

# Reporter

News and Views from around the area

Volume 14 Issue 8

August/September 2022

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Copy for the next issue MUST be received by mid-day 12th Sept.

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.

## Belfast

**Friday 16th September 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**

### BELFAST

From director Kenneth Branagh, and starring an acclaimed ensemble cast, Belfast is a personal and joyful story about the power of memory, set in late 1960s Northern Ireland. At the centre of the film is Buddy, a young boy on the cusp of adolescence, whose life is filled with familial love, childhood hijinks, and a blossoming romance. Yet, with his beloved hometown caught up in increasing turmoil, his family faces a momentous choice: hope the conflict will pass or leave everything they know behind for a new life.

Belfast is a movie straight from Branagh's own experience. A nine-year-old boy must chart a path towards adulthood through a world that has suddenly turned upside down. His stable and loving community and everything he thought he understood about life is changed forever but joy, laughter, music and the formative magic of the movies remain.

The film stars Jude Hill a nine year old actor who steals the show, alongside Jamie Dorian, Dame Judy Dench and Ciaran Hinds.

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## Great Big Green Week 2022

24th September to 2nd October is The Great Big Green Week – an annual week-long celebration of community action in the fight against the climate and nature crises.

Here in Milborne we have two events scheduled at the Village Hall. The first, on Wednesday September 28th, is an American film documentary about a couple leaving the big city and trying to farm organically, in line with Nature. 'The Biggest Little Farm' came out in 2019 and has won many awards. Here are two quotations from the many great reviews: 'A tender reflection . . . about the indomitability of nature, self-improvement, perseverance and, at the end of the day, the search for happiness'. 'The science is fascinating, the results thrilling, the message sober and empowering.'

The second event is a talk and discussion on Friday September 30th on how householders (and village halls) can generate and use their own renewable energy. Ed Frost and I heard Keith Wheaton-Green when we went to the Dorset Village Halls AGM, and he was fascinating. He knows a tremendous amount about renewable energy and the energy crisis.

He will include generating your own renewable electricity with solar panels, and keeping your energy bills low. He believes that, by using batteries to time shift your generation, heat pumps for heating needs and switching to an electric car, you can get close to energy self-sufficiency and also feel good about saving the planet.

Let's start working with Nature and her wonderful gifts, instead of ignoring all the warnings the Earth is giving us. We have been taken advantage of by fossil fuel companies for too long. Power to the people!

*Sarah Ryan*

## Wednesday Club News

FOURTEEN of us met for a picnic tea in Brian and Sheila Burton's lovely garden. The sun shone and the conversation flowed and there was lots of laughter. A big thank you to Sheila and Brian for hosting it. It was great for friends to relax and enjoy each other's company in attractive surroundings and Sheila's chocolate chip biscuits soon disappeared!!

Our next meeting will be in the Village Hall at 2.00pm on Wednesday 3rd August when Brian Burton will be giving a talk on Noah's Ark and The Flood and Who Really Was Noah?

We are looking ahead and thinking of possible venues for our Christmas Lunch. If you have any ideas please bring them to the August meeting to contribute to the discussion.

On September the 7th, Dave Andrews is arranging a visit to Xtreme Falconry at The Falconry Park in Dorchester where Martin will talk about and fly some of his birds. There is a cafe with sandwiches, cakes and drinks run by his parents, a really friendly family affair. We will meet at the Village Hall at 2.00pm to sort out car sharing.

Lots to look forward to.

*Lis Watts*

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## Village Hall News

THE new windows are in, the new blinds are up and now the new curtains have been hung so the hall is looking very bright and cheerful all with the help of various grants. The next film night will be 16th September when "Belfast" will be shown. The autumn will also see the return of the popular **village quiz**. This will be on the 22nd October so plenty of time to brush up on your general knowledge. Also in the autumn the hall will be hosting an event for **The Great Big Green Week** on Friday the 30th September. (see separate article).

*Linda Wright*



### Reporter Team on Holiday

The Reporter Team will be taking a holiday for the next few weeks. This means that the next (October) issue of the magazine will be published at the end of September.

**Deadline for ads and copy -  
12th September.**

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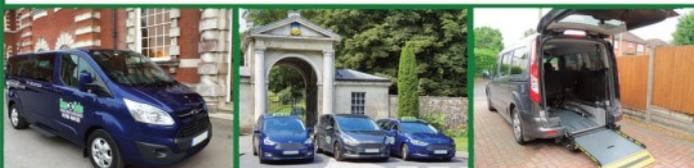
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# Milton Abbas Surgery

## Milton Abbas Surgery Wellbeing Team Groups

Looking for something new to try this week? Why not come along to one of our Wellbeing Team groups? Activities on offer so far are:

- **Walking Group** on Tuesday and Thursday mornings
- **Line Dancing** on a Monday afternoon at the Winterborne Whitechurch Village Hall
- **Nurtured by Nature** on a Thursday afternoon at Luccombe Hub Farm

For more information about the above activities please pick up a leaflet from Reception, or go to our Wellbeing Team page on the surgery website [www.masurgery.co.uk](http://www.masurgery.co.uk). Please come along to enjoy some company and a good laugh! No need to book a space, just turn up on the day.

There is also our **surgery allotment** group that meets on Thursday mornings which is open to patients who feel that they would benefit from some time outside with nature and a little company. If you would like to join our allotment group, please let Reception know and they will pass your details on to Kelly our Social Prescriber. Alternatively, please send an email to [miltonabbassurgery@nhs.net](mailto:miltonabbassurgery@nhs.net) for the attention of Kelly.

If you are interested in becoming a Health Champion with the surgery, please just let us know.

## August Bank Holiday

The surgery will be CLOSED for the August Bank Holiday weekend on Saturday 27th August 2022 and Monday 29th August 2022. 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.

## Hot weather advice

With temperatures rising over the summer months, it's important to think about how to stay safe in warmer weather. In the UK there are over 2000 deaths each year which are heat related.

Signs of heat exhaustion include headache, dizziness and confusion, loss of appetite or feeling sick, excessive sweating (or not sweating even though you feel very hot) and a high temperature of 38°C or above. If you're suffering from heat exhaustion, it's important to try and cool yourself down by resting in a cool place and drinking plenty of water.

If you, or someone you care about is likely to be affected by extreme weather conditions, you can sign up for email alerts from the Met Office that will tell you when extreme weather is expected. Some groups of people are more likely to be adversely affected by weather conditions, including older adults, babies and young children, and those living with long term health conditions.

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/seasonal-health/heatwave-how-to-cope-in-hot-weather/>

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/heat-exhaustion-heatstroke/>

<https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/about-us/guide-to-emails>

## Holiday advice

Whether you're going overseas this year, or planning to stay closer to home, the fitfortravel website has brilliant information about how to choose a sun cream, who is most vulnerable and the other preventative measures you can take to make sure you stay safe in the sun. The fitfortravel website also has a wealth of information about health issues that can occur on holiday and ways that you can stay safe while travelling. If any kind of travel is in your plans, it's well worth having a look.

[www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk/advice/general-travel-health-advice/sun-safety](http://www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk/advice/general-travel-health-advice/sun-safety)

<https://www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk/advice>

Gillian Brindle

## Trading Standards News: one million Friends and volunteering

THIS June the national Friends Against Scams scheme reached an important milestone, 1 million Friends. Don't miss out, you can become a Friend too!

In Dorset we have approaching 3,300 Friends. Friends spot the signs of this type of fraud by learning about typical things that can identify that something is a scam. Friends learn to identify others who are potentially affected by scams, this helps keep people safe, whether family, friends, work colleagues; in fact anyone a Friend might come into contact with. Friends also know where to report a scam and where to get help.

According to recent Citizens Advice research, over 40 million people have been targeted by scammers during the cost-of-living crisis. More than three quarters of UK adults said they have been targeted by a scammer this year, a 14 per cent increase compared to this time last year.

In our fight against scams anyone can become a Friend by visiting [www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk](http://www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk) and taking 20 -minute online training. If you don't have a computer, then ask at your local library how to access the training from a public access computer.

If you would like face to face training for a group of people, which lasts about 45 minutes, then please contact Trading Standards on the email below.

Some people ask us about opportunities to train others to become Friends, whether through attending events, 1-2-1 conversations, informal group discussions, or as a presentation. If any of these styles of training are something you would like to consider doing on a voluntary basis then you could become a Dorset SCAMchampion, joining our team as a Dorset Council Trading Standards Community Volunteer. You would be aligned with Trading Standards and would be supported with training and up to date information on scams. For more information on a volunteering opportunity, please contact us on



[tradingstandards@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:tradingstandards@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

## Are you new to the Village?

THE *Reporter* contributors and its readers extend a warm welcome to all of you who have recently – and wisely! – made the decision to move into this beautiful village. There is so much for you to participate in and to enjoy and that's without all the people who are waiting to meet and include you in all there is on offer. Just check the pages in this magazine and you will find activities and clubs to suit many and varied tastes. For those of you with children, the village school and pre-school groups have ongoing activities reported in these pages. Similarly both large and small scale events are held in the Village Hall and the Sports Pavilion. Theatre and cinema is on offer as well as gardening and eating out opportunities. We all look forward to meeting you.



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# LETTERS

## to the Reporter

### *Spies at Milborne?*

Dear Editor,

I attended this year's Chalke Valley History Festival. Recommended for anyone who has an interest in history. Whilst there I was talking to a member of the team from the Royal Signals Museum which is based at Blandford. He mentioned that they came across a document that mentioned a MI6 pigeon loft in Milborne St. Andrew. I don't know what date this would have been. Do any readers know anything about this? I would be interested to learn more as would the museum.

Pete Constant

The editor believes there might have been two sites, one at Milborne Woods and another in the village, along Waterbarn Lane, opposite to the farm buildings. Do let the Reporter know if you can help.

### *Thank you to The Reporter Team*

Thank you to you all for the excellent July issue of The Reporter. It was packed with colourful photos and detailed coverage of the Village Jubilee Celebrations. One to keep as a souvenir.

Ian and Lis

## Milborne St. Andrew Gardening Club – Indoor Plants



THE Gardening Club will not meet in the village hall in August, but will do so in September.

After years in the wilderness, house plants are back in fashion. If you're wondering why your indoor plants are looking a bit lacklustre or you'd like to

widen your horizons and try to grow something new or unusual, then do come along to the village hall on Thursday 15th September at 7.30pm. Steve Jeffries, an experienced horticulturalist from Dobbies Garden Centre, will be sharing his knowledge about indoor plants, offering advice, encouragement and helping us to grow them successfully.

Do join us, non-members very welcome. Light refreshments will be available.

Mark Johnson

## Community Café – the future

THERE can be no doubt that the community café has proved popular (and if you haven't been why not?). It is a way of meeting up with others over coffee and cake and of course the famous bacon sarnies!

It was the brainchild of Sandie and Amy and they have been able to raise a lot of money for their chosen charities. It is now a question of taking the concept forward. The Village Hall would be willing to continue but would like to have people in the village taking an active role to make it a village led event. If enough people are willing to help you wouldn't have to be there every month. You will even get training how to make the perfect bacon sarnie. It could also be an opportunity for your group/organisation to host a morning as a way to raise money. The future of the café is in your hands so do come forward and offer to help. Contact Sarah 01258 839230 or Amy and Sandie.

Linda Wright

## Family memories at the July 2022 WI

THE planned talk on Zero Waste having been cancelled due to the speaker's illness, our very own Eva Stockley stepped into the breach, giving us a delightful and spontaneous account of her family history.

By her own admission, Eva's family had been poor. Born in 1933 in Clifton, Nottingham, Eva Ann Reckless was the youngest of five children brought up initially in a two-bedroomed cottage. (Grove Cottage, as it was called, is now the site of five executive homes – a sign of the times maybe). Marriage to John brought her eventually to Dorset, but in the intervening years and, alongside raising a family, she not only served as a Councillor and Mayor in Melton Mowbray, where she raised £22,000 to buy a scanner for the local hospital, but also as a Governor of a local school.

Eva spoke very fondly of her mother, who, as a widow, lived a hard-working and simple life, but a happy one. It is clear that she imparted many of these values to her children. Here in our village, Eva's long involvement with the church in particular, can be evidenced everywhere there is an afternoon tea, a church function, or maybe a curry evening. Thank you, Eva, for your informative and entertaining interlude.

*Business:* Jenny gathered names for the WI Quiz, meeting on Thursday, 4th August, at 7.30 pm at Josie Wright's house. Lin Chatfield has offered her garden as a venue for our summer afternoon 'tea and cakes' on 11th August, 3.00 to 5.00pm. We are hosting the Group meeting on 29th September, volunteers and cakes required.

Bookends members met to discuss 'Away with the Penguins' by Hazel Prior, a delightful read, much enjoyed by the majority. We move on to 'Etta and Otto and Russell and James' by Emma Hooper. The Craft Club are enjoying a variety of crafts and will meet next at Sheila Burton's on 28th July at 2.00pm.

After the summer break we will meet again on Thursday, 8th September, for a Pastel Art Class with Tracey Walder. Our competition will be Flower of the Month.

Pat Bull

### PLEASE NOTE

**Deadline for the OCTOBER issue  
is mid-day 12th September**

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# Twenty years at Ladybirds



JUNE 2022 saw the 20th anniversary of Ladybirds. Having been Leader for all of this time I have been reflecting on all the progress and challenges there have been; the children, parents and helpers who have made us what we are today. I send a big thank you to you all who have supported us. It's also quite strange to think that it is possible we could soon have the next

generation of some families playing where their parents have.

This coming academic year will see more change. We are in the process of appointing a Deputy Leader who will be joining us in September bringing with her much enthusiasm and new ideas. This important recruitment also means we can reinstate our Wednesday mornings sessions and return to full week preschool provision



This month has been quite challenging as chicken pox has gone through all families, followed by a sickness bug and now Covid seems to have reared its ugly head again. Throughout helpers have kept everything running for the children. There has been plenty of outside play including Woodland days on

Thursdays – a big thank you to Chloe for allowing us to be in her Dorset Woodland school at Southover. Have a look at the sessions she is running over the summer break.

We planned several sessions at school for the children who are leaving us which was just as well as most missed some due to chicken pox. But we are confident they will move into their next adventure confident and happy.

This month was national picnic month, so we held a teddy bears' picnic which involved making pizza and icing little cakes. With a bit of ingenuity using old sheets, we made a shaded area and sat outside to enjoy our picnic. Our topics have included The Very Hungry Caterpillar which included learning about different fruits – we even tried gooseberries (thank you Angie). None of the children knew what they were so we cut them open to look at the seeds and a few brave children tried them, with one declaring they were alright but a bit sharp.

Can I ask anyone wanting to join us in the coming school year to let me know 07771 512427 [liz@milborneladybirds.com](mailto:liz@milborneladybirds.com). We won't be able to show you around now until September but it helps with planning and staffing to have an idea of numbers.

Thank you – have a lovely summer holiday whatever you're up to. Don't forget to bring in something to show us when we reopen – Monday 5th September 2022.  
Liz Dyer



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## Parish Council news

THE Clerk's report started with him sharing details of a survey that he did on the speed indicating device (SID). He spent 20 minutes survey of vehicles to see if they reduced speed on seeing the SID. Wayne stood about 30m from the SID and was happy to report that vehicles did reduce their speed. The fastest recorded vehicle was 37mph, who reduced down to 32mph. Everyone else recorded that was speeding reduced their speed to 30-31mph. He did point out that the perception of speed is not the actual speed of - when watching vehicles driving along Milton Road they are not going as fast as you might think. There will be a meeting with Dorset Council Road Safety Officer to assess the perception of speed of traffic coming down Dorchester Hill and past the pub.

Councillor Stephens reported vandalism at the Village Hall - graffiti and damage to a bench.

There were two planning matters discussed:

- TPO/2022/0029 - Gould's Farmhouse, Little England, Milborne St Andrew, DT11 0JX. PC have been informed by Tree Officer that they are putting up a precautionary tree preservation order on three lime trees following the request to reduce the size of the trees, which was denied.
- P/HOU/2022/03881 - 7 Huntley Down Milborne St Andrew Blandford Forum DT11 0LN - request to erect timber orangery to replace existing conservatory. PC had no concerns and voted to support the application.

To view the details of planning applications go to the Dorset Council website <https://planning.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/> and search for the applications.

### The Neighbourhood Plan review

A request has been received from the Village Hall for the NPG to repeat the scoping questionnaire carried out in 2021. A concern was raised by Mr Lock of level of response of the questionnaire, and the questions should be reviewed. PC response was that by putting the questionnaire out again won't necessarily gain a better response, and if we don't go forward with the plans then we will never do the things that exist as a problem today. It was felt by PC that there was no significant benefit to delay the review. The plan will be reviewed again in the future and they were keen to get a point where the plan can be finalised. The wording was reviewed to make sure it captured all that had previously been requested by the Village Hall, including the flooring in the Village Hall which is in need of replacement, improvements to the playpark and the solar panels. It was agreed by the PC to move forward to ratify the document and go forward to the next stage of consultation.

### S106 funding

There is funding of about £100K available for community sport, leisure, and play, and access to those facilities which is provided to mitigate the effects of Huntley Down development.

- Funding request to Dorset Council for S106 funding for phase one of the traffic calming project as detailed in the Milborne St. Andrew Neighbourhood Plan. This request takes into account that the footways going up Dorchester Hill will be delivered as part of the Camelco development, which reduces the costs. £48,500 has been requested but this is based on prices quoted in 2019 AECOM report. It was agreed to take this forward. See page 9.
- There has been a request from Village Hall for support for S106 funds application for the car park. There was a concern raised by PC that this will use up green space. This application was not supported by PC.

- There was another request from Village Hall for support for S106 funds application for solar panels. Village Hall stated that solar panels could reduce costs of running the hall, Cllr Witherden indicated that the payback time could be less than 10 years. With the cost of electricity going up and up, the Village Hall committee are wanting to reduce consumption by not using electric from the grid during the day, and charge batteries to run the facilities at night - this could save between £3-4K a year. They would be looking for a 10kw/hr battery for storage, which would be enough (or nearly enough) to run the hall through the day and at night. This means less outgoings. PC voted to support the application.

Milborne St. Andrew First School have requested a donation of £200 for participation of the Eco Flag award. PC voted to support this request

Mr Frost, representing the Village Hall, raised a concern about the S106 funding, and that currently there are competing projects requesting funds. PC confirmed that there are several parties requesting funding: PC; Village Hall; Sports Club; and another party that they were aware of. Mr Frost stated that it made sense to him that the parish of Milborne St. Andrew get together to come up with a scheme where there is a managed approach across the projects. This could be a working group that brings together those wanting to apply for funding to explain their schemes, have an opportunity for them to be challenged by people in the community. Cllr Macnair agreed that it was a good idea, and it could be added to the agenda at the next meeting which will give people to consider this in more detail. The discussion continued about making it clear to other groups in the community that they too could apply for funding and that it's not restricted to the four parties currently interested in requesting funding. The S106 funding is for projects that will benefit of the whole of the village. It was agreed to add this as an agenda item at the next meeting, and Mr Frost was asked to propose what the structure could look like for discussion.

The Parish Council meetings are open for members of the public and press to attend. Members of the public are invited to ask questions of the Council concerning agenda items or other matters. During the meeting, with permission of the Chair, any member of the public may comment on an issue being debated by the Council to provide information or clarification. This facility will normally be limited to a maximum of three minutes per person on the subject being debated.

Next meeting will be at the Village Hall on Wednesday 7th September at 7.00pm. Please come along!

*Jo Whitfield*

*Family Business*

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## “The Playing of the Merry Organ . . .”

A SINCERE “Thank You” to those who came along to the Parish Eucharist on Sunday 10th July in order to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the first time I played the organ for a Service in Milborne Church. Special thanks to Sarah for allowing me to choose the hymns, which were sung with gusto. Two of them were ones I had played on that day in 1972, the others represented various parts of my past! An organ builder friend worked for two hours to get the pipe organ to a state where it could be played and there was no risk to anyone from the asbestos inside the blower. As a result, the final voluntary was played on that organ; the “Trumpet Voluntary”, the same piece with which I concluded my first service – my fingers are rather more arthritic now! I have to agree with Sarah, that another 50 years is asking a bit much, but it would guarantee a place in the Guinness Book of Records. Special thanks to Robin, Robert, Emma, Nigel and Jane for ringing 120 rounds on the bells prior to the service, in honour of the occasion! Chocolate cake was enjoyed with our coffee after the service.



Two of the hymns reminded me of the days when I would go along to “Auntie Beat” (Vincent) and asked to borrow the key to the Methodist Chapel, so that I could practice on the harmonium there.

In the Dorset County Chronicle of 1907 there is a report of the opening of the Sunday School Room, added to the main Chapel. It records that so many people attended, that some couldn’t get in for the Service.” Milborne Chapel, opened in 1867 was the 11th Chapel to be built in the Dorchester Circuit in 21 years. On another occasion, such a huge swarm of bees descended on those gathered, that “the people fled in all directions.”

Tony Fox

## On the Mend

By Jan Beaumont ©

Thought it time to give a shout  
Today I had my stitches out  
I really had been filled with dread  
To have someone de-stitch my head.

But it went well and not too bad  
And now there’s healing to be had  
So here’s to sharing lots more verse  
I’m just so glad it wasn’t worse!!

Now that those pesky things have gone  
I’ve much more room inside my scone  
And so I’ll fill it up with rhymes  
And make you smile a few more times!



## We did it! We are now officially an Eco-School with Merit. Well done everyone!

WE are celebrating a huge achievement as a school led by our fabulous eco-crew. We have been awarded our Eco-Schools Green Flag with Merit through the hard work of everyone at school with nature and our environment at the heart of everything we do.

Our Eco-Crew have done wonderful things this year including an environmental audit of our school, litter picks, tree planting and becoming Young Tree Champions, installing crisp packet and battery recycling bins and running a preloved book stall. They set their goal to achieve the Eco-flag award and did this with merit. The Eco-Crew elected their own leaders Esme Andrews as Chair and Phoenix Harwood-Hodge and Gwen Pearson-Watson as Vice Chairs.



Our next year 4s are already looking forward to the opportunity to lead and build on the work that the Eco-Crew along with the whole school have achieved together. They will have the chance to create a new action plan in September and will be a vital force in our involvement in the Let’s Go Zero campaign which you will hear more about in the near future. If you have any ideas or projects you would like our Eco-Crew to support you with in the village, please do contact Mrs Cheeseman (michellec@milborne.dorset.sch.uk) who will ensure the message reaches our brilliant and dynamic children. We have already had some bright ideas from children in key stage one about what they would like to do. “*Individually we are one drop, together we are an ocean!*” (Satoro)

Finally, a HUGE thank you to our generous Parish Council who have funded the purchase of our eco-flag which was such a welcome reward for our children after all their hard work. When we told the children what you had done, they gave a loud cheer. It was a wonderful moment for them to feel the strength of the supportive village community around them. So once more . . . THANK YOU!

## PLEASE NOTE

**Deadline for the OCTOBER issue  
is mid-day 12th September**



# MILBORNE ST. ANDREW FIRST SCHOOL

Learning together and having fun



## SCHOOL NEWS

Thank you to the science team at Thomas Hardy School for sharing their expertise, with our Reception and Year 1 group, in a fun filled experience where we made rockets, alien slime and explored chemical reactions and burning different materials including a jelly baby . . . You wouldn't believe how much sugar is in one single sweet! Followed by a picnic together back at school



Raccoon Class enjoyed our trip to Whiteways Farm. We enjoyed feeding the young animals and even watched the cows being milked. Thank you to the Pavey family for allowing us to visit.



## 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

e-mail: [office@milborne.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:office@milborne.dorset.sch.uk)

website: [www.milborne.dorset.sch.uk](http://www.milborne.dorset.sch.uk)

Tel: (01258) 837362

Fax: (01258) 837170



Our Year 2 class had a lovely morning visiting the Pavey's farm in Dewlish. We went into the milking parlour to see the cows being milked, we fed some calves, we saw the sheep, we walked round to the field to see some newly born calves and we saw some pigs and chickens. We also played cow bingo!

Thank you so much to Clare and the Pavey family for allowing us to visit.



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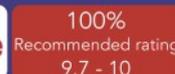
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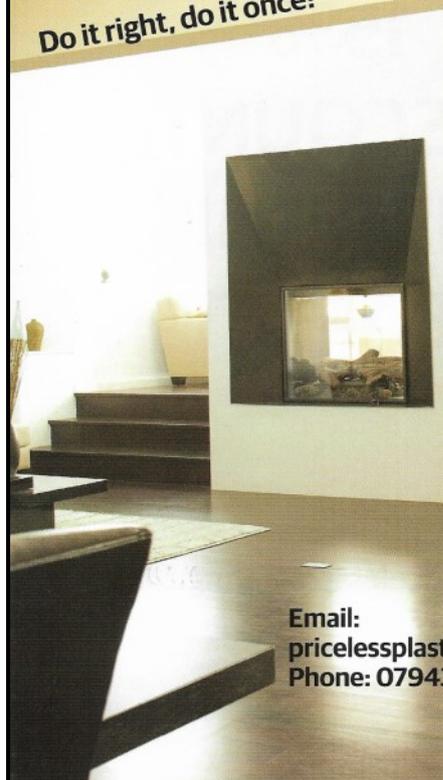
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# A Wild Swimmer in the Pulpit

MAGGIE Crosbie, Milborne's new Curate is settling into her new life at Puddletown with her 16 month old cat Stanley. She has followed a long and determined path to reach this point in her professional and personal life. There has been a distinct pattern in her choices and challenges, each complementing and grounding her experience and knowledge. Starting a career in Social Work, she was a Social Work Assistant in a Child Protection Team then within a Community Mental Health Team (CMHT). Qualifying as a Social Worker at Ruskin College, Oxford a college which, according to its website "has been transforming lives since 1899 giving adults the opportunity to learn and grow regardless of background and circumstances".

She worked in Child Protection for a year then moved back to the CMHT. I understand that she also worked with Remand prisoners for the charity "Revolving Doors".

Moving to Dorset eight years ago she sat on Mental Health Tribunals within the Criminal Justice system and worked for the Care Quality Commission (CQC), the independent regulator of health and social care in England. They are responsible for fundamental standards of care, monitoring, inspecting and regulating services. At that point she stopped direct social work. She was concerned specifically with the Mental Health Directorate in hospital psychiatric wards meeting patients and



checking that their needs were met, reading their paperwork to ensure that everything was in order. As a Mental Health Social Worker (MHSW) she had been responsible for sectioning people in the past under the Mental Health Act and was aware of all the checks and balances along the way. There are a great many interventions and steps to be considered and overcome before such

action is taken. In Dorset Maggie sat on Mental Health Tribunals and continued with CQC work part time. She also trained health professionals such as GP's, and psychiatrists in Mental Health Law. I understand that as she gradually started to preach, her experience in training increased her confidence. She then moved to a three year part time study course at Sarum College, Salisbury. A Team Vicar suggested a Vocation Day which led to two years of *Discernment*. This in Christianity can describe the process of determining God's desire for one's life, seeing where God had been active in her life. She was helped in her decision to follow her calling by various people in the diocese through reading, talking and reflecting. This was followed by a 72 hour residential *Bishops Advisory Panel* (BAP). During the latter she was required to give a presentation and lead a discussion. After an agonising two week wait she learnt that she had been *Affirmed* for training for the priesthood and two days later



started a three year part time course at Sarum College whilst still working and living in her Charmouth flat.

Initially, straight after school, Maggie tells me she trained as a Nursery Nurse starting a continuing career as a carer. As she says, "Different callings at different times in my life, gifts to be used, nudged by God who saw something in me, for me" This same driving force which takes her into the sea at all times of the year and is in her words "Part of my spirituality tied to the sea". Her flat is on the sea front with wonderful views. There have been some wrenches in leaving that and friends behind but the change and loss she feels are all part of the excitement of her new life. She wanted a rural curacy and says

she has received a "Lovely welcome" which was approved a year ago. There was a Benefice Service in Puddletown Church to welcome her followed by a Bring and Share supper. She tells me that on the day she moved into her house all four churches collected and delivered a boxful of foodstuffs including home made wine, jams and chocolates and brought to her door (even including something for Stanley). So far she has been "shadowing" Sarah. Since her Ordination as a "Deacon" at Salisbury Cathedral and following her training with Sarah she will be taking funeral services and baptisms. In a year's time there will be another Ordination when she will be "Priested" and be able to preside at Holy Communion and take Wedding ceremonies.

Her most powerful influences and experiences during her various careers have been working in Child Protection, her first year placement at the Elizabeth Fry Hostel in Reading and five months in Broadmoor Psychiatric Hospital. She believes that nothing could have prepared her for those formative times.

Maggie was brought up the youngest of two sisters in Ealing, moving to Buckinghamshire then Guernsey and has settled now for a three year stay in Puddletown. She still looks to the horizon for what other theatres of influence she can explore in her quest for Equality and Justice. I am sure she would accept the Magna Carta's words as her own, "To no men will we refuse justice".

Carole Fornachon



---

## Milton Abbas Lunch Club

THE Milton Abbas Lunch Club meets every month on the second Wednesday of each month in the Milton Abbas Reading Room. The cost being a mere £5.00 which includes a two course meal and a glass of sherry.

The next lunch will be on Wednesday 10th August and the menu will be:

Sausage casserole

Lemon Swiss roll and Amaretto trifle

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## Holidays and holy days

Many of us choose not to holiday during the school summer break, but many others have no choice. Many of us, when we do have holidays, are able to travel abroad and seek some sun, adventure, new experiences and to visit new places, but many others are not able to do this. Even those who usually do have the wherewithal to travel abroad have been limited: first by the coronavirus lockdowns and restrictions and now by flight cancellations or strikes. Some reading this never leave their homes because of illness or frailty.

Living in Dorset we know that many people choose to come to this county for their breaks. There is positive and negative in this – it brings money into our villages and towns but second homes and holiday houses can have also an adverse effect on permanent residents' desire for community, and local shops, pubs and businesses out of season.

I've been reflecting on what this means for us and going back to the roots of the word "holiday". We are so fortunate to live in this beautiful county that others want to share; but I wonder whether sometimes we take it for granted. How often do we stop and take in its beauty, the variety of its wildlife and wonderful coastline? And having done that, how often do we wonder at creation, and if we are people of faith, give thanks to God for all of that?

The word "holiday" has its roots in the phrase "holy day". The concept of time off originated in the idea that certain days were days to refrain from work. Those days away from the daily grind had a two-fold aim: to provide space for worshipping God and celebrating church festivals (which often provided a high level of feasting) and for rest and re-creation.

Our 24/7 world is a very different time from that when the idea of having a holiday break originated. But taking space to stop and rest and for worship and community is just as important. Constant busy-ness leads to a broken world: a world where people no longer know how to enjoy what is around them; a world where they become too consumed with me and mine and less concerned about community and those who fall behind; a world where finding time just to "be" without any demands has become virtually impossible for many; a world where mental health is poor for so many and where contentment has become a much rarer experience. Music is important but many people today have become unable to live with silence and the respite it brings, and the depths of experience it can give both to our spiritual and to our emotional development.

Space for rest and attention to the world around and to God are important for all of us, whether we holiday abroad, here or not at all. Perhaps over the coming month, you might like to think about how holiday can be something not restricted to going away to an exotic place for a couple of weeks a year and a more every day part of life in our homes and our villages, as we make space to stop, renew ourselves and allow God to minister to our souls.

With best wishes

*Sarah*

## News from St Andrew's Church

SALISBURY Diocese has launched a programme to support rural parishes. They believe that 40% of Church of England worshippers are in rural congregations. In Salisbury diocese, 90% of parishes and 50% of the population is rural. They have therefore launched a programme called FLEX.

There are a few of our benefice who have been involved in this programme, meeting up with others across the diocese to share thoughts and ideas as to how to reach out into communities and encourage more parishioners to become involved in their church's

*Continued on page 21*

## Services in the Benefice of Puddletown, Tolpuddle, Milborne and Dewlish

### August 2022

#### 7th August – Trinity 8

9.30a.m.	Parish Communion	Tolpuddle
9.30	Celebrate	Milborne
11.00	Parish Communion	Puddletown
11.00	1662 Matins (traditional language)	Dewlish

#### 14th August – Trinity 9

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

#### 21st August – Trinity 10

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

#### 28th August – Trinity 11

9.30am	Parish Communion	Milborne
10.00	Go Fourth	Tolpuddle
11.00	Parish Communion	Dewlish
11.00	BCP Matins (traditional language)	Puddletown
3.00pm	Holy Baptism	Tolpuddle

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On Zoom, please contact Sarah Hillman

(sarah.c.hillman@outlook)

### Church Contacts

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

#### Churchwardens

##### Milborne St. Andrew

Pam Shults 01258 837203

Tony Fox 01258 837651

##### Dewlish

Jim Burg 01258 837466

Sue Britton 01258 837218

#### Benefice Office

Emma Hughes

puddletownbenefice@outlook.com

or by telephone on 01305 849039

#### PLEASE NOTE

**Deadline for the next issue is  
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## Three green bottles hanging on . . . just!!

Leaving aside the increase in use of the pavilion for parties and events, the upcoming football season promises to be a very busy time up at the Sports Club.

With the Veterans we now have two Milborne teams, Portland who have just been promoted to the Dorset Senior league, Dorchester Sports U18's and Poole Town Ladies 1st team all playing at home. So plenty of scope to see some first



rate games and the opportunity to be talent spotted and get involved. So that is Saturday and Sunday both sorted and what with the training sessions by the Milborne teams during the evenings a lot going on.

OK so what is with the title?

Well most have heard the nursery song about 10 Green Bottles well that could be a story about the Sports Club charity set up.



In 2002 when the charity was formed there was a full house of Trustees or ten green bottles hanging about on the wall. Over the years the number of bottles dropped off and at 2016 when I came on the scene as a replacement for John Sanderson

we reached three green bottles clinging on. And that is where we have remained right up to the present day which is pretty amazing and fortunate for the community.

We are a team of three and have been since September 2016.

That leaves no room for error. If we were those proverbial green bottles and one was to fall then we are no longer a charity because that is the absolute minimum to be able to operate. Once we lose our charity status, we lose our grant hunting exploits and the lease with the Council is with the charity so the operations pass back to the Council with all that entails.

When I moved on board I was handed a note in a brown envelope from the Football Foundation, it read:

*Football Foundation Chief Operating Officer  
Pavilion Changing Rooms: Main Grant £256,927*

*We sent you an email on 15th June 2016 regarding the completion of the Monitoring Survey (ME). The deadline date for you to complete your return was the 12th July 2016, and this has now passed.*

*Failure to complete your M&E survey by this date will result in this issue being escalated to the Football Foundation's CEO for his review, which could result in the Football Foundation initiating legal action to claw back the full value of our grant.*

Well that certainly exercised the mind and they are looking over our shoulder making sure that we are promoting and delivering grassroots football. That sword is hanging over us until the end of the grant funded period in 2026 so a while to go yet

We have come from a rather smelly Pavilion with nothing much more than football and the Busy Bees with just £645 in

*Continued on page 25*

Continued from page 19

community. The groups hope to make churches more welcoming and easier for new people to join them. This could be as simple as making the spaces in church more welcoming and having prayer boards more accessible for the use of those who would like prayers said for them, relatives or friends. Already the group have found a poem which they hope will welcome people into our churches.

“May the door of this church be wide enough to receive all who need human love and friendship.

May it welcome all who have cares to unburden, thanks to express, hopes to nurture. May the door of this place be narrow enough to shut out pettiness and pride, envy and enmity.

May it's threshold be no stumbling block to young, old or uncertain feet.

May it be too high to admit complacency, selfishness, harshness and prejudice.

May this place be for all, who enter the doorway to God's Eternal Kingdom.”

In St. Andrew's church we have created a new prayer board hoping that anyone will feel confident that if they put a request on it, prayers will be said for their nominated person. There are beautiful paper doves on which a prayer request can be written.

We hope to welcome visitors and those who want to join in any of our services. The service rotas are always displayed on our noticeboards – don't be shy and come and join us.

Early in July we celebrated 50 years of Tony playing the organ and keyboard for church services. All I can say is that he must have been very young when he started to play. The bell ringers gave a lovely round for us to celebrate. To our surprise and delight Tony somehow managed to play the old pipe organ (no asbestos was exhausted, thankfully). We are so grateful for his playing and singing for our ongoing communion services. Congratulations Tony and don't stop as it livens up our services!

*Pam Shults and Tony Fox, Churchwardens*

## Dewlish Church Notes

WE HAVE just spent a lovely two days providing teas and refreshments at Yarden Cottage, where Christine and Ross opened their beautiful garden for the National Gardens Scheme charities. They kindly agreed that our church should benefit from the income of the teas, and the sale of jams, marmalades, chutneys and garden produce. As a result, we raised £505.80 for church funds.

A big thank-you to all who donated cakes, scones, etc., but particularly to Christine and Ross. We understand that they raised over £700 for the NGS charities. All in all, a very successful couple of days!

At our benefice service on the Sunday evening we welcomed our new curate, Maggie, who has joined Sarah to work and learn about our country parishes. The service was followed by a splendid bring-and-share supper where it was lovely to meet Maggie, and all our friends from the other parishes.

Maggie also joined us at our joint PCC meeting on the next evening. Talk about being thrown in at the deep end! The meeting lasted at least two hours! Luckily, we only have three or four of these meetings a year!

*Daphne Burg*

## Cream teas in the sun

About 40 people attended the Cream Teas in Eva's garden on one of our beautiful summer days. For those who did not manage to climb the steps up the garden missed out on the cool breeze and tremendous views of the village. There was also a well stocked garden of produce and flowers.

The events committee did a wonderful job of serving home made scones and hot or cold drinks to everyone. Eva thanked the committee and all the helpers who arranged the furniture to make a very successful afternoon.

St. Andrews church will be pleased to accept the profit of £204.

Thank you to all who attended.

*Eva Stockley*



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

### 4th September – Trinity 12

9.30am	Parish Communion	Tolpuddle
9.30	Celebrate	Milborne
11.00	Parish Communion	Puddletown
11.00	1662 Matins (traditional language)	Dewlish
3.00pm	Holy Baptism	Dewlish

### 11th September Trinity 13

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

### 18th September Trinity 14

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

### 25th September Trinity 15/Harvest Festival

9.30am	Harvest Holy Communion	Milborne
10.00	Go Fourth	Tolpuddle
11.00	Parish Communion	Dewlish
11.00	BCP Matins (traditional language)	Puddletown

### DAILY MORNING PRAYERS

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On Zoom, please contact Sarah Hillman

(sarah.c.hillman@outlook)





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# MSA

## Community Café

@ the Village Hall



Saturday 13th August  
and

Saturday 10th September  
10.00am until Midday

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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](http://www.milbornestandrew.org.uk)

## COUNCILS

Dorset Councillor	Emma Parker	07411 149997
Parish Council Dewlish	Clerk: Amanda Crocker	
	dewlish@dorset-aptc.gov.uk	
	Chair: Chris Uden	07973 167117
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](http://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](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency)

South West Highways [hello@swhitd.co.uk](mailto: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

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	

## SPECIAL INTEREST

Bellringers	Pip Bowell	01258 837329
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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
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		
Chairman:	Andrew Barnett	07551 839296
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	07983 013781

## VENUE FOR HIRE

Longmead	Email: <a href="mailto:admin@longmead.org.uk">admin@longmead.org.uk</a>	01258 837960
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ON 10th September members of St. Andrews will be 'Riding and Striding' round Dorset, visiting as many churches as possible to raise funds for both St. Andrews and Dorset Historic Churches Trust. This charity, set up in 1960, uses the money raised (just over £100,000 last year) to give grants to old churches like St. Andrews towards building repairs. Without grants like these we at St. Andrews would not have been able to afford the roof repairs that were done five years ago. Half the money we raise in pledges is given to St. Andrews, and half is kept by DHCT to provide grants to churches like us when we have an expensive project to fund. So we will be very grateful if you can support us when we start looking for sponsors in September. A call to Pam Shults on 01258 837203 will get you more details and how to sponsor us

**As we go to press no times are available for the Tour of Britain cycle ride which is due to pass through Milborne on the same day.**

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Continued from page 20

the bank, about £400 per month going out, a debt of £1,800 in unpaid energy bills and no compliance testing of the gas and electrics to where we are today . . . £21,000 in the bank, loads of improvements and positive feedback but unfortunately no one to hand over the baton to apart from the Council.

At 89 years this October, Malcom could do with a prodigy, not a child but maybe someone who has recently retired with plenty of time on their hands would do because seven acres is a bit of a handful.

So a final call for help: Is there anybody out there willing to lend a hand (or two)? The football season starts off next month with loads of pre season games and we would really like someone to offer refreshments to help bolster the funds . . . INTERESTED?

Also it is very IMPORTANT to get some more Trustees or green bottles hanging back on that wall. Three is a bit scary and seat of the pants stuff.

FEAR NOT we are only interested in getting things done and don't get bogged down in meetings and the like.

Like the Musketeers it is all for one and one for all stuff . . . we all have to agree and we usually do (none of that majority voting or when I want your opinion I'll give it to you malarky).

Give us a call if interested, you know who and where to find us.

*Richard Lock*

## Cider with Josie

By Josie Wright

When I moved to the country, I was introduced to farmhouse cider, cider at its most subtle, sliding easily down the throat, innocuous, seductive, you feel a little cheated, perfectly sober, until you try to stand up and find someone's turned the bones in your legs to jelly.

Although cider can be made from any apple, real cider comes from specific cider apples, inedible, unattractive, but having unique qualities, a greater level of tannin (for fermentation) and when chopped, retaining the juice within the pulp, so it doesn't dribble out all over the floor.

Real cider is the fermented juice of the apple with nothing added or taken away.

But the majority of cider sold in the UK is made from imported apple concentrate, is full of artificial colourings, sweeteners and preservatives, is filtered, pasteurised and kept and served under carbon dioxide pressure. We don't want that though, do we?

Cider has been made here, in England, since before Celtic times. That is over 2,000 years ago. It takes pride of place in the development of alcoholic beverages in this country. That is 500 years before mead and, surprisingly 1,500 before beer.

'The constant use of cider hath been found by long experience to avail much to health and long life, preserving the drinkers of it in their full strength and vigour even to very old age.'

Rents and tithes were paid in cider and it was used to cure anything from acne to arthritis. The apple tree is native to this country and probably originally grew alongside the noble and useful oak. It didn't look much like the apple trees we know now, the

*Continued on page 27*

## Latest hedgehog study

A NEW study has been published by People's Trust for Endangered Species (PTES) and British Hedgehog Preservation Society (BHPS) funded researcher, Abi Gazzard at the University of Reading. The study tracked 28 hedgehogs to see how they used different habitats, such as gardens, and which features attracted them there.

Urban gardens are becoming more important to hedgehogs as the **species**

**declines in the countryside.** It is therefore important for us to understand why hedgehogs visit certain gardens and which features can encourage them in.

Trackers were attached to the hedgehogs under

license by Abi. The study was conducted in a suburb of Reading over three years. The hedgehogs had radio tags attached to them and were monitored for between one and nine nights. This resulted in a total of 98 nights of data.



### Garden preferences

The average number of back gardens used per hedgehog per night over the study period was 8.1. This reflects earlier research showing how far hedgehogs can travel in a night and how many different gardens they visit. Back gardens were visited about twice as frequently as front gardens.

### Garden features

The preference of habitat was different between the sexes. Males preferred the back gardens of detached houses followed by the back gardens of semi-detached houses. Females had no strong preference between detached or semi-detached, or the front gardens of detached houses. Amenity grassland was the least preferred type of habitat. This could be due to their high use by humans and dogs, and their highly managed status.

The features in a garden proved to be good influencers of the length of time hedgehogs spent in a garden. Hedgehogs spent more time in gardens where **supplementary food** was provided and in those which had **compost heaps**, over gardens which had frequent fox sightings, ponds, little surrounding garden habitat and front-to-back access.

Food is usually only provided once a householder realises they have a hedgehog visiting, so is unlikely to be a feature which originally attracts them to the garden. It's clearly a feature which keeps them visiting. More research is needed to understand how supplementary feeding can benefit or hinder hedgehogs, as such food could affect hibernation patterns and increase disease transmission.

Compost heaps can provide nesting opportunities as well as feeding opportunities. Researchers were surprised that ponds were not preferred by hedgehogs, though this could be due to householders providing drinking water in replacement.

This study shows the importance of certain garden features and how they can relate to the extent of use of gardens by hedgehogs. It is important to understand why hedgehogs may or may not choose to frequent a garden so that we can help to stop their decline.

*Pip Howell*

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# What's on in Milborne

## AUGUST

- Wednesday 3rd** **Wednesday Club** Talk by Brian Burton on Noah's Ark and The Flood and Who Really was Noah Village Hall 2.00pm.
- Thursday 4th** **Bridge** The Royal Oak 7.00pm.
- Saturday 6th** **St. Andrew's Churchyard** working party from 10.00am. Everyone welcome.
- Wednesday 10th** **Bridge** The Royal Oak 7.00pm.
- Saturday 13th** **Community Café** Village Hall 10.00am to 12.00 midday.
- Thursday 18th** **Bridge** The Royal Oak 7.00pm.
- Wednesday 24th** **Bridge** The Royal Oak 7.00pm.
- Thursday 18th** **WI** Village Hall 7.30pm.
- Monday 29th** **Village Fair and Dog Show** Village Hall and playing field (see page 8).

## SEPTEMBER

- Thursday 1st** **Bridge** The Royal Oak 7.00pm.
- Saturday 3rd** **St. Andrew's Churchyard** working party from 10.00am. Everyone welcome.
- Wednesday 7th** **Wednesday Club** visit to Xtreme Falconry meet Village Hall to arrange transport.
- Wednesday 7th** **Parish Council** Village Hall, all parishoners welcome 7.00pm.
- Wednesday 7th** **Bridge** The Royal Oak 7.00pm.
- Thursday 8th** **WI** (see page 7),
- Saturday 10th** **Community Café** Village Hall 10.00am to 12.00 midday.
- Monday 12th** **Mid-day deadline** for copy for the *Reporter* [msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk) or give to a member of the Team.
- Thursday 15th** **Gardening Club** Talk by Steve Jeffries on indoor plants. Village Hall 7.30pm.
- Thursday 15th** **Bridge** The Royal Oak 7.00pm.
- Friday 16th** **Milborne Movie** *Belfast* Village Hall 7.30pm.
- Thursday 22nd** **Bridge** The Royal Oak 7.00pm.
- Wednesday 28th** **Film** *The Biggest Little Farm* Village Hall 7.30pm
- Wednesday 28th** **Bridge** The Royal Oak 7.00pm.
- Friday 30th** **Talk** by Keith Wheaton-Green and discussion on how to generate and use their own renewable energy.

*Continued from page 25*

apples on these feeble specimens were wizened and crabby, but it had obviously been noted when these pathetic inedible fruits fell from the tree to the ground, and were eaten by animals, their normal ferocious manner was tempered slightly as they fell over with happy smiles on their faces.

Reasoning that this was something worth experimenting with, saplings must have been grubbed up and planted in primitive orchards. Eating the rotting, fermenting fruit was found to cause havoc in the human digestive system, but squeezing out the juice gave a much better result and cider making began.

Soon most manors had their own cider presses and monasteries regularly sold cider to the public, the records show that by 1369 at Battle Abbey in Sussex,

## 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.
- 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 Sundays.
- 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).

three tuns of cider were sold for 55 shillings. Workers in the monastery orchards received a daily ration of cider as part of their wages, a practice continued until very recently in the West of England. The pulped apples – the pomace – left after the juice had been extracted was highly prized, mixed with hog's grease and rose water, liberally applied to the face, not only did it beautify but also faded freckles.

At Christmas, farmers and farm workers used to salute the apple trees at the Wassail. Jugs of cider were carried into the orchards, the health of the trees was drunk, cakes were eaten and a great deal of noise was made – obviously the beginnings of the Wednesday Club.

People also flirted with the idea of making cider more potent by boiling it, this was generally condemned as not only a waste of fuel, but a waste of cider and the resulting drink was crude and heavy, producing indigestion and flatulence.

Now people really noted the varieties of apples, the Styre variety apparently produced a bold, masculine and strong cider, Somerset coming up with the most famous cider apple of all – The Kingston Black, which makes a really strong potent cider.

Here are just a few more of the apple varieties. Fillbarrel, Harry Masters' Jersey, Stembridge Clusters, Brown Snout, Broxwood Foxwhelp and Slack-ma-girdle, don't they conjure up the eccentric Englishness of cider.

So try a glass of real scrumpy. Cheers me dears!!



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