

Reporter

News and Views from around the area

Volume 14 Issue 3

March 2022

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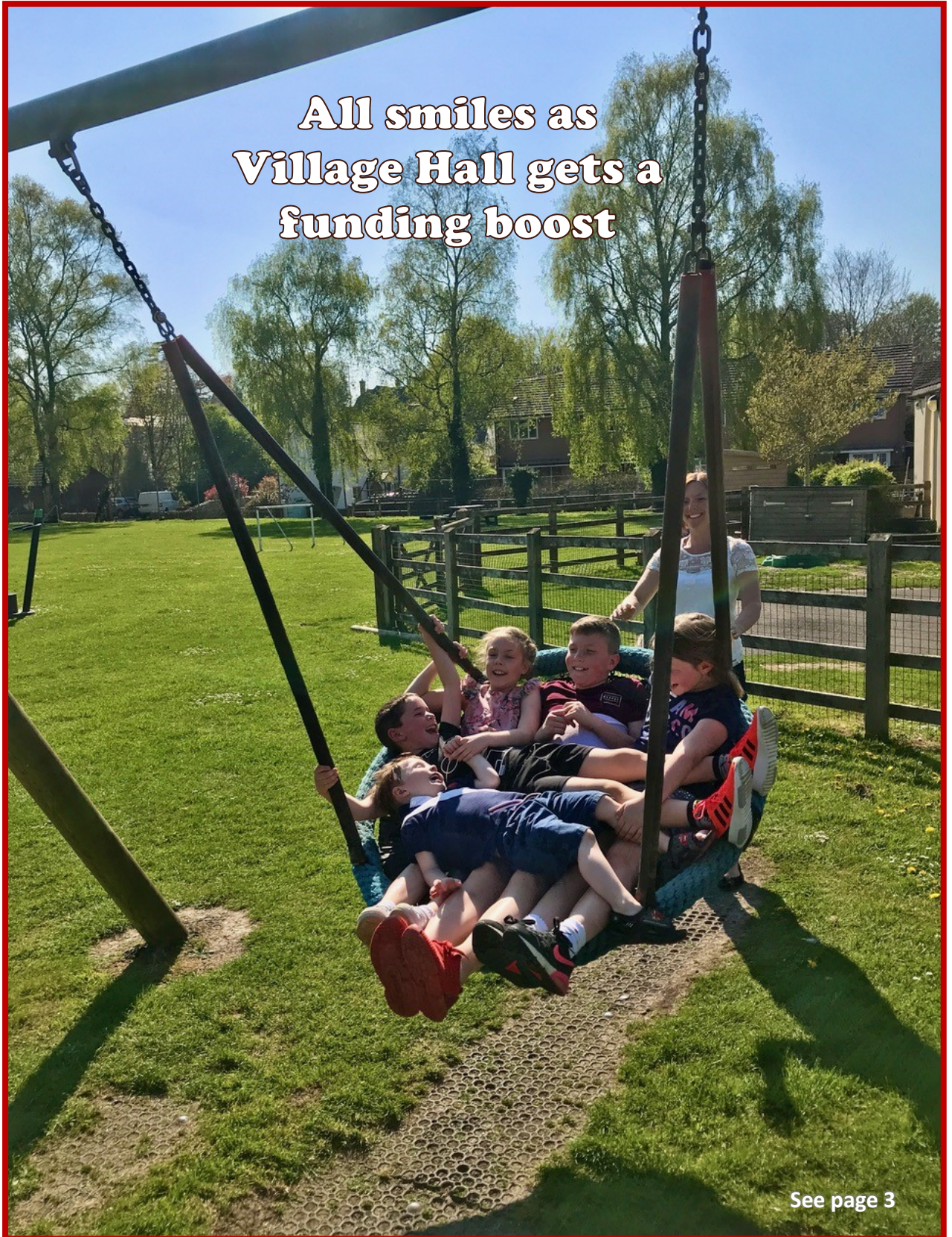
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Millborne St. Andrew

All smiles as
Village Hall gets a
funding boost



See page 3



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

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**Beef stew and dumplings,
green beans and mashed potatoes
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Wine (£1.00 per glass) or fruit juice

Mints and coffee or tea

Vegetarian option available

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

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.

Village Hall celebrates funding boost



TWO years of Covid 19 restrictions have led to a 70% drop in rental income at the Village Hall but recent successful bids for funding will make long-awaited essential maintenance projects possible.

New basket swing for the Playpark



enthusiastic use. Like-for-like replacement will cost more than £1,250 and would be impossible without external help.

Money, made available to the Parish Council by a levy on the developer of the new houses on Huntley Down, specifically for "Playground Maintenance", can soon be accessed by the Village Hall. Top of the list will be the replacement of the ever-popular basket swing now near the end of its life after more than 10 years of

New windows and door

The windows and front door of the hall will be replaced over the Easter holiday thanks to a £10,000 grant from the National Lottery Awards for All fund. The tired and failing windows, many of which are more than 30 years old, will be replaced with modern energy-efficient units. A new, fully glazed, aluminium front door will smarten-up the main entrance as well as providing enhanced security for the hall and its users.



Commitment to keeping hire charges low

The maintenance of the hall, the field and playpark have to be paid for by the income provided by users of the hall. The Village Hall managing committee is committed to keeping hire charges as low as possible for our community but the pressures brought about by inflation (especially energy costs) cannot be avoided and will have to be accommodated by higher fees in the future.

Bucket List

Of course, there's lots more on the Village Hall bucket list. The playpark is pretty basic, our village deserves better, the floor in the main hall is nearing the end of its life, the extension of the car park and EV chargers project has not yet been completely abandoned, solar panels on the roof would be good . . . but hey! It's not bad is it? And it is great to see the hall being used more again by the village.

Ed Frost



Dream Horse

Friday 11th March 2022 at 7.30pm

Village Hall, Milborne St. Andrew

Doors and bar open 7.00pm

Tickets cost £5, which includes a drink or an ice-cream

This month movie is described as 'a feel-good movie that will restore one's faith in humanity'.

Dream Horse is based on a true story about Jan Vokes (Toni Collette) who is bored with her life, she hears Howard Davies (Damian Lewis) talking about a racehorse he once owned, it makes her stop and think, she decides to breed a racehorse even when she lacks the necessary experience and money. She convinces people from her community to chip in a small amount every week to raise the foal.

Calling all advertisers . . . potential or lapsed!

DURING the last two years the *Reporter* has struggled to fulfil the necessary advertising revenue to keep the magazine going in its present form. An amnesty on fees has been in place due to the difficulties of our current advertisers caused by the Covid crisis. Other financial problems are imminent. Cost of living prices have risen and recently, to an alarming extent, adding to the cost of printing. Looking to the future there is a huge increase in new building with more to come due to planning consent given for other sites in the village. All of this means more copies will need to be printed and distributed to an ever increasing readership.

Are there any of you out there who could help us by advertising your business, however small or large, in order to keep us going into the future? If so please contact us with your copy. Thank you.

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Wednesday Club News

IT was good to get back to having a Wednesday Club meeting in the Village Hall. Pauleen Trim came to talk to us about her art and craft work and what an interesting and entertaining talk it was with lots of amusing anecdotes and examples of her work for us to hold and inspect at close hand.

Pauleen taught for many years at Bournemouth College starting with Design and Textiles before moving to include Theatre Makeup and Costumes. She has done a lot of work with The Milton Abbas Theatre Group.

Her work includes patchwork, quilting, embroidery and beadwork and she enjoys manipulating fabrics by using different forms of stitching.

I am absolutely hopeless at sewing and I asked one of our members if she was able to sew and her reply was “Well I am a



member of a local sewing group and I thought I could sew until I saw Pauleen’s work!”

Pauleen also paints and she showed us her silk paintings and



spectacular masks. Following a course at Kingston Maurward on botanical painting in 2020 she submitted a set of six paintings to the RHS competition depicting trees, the oak, the ash, the field



maple, the elm, the elderberry and the beech. Due to Covid they weren’t shown until 2021 and she was delighted to receive the Gold award for the set and one painting was chosen as Best of the Show.

We thank Pauleen for such an interesting and amusing talk and wish her well with her next competition entry with the RHS.

Our next meeting will take place in the Village Hall at 2.00pm on Wednesday 2nd March when Brian Bates will be giving a talk “The Little Sparrow” on the tragic life of Edith Piaf, illustrated with music and a video.

All are welcome to attend. *Lis Watts*



A Birthday Celebration at the February 2022 WI

A BIRTHDAY is always worthy of a celebration, and it is now 77 years since the WI in Milborne St. Andrew was formed. Everyone signed the birthday card, which will be added to our scrapbook of events down the years, and we all received certificates recording the number of years of our membership. Special congratulations to Heather with 51 years and June not far behind with 49 years. Jenny had done the calculation – 667 years overall!

Business Matters: Linda reported on the arrangements for the Platinum Jubilee celebrations to be held in the village. Information on the WI’s contribution will be collated along with the History Group and displayed at the Sports Club.

Veronica summed up the latest ‘Bookends’ meeting where ‘The Binding’ by Bridget Collins was discussed. A fantasy/love story, it received a mixed review, some finding the content uncomfortable reading, others thought it mediocre and a few thoroughly enjoyed it. This month’s book is ‘Hamnet’ by Maggie O’Farrell. The club is always well attended and much enjoyed by everyone.

Sheila reported that the recently established Craft Group was busily producing various crafts; if anyone would like to join them they would be very welcome. For skittles, Lesley had booked a number of events, both home and away, the first to be on Monday 7th March when Wool is playing us at The Royal Oak.

Our birthday social was great fun, with Linda and Jill acting as MCs. The quiz was won by Veronica and Pass the Parcel by Eva. Well done both. We were all rewarded with fizz and cup cakes, and time to chat amongst ourselves.

It is worth mentioning at this point that the WI is as relevant today as it was when it was launched in 1915. The WI is here to enable women to ‘make a difference’ – to the life you lead, to the community you are a part of and to the world you live in. Its concerns range from climate change to community projects, from traditional values to new friendships, and much more. If you are interested in joining the WI please come along to one of our meetings; you would be made most welcome.

Our next meeting is on Thursday, 10th March when Dawn Lawrence of the ‘Born Free Foundation’ will talk to us about endangered species.

Pat Bull

Pantomime update

WITH the ever present unpredictability of COVID-19 flows uncertainty in so many areas of our lives. During January, the Milborne Players were mooting the idea of an April pantomime, but some of our fabulous cast could not commit to the dates. We then discussed other dates later this year, but in the end, we conceded 2022 has probably defeated us. Therefore we have decided to keep you all in suspense for another whole year and return to entertain you in February 2023. It will be well worth the wait, of that we are sure. Here in Milborne, February is synonymous with its favourite annual entertainment extravaganza. So, I think for many of the cast, moving to different month almost felt unfaithful to the Milborne tradition!

We are currently discussing possibilities for a summer production, so I’ll keep you posted about this. In the meantime, be sure to support our local theatres and cinemas in Dorset.

Kate Hawker

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Lent – a time for refreshment

Lent for the past two years has been overshadowed by lockdowns and other restrictions because of the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. This year most of those are gone to the great relief of many.

Lent recalls the time Jesus spent in the desert being tempted. Wilderness times are often periods of reflection and development. Though we may not always enjoy them while we are deep in their midst, they help us to recognise what is really important in life and what we need to make time and space for in order to ensure a high level of wellbeing.

One of the things that faith holds out for us is hope. However much we may feel there isn't anything left to live for, it can remind us that even in the darkest times we do have a future. Sometimes others have to hold that future for us – I know during my times of deepest depression I was certainly not able to see anything beyond the darkness that enveloped me – but hope is always there even when we can't find it on our own.

Fortunately most of us are not at rock bottom most of the time, though I'm sure we all have good days and less good ones: days when we feel on top of the world and that life is going well and others when we'd rather just curl up and stay in bed all day.

We can help to build our resilience when things are good for those times when we are struggling. Lent is a time when we can make our lives simpler by stripping away some of what is not necessary and paying more attention to what is.

We can make more time for prayer which will help to root us more deeply in our faith and trust in God. We can practise generosity which provides for those in need and helps us to be more grateful for what we have. We can consciously take time to add in rest and a bit of self-care to our days. We can set time aside each day for those things which are life-giving – even ten minutes a day can make a difference. That might be ten minutes in the garden, conversation with a friend, a brisk walk, a relaxing cup of tea or a bit of crafting.

Lent might be seen as a depressing time because it has a connection with giving up things we enjoy, but we relinquish them only to allow more space for the restorative gifts that God longs for us to have.

What will be your Lenten aspirations this year? Whatever you choose, I hope they will bring you closer to God and provide strength for whatever life throws at you in the coming days, months and years.

Best wishes

Sarah

News from St. Andrew's church

I HAD to do a lot of organising at the beginning of January as I was booked onto a lovely long cruise which was supposed to be taking me away for over a month. I organised and trained up people who were willing to help to set up the church, lay out the equipment for the services, support Sarah, etc. I am very grateful for their help and support. Also, I had to make sure that there was enough of consumable goods e.g., wafers, wine, etc and not to mention candles, batteries, masks, etc. I felt that I had been very thorough and that everything was covered. It turned out that our lovely long holiday was cut very short when the company decided that, after three days at sea and one day at a port, the ship was to return to Southampton. They never actually said why but we thought that it might be for covid infections which we know were on board. Although there were services held on our cruise liner it was difficult to concentrate and become absorbed when the ship was rolling in a force 10 gale and everyone was having trouble keeping their balance!

However, returning home early meant that I could enjoy the services in my parish church. I especially enjoyed the Candlemas service when Sarah blessed our candles in the traditional manner. Our two lay led services remain popular. The Celebrate services are

Continued on page 8

Services in the Benefice of Puddletown, Tolpuddle, Milborne and Dewlish March 2022

2nd March – Ash Wednesday

6.00pm United Benefice Holy Communion with imposition of ashes
Milborne

6th March – Lent 1

9.30am Parish Communion Tolpuddle
9.30 Celebrate . . . Milborne
11.00 Parish Communion Puddletown
11.00 1662 Morning Prayer Dewlish
(traditional language)
4.00p.m. Messy Church Tolpuddle

13th March – Lent 2

9.30am Parish Communion Milborne
11.00 Puddletown Praise Puddletown
11.00 Parish Communion Dewlish
5.30pm Sunday Reflections Tolpuddle

20th March – Lent 3

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

27th March – Mothering Sunday/Lent 4

9.30am Mothering Sunday Milborne
Holy Communion
10.00 Mothering Sunday Go Fourth Tolpuddle
11.00 1662 Morning Prayer Puddletown
(traditional language)
11.00 Mothering Sunday Dewlish
Holy Communion

MORNING PRAYERS

Monday to Thursday 8.30am; Saturday 9.00 am

On Zoom, please contact Sarah Hillman

(sarah.c.hillman@outlook.com) for the link

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

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run on the first Sunday of the month and the Worship in Stillness services are on the third Sunday of the month. Celebrate is designed to be an 'all age', informal service whilst the Worship in Stillness is a service when the congregation is able to contemplate and meditate around a different theme each time when Christian values are explored. Do come along and see what you think.

As I write this article, I am preparing for Ash Wednesday, which is to be held in St. Andrews, also to Lent when Sarah usually leads study groups and to our traditional Good Friday children's event and of course to Easter. Lots of preparation with good things to look forward to. Hope to see lots of familiar and not so familiar faces in church and at these events over the next coming months.

Pam Shults, Churchwarden.

Village Hall News

WELL do we dare say that things are back to normal at the Village Hall after the last couple of years? All the user groups are back and the film nights are running again; so fingers crossed.

We are pleased to welcome two new volunteers to our committee; Karen Park and Linsey O'Neill. We are always pleased to welcome new members especially representatives of the hall user groups. Why not come along to our AGM on the 27th April?

We continue to battle with Mr Mole (well looking at the piles a whole tribe of them). We have been employing a mole catcher but she has been thwarted as her markers are often moved. We will continue to try and deal with them but please be careful on the uneven ground and leave anything that the mole catcher puts down in place - thank you.

Linda Wright

Lent courses 2022 – all welcome

WE are offering two different Lent Courses this year.

You do not have to be a regular churchgoer to join one or both - we would love to welcome you whoever you are. All that is needed is a willingness to explore what faith might mean for you, a commitment to listening to others' ideas without judgment and a desire to learn.

A Way Through the Wilderness:

Experiencing God's Help in Times of Crisis

Tuesdays 7.30 p.m. Church Room, Puddletown starting 8th March

Where do we turn in times of challenge? How do we find strength and support? Bookshops are full of self-help guides, but how does our faith enable us to cope and come through? What can God provide to aid us when we are weak?

This course is written by Paula Gooder, now Canon Chancellor of St. Paul's Cathedral. She is a Church of England Licensed Lay Minister (Lay Reader) and an inspiring theologian for people at all stages of their Christian life.

Week 1 – what kind of comfort does God offer?

Week 2 – how can the wilderness be a place of comfort as well as unhappiness?

Week 3 – how can we bring comfort to others, even when we need it ourselves?

Week 4 – how can simply encountering God give us hope?

Week 5 – what might having God's strength in our lives feel like?

Creative Spirit:

Encountering God through Works of Art

Thursdays 1.00p.m. Zoom starting 10th March

Each week we will look at a work of art based on a story from the life of Jesus. What does the painting say to us? How does it convey a message about Jesus? What did the artists think they were saying through their work?

We will read the Bible stories together, and there will be space for members of the group to respond in written word - prose or poetry - picture or craft. So make sure you have at hand pens, paper, colours or paints, clay, fabric or anything else you could use to express your response to what we share together.

Each week we'll start the session with prayers then move onto discussion before being creative ourselves. We'll formally end at 2.15p.m. but do carry on your creativity between sessions. It would be great to share each week how the artwork and Bible story has inspired each of us to respond.

Please feel free to eat your lunch as we listen, chat and create.

Mike's May Fayre – funds distributed

THE village May Fayre, as envisioned by Mike Mullett, ran for a number of years since 2008 and benefitted many local community groups who took part, making it a successful event. We - Elizabeth Humphrey and Ed Richards - ran it in partnership with Mike but since his sad death in 2016 the biennial fair at the Village Hall has not been staged. We have been working with the Mullett family to decide what to do about the May Fayre and have decided that it is time for something different, so we need to close the bank account and distribute the remaining funds which amount to £468.69.

Late last year we consulted with all the groups who were involved in the Fayre and received a variety of suggestions for using the money. In the end we decided to split it three ways, donating one third to Marie Curie, who cared for Mike when he was ill, and the remainder to two organisations in the village that were dear to Mike: the Beavers and the Village Hall. We have asked these two groups to use the money for something specifically in Mike's memory.

We were holding these funds to cover the upfront payments needed for the Fayre. If anyone wishes to hold a similar event in the future, the Parish Council has said that they are open to providing the necessary money to kickstart this.

This is a Community space provided by the Parish Council – Open to All

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Busy Parish Council discusses Camelco homes

IT WAS great to see more people attending the Parish Council meeting this month.

The meeting started with Mr. Lock giving an update on the planning application submitted to use the grounds of the Sports Club for camping. Dorset Council weren't happy with the plan that was submitted, showing the location of the camping, which needs to be a scale drawing. Later in the meeting two other requests that had been discussed in previous meetings:

- Installation of external toilet facilities – the Sports Club Committee did not give approval of the facilities to be open during daylight hours, so the Parish Council objected to the request until the Sports Club Committee reconsider
- Redesigning of the front gates at the Sports Club – the Sports Club Committee did not agree that the gates would be left open during daylight hours. The Parish Council gave permission for the Sports Club to make changes to the gates, but public funding would not be available to pay for the changes.

Two planning applications were discussed:

1. Application number P/FUL/2022/00184 Barn at E 380372 N 97198 Manor Farm Track from Manor Farm Lane to Snag Lane, Milborne St Andrew Dorset - change of use from offices to a special education needs facility. There was discussion about the parking as it is up against a wall that is Grade II listed, and there was concern that the wall could be damaged. There was also a concern raised about the right of way between the building and the outdoor area. The Parish Council supported the application but would raise concern about the wall.
2. Application number P/RES/2021/05662 Land south of Milborne Business Centre, Blandford Hill, Milborne St Andrew DT11 0HZ – redevelopment, with the construction of a mixed housing, business and community use scheme including up to 61 residential units, business units and a pre-school nursery. Though this application does follow the outline of the Neighbourhood Plan, there were concerns about the design of the properties with business units underneath as it looks very town like, and would be out of character for the village location. They are also using a lot of panel fencing on public facing side of housing areas, where

elsewhere in the village boundaries tend to be walls and hedging. The preschool drop off and parking was a concern as could easily become congested, and it was questioned whether there was enough parking for the preschool. The rest of the design is good – buildings with chimneys, and flint features that are seen elsewhere in the village. The Parish Council's decision was to reject the application with suggestions of changes to make it more in line with the neighbourhood plan – including preschool parking and drop off, and boundary treatments

To find out more about planning matters and comment go to the Dorset Council website

<https://planning.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/> and search by application number.

The Parish Council are looking to appoint an internal auditor. The role will ensure the PC's governance and accounts are open and transparent in accordance with Local Authority guidelines and will be appointed at the AGM in May. Parish Council Clerk was tasked with getting three quote alternatives to the one already received.

The Village Hall were looking for a member of the Parish Council to be on their Management Committee now that the previous Councillor has left. This item will be added to the next agenda and in the meantime, Councillors were asked to put their name forward if they were interested.

Budget planning 2022/2023 and setting the Precept

Precept was discussed and agreed at the January Parish Council meeting. Precept is the amount of money that a Parish Council raises through our council tax. At the January meeting the Precept was set at £13,150, which equates to £30.33 per band D tax base. This included a 100% increase in the Clerk's salary (Precept 2021/2022 was £3,000, 2022/2023 will be £6,000). When a member of the audience questioned the increase it was stated that the job grading and hours had been reviewed justifying the increase. The Precept does not include funds to support the Village Hall requests to maintain and upgrade the access to all outside facilities within the boundary of the Village Hall Grounds.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 2nd March at 7.00pm in the Village Hall

Jo Whitfield

Parish Council income comparison

BELOW is a comparison of the local Parish Councils' income from Council Taxation 2021/2022, which was produced to support the Village Hall's request for regular funding from the Parish Council to support the provision of outside community recreation space and playground.

The Parish Council has no responsibility for the Village Hall field and playpark. Maintenance costs (other than grass cutting)

are met entirely from Village Hall funds – raised via hire charges for using the hall.

The comparison clearly shows:

- MSA residents pay significantly less than residents of other local parishes
- Other local parishes with PC responsibility for recreation/play grounds charge more.

Parish Council	Total Income	Tax base (no of dwellings)	Charge per dwelling	Compare to MSA	PC responsible for rec ground
Milborne St Andrew	£11,600	429	£27.04	-	No
Milton Abbas	£15,700	277	£56.68	+ £29.64	Yes
Puddletown	£45,967	795	£57.82	+ £30.78	Yes
Bere Regis	£70,000	664	£105.42	+ £78.38	Yes
Winterborne Whitechurch	£18,450	296	£62.33	+ £35.29	Yes
Dewlish	£4,620	123	£37.56	+ £10.52	No

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THE FEW

The Dorset party band that get everyone on their feet!!

Hot food will be available to purchase

This **FREE** event has been kindly sponsored by



Flowers for the Queen

AS part of the Jubilee celebrations in the village the Gardening Club is organising a competition for filled planters, open to all in the village. We hope there will be many and varied entries which will be a celebration of the Jubilee and will also make Milborne look really attractive. There will be a few rules, as follows:

- * The display must be created principally with plants.
- * Plants need not be grown from seed, they can be bought in.
- * The display must be created by the exhibitor, who must be individual, not a club or organisation. One entry per person.
- * Entries should have a royal theme and be positioned to be easily visible from the front of the property. Judges will not enter gardens.
- * Judges will welcome imaginative containers, including hanging baskets, or window boxes, that enhance the display, but they will prioritise planting when judging

There will be three categories

- * Small containers up to 30cm/12in across.
- * Large containers over 30cm/12in across.
- * Novelty containers.
- * There will be a prize in each category and one for ‘the best in show’.

Judges will initially be Gardening Club members, but a professional horticulturist will do the final judging.

Entries must be registered by early May by emailing Bill Love at wlove@toucansurf.com or telephone 01258 837677 Please give your name, address and the category you wish to enter. Reminders will be sent out later.

Good luck with your plans and let’s have lots of entries!

Mark Johnson

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Tom dives into helluva challenge

OLYMPIC diver, Tom Daley OBE, cycled through Milborne St. Andrew in mid-February, on day three of his 'Hell of a Homecoming' swim, ride and run challenge for Comic Relief, from the Olympic Park to his hometown of Plymouth. Arriving in the village from Milton Abbas, he stopped to chat with delighted schoolchildren before continuing on his way to Devon. The challenge will be shown on BBC1 in March.

Photos courtesy of Dennis Ballard



Reporter 2021/2022 makes a loss

THE *Reporter's* accounts for the year show a loss of £661 after a dip in advertising and also donations made to local charities. Advertisement volume was down on two years ago, especially affected were one-off ads for spring and summer events which didn't go ahead due to the pandemic. Three donations to local charities totalling £262 were also made by the *Reporter*. We have revamped the balance sheet to make it easier for the general public to understand.

Producing the *Reporter* is made possible by two important factors – the hard work and time given by dedicated volunteers, and the revenue provided by our advertisers. We thank all local businesses who have supported us in the last year. The *Reporter* is the best place for businesses to get their message into every village home, and some of our advertisers have been here from the very beginning. We also thank our deliverers for getting each issue through your door, come rain or shine. Also our thanks go to Jenny Balcon for once again examining our accounts.

Reporter Balance Sheet year ending 31st January 2022

Balance B/F from 2021	£7,157.43		
		Receipts	Payments
Advertising	£3,741.50	Printing	£4,031.46
Copies sold and donation	£80.40	Expenses	£190.50
Bank Interest	£00.70	Donations	£262.00
Total	£3,822.60	Total	£4,483.96
Total Income	£3,822.60		
Less Expenditure	£4,483.96		
Profit /Loss	£661.36		

Cash in Bank 31st January 2022	£6,482.49
Cash in hand 31st January 2022	£13.58
Total in hand at 31st January 2022	£6,496.07
Loss for year ending 31st January 2022	£661.36

Time to get walking again!

AT this time of year we start to think about the mud drying up and getting out to walk in the beautiful English countryside again, but where to find new and interesting walks?

Walking in Dorset www.walkinginengland.co.uk/dorset has hundreds of walks to download and print, free, it also has books of walks, details of all the walking groups in the county and much more. Whether you want to walk on your own or with a group all the information is there in one place.



John Harris (the custodian of the website) said 'There is so much walking information on the web but it is difficult to find. Walking in Dorset (part of the Walking in England website) has brought it together in one place so whether you are walking from home, or away on holiday, you will be able to find a walk suitable for you'.

With walks from half a mile to twelve miles plus long, and a note of suitability for pushchairs and wheelchairs, everyone can find a walk to enjoy.

So home or away, check out the websites and get walking!

John Harris, www.walkinginengland.co.uk
john@walkinginengland.co.uk



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MSA Food and Wine January Skittles and Pie night at The Royal Oak

ON the 15th of January the club members descended on our local and much loved public house for a fun/competitive evening of skittles.

The evening started with home cooked food – much needed fuel for the battle ahead – served by Stuart and Jo from The Royal Oak.

32 members were split into two teams all drawn from a very large brandy glass, husbands and wives were pitted against each other and battle commenced.

Members had varying techniques, some sedate, some more robust and then there was Harry (Pierce) with his aptly named “Barnes Wallis” approach which frankly terrified onlookers! (Especially Kas and Brian who were “sticking up”).

The evening ended with two members from opposing teams achieving the same score and needing to bowl for the ultimate crown. Helen Pugh and Alan Caldwell went head to head in a tense finale cheered on by their fellow team mates.

Fortunately for Alan, Helen won, which in turn meant that Alan did not need wear

a crown home! Congratulations to Helen who was crowned 2022 Skittles Champion – everything to play for next year.

A huge thank you to everyone who helped to make the evening such a fun event – special thanks to Steve Close for keeping score so diligently and Brian O’Dwyer for his “sticking up” skills as well as the team from The Royal Oak for their hosting.

Kas Park, Committee member MSA F&W Club




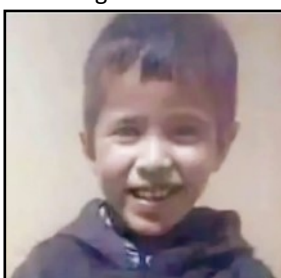
Go With Love By Jan Beaumont ©

His parents’ hearts are broken
Four long days had dragged on
But his precious life was taken
And their little boy was gone.

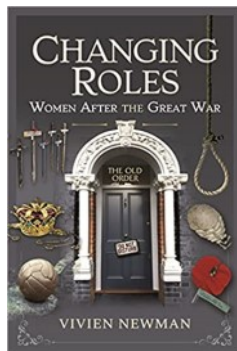
They fought to save wee Rayan
For those four days they had tried
Morocco and the whole world mourns
To hear that he has died.

He should have had much longer
They should not have had to part
But we never will forget him
He'll stay in everybody's heart.

R.I.P. Rayan Awram
Aged 5. 



Changing Roles – Women after the Great War by Vivien Newman



I STARTED with some trepidation, fearing it would be the usual ‘leftist propaganda with an Agenda’ that passes for historical research nowadays.

I was very pleasantly surprised. Whilst focussing on female progress after 1919, it is a very readable description of ladies who changed the world, in ways more subtle than we can understand today. From the lady who started Save the Children (as an attempt to help starving children in blockaded Germany) to the gang of lady shoplifters in London who could have put the Mafia to shame, the author has picked interesting and unusual ways that early twentieth-century

females became successful despite a male-oriented establishment.

By including a lady who was hanged for murder despite being obviously innocent, she includes material about how public attitude to the death penalty was changing, and how the Establishment fought back against what it saw as monstrous, emancipated women refusing to return to home and children after the great disruptions of 1914–19. She also looks at the differences in public opinion about helping the children of those we had defeated in war, the result of the Versailles Treaty, and the different way the Establishment treated our ally Romania as opposed to our former enemies. The section on Queen Marie of Romania at the Paris Peace Conference was particularly illuminating for me.

I really enjoyed this book, despite my initial reservations and would recommend it to anyone interested in social history, or early twentieth century history.

Susan Wilson



MILBORNE ST. ANDREW FIRST SCHOOL

Learning together and having fun



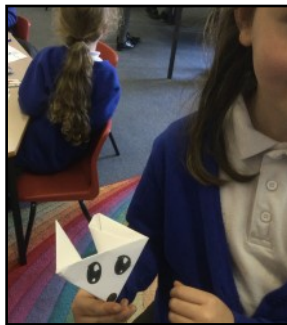
SCHOOL NEWS

Robin's Class had a visit from Adrienne who brought in her spinning wheel to show us. She brought in different types of fleece and some flax and gave us a demonstration with the spinning wheel.



This was in preparation for our talk for writing unit based on the story of Rumpelstiltskin. We wondered if Adrienne could spin straw into gold with her spinning wheel!

At Milborne First School we place a high value on life skills and life experiences. Each child has a passport to work through each year with experiences ranging from fly a kite and make your bed to learn sign language and explore a cave. We are also working with The Skills Builder Partnership to ensure every learner has opportunities to build eight essential skills (below) to support them now and in the future. Research has shown that building these eight essential skills can support the emotional wellbeing and academic success of children and young people, as well as



preparing them for life beyond school. The children are taught how to develop these skills through videos and challenges, they are rewarded for showing these skills in any aspect of school life. We tried to follow the instructions for origami with mixed success.

Why not try this 'Staying Positive' challenge?

Affirmations are positive statements that can help people to feel happier when they are having negative thoughts and feelings in tough times. Challenge yourself to come up with five positive things (affirmations) you could say to yourself when you do not feel so happy.

Some examples include: 'I am a friendly kind person'. 'I tell great jokes to cheer others up'. 'I am thoughtful and always remember my friends' birthdays.'

What affirmations would you come up with for other people in your family or your friends?

Share your ideas and talk about how these might help you all to stay positive.

Reflection Questions

Getting Started: How does this activity make you feel?

Intermediate: How could you use this activity to feel more positive when something goes wrong?

Advanced: How could this help you to look on the bright side of something?

Mastery: How can you manage your emotional response to best support others?

Staying Positive

Plan a special family meal to have at home. Talk together to decide about what you are going to cook and when.

Share jobs out between you. Someone might want to take responsibility for making sure you have the ingredients, someone might be able to lead on making the food, setting the table, even making menus.

Enjoy celebrating your great teamwork by enjoying the meal together.

Reflection Questions

Getting Started: When do you find it easier or more difficult to work with others in a positive way?

Intermediate: Have you contributed to the group decision making?

Advanced: How can you encourage others to contribute?

Mastery: How might you help a team if someone was struggling to work together on the task?



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 Staddon

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

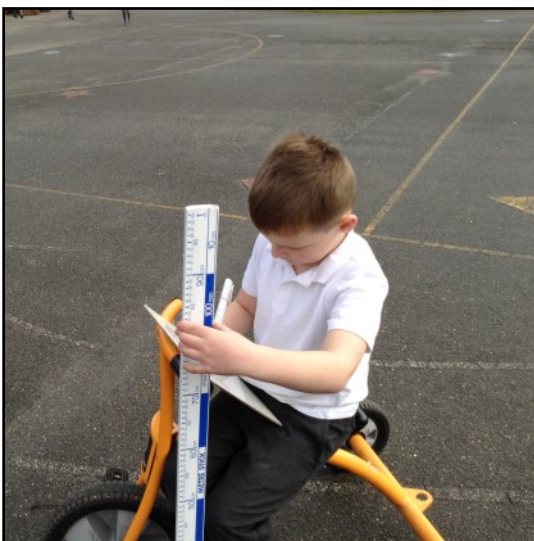
Tel: (01258) 837362

Fax: (01258) 837170

Teamwork

Our Robins class brought in their teddies to help them with their maths lesson on 'weights and measures'. The children weighed their teddies and also measured how long, tall, wide certain items in the playground were.

Milborne First School took part in the 'Big School Bird Watch' run by the RSPB. The children loved preparing for it. They also learnt about taking care of our world, whilst taking part in activities which help develop fine motor control.



Spring Watch and Nursery Rhymes at Ladybirds



OUR outside area has been popular this month with the children feeding birds, looking for them with binoculars and using clipboards to record what they have seen. As you can expect the birds tend to fly away when the children are outside, so we covered the climbing frame with camouflage material and the children hid inside, although not always

quietly. The children mixed up suet bird feeders and these have been hung from the tree near the kitchen. From the tables inside the children have watched and seen pigeons, jackdaws, sparrows, and blackbirds. More learning about nature has been studying the flowers that are in our planted containers, surprisingly early this year and lovely to see the yellow dwarf narcissi.

Inside activities have revolved around nursery rhymes. Hickory Dickory Dock included making a large grandfather clock from boxes and painting it brown, the children love mixing paints and it seems whatever colours you put together they tend to end up brown! It's interesting to reflect that not many children have heard clocks going tick tock in this digital world but they were all interested in the clock and it's moving hands. Humpty Dumpty

was fun and messy making a papier-mâché egg which stubbornly refused to break when dropped from the climbing frame. Less messy artwork included cutting an egg shape then sticking it back together with plasters and decorating egg shapes to create Humpty Dumpty. One, two, three, four, five had many counting activities and fish creations including large paper plate ones that we 'flapped' across the floor by waving books behind them.

Liz Dyer



Milborne Ladybirds

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Leader- liz@milborneladybirds.com 07771512427
Committee - secretary@milborneladybirds.com

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www.milborneladybirds.com

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Heffalumps, Hippolyta and Diggory

If you can link these three names you are what is called a galanthophile. Galanthus being the name for snowdrops. Gala=milk and Anthos =flower. There are more than 1,000 different varieties. Their bulbs are very expensive and it's



difficult to tell one variety from another. They are best planted 'in the green' just when they have stopped flowering as bulbs dry out very quickly. It can take from two to four years to grow from seed or 'twin scaling'. The last method involves dividing each bulb into 10 chips using a craft knife, washed in spirit, shaken in sulphur powder and put into vermiculite and water.

By September there should be pin sized bulbs (9–10 weeks) potted into compost, labelled and put outside (bring in if the temperatures fall to freezing). In year two repot, in year three they will be of flowering size. A form of recycling for those with infinite patience! Currently there is a tremendous surge of interest in these beautiful,



fragile little plants. They are cross pollinated by bees, and variations can be found, some of which are very small. There are even yellow varieties such as Wendy's Gold. The wild snowdrop here is mostly nivalis (milk flower); this is the one that spreads in woodlands in the Spring. They have been cultivated in England since the 16th century, though it is possible they were brought to our shores by Norman monks even earlier than that. They were once used



to treat 'problems of the head', and, interestingly, a chemical found in snowdrops is now being used in a treatment for Alzheimer's. Locally there is a National Collection of 40 different varieties at Kingston Lacy. Also a unique project in Shaftsbury creating Britain's first 'snowdrop town'. There is an annual Snowdrop Festival with snowdrop walks, an art exhibition and snowdrop-themed craft classes. February is their most prolific month. Hopefully, weather permitting we can all walk and enjoy them on our doorstep.



Carole Fornachon

Milton Abbas Surgery

Note for Carers

Do you care for a family member or friend who has a disability, illness or needs support in later life? It is important that we know if you are an unpaid carer so that we are aware of the extra pressures you are under and can offer you appropriate support and information. If you haven't already, please let the surgery know you are an unpaid carer and who you care for, and we can record this information on your records. You can also pick up a carers information pack at Reception or look at the virtual version on our dedicated carers page on our surgery website www.masurgery.co.uk

For all of your caring and for all of your caregiving – thank you!

Wednesday 16th March – Young Carers Action Day

#YoungCarersActionDay 2022 is about Taking Action on Isolation. We want to help young and young adult carers stay connected, access the services and support they need, and reduce their isolation. A young carer is someone under the age of 18 who looks after or helps to look after someone. It might be their mum or dad, grandparent, brother or sister or a close relative. This often means doing things like cooking, cleaning, shopping, giving medication or just talking and helping when the person they care about is feeling sad. Looking after someone takes up a lot of time, and it can sometimes be very difficult to cope with everything and find time for things they enjoy.

If you are a young carer, it is important that you let the surgery know so that we can give you support. Give us a call on 01258 880210 or please send an email to miltonabbassurgery@nhs.net for the attention of Kelly. Remember, you are not alone in this – it's okay to ask for help.

Surgery Closure

On Thursday 10th March, the surgery will be closed for Practice Protected Learning from 3.30–6.00pm. We apologise for any inconvenience caused. For out of hours care or advice during closures, please call 111. In the case of an emergency, call 999.

Please see our surgery website or follow us on Facebook for future surgery closures.

Patient Participation Group (PPG)

A reminder that our PPG, known as Patient Voice is open to all of our patients to receive information about the surgery and support how we do what we do. Patient Voice meets four times a year (currently virtually) and you are welcome to attend, or just receive information by email. If you are interested, please contact our Patient Voice Secretary, Nigel Hodder at ma.patientvoice@gmail.com

Gillian Brindle

Milborne St. Andrew Gardening Club – Greenhouse Planting

ARE you thinking of buying a greenhouse and need some advice? Or do you have a greenhouse but feel you could make better use of it? On Thursday 17th March at 7.30pm in the village hall a speaker from The Gardens Group of garden centres will be talking to us, helping us to make the most of our greenhouses. Non-members are especially welcome, it only costs £2 to come along and that includes refreshments!

Mark Johnson

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Milborne St. Andrew History Group

The next meeting is on 9th March in The Royal Oak Function Room starting at 7.30pm. We have four visitors from West Stour. They created an amazing piece of their village history as a Millennium Project. Each house in the village is contained within a book together with its history. We will consider how something similar can be done here in tandem with our Village History booklets. Examples will be given from within our village to round off the presentation. Come along and hear how they did it and how we could too!


Carole Fornachon

The Church of St. Andrew's Jubilee Celebrations

ST. ANDREW'S with All Saints, Dewlish will be holding a special service on Sunday 5th June in our village to commemorate the Queen's Jubilee. Check the service rotas nearer the time. We hope to have displays throughout the church showing the changes over the last 70 years.

Seventy years of photographs

THE History Group would like to see lots of material and memorabilia relating to Queen Elizabeth's reign over the last 70 years. If you have anything and are happy to share to add to a display it would be of interest to very many villagers and visitors. If you can help or have good ideas do get in touch with me. Pam Shults pamshults@btinternet.com or 01258 837203.



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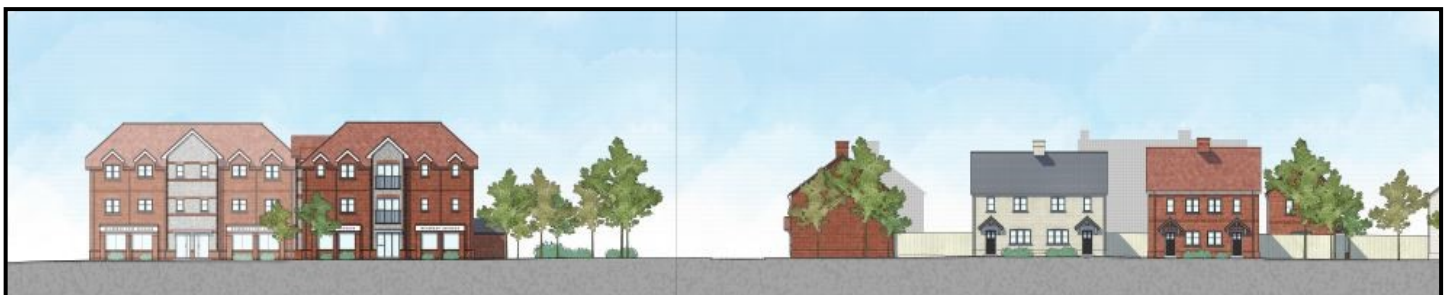


www.dorset.police.uk

New plans show detail of Camelco development



Following the granting of outline planning permission for the Camelco site at the top of Blandford Hill, a reserved matters application has been submitted showing more detail of the proposed development. There are 58 residential units – 40% available on an affordable basis – eight of which are flats above the two business units. The houses are a mix of terrace, semi- and detached homes and the development includes a pre-school nursery, play area and public open spaces. The application documents can be viewed at www.planning.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk and searching using the reference 05662



A section in two parts showing the street scene through the centre of the development, showing the business units with flats above (far left) situated near the Lane End access, and residential units.

Ed Richards





Milborne St Andrew First School



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Milborne Ladybirds

Your village preschool is in urgent need of staff in 2022 and beyond.

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We are also looking to recruit a new Bookkeeper, ideally as a volunteer although compensation can be made available for a suitably qualified candidate.

If you or someone you know may be interested in supporting your village preschool do please contact Liz on 07771-512427 / liz@milborneladybirds.com, or Paul on 07801-714619 / paul@milborneladybirds.com

Thinking of selling or letting your property?



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3			8		1			2
2		1		3		6		4
			2		4			
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	6						5	
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9		4		8		7		5
6			1		7			3

SUDOKU

Fill in all the squares in the grid so that each row, each column and each of the 3x3 squares contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

No prize, just a bit of fun.

Something for nothing



WELL, if you are sitting comfortably, read on:

You can now book and use the

Pavilion for free!! Sound too good to be true?

As a result of receiving the latest Government Omicron Grant of £2,667 the Sports Club trustees have decided that rather than just banking it for a future rainy day the money will be used in a rather novel way.

The Omicron grant money is a bonus, an unexpected windfall (call it what you will) and it will be used to pay for our regular monthly outgoings of £340 comprising of: rent to the Council; insurance, utilities, female personal hygiene units, commercial waste collection, broadband, music licence, etc.

By doing that we can pass on the benefit to the users and the local community with a hire free holiday for as long as the pot of money lasts.

So here comes the novel bit. Our regular or casual (parties etc) bookings process will now include three options:

1. You pay the going rate of hire that represents a fair price for the facilities, so £8.75 hr; £30 kids party; £80 adult party; £65 business meeting.
2. You make a donation that represents what you can afford or want to pay.
3. You take advantage of the free hire offer (we already offer this for wakes, Milborne Football training evenings and for the Queen's Jubilee bash so it is not a new thing)

We want to do this to help support our loyal users and to give something back to the community in these very challenging times. If you go for either option one or two you can be assured that we will continue to use those funds to make even more improvements and enhancements.

OK it is a risk (gamble) and clearly, we have no idea how this will pan out and quite possibly it will be a "seat of the pants" experience, but we don't expect that this will be abused by block bookings. Our emphasis will be on promoting and supporting community group activities as widely as possible.

We can always pull the plug whenever we like, and we still have our reserves to fall back on as we continue with the improvements and enhancements through our grant hunting exploits.

Since 2018 and excluding the Government's COVID Business Assistance Grants, we have achieved a total of 11 grants from organisations such as the Football Foundation, Sport England,



Viridor and the Lottery Community Fund. (For some obscure reason they seem to like us and what we are doing!!)

So a total of £45,600 in grant funding and with contributions from the Sports Club own finances, a total of £54,000 worth of physical improvements. Apparently, the kiddies at the Busy Bees group really love laying on the floor looking up at the floating sound absorbing clouds and taking in the colour changing lights. The privacy partitions in the showers have been appreciated by the ladies football teams and the Bluetooth sound system and 75 inch Smart TV linked to the internet to Facetime, Zoom or mirror the screen of a mobile phone is a definite bonus.

So if you are an existing group with nowhere to go, you are thinking about starting up a new group, say youth drop in session; arts and crafts now might be a good time to dip the proverbial toe in the water and give it a go. It will cost you nothing and it might be the start of a new community activity.

If you feel like "Giving something for Nothing" rather than "Having something for Nothing" then why not become a Sports Club volunteer and join us on our white-knuckle ride into the future.

Richard Lock

We are delighted to be bringing some live theatre back to the Village Hall!

In association with Artsreach we are thrilled to welcome Rob Gee back to the Village on Sunday 6th March.

Tickets are just £10 (Under 18s £6) and are available at Artsreach.co.uk or by calling 01258 839060.

Book yours now!

Door and bar open at 7.00pm and the show starts at 7.30pm
Hope to see you there!

Rob Gee – Kevin, King of Egypt

ESCAPED mental health patient Kevin Haggerty is not pleased about his diagnosis, even less pleased about being on a section of the Mental Health Act, and distinctly upset about being told he is not the reincarnation of the pharaoh Ramses II. On his way to Egypt, via the Tesco Express, he stumbles across the nemesis to all his plans: Millie – a lost six-year-old. Together they embark on a journey that will change both their lives forever.

Rob Gee spent twelve years working as a nurse in mental health units in the UK and Australia. Now a stand-up poet, he's won over twenty awards for his solo shows and performed with the likes of Jo Brand, Sarah Millican and Frankie Boyle. This award-winning new show has been created with the help and support of people on both sides of the psychiatric fence, and now tours to Dorset with Artsreach, the county's touring arts charity. Recommended 16+.

"Stunningly funny and compassionate" Fringe Review
★★★★★ "Uproarious!" London Pub Theatres.
★★★★½ "Moving, funny, deeply human" Victoria Times.
★★★★ "Hilarious . . . bound to simultaneously break hearts and lift spirits" Vue Weekly, Alberta
★★★★ "Heartfelt and laugh out loud funny" CBC, Canada
www.artsreach.co.uk



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The Milborne Spring Clean

Join us for a village 'Litter Pick' on

6th March 2022

Meet at the Village Hall @ 11am



Organised By



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Wildlife in February

THE skies are still grey, the cold and damp keep us indoors but now is the time when wildlife activity in robins is high although I know there is plenty of evidence for activity in other bird species. Most of this early activity is related to territorial establishment and the Robin is the most obvious of the garden birds. I have had four robins in my immediate neighbourhood



trying to state their claim with singing from high points being the obvious. One from the top of a holly bush, another from the gable of our roof. Oddly, one is making its declaration from a bush near the back door. Two robins whom I assumed to be a pair have been taking mealworms from my hand for a while, but I believe a territorial dispute has moved them on to somewhere else or possibly one did not survive the cold snap. As it is not possible to tell male from female I cannot be sure. They obviously know!

Of all of the regular visitors at this time of year I have seen most of these, although no blackcaps in my garden or greenfinches. The latter have had a bad time recently with infections reducing their numbers considerably, and although there are chaffinches around many of them are affected by the growths on their feet and legs, also from infections. Unfortunately, it is suspected that these infections are passed on to birds as they use feeders that we put out for them. A weekly clean is recommended by the RSPB to minimise this. A rather unusual visitor to my garden has been a Grey Wagtail that has been feeding from the garage roof after the larger birds have had their fill. This has been instead of the more usual Pied or White Wagtail in the same place.

A common sight in the sky above the village is the presence of wheeling buzzards, but today there was one perched for 15 minutes on a nearby roof. It flew away as I got out of the back



door with my camera, it being pursued by a Jackdaw. I keep a lookout for Red Kites as they are increasingly seen in the county, with a recent report of eighteen seen near Pimperne. With the amount of deer road kill I would imagine there is enough carrion for them. I have had just four sightings of them in the village in recent years

I thought it had been very quiet round the pond until today (8th February), when the frogs started their chorus celebrating a light rain. I found a pair coupled on the drive, so frogspawn soon. I hope that in the sludge at the bottom of the pond there will be dragonfly nymphs, as last year we had a hatch of a least six Common Darters leaving their fragile exoskeletons as a sign of their presence.

Pip Bowell

Keep safe, register your appliance

THE UK trade association for the Manufacturers of Domestic Electrical Appliances (AMDEA) is asking people to register their household appliances to keep homes safe. Both new and already in use appliances can be registered through the scheme. Product Registration allows people to be contacted more quickly in the event of their appliance being subject to a safety recall.

Consumers are being encouraged to register new and in-use household appliances with the manufacturer, or through the website registermyappliance.org.uk

Consumer research into product safety found that 83% of people who registered a product were primarily motivated by getting or extending a warranty. The survey also found the reasons respondents did not register appliances was because they did not want to or did not believe it was necessary (46%), or because they did not know they could register it (17%).

The Office for Product Safety and Standards is working with AMDEA to increase the registration of household appliances by advising consumers it will help make their homes safer. They recommend:

Register all your appliances. Check that all your household appliances are registered so you will know if they have been recalled. Many manufacturers will allow you to register household appliances that are up to twelve years old. Most household products can also be registered through registermyappliance.org.uk

Check whether small appliances are registered. Faulty toasters and kettles can cause fires. Register with the manufacturer to get recall notices before it is too late. Landlords make sure your products are covered in properties you own. Check that all the household appliances are registered so that you are contacted quickly if they are recalled. Check that products are registered in rented accommodation. Check that the owner has registered the household appliances. If they have not you should register the products yourself.

If you are concerned about a product's safety contact Dorset Council Trading Standards by calling the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on 0808 223 1133.



Deadline for the next issue is mid-day 14th March
Send your stories and pictures to msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk



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Bouquets and flowers

SPRING is upon us and with it the flowers that we have long been anticipating and needing after what seems a long hard winter riven with stress and restrictions. And what better to counter that than to take a look at what we have in our gardens and hedgerows. Some of which we could bring indoors or take to share with others. Flowers and any living plant material can bring brightness to the eye and enrich the soul. In this Royal Platinum Jubilee year it is clear that flowers have a special place in the Royals' inspirations and celebrations. Queen Victoria's came from the language of flowers and she has handed this on to succeeding generations. Kate Middleton's wedding bouquet was unusual in that it was small and subtle, apparently made almost entirely from lily of the valley (meaning trustworthy), and so seasonal it could have been plucked from gardens on the way. This could be translated in modern parlance as an environmentally friendly way forward in resisting "green bling" with expensive out-of-season lilies and roses.



Seasonality was the theme at her wedding. Field maples and hornbeams, all British trees, were wheeled into the church with great physical difficulty and at a reputed cost of £50,000 causing Westminster Abbey to feel fresh and spring-like, and brought with them hints of a simple, old-fashioned country wedding such as those described in Hardy's novels. Field Maples representing humility and reserve (a characteristic of Her Royal Highness who signed her Accession statement "Your Servant" Elizabeth R), and Hornbeams, resilience, representing strength of character through all adversity, also characteristic of Her Majesty and a clear intention of Kate's determination to carry on her grandmother-in-law's example.

As with so many actions today this is felt to be green and "very zeitgeisty". Also encouraging us to look around us and use what we can see and, importantly, to buy British.

Back in 1840, Queen Victoria included a sprig of myrtle in her bouquet when she married Prince Albert. Every royal bride since then has followed her lead. There is a story that she cut it from a bush in Gotha whilst visiting Albert's grandmother and grew it on against a Buckingham Palace wall. Other royal brides since have cut their own clippings from that same bush. Since myrtle stands for good luck in love in marriage, we can understand why it's important. White flowers are another tradition in royal bouquets but not all the flowers chosen are the same.

In 1947, Queen Elizabeth filled hers with three varieties of white orchids. Princess Diana opted for a waterfall bouquet featuring gardenias, stephanotis, orchids, lily of the valley, roses, freesia, veronica and spider lilies in 1981. And in 2011, Kate chose lily of the valley, hyacinths and Sweet William, as a tribute to her groom. Ivy is often used representing fidelity, friendship and affection. Their green leaves complementing the white flowers.

The Queen Mother left her bouquet at the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior following her wedding to King George VI to honour her brother who was killed during World War I. This started a tradition and now all royal brides leave their bouquets at this monument in Westminster Abbey the day after their wedding.

The Duchess of Cambridge has encouraged the planting of a wildlife garden heavily populated with poppies in Kensington palace grounds increasing its photogenic appeal. She has also shared some of her horticultural pursuits submitting a design for last

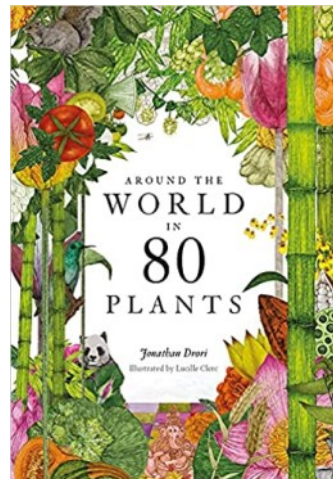
year's Chelsea Flower Show.

Interestingly, florists now always replicate the royal bouquets in case one is mislaid which is what happened to the Queen between the ceremony and the photographs! A whole new set of photographs had to be taken!

So, take note in case the same thing happens to you.

Carole Fornachon

Around the World in 80 Plants by Jonathan Drori




THIS book is a nice hardback, printed on quality paper, and with Lucille Clerc's beautiful drawings, recreated faithfully in lovely colours. The author has chosen 80 plants, some of which are very familiar to us, and some have kept a very low profile. He organises them by the country where they originated, and includes information about how they have travelled, and where they are common now, as well as their uses and abuses. From absinthe, iboga and cannabis,

to sphagnum moss, ginger and tree ferns, there is something interesting about each one. We learn how beer was developed, and how plants were the source of the contraceptive pill, and modern hormone replacement therapies.

I cannot speak highly enough of the beautiful illustrations. Lucille Clerc is a very clever artist, and we see drawings of seeds, seed pods, roots, flowers, bracts, whatever is appropriate for the plant. The Damask Rose is particularly beautiful.

I took a lot of pleasure from reading this book, and from looking at the pictures.


Susan Wilson



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Project has transferred over four million documents in one year

DORSET Council's Planning Convergence and transformation project has reached an incredible milestone. It has completed the transfer of over four million documents in just over a year.

When the council formed in April 2019 there were six different planning teams from the former district, borough and county councils. There were separate software systems for each area. Each team had 47 years' worth of information including planning applications, building control applications, land charge applications and tree preservation orders.

A 'discovery' stage followed. Agents, solicitors, town and parish councils, construction companies, residents and developers were all asked what they thought of the existing systems, what worked, what didn't and what a good planning system would look like.

The team was restructured, and work started on the convergence part of the project. A key part was to bring all the information held onto one system. Transferring systems with the volume of information that these had was a massive undertaking. This was managed by a dedicated multi-disciplinary team. This team made sure the data was transferred correctly and that the minimum of disruption happened when the planning website was taken offline for the transfer itself.

Since October 2020 all 47 years' worth of planning information from the former district and borough councils have been transferred to a new system. The accumulated time where the website could not be accessed is a total of 14 working days.

Cllr David Walsh, Dorset Council Portfolio Holder for planning said:

"This has been a massive piece of work. We are starting to see efficiencies with employees being able to process applications in areas where there is most need, rather than being restricted to a particular part of the county.

"For myself it is much easier to access all planning applications through one place on our website. A big well done to the team."

Once the final convergence phase is completed next month, the council's attention will turn to transformation. Using the information that was gathered during the initial discovery stage and working with people who use the service the council will develop a modern planning system streamlining processes and making it easier for customers to use.



What's on in Milborne

MARCH

Wednesday 2nd	Wednesday Club , Village Hall 2.00pm.
Wednesday 2nd	Parish Council Village Hall 7.30pm.
Thursday 3rd	Bridge The Royal Oak 7.00pm.
Sunday 6th	Village Litter Pick Meet Village Hall 11.00am
Sunday 6th	Artsreach Rob Gee – Kevin, King of Egypt Village Hall 7.30pm – <i>see page 19.</i>
Wednesday 9th	History Group The Royal Oak Function Room 7.30pm.
Thursday 10th	WI Dawn Lawrence of the ' <i>Born Free Foundation</i> ' will talk about endangered species Village Hall 7.30pm.
Thursday 10th	Italian Theme Night The Royal Oak.
Friday 11th	Milborne Movies <i>Dream Horse</i> Village Hall 7.30pm.
Monday 14th	Mid-day deadline for copy for the <i>Reporter</i> msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk
Tuesday 15th	Whist Drive Milton Abbas details from editor or Nigel Hodder 01258 880229.
Thursday 17th	Gardening Club Advice on greenhouses Village Hall 7.30pm. Visitors and new members welcome.
Saturday 26th	Village Lunch Village Hall 12.15pm – <i>see page 2 for menu.</i>
Sunday 27th	Clocks go forward one hour.
Sunday 27th	Mothering Sunday.
Thursday 31st	Pie Night The Royal Oak.

Regular Bookings at the Village Hall

Ladybirds Playgroup Monday–Friday 8.30am.
Players Monday 7.00pm weekly.
Line Dancing Tuesday 7.30pm weekly.
Wednesday Club 2.00pm 1st Wednesday monthly.
Yoga Thursday 3.30pm weekly.
Karate Thursday 5.10pm weekly.
Women's Institute 7.30pm 2nd Thursday monthly.
Gardening Club 7.30pm 3rd Thursday monthly.
Village Lunch 12.15–2.30pm last Saturday monthly.
Artsreach Events – look out for the posters.
Check the Village Hall Notice Board for any other events that are one off for you to join in with.

Regular Bookings at the Sports & Social Club

Busy Bees Under 5 Group from 9.30–11.30am on Thursday term time only. Contact Claire Tudge on 07970 734162.
Yoga (Mellulah) Thursday (evening): Friday (mornings).
Beavers Friday 5.00–6.30pm.
Football Saturdays and Sunday.
Private parties, birthdays, wedding receptions check online calendar.
Check the Sports & Social online calendar on the village website for any other events you might be able to join in with.

Regular Bookings at the First School

Pilates Monday 6.30–7.30pm (term time only).
Yoga Tuesday 6.15–7.45pm (term time only).
Badminton Wednesday 6.30–7.30pm (term time only).

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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@whitd.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

Scouts/Beavers	Sam Elliott	07873 762035
Busy Bees	Claire Tudge	07970 734162
Milborne Ladybirds	Liz Dyer	01258 839117

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 Staddon	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	Steve O’Neill	07490 691121
MSA Allotment Society	Joy Robinson	01258 837661
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

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

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Sunday 27th Mother's Day

Thursday 31st Pie Night



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