



Peckish young BlueTit with sunflower seed

# Reporter

80P WHERE SOLD

News and Views from around the area

Volume 10 Issue 7

July 2018

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Milborne St. Andrew



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## VILLAGE LUNCH

To be held at the Village Hall on

**Saturday 28th July from 12.15 to 2.00pm**

Wine (£1.00 per glass) or fruit juice

Coq au vin, sauté potatoes, peas and carrots  
chocolate fudge cake and cream

Mints and coffee or tea

Vegetarian option available

£7.00 per head

**Prior booking essential by**

**Monday 23rd July**

*Everyone welcome young and old alike*

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Josie Wright 839090 or Jenny Balcon 837121

## Your *Reporter* Team

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Enquiries and copy to: [msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk)

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

Paper copy to any of the team

# Maths? It's a piece of cake at school café!



MILBORNE First School children worked at their very own café in June when the school hall opened its doors to the public to enjoy a slice of cake and cup of tea. The Year 4 students were taking part in a 'Maths Café', an

initiative supported by Friends of School (FoS) that allowed the 14 children involved to practice their numeracy in a real life situation. The children were very excited to be taking part, although, in the briefing just before, the questions were less about the running of the event and more about whether they were allowed to eat some cake!

Customers to the café were met by the apron-wearing children



and invited to peruse the delectable looking cakes on offer, which had all been baked by FoS parents, and then shown to a table to be seated. Their orders were then taken by the children and relayed to the kitchen staff. Trays of ordered teas, coffees and sponge and flapjacks were brought to tables by parent helpers – it was deemed a little safer than 9 year olds attempting to carry a sloshing tray of teacups and cupcakes to their patrons. Bills were worked out by the children waiting the table with money taken at the cash desk and change worked out by the two children staffing it – with an adult nearby, just to help out if needed. All of the 14 children on duty got an opportunity to perform all the roles so they could try out both the adding of bills and the subtracting at the cash desk, as well as being polite and efficient waiters and waitresses. Some of the customers even got extra service with some Year 4's going off script, giving a masterclass in how to floss (the dance that is, not dentally speaking)!



The residents who came and supported the Maths Café had lots of good words for both how courteous and polite the children were and also how good the cakes tasted! The lemon and blueberry sponge seemed to be a real winner, but nearly

all the goodies on offer were snaffled by appreciative customers. Only nearly, that is, to the good fortune of the young helpers, who did get their wish of a slice or cupcake after the café closed up shop until the next time – and well deserved it was, by all of them. The children got a lot out of the day and enjoyed it – one saying at the end, "I didn't realise how much fun it was going to be!" Now that *is* a good maths lesson!  
*Ed Richards*



*Friends of School thank everyone who baked, helped and supported the café and are very pleased to say that £92 was raised for school funds.*

Treat a member of your f  mily.....



To book an appointment, call

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**Local villages covered:  
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# Neighbourhood Plan Update

Firstly – a big thank you to everyone who took the opportunity to respond to the most recent consultation on traffic management ideas, green spaces, settlement boundary and design. Although we are still going through the detailed comments, the general response was positive, so we know we are broadly on the ‘right track’.

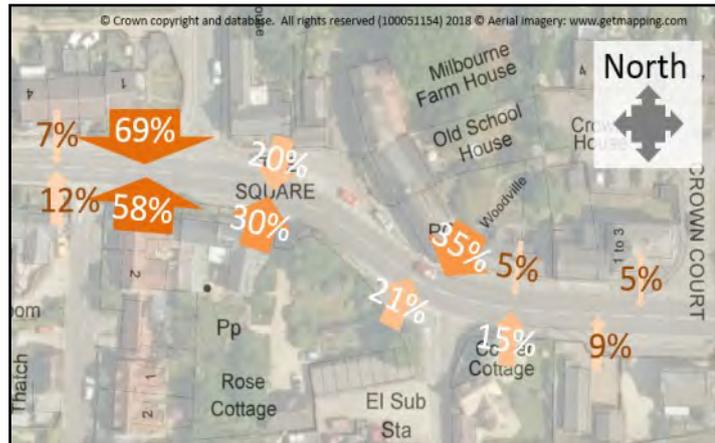
We hope to get the draft of the Neighbourhood Plan to the July meeting of the Parish Council, and shortly after out for its six week pre-submission consultation. If everything goes to plan, this should be published by 23rd July. As well as being on the Parish Council website, we hope to have printed copies available to view locally, and hold a couple of ‘drop in’ events for anyone who wants to talk to a member of the Neighbourhood Plan group and find out more.

**What’s proposed for Blandford Hill?**  
If you wish to see or comment on the Blandford Hill planning application, the details can be viewed on <https://planning.north-dorset.gov.uk/online-applications/> (type in 2/2018/0652 to the search criteria). There is no legal commitment in the submitted plans to delivering the community benefits, or to contribute to the traffic management measures suggested through the most recent Neighbourhood Plan consultation.

Blandford Hill application are approved before the Neighbourhood Plan (neither of which were the ‘preferred option’ of local residents) then it makes a mockery of Localism, as these two sites will more than meet our housing need for the next 15 years. Although we appreciate the sentiment that Wyatt Homes would “welcome the opportunity to continue dialogue with the Neighbourhood Planning Group”, the fact that they have pressed ahead to undermine the wishes of the community makes this difficult for all of us. The system needs to be changed to close this loophole.

**What’s proposed for Homefield?**  
The Neighbourhood Plan Group have also been contacted by Wessex Strategic wishing to promote an alternative option on land at Homefield. We will be making this information available in the summer consultation.

You may have spotted the second application for major development in the village. On 11th June Wyatt Homes kindly informed the Neighbourhood Plan Group that they had submitted a planning application for the land north of Blandford Hill (about four weeks after they had actually lodged the plans with the District Council). If both the Huntley Down application and the



However, until such time it appears pointless to carry on with the Neighbourhood Plan, the group of volunteers will carry on, making sure that we reflect your wishes in the draft plan.

*Jo Witherden*



## Calling all Knitters!

### Royal Voluntary Service 80th Anniversary Volunteer Dolly Campaign

THE Royal Voluntary Service is calling all knitters to take part in a knitting challenge to make a collection of special volunteer dollies to mark Royal Voluntary Service’s 80th anniversary.

The finished dollies will be sold with the aim of raising vital funds to support the work of Royal Voluntary Service in our area.

The fundraising challenge is being supported by [loveknitting.com](http://loveknitting.com) who have donated some of the wool, and knitting groups from across the country are encouraged to take part.

The dollies are knitted in Royal Voluntary Service colours, using a pattern specially crafted and donated by knitting designer, Claire Fairall.

Maria Jacobson, Service Manager for Dorset Home Library Service, said: ‘We are delighted to get involved in this knitting challenge for our 80th anniversary. We love knitting, so it is great to use our skills to raise funds to support our work locally. Not only that, but recent evidence suggests knitting is beneficial to a healthy mind and body. The volunteer dollies are really special and the pattern is fun to work from. After some of our volunteers commented: ‘They are lovely, but why are they not smiling?’ we decided to add a special Dorset smile – you can see the result!’



Royal Voluntary Service, originally founded in 1938 as the Women’s Voluntary Service, was formed by Stella Reading to help recruit women into the Air Raid Precautions movement and assist civilians during and after air raids and help evacuate children. Since then the charity has evolved to tackle some of the biggest social challenges of the day and has inspired more than three million ordinary men and women to give their time to help others.

In 2018 Royal Voluntary Service is as relevant as ever and continues to inspire and enable people to give the gift of voluntary service to meet the needs of the day. Today, that’s principally helping people as they age live healthier and happier lives and supporting the NHS.

Royal Voluntary Service has 25,000 dedicated volunteers, who help thousands of people each month in hospital, at home and in the community. From taking an older person to an appointment and serving tea in a busy NHS hospital to popping in to see an older person just home from hospital and running social activities for isolated older people, these volunteers do simple things which make a big difference.

Here in Dorset we provide the Home Library Service: it is available free of charge to anybody who cannot easily get to their local library, and books and talking books are chosen and delivered every 3 weeks. Not only does it provide a regular supply of individually chosen books, but also a very welcome visit by a trusted volunteer. To find out more or apply to receive the service please contact Maria Jacobson (details below).

All proceeds from the sales of the dollies will go to support the work of the Royal Voluntary Service in our area. To get a free knitting pattern please contact the local office on 01305 236666, or e-mail [maria.jacobson@royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk](mailto:maria.jacobson@royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk). You can also contact us to find out more about our local services, volunteering with Royal Voluntary Service, or to make a donation.

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## Resident's analysis of flash flood

AN update on the drainage along Dorchester Hill and Chapel Street. Since the flash flood on 29th December last year I have been keen to check on the gullies/drains that should keep Chapel Street clear. In January I cleared the gullies heading north on Chapel Street and then up Dorchester Hill. I found that the top couple of drains would get completely covered with straw, stones, silt, leaves and other flotsam after just one rainfall. I have checked these after each rainfall and kept finding most of the top gullies partly or totally blocked. I think I have cleared the drains about six times this year.

One important discovery was two totally covered gullies on the south side of Dorchester Hill in January. They were buried beneath six to eight inches of compacted soil and tree roots and were dry as a bone. Once cleared, they did take some water but due to their shape and location, did not take as much as they could. Furthermore, these gullies are the first to get blocked during rainfall.

More recently I made a video recording of the flash flood we had on 26th May. These can be found on YouTube if you search for 'Milborne St. Andrew Flood'. What I learnt on this day was that Garden Cottage, and other properties on Chapel Street, are at risk of being flooded after only 15 to 20 minutes of moderately heavy rain. Clearing the gullies in Chapel Street of the straw, etc, did prevent the flooding of our house. As I walked up Dorchester Hill, I cleared the other gullies which were also totally or partly blocked with not only straw but also silt and stones. It takes a lot of energy to move stones and this demonstrates the speed with which the water flows down this hill.

As you will see from the video footage, the gullies are not completely effective at diverting water off the road and are liable to become blocked easily. The video shows the water skipping over some gullies because it is flowing so fast. In other cases, the water was bypassing the gully because the gully is slightly uphill for the water.

I believe that there are several factors that contribute to the regular flash flooding of the A354 and Chapel Street and there needs to be a comprehensive assessment made of the drainage. 1) Making a proper assessment of where the water comes from. It is clear from the amount of stones, silt and mud deposited on Dorchester Hill and the junction with Chapel Street, that there is significant run off from the fields. Can this be mitigated by looking at cropping techniques to prevent soil erosion and/or the use of ditches to hold back run off? 2) Looking at the design of the gullies to ensure that they are the correct design for the gradient of the hill and the amount and speed of water. This must include their siting and ensuring there is a proper lead in to the gully and that it is set low so the water flows into it. 3) Ensuring that given the volume of farm traffic and the amount of straw that lands on the roads that we have an arrangement with the Highways Agency and council for a cleaning schedule that reflects this need.

In summary, as villagers all we can do is ensure we kick the gullies clear when we see them blocked, but the solution is to pressure the council and highways and landowners to do their bit to manage water and flooding in the village. Our flood warden Mark Johnson has taken my videos and is presently setting up a consultation with the authorities to see what can be done.

*Phillip Harris, Garden Cottage, Chapel Street.*



Blocked gully on Dorchester Hill after one rainfall, 29th May, it had been cleared the day before.

## Summer workshops for children at the Village Hall

– drawing, making and song-writing from Artsreach

### Drawing dancing and house of dreams

Wednesday 8th August 10.00am–11.30am

Suitable for ages 2–4 years (all children must be accompanied by an adult). Drawing to music, on the floor, on the tables and on the walls; learning how to express the music mark making. Fast spiky music, zig zaggy and dotty music, slow swooping and smudgy music. This one can get messy!



Then making the house of your dreams after reading the story 'The Big Orange Splot' you will have a cardboard box and array of other boxes and stuff to construct the house of your dreams, and then paint it with wonderful colours.

Dress for mess. Tickets £5.

### Top Secret Treasure Chests

Tuesday 14th August, 10.30am–3.00pm

A workshop for age group 6+ with Darrell Wakelam. Come along and build your own mini Pirate treasure chest complete with its own secret compartment. There will be lots of cutting, sticking, paper mâché and collage. Darrell is a very inspiring and exciting children's workshop leader and has been providing workshops for over 25 years. Dress for mess and bring your lunch!



Tickets £10.

### Song-writing

Tuesday 21st August, 10.00am–1.00pm,

A song-writing workshop with Abigail Thommes for 9–12 year-olds. Calling all song writers . . . during this workshop you will learn different vocal techniques, performance skills and of course how to song-write.



We will listen to a range of songs, then as a group change the lyrics to well-known songs. After that you will get the opportunity to either work independently or in small groups to create your own song. This workshop will end with a performance to showcase their work.

Tickets £8.

All tickets from Sarah Ryan 01258 839230 or Gray's Stores.

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**Deadline for the August/September issue is mid-day 14th July. Send your stories and pictures to [msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk)**



## Messy Church

At the end of May, a small group gathered to discuss the possibility of setting up a Messy Church in our benefice. A number of other people, unable to make that particular meeting, had also expressed an interest in helping us to get this off the ground. The good news is that enough of us are committed to this so we are launching in October, with our first Messy Church for Harvest Festival. This will be in Puddletown; however over the following months, we will visit each village in turn. The plan is that every village will host three times a year. We hope people will come to all the sessions, and not just the ones in their own village. We want to build a community where everyone has a place.

So what is Messy Church? Lucy Moore, who was involved in the very first Messy Church at a church near Portsmouth, described it as: "a form of church for children and adults that involves creativity, celebration and hospitality". It is mainly for those who do not regularly come to church already, and for all: young, older, married, single, widowed, partnered, those with a deep faith and those with faith the size of a mustard seed, to use the words of Jesus. Messy Church is a place where questions can be asked, where nobody knows it all. It is a space for discovery, for learning from each other and from God. There is a loosely structured format. Each service begins with a welcome and explanation of the day's theme, some time to chat and chill, before moving into activities based on crafts, science, games and creativity. Then there is the celebration – a short time of prayer and worship celebrating God, followed by tea. We really hope you will join us and encourage others to come. We especially hope that families who have brought children to be baptised in our churches will come and be part of Messy Church. It is, after all, one way of keeping those promises made in the baptism service to bring your child up as part of the church and learning to follow Christ.

We thought hard about days and timings. Because many of our local children already have lots of after-school activities or belong to after-school clubs, we have decided to stick with the traditional day for church: Sunday. This isn't set in stone though, so if another day or time suits better, do let us know. We will meet at four o'clock in the afternoon, ending with tea, so you shouldn't need to feed your children again afterwards.

### Messy Church Calendar Sundays at 4.00pm

7th October: Harvest, Puddletown Church

4th November: (theme tbc), Dewlish Village Hall

2nd December: Advent/Posada, Tolpuddle Village Hall

6th January: The Three Kings, Milborne Village Hall

And, if you are talented or just enthusiastic about God, crafts, cooking, science, music or anything else that might work well, do let me know and we'd love to have you as part of our team, whatever age you are . . . talented teenagers would be a particular asset. Just get in touch with me or come to our planning meeting at 6.00pm on Wednesday 19th September in Puddletown Church Room.

With best wishes

*Sarah Hillman*

## St. Andrew's Church Notes

LOTS of things have happened in our parish and the benefice over the last couple of months and several more are planned. On the 10th June at 3.00pm we were delighted to host a Canzonetta concert. The group were fantastic and delivered beautiful songs and



## Church Services

### July

#### 1st July – Trinity 5

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

#### Saturday 7th July

3.00 pm	Marriage of John Alexander and Celia Francis	Tolpuddle
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#### 8th July – Trinity 6

8.15am	1662 Said Communion	Puddletown
9.30	United Methodist Service	Tolpuddle
9.30	Parish Communion	Milborne
11.00	Puddletown Praise	Puddletown Church Room
11.00	Parish Communion	Dewlish

#### 15th July – Trinity 7

9.30am	Family Communion	Tolpuddle
9.30	1662 Said Morning Prayer	Milborne
11.00	Parish Communion	Puddletown
11.00	Family Service	Dewlish

#### THURSDAY 19th July

12noon	Holy Communion	Puddletown Church Room
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#### Saturday 21st July

2.00pm	Thanksgiving of Marriage for Johanna Hoetschl-Marston, with Baptism of Penelope and Charlotte	Puddletown
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#### 22nd July – Mary Magdalene

9.30am	Parish Communion	Milborne
11.00	Martyrs' Festival	Tolpuddle
	Songs of Praise	
11.00	1662 Morning Prayer	Puddletown
11.00	Parish Communion	Dewlish
5.00pm	Martyrs' Methodist Service	Tolpuddle Chapel

#### 29th July – Trinity 9 (Benefice Weekend Away)

11.00am	United Benefice Holy Communion followed by bring-and-share lunch	Milborne
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#### Morning Prayers (Monday – Thursday 8.15am Saturday 9.00am)

Monday – Puddletown	Tuesday – Milborne
Wednesday – Dewlish	Thursday – Tolpuddle
Saturday – Puddletown	



### Do you need a lift to church?

If you have difficulty getting to church or need transport when the Benefice Service is at another church, we can arrange transport for you.

Please contact Pam on 837203.

interesting and amusing readings. Our Events Committee worked hard to make the concert a success and were grateful for donations of cakes and refreshments. Many people attended and were generous in making donations to support St Andrew's church.

Sadly Eric Austen died from cancer so we have lost a faithful member of the PCC and our Deanery Synod rep. We will greatly miss all that he has done for us over many years.

Sarah has arranged for a speaker to come to Puddletown Church room to tell us all about the new initiative called Weekend of Invitation, which reflects the experience of Back to Church Sunday. This will be on the 30th June. We look forward to hearing how to invite friends and neighbours to feel encouraged to join us in church. You may be one of the people who will be invited later in the year.

As I write this we are looking forward to a Summer Cream Tea at Heathcote House. Sue Dawson is a wonderful supporter of the church and as long as the weather holds out we expect to be satisfying a large crowd with dainty sandwiches and Dorset cream scones in Heathcote House's delightful setting.

We believe that the roof and wall repairs to the church are finally completed after another problem area was discovered. It will be a relief to know that the old listed building is safe for another few years and that the cost of the repairs has been covered, thanks to enormous fund raising efforts and the generosity of Viridor, National Churches Trust, Dorset Historic Churches Trust and not forgetting many individuals who support our fund raising events.

On not such an exciting theme, the Parochial Church Council are currently auditing any personal information that we hold in order to comply with the new General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR). Sarah has outlined the requirements, which we need to adhere to in order to conform to the new regulations. Although it seems like a lot of hard work it will be good to ensure that people's personal details are stored in a safe, secure manner, held for the specific reason that they were first collected, only for as long as required and not shared, unless absolutely necessary or with the individual's consent. No doubt like me, you have already been contacted by so many companies and you will be glad not to receive so much 'junk' by email or post.

### 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

### Reporter Team on Holiday

The Reporter Team will be taking a holiday in August. This means that the next issue will be a joint issue and be published at the end of July.

Deadline for ads and copy for August/  
September – 14th July.

## Milton Abbas and Milborne St.

### Andrew surgery news

I'M sure you are aware that the new General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) came into force at the end of May. We understand how important it is to keep your personal information safe and secure and we take this very seriously. We have taken steps to make sure your personal information is looked after in the best possible way and we review this regularly.

As part of GDPR we are required to provide a Privacy Notice which contains important information about how we use the personal and healthcare information we collect on your behalf. This Privacy Notice is available on our website [www.masurgery.co.uk](http://www.masurgery.co.uk) or you can request a copy from reception.

As part of the GDPR we can no longer hand medication to a third party unless we have your written consent to do so. If you need someone else to collect your medication, you will need to complete a form to give your permission. The form is available from the surgery or on our website (look for medication/prescriptions). Please note, this also applies to the collection of any documents from reception.

If a third party, e.g. an insurance company, request notes on your behalf, even though you will have given consent to them, we will also need to get your consent to release the information.

Also with GDPR **it is your responsibility** to ensure we have your correct contact details. If you move house or change your telephone you must tell us to avoid the possibility of a third party receiving your information.

Finally, for our patients who have a test or investigation that is arranged by hospital consultants please note that the results from these tests don't automatically get forwarded onto the surgery. Therefore, if you want to know the result of a test you have had under the care of a consultant, please phone the hospital and ask to speak to your consultant's secretary.

*Gillian Brindle, Practice Business Manager*

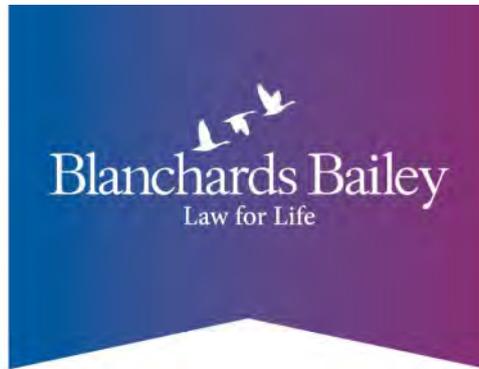
## Keeping you informed about your Village Hall and fields

THE Village Hall committee continue to work hard to ensure that the maintenance and running of the hall are effective and to the benefit of the majority of users. This includes organising and overseeing working party days, with the next one will be on 15th July. Do think about helping out as there is a lot to do. During the summer school holidays, the interior of the hall will be painted. We hope that this will not affect too many people who would like to hire the facilities.

Thanks to individual committee members the hall now has a better internet provider and hopefully there will be a new CCTV system installed very soon. The transfer of land ownership is in progress so that we can operate as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation; this means that the current charity will be closed but replaced with a better one which has more appropriate regulations and governance. On a personal note, a great benefit is that the trustees will no longer be personally responsible for any financial difficulties.

The issue of the car parking remains a challenge and a small group of trustees and local residents are due to meet to discuss the matter further and see if a compromise can be met. We will report on the outcome of the meeting as soon as we can.

The new General Data Protection Regulations, that everyone is aware of, also affect the Village Hall Committee. We are auditing information that is held about individuals e.g. phone numbers, email addresses, etc. so that we can either obtain permission to continue to store them or to delete unnecessarily held information. We will have a new policy concerning storage of information and keeping it safe. If you are a representative of a group and you need to ensure that your details are kept safe do contact one of the committee members for further information.



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# Music at Milton Abbey Church

**Box office:** Tickets for Milton Abbey Church events are available on line via: <https://timecounts.org/miltonabbey> by telephone at 01258 881235 or by mail to Abbey Box office Milton Abbey Heritage Trust Milton Abbey, Blandford Forum, Dorset, DT11 0BZ.

## Bournemouth Sinfonietta Choir

**Sunday 1st July at 6.00pm**

**Tickets: Adults £14.00, under 18's £2.00**



The Bournemouth Sinfonietta Choir was formed in 1972 to perform with the Bournemouth Sinfonietta. The Choir has been independent since 1978 and has become one of the most highly regarded choirs in the south west of England.

Over the last few years, the Choir has also appeared abroad in Italy, Austria and Hungary. Its repertoire spans the 16th to the 21st centuries and its concerts range from small-scale *a cappella* programmes to

performances of the great choral works.

In this special concert, we celebrate 1,000 years of the life of Milton Abbey with music that spans this period, combining a number of choral favourites in a programme designed to make the most of the Abbey's wonderful acoustic.

A complete performance of Parry's *Songs of Farewell* marks a local connection – Parry was born in Bournemouth.

## The Bournemouth Symphony Chorus in concert

**Saturday 7th July at 7.00pm**

**Tickets: Nave: Adult £16.00 under 18's £11.00**

**Aisles: Adult £12.00 under 18's £7.00.**

The Bournemouth Symphony Chorus was founded as the Bournemouth Municipal Choir in 1911 by Sir Dan Godfrey to sing with his Bournemouth Municipal Orchestra which he had started in 1893. For many years, the Choir sang almost exclusively in Bournemouth, but in 1979, it became the Bournemouth Symphony Chorus, working under the aegis of the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra.

The Chorus has a membership of around 150 singers, and gives the majority of its concerts with the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra. However, it has also performed regularly with other orchestras, and gives regular concerts independently, either a capella, with organ or small ensembles.



## The Farrant Singers

**Saturday 21st July at 6.30pm**

**Tickets: Adult 12.00, under 18's £6.00.**

This is a great opportunity to enjoy music from this excellent choir in the wonderful acoustic setting of Milton Abbey Historic Church.

The concert will feature music spanning seven centuries from the 15th century right through to the 21st century and from seven countries: Portugal, Germany, Russia, America, France, England and

Ireland. Composers whose works are being performed include Byrd, Parry, Rachmaninov and Eric Whitmore.

The Farrant Singers is the longest-established chamber choir in Salisbury, with close links to the medieval city, the surrounding Wiltshire villages and the Cathedral, where the choir often sings the services in place of the Cathedral Choir.



## International Music Festival – Vocces 8

**30th July to 4th August 2018**

*Performances are throughout the week – details in the Music at the Abbey Programme available from the Box office*

**VOCES 8** is delighted to return to the idyllic surroundings of Milton Abbey for another week of glorious music-making. This year we commemorate the centenaries of the Armistice and the birth of Leonard Bernstein. The festival celebrates the joy of singing and plays host to an exciting cast of internationally recognised artists.

**Box office:** Tickets for Milton Abbey Church events are available on line via: <https://timecounts.org/miltonabbey> by telephone at 01258 881235 or by mail to Abbey Box office Milton Abbey Heritage Trust Milton Abbey, Blandford Forum, Dorset, DT11 0BZ.

## The Bankes Family Archive at the June WI

WE meet for our summer supper on Friday 6th July, once again hosted by Sheila Ryall in her lovely garden (with a marquee '*just in case*'). Our summer outing to Jigsaws is on Thursday 9th August. Quiz volunteers to meet at Josie's house on Wednesday 11th July (with an eye to the final on 12th October). A reminder about cakes for the two Bestivals, always needed and always welcomed.

The Literary Lunch at Milton Abbey had been very much enjoyed by all those who attended. Dilly Court was an interesting speaker, answering all our questions and even giving everyone a copy of her latest book! Shirley reported a busy afternoon for Bookends members who gave universal approval to their latest read – '*Moonfleet*' by J. Meade Falkner, a classical children's novel. Feedback was followed by a DVD of one of our recent reads – Pat Barker's '*Regeneration*'. We move on to 'The Gathering' by Anne Enright, an Irish writer.

Dorset History Centre is working in partnership with the National Trust at Kingston Lacy and the Priest's House museum in Wimborne on an exciting project focused on one of Dorset's largest and most significant archive collections – that of the Bankes family. Our speaker, David Beardsley is one of a large army of volunteers who have spent over 3 years sorting through over 30,000 documents some dating back over 500 years. The Bankes family lived in Dorset since the 17th century and owned Corfe Castle and the Kingston Lacy estates.

David took us through much of the family history, beginning with Sir John Bankes, Lord Chancellor to Charles I, and his wife Mary, referencing many of the archive documents along the way. By the time of the death of Henry John Ralph Bankes in 1981 the estate was in decline and Kingston Lacy house had been allowed to deteriorate – it was bequeathed to the National Trust in his will.

This was a fascinating talk, about a phenomenal estate owned by very individual characters and David has clearly enjoyed his lengthy archive research.

Our next meeting is on Thursday 12th July, when Rod Hughes will divulge 'Dorset's Big Secret'. Please join us and find out what it is.

*Pat Bull*

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# Watercress soup – it may even cure baldness!

## History, health benefits and folklore about watercress

The ancient Greeks called watercress kardamon; they believed it could brighten their intellect, hence their proverb “Eat watercress and get wit.”

Hippocrates, the father of medicine, is thought to have decided on the location for his first hospital because of its proximity to a stream so he could use only the freshest watercress to treat his patients.

Philosopher and statesman Francis Bacon (1561-1626) claimed it could restore a youthful bloom to women.

Romans and Anglo Saxons ate it to prevent baldness. The Egyptian Pharaohs served freshly squeezed watercress juice to their slaves each morning and afternoon in order to increase their productivity.

Watercress is believed by many to be an aphrodisiac. In Crete, islanders swear by its powers and ancient recipes are handed down from one generation to the next. In the 1970s, an Arab prince was reputed to have had special consignments flown out from the UK, presumably to help him satisfy his harem! And in Hampshire its special powers are part of folklore.

Eating a bag of watercress is said to be a good cure for a hangover. Postman Pat’s favourite sandwich is watercress and cheese. Anglo-Saxons swore by watercress potage to ‘spring clean’ the blood.

Irish monks were said to survive for long periods eating only bread and watercress and referred to watercress as ‘pure food for sages’.

The herbalist John Gerard extolled watercress as an anti-scorbutic (remedy for scurvy) as early as 1636. No doubt in those days it was far easier to come by than oranges – a foreign extravagance.

Watercress was promoted during the First World War as an important health-giving home-grown food.

Watercress is mentioned so often as an ingredient in detox vegetable juice recipes and as a cure for a variety of ills, that it could virtually be viewed as a staple part of the regime for those wishing to juice their way to health.

Watercress is also one of the key ingredients in Watercress Warrior Beer made in Cerne Abbas which the makers claim is “a truly uplifting drink!”



Watercress sandwiches were a regular feature in my childhood. Every family meal including breakfast was served in our tiny dining room, a clean tablecloth was always laid on the table and starched linen napkins in silver rings with our initials on them. No standing around in the kitchen with a bowl of cereal or a slice of toast in your hand in those days. Mum cooked fried bacon every morning before going to work. Usually the bacon was served with fried, poached or scrambled eggs, or mushrooms or tomatoes, never more than two items, followed by toast and marmalade.

On Sundays, when we always had a traditional roast at lunchtime, we had a lighter meal at teatime. The rule was of course sandwiches first and cake afterwards. Sandwiches were of a rather limited choice, either watercress one week or cucumber the next with an occasional treat of ham or egg. The cake was always homemade, either chocolate (my favourite), seed cake (my dad’s favourite), Victoria sponge or coffee cake. I don’t think Mr Kipling cakes had been invented yet. Tea on Sundays at home was served in mum’s best silver teapot with matching milk jug and sugar bowl, during the week we used the second best silver tea set which had been her mother’s.

Sunday had other different rules for us as children. Always Church or Sunday school in the morning and certainly no playing out with our friends in the street. Mum would never have dreamed of hanging out washing on the washing line on Sunday and most of her day was taken up with preparing, cooking, serving and washing up after our traditional roast Sunday Dinner. Dad spent his Sunday mornings on the golf course, followed by a couple of pints at the 19th hole. He returned punctually at 1.30pm for Sunday Dinner when his responsibility was to carve the joint, he then retreated to his favourite armchair in the sitting room to read the papers and have a snooze. His proud boast was that he never set foot in the kitchen . . .

Every other Sunday, after Dad had woken from his nap, we would all get in the car to visit relatives, usually Dad’s older sister, Auntie

Mildred, where we would invariably have watercress or cucumber sandwiches for tea. I think they must have been a family favourite. As children we were expected to eat what was offered without fussing; if it was watercress sandwiches that week then that was it. I can’t remember any of us children daring to say that we didn’t like something, wartime rationing was still at the forefront of people’s minds and butter was still scraped very thinly on the bread. To waste food was very much frowned upon although I must admit that I was not that keen on the peppery taste of watercress as a child.

My Auntie Mildred had a novel way of buttering the bread for her sandwiches, she would spread butter on the cut end of the loaf and then skilfully cut a very thin slice off the end, rather than slice the bread first and then butter the bread. She cut the finest, thinnest slices and I think must have had a very efficient bread knife.

Usually there were at least a dozen or more of us sitting round Auntie Mildred’s huge dining table, enjoying a traditional Yorkshire tea.

Her dining room seemed to be freezing cold even in the height of summer, her house was very high up in the Pennines and the wind blew strongly all the year round. All of us young cousins knew we had to be on our very best behaviour, children were expected to be “seen but not heard” and Auntie Mildred could be quite fierce when displeased. The most senior members of the family were always served first and we children had to wait our turn. However, we would surreptitiously play all sorts of tricks on each other if we thought we could get away with it.

My cousin James, the eldest of my many cousins was also far and away the naughtiest. He was my role-model and hero and his speciality was to heat up his teaspoon in his newly poured cup of tea and then touch the red-hot teaspoon to some unsuspecting child’s bare leg under the table. The poor victim would then be in trouble with the grownups for making a fuss for nothing. It seems strange now, but all of us children drank cups of tea, it would never have occurred to anyone to offer children an alternative. Another favourite trick was putting a spoonful of salt in the sugar bowl, this was easy to do as Auntie Mildred’s salt cellar was a little three-legged silver pot with a tiny silver spoon in it and very tempting. It was surprising how few adults noticed the extra salt in with the sugar but the children’s eyes sparkled with suppressed laughter.

This mischievous behaviour was not without its spice of danger of course. Corporal punishment, administered by the nearest adult, was immediate and painful if you were caught. A cuff round the ear was common, it certainly made your ear ring, but a stinging slap on the back of the bare legs often left a red mark for an hour or two.

Of course this was only if you were unlucky enough to be caught!

## Watercress soup

### Ingredients

15ml/1 tbsp olive oil  
1 small onion, chopped  
1 small stick celery  
350g/12oz potato, peeled and diced  
600ml/1pt chicken or vegetable stock  
3 (85g) bags watercress  
150ml/1/4pt milk  
A few gratings of nutmeg  
squeeze of lemon juice  
salt and freshly ground black pepper

### Method

1. Heat the oil in a large pan, add the onion and celery and fry gently for 10 minutes until pale golden. Stir in the potato and stock and bring to the boil. Cover and simmer for ten minutes or until the potato is tender.

2. Stir in the watercress, cover and cook for a further five minutes or until the watercress is wilted. Transfer the soup to a food processor and blitz until smooth then return the soup to the rinsed-out pan (or you can just use a kitchen wand to blitz the soup) add the milk, nutmeg, lemon juice and seasoning to taste. Gently reheat until piping hot and serve with crusty bread.



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# MILBORNE ST ANDREW FIRST SCHOOL



## Learning together, playing together SCHOOL NEWS

It's not often you get something for nothing but that's exactly what happened when Richard Bradford arrived at our school and presented us with this beautiful book. *The Lost Words* by Robert Macfarlane and Jackie Morris looks at words from nature. It celebrates 'the wonder of the everyday nature' and includes beautiful illustrations and poetry and will be a very valuable and inspirational resource. Many thanks to everyone who pledged funds to make this resource available for free to schools. It will be treasured.



We are participating this year in the Fiver Challenge (as we did last year), a national competition for children aged from 5-11 years. The challenge is free and run by Young Enterprise ([www.fiverchallenge.org.uk](http://www.fiverchallenge.org.uk)) the UK's leading enterprise and financial education charity, helping young people to develop the skills they need for life and work.

The Fiver Challenge offers children the opportunity to set up a mini business with £5 and create a product or a service they can then sell/deliver at a profit and get involved with our local community. The children are in full control of any profits they make and will decide what they would like to spend them on.

The Fiver Challenge will take place for four weeks from Monday 4th to Friday 29th June.

Watch this space to find out how it went!

### Fiver Challenge

At Milborne First School we believe in the importance of helping our pupils to understand the world they live in and begin to help them develop the skills they need in life and work to help them prepare for their future.

### Maths café

'Friends of School' hosted an exciting Maths café with the children in year 4 lending a hand.

Thank you to everyone for all your hard work and thank you to the members of the community who joined us. Hopefully you enjoyed your visit and will come again soon.



## CONTACTS

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

**Headteacher:** Mrs Sharon Hunt      **School Secretary:** Mrs B Hosford

**Chair of Governors:** Matt Way      **FOS Chairman:** Mrs Caroline Richards

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

# 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

North Dorset District Councillor	Emma Parker	01258 881631
	Jane Somper	077103 95359
Parish Council – Dewlish	Clerk: Sandra Sims	01258 837132
	Chair: Andrew Booth	01258 837284
Parish Council –	Clerk: Colin Hampton	01258 837011
Milborne St. Andrew	Chair: Joy Robinson	01258 837661

<b>Floods</b> A354 problems contact the Highways Agency	03001 235000
Dorset Direct	01305 221000
<a href="mailto:dorsetdirect@dorsetcc.gov.uk">dorsetdirect@dorsetcc.gov.uk</a> <a href="http://www.dorsetforyou.com/reportroadproblems">www.dorsetforyou.com/reportroadproblems</a>	
Environment Agency Floodline	08459 881188
South West Highways <a href="mailto:hello@swhitd.co.uk">hello@swhitd.co.uk</a>	01404 821500
Wessex Water Sewerage Floodline	03458 505959
MSA Flood Warden, Non-Emergency Only: Mark Johnson	01258 839060

## GENERAL – ADULT

Ladies Group – Dewlish	Judith Bridgen	01258 837157
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

Ladybirds (Playgroup)	Liz Dyer	01258 839117
Scout Group (Secretary)	Brian Burton	01258 839033
Under 5's Group – The Busy Bees	Leanne Brown	07899 808185
	Julianne Hall	07846 256694
Youth Club age 8 – 13 years	Joanne Miller	07940 017577

## POLICE

Police – Non-emergency contact		101
Community Beat Officer	PC Dave Mullins	101
Safer Neighbourhood Team	PC Dave Mullins and PCSO Luke Goddard	101
Home watch Co-ordinator	Joy Robinson	01258 837661

## SCHOOL

Milborne First School		
Headteacher:	Sharon Hunt	01258 837362
Chair Governors:	Matt Way	
Friends of School Chair:	Caroline Richards	

## SPECIAL INTEREST

Bellringers	Pip Bowell	01258 837329
Bridge Group	Laurie Benn	01258 837720
Cribbage	Peter Anthony	01258 837089
Dog Training Behaviour	Natasja Lewis	01305 849221
Food and Wine Society	Julie Johannsen	01258 839004
MSA Allotment Society Chair:	Joy Robinson	01258 837661
Secretary:	Anna Cullen	01258 837143
MSA Gardening Club	Sally Dyer	01258 837061
Milborne Players	Roy Sach	01258 837033
Ranters' Folk Session	Roger Harrall	01258 837371
Round Robin Ramblers	Ian Bromilow	01258 880044
Tai Chi	Brian Burton	01258 839033
Village History Group	Pam Shults	01258 837203

## SPORT

Abbey Swimming Club	Pat Cowan	01258 880601
Archers – Crossways	Sheila Ryall	01258 837504
Athletics – Junior	David Pearson	01258 837057
Badminton	David Payne	01258 837700
Circuit training	Grace Martin	01305 213885

Cricket – Dewlish	Elaine Kellaway	01258 837696
Cricket Club – Milton Abbas	Colin Chastey	01258 882162
Pilates (school)	Claire Barratt	07540 626174
Football – Under 12s		
Chairman	Joy Robinson	01258 837661
Manager/coach	Andy Brown	07427 503373
Treasurer	Simon Buckingham	01258 839122
Football – Veterans	Paul David	07841 506839
Running Group	Anne-Marie Pearson	01258 837057
Skittles – Dewlish	Frank Ross	01258 837366
Sports & Social Club	Chairman: Richard Lock	01258 837929
	Bookings: Richard Lock	01258 837929
Table Tennis	Pauline Pitfield	01258 839123
Tap Dancing for Adults	Libby Goodchild	01305 268029
Tennis	Stephen Lang	07916 312452
Yoga (at school)	Sue Chapman	01305 848053
Yoga (at Sports & Social Club)	Saira Francis	01258 880505
Yoga (at village hall)	Sarah Ryan	01258 839230

## VILLAGE HALL

Dewlish		
Chairman:	Chris Uden	01258 837295
Booking Secretary:	Margaret Groves	01258 837617
Milborne St. Andrew		
Chairman:	Pam Shults	01258 837203
Booking Secretary:	Alison Riddle	01258 837030

## HEALTH

Bere Regis Surgery		01929 471268
Milborne St. Andrew Surgery		01258 837383
Milton Abbas Surgery		01258 880210
Puddletown Surgery		01305 848333
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# Community Events Diary

Add your event to this diary by contacting the **Reporter** – tel: 01258 837700 or email: msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk

- July**
- Sunday 1st** **Bournemouth Sinfonietta Choir** Milton Abbey Church 6.00pm – see page 11.
- Wednesday 4th** **Wednesday Club meeting** Dave Andrews will talk to us about his tractor models Village Hall at 2.00pm – see page 27.
- Saturday 7th** **The Bournemouth Symphony Chorus in concert** **Milton Abbey Church 7.00pm** – see page 11.
- Wednesday 11th** **Village History Group** we will have a speaker. He will give two illustrated talks. The Royal Oak function room 7.30pm – see page 19.
- Thursday 12th** **WI Rod Hughes** will divulge 'Dorset's Big Secret'. Village Hall 7.30pm – see page 11.
- Saturday 14th** **Mid-day deadline for Reporter.** Send copy and pictures to msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk or give to a member of the Reporter team – see page 2.
- Saturday 14th** **Cherry picking day** PYO cherries and event – see below right.
- Wednesday 18th** **Curry@Eva's** – see page 16.
- Wednesday 18th** **Parish Council** Village Hall 7.30pm – see page 21 for report on June's meeting.
- Thursday 19th** **Gardening Club** will be looking at Slightly Naughty Plants. Village Hall 7.30pm – see below and page 22
- Friday 20th to Sunday 22nd** **Rant for Roger** is being held at Milborne Sports and Social Club. Saturday from 2.00pm 'vintage cream tea' Costs £5 – see page 27.
- Saturday 21st** **The Farrant Singers** Milton Abbey Church 6.30pm.
- Saturday 28th** **Village lunch** Village Hall 12.15pm to 2.00pm £7 per head – see page 2 for menu.

## Regular Bookings at the Village Hall

- Ladybirds Playgroup** Monday–Friday 8.30am–1.00pm MH (term time only)
- Beavers** Monday 5.00–6.30pm MH (term time only)
- Scouts** Monday 6.00–8.00pm CR/MH
- Players** Monday 8.00–10.00pm MH
- ABC Line Dancers** Tuesday 7.30–10.00pm MH
- Cub Scouts** Tuesday 5.45–7.15pm MH (term time only)
- Wednesday Club** first Wednesday 2.00–4.00pm MH
- Yoga** Thursday 1.30–2.45pm MH
- Gardening Club** third Thursday 7.30–10.00pm MH
- Karate** Thursday 5.10–6.40pm MH
- Village Hall Committee** third Thursday every two months 7.30–10.00pm
- Women's Institute** second Thursday 7.30–10.00pm
- Youth Club 8–13 years** every other Friday MH (term time only)
- Village Lunch** last Saturday of the month 12.15–2.30pm MH
- Artsreach Events** – look out for the posters.

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

## Regular Bookings at the First School

- Pilates** Monday 7.00–8.00pm (term time only)
- Yoga** Tuesday 6.30–8.00pm (term time only)
- Badminton** Wednesday 6.30–8.30pm (term time only)
- Circuit training** Thursday 6.30–7.30pm (term time only)

## Regular Bookings at the Sports & Social Club

- Table Tennis** Monday 7.00–9.00pm. Information from Pauline Pitfield 01258 839123
- Tai Chi** Tuesday mornings 9.30 run by Geoffrey Bellinger. Local contact Brian Burton 839033.
- The Busy Bees** Under 5 Group from 9.30am to 11.30am on Thursday term time only. Contact Leanne Brown on 07899 808185.
- Nightsabre Dog Training, Behaviour and Rally Group.** Tuesday mornings; Wednesday evenings; Saturday mornings. Contact details 01305 849221.
- Yoga (Mellulah)** Thursday (evening): Friday (mornings)
- Private parties, birthdays, wedding** receptions check online calendar.



### Cherry picking day

Park and ride to farm from Sports Pavilion from 10.00am. Proceeds go to Julia's House. £15 per adult (for 5kg of pyo cherries), plus bar, children's entertainer, etc.

## This Month

at the **MILBORNE ST ANDREW GARDENING CLUB**



**Slightly Naughty Plants**  
Plants that cheat, steal & deceive - Gold Club Speaker

**THURSDAY**  
**19th July**  
**7.30pm**



Refreshments

**VENUE**  
**The Village Hall**  
**7.30 pm**



**Open to All — everyone is welcome**

**Entry: £2 non members**

**Milborne Sports**

table tennis	Tia Chi
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## Scams through the ages

CITIZENS Advice working have identified four common groups of people, each of who are more likely to be affected by scams in different ways.

Although **'young people'** aged 18 to 24 don't represent the largest group of people falling victim to scams, numbers of scam victims in this group is rising. In particular, young people are a growing proportion of victims of online and identity fraud. Having grown up with technology they are often confident in their ability when using the internet. This can lead to them feeling that they are unlikely to fall for internet scams, making them complacent and increasingly vulnerable. Research shows that over half of young people are unlikely to report scams.

**'Life established'** people in their 40s to 60s are the group most affected by scams. Part of this is due to the fact that they are most likely to report scams, but also because certain demographics within this group are targeted due to their circumstances. For example, this group tends to be more settled and has access to financial assets. This makes them more likely to be targets of scams, such as pension scams, dating scams and property scams.

**'Older people'**, over 70s, are often targeted by scammers. Research has found that 75 is the average age of reported scam victims and those over 70 suffer the highest detriment. Older people tend to fall victim most to phone and mail scams, and figures from National Trading Standards show that older people are deliberately targeted more than other demographics. This group also sees the largest proportion of people who are recurring victims of scams.

People who are **'socially isolated'** can be the hardest to reach and often aren't able to access the same support that others can. While this group makes up a smaller number of cases of reported scams they often have high levels of detriment, not just in the amount of money lost, but the overall impact on health and wellbeing.

By better understanding different groups Citizens Advice hope to reach more people and encourage reporting. If you've lost money because of scams report it to action fraud, by phone 0300 123 2040, or online [www.actionfraud.police.uk](http://www.actionfraud.police.uk).

## Old News – Milborne in print

AT our last village History Group meeting Linda read out some fascinating reports concerning Milborne St. Andrew and its residents from old newspapers. Some reports were as far back as the 18th century. One surprising report of a plague of bees in our village was reported in several Scottish papers but not locally. Apart from the general interest of newspaper reports Linda hopes to find out more about people who lived in the village many years ago.

The group discussed a potential display to commemorate the end of the Great War in 1918. It was suggested that we create some type of display in the centre of the village to illustrate the effects of the war and to remember those people who were involved. If anyone has any ideas, artefacts or wants to help, please contact me (see page 16 for phone number).

On 11th July at 7.30pm in The Royal Oak function room we will have a speaker. He will give two illustrated talks, one about the life and times of Mill Street, the slum end of Fordington from 1860 (renamed by Thomas Hardy as Mixen Lane). The other is a true life story recorded six months before the death of Ivy Gale born in 1917, one of seven children and two adults brought up in a one up, one down cottage, with one outside toilet and one outside tap, with only an open fire to cook on. As always anyone is welcome to come along; we ask for a £1 donation so that we can pay for speakers now and again but no membership is required.

## Could you help Dorset Police by knitting teddies for children in distress

DORSET Police is calling on the support of knitting enthusiasts across the county to create teddy bears for children in distress.

The teddies will be carried in patrol cars and used to comfort young children who are distressed or experiencing a traumatic event.



Police Constable Conroy, of Dorset Police, said: "Sadly we regularly attend incidents where children are really having a tough time – it could be a family argument or a loved one going missing.

"We do our best to build relationships with young people at incidents, but something like a teddy bear can be really useful in distracting them from what is going on around them.

"Taking my child to hospital and him being given a small knitted toy, seeing the pleasure and enjoyment he got from this small gesture in difficult times set me to research whether we had such an initiative. Noticing that we didn't, the concept of 'Bobby Buddies' was born.

"I hope that this initiative will enable us to work closely with the volunteers who knit the buddies. Our aim is to encourage positive interaction with young people, assisting them at difficult times, or just helping them realise that police officers are there to help them and are approachable, and not people to be scared of.

"It also shows in this small gesture that so much of the work we do cannot be done without the assistance of our community. Providing the name of the person who knitted the buddy, along with the officer who gifted it, will hopefully show that working together we can make real positive changes."

For more information about the initiative and to download the knitting pattern, visit [www.dorset.police.uk/Buddies](http://www.dorset.police.uk/Buddies) – completed teddies can be handed in at Bournemouth, Poole, Weymouth and Blandford Police Station counters.

## Milborne teddy collection point

I am willing to be a collection point for the teddies which we can donate to any of the Police Stations in the area. Perhaps we could have a photo in the *Reporter* with all the teddies donated. So come on Knitters I know there are a lot of you out there, lets show what our village can do.

*Sheila Burton*

We regret to announce that Mrs. Tricia Wilson, who lived at Stileham Bank for over thirty years, passed away peacefully in Dorchester County Hospital on 14th June. She will be much missed by her family and the many customers of Woolworths and Wellworths in Dorchester, where she worked for over twenty-five years.

**Deadline for the August/September Reporter is mid-day 14th July. All copy must be sent via the Reporter e-mail at [msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk)**

## Canzonetta



WE were very pleased on Sunday to welcome Canzonetta with 'Music for a Summer Afternoon' in St. Andrew's Church.

This local ladies ensemble was founded and is led by Jackie March. Their repertoire covers a variety of music ranging from baroque to classical and folk music, they perform in churches in East Dorset and the Isle of Purbeck. This concert included 'Bushes and Briars', using a new arrangement by John Watkins M.A. commissioned by Canzonetta.

*Josie Wright*

## Flash Flooding

FURTHER to concerns about flash flooding and the impact on Chapel Street, Flood Wardens held a meeting with Martin Hill from the District Council's Highways Department. At the time of writing we cannot say when work will be carried out, but it was agreed improvements to the drainage system are needed to catch the water coming off the fields along the A354 and down past the garage and are hopeful remedial work will be carried out soon.

Whilst on this subject, the drain covers in the village do get covered with debris quite quickly and it would be advantageous if people walking to the pub, shop, school or just out for a stroll and see a drain cover blocked to just stop and kick it off, it only takes a few seconds but evidence has shown that it makes a huge difference to the performance of the drainage system. Please be extra vigilant if rain is forecast.

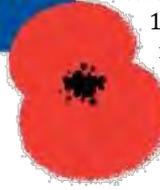
Correction from last month's *Reporter* – the ground water measurement should have read metres and not cm as printed!

*Flood Team*

**Deadline for the August/September issue is mid-day 14th July. Send your stories and pictures to [msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk)**

## 11th November 2018

THE ROYAL BRITISH  
LEGION



This year, 2018, is an important year in the calendar of Remembrance; it is on this date the 11th November 1918 at 11.00 hours the guns fell silent on the Western Front during the First World War.

It is at 11.00 o'clock on the 11th November of every year that we remember all those who have died or been affected by war, terrorism or conflict.

To mark the end of the First World War there will be an opportunity to commemorate all those whose sacrifice was the laying down of their lives and those injured in both mind and body. Wars end, but the suffering does not nor the pain of losing those close to us. The 11th November 2018 this year falls on a Sunday.

I hope over the coming weeks to approach organisations within the village to ensure that the people of Milborne St. Andrew have the opportunity to remember with pride all who served in the military and civilian roles in all conflicts and encourage those organisations to become involved in the Act of Remembrance.

It is traditional to read out the names of those listed on the Milborne St. Andrew Roll of Honour at our Act of Remembrance of those who died as a result of war. However, as there are many people in Milborne St. Andrew who have arrived in this community from elsewhere in the country and beyond, this year I feel it appropriate to recognise in some way the names of our family members that we know lost their lives in war but are recorded elsewhere, even if only in our memory.

It is hoped that during the Act of Remembrance wreaths, Poppy Crosses and other appropriate symbols will be laid at the Memorial Stone by organisations or family members that wish to do so.

If you would like a family members name recorded at the Act of Remembrance or to lay a wreath on the day please let me know, Michael Hopper 837642 or [michael.b.hopper@gmail.com](mailto:michael.b.hopper@gmail.com)

Thank  
you

ALL WHO SERVED, SACRIFICED,  
AND CHANGED OUR WORLD  
1918-2018

## Milborne St. Andrew Food and Wine Club

SAFARI supper – May 19th

It seems such a long time ago now, but the event was just after the deadline for the last *Reporter*!

What a Saturday it was! For the hosts the day time possibly divided between watching the Royal Wedding and preparing the repast for surprise evening guests.

27 members took part and this time the weather was very kind as we moved around the village for each course. Lovely food was presented by the hosts to eager guests and the final destination was at Valerie Darrington's house again and the evening culminated in a jolly gathering partaking of coffee, liqueurs and lots of chocolates! A great success was the unanimous verdict but it was a shame that more members did not participate.



# Historic Milton Abbey announces Athelstan's Dream – A Saxon Tale

MILTON Abbey invites you to its free Summer Exhibition, Athelstan's Dream – A Saxon Tale

A feature exhibition at Milton Abbey Historic Church Summer 2018, in the Abbey and St. Catherine's Chapel from 4th July to 31st August Milton Abbey open daily 10am until 5pm.



Historic Milton Abbey set in a Capability Brown landscape.

Historic Milton Abbey set in a glorious Capability Brown landscape and surrounded by the countryside of North Dorset is staging a free Summer Exhibition from 4 July to 31 August that focuses on the Anglo-Saxons and the fulfilment of one man's dream: a united kingdom of Britain. [www.miltonabbey.org](http://www.miltonabbey.org) In a story that resonates today, King

Athelstan dreamed and then achieved the unification of mainland Britain. The Summer Exhibition traces Athelstan's dream and the journey of this unification, showing how much of the Abbey's heritage reveals the answer to many questions surrounding the mysteries relating to King Athelstan, the grandson of King Alfred the Great.

The location has a number of beautiful walks and it is easy to imagine the truth of one tradition which tells how Athelstan camped with his followers on the hill to the east of the Abbey and while sleeping there had a dream that he would prevail in a forthcoming battle against the Vikings and their allies who were seeking to conquer Mercia and Wessex. It is said that Athelstan on his return from the battle remembered his dream and founded a minster here in thanks for his victory.

With the study of the Anglo-Saxons firmly set in the school curriculum for pupils aged between seven years and 11 years (KS2) the exhibition will cover a whole range of topics including: Discovering the Anglo-Saxons, Anglo-Saxon Life, The Age of Heroes, Weapons of War, The Warrior King, Landscape and Farming, Language, House and Home, Food and Drink, Clothing, Art and Jewellery, Transport, Trade, The Status of Women, Marriage, Children, Health and Hygiene, The influence of Anglo-Saxons on Literature Today, King Athelstan's Dream, The gift of a Minster and The Abbey today.

The Summer Exhibition is a 'must see' for anyone with an interest in the Anglo-Saxons. The last few years have seen a surge in enthusiasm for literature inspired by the Anglo-Saxon period such as J R R Tolkien's *Lord of the Rings*. Tolkien was Professor of Anglo-Saxon studies at



Athelstan is shown giving the minster to the people after his dream of victory was realised.

Pembroke College, Oxford.

George R R Martin's *Game of Thrones* series was influenced by Tolkien and the Andals who later invaded and conquered Westeros are loosely parallel to the Anglo-Saxon invasions of Britain during the fifth and sixth centuries. The legends of fictional heroes like King Arthur and Merlin took their inspiration from Anglo-Saxon history. Philip Pullman's *His Dark Materials* is an epic story also referencing some aspects of Anglo-Saxon literature.

Bernard Cornwell was inspired to write *The Last Kingdom* by the real events of Alfred and Athelstan's reigns as well as by the works of Tolkien and George Martin. The books by

Bernard Cornwall resulted in the popular BBC series featuring Uhtred, a fictional character but with all the ingredients of an Anglo-Saxon hero.

On 23rd June the Summer Exhibition opens at St Catherine's Chapel, on land thought to be the location of Athelstan's army camp 1080 years ago before the warriors moved on to fight the battle of Brunanburh. According to the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle* this battle decided the fate of Britain and Athelstan won a great victory against the combined forces of the former tribes of the Britons and the Scandinavian settlers of Britain and Ireland.

Three years previously a Minster had been founded by Athelstan at Milton in AD 934. Thirty years later, in 964 King Edgar, impressed by the revival of monasticism in England, established a community of

Benedictine monks at Milton under Abbot Cyneward. This monastic community continued its work of prayer and service for 575 years, until its dissolution in 1539

Athelstan worked hard to bring everyone to Christ. He appointed bishops, gave grants to monasteries and breathed new life into the church after its depredations under the Vikings. He tried to give all his people safety, shelter and a Christian outlook – his charters stipulate that no one should starve, and that charity was a key responsibility of the church. He also set about reforming the administration of justice, control of the coinage, and the development of burhs.



Depiction of how the minster would have looked.

Athelstan died in Gloucester in 939AD at the age of 47. He is buried at Malmesbury which is also home to the Athelstan Museum.

For more information on this and other events taking place at Milton Abbey, please visit: <https://timecounts.org/miltonabbey> or telephone: 01258 881235.

## Notes from MSA Parish Council Meeting Wednesday 20th June

COUNCILLOR Robinson began the meeting by announcing that one of the main items on the Agenda would not be discussed. This was the *Planning Application from Wyatt Homes* to develop an area of land north of Blandford Hill. They were, apparently, three councillors short and felt it better to postpone this item to an *Extraordinary Meeting to be held on 4th July*. A Wyatt representative will be present. Formal notice will be issued to this effect and maps of the proposed site made available. There is still no response from the Planning Department to the Clerk's request for a seven day extension, he will therefore have a very short 'window' in which to prepare the PC's comments by 6th July, the closing date. It was mooted that an online version could be available to the public prior to the meeting date.

The newly formed *Community Speedwatch (CSW)* group coordinator, Sue Lawson's, application for £300 to purchase High Viz jackets and a machine was approved. The Clerk warned however that, with his Cheselbourne experience, a permanent notice will later need funding to warn oncoming vehicles that MSA will be a CSW area. It was felt that the response from villagers (20 attended the meeting on 9th June and 19 have signed up for training) was excellent and to be applauded.

A Shadow Dorset Council Committee has been formed for the transition to the new Unitary Authority from the existing 174 members with elections in May 2019. The meeting was a live streamed broadcast with members voting and decisions taken online. Hilary Cox is to chair. Voting for the new Chief Executive process was agreed.

Following a *video of water* rushing down the village was posted on Facebook by Phillip Harris, a meeting was held with Steve Lord and requests formulated for an enlarged silt system and gully widening.

A Remembrance Day wreath will be funded by the PC at the request of Mr. Hopper representing the RBL. However the Council will not be pursuing the grant to fund silhouettes to sit in pews and various points of the village as it was felt to be inappropriate for Milborne St. Andrew.

The Neighbourhood Planning Group's request for £5,424 to complete an Environmental assessment and prepare draft consultation documents was approved. There is a final meeting on 3rd July.

The meeting closed at 8.40pm. The next full Parish Council Meeting is on 18th July 2018.

Carole Fornachon

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## Gardening club visits Cranborne Manor Gardens



ON 13th June in bright sunshine 12 members of the Gardening Club visited Cranborne Manor Gardens. Arriving at the garden centre for coffee in the garden cafe, we then headed through the gate into the manor gardens which are open to the public on Wednesdays, to admire the individual gardens. The chalk walk and

cottage garden were of real interest to us, to know what will grow well in our gardens. With plenty of places to sit and admire each area we wandered off at our own pace to see beautiful roses and impressive plantings, healthy veg and fruit trees. It seems to be a good year for the roses as there were some stunning blooms and heady perfume. Lunch was enjoyed by many and the visit by all. Here are just some of the group, caught before leaving, a little weary but still smiling having enjoyed the day.



We are looking forward to our speaker on 19th July when we will be looking at Slightly Naughty Plants. Do come along to the fun.

*Val Andrews*

## Full speed ahead (within law) for CSW group

IT appears it's all systems go for a community speed watch group after a successful information meeting in the skittle alley of The Royal Oak. Just over 20 people were present to hear Martha Perry, co-ordinator of speed watch groups for Dorset police, and PCSO Mike Sinnock explain how speed watch groups work. Ideally, there would need to be enough volunteers to enable a roster of a four person team (or teams, if enough volunteers) to be active. It is entirely up to the members, through the team co-ordinator, how often and when they meet to monitor vehicle speed, although the meeting was told that speed watches could only take place in daylight hours and with good road conditions. Rain, or icy roads, say, would not be suitable for a speed watch session – safety is all-important of course, both for drivers and the volunteers taking part.

The meeting was told how community speed watch fits in with the overall road safety initiative of Dorset Police. She said, "Community Speedwatch informs the 'no excuse' campaign, which is part of RoadSafe strategy." 'No excuse' is the casualty reduction programme which focuses on the 'fatal four': speeding, drink or drug driving, not using a seatbelt and driving whilst using a phone or other device. Once a CSW group is up and running, data helps police decide where to deploy resources, such as the camera vans. It can also help make a case for future Highways decisions as well.

Martha handed around the speed gun that is of the type used by most CSW groups and explained how it was operated. It is a radar device and does indeed look like a hairdryer and displays the speed of the targeted vehicle on the back of the instrument in large numerals. After the meeting, PCSO Mike demonstrated the gun in action on the roadside – standing on the pavement adjacent to the



pub car park, it detected speeds of cars as they rounded the bend by the Post Office and drove towards Dorchester Hill. During the meeting, Mike put forward three locations that were possible speed watch sites – Blandford Hill, north of the Lane End junction; Milton Road at the Bladen View junction and on Dorchester Hill – although the group that sets up can choose

their own locations as long as they conform to the technical criteria.

From the meeting in Milborne, 13 people completed forms to indicate their interest in volunteering to help, with one of these also offering to become the co-ordinator, which is crucial for the group to run. These details are now undergoing suitability assessments, after which a short training exercise will be organised. Milborne Parish Council has agreed to fund the cost of all materials necessary for the group, including the purchase of the speed gun. Joy Robinson, chair of the PC, who was present at the event, said, "I am so pleased to see the enthusiasm for this project from so many people. We are at last able to move forward on deterring speeding in our village with this community-backed project and the local police supporting us."

# What on earth is a wedding celebrant?

I HAVE been an 'artist' for many years; I have a weird struggle with that word. I prefer to call myself a creative designer. I studied A-level art at college and hated it. You want to make money doing what you love, but it is so, so hard. My Dad was making the handmade kitchens for a collection of million pound HUF houses in Chilworth, Southampton, and the owner asked me to do a collection of paintings to be exhibited in the show home and sold. He wanted them to be abstract. This wasn't me at all, but I obliged. There was no thought behind it; it was just slapping stuff together. I guess in hindsight this is still expression of my soul, but I didn't see it that way at the time. They sold – and they sold for silly money – for what I felt was rubbish. I gave up on art after that and turned my back on it for many years.

In 2012 I went to visit my brother in Australia, and when I was sat on a beach, by myself, after a storm, an idea came to me to make art out of rose petals. This is where my artist persona of Roka Bella Rose was born. Roka means 'white crest of the wave' in Japanese (speak to me about why I've used a Japanese meaning if you're inclined to a conversation that gets a little deep and hippy/spiritual). Bella for its relation to the word beautiful, because roses to me are the most beautiful of flowers, and rose because of my work with petals.

Since 2012 I have made, sold, exhibited, and taken commissions as Roka Bella Rose. I have done this alongside the other half of my career, my other love, which is Holistic Therapies (Roka Relaxation). As anybody artistic knows, anything creative takes time, a lot of time, and it is very difficult to make it cost effective to make a living out of. I have expressed my creativity in many different ways as Roka Bella Rose, trying lots of different things to be able to make a living out of it, as I need a creative outlet, and want to do what I love.

My husband and I got married last August, and had very much a DIY wedding at the stunning Springhead Trust in Fontmell Magna, Shaftesbury. We wanted a boho festival wedding, something very relaxed and fun. We tried to hire a marquee for the day, but as the wedding was only seven and a half months after we'd got engaged, everyone local was booked up. By chance it happened that an artist friend of mine had a traditional canvas marquee that she had bought and used for her wedding, and was using for her son's wedding three months before ours, and was then selling it. So we bought it to use for our wedding too. I spent months making all the decor, ranging from dream catchers, to flower wall hearts, to a giant boho deckchair (which was a great hit in photographs). I thoroughly enjoyed it. We thought to ourselves, why don't we turn this into a business rather than sell everything. So this is what we've done.

We now hire out our 12m x 12m traditional canvas marquee, called 'Rustic Rose', and offer decor hire and venue styling packages. Everybody's wedding is different, so although I have the bulk of items to use, every wedding there are bespoke items to make for the happy couple. I love having this creative outlet, and love the gift of being able to help make people's days so special.

I have really found a love for weddings, it's like I've finally found the creative side of my calling in life, which luckily works really well with my holistic work. I would say our wedding business has a certain feel to it, very boho, natural, festival feel weddings. This is what has led me onto training to become a wedding and family celebrant. A wedding like we offer attracts people that don't necessarily want the restrictions of choosing vows from a book, or having a ceremony in a certain way; they want freedom to express themselves as a couple more freely. So then comes the favourite question "what on earth is a celebrant?"

What on earth is a celebrant, is what I'm going to try to explain. It's a freedom that not many people are aware of, or fully understand. The celebrancy that I'm trained in is to be able to lead weddings, renewals of vows, divorce healings, baby namings, and any other family related celebration that you choose to honour and mark. At some point in the future I may also train to become a funeral celebrant too, but for now we will talk about weddings.

What do you think of when you think about a wedding, the rings? The vows? The kiss? Did you know that there are only three parts that are necessary to make a wedding legal? These are: declaratory words

("I do solemnly declare that I know not of any lawful impediment..."), contracting words ("I call upon these persons here present, to witness..."), and the signing of the marriage register. The rest of the service which includes the vows, the exchanging of rings, readings, music and any symbolic rituals are purely ceremonial, and can be performed anywhere (with the landowners permission) - this could be on the beach, in your garden, in a field, or barefoot in the woodland: the choice is yours.

A celebrant led ceremony of any kind gives you the freedom to make it exactly how you want it. When a baby is born you register the birth and obtain a birth certificate, then later you have your celebration/ Christening. When somebody passes away you register the death in much the same way. For weddings, by default or tradition, we tend to do it all in one go, but this may mean that we don't have the freedom to get married where we want, write our own vows, or include any symbolic rituals that we may wish to.

So how do you make the marriage legal if you're having a Celebrant Ceremony? Those three parts that I talked about earlier happen in a Register Office with two witnesses, and costs about £46. The rest of the ceremony we write together.

It's not just a matter of picking vows out of a book, then turning up on the day. I will have two consultations with you, plus a rehearsal, and all the correspondence in between so that we have everything 'just so'. I will give you lots of information about different kinds of symbolic ceremonies such as handfasting, sand ceremonies, wine ceremonies (traditionally honey mead, but there are no restrictions, it could be whisky and cigars, or champagne if you wanted it to be), unity candles, Jumping The Broom (or any other physical movement, embodiment, to make a physical move/shift into the next chapter), rose ceremonies, crystal ceremonies, dual heart goblets or personal symbolism such as pebbles, shoes, milk or tea bags, to name but a few. The possibilities are endless. Your ceremony can be tailor-made to include one of these, or aspects of a few.

Celebrant led ceremonies are very popular with couples that don't want to, or can't, get married in a church for whatever reason. They are also popular if one person is religious, and one isn't. It allows you to both be true to yourselves. You will still be able to include religious readings if you wish, and the person with differing beliefs can include what speaks to them too.

If this is something that speaks to you and you're craving a creative and authentic service, I'm always happy to arrange to have a chat over a cuppa. I would be honoured to be a part of your special day that you're planning if I'm the right match for you as a celebrant.

Carly Perry 07834 060662

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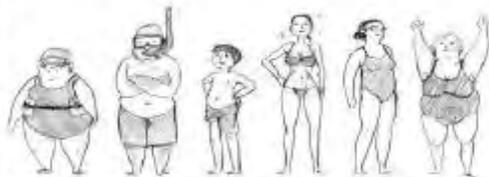
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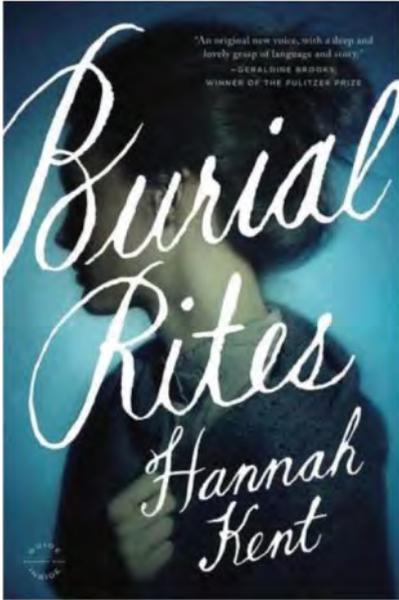
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## A Good Read 'Burial Rites' by Hannah Kent



DIP into the icy, impenetrable winters, the turf huts (liable to cause lung disease) and dung fires of Northern Iceland in the early nineteenth century where, any event, be it a cattle auction or an execution, could always be delayed by 'weather'. If, like me, you have very little knowledge of this large country (currently 348,580 scattered population in 40,000 square miles) then this is a startling and shocking account of a murder and its perpetrators, Agnes Magnúsdóttir, Fíðrik Sigurðsson (17 years) and

Sigríður Guðmundsdóttir (15 years). The victims were a herbalist, Natan Ketilsson and Petur Johnsson a thief and robber on 'free foot' at the time. It occurred at Natan's home in Illugastadir on the Vatnsnes Peninsular on 13/14th March 1828. The house was then fired. Sigríður attracted considerable public sympathy mainly because of her age and comparative naivety. She received a pardon and was sent to a Copenhagen textile prison dying after a few years. The remains of the other two following execution were removed from Thristapur (the execution site) to a churchyard at Tjorn in 1934 where they now share a grave.

The novel mainly centres on Agnes and her home detention or 'custodial holding', awaiting her execution with a farming family at Kornsa. It was the home of District Officer Jonsdóttir, his wife Margret and daughters Sigurlaug and Steinvor. There were no public houses, no factories for such accommodation so the homes of upright Christians were chosen to inspire repentance by good example. The criminals benefitted from the work they completed whilst awaiting judgement, and it was also economical and set an example for the community to witness. Throughout we hear the voice of Agnes. At the beginning she is kept shackled, filthy and starving, abused and left in her own filth. Assistant Reverend Thorvarður Johnsson (Toti) is charged with her spiritual well being and he attempts to forge a meaningful relationship with her. This at the request of the Hunavatn District Commissioner Bjorn Blondal. The family's initial fear and distrust changes over the period of time of their close confinement. We travel long distances by horse with the young Toti, we see original documents and cost of the axe for the (initially) three beheadings.

Many years of research went into this debut novel written by an Australian PhD student from Flinders University inspired by a Rotary Exchange visit. She accessed ministerial records, parish archives, censuses, local histories and publications, spoke to many Icelanders. Some characters were invented, but the main players were not. Agnes' parents and siblings were taken from historical records the latter of which are quoted in the book. The ruins of Natan's workshop still stand at Illugastir today. A stone plaque marks the place of execution at Pristapur. All place names are true to life, many of the farms referenced by Agnes and other characters remain working farms today. The author warns against lumping all Nordic countries as the same and comments, surprisingly, that Iceland has had universal literacy since the end of the eighteenth century. Stoicism and spiritual earnestness are, she notes, qualities produced by the Icelandic environment. She calls it her 'dark love letter to Iceland'. A quotation from the time sums up the attitudes then: 'He that smiteth a Man so that he die, shall be surely put to death'.  
*Carole Fornachon*

## Another Milborne family of sons in WW1



FOLLOWING on from the article about the Lock family last month with six sons serving in WW1 another Milborne family had five sons serving.

The photo and caption appeared in the Western Gazette 19th March 1915:

Mr and Mrs Eli Northover of Milborne St Andrew Blandford Dorset have contributed no fewer than five sons to the Motherland in her hour of need and one has already sacrificed his life. Our photograph shows Bertie Frank Northover who is in the R.A.M.C and is present in Ireland; Percy Charles Northover of the 2nd Dorset Regiment who was killed in action in the Persian Gulf; Arthur James Northover who has joined the new army being in the 3rd Dorset Regiment; Frederick William Northover who also came forward for the new army and is in the 5th Dorset and Harry Eli Northover who is on HMS Greyhound in the Royal Navy.



Percy Northover had died on the 15th November 1914 age 23 and his name is on the Basra Memorial in Iraq. The war would also take another brother – Frederick Northover died on 24th October 1915 and is buried at the Alexandra Military and War Memorial Cemetery in Egypt he was 20 years old.



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# The Rant goes on for Roger

MANY villagers will have heard about – and some will have sung, played and enjoyed – Roger’s Rant, a mini folk festival that has been held at the Sports Pavilion and grounds. Roger and Alice Harrall started the event ten years ago as a celebration for Roger’s 60th birthday. That event was for friends and held at the village hall, but people asked them to do it again and, as Alice says, “like topsy, it grew and grew”. The festival moved to the sports club to accommodate campers and events took place at the pavilion, village hall, pub and church; singing, music, dance and workshops.

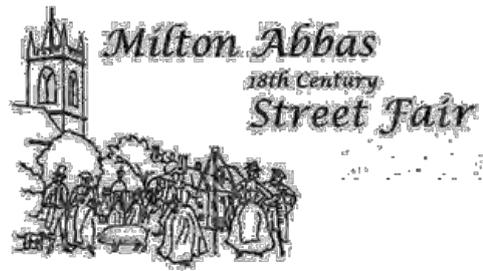


It’s with sadness to acknowledge that Roger has been diagnosed with an inoperable cancer. In what would have been the tenth anniversary of Roger’s Rant, friends have offered to organise the event and let it be a ‘Rant for Roger’ instead. All residents are invited, but it is also an opportunity for friends and ‘ex-ranters’ to meet up and spend time with Roger. There will also be a focus on fundraising for cancer care, so apart from all the music, there will be raffles, cream teas and so on. Organiser – and ex-ranter – Paul Openshaw of Bere Regis, welcomes all to come along, even if it’s only for some of the weekend. There will be singing and music from Friday evening and continuing on Saturday at lunchtime, together with a ‘vintage cream tea’ in the afternoon, served in traditional china with vintage style tables and chairs for customers to sit at. This takes place from 2.00pm on Saturday and costs £5. There will be a raffle also to help raise more money for cancer care charities and – what should be a hit with young and old alike – a duck race is being planned in the stream in the village. If you would like to donate a prize for the raffle – bottle, gift set, or tickets for example, then please get in touch with Paul (details below).

The Sports Club has very kindly donated their facilities free of charge, which is much appreciated by the organisers. Camping will be offered free with electric hook-up available. The festival is largely self-catering with campers asked to bring their own food and drink. Paul is hoping that lots of villagers will come, along with others from across Dorset and Somerset, to show their warmth for Roger and Alice. As he says, “They are very giving people – this is a way to say thank you to them”.

Rant for Roger is being held at Milborne Sports and Social Club from Friday 20th (6pm) to Sunday 22nd July. If you would like any more information or to donate raffle prizes, please call Paul on 07802 597319

*Ed Richards*



## Milton Abbas Street Fair 2019 Give some of your time to help raise funds to support your local group or club

While it is still over a year away, planning has already begun for the Milton Abbas Street Fair which will take place on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2019.

There are still some key roles that need filling, so we would be pleased to hear from anyone who believes they could help – the roles are Treasurer, Car Park Coordinator and Raffle Coordinator. Please contact [masftrust@gmail.com](mailto:masftrust@gmail.com) or ring Trust Secretary, Nigel Hodder on 880229 for more information.

Another important task is issuing bid Application Forms to our beneficiary organisations. This is under way as far as past recipients are concerned, but we would like to extend an invitation to other groups to bid for funds – the main proviso is that you are prepared to provide labour resource for the multitude of tasks on the day. For example, we always need help with car parking, on entry gates, running food stalls and bars, selling raffle tickets to name but a few.

If you think you could make a positive contribution to next year’s Street Fair, please contact me as above. **The deadline for the return of completed Application Forms is 31st August 2018.**

*Nigel Hodder*

Secretary, Milton Abbas Street Fair Trust

## Another cream tea for Wednesday Club



FIFTEEN members of the Wednesday Social Club enjoyed a cream tea at The Walled Garden at Morton. It was a lovely day with wall to wall sunshine, lovely sculptures in the gardens and gorgeous home made scones, well worth a visit.

Our next meeting on 4th July will be in the Village Hall with Dave Andrews who is going to talk to us about his tractor models.

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THEN . . .



*Then and Now*, the *Reporter* looks at how Milborne has changed by comparing an archive photo of the village with the same view today. This month's is looking up Little England. The building that looks in the road was The Coffin Maker. The only building that is still there is 31 Little England

. . . and NOW



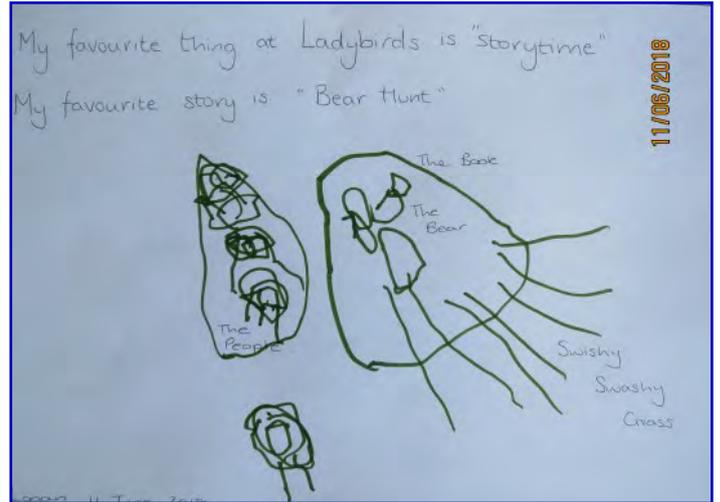
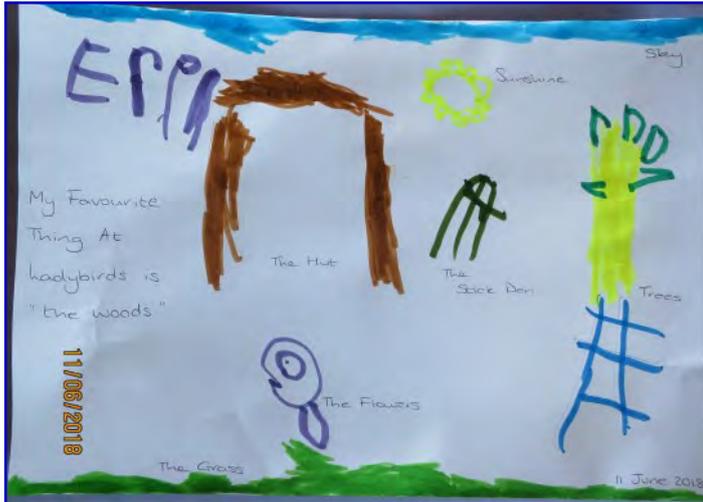
# Ladybirds getting ready for school

WITH visits from teachers and sessions at school, our older children are getting ready for the big step to school. All are confidently ready and are working on a 'book about me' to share with their new teacher. One of the pages is 'What I like best at Ladybirds' and the photos show one child's favourite is the woods where the sun is shining brightly and yes, our den really does look like that! The other photo shows another child's preference for stories and one of his



favourites (and ours) 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'.

This month the children have been playing mermaids and pirates, making maps, experimenting with sinking and floating, lots of water play (great weather for it) and making a boat from snack items. Some of the children need encouragement to eat healthy foods so the boat idea was to help promote this. Alright, the processed cheese wasn't so healthy but we couldn't think of anything else for a sail. *Liz Dyer*



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## Back to the future – with Milborne Sports

WELL despite all the odds we are still here and why not? We have established a niche in the local 'Wellbeing' marketplace and have a loyal band of followers and users. We have even been known to have the occasional football match on our two well-manicured pitches!

If everything goes according to Plan (Neighbourhood, that is) we will soon be surrounded by new developments, making us the centre of the community and no longer the blot on some remote landscape, according to some.

A Facebook survey conducted last year showed that there was a great deal of interest locally in developing the facilities as a Well-being centre. Well-being? Well things and activities to help improve a person's health and well being: inside and outside gym equipment; sports and recreational facilities.

This is not a new concept, the original Sports Club management team had a similar dream and produced a Plan that included, squash courts, tennis court, a cricket pitch and much more. They also secured funding for the building of the Sports Pavilion at no cost to the community and we continue to contribute to paying off the loan the Parish Council took out to purchase the land some years before the formation of the Sports Club committee.

Members of the Club have regularly punched above their weight as can be seen at the BBC Sports Personality of the Year award where Malcolm Aplin was "up" for the Local Sports Hero award.

The current trustees are however small in number and like most Charities we could do with more people to come along and join in the fun of making things happen, sharing the workload etc.

### **New kids on the block wanted**

If you are interested then our recruitment process for new trustees and/or helpers is pretty simple and straight forward: First Come – All Welcome (subject to personality profiling!) i.e. any person whose default is to say "things cannot be done" need not apply and interrupt those getting on and doing it!

For those worried about the time commitment, that is entirely flexible according to the volunteer's availability.

If you are interested, get in contact. We are keen to tap into your experience and energy and at the same time develop your skills and experience.

We could certainly do with a bookkeeper to take some of the burden off Hayley and to let her concentrate on other things and Malcolm could certainly do with some help training up his successor regarding pitch and grounds maintenance.

The main pitch is a gem and considered to be the best in the county and a fantastic advert for the community but time marches on and Malcolm is keen to pass on his skills and knowledge to his successor. For my part, I am quite happy swabbing out the changing rooms and my general cleaning and mopping duties.

### **Where are we now?**

The simple answer is Lane End DT11 0JA. However, whilst we are not flush with cash we have paid off our energy debt of £1,800 and increased our financial resources 10 fold over the last 18 months and have made great strides towards reducing our ongoing running (energy) costs. (about £2,500 in the kitty and hardly enough for a rainy day and quite a challenge!)

The monster three gas boiler hot water system has been reduced to one operable boiler for the showers and 'over the sink' handwash units provided elsewhere. The central heating radiators are now controlled by a remotely operable zoned system so every user can have the room temperature they require, for the rooms that they use, when they want it... nowhere else.

The three toilet areas are now twinned with toilets that were provided as a result of a fundraising initiative at Andrew Motts birthday bash and we have started the internal redecoration process, starting with those same loos.

Worth a look to see what others now have and we take for granted regarding appropriate toilet facilities!

### **Our regular users**

Well anyone is welcome to enjoy the outside recreational space at

any time (no picnics on or use of the main goalmouth spaces please) and we regularly see some very serious joggers running around the site.

All the information is listed in the "What's On" section of the *Reporter* and includes: Table Tennis group on Mondays, Tia Chi, on Tuesdays; Yoga sessions Thursdays and Fridays; Busy Bees (Parent/child play sessions) also on a Thursday and a dog/puppy activities group on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Saturdays.

### **Party time**

What has grown in recent months is the use of the pavilion and grounds for parties and wedding receptions and the like and we have had some really diverse and fun events and people go away having had a good time.



One also mustn't forget the footballing side of things. We have a very successful local youth team that is progressing well and will be playing in the U14s league next season.

They have had new goal posts provided by the Sports Club and Malcolm has just washed the nets ready for next season.

The Poole Town Ladies team play in the highest ladies league within Dorset and last season they entertained teams from Plymouth Argyle, Cheltenham ladies, Crystal Palace and Southampton using us as their home venue and the after match social is a full on and noisy affair. Corfe Mullen also use us as their home venue for matches in the Div 1 Dorset league.

In May of this year we were privileged to be chosen to host four Bankes Charity Cup finals and two Dorset FA Cup finals. During the close season over the summer months you can expect to see Dorchester Town using the facilities for their pre-season training sessions/matches.

All of this use comes at a cost, and the pitches will have some serious maintenance undertaken before the start of the next season, reseeding, cutting and aeration. £500 being needed just to finance the aeration so we could do with some sponsorship from local business to help with this.

### **Back to the future... maybe**

This time last year the Sports Club approached the Parish Council with a view to dedicating the recreational site an open space as part of the Centenary Fields programme in commemoration of the sacrifice made by those who lost their lives in WW1.

The application was also supported by the Dorset branch of the Royal British Legion.

The Milborne Football team was formed in 1912 and 20 members of the total local population of 434 lost their lives during the WW1 conflict so the community would have undoubtedly seen players go off to serve their country and die, in the war.

The Charity "Fields in Trust" said that the Sports Ground land would be eligible to apply and that there was no cost implication imposed with such a dedication, the site just has to be kept as an open recreational space, not even in pristine condition.

However, the Parish Council, having heard the views of those in attendance at the July 2017 meeting and the reading out of an anonymous letter, they decided by 4:1 not to proceed with the Centenary Dedication process. The reasons given being:

1. The Centenary Field idea would do nothing to link and broaden the appeal of the Sports Club site.
2. The idea of creating another site of remembrance on the outskirts of the village seemed superfluous.
3. A strong reservation about tying up the playing field site in perpetuity

Perhaps one year on this is a decision that needs to be revisited before the final act of centenary commemoration on November 11th, a programme that started with the poppies at the Tower of London in 2014!

"That's all for now folks – more to follow"

Richard Lock

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