



80P WHERE SOLD

Reporter

News and Views from around the area

Volume 8 Issue 4

April 2016

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Milborne St. Andrew



Spring
arrivals

Welcome to our village

A VERY warm welcome to all newcomers to Milborne St. Andrew – there seem to be a lot of you since Christmas! We are sure you will enjoy living here. Please use your *Reporter* to find out about contacts in clubs and societies for gardeners, allotmenters, card players, foodies, sports players and others. It's easy to join in with the many village social events. Whether the May Fayre, Village Quiz, Pantomime, Movieola or Artsreach events, there is truly something for everyone here!

A special welcome to Sam who has joined Ladybirds since his parents moved into Wetherby Close. We look forward to reporting your activities along with all the other children who spend their mornings having fun in the Village Hall.

Planning a village party

AT a short meeting to discuss the ideas to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday, it was thought that we could hold a family picnic on the Village Hall field, food to be provided by the families attending. Hopefully the Village Hall Committee would run the bar. Ideas put forward included a fancy dress competition for the children along with races for all ages. More ideas would be welcome so please come along to the next meeting on 27th April at The Royal Oak.

VILLAGE LUNCH

To be held at the Village Hall on

Saturday 30th April from 12.15 to 2.00pm

Wine or fruit juice

Chicken and leek pie

Bread and butter pudding

Coffee or tea/mints

Vegetarian option available

£6.50 per head

Everyone welcome young and old alike

Tickets and more information available from
Josie Wright on 839090 or Chris Nowell 837543

Disclaimer

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DORSET'S BEST VILLAGE COMPETITION 2016 – “30TH ANNIVERSARY”

ENTRY DEADLINE APPROACHES

OPPORTUNITY FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES TO TAKE PRIDE IN
WHAT THEY DO AND WIN A CASH REWARD

DORSET Best Village Competition entry deadline is fast approaching. Entries have to be in by 5.00pm on Monday 11th April. There is more than £2,000 in prize money that will be given away to winners in the available categories.

The competition is organised by Dorset Community Action (DCA) and entry packs have been sent to parish councils, village hall committees and numerous other active community groups.

Magna Housing has been the major sponsor for the competition since 2010 and has renewed its support again this year. Additional sponsorship comes from Dorset County Council, the four District Councils, The Dorset Echo, Dorset Magazine, Blackmore Vale Magazine Communities, Dorset Waste Partnership and the Campaign to Protect Rural England along with local food producers Clipper Tea, Fudges Biscuits, Honeybuns, Craig's Dairies and Helen Furness Catering.

DCA's Competition Organiser Rita Burden says: "Once again we are delighted with the entries we have already received but we would like to encourage those village communities who have not entered for a while, or have never entered, to come and join in to this exciting 30th anniversary competition. The "Environmental Champions Award" and "The Best Village Shop" category together with the "Peoples Project Award" and the Neighbourliness Award will involve wider interest groups."

Besides the "Best Kept Village" competition, won last year by *Burton Bradstock* (large village) and *Winterborne Zelston* (small village), there are other distinct categories to enter. "The People's Project" – the village judged to have entry involving local active people – *Bere Regis Neighbourhood Car Scheme* won in 2015. Last year's winner for the "Environmental Champions" award, given to the village judged to be doing the best 'Green' initiative – was *Burton Bradstock's Corncrake Project*. In 2014 a new category, sponsored by the Dorset branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England, of "Best Village Shop" was introduced where communities were asked to nominate the village shop which served them best. Last year's winner was *Thorncombe Community Shop*. In 2015 a further category was introduced the "Neighbourliness Award", with the worthy winner being *Okeford Fitzpaine*.

The deadline for entries for the Best Kept category is 5.00pm on Monday 11th April 2016. DCA is encouraging groups to save paper and postage by entering the competition online if possible. Entry packs can be downloaded from www.dorsetcommunityaction.org.uk or by telephoning DCA on 01305 250921 to be sent a copy by email or paper.

Your *Reporter* Team

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

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

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

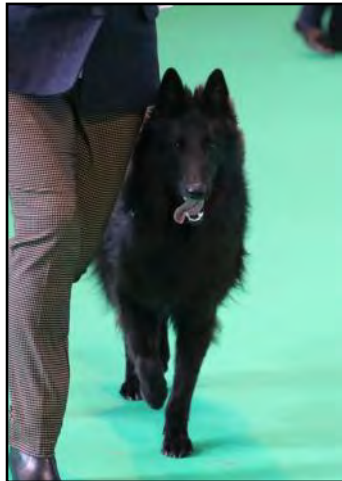
Paper copy to David Payne at 7 Bladen View

Jagger's a star on the big stage

THERE was a considerable amount of satisfaction for Milborne's Maureen Lock, when her young dog, Jagger, won the Puppy Dog class at this year's Crufts. Jagger, whose Kennel Club name is Casyka's Yess, is a Groenendael – or Belgian Shepherd Dog – and is nine months old.

Maureen is no stranger to Crufts, and this year's show was particularly pleasing for her with Jagger winning best puppy dog in breed. She said, "I felt very proud of him winning his class and he really enjoyed it – in fact, he enjoyed the whole day and got lots of attention from everyone."

Jagger was bred in the Netherlands and Maureen flew to Wervershoof to meet the litter and choose which puppy she would like. He then spent time with a fosterer in Utrecht before all



his papers were in order when he was 16 weeks old.

She says, "We then drove over to collect him and drove back with him through the tunnel – he was a really good little puppy considering he didn't really know us. He had been fostered by a very kind lady called

Tineke Smits. Of course, it was a tearful goodbye from his foster mum."

Jagger qualified for Crufts in December and Maureen was doubly pleased by his win as the Dutch breeder was at the show, at the NEC in Birmingham. She says, "His breeder flew over from Holland to see him compete so I am very pleased that he did so well". She added, "He is a very friendly and outgoing puppy and I hope we can do just as well at other championship shows."

Ed Richards

The health impacts of fracking at Milborne St. Andrew – what are the risks?

Wednesday 6th April, 7.00 to 8.30pm, MSA Village Hall

YOU may have heard that licences to frack are being issued for a large local area including Milborne St. Andrew. If fracking goes ahead it could impact all our lives in many ways: air pollution, poisoning of our water sources, noise and disruption, traffic pollution, not to mention the destruction of our beautiful countryside, impact on property values and so on.

I have organised a meeting to learn more about what it could mean for all of us. There will be a short DVD about fracking, including the views and experiences of ordinary families living in fracking areas, followed by a short talk by my guest, Charles Miller, a local expert on fracking and alternative energy sources. There will also be a Q&A session.

Charles Miller has been working as a consultant engineer in the oil and gas drilling industry and operating worldwide with major oil companies for over twenty-five years.

Everyone is welcome to attend this free meeting – donations for refreshments are invited to help cover the cost of the hall hire. Mr Miller has kindly given his time and expertise free of charge.

Adrienne Rogers

Wednesday Club

ON a very cold and windy Wednesday in March, nine members of the Wednesday Club visited the Blandford Fashion Museum. What a warm welcome we received!

The museum was founded in 1996 and its first exhibits were from costumes collected by Mrs Penny. She had for many years given talks on the changing fashions using her valuable collection which she called her "Fashion Cavalcade". Once Lime Tree House came up for sale it was purchased and the collection housed. Since then the museum has gone from strength to strength with many more costumes and exhibits donated. All is extremely well laid out and discretely labelled using the 13 rooms for different epochs, from a Georgian parlour to the 1970s. During the closed season, the volunteers clean, conserve, plan and redisplay some rooms. Pride of place is an exhibit from the Bruce Oldfield collection, which is kindly loaned and replaced annually.

This was a truly enjoyable "all our yesterdays" afternoon. I well remember the wartime utility wear, the hot pants, flared trousers and the crochet dress! All was rounded off with tea and cakes in the tearoom. A big "thank you" to the museum volunteers and to our committee for such a good trip.



By kind permission of Blandford Fashion Museum

Exhibit 4 Mini Dress

1960s

L4197

Although there were many 'looks' during this period probably the one that epitomises the sixties was the 'mini'. This mini dress was made by the most iconic ready to wear designer Barbara Hulanicki who traded under the name 'Biba'. This dress is made of silk chiffon printed with an abstract design in red, orange and purple.

Donor: Mrs Gates

Exhibit 5 Mini Dress

1960s

L4198

Making your own clothes was common in the 1960s; particularly crochet which continued in popularity well into the 1970s. This dress is a homemade example. It is crocheted in turquoise acrylic wool.

Donor: Mrs Gates

Our next meeting is 6th April when we are visiting the Cider and Clock Museum. There will be a short talk and you will be able to sample the cider. Names to Jenny (837121) before the day. Please all meet in the village hall car park at 2.00pm.

José Thomas

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So what's the deal? April Fool's Day A frankly underwhelming perspective

APRIL Fools' Day, sometimes called All Fools' Day, is one of the most light-hearted days of the year. Its origins are uncertain. Some see it as a celebration related to the turn of the seasons, while others believe it stems from the adoption of a new calendar. Others see it simply as a reason to muck about – whatever floats your boat (or sinks it, or covers it with glitter, or whatever . . . it's a saying, go with it).

Ancient cultures, including those of the Romans and Hindus, celebrated New Year's Day on or around April 1st. It closely follows the vernal equinox (March 20th or March 21st) and in medieval times much of Europe celebrated March 25th, the Feast of Annunciation, as the beginning of the new year. However in 1582 Pope Gregory XIII ordered a new calendar (the Gregorian Calendar) to replace the old Julian Calendar. The new calendar called for New Year's Day to be celebrated on January 1st (see my monthly history articles for *slightly* more detail). That year France, being good Catholics unlike we "Church of England types", adopted the reformed calendar and shifted New Year's day to January 1st. According to one explanation, many people either refused to accept the new date, or did not learn about it, and continued to celebrate New Year's Day on April 1st. Other people began to make fun of these traditionalists, sending them on "fool's errands" or trying to trick them into believing something false. Eventually, the practice spread throughout Europe.

From the above explanation, we were the butt of a huge Catholic joke. Therefore, in true plucky (and slightly proud) British spirit, I have found issues with this explanation – of which there are at least two. The first is that it doesn't fully account for the spread of April Fools' Day to other European countries. The Gregorian calendar was not adopted by England until 1752, for example, but April Fools' Day was already well established here by that point. The second is that we have no direct historical evidence for this explanation, only conjecture, and that conjecture appears to have been made more recently. So perhaps England and Holland were not on the end of Catholic and French jokes after all – at least not from an April Fool's perspective.

Another explanation of the origins of April Fools' Day was provided by Joseph Boskin, a professor of history at Boston University. He explained that the practice began during the reign of Constantine – the Roman Emperor who reigned from 272–337AD, and the one who made Christianity the official religion of the Roman Empire. Apparently, when a group of court jesters and fools told Constantine that they could do a better job of running the empire he, amused, allowed a jester named Kugel to be king for one day. Kugel passed an edict calling for absurdity on that day, and the custom became an annual event. "In a way" explained Professor Boskin, "it was a very serious day. In those times fools were really wise men. It was the role of jesters to put things in perspective with humour". This explanation was brought to the public's attention in an Associated Press article printed by many newspapers in 1983. There was only one catch: Boskin made the whole thing up. It took a couple of weeks for the AP to realize that they'd been victims of an April Fools' joke themselves. If only Boskin's explanation were true.

All is not lost however, and it is worth noting that many different cultures have had days of foolishness around the start of April, give or take a couple of weeks. The Romans had a festival named "Hilaria" on March 25th (no points for guessing what it means in Latin), rejoicing in the resurrection of Attis. The Hindu calendar has Holi, and the Jewish calendar has Purim. Perhaps there's something about the time of year, with its turn from winter to spring, that lends itself to light-hearted celebrations, or maybe they (and we) just wanted a reason to be childish.

Just as a final aside – something to digest and enjoy – the French (you know, those people who live across the water . . . not the Irish! Go South! . . . yeah, those guys . . .) call April 1st Poisson d'Avril, or "April Fish". French children sometimes tape a picture of a fish on the back of their schoolmates, crying "Poisson d'Avril" when the prank is discovered. I have no idea why they call it "April Fish", nor what a fish has to do with April Fools, but perhaps it does not matter. There's got to be a joke about French people and fish in there somewhere, and that in itself encompasses April Fool's Day. *Mark Ferguson*

The Village Hall

MILBORNE ST ANDREW

Registered Charity: 301153

Notice of Meeting

Trustees of the Milborne St Andrew Village Hall will hold the
Annual General Meeting for the Charity
on **Wednesday 13th April at 7.00pm in the Village Hall**

The purpose of the meeting is to:

Present the Annual Report for 2015 to the Village

Discuss plans for the Hall for 2016 and beyond

Appoint Trustees for the year to end April 2017

Discuss registration of the charity as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation

The meeting is intended to provide villagers with an opportunity to influence how the Hall is being managed and the plans for its future as an asset for the local community. Nominations for new Trustees should be advised to either:

Paul Tasker (07801 714619 or p.h.tasker@gmail.com) or
Pam Shults (07913 266230 or pamshults@btinternet.com)

before 7th April, preferably by e-mail.

All Welcome



Calling all old cubs and beavers for the 100/30 celebration

THE Scouting movement is celebrating 100 years of Cubs in 2016, and 30 years of Beavers. As part of the commemoration of this significant milestone, the current Milborne pack invites all former cubs and beavers to the opening ceremony of the May Fayre on Saturday 21st.

All are welcome, in uniform or not! Come along on the day at noon or contact Sue or Mike Mullett on 01258 839076.

Five churches Fete at Athelhampton House on Bank Holiday

Monday 29th August, 12noon–4.00pm

If you would like a CRAFT STALL at the fete for a non-returnable deposit of £10 plus £10 on the day, details are available from Eva Stockley Tel: 01258 837468.



CHURCH SERVICES April 2016

The year's round

The four churches of our benefice, like many organisations and groups, hold annual meetings. At these we elect our churchwardens (anyone who lives in the relevant parish can vote them in) and church councils (PCCs) (elected by members of the church's electoral roll). Once elected the new councils then appoint secretaries and treasurers.

The best thing about these meetings, which we are legally bound to have, is that they give us an opportunity to look back over the past year and to look forward to the coming one and beyond. We have an opportunity to thank publicly the many people who contribute to church life, to reflect on what God has done and is doing in us and our communities and to give thanks for all that is good in church life.

In three of our churches, we meet together for our Sunday service before the annual meeting. This gives us an opportunity to worship together as we focus our minds on God and God's work not on our own needs and desires. It gives us a chance to be in the right frame of mind, when we go on to discuss the practicalities of church life – buildings, finances and so on – as well as the more spiritual aspects. In Milborne and Tolpuddle, we share coffee and refreshments between the service and the meeting, which reminds us that we are part of a community of friends and neighbours. In Puddletown, we follow the meeting with a shared lunch.

This pattern brings together different aspects of church life. We begin with worshipping God, and then we have an opportunity to remind ourselves of the friendship and fellowship that being part of a church community brings as we share refreshments. We are also reminded that the dimensions of church life which seem less spiritual such as building maintenance and money cannot be disconnected from our worship and our fellowship. Generous giving has always been a part of God's character, which we are called to emulate.

I hope that all the regular members of our congregations will come along to our meetings this year, and consider standing for our PCCs. But why not come too, if you are interested in finding out more about what we do and how we do it? Our main aim is to love and serve God, but there are many and various ways in which we can do this. Our church communities are for everyone not just a chosen few.

Best wishes,

Sarah Hillman

Dates of this year's meetings:

Tolpuddle	Church	3rd April	following 9.30am service
Dewlish	Village Hall	14th April	7.30pm
Puddletown	Church Room	17th April	following 11.00am service
Milborne St Andrew	Church	24th April	following 9.30am service

3rd April – Easter 2

9.30am	Parish Communion + APCM	Tolpuddle
9.30	Celebrate . . .	Milborne
11.00	Parish Communion	Puddletown Church Room
11.00	1662 Morning Prayer	Dewlish

10th April – Easter 3

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

17th April – Easter 4

9.30am	Family Communion + Holy Baptism	Tolpuddle
9.30	1662 Morning Prayer	Milborne
11.00	Parish Communion + APCM (followed by bring-and- share lunch)	Puddletown Church Room
11.00	Family Service	Dewlish

THURSDAY 21st April

12 noon	Lunch-time Communion	Puddletown Church Room
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24th April – Easter 5

9.30am	Parish Communion + APCM	Milborne
11.00	1662 Morning Prayer (followed by Church Room's 10th birthday celebration cake/drinks)	Puddletown Church Room
11.00	Family Communion	Dewlish

MORNING PRAYERS (Monday – Thursday 8.15am Saturday 8.45am)

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

Church Contacts

Vicar 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

Benefice Office

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 or John on 839090.

St. Andrew's Church news

What the Romans did around Milborne

In February (sorry – not March as we said in last month's magazine) John Smith, an archaeologist who specialises in the Romans, spoke to an audience of about 30 people about how the Romans introduced systems and articles which still affect our lives today. Using pictures and replica articles he spoke about how things changed when the Romans came to Britain. He explained how the old Round Houses were superseded by brick built homes with rooms and underfloor heating, and how, like us, the residents were subject to taxes. He went on to show how pottery and glass was introduced, how local craftsmen were employed, how they built networks of roads and how their way of life changed over the 400 years that they were involved in British life. John was an inspiring speaker and was happy to chat to people after his talk. The evening finished with refreshments including samples of typical Roman snacks. The profits from the evening have gone towards the upkeep of the church.

Mothing Sunday service enjoyed by young and old

During Lent we normally have no flowers in church, but Mothing Sunday is an exception. After breakfast and a reminder of why we remember mothers on this Sunday, roses, daffodils and carnations were brought in for us to make posies to give to the mothers (and grandmothers) in our families. We were also able to craft our own paper flowers to take home, and fill an envelope with sawdust and wild flower seeds to scatter. The service continued with hymns, prayers and a Bible reading that fitted the theme of the day.

Open the Book team at school again



We took Bible stories to Milborne School again last term, finishing with two sessions telling the Good Friday and Easter stories. All the stories seem to have been well received and prompted discussion in class afterwards. We hope to include the Good Friday story in the Easter Experience event and are now looking forward to the next series in the summer term.

Good Friday Family Experience

This year we are holding an Easter Experience for the whole family in church in place of our previous style event for children in the Village Hall. Although these sessions were very popular it was decided to have a change and invite the whole family into church to make things associated with Easter, sing a few hymns, watch a playlet and a video and to have sausages in rolls and snacks at the end of the session. We will let you know how the new style session went in the next edition.

Grant to repair church roof applied for

We have been busy with our architect drawing up plans for repairing the north slope of the church roof, which is in danger of sliding into the gully, and our application for nearly £22,000 towards the total of about £26,000 plus VAT (which we can reclaim) has been sent in. We will not know until June whether we are successful, so our search continues for further grants (there is a lot more work that needs to be done so we need to find a lot more funds anyway). If anyone knows of a local business that might like to help us in any way, the churchwardens would be very pleased to hear from them.

Inspiring Milborne Lent Talk

Our Sunday evening Lent talk in the benefice series given by Revd Ron Martin was well attended. Ron gave us an inspiring account of how he came from a deprived area of Glasgow, via the Royal Navy, Merchant Navy and surviving drastic cancer treatment, to be Head of Chaplaincy Services at Dorchester County Hospital. He talked about how he and his colleagues minister to the 3,400 or so staff and patients. The key seems to be to follow the instructions we were all given at school: "listen and answer the question!". After the talk refreshments were enjoyed before Ron answered some fairly searching questions.

Annual Church Meeting on 24th April

Our Annual Parochial Church Meeting will take place after morning service at about 10.30am. All members on the Church Electoral Roll are encouraged to attend to hear reports on our activities in 2015 and plans for 2016. Churchwardens and PCC members will be elected, so come and make your views known, and we need more members to serve on the PCC as we are currently well under full strength.

John Wright and Pam Shults

Dewlish Church Notes

A very busy time ahead . . .

OUR Mothing Sunday Service went well and we each appreciated the beautiful posies given to us.

The **All Saints' Church AGM** will be held on Thursday 14th April at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. All people on the church electoral roll are welcome to attend and contribute opinions and suggestions: for instance, have you any ideas about any better or different ways of running the church?

At our last PCC meeting we discussed future events and services, so here are some important dates for your diary . . .

Our **Ascension Day Service** on Thursday 5th May will once again – weather permitting – be held at the top of Greenways by the mast at 6.30am.

The **Queen's official 90th birthday** is being celebrated on the weekend of 12th June so in Dewlish there will be a **special church service** on that Sunday at 11.00am, followed by a bring-and-share lunch.

The **Pet Service** will be on the following Sunday, 19th June, at 11.00am.

We are also holding a **Flower Festival** on the weekend of 25th – 27th June (2.00pm–5.00pm) on the theme of "an English Summer Day". We would dearly love anyone to help out, both in the church, and in the Village Hall where we plan to serve cream teas. Please let any member of the PCC know if you are willing to help. Also, children, can you do a garden on a tray?

Finally, don't forget the **Coffee Morning for Christian Aid** on Saturday 14th May, 10.30am–12 noon, in the Village Hall.

Daphne Burg

**View the Reporter each month in colour at
www.milbornestandrew.org.uk/Reporter/index**

100 CLUB WINNERS

Draw Date – Tuesday 15th March 2016

1st £100	Jane Hillier
2nd £50.00	Richard Lock
3rd £5.00	Andy Mott

The next draw is on Tuesday 19th April 2016
at 8.00pm in The Royal Oak

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
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*Please speak to Denise Sanderson, Jenny Balcon
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Sample A La Carte Menu

Starters

Pan-fried mackerel fillet wrapped in sesame seed bread, served with pickled candied beets, pea shoots and a broad bean salad

Quail scotch egg with a sweet potato puree and pancetta crisp
Devon crab, smoked salmon & chilli spring rolls served with Dorset watercress, soy sauce dressing served with fine baton cucumbers and carrots

Parmesan & sun-dried tomato soufflé served with a rocket and balsamic salad (v)

Duck liver Pate, served with a toasted ciabatta, spicy chutney and mixed leaves

Main Courses

West Country pork three-ways.

Pan-fried chop, roasted belly and a black pudding bon-bon, served with a burnt onion puree, apple caviar, crispy onion skin, mini fondant potatoes and a red wine jus

"Jurassic Coast" fillet of beef, served with dauphinoise potatoes, chanterelle mushrooms, fried bubble & squeak, parsnip crisps, wilted spinach and a Madeira jus

Free-range chicken & mushroom ballotine served with sprout tops, browned butter & roasted hazelnut sauce and black pepper mashed potatoes

Roasted sea trout served with mussels, cauliflower puree, sautéed green curly kale and roasted new potatoes

Goats cheese & beetroot risotto served with parsley butter croutons (v)

Comfort Food

"Jurassic Coast" sirloin steak with "tower of twice cooked chips", confit tomato, oven roasted flat cap mushroom and béarnaise sauce

Doom Bar battered haddock with twice-cooked chips, tartare sauce and pea puree

Beer battered tofu burger served with a pine nut pesto, ciabatta roll, chips and mixed leaves (v)

Hambro beef burger served with crispy bacon, smoked cheddar, mixed leaves and chips

Desserts

Local cheese selection

Blue Vinny, black wax cheddar, Somerset brie and rosary goats cheese served with mixed rustic crackers, apple and celery

Peach tarte tatin served with lemon grass ice-cream & brandy snap

Chocolate fondant served with Madagascan vanilla ice cream

Goats cheese cake served with a walnut crumb candied grapes and a red grape jelly

Espresso panna cotta with a chocolate mousse and a mint tuile

Bread & butter pudding served with double cream and a mixed berry compote

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Bus2Go celebrates its fourth birthday

WE are now into our fourth year of operation and for this last year 2015/2016 we have welcomed on board 1,118 passengers and booked 90 buses.

Sincere thanks to all our passengers who have helped write our story, share our journeys and have turned the miles into smiles. So many new friendships have been made and ex-work colleagues reunited. Grateful thanks too to our hardworking volunteers, who behind the scenes ensure everyone enjoys the Bus2Go experience on our outings.

Our outing to Moreton Tea Rooms was very good and afterwards to the Craft Fair and a sing-along with Danny and accordion at Sandringham Court. The 'Nit and Natter' Group gave a generous donation to Bus2Go funds.



The popularity of Bus2Go is still rolling along; the bookings are brisk for April and May. To avoid disappointment it is advisable to book early or visit our website, www.bus2godorset.org where advance details of our outings can be viewed and booked.

May outings include Jailhouse Café, Exbury Gardens and a mystery lunch at an unusual location.

We shall also be at the May Fayre; please come along and say 'hello'

Looking forward to welcoming you on board very soon. *Bus2Go*

Local small-ads

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

For Sale – Oak Tea Trolley – three shelves. Height 30 inches. £10.00. 01258 837441.

For Sale – WEBER Gas Barbecue, good condition, with half a bottle of gas. £75. Please call Susan on 01258 839070.

For Sale – Two Beaver and Tapley fold down beds, complete with mattresses. Used only for visitors. Ideal for extra accommodation when teenagers sleep over, or you have more guests than expected. Complete with top cover panel. Light beech effect £225. Please call Susan on 01258 839070.

Free – Old Dyson upright vacuum cleaner: The handle is broken but it still works. Might be repairable and useful for parts or as a spare. Contact Pam on 01258 837203 or John on 01258 839090.

For sale – Three piece suite - settee and two armchairs in an as new condition. Light grey and pink fabric. See *Reporter* Facebook page for photos. £150 Telephone 01258 837424.

For sale – A green recliner chair in good condition £50 Telephone 01258 837424.

For sale – Gents Raleigh Pioneer cycle, 21 gears. Telephone 837569.

For sale – Ladies Raleigh Pioneer cycle. 15 gears, Telephone 837569.

For sale – Honda HRB475 motor mower with roller 19inch cut self propelled Briggs & Stratton engine £300.00 ono. 01258 837121.

For Sale – Push lawn mower in very good condition, will deliver. £25. Tel 01258 839235.

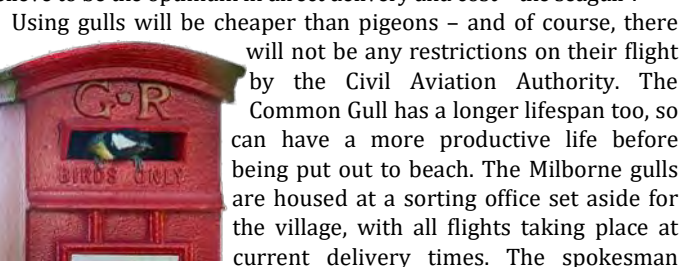
For Sale – Gents Bicycle. Ten speed, nearly new comes complete with roof rack carrying system. £50. Tel 01258 839235.

Don't get in a flap about new Milborne postal service

IT is perhaps the ultimate in air mail, and it's coming to Milborne – post delivered directly to your door through the skies. The village has been selected to pilot a scheme that delivery companies believe will revolutionise 'direct to consumer' services. Delivery by drone has been blueprinted by Amazon – if you don't know them, they're a bit like Gouls in Dorchester but on the internet – however, there are obstacles such as cost and airspace concerns before this is rolled out in the UK. So postal pundits have come up with an idea to plug this gap between now and the future.

But the Royal Mail has taken the drone delivery one step further, by taking two steps back. A spokesman said, "Post by pigeon was a hugely popular and effective service and we're delighted to be harnessing the technology of the past, together with natural avian aptitude". But before villagers start coo-ing about the possibility of receiving their Council Tax bill by pigeon, he went on to say that trials with the bird had forced them to look at other species.

"Items of post today are much heavier than they used to be and, furthermore, our birds will be performing multi-drop deliveries [*carrying postal items for more than one address at a time*], meaning the pigeon was sadly unviable, so we have researched and bred what we believe to be the optimum in direct delivery and cost – the seagull".



Using gulls will be cheaper than pigeons – and of course, there will not be any restrictions on their flight by the Civil Aviation Authority. The Common Gull has a longer lifespan too, so can have a more productive life before being put out to beach. The Milborne gulls are housed at a sorting office set aside for the village, with all flights taking place at current delivery times. The spokesman said that the village was an apt location to trial the delivery service. "Milborne St. Andrew has a unique link to messenger pigeon services, pioneered during the Second World War". This is a reference to the 'Army Pigeon Service' that had a training base in Milborne Woods Farm, where the birds were housed in hen houses on Sir Ernest Debenham's land. The pigeons were used to carry messages to agents overseas or released by RAF bomber crews if their aircraft was shot down.

Today's delivery birds may have a less noble task, but the Royal Mail believes customers will enjoy a better service. A breeding programme of the Common Gull had been undertaken for the new delivery scheme, with the parent birds selected from Weymouth and Bournemouth seafronts. It was essential not just to train the gulls in navigation but also in obedience, so that their natural scavenging behaviour was kept to a minimum. The spokesman said, "We don't want them coming back with more than they left our depot with".

But naturalist and gull expert, Professor Phyllis Pheather, questions the use of the species for this application. "Gulls are naturally opportunistic and it remains to be seen whether their breeding programme can filter this out – I would suspect that some tendency will still be evident." She believes that some of the 'postgulls' will be distracted from their duties if they spy food, either on the ground or being eaten by villagers – something that their seaside forbears would have done on a regular basis. Postal deliveries to Gray's Stores may be problematic due to this reason, although no gull service would be scheduled when the fish and chip van is trading.

The Royal Mail spokesman said contingencies were on hand for this eventuality. All postal services to the Milborne Business Centre would not be served by postgulls. This is partly due to the extra weight of items but also due to the lure of 'nice baps' from the burger van which is thought to be beyond the resistance of a gull. The Royal Mail has trained a small number of buzzards for this type of location.

The postgull service is due to start on 1st April. *Ed Richards*

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Superfast broadband in Dorset

THE Superfast Dorset project is working to roll out faster, more reliable broadband connections to Dorset premises by the end of 2017.

Ninety per cent of Dorset can get superfast broadband. Superfast Dorset is a complex engineering project, so plans can and will change. The programme is contracted to deliver a certain number of connections every three months, not tied to specific locations. This is why DCC don't publish specific timescales for individual communities.

Their rollout programme has to be flexible so that it doesn't grind to a halt when they have a way leave or blockage to sort out. That means that equipment and manpower gets moved around the county to allow them to carry on with the rollout. This can also add to the time it takes to come back to an area and get started on work again and can explain what has been happening or not in Roke Road during the on/off closure.

North Dorset Gillingham, Shaftesbury, Sturminster Newton and Blandford all have some fibre broadband access now, as well as many smaller villages in north Dorset. Superfast Dorset has plans to bring fibre broadband access to even more locations.

Superfast broadband is coming to Milborne St. Andrew!

Superfast broadband will be arriving in Milborne St. Andrew later this year. Some of you may have already noticed work taking place in the village e.g. Little England to Bere Regis bypass on the westbound carriageway 227 meters east of Blandford Hill to Little England a blockage was located and excavated in an existing duct. (Responsibility BT through Open Reach). On the A35 Bere Regis tree cutting and potholes traffic control together with gully cleaning. (Responsibility for this was Highways England). The road closure on Roke Road was to allow the fibre optic cables to be installed. These cables, known as fibre spine, are needed to allow fibre broadband cabinets to be installed. (Again responsibility BT via Open Reach)

Superfast broadband makes staying connected even easier. As homes become more and more connected, it is important to have a fast and reliable internet connection. Superfast broadband provides just that. It allows multiple users to be online all at the same time without the internet cutting out or slowing down. Buffering becomes a distant memory as you stream HD movies as seamlessly as if you were watching them straight from a DVD. Staying in touch with family becomes easier, whether it is from across the world or just down the road, a superfast broadband connection ensures great quality video calls without lag or drop-outs. Internet speeds won't automatically increase. You will need to contact your internet service provider to upgrade your existing broadband service or take up a new superfast broadband service.

For more information about the Superfast Dorset rollout, including availability and how to upgrade, please visit the Superfast Dorset website <https://www.dorsetforyou.com/superfast>. Residents can sign up for an email notification, which will notify them when fibre broadband is available in their area. To sign up for a notification please visit <https://www.dorsetforyou.com/broadband/keep-informed>.

My thanks to Thomas Briscoe, Communications and Marketing Officer for Superfast Dorset and Michael Carhart-Harris, Senior Corporate Communications Officer (External) Dorset County Council for help with this article.

Carole Fornachon

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Rice Pudding

I CAN guess that quite a few people will be put off by the mere title, but homemade rice pudding is one of my favourites – cheap, easy to make and delicious. I wonder if anyone remembers this A.A. Milne poem called "Rice Pudding"?

Rice Pudding – A. A. Milne



What is the matter with Mary Jane?
She's crying with all her might and main,
And she won't eat her dinner – rice pudding again -
What is the matter with Mary Jane?

I offer two different recipes here, as I know that many of us are trying hard to eat a little more healthily. I have been told that portion control is key to cutting down on food intake and a very small portion of something tasty often just finishes off a good meal. Rice pudding freezes beautifully; I make a large quantity and then portion it out into small ramekin dishes making sure that each small portion has a share of the nutmeggy skin.

Full-fat recipe – for special occasions

60g butter
150g pudding rice or Spanish paella rice
100g caster sugar
1.5 litres full fat milk
225ml double cream
Freshly grated nutmeg- to taste, I use about half a nutmeg.

Preheat oven to gas mark 1–2, 140°C/285°F

Melt the butter in a heavy based flameproof casserole dish on the hob. Add the rice and stir to coat. Add the sugar and stir until dissolved, continue stirring until the rice swells and becomes sticky with sugar.

Pour in the milk and keep stirring until no lumps remain. Add the cream and bring to simmering point. Then remove from heat and grate the nutmeg over the top.

Bake uncovered in the oven for about an hour and a half. Serve hot or cold or portion up and freeze when cool.

Lower fat everyday version

Small knob of butter
150g pudding rice
75g caster sugar
1.75 litres semi skimmed milk
Freshly grated nutmeg

Just put all the ingredients except the nutmeg in a heavy based flameproof casserole and heat to simmering point, stirring. Grate on nutmeg and bake in the oven as above.

Serve hot or cold or portion up and freeze when cool.

Deadline for the May issue is 14th April



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Can you identify where this is in Milborne?



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

Reporter team members can be found on page two.
No prize, just a bit of fun. Answer in the May Reporter.

Last month’s winner can
be found on page 34.

**View the Reporter each
month in colour at www.milbornestandrew.org.uk/Reporter/index**

Your Parish Meeting

ON the 20th April 2016 the annual Parish Meeting will be held in the village hall at 7.30pm. This is your opportunity to meet and engage with the Parish Council on "parish affairs", i.e. any issue or topic that particularly affects the parish. Those attending who are registered voters also have the right to vote at the meeting on any subject raised that requires a consensus of opinion although any such vote is not binding on the Parish Council except in exceptional circumstances. The meeting will be conducted by the chairman of the Parish Council, Cllr. Jenny Balcon and attended by other councillors.

There will be a guest speaker to start the meeting, Mr. Marc Norris from the SSE Customer and Community Advisors team, who will give a short presentation on the work of the team during power supply failures and the assistance they can give to support the welfare of communities. During prolonged power cuts this extends to the provision of hot drinks, snacks, light sticks, charging facilities and a microwave to use free of charge from their welfare van, which he will be bringing to the meeting to demonstrate! In addition, Cllr. Joy Robinson will put forward a proposal for the provision of a defibrillator in the village, to be available in an emergency for use by suitably trained volunteers. The Parish Meeting will conclude with a few essential items of council business but the main focus of the evening will be on what parishioners bring to the meeting. It's up to you how successful it will be.

Jenny Balcon, Chairman of Milborne St Andrew Parish Council

Youth Club needs volunteers

Milborne St. Andrew youth club is in need of a new team of volunteers and committee members. The youth club is well supported and thriving, with 58 current members between the ages of eight and 14. The youth club meets every other Friday during term time, 6.30pm until 8.30pm, with additional time required for set up and clearing away. We run a well-supported tuck shop and undertake varied activities. The group has a wide range of equipment for use each session.

Our current team has been running our youth club for over five years and due to other commitments are now ready to stand aside for an enthusiastic team with fresh ideas. New volunteers will need to be DBS checked. The current team are available until the summer break for a handover period if required. If you are interested or have any questions please contact Amy Tanswell on 07828 650104 / amytanswell81@gmail.com or Lianne Summers 07917 432544.

History Group looks back to the workhouse

José and Harry Thomas delivered a fascinating talk about the Poor, including historical legislation, systems of managing poverty and society's attitudes towards poor people. We found out about the establishment of Workhouses and the way that people were treated in them. The censuses from 1851 to 1881 showed who from Milborne was resident in the Blandford Union Workhouse. Following the talk those present shared their experiences of discovering that they had ancestors who were in workhouses or associated with them. Many thanks to José and Harry for such an interesting, informative and thought provoking talk.

Next month on the 13th April in The Royal Oak, Linda Wright will be telling us about how she traced the family history of Daisy Cooper, who was the subject of a talk in January. Linda has found out very interesting facts about Milborne in relation to Daisy.

We are an informal group where no membership is required so if you fancy joining in, if only for one session, do feel free to come along; we hope to give you a warm welcome. *Pam Shults*

Deadline for the May Reporter is 14th April

Remembering Mum

THE organization, Mosaic, set up to support bereaved children and families affected by death within their family group, last month sent a gentle timely reminder to those who were faced with all the publicity and pressure surrounding Mother's Day. They warned of the difficulties for bereaved children faced by overwhelming media, educational establishments (schools and colleges) and local commercial activity at that time of year. It has become a lucrative bandwagon for so many businesses in all fields of retail. Some children find it too painful to acknowledge. Others may have wanted to mark the importance of their mother on that day but were reluctant to discuss openly for fear of upsetting other members of the family. They remind us that all children's thoughts and feelings, however they are expressed, should be respected. Each child's grief, mirrored in all our responses to loss, is different and deeply personal.



Meet our mascot

Mosaic have, in their inimitable way, reminded us of ways in which family and friends can be helpful in carefully raising the topic and involving them in the process of deciding how to remember and memorialise their mother not just on Mother's Day but on every day and in every way. Here are some of their ideas:

- * *If a Mother's Day/birthday card has been made (perhaps at school) it can be put in a special place (memory box, graveyard, mantelpiece).*
- * *Sometimes to watch a family or mother's favourite film.*
- * *The occasional visit to the graveyard.*
- * *Make some paper flowers.*
- * *Read a storybook that their mother used to read.*
- * *Share some happy memories on special days or just maybe weekends when activities would include them all together.*
- * *Look through family photographs.*
- * *Choose a plant in her memory and put it in the home, garden or at the grave.*

Sometimes words do not exist to describe what grief is like. Children especially may lack the vocabulary to describe what has happened or what they are feeling about their loss. Children's own drawings or other trigger pictures, designed to prompt reflections on what has been lost to feel that they have communicated effectively with their 'helper'. Sitting alongside a child as they draw a picture of their loss, reveals to the therapist, friend or family member the factors which are significant or troubling and which may require therapeutic focus. Drawing provides a tangible medium through which to tell the loss story as they verbally elaborate on the content of the picture.

Children and young people who grieve within the family context are sometimes inhibited in their expression of grief in a number of ways. In some families grief will be openly acknowledged and shared. Then they can grieve together and share the good memories of a loved mother and wife. In other situations expressions of grief, tears, fretfulness, anger etc. may be perceived as appropriate responses for children but not for adults who see control as strength. As Mosaic will have encountered in their efforts to help children/young people the family will then focus on the needs of those who may vicariously carry the burden of expressing the pain of other family members. There may also have been some time of 'anticipatory' loss through protracted illness and/or handicap, or temporary discomfort and disturbed feelings through starting school, moving house and the consequent loss of friends.

Mosaic also comment that it is OK for children to be happy and also to be sad either on Mother's Day or any other days such as birthdays. They advise to be there for the children 'at their own pace' and provide support. Their responses to life without their mother is likely to change over time depending on their age and the nature of their grieving. All of us grieve in different ways; there is no right or wrong. *Carole Fornachon*

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Spring and birds to look forward to

I HAVE long had an interest in the birds around me, and because of that, I always want to encourage them to get closer. I think many of us are like that. So, what do we do, we put out food for them. But is it always the right way and the right food. Birds vary in how prepared they are to come to our gardens. The bigger birds are usually too clumsy because of their size to be able to escape from confined spaces or they have no interest in any of the sorts of food we can offer. So, although we have the pleasure of seeing and often hearing Buzzards in the sky or gulls they are not likely to come to feeders. Rooks, Carrion crows and Jackdaws can be tempted but they generally, but not exclusively, feed on flat surfaces. They perform acrobatics trying to get to the fat feeders. The smaller birds are divided into flat surface feeders and hanging feeders with some able to do both. It is possible also to see family groups of long tailed tits flitting from branch to branch of trees looking for tiny insects, aphids and the like, as they are our only resident bird that is exclusively insectivorous all year. They will of course occasionally visit fat feeders. Our kitchen window looks onto the flat roof of the garage which makes a huge flat feeding surface which I top up each morning with a no mess mixed seed feed. This generally encourages the corvids (Rooks, Jackdaws etc.) first. These are followed by chaffinches many of which are suffering from a tumour forming papilloma virus which causes swollen unsightly feet and legs. Sparrows and dunnocks may join later. Lastly, and often towards the end of the day, pied wagtails forage in the remaining seeds. Blackbirds may come but often only briefly. I usually put some sunflower kernels on the windowsill outside the kitchen and chaffinches and some sparrows visit here. Goldfinches particularly like Nyger seed which requires a special feeder but are a beautiful bird to have around. Peanuts are favoured by great tits and blue tits but should



ideally not be fed whole and should not be allowed to get stale or mouldy. Ideally feeders should be topped up regularly and ensure the free flow of food to the feeder holes. A lot of wet weather is inclined to make the food clog up, necessitating emptying and cleaning of the feeder.

The one great reward of careful feeding is the robin. For three years now I have had a single, and currently a pair, feeding from my hand four or five times a day. To do

this takes some time but once achieved is highly rewarding. Robins are very keen on *live* mealworms, which I started to put out in a shallow dish near the back door. The robin came to feed here and then after a while I stood at the door to watch, and eventually sat on a seat near the dish while it fed. Eventually, I put a few mealworms in my hand when there were none in the feeder and the robin came for one at a time. After a long time doing this, eventually it came and stayed, eating six or seven mealworms at a time. Last year, I saw one robin courtship feeding another so although it is not possible to differentiate the sexes by plumage I could see differences between the two to know which is which. This year I have a pair that will both stand on my hand together and feed. The female has slightly more prominent white feathers on the edge of her wing and the male has a distorted back toe on its right foot, but the courtship feeding is the real clue. The mealworms I buy through one of the internet bird food suppliers in a 500g amount, which I split into one litre ice cream containers with some bran, which in the fridge will keep for six weeks or more.

Other birds that occasionally visit the garden are blackcaps, coal tits, great spotted woodpecker and wrens. Once I saw a kingfisher but although they are present near the stream through the village I live too far away for them to be regular visitors. Viewing birds without expecting to feed them is also rewarding. I have seen a red kite and other hedgerow birds like yellowhammer and the swallows and house martins in summer. I keep looking for something new.

Lastly, it is possible to watch the birds nesting by incorporating a nest box camera in a simple nest box and send the signals by wire or wirelessly to a television set. Doing this we have watched blue tits, great tits and sparrows make a nest, lay eggs, bring up and fledge young birds. What a privilege.

Pip Bowell

Village Hall – have your say

ALL villagers are invited to attend the AGM on the 13th April at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. As well as the usual business of appointing new trustees and discussing plans for the Hall as a village asset, the meeting this year will also consider adoption of a new constitution for the Village Hall as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

The village hall committee have been exploring ways to secure their charity status by becoming a CIO as was agreed in principle at the 2015 AGM. This means that the constitution will need to be updated for incorporation.

Copies of the proposed CIO constitution, based very closely on that recommended by the Charity Commission, will be available to read in the village shop, the hall, the Oak, on Facebook and on the website; alternatively one of the current trustees can let you have a copy. Trustees would welcome written comments on the proposed constitution before 7th April so that there is time to consider these before the AGM.

For more information about Charity Incorporated Organisation please visit the Charity Commission website https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/390171/FoundationModelConstitution.pdf

Please consider joining the board of trustees especially as we need a new treasurer and a caretaker.

You can discuss any of these issues with one of the current trustees.

We hope to see you at the AGM when you can be involved in the ongoing running of the village hall, playing fields, playpark and the Milborne Sensory Meadows.

Are you housebound but would like someone to chat with?

A SERVICE has started in Milborne St. Andrew to link volunteer visitors with people who have difficulties getting out and meeting others. This could be because they have mobility problems, or they have to care for someone at home who cannot be left alone, or they have difficulties leaving the house, or they have a short or long term condition which makes it difficult to go out, etc.

If you think you would like to find out more call to the co-ordinator on 07947 929074 or send an email to msafriendlyvisitors@gmail.com. If you decide it is what you want you could be put on the list to be visited by a trained volunteer or to become a volunteer visitor.



Spring is here at last

March is a busy month, along with the start of spring comes Mother's Day, World Book Day, St. David's Day and Easter.

It's a pity you can't see the row of Mother's Day cards in colour as the children decorated them with tissue, coloured paper and glitter to make beautiful cards for mums and grans. To go with the cards were carefully threaded – and just as colourful – bead bracelets all wrapped up in decorated boxes. For World Book Day some of the children brought in favourite books to share. St David's Day involved talking about the flag with the big red dragon – dragons are a topic in itself with plenty of stories about dragons brave and fiery.

Then with the weather improving we have spent more time outside. As you can see a small patch of muck involves much concentration. No treasure found but several worms. One of the boys in the picture saw a bird taking twigs to the guttering and decided to make a bird's nest. Must be for a very big bird!

Liz Dyer



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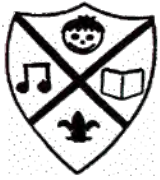
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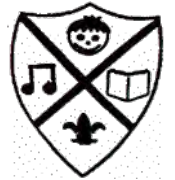
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To find out more please contact
Liz Dyer (Leader) 01258 839117 or 07771 512427
Lucy Bishop (secretary) 07866 267044
www.milborneladybirds.org.uk



Milborne St. Andrew First School



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

What a term!

By the time you sit down to read this month's issue we will have broken up for Easter at Milborne St. Andrew First School, and what a busy term it has been!

Dolphins and Turtles Classes went on a trip into history when they visited Scaplens Court in Poole for a Victorian taster day, they even had to take a Victorian style packed lunch!

The children in Seahorses class have been looking at toys for their topic this term, comparing their modern toys of today with toys and games from Victorian times. They visited Priest House Museum in Wimborne, where they were able to play Victorian games such as marbles, feather wafting, "Queenie, Queenie", "Who's got the ball?" and "In and out the dusty windows". The children also had the opportunity to make gingerbread men and peg dolls. The toys in the museum were so fragile and old that the children had to wear white cotton gloves to handle some of them. There were dolls made from leather and china and a stuffed dog called Caesar, who was commissioned by Queen Victoria's son and heir Edward VII.

World Book Day fell on Thursday 3rd March and all children were invited to a Storytelling and Hot Chocolate session after school.

Puffins Class represented the school at the DASP singing concert on Wednesday 9th March at St. Osmund's School. The class practised hard and it really was a sound to behold with all of the schools who



were involved making such a great effort – a very memorable experience for all involved.

On Tuesday 8th March we hosted a Year 4 Football Festival, we hosted 11 DASP schools who all thoroughly enjoyed the event despite the weather! Milborne put up a valiant effort but unfortunately this time did not get through to the final play off.



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: Miss Jane Pope **FOS Chairman:** Mrs Becky Hunter

e-mail: office@milborne.dorset.sch.uk website: 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

COUNCILS

North Dorset District Councillor	Emma Parker	01258 881631
	Jane Somper	01258 471089
Parish Council – Dewlish	Clerk: Sandra Sims	01258 837132
	Chair: Andrew Booth	01258 837284
Parish Council – Milborne St. Andrew	Clerk: Colin Hampton	01258 837011
	Chair: Jenny Balcon	01258 837121
Floods A354 problems contact the Highways Agency		0300 1235000
Dorset Direct		01305 221000
dorsetdirect@dorsetcc.gov.uk www.dorsetforyou.com/reportroadproblems		
Environment Agency Floodline		0845 9881188
South West Highways hello@swhitd.co.uk		01404 821500
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	Ann Guy	01258 837959
Women's Institute	Josie Wright	01258 839090

GENERAL – YOUTH

Ladybirds (Playgroup)	Liz Dyer	01258 839117
Scout Group	Mike Mullett	01258 837114
Secretary:	Brian Burton	01258 839033
Under 5's Group – The Busy Bees	Leanne Brown	07899 808185
	Lianne Hall	07846 256694
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
Home watch Co-ordinator	Joy Robinson	01258 837661

SCHOOL

Milborne First School		
Headteacher:	Sharon Hunt	01258 837362
Chair Governors:	Miss Jane Pope	
Friends of School Chair:	Becky Hunter	

SPECIAL INTEREST

Cribbage	Peter Anthony	01258 837089
Bellringers	Pip Bowell	01258 837329
Bridge Group	Laurie Benn	01258 837720
Food and Wine Society	Julie Johannsen	01258 839004
MSA Allotment Society Chair:	Joy Robinson	01258 837661
Secretary:	John Mardell	01258 837954
MSA Gardening Club	Richard Lock	01258 837929
Milborne Players	Roy Sach	01258 837033
Ranters' Folk Session	Roger Harrall	01258 837371
Round Robin Ramblers	Ian Bromilow	01258 880044

SPORT

Abbey Swimming Club	Pat Cowan	01258 880601
Archers – Crossways	Sheila Ryall	01258 837504
Athletics – Junior	David Pearson	01258 837057
Badminton	David Payne	01258 837700
Circuit training	Grace Martin	01305 213885
Cricket – Dewlish	Elaine Kellaway	01258 837696
Cricket Club – Milton Abbas	Colin Chastey	01258 882162
Football – Adult	Jamie Haylock	07894 685893

Football – Treasurer	John Sanderson	01258 837049
Football – Minis	Nicola Malone	07788 217579
Pilates (school)	Claire Barratt	07540 626174
Running Group	Anne-Marie Pearson	01258 837057
Skittles – Dewlish	Frank Ross	01258 837366
Sports Club Chairman	John Sanderson	01258 837049
Bookings:	John Sanderson	01258 837049
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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12

Community Events Diary

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

April

- Sunday 3rd** **Spring Clean-up Day** between 10.00am and 2.00pm do come along and help the other volunteers to tidy the hall and the grounds.
- Wednesday 6th** **Wednesday Club** visit to Cider and Clock Museum – see page 3.
The health impacts of fracking at Milborne St. Andrew – what are the risks? Village Hall 7.00pm – see page 3.
- Wednesday 13th** **Village History Group** The Royal Oak 7.30pm all welcome – see page 13.
Village Hall AGM Village Hall 7.30pm – see page 5.
- Thursday 14th** **WI Dawn Lawrence** will talk about her book, 'Two Steps Behind' – see page 29.
Reporter latest date for the April issue. Copy and pictures to msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk or any member of the Reporter team.
- Tuesday 19th** **100 Club** draw The Royal Oak 8.00pm – see page 7 for latest winners.
- Wednesday 20th** **Annual Parish Meeting** Village Hall Committee Room 7.30pm.
- Friday 22nd** **Brooklyn** (12) shown by 'Milborne Movies' Village Hall 7.30pm – see pages 18 and 29.
- Tuesday 27th** **Informal meeting** about The Queen's 90th birthday. The Royal Oak skittle alley 7.30pm – see page 2.
- Thursday 21st** **Gardening Club** Gathering and Growing Village Hall 7.30pm.
- Saturday 30th** **Village Lunch** Village Hall. 12.15pm – see page 2 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)
- 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
- 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 6.30–8.00pm (term time only)
- Badminton** Wednesday 7.00–8.30pm (term time only)
- Circuit training** Thursday 6.30–7.30pm (term time only)

April at the Sports Club

- Every Saturday football** Milborne or Corfe Mullen 3.00pm.
- 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 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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John Sanderson Football Club 837049
June Maitland Church 837235
Denise Sanderson Collector 837049

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This Month in History: April

Births

April 2nd, 1805 – Hans Christian Andersen was born in the town of Odense in Denmark. Although a prolific writer of plays, travelogues, novels, and poems, Andersen is best remembered for his fairy tales, which have been translated into more than 125 languages and are embedded in Western culture. Some of his most famous fairy tales include “The Emperor’s New Clothes”, “The Little Mermaid”, “The Nightingale”, “The Snow Queen”, “The Ugly Duckling”, and many more.

April 9th, 1806 – Isambard Kingdom Brunel is born in Portsmouth. A mechanical and civil engineer considered “one of the most ingenious and prolific figures in history”, he built dockyards, the Great Western Railway, steamships including the first propeller-driven transatlantic steamship and numerous bridges and tunnels. He revolutionised public transport and modern engineering.

April 21st, 1926 – Elizabeth Alexandra Mary Windsor, better known as Queen Elizabeth II, was born in London, England. She has been Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland since 1952, is England’s longest reigning monarch and is regarded as a British icon.

Deaths

April 7th, 1739 – Highwayman Richard “Dick” Turpin is hanged in York. His exploits were romanticised following his execution, even though he was a poacher, burglar, horse thief, and killer. He is also known for a fictional 200-mile overnight ride from London to York on his horse Black Bess, a story that was made famous by the Victorian novelist William Harrison Ainsworth.

April 17th, 1790 – Benjamin Franklin, a US Founding Father, inventor, ambassador, and writer (Poor Richards Almanac), dies at 84. As a scientist, he was a major figure in the American Enlightenment and the history of physics for his discoveries and theories regarding electricity. As an inventor, he is known for the lightning rod and bifocals among other inventions.

April 20th, 1912 – The god-father of horror, Bram Stoker, dies aged 64 in his London home. Abraham “Bram” Stoker was an Irish author born in Dublin, best known today for his 1897 Gothic novel *Dracula*. During his lifetime however, he was better known as the personal assistant of actor Henry Irving and business manager of the Lyceum Theatre in London, which Irving owned.

Events

April 3rd, 1721 – Robert Walpole becomes the first PM of Britain. Scholars agree that Walpole’s uninterrupted run of 20 years as Prime Minister “is rightly regarded as one of the major feats of British political history . . . explanations are usually centred upon his expert handling of the political system after 1720, and his unique blending of the surviving powers of the crown with the increasing influence of the Commons”. Walpole is also thus the longest serving PM in British history.

April 12th, 1606 – The Union Flag becomes the official flag of Britain. It is a common misconception even today to refer to it as the Union Jack; the flag is only referred to as the Union Jack when it is flying from a ship.

April 15th, 1755 – Dr Samuel Johnson, an English lexicographer born in Lichfield, publishes his dictionary. It took him nine years to complete. Johnson’s dictionary was not the first, nor was it unique. It was, however, the most commonly used and imitated for the 170 years between its first publication and the completion of the *Oxford English Dictionary* in 1928

April 29th, 1429 – Joan of Arc arrives at the siege of Orléans. The uncrowned King Charles VII sent Joan to the siege of Orléans as part of a relief mission. She gained prominence after the siege was lifted only nine days later. Several additional swift victories led to Charles VII’s coronation at Reims, but she was later burned at the stake through the verdict of a pro-English judge named Pierre Cauchon. She was burned 30th May 1431, she was nineteen years old. *Mark Ferguson*

New flags for local Scouts



Milborne St. Andrew Scout Group are shown with their new flags that were bought with the money given by the Parish Council. The Beavers meet Monday 5.00–6.30pm; Cubs meet Tuesday 5.45–7.15pm; Scouts meet Monday 6.00–8.00pm all in the Village Hall. If you know of anyone interested in joining then bring them along on one of these nights or phone Brian Burton, Group Scout Leader on 01258 839033 for more information.



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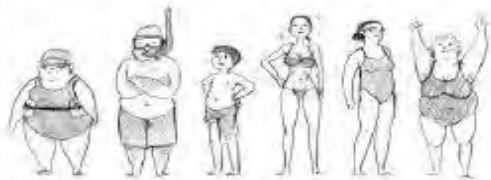
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Smart meters? Your choice

ENERGY and the price of it is frequently in the news along with suggestions of how we could reduce our usage. One of the Government initiatives was the introduction of smart meters. These are the new generation of gas and electricity meters, they show the real time usage on a monitoring device with a visual display which is installed in your home where you can see it. Most smart meters send the readings directly back to the energy supplier using mobile phone signals. The Government would like these meters to be in every home in the next four years and has placed a requirement for energy companies to offer to install them in every home, but there is not actually any legal obligation for a consumer to agree to have one installed.

Smart meters may offer benefits to the user by providing real time usage information in pounds and pence thus creating more accurate bills as there will be no further need for estimated billing.

As the energy companies are under significant pressure to install them there is a concern that energy companies will be pulling out all the stops in an attempt to get consumers to agree to the installation and employ aggressive or underhand selling tactics such as not providing clear information about consumers' choices. It is also possible that some of the more unscrupulous companies will use the installation of a new meter as an opportunity to sell additional products to people. Ofgem has enacted the Smart Metering Installation Code of Practice, which protects consumers by prohibiting sales attempts during installation (unless previous consent has been given by the household).

If you have concerns please report it to the Citizens Advice consumer service on 03454 040506.

Deadline for the May Reporter is 14th April

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In your Garden

Seasonal notes and tips from Maureen Lock of *designerGardens*

Your garden in April

Blousy beauties

PEONIES are loved by just about everyone and they come into their own in late spring and early summer. They provide colour in the border as well as beautiful cut flowers. They come in single and double flowers in the most gorgeous range of colours. There are lots of myths about peonies not liking being moved – however if you do move them you need to be patient. The old adage is they take time to settle in – “Peonies first sleep, then creep, and in their third year, leap.”

When planting a peony, choose a sunny well drained location that doesn't get waterlogged. They need a cold snap to encourage flowering and will tolerate a wide range of different soils. They don't like thin, chalky soils, but there are many places in the village where the soil is deep and loamy and peonies will love it. Dig a hole that is large enough to accommodate all the roots – about 60cm/2ft deep and 60cm/2ft wide. Put in loads of compost and a good fertilizer such as Vitax Q4. When planting bare root plants, ensure that the top of the crown is 5cm/2in below soil level; if planting pot grown plants, plant them at the same soil level as in the pot.

Allow at least 1m between plants to ensure you have good air circulation and help prevent fungal infections.

Just an aside: Vitax Q4 is the most brilliant fertilizer for the garden – it provides a balanced feed and its application will benefit trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants. For cost effectiveness, buy it by the tub.



Once established peonies need very little care other than a mulch in autumn and some horticultural fleece to protect young buds from frost in spring.

feeding new growth every three to four weeks also helps as does removing any diseased foliage and disposing of it; don't put it in the compost.

Rhubarb: If you have been forcing your rhubarb, there should be a few tender sticks ready for harvesting. Don't over-pick though and remember to remove the forcer as soon as you have had your fill to allow the plant its right to light.

Supporting Stakes: Now is the ideal time to put in stakes, supports, canes – whatever you use – to support herbaceous plants such as delphiniums and oriental poppies. If you leave it until the plants are grown and definitely NEED support you will often find that the ground is too hard and it is an awful job trying to push the support into place – I know, I've been there!!!

Jobs to do in April
There are so many things to do in the garden in April, I've just chosen a few things that may be of interest:

Roses: I've tried lots of non-chemical ways of protecting my roses from blackspot and greenfly, but nothing really works as well as Rose Clear. You will need to start spraying every few weeks as soon as the new growth starts – it's just one of those things you have to do if you want to have good roses down here in the south. Foliage



I did offer to 'do' a gardening question and answer article – so if any of you have any gardening questions you would like answered, please contact the Reporter Team and they will forward them to me.

Maureen Lock

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Weather in Milborne St. Andrew Winter 2015/16

IT was wet and windy throughout December, January and February. Of the 91 days of meteorological winter there were only 14 days on which I did not record any rain at all.

December and February rainfall was around the average for those months but January rainfall was 199% of average at 226.5mm. The total rainfall for the winter months was 438.3mm. Apart from the exceptionally wet winter of 2013/14 when there was 746.2mm of rain, the last wetter winter was 2000/01 when we had 480.2mm. The wettest day of the winter was 26th January with 35.1mm of rain.

It was an exceptionally warm winter with the average temperature in December around 5°C above normal, January temperature was around 2°C above normal and February temperature around 1°C above normal. Interestingly the average temperature for March at the time of writing is 1.8°C *below* normal. There were seven days in December when the maximum temperature reached 14°C.

There was no snowfall recorded during the winter months and only 20 nights when there was a ground frost. The coldest night of the winter was the 15th February with a minimum temperature of -5°C.

Pluvius

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The Milborne Players

SEPTEMBER PRODUCTION

SOON TO BE ANNOUNCED

Over the last few weeks we have been beavering away reading play scripts. The decision is nearly made now so watch this space to see what we will be offering you.

If you or someone you know would like to try out on the boards or help in the production team then please come and join us on Monday evenings at 8.00pm in the Village Hall. All groups need new faces and new talents and we need some new recruits for just those reasons. We will be looking to recruit for next year's Panto cast and production team to include adults and young people.

Check out our website www.milborneplayer.org.uk where there is an email link to contact us or find us on facebook "the Official Milborne Players"



The Milborne Players Committee

Would you give your neighbour a lift?

THE decision to move to a rural village is a lovely thought. Like many people who have recently retired this is often accompanied by the dream of doing things that you just didn't have the time or freedom to do! Once you arrive, a list of local activities soon emerges like the WI or food and wine club. However what isn't always obvious are the really valuable small gestures of support that villagers can do for each other.

For local residents like Cynthia Clarke who have lived in Milborne St. Andrew for many years, much has changed. These changes may include losing a partner who drives or no longer being able to drive yourself. Limited or irregular public transport to the hospital or even walking to the doctor's surgery can present a huge challenge. When faced with problems like this, Cynthia talks about having wonderful neighbours but also being reluctant to ask for help. Fortunately a gesture of help can be provided through the voluntarily run Milton Abbas Neighbourcar Scheme.

Established five years ago, Nigel Hodder and a group of local drivers responded to the need for transport for the 'Over 50's' to help them get to the clinic or to hospital - a service previously provided by Friends of the Practice. The charge has always been kept to a minimum with a typical trip to the local surgery costing as little as £3.15, and is significantly lower than the available taxi services. Today trips are made to Dorchester, Blandford, Bournemouth and Poole. Nigel recalls the furthest journey has been to Havant when a lady's cherished pet needed to visit the only vet who could treat it for a life threatening illness. Needless to say the lady paid to go, but the cat travelled free!

Although this particular occasion has been the exception rather than the rule, there is an increasing need for transport and drivers. In its first five years the scheme has completed 4,183 journeys and currently has 175 patients registered with it. As a result Nigel is always keen to encourage more drivers from Milborne St. Andrew. He is keen to stress, 'However little time you can give is not important. You do what you can, when you can and no more.'

Val and Dave Andrews are two of the volunteer drivers who are supporting others in the village. By doing it they see it as another facet of village life. For Val and Dave there may be times when they can't drive but whilst they can it's something they find really rewarding to do.

So the question for all of us is... 'If you did have a small amount of time to spare (and an option to say no if you couldn't) would you give your neighbour a lift?' If you would, then Cynthia and others just like her would be really pleased. For more information on what is involved in being a driver for Neighbourcar, please contact Anne Donnelly by telephone on 01258 881261.

Joy McCormick

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LETTERS to the Reporter

Dear Editor,

Re the meeting about the health impact of fracking (Weds 6th April), I have heard comments along the lines of "Don't worry, it'll never happen here". Whilst I desperately hope that they are right, I can't help thinking that the government wouldn't go to the trouble of issuing licences for this area if fracking were out of the question.

So rather than risk being naïve or complacent, I'd prefer to be forewarned and forearmed. I've heard that test drills are being planned within other parts of Dorset, probably within 2016, so I'd rather not wait until it's knocking on our door to find out about it!

Regards

Adrienne Rogers

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For more details please contact Judy Cooper

Tel: 01305 260284, email: weatherburysingers@gmail.com

or visit our website www.weatherburysingers.co.uk

We look forward to hearing from you

Murder in Milborne!!!

LUCKILY not a real one! The Church's Events Committee have arranged a Murder Mystery Meal with a title of 'A Fate Worse Than Death', which will be held in the Village Hall on the evening of Saturday the 7th May.

Tickets will be limited and available from the middle of April. Watch out for the posters and next month's Reporter for more details or speak to one of the committee or one of the churchwardens.
Pam Shults

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. Any questions, please feel free to contact: Ian Bromilow on 01258-880044.

Sunday 3rd April – 2.00pm

Stour Valley Way, Sturminster Newton

Meet in the car park at the Stur playing fields, at the rear of the lower school. Turn left just before the road narrows as you are entering Stur from the river-side

Grid reference: ST 785142 on OS Explorer Sheet 129 (approx. 4.5 miles)

Wednesday 20th April – 11.00am Martin Down and Penbury Hill-fort

Meet at Martin Down car park on A354, about 1/4 mile north of Woodyates. Grid reference: ST 037201 on OS Explorer Sheet 118 (approx. 6 miles) Bring a packed lunch.

Sunday 1st May – 2.00pm Winterborne Houghton

Meet outside the church in Winterborne Houghton

Grid reference: ST 820045 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.

The deadline for the May Reporter is 14th April



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The Importance of Lifetime Planning at the March WI

Village Action Day – Did you see us?

ON Saturday 5th March, after a whirlwind guide to bad and good planning, and the focusing of the day on Planning, Landscape, Architecture, Conservation and Engineering, we were allowed out, five groups of villagers, wandering around Milborne. We quickly learnt the art of walking and writing at the same time, as each of us had to look out for certain aspects in the village. Our group volunteered to walk up to the south of village, and along to the east (Homefield, Wetherby Close, Lane End, Rings and Business Centre; it's further than you realise! Between the groups, we tried to spread ourselves to cover all corners of Milborne St Andrew.

All of the groups returned to The Royal Oak skittle alley, marking all our findings on several big maps of the village, colour coded to match our specialities. Richard Eastham, who ran the day, was



excellent in his presentation in what was, to most of us, a completely new discipline, and he also managed to pull together the disparate way we all recorded our findings!

Everyone I spoke to afterwards came thinking it was going to be tedious, boring or confusing, but left having found areas in the village they were unfamiliar with, also with much more of an awareness of what could be possible. More importantly, they all enjoyed the day! We will be getting a full report back from Richard, from which we will pick out the main points and publish.



JUDGING by the overflowing collection boxes a good start has been made with contributions for the food bank and our May Fair stall. We are encouraged to keep these coming for the next two months. The village is to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday on Sunday 12th June. This is an opportunity for everyone to come together and ideas for events on the day are welcomed.

For 'Bookends' Shirley reported that our recent book, Salley Vickers' *'Where Three Roads Meet'*, part of a series where writers have been asked to re-tell a myth in their own style, had proved challenging with varied views. Members had clearly worked hard to interpret this new take on the Oedipus complex. We now move on to Joseph O'Neill's *'Netherland'*. The popular monthly pub lunch at The Royal Oak is always a good opportunity for a chat, and Jenny invariably emails members with the date and time.

Our visiting speaker, Sarah Grant, a local solicitor in Dorchester, gave us many useful pointers about the vital area of lifetime planning. We are all living longer, but, whatever our age, it is never too early to make provision for the future and there are many things we can do to smooth the way for ourselves and our loved ones. The first step would be a valid will, and then the setting-up of a lasting power of attorney, which can cover not only finance but health and welfare. Sarah covered the process in great detail, and our many questions were answered in depth.

On Thursday 14th April Dawn Lawrence will talk about her book, *'Two Steps Behind.'* The competition is for *your own* pencil drawing of an animal, postcard size. This is also our annual meeting, when nominations will be invited for the committee. We look forward to seeing you there.

Pat Bull

Brooklyn (12)

shown by 'Milborne Movies'

at Milborne St. Andrew Village Hall (DT11 OJX)

on Friday 22nd April 2016 at 7.30pm

SCREENWRITER Nick Hornby's *Brooklyn* is an adaptation of Colm Tóibín's hugely popular 2009 novel that tells the profoundly moving story of Eilis Lacey (Saoirse Ronan). Eilis is a teenage girl growing up in Ireland's County Wexford with her older sister and widowed mother in the early 1950's. Short on opportunities for a decent life, she is sponsored into a new city and a new job by Father Flood (Jim Broadbent), a friend in the New York clergy. Lured by the promise of America, Eilis departs Ireland and the comfort of her mother's home for the shores of New York City. Working in a department store and living in a girls' rooming house in Brooklyn, Eilis overcomes her loneliness and gradually finds her feet. But just when evening classes in book-keeping and a romance with an Italian-American plumber (Emory Cohen) are holding out the prospect of a brighter future, Eilis is summoned back home by a tragedy. Another romance begins, this time with the local publican's son Jim (Domhnall Gleeson), and Eilis must choose between two cultures.

The casting throughout is nigh-on flawless, as Ronan subtly charts the shift from wide-eyed provincial girl to city sophisticate as much by stance and speech-patterns as by costume and hairstyle. She gets fine back-up from Julie Walters, visibly enjoying herself as her wasp-tongued Brooklyn landlady Mrs Kehoe, Jim Broadbent as a benevolent priest (maybe slightly overdoing the twinkle), and Brid Brennan ripely malicious as a small-town snob and by Cohen as Tony, Eilis' Italian-American boyfriend – gentle, considerate, and full of a shy, instinctive courtesy. Yves Bélanger's sumptuous photography, Michael Brook's grand orchestral score, and excellent costumes, sets and locations evoke an epic personal coming-of-age tale.

For more information see <http://www.brooklyn-themovie.com/>

The village hall and bar is open from 7.00pm and the film starts at 7.30pm. Tickets £3.50 can be obtained on the door.

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"I am local"

Notes from the Parish Council 16th March 2016

THE meeting was chaired by Sarah Fox with two more councillors present, also the clerk.

Apologies from Councillor Hilary Cox, district councillors Jane Stomper and Emma Parker, and two councillors. Six members of the public.

District Councillors Report. It reported identified savings and band D council tax an increase of £5.00.

Many discussions are ongoing.

Council Councillor reported a grant has been approved for 'Clean for the Queen'.

Reps Reports. Village Hall 1. The dishwasher is yet to be plumbed in. 2. The Trust Deed is under revision. **Home watch** There is a proposal to amalgamate towns and villages. **Allotments** It is planned there will be produce available for the May Fayre. **NPG Planning, landscape, architecture, conservation, engineering meeting.** A questionnaire is to be compiled and circulated to all households in May (hopefully).

Quarterly Divisional Meeting with County Councillor Bus routes to be reviewed. Transport Department. are considering 'skeleton routes' consultations are ongoing. Drain covers on the A354 in Thornicombe area are to be re-seated. Library service times for Milborne 1.40pm-2.05pm at Village Hall 2.10pm-2.55pm at Stileham Bank.

Public session feedback. There are problems with on pavement parking. Residents have the right to place 'POLITE NOTICE' on a windscreen and also on vehicles inconsiderately parked.

Correspondence There will be an independent meeting (not called by Parish Council) on Fracking at the Village Hall on 6th April.

A request by the owners of Brookvale, Milton Road to place a safety visibility mirror was agreed by the councillors as had NNDC.

Planning To convert garage to living accommodation and erect single storey extension at 10 Fox View no objections.

Tree Work A request to reduce crown of sycamore tree at Laracor, Chapel Street. no objections.

Financial Regulations none required at present review again 2017.

Date next meeting 20th April 2016 at 7.30pm. Parish Meeting. All parishioners welcome.

June Maitland

The deadline for the May Reporter is 14th April

Gardening questions

DO you a gardening question for our expert Maureen Lock to answer? Send your questions to the Reporter at msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk, our Facebook page or give to a Reporter team member whose details can be found on page 2.

Dorset Guild of Singers

"Petite Messe Solennelle"

Lighthouse Poole, 7.30pm Saturday 23rd April 2016

AFTER a triumphant "Elijah" two years ago, the Dorset Guild of Singers are delighted that Simon Lole will once again wield the baton for Rossini's delightful Mass, described by Napoleon III as "neither little, nor solemn, nor particularly liturgical"! The Briantspuddle Singers are rehearsing alongside choir members from Purbeck and West Dorset and nearly 200 voices will be raising the roof on the Wessex Hall!

Music by Wood, Bairstow and Parry complete the evening's performance and Richard Hall (harmonium) and Chris Dowie (piano) will accompany the choir and professional soloists.

Advance tickets only £13 available from Liz Roberts 01929 481419

Calling all knitters Support the Royal Voluntary Service by knitting a penguin!

You might already know about our RVS penguin: last year one of our supporters designed a bespoke knitting pattern for us, and we distributed it far and wide. We had a lot of interest and some fantastic support, which culminated in us displaying our penguins at the Dorchester Library and Learning Centre during autumn half term, and selling them at the Dorchester Tourist Information Office, Broadstone Library, and many other venues. We had more than 100 penguins, and raised over £300 – with many thanks to everybody who was involved in this in any way.

But it didn't stop there: we sold out just before Christmas, and since then we have had many requests for more penguins – they really did capture people's hearts! So here we are again, asking for your help: can you knit a penguin for us? Or do you know someone who can? Are you a member or know of a local Knit and Natter group who might like to support us with this? Could you display a poster and distribute our patterns locally? Any help would be greatly appreciated! We have been able to get a supply of woven labels with the RVS logo, which can be sent out with the knitting patterns and sewn on to the finished penguins, making them even more unique! And if knitting isn't for you, or you fancy making something different for us: great, we love receiving any donations of handmade items which we can sell to support our work with older people in the community.

If you prefer a printed pattern just let me know (address below) and I will send it to you. Help us to add to our colony!

The RVS Penguin Big Knit in Dorset

THE Royal Voluntary Service delivers practical support through the power of volunteering so every older person can live the life they want.

We need to raise £3,000 this year to help support services for older people. Any money raised stays locally and supports local older people in their own homes to stay happy, healthy, warm and connected so please, have some fun and bring sunshine to an older person this year.

The knitted penguin pattern has been designed by a member of The Martinsey Isle Trust in Sturminster Newton, specifically to help with RVS fundraising.

The Martinsey Isle Trust is a sacred heritage and education trust, can be contacted via their website: <http://www.artoflivinganddying.com> and on 01258 475125.

If you are a knitter or know of anyone who does, just contact us and we will send a pattern to you.

Please contact The Royal Voluntary Service Hub Office on 01305 236666 to arrange collection of your donations. If you would like to know more, contact; Maria Jacobson
Royal Voluntary Service Manager Dorset Home Library Service
07786 635154 or 01305 236 666

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Don't get caught twice!

THE National Fraud Intelligence Bureau (NFIB) is warning people of the dangers of Recovery Room fraudsters targeting former victims of Timeshare fraud.

Recovery Room Fraud refers to a scam whereby fraudsters contact the victims of previous frauds, often by way of cold calling them, and claim to be able to recover previously lost funds. In July 2014 the Financial Services Authority (FSA) estimated that 30% of people who had lost money through investment fraud would also fall victim to a Recovery Room fraud.

When Recovery Room fraudsters target victims of timeshare frauds they usually claim to be a legal professional or a representative of a government agency (normally within the country where the original timeshare property was based) in order to legitimise the scam. The fraudsters know personal details about the victim and their previous investment which gives them credibility. They claim that the advanced fees requested are for 'local taxes' or 'litigation costs' incurred during the recovery of the funds. It is suspected that the persons behind Recovery Room frauds are often the same people involved in the original scams even though these crimes may have occurred years earlier.

Initially, a small fee, typically in the region of £200–£400, is requested by the fraudsters which they often claim is refundable as part of a 'no-win no-fee' basis. The fraudsters rely on the victims seeing this as a nominal fee compared to the amounts lost, which often run into the tens-of-thousands of pounds, and therefore worth paying if it facilitates the return of their money. Once paid, various excuses are made by the fraudsters to explain delays in the recovery of the funds. Subsequently, further larger amounts are then requested by the fraudsters. Needless to say, no refunds ever materialise and no money is ever recovered.

Protect Yourself

- Never respond to unsolicited phone calls – if in doubt, hang up.
- Always check that the details of the organisation or company contacting you (such as website, address and phone number) are correct – the fraudsters may be masquerading as a legitimate organisation.
- Don't be fooled by a professional looking website as nowadays the cost of creating a professional website is easily affordable.
- Be wary of any firms or individuals asking for advanced fees.
- Consider seeking independent legal and/or financial advice before making a decision.

If you believe that you have been a victim of fraud you can report it online: http://www.actionfraud.police.uk/report_fraud or by telephone: 0300 123 2040.

Fire Brigade to the Rescue

THE Village Hall and the regular Gardening Club event for March was the perfect setting to discover who created the spectacular gardens at Hestercombe in nearby Somerset. The Hall was packed with members, non-members and some even signed up as new members! Everyone agreed that they were thoroughly entertained and informed about the restoration of the gardens by David Usher, the former head gardener.

Hestercombe is described as a paradise restored, fifty acres and three centuries of lovingly restored gardens that would have been lost forever if it hadn't been for the Somerset Fire Brigade. We learnt that from the 1950's to the 20-Noughties it was the location of their headquarters and it was their vision and direct action in setting up a garden department reporting directly to the Chief Officer that stopped the gardens from being turned into a parade ground!

David took us on a personal and inspirational journey explaining the restoration with some 'before and after' slides. There are a wide range of activities undertaken at the gardens and many of those present are planning to return with their new found knowledge and insight.

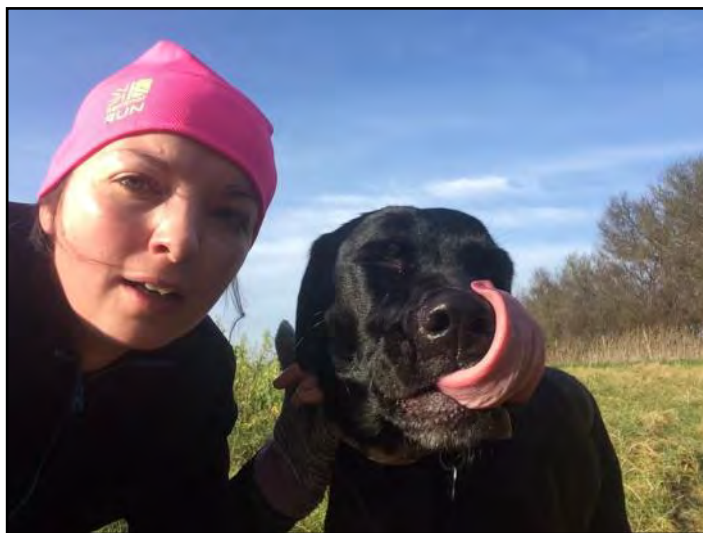
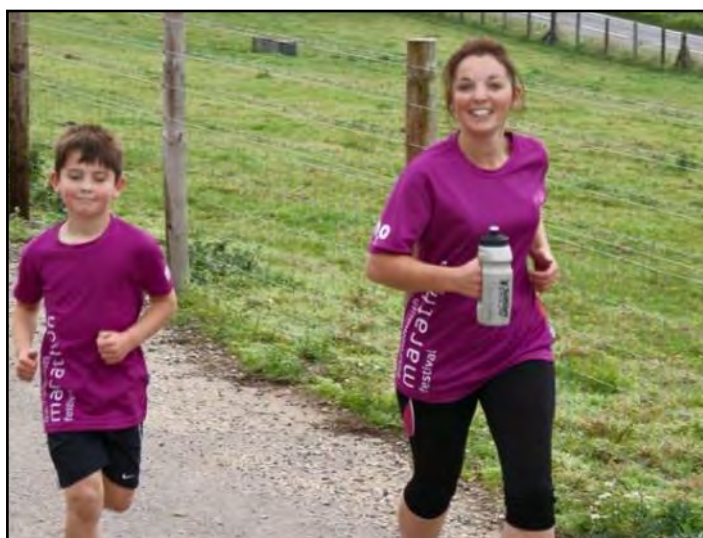
Our April meeting is entitled 'Gathering and Growing'. It is somewhat different and will be fully 'hands-on' so do come along and be prepared to get involved in making some spectacular arrangements or displays for the home, or just sit back and watch. July's event entitled 'Wicked Plants should be a killer too. All good fun so come along

Richard Lock

Laurie's London-bound for the marathon

LOCAL mum, Laurie Griffin, is running the London Marathon this year on behalf of the learning disability charity, Mencap. She's been putting the miles in in preparation for the big day on 24th April. She said, "I'm doing it for Mencap because it's such a worthy cause – everything they do is about valuing and supporting people with a learning disability, and their families and carers." Laurie had worked for the charity, looking after adults with learning difficulties.

Alongside her, Laurie has had three significant training partners over the autumn and winter, running through sleet, rain and below zero conditions. Clare Cranston has often been by her side, running in the dark Milborne nights, training for the marathon in April. Laurie's son, Lewis (pictured), a Milborne First schoolboy, has also accompanied her on runs and has even competed in some junior events himself. Her third companion has been a very willing partner, but is much quieter – although he does pant a lot; that's Oscar, her loyal Labrador.



Laurie is running the London Marathon with her cousin, Grace. If you'd like to sponsor Laurie, you can visit her donation page at www.justgiving.com/LaurieBethGrace/ or you could drop a donation into the collection box in Gray's Stores.

Are you running in an event for charity – or cycling, swimming, skateboarding or knitting for a good cause? If you are, we'd like to hear! Get in touch with the Reporter and we'll highlight your event here and on our Facebook page. Send an email or message the Facebook page.

Yoga

Yoga classes in the village hall

1.30 - 2.45pm on Thursday afternoons

Please bring a mat and wear comfortable clothes.

Individual classes tailored for you also available.

For information ring

Sarah Ryan on 01258 839230

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Did you identify this?

The photograph in the March *Reporter* was taken on Milton Road of the Parish Council notice board.

Congratulations to Dave Andrews who was the first person to send in the correct answer.

Apparently Dave mended this notice board a few years ago.

Try your luck this month on page 12.



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Deadline for the May issue is 14th April.



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Most NHS-funded services, including our practice, offer you the opportunity to rate your experience and includes space to give any comments to explain your score or to make suggestions about how things could be made better.

In the last 12 months of the FFT, Milton Abbas Surgery has recorded 335 pieces of patient feedback. Figures are submitted to NHS England every month and, nationally, almost 17 million pieces of patient feedback have been given in the past three years.

One of the benefits for us is that practice staff get confirmation that their work is appreciated: in general, most people give a positive response and that is really good for morale. In February the latest scores were 100% positive.

What about the things that could be better? Patient comments provide a rich source of ideas and help to explain what is not going well, as well as the things that people are happy with. The fact the information comes through soon after the patient's contact with the NHS means faster action can be taken to address any issues.

If you want to find out more, ask at the practice, look at our website or see more information at www.nhs.uk/friendsandfamily.

Surgery Closure

A reminder that the surgery will be closed for booked appointments on Saturday 2nd April to enable us to change our stock control and ordering system for our dispensary. If you require repeat medication please submit your request by 1.00pm on 31st March. Any repeats received after this time will be available to collect on Wednesday afternoon 6th April. We would appreciate your co-operation and patience as we familiarise ourselves with the new system.

The surgery will also be closed for the Bank Holiday on Saturday 30th April and Monday 1st May.

Gillian Brindle, Practice Business Manager
Milton Abbas and Milborne St. Andrew Surgery

Have your say on the future of mobile libraries

A consultation with communities and library users is being planned to help shape the service for the future.

The number of residents using the public mobile library service has declined over the last few years. However the home library service mobile library, which goes to residential homes, has remained stable.

And residents can already access library services in a variety of ways including online, through the home library service, the public mobile service and of course within the buildings themselves.

Cllr Colin Jamieson, Dorset County Council's Cabinet member for economy and growth, said: "Although the need to look at the service has come from current budget limitations, it is good business practice to reassess our offering, help us deliver a targeted library service to residents.

"We want to understand the impact of any changes on our customers and by working with communities and the voluntary sector, we will try to reduce the effects that any alterations may bring."

The council will be consulting

- On maintaining the mobile library service, which goes to residential homes, provided by the council's Home Library Service mobile library
- To understand the impact of removing the public mobile library services in more detail and to look at overcoming access issues by:
 - Extending the Home Library Service in partnership with the Royal Voluntary Service (RVS)
 - Consider the opportunities available within communities to create access to library services and contact with other people through car-sharing, good neighbour schemes etc.

Details of how to take part will be circulated throughout the library service and via parish councils. The consultation will take place during April and May.

A previous consultation had already looked at the numbers of people using the mobile library services and services are being withdrawn from areas with low levels of use. This has allowed a reduction in the number of vehicles from four to three and avoided spending on a replacement vehicle which would otherwise be needed. New mobile library timetables will start from 9th May.

Fiona King, Public Relations Officer

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