

Reporter

News and Views from around the area

Volume 4 Issue 1

January 2012

www.milbornestandrew.org.uk/reporter



Milborne St. Andrew

Happy New Year

From

The Reporter Team

The Annual General Meeting of the Village Lunch will take place on Friday 20th January at 12 noon at The Royal Oak. All are welcome to attend and if you wish to raise any particular topics at the AGM please telephone Melva

JANUARY 2012 VILLAGE LUNCH
To be held at the Village Hall on SATURDAY 25th January from 12.15pm

Wine or Fruit Juice/Main Course/Pudding/Coffee or Tea/Mints £6 per head

Tickets available from the Drop-In Centre at the Village Hall from 13th January 2012 (10.00am to 12 noon) Or call Melva or Margaret anytime to reserve tickets 837453 or 837749

Drop-In members are prepared to help

HELEN and Steve Lord were the very happy winners of the Village Hall Drop-In Christmas raffle, drawn at the last Drop-In session of the year. The raffle raised £99.00 for the Milborne Scout Troup. Helen and Steve will be able to tuck in in style with their Christmas cake, Christmas pudding, various preserves and a bottle of 12-year-old Scotch whisky!



Drop-In regulars have also been the main purchasers of Rose and Ed's Christmas puddings. This year 41 puddings were sold, allowing £92.00 to be donated to the Scouts. We have been most grateful to Philip Smith – our village postmaster – for supporting us by advertising and taking orders for additional puddings at the Post Office.

The Drop-In – usually referred to as “Coffee, Cake and Computers” – has been able to help with a number of significant computer problems during the autumn and appreciative “customers” have seen fit to make donations to the Scouts as a gesture of gratitude. Two local businesses have also been able to get help in enhancing their community presence through basic web-site design, bringing total donations to over £200.00. Well done everyone!

The Friday Drop-In has no membership so anyone can just “drop-in” for coffee, home-made cake, computer access and advice or, just to have a chat. We meet in the Committee Room of the Village Hall between 10.00am and noon on Fridays and will be open again on 13th January 2012. A friendly and tasty welcome awaits you.

Rose and Ed Frost

The Wednesday Club Christmas Outing

OUR Christmas Outing to The Green Man at Kings Stag was a great success.

The coach took us through some of the loveliest villages and countryside of North Dorset to Sherborne Castle Garden Centre where we stopped for refreshments and shopping. The beautiful Christmas decoration display was fantastic.

A few members chose to forgo the joys of shopping and walked into Sherborne to enjoy the sights.



We then boarded the coach again to take us to The Green Man at King Stag . There we enjoyed a most delicious two course lunch with party poppers and crackers all wearing our Christmas hats!! Some of us were fortunate enough to win some excellent prizes in the raffle. After coffee, chocolates and mince pies we rejoined the coach and wended our way back to Milborne.

We all look forward to our next meeting at The Royal Oak on 11th January starting at 2.30pm for the New Year's Party including a hot two course meal for £11 per head.

I have been asked on behalf of the Committee to wish all our members and friends a Happy, Healthy New Year.

Lis Watts

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

All copy for the February *Reporter* must be received by the **14th January**. Please send copy via e-mail to msa.reporter@yahpp.co.uk

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Your *Reporter* Team

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 and Josie Wright

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 Paper copy to Sue Gould at 28 Stileham Bank DT11 0LE

'Spoilt Rotten' – at the December WI

AS a rural village, Milborne is fortunate to have a shop, a post office and a pub, but maybe you weren't aware that from her house in the centre of the village, virtually on our doorstep, Jo Eccleson runs



'Spoilt Rotten' as an 'out of hours' beauty therapy business. Interestingly, we were told that cosmetics can be traced back as far as the ancient Egyptians, where both men and women used black kohl as eye liner and henna dye to colour their lips and nails. Jo had brought along a range of oils and creams to show us, whilst talking us through the rights and wrongs of nail and skin care regimes and

fielding our many questions. Nelda Oakes was happy for Jo to give her a thorough facial and admitted to finding it so relaxing sleep hadn't been far away! The general consensus clearly was for a repeat visit in the not too distant future.

Business was short – The **Christmas meal** at the Cygnets Restaurant in Weymouth had been very much enjoyed by those who went, excellent value for money, and Shirley Dunkley was thanked for organising it. Pat Shipton reported that the **Carol service** at Sturminster Marshall had been a very enjoyable event, despite the theft of lead from the church the night before! **Skittles** has now drawn to a close with the team losing four, drawing one, and winning three matches. Clearly everyone had very much enjoyed their season and Nelda paid tribute to Jenny Preston's captainship, thanking her for leading the team, very much by example.

We followed with the traditional Christmas supper, delicious food provided by members – Sheila Bird's meringues don't seem to last long! – and the chance to catch up with everyone.

Looking ahead to the New Year we will meet again on Thursday 12th January when Mrs Margaret Hannibal will talk about the work of 'Mosaic' a charity for bereaved children. It is suggested that we each bring along a small soft toy to donate.

Pat Bull

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

New beginnings

I wonder what New Year's resolutions you are making this year. Mine always seem to be the same: lose weight, get fitter, meet up with those friends I've not seen for a while and generally live a better life.

Five years ago I decided to try something different. I wanted to make 2007 the year when I found time to start something new. I am happy to report that I took up badminton, which I still play. It was something fresh for me, which has become one of the most enjoyable parts of my week. Playing the game has brought me fun and enabled me to meet two wholly different groups of people from those with whom I work, one where I used to live and one here in Dorset. When I moved here, one of the first things I did was find somewhere I could play.

I mention this because I think it's probably the only New Year's resolution I have ever made and then kept beyond the end of January. I think we all, whatever our gifts and skills, have something within us that longs to be creative. Often this side of ourselves - unless we are professional artists, musicians, actors, cooks, designers and so on - becomes submerged and trapped within us because we don't give it free rein.

I think we all have within us something of the creative power of God. To be human means to share many of God's characteristics. People of all religions see God as creator. There are so many ways in which to be creative: gardening, painting, cooking, acting, making music, dancing, writing, drawing, learning a language, pottery, sport (it is no coincidence that we talk of games as re-creations) and even praying.

Many people see prayer as confined to talking to God, usually asking for something - please make Auntie Flo better, please help me to get this new job - but for me prayer is about a relationship with God which has many facets, and I can turn my poetry or dancing, singing or drawing into an expression of what I wish to communicate. It can become an expression of my deepest longings for God.

But, whether we believe in God or not, I think we can all grow through being creative. It's not always easy at the start. I remember a counselling-skills training course I was on where we were left with a pile of art materials and told to make a picture that told something about the story of our lives. At the outset I found it very difficult. I struggled to begin at all. I was used to reading and writing but not to expressing myself in other ways. But, once I stopped worrying about how difficult it all was, and just got on with making something, it became a liberating experience.

There is a lot of pain and destruction worldwide, but being creative or re-creative together can bring healing. I think of the youth orchestra founded by Daniel Barenboim and Edward Said which brings together Palestinians and Israelis or Pimlico opera which goes into a prison each year and helps inmates to perform an opera. FIFA's Football for Hope Movement has made a real difference in Rwanda and Burundi among other places. These projects and many others bring amazing results. So, why don't you join me this year in picking up your paints or dusting down your cook books - let's be creative or find some new source of re-creation.

With best wishes

Sarah Hillman

CHURCH SERVICES January 2012

1st JANUARY – Naming and Circumcision of Christ

11.00am Holy Communion Puddletown

THURSDAY 5th JANUARY

12.00 Lunch-time Communion Milborne

8th JANUARY – Epiphany

8.15am 1662 Said Communion Puddletown

9.30 Methodist United Service Topuddle

Methodist Church

9.30 Parish Communion Milborne

11.00 Family Service Puddletown

Village Hall

11.00 Family Communion Dewlish

15th JANUARY – Epiphany 2

9.30am Family Communion Tolpuddle

9.30 1662 Said Communion Milborne

11.00 1662 Morning Prayer Puddletown

11.00 Holy Communion Dewlish

4.00pm Milborne Praise Milborne

THURSDAY 19th JANUARY

12.00 Lunch-time Communion Puddletown

22nd JANUARY – Epiphany 3

9.30am Holy Communion Tolpuddle

9.30 1662 Holy Communion Milborne

11.00 Family Communion Puddletown

11.00 Family Service Dewlish

29th JANUARY – Presentation of Christ

9.30am United Benefice Milborne

Holy Communion

MORNING PRAYERS

(Monday – Thursday 8.15am; Saturday 9.00am)

Monday – Puddletown Tuesday – Tolpuddle

Wednesday – Milborne Thursday – Dewlish

Saturday – Puddletown

Church Cleaning – w/e Saturday

7th January

John and Anne Miller

14th January Victoria Bone

and Lin Chatfield

21st January

Sue Lee and Val Hodges

28th January Josie Wright

and Pat Tribe



100 CLUB WINNERS

Draw Date – Wednesday 23rd November 2011

1st prize £100 Andrew Wilson

2nd prize £50 Shirley Tawfiq

3rd prize £12 Greta Gregory

The next draw is at 8.00pm, in The Royal Oak,

on Tuesday 31st January 2012

Everyone is welcome to attend

New members always welcome. Contact

June Maitland 837235 or Denise Sanderson 837049

Church Contacts

Priest in Charge Sarah Hillman 01305 848784

E-mail: sarah.c.hillman@tesco.net

Associate Priest Sarah Godfrey 01258 839067

Church Wardens

Milborne St. Andrew

Eva Stockley 01258 837468

Pat Tribe 01258 837684

Dewlish

Jim Burg 01258 837466

Sue Britton 01258 837218

www.milbornestandrewchurch.org.uk

MILBORNE ST. ANDREW CHURCH NOTES

Full of fairy lights and cheerful noise

THE Christmas Market was a lively event. Father Christmas was on top form. Children went home clutching their pictures taken with Santa. The hall was full of fairy lights and cheerful noise; it can safely be said



that a good time was had by all. The home-made soup was delicious, the mulled wine flowed freely, cakes and pies were sold out and all the other stalls were well patronised. The event raised approximately £1,000 for church funds. Many thanks to all those who worked so hard to make it a very successful afternoon.

Peg doll angels and coloured lanterns

Advent Sunday began with the celebrations at the Village Hall. This took the form of Advent Praise as we looked forward to the light of Christ at Christmas. Seventeen children and many adults enjoyed themselves making mini-Advent rings, peg doll angels and stained glass windows. Most importantly, they decorated jam jars with tissue paper and, with the addition of tea lights, these became coloured lanterns that lit up the church path and window sills. Before leaving the Village Hall we enjoyed our tea of sandwiches and cakes.



The service that followed was beautiful with plenty of congregational participation. We sang Advent carols and listened to a variety of readings. Most of the service was held in atmospheric candle-light. Thank you to both Sarahs for all the hard work they put into this.

Viridor Credits' grant of £15,000

All paperwork and necessary procedures for the toilet and kitchenette are now in place and we hope that work will begin not too far into the new year. We are very grateful to have received a grant of £15,000 from Viridor Credits Environment Company through the Landfill Communities Fund. Funding is available for community and environmental projects within 10 miles of an active Viridor landfill site. Since its inception Viridor Credits has allocated over £70m to over a thousand projects across the U.K. We are delighted to be one of those projects.

We would like to wish all our readers a HAPPY NEW YEAR.

2012 will be a special year in the life of St. Andrew's Church as we continue to progress with the building of our new facilities. All the hard work will enable us to become more hospitable for events like Benefice services, concerts, harvest suppers and so on. We will also be able to bring Milborne Praise into the church.

Eva Stockley and Pat Tribe (Churchwardens)



Do you need a lift to church?

If you have difficulty getting to church or need transport when the Benefice Service is at another church, we can arrange transport for you. Please contact Eva (837468) or Pat (837684).



Jack Vallard

Passed peacefully away on 4th December in Joseph Weld Hospice, after an illness very bravely fought.

A Service to celebrate his life was held at Weymouth Crematorium on Monday 12th December.

Donations, if desired may be given for Weldmar Hospicecare Trust and Milton Abbas Surgery by cheque made payable to Woods Funeral Service and sent c/o 11a Icen Way, Dorchester DT1 1EW

DEWLISH CHURCH NOTES

Thanks to all who gave so generously

OUR Christmas Bazaar was a very happy occasion which was very well supported. I am delighted to say that we raised £565.85 for church funds. Many thanks to all who came, ran stalls, and gave so generously.

Our Bingo for Village Hall funds was also well attended this year (well, the people didn't have snow and ice to contend with!). A big thank you to all the people who gave prizes, to Andrew and Hayley for the delicious drink, and to all who came and helped out.

Daphne Burg



Gardening Club curling evening

THE curling evening held on 17th November was extremely enjoyable and everyone who came along not quite knowing what to expect found it great fun. All 40 tickets were sold and four teams were formed which led to keen, but friendly, rivalry. The polished hall floor made a good substitute for an ice rink and it was surprising how fast the 'stones' could be propelled over it. Play was possible, bending, standing or even sitting on a chair, so anyone could take part. After several rounds the eventual winners with highest individual scores were Eric Austen and Peter Dunkley, who each received a prize of a pot of winter flowering plants.

At half time a delicious supper of jacket potatoes with a choice of fillings, and coleslaw, was served, which proved very popular. This was the first event at the hall since the alcohol licence was granted and the provision of beer and cider as well as soft drinks was a great advantage and certainly made the evening go with a swing! We were able to present a cheque for £100 to Brendoncare, the Dorset charity for Day Centres for the elderly and would like to thank all members and others from the village who came along and helped to make the evening such a success.

Gardening Club AGM

The Gardening Club AGM was held on Thursday 1st October at the Village Hall. Nineteen members were present. Sally Dyer presented the Chairman's Report and John Wright the Treasurer's report in the absence of Josie Wright.

Officers and Committee for 2012 were elected as follows: Re-elected: Sally Dyer *Chairman*; Linda Harris *Secretary*; Anne Love, Bill Love and Peter Dunkley *Committee members*. Elected: John Wright *Treasurer*; Angie Nowell and Shirley Dunkley *Committee members*.

An increase in the annual subscription of £1 to £11 was approved.

After the business of the evening was over members enjoyed mulled wine and mince pies.

Sally Dyer

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Mission accomplished! well nearly

EAR muffs were very much the order of the night on Friday 9th December and Santa, Rudolf and his merry band of helpers just about managed to get around the village before running out of energy half way down Coles Lane.

Luckily a northern light came to the rescue and Santa was able to be recharged and complete the circumnavigation of Milborne complete with flashing lights and very loud music.

Well that is what he thought but mid-way through counting all the money raised Santa received a very distraught call from a little boy who had been waiting at his gate with a mince pie and other goodies only to see the back of the sleigh disappearing the wrong way round Bladen View.



Anyway, all's well that ends well and the boy, who shall remain nameless but answers to the name of Dave was much relieved to hear that his home has now been programmed into Santa's Doe Doe and will be first on his list on Christmas day.

Dave was also the first to hear that the fantastic sum of £191.68

had been raised for the nominated Charities which included, The Village Hall, the Dorset Air Ambulance and the Rotary Endoscopy Appeal for the DCH.

A special vote of thanks must also go to M&M the intrepid Santa's helpers who managed to keep up with the hectic pace set by Rudolf as he sped round the village. Only two could be spared on the night as all the other helpers were busy packing presents by the side of a warm log fire.

Anyway, a big thank you for all those that contributed.

Photograph by Easton Mallon.

Santa and his crew

MSA Allotment Corporation

FOLLOWING a viability meeting at the MSA Sports Club back in September an interested group of eight people joined together to meet and discuss the practicalities of adopting this as a village project. And what an enthusiastic bunch we are too because this is a rather daunting task. What with the fact that the ground at the Sports Club needs rather a lot of work to ready it and that currently access and water supplies are difficult and that the funding we are given by the Parish Council is rather small. No job seemed too big and each person at the meeting took on a small role in helping to make this project one that will move forward. We are not under any illusions and that is why we are talking about a project rather than an immediate fix, however I can report that since our meeting three weeks ago a plan has gone to Wessex Water.

A member of the allotment regeneration committee has agreed to come and talk to us and that a proper plan of the site is being drawn up as we speak so by the next time we meet we will be able to see exactly how many plots and half plots we can offer as well as whether we will have room for a community orchard. We are by no means a closed group so if you would like to help, register your interest in a plot when we are ready to offer them, or have any ideas or suggestions, then you can contact us at msa.allotments@yahoo.co.uk or MSA allotments 24/25 Bagber Farm, Milton Road, Milborne St. Andrew DT11 0LB.

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Hot off the press

WHAT will the council make us build in the village – could we make a difference about what is done with planning in the village? The newest scheme being introduced now is the “Localism Act and Neighbourhood Plan”. Whilst it may well be just words (as one councillor said), it seems that if we don't put something together, then developments could possibly be “imposed” upon us. To be accepted, the Parish Council have to show that everyone in the village is consulted, and has the opportunity to vote on any plan. It all sounds very awkward, and very bureaucratic.

But don't worry, our parish councillors have the opportunity to attend an explanatory open session – on the same day as the next parish council meeting! The decision was taken to delay the start of the next PC meeting on the 18th January to 8.00pm to allow the councillors to attend this forum. Our village meeting will then be a “Special Meeting” with a reduced agenda where, hopefully, the complexities, and maybe the advantages, or disadvantages, of this “Plan” can be explained to us all.

It may be a good idea for us all to attend the “Special Meeting” on the 18th January, 8.00pm in the village hall.

Mobile libraries

Councillor Allen has been told that our mobile library, along with all the others across the county, is being monitored for popularity. There is a danger that its attendance could be reduced, or the routes changed. Make sure you use it over these next few months especially. Friday mornings fortnightly, about 9.30 to 10.00am Stileham Bank, and about 10.00 to 10.25am Village Hall car park, next visits are 13th and 27th January.

Sue Gould

No increase in the precept

DECEMBER is the time that the Parish Council has to decide on its precept for the following financial year.

The precept is the amount that the Parish Council has considered it will require to run the Parish Council for one year. Once the precept is set, then the Parish Council cannot go back to the District Council for any more funds.

This year has been a particularly difficult year with the current financial situation and many people finding it hard to make ends meet.

Both Dorset County Council and North Dorset District Council have already stated that they are not going to increase their Council Tax for 2012/13. Milborne St. Andrew has decided to follow this example and have kept the Precept for 2012/13 the same as the last two years.

This has meant that savings needed to be found and the grants to the Village Hall and St. Andrew's Church have had to be reduced slightly. The Parish Council is keen to work with these organisations to find other ways to help them, as the services they supply to the village are immeasurable.

The Parish Council have agreed that one off costs like the Diamond Jubilee and the Neighbourhood Plan will have to be met from reserves. The Parish Council does not know at this stage how much additional work will be required to deal with all aspects of the Localism Act and the Neighbourhood Plan, but it does seem to be the case that the lowest level of government is being expected to become far more involved in local planning.

If anyone would like more information about the work of the Parish Council, please contact myself or the Parish Clerk. Our contact details are on the Parish notice board and the website.

Cllr. Janet Allen, Chairman,
Milborne St. Andrew Parish Council

Volunteers occasionally needed to deliver the Reporter magazine to cover for holidays



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Busy Bees Keeping Busy!



IT has been a good month for the Busy Bees Under 5's Playgroup with attendance continuing to increase and everyone agreeing that it's a fun place to 'bee' for both the children and the adults who attend. This month has seen the children prepare for Christmas by icing cakes, creating cards and making tree decorations, all ready for the festive period. The final meeting before Christmas had a surprise visitor of Father Christmas who bumbled his way in and presented the children with gifts. The children and adults also enjoyed party food, played games and enjoyed singing Christmas songs whilst joining in with musical instruments.

A fun darts competition is being held at The Royal Oak, MSA on Saturday 18th February 2012, in aid of Busy Bees and is open to players of any ability. Teams will be made up of randomly drawn pairs, with prizes being presented on the night as well as a raffle. Please contact Hayley on 07919 156578 or www.busy-bees.org.uk for further information.

Busy Bees will recommencing on Thursday 5th January 2012 at 9.30-11.30am with lots more exciting activities planned for the New Year.
Hayley Davis



Thursdays 9.30 – 11.30
Sports Pavilion, Milborne St Andrew
£1.50 per session, drinks and snacks provided

If you have a baby, toddler or pre-school child, come and enjoy warm friendly company whilst your little one plays with toys and interacts with other children.

Website: www.busy-bees.org.uk
Contact: Hayley Davis 07919 156578
or Jody Moore 07855 168117

Erin Brockovich (15)

Presented by Flixs in the Sticks in partnership with Film Bank at Milborne St. Andrew Village Hall on Friday 27th January at 7.30pm

THIS is an exhilarating tale about a woman discovering her full potential and running with it and is based on the true story of a woman who helped win the largest settlement ever paid in a direct-action lawsuit. Erin Brockovich (Julia Roberts) is a single mother of three who, after losing a personal injury lawsuit, asks her lawyer, Ed Masry (Albert Finney), if he can help her find a job. Knowing an unstoppable force of nature when he sees one, Ed gives her work as a file clerk in his office. While filing papers connected to a real estate case Erin becomes curious about some of the detail contained within them and begins digging into the particulars of the case, to uncover an appalling case of corporate negligence. The result is a riveting drama, made all the more fascinating for its basis in fact.

Roberts has never been more emotionally fragile or stunning and plays the role with effortless charm and gritty conviction, yet true to Soderbergh's usual style, there are other fascinating characters within the story. Ed Masry is given much heart by Finney, while Aaron Eckhart is George, Erin's biker neighbour and sometime lover. By concerning itself with truthful consequences of its characters' self-sacrifices, "Erin Brockovich" succeeded as a social-issue drama as much about the passion of personal investment as the pursuit of justice.

The village hall is open with bar from 7.00pm and the film starts at 7.30pm. Tickets £3.00 can be obtained on the door or from Alice Harrall on 01258 837371 or email msavillagehall@gmail.com.

Coming up in February

Treasure Island

(Milborne Players Pantomime)

Thursday 9th February evening at 7.30pm. Doors open and bar 7.00pm. Tickets £5.00.

Friday 10th and **Saturday 11th** February evening at 7.30pm. Doors open and bar 7.00pm. Tickets £6.00.

Saturday 11th February matinee at 2.30pm. Doors open at 2.00pm. Tickets £5.00 available from Sid Coe. Telephone 01258 837453.

Black Swan (15)

(Flixs in the Sticks)

Friday 17th February at 7.30pm. Doors and bar 7.30pm. Tickets £3.00 on the door.

The Milborne Players

www.milborneplayers.org.uk

PREPARATIONS for another adventure into "pantoland" are boiling up "me hearties". Jim Hawkins is practising his knots, Ma Hawkins is looking for every penny to pay off her arrears and the pirates, well they seem rather jolly to be honest.

For Treasure Island, Gren Elphinestone Davis makes his debut as a "dame" and Roy Sach is preparing to have surgery to play the "villain", Long John Silver! What he will do for his art! Rehearsals are swinging along with plenty of fairy dust being sprinkled by Adrienne Rogers, the hired fairy.

Christmas will soon be upon us and quite often that is followed by a bit of New Year gloom. But that can be steered off by making sure you get your tickets early for a bit of February fun. On general sale beginning of January from the Londis and The Royal Oak or directly from Sid Coe (01258 837453).

Finally the Milborne Players would like to thank MSA Cars for sponsoring our productions for 2012.
Caroline Nobbs, Director

'Young stars shine through Nativity show'

THIS year Ladybirds performed a Nativity play for parents, grandparents and friends. Some thought us foolhardy to attempt getting 24 young children between the ages of 2½ and 4 years to act out the Nativity in front of an audience. The saying goes 'no pain, no gain' and on the day the helpers were probably more nervous than the children. All the worry and preparation was well worth it. On the day the hall was full – 60 adults plus younger siblings with volunteers manning the kitchen and helping dress the cast into their costumes.

The children had worked hard over the last few weeks rehearsing and singing their songs at home as well as in Ladybirds. The live show was the first time the children had been in costume

and all performed on stage together. They looked beautiful – mums you all did a wonderful job with the costumes. All the children participated with only a few wobbles of uncertainty. The angels waved their stars, the animals sat still in the stable, Mary and Joseph arrived safely in Bethlehem and proudly sat next to Jesus's crib having been shown to the stable by the Innkeeper, the Shepherds and the Kings walked through the audience to pay homage to Jesus. What more can I say – except we are proud of our children and their families should be too.

We wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Liz Dyer



Milborne Ladybirds Playgroup

registered charity no. 1087441

We are a friendly community preschool with highly qualified staff who enthusiastically help children to achieve their potential through fun activities.

"Children are happy and comfortable with staff and choose from a range of activities each day."

Ofsted report 2009

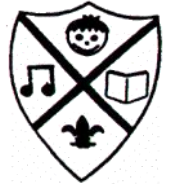
Opening times:

Early birds 8:30 to 9:00, Session 9:00 to 12:00, Lunch club 12:00 to 1:00

Contact Details: Liz Dyer 01258 839117
www.milborneladybirds.org.uk



Milborne St. Andrew First School



Learning together, playing together;
all for one, one for all

School News

CHRISTMAS came early to school with the children enjoying a range of festive treats. On 1st December our children were greeted by a beautiful tree standing in the porch with its decorations and lights. Once again this year our thanks go to local distribution company Lloyd Fraser, who have donated the tree, which will then go on to



St. Andrews Church when the school term ends. Our specific thanks to Nigel House and Pete Jackson for making this possible this year.

Friends of School have as always pulled together in recent weeks to provide a Christmas Fayre and a whole school Christmas lunch. We are grateful to everyone who gives their time so willingly to make

these events possible and a small token of our appreciation went to Ruth and Sarah for their coordinated efforts for the lunch, which all agreed was delicious. The cost of the lunch is funded by such events as the fayre, so all the supporters are just as important as the organisers. It just shows how fabulous their organisation must be when you consider that they managed to arrange for Father Christmas to visit the school at such a busy time of year. Accompanied by his local elves he gave presents to all of the children after the lunch and then the classes went on to have an afternoon of party games.

In recent weeks families and friends have been treated to nativity performances and a production of The Grinch and at the time of writing we are looking forward to welcoming everyone to St. Andrew's Church for a candlelit carol service. The whole school are



also looking forward to a trip to Poole Lighthouse Theatre to see Cinderella before we break up for the holidays, another event being in part financed by Friends of School.

The new year will bring changes in school. As well as welcoming a number of new children to school when we return, we will also be welcoming Neil McDermott to school as our new headteacher. Neil will be moving from a headship position within Dorset and also has previous experience of headship in other authorities. Neil has been coming into school during the last month to get to know staff and children and is very much looking forward to being with us full time in the new year. Audrey Andrews will return to her position of class teacher and deputy head once her time as acting head is completed at the end of this term. Audrey has worked extremely hard to ensure the continued success of the school during this interim period, for which all staff and children are very grateful.



So many in the village have connections with the school – past pupils, present families, those who will be joining us in future years and local businesses. We would like to take this opportunity to wish them and all of the readers a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

If you have children who will be starting school in September 2012 please remember that now is the time to be thinking about your school preferences and applying for a place. Full details are available at www.dorsetforyou.com/schooladmissions and the closing date for on line applications is 15th January 2012, however please take the time to visit us at school and ask any questions you may have. Mrs Pugh in the school office will be delighted to arrange a convenient time to visit.



CONTACTS

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

Headteacher: Neil McDermott **Secretary, School Office:** Mrs Helen Pugh

Chair of Governors: Mrs Jessica Doodles **FOS Chairman:** Mrs Kate Connolly

e-mail: office@milborne.dorset.sch.uk website: www.milborne.dorset.sch.uk Tel: (01258) 837362 Fax: (01258) 837170

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Homeopathic first aid course

I HAVE been thinking of offering a five week course on 'Homeopathic First Aid in the Home' in the New Year and would like to know if there would be any interest. I am a qualified practitioner of homeopathy for over 28 years, which included five years treating in a children's clinic in Sussex, where I saw 12 families in a day. I think this easy to understand course will enable any parent to confidently give homeopathic remedies for first aid and general children's health problems.

If you think you would be interested in participating I am considering that the first session will be free and the next four sessions £28 including light refreshments. Please could you contact me, Sohani Gonzalez, by phone on 839043, by email on sohanig.gonzalez@gmail.com or via the website www.sohani-homeopathy.com.



Did you identify this?

Congratulations to Michael Hopper who e-mailed to say the picture this month is of the apex of the front porch of 'Tilly Whim' along The Causeway.

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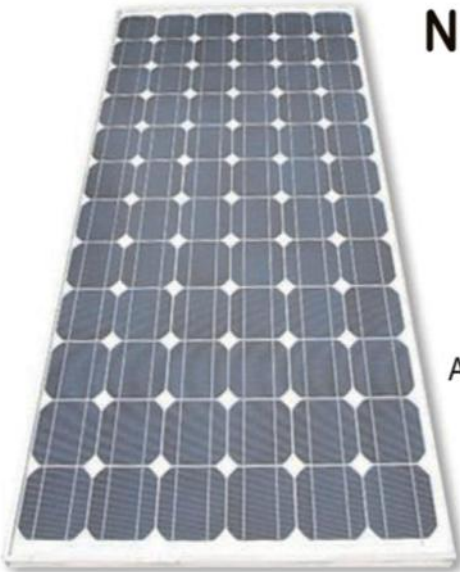
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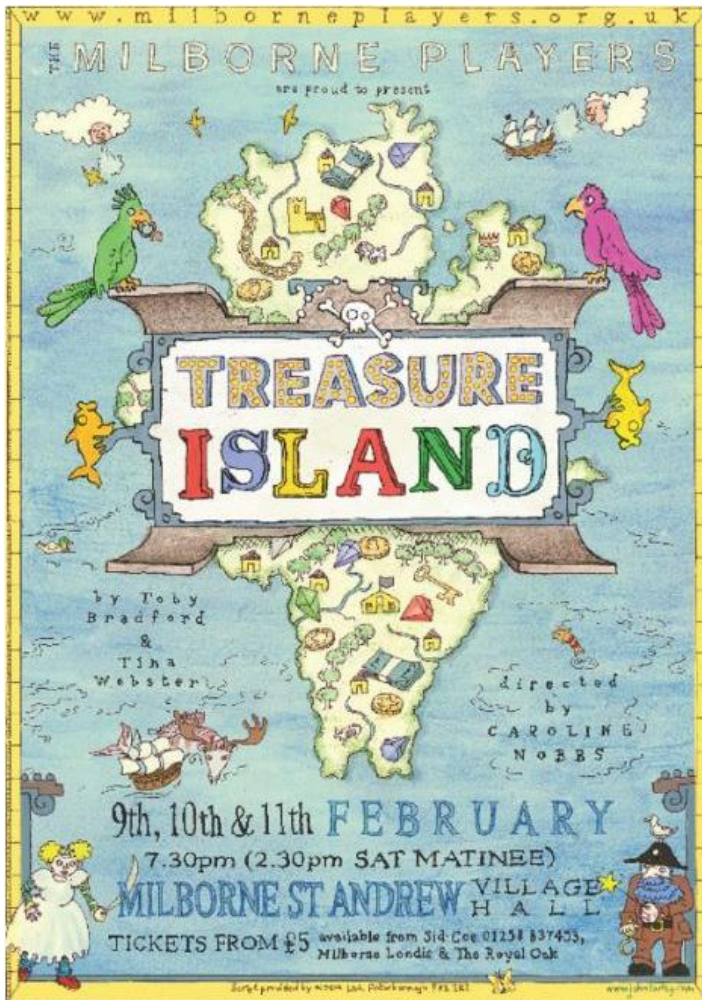
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November 2011 Weather in Milborne St. Andrew

NOVEMBER is usually one of our wettest months but this year the rainfall was only 56% of average at 64.8mm. This brought the rainfall deficit for the year to the end of November to 170mm. November was an abnormally warm month with predominately southerly winds and was the second warmest November in Milborne in the last 40 years. The warmest November was in 1994 but the rainfall for that month was 167.8mm. It is unusual to have a mild November with low rainfall. There was only one air frost during the month on the 27th.

The Central England Temperature for November was 9.8°C making it the second warmest November in the 353 year records. November 1994 was the warmest November in those records also.

We all hope for a peaceful and uneventful Christmas but in 1839 at Lyme Regis it was anything but peaceful and uneventful. After a period of very wet weather, fissures started to appear on the cliff top west of the town on Christmas Eve and that night saw one of the greatest landslips on the coastline of Britain. By Christmas morning, 45 acres of farmland had been dislodged and left a great chasm 50m deep along one mile of the coast. This forced up a previously underwater reef to 12m high above the sea 150m offshore and formed a natural lagoon.

Pluvius

Quiz Night At the Hambro Arms, Milton Abbas

Sunday 15th January at 7.45pm

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Play Safe on the Internet

WE are all concerned about the daily safety of ourselves and our families, and while we are 'on line' should be no exception. What dangers lurk on the internet? The main worry used to be picking up a computer virus which could destroy or take over the programs on your computer. This is not quite as worrisome now as there are good free anti-virus programs that will protect your computer as long as you keep them up to date every week. If you don't have one try **Microsoft Security Essentials** (Google search for it and click the links to run the free download), update it every week if this doesn't happen automatically each time you switch on your computer, and scan the whole computer system at least once a week.

That's the easy bit. Probably the greatest danger now comes from various types of 'phishing'. This is where someone tries to get hold of your personal details in order to use them for their own benefit, and at your expense. A common form is when someone pretending to be a bank sends you an email to say that there is a problem with your bank account and they need to check some details for which they give you a link to click on. This takes you to a page where they ask you to give them all your personal details (except they say 'confirm them'). Nine times out of ten it is easy to ignore the message as it is not from a bank at which you have an account, but if they send 1,000,000 emails there will be enough recipients who do have an account to keep the scammers busy. If you hover your mouse over the link you will see the address that you would be going to which will not be the official-looking name printed. NEVER click on these links. Delete the message as it is rubbish. Banks never write to you in this way and will tell you how to contact them if you have any worries. These emails are quite easy to recognise but do be careful as scammers are learning to dress up their requests for your personal information in ever more cunning ways.

What you need to be careful is when you try to pay for something you want to buy on the internet, though big companies such as Amazon and well known UK stores are fairly safe. A good safeguard to look for is the internet address at the top of the page where you are asked to give your credit card number. If this is secure and vetted as safe the address will start *https* rather than the normal *http*. If you are looking at a foreign company or one with no geographical address or phone number be very careful; and if the bargain looks too good to be true it probably is. For these purchases it is best to use a debit card that has a small credit balance and no overdraft facility. The worry is that the 'seller' might take more than the claimed amount for the purchase and is untraceable if the goods are not delivered. It is generally worth checking out companies that you have not dealt with before by doing a Google search for their name and seeing whether there is a site detailing problems and solutions that other buyers have had.

Phishing is not the only way strangers obtain useful information about you. Adults and children need to be very careful about what information is made available on websites such as *Facebook*. Holiday dates, parties, expensive presents, compromising photos, names, addresses and phone numbers can be useful information to someone involved in crime, bullying or paedophilic activities – and the information will be there for ever.

So how do you keep children safe? First of all it is important to talk to children about the internet and what they do on it – and don't say anything that will stop them talking to you. It is vital that youngsters understand what can happen and are protected from unsuitable websites. This really means that parents need to become internet experts themselves. All schools spend time teaching pupils how to use the internet and mobile phones safely and can give advice to parents, but you can find a lot of information at sites such as **www.thinkuknow.co.uk** or drop in to the Friday Pop-In in the Village Hall (next meeting 13th January). You can install software to restrict the websites that can be visited, and it is best if children do not surf the net on their own in their bedrooms. However this is becoming more difficult to ensure as many mobile phones and game boxes now have the facility to connect to the internet. Insist that if youngsters need to have a phone they only have a simple cheap one. *John Wright*



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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	Emma Parker	01258 881631
	Jane Somper	01258 471089
Parish Council – Dewlish	Clerk: Pat Gubbins	01258 881348
	Chair: Mike Claydon	01258 837314
Parish Council –	Clerk: Joyce Holman	01202 880512
Milborne St. Andrew	Chair: Janet Allen	01258 837551

General – Adult

Computer Drop-in Centre	Rose and Ed Frost	01258 837921
Ladies Group – Dewlish	Judith Bridgen	01258 837157
Memory Lane Swing Band	Gilly Pink	01258 837695
M.A. Neighbourcar	Nigel Hodder	01258 881709
Wednesday Social Club	Margaret Evans	01258 450518
Women's Institute	Linda Wright	01258 839255

General – Youth

Beavers	Mike Mullett	01258 839076
Cub Scouts	Mike Mullett	01258 839076
Hazelnuts out-of-school club	Hazel Barrett	01305 848588
Ladybirds (Playgroup)	Liz Dyer	01258 839117
Scouts	Mike Mullett	01258 839076
Under 5's Group – The Busy Bees	Hayley Davis	07919 156578
Youth Club age 8 – 14 yrs	Sallie Maitland-Gleed	01258 837442

Police

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

Or email blandfordruralsouthSNT@dorset.pnn.police.uk

School

Milborne 1st School		
Headteacher:	Neil McDermott	01258 837362
Chair Governors:	Jessica Doodes	
Friends of School Chair:	Kate Connolly	

Special Interest

Bellringers	Pip Bowell	01258 837329
Food and Wine Society	Maureen Lock	01258 837929
MSA Friendly Art Group	Elaine Anthony	01258 837089
MSA Gardening Club	Sally Dyer	01258 837061
Milborne Players	Roy Sach	01258 837033
Ranters' Folk Session	Roger Harrall	01258 837371
Round Robin Ramblers	Ian Bromilow	01258 880044

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	Matt Hall	07846 262717
Football – Reserve Team	Tom Lane	07786 156335
Football – Under 15s	Glenn Chadwick	07766 542600
Football – Under 11s	Marie Hayter	01258 837241
Modern Sequence Dancing	Grace Davies	01258 837261
Running Group	Anne-Marie Pearson	01258 837057
Skittles – Dewlish	Frank Ross	01258 837366
Sports Club		
Chairman:	Jenny Balcon	01258 837121
Bookings:	Alice Harrall	01258 837371
Table-tennis	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
Booking Secretary	Alice Harrall	01258 837371

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(doors and BAR open at 7.00pm)

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Community Events Diary

Add your event to this diary by contacting the **Reporter** – tel: 01258 837957 or email: msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk

December

Friday 30th **Mamma Mia Sing Along** Village Hall 3.30 pm.

January

Wednesday 4th **Badminton** restarts Milborne First School 7.00–9.00pm. New members welcome.

Thursday 5th **Busy Bees** restarts Sports Club 9.30–11.30pm.
New Bridge Group The Royal Oak 7.00pm – see page 19.

Sunday 8th **Milborne Ten** run.

Wednesday 11th **Wednesday Club Party** The Royal Oak 2.30pm.

Friday 13th **Computer Drop-In** restarts Village Hall Committee Room 10.00am–12 noon.

Wednesday 18th **Parish Council Meeting** Village Hall 8.00pm.

Friday 20th **Village Lunch AGM** The Royal Oak 12 noon. All welcome.

Ageless Aquacise Milton Abbey Pool 6.30–7.30pm. More details from Angie 880073 or Maria 880895.

Friday 27th **Erin Brockovich** presented by Flixs in the Sticks in partnership with Film Bank Village Hall 7.30pm – see pages 9 and 16.

Saturday 28th **Village Lunch** Village Hall 12.15pm – see advertisement page 2.

February

Thursday 9th **Milborne Players Treasure Island** Pantomime

Friday 10th Village Hall evenings at 7.30pm. Saturday matinee at 2.30pm – see pages 9 and 13.

Saturday 11th **Parish Council Meeting** Village Hall 8.00pm.

Wednesday 15th **Parish Council Meeting** Village Hall 8.00pm.

Saturday 18th **Busy Bees Fun Darts Competition** The Royal Oak – see page 9.

Regular Bookings at the Village Hall

Ladybirds Playgroup Monday–Friday 8.30am–1.00pm MH (term time only)

Beavers Monday 6.00–7.15pm MH (term time only)

Scouts Monday 6.00–8.00pm CR/MH

Players Monday 8.00–10.00pm MH

ABC Line dancers Tuesday 7.30–10.00pm 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

Wednesday Club first Wednesday 2.30–4.30pm MH

Gardening Club fourth Thursday 7.30–10.00pm MH

Karate Thursday 5.10–6.40pm MH

Village Hall Committee third Thursday 8.00–10.00pm

Women's Institute second Thursday 7.30–10.00pm

Coffee, Cake and Computers Friday 10.00am–12.00pm noon CR

Youth Club first and third Friday 6.30–8.30pm MH

Sequence Dancing third Saturday 7.30–10.30pm MH

Village Lunch last Saturday of the month 12.15–2.30pm MH

Milborne Praise! third Sunday 4.00–5.30pm MH

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

Milton Abbas and Milborne St. Andrew Surgery appointments timetable

AM 9.00am– 11.00am PM 4.00am– 6.00pm	MILTON ABBAS		MILBORNE ST. ANDREW	For urgent problems needing advice or attention on the same day we offer a same day Walk in surgery each morning and afternoon
Monday AM	Dr Longley or Dr Rees	Dr Trickey	Dr Dean	Milton Abbas 9.00–10.00am
Monday PM	Dr Longley	Dr Rees		Milton Abbas 4.00–5.00pm
Tuesday AM	Dr Longley		Dr Rees	Milborne St. Andrew 9.00–10.00am
Tuesday PM	Dr Longley	Dr Rees		Milton Abbas 4.00–5.00pm
Wednesday AM	Dr Longley or Dr Dean	Dr Longley or Dr Dean		Milton Abbas 9.00–10.00am
Wednesday PM	Dr Longley or Dr Dean	Dr Longley or Dr Dean		Milton Abbas 4.00–5.00pm
Thursday AM	Dr Dean		Minor Operations	Milton Abbas 9.00–10.00am
Thursday PM	Dr Rees			Milton Abbas 4.00–5.00pm
Friday AM	Dr Longley or Dr Rees	Dr Trickey		Milton Abbas 9.00–10.00am
Friday PM	Dr Longley or Dr Rees	Dr Trickey	Dr Longley or Dr Rees	Milton Abbas 4.00–5.00pm
Saturday AM	8.30–10.30am with either Dr Longley, Rees or Dean			

Please Note:- Milborne St. Andrew consulting times may change at short notice depending on doctor availability. Please telephone the surgery to check the location if you intend to attend the Tuesday morning walk in clinic.

DISPENSARY – The dispensary is open from 8.30am–1.00pm and 2.30pm–6.00pm Monday–Friday. 8.30–10.30am on Saturday. You can order repeat medication online, by telephone or by using the repeat slip attached to your current prescription.

WHEN WE ARE CLOSED – for medical advice NHS direct on 0845 46 47 or www.nhsdirect.nhs.uk. For medical attention 0800 600 10 13 (Out of hours GP service). For medical emergencies dial 999.

January at the Sports Pavilion

The Busy Bees Under 5 Group from 9.30am to 11.30am on Thursday term time only. Contact Hayley Davis 07919156578.

Folk Club at 8.00pm on Friday 20th January will be at Roger's house. Contact Roger Harrall Tel. 837371 or email roger.harrall@gmail.com

Table Tennis from 7.00pm to 9.00pm every Monday evening. Contact Sandra Shannon Tel. 837253.

Football

Adult training – Tuesday evening. Contact Matt Hall email matttoon@hotmail.co.uk

Under 15 Football Training – Thursday evenings. Contact Glen 01305 861290 or email adedorset@hotmail.co.uk

6–11 year olds on Wednesday evenings. call 01258 837241 or e-mail milbornestandrewfcyouth@gmail.com.

New Treasurer Wanted for Milborne Sports Club

Milborne Sports Club are in desperate need of a new treasurer, its not a difficult task and the retiring treasurer has promised all the help needed for the change over.

If there is anyone who would be willing take the job on please contact Jenny Balcon on 01258 837121.

P.N. GRAY

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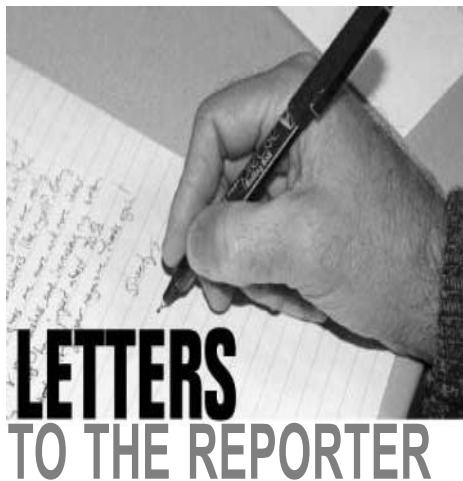
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Dear Editor,

I'm writing in response to Tony Lages' letter in the December Reporter.

Rose Frost is a lovely, genuinely helpful lady. I suggest he re-read her November article again with fresh eyes. Rose and the other volunteer helpers at the Village Hall Friday Drop-In were offering help and guidance to villagers that have already considered the advantages of online shopping but do not know how to go about it. She writes to offer their time, experience and knowledge for free to an audience that want to see technology as a means to make life easier. Rose is talking about convenience, and particularly at a time of year when weather can be adverse and shopping lists huge. All she is thinking about here is her local community – to ask whether her help is “in the long term interest” of the village community is insulting, selfish and short-sighted.

I visit the Londis at least once a week, and spend between £2 and £10. In my opinion the Londis does not offer a great selection on anything – unless of course you can survive on cigarettes, alcohol and packaged cake. I've lost count of the number of times I've popped in for a pint of skimmed milk or a loaf of bread to find the shelves empty, or when I've needed a few carrots for a roast dinner, only to be told “there's no call for carrots in Milborne”.

May I suggest to Mr Lages that he take a step back and look for the real reason his business is “struggling to stay afloat”. It is not because there is a computer club that, amongst other things, offers to help people to receive heavy bags of supermarket shopping to their doors. It is because his business does not fully meet the needs and wants of the target market and really struggles to deliver excellent customer service. I believe Mr Lages should worry less about the national supermarket chains and the advantages of online shopping and be vastly more concerned about just how many people from this village travel to Bere Regis for papers, fresh bakery

products, fresh and chilled fruits and vegetables, quality dairy products, tinned goods, a friendly smile and a bit of village banter! Village stores are no longer about “essentials” (although why anyone would put lottery tickets at the top of an essential list is beyond understanding), they are about adding value to the lives of people within the community and selling the goods WE want to buy. A recent survey may well say that a village store adds value to a village property, but it may also say that the better the store is at serving the community, the higher the added value?

As Mr Lages recognises the importance of research, he might like to consider this to be the ideal opportunity to run a small survey of his own – asking us, his customers, what we want to buy from the village shop and what he could improve and add that would help us spend more of our money with him. I believe this research would serve him very well. Mr Lages needs to understand what differentiation is, and create, for himself, a unique proposition that his customers value rather than waste time being unnecessarily threatened by national supermarket chains and online shopping, and definitely before he is critical of a lady like Rose Frost.

Regards,
Gray's Stores Customer

Novices Bridge

Following my letter in the October issue I will be holding the first meeting of a social Bridge group for beginners and intermediate level players in The Royal Oak in Milborne St. Andrew on Thursday 5th January starting at 7.00pm. The first session will be aimed at complete beginners and anyone who wants to refresh their knowledge. I will provide basic instruction.

A few people have expressed interest but more would be welcome. If you would like to try something new or would like more information please contact me, Laurie Benn, on 01258 837720 or by email at laurie@benn.me.uk

I look forward to hearing from you.
Laurie Benn

Ask Millie
– your problems
solved



Last month's problem

I have received several letters about the changes to our street lighting. Here is an alternative view.

Dear Millie

I am really upset with the letter in last month's Reporter about the cutting down

of street lighting. We moved here seven years ago and found the real drawback was the sparse lighting. Already the lights have been changed to this low lighting nonsense at goodness knows what cost, surely they're not really turning them off now!

Millie says – I have investigated rumours about our lighting being turned off. Dorset County Council say that SSE Contracting, their street lighting partner, has begun introducing the changes which involve adding new sensors to the lamps. The county council is introducing part lighting in residential areas across Dorset, trials in Dorchester having proved positive. This is part of its plans to save £57 million by 2014. Town and parish councils have been asked for their views on which streets should remain lit all night when the changes come into place. So Milborne St. Andrew could be dark between midnight and 5.00am sometime during the next two years.

Dear Millie

My husband plans to retire in two years. I retired four years ago and found plenty to do as I have several hobbies and enjoy village life, but my husband has no interests apart from his job and I really don't want him under my feet all the time. Any suggestions?

Millie says – You don't seem to understand what a huge difference his retirement will make to your life as well as his. Can't you start new interests that include him? You don't mention your husband's job – can he use any of those skills in his retirement, or train for a new career? Marriage is a partnership, talk to him, encourage new avenues, plan holidays – enjoy this new phase of your lives. Read your own letter again as this selfish attitude will just make your life miserable.

Dear Millie

My neighbours are impossible, they don't seem to talk to each other, they just shout. Doors are banged, music is too loud, their dog seems untrained and barks at nothing. What can I do? You may say “Talk to them”, but I'm frightened.

Millie says – Well readers – any suggestions? Send your comments and problems to msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk or give them to a member of the Reporter team, see page two.

**Have you something
to share?**

Send your stories and pictures to reporter@milbornestandrew.org.uk or give them to a member of the team (see page two).

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Sweet Deceit – Part Four

By Janice Parsons

Against all my better judgement I found myself following Beth's car again. She drove the back way through Stickland and Milton Abbas, back to Barnes Croft. At last in the relative security of my office Beth passed me a pair of forensic gloves. She pulled a pair on her own hands and nodded to me to do the same. What is in this woman's mind, why am I following her instructions, I thought. She then drew the package out, but unlike the old street dealers Beth didn't have it in a Tesco carrier bag. Oh no, it was a Gucci bag for her. As she passed it across the table I felt the weight of the package. I was right, about a kilo.

"Coke?" I enquired.

"You know what it is MacDonald. Don't play games."

Beth's quick return to "Street London Derry" took me by surprise. This block was worth a fortune, £30,000 if it was decent stuff. Four times that once it was cut with all the other chemical rubbish the dealers add these days.

"I want this to be found in Guildford's possession. He is at his house in Winchester. Chilbolton Avenue. He'll be there for two weeks at least. Your old mates need to know about it and find it there."

"I've been out of the job two years Beth, and I never worked Winchester." I protested.

"Yes you did John. When you were Flying Squad you made some good solid mates over there in Hampshire. Helped them out didn't you? Call in the favour, this is worth more money than you'll ever be able to earn snooping on cheating husbands, and what will you do now. Guildford won't let you earn your living anywhere now."

As I drove to Winchester the next day I was still bemused by how much Beth knew about me. How did she do that? Then I settled in my mind that for this sort of money who cares?

I had put the call in to Barny, his real name was Dave Barnfather, but if someone called him Dave I doubt that he would answer to it. He had moved from CID to Major Crime at Portsmouth, so he was a busy man. But all he had to do was to pass my info to the drug squad and it was sorted.

"Look Barny, I need this to happen for my source (Police speak for informant), but it didn't come from me."

He didn't even think about it. "John, I owe you big time, just give me the nod when it's there and it will happen. Old Bill Harrison on drug squad will be over the moon if he can catch Guildford with dirty hands. He has been trying to close him down for years. Everyone's a winner."

Of course I hadn't told Barny that I was putting the gear there. He was as straight as a die and wouldn't have anything to do with that. I felt bad about lying to him, but needs must.

I parked up out of the way in Sarum Road by the private

hospital, and then walked into Chilbolton Avenue past Guildford's place. It was gated and alarmed. I felt pleased that I had kept myself reasonably in shape as I would have to scale that wall at the side. I would need to use the skills I had learnt when dealing with professional burglars.

I found myself a spot in a garden opposite and watched the house. After what seemed hours finally Guildford appeared. There he is I thought. Pure arrogance. I had almost recognised him from his voice on the phone that day. He got into the driver's seat of the Lexus. Beth must be right, no Giles on the scene to do his dirty work.

I watched him drive away down the hill and out of view. I pressed the buzzer on the gate under the "South Fork" sign. Tacky, I thought. Lots of money, but no taste. No answer on the intercom, perfect. I made my way around to that wall at the side. A conveniently placed Elm helped me over the 10 foot wall to the other side. A one hundred yard dash to the summer house, then the tall hedge gave me cover up to the side door. Then crack! I froze. I had stood on a dry old branch. Nothing in the house. No movement. Encouraging, I thought. Guildford must have his Doberman with him. This was too easy.

I pushed the dog flap. More luck, it wasn't locked. I crawled across the stone kitchen floor under the alarm sensor beam and headed upstairs into Guildford's study. Beth obviously knew this house well.

I crawled under the dark oak desk and taped the package underneath. Even more luck, also taped there was Guildford's 9mm Browning pistol, ready for a close and deadly encounter. Bill Harrison's boys would love this, drugs and a weapon beside it would strengthen their case against Guildford. I would never have done anything like this when I was a cop, but somehow this didn't seem wrong.

As I crawled backwards out from under the desk I felt a searing pain in my liver as Guildford's boot struck me. His kick hit perfectly giving that pain which felt like I had swallowed a kettle full of boiling water. I was momentarily paralysed. I was easy fodder for Guildford now as he sat astride me raining blows down into my face as he shouted, "You deceitful cheat!"

My brain started to give up. Guildford was in a fog and I felt my consciousness ebbing away. Then my self preservation mechanism kicked in and with all the strength that I could muster I thrust my hips forward. Guildford was taken by surprised and fell backwards. I pushed back with my elbows and found myself back under the desk looking at the gun. I grabbed it and as I pulled myself out the other side of the desk from Guildford he lunged at me. I pulled the trigger. Bang! Bang! Guildford's bulk was propelled backwards into the corner

Continued on page 26

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A short walk for the Christmas holiday



This obelisk in the centre of Wetherby Castle. It is built mainly of brick with a large copper ball on the top. It was erected in 1761 by the 2nd Edmund Morton-Pleydell (1724-1794)

THIS is a short walk which should be just the job for those people wanting some fresh air over the Christmas Holiday. Leave the Square and walk down the Causeway to the footpath just before Little England Cottage. Turn right and follow the path until you come to the track from the farm. Turn left and then right along the Manor Farm track. The old farm buildings are on your left.

At the end of this path you come to Snag Lane, bear slightly right and cross the stile into a field. Keeping the hedge on your left walk to the end of the field and cross the stile. Cross the next stile to your left and head uphill towards Wetherby Castle. Towards the top the path bears round to the right and continues around the edge of the Iron Age Fort.

The return journey is back the way you came until you get to Snag Lane. Turn left here and follow the track around to the line of beech trees.

Cross the stile and follow the path alongside the river (which has been dry for sometime). Keep the hedge on your right and cross the stile as you approach Manor Farmhouse. Continue along Chapel Street and back to the Square.

This walk could be muddy.

Anne Snape

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Digital Switchover

IN March 2012 the Rowbridge group of analogue TV transmitters that supply Blandford and some of the surrounding villages will shutdown permanently. Dorset Community Action wants to be sure that isolated and vulnerable people, who often rely heavily on their TVs are prepared for the switchover to digital TV. The BBC has a switchover Help Scheme to help vulnerable people who feel unable to do the switch by themselves or even don't understand the need to switch. DCA is currently supporting the BBC with the Switchover Help Scheme by working with communities in the parts of Dorset in the Meridian TV region to help spread the message of the switchover to people likely to need support in making the necessary changes.

The Switchover Help Scheme itself has a team of engineers who do all the technical stuff of the actual switch, installing the set-top box, checking the aerial, showing them how it works etc. However people can help by becoming a Switchover Community Supporter.

As a Switchover Community support worker you would have regular contact with isolated or vulnerable people and pass on information - you would make sure they make a phone call to the free call Switchover Help Scheme - Tel: 0800 4085900, (or help them to make the call). Dorset Community Action can supply a variety of different types of material - leaflets, bookmarks, beer mats, which can be passed on to any isolated or vulnerable person who might need help or may not even know they need to do anything.

Please note that some villages have already switched over so you may not all be affected.

If you need any further information or would like to become a Switchover Community Supporter please contact Rachelle Smith, Community Researcher, Dorset Community Action Tel: 01305 216411, email: rachelle.smith@dorsetcommunityaction.org.uk



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Have you met . . . Tony Lages?

I WAS born in Cardiff in 1948 (the youngest of three children) and lived there for the first 30 years of my life.

My father was a sales director for a dental supplies firm in Cardiff and had the distinction of working for the same company for over 70 years!

Grammar school in Cardiff was followed by university in Manchester where I attained a BSc in Metallurgy.

During my last year in Manchester I married my child bride Jacqui and returned to Cardiff to work at the British Steel Corporation. Within one year my life took a further turn when I was made redundant after the closure of the steel works. Out of the blue came a phone call from the headmaster of a large local comprehensive school and within weeks I became a maths teacher teaching children from 13–18!

Several times I was mistaken for one of the sixth-formers in my first months but 'hung-in' at the school for the next ten years. After completing a BA degree in maths and computing with the Open University, I became a lecturer at the Barry College of Further Education.

Two years later another career change found me under training as an Instructor Officer with the Royal Navy at Dartmouth College. Over the next 17 years we had postings in Plymouth (x2), Portsmouth, Beaconsfield (on exchange with the Army) and two postings abroad with NATO at Naples and the NATO headquarters in Mons, Belgium.

My daughter Jenni was born whilst we were at Plymouth and son Tim whilst we were serving at Beaconsfield. Both children and wife Jacqui have always been my most treasured possessions!

On leaving the Royal Navy as a Lieutenant Commander in 1996, we purchased Gray's Stores and moved in on Friday 13th December. As we were moving in the front door Jane and family were moving out of the back door – absolute chaos! This was move 22 for our family and probably the most traumatic! 15 years later and we are still here!

Most of my spare time has been given over to sport. Having played rugby on the old Cardiff Arms Park in junior school I later made the switch to hockey and never looked back. Representative honours followed for Glamorgan, Lancashire, Royal Navy, Combined Services and most importantly for Wales (both indoor and outdoor) – winning 35 caps. My proudest moments were playing against West Germany, the then current world champions, in my first international (we lost 1–0) and being a member of the only Welsh team ever to win the home internationals triple crown. (Unfortunately I narrowly missed out on selection for the Olympics – that would have been the ultimate honour for me.)

After retirement from hockey I began to get the golf 'bug' but after 14 years this has now been curtailed due to a thumb injury. Bowls, both

indoor and outdoor, has now become my latest passion – I thoroughly enjoy playing for both Dorchester and the Dorset Resort Bowls teams.

Other loves have been choral singing, philately and now model railways – I am actually quite proud of my first effort at a layout! With nearly 200 engines, some in display cabinets and the rest in their boxes, I have amassed quite a collection!

I am also an avid supporter of football with Cardiff City and rugby with the Cardiff Blues and Wales.

I must give a great pat on the back to the current batch of schoolchildren we have. When I first came to Milborne I was quite dismayed at the mindless behaviour and vandalism that occurred all too often. This has now appeared to turn full circle with vast majority of the children we now have being a real credit to their parents. The youngsters are far more polite, far less surly and a real joy to serve!

I suppose my one big beef about living in Milborne St. Andrew is the lack of *low level* street lighting in Milton Road – especially around the village shop. Surely in the 21st century villagers should be able to walk to their local shop in

relative safety and not have to stumble along in the dark?

If I had to invite people to a dinner date I would probably invite Terry Wogan and Jeremy Clarkson as I find their kind of humour really funny. (Normally I hate the 'celebrity' culture but in their case I would make an exception!)

I don't think I have ever regretted owning the village shop at any time during the last 15 years – yes, there has been the odd customer who likes to complain just for the sake of it – but I have been surrounded by a wonderful staff who have always helped me by looking after the everyday running of the store. It might surprise some people to know that we stock between 3,000–4,000 different items in the store throughout the course of a year – many of which we have stocked at your request! Contrary to what some people believe, a village shop *is* there to supply the essentials at realistic prices and this is what I have always tried to provide. Occasionally we do run out of fresh products but this is mainly due to the cutting down of deliveries by suppliers (eg bread is now only delivered four days a week) balanced against the need to keep wastage down. I like to think that customers enjoy the banter and laughter during their visits which in turn helps to ease the pressure of being open 76 hours per week!



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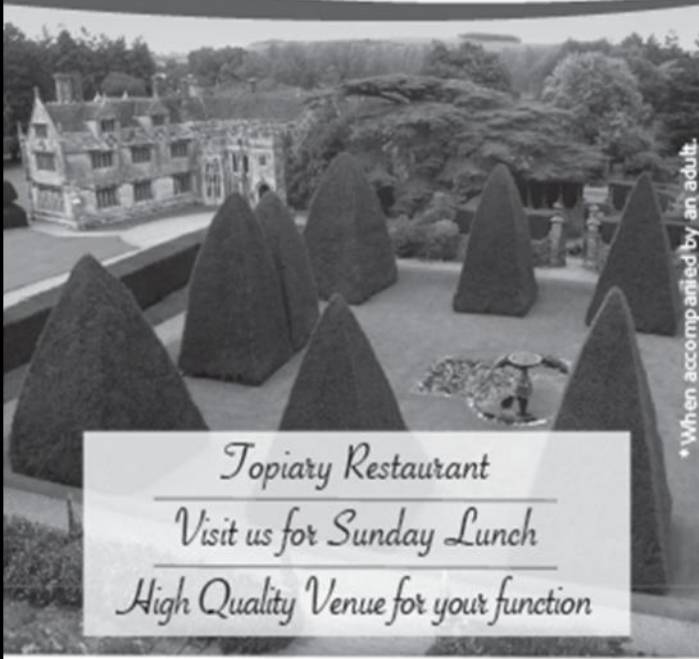
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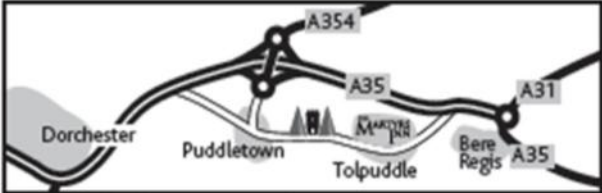
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Under New Management

Continued from page 21

of the room. I hoped I had hit his shoulder or something, but he was coming at me so fast I didn't have time to aim. As I gazed down at his lifeless body I knew that wasn't so. Both bullets straight through the head, blood and brain tissue spread across the wall behind. I couldn't have done that if I was trying to. Panic now.

I was pleased to be in darkness as I drove back down the M3. I still couldn't get to grips with the thought that I had killed him and his body was now in the boot of my car. What now John? Think, think! Give myself up and go for manslaughter? No chance. Bury the body? No good, always too obvious. Over a cliff? Perfect murder, but the fly in that particular ointment would be the bullet holes in his head when he is found. The sea, of course! But where? Not Dorset, too close. Then I remembered from my fishing days that the deepest part of the Solent is off Calshot Spit. Find a row boat, weigh him down with the spare car battery in my boot and anything else I can find to tie to him. Down he goes and down he stays. Bingo!

That was easier than I imagined, and all the more scary for that fact. Not the physical act of dumping a body that had taken all the guile and strength that I had. No, it was the ease with which I had just disposed of a man's body, disposed of the evidence, gone into self preservation mode. This all went against everything I had ever stood for until that point in my life.

I was driving across the New Forest now. I remembered my hip flask in the glove box. Perfect, I thought as I pulled off the road onto a dark track. I stopped the engine and killed the lights. Two large gulps from the flask as I put my head back and closed my eyes. I just wanted this nightmare to end. I felt my body relaxing. I couldn't sleep, get back to Milborne, I thought.

24 November

It was only two days ago in Barnes Croft that Beth had whispered how it would be ok and now I was running for my life. I was running as hard as I could, then I heard the shout, "Armed Police, stand still."

I can't I thought, I'm a 30 year Cop I wouldn't last 5 minutes banged up on the lifers wing. You will just have to shoot.

I managed to find some extra strength to increase my pace when I heard, "Armed Police, stand still or I will shoot."

I knew that was the last warning. Run, run, run, Then I heard it.

Bang. I fell to the ground. I felt my cheek. It was wet. I forced my eyes open and looked up. I saw the unmistakable figure of Beth Gordon looking down at me. Beth! I thought, and she is wearing my shirt, only my shirt.

"You were dreaming honey. A Real bad one. Nightmare I think. Shall I make tea?"

"Thank God, of course. Copa Cabana Beach Hotel, Rio. Beth was as good as her word and she had made everything ok. Better than ok, much better.

The end



Cheselbourne Theatre Club



OUR next visit to The Playhouse Salisbury is to see **Design For Living** by **Noel Coward** on Monday 6th February 2012. Please phone Stephen or John to find out if any tickets are still available.

The plays for the rest of the season will be announced early in the new year, so expect a news letter with dates, etc next month.





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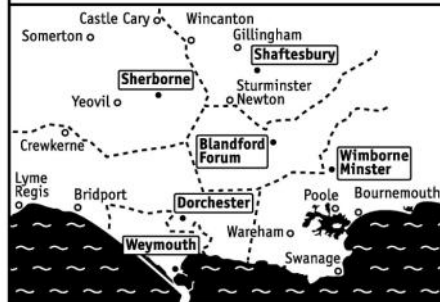


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Round Robin Fatigue



PLOP! Through the letterbox and onto the mat arrives some Christmas mail. Inside one of the festive cards is a double-sided A4 sheet, displaying, with the wonders of modern word-processing, an annual missive from friends not seen since last year's round robin had embellished Royal Mail's coffers. Adorned with colour photos of their gorgeous smiling children, Tangerine, Tarragon and Adonis, it tells of their wonderful year on their small-holding, how intelligent said children (and hens) are, and how life in general is *just bliss*.

Is it just me, or do others find such

correspondence nauseating? What better time of year to catch up with friends, yes, but not with self-aggrandising trumpet blowing that isn't even personalised to the recipient. And it's just not very British.

So, as an antidote to the festive round robins that some still feel a desire to send, here is an alternative . . .

2011, as all new year's do, started full of hope. By February, our car had been written off by a texting moron and I've been left with whiplash that the chiropractor cheerfully informs me "will probably never get better". At least somebody now has a guaranteed income. Never mind, the car was insured fully comprehensively, 'no-claims protected' to the teeth, so can't lose there . . .? "Your premium will go up next year, Mr Humbug" Why? "Because you're statistically more likely to have another accident". Oh well, onwards and upwards.

The dog died in April. Yes, he'd been ill for a long while and had cost a fortune at the vet's (obviously he was insured, but what with their excesses, increased premiums, special foods and all . . . oh, don't get me started on insurance companies again), but it was still a great loss. We miss his constant grumbings, bad smell and idiosyncratic and unsavoury habits (I'll go no further in case delicate children are listening). Still, we have the other dogs – and the kids too.

We had a wonderful summer holiday – no, not Antigua or even the Algarve, but closer to home. They've been calling them 'staycations', and they're a new thing, you know. Seems we've been utterly modern for a long time then. We had great weather – between the downpours, that is. Lovely time on the beach, digging and building sandcastles. It was touch-and-go whether it'd be the rising tide or the torrential rain that would demolish the castle first though. It was probably a mistake to stay at what they now call 'Primrose Hill-on-Sea', as a meal out for the family H set us back a small fortune, which almost needed a secured loan for. And what with credit being crunched yet again, we'd have been lucky to fill the smallest stomach.

We got home to a letter from my work. Yes, I'm still at the same place, the same as last year, the year before and the one before that. On opening the envelope, it told me that the pension scheme is all but bust, so the monthly payments are going up by a percentage difference that would make a teacher or nurse self-combust. And they want me to work longer hours and I'm getting a pay cut for the new year. My Christmas bonus? Probably to still have a job.

I've been plagued by ill-health this year. Again. The doctors are stumped (or so they say; another case of income protection I wonder) and have had me popping more drugs than a lab rat. Perhaps I am a lab rat. Anyway, despite this smorgasbord of substances, I've been able to devote more time to daytime television and less time to work. I've now a good working knowledge of auction prices circa March 2010, and dysfunctional families.

I'm sorry I haven't been able to include any family photos of our exciting year in this letter – the camera's been on the blink since our summer holiday, probably rain damage. In any case, our computer and printer are quite aged now, so to expect them to multi-task with text, pictures and colours is a stretch.

Oh, almost forgot. The wonderful, beautiful, clever Mrs H gave birth to our second mini Humbug, Mintoe, earlier this year. Which makes up for all that other stuff by, oh, about a thousand per cent.

Wishing you a Happy Christmas and an optimistic New Year!

The Humbugs

Welcome to . . .

Kay and Tony Woodley who moved into Brooklands in October. Kay works part time at the Joseph Weld Hospice and Tony is the manager of an electrical wholesale firm. They have a caravan, enjoy walking and dining out.

The Reporter would like to welcome newcomers to our village so if you know of any please let one of the team (see page two) know or e-mail msareporter@yahoo.co.uk.



Benefits Advice Surgeries at Weymouth Community Safety Centre (Fire Station)

. . . an initiative by Dorset Welfare Benefits Partnership

Age UK Dorchester and Dorset County Council's Welfare Benefits Team are working together to provide benefits advice and help to older people in West Dorset.

Surgeries will operate on the second Tuesday in each month, between 9.30am and 11.30am at Weymouth Community Fire Station, Weymouth Community Fire Station, Radipole Lane, Weymouth DT4 0QF, and will be strictly by appointment .

To make an appointment, please contact Age UK Dorchester on 01305 269444.

www.acdorchester.org

Next surgery: 10th January

Future surgeries: 14th February.

The Thunder Storm

By Alice Leech

The grumble of the distant thunder,
The splatter on the window pane,
The whining wind growing in stature
The flash of lighting, startling crash.

The sky grows darker, overcast;
The howling wind, the frantic tree.
The rain beats down, drenching,
trenching,
Widening gullies, carving stone.

A landscape bleak and full of terror;
A lonely traveller far from home,
Desolate alone he wanders,
Left drenched and sodden in the calm.



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Can you identify where this is in Milborne?

Be the first to send your answer to msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk or give to any member of the Reporter team

(Reporter team members can be found on page two).

No prize, just a bit of fun.
Answer in the
February Reporter.

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Abbey Swimming Club

Based at Milton Abbey School in Milton Abbas we use a 25 meter indoor pool for 4 sessions each week. All sessions are covered by a Lifeguard.

Membership is open to all. Members range from those less than a year old to over 80. We are a social and friendly club. So join us for community spirit, fitness and health.

Great value annual membership means you can swim for little over £1.50 per week.

Adults: £80 Seniors: £60

Juniors (under 18) £45 or £28 as part of a family

Children (under 3 as part of family) FREE

We also offer swimming lessons for juniors and adults in groups or one to one, RLSS National Lifeguard and Bronze Medallion courses and Swimfit lane swimming classes.

Club session times:

Tuesday 6.30pm – 8.30pm

Friday 7.30pm – 8.30pm

Saturday 10.00am – 12 noon

Sunday 8.00am – 9.00am

Interested? Come along to the pool during any session time to pick up an application form or to take your **FREE INTRODUCTORY SWIM** or contact Lynn 880039, Pat 880601 or Robert 880192



Dorset League Two

11th Signal Regiment 2 Milborne Sports 3

FACING an important month, Milborne started with a daunting visit to the confines of Blandford Camp.

Knowing that they needed to get something from the game, the visitors started with intent and with four minutes on the clock Matty Williams was unlucky with a strong drive from twenty-five yards that just cleared the crossbar. Simon Kibler's guile, Paul Aston's aerial strength and Phil Lee's touch were a strong feature of the opening twenty minutes and with a quarter of the game passed Milborne made the breakthrough when Ross Heaton's superb curling cross from the right flank led to Williams' powerful header being saved at point blank range only for Carl Clements to gobble up the rebound from close range. The Laneenders rearranged back four of Heaton, Carl Tewkesbury, Jammer Aldom and Karl Dean were providing an impenetrable barrier for the artillery of the Regiment's attack with Dean again having a very sound performance. With thirty-five minutes gone, Milborne went further ahead after Aldom made a winning challenge before sending Williams on a surging run on the left flank. His subsequent cross was then expertly put away by Cris Pavey with an expertly controlled volley from ten yards. Pavey's subtle through pass then found McClements for a shot that was narrowly wide. However, from the resultant corner, Kibler drove a corner in to the near post which found it's way over the line to put Milborne in to what appeared an unassailable lead. The army team were in no mood to surrender and were unlucky not to pull a goal back with a shot that thundered against the crossbar before being cleared to safety.

Milborne came out for the second half knowing they were in for a battle and so it proved to be with the home team looking to lay siege to the visitor's goal. A goal was on the cards and so it came with just eleven minutes of the second half having passed. A corner was driven in to find an Army attacker unmarked to score with a firm header from close range. Sports were now on the back foot and with about twenty-two minutes remaining, another goal was pulled back when a drive from twenty-five yards out flashed in to the far top corner of the net. For a time it looked as though the home side might get an equaliser with Milborne entrenched in their own half for some periods. However, they kept competing with a forceful Army outfit and then looked likely to grab a fourth on the break when McClements cleverly beat his marker to bear down on goal. However, unfortunately, with Pavey also well positioned, the keeper made a good blocking save to leave Milborne holding on to gain all three points from what was an enthralling battle.

Intermediate Cup Quarter Final

Milborne Sports 4 Weymouth Spartans 3

THIS was an intriguing cup tie played out between two teams with differing styles of play. Both teams were missing squad players in a game that for the winners would mean a semi-final date. The Laneenders started well and were unlucky not to take a lead with a fine save from the visiting custodian after fifteen minutes whilst Spartans almost broke through soon afterwards following a defensive slip by Milborne. It did look like there would be no breakthrough before the interval although Carl McClements produced a moment of great skill after forty three minutes beating three defenders before finishing with consummate ease with a drive in to the far corner. Manager Hammond made a second half switch

pulling the impressive Karl Dean back to full back and Milborne looked confident in adding to the score. However inside three minutes of the restart the Spartans were back on level terms when a speculative shot from twenty yards found the top corner. The central back pairing of the competitive Carl Tewkesbury and the assured Dan Weatherby, as well as the reliable Paul Aston in the centre of the park, stayed firm as the visitors pushed forward although McClements then put Milborne in front again when he outpaced his marker on the left flank before cutting in and comprehensively beating the keeper to again find the corner of the net. However, Spartans brought on their talisman, the experienced, Keiron Howes who controlled the ball well before hitting a scorcher from twenty yards out. The game was now turning in to an exciting cup tie and Milborne edged ahead again when Simon Kibler's fine ball to Matt Williams led to him driving at the defence before delivering an excellent curling cross that Cris Pavey met with a sumptuous controlled volley. Spartans continued to battle like Trojans and were again rewarded when Howes scored his second to make it three all. Nick Gregg then had to be very alert to make a fine save from a shot that was heading for the corner as the game headed for extra time. However, with two minutes remaining, a lunge from a visiting defender gave Carl McClements the chance for his hat trick from the penalty spot. Despite some shenanigans from the keeper he remained cool to send the keeper the wrong way and assure Sports of a semi-final place.

Coaches needed for the Milborne Mini's – your local club needs you!

SADLY Bob Mowlem and Dave Drew have announced plans to leave the Milborne Minis at the end of this season. Bob and Dave have both done an absolutely fantastic job of building up the club from grass roots and we cannot thank them enough for all of their hard work and commitment, we hope very much to be able to welcome them back to future fundraisers and wish them every success in their future endeavours, they will be very much missed.

The future of Milborne St. Andrew FC Youth is now totally in the hands of the local community, and although a small committee has now been established to keep things ticking over, we really do need as much support as possible and as such we are appealing to the local community for your help and support.

The Milborne Minis now has a strong under 7's and under 8's section both of whom will be in the league after Christmas. Stuart Joyce and Andy Brown have done a fantastic job with their teams and with Lucy Painter happy to take on the ever growing number of under 6's we are hopeful to encourage more children in the other age groups and hopefully other coach/managers too.

With Bob and Dave leaving, we really do need people prepared to step forward and take on the coach/manager positions as soon as possible. If you are unable to commit to this every week and if we can find people willing to share that can also be considered. The bottom line really is that if we do not find willing volunteers that the club will not be able to offer coaching for all our children, and that really would be a terrible shame. So please put yourself forward! You don't have to be a parent, these positions can be filled by anybody that feels they would like to have a go at teaching kids football. The Dorset FA offer some fantastic on-going training courses, all of which will be paid for by the club, so don't hesitate, let us know and get started straight away!

To express an interest please contact Marie Hayter at milbornestandrewfcyouth@gmail.com or call 01258 837241.

Milborne 100 Club

1st PRIZE £100: 2nd PRIZE £50: 3rd PRIZE depends on number of members paid

For information contact: John Sanderson Football Club 837049

June Maitland Church 837235: Pat Tribe Church 837684

Denise Sanderson Collector 837049

BE IN IT TO WIN IT!



The Hambro Arms

Milton Abbas, Dorset

Major Refurbishment at The Hambro

In January, we are embarking upon a major refurbishment of The Hambro. All of the downstairs will be refurbished, including both of our bars and restaurant.

As a result, the Pub will have to close from after lunch service on Sunday 22nd January, (hopefully!!) re-opening on Friday 27th in evening.

We wish to thank in advance Simon and Jason who have generously given their time to come up with the new design and project manage it for us. We are all very excited by their plans and hope all of our customers will enjoy the new environment.

*** Patients Participation Group (PPG) ***

Sunday 15th January at 7.45pm

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

*** Two for One Offer ***

From 2nd January until we close for refurbishment for a week on 22nd January, we are offering our customers a chance to come and dine on a two for one basis. From Sunday evening to Friday lunch we will offer two main courses for the price of one. All we ask is that you telephone in advance to make the reservation, quoting the offer.

Valentines Meal

Valentines is on a Tuesday this year but we will be offering our special meal on the Tuesday and the Saturday before.

Come and join us in our newly refurbished restaurant on either night.

Look out for the menu early in 2012.

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