

Bembridge Parish News



For a short period the Library was housed in the area under the Parish Council Office. The Library moved to its present position in 1979.

Say it with Flowers . . .

It was a privilege, as a newly-ordained Catholic priest, to share in celebrating a Mass of Thanksgiving for the work of the Earl Mountbatten Hospice at the recent Bembridge Flower Festival. "Bright and Beautiful" was hosted for the local community by Bembridge Catholic Church, with members of different churches involved in preparing the displays and in the final mass, and both the Vicar of Bembridge and the Chaplain to the Hospice robed up to participate in the service.

The link between flowers and the care of the dying is a strong one, and many are familiar with the sunflower emblem of our Island hospice and the daffodil of Marie Curie. My own interest in the place of flowers in Christian worship – indeed, in life – has grown in over twenty years as an Anglican priest, not only in steering through a good number of flower festivals in various parishes, but urging lilies to come out in time for Christmas and Easter, encouraging arrangers to find fiery blooms for Pentecost, and advising on the place of flowers in funerals, while reflecting too on the times in the Church's year when we don't have flowers at all.

Flowers are an eloquent symbol. First, there is the delicate intricacy and beautiful vitality of flowers, pointing to a Creator whose design is not simply utilitarian, but caught up with intrinsic goodness, and that itself gives us hope beyond the grave. Then flowers, especially in abundance, tell of the extravagant lavishness of God, of his almost wasteful prodigality, just as we may "say it with flowers," in thanksgiving or in love. But there also comes the reminder of the transience of life, of our fragility as human beings, being a whisker from death in the midst of life. As the good hymn says, "We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree, and wither and perish—but nought changeth thee."

Into this mix of floral imagery comes both the pastoral care of the Church and the work of the hospice, helping to tell, explicitly or otherwise, of the fragrant goodness of God even as we approach the end of life's fragile journey, and of grounds of hope for eternity.

*Father Jonathan Redvers Harris
Ordinariate Pastor for the Isle of Wight*

Cover Story: Bembridge Libraries

Bembridge had a Library as early as 1850 when the Hon H A Moreton founded the library with a gift of £180. Situated in the High Street, I think Clifton Lodge, a Reading Room was established in 1870. Mr Tuffley was the Treasurer and Mr T Jordan was Secretary, there were thirty members. The Seely Library started at Newport in 1904 and by 1908 there were thirty village libraries each containing 100 books, changed three times a year. I am assuming Bembridge was amongst these thirty villages.



The Library at Bembridge in 1935 was situated in the local Village School (the same place it is now) but of course, when the school was closed so was the Library. The vicar at the time, the Rev Humphery, wrote to the Libraries Committee complaining that he was being pestered by people wanting to know when the Library would be open and where they could obtain books etc. To resolve the problem the Committee agreed to remove the Library sign during the school holidays!

During the Second World War the Library's cleaner was allowed an hour to clean the room and was paid 1/3d (7p).

After the Second World War the Library was to be found in Pelham House on the corner of High Street and Foreland Road but when the lease expired in 1958 the Library was moved to a vacant shop in Manna Road (this had been a fish and chip shop before the war run by a Mr and Mrs Stratton). This proved an unpopular location and the Library was moved to the vacant premises under the Council Chambers, previously used by the Fire Brigade.

The village also had a private Library run by the paper shop in Foreland Road called a Circulating Library. People had to pay for this service.



Pelham House, 1958 showing where the Library was situated after the Second World War

Sadly as I write this article in June 2011 I understand that we are to lose our Library. Many people are trying to save the Library Service that we have had in the village for one hundred and sixty years. I hope they succeed ...

John Woodford

BEMBRIDGE RNLI

With the summer season getting into full swing, July was a busy month for both the inshore (ILB) and all-weather (ALB) lifeboats at Bembridge with a total of nine actions, ranging from the rescue of people trapped under Culver Cliffs, to the assistance of foreign yachts and a restored wartime high-speed rescue launch keeping the Station and crews busy.

8th July: the ALB “Alfred Albert Williams” was called into action to assist the yacht “Interceptor of Swanage” with a crew of ten aboard, dismasted south of Ventnor whilst taking part in a cross Channel race. After making sure all were OK and the broken mast secured, the vessel was towed back to the Solent and was able to make its own way back to Hamble.

10th July: both lifeboats were in action with the ILB taking part in a combined operation with the Coastguard cliff rescue team to recover three boys stuck around 70 feet up the face of Culver Cliff. The cliff rescue team successfully lowered the boys into the lifeboat where they were taken unharmed, but shaken, to safety.

Meanwhile, the “Alfred Albert Williams” was called to assist the French motor cruiser “Solea” adrift by the Nab Tower, with both engines failed and a crew of 4 aboard. The casualty was towed into Portsmouth Harbour.

11th July: the ILB was launched to assist the yacht “Slipaway” which had become caught on Bembridge Ledge after dragging its anchor overnight. The yacht was in danger of being driven further on the ledge and was successfully towed out into deeper water and was able to continue its passage.

17th July: the “Alfred Albert Williams” was called to evacuate the injured skipper of an Italian racing yacht, following a fall. Having been made comfortable, the casualty was then transferred at full speed to Portsmouth and a waiting ambulance.

18th July: the “Alfred Albert Williams” was in action again, this time in the Solent to the sole surviving wartime RAF high-speed launch “HSL 102”, following a distress call reporting an engine room fire with a crew of ten aboard. Once the crew had been evacuated aboard the lifeboat, the lifeboat mechanic, Bryan Jones was transferred aboard to find that an overheating engine was burning paint off. The Ryde Inshore Rescue craft had been assisting to set up a tow and with a combined operation, together with the Admiralty tug “Helen”, the craft was taken into Portsmouth Harbour.

On the night of 20th July, the ILB was alerted to locate and rescue two

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people trapped at the foot of Culver Cliff. Despite only having cigarette lighters as a means of signalling, they were located and taken to the local Coastguard in Whitecliff Bay.

27th July: the ILB was called to assist a 26 foot yacht, a mile off Bembridge which had suffered engine failure and the owner had attempted to tow it with his tender, only to swamp the engine.

Monday morning, 29th July saw a tow in for a 9 foot angling boat with two people aboard after engine failure a mile offshore.

The final call of the month came on the evening of the same day when the "Alfred Albert Williams " was requested to assist a 32 foot yacht, having become aground in Priory Bay. The crew deployed the inflatable lifeboat and enabled the yacht to refloat on the rising tide later that night

Ken Orchard, Press Officer (873139)

Bembridge Singers

After a very successful 2010-2011 season and a long summer break, The Bembridge Singers resume rehearsals on Wednesday 7th September. It's planned to include music by Vivaldi, Charpentier and Vaughan Williams in our Christmas Concert which will be on 7th December.

We are always on the lookout for new singers. You need no special qualifications, nor is there any terrifying audition! All we ask is that you enjoy singing (even if a little 'rusty' or inexperienced) - a sense of humour also helps! We would love to see you. We meet on Wednesdays in the The Cloisters, from 7.30 to about 9pm.

If you would like to know more, please give Howard Wilkie (Musical Director) a call on 840739, send an e-mail to howardwilkie@hotmail.co.uk or simply turn up at the first rehearsal.

KEEPING FIT

Diana Smith's Keep Fit classes - 'Mature Moves' for the 60-plus - will start again on Tuesday 20th September 2011 at 2.30pm in Bembridge Village Hall. If you wish to keep those joints and muscles in shape you will find Diana's classes a most useful and enjoyable way to exercise to music.

Further details from Betty Wilks on 872083.

BEMBRIDGE BOWLING CLUB

After heavy rain caused a postponement of the event back in June, a beautiful day greeted the 42 bowlers and many spectators to the Mitten Road club on the 31st July to compete for the Bembridge Charity Trophy. The event was won by Paul Green with Jack Liddiard, Club President, as runner-up for a second year, and Roland Davidson in third place.

Over the last 15 years this fun competition, organised by John Tolley, has helped raise much needed cash for many local organisations. This year it was the turn of the Bembridge Friendship Circle who do a great deal of good work for many of the senior citizens of Bembridge and also help run the community bus. Following the presentation of prizes to the competition winners, a cheque for £166 was presented to Mr Alan Morris. Thanks to John Tolley for all his work.

September sees another bowling season draw to a close at the Mitten Road Club. After Bembridge Week, which runs from Sunday 28th August through to Finals Day on Friday 2nd September, the Club Finals take place on Sunday 11th September with the Finals of the 100 Up and Mallet Cup on Sunday 18th September. All of these occasions offer an opportunity for spectators to see some fine bowling. Please come along and experience the friendliness of Bembridge Bowling Club.

Visit www.bembridgebowlingclub.co.uk for more information on the Club or contact Club Secretary, Colin Vines on 874163.

Steve Tutton



l to r, Roland Davidson, Paul Green, Jack Liddiard, John Tolley, event organiser, and Alan Morris, Bembridge Friendship Circle (photo - Peter Dixon)

REPORT FOR THE BEMBRIDGE EVENING TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD FOR MAY AND JUNE MEETINGS IN 2011

Our meeting in May was well attended. The business part of the meeting took place in the actual church in May, with voting for which articles should go into the TG Arts and Crafts competition taking place in the hall.

Dot, our Chairman, told us that our recent coffee morning had raised £465.85 for Haylands Farm. We were reminded that "Tea at Three" for the Hospice would take place at Verena Sparrow's on 14th June. In the event this raised £141 for them.

When the business part of the evening was over, we were introduced to Martin Woodward who was to give us a talk on "Cycling round New Zealand". Martin started his talk by telling us that before he went to New Zealand he climbed Kilimanjaro in 2009. Kilimanjaro is the highest free standing mountain that is not in a mountain range. He showed us some slides with the most fascinating fantastic views. The climbers used two man tents and the men didn't bother to shave! Some unfortunate climbers suffered from altitude sickness which is most unpleasant and unfortunately stopped some of them making the summit. Their last ascent was in darkness with just head torches to show the way which was quite hair-raising. Their descent was quicker!

He then went on to talk about his cycling trip in New Zealand. Again he had lots of interesting and amusing tales to tell with lots of interesting slides to show us. He and his mate cycled from Auckland and covered 2,120 miles all by bike. He said that New Zealand was like England was 50 years ago. They carried 50 kgs. of weight in their panniers. The whole trip took 9 weeks. One very kind senior Maori offered them his lawn to put their tents up on. They are all very extremely friendly people and several offered to put them up. They met some very interesting characters on route.

All told the two trips raised over £14,000 towards the new lifeboat station and the new lifeboat in Bembridge, a wonderful achievement. Martin was thanked for his most interesting talk

The judging then took place for the competition which was for something with a New Zealand connection; this was won by Pat Bugby, with Jill Offer 2nd and Pat Mills 3rd. The best bloom was won by Annette Halls, with 2nd Ros Frances and 3rd Marianne Britton and Marion Morgan.

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Our June meeting once again took place in the hall.

Dot was proud to announce that Bembridge Evening TG won the Art and Craft competition and thanked all those who participated. She especially thanked Heather Smith and Annette Halls for setting up our display. Next year's craft competition will be on 21st April and the theme will be "Treasure". Dot then went on to thank Hilary for the use of her drive to set up our stall at the Bembridge Street Fair, where we made £256 for the Rainbow Club. Hilary was presented with a miniature rose plant as thanks too for the lovely lunch she provided for the "workers". It has also been decided to hold another Morsbags morning on 11th July from 9.30 to 12.30 to make bags to give away at the Wolverton Manor Fair. After the business part of the evening, when once again Dot reminded us of Tea at Three at Verena's we had a most interesting talk by Mr Rodney Riddell about Life on the Royal Yacht.

Rodney was first in the Royal Navy serving on war ships when he saw the "Britannia" moored in Portsmouth. He thought to himself one day I will serve on that ship and he did, after being on the waiting list for 18 months, at the age of 22 in 1963.

The "Britannia" was built in the Clyde in 1953 it weighed 16,000 tons and was 412 ft. in length. It was the Queen's choice to call her the Britannia and instead of naming her with the usual champagne used a bottle of empire wine. The Britannia unlike its forebears had to be built to be able to be ocean going, no effluent was allowed over the sides so sewage storage tanks were installed. It was painted with a royal blue hull with gold leaf trim. The ship had 3 flag masts of 140 ft. High. The Royal standard was always flown when the Queen was on board. There was a large crew with an excellent sick bay and a very hot boiler room! On board all Royalty were aft from the funnel and all crew were forward. It was furnished with opulent Victorian furniture.

The tour would often go from Portsmouth to the Caribbean then Panama, on to Tahiti, Bora Bora, Fiji, Australia and would finish up in New Zealand. The Queen would be woken at 7.30 a.m. with a cup of tea, after breakfast she would work on dispatches. If there was to be a banquet on board there would be 56 seated at the table which would be set with a ruler. All the guests would have a photo taken and be presented with it to take home. The Queen could wear up to 5 different outfits in one day depending on her duties for that day.

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Tea at Three

Four members of the crew would always go ashore ahead of the royal party to check the tide would be right for mooring, and nothing would be in front of the Britannia and police would check the venues where the Queen was to visit.

The state rooms were full of memorabilia from various trips including solid gold camels under palm trees from Dubai and the white ensign from Scott of the Antarctic's sledge.

The anchor was once lost in a hurricane so a wooden one was hastily made. Concerts and seminars were held on board and the income from these activities more than paid for the upkeep of the ship.

Rodney got to be quarter master on board and it was obvious he enjoyed it all. There were many humorous moments which he related. During his time on board he visited around 137 different countries and made friends all over the world. It was a sad day when the Britannia was finally decommissioned due to the high cost of marine fuel.

Ann Gilham thanked Rodney for a most interesting and moving talk.

The competition which was for an article of Royal Memorabilia was won by Trish Beckett, with Gilly Chubb 2nd and Diana Hetherington 3rd. Best bloom was won by Marianne Britton, with Verena Sparrow 2nd and Gilly Chubb 3rd.

July's meeting will be a talk on the history of Post Boxes by Arthur Reeder and the competition will be for an unusual money box.

Phyl Liddiard, Press Officer (875271)



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

www.stmarysryde.org

WEEKEND SERVICES ALL YEAR

6.00 p.m.	<i>Saturday Vigil Mass at Ryde</i>
7.45 a.m.	<i>Sunday (said) Mass at Ryde</i>
9.15 a.m.	<i>Sunday (sung) Mass at Bembridge</i>
11.00 a.m.	<i>Sunday (sung) Mass at Ryde</i>

<i>All Tuesdays</i>	10.00 a.m.	<i>Rosary & Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</i>
	10.30 a.m.	<i>Mass at Bembridge (said)</i>

News from St Michael's

The Flower Festival, held at St. Michael's over three days from 31st July - 2nd August, was a great success, with a steady stream of visitors, including holidaymakers. Vestments and flower arrangements were themed to match in colour and the result was much admired.

On Monday night a gala evening was held at Bembridge Sailing Club, attended by 300 people, including well known celebrity Julian Fellowes. Wine and refreshments were served. To close the Festival, Mass was held on Tuesday evening, attended by members of the village's other churches and refreshments were served afterwards. A CD of the music played throughout the Festival was sold and profits of the entire event will be split between Earl Mountbatten Hospice and St. Michael's Church. The amount raised will be published in the next edition.

As always, the Taize Group meets on the second Tuesday of each month, this month at the Holy Trinity, Bembridge, from 7-8 p.m. All are welcome to this hour of song, prayer and meditation.

Angela Haydon



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

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

Thursday 1st to Saturday 3rd

10.00am - 4.00pm

Jigsaw Spectacular at The Cloisters

Saturday 3rd

10.00am - 12 noon

Coffee Morning at The Cloisters

2.30pm

Wedding

3.00pm

Baptism at St Luke's

SUNDAY 4th

Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

8.00am

Holy Communion (BCP) at St Luke's

10.30am

Thank God it's Sunday

3.00pm

Wedding

Monday 5th

9.00am

Monday Meditation

Wednesday 7th

9.30am

Matins at St Luke's

10.00am

Holy Communion at St Luke's

MU Corporate Communion

SUNDAY 11th

Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

Normal Sunday Services

Monday 12th

9.00am

Monday Meditation

Wednesday 14th

Holy Cross Day

9.30am

Matins at St Luke's

10.00am

Holy Communion at St Luke's

Thursday 15th

7.30pm

PCC Meeting

SUNDAY 18th

Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

Normal Sunday Services

Monday	19th	Monday Meditation
9.00am		
Wednesday	21st	Matthew Apostle and Evangelist
9.30am		Matins at St Luke's
10.00am		Holy Communion at St Luke's
Saturday	24th	
1.30pm		Wedding
4.30pm		Service of Prayer and Dedication of Marriage
SUNDAY	25th	Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity
		Normal Sunday Services
Monday	26th	Monday Meditation
9.00am		
Wednesday	28th	Matins at St Luke's
9.30am		Holy Communion at St Luke's
10.00am		
Saturday	1st October	Wedding
3.00pm		Harvest Supper in the Village Hall
7.00pm		
SUNDAY	2nd	Harvest Festival
8.00am		Holy Communion (BCP) at St Luke's
10.30am		Thank God it's Sunday
3.00pm		Baptism



BAPTISMS

18 July	Matthew Ryan Kelly
24 July	Brooke Alice Lefore
31 July	Sophia Daisy Grinnell
31 July	Benjamin Harry Williams
31 July	Emily Rose Williams

FUNERALS

21 July	Jan Christensen
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Holy Trinity Mothers' Union

Wed 7 Sept 10.00am Corporate Communion at St. Luke's
Sheila Wheeler – Branch Leader (874065)



The Methodist Church

A warm welcome in the name of Jesus

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

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

MIDWEEK EVENTS AND SUNDAY WORSHIP

Sun 4th	10.30 am 4.00 pm	Pastor Bob Boyce, Sacrament of Holy Communion Grapevine Family Service, Sacrament of Holy Communion
Sun 11th	10.30 am 2.30pm to 4.30pm	Mr Wesley Watson, Local Preacher Vine Arts (children 8 and over)
Sun 18th	10.30 am 2.30pm to 5.30pm	Pastor Bob Boyce, Harvest Festival Pebbles Plus (a relaxed family event)
Sun 25th	10.30 am 6.30pm	Grapevine Inspire Youth Group, 13+ years of age

ACTIVITIES AND GROUPS IN THE CHURCH

Alternative Tuesday in month	10.00 am	Church Friendship Walk Contact 873393
Every Wednesday in month	10.00 am 2.45 pm 6.30 pm 8.00 pm	Seekers Together Wednesday Welcome (see Noticeboard) Rock Solid Nite Lite
Alternative Thursday in month	7.30 pm	Manse Bible Study at 45 Crossway
First Thursday in month	3.30 - 5.30 pm	Pebbles
First Friday in month	10.00 am 7.45 pm	Coffee morning Grapevine Prayer Meeting

Our church is situated in Foreland Road

“GLADIATORS” GATHER AT BEMBRIDGE METHODIST



Bembridge Methodist Church was the venue once again for a successful holiday club for 6 – 12 year olds. The programme was called “Gladiators” and this year had a distinct Roman theme as children learnt each day about the “Armour of God”.

Forty-five children attended helped by an army of volunteers aged from 15 to over 50! The club lasted 3 days from 10am until 2.30pm each day, and children learnt about faith, courage and hope through DVDs, songs, Bible storytelling, craft, activities, cooking, drama and games.

The Methodist Noticeboard

Winter is coming

Why don't you come along and join a group or organisation in Bembridge Methodist Church

Something for all ages.

Come on kids try us out !

Rock Solid

**for aged 9 to 13 every Wednesday in BMC starting 14th Sept
from 6.30pm till 8.30pm**

Co-sponsored by Bembridge Methodist and Holy Trinity Churches

Nite Lite

for aged 13 to 19 every Wednesday in BMC starting 14th Sept

Atalanta 26 designed by Uffa Fox

As you drive round the harbour, past the chandler's, past SSJ's office and the pilot house there in the corner on your left is an old, neglected, unloved Atalanta 26.

This was a revolutionary yacht design in its day. Uffa Fox designed it and built by Fairy Marine, when they were at the entrance to the Hamble River, of cold moulded layers of diagonal marine ply with a new glue. We are talking pre-fibreglass days here. He had earlier built a rescue yacht that could be dropped from an aeroplane (not a helicopter) to a pilot who was in the "drink". It had instructions on how to hoist the mast and sails and a guide to sailing for the airman. There was a compass and the rest was up to the airman to find land!! This craft had a very fine entry (less than 17 degrees), to survive dropping from a great height on a parachute!!

Later Uffa developed the Firefly one of the first mass produced one-design dinghies, also cold-moulded. Then he combined the two to produce the Atalanta 26. It had a flat bottom which would in theory plane, two heavy centre boards worked by pulleys. An after cabin with a bunk each side, A pram dinghy which fitted up-turned exactly over this after cabin, so was out of the way at sea. Now to get into the after cabin he designed a one spoke hinged steering wheel. This was much lighter than a steering wheel, and one could sit forward with virtually a tiller, or hold it upright to stand and steer as one motored into harbour. The shaft of the rudder was at an angle to allow this with a hinge.



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The heads (toilet) in the fo'c'sle had so little headroom one had to open the forehatch, and stick ones head out. One developed an innocent expression if in harbour!!

I helped an elderly gentleman sail one from Chichester to Dartmouth in 1956. I was very frightened as he had a TERRIBLE cough and turned an unhealthy shade of blue each time. As a second year pre-clinical medical student at Oxford University, still doing anatomy, I feared he would die in one of these dreadful coughing fits!! I had sailed in the Solent twice but this was my first time properly out to sea and I knew nought about navigation. I had sailed for Oxford in dinghies and in Dragons. But I did not want to be on my own out to sea if he succumbed!! I knew England was to the North!!

When I applied for the job as GP in Bembridge in 1967, my interview was held by Dr Kaula on his Atlanta 31 as he took me back to Southsea!! It had two drop-keels and two Heads, hence the name "Toulouse". Richie Thursfield the anaesthetist owned one also. I had borrowed a bowler hat and umbrella for the interview and Dr Kaula dropped me off at the fair ground at the entrance to Portsmouth, properly dressed, of course!!

I write to you as the boat has now a historical value but no market value and the Newport Maritime Museum and the Atlanta 26 owner's association are not interested as it is beyond repair. Someone must have loved it. I do not know who owns it, but it must have been parked there for some 10 years. It brings back happy memories.

Dr John Arthure

Bembridge Library ~Update

Just in from Ventnor Blog. We are more than disappointed to report that the Judicial Review has been rejected because the delay caused by the Legal Services Commission and because of "difficult circumstances" affecting the defendant (IWC). BLUG and its partners will continue to fight for a fair deal for Bembridge Library users to ensure that volunteers will not be responsible for the costs (approx £8000 to £10000 a year) of a 30-year full repairing lease.

Richard Beet/Peter Pickworth



AGE CONCERN ISLE OF WIGHT TO HELP DELIVER DIGITAL TV SWITCHOVER

Age Concern Isle of Wight is to mobilise an army of charities and volunteers to help residents make the switch to digital TV which starts on the Isle of Wight on 7 March 2012, on behalf of Digital UK and the BBC-run Switchover Help Scheme.

Age Concern Isle of Wight will hold events and presentations, giving advice on how to switch over to digital TV and apply for the Switchover Help Scheme which provides practical help to older and disabled people to switch one television set to digital.

Jo Dare, Chief Executive, said: "Switching to digital TV will be straightforward for many people, but some others will need practical help, advice or reassurance. We look forward to working with our fellow charities to provide that support on the Isle of Wight and help prepare the local community for switchover. We will also encourage eligible older and disabled people to apply for the Switchover Help Scheme."

Local charities can apply for free briefing places, and for funding through a Small Grants Scheme set up to encourage extra events locally. Materials developed to help run events and explain switchover will also be provided.

Bill Taylor, Digital UK's Regional Manager in Meridian, welcomed the announcement saying "the outreach work planned to reach into the community is essential and will help to ensure everyone can enjoy the benefits of digital TV when switchover arrives".

The Switchover Help Scheme, run by the BBC, has been set up to provide practical help to eligible older and disabled people switch to digital TV. It is writing to eligible people in the area. People are eligible for the scheme if they are aged 75 years or more, have lived in a care home for six months or more, get (or could get) certain disability benefits, or are registered blind or partially sighted. For £40 or free for people that are eligible and also on certain income related benefits, the Help Scheme will provide easy to use equipment to convert one set, an approved installer to supply and install the necessary equipment, and a 12 month aftercare service including free helpline.

BEMBRIDGE WINDMILL WI

Despite the horrible and very unseasonable weather some 22 members of Bembridge Windmill WI enjoyed an evening of hilarity, interspersed with some serious discussion. After a long list of dates for diaries and events planned for the early autumn the main business of the evening commenced.

The idea of this meeting is that anyone can raise any subject, make her point and listen to others opinions. Pam started us off with an amusing story of a lady of a 'certain age' trying to buy a swim suit, graphically comparing the merits of bones and structure of the 'good old days' to highly elastic lycra!!

This prompted a discussion on when should one dress according to one's age – and what does that mean; where can you buy clothes that fit and where have all those pink and beige 'foundation garments' of our youth disappeared; and when did they get replaced by 'magic knickers'. From there the conversation went to tattoos and body piercing. There was a joint concern that the beautiful climbing rose tattoo on the ankle may look like a varicose vein in one's 60s.!

The need for more and more volunteers was aired, including what will happen when we run out of people willing and able to volunteer.

The highlight of the evening was the judging of the competition "What can you do with a potato?" The much deserved winner was Sally with her "vegetable chicken" constructed from carrot, peas, beans, chillies and of course a potato. A real work of art and a worthy winner.

There is no meeting August and therefore Bembridge Windmill WI will next meet on 19 September at 7.30pm at the Cloisters, Bembridge. Andrew Searle will talk about "Sophie Dawes and Local Folklore". Visitors are always welcome. Just come along or contact Sarah 973873 or Ginny 874246 for more information.



Bembridge Vectis Townswomen's Guild

At the July meeting a talk by Jo from Chi~Chi Beauty and Health Salon. She told us about the various treatments and massages to be had at the Beauty Parlour. She then passed around some of the products, made locally that they use.

It was a shame that the Tea at Three in Pam's garden had to be cancelled because of the unpredictable weather. We are going to make our September meeting into a Tea at Three with a cream tea, Bring and Buy stall and Raffle as well as our speaker Sharon Troy who will be showing us and getting us to join in with Chair Exercises. All proceeds will be going to the Hospice.

The Gardening Club will be going to see the Windmill Hotel kitchens and later in the month they will be going out to lunch. The Drama Group's next meeting will be on Sept 23rd. The Luncheon Club's next lunch will be on Sept 6th.

The Competition, a Powder Compact was won by Doreen Dorey and the Best Bloom by Daphne Long.

The next Meeting will be on Sept 15th and visitors will be most welcome.

Judith Sutton 873447



JIGSAW SPECTACULAR

Would you like to help make a 24,000 piece JIGSAW on 1st, 2nd and 3rd September in the Cloisters?

Blocks of 50 pieces (£1) will be available for you to put together

We shall be open from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. each day.

Refreshments will be available and all proceeds will go towards the refurbishment of the Cloisters.



The Prayer Room

*will be back later in the year.
This time we'll be joining with
many others, around the world,
in a 24/7 (24/7) of prayer.*

*“...If my people will humble themselves and pray.....,
I will hear them from heaven,
forgive their sins and heal their land”.*

*Catch the vision, the challenge.....
Intrigued??*

www.24-7prayer.co.uk.

HELP WANTED WITH THE PARISH MAGAZINE

Do you live in the vicinity of Meadow Drive? Do you have about one hour to spare towards the end of each month? We need someone to deliver the Parish Magazine to homes at the High Street end of Meadow Drive. If you are interested please contact Jenny Austen on 872701 or email: jennya@compkrim.demon.co.uk. Thank you.

Gurkha Welfare Trust

We would like to thank everyone who helped by donating time, goods and money for the Gurkha Welfare Trust coffee morning in the Village Hall on Saturday 23rd July 2011. The morning raised £510.00 for this worthy cause.

Barbara Sharpe, Doreen & Henry Harris

Bembridge Horticultural Society

Website: www.bembridgeblooms.org.uk

Meetings: 2nd September Helen Butler *Red Squirrels*
16th September Vince Whelan *RNLI*
30th September Ray Harrington *Adopt a garden*

I can't believe just how quickly the months are flying by! Here we are with the meetings in full swing again, the shows and coffee mornings all done and dusted. Thank you to everyone who exhibited in the shows and supported us on coffee mornings - we couldn't do it without you.

Its a bit of a clearing up month, dead-heading, cutting back and taking seeds of your favourite plants and cuttings to add to your stock for next year.

September is often a lovely month with warm sunny days and dewy mornings.

Divide plants that are overcrowded and replant while the earth is still warm.

Looking for bulbs in the garden centres with a friend and a coffee to recover after spending too much is a good way to spend a morning.

Harvest vegetables and fruit and move pots nearer to a warm wall if it's a bit chilly - the flowers will last longer - keep dead heading and watering for a longer lasting show.

Keep feeding the little birds and put water out for them.

Enjoy the garden not too little not too much and perhaps come to our meetings we have some good speakers and we are very friendly.

The Black Bryony Fairy

Bright and wild and beautiful for the autumn festival,
I will hang from tree to tree wreaths and ropes of bryony,
To the glory and the praise of sweet September days.

Cicely Mary Barker

Happy Gardening

