



See pages 12/13

Reporter

80P WHERE SOLD

News and Views from around the area

Volume 13 Issue 2

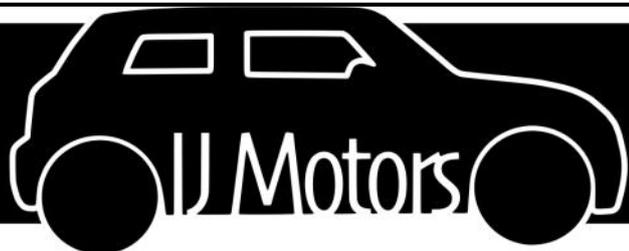
February 2021

www.milbornestandrew.org.uk/reporter

[facebook.com/MilborneReporter](https://www.facebook.com/MilborneReporter)

Milborne St. Andrew





We are a local business
Established for over 40 years
Servicing, repairs and MOT work
All makes and models
Air conditioning specialists
Full diagnostic facilities
Free local collection and return

Contact: Ian Joyce
01258 881173 - 07789 724082
ianjoyce@hotmail.co.uk



COMPREHENSIVE AND FAST PICTURE FRAMING SERVICE

- Excellent choice of frames and mounts.
- Re-glazing, re-mounting and refurbishing of existing frames.
- Stretchers made to order in all sizes.
- Professional restoration of both oils and works on paper.
- Reflection-control and UV protective glass available.
- Trade prices for artists and galleries - *please enquire.*

The Old School House
Tincleton, Dorset DT2 8QR
T 01305 848 909 · M 07901 946 102

Outward Hounds Pet Care & Walking Services

Companions for your friend. Peace of mind for their people.



- 🐾 Your local professional dog walker, 60 minute walks
- 🐾 Comfort and Companion visits for Dogs, Cats and Small Animals
- 🐾 Pet sitting, tailored Pet Care

Fully Insured - Pet First Aid - DBS - Member of PDWA

PHONE: 07900 207796

EMAIL: outwardhoundspetcare@gmail.com

FACEBOOK: Outward Hounds Pet Care & Walking Services, MSA.

Advertise with the Milborne St. Andrew *Reporter*

Distributed to approximately 500 homes 11 times each year

Full page £225.00 p.a. / £45.00 per issue
Half page £157.00 p.a. / £28.00 per issue
Quarter page £84.00 p.a. / £14.50 per issue
Eighth page £56.00 p.a. / £8.00 per issue
Back page £400.00 per annum

Community events at the Milborne St. Andrew Village Hall, half page or less free of charge, other community events in Milborne St. Andrew at half the above rates for half page or less, all subject to availability.

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

msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk

Disclaimer

THE views expressed in the *Reporter* are not necessarily those of the editorial team. Also, please be aware that articles and photographs printed in the *Reporter* will be posted on our website and so are available for anyone to access. The *Reporter* is not responsible for the content of any advertisement or material on websites advertised within this magazine.

Please note

Please ensure that your anti-virus software is up to date before e-mailing. Copy should be sent as a Word (or other) text file and do not embed pictures, logos, etc. into the document. Photos should be sent as separate .jpg files. Do not send articles as .pdf. Do not send anything as .html as it will be deleted on arrival.

All these things may seem small to you but it does make all the difference in time saved later.

Your *Reporter* Team

Janet Allen, Linda Constant, Pete Constant,
Carole Fornachon, Heather V. Hogg, David Payne, Ed Richards,
Jo Whitfield, John and Josie Wright

Advertising: Ed Richards 01258 837907 (07843 018007)

Advertising renewals: Pete Constant 01258 839246 (daytime)

Distribution: Janet Allen 01258 837551

Editor: David Payne 01258 837700. Assistant Editor: Jo Whitfield

Treasurer and photography: Heather V. Hogg 01258 837392

Copy for the next issue MUST be received by mid-day 14th February

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

E-copy as .docx or .pub files, pictures as .jpg files please.

Paper copy to any of the team.



It's That Time of Year Again

It was during Lent last year that we experienced our first lockdown. And here we are again – as I write we're in lockdown three, and Lent begins this month.

Planning for the future is very difficult in these pandemic times; Not knowing what the rules and restrictions will be and how they will change between now (I'm writing in mid-January) and Easter makes it hard to know what will be allowed in terms of church services and Lent groups.

Because of this, I propose that this year, we will hold our Lent groups via Zoom. There will be one on a Monday evening (starting 1st March) at 7.30pm and a daytime group on a Wednesday lunchtime at 12 noon (beginning 17th February) except 10th March. Look out for more details or contact me or a churchwarden to find out more.

If you have a computer but haven't yet tried Zoom, please do. It is not difficult, and it would be great to have you joining our groups. I am happy to guide you through the process, if it all seems a bit scary. It really isn't.

I am sorry that this decision means those who do not have any computer access will be excluded. You can join by telephone – let me know, if you'd like details of how to do this. I am also happy to send you the material we will be using so you can follow the same course by yourself at home. Again, just let me know.

Jesus spent the 40 days that we remember during Lent in the wilderness. Perhaps pandemic lockdowns and restrictions make you feel a bit as if you are in the wilderness. We can choose how we approach this time. Will we give in to the temptation to see this as a wholly negative time? Or can we see it as a gift? A time to cultivate a deeper relationship with God without all the normal clutter and busy-ness of our lives.

Will we sit at home feeling lonely? Or will we use it as a time to remember that God is always with us? Or to pick up the phone and recultivate old friendships? Who else might be sitting at home feeling lonely that you could ring?

When we are sad and bored and feeling negative, it is very easy not to look beyond the end of our nose. We become enveloped in our own little world of misery. That's exactly what Jesus didn't do in his wilderness time. He remained focussed on God, and was ministered to by angels.

Staying connected to God and to each other is absolutely vital at this time. We are fortunate to have phones and other technology to help us to stay in touch with people. Of course that is not the same as face-to-face gatherings, but they do enable us to nurture our friendships.

We need no equipment at all to be connected to God, only an open heart, a willing spirit and a commitment to making space for God in our lives.

I wonder how you will keep Lent this year.

Sarah

With best wishes

Christmas was NOT cancelled in 2020

AT St Andrew's we certainly celebrated Christmas. The Candle Lit Carol Service was very well attended and thanks to Sarah, was very interesting. She had recorded music, brief readings and she read poems. A friend of mine, whom I invited to read at the service and does not attend church regularly, told me afterwards that she had found it thought provoking and had enjoyed it very much. I totally agreed with her.

There was also a good number of people who attended the Christmas Eve service led by Rosie; this year it was not a midnight service but still enjoyable and poignant.

The Christmas morning service, also led by Rosie was equally enjoyable. She encouraged us to think of words to fit each letter of CHRISTMAS to make an acrostic poem. The children knew how to do it and the rest of the congregation joined in.

To ensure that we could maintain a safe environment and keep to socially distanced recommendations we adopted the system of pre booking seats. However, it was disappointing that many who had booked did not turn up.

Our Events Committee organised a 'Carols for All' event in the village hall playing fields. Despite the rain and darkness, a good crowd turned up and sang heartily. Thanks to all who made it such a joyful, successful evening.

We all look forward to 2021 and are grateful that friends and family have kept well and safe. We pray that the situation will improve over the coming months.

Pam Shults, Churchwarden

Services in the Benefice of Puddletown, Tolpuddle, Milborne and Dewlish January to March

Provisional schedule of services. Churchwardens will give updates on church noticeboards etc if a change of lockdown rules means a change of services.

31st January – Presentation of Christ

9.30am Said Communion Milborne
11.00am Zoom Service*

7th February – 2 before Lent

9.30am Said Communion Tolpuddle
(no 11.00am Zoom service)

14th February – Next before Lent

9.30am Said Communion Dewlish
11.00am Zoom Service*

17th February – Ash Wednesday

12.00noon Wednesday Lent course on Zoom*
6.00pm Said Communion Puddletown

21st February – Lent 1

9.30am Said Communion Puddletown
11.00am Zoom Service*

24th February

12.00noon Wednesday Lent course on Zoom*

28th February – Lent 2

9.30am Said Communion Milborne
11.00am Zoom Service*

3rd March

12.00noon Wednesday Lent course on Zoom*

Morning Prayers on Zoom*

Monday to Thursday 8.30am, Saturday 9.00am

*For Zoom services and courses, email Pam on pamsults@btinternet.com and she will send you the links.

Church Contacts

Vicar Sarah Hillman 01305 848784
E-mail: sarah.c.hillman@outlook.com

Churchwardens

Milborne St. Andrew

Pam Shults 01258 837203

Dewlish

Jim Burg 01258 837466

Sue Britton 01258 837218

Benefice Office

Emma Hughes

puddletownbenefice@outlook.com

or by telephone on 01305 849039

**Deadline for the next issue 14th
February. Send your stories and
pictures to
msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk**

A Darby Building Services Ltd



All Types of Building Work Undertaken;
New Builds, Extensions,
Structural Alterations, Kitchen,
Bathrooms

Telephone: 01258 470151
01305 757162

Mobile: 07974 260938

Email: adbsltd@gmail.com



Do you need transport for surgery and other medical appointments? If so, we can help.

Milton Abbas Neighbourcar is an established voluntary transport scheme covering the area served by Milton Abbas surgery. We can take you to medical appointments and certain social events.

WE ALSO NEED MORE DRIVERS – you can commit whatever time suits your circumstances.

Ring 01258 470333 to register or to obtain more information.

***Local villages covered:
Milborne, Cheselbourne and Dewlish***

Computer Problems?



**BLACKCAP
COMPUTING LTD**

**A friendly personal service..
Ring and have a chat.**

Telephone : 01258 881008
Mobile : 07979 853683
Email: steve@blackcap.net



Proud members of
Checkatrade.com
Where reputation matters

ABBEY SWIMMING CLUB

We are a social club run entirely by volunteers,
For less than £2 a week you can swim 3 times a week in
a 25m pool. Any age welcome.



*Whilst we are not swimming at the moment, we hope to be back in a few months time.
Watch this space for news.*

We need Lifeguards

Become an RLSS qualified Lifeguard in return for club membership training

We provide



membership training

For further information about membership or what is involved in becoming a Lifeguard contact us and you will be added to the list to be notified when we are swimming again.

Call: Stephen on 01258 881524 or Pat on 01258 880601

Old OS maps reveal rich local history

THE Ramblers Association has recently advertised that there are a considerable number of rights of way, mostly footpaths, throughout the country that have been lost to current maps. Dorset alone has apparently 918 miles of paths that no longer appear on the recent editions. It seems that if these are not claimed and registered within a specific timeframe their loss will become permanent. At a time when walking these paths has become much more enjoyed, it may be worth checking whether we have any in our area. To this end, following some answers from the Ramblers Association, it seems the access for looking at these old maps is now readily available through the website of the 'Scottish Library', where digital reproductions of the six inch to the mile maps, some going back to 1847 can be viewed and enlarged.

I have looked at the one from 1887 that includes Milborne St. Andrew and the presence and naming of buildings and places is fascinating. Knowing that a lot of buildings in this area were built either of cob or flint and lime mortar it is of interest to see how many pits labelled 'Flint quarry' there are in the surrounding fields, as well as small quarries that could have been for Marl, a constituent of cob but also used to put on fields as a form of fertilizer.

In the middle of the village are the names of buildings that we are familiar with, the Church, The Royal Oak, the Vicarage, the Old School and the Methodist Chapel and the site of Manor House. Near this site is marked The Nursery which was clearly at one time a place for the owners of the manor house to grow trees. This is supported by the fact that there is an old hornbeam there which is not indigenous to this area but was very useful as an engineering wood particularly for small hardware items like the wooden teeth of cogs used in mills. But what was the Pound, which I believe is where Milton Road Close is and also in the same area the W to mark the well of the old house next door. Also, the fact there are four chalk pits marked close to the village is reminder of the use of chalk in cob as well as a land treatment.

Up the hill on the road to Dewlish on the right, are marked two buildings, at least one of which would have been a house, neither is still

in existence apart from small brick ruins and a farm spreader with the name 'Ponds' of Blandford Forum on it. This business whose later existence is still present in the wonderful hardware shop by the same name in North Square in Wareham. A little further up, where the road divides, in times past has been known as Taylors Pond and The Parish Pit, the latter I presume from its previous use as a rubbish dump prior to centralized rubbish collection. However, on this map it is marked only as gravel pit. Maybe after its use for gravel extraction finished, it filled with water and hence its earlier name. What better place to chuck your rubbish than an old disused pit! Now of course this tiny piece of 'common land' has the mixed trees planted in 1987 by various villagers. One Horse Chestnut planted then yields conkers, one of which has been planted and is now a young tree in the green in the lower part of Bladen View. The right hand track is labelled as Ansty Lane but comes to a stop at a field boundary. We are lucky that this now joins a track that is a right of way that goes to Coles Lane.

Coles Lane, so named from the farm of the same name that was at the bottom of the lane, now Staddlestones. Also at the bottom of this lane is marked Frogmore House.

Further up the valley is marked Deverel Farm but also at that site 'Corn Mill'. This would be one of the several mills that were in the valley from Milton Abbas following the stream. The last one in the stream in the parish being at the barn downstream of the Manor House where the brick lined wheel pit is still present although filled with rubbish.



The wall is typical of flint and lime mortar from the late 1700s possibly under the instruction of Capability Brown.

Taylors pond shows the trees and the lane described as Ansty Lane in the early maps

The presence of numerous spot heights as well as the better defined BM (bench marked) heights shows the diligence of the map makers at the time. Guide posts are also there, but were they for walkers or directing horse drawn transport? The label frequently appearing across the map is a measurement preceded by R.H. This is to show that the boundary with it is for example four foot six inches from the Root of the Hedge (RH).

Being able to view these maps which are available to anybody on-line is a fascinating view into the past and I would recommend it.

Pip Bowell

COLIN J. CLOSE FUNERAL SERVICE

A family run business, serving the local community of Blandford and surrounding villages



www.close-funeral.co.uk

Office and Chapel of Rest
Peel Close, BLANDFORD FORUM, DT11 7JU
 email: info@close-funeral.co.uk

Golden Charter
 Funeral Plans 

Tel.
01258 453133
(24 Hours)

TROPHY
 PET FOODS
Wessex



A Local business supporting the community in these difficult times.

- ♥ **Free:** Contactless Delivery & Payment.
- ♥ **Professional:** Qualified Pet Nutritional Advisor. Weight and body condition checks complying with social distancing measures.
- ♥ **Variety:** All life stages & health conditions.
- ♥ **Sustainable:** Supporting British Farmers.
- ♥ **Recognition:** Triple Award Winning.
- ♥ **Value:** Foods to suit your budget. Feed the best for less.

Contact us now for free samples. Tel. 01258 446449.
 078 1000 3231 Email: marion@trophywessex.co.uk
www.trophypetfoods.co.uk



Greenways Tree Care

and
Garden Services
 (fully insured)



Felling
 Reductions
 Pruning
 Stump Grinding
 Hedges
 Lawn Maintenance
 Turfing
 Strimming
 Garden Fencing
 Chippings delivered

Tim Moore

01258 837124

07968 154708

20 years experience
 Free estimates and advice

Dewlish, Dorchester

KMc Electrical Services

All types of electrical work undertaken for domestic, industrial and commercial properties

- Extra points to full rewiring
- Test & Inspection of building wiring
- Three phase
- Emergency callouts

No job too small

Professional, Quality service



Tel: 01258 881439

Mob: 07712 646131

Email: info@kmcelectrical.co.uk



Milton Abbas Surgery

Covid Vaccination Information

FIRSTLY, we would like to say thank you for your patience. We know that you, like us, are struggling with the confines imposed upon all of us at the moment and are eager to get going with the vaccination programme.

We will be contacting patients in the order that the NHS has instructed us to and as our projected deliveries of vaccines allow. So please can we ask that you **do not** contact the surgery or local hospitals to seek a vaccine. We will not be able to vaccinate everyone at once. If you haven't received an invite, we have not forgotten you! You will receive direct communication from us when it is your turn to receive the vaccine. This may be after your neighbour or friend receives their invitation.

The approval of the Oxford/Astra-Zeneca vaccine provides a major boost to our plans to offer protection to our patients and the new guidance from the JCVI (Joint Committee on Vaccination and Immunisation) on the period between doses also means that we will be able to get the maximum benefit for most people in the shortest possible time which will help save lives. The large increase in COVID cases hospitals are seeing and the emergence of a new variant of the virus also shows that we cannot let our guard down now and even those who have received a vaccine still need to follow social distancing and lockdown guidance. Please continue to abide by all the social distancing, lockdown measures and hand hygiene guidance, which will still save lives.

To keep you as informed as possible, we will update the surgery website <https://www.masurgery.co.uk/> as and when we become aware of more information from NHS England.

Your contact details

In order for us to get in touch with you quickly and most efficiently, it is important that we have your correct contact details. It is most likely that we will contact you by text to your mobile when inviting you for your covid vaccination and it is your responsibility to make sure we have the correct details to do this. Please update your contact details with us by emailing the surgery miltonabbassurgery@nhs.net putting 'Updated Contact Details' as the message title or call the reception team in the afternoon.

Time to Talk

This years' Time to Talk Day takes place on Thursday 4th February 2021.

Time to Talk Day is the day that we get the nation talking about mental health. And after the year we have just had in 2020, conversations about mental health are more important than ever.

If you are struggling with feeling isolated or with your mental health, please do not feel that you are on your own. We all need support at one time or another, and we are here to help. So, if you would like a listening ear about anything that is worrying you, please contact the surgery and they can put you in touch with Kelly, our friendly Social Prescriber.

Remember, a small conversation about mental health has the power to make a big difference. *Gillian Brindle, Business Manager*



Frosty start to the New Year

Dewlish Church Notes

HERE we are again in lockdown, and it looks as though our church will be closed for the foreseeable future (other than for private prayers on Sundays and Wednesdays). We can only hope for better times to come!

It was lovely to get back to church before Christmas, and over the Christmas period. Jim arranged the Christmas Carol Services, and we thank him for his hard work. We also thank Ed for allowing us to use his equipment to show the slides.

We did manage to have a Christmas fund-raiser: Sue made Christmas cakes, puddings and mince pies, Jim made 20 reindeer, and I sold jams and marmalades. Together we raised £389.70 for church funds – a brilliant sum. We wish to thank all the people who supported us by donating and buying, but I would like to thank Sue and Jim especially for their very hard work.

Who knows? We may have to come up with an enterprising idea for Easter!

We hope to see you in church again soon!

Daphne Burg

St. Andrew's Parochial Church Council gives thanks

THE Parochial Church Council (PCC) wish to thank Mr and Mrs Jackson for all the years that they have organised the donation of a Christmas tree to bring cheer to the school and church. They not only delivered to the school but at the end of term moved it to the church, decorated it and at the end of the Christmas period, removed it. The couple have now 'retired' and this year we would like to thank Becky and Richard for their help in taking over the responsibility and efforts.

As not to take our wonderful church flower arrangers' efforts for granted the PCC wish to thank them for all the amazing displays throughout the year. Also a thank you for those people who regularly help at services in order that they run smoothly.

A big thank you to Glenn and the staff of Gray's stores for supporting our fundraising by allowing space in his shop for the sale of masks and Christmas wreaths; I am delighted to say that the church made over £1,600 from the sale of the masks and wreaths so a big thanks to all who bought the items.

Last but not least, the PCC wish to thank the Parish Council who have given a grant for the creation of new postcards which will be sold for church funds.

Pam Shults

Hey You! YEAH - YOU!!

you're WANTED

VOLUNTEER

wannabe e: milbournesports@gmail.com t: 837929

HELLO *sm again*

contact US our scrabble score may not add up to much but we are starting to make a BIG difference and we are looking for someone like you to help push things on even more

MSA Sports - Pitch up & Help

Now in South Dorset

Super Healthy Premium Swedish Pet Food



For your Free Pet Assessment & Free Sample
Call/Email **Simon**, Husse Pet Nutritionist
+44 07814 896541 | simon.pope@husse.co.uk



husse

Husse South Dorset
www.husse.co.uk



Selling a car? Can't face the ...



hassle?

We buy cars, bikes, campers and vans for cash at a time to suit you. Trading in elsewhere? We can usually offer more . . . Halcyon Motors, now based in Milborne St. Andrew, is a small, friendly business and we will happily come to you. Impartial advice comes free!

Buying? Visit www.halcyonmotors.co.uk to see "warts and all" descriptions and photos of our current stock. Warranties with all cars. Part exchange welcome. Call Don MacLeod 01258 839209 or 07782 189555 (Mon - Sun, 8.00am - 9.00pm)

Yoga in Milborne

Yoga class on Thursdays in term time
in the Village Hall, 1.30 – 2.45pm

I also teach one to one in my home,
whether **your needs are for yoga as
therapy or meditation or a
simple way of keeping yourself healthy.**

For information ring

Sarah Ryan on 01258 839230

or email saryan6630@gmail.com

Yoga teacher, trainer, therapist

Gerry's Plants

Shrubs, Perennials
Summer & Winter
Bedding & Baskets
Vegetable Plants in Season

Come and see them at:

12 The Rings, Milborne St Andrew

Telephone: 01258 837386



Helping Hands in Rural Dorset

Tailored Practical Support for When YOU Need a Helping Hand

- ~ Companionship
- ~ Decluttering
- ~ General Admin
- ~ Shopping
- ~ Dogwalking
- ~ Visits Out
- ~ Cooking / Gardening / Craft / Scrapbook / Photo Album Activities
- ~ Transport to/from Appointments ~ Sitting Service to Support Carers

Police Checked (DBS), Fully Insured & Experienced

Contact Heather on 01258 880608 or
email: helpinghands.ruraldorset@gmail.com

Family Business

Dorset Roofing & Property Maintenance

New Roofs & Repairs, Flat Roofs, Chimney Work, Pointing
UPVC Fascias & Guttering, Roofs & Guttering Cleaned
Leadwork, Brick Work

All work Guaranteed • Free Estimates & Advice

Tel: 01202 640481 • Mobile: 07810 472347

PURBECK AERIALS

SKY - SMART TV - WALL MOUNTED TV

FREESAT - EXTRA POINTS

RICHARD HARVEY

07976 222887 / 01929 553705

SAME DAY SERVICE

FREE QUOTES - OAP DISCOUNT

www.purbeckaerials.com

"I am local"

Parish Council steps into New Year – and dog doo-doo

New year, but same old issues rear their heads. Five minutes in, Chairman Richard Macnair, commented that “It’s the first meeting of 2021, but we’re already talking about dog [muck]”, following correspondence from a resident about the increase of dog waste around the village streets and footpaths. The topic will be discussed at the next meeting, but a preliminary discussion took place around the scale of the problem and whether it is seasonally based to legalities of picking up (all ‘public spaces’ are included, which means leaving Rover’s poo on pavements, roads, footpaths, verges and so on could attract a £100 fine). But how best to tackle the problem? Councillors suggested people notify the county council of incidents via https://dorset-self.achieveservice.com/service/DWP_Report_dog_fouling_in_Dorset and other approaches were discussed including encouraging members of the public to be vigilant and remind those less community-minded citizens not to walk away from their pooch’s pile without bagging it first and binning it.

The siting of a new bench by the Memorial Stone on The Causeway was discussed but Cllr Sue Cherry put her colleagues in the picture about the fate of the benches that had been placed there previously. She said that there had been four benches there at one time or another but all had to be removed, due to vandalism, becoming a magnet for litter and trouble and also being a nuisance to grass cutters. After hearing of this history, councillors were lukewarm about the idea, reinforcing their earlier concerns that it could become an evening hangout for teenagers and be abused. However, the idea wasn’t fully benched as it was proposed that if a resident would like to sponsor a bench, complete with a plaque inscription, then the PC would support its siting at the War Memorial but added the caveat that its location may be reviewed if it caused a problem. Clerk Wayne Lewin said the cost of the PC’s chosen model is £500, a sturdy bench made from recycled materials with cast iron sides and arms, as he displayed the image of one. He said that the bench at the Stileham Bank junction is in a very poor state with slats unattached. It may be repairable for the short term, but again, if a resident would like to sponsor this bench – in memoriam of a loved one, for instance – then the PC would be interested. He said that villagers should have the opportunity to remember somebody in this way by donating for new benches around Milborne to replace existing ones that were coming to the end of their service.

A cycle course to help young riders gain practical skills and ride safely on roads attracted a very good response via Facebook and clerk Wayne Lewin booked three Bikeability sessions for 20 cyclists. An added bonus was that the courses were offered to the council free of charge and, with the date set for mid-February, everything

looked promising – that is, until lockdown was issued again. The courses were cancelled although the PC will pursue the idea again when the times allow. When that time does come, the criteria to participate are all cyclists must have a bike in roadworthy condition and wear a helmet. The PC said they may provide some healthy snacks for the young cyclists with funding from the Community Fund.

Other beneficiaries of this fund could be future winners of ‘Light Up Milborne’, a Christmas lights competition, and a front garden contest in the summer, with the Community Fund backing the prizes, suggested by councillors to be spent with a village business. However, councillors were urged to be mindful of the social impact of competitiveness in a community context by one of their number. There was discussion also about where potential winners could spend their prize money; it was said that bias should not be shown to a particular business or businesses at the expense of other enterprises that were less well known. It was agreed to discuss further at a later date.

The precept – the amount the Parish Council sets to cover expenditure as part of the overall Council Tax charge – was discussed with the forthcoming year’s budget in mind. Mr Lewin cautioned the council to be comfortable with the income going out, given the hard year that many have had. He also said that the tax base – the number of households in Milborne that are required to pay Council Tax – had gone down to 434, therefore the precept payment would increase. With the backdrop of Covid, councillors were unanimous with the need to keep the precept at the lowest rate possible. The budget is to remain as set – £11,760 – but £160 would be taken from the PC’s reserves to keep the unit cost of the precept at £27.10, which is the same as last year’s. It was noted that the saving was only pennies but it was important to be seen to recognise the tough year people had had. A member of the public – one of five present – commended the council for not increasing their portion of the Council Tax for residents especially as Dorset Council were looking to increase the main part of it, saying that it showed leadership from the PC.

Grants were awarded to groups operating in the village after the PC opened up an application process in the autumn. These were announced at the December PC meeting; the church applied for funding to produce postcards and was awarded £35; the History Group was given £130 to help with the cost of producing a village history book; Artsreach received £100 to support the community-based entertainment organisation and Friends of MSA First School gave Christmas goodie bags to all pupils, to which the PC contributed £260, although part of this came from the Covid-19

contingency fund. Blandford Town Council had applied for cash to maintain public toilets, but on this the PC did not spend a penny, saying that there was not a direct community benefit and the council had failed to follow the PC’s application process.

There were a few items relating to planning applications at the January meeting, including the proposed plan for an extension at Laracor, Chapel Street. Councillors felt the proposal was a modest addition to the bungalow and all supported the application. There was concern from a resident about the removal of trees at the Huntley Down development site. Having looked into it, councillors were happy that the works were allowed since the tree report specified the removal of ten trees.

County councillor, Emma Parker, had replied to the PC to say that there was no

Budget Planning 21/22

Expenditure Item	Precept 20/21	Expenditure 21/22	Income 21/22	Precept	Reason
Clerk Salary	2900	3000		3000	Increment
Clerk Expenses	130	130		130	
Stationery	100	100		100	
Insurance	350	400		400	Inflation
Professional Fees	600	600		600	
Community Activity Fund	900	500		500	Not used
Defibrillator Fund	380	400		400	
Green Spaces	4400	5700	640	5060	Extra cuts and footpaths
Community Asset Fund	0	600		600	Parish assets
Hall Hire	100	100		100	
Training	100	100		100	
PWLB	1440	770	400	370	Loan expiring
Grants	400	400		400	
Reserves			160		
Totals	11800	12800	1200	11600	

Continued on page 11

Award winning lawyers by your side

With an approach that makes the complicated simple, we work side by side with you to ensure you receive the best advice and results.




Blanchards Bailey
Law for Life

Telephone 01258 459361
www.blanchardsbailey.co.uk

Blandford | Dorchester | Shaftesbury | Weymouth

The
LEGAL
500

Longmead finds a way in trying times

HAPPY New Year from everyone at Longmead Community Farm. It has certainly been a challenging time to start the New Year. Rain, mud and COVID-19 restrictions have made keeping the farm open to support families and young people interesting to say the least. Luckily we have an amazing team who keep at it, always finding new solutions to difficult problems.

We are blessed to work in such beautiful surroundings that the difficulties are always put into perspective. Before Christmas we were so touched by the many donations of Christmas decorations that the local community donated to us. It allowed our team to really bring the beautiful farmhouse to life for the many young people who visited. We are so grateful and can't wait to invite you all up for a cup of tea.

Our volunteers were so resilient and came to help right up to Christmas putting the farm to rights. We've only been able to offer a cup of tea to people outside and socially distanced so their efforts in the cold weather can only be described as valiant!

Another exciting opportunity before Christmas was the presentation of a cheque by local solicitors Blanchards Bailey. They have supported us in the past with generous raffle prizes and they are looking forward to bringing a team of volunteers to work on the farm for the day.



We have some exciting news about our new wardens so don't miss out on next month!

Best wishes

Sarah and the team

Continued from page 9

movement on the Camelco development at the planning department, with Dorset Council saying the hold up was due to difficulties of working in Covid times. Correspondence had been received from Ladybirds playgroup asking about progress and for a follow up meeting, but the PC is to reply to the playgroup to say there is nothing new to add, although councillors felt it important they were kept in the loop in any case.

It was a similar story with Fox View, nothing had been forthcoming from the development company, but Cllr Stephens said that the state of the perimeter of the site that borders the bend of The Causeway should be kept in check so that the weeds don't get out of hand. She said that the bend can be precarious anyway with fast moving cars, but especially with pedestrians social distancing now ("the Covid dance") and sometimes being off the pavement, made it even more dangerous if vehicles are pushed further away from the site boundary.

Ed Richards

The Zoom link for the next Parish Council meeting will be on the PC website and Facebook (Reporter and community pages)

2020 Weather in Milborne St. Andrew

JANUARY and February 2020 continued as mild and wet as 2019 ended. There was 131.4mm of rain in January and 193.6 mm in February. The average temperature in both months was over 1.5°C above average and there were four named storms in those two months.



The first 15 days of March saw rain each day but then there was a dry period of 42 days in which only 14.2mm of rain fell and the ground that had been waterlogged throughout the winter dried very quickly to a point when the topsoil was lacking in moisture. That moisture

came from a wet day on 30th April with 24.2mm of rain. May was a dry and warm month with only 2.1mm of rain and 1°C above average temperature. The temperature reached 28°C on 27th May. May was a month when everyone could get outside and enjoy the weather and probably contributed to the decline in Covid-19 cases at that time. June had 143% of average rainfall with 81.2mm and July was around average rainfall with 47.5mm. There was 25.9mm of rain on 25th July much of which fell in less than an hour in the evening and caused some local flooding. The temperatures in June and July were slightly below average.



August was wet month with 149.1mm of rain which is 210% of average. There were some very strong winds in the last week of that month with storm Francis on 25th.

Most of September was dry with 38.7mm of rain, 18.0mm of that falling on the 30th.

A wet October with 182mm of rain was followed by a dryer November with 84.1mm.

December rainfall was 181.3mm with storm Bella on 26th.

Total rainfall for 2020 was 1213.8mm which is 121% of my 50 year average.

The highest temperature was 34°C on 11th August and the coldest night was on 31st December when the temperature reached -7°C in lower parts of the village.

My 30 year rolling average rainfall has increased by 99.7mm over the last 20 years and my 30 year rolling average temperature has increased by 0.68°C over the same period.

2020 was a 'mast' year with a profusion of fruit, nuts and berries. This happens around every ten years or so and it largely remains a mystery as to why trees and shrubs should all produce an abundance of mast at the same time. It is generally thought the seasons weather causes a mast year but the weather pattern is not the same each mast year. It may be that the weather in the previous season has some influence upon it or could there be a botanical social media?



Pluvius.



'Helpful Villager' award – here's what you said



Glenn at our Londis is my nominated hero keeping the shop open throughout this difficult year.

I would nominate Sarah Fox and the Royal Oak. They have delivered meals pretty well throughout the mad times. In the first lock down it was our sanity in a crazy world!

I nominate delivery drivers Sheryl House and Suzie for working so hard throughout the year due to covid they had a huge amount of deliveries then of course Christmas deliveries to get through long hours in all weather.

I nominate Richard Lock. During COVID he has been the mainstay at keeping the Sports Club open and 'COVID Safe'. He has also dipped into his own pockets and has made regular donations totalling many hundreds of pounds throughout 2020 for food hampers to unknown local people.

Philip from the Post Office. He has been open during the whole pandemic and has been a complete star to my nan who lives next door to the Post Office. Nothing is too much trouble for him and he serves everyone with a smile. A total unsung hero who deserves more praise than he thinks he is worth.

I would like to nominate Sandy Sach. Reasons being for organising the volunteers who supported Gray's Stores and Steeptonbill Farm Shop. This took a huge amount of time and effort but Sandy works so efficiently and quietly without making a fuss

Amy Stephens always on hand to volunteer for anyone who needs help.

I would like for vote Glenn Bratley. Not only did he support the village volunteers during the initial stages of the first lockdown, by providing them with orders to be delivered but also helped by doing home deliveries himself. He then re-opened his shop in a very 'Covid' safe way. This has been a valued village resource throughout the majority of the pandemic. He is always helpful, kind and friendly. He is an amazing man not only running the business, supervising staff but managing to be a single parent.

I would like to nominate Amy Stephens for star award. She's worked quietly throughout, looking out for other people, delivering shopping from the shop and takeaway from the pub etc. She's always got other people's interests at heart, and looks out for everyone, it seems!

I nominate Tracy King, she works as nurse in Dorchester hospital. She also shaved her head for the little angels trust. Amazing woman!

Paul Stockley for riding 123 plus miles and raising £540 for Ladybirds as well as working 6 days a week building medical equipment to hospitals around the world

I would like to nominate Sandie Sach for her efforts in organising volunteers at the very start of the pandemic. She put her own private email and phone number out there and did so much to get things rolling. She has been quietly helping behind the scenes all these months without blowing her own trumpet

I nominate Lyn Atkins and Paul Hopkins for villager of the year. They do so much to support Longmead Community Farm and the village. They helped us support vulnerable families and young people during covid. They do so much for us for free and always volunteer to take surplus around to the community and those in need.

I nominate Glenn from the shop. He has been amazing through this pandemic. Not only looking after his girls but making sure he goes above and beyond to help all the villagers in these difficult times and always smiling or singing

I would like to Suggest Phillip Minton Smith as a special person in Milborne. He helps anyone who asks. He does not want any thanks or recognition. He even bought in extra food when the Londis shop was shut but he was left in the lurch as soon as the shop opened again. We need to support him for the wonderful person he is.

I nominate Sandie Sach and Amy Stephens. They both have acted on initiative, Sandie organising the village Covid support group to look after vulnerable residents and Amy for similarly offering help to anyone in Milborne and generally being a ray of sunshine!

Tracy King, Philip at the Post Office, the girls in the shop, Sandra Northover – they have all gone above and beyond to help people get through this year. These are just a few names, I know that there are loads more who deserve a medal for what they have done.

I nominate Richard Lock. He works so hard with only a couple of helpers and often working alone. During these hard times he has made the sports club covid safe and made sure that so many can keep up their activities

I nominate Mr Ed Frost and Mrs Rose Frost as the most helpful people in the Village. They have given over a long period great help and assistance to various organizations and people in the village that I know personally.

I would like to nominate all of the team at village shop

A village full of helpful heroes

WHAT a response we had to our hunt for Helpful Villagers here in Milborne St. Andrew! Reading all the lovely nominations we received raised our spirits and we hope it does yours too as we share some with you (in no particular order, please accept our apologies if we accidentally miss any as the nominations came in fast and plentiful).

Ed and Rose Frost for their tireless assistance to various organizations and individuals over many years.

Lyn Atkins and Paul Hopkins for their support to Longmead Community Farm, vulnerable families and young people.

Amy Stephens for offering help to anyone in Milborne especially the vulnerable by delivering shopping, meals and any other help needed, she is described as “a ray of sunshine to many” and “always got other people’s interests at heart”

Sandie Sach was nominated for her initiative and setting up and coordinating a list of volunteers to assist anyone that needed help whether it be prescription dropping off or collecting, a letter posting, some shopping done or a four-legged friend walking or any other reasonable request. This not only ensured people had all the basic needs taken care of but in the safest possible way to protect our vulnerable villagers. One person said “She has been quietly helping behind the scenes all these months without blowing her own trumpet”.

Di Harris for supporting villagers in any way she can especially the vulnerable with shopping, gardening, dog walking, baking and been a good friend at a time when many are feeling isolated.

Richard Lock for his tireless work and dedication to the Sports Club, fundraising and continually striving for improvements to the pavilion’s facilities. He has also supported food hampers for those in need.

Jo Whitfield for supporting our vulnerable villagers with shopping every week since the end of March.

Wendy Joyce for supporting vulnerable villagers with shopping and any other needs.

Tracy King, Tracy had her head shaved raising funds for Little Angels Trust and working as a nurse in DCH throughout the pandemic, she was described as “an amazing woman!”

Tracy Palmer also had her head shaved to raise funds for Weldmar Hospice where she has also worked thorough out the pandemic.

Paul Stockley for riding 123 miles to raise funds in aid of Ladybirds pre-school as well as working six days a week building medical equipment for hospitals around the world.

Sheryl House and Susie Lyon for dedication to making sure our deliveries arrived safely in all weathers, allowing the vulnerable to stay home and safe and making sure Christmas wasn’t cancelled!

Sandra Northover for her continued help supporting people around the village.

Phillip Minton Smith was nominated not only for his swift reaction to the pandemic in his business continually sanitising all surfaces/keypads, ensuring a one in one out policy, stocking extra lines, opening extra hours to try and support the villagers while the shop was closed, but also for his support of others in need. One person described him as “A total unsung hero who deserves more praise than he thinks he is worth”.

Sarah Fox and the team at the Royal Oak for diversifying their local business and delivered meals throughout lockdowns, one villager described it as “our sanity in a crazy world!”.

Glenn Bratley and the team at the Londis for going above and beyond to help all the villagers in these difficult times, taking steps to ensure staff and customers are kept safe. Glenn has been described as “always smiling or singing”.

Of course, choosing the three winners gave the judges some sleepless nights as they believe all our helpful villagers not only listed here but quietly spotted around the village were winners! In the end the three judges came to the decision to award Phillip Minton Smith £50 M&S voucher, Sandie Sach received a bottle of Tanqueray Gin, and Amy Stephens received a box of M&S Biscuits.



The *Reporter* would like to thank the three anonymous judges who sponsored this event.



MILBORNE ST. ANDREW FIRST SCHOOL



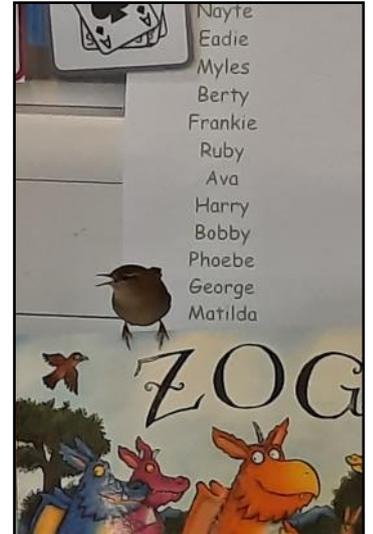
Learning together and having fun

SCHOOL NEWS

Milborne First School hope that all our children and their families are safe and well during Lockdown number three. If you, or someone you know, would like to find out more about our school please have a look at our website www.milborne.dorset.sch.uk/ On the 'Home' screen there is a video giving some insight into school life and what our current pupils think of our school. Happy viewing!

On a very cold, frosty morning Robins made patterns on the grass and found toys frozen in the ice. We also did yoga every day and had a visitor after school. The wren wanted to read our story we think!

We've been learning about nocturnal animals in Rabbits – Storytelling 'Owl Babies', building a nest using stacking and creating a moving picture using split pins.



CONTACTS

If you require any information about the school, including admission details, or would like to arrange a visit please contact the school office

Headteacher: Mrs Sharon Hunt

School Secretary: Mrs B Hosford

Chair of Governors: David French

FOS Chairman: Marie Chappell and Natalie Dennis

e-mail: office@milborne.dorset.sch.uk

website: www.milborne.dorset.sch.uk

Tel: (01258) 837362

Fax: (01258) 837170

Raccoons have been exploring the pond area in Outdoor Education and have discovered that we need to thin out the pondweed. We also created some Andy Goldsworthy inspired sculptures and found lots of ice in the tyres on the icy days! Even the pond froze over last week. We are looking forward to having help to clear some of the pond weed when we all get back to normal.



'Virtually' a Gardening Club



WITH our monthly meetings on hold, our Chairperson, Sally Dyer, is encouraging us to send each other photos of plant-based developments in our early spring gardens; so, we thought we would share some with *Reporter* readers.

Ingenious and practical Brian Burton (husband of member Sheila Burton) has repurposed an unloved wooden pallet into two planters in their garden.

José Thomas threatened her long dormant orchid with the bin, which promptly took fright and bloomed!

Top orchid tip – always grow in a clear pot. *Angela & Mark Johnson*



Deadline for the next issue 14th February. Send your stories and pictures to m.s.a.reporter@yahoo.co.uk



Chris Perrins Chimney Sweep



Solid fuel stove installer



Flue relining
Fire place alterations
Chimney repairs
Cowls fitted

01258 837449
07824 698109
csweep.co.uk
cfperrins@gmail.com



Purveyors of the Finest Gardens

01935 850848

**Extend your home and maximise
your outdoor space**

Consultation
Design
Construction
Ground Preparations
Water Features
Turfing & Seeding
Planting
Renovations
Wild Flower
Meadows
Lawn Care

As seen on the **BBC**



Philip Trim
Contractors

ULTIMATE LIQUID & SLURRY SOLUTIONS

Septic Tanks / Liquid Waste Management

- * *Domestic & Business Septic Tanks*
- * *Liquid Waste Disposal*
- * *Local Professional Service*
- * *Event Hire*



RING NOW FOR DETAILS

01929 472192
07971 005579

Chamberlaynes Farm Workshop
Bere Regis Wareham BH20 7LS



National Association of
Agricultural Contractors



Environment
Agency Reg.
Wessex Water
Organic Waste

www.philiptrimcontractors.com

Email: info@philiptrimcontractors.com

Are delivered charity bags legit?

HOW do you know if the collection bags dropping through your letterbox asking for your old clothes, shoes, CD and DVDs and other household items are genuine?

According to the National Fraud Investigation Bureau, charity bag fraud costs £50 million per year in the UK. Some charity bags are distributed by fraudulent collectors who claim that donated goods will go to charities, legitimate or otherwise, but have been pocketing the proceeds for themselves.

A large proportion of charity bag collections are genuine, and they will feature the charity's details and registered number on the bag. If you want to check them out then you can look up the charity from it's registration number on the Charity Commission's website <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/charity-commission> or call the Charity Commission helpline on 0300 066 9197.

However as only English or Welsh charities need to be registered with the Charity Commission it means that it's more difficult to check an overseas-based charity and you may wish to take this into account when deciding whether to support the collection.

If you want to donate it's also worth being aware that some charity bag collections are run by legitimate commercial collectors on behalf of genuine charities. These commercial collectors will take a percentage of the profits for themselves. This is all perfectly legal but they should tell you this so check out the small print on the charity bag to see how much profit they will keep and make sure you are happy with that before you donate.

Look out for the Buy With Confidence logo – trading standards check traders so you don't have to.

Visit the website www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk or call The Citizens Advice Consumer Service 0808 223 1133.



The cane chair Repair Shop!

This is a plea for help!

DO you have a cane seated chair languishing in your loft/spare room which needs reseating?

I have recently enjoyed learning how to perform this task and feel that I have finally found a hobby which is do-able, but I need more chairs to practise on.

The first chair I have completed is an old nursing chair I was given for my 20th birthday. It unfortunately had a foot put through it 30 years ago and has taken me this long to get it sorted. It's amazing what you can achieve being in lockdown. Being a curved seat, it wasn't



the easiest one to learn on but I'm always up for a challenge!

As you can see from the photos it's quite a transformation. I enjoyed working on the woodwork as well.

There are some mistakes, which at a quick glance aren't noticeable but I know they are there.

I am presently working on my second chair but after that . . . ?

Would you be willing for me to practise on yours? If so, please get in touch on 01258 837329. *Liz Askew*



Hustings Electrical Ltd

New Services - Traditional Values

www.hustingselectrical.com

office@hustingselectrical.com

Office: 01258 837385

Mobile: 07966 403 965 or 07549 380 217

Call or email us with your requirements

Electrical Contractors Since 1980

Agricultural – Commercial – Industrial - Bespoke Panel Building & Controls
Domestic – Equestrian – Intruder - SMS & Programmable Logic Automation
Alarms – Emergency Lighting – Testing - Computer Infrastructure Services
Inspection – Control Systems & Panels - Data Recovery – Firewall Security
CCTV – Data Cabling and Computing - Custom Builds & Repairs
Malware Rescue – Security & Access Control Systems
Website & Web Applications - IP – CCTV

No job too small, Friendly, Reliable & Trustworthy Team.

Call our Office for a Free No Obligation Quote

Watercress Cottage, Tincton, Dorchester DT2 8QP



Clubhouse1896

Get the New Year off to a great start and visit us for some fantastic food!

We are open to the public all year round!

New menu starting January 2021!

Serving food between

8am—5pm Saturday & Sunday

9am—5pm Monday—Friday



Clubhouse 1896 @ The Ashley Wood Golf Club
Wimborne Road, Blandford Forum,
Dorset, DT11 9HN
www.clubhouse1896.com
/ 01258452253 /
email: info@clubhouse1896.com

PRICELESS PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

Do it right, do it once!

- *Painting
- *Decorating
- *Plastering
- *Rendering
- *K Rend
- *Tiling
- *Bathrooms
- *Kitchens
- *Gardening

Email: pricelessplastering@yahoo.co.uk
Phone: 07943626082

Let us transform the quality of your lawn!

From as little as £15!



Our specially tailored treatment programme will ensure your lawn is in excellent condition all year round

Weed Free ■ Lush Green ■ Moss Controlled



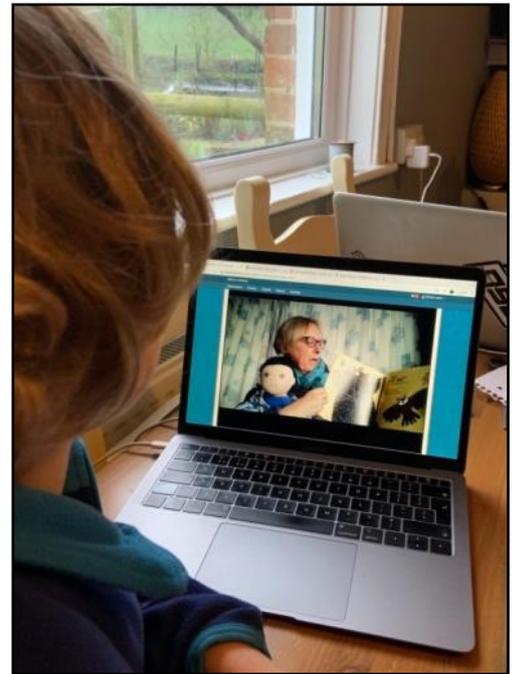
FREE Lawn Analysis & No Obligation Quote

Call us NOW on: 01258 839255

FREephone 0808 100 1413 • www.greensleeves-uk.com

Temporary closure at Ladybirds

LADYBIRDS started back in January with very few parents opting to send their children in. On the first day there were seven children and the next only three. We then estimated that there would only be four children attending after this. After discussions between staff and Committee we came to the difficult decision to close until after half term and return on 22nd February. Hopefully by then the number of COVID cases will have reduced and there will be 'light at the end of the tunnel'. We all hope this is the case and we can return to a sense of normality.



We know this decision will be received by some as the right thing to do and by others as an overreaction. Whatever camp you fall into we can assure you that the decision was made by taking into consideration whether working parents (critical workers) had other means of support, that none of the current children fall into the vulnerable group, and the welfare of staff and their families is important.

We would also like to point out that in the first lockdown government funding continued, albeit reduced, as it was based on children registered to attend the preschool. In this lockdown Government made it clear that preschools could only claim for 'bums on seats' and with few children attending costs far exceeded income.

We may not be in the Hall but activity is going on behind closed doors. Regular video stories are being recorded and suggestions of activities to keep the children occupied are shared with parents. We have started with creating an "All about me" booklet. Parents have been posting onto their Tapestry online journals some excellent examples of what the children are doing. Well done all. Looking forward to seeing you all soon.

Anyone experiencing difficulty is welcome to contact Liz on 07771 512427 or liz@milborneladybirds.com
Liz Dyer

Milborne Ladybirds

Learning through play to help children achieve their potential

Opening times:

Monday & Tuesday 9.00 - 14.30

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday 9.00 - 13.00

Term time only.

Minimum attendance 3 hours per day starting at 9am

With highly qualified and friendly staff, we offer a high quality preschool experience for children aged 2 years to school age in Milborne St Andrew and the surrounding area

Rated **GOOD** again by
Ofsted

"Children demonstrate an eagerness to learn, gain control and coordination in their physical skills and become confident communicators"

To find out more:

Call in to see us at the village hall or contact Liz Dyer (Leader) on 01258 839117; 07771 512427; liz@milborneladybirds.com Committee on secretary@milborneladybirds.com

Ofsted registered no.217717

www.milborneladybirds.com

Registered Charity no. 1087441

WOODS FUNERAL SERVICES

Providing a caring service since 1878

Independent Funeral Directors

Memorial Specialist

24 Hour Personal Service

Prepaid Funeral Plans

Pauline J Guy Dip FD MBIFD

Allan Quartermaine Dip FD LMBIFD



Visit us at: 11A Icen Way, Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 1EW

Call us on: 01305 250425 Fax: 01305 250625

Email: enquiries@woodsfuneralservices.co.uk

Website: www.woodsfuneralservices.co.uk



Would you like to lose an average one stone per month? No slow down! While eating chocolate, curry, mac and cheese, and many other yummy meal replacements? With one2one you CAN!

- No joining fee
- No consultation fees
- No group weigh ins
- 1-2-1 support from me
- Backed by medical professionals
- Nutritionally complete
- 6 steps find one to suit your lifestyle
- From weight loss to maintenance
- More than just soups and shakes
- Fast, safe, weight loss
- Appointments at your home or mine
- Day, evening and weekend appointments

Call or text Marie Hayter on 07917 541857 or find me on Facebook

THE 1:1 DIET
by CambridgeWeight Plan®

JURASSIC — COMPUTERS —



*The incredibly friendly
computer people*

Call Darrell Hounsom or Lee Thompson for jargon free, patient, friendly computer help for home and business users.

Whatever your computer problem, call us... we can help!

01305 755668

Repairs • Servicing • Sales • Training • Virus Removal

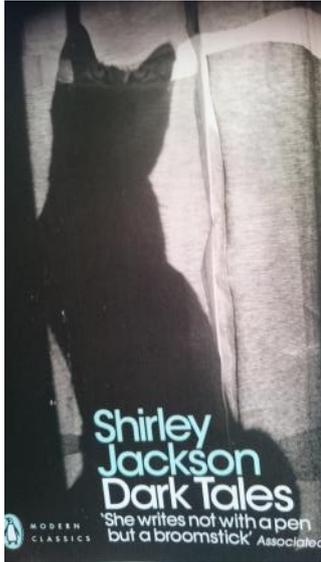
Email: info@jurassic-computers.co.uk

Web: www.jurassic-computers.co.uk

Are you ready for a new PC or Laptop? If so, come and see us. We offer a complete service and will guide you through the whole process. We can supply, update, set-up and then transfer your documents/emails from your old system. We will give you the benefit of our combined 37 years experience gained whilst working for Kingston Maurward College in Dorchester.

PROSPECT HOUSE, PEVERELL AVE EAST, POUNDBURY, DORCHESTER DT1 3WE

A Good Read: 'Dark Tales' by Shirley Jackson



THESE are 17 mesmerising, unsettling 'tales'. Each one creates a misleading sense of normality. They are strange, unexpected offerings from what some have called "the Queen of American Gothic". They feature, among others, a loving wife; a concerned citizen living in a haunted world where nothing is as it seems and nowhere is safe. They are ironically humorous, uncanny and decidedly creepy! The first one grabs and pulls you in, "The Possibility of Evil". It is unexpectedly dark. A modern novelist, Donna Dark has commented that "Shirley Jackson's stories are among the most terrifying ever written – no-one can touch her". Her world is definitely eerie and unforgettable.

She is described as one of the great practitioners of literature of the 'darker impulses' finding the unnerving in everyday experiences with a tone between 1950's America and medieval folklore.

They create a tone of quiet normalcy that changes, sitting in our minds and fermenting into fullness, absolutely brilliant. Each story has easily accessible settings, some seem to be unfinished but are thought provoking, sometimes unpleasant but intriguing. Decidedly odd, quirky, capturing human degeneracy and paranoia in her writings. They are "terrifyingly enjoyable". Her themes which can be traced back to her childhood experiences with her mother are mysticism, mental power and witchcraft. All strong early influences created through a difficult unloving relationship. She died at the early age of 48 years in 1965 having produced six novels (one of which we read in the Book Club, "We have Always Lived in the Castle") two memoirs and 200 short stories finding fame with a TV adaptation of "The Lottery" in 1952. She is said to have influenced Sarah Waters, Stephen King, Joanna Harris and Claire Fuller amongst other well-known writers. An early novel, "Hangsamen" was based on the true story of an 18 year old student at Bennington College who disappeared. This case was never solved. She was chief breadwinner in her marriage together with raising four children.

Her persona was described as "witty, powerful and imposing" Shirley Jackson believed that 'true horror is found in the human psyche' and this is illustrated so clearly in her writing. Ostracized in her lifetime, the town in which she lived now honours her legacy by celebrating a Shirley Jackson Day on June 27th the day "The Lottery" took place. She was an examiner of post-war American anxieties, a social satirist, a creator of modern, capricious, fatalistic fairy tales which exert a mordant, hypnotic spell. Just don't read them all at once! *Carole Fornachon*

Hilton residents support Neighbourcar

ONCE a month on a Saturday morning Hilda Rendell organises a coffee morning and raffle at Hilton Church. Apart from the social aspect, one of the purposes of this coffee morning has been to generate funds for a local organisation chosen every year. For 2020, Milton Abbas Neighbourcar, the local community transport provider, was chosen.

However, 2020 has turned out to be a bit different since the spread of Covid-19 and ensuing lockdowns and restrictions that have come with it! For starters, Hilton Church (like other churches across the country) was closed for most of the year. Undeterred, Hilda put her thinking cap on and came up with the idea of socially distanced cake sales (and, of course, the traditional raffle). Initially, cakes were left outside the church door and donations received for the cakes collected by residents. Then Debbie Tibbey offered her garden for gatherings once total lockdown was lifted.

The consequences are that Hilda has been able to present a cheque for £1,563.21 from the year's profits to Neighbourcar to bolster their funds. Nigel Hodder, one of the Coordinators in Neighbourcar said "We are really grateful that Hilda thought we were a worthwhile scheme for her donation last year. The money will refill the coffers following the prescription delivery programme we undertook for the surgery between the beginning of lockdown until the end of August. We did not charge the surgery or their patients a penny for the daily delivery service but Neighbourcar reimbursed their drivers for mileage costs where appropriate. Inevitably, this ate into our funds, so the donation is a really helpful boost. I would really like to thank Hilda, Debbie and the residents of Hilton for their contributions to the monthly fundraising despite the effects of coronavirus".

The photograph shows Hilda Rendell presenting the cheque to Nigel Hodder outside Hilton Church, watched by Debbie Tibbey.

Nigel Hodder



Dorchester Foodbank Donations

The Dorchester foodbank have recently seen an unprecedented increase in referrals during these difficult times and are running short of some staple items. They would appreciate donations of non perishable goods (the longer the shelf life the better).

If anyone is able to assist with providing donations of any of the below items I am happy to receive them at my home address and will arrange to deliver them to their base in Dorchester.

I understand that if Dorchester have an abundance of donations they will pass excess on to Bridport and Weymouth offices so nothing is wasted.

Please personal message me online for further details or contact me on 07825880807 if you would like to donate but cannot drop to me in person and I will arrange collection.

Donations of the following items would be welcome: Washing powder, washing up liquid, multi purpose surface cleaner, Shampoo, spray deodorant (male and female), Baked beans, pasta sauce, fish (not just tuna), tinned veg such as peas, carrots, . . . mushrooms, sweet corn, rice pudding and custard, tinned fruit, cereal, including variety packs and porridge pots/sachets, jam.

All donations will be much appreciated.

Thank You!

Sandie Sach

P.N. Gray Electrical

Limited

AGRICULTURAL - DOMESTIC - INDUSTRIAL -
COMMERCIAL INSTALLATIONS

ESTABLISHED OVER 60 YEARS!

ALL ELECTRICAL WORK UNDERTAKEN FROM MINOR WORKS TO
INSTALLATIONS.
THIS INCLUDES INSPECTING AND TESTING PROPERTIES, UNDERTAKE
REWIRES AND
ANY GENERAL MAINTENANCE.

PLEASE CONTACT US ON THE PHONE OR EMAIL FOR A FREE QUOTATION
OR SOME FRIENDLY ADVICE:

TEL: 01258-837354

MOB: 07774-838851

EMAIL: pngrayelectrical@btinternet.com
www.pngrayelectrical.co.uk

RELIABLE, AFFORDABLE AND A FAST RESPONSE
ELECTRICAL SERVICE,
IN DORSET AND SURROUNDING COUNTIES.



In need of a Window Cleaner?

Darren

for a friendly and reliable service

Clear Vision

Fully insured for complete peace of mind

For that clearer vision just call:

01258 721975 / 07704 656777

or email: clearvision150377@gmail.com

Domestic and Commercial
Gutters Downpipes Facias Soffits
Conservatories Flash Roofs

The Milborne Players are nearly
ready with their production of



A Christmas Card

By Charles Dickens

Keep an eye on our website
www.milborneplayers.org.uk

Listen and liven up your Christmas
And you don't even have to buy a ticket!

Treat a member of your family.....



To book an appointment, call

Emma Whittington
Staddlestones
Milton Road
Milborne St Andrew
Dorset, DT11 0JZ

Tel: 07824 392813
01258 839171

emmawhittington@btinternet.com

Follow us on

the
DORSET
GROOMER

Which are your favourite bits of the Reporter?

A FEW years ago, the *Reporter* asked its readers which were their favourite articles that they enjoyed reading each month.

One thing which hasn't changed much over the twelve+ year lifetime of the *Reporter* is the community contacts and community events diary. I can't imagine anyone turning over to these pages and saying "Wow! My favourite!" Perhaps they should, because beneath the surface of this rather dull looking couple of pages (now on page 27) is really an astonishing and amazing guide to how caring and vibrant our village is.

So many organisations, groups, clubs and societies are there in black and white. Each run by an individual volunteer and/or a committee and each one represents the spirit of co-operation and self-help and willingness to make a positive contribution to village life. Alas, most of these groups are in abeyance at the moment but I hope will very soon be back in operation.

Of course, not everyone wants to be part of a club or society, some individuals keep themselves to themselves, belong to nothing and contribute nothing, it's their choice. Personally, I think we've all had a bit too much of keeping ourselves to ourselves this past year. Some people are more sociable and altruistic and belong to several groups. For some poor health or other difficult circumstances mean they are unable to play a full part in village life. However, without the volunteers to help run the clubs by being members of a committee, then these groups would soon cease to function.

So, if you belong to a club and especially if you belong to several clubs you should be willing to volunteer to play your part in the spade work. Some people are generous in spirit and give up their time because they see it as their duty and also because they see the logic of give and take. Also, when you do volunteer it is very satisfying to know that you have made a difference to our village life, however small.

There has been some discussion on the Milborne St Andrew Community web page on Facebook about the lack of facilities for the youth in the village. When I was growing up in my similar sized village in Yorkshire in the 1950's there were Brownies, Cubs, Guides and Scouts, an active youth club meeting twice a week, afternoon Sunday school, children's choir, Youth Brass Band, Saturday morning cinema, youth football and cricket teams. All of these needed help from volunteers. No parents ever wanted to assist with the thankless task of marshalling at the cinema but reluctant helpers were found because everyone appreciated what a great facility it was for both parents and children. Likewise, there were plenty of offers of help with Brownies, but far fewer for Cubs.

Sadly, Milborne has lost its scouting groups and its youth club partly because of lack of support from the community. It's no good just bemoaning that there is nothing for the children to do, what is needed is action from us all, deeds not empty words on social media. Not leaving it to 'someone else' to apply for a grant or waiting for 'The Government' or 'The Council' to magically give us tens of thousands of pounds. A friend of mine lives in an Oxfordshire village and they recently raised a huge amount of money for a state-of-the-art skatepark on the edge of the village. Soon the drug dealers and groomers from the nearby town moved in, no doubt attracted by the large number of unsupervised teenagers. Be careful what you wish for. Volunteers for marshalling anyone?

Perhaps we should ditch the grandiose ideas and start small? Stop pressing our noses against the windows of the Rolls Royce showrooms and just jump in our ancient Fiesta and drive?

It doesn't need a huge grant of money for just one or two people to set up a children's cinema club or to start a Beavers or Brownies pack or to form a children's football or cricket club or a Youth club, technology club, model building club, chess club, board games club, tennis club, table tennis club, children's choir. I'm sure others can think of loads more ideas, perhaps ask your own children what they would like? There are, quite rightly, safeguarding issues with anyone in contact with children but I'm sure this is surmountable. We are amazingly lucky in our village to have the village hall, sports club, school and church all of which are in easy walking distance and could offer accessible space for meetings. So, is there anyone who is up for it?

I am now in my 70's, what is needed is youth and enthusiasm . . . it will soon be 20 years since I moved into Milborne St. Andrew and I still think it's a great place to live. We have all seen inspirational and selfless examples of generous community spirit over the last few tricky months. However, as an example of the other side of the coin, I fell into a socially distanced conversation with someone outside our village hall recently who had never set foot in our hall despite having lived in the village for over five years, likewise the pub. Is this you?

Perhaps, although a little bit late, make it one of your New Year's Resolutions to volunteer, support and join in with your community more? Let's all try to pull our weight or even go that extra mile to make up for the 'mean well but never quite get round to its', the 'much too busy' also the 'couldn't care less' and apathetic types. In our new post-COVID village let's all try to make small improvements to enhance life for young and old alike.

Lastly, a heartfelt thank you to all those who, whatever age you are or however busy, do your bit and always have done. You know who you are.

Rose Frost

The train now leaving

HOW do you get to Dorchester or Blandford? By bus? By car? How about by train? Well if the plans presented in 1883 had gone ahead then that may have been possible.

Reported in the Western Gazette on 27th April 1883 an open meeting had been held at Blandford Town Hall where a map was presented showing the proposed route from Dorchester to Salisbury via Blandford. The line would have bypassed Stinford, then on to Puddletown (station) to Milborne St Andrew (station) to Winterborne Whitechurch (station) and to Blandford where a new station would be necessary. The line would then run to Salisbury via Pimperne (station) Tarrant Hinton (station) Sixpenny Handley (station) and Coombe Basset (station).

The meeting was attended by many of the leading towns people, local clergy and farmers. Mr Rickman who addressed the meeting said "that the feeling amongst all classes along the entire route was one of unanimous approval, and especially as regard the landowners and farmers, who had testified by letter and signature their hearty concurrence in the project . . . among those who had given their approval were the Earl Shaftesbury, the Earl of Pembroke, General Pit-Rivers, Mr. H. R. Farquharson, and Mr. C. J. Hambro."

This wasn't the first time that such a route had been proposed; as early as 1846 it had been suggested but at that time there was still a lot of opposition to railways especially by landowners. The estimated cost, including the purchase of land was £350,000 (that's about 20 million in today's money) and although it was agreed to form a provisional committee I can't find any further report in the newspapers. Around the same time there was a proposal to run a line from Dorchester to Sturminster Newton via Cheselborne, Melcombe Bingham and Haselbury Bryan.

Needless to say that neither line ever came about so no trains ever chuffed their way through the village and if it had then the Beeching cuts would, no doubt, have finished it off. Of course it might have changed Milborne completely.

The question is where would the route have gone and where would the station have been?

Linda Wright

Local small-ads

Small ads of less than 30 words from local, private, advertisers are published **free of charge**

For Sale – Large office chair £5

For Sale – Projector (works through computer) and screen £10

For Sale – George Foreman grill £5

For Sale – Metal extension ladder £30

Phone 01258 837668

GRASSBY FUNERAL SERVICE

*Still a family run business,
serving the local community since 1861*

Office and Chapel of Rest
8 PRINCES ST,
DORCHESTER
Tel. 01305 262338 (24 Hours)



MEMORIAL MASONRY
Memorial showroom at
9 Princes St, Dorchester

www.grassby-funeral.co.uk

Barry Bright

Carpenter and General Builder

FREE ESTIMATES

Local builder for last 30 years

All building works undertaken

Extensions, All carpentry and roofing

Repairs, Maintenance

Hard landscape, Fencing, Brick Pavior Drives

Kitchens, Bathrooms

Double Glazing, Conservatories, Carports
and all plastic cladding

Also decoration work undertaken

Telephone: 01258 837042 Mobile: 07787551256
Greenacres, Dorchester Hill, Milborne St. Andrew
Blandford Forum, Dorset DT11 0JQ

What Next?

By Jan Beaumont ©

The new year has just started
And I'm having a wee doubt
That I'll find enough of interest
To write more poems about!

Lets face it I've gone crazy
And I've written night and day
Just hoping that there'll be much more
That I will find to say.

The year that's gone was so damned tough
We'd covid, shootings, Trump,
With Brexit, Megxit, poor George Floyd
Just which way should I jump?

They all made easy poetry
But I must surely say
That while I hope most disappear
There's some I hope will stay!

For really who could give us more
Than Donald did so well?
I trust he'll keep his presence felt
But only time will tell!

We don't want more disasters thanks
Just good old fashioned fun
So I can fill my days with verse
Through Twenty-twenty-one!

Veganuary

By Jan Beaumont ©

This month there is a movement
To try and have less meat
To help both health and planet
Just think of what you eat.

I know that many of you
Will not agree at all
And that is fine, for some will not
Just want to make that call.

But even if you try it
For just two days a week
You might find that you like it
Now wouldn't that be neat?

I love a plant based burger
They're certainly not yuck
Its nice to enjoy 'chicken'
When you know it didn't cluck!

Ladybirds AGM

Interested villagers are welcome to join our AGM to be held **Thursday 25 February 2021 at 7.30pm by Zoom** conference call. If you value a village preschool do please join us help secure our future.

Let Liz or Paul @milborneladybirds.org know so we can register you for the event.

HI EVERYONE, Rosie here again, guess what . . . we took the tin box on wheels off to a new country called 'Wales'. Some people call it wet Wales and I think they're right! When we got there my old friend Bulmer was there with his mum and dad in their tin box! Poor dad still had a bad knee so he couldn't do much, so we left him on the beach while the rest of us went for a walk. It was very busy there but me and Bulmer enjoyed jumping about in the sea, Bulmer is a better swimmer than me so I let him bring the sticks back. We got some lovely ice creams and I got my little cornet at the end – yummy!

One day we had a terrible storm, we tried to go for a walk by the seaside but Mandy who is very slim nearly got blown away so we came back. Then we went to Bulmers caravan and boy was it windy (some of that was Bulmer though), His awning was flapping about and nearly took off, it was so scary the grown ups had to start on the special juice early to settle their nerves (mum said it was 5 o'clock somewhere, but I said not here it's not).

Guess what happened to me and Bulmer the day after the storm, my mum and her friends got in the car and drove off without us dogs, we couldn't believe it! Apparently the place they were visiting, Portmeirion, didn't allow dogs, what sort of place is that!

It wasn't too bad being left behind with dad, we got to sit out in the sunshine and watch the rest of the campers and I got my dinner on time at 5 o'clock so that was good.

Bye for now, love Rosie

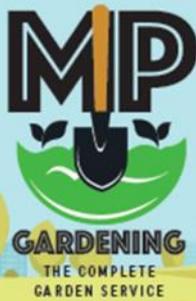
Rosie's travels



The complete garden service from MP Gardening!

OUR SERVICES INCLUDE:

- Lawn Cutting & Edging
- Garden Clearance
- Tree Pruning • Turfing • Hedge Cutting
- Hard Landscaping • Paths & Patios
- Fencing & Gates • Decking
- Pressure Washing



Paul David: 07841 506839

email: mandpgardening@aol.com

8 The Rings • Milborne St. Andrew • Blandford • DT11 0HY

Kens Kabs

TRAVEL SAFELY IN OUR HANDS



Our Services Include

- Airport and Cruise Terminal Transfer Specialists
- 4, 6 and 8 Seater Vehicles Available
- Corporate, Sporting Events
- Female Driver (on request)
- Wedding Guest Transport
- Wheelchair Accessible Vehicle
- School Transport
- Transport for Doctor, Dentist, Hospital Appointments and Shopping Trips

Quote "MR21" to be Entered into our Free Prize Draw



01258 456136

Email: admin@kenskabs.co.uk

www.kenskabs.co.uk

LOGON-WOODBURNERS LTD SALES & INSTALLATIONS

20% DISCOUNT

ON STOVES FOR SUMMER INSTALLATIONS FROM MAY TO SEPTEMBER...BEAT THE WINTER RUSH !!!

WOOD AND MULTI FUEL STOVES

CHIMNEY & ROOF REPAIRS

FREE QUOTATIONS & FULLY INSURED

FLEXIBLE FLUE LINERS & RIGID FLUE SYSTEMS

ALL BUILDING WORK UNDERTAKEN



Checkatrade.com

WWW.LOGON-WOODBURNERS.COM

CALL STEVE GUSCOTT
M: 07733 477729 T: 01258 858537



LOGS

Quality Seasoned Hardwood Logs

Small Load £80 and Large Load £175

Kindling and Coal Household/Smokeless

20kg Household £10.50

20kg Smokeless £13.00



Tel/Fax: 01258 837377

Mobile: 07971 276980

live happy!
with
Slimming World

Now at

Sports Pavilion, Lane End, Milborne St Andrew

On Monday evenings at 7.30pm

Call Julie 07871 821928 for more details

for this delicious curry recipe visit
slimmingworld.co.uk
0344 897 8000



Slimming World
touching hearts, changing lives

Community Contacts

Please let the *Reporter* know if any of these details change

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

COUNCILS

Dorset Councillor	Emma Parker	01258 881631
Parish Council – Dewlish	Clerk: Sandra Sims	01258 837132
	Chair: Andrew Booth	01258 837284
Parish Council – Milborne St. Andrew	Clerk: Wayne Lewin	07419 136735
	Chair: Richard Macnair	07774 081551

Dorset Council Services: For matters relating to roads repairs, bins, litter, environmental health, planning, foot paths and parking, www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk or call 01305 221000

Flooding: Environment Agency Floodline 03459 881188

Environmental Incident: Environment Agency Hotline 08008 807060

www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency

South West Highways hello@swhitd.co.uk 01404 821500

Wessex Water Sewerage Floodline 03458 505959

MSA Flood Warden, Non-Emergency Only: Mark Johnson 01258 839060

GENERAL – ADULT

Moonlight Swing Band	Gillian Pink	01305 260731
M.A. Neighbourcar	Nigel Hodder	01258 470333
Wednesday Social Club	Sheila Burton	01258 839033
Women's Institute	Lesley Clarke	01929 471732

GENERAL – YOUTH

Milborne Ladybirds	Liz Dyer	01258 839117
Scout Group	Sam Elliott	07873 762035
Under 5's Group – The Busy Bees	Claire Tudge	07970 734162
Youth Club age 8 – 13 years	Joanne Miller	07940 017577

POLICE

Police – Non-emergency contact		101
Community Beat Officer	PC Dave Mullins	101
Safer Neighbourhood Team	PC Dave Mullins and PCSO Luke Goddard	101
Home watch Co-ordinator	Richard Macnair	01258 837912

SCHOOL

Milborne First School		
Headteacher:	Sharon Hunt	01258 837362
Chair Governors:	David French	
Friends of School co-Chair:	Marie Chappell and Natalie Dennis	

SPECIAL INTEREST

Bellringers	Pip Bowell	01258 837329
Bridge Group	Laurie Benn	01258 837720
Cribbage	Peter Anthony	01258 837089
Dog Training Behaviour	Natasja Lewis	07896 275357
Food and Wine Club	Rose Frost	01258 837921
MSA Allotment Society Chair:	Joy Robinson	01258 837661
Secretary:	Anna Cullen	01258 837143
MSA Gardening Club	Sally Dyer	01258 837061
Milborne Players	Roy Sach	01258 837033
Round Robin Ramblers	Ian Bromilow	01258 880044
Village History Group	Pam Shults	01258 837203

SPORT

Abbey Swimming Club	Pat Cowan	01258 880601
Archers – Crossways	Sheila Ryall	01258 837504
Athletics – Information	David Pearson	01258 837057
Badminton	Bruce Dyer	01258 839117
Circuit training	Grace Martin	01305 213885
Cricket – Dewlish	Elaine Kellaway	01258 837696
Pilates (school)	Claire Barratt	07703 648869
Football – Veterans	Paul David	07841 506839

Football – Under 14s

Manager/coach	Andy Brown	07427 503373
Treasurer	Simon Buckingham	01258 839122
Skittles – Dewlish	Simon Ross	01258 837606
Sports & Social Club	Chairman: Richard Lock	01258 837929
	Bookings: Richard Lock	01258 837929
Tap Dancing for Adults	Kevin Selby	01305 250386
Tennis	Rich Hawker	07393 309037
Yoga (at school)	Sue Chapman	01305 848053
Yoga (at Sports & Social Club)	Saira Francis	01258 880505
Yoga (at Village Hall)	Sarah Ryan	01258 839230

VILLAGE HALL

Dewlish

Chair:	Bernie Cosgrove	01258 837152
Booking Secretary:	Margaret Groves	01258 837617
Milborne St. Andrew		
Chairman:	Sarah Ryan	01258 839230
Booking Secretary:	Alison Riddle	01258 837148

HEALTH

Bere Regis Surgery		01929 471268
Milborne St. Andrew Surgery		01258 880210
Milton Abbas Surgery		01258 880210
Puddletown Surgery		01305 848333
NHS for non-emergencies		111
Patient Voice Secretary	Nigel Hodder	01258 880229

Do you shop at
amazon ?

The Village Hall
MILBORNE ST ANDREW

has joined the AmazonSmile Programme

Simply shop through

smile.amazon.co.uk

and select **Milborne St Andrew Village Hall** as your charity and AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of the net purchase price to your Village Hall.

AmazonSmile provides exactly the same prices, selection and shopping experience as the regular Amazon.co.uk website

Support your Village Hall at no cost to you!



A FAMILY FRIENDLY TRADITIONAL VILLAGE PUB IN MILBORNE ST. ANDREW

Take Away Service Lockdown 3.0!

We are offering takeaway every Friday and Saturday evening

Please follow our facebook page – [royaloakmilborne](#)

Drop us an email – hello@theroyaloakmilborne.co.uk

or give us a call 01258 837248 for details

Andrew & Sarah Fox

BE PATIENT - BE SAFE - BE KIND

Dorchester Hill, Milborne St. Andrew, Dorset DT11 0JG
Visit www.theroyaloakmilborne.co.uk
or for enquiries email hello@theroyaloakmilborne.co.uk

TO BOOK CALL
01258 837248