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# Reporter

80P WHERE SOLD

News and Views from around the area

Volume 12 Issue 2

February 2020

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Paper copy to any of the team



## Leaping into a longer February



WE'VE got an extra day at the end of February, to account for earth's orbit around the sun taking 365.2422 days. Yes, it's a leap year, that time when traditionally women can ask men to marry them on the 29th February, when apparently they should be wearing breeches or a scarlet petticoat, according to the tradition. Although now we're in the 21st century, it's widely acknowledged that women can propose to a man – or a woman – on any day of the year, wearing whatever they choose. We've come a long way ...

Leap years were introduced by Julius Ceasar in 46BC on the advice of an astronomer to help synchronize the calendar year with a solar one. It was fine-tuned in 1582 by Pope Gregory XIII with the new Gregorian calendar, with the extra day being added using the

calculations of the German mathematician and astronomer, Clavius. He declared that leap years should occur once every four years, except if it ended with '00', unless that year was divisible by 400. So the new millennium saw the year 2000 having a February 29th, but the year 2100 will not be a leap year. That's something to look forward to ...

People born on 'Leap Day' are called, apparently, 'leaplings' or 'leapers'. They might also be called 'unlucky' as they only have presents once every four years. But are all those who earn a fixed salary unlucky too, since they effectively work for free on 29th February? But take heart if this does include you as this 29th February falls on a Saturday. Enjoy your leap day!

*Can you fill these seats? see page 29 for more details*





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## ***'Nothing goes to waste' ... at the January WI***

CONGRATULATIONS are due to our own Jenny Preston, who, by her own admission has 'risen to the dizzy heights of Federation Chairman'! A member, and past President of our WI for 20 years, we are very proud of her well-deserved elevation to this post. Well done Jenny!

With Christmas firmly behind us, we gathered for our first meeting of the New Year, which will no doubt be busy as always. In the short term Heather and June have finalised arrangements for our post-Christmas meal this month, and in February we celebrate 75 years as a WI, so more celebrations to come.

Recycling our household waste is probably not always foremost in our minds, but it is something we deal with on a daily basis in our own homes. What happens to it after we have filled our bins and boxes? Darren Orchard of Dorset Waste Partnership (DWP) had come along to fill us in on just that. Darren is part of a small team who go out into the community to talk about the important part that waste disposal and its recycling plays in our lives.

DWP was formed in 2011, bringing together 7 Councils within Dorset, including the waste disposal authority, and it is responsible for the collection and disposal of household waste and recycling. Dorset is proud of the fact that there are no open landfill sites any more and that our standardisation of recycling is one of the biggest and best in the country. As good residents, if we put the right waste in the right bin we are contributing to this success.

Although the collection of garden waste is optional, it has proved to be immensely popular. All of this comes at a cost, of course, and this is where our local heroes in the community also need to be congratulated, eg the litter picking groups around the County, doing an amazing job on a voluntary basis!

Nor surprisingly, there were many questions during and after Darren's talk. Who would have thought that the subject of recycling could be so interesting and at the same time so heartening? We are very fortunate in Dorset to have a 'whole system' approach to such an environmentally important issue.

At our next meeting on Thursday 13th February Rob Clarke will talk on the History and Technology of Paper and the competition will be for a 'Paper item'. Please come along and join us, we would be delighted to welcome you.

*Pat Bull*

## **Staying Healthy in Winter**

COLDS, flu and pneumonia are all more common in winter and it doesn't have to be especially cold for seasonal viruses to spread. So what can you do to help yourself get through the winter without falling ill?

- Get your free flu jab: everyone aged 65 and over is entitled to a free flu jab. Even if you're fit and healthy, it's a good idea to have the jab to help protect yourself and others;
- Ask if you are eligible for a pneumonia vaccination and have this if you are;
- Wash your hands regularly to help stop germs spreading;
- Stock up with over-the-counter medicines such as paracetamol and ibuprofen;
- Wrap up well when you go out in the cold, layers work best, and remember hat, gloves, thick socks and scarf;
- Keep your home warm, around 21 degrees in your living room and 18 degrees in your bedroom;
- Keep moving: try not to sit still for more than an hour at a time. Get up and move around or move your arms and legs to help you keep warm; finally
- Make sure you eat well, with at least one hot meal a day and several warm drinks, making sure you have a nutritious and varied diet.
- Finally, stay aware of those who live around you who are elderly, frail or living alone: a little bit of help can go a long way.

## **MSA Food and Wine Club AGM – 11th December 2019**

**This wasn't just an AGM, this was an M&S AGM.** Or at least the Kingston Maurward House events board had us down as M&S AGM.

But seriously, this was an AGM like no other I've been to. My wife and I only joined the Milborne St. Andrew Food and Wine Club last January when we moved into the village. In fact, it was the first thing we did, so this is our first AGM.

No other AGM I have been to supplied a luxury coach to get there



and back. Nor did they provide such a warm welcome in such lovely surroundings coupled with some fabulous bubbly; well, what did you expect, we are a food and wine club. And it was lovely to see everyone in their finery.

Surrounded by a bunch of thoroughly delightful, warm hearted, fun loving foodies, we were soon ushered into the Pengelly room for our very sumptuous Christmas AGM meal. It has to be said, the food and wine was excellent. The bar also had some very fine beers available to those of us who prefer a beer.



As always, the committee, led by outgoing Chair, Julie Johannsen, did a superb job of organisation and seating arrangements. The tables were beautifully decorated and the Rocket Balloons proved tremendous fun.

But most important of all was the company. What more can you ask for but an evening of stimulating conversation, fun and laughter?

There was the usual AGM business but it was kept very brief. Julie, as expected stood down as chair. Rose Frost has stepped into her shoes as our new Chair. Penny Pearce has been elected Treasurer and Jim Park, Secretary. Your new committee also includes Jenny Balcon, Linda Caldwell, Laurie Benn, Linsey O'Neill and me, Steve O'Neill and we are already planning lots of fun events for the coming year.

You too can join in the fun. We are always open to new members. Please contact [msa.foodandwineclub@gmail.com](mailto:msa.foodandwineclub@gmail.com), or call Rose Frost on 01258 837921 for details. A year ago I thought it was worth it. I was right!

*Steve O'Neill*





## Forming new habits

Lent begins towards the end of the month. Have you thought about how you might keep this season of penitence and fasting?

The point of self-denial is not to give up the things one likes for the sake of it or solely to make oneself feel deprived, but in order to deepen one's spiritual life and relationship with God.

When Christians fast – whether that be giving up meals, chocolate, alcohol, social media, television or something else entirely – the purpose is to shift the focus from ourselves to God. Each time Jesus was tempted in the wilderness, he was able to counteract the temptation by returning to the teachings of Scripture. In doing this, he was revealing that God was more important than pleasing himself or anyone else. He broke the power of the invitations to turn stones into bread, to jump off the temple and to have the wealth of the world each time by turning to God's Word. It was a positive choice and decision.

Scientific research has shown that it is far easier to break a bad habit, if we are able to put a good one in its place. This can work in all sorts of circumstances. Perhaps next time you are tempted to go for some unhealthy snack, you might choose an apple or a carrot. The more you make this choice, the easier it becomes. The old habit is replaced by the new one. Rather than focussing merely on the negative of what you can't have, the positive message of having something that is good for you reinforces the new habit.

We can make this work for our faith too. What bad habit would you like to reframe? Perhaps God is pushed out of your daily life, because everything else takes over. How about setting the alarm ten minutes earlier to make more time or turning the telly on fifteen minutes' later in the evening? Or maybe you've got out of the habit of coming to join the Christian community for worship each week in church. Why not make this the Sunday you turn that around? Or if you're not able to get to church, why not enquire about having communion at home? The Bible sits gathering dust on your bookshelf because you've not opened it for a while and think it's hard to understand. Why not read a chapter of a Gospel each day? There's that person that you find it hard to love . . . find something positive about them each time you get those negative thoughts. Or pray for them – I know from experience how that can help change one's attitude about someone. Upset by the negativity that is shown on social media – perhaps your new habit could be to write only positive things that build up and encourage others rather than drag them down.

There are so many new habits we can form, and Lent is a great time to think about doing this. Every time we replace an old, ungodly habit with something more like the attitude of Jesus, we continue our transformation into becoming the person God wants us to be.

Being a Christian is not a static state, but one where we are called to be a disciple in every aspect of life, becoming more Christ-like each day. It's a journey of discovery and excitement, but one that is so important it also demands commitment and sacrifice. Are we bold enough to take that step?

Best wishes

*Sarah*

## St. Andrew's News

### The New Year heralds in a busy season

I THINK that we have all recovered from the hustle and bustle of Christmas and the New Year celebrations but still hold fond memories. The church and porch were beautifully decorated by fabulous flower displays thank to the team of florists. It helped celebrate the joy of Christmas.

Thanks to Sarah and all those involved with arranging and running events and services, everything went to plan and a wonderful time was had by all. I think my favourite memories are those of walking around our village with a group of school children, their parents and some of our congregations singing carols (and getting a bit wet). The money raised went to Julia's House charity. Also, I really enjoyed the Schools' Christmas celebration in church, our Carol Service, Midnight Mass and Christmas day service.

Another special memory is of the excitement and joy on the faces of the children (and some grown-ups) who came to the Christingle service. Sarah makes this service not only fun but ensure that the children enjoy themselves and find out about the real meaning of

## Services in the Benefice of Puddletown, Tolpuddle, Milborne and Dewlish

### February 2020

#### 2nd February – Presentation of Christ in the Temple

9.30am	Parish Communion	Tolpuddle
9.30	Celebrate . . .	Milborne
11.00	Parish Communion	Puddletown
	+ Holy Baptism	
11.00	1662 Morning Prayer	Dewlish
4.00pm	Messy Church	Milborne Sports Club

#### 9th February – 3rd Sunday before Lent

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

#### 16th February – 2nd Sunday before Lent

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

#### THURSDAY 20th February

12 noon	Lunch-time Communion	Puddletown Church Room
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#### 23rd February – Sunday Next before Lent

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

#### 26th February – ASH WEDNESDAY

6.30pm	United Benefice Holy Communion with imposition of ashes	Milborne
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#### MORNING PRAYERS

##### Monday to Thursday 8.15 am Saturday. 9.00am

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

#### LENT

During Lent there will also be: Compline in Milborne at 6.00pm and Evening Prayer in Dewlish at 6.30pm on Thursdays

### 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.





Christmas. A team of helpers supported the children and provided food after the service; thank you all.

Looking forward to Lent and the appropriate services, there is a lot of preparation to do. We need ongoing reminders as to why Lent is so important to us Christians and gives us the opportunity to attend sessions led by Sarah which will challenge us to think deeper.

We hope that children and families will come to the Good Friday Children's event held in the Village Hall so that they can be made aware of the importance of Easter. This event is open to all children and families from the benefice so please come along. Watch out for notices on Pew Sheets or posters sent around nearer the time.

You will see, in the *Reporter* and on the church's notice boards, about relevant services which will be happening during Lent. All are invited to come along, even if you are not a regular visitor to St. Andrew's church.

## Dewlish Church Notes

OUR church's Christmas Bazaar went really well with some very generous donations to the stalls. Thank you very much to everyone for your support. We raised £450, a really good sum, and a great help towards our annual expenses of around £11,000.

Unfortunately, we were unable to sing carols at the pub this year due to illness. We were also feeling very sad after the funeral of a very dearly-loved villager, Rod Chutter, whose funeral service was held that day. The attendance of over 300 people gave testament to how very well loved and respected he was. Our heartfelt condolences go to Jan and the family.

The Carol Service went very well, with the children delighting the congregation once again. Thank you, all. Many thanks, as always, to Ed who set up the lights and the microphones, and to the wonderful band. Lastly, a big thank-you to Jim who, despite having been ill, managed to organise it once again. The collection amounting to £157 will be sent to the Children's Society.

Our church was beautifully decorated for Christmas. Thank you, ladies – and Jim – for all your wonderful work.

Daphne Burg

## Lent in the Benefice

As the magazine goes to press, there are still things to be confirmed but during Lent there will be the following opportunities offered:

**Ash Wednesday 26th February 6.30pm. Milborne St. Andrew church** Holy Communion with imposition of ashes.

**Mondays from 2nd March 12noon. The Royal Oak, Milborne St Andrew** Come and discuss the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent Book *Saying Yes to Life* (SPCK, £9.99) over a pint, coffee or lunch – you choose what you order. Recommended by the Bishop of Salisbury for parishes to study during Lent this year, the book looks at environmental, social and ethical issues and their connection to our faith. How can we make a difference for good in our world?

### Church Contacts

Vicar Sarah Hillman 01305 848784  
E-mail: sarah.c.hillman@outlook.com  
Rev Rosie Coldwell 01258 839214

### 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

**Tuesdays from 3rd March 7.30pm. Puddletown Church Room**  
*The Greatest Showman* film was panned by the critics but loved by millions. Rachel Mann has written a Lent Course (*From Now On* Darton, Longman & Todd, £6.99) to help us reflect on how we can face and overcome doubt, prejudice and temptation; live more authentic lives and celebrate God's world and each other. We'll watch the whole film the first week, and then use excerpts to aid our discussions after that.

**Thursdays from 5th March 12.30pm. Dewlish – various locations** Lent lunches – delicious soup, bread and cheese in return for a donation to charity.

**Thursdays 6.00pm. Milborne St. Andrew church** Compline: a quiet, reflective short service for the evening.

**Thursdays 6.30pm. Dewlish church** Evening prayer: a said service with a thought for reflection.

**Throughout Lent times and place to suit** Come and have a one-to-one chat with Sarah about your spiritual life: where it's at now and how you might go deeper in your relationship with God.

Contact Sarah (01305 848784; sarah.c.hillman@outlook.com) for more information about any of the above or to book a one-to-one appointment. There will be opportunities to order the books for the Monday and Tuesday sessions through Sarah later this month and during the first half of February).



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# This Month

at the **MILBORNE ST ANDREW GARDENING CLUB**



## Trees in your Garden

Mark Hinkley

### Thursday

20th February



Refreshments



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# MILBORNE ST ANDREW FIRST SCHOOL

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## SCHOOL NEWS



ON Monday 13th January, four of our Year 4's were invited to St. Mary's Middle School in Puddletown to be put through their paces by Mr Dailey and his Sports Leaders. Everyone had great fun. Thank you to our parents for providing the transport. Well done team!



Tim from Wessex Water came to school to talk to us about water conservation and how our water is cleaned. The Year 3s completed some hands on experiments. They had to filter dirty water using a plastic bottle, sand, cotton wool and a sieve. They all did very well and Tim graded our clean water eight out of ten! Well done Year 3.



## 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:** Marie Chappell and Natalie Dennis

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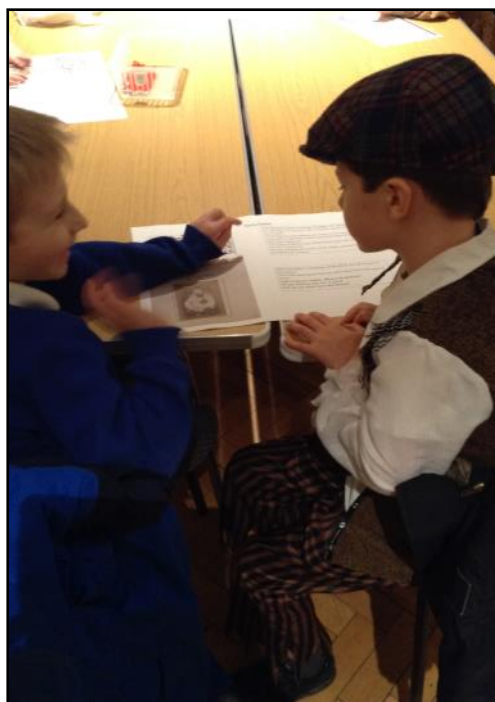
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This half term Robins Class (Year 1 and 2) are learning about the Victorians. To kick off our topic, we visited Shire Hall Museum in Dorchester. We learnt all about Harry Parker, a seven year old boy who was charged with arson and sentenced to five years at the Reformatory School in Milborne St. Andrew. We looked at various primary and secondary sources and enjoyed being detectives to work out if we thought Harry was guilty! We thought about how Harry would have felt being sent to the prison and having to go in the dark and scary cells!





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## Enjoying the rain at Ladybirds

AS they say 'if you can't beat it' join it' and it certainly seems true of the wet weather. The children (well most of them) love being outside and if there's a puddle they have to be in it. They've run in it, jumped in it, ridden bikes through it, pushed cars through it and tried to leap across it. The leaping wasn't so successful as it seems two, three and four year olds jump up and down rather than leap forward and demonstrating with a child holding both hands meant landing in rather than over the water. The things a preschool helper has to do! And of course there is the dressing and undressing, drying of clothes and washing of muddy waterproofs to do. Even

with all this it has to be said we love our jobs and feel it is fantastic to be able to share with our parents the antics and characters we see every day.

This term we are looking at 'books' including all sorts of things that have writing in them. This is to encourage the children to look for letters of their name, retell their favourite stories, and understanding that writing has a meaning. We have started by asking children to bring a book from home to share. I found out a book I had as a child about farm animals which must be nearly 60 years old now; I wonder if any of you have still got books you had as a child.

*Liz Dyer*



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### To find out more:

Call in to see us at the village hall or contact  
Liz Dyer (Leader) on 01258 839117;  
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**PRESENT**

WRITTEN BY LINELIGHT SCRIPTS  
as adapted by the Milborne Players

DIRECTED BY CAROLINE NOBBS

## Dick Whittington



**FEBRUARY 6<sup>TH</sup>, 7<sup>TH</sup> AND 8<sup>TH</sup> 2020**  
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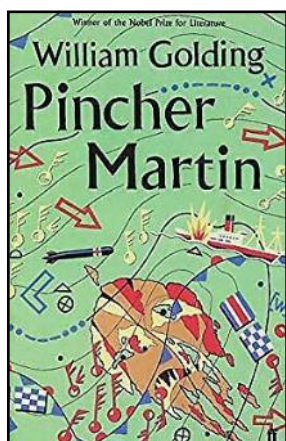
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## A Good Read 'Pincher Martin' by William Golding



THIS is a story about a man who was pitched from a Royal Navy destroyer into the North Atlantic when it was hit by a battleship military torpedo during the last World War. It is an incredible tale of someone experiencing an existential crisis whilst drowning. We read of his hallucinations as he hovers between sanity and insanity, reality and unreality. He goes through a delusional phase whilst on, what is probably, Rockall. I can liken it to a 'daymare' or going under gas at the dentist! Kenneth Tynan, a critic at the time of its first publication in 1956, described Golding's writing as "technical wizardry". We

discover that the man is called Christopher Hadley Martin, that he displays a selfish greed for life, a life during which he has been unkind and uncaring of most others except one, Nat. His ravenous ego invents a rock for him to endure on. It is an allegory of purgatory and damnation as he feels the total terror of isolation. A dense yet sparse narrative displaying Golding's virtuosity as a writer. Reading of Christopher's longing for salvation we experience his gruelling and utterly realistic fracturing of self, a madness arising from loneliness. Throughout this shocking and unusual tale we feel the crushing power of the ocean, its 'ridiculous' depths and obscurities described as a 'continuous, subtle, unending friction'. It is both profound and disturbing, not to be forgotten in a hurry! I last read it 40 years ago but could still recall certain pieces of the action. It details the primary conflict of man versus self. The structure is rich and compelling, a meditation on the interactions of mind and body. Like Golding's first novel (this is his third), 'Lord of the Flies', it is a story of survival and physicality. To add authenticity to the tale, having joined the RN in 1940, Golding himself saw action against battleships, taking part in the pursuit of the Bismarck. He ended the war as a Lieutenant in command of a rocket ship off the French coast during the DDay invasion. If you choose to read this incredibly unusual book be prepared to join Christopher in his watery world whilst cocooned in the warmth of your home for he will undoubtedly draw you into his. *Carole Fornachon*

## The excitement of Christmas lingers on

LAST year the Events Committee decided to change the way that the traditional Christmas Market was run; it was a bit of a gamble but proved to be worth the effort. Instead of being a lunchtime/early afternoon event the new look Christmas Fair opened at 4.00pm. This was a wonderful opportunity to have lots of glittery lighting with tinsel and other Christmassy decoration bedecking the stalls while the hall lights were subdued. Thanks to the Village Hall committee the hall had been beautifully decorated as well. It gave a feel of an outdoor Christmas Fair.

All who came enjoyed the atmosphere, Mulled Wine, tombolas and bought from the other stalls. There were fabulous raffle prizes and a lucky entry ticket prize. Thanks to all who helped make it an enjoyable and profitable occasion.

The committee are currently planning a Valentine Quiz evening which we hope will be enjoyed by all on the 15th February. The following event will be a Fairtrade presentation by Judith Holmes in the Village Hall on the 25th March. This is a free event open to all who have an interest in supporting producers in developing countries achieve better trading conditions whilst buying ethically sources products from around the world. Watch out for posters and Facebook pages.

## Artsreach presents Mazymeg and the Honeybees Angel Heart Theatre Wednesday 19th February at 4.00pm Milborne St. Andrew Village Hall Standard Ticket £7, Under 18s £5. Family ticket £20



**Telephone booking: Angela Johnson 01258 839060**

Albert lives alone with his beloved honeybees on Dartmoor, a mysterious land where nothing is as it seems. One day a stranger appears and steals Albert's bees and it's as though the light has gone from Albert's world. But a second visitor comes to his cottage – a little Pisky, called Mazymeg. She promises to find his bees, for she knows who the stranger is: Dark Dewer, the wicked wizard. ('Tis said on Dartmoor that to get lost is to be 'pisky-led').

Lose your way with Mazymeg and a host of strange and funny characters, as she tries to bring home Albert's bees. Weaving threads of Devon folklore, an original soundtrack by Dartmoor musicians and shape-shifting puppetry, this is Angel Heart's most enchanting show yet. Suitable 3+. [www.angelhearttheatre.com](http://www.angelhearttheatre.com) [www.artsreach.co.uk](http://www.artsreach.co.uk)



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**Blandford Forum, Dorset DT11 0JQ**

# February recipe – Snowdrop cocktail

I'VE been writing this reminiscences, recipes and rhymes column for four years now, this will be my last one.

Here is a list of all the 45 recipes and the date they were published so if anyone wants to look up a recipe you can go to the online archive of all the past issues of the *Reporter* at [www.milbornestandrew.org.uk/Reporter](http://www.milbornestandrew.org.uk/Reporter).

## 2016

March – Lemon Meringue Pavlova

April – Rice Pudding

May – Ex-Pat's Pimms and German Maibowle

June – Fruit Scones

July – Seasonal Strawberry Recipes

August/September – Meat and Potato Pie

October – Parkin

November – Sticky Ginger Pudding with Whisky Mac Sauce

December – Christmas Dinner for a large family gathering

## 2017

January – Spiced Seville Orange Marmalade

February – Savoury Stuffed Pancakes

March – Vegetarian Moussaka

April – Jersey Royal and Avocado Salad

May – Rhubarb and Strawberry Crumble

June – Caramac Buns

July – Gravdax Mousse

August/September – Yorkshire Pudding

October – Brooklyn Blackout Cake

November – Curry Sauce

December – Terry's Chocolate Orange Truffle Torte

## 2018

January – Haggis Beef/Venison Wellington

February – Smoked Haddock and Sweetcorn Chowder

March – Steak and Guinness Pie

April – Rhubarb and Cointreau Fool with ginger nut biscuits

May – Mint Julep and Kentucky Burgoo

June – Cider braised Dorset Lamb Steak with Rosemary Cobbler

July – Watercress Soup

August/September – Manchester Tart

October – Obazda

November – Cinder Toffee

December – Yorkshire Christmas Eve Trifle

## 2019

January – Hogmanay Haggis Pie

February – Chow Mein

March – Glamorgan Sausage Rolls

April – The Full English starter and Steak and Kidney Pudding and Rhubarb Syllabub

May – Rock Cakes

June – Marble Cake

July – Kedgeree Fish Pie

August/September – Yorkshire Fry

October – Chicken Liver Risotto

November – Pot Luck Christmas Dinner Pie and Christmas Pudding Liqueur

December – Stilton and Egg Mousse

**All copy for the March *Reporter* must be received by mid-day 14th February.**



## 2020

January – Chocolate Brownies

February – List of recipes and Snowdrop Cocktail

**Snowdrop Cocktail – a couple of these should warm your toes up . . .**

1/2 oz Vodka

1/2 oz Triple Sec or Cointreau or Grand Marnier

1/2 oz White Cream De Cacao

(1/2 oz = 1 tablespoon = 15 ml)

Shake with crushed ice in a cocktail shaker and serve in a suitable glass.

## Cheers!

To finish with, a favourite poem from my very earliest childhood. I felt sorry for The Snowdrop Fairy's cold bare feet and in my copy of the book I crayoned on some warm red fluffy slippers for her. I got a massive telling off from Mum for defacing a book and

can honestly say I've never done it since!

## The Snowdrop Fairy

Deep sleeps the Winter,  
Cold, wet, and grey;  
Surely all the world is dead;  
Spring is far away.  
Wait! the world shall waken;  
It is not dead, for lo,  
The Fair Maids of February  
Stand in the snow!

*Rose Frost*

The *Reporter* would like to thank Rose for her reminiscences, recipes and rhymes and telling us about her early life in Yorkshire. We have had lots of favourable comments since Rose has been writing for us.

Would you like to write a recipe or something else each month or just occasionally? Ed



Have you got a funny story you'd like to share? Or joke, anecdote or anything that would make us and the village chuckle?! The *Reporter* would love to share your funnies, so get in touch:

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

[facebook.com/MilborneReporter](https://www.facebook.com/MilborneReporter) or see

one of the team.





# Community Contacts

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

More information about many community organisations can be found on [www.milbornestandrew.org.uk](http://www.milbornestandrew.org.uk)

## COUNCILS

Dorset Councillor	Emma Parker	01258 881631
Parish Council – Dewlish	Clerk: Sandra Sims	01258 837132
	Chair: Andrew Booth	01258 837284
Parish Council –	Clerk: Wayne Lewin	07419 136735
Milborne St. Andrew	Chair: Richard Macnair	01258 837912

**Floods** A354 problems contact the Highways Agency 03001 235000  
Dorset Direct 01305 221000  
[dorsetdirect@dorsetcc.gov.uk](mailto:dorsetdirect@dorsetcc.gov.uk) [www.dorsetforyou.com/reportroadproblems](http://www.dorsetforyou.com/reportroadproblems)

Environment Agency Floodline	03459 881188
South West Highways <a href="mailto:hello@swhitd.co.uk">hello@swhitd.co.uk</a>	01404 821500
Wessex Water Sewerage Floodline	03458 505959
MSA Flood Warden, Non-Emergency Only: Mark Johnson	01258 839060

## GENERAL – ADULT

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

Milborne Ladybirds	Liz Dyer	01258 839117
Scout Group	Sam Elliott	07873 762035
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	Richard Macnair 01258 837912

## SCHOOL

Milborne First School		
Headteacher:	Sharon Hunt	01258 837362
Chair Governors:	Matt Way	
Friends of School co-Chair:	Marie Chappell and Natalie Dennis	

## SPECIAL INTEREST

Bellringers	Pip Howell	01258 837329
Bridge Group	Laurie Benn	01258 837720
Cribbage	Peter Anthony	01258 837089
Dog Training Behaviour	Natasja Lewis	07896 275357
Food and Wine Club	Rose Frost	01258 837921
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 – Information	David Pearson	01258 837057
Badminton	Bruce Dyer	01258 839117
Circuit training	Grace Martin	01305 213885
Cricket – Dewlish	Elaine Kellaway	01258 837696
Pilates (school)	Claire Barratt	07703 648869
Football – Veterans	Paul David	07841 506839

## Football – Under 14s

Manager/coach	Andy Brown	07427 503373
Treasurer	Simon Buckingham	01258 839122
Skittles – Dewlish	Simon Ross	01258 837606
Sports & Social Club	Chairman: Richard Lock	01258 837929
	Bookings: Richard Lock	01258 837929
Tap Dancing for Adults	Kevin Selby	01305 250386
Tennis	Rich Hawker	07393 309037
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

## Valentine Quiz Night



**Saturday 15th February 2020**

**7.00pm**

**at The Royal Oak**

**Tickets per person to include food  
£8.00**

**available from  
Pam 837203 or Jenny 837121**

**Profits to St. Andrew's church**

# Community Events Diary

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

## February

- Wednesday 5th** **Wednesday Club** Village Hall 2.00pm Miranda Pender will talk about a later flowering lyricist — see page 21.
- Thursday 6th** **The Milborne Players presents 'Dick Whittington'**
- Friday 7th** Village Hall 7.30pm Saturday' matinee 2.30pm Tickets £7 from Londis
- Saturday 8th** **History Group** The Royal Oak 7.30pm Linda to talk about the Reformatory Schools history, all welcome — see page 27.
- Wednesday 12th** **WI** Village Hall Rob Clark with talk on the history and technology of paper 7.30pm — see page 5.
- Thursday 13th** **Artsreach presents Windborne 'Song on the Times'** Village Hall 7.00pm for 7.30pm start. Also offering Artsreach workshop at 5.00pm — see page 27.
- Friday 14th** **Reporter** mid-day deadline. Copy and photographs by [msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk).
- Friday 14th** **Valentine Quiz** The Royal Oak 7.00pm Tickets £8 per person including food — see page 16.
- Saturday 15th** **Parish Council** Village Hall 7.30pm — see page 16.
- Wednesday 19th** **Artsreach presents 'Mazymeg and the Honeybees'** Village Hall 4.00pm — see page 13.
- Wednesday 19th** **Gardening Club** Village Hall Mark Hinkley talk about trees in our gardens 7.30pm — see page 17.
- Thursday 20th** **Milborne Movies presents 'Yesterday'** Village Hall Bar open 7.00pm Tickets £3.50 — see page 19.
- Friday 21st** **Village Lunch** Village Hall 12.15pm All welcome to attend — see page 2 for menu.
- Saturday 29th**

## 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)
- Players** Monday 8.00–10.00pm MH
- ABC Line Dancers** Tuesday 7.30–10.00pm MH
- Wednesday Club** first Wednesday 2.00–4.00pm MH
- Zumba** Wednesday 6.00pm 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** every fourth Wednesday 7.30pm
- 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

- Kickboxing** Monday evenings 4.45–5.30pm Kanga (guide ages 5–8), 5.30–6.30pm Stripes (guide ages 9–13), 6.30–7.30pm ladies class, 7.30–8.30pm all ages and abilities. Contact Nikki Rich on 07752 199409.
- Tai Chi** Tuesday mornings 9.30am run by Geoffrey Bellinger. Local contact Brian Burton 839033.
- The Busy Bees** Under 5 Group from 9.30–11.30am 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).
- Boxing style fitness** Friday 12noon–1.00pm. Contact Nikki Rich on 07752 199409.
- Ballet style fitness** Friday 1.00–2.00pm. Contact Nikki Rich on 07752 199409.
- Beavers** Friday 5.30–6.45pm
- Private parties, birthdays, wedding** receptions 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.


## Milborne St. Andrew Gardening Club – Trees and Potatoes



WHAT do you get when you combine trees and potatoes? You get an entertaining evening of course! On 20th February in the village hall, Mark Hinkley will talk to us about trees in our gardens; should be interesting. Afterwards, club members will be given a seed potato and grow bag so that our potato growing competition can begin ... yes really ... this is serious stuff! The evening starts at 7.30pm so why not grab yer dibber and come along and join us.

For more information about the MSA Gardening Club contact Sally Dyer, 01258 837061.

Mark Johnson




**THE MILBORNE PLAYERS**  
[WWW.MILBORNEPLAYERS.ORG.UK](http://WWW.MILBORNEPLAYERS.ORG.UK)

**PRESENT**

WRITTEN BY LIMELIGHT SCRIPTS  
as adapted by the Milborne Players

DIRECTED BY CAROLINE NOBBS



**Dick Whittington**

**FEBRUARY 6<sup>TH</sup>, 7<sup>TH</sup> AND 8<sup>TH</sup> 2020**  
**7.30PM WITH SAT MAT AT 2.30 PM**

**AT MILBORNE ST ANDREW VILLAGE HALL**  
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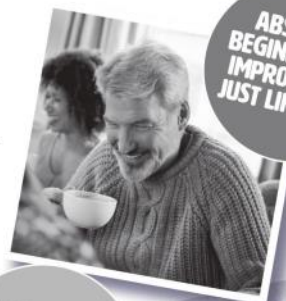
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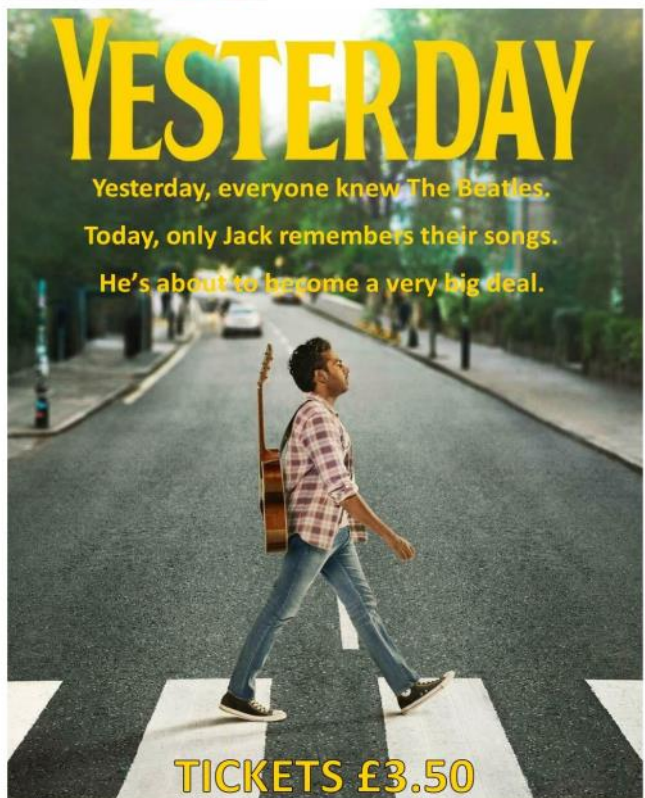
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## Milborne Movies

Friday 21st February  
at 7.30pm

**Doors and Bar at 7.00pm**

The Village Hall - Milborne St Andrew - DT11 0JX



**YESTERDAY**

Yesterday, everyone knew The Beatles.  
Today, only Jack remembers their songs.  
He's about to become a very big deal.

**TICKETS £3.50**

## A message from your Flood Wardens

IT'S fair to say that the highway drainage systems under the major roads through our village have been severely tested in recent months. Heavy and persistent rainfall gave rise to extremely high groundwater levels, a rise in the level of the Bere Stream and damage to the surface of Milton Road in several places where groundwater springs broke through. An obstruction to the flow of the stream also added to the woes of the drainage system near Stileham Bank as it fought to cope with the high levels of groundwater and surface water. The performance of our drainage systems has been carefully observed and reported by Flood Wardens, and liaison with County Highways Engineers is ongoing as we continue to seek improvements.

The sewage system through the village also suffered during this time. It's capacity to carry sewage is greatly reduced if ground and surface water enter the sewage pipes. Wessex Water were made aware that residents in and around The Causeway were unable to flush toilets for a while because of back pressure in the sewage pipes. It was necessary to pump out the main sewage pipe several times in order to reduce the water pressure to assist residents.

It was mentioned to the Flood Wardens that a sewage drain cover had been lifted in a part of the village experiencing surface water pooling in order to provide an extra channel for surface water to flow away. It was not possible to verify that this had been done but it goes without saying that it's not a sensible thing to do. Filling the sewage system with rainwater simply means it can't carry sewage which in turn means some residents will not be able to flush their toilets, empty sinks etc.

It's good news that stream and groundwater levels are falling but it's too soon to be complacent. For the sake of your neighbours please remove any obstructions that slow the flow of the stream when it's level is high and continue to keep drain covers clear so that they will work effectively.

*The Flood Wardens*

Milborne Movies presents

## 'Yesterday'

Friday February 21st

The Village Hall, Milborne St. Andrew

**7.00 Doors and bar open for 7.30 start**

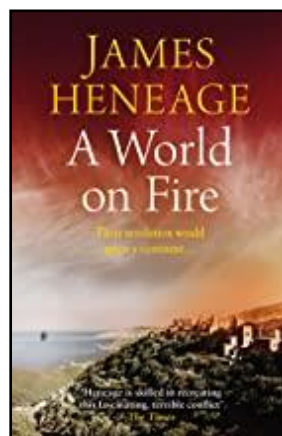
This seems to be one of those films that 'ordinary' filmgoers appreciate more than the critics. It's a story by Richard Curtis, directed by Danny Boyle. Jack Malik (Himesh Patel, BBC's Eastenders) is a struggling singer-songwriter in a tiny English seaside town whose dreams of fame are rapidly fading, despite the fierce devotion and support of his childhood best friend, Ellie (Lily James). Then, after a freak bus accident during a mysterious global blackout, Jack wakes up to discover that The Beatles have never existed . . . and he finds himself with a very complicated problem, indeed.

Matthew Norman of the London Evening Standard managed 'Fuelled by the engaging chemistry of its leads and the unflagging wonderment of the music, it zips along.'

Christopher O, on the Rotten Tomatoes website, wrote: 'A near perfect movie, touching, funny and romantic. Patel is superb and matched well with Lily James. The music is top rate and the direction and writing near flawless.'

Come along and decide for yourself, particularly if you like the music of the Beatles!

## A World on Fire by James Heneage



THIS book is a fictitious tale set in the context of actual historic events. I asked to review it, as I am not familiar with the Greek Revolution against the Ottoman Empire (1821–32), and the events which the major political powers of the time played in it.

After the end of the Napoleonic Wars, the Ottoman Empire (centred on modern-day Turkey) was failing. The Greeks, initially successful in battles fought for their independence, spoilt their progress by infighting and arguing between themselves, rather than continuing with a united bid for independence. I had heard of Ibrahim Pasha, but I had no idea that this Egyptian, aided by French officers, burned villages, massacred women and children, took Christian Greeks away as slaves and repopulated their islands with Muslim Egyptian people. This was their strategy of retaliation for and prevention of future revolt against their Empire. The casualty figures among civilians ran into the hundreds of thousands and the cruelty was unspeakable. This ethnic cleansing seems to have pointed the way for the Armenian Genocide in 1915 and others later.

The major powers, Britain, Russia and France, did not want to become involved in another war so soon after the end of the Napoleonic Wars, so prevaricated, made agreements about non-aggressive involvement, and generally wasted time whilst thousands of lives were lost. In the long term this meant the Ottoman Empire continued for another hundred years, causing loss of life in the Great War too, particularly the Siege of Kut and its following death march where 65–70% of the British and 15–30% of the Indian troops died of disease or at the hands of their Ottoman guards during captivity.

The story set against this background weaves fictional and real characters together against this background, bringing love, adventure, the arrival of steam shipping and its impact over sail, using the battle of Navarino as a backdrop. The characters are well drawn, and the moral dilemmas they face are particularly well written.

It's a rip-roaring tale, written in an easy style. I shall certainly be looking out for more books by James Heneage.

*Susan Wilson*







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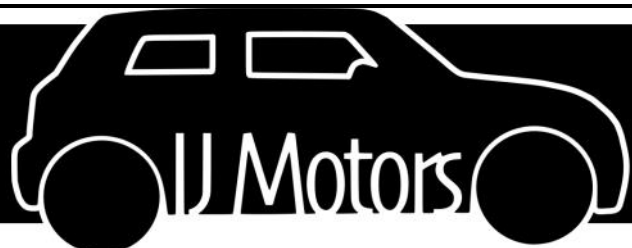
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# Kidney's last stand

ALL being well, by this time (Christmas 2019) next year, one of my kidneys, to which I'm deeply attached, will be cosily ensconced in someone else's innards and hopefully keeping them ticking over nicely for many years to come.

I am writing this in the probably forlorn hope that someone will think of following in my wake (well, not actually my wake; that would be unfortunate) and giving a kidney – or a piece of liver, but I haven't researched that – to a stranger.

It all started in June 2019, when the blood donor magazine that I receive asked for volunteers. Before I read to the bottom of the page, I had clicked on the relevant button (couldn't find the "liver" one) and submitted the form. I assumed that, at 73, I'd be too old and decided not to tell my husband. If it didn't go ahead, he wouldn't have known. You know where this is going . . . someone at Kidney HQ leapt on the chance for a free bit of offal and before I knew it I had an appointment at Bristol renal unit for an interview and preliminary blood tests. So I had to tell my husband, who was, initially, pretty miffed that I had left him out of the loop, but accepted my decision to lose a bit of weight (160g – epic!) and here we are.

I had the forethought to keep a spreadsheet of all the appointments – about 18 so far. My petrol and parking costs will be reimbursed one day, but that is the only help available, due to legal reasons of trying to keep filthy lucre out of the equation.

Every part of me, apart from the brain, for some reason, has been tested to destruction and found to be at or above normal. Surprising for such an aged specimen. I can only assume that my idleness for decades has paid off. But operations etc don't seem to be a bar. I recently met another, similar, donor, who had had a few items removed and was not excluded from giving.

If you are surprised at the instantaneous decision to make such a major leap of faith, according to a TED talk that I watched recently, most living donors do exactly that. No consideration, preparation – just do it! Obviously, it is wise to consult relatives, children, etc.

This is a quotation from Guidelines for Living Donor Kidney Transplantation United Kingdom Guidelines [www.bts.org.uk](http://www.bts.org.uk)

"Kidney transplantation from a living donor, when available, is the treatment of choice for most patients with end stage renal disease, offering optimum patient and graft survival and reduced time on the national transplant waiting list. Living donor transplantation also offers a proportion of complex recipients the opportunity to benefit from a

transplant that they might otherwise not have received from the deceased donor waiting list; or, through the UK LivingKidney Sharing Schemes (UKLKSS), a better quality or better matched kidney than might otherwise have been available. For all these reasons, and the opportunity to expand the kidney donor pool, living kidney donation has been actively promoted in the UK over the last 20 years. At the time of writing, approximately one in three kidney transplants performed in the UK are from living donors. The latest national statistics show that there were 998 living kidney donor transplants in the UK in **2016-17** (1). Of **926** adult donor transplants, 484 were related, 442 were unrelated, 18 were Human leukocyte antigen (HLA) incompatible, 65 were ABO (ABO blood types) incompatible, 109 were paired/pooled, and **81 were altruistic donor transplants**. 36% of the patients transplanted from living donors were transplanted pre-emptively, i.e. without a need for dialysis(1).

The expansion of the UK Living Kidney Sharing Scheme (UKLKSS) has represented a significant change in practice since the last edition of this guideline, not least by reducing the need for HLA-and ABO-incompatible transplantation. In parallel, increasing confidence in the safety of living kidney donation has permitted the expansion of the potential donor pool; to date, the oldest living kidney donor in the UK was aged **85**."

Murray P, Pankhurst L, Marks SD. Et al.

My email address is [duchess@fastmail.com](mailto:duchess@fastmail.com) if you would like to talk about what all this entails and how it feels to be on the roller coaster that is the NHS's Living Kidney list.

At the time of writing, I await a final blood pressure result, an interview with a psychiatrist then with the surgeon and a trip to Portsmouth to have the job done. Apparently recovery is relatively quick and although I shall not be advised to drive home, probably due to the anaesthetic more than anything, I should be back on the road in a week or so. Watch this space!

*Lynn Taylor, Hilton*



## New Year Fun at The Wednesday Club



WEDNESDAY 8th January saw 27 members of the Wednesday Club enjoying a Bring and Share Tea in The Village Hall. There were an amazing variety of savoury and sweet treats and we were able to fill our plates as often as we wished, putting dieting off for yet another day!

We were entertained by Di reciting the poem "The Darkling Thrush" by

Thomas Hardy, everyone was impressed that she did it completely from memory, when most of us . . .!

Followed by Heather with some very amusing if not completely PC jokes.

Jose sang a song and danced "As Stately as a Galleon" made famous by Joyce Grenville, unaccompanied and light on her feet.

Dave recited "I wish I'd looked after me teeth" and one other by Pam Ayers.

Pam played a recording of The 12 Days of Christmas as you have never heard it before!



Harry recited "The Watchman's Tale" which had a lovely twist at the end!

Finally the pantomime Cinderella was performed completely, in ten minutes, with much hilarity all round. This was written and produced by Jose.

What talent we have in our club, amazing!!

Everyone picked a ticket out a box for £1 and received a present ranging from packets of biscuits to bottles of wine.

Thank you to everyone who came and helped to make it such an enjoyable afternoon, we are lucky to be part of such a friendly, interesting, fun group.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 5th February in The Village Hall at 2.00pm when Miranda Pender will talk about "A later flowering Lyricist", how she overcame serious illness to become a Singer/Song writer.

*Lis Watts*





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## Duvet or not duvet – that is the question

JOHN and I have been the proud grandparents of an adorable little chap called Ellis for the past year. We like to see him as much as we can, which involves travelling to Virginia in the USA.

Virginia is a beautiful state; with trees full of blossom in the spring and swathes of gorgeous leaves in the fall. Washington is just an hour away from Leesburg, where our family live, so when we visit there is plenty to see and do.

When we were there in April last year, I admired my daughter in law's flair for choice of fabrics and design in their home. She encouraged me to visit the local mall in Dulles with her where we spent some happy hours, looking at furniture and lamps and other things far too heavy to consider buying and transporting home. I also found Wayfair, an on line shop that we also have here in England but Wayfair USA had much more choice and I decided to buy some new bedding for the spare room.

What I chose was a summer weight duvet, (they call that a comforter) and matching pillowcases and cushions. I must admit when the box arrived at their home the next day, I was a little daunted by the size of everything, but John said if we took the pillowcases and cushions home now and the rest in autumn, we could manage. Somehow, he managed to cram everything, apart from the duvet, into our cases and I carefully arranged these on the bed at home, longing for the duvet to finish the swanky new look.



When we were packing up to come home this time, there was only the duvet to bring. John folded it and put it in one of the suitcases that it immediately filled. It seemed to have a life of its own, the more he carefully tucked one end in, the more it teasingly flipped out defiantly at the other. We decided my helpful suggestions were not helpful at all and I left him to battle it out alone. When I returned with a reviving cup of tea, (not easy to get in America) he had done it! He had found a zippable compartment and crushed it in, the suitcase looked a very strange shape but my precious duvet was coming home.

So, here I am unpacking, my excited fingers unzip the case and the duvet springs out like a caged beast, looking none the worse for its journey.

Smoothed over the bed, I think I'm pleased, if only the curtains matched . . . Still, there's always next time. *Josie Wright*

## 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 contact: Ian Bromilow on 01258-880044.

Wishing you all a very prosperous, healthy and fit 2020

**Sunday 2nd February – 1.30pm** (note earlier starting time during winter)

#### Bonsley Common, Turnworth

Meet at Okeford Hill car park. Grid reference: ST 812093 on OS Explorer Sheet 117 (approx. 4.5 miles)

**Wednesday 19th February – 11 am**

#### Maiden Newton & Cattistock

Meet at St Mary's Church, Maiden Newton  
Grid reference: ST 596979 on Explorer Sheet 117 (approx. 6.5 miles)  
Bring a packed lunch.

**Sunday 1st March – 2 pm**

#### Fifehead Neville

Meet near the church in Fifehead Neville  
Grid reference: ST 769110 on OS Explorer Sheet 129 (approx. 4.5 miles)

#### Please note:

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



Marc Tessier-Ashpool  
@lastcyberpunk

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## Reducing my carbon footprint – part two

# The electric car

LAST summer our car needed replacing. We had had it for seven years, taken it up to 130 thousand miles and the suspension and engine were both making unwelcome noises. We usually buy cars which are around five years old and drive them until they are about to become unreliable or expensive. Was this the time to go electric?

I am a great believer in the philosophy of the great Lotus engineer Colin Chapman – cars should be light to maximize handling, performance and economy (though he was less worried about economy). The thought of carrying a 500kg battery around did not appeal but at the moment it is the only real alternative to fossil fuels. Hydrogen and liquid fuels manufactured with green electricity are still only in the development stage.

An electric car in my price range and age came down to two options – the Nissan Leaf and the Renault Zoe. Time for a test drive. There are several car dealers that sell only electric vehicles (EVs) so it was easiest to book an appointment at one of these. Driving an EV for the first time is very strange, which influences how one assesses the cars. Anyhow we preferred the Leaf. The first generation Leaf was made from 2011 to 2017 with over 300,000 sold worldwide. They have proved to be very reliable.

First generation Leafs (Leaves?) have a 22 or 30kWh battery – the larger battery models were outside my price range. Charging is either AC using a 3-pin plug (the so-called ‘granny cable’) or a Type 2 socket which is standard on many public and home chargers. Charging takes either eight (slow) or three (fast!) hours depending on the charger and the car. Rapid charging on a public charger takes twenty minutes using direct current (DC) .

Fast (3 hours) charging was only an option on Leafs, and one that I wanted. I also wanted heated seats/steering wheel to reduce the use of the heater.

None of the dealers had a car to this specification but I found one from a private seller on eBay.

The car had a full service history which includes an annual battery condition report of which the seller sent me a copy. I now have a phone App to look in great detail at the battery status – I’m not sure if a car dealer would let you do those checks on the forecourt.

I agreed to buy the car which was near Leicester; I would need to charge it on the way home! The charging network in the UK has several players who mainly require an account, together with a smart card or a phone App to get some juice – only a few will just take your bank card, although this is improving. I then used Zap-Map to find charging points along my route. This App/website shows what type of charger it is, who runs it, when it was last used, if it’s known to be not working and comments from users. I signed up with 5 companies, downloaded the Apps and sent off for an RFID card (free 3 months trial).

I took the train to the Midlands, the car was as good as promised and I set off home. Driving on the Fosse Way at a steady 55mph was nice and economical so I decided I could easily reach Cirencester, about half way home. I found the charging point, which had no instructions. I connected up and waved my RFID card at it and after a few goes it

started whirring away and the charging light started flashing. I wandered into town and bought a coffee. By the time I was back, it was ready to go. At that time there was no charging point in Blandford so, not wanting to risk it, I also stopped for 10 minutes outside Warminster.

Since then (and excluding a 500 mile round trip in France - which could be an article on its own) I have used a public charger less than once a month. The 80 mile range covers 95% of our needs. The official range is 124 miles which may be possible in city driving. Would I prefer a bigger battery? Probably – the EVs being sold now can do twice the distance of mine, ample in my opinion. Anything more is just extra weight, more energy to manufacture and more raw materials.

So what is it like to drive? The battery is low down so it handles pretty well, not feeling any heavier than our old car. I just leave it in Eco mode which limits power usage – out of Eco mode it is very eager. I think they should be renamed Normal and Sport. It has a lot of torque and no gears so it is just ‘press and play’.

But, any speed records? Yes, an average of 55mph over one mile in reverse (not set by me!). In theory it could do 92mph backwards but my car seems to be limited to 25mph by the computer.

I like the regenerative braking – charging the battery when slowing down or going downhill. You can select ‘B’ mode which has a similar effect to changing down a gear or two. I can come down into the village keeping to 30mph without using the brake pedal.

I also like not having to wait for the heater to provide heat – even better is that the heater can warm the car beforehand, controlled using preset times or a phone App.

And how much energy does it use? I average 4 miles per kWh (13.5 pence from Pure Planet). Charging at night with the greenest energy (as low as 120g CO<sub>2</sub> per kWh) is 30g CO<sub>2</sub> per mile (20g per km compared with 100g for my Smart car). At worst case I should add another 25g for the manufacture of the battery. Remember that petrol/diesel has to be extracted from the ground, refined, shipped around the world and then to the petrol station – this adds another 20% to the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of a traditional car.

At 8000 miles a year, our old diesel did 50mpg – so almost 2 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emitted from the tail pipe. Including the battery, the emissions from the Leaf are about two thirds of a tonne. I also use the Smart less now that it is no longer our most frugal car, saving some more emissions and money.

Like last month, reducing this further requires more low-carbon electricity, both for running the car and building both the car and the batteries. Unfortunately big business puts profit before the planet and new battery plants are being built in Poland and China with their dirty coal-powered electricity. The new Leaf batteries are no longer made in Sunderland.

All my affluent readers please note that Teslas and Volvos have/will have batteries made with green electricity.

Next month: clothes.

*Andy Mott*

## Calling all villagers is there history in your attic, garden or fields, sheds or barns?

HELLO to all our readers. On 23–25th May 2020, Milton Abbas Local History Group will be holding a free entry exhibition in St. James Church and the Reading Rooms, Milton Abbas, featuring village life before the 20th century. We are looking for any objects or documents that may be of interest and that you are willing to lend or share with us.

This is not just for Milton Abbas residents. Did you know that the Milton estate once included Hilton, Winterborne Stickland, and part of Winterborne Whitechurch, and that the lives of the folk of Winterborne Houghton and Milborne St. Andrew were also closely related to those of Milton Abbas.

We are looking for anything that might be of historical interest, that we could show to visitors. These could feature any crafts or trades of the time, e.g. old woodworking, smithing, plumbing,

shoemaking tools, Dorset buttons, gloves, lace, etc. Or village school related items. It might be something that has been dug up from your garden or found in your attic, ploughed up in a field, metal detected, or old letters and documents. You may have even researched a local family. Even fragments of old pottery can be interesting. We already have a spinning wheel, a floorboard with writing on the back, wig curlers, quill and inkpot, kindling, and brewery items.

If you have anything that you think might fit the bill and you are willing to lend, or allow us to photograph, please get in touch with Bryan Phillips, Local History Group Secretary, tel: 880385 or email [bryan.phillips2010@gmail.com](mailto:bryan.phillips2010@gmail.com)

And please put the 23–25th May 2020 in your diary. We look forward to meeting you at the Milton Abbas Local History Group Exhibition.



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## Tip of the month

COURIER fraud is a scam where fraudsters seek to gain your trust in order to get access to your hard earned cash.

### How does it work?

The scam starts with a phone call from the fraudster posing as a banking official or police officer, who tells you that money has been removed from your account, or that there has been fraudulent activity on your card. You may be asked to confirm personal details, which anyone could find out fairly easily, such as your name and address.

You may be asked to call the bank back or to ring the police on 999, this is meant to reassure you, but they keep the line open, so when you ring back you are actually speaking to the fraudster, who may ask for your PIN and other details such as the three digit code from the back of the card, or they may ask you to withdraw a sum of cash from your bank account.

The final step is for the fraudster to send a taxi or courier to collect your card or the cash, which they reassure you, you will get back, but of course you never do.

This may sound alarming, but there are steps you can take to protect yourself, such as:

- Being sceptical of callers, even those who are claiming to be officials.
- Don't be afraid to put the phone down with a brief 'No, thank you'.
- NEVER give your personal information, such as your date of birth or bank details, to unexpected callers.

### Remember

The police or your bank would NEVER call you and ask you to withdraw cash or move your money to another account, as a result of fraud or for any other reason.

If a caller suggests that you call your local police or bank to check who they are, please use another phone or ensure the line has been fully disconnected by phoning a friend or relative first, alternatively wait for a minimum of five minutes, otherwise you may think you've phoned a number, but you're simply talking to the fraudsters again. This is a common fraudsters' tactic.

If a caller asks you to type your bank PIN number into your telephone handset - do not do this, as fraudsters can use technology to identify the numbers.

You can opt out of many cold calls by registering for free with the Telephone Preference Service on 0845 070 0707.

Remember that you are in control, so to protect yourself at all times, please don't allow yourself to be rushed, criminals want you to act quickly, so take time to consider whether a call, email or letter is genuine, talk to someone you trust such as a friend or relative, have faith in your intuition and if something doesn't feel quite right it probably isn't.

---

## Milborne's lumpy field features

OUR last History Group meeting proved to be very successful in finding out more about the 'lost village' features that are in one of the fields to the west of the brook and about ¾ mile south of the village. Several members brought maps, books and articles which helped to give us a better idea of what the features used to be. However, there is still a mystery as to who lived there or why the 'village' was abandoned. One member of the group has offered to collate all the information so that we can produce a co-ordinated article.

The next meeting will be on the 12th February at 7.30pm in The Royal Oak. Linda has offered to talk about the 'Reformatory' School's history (now known as Longmead) and some of the famous pupils.

All are welcome to come along. Anyone who thinks they have something to contribute will always be welcome as will anyone who is just interested in finding out more about our village's history.

Pam Shults

## Artsreach presents Windborne, a singing group from America, will be performing Song on the Times

On Friday February 14th

Doors and bar open 7.00 for 7.30pm start

They are also offering a workshop at 5.00pm

This stunningly powerful close harmony vocal group of four from New England shifts effortlessly between dramatically different styles of traditional music. Whilst remaining deeply rooted in American folk singing traditions, their musical knowledge spans many continents and cultures. They have collected and studied polyphonic vocal music for over 15 years from traditional singing masters from cultures around the world and are as comfortable with an improvised Corsican couplet song as an English ballad.



*Song on the Times* is a project that collects music from working class movements for peoples' rights in the US and UK over the past 400 years, and sings them again for the struggles of today.

The four share a vibrant energy onstage, their connection to each other and to the music clearly evident. Entertaining with stories about the music, Windborne explain the characteristics and stylistic elements of the traditions in which they sing.

The group was catapulted to new heights when a clip of them singing in protest outside Trump tower went viral, and their crowdfunding project raised 1,600% of its goal from 2,600 people in every State and 22 countries.

### Vocal Harmony Workshop

In this special workshop, Windborne will teach songs from their album *Song on the Times*, alongside folk songs from other cultures collected on their travels. All the songs and harmonies will be taught by ear by Windborne singers Jeremy, Lynn, Will and Lauren.

Places £5. Suitable for all ages, with no previous experience required.

Why not visit The Royal Oak in Milborne St. Andrew for dinner and a drink between the workshop and show? Booking is advised.

[www.windbornesingers.com](http://www.windbornesingers.com)

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## Milton Abbas Riding for the Disabled group fundraiser

At Winterbourne Whitechurch Village Hall

### RACE NIGHT

on Saturday February 15th, first race 7.30pm

Tickets £8 include fish and chips, chicken or vegetarian option

Info and tickets 01258 837280

Barbara Rawlings



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# Sports Club report a Triple Whammy

AS yet another deadline prepares to go whooshing by, this particular one being the February 2020 *Reporter*, we have something(s) to report.

**Firstly**, we have had no calls from anyone willing to get involved and be part of community action group delivering some ideas on a plan for an enlarged and enhanced sports and wellbeing facility . . . early days on that one but certainly not for the faint hearted or the negative minded.



**Secondly**, no takers either for anyone willing to take on the baton of pitch maintenance and community mower man. Malcolm is currently 'THE MAN' but 'tempus fugit' so we are looking for a 'Person' willing to take on this very important and rewarding task.

We are not part of the Parish Council's community cutting plan but the LEGAL obligations set out in the terms of our lease do place certain obligations on us as the TENNANT to:

*"The Tennant must keep the grass in good condition and ensure that the playing surfaces are free from harmful substances, weeds and substances in a safe and suitable state for sports purposes" AND "Promote Sporting activities" and "permit members of the public to enter and enjoy facilities on the site not roped off for formal sporting activities" AND "The Tennant must repair the premises and keep them in good condition and repair at all times".* Wow and that is just the tip of the Lease use and operational obligations iceberg!!

**Thirdly** and surprisingly, no one has taken up our Green Deal Offer. Dorset Council is launching an initiative and lots of people locally have some good ideas but no one appears to be joining up the dots to discover how individual efforts can be combined into a single collective action.

There is a wide range of groups within our community. One, The History Group is looking at MILBORNE PAST however where is the focus group looking at MILBORNE FUTURE, particularly in connection with reducing carbon footprints and recycling initiatives that can really make a difference.

To help make this happen the Sports Club is still prepared to offer the use of the facilities free of charge to any such focus group and would suggest a Saturday morning as this would enable schoolchildren to actively participate.

Anyway enough of all this negative "no can do here" stuff. Now for some WHAMMIES of a different description.

**WHAMMY 1: MILBORNE ACTIVE MATTERS** (received just before Christmas)

Hello. We're going to fund your project idea: We're so happy to tell you we really liked your application for National Lottery Awards for All, and we want to give MILBORNE ACTIVE MATTERS £8,450.00 to help your community thrive.

**WHAMMY 2: Milborne Sports 20:20 Vision: SAFE & SOUND**

MILBORNE ST. ANDREW SPORTS CLUB: GROUNDS MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT, BALL STOP NETTING, AND CHANGING ROOM REFURBISHMENTS

Dear Mr Richard Lock

Congratulations, you have been successful in scoring a grant of £10,606.00 from the Football Foundation!

This funding is thanks to our Partners, the Premier League, The FA and the Government and we're so glad you are now part of this journey.

**WHAMMY 3 Woodland Trust – It's Good News!**

Hi Richard, congratulations on your successful community tree pack application! Your 420 trees will be on their way to you between 28th February and 13th March.

**So what does all this mean?**

Well on the grant hunting front we can now move forward and continue to improve your community facilities as we have been tasked to do as part of our obligations to the Community.

These two latest grant packages include: **1.** a new mower; **2.** rebound fencing between the goalmouth and Lane End, **3.** Payment of the rebound netting Planning Application, **4.** A new kitchen and kitchen appliances **5.** Replacement of all the poor quality and expensive to run lighting (40 downlighters), **6.** Privacy partitions in the shower areas of the changing rooms, **7.** Enhanced security and CCTV for the storage container **8.** Improved and safe walkway between rear doors and the boiler room. **9.** Hand driers, **10.** Increased loft insulation to current standards. We have to top up from our own funds and provide the volunteer labour to make all this happen. Also in the pipe line are repairs to the Fire Alarm System and acoustic panels in the main room. To counteract the negative effects created by the hard floor, walls and windows.

It's all so exciting that I bet that you are now wanting to be part of our winning team . . . if so, form an orderly queue at the gates or make contact in any way you can . . . whatever, we love the whooshing noise and now have to deliver and move forward!!





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## Long or short; inside or outside?

### January's PC meeting

THE first Parish Council meeting of 2020 was a busy one, both in terms of the length of the agenda and the number of residents who attended. Clerk, Wayne Lewin, played a reverse game of Musical Chairs, successively bringing extra seats out as more people arrived. The draw seemed to be the discussion around a new grass cutting contract for verges and green spaces in the village that the *Reporter* detailed in last month's edition. For some, the issue was that they wanted to continue to manage the areas near to their homes themselves rather than be included in the contract. The clerk assured residents that if they wanted to do this, then these specific areas would be removed from the contract. There were also strong calls by a number of residents that the new regime of ten extra cuts was counter to wildlife biodiversity research and Dorset Council's (DC) own policy. One resident, a professional ecologist, said that with worldwide data demonstrating wildlife decline, the opportunity could be used in Milborne to make our green spaces as rich as possible in plant and animal diversity. She added that she did not want her Council Tax to fund intensive grass cutting. Another resident said she didn't believe that shorter grass would equal less dog mess, as Cllr Macnair argued – she cuts the verge next to her house frequently but still has to clear up after other people's dogs. The clerk said that complaints about long grass last summer gave the impetus to increase cutting. A four year contract with a local business is provisionally agreed and will go ahead unless anything to the contrary is raised at a public consultation meeting on Saturday 25th January.

A National Park (NP) for Dorset was on the agenda, with a presentation before the meeting by representatives of the group taking the proposal forward. The draft map joins two large Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty together with Purbeck to create a Dorset National Park. It would give the county greater control and increased funding, especially important in times when 68% of DC's budget is used for children's services and adult care. Councillors agreed to support the principle of a NP if Milborne is included in its boundary – at present, it is not, although this may change if lobbied.

Funding at a parish level was discussed, with the clerk detailing the precept for the coming financial year. Mr Lewin announced a marginal decrease from last year, with the final figure for expected expenditure being £11,800 – the significance of which was evident since county councillor, Emma Parker, had earlier forewarned residents that the Dorset Council's tax would increase by at least 4%. Mr Lewin stressed that the real terms decrease was possible even though it included the new costs of extra grass cutting, a community activity fund and maintenance fees for three defibrillators. This was agreed after former PC chair, Joy Robinson, had said that fundraising for the annual inspections of the village defibrillators was not bringing in enough money to cover it.

Cllr Williams reported back from an antisocial behaviour (ASB) fact finding session she and her family had had with PCSO Mike Sinnick. Any act that leaves a person upset or distressed can be described as ASB, although subjective, it is up to the police to decide and what action to take. PCSO Mike advised residents to get to know their neighbours, and know whose children belong to whom to try to reduce ASB.

Moving the westbound bus stop to a safer site – by the telephone exchange – was discussed, but it was decided that consultation with residents was required. A meeting will have taken place in late January to look into this as well as looking further into the Community Land Trust, where volunteers are sought for a community group to develop affordable housing schemes; and the grass cutting contract.

The next Parish Council meeting is on **Wednesday 19th February at 7.30pm** in the Village Hall – residents are welcome to attend and participate.

*Ed Richards*

## Cabinets of Curiosities

AS a follow up to the LineO' Type article last month a reader has been moved to induce us to tell the story of those compartmentalized wooden boxes known as Printers' Trays for the purpose of the storage of moveable type used in letterpress printing available originally in the late nineteenth century. The job case was usually two inches high, three feet wide and two feet deep with many small compartments for the "sorts" (various letters and ligatures). The most popular and commonly used job case design in America was the Californian Job Case which took its name from the Pacific Coast location of the foundries



that made the case popular. It allowed the type to be compactly transported. Traditionally the capital letters were stored in a separate drawer, or case, holding the other letters (this is why the capital letters

are called 'upper case' characters and the miniscule ones 'lower case') There were a great variety of cases and also variations in the "lay" or the assignments of the 'sorts' into the compartments. Different printers had different house layouts even for the same design of case. These sturdy cases have become collectors' items and used as wall art in peoples' homes. So vintage letterpress



is now known as Industrial Loft Décor! Usually made of hardwood e.g. cherry. They have so many uses; mainly collections of small objects such as birds' eggs, embossed tea spoons, toy cars, cotton reels,

thimbles, shells, photographs, perfume/glass bottles and stone jewellery (to name but a few) my son-in-law created a display of nautical knots in one for his sister-in-law. They can be wall hung as



vertical storage, or set into table centres containing, often, their owners' memories. The possibilities are endless and so are some of the prices currently asked. As you can see illustrated, our reader's collections held in cases bought in the 80's by her and her husband. These have had multiple uses over the years, most creatively, by her computer engineer son-in-law for computer parts stored in the order of removal keeping them ready for reinstallation.

*Carole Fornachon*





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