

Reporter

News and Views from around the area

Volume 13 Issue 7

July 2021

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Milborne St. Andrew

'A place to reflect on your blessings'



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Aidan O'Neill
 18.3.98 - 29.9.10
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Paper copy to any of the team.

Remembering Aidan

This is Aidan, our beautiful son. In September 2010, he set out on his bike for Poole Grammar School but he never made it. He died simply from falling off his bike. He was just 12 years old.



Our lives changed forever that day. Losing a child is so wrong; when our parents die, we lose our past but when our child dies, we lose our future. I can't begin to tell you how black, how bleak those days were. The despair we both felt was like staring into the blackest, deepest abyss. It was only when our son was taken from us that I truly understood the meaning of the word "joy". And joy had been extinguished forever, I thought, from our lives. Ever since, we have wanted a memorial to Aidan, somewhere we could go to sit quietly with him, but nothing ever seemed quite right.

Somewhat ironically, there is a memorial to Aidan in the small village of Mtitu in Tanzania. In his short life Aidan had met and made friends with a young lady from Mtitu. Her uncle, Tito, was trying to raise money to build a secondary school for the people of his village and surrounding area. Aidan, along with his aunt, had been raising money for the school. After he died some of our friends decided to put on a memorial show for him (he loved theatre, singing and dance) and to raise money for his favourite project; and Aidan's Angels was born. The show, we had to take part lest we be gibbering wrecks in the audience, was a great success raising over £4,000. Subsequent shows raised even more money so when the first

block of the school was completed, we were asked by Tito if we would do them the honour of opening Aidan's block. And so it is that we found ourselves opening a lasting memorial to Aidan in a village in Tanzania that Aidan never got to see.

It is strange that while we were staying there with these oh-so-friendly and compassionate people (they know what it is to lose their children) that we felt so, so close to Aidan. It was almost as though he were moving among us. It is wonderful and comforting to know there are children gaining an education in some small way because of Aidan and quite beautiful to think of those children passing his plaque each day before their lessons start. But it's hardly somewhere we can visit often just to sit and reflect.

Then we moved to Milborne and it was like coming home. We walk the footpaths and bridleways of this beloved village in sun and rain. We see the hedgerows change with the seasons. We look out on vistas across hills and valleys to the Purbeck Hills, to Weymouth and beyond. We hear birdsong and lambs. We have a fantastic pub and shop. A great village hall with (normally) lots going on. We have you villagers who always have the time to say hello. And joy has, astonishingly, reentered our lives. We feel so happy here, so when the Parish Council asked for donations for new benches in the village we knew it would be a perfect way to celebrate Aidan.

So, if you're passing Lane End on one of your walks, why not sit for a while with Aidan and reflect on your blessings.

Look forward with hope.

Linsey and Steve O'Neill





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The power of a tweet

twitter: "a short burst of inconsequential information"

Fifteen years ago, on St. Swithin's Day (15th July), the social media network Twitter was launched. At the start the idea was to create a way of sending short communications of the sort that you might use SMS/text for, but which could be spread more widely than just through mobile phones.

It took a while for the design team to come up with a name. They started off by asking what a phone did when a message came in and decided that it buzzed and jittered and twitched. Although they toyed with calling their new communications tool Jitter or Twitch, those names didn't quite seem right.

In an interview with a New York radio station Jack Dorsey, Twitter's co-founder, explained how they had ended up with the name we are all now so familiar with: "One of the guys who was helping us . . . took the word Twitch, and he went down the dictionary. And we all looked at the Oxford English Dictionary at the tws, and we found the word twitter. And twitter means a short inconsequential burst of information, chirps from birds. And we were like, that describes exactly what we're doing here."

How far from that original vision Twitter has grown! Many tweets are still inconsequential, but many others have taken on significance. Presidents, Popes, royal families, Prime Ministers: all have used Twitter to make important announcements.

Sadly, though, this platform has also been used to bully, abuse, slander, attack, insult and condemn. Intemperate language has caused real distress to people, often those who are already vulnerable or on the edge of life.

Tweets can no longer be called inconsequential. They can bring real joy to others or deep pain.

We all need space in our lives to exchange views and share ideas. Not everyone will agree with everything but disagreeing with an idea is very different from attacking a person for who they are.

In the Christian view, every person is valued and unique. Every being is created by God and is special and loved. Every time we attack a person for who they are, we say more about our hard-heartedness and lack of love than we do about them. Every tweet – or post on Facebook, Instagram, e-mail – is a reflection of the writer. I wonder what image there is in the mirror of our own social media posts. I hope it's a beautiful one of encouragement, compassion and kindness.

With best wishes

Sarah

The future of St. Andrew's is in your hands

WHAT will tomorrow bring? This is a question that many of our parishioners ask. Life (as we know it, Jim) has changed over the last 15 or more months due to the pandemic and consequential restrictions. I don't need to outline them for you. Lots of habits and procedures that we had before had to be dropped or changed. In the future, some of these changes may become normal practice, whereas some may be abandoned. Zoom, for some of us, has been a very useful tool allowing access to services, meetings and other electronic 'face to face' meetings. For some services and training events there is a chance that a few will stay e-based, such as some services, e.g. Morning Prayers continuing on Zoom. However, there are many people who either do not have access to the internet or to the appropriate equipment who may be disappointed at not being able to attend or be involved in person.

Continued on page 9

Services in the Benefice of Puddletown, Tolpuddle, Milborne and Dewlish July 2021

You are welcome to join us.

4th July – Trinity 5

9.30am	Parish Communion	Tolpuddle
9.30	Celebrate	Milborne
11.00	Parish Communion	Puddletown
11.00	1662 Morning Prayer	Dewlish

11th July – Trinity 6

9.30am	Parish Communion	Milborne
11.00	Puddletown Praise	Puddletown
11.00	Parish Communion	Dewlish

18th July – Trinity 7

9.30am	Parish Communion	Tolpuddle
9.30	Worship in Stillness	Milborne
11.00	Parish Communion	Puddletown
11.00	Family Service	Dewlish

25th July – James the Apostle

9.30am	Go Fourth	Tolpuddle
9.30	Parish Communion	Milborne
11.00	1662 Morning Prayer	Puddletown
11.00	Parish Communion	Dewlish

MORNING PRAYERS

Monday to Thursday 8.15am; Saturday 9.00am

On Zoom, please contact Sarah Hillman
(sarah.c.hillman@outlook.com) for the link

This service plan is subject to change; up-to-date information can always be sought from the vicar or Pam Shults as churchwarden

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
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Benefice Office

Emma Hughes
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The story of Gilgamesh

Part 1

MANY will have heard of Gilgamesh but know little about who he was, or when and where he lived.

The Epic of Gilgamesh is one of the greatest, and certainly the oldest work of literature known today. It was first published about 2500BC but the stories go back much further, and much like the story of King Arthur and his Knights, passed into legend amongst the Sumerians.

Gilgamesh was the legendary ruler of Uruk (the Biblical city of Erech) and was known as a demigod being the son of the mortal Lugalbanda and the goddess Ninsun. He built up his city, built temples to the gods, irrigated the fields, dug wells and made orchards. He was the most handsome, strongest and bravest of all men. However, he suffered from a great lack of humility and kindness.

He hosted many sporting events at which he was always the winner. He would sacrifice his warriors' lives on a whim, and would molest his men's wives. He took what he wanted whenever he wanted it and woe to anyone who stood in his way.

Complaints were made to the Gods and the Goddess Aruru fashioned a man called Enkidu from clay. Through a series of dreams Gilgamesh learnt of this new giant who was his equal in every way. A hunter discovered Enkidu who lived in the outback, a wild and hairy man, running with wild animals and drinking from the teats of wild oxen. In Sumerian the word *Edin* is used for *outback*. Gilgamesh sends a harlot to tame this wild man. She lies with Enkidu for a week after which the wild animals run from him and he finds that he no longer belongs to *Edin*.

When Enkidu hears that Gilgamesh takes young brides for himself on their wedding night, he goes to Uruk to challenge him. They wrestle one another to a standstill, after which they become inseparable friends. Gilgamesh introduces Enkidu to his goddess Mother, Ninsun, who points out that Enkidu has no kith or kin. This causes a lot of sadness to Enkidu, and Gilgamesh, hoping to distract him, proposes that they undertake an epic journey to the great cedar forest where they will challenge Humbaba. This terrible monster was placed there as a guardian of the forest, by the god Enlil. They battle Humbaba and overcome him. Humbaba pleads for his life and Gilgamesh hesitates to kill him, but Enkidu says that they kill or be killed. Humbaba curses Enkidu with a curse that has ominous consequences.

Ishtar, the goddess of love, hearing of the heroic deed, asks Gilgamesh to be her husband. He, describing the sorry end of her previous lovers, rejects her in no uncertain terms. She flies into a rage and sends the "Bull of Heaven" to destroy the city. Gilgamesh and Enkidu kill the bull and Enkidu throws part of the dead bull at Ishtar and she curses him. He is then dragged to the Netherworld and after many days of sickness he dies.

Gilgamesh is distraught at the death of his friend and mourns for many days. He will not have his friend buried until a maggot falls from Enkidu's nostril.

Because of the death of his friend, Gilgamesh leaves to roam the wild and now understands his own mortality. He then decides to seek out the immortal Utnapishti that he might learn the secret of life without death. Utnapishti was made an immortal for his part in the Great Flood.

Brian Burton

Milton Abbas Surgery

Reopening Post Covid-19 Appointment Booking

We are now able to book some patients directly into face to face appointments rather than having a telephone triage appointment first. All patients booking advanced GP appointments will be given the option of a face to face (f2f), telephone or video consultation, by the reception team.

On booking, patients will be advised that the waiting room can only have a maximum of five patients at any one time, and you need to be prepared to wait in your car or outside. This is because we need to continue to keep our staff and patients safe through social distancing.

Clinicians will advise their patients if they need to collect medication, they must wait outside and if they need to book a follow up appointment, it must be done over the phone once they have left the surgery. This is to avoid congestion at the dispensary/front desk. Only patients who have prebooked appointments may enter the building. There will be signage on the doors, outside board and this will be advertised on Facebook and the website. Patients collecting anything or dropping off samples should ring the bell and remain outside the building.

Communication

Please can we ask patients to respond to text/telephone messages: we have spent a lot of time chasing, particularly with regard to covid vaccinations and this is time our staff could spend providing other support.

Finally, we are having more patient contacts now than ever before, and despite what you may have heard in the media, the practice has been open and seeing patients since the pandemic began. Our staff are doing an amazing job to ensure patients get the support they require and it is not acceptable for patients to be rude or abusive to our staff. The Institute of General Practice Management has launched a campaign to raise awareness of some of the abuse our teams face every day. While most patients are polite and courteous, our teams are having to deal with abuse daily and the abuse must stop. Featured on 5Live and BBC Breakfast, hopefully this will make some people think twice. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hAM3fSDq9kA&t=0s>

24th July 2021 is Samaritans Awareness Day

No matter what you are going through the Samaritans are there to listen, 24/7, without judgement or pressure. So, if you are struggling and don't know who to turn to, please just pick up the phone and dial their free helpline: 116 123.

You may also want to consider calling the surgery and speaking with Kelly, our Social Prescriber. She will be happy to be a listening ear and may be able to signpost you to support and help with whatever concerns you are facing.

Whatever you are facing, remember you are not alone.
#TalkToUs

Gillian Brindle

Village Lunch

We were very sorry to disappoint our happy diners who were looking forward to returning to gathering again in the village hall in June. We can tell you that barring a last minute hitch from Boris, we are now ready to go at the end of this month.

If anyone would like to join us please phone me, 01258 839090 as you must book a place, food is delivered by The Royal Oak at 12.30pm on Saturday 31st July.

Josie Wright



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The good news is that we no longer have to put systems in place to reduce access to our churches; this means that the buildings can be opened daily for private prayer or for visitors to look around when services are not being held. At the time of writing this article, we are still required to take precautions for services, e.g. masks, social distancing, registering attendance, etc. Hopefully in the near future some of these restrictions can be lifted. I understand that the Episcopal church will now allow singing in church buildings with the congregation wearing masks. The Church of England currently allows a small choir to sing in church and congregational singing outdoors but perhaps will follow the regulations of singing while wearing masks during services in the near future.

Our congregation and supporters have decreased over the last two years and we are anxious to deliver services that meet the need of a wider group. You have the opportunity to express your opinion as to how you hope that our churches can develop and how we can encourage more engagement with our parishioners. If you have any thoughts, please feel free to speak to Sarah or one of the churchwardens, contact details are on the relevant pages of the magazine. Sadly, our church may not survive and will have to close unless we can meet the needs of more people, so do speak up even if you are not a regular in church. *Pam Shults, Churchwarden*

Updates from local groups and activities

This should have appeared in last month's issue, apologies from the Editor

PLEASE note that the Archers–Crossways is now named *Hardy Country Bowmen* and are based at Kalbarrie, a house at the top of Blandford Hill when leaving the village on the left just before the old Milk Factory. It runs on Sundays 10.00am to 4.00pm. The Secretary is Mike Healey 01300 342134.

Circuit Training run by Grace Martin is currently meeting at Deverel Farm on Thursdays at 6.30pm for three quarters of an hour. I understand that all members of the group do the same exercises and circuit training outside the barn (or inside if wet) She describes it as a “Boot Camp” and comments that the older members in their 60's are fitter than the Young Farmers! There are currently 30 people from Ansty, Puddletown and Milborne St. Andrew, the latter number six. Word has spread from person to person and they enjoy getting fit whilst in the company of rabbits and deer.

The Dog Training Behaviour classes have been experiencing Zoom lessons during lockdown. Six people have had fortnightly Zoom calls since the beginning of April. It has been proved to be good for their mental health (both owners and dogs) to be in touch. Some dogs are experiencing separation anxiety as their owners are now back at work. This is something that can be addressed through the classes. There are now four people in each class outside, socially distanced and only Natasja touches the equipment. I understand that she has won a global award as the best dog training service provider for the South West of England

So far the village *Bellringers* have no members although Pip Howell does get contact and visits from ringers from other areas. Other groups are waiting for the pub, the village hall and the school to open. *Carole Fornachon*

A Good Read

My Cousin Rachel by Daphne du Maurier

THIS is both a terrifying and disturbing 1952 book set in the nineteenth century. The beginning, also the ending, haunts and troubles the reader. “They used to hang men at Four Turnings in the old days. Not any more though”. As a small child living with his cousin Ambrose, Philip sees a murderer hanging on his noose. The body had been there for five weeks. He “swung between earth and sky upon his gibbet”. It is an image that not only kick starts his narration but one which haunts him throughout his life. The orphan idolises his cousin and has a happy, although rough, upbringing on his estate in Cornwall. To teach him his alphabet he itemises the first letter of each of the best known swear words! The story is full of ambiguities. Throughout there is a constant sense of foreboding.

A dark and gripping tale which moves from Philip's sunny, contented and busy upbringing to uncertainty when Ambrose meets and marries Rachel whilst holidaying in Italy for his health. Letters from his cousin hint at a troubled and dangerous relationship so Philip sets off to Italy to confront Rachel. On his arrival he learns that, not only is Ambrose dead and buried, but his wife plus all his belongings have gone. She is described by some critics as “one of fiction's greatest enigmas”.

This is one of Daphne du Maurier's most original tales and one which defies classification. Rachel is a strong, cold, calculating woman with an expensive lifestyle. Philip is naïve, impetuous and becoming gradually infatuated with his ‘cousin’ whilst blind to her motives. The whole novel is cloaked in grey shades. It contains mysterious intentions, bewitching paragraphs, romantic episodes and impending doom. There is passion and suspense, both maintained throughout the first person narration. It is a rare and fearless tale with a tantalising plot played out as a journey through Philip's mind, his initial anger and resentment turning to high emotion. The characterisation is skilled particularly the portrayal of mood. His relationship with and physical likeness to Ambrose is the key to his turbulence and to her responses. Contrarily she brings a “calm chaos” to the very young man with devastating consequences. This is a bewitching novel and despite its many dramatisations is well worth revisiting. *Carole Fornachon*

Please help us identify the community needs for



We are looking to extend the opening hours of the preschool and are asking you to take a few minutes to complete an online questionnaire (a paper copy can be requested).

Whether you are a Ladybird parent/grandparent - past or present - or an interested resident of the area this survey includes **you**. Perhaps your child did not attend Ladybirds - we would like to know why. All replies are anonymous.

Thanking you in advance

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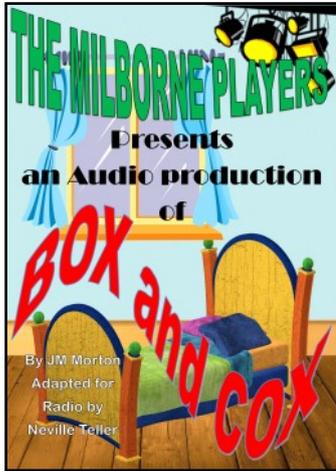
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News from Milborne Players

I USED to love that Fat Larry's Band song Zoom. Remember that? Never thought that nearly 40 years later it would be the means by which a bunch of people would meet up to do their social stuff. Anyway, Zoom is the means by which the Milborne Players have kept in touch throughout the pandemic to rehearse and record two new audio plays, to follow on from A Christmas Carol (which we hope helped brighten your Christmas a little more).



If you're in the mood for a rollicking, farcical romp, then Box and Cox – featuring the indomitable Mrs Bouncer – is for you. First staged in 1847, be prepared for frivolity, ridicule and laugh out loud humour; keep up if you can!

For those in a more contemplative frame of mind hankering for a good old fashioned reminisce of love, loss, vanity and intrigue, then sit down with your favourite

tittle to listen to The Looking Glass. Not the Alice variety, but Mrs Attlee revealing all to her granddaughter Moyra about the wealthy Mrs Clingsland, who is haunted by her unrequited romantic interest in a man she met over a quarter of a century ago.

The end of the winter just isn't the same without the Players' Pantomime, so be reassured plans are underway to lighten up your February 2022.

Oh yes they are! Keep your eyes peeled and ears pinned back for details of our audition dates in August. And those all important performances are planned for 10th, 11th and 12th February 2022.

Katie Mathias



See page 21

Anyone for Bridge?

AT long last after nearly 18 months of Covid induced shutdowns the world is starting to open up again, subject of course to



Government restrictions. One of the casualties of the lockdowns has been the MSA Bridge Group. To take advantage of the easing of restrictions I am intending to re-start the Bridge Group with an initial meeting at 7.00pm on Wednesday 1st September in The Royal Oak.

The aim of the group is to provide an opportunity to learn and improve your playing skills in a social and 'blame-free' environment. As the evenings draw in now is a good time for anyone with an interest in finding out about bridge to make a start by joining the group where you will be made very welcome. For anyone who has never played before instruction will be provided. In fact, several of our 'regulars' had never played before joining the group but have enjoyed the way of learning and improving their game. There is no charge for joining or playing.

If you would like to try something new or to improve your playing skills by regular practice and would like more information please contact me, Laurie Benn, on 01258 837720 or by email at laurie@benn.me.uk

I look forward to hearing from you.

Laurie Benn

Trading Standards News

CROPPING dogs' ears and docking their tails has been banned in the UK and most European countries for many years now. However, there is still a demand for cropped and docked dogs as some people think this defines the look of certain breeds such as Dobermans. In order to satisfy this demand a Dorset man set up a company called UK Dobermans and claimed to be able to source top quality Doberman puppies from Romania that would be cropped, docked and then delivered to UK customers. He set up a professional website in which he claimed to be doing everything legally and offered the puppies for sale for up to £3,000.

In order to legally import puppies from Europe into the UK they must be vaccinated against rabies at a minimum of 12 weeks old and then wait for a minimum of 21 days. The youngest a puppy can be bought in to the UK is therefore 15 weeks old. There are much stricter rules for dogs being imported from outside the EU, the youngest a dog can be imported is seven months old. All these rules are in place to protect the UK's rabies free status. It was long suspected that the owner of the business, Peter Harman, was importing dogs from outside the EU but we couldn't prove this.

In September 2019 a consignment of eight Doberman puppies was stopped at the Eurotunnel with Serbian microchips. As Serbia is outside the EU these puppies should have been a minimum of seven months old, but they appeared much younger. This led us to being able to execute a warrant on the Dorset business which revealed records proving nearly 200 dogs had been smuggled in with false papers. The owner of the business is now serving 28 months behind bars.

If you suspect dogs are being imported illegally into the UK then please report it to Trading Standards by calling the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on 0808 223 1133.



School transition and holiday fun at Ladybirds

IT'S that time of year again when we start the transition process of children moving on to First school. With COVID procedures still in place the process is not the same as usual and a different plan is in place. For Milborne school starters the initial meeting with the



Reception teacher took place at school with two Ladybird staff. We weren't allowed into the building, but luckily it was a sunny day. We walked around the grounds with locations to find from photos given and a memory stick to attach items on the journey. We stopped to listen to a story at the reading chair before moving to the obstacle trail and onto the wildlife area. Milborne are so lucky to have such great outdoor facilities providing excellent outdoor learning. The First schools that some of the other children are going to are contacted and shared information organized.



This school year does seem to throw up so many different challenges. Covid procedures requiring more outdoor play are difficult when temperatures rise and there is no shade. Outside became even more important with the hall floor needing to harden after treatment which also gave an unexpected extra two days off for half term. So up goes the gazebo and out comes the waterplay, sunhats and sun cream and plenty of water to drink.

Our topics this month have been transport and holidays. The children made great pictures of vehicles using paper shapes. As you can see from the photo some were futuristic with lots of wheels and windows. The bikes were popular outside, and the mechanics garage was kept busy. The holiday theme was based around camping and caravans as we thought this the most likely experience our children would have this year. *Liz Dyer*

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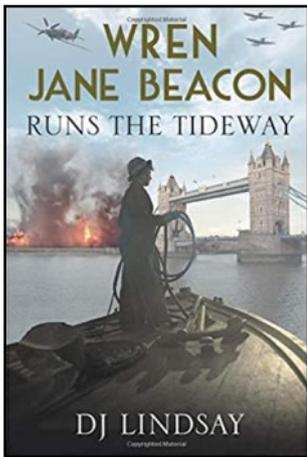
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Wren Jane Beacon runs the Tideway

by D J Lindsay



THIS is the third book in a series of Adventures set during the Second World War. It's an action-packed adventure novel, set amongst the folk working boats and ships on the River Thames during the Blitz. Against that backdrop it continues the story of Wren Beacon, her struggles to get female boat crew accepted, and the trouble that comes her way when dealing with certain people in authority.

To keep the spirit of adventure going, there is an espionage story

in this book, as well as a continuation of the love affair which started in the previous one. There are some interesting observations on 'social class' standards of the time, including the behaviour of an older brother towards his younger brother's girlfriend which I found somewhat hair-raising, yet quite believable. Major events of the War are included, along with their effect on morale both personal and national, and the author does a good job of maintaining the atmosphere of 1940s England.

Jane's experience of running the female crew of a small boat running Naval Business on the Thames and her relationships with other river users, boatbuilders, etc. is an interesting if simplistic lesson in managing people, how administration comes with promotion, and the need to think quickly when events change 'the plan'. The underlying message for human existence 'Do as you would be done by', comes through clearly but this is certainly not a 'book of morals'.

Certain characters from the first and second books re-appear, but it is not necessary to have read either of them to enjoy and understand this one.

This book returns to the racy pace of the first one in the series, and is well written, easy to read, and leaves one wanting to know 'what happens next?'.
Susan Wilson

Prizes galore in FoS raffle

YOU may have heard some excitement surrounding the Friends of Milborne St. Andrew First School (FoS) Summer Raffle which has recently 'gone live'. We are extremely lucky and have been donated some wonderful prizes from local businesses here in Milborne, as well as tickets for fun family days out across Dorset. If you're on Facebook, join our page and look out for our 'prize of the day' feature which will tell you about what's up for grabs!

Tickets cost £1 each and all funds are going directly toward the playground refurbishment at the First School. If you would like to purchase some tickets, please contact us via email m_s_a_fos_chair@outlook.com or text Marie on 07502 393829. We'll also be selling tickets on a Tuesday at Coastal Crust's Pizza van and Kingsbere Kitchen's Chip van on a Friday so keep a look out for us! Winners will be drawn on 19th July. Tickets have kindly been sponsored by IJ Motors.

Thank you for continued support.

Marie, Co-chair FoS

'We're Back' . . . the WI in June

AT LAST, and after such a long time, we met as a WI for our first meeting after all the pandemic restrictions. Courtesy of Nelda we gathered in her garden in a socially distanced way for a short but very welcome get together. Refreshments and delicious cake were the order of the day. (There is even a picture to mark the occasion!)



Jenny updated us on all the work going on behind the scenes; she had recently attended the National Annual meeting via Zoom, where, as ever, some entertaining and informative speakers were the order of the day.

This year, the resolution we are asking our delegate to vote on is 'A call to increase awareness of the subtle signs of ovarian cancer'. There was some discussion amongst us, and we felt that, although several organisations are already campaigning to raise awareness, it could only be an advantage if the WI added their considerable weight to the argument. After a show of hands, we voted to support the resolution.

Although we have not been able to meet up in person, our WI has made every effort to keep in touch with us all. Regular emails from Jenny, as well as lovely gifts for us all at Christmas and Easter, have been much appreciated.

Hopefully we will meet again next month, weather permitting, for more tea and cake and lots of chatter.
Pat Bull



See page 21

Fizz Friday at Langham for Food and Wine Club –

ON Friday the 21st of May, 46 members of the Milborne St. Andrew Food and Wine Club met up at the Langham Wine Estate, just outside our village, for a 'Fizz Friday' event. The Party Barn's barred effect, created by the windbreak sides, together with the bark chippings underfoot, rather reminded me of a giant hamster cage.

When our committee booked this evening for the end of May we, perhaps rather fancifully, imagined balmy late spring conditions with gentle sunshine. Alas, due to the cold and wet unseasonable weather it was more "Scott of the Antarctic" rather than "Darling Buds of May"!

However, as I have now discovered, we are an intrepid lot and as the members arrived (some, including me, looking a bit like Michelin Man) I realised that the urge to socialise is a lot stronger than we think and everyone was willing to put up with the harsh conditions rather than spend another weekend in lockdown. British Stiff Upper Lip is deemed by some to be unfashionable at the moment but I found it heart-warming that everyone was so determined to make the best of things and celebrate our first face to face get together as a club in a long time.

When Nina Garcia started to play and sing her amazing repertoire, very soon the atmosphere warmed up and everyone began to relax. I'm sure that by then, as well as the effects of the music, the 'Fizz' had also started to work its magic and by the time we were all well fed and watered everyone was clapping or swaying along and obviously enjoying the party atmosphere. The dessert served to us was not the expected rhubarb crumble and perhaps their substitution of ice cream would have been more welcome on a milder evening. Fortunately for our efforts to keep warm the portions were disappointingly small.

Blankets and warm overcoats were added as the evening progressed but this somehow also enhanced the ambiance and we were all united in our joint venture to just have a great time with a group of good friends. Simply nothing better, I'm sure you will agree – we have missed this so much.

Many thanks to Langham's for donating the generous raffle prize of a voucher for an afternoon tea picnic for two. The winning ticket was drawn and announced by Nina Garcia and Penny and Harry Pearce were the lucky winners. Grateful thanks are also due to all the loyal members who braved the elements to support our club. Much appreciated. The smiling faces in the photos say it all I think, as well as the warm coats, scarves and blankets!

Looking forward to our next Food and Wine event, which will be a garden party at the beginning of July, when I am really hoping that the weather will be more kind to us. *Rose Frost*



Holiday club down on the farm

THIS summer Longmead Community Farm are very excited to announce their first summer holiday club for children aged 5–14 in the local community. It will offer enriching and fun activities such as woodland skills, horticulture and animal care amongst many more! The activities will be led by trained professionals, who have a nurturing approach and a wealth of experience of working outdoors with children and young people of different ages, abilities and needs. If your child is keen to grow their own produce, wants to get some close-up experience with animals or would like to try their hand at various woodland skills then the team at Longmead Community Farm are pleased to be able to offer this. The holiday club will run for the first four weeks of the summer holiday, Tuesdays to Thursdays from 10.00am – 2.00pm (27th July – 19th August). It will be £25 per session or £70 for three sessions and a hot lunch, and all snacks will be provided.



about running these sessions and are keen to get as many volunteers as possible to help support them. We need volunteers to help with the activities, catering and running of the days. If you would like to know more about volunteering, please contact admin@longmead.org.

Other news from Longmead:

Lee has been hand raising some ducklings, something the children love.

They are growing so fast and already developing proper personalities.

We are so enjoying the flock of mums and lambs lent to us this spring and summer. In particular, George and Molly, who we have hand-reared, are firm favourites and we are looking to raise £200 to buy them from the farmer to add them to our therapeutic family of animals. On that note we are also trying to raise £240 to rehome three goats from the local animal rescue sanctuary. We are always grateful for donations, either on our Just Giving page or through our bank: Longmead Community Farm, sort code: 089299, account number: 65494350.

Sarah Cooper



For more information or to book a please contact admin@longmead.org. We are able to support a wide range of children and as an organisation pride ourselves on being inclusive, so any enquiries are welcome.

We are really excited



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SCHOOL NEWS

Our Raccoons children have had a busy time learning recently. As part of our STEM Science learning, we went to Dewlish to visit a working dairy farm before the May half term break. We also met some piglets as well as the dairy cows and calves. We then walked back to school across the fields. Everyone had fun, and the sun was shining but they were ready to put their inventions down on paper by the time they returned to school. Thank you to Mr and Mrs Pavey for allowing us all to visit.

On Monday 14th June, our Raccoons went to the Evacuee Experience at Nothe Fort. Everyone dressed up and had a wonderful day experiencing what life would have been like for children at school and families in the 1940's.

Some of our children have been fortunate enough to experience the new Forest School at Longmead Farm. This week, amongst other things, they built a shelter and a fire on which they then toasted some marshmallows. YUM!





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

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Blandford Fashion Museum – a Georgian Gem

LOOK no further than Blandford for a little known treat suitable for all the family. Housed in what has been described as a “mouthwatering” example of Georgian architecture – Lime Tree House, The Plocks. In 1731 following the Great Fire, donations from George II and charitable concerts held in London Theatres led to an Act of Parliament decreeing that the town should be built in brick and tile. Lime Tree House is an outstanding example of this rebuilding by the Bastard brothers in 1760 originally intended for their five sisters.

Within the category Grade II* listed it is a Group(1) house designed for wealthier, professional men and leading merchants. It now houses what was Mrs Betty Penny’s “*Cavalcade of Costumes*” and now the *Fashion Museum*. It held its 25th Anniversary on 21st May 2021. The present collection has almost trebled in size since the museum opened and it is still growing. The exhibits are presented in the original rooms of the house either as themes or historical periods. Information boards link fashion to social history. Mrs Penny’s costumes formed the nucleus of history and a pleasing touch are the biographies of fashionable ladies of the time.

This is a unique collection in that it had been collected by one woman, in one town, in one lifetime, and also because the garments had actually been worn and shown live, for the second time in their lifetime. It attained charitable status and in 2010 The Arts Council granted its accreditation. There are 13 display spaces over two floors and exhibitions feature historic dress and textiles up to 1989. The museum exhibitions focus on exploring the connection between fashion and social history. With an annual change of two or three displays each year, there is always something different to see. Currently there is a VE display and post war ‘fashions on rations’. There are rooms displaying underwear and lace, and amongst the many exhibits are fans, reticules, jewellery, parasols, gloves, books and pictures including a display of handmade Dorset buttons. Each room has a fascination of its own. Additional facilities include a Resources Room for use by students studying fashion and textiles and a Lecture Room for study days. For the younger members of the family there is a museum’s children’s trail and the dressing up corner, where you can try out some of the looks found in the museum. There are cases of costumes to be loaned to schools.

It is an interesting museum which owns its own building, run entirely by volunteers (only the cleaner, Marion, is paid!) and a Board of Trustees. So we are totally dependent on these dedicated volunteers, grants and donations. A key principle is the restoration, conservation and preservation of its costume and textile collection. In Betty’s words “*From its inception all the costumes have been genuine and in almost every case donated by the owners who loved to feel that, instead of lying in an attic box, it was having an opportunity to be seen, admired, even loved, whilst serving another generation. It survived circumstances that might indeed make one shudder, but never once, in all those years, did it ever fail. Now it has come to rest in this beautiful house, which stretched out its arms to me when I had the unbelievable joy of finding it in my possession.*”

Since the COVID crisis many volunteers have found it difficult to return. So we are currently desperately short of people to run the reception and tea room (the latter is extremely popular particularly the cakes and scones). I hope you will find time to visit this wonderful resource. Open at the present time on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays 10.00-am to 4.00pm. *Carole Fornachon*



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Village history book now available

FOLLOWING a grant from the Parish Council, a pocket sized booklet, about some of the history of MSA, has been produced and is now for sale for £2.

I hope that the shop and/or the Post Office will sell them on behalf of the Village History Group; however, as interested people, you can buy one directly from me. Message, text or phone me on 01258837203 or 07913266230 and I can bring one (or more?) round to you or if you would rather, I can pop it in the post if you can make payment in advance.

Now to start on book #2.

Pam Shults

How much do dead batteries cost?

Nothing; they are free of charge.

As sure as eggs is eggs, a ramble with flights of fancy lays ahead

I PRESENTED you with a lot of facts, figures and information last month; and a farting cow. This month the going is a little easier. A no frills, no spills four mile ramble across the rolling down land between Winterborne Stickland and Blandford. This walk is about the stillness of the Dorset countryside, the green of the land, the blue of the skies. It's all about panorama – and I'm not talking about the Martin Bashir one. I have dropped Kate's new car off at the garage in Stickland for them to examine. She loves it; a low mileage Toyota Aygo, cheap tax, and a million miles to a gallon. However, there is a down side; she is somewhat dismayed at the lack of cupboards within the cockpit in which to store things.

The last time I set out from Stickland early last December, the weather was cold and damp. Almost six months have elapsed, the mercury has risen some twenty degrees and the village seems to be in full bloom. The postman is whistling a jaunty little tune as I pass him just along the road from the garage. I can't quite pick out the tune, but the cadence and melody suggests to me that it may be an old Big Band swinger. Benny Goodman, Billy Cotton or Sinatra perhaps? There are two roadside egg vendors along North Street. I sometimes judge a village by the amount of egg outlets it contains. On this short stretch – past the Crown Inn, the war memorial and the intricate little multi-faceted road junction that is The Triangle – this brace of free range suppliers encourages me to believe this is a village of some quality. I know that our ceramic chicken shaped egg holder would give the cupboard at the Hubbard's a run for its money, so I make a mental note to self to buy some on my way back through.

If the postman is thinking of journeying this far south and is still in whistling mode, his little ditty will be drowned out by the noise of what sounds like an army of children enjoying the sun in the playground of Stickleberries Nursery. The building looks like it may have been the village school in a former life. It seems to me that lots of old village schools become residential accommodation, a bit like former banking premises that mutate into chain pubs where 'three teeth Mike' goes to watch football on a big screen. The noise from the excited screaming children reminds me of some film footage I saw recently of The Beatles playing Shea Stadium, New York in 1965, where the screaming fans drowned out the sound of the Fab Four's performance. It's time to make my excuses and leave Winterborne Stickland. Opposite the old school, swinging away to the left is Chalky Path which I duly join. I boomerang back on myself and begin to climb up through the last of the houses, some of which are under construction. A dusty builder sits on an unfinished dwarf wall, seemingly issuing some poor soul a colossal bollocking via means of his mobile phone. I'm sure if he were to take a leaf out of the village postman's book and whistle for a while, his stress levels would reduce somewhat. I enter the leafy shade of a green summer canopy. The cacophony of children's euphoric screaming and irate builders' ranting soon dwindles into the background and I am on my own.

At this point, I have to announce that my squeaky trainers have been dispatched. Soles and uppers were beginning to go their separate ways, and although comfortable – if somewhat loud – a complete separation of major component parts mid walk, mid Dorset was a situation I wasn't prepared to put myself in. Over the past eight years, six pairs of great trainers have come and gone as I clocked up two thousand miles along the towpaths and footpaths of the Inland Waterways. It's always a

wrench knowing when it's time to just let go. Final resting places of some of my old faithfuls include, a general waste bin on platform two at Stoke on Trent railway station, a skip in Huddersfield and a charity shop in Llangollen.

Ahead of me, I can see the ornate leafy ceiling will soon give way to a brilliant blue sky and wider paths. I can also see an elderly lady walking a dog and estimate I will overtake her whilst in the confines of the leafy glade. I always find this particular manoeuvre rather awkward; there is an element of shock for the unwitting soul about to be overtaken, unaware of the traffic behind. My chosen protocol relied heavily on my noisy footwear of which I am now devoid. Today I opt to exaggerate my footfall on the hard tarmac surface to provide adequate warning. I even kick some large stones that have been deposited in the central section of the lane to draw attention to our impending convergence. Totally unaware of my presence astern, I draw level and wish her a 'good morning' which as predicted completely startles both her and her dog. We exchange standard British patter about the weather and I accelerate away, still climbing.

The arch of greenery subsides. Dorset beckons me forward with its index finger, enticing me to drink in the panorama. It wants to lift its skirt, or drop its trousers to show me what it's got. It's one of those moments where I feel I am being let in on a well kept secret. This is Stickland Hill. The path surges ahead of me on the left hand edge of a field of immaculately sown wheat or barley, I know not the difference. As I edge along I take in the view; a sea of gently swaying crops, coppices and woods that eventually meet the horizon many miles yonder, the view is extensive and far reaching. It gives me a sense of space on a grand scale. Halfway along the field, a marker sign indicates that my feet are falling on St. Edward's Way. Established in 2012, the thirty mile trail begins in Wareham, and ends in Shaftesbury. Edward the Martyr was King of the English from 975 until his murder at Corfe Castle in 978. He was only fifteen or sixteen years of age when he met his end, initially being buried at Wareham before being reinterred with great ceremony at Shaftesbury Abbey in 979. Some believe Edward's body was relocated to protect it from being stolen, a trophy for an invading army. These days people choose to steal catalytic convertors rather than the remains of a former boy king. A young deer forages in the hedgerow way ahead of me. As I near it, the stag or doe sees me and prances off into the deep shelter of the crop. It makes its escape from my intrusion, the only evidence of its presence being a pair of alert ears above the greenery, like two shark fins romping off into the distance.

The path gives way to Fair Mile Road, the back way to Blandford from Stickland. After a short distance I turn right onto a path which OS25 names as Lady Caroline's Drive, an allusion to Lady Caroline Damer, who incidentally was the daughter of Joseph Damer, the subject of my last Reporter article. It's a small world, but you wouldn't want to paint it. Here, another egg vendor displays their wares roadside. I open a box with a view to purchase. The eggs are an array of colours; brilliant white, three shades of brown and duck egg blue, the same shade of light blue that adorned the underside of the Supermarine Spitfire and Hawker Hurricane during The Battle of Britain that raged overhead in the summer skies of southern England during the summer of 1940.

I set course, dead ahead to a farm gate belonging to Canada

Continued on page 23



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

Blandford Fashion Museum



Is pleased to announce that it re-opened on Monday 17th May at 10am. From now on we will open our doors every Monday, Thursday and Saturday 10.00am to 4.00pm. Last entry 3.30pm.

As before, we will be complying with COVID secure measures and hope to see you there. The Costume Museum, Tea Shop and Shop will all be open. If there are any Government announcements which might alter this intention beyond our control please check on our website or Facebook page.

**Lime Tree House, The Plocks, Blandford Forum
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Charity Number (Cavalcade of Costume Ltd): 1052471

**Adults – £5.50; Seniors (60+) – £4.50
Students (16+) – £3; Children under 16 – Free
Friends of the Museum – Free**

Please note that under 16s must be accompanied by a fee paying adult.

*Contact us by telephone; via email
info@blandfordfashionmuseum.co.uk on the website
or on Facebook.*

Dapper gents get a dousing on charity ride

MILBORNE'S Mark Brady took part in the Distinguished Gentleman's Ride in May, the worldwide event that raises funds for men's health charities. It was the first time the vintage motorcycle ride has been held in May, moved from its usual September slot in the hope for better – drier – weather. As Mark says, "Wrong! We set off in the dry from Bournemouth Overcliff, though the skies were dark and threatening and within seconds I was drenched". He had chosen to ride his Indian Chief since it offered better protection from the elements than his other bikes and the day's weather certainly gave it a run for its money.



There were around 250 motorcyclists who took part, all entering into the spirit of the event dressing in dapper outfits and sporting elaborate facial hair. Mark says, "There had been 320 registered for the ride but the forecast must have put some off. But most of us were ready to test the weatherproof qualities of tweed!" Although thoroughly soaked, the riders' tweeds were air dried as they made stately progress around the coast, exchanging waves and smiles with residents and tourists that turned out on the route. Among his fellow riders, he spotted some magnificent mustachios and the occasional monocle wearer riding some wonderful old exotica as well as more modern but retro motorcycles.

So far, the Bournemouth and Poole riders have raised a total of £31,427 this year, which will be donated to prostate cancer research and awareness as well as men's mental health charities. Mark wishes to thank everyone who donated to his fundraising, which totalled £620, saying "Many thanks to all the Milborne villagers who made such generous contributions." He says it was a fantastic day, despite the weather but looks forward hopefully to sunshine on next year's ride, adding to look out local toy runs for children's homes at Christmas.

The Reporter was pleased to support Mark and the event's charities with a £100 donation.

Ed Richards

Continued from page 21

Farm. Then, diving into a coppice which is adjoined to the north by a solar farm, I am once again protected from the strengthening sun by leafy boughs. Tree roots snake their way across the bare earth path which in turn is scrawled with motorcycle tyre tracks and embellished with horseshoe prints. Emerging from the plantation I continue to track along the edge of Little Down. Ahead of me, its namesake plantation, Little Wood sits below and to my left an emerald green jewel of a million new leaves. Mother Nature has put on a show for me in the narrow strip between the path and the hedge on my right. In amongst the Cow Parsley, blue Germander Speedwell, purple Rosebay Willowherb, Meadowsweet with its honey fragrance, Red Campion and Greater Stitchwort all strut their stuff.

All too soon the show is over and I tack right down a grassy track that is lined at uniform intervals on the left by young oak trees that form a one sided guard of honour. Happily, the wild flower theme continues along the other side of the path, but more intense due to their orientation and their prolonged exposure to the sun. I am gradually descending into the valley where the road from Winterborne Whitechurch wanders up to Stickland. Across the valley, the land rises again, marked by the thick forestation of Whatcombe Wood and beyond that Milton Abbas with its colony of retired spies. Passing a sinister looking disused battery hen concentration camp (the poultry equivalent of Auschwitz), I enter the sleepy hamlet of Winterborne Clenston. The thick walls of the dilapidated Tithe barn and pristine Manor House should easily absorb the sun's warming rays, allowing the incumbents of these buildings – insects, mammals or humans – to remain cool whilst others around them lose their heads. It seems that mad dogs and Englishmen still make a point of going out in the midday sun.

I turn right onto the road and aim once again for Stickland, eggs, and Kate's Aygo. Behind me, St Nicholas Church pokes out above the trees, straining its spire to see what I'm up to. This quaint little baroque church always seems a bit forlorn and lonely, stuck out here all on its own. I feel a bit sorry for it and promise to visit sometime, maybe bring it some chocolate, or something to drink. Perhaps a word search, Sudoku or a bumper book of crosswords? If I was into football I would take it to a Bournemouth match. Unfortunately, due to their demise from the Premiership it would be a home fixture verses Rotherham United or Barnsley, rather than Manchester United or Liverpool.

The river Winterborne is beginning to look a little dry and arid. As I near Stickland it hoves into view on the left. Suddenly, on an oblique bend in the road a young rabbit bolts across, narrowly avoiding being squashed by a car coming in the other direction. The driver, passengers and myself all pull faces at each other containing elements of grin, and grimace; like you do when you witness a near miss. In what seems like one slick movement lasting no more than a second, the rabbit leaps across the stream, crashes through the bank on the other side and disappears forever into the lush undergrowth of the meadow beyond.

It's nice to round the final corner and see the steeple of St. Mary's Church standing proud above the thatch line of Winterborne Stickland. Today, aloft on the tower, it's sporting a cross of a St. George flag on its pole which is trying its best to do what flags do best. Unable to flutter due to the lack of breeze, it hangs limp and lifeless. I have always found this traditional quaint village to be truly pleasing on the eye. If you ever went round to see your granny on your way home from school to

Continued on page 29

Deadline for the next issue is mid-day 14th July.

Send your stories and pictures to msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk

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Rosie and Katie's travels, Cornwall 2021

I GUESSED something was going on when I saw all the bags and Dad's rucksack downstairs waiting to go in the car, I don't think Katie realised what was happening but she just gets excited at everything, anyway so we were both dashing about the house getting under everyone's feet to make sure we didn't get left behind. When the car was packed and we were safely strapped into the back seat we were off!

We didn't get very far though before we got stuck in lines of other cars heading out on adventures, Dad moaned that he thought we'd get stuck in a jam as it was a Bank Holiday, I was a bit confused as I couldn't see any red sticky stuff on the road!

We eventually got to the lovely cottage in Looe, Cornwall (no tin box on wheels this time) and raced around exploring, yippee, it had a great garden for us to play in. Later on, our aunties and uncle joined us with our cousins, Jake the Labrador and Hector the spaniel, then we knew we were really in for an exciting time.

Next day the sun was shining so we headed off to the beach, it was a very steep walk down and mum looked worried but she managed it without falling over. Katie wasn't scared of the sea and was straight in, I just paddled my paws in the edge, it was blooming freezing! I couldn't believe it when mum joined us and jumped straight in the icy water, was she brave or stupid, I'm not sure.

It was Dad's birthday so we had a yummy BBQ in the afternoon and us four dogs got a bit of veggie burger it was surprisingly tasty but the greedy carnivores didn't share any of their meat though!

The next morning the sun was shining again so we all went for a great walk along the River Seaton, there were lots of boggy bits which Jake the big black Labrador loved splashing about in, Katie joined him and got ticked off by Dad, I knew better and kept clean like a good girl. At last we reached the pub in time for lunch, Mum gave us some of her halloumi (I think that's cheese) and Dad spared us a couple of his precious chips, yummy!

On our last day we took a trip to Portwenn where Doc Martin lives, we didn't see him but we did stand outside his house and I think I spotted his dog Buddy going down the hill! We all had pasties for lunch (again) and we even got a nibble of ice cream cone for dessert, mmmm.

It was so nice to see all our family again after such a long time and we were sad to leave but it's always lovely to come back to our cosy cottage in Dorset. Bye for now, Rosie and Katie.





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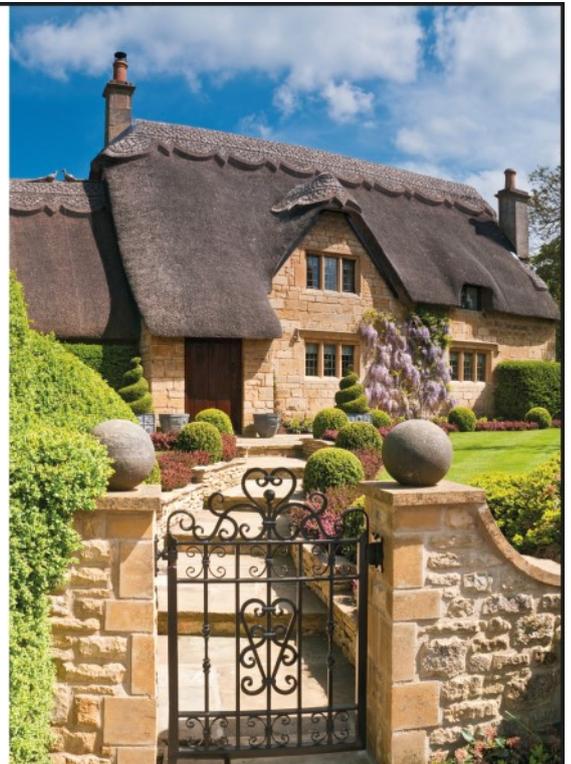
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Milborne St. Andrew Gardening Club



Environmental Gardening for July

Courtesy of the RHS magazine 'The Garden', the Gardening Club offer you top greener gardening tips for the beginning of July.

Save water

Putting saucers under pots will catch the run-off which will then be reabsorbed.



Birdbaths

In hot weather, keep topping up your birdbath to encourage birds to drink or splash around.

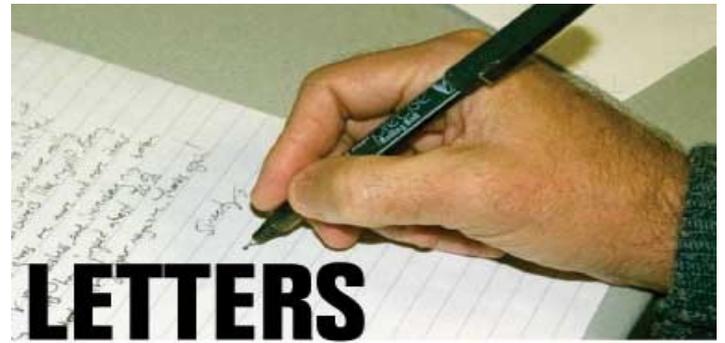
Compost bin

Don't just put grass cuttings in your compost bin. Add woody material and shredded card, e.g. egg boxes, to keep a balance.

Bee supportive

Bees love the pollen from herbs such as oregano, thyme and chives; so leave some to flower. Plant borage and leave it to seed for next year.

Bill Love has sent in a photo of a wall covered in flowers . . . bee heaven! See also the Black Bearded Iris, courtesy of Angela Johnson.



LETTERS to the Reporter

MSA Sports Ground

On the last May Bank Holiday I had a very enjoyable two days assisting with the catering by Cherry Picked Hampers at the Cup Final matches at the Sports Ground. ('Assisting' being a euphemism for complete hinderance I am sure.)

What an excellent venue it is. The pitch and grounds are superb. But what a surprise The Pavilion was. The facilities are spotless and the kitchen is up to date with all that you could possibly need to run your event be it sports or social. It is obvious that a great deal of work is put in to maintain such a high standard. On that note I did notice that while we were packing up, it was mainly Malcolm who was bringing all the seating and tables in and cleaning through. I am sure he would be grateful for some help at events.

I have been a great critic of The Sports Ground in the past, but am pleased to say that after my experience I would happily recommend the ground to anybody thinking of hosting an event.

Philip Smith.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Heather for her very interesting article "Did You Know"??!!!!

So many of us use these phrases on a regular basis, and don't always stop to think about their origins.

June Maitland

Death at the Village Hall!!

NO not a murder mystery but hopefully the pesky wood worm in the Village Hall floor!

We are delighted to have been able to install a bench on the recreation ground which has the added benefit of being accessible for wheelchair users. It has been made possible by generous donations.



The Annual General Meeting will take place on Wednesday 28th July at 7.00pm. Unless anything really goes wrong with lockdown this will be in the hall. This is your opportunity to have your say in your village hall.

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Dozens help tidy village in Milborne's first Womble

THANK YOU to everyone who joined us for the 'Womble' on Saturday 12th June. About 70 people including 30 children took to the streets and pathways to litter pick. The glorious weather and enthusiasm made the event a great success. It was so special to be able to bring the community together again after such a long period. We had 14 different routes that were spread between different groups ensuring that we kept the children safely off busy roads and that people with a little more time could venture further afield.

The general consensus was that our village is clean and tidy but that the Womble was definitely worthwhile to clear up the litter that was around. As villagers, we are all aware that the roads leading into the village are usually the worst places for litter rather than the heart of our community. Even though it was lovely to organise in conjunction with 'Keep Britain Tidy' week there was also much talk of how it may be very worthwhile repeating the Womble later in the year when the hedges have been cut back to reveal the hidden treasures that we could not see this time round. So watch out for adverts later in the year for a repeat.

Ice creams were donated by the Ice Cream Boat Co, based in Milborne and were very welcome. We have a special thanks to make to The Royal Oak who offered free soft drinks and crisps to all who took part. As one of our most important businesses in our village, having to remain closed for such an extended period when others have been able to operate, it was an extremely generous offer and shows how our pub continues to support our community even in the toughest of times. Let's continue to support our local businesses as much as they support us.

Amy Stephens



Continued from page 23

cadge a mint humbug, you may well have found her trying to piece together the 500 elemental shapes of a Ravensburger jigsaw puzzle. Looking at the lid of the box trying to help her with the sky, you see the quintessential English village, lots of granny like quintessential English villages. Maybe it was Winterborne Stickland? Was the postman frozen in time, immortalised on the jig-sawed ply seemingly whistling a Sinatra classic? Come fly with me.

There was good news and bad news as I retraced my footsteps along North Street. There had obviously been a mid-morning rush for eggs in the village. Omelettes and poached eggs were obviously the order of the day. I was to leave the village without eggs which was bad. Kate's car passed its MOT which was good. I too was somewhat disappointed at the lack of cupboard space in which to stash the certificate which the Aygo had been awarded.

I drove home via Blandford along Fair Mile Road and bought two boxes of the eggs I had seen earlier at the entrance to Canada Farm and I wonder how it got its name. Does it have any connection to Canada? Perhaps the horse shoe imprints I had seen in the coppice earlier were made by the horses of The Royal Canadian Mounted Police. I didn't hear Bryan Adams' 1990 chart topper "(Everything I do) I do it for you", or "The Maple Leaf Forever" drifting along on the breeze. Can you play "The Maple Leaf Forever?" No, I get tired after about an hour!
Boom, boom!

Rich Hawker

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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	07411 149997
Parish Council – Dewlish	Clerk:	
	Chair: Andrew Booth	01258 837284
Parish Council –	Clerk: Wayne Lewin	07419 136735
Milborne St. Andrew	Chair: Richard Macnair	07774 081551

Dorset Council Services: For matters relating to roads repairs, bins, litter, environmental health, planning, footpaths 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

POLICE

Police – Non-emergency contact		101
Community Beat Officer	PC Dave Mullins	101
Safer Neighbourhood Team	PC Dave Mullins and PCSO Luke Goddard	101

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	Gren Davis	07876 793319
Round Robin Ramblers	Ian Bromilow	01258 880044
Village History Group	Pam Shults	01258 837203

SPORT

Hardy Country Bowmen	Mike Healy	01300 342134
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
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)	Angela Johnson	01258 839060

VILLAGE HALL

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

HEALTH

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Milborne St. Andrew Surgery		01258 880210
Milton Abbas Surgery		01258 880210
Puddletown Surgery		01305 848333
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