

Reporter

News and Views from around the area

Volume 18 Issue 4

April 2025

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

Enquiries and copy to: msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk
 E-copy as .docx or .pub files, pictures as .jpg files please.
 Paper copy to any of the team.

Community Café Centenarian Celebration!

ON Saturday 8th March the Village Hall Community Café honoured a very special guest at its monthly event. Jeff Blake celebrated his 100th birthday (a week early!) in style, with a selection of specially decorated cakes and goodies, baked by all the VH regular supporters. A birthday card for the big day was signed by everyone at the celebration and we all sang a rousing chorus of "Happy Birthday to you!"

Jeff was born in Sheffield on 15th March 1925, in the middle of the "Roaring Twenties", he shares the same birth year with Bill Haley, Honor Blackman, Peter Sellers, Richard Burton, Dick Van Dyke, Gerald Durrell, Margaret Thatcher and Pol Pot.

That year Charlie Chaplin starred in the silent film "The Gold Rush" and Rudolph Valentino starred in "The Eagle". That same year "The Great Gatsby" and "Mein Kampf" were published.

This momentous year also saw John Logie Baird demonstrate the first test of a working television system, Howard Carter began the delicate process of unwrapping the mummy of Pharaoh Tutankhamen, Mount Rushmore was first proposed, Stanley Baldwin was our Prime Minister, David Lloyd George was elected leader of the Liberal Party, Mussolini established a dictatorship in Italy and Adolf Hitler's Nazi Party founded the Schutzstaffel (SS).

Jeff grew up with an elder brother, Peter. Schooled locally, he was 14 years old at the start of WW2 and has vivid memories of the whole family sheltering from bombs during air raids in the family's garage inspection pit. One night a string of bombs was dropped, one fell in Jeff's garden and the blast blew the roof off their home and smashed all the windows so they had to relocate. Another house a little further along their road had a direct hit and the entire family were all killed.



He started work and completed his HNC in engineering while at night school. Jeff married Bobs on 28th July 1951. He was married for 63 years and has two children, Susan and Jason. The family moved to London then to Bradford Abbas, Leigh and finally Milborne St Andrew.

Jeff is a man of many talents who lives life to the full. Apart from rising to senior levels at his work within well known UK manufacturing firms, he had a lot of outside interests during his working life. These interests range from giving back to the community in a number of ways to enjoying a variety of hobbies. During his

time in Dorset he was a Justice of the Peace in Yeovil, President of Crewkerne Rotary Club and Church Warden in Bradford Abbas.

On the hobbies side he has always been a strong swimmer and competed at a high level at water polo. His other primary passion is cars and motorbikes. He has enjoyed ownership and tinkering with many, his favourite being a 1934 Aston Martin two door sports car that he still keeps track of today. Prior to the cars he enjoyed motorcycle grass track racing. In fact latterly he was the owner of the 750cc Norton Commando motorbike, pictured on the cover of the Haynes manual. He dabbled in sailing, for a few years around Mudeford, always played golf, did lots of walking and horse riding in Derbyshire and even went into the world of show dogs, arriving at Crufts one year with their beloved Beagle, Mick. He was awarded a 'Highly Commended' at Crufts but proudly achieved a first at Alexandra Palace.

Despite being born in Sheffield, Jeff has many links with Dorset. Particularly because his wife was born and grew up in Hampshire and his father was born in Bournemouth. There are many family links to local places and businesses.

Jeff has lived in Dorset for over 55 years and retired to Milborne St. Andrew 38 years ago and thoroughly enjoys the camaraderie of the village. He is amazed at the wide variety of activities that go on and the amazing kindness of the local community who are always ready to lend a helping hand.

Up until he was 94 he was a regular member of the swimming club at Milton Abbas School, and was awarded a Lifeguard Silver Medal. Alas, his swimming came to a halt because of lockdown.

We all wish Jeff well on reaching his century and long may he continue to contribute to and share in our village community.

P.S. In his speech at the Community Café Jeff gave a very special, heartfelt thanks to Sandie, Amy and all the Community Café team. He said 'It's a great joy to be able to come down and have a chat with people you don't see very often' He also brought attention to the *Reporter* magazine, calling it 'a marvellous magazine' and wanted to 'thank everyone for being so generous in their congratulations'.

Rose Frost



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The Reporter gets a helping hand

AS readers of the *Reporter* will know from the last issue, the magazine is experiencing a shortfall in advertising, which is the lifeblood of providing for the monthly print run. In addition, the *Reporter* is in need of new writers and contributors to help fill the magazine for our readers and also to encourage new advertising. So, an idea has been floated to meet both of these aims – the use of artificial intelligence (AI) to write the majority of the copy for the *Reporter*. Yes, we believe it is time to let technology help the magazine survive – of course, we will still welcome your contributions but we also need your eyes in the early phase of the project to help keep us informed of the accuracy of the AI results as we will be using a free AI tool called ChatGrowth-in-Text (ChatGiT)

So here goes, sprinkle your magic, ChatGiT!

Milborne St. Andrew, Dorset – Hold onto your tea cups,



Milborne St. Andrew! The village, long known for its peaceful charm and idyllic countryside views, has recently been hit by some *interesting* events that are sure to stir up conversation down at the local public house The Royal Oak, friendly welcome and good food (or the village shops, Grays Stores and Londis, both open seven days a

week, good welcome and friendly food).

Crime News – In an unexpected turn of events, Milborne St. Andrew is witnessing the reopening of a historic Victorian reformatory in response to a recent rise in local crime. Longmead, which had been closed for over a century, is being dusted off as a facility for rehabilitating young offenders, as crime rates in the village have unexpectedly spiked.

The decision to revive the reformatory has divided the community. While some believe it's a necessary step to address the increasing instances of vandalism, petty theft, and anti-social behaviour, others question the relevance of Victorian methods in tackling modern issues, but agree it's worth a go.

Heritage News – Wetherby Castle: Milborne St. Andrew's mysterious hill fort . . . Or just really a big hill? "Wetherby Castle" has become the talk of the village, but not for the reasons locals might have hoped. While some call it a historic hill fort, others think it might just be an unusually large mound of earth.

"It's a castle, right? Or is it just a hill with a pointy tower on top?" said one puzzled visitor. The "castle" is rumored to date back to the 12th century, but historical records seem a bit fuzzy on the details.

The site, which boasts spectacular views (if you don't mind a bit of bramble), has recently gained a reputation as a "must-see" for tourists who enjoy looking at a muddy mound and wondering if it's worth the climb. "It's a great spot for an Instagram photo," said one influencer. Some shared their selfies with captions like "Living my medieval fantasy," and "When you want a castle but your budget says no."

Dog Poo News – Milborne St. Andrew is stepping up the game in the ongoing battle against dog poo on pavements. In a radical, but logical, move it has been suggested to drastically reduce pavement width to minimize dog toileting opportunity. Village roads will have their pavements resized to the same as the sliver of a footway outside The Royal Oak. The road widening scheme – with two-way traffic village-wide – is to be rolled out soon. Until then, locals are advised to watch their step carefully.

Sports News – The renowned village golf course is being plagued by an unexpected invasion: moles. Graham Milborn, St Andrews head greenkeeper said that the last month had seen a maze of molehills across the fairways which had left golfers playing 'whack-a-mole' rather than their usual 18 holes at the home of golf in the village.



Hotel News – British chain, Travelodge, is still to redevelop dilapidated Corner House. As is anyone else.



Beaver News – Beavers are part of a major conservation effort to tackle flooding and restore natural habitats. These skilled dam-builders are now helping slow water flow, reducing flood risks in vulnerable areas while creating thriving wetlands for other wildlife.

Milborne St. Andrew has suffered repeat flooding over the years. Milborne Beavers is open to children aged 6-8 years. According to the UK government, it is now legal to release them into the wild.

ChatGiT can make mistakes. Please check carefully. Inform us of errors by April 1st.

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(search for Milborne St. Andrew)

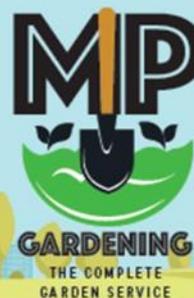
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Some tips when buying goods

THE Citizens Advice website has good pre shopping advice, as well as information and letter templates on what to do if things go wrong. Also, Trading Standards has the following tips based on trends that we see.

Many people search outside of their local area for a second-hand bargain. Some people travel far and wide to get a cheap deal, for example second-hand cars. If something goes wrong with the goods, then it is reasonable for the trader to inspect them to help decide if they should offer a repair or refund. Goods bought from a distance might be harder to return. Often it can be much easier to resolve problems when the seller is local to you.

If you buy goods from a private seller, then you may have very few rights if things go wrong. A private seller must not misdescribe their goods to you, but there is no obligation on the seller to disclose any faults. This is where the term 'buyer beware' comes in, because the onus is on the buyer to check out the goods for themselves. Resolving problems for goods bought from private sellers can be very tricky.

Additionally, some people buy goods from private adverts on social media, effectively buying from 'strangers' with no guaranteed physical address. In the cold light of day this might sound very high risk, especially for high value purchases. In the heat of the moment a bargain might be very tempting, but often 'if it looks too good to be true' then it is probably untrue! It can be very hard to recontact, let alone resolve problems with private sellers on social media.



To get trusted pre shopping advice, or advice on what to do if things go wrong, visit www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer or, phone the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on 0808 223 1133.

An ethical force for good at the March WI

MANY of us will remember the Body Shop on our high streets. Founded in 1976 by the late Dame Anita Roddick, who was a pioneer of cruelty-free cosmetics and refillable packaging and a maverick business woman. Some years later, under the name Body Shop at Home, it now allows independent consultants to sell the beauty brand's products from home. Our Speaker, Abby Bartlett is one such consultant, offering skin, body, make-up and hair care advice. At the same time, she provides others with the opportunity to develop their skills, build a network and make an income.

At the heart of the Body Shop is its links with Community Fair Trade, which only allows trade with suppliers who meet ethical trade standards, so ensuring workers remain free from exploitation. We were shown samples of shea butter from Ghana and recycled paper gift bags from Nepal. Such standards allow women in particular from rural areas to gain financial independence. All products have been vegetarian for some time, and since 2023 have been completely vegan.

Abby was thanked for her thoughtful talk.

Business: Jenny reminded us that it is time to think about nominations for a new Committee at our Annual meeting next month. This will take place on Thursday 10th April, please do come along and join us.

Pat Bull

Village Hall Patio – next steps

READERS of the *Reporter* will recall a request to make a small donation and "sponsor a slab" as a contribution towards the cost of the newly laid patio at the end of last year. A total of £2,350 was raised including a Gift Aid contribution from HMRC of just over £400. Our heartfelt thanks go to all individuals and organisations who have supported the appeal (and a special thank you to Ms Reeves!!). A roll of honour of donors who were happy to be included can now be viewed in the Village Hall.



Outdoor furniture has also now been fitted which will make the space more welcoming as the warmer months approach. We have provided benches running down two sides leaving the end opposite the hall door clear as the main

entry point complete with a ramp. There will be a formal opening of this area soon.

The benches have been built by Barry Bright at a very reasonable price for which we are very grateful. Our thanks must also go to the Parish Council for their contribution of £800 towards this cost.

We sincerely hope that residents and visitors to our village will enjoy using this area in the coming months and years. Situated close to the pétanque court we hope this will also spur people on to use our community facilities as often as possible. You never know, we may even open the bar from time to time!

Nigel Hodder (Treasurer)

"Sponsor a Slab"

The following local families and organisations have made donations towards the construction of the Village Hall patio in 2024.

We thank them all for their generosity.

<i>Jeffrey Blake</i>	<i>The Macnair Family</i>
<i>Glenn Brackley</i>	<i>Jo & Phil Mead</i>
<i>Diane Brady</i>	<i>Georgie & Doug Miller</i>
<i>Marie & Steve Chappell</i>	<i>Linsey & Steve O'Neill</i>
<i>Angie & Bob Clark</i>	<i>David Payne</i>
<i>The Fox Family</i>	<i>Susan & Terry Poet</i>
<i>Rose & Ed Frost</i>	<i>Sarah Read</i>
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<i>Richard Hawker</i>	<i>Sandie & Roy Sach</i>
<i>Veronica Herridge</i>	<i>Amy Stephens</i>
<i>Sue & Nigel Hodder</i>	<i>Jo & Ernst Wagner</i>
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Milborne Players April 2025

HOT on the heels of the roaring success of our pantomime in February, the Players are kicking ideas around for a summer production. We've lots of enthusiasm and energy to create something delightful for you all in July.

Whilst we have many dedicated actors and support actors, we would love to enlist more people to help with other vital roles. Our achievements are very much reliant upon the teamwork within the Players. As such, we'd love to hear from you if you are interested in any of the following:

**** Props and Backstage Support:** Are you skilled in making stage equipment? Or could you help backstage with scene changes and moving props?

**** Costumes:** Unleash your creative side with designing, making or helping cast members with their costume changes during performances.

**** Marketing:** Help us spread the word about our performances to reach more people.

**** Front of House:** Welcome our audiences on show nights, sell raffle tickets or help quench thirsts serving behind the bar

**** Technical Team:** Support our sound and lighting team with all those special effects that really help bring our performances alive!

If you – or anyone you know – have the skills or would like to learn skills in these areas, please email us at playersmilborne@gmail.com or message/call Gren on 07876 793319 or Kate on 07804 600204. We look forward to hearing from you!

Kate Hawker

Milborne St. Andrew Litter Pick Sunday 16th March



JUST a few of the team who came out on a beautiful spring day to help keep our village tidy. We collected about 30kg of rubbish from the village itself and the hedgerows and verges. Thank you to everyone who joined us!

Deadline for the next issue 14th April

Send your articles to the Reporter by e-mail at msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk or give to a member of the team

Milborne St Andrew Food and Wine Club – A Taste of Friendship and Fun!

ARE you a food lover, wine enthusiast, or just someone who enjoys good company? Then the Milborne St. Andrew Food and Wine Club is the perfect place for you! Our friendly and welcoming group is all about exploring delicious food and drink while making new friends along the way.

We meet regularly to visit local pubs and restaurants, enjoy wine tastings, and take part in a variety of fun social events. Whether it's a casual Skittles Night, Treasure Hunt, Safari Supper, pub lunch or an elegant fine dining experience, there's something for everyone.

Recent Events:

We've had a fantastic time over the past few months with some wonderful gatherings, including:

Sipology Wine Tasting at the Village Hall – A delightful evening sampling a range of exquisite wines, learning about different varieties, and sharing our favourites.

Christmas Dinner at Kingston Maurward – A glamorous night in our posh frocks and DJ's, celebrating the festive season with fine food, great wine, and lots of laughter.



Skittles Night at The Royal Oak – A lively and competitive evening filled with fun, friendly rivalry, and, of course, plenty of good food and drink.

Fine Dining at Yalbury Cottage – A truly special

experience enjoying top-quality cuisine in a lovely setting.

Join Us!

We're always keen to welcome new members. Whether you're a long-time resident or new to the village, the Food and Wine Club is a great way to meet people and discover the best food and drink in the area.

If you'd like to join us for our next event, get in touch—we'd love to see you there!

Email msa.foodandwineclub@gmail.com for more details.

Steve O'Neill

Milton Abbas Surgery

Plant and Veg Swap

Our Plant and Veg swap is back for 2025! If you have any spare seedlings, plants, or vegetables, please drop them off in our surgery foyer and then anyone who comes to the surgery can pick up something on their way out.

Nothing beats the taste of fresh fruit, vegetables and herbs grown in your own garden – or the satisfaction and enjoyment you can get from doing it. Not sure what to grow or where to start? The Royal Horticultural Society have all the tips and advice you need, including a Grow Your Own newsletter featuring handy fruit and vegetable tips, advice on what to do in your garden or allotment. Go to www.rhs.org.uk/advice/grow-your-own for more information.

Did you know that May is National Walking Month?

Walking is an easy and accessible way to improve physical and mental health and even a 20-minute walk can reduce the risk of several preventable health conditions, including certain cancers, depression, heart disease and Type 2 diabetes.

Why not join our Walking Group on a Wednesday at 10.00am? To see the walking programme for May 2025 please see our surgery website www.masurgery.co.uk/wellbeing-team. If you do not have access to the internet and would like a printout of the programme, please let Kelly or Anna, our Social Prescribers, know and they can arrange for one to be sent to you.

Whatever you end up doing this May, let's keep on moving forward. Do something today that your future self will thank you for!

Community Coffee Morning

We would like to warmly invite all our patients and carers to a coffee morning at Winterborne Whitechurch Village Hall on Tuesday 15th April 2025 10.30am till 12.30pm.

Whether you would like to come on your own for some 'me time' or with the person you care for, it would be great to see you. Tea, coffee and cake will be available.

If you are planning to attend, please let us know either by calling the surgery or by sending an email to our surgery Wellbeing Team mawellbeingteam@dorset.nhs.uk. Alternatively, please feel free to just turn up on the day. We would love to see you!

Annual Flu Vaccination Clinic

We will be running our annual flu vaccination clinic for our over 65 years old eligible patients on Saturday 4th October 2025 at the Winterborne Whitechurch Village Hall. Please save this date as we would like as many of our eligible patients to attend; further details including whether we will also be doing Covid vaccinations will follow closer to the time. Details of dates and locations for the flu vaccination clinic for our eligible patients under 64 years old will also follow.

Surgery Closures

The surgery will be closed on **Friday 18th April** and **Monday 21st April** 2025 for the Easter Bank Holiday weekend.

We will also be closed on **Monday 5th May** (Early May Bank Holiday) and **Monday 26th May** 2025 (Late May Bank Holiday).

We apologize for any inconvenience caused. For out of hours care or advice during closures, please call 111. In the case of an emergency, call 999.

Bookends' Good Read: "Lessons" by Ian McEwan

THIS novel detailed the road between Roland Baines' beginnings and his near end and what happened in between. It was powerfully written, richly embellished with historical events and fully engaged with them. These included the Cuban Missile crisis, Chernobyl, the fall of the Berlin Wall, Covid and Brexit. A long book covering the nature of humanity and identity. There were no unnecessary detours, it was beautifully stitched together. McEwan is a top class story teller. However this particular tome did not sit well with some in the group. Mainly it was found to be too long. Whereas those who applauded its erudition found the main character too weak and drifting throughout what could have been a more financially rewarded and satisfying life. Even the character of Roland ponders that his way through life had been "unchosen". The group differed mainly on the issue of his treatment at the hands of his music teacher, Muriel. She sexually abused him from the age of 14 years beginning her attentions three years earlier. His first wife Alissa, who left him and their seven month old son Lawrence to become a famous novelist, considered that these earlier experiences had "rewired his brain". The female characters stood out against the backdrop of Roland's existence. He appeared to be reactive rather than proactive, marrying Daphne, who had been a constant in his life, far too late. She was the only woman who did not use him in some way. There was seen by some to be a pattern of abuse throughout by females against males. Although this was seen by many in the group as squandering, dithering, digressing and generally powerlessness, Roland saw himself as complicit in this. He felt his comforts were lucky, his complacency one in which he was complicit. There were powerful secrets to be revealed, some of which are found to be autobiographical whereas others the author has publicly denied. Also some amusing rants e.g. against Christianity, his ancestors' view of childhood and the neutral zone into which he felt he simply wished to enter with the companion of a glass of Scotch. Although there were considerable digressions of opinion the novel was found to be on occasions, funny, engrossing and believable with love at its heart. Many readers, I think, would enjoy the travails of this "restless fool" drifting on will and chance, time and memory, irrepressibly resilient.

Carole Fornachon

Wednesday Social Club

OUR March meeting was most enjoyable with photographs and amusing tales of pets, past and present. We had stories of the animals on Sue's Father's Smallholding and of Val's disaster with the vacuum cleaner and the budgie!

On April 2nd we are off to Poundbury for a cuppa. Please meet up at the Village Hall at 2.00pm.

José Thomas

Advertise in the *Reporter* and get results

This publication relies on advertisers to pay for all production costs. If you reply to one of our advertisements, please mention that you saw it in the Milborne St. Andrew *Reporter*



Easter Hope

One of my favourite moments each year is when I walk into church on Easter morning and find an array of colourful, Spring flower arrangements adorning the building. The contrast with the season of Lent, when we don't have flowers in church, makes an impact in a special way. As the flowers beautify the space and bring brightness and delight, my heart lifts with joy. We are so fortunate to have talented and skilled flower arrangers in all four churches of our benefice.

Later on this month, we will be celebrating the joy of Easter. The festival follows the pared-back days of Lent and the sorrow and pain of Holy Week. Each year Christians walk through the events of the last week of Jesus's life, remembering first the suffering of the Passion and crucifixion, before celebrating the resurrection.

The first-century disciples had no idea what was to happen after the death of Jesus; the resurrection came as a complete surprise. Today we know how the story goes, so the surprise element is no longer part of our experience of celebrating Easter, but the contrast between the dark days of remembering Jesus's suffering and the life-giving joy brought about by the resurrection can still be shared now.

The resurrection message is one of great hope. God's love is stronger than the darkness of the world. It can turn despair into joy and doubt into faith.

Hope is very much needed in our times with the turbulence of the world's current situation of conflict and talk of a possible World War Three. Many people are fearful about that. Many are also anxious and concerned about the cost of living and the ever-increasing prices of the necessities of life: food, shelter, water, power.

The empty tomb turned the despair of the first disciples into hope and a new future. It leaves us with the sense that, even in the greatest times of darkness, hope can always break through. It is a symbol of God's promise, uttered by Jesus before the Ascension, "I am with you always, even to the end of time."

In times past many people were baptised at Easter, bringing that idea of a new future into reality as they marked out their commitment to the faith. If anyone, of whatever age, would like to be baptised, do get in touch. Or, if you are already baptised, and would like to recommit to those promises made at the time, there is a confirmation service in June in Dorchester with the Bishop of Salisbury that we could prepare you for – just get in touch, if either of those appeal.

I wish you all a very happy, hope-filled Easter. May your hearts and homes be filled with love and joy.

With best wishes

Sarah

Notes from St Andrew's

WE are into the season of Lent now, a time when we seek to draw closer to God. The Lent Group meets at the Old Chapel on Monday mornings, and the Service of Compline, led by Tony, continues until Holy week on Wednesday evenings at 6.00pm. Lent Lunches are being held in Milborne for the first time in some years. The first was on March 12th. By the time you read this, there will be one more to go, on April 9th. Contact Tony (07368 145584 or Tonytheorganist@outlook.com) to book a seat if you wish to attend.

The March Milborne Praise centred on the story of the Transfiguration, as we thought about Jesus strengthening his disciples for the upcoming ordeal He would face in Jerusalem, which we commemorate during Holy week. Angela and Rose read the lessons, and Angela and Mark provided delicious refreshments after the Service. Our next Milborne praise will be on April 6th, Passion Sunday. All are welcome.

Palm Sunday, April 13th marks the beginning of Holy Week, when Palms are blessed

Continued on page 13

Services in the Benefice of Puddletown, Tolpuddle, Milborne with Dewlish April

TUESDAY 1st April

9.30am	St. Mary's CE Middle School	Puddletown
	Easter Service	
11.00	St. Mary's CE Middle School	Puddletown
	Easter Service	
2.00pm	Milborne First School	Milborne
	Easter Service	

THURSDAY 3rd April

2.00pm	Puddletown CE First School	Puddletown
	Easter Service	

6th April – Passion Sunday

9.30am	Parish Communion	Tolpuddle
9.30	Milborne Praise	Milborne
11.00	Parish Communion	Puddletown
11.00	1662 Morning Prayer (traditional language)	Dewlish

13th April – Palm Sunday

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

17th April – Maundy Thursday

7.30pm	Holy Communion	Puddletown CR
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18th April – Good Friday

10.00am	Good Friday Service music, prayer, reflection	Tolpuddle
12noon	The Good Friday Liturgy	Milborne
12noon	Good Friday service for all ages	Puddletown
6.00pm	Good Friday service music, prayer, reflection	Dewlish

20th April – Easter Day

8.00am	Easter Holy Communion	Milborne
9.30	Easter Holy Communion	Tolpuddle
11.00	Easter Holy Communion	Puddletown
11.00	Easter Public Worship with communion by extension	Dewlish

27th April – Easter 2

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

DAILY MORNING PRAYERS

Monday – Thursday. 8.30am; Saturday. 9.00am

On Zoom, please contact Sarah Hillman

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

LENT

During Lent there will also be: Wednesdays

Compline in St. Andrew's, Milborne at 6.00pm

Thursdays Evening Prayer in All Saints', Dewlish at

6.30pm

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Continued from page 11

and distributed, and the Passion Story read, with congregation members taking various roles. On Wednesday in Holy week Compline will be sung at 6.00pm, and on Maundy Thursday, when Jesus instituted the Holy Eucharist at the Last Supper, we shall meet as a Benefice in our own "Upper Room", in the Puddletown Church Room. On Good Friday Tony will lead the Liturgy of the Day at 12 noon, the first of the traditional Three Hours. Our Easter Day Eucharist this year will be at 8.00am "Early in the morning on the first day of the week." This will be a Service with Hymns and a sermon. At 6.00pm. Compline will be said in Church, if anyone wishes to join in a quiet act of worship to close Easter Day. There are Services in all the Churches in the Benefice on Good Friday and Easter Day, and you are warmly invited to join another congregation if you can't manage the Milborne times.

Easter Day is known as the "Queen of Feasts", and for a Christian, colours the rest of the year, and indeed life. George Herbert, the Priest Poet, who was Rector of Bemerton near Salisbury in the 17th century, wrote of Easter day:

"Can there be any day but this,
Though many suns to shine endeavour?
We count three hundred, but we miss:
There is but one, and that one ever."

From all of us at St Andrew's, a very happy and blessed Easter.

Tony (and Pam) Churchwardens

Thanks.

I want to thank all who have sent cards, messages and gifts following my move to Manor Farm. They are appreciated. Tony

Donations for Easter Flowers (Lilies) in memory of loved one



If you would like to donate money towards the Easter flowers please contact:

Lin Chatfield 01258 837127
Pam Schults 01258 837203 or
Tony Fox 07368 145584

Your loved ones names will be placed in the Book of Remembrance in the church. Thank you.

Dewlish Church Notes

LENTEN Evening Prayer continues on a Thursday at 6.30pm in the church, on the 3rd and 10th April. The following Thursday is Maundy Thursday, and there will be a church service at Puddletown at 6.00pm. Sue is hosting the last **Lent Lunch** at Parsonage Farm on 8th April at 12.30pm. Please do come along and enjoy lovely soup, bread, etc., and thereby support our chosen charity, WaterAid.

The **Spring Sale** is on Saturday 12th April in the Village Hall starting at 10.30am. We shall be glad for any contributions to the stalls or cash donations. **Our church needs your help!** As Mr. Charles Hunter wrote in the Village News last month, rural churches are really suffering financially, and Dewlish is in the same position as our neighbours in that we get no outside help

Church Contacts

Vicar Sarah Hillman 07350414483
E-mail: sarah.c.hillman@outlook.com

Churchwardens

Milborne St. Andrew

Pam Shults 01258 837203

Tony Fox 07368 145584

Dewlish

Jim Burg 01258 837466

Sue Britton 01258 837218

Benefice Office

Emma Hughes puddletownbenefice@outlook.com
or by telephone on 01305 849039

and are wholly dependent on our community. So all donations and fund-raising efforts are absolutely vital for keeping the church going. This year our outgoings will be in the region of £14,000 and, even if we manage to raise the same amount as last year, we shall still have a deficit of £3,000-plus. Please do support us and keep our village church going.

If you still have last month's Village News please read the article written by Mr. Hunter, also the lovely poem about Dewlish Church and footnote written by our local poet, John Seymour. It is all so true of the present-day.

The **Good Friday Service** will be held at 6.00pm while **Easter Day Holy Communion** is at 11.00am – a day of great joy after the sorrow of Good Friday! Church decorating for Easter will be on the Saturday. Thank you! **And a happy Easter to you all.**

Daphne Burg

Canzonetta returns

CANZONETTA returns to the lovely historic church of St John the Baptist in Bere Regis on Sunday 13th April for our annual concert of sacred music for Palm Sunday.



Join us for an hour of reflective music which includes some beloved classics, Mozart's Laudate Dominum, Bach's wonderful Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring and for the first time, extracts from the glorious oratorio, Handel's Messiah. We are delighted to be joined by a superbly talented young soprano, Emilly Oxtoby, who is a choral scholar at Royal Holloway and by Richard Hall who will accompany us on the organ and piano. Richard has also written a new piece for us, a folk-style celebration of Mothering Sunday, which falls during the weeks of Lent, and this will have its premiere at Bere Regis.

The concert, as always is free, with a retiring collection for the church funds. Join us at 3.00pm, and afterwards for tea and cake.

Barbara Rawlings

St. Mary's CE Middle School, Puddletown

Inspire today to shape tomorrow

March has certainly been a month packed with rich and varied excitement at St. Mary's, from inflatable planetariums to the fun of World Book Day!

Our Year 5 children enjoyed a day entirely devoted to the wonders of science. This year we have introduced special science deep dive experiences to give the children the opportunity to immerse themselves in exploration and experimentation. This time, the day was all about forces. The Year 5s investigated water resistance and challenged themselves to build the strongest straw bridge. The highlight of the day was undoubtedly the visit of Southampton University's Explorer Dome! This huge, inflatable planetarium filled our school hall and took the children on a journey through the wonders of the universe. We are very grateful to the St. Mary's School Associated for contributing to the costs of the day.



No sooner had the planetarium left the hall than our Year 5 area was transformed into sunny Greece for our annual Greek day! The children dressed up in their chitons and peplos and spent a fabulous day learning about Greek myths, geography and food. Probably the best bit of the day was getting to try a range of Greek delicacies such as olives (not very popular with



the Year 5s!), feta, honey and yogurt.

Our Year 6 children have been having fun on the farm during a visit to Wessex Wild in Tincleton! Year 6 visit the farm as part of the science curriculum and learn all about inheritance, genetics and conservation. Luckily the sun was shining and the rain held off as our young farmers got to see the newly born calves and lambs and enjoy the wonderful Dorset countryside. We are grateful to Chrissy Hancock of Wessex Wild for organising such a memorable experience for the children.

March wouldn't be complete without the annual celebration of all things literary . . . it is of course the month of World Book Day! This year the children we set the challenge of coming to school dressed as a word! And, as always, they didn't disappoint with their enthusiasm and creativity. Just for a day, the school was buzzing with dinosaurs, sharks, werewolves, as well as a vast array of other words and characters! And finally, we think our parents deserve a special mention for so enthusiastically supporting the book day fun despite all those inevitable last minute costume requests!



CONTACTS

For further information, admission details or to arrange a visit, please contact the school office

Head of School: Tim Ennion Chair of Governors: Caleb Brown

St. Mary's School Association: Chairpersons: Briony Hosford and Marie Chappell

e-mail: office@stmaryscemiddle.uk website: www.stmaryscemiddleschool.co.uk

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The great village Easter Egg Hunt

Let's make this year bigger and better!
How colourful can we make our village this Easter Holidays to raise money for Ladybirds Pre-school?



Choose a design/ designs to colour in. £1 per design (no limit on how many you want)



Colour in your designs and put them in a window with your allocated number for the duration of the easter holidays



Children (and adults) can buy a village easter egg hunt map for £2 per child. Go on a hunt around the village to spot the eggs over the easter holidays, tick them off on your map as you find them



On your map write down the number of your favourite easter egg design



Once you have found them all come and collect your prize

Contact Carly Perry : 07834 060662 to buy your Easter Egg designs and maps

THE GREAT VILLAGE
Easter Egg Hunt

LET'S MAKE THIS YEAR BIGGER AND BETTER!

TO RAISE MONEY FOR LADYBIRDS PRE-SCHOOL

CHOOSE A DESIGN/ DESIGNS TO COLOUR IN. £1 PER DESIGN (NO LIMIT ON HOW MANY YOU WANT)

COLOUR IN YOUR DESIGNS AND PUT THEM IN A WINDOW WITH YOUR ALLOCATED NUMBER FOR THE DURATION OF THE EASTER HOLIDAYS

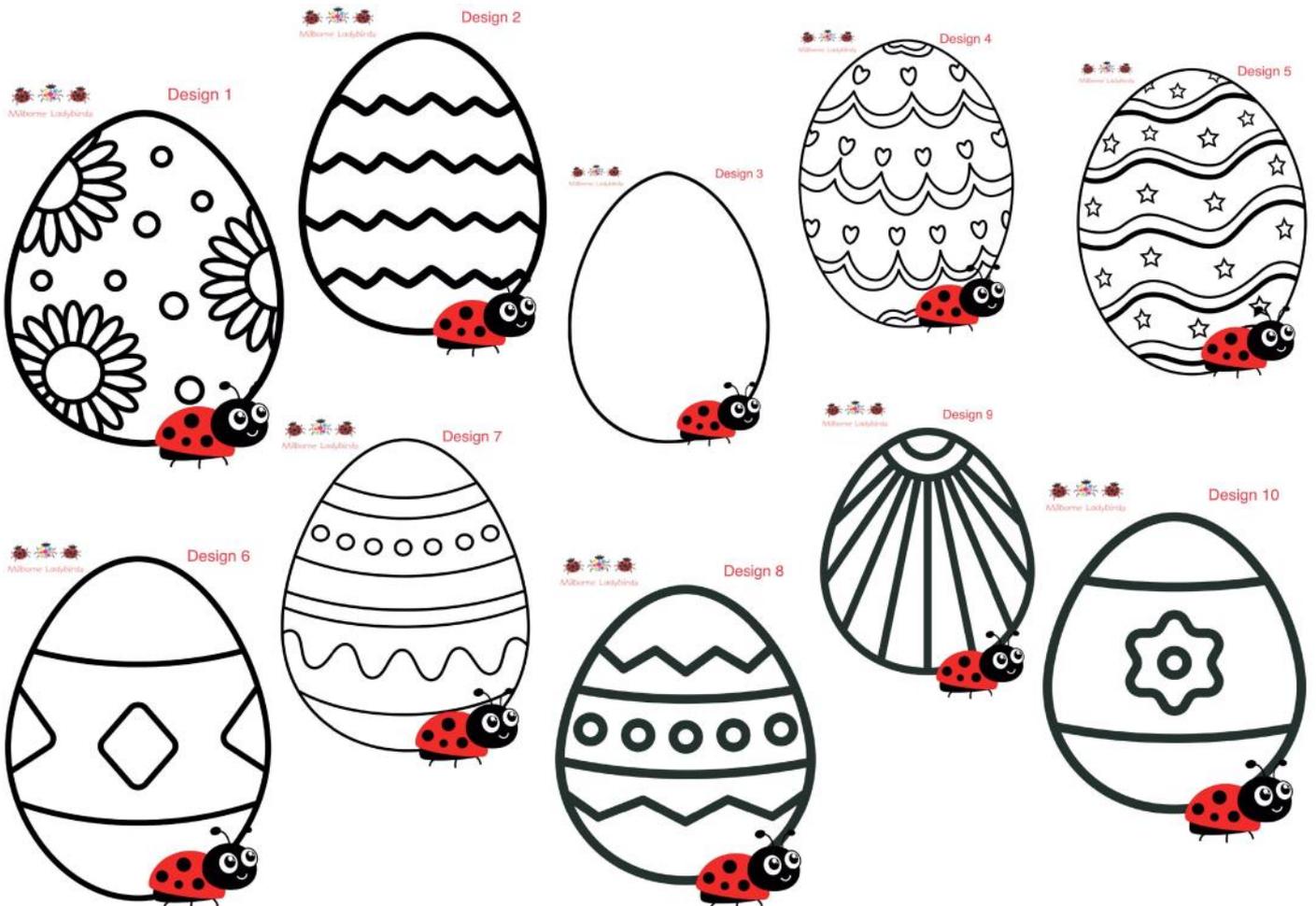
CHILDREN (AND ADULTS) CAN BUY A VILLAGE EASTER EGG HUNT MAP FOR £2 PER CHILD. GO ON A HUNT AROUND THE VILLAGE TO SPOT THE EGGS OVER THE EASTER HOLIDAYS, TICK THEM OFF ON YOUR MAP AS YOU FIND THEM

ON YOUR MAP WRITE DOWN THE NUMBER OF YOUR FAVOURITE EASTER EGG DESIGN

ONCE YOU HAVE FOUND THEM ALL COME AND COLLECT YOUR PRIZE

TO BUY DESIGNS AND MAPS
CONTACT CARLY PERRY:
07834 060662

Milborne Ladybirds



Junior corner

no prize just a bit of fun. Answers on page 27

Where in Milborne is this?



Junior Quiz

1. Saint Andrew is the Patron Saint of where?
2. Which King hid in the "Royal Oak" on Saturday 6th November 1651?
3. What is the county motto of Dorset?
4. What was the Roman name for Dorchester?
5. What are "Taste Buds" and where are they found?

			\$
	€		
		¥	
£			

Junior Sudoku

Put a Pound (£), Dollar (\$), Euro (€) and Yen (¥) in each row, column and block

1		2		3		4		5		6
				7						
8						9				
				10						
11	12		13			14	15		16	
17		18		19		20		21		22
				23						
24						25				
				26						
27						28				



Dorset Roman Festival

Maumbury Rings, Weymouth Avenue, Dorchester
DT1 1QZ

About Us

This Easter, experience history brought to life at the Roman Festival at Maumbury Rings on Saturday, 12th and Sunday, 13th April. This free, family-friendly event promises a spectacular celebration of Roman culture, with immersive activities, thrilling demonstrations, and hands-on experiences in the heart of Dorset's historic landscape.

Set within the ancient Roman amphitheatre of Maumbury Rings, the festival will whisk visitors back to the days of gladiators, artisans, and Roman citizens. Highlights of the event include: – Gladiator Battles: Witness the excitement and drama of live gladiatorial combat as fighters clash in thrilling re-enactments.

- Mosaic-Making: Create your own Roman masterpiece
- Archaeological Exhibits: Explore the rich history of Roman Dorchester with fascinating displays and artefacts.
- Family Activities: Enjoy Roman dress-up, games, and other engaging activities designed for children and families.

Opening Times

April 12th, 2025 – April 13th, 2025
10.30am – 4.00pm

Across

1. Principality
4. 1st or 2nd Class Maybe?
7. Pet
8. Shows up Rain on Weather Maps
9. Change
10. Question
11. Chimney?
14. Planet
17. Writes Mechanically
20. Join Together
23. Prime Number
24. Largest Satellite of Saturn
25. Loft
26. Pub
27. Colour
28. Plant used in Rope Making

Down

1. Heats Up
2. Shelf
3. Dispose of
4. Pointed Post
5. Communion Table
6. Covered Entrance
12. Weymouth's River
13. Adam's Wife
15. Beer
16. Pull
17. Add up
18. Flower Part
19. the Hedgehog
20. Intends
21. Rosters
22. Surpass

Milborne Movies – April Film Night

JOIN us at the Village Hall on **Friday 18th April** for a special screening of *The Outrun*, starring the brilliant **Saoirse Ronan**. Based on Amy Liptrot’s bestselling memoir, this moving drama takes you on a journey of recovery and self-discovery in the wild beauty of Orkney.

Tickets are just **£6.50**, including a drink or ice cream! **Doors open at 7.00pm**, with the film starting at **7.30pm**.

Come along for a great night of cinema in good company – we look forward to seeing you there!

Village Hall AGM

The Village Hall AGM will be held on Thursday 24th April, 7.00pm. Do please come along to support your Village Hall and share any comments and ideas!

Village Hall calendar for April

Here is the Village Hall calendar for April. We really appreciate your support in keeping the car park clear when the Hall is in use. For the latest information, please follow our Facebook page or visit our website: www.milbornestandrew.org.uk/VillageHall.



Today		< > April 2025		Month		
MON 31	TUE 1 Apr	WED 2	THU 3	FRI 4	SAT 5	SUN 6
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 08:00 CR PH Sp 19:30 Players 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:15 Move it or 19:30 Line Danc 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 09:00 NHS K P: 15:30 Yoga 17:10 Karate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 09:00 Posturef 10:45 CH Pilate: 12:00 CH Pilate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 13:00 Kelly Birtl 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 19:30 Players 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:15 Move it or 19:30 Line Danc 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15:30 Yoga 16:00 Tikka Tral 2 more 19:30 WI 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 09:00 Posturef 10:45 CH Pilate: 12:00 CH Pilate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00 Pop Up C 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 19:30 Players 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:15 Move it or 19:30 Line Danc 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15:30 Yoga 17:10 Karate 19:30 Garden C 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:45 CH Pilate: 12:00 CH Pilate 19:00 Film Nigh 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 08:00 CR PH Sp 19:30 Players 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:15 Move it or 19:30 Line Danc 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15:30 Yoga 16:00 Tikka Tral 17:10 Karate 19:00 VH AGM 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 09:00 Posturef 10:45 CH Pilate: 12:00 CH Pilate 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 08:00 CR PH Sp 19:30 Players 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:15 Move it or 19:30 Line Danc 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15:30 Yoga 15:30 Yoga 17:10 Karate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 09:00 Posturef 10:45 CH Pilate: 12:00 CH Pilate 		

Wild time at Ladybirds

'JUNGLE' has been a focus of play and stories: Hissing snakes, crocodile rivers, hanging vines and elephant stomps have been enjoyed by all.

We've celebrated pancake day by squeezing lemon juice over mini pancakes at snack time. Snack time is a really important part of our day – fuelling our young minds in every way we can. The children pour their own drinks from little



jugs and serve themselves with fruit and crackers. Part of the chat at snack time is about what plate they are choosing. We use china plates with different

designs; the photo shows some of the children's favourites. Accidents do happen and we are looking for replacements. Do you have any tea plates you can donate to us? If they have a pattern or picture on them, that would be great but any tea plate will do. Please do drop off at school reception if you have any.

Comic Relief, Mothers Day and Easter are also shortly upon us and will be marked through song, stories and crafting.

Do look out for our Easter community fundraiser advert.

It's all gone a bit wild here ! All in the name of learning.



Milborne Ladybirds

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Email secretary@milborneladybirds.com

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Our School Values

Respect For Self – We are kind to ourselves and responsible for our own learning

Respect For Others – We are kind to each other. Our differences make us stronger

Respect For Our World – We are part of nature. We will work together to make the world a better place



Beekeeper Visit

As part of science week, we had local beekeeper Nick come to visit our school. Nick has 15 hives, and our children were fascinated to hear all about beekeeping. Not only did our students learn all about bees, how to care for them and what they bring to our world, but they also got the opportunity to dress as beekeepers and try some delicious honey.

World Book Day

Our school had a fantastic time celebrating World Book Day by exploring *The Midnight Panther* by Poonam Mistry, a beautiful story about embracing uniqueness. The children showcased their creativity by making book nooks inspired by the story and enjoyed dressing up to express their individuality. It was a wonderful day of storytelling, imagination, and celebrating what makes each of us special!



CONTACTS

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

Head of School: Michelle Cheeseman

School Receptionist/Admin Assistant: Holly Winning

Chair of Governors: Paul Tasker

FOS Chairman: Kate O'Kelly

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

website: www.milborne.dorset.sch.uk

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Davis, Brown, Biles and Way: Episode 11 of The Ways of Milborne St. Andrew by Andy Way

DURING the last twelve months, we've been featuring Andy Way's book *The Ways of Milborne St. Andrew*, with a recent focus on population trends in the village during the 19th century. Andy notes that in 1841, more than 20% of MSA residents had one of only four surnames: Davis, Biles, Brown or Way. In the last three issues of the *Reporter*, we've looked at the Davises (pp.39-49 in Andy's book), the Biles (pp.49-58), and the Browns (pp.59-62) during the period 1841-91, so now it's the turn of the Ways (pp.63-68 . . . and the rest of the book). We'll split this into two parts, with the second appearing next month.

In 1841, there were 14 Ways in the village: 4 people in 1 house in the MSA census, and 10 in 3 houses in Milborne Stileham (MS). The single Way family in MSA itself were Andy's 3x great grandparents George and Susannah, and their two young children. George was actually 31 (not 30 as given) and Susannah was 22 or 23 (not 20) at the time of the 1841 return, but Andy has previously discussed the tendency to round the figures to the nearest 5 years in this census. Like most people in the village, George was an Agricultural Labourer (Ag. Lab). In MS, we see George's brother Samuel (also an Ag. Lab) and his family in one house, Andy's 4th great grandparents Charles and Susan (George and Samuel's parents) in another with two of their younger sons (both Ag. Labs), one of whom (Joseph) ends up being transported to Australia for arson in 1846 (see Apr-Jun 2024 issues of the *Reporter*). The third Way house in MS is occupied by Charles' sister-in-law Mary (nee Gilbert), a widow.

In 1851, the number of Ways increases to 26: 10 people in 2 houses in Milborne Churchtown (MC), and 16 people in 3 houses in MS. In MC, we again see Samuel and his family. The 2nd Way family in MC comprises Sarah (nee Hammett, from Tolpuddle, wife of transported convict Joseph) and her four young children; given their ages in the census record, only three of the four children can be Joseph's (see June 24 *Reporter* for more on Sarah and her family, abandoned and living in poverty in Little London).

The MS Ways are firstly Andy's 4th great uncle James (son of Charles, brother of George and Samuel) and his second wife Jane, then George and Susannah and their 4 children, and finally Thomas (Joseph's younger brother) and his wife, their 4 children, and his parents Charles and Susan. Somewhat shockingly, in the first of these MS Way families, 10 year old son Charles is working as an Ag. Lab, but just as shocking is that in the 3rd MS way family, Charles is *still* working as an Ag. Lab at age 76, so we can see family members as young as 10 and as old as 76 having to be working to supplement the family income, a terrible indictment of the awful conditions that countryfolk had to endure in the middle of the 19th century.

In 1861, there are 23 Ways in the village: 2 people in 1 house in MSA, 5 people in 1 house in MC, and 16 people in 3 houses in MS. In MSA, we again have James and Jane. In MC, we see Sarah (abandoned wife of Joseph) and her children, listed as 'paupers' in the census. In MS, we see Samuel and Susannah living with 3 of their children but also 2 grandchildren. Next come Thomas and Elizabeth and their 6 children, and finally George and Susannah Way, who are living with their two youngest children James (19) and Charlotte (16). The wider Way family are living very close to one another, as George and his family are living

only two houses away from youngest son Thomas, and four doors away from eldest son Samuel, and daughter Elizabeth (now Stickley) is living in between father George and her uncle Thomas. The men are all Ag. Labs, or Carters (today's 'white van man'), while some of the women have professions like needleworker or dressmaker.

Next month we'll look at the Ways in the 1871-91 censuses. If you are related to someone with one of these surnames, then you're probably in Andy's family tree on Ancestry! Please mail andy.way@adaptcentre.ie if you'd like a copy of his book, or would like to view the tree. *Andy Way/Carole Fornachon*

Parish Council meeting notes

FIVE grit bins have now been agreed (Lynch Close, Little England, Milton Road Close, outside of the gates of the school, and lower Huntley Down). They will be located in position in September and filled in October.

Clerk Lewin has been trying to contact Wyatt Homes regarding access to the HIP from Coles Lane, but has had no response.

A grant request had been received from the Village Hall to contribute to furnishing the patio space with bespoke patio furniture. The total cost of the furniture will be £1,600. It was agreed to grant 50% of the cost, subject to production of a receipt.

No update was available regarding the planning application at Corner House

Traffic scheme – Dorset Council (DC) are working on an engagement plan and looking at timescales. The official proposal hasn't been received.

A reservoir is being built at Bagber Farm, which is a Milton Abbas planning application. A number of residents have complained about the lorries driving through the village down Milton Road and turning into Bagber Farm, which Clerk Lewin has been investigating. Waste material is being used for the construction of the reservoir, which is subject to a certificate of lawful use. A site visit was done by DC in January and the land owner was advised that a retrospective planning application would be required. No retrospective planning application has been submitted to DC. Cllr Parker from DC has questioned how long it will be before the enforcement team look into this and will be raising her concerns with other colleagues. It is not clear what the waste material is, though there is no evidence that it is toxic waste.

After the February PC meeting Cllr Parker emailed the Crime Commissioner at DC regarding the arson at the memorial stone, who couldn't comment on the ongoing investigations regarding crime in the village. Clerk Lewin contacted 101 for an update. The case is still with the Resolution and Investigations team. Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) has contacted Clerk Lewin to arrange a meeting – the PCSO will be invited to the next Parish Council (PC) meeting.

The next Full Council Meeting will be on Wednesday 7th May together with the Annual General Meeting at the village hall starting at 7.00pm. *Jo Whitfield*



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from the archive, 15 and 16 years ago . . .

www.milbornestandrew.org.uk/Reporter/Archive

Reporter - April 2009 / 2010

Report on a thriving Youth Club in need of support, and (from 2009),
Stolen Ducks!

Milborne St. Andrew Youth Club Update

AT our Annual General Meeting on Friday 19th March 2010, Chairman Kevin Maitland-Gleed had nothing but praise for the team that voluntarily run the Youth Club, and the remarkable yearly reports from the Club Leader, Wendy Northover and the Treasurer, Ness Clarke illustrated that the club have had another successful year. The accounts are extremely healthy and the membership numbers remain high, with an average weekly attendance of 35.

Activities last year included kayaking, a demo by the karate club, Easter bonnet competition that was won by Jacob Clarke and Abbi Climo followed by an Easter egg hunt. Six members also successfully completed a three week DYA First Aid course, which actually inspired member Katherine Maitland-Gleed to become a St. John's Cadet! The over 10's were invited to try archery at the home of Mr and Mrs Ryall, Eva Stockley kindly came and demonstrated sugar craft and was overwhelmed by the interest shown by both girls and boys when it came to making their own sugar flowers!

Our Christmas party this year was at Warmwell Holiday park where we had a Pool Party, and in the Christmas Tree Festival at the church, we dedicated our tree to Afghanistan and received a lot of positive comments. A Summer disco ended the school year and the annual DYA County Talent Contest was won by our member Amy Collier in her section and Tara King was a runner-up in her age group. Emily Macdonald also received a Highly Commended in the DYA County Christmas card competition. Well done to you all and thank you for representing the club so well!

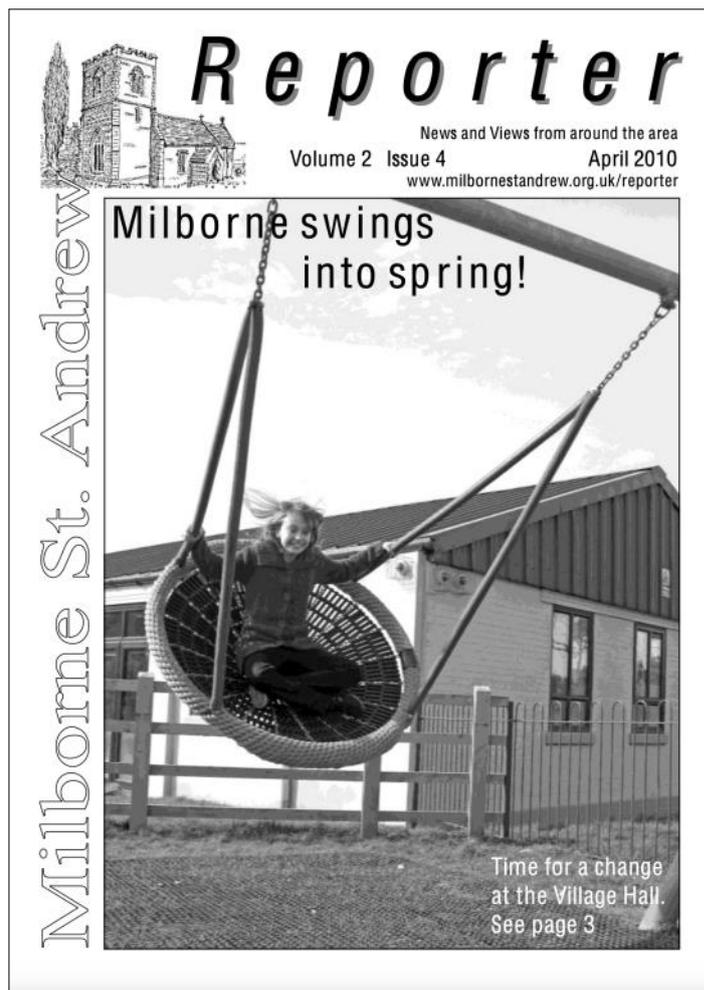
2010 has got off to a flying start already, but the only cloud on the horizon is that we shall be losing our Club Leader Sandra, and a volunteer helper, Emma, after Christmas. We are on the search for volunteers to step up and take on this role, and we welcome anyone who think that they might fit the bill to come and take a look at the club and ask questions, with no obligation. Our Secretary, Sallie Maitland-Gleed is a great support in this role and takes on a lot of the paperwork and organising. The team at present work very well together and we need a new Leader and Volunteer helper to carry on that sterling work. CRB checks, Child Protection and First Aid courses are all arranged through DYA and free to the individual. To see the club demise when it is doing so exceptionally well would be a travesty and the 8-15 year olds in the village would lose a valuable social amenity. We also would appreciate a few new Committee members to support the team by attending only four meetings a year (that includes the AGM!).

The club members are a credit to the village and their parents, and to echo the words of Sally Dyer in her letter to the Reporter in February – "if this is indicative of the future generation in this village, then we are indeed fortunate". Thank you for those kind words Mrs Dyer.

If you have a child between 8-15 and they are interested in joining the Youth club, then we offer a free 'taster' session to come along and see what you think. Annual Membership and weekly fees remain the same. We run from 6.30-8.30pm in the MSA Village Hall. Please ring Sallie on 837442 for more information on any of the above points.

Thank you for taking the time to read this report!

Sallie Maitland-Gleed



Stolen

MARY lives at The Rings, she runs a small gardening enterprise in "The Garden Cottage", and has ornamental ducks. Last week, and the week before, someone came in and picked out the two rarest ducks, Whistling Ducks, and stole them, this is despite there being Appleyards and Whitecall ducks also in the enclosure. They are two tone brown and do not quack, they whistle. Mary thinks they were stolen to order, and is very upset, and also hopping mad. Why would anyone want to do that? To add to this, her large nursery van was also broken into last week, they stole two dog beds, and left the spare wheel propped up against the outside of her van. She has asked us to publish the following statement:

*To the thief who stole my two pet rare whistling ducks:
"I hope you realise, but I do not think for one minute that you care, how much you have hurt me by taking my ducks. They were my pride and joy, I would ask you please to look after them as they were so special to me. If you have any conscience at all, this is my phone number, XXXXXX, you can leave them somewhere for me to pick up, we do not have to meet."*

Mary Swann

A whistling duck, similar to those stolen





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Short stay permit: Perfect if you park for shorter periods, such as shopping, appointments or leisure. This permit allows for a parking session of up to three hours every day. It can be registered for up to two cars (they cannot use it at the same time), offering more opportunities to get the full benefit. It is available to buy annually.

Cllr Jon Andrews, Cabinet Member for Place Services at Dorset Council, said: "We are all feeling the pressure of continued rising costs, including the council.

"With the increasing demands on council services, the ongoing reduction in government funding, and rising inflation, our parking tariffs will increase from 3rd April to meet these challenges and continue to support our highways responsibilities.

"Our permits offer a money saving way to pay for parking. For example, if you work in Dorchester five days a week 48 weeks of the year, with our Flexi Stay permit your parking would work out at £1.28 a day compared to £6.30 a day without a permit."

Parking app fee

A fee of 10p is also to be introduced when using JustPark (via app, phone or text) to pay for parking.

The fee (including VAT of just under 2p) will cover JustPark's payment maintenance operations and will be added each time a new parking session is paid for on the app.

Cllr Andrews continued: "Until now, we have been covering the fee from our parking income, but we can no longer afford to do this without impacting other services. In most other counties where JustPark operates, the 10p fee is already paid by motorists who use the service.

"It is a convenient way to pay for parking, but you can avoid the 10p fee by paying for parking by cash, credit card or contactless payment at any of our car park machines."

The 10p fee will also apply when using the JustPark in car parks run by the town councils of Bridport, Shaftesbury and Sherborne which utilise Dorset Council's Just Park contract. Current users of the JustPark app will be notified of the change by email.

Deadline for the next issue 14th April

What's on in April

Wednesday 2nd	Wednesday Club off to Poundbury for a cuppa meet Village Hall 2.00pm.
Wednesday 2nd	Parish Council Meeting Village Hall 7.00pm.
Thursday 10th	WI Annual meeting Village Hall 7.30pm.
Thursday 10th	Theme Night The Royal Oak.
Saturday 12th	Community Café Village Hall 10.00am.
Sunday 13th	Canzonetta annual concert of sacred music Bere Regis church – see page 13.
Monday 14th	Deadline for February's <i>Reporter</i> . Send your articles and photographs via email to msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk or give to a member of the Team. Team members can be found on page 2.
Thursday 17th	Gardening Club Village Hall 7.30pm.
Friday 18th	The Good Friday Liturgy St. Andrew's church 12 noon.
Friday 18th	Bridge The Royal Oak 2.30pm.
Friday 18th	Milborne Movies <i>The Outrun</i> Village Hall 7.30pm – see page 13.
Sunday 20th	Easter Day Holy Communion St. Andrew's church 8.00am.
Thursday 24th	Pie Night The Royal Oak.
Friday 25th	Bridge The Royal Oak 2.30pm.

Regular Bookings at the Village Hall

Players Monday 7.00pm weekly.

Move it or lose it Tuesday 10.15am.

Line Dancing Tuesday 7.30pm weekly.

Wednesday Club 2.00pm 1st Wednesday monthly.

Yoga Thursday 3.30pm weekly (term time only).

Karate Thursday 5.10pm weekly.

Women's Institute 7.30pm 2nd Thursday monthly.

Gardening Club 7.30pm 3rd Thursday monthly.

Artsreach Events – look out for the posters.

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

Regular Bookings at the Sports & Social Club

Pilates Monday 6.30–7.30pm.

Yoga Tuesday 6.15–7.45pm.

Stitchcraft (kids) Wednesday 4.15–5.15pm and 5.30–6.30pm,

Thursday 4.00–5.00pm

Surgery Wellbeing Papercraft Group 1st and 3rd Wednesdays 1.30–3.30pm.

Sewcial Crafters (adults) Thursday 1.00–3.00pm and 5.30–7.30pm

Yoga (Mellulah) Friday mornings.

Beavers Friday 5.30–6.45pm.

Football Saturdays and Sundays.

Private parties, birthdays, wedding receptions check online calendar.

Check the Sports & Social online calendar on the village website for any other events you might be able to join in with.

Regular Bookings at the First School

Ladybirds Playgroup Monday–Friday 9.00am.

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Community Contacts

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

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

COMMUNITY CENTRES

Dewlish Village Hall		
Chairman:	Andrew Barnett	07551 839296
Booking Secretary:	Margaret Groves	01258 837617
Milborne St. Andrew Village Hall		
Chairman:	Linsey O'Neill	07798 720812
Booking Secretary:	Susan Poet	07866 313999
MSA Sports & Social Club	Bookings: Philip Smith	07776 561105

COUNCILS

Dorset Councillor	Emma Parker	07411 149997
Parish Council Dewlish	Clerk: Amanda Crocker	
	dewlish@dorset-aptc.gov.uk	
	Chair: Chris Uden	07973 167117
Parish Council	Clerk: Wayne Lewin	07419 136735
Milborne St. Andrew	Chair: Richard Macnair	07774 081551
	milbornestandrew@dorset-aptc.gov.uk	

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

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Environmental Incident: Environment Agency Hotline 0800 80 70 60 www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency

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

Wessex Water Sewerage Floodline 03458 505959

GENERAL — ADULT

Moonlight Swing Band	Gillian Pink	01305 260731
M.A. Neighbourcar	Nigel Hodder	01258 470333
Wednesday Social Club	Josie Wright	01258 839090
Women's Institute	Lesley Clarke	01929 471732

GENERAL — YOUTH

Scouts, Cubs and Beavers	Sam Elliott	07873 762035
Busy Bees	Leah House	07825 563862
	Louise Emily	07944 875337
Milborne Ladybirds	Samantha Mercer	07767 450967

POLICE

Police – Non-emergency contact (North Rural team) 101
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SCHOOL

Milborne First School		
Head of School	Michelle Cheeseman	01258 837362
Chair Governors:	Paul Tasker	
Friends of School Chair:	Kate O'Kelly	
St. Mary's Puddletown	Tim Ennion	01305 848293

SPECIAL INTEREST

Bridge Group	Laurie Benn	01258 837720
Cribbage	Peter Anthony	01258 837089
Dog Training Behaviour	Natasja Lewis	07896 275357
Food and Wine Club	Steve O'Neill	07490 691121
MSA Allotment Society	Joy Robinson	01258 837661
MSA Gardening Club	Bill Love	01258 837677

Milborne Players	Gren Davis	07876 793319
Village History Group	Pam Shults	01258 837203

SPORT

Hardy Country Bowmen	Mike Healy	01300 342134
Circuit training	Grace Martin	01305 213885
Cricket – Dewlish	Elaine Kellaway	01258 837696
Karate	Peter Thompson	07873 116118
	wessexmartialarts@gmail.com	
Move it or lose it	Pippa Thurgood	07545 241291
Pilates (school)	Claire Barratt	07703 648869
Football – Milborne Sports	Kelvin Dormer-Woolley	07544 725855
Football – Veterans	Paul David	07841 506839
Skittles – Dewlish	Simon Ross	01258 837606
Tap Dancing for Adults	Kevin Selby	01305 250386
Tennis	Rich Hawker	07393 309037
Yoga (at school)	Sue Chapman	01305 848053
Yoga (at Sports & Social Club)	Saira Francis	01258 880505
Yoga (at Village Hall)	Angela Johnson	01258 839060

HEALTH

Bere Regis Surgery		01929 471268
Milborne St. Andrew Surgery		01258 880210
Milton Abbas Surgery		01258 880210
Puddletown Surgery		01305 848333
NHS for non-emergencies		111
Patient Voice Secretary	Nigel Hodder	07983 013781

Junior corner

Answers from page 16

W	A	L	E	S		S	T	A	M	P
A		E		C	A	T		L		O
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Picture – St. Andrews View

1. Scotland
2. Charles II
3. Whose Afeard
4. Durnovaria
5. On the Tongue

2025 EVENTS

Outdoor Markets

Saturday 26th April
Saturday 28th June
Saturday 11th October

Plant Fair

Sunday 11th May

Outdoor Theatre & Music

Twelfth Night

*performed by the Lord Chamberlain's Men
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Thursday 5th June

Wind in the Willows

Saturday 21st June

Jane Eyre

Saturday 2nd August

Big Bad Wolf

Saturday 16th August

Abba Tribute

Saturday 6th September

Winter Food & Drink Fair

Saturday 8th November
Sunday 9th November



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