

Reporter

News and Views from around the area

Volume 3 Issue 11

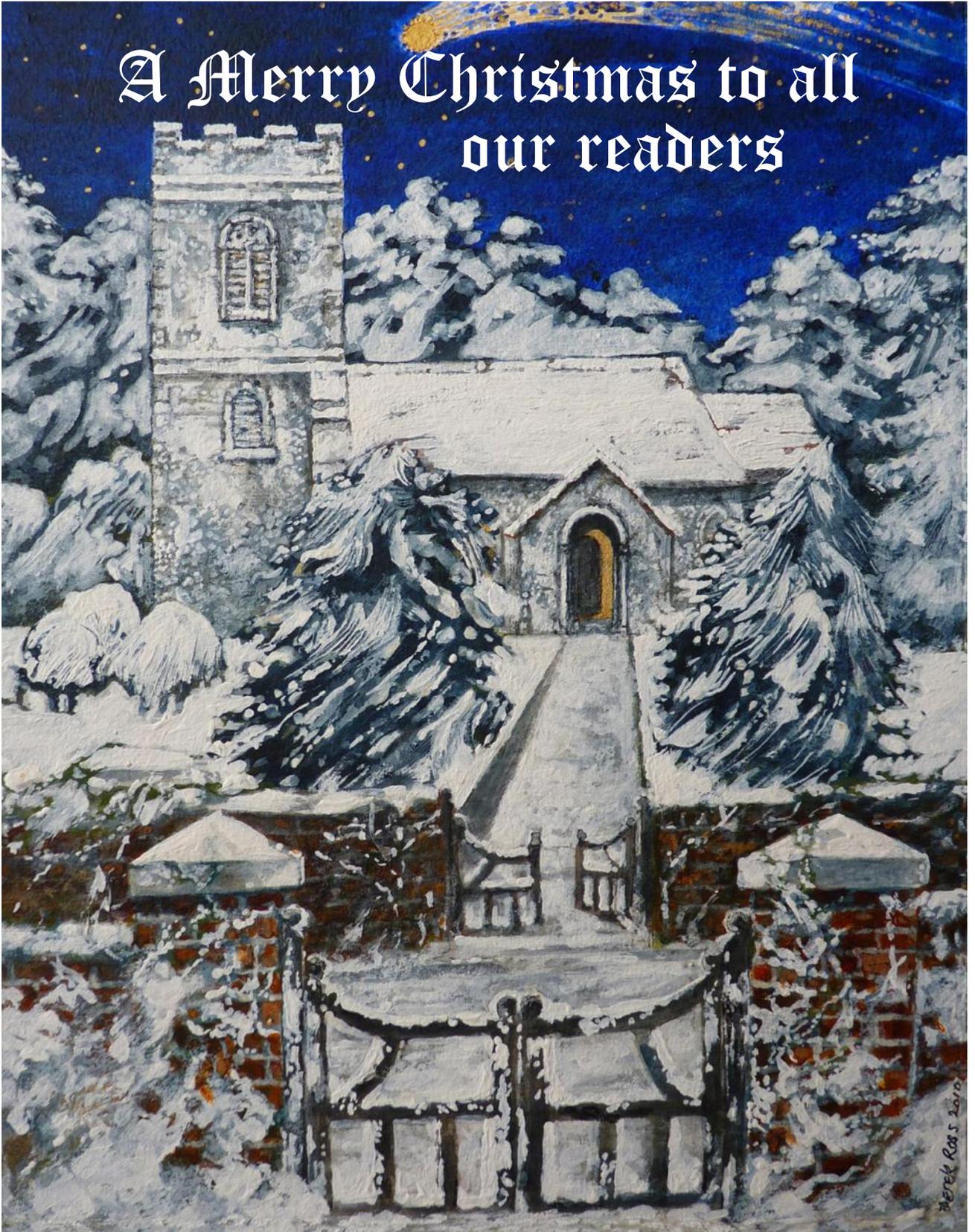
December 2011

www.milbornestandrew.org.uk/reporter



Milborne St. Andrew

A Merry Christmas to all
our readers



The Village Christmas Lunch sold out in record time – so a great big thank you to all our regular diners! Our next village lunch is Saturday 28th January 2012

The Annual General Meeting of the Village Lunch will take place on Friday 20th January at 12 noon at The Royal Oak

All are welcome to attend and if you wish to raise any particular topics at the AGM please telephone me

Melva 01258 837453

A Merry Christmas from the Reporter

THREE years and still going strong, with really positive feedback from most people! To the distributors, advertisers and contributors, thank you to all of you for supporting us so consistently. May we wish you and our readers a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year. Please make sure we have all your copy for the January issue in good time (14th December latest). The magazine should be with you just before or just after the New Year.

Milborne St. Andrew Gardening Club



AT our meeting on the 27th October, members enjoyed a talk by Michael Michaud, who has a Nursery at West Bexington.

He showed us slides of his many immigrant friends who live all over Dorset, together with the strange-looking foreign vegetables they grow. However difficult to obtain the seed and to grow here, these vegetables give them a connection to their native land. They ranged from Chinese melons, Italian borlotti beans, Japanese prickly cucumbers, Jamaican peas and pumpkins, pink tomatoes from Thailand, Bangladeshi squash and even a variety of nightshade grown by a Sikh.

Michael was an entertaining speaker and we all enjoyed his talk. We were able to take home some of the different chillies he grows himself, and to buy some of his specialist seeds.

Members are reminded that our AGM takes place on Thursday 1st December, followed by festive mulled wine and mince pies (no charge, of course). Last year we had to cancel this meeting because of the snow, which is difficult to believe as I write this on a warm November day. Please come along, as the committee want to discuss details for our Annual Dinner in February, and give members some idea of the programme for 2012.

Finally, many thanks to all those who supported our first ever Charity Curling Evening on the 17th November, which we hope everyone enjoyed.

With Best Wishes for Christmas to our members and all Milborners, from the Gardening Club Committee. *Linda Harris*

Search Dogs at Wednesday Club

WE were delighted to welcome to our meeting in November Erica and Matt and their search dogs Freya and Charlie of Dorset Search Dogs. This organisation was started up in 2006 to assist in some of the recovery work done by police dogs when asked to look for missing persons. We were shown the kit all volunteers carry and, in spite of the rain, Erica and Matt hid themselves on the top field,



and it was not long before they were found by their clever and hardworking dogs. It costs about £5,000 a year to keep the groups going and we were happy to give them a donation to this very worthwhile cause.

We look forward to our Christmas meal at the Green Man, Kings Stag following a stop at Sherborne Castle Gardens to admire the fantastic seasonal decorations and gifts.

On behalf of the Committee we wish all our members and friends of the Wednesday Club a Happy and Peaceful Christmas and a healthy New Year *Margaret Evans Photos by Frank Gipps*

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

FRIENDS OF MILBORNE FIRST SCHOOL
CHRISTMAS FAYRE
THURSDAY 1ST DECEMBER 3.00–4.30PM

All copy for the January *Reporter* must be received by the **14th December**. Please send copy via e-mail to misa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk

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Community events at the Village Hall will be advertised free of charge

Other community events at half the above rates for half page or less

Advertising copy **MUST** be received by the 14th of the month

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Advertisers will also be listed in the Business Directory at www.milbornestandrew.org.uk

Your *Reporter* Team

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Enquiries and copy to: misa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk

E-copy as .doc or .pub files, pictures as .jpg files please
Paper copy to Sue Gould at 28 Stileham Bank DT11 0LE

Front cover painting by Derek Ross

THIS month's cover is taken from a painting by local artist Derek Ross who moved to the village just over five years ago. Since he is now semi-retired he has more time to paint and has taken inspiration from the beautiful Dorset countryside to paint several landscapes. He was very happy to help when he was approached to paint a picture of St. Andrew's Church with a view to raising money for church funds.



The painting has been made into a Christmas card, designed by Heather V Hogg, and is on sale at £2.50 for 5 cards. They are available in church, at the Friday Pop-in, or from Eva Stockley and Pat Tribe. The wording inside the card is "Season's Greetings", and on the back of the card it reads:

"St. Andrew's Church in Milborne St. Andrew, Dorset, parts of which date back to the C12th and has some examples of

Norman stonework. Unfortunately the West Gallery and box pews were taken out when it was restored in 1876 by George Street. We still use the C12th Norman font that was ousted into the churchyard by Street and found in 1930 and brought back into the church.

In the sanctuary there is a mural table-tomb of Purbeck marble commemorating John Morton (1527) who was born at Milborne Stileham, and later became Cardinal Morton. There are several memorials in the church to the Morton-Pleydell family.

Thomas Hardy featured Milborne St Andrew as Millpond St Jude in two of his novels."

Milborne St. Andrew Remembers

IT was pleasing to see so many people at the Service of Remembrance on Sunday 13th at the War Memorial by March Bridge.

The weather was kind to us. About 70 people attended the short service in which members of the Royal British Legion read out the names of the fallen in two world wars and remembering those who are still fighting for us today.

Wreaths were laid by Mr Peter Vatcher-Dow and members of the Milborne St. Andrew Scouts and Cubs.

The poem on Flanders Fields by John MacCrea was read by June Maitland and reflected the increasing appreciation and affection that the forces are rightly held in.

In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.

It was good to meet our new vicar Sarah Hillman who led the prayers and gave the blessing.

The Royal British Legion thanks the people of Milborne St. Andrew for their continuing support via the Poppy Appeal and throughout the year. The work of the Legion is needed now as it has been for the last 90 years and for the next 90 years. We are here not only for the fighting men and women but for their families and dependants now and in the future.

Michael Hopper

*Below: 11.00am Friday 11th November Remembrance Day.
Bottom: 11.00am Sunday 13th Service of Remembrance.*

Milborne St. Andrew Village Hall
presents

THE MELLSTOCK BAND

Artsreach

Sunday 4th December at 7.30pm

Tickets £8, £6 (u18s), £25 (family-2 adults max)
on the door (if available) or in advance from
Alice Harrall (01258 837371) or the LONDIS shop

BAR and seasonal refreshments available

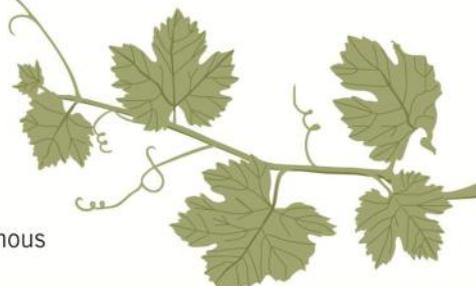


Heathcote House

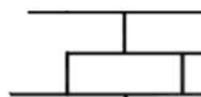
GUEST
ACCOMMODATION
Tel: 01258 837219

Heathcote House is a lovely Grade II listed guest house right in the heart of Milborne St Andrew. We offer a warm welcome and friendly service, all rooms have king size beds, en-suite bathrooms and are tastefully refurbished to a very high standard.

- Aga cooked breakfast served in the conservatory under an old grape vine.
- Guests drawing room with big comfy sofas and log fires in the winter.
- A secluded garden with delightful seating areas.
- The perfect place from which to explore Dorset's unspoilt countryside and famous Jurassic coast a few miles away.



Heathcote House, Milborne St Andrew, Dorset DT11 0JG. Website: www.heathcotehouse.co.uk

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Christmas on the Horizon – at the November WI

IN plenty of time for Christmas, we were delighted to welcome Judith Bridgen along to our meeting to show us how to prepare wreaths, swags and other decorations to celebrate the coming festive season. Judith, an expert practitioner, took her City & Guilds qualification a couple of decades ago. She had raided her Dewlish garden to bring along a tremendous variety of greenery, admitting that, like many of us, she much preferred 'green and natural' to sparkly! Using evergreens of all types, as well as cones, cinnamon sticks, oak leaves, nuts, ribbons and baubles, (*even pasta*) it didn't take long before she had built up various examples and managed to cover two tables with cheerful Christmas decorations. As a final flourish, a pretty gift decoration using five fresh yellow roses was offered as a raffle prize and Sheila Burton was lucky enough to take this home.



Judith Bridgen from Dewlish demonstrating making Christmas wreaths.

Coming up: A **Carol service** at Sturminster Marshall for WI members. Please have a word with Pat Shipton if you can make some mince pies to take along. At the May Fair next year, the WI have offered to run a **jarbola stall**; it's not too early to start gathering jars and filling them with interesting items! Still in the Christmas mood, 5th December is the date of our **Christmas meal** at the Cygnets Restaurant, Weymouth.

Skittles is going well: with five matches played, we have come second three times and won twice. Quote from Jenny Preston – "long may it continue".

June Maitland, reporting as delegate from the Autumn Council meeting, said that it had been a very good day indeed and she had much enjoyed it. Ann Widdecombe in particular had given an entertaining and informed talk, without a note in sight, and had dealt with questions in a similarly efficient way.

At our next meeting on Thursday 8th December, Jo Eccleson will demonstrate *'Makeup and Nail Care'*. Please bring along a plate of food to share, and if you wish to dip into Mother Christmas's sack, a small gift.

Pat Bull

Have you something to share?

Send your stories and pictures to
msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk
or give them to a member of the team.

Entertainment at the Village Hall

The Mellstock Band presents

Hardy Perennials

In association with Artsreach

On Sunday 4th December at 7.30pm
in Milborne St. Andrew Village Hall (DT11 0JX)

*Favourite Music, Songs, Stories and Poems, from the works of
Thomas Hardy and Dorset tradition*

Celebrating 25 years of The Mellstock Band

The Mellstock Band in various line-ups has entertained audiences all over the world, released albums, and provided music for stage, screen and radio.

Their varied interests in research and composition have brought forth forgotten gems and startling sounds, all rooted on English tradition, and over the past twenty-five years some have become firm favourites with band and audiences alike.

They are England's leading exponents of West Gallery style music as well as skilful interweaving of Dorset songs and tunes, together with nicely read prose both in the actorly style of Charles Spicer and in the sweetly executed Dorset dialect of Phil Humphries.

Hardy perennials presents their most popular music and spoken pieces, under the broad headings of Love and Marriage, A Soldier's Life, Rogues and Villains, Speed the Plough, Faith and Superstition and Making Merry. Most of the music is from Dorset tradition, linked by poems and stories from the works of Thomas Hardy and the Dorset dialect poet William Barnes.

The Village Hall and bar is open from 7.00pm and the performance starts at 7.30pm. Mulled wine and plates of nibbles on sale as well as a Bar. Tickets: Adults £8.00/under 18s £6.00/Family Ticket (for 4) £25.00. **Booking essential.** They can be obtained from Alice Harrall on 01258 837371 or from the Londis Village Shop.

Driving Home for Christmas

(Dorchester PDL Theatre Production) on Saturday 10th December at 7.30pm. Doors and Bar 7.00pm. Mulled wine and mince pies on sale. Tickets £6.00 from Box Office 01258 837371/837929 or the Londis Store. See advertisement on page 15.

"Mamma Mia Sing Along" (PG)

presented by 'Flixs in the Sticks' in partnership with 'Film Bank'

at Milborne St Andrew Village Hall (DT11 0JX)
on Friday 30th December at 3.30 pm

Mamma Mia! tells the story of Donna (Meryl Streep), an independent single mother who owns a small hotel on an idyllic Greek island and is preparing for the wedding of her spirited daughter Sophie (Amanda Seyfried). The plot gets underway when Sophie sends a letter to three men, inviting them to her wedding – because after reading her mother's diary, she suspects that one of them is her father. Over 24 chaotic, magical hours, new love will bloom and old romances be rekindled on this lush island full of possibilities.

This Sing-a-long version, Written by Catherine Johnson and Directed by Phyllida Lloyd is based on the Broadway show not the film, so one song missing, but it does feature an array of ABBA's greatest hits, starring Amanda Seyfried, Meryl Streep, Pierce Brosnan and Colin Firth . . . and has simple arrangements, without the often complex harmonies and background riffs of the originals. Inspired by Abba's songs, this is a celebration of mothers and daughters, old friends and new family found. Here's your chance to experience the movie in a whole new way and join in! So get ready to sing along to favourites such as "Dancing Queen", "S.O.S.", "Money, Money, Money", "Take a Chance on Me", "Lay All Your Love on Me", "Voulez-Vous" and many more iconic ABBA songs featured in the film.

This is a matinee so the Village Hall is open from 3.00pm and the film starts at 3.30pm. Tickets £3.00 can be obtained on the door or from Alice Harrall on 01258 837371.



Definitively You
lifestyle matters

Pilates has arrived at the Village Hall

Every Friday
from 3.00 til 4.00pm
£5.00 per class

Learn the method to strengthen
and tone muscle, build and
maintain bone density and
increase your range of movement.

To book call me, Jill, on
07799413850
or visit my website
www.definitively-you.co.uk

Halloween, Fireworks and Poppies

RETURNING after half term break on Halloween the Ladybirds scooped and carved a pumpkin, made scary pictures of spiders, enjoyed dressing up and played in the 'witches den'.

The preschool is decorating one of the boards for the First School hall. We have the month of November and as you can see from the photo the children have enjoyed making firework patterns by splattering black paper. It was amazing how far the paint spots went! Children and staff had coloured flecks to hair, the walls and floor were speckled - don't panic Richard we cleaned it up afterwards! Rockets have been made bedecked with ribbons and sparkling jewels. It currently is a work in progress but is taking shape nicely and we look forward to seeing the work hanging in the School Hall.

The children participated in Armistice Day by making poppy pictures and invited the adults of the Friday morning Drop-in into the main hall to show their achievements.

Liz Dyer



Milborne Ladybirds Playgroup

registered charity no. 1087441

We are a friendly community preschool with highly qualified staff who enthusiastically help children to achieve their potential through fun activities.

"Children are happy and comfortable with staff and choose from a range of activities each day."

Ofsted report 2009

Opening times:

Early birds 8:30 to 9:00, Session 9:00 to 12:00, Lunch club 12:00 to 1:00



Contact Details: Liz Dyer 01258 839117
www.milborneladybirds.org.uk



Milborne St. Andrew First School



Learning together, playing together;
all for one, one for all

School News

ON Tuesday 8th November we welcomed the DASP First Schools to Milborne for our annual year 3 and 4 football festival. Despite grey skies and a little drizzle 16 six-a-side teams competed, whilst the supporters enjoyed hot drinks and cakes from Friends of School. All those taking part in the feast of footballing excellence were rewarded with certificates and our Milborne team ended the afternoon having drawn all 5 of their matches. Our thanks go to Tom Leech and Bob Mowlem who worked tirelessly during the afternoon as referees.



During remembrance week Owls class found themselves imagining what it would have been like to have been evacuated during WW2 on their trip to Nothe Fort. Dressed in their WW2 clothing and with their Spam sandwiches wrapped in brown paper, they all spent time in an air raid shelter, discovered the effects of rationing and learned how some of the basic household chores were completed without the aid of modern technology. Earlier in the week the children had been shown excerpts of the educational DVD



provided by the Royal British Legion and poppies were made available at school for families and friends thanks to Mrs Rose Frost. On the 11th November the school fell silent at 11.00am in recognition of the armistice whilst the children thought quietly of all of those who have given so much to make our lives what they are today.

As part of our continuing 'Trees for Dorset' work, Year 3 recently went on a local leaf walk. They set off on a blustery morning and walked to the Grove, identifying many trees by their leaf shapes, on the way. Having stopped near the old school to look at the walnuts that had fallen and collect more leaves, they then went into the Grove and spent some time at the huge lime tree. This is a Milborne favourite and affectionately known as the 'singing tree' because of the mass of bees which gather there and 'sing' in the summer. The children were most concerned at the damage that this beautiful specimen has sustained from horses eating the bark and are now going to contact the land owners and the Parish Council to ask if a permanent fence of some kind could be erected around this and other vulnerable trees. Sadly the weather began to change as they walked up to the church, where Mrs Featherstone pointed out the award that the church won for its Wildlife area. When the heavens opened everyone had to do a quick march back to school. In spite of being soaked literally to the skin the children remained happy with big smiles on their faces. Back at school, in a damp, steamy classroom the leaf collection was put together to recreate a woodland floor. The children became adept at using a key to identify the leaves and even set up several wormeries to find out which



leaves the worms compost first! We are very grateful to Mrs Featherstone, Mr Ayles and Mr Saunders who braved the elements to accompany the walk and especially to Mrs Simcox who having completed the walk then took a large pile of sweatshirts home to tumble dry!

If you have children who will be starting school in September 2012 please remember that now is the time to be thinking about your school preferences and applying for a place. Full details are available at www.dorsetforyou.com/schooladmissions, however please take the time to visit us at school and ask any questions you may have. Mrs Pugh in the school office will be delighted to arrange a convenient time to visit.

CONTACTS

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

Acting Head: Mrs Audrey Andrews **Secretary, School Office:** Mrs Helen Pugh

Chair of Governors: Mrs Jessica Doodes **FOS Chairman:** Mrs Kate Connolly

e-mail: office@milborne.dorset.sch.uk website: www.milborne.dorset.sch.uk Tel: (01258) 837362 Fax: (01258) 837170



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

Treasured words

“But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart.” (Luke 2.19).

It's a little known verse but one of my favourites.

Mary has given birth to Jesus and has been visited by the shepherds. They have told her about how they had been visited by an angel, who had brought them good news of a Saviour's birth, a Saviour who would be found in a manger. And they told of how they had seen not only one angel but “a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: ‘Glory to God in the highest heaven and on earth peace among those whom he favours.’”

The Bible tells how those who heard the shepherd's story were amazed. We can imagine them having a good old gossip about what they'd heard, chatting it over, wondering what it all meant. I can't believe that the shepherds weren't changed by their encounter with the Christ-child. I'm sure all those who knew them could see a change. When something so out-of-this-world happens, it's impossible not to be affected in some way. Shepherds were usually far removed from the religious structures of the day, but we're told that they went home praising and glorifying God.

When something positive and exciting happens to us, we long to tell people so that they can share our joy.

But Mary, Jesus's mother, didn't do that. She stored up what she'd heard and pondered it. How often do we ponder the things of God and what they mean to us, I wonder. We live in a world where taking time to reflect on things is seen by some as self-indulgent or a waste of time in a busy day. But I suggest that if we are to be people complete in soul as well as body, time for pondering is a necessity. It helps to keep our lives in balance, and gives us a chance to hear the voice of God.

Advent, which begins on 27th November, is a time of getting ready. We begin our preparations for Christmas. However I'm not just thinking of all the present-buying, card-writing, food shopping and so on that we feel has to be done before we can celebrate. Above all it is a period of watching and waiting for the coming of the Christ-child. If we are to receive him, then our hearts need to be ready as well as our houses.

It's good to have parties and meals together. After all, Christmas is a great celebration. But we don't need any of those things in order to prepare for Christmas. Behind all the glitz and glamour is a profound mystery on which we do well to ponder. We will never be able to fully understand the depths of God's love while we remain on this earth, but we can begin to know more fully what it means for us when we take time to reflect and pray.

So let's join in the celebrations of the shepherds this year, but let's also follow Mary's example and take time to treasure what we know of God and to ponder it in our hearts.

With best wishes

Sarah Hillman

MILBORNE ST. ANDREW CHURCH NOTES

The fruits of the spirit

AT the October Milborne Praise we were “rooted in Jesus”. We stuck some beautiful autumn leaves on a big drawing of a tree, and then, on paper leaves, wrote one of the “fruits of the spirit” that we would like to have such as kindness, patience, love. These were added to the tree whose roots went deep into the ground holding the tree firm and bringing nourishment – just as Jesus does for us.

From Elizabethan dances to The Beatles

On 29th October in church the audience was entertained by music from the Purbeck Recorder Consort and Celeste. The consort members, under the leadership of David Cook, played a variety of recorders from soprano to bass, their repertoire ranging from Elizabethan dances through folk songs and rags to The Beatles. Celeste (Marion Bishop and Nicki Brunt) sang most delightfully and their choice of music led us from Cole Porter to Sibelius. They were ably accompanied by Rosie Coldwell. With wine and nibbles in the interval it was a most enjoyable evening and raised £206 for the “Flush Fund”. Very many thanks to all who helped in any way.

CHURCH SERVICES December 2011

Thursday 1st December

12 noon Lunch-time Communion Milborne

4th December – Advent 2

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

11th December – Advent 3

8.15am 1662 Said Communion Puddletown
9.30 Parish Communion Milborne
11.00 Family Service Puddletown
Village Hall
Dewlish

6.00 pm Joint Carol Service Tolpuddle

Charity Carols

11th December

7.00 pm Carols in the Square Puddletown
8.00 pm The Blue Vinney Puddletown

13th December

7.30 pm The Royal Oak Milborne

Thursday 15th December

12.00 noon Lunch-time Communion Puddletown

18th December – Advent 4

9.30am Family Communion Tolpuddle
9.30 1662 Said Communion Milborne
3.00pm Carol Service Dewlish
4.00 Christingle Praise! Milborne
Church
6.00pm Carol Service Puddletown

Thursday 22nd December

7.30p.m. Carol Concert/Service Milborne

CHRISTMAS EVE

4.00pm Crib Service Tolpuddle
5.00 Crib Service Puddletown
11.30 1662 Midnight Mass Milborne
11.30 Midnight Mass Puddletown

CHRISTMAS DAY

9.30am Holy Communion Dewlish
9.30 Holy Communion Tolpuddle
10.00 Christmas Family Service Milborne
11.00 Christmas Family Service Puddletown

MORNING PRAYERS

(Monday – Thursday 8.15am; Saturday. 9.00am)
Monday – Puddletown Tuesday – Tolpuddle
Wednesday – Milborne Thursday – Dewlish
Saturday – Puddletown

Church Cleaning – w/e Saturday

3rd December Ed and Rose Frost
10th December Sue Lee and Val Hodges
17th December Josie Wright and Pat Tribe
24th December Carolyn Martin and
Elizabeth Walker
31st December Margaret Hurley and
Eva Stockley

During October too we had some more good fund-raising for the "Flush Fund": Pat Shipton's Coffee Morning and Pam Shult's Pamper Evening all helped to swell the funds. We also received some donations. Thank you, everyone, for your help and support.

Help offered – and needed

Does anyone need a lift to church? If you have difficulty getting there or need transport when the Benefice Service is at another church, we can arrange transport for you. Please contact Eva (Tel: 01258-837468) or Pat (837684).

Is there anyone who would be willing to help with church cleaning? The cleaners work in pairs and it is not onerous as each pair's turn comes round only every seven weeks. With more cleaners, the turns would come round even less frequently! If you can help, please ring Carolyn Martin on 837136.

A miscellany of Christmas matters

- We have a **Father Christmas outfit** that can be hired at £10 a time. It is generously sized and consists of a hooded jacket with belt, trousers, sack, wig and beard. Father Christmas would need to provide his own wellies – and presents. If anyone would like to hire it, please contact Pat Tribe on 01258 837684.
- **Church Christmas Cards** are selling well. We have them for sale in church each Sunday at £2.50 for a pack of 5.
- On Tuesday 13th December St Andrew's Church will be welcoming **Milborne First School** for their **Christmas Service** at 6.00pm.
- There will be a **Combined Concert and Carol Service** in St. Andrew's on Thursday 22nd December at 7.30pm. "JUBILATE" – an informal group of singers will entertain during the first half with a mixture of carols and Christmas songs – all presented in Dickensian costume. During the interval we will be serving nibbles, wine and soft drinks. The second half will be audience participation in a programme of traditional carols and readings. Entry is free but there will be a collection to cover costs and church funds.

PCC report: Building work to get under way

Pat and Eva reported at the latest PCC meeting on the roof repairs which will be taking place shortly, this work having been identified in the quinquennial report. We have been given a grant from the Dorset Historic Churches Trust which almost covers the cost of these repairs.

Building of the toilet and kitchenette should also be starting in the new year. We have accepted a builder's quote for £36,398 +VAT (which is recoverable). On top of this will be architects' fees, NDDC fees for buildings regulations, Wessex Water for connections to sewer and water supply and some expenses for setting up the kitchenette. We are looking at a total cost of around £42,000.

Church Contacts

Priest in Charge Sarah Hillman 01305 848784
E-mail: sarah.c.hillman@tesco.net

Associate Priest Sarah Godfrey 01258 839067

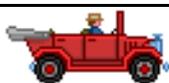
Church Wardens

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

www.milbornestandrewchurch.org.uk

Flowers – w/e Saturday

Advent No flowers 24th December All helpers please



Do you need a lift to church?

If you have difficulty getting to church or need transport when the Benefice Service is at another church, we can arrange transport for you. Please contact Eva (837468) or Pat (837684).



We have had a grant from The Erskin Muton Trust of £15,000 and are awaiting a reply on an application to Viridor. We still have some fund-raising to do to meet our target.

The Diocesan Faculty allows us to sell the pews which we removed to make room for this work. We now have five pews for sale. Anyone interested should contact Eva or Pat. If you visited our Christmas Market on 19th November you would have been able to view a display of the plans informing you of this work.

Eva Stockley (837468) and Pat Tribe (837684) (Churchwardens)

DEWLISH CHURCH NOTES

A really busy schedule for December

FOLLOWING the recent "Ride and Stride" day I am delighted to report that £1,436 was sent to Dorset Historic Churches Trust, of which £718 will be returned for Dewlish Church funds. This is a magnificent sum so, once again, many thanks to our cyclists and all who gave so generously.

We have a really busy schedule for December and, although we have still to make final arrangements at our PCC meeting, here is our programme:

- 1 On Saturday 3rd December we are holding our **Christmas Bazaar** in the Village Hall, starting at 2.30pm. The stalls will include new goods, cakes and produce, bric-a-brac, toys and Christmas decorations, and there will also be a raffle and refreshments. We look forward to seeing everyone and will be grateful for any donations for stalls, etc.
- 2 Our **Carol Service** is on Sunday 18th December at 3.00pm in All Saints' Church. This will be followed by refreshments in the Village Hall.
- 3 We shall be **Carol Singing** around the village on Tuesday 20th December, meeting at the crossroads at 6.30pm. Please bring a torch! The proceeds will all be donated to a charity chosen by the PCC.

NB: The annual Village Hall **Christmas Bingo** session will be held on Monday 5th December. Eyes down at 7.00pm.

May you all have a blessed and happy Christmas.

Daphne Burg



Olympic Flame coming to Milborne



Guess what – our village is on the torch route! And it looks like there will be a runner coming through the village on Thursday 12th July 2012. Have a look on the website for more information (www.london2012.com/torch-route). What a wonderful excuse for a village party! Keep the *Reporter* informed of what you are doing.

Milborne 100 Club

1st PRIZE £100 2nd PRIZE £50
3rd PRIZE depends on number of members paid

For information contact:

John Sanderson Football Club 837049
June Maitland Church 837235
Pat Tribe Church 837684
Denise Sanderson Collector 837049

Results of the 23rd November Draw will be published in the January *Reporter*.

The next draw is at 8.00pm, in The Royal Oak, on Wednesday 28th December.

Everyone is welcome to attend

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Dear Editor

I write in response to the article in last month's Reporter by Rose Frost who was offering to help, and actively encouraging, villagers to shop on-line at Tesco. Does she know that there are two similar schemes already operating in the village – they are called the village shop and post office – where you can quote 'bring your shopping list and credit or debit card' unquote and actually shop in your own village? When both the post office and village shop are struggling to keep afloat how does an offer like this help the village community on a long term basis?

Obviously small village stores cannot offer the same range as the large multiples but do not assume that our prices are vastly more expensive for the essentials! Lottery, newspapers, magazines, fruit and vegetables, medicines, bacon, stamps, cheese etc etc are the same price as the larger supermarkets and with the dreaded Tesco being a round trip of nearly 20 miles the petrol costs (and carbon emissions) should also be factored into your shopping bill! If you shopped locally for just these essentials it would help your village shops to stay in business.

Both shops contribute to the local economy by employing over a dozen villagers on a part time basis. Further, a recent survey stated that a village shop can put as much as £5,000 onto the selling price of your house. Your village

shop is already doing its part by staying open 76 hours per week and offering free delivery so why not support both the Londis and the Post Office on a regular basis and help to keep the village thriving.

Tony Lages, Gray's Stores

Dear Editor

Milborne St. Andrew Wednesday Club

Thank you to you all for the warm welcome and the donation.

Matt Cooke, Dorset Search Dogs

Dear Editor

A big thank you to the owners of the new MSA Cars Ltd next to the Royal Oak for allowing some of their front forecourt to be used as a pedestrian walkway. As a result of their thoughtfulness I am sure that a lot of passers-by have a much safer walk along that narrow length of the main road.

Melva Coe

Ask Millie
– your problems
solved



Last month's problems

In reply to the problem of the daughter who is always on her computer.

I have received some information from Milborne First School with reference to our children using the internet. All schools in this area are actively helping children and their families to stay safe on the internet. At school inappropriate websites are blocked and you can do the same on your home computer. The school, your internet service provider or computer expert will be only too willing to help, and there are several websites such as thinkuknow.co.uk that provide advice.

Remember too that many mobile phones can connect to the internet. However, the most important thing is to talk to your children about what they are doing on the internet and not say anything that will make them go secret about it. It is also important that nobody puts important personal information about themselves or others

onto the internet. The Reporter hopes to print an article soon about using the internet safely.

In reply to the lady who finds it hard to manage at Christmas.

Millie says – The commercial side of Christmas is a penny pinching time for most of us – isn't it time we thought how we are pressuring each other to spend more and more? What happened to the pleasure of giving homemade presents – jam, marmalade and cakes?

Dear Millie

Where has our stream gone? We have had lots of rain recently, but the stream is still dry.

Millie says – I have been told this is nothing to do with closing of the sluice gates at the lake which has been widely rumoured, but some farmers have been allowed to extract water thus dropping the volume and not letting it get as far as us. It is quite alarming to see a dry stream bed, but hopefully it will return to normal soon.

Dear Millie

At the end of November, I was trying to walk the footpath along from Stileham Bank. It started well, but as soon as I got into the fields I was forced to turn back as the path was overgrown with brambles and nettles. I am not one of those walkers who think shorts and flip flops are walking gear, I wear sensible clothing and boots. If we don't or can't walk our footpaths at least once a year, we may lose them. What can we do to help keep the footpaths clear?

Millie says – We do have people who clear our footpaths, but weeds grow quickly and I know many hands make light work!!

Dear Millie

I have heard that the street lights in the village might be turned off at 1.00am to save money, as money is short. Why don't they get on with it?

Millie says – Well, what are your views?

Report on the Parish Council Meeting 16th November

IT seemed a bit thin on the ground at the Village Hall with apologies from three Parish Councillors and only five parishioners.

District Councillor Jane Somper updated the council on the Localism Bill and the responsibilities that the Parish Councils have within this new bill. It seemed that the PC must communicate with the parish on matters of the community right to challenge, the right to buy, the right to approve or veto excessive council tax rises and neighbourhood planning strategy to name but a few new freedoms for communities that will be led by the Parish Council.

Three planning applications were approved and it was agreed that the Parish Council meetings would continue to be held at the

village hall. The clerk reported on the response that she had received following a query about the bus service to and from Blandford. Mr John Cumming a transport development officer for Dorset Passenger Transport replied. "In early 2012 Damory Coaches will be taking over the contract from Wilts & Dorset and at this time they will be looking at the service for revisions to the journey's provided". If recent local headlines are anything to go by we will be lucky to get buses at all.

Other items on the agenda were the stream, winter maintenance, an invitation to a public exhibition about finding traveller and gypsy sites in Dorset, the digital switchover and lets hope that the Olympic Torch gets a better response from the village than it got at the meeting, but then again maybe I am alone in thinking that a national event happening in little old Milborne is cause for celebration. Jo

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The Milborne Players

www.milborneplayers.org.uk

"Pirates are a'comin"

"Treasure Island" is now in rehearsal and things are moving along nicely. Having rehearsals for the whole cast alternate weekends seems to be working well and is giving the younger cast and the adult principals a good chance to mix and learn together, particularly the music. Sam Ryall was with us for the first two weekend rehearsals which got the music off to a good start. For me, as Director, I am having a great time and I am sure that you will too. So come on get those tickets booked for the must see Panto for 2012. Tickets will go on general sale 4th January 2012 but you can make advance bookings via the Ticket Master himself, Sid Coe (01258 837453) anytime from now.

With season's greetings.

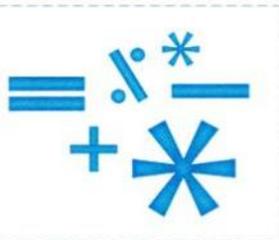
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Friends of Milborne First School

FRIENDS of Milborne First School support the school financially to give the children the extras that form part of their education including school trips, resources and play equipment.

We are looking for volunteers in the community to join our charity, so if you would be able to spare a little time please contact us through the school office. It may be that you will have a child coming to our school in the future or perhaps you have past experiences with the school – either way we would love to hear from you and involve you in our fun fundraising activities.

THE RURAL 'G'

Homewatch Newsletter

Police holding two surgeries in Milborne St. Andrew

Friday 2nd December from 10.00am to 2.00pm
Wednesday 7th December from 4.00 to 8.00pm

This is to help support the community and try and address any concerns residents may have around their home security. You may recall we had a spate of Dwelling Burglaries around the same time last year and we are trying to help the community act now to support themselves and try and avoid people becoming victims of crime.

We hope to be near the Londis shop but this is yet to be confirmed. If it is not possible to go there, we will be in another very obvious and accessible location in the village.

The Blandford Yuletide Festival

Planning for this year's Blandford Yuletide Festival is gaining pace. Blandford Forum will again come alive with colour and sound on the evening of **Wednesday 14th December** for resident and visitor alike, when the town centre is closed to traffic and the Christmas season is welcomed in with a Yuletide Festival that will see a Parade of lanterns made by local schools, carols in the Market Place, street markets of food and craft, live music and dancing in the streets, Father Christmas, fairground attractions and shops opening late. The evening will be topped off by a special **fireworks display** above the town streets at **8.45pm**. This will all take place in safety, as the town will be closed to traffic for the duration of the event.

The new PACT priority for Blandford Rural South is;



The manner and speed of tractors travelling between Winterborne Whitechurch and Winterborne Stickland

Anyone wishing to report a crime should call on 101
Anyone wishing to report an incident in progress, that requires urgent Police action, for example suspicious circumstances happening now, should call 999.

The quicker Police get good information, the faster we can positively act on it. All information is treated with care and it is all put together to form a big picture. Please call us with any information you have, no matter how small it seems. It might be the final piece of the puzzle!

Incidents in Milborne St. Andrew during October

6th	Theft – Water Board inspection cover	Little England
10th	Burglary – Sheds etc – No access gained	Chapel Street
11th	Burglary – Sheds etc – Nothing taken	Sports Pavilion
11th	Burglary – Non dwelling – Safe taken	Business Centre

Luke Goddard, PCSO 5389, Blandford SNT

Top tips for Christmas Decorations

By Susie Edwards

1. When displaying holly on its own in a vase use damp sand as a medium to hold it in place. Holly being an evergreen loses its leaves as the sap and the temperature rises in the spring and so standing stems in water in a warm house simulates spring has come and it thus tends to drop its leaves before the Christmas season is over. In less warm environs like in a church for instance the effect of water is not so apparent. If using it with flowers you just have to hope for the best!
2. Cut berried holly early before the birds get there. Put into a hessian sack and leave outside. Throw a bucket of water over the sack a couple of times. Do tie up the sack or those pesky mice will have a go! Evergreens will keep really well, months in some cases, when left outside in water even with frost and ice, so gather early on a fine day.
3. Red flowers attract a high demand at Christmas and prices rise steeply in the last week. The light levels mean the growers must augment their crops with extra lighting and heating thus also adding to the cost. If last winter was anything to go by we were lucky to get anything. The quality was really poor but it was only to be expected with what the weather threw at us. If you have a suitable dark frost free place to keep flowers, buy a week ahead. Carnations, lilies, chrysanthemums, even good quality long stemmed roses will keep very well. Short bunch roses are not so good at this time of the year.
4. Amaryllis will keep dry for a week as long as they have not been previously cut and put in water. Buy them in tight bud stage two weeks ahead. Lay them in a closed cardboard box on the floor of a garage perhaps, a cold frost free place – avoid a shed which might heat up during the day if the sun came out! Cut them and place in water when you need them. Bring them in four/five days before Christmas, depending on the heat of your house – difficult to gauge – but if they develop too fast, put them out in the cool again but this time keep in water. Each time a floret dies, remove it to encourage the buds to develop. Shed pollen looks like spilled cigarette ash on the petals so remove the anthers while still immature!
5. Mount candles on cut down kebab skewers – bamboo are the best as they are water resistant. Use wide Anchor tape – the sort used to secure foam into a container – and make a 'picket' fence with the tape and sticks. Roll tightly onto the end of the candle. This way you can insert the candle into foam without making a huge hole in the foam. **Always extinguish a candle in an arrangement when you leave the room unattended. Many evergreens contain resin and volatile oils and very easily catch fire.**

Beware of another scam

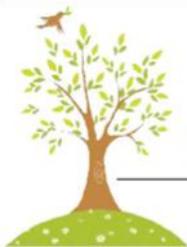
POLICE are warning the public to be aware of another scam involving landline telephones.

A person claiming to be a BT employee calls an individual's home. The caller states that there is an outstanding sum to be paid on the telephone bill which must be paid over the phone immediately by credit card, otherwise the line will be disconnected and a reconnection fee will be charged together with the arrears at a later date.

If the caller is asked to prove their identity they will ask the individual to hang up and try to call someone else. On doing so the scammer will press their mute button and stay on the line, thus giving the impression that the line is dead and that no outbound calls can be made. It is this part of the deception which is causing concern as many believe that the caller is a genuine BT employee who is able to access their telephone line.

This scam is not about obtaining the sum requested in the call. Instead, the credit card details taken by the scammer will be used to make far larger purchases.

Please remember: NEVER give your credit card number or any other personal details to unsolicited callers. If you are suspicious about a call you should contact the police on 101.



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Busy Bees Hive Alive!

MANY thanks to all the new faces and continued support of the old 'workers' who have managed to drone out the 'death knell' that Busy Bees was under. We are pleased to say that the attendance of children has increased, and several successful events have occurred over the last few months that has provided an encouraging future



for Busy Bees Under 5's Playgroup, which is also a registered charity. We have held a Teddy Bear's Picnic where the children were encouraged to bring their favourite cuddly toy and enjoy a family



orientated picnic together. October saw the children dress up in Halloween fancy dress, and further themes and art activities are planned for the future.

Festive sessions will include making Christmas Cards, Tree Decorations and Christmas Cake decorating, and a surprise visitor from the North Pole will be buzzing in to our Christmas Party! We meet every Thursday at the Sports Pavilion between 9.30-11.30am, and anyone with children under the age of five is welcome to attend our friendly session where toys and snacks are provided. Further information and planned activities can be viewed on our website at www.busy-bees.org.uk.

Hayley Davis

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Website: www.busy-bees.org.uk
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Ten ways to a (sort of) stress free Christmas!

1. Set a budget and more importantly stick to it! This applies to presents, food and parties as January is grotty enough without having huge bills landing on the doorstep as well.
2. Unless you have the will power of an olympic athlete and you are on a diet or healthy living plan then give it up for four weeks as you will either be really hard on yourself when tempted to the mini Yorkshire puds, mince pies or mulled wine or really upset with yourself for eating the lot anyway!
3. As well as stocking up on batteries, medicines and chocolate make sure that there is enough gin/champagne/elderflower cordial in the cupboard so when the kids/parents have gone to bed you can treat yourself to a nice bath and a quiet glass of what you fancy.
4. Christmas is a time for giving but not everyone in your address book needs a presie! Prioritise your gift list and stick to it. Secret Santa is a great way for committee, one's group and workplace friends to all get gifts.
5. Do you really need to cook a whole turkey! We are all guilty of buying a whole bird just for the sake of it so why not go for a stuffed crown or ditch the roast altogether and have an alternative Christmas dinner, try turkey Chilli or a curry instead. The same goes for the amount of food we buy at Christmas – most of it goes to waste so be realistic – do you really need six packets of dates?
6. If it ain't broke don't fix it! Why change habits of a lifetime just because the magazines are telling you to! Christmas Day is all about your family traditions so if you have always had lunch at 1.00pm then have lunch at 1.00pm because let's face it no matter how you jazz it up someone will be snoring in front of the TV by 5.00pm.
7. Resign yourself to the fact that if you have young children the only person who will be able to keep a list of who bought what gift is you so be organised and make sure that you have a pen and paper.
8. Don't overindulge on Christmas Eve if you have lots of people coming for lunch as you will not be able to stay in bed and sleep it off the next morning.
9. Do overindulge on Christmas Eve if you have no one coming for lunch on Christmas Day as you will be able to have the pleasure of turning off your phone, staying in bed and eating all the chocolate orange and mint matchsticks yourself whilst saying "Bah humbug" very loudly to none in particular!
10. If in doubt go to the pub it's open from 12 noon till 2.00pm for drinks!



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Why is the stream dry?

THE Chair of the Parish Council has investigated the lack of water in our village stream, called "Bere Stream". It used to be called a "Winterborne", but several years ago was redesignated as a river, because it had consistently flowed for many years. Councillor Janet Allen met with the Environment Agency Officer. It was confirmed



that the stream starts at the springs in the Milton Abbas Lake, and there could be some restriction on the water flow. Also that several farmers have extraction rights upstream of the village. The problem has been reported to the Environment Agency, who will investigate. However, the prime reason, Mrs Allen has been told, for the lack of water, is that the water table is very low due to low rainfall.

Sue Gould

See also page 20 to help answer this question – Ed.

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Buyers from 10.00am*

*Tuesday 6th – Christmas Bingo
eyes down at 8.00pm*

*Tuesday 13th – Carol Singing with
The Weatherbury Singers at 7.30pm*

*Saturday 17th Christmas party night with
Christmas Draw at 8.00pm followed by
music from Equilateral*

*Sunday 25th open 12noon til 2.00pm
for drinks*



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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	Emma Parker	01258 881631
	Jane Somper	01258 471089
Parish Council – Dewlish	Clerk: Pat Gubbins	01258 881348
	Chair: Mike Claydon	01258 837314
Parish Council –	Clerk: Joyce Holman	01202 880512
Milborne St. Andrew	Chair: Janet Allen	01258 837551

General – Adult

Computer Drop-in Centre	Rose and Ed Frost	01258 837921
Ladies Group – Dewlish	Judith Bridgen	01258 837157
Memory Lane Swing Band	Gilly Pink	01258 837695
M.A. Neighbourcar	Nigel Hodder	01258 881709
Wednesday Social Club	Margaret Evans	01258 450518
Women's Institute	Linda Wright	01258 839255

General – Youth

Beavers	Mike Mullett	01258 839076
Cub Scouts	Mike Mullett	01258 839076
Hazelnuts out-of-school club	Hazel Barrett	01305 848588
Ladybirds (Playgroup)	Liz Dyer	01258 839117
Scouts	Mike Mullett	01258 839076
Under 5's Group – The Busy Bees	Hayley Davis	07919 156578
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	01202 223003
	PCSO Luke Goddard	or 07825 521850

Or email blandfordruralsouthSNT@dorset.pnn.police.uk

School

Milborne 1st School		
Acting Head:	Audrey Andrews	01258 837362
Chair Governors:	Jessica Doodes	
Friends of School Chair:	Kate Connolly	

Special Interest

Bellringers	Pip Bowell	01258 837329
Food and Wine Society	Maureen Lock	01258 837929
MSA Friendly Art Group	Elaine Anthony	01258 837089
MSA Gardening Club	Sally Dyer	01258 837061
Milborne Players	Roy Sach	01258 837033
Ranters' Folk Session	Roger Harrall	01258 837371
Round Robin Ramblers	Ian Bromilow	01258 880044

Sport

Abbey Swimming Club	Pat Cowan	01258 880601
Adult Tap Dancing Milton Abbas	Libby Goodchild	01305 268029
Archers – Crossways	Sheila Ryall	01258 837504
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 Club – Milton Abbas	Andy Smith	01258 880310
Cricket – Junior (U11 – U13)	Andy Smith	01258 880310
Football – Adult	Matt Hall	07846 262717
Football – Reserve Team	Tom Lane	07786 156335
Football – Under 15s	Glenn Chadwick	07766 542600
Football – Under 11s	Bob Mowlem	01350 751930
Modern Sequence Dancing	Grace Davies	01258 837261
Running Group	Anne-Marie Pearson	01258 837057
Skittles – Dewlish	Frank Ross	01258 837366
Sports Club		
Chairman:	Jenny Balcon	01258 837121
Bookings:	Alice Harrall	01258 837371
Table-tennis	Sandra Shannon	01258 837253
Tap Dancing for Men and Women		01258 880523
Yoga	Sue Chapman	01305 848053

Village Hall

Dewlish		
Chairman:	Alex Carter	01258 837312
Sec:	Alex Carter	01258 837312
Milborne St. Andrew		
Chairman:	Richard Lock	01258 837929
Booking Secretary	Alice Harrall	01258 837371

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Community Events Diary

Add your event to this diary by contacting the **Reporter** – tel: 01258 837957 or email: msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk

November

Sunday 27th **Advent Carol Service** and St. Andrew's Patronal Festival St. Andrews Church 6.00pm.

December

Thursday 1st **Christmas Fayre** Friends of Milborne First School 3.00–4.30pm. *All welcome.*

Friday 2nd **Youth Club** Village Hall 6.30–8.30pm.

Saturday 3rd **Ladybirds Baby Sale** The Royal Oak 10.00am.
Christmas Lunch Village Hall 12.15pm. Sold out.
Christmas Bazaar Dewlish Village Hall 2.30pm – see page 9.

Sunday 4th **The Mellstock Band** present **Hardy Perennials** Village Hall 7.30pm. – see pages 3 and 5.

Wednesday 7th **Wednesday Club** Christmas Lunch outing.

Friday 9th **Father Christmas and Rudolf** touring the village in the evening – see page 33.

Saturday 10th **Driving Home for Christmas** Village Hall 7.30pm – see page 15.

Tuesday 13th **Charity Carols** with The Weatherbury Singers The Royal Oak 7.30 pm.

Friday 16th **Youth Club Christmas Party** Village Hall 6.30–8.30pm – see page 27.

Sunday 18th **Carol Service** All Saints' Church, Dewlish 3.00pm – see page 9.

Thursday 22nd **Combined Concert and Carol Service** St. Andrew's Church 7.30pm – see page 9.

Saturday 24th **1662 Midnight Mass** St. Andrew's Church 11.30pm.

Friday 30th **Mamma Mia Sing Along** Village Hall 3.30 pm– see pages 5 and 18.

Regular Bookings at the Village Hall

Ladybirds Playgroup Monday–Friday 8.30am–1.00pm MH (term time only)

Beavers Monday 6.00–7.15pm MH (term time only)

Scouts Monday 6.00–8.00pm CR/MH

Players Monday 8.00–10.00pm MH

ABC Line dancers Tuesday 7.30–10.00pm MH

Cub Scouts Tuesday 5.45–7.15pm MH (term time only)

MSA Friendly Art Group second and fourth Wednesday 7.00–9.00pm CR

Wednesday Club first Wednesday 2.30–4.30pm MH

Gardening Club fourth Thursday 7.30–10.00pm MH

Karate Thursday 5.10–6.40pm MH

Village Hall Committee third Thursday 8.00–10.00pm

Women's Institute second Thursday 7.30–10.00pm

Coffee, Cake and Computers Friday 10.00am–12.00 noon CR

Youth Club first and third Friday 6.30–8.30pm MH

Sequence Dancing third Saturday 7.30–10.30pm MH

Village Lunch last Saturday of the month 12.15–2.30pm MH

Milborne Praise! third Sunday 4.00–5.30pm MH

Artsreach Events – look out for the posters.

Check Village Hall Notice Board for any other events that are one off for you to join in with.

Youth Club Dates for 2012

Meetings at the Village Hall from 6.30–8.30pm.

January	6th	20th	
February	3rd	24th	
March	9th	23rd	
April	20th		
May	9th	18th	
June	1st	15th	29th
July	13th		

Milton Abbas and Milborne St. Andrew Surgery appointments timetable

AM 9.00am– 11.00am PM 4.00am– 6.00pm	MILTON ABBAS		MILBORNE ST. ANDREW	For urgent problems needing advice or attention on the same day we offer a same day Walk in surgery each morning and afternoon
Monday AM	Dr Longley or Dr Rees	Dr Trickey	Dr Dean	Milton Abbas 9.00–10.00am
Monday PM	Dr Longley	Dr Rees		Milton Abbas 4.00–5.00pm
Tuesday AM	Dr Longley		Dr Rees	Milborne St. Andrew 9.00–10.00am
Tuesday PM	Dr Longley	Dr Rees		Milton Abbas 4.00–5.00pm
Wednesday AM	Dr Longley or Dr Dean	Dr Longley or Dr Dean		Milton Abbas 9.00–10.00am
Wednesday PM	Dr Longley or Dr Dean	Dr Longley or Dr Dean		Milton Abbas 4.00–5.00pm
Thursday AM	Dr Dean		Minor Operations	Milton Abbas 9.00–10.00am
Thursday PM	Dr Rees			Milton Abbas 4.00–5.00pm
Friday AM	Dr Longley or Dr Rees	Dr Trickey		Milton Abbas 9.00–10.00am
Friday PM	Dr Longley or Dr Rees	Dr Trickey	Dr Longley or Dr Rees	Milton Abbas 4.00–5.00pm
Saturday AM	8.30–10.30am with either Dr Longley, Rees or Dean			

Please Note:- Milborne St. Andrew consulting times may change at short notice depending on doctor availability. Please telephone the surgery to check the location if you intend to attend the Tuesday morning walk in clinic.

DISPENSARY – The dispensary is open from 8.30am–1.00pm and 2.30pm–6.00pm Monday–Friday. 8.30–10.30am on Saturday. You can order repeat medication online, by telephone or by using the repeat slip attached to your current prescription.

WHEN WE ARE CLOSED – for medical advice NHS direct on 0845 46 47 or www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk. For medical attention 0800 600 10 13 (Out of hours GP service). For medical emergencies dial 999.

Regular Bookings at the First School

Pilates Monday 7.00–8.00pm (term time only)

Yoga Tuesday 6.15–7.45pm (term time only)

Badminton Wednesday 7.00–9.00pm (term time only)

Circuit Training every Thursday 7.00–8.00pm

December at the Sports Pavilion

The Busy Bees Under 5 Group from 9.30am to 11.30am on Thursday term time only. Contact Hayley Davis 07919156578.

Folk Club at 8.00pm on Friday 16th December. Contact Roger Harrall Tel. 837371 or email roger.harrall@gmail.com.

Table Tennis from 7.00pm to 9.00pm every Monday evening. Contact Sandra Shannon Tel. 837253.

Hotpot Supper and Quiz – Saturday 10th December at 7.30pm. Contact Roger Harrall Tel. 837371 or email roger.harrall@gmail.com.

Football

Adult F/B training – Tuesday evening – contact Matt Hall email mattyoon@hotmail.co.uk.

Adult F/B Matches – not announced yet

Under 15 Football – training – Thursday evenings. Contact Glen 01305 861290 or email adedorset@hotmail.co.uk.

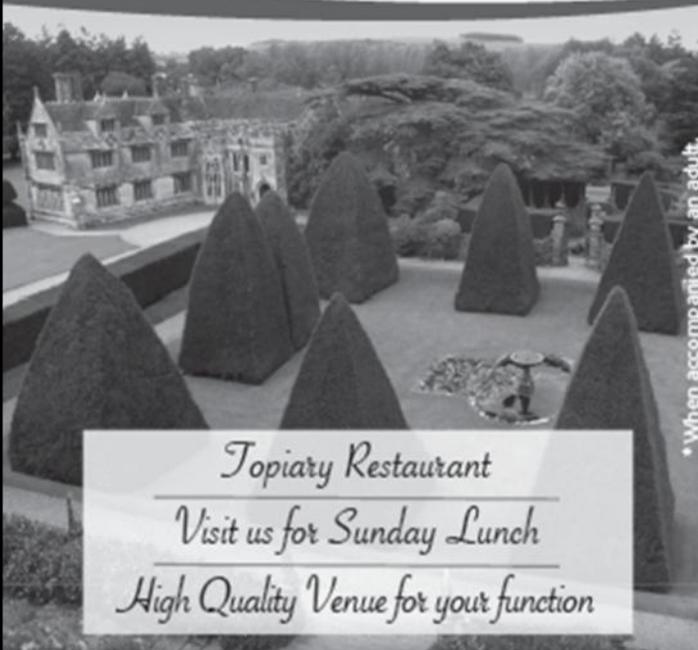
6–11 year olds on Wednesday evenings. Contact Bob Mowlem on 01305 751930 or email bobmowlem@btinternet.com.

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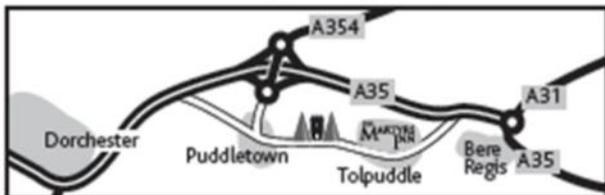
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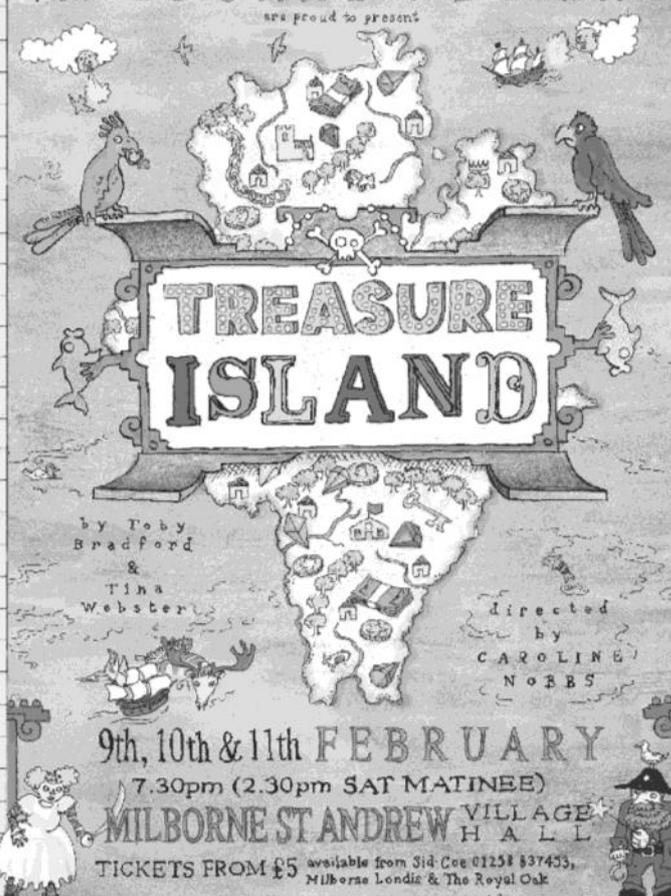
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Weather in Milborne St. Andrew October 2011

OCTOBER was another dry month with rainfall of 67.5mm which was 61% of average. This further increased the rainfall deficit for this year to 120mm. The first three days of October were exceptionally warm and the rest of the month was very mild making the average temperature for the month 12.53°C. There were no Octobers between 1972 and 1994 when the average temperature for the month exceeded 12°C but since 1995 there have been five Octobers in excess of 12°C with highest being in 2005 with an average of 13.16°C. There was only one ground frost during the month on the 19th. November so far has continued mild with no air or ground frosts. The really cold weather last November started on the 23rd with snow on the 26th and by the 28th the frost persisted all day.

It would be very useful to know what weather we can expect over the coming winter months but professional weather forecasters only forecast for five days ahead. Attempts at long term weather forecasting by the Met. Office were notoriously inaccurate and were withdrawn. Some amateur weather forecasters will stick their necks out and make bold predictions for the season ahead but these have proved to be equally unreliable. Patrick Murphy started producing an almanac in London during the 1830's and his prediction for 1837 was that the winter of 1836/7 would be cold and that January 20th would be the coldest day of the year.

It turned out that the winter of 1836/7 was a very cold one and January 20th was not only the coldest day of the year but the coldest day of the century. Sales of Murphy's almanac soared over the next few years on the strength of this but Murphy never achieved the same success again. His almanac faded into obscurity but the winter of 1836/7 has always been known as 'Murphy's Winter' ever since.

Pluvius

Christmas at Home

By John Wright

REBECCA had just returned home from university for Christmas. Life was very exciting in her second year studying the arts, but now she could relax for a week or two with the familiar Christmas celebrations. On the Sunday before Christmas the church was performing the annual concert of readings and carols with the various scenes acted out by the young people of the parish. Rebecca knew the form well. She had first appeared, aged two months, as baby Jesus when her mother had been cast as Mary, and since then she had been everything from a small sheep to the angel Gabriel. Now it was a case of filling the gaps in the cast where necessary.

This year Rebecca was asked to shadow one of the very young kings. He was only six and needed someone to check that he didn't run away or leave his gold box anywhere, and prompt him when he forgot his words. Her mother found a bright and glittery shawl to wrap around her. This had been treasured by Rebecca's grandmother and passed on to her mother a few years ago. A golden scarf was found for her to wear in her hair, and the combination seemed to give the right image. All was set for another wonderful Christmas, just the same as it always had been.

What was *not* quite the same was that Rebecca had now formed a close relationship with Philip. As far as she was concerned Philip was the star of her course at 'uni', and as he was going to be home for Christmas just ten miles away, the urge to see him was very strong. She'd arranged that he'd come to the church concert, and that she'd visit him for the following weekend. This was unfortunate as traditionally that was the time that Rebecca and her parents went to see Granny.

Things were tense at the concert. Philip arrived at the last moment so he had only a brief introduction to her parents and then sat next to them coughing and fidgeting, and he was clearly not able to sing the carols in tune. Rebecca ushered her king to the manger when the time came for the gifts to be presented, but she hadn't anticipated his interest in her shawl. He was fascinated by the gold embroidery and gave it a huge tug telling the whole audience 'Here's some more gold for Jesus!' Rebecca hurriedly left the stage exposing an old pair of jeans and a T-shirt proclaiming 'Who loves you, Baby?' By the time she had finished back-stage Philip had already left.

Christmas Day was cold but sunny, and the quiet family traditions were followed and enjoyed. Philip was temporarily ignored. It was on Boxing Day that the family focussed on the dilemma of the 'Christmas Visit to Granny'. It became clear that some sort of compromise was needed. Rebecca found an unexpected ally in her father who, in an inspired moment, saw

a way out of spending a rather boring whole weekend with mother-in-law.

'How about we go to Granny on Saturday as usual, then I take Rebecca to her friend on Sunday morning?' he said to his wife at lunch. 'You'll be able to have a good chat with your mum all day and really put the world straight for next year.' This simple suggestion was greeted with smiles of relief all round.

Plans for the weekend were quickly changed, and Granny was pleased with the less arduous schedule. When Saturday came all went happily until Granny was first unable to follow Rebecca's stories of university, and then distressed to hear of the trouble that her shawl had created at the concert.

On Sunday Granny wiped a tear from her eye as her only grandchild was driven away, and Rebecca found that the anticipated day with Philip and his family wasn't as she'd expected. His sore throat had got considerably worse, and unlike her he had two demanding younger sisters and a younger brother, on top of which a large number of other friends dropped in during the day to play boisterous games and make a lot of noise. Rebecca felt very left out of the party and it was a happy reunion when Dad rounded up his family on Sunday evening and took them home.

They all felt that normality had returned the next weekend as Rebecca went back to university, Dad got ready to go back to work, and Mum put away the Christmas decorations ready for another year of keeping house.

'It'll all be better next Christmas,' thought Rebecca. It would certainly be different; no Christmas concert, no Philip, and no Granny.

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Congratulations to Caroline for being the first to send in the answer to msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk

Five Floral Tips

1. All cut flowers which have foliage on their stems benefit from having the bulk of it removed as that makes for less competition for the flower in its attempts to get water. This is very important at this time of the year as the flowers are often forced and thus weaker.
2. Always give your flowers a good 12 hours drink before arranging them. Flowers bought from a flower shop should have been well conditioned but those from supermarket will have been subjected to several stages of transport, often periods of time in draughty distribution/delivery areas and dubious treatment in store.
3. Cut all flower and foliage stems cleanly at an acute angle with a knife, floristry scissors or secateurs. This produces the maximum area for the up-take of water. Smashing them or splitting them inhibits the passage of water up the stem.
4. A flagging flower can often be revived by the use of hot water. Recut the stem remove more foliage and place in about two inches of hot water for about 10 minutes then top up with cold water. How hot? Soft fleshy or young immature stems (bergenia, hosta, ranunculus, gerberas, hyacinths) need hand hot or warm water, harder woodier stems (roses, chrysanthemum, stock) can take boiling water. The stem will be discoloured but the flower should be restored. The flagging is usually due to an air bubble in the stem or if the flower has been left without water too long.
5. Take care to soak your floral foam properly. Just place it into a bowl of water deep enough for it to sink unhindered and allow it to do so without pushing it down. If all the surfaces are submerged a dry core will remain resulting in some stems inserted into the dry area dying prematurely. Don't be tempted to turn on the tap with the foam in the bowl; the backwash will always submerge the block! Just lift the block free, add water and gently replace if you need to top up. The use of flower food is advantageous, so dissolve flower food into the water you are using to soak the foam and reserve the remaining water in a can to top up your arrangements.

Susie Edwards

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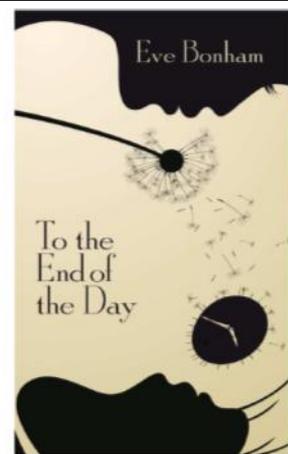


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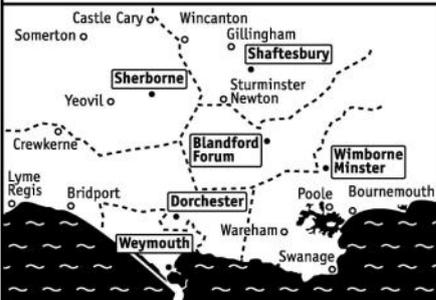


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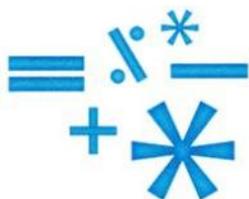
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Sweet Deceit – Part Three

By Janice Parsons

This woman was a whirlwind! If she had hit the coast of New Orleans like hurricane Katrina the place would still be on its knees. When I opened the envelope handed to me by Giles at stupid O'clock on that warm July morning I found that my task for all that cash was to follow Beth Gordon and find out any "black" on her that I could.

It sounded simple enough. After all I had followed some top villains during my Police service in one form or another. We used to call them "Targets", but this had been changed by the political correctness that had done its best to destroy the job I once loved. They now had to be called "Subjects", so that it didn't appear that we were targeting people. Of course we were targeting them!! We were the Police and they were the bad guys.

Many of those targets (I can say it now) were very surveillance aware. Even if they didn't think they were being tailed they would make counter surveillance moves, like doubling back on their route. But that was with a team of sixteen Detectives with six cars and two motorbikes. If one of the team thought he had been exposed to the target then they could just peel away for that day. I was on my own now with only limited technology.

At first I didn't think that Beth had a clue I was following her. But how could anyone fit so much into a day. She was either charged with super energy or she was running me a merry dance.

The details in the envelope had given the address Beth was staying at. It was one of those thatched cottages in The Street at Milton Abbas. I loved that village, I am sure I had seen it on many a chocolate box lid in years gone by. However, it's not an easy place to be inconspicuous and to have any chance of knowing Beth had gone out I had to place a surveillance camera at the top of the road and then sit tucked away by the lake down the bottom with a view up the hill.

Guildford wanted all the dirt that I could dig up on Beth and didn't care how I did it as long as the mud would stick. I had done that many times before with other cases. I didn't like it very much, but after 30 years in the Met I knew little else, and had to keep working. My many relationships had ensured that I remained poor and had as little when I left the job as when I started it.

August and September were not too bad, but as October came and went Beth became increasingly difficult to keep up with. I had not earned my money to this point. No dirt, not even a little stain on her character.

So one dark night I crept up to her car and sliding under it I deployed a "lump". That's what we used to call a tracking device and it would make it much easier to follow her without being discovered. I could follow from a safe distance. Then one day it didn't move. By 11 o'clock I thought this was totally out of character for a woman who lived her life as though she was on speed. I drove up the road to find the car gone. She must have found the lump. I've been rumbled I thought.

The lump wasn't in the road, so it didn't drop off accidentally. She must have found it. I started to drive to all the places that I had followed her to. Eventually I picked up her car in Ashley Road heading towards Bournemouth. She parked up at the pavilion. On foot then through to Debenhams, Dingles, L.K Bennet. This woman had class and a great taste in clothes, but it was really difficult to follow. Try looking inconspicuous as a man on your own in the Lingerie department! Back to the car and down to the Quay at Poole. Into Pavers. More shoes? Did she really need more shoes? Apparently she did.

Was I ever going to earn my money on this one? We were off again on foot towards the Marina. By the showers Beth slipped into a room I had never noticed before, next to the shower block that served the yachtsmen who had tied up in the Marina and didn't have a Gin palace with a shower on Board. I slipped into the room as the door closed and squeezed myself quickly behind some ducting. As I peered gingerly over the top I was relieved to see Beth had her back to me. She had opened a locker amongst a large bank of lockers. She brought out a book sized parcel wrapped in plain brown paper and slipped it

into her bag. At last, got you. Drugs I thought, maybe a kilo if I'm right. She slipped the parcel into her bag and left.

A minute later I was back some 200 yards behind her again. She went into Coles Miller Solicitors up by the hospital. I felt uncomfortable for the half an hour she spent in there as I tried to blend in with people walking to and from the Town Centre. I got another bit of luck as she left though as she disappeared into the big Barclays Headquarters building on the Roundabout. I slipped into the George opposite. I had a prime view on the building a pint and at last a seat. Women wonder why we don't like going shopping with them!

About 40 minutes later she was back to her car and we were about four car lengths apart as we drove out of Poole along The Holes Bay Road. Eventually we reached Blandford and Beth turned left into the car park of The Crown Hotel as I crossed the bridge over the Stour. Lovely I thought. Second drink of the day. I waited in the car park until I could see that Beth was at the bar. I then stole into the Dining room to the right as you enter the Hotel while she got her drink and took it outside. It was unseasonably warm for October, but we were due the weather after the poor summer we had.

I fancied a Tanglefoot, but I knew there would be more driving to do so I settled for one of their weak lagers. I took the table opposite and behind Beth. The old surveillance techniques haven't deserted me I thought, giving myself a "virtual" pat on the back. Then Beth rose to her feet. What now? I thought. She's moving. Stay still, stay calm MacDonald, you are a customer disinterested in what's going on around you. She started to walk straight towards me. She was carrying a bottle and two glasses. She stopped right in front of my table. As I turned my head for the inevitable eye to eye she said,

"What's the matter MacDonald, you like Shiraz don't you?"

My throat was all of a sudden completely dry. I couldn't speak.

"You're good, but not good enough. I know more about you than you know about me. May I?" She continued, and sat down close next to me without waiting for the inevitable invite. I could see all that money disappearing out of my Bank account as I sat rooted to the chair.

Beth started to explain how Guildford had trapped her into becoming his business partner with some low life tricks and when she turned out to be smarter than him he couldn't take it and drove her out. She told me how she had successfully built her rival business and made her fortune again in guilts, stocks, bonds and gold before the bottom had fallen out of the market. Now she wanted to ruin him.

"I know what he is paying you MacDonald. I will double it and make sure that everything is OK for you."

"Okay Beth, you've got my attention." I said, finally recovering my voice. I continued a little wearily,

"What is the pound of flesh that you want from me?"

"Not here." She whispered looking around as if she expected to see Guildford looking over her shoulder.

"Let's go to your office. You leave and I'll meet you there."

"Oh yeah, come on Beth, I know I haven't done the best job on you, but I know you have a package in that bag. You could have realised I was right up behind you when you picked that up, and this could be your way of giving me the slip. I'm not that green you know!"

Beth threw her head back and laughed,

"You're right John. You have no reason to believe me or to trust me do you?"

That was the first time I was treated to Beth's soft voice AND she used my first name. Her voice was like a warm blanket wrapping its arms around my shoulders. All my old Detective instincts should have made me trust her less at that point. I had used the old, "Trust me I'm your best friend" routine more times than I cared to remember when interviewing the local Peckham scrotes in my Met days. But it didn't. You're turning soft John I thought. Beth suggested that I follow her back to my office.

"We could continue the game between here and Milborne." She laughed again.

Read the final chapter next month



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Milborne St. Andrew Youth Club

We're back!! And it's free!!!

ON Friday 2nd December 2011 we are able to re-start youth club, and any member that returns can do so for free that night only. Come and meet our new volunteers, Amy and/or Lee and be a part of the start of Milborne's version of the Guinness Book of Records! We've missed you all so we'd love to see you back – bring a friend too if you like and they can come free as well!

On 16th December will be our Christmas party, and fancy dress is this year's theme (optional), with silly games, prizes, presents, music and food. Please could everyone bring a plate of "something". Meetings at the Village Hall 6.30–8.30pm.

See you there!

Club leader *Michelle Scott* 07769901530.
Secretary *Sallie Maitland-Gleed* 01258 837442.

A plea from our administrator!

PLEASE please, if you need me to retype your article or advert for any reason (for instance, if you don't have access to a computer), can I have it with loads of time to spare before the deadline. If you have a computer and can email it to the msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk address there is more certainty that it will be included. If you have no email capacity, I am happy to have it on a memory stick, or even the old floppy disc, but allow a bit extra time, or pop down to the POPP's coffee and cake session 10.00am–12 noon on Fridays, they can email it for you.

I am really concerned that one month I will not be home when something is popped through the door on the last couple of days before the deadline and it will be missed. We've both just retired, so are enjoying our freedom with days out on the spur of the moment!

Sue Gould

Round Robin Ramblers

the local villages walking group

WALKS are normally held on the first Sunday and the third Wednesday of each month. *However, due to the Christmas/New Year season, there is only one walk in December and one walk in January.* Please join us as we enjoy exercise, good company and the wonderful Dorset countryside, irrespective of the weather.

Any questions, please feel free to contact Ian Bromilow, 01258 880044.

Sunday 4th December 2011 – 1:30 pm (note earlier time)

Okeford Fitzpaine and Belchawell

Meet outside the Village Hall, Okeford Fitzpaine.

Grid reference: ST 806108 on OS Explorer Sheet 129 (approx. 4.5 miles)

Wenesday 18th January 2012 – 11.00am

Clouds Hill and Moreton

Meet at the roadside car park between Bovington Camp and Lawrence of Arabia's Cottage.

Grid reference: SY 825904 on OS Explorer Sheet OL 15 (approx. 6 miles)

***** A very happy Christmas and a healthy and fit New Year to all *****

Please note:

WHO All welcome including well-behaved dogs and their responsible owners.

No pre-booking required just turn up.

WEAR Suitable clothing for conditions and location, walking boots or Wellington boots.

BRING Waterproofs and refreshments (packed lunch on Wednesdays).

PACE We go at the pace of the slowest.

TERRAIN Expect mud, inclines and stiles.

AIM Keep fit, enjoy the Dorset countryside and each other's company.

LEGAL We look after one another but in the end you are responsible for yourself.

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Thirteen things to do with Cucumbers



1. Cucumbers contain most of the vitamins you need every day, just one cucumber contains Vitamin B1, Vitamin B2, Vitamin B3, Vitamin B5, Vitamin B6, Folic Acid, Vitamin C, Calcium, Iron, Magnesium, Phosphorus, Potassium and Zinc.
2. Feeling tired in the afternoon, put down the caffeinated soda and pick up a cucumber. Cucumbers are a good source of B Vitamins and Carbohydrates that can provide that quick pick-me-up that can last for hours.
3. Tired of your bathroom mirror fogging up after a shower? Try rubbing a cucumber slice along the mirror, it will eliminate the fog and provide a soothing, spa-like fragrance.
4. Are grubs and slugs ruining your planting beds? Place a few slices in a small pie tin and your garden will be free of pests all season long. The chemicals in the cucumber react with the aluminum to give off a scent undetectable to humans but drive garden pests crazy and make them flee the area.
5. Looking for a fast and easy way to remove cellulite before going out or to the pool? Try rubbing a slice or two of cucumber along your problem area for a few minutes, the photochemical in the cucumber causes the collagen in your skin to tighten, firming up the outer layer and reducing the visibility of cellulite. Works great on wrinkles too!!
6. Want to avoid a hangover or terrible headache? Eat a few cucumber slices before going to bed and wake up refreshed and headache free. Cucumbers contain enough sugar, B vitamins and electrolytes to replenish essential nutrients the body lost, keeping everything in equilibrium, avoiding both a hangover and headache!!
7. Looking to fight off that afternoon or evening snacking binge? Cucumbers have been used for centuries and often used by European trappers, traders and explorers for quick meals to thwart off starvation.
8. Have an important meeting or job interview and you realize that you don't have enough time to polish your shoes? Rub a freshly cut cucumber over the shoe, its chemicals will provide a quick and durable shine that not only looks great but also repels water.

9. Out of WD 40 and need to fix a squeaky hinge? Take a cucumber slice and rub it along the problematic hinge, and voila, the squeak is gone!
10. Stressed out and don't have time for massage, facial or visit to the spa? Cut up an entire cucumber and place it in a boiling pot of water, the chemicals and nutrients from the cucumber will react with the boiling water and be released in the steam, creating a soothing, relaxing aroma that has been shown to reduce stress in new mothers and college students during final exams.
11. Just finished a business lunch and realize you don't have gum or mints? Take a slice of cucumber and press it to the roof of your mouth with your tongue for 30 seconds to eliminate bad breath, the phytochemicals will kill the bacteria in your mouth responsible for causing bad breath.
12. Looking for a 'green' way to clean your faucets, sinks or stainless steel? Take a slice of cucumber and rub it on the surface you want to clean, not only will it remove years of tarnish and bring back the shine, but it won't leave streaks and won't harm you fingers or fingernails while you clean.
13. Using a pen and made a mistake? Take the outside of the cucumber and slowly use it to erase the pen writing, also works great on crayons and markers that the kids have used to decorate the walls!!

Something to do over Christmas

A variation on a theme. Slightly more difficult than the purely lettered variety.

If you can read this you have a strong mind:

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Have you met . . . Colin Chastey

COLIN CHASTEY has lived in the village for three and a half years – a new-comer I hear you cry! Maybe so, but he's embraced village life here in Dorset and works hard to support the community.

Colin is a Devonian, born in the tiny village of Folly Gate, near Okehampton, in 1973. His parents Ann and Michael have lived there all their lives so 'village community' was always a part of Colin's upbringing. Before retiring his mother Ann ran the village post office and his father Michael was a self employed animal feeds haulier working across all of the South West. Colin has one younger brother Barry, and the two young boys enjoyed a very active childhood playing all sorts of sports, attending the village primary school and for many years the pair could be seen whizzing around on their bikes doing the paper rounds.

Along with joining secondary school in 1984 came a whole new passion . . . Plymouth Argyle Football Club. After seeing the club in the FA Cup Semi-Final Colin adopted the team and has been a life-long supporter ever since. Through thick and thin, Colin has been a member of the Green Army!

Colin did well at school but after completing his GCSEs was raring to get into work so left school and joined Okehampton Barclays as an Office Junior. This was a move that sparked a glowing career – he quickly became a Cashier, completed banking exams, and received promotion to a bigger branch at Tiverton. By the age of 20, Colin was heading for 'the big smoke' (Exeter!) where he was a Customer Service Advisor at many branches, received promotion to Business Start Up Manager hitting all the imposed targets and then in 2002 took a big step to become Local Business Manager in Poole, Dorset. Colin very much enjoyed the early years at the bank but towards the end, the politics and endless targets made the job unpleasant.

Colin wanted to help customers, to be part of a business with a great

working culture and as if by magic, along came Armada Finance. An independent family business running for over 40 years were looking for a Dorset Manager in 2006 – within five weeks of the initial phone call, Colin was part of the Armada team; a decision that he has never once questioned. In Colin's words, "it's a wonderful company, with a great atmosphere and culture, and most importantly, I can actually help clients." Armada Finance offer asset finance to small and medium sized businesses. There are five area managers across the UK with the headquarters being in Exeter. The company is still run by its founder Kirk Smith, "a wonderfully generous family man" who Colin openly admits is a great personal inspiration.

Colin's family life is happy and settled. He has been married to Kate (aka The Passionate PA) for three years. They met back in May 2007, when he walked into the Coventry Arms in Corfe Mullen to talk to the owner about asset finance and Kate was behind the

bar. After a whirlwind romance Colin popped the question on New Year's Eve and the following Christmas they married in a gorgeous family wedding at Birkin House in Dorchester.

Colin also has a 13 year old daughter, Emily. She spends her time between Milborne and Bournemouth. Colin, Kate and Emily love to spend all their spare time with their 18 month old Chocolate Labrador Lilly, and can often be found in Milborne Woods.

When Colin isn't working hard, spending time with Emily or helping Kate grow her business, he's being the Chairman of Milton Abbas Sports Club or coaching the juniors' cricket on Thursday evenings. Colin is Level 2 English Cricket Board qualified and also plays for the Milton Abbas Adult Cricket Team (leading wicket taker 2010 and most runs 2011).

Colin and Kate love village life in Milborne, and hope to live here for many years.



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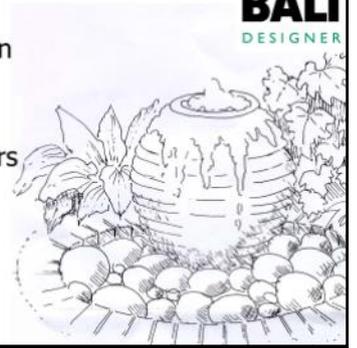
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In your Garden

Seasonal notes and tips from Maureen Lock of *Designer Gardens*

A Ghost Story for Christmas

THERE lived in Old England a wealthy woman by the name of Ellen Willmott.

She was born in 1858 and was the daughter of a lawyer and financier who made his fortune in the boom years of the railways. When her father died, Miss Willmott inherited his fortune and enough money to allow her to indulge her love of growing plants. After she had designed and planted the garden at Warley Place – the estate she inherited from her father – she went on to buy a French chateau and an Italian villa where she made other beautiful gardens.

She mixed in exalted circles becoming a confidant of royalty and other upper-crust English society. She



used her contacts – Edward VII, Queen Mary and George V – to help her in her horticultural endeavours. At one time it was rumoured that she had as many as 104 gardeners working for her at Warley Place alone. She was a hard

taskmaster and would not tolerate any shoddy workmanship.

Miss Willmott liked to visit other people's gardens and would carry with her the seeds of the silvery-bluish green sea holly *Eryngium giganteum* 'Bieberstein'. This was her most favourite plant and she secretly scattered the seeds as she went along. The path she had walked was later marked by the appearance of *Eryngium giganteum*

which came to be called Miss Willmott's ghost. People used to say that as she got older she became as prickly as the sea holly that she loved so much.

As the years passed, she became more and more eccentric – she used people and if they didn't prove helpful to her would ignore or insult them. She was rude and demanding to her nursery contacts although remained an influential asset to the RHS.

In 1897 she was awarded the Royal Horticultural Society's Victoria Medal of Honour along with Gertrude Jekyll. As recognition for her generosity in helping to fund botanist and plant-collecting expeditions, many plants have been named after her.

Miss Willmott had a spend, spend, spend philosophy and soon her great fortune just melted away. When she

died in 1934 she was living in just three tatty rooms in her once elegant Warley Place. After her death the house was demolished and the beautiful gardens fell into ruin. What a great shame.

These days *Eryngium giganteum* is more commonly known in Great Britain than in its native America – which must be in part due to Miss Willmott's secretive sowing. So now when you see this plant you will know the story behind Miss Willmott's Ghost.

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PLEASE NOTE

All copy for the January *Reporter* must be received by the **14th December**. Please send copy via e-mail as a Microsoft Word or Publisher attachment and photos are best sent as a separate JPG file. We regret that late submissions will not be included.

You sleigh me!

FATHER CHRISTMAS has just contacted the Reporter team to say that he is so happy with the progress being made in the Community that he and Rudolf have decided to make a special trial run through the village to test out their new improved sleigh complete with mp3 player, bells, flashing lights and surround sound carol system.

During the evening of the 9th December as darkness creeps upon us Santa and his sleigh will appear and make their way slowly round the village relying on local knowledge rather than their unreliable and rather new Garmin or doe doe. A merry band of Santa's helpers, hereafter to be called and known as 'Santa's helpers' will follow the sleigh complete with regulation ear muffs collecting money for local Charities.



What pleased them so much was the fact that the village hall playing field has been officially dedicated and renamed 'The Queen Elizabeth II Field'. This is but one of 2012 such playing field sites that have been so named in celebration of the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, no mean feat by any stretch of the imagination!

This year the collection is in aid of the Village Hall 'fighting fund' Charity and the Charities currently being supported by the Dorchester Rotary Club Christmas appeal.

So now you know book the day in your diary; 9th December.

Santa and Rudolf

Ps. If you are travelling home from Dorch at about 5.30pm on the 9th, and you get overtaken by a small black car being chased by a large hairy beast at about 85mph with a grumpy old man in a chariot waving furiously, it is not road rage just Santa rushing to Milborne to greet all his followers before heading off back to Lapland.



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Dorset League Two

Corfe Mullen 6 Milborne Sports 4

MILBORNE visited league leaders Corfe Mullen looking to turn around their first slender defeat of the season the previous week and should have taken the lead after twelve minutes when a delightful deft touch from Phil Lee left Ricky Lane clear only for him to be profligate in his finish. Corfe came back strongly and Jammer Aldom made a great goal line clearance when the ball seemed destined for the net after twenty minutes. With a strong wind behind them Corfe were starting to create more chances and after twenty-nine minutes the turning point of the game came when Carl Tewkesbury handled a goal-bound shot and received his marching orders. Although the penalty was slammed against the crossbar Milborne went behind only moments later with an expertly driven shot in to the far corner. Five minutes later the shell shocked Sports went two nil down with another superb finish from about twenty five yards out. At this point the game looked over but Milborne held on till the break and came out in determined style for the second period. After fifty-two minutes Dom Gaillard put in a great challenge in the middle of the park to release Ricky Lane who hit a wonderful angled shot from twenty-five yards to reduce Corfe's advantage. Despite their reduced ten men, Milborne were now playing some great football with Paul Aston yet again commanding in the central midfield role. With sixty minutes on the clock Sports equalised when Phil Lee, having yet another excellent performance, cut the ball back from the by-line to Lane who confidently side footed home. Lane completed his hat trick with another fine strike to put Milborne into an unlikely lead only for Corfe to equalise with another fine goal. With twelve minutes left Sports went 4-3 up when Karl Dean broke on the left flank before delivering a teasing cross which Phil Lee despatched from a tight angle at the far post. Despite working hard with Marl Lambert and Kevin Seal providing great defensive work, Milborne's ten men were now being stretched and with ten minutes left Corfe equalised with yet another fine finish, before Sports hearts were broken when another two goals were scored in the last three minutes.

This game was a great advert for Dorset League football with all ten goals great finishes and with both teams looking to try and play the game on the ground.

Gillingham 0 Milborne Sports 3

WITH Gillingham having only lost once this season this fixture promised to be a close encounter and despite the final score this was indeed the case. Missing several first team squad members Milborne made the long trip to North Dorset with some trepidation in what was a crucial game. Playing down the slope in the first half the Laneenders were on the back foot for the first quarter before they came in to the game and Paul Myatt was unlucky with a speculative shot from twenty-five yards. The home team were unfortunate not to go ahead when Carl Tewkesbury cleared from almost on the goal line. Young Milborne keeper Chris Stones had to be alert whilst their back four of Carl Tewkesbury, Ross Heaton, Dan Weatherby and Karl Dean were all looking very comfortable against a youthful, quick and skilful Gillingham attack. With neither side able to breach their opponents defence it was looking like a day when one goal might be the deciding factor. The half finished with both sides level and with Milborne having to play up the slope in the second half it looked as though Gillingham might be the ones to take

the points. However, with thirteen minutes of the second period having passed, after Matty Williams competed strongly for an aerial challenge, the hosts went behind when a defender's back header resulted in the ball finding the corner of the net. The introduction of the pacy Kevin Seal was causing some concern to the home defence and Milborne made it two after eighty minutes when Matty Williams delivered a tantalising left wing cross for a defender to put past his own keeper from close range under pressure from Milborne's second substitute, Charlie Eccleson, after excellent work from Carl McClements. Gillingham still looked to get something out of the game but with three minutes left Sports scored a third after Williams put McClements clear on the left to cut in and finish with aplomb from a narrow angle.

Mike Lathbury, Chairman

Late News

Dorset Intermediate Cup

Milborne Sports 11 Bridport A 0

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Intermediate Course

Lemon Sorbet

Main Courses

- Traditional Roast Turkey wrapped in smoked bacon and stuffed with a pork, sage and onion stuffing
- Traditional Fillet of beef Wellington
- Spinach, wild mushroom and blue vinney roulade (v)
- All served with roast potatoes, sprouts and roasted root vegetables
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