



Reporter

News and Views from around the area

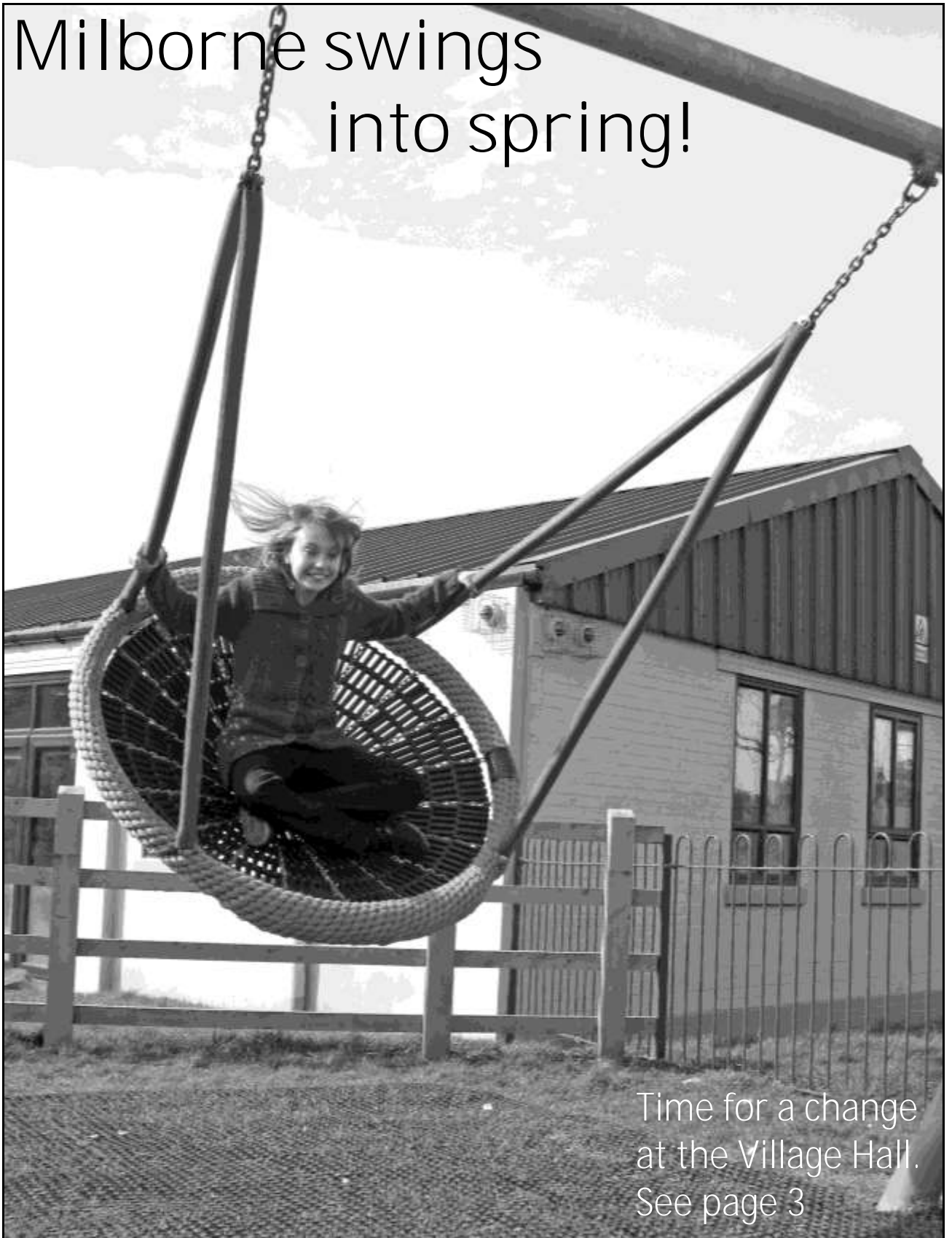
Volume 2 Issue 4

April 2010

www.milbornestandrew.org.uk/reporter

Milborne St. Andrew

Milborne swings into spring!



Time for a change
at the Village Hall.
See page 3

Milborne St. Andrew Food and Wine Society

LAST month the society held their Annual General Meeting in which members recalled a wide range of social events that included a meal at Yalbury Cottage, the Murder Mystery Evening and the Purbeck Vineyard Buffet and excursion. The year ended with the St. Andrew's day annual dinner held this year at The Royal Oak.

Members also paid tribute to Tony Dyer and gave thanks for all his considerable efforts as the outgoing chairman. We also welcomed Maureen Lock as the new chairman (or perhaps chair lady!) to carry the society forward. The AGM was concluded by a film on Spanish wines and a delicious 'bring and share' supper provided by members that was supplemented by a choice of wines provided by the society.

The programme for 2010 promises to be equally varied and includes the popular biannual Safari Supper and a West Country Food event. Forthcoming events for your diaries are:

27th March A Fair-trade evening with wine tasting to be held at the village hall

24th April St George's day Dinner at The Royal Oak

20th May A Casino Royale Night at Weymouth College

The Food and Wine Society provides members with a variety of different events in and around the area and gives members a chance to meet in a relaxed and informal way. The society always welcomes new members and anyone interested in joining should contact Maureen Lock (837929) or Helen Lord (839222) for further details.

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

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Gardening Club Report

JENNY SHORT'S illustrated talk at our meeting in February taught us all we needed to know about ponds, whether they were established to attract wildlife, or to form a focal point or to reflect the sun and brighten up a shady place.

At the business part of the meeting the members present voted unanimously to plant up the new raised flower beds that the Parish Council plans to install on the corner of Milton Road. Some concern was raised as to how the new shrubs would be watered and maintained in the future.

Tickets were on sale for the recording of BBC Radio 4's Gardeners' Question Time, being hosted by Cheselbourne Gardening Club. A new logo for the Gardening Club was chosen (see above) and Steve Lord was the winner of the photographic competition. Prizes for future competitions will be gardening tokens kindly donated by Poundbury Garden Centre.

At our next meeting on Thursday 22nd April we will be having a fun gardening quiz and, after refreshments, there will be an Open Forum to discuss future meetings, speakers, events and outings.

Linda Harris

Weather in Milborne St. Andrew February 2010

TOTAL February rainfall was 95.9mm which was 118% of average. It was a cold month with frosts on 12 nights and there were snow showers on the 8th, 10th and 12th. It was the coldest February in Milborne since 1996. The winter (December – February) in Milborne was the coldest since 1990/91. We were fortunate to have escaped the worst of the winter's weather which occurred in other parts of the country where it was the coldest winter for 30 years. The coldest winter I have recorded in Milborne was in 1984/5. There were a series of cold winters from 1981 to 1987.

The Met. Office have finally accepted that their seasonal forecasting has not been very successful and will, in future, produce a forecast for four weeks ahead which will be updated each week. This should prove to be more reliable and consequently more useful for everyone.

The recent warmer weather convinces us that spring has finally arrived and in the words of Alfred Austin;

Is life worth living? Yes, so long
 As Spring revives the year,
 And hails us with the cuckoo's song
 To show that she is here.



Pluvius

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
 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

Village Hall dates for your diary

Margaret Evans has sent a note round to all the user groups reminding them about the AGM and the need to nominate a representative for the trustees management committee. The AGM is open to all and will be held in the main hall at 7.00pm on Thursday 15th April and then, barring a major hiccup and after a short break, the first meeting of the new committee is held and the first task is to elect a Chairman for the following year. We hope that as many of you as possible come along to the AGM.

For the uninitiated, the trustees of the VH Charity are primarily drawn from the ranks of the regular user groups and at every AGM the trustees are ceremoniously stripped of their responsibilities (not a pretty sight!) and a new set of trustees are nominated by the respective groups.

The way the trust deeds have been drawn up means that no one person has an automatic right to be a trustee nor is it possible for **one person to 'load' the committee with his or her chums.** The key members of the team i.e. Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer, Secretary, etc, are all elected by the trustees at the first meeting of the management committee.

Without the active support of the community and the willingness of people to volunteer their time and effort the Hall could not continue. If you are interested in being a trustee, whatever group you represent is immaterial because when you walk into the meeting there is a legal requirement to represent the objectives of the Hall itself, not a particular user group or special interest.

Village Hall set to close

The Village Hall will be closed for one week (seven days) commencing 26th July to enable the main hall floor to be sanded and resealed. This should be the last part of the jig saw in the upgrade of the Hall. The car park potholes should have been sorted by then and maybe the squeaky floorboards will be next on the list . . . but who knows, that will be up to the next trustees committee to decide.

The Hall does need a 'Bookings Co-ordinator' or if you are looking for a grand title a 'bookings manager'. The existing title of 'bookings secretary' seems to imply the taking of copious minutes and that is just not the case any more. The cleaning duties have now been separated out from the job description and what is now required is someone who can keep a diary of events and then send out invoices for payment to the treasurer. Most of the user groups take advantage of the bulk bookings system so the workload has been greatly reduced. It is not necessary for the bookings co-ordinator to be a full blown trustee so if you are interested in playing an active role in the future of the Hall please contact Margaret Evans for more details.
Richard Lock (Chairman)

100 CLUB WINNERS

Draw Date – Monday 1st March 2010

1st prize	£100	Donna Hiscock
2nd prize	£50	Lesley Baker
3rd prize	£22	Rosa Mclucas

Drawn approximately every 5 weeks

The next draw is at 8.00pm, in The Royal Oak,
on Tuesday 6th April 2010

Anyone is welcome to attend

New members always welcome

Remembering Dad's Army at WI March meeting

'WHO do you think you are kidding, Mr Hitler . . .' This month's talk by Mr Christopher McColl struck a chord with many of us, not least the familiar opening tune to the popular TV sitcom, the lyrics from which had been performed by Bud Flanagan. The series was set during WW2 and the idea taken from the writer's own experiences in the Home Guard. The show ran from 1968 to 1977, was filmed in Norfolk and featured a cast of familiar names, the most notable probably being Arthur Lowe as the platoon's leader Captain Mainwaring. It was fascinating to hear some of the background to the making of the series which provided an interesting forum for discussion amongst members.

For instance, it transpired that Margery Guilmont's husband, Peter, had been one of the first members of the Home Guard (or Local Defence Volunteers as it was formerly called) in Southampton. Pat Shipton, Lynne Morris and Sheila Bird could boast meritorious service careers of their own, having been serving Wrens. Of the several items of WW2 memorabilia which were on display it was good to hear that the gas mask had never been called into use!

Nominations for the committee were welcomed and a ballot will be held at next month's meeting. Dates for the next two very popular pub lunches are Wednesday 17th March, and Thursday 15th April, respectively. Our annual dinner at The Royal Oak is arranged for Saturday 10th April, and replies should already be with Nelda Oakes, seating plan to follow. The Group meeting will be at Winterborne Zelston on 24th March at which Jane Serentzi-Sheppard will talk about the 'Dorset Family – Drax'.

At our Thursday 8th April meeting Mrs Ann Mephram will demonstrate how to make Dorset Buttons and we will all have the opportunity to take part. This will also be our Annual Meeting. Please do join us; here is the chance to gain a new skill and have a few laughs in friendly company. We would be delighted to see you.

Pat Bull



Left: *The chocolate fountain almost ran out at the WI chocolate extravaganza it proved so popular!*



Below: *Eva Stockley demonstrating cake decorating with chocolate.*



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



An Anglican-Methodist Covenant

Dear Friends

On Wednesday 15th April at 6.30pm, almost 200 years of divided Christian witness in Tolpuddle will be brought to an end!

In the Methodist Chapel on that evening, a Covenant will be signed by representatives of the Methodist Church and the Church of England, committing us to work and worship together in our witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

The Covenant will enable regular Methodist worship to resume in the village at the Parish Church, and three services each year at the Chapel around particular themes. *There will be six Methodist led services each year at St. John's on a Sunday morning in place of our normal service, and we hope that many villagers will want to join our regular congregation there.*

The Bishop of Sherbourne, Graham Kings and Rev Dr Andrew Woods, the Chair of the Southampton District of the Methodist Church will be helping to lead our celebration.

The relationship between the Chapel and the Parish Church has not always been a cause for rejoicing of course. As in many parishes, the emergence of Methodism was highly controversial, and the Church of England frequently made life very difficult for these "dissenters" as they were called. *In Tolpuddle, this acquired greater significance with the story of the Martyrs.*

In the year 1832, the Vicar of Tolpuddle, the Rev Thomas Warren betrayed the agricultural workers of Tolpuddle. He did this by first acting as a witness to an agreement between farm labourers and land owners for a fair wage, and then denying any such agreement, when the land owners went back on their promises.

This betrayal was especially bitter as a number of the men who were to become the Tolpuddle Martyrs were Methodists, and George Loveless was a gifted and intelligent Methodist Lay Preacher. Feelings undoubtedly ran high at this betrayal, and it is perhaps symbolic in Tolpuddle that the Parish Church and the Methodist Chapel are at opposite ends of the village! Indeed to add insult to injury, George Loveless, after his release and return to England found himself repeatedly maligned by Anglican Clergy resulting in his famous letter to the Vicar of Hazelbury Bryant, "A Church Shown Up" which provided an incisive and swingeing account of the failure of the Church of England of the time to minister and care for ordinary working people.

Much time has, of course, passed since then and any animosity has long gone within the village. Since I came in 2005, I have been very pleased, as the present vicar, to be involved in the Martyrs Festival in any way I could, but I have sometimes detected some suspicion or ill feeling towards the Church of England as I welcomed Trades Unionists into the churchyard for the wreath laying at Hammett's grave. *As a result, I took part in the wreath laying for the first time in 2008 (facilitated by our Methodist brethren) laying a 'wreath of repentance' for the Church of England's betrayal of the Martyrs and local labourers.*

Time has also passed for the Methodist Chapel, and last year it was decided that regular monthly services at the chapel could no longer be sustained. *Indeed a number of our own congregation at St. John's had been supporting the services there for some time to help make them viable.*

But Tolpuddle and the story of the Martyrs is deeply rooted in the soul of Methodism, and as such it seemed a tragedy that *this might be the 'beginning of the end' for Methodist worship in the village. So discussions began between myself and Rev Paul Arnold, the Methodist Superintendent and the idea emerged of a Covenant between St. John's Parish Church and the Methodist Circuit. We would promise to work together as Christians to ensure the continuation of Methodist worship in the village, and seek other opportunities to celebrate our fellowship together.*

As a result, both the PCC and the Circuit have agreed to such a Covenant, which in many ways builds on the National Covenant signed between the Church of England and the Methodist Church in 2003 by the Archbishop of Canterbury and the President of the Methodist Conference.

So on the 14th April, we will make our promises to each other, to work and worship together, and celebrate all that God is doing among us, and we warmly invite everyone in the Benefice to join us on a momentous day in the life of Tolpuddle.

Programme:	6.15pm	Gather at The Methodist Chapel in Tolpuddle
	6.30	Opening worship and signing the Covenant
	6.45	Walk of Witness from the Chapel to St. John's Parish Church
	7.15	Service of Celebration at St. John's
	8.00	Refreshments

Yours in Christ

Useful websites:

The 2003 National Covenant
<http://www.anglican-methodist.org.uk/text.htm>
 George Loveless—Church Shown Up
<http://books.google.co.uk> (and search for 'Church Shown up')

Flowers – w/e Saturday
 3rd April (Easter) All helpers please
 10th and 17th April Lin Chatfield
 24th April and 1st May Pat Tribe

Church Cleaning – w/e Saturday
 3rd April John and Ann Miller
 10th April Victoria Bone and Lin Chatfield
 17th April Ed and Rose Frost
 24th April Sue Lee and Val Hodges

CHURCH SERVICES April 2010

1st APRIL – Maundy Thursday
 12.00 Maundy Thursday Milborne
 Lunchtime Communion
 7.00pm Maundy Thursday Communion Puddletown
 8.00 Agape Supper Dewlish

2nd APRIL – Good Friday
 9.30am Good News for Good Friday Tolpuddle
 11.00 Good Friday Family Service Puddletown
 12.00–3.00pm Music for individual Puddletown
 prayer and meditation
 2.00pm Easter Experience! Milborne
 6.00 Good Friday Service Dewlish

4th APRIL – Easter Sunday
 9.30am Easter Family Communion Milborne
 11.00 Festival Holy Communion Puddletown
With Crèche and Sunday Seekers
 11.00 Easter Communion Dewlish
 4.00pm Tolpuddle Easter Praise! Tolpuddle
 Church

11th APRIL – Easter 2
 8.15am 1662 Said Communion Service Puddletown
 9.30 1662 Morning Prayer Tolpuddle
 9.30 Parish Communion Milborne
 11.00 Family Service Puddletown
 Village Hall
 11.00 Family Communion Dewlish

WEDNESDAY 14th APRIL
 6.30pm Tolpuddle Covenant Signing Tolpuddle
 Methodist Chapel
 7.15 Covenant Celebration Tolpuddle
 Parish Church

THURSDAY 15th APRIL
 12.00 Lunch-time Communion Dewlish

18th APRIL – Easter 3
 9.30am Family Communion and APCM 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 22nd APRIL
 12.00 Lunch-time Communion Tolpuddle

25th APRIL – Easter 4
 9.30am Holy Communion Tolpuddle
 9.30 1662 Parish Communion Milborne
 and APCM
 11.00 Family Communion Puddletown
With Crèche and Sunday Seekers
 11.00 Family Service Dewlish

MILBORNE ST. ANDREW CHURCH NOTES

Over halfway to our fund-raising target GREAT NEWS! The Parochial Church Council has been promised £15,000 from a grant-making body for the new facilities to be installed in church. This means that with the money the PCC has set aside for this project, plus fund-raising, we are now over halfway to reaching our target.

The next stage will be to apply for all the necessary consents from the Diocesan Advisory Committee. There is a copy of the plans displayed in the Lady Chapel at church. This is not the final plan but will give people an idea of what we are expecting to achieve.

Many people have asked if a new heating system should be included in our plans as it has been extremely cold in church this winter. We all know the heating system is not adequate and very costly. We are contacting a church heating consultant to come and discuss the best system for our church. This will include information on “How Green is My Church”, a special “green audit” on how we can reduce our carbon footprint.

We are already receiving some tins and jars of pennies and small change as part of our fund-raising effort, so please carry on the good work. We also want to organise an Events Committee to help us raise money for church. If you would be interested in joining this committee, please get in touch with Eva (Tel: 837468) or Pat (837684). You do not have to become a member of the Parochial Church Council. It is vital that we keep our church open for use by the community and future generations, as well as praising God for his work.

“Praise” gets batter and batter!

The Milborne Praise team will be presenting Easter Club on Good Friday (2nd April) from 2.30pm–4.00pm. We start in the Village Hall with the making of hot cross buns and decorating Easter biscuits. While these are being cooked, Sarah will take the group up to church and tell the Easter Story. This was a very popular event last year, so do come and join us. The church will be open for meditation and music on Good Friday afternoon. See the notice board for all the Easter services.

At the February “Milborne Praise” we made pancakes. They were five days late but nobody minded that. Sarah explained that pancakes were traditionally made on Shrove Tuesday so that food that was not to be

eaten during Lent, a time of penitence and fasting, could be used up. Then we set to in three groups. Ingredients had to be weighed and mixed before the cooking began – and then came the tossing! We must have had a room full of experts because not one pancake ended up on the floor. After that, of course, came the eating and, with a wide choice of things to be spread on the pancakes, everyone was happy. Hymns were sung, “pancake-shaped” prayers were written and we ended with the blessing. It was a lovely afternoon, full of fun and praising.

Notice anything different?

Have you seen the new notice board? This is now on the wall of the Londis shop, and is more visible from their car park. The old one opposite the Londis had fallen into a very dangerous state and will be taken down shortly. Our grateful thanks to Tony Lages for allowing us to put the notice board in this new position.

News in Brief

Haiti Earthquake Collection: Thank you to all those who have supported this very necessary work. The *Annual Parochial Church Meeting* will be held (at about 10.30am) on Sunday 25th April, immediately after the church service. A *Fair Trade* stall will be held in church on the fourth Sunday each month.

Eva Stockley and Pat Tribe Churchwardens

DEWLISH CHURCH NOTES

Children to decorate biscuits

WE ARE holding a Spring Sale and Coffee Morning in Dewlish Village Hall on Saturday, 10th April, 10.30am–12noon. Please come along and enjoy a coffee and Easter biscuit, along with the chance to buy cakes, produce, bric-a-brac, toys and plants. There will also be a raffle, and the children will be able to decorate biscuits with a prize for the best. We shall be very grateful for any donations to the stalls.

Our AGM will be held on Monday 12th April, at 7.30pm in the Hall. All those on the church electoral roll are welcome to attend.

Daphne Burg

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		

Milborne 100 Club JOIN NOW

Please make your subscription cheques payable to “M.S.A. F.C.” to any of the following:

John Kane 837108; Pat Tribe 837684;
 June Maitland 837235; Brian Pitman

Proceeds shared equally between
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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 www.milborneladybirds.org.uk

The Village Hall

MILBORNE ST ANDREW



The Village Hall Trustees invite you to the

Annual AGM

Thursday 15th April at 7.00pm

All welcome

Nominations from User Groups for Management Committee members are invited.

You are invited to take part in the annual

Village Hall Quiz

On Saturday 1st May 2010 at 7.00pm

Bring your own drinks

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Monday Night Computer Access starts again in the Village Hall Committee Room

NOW the nights are lighter, the computer drop-in sessions are **restarting**. The first one is on **Monday 19th April**. We've slightly changed the time (6.30pm to 7.30pm), a bit earlier to avoid clashing with existing bookings in the room. Mark Dyer will be there, and later in May, Edward Godfrey will also be helping, both are Hardye School students, thanks to both of you!

As before, it is open to everyone, there is no charge. We have four laptops for your use, or you can bring your own. If you have any questions, just give me a ring – Sue Gould 01258 837575.

DON'T FORGET – 6.30PM TO 7.30PM ON MONDAY EVENINGS STARTING THE 19th APRIL 2010.

Coffee, Cake and Computers

THIS takes place every Friday morning in the village hall committee room **between 10.00am and 12 noon** and is sponsored by St. Andrew's Church and funded by a start up grant from Dorset Partnership for Older People Project (POPP).

This successful group has been running for almost two years now, twenty four people attended last week, some just to chat, drink tea and coffee and eat home-made cake and others to use the computers as well. Some people come along having just purchased their first lap-top computer and need a helping hand and advice on how to get set up and started. For those who have yet to take the plunge, advice is offered on what sort of computer to buy, internet service providers, software, hardware, home networking, security, etc, without a pushy salesman trying to sell you anything.

All ages are welcome; we offer patient help and advice with most things including family history research, mobile phones, MP3 players, digital cameras, i-phones, i-pod touch, blackberry, even digital weather stations!

Meeting weekly, we try to share new ideas, passing the word along about items of interest and helping each other out. For example – did you know that Dorset County Library Service has a new completely free service to all members? You can browse the full library catalogue on line and then download audio books of your choice onto a computer, then onto an i-pod or any MP3 player. After 14 days the recording automatically expires and disappears from your device, no fines for lateness! You can do all this, using our computers and fast broadband, with a helping hand to get started, at the Drop-In. Thank you to Josie for passing on this info. Last week we introduced several people to the BBC iPlayer – a website where you can watch, listen and record TV and radio programmes that you may have missed.

As well as homemade cake for sale (eat in or take-away) there are other items and services on offer from time to time, home grown vegetables and surplus seedlings, home produced greetings cards, free-range eggs, village lunch tickets and lots more. Chat to our community police, local parish councillors, Sarah our associate priest and visit the library van.

We are not a club, you don't have to join, just come along. We charge 50p admission; coffee and tea are 50p and a slice of cake 50p.

Especially if you are new to our village, a warm welcome awaits everyone. So why not give us a try next Friday? *Rose and Ed Frost*

Valley Churches Walk

15th May 2010



Sponsored walk around our six churches

For more details please ring

Marion Miles 01258 452010 or

Caroline Chichester 01929 471097

Easter Experience Holiday Club

Good Friday 2nd April, 2.30–4.00pm

In the village hall and Church

Come and help us make hot cross buns and decorate Easter biscuits in the hall and then follow the Easter trail to Church. For further details speak to Rev Sarah Godfrey 839067 or one of the church wardens.



Wednesday Social Club

March Meeting

WE were all fascinated to learn the history of Brownsea Island and the wildlife that has made a permanent home there. As well of course as the migratory birds that flock to its shores for a temporary visit.

The island was first placed in the history books as far back as the 9th century. From then up until 1963 it had a varied occupancy including Royalty. The island also had an active part to play in the protection of Poole Harbour both during the Napoleonic Wars and World War II.

Now it is owned and managed by The National Trust in association with Dorset Wildlife Trust. The castle of course is well known for being owned by the John Lewis Group as a holiday retreat for its employees.

The interesting presentation by John England from Dorset Wildlife Trust brought the island to life for us. We are planning to **include a visit on our next year's itinerary and for those with limited mobility, the National Trust have transport that will take you around the island.**

May I take this opportunity to add that, although the club is for the over 50's, we welcome all members of the community to attend any of our talks and outings should they be of interest to you. We would be delighted to see you and extend a warm welcome, please bring a friend.

Dates for your diary

A.G.M. 7th April Village Hall at 2.30pm

Everyone is welcome to attend. The business of the A.G.M. is reasonably short and following a break for tea and biscuits Josie Wright will be giving a humorous presentation entitled Mars and Bra's (Josie used to work for the confectioner's Mars and the Bra company Berlei). An interesting and diverse combination, should be an uplifting afternoon – if you know what I mean!

May 5th Horse Drawn Barge on the Kennet and Avon Canal. Coach leaves Stileham Bank at 8.45am.

For booking and further information please contact Margaret Evans 01258 450518.

Margaret Kirk – Chair

Ladybirds' children with their aeroplanes

ALL the children at Ladybirds made individual wooden aeroplanes with John Wright this term. They worked with John using real tools and are very proud of their achievements. Thank you John from everyone at Ladybirds.

Liz Dyer



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Tony Fox – Quizmaster extraordinaire

JUST a quick reminder to all you mastermind buffs that the annual Village Quiz is to be held in the Village Hall on Saturday 1st May, eyes down at 7.00pm.

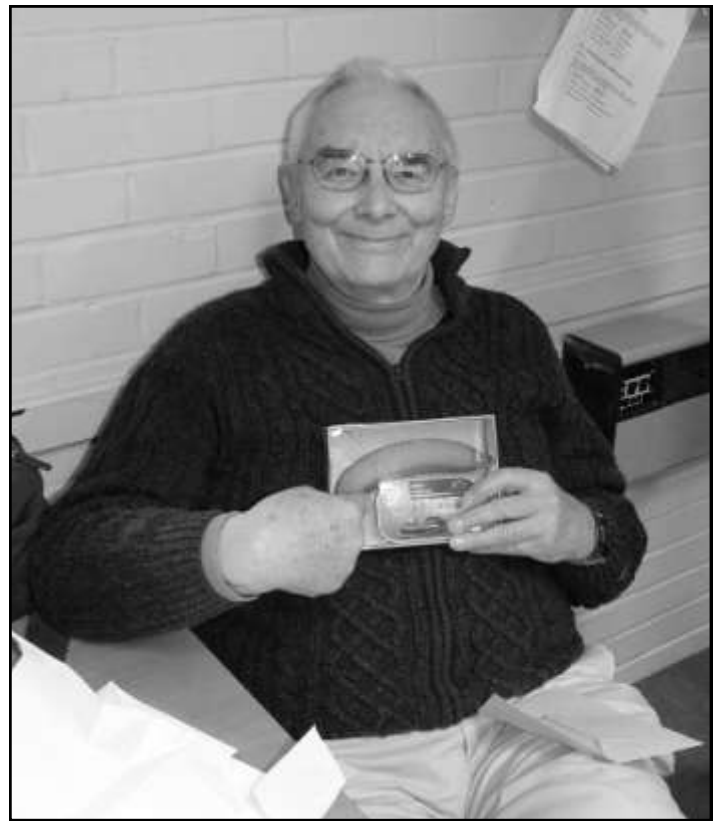
Teams are drawn from the many groups within the community and some 'wild card' entries. The event creates a lot of competitive spirit (all carried out in the nicest possible way) and it is a great night out. The winning team has the task of writing the questions for the following year and this year that honour falls upon Tony Fox and his team.

For those of you that are worried about your Mastermind potential, fear not, a wide range of questions are set and the main aim is to have a jolly good time not to send you home muttering "my brain hurts".

If you are a 'watcher' then come along too, things really do hot up in the final round as everyone sweats it out jockeying for second place. Tony and his team won by one point last year so it was a pretty close run thing for Peter and his team

It would be good to see a youth team this year.

The Village Hall



Robin Keller was thrilled to receive a gift of a banana and a tin of sardines in appreciation of his efforts in auditing the Reporter's accounts for 2009.

North Dorset and The Parish Plan

NORTH Dorset is consulting the community on its New Plan (the draft of its future Core Strategy). This plan is available for examination and comment at:

Blandford Corn Exchange between 10.00am and 5.00pm on Thursday 25th March

NDDC Council Offices, Salisbury Road, Blandford from 8.45am to 5.00pm, from Monday to Thursday throughout April.

This consultation fits in very well with the programme for our own Village Plan. The digest of data from last year's Questionnaire will be placed on the Village Website in early April. A draft discussion document will be published in the May edition of the Reporter and presented at the Annual Village Meeting in early May.

It is intended that the adopted plan become the foundation for our Parish Council's Business Plan and be incorporated in the North Dorset Core Strategy Plan.

The key question being posed by NDDC "Is Milborne suitable for limited growth?"

The replies to the Questionnaire indicate that the residents of MSA might accept very limited growth.

It is absolutely vital that we all examine the proposals and comment upon the future of our village.

Tony Dyer Village Plan Group

Take a trip down Memory Lane in Christian Aid Week

THE Memory Lane Swing Band will be in the village on Saturday 15th May in support of Christian Aid Week. This well loved local band will give a full performance of nostalgic jazz and swing classics in the garden of Little England Cottage from 7.30pm (gates open at 7.00pm). The Parish Church Council, who are promoting this event, will provide an interval supper which is included in the ticket price. Local businesses have generously stepped forward to support this good cause. The Oak at Dewlish will be putting on a cash bar and Western Marquees are providing a marquee, with Abbas Cabins supplying the toilet facilities. If the weather is really wet, however, the venue will change to the Milborne St. Andrew Village Hall. Tickets can be obtained in advance at a reduced price of £11 or £9 for concessions, or £14 on the night. All proceeds from this event will go to support the valuable work of Christian Aid, responding to emergencies such as the Haiti earthquake and helping people in developing countries escape from poverty. For further information and tickets contact Charlotte on 01258 837655.

May Fayre and Dog Show

EXCITING new events and old favourites are planned for this year's Milborne May Fayre, to be held on Saturday 22nd May at the Village Hall and recreation ground. The main arena will host events including a dog show, a historical dance display, tug-of-war competition and maypole dancing.

New for this year's fayre is a tug-of-war competition, that will take place throughout the afternoon. Teams are sought to take part, so whether a local club or organisation or just a group of friends who fancy their chance, now's the time to get your team together to see if you've got the biggest pulling power in Milborne.

Pulling power of a different kind may be needed to win over vet David Harding of Damory Veterinary Surgery, Blandford, who is judging the fun dog show. This year's event sees many new, fun classes in which you can enter your dog.

Earlier in the day, Libby Goodchild, of the Dorchester Ballet and Dance Club will be providing a renowned display of English historical dance in full costume.

Amongst the many side stalls will be a live sketching of Dorset guitarist and singer Alan Newport – in song – run by the Friendly Art Club, together with a children's painting table; also there will be a chance for youngsters to sow a sunflower and take home, hoopla, a book tombola and 'things in bottles' by the Women's Institute.

In good old campfire tradition, the Scouts will be providing hot refreshments of marshmallows and hot dogs, with teas and cake being offered by the Swimming Club this year. More cakes will be available on the St. Andrew's Church cake stall.

Local businesses and craftspeople will also be displaying their goods and creations including award-winning handmade bags and accessories from Dorset's Les Sacs Magique. Pitches are still available, please contact Sarah Fox on 01258 837248.

Milborne May Fayre 2010 has all the ingredients of a great day, but volunteers are sought to help out on the day. If you'd like to help, please contact Mike Mullet on 839076 or Pat Tribe on 837684.

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Have you met . . . Grace Davis

WELL, some of us know Mrs Davis as Grace, some of us know her as Lily, and a very few people, many years ago, knew her as Penny! The reason for all these names is that, when Grace got married to Don and moved to the village, Don's brother Monty was also married to a Grace, and it was simpler to be known as her middle name, Lily. The name Penny was a pet nickname by Grace's Dad, and adopted by the old postmaster who insisted it suited her better, and would never call Grace by anything else! Grace was born in 1923 at Church Gresley near to Burton on Trent in Staffordshire. Her father, Albert Atkins, worked in the offices of Church Gresley Colliery and during the war years he was an ARP organiser for Church Gresley, giving lectures to the local communities about what to do in gas attacks! Her mother Ada kept house and brought up three children; Grace, her elder brother and a younger sister. Grace attended a Church of England school until 11 years old, then a brand new girl's school until the age of sixteen. After leaving school, for two years, Grace worked in the office of a firm called Salt Brothers, by all accounts, this firm sounded a bit like the Harrods of Swanlinchote, with different departments. Her first job was to count all the ration coupons in 500 packs, so that the company could buy in more clothes.

Grace says "At the age of 18 I had to choose where to work in the war effort, I had the choice, Land Army, Munitions or WAAF. I thought that pigs and cows weren't for me, and didn't want to work in a factory, so chose the WAAF. I was trained as a wireless operator in Coombe Basset in Wiltshire, and then, for the next five years, was posted to various bomber command squadrons. I met my future husband, Don Davis, while we were both on de-mob leave. We were married at Hartshorn Church near my home, on the 15th January 1947. That is when I came to Milborne St. Andrew to live in Don's family home, Woodville. This house has been the home of the Davis family for over a 100 years, and is over 200 years old. My husband Don had two brothers and two sisters who all grew up in Milborne St. Andrew. Don joined his father and two brothers in the family firm of S.Davis & Sons, making sheep hurdles and wattle fences (used as decorative garden fencing). In wet weather the men would make sheep cribs and thatching spars. Don and I have one daughter, Avril, and two grandchildren, Melitta and Steven."

When Grace first came to live in Milborne, some 60 years ago, it was a small village community where everyone knew everyone because the villagers used the local amenities, like the post office, general stores, and the local pub. We had our village school and the petrol station. The village hall and the church were also well used.



"Over the last 30 years the village has expanded a great deal", Grace comments, "We now have a new school, where many pupils learn a wide range of subjects, a sports pavilion, and what was the milk factory at the top of hill, this now has many different employment uses. We do have a two hourly bus service, but in my early days the bus ran every hour and the return fare to Dorchester was 1/6d (one shilling and sixpence or 7½p in new money)."

Grace has had many hobbies, including dressmaking, knitting and embroidery. "For 25 years I have decorated various eggs, mainly goose, but including Ostrich, which are now around the world. I have also dressed dolls in period costume, and my daughter and I attended local evening classes, learning how to sculpt in clay, great fun, all that squishy gooeey stuff."

Grace and her husband, Don, were very involved with the village hall. They were on the committee that organised and raised funds using the school as a venue, for the original hall to be built on land donated by the Field family (now the Crichton family). The hall was completed, but they still owed £3,000, various people in the village had to stand as guarantors,

and fundraising was very important. They used to go around all the local farms getting donations for prizes for the whist drive, things like a brace of pheasant, or a box of apples. The bingo sessions on a Tuesday night were very popular, with people being bussed in from all the local villages. They had dances, with a group call The Shamrocks regularly performing, and Don and Grace enjoyed modern sequence dancing.

"Having worked for many years part time in the post office, this gave me the opportunity to meet many of the folk that live in Milborne, from villagers that have lived here all their life, to the newcomers who have now joined the community to live in a rural village. I still love living in Milborne and hope to continue to do so for many more years to come"

Thank you Grace for allowing us to share in your memories, it was a privilege to talk with you. Sue Gould and Heather V. Hogg



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Traditional Simnel cake

I make several of these cakes every year and give them to our adult children – there are loads of cheap (and not so cheap) Easter eggs in the shops, so instead of chocolate I find that a home-made cake makes a welcome gift.

The cost of the cake works out at about £6.60 but you may have **already got a lot of the ingredients in your cupboard.** Sainsbury's sell a simnel cake for £7.99, but it looks tiny next to the home-made version.

Ingredients:

250g (9oz) butter	150g (5oz) currants
grated rind 2 lemons	300g (11oz) sultanas
250g (9oz) golden caster sugar	75g (3oz) halved glace cherries
4 large eggs + 1 beaten egg to glaze	100g (3½oz) icing sugar
250g (9oz) plain flour	600g (1lb 5oz) marzipan
75g (3oz) ground almonds	2 tablespoonfuls warmed runny honey
½ level teaspoon mixed spice	
50g (2oz) candied peel	

Method (to make the cake):

1. Cream butter and sugar with lemon rind.
2. Beat in 4 eggs.
3. Stir in flour, almonds, mixed spice, peel, currants, sultanas and cherries.
4. **Grease a 20cm/8" deep cake tin and line with buttered grease-proof paper.**
5. Spoon half the mixture into the tin and level.
6. **Roll out 200g (7oz) of marzipan into a 20cm/8" circle and place in tin on top of mixture.**
7. Add remaining mixture and level.
8. Bake at 170°C / 325°F / gas mark 3 for the first 1¼ hours.
9. Then cover with a circle of greaseproof paper and bake at 150°C / 300°F / gas mark 2 for another 1½ hours or until cooked to the centre.
10. Cool, then remove from the tin.

To decorate:

1. **Roll out 200g (7oz) marzipan into a 20cm /8" circle.**
2. **Cut out a 7.5cm / 3" circle from the centre and set aside.**
3. Brush honey over the top of the cake.
4. Place the marzipan ring on the top of the cake and press down.
5. Crimp the edge of the marzipan ring with your fingers.
6. Knead all the unused marzipan and divide into 11/12 pieces and shape into oval balls.
7. Brush the marzipan ring with beaten egg, position the marzipan balls and then brush them with egg.
8. Put the cake under a pre-heated grill and brown the marzipan balls (or use a cook's blow-torch).
9. Mix the icing sugar with a little warm water or lemon juice and **pour into the cake's centre circle.**
10. Finish off with fluffy chicks and a yellow ribbon.

Store in a tin. The cake will keep for about two weeks.

Rose Frost



Weatherbury Singers "Help for Heroes"

THE "Weatherbury Singers" choir, from Puddletown, recently performed a concert in conjunction with the "Memory Lane Swing Band" at St. Mary's School in Puddletown.

The event was used to raise money for the national "Help for Heroes" charity and the choir had much pleasure in presenting the charity representative, Mrs Di Emmings, with a cheque for £1,743 at their Tuesday rehearsal evening on 2nd March in the Church Room. Di Emmings commended the choir for all their support and took the opportunity to outline the charity's aims, and all the benefits that could be acquired with additional funds, and made available to help injured servicemen.

The choir is always looking for new members. If you are interested and would like further information, please contact the Secretary, Sid Coe, on 01258 837453.



Photographed here, is Di Emmings (centre), being presented with the cheque by the choir Chairman, Jean Maddison, and supported by event organiser, Margaret MacLeod.

Weatherbury Singers

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Join an informal local group of singers under superb professional musical direction. The choir sings at a variety of events, including its own concerts.

Turn up and meet us at a special welcome evening for new members on Tuesday 4th May.

Male voices especially in demand. It is not essential to read music. Regular rehearsals at 7.15pm Tuesdays, St. Mary's Church Hall, Puddletown.

Contact: Jean Maddison – 01305 848 435

Milton Abbas Sports Club

Children's Cycling – Easter Holiday activities

Wednesday 14th and Thursday 15th April. 10.00am–1.00pm
Children's cycling events at Milton Abbas Sports Field, Hoggen Down (top of Milton Abbas). A few hours of fun and simple cycle activities. Skills improvement and cycling development for 8–13 year olds.

Bring a snack and a drink. Children must be able to ride. Please bring a road worthy cycle, helmet and suitable clothing. £5 per child per day. Numbers limited so please book. Contact Adrian on 01258 880895 or cyclesafaris@btinternet.com.

If you cannot make this then come along to the Milton Abbas Sports Club Open Day 25th April 12 noon–200pm.

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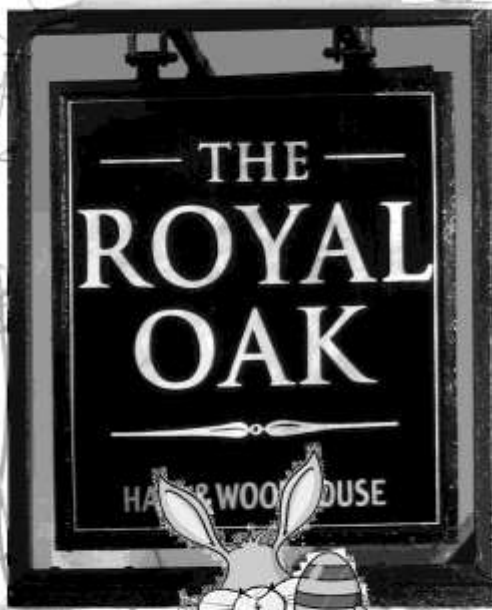
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April:

Saturday 3rd April
Easter Egg Hunt from 2.00pm - watch out for more details

Sunday 4th April
Tex Mex Night - sittings at 6.00pm and 8.00pm

Thursday 15th April
Back by popular demand! Ann Summers Party 8.00pm

Saturday 17th April
'The Ultimate Party Band' THE CRACK - From 9.00pm

Friday 23rd April
St. George's Day Specials from 6.00pm



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Community Contacts

More information about many community organisations can be found on 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 – Milborne St. Andrew	Clerk: Colin Fletcher	01258 450639
	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	Sue Mullett	01258 839076
Cub Scouts	Jo Hewish	01305 852614
Hazelnuts out-of-school club	Hazel Barrett	01305 848588
Ladybirds (Playgroup)	Marion Bishop	01305 848427
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 PCSO Luke Goddard	01202 223003 or 07825 521850

Or email 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 and Wine Society	Tony Dyer	01258 837061
Healthy Eaters	Heather Gipps	01258 837058
MSA Friendly Art Group	Sue Marsh	01258 837414
MSA Gardening Club	Sally Dyer	01258 837061
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	Sheila Ryall	01258 837504
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 Club – Milton Abbas	Andy Smith	01258 880310
Cricket – Junior (U11 – U13)	Andy Smith	01258 880310
Football – Adult	Paul Morgan	01258 837619
Football – Reserve Team	Andy Draper	07824 394436
Football – Under 15s	Grant Taylor	07879 841518
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)	Sandra Shannon	01258 837253
Tap Dancing for Men and Women		01258 880523
Yoga	Sue Chapman	01305 848053

Village Hall

Dewlish		
Chairman:	Alex Carter	01258 837312
Sec:	Alex Carter	01258 837312
Milborne St. Andrew		
Chairman:	Richard Lock	01258 837929

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BOOKING ESSENTIAL

Community Events Diary

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

March	
Sunday 28th	Family Fun Swimming Gala Milton Abbas Swimming Club 10.00am–12 noon.
Wednesday 31st	Easter Fayre Milborne St. Andrew First School 3.00pm all are welcome to attend.
April	
Friday 2nd	Easter Experience Holiday Club Village Hall and Church 2.30–4.00pm – see page 7.
Sunday 4th	Round Robin Ramblers Winterborne Whitechurch and Whatcombe 2.00pm – see page 30.
Wednesday 7th	Wednesday Club A.G.M. Village Hall 2.30pm.
Friday 9th	Moviola – “An Education” – Village Hall 7.30pm.
Wednesday 14th	Parish Council Meeting Village Hall 7.30pm.
Saturday 24th	Community “Ground Force” Day Milborne First School 10.00am–4.00pm – <i>postponed from last month due to wet weather.</i>
Saturday 24th	Village Lunch Village Hall 12.15pm – see page 2.
Sunday 25th	St. Andrews Annual Parochial Church Meeting 10.30am in Church.
Sunday 25th	British Heart Foundation Dorset Bike Ride. 25, 50 and 66 mile routes all starting from Wimborne.
May	
Sunday 2nd	Dorset ‘Knob’ Throwing and Frome Valley Food Festival Cattistock 10.00am–4.00pm.
Wednesday 5th	Wednesday Club Outing Horse Drawn Barge on the Kennet and Avon Canal – see page 8.
Friday 7th	Moviola – “It’s Complicated” – Village Hall 7.30pm.
Saturday 22nd	May Fayre and Dog Show Milborne Village Hall – see page 9.

“An Education” (12A)

Milborne St. Andrew Village Hall
Friday 9th April 2010

THIS is an irresistible tale of seduction in which innocence and intellect is the prize stake. It’s a tale about sixteen year old Jenny Mellor (Carey Mulligan) who lives with her parents in the suburb of Twickenham in the 1960’s. Jenny is bright, pretty, hard working but also naturally gifted, with prospects of going to Oxford University, but this changes when she meets David Goldman (Peter Sarsgaard), a man over twice her age. She sees the lifestyle that David can provide, one she never imagined could be hers, and she’s hooked and thoughts of Oxford are forgotten. However, as Jenny slowly learns more about David and by association his friends Danny and Helen, and specifically how they make their money, it makes her question herself.

It’s a sad, painful comedy, but the lovely performance from Mulligan makes it a very enjoyable film. It may sound like a depressing film about a sexual predator, but it plays more like a fleet-footed comedy. The scenes in which David persuades Jenny’s lower-middle-class parents to entrust their daughter to him are very funny. Lone Scherfig directs, and there is a wonderful performance from 24-year-old newcomer Carey Mulligan as Jenny as she strikes a perfectly adolescent balance between dimpled cheek and unchannelled wisdom. Peter Sarsgaard makes David less of a purvey old cad than a feckless opportunist with Cara Seymour and Alfred Molina playing Jenny’s parents. But what makes “An Education” so memorable is that it’s a study of a teenage girl that looks beyond face value.

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

Beavers Monday 6.00–7.15pm MH (term time only)
Computer Club Monday 7.00–8.00pm CR (term time only)
Ladybirds Playgroup Monday–Friday 8.45am–1.00pm MH (term time only)
Players Monday 8.00–10pm MH
ABC Line dancers Tuesday 7.30–10pm MH
Cub Scouts Tuesday 5.45–7.15pm MH (term time only)
MSA Friendly Art Group second and fourth Wednesday 7.00–9.00pm CR
100 Acre Wood Pottery Wednesday 6.00–10.00pm MH (term time only)
Wednesday Club first Wednesday 2.30–4.30pm MH
Gardening Club fourth Thursday 7.00–10pm MH
Healthy Eaters Thursday 7.00–8.00pm CR
Karate Thursday 5.10–6.40pm MH
Village Hall Committee third Thursday 8.00–10.00pm
WI second Thursday 7.00–10.00pm
POPP Drop-In Friday 10.00am–12 noon CR
Youth Club every other Friday 6.30–8.30pm MH (term time only)
Sequence Dancing third Saturday 7.30–10.30pm MH
Village Lunch last Saturday of the month 12.15–2.30pm MH/CR
Milborne Praise! third 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

The Milborne Players

An Evening of One Act Entertainment
11th and 12th June 2010

OFF we go again with another production to entertain you all for the early summer. An evening of One Act Plays most suited to an adult audience is now in rehearsal for the 11th and 12th June. The trend over the last few years has been to concentrate on full length productions. This can, however, restrict the number of cast members. The One Acts will make good use of ten cast members and two Directors (Melva Coe and Bill Preston). **Whether you did or didn’t get to see “Dick Whittington” and the new stage features in all their splendour, this will be a good opportunity to see how the hall transforms into a theatre.**

Tickets will be on sale from 1st May via Sid Coe (01258 837453) and the Londis Store. Keep your eyes peeled for posters around and about giving picture clues about the plays and check out our website www.milborneplayers.org.uk.

Caroline Nobbs – Production Manager

Transport to Moviola for over 50s

If any local person over 50 years of age, would like to be transported to and from Moviola in the Village Hall I am happy to provide a service. Call Nicky Hagan 837164 for more information.

Street Fair profits are a life saver for Abbey Swimming Club

PROFITS from the Milton Abbas Street Fair 2009 have helped to ensure the continued success of a community based swimming club that depends upon volunteer lifeguards and swimming teachers.

The Abbey Swimming Club provides recreational swimming sessions at the Milton Abbey School pool for over 100 members living in the surrounding parishes. The club also runs swimming lessons for local children – beginners and improvers. These courses are taught by club members who have become fully qualified swimming teachers by attending courses paid for by the club. When one of the teachers recently moved away another member volunteered to replace her. She started her training last September, and with the extra funding from the Street Fair committee, she will shortly become fully qualified.

Without qualified supervision members would not be able to swim. We appreciate those who give their time freely to train and lifeguard sessions. Initial funding from the Street Fair was used for training purposes and in November 2009 five club members gained their Royal Life Saving Society national poolside qualification. They were trained by Robert Newton, a club member for over 20 years. In 2009 he was awarded the Bar to Service Medal and Certificate of Merit for 20 years service to the Royal Life Saving Society, and the club is extremely proud of his achievements.

The club contributes to the Street Fair in a variety of ways. Visitors may well have enjoyed a cream tea, baked, brewed and daintily served by swimming club members.

If you would like to take advantage of the health, fitness and social benefits the club offers, full details can be found in our regular monthly advert in this magazine (opposite).

Congratulations to Robert

ROBERT NEWTON was introduced to the Abbey Swimming Club in the late 1980s as a swimmer. There he met a lovely man, Fred Pope, from Milton Abbas who introduced him to life saving. This was a new experience for him which he enjoyed immensely. Through the Club he has met many people who have enriched his life and have become good friends.

This led Robert to become a lifeguard for the Abbey Swimming Club on a voluntary basis. Since those early days he has been on many courses paid for by

the Abbey Swimming Club. Robert is now an Assistant Swimming Teacher and Diving Instructor for the Amateur Swimming Association. About ten years ago he became a National Pool Life Guard Trainer and Examiner for the Royal Life Saving Society.

Unknown to him, his name was put forward to the Royal Life Saving Society for recognition of his voluntary work over the last twenty years and he was awarded a Bar to Service Medal and Certificate of Merit in October 2009.

Robert would like to encourage people in the parish to come and swim with the Abbey Swimming Club to stay fit and also meet many new friends.



ABBEY SWIMMING CLUB

The Club is based at Milton Abbey School, Milton Abbas, which has a 25 metre indoor swimming pool.

Membership is open to anyone. Members range in age from less than a year to over 80. This is a social and friendly club. Join us and keep fit.

The pool is hired for 4 sessions a week. Lifeguards supervise all sessions. RLSS National Lifeguard and Bronze Medallion courses are available as well as swimming lessons for adults and children.

Annual Membership

Adults £80. Senior Citizens £60. Juniors (17 and under) £28 as part of a family, £45 individual.
Children (3 and under as part of a family) free.

Club Sessions

Tuesdays: 7.00 pm – 9.00 pm
Fridays: 7.30 pm – 8.30 pm
Saturdays: 10.00 am – 12.00 noon
Sundays: 8.00 am – 9.00 am

Come to the pool during any club session for a free swim and pick up an Application Form or contact Robert (01258 880192) or Pat (01258 880601).

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It's a dog's life . . .

THE reaction of many walkers this week, on reaching the gate that separates Chapel Street with The Grove, would have been: 'oh bullocks'. For this popular right of way has effectively become off-limits with the turning out of 52 bullocks into it. Many people I've spoken to this week are angry that their daily walk is no more, mainly because they have had previous experiences with bullocks that have made them resolve never to set foot in a field populated by them again. And it's not just dog walkers that use this popular footpath – from groups of ramblers set for Tolpiddle to young mums out for a stroll pushing babies in buggies, it's a much-used track.

For many years, this field had been used off and on for grazing dairy cattle, which presented little problem to most walkers since they're docile and intent mainly on their number one activity: grazing. Bullocks, on the other hand, are generally boisterous and have a curiosity that nudges from downright rudeness to downright dangerous. On hearing the latch of the five-bar gate, they will rush as one to congregate around the incomer, enough to put off many walkers, especially those with dogs. Other accounts I've heard from the last week include that of a walker with a dog (on a lead) making for a gated exit in The Grove whilst the herd stampeded down the hill towards them.

So many have decided not to risk The Grove – and not without good reason: last summer saw a spike in the number of fatalities and injuries caused by cattle in the UK; four people were killed in an eight-week period alone. Two of these deaths were of people walking with dogs. Cattle with calves are understandably more protective of their young and the perceived threat of a dog can make them aggressive towards it. However, young cattle (it is said) are merely being inquisitive when

they come to investigate and the presence of a dog makes them more so. But the sight and sound of a stampeding herd may cause a temporary loss of rationality; at times like these it may be difficult to say to yourself, "they only want to say 'hello'".

Advice from many organisations, including the NFU, Ramblers and the RSPCA is to let your dog off the lead if you feel under threat from livestock. Your dog will more than probably be the focus of the cattle's attention and they will find their own way from danger. Other common sense advice is to keep calm, confident and make yourself bigger by stretching out your arms.

The law is clear on what is expected of a dog owner. It states that an owner or walker of a dog is guilty of an offence if it worries livestock on agricultural land. The Dogs (Protection of Livestock) Act 1953 states that "the dog must have been attacking or chasing livestock in such a way . . . to cause injury". It is occasions such as these that a farmer has the right to shoot a dog. Likewise, the landowner has a duty to the public. The HSE points out that the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 "requires employers . . . to ensure that they do not put the public at risk by their work activities". The HSE adds, "This applies to keeping bulls or other cattle in fields".

It is also an offence to deter walkers from using public footpaths. Nina Winters, the NFU's chief legal adviser, spoke after a recent case awarded an injured walker £1m after being attacked by cattle in Cumbria, leaving her severely disabled. She said, "it's illegal to put people off walking along rights of way under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act". The use of signs was also problematic, she added. Any signage needs to be informative, but not indicative of any risk. If it did say 'DANGER' or 'CAUTION' then "you are potentially admitting liability because you're admitting there's a risk".
Ed Richards



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In your Garden Seasonal notes and tips from Maureen Lock of *Designer Gardens* Spring in the garden



I DON'T know about you, but I have found it difficult to get out into the garden over the winter and so all those little jobs have all piled up and there is a lot to be getting on with in the garden. Here are some ideas for things to do:

Now is a really good time to plant shrubs – before they start to put on too much growth. When you plant container grown plants, give them a drink making sure the compost is nice and moist, knock them out of the pot and gently tease out some of the roots if they look a bit compacted. Dig your hole and plant to the same level as the container, firm the soil around the plant and water again. You may have to water new plants regularly until they become established – people often forget to do this and then wonder why they aren't growing very well or why they haven't flowered. This applies especially to camellias and azaleas (which we have to grow in pots here) as next year's flowers can be affected by how much water they have received the year before.

Feeding too is important in the growing season – give your plants a good feed of blood, fish and bone (but beware the dogs will like this too); or a general all-round fertiliser such as Vitax Q4 or Growmore. Don't be tempted to be too generous as you could end up damaging the new shoots – stick to what it says on the box.

STAKING OUT

Perennials are just starting to poke their heads through the soil and you should put in supports before the new growth gets too large and there will be less likelihood of damaging the delicate shoots. There are many different methods of supporting your plants – pea sticks are the cheapest and soon disappear in the foliage and flowers as the plant grows. If anyone has been to RHS Wisley or RHS Rosemoor at this time of the year – it is really interesting to see how pea sticks have been used throughout the borders – go back later in the year and you can't see them.

PRUNING

Pruning for foliage is something you can do in April. If you want to get extra large leaves on your cotinus, cornus and elder – prune them back really hard each spring. Cut the shoots back to within a few buds from ground level and they will produce vigorous new growth with lovely large leaves. Always feed mulch around plants after pruning to give them a bit of a boost.

Prune spring flowering shrubs after they have flowered to encourage a good display next year – don't wait until the autumn when

you have a garden tidy up before the winter. Deciduous shrubs such as Forsythia and Ribes should have the stems that have just flowered cut back to strong shoots lower down and while you're at it cut out about 20 per cent of older stems at the base to encourage more new growth.



SPRING PLANTING COMBINATIONS

Ornamental spring grasses look lovely and fresh when grown in the borders alongside daffodils and tulips. They give the border a bit of life when many plants are just waking up from their winter slumbers. Many are also evergreen and provide structure to the garden all year. Good grasses to look out for are Bowles' golden grass *Milium effusum* 'Aureum' and Greater woodrush *Luzula sylvatica* are good for dry and shady areas – plant them with ferns and hostas for a fabulous combination of leaf colours and textures. They also look stunning when planted with spring flowering *Dicentra*. *Luzula nivea* produces masses of little white flowers in spring and early summer – it will grow in sun or shade and looks good with oriental poppies. The sedges – *Carex morrowii*, *Carex oshimensis* 'Evergold' are easy to grow, early to flower and look good when planted with *Pulmonaria*, *Bergenia* or under trees where you have a shady spot to fill.

That's all for this month. If anyone has any gardening-related questions that they would like me to answer, please send your questions to Maureen Lock, designerGardens, c/o the Reporter and I will answer them in the next issue – you might also want to take a look at my new website: www.designergardens.biz.

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Homewatch Newsletter

Blandford South, February 2010

Local Crime in February

Date	Village	Incident	Location
1st	Milton Abbas	Criminal damage- Livestock	Luccombe
1st	Milton Abbas	Attempt theft of quad bike	Luccombe
16th	Milborne St Andrew	Criminal damage to vehicle	Crown court
21st	Milborne St Andrew	Criminal damage to vehicle	Homefield
28th	Milborne St Andrew	Theft from vehicle CDs stolen	Royal Oak

PROPERTY MARKING

It is an appropriate time to remind you about marking your property. Acting on the advice as laid out in this report should minimise the possibility of a break-in. However, in the unlikely event of a burglary, you would be reassured in the knowledge that your property, valuable or otherwise, is marked and thus identifiable. Being able to provide proof that an item of property is yours greatly improves the chance of it being returned to you at some stage. Without such proof you may never be able to claim it as yours.

Thieves like portable, high value, easily saleable goods like televisions, videos, hi-fi, home computers, cameras, jewellery, silverware and antiques. You can mark these items with your postcode followed by the number of your house or flat. You can get inexpensive kits to do this from DIY stores and stationers. You can also permanently etch items with a special etching or electric engraving tool, thus making a visible identification mark, particularly disliked by burglars. This is preferable to ultra-violet or 'invisible' markings that can fade or be removed. You may want to share the cost with neighbours and friends. There are higher-tech methods of property marking too, well worth considering for the more valuable items: indelible ultra-violet and ink dyes, microdots and microchips. For further information, contact your local Crime Prevention Officer.

If you have valuables that you can't or don't want to mark, such as jewellery or ornaments, take colour photographs of them, including hallmarks and other identifying marks, together with a coin or ruler to indicate the actual size. Macro (close-up) photography is effective in keeping identifiable records of apparently unidentifiable items such as stamps or coins. These detailed images can highlight the unique perforations or striations otherwise undetectable to the naked eye.

Keep a list, too, of the serial numbers of your various items of electrical equipment. The numbers will be useful, as will photographs, if you need to make an insurance claim. The police can let you have a sticker for your window saying your possessions are marked. Hopefully this will deter burglars.

Some tips for taking photos of property include:

- take photos only of items you will be able to identify as yours
- place a ruler beside the item to show its size
- avoid reflections from shiny surfaces when taking the photos with a flash
- use a plain background rather than patterned wallpaper or carpet
- if it has unique markings, take a close-up of them, including damage or repair marks



Kind Regards PC Dave Mullins and PCSO Luke Goddard
Blandford Rural South Safer Neighbourhood Team 01202 223003 or
07825521850 blandfordruralsouthSNT@dorset.pnn.police.uk

THE RURAL 'G'

Homewatch Newsletter Blandford Rural March 2010

PACT ISSUE CATCHES CROOKS IN THE ACT
Local Officers conducting speed checks on Bournemouth Road spotted a stolen trailer. Local officers were carrying out the speed checks as part of the PACT process along the stretch of road in Blandford. A call was received from a local resident about a theft of a trailer occurring in the Blandford area. With this the local officers see a vehicle and trailer matching the description pass their location at speed.



Due to the circumstances the officers made after the vehicle on blue lights and two tones. When they caught up with the vehicle and trailer, the vehicle had crashed. One male was still in the vehicle and was arrested by one officer, the other male made off on foot across a car park closely pursued by the Blandford officer. The good news is the officer caught up with the male and he was also arrested. Reports told us two males were involved and two males were detained. Thanks to local residents reporting their issues to us, it lead to the officers being in the right place at the right time to catch the crooks red-handed and a fantastic result for local police.

PACT VAN INTRODUCED TO NORTH DORSET



Thanks to funding from the Eastern and Western Dorset Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRP), Dorset residents will benefit from a new PACT vehicle. They will enable partners from police, fire, housing, council, health and probation services better access to

residents across the county. As a result, this will make it easier to engage hard-to-reach communities, particularly in rural areas.

Use of the vehicles will offer a focal point for partnership work and engagement within local communities such as PACT surgeries, street corner meetings and the opportunity to listen to home and fire safety checks and crime prevention advice. The pact vehicle has already been seen in Iwerne Minster and is coming soon to a village near you.

Anyone with information relating to any of the crimes mentioned here or on the stat sheet should contact local officers immediately on 01202 223003



Cheselbourne Theatre Club



BOOKING has closed for Dario Fo's CAN'T PAY! WON'T PAY! on 12th April and for LES LIASONS DANGEREUSES on 10th May, but please phone Ann to see if any tickets are still available.

The final play for this season, on 14th June, is PETER PAN, performed by Stage 65, the Playhouse's Youth group. Please book by 14th April or before if possible and note that transport to this will be by car share.

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

Ranter's Folk Session

Milborne St. Andrew Sports Club at 8.00pm

Dates: Friday 16th April 2010 Friday 21st May 2010 Friday 18th June 2010

Come along and play a tune, sing a song, tell a story, recite a poem or just sit and enjoy the company. Beer and Wine Bar.

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Milborne St. Andrew Youth Club Update

AT our Annual General Meeting on Friday 19th March 2010, Chairman Kevin Maitland-Gleed had nothing but praise for the team that voluntarily run the Youth Club, and the remarkable yearly reports from the Club Leader, Wendy Northover and the Treasurer, Ness Clarke illustrated that the club have had another successful year. The accounts are extremely healthy and the membership numbers remain high, with an average weekly attendance of 35. Activities last year included kayaking, a demo by the karate club, Easter bonnet competition that was won by Jacob Clarke and Abbi Climo followed by an Easter egg hunt. Six members also successfully completed a three week DYA First Aid course, which actually inspired member Katherine Maitland-Gleed to become a St. John's Cadet! **The over 10's were invited to try archery at the home of Mr and Mrs Ryall, Eva Stockley kindly came and demonstrated sugar craft and was overwhelmed by the interest shown by both girls and boys when it came to making their own sugar flowers!** Our Christmas party this year was at Warmwell Holiday park where we had a Pool Party, and in the Christmas Tree Festival at the church, we dedicated our tree to Afghanistan and received a lot of positive comments. A Summer disco ended the school year and the annual DYA County Talent Contest was won by our member Amy Collier in her section and Tara King was a runner-up in her age group. Emily Macdonald also received a Highly Commended in the DYA County Christmas card competition. Well done to you all and thank you for representing the club so well!

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

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

If you have a child between 8-15 and they are interested in joining the Youth club, then we offer a free 'taster' session to come along and see what you think. Annual Membership and weekly fees remain the same, and dates for 2010 are as follows:

April 23rd; May 7th (off-site) and 21st; June 11th (off-site) and 25th; July 9th and 23rd; September 10th and 24th (off-site); October 8th and 22nd; November 5th and 19th and December 3rd and 17th.

We run from 6.30-8.30pm in the MSA Village Hall. Please ring Sallie on 837442 for more information on any of the above points. Thank you for taking the time to read this report!

Sallie Maitland-Gleed



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Parish Council Meeting – the best bits 3rd March 2010

Headline news!

THE Parish Council didn't review the minutes first! It was rejigged because of the lack of councillors, with apologies from two councillors, and third one had asked to be excused, but had to attend to make up a quorum (they need this to make proper decision, especially about money). They almost had to cancel the meeting!

The Creative Corner of Milton Road

DCC will be doing the ground work to create borders, and then Gardening Club are to plant shrubs. Quote received for £359.41 for plants, plus £20 for delivery. An extra quote is to be requested with same plants, as due diligence demands a balanced view. The Parish Council will discuss, at a later meeting, any possible system for maintaining and watering the new shrubs.

The Bin that is to be planted on the corner was discussed, this could be plastic, cast iron, or wood, with prices from £230 to £470. The PC will probably go with council recommendations for a plastic bin mimicking cast iron, the cheapest option. The seat has had two enquiries about sponsorship, this will be all wood, and hopefully a good quality one called Barlow Tyrie.

Repositioning the bus stop?

The bus company has responded to requests for more information. They have said that although the existing location is fine for their purposes, if they did a risk assessment on the two locations, on balance it would be neutral (each as safe or hazardous as the other). There was no vote, and have asked for a visit with Steve Howard. There may be a proposal for a user survey. Tony Dyer commented that on analysis, the parish plan shows 77% for the move. A final decision will be made at the next meeting as to whether to move it or not.

Community Grants

A grant of £72 has been approved for the Wednesday Social Club. This is so that they can hire a bus (as opposed to a coach) which can cater for wheelchair users, for a planned outing.

The village hall has asked for a grant of £850 to repair the bridge on the childrens climbing frame. As there is only £250 in the grant pot remaining, this could not be approved, but will be revisited next month, in the new financial year, when a decision will be made.

Lane End pavement

This is to be constructed from 19th April, going from the A354 to the entrance to the Sports Pavilion. The Parish Council have agreed the extra cost to carry the pavement around the corner to meet up with the Sports Club entrance.

Incidentally, you may remember the council had been told they could have a 40mph speed limit on Lane End, the Highways Authority have now said that as we have a pavement, we can't have a 40mph speed limit! The Council is going to point out that the pavement is only going halfway, and see what they say.

Are you reporting your pothole sightings?

Where are you reporting them to? Get in touch with the Parish Clerk, who is eagerly waiting by his phone for your pothole information! He had no phone calls last month, but I know that the potholes were breeding prolifically! Contact Mr Colin Fletcher, 65 Salisbury Road Blandford Forum Dorset DT11 7LW, telephone: 01258 450639 email: msaclerk@btinternet.com (information taken from NDDC website).

Dog Poo (again)

You know the poo sighting last month that was reported to the dog warden? **They couldn't act on it, as the person who reported it wished to remain unnamed.** However, the dog warden has said that they will do what they can to deal with any response to a report of regular dog fouling.

Great Big Grit Bins Getting Bought (GBGBGB)

The Parish Council have agreed to fund three grit bins in this year, and revisit with a view to increasing the number next year. There seems to be a bit of confusion as to whether the County Council will fill the bins for free, or if the Parish have to pay a fee (of around £25) to fill them, more investigation is definitely needed!

Flood Warden Wanted

Brian Cullum has been kind enough to outline the duties and current interests of a Flood Warden, do you think this is something that might be of interest to you? Please contact the Parish Clerk if you feel you can help.

Brian writes, "Basically the duties of floodwardens are to monitor river and surface water levels and if necessary in the case of imminent flooding, inform householders who are vulnerable because of age, infirmity or young families.

At the same time wardens should inform the floodline service at the Environment Service, Police and other emergency services. To prevent properties flooding is pretty nigh impossible, there are just too many openings to seal, so householders may be advised to vacate their property, but cannot be compelled to do so. Since remedial work was carried out, I think the danger of flooding has receded, the only problem we still face is that of surface water coming down Milton Road and the Causeway. To counter this we can **apply to the Police for 'Slow, Floods' signs."**

Open half hour

This bought up the varied comments that continue to delight the parish council! Amongst the topics covered was the problem of cars parked on the pavement restricting the passage of pedestrians, and a continuing conversation about the suitability of Milton Road Corner as a sitting/shrub area.

And, more importantly, the Parish Plan publication. This should be on the village website (www.milbornestandrew.org.uk) by the end of March, with the final draft being published in the Milborne St. Andrew Reporter in the May Edition (end of April).

Planning

Goulds Farm: approval has been given to demolish the barn (permission to demolish other buildings were given four years ago, planning number 2/2006/0728). No decision has been given on the development of 13 properties (planning number 2/2009/0206/PLNG). More representations are to be made about the state of the partially demolished dwelling on the corner of Little England, as this does not represent the care taken by the rest of the residents of the village to keep our community a pleasant place to live.

Parish Council Meetings: the next meeting will be 14th April 2010 at 7.30 in the Village Hall Committee Room.

Future Meetings are 26th May 2010, with the AGM hopefully being planned for 8th May evening. More details in next month's Milborne St. Andrew Reporter.

Sue Gould



Dorset Driveway Care

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MAS Patient Participation Group

WE have been a bit quiet of late as we have lost our direct voice to you which was our twice yearly Newsletter. Data protection seems to mean that we cannot have your addresses.

We are however still very active on your behalf and have just purchased two leg supports and two magnifying lights. These will make it more comfortable for you if you are having your legs examined and also that the doctor or nurse will be able to see very clearly whilst examining you!

We are also about to buy a small freezer to store test kits for the new blood testing machine. This will help us to achieve our aim of helping to provide more investigation and diagnosis at the surgery rather than at a hospital. Thus saving you trips for hospital appointments.

I have been busily involved with helping to set up the new transport service for surgery and other trips. I have tried to represent you as much as I could and hope the transfer of Friends of the Practice will very soon blend seamlessly into the new service, Milton Abbas Neighbourcar (MAN). (See article below.)

Please keep in touch with us, our next meeting is at the surgery on 22nd April. Please let us know if you have any comments to make, or please come to the meeting and listen to what we do and make your voice heard.

Angie Higgs (Chairman MASPPG)

Milton Abbas leads the way with new voluntary transport scheme

THE Friends of the Practice (FoP) volunteer driver scheme operated by NHS Dorset has proved to be a very welcome service for those unable to get to their surgery. Transport has been available for patients of Milton Abbas, Puddletown, Cerne Abbas and the Dorchester surgeries.

However, in an effort to establish greater participation in similar schemes across Dorset the role of the NHS Transport Coordinators is changing and they will no longer be directly involved in arranging the provision of patient transport.

As a consequence, local voluntary driver schemes are to be established and leading the way for North Dorset will be the Milton Abbas Neighbourcar scheme (or MAN as it will be known). MAN will provide a voluntary transport service across the existing catchment area of the Milton Abbas surgery.

Dorset Partnership for Older People Project (POPP) has provided start up funding of £1,900 to enable this scheme to be established, and Milton Abbas surgery has also pledged financial support to help set up and maintain this operation.

A small committee has been formed and it is hoped that drivers formerly with FoP will transfer to MAN – most have already agreed to do so. It is unlikely that the group will start operating until early May, but in the meantime FoP and the surgery have committed to maintain the existing arrangements for their patients.

It is hoped that soon after the scheme is established, there will be opportunities to provide transport to and from social engagements or for visits to Blandford. The scheme will rely on donations from its clients which will differ depending on the nature of the transport required – i.e. trips to/from the surgery will be subsidised whereas those for non surgery transport will need a higher level of donation to cover the extra mileage incurred travelling between the volunteer's and the client's home.

The scheme aims to help the over 50s and people who are physically unable to drive and do not have access to public transport. Existing users of the FoP scheme are being contacted to enable them to register with MAN.

We will provide more details about this scheme in the next issue, but if you are interested in helping as a volunteer driver or feel that you could benefit by registering with MAN as a client please give Nigel Hodder a ring on 01258 881709.

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LETTERS TO THE REPORTER

Dear Editor

Being a local dog owner/walker and aware that some people in Milborne St. Andrew complain about dog poo not being picked up, I would like to voice my absolute despair at a certain person that walks their dog in the village, not only do they not pick up the dog poo but they regularly drop an empty cigar packet, these packets seem to appear on the road, on the pavement, in the field, everywhere. We have a lovely village where most people are trying to keep the village looking as nice as possible, with the village hall being done up, the play area full of happy children playing on new equipment, rumours that we are about to have a flower trough which will enhance the entrance to the Milton Road will be another pleasant addition to our village. Unfortunately there will always be people that have to spoil things and I hope that the said person reads this article and has some kind of conscience and picks up their offending litter. Name and address supplied

Dear Editor

I feel very strongly that I have a skip outside my house for *builders' use* – it is not there for walking dog owners to deposit the excrement from their animals.

Especially as there is a dog litter bin within 50 yards of my property.

Yours sincerely, G Slapton, Chapel Street

Dorset Bike Ride

I am hoping to compete in the British Heart Foundation Dorset Bike Ride on Sunday 25th April. There are three routes, 25, 50 and 66 mile, I hope to do the 25 mile. The ride starts and finishes at the Queen Elizabeth School, Wimborne starting any time from 9.00 to 10.30am. The ride attracted over 1,600 bikers last year. If you would like to accompany me it would be great. You could sponsor me if you would like. More information from me (837700) or visit bhf.org.uk/dorset.

David Payne

Hanging Johnny Shanty Men Concert

A rather belated note to say what a fantastic evening we had.

Also the concert was a sell out, which meant we were able to *put £150 in the bank towards this summers Roger's Rant* on the first weekend in July. Thanks for all of you that performed or helped on the night.

Regards, Alice and Roger

Beziq update

Just to let everyone know that following the plea for card players who may be interested in learning how to play Beziq, we now have a small but enthusiastic and thriving group who meet regularly. If anyone else would like to join us and learn about this fascinating card game please telephone: 837164. Nicky Hagan.

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Events in 2010

<p><i>NEEPG</i> Plant Sale Sunday 2nd May</p>	<p><i>Duke's Classic</i> Car Auction Tuesday 18th May (Viewing on Sunday 16 & Monday 17 May)</p>	<p><i>Flower Festival</i> Sunday 13th to Thursday 17th Jun</p>
<p><i>MG</i> Owners Club Sunday 8th Aug</p>	<p><i>Open Air Theatre</i> Pride & Prejudice Friday 27th Aug</p>	<p><i>5 Churches Fete</i> Monday 30th Aug (Bank Holiday Monday)</p>

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"Trees For Dorset" Schools Project

ON 9th February Year 4 at Milborne School planted their own tree into the school grounds, developing existing small woodland and also extending the Hazel coppice in the Wildlife area.

The children, volunteers from "Trees For Dorset" and the local community, braved the cold wind and sleet in the air and had a fantastic time. The children in Year 2 also planted their own tree seedling into the new "Tree Nursery" in one of the raised beds and took Willow cuttings to study and grow in school. The children will weed and nurture their own tree for the next two years until it is ready to plant out into more woodland. All the trees are native to Britain and by Year 4 we hope the children will know how to grow, nurture and plant trees and also how important they are to us and the future of our planet. With spring coming we realise how wonderful it is to have trees around us, let's appreciate them.

We are going to coppice some of the Hazel and Willow in the grounds to create a Willow tunnel and fence in March for Environment Week, Wild Art Club have already made a start.

In May Year 4 hope to be walking to Milborne Woods at Bluebell time, to study the trees, plants and animals in an ancient woodland as part of the "Trees For Dorset" schools project.

"Wild Art Club"

Apart from coppicing and having much fun with loppers, Wild Art Club have been to Antartica and Africa already this year and have some great artwork.

We have also kept an eye on the wildlife area and we now have lots of frogspawn, which is always very important for pond dipping. If nothing else is caught you can guarantee a tadpole or two!

Mary-Ann Featherstone, Grounds Co-ordinator
"Trees For Dorset" Project Leader



MILBORNE ST. ANDREW FIRST SCHOOL



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SCHOOL NEWS

EARLIER this year we were all shocked by the images we saw following the earthquake in Haiti and adults and children here in school were keen to raise some funds to go towards the relief efforts. We have held a number of fundraising events in school, which most significantly have been planned and run by some of the older children in school. A cake sale and jazz music workshops



Haiti shelter tent

initially raised over £250 and more recently offering hot chocolate drinks at break time brought our total to over £300. We are very grateful to the Dorset Rotary Club who have coordinated the collection of funds from ourselves and the other Dorchester area schools. Back in February they kindly brought a shelter to school in order that the children could see what their fundraising was going to. We are very proud of the children who have put their own ideas into practice and thankful to all of those who have supported the events.

Thursday 4th March was World Book Day and we spent the day in school dressed as our favourite book characters. Throughout the day parents volunteered to carry a sign encouraging children to stop

what they were doing for a story. With an opportunity to read some favourite stories to a group of eager faces I know the adults enjoyed the experience as much as the children. A book bring and buy sale was also a chance to pass on those stories enjoyed to others. We always keep a book stall in school so if you are visiting the school for any event please feel free to browse the shelves and take a book for a small donation.



Above: *Stop for a story.* Right: *Dressing up as our favourite book character.*

We are extremely fortunate in school to have parents who are so keen to volunteer in school, from helping with spelling tests to organising a wellie swap and our Friends of School committee continue to put on fun activities for extra fundraising – thanks go to all of them for the continued support. The next main event on the calendar is our Easter Fayre at 3.00pm on Wednesday 31st March which all are welcome to attend.

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 Angelica Cotterell
e-mail: office@milborne.dorset.sch.uk website: www.milborne.dorset.sch.uk
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The workshops are led by Mah-Jong enthusiast, Stephen Frost, and offer a fun, informative and informal day suitable for both beginners and the more advanced players alike.

Held at St John Ambulance County Headquarters in Bridport Road, Poundbury, the next workshop is on Saturday 24th April. Tickets cost **£14 and include tuition, refreshments and a ploughman's lunch.**

The Mah-Jong Workshops are held to raise funds for the charity. St John Ambulance is not a government funded service and so the charity does rely on the generosity of the public and on their own fundraising initiatives to ensure that their volunteers can continue to provide their varied services throughout Dorset.

WANT A TAKEAWAY?

Visit "Local Services" at www.milbornestandrew.org.uk to see The Royal Oak's menu



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27th February – Milborne Sports 1 Stickland 1
 IN what was a local derby this was one of the few games played after more bad weather in the proceeding week.

Stickland started well and after just two minutes scored after a through ball found the usually reliable Kevin Seal wanting and his skewed back pass let in the opposing striker who hammered the ball through a bemused Wayne Gifford to open the scoring. The Lane-Enders looked shell shocked after this early setback and almost conceded a second only for Lambert to get back in time to shepherd the ball away from an empty goal. Milborne started to get into their stride and after thirteen minutes young Paul Myatt expertly chested the ball down just inside Stickland's half before lobbing the ball through the centre for Carl McClements to run on to before being prevented from scoring by the advancing keeper's lunge. McClements duly added to his impressive season's total by despatching the ball into the corner of the net from the resulting penalty. Milborne looked set to go on and win the game but Stickland had other ideas and by a mixture of last ditch defending and a keeper in form kept the scores level at half time.

The second half promised no respite for the visitors who were encamped in their own half for much of the second period, although they still looked dangerous on the break. Despite forcing a succession of corners, the Lane-Enders could not find a deciding goal and Karl Tewkesbury could only watch as a couple of efforts from range cleared the crossbar. Milborne were intermittently playing some of the close passing game for which they are renowned but a stubborn and hard working Stickland outfit were getting ten men behind the ball to make it difficult for the hosts to breach their defences. With time running out, Chris Pavey was introduced but Stickland continued to hold out for what was another two points spurned for Milborne who now will need to 'up' their game for the remaining matches of the season. *Mike Lathbury, Chairman*

Milborne Sports 6 Upwey & Broadway 2

AFTER a succession of draws, Milborne needed to get back to winning ways and after narrowly beating Upwey away from home they were prepared for a close struggle. Despite starting brightly they were unable to breach the visitors defence where Upwey's agile custodian was showing some fine form. Indeed, it was not until the half hour mark that the break through came. Carl McClements became provider when he got to the byline on the right and drove the ball back across the goal where it fell for Chris Skinner who calmly drilled the ball past a helpless keeper. Chris Pavey then bamboozled his defender before crossing the ball to Ricky Limm who cleverly and subtly lobbed the ball into the corner from about twelve yards. Milborne were now producing some fine flowing moves and it came as no surprise when they scored a third after 40 minutes when a disputed penalty was awarded and Carl McClements sent the keeper the wrong way. However, Upwey showed that they were not prepared to surrender and gave themselves a lifeline shortly afterwards when a speculative lob was dropped by the normally reliable Wayne Gifford for a simple tap in making it 3-1 at the interval. From the restart the Lane-Enders got in to their close passing game and six minutes in Chris Skinner skinned his marker before the ball reached Carl McClements who added to his impressive season's total by comprehensively beating the keeper from fifteen yards. Milborne continued to pile on the pressure and halfway through the second period Chris Pavey was unlucky not to

find the corner of the net with a volley from twenty yards out. However, he was not to be denied when soon afterwards he hit a sensational half volley from about twelve yards to make it 5-1. Milborne's back four of Lambert, Heaton, Lochrie and Lambert were keeping any Upwey attacks at bay whilst Ed Evans was also making a fine contribution in the midfield. Upwey however were not giving up and scored a second about eight minutes from the end after great work down Milborne's left flank led to a superb cross that was volleyed home in style. The Lane-Enders did have one more goal in their locker when their youthful and svelte manager Paul Hammond, who had come on for the last twenty minutes in a cameo appearance, clipped the ball past the keeper from a narrow angle after great quick thinking by Ricky Limm. Unfortunately the lifting of his shirt in celebration of his goal was not a pretty sight leaving the game ending on somewhat of a sour note for those watching!

With a final score of 6-2 this was a welcome return to form for Milborne who must now look to reproduce the same in all of their remaining fixtures. *Mike Lathbury, Chairman*

Milton Abbas Sports Club Cricket and Cycling



HAVE you always thought about giving Cricket a go? Do you have a child – boy or girl – that would like to get involved in the game? Or are you looking to get back in to the game yourself? If so then we are always looking for new members to join us. Beginners or accomplished players, everyone is welcome. Also if your playing days are over maybe you could help us with umpiring or scoring.

At the Milton Abbas Cricket Club we run three teams, under 11 years, under 13 years in junior leagues and a youth/men's team which plays Sunday friendly matches. We run nets/training sessions throughout the winter months on Friday evenings in the Sports Hall at Milton Abbey School. Juniors at 6.30-7.45pm and Adults 7.45- 8.45pm. All equipment is supplied and every session is run by ECB qualified coaches.

In the run up to summer we are having an open day at the Milton Abbas sports field. On Sunday the 25th April our first home game. Please come along from 12 noon to have a go at cricket with our ECB coaches.

The focus of our Cricket Club is to have fun and we aim to teach the junior members not only the rules of the game but also fair play and sportsmanship.

Also we are adding a Cycling section to the sports club. Aimed at all ages and abilities, this is an exciting new venture for the area. So please come and see how we can get you fitter for the summer.

For further information please call Stewart Rosoman on 01258 880962 or Andy Smith 01258 880310.



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Easter Weekend at The Hambro

We are open all day throughout the weekend, including the Bank Holiday Monday. Join us for a special family oriented Easter Sunday lunch with a menu to suit everyone. There will be prizes for the best Easter pictures and a small Easter gift for all of the children. Reservations advisable.

Oriental Evening - Friday 23rd April

See details below.

Charity Quiz - Sunday 11th April - Milton Abbas Play Park

As usual, the event will be hosted by Graham Senior. All entry fees (£2 per person) will be donated to the charity. Please come and support this worthwhile cause.

New, from April onwards, we will be offering a pre-quiz supper. Join us from 6.30 to 7.30pm for chilli and rice. Only £6.00 per person, with £1 being donated to the charity.

Easter Sunday Lunch

Starters

Soup of the day served with warm bread	£4.60
Grilled goats cheese en-croute served with dressed leaves and a walnut and raspberry dressing (V)	£4.90
Deep fried breaded whitebait served with smoked paprika aioli	£5.60
Smoked Scottish salmon, cracked black pepper, mixed leaves and a honey and mustard dressing	£5.70

Main Courses

Roast sirloin of beef and Yorkshire pudding served with roast potatoes, seasonal vegetables and gravy	£10.95
Roast turkey with stuffing, pigs in blankets, roast potatoes, seasonal vegetables and gravy	£10.95
Homemade steak and Piddle Ale pie served with creamy mash or chips and seasonal vegetables	£9.50
Wild mushroom stroganoff with wild rice (V)	£8.90
Fresh fish of the day (please ask your waitress)	£12.50

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A children's menu will also be available

Oriental Evening - Friday 23rd April

To begin

Poppadoms

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Followed by an Asian platter of onion bhajis, crispy beef and a spring roll selection

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