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# Reporter

News and Views from around the area

Volume 18 Issue 7

July 2025

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Paper copy to any of the team.

# The Village Hall patio is officially open

DESPITE the weather forecast suggesting otherwise, we were fortunate enough to have a relatively dry Bank Holiday Monday for the official opening of our new patio outside the Village Hall.

The forecast was probably a double-edged sword as only 30 people turned up to witness the occasion and benefit from free

tea and biscuits! Would more have ventured out had the forecast been better? We will never know! Those who did attend enjoyed the opportunity to relax in the patio area or take full advantage of the recreational facilities.

Chair Linsey O'Neill welcomed everyone to the opening and thanked the two Barrys – Barry Andrews for the building of the patio and Barry Bright for the furniture. In addition, Rich Hawker has provided a ramp to make access to the patio easier. The Hall



Committee is delighted that local craftsmen were able to contribute to the transformation of this space thanks to reasonable pricing. The Parish Council also supported us with a grant towards the furniture purchase. It should also be remembered that several individuals and organisations contributed via the successful "Sponsor a Slab" appeal that helped make it all possible.

It was former treasurer, Ed Frost, who had first



mooted the patio idea with the Committee some years ago and – although he deemed it too cold to eat his picnic outdoors – he was more than happy to "cut the tape" to declare the patio well and truly open to the public. There was even a pétanque match with the winning

team captained by Ernst Wagner winning a tightly fought contest 13–12. No doubt the losing captain will be seeking a return match to gain revenge very soon!

This is perhaps a good opportunity to remind readers of the *Reporter* that the outside space alongside the Village Hall is managed by the Hall Trustees and Committee. As a charity, we get minimal financial support for this space which is



free to use by residents and visitors alike. There is a multi-use games area (commonly known as MUGA) which supports basketball, tennis and football in a safe enclosed area in addition to table tennis, the pétanque court, a playpark area for the younger children, a zipwire for those a little older, and now, the patio. It all must be funded by whatever revenue we can achieve through the hiring of the hall itself and any grants we can secure from other charities and local government. We are always grateful for the support of our Parish Council but recognise their funds are also limited but hope that we can continue a relationship that has endured over the years through collaborative thinking.

Finally, it should not be forgotten that a few people give their time freely to make the Village Hall and its environment available, so if you think you can contribute in any way, please get in touch with any of the existing Committee members. We really would love to hear from you.

*Nigel Hodder (Treasurer)*



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## Distinguished Gentleman's Ride

IN the May issue of the *Reporter*, I mentioned that I would be taking part in the Distinguished Gentleman's Ride on the 18th May in aid of prostate cancer and men's health. I can confirm that



I completed the ride and raised £161 for the charity in the process. So a big thank you to my sponsors.

After signing in and a quick speech from the local organiser and the mayor of Dorchester, 148 bikes set out at noon from Poundbury. The route took us through Dorchester, Broadmayne, Weymouth and back to Poundbury where we stopped to gather everyone together. Once gathered, we all headed to the Dorchester Rugby club for refreshments and some tug-o-war. If you were held up by a large number of motorcycles moving at a sedate pace that Sunday, then thank you for your patience. It was for a good cause. The Dorchester run beat the £5,000 target set, raising £7,126 in total.

The UK had 12,955 riders and raised £1,111,543 coming second only to the USA whose 14,740 riders raised a total of £1,837,866. Canada produced the rider with the highest sponsorship of £46,187. The UK rider with the highest donations was on the Edinburgh ride with £30,468.

*Pete Constant*

## Milborne garden wildlife

WHAT an amazing few weeks we have had in May with wall to wall sunshine although so little rain. Things in the garden did so well with all of my apple trees having the greatest amount of blossom in the last forty or more years. Now is the time to see what the set of fruit is like, although it is still too early to thin the fruit as the June drop has yet to take its toll. I have a good set on my peach trees and already I can see figs enlarging as well as lemons too. These last three trees are in the south facing shelter of the bungalow so have benefitted from the sun. The one disappointment is a young apricot tree elsewhere in the garden that had no flowers at all. The rain when it did come at last was very welcome and I hope for a more reliable amount as time goes on.

I have had no abnormal bird visitors to my feeders, just the usual mix with goldfinches dominating and the very welcome few greenfinches that have had a catastrophic decline over the last few years due to a parasitic infection. There is concern elsewhere in the country, particularly in London and the south-east, that blackbirds are suffering from Usutu virus which is

causing a decline in numbers. As well as the almost routine sightings of buzzards, there have been an increasing number of red kites seen here. Also as a great bonus was the sighting of a hobby being mobbed by rooks.

I have been immobilised following a leg operation, so have spent a lot of time sitting in the garden doing nothing but watch everything. This includes a robin now coming regularly to my hand for live mealworms. Additionally, the welcome sight of courtship feeding of one



robin to another of mealworms taken from my hand. Who knows if it is male feeding female or the other way round as it is not possible to differentiate the sexes, but they know! While sitting beside a pond I have seen quite a few Large Red Damselflies (the ones with black legs) but no Small Red Damselflies (with the red legs). I have also seen one Common Blue Damselfly in the garden. I do hope to see dragonflies later on in the summer.

I have been very disappointed at the lack of hedgehogs following the effect of badger predation in the area. Please let me know if you have regular hedgehog visitors still at your home. (e-mail me at [pip.jackie@btinternet.com](mailto:pip.jackie@btinternet.com)). Please note that a new hedgehog rescue centre has been established at Ashley Barn, on the road towards Briantspuddle. So, if you encounter a sick or injured hedgehog that facility is close by. There is a Grand Opening day for the public on 29th June 10.00am – 4.00pm (tel 01929 290112). It has facilities for up to 103 hedgehogs. Animals that you see out during the daytime may be a little disorientated so leave them if they appear to be 'on a mission'. They may be looking to relocate young or have been disturbed by a dog or something similar.

*Pip Bowell*



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# Fanning the Flames for over 200 years in Dorset and Beyond

## by Andy Way – Episode 2

LAST month, I featured blacksmiths from MSA from my new book called *"Fanning the Flames for over 200 years in Dorset and Beyond: The Way Family Blacksmiths, and their related blacksmithing families the Bligdens, Maltons, Roberts and Tizards"*.

I showed that the first MSA blacksmith I could find was Thomas Malton (1777–1804), who was definitely a blacksmith in the village in 1796. His brother Edward Malton (1782–1849) also becomes a blacksmith in MSA; the earliest record I've found demonstrating that is his son's baptism in 1823. Edward would have been 41 at that time, not an age when one starts one's blacksmithing apprenticeship, so we can assume that he's already been working in the forge for 20+ years by then.

As you might expect, blacksmithing skills were often passed from one generation to the next, so both Thomas and Edward had sons who continued the profession in MSA.

Thomas' son James (1800–64) was a blacksmith in MSA certainly in 1829 as his son's baptismal record shows his profession, but he was almost certainly useful around the family forge 15 years before that. He is still blacksmithing in the 1861 census for the village.

Edward's son Thomas (1823–62) is a blacksmith in the 1851 and 1861 censuses, but the Malton blacksmithing line appears to end in the early 1860s with the deaths of Thomas and James.

Two months ago, I featured Samuel Way (1839–1908), who was definitely the blacksmith in MSA in 1867 as his son's baptismal record demonstrates. On 5th Feb 1866, Samuel marries Jane King (1837–1920) in Tolpuddle. In the 1861 census, Jane was working as a 'House Servant' for 64 year old William D Tapp, 'Alderman of the Borough of Dorchester and Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons', at 10 South Street in Dorchester.

Even today, this remains a grand building on what is now the main shopping street in Dorchester, now a branch of Barclay's bank. Interestingly, there is a blue plaque on the wall, stating that the building was the inspiration for the Mayor's house in Thomas Hardy's *The Mayor of Casterbridge*!

It appears, therefore, that around this time Samuel took over the Maltons' forge in MSA, and the Ways become the next blacksmithing family in MSA until at least 1927. Samuel is certainly a blacksmith in the village until 1895 as his daughter Evelyn Maud's marriage record to Ernest Herbert Colbourne lists his profession. The eldest son of Evelyn and Ernest sadly gets shot in the head at Gallipoli in WWI, and their other son is captured on 15th Feb 1942 fighting in Singapore in WWII.

In the 1871 MSA census record, Samuel is a 'Blacksmith employ[ing] one Man'. On a different page of the census 25 year old Frank Smith (great name!) is a journeyman blacksmith, so it must be him that Samuel is employing. In 1881, they are living on Whitchurch Road in Milborne Stileham, where Samuel is 'employing one man' as a 'Smith and Farrier'. Charles Legg (22) from Admiston is listed as a 'Blacksmith' in the census, so presumably he is working for Samuel.

In 1891, Samuel and Jane are living in Crown House, the old Crown Inn in the village. The occupation given for both Samuel and his son Ernest is 'Smith', and it is clear from the census record that Samuel is employing Ernest. In 1901, they are living on White Lane in Milborne Stileham, but sadly the census record shows Samuel to be blind. Son Ernest is a 33 year old 'Blacksmith' in 1901, and we'll meet him in next month's article. Samuel dies seven years later and is buried in MSA on 8th April 1908 aged 69.

Andy Way

## Milborne Movies – July Film Night!

Join us on Thursday 18th July for a fantastic evening of film and fun at Milborne Movies!

### This Month's Feature: Mr Burton

A heartwarming tale that's sure to entertain!

Doors and Bar Open: 7.00pm

Film Starts: 7.30pm

Tickets just £6.50 – includes a drink or an ice cream!

Come along for a relaxed night out with friends, great cinema, and a treat on us.

See you there!

## Summer Serenade in Briantspuddle

Summer Serenade is the first concert to be given by Wessex Voices, Dorset's newest choir, on 5th July in Briantspuddle Village Hall. Lasting from 7.30–8.30pm the choir will sing some familiar and less familiar Spirituals and Folk Songs with piano solos by Neil Sissons.

The choir's director, David Greenwood, has been running choral workshops in Briantspuddle for three years and Wessex Voices is made up of singers who come to these workshops and other local singers looking for something a bit different.

The evening promises to be a celebration of beautiful music. Tickets, which cost £10, can be bought on the door or in advance by emailing David at [casterbridge.music.uk@gmail.com](mailto:casterbridge.music.uk@gmail.com)

Milborne St. Andrew Village Hall,  
in partnership with Artsreach,  
presents:

## Taff Rapids – Blŵgras From Wales

Wednesday 23rd July, 7.30pm

Milborne St. Andrew Village Hall.

Tickets:

£12.50 / £6 (under 18s) / £35 (family ticket)

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Known for their rich harmonies, instrumental brilliance, and magnetic stage presence, Taff Rapids have wowed audiences across the UK, Europe, and Canada. With regular BBC Radio play and their debut album *Blŵgras* on the horizon, 2025 is shaping up to be a big year for the band.

Don't miss this chance to catch them live as part of their UK tour with Artsreach, Dorset's rural arts charity – right here in Milborne St Andrew!

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## Parish Council news

PLEASE note that this article is not the minutes of the Parish Council (PC) meeting. The aim of this article is to summarise some of the discussions that happened at the meeting and to give details that will be relevant to readers of the *Reporter*. PC meetings are open for members of the public and press to attend – if you have something to raise, discuss or would like to listen to the discussions please come along to the next meeting.

Clerk Lewin had heard from Wyatt Homes regarding the HIP at the top of Huntley Down and access from Coles Lane and they stated that they are close to a resolution.

The planning application for Corner House has been granted.

There was no update regarding the planning enforcement of the reservoir at Bagber Farm.

A revised application with minor variations for Fox View has been submitted. Cllrs agreed to book an Extraordinary Meeting to enable discussion with members of the public.

For more information on planning applications search for the planning application reference or “Milborne St. Andrew” at [www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/planning-buildings-land/planning/planning-application-search-and-comment](http://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/planning-buildings-land/planning/planning-application-search-and-comment).

The dog waste bin at the HIP was overflowing and has been for some time. It has been reported to Wyatt Homes. Cllr Macnair requested that it be escalated to Environmental Health as it is not acceptable and is a health hazard.

The Flagpole Policy was discussed and it was agreed to adopt the policy. Cllr Greening has been elected to be the Flag Master and he will oversee all flag duties.

Official flag days :

• Commonwealth Day	Union flag	10th March
• St. George's Day	George Cross flag	23rd April
• St. Wite Day	Dorset flag	1st June
• King Charles III Birthday	Union flag	14th June
• Remembrance Sunday	Union flag	2nd Sunday in November

Unofficial flag days:

If you wish flags to be flown for other reasons or as a tribute to the passing of residents of Milborne St. Andrew past and present then contact Cllr Greening by email [rob@milbornestandrewparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:rob@milbornestandrewparishcouncil.gov.uk).

The full policy is available on the Parish Council website <https://www.hugofox.com/community/milborne-st-andrew-parish-council-7786/parish-council-policies/>.

The next Full Council meeting will be on Wednesday 2nd July 2025 Milborne St .Andrew Village Hall starting at at 7.00pm.

*Jo Whitfield*

## Dressing for detection:

### *at the June 2025 WI*

WE were welcomed by our President for the evening, Angie Clark, who reminded us that next month, 10th July, we will host an open meeting, to which anyone interested is invited to come along and join us. Amy Stephens will give a talk on ‘*24 peaks in 24 hours*’. Also, our ‘*Table top*’ sale is on Saturday 5th July at the Village Hall, 10.00am to 2.00pm. Again, all are welcome.

Planning is in hand for various events; Lin has kindly offered to host our Summer Supper on Thursday 14th August – hopefully, in the garden if the sun obliges. Camp Bestival’s WI tea tent is a huge fundraiser; home-made cakes are needed please.

Veronica reported that the book club had met to discuss ‘*The Marriage Portrait*’, a historical novel by Maggie O’Farrell, which had been well received and enjoyed by everyone. They move on to ‘*Without Warning & Only Sometimes*’ by Kit de Waal.

Our speaker, Paula Harmon, has published a number of historical mysteries set in Victorian and Edwardian times. Unusually though, her main characters are female, and, despite wearing the fashionable clothes of the time, they are prepared to tackle crime and solve mysteries. Paula has researched in great detail women’s wear of that era; to determine whether it was actually feasible for her lady detectives to get around the inevitable restrictions of their clothing!

The tight corsets in particular would have made much movement extremely difficult, not to mention unhealthy. The need for women to work, in many cases just to make ends meet, meant that corsets, long skirts and hugely decorated hats began to give way to trousers and more sensible clothing. It was apparent that many women were prepared to sacrifice fashion in order to take up work of some kind. The Suffragette movement in particular played a major part in highlighting the importance of women in the workforce, even though they still did not have a vote.

We hope you will come along and join us at our Open meeting next month (*see above*).

*Pat Bull*

## Table Top Sale



**MSA W.I. are organising a**

**Table Top Sale at the Village Hall**

**On Saturday 5th July**

**From 10.30am to 2.00pm**

***Buying or selling this is not to be missed***

**Table Hire £10.00**

**Contact Lin Chatfield 01258 837127**

# Milton Abbas Surgery

## Annual Flu Vaccination Clinic

We will be running our annual flu vaccination clinic for our 65 year 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.

## Carer Friendly Surgery

We are pleased to announce that Milton Abbas Surgery has been recognised for the exceptional care and support we provide to unpaid carers within our practice and local community!

Letting us know you're a carer means we can better support you. We understand the extra pressure caring brings and want to make sure you have access to the right help and information. If you haven't already, please tell the surgery that you're an unpaid carer and who you care for, so we can note it on your records and signpost you to where you can access support.

We would also encourage you to get a Carer Friendly ID card to prove that you are a carer when you are out and about and have access to online and high street discounts and offers. For more details go to [www.dorsetcarerscard.org.uk](http://www.dorsetcarerscard.org.uk)

## Autism Health Checks

We have recently launched Autism Health Checks at our surgery and are in the process of reaching out to patients. If you would be interested in knowing more, please contact the surgery either by phone or email [miltonabbassurgery@nhs.net](mailto:miltonabbassurgery@nhs.net) and ask for Anna (one of our Social Prescribers).

We are also trialling a new Autism Support Pathway to ensure everyone over 18 years old receives comprehensive support during and after their assessment.

If you have any communication or adjustment needs related to autism, ADHD, or mental health that would make it easier for you to access our surgery, please let our Social Prescribers know. They'll be happy to help you!

## Wellbeing Activities

Just a reminder of some of the great groups run by our fantastic surgery Health Champions:

- ◆ Beginners Line Dancing group is on a Monday 2.00pm–3.00pm at the Winterborne Whitechurch Village Hall
- ◆ Walking group is on Wednesdays at 10.00am – please see our surgery Facebook page for the monthly walking schedule or collect a programme from Reception
- ◆ Crafting group is on the first and third Wednesday of the month at 12.30pm at the Milborne St. Andrew Sports Club Pavilion (DT11 0JA)
- ◆ Nurtured by Nature group is on a Thursday during term-time and weather permitting

No need to book a space, just turn up on the day. Our Wellbeing Team would love to see you! Further information can be found on our surgery website [www.masurgery.co.uk/wellbeing-team](http://www.masurgery.co.uk/wellbeing-team).

**Deadline for the next issue 14th July**

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## Taff Rapids



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Bluegrass from Cardiff, Wales



## I would, but I can't . . .

I've just come across a story from the 1920s about a rather wayward curate. He wrote a grumpy letter to the local paper, moaning about the positioning of house numbers in certain streets in Andover, where he lived. These houses had long front gardens, and his gripe was that the house numbers were not at the garden gate at the entrance to the property, but attached to the front door where they couldn't be seen from the street. In his view this caused a needless and hazardous trek up 'circuitous' garden paths, only to discover once at the front door that he was at the wrong house. It made evening visits especially difficult, so he declared he would no longer visit houses in these particular streets.

Now I do have some sympathy. Finding house numbers in the dark can still be frustrating; I have often walked or driven past the very house I was looking for, but even so it's a poor excuse for giving up visiting altogether..

I may not use such excuses to get out of my work, but I do have a good line in them when it comes to other areas of my life, most notably the domestic and horticultural!

On a more serious note, I wonder what opportunities and experiences we miss out on in life, because the excuses in our head outweigh the positive voices that say "Go for it".

Summer is often a season of change, especially for young people – leaving school or university, starting new jobs, travelling, or moving to new places. It reminds me of times in my own life when I let opportunities pass me by – not because I didn't want them, but because I lacked the confidence to step forward.

Change is often uncomfortable. Stepping into something new can feel daunting. But life is always offering us the gift of new beginnings. What matters is whether we're willing to step past our excuses, listen to the voice of courage, and take that first step.

But life is always full of the gift of new opportunities.

Sometimes they come disguised as challenges or arrive at inconvenient moments. Often, they ask something of us – our time, our trust, our willingness to move beyond what feels safe. But if we always wait until we feel completely ready, we may never move at all.

The good news is that we don't have to have it all figured out. In moments of change or uncertainty, God walks with us – not pushing us from behind but gently leading us forward. Faith doesn't always remove our excuses, but it can give us the courage to look past them.

So perhaps this summer, the invitation is simply to stay open – to try something new, to reconnect with someone, to take that small step you've been putting off. You never know what blessing might be waiting just a little way up the path.

With best wishes

*Sarah*

## Notes from St Andrew's

OUR Annual Parochial Church Meeting was held jointly with All Saints', Dewlish, at the end of May. A well-attended Eucharist at All Saints was followed by meetings to elect Churchwardens and other officers for the coming year and to receive reports on various aspects of church life during the past year.

After 11 years or so, Pam had decided to step back from her churchwarden role, although she will continue as a PCC member and as our Deanery Synod Rep. So, Tony was re-elected as Churchwarden for Milborne and Jim Burg and Sue Britton for All Saints. Pam was presented with a bouquet of flowers and gifts to mark her retirement and thanked for all she has done for St Andrew's (and will continue to do so, "in retirement"!)

*Continued on page 13*

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

### July

#### 6th July – Trinity 3

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

#### 13th July – Trinity 4

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

#### 20th July – Trinity 5

9.30am	Worship in Stillness	Milborne
11.00	Martyrs Festival Songs of Praise	Tolpuddle
11.00	Parish Communion	Puddletown
11.00	Family Service	Dewlish

#### 27th July – Trinity 6

9.30am	Parish Communion	Milborne
10.00	Go Fourth	Tolpuddle
11.00	1662 Morning Prayer (traditional language)	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

## Church Contacts

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

### Churchwardens

**Milborne St. Andrew**

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



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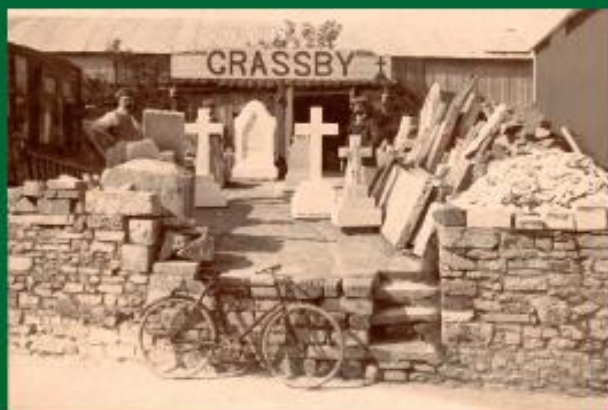
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*Continued from page 11*

Sarah was presented with flowers for all she does in the Benefice, particularly her work at St. Andrew's and All Saints'. Emma received flowers for her work as Treasurer this past year. At the short business meeting following the APCM, Angela was appointed Secretary to the PCC, and Penny Pearce was appointed our Treasurer. We are grateful to Penny for volunteering her services. Her expertise in all things financial will be a great asset.



Our Milborne Praise at the beginning of June was held on June 1st, "Dorset Day", so we celebrated two local saints – St. Aldhelm, and St. Wite (or Candida). Aldhelm was a very talented man and was the first Bishop of the newly created

See of Sherborne in 705 AD. St. Wite was a 9th-century Saxon lady from west Dorset, whose Shrine is still a place of pilgrimage in the Church of St. Wite and the Holy Cross at Whitchurch Canonorum. She is said to have been murdered by marauding Danish Vikings invading Charmouth in 831AD. Think of her the next time you go for a paddle or a fossil hunt.

Our Eucharist for Pentecost/Whitsunday was celebrated by the Reverend Heidi Merrett, assistant Priest in the Dorchester team Ministry, who also preached. Her address reminded us that the Holy Spirit is available to all. The Church looked splendid, decked in red, with many candles and the chandeliers lit. It was good to welcome visitors, who helped make up a larger-than-usual congregation. Thanks to Lin for ensuring there were splashes of Pentecostal red in the flower arrangements. At the end of the Service, Tony presented June with a bouquet to mark her birthday the preceding Friday – 21 again, June?? A particularly rousing rendition of "Happy Birthday to you" was followed by applause. Our good wishes go to Ernst Wagner, as he celebrated a "significant" birthday that weekend – Herzlichen Glückwunsch zum Geburtstag! Ernst. In the evening, the Paschal Candle was moved from the Sanctuary, marking the end of the Easter Season. The Candle will be lit at Baptisms and Funerals, reminding us that the Risen Christ is present with us from birth to death and beyond.

Ninety-five per cent of the hassocks given in memory of the late John Corrigan and worked by members of John's family and many villagers, have succumbed to damp, mould and infestation. Each will now be photographed, and the dedications and names of those who worked the cross-stitch will be recorded and kept in the church archives. Unfortunately, the hassocks themselves will need to be disposed of. The two larger ones for the priests' and curate's Stalls are still in good condition and will be retained. Sheila Price and Margaret Daniels worked on them. Reading the names of those who had undertaken the cross-stitch was a trip down memory lane; many people associated with St. Andrew's and are now "gone before".

As we look forward to the summer sunshine, I recall words from a favourite hymn, written by William Walsham How, author of "For All the Saints", and the first Bishop of Wakefield:

*"Summer suns are glowing  
Over land and sea . . .  
Light of light shine o'er us  
On our pilgrim way;  
Go, thou still before us  
To the endless day."*

Tony (Churchwarden)

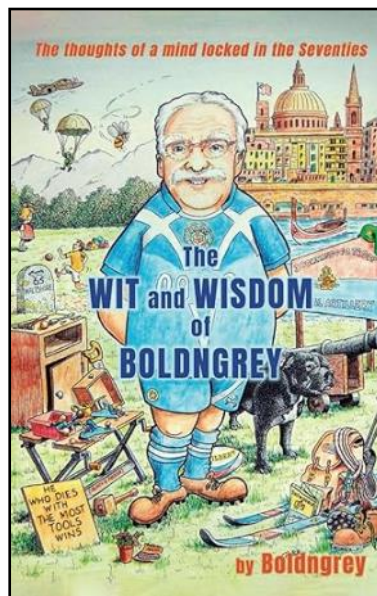
*Dewlish church news continued on page 18*

## A Good Read

### "The Wit and Wisdom of Boldngrey"

*The thoughts of a mind locked in the Seventies*

by Boldngrey aka Harry Beaves



THIS is the second, and to my mind, a perfect complement to the first book by the author. He describes it as an anthology. It is a mix of anecdote, shaggy dog stories and harsh unforgettable reality. The author and his alter ego, Boldngrey, have weathered many storms, personal, painful and global but retained their humour and ability to rationalise without bitterness or self-pity. What emerges is a fully rounded self-deprecating, amusing and

extremely likeable personality. "Three Hours in Belfast" is a sober reference to his previous book "Down Among the Weeds". Out of the 36 chapters covering military life, old age and infirmity and all human life in between, my personal favourites are 'Extreme Foraging' and 'Rugby in My Blood'. Quotes from this book could easily go viral! In a rugby game where the scrum half was battling with one rugby and one training shoe he constantly fell flat on his face. The same game became farcical when the full back kept chasing the attacking winger until they were lost in the darkness two pitches away. The fate of "Sugar" in 'Tea Without Sugar' is a hoot, an explosive foray into an outside privy whilst 'Mother' was in residence, together with witty cartoons are just some of the treats in store in this cleverly constructed post retirement treasure chest to lighten a journey, support a holiday or give as a present. It is an eclectic mix of truisms and hidden truths with glimpses of angst and chaotic early days. I highly commend it.

\*Available from Amazon as a paperback (£8.99) and Kindle (£3.49) ISBN 9781800949416

Carole Fornachon

## Wednesday Club news

ON Wednesday 4th June we invited two ladies from Nourish in Blandford to speak to us. The Blandford Food Bank has now grown into this new charity, not only supplying food, but more help to those in need. This involves The Larder, a shop within the building in which people are advised how to shop more economically. There are also cooking lessons, advisers on finances and a community cafe. Everyone at the meeting enjoyed the talk and if anyone wishes to bring any suitable items, a basket will be at the club every month for contributions.

Next month we will meet outside the village hall at 2.00pm for an outing.

If you would like to join our group, we meet every month in the village hall at 2.00pm on the first Wednesday in the month.

Josie Wright

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## Milborne St. Andrew History Group focus on births and deaths

OUR session last month was very well attended and enjoyed by all who came. Our 'speaker' was Linda Wright, who is well known for her amazing research of old records such as newspaper, Census reports, the village school historical log book, births and death records, and many other resources.

At the meeting, she focused on births and deaths of historical residents of our village. It was sad to hear of the number of babies and mothers who died soon after delivery, of young children who had accidents and of the poor conditions that villagers had to tolerate which led to many deaths. Linda informed us that Dorset was known as a poor county where labourers' wages were very much below other areas of England.

Linda kept us all enthralled and after her talk finished, those present thanked her and continued to discuss, amongst themselves, the subject and of their own histories.

The next meeting will be on 8th October, in the function room of the Royal Oak. The speaker is John Smith, archaeologist, who has delivered several different talks to our group. He will be talking about 'The Battle of Britain over Dorset'. All are welcome; there is a small charge of £3.

Pam Shults

## Advertising space available!

Did you know you can advertise in the *Reporter* for as little as just over £6 per issue? That's pretty good value considering your business will reach every home in the village and more, eleven months of the year. And we know from listening to our readers that the *Reporter* is often the go-to place people will look when they have a need for a particular service, be it a plumber, dog walker or whatever it is they're after. We currently have availability for new advertisers, so if you run a small business or are a local trade, then get in touch and we'll get you on board and in our pages. Alternatively, if you know anyone that would benefit from appearing in our magazine, then please pass on this message.

Advertising with the *Reporter* will also help us greatly – all revenue from advertising goes towards the monthly printing costs which, rather inevitably, have increased dramatically over the last year or two. Every other aspect of the *Reporter* is volunteer-driven, from the collating of copy to the magazine dropping through your letterbox every month, it's all down to dedicated Milborne people. And we do believe that the *Reporter* is a community asset with vital contacts and listings to what's going on with local clubs and societies, surgery news and a round-up of Parish Council activity – we hope you agree that the *Reporter* must live on! Advertising is our lifeblood, so please consider taking out some space to help us and your business.

It's easy to do – just decide on what size you'd like, from an eighth of a page for £70 per year (which works out at £6.36 an issue) to the popular quarter page (£105 per year: £9.54 an issue). A half page costs £195 annually and a full page is £300. Half page ads should be supplied as A4 size in landscape, quarter page adverts as A4 portrait and eighth page as A4 landscape. We'll need your advert as an image file (preferably .jpg) sent to [msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk) with your postal address details. We'll then send an invoice to you by email which will contain the payment details for direct bank transfer. And that's it. You'll be advertising in the *Reporter*!



## 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**

### Butterflies!

As part of our reception class's learning, Miss Ross bought some caterpillars for the Buttercups to care for and they did a brilliant job. Over a couple of weeks, they looked after them and watched in amazement as the caterpillars transformed into beautiful butterflies!



Every child in our school watched as they were released onto our school field. It was a really special moment. Well done Buttercups!

### Bikeability

In June our Year 4 children all had the opportunity to take part in Bikeability. The weather was dreadful, but this didn't stop our year 4's, who wiped off their saddles and pedaled in the puddles!

Bikeability teaches our children road safety, and we are very pleased to announce that all of the children passed with flying colours.

### Wessex Water Visit

The following week, Tim from Wessex Water



popped by to visit our children and teach them all about the process of cleaning water.

All classes were involved and spent the morning experimenting. Buttercups and Bluebells had the challenge of turning muddy water clear whilst our Honeysuckle Class had the delightful task of cleaning toilet water! All children had so much fun and we are looking forward to welcoming Tim back in the future.

## 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](mailto:office@milborne.dorset.sch.uk)

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

Tel: (01258) 837362

Fax: (01258) 837170

# St. Mary's CE Middle School, Puddletown

## Inspire today to shape tomorrow



As we work towards the final month of another school year, the sun is shining and our swimming pool is once again open for PE lessons! It must be summer when the PE staff uncover our open-air pool and offer swimming lessons to the students. It is also great

to be able to welcome our first schools to St. Mary's to use the pool too. Year 5 pupils have just returned from a fabulous



experience of scintillating science at the Winchester Science Centre, where they got to dress up as astronauts, learn about the chemistry behind crazy slime and, best of all, lie back and be amazed by the wonders of the universe in the planetarium.

No sooner than they had returned from Winchester, Year 5 students had their tastebuds tantalised during our annual Sikh Langar day.



In langar tradition, the children prepared and cooked a vegetable curry and dal for the whole of the year group, as well as for some hungry staff! The food that the children created with the help of our wonderful Food Tech teacher, Mrs Evans, was absolutely delicious and appreciated by everyone.



Year 5 have also been joined recently by some extremely cute, feathered visitors! Mrs Monro, one of our Year 5 teachers who lives on a farm, brought in a very squeaky, lively group of ducklings which the year 5 children have been looking after. As you can image, the little Muscovy ducks are attracting plenty of attention and are being very well cared for by the children!



Continuing the avian theme, Year 6 students were recently entertained by visitors from Liberty's Owl, Raptor and Rescue Centre. The children learned about the animals and the work of the centre before being treated to a flying display by hawks, eagles and falcons.

The children in Years 5 and 6 don't get all the fun! Years 7 and 8 were recently treated to a fascinating talk and series of demonstrations during a STEM Artificial Intelligence roadshow with BAE Systems. The team from BAE explained the growing role and potential of AI in the defence and technology industries and enthralled the students with some amazing demonstrations of the capability of cutting-edge AI robots. Our conclusion is that AI robot dogs are extremely clever if not very cuddly!



## 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](mailto:office@stmaryscemiddle.uk)

website: [www.stmaryscemiddleschool.co.uk](http://www.stmaryscemiddleschool.co.uk)

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# Blood Donation: A Life-Saving Superpower You Can Have

WE need to talk about blood donation – it's more important than ever! The country's supply is worryingly low, and if you're able to give, even just once, you could make a huge difference. Ideally, though, becoming a regular donor is the way to go.

Did you know that a single donation – about a pint – can help **four** different people? That's because donated blood is split into its component parts, each serving a unique and critical purpose.

The red blood cells are the biggest portion. They're the oxygen couriers of the body, carrying haemoglobin to cells that need it. The red cells have a shelf-life of 35 days, meaning they have to be used quickly. The plasma taken from these cells can be frozen and stored as **Fresh Frozen Plasma (FFP)**, which helps with blood clotting and replaces lost blood volume in patients.

Then there are the platelets – tiny but mighty! They're key players in clotting and wound healing. Plus, special clotting factors can be extracted from donations. **Factor 8**, for instance, is crucial for haemophiliacs. But that's just one of several essential factors we can collect!

Blood typing is serious business, too. Some blood types can be universal donors **O Rh Neg**, while others, like **AB Rh Pos**, can receive donations from anyone. There are additional, lesser-known types – Kell, Duffy, Lutheran – but matching donors correctly is absolutely vital.

Now, here's something cool: some donors can **specifically** donate platelets using a special machine. It takes a bit of blood, spins off the platelets, and returns the red cells, repeating the process over an hour. There's even a donation site over Boots in the Dolphin Centre in Poole if that's close to you!

On a personal note – I've been a donor for years, but sadly, my age means I can't donate anymore. I first started in 1962 and

joined the **emergency donor panel**, providing fresh blood for newborns, particularly those with Rhesus factor complications (a condition now preventable thanks to modern medicine). As demand for emergency donations dwindled, I transitioned to being a regular three-times-a-year donor and eventually became a **platelet donor**. In total, I made **303 donations**, but now it's time for someone else – preferably **lots** of people – to step in and carry the torch!

So, what do you say? Could you be the next hero?

Visit **GIVE BLOOD** online or call **03001232323** to get started.

*Pip Bowell*

## Fire! Fire!

IF British Summer Time and warmer days mean you will be visiting one of Dorset and Wiltshire's local heathlands or outdoors spaces to enjoy the wildlife and wilderness, please take a picnic.

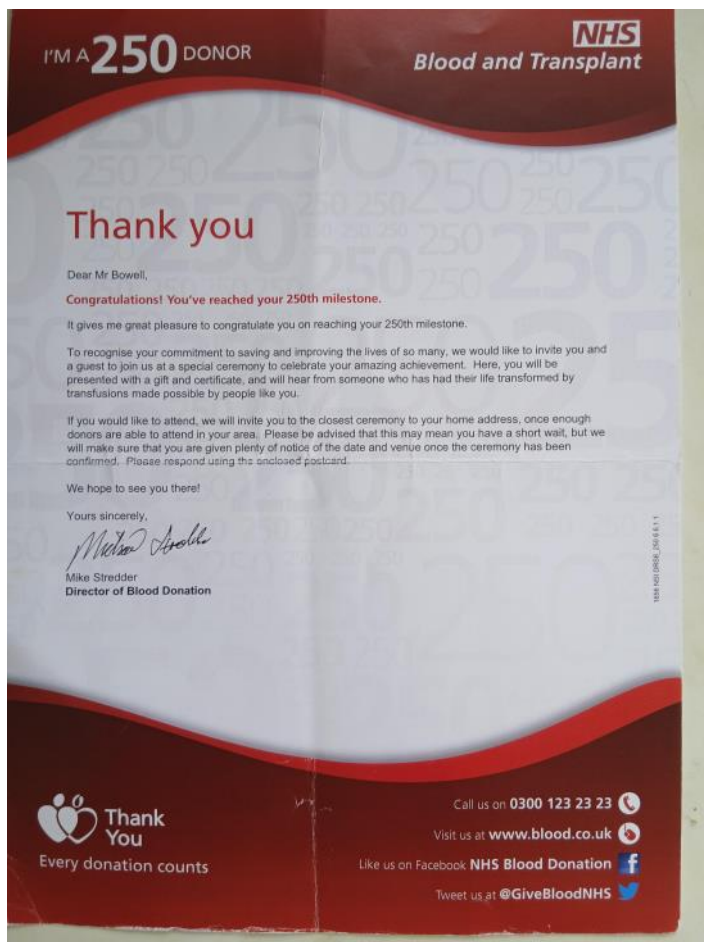
Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service (DWFRS) is encouraging residents and visitors to bring a picnic and not a barbecue when out and about. Warmer and breezy weather increases the risk of accidental or deliberate fires in our open spaces.

A wildfire can move at speeds faster than an Olympic sprinter, so we are asking everyone to follow some simple steps:

- If you are enjoying our open spaces when a fire occurs, get to a safe place and call the fire service on 999 immediately, with as much information as possible.
- Consider downloading and using What3Words to identify your exact location.
- You can also help by reporting any anti-social behaviour on our heaths and open spaces to the Police on 101.

Landowners and land managers are also advised, where possible, to be prepared for fires and ensure that fire breaks are cut and well maintained with any cut grasses and vegetation removed from the site.

For more information on heath fires and countryside safety, please visit our website Dorset & Wiltshire Fire Service | Heath fires and countryside safety.



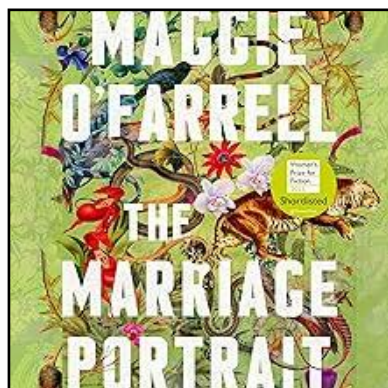
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The Reporter would welcome any new advertisers in this well-read magazine.

## Bookends' Good Read. "The Marriage Portrait" by Maggie O'Farrell



THE consensus of this group was that it was a lavish but cruel story which swept the reader along. For some it was a totally immersive mix of art and artifice loving the way the narrative gaze wandered through fluent prose, for others it was over indulgent prose, perhaps even, on the author's part, self

indulgent. It is a tale of a young girl, Lucrezia, one of the Medici family affianced to the Duke of Ferrara in the place of her dead sister. She was the odd one out in her family and therefore rather ignored particularly when she pleaded for help later in the tale. What has made her famous was that in 16th century Italy she married at the age of 15 years and died a year later supposedly murdered by her husband. Historically it is recorded that she died of pulmonary tuberculosis. The author assures us that this was not uncommon especially if the young woman did not produce the husband's heir. It is a raw but impactful story, history through fiction written with an engaging simplicity. There were many fantastical beasts imagined throughout which all brought energy to each scene. There was a vibrant urgency in the telling as the narrative was framed by the belief that a murder was to be committed. Lucrezia, the unwilling bride was destined to live and possibly die in captivity, first in her father's home in Florence and then in her husband Alfonso's palace and fortress in Ferrara. For many in the group the staggered chronology was a hindrance. It was written in the present tense, layered writing, suspenseful and captivating for those who found this useful. Browning wrote a dramatic Monologue on Lucrezia called The Last Duchess and O'Farrell referenced this throughout. All were agreed that the cruelty of the time created this tragic story of a wild untamed creature destroyed by someone who smiled and smiled but turned out to be a villain all rendered in gorgeous prose.

*Carole Fornachon*

## Milborne St. Andrew Gardening Club news



JUNE was the members' trip to Carey Secret Garden in Wareham. Behind a 150 year old wall sits 3.5 acres in the midst of transformation. Left untouched for more than 40 years, this garden is now flourishing once again. For anyone looking for

a local outing it's a must visit.

July's meeting will have guest speaker Martin Young who will be talking us through how to attract butterflies and other beneficial insects to your garden.

### Jobs for the Garden

- Stake Sunflowers
- Fertiliser annuals and perennials
- Keep bird baths topped up

*Elaine Willcox*

## Fighting Back Against Scam Mail

IN AN age where internet scams dominate headlines, it's easy to forget that traditional postal scams still pose a serious threat, especially to people more reliant on letters through the post. That's why the return of the SCAMnesty campaign by the Friends Against Scams, and National Trading Standards Scams Teams, is both timely and vital.

SCAMnesty invites people across the UK to send in any unwanted scam or nuisance mail, completely free of charge, to help investigators disrupt fraud. The process is simple: just drop the mail into an envelope and send it to NTSST, FREEPOST, MAIL MARSHALS. No stamp is required.

This campaign will be running throughout the summer, but you can send post to the Freepost address at any time.

Postal scams come in many forms: fake lotteries, bogus health cures, clairvoyant promises, and investment traps. They often use official-looking seals, urgent deadlines, and personal touches to manipulate recipients. The goal? To extract money through deception, often targeting older or isolated people.

What's most alarming is that only 5% of these crimes are reported. Victims often feel ashamed or unsure of where to turn. But the truth is, these fraudsters are professionals. Falling victim to their tactics is not a sign of weakness, it's a reflection of how sophisticated these scams have become.

By participating in SCAMnesty, you're not just clearing out your junk mail, you're contributing to a national effort to protect others. Every piece of scam mail sent in helps the National Trading Standards Scams Team build cases, shut down operations, and prevent future harm.

If you are affected by scam mail, perhaps you have lost money to a scam and would like advice on what to do, then visit [www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer) or phone the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on 0808 223 1133. Trusted advice will be provided. Citizens Advice will also identify people who may require more support, and a referral will be made to Dorset Council Trading Standards.



## Dewlish Church Notes

WE HAVE just held our church's AGM, along with members of Milborne Church, where all current Dewlish members were re-elected. Sarah thanked all helpers – Aidan for playing the organ, flower arrangers and cleaners, grass cutter and the church members who work tirelessly to keep our church going.

It is an uphill struggle with such a small congregation and ever-increasing expenses. The treasurer reported that there was likely to be a large deficit in the finance this year due to stagnant income and big increases in Parish Share and Insurance.

Nine people attended our Ascension Day service, and it was good to welcome members from other churches in the benefice. Although the weather was slightly damp, we were able to get shelter from our yew trees! Thank you, Sarah, for taking the service and arranging the music.

Finally, a note for your diary: on Monday 25th August (Bank Holiday) we are raising funds for our church by holding a **Pop-up Market Stall** and refreshments at the Village Hall, 2.30 – 4.30pm. Please do come and join us!

In addition, Sue is hosting the **Annual Farm Service** at Parsonage Farm on Sunday 31st August at 11.00am. Always a lovely service and venue!

*Daphne Burg*

# Junior corner

no prize just a bit of fun. Answers on page 25

## Where in Milborne is this?



## Junior Quiz

1. Americans call it the sidewalk, what do we call it?
2. Who sang, "We can't be Friends", "Everyday" and "Side to Side"?
3. Arigato (Japanese), Obrigado (Portuguese), Takk (Norwegian). What do these words mean in English?
4. How many colours are there in the rainbow?
5. We live in Milborne St Andrew, but of which country is St Andrew the Patron Saint?

## Junior Sudoku

Put each big cat in each row and block and diagonal

		Jaguar	
	Lion		
		Tiger	
	Puma		

## Junior Crossword

### Across

1. Clever Communicator (5,5)
4. See 1 Across
7. International Conflict
8. Spanish Holiday Island
9. Ancient Peruvians
10. Island in Irish Sea (abbr) 1,1,1
11. Environmental Group (5,5)
14. See 11 across

17. Mechanical Servant
20. Fries?
23. Grain
24. African Country
25. Entry to computer
26. Fish
27. Sea Plants
28. Referring to Sight

### Down

1. Bee's defence
2. Not Dead
3. Old word for 2
4. Dress Elaborately
5. Happen
6. Story
12. Spanish River
13. Electric Light Orchestra (1,1,1)
15. Tree
16. High Point
17. Shaver
18. Colour
19. Woody Plants
20. Stringed Instrument
21. Gold Bar
22. Relating to Sound

## Tickets on sale now!!

TICKET sales opened for the Milborne Players summer bonanza on Friday 13th June.

We have for you three plays for the price of one. There is something for everyone: the young and the old(er), the serious and the light hearted. We think you'll love the contrasting genres and the different energies each of these productions bring to the stage.

Please come and support your favourite village entertainers, and see for yourselves how our youngest dedicated cast members have developed out of their pantomime comfort zones.

We look forward to seeing you all there. *Kate Hawker*

**The Milborne Players Presents**

# Summer Mayhem

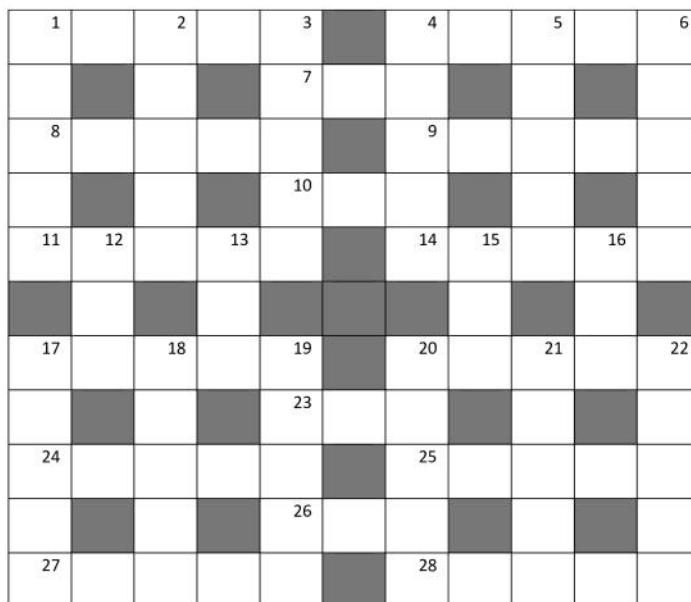
**MSA Village Hall**  
**11th & 12th July**  
**Curtain up 7:30pm**

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**Or**  
**MSA Londis**

**Last Respects**  
 By Colin Calvert

**All By Myself**  
**All By Themselves**  
 By Robert Scott

By arrangement with Lazy Bee Scripts



# “Chatter and Laughter” – Our Caring Community Café

## How it all started

IN April 2022 the very first Village Hall Community Café was organised by Amy and Sandie to raise funds for their Charity Trek in Cambodia in the November of that year. If you go to the *Reporter* archive you will be able to read about their aims and plans in the May 2022 issue. ([milbornestandrew.org.uk/reporter](http://milbornestandrew.org.uk/reporter)).

**Sandie's Charity** – Alzheimer's Society – £1,400 raised. Sandie chose this charity for personal reasons as she lost her father to the disease and also works and has worked with lots of families who have loved ones with various forms of dementia. But also because of the work they do in respect of research into finding a cure and supporting families who have loved ones living with dementia.

**Amy's Charity** – Shelter Box – £1,300 raised.

Shelter Box is a charity that supports people and families following natural disasters by giving them a box which contains shelter and cooking equipment to help their survival in the aftermath. Amy likes the charity's ethos and feels that natural disasters are unavoidable for so many around the globe now. If just one box can house a family, then she felt she would be making a difference directly to the lives of others.

## Why the café continues

After returning from their trek, Amy and Sandie realised how much the monthly café is supported by so many villagers and their families.

Sandie says: “Hearing the monthly chatter and laughter in the hall, worrying if anyone will turn up because of the heavy rain and then having to find extra seats as the hall is so crowded and then having people queuing out the door we realised this was not something we could just shelve. So after very little deliberation we decided it must continue on the monthly basis in the same format as we had started.

We now have a wonderful team of Community Café Ladies (and occasionally a gent who takes his life in his own hands being in a kitchen with rowdy women!) who turn up once a month to serve coffee, cake, bacon, sausage or egg sandwiches and for some – all three, and others one brown slice and one white slice of bread – you know who you are! We hope we deliver service with a smile and sometimes (well, quite often!) a little cheeky banter.”



## How it is organised – helpers behind the scenes

Amy continues: “On the run up to the café we have organising to do – rallying people and we have about a dozen wonderful bakers we can ask, for a cake, but we are always happy to have a bigger cake baking list as most months a few of us ladies bake when it would be nice to have the evening off as there are plenty of other things to organise.

As with any event, there is much to do behind the scenes, making sure all the stock is topped up and all the helpers are available. Our café has fresh flowers each month on the tables, we insist they are foraged and never bought, so our very own ‘Mrs Jam Jars’ works her magic in sourcing foliage and flowers from hedgerows and people's gardens. Tables

and chairs are put out, often the night before, by one of our lovely ladies and her husband.

You may have noticed we all wear Community Café aprons, these were all made by the very talented Leise Edwards who is one of our team – she kindly donated the aprons and we each paid for our logos to be embroidered. The aprons are different lengths so we have to look after our own because, if you are a regular café goer, you will know there could be much hilarity if we wore the wrong ones, Mini and Maxi aprons spring to mind.

Over the last few years all of our families have been bribed into helping in one way or another, they have donned aprons, rubber gloves, lugged furniture, been sent on shopping trips and on one occasion, I believe, even baked!

## Facts and figures

Our monthly attendance is between 50–80 people and it's taken a while to work out how many cakes, how many loaves or sausages to buy – the stress! Sometimes we sell out and other times we might sell two sausages – our villagers are a fickle lot!

So far, the Community Café has raised approximately £6,500 to support the Village Hall. This regular income is really welcome and helps enormously with balancing the VH accounts. This is only possible because of the generous contributions of so many kind villagers who support this venture by attending regularly and inviting friends and neighbours to come along. The prices are very reasonable and they turn a decent profit each month because all the helpers and bakers are volunteers who generously give up their time and efforts for no monetary reward, just the satisfaction of being part of a special venture.

Prices presently are £1.00 for a cup of tea or coffee, £2.00 for cake and £3.00 for a bacon sandwich. Affordable for everyone and certainly value for money. Many of us are happy that our money is helping a community asset and not swelling the coffers of some multinational fast-food franchise, further enriching the already wealthy shareholders.

## How generous are you?

‘The Rich List’ was inaugurated in 1989 by the *Sunday Times* and features the top thousand wealthiest individuals or families living in the UK. Since 2005 they have also published ‘The Giving List’ which tracks the most generous



philanthropists in the UK as a proportion of their wealth.

Although she is not the most generous on 'The Giving List', JK Rowling is certainly one of the most well-known. In 2020 she donated more than £12 million to Volant to support vulnerable families, to date £8.5 million to the Army Benevolent Fund, and £27.8 million to the Anne Rowling Regenerative Neurology Clinic in memory of her mother. She founded and funded Beira's Place to support victims of domestic violence and has so far donated £86 million to many projects in Scotland and around the world.

The UK super-rich are of course minnows compared to US philanthropists such as Bill Gates – 50 billion dollars given away. These huge sums of money are difficult to imagine, but surely it is the proportion of your wealth you give away that counts, not the absolute amount?

The average amount which people give to charity has increased slightly in recent years. In 2023/24 for example, the average amount given in England per month by charitable givers was £29 compared with £24 pounds in 2019/20. Women are more likely to give to charity than men are, and the most charitable age group were those between the ages of 65 and 74.

The millions of ordinary people who give away smaller sums (but a larger proportion of what they have, e.g., in will bequeathments) to charity totals up to more gifts than even the most generous individual philanthropists.

### ***How to get involved***

You don't have to be on the rich list or give away millions of pounds to be a philanthropist, you just have to get involved and make a bit of an effort. Not everyone has money to spare but the gift of some spare time for example by baking a cake can make such a difference. If you would like to be on the list of occasional bakers or a helper for the Community Cafe then please make yourself known. The date for the Community Cafe is usually the second Saturday in the month and details are published in the *Reporter*. Why not invite a friend or neighbour to come along with you next month?

We all have a choice, to give or to withhold. We live in an imperfect world and some charities waste their resources on huge salaries and excessive expenses, but that is really no excuse for shrugging your shoulders and opting out completely. We all have to keep our eyes open and choose where we donate our time and money wisely.

"Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on earth." – Muhammad Ali.

### ***Get in touch***

I wonder which charities and projects you support with either money or spare time and effort? Please get in touch and share your thoughts at [good.deeds.MSA@gmail.com](mailto:good.deeds.MSA@gmail.com) *Rose Frost.*



## **New booking system coming later this year at household recycling centres**

A BRAND-NEW booking system is set to be brought in later this year at Dorset Council's Household Recycling Centres (HRCs, or 'the tip'), which will require users to book a slot before they visit.

Already in use in other counties, the free-to-use booking system will allow residents to pick a time of their choosing to drop off waste and recycling – meaning their visits will be quicker with reduced waiting times.

"It works well in other places, and we are doing everything we can to help our residents keep Dorset as the top performing unitary council in the country for recycling" said Cllr. Jon Andrews, Dorset Council's Cabinet Member for Place Services.

People will be able to book a slot at any Dorset Council HRC online. After providing basic information (name, address, vehicle registration etc.) they'll be offered a selection of bookable half-hour timeslots – up to two weeks in advance - in which to drop off their waste. Most bookings will be able to be made for the same day, and there won't be any limit on the number of visits for most vehicles.

Slot bookings over the phone will be introduced later. Those people unable to book online from day one can still take their waste to an HRC where they will be given assistance with using the new system on site.

Many other councils, including Essex, Swindon, Suffolk, Kent and Gloucestershire, have already introduced a booking system. After a period of adjustment as people changed their visiting behaviour, it was found that the systems led to a better experience for both site visitors and from support staff. For example, here in Dorset, Verwood residents have spoken favourably about the booking system that Hampshire County Council uses when booking visits to the Somerley recycling centre. Essex County Council recently reported a 95% satisfaction rate with their booking system.

"The current just-turn-up-and-drop-off system at our HRCs has served us well over the years but is now showing its limitations," said Cllr. Andrews, "Many of our sites, especially at Dorchester and Wimborne, experience long periods of queuing and crowding that cause frustration for visitors, nearby residents, and local businesses. This system will improve the overall customer experience by preventing these problems.

Current arrangements, such as opening hours, types of waste accepted, vehicle permits, chargeable waste etc. will remain unchanged.

The new system is expected to be introduced in autumn 2025. More information will be provided when the launch date is confirmed. In the meantime, you can find out more via the Dorset Council website.



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Have you got a funny story you'd like to share? Or joke, anecdote or anything that would make us and the village chuckle?! The Reporter would love to share your funnies, so get in touch:

[msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk),

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[www.milbornestandrew.org.uk/Reporter/Archive](http://www.milbornestandrew.org.uk/Reporter/Archive)

## Reporter - July 2010

Established plans to enhance the Milton Road junction blocked at the last minute and, in 2009, "it's a Dog's Life" speculates on the re-opening of The Royal Oak

### Public protest forces Parish Council to abandon plans



The Parish Council has abandoned its plan to improve the appearance of the village centre junction with Milton Road. This followed organised public protest against the scheme. The Parish Council's scheme, shown above, was designed to soften at least one side of the junction, but, following the protests, all we can hope for now is a bench, a bin and a couple of planters.



## It's a Dog's life

SPLASHED on the front page of last month's *Reporter* was news that will be welcomed by many, if not all villagers – that the Royal Oak pub is soon to re-open. After nine months of being a dry village, I'm sure everyone and his dog will be there on opening night, and hopefully many nights after. And I hope I'm not wrong in thinking that the 'new' Royal Oak will have 'dogs welcome' policy as did the old Royal Oak.

During these long twilight months without a boozier, we've had to wander further afield for a pint or three. But needs must, so what could be better than a good walk with a dog by your side (or, more realistically, somewhere in the distance), knowing that a decent pint of ale is waiting for you? Open the Cerne Abbas and Bere Regis OS map and the little green dotted and dashed footpaths and bridleways that radiate from Milborne all lead to the most welcome of cartographic symbols, the blue tankard. (I think this must be the very reason for the existence of footpaths: getting to the pub).

The Martyr's Inn at Tolpuddle affords a good walk from Milborne, which is more or less circular – though the downside is having the rumble of the A35 in earshot for some of it. The pub apparently does accept dogs in the bar, though we have only ever sat outside with our lot for our hop-driven pit stop (*sans* crisps, much to their and our disappointment, the Martyrs not offering bar snacks).

The most dog-friendly of pubs allow you to eat with your hound – no, I don't mean there's a place setting complete with napkin for Bonzo (though I'm sure Paris Hilton does this with her pooch) – generally in the bar, dog at your feet (begging, most probably). Most recently, I walked with a mate to the Drax Arms at Bere Regis. Head east, through Gould's Farm, continuing until you meet the Jubilee Trail. Follow this through Bere Down Farm and then into Bere. It's a beautiful walk with big open vistas, perfect at this time of year. The Drax is positively welcoming of dogs and they even let my mate in – and he's from Portsmouth. The food's pretty good, traditional pub grub, though my companion was a little irked as his chicken pie was meant to come with 'veg of the day'; all he got was chips, though it's fair to say he may have confused the staff. (But he does like his veg – probably down to his Pompey roots and the prevention of scurvy). Which meant there were less leftover chips for the expectant trio below table.

So roll on the opening of Milborne's pub, and long dog walks ending with a good pint of beer to slake the thirst. Because a lolly from the Londis just doesn't always do it.

Ed Richards



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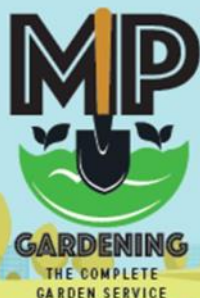
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## Sailor Bob's Crossword

### Answers from last month

B	I	O	M	A	S	S		L	U	C	I	F	E	R
A		C		L		O		O		A		I		A
V	I	T	R	I	O	L		C	A	P	U	L	E	T
A		O		E		O		A	K		R		B	T
R	I	P	E	N		M		J		I	D	E	A	L
I		U			R	O	Y	A	L			R		E
A	B	S	T	A	I	N		W	E	B	S	T	E	R
				U		C				N		I		
M	E	M	P	H	I	S		B	I	L	T	O	N	G
A		A			N	I	T	O	N			F		R
H	A	L	O	S		A		N		I	N	F	R	A
A		A		L		M	O	A		C		S		M
T	E	R	R	I	N	E		I	R	I	D	I	U	M
M		I		G		S		R		N		D		E
A	B	A	L	O	N	E		E	A	G	L	E	T	S

## Junior corner answers

### from page 19

**Where is it?** In the stream by the Memorial

#### Quiz.

1. Pavement
2. Ariana Grande
3. Thank you
4. Seven – red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet
5. Scotland

Puma	Tiger	Jaguar	Lion
Jaguar	Lion	Puma	Tiger
Lion	Jaguar	Tiger	Puma
Tiger	Puma	Lion	Jaguar

S	M	A	R	T		P	H	O	N	E
T		L		W	A	R		C		S
I	B	I	Z	A		I	N	C	A	S
N		V		I	O	M		U		A
G	R	E	E	N		P	A	R	T	Y
	I		L				S		O	
R	O	B	O	T		C	H	I	P	S
A		E		R	Y	E		N		O
Z	A	I	R	E		L	O	G	I	N
O		G		E	E	L		O		I
R	E	E	D	S		O	P	T	I	C

## What's on in July

**Tuesday 1st**

**Wednesday 2nd**

**Wednesday 2nd**

**Friday 4th**

**Saturday 5th**

**Tuesday 8th**

**Thursday 10th**

**Friday 11th**

**Friday 11th and**

**Saturday 12th**

**Saturday 12th**

**Monday 14th**

**Tuesday 15th**

**Thursday 17th**

**Friday 18th**

**Wednesday 23rd**

**Friday 25th**

**Use It Or Lose It!** Village Hall 10.15am.

**Wednesday Club** Village Hall 2.00pm.

**Parish Council** Village Hall 7.00pm.

**Bridge** The Royal Oak 2.30pm.

**WI Table Top Sale** Village Hall 10.00am to 2.00pm.

**Use it or Lose it!** Village Hall 10.15am.

**WI Talk** by Amy Stevens on '24 peaks in 24 hours' Village Hall 7.30pm. All Welcome.

**Bridge** The Royal Oak 2.30pm.

**Milborne Players presents Summer**

**Mayhem** Village Hall 7.30pm – see page 19.

**Community Café** Village Hall 10.00am to midday.

**Deadline** for the August/September's *Reporter*. 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.

**Use it or Lose it!** Village Hall 10.15am.

**Gardening Club** Martin Young talk on how to attract butterflies and other beneficial insects to your garden Village Hall 7.30pm.

**Milborne Movies Mr Burton** Village Hall 7.30pm – see page 7.

**Artsreach** presents Taff Rapids – Blwgras From Wales Village Hall 7.30pm.

**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.

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# Community Contacts

More information about many community organisations can be found on [www.milbornestandrew.org.uk](http://www.milbornestandrew.org.uk)

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

## 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](http://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk) or call 01305 221000

**Flooding:** Environment Agency Floodline 03459 881188

**Environmental Incident:** Environment Agency Hotline 0800 80 70 60

[www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency)

South West Highways [hello@swhitd.co.uk](mailto:hello@swhitd.co.uk) 01404 821500

Wessex Water Sewerage Floodline 03458 505959

## GENERAL — ADULT

Bellringers	Robin Mears	01305 848021
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	Denise Saunders	07483 857613
Milborne Ladybirds	Samantha Mercer	07767 450967

## POLICE

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

Contact us | Dorset Police Online is dealt with in exactly the same way as non-emergency 101 phone calls.

## 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
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## 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

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