



Reporter

News and Views from around the area

Volume 2 Issue 1

January 2010

www.milbornestandrew.org.uk/reporter

Milborne St. Andrew

Malcolm Applin, winner of BBC South's Unsung Hero Award



MALCOM APPLIN, dedicated member of Milborne Sports Club, has captured the prestigious BBC South's Unsung Hero Award for 2009. Malcolm was presented with his award by BBC South Today's Sports presenter, Roger Johnson.

From humble beginnings Milborne Sports Club is now recognised as one of the leading clubs in the region. The facility is renowned for being one of the best in Dorset not only for the hospitality that it extends but for the playing conditions that it provides. The surface of the pitch is one of the best in Dorset and such facilities enable scores of people to enjoy grass roots sport.

Sports Club Committee spokesman, John Kane, writes:

"It requires many spokes to strengthen a wheel but right at the hub of the wheel is our groundsman, Malcolm Applin, who at the age of 76 has been involved with football in Milborne for over thirty years, the last ten as a member of the Sports Club Committee.

Malcolm sets a high standard in preparing his pitch and does all the jobs that an unsung hero is made of. We turn up for games, the boilers are on, the changing rooms are clean, the pitch is marked out, the grass is cut, the machinery for cutting the grass is maintained and all these jobs are done quietly **by Malcolm."**



Change of name for Horticultural Society

THE AGM of the Society was held on Thursday 26th November where a vote was taken to change the name to the Milborne St. Andrew Gardening Club. It was felt by members that this was a title which would better reflect the less formal and more friendly atmosphere of the club. The change will take effect immediately.

Shirley Dunkley stood down after serving very successfully as the Chairman for three years. She was particularly thanked for steering the club through a period of change in the format of meetings and the Annual Show, which after being cancelled in 2008, was very successful in a new form this year. Sally Dyer was elected Chairman in her place. Hilary Baumberger is the new Secretary.

After the business meeting members enjoyed wine and mince pies followed by a most interesting and inspiring demonstration on making Christmas wreaths by Ruth Goulden. A full programme of talks and activities has been arranged for 2010, beginning on 28th January. This will be a talk by David Smith of the National Trust on the remaking of the park and gardens at Kingston Lacy. New members are always welcome, so do come along to the meeting if you have an interest in gardening. *Sally Dyer* chairman

Computers available!

WE want to try and spread the use of the computer facilities in the Village Hall. Whilst Ed and I are happy to take the computers down, set them up, and remain as a backup, we would like to offer the opportunity for those who have a skill they would like to pass on to the rest of us to use this valuable facility. If you tell us what you think would be of interest, we will set it all up, and you could act as helper, or leader of the group.

If you are a Village Hall user, and could think of a way that the laptops (we have four of them) could enhance your groups experience, then please contact us. We will come along and set them up. They do not have to be IN the committee room, they can work wirelessly to connect to the internet, so can be used in the main hall too.

Ideas – Cubs and Beavers – the Scouts have a brilliant computer badge, suitable for all ages.

Ladybirds Playgroup – Cbeebies have some wonderful simple games suitable for the younger children, plus songs and activities. I am happy to be there to run it for you.

Gardening Club – use the internet in your club sessions to identify and solve problems, find attractions, etc.

WI – I know you are shaking off the old image of “Jam and Jerusalem”, add to it by using the computers in your sessions to put together calendars with the whole group, by using one of the software packages, you can do professional labels for your jam! *Sue Gould*

My Mate John 1930–2009

A tribute by Keith Hustings
to John Newton who
died on 15th November



Naa let me tell you, guess you have probably all heard that somewhere before.

I would like to say a few words about John, I have know John since I was a boy, he was always good fun and always playing practical jokes on us as lads, like the night at field barn when he chained our bikes together, then denying any part in it, could only have been John. And to many other things to mention.

Later not long after Helen and myself were married, we moved to The Rings, at Milborne St. Andrew a few doors from John and Barb, John would always stop his car which, of course, was always **spotless to say “hello”, and would say “alright boy”. I would say “you’re not taking Barb out in that are ya? Thought you might have washed it first”. He would just puff on that pipe, smile and say “It’s only borrowed boy”.**

On many occasions we would return home to find, John, mine and Helen’s dad in our conservatory drinking tea, they would be putting the world right, with the odd break for the pipe, and we would say “It’s like a rest home in here”, but I can’t tell you the reply we got.

My dad and John would spend lots of time with us in the workshop, making and mending, sometimes breaking. They became known as Compo and Cleggy.

One day, as usual, I was sent to make the tea. As I was going I jokingly asked “Hope you two know what your doing?”. We were sawing timber for another major project. “Leave us too it” John said “all under control, when you come from London you know what you’re doing boy”.

Anyway I’m back with the tea, they both looked a bit sheepish, John puffing extra hard on the pipe. “Ere where’s that wood glue boy?” Yes Compo and Cleggy had sawn the Workmate in half.

We had so much fun with John, we always knew when John was on his way, as we could smell the pipe. We would say loudly, “What’s that awful smell, bet someone has a bonfire”. Then John’s smiling face would appear through the workshop doors, with his London accent saying “Alright boy”.

Well I could go on for ages about my mate John, we will all miss him. God bless you John.

The views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the Reporter team.

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Your Reporter Team

Ed Frost, Sue Gould, Heather V. Hogg,

Sue Marsh, David Payne,

Marion Regan and Ed Richards

Advertising and General Enquiries: Ed Frost 01258 837921

News and Features: Sue Gould 01258 837575

Finance and Photography: Heather V. Hogg 01258 837392

Copy for the next issue MUST be received by the 21st of this month

Enquiries and copy to: reporter@milbornestandrew.org.uk
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Paper copy to Sue Gould at 28 Stileham Bank DT11 OLE

Weather in Milborne St. Andrew

November

NOVEMBER 2009 was a mild, wet and windy month with some places recording their highest ever November rainfall. Here in Milborne the total rainfall for the month was 229.3mm which was 204% of average but short of the highest November rainfall in 2002 of 284.6mm.

There were very strong winds during most of the month with particularly damaging gusts in the village on the 13th. There were no frosts in November at all.

The record for the most rain in 24 hrs in Britain had been held by Martinstown since 1955 but this record was broken at Seathwaite in Cumbria where 312mm of rain fell on November 19th. I doubt that Martinstown will be in any hurry to regain this record. Contrary to general belief, the flooding in Workington and the pleasant town of Cockermouth in Cumbria was not a result of climate change. Events of this nature occur every few years in this country and you do not have to go back very far in history to find floods that caused greater devastation. The great Border flood in 1948 occurred after 270mm of rain fell around Kelso which flooded the Tweed Valley. Thousands of acres of crops were destroyed and thousands of livestock drowned. Forty bridges were washed away and the main east coast railway line was out of action for three months.

December has seen a return to more seasonal colder weather so hopefully the skies will be clear for the partial eclipse of the moon on **New Year's Eve**.

Some of Thomas Hood's 'November' was missing in the last Reporter so I have repeated it this month as it can apply equally to December.

No sun – no moon!
No morn – no noon –
No dawn – no dusk - no proper time of day.
No warmth, no cheerfulness, no healthful ease,
No comfortable feel in any member –
No shade, no shine, no butterflies, no bees,
No fruit, no flowers, no leaves, no birds! –
No – vember!

Pluvius

The Reporter *apologies for the few copies of the December magazine with the lines missing.*

News from the Village Lunch Committee

Great news for all of us! The Royal Oak is going to cook our village lunches from January. The lunch will still be held in the Village Hall, but Sarah, Andy and Jo are going to bring over the food in large containers for us to serve. We will be having home cooked meals, including fresh vegetables, and a pudding. Sometimes we will have a cold pudding, sometimes hot! They are working on the menus for the coming months, and tickets for our lunch on 30th January will be on sale at the Village Hall Drop-In Centre from Friday 8th January 2010 (10.00am–12 noon).

As most of you know, tickets for this event are very popular, and now that our local pub is involved we may possibly be able to cater for just a few more diners (although we were packed out at our Christmas Lunch with a total of 44!).

The Village Lunch has been running for just over a year now and is certainly extremely successful. Our first AGM will be held in January and if you have any questions or queries please get in touch with me. A BIG thank you to those who have attended the lunch, those that have helped clear up, and our hard working committee members – and a happy and peaceful New Year to you all.

Melva (Secretary)

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Wednesday Club Christmas Outing

to The Wishing Well and Water Gardens at Upwey

THE water gardens certainly lived up to their name as it did not stop raining from the time we left Milborne. However, it did not stop all 42 of us from enjoying a lovely meal and sharing a laugh whilst **enjoying each other's company**.

Please go to village website www.milbornestandrew.org.uk and click on clubs and societies to see the pictures.

Dates for your diary: New Year Party 2.00–5.00pm 13th January at The Royal Oak with buffet and live music from 'Deanna'. All welcome, please bring a friend. Tickets £8.00 each from Margaret Evans 01258 450518.

On 3rd February at 2.30pm Village Hall, George Cherry presents adventures on a motorbike all welcome for what promises to be a very exciting and interesting afternoon with George and his motorbikes. Wishing all our members and friends a Happy, Peaceful and Healthy New Year.

Eve Richardson

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**THE BENEFICE OF PUDDLETOWN, TOLPUDDLE AND MILBORNE WITH DEWLISH
PART OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN THE DIOCESE OF SALISBURY**

Dear Friends

As I write this, the final preparations are underway for the Copenhagen Climate Change Summit – and when you are reading this, it will all be over (until the next one!)

As the conference draws near, politicians, lobbyists, pressure groups and scientists are all focussing on how to achieve the most (or the least) from the conference, each with their own perspective. Expectations have been played down in recent weeks, despite the clear consensus of scientific opinion which warns us of the danger of doing too little too late.

The problem is of course, that no matter how much we agree that something must be done, when it comes down to specific action, we are much less ready to make the necessary changes.

My children are a good example. They have come home enthusiastic about the 10:10 campaign which calls on people to pledge to cut their carbon footprint by 10% in 2010.

I am very pleased to say that they have signed up to this, and they wear their 10:10 badges with pride – but I still find they have left their bedroom lights on after leaving for school in the morning!

If we are to see a difference, it has to start with us as individuals, just as Copenhagen will only succeed if individual countries will agree to commit themselves to action. And then of course, the commitment must lead to action itself (as I keep telling my children!)

The world we inhabit and enjoy is not infinite. Its resources are limited – we cannot continue to consume more and more and expect it to last forever. In *Genesis 2, God placed Adam in the Garden of Eden "to work it and take care of it", not to use it and destroy it! Another interesting 10:10* is in the Bible. John 10:10 which reminds us that it is the thief who comes to steal and destroy, yet so often this is how we treat the world which God has given us.

So perhaps we should all make our own commitment to addressing climate change, because ultimately it is people who really change things, not governments – and that means that I, along with my children, have a lot to learn about *treating God's creation with care.*

Yours in Christ

Useful websites:

www.1010uk.org

www.goodenergy.co.uk

www.cofe.anglican.org/info/socialpublic/environment/faithincopenhagen/

Church Contacts

Vicar	Benny Hazlehurst	01305 848216
Associate Priest	Sarah Godfrey	01258 839067

Church Wardens

Milborne St. Andrew	Eva Stockley 01258 837468	Dewlish	Jim Burg 01258 837466
	Pat Tribe 01258 837684		Sue Britton 01258 837218

www.milbornestandrewchurch.org.uk



Winner of the Goose Raffle

Mike and Sharon Newman of St. Andrew's View were the winners of the Church Market Goose Raffle. £100 was raised by the raffle and we are grateful to Michael Coleman of Hewish Farm for providing such a fabulous prize.

CHURCH SERVICES

December 2009/January 2010

20th DECEMBER 2009 – Advent 4

9.30am	Family Communion	Tolpuddle
3.00pm	Carol Service	Dewlish
4.00	Christmas Tree Praise! <i>(and start of the Christmas Tree Festival)</i>	Milborne Church
6.00	Carol Service	Puddletown

CHRISTMAS EVE

4.00pm	Crib Service	Tolpuddle
5.00	Crib Service	Puddletown
11.00	Midnight Communion	Puddletown
11.00	1662 Midnight Mass	Milborne

CHRISTMAS DAY

9.30am	Holy Communion	Dewlish
9.30	Christmas Family Communion	Tolpuddle
11.00	Family Celebration	Milborne

3rd JANUARY – Epiphany

9.30am	Family Communion	Milborne
11.00	Holy Communion <i>With Sunday Seekers and Crèche</i>	Puddletown
11.00	1662 Morning Prayer	Dewlish
4.00pm	Tolpuddle Praise	Tolpuddle Village Hall

THURSDAY 7th JANUARY

12.00	Lunch-time Communion	Milborne
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10th JANUARY – Baptism of Christ

8.15am	1662 said Communion Service	Puddletown
9.30	1662 Morning Prayer	Tolpuddle
9.30	Parish Communion	Milborne
11.00	Family Service	Puddletown First School
11.00	Family Communion	Dewlish

THURSDAY 14th JANUARY

12.00	Lunch-time Communion	Puddletown
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17th JANUARY – Epiphany 2

9.30am	Family Communion	Tolpuddle
9.30	1662 Said Communion	Milborne
11.00	1662 Morning Prayer	Puddletown
11.00	Holy Communion	Dewlish
4.00pm	Milborne Praise!	Milborne Village Hall

THURSDAY 21st JANUARY

12.00	Lunch-time Communion	Dewlish
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24th JANUARY – Epiphany 3

9.30am	Holy Communion	Tolpuddle
9.30	1662 Parish Communion	Milborne
11.00	Family Communion <i>With Crèche and Sunday Seekers</i>	Puddletown
11.00	Family Service	Dewlish

THURSDAY 28th JANUARY

12.00	Lunch-time Communion	Tolpuddle
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31st JANUARY – Candlemass

11.00am	Benefice Communion <i>With Crèche and Sunday Seekers</i>	Puddletown
	Guest Preacher – Robin Watson from Sudan	

MILBORNE ST. ANDREW CHURCH NOTES

Weighed down with Christmas goodies

ST. ANDREW'S Christmas Market on 21st November was a very happy event. Father Christmas toured Milborne in the morning, making his presence known, opened the market for us at noon, and was kept busy during the afternoon. We had the usual splendid array of stalls which meant the Village Hall tables were weighed down with all kinds of goodies.

After a reasonable start, the weather deteriorated rapidly so the hot mulled wine and home-made soups were all the more appreciated. There was a lovely cheerful atmosphere throughout the **market's three hours and we raised almost £1,200 for church funds.**

Additional monies will come from a draw for a goose very generously donated by Michael Coleman. Owing to a little confusion about dates, it did not arrive in time for the Christmas Market. However, Rose and Ed Frost undertook the selling of tickets and, as a result, some lucky person will have found out on 11th December (day of the draw) that they have won their Christmas dinner!

Very many thanks to all who participated in any way.

Wonders of the world

By the time you read this, the Christmas Tree Festival will, most likely, be under way. We have had a good response to the Festival with 20 trees in the programme. Do come along and visit the church (details below); there will be a welcome of tea or coffee and mince pies to enjoy while you tour the arboreal wonders of "Christmas Around the World".

Opening times for the Festival are:

Monday, 21st December	2.00-6.00pm
Tuesday, 22nd December	2.00-6.00pm
Wednesday, 23rd December	2.00-6.00pm
Thursday, 24th (Christmas Eve)	11.00pm 1662 Midnight Mass, with carols
Friday, 25th (Christmas Day)	11.00am Family Celebration <i>(Please bring along your favourite present)</i>
Saturday, 26th December	2.00-6.00pm
Sunday, 27th December	2.00-6.00pm, with Benefice Carol Service at 3.00pm. <i>Close of Festival</i>

Great advantage of fellowship area

At the present time our church looks a little untidy but by Christmas the remainder of the pews will have been removed into storage. We have already found the fellowship area a welcome change as we enjoy coffee, tea and biscuits at the end of our services. The area will be of great advantage as we work through the busy Christmas activities.

We realise we only have a temporary licence for this until September, 2010. In the New Year the PCC will be working on new ideas and the architect's plans. We will keep people informed of our progress through the *Reporter*. The PCC would welcome your comments.

'Praise' series is ever more popular

The new year series of Milborne Praises starts on 17th January with "Celebration Praise". We try to plan our programme to fit in with the Church calendar. Milborne Praise has become very popular. We meet at the Village Hall at 4.00pm on the third Sunday in the month, and it is an ideal way for families to sing modern hymns, and join in prayers and workshops. If you have not been before, why not come and try it out?

Eva Stockley and Pat Tribe (Churchwardens)

Celebration Day for LPAs

Eva Stockley writes: On Saturday, 21st November, I attended Salisbury Cathedral as a newly licensed LPA (Lay Pastoral Assistant). There were almost 300 LPAs from around the Diocese. In the morning we were able to join two of the 18 workshops which

ranged from Follow-up to Baptism, Visiting the Elderly, Sick and Bereaved. Lunchtime gave us the opportunity to meet up with other members who took the course at Puddletown. In the afternoon Benny came to join us for the service in the Cathedral. In January our local group will be meeting again at Puddletown to discuss our progress.

DEWLISH CHURCH NOTES

Singing by candlelight

WE WERE privileged to hold the Advent Carol Service in our church this year. The church path and entrance walls were ablaze with beautifully decorated lanterns. These had been made by the young people at the Youth Club and we thank June and Sarah for organising it and, of course, all the children.

During the service, which was conducted mainly by candlelight, three of our ladies from Tolpuddle sang during the lighting of the candles, and our Youth Group performed a rap that they had composed. Well done, girls!

The "Awesome" Youth Group meet once a fortnight in term time at Dewlish Village Hall on a Sunday evening between 6.00pm and 7.30pm. If you are over 12, why not come along? *Daphne Burg*

Sylvia Ham - 1918-2009



SYLVIA HAM grew up in Seaton, East Devon, the daughter of a Coastguard and had a life long love of the sea and countryside. She came to live at "The Corner House" in the square in the late sixties with husband Tom and son Neil.

Having been a choir member at Seaton Parish Church the natural thing for her to do was to get involved at St. Andrews, becoming a regular attender for almost forty years, and spent many hours doing church cleaning and flower arranging with Connie Haylock and Daisy Cooper. Sadly all three now departed. She was a member of the W.I. and an enthusiastic dancer with the Modern Sequence Group in the Village Hall, until a broken hip brought a halt to it, but the Church always came first in her priorities.

Despite personal tragedies in her family, losing a husband and two sons, she soldiered on as usual. With her stoicism and strong Christian faith, she was an example to all of us, favourite words of wisdom being "If you don't use it, you lose it" and "Onwards and Upwards".

Following a very serious illness, Sylvia's remaining family moved her to a Residential Home at Colyford to be nearer to them, where she found a good quality of life and care, enjoying the garden and a wonderful view of the hills where she walked as a girl.

Still attending church each Sunday, even up to her final weekend, she died peacefully in her sleep on 17th November and is now reunited with her loved ones at St. Gregory's Church, Seaton.

Requiescat in Pace

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Margo and Heather



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LETTERS TO THE REPORTER

Dear Reporter,

It was pleasing to read about a couple of our village youngsters brave enough to go -it-alone in the world of commerce. It was even more pleasing to find that the service they provided was excellent in all respects.

I needed a couple of tyres for my car and, as usual, rang around to Quickfit, National Tyres, etc. to get current prices. I also checked on the internet to see what deals were on offer "on line". Finally, reminded of the article about Charlie and Marcus Evans and seeing their advertisement for DCMtyres in last month's Reporter, I telephoned their workshop in Blandford. Guess what! They had the tyres I wanted in stock, they could fit them as soon as I could get to Blandford, their prices were well below any of the others I had been offered and I would get an additional small discount because I live in Milborne St. Andrew. 15 minutes later I was in Blandford and 15 minutes after that I was on my way home, my two new front tyres cutting through the flooded roads with ease.

Excellent service, excellent prices and a local business. What more could you ask?

Ed Frost, Huntley Down

Seasons Greetings

Wishing all the team at the Reporter A Happy and Successful New Year

Thank you for all your hard work to produce an interesting high quality publication

Margo

Dear Reporter

'The effect of a 'one-liner'

Spoken by Churchill or written by a tabloid headline writer they can be delivered with tremendous impact. Sometimes, the unplanned 'one liner' can be taken out of context with what the originator intended and this I believe to be the case in the last edition of the Reporter.

Whilst trying to unravel the mystery of Parish Council progress, (or lack of!) on page 12 of the December Reporter, a comparison was made with the Village Hall. The one-liner I refer to is quote

"But . . . the Village Hall Committee answers only to itself" end quote.

Although meant to portray what could be achieved, to some misbelievers it could also reinforce the myth that the Village Hall pays scant regard to the community it serves in a rather autocratic manner. (but then one can always get paranoid and read too much between the lines!). Anyway, WRONG, ABSOLUTELY AND UTTERLY WRONG.

The VH is a Charity and as such, like the Parish Council, it is answerable to a higher statutory body, the Charity Commission.

The Trustees are drawn from the local user groups and local members of the local community. All the trustees have equal status and Charity Commission rules dictates that the trustees must act and agree as a corporate body.

The Trustees are required by the trust deed to hold an annual meeting to allow the community to comment on its performance and what it wants to do in the future.

The trustees are also required to uphold the Object of the trust deed, namely **"The object of the Charity shall be the provision and maintenance of a village hall for the use of the inhabitants of the Parish of Milborne St Andrew (the area of benefit) without distinction of political, religious or other opinions, including use for meetings, lectures and classes, and for other forms of recreation and leisure time occupation, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants"** end of Trust deed quote.

The Trustees have also allowed individual young members of the community (Nathan King, Charlie Eccleston and Gren Davis) to attend our committee meetings to give them an opportunity to play a full part in the management process.

The trustees are open minded to any suggestions or observations made by the user groups or members of the community.

Two Regeneration (or Parish Plans) surveys have been conducted by the Village Hall. One in 2002 involved the whole community and a follow-up in 2006 involving the Hall User Groups (local members of the community). These are available upon request and hopefully will soon be available online.

What the Village Hall has done over the last three years has been to focus on those findings, produce a structured business plan and gradually but relentlessly address all the negative issues . . . in a democratic "can do- will do" manner. For those of you still hanging on to your old copies of the Messenger, go back to October 2005 page 17 and see the first reference to getting

involved in the Parish Plan. Now where are we with that regeneration report?

So what do I think is the difference between the Village Hall and the Parish Council? The difference is not WHO we are, WHAT we should be doing to improve the conditions of life for the inhabitants of the community and WHERE we are answerable (the Community or other statutory bodies), but HOW we go about it!!!!

Richard Lock,
Chairman of the VH Trustees

To the Editors:

We are writing to express our surprise and disappointment at the comments reported to have been made at the November Parish Council meeting regarding the Sports Club. You will not be surprised that these comments have upset a great number of members of the Sports Club, not least because they are misinformed.

We have always admired the 'get up and go' spirit of Richard Lock in achieving things within the village and have always considered him to be a supporter of the Sports Club. We cannot think it was his intention that his remarks should cause such annoyance.

Fact 1 – the Sports Club has not received a single penny from the Parish Council in the way of purchasing equipment. Indeed, the debit that the Parish Council incurred when purchasing the sports site was incurred long before the formation of the Sports Club. The Sports Club was only formed when the Parish Council in desperation, having purchased the land and acquired the debt, were unable to take the project forward.

Fact 2 – A plea was made at the time by the then Parish Council for interested parties to form a committee to try to take the project forward and as a result the Sports Club was formed. At that stage the then Parish Council promised that the Sports Club could lease the land at a peppercorn rent. The comments that the Sports Club were receiving funding from the Parish Council that could be diverted to other areas is totally incorrect as we now not only pay a lease of £500 a year to the Parish Council but we also pay 10% of all our commercial takings.

In addition to the above, the Sports Club throughout the years has made donations to several other organisations within the village as well as considerable donations to charities such as CLIK Sergeant and the Children's Heart Foundation. The suggestion that we diverted funds that would otherwise have gone towards the Village Hall are completely without foundation. It has

Continued on page 27

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Grid reference ST 775 058 on OS Explorer Sheet 117 (Approx. 6 miles)

SUNDAY 7th FEBRUARY – 2.00pm

Bryanston

Meet at Stour Meadow car park, Blandford St Mary

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Getting into the festive spirit

News from the W.I.'s December meeting

THE first of the informal lunches held last month at The Royal Oak was a great success, and was much enjoyed by all who attended. The next lunch will be on Thursday, 21st January. Future dates, to be staggered through the year, will be distributed with the membership card next month.

Arrangements for setting up our Christmas tree at St. Andrew's Church, courtesy of Ann Mephams' working party, were well in hand, it was reported. Decorating will take place on the morning of Friday, 18th December.

We shall be holding our 'Chocolate Extravaganza' on Saturday, 20th February, 2.00–4.00pm, in the Village Hall. We have been asked to look out our favourite chocolate recipe, with a view to baking two of each, one for tasting and one for selling. This is not only to celebrate Milborne W.I.'s 65 years, but to raise our profile in the village and thereby, we hope, to increase our membership.

Phyll Briggs is very much in our thoughts at this time; we hope it will not be too long before she can join us again.

After the business meeting, the party hats came into their own along with a delicious Christmas feast, to which we had all contributed, followed by increasingly silly, enjoyable and delightful party games. We laughed a lot and ate maybe rather too much – but then, it's Christmas! Thank you, Shirley and Jill, for organising the fun and games.

At next month's meeting on Thursday, 14th January, Peter Dunkley will be talking about 'My Life with Auntie', "Auntie" referring of course to the BBC where Peter had a meritorious career. This is the first of three open meetings during 2010 to which all are invited; do come along at 8.00 pm and bring husbands, partners and friends – should be very interesting.

Pat Bull



Milborne WI had plenty of food at their Christmas party.

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Have you met . . . Peter Dow

IT was the Hiroshima bomb that brought Peter Dow to Dorset. His army unit had been instructed to spearhead the attack on Japan, but after the atomic bomb was dropped, their services were not required. So he was returned home, and onto the Royal Armoured Corps in Lulworth.

What made him stay in Dorset was the love of a woman. Whilst at Lulworth Camp (and after a dance a Owermoigne), he woke up with a bad case of mumps. He was sent immediately off Camp to the Alderney Isolation Hospital in Poole. Whilst there, a young nurse came into his room "with an enormous bowl of water and towels over her arm", he says. "She said, 'Come on, get those pyjamas off – trousers as well!' And I can honestly say, they were the first words my wife spoke to me! So I thought, there's only one thing for it – marry her".

Peter was born in August 1924 in Ashford, Middlesex. His father had recently started a heating and plumbing business and due to winning a massive contract in Surrey, the family moved there to Englefield Green three years later. This is where Peter went to school – in between frequent stays with grandparents in Cookham, Berkshire who ran a farm. After active service during the war, he returned to run the family business and came to Dorset for a month at a time. His wife was originally from Lower Lytchett, so they moved to Higher Lytchett (Matravers) when he retired, where they lived for five years. But his wife was losing her sight, so they moved to Milborne in March 1994. He says, "We came here because she could find her way easy enough to the shop and the Post Office". Sadly, she died two years later. Tragically, their only son died nine months after.

"But I'm not sorry I moved here by any means – this place reminds me of what Wareham was like in the '50's, where I knew most people"

Peter can often be seen around the village, walking his Dachshunds, a breed of which he is particularly fond – and his success at healing them means that he's had a vast number come to stay with him over the years.

So . . . what's the best thing about living in Milborne?

It's the friendliness of the people – it's a marvellous village. There's more than enough going on for me – you can't fault it.

Is there a downside to living in Milborne?

I can't think of anything, honestly!

Have you got any pet hates?

Dog breeders. For the simple reason of the way they breed them – it's about money. I know some breeders through the Dachshund Club who are responsible and respectable, but there aren't many of them about.

Have you got a hero or inspiration?

Len Harson. He was a very great friend of mine who spent the whole of his life in the army. He



wasn't a relative, but he was extremely close. He served in India, was with 17th 21st Lances. He was in the independent companies when they formed when the war started. He was one of the first in the Commandoes.

Other than that I've just made my own way.

Do you have a fantasy dinner date?

No, not really, I can't stand all this celebrity nonsense – they're no different to you and I, the same energy that runs through me, runs through them. I'd much rather have a meal here on my own tonight than have a meal with Diana Dors – who I've met by the way! We used to meet her walking in Engerfield Park.

Is there anything that people would find surprising about you?

I'm sure lots of people in the village know that I have 'most peculiar goings on' every six weeks here – Druids. I've been involved with that kind of thing since before the war – but actually Druidism for only 45 years(!). I was a member of a Gnostic brotherhood – which is the study of the hidden religion or meaning behind a religion. I studied the one behind Christianity.

I've been a chief Druid for close on 30 years. I'm the Ancient – which is good for me! – of the Independent Order of Druids. We don't sacrifice virgins any longer . . . we can't find them anymore! Our main thing we do is study the 'book of nature' – it is a nature religion really, or way of life as I like to call it.

We used to go to Stonehenge, Glastonbury Tor and do a lot of ceremonies at Parliament Hill in London – I can't remember how many times I was sword-bearer for the Summer Solstice there – but now we don't bother; it's where you are, and where you can gather the energies as a group.

Do you have a favourite charity?

The Gurkha Trust – they're very good friends of this country and it's disgusting the way they've been treated.

Interests? Why Dachshunds?

Just after the war finished, there was more than a rumour that the German prisoners of war were going to riot and break out of the PoW camps where there were sufficient numbers of SS. I was with No2 Commando on my way home from Northern Italy and I was diverted there.

A German SS officer came up to me and he had a Dachshund just like one of mine here now . . . a right little sod! He wanted me to take him – so I tied him up to the tent post. I didn't know what I was going to do with him; the dogs were all supposed to be shot. I was going to hand him on to somebody else, but he chewed through the rope I'd tied him to and found his master among 4,000. He brought him back again and then he did the same thing again. So the SS officer brought him back again and I said "Nein, nein, nein" and with a bit of English, German and Italian, I said "stuff him up your jumper!"

But I was so taken by the spirit of the little perisher – we'd had English Bull Terriers and Fox Terriers until then – but from then on, I thought no, it's Dachshunds for me.

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January 2010

Coming Soon: Takeaway Menu - look out for further details

10th January - Milborne 10k - open from 9.30am serving teas, coffees and bacon butties. Taking part? Show your medal for a free pint or glass of wine.

19th January - Winter Warmer Curry Night - £8.95 to include a pint or a glass of wine - booking is essential

29th January - Australia Day Beach Party - Forget the cold and the frost and put your shorts and shades on to celebrate Australia Day with a BBQ, fancy dress competition, Prizes and Promotions.

Coming up in February:

13th February - LIVE MUSIC with Nothing but Trouble from 9.30pm

14th February - Special Valentines Menu - to be announced



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Community Contacts

More information about many community organisations can be found on www.milbornestandrew.org.uk

Councils

Environment Agency Floodline		0845 9881188
North Dorset District Councillor	Cllr Michael Cox	01258 881396
Parish Council – Dewlish	Clerk: Pat Gubbins	01258 881348
	Chair: Cllr Mike Claydon	01258 837314
Parish Council – Milborne St. Andrew	Clerk: Colin Fletcher	01258 450639
	Chair: Cllr Simon Curtis	01258 839000

General – Adult

Drop-in Centre – POPP	Rose and Ed Frost	01258 837921
IT Club (Connecting Dorset)	Sue Gould	01258 837575
Ladies Group – Dewlish	Judith Bridgen	01258 837157
Memory Lane Swing Band	Bob Boorman	01258 839077
Wednesday Social Club	Margaret Evans	01258 450518
Women's Institute	Heather Hogg	01258 837392

General – Youth

Beavers and Cubs	Sue Mullett	01258 839076
Hazelnuts out-of-school club	Hazel Barrett	01305 848588
Ladybirds (Playgroup)	Marion Bishop	01305 848427
Ranger Guides	Adrienne	07870 887049
Scouts	Jim Burg	01258 837466
Under 5's Group – The Busy Bees	Jane Williams	01258 839291
Youth Club age 8 – 14 yrs	Sallie Maitland-Gleed	01258 837442

Police

Police – Non-emergency contact		01202 222222
Community Beat Officer	PC Dave Mullins	01202 223003
		07825 521850
Community Beat Officer (Dorch)	PC Charlie Dale	01305 222222
Community Service Vehicle	CSO Angie Partridge	01202 226000
Safer Neighbourhood Team		
Blandford Rural South	PC Dave Mullins and PCSO Luke Goddard	01202 223003 or 07825 521850

Or email blandfordruralsouthSNT@dorset.pnn.police.uk

School

Milborne 1st School		
Headteacher:	Anne Purdy	01258 837362
Chair Govs:	George Legg	
Friends of School Chair:	Angelica Cotterell	

Special Interest

Bellringers	Pip Bowell	01258 837329
Food & Wine Society	Tony Dyer	01258 837061
Healthy Eaters	Heather Gipps	01258 837058
MSA Friendly Art Group	Sue Marsh	01258 837414
MSA Gardening Club	Sally Dyer	01258 837061
Milborne Players	Roy Sach	01258 837033
Ranters' Folk Session	Roger Harrall	01258 837371
Round Robin Ramblers	Steve Lord	01258 839222

Sport

Abbey Swimming Club	Pat Cowan	01258 880601
Adult Tap Dancing Milton Abbas	Libby Goodchild	01305 268029

If you would like to be added to this list, then contact the Reporter

Archers – Crossways	Michelle Jones	01258 837045
Athletics – Junior	David Pearson	01258 837057
Badminton	David Payne	01258 837700
British Horse Society (Dorset)	Carol Shoopman	01258 880318
Circuit Training and Pilates	Claire Barratt	01929 554999
		07946 732769
Cricket – Dewlish	Elaine Kellaway	01258 837696
Cricket – Junior (11 – U13)	Derek Lamb	01258 880523
Cricket Club – Milton Abbas	Derek Lamb	01258 880523
Football – Adult	Paul Morgan	01258 837619
Football – Reserve Team	Andy Draper	07824394436
Football – Under 15s	Grant Taylor	07879841518
Football – Under 11s	Daryl Sims	01258 881397
Modern Sequence Dancing	Grace Davies	01258 837261
Running Group	Anne-Marie Pearson	01258 837057
Skittles – Dewlish	Frank Ross	01258 837366
Sports Club		
Chairman:	John Sanderson	01258 837049
Bookings:	Jenny Balcon	01258 837121
Table-tennis (over 50's)	Geoff Hodgson	01258 837472
Tap Dancing for Men and Women		01258 880523
Yoga	Sue Chapman	01305 848053

Village Hall

Dewlish		
Chairman:	Alex Carter	01258 837312
Sec:	Paul Prickett	01258 839097
Milborne St. Andrew		
Chairman:	Richard Lock	01258 837929
Caretaker/Booking Sec:	Alison Riddle	01258 837030

Computer Access Drop-in Sessions Closed for Christmas!

THE Monday drop-in sessions finished on 14th December. Thank you to all who have visited us over the last 3 months. As the numbers have now dropped off, probably due to the dark evenings, and the dark entrance to the committee room, we will not be restarting until the evenings have lightened a bit! Keep an eye on your *Reporter* for the starting date.

The Friday morning POPP (coffee, cake and computers) finished on 11th December, and will restart after the Christmas break on 8th January 2010. Reluctantly, we have to find extra income to cover the increased cost of the committee room rental. The prices for drinks and Rose's wonderful cakes is still 50p each, but, after a lot of discussion between all the volunteer helpers, there will also be a 50p charge for coming to the POPP session each week.

May we take this opportunity to thank everyone who has supported both groups since we started back in February 2008.

Sue Gould

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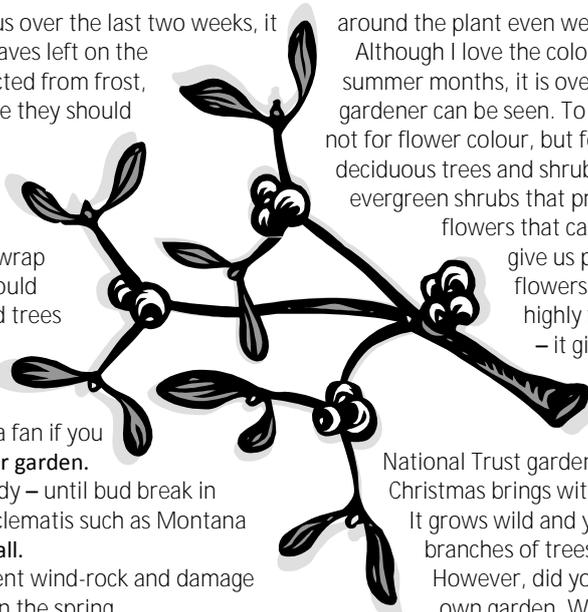


In your Garden Seasonal notes and tips from Maureen Lock of *Designer Gardens* Your Garden in December

WITH the recent gales that have befallen us over the last two weeks, it is not surprising that there are very few leaves left on the trees. Tender plants will need to be protected from frost, excessive wet and wind damage. If possible they should be moved to a frost free place – a cold greenhouse for example. If plants can't be moved, then they will benefit from protection against the elements using fleece and often wrapping pots in bubble wrap will protect them. All your spring bulbs should now be planted and bare root hedging and trees are now available in nurseries. It is best to order them early as most of the popular varieties will soon go. Why not try training a young tree as an espalier or a fan if you don't have the space for a fruit tree in your garden. Leave clematis – even though it looks untidy – until bud break in the spring. Of course, the early flowering clematis such as Montana and Cirrhosa don't need much pruning at all.

Roses should be lightly pruned to prevent wind-rock and damage to the roots – they can be pruned harder in the spring.

This is also the time of year when many herbaceous plants can be divided up and the garden given a good tidy up for the winter. One of the difficulties during the winter is the excessive wet that causes many plants to rot, especially those soft and hairy leaved plants that we like to grow in the summer. Make sure that the area around these plants is well drained, and clear away any debris that will make the ground



around the plant even wetter.

Although I love the colour of the herbaceous perennials in the summer months, it is over the winter months that the skill of the gardener can be seen. To me, the garden now becomes interesting, not for flower colour, but for the beauty seen in the structure of deciduous trees and shrubs; the texture of the bark or the variety of evergreen shrubs that provide berries for the birds or fragrant flowers that can hardly be seen. Cotoneasters and holly give us pretty red berries and the small, insignificant flowers of *Elaeagnus* and *Chimonanthus praecox* are highly fragrant. I love visiting gardens in the winter – it gives you so many ideas of what still looks good at this time of the year. RHS Wisley and RHS Rosemoor are really worth a visit over the winter as are many of the

National Trust gardens.

Christmas brings with it the thought of mistletoe (*Viscum album*).

It grows wild and you can often see it dangling from the bare branches of trees as you drive along in the countryside.

However, did you know that it is quite easy to grow in your own garden. What you need to do is to save some berries after Christmas, and when they have gone soft and rotten in about February/March time, rub them into a cut in the bark on the underneath of an apple tree and cover the cut and the squidgy berries with a mud plaster. You should start to see the plant growing over the year, but be careful who you invite into your garden when the berries appear!!



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info@milborneladybirds.org.uk www.milborneladybirds.org.uk

A linear walk from Winterborne Whitechurch to Milborne St. Andrew

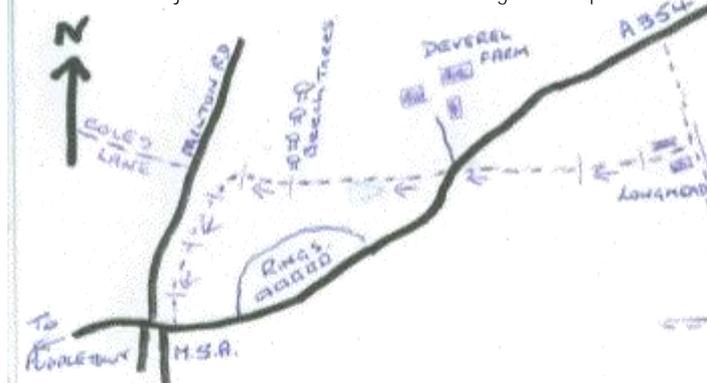
Distance – 4½ miles

Catch Bus – 183/4 from Milborne St. Andrew to Winterborne Whitechurch Bus Times – Monday to Saturday 09.53 or 11.53am Sunday 12.40 pm

WALK back up the A354 to the old garage site, and take the footpath on the left hand side. The path skirts some houses on the left and then follows the line of Rook Lane on your left. At the end of the field turn right and follow the hedge again keeping it on your left.

At the top of the field turn left through a gate/stile and follow a farm track. At the next stile turn right and head for a Dutch Barn. As you reach the barn turn left again on the farm track. This track passes a narrow strip of woodland on your left and about 200 metres after this turn right along a hedge on your right. Ahead of you, you will see a wood. Head for this and bearing left follow the edge of the wood. At the end of the woodland turn right to follow the other side of it. The track descends as you leave the woodland behind. To your right you will see the building of West Park Farm.

At the bottom of the incline you will come to a 'T' junction of tracks. Turn left and walk on for about 800 metres. After you pass Horse Close Plantation on your right you will see a metal gate ahead of you. Go through this and turn right. The path descends slightly for about 400 metres and then joins the Jubilee Trail. Take the right hand path



Keeping the hedge on your right. About 600 metres along this path you will come to a wicket gate on your right. It is on a slight bend in the path. Go through this gate and follow the track until you come to a house on your left. This is Longmead (see note at end). Turn left just past the house and head for a gate next to some farm buildings.

Keep straight ahead passing through two more gates. The second gate is a solid metal one. The path now heads diagonally across the next field. If you stand and look ahead you can see the main road (A354) between a gap in the hedgerow. Head for this. You will now need to cross the road to the entrance to Deverell Farm. Please take great care. Near the farm entrance there is a stile, or slip round the end of the hedge. Ahead of you, you will see two telegraph poles. Head for the right hand one and then the row of beech trees. As you pass the beech

trees on your right head for the houses in Coles Lane. As you cross this field you have a good view of Milborne St. Andrew.

When you get to a high stile cross it and then bear downhill to your left. Cross the next stile before the river and take the path straight ahead toward the back of Brooklands and so into Stileham Bank.

Longmead House

Longmead is a charity which caters for vulnerable families and children. They come to the house for a day or perhaps longer where they live as a community.



“Coast and Country”

A display of watercolour, photography and scraperboard pieces by the artists Mary-Ann Featherstone and Angus Fitchet, The Exchange, Sturminster Newton until 9th January 2010.

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It's a dog's life . . .

IT must be nearly Christmas – the festive lights are blazing in The Causeway and the goose is getting fat (and they've all disappeared from the farm on Milton Road). So you've done all your Christmas shopping, ticked off everyone from the list and the presents are arranged aesthetically around the tree.

But is there a tag on one of them with Rover's name on it? Or is there a stocking with his name on it at the foot of his basket? For £9.99 (plus p&p), you can have a monogrammed stocking with a choice of "Happy Woofmas" or "Santa Paws" emblazoned on it to tuck all of the little gifts you've bought for him. Or perhaps wrapped up under the tree is a 'Luxury Hamper' (£27.99), complete with a box of six 'dogolates' and some 'wuffles' too, so Pooch won't feel left out of the usual Christmas feast on all things sickly. We have Christmas cake . . . so why shouldn't our four-legged friends have the same? Either go for ready-made or a 'Dog Christmas Cake Mix' with liver and carrot – just add an egg and "a little liquid of your dog's preference". Mmmmm. Yes, the market for 'not forgetting your pets' at Christmas is thriving.



The animal welfare charity, The Blue Cross, says that we spend £27m on Christmas gifts for our pets. Their new research reckons that half of dog owners will buy a present for their pet, with women being more likely to be shopping for a little something for Rover than men. But the men who do buy a gift for their dog spend far more cash than women, often spending more on their dog than their wife or girlfriend (ok, I made that last bit up).

Dogs in the North are more likely to receive food treats such as bones and choc drops (cheapskates!) for Christmas, whereas those living down here in the South tend to buy toys or other non-food gifts. So how about a lovely, warm bathrobe for cold, December bathtimes – or maybe just go for the 'Fleece Leisure Coat', both a steal at £16.99, embroidered pet names cost extra. (Admittedly, on the website both of these are modelled by Poodles). I don't think they'll be many whippets in Warrington with either of these in their stockings.

The Blue Cross's research has a serious side to it. Though they acknowledge that it's heart-warming that we include our dogs at Christmas (they're 'one of the family', etc, etc) they're obviously a bit miffed that we spend out on frivolities for our pets whilst there are lots of abandoned and unwanted dogs at this time of year. They're accepting unwanted leads and collars from over-privileged pooches to distribute to dogs of the homeless, to presumably replace the string lead.

I can't say we've ever gone to town on Christmas pressies for our dogs – more often, it's other people who buy for ours. A very good friend would often buy and wrap up a toy for each of our Springers. The last time it was squeaky toys in the shape of crackers (Christmas, not Jacobs). I reckon it must have taken Frankie all of 12 minutes to destroy it and render it squeakless. Still, like a toddler playing in the cardboard box which contained his expensive and soon-discarded toy, he had fun while it lasted.

And if there isn't anything under the tree for them this year, at least there are the turkey leftovers and a good walk to look forward to.

Following worried looks this month, I'd just like to point out that the photograph that accompanied last month's It's a dog's life (baby with slobbering dog) was not my dog or my baby!

Ed Richards

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The pool is hired for 4 sessions a week. Lifeguards supervise all
sessions. RLSS National Lifeguard and Bronze Medallion courses
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children.

Annual Membership

Adults £80. Senior Citizens £60. Juniors (17 and under) £28 as
part of a family, £45 individual.
Children (3 and under as part of a family) free.

Club Sessions

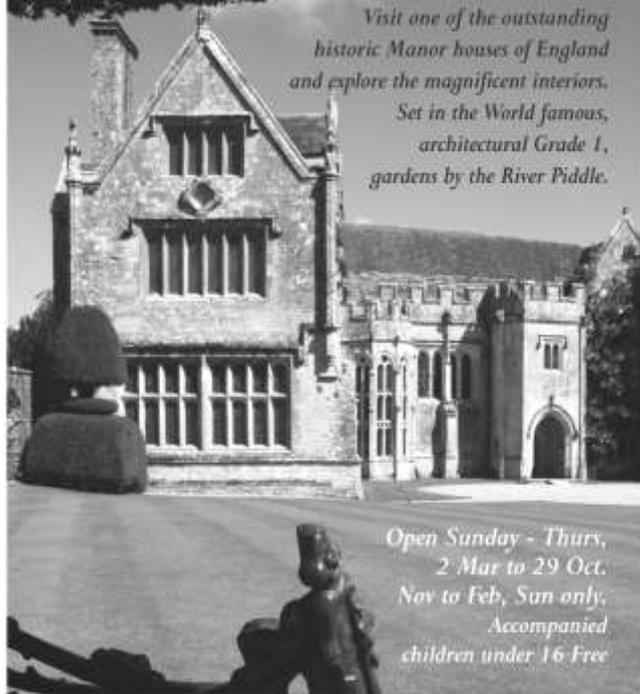
Tuesdays: 7.00 pm - 9.00 pm
Fridays: 7.30 pm - 8.30 pm
Saturdays: 10.00 am - 12.00 noon
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MILBORNE ST. ANDREW FIRST SCHOOL



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SCHOOL NEWS

THE final weeks of the autumn term have been especially busy in school with preparations for Christmas. All of the classes have performed in their Christmas assemblies and the year 4 children in Owls class have performed the nativity at St. Andrew's Church. We are very pleased to be one of the local groups decorating a tree for the church festival this year. The country chosen in school was Spain and Squirrels class have learnt about the Spanish customs at Christmas time. The three wise men feature significantly in these customs, so the children have made small kings to decorate the tree. Earlier this term Friends of School held a very successful Christmas Fayre, which was enjoyed by all. Thank you to members of the Wednesday Club who joined us with a tombola table. Still to come

as this goes to press is the whole school Christmas lunch when Friends of School prepare and serve a full Christmas dinner complete with all the trimmings to children, staff and governors. We can't imagine there are many readers who will envy those who peel all the sprouts!

We do hope in the News Year many more members of the local community will join us at our open events and continue to support the school. In the spring term we will be holding an environmental week and will be seeking help from outside the school with activities – look out for more news in the New Year.

From all at school we would like to wish all readers a very merry Christmas and health and happiness in the New Year.



Owls Christmas assembly.



Making decorations for the Christmas Tree Festival.

CONTACTS

If you require any information about the school, including admissions details for children please contact the school office.

Headteacher: Mrs Anne Purdy, Secretary, School Office: Mrs Helen Pugh
Chair of Governors: Mr George Legg, FOS Chairman: Mrs Angelica Cotterell
e-mail: office@milborne.dorset.sch.uk website: www.milborne.dorset.sch.uk
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As seen on the **BBC**



Parish Council Tax likely to rise

Notes from the Parish Council Meeting 9th December 2009

Snippets of Interest

Residents are urged to report weeds, blocked gullies and potholes to the Parish Maintenance Unit or the Parish Clerk. New arrangements are expected to see problems dealt with more promptly than at present.

Welcome to Peter Anthony who takes over from Anne Snape as our Rights of Way officer.

The Sports Club have submitted plans for lighting from the roadway to the Pavilion, these were agreed.

Our local community policeman Dave Mullins has reported that there was no crime in Milborne St. Andrew in November.

Geoff Cherry has offered to inset a piece of Purbeck Stone in front of the War Memorial into which slots will be cut to accommodate the small memorial crosses. The Royal British Legion is in agreement, as is the Parish Council.

Volunteers are needed to take over the role of Tree Warden, following on from the sterling service of Geoff Cherry over the years.

Thank you for all your work for the Parish Council

Dave Andrews announced at the December meeting that he is resigning after many years of service. There are still several vacancies on the Council, anyone interested?

The Blinking 30mph signs – will they – **or won't they** – be working today?

The Dorset Local Transport Plan has agreed funding to convert the 30mph warning signs to mains electricity before the end of the financial year. This is in response to the Parish Council's representations about the unreliability of the solar and wind powered system.

A Footpath to Nowhere

As you may be aware, there is a made-up footpath off St. Andrews View that leads to a fence! Behind the fence is the established footpath that starts opposite the garage, and finishes at the top of Church Hill. Dave Ackerley, the DCC Rights of Way officer, has been approached by the parish council to investigate the possibility of opening the fence so that the two paths can link up.

White Lines may cure Parking Problems

The council have agreed with Tony Lages of Grays Stores (Londis) to create marked-out parking spaces by painting white lines in the parking area adjacent to the shop. The Parish Council will pay for the work to be done in the hope that more structured parking at the shop will stop cars parking on the roadway outside the shop and causing congestion along Milton Road. Councillor Dave Andrews has volunteered to carry out the task.

Relocating the west-bound bus stop.

There has been discussion about this suggestion at various times over the past few months. The suggestion is that the west-bound bus stop, currently outside Stag House, should be moved to the lay-by in front of the telephone exchange opposite Crown Court. Such a move, it is suggested, would improve the flow of traffic through the village and provide a safer location for those waiting for buses to Dorchester and Weymouth. The Village Survey recorded that 68% of respondents would be in favour of such a move with 19% against (the remainder had no particular view).

Councillor Andrews proposed that the bus-stop should be relocated to the lay-by for a trial period of three or six months. The proposal was not seconded by any of the other three councillors present and so no action will be taken at present.

The *Reporter* has been requested to ask you – the reader – to respond to this with your views. We need the reasons why it should – or should not – be moved.

Water good excuse

Councillor Andrews, as Flood Officer, had been tasked with checking on emergency accommodation in the event of a major flood in the village. The Royal Oak has agreed to take on this role, which, while we hope that we never see the flooding of 2000 again, is a really good excuse to use our local pub.

Land Sale Request

The Parish Council were approached last month by Mr Ferguson from the Business Centre about purchasing the parish-owned field between the Sports Club and the main road. The Parish Council voted to retain the land for future use and agreed, instead, to investigate the possibility of letting the land for grazing

Business Plan

A Business Plan has been set up by the Parish Council, which will be continually updated. This invaluable document will highlight who is responsible for current projects, and the latest position of these projects. This will be made available for the public to view on the village website.

Council Tax in Milborne St Andrew 2010–2011

It is likely that there will be a rise in the Parish Council component of the Council Tax of 4.18%. This increase would be necessary to cover increased administrative costs associated with the running of the Parish Council.

The next Parish Council Meeting is 20th January at 7.30pm in the Village Hall Committee Room.

Sue Gould and Ed Frost

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been the philosophy of the Sports Club Committee after discussions with previous Village Hall chairman June Maitland, that we would do everything possible not to compete with the Village Hall for bookings and indeed on many occasions we have refused to take bookings where we thought we may have been stepping on the toes of the Village Hall.

As previously stated, we much admire the achievements that the Village Hall Committee have made over recent years in developing the Village Hall facility. It is a great shame that this rift has now been caused due to ill informed comments. Surely all of the voluntary organisations within the village should, whenever possible, work together to achieve a common good. Setting one against another cannot be helpful to a village community spirit.

The second point that the statement makes about users from outside of the village is also misinformed. You would be more than welcome to attend our Monday evening table tennis sessions, any of our Football Club training sessions for the youth and the adults or any of our games on Saturdays and Sundays and you would see that there are more locals using the facility and playing sport in the village than there has ever been in the past thirty five years. Indeed, running a village football team in those years has always meant bringing in what you term as outsiders, although many of these outsiders have stronger village connections through family than you may realise.

It is true that our senior adult team has attracted players from outside the area but rather than this be a criticism it is a fact that we are proud that we can attract players of the quality who have achieved top place in Division II of Dorset. This has enabled us to run a second adult team which is primarily for locals. Our youth teams are very much attended by locals, as indeed are the summer soccer schools that we have.

When the Parish Council originally bought the land that is now the Lane End Sports Site they, at the time, realised that any project for the site could not be viable if it were restricted to be just a village facility. Indeed, the ambition and foresight of the Parish Council at that time was from day one for Milborne to be a central and focal point for mid-Dorset, a philosophy we, as a Sports Club, have continued to this day. We do concede that the Village Hall may have a greater variety of user groups. We are, after all, a Sports Club and understand that not everyone plays sport. The village must decide if it wants us to continue to develop the facility and the opportunity for sports for both locals and the wider community, or as we understand has been suggested, for the Parish Council to investigate the possibility of selling the land for social housing using the proceeds from such a sale to support the Village Hall and other village facilities. We would then all gracefully do what our wives have been telling us to do for many years that is stop being silly old fools and hang up our boots.

Yours,

The Sports Club Committee and its members.

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Dorset Intermediate Cup

Milborne Sports 2 Normalair RSL 0

Following their disappointing narrow 2-1 defeat the previous week against a strong Blandford Sports outfit, Milborne faced uncharted territory against Yeovil Premier League opponents in their quest to reach the quarter final of the cup. Normalair had won all ten of their league games to date and started off showing why they had such a good record.

The first fifteen minutes saw them knocking the ball around with confidence and no lack of ability and Gifford was called on to make some good saves supported by some great challenges from the Milborne back four of Heaton, Lambert, Walker and Lochrie. With about seventeen minutes on the clock, Steve Walker's strong clearance hung in the wind and Carl McLements persistence led to him getting past his marker and finishing with aplomb in to the far corner past a helpless keeper. The visitors replied with some good moves down the flanks and after Gifford made a point blank save it looked as though Normalair had equalised only for the linesman to signal that the ball had left the field of play. After a long injury Paul Aston's return was proving somewhat of a baptism of fire but his hard work along with his midfield partners of Karl Tewkesbury, Simon Kibler and Paul Myatt were holding the unbeaten challengers at bay. In what was becoming a pulsating contest the Lane-Enders went in to the break still holding the narrowest of leads.

The second half commenced with Normalair looking determined to get back into the tie but Milborne were showing a tremendous work rate competing for every ball. When young Josh Harmon came on for the injured Heaton he fitted in well at an unfamiliar right back position. Normalair went close on a few occasions and with about fifteen minutes to go looked certain to equalise until Kibler intervened and took the ball to safety.

With about three minutes to go Normalair pushed forward in a last gasp bid to equalise but after Gifford made another fine save Milborne managed to break down the right and McLements coolly rounded his defender before homing in on goal and laying the ball back unselfishly for Chris Pavey to side foot home from close range to **decide the tie in Milborne's favour.**

In what was a wonderful advert for local football Milborne's great team spirit paid dividends with every member playing their part and the man of the match award being a close decision between the outstanding Gifford and the skilful and also competitive McLements.

On the day after Milborne's groundsman, Malcolm Applin, had been named Unsung Sports Hero of the Year for BBC South, the Lane-Enders responded with their best performance to date beating higher league opponents on what was a perfect surface.

Mike Lathbury, Chairman

Quarter Final at home

Following Milborne's cup win they have been drawn against Blandford Sports in the quarter-final on the 16th January at home at Lane End. Blandford are likely to field a very strong team so any Milborne supporters will be welcome in what should prove to be an excellent and indeed competitive game of football. Kick off is likely to be 1.15 pm and refreshments will be available.



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January is always a difficult month for everyone. As a thank you to all of our customers, we are offering a 2 for 1 deal when you order 2 main courses get the cheapest free. This offer is available Monday through Thursday lunch and evenings. All we ask is that you mention this Reporter offer when you book to get the offer.

This offer is available from Monday 4th January to Thursday 11th February

Coming Up . . .

Poker Night - Sunday 17th January at 7.45pm

Following the popularity of our inaugural event in November. Each player starts with a £5 stake, a maximum of 20 players. The person with the most chips wins the pot of up to £100. To play, leave your name and contact details at the bar. Good luck . . .

Indian Evening - Friday 29th January

Our head Chef and his team will prepare a selection of Indian starters and main courses accompanied by all of the usual trimmings. Watch out for the extra hot dish this time!!!

Come and eat as much as you like for only £13.95

Charity Quiz - Sunday 7th February at 7.45pm

As usual, our charity quiz nights will be hosted by Graham Senior. All entry fees (£2 per person) will be donated to The Friends of Dunbury School. Please come and support this worthwhile cause.

Valentines - Saturday 13th and Sunday 14th February

As last year, we will be offering a special four course valentines meal on Saturday evening and a special valentines lunch on the Sunday. Both events come with a gift for your partner.

Book early to avoid disappointment.

Italian Night - Saturday 27th February

For all of you Italian food lovers. Three courses of authentic Italian cooking for only £21.95. Reserve your table now.

Indian Evening

Friday 29th January

Come and try a selection of dishes

To start

Pappadoms served with Am Chatni (sweet mango chutney), Nimboo Ka Achar (lime pickle) and Podma Ka Chatni (mint chutney)

Main courses

Vegetarian Balti Kurma (v)

A reasonably mild dish with a hint of coconut

Lamb Rogon Josh

A medium hot dish with tomatoes and onions in a rich sauce

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