



Reporter

80P WHERE SOLD

News and Views from around the area

Volume 10 Issue 10

November 2018

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**Deadline for the December issue is
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VILLAGE CHRISTMAS LUNCH

To be held at the Village Hall on
Saturday 1st December from 12.15 to 2.00pm

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Copy for the next issue MUST be received by mid-day 14th November

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



Plums red and purple reflecting the light
 Piled high on the steps, what a wonderful sight.
 Melons and lemons and bright tangerines.
 Apricots tumbling among runner beans.
 Peas in their pods and a tall sheaf of corn
 With apples and pears plucked early that morn.
 The eagle is polished, with wings widely spread
 He peers with disdain through the grapes on his head
 Hops twining upward on a lectern and pew
 The grand harvest loaf on the altar to view.
 The church bells are calling, as loudly they ring.
 Then out peals the organ, we all start to sing.
 Thank God for our harvest from home and away.
 Thank God for our lives as we witness this day.



Front cover and harvest photographs by Heather V Hogg.
 Poem written by Josie Wright.



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The Sports Club: The lights may be on – but for how much longer?

LOVE it or loath it the Sports Club is a very important facility making a positive contribution towards the wellbeing of the community.

It may not look like it when you drive or walk by but the Sports Club is not only positioned on a knife edge but it is approaching a



crossroad and I don't mean the Roke Road – Homefield – Lane End one either!

Without some new blood willing to lend a hand to help the current hard pressed team it is difficult to see how it can survive. The last thing that we want to do is to lock the gates and hand the keys back to the Parish Council but 'tempus fugit' nothing and no one can go on forever.

Give us a break!

So, are you a wannabe community volunteer? If so, the current sports club management team want you. Don't be shy . . . "come on up!!"



We urgently need some fresh hands to help ease the workload and to allow the existing team members to develop some new roles as the Club endeavours to move things forward in a positive way.

Whatever you can offer, we need it, in whatever measure you can give especially your ideas, enthusiasm, time and commitment to the cause.

In addition to the mundane stuff this is also an ideal opportunity to learn all

there is to know about pitch maintenance from one of the best, our own local hero, Malcolm. It is no coincidence that it is considered to be the best pitch in the Dorset FA and it's not just about how to ride a mower!!

It costs over £1,000 a year to keep it that way and it is a job that generates a tremendous amount of pride and satisfaction if done properly.

The Pavilion is now starting to pay for itself and to put some money into the improvements fund. Children and adult birthday parties are becoming very popular as are wedding receptions and, sadly, wakes.

Full fibre – full on activities

Local organisations have found it to be an ideal meeting place and training venue and our regular users such as Yoga, Busy Bees, Kimbers fitness and the dog training, rally and behaviour group really appreciate the facilities. Unfortunately, the table tennis section has come to a brief halt so if anyone would like to relaunch

the table tennis, a new co-ordinator is required, maybe even entering a team in the local league!

Another potentially exciting development is to provide ultra high speed fibre optic broadband utilising Wessex Internet rather than BT so no copper cables and you know what that means. We're in the 21st century.

We are also in the middle of the internal redecoration programme, six rooms done starting with the toilets and have the



material to start on the outside now that the winter is approaching . . . huh!!

The controlled heating system has proved a huge success and we are now able to set the temperature for each room for whatever period it is wanted by our users and to even control it remotely with a mobile App.

We still have the plan in our back pocket to develop the facilities into a 24/7 fitness centre with inside/outside gym



equipment and will be helping out at the 2019 Milton Abbas Street Fair and have had our grant bid accepted for that, so just praying for rain.

Anyway, that's all for now folks. The gents teams have just finished their Saturday match and we have got to prepare the changing rooms ready for the Poole Town Ladies team tomorrow.

Richard Lock

STOP PRESS

Following a recent FACEBOOK Post one volunteer has already stepped up to the mark offering to help with the cleaning.

Christmas choir rehearsals



CHRISTMAS choir rehearsals for Milborne carol service on 15th December 2018.

Rosie Coldwell is hoping that those who sang last year and anyone else who is keen to sing will join her for 30 minutes Sunday morning rehearsals for the carol service. These will be held

in the church following the 9.30am service and coffee time on November 4th, 11th, 25th and December 2nd at approximately 11.00am.

Please could choir members bring their carol books with them.

Heathcote House

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

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Meet the goats at Longmead open day

THE goats at Longmead Community Farm are really hoping that you'll be able to come along to the open day and craft sale at their home just outside Milborne in November. The charity-run farm that provides family respite therapy is raising money for a new goat shed as the old one is getting a little rickety. As volunteer, April Whalley says, "Our goats have put up with their quarters for a while, but Wally, Benny, Bella, Blackberry and Bonny have decided that they need a little more luxury now that they're getting on a bit – I'm sure we can all relate to that!"

"They've told us that they understand that we are a charity and have been willing to accept a little shabbiness up till now, but, apparently, enough is enough!"



April and the team at Longmead welcome all to come and visit the farm on **Saturday 10th November** for their open day, have a cuppa and shop for crafts. And, of course, say hello to the goats, who will be most pleased to meet you!

Crafts have been made both by families visiting Longmead, and by local crafters, so you are sure to find some lovely, unique Christmas gifts. The Longmead team will also be on hand to give you a tour of the farm, answer any questions you have and make sure all guests don't leave until having had a hot cup of tea and a piece of cake!

Longmead has been a haven for Dorset families in crisis for over ten years, providing a calm and caring environment for people to have time out from their troubled lives and experience a different way of life. Families are given the opportunity to participate in activities together, whether working with the goats, pigs and other farm work on the smallholding or craft activities. As the charity says, its values are about 'doing with' rather than 'doing to'; the emphasis is on taking part, together.

The charity finds that, for a variety of reasons, many families have difficulties coping with the demands of life in a complex modern society. Longmead is different from many other organisations, as they work with the whole family; which supports every member of the family to make positive changes. Longmead Community Farm believe that by providing families with an opportunity to work together in a structured, agricultural environment they will discover new interests and values together with a self-confidence and fellowship that has perhaps been missing in their lives.

April says, "We want the people we work with to be respected, to be listened to and to feel valued as they help to take care of Longmead with us. This is the basis for healing family relationships, restoring self-esteem, re-kindling positive goals, and building the confidence and capability to face and overcome difficulties."

Find out more about the work the charity does and help put a new roof over the head of the five goats, by visiting Longmead on Saturday 10th November, between 11.00am and 2.00pm. The farm can be found just off the A354, about a mile and a half from Milborne (towards Blandford). The entrance is on the right, at the bottom of the dip.

Ed Richards

The Milborne Players

And the evil Queen said

"Mirror Mirror on the wall ..."

"*Snow White*" is now in rehearsal. It's great to see a mixed cast of adults and young cast taking part in what can only be described as a bespoke panto for the Players. Next month you will get the writer's own update and thoughts on the show and may be a bit more of an insight into what is going on and how Ron put his script together.

On the other side of the wall play reading meetings will continue, as I mentioned last month. Anyone interested in getting involved please get in touch to get details of dates, times and venues. (07702 124579) info@milborneplayers.org.uk.

Caroline Nobbs, for the Milborne Players

The St. Mary's Handbell Ringers

ON Saturday 13th October at 2.00pm the Handbell Ringers from Puddletown performed a concert in St. Andrew's church of instrumental pieces and songs set to guitar.



All the songs related to man's struggle through the ages such as 'Where have all the flowers gone' by Pete Seeger. They operate as part of the Benefice's Outreach and resurrected the handbells three years ago from the vestry. Apparently they were all donated by an, as yet, unnamed GP and are 103 years old. Five new bells have been given. Some were played with two in one hand. The audience was encouraged to join in and sang 'The Streets of London'. The ringers are eight in number and hoping for more members. If anyone would like to join them they meet in Puddletown Parish Hall on Mondays at 8.00pm. Refreshments were available and a collection was made for Church funds

Carole Fornachon



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



100 Years of Remembrance

On 11th November 100 years ago, the land, sea and air fighting of the First World War ended. It took longer to reach a peace agreement: the Treaty of Versailles was not signed until the following year. The Allies had won a victory in the conflict, but that victory had entailed the deaths of millions of people, both military and civilian, great trauma for many of the survivors, parts of Europe becoming a wasteland and many countries including our own struggling with debt after expensive campaigns. It was supposed to be the war to end all wars: as we know that proved untrue. Less than 21 full years later World War Two was launched.

Today it is estimated that one in six children are living in conflict zones. Where violence is the background to daily life, other problems are abundant too: struggles for shelter, safety, food, healthcare, education and income are all part of the reality of life for millions today. Conflict is not the only source of poverty, but it is a major contributor in many places today.

We may not be directly affected, but I don't believe we can remain unconcerned. As we remember those who died in the First World War at this anniversary time, mourn their passing and recall the devastation wrought across Europe, we need to pledge ourselves again to peace.

The European project is not perfect, but to have enabled people who were killing each other a hundred years ago to live side-by-side in peace is a remarkable achievement. Whatever our views on Brexit, this must surely remain an important aim for all Europeans today.

Jesus said: "Blessed are the peacemakers." That is as true in November 2018 as in the first century. Where are the peacemakers of the 21st century?

We can all be peacemakers. Some are known worldwide for standing up to injustice. People such as Malala Yousafzai, Mahatma Gandhi, Martin Luther King, Nelson Mandela, Mother Teresa, Desmond Tutu, many of them (though by no means all) motivated by their Christian faith.

If every human-being dedicated themselves to harmony and reconciliation, our world would be a much more secure and happier place. People would no longer die in conflict or suffer injury or mental trauma because of war. Many others would have the security they need to enable them to have a sustainable future. Our effect may be limited on the world stage initially, but small movements grow and can change the world as has been proved many times before – think of the abolition of slavery, the end of apartheid in South Africa,

Many of us pray for peace, and that is right and good, but how can we justify that, if we are not also willing to make a mark on our small spheres of influence by promoting peace in and among our families, friends, colleagues, schools, communities, churches, clubs, workplaces and homes? We might be surprised at what we can achieve when we work together to change the world.

As we remember the horrors of past wars, let us look to the future with hope, and pledge ourselves to make it a better one.

With best wishes

Sarah Hillman

St. Andrew's Report

OUR Harvest Service started with a free Harvest Breakfast for all who came to the service led by our Celebrate Team. This year all the tinned and packet goods which were brought have been given to the Blandford Food Bank, and the fresh produce was sold with proceeds given to WaterAid. Once again the flower arranging team produced fabulous displays. Many thanks to everyone who decorated the church, provided the breakfast, brought five boxes of food for the Food Bank and donated £25 to WaterAid.

Messy Church has started in the Benefice on the first Sunday of each month. Each of our four parishes will run the event for families in turn. In October St. Mary's church in Puddletown hosted a harvest-themed event, and the next one on 4th November, celebrating All Saints, will be run by All Saints church in Dewlish. Milborne will host the January 2019 Messy Church, after the December event in Tolpuddle. All families from anywhere in the area will be welcomed to all the free sessions starting at 4.00pm on the first Sunday in each month.

By the time this is published the St. Mary's Handbell Ringers will have played in St. Andrew's Church. Donations were made for refreshments and to support the church. I am confident that the concert will be very successful!

Church Services November

4th November – All Saints' Sunday

9.30am	Parish Communion	Tolpuddle
9.30	Celebrate	Milborne
11.00	Parish Communion + Baptism	Puddletown
11.00	Patronal Festival Songs of Praise	Dewlish
4.00pm	Messy Church	Dewlish

11th November – Remembrance Sunday

8.15am	1662 Said Communion	Puddletown
9.30	United Methodist Service	Tolpuddle
10.00	Service of Remembrance	Milborne
<i>(followed by procession to the Memorial Stone for 11.00am)</i>		
10.50	Remembrance Day Service	Dewlish
<i>(starting at the War Memorial at the Crossroads)</i>		
10.50	Royal British Legion	Puddletown
	Service of Remembrance	

THURSDAY 15th November

12 noon	Lunch-time Communion	Puddletown Church Room
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18th November – 2 before Advent

9.30am	Family Communion	Tolpuddle
9.30	1662 Morning Prayer (said)	Milborne
11.00	Parish Communion	Puddletown
<i>(with opening of Children's Society boxes)</i>		
11.00	Family Service	Dewlish

25th November – Christ the King

9.30am	Go Fourth	Tolpuddle
9.30	Parish Communion	Milborne
11.00	1662 Morning Prayer	Puddletown
11.00	Family Communion	Dewlish
5.00pm	Healing Service	Milborne

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@outlook.com

Churchwardens

Milborne St. Andrew

Pam Shults 01258 837203

Dewlish

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.

On Sunday 28th October we will have held the annual benefice Service of Remembrance and Thanksgiving for those who have died, followed by tea and cakes.

Our annual Remembrance Sunday service on November 11th at 10.00am will be followed as usual by a ceremony at the village Memorial Stone at 11.00am. On the 10th November our Events Committee have arranged a themed meal with entertainment in The Royal Oak at Milborne St. Andrew. The theme is the end of the Great War; tickets will be available from the end of October and can be obtained from Jenny on 01258 837121. We know from past themed meals that they are fun and enjoyed by all, so buy your tickets early!

Pam Shults

Dewlish Church Notes

OUR **Remembrance Day Service** on Sunday 11th November follows the normal pattern of assembling at the War Memorial on the crossroads at 10.50am for the laying of the wreath, and then proceeds to the church for the remainder of the service. This year commemorates the centenary of the cessation of the First World War and, in honour of this, we are serving refreshments in the Village Hall afterwards. We do hope you will join us to remember and reflect.

The **Christmas Bazaar** will be on Saturday 1st December in the Village Hall, starting at 2.30pm. Our stalls include new, Christmas decorations, cakes and produce, toys, a raffle and a Christmas Hamper raffle and refreshments. We shall be very pleased to receive any donations, but more especially to see you there!

On Sunday 4th November we are celebrating our church's **Patronal Festival** (for All Saints), the service at 11.00am being a Songs of Praise. Please come and join us to sing some well-loved hymns.

Our Harvest Festival service went off very well, with the church looking truly beautiful, resplendent with the lovely colours of autumn. A big thank-you to all who arranged the flowers and donated their produce.

The following evening we held the Harvest Supper and Auction of Produce. Although numbers were considerably lower, it was a very successful evening with the supper raising £252 for church funds. Again, a hearty thank-you to Margaret for all the hard work she put in to arranging it, and to the loyal band of helpers for preparing, serving and washing up. Thank you all!

The auction, so ably led by Andrew, raised £266 which is to be divided between WaterAid and Farm Africa. Thank you, Andrew, for all the fun and your ability to persuade people to part with large sums of money!

Daphne Burg



Commemoration of the end of the Great War

You are cordially invited to join in the celebratory meal on

November 10th at 7.00pm in The Royal Oak.

You can partake of a gastronomical, delightful, traditional three course meal.

For your delight there will also be edifying entertainment.

Tickets priced at £18 pp are available from Jenny Balcon 837121



Lest We Forget 11th November 2018

11th November 2018 at 11.00am marks the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Armistice bringing the fighting during the First World War to an end. The war affected almost every family in Great Britain and throughout the then British Empire and Dominions. It is understood that on all sides and across the world over 17 million people lost their lives as a direct result of this war.

The anniversary will be commemorated with a service at St. Andrew's Church and will be followed by an Act of Remembrance at the War Memorial at the corner of The Causeway and Church Hill. Everyone is welcome.

The Act of Remembrance will take place at 11.00am sharp with the playing of the Last Post. Please assemble by 10.50am in order that those wishing to lay wreaths or other symbols of remembrance can be informed of the order of service.

The Act of Remembrance is open to all and it is held to honour and remember all those who paid the supreme sacrifice and also those injured in body or mind in all conflicts from then to now.

Michael Hopper – 837642 or michael.b.hopper@gmail.com



Flood prevention – It's time to act now!

WE rely heavily on the Environment Agency and our local Highways Department to manage water levels during the winter; but there's a lot we can do to help ourselves and each other. Does the stream pass through or alongside your garden? The water level is low at the moment so NOW is the time to put your wellies on, get in there and remove vegetation growing in abundance from the banks and bed of the stream. Any obstructions to the flow of water in or near the stream should be removed. Items that might blow into the stream and then cause a blockage should be secured or moved a safe distance away. If everyone looks after their little bit of the stream, then the whole stream will have been managed and we can do no more! However, if one riparian owner fails to act then the risk of flooding increases for themselves and their neighbours.

If you'd like to keep a supply of sand at your property to put into sandbags, now is the time to buy it. Remember, the sand previously stored at the village hall has been given to residents. If you're interested in the more modern method of deploying 'hydro snakes', now is the time to do your research and buy as many as you need. Go to Google (or your favourite search engine) and type "Gravitas HydroSnakes". You will find information on what they are, how they work and where to buy them!

Water levels will be rising soon. This is a polite reminder to act now so that you're best prepared.

Stay dry.

The Flood Team

Deadline for the December Reporter is mid-day 14th November. Send your stories and pictures to msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk



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CHRISTMAS

BINGO

DUE to the success of the last bingo event at Easter where the village hall was packed with hopeful prize winners, Ladybirds playgroup are holding another fundraising prize bingo event! Get the date in your diary for Friday 14th December. There will be a family friendly game at 5.45pm and at 7.00pm the main event giving you time if wished to drop the kids back home in the break! The kitchen will be open for refreshments and sweet treats! And there will be a raffle which we are gratefully taking donations for at present. Contact Dione 07530741875 or kindly drop in to Ladybirds. Be sure to get there early to secure your seat!

We are very happy to welcome Catertasty to our bingo event who will be serving up festive wraps (turkey, stuffing, pigs in blankets in a Yorkshire pudding wrap with gravy) what a treat! There will be an alternative for children. So no need to sort dinner beforehand!

Desperately seeking leaders

I APOLOGISE for yet another article about the demise of the Scout Group, but unfortunately things have moved apace since last month.

The Group has been let down by the two Leaders that were running the Scout Troop, who have decided to move on elsewhere, as they were only on loan to us in the first place, so we are now without Leaders for the Cubs and the Scouts.

We are now in a situation where the only section in the Group that still has Leaders, is the Beaver section. No section can run without a Uniformed Leader, and it is far too much work for one Leader to run more than one Section.

If you are reading this, and have an interest in Scouting, please get in touch with me and we can at least talk about a way forward for the Group. Even better, if you are an ex-Scouter moved into the Village from another area and are, perhaps, thinking that it would be good to get involved again, even if only on a temporary basis, give me a call on 01258 839033.

Brian Burton

Milton Abbas Riding for the Disabled Group

Milton Abbas Riding for the Disabled Group calls out for votes to bag a share of Tesco's bag fund

TESCO

MILTON ABBAS Riding for the Disabled Group is bidding to bag a massive cash boost from the Tesco Bags of Help initiative.

Tesco teamed up with Groundwork to launch its community funding scheme, which sees grants of £4,000, £2,000 and £1,000 raised from carrier bag sales in Tesco stores awarded to local community projects.

Three groups in every Tesco region have been shortlisted to receive the cash award and shoppers are being invited to head along to Tesco stores to vote for who they think should take away the top grant.

Milton Abbas Riding for the Disabled Group is one of the groups on the shortlist at the Blandford store during November and December.

MARDA is bidding for funds to support a second weekly group which will offer therapeutic riding to children from mainstream schools.

GO RED – An evening with flowers in aid of THE EVE APPEAL'S GO RED CAMPAIGN

THE Eve Appeal charity raises awareness of the signs and symptoms of the five gynaecological cancers and also raises funds for their research. Friday 21st September saw the village hall full of an audience sporting something red in support of a flower demonstration entitled GO RED to coincide with the charity's September campaign.

International floral demonstrator Susie Edwards came out of retirement to do one last stage presentation for the occasion. Many of the 19 designs featured red flowers in many different shades and these formed one of two raffles. The other was made up of 24 very generously donated prizes ranging from six months subscription to Red Magazine, vouchers for plants, a handyman for a day, a luxury manicure and so on . . . In fact the raffle was so popular the tickets ran out!



The evening was great fun and very successful raising over £2,200.00 and a good time was had by all. Thank you to all who supported the event by sponsorship, donations, assistance and attendance. You have made such a difference.

Deadline for the December Reporter is mid-day 14th November.

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Email: info@kmcelectrical.co.uk



Yoga in Milborne

**Yoga class on Thursdays in term time
in the village hall, 1.30 - 2.45pm**

I also teach one to one in my home,
whether your needs are for yoga as
therapy or meditation or a
simple way of keeping yourself healthy.

For information ring

Sarah Ryan on 01258 839230

or email saryan6630@aol.com
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Halloween – a very British Tradition



MODERN day Halloween celebrations usually involve groups of costumed children roaming from house to house demanding 'trick-or-treat' and householders handing over vast amounts of sugary treats to avoid a dastardly trick (or worse) being played on them. Despite its very commercial focus nowadays, the origins of these celebrations date back thousands of years.

The origins of Halloween can be traced back to the ancient festival of Samhain. The Pre-Christian year was determined by the growing seasons and Samhain marked the end of summer and the beginning of the dark cold winter. The festival symbolised the boundary between the world of the living and the world of the dead. It was believed that on the night of 31st October, ghosts of the beloved dead would revisit their families in the mortal world. Large bonfires were lit in each village to ward off any evil spirits that may also be visiting. Priests known as Druids led the Samhain celebrations and ensured that the hearth fire of each house was re-lit from the glowing embers of the sacred bonfire, to help protect the people as well as keep them warm through the long, dark winter months.

When the Romans invaded from mainland Europe in 43AD, they assimilated many of their own celebrations into existing festivals. As they left Britain four hundred years later, new conquerors moved in - Saxons from northwest Germany, Jutes from the Jutland peninsula (modern Denmark) and Angles from Angeln in southwest Jutland. The native British tribes were pushed to the northern and western extremes of Britain, to present day Wales, Scotland, Cornwall, Cumbria and the Isle of Man, taking their traditions with them.

During this time, Britain was invaded by a new religion, Christianity. The Christians brought their Festivals such as Easter and Christmas, and also 'All Hallows' Day', also known as 'All Saints Day', a day to remember those who had died for their beliefs. Originally celebrated on 13th May, Pope Gregory moved the date of the All Hallows' feast to 1st November sometime during the 8th century. It is thought that in doing so, he was trying to integrate the Samhain festival of the dead with a related but Church-approved celebration.

The night or evening of Samhain became known as All-hallows-even then Hallow Eve, still later Hallowe'en and then Halloween. It was still believed that the spirit world could make contact with the physical world, and it was a night when magic is at its most potent.

Throughout Britain, Halloween has traditionally been celebrated by telling ghost stories, bobbing for apples in containers of water and carving faces into hollowed-out vegetables such as swedes and turnips. These fierce and frightening faces would usually be lit from within by a candle and would be displayed on window sills to ward off evil spirits. The current use of pumpkins is imported from the United States, as is the activity of 'trick-or-treat'.

It was once thought that mischievous spirits were especially naughty on Halloween, and if you weren't careful you could feel their wrath. The spirits might not have been an actual threat, but there were plenty of people who would have taken advantage of the night's spiritual chaos to play some pranks or inconvenience their enemies. 'Mischievous Night' was once celebrated widely in the UK; originally in May, but soapy windows and toilet papered trees have accompanied Halloween festivities for quite some time.

Wearing costumes on Halloween may have begun as an attempt to confuse and distract the evil spirits. This tradition seems to have died with the ancient pagans, and it wasn't until the 20th century that dressing up for Halloween became popular again.

'Souling' was the practice of children and poor people going from house to house begging for soul cakes. These spiced cakes were given with the understanding that the 'souler' who ate them would pay for them by praying for the souls of the dead. Try giving your 'trick or treaters' some spicy home-made buns instead of a bagful of sugar and e-numbers. It's traditional!

One superstition related to bobbing for apples says that when an apple-bobber finally catches an apple in their mouth they should peel it carefully, pass the long strip of peel three times (sunwise) around their head, and throw it over their shoulder. The peel should fall to

the ground in the shape of the initial letter of the bobber's true love's name.

In some areas Halloween was once known as Nutcracker Night. Nuts would have been plentiful at the end of October, and families could gather around the hearth to roast them in celebration of the day. In Scotland a young lass would put two nuts into the fire and watch their behaviour to see if her lover would be true or unfaithful, and if they would be married.

Tales of restless spirits have been swapped over campfires for as long as there have been humans to tell them, and Halloween was a great time to open up ancient church towers, houses and castles and spend a spooky evening telling scary stories. This tradition was still alive in the 1990s in the area of North Wales where I lived; people from the village sitting in the candle-lit church tower telling stories, followed by supper and a drink at the pub.

Susan Wilson



INFORMATION EVENT

Lasting Power of Attorney

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

If you wish to understand whether you need a Lasting Power of Attorney, Kelly Payne, Associate Solicitor; and Chris Keenan, Partner, at Humphries Kirk solicitors, will be providing a talk on the subject on:

Wednesday 21st November 2018 at 10.00am

at Rowan Cottage, 4 Prince of Wales Road, Dorchester, DT1 1PW
Please confirm your attendance and telephone **01305 269444**.

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 November – 2.00pm

Gussage All Saints

Meet near the church in Gussage All Saints, off the A354 at Cashmore.
Grid reference: SU 998108 on OS Explorer Sheet 118 (approx. 4.5 miles)

Wednesday 21st November – 11.00am

Dewlish and Milborne St. Andrew

Meet outside the church in Dewlish
Grid reference: SY 775982 on Explorer Sheet 117 (approx. 6.5 miles)
Bring a packed lunch.

Sunday 2nd Dec – 1.30pm (note earlier time during winter)

Buckland Newton

Meet near the church in Buckland Newton
Grid reference: ST 687053 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.

Welcoming new children with new games and old favourites

THIS month we have had new children join us, so some of our activities have been around their interests. A lovely group collage of a fire engine was created with two little boys really busy sticking pieces onto it after some of the others had carefully painted the drawn fire engine. Water play was popular with soapy water in the tuff tray and lots of different size wands meant we had lots of bubbles blowing through the outside area to be chased and burst. Dinosaurs featured one week becoming a noisy game with roaring and stomping!

The older children have taken to the 'old' playground games of



'Tag' and 'Hide and Seek'. These games teach turn taking, learning boundaries and inclusion. Although the small space does seem to mean the same places are always hidden in – the children continue to hide in tyres, the tunnel and under tables over and over again. We do have lively physical learners this year so it is great that the weather has been kind and allowed outdoor play. Our Woodland Wednesday comes to an end at half term for the winter and we and the children will miss it. Looking forward to a time when we have our own 'natural' space attached to our own building!

Sadly Caroline who has worked for us for sometime is leaving us shortly. She has seen many of her Key Children move happily into school and was the instigator of our Woodland days. We will miss you Caroline and send our best wishes to you in your new career.

Liz Dyer

Ofsted registered no.217717



Registered Charity no. 1087441

Milborne Ladybirds Playgroup

Ofsted reported

"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

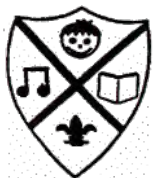
To find out more please contact

Liz Dyer (Leader) 01258 839117; 07771

512427 or email liz@milborneladybirds.com

Lucy Bishop (secretary) 07866 267044

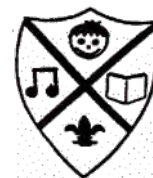
www.milborneladybirds.com



MILBORNE ST ANDREW FIRST SCHOOL

Learning together, playing together

SCHOOL NEWS



Year 1 – Sewing

This half term the children in Year 1 have designed and made their own hand puppets. They have learnt to sew the two sides together and add detail by sticking on extra features.

Crazy Sock Day – 5th October

School council have already organised their first fundraising event of the year!

On Friday 5th October, school council organised Crazy Sock to raise money for the local charity 'Mosaic'. They were pleased with how many children got involved and the school raised a wonderful £53.00! They are looking forward to raising money for Children in Need in the next half term.

In Key Stage 1, years 1 and 2 work



closely together. Our topic this term has been all about the seaside. We have read *The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch* and learnt to retell it both orally and in writing. We have magpied some great words from this story, our favourites being; scavenging, concocted and industrious.

We have written instructions to make disgusting sandwiches to help Mrs Grinling keep the seagulls away from her food and tried to see the story from poor old Hamish's (the cat's) viewpoint!

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 **School Secretary:** Mrs B Hosford

Chair of Governors: Matt Way **FOS Chairman:** Mrs Caroline Richards

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



COFFEE MORNING

Saturday 10th November

10.00am–12 noon

Milborne St. Andrew Village Hall

MANY of you will have seen the adverts about "period poverty" and there are girls and women in Dorset who are in this situation.

The WI have been collecting sanitary products to give to the food banks. We are holding a coffee morning to raise awareness of the problem and would also appreciate donations on the day.

Please support this worthy cause.

All welcome!

Linda Wright

Milborne Remembers and we need YOU!



TO commemorate the ending of World War One a hundred years ago the history group would like your help in putting on a display outside the village hall. We are asking for photos, stories anything you like to include. Remember it is not just about the soldiers that died but anyone in your family who served or were affected by the war. The items need to be waterproof (do not use originals) and can be added any time from the 27th October onwards. **Please get involved in this** – many villages have already started their displays and we want our village to remember and be grateful. *Linda Wright*

Community Contacts

Please let the *Reporter* know if any of these details change

More information about many community organisations can be found on www.milbornestandrew.org.uk

COUNCILS

North Dorset District Councillor	Emma Parker	01258 881631
	Jane Somper	077103 95359
Parish Council – Dewlish	Clerk: Sandra Sims	01258 837132
	Chair: Andrew Booth	01258 837284
Parish Council –	Clerk: Colin Hampton	01258 837011
Milborne St. Andrew	Chair: Joy Robinson	01258 837661

Floods A354 problems contact the Highways Agency 03001 235000
Dorset Direct 01305 221000
dorsetdirect@dorsetcc.gov.uk www.dorsetforyou.com/reportroadproblems
Environment Agency Floodline 03459 881188
South West Highways hello@swhitd.co.uk 01404 821500
Wessex Water Sewerage Floodline 03458 505959
MSA Flood Warden, Non-Emergency Only: Mark Johnson 01258 839060

GENERAL – ADULT

Ladies Group – Dewlish	Judith Bridgen	01258 837157
Moonlight Swing Band	Gillian Pink	01305 260731
M.A. Neighbourcar	Nigel Hodder	01258 470333
Wednesday Social Club	Sheila Burton	01258 839033
Women's Institute	Lesley Clarke	01929 471732

GENERAL – YOUTH

Ladybirds (Playgroup)	Liz Dyer	01258 839117
Scout Group (Secretary)	Brian Burton	01258 839033
Under 5's Group – The Busy Bees	Claire Tudge	07970 734162
Youth Club age 8 – 13 years	Joanne Miller	07940 017577

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:	Matt Way	
Friends of School Chair:	Caroline Richards	

SPECIAL INTEREST

Bellringers	Pip Bowell	01258 837329
Bridge Group	Laurie Benn	01258 837720
Cribbage	Peter Anthony	01258 837089
Dog Training Behaviour	Natasja Lewis	01305 849221
Food and Wine Society	Julie Johannsen	01258 839004
MSA Allotment Society Chair:	Joy Robinson	01258 837661
Secretary:	Anna Cullen	01258 837143
MSA Gardening Club	Sally Dyer	01258 837061
Milborne Players	Roy Sach	01258 837033
Round Robin Ramblers	Ian Bromilow	01258 880044
Tai Chi	Brian Burton	01258 839033
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 14s		
Manager/coach	Andy Brown	07427 503373
Treasurer	Simon Buckingham	01258 839122
Football – Veterans	Paul David	07841 506839
Running Group	Anne-Marie Pearson	01258 837057
Skittles – Dewlish	Frank Ross	01258 837366
Sports & Social Club	Chairman: Richard Lock	01258 837929
	Bookings: Richard Lock	01258 837929
Table Tennis	Pauline Pitfield	01258 839123
Tap Dancing for Adults	Kevin Selby	01305 250386
Tennis	Stephen Lang	07916 312452
Yoga (at school)	Sue Chapman	01305 848053
Yoga (at Sports & Social Club)	Saira Francis	01258 880505
Yoga (at village hall)	Sarah Ryan	01258 839230

VILLAGE HALL


Dewlish		
Chair:	Bernie Cosgrove	01258 837152
Booking Secretary:	Margaret Groves	01258 837617
Milborne St. Andrew		
Chairman:	Pam Shults	01258 837203
Booking Secretary:	Alison Riddle	01258 837148


HEALTH

Bere Regis Surgery		01929 471268
Milborne St. Andrew Surgery		01258 837383
Milton Abbas Surgery		01258 880210
Puddletown Surgery		01305 848333
NHS for non-emergencies		111
Patient Voice Secretary	Nigel Hodder	01258 880229



Milborne Movies
Friday 9th November
at 7.30pm
Doors and Bar at 7.00pm

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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

October

Saturday 27th **Ladybirds' Halloween party** Village Hall 5.30 to 7.00 pm Tickets £2.50 a child – see pages 9 and 16.

November

Wednesday 3rd **Wednesday Club AGM** Village Hall 2.00 to 4.00pm – see page 31.

Thursday 8th **WI** Pauline Trim will demonstrate the art of 'Crafting' – see page 27.

Friday 9th **Milborne Movies "Finding your Feet"** Village Hall Doors and bar from 7.00pm, movie starts at 7.30pm – see page 16 and 31.

Saturday 10th **WI Coffee Morning** in aid of Period Poverty Village Hall 10.00am–12 noon – see page 15.

Saturday 10th **Longmead Community Farm Open Day** 11.00am–2.00pm – see page 7.

Saturday 10th **Celebratory meal** in Commemoration of the end of the Great War. The Royal Oak 7.00pm – see page 9.

Sunday 11th **Remembrance Sunday** service at St. Andrew's church at 10.00am followed by a ceremony at the village Memorial Stone at 11.00am – see page 9.

Wednesday 14th **Mid-day deadline for Reporter** Send copy and pictures to msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk or give to a member of the Reporter team.

Thursday 15th **Gardening Club AGM** Village Hall – 7.30pm see below and page 21.

Wednesday 21st **Parish Council** Village Hall. October's report can be found on page 19.

December

Saturday 1st **Village Christmas Lunch** Village Hall 12.15 to 2.00pm – see 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 8–13 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

Tai Chi Tuesday mornings 9.30 run by Geoffrey Bellinger. Local contact Brian Burton 839033.

The Busy Bees Under 5 Group from 9.30am to 11.30am on Thursday term time only. Contact Claire Tudge on 07970 734162.

Nightsabre Dog Training, Behaviour and Rally Group. Tuesday mornings; Wednesday evenings; Saturday mornings. Contact details 01305 849221.

Yoga (Mellulah) Thursday (evening); Friday (mornings)

Private parties, birthdays, wedding receptions check online calendar.

U14 Football matches check online calendar

Ladies Premiership (regional) matches check online calendar

Dorset FA (gentlemen) matches check online calendar

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

This Month

at the **MILBORNE ST ANDREW GARDENING CLUB**



THE DREADED AGM

followed by:

How does your Garden Fare ?

a social celebration of member's produce

THURSDAY

15th November

7.30pm



Season's Refreshments



VENUE

The Village Hall

7.30 pm

Open to All — everyone is welcome



Entry: £2 non members

Milborne Sports

table tennis	Tia Chi
dog / puppy classes	Yoga
wedding receptions	Busy Bees
Private Parties	Meetings
Picnics / recreation	

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a 25m pool. Any age welcome.

Fiendishly fit,
hoping to be or
you just enjoy
a swim. Come
along to a
session for a
FREE trial
swim.



Tuesday 6.45pm - 8.30pm
Saturday 10am - Noon
Sunday 8am - 9am



We need Lifeguards

Become an RLSS qualified Lifeguard in return for
club membership

We provide all training, includes First Aid and CPR
Course suitable for anyone who is reasonably fit



For further information about membership or what is involved in becoming
a Lifeguard come along to one of our sessions at the Pool, Milton Abbey
School or contact us by telephone or email.

Call: 01258 881443 - Lynn or 881524 - Stephen or 880601 - Pat
Email: lynnargett47@gmail.com

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CONTACT: OLLIEMARKMARTIN@GMAIL.COM OR 07842124922

Crit'Air: The French Air Quality Certificate



OUR nice long warm summer is over. But are you intending to travel to France by car or motorcycle in the future? If so you should be aware that France has introduced two different types of environmental zones. These zones are designed to enable local government to manage vehicle pollution at times when air pollution rises above acceptable levels.

There are two types of zone

ZCR (zones à circulation restreinte) which are a permanent restriction. At the time of writing there are four ZCR zones, all in cities (Paris, Grenoble, Lille (from 2019) and Strasbourg).

ZPA ("zone de protection de l'air départementale") which are activated only during a spike in air pollution and would usually only be active for a few days until pollution levels drop back to an acceptable level. There is a sting in the tail though. ZPAs can cover several municipal areas or in many cases a whole French department (equivalent to one of our counties). Again, at the time of writing I count 28 ZPAs.

To drive or ride through one of these environmental zones when they are active, you need to be displaying a Crit'Air sticker which shows that your vehicle meets an environmental standard for that vehicle class which is set by the local authority. There are six colour coded stickers, a green one for zero emission vehicles then five others with a rating of one for the least polluting through to five for the most polluting vehicles. However, part of the classification of vehicles is based on which Euro emission standard the vehicle met when it was new. This means motorcycles registered before 31st May 2000 and cars before 31st December 1996 are not eligible for a sticker.

When applying for a sticker, make sure you use the official French government website and not another website that will supply you with your sticker but at an increased cost. The sticker currently costs €3.11 plus postage, which for the UK comes to a total of €4.21. If you are asked to pay more than this, check that you are on the correct website. <https://www.certificat-air.gouv.fr/en/>. It takes around 10 days to receive your sticker, so make sure you order in time for travel. The sticker itself is valid for as long as it is legible.

When planning your trip, the first issue you have is to work out if you are travelling through an environmental zone or not. A map showing the zones can be found at <https://www.crit-air.fr/en/information-about-the-critair-vignette/french-environmental-zones-zcr/french-environmental-zones.html> which also has links to each environmental zone showing its current status. The Green-Zones app shows the same information and can be downloaded from the App Store associated with your mobile device. If you are going to be travelling through an environmental zone, then you may want to check the night before to ensure that you are going to be allowed to. *If you are caught in an environmental zone when you are restricted from doing so then you can face a fine of €68.*

If your intended route does go through a restricted zone and you need to re-route, then I suspect you will need to do it the old fashioned way using a map. As far as I know Sat Navs currently do not have the option to exclude an environmental zone from their routing. Please let the *Reporter* know if you know different. Another consideration is that if your overnight accommodation is in the middle of an environmental zone which is to be activated the next day and your vehicle is below the environmental standard required, do you stay put and risk a fine the next day or leave that night?

The good news regarding ZPA zones is that I have been unable to find any evidence that they have been activated in the past, but that is not to say they haven't or will not be in the future. You have been warned.

Pete Constant

Parish Council approves village plan

THE Parish Council approved the Neighbourhood Plan at October's meeting, putting the NPG on the final straight with just a few hurdles left to jump. Councillors agreed that the plan document was fit to proceed to the next step at the District Council, where an independent examiner would be appointed to study the plan. Jo Witherden, for the NPG, explained at the meeting that it then is put to District Council and, if successfully approved, is voted upon by Milborne residents in a final referendum. The whole process is likely to take six months. She was thanked by chairman, Joy Robinson for her work and expertise involved in producing the document.

The community speed watch (CSW) group is ready to start monitoring speed in Milborne and it had been suggested that the PC formally adopt the group. Cllr MacNair proposed that the CSW becomes a Parish Council volunteer group, in doing so affording the group members liability insurance. Clerk, Colin Hampton, is to contact the insurance brokers to ensure there is no issue.

The stretch of Bere Stream from March Bridge to the farm cottages, the responsibility for which is due to pass to the PC later in 2019, was discussed, with it being noted that sediment had built up in recent months. Further consultation was likely to be needed from the Environment Agency for ongoing management of the stream.

A planning application has been received to convert a garage into a separate dwelling, at the corner of Blandford Hill and Lane End. The proposed new vehicle access onto the A354 was discussed but since the Highways department would be consulted as a part of the planning process, councillors had no reservations and approved the application.

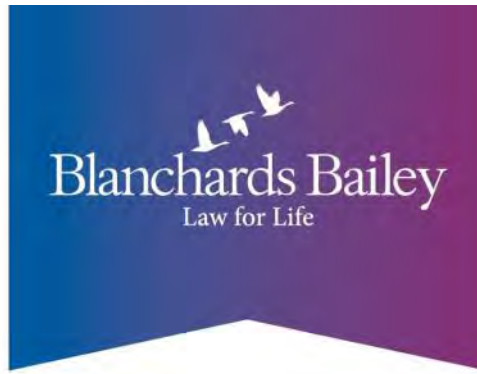
Following on from a previous decision to allow a data cable to be laid underground to the Sports Pavilion, the Sports Club chairman, Richard Lock, had investigated grant facilities, finding that one would be available through the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport. As the Sports Club's landlord, the PC was asked to consider requesting the installation from local company, Wessex Internet, thereby allowing a grant of £3,000 to be awarded for the cost of the installation. Mr Lock had provided a business plan for the cable and the effect super-fast broadband would bring to the Sports Club for existing users and potential new business and social opportunities. It would also enable remote control of lights, heating and CCTV, the latter being of significant importance given recent vandalism at the club. The request was agreed by the Parish Council and installation will go ahead.

It was noted that the condition of the building site at Fox View had not changed since the last meeting. Ankers and Rawlings, the owner of the land, has been given until the end of October to take appropriate action. If nothing has been done by then, the Parish Council will escalate the issue. It was noted that the condition of the building site at Fox View had not changed since the last meeting. Ankers and Rawlings, the owner of the land, has been given until the end of October to take appropriate action. If nothing has been done by then, the Parish Council will escalate the issue.

With the agenda items covered, some questions from the floor were asked, one being about the condition of a right of way in the village. The footpath from near the telephone exchange to the field adjacent the south side of Blandford Hill was said to be overgrown, with hedges both sides requiring maintenance. Councillors noted that it was the responsibility of the house adjacent and would endeavour to contact the owners who moved in earlier this year and politely inform them of their obligation.

Another concern was raised about the parking of vehicles at the car sales business on Dorchester Hill. Cars connected with the business were said to be at times parked on the junction of the Dewlish road and it was said that police had been called out following complaints from residents. The position of the cars on the forecourt fronting the main road also made it difficult for pedestrians to pass. Previous business owners at the site had left a margin for pedestrians to safely pass, it was noted, although there was no legal requirement to do this. Councillors agreed to write to the landowner of the site to suggest that this goodwill arrangement be continued.

Ed Richards



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New nuisance calls measures

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ROGUE companies making unsolicited calls related to personal injury claims could now be fined up to £500,000.

New powers which came into force on 8th September give consumers the choice to 'opt-in' to receive these calls, and people being harassed by nuisance calls now have new powers to stop them.

Cold calls offering to help claim compensation for mis-sold payment protection insurance (PPI) will be banned if the claimant has not chosen to 'opt-in' to receive them.

Previously people had to 'opt-out' of receiving such calls by registering with the free Telephone Preference Service or withdraw their consent while on the call. However, the new powers will force the caller to make the necessary checks to make sure they have the recipient's consent before calling.

Those offering unwanted claims management services could be fined as much as half a million pounds by the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) if they breach the rules.

The Financial Conduct Authority highlighted that in the last 12 months, approximately 2.7 billion unsolicited calls, texts and emails were made to the UK's adult population offering to help them make a claim. This includes calls about recent accidents or mis-sold PPI. This is equivalent to approximately 50 calls, texts or emails being made to every member of the adult population.

Individuals can opt-in to receiving these calls by consenting to be contacted by claims companies when enquiring about settling a claim, or when seeking claims advice.

These new measures together with the strengthened Data Protection Act, will curb the number of nuisance calls received by consumers.

If you receive nuisance calls you can report it to the ICO who may investigate and take action against those responsible. The Government has already made it easier for regulators to fine those breaching direct marketing rules, by forcing companies to display their number when calling customers and there are increased fines for wrongdoers.

If you think you have been the victim of a scam or would like advice about your consumer rights then please contact the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on 03454 040506.

Contrasting gardening talks



It seems a long time since our meeting in September, which was too late to get the article into the *October Reporter*. We had a most interesting talk from the photographer, Colin Varndell, on the development of his garden with wildlife in mind. A series of photos from a marshy field to a flower filled space with ponds and a stream was really inspiring. Followed by more stunning pictures of birds, butterflies and plants, it was an example of great professional and artistic skill.

Mrs Varndell then judged the members' fuchsia competition. Small plug plants had been distributed in March and grown on by members. Of some twenty plants the clear winner was Lin Chatfield who produced a plant covered in flowers. We shall be running a similar competition with daffodil bulbs planted now and judged in the spring.

October's meeting was a contrast, on 'Putting the Garden to Bed' for the winter. Our speaker first showed and talked about plants to brighten our gardens until the end of the year. Many had berries or striking foliage or stem colour and several were unusual, although hardy, and gave us lots of new ideas.

The second part of the talk was of steps to take before bad weather, pruning, protecting and feeding plants. Lots of samples of mulches and feeds were shown and encouraged questions from members. He finished by saying that the best thing about winter was the pleasure of planning what you might plant the next year, always looking forward to new ideas.

Sally Dyer

Another slice of Maths Café raises over £100

THE second 'Maths Café' was held at Milborne First School last month and was a resounding success. A dozen Year Four children were the café's staff, welcoming customers and taking orders and payments, assisted by Friends of School volunteers and their teacher, Miss Grimshaw. Lots of homemade cakes and biscuits were enjoyed by parents, grandparents and residents who came to support the event, which raised £101 for school funds.

The café is the brainchild of Friends of School and is designed to give the young students a chance to practice their number work in a real life situation, whilst at the same time welcoming people into school who may not ordinarily have the opportunity to do so. Trade was brisk, with nearly all covers taken at one point, so the children were definitely tested in all the tasks they had to perform. Miss Grimshaw had organised the twelve into three groups; one team to welcome customers and show them the café's



goods; a second team took orders from seated customers and the final team looked after the cash desk, adding up each customer's order, taking money and giving change. The three groups were rotated around each task regularly so each child had a go at all the jobs. So it wasn't just maths that the youngsters practised, as they had to be organised, take accurate orders and be customer-focussed. Indeed, many customers remarked how polite

all the children were, a credit to the school and parents.

The maths, though, is obviously the main reason the café is run and the children definitely all took something positive from the experience. One said, "I really enjoyed it – I forgot I was doing maths!", which sums up the spirit of the initiative, making learning maths fun. Another Year Four found that being on the 'till' was the best bit, saying "Working out people's change with real money was cool!" Some children wanted to be challenged further, saying "I want to do it again, but with more difficult prices!"

The children were kept busy with a steady stream of customers, from parents and grandparents and other Milborne residents to an entourage of Ladybirds children and staff, who had walked from the village hall to have a cup of squash and biscuit or cake. Each one then queued with the Ladybirds adults and handed over their money to pay. Some of them may well be staffing the café in a few years' time!

Miss Grimshaw was involved with the café for the first time and was pleased with how the event went for her Year Fours. She said, "It was great to see them applying their maths with confidence to a fun situation." The twelve children may have another opportunity to be involved with the café before they leave Milborne next year as it's hoped to stage another pop-up café in the spring. So if you missed it this time, you'll be well advised to come along to the next one – and, of course, the children hope to see the regular customers again too!

Ed Richards



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November recipe – Cinder Toffee

THE older I get, the more I really appreciate having the luxury of central heating in the cold winter months. The only form of heating in my childhood home before the mid 1960's was open coal fires, one in the sitting room and in the dining room. There was a fireplace in my parents' bedroom but it was only lit if someone was very ill and confined to bed in the depths of winter. The sitting room fire was lit by my brother in the late afternoon after he came home from school but the dining room fire was kept alight day and night except in a heatwave



– not very common in Yorkshire! There was a back boiler behind this fireplace which heated the water so, if the fire went out, that meant no hot water at all. There was quite an art in banking up the fire each night to make sure it didn't go out or burn up too quickly: first the glowing embers would be allowed to die down until the fire was nearly out and then small lumps of coal would be placed on the top. To finish off there would be a top layer of very fine coal and coal dust so

that most of the air was excluded. The fire would remain dormant all night and just smoulder away until morning.

Our coal was kept in the cellar and delivered down a chute every few months, my mother would inspect the new coal to make sure it was the best quality house coal and not inferior stuff. She would often complain to the coal man about the burning qualities of the previous coal delivery in the hope of some sort of discount but with little success. My job was to count the number of sacks delivered to make sure we weren't short changed. My mother was convinced that most tradesmen were not to be trusted and only a fool would not check carefully to make sure we were getting exactly what we had paid for. I found this embarrassing but it was really based on the old-fashioned virtue of thrift and the reality of having to count every penny of the housekeeping money. After each delivery my brother and I would sort the coal into big lumps and slack and sweep the dust into a pile, a delightfully dirty job which we loved. Our joint task was to bring up shovelfuls of coal as needed upstairs and we were always arguing about who's turn it was. The open fires needed to be cleaned out every day and the cinders were put in the metal dustbin, this was another messy job but mum did this every morning as she didn't trust us to carry the hot ashes and cinders out of the house without spilling them on the carpet.

I was the first in the house to get up when I was a teenager living at home because of my early morning paper round. When I came downstairs each morning my first task was to open up the bottom bit of the seemingly lifeless fire to let some air in, then careful use of the poker would coax the smouldering coal into flames and allow some warmth into the room.

If the fire had gone out then it was quite a performance to get it lit again. Instead of using bought firefighters we rolled up sheets of newspaper and twisted them into knots, then put a few sticks of kindling on the top and finally small lumps of coal. Sometimes I would try to hurry things along by using a sheet of newspaper across the front of the fireplace to encourage a draught but this approach was fraught with danger as the draught could suck in the newspaper so it caught fire!

Sometimes, if the fire was very nearly out, it could be revived by sprinkling a handful of sugar on the top, this not only burnt well but gave off a lovely caramel smell. Mum did not approve of using sugar for this and the distinctive smell often got me into trouble.

One of my earliest memories as a very small child is of sitting on the hearth in front of the blazing fire and softening the butter in the butter

dish so that it could be spread on the bread. Our kitchen had no form of heating at all so the butter was always rock hard in winter. This softening job needed concentration because if your mind wandered then the butter could melt into oil and I would be in trouble yet again for wasting food. We would have been amazed by Lurpak spreadable . . .

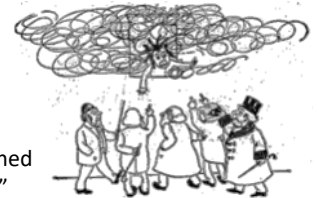
This month's recipe is for cinder toffee which is great fun for children to make for bonfire night but can have an unpredictable and slightly scary side to it. Not recommended for cautious cooks!

Having said that, there is no substitute for experience and a slightly singed finger really teaches you an important lesson which mere words of warning can't. There was the ever-present danger of fire in my childhood, fire guards were essential in houses with small children and I can remember the poem by Hilaire Belloc "Matilda told such dreadful lies it made one gasp and stretch one's eyes" being recited as a warning about the dangers of fire (as well as the consequences of telling lies) I especially loved the last four lines of the poem –

"For every time she shouted "Fire!"

They only answered "Little Liar!"

And therefore, when her Aunt returned
Matilda and her house were burned"



Cinder Toffee

Ingredients:

butter, for greasing
200g caster sugar
5 tbsp. golden syrup
2 tsp bicarbonate of soda

Method

Grease a 20cm square tin with the butter.

Mix 200g caster sugar and five tbsp golden syrup in a deep saucepan and stir over a gentle heat until the sugar has melted. Try not to let the mixture bubble until the sugar crystals have disappeared.

Once completely melted, turn up the heat a little and simmer without stirring until you have an amber coloured caramel (this won't take long), then, as quickly as you can, turn off the heat, tip in two tsp bicarbonate of soda and beat in with a wooden spoon until all the bicarb has disappeared and the mixture is foaming. Scrape into the tin immediately but be careful as the mixture will be very hot.

The mixture will continue bubbling in the tin, simply leave it and in about one hour – one hour 30 minutes the honeycomb will be hard and ready to crumble or snap into chunks.

If you dip the chunks into melted chocolate then it's a bit like Crunchie bar.

Village Hall notes

TO complement the smart décor, new doors on the field side of the hall will be installed as the present ones are falling to pieces. Also a new CCTV system is being installed thanks to Ian and Gren. The curtains are also being cleaned. A very successful Artsreach event was held on Sunday 7th; please support these events as not only is it an opportunity to see some wonderfully talented people but it does bring in income for the hall. For your diary there will be carols around the Christmas Tree again this year on December 21st at 6.30pm. Please also get involved in the World War One display which will be outside the hall from 27th October. *Linda Wright*

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Open Letter

Wyatt Homes

1, Parkestone Road, Poole BH15 2NN

18 Bladen View
Milborne St. Andrew
October 2018

Dear David Wyatt,

I am aware that a fresh application has been made for a development at the upper end of Huntley Down in Milborne St. Andrew.

I understand the need for development of areas for new houses required for our increasing population, but in the light of repeated rejections for the development of this small plot especially as it is still designated agricultural development land (an RPA),

I wonder whether you could consider a totally different idea. The plot is clearly elevated, and as such, any development would overlook much of the village. Although this makes the site undesirable for housing development, its very nature would make the plot an admirable site for a small wood. In the fullness of time, it would be a pleasure for the village to see trees on the horizon rather than houses. I am sure funding for such a plan could be found within the village, as has been achieved previously on the small site on the Dewlish road, known as Taylor's Pond, where trees were planted under the guidance of The Men of the Trees. Additional support could also be found from the Woodland Trust charity which in the event of this having your approval, I would be prepared to do the negotiations for this. Finally it may be fitting to call it 'Wyatt's Wood'.

Yours sincerely Philip Bowell



LETTERS to the Reporter

Dear editor

Please may I, through your letters page, thank the very kind person who put some lovely fresh flowers on Glenn's grave for his 39th anniversary 9th October. We really appreciate the thoughtful gesture.

June Maitland

Local small-ads

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Sturdy wooden playpen. Could also be used as a cot. £10.00.

Ride-on horse – suitable for 1 – 3 year old. Free to a good stable! Contact 01258 837921.

Milton Abbas Surgery

THANK you to everyone who came to our recent flu clinic which was, as usual, well attended. If you were unable to attend, but are still eligible for a flu vaccination, we are holding a second clinic at Milton Abbas Surgery on **Saturday 10th November** from **8.30–11.30am**.

This is a walk in session, so you do not need to book ahead. If you have an appointment with us for another purpose, your flu vaccination can be given at the same time: please try **not** to book a nurse appointment solely for your flu vaccination as we currently have limited capacity.

I'm sure I'm not the first to mention Christmas to you, but I thought it would be worth mentioning that over the festive period we will be closed on 25th and 26th December 2018 and 1st January 2019. We will be open as usual on other days.

Finally, I wanted to raise the issue of missed appointments. In August 49 doctor and nurse appointments were missed by patients: this was a total of 11 hours and 14 minutes. We appreciate that occasionally we all forget things and patients who do genuinely forget to attend are generally apologetic. Others though, fail to attend appointments with no regard to the impact on staff and other patients. Therefore we ask that if you are unable to attend or find that you no longer need your appointment, to contact the surgery on 01258 880210 to cancel or rearrange. We can then offer the free slot to another patient and reduce waiting times for everyone.

Giillian Brindle, Practice Business Manager

'THE GHOST FLEET' . . . at the October WI

WE are holding a Coffee Morning on **Saturday 10th November** in the Village Hall between 10.00am and 12 noon on behalf of period poverty. (Both Tesco and Boots have generously provided large quantities of sanitary products.) We would welcome as much support as possible from the village for this event.

A diary note for next year – the NFWI Annual Meeting will be held on 5th June 2019. We will send a named delegate, but there will also be observer tickets available for those interested in attending. For Remembrance Day on 11th November, June will lay our wreath on behalf of the WI. Our Pub Lunch will be on Wednesday 14th November, 12.30pm at The Royal Oak. With Christmas in mind, the committee have offered to provide the entertainment and we will, as always, celebrate with a shared festive supper. Donations will go to our local charity at Longmead.

Shirley reported that Bookends club had met to discuss its latest read by novelist Kirsty Logan, magic realism/fairytales. This was universally disliked, so not a good recommend! We move on to 'Counting the Stars' by Helen Dunmore, about the love affair between the poet Catullus and his older married lover. This author is one whose work we have much enjoyed to date.

Our local speaker, Bob Todd, is an experienced diver and diving instructor. He has taken part in diving expeditions around the world and recorded these underwater events on film. One of the world's greatest wreck diving destinations is the Truk Lagoon in the South Pacific, which had served as one of the Japanese Navy's main bases during the Second World War. Attacked by the Americans, many ships were sunk and many lives lost. This watery graveyard has now been reborn as wrecks have become covered with marine life and artificial reefs formed. Today the Truk Lagoon has become known as 'The Ghost Fleet', and is a destination for many experienced divers. Bob's reflective look at these poignant war remains captured this time capsule of history.

Our next meeting is on Thursday 8th November, when our own Pauline Trim will demonstrate the art of 'Crafting'. The exhibition will show 'Your homemade craft item'. Please do come along and join us.

Pat Bull



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THEN . . .



Then and Now, the *Reporter* looks at how Milborne has changed by comparing an archive photo of the village with the same view today. This month's is looking into Milton Road from 1 The Square; a quite different view from today's scene

. . . and NOW



Milborne St Andrew Neighbourhood Plan Nearly there.....

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November 2018

Since the end of the pre-consultation we have been beavering away, trying to tie up all the loose ends, taking on comments, chasing responses.

NOW WE HAVE ASKED THE PARISH COUNCIL IF THEY ARE HAPPY TO ADVANCE IT TO THE NEXT STAGE!

MORE PEOPLE ARE FOLLOWING US ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE!

We always share the latest page from the Reporter, and also occasionally add to it over the month, although we have to admit to not putting much on this month!

The journey has been a bit wet at times, very busy at times, and very challenging.....at times! Yes, we still have a fair way to go, unless we are **REALLY** lucky and don't have to make any changes after the questioning.

THE PICTORIAL PEOPLE JOURNEY



In March 2015, this is where we began to ask you what you thought should be in the new Plan, and you did!

Wish it would stop raining! Over 3 months from January to March 2017, we walked all 24 of the sites put forward by landowners, and it mostly rained!

The Neighbourhood Plan is all about **people** doing things, volunteering, taking time to help. **This is YOUR story**



Exploring the village in the **PLACE** research

YOU may think we are just looking around the building, what you can't see are the ½ inch hailstones outside!



By June 2017 we were able to display every single site put forward, with photos, research, highways comments, an enormous amount of work to put this display on.... Ready for the village residents to choose their favourites.



From the sites display, the 4 top site owners/representatives were invited to talk to the village in November 2017, who, once again, told us what they thought.



WHAT HAS BEEN THE MOST CHALLENGING PART OF THIS JOURNEY?

Apart from the learning curve of all the volunteer working group, it has been keeping the enthusiasm up. We had to remember the immense support from the majority, and not be affected by the few negative comments. Also, keeping up with the landowners/representatives who were not chosen as preferred and have been jumping in with plans for their land. The rules really have to change to protect NP's, as this is not a rare problem with other Neighbourhood Plan groups.

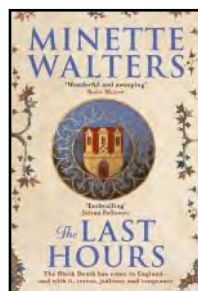
A Good Read: "The Last Hours" by Minette Walters

DESCRIBED by some critics as a 'social parable' this novel blends fact and fiction to great and gripping effect. Those of you who are fans of Ms Walters' fiction will find this a departure from her usual style. It is in fact the first of three, the second due out this month (October 2018). It is set during the predations of the Black Death, a plague which killed one half of Europe's population and 100 million people worldwide. The year is 1348, the setting is Dorset and the particularity of this are the villages surrounding us here in Milborne St. Andrew and the underlying philosophy, that 'evil begets evil'. It is set in the demesne of Develish (not difficult to translate!) managed by Sir Richard and Lady Anne. The former is absent whilst his wife is left to manage 200 bonded serfs, all ignorant of the outside world. They had sworn an oath of fealty to their master as follows "I will not marry or leave this land without my lord's permission and I bind my children and my children's children to this promise". The "strange sickness" had entered England through the port of Melcombe Regis. As it stalks the perimeters of the demesne Sir Richard is visiting Bradmayne in order to arrange a marriage for his wilful and destructive daughter Eleanor to Sir Peter, a sickly and unwilling young man.

Ms Walters uses Biblical language throughout and as the terrible tale unfolds reveals contempt for the ruling classes at that time. It doesn't take long for convent educated Lady Anne to discern the need for complete isolation in order to keep her people safe from contamination. She is aided in this by a superior serf Thaddeus Thurkle, (unbonded because not his father's son). Lady Anne is a progressive woman with grit and good sense seeing her husband and his like as 'venal cowards'. The atmosphere created is claustrophobic and increasingly horrific as she burns the bridge over the river and draws up their boat to repel all comers however well-armed and aggressive. Her spies tell her of the Bradmayne estate where men 'urinated where they stood, women emptied slops outside their doors, dogs scavenged in the excrement and open sewers ran beside the house'. Aware that her returning husband's sickness is a contamination from that place she also denies him entrance. And so the war of attrition begins. She has enemies and incredible difficulties both within and without. Someone has to leave the safety of her walls to see what has become of their nearest neighbours.

This is a well researched and enthralling glimpse into 14th century Dorset. With two more volumes to come there is plenty to absorb you over the long nights of the coming winter. One for your Christmas list perhaps?

Carole Fornachon



Christmas Concert in Milton Abbey

Enjoy a performance by Cantamus Choir in the remarkable acoustic ambiance and magnificent setting of Milton Abbey Historic Church this Christmas on Thursday December 13th 2018 at 7.30pm

CANTAMUS was formed in 2012 and has been performing around west Dorset, east Devon and south Somerset ever since, giving concerts in spring, summer and Advent each year. The 25 members all live within reach of Bridport, where they rehearse at Holy Trinity Church, Bothenhampton.

The choir performs a magical mix of the very best music from six centuries of composition: Palestrina and Gibbons, Mozart and Mendelssohn, Bob Chilcott and John Tavener. Rather than being based around one major work, Cantamus programmes consist of about 20 songs or short movements, so there's always something for everyone; listeners find themselves challenged by an unfamiliar piece one minute, then relaxing into the comfort of an old favourite the next. The Milton Abbey concert will include some traditional Christmas music, including the Coventry Carol and Rutter's arrangement of the Sans Day Carol, as well as a couple of rarely heard 17th-century pieces by Juan García de Zéspedes (Mexico) and Joan Cererols (Spain).

With a fine tone and an exquisite blend of voices, the choir has established a loyal following across the region among lovers of quality sacred and secular music. After a recent concert, one audience member wrote: "What consistently turns Cantamus concerts from very good to outstanding is [the] brilliant choice of repertoire," while other reactions have included "stunning", "beautiful" and "fabulous".

The group's musical director is Malcolm Knowles, a St. John's College Cambridge choral scholar who went on to study singing in the UK and Austria. He has had a long, distinguished career as a tenor soloist in choral music and opera, and has directed several accomplished choirs. The accompanist is Steve Kinnersley, a pianist of broad experience who also currently plays with the Dorchester Area Schools Partnership orchestra and is a member of a local folk duo.

Tickets are just £10 for adults and £5 under 18s, available via our web site box office at www.miltonabbey.org/events, and also on the door. Proceeds going to the Milton Abbey Heritage Charitable Trust towards the Abbey renovations.

Brian R. Larcher, Development Manager, Milton Abbey Heritage Trust



Credit: © Maisie Hill

Eyes down at Wednesday Club

THE Wednesday Club enjoyed an amusing game of bingo for our October meeting. It certainly was not up to the standard of Mecca bingo but a good laugh was had by all.



The November meeting will be the AGM with the photo competition of members taken between the ages of five and ten.

The committee are busy arranging the Christmas Party at The Royal Oak and the New Year lunch, which this year will be at the

Frampton Arms at Moreton. Members should give their names to the Treasurer next month for both events.

Jenny Balcon

Milborne Movies are showing Finding Your Feet

in Milborne St Andrew
on Friday November 9th.

Doors and Bar open 7.00; film starts 7.30

WHEN 'Lady' Sandra Abbott (Academy Award nominee Imelda Staunton) discovers that her husband of forty years (John Sessions) is having an affair with her best friend she seeks refuge in London with her estranged older sister Bif (Celia Imrie) – outspoken, serial dating and free-spirited: she couldn't be more different. But different is just what Sandra needs at the moment, and when she reluctantly lets Bif drag her along to a community dance class, she gradually starts finding her feet and romance as she meets her sister's friends, Charlie (Timothy Spall), Jackie (Joanna Lumley) and Ted (David Hayman).

Thanks to the website 'Rotten Tomatoes' for this description. They also call it a feel-good romance . . . and those actors are a pretty good recommendation!

THE ROYAL OAK



A family friendly traditional village pub in Milborne St. Andrew

Andrew and Sarah Fox welcome you to their family run freehouse in the heart of Dorset. Situated on the A354 between the towns of Dorchester and Blandford Forum, found in the traditional Dorset village of Milborne St. Andrew. Offering a delicious range of food and drink in a welcoming atmosphere.

WHAT'S ON IN NOVEMBER

Thursday 15th
Classic Comfort Food
Theme Night
£10.95 per head

Thursday 29th
Pie Night
£10.95 per head

Sunday 23rd December
Live Music with Nina Garcia

Christmas menu now available.
Contact Jo or Sarah to discuss
your party needs!

CARVERY EVERY FRIDAY & SUNDAY

12 noon to 2.30pm
£8.95

(Friday only)
From 6.00pm
£10.95

Smaller appetite
£8.95

Children
£5.95

All day Sunday
£10.95

Booking recommended

TO BOOK CALL
01258 837248

Dorchester Hill, Milborne St. Andrew, Dorset DT11 0JG
Visit www.theroyalokmilborne.co.uk
or for enquiries email hello@theroyalokmilborne.co.uk

