolic of things far more dangerous and harmful to our very souls. We know we often 'fall by the wayside' in many other ways and by many other means. I believe it was Oscar Wilde who said 'I can resist anything except temptation'. He is acknowledging his fundamental weakness and ours. Do we believe it is almost impossible for us? It is, we can hear ourselves saying, easy for one who is 'good'. Can a 'good' person be tempted like the rest of us?

The truth is: the good person who resists temptation knows more about its power than those of us who are weak and who submit at the very onset. Those of us who give in easily know little about the struggle involved. Those of us who overcome it know it best. If we want to know what victory over temptation

costs don't ask a sinner ask a saint. It is because Jesus struggled with temptation in the desert and was victorious over it that He can help us in our daily struggles. If you want to give up something to change, don't look to someone who has tried and failed.

What did temptation mean for Jesus? It means the same as it means for us. It means choosing between good and evil, between doing God's will and one's own will. Since Our Lord and the Saints suffered temptation we cannot hope to escape. We know that this struggle for us will have its almost inevitable falls. This is not something to be ashamed of in the sense of being defeated. We fall, we rise, and we go on in spite of everything, strengthened in our resolve, strengthened by Jesus through the Sacraments. Temptation is no bad thing. When we are tempted we make a choice, if that is for good, and that makes us stronger.

Furthermore how can we prove our fidelity if we are not tempted? There is no virtue in remaining virtuous through lack of temptation. Virtue would be meaningless. We so easily forget that. Our battle with temptation and evil is never over all the while we are on this earth. Jesus struggled with His temptations really and truly, no pretence, not a show for us. His victory was no easy one. The Holy Spirit was with Jesus during His struggles. And He is with us in ours. It is a great consolation to know that our God is not outside the reality of our daily struggles looking on passively but is with us during them strengthening us with His grace.

Wishing you every blessing for a good and holy Lent and a Blessed and Holy Easter in the Risen Lord.

*Father Anthony Glaysher*

# LENT 2011

## **Ash Wednesday 9th March 10.00am at St Luke's**

Service of Holy Communion with the Imposition of Ashes

An ancient ceremony for the beginning of Lent where we receive the sign of the Cross in Ash on our forehead as a symbol of our intention to keep a Holy Lent.

## **Ecumenical House Groups will meet during Lent**

As usual; we hope to use the York Course. This year's course is entitled 'Rich inheritance: Jesus legacy of love' Details of the groups will be in all three churches during March, and groups will start meeting during the week beginning 14th March.

## **LENT LUNCHES:**

Every Friday between 12 noon and 1.30pm in The Cloisters from Friday 11th March until Friday April 15th . In return for a donation you will receive a bowl of soup, bread, tea or coffee and plenty of good company. After expenses the donations will be divided between Christian Aid and the Bishop of Portsmouth's Lent Appeal. Everyone is warmly welcomed - just turn up at any time

*Andrew Menniss, Vicar*

## **BEMBRIDGE AFTERNOON TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD**

As usual Mo welcomed us all to the meeting and thanked Josie for being hostess and Ruth for her delightful flower display. After the minutes and notices we had tea before welcoming Mr. Eric Sieler who took us on a journey through many different countries looking at famous gardens and some of their historical buildings.

His slides showed some beautiful gardens starting at Wakehurst Place and then travelling to Normandy for Monet's garden and lake, Kerkenhof in Holland, famous for its bulbs, and going on to Germany, Russia, Vienna, Malta with the gardens of the Presidential Palace, Nepal, India, Sri Lanka, Vancouver, Madeira, Kirstenbosch with Table Mountain in the background as well as Durban; then Morocco, Spain, Stourhead in Wiltshire and back home to Osborne House. A fascinating talk about the gardens and their houses which certainly cheered us all on a dull winter's day.

**Best Bloom:** 1st Eve Dyer (Pansy) 2nd Mo Sansom (Rose) 3rd Hazel Ransome (Primula)  
Next meeting: Tuesday 1st March at 2.15pm in the Village Hall.

## BEMBRIDGE BOWLING CLUB REPORT

Whilst the Club's social events have provided entertainment for members throughout this seemingly long winter, all attention is now turning to the forthcoming outdoor season.

Weather permitting, the greens at Mitten Road will open on Sunday 25th April starting a full calendar of activities for the season. With five Men's and four Ladies teams competing in the Island Bowls Leagues, Bembridge will also be participating in the new afternoon Mixed League. Alongside these activities there is a full programme of Tourist matches, Club and County competitions and events; indeed something to suit all members of all standards. In August, the Club will stage one of the most popular events in the Isle of Wight Bowls calendar, Staddlestones Bembridge Week, which starts on Sunday 28th August and continues through to Finals Day on Friday 2nd September. The season will draw to a close in mid September with the Finals of the Club competitions.

For anyone interested in learning more about bowls, or the Club, there is an Open Day at Mitten Road on Sunday 1st May from 10.00 am. Do come along and see what a friendly and active Club we are. Alternatively you can join us for a chat at the Club's next coffee morning on Saturday 26th March, from 10.00 am onwards or contact Club Secretary, Colin Vines on 874163.

Visit [www.bembridgebowlingclub.co.uk](http://www.bembridgebowlingclub.co.uk) for more information on the Club.

Finally a date for Club members' diaries: Spring Meeting takes place on Wednesday 30th March, starting at 7.00pm

*Steve Tutton*



*Bembridge Week - a popular event for players and spectators alike*



# THE BEAUTY BOX IS BACK!! in aid of THE SATURDAY CLUB supporting THE ISLAND'S DEAF CHILDREN

**JILLIE WHEELER** is resurrecting The Beauty Box which in the past raised thousands of pounds for the Island's seriously ill children. NOW with her German Shepherd dog CASSIE she is raising the money to buy a mini bus for Deaf Children which will be called CASSIE'S COACH

SO – PLEASE search your drawers and cupboards too for bottles - jars - maybe a pot of Cream or Lotion you forgot, the present which you cannot wear, the smell is just too much to bear! Cosmetics - Perfume – Toiletries - Soap and Lacquer, Hair Shampoo  
Jillie's Beauty Box needs YOU!

Beauty Box Bins for collection of all unwanted cosmetics and toiletries are at Boots the Chemist and Stephen's Hairdressing at Bembridge  
C.A. Hay Pharmacy at Seaview,  
Energie, Fitness for Women, 48a, High Street, Ryde (above Iceland)  
or telephone Jillie Wheeler on 873432



# ***RNLI Bembridge Lifeboat Guild***

## **A busy start to the year for the Bembridge lifeboats**

Both the new all-weather lifeboat and the inshore lifeboat were called to action during January.

On 10<sup>th</sup> January, the Tamar class *“Alfred Albert Williams”* was called to assist Portsmouth lifeboat with the recovery of the 20 tonne fishing vessel *“El Baco”* after the vessel had suffered engine failure just outside Langstone harbour in gale force conditions. The six man crew, lead by coxswain Steve Simmonds took over the operation from Portsmouth’s Atlantic class lifeboat which, because of its small size, was unable to handle the vessel in the 4 metre high breaking seas and took the trawler in tow back safely to the Camber docks in Portsmouth. Mr Simmonds said he was exceptionally pleased with the performance of the new £2.8 million lifeboat.

A week later, on the 19<sup>th</sup> January, the D class inshore lifeboat *“Dorothy Beatrice May Gorman”* was called to the assistance of a motor cruiser with its outdrive and propeller broken by running onto Bembridge Ledge. The vessel was secured, towed off the ledge and into Bembridge harbour in an operation lasting a couple of hours.

At midnight on the 24<sup>th</sup> January the *“Alfred Albert Williams”* was called back into action again in a six hour operation to recover and tow the 32 foot yacht *“Agapantha”* back to Portsmouth from over 13 miles south west of St Catherine’s Point. The yacht had suffered a total electrical failure whilst trying to start her engine whilst on passage from Dartmouth to Brighton and was drifting without power, lights or communications on the edge of the Channel shipping lane. After a long haul against the tide, the casualty was taken to safety at Haslar Marina. The lifeboat returned to station at 6.20 am.

## **Bembridge RNLI Lifeboat Guild AGM**

With the new lifeboat station now established and with more members having joined the guild, there was an upbeat feel to the Bembridge RNLI Lifeboat Guild’s Annual General Meeting on January 26<sup>th</sup>. It should be a year to look forward to, members were told, with the new station and lifeboat attracting much public attention.

After the election of officers and committee, there was much applause as Guild stalwart Joan Crabtree was elected as vice-president of the Guild. Also honoured with long service awards for their hard work over the years were Barbara Sharpe and Norma Andrews.

## **"SOS" Fundraising Day a big success**

Despite a biting cold easterly wind, several hundred people turned up at Bembridge lifeboat station at the annual "Sip our Soup" fundraising day on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> January to warm themselves with home-made soup and go aboard to inspect the new



Tamar class lifeboat "*Alfred Albert Williams*".

This was the first time that the event was held in the new boathouse which enabled the public to walk round and view the boat whilst enjoying their soup. Because of the limited space aboard, small groups of people at a time were taken aboard to see the new 'state of the art' craft and its operating systems, demonstrated by members of the crew assisted by Guild members.

*The opening times for the RNLI shop and Lifeboat station through March will be Wednesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays, 2 - 4pm.*

## **Women's World Day of Prayer**

An Ecumenical Service

Prepared by the Ladies of Chile

"How many loaves have you?"

at The Methodist Church

4th March 2011 at 2pm – Speaker: Mrs Helen Malabar

*Everybody welcome - Refreshments will be served following service*

## **SATURDAY BAZAAR**

***in the Village Hall on 19th March 9am-1pm***

***Lots of interesting stalls • Light refreshments available***

***Collection boxes for Help For Heroes***



# St. MICHAEL'S RC CALENDAR

**WALLS ROAD, BEMBRIDGE**

**(Combined Parish of Bembridge and Ryde)**

**Parish Priest: Fr. Anthony Glaysher**

**Telephone: (01983) 562171**

**Parish Office – Tel: (01983) 812127 (weekday mornings)**

**E-mail: [stmarysryde@aol.com](mailto:stmarysryde@aol.com)**

**[www.stmarysryde.org](http://www.stmarysryde.org)**

## **WEEKEND SERVICES ALL YEAR**

*6.00 p.m. Saturday Vigil Mass at Ryde*

*7.45 a.m. Sunday (said) Mass at Ryde*

*9.15 a.m. Sunday (sung) Mass at Bembridge*

*11.00 a.m. Sunday (sung) Mass at Ryde*

*All Tuesdays 10.00 a.m. Rosary and Exposition of the Blessed  
Sacrament*

*10.30 a.m. Mass at Bembridge (said)*

Father Sean Finnigan stood in at St. Michael's for a couple of weeks while Father Anthony had a well-deserved holiday and at the end of his short stay with us Patrick Maher spoke a few words of thanks and presented a small gift of appreciation for his time spent with us.

The annual Ecumenical Social evening was held in the Village Hall on Saturday, 22nd January, this year hosted by St. Michael's. Contributions, foodwise, came from all churches and thanks go to all those people. Music was provided by Angela and Irene from the Holy Trinity and John did the calling for the country dancing. During the evening there was a quiz and Isabel and Josie did a great job on the raffle. All in all it was an event much enjoyed by all those who attended and a profit of £150 was made, to be shared between the three churches.

The Taize Group will be held in March, on 8th from 7-8 pm at the Methodist Church in Foreland Road. An hour of song, prayer and meditation to which all are welcome.

*Angela Haydon*



## ***Holy Trinity Mothers' Union***



Wed 2 Mar 10.00am Corporate Communion at St Luke's

Fri 11 Mar 2.30pm Branch Meeting at The Cloisters

*Sheila Wheeler, Branch Leader (874065)*



# HOLY TRINITY CALENDAR

Vicar: Canon Andrew Menniss (01983) 872175

E-Mail: vicar@bembridge.com

Assistant Curate: The Reverend Linda Bushell (400261)

E-Mail: curate@bembridge.com

website: [www.bembridgeholymtrinity.org.uk](http://www.bembridgeholymtrinity.org.uk)

## SUNDAY SERVICES

**8.00am** Holy Communion at St Luke's (BCP)  
**10.30am** Parish Communion with STEPPING STONES for children at Holy Trinity (Common Worship)

### 1st SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH

**10.30am** Thank God it's Sunday! Worship for all ages

**Wednesday** 2nd

9.30am Matins at St Luke's  
10.00am Holy Communion at St Luke's  
MU Corporate Communion

**SUNDAY** 6th **The Sunday next before Lent**

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) at St. Luke's  
10.30am Thank God It's Sunday Worship for all ages

**Monday** 7th

9.00am Monday Meditation

**Wednesday** 9th **ASH WEDNESDAY**

9.30am Matins at St Luke's  
10.00am Holy Communion with the Imposition of Ashes at St Luke's

**Friday** 11th

12 noon - 1.30pm Lent Lunch at The Cloisters

**SUNDAY** 13th **First Sunday of Lent**

8.00am Holy Communion at St Luke's  
10.30am Parish Communion.  
Preacher: The Venerable Caroline Baston,  
Archdeacon of the Isle of Wight

**Monday** 14th

9.00am Monday Meditation

**Wednesday** 16th

9.30am Matins at St Luke's  
10.00am Holy Communion at St Luke's

**Thursday** 17th

7.30pm P. C. C. Meeting

**Friday 18th**  
12 noon - 1.30pm Lent Lunch at The Cloisters

**SUNDAY 20th Second Sunday of Lent**  
Normal Sunday Services

**Monday 21st**  
9.00am Monday Meditation  
8.00pm onwards Pub Night at the Crab & Lobster

**Wednesday 23rd**  
9.30am Matins at St Luke's  
10.00am Holy Communion at St Luke's

**Friday 25th**  
12 noon - 1.30pm Lent Lunch at The Cloisters

**SUNDAY 27th Third Sunday of Lent**  
Normal Sunday Services

**Monday 28th**  
9.00am Monday Meditation

**Wednesday 30th**  
9.30am Matins at St Luke's  
10.00am Holy Communion at St Luke's



### **FUNERALS**

24 January	Alexis Morgan
24 January	Doreen Green
25 January	John Dyer
26 January	Eric Prince
4 February	Mary Joseph
14 February	Nancy Garbutt

## **Bembridge Street Fair**

It's that time of year again, the Bembridge Street Fair will fall on bank Holiday Monday 30th May 2011. 2pm-4.30pm

All regular stall holders should receive invitations to this year's fair, check with Stalls Manager, Paul Booth, 875555; 07973953309 ; paulhbooth@yahoo.com. Newcomers check availability with Paul at this very popular Island attraction.

*Geoff Giles, Bembridge Street Fair Co-ordinator*



# The Methodist Church

*A warm welcome in the name of Jesus*

Pastor Bob Boyce. (01983) 873785  
E-mail: [bobbyce@btinternet.com](mailto:bobbyce@btinternet.com)

## March Calendar

### Midweek and Sunday Worship

Sun 6 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am 4.00pm	Rev K Burke Wednesday Welcome Anniversary Service, Rev Attwood
Sun 13 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am 2.30 to 4.30pm	Pastor Bob Boyce Vine Arts, (Children 8 and over)
Sun 20 <sup>th</sup>	10.30am 3.30 to 5.30pm	Pastor Bob Boyce, Sacrement of Communion Pebbles Plus (A relaxed family event)
Sun 27 <sup>th</sup>	10.00am 6.30 to 8.00pm	Grapevine Inspire, (Youth Event)

### Activities and Groups in the Church

First Monday in Month	2.30pm	Bembridge RNLI Lifeboat Guild, Methodist Church Hall, Foreland Road. Everyone welcome
Alternative Tuesday in month	10.00am	Church Friendship Walk (Contact 873393)
Every Wednesday in month	10.00am 2.45pm 6.30pm 8.00pm	Seekers Together Wednesday Welcome (see Noticeboard) Rock Solid Nite Light
Alternative Thursday in month	7.30pm	Manse Bible Study at 45, Crossway.
First Thursday in month	3.30pm to 5.30pm	Pebbles
First Friday in month	10.00am 7.45pm	Coffee Morning Grapevine Prayer Meeting

*Our church is situated in Foreland Road*

# The Methodist Noticeboard

## Wednesday Welcome

**Why not try this weekly meeting with a variety of speakers, topics and activities. The community bus transport is available. All are welcome.**

- |          |  |
|----------|--|
| 2 March  | Open Meeting, Bring & Buy  |
| 6 March  | Sunday Anniversary Service with<br>Rev Marie Attwood (followed by Cream Tea) |
| 9 March  | Garden Quiz  |
| 16 March | Pastor Bob Boyce   |
| 23 March | June & Brenda, Overseas Update   |
| 30 March | Favourite Bible Quotations   |

## Friendship Walk

A walk of about 3 miles on alternate Tuesday mornings at 10 am. We meet at the Methodist Church in Foreland Road and have coffee together at the church after the walk.

Everyone is welcome, and it is a good way to improve your health and meet new friends.

## WOMENS WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2011

This ecumenical service will be held at Bembridge Methodist Church on Friday, March 4th at 2 pm. The theme, written by the Christian women of Chile, is "How Many Loaves Have You?" Do join us.

## BEMBRIDGE WINDMILL WI

Bembridge Windmill WI started 2011 by welcoming a visitor and two new members, Chris and Kathryn.

Everyone received a copy of the interesting and varied programme for the coming year. A number of local outings have been included this year ranging from "Ladies who Lunch" to "Pitch and Putt". These are in addition to the monthly walks and Book Club.



Ginny outlined the events that the Isle of Wight Federation have put in place to celebrate the Federation's 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary. One of these is a celebration walk where each WI will walk to their neighbouring WI. Members were told of the initial plans for our walk to Brading.

The new look Newsletter was well received. Given that the oldest WI on the island has recently celebrated its 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary we wondered if ladies in 85 years might look back and wonder about the ladies who started Bembridge Windmill WI? One of our new members had been a member of the previous Bembridge WI and we will track down any of those original members and invite them to our Cream Tea.

The annual Cream Tea with a cake, plant and book sale will be held on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May in the Cloisters in Bembridge starting at 3.00pm. You do not have to be a member to come – everyone is welcome.

The Bembridge Cup is presented annually to the lady who has scored most points in the monthly competitions throughout the year. This year it was again won by Cheryl. All members were encouraged to have a go and this month the points were awarded for the 'best' cracker joke with Chris Pay coming first followed by Pam and Trish.

In 2010 Bembridge Windmill WI had adopted the Earl Mountbatten Hospice as our charity and we were pleased to welcome Karen Eeles, the hospice fundraiser. She entertained us with stories about the numerous and varied activities that are used to raise money for this very important Island Charity. She also showed us some of the ways that the money is used. We were pleased that Sarah was able to present Karen with a cheque for £50 on behalf of our WI.

Our March meeting will be glass painting where everyone will be able to have a go to produce something of beauty to take home. The meeting will be held on Monday 21 March at 7.30pm at the Cloisters, Bembridge. Visitors are always welcome. Contact Ginny 874246 or Sarah 873873 for more information.

## **The Priory**

The County Press recently published an old photograph of workmen at the Priory at St Helens in the "All our yesterdays" section. The picture, sent in by Darren Toogood, whose great-grandfather appears in the picture, shows some of the building workers of Messrs C Love and Sons, Bembridge lined up in front of the Priory to have their photograph taken.



*The Eastern Aspect of the Priory*

The photograph was taken in 1931, a time when employment was hard to come by, with the whole country trying to get over the effects of the great depression that had gripped the country for the last decade.

The owner of the Priory at this time was Mrs. Howard Bligh St. George, an American millionairess, who previously lived at Foreland House, Bembridge with her two sons and daughter.

Over 60 men from Love's worked on the Priory, doing extensive alterations and re-decorations to the old building. The cover picture shows some of the men who worked on the house, they came from St. Helens, Bembridge and Nettlestone. Other work included the wooded area around the Priory trees were removed (by blasting) and the whole area was "tidied up", this work was supervised by a Mr. Keller.

One of the memories I was told was of the garden wall, long and high, built under the supervision of Mrs. St. George herself, when completed she came to inspect it. She looked and sighed "No, it's in the wrong place, take it down and rebuild it over there"..... Another couple of months work for the men.

All the men in the photograph have now passed away, but their story remains with us through this photograph. There are several variants of the photograph, perhaps several photographers were present. I do not have a complete list of the men in the photo, so if anyone can help, I would be grateful.

Mrs. St. George's daughter married a Capt. Derrick Gunston, later Sir Derick, who was MP for Thornbury, they eventually came to live in the village at the Watch House.

*John Woodford*

Names of the men known:

*Charlie Love, Bill Wallis, Ern Butler, Harry Laughrin, 'Decker' Williams, George Chapple, Doug Nightingale, Fred Richards, Frank Butler, Tom Gauge, Len Rowe, Vic Bartlett, Will Keeping, Bill Brading, Bob Wheeler, John Caws, Bern Nightingale, Jack Mursell, Ted Clark, Walt Sillence, Frank Bennett, Asford Toogood, Mark Squibb, Alf Smith*

# *Bembridge Evening Townswomen's Guild*

## **December 2010, January & February 2011 Reports**

**Our December meeting** was well attended despite the very cold weather. After the business part of the evening, presided over by our Chairman Dot, who informed us that we had taken £570 at the coffee morning which was being sent to the Hants and Isle of Wight Search and Rescue. Shirley Armstrong the Federation Rep. who had attended our meeting in November thanked us for a lovely evening spent with us.

Dot reminded us that the Federation AGM was to be at the Medina Theatre in Newport on the 4th April and ladies were encouraged to attend.

Our speaker, Linda Grant, explained to us how she managed to produce lovely looking jewellery from glass. Linda was thanked and then we were allowed to purchase some wonderful examples of her work that she had brought along. I feel sure that many of us will be visiting her shop in Shanklin, called Shiny Things.

The competition for an animal brooch was won by Hilary Hayley; joint 2nd were Chris Behan and Daphne Lacey; and 3rd Pat Bugby. The best bloom was won by Gilly Chubb; 2nd was Verena Sparrow; and joint 3rd were Phyl Liddiard & Pat Mills.

**January** proved to be just as cold but quite a few ladies braved the weather to attend our meeting on 4th January 2011. After the business part of the evening was over, nibbles and non-alcoholic punch (kindly supplied by Hilary) were distributed and the musical quiz run by Laura Bowman, assisted by Dot. We also had a short general quiz which tested our brains. We were reminded that subs were due. The competition for an LP cover was won by Phyl Liddiard with 2nd Brenda Trembath and 3rd Marianne Britton. The flower competition was won by Verena Sparrow.

Dot started the **February meeting** by welcoming everybody and a new member, and was very pleased to announce that we had sent 100 bags which we made to the Oncology Unit in Southampton. After the business part of the evening was over she introduced Nicky Robinson to talk about her "Great Walk" in China. She had been asked by a charity - "Safe and Sound" to do this walk - the charity helps youngsters who have run away from home. After a very enjoyable talk Nicky said the trek had raised £110,000. She was thanked by Ros Francis.

After coffee the judging took place for the competition which was for an Oriental object, which was won by Gill Offer, with Sylvia Harrison 2nd and Phyl Liddiard 3rd. The best bloom was won by Phyl Liddiard with Gilly Chubb 2nd and Hilary Haley 3rd.

**The next meeting is on Tuesday 1st March** which will be our AGM and will be held as usual at 7.30 pm in the Methodist Church Hall, Foreland Road, Bembridge, after the AGM we will have a few fun games to finish the evening off. The competition is for "Your Own Ode" plus of course the best bloom. Do come along and join us. If interested please ring Dot Harrison on 872992.

*Phyl Liddiard – Press Officer (875271)*

**"The King's Speech"**

is an inspiring film about King George VI's reluctant appointment to the throne. However, he has a terrible speech impediment, and Britain needs a King with a good clear voice to inspire the nation.

This is when Lionel

Logue steps in, an unorthodox speech therapist played wonderfully by Geoffrey Rush. Slowly, the king to be, starts opening up to Lionel, and doesn't seem to notice how his speech is improving or the wonderful friendship blossoming between the two.

Colin Firth plays a fantastic George VI and it seems, is set to win an Oscar for best actor. However, for me it is the supporting cast that really made the film so spectacular.

Helena Bonham Carter (as Elizabeth, Bertie's wife), Michael Gambon (as King George V), Derek Jacobi (as Archbishop Cosmo Lang) and Timothy Spall (as Winston Churchill) and with such an amazing cast, the film could never really fail.

All parts of the cinematography are spot on. Especially to the costume and set design. The subtle touches added to the scenes give a realistic feel to the film, transporting the whole cinema back to Britain in the 1920s and 30s.

These techniques lead from the most emotional scenes, to ones that left the audience roaring with laughter, such as the one in which the King, at Lionel's request, lists strings of obscenities into his speech as if the words were just waiting to burst out all along.

And although the film is completely predictable, it is certainly one you would not want to miss. The King's Speech is a triumph and a fantastic feel-good film for all. Thoroughly recommended.

*Sarah Garnham is a 16 year old student at Sandown High School and she lives in the village. Her ambition is to be a journalist and she had a review of 'The Times' front page published in 'The Times' of Saturday 15th January.*



Google Images

# Bembridge Horticultural Society

Website: [www.bembridgeblooms.org.uk](http://www.bembridgeblooms.org.uk)

**Meetings:** 4th March Brian Kidd *How Portsmouth won  
"Britain in Bloom"*  
18th March Matt Arnell *Fire Service*

Spring has sprung, we hope, after the long winter things should be about to burst into bud and the early flowers waking up from their winter rest.

Look at shrubs and take off dead ends and branches that have caught the frost. Prune trees now before they come into bud; this will be the last chance before the trees come to life again.

Lift and divide clumps of perennials and move elsewhere or share with friends.

Sow seeds of flowers and veg in heated propagators or on warm window sills.

Prune hydrangeas to about four buds up from the stem and if the fuchsia's are showing growth cut back the stems; do the same to other plants and take away any weeds that are starting to invade before they take over completely.

Plant potatoes and onions remember to rotate the crops each year – it keeps the diseases at bay.

Narcissi and other hardy bulbs that have finished flowering can be planted out in the garden, plant out as they come out of the pot and they should do well.

Look at overwintering tubers and maybe give them a little bit of water; unearth hanging baskets and tubs and dust them off and decide what to put in them this year.

Everything is waking up so now is the time to get out and do some real gardenings little at a time and most important enjoy it there are some wonderful surprises to come from things you had forgotten you planted .

Keep feeding and watering the little birds.

Don't forget we meet once fortnight come and join us.

## *The Coltsfoot Fairy*

The winds of March are keen and cold, I fear them not for I am bold. I wait not for my leaves to grow. They follow after: they are slow. My yellow blooms are brave and bright; I greet the Spring with all my might.

*Cicely Mary Barker*

Happy Gardening