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# Reporter

News and Views from around the area

Volume 18 Issue 2

February 2026

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Milborne St. Andrew

**More than a pub: why The Royal Oak matters**

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Linda and Pete Constant, Nigel Hodder, Heather V. Hogg,  
David Payne, Ed Richards,  
John and Josie Wright

Advertising: Ed Richards 01258 837907 (07843 018007)

Advertising renewals: Pete Constant 01258 839246 (daytime)

Distribution: Nigel Hodder 07983 013781

Editor: David Payne 01258 837700

Treasurer and photography: Heather V. Hogg 01258 837392

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

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

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

Paper copy to any of the team.

## Let there be light!

ON the last day of November, the Village Hall committee invited everyone to attend the lighting up ceremony. There were Christmas decorations on the tree (pictured) in addition to the small, planted tree which we hope will get a little bit bigger every year. Who said Christmas is getting earlier!



Around 50 people – which included quite a few children – were welcomed with a mince pie and a glass of mulled wine (squash for the younger contingent). The children loudly led the countdown to the lights finally being illuminated.

We had planned to sing Christmas carols, but everyone was enjoying chatting to friends and neighbours and the children enjoyed running around the hall that it was decided we would just listen to the music being played instead.



A big thank you to those villagers who contributed mince pies which must have been jolly good as there were none left at the end of the evening.

By the time you read this Christmas will be over so from the Village Hall committee we would like to wish *Reporter* readers a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Nigel Hodder

This article was submitted on time for the January *Reporter* but due to Internet problems it was not redirected to the editor.

## New Year at the WI – January 2026

OUR meeting on the 8th January was somewhat depleted because of storm Goretti. Those of us who did brave the storm were richly

rewarded with a very interesting talk and slide show from our very own local adventurer Pip Bowell on his trip to Antarctica. His account was both colourful and entertaining. With photographs of

beautiful snowy landscapes, penguins, whales and many birds (over 200 species live in Antarctica).

Our annual and very well-attended New Year lunch was held at the Ashley Wood Golf Club, which proved once again to be a warm and inviting venue. Over 30 of us, including guests, enjoyed the festive fare, good company and excellent service, a fitting finale to the Christmas and New Year season. There was much chatter and laughter. Organising such an event is never an easy task, so particular thanks are due to Nelda and Lin for ensuring a successful conclusion.

Our next meeting in February is a week earlier than usual and will be on the 5th of the month, to allow the pantomime to take place. At this meeting we will be celebrating our Milborne W.I. birthday. Another excuse to celebrate with cake and entertainment.

*Lin Chatfield and Pat Bull*



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# The “InPost” outpost at our village store

HOW many times have you found a delivery from an online retailer propped up against your front door and you are then advised that it has been delivered to your “secure” place – and, of course, it has rained!

When you buy an item online many retailers offer a “Click & Collect” service. This allows the person receiving the item to pick it up from a nearby store. But there is now another way you can collect and deliver your parcels.

You cannot fail to have noticed the large white box on the forecourt of our Londis Village Store. In fact, it should be even larger than shown in this photograph! It appears the plinth was not wide enough to allow both sides of the box to be bolted to the ground so an extension has now been added and, no doubt, the extra lockers will return. Sadly, the system will not be activated until the extra lockers are back in place so at the time of writing it is not actually in use!

Glenn Bratley has agreed to provide this facility at the shop for the benefit of the residents of Milborne St. Andrew (and beyond). With the recent loss of the Post Office in Milton Abbas as well as our own, this facility should be a great benefit to villagers once in use.



convenient for sending and receiving packages, especially as an alternative to home delivery.

## How does it work?

**Drop-off:** Book your parcel online, pay and print a label, then drop it off at a locker.

**Collections:** You can collect parcels from a locker at your convenience. Goodbye to soggy or non-existent parcels!

**Returns:** Return parcels to a locker by scanning the QR code provided by the retailer. This will open a locker, and the courier will add the address label for you when they collect it.

**Delivery:** After a parcel is dropped off, InPost’s courier partners, like Yodel or Royal Mail, collect it and deliver it to the recipient’s doorstep or another locker.

**Flexibility:** Drop-off and collection can be done at any time of day or night.

**Security:** Lockers provide a secure way to send and receive parcels.

**Technology:** The InPost app allows you to track parcels, check locker availability, and find alternatives if a locker is full.

## What will it cost me?

The maximum weight of any parcel is 15kg. The cheapest rate is £1.99 for a size no bigger than 8x38x64 cm. If you exceed these dimensions the card that you pay with will be charged any excess due. The largest parcel it will accept is 41x38x64 cm at a still cheap cost of £3.99.

The service provides up to £50 free insurance. If the value of the parcel being sent is greater, additional insurance can be purchased online. Please note certain items cannot be transported so it is best to check for exclusions before you buy a label.

Happy posting! Go to InPost’s website for more information - <https://inpost.co.uk/lockers>. Nigel Hodder

## A Very Special Musical Treat Comes to Milborne St. Andrew

WE are delighted to announce that, thanks to Artsreach, Milborne St. Andrew Village Hall will be hosting one of the **Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra’s much-loved Cake Concerts on Wednesday 25th February**.

BSO Cake Concerts are relaxed, informal chamber performances designed to be enjoyed in a friendly, social setting. These concerts combine easy-listening live music with refreshments, cake and, most importantly, good company. They offer a wonderful opportunity to enjoy high-quality music without the formality often associated with concert halls.

Specifically developed for people living with dementia, Cake Concerts demonstrate the remarkable power of music to connect people, rekindle relationships with loved ones and even awaken treasured memories from the past. However, these events are open to everyone – whether you are living independently in the community, supporting someone with dementia, or residing in a care or residential home. The welcoming and accessible format ensures that everyone can experience the joy of live music together.

The concert will be performed by the **Teatime Trio**, featuring flute, harp and cello. Their programme includes a delightful selection of popular classical favourites alongside light and familiar film music, creating a relaxed and uplifting atmosphere. Audience members can sit back, enjoy the music, and share tea, coffee and a slice of cake as part of the experience.

### Event details:

**Date: Wednesday 25th February, 11.00am**

**Tickets: £6 (includes tea/coffee and cake)**

**Free carer's tickets available**

Tickets can be booked online at [artsreach.co.uk/event/bso-cake-concerts](https://artsreach.co.uk/event/bso-cake-concerts), by telephone via Linda on 07983 231956, or in person at the community café.

This promises to be a truly heart-warming morning of music, conversation and community, and we hope many villagers will come along to support and enjoy this special event.

# Will The Royal Oak be the next to close?

ONE of my guilty pleasures is watching "Escape to the Country" on television and while watching I often feel quite smug about where I live. Milborne St. Andrew really is an ideal village to live in because so many amenities are within walking distance. Church, Doctor's surgery, Pub, Pre-School, First School, Londis Shop, The Old Post Office Shop, Sports Club and Village Hall are all here for us as well as Ooh Nice Baps! on Blandford Hill, the fish and chip van and other visiting food vans.

Sadly, we no longer have our Post Office in the village and Milton Abbas has very recently lost its Post Office; also, the fate of the Hambro Arms is as yet uncertain. Winterborne Whitechurch has lost the Milton Arms.

Our wonderful village pub, The Royal Oak, ([theroyalOakmilborne.co.uk](http://theroyalOakmilborne.co.uk)) is really feeling the strain for lots of reasons. It would be heart-breaking if it were to close. I can remember, 18 years ago, when the pub closed. (*Reporter* archive February 2009, the very first issue!). There was widespread alarm, public meetings were organised and there

**Reporter**

News and Views from around the area

Volume 1 Issue 1 February 2009

## Massive support for saving the Royal Oak

**T**here was standing room only in the village hall at the meeting to see if a consortium of villagers might buy the Royal Oak. More than 120 people attended the meeting that was organised by the Parish Council on behalf of the village community.

The Royal Oak closed almost three months ago and is being sold by Hall and Woodhouse with a price tag of £380,000. The asking price does not include the car park or fixtures and fittings but "in the present economic climate everything is negotiable" said Councillor Simon Curtis who led the meeting.

Mr Curtis added "As a village we need to decide should we just sit back and let the tide wash it away and be powerless. Or do we want a pub in our village, and if so can you put your money where your mouth is?" It is estimated that at least half a million pounds will be needed to get the pub up and running again and the plan is that villagers would buy shares of at least £250 to raise the money. It was explained that investors in similar projects in other villages contributed around £5,000 each.

Tony Dyer raised the question about what sort of pub the village actually wants. "Will villagers support a Gastro pub, should it be set up to be attractive to families, should it be a traditional 'local' concentrating on drink sales?" he asked. Other villagers asked whether or not the building was structurally sound. If not, the purchase price might reflect only a fraction of the cost of reopening the pub.

By the end of the meeting over 100 people had signed up to financially supporting the idea. A working group has been set up, under the stewardship of John Kane, to take things forward. A report of their first meeting is on page 14 of this edition of the *Reporter*.

A second public meeting is planned for Wednesday February 25th at 6.30 at the village hall. At this meeting potential investors will be asked to complete "pledge forms" to indicate the level of financial support available they are willing to make. We understand that the pledges will be non-binding but will be used to gauge the real level of support for a pub in our village. John Kane can be contacted on 07968 143126.

## Twenty-five years and still making funds for Milborne School

**T**he twenty-fifth annual Milborne Ten Mile and Fun Run took place on Sunday 11 January. 296 runners set off up Milton Road on a cold Sunday morning, but only four runners took part in the Two Mile run. This will probably be the last Two Mile run, unless it is run under another banner and not under AAA Rules.

First home in a time of 53.08 was Lee Rodriguez of Poole Runners, followed by George Miller also of Poole Runners just 43 seconds later, Third home from Yeovil Olympiads was Tristan Cooper in 55.45.

First lady home was Rachael Elliott of Team Kennet in the time of 62.52. In second place was Dawn Broomoth from Holmfirth Harriers in 65.01 and third place went to Christine Thomas of Poole Runners in 66.11.

Milborne's only runner, James Park clocked in at 81.30. Start training now for 2010 and lets see more Milborne runners, like we did a few years ago.

The Two mile run was won by Connor Pullen.

The runs have been organised by John Mills and his family for the past 10 years and all the profits from the 25 Runs have been given to Milborne First School. Photos show local runners Connor Pullen (left) and James Park (right).

Full results can be found on [www.milbornestandrew.org.uk](http://www.milbornestandrew.org.uk)

was talk of a community buy out. Luckily for us, Andy and Sarah Fox stepped in, they saved our bacon then and have served our community so well for all these years. Our hearts go out to Sarah and her family for their loss.

Often when someone dies, I wish there was something practical I could do to help. Of course, that's not always possible, but doing something tangible to help does ease that sense of helplessness we all feel when faced with grief and loss. A rather hackneyed phrase we all use to someone who has been bereaved is "Let me know if there is anything I can do". This is now the time to fulfil those promises we all made to Sarah by

showing support.

In the past quarter of a century, I've visited The Royal Oak many, many times. It has just about saved my life on occasions, especially when I have visitors staying for a while. To be able to stroll down to the pub for a meal or a drink is such a blessing. But also, to take part in community activities like pub carols, quizzes and theme nights is so life enhancing.

Other memorable times have been using the skittle alley for a family christening party for three of my grandchildren and also when Ed and I got married, all four of our children and their spouses and partners went down to the pub afterwards to



extend the celebrations without any need for a designated driver.

So many village clubs and societies use the pub, the best haggis, neaps and tatties I've ever tasted were served at a Food and Wine Club Burns Supper in the pub. All those years of the pub cooking and delivering the food to our Village Lunch Club, doing the catering for corporate functions at the Village Hall, the list is endless.

During the pandemic when things were looking very grim, I will never forget Sarah driving round in her car and, with the help of all her family, dropping off our home delivery of takeaway food and a bottle of wine each week. It was a much-needed touch of humanity and kindness also a reminder that normality would return one day.

The Royal Oak's kindness and generosity extends to providing many, many raffle prizes for charity appeals and organising raffles themselves. Pub based quiz nights have raised a huge amount of money for various charities over the years. If your organisation has benefited then this is now the time to repay some of that generosity.

I wonder how many villagers reading this article have never been to the pub or haven't been in for ages? Alcohol isn't everyone's thing but they do have a wide variety of alcohol-free drinks, tea and coffee. The cost of food and drinks is another reason why some people don't visit regularly but there are many reasonably priced items on the menu and the portions are very generous. Also, not everyone



menu and the portions are very generous. Also, not everyone knows that the menu is flexible; if you are following a Slimming World or Weight Watchers plan, they are brilliant at swapping chips for jacket potatoes for example. Just ask and you'll get what you need.

There are over 500 houses in Milborne St. Andrew, I wonder if the homeowners realise that their property prices would be significantly adversely affected if The Royal Oak were to close? Support our pub and protect your investment!

If each house in the village made it their pledge to support the pub on a regular basis even in a small way, I think that would make a huge difference. It is open from noon each day, serves food all day, is dog friendly and has a great garden with play equipment for children. To sit in the sunlit pub garden on a warm summer evening with a pint or a cool glass of wine is such a pleasure and something I often think about in the cold dark winter months. I'd hate for that to become just a fond memory.

I'm really hoping that people will respond in some way to this appeal and make an effort to save our pub. Pubs are community spaces that often employ many young staff. Also please remember that the pub is a unique part of our British culture, the envy of many overseas visitors and deserves our help and support. The British pub has been serving as a sanctuary and a bastion against loneliness and a vital part of social life, in various incarnations, for 2,000 years.

Please write to our Member of Parliament, Simon Hoare, and urge his support for our rural village way of life. He has responded personally each time I have contacted him:

House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA

Email Address: [simon.hoare.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:simon.hoare.mp@parliament.uk)

Other useful contacts are [PubisTheHub.org.uk](http://PubisTheHub.org.uk)

Also Campaign to protect Rural England

[Cpre.org.uk](http://Cpre.org.uk)

Finally, I'd like to end with a personal anecdote. A little while ago we'd been away in Cornwall for a holiday and on the way home, we'd been held up for hours in heavy traffic with long delays. We finally arrived back in the village in the late afternoon feeling hot, tired and dejected. When driving down Dorchester Hill past the pub, Sarah was sitting outside in the sunshine on the low wall by the side door. As we passed, she must have recognised the car because she smiled, lifted her arm and waved at us. My heart lifted at the sight and I felt such a warm rush of happiness to be unexpectedly welcomed back to my home.

That is what it felt like to be a part of our village. They say it takes a village to raise a child, but I think it also takes a whole, united, caring village to support each other in these difficult times.

So please don't shut yourself away in your own little bubble, make the effort to connect with others and help to save our unique and very special The Royal Oak.

Rose Frost



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Imagine life without Trading Standards. Every shopper could lose £1,000 a year on unsafe or poor-quality goods. The economy could suffer losses of £12 billion, 20,000 jobs could vanish, and £2.53 billion in public revenue would disappear due to illegal trading. Unsafe electrical goods could cause house fires costing £21,000 each, and unchecked underage sales of alcohol, knives, and vapes would put young people at risk. Even simple things like short measures of goods could cost every person over £100 a year.

As an intelligence led Service, Dorset Council Trading Standards needs your help to protect others, to support businesses, and strengthen our economy. If you buy something

that isn't right, agree to work that doesn't live up to expectations, or maybe you're affected by scams, then report it at [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 given to help sort out the problem and all information provided will be sent to Dorset Council Trading Standards.



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# Milton Abbas Surgery

## NHS App

At Milton Abbas Surgery, we're always looking for ways to improve our service and make the best use of our time, especially as GP practices are under increasing pressure. Each week, many hours are spent by our admin team handling medication requests, sharing blood test results, and answering referral queries. This is time that could instead be used to support our GPs and clinicians in caring for patients.

To help with this, we'd like to encourage our patients to sign up for the NHS App. The app gives you easy, 24/7 access to a range of NHS services on your smartphone, computer or tablet, including booking and cancelling appointments, ordering repeat prescriptions, viewing parts of your health record, and receiving test results – all in one place. Using the NHS App not only makes things quicker and easier for you, it also allows our team to spend more time caring for patients and supporting those who can't use online services.

You will need to sign up to Systmonline to be able to access the NHS app. To do this, you will need to bring in two forms of ID into the surgery – one needs to be photo ID and the other a utility bill showing your address – and then one of our admin team can set you up.

If you need help to set up and use the app, please contact Anna one of our Social Prescribers at the surgery who will be happy to talk you through it. We will also be running some support sessions in our surgery waiting room in the near future.

## Medication Orders and Collections

Just a reminder that we ask for patients to please allow three full working days before collecting your medication from our Dispensary

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| Saturday  | Friday    |
| Sunday    | Friday    |

At the moment we are asking Patients to please allow three full working days before collecting.

This chart includes ordering online. If ordering medication through the post, please use the above chart and allow two extra days from the date posted. We make deliveries Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. If you receive your medication via delivery, please bear in mind that it may take longer. If you have any queries, please ask at reception and we will be happy to help.

Dispensary hours are: 8.30am – 1.00pm and 2.30pm – 6.00pm

We are also open most Saturday mornings from 8.30am – 10.30am. Please double check the website to confirm that we are open if you need to visit us on a Saturday.

## MSK Practitioner

Do you have a problem that affects your neck, back, bones, joints or muscles?

At Milton Abbas Surgery you can see a specialist MSK (Musculoskeletal) practitioner instead of the GP. This gives you faster access to expert diagnosis and you will leave with the advice you need to start tackling the problem. They can also refer you on to hospital services where necessary and order tests. GPs cannot order MRI's whereas MSK Practitioners can.

Kerry works with us on a Wednesday. Please speak to one of our receptionists to book an appointment.

## Are you ready for change?

Many of us come out of Christmas and jump straight into New Year's resolutions, setting ourselves tough, often unrealistic, health goals. We want to be in control, for everything to be perfect.

But change is about progress, not perfection. Taking small, achievable steps is more likely to lead to success than quick fixes or fads.

LiveWell Dorset supports thousands of people to lead a healthier life, not just for a month, but for as long as it takes, with 1-2-1 coaching, slimming club vouchers, smoking quit kits and activity plans.

Register online: [www.livewelldorset.co.uk](http://www.livewelldorset.co.uk) or call free: 0800 840 1628. Alternatively, if you would like to speak with one of our Social Prescribers at the surgery about support available locally, please call the surgery on 01258 880210.

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## Lenten thoughts

It's a cold December afternoon as I sit here writing, and still within the Twelve Days of Christmas. But already my thoughts have turned to Lent, which this year begins early in mid-February.

For some, Lent is a familiar season in the church year; for others, it may be only vaguely known, or not part of life at all. It is often described as a time of giving things up, but at its heart Lent is really about growing stronger – about making space for the things that help us live well and deepen our relationship with God.

I'm not a gardener by any means, but February can be a month when those who enjoy horticulture prepare their beds, enrich their soil, do some pruning to encourage new growth and maybe plant seeds in the greenhouse for the summer ahead. Lent has something of that same character. It is a season of quiet preparation, when little may seem to be happening on the surface, but important work is going on underneath. It invites us to tend the soil of our own lives – to nourish what is good, to cut back what has grown unhelpfully, and to make space for new life to take root. The changes Lent encourages are rarely instant or dramatic, but, like good gardening, they are patient and hopeful.

For those with faith, Lent is a time to deepen relationship with God. It offers space to be more attentive, more honest, and more open to God's presence in everyday life. Prayer in Lent is not about having the right words, but about making time to listen and allowing ourselves to be shaped by love, forgiveness, and grace.

Lent is not meant to add another burden, or to make anyone feel they are failing. Instead, it offers a gentle pause – a chance to ask what might help us become a little more resilient, a little more rooted, a little more open to hope. For those who pray, it can be a season of rediscovering that we are not expected to manage everything alone.

Across our benefice, with its villages, roads and footpaths connecting us, Lent is also something we walk together. Whether or not you come to church regularly, you are part of the shared life of the village in which you live. The church's worship, activities and prayers are here for the whole community, and you are always welcome to explore them at your own pace. Sunday services continue, mid-week evening services take place in Milborne (Wednesdays) and Dewlish (Thursdays) and two Lent groups offer opportunities to reflect together (Monday mornings in Milborne and Tuesday evenings in Puddletown).

As we move through the remaining winter weeks towards spring, my hope is that this season of Lent may offer each of us moments of steadiness and quiet strength – the kind that grows slowly and faithfully like seeds beneath the soil, waiting for the right time to emerge.

With best wishes

*Sarah*

## Notes from St. Andrew's

THE Christmas Season ends on February 2nd, with the Feast of Candlemas, also known as the Presentation of Christ in the Temple. The opening sentence at the Candlemas Service is often "Suddenly, the one whom you seek, will appear in the Temple." Although not directly referring to me (!), I plan to be leading the Candlemas Service on Sunday, 1st February at 9.30am. I am so grateful to those who organised our Christmas Services in my absence. Special thanks must go to Pam, whose idea of retirement likely did not include organising and preparing for the extra Services and all that entails. "Thank you." I hope you will now enjoy a restful holiday.

*Continued on page 13*

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

### 1st February – Presentation of Christ

|        |  |                        |
|--------|--|------------------------|
| 9.30am | Parish Communion                             | Tolpuddle              |
| 9.30   | Milborne Praise                              | Milborne               |
| 11.00  | Parish Communion                             | Puddletown             |
| 11.00. | BCP Morning Prayer<br>(traditional language) | Church Room<br>Dewlish |

### 8th February – 2nd Sunday before Lent

|        |                    |                        |
|--------|--------------------|------------------------|
| 9.30am | Parish Communion   | Milborne               |
| 11.00  | Puddletown Praise  | Puddletown             |
| 11.00  | Parish Communion   | Church Room<br>Dewlish |
| 5.30pm | Sunday Reflections | Tolpuddle              |

### 15th February – Next before Lent

|        |                      |                        |
|--------|----------------------|------------------------|
| 9.30am | Parish Communion     | Tolpuddle              |
| 9.30   | Worship in Stillness | Milborne               |
| 11.00  | Parish Communion     | Puddletown             |
| 11.00  | Family Service       | Church Room<br>Dewlish |

### 18th February – Ash Wednesday

|        |  |          |
|--------|--|----------|
| 6.00pm | United Benefice Holy<br>Communion with imposition of ashes | Milborne |
|--------|--|----------|

### 22nd February – Lent 1

|        |  |                        |
|--------|--|------------------------|
| 9.30am | Parish Communion                             | Milborne               |
| 10.00  | Go Fourth                                    | Tolpuddle              |
| 11.00  | BCP Morning Prayer<br>(traditional language) | Puddletown             |
| 11.00  | Parish Communion                             | Church Room<br>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 (from 25th Feb) Compline in St Andrew's, Milborne at 6.00pm  
Thursdays (from 26th Feb tbc) Evening Prayer in All Saints', Dewlish at 6.30pm.

## Church Contacts

Vicar Sarah Hillman 01305 848784  
E-mail: [sarah.c.hillman@outlook.com](mailto:sarah.c.hillman@outlook.com)

### Churchwardens

*Milborne St. Andrew*  
Tony Fox 01258 837651

### Dewlish

Jim Burg 01258 837466 Sue Britton 01258 837218

### Benefice Office

Emma Hughes [puddletownbenefice@outlook.com](mailto:puddletownbenefice@outlook.com)  
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*Continued from page 11*

Following on from those thanks, I would like to thank everyone who has sent cards, good wishes, gifts, offers of help, and assurances of prayers during my absence. It is appreciated.

As the Christmas season ends, our thoughts turn to Lent and Easter. With a relatively early Easter this year, Ash Wednesday falls on February 18th. There will be a Eucharist with the Imposition of Ashes (for those who desire it) for the whole Benefice at St. Andrew's, 6.00pm that evening. As is customary, we will have the Office of Compline at 6.00pm. on Wednesdays during Lent and Holy Week, beginning on Wednesday, the 25th of February. This short service follows the traditional Order and includes a couple of hymns, the Nunc Dimittis, and the Office Hymn. All in all, about 20 minutes. It is a good opportunity to come together to take time to "draw nearer to God".

We send our love and very best wishes to June Maitland, who has been very poorly with a nasty bout of shingles. We hope by the time she reads this, that she will be feeling much better, and we look forward to seeing her in her accustomed place in Church!

News has reached us of the death of Doreen Mullard, formerly Doreen Downton, who lived in Hopsfield for many years, and supported St. Andrew's. She was 92. Her Funeral Service will be held at St. Andrew's on February 5th at 1.00pm, followed by interment in the grave of her late husband, Clifford Downton, who was the first person to be buried in the newly consecrated Churchyard extension some 32 years ago. We send our condolences to all of Doreen's family.

*Words from a hymn for Candlemas:*

"The light is increasing, and Spring's in the air  
Look back with Thanksgiving, look forward with hope!"

May the Light Christ brings shine in our hearts and in our troubled world at this time. Tony (Churchwarden)

## Dewlish Church Notes

THE Carol Service was most enjoyable despite Jim having a problem getting the smaller children for the Nativity. However, Maisie came forward to play the angel Gabriel while we had the most delightful other angel taking part – baby Rosa, who looked absolutely beautiful in her angel costume! Many thanks to all the children who did join in, and to our readers who were especially good.

Finally, our thanks to our musicians: Becky, Naomi and Elsa. Sue must have felt so proud of you! We mustn't forget Jim, of course, who worked tirelessly to arrange it all. Well done, Jim! We have had a Nativity service every year (apart from the Covid lock-down) for over 50 years. Utterly amazing!

Afterwards, we went to the Village Hall for refreshments. Many thanks to our helpers, the ones providing constant drinks and for washing up. Thanks also to David for providing the staging and speaker system again.

The church looked beautiful for Christmas thanks to our ladies who provided lovely arrangements in each window. Jim and his able assistants – thank you, Patrick and Michael – decorated the Christmas tree, erected the Nativity Tableau at the back of the church, and the Nativity Scene in the nave. Again, many thanks, Jim.

Sarah led the Christmas Day service but, sadly, only 12 people attended. Maybe it was the early start-time and the cold weather that put people off. In any event, it was a lovely service.

*Daphne Burg*

## Milborne Movies and More – February Film Night

### At Milborne St. Andrew Village Hall

Milborne Movies and More invites you to our next film night on Thursday 20th February, when we'll be screening **Downton Abbey: The Finale** – a fitting and elegant conclusion to the much-loved Downton Abbey story.

Returning to the grand house and its unforgettable characters, this final chapter brings drama, humour, and heartfelt moments as old traditions meet a changing world. Whether you're a long-time fan or simply enjoy classic British storytelling, this promises to be a very special evening.

**Date: Friday 20th February**

**Doors and Bar Open: 7.00pm**

**Film Starts: 7.30pm**

**Tickets: £6.50 (includes the film plus your choice of a drink or ice cream)**

Come along, relax, and enjoy a sociable night out with friends and neighbours. As always, everyone from Milborne St Andrew and surrounding villages is warmly welcome.

## Milborne St. Andrew Gardening Club



MSA Gardening Club meetings are on the 3rd Thursday of the month at the Village Hall at 7.30pm. At our next meeting on Thursday 19th February we have Jim Dunne from Dorset

Hedgehog Rescue coming to give us a talk. So if you would like to learn about the work that is being done to provide a rescue, care and rehabilitation service for sick, injured or orphaned hedgehogs and to understand the problems hedgehogs face and how you can help them in our green spaces and gardens then please come along. Just £2 for visitors – refreshments included.

### Jobs for the garden:

- Prune dormant deciduous shrubs, summer-flowering clematis and buddleia.
- Divide and replant established clumps of snowdrops and herbaceous perennials to create new colonies.
- Continue feeding wild birds and clean out bird feeders and baths to prevent spread of disease.
- In the vegetable garden prepare outdoor seedbeds by clearing debris and covering the soil with cloches or polythene to warm it up for later sowing.

Thank you.

*Kim Legg*

## Wednesday Club report for January

WE started our new year with a party on 7th January. So many people contributed to make it a very happy, social occasion; Jenny our chairwoman, everyone who brought food, lots of help in the kitchen, those who contributed prizes for our raffle and those who entertained us with a quiz and a 'who am I' guessing game. Everyone enjoyed the relaxed atmosphere and a chance to catch up on all our Christmas adventures.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 4th February at 2.00pm – all are welcome, this time Pip Bowell will be giving us a talk, followed by tea and biscuits.

*Josie Wright*

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# Twenty's plenty and A354 scheme moves up a gear

THE first Parish Council of the year saw a dozen residents attend with the agenda item of 'anti-social behaviour' in the village being the focus for many. This was a follow-up to the last meeting where a resident addressed the PC with suggestions drawn from her background as a serving police officer. There had been a number of incidents of damage to property caused by youths, with the Memorial Stone on the junction of The Causeway and Church Hill identified as their meeting place and where some offences had originated from. The proposal of a sensor light and a camera were seen by councillors to be fraught with issues – battery life of both were questioned as well as image storage capacity since it was envisaged that passing cars may trigger the camera. There were also concerns that the trouble-makers could move on to a less scrutinized location, possibly transferring the problem to near others, and, on the contrary, that the light may make the bench a more inviting spot for them to sit at night. Residents present also questioned whether the images would be of the clarity needed to be of legal use and also said that the new equipment would likely be damaged. It was asked whether the bench could be removed since it was the draw for the youths but this was dismissed since it had been donated for this particular place.

Summing up, Chair Cllr Macnair said that he appreciated the broad scepticism of the light and camera but suggested the way forward was to engage with the resident who offered help and look to further her idea of a village WhatsApp message group for residents to log nuisance behaviour. Councillors will look to set up a working party to this end and report back. **It was emphasised to the village in general that if you observe anti-social behaviour, then report it – for non-emergency incidents call 101 (or 0800 555 111 to report anonymously). If a crime is in progress or there is immediate danger, official advice is to call 999.** Cllr Macnair made the point that logging incidents ensure it goes onto the police database and more likely brings police presence.

Dorset Council (DC) has completed its consultation into the reduction of the speed limit on most Milborne roads south of the



A354 to 20mph. Some residents present were concerned by the thought of a multitude of new signs going up but the PC expected that the existing 30 signs to be replaced by 20 ones and painted signs on roads at the entry and exit points of the 20mph routes.

The traffic calming plan for the A354 near the pub has also progressed with DC moving to the design phase for the scheme that was trialled in October 2024. Public consultation is expected to take place around the end of February, although no dates have been scheduled yet but it will be publicised well. There will likely be a daytime and an evening session for residents to view the plans.

Dorset Councillor Parker had sent an update to the PC about the Dewlish road planning application. She had been told by the planning officer that DC were still awaiting further information about flood mitigation and other points from the developer. If DC do not receive this information by the end of January, the application will be refused.

The Annual Village Meeting (AVM) – where residents are invited to give suggestions to the PC on what they'd like to see done in the coming year – is to be held in April rather than the usual time in May. It was thought that having the AVM on the same evening as the PC Annual General Meeting and May council meeting was too congested. A new format was proposed by Cllr Greening, with village community groups to be invited along to give residents a flavour of what they do and possibly encourage new members. There was also a promise of free drinks to help further community spirit.

The precept – the portion of Council Tax that is required by the Parish Council for village costs – for 2026/27 has been set at £16,400. Clerk Lewin said grant funding would cease being for a limited period, becoming year-round accessible. The funding would come from the reserves pot so the grant window would disappear from the accounts as a separate entity, in effect 'saving' £200. For a Band D property, the new precept would cost the taxpayer £35.38 (81p increase from 2025/26)

Clerk Lewin asked for suggestions from councillors for the subject of a question to be asked at a round table hosted by Simon Hoare MP he will be attending with one councillor from the PC. It was decided that it would be around the contributions resulting from developers' successful builds, in that applications from the north Dorset area goes directly to Dorset Council but developments in other county regions like West Dorset, the funding goes to individual town councils. Cllr Macnair suggested a back-up question for the meeting with Mr Hoare, in case another attendee asks a similar question. He proposed asking the MP about community rural policing priorities.

Ed Richards

*The next Parish Council meeting is on Wednesday 4th February at 7.00pm at the Village Hall – all residents are welcome to attend.*

## Music at St. Peter's Dorchester

AS ever, there is a huge selection of concerts, choral services and musical events to be enjoyed at St. Peter's Church Dorchester this month!

Choral Eucharist on Sunday 1st February at 10.30am marks Candlemas. The music includes Byrd 'Senex puerum portabat', Casciolini's 'Missa brevis', Eccard's 'When Mary to the temple went' and the 'Nunc dimittis' by Amy Beach. This service is free to attend and all are welcome to stay for refreshments afterwards.

The lunchtime concert this month is an organ recital, which takes place on Saturday 14th February between 12.30pm and 1.00pm. We are thrilled to welcome back renowned broadcaster and former organist of Salisbury Cathedral, Simon Lole, as soloist. Admission is free and all are welcome.

On Friday 20th February at 7.00pm we present 'Mozart by Candlelight'. This is an opportunity to enjoy two of Mozart's best-loved chamber works – *Eine Kleine Nachtmusik* K.525 and the *Clarinet Quintet* K.581 (soloist Natalie Burton) - in the evocative, candlelit setting of St Peter's Church. The performance will last just over an hour and is presented without interval. Tickets are priced £15 and available online at <https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-peters-church-dorchester> We recommend you book your seats as early as possible for

*Continued on page 25*

# Rosie's Travels – to Land's End

## Leylant to Hellesveor

Another ride in the big tin box to the start of the walk which started near a golf course, Mum said we had to watch out for the little white balls (not the ones Tommy Steel sang about apparently). We soon got to the beach and us pups dashed down to the sea for a nice paddle, Dad was not impressed as he wanted to get on with the walk. It was quite flat for a change so Mum was happy and we made good time so we got to St Ives in time for lunch. We found a lovely bench right outside a Gallery, how lucky was that for Mum who dashed in for a look. There was even a man on a bench painting a picture of the bay so Mum had a nice chat to him while we ate our lunch.

Dad wanted to get back for a siesta (apparently they have them in Cornwall as well as Spain) so we left Mum to potter around in St Ives and us three carried on walking back to the site and our cosy tin box on wheels. Mum turned up later having made a couple of purchases in town and had found her way back along the path all by herself.



## Hellesveor to Gurnards Head

After a wet start to the day there was a colourful rainbow in the sky before we got started on the walk. The sun came out and it

was a nice walk with a fair bit of scrambling over boulders to get to Zennor. Mum spotted a furry snake, she said it was just a caterpillar but me and Katie thought it was definitely a snake! We were all thirsty after the

walk and popped into The Gurnards Head for a drink, you couldn't miss the pub, it was painted bright orange.

## Gurnards Head to Boscombe

After a rainy night it was a bit muddy on the path, us girls don't mind but the oldies don't like to get their socks wet! Lucky for us there were some nice streams for us to wash our paws in so we didn't get told off for a change. My Dad is a bit scared of horses and we came across a giant one standing right on our path, luckily Mum likes them so she made a fuss of him



while we snuck past. We had a long walk along the road to get to our car and we were all too tired to visit the pub today, never mind, it was nearly our dinner time anyway.



## Boscombe to St Just

No bus this morning so we travelled in style by taxi to the start of the walk. Quite a few old mine buildings along the cliffs so it must have been a busy place when Dad was a boy. I found a really nice seat for Mum to have her coffee, Katie jumped up to be nosy and had a peek over the wall, not much to see only more cliffs! We soon got to Land's End and despite a long queue Mum joined the end of a lot of people just to get an ice cream, Dad wasn't too pleased, he wanted to go off and get a beer!



## St Just to Land's End

A very misty start, we couldn't see where the land ended at Land's End so that was disappointing but we got the giant big tin box (bus) on wheels back to St. Just and hoped it would be clear by the time we had walked back later. I do find it strange that we go to the end of a walk then get a bus to the start to then walk back to where we started, humans are very odd.

The mist cleared and we had a lovely time scrambling over rocks and racing across the grassy cliffs (me and Katie that was, the oldies just plodded along). Eventually the end of England came into view and so did all the day trippers, they didn't bother us though as we weren't stopping and went back to the car. Mum did though as she popped into the Grand Experience to say hello to Wallace and Gromit, she's their biggest fan (not that she's big, she just likes them a lot)!

Bye for now, love Rosie



# New Year Celebrations

THE Village Hall saw in the New Year with cocktails and drinks from Booze Tea Club, and music from Deadwood & Whisky who play modern songs with a country twist.

Rip's Smokin' Gun proved to be the favourite cocktail once again with Bourbon, Licor43, vanilla Rum, and infusions of smoked biscuit and lavender tea, and homemade 'cola' syrup.

There was a dancing banana, some new faces in the village, 'the cow' got a lot of attention, and even 'Natasha' came out to play for New Year.

After the band finished song requests were made, and the dancing and laughter continued. It was an absolutely brilliant night. Everyone enjoyed it so much that Booze Tea Club have been requested to make the open mic nights a monthly feature for the Village Hall. This not only helps to support our Village Hall,



but it's a special night for the community to come together in artistic expression to play music, jam, listen to music, sing, read poetry, or just enjoy the evening together.

Booze Tea Club will host open mic nights the last Friday of every month in the Village Hall from 7.00pm-11.00pm. Tickets are £6 in advance from their website (<https://www.boozetea.club/event-list>) and you get a FREE glass of wine, or beer with your ticket, £5 on the door without a free drink.

Carly



When José Thomas's grandchildren were looking in the loft this Christmas, they found a number of essays written by her husband Harry who died three years ago this month. This prize winner was written when he was 15 years old.

## Winner of Dudley Grammar School "Richard Baxter" Essay Competition 1955

### OCCASIONS I DETEST –AND WHY

ONE of the occasions which I detest and shudder to think of is the moment of getting out of my warm bed on a winter morning. I have to summon up every atom of will-power which I possess to force myself to throw back the blankets and sheets and creep slowly and regretfully out of the warm haven of rest and peace into the cold gloom of morning. The grey light which filters in through the frost-encrusted windows seems to gloat over my shivering body, cruelly and tenaciously trying to drive me back between those inviting folds of the warm, woolly coverings. The cold touch of my clothes allies with cruel Nature, seeming to shriek out time and time again, "Get back into bed, get back into bed". With half-frozen, shivering fingers I reluctantly don my completely frozen clothing, then hurry downstairs, to be greeted by the warm, leaping flames of the newly-lit fire. The battle is over; once more I have succeeded in rising to face a new day.

The reverse is the case when I go to bed at night. I no longer look longingly at those blankets and sheets, for I know that they are not warm and inviting now. Nature has once more done her work; the biting cold has again penetrated into the once warm coverings of the bed, driving out the warmth of which I so longingly and regretfully dreamed as I climbed out in the morning. No longer are those sheets warm and pleasing to my body; they are now cruel torturers which gleefully and relentlessly seek to set my body shivering, and to take away its soothing warmth. For a time the torturing sheets prevail; then the warmth of my body fights back, and I slip off to sleep as it overcomes the biting attack of the cold.

Along with these another thing which I detest comes to mind – that is, examinations. All weeks of preparation and hard work which I have done seem to avail me nothing as I walk slowly and with sinking heart into the examination room. I can now do nothing whatever to help myself further, I know. All is dependent upon what I have done in the past, and as I think over it, as I think of what I could have done but did not do, of all the opportunities and the time which I have wasted, my spirits drop to their lowest ebb. What is to happen now if I find that I have not done the work which it is necessary for me to do? That is the thought which goes many times through my head, torturing my half-paralised brain relentlessly and cruelly. But, as I sit down, I realise that I must do what I can, and leave what I can't do, and with this coldly comforting thought I set to work. As I work, I find that all is not lost, after all, and my spirits rise gradually but surely, until, by the time the examination is over I am quite happy once more.

Another thing on my list of dislikes is shopping on a busy day, when the pavements, and the shops, and very often the streets as well, are choked with a bustling, surging throng of pedestrians. The living stream covers the whole scene as far as the eye can see, and to fight one's way through a mere hundred yards of the crowd takes an unbelievable time. Baskets, prams, shopping bags packed full of purchases are always being thrust into one's back by other people, who are just as harassed as oneself. The never-ending stream of human beings flows in and out of shops ceaselessly and quickly. The buzz and hum of conversation mixes with the roar of

traffic, the squeal of brakes, and the tramp of thousands of pairs of feet. Bewildered shop assistants dash hither and thither, satisfying one customer after another, only to have each place filled by several more customers who seem to appear magically from apparently nowhere, and to melt away once more when they have made their purchases. Buses, cars, lorries, bicycles and all sorts of vehicles rumble slowly through the crowd, the solid mass of humanity opening as though by magic to let them through, and closing firmly together again afterwards. The long queues for buses, the bustling throng and the background hum of movement in the roads continue until early evening, when, as the sun goes down, the crowds slowly disappear, the shops close, and the traffic's busy roar lessens, until nothing is left of the busy life of the daytime, and the town goes to sleep for the night.

### Milborne Movies – Big Screen Magic for a Great Cause

THERE'S something special about watching a film on the big screen – the lights dim, the opening credits roll, and for a couple of hours the world outside melts away. That experience is alive and well in Milborne St. Andrew thanks to Milborne Movies, a friendly monthly film night that brings the community together while raising vital funds for the village hall.

Held on the third Friday of every month, Milborne Movies offers great value at just £6.50, which includes the film plus a drink or an ice cream. Whether you fancy a chilled drink, a classic ice cream, or simply a cosy night out without travelling far, it's a relaxed and welcoming evening for film lovers of all ages.

The team behind Milborne Movies works hard to screen recent releases whenever possible, giving local audiences the chance to enjoy new films close to home. But there's exciting news on the horizon: plans are underway to introduce occasional "Classics Nights", celebrating some of the greatest films ever made.

From epic cinema to laugh-out-loud comedies and much-loved feel-good favourites, audiences will soon have the chance to vote for the classics they'd most like to see on the big screen. One much-requested title already on the list is the iconic *Apocalypse Now* – and it could be joined by other legendary films spanning a range of genres.

Milborne Movies isn't just about films – it's about supporting the village hall and keeping it thriving for future events, performances and community gatherings. Every ticket sold helps make that possible.

So, mark your diary for the third Friday of the month, bring a friend (or two), and enjoy a great night at the movies – right here in Milborne.

If you have a favourite film or suggestions for future movie nights please email: [chair.msavh@gmail.com](mailto:chair.msavh@gmail.com) or follow our Facebook page for details of our vote!

## Ladybirds – not just for the sunny days

If a picture could talk – what would this one say to you?



"Encouraging a child to go outside in all weather builds resilience, but more importantly it saves them from spending their life merely tolerating the 'bad' days in favour of a handful of 'good' ones – a life of endless expectations and conditions where happiness hinges on sunshine."

Nicolette Sowder



To us – who lived it – it says, 'We had fun, we jumped, we laughed, we ran, we kept going and, yes we got dirty and wet whilst doing it!'

We have been very fortunate to receive a pot of money from the community and this washing line with some of the muddiest and wettest waterproofs represent the first way we have spent a portion of the money. And its very well spent from the smiles and mud splattered faces we've seen this very wet week in January.

Next time it rains and you sigh and think we can't go out in this; think again!

# Milborne Ladybirds

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Email [secretary@milborneladybirds.com](mailto:secretary@milborneladybirds.com)

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Would you like to be part of the team that produces a valued community asset? Yes, we're looking for new people to join our friendly group at the *Reporter* and help to run the village magazine that has served Milborne for the last 16 years. Are you interested in helping us continue on into the future with commitment and maybe some fresh ideas? It could also be the ideal opportunity for you to add some experience to your CV.

So how about it? We'd love to have you aboard!

If you'd like to get involved or just to know a little more, then get in touch with editor, David Payne, or email

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



The Milborne Players Present

## Sinbad in Space

Written by Ron Karley

12th, 13th, 14th February - 7.30pm  
Saturday matinee - 2.30pm

Milborne St Andrew Village Hall

Doors open 30 minutes before performances

A cartoon illustration of a boy in a space suit standing on a planet, with a rocket ship launching into space behind him.

Tickets: £9.00 available from:  
\* Box Office 01258 839085 or \*  
\* the Londis shop in Milborne St Andrew \*

For more information visit [www.milborneplayers.org.uk](http://www.milborneplayers.org.uk)

## Junior Corner

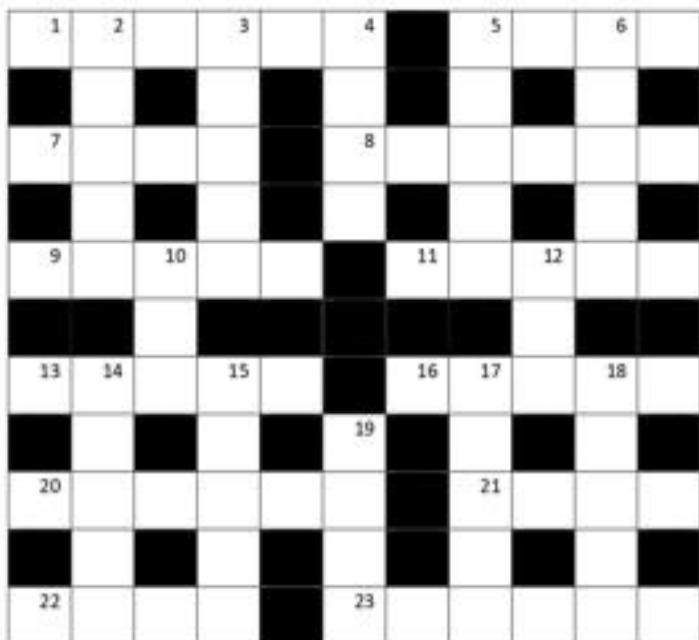
Answers on page 25

### Crossword

#### Across

|                               |                            |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 Limited in Width            | 2 & 14 Capital of Ethiopia |
| 5 Baby Sheep                  | 3 Distance                 |
| 7 Biblical Garden             | 4 Wild Animal              |
| 8 Baltic Country              | 5 Old Roman Language       |
| 9 Daisy like flower           | 6 Corn                     |
| 11 List                       | 10 2,240 Pounds in weight  |
| 13 4 or 5 stringed instrument | 12 Morse Code unit         |
| 16 Milky Coffee               | 14 See 2 Down              |
| 20 Blue European River        | 15 Knights Fight           |
| 21 Unit of Hereditary         | 17 Noble Gas               |
| 22 Final                      | 18 1,000 Kg in Weight      |
| 23 Oil Carrier                | 19 Bird's Home             |

#### Down



#### Quick Quiz:

1. Which relative is a type of clock?
2. How old is King Charles III?
3. Which English City was the Capital before London?
4. How many players are there on a Rugby Union Team?
5. Which country does Tik Tok come from?

#### What is this?



## Milborne Players Pantomime;

### Sinbad in Space

WITH less than two weeks until our first performance, the Players are just about ready to entertain you with our pantomime space adventures, our main production of the year. The cast and crew are beyond excited to finally showcase all the hard work they have put in over the past five months!

Expect colourful characters, intergalactic chaos and that unmistakable magic that brings light and fun to February in Milborne. With just a few tickets left, now is the perfect time to secure your seat before we blast off!

Tickets available from:

**Box Office: Call 01258 839085**

**Village Londis Store (on Milton Road):**

**Cash only please**

#### Performance Dates:

**Thursday 12th February 2026**

**Friday 13th February 2026**

**Saturday 14th February 2026**

**Bar, ice creams and raffle prizes will also be available to complement the entertainment.**

For all other things panto, contact Gren on 07876 793319 or visit our new website [www.milborneplayers.org.uk](http://www.milborneplayers.org.uk)

*Kate Hawker*



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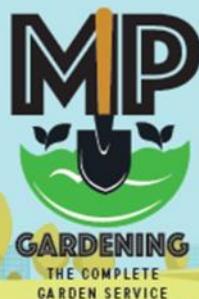
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email: [mandpgardening@aol.com](mailto:mandpgardening@aol.com)

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15 Salisbury Street, Blandford Forum, Dorset, DT11 7AU

# Sailor Bob's Crossword

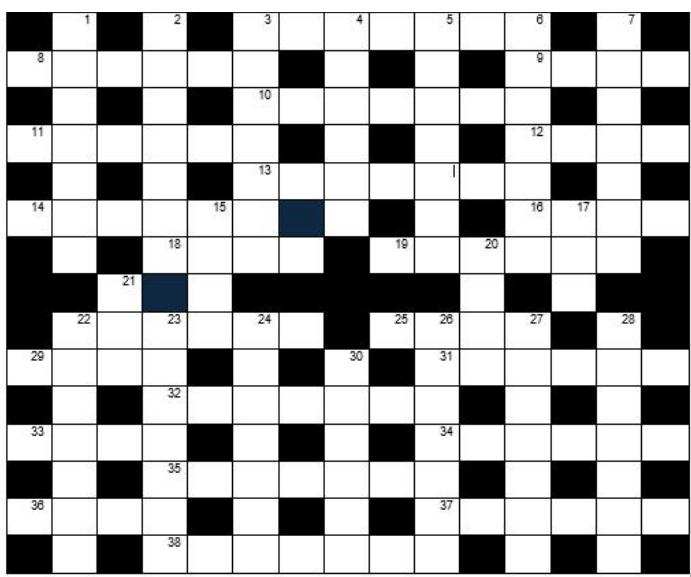
## Clues

### Across

- 3. Zodiacal sign
- 8. Cuban Capital
- 9. Crustacean
- 10. Tropical Disease
- 11. Magician
- 12. Destroy
- 13. Constriction in a pipe
- 14. Nabokov Novel
- 16. Noble Gas
- 18. Askew
- 19. Byzantine gold coin
- 22. Hispanic Currency
- 25. Burden
- 29. Chess piece
- 31. Emperor's Domain
- 32. Unpaid
- 33. Speech Impediment
- 34. Aural Ornament
- 35. Giacomo \_\_\_\_\_, Composer
- 36. Domesticated Bovines
- 37. John \_\_\_\_\_, Queen
- 38. Altar Screen

### Down

- 1. Mesopotamian City
- 2. Bayern
- 3. Russian Urn
- 4. Elongated Square or Circle
- 5. Fragrance
- 6. Terra Cotta Wind Instrument
- 7. French line of Defence
- 15. Prim
- 17. Finish
- 20. Poor housing
- 21. Chop Wood
- 22. So called peaceful Ocean
- 23. Red Fish
- 24. Desire was its name
- 26. Daughters of Nereus
- 27. Austere
- 28. Betrayer
- 30. Astern



## Race Night 7th March

THE Village Hall will be hosting another Race Night on Saturday 7th March 2026.

Doors open at 7.00pm and we will be under "Starter's Orders" at 7.30pm. Entry is by ticket only at £10 per person and the price will include a "fish 'n' chip" supper. Food orders can be placed when buying your ticket.

This is a popular event so do get your tickets early!

For tickets contact Nigel Hodder after 5th February on 07983 013781 or email [treasurer.msavh@gmail.com](mailto:treasurer.msavh@gmail.com).

It is advisable to bring some cash for "betting" purposes, but cards can be used to buy drinks, etc. Tote tickets for each race will cost 50p each. All profits go towards improving the Village Hall facilities so come along and support us. You will have a great night out!

Nigel Hodder treasurer

# Tinckleton Gallery

## 2026 Concert Programme

Unless noted otherwise typically the same programme is played on both the Friday and the Saturday night.

*This is our 11th concert season: thank you to all our musicians and audiences.*

**13th and 14th February:** Amber Emson classical violin and Milda Daunoraite (piano). *Experience an evening of romantic dialogue twixt violin and piano.*

**13th and 14th March:** Mike Denham jazz piano and Tom 'Spats' Langham (guitar, voice, banjo). *Tom is arguably the UK's leading jazz entertainer. A rare chance to hear him in our intimate venue. And then there's Mike !*

**17th and 18th April:** Joe Houston, classical piano, coming from Berlin. *Includes Debussy and Bartók, then Beethoven's visionary "Appassionata".*

**15th and 16th May:** Adrien Brandeis solo jazz piano. *Award-winning pianist-composer from France, presenting his fourth album "Resurgence".*

**26th and 27th June:** Ida Pelliccioli, classical piano returns to us from Paris. *Listen to the music of Debussy and his influencers, Rameau and Albeniz.*

**4th and 5th September:** jazz duo Philip Clouts on piano and Ron Phelan on bass. *Sample Django Reinhardt, George Gershwin, Duke Ellington and Thelonious Monk, as well as original compositions of melodic jazz.*

**16th and 17th October:** Alberto Dalgo, classical piano. *Coming from his home town of Milan in Italy to play Northern Landscapes; Schumann's Waldszenen; Liszt's transcriptions of Schubert's Lieder; Grieg; Chopin.*

**20th and 21st November:** jazz duo John Law and Ant Law ('The Laws of (E)Motion') – *note John is solo on the Fri; then they play as a duo on the Sat. Brilliance !*

**11th and 12th December:** Duncan Honeybourne, classical piano – *his regular Christmas concert, with his latest explorations of British musical history.*

- More details for each concert are on the website.
- Tickets £20 each.
- All concerts start playing at 8.00pm. Please arrive after 7.30pm.
- Pre booking and prepayment only. Each party of guests must give a contact.
- We will give refunds if we need to cancel the concert for whatever reason. We will not refund if you need to cancel as that would disadvantage the musician(s), unless we can resell your seat.

As usual price includes drinks and nibbles which are served in the interval, but exactly what, how and where depend on our discretion and weather.

To order tickets please email [info@tinckletongallery.com](mailto:info@tinckletongallery.com) or phone the gallery on 01305 848909

More information on website at [www.tinckletongallery.com](http://www.tinckletongallery.com)  
Tinckleton Gallery, The Old School House, Tinckleton, Dorset, DT2 8QR

### Deadline for the next issue 14th February

*Send your articles to the Reporter by e-mail at [msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk) or give to a member of the team*

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## Junior Corner answers

### Crossword



### Quick Quiz Answers

1. Grandfather
2. 77 (Born 14/11/1948)
3. Winchester
4. 15
5. China

### What is this

A Thimblette (thimble)



*Continued from page 15*

what is likely to be a very popular concert!

There is a second service of Choral Eucharist on Sunday 22nd February at 10.30am as we move into Lent. The music includes Howells's 'Collegium Regale', Purcell's 'Thou knowest Lord' and Messiaen's 'O sacram convivium'. The service is free to attend and all are welcome.

Finally, Choral Evensong takes place on Saturday 28th February at 4.30pm. The music includes Erik Esenvold's 'O salutaris hostia', Morley's 'Preces & Responses', Kenneth Leighton's 'Second Service' and Brahms's beautiful anthem 'How lovely are thy dwellings'. The service is free to attend, all are welcome and warmly invited to stay for a glass of wine afterwards!

Keep up with events via our website:

[www.musicatstpetersdorchester.org](http://www.musicatstpetersdorchester.org) or by following us on social media: Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/musicatstpetersdorch> - X (Twitter): @musicatstpeter - Instagram @musicatstpetersdorch. If you would like to receive our monthly newsletter, subscribe through the website or drop us a line at: [musicatstpeters@mail.com](mailto:musicatstpeters@mail.com) All of our social media and contact details can be found at: [linktr.ee/musicatstpeters](http://linktr.ee/musicatstpeters)

## What's on in February

|                              |   |
|------------------------------|---|
| Wednesday 4th                | Wednesday Club Village Hall 2.00pm.   |
| Wednesday 4th                | Parish Council meeting Village Hall 7.00pm.   |
| Thursday 5th                 | WI Celebrating Milborne WI birthday Village Hall 7.30pm.  |
| Friday 6th                   | Bridge The Royal Oak 2.00p.,  |
| Saturday 7th                 | Community Café Village Hall 10.00am to midday.  |
| Thursday 12th– Saturday 14th | Pantomime Sinbad in Space Village Hall – see page 21.   |
| Saturday 14th                | <b>Deadline</b> for the March <i>Reporter</i> . Send your articles and photographs via email to <a href="mailto:msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk">msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk</a> or give to a member of the Team. |
| Thursday 19th                | <b>Gardening Club</b> Jim Dunne from Dorset Hedgehog Rescue.  |
| Friday 20th                  | <b>Milborne Movie Downton Abbey: The Finale</b> Village Hall. Door and Bar open 7.00pm film starts 7.30pm.  |
| Wednesday 25th               | A Very Special Musical Treat <b>Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra's Cake Concert</b> Village Hall 11.00am – see page 5.  |
| Thursday 26th                | <b>Pie Night</b> The Royal Oak.   |

## What's on in March

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| Wednesday 4th | Wednesday Club Village Hall 2.00pm.                      |
| Saturday 7th  | Race Night Village Hall 7.00pm, Starter's Orders 7.30pm. |

### 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 (Iyengar)** 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<br><br>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<br><br>milbornestandrew@dorset-aptc.gov.uk |

**Dorset Council Services:** For matters relating to roads repairs, bins, litter, environmental health, planning, footpaths and parking,

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**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@swhtd.co.uk](mailto:hello@swhtd.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           |             | 01258 837362 |
| Chair Governors:         | Paul Tasker |              |
| Friends of School Chair: | Kelly Gale  |              |
| 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     | Dawne Pearson | 07950 540235 |
| Milborne Players       | Gren Davis    | 07876 793319 |

## Village History Group

Pam Shults 01258 837203

## SPORT

Mike Healy 01300 342134

Grace Martin 01305 213885

Elaine Kellaway 01258 837696

Peter Thompson 07873 116118

wessexmartialarts@gmail.com

Move it or lose it

Pilates (school) Pippa Thurgood 07545 241291

Football – Milborne Sports Claire Barratt 07703 648869

Football – Veterans Kelvin Dormer-Woolley 07544 725855

Skittles – Dewlish Paul David 07841 506839

Tap Dancing for Adults Simon Ross 01258 837606

Tennis Kevin Selby 01305 250386

Yoga (at Sports & Social Club) Rich Hawker 07393 309037

Yoga (at Sports & Social Club) Sue Chapman 01305 848053

Yoga (at Village Hall) Saira Francis 01258 880505

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

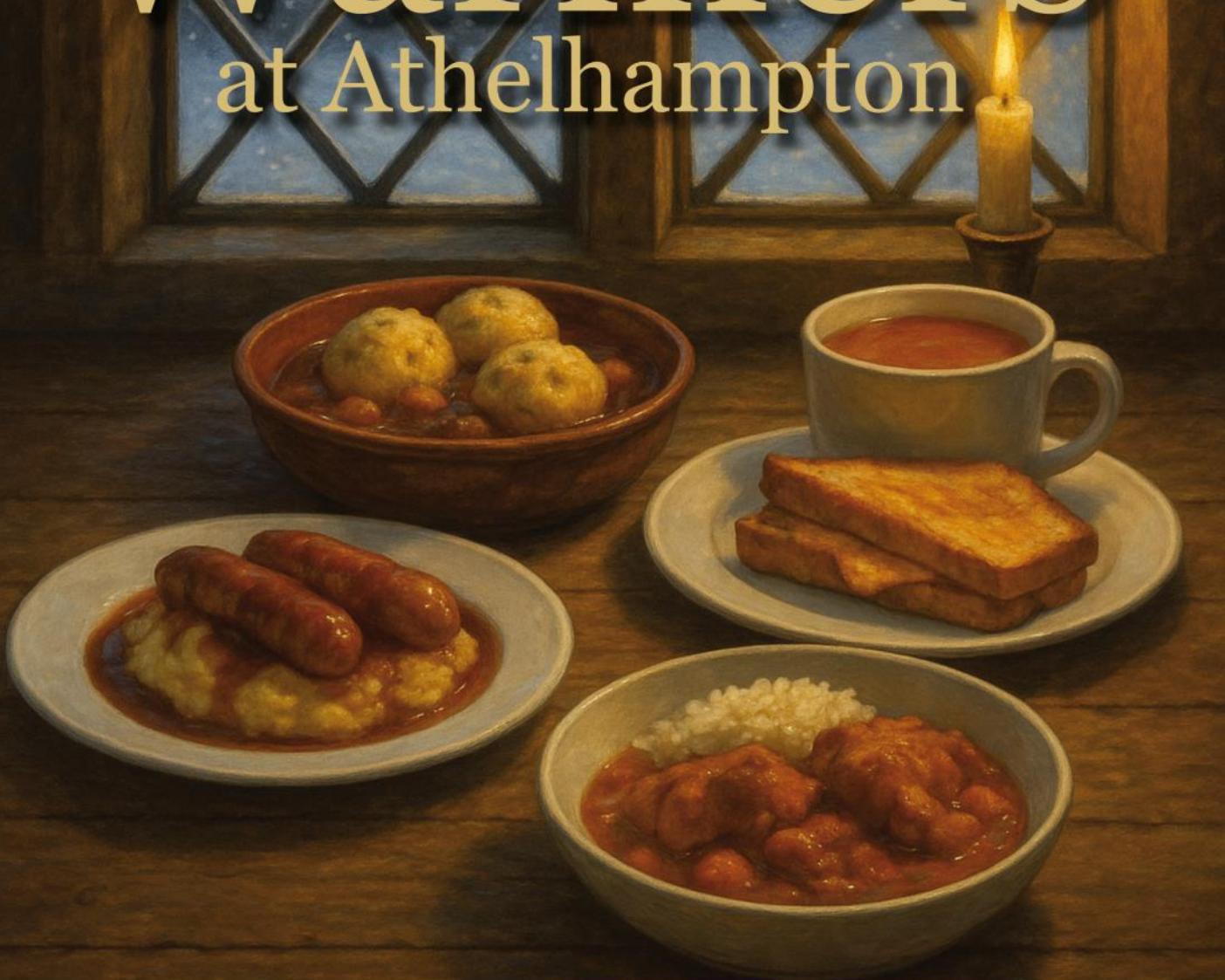
Patient Voice Secretary Nigel Hodder 07983 013781

## PC's primroses pinched from memorial

MID-JANUARY, Cllr Rob Greening was ready to get his Parish Council project, Spring into Action, up and running for the coming season this year. He arrived at the War Memorial to collect the primrose plants that had been left the evening before by Clerk Wayne Lewin as part of the scheme to make the village a little prettier by planting native flowers around and about. But the primroses had vanished and so with it the first stage of Spring into Action.



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