



80P WHERE SOLD

# Reporter

News and Views from around the area

Volume 9 Issue 1

January 2017

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Milborne St. Andrew



## Christingle

See page 31

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## Gardening Club AGM

THE Milborne St. Andrew Gardening Club held its AGM on Thursday 17th November. The acting Chairman, Sally Dyer, reviewed the year's activities which included a varied selection of talks, a successful plant sale in May and a popular and much enjoyed outing to the historic restored Jekyll and Lutyens gardens at Hestercombe in Somerset. Social events were not forgotten with the annual lunch held at The Greyhound, Winterborne Kingston in February, and an excellent barbecue in a member's garden in September.

The following members were elected to the Committee:

Chairman: Sally Dyer

Treasurer: Ann Guy

Minutes Sec: Richard Lock

Members: Angela Johnson, Harry Thomas and Bill Love

The evening was rounded off with mulled wine and mince pies and a short, amusing quiz.

Plans are now nearly complete for the 2017 programme. The talk at our first meeting, on January 19th will be on 'Gardening for Climate Change', a subject which will interest many in view of the unusual weather we have had in recent years and the unexpected effect it can have on gardens and agriculture in general. Anyone interested is welcome to come to the meeting at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. See also the separate club notice in the *Reporter* which will now appear each month with details of our meetings. Just look for the tree!

Sally Dyer

## VILLAGE LUNCH

To be held at the Village Hall on  
**Saturday 28th January from 12.15 to 2.00pm**

Wine or fruit juice

Lamb hotpot with vegetables

Cheesecake

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

## Village lunch AGM

To be held at The Royal Oak  
on Monday 9th January at 12.15pm

*Everyone welcome*

## Disclaimer

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The *Reporter* is not responsible for the content of any advertisement or material on websites advertised within this magazine.

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Enquiries and copy to: [msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk)

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

Paper copy to any of the team

## Father Christmas comes to Milborne

AFTER a tour in a little yellow car around the village, Father Christmas dropped into the hall in time to open the Church's Christmas Market on Saturday 26th November. He is a jolly chap and not only did he give out presents from his sack but made the children laugh.

There were stalls selling gifts, handicrafts, toys and puzzles, cakes and preserves as well as the glitter tattoos and children's 'make your own decorations' stall. There was the chance to try your luck at the guess the cake weight, the raffle, tombola, splat the rat, hoopla and other children's games or did you guess where the treasure was hidden? There was homemade soup for lunch followed by mulled wine and mince pies.



Everyone appeared to be enjoying the community spirit and spending their money. The profit raised was almost £900 which will help to support St. Andrew's church. Members of the church appreciated the support of all who came as well as the goodwill of people who gave their goods and time to make this year's Christmas Market a big success.

Our next event will be in church on Saturday 11th February at 2.30pm when you can hear about the Banks family and their home, Kingston Lacy. Cakes and tea will be served afterwards. Make a note in your new diary but further information will be given out nearer the time.

*Pam Shults*

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## Royal British Legion Act of Remembrance and Poppy Collection 2016

I WISH to thank everyone who attended this year's Acts of Remembrance on the 11th and 13th November 2016 at the memorial stone. I hope everyone felt it was an appropriate way to honour those who gave their lives and also to remember all those who have died or been injured in mind or body in more recent conflicts.

I wish to thank the Rev Sarah Hillman, Lt Cmdr. Dyer RN, Mrs June Maitland, Steve Hiscock, Adrian Hodges, Tony Senior and Capt. Edward Ebberrn, Royal Wessex Yeomanry with their help on the day. It was also great to see the Scouts with their leader Brian Burton and his team.

I am particularly grateful to Gren Elphinstone-Davis for the loan of the public-address equipment which made all the difference to the projection of the Last Post and address.

### House to House Collection

Unfortunately, only two people kindly offered to carry out a house to house collection for the Poppy Appeal, it was therefore decided it would not be possible to undertake a collection this year.

### Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2016

Having no house to house collection I am still pleased to report that Poppy Boxes were available for donations at the Post Office, the Londis Shop, the First School, and The Royal Oak. I wish to thank all those organisations and businesses for helping with the work of the Royal British Legion.

The Royal British Legion wish to thank all those who contributed to the Poppy Appeal 2016. The residents of the parish were very generous and collected in total £497.27.

|                    |                |
|--------------------|----------------|
| St. Andrews church | £162.48        |
| Grey's Store       | £139.51        |
| Post Office        | £126.45        |
| MSA First School   | £47.71         |
| The Royal Oak      | £19.12         |
| Miscellaneous      | <u>£2.00</u>   |
|                    | <b>£497.27</b> |

Well done everyone and thank you on behalf of the Royal British Legion.

### The Future

Since the death of our good friend, Peter Vacher-Dow I have had the privilege of organising the short Act of Remembrance at the memorial stone. I have however decided that due to family commitments it is necessary to look to the future and hand over the reins of this duty to others. Therefore, I am asking for someone to step forward to firstly help organise next year's Act of Remembrance and then subsequently take over the responsibility. If you think you can help please contact me so that we can discuss this.

### One Note of Disappointment

I have to thank Ian Rogers for going the extra distance by helping to ensure that the grassed area around the memorial stone is in the best condition possible for our event each year. It is however disappointing to report that not only has Ian to deal with the leaves and grass but with the increasing amounts of dog mess. This area was set aside to remember those from this community who have fallen in war that we may live in freedom. However, there are a few people in this village who cannot be bothered to respect this area and continue to allow their dogs to foul the grass and surrounding area and deliberately do not pick up after their animals.

*Michael Hopper, Tel: 837642*

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## Milborne Ponderers come out top

IT was November, there was a stormy night. It must have been time for the annual Village Quiz! Six teams braved the weather to compete for the honour of writing next year's questions, whilst raising money for the Village Hall. This is a great way for the hall to raise funds, and was a relaxed and informal event.

The questions were set by last year's winners, the Yoga Bears, who started the proceedings by leading us in a minute's silence to remember Mike Mullett, who did so much for the hall and for Milborne St. Andrew.



The winning team in the 2016 village quiz were The Milborne Ponderers. Photo shows Sarah Ryan, one of the Yoga Bears, winners in 2015, who provided this year's questions, presenting the trophy to the winners Heather Hogg, Frank Mason, Brian Gore and Jenny Balcon.

The questions proved a great challenge, with rounds about the USA, Dorset, film, food, driving on the left or right in different countries, music, and a brilliant picture round with photos of local pubs and churches, to identify where they are. The lead changed between the Milborne Ponderers and the Versos and Rectos throughout the evening, and last place changed between the Three Amigos and Confused of Milborne.

All teams finished within a twenty point margin, a great achievement for Sarah and her team of ladies. Thank you to all of them for keeping us in order, running around with our papers, keeping the scores and making excellent announcements. Thank you also to the teams who braved the wind and rain (thankfully no floods this year) to compete - Confused of Milborne, Milborne minus St. Andrew, the Dandy Lions, Three Amigos, Versos and Rectos, and the winners, Milborne Ponderers,

Next year's quiz questions will be provided by the Milborne Ponderers.

The evening was great fun, and an informal way to find out what your neighbours know!

*Susan Wilson*

## Focus on Small Businesses in Milborne St Andrew Number 4: The Plumber

ANDREW Cozens was born and brought up in Lytchett Matravers but his roots lie in this area. His paternal grandmother is related to the Popes in Milborne St. Andrew. They farmed around the village of Dewlish and lived in Stag House. His maternal grandfather, Mr Skinner, was from Bere Regis and Andy's great uncle still lives there.



He attended Lytchett Minster Secondary School leaving after the sixth form to work as a general builder then a boat builder for two years. Having been influenced by his paternal grandfather's experience in the Royal Marines, attending all Remembrance services and R.M. Association events, he left his parents' home to join up for 10 years of active service. His basic training was

undertaken in Lymptstone, Devon, followed by stints in Northern Ireland and Iraq. Andy then undertook extra training as a landing craftsman driving boats, based on ships around the world; the Far East, America, the Mediterranean, and the Suez Canal. He tells me he could have signed up for a total of 22 years and received a full pension, however homesickness prevailed and he left the service. The R.M. offered resettlement courses and he trained for Gas-Safe and plumbing.

Initially Andy worked in Maritime Security in Tanzania (aged 30 years) but missed Michelle, the woman he had just met (now his wife) and decided to begin to use his plumbing skills back in the UK. For the first year he worked with a friend known from his schooldays, then, four years ago, went solo with his own business. He married Michelle in 2013 and they have a daughter, Amelia, 18 months. Their first home was in Parkstone where Andy bought a house which he renovated, sold and, two and half years ago moved to Milborne. He is enjoying his time here, feels he and his small family have integrated well into the village. I understand he has made many new friends and loves village life. His travelling days are not yet over as he and Michelle spent an amazing month in Italy travelling by public transport through Tuscany, Venice and Florence. She is working part time as a personal assistant to one of the directors at Poole Borough Council. He is a keen runner, likes to keep fit, shoots clays, beats with dogs at Cerne Abbas and Wareham for a Winfrith based landowner. He uses his own dog, Bella, a retriever cross springer. They can often be glimpsed pounding the lanes and roads in MSA together!

From personal experience, and those of other lucky customers, I can say he is a most agreeable, conscientious and thorough person, willing to come out at unsocial hours to help in times of distress and anxiety. His steady character immediately calms fears and reduces possible damage through long waiting times for help to arrive. We are all fortunate that he renounced all his globe-trotting, risk taking and adventurous activities to settle in this area.

To contact Andy (he does advertise in this magazine); his mobile number is: 07917 878505 or he can be reached online at: [cozens858@btinternet.com](mailto:cozens858@btinternet.com)

*Carole Fornachon*

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# Farewell Mike

Milborne said a final farewell to one of its best known and loved characters, Mike Mullett, who passed away in November, aged 59. As many will know, Mike moved away from the village he had known all his life just a few months earlier because of his failing health. A packed St Andrew's Church was testimony to the man he was and the people whose lives he touched. The service celebrated Mike in a moving yet light-hearted



and humorous way, which summed up Mike and I'm sure he was looking down approvingly. Richard Lock gave the eulogy on behalf of Mike's family, which fulfilled all their wishes (he said he was under strict instruction to get all the specified detail in!) and brought over the warmth and big-hearted nature of the man cherished by so many. Mike was a man who lived a simple life, with no great wealth but would do anything for anyone. His community service had recently been acknowledged at a ceremony at the Village Hall, where a plaque now commemorates Mike and his family's endeavours to the hall and Milborne. Incidentally, it was at that event that he said, "You're all invited to my wake – and don't wear black!" After that occasion, The Reporter detailed all he had done over the years, from his service to the Cub Scouts (for which he received an award in 2016), school fundraising events, Milborne 10 race, Village Hall committee and the May Fayre – which he instigated because he wanted to "bring the village together" to have fun. Which was typical Mike, because what inspired him to organise it was turning 50 years old – in effect, he wanted to throw a 'party' for the village.

Michael Arthur Mullett was born in Dorchester County Hospital in 1957 to an agricultural worker and dinner lady at Milborne school. Mike's mum was to die when he was just 14 years old and he then went to live with an uncle. Mike lived in Milborne for all his life bar his last three months. He went to school in the village and then on to Puddletown Secondary. On leaving, he started his working life in Milborne for Mr Hooper as a farm worker, where he was employed until 2012. Mike met Sue in the early 1980s – as she was walking through the village, he noticed she had shapely legs and decided to get to know her better! They were married in Blandford and had three children: Jo, Kate and John. He also leaves behind five grandchildren.

Mike leaves a large hole in their lives and he will be greatly missed by many in Milborne. Not just the committees he served or the events he helped to run; nor those that he was a lifesaver for as he just happened to have a particular widget squirrelled away to lend or give – no, many will miss the larger-than-life character that was always cheerful and happy to pull over his car for a long chat. So, what better way to commemorate Mike, than in his own words.

This is the *Reporter* interview with Mike in 2009 for our 'Have You Met' feature – or, as it may be retitled here, 'If You Didn't Meet, You Really Should Have – Mike Mullett':

*What is the best thing about living in Milborne St. Andrew?*

It's peaceful – it's how you make it.

*Are there things you would like to change about Milborne St. Andrew?*

I'd like to see more affordable accommodation to rent in the village for growing children and young adults.

*Do you have a claim to fame?*

I have just been awarded the Waterman Award for services to Scouting.

*Who is your hero or has been your inspiration?*

My hero is Jack Bodie, General Secretary of the Agricultural and Allied Workers Union. He is someone to really trust, down to earth and has a true sense of how it was and how it is. He has always fought for the rights of agricultural workers.

*Fantasy dinner date?*

That has to be my missus, Sue.

*Any funny stories from your school days?*

I had some good times at school; I was a prefect, perhaps because I never got caught. I remember a particular school trip to Lyme Bay when I spent several happy evenings at the pub supping 4X. However at the age of 17, at a leaving party for a colleague I overdid it drinking spirits and have been restrained ever since.

*Have you ever thrown caution to the wind?*

Yes, and sometimes regretted it. This latest Scouting trip to Longleat was fraught with problems, especially transport problems, but after a load of hard work en-route it eventually worked out.

*Is there something that people might find surprising about you?*

I was once a choir boy at St. Andrew's Church and at Dewlish Church. The whole choir had to help push the vicar's J4 mini bus to get it going, then change into our cassocks, push it again and somehow get on our way. I can remember carrying the brass cross at Dewlish and the wooden cross at Milborne.

*Your hobbies and interests.*

I'm not into sport, but I enjoy falling asleep in front of the TV at night! My favourite programme is DIY SOS. I'm not into new technology either. More a spanner and hammer man. But having said that I do think new ideas have to be embraced, a village has to move on, it can't stay the same for ever. Doing the May Fair was a good thing – we just chucked an idea in the pot and it happened. But only because we all worked together. I believe everybody is equal, whether they have £1 or £1,000 in the bank.

Ed Richards

## New editor wanted

Our Editor, David Payne, would like to step down from this post as soon as possible. We are therefore looking for someone to format the *Reporter* or at least help him, to start with.

We already have a willing team of news collectors, photographers and distributors but without an editor the magazine will close. Please contact the Reporter Team if you would like to volunteer or for more information from David on 837700.

# This Month

at the MILBORNE ST ANDREW  
GARDENING CLUB



Activity—a talk  
*Gardening for Climate  
Change*

When  
*Thursday  
19th January*



Refreshments



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# Christmas Lunch at The Milton Arms for Wednesday Club



ON Wednesday 7th December 25 members of The Wednesday Club enjoyed a delightful Christmas meal at The Milton Arms. There was much talking and laughter, a Christmas raffle and Jenny Balcon provided one of her famous quizzes. A jolly good time was had by all!



Our next meeting is at 2.00pm in the Village Hall on Wednesday 4th January. There will be a New Year Party with afternoon tea, a light hearted quiz and games.

We would like to wish everyone in the village a Happy New Year and hope to see some new faces joining us in 2017. If you would like to find out any more about The Wednesday Club please phone our friendly Chairman Ann Guy on 837959. *Lis Watts*

## Thank you

I THINK this is the right time of year to thank those who work so hard to make our Village Hall such a successful, warm and welcoming place to be. The effort that goes on behind the scenes is phenomenal to organise and schedule events, liaise with users to accommodate last minute bookings and make events go smoothly. Pam has a great team.

The Village Quiz was very well organised with one person turning out to help despite being ill.

And Alison Riddle does so much more than a Bookings Secretary would normally be expected to do. How many hours did she put in to reschedule classes and meetings then set up the committee room and kitchen to make sure that the recent funeral got the service it deserved? Devotion above and beyond!

Thank you to Pam and the Committee for everything you do. I wish you a peaceful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

*Susan Wilson*

# Bus2Go – New Year, New Outings



Reg Charity 1168491

FROM October to December, we had 12 outings and on the weekend outings we were using both Dorset Community Transport Buses and County Buses.

The Christmas Party at Bashley was great fun and never disappoints, with 'Lyrics and Laughter' and their very inventive style of comedy and traditional Christmas songs. There was something for everyone.



*Above: Christmas Party at Bashley; and below: Christmas Lunch at Galton Garden Centre*



Our Christmas Lunch at Galton Garden Centre was a 'sell-out' with 48 of us sat down to a delicious Christmas meal. Edinburgh Woollen Mill took over £1,000 in one hour, this was after taking off the 20% discount!

We look forward to the New Year with more outings planned to venues that we have never visited before. Be sure to follow our adverts or go to our website [www.Bus2GoDorset.org](http://www.Bus2GoDorset.org) for further information and to book. February 22nd we go to The Exchange, Sturminster to see Anita Harris, lunch at The Swan Inn before the show. Tickets and bus fare £20.00, with lunch extra. Early booking is advisable.

On behalf of our Trustees and On Board Volunteers, we wish you a Happy and Healthy New Year. Looking forward to welcoming you on board, very soon. *Margo, Founder and Trustee Bus2Go*

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### *Valentines Meal*

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> & Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> February

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Whole rosemary & garlic studded oven roasted camembert served with sliced wholemeal baguette and mixed leaves (v)  
(to share)

Smoked salmon & crab rillettes with coriander lime and chilli mixed leaf salad

Chicken liver & whisky pate served with a malted baguette, spicy chutney and mixed leaves

#### Mains

Pan-fried 'Jurassic Coast' fillet steak served with chestnut mushrooms, oven-roasted vine cherry tomatoes and a red wine and shallot sauce  
(£3.00 supplement)

Mussels in white wine, shallot, garlic and parsley

Wild watercress, feta and green pesto linguini served with garlic baguette (v)

Chicken ballotine wrapped in Parma ham, stuffed with spring onions & chorizo

#### Desserts

Espresso pannacotta served with homemade shortbread

Vanilla cheesecake with strawberries and brandy snap

Dark chocolate fondant served with a Morello cherry compote and Madagascan vanilla ice cream  
(to share)

Local cheese selection

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Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2017



Join us for a boogie  
The hall will be Valentine Themed  
All welcome and partners are NOT obligatory!!  
Milborne St Andrew Village Hall - 7.30-10.30pm

Bring your own snacks and we will provide the bar.  
Oh! And wait for it. ....  
A Prosecco Bar...Woo Hoo xx

Tickets £6.00  
(Available from The Royal Oak or Amy 07828650104)

## The Milborne 100 Club is changing!

FROM February 2017 we are going to have a draw on the second Wednesday of each month instead of every five weeks, and are making the collection of subscriptions easier for everyone. We will keep the subscription for each draw at £5 but are trying to reduce the cost of collecting it so that there will be more prizes and more proceeds for the church and Sports Club. All those who have been members in 2016 should receive all the details, but anyone else who would like to join will be most welcome. Just get in touch with John Wright or Paul Sutcliffe.

ROYAL  
VOLUNTARY  
SERVICE

*Together for older people*

## Royal Voluntary Service in the Blandford area: supporting older people in your community

### Can you help?

MANY older people in Dorset can have their lives changed through contact with volunteers. Loneliness and isolation are common among older people living alone.

Volunteers provide a range of services to people who require additional support to remain independent and active in their community. Anyone can become a volunteer and make an incredible difference to someone else's life.

The RVS currently provide three main services in the Blandford area: Home Library Service, a Befriending Service, and a Trolley Service at Blandford Hospital.

The Home Library Service is provided to people who cannot easily get to their local library. Anybody who lives in Dorset can apply for this free service, and a wide range of fiction as well as information books will be delivered by Royal Voluntary Service volunteers every three weeks. Large print books and talking books are also available.

The Befriending Service – one hour a week can make a big difference to someone's life. Friendly social contact, popping in for a chat, help with shopping, writing letters, supporting people to remain independent in their own homes.

The Trolley Volunteers at Blandford Hospital provide snacks, drinks and other items to patients on the ward, with a smile and a friendly word.

We always welcome new volunteers to our services, and currently we are looking for Local Volunteer Coordinators for our Befriending and Home Library Service. The coordinator is supported and mentored by the Service Manager, and an essential link between their community, the RVS office, local volunteers and clients. They are part of a network of RVS Local Volunteer Coordinators across Dorset. This network provides additional support, facilitates sharing best practice and assisting with problem solving.

Could this be you? If so, or if you would simply like more information, please contact Maria or Tina, Royal Voluntary Service Dorset and Wiltshire, on 01305 236666.

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or 01963 363535  
Email: Carl.Mintern@gmail.com

## 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**  
or email saryan6630@aol.com  
*Yoga teacher, trainer, therapist*

## “My mother passed away recently and I have been told I need to obtain a Grant of Probate. What is this?”



**Linda Hardy**

Chartered Legal Executive  
Probate and Estate Administration

A Grant of Representation is a document issued by the part of the Court known as the Probate Registry, which confirms the authority of the persons named on it to administer the deceased's estate.

It is usually known as a Grant of Probate where there is a Will appointing executors, or a Grant of Letters of Administration where someone dies without having made a Will.

A Grant is not always necessary and its need usually depends upon the value and type of assets in the deceased's sole name.

The process of obtaining a Grant involves details of the assets and liabilities in the estate being submitted to the Probate Registry and, depending upon the size and complexity of the estate, sometimes requires an Inheritance Tax Return being made to HM Revenue & Customs.

We would be happy to talk through the process with you and the ways in which we can assist you. We are very flexible in our approach and are happy to deal with all matters for you or, if you would like more involvement, we can just deal with certain elements of the estate on your behalf.

[linda.hardy@blanchardsbailey.co.uk](mailto:linda.hardy@blanchardsbailey.co.uk)  
01258 488229



## More assets, fewer headaches

There comes a stage in life when it makes sense to start planning what you want to do with your assets - after all, you've worked hard for them. In the face of increasingly complex laws concerning Wills, Powers of Attorney and estate planning, we help you ensure your loved ones are passed more of the assets and fewer of the headaches.

# Straw into Gold

STEP into 'Gleanings' on a frosty November morning and you enter a calm, pastel shaded space. As its owner, Gill Ireland, so aptly comments, it has welcomed and wrapped her in comfort, warmth and security. She says it felt like home even in the initial stages of its unusual straw bale construction. Her relationship with the house is one which many of us are unlikely to have had the chance to experience. Situated behind her daughter, son-in-law and grandchildren's house it gives the family all it was hoping to offer. Close enough for the children to visit daily without having to cross a busy road, contact with their lives without intrusion and precious personal space always there whenever needed, plus eco-friendly maintenance and running. It is full of Gill's creativity both in and out with raised images on the external walls, ears of barley denoting its composition, and a head of cow parsley. The latter adorning the sunny decking complementing the surrounding hedgerows and



with an ease and good humour which is her trademark. She has a strong sense of justice and community living, currently rehearsing as a villager for this year's pantomime, Jack and the Beanstalk. This is a perfect role for someone who has always sought village life and loves her current environment. Not just the house with its open spaces flooded with light from many windows, including the atrium roof and French windows onto the decking, but the surrounding village and its friendly inhabitants. She explains that she has learnt to prepare for change gradually, most of that preparation in her head, knowing how she would arrange things. She has had a great deal of experience at sizing up spaces in houses of different eras citing one, a 1906 Arts and Crafts house in Letchworth Garden City in which she and her daughter lived. Much of her furniture is new and some recycled. Since she moved in August there have still been things to complete. Whilst I was there a pickaxe was being employed to break up the frozen ground and



rural views.

The warmth of the house with its beautifully designed wood burner, floral family china, oak floors and pine furniture reflect the warmth and artistry of its owner. She has spent a lifetime supporting the arts, working for Hertfordshire Music Service, helping in their productions, enabling her daughter and family in their businesses, singing in choirs (often Gilbert and Sullivan) and now, in Miborne St. Andrew, helping children to read at the local First School. All of this whilst moving house many times around the home counties before coming south to Dorset,

create a drive. Her journey to Gleanings was long and at times frustrating, but, seeing a similar project in Bridport, helped crystallize what she wanted (see article by Ed Richards 'No sign of the Big Bad Wolf', November 2015 *Reporter*). Gill's pleasures are gained from her needlework, painting, and most of all seeing children gain in confidence through her intervention. She has learnt to value her ability to make decisions and choices enabling her to make the most of her new life in a newly created space – enhancing the village in more ways than one.

*Carole Fornachon*





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**Wild Flower**  
**Meadows**  
**Lawn Care**

*As seen on the* **BBC**



## Making Month at Ladybirds

DECEMBER is a creative month at Ladybirds with the children busy making cards, decorations and gifts for Christmas. All has involved much paint, glue and glitter – not all going on the intended material!

Our large picture of a Christmas tree looked wonderful after everyone had a go at painting it green – then when dry the re-drawn shape became more colourful with more paint and anything available stuck onto it.

The children have also enjoyed role play dressing up in Christmas outfits. We had a Post



Office where the children wrote in cards, learnt to put an address on an envelope and a stamp before posting in our post box. They also wrapped presents of various shapes and sizes which for many was a challenge that involved a lot of sticky tape. Wrapping involves many skills of understanding size, scissor handling and knowing where to stick tape.

Wishing you A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from all of us at Ladybirds.

*Liz Dyer*

*See also page 29*



Milborne Ladybirds Playgroup

Ofsted registered no.217717

Registered Charity no. 1087441

We offer a high quality preschool experience for children aged 2 years to school age for Milborne St Andrew and the surrounding area

All Children are treated as individuals with exciting activities based on their interests.

Now open  
Monday and Tuesday until 14.30

Highly qualified staff aim to challenge children to achieve their potential

Opening times  
Early Birds 8.30-9.00  
Session 9.00-12.00  
Lunch Club 12.00-13.00

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



# MILBORNE ST ANDREW FIRST SCHOOL

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



## SCHOOL NEWS

The final weeks of the autumn term have been especially busy in school with the preparations for Christmas. All of the classes have been busy preparing for their Christmas performances. This year Seahorses class are performing 'Born in a Barn' and Turtles and Dolphins classes are presenting 'Babushka' and Puffins are performing 'The Night before Christmas'.



'Born in a Barn'



'Babushka'



'The Night Before Christmas'

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

Anti-Bullying week (14th-18th November) found the children busy, having watched 'The Power of One' live performance they were motivated and inspired to take action. A small group designed a child friendly Anti Bullying Policy poster, which will be on display



around the school when they have been agreed by the School Council. The children have really grasped the 'several times on purpose' rule (STOP) and have been very mature differentiating between bullying and unkind behaviours.

Mr Paul Chadwick and Trees for Dorset planted a tree to mark being part of The Greenwood Tree Academy Trust. The other schools also planted a tree. Children in Milborne voted for the type of tree they would like to plant after research and discussion. A maple tree was the final result.

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

*See also page 31.*

## CONTACTS

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

**Headteacher:** Mrs Sharon Hunt      **Secretary, School Office:** Mrs Joanne Norman

**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](http://www.milbornestandrew.org.uk)

## COUNCILS

|   |                      |              |
|---|----------------------|--------------|
| North Dorset District Councillor  | Emma Parker          | 01258 881631 |
|   | Jane Somper          | 01258 471089 |
| Parish Council – Dewlish  | Clerk: Sandra Sims   | 01258 837132 |
|   | Chair: Andrew Booth  | 01258 837284 |
| Parish Council – Milborne St. Andrew  | Clerk: Colin Hampton | 01258 837011 |
|   | Chair: Jenny Balcon  | 01258 837121 |
| <b>Floods</b> A354 problems contact the Highways Agency   |                      | 03001 235000 |
| Dorset Direct   |                      | 01305 221000 |
| <a href="mailto:dorsetdirect@dorsetcc.gov.uk">dorsetdirect@dorsetcc.gov.uk</a> <a href="http://www.dorsetforyou.com/reportroadproblems">www.dorsetforyou.com/reportroadproblems</a> |                      |              |
| Environment Agency Floodline  |                      | 08459 881188 |
| South West Highways <a href="mailto:hello@swhitd.co.uk">hello@swhitd.co.uk</a>  |                      | 01404 821500 |
| Wessex Water Sewerage Floodline   |                      | 03458 505959 |

## 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 (Secretary)         | Brian Burton   | 01258 839033 |
| Under 5's Group – The Busy Bees | Leanne Brown   | 07899 808185 |
|                                 | Julianne 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           | Sally Dyer      | 01258 837061 |
| Milborne Players             | Roy Sach        | 01258 837033 |
| Ranters' Folk Session        | Roger Harrall   | 01258 837371 |
| Round Robin Ramblers         | Ian Bromilow    | 01258 880044 |
| Village History Group        | Pam Shults      | 01258 837203 |

## 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 |
| Pilates (school)            | Claire Barratt  | 07540 626174 |

## Football – Under 12s

|                        |                        |              |
|------------------------|------------------------|--------------|
| Chairman               | Joy Robinson           | 01258 837661 |
| Manager/coach          | Andy Brown             | 07427 503373 |
| Treasurer              | Simon Buckingham       | 01258 839122 |
| Running Group          | Anne-Marie Pearson     | 01258 837057 |
| Skittles – Dewlish     | Frank Ross             | 01258 837366 |
| Sports Club            | Chairman: Richard Lock | 01258 837929 |
|                        | Bookings: Richard Lock | 01258 837929 |
| Table Tennis           | Pauline Pitfield       | 01258 839123 |
| Tap Dancing for Adults | Libby Goodchild        | 01305 268029 |
| Tennis                 | Dennis Nelson          | 07805 296535 |
| 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:           | Pam Shults    | 01258 837203 |
| Booking Secretary:  | Alison Riddle | 01258 837030 |

## 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 |

The **MILBORNE PLAYERS** present:

# Jack and the Beanstalk

by Bradford and Webster

February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> 2017  
 Thursday & Friday at 7:30pm  
 Saturday at 2:30pm & 7:30pm

at Milborne St Andrew Village Hall

Tickets £7.00  
 Box Office 01258-839085

Jack and the Beanstalk: Script provided by Noda Pantomimes



# Community Events Diary

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

January 2017

- Wednesday 4th** **Wednesday Club New Year Party** Village Hall 2.00pm – see page 9.
- Friday 6th** **'Milborne Movies'** Eddie the Eagle (PG) Village Hall 7.30pm – see below and page 19.
- Monday 9th** **Village Lunch AGM** The Royal Oak 12.15pm everyone welcome to attend.
- Thursday 12th** **WI** with Tony Horrocks talking about 'Gemstones' Village Hall 7.30pm – see page 21.
- Saturday 14th** **Reporter** last date for the February issue. Please send copy (Word) and pictures (.jpg) via email to [msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk)
- Thursday 19th** **Gardening Club** talk on 'Gardening for Climate Change', Village Hall 7.30pm – see page 2.
- Saturday 28th** **Village Lunch** Village Hall 12.15pm – see page 2 for menu.

## Gardening questions

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

## Regular Bookings at the Village Hall

- Ladybirds Playgroup** Monday–Friday 8.30am–1.00pm MH (term time only)
- Beavers** Monday 5.00–6.30pm MH (term time only)
- Scouts** Monday 6.00–8.00pm CR/MH
- Players** Monday 8.00–10.00pm MH
- ABC Line Dancers** Tuesday 7.30–10.00pm MH
- Cub Scouts** Tuesday 5.45–7.15pm MH (term time only)
- 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 6.30–8.30pm (term time only)
- Circuit training** Thursday 6.30–7.30pm (term time only)

## January at the Sports Club

- Football** Saturday 2.00pm.
- 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 Leanne Brown on 07899808185.

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

## Advertising rate increase

THE Reporter will be increasing its advertising rates from 1st February 2017. This is our first increase for five years, and reflects our move to have more colour pages every month. It's still produced and delivered free to all residents of Milborne St. Andrew and at a small cost to others who express an interest.

We are a non-profit-making organisation and we keep a small reserve to hedge against increases in the cost of printing. In the past some of our trading surplus has been used to support village enterprises. Previously, the Scouts, May Fayre and Village Hall have received donations for particular items. The Reporter also sponsored the bench in the square.

The new rates are competitive for a publication with the regular readership we entertain, and are:

- Full page £210.00 p.a. / £42.00 per issue
- Half page £147.00 p.a. / £26.00 per issue
- Quarter page £78.50 p.a. / £13.50 per issue
- Eighth page £52.50 p.a. / £7.50 per issue
- Back page £375.00 per annum.



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on the BIG screen

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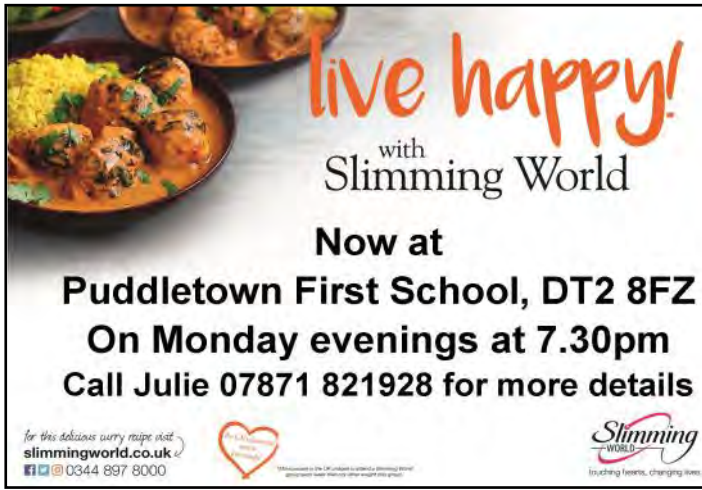

**Milborne Movies**  
Friday 6th January  
at 7.30pm  
Doors and Bar at 7.00pm



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WIN OR LOSE... ALWAYS AIM HIGH  
**EDDIE the EAGLE**  
"A FEEL-GOOD, CROWD-PLEASING TRIUMPH"  
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A FILM BY DAVID LEVIANSKY

Milborne St. Andrew Village Hall

Tickets £3.50



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## Anyone for Bridge?

THE Milborne St. Andrew social Bridge group is just coming up to our 4th anniversary. We meet in The Royal Oak on Thursday evenings when there is no scheduled 'Pie Night' or 'Theme Night', or Wednesday evenings if there is, starting at 7.00pm. There are currently around 12 members – some of who can only play on Wednesday and others who can only make Thursday but there are generally six to eight of us available each week.

The aim of the group is to provide an opportunity to learn and improve your playing skills in a social and 'blame free' environment. In line with the new year now is a good time for anyone with an interest in finding out about bridge to make a start by joining the group where you will be made very welcome. For anyone who has never played before instruction will be provided. In fact several of our 'regulars' had never played before joining the group but have enjoyed the way of learning and improving their game. There is no charge for joining or playing.

If you would like to try something new or to improve your playing skills by regular practice and would like more information please contact me, Laurie Benn, on 01258 837720 or by email at laurie@benn.me.uk

I look forward to hearing from you.

Laurie Benn

## 100 CLUB WINNERS

*The result of the draw on Tuesday 20th December will be published in the February Reporter*

The next draw is on Wednesday 8th February and then on the second Wednesday of each month at 8.00pm in The Royal Oak

*Everyone is welcome to attend.*

*New members always welcome.*

Payments may be made by cheque or standing order.  
Contact John Wright for details 01258 839090

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

## Where was the editor?

Mike Hopper and Ronald Hogg were the first people to tell the editor that this photo was taken in Icen Way, Dorchester, next to Woods Funeral Services.



# Spiced Seville Orange Marmalade

AS a child growing up in the 1950's, with a mother and father who both worked full time, I wasn't aware that marmalade could be home made. At home we alternated between Robertson's Golden Shred and Silver Shred, with an annual jar of Rose's Lime marmalade at Christmas time. Since retiring, I have discovered that home made marmalade is a special treat which is well worth the effort it takes to make.

Seville oranges are usually only available for a short time in January and early February, but if you are very busy at this time then they freeze perfectly. I like to use an electric citrus juicer to extract all the juice from the oranges and lemons; it does the job so speedily and most efficiently. However, although it is much quicker to slice or chop the orange peel by machine, I prefer to slice the peel by hand in the traditional way with a very sharp knife. I find it quite therapeutic; I think this is because it is one of those repetitive jobs when your thoughts can wander while your hands get on with the job almost automatically.

I try to pick a very wet, cold and dull day to make marmalade (not too difficult at this time of year) and then the wonderful scents of the warm Mediterranean seem to fill the house. Last year I listened to Desert Island Discs on BBC Radio Player while slicing and juicing. There is a huge archive of old recordings available going back over 60 odd years and I took a trip down memory lane listening to Jimmy Edwards's selection of recordings. I wonder if anyone else reading this remembers him playing the euphonium?

I make two batches of marmalade in January each year, one plain and one spiced, as they make good presents throughout the year but especially at Christmas time. Making marmalade is quite a long, sticky and often slightly messy process but I think the end result is more than worth it. Fans of Dame Maggie Smith may remember her in the film "Gosford Park" lifting the lid of the marmalade pot on her breakfast tray and saying "Bought marmalade . . . I call that very feeble"

## Ingredients

2lbs (900g) Seville oranges

4 pints (2.25 litres) water

1 lemon

4lbs (1.8kg) sugar

4 cloves

2tbs (30ml) black treacle

2oz (60g) stem ginger chopped finely

(If you prefer plain unspiced marmalade, just leave out the cloves, treacle and ginger. The quantities given here produce a very mild spiced effect which I think is quite acceptable at breakfast but the amounts of spices can be increased if you prefer a more pronounced flavour.)

6x1lb (450g) jam jars

Square of gauze

String

I use a gadget called a "thermospatula" (from Lakeland) for determining the setting point but this isn't essential, you could just use a jam thermometer. Refer to any cookbook or the internet for how to use cold saucers instead if you prefer, but be warned that this takes a lot more skill and experience to get the set just right.

## Method

Measure the water into a large preserving pan. Cut the fruit in halves and extract all the juice, add the juice to the water. Put any pips and pith into the square of muslin.

Cut the peel into quarters and then each quarter into thinnish shreds with a very sharp knife.

Add to the pan with the muslin square containing all the pips and pith tied round with string.

Bring to the boil and simmer uncovered for about two hours until the peel is soft.

Remove the pips and leave to cool.

Squeeze the pips over the pan to extract all the sticky pectin.

Add the sugar, cloves, treacle, and ginger. Stir over a low heat until all the sugar has dissolved.

Then bring to a fast boil and cook for around 15 minutes or until the marmalade reaches setting point – 104–106°C (220–222°F) when stirred with the thermospatula.

Remove from the heat and leave to settle for 20 minutes. Fish out the cloves.

Pour into sterilised jars, cover with lids or waxed discs and cellophane. Label when cool.

Happy New Year!



# Eddie the Eagle (PG)

shown by 'Milborne Movies'

at Milborne St Andrew Village Hall

on Friday 6th January 2017

at 7.30pm

EDDIE the Eagle is based on a true story of the first British skier to qualify for the Winter Olympics, the entirely self-funded far-sighted, plasterer who became an emblem for the British ability to fail heroically. Eddie follows the realisation of the childhood dream with his unflinching determination to become Great Britain's first Olympic ski-jumper and is reluctantly aided by former ski-jumper Bronson Peary as his coach. Begging and borrowing equipment, Eddie was the sole British entrant at the 1987 World Championships, where placing 55th was enough to see him through to the 1988 Winter Olympics in Calgary, Canada. Eddie takes on the establishment and wins the hearts of sports fans around the world by making an improbable and historic showing at the 1988 Calgary Winter Olympics.

Eddie is played by the Kingsman actor Taron Egerton in a very studied performance that replicates Edwards's clenched smile, jutting chin and wobble-board eyebrows, while Hugh Jackman plays Eddie's reluctant, whisky-swilling coach, Bronson Peary. They have great chemistry together, and their energy sparks up the screen. The jumps themselves are glorious: Fletcher has a brilliantly attuned sixth sense for what his audience wants to see at any given millisecond, and Eddie's final flight, from the 90-foot ramp at Calgary, is a mini-masterpiece of intuitive cutting.

With Fletcher's deft direction amplifying how crazily scary ski jumping is, and the Gary Barlow-curated atmospheric soundtrack often hitting an ascendant note, you'll find yourself feeling protective of the hapless competitor and in awe of his resilience. No matter how well or badly he performs. Eddie the Eagle is an uplifting, inspirational story that celebrates human spirit, passion, and one man's refusal to accept defeat.

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.

View the Reporter each month in colour

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

Reporter/index

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## New Hopes for the New Year

THANK you all for your support in voting for the Tesco Bags for Life grant. We have been awarded the full £1,200 which is fantastic. With this grant and using the money that we have raised through fundraising events, such as the Barn Dances and other social events, we have at last enough funds to purchase some new playground equipment. As you are aware we were unable to raise enough money towards a whole new playground so decided to try for one piece of equipment at a time. Following consultation it was agreed to go for one 'special young explorer multi-play structure' supplied by Wicksteed. We have ordered this item and now have to wait for it to be delivered and constructed. Once that has all been paid for then we will apply for more funding to replace some of the old equipment which is still on site. I can't believe how long these processes take but hopefully by the summer we will have a new piece for the

younger children to use.

**Please can anyone help?** The hall needs to have a building survey to ensure that all is sound and if not to give priority to areas that need addressing. Do you know anyone who can help? If so please contact the hall secretary, Sarah Ryan on 01258 839230.

*Pam Shults*

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## Reach for the Sky – everything is possible

Eventually and not always how we originally attended!

Who would have thought that we could get a Pavilion booking for regular Pets 1st Aid Training days (pet manikins provided), possibly puppy training classes and another for two sessions of Yoga per week? What they were both impressed with was the view, the accessibility of the site, the facilities on offer and of course the charm of mine host.

We are also very lucky to have some “Local Champions” who support our cause and our very existence, particularly John and Charlotte Martin at Deverell Farm. Richard Ferguson at Milborne Business Centre is another local champion and he has offered us the use of his car park next to the Sports Club for car booting, so that might kick off in the spring.

Dorset Training Ltd who operate from Deverell Farm have now found us and we have six courses booked in for December and more in the pipeline. Dorset FA will be running seven courses in May, one appropriately on safeguarding, we have a wedding reception booked in for June and the Wessex Harriers booked in for a weekend of camping, walking and partying, not necessarily in that order but if you see 100 walkers staggering around the countryside you will know where to direct them back to.

Speaking of Champions, as I was before being diverted by the Wessex Harriers, we have had some success at the Parish Council and the U12 Football are doing extremely well. The Parish Council have awarded the Sports Club Committee a grant of £900 and the committee are hoping to match that with a grant from the Dorset FA so that much needed works and repairs can be undertaken to the Pavilion itself. The green bit outside is OK for now but new mowers and rebound fencing are on the list. (Michael Miller and his sheep and passing motorists dodging disgruntled goalies retrieving balls from Lane End please note!). We have a new member on our Committee so we are now up to six. Ron is new to the village having just moved into Pat Tribe’s old house and he is keen to help and his previous facilities management skills with an international company are about to be put to the test (no money, we are still having to pay off a £1,900 utility bill debt inherited from the distant past 2013–14 and plenty to do).

Paul is also producing a simple questionnaire using surveymoney.com which is a cunning plan to find out exactly what you would like to see at the sports ground. So please wait and see with baited breath, that is on the way. Even something as simple as being able to see in the dark so some PIR lighting around the Pavilion and car park will be taken on board.



One last exciting thing to leave you all with is that the Committee are pushing hard to have the site dedicated as a Centenary Space. This Centenary initiative is a joint venture with the Royal British Legion and was kicked off with the Poppys at the Tower. Open spaces which have a link back to the 1914–18 conflict are now included. The Milborne football

team was started in 1912, and 20 young men from the adult population died and a further one in WW2.

We have been told by the Centenary Trust that we can apply and would be an ideal participant. The Sports Club stands ready to take on this challenge if and when the Parish Council decide that it is appropriate to do so. A decision was deferred at the last PC meeting with a request for more information which has now been provided.

The Sports Club committee accept that the fundamental acceptance criteria is conditional on the site being accessible to the local community and focused on the provision of outdoor recreation sport or play. It is not about protecting a football pitch.

Paul, a serving officer in HM Forces, who was at the Remembrance Day Service has some exciting ideas as to how that can best be achieved going forward. So some more blue sky thoughts, maybe some kite flying too, look forward to seeing both up at the recreation field.

## Hot off the Press – Breaking News from Sport England (Dec 2016)

‘This Girl Can’ campaign

Figures show a surge in the number of women playing sport and getting active.

More than 7.2 million women now play sport and do regular physical activity – 250,000 more than when the campaign was launched.

Exercise classes, like spinning, pilates and boxercise, continue to attract large numbers of people, especially women.

Umm something else to add to the pot.

*Richard Lock*

## Enjoying Christmas fun together . . . at the December WI

OUR President, Jenny Preston, welcomed us to our Christmas meeting. A small amount of business was efficiently disposed of, thanks expressed to June for organising the Christmas lunch in January and to Lesley for all her hard work with the skittles team this year. Looking ahead, the programme team have met and are well on the way to producing next year’s events, more details next month. We are reminded to bring along our voting slips to the January meeting, for the next round of WI Resolutions.

We were more than happy to follow traditional party lines with our Christmas entertainment. Each forfeit in Pass the Parcel landed on Jenny’s lap – all down to the music – but she rose to the occasion each time. Irish bingo was new to most of us, but proved to be good fun. Sadly, this was closely followed by an intelligence test – producing many futile attempts but well done to Veronica and Jill who saw through most of the questions. After that, time for a break for all of us except June, who entertained us with her reading of some humorous poems. Thanks were expressed to those who had organised our entertainment. Our WI Christmas supper is always worth waiting for and we went on to enjoy much delicious food and good company in a relaxed atmosphere.



Nelda was delighted to confirm that we had collected over £87 for the Women’s Refuge in Dorchester, our chosen charity this year.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, 12th January, with Tony Horrocks talking about ‘Gemstones’. The exhibition will be for an ‘Old piece of family jewellery’. We hope everyone had a peaceful and happy Christmas and look forward to meeting up again in the New Year

*Pat Bull*

### Your Reporter needs YOU!

We are in desperate need of someone to help with writing articles and stories and to gather news from around the village. We are desperate for someone to help the editor. If you would like to help then please contact any of the Reporter Team. If you require more information, then please feel free to contact the editor, David Payne on 837700.

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## A hedgehog anecdote

UP until the early 1970's there was a house and shop at the bottom of Blandford Hill nearly opposite the Post Office. (See postcard of that time) The building was for a while the front of Butler's garage and



petrol station that had a Fina and Regent glass sign outside. The bend outside this building was sharper than it is now and often vehicles would come down the hill too fast for the road. This brought about an event which I observed when some of the village 'ne'er do wells' engaged in a dangerous, but entertaining activity. They tied a piece of string to a divot of turf that looked somewhat like a hedgehog, and when a vehicle approached from the Blandford Forum direction they pulled it rapidly across the road, causing consternation and abrupt braking from the vehicle driver! At least they slowed down. Unfortunately, the building was partly demolished by a lorry that did not slow down, but ran into the building. It was then demolished completely by the council, the bend straightened a little and the road widened.

For those with an ongoing interest in the support of the hedgehog project in the village there will be a meeting in February when more information and activities will be available. There will also be the beginning of a map of the village, where sightings and numbers of hedgehogs will be recorded. Please expect details of this meeting in the February edition of the *Reporter* as well as other advertising material around the village.

*Philip Bowell*

## Advertise in the *Reporter* and get results

This publication relies on advertisers to pay for all production costs. If you reply to one of our advertisements, please mention that you saw it in the Milborne St. Andrew *Reporter*

## New Year, Old News

Milborne St. Andrew History Group has continued to grow and many people have attended the meetings held on the second Wednesday of the month in The Royal Oak starting at 7.30p.m. In the last year and a half we have had a total of 18 meeting. We have had outside speakers such as by our Roman expert, about the Halsewell wreck expert, by a Dorset Button historian and several others. Our own members have given talks on farming in the past, Weatherbury Castle, the War Commission graves, health throughout the ages, the old school reports, and other very interesting subjects.

For January's meeting on the 11th, Linda will give a talk on education and will focus on the school in Milborne referencing the old school's logbook. You may even recognise an ancestor of yours who used to get into trouble or know of their family and you will be fascinated at what punishment children were given and how the school was run. All are welcome, no membership is needed.

*Pam Shults*

## Can you identify where this is in Milborne?

Be the first to send your answer to [msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk) or give to any member of the *Reporter* team. *Reporter* team members can be found on page two.

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

Last month's answer can be found on page 24.



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**Deadline for the February Reporter is 14th January.**  
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### Did you identify this?

The photograph in the December Reporter was taken on  
Blandford Hill



Nobody came up with the correct  
answer.

Try your luck this month  
on page 23.











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## In your Garden

Seasonal notes and tips from Maureen Lock of *designerGardens*

### Boxing Clever (*Buxus sempervirens*)

THIS month, I have been asked the following question: ‘How do I prune, clip and shape box, and when should I do it?’ Box is one of our most popular plants so I’m sure this will be useful to many readers of this column.



Box *Buxus sempervirens* is an easy and adaptable plant that will grow in just about any soil other than waterlogged. It is traditionally used as hedging and in topiary arrangements – anything from ball, spirals, cones or any manner of

elaborate shapes. Box is easy to grow from cuttings so it’s always worth keeping a few spare in case you have any losses.

#### CONTAINERS

Box will grow well in containers but it will need more watering and feeding than a plant in the ground. It is best to pot the plant on (if you can) every two years to allow the root ball to increase in size as the plant grows. If you can’t do this, then you should apply a top-dressing of fresh compost annually. If the plant starts to show signs of stress, you may remove the plant from the pot, trim some of the roots and put it back with some fresh compost. Box hates its roots drying out and any pot – even large ones – will need to be watered as rainwater alone will not be enough.

If you decide to plant your containerised box plant into the ground it is important to water for the first couple of years after planting and especially if the plant is in a sunny or windy location. A good mulch of well-rotted manure or organic matter will help things along. The best time to plant out any plants is in the autumn/spring. *Never* plant if the ground is waterlogged or frozen, or in hot weather.



#### FEEDING

Box plants are hungry little devils and an application of a slow release fertilizer such as Osmacote (apply in March/April) or an application of Vitax Q4 will be ideal – check the dosage instructions on the packet.

#### TELL-TALE LEAVES

If the leaves start to look a bit coppery brown or develop cream/yellow tips, it is a sign that the box plant is under stress and lacking nutrients. This is especially noticeable in container-grown plants that haven’t been fed for two or three years. Brown leaves may be due to cold winds or hard frosts, but the leaves soon become green again when the weather warms up.



#### PRUNING

Box is generally pruned twice a year. The best time is the end of May/first week of June and a second trim in late September/October to tidy the plant for the winter months. Please note though that Box should *NEVER* be clipped or watered in hot conditions or bright sunlight.

**THE DREADED BLIGHT** – Box is one of our most popular plants – but it is affected by a number of different pests and diseases – not least the

dreaded box blight. Sadly there are no known Box blight resistance plants yet. There are a number of things you can do to lessen the impact such as creating more ventilation and allowing air to circulate more freely (pruning more than twice a year creates dense foliage and less air movement); remove and destroy affected plants; if the plants are mature you can try and save them by cutting out all the affected areas, clearing away *ALL* fallen leaves and treating with a fungicide. There is much more about Box Blight on the RHS website.



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## Round Robin Ramblers

### The local villages walking group

Walks are normally held on the first Sunday and the third Wednesday of each month. Please join us as we enjoy exercise, good company and the wonderful Dorset countryside. **Any questions, please feel free to contact: Ian Bromilow 01258-880044.**

#### Sunday 8th January – 1.30pm (note the earlier starting time) Bloxworth Woods

Meet outside the church in Bloxworth  
Grid reference: SY 881947 on OS Explorer Sheet 117 (approx. 4.5 miles)

#### Wednesday 18th January – 11.00am Ashmore Woods

Meet at the Washer's Pit entrance to Ashmore Woods, on the road from Fontmell Magna to Ashmore.  
Grid reference: ST 897167 on Explorer Sheet 118 (approx. 6 miles)  
Bring a packed lunch.

#### Sunday 5th February – 1.30pm (note the earlier starting time) Gore Hill and Up Cerne

Meet at the parking area near Gore Hill, above Hilfield Friary and west of Minterne Magna. (Off the A352 Cerne Abbas to Sherborne road)  
Grid reference: ST 769110 on OS Explorer Sheet 129 (approx. 4.5 miles)

#### Please note:

- Who** All welcome including well-behaved dogs and their responsible owners. No pre-booking required just turn up.
- Wear** Suitable clothing for wet conditions and location, walking boots or Wellington boots.
- Bring** Waterproofs and refreshments (packed lunch on Wednesdays).
- Pace** We go at the pace of the slowest.
- Terrain** Expect mud, inclines and stiles.
- Aim** Keep fit, enjoy the Dorset countryside and each other's company.
- Legal** We look after one another but in the end you are responsible for yourself.

## Is your mattress safe?

TRADING STANDARDS have been cracking down on rogue traders selling illegal mattresses after an increase in complaints from consumers about cheap mattresses sold online or from the back of a van.

The law requires that mattresses meet a level of fire resistance as laid down in the British Standard, however it does not require that mattresses have a label to that effect.

Rogue sellers may entice customers into thinking they are getting a bargain, for example by saying that they are selling clearance stock, or excess stock from a large hotel order.

The mattresses typically fail all fire safety tests as well as being filthy and unhygienic. The items are often old and discarded mattresses that have been recovered and repackaged to look new. Some of the more brazen traders are even using the logos of well-known manufacturers and retailers on their vans to further fool consumers into believing they are 'bagging a bargain'. Paper work given with the mattresses may contain limited or false information.

Dorset Trading Standards Service has on two separate occasions prosecuted traders for selling mattresses which when tested failed the fire safety tests. Devon and Somerset Trading Standards have issued warnings to residents as complaints about mattresses increased tenfold in the period from 2014 to 2016.

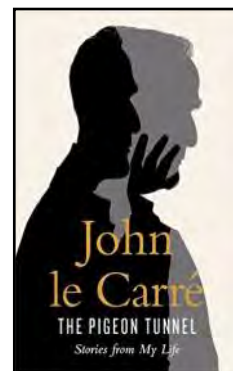
Dorset Trading Standards Service advise that you do not purchase goods or services from people who approach you in the street or from callers who cold call on your doorstep.

If you want to report concerns over mattresses, or if you would like advice about your consumer rights, then please contact the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on 03454 040506.

## A Good Read by Shirley Dunkley "The Pigeon Tunnel" by John Le Carre

JOHN Le Carre is one of our leading novelists who, in my view, has triumphantly proved that spy thrillers can be great literature. "The Pigeon Tunnel" contains selected incidents from an autobiography – he does not tell his life's story but recounts anecdotes from that life; the interesting people he has met, the difficult corners in which he has found himself.

Much of this he has already incorporated into his novel "The Perfect Spy", the most autobiographical of his books which used material from the memories here recounted of his early life, his father, his recruitment into MI5 and MI6 and his activities in Bonn in Germany. We already know that he was unofficially a spy, whose cover was a diplomatic life, and so the world of "Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy" is based on his own career. This book, "The Pigeon Tunnel" is one of the memoirs written in the same limpid elegant style as his fiction; no sentimentality, no overblown descriptions, above all, no clichés – the same distinguishing features that make the novels so memorable. The emotional restraint that he displays in all his fiction is also apparent here – no baring of the breast or passionate self-discovery but he applies to these scenes from real life and real relationships the same analytical coolness that George Smiley uses to untangle the intricacies of espionage. I am not implying that he spares himself from self-analysis, he can be very clear-eyed and even judgemental about his own faults, we just don't learn very much about what or whom he loves. For anyone who loves Le Carre (his pseudonym), the real David Cornwell offers the same pleasures, though I hope that someone has been commissioned to write a full, no holds barred, biography of this fascinating man.



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# Ofsted praise for Ladybirds

**MILBORNE Ladybirds was again judged to be 'GOOD' after their recent Ofsted inspection. The pre-school was praised for offering a 'stimulating environment' where children 'make good progress in their learning'.**

Ladybirds' staff, committee and children are celebrating following the publication of their Ofsted report. The one-day inspection took place in November with the inspector observing the activities undertaken by the children both indoors and outside. Ladybirds, led by Liz Dyer and her team of highly qualified staff were commended for having a 'good understanding of how children learn through play'. The team were praised for encouraging and developing children's creativity and for taking into account individual children's interests which helps them to be eager and excited to learn.

All aspects under inspection were judged to be good which included assessing the quality of leadership and management; teaching, learning and evaluation; personal development, behaviour and welfare. The inspector could see that Ladybirds help the children to develop good skills in readiness for starting school.

All the staff and committee are delighted with the report. The team work hard to ensure that they offer a nurturing, child-centred, play-based learning environment for the children of the village and local area and the inspector recognised this. To become an 'outstanding' setting, there are a couple of areas that need to be addressed, which will be done over the coming months. The overall impression the inspector gave was extremely positive - a great achievement for a highly-valued village amenity.

Ladybirds is run from Milborne St. Andrew Village Hall and we are open on Monday and Tuesday from 9.00am to 2.30pm and Wednesday to Friday from 9.00am to 1.00pm, with an early-bird session from 8.30am if required. Please get in touch to arrange a visit and find out more about us. We welcome children from the age of two to five. Our website address is [www.milborneladybirds.com](http://www.milborneladybirds.com) or search for Milborne Ladybirds on Facebook.

The full report can be downloaded from the Ofsted website at: <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report/provider/CARE/EY217717>

Or by searching on the Ofsted website using the Unique Reference Number (URN): EY217717 *Ladybirds Committee*



*Some Ladybirds children spell out the good news.*

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

# Village Christmas Lunch

AS many of you know a village lunch is held in the hall on the last Saturday of each month. The food is supplied and delivered by The Royal Oak. This Christmas we had forty-six diners happily working



*Photos: above and below. Diners having finished off their turkey and Christmas pudding and now waiting for their tea or coffee and then the raffle.*

*Bottom: The raffle prizes waiting to be won, including a £25.00 M&S voucher, bottle of whisky and chocolates.*



their way through a turkey lunch with all the trimmings, followed by Christmas pudding. As we drank our tea or coffee the famous balloon raffle again took place, to the accompaniment of loud bangs and great hilarity. Thank you to all who came to make it such a happy event.

The annual general meeting of the village lunch takes place at The Royal Oak on Monday 9th January. Everyone is welcome to attend even if you have not been to any of the lunches. *Josie Wright*





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



## The year ahead

What are your hopes and dreams for the year ahead?  
Where do they find their roots?

What expectations do you have of yourself and of others?

The wise men of the Nativity story didn't know where they would finish up when they began following the star, but they kept going because they believed that was the right thing to do.

I'm sure they didn't expect their journey's destination to be where it was. But they took it in their stride and recognised something in the child they visited, because they ended up "paying him homage", and also obeyed the dream that told them to go home a different way from the one they had come.

Although we always wish people a "Happy New Year" - and I'm sure we sincerely hope that that will be the case when we utter those words - we also know that many of us will face less than joyful times as well as good ones. Because that's what happens in life.

We may need to change our expectations or postpone our dreams and hopes for a while. We may, like the wise men, have to follow a different route from the one we had intended. It can be difficult to let go of the plans we have made when something comes and knocks them off course.

In this Epiphany season, Christians focus on how God shows love to the world. One aspect of that ism that God never deserts us, even though it sometimes feels to us as if he is far away. But that is our perception and not the truth of the matter.

I am reminded of the words that George VI used in his Christmas speech of 1939, when the future was completely unknown because of the Second World War. He quoted the words of Minnie Haskins, a missionary, poet and teacher:

I said to the man who stood at the Gate of the Year,  
'Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown.'  
And he replied, 'Go out into the darkness, and put your hand into  
the hand of God.

That shall be better than a light, and safer than a known way.  
My hope for 2017 is that whatever we face, good or more difficult, we will know that we can indeed put our hand into the outstretched hand of God and know that he walks with us whatever befalls.

With all good wishes for the coming year

*Sarah Hillman*

## Dewlish Church Notes

OUR Christmas Bazaar was a great success, raising £543.57 for church funds with still some money to come. A big thank-you to all who gave so generously, with donations of things for the stalls and raffle (wonderful prizes), and for coming and spending so well.

All Saints has had a good year financially, helped by four weddings and some good fundraisers. So, on that note, we wish you all a happy and healthy 2017.

*Daphne Burg*

## News from St. Andrew's Church

A very happy New Year to everyone. I hope that all those who came to Milborne enjoyed our Christmas services. We were very pleased to have the school in church for their carol service. This was the week after we had taken our final 'Open the Book' story to school when, as usual, many of the children were keen to take part as shepherds and angels in 'The Shepherds' Tale', the Nativity story as told by a shepherd. As in previous years we are very grateful to Peter and Shirley Jackson who for many years have arranged with Lloyd Fraser for a Christmas tree to be displayed at the school and then brought to St. Andrew's at the end of term. We are very grateful for this gift which greatly enhances our Christmas decorations.

In November we were very pleased to see everyone who came to our successful Christmas Market which raised nearly £900 for church funds. We still have a long way to go before we have enough to start repairing the roof, though. As you can see, (page 3) Father Christmas enjoyed some mulled wine, though it was too difficult to feed mince pies through his beard!

The end of the year is a good time to give thanks to everyone who helps to keep our church and churchyard clean and tidy. We are especially grateful to Maurice Fox who has kept the grass under control for many years but must now regretfully give up. There are too many others to mention here by name, but not so many that we don't need more volunteers in all departments! If anyone can join our monthly working party on the first Saturday morning of each month or join one of the teams doing weekly jobs in the church such as

## CHURCH SERVICES January 2017

### 1st January – Naming and Circumcision of Jesus

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

### 8th January – Epiphany

|        |                          |                           |
|--------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 8.15am | 1662 Said Communion      | Puddletown                |
| 9.30   | United Methodist Service | Topuddle                  |
| 9.30   | Parish Communion         | Milborne                  |
| 11.00  | Puddletown Praise        | Puddletown<br>Church Room |
| 11.00  | Parish Communion         | Dewlish                   |

### 15th January – Epiphany 2

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

### THURSDAY 19th January

|        |                      |            |
|--------|----------------------|------------|
| 12noon | Lunch-time Communion | Puddletown |
|--------|----------------------|------------|

### 22nd January – Epiphany 3

|        |                     |            |
|--------|---------------------|------------|
| 9.30am | Go Fourth           | Tolpuddle  |
| 9.30   | Parish Communion    | Milborne   |
| 11.00  | 1662 Morning Prayer | Puddletown |
| 11.00  | Family Communion    | Dewlish    |

### 29th January – Presentation of Christ

|       |                                |           |
|-------|--------------------------------|-----------|
| 10.00 | United Benefice Holy Communion | Tolpuddle |
|-------|--------------------------------|-----------|

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

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

### Do you need a lift to church?

If you have difficulty getting to church or need transport when the Benefice Service is at another church, we can arrange transport for you. Please contact John on 839090.

### Church Contacts

Vicar Sarah Hillman 01305 848784  
E-mail: sarah.c.hillman@tesco.net

#### Churchwardens

#### Milborne St. Andrew

John Wright 839090

Pam Shults 837203

#### Dewlish

Jim Burg 837466

Sue Britton 837218

#### Benefice Office

Emma Hughes

puddletownbenefice@outlook.com  
or by telephone on 01305 849039

cleaning or flower arranging you will be most welcome – there is no shortage of work to be done!

Something that we have got to do in the coming year is make sure that the diocesan Churchyard Regulations are adhered to. I am afraid that there are a number of graves that do not conform to the regulations and will need attention from those responsible. A copy of the regulations can be seen in church on the noticeboard by the font.

### Christingle

In St Andrew's Church last month we held our annual Christingle service. Eighty-five people came, thirty-five of them children. Before the service started the children made their own Christingles. We sang carols and heard again the Christmas story. Towards the end of the service all the Christingles were lit and the lights switched off as we said a prayer.



The Christingle is an orange representing the earth and a candle for



Jesus the light of the world. The red ribbon, his blood because he died for us and the four sticks loaded with sweets and fruit point in all four directions to symbolise the fruits of the earth.

The tradition of children making Christingles at this time of year started over 250

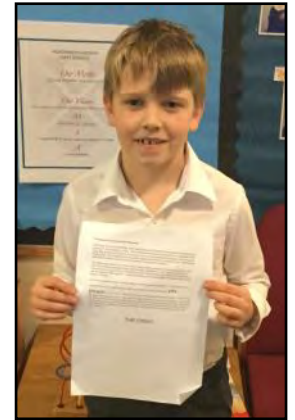


years ago. All money collected is sent to The Children's Society, who support needy children in England and Wales. This year we collected a total of £81.00

*John Wright and Pam Shults*

## December winner of the Milborne School Writing Competition 'The Secret Door' by Samuel (Year 3)

One sunny day, Emma and Ben were walking the dog. Suddenly, the dog started barking at a magic door hidden in a tree. They opened the door and it took them to a magical world. They were excited but nervous at the same time. As they followed the corridor they came to another door which opened onto a gigantic castle of teeth! Ben exclaimed "cool!" and Emma said open-mouthed "amazing!" As they went in they were shrinking! The castle was made from millions of tiny teeth which sparkled and shone like pearls. Ben and Emma were amazed at what they now saw, there was a room teeming with what looked like tiny flying humans. One of them flew down to them and asked "Do you want to see our leader?" Ben said "err . . . yes" hesitatingly. One second later they were flying in the swarm of fairies. In five seconds they were with the leader, it was the queen of fairies. "I am the tooth fairy" she said. Would you like to come with me to visit your friend Samuel? "yes please ok, let's go . . ." She took them by the hand and they flew away, in one minute we were at Samuel's house. They flew in to Samuel's room, he was fast asleep. They found his tooth and the tooth fairy pulled a pound coin from her pocket and laid it under the pillow. In one minute they were all back at the castle. They came to the front door and the tooth fairy said let's put Samuel's tooth as the new door knocker, and so they did, and it's still there now.



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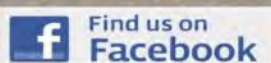


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*New Years Day*  
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*12noon til 4.00pm*  
*Tuesday 3rd*  
*Closed from 6.00pm*  
*Thursday 12th*  
*Chinese Theme Night*  
*£9.95 all you can eat*  
*Thursday 26th Pie Night*  
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