

85P WHERE SOLD

Reporter

News and Views from around the area

Volume 6 Issue 5

May 2014

www.milbornestandrew.org.uk/reporter

Milborne St. Andrew



The *Reporter* photographer
makes it onto *BBC South Today*
with her Bullfinch

Samantha Sings The Shows

"DON'T fantasise! Get a job in a call centre" Samantha remembers being told at school. But that's not what Samantha wanted to do . . . she wanted to *perform*. And now her dream is coming true with her own theatre production: *Samantha Sings The Shows*.

First performed at The Barrington Theatre in Ferndown, Samantha's show received rave reviews: "I was mesmerized", Tara Nix, Director, checkatalent.com. "Sassy, energetic, brilliant", Richard Sidaway, former West End 'Phantom'. "Absolutely incredible performance", Matt Black, comedian/pianist.

Now she is taking the show on a mini 'tour' of East Dorset with 12 shows over the summer months. "It's taken a huge amount of work", says Samantha, "not just working on the songs but the lighting, sound and everything else needed to put on your own touring show . . . but I've loved every minute of it!"

Samantha Sings The Shows is an homage to the greatest musicals of stage and screen.

Samantha's amazing voice will move and uplift you. Experience the drama of shows such as Chicago, Cabaret, Les Misérables, The Sound of Music, My Fair Lady, The Phantom of The Opera and many more. This fabulous show is brimming with music, costume and fun.

Spend an evening with numbers from the Roaring Twenties through to the 21st Century.

Can't make it to the West End? Let the West End come to you. On 24th May Samantha will be at Milborne St. Andrew village hall at 7.30pm. Tickets £5 (family ticket £10). Tickets from 01202 829239 or 07710 878178 or can be bought on the door if still available. More information www.samanthasings.co.uk

VILLAGE LUNCH

To be held at the Village Hall on
Saturday 31st May from 12.15 to 2.00pm

Wine or fruit juice/Sausages, mash, vegetables/
Rice pudding/Coffee or tea/mints
Vegetarian option available

£6.50 per head, half price for children

Everyone welcome young and old alike

Tickets available from the Computer
Drop-In Centre at the Village Hall on Fridays
from 10.00am to 12 noon

or call Josie Wright any time for more information
or to reserve tickets on 839090

Fresh Idea at Gardening Club



THE topic for the Gardening Club talk on 27th March was 'Fresh Idea for Summer Bedding, Hanging Baskets and Containers'. Chris Evans (not the one with red hair) gave us lots of ideas for contrasting plants in borders. He has a wealth of experience and plant knowledge from his job with the Bournemouth Borough Council as Horticultural Officer.

Did you know there are 102 parks and gardens in the Bournemouth area? A total of 80 gardeners look after these special places that so many people enjoy. For some of us it was a trip down memory lane as we remembered childhood visits to the gardens in Bournemouth. In those days the fashion for planting beds of flowers was very different and seemed regimented by rows of plants like salvias, lobelia and alyssum plus not a lot of imagination! Chris showed us some great photos of bedding displays, with lettering and special interpretation of events. Some of these have won awards at Chelsea and at the same time promoted the town of Bournemouth.

We were shown some fabulous colour combinations for large beds of plants with some large exotic foliage plants with unusual leaves. The nursery where Chris works supplies most of the flowers (grown from seed) for all the public places. Through the season plants need to be watered and this happens between 4.00-5.00am, when no-one is about! Also borders are re-planted at least twice a year with different seasonal displays. Some tender plants that we might consider for our own borders are dahlias, poppies, nicotiana, rudbeckias and may be teamed up with some grasses for texture. Many other plant combinations were shown to us on the screen . . . too many to mention! Chris also gave us some hints on hanging baskets and containers, especially grouping pots together in a smaller garden.

We were encouraged to ask questions at the end and many of us feel inspired to visit one or two parks/gardens in Bournemouth. Coffee and tea were available before we discussed future dates and events. Details of our plant sale on 11th May are in this issue (page 17). We will also have a stall at the May Fayre on Saturday 17th May. Please do come and join in the fun, lets hope it's a lovely sunny day.

Angie Nowell

Wanted!

THE Friday morning 'POPP in' computer club has need of a laptop which is not used anymore but still in working order. We need it to try and load different forms of operating systems to increase the knowledge and usefulness of what we do, namely helping villagers to use computers.

If you have an unused laptop hidden away somewhere, please let me know on 01258 839033.

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Community events at the Village Hall will be advertised free of charge

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Advertising copy MUST be received by the 14th of the month

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Copy for the next issue MUST be received by the 14th May

Enquiries and copy to: msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk

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

Paper copy to David Payne at 7 Bladen View

April (also March) . . . at the WI

THE late cancellation of our March speaker gave us the chance to hold a members' evening. Social and catch-up time followed, interspersed with readings from Josie Wright and June Maitland, two rounds of the County quiz and even a session of Irish bingo led by Chris Tucker. The Easter biscuit competition was won by Veronica Herridge, who carried away the cup!

Jenny Preston, in her President's address at April's annual meeting, thanked all those members who had helped and supported her during the year, including the committee, and in particular June Maitland as secretary and Josie Wright as treasurer. She looked forward to the coming year, and is proud to be part of the WI. The new committee will comprise Angela Jones, June Maitland, Nelda Oakes, Jenny Preston, Pat Shipton, Linda Wright and Josie Wright. June will continue as Secretary, Nelda will take on the mantle of Treasurer, and Linda will become Vice-President. We were delighted to re-elect Jenny as President for the third year.

At the same time as welcoming guests and a new member, we are sad to be losing Anya Bruty, who is leaving for a new job in Yorkshire. We wish her well for the future.

The Science Lunch at Athelhampton in July is now fully booked, and a number of us have been lucky enough to obtain tickets. There is already a waiting list for the repeat event later in the year. The monthly pub lunches at The Royal Oak are once again proving very successful. A friendly skittles match will take place on 12th May, also at The Royal Oak, and we will supply a team for the Village Hall Quiz on 10th May. Bookends are now into their 9th year, and Shirley Dunkley reported that we now number 14, completely filling Josie Wright's conservatory! The next book will be an autobiography, Shirley Williams' *'Climbing the Bookshelves'*.

Plans for our 70th birthday party celebrations next year are beginning to take shape. One interesting and warmly received suggestion is to liaise with Weldmar Hospice, with a view to supplying 70 craft items to be used in their fund-raising next year. A summer meal with invited guests also looks a likely option.

At our next meeting, on **Thursday, 15th May**, Larry Skeats will talk about *'Call My Bluff'* and the exhibition is *'An Unusual Object'*. Please come along and join us, we would love to see you. *Pat Bull*

Village Hall booking

DID you know that the village hall is available for private functions? Anyone can hire the hall and the facilities. The hall has an alcohol licence so you can have a party! There is a fully equipped kitchen, tables, chairs and projectors, screens etc. All of which can be hired as a package within the hall. The hall is licensed to hold 100 people. There is a smaller committee room which can be hired separately or as a package.

The cost of hiring the hall is £7.75 per hour for regular use or for corporate use the cost is £30.00 per hour. Performance license for music, performances, playing of recorded music is £5.00. Alcohol licence is £5.00; use of the digital projector for private function is £10.00 and for public use is £20.00. A booking deposit of £50.00 is required and is returnable if there are no problems or damages.

There are so many things that the hall can be hired for such as children's parties, group parties, performances, shows, choirs, club events e.g. shows, concerts, performances, bingo sessions, etc.

There are of course conditions of hire which can be found on the booking form or on the Milborne St. Andrew website or email the booking secretary for a form on msavillagehall@googlemail.com.

Disclaimer

THE views expressed in the *Reporter* are not necessarily those of the editorial team. Also, please be aware that articles and photographs printed in the *Reporter* will be posted on our website and so are available for anyone to access.

Tolpuddle Wind Farm

BY the time that you are reading this, it is expected that West Coast Energy will have re-submitted its application for a wind farm between Milborne St. Andrew and Tolpuddle. The new proposal will be for five turbines rather than the original nine with blade heights slightly reduced from 126 metres to 115 metres. If you have a view on this development one way or the other, be sure to make your opinions known to West Dorset District Council once the application has been made.

In a related development, West Coast Energy itself has now been taken over by GDF SUEZ and will become the core development business for GDF SUEZ onshore wind activities in the UK.

GDF SUEZ is a global energy player who concentrates in electricity, natural gas and energy services. It has apparently been working in partnership with West Coast Energy since 2008.

Yoga

Yoga classes in the village hall

1.30 - 2.45pm on Thursday afternoons

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

Looking to the future

You may think, as you read this, that Easter has been and gone. You've eaten your chocolate eggs, enjoyed a few days off work, seen family and friends, and now life has returned to normal.

But for the Church, Easter continues until Ascension Day (29th May this year). The Easter season lasts for 40 days, the period that Jesus spent on earth after the resurrection, and every Sunday throughout the year is also a reminder of this event. In last month's letter, Sarah Godfrey encouraged us to be open to the signs of new life around us. And I would like to echo that, at a time when it would be easy to focus on what the benefice is losing in her departure and in that of the Bennetts.

The resurrection could only happen because Jesus gave up himself for death. If he had held on to his life, then God's plan of salvation would not have come about as planned.

The disciples took some time to come to terms with what had happened, but the growth and continuation of the Church around the world for more than 2,000 years shows clearly what the power of God's Holy Spirit working in people can achieve. When Jesus left earth, he shared God's power with all those open to its working, in their hearts and through their lives.

My prayer is that, as we face big changes in this benefice, we can also be open to the workings of God's Spirit in those of us who are not moving to pastures new. I am hoping that new ministries will flourish and develop.

This will most visibly be seen initially in the increased use of lay people to lead our services. For most of them, this is something new. They will receive training but will also be learning as they go, so please encourage them as much as you are able, and pray for them as they take on this new role.

God can be worshipped in many and various ways. If your favourite service is not at your church on a particular Sunday, that is not a reason to stay at home. God can work in us in all circumstances, and is often most effective when we are out of our comfort zones, because then we recognise our need for God. And remember also, if that challenge seems too much at this present moment that there may be another church in the benefice that does have your favourite service, where people would love to welcome you with open arms.

Worshipping God should not be predominantly about our likes and dislikes, though all of us will feel more at home with one kind of service over another. Worshipping is about our response to the love of God, as revealed to us through the life-giving resurrection of Christ.

As the Easter period continues through the month of May, I invite you to join with me in looking for the signs of God's life that are already here in the benefice, and also for new shoots which are being given space to grow in our changed circumstances.

With all good wishes for a joyful and surprise-filled Easter season

Sarah Hillman

Milborne St. Andrew Church Notes

WE were very grateful to Helen Pugh for the wonderful posies that she made for **Mothering Sunday**. These were very much appreciated by the mothers and grannies present though we would have liked to have had a few more children to give them. We will have celebrated Easter Day by the time you read this, and we will have started a new chapter in the life of the parish with new challenges. At our **annual meeting** I am glad to say that we were able to elect Pam Shults as our second churchwarden. Perhaps not so good is that



CHURCH SERVICES May 2014

4th May – Easter 3

9.15am	Celebrate . . .	Milborne
9.30	Parish Communion	Tolpuddle
11.00	Parish Communion	Puddletown
11.00	1662 Morning Prayer	Dewlish

THURSDAY 8th May

12 noon	Lunch-time Communion	Milborne
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11th May – Easter 4

8.15am	1662 Said Communion	Puddletown
9.30	Methodist United Service	Tolpuddle
9.30	Parish Communion + Baptism	Milborne
11.00	Puddletown Praise	Puddletown
11.00	Parish Communion	Dewlish
3.00pm	Holy Baptism	Puddletown

THURSDAY 15th May

12 noon	Lunch-time Communion	Puddletown Church Room
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18th May – Easter 5

9.30am	Family Communion + baptism	Tolpuddle
9.30	1662 Morning Prayer (said)	Milborne
11.00	Parish Communion + baptism	Puddletown
11.00	Family Service	Dewlish

25th May – Easter 6

9.30am	All-Age Worship	Tolpuddle
9.30 am	Parish Communion	Milborne
11.00	1662 Morning Prayer	Puddletown
11.00	Family Communion	Dewlish

Thursday 29th May – Ascension Day

6.30 am	Morning Prayer on hill by mast	Dewlish
7.30 pm	Holy Communion	Puddletown

MORNING PRAYERS (Monday – Thursday 8.15am Saturday 9.00am)

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

Church Contacts

Priest in Charge Sarah Hillman
01305 848784

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

Church Wardens

Milborne St. Andrew

John Wright 01258 839090

Pam Shults 01258 837203

www.milborneandrewchurch.org.uk

Dewlish

Jim Burg 01258 837466

Sue Britton 01258 837218

Benefice Office

Keri Gray puddletownadmin@fsmail.net
The office at Longmead is now closed and
Keri can be contacted by email or by phone
on 07722 079475.

she and I are also Secretary and Treasurer, for the time being anyway. Our grateful thanks go to our retiring treasurer Andy Mott and PCC member Josie Wright for all they have done on the PCC, and we welcome Richard Lock as a new member.

The **annual report** distributed for the annual meeting has highlighted a few facts about the parish that we must attend to. Our main task must be to reduce the gap between our income and expenditure.

Removing the dying ash tree in the new graveyard was a great deal easier than last year's removal of trees interfering with the church roof; nobody wanted to be responsible for any delay in case it fell down in the wind! However, we have noticed that a number of graves in that area have been modified or decorated contrary to rules set by Salisbury Diocese. If anyone is thinking of adding anything to the ornaments on their family's grave you should check its legality with one of the churchwardens.

After a two year break we have decided to join the Dorset Wildlife Trust's '**Living Churchyard Scheme**' again. Pat Tribe worked very hard to manage the churchyard for at least 12 years and her efforts were always 'highly commended' by the trust; we want to continue the work she started.

By the time you read this Sarah Godfrey and Roy Bennett will have left us and Sarah Hillman will be the only normally available priest in the benefice. This means that we will be trying a **new monthly schedule of services** so that each church can have a service every Sunday. The plan for Milborne is to have our team-led All Age **Celebrate service with breakfast** on the first Sunday of each month, a sung **Parish Communion service** on the second and fourth Sundays and a said **Matins** from the 1662 Book of Common Prayer on the third Sunday. When there is a fifth Sunday this will be a service for the whole benefice in one of the four churches as before.

We are pleased to announce that our **new church guide book** has now been finished and copies of this detailed guide are now available in church for £2.50.

The Village Trail that we organised was much enjoyed by those who took part, and it was felt that we should run it again when more people could take part. Before that, however, we are doing a car wash at the village hall on **Saturday 10th May** from 9.30am to 1.00pm in aid of Christian Aid, and on **17th May** we will have a cake stall at the May Fayre.

John Wright and Pam Shults (Churchwardens)

All Saints', Dewlish Church Notes

Oh! What a lovely morning! We hope!

OUR Coffee Morning and Spring Sale was a great success, raising £453.39 for church funds. A big thank-you to all who gave so generously and to those who supported us on the day.

Sadly, our congregation numbers were very low for Mothering Sunday. However, we enjoyed the service and loved the posies we were given. Thank you to the four ladies who, after a very busy day, made up the posies. At least our gardens were full of flowers this year!

Next month Mrs Margaret Groves is arranging a **Coffee Morning for Christian Aid** in the Village Hall on **Saturday 17th May**, 10.30am-12 noon. There will be various stalls, including cakes and produce and bring-and-buy items. Margaret would be glad of any donations.

Ascension Day this year falls on **Thursday 29th May**, and we shall once again be holding our Service at the top of Greenways (by the mast) at **6.30am**. Let's hope for a lovely morning!

Daphne Burg

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 John on 839090.



The Village Hall
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LOTTERY FUNDED **MAKING A DIFFERENCE**

Sarah Godfrey's Institution and Welcome at Milborne Port

Monday 7th July 7.00pm

MANY people from the benefice, I am sure, would like to support Sarah on this special day by their presence as well as their prayers.

There is a possibility that we might be able to run a minibus from Puddletown to Milborne Port, which would be more environmentally friendly than taking lots of cars, easier on the parking and a boon for those who feel uncomfortable driving at night. If this is something that might interest you, please let Sarah Hillman know by 31st May. Cost will be dependent on numbers.

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP GROUP IN MILBORNE

We meet at Swiss Cottage every other Thursday
for

COFFEE AND BISCUITS,
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DISCUSSION AND PRAYER

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Time to change your passwords?

ON Monday 7th April, Google Security and Finnish security company Codenomicon revealed that there was a flaw in the security program that many websites use to keep sensitive information secure. What is more, the flaw had existed for two years. The problem is not with the software on the public's home computers, smart phones or tablets, but with the software on the computers called servers that the websites reside on.

When sending sensitive information between your own computer and a website, the information is encrypted. That way even if someone intercepts the information, it will make no sense. You can tell if you are using a secure page on a website as the website address (or url) will start https: (rather than just http:) and a padlock will normally appear somewhere on your web browser.

The flaw allows those who know how to obtain the key to the encrypted information and read it without the knowledge of either the person using the website or the website owners.

A fix for the flaw exists and is being applied by many website owners. Note that there is no software update for members of the public to do.

At the time of writing, there is no evidence that the flaw has been used to steal personal information or passwords, but advice varies. Yahoo recommends that you "change your passwords everywhere – especially your high-security services like email, file storage and banking". Other experts suggest that there is not such a need to rush. Note that you will still remain vulnerable using a website that has not applied the fix even if you change your password. To be fully secure your password for a given website must be changed after that website has applied the fix to its security program. At the time of writing, how you will know if a website was affected and if it has fixed the problem will be down to each individual website.

If you require further information then do a web search for "Heartbleed", which is the name given to the flaw.



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Flooding update

THE water has gone and the first swallow has been sighted so summer must be on its way!

A long cry from the trying and depressing conditions of this last winter but just because the water is out of sight, and therefore out of mind does not mean it will be shoved metaphorically speaking, under the carpet (for some this actually happened!). Far from it! Since my last article, a lot has happened behind the scenes that has focused the minds of all the Highways Department and the Environment Agency in working towards a simple and very cost effective solution to the flooding in the village and especially Milton Road. Following a multi-agency meeting, I received the following confirmation on 20th March from Martin Hill DCC that

"DCC Highways, will look at design options for upgrading our highway surface water system to aid the removal of water that enters the highway when the Bere overflows and also look at how we might be able to pick up the groundwater to stop the road from breaking up.

The next step is for us to carry out a full survey of the drainage system(s), the findings of which will aid us in the design of the enhanced drainage system. I have asked that this work starts in the next three weeks. Once we have all the information and have come up with some costed scheme options we will of course discuss these with yourself and the Parish Council; it will then be a matter of agreeing which option is viable and planning the works. We will want to complete any works before the end of October at the very latest."

The discovery by a clever Freedom of Information request by Councillor Mike Hopper has also confirmed that there have always been THREE major drains across the A354 and that this spare capacity could have been engaged decades ago to remove the



This picture shows the two obvious outlets and there is another further up. Why have the drains not been connected properly before when the culvert is photographed every two years? Why has Highways always denied their existence? At present they are barely using 5% of their capacity but only when Milton Road is flooded.

surface water that has congregated outside the Londis shop and caused misery for so many. Hopefully, before next winter, we will have modern and effective drains. These will not stop the Bere from flooding but WILL stop water backing up all along Milton Road and will have a major effect in lowering the whole of the groundwater throughout the village. This will have a major long term beneficial effect for the whole village in which everyone gains, not least of which we will lose our reputation as a flood village.

I am indebted to Bob Walter MP and his office staff for their complete and unwavering support in bringing about this change in attitude of DCC and for raising our difficulties with not only Ministers of State but also leading members of DCC and

Celebrating 70 years of the Village Hall

May Fayre

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Bar
Wellie and Egg throwing
Marching Band
Doggy Treats and pup-cakes
Bouncy Castle
Cake Stall
Karate Demonstration
Grand Raffle
Butterfly Conservation
Face Painting
Arts and Crafts



Milborne St Andrew Village Hall
Saturday 17th May 2014
12.00 - 5.00pm
(followed by an evening celebration of the anniversary)

Environment Agency. Following Bob's personal recommendation along with four other representatives from similarly badly affected villages, I was invited to attend a post-flood fact finding seminar on 21st March chaired by Oliver Letwin MP. Reporting directly to the Cabinet and the Prime Minister, he was most interested in our progress to solving our flooding issues and has asked to be kept informed of progress and to be informed immediately if the promises made above are not kept.

Wessex Water have also been proactive throughout the period and have only just stopped the expensive tankering to the village's sewers. For many, this unseen intervention has allowed the village to keep flushing, for others it has stopped raw sewage from entering houses and gardens. Either way I would like to publicly thank them for their highly supportive programme. I am reliably informed that they are also making a major civil engineering commitment to lining all the sewers and repairing or replacing suspect chambers in the coming months.

With the best will in the world it is very easy to forget what has happened and just enjoy the summer. Unfortunately this has happened every year – promises of some work being done but cancelled because of other priorities or make do and mend. Milborne has suffered too long over these false dawns and when there is a very simple solution (in civil engineering terms) pressure will continue to be brought to bear on all the agencies to do what should have been done decades ago.

Finally, for those of you who have actually been flooded, financial help is available from a variety of sources. There are two links below for claiming grants (up to £5,000) which you may find useful. Please contact me if you need further assistance.
<https://www.dorsetforyou.com/412795>
<http://www.dorsetcommunityfoundation.org/apply-for-a-grant/flood-relief-fund/>

Steve Lord Flood Warden



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May Fayre is back with a bang

THIS year's May Fayre promises to be better than ever and opens with a crash, bang, wallop – the Dolphin Marching Band are set to give the event a rumbustious opening. There are lots of new things to see and do, as well as welcoming back all the old favourites. The fun dog show is sure to provide lots of interest and entertainment across six classes and, adding to the theme, Dorset Search Dogs return to demonstrate their amazing abilities in finding lost people. More music is provided by the Dorset FM truck, with DJ Steve Bulley doing a live, on-air link up with the studio.

There will be stalls galore with everything from handmade crafts to homemade doggy treats, from a book stall to face-painting. If you're after something for the garden, you're in luck as there's plant stalls, vegetable plants, and even an opportunity for younger fayre-goers to put together a 'caterpillar munchbox'. Butterfly Conservation brings their Munching Caterpillars roadshow to Milborne and provides a hands-on chance for children to learn more about butterflies and moths. More fun for kids can be found in Children's Corner – bouncy castle and lots more.

A sideshow that may prove popular – especially since many Milborners have spent the first two months of 2014 in rubber boots – is the wellie throwing; it could even become a village tradition after monsoon winters! After chucking your wellies, you could have a go at catching an egg – raw, of course.

It's a special year for the village hall as this is the 70th anniversary of its existence – in 1944 a deed was signed that granted the land to the community – and the hall was eventually built a few years later. There will be a display of memorabilia and photos showing the history of the hall and its users over those years. After the afternoon's activities, a celebratory party will continue in the evening at the hall and all are welcome to join in.

The fayre takes place on **Saturday 17th May**, with the fun starting at noon. Refreshments will be in abundance – barbecue, cream teas, cakes, ice cream, hot drinks, soft drinks and a licenced bar.

The committee would like to thank our local sponsors, which will ensure more May Fayre proceeds are donated to participating village organisations.

Ed Richards

A Good Read by Shirley Dunkley

The Daughters of Mars by Thomas Keneally

THIS year of remembrance has led to a plethora of books about the First World War – it is hard not to be aware of its significance. Among these books is one, originally published in Australia, but now available here, The Daughters of Mars by Thomas Keneally, which describes the experience of nurses recruited into Australian Military Hospitals. It tells the story of Sally and Naomi Durance, born in the outback, trained in Sydney Hospital, who volunteer in 1914 and spend the next four years serving in Europe. They start in the Dardanelles and work through the horrific battles at Gallipoli, move on to the Greek island of Lemnos, which is Naomi's base for a while, until both end up in France. Sally remains with the official hospital service, but Naomi is recruited by an eccentric English Lady, whose money is used to set up a private hospital which is freer to experiment with innovative ideas about hygiene and the spread of infection.

A group of five or six girls with whom the sisters train is the focus of the novel, their responses to the horrendous challenges they meet, their relationships sometimes doomed with the men they meet at the front and their swift and painful growth to maturity – characters formed and fired in the cauldron of war. The action is fast moving but the length of the book means that nothing feels skimmed. The relationship between the sisters is central as the jealousies and competitiveness of their former lives are superseded by their loyalty and love for each other. There are moving and at times scary descriptions of events: a hospital ship wrecked at sea, the bombing of clearing stations, the effects of gas, but the book is never morbid, never depressing, never sentimental. Tom Keneally (as he is known in Australia) tells it as it was – it is not a polemic but an account of extraordinary times making extraordinary demands on ordinary people.

Coffee, Cake and Computers

THE Easter raffle was won by David Payne. Second prize was won by Dennis Ballard and the third by Brian Burton. Many thanks to everyone who contributed items to the raffle and those who so generously bought tickets. Thanks to your support we raised over £70.00 which will help to prop up our group's finances.

David was presented with his prize by Sarah Godfrey and the group took the opportunity to wish Sarah well in her move to Milborne Port as well as thanking her for her regular and enthusiastic support of the Friday Drop-In since it started up several years ago.



Our group is running a "Doggy" themed stall at the May Fayre. As well as selling items for and providing information about the Cinnamon Trust, we will be selling dog-friendly pupcakes made with delicious (to dogs!) ingredients and also selling home made dog biscuits and other treats. Also you will be able to guess where your dog would have buried a bone on a Treasure Hunt map, guess the number of dog biscuits in the jar and try your hand at guessing the name of a cute toy puppy with the chance of winning him or her as a prize.

We hope to see you there with or without your dogs and look forward to your support on Saturday 17th May.

Rose and Ed Frost.

Sunday bus service withdrawn

AS from 6th April the Sunday Damory 183 service (Weymouth – Blandford – Salisbury) is withdrawn.

This reduction in service is one of several recently announced by Dorset County Council. Further information can be found on the Travel Dorset website or via the link on the Parish Council web pages at www.milbornestandrew.org.uk/parishcouncil.

GERRY'S PLANTS

**Shrubs – Perennials – Rockery
Herbs – Vegetable – Soft-fruit
Basket – Bedding plants**

12 The Rings

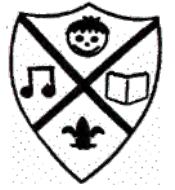
Milborne St. Andrew

Blandford, Dorset DT11 0HY

Tel: 01258 837386



Milborne St. Andrew First School



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

School News

THERE has been a very full schedule of events in school during the latter part of the Spring term. Years 3 and 4 visited the Dorset County Museum and the Roman town house to conclude their topic work for this term, enjoying hands on time in the museum before a guided tour of the town house.



Year 3 children took part in a poetry performance with the other first schools in the St. Mary's mini pyramid of schools. After working with Jo Simons of Dorchester Youth Theatre to write their own poetry they performed to parents at an evening show at St. Mary's Middle School.

Year 4 children took part in a singing performance at St. Osmund's Middle School along with other DASP first schools. They performed in front of a large audience, the highlight being their singing of "Under the Sea". Year 4 children also enjoyed visiting Milton Abbey School to watch their production of Evita.



At the end of March we welcomed 10 local first schools to join us at our football festival. Year 3 and 4 children took part in the six-a-side tournament. Milborne fielded two teams who along-side the other teams showed great sportsmanship and some fabulous football. Milborne A made it through to the group A semi-final, narrowly losing to the eventual tournament winners Piddle Valley in a penalty shoot-out.



For Sport Relief the whole school dressed as their sporting heroes and raised money through selling wristbands and getting sponsorship to run a mile. Each class (and staff) ran laps around the playground to complete the distance from school to Poole. Milton Abbey Sports Club arranged for everyone to receive a Sport Relief



mile medal for their efforts and in total £335 was sent from school to the charity. Thank you to everyone who supported the event.

The final day of the spring term was our Easter celebrations. Children and parents walked to St. Andrew's church for a service led by Rev Sarah Godfrey. Sarah has been supporting the school for many years and we wish her well as she moves to her new parish. The children were in good voice after learning songs with Mrs

Macnair and year 4 children told the Easter story. After returning to school for some welcome refreshments thanks to Friends of School the traditional egg rolling event took place. Children rolled their decorated eggs, which had previously been judged, from the playground hill and prizes were awarded for the furthest egg. As the pictures show the decorated eggs were very varied in design and certainly made the judge smile. To round off the Easter events children took part in an



Easter Peg hunt, being able to trade in their peg for a chocolate bunny at the end of the day. The freedom bell rang out at 3.00pm to signal the end of the spring term and we look forward to welcoming everyone back to school for the summer term.



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:** Mrs Becky Hunter

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

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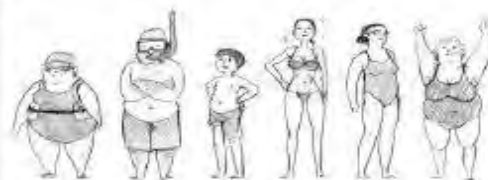
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Running Kit

THE most fundamental element of your running kit is your running shoes. In today's world buying a new pair of trainers can be bewildering as there is a vast range of choice depending on where you want to run, how you run and of course how much you want to spend.

I would always advise going to a specialist running shop, as these will ordinarily be staffed by runners, who will measure and study your feet and stance to provide a bespoke fitting. Some shops also offer gait analysis, a video of you running on a treadmill, to ensure you receive the optimal shoe. They will be able to explain different running styles such as heel to toe striking, pronation and over-pronation.

Shoes fall into a number of categories ranging from neutral shoes (good for mechanically efficient runners), to motion control shoes (for heavier runners who need more support) and finally performance shoes (based around efficiency and racing). Some of these performance shoes are moving towards a less cushioned design, which accentuates a more efficient gait but needs time to become accustomed to. If you are a new runner then it would be advisable to steer clear of minimalist shoes which provide a low profile and encourage midfoot and forefoot running, as they are less forgiving and can cause injury if your running form is not suitable.

If you intend to run off road then you will need to opt for a trail shoe; these are more durable but critically have a much more studded outsole. The road shoes on the other hand are much flatter and offer more stability depending on the style. The important overriding factors therefore are; to buy the right size, seek professional advice if you are going to take your running seriously and get the right shoe for the terrain you want to run in. As with all these things take it slow to begin with, particularly if you are moving to a new brand or running style, to avoid injury and have fun.

Matt Briars is a conservationist, horticulturalist and personal trainer who has worked outdoors for the last decade. He has a passion for the Dorset countryside and runs a lifestyle approach to being fit and well. You are welcome to email Matt with any queries (muddyrunner@hotmail.co.uk).

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Calling all canines for May Fayre dog show

THERE'S something for every hound at this year's dog show at the May Fayre, with six classes scheduled. Making a return from last time is the crowd-pleaser, Temptation Alley, a test of obedience in which your faithful friend must walk close to your heel, ignoring the minefield of cooked sausages, tennis balls and other doggie delights right under his nose. It is a feat of sausage avoidance, or a chance to enjoy an all-you-can-eat buffet – only your dog will let you know which on the day!

A new class at this year's dog show is Best Trick – has your dog got a special party piece or a routine to impress the judge? It could be anything from 'roll over' to a mini-drama – we're sure Milborne's dogs have got talent, so come and show us.

For the more athletic (and maybe not so athletic too!), the Hurdles class is set to be re-run again. At 2012's dog show, some quick times were recorded over the jumps, but your pet doesn't need to be a superstar hurdler to take part – or even long-legged, as lower jumps are offered for shorter legs.

Presiding over these classes is David Harding, vet from the Damory practice in Blandford. He will also have the challenge of picking out the best dog and the best bitch from the Most Handsome Male and Prettiest Girl classes. Rosettes will be awarded to the top three in each of the six classes, with prizes for each place. There is also a class just for the juveniles – Best Junior is open to all dogs under the age of 18 months.

The show starts at 2.00pm with registration available when the May Fayre opens at noon. With thanks to the *Reporter* for their support and also Waggy Foods for place prizes.

Ed Richards

Bus2Go Spring Schedule

BUS2GO will be at the May Fayre on the 17th, our stall will be selling home-made jewellery, cards, bags and scarves. Outings in May include Jailhouse Café on the 14th, Swanage Railway on the 24th and Galton Garden Centre on 28th.

June outings will include a day out in Christchurch, Saturday 14th June and lunch at the Jailhouse Café, 25th June.

Margo Kirk

100 CLUB WINNERS

Draw Date – Tuesday 15th April 2014

1st prize	£100	Malcolm Applin
2nd prize	£50	Val Hodges

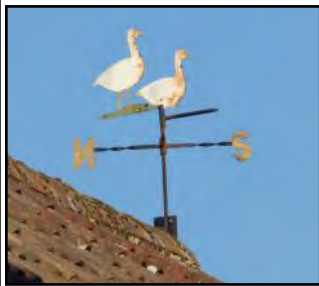
We are in desperate need for more people to join the 100 Club. Our numbers have dropped so much that we are unable to give a 3rd prize

The next draw is at 8.00pm in The Royal Oak,
Tuesday 20th May 2014

Everyone is welcome to attend

New members always welcome. Contact
June Maitland 837235 or
Denise Sanderson 837049

Payments may be made by a cheque payable to
MSA FC and Church 100 club
*Please speak to Denise Sanderson, Jenny Balcon
or June Maitland for information.*



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 June Reporter.

Now you see them, now you don't

SOMEWHERE in the picture are Ladybird children. They love making dens indoors and outside with whatever is available. I expect many of you remember making dens – under the kitchen table or with your mother's wooden clothes horse! Some things never change.

This month the older children who will go to First School in September spent a morning at school. They had a tour of the school with Mrs Greening, spent time in the Reception classroom, took part in the traditional egg rolling, joined in an egg hunt and then made nest egg cakes. Phew, what a busy day – all enjoyed the day – a positive start to our transition to school programme. Thank you Miss Wittman and Mrs Greening.

The younger children had their own Easter activities at the Hall with the egg and spoon race being particularly popular.

After Easter we will be welcoming Caroline to our team. Caroline recently moved to Tolpuddle from Poole where she worked in a preschool for several years.

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Contact Details:

Jayne Hamilton (Secretary) 01258 837260

Liz Dyer (Playgroup Manager) 01258 839117

www.milborneladybirds.org.uk

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Data harvesting – should you opt out?

PATIENT Voice (the Patient Reference Group for Milton Abbas and Milborne St. Andrew Surgery) held their first AGM on 9th April at Milborne Village Hall. They were joined by Carol Taylor, the new Practice Manager, and Dr Julian Rees.

Carol, who joined the surgery on 1st January, advised the group that her prime focus was on improved communication and customer service and that she also saw the appointment as an opportunity to share best practice with Puddletown Surgery, for whom she is also the Practice Manager.

She also shared results of a couple of surveys she had recently undertaken. Firstly, the centre of gravity of the patient population is in the Milton Abbas area and this information will be useful in determining where any future surgery may be sited.

Secondly, 606 patients had failed to appear for appointments in the quarter January to March 2014, although it was recognised this number may have been slightly distorted by the effects of the flooding particularly in the Milborne area. Nevertheless, it perhaps goes some way to explaining why patients find it so difficult to get appointments with their GP.

A key subject of debate was NHS data collection. In due course, beneficial medical research will inevitably result from the gathering of so much information but it is also very likely that the Government will sell data to third parties. The concern is where the “sales pitch” stops. If it goes to drug manufacturers that is likely to be overall a good outcome as it should help in the development of new medicines to combat disease; however, nobody knows what insurers might do if they get their hands on the data – despite the so called “anonymity” of individual records. It is, of course, ultimately up to each and every one of us to decide for ourselves whether or not to opt out. If you wish to do so, please collect a form from the surgery or go on their website to download an “opt out” form. The collection exercise will start in September.

Concern was expressed about North Dorset District Council's withdrawal of its contribution towards the Blandford Fly spraying programme on the banks of the River Stour next year and Patient Voice will be canvassing our doctors to ensure the Clinical Commissioning Group takes on the responsibility for continuing this essential activity. The annual exercise costs around £12,000 and it is reported that before the spraying programme began as many as 1,400 people per year were bitten by the Fly (the little bug... !) resulting in blistering and bad swelling in the area of the bite.

Colin Harte, Colin White and Nigel Hodder were elected as Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary respectively for the coming year.

If you are interested in learning more about Patient Voice please email patientvoice@live.co.uk or ring Colin Harte, Chair on 01258 837546.

Nigel Hodder

LETTERS

to the Reporter

Dear Editor,

We would like to thank you for including the article regarding Cat Snuggles and Tom and Sybil Palmer in the last edition of the Reporter.

We both think that the Neighbourcar Scheme is a wonderful help to anyone who is unable to walk very well and cannot because of illness always drive themselves to Hospital or the Doctors.

In our case, on this occasion it was our lovely old cat Snuggles who needed help to get to the Cats Hospital in Havant, Hampshire.

When we have needed help to get somewhere the Neighbourcar drivers have always helped us and we are so grateful to them for being there for us. They are the most wonderful caring people we have ever met, we feel they are all our friends now and we are so thankful to have them.

We think that Nigel who organises all of this is a clever and understanding man to do what he does. It must take a lot of his precious time doing this, thank you too, Nigel.

Please would you include our message in the Reporter so they will all know how much they mean to us.

Sincerely,

Sybil and Tom Palmer, and Snuggles.

Deadline for the next issue 14th May

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Community Contacts

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

More information about many community organisations can be found on www.milbornestandrew.org.uk

COUNCILS

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
Floods		
A354 problems contact the Highways Agency		0300 1235000
Dorset Direct		01305 221000
dorsetdirect@dorsetcc.gov.uk www.dorsetforyou.com/reportroadproblems		
Environment Agency Floodline		0845 9881188
South West Highways hello@swhitd.co.uk		01404 821500

GENERAL – ADULT

Computer Drop-in Centre	Rose and Ed Frost	01258 837921
Ladies Group – Dewlish	Judith Bridgen	01258 837157
Moonlight Swing Band	Gillian Pink	01305 260731
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 837114
Secretary:	Brian Burton	01258 839033
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	101
Safer Neighbourhood Team	PC Dave Mullins and PCSO Luke Goddard	101

SCHOOL

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

SPECIAL INTEREST

Cribbage	Peter Anthony	01258 837089
Bellringers	Pip Howell	01258 837329
Bridge Group	Laurie Benn	01258 837720
Food and Wine Society	Julie Johannsen	01258 839004
MSA Allotment Society Chair:	Jo Lovett	07960 854155
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
Archers – Crossways	Sheila Ryall	01258 837504
Athletics – Junior	David Pearson	01258 837057
Badminton	David Payne	01258 837700
Circuit Training and Pilates	Claire Barratt	01929 550244

or 07540626174

Cricket – Dewlish	Elaine Kellaway	01258 837696
Cricket Club – Milton Abbas	Colin Chastey	01258 882162
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:	Phillip Hayter	07830 125610
Bookings:	Dean Hamilton	01258 837370
Tap Dancing for Adults	Libby Goodchild	01305 268029
Tennis	Dennis Nelson	01258 837734
Tennis (Members Secretary)	John Sanderson	01258 837049
Yoga	Sue Chapman	01305 848053
Yoga	Sarah Ryan	01258 839230

VILLAGE HALL

Dewlish		
Chairman:	Alex Carter	01258 837312
Secretary:	Alex Carter	01258 837312
Milborne St. Andrew		
Chairman:	Paul Tasker	07801 714619
Booking Secretary:	Sandie Sach	01258 837033

HEALTH


Bere Regis Surgery		01929 471268
Milborne St. Andrew Surgery		01258 837383
Milton Abbas Surgery		01258 880210
Puddletown Surgery		01305 848333
NHS for emergencies		111



Milborne Movies

Friday 2nd May 2014
at 7.30pm

Doors and Bar at 7.00pm

Supported by 



Milborne St. Andrew Village Hall

Tickets £3.00

Inspired by the true story of a search for a lost son

Community Events Diary

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

- May**
- Friday 2nd** **Computers, Cake and Coffee** reopens after Easter break Village Hall Committee Room 10.00am.
Milborne Movies *Philomena* Village Hall 7.30pm – see pages 18 and 25.
- Wednesday 7th** **Wednesday Club** outing to Abbotsbury Gardens.
- Saturday 10th** **Christian Aid Car Wash** Village Hall car park 9.30am to 1.00pm – see page 5.
Village Quiz Village Hall 7.30pm – see page 27.
- Sunday 11th** **Gardening Club Plant Sale** Village Hall 10.30pm – see pages 2 and 17.
- Wednesday 14th** **Reporter** latest date for the June issue.
- Thursday 15th** **WI** Village Hall Larry Skeats will talk about '*Call My Bluff*' 7.30pm – see page 3.
- Saturday 17th** **Coffee Morning for Christian Aid** in Dewlish Village Hall 10.30am–12 noon. – see page 5.
May Fayre and Dog Show Village Hall – see pages 9 and 11.
Deed Day 70th Anniversary Evening Party Village Hall 7.30pm – see pages 5.
- Tuesday 20th** **100 Club Draw** The Royal Oak everyone welcome to attend – see page 15 and below.
- Wednesday 21st** **Parish Council** Village Hall. Everyone welcome 7.30pm – see page 30 for April report.
- Saturday 24th** **Samantha Sings The Shows** Village Hall 7.30pm – see pages 2 and 7.
- Saturday 31st** **Village Lunch** Village Hall 12.15pm. Tickets from Drop-in Centre in Village Hall Committee Room on Fridays 10am to 12 noon – see page 2.

Regular Bookings at the Village Hall

- Ladybirds Playgroup** Monday–Friday 8.30am–1.00pm MH (term time only)
- Beavers** Monday 5.00–6.30pm 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
- Yoga** Thursday 1.30–2.45pm MH
- Gardening Club** fourth Thursday 7.30–10.00pm MH
- Karate** Thursday 5.10–6.40pm MH
- Village Hall Committee** third Thursday every two months 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)
- Village Lunch** last Saturday of the month 12.15–2.30pm MH
- Sequence Dancing** third Saturday 7.30–10.30pm 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

May 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).



Milborne Mini Soccer

Training on Wednesdays. Reception children aged 4 and 5 years old 3.30 until 4.00pm; Year 1 and 2s at 4.00pm; Year 3 and 4s at 6.00pm.
Year 5's who now train in two groups, one at 4.00pm on Wednesdays and the other at 6.00pm on Thursdays.

Please let the Reporter know if there are any alterations to this list or you would like something added.

Milborne 100 Club

1st PRIZE £100 2nd PRIZE £50
3rd PRIZE depends on number of members paid
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Please make cheques payable to
MSA FC and Church 100 Club

For information contact:

John Sanderson Football Club 837049
June Maitland Church 837235
Denise Sanderson Collector 837049



MAY 2014

WEDNESDAY May 14th
JAILHOUSE CAFÉ, Portland
£6.50 return fare ~ lunch extra

SATURDAY May 24th
Swanage Railway
£18.50 to include return bus and train fare
lunch extra

WEDNESDAY May 28th
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£6.50 return fare ~ Lunch extra

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From Milborne to Auschwitz-Birkenau via Dartmoor

By Chloe Elcock

DURING the February half term I took part in the Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) course on Dartmoor. It was a week of challenge-by-choice activities including hiking, a river dunk and many team-building tasks.

I was nervous about attending the course because I didn't know anybody going and didn't know what to expect. However, I was also excited about the opportunities available. I would get to take part in hikes and various challenging activities and I would meet lots of new people. Throughout the week we had several navigation tasks in which we were given certain checkpoints to navigate to. On Wednesday and Thursday we had a one-night expedition over the moor for which I was the team leader of the Blue team. To become the leader we had to do a two-minute talk on why we should be chosen as the leader, this took a lot of courage to stand up and speak in front of people as I had never really spoken to larger groups of people however I stood up and gave a two-minute talk which overall helped me to improve my confidence in public speaking.

The tasks on the course were designed to improve our leadership skills, our confidence and our teamwork; they pushed us both mentally and physically and when I had completed the course I felt a huge sense of achievement. During the week I took part in many tasks that improved my confidence – an example of this was the climb up a smooth granite face during foul weather on our expedition; we abseiled down the face and then had to climb back up to the top, halfway through the climb I started to lose morale and confidence as I was really cold due to the rain and kept losing my footing due to the smooth granite face. However, I persevered and when I reached the top felt a huge sense of achievement and was glad that I hadn't given up. Another example of a challenge that built up my confidence was the river dunk on the Tuesday; there had



Chloe Elcock is aged 17. She attended Milborne First School, then St. Mary's Puddletown and she is now currently in Year 12 at The Thomas Hardy School in Dorchester.

Chloe is studying for her A Levels in Textiles, Maths, Applied Science and General Studies. She is also doing a BTEC course in Outdoor Adventure at Kingston Maurward and hopes to carry on studying for her A2 Levels.

the shepherd, they had to guide us into pen with only the sound of a whistle and a clap and he could not come and physically guide us into the pen. This also improved our listening skills as we had to block out all other noises apart from the shepherd.

From all of the various tasks and activities I have learnt many leadership skills and various styles of leadership. For example you don't always have to be a dictatorial leader in the centre of the group, you can take a 'helicopter approach' and get an all around view of what is happening in the group.

Throughout the week we had several talks from Jack Russell who is a leading inspirational speaker. One of the talks we had was on emotional intelligence, this is so that we understand the feelings of the other team members and are able to communicate and motivate them in a suitable way so as to best achieve our goal and keep morale high.

From the whole of this experience I wish to take what I have learnt and gained to help others to achieve what I did, especially those within the CCF at Thomas Hardy School. I would recommend that anyone who has the option to apply to do so as I believe what I have taken from this course to be hugely beneficial.

Auschwitz-Birkenau

On 18th March I was one of two members of the Thomas Hardy School to join 200 others from the south west of England to go and visit Auschwitz-Birkenau in Poland as part of the Holocaust Education Trust's (HET) Lessons from Auschwitz (LFA) project. We were split into groups for each of the three steps from the initial orientation seminar, for the trip to Poland and also the follow up seminar. Each group had approximately 20 participants, and a HET Holocaust educator who asked guided questions to the group and also was available for us to speak to and ask questions to about the subject.

When I was offered the opportunity to be part of the LFA project and to visit Auschwitz I was very apprehensive. However, following my involvement with Holocaust Memorial Day on the 27th January, being part of an IoE beacon school in Holocaust and Genocide Education and seeing how little many people know about the Holocaust and recent genocides I wanted to learn more myself to then inform and pass on my own knowledge to others to get as many people to know what happened so that Genocides and inhumane actions will not happen again.

My experiences of Auschwitz-Birkenau were ones to be remembered not because it was an enjoyable experience but because of the vast scale of the Holocaust and the sheer size of Auschwitz-Birkenau. I also will never be able to comprehend the extent of the planned and thought through process of the Holocaust



Blue Team HASH: *This picture is of Blue Team, the team which I was part of. Here we were at check point 7 in the middle of our HASH task where we had to meet at certain checkpoints. However we had to navigate our own route to complete the task.*

been a lot of rain recently and the river was extremely cold and fast flowing, we were given the opportunity to be dunked in the river and I volunteered to do it. I initially splashed my face to get used to the water then when I felt happy to, my leader held onto my life-jacket and I dunked my whole body in, when I came out of the water I was speechless at the cold of the water but was pleased that I had done it.

From the course I gained an increase in my confidence and ability to lead a team of people. Our team-work was improved throughout the week, one example of this was when we were all blindfolded sheep. As we were not allowed to know where the pen was in which we would be herded into, and there was one person selected to be



A Rose amongst Auschwitz-Birkenau: This image is taken from the top of the Gate Tower over looking the Waggon Tracks. It especially stood out for me as a symbol of memorial and rehumanisation of life amongst a Death Camp for millions.

and Nazi persecution. It was an emotional experience of how each individual victim had been dehumanised as soon as they were taken into the concentration camp; their names were replaced by numbers and they were made to wear uniform and to have their hair cut.

Because of these experiences of my visit I now want to rehumanise the victims of the Holocaust and Nazi persecution by

passing on and telling survivor testimonies such as Holocaust survivor Ziggi Shipper who I listened to in the Orientation Seminar following up our time in Poland. I found that listening to survivor testimonies, whether they were first hand or second hand, had a huge impact on the way you think about what happened as you can hear a personal life account that is incomprehensible. Also to rehumanise the victims by putting a name back to family photos as this is one of the items which was taken away from prisoners and victims as they were sent in by cattle wagons (tiny wooden carts which were a mode of transport designed for animals to travel in for short distances, however was used for between 80–90 innocent victims to travel for as long as nine days with no light, no food, and no water. Something that no one will be able to understand how it felt apart from those who were transported) through the death gates of Auschwitz-Birkenau to try and dehumanise each individual.

However I also learnt and realised whilst I was in Auschwitz that the perpetrators were normal people and not monsters, they too had families and friends, personal belongings and homes where they lived.

As a final part of the project I will be carrying out a Next Steps Project in which I will focus on two main themes, rehumanisation and memorialisation. For this I will be talking to the whole school in college groups during assemblies about my experiences and how I want them to know what happened. Also I am hoping to carry out a couple of workshop sessions with a couple of classes in either year nine or sixth form to have a visual learning opportunity.

My aim now is to focus on the HMDT motto;

'To help make a safer and better future'

The Reporter would like to thank Chloe for this splendid article. She has not only explained her motivation on these two occasions, but also revealed a great deal about her own outlook on life. We also thank Richard Lock for bringing Chloe to our attention.

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Cold calls make you hot?

WHY is it that sales representatives always ring just as you sit down to dinner, or knock on the door just as you step into the bath? Is there anything you can do to try to stop it?

It's not illegal to cold call in itself, unless you have already told the business that you do not wish to be contacted by them.

If they are contacting you by telephone then caller display on your phone can help; if you don't recognise the number, don't answer it. But what if friends and family have withheld numbers – you don't want to miss their calls.

We recommend registering your telephone number with the Telephone Preference Service (TPS). This is a free 'opt out' service which records your preference not to receive unsolicited sales or marketing calls from UK based companies. Once registered, report any persistent callers to the TPS – you'll need to know what company they have called from and when they called. UK companies that persist in calling TPS registered telephone numbers can face large fines. A local company was recently fined £37,992.00 following action taken by Trading Standards for ignoring residents' wishes not to call them.

Stopping cold callers at the door, unfortunately, can be more difficult. Most local authorities provide 'No uninvited doorstep traders' signs which can be placed near a front door or gate. If the brave salesperson continues to knock – feel free to point to the sign and explain that you do not agree to anything on your doorstep. Any person who refuses to leave should be reported to the police. It may help to complain in writing to the head office of the company if their representatives continue to come back. Make it clear that you do not want any further visits and keep a copy.

The Telephone Preference Service can be contacted on 0845 070 0707 or www.tpsonline.org.uk.

To request a doorcard or report a business that persistently cold calls contact Citizens Advice Consumer Service on 08454 040506.



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Safer Neighbourhoods are a commitment by Dorset Police to improving the quality of life within our communities by working together with partners to target the issues identified by you – local people – as those that matter most.

There are a number of opportunities that the Safer Neighbourhood Team in your area will provide, on an ongoing basis, for you to voice your concerns. Get in touch with your team today to find out how you can raise your issues.

This is your chance to influence the service that we, the police, and our partners, provide. Your opinions are important to us and this process will not work without you.

How to contact your team

Telephone: **101**. If a crime is in progress or life in danger dial **999**.

Email: blandfordruralnorth@dorset.pnn.police.uk

Follow us on Twitter: @BlandfordSNT

Find us on Facebook: Blandford Safer Neighbour

Go to: www.dorset.police.uk

**A date for your diary – Saturday 10th May
Village Hall Quiz**

Local small-ads

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

For Sale – Printer, Epson stylist SX415, unused. £25 phone 837522.

For Sale – Computer desk grey with sliding keyboard shelf. Holes on bottom layer due to computer being attached – shouldn't cause a problem. Depth 50cm Height 78cm Width 80cm. £10.00. Phone 837522.

For Sale – Conservatory settee, two armchairs and table for sale £40 or near offer. Tel. No. 01258 839033.

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Philomena (12A)

shown by 'Milborne Movies'
at Milborne St. Andrew Village Hall
on Friday 2nd May 2014 at 7.30pm

THIS film is based on a powerful but true story of Philomena Lee (Judi Dench), a retired nurse who had her son, aged three, forcibly taken away when she was a teenage "fallen woman" living in a Catholic convent where she was not only forced to sign a document relinquishing her parental rights but also promising to never even ask to see her son again. Without being given an opportunity to say goodbye, he was adopted by a wealthy family from USA and whisked away to the city of Chicago. Meanwhile, Philomena remained beholden to the abbey where she continued to serve at the beck-and-call of the Sisters of the Sacred Heart order, until eventually she escaped the convent to train as a nurse.

When former journalist Martin Sixsmith (Steve Coogan) is dismissed from the Labour Party in disgrace, he is at a loss as to what do. That changes when a young Irish woman approaches him about the story of her mother, Philomena who, despite starting a family years later in England, is still consumed with worry about the fate of her son on the date of his 50th birthday. Martin arranges a magazine assignment about her search for him that eventually leads to America. Along the way, Martin and Philomena discover as much about each other as about her son's fate. Martin rarely misses an opportunity to poke fun at Philomena but more often than not she enjoys the last laugh. Directed by twice Oscar-nominee Stephen Frears (for *The Queen* and *The Grifters*) and led by note-perfect performances from Judi Dench and Steve Coogan, *Philomena* offers a profoundly affecting drama for adult filmgoers of all ages. A simple, but moving and exhilarating film, about forgiveness and truth.

The village hall and bar is open from 7.00pm and the film starts at 7.30 pm. Tickets £3.00 can be obtained on the door.

Local Crafts for Local People Stall at Gray's Stores

THE debut of the Local Crafts by Local People craft stall was a great success despite the weather.

There were some really beautiful things available on our first stall; jewellery, paper craft cards, scrumptious cakes, sock monkeys,



knitted toys, patchwork alpaca quilts to name but a few. All handmade and all locally sourced – most were from Milborne St. Andrew and surrounding villages, with the farthest only from Sturminster Newton. We have new people involved for May so come along and see what exciting things we will have this time. Fingers crossed for a dry day on 3rd May.

There is still time to be involved please contact Emma at Gray's Stores, email: localcraft@live.co.uk for more information.

Date for your Diary: **Saturday 3rd May 9.30am – 1.00pm.**

Police news in your area

North Dorset welcomes new arrivals



February saw Blandford SNT introduce two new members of staff. PCSOs Graeme Archibald and Cara-Leigh Lane joined the section on the 10th February after



completing their ten week basic training course at Dorset Police's Winfrith HQ. They are out and about on the streets of Blandford and its surrounding areas for six weeks alongside a PCSO tutor to help guide them through the rigours of day-to-day policing. They will both be very pleased to meet you all so when you see them, please feel free to stop and say hello.

Caught in the act

An offender was disturbed in the act of committing a burglary, because the victim was monitoring it all remotely on CCTV! A male was seen breaking a lock on a hangar door with the intended target believed to be heavy machinery. The Police were called immediately to the area whereby the offender made off in a vehicle. After fleeting sightings of the suspect's vehicle, who seemed to use any off road areas necessary, the male was apprehended and detained. The male is currently on bail, awaiting police investigations. Thanks to the security put in place by the victim and his quick actions in calling the police immediately, led to a positive outcome whereby offenders were caught in the act. It is an excellent example of a member of public's quick actions and willingness to protect their property with useful security equipment, which led to an effective police operation and offenders being caught.



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VILLAGE QUIZ

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SATURDAY 10TH MAY

FIRST QUESTION 7.30PM

TEAMS OF FOUR £1.50 PER
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BAR WILL BE AVAILABLE BUT
PLEASE FEEL FREE TO BRING
YOUR OWN NIBBLES

Dorset Community Action's Big Brekkie

Supporting Communities and Voluntary Organisations in Dorset

Dorset Community Action's Big Brekkie - Wednesday 2nd April

THERE was an impressive turnout for a recent breakfast event, held to celebrate World Autism Awareness Day raising funds for Autism Wessex. 26 people went along to the Community Learning and Resource Centre (CLaRC) Wimborne, to enjoy breakfast.

'We had a fantastic turnout' said Alison Cross, Manager of the Centre. Mr and Mrs Hedley came all the way from Sandford to show their support after their grandson has been recently diagnosed with autism. Members of the Dorset Fire and Rescue team and officers from the East Dorset District Council also popped in to show their support and enjoyed breakfast.

Thanks to the kind support of Sorrels, Reflections, Waitrose and the Co-operative just over £100 was raised from the breakfast donations.

The 'Big Brekkie' was coordinated by Autism Wessex a locally based charity who offer support for anyone affected by autism in Dorset, Hampshire, Somerset and Wiltshire. For more information go to <http://www.dorsetcommunityaction.org.uk/sites/all/modules/civicrm/extern/url.php?u=51731&qid=896149>

As well as breakfast, members of the community had the chance to look around the Community Learning and Resource Centre (CLaRC), which houses a number of community organisations including Dorset Community Action, East Dorset Locality Hub, YMCA Dorset Play Schemes, Steve REnergy and Sorrels Catering. CLaRC has rooms to hire for events and long-term letting at reasonable rates, for more information about CLaRC, call Alison Cross (the centre manager) on 01202 847600.

To find out more information, please visit The Coach House, Acland Road, Dorchester, Dorset DT1 1EF Phone: 01305 250921. Registered Charity no: 1060910. Company Registration No: 3320011.

Did you identify this?

The April picture was taken opposite the footpath in Stileham Bank leading from Crown Court.

Try your luck this month on page 16.

Send your answer to msa.reporter.yahoo.co.uk or give to a member of the Team.



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hassle?

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Have You Met . . . Elaine Anthony?



Have you met Elaine Anthony? She's the lady who runs the Friendly Art Group, and runs The Royal Oak Crib League with her husband Peter. She and her dog Abbie are very familiar characters in the village.

Elaine was born in Enfield, Middlesex in 1954 and is looking forward to celebrating the 'big 6-0' this year.

She passed her 11-plus, which she says was quite an achievement, and went to Enfield County Girls' School. Since moving to Milborne she has discovered two other villagers who attended the

same school – Shirley Dunkley and Ann Mephram. They went on to become teachers at the school, although before Elaine's time as a pupil.

After leaving school Elaine worked for Barclays International Bank in London. She loved this, especially the buzz of the City having come from the relative quiet of the suburbs. It seems a world away from her current job, working part-time in a busy Doctors' Surgery in Blandford, dealing with patients in reception and helping out with the endless mountain of paperwork in the office.

Elaine has lived in Milborne St. Andrew for fifteen years, moving down from Hertfordshire when her husband Peter took early retirement. She has always loved Dorset having spent some happy holidays here as a child. When she was eight years old she won a painting competition with a picture of Lulworth Cove. She thinks the prize was half a crown (twelve and a half new pence) – it seemed like great wealth!

Soon after Elaine and Peter moved here her aunt and uncle, who had lived close to them in Cheshunt, decided to take the plunge and move here, and a year later her parents moved back from Spain to be closer to family as they got older. Elaine thinks it is great to have them all in the village, as she and Peter miss their four children, who are scattered around the UK.

The best things Elaine finds about living in Milborne St. Andrew are the sense of community and the friendliness of the majority of villagers. Elaine loves the fact that there are so many clubs and societies to join and be involved with.

The worst thing? The lack of a safe crossing for pedestrians over the busy A354.

The one thing Elaine would change about the village is an end to the negative attitude towards 'newcomers' by a small minority of people here. She thinks they forget that some of them were 'newcomers' once!

Elaine's pet hate (literally!) is irresponsible dog owners who don't pick up after their dogs or don't control their dogs properly. She thinks they give dog owners a bad name.

Elaine's claim to fame – last year she was awarded a 'Highly Commended' in the Jurassic Coast Award Photography Competition. This was quite a prestigious event with over 1,200 entries, many of them by professional photographers. Elaine's photo of her dog Abbie at Durdle Door caught the judges' eye. The exhibition toured several venues along the coast, so Abbie is quite a star!

Elaine last threw caution to the wind a couple of years ago when she went paragliding from the top of a mountain in the French Alps. She says it was amazing and she still can't believe she had the courage to run off the edge 2,000 metres up. She's glad she has the video to prove it!

Elaine's most embarrassing moment was when she started her first Saturday job in a small clothing and linen store. On her first day she was

working on the till. The money drawer was a bit hard to close so she slammed it shut and caused the till to topple over the front of the counter. She was mortified but luckily no harm was done and she held onto the job. Elaine's second Saturday job sounds more interesting – she worked in a newsagent's shop where Saturday afternoons were quite quiet, so she was able to read all the magazines!

Elaine's main passion in life (apart from Peter and Abbie) is photography. She was very flattered to be given the responsibility of photographing the wedding of Jess and Gren in Woolacombe, Devon. It was a wonderful day and she enjoyed the challenge of photographing such an important event (see below).

Elaine and Peter run the Crib League at The Royal Oak and were narrowly beaten into second place this season by some stiff opposition.

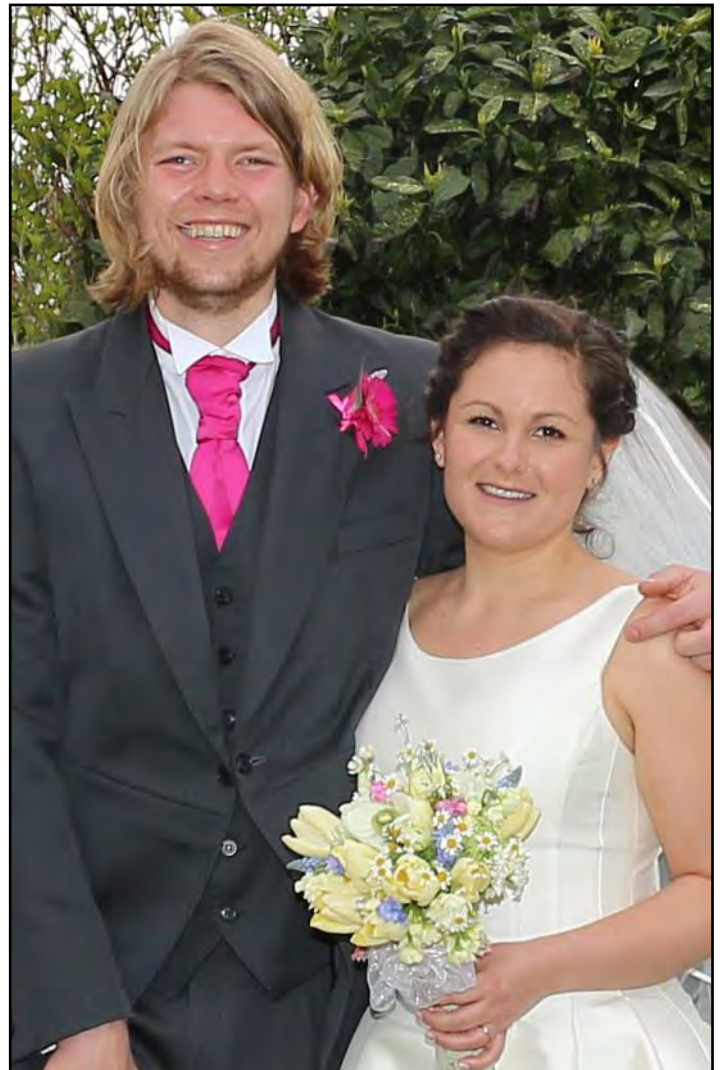
She is a keen member of Dorchester Bowls Club and has just finished filming and editing a Coaching Video for the Club. She mentions that new members are always welcome!

Elaine also loves painting and organises the local Art Group in the Village Hall.

Elaine and her Mum help out with arranging the flowers in Church and last Christmas she had the job of doing the two large arrangements on the window behind the altar, her biggest arrangements so far.

Elaine's favourite gadget is her iPad which she says is brilliant, and without it she could not manage her life!

Wedding of Jess and Gren in Woolacombe, Devon



Photograph by Elaine Anthony

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Any questions, please feel free to contact Ian Bromilow on 880044.

Sunday 4th May – 2.00pm

Ibberton and Belchalwell

Meet at Ibberton Hill picnic area, just down from Bulbarrow.

Grid reference: ST 792071 on OS Explorer Sheet 117 (approx. 4.5 miles).

Wednesday 21st May – 11.00am

Abbotsbury and Ashley

Park in the lay-by on the Bishop's Road, NE of Abbotsbury, where the SW Coastal Path crosses the road.

Grid reference: SY 588866 on OS Explorer Sheet OL15 (approx. 6.5 miles)

Bring a packed lunch.

Sunday 1st June – 2.00pm

King's Stag and Lydlinch

Meet near the Green Man pub, King's Stag.

Grid reference: ST 724105 on OS Explorer Sheet 129 (approx. 4.5 miles).

Please note:

Who All welcome including well-behaved dogs and their responsible owners. No pre-booking required just turn up.

Wear Suitable clothing for wet conditions and location, walking boots or Wellington boots.

Bring Waterproofs and refreshments (packed lunch on Wednesdays).

Pace We go at the pace of the slowest.

Terrain Expect mud, inclines and stiles.

Aim Keep fit, enjoy the Dorset countryside and each other's company.

Legal We look after one another but in the end you are responsible for yourself.

The Annual Parish Meeting

Wednesday 16th April

POLICE report by PC Goddard – crime in the area has fallen this year, but be aware of seasonal trends – shed break-ins and thefts from vehicles in beauty spots. PC Mullins will be replaced after his imminent move to Gillingham.

PC Goddard was questioned about speeding in Milton Road. Seemingly the police no longer have a responsibility to enforce the law and yet again ratepayers are asked to pay extra and to provide volunteers to police speeders. Anyone who is interested, please volunteer – full training is given. Three volunteers would monitor speed at any time. No prosecutions could be brought, only letters and police visits would result.

Cllr Balcon's report thanked those who have supported her in the last twelve months. She covered events from flooding to new bins and changes to bus services and reminded dog owners to pick up their dogs' mess, to keep their dogs out of other people's gardens and keep them under control when walking in fields.

NDDC will not be passing the Local Government Support Grant to Parish Councils this year. They said there is no statutory requirement. Cllr. Somper stated that it has not been received from Government. She assumes that if received next year it will be passed on. After disagreement regarding the meaning of NDDC's statements, all agreed to wait and see.

Hilary Cox thanked everyone for support during her fifth term as our County Councillor. Giving up the Environment Portfolio she will take on more general issues, such as resilience to flooding. (This means 'doing what is possible' to minimise the impact on residents.) Twelve million pounds are needed to reinstate Dorset roads to the condition they were last November. Central Government is paying half, the County the rest, meaning that works such as scheduled resurfacing, making dropped kerbs, etc. are not being done.

Emma Parker (NDDC) reported on the new bin scheme, the North Dorset Local Plan, boundary reviews, the committees she sits on, and how privileged she feels to represent us. Jane Somper (NDDC) gave her report including the boundary reviews. She feels strongly that the changes make no sense and that residents' and councillors' views have been ignored. The two NDDC councillors were not sure whether NDDC had challenged the decision formally or not, although it had been discussed.

The Clerk then gave the financial report. The figures have been audited internally and will be available for public inspection from 24th May before going to external audit in June. The loss of the support grant has caused the Parish Council to reduce grants, including to the Village Hall and the flower tubs, which are now sponsored by The Royal Oak.

Flood Wardens report – Repeated meetings with County Council, Environment Agency, Wessex Water said nothing could be done, no money was available and we live in a flood plain. Yet drains are broken, disconnected and inadequately sized for the amount of water passing through them. Only intervention by Bob Walter MP forced these agencies to accept that something can be done. An enhanced drainage system will be delivered by October 2014. A 200 year old culvert will be reinstated to help drain water away. Mark Frampton was thanked for his efforts in keeping levels as low as they have been. Bob Walter, Oliver Letwin and the Prime Minister are now looking at the behaviour of the County Council and other agencies in delivering the solution.

Footpaths Representative and Tree Warden are stepping down, and we need new volunteers. Contact the Clerk if you are interested.

Obelisk Fund – raised to repair the Obelisk, the proposal to borrow from it to use for emergencies such as flooding was passed by a majority.

The Parish Bier is housed currently in Peter Jackson's garage. It was bought by the 1938 Parish Council and needs a little restoration and a home for the long term.

Number crunching: 50% of the County Council's budget next year will be spent on social care for the elderly.

Susan Cawley

P.N. GRAY

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Early hours street light switch-off begins in North Dorset

CHANGES to night-time street lighting will be introduced across the northern and eastern areas of the county over the next few months.

As part of Dorset County Council's drive to reduce energy costs, lamps will be switched off at around midnight. The changes will begin toward the end of April. Lights will be turned off only where there are no significant concerns over road safety or crime, and some 350 lamps will remain lit in these areas.

SSE Contracting, the county council's street lighting partner, will begin converting around 1,700 lights to switch off between approximately midnight and 5.30am GMT (1.00am and 6.30am BST). The lights will come back on again in the morning only if it is still dark. Lights will remain lit all night on main roads, within town centres and on roads with any speed humps.

It will take around four months to complete the changes, which involves changing the light sensor on each lamp to a special timed version.

Part-night lighting has been rolled out across Dorset since 2011. It is now operating on nearly all our urban residential roads.

While many residents support the scheme, some expressed initial fears that crime would rise. Dorset Police recently investigated claims that crime and anti-social behaviour had risen following the switch-off, instead finding that there had been no increase in the areas where the lights had been turned off.

Deputy Chief Constable, James Vaughan, said: "We take the concerns of our communities very seriously and have worked together with our local authority partners in Dorset County Council to closely monitor the areas where street lights have been switched off in case of any changes in crime levels. I'm pleased to say that we have found there has been no link to an increase in crime, which I hope will offer some reassurance to residents."

Latest figures show that crime in Dorset is at a 15-year low – with total crime down 11 per cent on last year.

The part-night street lighting programme is part of the county council's on-going work to find significant budget savings, and will be extended to all remaining towns and villages across the county over the next year. Town and parish councils are asked for their views on which streets should remain lit all night.

Roads that have yet to have their lights replaced as part of the county council's ongoing county-wide replacement programme with SSE Contracting will be converted to part-night lighting when they are replaced.

More information about the part-night lighting scheme is available at www.dorsetforyou.com/partnightlighting

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Police news in your area

'Stop that thief' comes to Point to Point

Milborne St. Andrew Point to Point was another well-attended success as the weather held off for a sunny, albeit chilly, afternoon and the rain stayed away for the second of Milborne's racing events of 2014. The addition of the new hard core track meant there were no difficulties with vehicles getting in and out of the site which also meant traffic was kept to a minimum on the roads. Local SNT officers were on site to engage with members of the rural communities and also providing a useful visible presence. They were also on hand to discuss a number of key initiatives such as 'STOP THAT THIEF' and 'COMMUNITY SPEED WATCH' with interested members of the rural communities with several people taking advantage of the knowledge and expertise on offer, as well as seeing the working demonstration kit.

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In your Garden

Seasonal notes and tips from Maureen Lock of *designerGardens*

The edible container garden



WHAT could be better than picking and eating your own home-grown produce – succulent tomatoes, fresh herbs and all manner of vegetables grown just outside the door. You don't need to be an expert gardener to grow the tastiest crops in a container. Whatever your space you can use it – jazz up a balcony, brighten up

that often wasted space by the back door and liven up windowsills – all you need is a bit of imagination.

When growing crops in containers choose compact varieties of beans and tomatoes and choose 'Cut and Come Again' lettuces so that you can just pick what you need. Baby salad leaves are quick and easy to grow. Harvest the leaves when they are a few inches high and you'll never get them fresher or tastier. Try runner beans or climbing French beans instead of sweet peas – they have pretty flowers and of course you can eat the beans. Carrots have lovely fern-like leaves and taste best when freshly picked. They come in all shapes and sizes not just long orange ones, but purple, yellow and even round carrots.

Kitchen garden containers can look very attractive. Alpine strawberries or small tomatoes designed to grow in hanging baskets are both decorative and delicious. Herbs can be grown for their looks as well as their flavour; a mix of variegated mints or oregano with red leaved basil or purple sage is very attractive.

Colourful chard can be sown in July to give you pickings throughout autumn and early winter. The glossy leaves and very colourful leaf stalks make it stunning to look at – the baby leaves can be used in salads and the larger ones can be cooked like spinach and the leaf stalks are good in stir-fries. Parsley leaves make a good contrast to the vividly coloured chard stems and for a bit of extra colour you could add some pansies or violas.

Experiment with different shapes and textures to create interest – red lettuce with curly leaved parsley, soft sage leaves and violas (which are



edible) will make a colourful container.

In fact, edible flowers can turn an uninteresting container into something magical. Nasturtiums not only have perfect circular leaves, they have jewel-like flowers in brilliant reds and oranges. They can brighten up a green salad and have a strong peppery taste. Courgettes, with their big bold leaves look stunning on their own in a container and have the added attraction of bright yellow flowers which can be harvested along with the courgettes. Borage produces sapphire blue star-shaped flowers with a slight cucumber taste, perfect for adding to salads and summery drinks such



as Pimms. You can freeze the flowers in an ice cube, and then drop it into the cocktail.

Try and choose a variety of pots to create a balanced and interesting composition and make sure there is plenty of drainage – drill holes if the pots don't have any.

Remember to feed the plants using slow release plant food granules. One application will last six months, whereas most other plant foods need to be applied fortnightly. Compost only has enough nutrients to last for six weeks and so you need to introduce additional food; if you don't the plants will slowly starve and you will not be rewarded with such delicious produce.



MOSAIC – Supporting Bereaved Children throughout Dorset

MOSAIC is a Dorset-wide organisation formed to support children, young people and their families who have experienced the death of a loved one and are finding it difficult to understand the overwhelming emotions grief can bring. Its origins lie in work begun at Forest Holme, a palliative care centre based in Poole Hospital. Margaret Hannibal, an experienced administrator with a Diploma in Child Bereavement, and Patricia Williams, a psychotherapist, supported children affected by the terminal illness of a close relative. One residential weekend per year was funded by the Hospice for those children. Gradually they were overtaken by requests for places to support other forms of bereavement. It indicated a need for each child so affected. Their vision was to provide an independent charity offering support to children and families affected by bereavement.

A steering committee was set up in 2006 with the support of the Macmillan Unit at Christchurch and the GPs and staff at Forest Holme. A feasibility study was carried out and the organisation was launched in June 2007. They have been based in Milborne St. Andrew since October of that year. Since that time Mosaic has worked with a total of over 600 children throughout the county. Their trained counsellors support children and young people up to the age of 18 years who have experienced the death of a parent, sibling, grandparent or other significant person. The number of referrals continues to increase as awareness of the service spreads. All feedback received is positive. Any child who has experienced loss whether it be through divorcing or separating parents, abuse, having to go into care, or moving home, suffering the loss of friendship groups and schools, are welcome. Work is done with families where there has been suicide or murder. Most referrals come through schools (parents having been told by GPs to contact schools for help) or families self-referring, some self funding. Most come through a system called the Common Assessment Framework referral. Often families request further help. There are contracts with Bournemouth Borough Council, Poole Borough Council and Dorset County Council for agreed numbers of families to receive individual support by trained counsellors in all areas of the county. However this only amounts to 30% of running costs required. Work is generally conducted in the children's homes, sometimes in schools. They are often working with complex family dynamics. Mostly referrals have a cluster of other issues. There is no waiting list.

Children in Need money is provided for specific purposes such as developmental work. Currently there are four part-time paid staff, Margaret, Director of Operations, Katie Hensman, Administrator/Fund Raiser, Sarah Tiplady, Administrator and Wendy Mather, Senior Counsellor. Margaret and Wendy do the allocations taking into account the child's location. Some counsellors have specialisms such as Learning Disability. There are ten self employed counsellors and many voluntary support workers. Some of the latter, are studying for complementary degrees or diplomas and may accompany the counsellors while sometimes continuing in a supportive role.

Two residential weekends are held for 20–25 children per year at Leeson House Field Study Centre, Swanage. These are run by both staff and volunteers. The children who attend range in age from 5–18 years. The weekends give the children and

young people the opportunity to meet others, make new friends, share their experiences, learn how to express emotions safely and have fun. Children tell their supporters within Mosaic that having someone who knows how they feel reduces their isolation. Everyone brings a photograph of the person they are remembering and these are put on a large board so that they can talk to others about them. Doctor Simon Pennell (based at Lewis Manning Hospice) attends to

answer any of their questions. He is adept at explaining complex issues and addressing children's concerns. Some worry about the consequences of what has happened. This session lasts for 45 minutes to an hour and their queries can be in writing. In the evening during a candlelit ceremony the children sit and remember their personal loss. Although an emotional time it is regarded by the young participants as the best part of the weekend. Notes are written on bunting to express their reactions to the weekend. On the Sunday after the 'energiser', which is an aerobics session

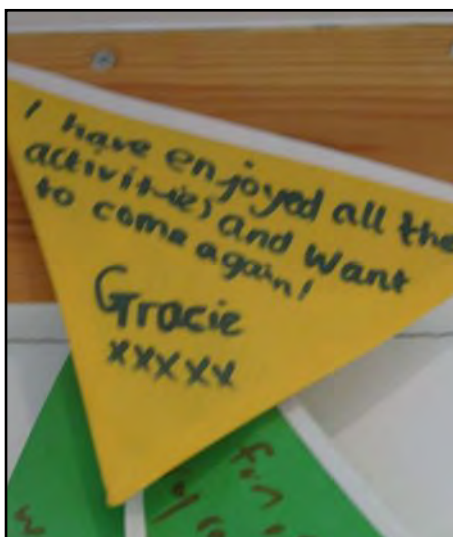
to wake everyone up, they talk about anger and how to express those feelings safely without harm to themselves or others.

Parents and carers meet on a separate site to do similar activities including craft work, discuss memories and express their worries for the children. Some have not had time to grieve until this opportunity. As a finale to the week-end the children do a presentation for their parents of what they have experienced and each release a balloon with messages on them. It is rewarding, intense and, most of all, fun. Many children wish to stay on longer and to return. All will have follow up sessions with their

counsellors. In addition there is a Beach Party and a Christmas Party. Currently other activity days are being planned for 2014.

White Stuff in Dorchester is supportive with funds and awareness raising in the High Street and the Poole branch of Sainsbury has taken Mosaic as their chosen charity this year. Margaret looks for Trust funds whilst Katie tracks Corporate and Activity funding. More and more people are approaching their organisation to offer financial help. Lloyds are coming on board, Merley House often do afternoon teas and lunches with the proceeds going towards their funds. Customers will give whatever amounts they wish. The proceeds from all these events will go towards developmental work such as running evening teenage groups once a month. Travel would prove a difficult issue for this venture. Mosaic wants to increase the number of weekends and other activities offered to children known to the organisation. When families are asked what they want each give different answers. But the organisation is led by their expressed needs.

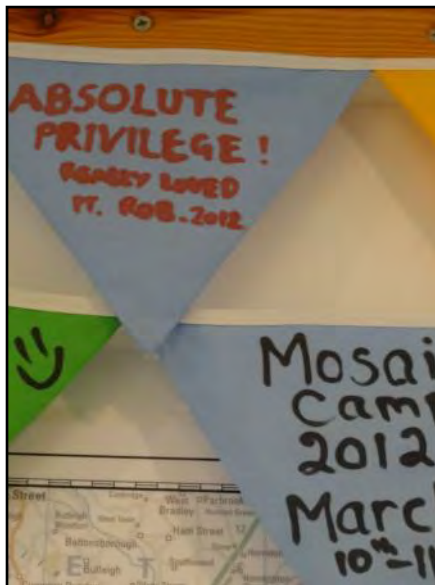
Training is another pressing requirement to meet the expansion taking place in both personnel and activities. Margaret feels that



more needs to be done within schools and on specialist topics. One session has been run with Teaching Assistants on an Introduction to Child Grieving and Complex Grief. They hope to run this training twice a year and open this to other professionals such as Vicars, Funeral Directors and hospital personnel. Currently counsellors run basic training and advice sessions. These study days give those attending the skills and confidence to work with bereaved children. Margaret voices the belief that policies will need to be written for schools and further training for those working with teenagers, the very young and those affected by murder or suicide. Also more liaison with the Police, Fire Service and hospitals is thought to be appropriate. Some work has been done with separated/divorced/absent parents.

As a registered charity, Mosaic is governed by a Board of Trustees. A new Chair has recently been appointed, Mary Fielding, an ex-head teacher and teacher trainer. The other seven have varied backgrounds in underwriting, broking, investment, administration, medical social work, cancer care nursing, fundraising and child bereavement charities. With this confirmed status they have received Children in Need funding for three years and were recommended to re-apply. Currently they have received £60,000 for a three year period together with £105,000 from the Lottery also for three years. This is needed for a Senior Counsellor post and another residential weekend.

Mosaic now has a second patron, Sir Al Ainsley-Green, the first Children's Commissioner for England who has agreed to join the original patron, the Hon Henry Digby. He is renowned for his expertise in the field of child bereavement. A conference is planned



at Merley House on 16th October 2014 and he will be giving the keynote speech. A representative from Children in Need will also be attending. The last conference was held four years ago. Due to the economic climate over the past few years it has been difficult for many charities to survive and Mosaic also had difficult times. However, they are in a much more positive position now... and are grateful to everyone who has supported them. It is fundraising events held by groups such as the Gardening Club and The Royal Oak in Milborne St. Andrew that enable Mosaic to continue working with bereaved children and make such a difference to their lives. The charity is always looking for volunteers to help with fundraising events, give administrative support in the office, or make craft items they can sell at charity events. If you feel you

can help in any way please contact Katie at their office, 3 Barnes Croft, Coles Lane, DT11 0LG, 01258 837071, email: info@mosaicfamilysupport.org Also ideas for fund raising events? Charborough Park, the Drax Estate have offered their grounds and Mosaic will be running afternoon teas on 24th May. There will be crafts for sale.

Mosaic's office is testimony to the incredibly important and compassionate support they give. Linus Quilts provide quilts for children who attend the weekends, all custom designed to reflect their many interests. These and their bunting messages adorn each colourful space together with a comprehensive collection of books to suit all ages. To read the web site is to understand the philosophy of this essential and expanding organisation. I urge you to do so at www.mosaicfamilysupport.org.uk.
Carole Fornachon

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