

80P WHERE SOLD

# Reporter

News and Views from around the area

Volume 7 Issue 1

January 2015

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

Millborne St. Andrew





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## Busy night at Gardening Club



THE Gardening Club had a busy meeting on Thursday 27th November. The evening started with a talk from our guest speaker Malcolm Mills from The Gardens Group in Sherborne. This was followed by the more serious business of the AGM. Malcolm shared with us a couple of important tips if you do any public speaking: ABC – always be confident and XYZ examine your zip – useful for men! Anyway the topic for Malcolm's talk was 'Plants that changed the world'.

Malcolm had brought several plants with him, so they all grow in this country even though they originated from further afield. He talked about such plants as the olive, snowdrop, foxglove, eucalyptus, yew tree, willow, bamboo, crocus and tea. Also lavender, potato and miscanthus. The first plant he showed us was an Oriental Paper Bush which is grown in Japan and used for high quality paper to be turned into currency. It has fragrant flowers in February/March and has very pliable stems. You will find a specimen at Abbotsbury. We learnt that the olive tree has been around for approximately 6,000 years spreading from the Middle East to the Mediterranean basin, with 99 per cent grown for oil. On the whole our climate is not suitable as olives hate the cold and wet conditions, although some are grown in West Sussex, Exmouth and Anglesey. Did you know the snowdrop has medicinal properties, it is used in the treatment of mild Alzheimers and memory problems? Likewise the foxglove for cardiac stimulation. The eucalyptus originating from Australia and New Zealand has antiseptic properties as a mouthwash and disinfectant. We learnt several interesting facts; saffron is the most expensive spice, which makes sense when two-three crocus flowers produce three stigmas per flower. Tea as we know it, generally comes from China but there is a variety that is grown in Cornwall. Malcolm recommended that lavender should be pruned in mid August to keep a good shape. The most bizarre fact – or maybe old wives tale – is that a potato in your bed keeps arthritis away! This is just a snapshot of the evening talk which proved very informative . . . we certainly earned our refreshments after all the listening we did!

The talk was followed by delicious mulled wine prepared by our chief muller . . . Tony, together with tasty seasonal nibbles and warm mince pies. Then we felt ready for the AGM including the chairman's report etc and a couple of changes to the committee. Linda, our secretary, has nearly retired and would love someone else to do the minutes in 2015 and beyond. She is a hard act to follow and has done an amazing job keeping us all informed and up to speed. Thank you from us all.

**NB.** Important change for 2015 . . . Club meetings will still be on a Thursday but it will be the third Thursday of the month in future . . . look out for the posters.

Our January meeting will be on 15th at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Marcus Dancer will be speaking about 'Climbing plants for sun or shade'. Guests very welcome.

*Angie Nowell*

## Disclaimer

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

Paper copy to David Payne at 7 Bladen View

## Candlemas Party

Following the success of last year's Epiphany Party in January we will be repeating the event but as a Candlemas Party a little later, on February 7th. Details will be available after Christmas, but the idea is for a social event for all ages on **Saturday 7th February** between 6.00 and 8.00pm with a 'Bring-and-Share' supper. Keep the evening free and get final details in next month's *Reporter*! *John Wright*

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## VILLAGE LUNCH

To be held at the Village Hall on

**Saturday 31st January from 12.15 to 2.00pm**

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## VILLAGE LUNCH AGM

To be held at The Royal Oak on  
Thursday 17th January at 12.15pm.  
This is not a club everyone welcome.

## Haggis Supper for St. Andrew

ON Sunday 30th November, fifty-seven folk gathered at The Royal Oak to celebrate St Andrew's Day with a haggis supper. We assembled with high expectations and were welcomed by Sarah Hillman, our vicar, who thanked Eva Stockley and her team for organising the event.



After a Celtic grace the haggis was presented, accompanied by the skirl of the pipes and was addressed by Alan Maitland, to great applause. The diners who had chickened out and had a carvery instead left us to our haggis fest, with our tables decorated with wee knitted haggis as souvenirs.

The haggis was accompanied by mounds of neaps and tatties and a large

dish of curly kale. Some aficionados poured a nip of whisky over the meal before they tucked in.

As we rested between courses the wine and the gossip flowed as all the village news was passed around. Then the dessert came in, tipsy laird, a rather boozy trifle topped with cream.

As the carvery bunch re-joined us Eva, on behalf of us all, thanked Sarah Fox and her team at The Royal Oak for all their hard work with a gift of shortbread to eat in their coffee break. Shem was particularly congratulated – he had done us proud, as always.

The evening continued with Pam Shults regaling us with some facts about the haggis, all of which were new to me. Apparently it is a hairy nocturnal creature, no bigger than a grouse, with legs of uneven length, which mostly live on hills. If you happen to be lucky enough to encounter a wild haggis in broad daylight, there is one



trick you can use to try to catch it: as it runs away from you, chase it around the hill in the opposite direction – it won't be able to turn around. Several herds or heaps of haggis, roam the interior of the Caledonian Forest, feeding



on pine kernels and mint leaves, which is said to add a distinctive flavour to their meat. Its young, of course, start life as scotch eggs. Eva then took to the floor to recite a rather ribald verse about Horace who became a haggis, during which we had to twirl our souvenirs by their little tails. Later Margo Kirk sang for us two lovely Scottish airs, *The Dark Island* and *Highland Cathedral*.

The evening now drawing to a close, the raffle was drawn and Scottish themed prizes were won by five of our diners.

After much applause and cheers, we all took our knitted haggis home as a reminder of a splendid evening. *Josie Wright*



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## Autumn 2014 Weather in Milborne St. Andrew

IT was the mildest autumn in Milborne since 1971. Although individual months were not record breakers for temperature, September was 2.3°C above average, October was 2.0°C above average and November was 1.74°C above average. The temperature recorded on 31st October was 20°C.

Rainfall in September was only 1.1mm and was the lowest rainfall I have ever recorded for any month. October rainfall was 131 per cent of average at 145.4mm and November rainfall was 139 per cent of average at 158.9mm. The wettest day of the autumn was on 10th November with 22.8mm.

The long range weather forecast for the 2014/15 winter is for below average rainfall and slightly below average temperatures so hopefully we should not have the problems with flooding in the village this winter. *Pluvius.*



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## Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2014 and Act of Remembrance



2014 has been a very difficult year for the Royal British Legion members here in the village. We, that is the whole village, lost a good friend in Peter Vatcher-Dow who sadly died earlier in the year. Peter was the one who knew the ropes who to contact, where to get the poppies and the wreaths,

where the collection boxes went and who to call on for the house to house collection.

There are only two active members of the Legion in the village now and it is increasingly difficult to keep up the standards we would all like. Having said that I am pleased to say that at the last moment we were able to obtain a wreath and some collection boxes from the Blandford Forum branch in order that we could collect some donations locally and hold our Act of Remembrance on the 9th and 11th November.

I would like to thank all that contributed to the Poppy Appeal during this centenary year of the start of the First World War. In times past we would count the collection and give each of the shop, the Post Office, The Royal Oak and Saint Andrew's church the results of their hard work. Unfortunately, as the boxes went to the Blandford Forum branch, I cannot give those amounts; because we are not responsible for opening the boxes any longer. I hope the figures will be given to me in due course. The Legion, it appears, is now discouraging house to house collections but it is hoped we can still rely on the businesses of the village to take the Poppy Appeal boxes next year.

I am however able to thank the congregation of Saint Andrew's whose plate collection on the 9th November was kindly donated to the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal, this raised £113.92.

The Act of Remembrance was held at the War Memorial and I am grateful to the Rev. Sarah Hillman for leading the prayers and all who helped on that day to ensure it went off smoothly. Approximately



100 people attended the event and this was very poignant. It was good to see the Scouts there taking part in the commemoration. Additional arrangements to keep us safe were quietly and carefully carried out. Again thank you all. I would like to thank Lieutenant Commander Tony Dyer, MBE, RN for laying the wreath on behalf of the village.

As for the future I hope that someone will come forward with a better PA system so that at least everyone attending will be able to hear the Last Post and Reveille. I am not sure how long this Act of Remembrance to the fallen will continue at the War Memorial site but with your support, I hope for many years to come but like this year we need volunteers to come forward.

Again Thank You

*Michael Hopper*





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

## Suspended Living

It doesn't take much to realise that the Church of England can be a funny old institution, with rules and regulations that can seem arcane and mysterious. Many of you will already consider that I am the Vicar of the Puddletown benefice. However, technically my title is Priest-in-Charge.

The differences are immaterial in terms of my ministry day-to-day. And on 15th January I will change from one to the other. No longer will I be Priest-in-Charge of Puddletown, Tolpuddle and Milborne with Dewlish, but Vicar. I have been asked by a number of people what this means. So I thought this month I would, without being too technical, attempt to explain.

When my predecessor Benny Hazlehurst moved on to a new post, the Bishop in consultation with others "suspended the living". When that happens the patrons of the parish lose their right to appoint a permanent priest to the oversight of our four churches, and the bishop instead appoints a priest-in-charge, a kind of caretaker priest, if you like.

Living can only be suspended for two reasons: if the parsonage house is to be sold or if pastoral reorganisation (that means changing the churches in a benefice by adding to them, removing them or dissolving the relationships between them) is being considered. It was the second of these that led to the suspension in this benefice.

At the time I was appointed, there was a diocesan plan that when a vacancy came up for the Vicar's post in the Piddle Valley, its churches would be divided between us and the Cerne Abbas group of churches. In order for that to have happened, the flexibility that suspending a living provides would have made this much easier.

That plan is now not on the table, and no other reorganisation is on the cards. For this reason the Bishop has agreed to lift the suspension. In theory that means my post as Priest-in-Charge comes to an end, and someone else could be appointed as Vicar in my place.

I am pleased to say that it has been agreed that your new Vicar will in fact be the same as your current Priest-in-Charge, and I will not be required to move on. This is what normally happens in these cases.

On 15th January I will be instituted as Vicar. The archdeacon and rural dean will be present, and I hope that anyone else who would like to be there to celebrate this next stage in our benefice life will join us. It will take place during the regular monthly communion service held at Puddletown at 12 noon, and be followed by a bring-and-share lunch in the church room. Please note the service itself will be in the church this month. Do join us, if you can.

With best wishes for a good 2015

*Sarah Hillman*

## St. Andrew's Churchwarden's report

NOVEMBER has been a busy month for our church. St Andrew's church hosted the annual benefice service of Thanksgiving and Remembrance for Those Who Have Died which was appreciated by people who attended. The Remembrance Day Service was attended by the local Beavers, Cubs, Scouts and many villagers; after the service the congregation moved down the hill to the Memorial Stone where they joined other villagers in a brief ceremony. On the last Sunday of the month, which was St. Andrew's day, the Ven. Paul Taylor led the Benefice service in St. Andrew's church.

St. Andrew's day is a very pertinent date for the village of Milborne St. Andrew. Last year an exhibition of local crafters' products was held in church and this year a Haggis Supper was organised in The Royal Oak to mark the occasion. Donations to the church of items, related to St. Andrew, were presented to the church; a cloth banner by fabric designer, Dr Jacquelyn Mobbs and a wooden font cover made by Tony Dyer; both were gratefully received.

St. Andrew's Events Committee, with the help of others, organised and ran a very successful Christmas Market. This year's theme was Craft and Kids. Much to the pleasure of his followers, Father Christmas returned to Milborne after a year's absence. There was also the opportunity for children to make personalised craft items, have a go at games, the lucky dip and buy pocket money toys. Grownups were delighted at the range of hand crafted items, cakes and produce for sale, the mulled wine and soups and the tombola. The day set the mood for Christmas.

## CHURCH SERVICES January 2014

### 4th January – Epiphany

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

### 11th January – Baptism of Christ

8.15am	1662 Said Communion	Puddletown
9.30	United Methodist Service	Topuddle
9.30	Parish Communion	Milborne
11.00	Puddletown Praise	Puddletown Church Room
11.00	Parish Communion	Dewlish

### THURSDAY 15th January

12 noon	Lunch-time Communion	Puddletown
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### 18th January – Epiphany 2

9.30am	Family Communion	Tolpuddle
9.30	1662 Morning Prayer	Milborne
11.00	Parish Communion	Puddletown
11.00	Family Service	Dewlish

### 25th January – Conversion of Paul

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

### 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.milbornestandrewchurch.org.uk](http://www.milbornestandrewchurch.org.uk)

**Dewlish**

Jim Burg 01258 837466

Sue Britton 01258 837218

### Benefice Office

Marion Bishop

[puddletownbenefice@outlook.com](mailto:puddletownbenefice@outlook.com)

or by telephone on 07812 687266

## 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.



As with many other rural churches, St. Andrew's struggles to keep going in the current financial climate. For the last year or more the income is less than the expenses which gives concern about the church's future. The Diocese Stewardship Advisor has met with the Parochial Parish Council (PCC) to give advice about ways to make people aware of the needs of the church both in membership and in financial matters. You may have been aware of the sermons related to giving and of discussions being held with parishioners. The PCC hope that these actions will ensure that St. Andrew's church will remain open and accessible to all.

*Pam Shults, John Wright, Churchwardens*

## News from Trading Standards

### Starting the New Year with a consumer problem?

NOW that presents have been unwrapped and we've fought our way through the sales, some of us will have found that something given or received isn't as expected. Or perhaps that sales bargain has turned out to be broken, shoddy, misdescribed, or even downright dangerous, well help is at hand.

The Citizens Advice consumer helpline and website is the first port of call to obtain independent, confidential and impartial advice about any type of consumer problem. The helpline will help you identify whether you are due a refund or replacement and whether you can seek compensation for any loss you have suffered.

Not only do you get clear, practical consumer advice but importantly for Dorset County Council Trading Standards Service, it is the way for you to report something to us. This is because we work in partnership with the Citizens Advice consumer helpline and automatically receive daily referrals from them letting us know why people are getting in touch. During 2014 Dorset Trading Standards received over 600 notifications a month about Dorset businesses. From these referrals we look to identify problem traders that need investigating to keep Dorset fair and safe.

We also have access to the Citizens Advice consumer helpline national database and that means that we are able to gather information and intelligence to identify emerging trends that may affect Dorset. We can then use that information to focus our efforts on the things that really matter to you. The more calls the helpline receives, the better the intelligence picture becomes.

We also want to work to keep Dorset's economy growing. We know that many businesses want to do the right thing but perhaps need a bit of extra advice and support to be able to do that. We look to identify those businesses too and we offer that advice and support.

So this New Year if you've bought something not as expected then lets resolve to use the Citizens Advice consumer helpline to help sort out our consumer problems and to report things to Trading Standards.

Call the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on 03454 040506 or visit [www.adviceguide.org.uk](http://www.adviceguide.org.uk)

## And Santa arrived in a red sports car

FATHER Christmas took time out of his busy schedule to attend the Christmas Market held in Milborne village hall on Saturday 29th November. As Rudolf and the other reindeer were in training for the big day, Santa arrived by classic car. Prior to attending the market at the village hall, Santa could be heard ringing his bell as he circumnavigated the village to make the local children aware of his arrival.



This year the Christmas Market consisted of lots of stalls including homemade cakes, handmade cards, a tombola plus many others. Additionally, children could not only visit Santa but they had a dedicated area where they could make Christmas cards and decorations. The adults weren't forgotten as tea and cake were available from the kitchen. Peter's secret recipe for mulled wine was also popular with the adults; the recipe being so secret that even Peter doesn't know it! Luckily his wife does . . .



The well attended market is the main fund raising event of the year for St. Andrew's church and it was good to see how busy it was. The event raised about £700 towards the £3,000+ annual shortfall that the church has in its budget and needs to cover every year.

*Peter Constant*



# Making, baking and the Nativity for busy Ladybirds



At Ladybirds in the run up to Christmas the children have been very busy.

There has been a great deal of making, cutting, sticking, glitter, and lots of glue. For some children this is a challenge but all have taken a large envelope home with their creations which I'm sure was well received by parents and grandparents.

As usual the children are doing a traditional Nativity play so have rehearsed daily and will be performing on the last day of term to their guests. By the time this goes out all will be completed and adult helpers will have uncrossed fingers and given a sigh of relief that all has gone well. Finally, our Christmas party where Santa will be putting in an appearance.

Of course all this needs sustenance and our children have prepared and cooked their own snacks. In the photo you can see some of the children making delicious cheese and herbs scones which included parsley picked from our garden.

Ladybirds wish you all a Happy New Year.  
*Liz Dyer*



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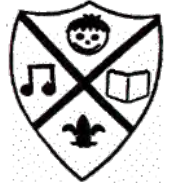






# Milborne St. Andrew First School

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all for one, one for all



## School News



THE final weeks of the autumn term have been especially busy in school with the preparations for Christmas. All of the classes have been busy preparing for their Christmas performances. This year Seahorses and Dolphins classes are performing 'Born in a Barn' and Turtles and Dolphins classes are performing 'The Night Before Christmas' on the last week of term.

Still to come as this goes to press is our carol service at St. Andrew's Church and the whole school Christmas lunch when the Friends of School prepare and serve a full Christmas dinner complete with all the trimmings to children, staff, governors and helpers. Many thanks to all the parents for their help.

The school council has chosen Save the Children as the children's charity to support this year and all pupils are invited to wear their silliest, sparkliest or cosiest Christmas woollies to school on the 12th December and make a donation to help save children's lives around the world.

We would like to thank Lloyd Fraser for their kind donation of the Christmas tree which looks beautiful in the porch.

From all at school we would like to wish all readers a very merry Christmas and health and happiness in the New Year.



## 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



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## Behind the scenes at the Village Hall

IT'S that time of year again when we need to make sure there will be a committee for the Village Hall from our Annual General Meeting in April. Our Village Hall is a great facility for our village and relies totally on voluntary support to keep it going. Getting involved is a great way in which those new to the village can integrate into the community.

Since I joined the Village Hall Committee, it has amazed me how much happens, out of the public eye, to maintain and keep the hall and playing fields whilst ensuring that things conform to all requirements. These are things that as a charity the Trustees have to ensure happen, for example, maintaining financial records, minutes of meetings, adhering to the objects of the Charity, etc. There are also legal requirements such as fire risk, health and safety, electrical PAT assessments, most of which produce recommendations that require work to be done. Maintenance constantly needs to be done to ensure the hall, kitchen, toilets, QEII playing field, play park, etc. are fit for purpose. And that is just a quick summary.

The work to maintain the Hall is done by the committee members and an increasing band of "Friends of the Village Hall". The Trustee members of the committee take key roles in managing the charity. The current committee has worked together over the last year and are now a cohesive team, however some members want to retire and we need to ensure that we have successors planned for some key roles. In particular our Treasurer, Elizabeth Humphrey is keen to stand down shortly.

If you have a willingness and a desire to ensure the hall and the fields continue to be an asset for the village, please consider joining the committee. Even better, if you want to use your skills at management and/or finance please get involved. For more information contact Paul Tasker (p.h.tasker@gmail.com) or Elizabeth (elhumphrey@hotmail.com) or email to msavillagehall@googlemail.com.

*P.S.* Do you 'like' our Facebook page?

Pam Shults

## Christmas fun at the December WI

RESPLENDENT with her very own 'bells and whistles', Linda chaired our Christmas meeting in Jenny's absence. Our thoughts and condolences are with both Phyll Briggs, who has recently lost her husband, and Eva whose son-in-law died recently.

**Dates for the diary:** Our 70th birthday celebration (with a buffet and jazz band) at Athelhampton will now be on **17th September**. The monthly pub lunch is on **Monday 19th January**. Our Bere Regis members have arranged for us to visit their historic church on **Tuesday 24th February**. Lunch will be at the Drax Arms beforehand, followed by a talk and refreshments in the church itself. Looking well ahead, we are hosting the Group Carol Service at St. Andrew's church on **9th December**. We were also reminded to bring along our voting slips to the January meeting for the 2015 round of resolutions.

Our traditional Christmas supper followed, with delicious food and mulled wine provided by members and the chance to catch up with everyone in a relaxed atmosphere. Shirley and Val had worked tirelessly behind the scenes to arrange entertainment in the form of seasonal poems and readings. Passing the many-layered parcel was next, interleaved with familiar Christmas cracker jokes, and Margaret Hurley was the lucky recipient of the small but covetable present residing amongst the layers.

Our first meeting of the New Year will be on **Thursday 8th January**, when Nick Tomlinson will speak about the 'Wildlife of the Kingcombe Meadow Nature Reserve'. Our competition will feature a wildlife photograph. Please do come along and join us.

Pat Bull





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## 100 CLUB WINNERS

Draw Date - Tuesday 16th December 2014

1st £100

John Martin Jnr

2nd £50

David Payne

3rd £12

Jane Hamilton

**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 20th January 2015

*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

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**Tel: 01258 459066**



# Local houses for local people

IT was a bright but chilly day on Wednesday 3rd December for the official opening of the Poole based Broadway Park Housing Association development at Fox View. Broadway Park's Chairman Keith Mallett and Chief Executive Fiona Ferenczy were present with their team, representatives from North Dorset District Council and other interested parties.



This is the first development that Broadway Park have undertaken in North Dorset and consists of two two-bedroom, two three-bedroom and one one-bedroom properties (with appropriate garaging). NDDC, who provided a grant of £50,000, are jointly responsible with the association for nominating tenants. In line with Broadway Park's mission statement of "Local houses for local people", potential tenants for Fox View are selected not only by the normal council points system, but must also demonstrate a connection to the area. Importantly the requirement for a local connection is kept for any future re-lets.

Four of the five properties have now been let to young families. "Worth the wait" stated Claire Joyce who moved in to her new home recently with her young son Harvey, adding, "This is the only place I really enjoyed living in". Having family close by is also a bonus for Claire. Harvey himself enjoys being able to walk to the local school. He provides regular updates to his classmates on the horses he watches from his window. A few doors over, Sarah White with her two young children Alicia and Callaghan also moved back to be close to family. All the tenants have regular visits from Broadway Park staff to check everything is alright and to help them settle into their new homes.

The development was not without its problems though. Building work started in the summer of 2012 and was scheduled to be completed by the summer of 2013. Unfortunately, by the spring of 2013 it was obvious that the building contractor had been badly affected by the recession and work was not going to be completed on time. Following extensive negotiations and little progress the contractor sadly went into administration in early 2014 and Broadway Park was forced to find alternative means of finishing the work. Domonic Teversham Building and Groundworks stepped into the gap and completed their part of the works on schedule and within budget, including having to source very scarce bricks from around the country to match the existing brickwork. Many of Broadway Park's usual responsive repairs contractors also worked hard to verify and complete the work carried out inside the properties. This meant that all five

properties were finally ready for occupation in September 2014 (thanks to the extra effort provided by all involved to get past this major setback).

Looking to the future, Broadway Park Housing Association is in the process of merging with Bournemouth Housing Association for the Elderly. The merger is anticipated to be completed by the end of 2014. The new company will be known as Sandborne Housing Association. The new organisation will be providing not only family homes but sheltered accommodation for the over 55s. The company hope to be able to develop further in North Dorset if the appropriate opportunities arise.



Reporter Linda taking a few notes with Sarah White.

In related news it has been confirmed by the selling agent that an unnamed developer has purchased the remaining undeveloped land at Fox View. It is believed that the developer will complete the development as per the original planning consent granted to the previous developer. The original consent was for a total of 13 dwellings with associated garages and parking. Full details of the planning can be found on the North Dorset planning portal at [www.dorsetforyou.com](http://www.dorsetforyou.com) application reference 2/2009/0206/PLNG.

Linda and Pete Constant







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## The Bullingdon Entertains

On **Monday 16th March** we are going to Salisbury Playhouse to see a critically acclaimed play by Laura Wade based on the real-life elite Oxford dining society that counts the Prime Minister, Chancellor and Mayor of London among its former members.

If you are interested in joining us please contact John Widdowson on **01258 837791** by 12th January. Tickets and coach transport cost £27.50.

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## Wanted! People with Ideas!

WE are looking for people with ideas for a fundraising event for the churches in our benefice (Milborne, Dewlish, Puddletown and Tolpuddle). For many years we have held a joint fete in August at Athelhampton House which has raised a considerable amount of money for the four parishes, but we want to look at what else we might do. We are having a meeting to gather ideas on **Tuesday 13th January at 6.30pm in Tolpuddle Church**, which will also be an opportunity to see the results of a project that has transformed the north aisle of the church and improved its facilities.

At this stage we are only looking for ideas, so nobody will be committing themselves to actually doing anything. As well as regular church-goers we are keen to engage with the large body of people in this area who, though not committed to 'going to church', care about our buildings and churchyards and would like to help keep them maintained as features of the villages, and places to mark the milestones of our lives.

If you have any suggestions, or want to question other people's ideas, come along to Tolpuddle, or get in touch with one of our churchwardens:

*John Wright, 5 Brooklands, Milborne St. Andrew.01258 839090.*

*Pam Shults, 26 Stileham Bank, Milborne St. Andrew, 01258 827203*

## £9m has improved county road conditions

FOLLOWING the extreme winter conditions of 2013/14, Dorset County Council was successful in bidding for an extra £9m from central Government to help repair storm-ravaged roads and, with the work nearing completion, residents will be noticing the difference it has made.

In total, 22 miles of county council roads damaged by last winters storms have been resurfaced and 52 drainage surface water improvement schemes will be completed by the end of the year.

Residents can see a list of all the sites repaired by this additional money at <https://www.dorsetforyou.com/severe-weather-fund> as well as images of the worst highway damage.

Condition surveys carried out have confirmed that the percentage of the highway network in need of maintenance has decreased by over two per cent over the last twelve months.

The most noticeable improvement has been on B and C class roads, with five per cent considered in need of maintenance compared with seven per cent in 2013/14, and ten per cent in 2012/13. In real terms, this is 16 miles of B and C class roads no longer categorised as in 'poor' compared to 2013/14.

The additional funding has also enabled a grip and ditch clearing programme to be carried across the entire highway network, this will assist in removing any surface water on the rural roads.

Councillor Peter Finney, Cabinet member for Environment and the Economy, said: "We were extremely lucky this year that the Government made available additional funds to help us repair our storm-damaged road network, without which much of this vital maintenance activity would not have taken place, or on such a scale, and would have been dealt with on an ad-hoc basis.

"Despite this recent investment we are still faced with a significant funding gap for highway maintenance, as a result, sources of more long term funding are being investigated to ensure our highway network is fully resilient to the weather extremities that we are continually having to face on an annual basis."

Images of the damage caused in the weather of 2013/14 can be seen here: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/dorsetforyou/sets/72157641268208954/>

*Issued by: Kerry Hall, Public Relations Officer  
Tel: 01305 228259 k.hall@dorsetcc.gov.uk*

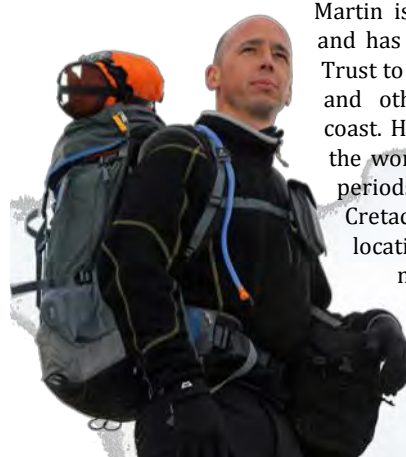
**Deadline for the February Reporter is 14th January**

## Seating and table donated to Village Hall

THE Village Hall playing field will be enhanced by the generous donation of seating and a table by Brian O'Dwyer. The picnic table donated earlier in the year has proved very successful and we know that these additional ones will also be well used. A big thank you to Brian.

## Milborne's Ambassador for the Jurassic Coast

THE Jurassic coast has a new ally in Milborne – long distance walker, Martin Curtis, has been recognised as an ambassador for the World Heritage Site (WHS) that stretches 95 miles from Old Harry Rocks near Studland to East Devon. Martin, who organises regular guided walks with his group, Elite Walkers, has been approved by the Jurassic Coast Trust to be their 'walking ambassador' and help promote the coast to the general public.



Martin is excited about his new role and has undergone training with the Trust to understand the basic geology and other aspects of the Jurassic coast. He says, "It's the only place in the world where the three dinosaur periods – Triassic, Jurassic and Cretaceous – are found in one location. I find it astounding, nearly 200 million years of geology – and we live right by it." This is the very reason that UNESCO conferred WHS status on the area as it met their criteria of 'outstanding

universal value' and Martin is now part of the Trust's drive to promote the coast to the community and beyond. His experience in professionally guided walks, Mountain Leader training and knowledge and love of the Dorset coast made him an ideal choice to enthuse others in this fascinating and beautiful landscape.

The aim of the Jurassic Coast Trust is to build a network of local specialists who will be able to be advocates for the coast to the local community and visitors alike. Martin says, "The Trust wants the coast to be accessible – I have the knowledge through my walking experience to help them get to where they want to, safely".

"If a visitor wanted to know a bit more about, say, fossils, I would know the right person to point them to, and vice versa". In the New Year, Martin will be guiding walks with the Trust and getting involved with other promotional events.

*Ed Richards*

**More on Elite Walkers in next month's issue.**

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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](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

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	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
Table Tennis	Pauline Pitfield	01258 839123
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



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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](mailto:msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk)

## December 2014

**Monday 29th** **Milborne Movies** 'How to train your Dragon 2' Village Hall 3.30pm – see below.

## January 2015

**Wednesday 7th** **Wednesday Club** New Year's lunch at The Royal Oak 12.30 for 1.00pm – see page 21.

**Thursday 8th** **WI** Nick Tomlinson will speak about the 'Wildlife of the Kingcombe Meadow Nature Reserve'. Village Hall 7.30pm – see page 11.

**Tuesday 13th** **Benefice meeting** Tolpuddle Church everyone welcome 6.30pm – see page 15.

**Wednesday 14th** **Reporter** latest date for the February issue. Send your items to [msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk) or give to a member of the Reporter team. Team members listed on page two.

**Thursday 15th** **Gardening Club** Marcus Dancer will be speaking about 'Climbing plants for sun or shade'. Village Hall 7.30pm – see page 2.

**Saturday 17th** **'Casanova'** with Pip Utton in partnership with Artsreach Village Hall 7.30pm – see page 29.

**Tuesday 20th** **100 Club Draw** The Royal Oak everyone welcome to attend – see page 12 for winners and below.

**Wednesday 21st** **Parish Council** Village Hall 7.30pm.

**Friday 23rd** **Milborne Movies** 'Walking on Sunshine' Village Hall 7.30pm – see page 16 and 27.

**Saturday 31st** **Village Lunch** Village Hall 12.15pm. Tickets and information from 839090 or 837700 – see page 3 for menu.

## 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

**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

## January at the Sports Club

**Table Tennis** Monday 7.00–9.00pm. Information from Pauline Pitfield 01258 839123

**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.*

## Milborne 100 Club

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For information contact:

John Sanderson    Football Club    837049

June Maitland    Church    837235

Denise Sanderson    Collector    837049

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## Christmas Lunch at the Village Hall

THE annual Village Christmas Lunch took place on Saturday 6th December and as usual was a great success. Forty-four people sat down to a delicious meal of turkey with all the trimmings and wine or fruit juice followed by Christmas pudding with tea or coffee and chocolates to finish. Crackers were pulled and hats worn. Our official photographer Heather Hogg provided the attached photograph.



There is a village lunch on the last Saturday of every month and is open to all villagers young or old and it is a good time to meet up with old friends and make new ones. Sarah, the vicar thanked Dave Payne and his team for all their hard work throughout the year to make the Saturday Lunch such a success. Dave thanked Shem and Sarah and Andy Fox for providing the excellent meals each month and Sarah was presented with a bouquet of flowers.

The A.G.M for the Saturday lunch will take place in The Royal Oak at 12.15pm on Thursday 15th January, all are welcome to attend.

The next lunch will be on Saturday 31st January at 12 noon for 12.30pm and the menu is sausage and mash followed by bread and butter budding and tea or coffee and chocolates and there is a choice of a glass of wine or soft drinks to have with your meal

You will need to book, so please call David Payne on 837700 or Josie Wright on 839090. The cost is £6.50 per head. We look forward to seeing you all there.

*Lis Watts*

## Local small-ads

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

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**For Sale – Child's bike** £10, further enquires telephone Dave and Val Andrews 01258 837214.

## Can you identify where this is in Milborne?

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

Reporter team members can be  
found on page two.

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



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*The Reporter team would like to wish  
all our readers a very happy and  
peaceful New Year.*

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## Wednesday Club Christmas Lunch

THE Wednesday Club Christmas Lunch took place at The Coach and Horses at Winterbourne Abbas on Wednesday 3rd December. Arrival time was 12.30 for 1.00pm and we had time to get our drinks and chat with friends before the meal was served. We had all made our choice of food in advance and there was a general



consensus that it was delicious. We finished with tea or coffee during which the raffle was drawn. Dave Payne on our behalf thanked Ann Guy and Jenny Balcon for their work in organising such an enjoyable event.

We were pleased to welcome three new members Dennis Ballard and Harry and José Thomas and look forward to seeing them at our meetings.

Our next meeting will be The New Year's Lunch at our own pub, The Royal Oak (yes, more drinking and eating!) on Wednesday 7th January at 12.30 for 1.00pm. when we will be eating a beef stew and dumplings followed by a dessert and tea or coffee. Cost will be £10 for members or £12 for visitors. Please contact Jenny on 837121 or Ann on 881766 to book a place.

Please bring a wrapped gift worth £5 suitable for either men or women to put, rather belatedly, in Santa's sack!

Looking ahead, our February Meeting is in the Village Hall on Wednesday 4th February at 2.00pm when someone from Dorset Community Action will speak on Keeping Warm and Saving Money.

*Lis Watts*

## Physiotherapist led Pilates class

Starting Friday 16th January  
at Milborne St. Andrew village hall  
5.00-6.00pm, £6 per session

*1:1 sessions also available in the comfort of your own  
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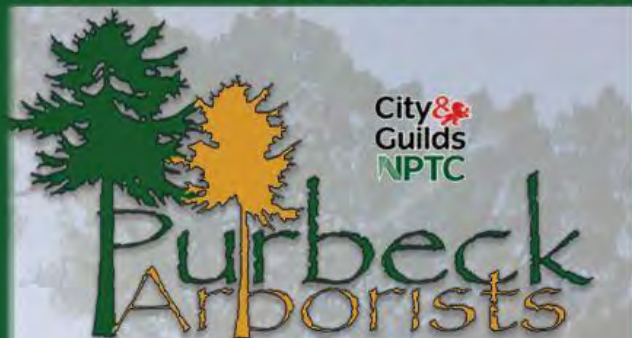
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## The Hambro Arms Milton Abbas

### Valentines Menu

Saturday February 14<sup>th</sup> 2015

#### Starters

Baked camembert with a mixed leaf salad,  
toasted baguette and a basil & pine nut  
pesto (to share)

Pan fried scallops served with a spicy glaze  
and crispy chorizo

Salmon and crab rillettes served with aioli,  
mixed leaves and toasted baguette

Pan fried pigeon breast with sautéed  
butternut squash crispy bacon lardons and a  
red wine jus

#### Palate Cleanser

Passion fruit sorbet

#### Mains

Fillet steak with roasted flat cap mushroom,  
confit tomato and hand-cut chips  
(£4 supplement)

Pan-fried chicken breast stuffed with garlic  
butter and wrapped in pancetta served with  
Mediterranean vegetables

Roasted salmon served with an asparagus &  
pea risotto and watercress

Halloumi stuffed red peppers with a cherry  
tomato sauce and rocket salad (v)

#### Desserts

Chocolate fondant served with a cherry  
compote and Madagascan vanilla ice cream

Lemon lime and ginger cheese cake served  
with a tuile biscuit

White chocolate parfait served with mint  
fudge and a berry coulis

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## Have your say on changes to household recycling centres



**We would like to hear your views on cost-saving options for our household recycling centres (HRCs), including:**

- Charging at some sites
- Charging for materials such as DIY waste
- Closing sites on some days of the week
- Closing some sites completely

Find out more and have your say at [dorsetforyou.com/hrc](http://dorsetforyou.com/hrc) or pick up a paper form from the site office.

**The closing date for comments is 13 February 2015**

[dorsetforyou.com/hrc](http://dorsetforyou.com/hrc)

## Consultation on Possible Changes to Dorset's Household Recycling Centres (HRCs)

COLIN Hampton, Clerk to Milborne St. Andrew Parish Council wishes to draw readers' attention to the above public consultation which is currently running until 13th February 2015. Increasing pressures are being applied on the Dorset Waste Partnership (DWP) to make savings in this area.

### The Options

The possible changes being considered are to:

1. Close one or more of the 11 Dorset Household Recycling Centres (HRCs) on a permanent basis.  
**Potential savings: Up to £100,000 a year**
2. Charge for entry at one or more HRCs instead of closing them.  
**Potential savings: £65,000 a year per site**
3. Close all HRCs for up to three weekdays.  
**Potential savings: up to £300,000 a year**
4. Charge residents to dispose of non-household materials, such as DIY waste and tyres.  
**Potential savings: £250,000 a year**
5. Remove the subsidy the DWP pays neighbouring councils for Dorset residents to use their HRCs and ask residents to pay instead (e.g. £5 per visit)  
**Potential savings; £70.000 per year**

### *More than one of these changes may be needed.*

There is a website [www.dorsetforyou.com/hrc](http://www.dorsetforyou.com/hrc) on which an online survey can be completed. If you are unable to go online, call 01305 221040 to request a paper copy and return to HRC Consultation, Dorset Waste Partnership, Grove House, Millers Close. **Printed hard copies have been provided to all main district, borough and county council offices, libraries and HRCs.** Please note that these must be completed in full, including ranking the options 1-5 (see above) in question 13. All responses will be presented to a future meeting of the DWP Joint Committee. This is part of a bid to provide services for less money by looking at potential savings. There are 11 HRCs, located in: Blandford, Bridport, Christchurch, Dorchester, Portland, Shaftesbury, Sherborne, Swanage, Wareham, Weymouth, Wimborne which currently cost £3.3m a year. All operate under a contract which is due to go out to tender next autumn. Any service changes need to be known in advance.  
*Carole Fornachon*

**Deadline for the February Reporter is 14th January**

**View the Reporter each month in colour at [www.milbornestandrew.org.uk/Reporter/index](http://www.milbornestandrew.org.uk/Reporter/index)**

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## Do you live in Milborne St Andrew or just sleep here?

**Do you care how the village develops or just let things happen?**

**Are you content to let others decide you and your family's future?**

**Have you struggled to find somewhere suitable to live in the village?**

**Would you like a bigger, better Medical Centre in the village?**

**Are there too many holiday and second homes in the village?**

The Milborne St. Andrew Neighbourhood Plan Group will be asking these sorts of questions, using various means such as leafleting, question and answer sessions at the Village Hall, speaking to businesses, farmers on their plans which may impact on how this Parish develops.

We need to know your views, ideas, concerns and aspirations for Milborne St. Andrew. After Christmas and the New Year the pace of engaging with you the community will quicken. Join in with the future of your home and business. If you've got views let us know. E-mail us on [npg@milbornestandrew.org.uk](mailto:npg@milbornestandrew.org.uk) and keep an eye out for the flyer that will be coming soon.



*Sparrowhawk waiting for breakfast.*

## Send in the clowns

*by Josie Wright*

Half an hour left, just the face to do and I'm ready. Either my eyesight's going or this mirror's too small; better bring a bigger one next time. Clowning's not what it was when we were young, eh Evie? They looked after you in those days.

I'll have to get some more of this white next week; the pot's nearly finished. Spread it round – grief, startled myself there. I look like the ghost of the old year.

How I miss you Evie. Married 40 years ago today – would've been anyway.

Got to concentrate – get the mouth right – I must be getting old, look at all those wrinkles.

Damn it – that's crooked – where's the cold cream, I've never botched it before.

That's better, you'd never know. My hand must've been shaking – it's this flaming pain in me arm, catches me now and then.

Reminds me of that night we met in the ring, Evie. You were like a little fairy, leaping and dancing on your pony. Clowns were doing some business with the old fire engine, spooked the horse and down you came, into my arms for ever. Or so I thought.

Stop snivelling, get a grip, those kiddies will be waiting.

Just the eyes to do – carefully does it – there we are – lovely.

'Urry up Charlie, only ten more minutes!'

'Coming.'

Cheeky little sod, no respect.

Red nose and that's it – this damned arm's been aching on and off all day. Here we go! Bloody hell! Pain's shot right across me chest then, must sit down again for a minute, really took me breath away. Could do with a cup of your tea, Evie, you're the only one who ever made it just right.

Got to get moving – if I can just reach me jacket – that's it.

On with the show – end of the year tonight, end of a millennium, end of . . .

'Charlie, you silly old bugger, you're on. Stop messing about, what yer lying there for?'

### 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: [blandfordruralnorth@dorset.pnn.police.uk](mailto:blandfordruralnorth@dorset.pnn.police.uk)

Follow us on Twitter: @BlandfordSNT

Find us on Facebook: Blandford Safer Neighbour

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

### 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.

**Fed up with the same things in the Reporter each month.** We are looking for someone to be a roving reporter and to collect news from around the village that you think our readers would enjoy. Write an article each month or occasionally, a story, a walk, a recipe whatever you think. Contact the editor for more information on 837700 or [mas.reporter@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mas.reporter@yahoo.co.uk)

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**“You dun us proud”**

SO say all the Brownies and Beavers, similarly so did Santa and Rudolf as they all braved the cold night air for a fantastical musical carol sleigh ride on Monday 8th December.

Thanks to the generosity of all concerned a grand total of £208 was raised during the street collection. £20 (roughly ten per cent) was top sliced by the Dorchester Rotary Club for its headline Sleigh Appeal Charities (Somerset and Dorset Air Ambulance and the DCH Fortuneswell ward), the remaining £188 was paid over to the Milborne St. Andrew Scouts.

Rudolf and Santa met their very excited helpers at the Village

Hall at about 5.30pm and they then set off for Fox View, the first stop on the grand mystical music tour. To any onlookers daring to peer out of their windows it must have resembled the Pied Piper, fortunately the loud music was a bit of a dead giveaway. The warm hospitality and generous donations of the resident of this micro community in the centre of the village set the group up for the rest of the evening.

As the evening wore on some of the younger members faded away, but who could blame them it was very cold and many had not had any teatime meal and of course, there was always school tomorrow, Santa thanked each one as he bade them farewell and made a note of their home address so that he could deliver some extra special presents.

Unfortunately the sleigh could not get round the entire village, which make the size of the donation even more remarkable but Santa sure made sure that everyone could hear him, including members of the intrepid crib team, trudging to The Royal Oak muttering 15: 2 in tune with the carols.

All in all a very good night and likely to be repeated and many thanks Mike for the use of your tow bar.

*Richard Lock*

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Dear Editor

I wish to say sorry to the residents of Milborne St. Andrew because I have felt it necessary to resign from my position as a Parish Councillor.

The reasons behind the decision are mainly about the amount of abuse and jibes I have been receiving both in public and privately. I had considered I was doing a reasonable job of trying to represent the views of the residents and standing up for their views.

I have served on the Parish Council on three separate occasions for quite a few years and it has been a privilege to do so. The workload has been increasing over the last few years and I have tried to carry out as much in depth research as possible in order that I am as well informed on the subject as possible before the Parish Council meeting but I sometimes felt it was all a waste of my time.

I wish to thank Jenny Balcon the Chairman and Colin Hampton the Parish Clerk along with most of the other Councillors for their support.

I wish the Parish Council well and I shall continue to support the Neighbourhood Plan Group for the time being.

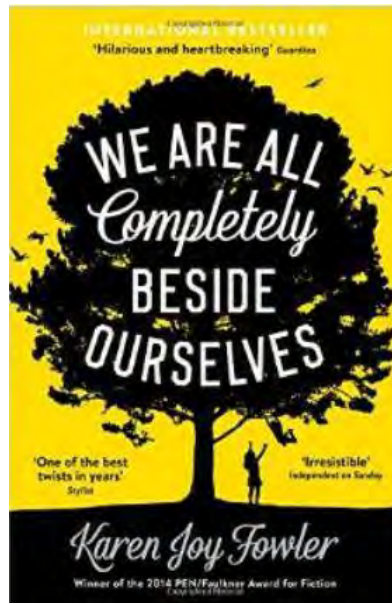
If you have views or concerns about the way the Parish Council is run; don't just moan stand for election in May 2015 and make a difference and see how easy it is to get up the noses of some of the village, lose friends and make some real enemies. I'm off to get a life.

Yours faithfully  
Michael Hopper  
The Causeway.



We at Bus2Go wish everyone a very Peaceful Christmas and a Healthy and Happy New Year. Looking forward to welcoming you aboard in 2015.

## A Good Read by Shirley Dunkley We Are all Completely Beside Ourselves by Karen Fowler



IN 2014, the Man Booker prize admitted American competitors for the first time, and this novel made it to the shortlist. It didn't win but is, nevertheless, a worthy contender. The first person narrator is Rosemary, who begins her story in the middle when she is a university student. Her experiences then link back to her early childhood in an American academic family, in the course of which she manages to lose two siblings, a brother and sister. This book is the story of those sibling relationships and the ongoing effects on her life

up until the present day. It is, I suppose, a love story but not a romance, an account of the affection between children. There is one of the biggest surprises to be found in fiction about a third of the way through – and I do not intend to reveal it and spoil the impact.

Rosemary's voice is individual and humorous – there are episodes of real comedy in her tale, sometimes farcical, sometimes self-deprecatory – the narrative pulls the reader in, a page-turner which is both moving and satisfying. Above all, it is the originality of the novel which makes it stand apart from so much else, and when reading it, to quote The Times 'prepare to be charmed and traumatised' - I certainly was!

## Walking on Sunshine

To be shown by Milborne Movies  
on Friday 23rd January 2015 at 7.30pm  
in Milborne St Andrew Village Hall

MADDIE, who has a history of relationships with unsatisfactory men has embarked on a whirlwind holiday romance with the gorgeous Raf and, overcome with passion, the pair decide to get married straight away. With the wedding set in Italy's sun-drenched, southern beauty spot of Puglia, Maddie invites her sister Taylor along, but little does she know that Taylor and Raf once had a whirlwind romance of their own.

This is a very predictable story and outcome, but it's done in such a happy way with plenty of sing along songs and great flash dances. In many ways, this is simply a rehash of Mamma Mia! – only with more musical variety. The soundtrack is packed with 80s pop classics, including Cyndi Lauper's 'Girls Just Want to Have Fun' and Wham's 'Wake Me Up Before You Go-Go'. 'Walking on Sunshine' is a joyful, feel-good musical which you are bound to love and it is guaranteed to put a smile on your face. Well worth watching if you need a good cheering up.

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.

Deadline for the February Reporter is 14th January  
View the Reporter each month in colour at  
[www.milbornestandrew.org.uk/Reporter/index](http://www.milbornestandrew.org.uk/Reporter/index)

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## Alt+F4 for Computer club

ON Friday 5th December we held our last computer club. After nearly seven years of heaven knows how many cups of coffee and even more of Rose's and Sheila's scrumptious delicious cakes, it was decided that as the club was running at a loss, the time had come to call it quits. I do not know how many people have benefited from Ed and Brian's advice, I know that several Friday mornings I've gone down to the village hall with yet another query on my laptop and five minutes of their advice, sometimes even less, it's all sorted. So from all the villagers who have enjoyed a very pleasant and enlightened Friday morning in the village hall, our thanks go to Ed and Rose Frost and Brian and Sheila Burton, for all their hard work and the many hours they have given their advice and help to those in need.

Jenny Balcon

*It was at the Computer Club that Ed and some of its members conceived the Reporter back in 2009.*

Editor



## Did you identify this?

The December picture was taken in Milton Road outside 38 Stileham Bank, it was given to Brian by his friends as a 70th birthday present.

Congratulations to Jenny Balcon who was the first person to e-mail the correct answer.

Try your luck this month on page 19.



## Round Robin Ramblers

### the local villages walking group

WALKS are normally held on the first Sunday and the third Wednesday of each month. Please join us as we enjoy exercise, good company and the wonderful Dorset countryside, irrespective of the weather.

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

\*\*\*\*\* *Happy New Year and time to stay fit* \*\*\*\*\*

**Sunday 4th January – 1.30pm (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).

**Wednesday 21st January – 11.00am**

### A circular route around Hambledon Hill and Hod Hill

Meet outside the church in Stourpaine.

Grid reference: ST 861094 on OS Explorer Sheet 118 (approx. 6.5 miles)

Bring a packed lunch.

**Sunday 1st February – 1.30pm (note the earlier time)**

### Mappowder and the Blackmore Vale

Meet outside the church in Mappowder

Grid reference: ST 735060 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.



## 'Casanova' with Pip Utton

in partnership with Artsreach on  
Saturday 17th January 2015 at 7.30pm  
in Milborne St Andrew Village Hall (DT11 0JX)

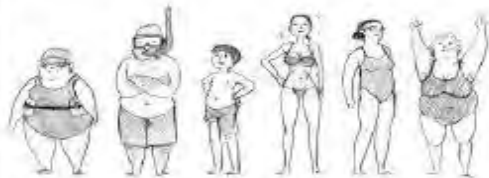
CASANOVA is an entertaining new play with music and dance about a character so famous (or infamous) that the name Casanova has gone into the dictionaries to describe men who are, for want of a better word 'popular' with women. In his new play Pip Utton has managed to fuse theatre and the spoken word with contemporary dance. Pip obviously plays Casanova and has almost all the dialogue, but he is accompanied by a young contemporary dancer, Marguerite Chaigne, who has few words to say but beautifully portrays six of his conquests. Welcome to Casanova's memories, his dreams, his conquests and his broken hearts, his highs and his lows, his triumphs and his defeats. And welcome to Casanova's seduction secrets. Comic and moving and surprisingly beautiful at turns, this is a totally entertaining piece of theatre. Like no other master storyteller Pip Utton is able to portray special people in world history to come alive on stage. Casanova recently achieved a sell out tour in Holland with rave reviews.

The village hall and bar is open from 7.00pm and the show starts at 7.30pm.

Tickets £8 adults, which can be obtained from Londis Village Shop in Milborne St. Andrew or from Alice and Roger Harrall by phoning 01258 837371.



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Find out how to stay warm, understand how to switch suppliers and how you can save some money, all over a cup of tea and biscuits. You can also receive a free energy saving appliance.

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## In your Garden

Seasonal notes and tips from Maureen Lock of *designerGardens*

### Plant once and reap the rewards

IF you don't have time to grow vegetables from seed every year, there is an alternative – perennial vegetables. Apparently, they're becoming a bit of a thing – from what I have been reading recently.

Perennials are plants that die down in the winter and then re-emerge again in the spring. This can apply to ornamental plants in the border or indeed some vegetables such as asparagus, globe artichokes, Jerusalem artichokes, sea kale, garlic and rhubarb. Runner beans are perennial but don't survive our winters so we treat them as annuals. Generally seen as low maintenance, you will need to prepare the ground thoroughly beforehand and give them lots of well-rotted manure or home-made compost. Keep them weed free too – as the weeds will compete for water and nutrients.

There's an old saying that if you plant asparagus in the garden you're going to stay in that house for a long time. There's a lot of truth in this because asparagus is not a quick results crop. You can start to pick your asparagus about two years after planting. But it is so yummy, it's worth waiting for. You can also use the lovely ferny foliage in flower arrangements.

Asparagus hails from Asia Minor travelling via Persia and Egypt to Europe. We started growing it in the 16th century. The word comes from the Persian word 'asparag' meaning shoot. In the 16th century it was called 'sparagus' or 'sparrow grass'. It was finally called asparagus



in the 19th century.

There are three types of asparagus – white, green and purple. In the UK we favour the green variety, in Germany and France most people prefer white asparagus. Purple asparagus is definitely not as popular. It looks attractive when it is growing, but loses its colour on cooking.

Asparagus crowns are planted in April – they are funny, spidery looking roots.

They don't like waterlogged soil or heavy clay soil and aren't suitable for growing in a container. They like sun and space. Plant the crowns at 15cm deep and spread the roots out about 50cm apart. To improve drainage, you can plant them on a ridge of long mound of soil. You can also grow perennial salad leaves between the rows.



When they are ready, cut the stems at ground level (no deeper) and stop picking in mid June to allow the plant to re-energise for next year's crop. This is a good time to give them a bit of a boost with some general fertilizer such as Vitax Q4 or Growmore.

Asparagus can be eaten raw but tastes much better cooked, and the best way to do that is to steam it. Hollandaise sauce is a classic way to eat asparagus but to my mind nothing beats asparagus with lashings of butter and some grated parmesan.





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