

75P WHERE SOLD

Reporter

News and Views from around the area

Volume 5 Issue 2

February 2013

www.milbornestandrew.org.uk/reporter



Milborne St. Andrew



**Nuts for the
Woodpecker . . .**

**Pheasant for
the pot . . .**

see page 5

And the bandmaster played on . . . at the WI

OUR Christmas meeting was enlivened by the welcome return of Lt-Col. Torrent, who, having been an Army bandsman for 40 years, made the ideal companion at a festive party. Initiating his Christmas quiz with three notes on his trumpet was enough to elicit a quick response from some as to the tune, before he embarked on a fascinating gallop through his involvement as Bandmaster at many royal occasions, including the Trooping of the Colour and the Investiture of the Prince of Wales. The interest in his series of informative slides was further enhanced by the appearance of mysterious disappearing lines which, he explained, resulted from the intrusion of an unwelcome grid that defeated his technical prowess. But, in keeping with the festive occasion, it allowed the audience to ad-lib in true pantomime fashion with calls of "It's behind you!" and similar. Lt-Col. Torrent had a long and meritorious career, and clearly had enjoyed every minute of it. His talk was followed by mulled wine, delicious food as always, the exchange of presents and cards, and, most importantly, the chance to relax and have a good chat with so many friends.

New Year – New Forest

We welcomed Brian Pettit with his 'Wildlife' Slideshow to our January meeting. He concentrated on the New Forest environ, an area of local interest, illustrating his talk with wonderful slides and holding members spellbound throughout. During the meeting Pat Shipton was taken ill and subsequently taken to hospital by ambulance. Enormous thanks to everyone present, but in particular Josie, Nelda and June, who responded quickly to the emergency. Our speaker remained totally unfazed throughout and the St. John Ambulance representative who was due to give a brief talk and demonstration on casualty simulation will come on another occasion – if only he had arrived a few minutes earlier! A welcome 'round robin' (or e-mail as they are now known) from Jenny the following day, assured us that Pat was now safely home. We all hope she will continue to keep well and look forward to seeing and keeping in touch with her.

Still to come is the Annual Dinner which Nelda has arranged at The Royal Oak on 15th March. Menus are available, choices and payment due at the next meeting on Thursday 14th February. Also there on that evening will be Ann Hinchliffe, who will take us through 'Dance through the ages' – please do join us.

Pat Bull and June Maitland

The views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the **Reporter** team.
Deadline for the March issue is the 14th February.

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Milborne St. Andrew Gardening Club



THE Gardening Club members are looking forward to the Annual Dinner at The Royal Oak on Saturday 9th February. It is always a good time for a get together and to enjoy food and chatting about all things bright and beautiful in the garden!

Our February meeting on Thursday the 28th will include a talk by Derek Luther on pests and diseases, which will be most useful, especially if he can help us with the never ending slug problem!

We welcome, as always new members or guests to our meetings – we are a friendly bunch of locals and we would love to see some new faces in the club. There is an interesting and varied programme planned for this year, including talks on herbs, hostas and house plants and various outings to exciting venues. Do come along and visit us, the meetings start at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

Angie Nowell

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Your **Reporter** Team

Janet Allen, Susan Cawley, Carole Fornachon,
Sue Gould, Heather V. Hogg,
David Payne, Ed Richards
and Josie Wright

Advertising and General Enquiries: 01258 837700

News and Features: Sue Gould 01258 837575

Treasurer and Photography: Heather V. Hogg 01258 837392

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

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

VILLAGE LUNCH

To be held at the Village Hall on
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Crime Prevention

VEHICLE crime has risen across Dorset. Vehicles continue to be left insecure and valuables stolen from inside. Please remember to remove items of value and do not be tempted to leave them in the boot. Laptops, handbags, C.Ds, wallets and tools should all be removed, together with Satellite and GPS equipment as well as the cradle used to hold the device to the screen. Driving documents and personal correspondence should not be left inside the vehicle, even if for only a short time. To prevent your number plates being stolen, you may wish to consider replacing the screws with clutch head ones which can not be unscrewed. Please remain vigilant and report any suspicious persons or activity as soon as possible. Thank you.

Please call either Dorset Police on 101, Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111, or you may prefer to contact your local SNT 01202 223003.



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January Parish Council Highlights

ON a cold frosty night a group of people gathered to talk about the village and make decisions. It is called a Parish Council Meeting. This month's meeting was on Wednesday 15th January. You may be interested in some of the topics:

Bus Passes – North Dorset District Council are close to taking the decision to stop the use of bus passes before 9.30am (as long as there is another bus before 10.25am). Thus for those villages that only have one bus in the morning and one in the evening, the bus pass would still be able to be used whatever the time of service. In this village our bus is around 10.00am each way, so we can no longer travel on the 8.00am service, saving nearly £20,000.

Chapel Street/A354 junction improvement – the results of a questionnaire to Chapel Street, Orchard Rise and St. Andrew's View have been received, 33% were against a one way system, many felt the mirror was a good idea, or double yellow lines in Chapel Street. Unfortunately the mirror idea has been thrown out by Dorset County Council, so the decision is to request the yellow lines each side of Chapel Street entrance for five metres to improve exit and entrance.

Flooding and drains – Cllr Jenny Balcon and North Dorset's Barry Holliwel spent some time sweeping away obstacles from the top of drains, and checking for visible obstructions in the drain, Jenny said that it is obvious that they were in a terrible state. A Foul Water Bowser (tanker) has been sucking out obvious problem areas and depositing it elsewhere, this tanker will be repeating the action regularly while the problem lasts. All the parish council members and many of the public repeated the worries over the stream, sewers and springs. Cllr Hopper feels an engineering strategy with all contributing elements should be put together by the village. The Parish Council have also agreed to invite Wessex Water and the Council here, to give the village chance to voice their concerns.

Sue Gould

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Valentine menus can be a bit predictable, usually something pink and heart shaped or with supposedly aphrodisiac qualities. This recipe will please most men (less than 3 per cent of men are vegetarian); it combines pheasant with beer which is unusual, but beef cooked in beer works well and so does this. Try it – we all know there is more than one route to a man's heart. You won't need pudding.

Pheasant in Fursty Ferret

(Peasant's Pheasant!) – Serves 4

Badger Ales Fursty Ferret, according to the label, is a tawny amber ale with a sweet nutty palate and a hoppy aroma with hints of Seville oranges.

This works just as well with local free range chicken portions or thighs, remove the skin first.

Ingredients

- 4 pheasant breasts
- 1 x 500ml bottle of Fursty Ferret Ale
- 1 onion
- 2 cloves of garlic
- 2 carrots
- 2 sticks of celery
- 1 bouquet garni or a few sprigs of fresh herbs
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- Approx. 100ml of single cream

For croutons

- 2 doorsteps of white bread
- Goose or chicken fat or olive oil to fry

Method

1. Finely chop the onion and gently fry in the olive oil in a flame proof casserole dish for about 5 minutes.
2. Add crushed garlic and fry very gently for 2 minutes, being careful not to let it burn.
3. Add finely chopped carrot and celery and fry for another 2 minutes.
4. Add pheasant breasts and turn them in the mixture for another couple of minutes, they don't need to brown.
5. Add Fursty Ferret and the bouquet garni or fresh herbs, bring to the boil.
6. Put a lid on the casserole and either simmer on the hob on a very low heat or put in the oven Gas mark 4 (electric 180°C, fan 160°C) for about 45 minutes.
7. When almost ready to serve, remove the pheasant breasts and keep warm on a serving platter.
8. Remove the bouquet garni or herbs and blitz the vegetable/beer mixture with a kitchen wand, or pour into a liquidiser or food processor and process until smooth. If the sauce is a bit thin then return to the casserole and boil rapidly until reduced and thickened. Season the sauce well with salt and pepper to taste. Just before serving, add the cream to the sauce and pour over pheasant breasts. Top with croutons.

To make croutons

Cube the bread and fry in goose or chicken fat or olive oil until golden and crunchy. Drain on kitchen paper. Season the croutons well with salt and pepper then sprinkle on top of the finished dish immediately before serving.

Serve with roast potatoes and some fresh vegetables. *Rose Frost*



The Local Government Boundary Commission

The Local Government Boundary Commission for England is seeking views on the number of councillors representing them in North Dorset District Council. Below is the link to the site. LGBCE are seeking as many views as possible, so please forward the link to as many relevant people as possible. I'm happy to discuss the review should anyone want more information, although there is plenty available on the website. <https://consultation.lgbce.org.uk/node/787>.

Jane Somper

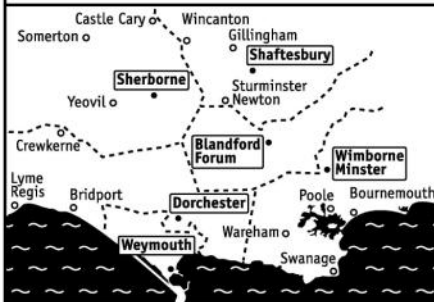
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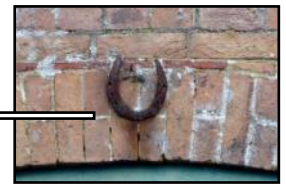
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Did you identify this?

Last month's photograph was taken opposite the Londis shop. Carole Fornachon recognised it and has set this month's photograph for you to identify.

Try your luck this month on page 15.

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Thursday 14th & Friday 15th February 2013

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Main Courses

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Rump of lamb served with roasted vegetables, mashed potatoes and a bone-marrow jus

Tian of squash, smoked cheese, spiced tomato ragout and aubergine crisps

Or to share:

Chateaubriand served with a béarnaise sauce, hand-cut chips and a rocket salad

(Supplement of £12 per person and by pre-order only)

Desserts

Tarte au Citron served with clotted cream

Raspberry fool

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Saturday 16th March at 7:30pm

To Begin

A glass of Prosecco Corte Alta, Italy

Appetiser

Garlic croute with smoked mackerel paste and pickled cucumber

Starter

Pan-seared scallops with cauliflower, pea and black pudding puree's and coriander crisps

Razor sharp lemon sorbet

Meat Course

Chump of spring lamb with purple sprouting broccoli, Jerusalem artichoke puree and port jus

Fish Course

Confit salmon with pickled ginger celeriac and haricot beans

Dessert

Lemon posset with candied orange

Coffee or a selection of teas and mints

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Wheelie New Service

THE wheelie bins are coming. From June, Milborne's refuse and recycling collections are changing to a fortnightly service, with every North Dorset property assigned two wheelie bins, one box for glass and two containers for kitchen waste.

Landfill waste will be collected every other week, with the recyclable materials being collected in the alternate weeks. Food waste is to be collected every week. All four Dorset councils are working as the Dorset Waste Partnership (DWP) with the target being to reduce costs and landfill, and increase the county's recycling by 30%.



If you don't think you'll have space for the new bins or if access is an issue, householders can 'request an exception' from the council. But you need to be quick as these requests must be received by 28th February. The recycling bin has a capacity of 240 litres (58cm by 74cm, being 107cm tall) and the household waste bin is 140 litres (48cm by 56cm and 107cm tall). A smaller recycling bin can be requested for one or two-person households and a larger rubbish bin may be available for 5+ person households or those with a specific need. An assisted collection can also be requested.

The box for glass bottles and jars will be your current recycling box (upcycling?!). The food waste bin has a 23 litres capacity (40cm by 32cm by 40cm). The fifth bin is a 7 litre caddy to keep in the kitchen to collect food waste to go in the larger bin, which will be collected weekly. A display of all the bins can be found at NDDC offices in Blandford, as well as at the Corn Exchange on 9th February, when the 'Recycle for Dorset roadshow' hits the town.

An optional garden waste bin – either 240 litre wheelie bin or 120 litre woven plastic bag – is available at a cost of £35 and £25 per year respectively. These will be collected fortnightly. Again, a request – and payment – for this service needs to be made before 28th February for your garden waste to disappear at the start of the service in June.



For more information, or to request an exception, see www.dorsetforyou/recyclefordorset or call 01305 221040.

Ed Richards

Wednesday Club New Year Fun



WE celebrated the New Year at The Royal Oak on Wednesday 9th January. Sarah, Andy, Shem and Matt provided us with a delicious two course lunch followed by coffee or tea.

A touch of class was added by our Village Cryer, Richard Pointer, who acted as Master of Ceremonies for the lunch and afternoon.

Following our meal we were entertained and had to stretch our brains attempting two quizzes, which were great fun.

The afternoon ended with a Lucky Dip and those of us who took part received some lovely gifts.

It was an excellent start to the New Year and we are looking forward to another year of interesting and enjoyable meetings.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 6th February at 2.00pm, when Marian Love, Trevor's sister, is going to give a talk entitled "Summer on the Barge" about her holiday in 2012 on her narrow boat.

We look forward to seeing you all there.

Lis watts



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Chris Buckingham
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Are Poo sticks the answer?

By Steve Lord, Orchard Lodge

TO state the obvious – we started the year with drought and ended with the most annual rainfall in a century. Since November 2012 we have been under a Surface Water Flood Alert (Environment Agency). For many, this has resulted in a soul destroying depressing problem of surface water in gardens and roads (and I believe some houses), toilets and sinks that cannot be emptied and, as Richard Lock highlighted, last month the perennial problem of speeding motorists, some of whom take great delight in driving without due care and attention by spraying pedestrians and property alike*. Mercifully we have not suffered the Armageddon deluge that many other communities have suffered but am I alone in saying enough is enough?

Since writing in September 2012, Jenny Balcon (Chair Parish Council) and I have been closely liaising with each other over the issue of surface water and drainage. Contact has been made with the Highways Department, the Environment Agency, Wessex Water, County Council and the Parish Council. Solutions are hampered by the lack of funding, riparian responsibilities and, most frustrating of all, too many agencies each with their own internal departments representing their own separate and focused roles that do not place the village's problem **first**. I am assured that the County Council and Environment Agency have been considering our difficulties persistently but are not in a position to take civil engineering action at present. I am also assured by the Environment Agency that Milborne St. Andrew is very high on the list of communities within the whole Wessex area that need help.

Matters have not been helped historically by new developments in the village. Built predominantly on hills, any surface water from these buildings combine with springs which flow immediately to a drainage system that was not meant for that volume and pressure. Add the rising aquifers, the infamous blocked drains and the lack of outfall, surface water has nowhere to go but over and down the road to what appears to be one of only two functional outfall drains some 600 metres away. This further makes the dreadful situation for many lower down the road even more hazardous. To provide effective and safe drainage these drains must now be modernised and upgraded or, better still, replaced!! There have been schemes proposed including a plan to upgrade the drains (£100K), improving the culvert and £2M bypass culvert. All have been shelved on cost/benefit criteria. As an aside, it should be noted by North Dorset DC ie Planning and Building Control, that this impasse alone should immediately halt any new developments that rely purely on our overstretched systems. Planning authorities please take note!!

We cannot take any unilateral action ourselves as *any* widening; deepening, straightening or *any* work (including bridges or retaining walls) made within eight metres of the stream first requires the Environment Agency's written permission. Limited only to removing obstacles and weeds, I believe, attention to keep the stream clear, should be our shared responsibilities and as neighbours, mutual self-help may help the whole village-wide problem, albeit in a very small way. The implication of my investigations is that simply, we **all** contribute to the problem and that therefore we must not accept the stock replies: ie 'the riparian landowners' problem' or 'there is nothing to be done' or 'it's been like it forever' or worse still 'it's not my problem' etc!! Frankly, we are impotent as a community to make any major difference to our surface water problem alone. Initial representations have been made to our County Councillor with a view to galvanising the authorities to collectively begin remedial work to improve our surface water problem but until the water table subsides doing any work is impossible.

So where do Poo sticks come in I hear you cry? For those of you who know me, you will have seen me pacing the road, peering down drains, over fences and throwing Poo sticks in the stream! My garden is bordered by 100 metres of the stream and it occurred to me that the water flow in my garden at the top of Milton Road seemed less than that at the Village Hall. By measuring water velocity and volume at about 75% capacity my naive and most unscientific Poo experiment has shown that 5.5 million gallons flow by my home daily. At the Village Hall, water flow has increased to 25 million gallons a day. In other words between the top of Milton Road to *below the culvert* at the Village Hall, the stream picks up four times more volume of water. **Any** increase in the flow and dispersal of this water below the village must make a noticeable difference to those on Milton Road whose gardens and houses flood. Replacing outdated and broken drains must now be a priority. The siting of gullies, the narrow gauge of pipes, lack of effective outfalls combined with successive modern developments built without proper drainage consideration have now rendered the drainage system on Milton Road ineffectual and defunct. Now is never a good time to spend money you don't have (as anyone with a car knows full well!) and given the national picture of flood alleviation concerns, this may well become a Government issue. I may be naive and deluded but I am convinced there is a cost effective solution and way forward and I invite every one in the village to call upon the various agencies to get together and come up with an improvement to our problem.

Doing nothing changes nothing and as a community we deserve to have drains that work and safe roads and paths that aren't under water.

*Please note this is a motoring offence punishable with fines or custodial sentence if deliberate.

The Autograph Book

An occasional glimpse into the thoughts of those, in 1908 and onwards, who took the time to add little rhymes to an autograph book, found in my mother-in-laws' drawer after her death. It belonged to her mother, Georgina Goodland, who, in 1908, was given this book on her 21st birthday.

It reflects the views and expectations of those living at that time. Being that it is nearly Valentine's Day, this time I include some "romantic" verses.

*Something rather naughty
Something rather nice
Something rather silly
Though it cant be called a vice
Some folks think it nonsense
Others think it fun
We all agree its jolly
Though it doesn't last long
A Kiss
Wm B - August 1909*

*Not enough for one
Just enough for two
Too much for three
A kiss*

*Some to you have written,
Some to you may write,
But none of them can love you more,
Than the one that writes tonight
Florence Baker - Sep 14 1910
No. 2 Church Street,
Ware Herts*

*To meet, to know, to Love
And then to part,
Is the sad fate
Of many a human heart
E M Goodland 1908*

Sue Gould

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Kitchen Facelift

Have you met . . . Rose Frost

ROSE has lived in Milborne St. Andrew since 2001 and over the years has been involved with St. Andrew's PCC, the village hall committee, the village lunch, and the Friday morning coffee, cake and computers. She and Ed often help run the bar at events at the village hall and they have been known to prepare the odd cream tea or two.

Rose was born in 1950 in Huddersfield, her parents both worked in her grandfather's wholesale drapery business and she has one older brother. She continues her story –

My earliest memory is of my brother coming home from hospital after surviving polio, amazingly he was unscathed, but six other members of his class at school were not so lucky. He arrived home in a shooting brake and I remember finding it strange that a car should be made of wood.

I took over my brother's paper round when I was 11 years old and had to get up at 5.30am in order to be home in time for breakfast at 7.30am. I can easily recall the dead weight of the sack at the beginning of the round, and how I dreaded magazine days. However, the handsome pay of 12/6d per week felt like real riches.

In 1960 I went to the same grammar school as my mother did in 1921, and wore exactly the same style of uniform as she did, a velvet topped pinafore dress with shirt and tie. I hated it and hated school so it is not surprising that one of my school reports said "Rosemary is one of the naughtiest girls in the school". I tried to explain to my mum that I was only one of the naughtiest, not the very naughtiest but she was not impressed with that.

After GCEs and A-levels I went to Doncaster College of Education to start my teacher training course. My main subject was Drama and we travelled by coach to different theatres, often in London, on Saturdays. We saw a matinee, then a different evening performance, usually up in the Gods. This was the start of my lifelong love of theatre.

Because my father was an invalid, I had a full grant and now realise how very lucky I was to have my tuition and board paid for. No student loans or overdrafts in those days so I did a football pools round every Friday night, cleaned in a local hairdressing salon on Sundays and tried a succession of jobs every holiday. Working in a wine bottling factory, Butlin's, Tesco, Marks and Spencer, selling ice cream in Huddersfield market. My favourite job was working as a kitchen assistant; however, when I was put in charge of serving the gravy, I accidentally ladled gravy on the factory manager's salad which probably qualifies as one of my most embarrassing moments. The pools round was well paid, but those who know me well will sympathise with how I struggled to add up the long columns of pounds, shillings and pence! Of course there were no calculators in those days.

Having qualified as a teacher, I taught in a primary school in Doncaster for two years and then was offered a job teaching in a British Forces school in Cyprus. Unfortunately this was 1974 and when the Turkish invasion started I was diverted to a school in Germany instead. Although I was disappointed in my dreams of living in the Levant, I met my first husband the day he arrived in Germany fresh from Sandhurst and we were married in 1975. Our next posting was to Northern Ireland and I taught in a local school for a year or so, giving up work just two days before giving birth eleven weeks early. After my first baby son was born it was a complete shock to discover that I was actually expecting twins and my second son arrived shortly afterwards. Nowadays expectant mums have scans, thank goodness.

My daughter was born on our next posting back to Germany, and then in 1983 we were posted to Blandford Camp for two years. While the children went to Pimperne school, I taught for a while at Milton Abbas primary and also Winterborne Stickland primary, Milldown middle and various other schools in the area. On being posted back to Germany I managed to get a full time job in the school I first taught at before I was married. I've always been lucky enough to find some sort of job, although it has often involved a lot of commuting and a certain amount of equivocation at interviews.



For service children in Germany at that time, the choice for secondary school aged children was either weekly boarding in Germany with a long commute each weekend or full boarding back in the UK. After a year of boarding, we decided to buy a family home in Scarborough near the children's school and they became day pupils. I got a job as a peripatetic Special Needs teacher and enrolled on a modular course to work towards a Master's degree. I was also training for a diploma with the Dyslexia Institute at the same time.

When the children were doing their GCSEs and A-levels I'm sure I was an example to them of the importance of not falling behind with your coursework!

While I stayed put, my husband had various postings including several attached to the UN. He was offered an accompanied posting to Cyprus in 1997 and so I threw caution to the wind, resigned from my job and after a 23 year delay, finally got to live and work in Cyprus. I found a job working in the British Army Library Service UN library on the old abandoned airfield just outside Nicosia. Living and working within the green line and having unrestricted access to both the north and south of the island was an enormous privilege and it was great to meet so many different nationalities from the many contingents that make up the UN.

We went back to regimental life in Germany in March 2000 and my daughter came with us to start her training to be a nursery nurse. In October my husband was killed in a paragliding accident and we were told that we had 90 days to leave our army married quarter and move back to the UK. We also lost our jobs as library assistant and nursery nurse as, of course, we were no longer classed as army dependents. So after Christmas we packed up, sent all our stuff into storage and came to live in a rented flat in Poole in January 2001 while I looked for somewhere to settle (after 23 house moves in 25 years) and start a new life. My son is in the Royal Marines, based at Hamworthy, so I looked for a house fairly near him and eventually spotted just what I was looking for in Milborne St. Andrew.

Since then, my daughter has married and lives in Kentucky, working as a Nurse Practitioner out there. My son is also married with two sons and still based at Hamworthy. I met Ed in 2004 through computer dating and we married in 2006. Since our wedding we have seen all four of our children marry and have acquired six grandchildren.

When I first moved to the village in July 2001 I lived alone and didn't know a single person, it was heart-warming when neighbours introduced themselves and people kindly included me in outings and events. Wherever I have lived in the world, and especially in Milborne St. Andrew, I have found that the vast majority of people are warm, generous and kind hearted and will respond positively if you make an effort to be friendly – best to just ignore the other kind.

Thank you Rose for sharing your life story with us. Editor



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Dear Editor

Flooding in Milborne St. Andrew

This is an urgent request for photographs, preferably in electronic form, of flooding or near flooding issues in the village.

I have lived in the village for 20 years and the worst experience I have had was during 2000, however you may and will have had far worse experiences than me. The purpose of collating these images is to put together evidence to present to Dorset County Council, the Environment Agency, Wessex Water and possibly the media on the unacceptable conditions of the drainage of surface water along Milton Road, The Causeway, the main A354 Dorchester Road from Dewlish Road to The Square. There maybe other areas you wish to be added to the list.

We have all seen the vast amount of money that was spent on Weymouth for the Olympics, with new roads, roundabouts, traffic signals and refurbishment of the esplanade, etc. It's now time for the responsible authorities to look at these issues that effect our village and our lives. Flooding is a devastating event once but the threat of it happening again cannot be underestimated. It ruins lives and homes and we should do all we can to reduce the risk.

Extensive studies, I understand, have been undertaken by Dorset County Council, North Dorset District Council and the Environment Agency but little

has come of those studies except words.

I believe it is now time to start to lobby the various bodies to get our drainage system upgraded. The foul sewage system in the village, along some of the main roads, was to be relined to reduce the ingress of groundwater but this has had to be abandoned due to the sewers being fully saturated. The relining is to be welcomed when it is completed but the sewerage system in this village is under strain because of the number of new houses that have been built without any increase in the infrastructure.

The surface water drainage system along the roads I have previously mentioned are clearly not fit for purpose in that some are blocked, some are lower than the river to which they discharge and they are not continuous along the lengths of road. It is pointless to have main road surface water being piped into soak aways given these are in most winters and certainly most of this past year been fully saturated.

I am not an expert in this type of engineering but I know there must be solutions and with enough pressure I am sure we can get our elected representatives to sort out the drainage in this village.

With regards to the river which runs through the village again to some extent this is an area where riparian owners, those whose land the river runs through, could help the rest of the residents by ensuring that the width of the river is not reduced by building into it, maintaining the banks and keeping it clear of rubbish.

My email is mick.hopper1@btinternet.com or if the photo is not in digital form let me copy it and I will return it to you. Regards, Michael Hopper

The Editor

Fire, Floods and Tempest hits Milborne.

I am replying to the above article in last month's "Reporter". I am involved, with others, in trying to preserve the health of the residents of Milborne St. Andrew, by fighting the installation of the proposed

wind turbines. I have also written to the District Council about the flooding in Milton Road. The resident who attended the last Parish Council meeting to urge them to action with the District Council, spoke very eloquently and passionately and my letter was as a result of his talk. It seems to me that if the village is split, with half fighting the wind turbines and half fighting the inadequate drainage, this is not the best use of resources. Surely we must unite and fight on both fronts. Just imagine the impact on North Dorset District Council if all households in Milborne (a whole village!) wrote to them demanding action on the drainage and at the same time West Dorset District Council received the same number of letters against the wind turbines. What a power for good, we could become! Similarly, if the village supported the Parish Council think what power they would have when in discussion with North Dorset District Council. **COME ON MILBORNE!** We can do this. We need to pressurise these local politicians who are representing the District. Nicky Hagan.

Dear Editor

On about 8th January someone damaged my garage door. It is at the end of a row of garages half way up Hopsfield. Some people seem to assume that the drive in front of my garage is not private, and use it to turn around on. I'm guessing that one of these people hit my door whilst turning.

I'm hoping that that person just did not realise they have damaged the door and, reading this, will come forward to rectify the damage, but would also be grateful if anyone who might have seen what happened would come forward with the details.

Thanks, Adrienne Rogers (28 Hopsfield)

Send your letters, stories and pictures to the Reporter at msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk or give to a member of the Reporter team.

See the Reporter each month in colour on www.milbornestandrew.org.uk/Reporter/index

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Mah Jong starts again 18th March

WITH the end of the Winter's Crib League, the time has come for the friendly Mah Jong sessions to start again in The Royal Oak. From 18th March, we'll play every Monday at 7.00pm. Players of all levels are welcome – it's an easy game to learn, and we have great fun with our 'pungs', 'kongs' and 'chows'. For more details please contact Susan on 01258 839070.

Dog portrait day at The Royal Oak

ON Saturday 16th February we are happy to be hosting a dog portrait day, being run by Gladwin photography of Beaminster. Simply turn up on the day with your dog(s), between 10.00am–4.00pm, it only takes approximately 10 minutes (depending on how excitable your dog is!) to photograph each dog. Once the day is done your chosen photo(s) will be printed and sent to your home address within a couple of days. You can purchase your dog portrait for £10.00. The price includes one A4 high quality photo print plus p&p. Additional prints can be viewed and purchased either on the day or from their website. The portrait day will take place in the garden, so fingers crossed for a dry day!

Sarah

Village Lunch AGM

AT the Village Lunch AGM held at The Royal Oak on Tuesday 15th January the following were elected onto the Committee for the following year: David Payne (Chairman), Josie Wright (Secretary), Linda Constant (Treasurer), Maureen Butler, Pete Constant, Heather Hogg, Viv Legg, and Chris Nowell.

The chairman thanked the Committee and all those who had helped with all the various jobs during the past year.

The Treasurer reported that despite the small drop in numbers over the past year it still leaves us in a healthy financial position.

Can you identify where this is in Milborne?

This might be your last chance



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).

We may stop this feature if there is no interest this month.

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

Remember you can always see the *Reporter* in colour at
www.milbornestandrew.org.uk/Reporter/index

Notes from the December Parish Council meeting

Tightening the Budget belt

The draft budget was presented and tweaked somewhat to make savings in line with national cutbacks, and was accepted. The final figure rests with NDDC when the Band D rate has been fixed so that our precept will be known. Councillor Smith was adamant that this should not be increased.

Travel Questions

Our Parish Council has been asked to complete a questionnaire about concessionary travel following an email from the Customer Services Manager at NDDC. With so many cutbacks, amongst other things, are our senior citizen bus passes in jeopardy?

Paddling up the Milton Road

Mr Steve Lord was given the opportunity to speak about the water that flows in Milton Road at a recent Parish Council meeting. He gave a lengthy explanation of the bad drainage system, which appears to be blocked in several places. He has been liaising with Dorset County Council and The Environmental Agency on the matter, but has been left feeling that he has been knocking his head against a brick wall. He appeared to feel he had the answers, but cannot get the co-operation from DCC or EA. It seems to be the usual answer that funds are not available. Riparian owners should heed their responsibilities, and act upon them. This subject is to be on a future Parish Council Agenda.

JM

Next Parish Council Meeting to be held at the Village Hall on Wednesday 13th February. All villagers welcome to attend.



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

Community Contacts

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

More information about many community organisations can be found on

Councils

Environment Agency Floodline	0845 9881188	
North Dorset District Councillor	Emma Parker	01258 881631
	Jane Somper	01258 471089
Parish Council – Dewlish	Clerk: Sandra Sims	01258 837132
	Chair: Andrew Booth	01258 837284
Parish Council – Milborne St. Andrew	Clerk: Colin Hampton	01258 837011
	Chair: Jenny Balcon	01258 837121

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	June Maitland	01258 837235

General – Youth

Hazelnuts out-of-school club	Hazel Barrett	01305 848588
Ladybirds (Playgroup)	Liz Dyer	01258 839117
Scout Group	Mike Mullett	01258 837309
Under 5's Group – The Busy Bees	Hayley Davis	07919 156578
Youth Club age 8 – 14 years	Lianne Summers	01258 839081

Police

Police – Non-emergency contact		101
Community Beat Officer	PC Dave Mullins	01202 223003 07825 521850
Community Beat Officer (Dorch)	PC Jeremy Cuff	101
Safer Neighbourhood Team		
Blandford Rural South	PC Dave Mullins and PCSO Luke Goddard	01202 223003 or 07825 521850

School

Milborne 1st School		
Headteacher:	Neil McDermott	01258 837362
Chair Governors:	Kevin Connolly	
Friends of School Chair:	Sarah Clark	

Special Interest

Bellringers	Pip Howell	01258 837329
Bridge Group	Laurie Benn	01258 837720
Food and Wine Society	Maureen Lock	01258 837929
MSA Allotment Society Chair:	Jo Lovett	01258 837957
Secretary:	Sue Gould	01258 837575
MSA Friendly Art Group	Elaine Anthony	01258 837089
MSA Gardening Club	Richard Lock	01258 837929
Milborne Players	Roy Sach	01258 837033
Modern Sequence Dancing	Brian Webber	01935 812347
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
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 11s	Marie Hayter	01258 837241
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
Tennis	Dennis Nelson	01258 837734
Tennis (Members Secretary)	John Sanderson	01258 837049
Yoga	Sue Chapman	01305 848053

Village Hall

Dewlish		
Chairman:	Alex Carter	01258 837312
Secretary:	Alex Carter	01258 837312
Milborne St. Andrew		
Chairman:	Paul Tasker	01258 837590
Booking Secretary:	Alice Harrall	01258 837371



Community Events Diary

Add your event to this diary by contacting the **Reporter** – tel: 01258 837700 or email: msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk

February

- Wednesday 6th** **Wednesday Club.** Talk by Marian Love, entitled "Summer on the Barge" 2.00pm – see page 7.
- Thursday 7th– Saturday 9th** **'Sleeping Beauty'** (Milborne Players' Pantomime) Village Hall 7.30 pm Doors open at 7.00pm. Matinée on 9th at 2.30pm. Tickets £6.00 – Booking advised. Tickets from The Royal Oak or tel 01258 837030.
- Wednesday 13th** **Parish Council Meeting** Village Hall 7.30pm.
- Thursday 14th** **WI 'Dance through the ages'** by Ann Hinchliffe Village Hall 7.30 – see page 2.
Reporter deadline for copy for the March issue. Send your articles, stories and pictures to msa.reporter@yah.co.uk.
- Saturday 16th** **Dog Portrait Day** at The Royal Oak 10.00am to 4.00pm – see page 15.
- Tuesday 19th** **'Brave 2012'** (U) (Milborne Movie Matinée) Village Hall Doors open 2.00pm. Admission Adults £3.00 and Children £2.00. More information from Alice Harrall on 01258 837371.
- Wednesday 20th** **Northern Harmony from the USA** (*Artsreach Performance*) 7.30 pm Doors open at 7.00pm Tickets Adults£8.00/Under 18s £6.00/Family Ticket (for 2+2) £25.00. Booking advised – Tickets can be obtained from Alice Harrall on 01258 837371 or from the Londis Village Shop – see page 25.
- Saturday 23rd** **Village Lunch** open to everyone – see page 3.
- Thursday 28th** **Gardening Club** Talk by Derek Luther on pests and diseases, Village Hall 7.30pm – see page 2.

Milborne Movie Matinée with 'Brave' (2012) (U)

at Milborne St. Andrew Village Hall
on Tuesday 19th February 2013 at 2.30pm

'BRAVE' is a beautiful and moving new fairy tale that fits seamlessly into the genre. It is the story of Merida (voiced by Kelly McDonald), who is a skilled archer and impetuous daughter of King Fergus (Billy Connolly) and Queen Eleanor (Emma Thompson). Princess Merida is a young and feisty Celtic princess with a jungle of wild red hair. She has two passions: using her favourite bow-and-arrow and riding her trusty horse through the rugged Scottish countryside at full gallop. Her father, King Fergus, is happy she has a weapon for protection against bears while Eleanor, the wise Queen, tries to instil in her independent daughter an appreciation for the arts and feminine skills, but it has not worked. With this wonderfully multi-faceted heroine; the film shapes itself around problems that are familiar and will be well-understood and appreciated by children and parents alike. Merida's actions inadvertently unleash chaos and fury in the kingdom, and when she turns to an eccentric old Witch (Julie Walters), the wish to change her fate is granted but, as is often the case with magic spells, it backfires in the most ironic of ways. The ensuing peril forces Merida to discover the meaning of true bravery in order to undo a beastly curse before it's too late.

This is without doubt a stunning technical achievement on every level. The characters are every bit as colourful as the magnificently rendered Scottish backdrop. Add to this a whole host of inspired set pieces and stirring music from Patrick Doyle and I think you have a near masterpiece.

Admission adults £3.00 and accompanied children £2.00. Doors open and refreshment is served from 2.00pm and the film starts at 2.30pm.

More information from Alice Harrall on 01258 837371.

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 2.00–4.00pm MH
- Gardening Club** fourth Thursday 7.30–10.00pm MH
- Karate** Thursday 5.10–6.40pm MH
- Village Hall Committee** third Thursday 7.30–10.00pm
- Women's Institute** second Thursday 7.30–10.00pm
- Coffee, Cake and Computers** Friday 10.00am–12.00 noon CR
- Youth Club 8–14 years** every other Friday 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
- Milborne Praise!** Plans to be announced.
- 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

February at the Sports Club

- The Busy Bees** Under 5 Group from 9.30am to 11.30am on Thursday term time only. Contact Hayley Davis (07919156578).
- Table Tennis** from 7.00pm to 9.00pm every Monday evening. Contact Sandra Shannon Tel. 837253.
- Milborne Mini Soccer**
Training on Wednesdays from 5.00–5.45pm for under 6s and 5.00–6.30pm for all other age groups.

100 CLUB WINNERS

Draw Date – Tuesday 15th January 2013

1st prize	£100	Paul Redshaw
2nd prize	£50	Des Hopkins
3rd prize	£8	Chris Nowell

The next draw is at 8.00pm, in The Royal Oak, on Tuesday 19th February 2013

Due to some people not able to be in the draw anymore there are spaces available for new members. Please speak to Denise Sanderson, Jenny Balcon or June Maitland for information.

Everyone is welcome to attend
**New members always welcome. Contact
June Maitland 837235 or
Denise Sanderson 837049**

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Ladybirds enjoy new toys

AFTER what seemed a short break and much illness the children are back at Ladybirds enjoying playing with their friends. Adults have heard about the lovely presents received, trips to grandparents, visits to pantomimes and museums. One little girl tells us her mum is the baddie in the pantomime but she isn't really bad she's just pretending. We look forward to playing on the extended stage when it goes up for the Village Pantomime and expect we will be watching shows put on for us by the children.

We purchased a few toys from the January Sales and in the picture you can see the new fire fighters hoses being used to put out a 'fire' in the camouflage den. The two hoses have been very



popular and in constant use. Several of the boys like to be super heroes and have made Spiderman masks to enrich their play while the girls chose animal masks.

Some of our dressing up costumes are in need of replacement, particularly for the boys, so if you have some that are no longer needed we would be very grateful to have them.

In February we say good bye to Lucy who will be leaving to start a family. We would like to thank Lucy on behalf of all the children and grown-ups she has helped at Ladybirds and wish her all the best for the future

Liz Dyer



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Contact Details:

Jayne Hamilton (Secretary) 01258 837260

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Milborne St. Andrew First School



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

School News

IN the last two weeks of the Autumn term we saw lots of Christmas related activities in school. Friends of School provided a Christmas lunch for all children, staff and governors. As the picture shows they weren't



short of volunteers to help cook and serve what was a delicious meal. During the afternoon Father Christmas visited with gifts for the children and gifts for each class, ranging from board games to science experiments. Rabbits class had asked for money, which they can use to generate further funds through events such as cake sales – at the end of the year we'll see what these young entrepreneurs have made. The children thoroughly enjoyed a Christmas disco and parents joined



children at a traditional carol service at St. Andrews Church. All of the classes took part in Christmas productions. Children in years 3 and 4 performed Roald Dahl's Jack and the Beanstalk, with a very scary giant, whilst the reception children and years 1 and 2 acted out the "10 minute" Nativity. All of the classes helped produce Dorset Buttons to decorate one of the 19 trees at St Andrews Christmas Tree Festival, following the theme of Dorset History.

We have welcomed everyone back for the Spring term, with a couple of staffing changes. Mrs Dipple finished teaching at Christmas to spend more time with her young family and we are delighted that Miss Jones is now teaching the year 3s in Badgers class full time. In early January the children were treated to a Galette des Rois (King cake), made by one of our parents, which is a type of cake associated with the festival of Epiphany in the Christmas season in a number of countries, including France.

With the weather just turning colder the February picture from our Art Project is very apt. The icy scene was produced by Archie Leschallas, a student at Milton Abbey School.



CONTACTS

If you require any information about the school, including admission details or would like to arrange a visit please contact Mrs Pugh in the school office

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

Chair of Governors: Mr Kevin Connolly **FOS Chairman:** Sarah Clark

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

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Above average rainfall in December in Milborne St. Andrew

DECEMBER was yet another month of above average rainfall. With 177.1mm of rain, it was 151% of normal rainfall for the month. The first 12 days of the month were relatively dry with frost on most nights but after that, it rained on every day for the rest of the month. There was 34.3mm of rain on the 19th and the lightning from a thunderstorm on the 26th caused the devastating fire at Lytchett Minster School.

The total rainfall for 2012 in Milborne was 1404mm (55.72 inches) making it the wettest year I have recorded in 42 years. The previous highest was in 2002 with 1376.6mm. In many areas of the country 2012 was the wettest year ever recorded officially but there are unofficial records in Dorset which show years with even higher rainfall. 59.79 inches of rain was recorded at Stock Gaylard in 1960, nearly 60 inches of rain was recorded at Broadwindsor Vicarage in 1914 but the highest annual rainfall ever recorded in Dorset was 60.2 inches at Cerne Abbas in 1872.

It is some consolation to know that the Environment Agency has stated that it is unlikely any water restriction orders will be made this year.

Pluvius



**Deadline for the next issue 14th February.
Send your stories and pictures to
msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk**

Village Quiz

THE date for the annual Village Quiz has been arranged for 13th April. The Village Hall and bar will be open from 7.00pm and the questions start at 7.30pm sharp. So start getting your teams of four together now. This year's questions are being set by the Reporter team who happened to win last year.

Milborne Movie Matinee
Tue Feb 19th at 2.30pm
Doors and Refreshments
at 2.00pm

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DOORS and BAR at 7.00pm

Milborne Movies
Saturday 2nd March
at 7.30pm
Doors and Bar at 7.00pm

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Milborne St. Andrew Village Hall

Tickets £3.00
More information from Alice Harrall on 01258 837371

Family entertainment at the Village Hall



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

Thoughts on Lent

It's an early Easter this year, so Lent starts before we're even halfway through February. It has always been a time when Christians have focused particularly on their spiritual lives, looking at them in detail and paying perhaps more attention to them than during the rest of the year. It goes without saying that people of faith look all year round to their spiritual lives, but Lent can act as an equivalent to a big Spring clean in one's house. General cleaning goes on all year, but at times we undertake a much larger and more thorough approach to household tasks. At least some of us do!

There are all sorts of ways in which we can make our spiritual lives a focus in Lent: committing to regular reading of the Bible or a Lent book; taking extra time to pray, so that our relationship with God can grow; committing to fasting; giving something up and passing the money we've saved on to charity; and so on.

Instead of a Lent study group in the benefice this year, we are going to hold a number of evening services with speakers, who will be helping us to reflect on particular topics related to our Christian life. As I write this in early January, some of the details are yet to be finalised, but already agreed are talks on social justice, healing ministry and vocation. Do look out for associated publicity nearer the time. The idea is that these will be united benefice services, and that we will use all the churches of our villages at different times.

I encourage you to consider coming to these acts of worship. And, do please, offer lifts to those without transport so that they can come too.

When I was a curate in Bedfordshire, all the churches in a wider area (a deanery) gathered for special evening services in Lent. Those of us who attended found them a helpful and inspiring experience. Not only did we gather for worship with people from other churches outside our own parish who became friends, but also visiting others' church buildings was inspiring and enabled us to bring ideas back for our own community life. It will be a slightly different experience in a benefice rather than a deanery, but worshipping with people from beyond our own church walls is always an uplifting experience, if we allow it to be.

At the heart of all Lenten disciplines is openness to God, and our willingness to grow in faith and love. It's all too easy to take God for granted and become lax about prayer and study because of the busyness of our lives. Lent calls us back each year to the heart of what life is about: our relationship with God, as we respond to his love shown in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and continuing through the Holy Spirit at work in our world today.

With best wishes

Sarah

CHURCH SERVICES February 2013

3rd FEBRUARY – Presentation of Christ

9.30am	Parish Communion	Tolpuddle
9.30	Family Communion	Milborne
11.00	Holy Communion	Puddletown
	<i>With Sunday Seekers and Crèche</i>	
6.00pm	Candlemas Evening Service	Dewlish

THURSDAY 7th FEBRUARY

12noon	Lunch-time Communion	Milborne
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10th FEBRUARY – Next before Lent

8.15am	1662 Said Communion	Puddletown
9.30	Methodist United Service	St John's, Tolpuddle
9.30	Parish Communion	Milborne
11.00	Family Service	Puddletown Church Room
11.00	Family Communion	Dewlish

13th FEBRUARY – Ash Wednesday

7.30pm	Benefice Holy Communion with imposition of ashes	Puddletown
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17th FEBRUARY – Lent 1

9.30am	Family Communion	Tolpuddle
9.30	1662 Said Communion	Milborne
11.00	1662 Morning Prayer	Puddletown
11.00	Holy Communion	Dewlish
6.00pm	United Benefice Evening Service	Puddletown

TUESDAY 19th FEBRUARY

6.00pm	Compline	Milborne
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THURSDAY 21st FEBRUARY

12 noon	Lunch-time Communion	Puddletown Church Room
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24th FEBRUARY – Lent 2

9.30 am	All-Age Worship	Tolpuddle
9.30	1662 Holy Communion	Milborne
11.00	Family Communion	Puddletown
11.00	Family Service	Dewlish
6.00 pm	United Benefice Evening Service	Dewlish

TUESDAY 26th FEBRUARY

6.00pm	Compline	Milborne
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MORNING PRAYERS (Mon– Thurs 8.15am; Sat 9.00am)

Monday – Puddletown	Tuesday – Tolpuddle
Wednesday – Milborne	Thursday – Dewlish
Saturday – Puddletown	

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
John Wright 01258 839090

Dewlish

Jim Burg 01258 837466
Sue Britton 01258 837218
www.milbornestandrewchurch.org.uk

Benefice Office

Marion Bishop 01258 839190
puddletownadmin@fsmail.net

Flowers – w/e Saturday

2nd and 9th February –

Sally Dyer

Lent – No flowers



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 John (839090).



Send your stories and pictures to the *Reporter* at msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk or give to a member of the *Reporter* team by the 14th of each month.

Milborne St. Andrew Church News

CHRISTMAS 2012. We had a good attendance at all of our Christmas services which is very encouraging. The collection of £65 taken at our popular Christingle Service has been sent to The Children's Society who introduced the service.



The school's Nativity Service was well performed by the pupils and showed what talent the children have. There were many very proud parents in the congregation. The church path was lit by lanterns made by the children and shone out very well for all our Christmas services.

Our own Carol Service and the opening of the Christmas Tree Festival included some wonderful singing led by a choir of voices from people in the village and afar. Thank you Louisa for gathering up the talent to make a most enjoyable evening. The evening closed with mulled wine and mince pies – nobody was in any hurry to go home!



Thank you Sarah Hillman for leading us in the Christmas Eve Midnight Mass, and Sarah Godfrey for the most amazing way you told the story of this very special day at the Christmas Day Family Service.

The Christmas Tree Festival – The church was glowing with lights and showed the history of Dorset. There were trees depicting the Weymouth Seaside, Dorset Smugglers, Bridport Ropes and Nets, Brownsea Island, Dorchester Show, Fishing, Farming, Dorset Knobs, Celebrating the Memory of the Tolpuddle Martyrs, Dorset Crafts, Dorset Buttons, Monkey World, Agriculture, Greetings from Corfe Castle, Jurassic Coast, William Barnes 'A Winter's Night' poem, and Athelhampton House and Gardens. We hope everyone enjoyed what they saw and appreciated the time and patience that people had put into their trees. Sorry we were not able to have the display manned all the time but it has shown what a great asset the new facilities have made when we can use them. People could sit around and chat over mince pies and coffee using the church as a community gathering place, as we did on the last Sunday afternoon of 2012 when we invited all those who have helped clean, maintain and decorate the church and churchyard to enjoy drinks and nibbles. If anyone has a festival of art or music in mind and would like to use the church as a venue they should contact one of the churchwardens, Eva (837468) or John (839090).

The Dorset Quiz – according to our records we sold 65 quiz papers, not all of which came back. Question No 31 has been discounted because, yes, you were right, Axminster is in Devon. I do apologise for this. Out of 39 questions there was only 1 winner with 39 correct answers and it was Sarah Hillman, our Priest in Charge. She had no access to the answers, honest! The prize is a collection of Dorset goods – we hope you enjoy them! Thank you to all who bought a quiz and supported the church. A copy of the questions and answers can be found in the church porch.

We will be starting Lent on February 13th with a Benefice Service in Puddletown Church at 7.30pm. During Lent we will have our usual Sunday morning services and also take part in a series of themed Benefice services each Sunday evening at 6.00pm; on February 17th we meet at Puddletown and on February 24th we will be at Dewlish to hear guest speakers. We are holding an evening service of Compline every Tuesday at 6.00pm in Milborne Church. This is a short peaceful service of prayers and hymns which lasts about twenty minutes. Everyone is welcome to come and join us.

Eva Stockley and John Wright, Churchwardens.

Dewlish Church Notes

A wonderful communal start to Christmas

IT WAS lovely to see so many people, both from Dewlish and neighbouring villages, at our Christmas Bazaar. We made £537.53, which will be a great help towards the ever-increasing costs of running our church. Thank you to all who gave so generously, and to the people who ran the stalls. It all made for a wonderful communal start to the Christmas period.

We were so lucky to have good weather when we went singing carols around the village in aid of Shelter. A total of £180 was collected, for which we are very grateful. A big thank-you also to those who gave us welcome refreshments. As usual, we finished at The Oak, and thank Dianne and John for their refreshments too.

The Carol Service was, once again, delightful with Becky playing The Snowman to us, Robyn and Imogen's beautiful signing of In the Bleak Midwinter, our young people's readings and last, but certainly not least, our children for their lovely enactment of the Nativity Story. Aiden kindly got together with other very talented musicians to play for us. Thank you so very much. We must not forget Jim who put the whole thing together, even down to writing a special poem! Well done, and many thanks.

Finally, some more thank-yous: to all the ladies who decorated the church so beautifully, to David for allowing us to borrow his staging, and to Ed and Adam for the fantastic lighting and sound system.

Daphne Burg

Easter Church Flowers – Lilies for Remembrance



IF anyone would like loved ones to be remembered this Easter, please give your donation (no particular amount – just whatever you feel like giving) and the name(s) to be remembered, to Helen Pugh, 2 Huntley Down (837080) by Friday 15th March so that the lilies can be ordered. We can't guarantee one lily per name (it will depend on cost) but every name will be in the book.

Church Cleaning – w/e Saturday

2nd February John Wright and Eric Austen

9th February Josie Wright and Rose Johnson

16th February Carolyn Martin and Elizabeth Walker

23rd February Margaret Hurley and Eva Stockley





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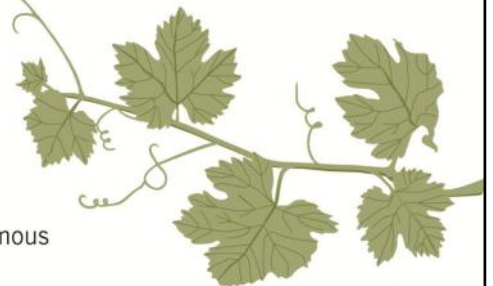


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Northern Harmony World Music Choir

NORTHERN HARMONY, the unique world music vocal ensemble based in Vermont, USA, presents two concerts and an open singing workshop in Dorset on 18th–20th February, sponsored by ArtsReach. Northern Harmony is the highest level performing group under the umbrella of the world music organization Village Harmony, which sponsors singing camps and workshops in New England and many parts of the world. (see www.villageharmony.org) The singers are primarily brilliant young graduates of Village Harmony singing programmes, and most have studied traditional singing styles first hand with native teachers in South Africa, Bulgaria, Corsica and Caucasus Georgia.

The thirteen sparkling young singers, led by Larry Gordon, present a thrilling mix of world harmony traditions including South African songs and dances, traditional polyphony from Georgia, Corsica, and the Balkans, American shape-note singing and quartet gospel, and medieval motets. Now on their fifteenth European tour, Northern Harmony has won a wide reputation for their remarkable command of the different singing styles and timbres appropriate to these different traditions.

On Monday night 18th February from 7.00–9.00pm at Winfrith Newburgh Village Hall, there is a workshop, open to any interested teen or adult singers for a £5.00 admission fee. At the workshop the group will teach a selection of songs from these different genres. Wednesday 20th February at 7.30pm the concert is in Milborne St. Andrew at the Village Hall.

Admission to the concerts is £8 for adults, £6 for under 18s, and £25 for families. Advance bookings are recommended. In Winfrith contact Pat or John Unwin at 01305 852117; in Milborne contact Roger or Alice Harrall at 01258 837371.



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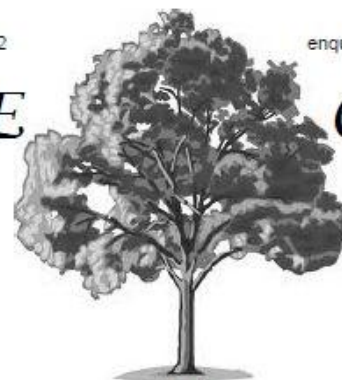
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1984 starting line-up

UPDATE on the eight Milborne children shown on page 21 of the December *Reporter*. All were pupils at Milborne St. Andrew First School in Chapel Street and were taking part in the very first Fun Run in 1984. Photograph courtesy of Simon Foote.



Wearing number 498 is **Sally Foote** who lives in London and works as a children's nurse.

499 **Alex Foote** lives in Paris and works in IT and has three sons.

352 **Andrew McSavage** lives in Kent and works in IT for Morgan Stanley at Canary Wharf. Andrew is married with three children.

320 **Neil Galbreith** who sadly lost his life at the age of 23 following a motorbike accident on the A354 just outside Milborne. Neil is buried in the church graveyard.

496 **Helen Payne** (now Bernasconi) is at present living in Auckland, New Zealand. Her husband works for Team New Zealand helping to design their yacht for this year's Americas Cup. They have two boys aged four and eight months.

Wearing number 376 is **Gavin Yeo**. Gavin and his love of mini's met a girl at the Blandford Mini Club, whom he married in that very hot summer of 1999 and had a convoy of Mini's as wedding cars. They now live in Southampton and have two children, a boy and a girl aged 11 and nine respectively. Gavin works in electronic engineering and travels to many countries repairing, updating or commissioning new electronic machinery.

374 **Daniel Milman** lives in Horwich, Lancashire and works in Technology for the NHS. Daniel is married with two children.

Number 373 is **Ben Milman** who lives in London. He works in a West London Restaurant.

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**Cheselbourne
Theatre Club**



ON **Monday 18th March** at 7.30pm we are going to see a vintage Alan Ayckbourn play at Salisbury Theatre. *Joking Apart* was first performed in 1978 and is said to be Ayckbourn's favourite. It may not be too late (contact John Widdowson 01258 837791 ASAP (£24)) to join us in Richard and Anthea's garden, complete with tennis court, where over a 12-year period this near-perfect couple entertain smug Scandinavians, hesitant vicars, neglected girlfriends, and ageing Lotharios.

Next on our programme (7.30pm **Monday 29th April**) is a gentle-hearted and funny musical, *A Man of No Importance*. It is set in the 60s and based on the 1994 Albert Finney film about a repressed Dublin bus conductor putting on an amateur production of Oscar Wilde's *Salome*. This British regional premiere features an ensemble cast of actor-musicians. If you would like to join club members on the coach to Salisbury please book by 27th February (£21) with John Widdowson 01258 837791.





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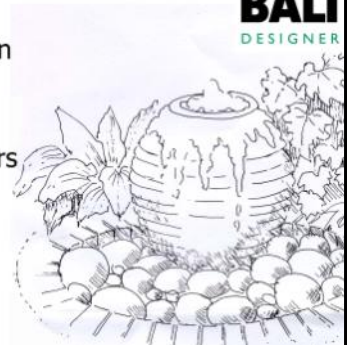
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In your Garden

Seasonal notes and tips from Maureen Lock of *Designer Gardens* Looking after your wisteria



THERE'S not too much to do in the garden at this time of the year – except tidy up and review the seed catalogues. However, there is something you can be doing – and that is giving a final prune to your wisteria.

Not much can beat a wall or pergola covered in wisteria – a stunning display dripping with beautifully scented flowers in late spring and early summer is a sight to behold. But sadly, many people are afraid that they are difficult to care for. In fact, they only need to be pruned twice a year – in

July/August when they send out long wisteria shoots and again in January/February when the plant is dormant.

Wisteria will quickly cover a large area, but do resist the temptation to cut it back with shears or cut it to the ground if it is getting out of hand! If you prune your wisteria too severely you risk losing all the flowers and it will be several years before it flowers again! – and if you prune it too little the flowers will be small and will be swamped with leafy growth at the expense of the flowers.



In January/February cut back the growth to within two or three buds from the base. These will bear the coming season's flowers. It also ensures that the flowers are not hidden amongst the abundant foliage. When you are pruning, you can easily tell the difference between a growth and a flower bud as the growth buds are narrow and pointed, and flower buds are fatter and rounded.

If you are going to treat yourself to a wisteria, do make sure that you buy one when it is in flower. Wisterias grown from seed can take up to 20 years to flower and the only real way to tell a good one is to buy it when it is in flower! Buy one that has been grown from cuttings or by grafting. You can easily spot a grafted plant if you can see a bulge near the base of the stem. Grow it in a sunny position (it will tolerate slight shade), make sure you feed it in the spring, don't let it dry out in summer when the new buds are forming and you will be well rewarded.

There are three main types of wisteria with flowers in either white, blue, lilac or pink. *Wisteria sinensis* flowers before the leaves appear; *Wisteria floribunda* flowers at the same time as the leaves appear and has stems that twine clockwise and *Wisteria 'Multijuga'* has very long flowers up to 1.2m long.

When the flowers have gone you are left with pretty leaves and twining stems in winter.

A lovely plant with lots of interest all year round.





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Reif and the Green Boots

A story for the young at heart by Josie Wright



REIF knew what was what, from his blond curly head to the toes of his shiny new green boots. Mum wasn't keen on them, she liked ordinary colours, but Reif knew what was what.

As soon as he had first seen them in the strange little shoe shop on the corner he had to have them. The lights in the window made them sparkle. He pressed his nose to the glass and stared and stared until the huff from his breath made them disappear in a breathy mist. He fetched mum over to look, 'Can I have them, can I, can I?'

'Green, Mugwump? How about those brown ones over there?'

Reif looked at her; 'Brown? Boring!' He didn't stop talking about the boots all the time mum was buying her other shopping. She couldn't think what she was doing and bought six loaves of bread and one egg by mistake.

'All right, all right you can have them as long as you wear them.' Reif smiled.

Back in the shoe shop a strange lady with a very pointy nose and a long black skirt went to fetch his size.

'I bet she's a witch,' he thought. He didn't mention it to mum. The boots slipped on easily and he shivered a tiny little shiver as he waggled his feet to and fro.

'No, Reif, they're going in the box to take home. You can wear them tomorrow if you're a very good boy.'

Reif wanted to say lots of things but mum wasn't calling him 'Mugwump' any more, and, because he wanted the boots so much, he nodded.

In the morning he got washed and dressed very quickly and quietly. He ate his breakfast and put the bowl in the dishwasher.

Mum laughed, 'Perhaps I should buy you green boots every day!'

She fetched the box from the cupboard and gave it to him. He sat down on the kitchen floor and carefully pulled off the lid. Under the crispy tissue paper nestled the boots – his lovely green boots. He pulled them on.

On his way to playgroup he didn't splash in any puddles. He did nearly bump into a lamppost though, because instead of looking where he was going he kept looking down at his boots.

When mum had gone home Reif decided he would be a soldier. The boots went stomp, stomp, stomp as he marched up and down the hall. Stomp, stomp over the jigsaw, stomp, stomp over the railway track.

'Reif, go, sit down on the carpet and read a book for a while. You're making too much noise,' said Liz.

As he sat there he thought very hard about the witchy lady in the shop and his new green boots. He was sure there was something special about them, but what could it be? Perhaps they granted wishes. He thought hard, 'I wish there to be Jaffa cakes for snack time.' He closed his eyes tight as he said it and crossed his fingers for luck. But when the biscuit box came round it was those plain ones with pictures of cows.

'Hmm, not wishing boots then.'

After Mary had read them a really exciting story about giants, he wondered if perhaps his magic boots would make him grow taller. But although he spent the rest of the morning with his hands on his head, just to check, there didn't seem to be any difference by the time mum came to take him home.

That night as he lay in bed, he looked at the boots. Mum had cleaned them and he put them by the window and the moon shone on them.

Sleepily he said, 'Can't you tell me what you do?'

A rusty old voice answered him, 'Why didn't you ask before? These are 'green for go' boots. These are the most wonderful boots in the whole world. They will take you anywhere you want to go; to the top of a mountain or the bottom of the sea.'

'Won't I get very tired, and wet, if it's the sea?'

'Not if you say the magic word and clean the boots every night. The magic word is *squizzle-wizzle*.'

Reif giggled, 'That's a funny word, *squizzle-wizzle*.'

As he said it the boots stood to attention and clicked their heels together. Quick as a flash Reif jumped out of bed, pulled on his jeans and jumper and the green boots. 'Squizzle-wizzle to the bottom of the deepest sea, please.'

Out of the window jumped the boots; he didn't have time to feel frightened. Soon they were speeding along the ground faster than the fastest motorcar, onto the beach and into the water and down, down into the dark green sea, past stripy fish and floaty seaweed. On and on, past an old sunken pirate ship, he saw the gold and jewels gleaming inside, but the boots didn't stop. Whales and sharks looked up in surprise but Reif sped on. At last he stopped, this must be the deepest bit of all. It was very dark and gloomy, but suddenly an enormous fish with a light on his head swam up. When it opened its mouth Reif saw rows and rows of sharp teeth – and it looked hungry.

'Squizzle-wizzle, home please as fast as you can.' Before he knew it he was back home in his bed.

In the morning when his mum came to wake him up she said, 'There's a very funny smell like fish; you haven't got something nasty in here, have you? And look at those boots. I cleaned them last night and now they're all damp – the rain must have wetted them in the night. I'll dry them out; you can't wear them today.'

Reif was very impatient for bedtime again. But that night as he lay in bed looking at his boots, he saw that even though mum had done her best they didn't look quite as nice as they had yesterday. Tonight, he had decided, it would be a trip high, high into the mountains.

'Squizzle-wizzle'. The boots raced off again, and soon he was standing on a rock up above the clouds, looking through them at countries far below. Sadly his boots were now not quite as green as they had been from the scuffing on his climb.

In the morning mum just looked a bit puzzled as she took them away to clean. Reif peeped at her over the top of the duvet and smiled a secret smile.

At playgroup that day they had a story about desert islands in the middle of the ocean. 'I'll see for myself tonight,' he thought.

The desert island wasn't quite like in the book. He could hear animals growling in the trees and he felt a bit scared. Sand had got into his boots too and he felt very hot. So he took them off and rolled up his trousers to paddle in the sea. He felt much cooler as he splashed about.

When he came out he looked for his boots but they weren't where he had left them. How would he get home? An animal must have taken them. He would just have to be brave and search for them. As he got closer to the trees he found one boot. It was chewed away all down one side. Just a little bit farther on he saw a tiger cub. It had the other boot in its mouth and was shaking it – and eating some. He rushed forward. The cub ran off in surprise, luckily dropping the boot.

Reif sat down on the sand and cried; his poor boots were ruined. He tried to put them on, but they were too ripped. What could he do?

He searched his pockets. Perhaps he had a bit of string or something. Aha! Some sticky tape he'd been using at playgroup. How did that get there? He put the remains of the boots on his feet and wound the tape round and round. They felt very strange.

'Squizzle-wizzle, home please, poor boots.' The boots seemed very tired and slow and Reif was very glad to see his home. They stopped in the garden when the tape fell off, so he had to ring the bell for mummy to let him in.

She was very cross with him for being outside and for ruining his boots.

'They're only fit for the bin now, you naughty boy!'

Reif cried and cried; his lovely boots were gone.

But when he thought about things later he remembered there had been some red boots in that little shop. Perhaps they were 'red for danger' boots.

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