

THE MAN REVEALED Win this book, see page 23

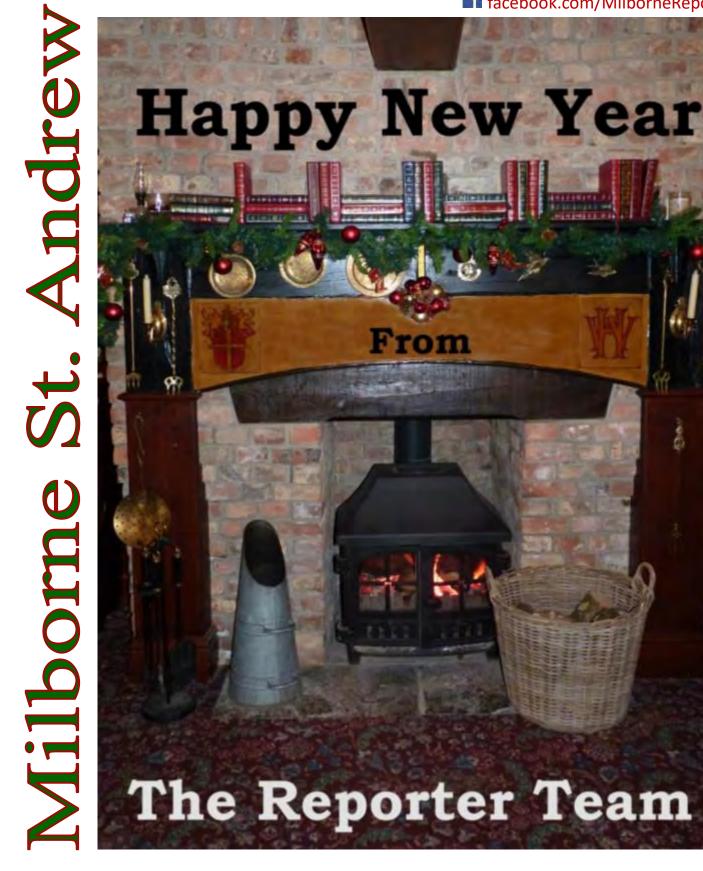


Volume 10 Issue 1

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January 2018

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The Reporter team would like to wish all our readers, advertisers and contributors a very healthy and peaceful New Year

## **VILLAGE LUNCH**

To be held at the Village Hall on Saturday 27th January from 12.15 to 2.00pm Wine (£1.00 per glass) or fruit juice Lamb hotpot with carrot and swede mash Sticky toffee pudding with custard Mints and coffee or tea Vegetarian option available £7.00 per head

#### Prior booking essential by Monday 22nd January

everyone welcome young and old alike Tickets and more information available from Josie Wright 839090

### Village lunch AGM

To be held at The Royal Oak on Monday 15th January at 12.15pm *Everyone welcome* 

#### Your *Reporter* Team

Janet Allen, Linda Constant, Pete Constant, Carole Fornachon, Heather V. Hogg, David Payne, Ed Richards, Susan Wilson, Jo Whitfield, John and Josie Wright Advertising: Ed Richards 01258 837907 (07843 018007) Advertising renewals: Pete Constant 01258 839246 (daytime) Distribution: Janet Allen 01258 837551 Editor: David Payno 01258 827700. Assistant Editor: Io Whitfield

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

E-copy as .doc or .pub files, pictures as .jpg files please. Paper copy to any of the team

## News from 100 Club

THE Milborne 100 Club has now been under new management for a year. We will be holding our **AGM at the Sports Pavilion at 8.00pm on Wednesday 10th January** when the first draw of 2018 will be made. We need to have a good turnout of those who want to keep the club going so that we can gauge the level of support for the club and to get some feedback about how it is working. Last month we dropped a flyer through every letterbox in the village to make sure that everyone knows how the club is now run. We will welcome all new and lapsed members as we would like to have more tickets in each draw. *Paul Sutcliffe, Andy Mott, John Wright* 

## A Good Read Fludd by Hilary Mantel

THIS slim (192 page) witty novel, written in 1989, is set in a dismal, dead end, superstition ridden village called Fetherhoughton within which



pulses the powerful images of Catholicism. It is 1956 and a long standing rivalry between the monstrous Mother Perpetua, headmistress of St Thomas Aquinas School and Father Angwin, the bibulous Catholic priest threatens to boil over. He has lost his faith and is being harried and bullied by an unsympathetic, ambitious bishop who forces him to destroy all the saints' statues in the church. On a

rainy night a new priest arrives assumed by all to be the new curate come to assist Father Angwin. Suddenly miracles occur. The Housekeeper, Agnes and a young nun, Philomena are uplifted by this new arrival. It is a transformational story with a touch of the supernatural. Hilary Mantel has achieved a light and incredibly funny narrative likely to have you laughing out loud. *Carole Fornachon* 

## Village Hall and grounds are invaluable village facilities

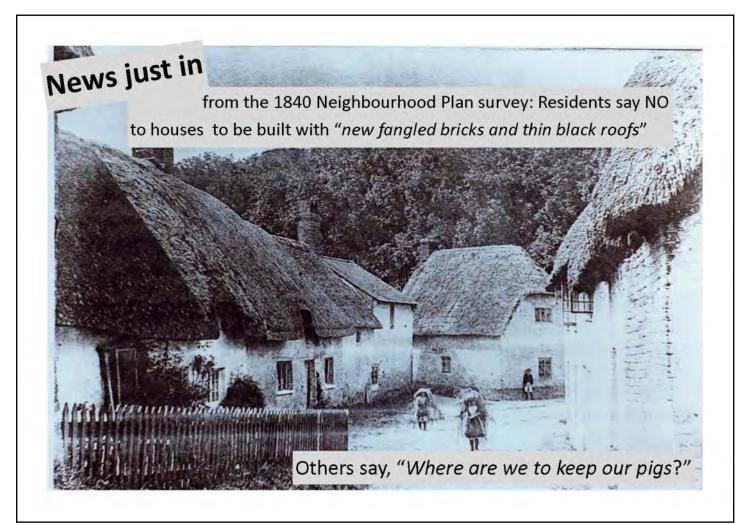
THE Village Hall Committee wish everyone a Happy New Year. We look forward to helping hall users to get the most from hiring the facilities, attending functions (such as the film nights) and in using the field, playground and MUGA.

We also need to provide the users of the hall with car parking and at the moment this is not happening. The committee do try to ensure that parking is available but unfortunately there are several local car owners who regularly park in the car park; some of who do respect the notice which is put out to notify of an event but this does not always work. So if you are someone who regularly parks in the village hall car park, please respect the fact that hall users have priority.

Reflecting over the last year, many positive things have been achieved. The young children's explorer equipment was installed; the Sensory Meadows including the walking field, cycle track and 'furniture' were established; the outside of the hall was painted, the flat roof repaired and following a survey smaller works carried out, a dishwasher was bought and is now used regularly. That is just a list of the big things that have been accomplished.

Sadly, over the last year we lost several key members of the committee and although we really miss them, we wish them well. But the members who are left, remain dedicated and active for which, as chair, I am very grateful. I would also like to thank those volunteers who have helped over the last year and many thanks to our cleaner who does a wonderful job.

The committee look forward to the new year and hope that our ongoing work to keep the hall and facilities functioning is successful and appreciated by all. *Pam Shults* 



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beds, en-suite bathrooms and are tastefully refurbished to a very high standard. Aga cooked breakfast served in the conservatory under an old grape vine.

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## **Royal British Legion Act of Remembrance and Poppy Collection 2017**

I WISH to thank everyone who attended this year's Acts of Remembrance on the 11th and 12th November 2017 at the memorial stone.

I wish to thank the Rev Rosie Coldwell for leading our prayers, Lt Cmdr. Dyer RN for laying the wreath on behalf of the Royal British Legion. Wreaths were

also laid on behalf of the Scouts and the Sports and Social Club. Mrs June Maitland read the poem by Lt Col John McCrae 'In Flanders Field' written on the 3rd May 1915 at Essex Farm Advanced Dressing Station, Ypres, Belgium. The 3rd May 1915 coincidently was also the day a grand uncle of mine was killed not two miles from Essex Farm. I am sure there are many, many families in this community that have lost someone during the many conflicts whose names may not be recorded here in Milborne St. Andrew but are still remembered with pride and sadness. More of this later.

Mr Adrian Hodges read out the names recorded on the Roll of Honour. Following this Capt. Edward Ebbern, Royal Wessex Yeomanry gave the exhortation of the Royal British Legion:

"At the going down of the sun and in the morning. We will remember them."

This is taken from Laurence Binyon's "For the Fallen" and is considered a tribute to all casualties of war, regardless of nation.

Mr Steve Hiscock recited The Kohima Epitaph:

"When You Go Home, Tell Them of Us and Say, For Their Tomorrow, We Gave Our Today"

The epitaph is carved on the memorial to the 2nd British Division in the war cemetery at Garrison Hill, Kohima and has become worldfamous as the Kohima Epitaph. The verse is attributed to John Maxwell Edmonds (1875–1958), and is thought to have been inspired by the epitaph written by Simonides to honour the Spartans who fell at the Battle of Thermopylae in 480 BC.

I would also like to thank Mr Tony Senior for his help on the day. A special mention should be given to the Milborne St. Andrew Scouts and Cubs who were particularly helpful and I wish to praise their attendance on the day.

#### **Poppy Appeal**

Whilst we could not cover the whole of the village with house to house collection I was helped by Mrs Rose Frost, The Post Office, The Royal Oak, Grays Stores, St. Andrew's congregation in collecting this years Poppy Appeal. The sums collected are as follows, Thank you so much.

The Post Office	145.51
The Royal Oak	22.80
Grays Store	184.54
Mrs Frost	40.74
Mr Hopper	48.97
St Andrews	<u>165.00</u>
	£607.56



#### Wills and Power of Attorney

AGE UK Dorchester is holding an **Information Event** to de-mystify the subject of **Wills and Lasting Powers of Attorney**.

If you wish to understand whether you need a Lasting Power of Attorney, and to make a Will, **Christine Butterfield, Senior Associate Solicitor at Battens, solicitors**, will be providing a talk on the subject on **Monday 5th February 2018 at 10.00am** at Rowan Cottage, 4 Prince of Wales Road, Dorchester, DT1 1PW.

No need to book . . . just turn up.

## 11th November 2018 – 100th Anniversary of the Armistice of the First World War

Next year's Act of Remembrance will fall on Sunday the 11th November which exactly coincides with the date that at 11 o'clock the guns fell silent across the western front. It is hoped that many of the organisations within the village will honour the memory of the millions that were killed or injured in both mind and body; not only in that war but every conflict since. It would be fitting to see each organisation lay their own wreaths or make a mark of respect in their own way on the day. Just ideas at the moment.

I am hoping that as a community we can mark the occasion in a fitting and special way next year and therefore I shall be asking for suggestions on how we can all mark the anniversary.

Some suggestions already in are to hold a curry dinner in the Village Hall, another is for some sort of recognition, in say the *Reporter*, of those family members, who whilst not recorded here in Milborne are known to us in the village. I spoke of one of mine earlier in this report. Nearly every family throughout the UK, the island of Ireland and the Commonwealth was touched in some way by the First World War. And in the spirit of reconciliation we should also recognise the losses by our foes.

#### **One Note of Disappointment - Again**

Mr Ian Rogers is contracted by the Parish Council to cut the grass and generally tidy up at the Memorial Stone. Ian always goes the extra mile by keeping that area in the best condition possible not only for the Act of Remembrance but also throughout the year. It is however disappointing to report yet again that not only has Ian to deal with the leaves and grass but with the increasing amount 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 and also to mark the Queen's Golden Jubilee.

However, there is persistent lack of respect in this village by a few people who cannot be bothered to give this area the dignity it deserves and continue to allow their dogs to foul the grass and surrounding area and deliberately do not pick up after their animals. I regret having to bring this to your attention again but I hope the message will get through. Michael Hopper

837642

## Milborne movies Lion

Showing at Milborne St. Andrew Village Hall 5th January 2018

Doors (and bar) open at 7.00pm and the film starts at 7.30pm Tickets (£3.50) can be obtained at the door

LION is based on a true story and stars Dev Patel (Best Exotic Marigold Hotel) and Nicole Kidman. It received six Oscar nominations, including Best Picture, Best Supporting Actor (Patel), Best Supporting Actress (Kidman) and Best Adapted Screenplay. It won two BAFTA Awards for Best Supporting Actor (Patel) and Best Adapted Screenplay.

Five-year-old Saroo gets lost on a train travelling away from his home and family. Frightened and bewildered, he ends up thousands of miles away, in chaotic Kolkata. Somehow he survives living on the streets, escaping all sorts of terrors and close calls in the process, before ending up in an orphanage that itself is not exactly a safe haven. Eventually Saroo is adopted by an Australian couple and finds love and security as he grows up in Hobart. As an adult, not wanting to hurt his adoptive parents' feelings, Saroo suppresses his past, his emotional need for reunification and his hope of ever finding his lost mother and brother. But a chance meeting with some fellow Indians reawakens his buried yearning. Armed with only a few memories and his unwavering determination, Saroo sets out to find his lost family and finally return to his first home. Sarah Ryan

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### Gardening Club in 2018



AFTER the Christmas break the Club is looking forward to another interesting and successful year in 2018. Our full programme is already planned with a mixture of activities This year there is a little more emphasis on the practical, with

demonstrations on seed sowing, using baskets and pots, walls and fences, and, in the autumn, putting the garden to bed.

We have not forgotten informative talks also, for example about Gertrude Jekyll, the famous plantswoman and designer, the beauties of a wild garden, and one about 'Naughty Plants'. If you are intrigued, come along in July and find out! And of course we are a sociable group and look forward to our annual lunch in February, an outing in June and a party in a garden in August.

There is also our annual plant sale in May for which some have already started to prepare and where lots of choice and bargains are always to be had as readers will know.

We start and finish the year with events organised by members. In January our meeting entitled 'Gardening with tea bags and other tales' starts with tips and a demonstration from Val on economical and eco-friendly seed sowing for the start of the year. Our last, in November will follow the AGM with, we hope, a showing and sampling of the resulting produce.

As ever, all our meetings are open to anyone interested, so see our adverts in the *Reporter* and Parish Magazine and do come along. Sally Dyer

## **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 4th January – 1.30 pm Briantspuddle Heath and Oakers Wood

Meet at the parking area on the heath, at the first main junction south of Briantspuddle. Grid reference: SY 815923 on OS Explorer Sheet OL 15 (approx. 4.5 miles)

#### Wednesday 17th January – 11.00am

#### Fontmell Down

Meet outside St Andrew's Church, Fontmell Magna Grid reference: ST 866170 on Explorer Sheet 118 (approx. 6.75 miles) Bring a packed lunch.

#### Sunday 4th February – 1.30 pm

Durweston and Bryanston Wood

Meet near Durweston Village Hall and School

Grid reference: ST 860084 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.

Deadline for the next issue is mid-day 14th January.

## Wednesday Club's Christmas Party

0N Wednesday 6th December 27 members of the Wednesday Club descended on The Royal Oak for our Christmas party. We began with a game of "Pass the Parcel" with forfeits which really put us in the party mood with lots of hilarity! We played games, sang carols led by José Thomas and enjoyed a tasty finger food buffet followed by trifle and Christmas cake, provided



by Sarah and staff. The highlight of the afternoon was a visit from Father Christmas who gave us each a special present (thank you Dave Andrews). We would like to thank the committee, especially Jenny and Sheila, for all their hard work in making the afternoon such a success.



Our next meeting is a week later than the usual first Wednesday of the month and will be on Wednesday 10th January when we are having a New Year's lunch at The Royal Oak meeting at 12.30 for 1.00pm.

It would be good to have some new

members in 2018. There is a varied programme of activities and events planned throughout the year and importantly there is a lot of fun, laughter and friendship. If you would like to come and try us out please give either Jenny Balcon a call on 837121 or Sheila Burton on 839033, you will receive a warm welcome.

We wish you all a very happy, healthy year in 2018. Lis Watts

## **Village History Group**

THERE was no meeting in December, everyone is so busy at that time of year that we decided not to meet. However, there will be a meeting on the 10th January at 7.30pm in The Royal Oak when we will continue to share facts that some members have found out about their properties or other interesting buildings in the village.

In the December *Reporter*'s article 'Lest we Forget – Memories of 1914–1918' on page 27, Rose Frost suggested sharing stories of family war heroes in the *Reporter*. If anyone would like help in writing something or help with researching then do come along to the meeting and some of us will be able to offer advice.

Please feel free to come along and meet others who have an interest in Milborne St. Andrew's history. We always look forward to hearing from people who have information but not been to the meetings before; no membership or regular commitment is required. *Pam Shults* 

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The Benefice of Puddletown,Tolpuddle and Milborne with Dewlish Part of The Church of England in The Diocese of Salisbury



#### THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN THE DIOCESE OF SALISI Hopes and dreams

What are your big dreams for the coming year?

I would love to see world peace; an end to poverty; no more human trafficking; refugees able to return home; access to healthcare, education, decent housing for all, and fragile relationships restored.

Wouldn't it be great, if all those things were to happen in 2018?

Sadly it is very unlikely that any of these things will occur. Our world and its people are broken in so many ways.

- There are different responses we can have to this situation. Some might be:
  There are such big issues, I can't make any difference at all, so I'll do nothina.
- I can't change worldwide problems, but I can do my best to make my home and community, my workplace, my school, wherever I find myself better through love, generosity and kindness.
- If I join with others together we might be able to change some of the bad things in the world.

I wonder which of those best represents your thoughts.

I can't believe that God, whose very character is love, can be unaffected by the hurting world and its people. Watching us mess up this beautiful world, causing anguish and sorrow to one another, must surely bring heartache for our Creator who treasures all that has been made.

Built into creation is the sense that to love means to set free. Giving us the freedom to make decisions about how we treat one another and the world is a sign of true love. God doesn't demand or force us to accept anything – that wouldn't be love.

Christians look to a time when all creation will be restored and transformed, where love and joy and peace will rule the hearts of all who dwell there – there's a lovely picture of this in the book of Revelation in the Bible.

In the meantime, we try (and often fail) to live by the values of Jesus Christ, who showed us what it means to love God and to love others.

One of my big dreams is that by encouraging all Christians to do that we can make a difference to this world where we live. And others may well want to join us in that. There is no monopoly on goodness, though only God's grace will open the gates of heaven to us. Love cannot be earned by good works.

With all good wishes for the coming year

Sarah Hillman

## St. Andrew's News

#### Christmas did have 'Christ' at our celebrations in Milborne St Andrew

THE annual Christmas market, run by the church, once again attracted a good number of people who did part with some of their money. The Events Committee did a wonderful job in organising the event and were able to promote our church's





Christmas services. Father Christmas arrived at the hall in one of the community police cars.

St. Andrew's held the benefice Christingle service at the beginning of December which was attended by 46 adults and around 30 children. Nearly all 50 oranges were turned into Christingles and lit later in the service whilst we all sang. The children were very

## Church Services January

#### 7th January – Epiphany

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

#### 14th January – Epiphany 2

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

#### THURSDAY 18th January

12noon Lunch-time Communion Puddletown

#### 21st January – Epiphany 3

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

#### 28th January – Presentation of Christ

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

#### Morning Prayers (Monday – Thursday

8.15am. Saturday 9.00am)					
Monday – Puddletown	Tuesday – Milborne				
Wednesday – Dewlish	Thursday – Tolpuddle				
Saturday – Puddletown					

### **Church Contacts**

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

#### Churchwardens

 Milborne St. Andrew

 Pam Shults
 01258 837203

 Dewlish
 01258 837466

 Jim Burg
 01258 837466

 Sue Britton
 01258 837218

#### Benefice Office

Emma Hughes puddletownbenefice@outlook.com or by telephone on 01305 849039



#### 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.



good during the brief service that followed the crafting and enjoyed the singing of carols and in watching the Bible Society's Christmas video called 'The Greatest Journey'. These video clips are accessible on line at the Bible Society website (https:// www.biblesociety.org.uk/get-involved/christmas/the-greatestjourney/) or on YouTube - (https://www.youtube.com/watch? v=ggFqPfbry\_o) and are great fun to watch. So, if you missed the delivery during the service or want to see it again do access it onto your computer or tablet. As the children left they were given a copy of the accompanying illustrated book. The Advent Angel trail was launched at the end of the service. Children were invited to find numbered pictures of angels displayed in windows throughout the village. The plan is that the child who has found the most will receive a prize at the Christmas morning service, or if more than one child has the same results, then the winner will be established through a draw.

As I write this the church is preparing for the Carol Service, the Midnight Eucharist and the Christmas morning service. I am looking forward to hearing the 'scratch choir' sing three choral pieces during the Carol Service, one of which was composed by our own Rosie Coldwell. During this service carols will be sung by the congregation who will raise joyous voices to proclaim the arrival of baby Jesus. For me, Christmas starts with the Midnight Eucharist and I know many families enjoy the Christmas morning service both of which I am sure will be as good as ever.

All of the Parochial Church Council hope that you have a happy, prosperous and healthy 2018. Don't forget that all are invited to join in our regular Sunday services. Have you been to our Celebrate Service? Do come along and see what we get up to. *Pam Shults* 

### **Dewlish Church Notes**

MANY thanks to all those who supported our Christmas Bazaar. Once again we had lovely donations for the stalls and raffle and also monetary donations. Thank you, all. We raised £485.74 for church funds – much-needed money when our outgoings are £11,000 a year. Daphne Burg



## Christingle at St. Andrews



ALTHOUGH Christingle services have been taking place in England for more than 50 years, the idea of the Christingle actually began in Marienborn, Germany in 1747. At a children's service Bishop Johannes wanted to explain in a simple way the

happiness that had come to people through Jesus. He decided to give the children a symbol to do this.

In 1968, John Pensom of the Children's Society adapted Christingle and introduced it to the Church of England. This involved children decorating an orange which represents the earth, with a red ribbon for the blood of Christ, dried fruits and sweets for the bounty of the earth, and a candle which represents Christ, the light of the world.

This year we held our Christingle service in St. Andrew's Church on Sunday 3rd December. Just before 4 o'clock in the afternoon the excited children started to arrive with their mums and dads and grannies and grandpas.

The first task was making the Christingles at the craft table; there were other crafts available while they waited their turn, so we soon saw angels, cards and stars to add to our Christmas celebrations.



When all the Christingles were assembled, we returned to our seats as Sarah Hillman, our vicar, led the service. We heard the Christingle story; we watched a video from the Children's Society, and Rosie Coldwell played the organ for us as we sang. We joined in prayers for all the people of the world, and then we lit our Christingle candles. Then the lights were put out in the church as we sang, 'He's got the whole world in his hands', so the only light was the Christingle candles, flickering in the darkness, as we thought of Jesus, who looks after us all.

After the service, the children all received a story book and an angel trail form, to try to spy out angels at houses in the village – there is a prize for the child who finds the most!

When we looked back at our craft tables, we found the same smiling ladies, but now on the tables were refreshments, so we could have hot sausages, cakes and squash, before setting off home in the cold and dark.

So, our thanks to everyone who makes our Christingle service so special each year. 29 children came this year with 46 adults who gave £80 for the Children's Society, a charity which helps to give disadvantaged children and young people in this country the best possible chance in life. Josie Wright



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## Please help the editors

Please ensure that your anti-virus software is up to date before e-mailing. Copy should be sent as a Word (or other text file) and do not embed pictures, logos, etc. into the document.

It is really helpful if you send it in 9pt black and do not use underlining, UPPER CASE formatting (even for heading) or include any tables or graphics.

Photos should be sent as separate .jpeg files. Do not send articles or photographs by .pdf. All these things may seem small but it does make all the difference in time saved later.

## 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 2 No prize, just a bit of fun. Answer in the February Reporter. Last month's answer can be found on page 30

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## **Haggis Beef or Haggis Venison Wellington**

I EXPERIENCED my first Scottish Hogmanay getting on for half a century ago in the early 1970's and set off for my first ever visit to Scotland from York railway station. When we reached Edinburgh I thought it couldn't be much further but when, hours later, we changed trains at Aberdeen and set off towards Inverness I realised just how far north I was. As it grew dark the electricity failed on the train, and so in the pitch darkness, looking out from the train windows, I was aware that there were no other lights visible at all for miles and miles and miles. Scotland is a very big place. On reaching Keith station, eventually, I was



relieved to see a modern motorcar waiting to pick us up. By that time I had half expected to find an old-fashioned stagecoach and horses waiting!

This recipe was given to me in 1975 by my friend June who lived in Shetland for many years. It's good for a Hogmanay party, special New Year's Day dinner or Burns supper, especially if you are not sure if everyone likes haggis. In Scotland the main meal of the festive season has always been the New Year's Day dinner rather than the (English) Christmas Day dinner.

I've served traditional haggis, neaps and tatties at Burns suppers in the past and, although I love haggis, I've watched with embarrassment as some people struggle to eat it. A good way of serving haggis is as a canapé – just roll it into walnut sized balls, coat in egg and breadcrumbs and then deep fry. You can do this earlier in the day and then reheat in the oven for a few minutes. Skewer the haggis balls with cocktail sticks and hand them round to your guests. Wait until people pop them into

their mouths and then this is a good time to say "It's haggis balls!"

Burns night is held to celebrate Robert Burns' birthday on 25th January, which is a Thursday this year.

One January a few years ago, while shopping online for a large haggis, I noticed that there was a recipe competition launched by the McSweens Haggis Company. They were giving away some McSweens haggis (haggii? haggises?) as prizes, so (with her permission!) I emailed in June's recipe for Haggis Beef Wellington and kept my fingers crossed. Soon after the closing

date for the competition had passed I got an email informing me that I had been successful and was one of the lucky winners of a McSweens haggis product, and my prize would be delivered in time for Burns night. I was thrilled and imagined getting a monster chieftain sized haggis, so I started planning a big party with the magnificent haggis as the centrepiece. Alas, when my prize arrived it was a shrink-wrapped package of two tiny circles of sliced haggis, each not much bigger than a chocolate coin. Still, I was proud of winning a prize and the circles of haggis were very handy for spreading round the fillet for my Burns supper. I mixed them with some finely chopped fried mushrooms to make it go further – I think it must be my Yorkshire frugal heritage . . .

Haggis has quite a strong flavour and I think the reputation of its ingredients puts some people off. This recipe uses only a small amount of haggis and is a bit more acceptable to most Sassenachs. They can always scrape off the haggis and eat the meat!

Ingredients – for 6–8 people Fillet of beef or fillet of venison (if you ask the butcher for the thin end of the fillet, this will make it a bit less expensive) 125–150g per person is usually enough as there is haggis, mushrooms and pastry to bulk it up and the accompaniments it is served with are quite substantial. Haggis – can be mixed with finely chopped mushrooms fried in a little butter Frozen puff pastry – large 500g pack

. Beaten egg to glaze

Season the fillet of beef or venison with salt and pepper then sear in a very hot oiled frying pan

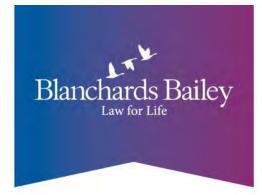
until very well browned on all sides. Allow to cool completely. Mix the cold uncooked finely chopped haggis with the finely chopped and fried mushrooms while the mushrooms are still warm, cool completely, ready to mould round and underneath the steak when it is sitting on the pastry. Roll out the pastry and wrap the steak and mushrooms/haggis into a neat parcel with the join underneath, sealing the edges with beaten egg. Mary Berry has a very good tip for making a neat parcel, which she demonstrated for her Venison Wellington on her recent TV series. Decorate with pastry leaves and then glaze all over with beaten egg and chill uncovered until ready to cook. Preheat oven to gas 7, 200°F, glaze the pastry again with the left over beaten egg then cook the Wellington for 30–40 minutes until the pastry is golden brown. If you prefer your steak well done then turn the oven down and cook for another 10 minutes, the timing depends on the thickness of the steak and your taste. Allow to stand in a warm place for no more than 30 minutes.

If you keep it warm for much longer than this then the pink colour disappears and the beef looks a bit grey, if this happens, just smile and tell your guests that this is the traditional Scottish way of serving the dish. Never apologise, just mutter "perfect" with every slice and with a bit of luck people will believe you.

I find it helps to serve copious whisky drams before the meal, also to quickly spoon on some of the whisky sauce to mask the grey colour. Serve with traditional well-buttered and peppered neaps, I prefer freshly ground white pepper rather than black in some dishes (funnily enough I've never seen a recipe asking you to use good old stale pepper from a pepper-pot) but I think this may still be allowed. White pepper is very unfashionable at the mo, but I love the spicy and hot flavour, it complements creamy mashed tatties, neaps and whisky sauce.

Happy New Year!





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### Snow at Ladybirds, despite the weather

IN the run up to Christmas we have read many stories for children relating to this time of year. So many of them have snowy scenes which most of our children have never experienced. So imagine the excitement of being told we were expecting snow – only to be disappointed that Dorset was one of the few places in Britain that didn't get any!

Not to be deterred we read the stories and made fake snow. It really is magic – just a spoon of powder and a little water transforms into wonderful fluffy snow. The children were really interested in the process and moved in to get a close look. They then emptied it into a tray where we added polar animals to





learn about who lives in snowy places.

As a group project the children created a snowy scene. The younger children dabbing white paint and others drew around stencils to add characters to the scene.

By the time this goes to print we will have had our Christmas party and good old Santa called in. Thank you to him for taking time out from his busy schedule to visit us.

All at Ladybirds hope you have had a Merry Christmas and 2018 brings happiness to all.

Liz Dyer



Registered Charity no. 1087441

## Milborne Ladybirds Playgroup

#### Ofsted reported

Ofsted registered no.217717

"Children demonstrate an eagerness to learn, gain control and coordination in their physical skills and become confident communicators"

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

#### Rated GOOD again by Ofsted

We have Highly qualified staff who using the ethos of learning through play help children to achieve their potential

Opening times: Monday & Tuesday 9.00 - 14.30 Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 9.00 -13.00 Term time only. Minimum attendance 3 hours per day starting at 9.00am

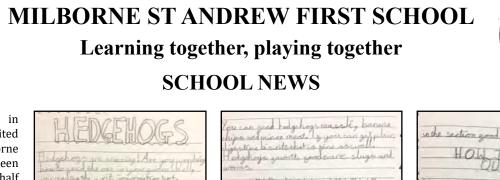
To find out more please contact Liz Dyer (Leader) 01258 839117; 07771 512427 or email liz@milborneladybirds.com Lucy Bishop (secretary) 07866 267044 www.milborneladybirds.com



We love learning in Puffins so we are excited to share what Milborne School children have been learning about this half term.

In KS2 we have been learning all about report writing including information text and have produced some amazing reports, fact files and information texts.

Look at this information text on taking care of hedgehogs by Tess in year 4.



afthe diggerent go

The Snow Queen

role indigetur on

HABITAT

FOOD

The children at their debut performance. They were amazing and all parents commented on it being a very successful show.

A DVD of all performances is available to purchase from the school office .







Here Puffins class are painting their backdrops for their Snow Queen play.





## **Census Sums**

MMA

Year 2 Puffins' singing in this production was marvellous.





### Little Blue Star

Here is Reception in their nativity performance 'Little Blue Star'



### 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 Chair of Governors: Miss Jane Pope FOS Chairman: Mrs Caroline Richards

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

## We love learning about science!

We have been learning all about the human impact on the environment and looking at the effects of logging and climate change. We have interviewed some of the parents, including Caroline Richards and Emma Bratley, to find out more ways we can help to look after our world.

## Butterflies and the changing environment

Caroline Richards work for Butterfly Conservation.

Are butterflies in danger?

Yes, they are. It's not just climate change that is affecting them, it is also because of changes to the places where they live due to developments. Pesticides also cause many problems.



#### How many different butterflies are there?

In this country there are 60 different species of butterfly. However, there are thousands of different species across the world. In this country we do have 2,500 different species of moth. We don't always see them as they fly around at night.

What can we do to help support butterfly conservation?

You can go to www.butterfly-conservation.org. **How many rare butterflies live in the UK?** 

There are around 20 species of butterflies that are protected by law, such as 'The Wildlife and Countryside Act' which is in place to protect those butterflies.

What is your favourite thing about your job?

I really enjoy being outside and working to help the environment. I feel I can make a difference to save these butterfly species and hopefully stop them from becoming extinct.

How does CO<sub>2</sub> affect butterflies?

 $CO_2$  is causing changes to the atmosphere, including increases in temperature. You might think this would benefit some insects, but for most species this is harmful. This is because it changes the habitat that the insects and animals live in.

## Where do butterflies go during the winter?



Butterflies hibernate throughout the winter as eggs, caterpillars and adult butterflies and we find them in all kinds of places.

bags and shoes, and even the 'lethal weapon', the rose, used by the

## **Plastics pollution at Studland Bay**

Emma Bratley works for the National Trust at Studland Bay.

Plastic and rubbish are seriously affecting our seas. Every bottle, piece of plastic or bit of rubbish I pick up could be saving an animal's life. What can we do to help keep

What can we do to help keep our beaches clean?

You can bring a bag with you and pick up all your rubbish and take your rubbish home.

How many bags of litter might you find?

I pick up at least one bag of litter a day. Over the August Bank



e your rubbish home. d? day. Over the August Bank Holiday we picked up nine tonnes of rubbish. We filled a whole skip up with disposable BBQs that had been left behind. Due to our flammable grass, you're not even allowed BBQs

at Studland. I pick up

bags of litter every day. Sometimes we find some

Snow Queen in the school play. Most commonly we find toothpicks, chips packets and even bombs. When this happens we have to call ... the bomb squad.
What can we find at Studland beach?

We have all six native species of reptiles at Studland; including grass snakes, adders, slow worms and smooth snakes. We are lucky because we have a colony of smooth snakes at Studland. However, the



sand lizard is the rarest of all reptiles and is only often found at Studland and Portland,

#### What do you do when rubbish gets into and under the sand?

People often hide their rubbish under the sand. We have litter pickers and have to wear gloves because people leave some horrible things.

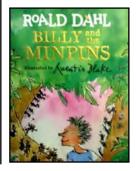
#### Do you feel like you have helped the environment?

I feel like I am helping the environment. I feel I do a little bit to help the wonderful place I work in.

## Learning science with our parents

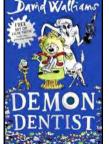
We have been learning all about human impact on the environment and looking at the affects of logging and climate change. We have interviewed some of the parents to find out more ways we can help to look after our world.

Two of our parents are coming in to visit us at school to talk about their jobs and the things we can do to protect the environment.



#### Books we recommend

Turtles have been reading Minpins by Roald Dahl. Keenan thinks this is a good book because when Billy finds minpins Billy went on to find a monster!



Puffins have been reading the Demon Dentist by David Walliams.

Max said that he thinks the book is really mean.

Alfie said he thinks the book is really funny because they pulled the sweet shop owner's teeth out.



## **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

Co	DUNCILS		Football – Under 12s		
North Dorset District Councillor	Emma Parker	01258 881631	Chairman	Joy Robinson	01258 837661
	Jane Somper	01258 471089	Manager/coach	Andy Brown	07427 503373
Parish Council – Dewlish	Clerk: Sandra Sims	01258 837132	Treasurer	Simon Buckingham	01258 839122
	Chair: Andrew Booth	01258 837284	Football – Veterans	Paul David	07841 506839
Parish Council –	Clerk: Colin Hampton	01258 837011	Running Group	Anne-Marie Pearson	01258 837057
Milborne St. Andrew	Chair: Joy Robinson	01258 837661	Skittles – Dewlish	Frank Ross	01258 837366
Wildome St. / Walew		01230 037001	Sports & Social Club	Chairman: Richard Loc	
Floods A354 problems contact	the Highways Aganay	03001 235000		Bookings: Richard Lock	
•	the highways Agency		Table Terris	-	
Dorset Direct		01305 221000	Table Tennis	Pauline Pitfield	01258 839123
dorsetdirect@dorsetcc.gov.uk ww	/w.dorsetforyou.com/repo		Tap Dancing for Adults	Libby Goodchild	01305 268029
Environment Agency Floodline		08459 881188	Tennis	Stephen Lang	07916 312452
South West Highways hello@sv		01404 821500	Yoga (at school)	Sue Chapman	01305 848053
Wessex Water Sewerage Flood	ine	03458 505959	Yoga (at Sports & Social Club)	Saira Francis	01258 880505
GENER	ral – Adult		Yoga (at village hall)	Sarah Ryan	01258 839230
GENEI	AL ADULI		Ми т	age Hall	
Ladies Group – Dewlish	Judith Bridgen	01258 837157	VILL		
Moonlight Swing Band	Gillian Pink	01305 260731	Dewlish		
M.A. Neighbourcar	Nigel Hodder	01258 470333	Chairman:	Chris Uden	01258 837295
Wednesday Social Club	Sheila Burton	01258 839033	Booking Secretary:	Margaret Groves	01258 837617
Women's Institute	Josie Wright	01258 839090	Milborne St. Andrew	0	
	0		Chairman:	Pam Shults	01258 837203
GENEF	ral — Youth		Booking Secretary:	Alison Riddle	01258 837030
Ladybirds (Playgroup)	Liz Dyer	01258 839117			
Scout Group (Secretary)	, Brian Burton	01258 839033	F	IEALTH	
Under 5's Group – The Busy Bee		07899 808185	Bere Regis Surgery		01929 471268
	Julianne Hall	07846 256694	Milborne St. Andrew Surgery		01258 837383
Youth Club age 8 – 13 years	Joanne Miller	01258 881496	Milton Abbas Surgery		01258 880210
		01238 881490	Puddletown Surgery		01205 848333
I	POLICE		NHS for emergencies		111
Polico Non omorgonou contac	+	101	Patient Voice Secretary	Nigol Hoddor	01258 880229
Police – Non-emergency contac Community Beat Officer	PC Dave Mullins	101	Fatient voice Secretary	Nigel Hodder	01238 880229
Safer Neighbourhood Team	PC Dave Mullins and	101		AND BUILDING THE PARTY	1000
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Home watch Co-ordinator	Joy Robinson	01258 837661			CALL TOTAL
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Milborne First School			The	205 1	ALL STREET
Headteacher:	Sharon Hunt	01258 837362		TIDY	
Chair Governors:	Miss Jane Pope	01230 037302	All the second	h	A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A
Friends of School Chair:	Caroline Richards		SUG		
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SPECI	al Interest		MARCHING O	sura	
Cribbage	Peter Anthony	01258 837089			ABY
-	Pip Bowell	01258 837089			
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Bridge Group	•			00 200	
	Laurie Benn	01258 837720	009	00	
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## **Community Events Diary**

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

January	
Friday 5th	WI Christmas Lunch The Royal Oak.
	Milborne Movies Lion village hall Tickets £3.50
	Doors and bar from 7.00pm for 7.30pm start –see
	page 5 and below.
Wednesday 10th	Wednesday Club New Year's lunch The Royal Oak
	12.30 for 1.00pm – see page 7.
	History group meeting The Royal Oak 7.30pm – see
	page 7.
	100 Club draw AGM The Sports Pavillion 8.00pm –
	see pages 3 and below.
Sunday 14th	Reporter mid-day deadline for February issue email
	articles and photos to msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk or
	give to a member of the Reporter team (see page 2 for
	team members).
Monday 15th	Village Lunch AGM The Royal Oak, 12.15pm. Everyone
	welcome – see page 2.
Saturday 20th	BSO Brass Spring Fanfare Concert Milton Abbey
	Tickets £10 under 18s £6 family £25 7.30pm – see
	page 31
Saturday 27th	Village Lunch village hall 12.15pm – see page 2 for
	menu and ticket information.
February	
Monday 5th	Age UK information event 'Wills and Power of
	Attorney' Rowan Cottage Dorchester no need to
	hook 10 00am – see nage 5

Thursday 8th to Saturday 10th

book 10.00am – see page 5. Knight Fever An Arthurian Panto village hall Tickets from the Londis in Milborne St. Andrew 8th and 9th 7.30pm; 10th 2.30pm and 7.30pm – see page 20.



#### **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 8–13 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)

#### **Regular Bookings at the Sports & Social Club**

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

 01258 839123

**The Busy Bees** Under 5 Group from 9.30am to 11.30am on Thursday term time only. Contact Leanne Brown on 07899808185. **Yoga** (Mellulah) Thursday (evening): Friday (mornings)

Private parties, birthdays, wedding receptions check online calendar U13 Football matches check online calendar

Ladies Premiership (regional) matches check online calendar

Dorset FA (gentlemen) matches check online calendar

£25

Check the Sports & Social online calendar on the village website for any other events you might be able to join in with.

## **100 CLUB WINNERS**

Draw date - Wednesday 13th December

£100	Jane Hillier
2100	June miller

Andy Mott

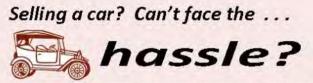
The next draw will take place during the 100 Club AGM on Wednesday 10th January at 8.00pm at the Sports Pavilion

Everyone is welcome to attend.

#### New members always welcome

Payments may be made by cheque or standing order. Contact Andy Mott for details 01258 837208





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## **LETTERS** to the Reporter

#### **Dear Readers**

Please keep letters courteous – letters received does not guarantee publication. Anything considered to be offensive, rude or racist will not be printed.

#### The Editor

#### Dear Editor

I was very pleased a few years ago when the 'Open the Book' scheme was introduced in our school. This was a ten minute slot in an assembly once a fortnight. Bible stories were told and acted out by a small group of adults with the children joining in. This has now been shortened to once a month, but in December cancelled altogether. I think in a nominally Christian country it is a shame that our children cannot hear the origins of the Christmas story as part of their religious understanding. Josie Wright

The editorial team sent the above letter to Milborne St. Andrew First School asking them if they wished to respond in the same issue of the *Reporter*.

#### Dear Editor,

In response to the letter above, I would like to make the following points:

The December Open Book was moved to January when it was realised that it clashed with Christmas Nativity Performance. It will, therefore, be in addition to the planned January session.

We have high expectations for our children, and we challenge ourselves to provide for their current needs, whatever they might be at the time. Sometimes this can be academic, other times physical, emotional or spiritual. This means that school days shift and timetables change to reflect this.

We have assembly times and use these to provide opportunities for the children to sing, have learning and behaviour acknowledged and to provide some of their PHSE learning through Jigsaw.

We are a non church school, but we are an absolute part of our local community. Our assemblies follow Christian values, and we welcome Reverend Sarah and the Open Book Team to be part of these. We also have church services at Harvest, Christmas and Easter.

Reaching a balance is always difficult, but we feel that currently we have achieved something we are happy with. Yours sincerely, Sharon Hunt

## School activity track short of final

HOPES of winning thousands of pounds of funding for the creation of an all-weather activity track at the First School have stalled after the results of voting in the Aviva Community Fund were announced earlier in December. Milborne's school project, 'Get On Track', achieved a creditable 1,705 votes, but this wasn't enough to take it through to the final. It appears that a vote count of over 3,000 would have been needed to get through to the next stage, at which point each application is looked at by judges for funding potential. However, Friends of School appreciate the support they have had from parents, villagers and their friends and would like to thank all who made the effort to vote. Chair of FoS, Caroline Richards, said, "Of course we're disappointed to have not made the final stage but we'd like to thank everyone who voted for 'Get On Track' and also all those that put so much hard work into the project and its promotion."

The hope was to raise funds so that a hard surface track could be laid around the main school playing field so that the children could use it all year round. The school has a version of the 'daily mile' – a national initiative aimed to foster exercise and healthy activity – which is called 'walk and talk'. The track would be a way of continuing this activity when it is not possible over the winter months when the field can become wet and muddy. The track would be ideal for a range of activities other than just walking and running, including cycling, scooting and skating, and could offer a suitable surface for children who have mobility issues and may use aids.

The school, with support of Friends of School, will look now to alternative sources of funding to see if the amount needed can be raised. The creation of the activity track is still an ambition for the benefit of current and future children of Milborne First School.







## Small businesses in MSA: Number 10 – the Plantswoman

FOR over fifty years, at 12 The Rings, Geraldine and Tony Spivey have lived in an entirely separate, three storey world comprised of Hogwarts Castle, mini carrots and two pigeons called Git and Goaway. Their land stretches to one third of an acre with incredible



views even to Corfe Castle (on a clear day). Gerry's days are guite obviously full of fun and hard labour. She founded Gerry's Plants thirty years ago on her chosen redundancy from Northern Foods' (formerly known as Express Dairies/Eden Vale) salad preparation business. They both originated from Exeter and moved from there, where Tony was employed in Crediton as an electrician by Express Dairies. They ruefully recall their cramped tenement flat and pleasure of finding spacious, tied, accommodation. Their, then, small, son and daughter were delighted to be in the countryside 'without fences'. Apart from selling shrubs, vegetable plants, geraniums and a host of other plants and hanging baskets from their home, Gerry (as she prefers to be called) sells from Dorchester Car Boot Market every Sunday. The proceeds of this goes to charities (£27,000 last year) This has been her regular date for the past twenty years. Her customers are all known to her and come back time and again with their orders well in advance of their season. Such a popular person is she, that lost children are directed to go and stay with her until their parents retrieve them! She prepares both winter and summer baskets for her customers. Up at 5am to start her Sunday at 6.15am every week of the year she prefers the routine and occupation of her days. Always looking ahead to the next season, ordering in plug plants, nurturing and potting on.

Apparently the visible growth in trade has been for vegetable plants particularly those miniaturised carrots, tomatoes, cucumbers etc that can be grown in pots for her many customers who don't have gardens.

They clearly love their pre-war house and its position describing the Rings as a small community within the village, set as it is on a perimeter piece of rising ground. In 1977 they were sold off by Debenhams (who bought what was then a cheese factory and the ground in 1967) with a special discount to sitting tenants which the Spiveys took advantage of. The name derives from an original intention by the developers to complete a ring of houses. This plan never came to fruition. Their memories are long of a village with far less development than now, with a regular bus service every hour from Salisbury to Weymouth, whose inhabitants, on the whole, had local work. Now they perceive it, by necessity, as a place for commuters, 'hectic and busy'. Whilst their children were young they were involved in many village activities, their son, Darren, played in the Milborne football team. Now they have six grandchildren with wide ranging ages, the youngest and the only girl, is five years.

At present they welcome their new neighbours, alpacas, in the field at the bottom of their garden. Their tips for gardeners are numerous, the most controversial is the use of dilute disinfectant on the soil around tomato plants to prevent blight and regular spraying of roses from early April to prevent black spot.

Gerry's popularity has spread far and wide with many humorous anecdotes. Some years ago she was a pipe smoker. Attending a Fireman's Ball in full formal long dress, she was urged by friends to light up her pipe. But each time she took it out to prepare for lighting the doors flew open and a group of fireman in full kit with helmets and ropes appeared! On the fourth occasion when she thought it safe to light up they appeared complete with massive hose!

For those of you, like me, who appreciate help with growing plants and look for confidence in our suppliers, I urge you to make the trip to The Rings and buy from Gerry Spivey.

Her details are as follows: Telephone: 01258 837 386; Email: Geraldinespivey12@gmail.com. You will not be disappointed.

Carole Fornachon

#### Advertise with the Reporter and get **noticed**

AS a New Year dawns, it's a natural time for business owners to take stock and reassess their business needs; what successes the previous year has seen and how to make the most of the coming year. Advertising is integral to getting your business message out there, appeal to potential clients and to reaffirm your presence in the marketplace. If you own a local business, or know someone who does, have you thought about advertising here in the *Reporter*? It's an ideal opportunity to reach all of the residents of Milborne, at a very reasonable rate.

As you will know, this magazine is delivered once a month to all the houses in the village, including some outlying residences too. The *Reporter* is also left at The Royal Oak and sometimes the doctors' surgeries – and, not forgetting the online presence of the magazine – its reach goes far beyond the parish boundary. Anecdotally, we hear that many residents keep a copy of the *Reporter* handy for useful phone numbers of local businesses if their need arises, as well as the wealth of other local contacts and information. Residents like to use local traders and businesses as they feel they can trust them since they live within the community.

Some of our advertisers have been with us since the *Reporter*'s first issue, back in 2009 and we have many long-standing businesses who also feature on our pages, so there's no doubting that promoting your business here brings results. We have a variety of current advertisers, from larger businesses in Blandford to sole traders here in the village, and across sectors, but we are always happy to accommodate new business. It may even be an opportunity for someone starting a local business this New Year to advertise close to home.

The process of advertising with us couldn't be simpler; tell us your requirements, whether you'd like to take out an annual placement or a shorter run and what size on the page, from eighth of a page up to a full page, together with your advertisement (by email preferably, and as a .jpg). You will then be invoiced by the Reporter admin with details of payment, which includes direct bank transfer. We aim to publish new advertising in the following month's issue, providing the fee has cleared before our usual deadline.

Advertising in the *Reporter* can cost as little as under £5 per issue when an annual placement is taken. Full prices can be found on page 2 of this issue. Of course, by advertising with us, you are supporting a valued village resource – the *Reporter* is funded entirely by advertising. If you would like to discuss further joining our current satisfied advertisers, then please call Ed Richards on 837907 or 07843 018007 or email msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk marking your email 'New Advertising'.



Deadline for the February *Reporter* is mid-day 14th January. All copy must be sent via the Reporter e-mail at msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk



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## The Milborne Players 1977 – 2017 and beyond

THE Milborne Players have just celebrated 40 years of performing in our community. The group was first formed in 1977 by Venus Dodge who lived at Stag House with her husband Martin. She wrote the initial pantomimes and made costumes "on a shoe string" the result of which was fabulous - the first pantomime was Robin Hood in which Arthur Yeo, who still lives in the village, played Alan-a-Dale if my memory serves me right. There were a group of 15 to 20 of us who worked together to build a stage extension, paint original backcloths and take parts in the first shows. Great community spirit. The group has gone on performing here in the Village Hall predominately ever since bringing a cavalcade of original and traditional pantos, plays of different genres, revues and music hall shows and has seen many participants come and go. Someone who had a very strong involvement in the group up until she passed away a few years ago was Maggie Redmill an eccentric but unique talent both on the stage and off.

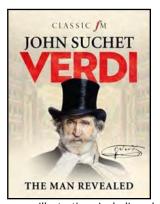
For any group to continue to have longevity it needs new blood in all areas so here's your chance – New Year, new hobby or maybe rekindle an old one. After panto in February we will be looking to cast a play for the summer and to encourage new members to join looking forward and planning for next year's shows. So don't be shy and get in touch. Contact us through our website or come along to a Monday meeting in the hall from 8.00pm. Better still come to the panto and speak to us and give us your details.

*Caroline Nobbs* for the Players

Deadline for the next issue is mid-day 14th January. Send your stories and pictures to msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk



## Verdi the man revealed by John Suchet



THIS is the next book in the series about great composers by John Suchet, the former newsreader. I reviewed his 'Mozart' and 'Beethoven' works, so was asked to review 'Verdi'. I wasn't wholly excited about this, as opera isn't really my favourite type of music, but I remember enjoying a rather splendid joint school production of 'Nabucco' by my school with the local boys' school, so tried to read with an open mind. The book is a large hardback,

printed on good quality paper, and with

many illustrations including photographs of Verdi himself. I was surprised to see them, but should have remembered that his life in the late 19th Century would have seen the development of photography and even the development of famous people being photographed without their knowledge, as is apparent from one picture.

As with the other volumes, Mr. Suchet has researched his subject meticulously and makes him come alive as a human being, character imperfections and all. An intensely private man, Verdi has made life difficult for biographers, by hiding or destroying much related to his life. Due to Mr. Suchet's diligence we learn that he was a child prodigy, that he married young, but lost his wife and two small children, a common occurrence in the 19th Century, and had stormy relationships with his parents, librettists, sponsors and the theatres where his music was staged. I also learned that several of his operas failed totally and were booed on their first night, but he then re-wrote to be successful, a concept I had never considered! He seems to have struggled with a desire to be a farmer, ending up owning vast estates and retiring from composing for months or years at a time to grow food, breed cattle, and ignore the world of show business. He found the process of staging his music difficult and stressful, and this affected his health, so this is understandable.

Verdi's legacy is a number of operas, which are loved and famous worldwide, performed often and to sell-out audiences, as well as his farms and estates, and a Rest Home for Musicians in Milan, where he and his second wife are buried, alongside a memorial tablet to Teresa Stolz, the soprano singer who spent many years living with them.

Despite my reservations I really enjoyed the book, learning a lot, and being carried along by Mr. Suchet's engaging writing, interesting stories about the composer and insights into his life and work.

Susan Wilson



March Reporter.



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## This Month at the MILBORNE ST ANDREW

GARDENING CLUB

Gardening with Tea bags and other tales Eco –friendly ideas and tips

THURSDAY 18th January 7.30pm Refreshments <u>VENUE</u> The Village Hall Fraser team for the kind donation of our Christmas Tree this year. It has helped make the school feel very festive.

Milborne St. Andrew First School would like to thank the Lloyd



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

Deadline for the next issue is mid-day 14th January. Send your stories and pictures to msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk

Entry: £2 non members

Open to All — everyone is welcome

7.30 pm



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### WI Christmas party time

AT our Christmas meeting Verina Cutler played a multitude of musical instruments, accompanying us as we sang many traditional carols. Afterwards we shared a festive buffet and, as always, a good time was had by all. *Pat Bull* 





## Knight Fever 8th – 10th February 2018

WELL the chain link armour is still being knitted as we speak and rehearsals are shaping up. King Arthur is dusting down his Round Table and inviting all his Knights to don their armour and weaponry for a few New Year practise jousts. The main problem currently is where do you keep all those horses in the Village Hall? We may need to rethink Knightly transport...

Tickets are now on sale from the Londis in Milborne and from the box office telephone 01258 839085.

## Fake Government Grants Fraud Alert

INDIVIDUALS and businesses are being warned to watch out for cold calls and online contact from fraudsters who are offering victims the opportunity to apply for Government grants for an advance fee.

To make the grants look legitimate fraudsters have set up bogus companies and convincing looking websites that claim to be operating on behalf of the UK Government.

Fraudsters cold call businesses and individuals offering the grant and if they're interested direct them to fill out an online application form with their personal information.

Once the fraudsters have that information they'll contact back victims and congratulate them on being accepted onto the grant programme.

#### Pre-paid credit cards

Applicants are then asked to provide identification and are instructed to get a pre-paid credit card to deposit their own contribution to the fake Government grant scheme. Fraudsters will then contact victims on the phone or are emailed and asked for the details of their pre-paid credit card and copies of statements in order for them to add the grant funds.

Of course the grant funds are never given by the fraudsters and the money that's been loaded by the victim onto the card is stolen.

If you receive one of these calls, hang up immediately and report it to us. We've already taken down one website fraudsters have been using to commit this fraud and are working with Companies House to combat this issue.

#### How to protect yourself:

Be wary of unsolicited callers implying that you can apply for grants. You should never have to pay to receive a government grant, and they definitely won't instruct you to obtain a pre-paid credit card. The government should have all the information they need if a genuine grant application was submitted, therefore any requests for personal or banking information either over the phone or online should be refused.

#### What to do if you're a victim:

If you think your bank or personal details have been compromised or if you believe you have been defrauded contact your bank immediately.

Stop all communication with the 'agency' but make a note of their details and report it to Action Fraud.

If you have been affected by this, or any other type of fraud, report it to Action Fraud by visiting www.actionfraud.police.uk or by calling 0300 123 2040.

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## Milborne Neighbourhood Plan - Working together



Landowner

presentations

A full house!

IS THIS WHAT YOU WANT? We will use what the village said to put together the Draft Plan. No hidden agenda, no prior ideas. If you don't say, it won't happen.

## THANK YOU

We put a little request out, 'does anyone fancy delivering some flyers in their road?' and the result was that nearly every household had a little flyer about these presentations. So our first task must be to give a great big THANK YOU to all those who volunteered. It made such a difference, the hall can legally hold 100 people, we had 91 in there on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> November!

#### LOOK AT THE SITES:

The presentations are all on the Parish Council website under the Neighbourhood Plan menu, please go and have a look, then email us on NPG@milbornestandrew.org.uk with your thoughts.

## WHAT YOU SAID ...

Thank you to the 80 people who took the time and the trouble to feedback what they thought about the four sites presented on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2017. 56 of those attended on the night, and 24 downloaded the forms from the Parish Council website and filled them in for us. We gave you all an opportunity to let us have your opinions on different aspects of each site, housing, character, parking, community benefit and general comments, and you did! As a result of the comprehensive and sometimes lengthy comments, we are unable to give you as much detail as we thought yet. They have now all been transcribed and distributed to the team, we need to take on board everything that has been said before we come to a decision on where you would prefer any development to progress. We're getting there....but this is too big a deal for the village to get it wrong.

Have you ever played 'Sardines' – trying to get as many people as possible in a small space? Well done to those who got in to see the displays in the committee room, and thank you for being patient.



#### Some of your opinions and scoring seem contradictory

As it seems to be different to the results from the summer 2016 village questionnaire, so, you see, we really need to be careful about what is decided. What seems to becoming clear is that we need more expert advice, probably on such things as traffic management.

#### COULD DO BETTER NEXT TIME:

We learn by practice! We really needed to do a daytime as well as an evening presentation, as we have been told that some residents, especially elderly ones, did not feel happy coming out in the evening, but would the landowners have been willing to have participated? We should also have stuck to the closing date, as it confused matters to have a big lump of late returners, and finally some sort of tick box to say that the presentations had been accessed and looked at before the feedback forms were filled in by contributors.

I saw a note on facebook, tried to refind it, and failed. It was responding to a comment about the need for affordable housing for locals with something like "in your dreams". Someone really thought it wasn't worth considering as the builders will just do what they want. Well, yes they will... if we don't do this.

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Deadline for the February *Reporter* is mid-day 14th January. All copy must be sent via the Reporter e-mail at msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk

## Did you identify this?

The photograph in the December *Reporter* was taken in The Causeway. The stone in front of the Memorial.



Eva Stockley closely followed by June Maitland sent in the correct answer this month Try your luck this month on page 10





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## Singapore – Unlikely Power by John Curtis Perry

THIS book is an interesting study in the history of Singapore, one of the world's wealthiest and best educated countries. John Curtis Perry is an American historian, who is a Professor of History at Tufts University. His story starts with a quote from 'Julius Caesar' – 'there is a tide in the affairs of men which, taken at the flood, leads on to fortune'. The latter half of the book demonstrates how Singapore's leaders in the post-Independence period have grasped that tide, for the better fortune of all Singaporeans.

The history of the Island is told, from early Malay fishermen in the twelfth century, through periods of growth and then depopulation to the present day's problems of young people leaving to work overseas and declining numbers of Singaporeans wanting to do blue collar work (as they have all been educated!).

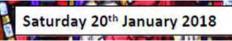
I found it interesting, having been at school with the children of those working in the oil industry in Singapore and Malaya in the 1970s, but I did find the author's US-Centric and somewhat Anti-British-Colonial viewpoint a bit tedious. I tire of people saying the British Empire was 'a bad thing' when it's obvious that many countries that were part of the empire kept so much of British Law, British customs and British business practices.

The book was informative and I learned a lot about the shipping industry and its changes from sail to steam, from steam to diesel, and then to container transport. The way Singapore as a new nation was able to set itself targets and fund industries to exploit this impressed me greatly. Comparing that to the introduction of change and modernisation in British Industries of the 1970s was interesting. To me the difference seemed to be that the Singaporean workers trusted their Government to do the right thing by them, whereas the British Government didn't appear to have the vision or the money to fund much-needed infrastructure changes and British Trade Unions had already been fighting their bosses for over 100 years for basic rights, education, etc., and there was no trust left when the time came to modernise to operate in a completely different business environment. Each country is reaping the rewards of their different approaches today.

I'd recommend this book for people who like 'people history', as he has insights into the merging of Chinese, Malay, Indian and British cultures, in a nation where immigration has never been capped and anyone from any nation can become a citizen provided they work hard, keep to the nation's rules and obey its laws. It also looks into the amount of personal freedoms citizens have given up, to ensure the success of the whole nation – again an interesting contrast to the UK.

A good read for those interested in trade, shipping and 20th Century History. Susan Wilson

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	8	-			6			1
4		9		1				2
	1		5	9				7



## **Music at The Abbey**

#### **BSO BRASS**

Saturday 20th January 2018 Spring Fanfare Concert: at 7.30pm Artsreach are delighted to present a performance by the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra Brass Quintet in the stunning setting of Milton Abbey this spring.

The BSO Brass ensemble present an evening of musical delights, taking you on a journey through exquisite pieces of

classical music by Bach and Byrd, to jazz classics such as Oh When the Saints and Just a Closer Walk.

This outstanding quintet of Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra musicians will herald in the Spring season with stunning majesty and groove.

Tickets £10 Under 18's £6 Family £25

BOX OFFICE Tickets on line or by post enclosing a SAE and Cheque payable to Milton Abbey Heritage Trust, Milton Abbey, Blandford Forum, Dorset DT11 0BZ

## **Subscription Traps**

LOCKED into a subscription for an offer you didn't sign up for?

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Subscription traps are deliberately misleading practices, where the company involved uses deceptive language and deceptive terms and conditions. With traps, products are usually advertised as free samples, where consumers are asked to pay for postage and packaging. The consumer will then typically find that much larger amounts are routinely taken from their bank account, using the Continuous Payment Authority (CPA) which the consumer believed was only established to pay their postage and packing on the original item. Products with traps are often substandard or don't turn up at all.

People should be wary of free trials or low price offers for products such as slimming pills, health foods, anti-ageing products or medicines. Make sure you read the small print and don't get conned into a longer term financial agreement through a continuous payment authority – a subscription trap! They will cost you MUCH more than you think. Ask yourself why you are giving over your credit or debit card details. Check the full price and duration of the offer before signing up.

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Fill in all the squares in the grid so that each row, each column and each of the 3x3 squares contains all the digits from 1 to 9. No prize, just a bit of fun.



