

80P WHERE SOLD

# Reporter

News and Views from around the area

Volume 6 Issue 11

December 2014

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

Milborne St. Andrew

**A Happy Christmas  
to all our readers**



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contact

**Mark Revell**

Milborne St. Andrew

**837 536**



*The Reporter team would like to thank all our advertisers and contributors for their continued support throughout the year and to take this opportunity to wish them a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.*

## Wednesday Club report

ON 5th November the guest speakers for our afternoon talk by the Julia's House charity were Peter Duke, Carol and the lovely Dave who ran the projector for them. The talk was very moving and it really brought home the wonderful work that this charity does for children with life threatening and long term illnesses in our area. Martin Clunes is their patron and a very interesting short film was played showing the wonderful work they do. Needless to say, they never have enough funds and do sterling work to continue to raise more money to help the children and their families. The dedication, kindness and patience from the staff came through in abundance. Many of us found it very moving and thought provoking. It put everything into perspective. A donation of £60 was raised, for which they were very grateful. If you didn't know, there are Julia's House shops in Blandford and Dorchester where you can take your unwanted items, and also buy all sorts of things. Thanks to all of you who gave so generously and bought some of the homemade cake. Sorry about the sticky fingers! Two members of POPPs also called in to see us and talk to our members directly over tea to see if anyone needed direct personal guidance.

I was very pleased to see our members coming back and re-joining on the day. Just contact us to re-join if you haven't had time yet. All contacts are on the notice board in the Village Hall along with What's On. We welcomed new members which was fantastic. If you didn't manage to come we were taking numbers for our Christmas lunch at the Coach and Horses at Winterborne Abbas on 3rd December, and our New Year's party pub lunch at The Royal Oak on 7th January. If you would like to go, ring Jenny Balcon on 837121 so she can give you details of the menus, add your name, take your order and arrange payment. You don't need to be a member, you can come and meet our happy band, but we will ask that you pay £2.00 extra per meal.

If we don't see you for whatever reason, member or not, our Club wishes you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

*Ann Guy* Chairman 01258 881766

## Physiotherapist led Pilates class

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Paper copy to David Payne at 7 Bladen View



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The Village Hall  
 MILBORNE ST ANDREW  
 LOTTERY FUNDED

**Reminder**

**Deadline for the January issue  
 will be 10th December.**



**CHRISTMAS  
VILLAGE LUNCH**

To be held at the Village Hall on  
**Saturday 6th December from 12.15 to 2.00pm**

Wine or fruit juice/turkey and all the trimmings/  
 Christmas pudding with brandy sauce/  
 Coffee or tea/mints  
 Vegetarian option available  
 £7.00 per head

**Everyone welcome young and old alike**

Tickets available from the Computer  
 Drop-In Centre at the Village Hall from  
 Friday 7th November  
 (10.00am to 12 noon)  
 or call Josie Wright any time for more information  
 or to reserve tickets on 839090

## Are Religion and Science Compatible?

**Debaters:**

**David Nunn** – a scientist

**Eric Austen** – a mediator – formerly a banker and a teacher

Chair – **Archdeacon of Sherborne** – **Venerable Paul Taylor**



AN audience of about 60 people gathered in Milborne St Andrew Church on 5th November expecting sparks to fly on bonfire night as a Christian and a scientist debated whether or not science and religion are compatible.

The debate, ably managed by Paul Taylor, was a serious and thoughtful continuation of a debate between two friends who hold radically different views about the existence of God and about the compatibility of science and religion.

Paul invited questions and comments from the audience of atheists, Humanists and Christians.

The big issue that surfaced was the nature of what people will accept as evidence. Is truth only to be found in our rational thought and through science and experiment or is experience of what religious people call 'the spiritual', and hence God, valid evidence? Are we simply accidental creations of mindless forces or is there intention behind the complexity of the universe in which we live?

David contended that, using Occam's Razor (a principle developed by a Christian that the simplest answer is the best one) led him to accept the theory of evolution without any additional need for God. He suggested that atheists are capable of living a good and moral life without religion and that religions only complicate matters with their concept of God. Religion has been the cause of many terrible things perpetrated over the centuries. He suggested that religious hierarchies had developed as a means of controlling society and restricted people's freedoms. Religion provides meaning and purpose, where science provides explanation and knowledge. Both are needed by humans, but religion can provide meaning and purpose without the need for the mythical or mysticism, i.e. this can be all achieved without God.

Eric believed that the idea that we are here by mere chance was, for him, an inadequate explanation and conflicted with his, and many other people's, experience of another dimension, a spiritual side to life. This includes an encounter with something beyond this world that for want of a better word he calls God. This God he believes in is not just to explain things that science cannot yet explain but is totally involved in the day to day experiences of humanity. He values, and with scientists is enthused, by the discoveries of science and shares their amazement at the beauty and complexity of everything. For him all of this serves to enhance his belief in a creator God.

Both David and Eric were encouraged by the number of people who came and their willingness to share with them in exploring the implications of their beliefs through respectful discussion. Discussion continued after the debate over a glass of wine and nibbles which then moved to the pub and then to Eric's house until after 5.00 a.m. All seemed to appreciate the value of moving out of our comfort zones and valued listening to views that were in considerable conflict with our own but still respecting those with whom we differed fundamentally.

An mp3 cd is available from Eric on 01258 837213. *Eric Austen*

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10 The Rings, Milborne St Andrew, Blandford Forum, Dorset, DT11 0HY

# Village Hall review of 2014

WHAT a year it has been at the Village Hall! The AGM saw the retirement of some Trustees and the appointment of a few new ones. Thanks go to those who retired and have given so much in the past.

The May Fair was a wonderful day with warm, sunny weather, many interesting stalls, good food, wonderful displays and of course the ever popular dog show.

The QEII field continues to be used by many families, children and young people. The picnic table and bench, which was donated, has been very successful (if anyone else wants to donate another one that would be great!). The new car park surface was finally finished when the flood left the village and is now fit for purpose.

While the closure of the play park created waves in the village, with some people expressing their discontent, it led to very positive actions. There was extensive publicity and several consultations which led to the development of a Friends of the Village Hall group, a Facebook page and in the involvement of the villagers in deciding on the final plans for new equipment. The zip wire was refurbished and opened quickly thanks to a band of helpers. Application for a major grant to replace the play park is now in hand.

The hall has hosted a range of very successful films, ArtsReach (for adults and children) and of course the dance nights, racing and other events which have been enjoyed by many. The provision of the bar and ice creams has proved successful. The bingo session planned for the 12th December will be the culmination of a very successful sociable year.

Some of the plans for 2015 include having the hall floor refurbished, exploring the upgrade of the kitchen and increasing the use of the hall and fields.


Finally a big THANK YOU to Ed and Rose Frost and all the other helpers, who for many years have successfully run the Coffee, Cake and Computer club. It will be missed.

## Crimestoppers

If you have information about a crime you can contact Crimestoppers on 0800 555111 in confidence, your call will not be traced and you may receive a cash reward.

If you have information on possible terrorist activity call the anti terrorism hotline in confidence on 0800 789 321.

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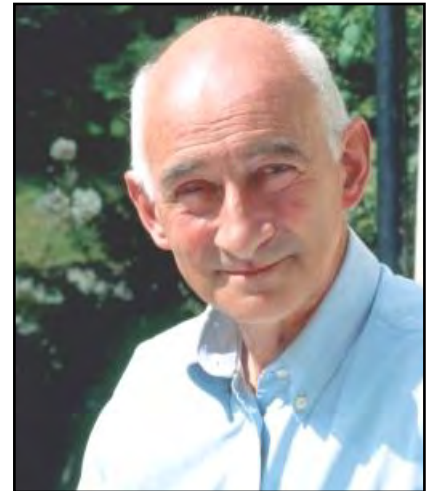
# The perfect partnership



IT was great to see so many people at the Village Hall on the Thursday evening of 23rd October. There was a buzz of expectation as we took our seats and relaxed with a glass of wine and some nibbles; someone quite famous was in our midst!

Paul Atterbury's talk entitled The Perfect Partnership – Sir Edwin Lutyens and Gertrude Jekyll.

Paul set the scene in the late Victorian period when housing and lifestyle changed, the cluttered look was modernised and the Arts and Crafts movement was born. The English loved tradition with modern amenities. Large family houses were built in the suburban circles round towns and cities.



Edwin Lutyens was born in 1869; as he grew up he loved drawing and was a bright child. He wanted to be an architect and loved to sketch and design buildings that harmonised with the landscape. In 1880 he had a chance encounter with Gertrude Jekyll who was 20 years his senior. Gertrude was a garden designer, artist and writer. Gertrude was Edwin's first client – she had a garden but no house and so began their long involvement with design. Their partnership worked well together and flourished as they always listened to their clients ideas and went through every detail and sketch before making a formal design. They created their revolutionary designs by walking the land, looking for the best positions and using the hills and natural landscape. If you have visited Castle Drogo in Devon, it is a memorable building, Marmite comes to mind! Paul's description was 'medieval castle meets art deco cinema'. It's worth a visit anyway.

Gertrude Jekyll started the fashion in large National Trust gardens (eg Hestercombe) to have external rooms as in 17th century France. She brought in plants from abroad and was influenced by Italian and Japanese form and structure. At that time women started to become 'hands on gardeners', as they grew more independent consumers and decision makers.

Paul shared so much more about this successful couple as they worked together and influenced the buildings and gardens of that time. They were passionate about their work and there are so many gardens and buildings that we can enjoy and have stood the test of time. Huge iconic buildings, many in London and abroad.

Before the end of World War I Edwin Lutyens was appointed one of three prime architects to design fitting memorials in France and England. In Belgium and Northern France the random wooden crosses were replaced by stone graves in the Arts and Crafts style. Together with beautiful buildings and plantings this created a calm and restful place especially for loved ones to visit for perpetuity. We certainly have much to thank these two dedicated designers for as they shared their incredible artistic gifts for us all to enjoy.

The talk was followed by more wine and a great raffle which Paul helped us draw.

Many thanks to everyone who came along; members and visitors. We do hope some of you will consider joining us in 2015 as we start another year full of interesting speakers and outings.

Also our thanks to Glen at the Londis Store for selling tickets and supplying the wine for us.

**Note** From 2015 we will be meeting on the third Thursday of the month (instead of the fourth Thursday). Look out for the posters in early January.

Angie Nowell



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

## Do Nothing: Christmas is Coming

Some years ago Stephen Cottrell, the then Bishop of Reading (now Bishop of Chelmsford), wrote a book with the seemingly insane title: *Do Nothing: Christmas is Coming*.

How can we possibly do nothing when Christmas is coming? There are cards to write, the presents to buy and wrap, the food to prepare, the parties to attend, the worries about money, the arrangements to make about which bit of the family is going to be where this year, the crackers and decorations, the kids' school Christmas performances, the fayres and bazaars, the carol services, the wine to order, the little things to remember like batteries for the new toys and so on and so on. You will all be familiar with the scenario.

Christmas is a great celebration for many people, but it also seems to cause so much stress as we try to meet the expectations of what makes the perfect day. The aim of Cottrell's book is to help people find a bit of space and time in the run-up to the festival, so that they might arrive in better shape than otherwise.

Traditionally Advent was a time for Christians to prepare for Christmas, not by getting stressed over shopping and food, but to prepare their hearts for welcoming the Christ-child at Christmas, and also looking to the future when they believe Christ will come again. These days Advent's real meaning often gets pushed out by all the busy-ness. Most of us love a good Christmas, but even many Christians focus too much on the trappings of the celebration so that the real reason for the season is pushed out of their preparations.

What would we really need to welcome the Christ-child? A baby is too young to open presents, eat lots of food or appreciate a Christmas tree. A baby though is never too young to feel the love of the people around.

How do we prepare for Christ's coming again? I don't think it will be the decorations or quality of the wine, the mince-pies or chocolates that will impress. It will be the quality of our love for God and for others.

*Do Nothing: Christmas is Coming* is not literally suggesting that we sit around idle and don't celebrate at all. Its aim is to help people make their lives a little simpler in the run-up to the festivities, so that in the midst of the turmoil and expectation we find times for stillness and quiet, for preparing our hearts to welcome God in love, and to show that love to others.

Sometimes the happiest occasions are those that are simplest, because then the opportunities for togetherness and love are not overwhelmed by the necessity to make everything just right.

After all, we are celebrating a child, born and laid in a simple wooden hay box, to loving parents, who had travelled away from home. I'm sure it's not what they would have planned for the birth of their first baby. But their love for their child overcame all the disadvantages of the conditions in which he was born.

With best wishes for a peaceful Advent and a joyful Christmas

*Sarah Hillman*

## Milborne St. Andrew Church Notes

AT the beginning of November we held the annual benefice **Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving for Those who have Died**. It was good to see the 25 or so who came and lit candles in memory of their loved ones, and to talk to them afterwards as we enjoyed tea and cakes. The following Sunday, **Remembrance Sunday**, was attended by about 60 people including scouts and cubs who brought their flags. Afterwards we and another 40 gathered at the Memorial Stone in beautiful November sunshine for two minutes silence and the Royal British Legion wreath laying ceremony.

Earlier that week we were pleased to host a debate on the motion that '**Science and Religion are not compatible**'. The debate was ably chaired by our archdeacon Paul Taylor, and the motion proposed by David Nunn and opposed by Eric Austen. After nearly two hours of lively debate we retired for refreshments in the north aisle, but everyone's views were still being expressed, and I understand that several continued the debate elsewhere until the early hours! A full report by Eric Austen appears on page 3.

The big event in November will be our annual **Christmas Market in the Village Hall on**

## CHURCH SERVICES December 2014

### Thursday 4th December

12noon Lunch-time Communion Milborne

### 7th December – Advent 2

9.30 am Celebrate Milborne  
9.30 Special Posada Service Tolpuddle  
11.00 Parish Communion Puddletown  
Church Room  
11.00 1662 Morning Prayer Dewlish

### Saturday 13th December

12noon Holy Baptism Milborne

### 14th December – Advent 3

8.15am 1662 Said Communion Puddletown  
Church Room  
9.30 Parish Communion Milborne  
11.00 Puddletown Praise Puddletown  
Church Room  
11.00 Parish Communion Dewlish  
4.00pm United Methodist Tolpuddle  
Carol Service  
4.00 Christingle Milborne

### Saturday 20th December

6.00 pm Carol Service Milborne

### 21st December – Advent 4

9.30am Family Communion Tolpuddle  
9.30 1662 Morning Prayer (said) Milborne  
3.00pm Carol Service Dewlish  
6.00 Carol Service Dewlish

### CHRISTMAS EVE

3.30pm Crib Service Tolpuddle  
5.00 Crib Service Puddletown  
11.30 Midnight Mass Milborne  
11.30 Midnight Mass Puddletown

### CHRISTMAS DAY

9.30am Christmas Holy Communion Dewlish  
9.30 Christmas Holy Communion Tolpuddle  
11.00 Christmas Family Service Milborne  
11.00 Christmas Family Service Puddletown

### 28th December – Christmas 1

10.00am United Benefice Puddletown  
Holy Communion

### MORNING PRAYERS (Monday – Thursday 8.15am

#### Saturday 9.00am)

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

### 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 Pam on 837203.

**Deadline for the January Reporter is 10th December**

**Saturday 29th November.** We hope that Father Christmas will have come and delighted the children, and that everyone will have enjoyed the refreshments and stalls. (If you are reading this before the event, please go along and see what there is on offer!)

**30th November** is **St. Andrew's Day** which we celebrate with a **Benefice Service** led by our archdeacon, and a **Haggis Supper** in The Royal Oak in the evening.

Christmas is approaching fast and we are now finding oranges, sweets and candles for children to make **Christingles** at the service on **Sunday afternoon, 14th December** at **4.00pm**. The following Saturday evening, at **6.00pm on 20th December**, there will be our annual **Carol Service** at which we will be listening to the Christmas story and singing our favourite carols, and on **Christmas Eve** we will be celebrating **Midnight Mass** at **11.30pm**. On Christmas morning there will be a **Family Service** at **11.00am**.

*Pam Shults and John Wright*

## Dewlish Church Notes

### Great help towards church running costs

I CAN now give a final figure for Jim Burg's sponsored cycle ride for the Dorset Historic Churches Trust: Jim raised £1,935 through his hard work and people's generosity. We have received a cheque for £967.50 for our church, which will be a great help towards our running costs of over £10,000 a year. Many thanks to everyone.

Our church was beautifully decorated with white flowers for our Patronal Festival (All Saints) but, sadly, our congregation was quite small. It was a lovely service, led by Jim, and we all enjoyed singing our favourite hymns.

### Bazaar launches a busy month ahead

We are now getting ready for a busy December, beginning with our **Christmas Bazaar** on **Saturday 6th December** in the Village Hall (2.30pm start). Our stalls this year will be Christmas gifts, Christmas decorations, toys, bric-a-brac and books, cakes, sweets and produce. Teas and mince pies will be available as will the usual raffle. Additionally, there will be a separate raffle for a Christmas hamper.

We would be most grateful for any donations, especially of cakes and sweets, as one of our great cake-makers has, unfortunately, broken her leg and will be unable to help this year. We look forward to seeing you all.

We are hoping that the weather will be kind to us so that we can go **Carol Singing** on **Thursday 18th December**, starting from the village crossroads at 6.30pm. Our collection will once more be donated to Shelter.

The **Carol Service** will be in the church on **Sunday 21st December** at 3.00pm. We would love as many children and young people from our village to take part, so please contact Jim (Tel: 01258 837466) to let him know you would like to join in. This service will be followed by teas in the Village Hall. Please note too that our **Christmas Day service** is at 9.30am.

### Other community news

Dewlish Village Hall is once again holding their **Christmas Bingo** on **Monday 8th December**. Eyes down at 7.00pm. There will also be a raffle and teas. Come along and enjoy the fun – and suspense!

*A very happy Christmas to you all!*

*Daphne Burg*

### 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.milbornestandrewchurch.org.uk

**Dewlish**

Jim Burg 01258 837466 Sue Britton 01258 837218

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# Sparks fly at Ladybirds

DURING November we have enjoyed talking about fireworks. Some of us found them too noisy and a bit scary but most jumped about demonstrating fireworks in the sky and voicing the wonderful sounds. We made some lovely messy paintings with fluorescent coloured finger paints, read Fireman Sam and the Fireworks, learnt about keeping safe and enjoying ourselves.

The following week for Remembrance Day we made poppies. We walked up to the memorial stone to look at the poppies then walked

on to the Church to see if there were any poppies there. To our delight there was a team of visiting bell ringers who kindly talked to us and showed how they pulled the ropes to make the bells ring. As we walked back to the Hall the children listened to the bells ringing – thank you bell ringers!

On Children in Need day we dressed up as super heroes, made wrist bands, decorated masks and had our faces painted. Oh and of course we made cakes and ate them at snack time.

This year the children have produced their own pictures which our clever helper Annette has scanned and made into cards for parents to send out to friends and relatives. Some of you may be lucky to receive one. *Liz Dyer*



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

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## Keep an eye out on Monday 8th for Rudolf nosing around Milborne

I am bringing the Rotary Sleigh to Milborne on Monday 8th December and we will be going round the streets playing loud music, in aid of the local scouts. *Richard Lock*



### PLEASE NOTE

All copy for the January 2015 *Reporter* must be received by the 10th December.

Please send copy via e-mail as a Microsoft Word attachment and photos are best sent as a separate .JPG file.

We regret that late submissions will not be included.  
Thank you.

## Warning another scam

DORSET Police have contacted Dorset County Council Trading Standards service about a phone call scam that they are very concerned about doing the rounds at the moment. The offence is being committed nationwide, however Dorset residents are being particularly targeted

The crime is as follows: the victim will be called by the offender who poses as a Police Officer. The offender normally says they are from a Police Station in London (Hammersmith and Charing Cross are locations that are regularly used), or Portsmouth. They will tell a story about having arrested someone who is in possession of cloned credit cards with the victim's details on them. They will say that the victim's bank account is being targeted and that they need to go into their banks and withdraw as much cash as possible, which will be collected by a courier or taxi, and deposited into a safe account. They will say that they suspect it is an "inside job" at the bank and not to tell anyone at the bank what they are doing. Sometimes they ask the victims to directly transfer the money into a bank account given by the offenders.

The trick to the scam is that during the first call, the offenders will invite the victim to hang up and ring 999/101, or the number on the back of their bank cards, to verify their identity. The victim will hang up and re-dial. However the offenders have not disconnected the call at their end and so whatever number the victim calls they will still be connected to the offenders. This leads the victim to believe the story the offenders are telling.

Dorset Police would never telephone people in the way described above or ask people about their bank accounts in that way.

Dorset Police have a response plan in action to deal with any such incidents and if anyone has fallen victim to this crime, or knows someone who has, then they should phone Dorset Police on 101, or contact Dorset Police through the non emergency online form found on their home web page at [www.dorset.police.uk](http://www.dorset.police.uk)

*Jon Harris, Principal Trading Standards Officer*

### Local small-ads

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

**For Sale – Mamas and Papas Bouncing Cradle**, £10. Moses basket (Argos Sleepy Teddy version) with mattress and quilt, £15. Both items only used for visiting grandson so in very good condition. Call 01258 837280 or 07504 300541.

**Wanted – Room/house share/long term house sit wanted** in Milborne S. Andrew for single male in full time employment locally. References available 837248.

**For Sale – Red shaggy rug 133 x 190, Choc brown shaggy rug 100 x 150, £10 each or near offer.** Phone no. 01258 839033.



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## Bus2Go motors to success



THE Dorset Volunteer Awards Evening 2014 was held on the 30th October at the Dorford Centre in Dorchester. We are pleased to report that Milborne St. Andrew's Bus2Go was awarded Volunteer Group of the year. Margo Kirk and Posy Clayton – On-Board Volunteer of The Year Award 2014 for all her kind assistance on our Bus2Go outings – were on hand to collect the awards from the Lord-Lieutenant of Dorset, Angus Campbell.

### VACANCY – VOLUNTARY OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR

See page 25

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# Round Robin Ramblers

*the local villages walking group*

WALKS are normally held on the first Sunday and the third Wednesday of each month. However, there is no Wednesday walk in December due to proximity to Christmas. Please join us as we enjoy exercise, good company and the wonderful Dorset countryside.

**Any questions, please feel free to contact Ian Bromilow, 01258 880044.**

**\*\*\* We wish you all a Christmas full of joy and peace \*\*\***

**SUNDAY 7th December – 1.30 pm** (note the earlier time)

## **Tolpuddle**

Meet outside the Martyrs Inn, Tolpuddle.

Grid reference: SY 795945 on OS Explorer Sheet 117 (approx. 4.5 miles)

**SUNDAY 4th January – 1.30 pm** (note the earlier time)

## **Gore Hill and Up Cerne**

Meet at the parking area near Gore Hill, west of Minterne Magna (A352 Cerne Abbas to Sherborne Road)

Grid reference: ST 635040 on OS Explorer Sheet 117 (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.

## **100 CLUB WINNERS**

*Draw Date – Tuesday 11th November 2014*

1st £100 Roy Sash

2nd £50 Jo Lovett

3rd £12 David Payne

**We are in desperate need for more people to join the 100 Club.**

The next draw is at 8.00pm in The Royal Oak, Tuesday 9th December 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.*

## **Have you something to share?**

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

## **'Belle' (12A) shown by 'Milborne Movies'**

**on Friday 28th November 2014 at 7.30pm  
in Milborne St. Andrew Village Hall**

BELLE is inspired by the true story of Dido Elizabeth Belle (Gugu Mbatha-Raw), the illegitimate mixed race daughter of a Royal Navy Admiral in late 18th century England. She is raised alongside her half-cousin Elizabeth (Sarah Gadon) by her aristocratic great-uncle Lord Mansfield (Tom Wilkinson) and his wife (Emily Watson), but as she grows into a young woman, Dido's life at the palatial estate of Kenwood is full of mixed blessings. While her uncle and aunt treat her as if she were their own and raise her alongside their other niece, Elizabeth Murray, the social conventions of eighteenth century society are immovable; no matter how much they love her, Dido feels the sting of being forced to eat with the servants, when company comes calling. Left to wonder if she will ever find love, Belle falls for an idealistic young vicar's son and legal apprentice (Sam Reid). He is bent on change and with her help, shapes Lord Mansfield's role as Lord Chief Justice to end slavery.

The teenage Dido Elizabeth Belle is impressively played by Gugu Mbatha-Raw with a tender sensibility and a growing awareness. She gives a sense of the inner life of a character who is proud and defiant but also trying to work out where she stands in an openly racist society.

Tom Wilkinson gives a subtle performance as Lord Mansfield and Miranda Richardson evokes memories of Blackadder with her comic turn as the mercenary Lady Ashford. There's a hint of Edith Evans about Emily Watson's steely and protective Lady Mansfield and Penelope Wilton is equally formidable as Lord Mansfield's unmarried sister.

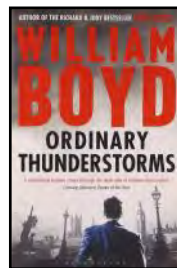
Buoyed by Rachel Portman's uplifting and distinctively beautiful score, Amma Asante's film is a delectable period piece with coming of age elements, romance and a potent through line that champions human rights.

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

## **A Good Read by Shirley Dunkley**

### **Ordinary Thunderstorms**

**by William Boyd.**



WILLIAM Boyd is a successful and talented modern novelist writing in a number of genres from comic to spy. This one is a thriller telling the story of a man's attempt to lose his identity in London. The hero is Adam Kindred – a name to suggest all manner of allegorical connections – who, by chance, is witness to the murder of a doctor. Realising he is a suspect, he decides to go underground and this is the story of where that decision takes him, while he tries to figure out why

the doctor was killed. We are introduced to a range of characters and organisations – to a group of ex-military personnel who act as mercenary agents and killers, to a cult church called The Church of John Christ which offers food and help to the homeless, to big Pharma and the millionaire owner of a drug company who is suffering mysterious medical symptoms, to the denizens of a sink South London estate and finally to the Thames River Police.

The action is fast, so one never has time to question its credibility, and the ramifications of the struggle of the individual versus the modern great institutions of business and security make for a fascinating and thought provoking plot. There aren't many people to like in this novel, though Adam's plight rouses one's sympathy, but the need to find out what is happening is powerful and in the end the solution satisfies, with many unanswered questions. This is a book about important modern themes and there are hints, not only in the hero's name, which point to a wider philosophical interpretation than merely 'Who dunnit and Why?'

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# News from Milton Abbas and Milborne St Andrew Surgery

## Opening Times for Christmas and New Year

Over the Christmas period the surgery will be open as usual, only closed on Christmas Day, Thursday 25th and Boxing Day, Friday 26th December. We will be open as normal on Saturday 27th December.

At New Year the Surgery will be closed on Thursday 1st January and will re-open on Friday 2nd January 2014.

## Have you visited the Practice website?

[www.masurgery.co.uk](http://www.masurgery.co.uk)

Don't forget to visit our Practice website. You can do lots of things that we hope will make your life a lot easier, including booking appointments and ordering repeat medication. If you are registered to order medication or to book appointments online, you'll find you're now able to see a limited view of your medical record.

If you wish to register for online access – to order medication online, to book appointments or to view your medical record, please ask at Reception for your login details. If you experience any problems, support can be given. Please do ask.

## Car Parking at Milton Abbas

We've designated the three parking spaces at the side of the building, just next to the disabled spaces as "Doctor Only". We'd be grateful if patients would respect the designation of these spaces and park at the rear of the surgery. Thank you

## The Friends and Family Test (FFT)

The pilot phase of FFT ended on 30th November. From 1st December the surgery is moving into the permanent phase of FFT and we will start to gather your anonymous feedback about your recent experience at the surgery in different ways. This will enable us to understand what we do well and what aspects of the care we offer could be improved. The responses you give are not linked to your name or your medical records in any way.

You can feedback after an appointment, a telephone consultation, a home visit or phoning/attending the practice for things such as a repeat prescription or blood results.

After having any type of contact with the practice you will have the opportunity to answer the following question: **"How likely are you to recommend our GP practice to friends and family if they needed similar care or treatment?"** You will be invited to respond by choosing one of six options, ranging from "extremely likely" to "extremely unlikely".

To give more detailed and local feedback you will then be asked a follow up question chosen by the practice. There are two ways in which you can feedback:

- Using pen and paper at reception for you to complete while you

are here, or to take away, complete and return to us. Home visit patients will be given the slip of paper by the visiting doctor or nurse.

- Clicking a link into our website and completing the Friends and Family Test online.

As a patient registered with the practice you can give feedback after each and every contact if you want to. As a carer or relative you can also give feedback.

The staff at the practice will meet regularly to look at your anonymous feedback to see what action needs to be taken. We will then share with all patients the feedback themes and anything we have done as a result of your comments.

## Patient Reference Group

We are asking patients if they would be willing to become members of this Group, who would be contacted only a couple of times a year to ask their opinion on improvements and changes at the surgery. Contact is likely to be by email, but if you don't have email we can use the phone or post! If you feel you'd like to be a member of our Reference Group, or would simply like to know more, please email me at [caroltaylor2@nhs.net](mailto:caroltaylor2@nhs.net), or phone 01258 880210 and leave your name.

## Does your phone block Withheld Numbers?

If you have Withheld Number Blocking would you please **tell us** (either telephone 01258 880210 or email [miltonabbassurgery@nhs.net](mailto:miltonabbassurgery@nhs.net)). If we know you have this function we can prefix your telephone number when we dial it so that our number is visible. If we are trying to contact you urgently, for instance to change your appointment or let you know a test result, we can find it hard to get through to households with blocking functions in place.

It may help for me to explain that the reason for the surgery number being a withheld number is to protect the confidentiality of family members who may prefer that others in their household don't know that the surgery is trying to contact them. For this reason we also try not to leave messages on your answering machines either.

## Surgery Opening Times

<b>Monday</b>	8.15am – 1.00pm, 2.00 – 6.30pm
<b>Tuesday</b>	8.15am – 1.00pm, 2.00 – 6.30pm
<b>Wednesday</b>	8.15am – 6.30pm
<b>Thursday</b>	8.15am – 6.30pm
<b>Friday</b>	8.15am – 6.30pm
<b>Saturday</b>	8.30 – 10.30am

Any changes to our opening hours are advertised on our website and in the surgery.

The dispensary is closed every day between 1.00 and 2.30pm.

*Carol Taylor Practice Manager*

# Heathcote House

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Heathcote House is a lovely Grade II listed guest house right in the heart of Milborne St Andrew. We offer a warm welcome and friendly service, all rooms have king size beds, en-suite bathrooms and are tastefully refurbished to a very high standard.

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Heathcote House, Milborne St Andrew, Dorset DT11 0JG. Website: [www.heathcotehouse.co.uk](http://www.heathcotehouse.co.uk)



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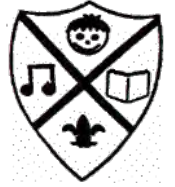
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**Reporter**



# Milborne St. Andrew First School



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

## School News

ON Tuesday 11th November, the children made a stunning display of poppies using lots of different materials and techniques for our assembly. Following the assembly we welcomed prospective parents to school during our Open Day. Mrs Hunt met with parents, and our Year 4 School Ambassadors did a fantastic job providing tours of the school. Tea, coffee and cakes were provided by the Friends of the School, which gave the potential new parents the chance to talk to staff, governors and existing parents.



If you were unable to attend the Open Day and would like to visit, please contact the school office to arrange a convenient time.

On Thursday 13th November we held a 'Bling your Bike Day'; bikes, scooters, hoops and even wheelbarrows were 'blinged'. The children had great fun and were extremely creative in their designs. Once 'blinged', the bikes were paraded around the hall for all classes to see.

The school continues to work closely with Trees for Dorset and we were delighted that a cheque from Wessex Watermark was presented to Trees for Dorset during our assembly. See page 29.

One of the most popular after school clubs is the Wild Art Club which Maggie Spratt runs. The children this term have been learning about our native trees, studying the leaves and seeds within the school grounds. They looked at shape, colour and created patterns using prints they made out of foam or polystyrene tiles. The children chose to make prints of holly, horse chestnut, birch, sycamore, mountain ash, oak, cherry, dog wood, elder and hawthorn. Members of the Wild Art club are now learning about our native bats.

Once again this year we have supported Operation Christmas Child shoebox appeal. The shoeboxes received have been forwarded to local co-ordinators of the project which provides gifts to some of the poorest places worldwide. Thanks to everyone who supported the charity.

The School Council have chosen to support Save the Children and we will be wearing Christmas Jumpers to school on 12th December.



## CONTACTS

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

**Headteacher:** Mrs Sharon Hunt      **Secretary, School Office:** Mrs Lynn Pearcey

**Chair of Governors:** Mr Kevin Connolly      **FOS Chairman:** Mrs Becky Hunter

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

# 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](http://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
<b>Floods</b> A354 problems contact the Highways Agency		0300 1235000
Dorset Direct		01305 221000
<a href="mailto:dorsetdirect@dorsetcc.gov.uk">dorsetdirect@dorsetcc.gov.uk</a> <a href="http://www.dorsetforyou.com/reportroadproblems">www.dorsetforyou.com/reportroadproblems</a>		
Environment Agency Floodline		0845 9881188
South West Highways <a href="mailto:hello@swhitd.co.uk">hello@swhitd.co.uk</a>		01404 821500
Wessex Water Sewerage Floodline		0345 8505959

## 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	Wendy Britton	07867 720283
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:	Sharon Hunt	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 – Minis	Nicola Malone	07788 217579
Running Group	Anne-Marie Pearson	01258 837057
Skittles – Dewlish	Frank Ross	01258 837366
Sports Club Chairman:	John Sanderson	01258 837049
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 (at school)	Sue Chapman	01305 848053
Yoga (at village hall)	Sarah Ryan	01258 839230

## VILLAGE HALL

Dewlish		
Chairman/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
Patient Voice Secretary	Nigel Hodder	01258 881709




## Milborne Movies

Friday 28th Nov 2014  
at 7.30pm

Doors and Bar at 7.00pm

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Milborne St. Andrew Village Hall  
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# Community Events Diary

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

## December

- Wednesday 3rd** **Wednesday Club** Christmas lunch at The Coach and Horses – see page 2.
- Thursday 4th** **Meet the team** and members of your PACT Panel to raise local issues outside Milborne St. Andrew Londs, 11.30am–12.00 noon.
- Friday 5th** **Friday Drop-in** last one before Christmas. Will close after this one but watch this space.
- Saturday 6th** **Christmas Village Lunch** Village Hall 12.15pm. Tickets and information 01258 839090 – see page 3 for menu.  
**Christmas Bazaar** Dewlish Village Hall 2.30pm – see page 7.
- Wednesday 8th** **Rudolf** touring the streets of Milborne – see page 9.
- Tuesday 9th** **100 Club Draw** The Royal Oak everyone welcome to attend – see page 11 for winners and below.
- Wednesday 10th** **Reporter** latest date for the December issue. Send your items to msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk
- Thursday 11th** **WI** Christmas 'get together' Village Hall 7.30pm
- Friday 12th** **Bingo** Village Hall 7.30pm.
- Tuesday 16th** **Christmas Carols** The Royal Oak 7.00pm.
- Wednesday 17th** **Parish Council** Village Hall 7.30pm. **See November notes on page 00.**
- Wednesday 24th** **Midnight Mass** at St. Andrew's church 11.30pm – see page 7.
- Thursday 25th** **Christmas Day Family Service** at St Andrew's church 11.00am – see page 7.
- Monday 29th** **How to Train your Dragon 2** (PG) Village Hall 3.30pm – see below and page 19.

## 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** third 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

## December at the Sports Club

**The Busy Bees** Under 5 Group from 9.30am to 11.30am on Thursday term time only. Contact Wendy Britton on 07867 720283.

### Milborne Mini Soccer

Our training sessions will be altering slightly with all training sessions on a Wednesday night, and additional training for next year's under 11's on a Saturday morning. Matches will be played on Sunday morning and afternoons.

Under 11s Stuart Joyce 01258 456594.

Under 8s Nicky 01258 837919.

Under 7s Nicky 01258 837919.



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

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For information contact:

John Sanderson    Football Club    837049

June Maitland    Church    837235

Denise Sanderson    Collector    837049



**Milborne Movies**  
Monday 29th Dec 2014  
at 3.30pm  
Doors and Bar at 3.00pm

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**HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON 2**

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## How to Train your Dragon 2 (PG)

shown by 'Milborne Movies'

On Monday 29th December 2014 at 3.30pm  
in Milborne St Andrew Village Hall

'How to Train Your Dragon 2' returns to the roots planted by its predecessor. Five years have passed since Hiccup (Jay Baruchel) proved that dragons and humans could co-exist peacefully. His home village of Berk has embraced the idea and now everyone has a dragon, some as workhorses, some as pets, but all as friends. On the cusp of becoming a man and inheriting the reign of his father one day, Hiccup is being groomed for succession, but prefers the freedom of flying on the wind and exploring new and vast lands. During one of their high-flying games, Hiccup and Toothless encounter a herd of wild dragons led by a mysterious Dragon Rider and once again, they find themselves fighting to keep the peace in their kingdom. Anxious to stop dragon against dragon (and human, obviously), Hiccup sets out to bargain for peace. Already a diplomatic nightmare, his mission is further complicated by a crew of dragon-trappers led by the boneheaded Eret (Harington).

Returning director Dean DeBlois could have been forgiven for playing it safe with this potentially tricky trilogy midpoint. Instead he ups the ante and takes some big risks along the way, introducing several major new characters and significantly expanding the dragon mythos while retaining the air of mystery that made the original so captivating. Textures and gestures are brilliantly rendered, the body language saying more about the characters and their relationships than any words. The whole world that is created is rich with detail and the magical relationship between Hiccup and Toothless is a wonder to behold, so hats off to Dreamworks for offering some bold surprises in a respectable sequel filled with moments of humour and emotion among its ample noise and movement.

The village hall and refreshments are open from 3.00pm and the film starts at 3.30pm. Tickets can be obtained on the door. Adults £3.00 and children £2.00.



## Cheselbourne Theatre Club off to 84 Charing Cross Road



ON **Monday 9th February** the club is going to see a stage adaptation of Helene Hanff's book based on her correspondence with Marks and Co, booksellers of 84 Charing Cross Road. The adaptation of *40 Charing Cross Road* premiered at Salisbury Playhouse in 1981. It won numerous awards for writer/director James Roose-Evans who returns to direct this new production.

In 1949, in search of the rare editions that she was unable to find in New York, Helene wrote to Marks and Co and soon found herself in regular correspondence with the bookseller Frank Doel, laying siege to his English reserve with her warmth and wit. As letters, books and quips crossed the ocean, a friendship flourished that would endure for 20 years.

If you are interested in joining us please contact John Widdowson on **01258 837791** by 9th December. Tickets and coach transport cost £27.50.

## 'Pity it's brick' said George III – at the November WI

WE were delighted to welcome Josie along as a visitor. Having recently moved from Worcester to Milborne she hopes to move seamlessly from one WI to another. Jenny, our President, urged us all to be on our best behaviour! We did our best. Lovely to have Ann Mepham and Margaret Hurley with us, they thanked all those who sent cards and kindly dropped in to see them.

We look forward to our Christmas lunch at The Royal Oak on 8th December. Our stall for next year's Milton Abbas Street Fair has now been booked, and an anonymous sponsor has generously offered to pay our pitch fee. For our 70th birthday celebrations next year, Jenny continues to negotiate a suitable date for our 'posh' dinner, and Chris is still urging us to contribute more craft items for the Weldmar stall. Our winning streak continues with Skittles, winning five games out of six. Sheila was mentioned in despatches for forsaking her restful evening at home to fill in for the team at very short notice.

Shirley reported back to us on the Annual Council meeting. Local writer Sarah Challis was the morning speaker, and the main speaker, BBC News presenter Nicholas Owen, both told interesting and varied stories. 'Bookends' readers gave their latest book, *'The Virgin Blue'*, a mixed reception, preferring the historical aspect, with one reader expressing the wish to 'slap' the heroine! We move on now to Beryl Bainbridge and *'Master Georgie'*. Next month's meeting will be hosted by Carol Fornachon, and mulled wine and mince pies will help with our reflections.

Tim Loasby, our speaker, spent 30 years as a lecturer at Kingston Maurward College, his main interest being landscape archaeology. Surprisingly, this landmark building as you approach Dorchester has had very little written about it. The estate boasts historic parkland, a Grade II listed temple and a beautiful lake. First mentioned in 1244 and known as Kingeston, it was originally built in brick. George III is famously quoted as saying 'pity it's brick', and, as a result, in 1794 the house was encased in Portland stone. In his early book *'Desperate Remedies'*, Thomas Hardy referred to the house as 'Knapwater House' – although Tim advised us that you would have to be desperate to actually read it!

Renamed Kingston Maurward in 1914 by Sir Cecil and Lady Hanbury, many changes were made to the listed house and grounds, and it became a centre of county life with a lot of entertaining. Dorset County Council bought it in 1947 for £26,000, and it became a Farm Institute in 1949 with 30 students and six lecturing staff. Today it remains a very popular agricultural college, as well as a venue for weddings and events.

Congratulations to June, who won our 'brain teaser' of the evening, and Heather whose photo of Abbotsbury won our competition.

Shirley and Val have arrangements well in hand for our Christmas meeting. Entertainment will be strictly 'in house', with lots of festive music. As always, Mother Christmas will make her usual quiet and understated appearance, although she can't promise to grow a moustache in time...(!) Cards should be given to Veronica for distribution, presents into the sack, and don't forget to bring along a plate of food.

We look forward to a relaxing and enjoyable Christmas *'get together'* on Thursday 11th December.

Pat Bull



### Can you identify where this is in Milborne?

Be the first to send your answer to [m.s.a.reporter@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:m.s.a.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 January Reporter.



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# Hopefully never again!

FLOODING is never a popular topic of conversation (except in my house!) or if your home is at risk or been flooded. Quite reasonably, most home owners do not think twice about where water goes once it's down the river, the sink, the drain or the road – as long as it goes! It is a salutary fact that throughout the county only three per cent of homes are at any risk from flooding yet, in MSA there are over 50 homes located on the zone 3 floodplain, resulting earlier this year in some of these homes and businesses being seven times more likely to be flooded than the county average. At the risk of stating the blindingly obvious, all surface and a lot of ground water from our homes, roads and springs ultimately ends up in the valley bottom. Given the inadequate drainage and man-made attenuation structures all along the village (most particular the A354) it was not surprising the village has perennially suffered from surface water problems. The DCC Local Flood Risk Management strategy for 2014/5 identified MSA as the only village to suffer this way. To tackle this problem, in addition to the recently completed enlarged drains and resurfacing of Milton Road, remedial work in the Bere below the A354, individual building flood defence surveys and possible flood protection work for each of the 50 homes and businesses above, as well as a new storm drain for The Causeway planned for early next year have been collectively designed and financed by Dorset County Council's Local Flood Risk and Highways Managers and the EA. This shared major financial commitment to the village has at its heart the basic premise to get water through as efficiently as possible by removing obstacles and improving water flow throughout the village.

To illustrate just a fraction of work done since February, open sewer chambers have been replaced and sealed by Wessex Water to stop surface water inundation especially on lower Milton Road, raised road cambers have taken out known puddles in the road, land drains to Bladen View, Stileham Bank, Huntley Down, Coles Lane and a major land drain in lower Milton Road are now connected to the new drains directly outletting to the culvert below the main road. The 'joker in the pack' however, is the large sump in situ opposite the shop for the high capacity pump to be placed on demand in times of anticipated future flooding. Attenuation structures (walls, dams, trees and encroaching structures) have been removed throughout the whole of the valley dramatically improving the river's capacity. All aimed at encouraging water through as rapidly as possible rather than it be restricted to do its worst as in previous years, these combined measures have dramatically increased the potential resilience of the village and will mean that the road can remain open with cars no longer able to 'play' with spray along Milton Road, the surgery will remain in use, the shop will be accessible. There are still several locations that remain under review but I am convinced that life will never be so challenging again during high ground water periods.

We therefore have the tools and professional agency support to do the job but we must guard against complacency by sharing the monitoring and management responsibilities for potential flooding with Highways, the EA and riparian/home owners. In the hope this will be welcomed by most, I am acutely aware that this may be viewed as being naive or even interfering, but it is the best way for us to protect our village as a whole. A small group of volunteers (see below)

living throughout the length of the valley will be helping behind the scenes in monitoring the state of gutters with flint silt and field run off after heavy prolonged rain and arranging a sweeper, whether gullies need emptying and arranging clearance, maintaining road signs, monitoring river levels, helping muster volunteers as required before, during and after flood events, contacting relevant agency managers in times of urgency or just helping those who ask including the more vulnerable members of our village and keeping neighbours informed of impending river level rises etc.

The team will be able to help for each issue (not, I hasten to add, for a 24 hour plumber!) and I would try to encourage everyone to become involved and not, as one might say, walk by on the other side of the road! If you would like to become involved please phone me, but if not, that's fine. But there are a few simple things we can all do to help.

For example, if there is a gully covered in leaves just kick it clear, if it's full of water or the gutter is clearly choked, phone Dorset for You; if you know someone who needs help, approach them (and if you are not

sure talk to the team); if you have a gravel drive, try to keep the stones away from the drains; if you are riparian owner, keep the river clear and unobstructed (phone me for advice if not sure)

With any luck, and hopefully without tempting fate, we will try to prevent any home from flooding this coming winter and certainly until we know how this whole scheme performs in reality, every householder should continue to make their own preparations as if there has been no improvement made. Sand will continue to be available at the village hall car park with information regarding access to sand bags being published in the next *Reporter*. Those who have loss of sewerage services or are aware of sewage escaping please phone the Sewerage Floodline 0345 850 5959 number immediately you have a



problem. Wessex Water are committed to tankering as last year but their deployment will be subject to high ground water levels (in conjunction with EA) and not just an isolated householder problem. Every call is logged and responded to but it would also be helpful to maintain an overall picture if you would inform one of the team as well.

I wonder how many people share my impish 'Dennis the Menace' thoughts in wanting to see the drains working but in reality though let us all wish for a dry winter although going on the recent rains I'm not holding my breath!

Many thanks to the team below for agreeing to help.

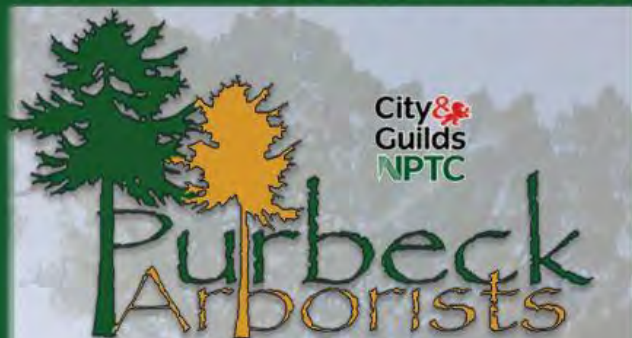
Steve Lord Orchard Lodge. tel 839222

## MSA Flood group

Julie Jones, lower Causeway; Nicky Hagan, St Andrews View; David Payne, Bladen View; Nick Marsden, Huntley Down; Mike Brown, lower Milton Road; Jenny Balcon, Stileham Bank; plus a Chapel Street resident would be very helpful!



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### Festive Party Menu

#### Starters

- Baked camembert with pesto and toast
- Roasted butternut squash soup with crusty bread
- Gin marinated salmon gravadlax with avocado and lime sorbet
- Chicken liver parfait with toasted brioche

#### Main Courses

##### Traditional Roast Turkey

Served with a sage sausage stuffing, pigs in blankets, roasted potatoes and seasonal vegetables

##### Pheasant 'Two Ways'

Breast wrapped in pancetta and confit leg served with truffle-scented mashed potatoes, roasted seasonal vegetables and a red wine jus

Baked ratatouille stuffed aubergine served with mixed salad

Fillet of salmon with a pink peppercorn sauce, samphire and crushed new potatoes

#### Desserts

Traditional Christmas pudding served with a brandy sauce and Madagascan vanilla ice cream

British cheese selection with apple, celery and biscuits

Chocolate fondant with cherry ice cream

Apple, pear and cranberry tarte tatin served with Madagascan vanilla ice cream

Three courses with coffee  
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### New Years Eve Gala Dinner

#### Starters

- Cream cheese and wood smoked salmon terrine with a citrus dressed salad and homemade bread
- Spinach, tofu and sweet potato spring roll, fresh lime and a sweet chilli dip
- Pan-seared pigeon breast, lightly curried cauliflower puree and a Parma ham crisp
- Chorizo and chickpea soup & parmesan croutons

#### Palate Cleanser

Champagne sorbet

#### Main Courses

- Loin of venison, berrichonne potatoes, honey thyme roast parsnips and a blackberry jus
- Sea bass fillet, sauté potatoes, pan fried green beans, curly kale with a fish veloute
- Aged sirloin steak, onion rings, roasted flat mushroom, tomato and hand-cut chips with a choice of blue cheese or peppercorn sauce
- Mushroom, leek and chestnut bake, goats cheese topping, creamy mash and chantenay carrots

#### Desserts

- Sticky toffee pudding with a salted toffee sauce and Madagascan vanilla ice cream
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## Local Police News

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.

**Current priorities** – You are telling us that the following issues are a priority in your area

1. Acquisitive crime in rural areas – particularly beauty spots
2. To set up further community speed watch groups in rural locations.

**Previous priorities** – You said ... We did

1. Acquisitive crime in rural areas – High visibility patrols increased with officers tasked daily to trend locations, as well as use of ANPR technology in police vehicles. Regular patrols of beauty spots and education around car crime prevention.
2. Child Okeford have received their kit and training sessions and are now operational. We are currently in the process of setting up two more Speed Watches in Stourpaine and Shillingstone.

### Home Watch internet safety evening

JUST in time for Christmas, as new smartphones, tablets and computers are bought as gifts for friends and family of all ages, Blandford SNT are running an organised 'Internet Safety Evening'. It is for Home Watch members and residents alike, so that we are all aware of the dangers, pitfalls and general safe practices for using the internet and what to look out for. The evening is planned to be held at Blandford Corn Exchange on Tuesday 16th December. This will start at 6.30pm and we will be further publishing those details in the local press and via both Dorset Alert and social media in due course.

### Home Watch meeting reminder

The next Rural Home Watch meeting is at 10.30am on Thursday 11th December at Okeford Fitzpaine Sports Pavilion. It is available to ALL members of Home Watch and any members of the public who would like to know a bit more about what is going on in the community. Many topics are discussed at the meeting including recent crimes, up-coming events and security advice to name a few.

### Meet the team

Meet the team and members of your PACT Panel to raise local issues on 4th December at Milborne St. Andrew Londis, 11.30am-12.00 noon.

## Your local Safer Neighbourhood Team



PCSO 5389 Luke Goddard    PC 2186 Dave Mullins    PS 2151 James Dimmack    PCSO 5463 Charli Barkshire    PCSO 5952 Greg Downs

### How to contact your team

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

Email: [blandfordruralsnt@dorset.pnn.police.uk](mailto:blandfordruralsnt@dorset.pnn.police.uk)

Follow us on Twitter: @BlandfordSNT

Find us on Facebook: North Dorset Safer Neighbourhood Team

Go to: [www.dorset.police.uk](http://www.dorset.police.uk)

## Jurassic Computers Complete a Successful First Year

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- "Please help! I can walk the dog, come back home, make a cup of coffee ... and still find myself waiting for my computer to start!"
- "I've just got a new iPad/Smart phone/Windows 8 Laptop and ... oh dear! Where do I begin? How does it work?"
- "I can't access my E Mail" "I can't print my boarding pass and I fly tomorrow!"
- "My wireless printer hates me!"
- "My grandchildren have been using my laptop and ..."
- "My friend said I should install ..."
- "It worked last night, but this morning ... I think BT/TalkTalk/Sky must have changed something ... so I phoned them and now, three hours later, I need to lie down in a darkened room! Please can you just make it work again?"

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You can also *Like* us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/jurassic.computers](http://www.facebook.com/jurassic.computers).

## Eyes down 12th December

CHRISTMAS Bingo for all in the village hall. Friday 12th December, doors open at 7.00pm. All welcome. This fund raising event will raise funds for the village hall, specifically the new play park. Prizes welcomed from all – please contact Amy 01258 839110 or Sandi via village hall e-mail for more details.

**Deadline for the January Reporter is 10th December**

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## Trading Standards news

### When is a peanut not a nut? The 14 allergens in food

December the 13th is an important date for anyone who suffers from allergic reactions to food ingredients as from then all new food labels will have to clearly highlight any allergenic ingredient in their ingredient list.

Perhaps even more importantly is that food sold without a food label, such as plated meals in cafes, restaurants and pubs, will also have to be accompanied by information about any food allergens they contain. This information could be written down, such as on a chalk board or menu, or can be provided orally by a member of staff. It's no longer an option for a food business to say that they do not know whether the food they sell contains a food allergen or not.

If I asked you to name the 14 major allergens in food recognised by Europe you'd probably find it difficult after the first four or five. Just in case you did want a go, the 14 are listed to the end of this article!

Businesses have actually had three years to implement the changes. Some food businesses made the labelling changes early, some have taken a bit longer, and some long shelf life foods will still be in circulation into 2015 and beyond until they are either sold or removed from sale as their date has passed.

The 14 major allergenic food ingredients are: Cereals containing gluten; Crustaceans, for example prawns and crabs; Eggs; Fish; Peanuts; Soyabeans; Milk; Nuts; Celery (and celeriac); Mustard; Sesame; Sulphur dioxide, which is a preservative found in some dried fruit and alcohol; Lupin; and Molluscs, for example mussels, oysters and snails.

Finally and if you are still with us, you'll have noticed that a peanut is recognised separately from a nut. That is because a peanut actually grows underground and is rather an edible seed enclosed in a pod rather than a nut which is grown on trees. Perhaps the ridicule around food manufacturers in the past labelling bags of peanuts with a warning 'May contain nuts' might not now seem so justified if they are made in a factory that handles nuts too!

If you think a food business is not identifying their food allergens after the 13th December then Dorset County Council Trading Standards would be interested to hear about it. You can let us know by calling the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on 03454 040506.



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Subject to funding and certain criteria this post could become paid and involve more hours. Office administration skills and communicating at all levels will be an essential part of this post.

If you would like to motor into 2015 with this exciting project please email [bus2go@btinternet.com](mailto:bus2go@btinternet.com) or telephone Margo 01258 837749 for an application form

## Find out more about how the NHS is working in Dorset

LOCAL people can find out all about the state of NHS health care in the county at a series of events hosted by Dorset CCG in December. The events have been organised as part of the major review of NHS services being carried out by the CCG, the organisation responsible for planning and funding healthcare in Dorset.

The aim of the review, which was launched in October, is to ensure that everybody in Dorset has access to safe, high-quality health care, which makes the most of clinical advances and best practice, while being sustainable and affordable in the long-term. The review grew out of last summer's Big Ask, a huge survey when the public was asked to tell us about their experiences of the NHS, what works well and what they thought needs to be changed.

The review has been gathering evidence which gives a detailed picture of NHS care in Dorset – everything from numbers of treatments and procedures provided for patients, predicted demand in the future, financial information and patients' views and experiences. This evidence has been compiled into a 'Case for Change', setting out where there are challenges with current provision, and why local service provision needs to change in the future.

GPs and other clinicians will be using this evidence to consider what changes could be made to health services. However, no changes will be made without a full public consultation, which will take place in the summer of 2015.

Dr Forbes Watson, Chair of NHS Dorset CCG, the organisation leading the Review, said:

"I hope local people will take the opportunity to come along in December and hear about the evidence we have collected about patients' needs, clinical performance and finances that demonstrate why changes to current services are essential. People told us what they thought of services in the Big Ask and now we want to show them our evidence about how health care is being delivered in Dorset. We want people to tell us if the Case for Change is clear and understandable, and if there is additional information that we need to consider."

The three events will be held at:

- The Barrington Centre, Ferndown, BH22 9TH 6pm – 8pm, Monday 8th December 2014,
- The Exchange, Old Market Hill, Sturminster Newton, DT10 1FH 10am – 12pm, Wednesday 10th December 2014
- Herrison Hall, Charlton Down, Dorchester, DT2 9UA 2.30pm – 4.30pm, Thursday 11th December 2014.

To book a place at one of the events, please contact: 01305 368900 or email: [involve@dorsetccg.nhs.uk](mailto:involve@dorsetccg.nhs.uk)

To find out more about Dorset's Clinical Services Review, visit: [www.dorsetvision.nhs.uk](http://www.dorsetvision.nhs.uk)

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# Have You Met . . . John Wright

JOHN was born in the city of Gloucester in July 1945. He lived in Westbury on Severn where his father was a country GP. His mother used to be headmistress of a girl's boarding school near Hereford, from which she had to resign when she married his father. He is the eldest of three children, his brother Christopher now lives near Skipton in Yorkshire and his sister Janet near Malvern.

Music has been important to him since early childhood. John says, 'My father took me to Gloucester Cathedral for a treat on my fifth birthday; seeing and hearing the singing for the first time, I decided that that was what I'd like to do, and I have sung in choirs since I was eight years old.

At the age of eight I was sent to boarding school at Bilton Grange, a prep school in Warwickshire, and five years later moved to Marlborough College. Boarding school suited me very well and I enjoyed every minute of it (almost!). During my time at Marlborough I was introduced to many activities that I enjoyed – printing, tape recording and film making to name just a few, and of course I sang first as a treble, then as an alto and then a tenor in the chapel choir and choral society.

With A levels in physics and maths I decided to go for an engineering apprenticeship and got a place with Smiths Industries. After a year they sent me to City University to study electrical and electronic engineering. It was a sandwich course, so I spent six months each year working in one of Smiths' factories. At university I was introduced to big computers, then in their infancy, as well as electrical machines and electronic circuits. I gained an honours degree and spent another year with Smiths but I decided my interest lay in another direction. So in 1970 I started work at the BBC. Television Centre was an inspiring place that I really enjoyed working in for the next 27 years. I worked with video tape for my whole time there, a fairly new idea when I started, as previously everything, particularly in colour, was on film. My job concerned recording, editing and transmitting programmes from Playschool to Newsnight and working the famous 'Action Replay' machine. I was involved in the start-up of 'Breakfast Time' in 1983 and finally worked at Westminster in the first televising of parliamentary programmes.

It was at Westminster that I worked with Jeremy Vine and edited his first television piece for Breakfast News. He was keen to learn how television stories differed from radio ones which was what he had worked on until then. It was nice to have helped him on his way.

Another memorable celebrity that I worked with was Spike Milligan. During a desperate editing session to salvage something from a studio recording session of Q7 that had gone really badly we spent a whole evening working out slow and backwards motion sequences to join up the usable shots. It was amazing to see his energy and ideas coming out of nowhere at such an incredible rate. From disaster we made a watchable programme.

I took early retirement in 1997 and have had great fun ever since. With the idea of getting a maths teaching qualification, I followed Josie's example and started an Open University course. I didn't get on a teaching course but I did carry on studying with the OU for three years and gained a diploma in maths and helped teach maths for Adult Education in Blandford and Ferndown for three years.

I then moved closer to home and helped at the Ladybirds playgroup, teaching the children basic woodwork. They each produced, planes, bird boxes, houses and boats which we later raced on the stream (just the boats!). I've been involved with our village school as a governor, the Garden Club and Wednesday Club and now The Reporter. For the last two and a half years I have been churchwarden at St. Andrew's Church which I greatly enjoy – following in the footsteps of my father, brother

and sister-in-law. But I still have time for my hobbies, I sing with Briantspuddle Singers, swim every week and Josie finds me lots of DIY jobs.

Josie and I met about 35 years ago at a church in Hillingdon, where she was teaching junior church. We later married and I had an instant

family as her son, David, came too. To start with it was very strange, but we soon settled down and it was a great pleasure helping to bring up my stepson, who now lives in Virginia, USA.

I threw caution to the winds when at age twenty five I decided to take advantage of builders' scaffolding to climb to the top of Westbury on Severn's church spire to take some aerial photographs of the village; there was a narrow platform but no safety barriers - the whole experience was pretty hairy!

We have lived in Milborne for fourteen happy years making lots of new friends. My pet hate is that I really don't like being surprised, something Josie has yet to learn!

Through my mother's side of the family I am related to Edmund Tilney, who was Master of the Revels in Henry VIII's time. He was involved in providing entertainment for the king and the court and managing the London theatres. I would love to meet up

with him for a pie and a pint; it would be interesting to compare notes as I was involved occasionally in recording and editing the Royal Variety Performance for the BBC.'

*Josie Wright*





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## Did you identify this?

The November picture was taken in Milton Road  
outside 35 and 36 Hopsfield.

Congratulations to Robin Keller  
who once again was the first  
person to telephone the  
answer, closely followed by  
Amanda Jenkins by e-mail.

Try your luck this month on  
page 19.



## Wessex Watermark helps children learn to love trees

TREES for Dorset have received a Wessex Watermark Award for £500 for their school's education programme 'My Life My Tree, Growing Together.' Wessex Water's Supply Distribution Controller Simon Burdett saw how the programme works when he visited Milborne St. Andrew First School with the Watermark cheque, on Wednesday 12th November.



Beginning with three rural schools eight years ago, Trees for Dorset now work with five schools and have more waiting in the wings to sign up to their popular and successful hands-on tree education programme. Their qualified Project Officer visits each school six times a year and the children are involved from the start with a tree which they grow from seed. After four years the tree is planted out in the local community with the children directly responsible for the care and nurturing of their tree.

"Growing Together' links children with their natural environment which is after all the best place to learn about local wildlife" Rachel Palmer Trees for Dorset Chairman said. "The children learn practical skills of observation and identification and have fun while they are doing it. Most of all the children learn about the natural cycle of trees as Simon saw when he joined one of our classes at Milborne St. Andrew First School.

Sharon Hunt, the headteacher said: "The children absolutely love learning the programme and when they're outside in their coats and wellies and gloves, learning about nature they are really engaged and switched on.

After they plant the trees they get to see them grow from start to finish and it gives them a sense of responsibility.

We are very lucky to be one of the five schools involved with Trees for Dorset."

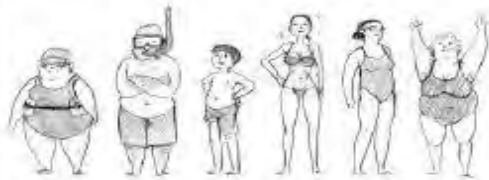
Growing Together links pupils with their natural environment and allows them to learn about local wildlife.

The Watermark Award provides funds for environmental projects within the Wessex Water area. Now in its twenty first year, it has supported over 900 environmental initiatives. Organised by The Conservation Foundation, all projects are judged by a panel chaired by its President – David Bellamy.



*The Reporter team  
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our readers a happy  
Christmas and a  
prosperous New Year.*

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## In your Garden

Seasonal notes and tips from Maureen Lock of *designerGardens*

### Trees and Bees

WINTER might not be the best time of year to be in the garden – but it is definitely the best time of the year to plant trees.

Trees can and should be included in the planting scheme for your garden – don't just plonk a token tree in the middle of the lawn. Think about what function it will serve. It may provide a screen to hide an ugly view or create privacy, or lead your eye towards a focal point, or indeed be a focal point itself. The 'time to maturity' is obviously an important factor as the lifespan of the tree often exceeds that of the gardener – you need to take the 'long view'. The diversity of trees is amazing with their variety of shapes and silhouettes, autumn colour, leaf shapes, flowers and ornamental bark. When choosing a tree, you



do need to check that it will grow on your type of soil (ours is alkaline, NOT acid soil), its habit and how big it will grow.

In a small garden, every plant has to earn its place and you should choose a tree that has more than one season of interest to get the best for your investment.

The hawthorn

*Crataegus x lavalleyi* 'Carrierei' has blossom, pretty glossy green leaves that stay on the tree well into winter, as well as long lasting berries. Other trees would be *Pyrus calleryana* 'Chanticleer' a columnar, slender tree that has white flowers in spring followed by glossy foliage followed by glorious orange/red foliage in autumn. Or you might want to make a feature of the bark – look at the white bark of *Betula jacquemontii* or the cinnamon bark of *Betula albosinensis*. The River Birch *Betula nigra* has shaggy, flaking orange



bark and loves a damp, wet soil or you may like the shiny, mahogany-brown bark of the Tibetan cherry *Prunus serrula Tibetica*.

The value that trees contribute to our existence is often forgotten – they absorb carbon dioxide, their roots stabilise the ground and

prevent soil erosion, and they filter out the sun's rays by providing shelter. Trees are also important in providing a source of food and shelter for beleaguered bee populations. As everyone knows, without bees around a third of the food we eat would not be available! So it is important that we give them a helping hand.

This year has been the best year for bees in ages; it could be the fantastic summer we have had, but it is also the result of an increasing awareness of their importance.

Tidy gardens full of clipped box and hornbeam which do not flower, hydrangeas that are quite often sterile and grasses provide no food for bees, they need nectar. In my job I find that many people want "all year round colour" and low maintenance. This is actually really good for

bees because they benefit from continuous nectar sources from March to October. If you want formality try a row of lavender and scatter some alliums and *Verbena bonariensis* throughout the border.

For trees that provide nectar, you might like to try crab apple varieties such as *Malus* 'Golden Hornet', *Malus* 'Evereste' or *Malus* 'Red Sentinel'. The winter flowering cherry *Prunus x subhirtella* 'Autumnalis' flowers on and off between November to March and has nice autumn foliage.



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