



# Reporter

News and Views from around the area

Volume 1 Issue 9

November 2009

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

Milborne St. Andrew

## Fairytale Wedding



More pictures on pages 3 and 27

# Milborne May Fayre

AT a preliminary meeting at The Royal Oak on 14th October just Dave and I joined Mike Mullet to discuss the event for 29th May 2010. We hope the lack of attendees was due to short notice, so have set a date for the next meeting. Once again at The Royal Oak at 8.00pm on 11th November. We hope to see a representative from all village groups but would welcome any villager interested in this event. Without support it will not happen!

Val Andrews

The Village Lunch Committee is pleased to invite you to the

## CHRISTMAS VILLAGE LUNCH

To be held at the Village Hall on

**SATURDAY 5th DECEMBER** from 12.15pm

Main Course : Pudding : Wine/Tea/Coffee/Crackers : Mints

£5.50 per head (children £2.75)

BOOKING ESSENTIAL!

Tickets available on Friday mornings

from the Drop-In Centre at the Village Hall 10.00am—12 noon  
(from Friday 6th November to Friday 27th November)

Further information from Margaret Kirk 837749 or Melva Coe 837453

## Trevor's mum dies

Mrs Grace Mexson, late of Milborne St. Andrew has died at the age of 96 years at Castleman House, Blandford.

The *Reporter* Team send their sincere condolences to Trevor and his family.

We hope to remember Grace in next month's *Reporter*.

## Church cleaners wanted

RECENTLY, some American friends were proudly telling me that their local church has some 'historic artefacts' – the church pews date back to 1880. I felt rather smug and also tremendously proud of the fact that Milborne St. Andrew church dates back to the 11th or 12th century.

Throughout its long history; people of this village have played their part in helping to maintain its fabric and its work. When it is my turn to polish the church brass I am reminded of Thomas Hardy's poem 'Old Furniture'

*I see the hands of the generations  
That owned each shiny familiar thing  
In play on its knobs and indentations,  
And with its ancient fashioning.  
Still dallying:*

*Hands behind hands, growing paler and paler,  
As in a mirror a candle-flame  
Shows images of itself, each frailer  
As it recedes, though the eye may frame.  
Its shape the same.*



Last year The Royal Oak closed, thankfully temporarily, and our post office and village magazine were under threat of closure and made us all realise how important these institutions are to the village. Likewise our church, it belongs to all of us, and is our responsibility to help look after it.

We are hoping some new volunteers will come forward to join the church cleaning team. At present our church is cleaned every week, there are around 18 helpers who work in pairs and spend a couple of hours cleaning the church about every seven weeks. The church is open each day, so access is not a problem. The heating is on at some point each day and there is a children's area, so little ones can play happily while mum and dad get on with the vacuuming and polishing. At present most of the team are retired and it would be nice to see some younger helpers getting involved. Male or female, old or young, churchgoer or not, Lord and/or Lady Bountiful or Mr and/or Ms Ordinary, we need your help.

If you would like to help, starting in the New Year 2010, then please contact Rose Frost 837921 or e-mail from the church website [www.milbornestandrewchurch.org.uk](http://www.milbornestandrewchurch.org.uk).

## 100 CLUB WINNERS

Draw Date – Monday 12th October 2009

1st prize	£100	Mrs McLucas
2nd prize	£50	Colin Chasty
3rd prize	£30	Pat Shipton

Drawn approximately every 5 weeks

The next draw is at 8.00pm, in The Royal Oak,  
on Monday 16th November 2009

Anyone is welcome to attend

*New members always welcome*

The views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the *Reporter* team.

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## Your Reporter Team

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Copy for the next issue MUST be received by the 21st of this month

Enquiries and copy to: [reporter@milbornestandrew.org.uk](mailto:reporter@milbornestandrew.org.uk)  
E-copy as .doc or .pub files, pictures as .jpg or .pdf files please  
Paper copy to Sue Gould at 28 Stileham Bank DT11 0LE



These and the front cover photographs by Heather V Hogg



**THE BENEFICE OF PUDDLETOWN, TOLPUDDLE AND MILBORNE WITH DEWLISH  
PART OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN THE DIOCESE OF SALISBURY**

*Have a Very Early Christmas!*

Dear Friends

*There was an outcry this August in London's Oxford Street when Selfridges department store broke all records by opening its 'Christmas Store' before the end of the summer holidays! Indeed, it does seem that Christmas goodies are on sale earlier and earlier each year, and if the present (excuse the pun) trend continues, we might find tree decorations and Christmas cards on sale soon after Easter!*

It has to be said, however, that being prepared is no bad thing! And the Church begins its preparation for Christmas this month as we start the season of Advent.

Advent reminds us of the real reason for celebrating Christmas. More than tinsel and cards – more than presents and pudding – Christmas is our annual celebration of God coming into his world as part of his creation. Just as we prepare to celebrate by buying presents and writing Christmas cards, it is also important to prepare our hearts to welcome Christ afresh into our lives as we celebrate his birth.

But Advent also prepares us for another arrival. Not only do we prepare ourselves for Christmas, but we are also encouraged to prepare ourselves for the Second Coming of Christ. This second coming will not be in an obscure stable, but on the clouds of heaven, and will usher in a new age – and a new heaven and earth!

*Jesus himself urged us all to be ready, saying that his return will be like 'a thief in the night', coming when we least expect it!*

*"So then, you also must always be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you are not expecting him" Matthew 24:44*

Maybe August is a bit early to be shopping for Christmas Cards and decorations, but it is never too early to prepare ourselves for Christ's return!

Why not begin your preparation by joining our Advent Carol Service at Dewlish on Sunday 29th November at 6pm?

*Benny Hazlehurst*

**Church Contacts**

Vicar Benny Hazlehurst 01305 848216  
Associate Priest Sarah Godfrey 01258 839067

**Church Wardens**

Milborne St. Andrew Eva Stockley 01258 837468 Dewlish Jim Burg 01258 837466  
Pat Tribe 01258 837684 Sue Britton 01258 837218

[www.milbornestandrewchurch.org.uk](http://www.milbornestandrewchurch.org.uk)

**CHURCH SERVICES  
November 2009**

1st NOVEMBER – Celebration of All Saints  
9.30am Family Service Tolpuddle  
9:30 Family Communion Milborne  
11.00 Holy Communion Puddletown  
*With Sunday Seekers and Creche*  
6.00pm All Saints Festival Evensong Dewlish

THURSDAY 5th NOVEMBER  
12.00 Lunch-time Communion Milborne

8th NOVEMBER – Remembrance Sunday  
*(No 8.15am Service at Puddletown this month)*  
9.30am Holy Communion Tolpuddle  
10.00 Service of Remembrance Milborne  
*(followed by procession to the Memorial Stone for 11am)*  
11.00 Family Service Puddletown  
10.50 Remembrance Day Service Dewlish  
*(starting at the War Memorial at the Crossroads)*  
3.00pm Royal British Legion Service of Remembrance Puddletown

THURSDAY 12th NOVEMBER  
12.00 Lunch-time Communion Puddletown

15th NOVEMBER – 2nd Sunday before Advent  
9.30am Family Communion Tolpuddle  
9.30 1662 Said Communion Milborne  
11.00 1662 Morning Prayer Puddletown  
11.00 Holy Communion Dewlish  
4.00pm Milborne Praise! Milborne  
Village Hall

THURSDAY 19th NOVEMBER  
12.00 Lunch-time Communion Dewlish

22nd NOVEMBER – Christ the King  
9.30am 1662 Morning Prayer Tolpuddle  
9.30 1662 Parish Communion Milborne  
11.00 Family Communion Puddletown  
*With Creche and Sunday Seekers*  
11.00 Family Service Dewlish

THURSDAY 26th NOVEMBER  
12.00 Lunch-time Communion Tolpuddle

29th NOVEMBER – Advent Sunday  
6.00pm Benefice Advent Carol Service Dewlish

**MILBORNE ST. ANDREW CHURCH NOTES**

OUR Harvest Festival was very well-attended. People brought their gifts to the altar during the first hymn. The church was once again very beautifully decorated by the flower people. We were able to deliver 22 gift boxes to people in the village, who were all very appreciative.

Many thanks to all our helpers

On 10th October there were two working parties at church, one inside and one outside. The inside party removed and re-arranged pews. There is now far more space and wheelchair access to far more of the church. Some pews are stacked in the chapel area and some are stored in the old Methodist Chapel (many thanks to Teresa Holmes Thompson for this facility). We are very grateful to everyone who helped but special thanks must go to Jim Burg who

did a lot of the work the previous day and to Mike Mullett for providing transport.

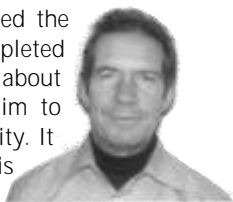
The outside working party was equally successful. Both wildflower areas were strimmed and all the debris was raked off. One of the compost heaps was dug out and rebuilt – no small task. Several bags of reasonable compost went to the helpers. There are two offers to bring shredders to deal with some of the remains so that it will rot down more quickly. Many thanks to all those who worked so hard during a long (and, thankfully, dry) morning. Additional thanks to Maurice Fox who, a few days before, had cut down a large swathe of brambles that were smothering small trees.

Benefice service of celebration, baptism and presentation  
A very special and enjoyable benefice service was held on 11th

October when we celebrated Sarah's completion of her curate training and her re-licensing as an Associate Priest. Sarah is now qualified to have her own parish but it has been decided that she should continue working with Benny on the many projects like Milborne Praise as well as working within schools throughout the benefice.

We also had two members of our adult congregation baptised. This was so good for their families and shows how much our church is growing in strength.

At the end of the service Benny presented the Bishop's Certificate to Jim Burg who had completed a course designed to help him learn more about worship, scripture and history, and help him to relate his Christian faith to his life and locality. It will also build him up and encourage him in his faith as he works together in a group.



There were 85 people at the service, and we were able to use our new "open space" and see what a difference it made. We still have some temporary work to do within the fellowship area to make it more welcoming.

Christmas Market for all the family

This will be held in the Village Hall on Saturday, 21st November, from noon to 3.00pm. All the usual stalls will be there, and we would be grateful for contributions for the following: cakes, gifts, toys, books, bottles (for tombola), bric-a-brac, decorations (not necessarily Christmas ones), pies and preserves, and items for raffle prizes. If you can help in any way, please contact Eva Stockley (Tel: 837468) or Pat Tribe (837684).

This year we are trying to make sure that there is plenty to interest children. As well as visiting Father Christmas (who will open the market) and the toy stall, there will be face painting, a lucky dip, splat the Christmas pudding, a children's raffle and games.

So, with something to offer for all the family, do come along on 21st November, stock up with Christmas presents and goodies, while at the same time enjoying home-made soup, mulled wine and mince pies. *See you there!*

Christmas Tree Festival

By the time you read this, a letter will have been sent to the many organisations within Milborne inviting them to take part in this year's festival, the theme for which is "Christmas Around the World". The opening will be on Sunday, 20th December, at 4.00pm. This service will be called "Christmas Tree Praise" as we will be holding our Christingle and Crib Service at the same time. The festival will close on Sunday, 27th December, with a Benefice Carol Service. Further details to follow. Please check the notice boards nearer the time.

Remembrance Day arrangements

There will be a service in church at 10.00am on Sunday, 8th November. We will then parade to meet up with the Royal British Legion at the Memorial at 10.50am.

*Eva Stockley and Pat Tribe (Churchwardens)*

## DEWLISH CHURCH NOTES

THANK you so much to Mrs Sue Britton for holding a coffee morning in her lovely garden. This raised £101.60 for church funds. We are also very grateful to Mrs Victoria Finding (Audrey's daughter) for donating one of her lovely paintings to be raffled (also in aid of the church). This raised £80. Thank you, Vicky.

Harvest and celebration

Our Harvest Thanksgiving was very well-attended, and it was lovely to see some of our friends from neighbouring villages. The church looked absolutely beautiful and our young people brought many gifts to supplement the array of flowers, fruit and vegetables. Norman, who was celebrating 20 years in the ministry, gave an inspiring and thought-provoking sermon, and the service was led by Benny. Thank you to all who helped to make the church look so lovely – we have so much to be thankful for.

The next night we held our Harvest Supper and Auction and, as usual, Andrew did a great job squeezing money out of us all for our chosen charities, Water Aid and the Christian Blind Mission. The final sum of £329.10 has been divided equally between them. Thank you so much, Andrew. The supper was again organised by Mrs Margaret Groves, and was most enjoyable and was also very well-attended. Thank you so much, Marg, and thank you, too, to all who donated food, and helped in the preparation and washing-up – all very hard work but all very worthwhile. A total of £301.50 was raised for church funds.

Services for November

Our services for November are slightly different. Sunday, 1st November, is our Patronal Festival (All Saints), and we shall be holding an Evensong at 6.00pm. On Remembrance Sunday, 8th November, our service will begin at 10.50am at the War Memorial on the crossroads, and will then continue in church. On 29th November the Benefice Service will be at Dewlish at 6.00pm, and will take the form of an Advent Carol Service. Finally, a note for your diary: our Christmas Bazaar will be held in the Village Hall on Saturday, 5th December, starting at 2.30pm – more details next month.

*Daphne Burg*



*Sarah has asked the Reporter to say that she is really excited that she will be staying on as associate priest in the benefice and thanks everyone for the gift of a beautiful chalice and patten which she is looking forward to using.*

### Church Cleaning – w/e Saturday

7th November Sue Lee and Val Hodges  
14th November Mary Bennett and Pat Tribe  
21st November Sue Lucas and Carolyn Martin  
28th November Margaret Hurley and Eva Stockley

### Flowers

7th November Tony Fox  
14th and 21st November Pat Tribe  
No flowers during Advent

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We look forward to seeing you.

*Margaret Kirk*



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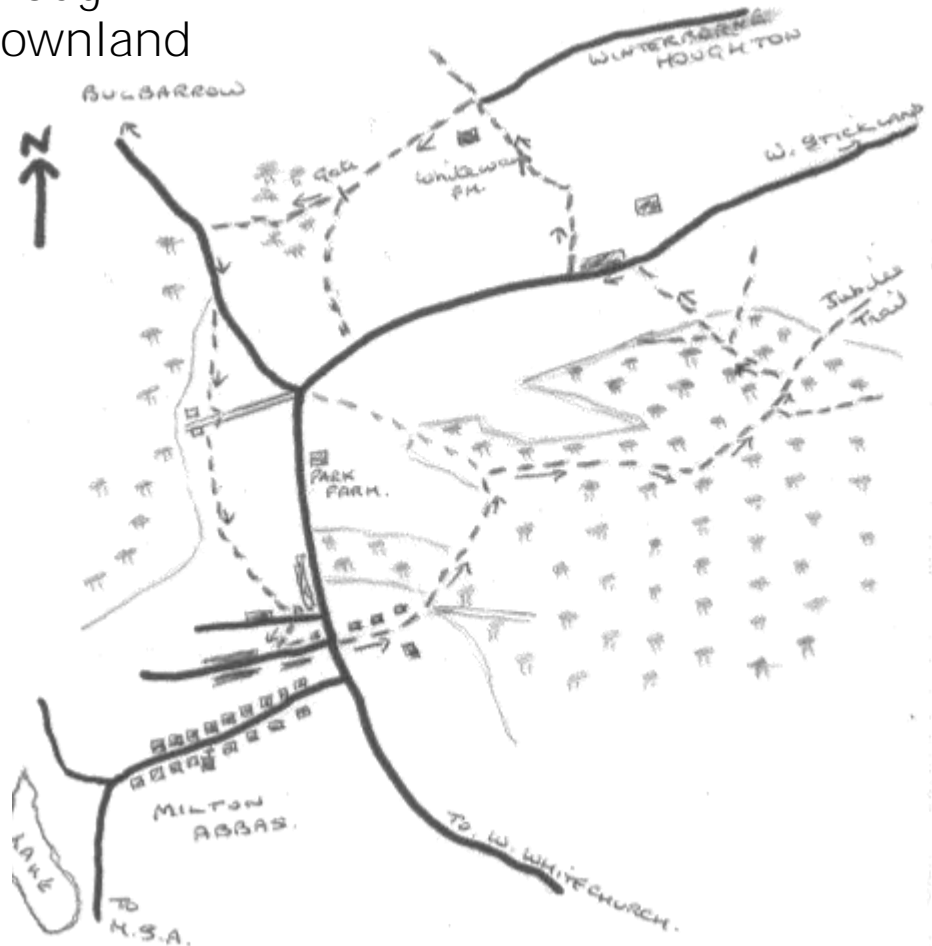
# A 4½ mile walk through woodland and over downland

Starting place – Catherine’s Well,  
Milton Abbas

PLEASE park considerately in Catherine’s Well. Cross the road near the bus shelter and take the bridleway opposite. This is the Jubilee Trail and you will follow it for most of the way through the woods, so look out for the signs.

Pass several bungalows on the left and stabling on the right. The track continues downhill until you come to a forestry barrier. Turn left here, uphill on a narrow, stony path. Eventually the path goes downhill to meet a forest track. Turn left and after 20 yards turn right onto a path, keeping to the Jubilee Trail.

You will soon come to another forestry



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track, turn right along this track, keep going on this track. You are now in Charity Wood. You will soon come to some magnificent Beech Trees, and then a bridleway off to the left. This is where you leave the Jubilee Trail, which goes on ahead. Take the left hand turn and after about 300–400 yards you come to a bridleway sign off to the right. Ignore this one, but 15 yards further on take a path off to the right. It is an indistinct path to start with, but you will soon see a wicket gate into a field ahead.

Enter the field and walk straight ahead keeping the hedge on your right. Head for a gate, onto the road. Turn left onto the road and walk on past Southdown Farm and Dunbury Heights Cottages. Immediately after the cottages, turn right down a tarmac track. Pass through two gates then turn slightly left to head for a wire fence. Follow the fence downhill until you come to a wicket gate. Pass through here and continue downhill with the fence now on your right. At the bottom of the field go through the wicket gate to your left, and continue down a fairly steep, narrow path to Whiteways Farm.

Leave the farm and turn left along a track which climbs steadily uphill to Bully Plantation. Near the top you pass through a gate. The path divides here. Take the right-hand path up a slight slope and head between two clumps of trees. Keep to the well defined path onto the Bulbarrow road, passing two waymarkers on the way.

At the road, turn left for 200 yards and take the bridleway just off the road, to the left of the green forestry barrier. Follow the path alongside a fence, passing some tumbledown sheds on the way. When you come to a garden, bear left alongside a post and rail fence and onto a driveway. Turn right along the driveway for about 100 yards looking out for the bridleway sign on your left.

Take this path which goes straight ahead along the field boundary. You will pass some very old remnants of a stone wall on your right. **Soon you will see the houses in Catherine’s Well. Bear left towards the Doctors Surgery and across the road to the Millennium Green, and onto where you parked your car.**

Anne Snape

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## Weather in Milborne St. Andrew September 2009

SEPTEMBER is the month with most variability in rainfall in Milborne. The highest September rainfall was in 1974 with 225.0mm of rain and the lowest was in 2003 with 5.3mm. The September rainfall this year was 34.0mm which was 43% of average. Most of that rain fell in the first week of the month leaving the rest of the month dry and relatively warm. This was some consolation for the poor July and August.

Michaelmas Day falls on 29th September and there is an old Irish proverb which says:

*"On Michaelmas Day the devil puts his foot on blackberries"*



This is based on the story that, when Lucifer was expelled from Heaven, he fell from the skies straight onto a blackberry bush. He then cursed the fruit, scorched them with his fiery breath, spat and stamped on them and made them unfit for consumption. It is not known how long ago this proverb came into existence or to which date it referred. Before the

Gregorian calendar was adopted in 1752, Michaelmas day was on 10th October and there is a reference to Michaelmas day being on 11th October at one time but, whichever date it falls on, it might be wise to avoid blackberries after the end of September.

*Pluvius*

## Milton Abbas Cricket Club Training and Nets

Fridays, Milton Abbey School Sports Hall, £1 per session  
Junior Training 6.45 – 7.45pm, Senior nets 7.30 – 8.30pm

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### *An Englishman's home is his castle.*

This was established as law by the lawyer and politician Sir Edward Coke in *The Institutes of the Laws of England*, 1628

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## 'As Good as New'

### *WI October meeting*

THE Royal Oak is hosting a Christmas shopping event on Thursday 19th November, proceeds to Milborne School. There will be various stalls and the WI have been invited to participate. Further discussion to come.

Shirley Dunkley is encouraging members to submit 1,000 words for a writer's prize of £25, the winning entry to be published in the County Newsletter. The title is 'Lost and Found' and the interpretation is entirely up to the author. Anyone interested please have a word with Shirley.

Our speaker, Ray Maycock, had brought along a colourful selection of china and porcelain which he had restored over the years. Showing us illustrations of 'before and after', he talked through the repair and restoration process involved. He stressed that when an item is damaged, it is important to collect all the broken pieces and bring them along, although a good restorer can replace missing (china!) parts, eg lost legs, heads, arms etc by using the computer for research. Although there is always a loss in value, many people opt for restoration, usually for sentimental reasons – something to be admired in our present 'throw away' society. Attributes needed by a restorer include good eyesight and a sense of colour, not to mention time and patience. On the personal side, he said, he often met people who told him their life story while he sorted out the broken contents of their plastic bag!

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, 12th November, when Mrs J Bryant will talk about 'Lawrence and Laurence and Moreton Church'. This being a special time for remembrance, we are asked to come along with a "memory to share".

*Pat Bull*

## Good start to season



The Milborne St. Andrew WI skittles team won their first match of the season at home in the newly refurbished skittles bar at The Royal Oak. Their opponents were Winterborne Kingston WI who played very well but Milborne managed to edge in front. At the return match at The Greyhound the game was a draw something that people can't remember happening before. A good start to the season.

## The Role of Homeopathy in Preventing Pandemics

HOMEOPATHIC PROPHYLAXIS (preventative) is used against many contagious diseases like vaccines. History is replete with beneficial results of homeopathy in contagious diseases like Japanese Encephalitis, Yellow Fever, Cholera, Diptheria, Influenza, etc, etc. Homeopathic remedies have been used for two centuries to treat flu-like symptoms and can be of substantial use for preventing and treating the 2009 Swine Flu. It provides quick relief and lessens complications.

Homeopathy was 98% successful in the Spanish Flu epidemic of 1918 in parts of America. Of 24,000 cases treated by orthodox medicine there was a 28.2% mortality rate, whereas of 26,000 treated homeopathically the mortality rate was 1.05%! Two homeopathic remedies were most successful in treating the Spanish Flu and no vaccines or Aspirin had to be used for the 8,000 Chicago workers, of which only 1 died.

As Homeopaths we are fortunate in having many proven and successful remedies in our medicine chest for influenza. There are over 30 remedies indicated for the treatment of flu. We are also able to treat the individual based on their specific constitution.

Maybe it is worth considering homeopathy before submitting to drugs which have unsubstantiated benefits and often unwanted side-effects.

Homeopathic consultations: Sohani Gonzalez B.A., MCH., RSHom.

### Parish Council Meeting

Village Hall  
Wednesday 4th November 2009 at 7.30pm  
All welcome

# Sohani Gonzalez

B.A., M.C.H., R.S.Hom

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Meet at Maiden Castle car park

Grid reference: SY 669 889 on OS Explorer Sheet OL 15 (Approx. 4 miles)

WEDNESDAY 18th November – 11.00am

Hilton and Delcombe Woods

Meet at Bulbarrow Hill lay-by on the Ibberton Road

ST 784 059 on OS Explorer Sheet 117 (Approx. 5.75 miles)

SUNDAY 6th DECEMBER – 1.30pm (note earlier time)

Milton Abbas Heritage Walk

Meet near the church

Grid reference: ST 806 018 on OS Explorer Sheet 117 (Approx. 4 miles)

## ALL WALKS

- WHO** All welcome including well-behaved dogs and their responsible owners. No pre-booking required just turn up.
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# MAS Patient Participation Group

AS you may have noticed there has been no delivery of our customary Autumn Newsletter to your home. This, after almost nine years of biannual deliveries has regrettably had to stop. You, I hope will have seen the Surgery Newsletter which is to be published quarterly, you may see it in this publication or it is available from the surgery or with prescriptions.

The PPG will keep in touch with you in the surgery newsletter. We can no longer deliver to you, as a list of your addresses is now subject to data protection. I have tried to get a list in some other way, but that has not produced enough response. The loss of our own Autumn production directly to you, at home, means we can no longer distribute our raffle tickets, so we are working on how to run a raffle in the first half of next year.

A VERY BIG THANK YOU to Peter Chafer for all the work he has put into every one of our Newsletters. He has worked tirelessly to get it all together for what you must agree has been a most professional publication. We are sad that we have had to cease production and so have had to lose his services.

Thank you also to all of our deliverers who have footslogged around their villages to deliver to you all.

## Medication delivered to your door

Services starts on Monday 2nd November

IF required, we can now deliver your medication to your door on the following days

Monday – The Winterborne Villages, Milborne St. Andrew and Milton Abbas

Wednesday – Melcombe Bingham, Hilton, Cheselborne, Dewlish.

Friday – The Winterborne Villages, Milborne St. Andrew and Milton Abbas.

Deliveries to post offices and other drop off points will continue but will now be on the following days:

Monday – Milborne St. Andrew Post Office and the Winterborne Valley

Wednesday – Ansty and Hilton

Friday – Milborne St. Andrew Post Office and the Winterborne Valley

Please help us by giving us at least two working days notice before the day you would like to have your medication delivered. For further information please telephone the surgery on 01258 880210

## Weatherbury Singers Singing Workshop

DO you enjoy singing? Would you like to improve your voice and have fun? Then come along to a one-day singing workshop.

The *Weatherbury Singers* are hosting a Singing Workshop on **Saturday 14th November at St. George's Church Room, Fordington, Dorchester** from 10.30am to 3.30pm.

The workshop is being led by Fiona Clarke, who is a well known and accomplished musician and singer.

The format will be friendly and fun and include working with the voice, focusing on common vocal problems and learning new songs as a group. No music is required.

The cost is £15. Further details and registration forms are available by telephoning 01305 848161 or email [weatherburysingers@googlemail.com](mailto:weatherburysingers@googlemail.com)

The Weatherbury Singers are a lively community choir based in Puddletown, with members from many of the surrounding towns and villages. The choir performs a mixture of music styles from pop to choral, under the direction of Michael Brown, meeting on **Tuesday evenings from 7.15pm in St. Mary's Church Room, Puddletown.** New members welcome, particularly male voices.

*Caroline Richards*

## Local small-ads

Small ads of less than 30 words from local, private, advertisers are published free of charge

Free – Television Twenty-seven inch silver/grey remote control television in full working order. No longer required. Can be delivered. Call Andy on 01258 837375 or 07974071031.

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## Horticultural Society Report

THE speaker at our September meeting was Mr Harris from North Dorset District Council. As his computer had lost his talk on plant selection for landscaping new developments (how many of us find that we don't have a backup copy of vital documents?), he gave an interesting talk about trees; their natural history, how they can be damaged by environmental developments, how they are affected by fungi, and the duties of a tree officer. As I write we are looking forward to this week's talk by Paul Atterbury (of Antiques Roadshow fame) on the making of the English landscape.

Our next meeting will be the AGM on Thursday 26th November at 7.30pm when, among other things, we will elect a new chairperson and the committee, and consider changing the name of the society. This will be followed by a demonstration of making a Christmas wreath by Ruth Goulden. The following meeting will be on 28th January after our Christmas break.

John Wright

## Middleton Players Present Two One Act Plays

An Englishman Abroad

by Alan Bennett

**Bang, You're Dead**

by Paul Reakes

Saturday 14th November 7.00pm for 7.30pm

Reading Rooms, Milton Abbas

Tickets £5 on sale at the Post Office

## Whatever the Hurdles – we can jump them

YOUNG entrepreneurs Charlie and Marcus Evans are just about to jump the last one – and start their own business! These are village youngsters, who went to school in Puddletown and Thomas Hardye, and have taken the leap of faith, and organisation, to try something different. Charlie is 21 and after sixth form worked for a large independent tyre company for a year before travelling the world for six months. He then returned to work as a Manager in the industry, this time running a very busy retail depot. Marcus Evans, is almost 20, and after finishing school also worked in the tyre industry as a very competent and knowledgeable fitter.

Both have always been ambitious and hoped to open their own business one day, so it's not just a case of a whim. To get proper



funding, you have to put together a viable business plan, and a projected financial plan for at least the next year. Their brave Mum and Dad have stood sponsors, but they have still got to prove to the bank that it's a "goer". And all has so far gone well. They have decided on a trade, one in which they have worked since leaving school (in their case the tyre trade), so they were very enthusiastic when premises in Blandford Forum recently

became available. The owner is giving up through ill health, and the boys are taking up the lease. Charlie has spent the past two months planning for and organizing everything in preparation for the opening of the business on Monday 2nd November. The name will be changed – to make it their own, they are re-organising the layout, and decorating it (although it probably won't be wallpapered in floral prints!). They have even managed to re-employ one of the original staff.

Mum Traci is tremendously proud, and says "Charlie and Marcus are confident that their past experience and dedication to customer satisfaction will make their new business both popular and successful, they have both given up very well paid positions, with a well-known and respected tyre company, in order to start their new venture and are very excited about finally being able to own and run their own business".

Finally, their first advert campaign is already planned – they intend to offer special promotional prices, exclusively for other residents of Milborne St. Andrew.

I am sure everyone in the village wishes them all the best in their great adventure!

Sue Gould



## Cheselbourne Theatre Club



THIS month, on 16th November, we have booked to see Arsenic And Old Lace by Joseph Kesselring.

This play was originally produced in 1941, centres on two elderly sisters, Abby and Martha Brewster, who are famous in their Brooklyn neighborhood for their numerous acts of charity. Unfortunately, however, their charity includes poisoning lonely old men who come to their home looking for lodging. The two women are assisted in their crimes by their mentally challenged nephew who believes he is Teddy Roosevelt. Matters get complicated when a second nephew, a theatre critic, discovers the murders and a third nephew appears after having just escaped from a mental institution. In his adroit mixture of comedy and mayhem, Kesselring satirises the charitable impulse as he pokes fun at the conventions of the theatre.

Please phone Ann to see if any seats are available.

Ann Allum, chairman 880074; Stephen Terry, treasurer 881524  
Chris Higgs, secretary 880073

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**Thursday 19th November**

Beaujolais Nouveau Gourmet Dinner

6 Course Gourmet Menu to include a glass of Beaujolais  
- £27.50 p/p Booking advisable

**CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR BOOKINGS NOW BEING TAKEN**  
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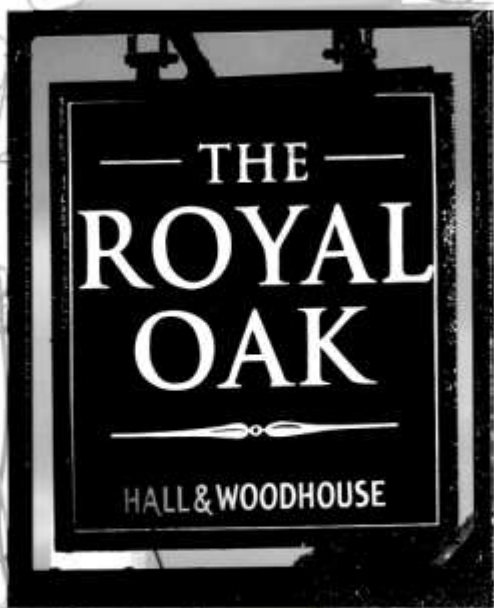
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## Autumn term at Ladybirds



THIS term we have been learning about the environment and the changes that happen in Autumn. As you can see from the photos the boys and girls have enthusiastically experienced the variations in weather by being outside.

Leading up to half term we have talked about all the 'scary' things that we see at Halloween and the children



have enjoyed frightening the helpers with the giant spiders they made. We have dressed as witches, ridden broomsticks, waved magic wands and made a pumpkin head. I've had fun and I think the children have too!

*Liz Dyer*

## Milborne Friendly Art Group



THE Milborne St. Andrew Friendly Art Group has a local well-known Artist Jenny Trotman visiting it on 21st October, to give a demonstration/tutorial in pen and wash techniques, so we are looking forward to that exciting evening. The remaining dates for 2009 are 21st October (as above) and Wednesday 11th and 25th November and the final one in 2009 will be 16th December. I am sure the Art Group will also be having a Christmas function/get together maybe in the

pub sometime in December or January. Sessions recommence on the second Wednesday in January 2010 and we are hoping to have yet more interesting and exciting visiting artists coming to give demonstrations and workshops in 2010. Next year may also be an opportunity to work towards having an Art Exhibition if members paintings continue to impress. Please contact Sue Marsh on 837414 for further details or if you wish to join this group.

### Advertise in the *Reporter* and get results

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



## Milborne Ladybirds Playgroup

registered charity no. 1087441

We are a friendly community based pre-school, offering a safe, fun, learning environment. We have a band of enthusiastic staff who help your children to learn through play, allowing children to enjoy achieving their potential.

"...children are helped to feel secure by 'friendly and caring' staff."

Ofsted report 2007

### Opening times:

Early birds 8:45 to 9:15, Session 9:15 to 11:45, Lunch Club 11:45 to 12:45



Contact Details: Ruth Evans 07905358299  
[info@milborneladybirds.org.uk](mailto:info@milborneladybirds.org.uk) [www.milborneladybirds.org.uk](http://www.milborneladybirds.org.uk)

# Community Contacts

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

## Councils

Environment Agency Floodline		0845 9881188
North Dorset District Councillor	Cllr Michael Cox	01258 881396
Parish Council – Dewlish	Clerk: Pat Gubbins	01258 881348
	Chair: Cllr Mike Claydon	01258 837314
Parish Council –	Clerk: Colin Fletcher	01258 450639
Milborne St. Andrew	Chair: Cllr Simon Curtis	01258 839000

## General – Adult

Drop-in Centre – POPP	Rose and Ed Frost	01258 837921
IT Club (Connecting Dorset)	Sue Gould	01258 837575
Ladies Group – Dewlish	Judith Bridgen	01258 837157
Memory Lane Swing Band	Bob Boorman	01258 839077
Wednesday Social Club	Margaret Evans	01258 450518
Women's Institute	Heather Hogg	01258 837392

## General – Youth

Beavers and Cubs	Sue Mullett	01258 839076
Hazelnuts out-of-school club	Hazel Barrett	01305 848588
Ladybirds (Playgroup)	Marion Bishop	01305 848427
Ranger Guides	Adrienne	07870 887049
Scouts	Jim Burg	01258 837466
Under 5's Group – The Busy Bees	Jane Williams	01258 839291
Youth Club age 8 – 14 yrs	Sallie Maitland-Gleed	01258 837442

## Police

Police – Non-emergency contact		01202 222222
Community Beat Officer	PC Dave Mullins	01202 223003
		07825 521850
Community Beat Officer (Dorch)	PC Charlie Dale	01305 222222
Community Service Vehicle	CSO Angie Partridge	01202 226000
Safer Neighbourhood Team		
Blandford Rural South	PC Dave Mullins and	01202 223003
	PCSO Luke Goddard	or 07825 521850

Or email [blandfordruralsouthSNT@dorset.pnn.police.uk](mailto:blandfordruralsouthSNT@dorset.pnn.police.uk)

## School

Milborne 1st School		
Headteacher:	Anne Purdy	01258 837362
Chair Govs:	George Legg	
Friends of School Chair:	Sally Taylor	

## Special Interest

Bellringers	Pip Bowell	01258 837329
Food & Wine Society	Tony Dyer	01258 837061
Healthy Eaters	Heather Gipps	01258 837058
Horticultural Society	Shirley Dunkley	01258 837446
MSA Friendly Art Group	Sue Marsh	01258 837414
Milborne Players	Roy Sach	01258 837033
Ranters' Folk Session	Roger Harrall	01258 837371
Round Robin Ramblers	Steve Lord	01258 839222

## Sport

Abbey Swimming Club	Pat Cowan	01258 880601
Adult Tap Dancing Milton Abbas	Libby Goodchild	01305 268029

Archers – Crossways	Michelle Jones	01258 837045
Athletics – Junior	David Pearson	01258 837057
Badminton	David Payne	01258 837700
British Horse Society (Dorset)	Carol Shoopman	01258 880318
Circuit Training and Pilates	Claire Barratt	01929 554999
		07946 732769
Cricket – Dewlish	Elaine Kellaway	01258 837696
Cricket – Junior (11 – U13)	Derek Lamb	01258 880523
Cricket Club – Milton Abbas	Derek Lamb	01258 880523
Football – Adult	Paul Morgan	01258 837619
Football – Reserve Team	Andy Draper	07824394436
Football – Under 15s	Grant Taylor	07879841518
Football – Under 11s	Daryl Sims	01258 881397
Modern Sequence Dancing	Grace Davies	01258 837261
Running Group	Anne-Marie Pearson	01258 837057
Skittles – Dewlish	Frank Ross	01258 837366
Sports Club		
Chairman:	John Sanderson	01258 837049
Bookings:	Jenny Balcon	01258 837121
Table-tennis (over 50's)	Geoff Hodgson	01258 837472
Tap Dancing for Men and Women		01258 880523
Yoga	Sue Chapman	01305 848053

## Village Hall

Dewlish		
Chairman:	Alex Carter	01258 837312
Sec:	Paul Prickett	01258 839097
Milborne St. Andrew		
Chairman:	Richard Lock	01258 837929
Caretaker/Booking Sec:	Alison Riddle	01258 837030

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If you would like to be added to this list, then contact the Reporter



# Community Events Diary

Add your event to this diary by contacting the Reporter – tel: 01258 837921 or email: reporter@milbornestandrew.org.uk

October	
Saturday 31st	Village Lunch VH 12.30pm Friends of Weldmar HospiceCare Trust ' <b>Information Open Day</b> ' at Cerne Abbas Village Hall 12 noon until 2.30pm – see page 19, Issue 8 October
November	
Sunday 1st	Round Robin Ramblers Maiden Castle 2.00pm – see page 11
Wednesday 4th	Parish Council Meeting Village Hall Comittee Room 7.30pm
Sunday 8th	Remembrance Day Service in Church at 10.00am then parade to meet up with the Royal British Legion at the Memorial at 10.50am.
Saturday 14th	Middleton Players Reading Rooms, Milton Abbas 7.00pm for 7.30pm
Wednesday 11th	Milborne May Fayre Royal Oak 8.00pm – see page 2
Wednesday 18th	Round Robin Ramblers Hilton and Delcombe Woods 11.00am – see page 11
Friday 20th	<b>Ranters' Folk Session</b> MSA Sports Club 8.00pm
Saturday 21st	<b>St. Andrew's Christmas Market</b> – see page 5
Sunday 22nd	Christmas Fair Winterborne Whitechurch 10.00am – 4.00pm
Thursday 26th	Horticultural Society AGM Village Hall 7.30pm
December	
Sunday 6th	Round Robin Ramblers Milton Abbas Heritage Walk 1.30pm (Note earlier time) – see page 11
Friday 18th	<b>Ranters' Folk Session</b> MSA Sports Club 8.00pm

## Moviola presents **"Cheri"** (15)

Milborne St. Andrew Village Hall on Friday 6th November 2009

THIS is a funny and thought-provoking tale of passion and it is based on *Chéri*, the 1920's novel by Colette, which tells the tragic and comic love story set in early 20th-century Paris. A veteran courtesan, Léa (played by Michelle Pfeiffer), who is long past "un certain age" and who is considering retirement, agrees to spend a few weeks dispensing womanly wisdom, to Fred (played by Rupert Friend), the nineteen-year-old playboy son of a colleague. Their harmless fling blossoms into a full-blown romance that surprises everyone, not least the lovers themselves and six years of quasi-marital bliss pass until their separation when Fred is coerced into an arranged marriage. As the lovers try to come to terms with their imminent separation, they begin to understand, too late, how much they mean to one another.

Technically, the film is spotless, with gorgeous cinematography, colourful costumes, detailed sets and a marvellous Alexandra Desplat score. Director, Stephen Frears, handles this slow shift from romantic frolic to mournful elegy with a pleasingly light touch and Christopher Hampton's crisp screenplay keeps it lively with a steady flow of dry quips and acerbic one-liners. Pfeiffer's performance is magnetic and subtle, her worldly nonchalance a mask for vulnerability and heartache which is a revelation as the hooker with a heart, thus stripping the character's soul bare, as she frets over the ravages of time and clings to her young lover, without ever allowing herself to clip his wings. The fragile and serene dignity, with which she imbues Lea, despite her sordid profession, sets everything up for a heart-tugging finale.

For more information see the Dorset Moviola web site [www.moviola.org/](http://www.moviola.org/) or [www.cherithemovie.co.uk](http://www.cherithemovie.co.uk)

The village hall is open from 7.00pm and the film starts at 7.30pm. Tickets £5.00. Supper is available before the film, but must be booked in advance. To book advance tickets and/or supper, phone Maggie Redmill on 01258 837262.

Alice Harrall

## Regular Bookings at the Village Hall

Computer Club Monday 6.15 – 7.15pm CR (term time only)  
Ladybirds Playgroup Monday – Fri 8.45am – 1pm MH (term time only)  
Players every Monday 8.00 – 10pm MH  
Village Hall Committee meetings 2nd Monday of month  
ABC Line dancers every Tuesday 7.30 – 10pm MH  
Scouts Beavers/Cubs Tuesday 5.45 – 7.15pm MH/CR (term time only)  
Exercise and Relaxation Class Wednesday 1.15 – 2.45pm MH (term time only)  
MSA Friendly Art Group 2nd and 4th Wednesday 7.00 – 9.00pm CR  
Wednesday Club 2nd Wednesday 2.30 – 4.30pm MH  
Horticultural Society 4th Thursday 7.00 – 10pm MH  
Healthy Eaters every Thursday 7.00 – 8.00pm CR  
Karate every Thursday 5.10 – 6.40pm MH  
WI every 2nd Thursday 7.00 – 10.00pm  
POPP Drop-In every Friday 10.00am – 12 noon CR  
Youth Club every other Friday 6.30 – 8.30pm MH (term time only)  
Sequence Dancing 3rd Saturday 7.30 – 10.30pm MH  
Village Lunch Last Saturday of the month 11.00am – 2.30pm MH/CR  
Milborne Praise! 3rd Sunday 3.30 – 5.30pm MH  
Moviola and supper about every 6 weeks, look out for the posters, 6.30 – 10.30pm MH/CR  
Artsreach Events – look out for the posters.

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

## Regular Bookings at the First School

Pilates Monday 7.00 – 8.00pm (term time only)  
Yoga Tuesday 6.15 – 7.45pm (term time only)  
Badminton Wednesday 7.00 – 9.00pm (term time only)  
Circuit Training every Thursday 7.00 – 8.00pm

## Ranters' Folk Sessions

Milborne St. Andrew Sports Club

Friday 20th November

Friday 18th December

8.00pm

All welcome

## Wednesday Social Club

OUR meeting was held at the village hall on Wednesday 7th October and was very enlightening as to how we can claim from the council, to help us in these tight days. There were leaflets that explained a few things we did not know. The presentation was by Peter Lyndley and was very well presented. Then we had a representative, Stuart, from Wayfinders, who gave us a talk on Chiropody. Also they help with other items such as wills and finance and filling in the complicated forms we all get from time to time. For further details contact Age Concern in Dorchester.

Our next meeting will be 4th November when Sohani Gonzalaz will give us a talk on Homeopathy. We hope to see you there, as you will be very welcome.

Eve Richardson

# Have you meet . . . Richard Lock

**IF you haven't met Richard Lock, you've probably heard of him. He has lived in Milborne for the last nine years and has been involved in village life for most of that time. By his own admission, he's not the type of chap to sit back whilst he can see things that need doing. He ran The Reporter's predecessor, The Messenger and did a stint on the Parish Council. But most of his energies have been spent on the Village Hall. As chairman of the VH committee, Richard has been instrumental in gaining substantial funding for the improvement of the hall.**

**"I feel passionate about it – it's the one venue in this village which impacts on the majority of people. I treat it more like a job; it takes up a lot of my time. I'm the guardian of that job while I'm there and I'll do the best I can. I think some people can get too precious over these sorts of things and treat it like their fiefdom – but I don't see it like that. There have been many key points in the life of the village hall where big changes have gone on and it's taken somebody to say "I'm going to give it a go"."**

This 'getting stuck in' ethos has permeated his successful Fire Service career in which he rose from cadet to Operations Commander before injury brought his Brigade career to an end. But all those years ago, on leaving school, things looked quite different.

Richard says, **"I'm not a good example really – I left school with nothing, I messed about a bit really! I sat eight exams and failed eight."** School was a Secondary Modern in Winchester – with 1,000 boys. He says, **"It was scary – I can remember the first day walking onto the playground and there was this Scotsman, Mr Dixon, who was the PE teacher, and he was booming out for all the new boys where they were to go – it was like Alcatraz."**

Before this, Richard lived with his family in Andover, where he spent the first nine years of his life, from 1946.

After school, Richard wasn't sure what he wanted to do. **"At the time they were setting up a new thing for fire cadets – my dad was a fireman anyway, though he hadn't said anything to me (about joining up)". He got in and spent 18 months learning the ropes and "being the butt of every single thing that went on. At that time, the fire service was a dirty job, not very well paid and made up of lots of ex-servicemen – things like fairness and dignity did not exist, but it was quite good fun".**

His first posting was in the garrison town of Aldershot. The flat that he shared with five other cadets was, as luck (or design!) would have it, above an off-licence. The training and work was physically demanding and by today's standards, extremely dangerous. Richard says, **"When you first joined, the test to sort the men from the boys was to pick up a 12 stone man and run 100yds, then run out some hose, or some other job. There was no such thing as breathing apparatus (BA) as there is now – you had two BA sets on a pump and six men – and you were seen as a wimp if you wore one, so you'd just 'eat smoke' at a job. The first five years I was just eating smoke. Sometimes you'd come home and you'd be physically sick. One time at Esso Fawley, we were there all night at a big fire when a 'cat-burner' was alight. It was about 200 feet high, and our water was coming back on us as a spray which was globules of water, burning petrol, hydrocarbons and all the other stuff."**

Another big test of the training was the 'hook ladder drill'. This involves **"a ladder which is 13' 6" high with a hook which is 2' 2" on the end – I remember this off-by-heart!",** Richard says. **"It's got serrated teeth and a bill hook at the end. You fling the ladder onto the first window sill, you climb up the ladder keeping your arms out straight so that your body weight is holding the teeth to the window sill. But sometimes if the teeth didn't catch or something went wrong as you're climbing up, the ladder would slip back two feet, but the bill hook would stop the ladder from falling completely."**

The 'interesting' bit is coming back down. **"You've got to throw yourself back onto the ladder as quick as you can, because if you don't, it's going to swivel – it's all got to be done with rhythm and confidence."**

At training school you had to do the hook ladder drill every week, up **five floors over the top and back down again".** This death-defying drill did its job at retaining suitable firemen. **"A few guys disappeared off the course",** Richard says.

At 25 years of age, promotion saw Richard hop from station to station in Hampshire, before arriving in Southsea, Portsmouth as Assistant Divisional Officer.

**"It was a very busy station with 80 men and 1,500 calls a year but was very militant – it had a bit of a reputation. I was sent there to bring them into line".** Mission accomplished, **"I got the reputation of getting things done and not suffering fools gladly",** he says.

After a spell being seconded to the Fire Service Inspectorate ("a bit like Ofsted") at the Home Office and other postings, he was promoted to Operations Commander in Suffolk with 650 firefighters to manage. But his love was always the shop-floor – the banter and camaraderie. **"They knew they could wind me up, and I wouldn't take offence at it, but then I would give it back. So that's my fire career – I miss it – because I had to leave because of injury."**

**So, what's the best thing about Milborne?** "It's just an enjoyable place to live. There are not many villages like this one, there's an awful lot going on and camaraderie at all levels. Other places have an 'us and them' feel, Milborne hasn't. Estate agents use the term 'sought-after village', and I think Milborne is. If you want to get involved with things going on, you can. And, unfortunately, I do like to get involved in things – that's my problem!"

A stock question of this feature is **"Is there anything you'd like to change about Milborne?"**, which some may think is a bit too dangerous, an open invitation to put to Mr Richard Lock!

**"What really gets me is people who do the village down – they'll say, 'oh, we'll never get that here'; they moan about it but don't do anything about it. I've always found that the easiest decision to make is to say 'no'. The hard decision in life is to say 'yeah, let's give it a go'. And as soon as you've said that, you put yourself in the firing line for everybody afterwards. If you didn't move on, we'd just live in a time warp. So if you accept the status quo, it'd be a horrible place to live in."**

On the subject of heroes and fantasy dinner dates, Richard has only one thought – his dad. **"I get quite emotional when I talk about him. I'd like to go to a meal with him and talk about the things I miss talking about". He died just before Richard came to Milborne. "He pushed me all the way. He was a good old guy."**

**And something that Milborners might not know about you?** "I've starred in the film Tommy! The film-makers accidently set fire to the pier in Southsea – they had one of those big arc lights in there. So the film crew pulled all the kit off the pier and set up the cameras on the shore. Then we turned up, as I was the officer in charge of Southsea at the time – so you might see me in Tommy!"

Another claim to fame (or maybe infamy) is that he's been linked to Cynthia Payne and Pamela Bordes in a Home Office report. (see [www.firexcel.co.uk](http://www.firexcel.co.uk) for the details!)

**Most embarrassing moment?** ". . . Yeah, quite a few!" OK Richard, one that could appear in print?! **"I got set up by most stations when I left. Alarm bells rang when I went into a room full of smiling firemen – the next thing, a strippergram came in – as my clothes were coming off, I could see my promotion going!"**

In what time he has spare from village hall and work duties, Richard enjoys a round of golf. He also likes nothing better than a bit of a burn in his TVR – sticking to the speed limits of course, given that he's also a Magistrate on the Youth and Adult Courts! Richard is also a Rotary Club member, this year being president of the Dorchester Club.

**So, is there anything else you'd like to achieve in the village?** "My next aspiration is to have my membership accepted of the 0730 Milborne Gentlemen's Club outside the Londis. Then I know I've really arrived".





# LETTERS TO THE REPORTER

Dear Sir,  
As Chairman of the Parish Council I would not normally respond to 'The Reporter' letters page as I probably have enough opportunity to speak in public, yet I thought this topic, highlighted in a letter in last month's edition, did require clarification. The MSA logo has been developed as the Parish Council emblem. Other local organisations may wish to use it and the Council would welcome this under formal agreement, which can be applied for through the Parish Clerk. Over time, indeed, it may even gain popularity and status as the village emblem, yet it is currently entirely voluntary. The only time it might in the future be required to be displayed by other organisations is if those organisations receive local public grant funding from the community via the Parish Council, probably

in much the same way as the lottery logo is appearing on the new Village Hall sign. Although a requirement to display a sign for those in support of local funds has been discussed at Council, no formal decision has yet been reached. Over recent years a Parish Councillor has sat on the board of Trustees and the Parish Council has supported the development of facilities and funded the maintenance of the playing field through local taxation. Recently, there has been a joint meeting of Councillors and Trustees to explore further possible collaborative ways of working for the benefit of the community. As it stands at present, it is for Village Hall Trustees, acting on behalf of our community, to decide whether to include the Parish Council emblem on any of its signage, in the same way as it is the Trustees decision whether to collaborate with the Parish Council.

Yours faithfully,  
Simon Curtis Howitz  
Chairman, Milborne St. Andrew Parish Council

## Wanted

*I have been asked to supply and run a game at this year's St. Andrew's Christmas Market on Saturday 21st November. The problem is although I have run games in the past I would like to try something different this year, but my brain will not come up with anything new.*

Do you have a game I could try this year? What I am looking for is something that the younger generation will keep coming back to, so they have to win something quite often, but in the end I make a profit for the Church. I feel if you can keep the children happy, the mums and dads will stay longer and spend more money for this wonderful building of ours.

If you can think of anything for me to run, and perhaps help with, please contact me on 837700.  
David Payne





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*Ed Richards*

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## In your Garden Seasonal notes and tips from Maureen Lock of *Designer Gardens* The Wildflower Meadow

WHEN the village hall was lucky enough to win the bid from the **People's Millions**, one of the projects sponsored was to make the top bank of the village hall grounds into a wildflower meadow and picnic area. I just thought I would tell you about the principles behind making a wildflower meadow and from time to time will write updates on its progress.

Chalky soils are perfect for wildflower meadows but as the area has been left barren for many, many years, the soil is nutrient rich and supports a healthy crop of coarse grasses, docks, creeping buttercups, thistles and nettles which we obviously need to get rid of as these thugs would soon overrun the more fragile plants of our meadow.

Now to create this poor fertility in the soil we have to remove the topsoil to expose a wildflower friendly starved substrate. As the wildflower seeds germinate close to the surface, the tilth needs to be very shallow. Some of the perennials weeds were removed and some have been buried in a trench beneath the mounds which may look high to you at the moment but they will soon sink down as the air is compressed out of the soil by wind and rain. So, what to many started looking like a potential ski-slope has now been transformed into the 'infancy' of a wildflower meadow. The chalk mounds will create different aspects and will allow for a much greater diversity of flora and fauna.

### Sowing the seeds

The next job to do is to sow the seed. Wildflower seed is very expensive and we were very lucky that Pam Lewis was able to donate some of the seed from her garden. Pam is a renowned wild flower expert and has written several books on subject. Several years ago the Gardening Club visited Pam's garden – Sticky Wicket – and I have since worked with her on a meadow nearby. That meadow is developing well and each year the number of insects, the hum of the bees and bird song seems to increase.

The seeds will be mixed with an inert carrier of damp sand and

sawdust as they are very tiny and will be broadcast by hand. I have included some annuals in the mix to give us some colour in the first year; however germination is notoriously unpredictable and some seeds may remain dormant, or be subject to fungal or slug attacks. Ultimately what we are aiming for is a good covering of perennial wildflower and meadow grasses. There is a list of the different varieties of seed sown on the Village Hall noticeboard.

Cutting the meadow: depending upon the fertility of the soil we may not need to cut it all in its first year. But in subsequent years it will probably be cut in early September. Hopefully we will get away with cutting it once a year thus keeping costs low. Narrow, snaking paths for access will be cut through the meadow and this will allow people access without getting their feet wet!

### The FEDGE

When the meadow is cut the arisings (clippings) will be removed to ensure no extra fertility is put back into the soil. The arisings will be put into a fedge on the side of the field. A fedge is like a large compost heap contained within a wire netting fence (in


our case) and all vegetative material from the site will be put in here. It will rot down over the year and create an additional eco-system for insects and small mammals.

Every meadow has its own unique eco-system which will gradually develop over the years. Not one meadow is the same, indeed meadows can often be quite different within themselves due to the amount of sun or shade, they receive and the distribution of new seed brought in by birds and the wind. When our meadow eco-system settles into a pattern, we can then think about increasing the biodiversity, but this will be a few years down the line yet.

Milborne St. Andrew is doing its bit to help save our precious fauna and flora. So I would ask everyone to take an interest in the meadow, but not to walk on it until the plants have established themselves. I hope it will be an interesting, informative and ecologically diverse area for the village to enjoy in the coming years.



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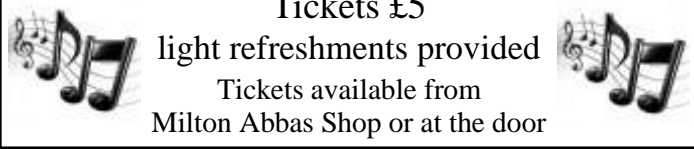
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## THE AUTOGRAPH BOOK

DO you remember that little book? The one we found after my mother-in-law passed away last year? There is a little rhyme in there that speaks volumes, if you know the history, which we did. My mother-in-law decided, about five years ago, to write down all she knew of her parents and of her life. She writes that her father, William Spicer, had been married before, but his wife died about 10 days after their son was born. Her mother, Georgina (and the author of the autograph book), became housekeeper, and looked after the baby while William ran a pub in Frome.

We like to think that this is his proposal of marriage!

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Why should you and I fear  
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Wm S Jan 1st 1912

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## Rainbow News

Report by Verina Cutler

ON a sunny morning in October the children of Rainbow Pre-school went to visit their newly fenced play area. The children sat together on the tyre and enjoyed a snack and then went off to play.



They all enjoyed running around and around with the parachute. Who needs a roundabout?

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# Where the Dickens did you lot come from?

SOME of you might have noticed the temporary dry sky slope that has now turned into some very soft low level banks that go to form the wildflower theatre and the viewing bank. These are planned to shrink down even further as the rotting vegetation put into the trench that formed the shape of the banks rot down. The eventual height is planned to be about 1m ish, approximately, don't hold me to it, let nature take its course.

Anyway, back to the title. On the evening the chalk banks were formed I went to the Hall to put up a notice and spied to my horror about six gladiators whizzing around the banks on their chariots. Knowing that there are Roman burial grounds nearby "What on earth have we dug up" I thought. With some trepidation and in a failing light I made my way up to the top level only to find some local teenagers dressed in helmets and some very elaborate protective gear on BMX's having a whale of a time. Hence my greeting, "Where the Dickens did you lot come from?" and "It didn't take you long to start using the top field".

We had quite an interesting chat and the outcome was that about 10 of them crammed into the village hall the next night for another



chat with the VH Trustees. It was a tight fit for about 15 people so we had to spill out into the lobby and speak in hushed tones as a group was using the main hall. It must have looked mighty suspicious. The outcome is a sort of pact, the trustees have tentatively agreed to the group producing a plan of a possible BMX track layout on the left hand bit of the top field if they promise to keep off the right hand bit and allow the wildflower seeding to become established. Once we have their plans the trustees will look at the impact on other users and neighbours and move on. Mary Anne Featherstone has also invited the Village Hall to be part of a national tree planting scheme and the potential to have 15-20 native trees/hedges incorporated into the possible BMX area, the



possibility of providing interest and screening was not lost on the trustees. So watch this space, early indications are that the pact is working and the young team is really motivated to produce something positive.



## Swings and slides and things

The other projects are moving along at quite a pace, the extension is virtually complete, new flooring has been laid and carpet fitted in the Committee room. The Players hope to complete their part of the project by the end of October and we have just started to receive some 'hurry up' messages from the Big Lottery as we near their deadline for spending the money. A contractor has been asked to draw up some detailed plans and final costings for the zip wire, birdsnest swing and the tube slide. It would be good to get all three items but price may be an issue as it has come in over the £16.5k grant offer but the Trustees will consider using their own funds to help top up the project. No movement on the MUGA yet apart from getting provisional quotes. They are in and are within our budget but there is the design and full planning process to go through and that is another story!!



I suspect that two lines in the last *Reporter* did not go unnoticed quote "I had heard that the village hall committee and the Parish Council don't (won't) communicate with each other" Well, someone must have their ear pretty close to the ground and I think it has more to do to singing from the same hymn sheet and on the same page. Each have their separate roles and responsibilities and our song is "Making a Difference" i.e. to bring the hall and the recreation ground up to a respectable standard that everyone should be proud to have ownership of at the heart of such an important and large community. We have had one joint meeting, a couple of emails pinging around and more meetings are in the pipeline, so hopefully we can move on together (but not in each other's pockets).

*Richard Lock. Chairman of the Trustees*

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## SCHOOL NEWS

AFTER the helicopter visit earlier in the term, the children were treated to fabulous views of another form of transport as Cinderella departed for her wedding at St. Andrew's Church in a beautiful horse drawn carriage. The event was a celebration for Squirrels class, who have been learning all about this classic fairy tale this half term. In school we always look for ways to inspire the children to write and learn and this topic gave lots of ideas. They have designed dresses, written letters, sent emails, designed and written invitations to the rest of the school and planned menus and in their maths work they have calculated the quantity of food needed. They have also read, told and acted the story, discussed different versions and written alternative endings.

As well as being a day full of memories for the children, it was also a perfect opportunity for many parents to get together as they helped to decorate the skittle alley at The Royal Oak for the reception, the centrepiece of which were some beautiful helium balloons provided by Scribes of Sturminster Newton. The bride's dress and flowers were provided by Bridal



*Cinderella – your carriage awaits.*

& Ball of Weymouth with the groom's outfit coming from Marion Baker in Yeovil. The happy couple travelled in style to the church courtesy of The Casterbridge Carriage Company based in Winfrith. None of the event would have been possible without the kind generosity of these local businesses for which we are very grateful.



*Top: The beautiful wedding cake was kindly made by local resident Jean Freudenfeld and was delicious!*

*Bottom: Cinderella and Prince Charming seated at the top table with the best man, who gave a speech, and the father of the bride.*

## CONTACTS

If you require any information about the school, including admissions details for children please contact the school office.

Headteacher: Mrs Anne Purdy, Secretary, School Office: Mrs Helen Pugh

Chair of Governors: Mr George Legg, FOS Chairman: Mrs Sally Taylor

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# Wild Art Club and a duck called Jemima

WILD Art club have been studying our local mammals this term and we chose the animals that the children's classes have been named after. Hedgehogs for Class 1, Squirrels Class 2, Otters Class 3 and we still have Owls to go for Class 4. On week three we had some excitement when a little Mallard duck, we named Jemima turned up at my back door and got chased by the dog. Jemima made more noise than the dog and Islay, being a bit of a softy dog, let her go. We caught her and examined her for injuries and found she had an old, permanent injury to one leg, but managed to cope very well using her wings. We assumed she crashed into the garden, as she certainly didn't walk up the path! No wonder Islay, the dog, was surprised.



Wild Art Club decided a good place to let her go was in the school wildlife area, where she might be disturbed by Brock the badger and the odd fox or heron, but not people and she could swim into the middle of the pond or fly away should danger approach. Brock the badger is only interested in digging holes anyway, so he probably wouldn't notice her.

We took her quietly up to the pond, had a quick photo call and then in silence the children watched as she swam into the pond, had a big drink and started to preen herself, fluffing her wings and generally looking very pleased to be out of the box. We watched her for nearly an hour, which is unheard of for Wild Art Club to be quiet for so long. We watched as a hawker dragonfly laid her eggs on the moss around the pond, a newt come up for air and when the sun came out so did the whirligig beetles!

We finally left Jemima in peace to feed on the duckweed and finish her bath, then we all went and drew some pictures.

## "Trees For Dorset" School Project

On 29th September Mrs Andrews' Class, the Squirrels, spent the morning walking to The Grove and up to the church looking for native tree seeds and berries. We looked at the beautiful Lime tree in The Grove and learnt that the seeds are like helicopters and dispersed by

the wind, whereas the mighty Beech and the Oak trees have seeds that are eaten and dispersed by animals and birds. We also found a very large Horse mushroom, which tasted very good according to Nick, who likes mushrooms. We did identify the mushroom first with the children to check that it was edible.



We collected Elderberries, Privet, Hazelnuts and Yew berries on the way to the church, talked about which berries we could eat and decided Blackberries were the only safe ones to identify and eat without an adult as they were bobbly and looked like nothing else.

In the afternoon the children chose and planted their own seeds, with one group squashing the berries, washing and drying the seeds before planting them.

The potted seeds are now in a wire cage to protect them from hungry mice and squirrels. Next spring the children will start to water and care for them and hopefully some of them will grow to be planted in the new tree nursery.

Next month the Otters in Class 3 will be going for a walk to collect leaves and Year 3 will be setting up a wormery for science.

Mary-Ann Featherstone (Project leader)

## St. Andrew's Christmas Market

Saturday 21st November

Village Hall

12.00 noon to 3.00pm

Meet Father Christmas

Christmas Presents and Cards

Christmas Puddings and other seasonal foods

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# HOMEWATCH NEWSLETTER

BLANDFORD SOUTH, SEPT 2009

## Beware of BT Phone Scam

This is an email we received and felt it should be shared with you all

**THE new telephone 'scam' has arrived. I received a call from a 'representative' of BT, informing me that he was disconnecting me because of an unpaid bill. He demanded payment immediately of £31.00, or it would be £118.00 to reconnect at a later date. The guy wasn't even fazed when I told him I was with Virgin Media, allegedly VM have to pay BT a percentage for line rental! I asked the guy's name – the very 'English' John Peacock with a very 'African' accent – and phone number – 0800 0800 152.**

**Obviously the person realised I didn't believe his story, so offered to demonstrate that he was from BT. I asked how and he told me to hang up and try phoning someone – he would disconnect my phone to prevent this. AND HE DID! My phone was dead – no engaged tone, nothing – until he phoned me again. Very pleased with himself, he asked if that was enough proof that he was with BT. I asked how the payment was to be made and he said credit card, there and then. I said that I didn't know how he'd done it, but I had absolutely no intention of paying him, I didn't believe his name or that he worked for BT.**

**He hung up. I did 1471 and phoned his fictitious 0800 number – not recognised. I phoned the police to let them know, I wasn't the first! It's only just started apparently but it is escalating. Their advice was to let as many people know by word of mouth of this scam. The fact that the phone does go off would probably convince some people it's real, so please let as many friends and family aware of this.**

Homewatch Meetings are now to be held Bi-monthly and as such, the next meeting will be: Thursday 19th November, 10.30am at Blandford RBL

## BLANDFORD RURAL SEPT 2009

### 'The Rural Gossip'

#### STEAM FAYRE SUCCESS FOR SNT

The Great Dorset Steam Fayre came and went with very few problems for Dorset Police again this year.

Local Officers were on hand 24/7 in Tarrant Hinton and the surrounding villages as the thousands of visitors flooded in to enjoy one of Europe's largest outdoor events. With the much talked about Temporary Traveller's site being in use from late August, local Police were drafted in to the villages to offer reassurance and high-visibility patrols. In fact, for the period of the three week Police operation, there were five reported crimes in the areas around the fayre. Police were also called to a number of incidents, which were dealt with swiftly involving moving people on from specific areas and ensuring the safety of residents and visitors.

#### THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLES RISE

There has been a clear rise in the level of vehicle crime in the area in the last month. Seven incidents of thefts (either from, or of motor vehicles) occurred in the Blandford Rural areas in September alone. In the vast majority of cases, thieves are targeting handbags and purses although any valuables left in view are at serious risk. Be aware of people in vehicles nearby that may be watching you should you decide to take your valuables out and put them in the boot . . . It only shows them where you are putting the valuables! If possible, we recommend simply leaving anything you're not going to take with you at home.

#### OUTBUILDING BREAKS STILL PREVELANT

Outbuilding and shed breaks are still unfortunately popular amongst thieves. Please take extra precautions to secure your buildings and belongings. Consider property marking and shed alarms and the like along with external lighting and security around your property. Possibly blackout windows if you keep high value items in there . . . or not to show would be thieves that there is nothing of value in there?

# Trained for Life

**NOBODY can deny now that we are indeed in a recession. I think we've all known it for a long time despite all the spin we were being given by the powers that be we could all see things grinding to a halt. There's many people who had been saying for a long time that it just could not go on, but we all gloated over our property being apparently worth hundreds of thousands of pounds and that holidays abroad were getting cheaper thanks to a 'Strong Pound'.**

**Well we all know now what happened next and it all came tumbling down around the very flaky foundations it was all being built upon. So now people are losing their jobs and it's become very difficult for anyone to find employment. If you listen to the radio stations we're told to get ourselves retrained and to get qualified, we're told we need to learn how to apply for work properly and how to conduct ourselves in interviews by popping down to the local Job Centre Plus to learn these techniques.**

**Now hold on one moment please, first off how come it's all our fault? How come we didn't need all these qualifications before and let's be honest just what are these qualifications worth? Hmmm well other than all the money the training bodies get for this training, be it a short term 'Safety Training' course in 'how to wash up dishes' or a stomach churning £15,000 debt for a degree course. What in truth is all this training achieving other than postponing and masking the unemployment figures. Think about it, if you need a qualification to clean dishes then just how is this actually getting anyone back to work and earning money, and how on earth are you going to get that job as a brain surgeon?!**

**Once upon a time people learnt a skill, they learnt a trade, things they could really do and make things by. Nowadays it's all just how to create more and more paper and how to shuffle it about to disguise the fact that very few people these days seem to even know how to put a plug on a reading lamp. Ah, but yes of course reading lamps nowadays come with moulded on plugs so that you can't fit them neatly to your desk as the cable won't fit down the back of the desk without cutting it off and fitting another plug instead because the one you cut off was helpfully moulded on to the cable. Of course we'll need to call in a fully qualified electrician to fit the plug who's been on one of these training courses and no doubt only wound up as an electrician because the degree course in Sports Recreational Management didn't get them a job with Manchester United as their marketing director and they were sent on the Re-Skilling Course by that apparently ubiquitous Job Centre Plus.**

**So I ask why not focus on real jobs for real people in the real world. Real jobs like electricians for example with real training by the people who do the jobs in the first place rather than these renamed Universities selling off 'Degrees' that I often hear people saying are not worth tuppence ha'penny. Let's not pretend, we're well used to all the spin and frankly it don't wash anymore.**

**Oh and by the way, have you noticed all the empty spaces in Dorchester now thanks to the parking meters everywhere? I wonder who that's helped?**

*Grumpy B*

#### METAL THEFT SUSPECTS CHARGED

Three people have been charged in connection with the theft of metal from a work site in Lower Almer. The three people were stopped and arrested by patrol officers and subsequently charged with Theft. They are due to appear before magistrates in October.

**ANYONE WITH INFORMATION RELATING TO ANY OF THE CRIMES MENTIONED HERE SHOULD CONTACT LOCAL OFFICERS IMMEDIATELY ON 01202 223003**





### Preparation of bottom pitch

Progress has been made on preparation of the bottom pitch for seeding. Our thanks to David Hawkins for his tilling of the site and for assisting Malcolm Applin in the raking of stones into lines to enable the Dorset Probation Community Services team to remove stones in preparation for seeding.

Our reporter has been unavailable at recent matches but we are able to give an overall view of the season to date for the seniors.

First team newly promoted to division II remain unbeaten and are lying third in the table. Manager, Paul Hammond is delighted with the progress and is confident of a third successive promotion.

Following requests that opportunities for football for local players and youths and those unable to meet the standard required to be playing in division II resulting in Milborne Sports forming a reserve team playing in division IV. Despite a great start of an 8-1 victory at Poundbury this remains the only victory of the season. **Manager, Andrew Draper comments "I am hopeful that we can turn these performances round but at the same time, I am disappointed about the commitment shown from those who were pressing to run a second stream team. As a Manager, it makes life very difficult when players fail to respond to telephone calls or text messages enquiring about their availability. If the second team is to continue to run then greater commitment and loyalty to the team must be shown. For those of you who have mislaid my telephone number, I can be contacted on 07824 394436."**

### Puddletown 0 Milborne Sports 6

MILBORNE came in to this game looking to get back on the winning track after three successive draws and did not disappoint in this local derby. Manager Hammond rearranged the back four with a strong centre pairing of Lochriie and Lambert. Ed Evans looked comfortable at right back whilst Karl 'Deano' Dean competed for the man of the match nomination with a near faultless performance at left back.

**The first goal arrived after about six minutes when Paul Myatt's** knock on put Carl McLements in to comprehensively beat his man before stroking the ball into the far corner. Puddletown tried hard to get back into the game and were using the offside trap to good effect until McLements broke through after twenty minutes to score his second. The Lanenders were unlucky not to add to their score until **just before the break after Myatt was fouled midway in Puddltown's** half. From the resulting free kick Chris Pavey expertly curled the ball into the penalty box where McLements was waiting to finish with a deft flicked header past a helpless keeper. The second half continued in the same vein and when Steve Walker's curved pass found Pavey he looked certain to score from about eight yards although he unselfishly rolled the ball across for McLements to score his fourth with a simple tap in. Halfway through the second half Pavey's driven low cross was unfortunately deflected into his own net by a Puddletown defender. Wayne Gifford had to be alert to ensure Milborne kept a clean sheet and Puddletown were also unlucky to see a clever free kick hit the post and rebound back into play. However, it was the Lanenders with Tewkesbury once again having a sterling performance in midfield, that finished the scoring with McLements hitting an absolute peach from the edge of the box with a stunning curler in to the far corner.

This was a much better performance from Milborne who will now go into next game against league leaders Sturminster Marshall with renewed vigour.

MOM: Carl McLements

Mike Lathbury, Chairman

## Congratulations to Tom Lane

The Reporter learns that Tom Lane, player/assistant manager for Milborne Sports FC has been to 10 Downing Street to receive a "Community Hero" award from the Prime Minister for his youth work in Dorset over the last 15 years. He said he felt very honoured and it really is recognition for his whole staff team at STEPS in Weymouth who are very dedicated and lovely people.

### Milborne Sports FC Reserves

#### League Results – Dorset Saturday League Division IV

5th Sept	Poundbury Rovers (A)	Won 8-1
12th Sept	Bishops Caundle (A)	Lost 3-0
19th Sept	Wyke Victoria (A)	Lost 2-1
26th Sept	Poole Link (H)	Lost 7-1
3rd Oct	Corfe Mullen Utd. (A)	Lost 10-0
17th Oct	Galaxy Windows (A)	Lost 3-1

#### Minor Cup Result

10th Oct	Flight Refuelling (A)	Lost 5-1
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#### Summary

Given the great success of the first team last season, the number of players being attracted to the Club, the development of facilities and of youth football at Milborne Sports, we decided to run a Reserve team this season.

In the future, we hope that young players will progress from our youth teams, through the Reserves and into the 1st team.

The Reserves have had a rocky start to their first season in Div IV of the Dorset Saturday League: the first game was a great start as Milborne beat Poundbury Rovers 8-1, with local striker Jake Tissington scoring 4 goals on his debut (and his 17th birthday!)

Since then, results have not gone our way – with Milborne losing out in a couple of close-fought games and also being soundly beaten by a couple of very strong teams.

Results will certainly improve as we are strengthening the team all the time with players returning from holidays, injuries and suspensions. Better results are definitely on their way . . . you heard it here first!

#### Forthcoming Fixture List

##### First Team – Division II

31st October	Away	Upway and Broadway
7th November	Away	Dorchester Sports
28th November	Home	AC McTravers

##### Reserves -- Division IV

31st October	Home	Stairbridge
7th November	Away	Flight Refuelling
14th November	Home	Littlemoor
21st November	Home	Pimperne
28th November	Away	Soccer FC

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### Steak Meal for Two

Why not treat someone special? Monday to Friday evenings until 3rd December enjoy two 8oz rump steaks with onion rings, hand-cut chips, peas and salad garnish accompanied by a glass of house wine each. All for only £19.95.

By reservation only.

### Hambro Arms Game Evening – Saturday 28th November

Always one of our most popular evenings. Game season is upon us with all of your favourites. Choose from pheasant, venison, wild boar and pigeon. In all a choice of three starters and main courses followed by dessert. All three courses for only £21.95.

Reservations essential.

### Charity Quiz Nights – Sunday 1st and 15th November.

As usual, our charity quiz nights will be hosted by Graham Senior.

All entry fees (£2 per person) will be donated to the beneficiaries.

Our charities are Milton Abbas Cricket Club and The Dorset Bat Group. Please come and support these worthwhile causes.

### Christmas and New Year

Whether it is a Christmas party, or a smaller lunchtime gathering, we have menus to suit every occasion. Our Christmas Day menu is five courses, while our New Year's Eve gourmet dinner will enable you to see in the New Year in style, with music and dancing until the early hours.

#### Game Evening

Saturday 28th November

##### Starters

Pan-fried pigeon breast with bacon lardons and blueberries  
Quail eggs with black pudding, pancetta and rocket salad  
Game terrine with a red onion marmalade and crisp leaves

##### Main Courses

Char-grilled pheasant with crushed potatoes and a Cointreau and cranberry jus  
Wild boar and shitake mushroom stroganoff served with mixed wild rice  
Venison Wellington with a juniper and port sauce and fondant potatoes

All main courses are served with a selection of roasted winter vegetables

##### Desserts

Warm chocolate brownie with local vanilla ice cream  
Lemon and lime cheesecake with fruit of the forest compote  
Brioche bread and apricot pudding with crème anglaise  
Local cheese platter served with chutney and crackers

All three courses only £21.95

By Reservation Only

#### Christmas Party Menu

##### Starters

Roasted vine tomato soup with a basil cream served with a warm roll (v)  
Tian of smoked salmon and crab with a rustic slice  
Game terrine with a red onion marmalade and crisp leaves

##### Main Courses

Traditional Dorset roast turkey served with chestnut stuffing, pigs in blankets and a cranberry and port jus, served with roasted potatoes and winter vegetables  
Fillet of Beef Wellington with a wild mushroom and red wine jus served with fondant potatoes and winter vegetables  
Field mushroom, asparagus and parmesan risotto served with rocket leaves (v)

##### Desserts

Traditional Christmas pudding with brandy sauce  
Homemade Dorset apple cake with crème anglaise

Fresh fruit salad with cream

All three courses

£19.95

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