



# Reporter

80P WHERE SOLD

News and Views from around the area

Volume 12 Issue 10

November 2020

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Advertising: Ed Richards 01258 837907 (07843 018007)

Advertising renewals: Pete Constant 01258 839246 (daytime)

Distribution: Janet Allen 01258 837551

Editor: David Payne 01258 837700. Assistant Editor: Jo Whitfield

Treasurer and photography: Heather V. Hogg 01258 837392

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

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

Paper copy to any of the team.

## Remembrance Day 2020

FURTHER to the notice in the October *Reporter* advice has been received through the Parish Council that it will not be possible to have the Act of Remembrance ceremony at the memorial this year. The rule of six is applicable and there is no way of closing off the space in order to enforce social distancing of two metres.



It has been decided that wreaths representing the village will be laid at the altar inside St. Andrew's Church during the **Remembrance** service on Sunday 8th November **which starts at 10.00am**. They will be taken down to the Memorial stone and put in position there before Armistice Day on the 11th November. Others are being laid by representatives at the stone at other times and anyone wishing to lay personal wreaths or crosses at the memorial is of course free to do so.

I have just found out and am sorry to say that the RBL have decided that this year no boxes of poppies will be distributed for sale in shops, pubs, etc but will only be available in places which have corporate arrangements with them such as supermarkets. I hope all those of us who want to contribute to this very worthy cause will be able to do so.

*Sally Dyer*

## Don't burn me!

TRADITIONALLY autumn is bonfire time, coinciding with dark nights and ultimately with Guy Fawkes' celebrations. Many of us enjoy a bonfire, whether it is simply burning garden cuttings, or a more formal affair with friends and fireworks. It is tempting to build bonfires over time, especially the large public event ones, adding more to the pile each day as the weeks go by.



This is also the time of year when hedgehogs go into hibernation. They do this mainly because their natural food supply of invertebrates disappears. Ready-made bonfires act as magnets to hedgehogs. Piles of brushwood, branches, leaves, and garden cuttings provide the perfect place under which to build a winter nest. As the animal begins the task of nest building it is totally unaware of the impending incendiary motive of its cosy new home.

Hibernation is not sleep but is a deep torpor. Body temperature drops from 35°C to around 4/5°C, heart rate slows from 200 beats per minute to just twelve beats, and respiration slows to less than twelve breaths per minute. Slowing the bodily functions in this way enables the hedgehog to survive the winter by drawing on its extra fat reserves gained during late summer. Scientific research has shown that it takes up to twelve hours for a hedgehog to arouse from hibernation. Therefore, hedgehogs hibernating under bonfires have no chance of survival. It takes them too long to awaken and become active.

Every year, at this time, thousands of hedgehogs across the country are at risk of being burned alive.

So, there are two simple rules for bonfires; either build it and burn it on the same day or build the bonfire over time and then move it entirely to ignite it.

These rules apply to all bonfires including large public bonfire events.



### Front cover

The rainbow picture was taken by Elaine Anthony on October 6th in The Grove. We felt it appropriate with rainbows signifying support for the NHS.

The top picture of crab apples was taken by John Wright.  
Cover design by Heather V Hogg.

## Milton Abbas Surgery

WE would like to remind patients to order their repeat medications via the phone or online rather than drop off repeat prescription slips at the surgery. This reduces the number of times that patients come up to the surgery which helps to keep you safe, and it helps to keep staff safe as they are not handling unnecessary paperwork. We thank you in advance for your continued cooperation in this matter.

Obviously, Christmas is around the corner (again!) but you don't need to do anything different:

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  - ◇ Saturday 26th December 2020
  - ◇ Monday 28th December 2020
  - ◇ Friday 1st January 2021

This is our busiest time of year so please follow these guidelines to help us to help all of our patients.

We have been awaiting guidance from NHS England as to when the flu vaccinations will become available for patients who are aged 50–64 without a pre-existing condition or for those with family members who are shielding. This may still be the case as we head into November, so we ask that you please be patient with us. As soon as we have information then we shall pass this on to our patients.

As most of you will be aware, November is now often known as November – Men's Health Awareness Month. The Movember Foundation <https://prostatecanceruk.org/about-us/movember> has done heaps to boost awareness of men's health issues, bringing attention to potentially serious conditions like prostate and testicular cancer.

And finally, we would like to remind all our patients that we are still here for you, and to encourage you to call us to make an appointment with one of the doctors if you are concerned about anything or if something doesn't feel right.

*Gillian Brindle*

## All change at the Village Hall

AT our latest Zoom committee meeting we were very pleased that Sarah Ryan volunteered to be the new chairman. Linda Wright agreed to be the secretary on a limited basis due to work commitments. We also welcomed a new member, Tanya Head.

The "Covid Team" had been very busy ensuring that the hall is safe for use and keeping up with the ever changing regulations. We have bought plastic chairs (that can be wiped down after use) and sanitising stations and loads of sanitising lotions. There are a proliferation of signs to ensure users know what to do! The Ladybirds have been using the hall since September and that seems to be going well. All hall users have been notified of the latest conditions of use although at the time of writing only two groups are ready to use the hall. Of course by the time you read this, regulations may have changed again but be assured that the hall is ready when you feel the time is right to use it again.

*Linda Wright*

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# Wilfred Haylock – 75 years ago

IN May 1945 the Germans surrendered to the allies and the war in Europe was over and villagers in Milborne were able to welcome home their sons, brothers, husbands and friends. However, for one family in the village there was still an agonizing wait for the return of their son .

Horace and Hannah Haylock and their family had moved to the village in 1928, and initially lived at Milborne Wood where Horace was employed as Head Gamekeeper to the Debenhams on the Bladen Estate. In 1943, when the estate was sold, they bought Byways in Little England and moved there with their daughter Lucy who was teaching at Milborne School.

Their son Wilfred had joined the RAF in April 1940 and, after serving on several aerodromes in England as a wireless operator, had been posted overseas in December 1941 with 605 City of Birmingham Squadron.

The Squadron's destination was Singapore, but it fell to the Japanese in February 1942 while they were still at sea, and they were diverted to Sumatra. After several weeks dodging between Sumatra and Java a large group of RAF men were taken prisoner by the Japanese and interned on Java.

The Haylocks had no news of their son's fate, only that he was posted as missing, and it was not until sixteen months later that the family received confirmation that Wilfred was alive and a Japanese Prisoner of War.

At this stage they wrote letters but most were returned. The only items received were official postcards with just a few words on them.

After Germany surrendered, the Japanese refused to follow suit and the war in the Far East continued with fierce fighting between the Americans and the Japanese at Okinawa. Although the Americans won the battle, the Japanese commander committed suicide rather than surrender.

Back in Milborne the Haylock family continued in limbo through the summer of 1945, and it was not until the terrible events at Hiroshima and Nagasaki in the first week of August that the Japanese were forced to surrender and the war was finally over on all fronts. Would their son be finally coming home?



For the POWs in Java life in captivity continued. There was little communication with the outside world but in early August 1945 there was a feeling that things were changing and this was regarded with suspicion and trepidation as the Japanese guards had told the prisoners that they would never surrender and all captives would be killed before they 'fell on their swords'. After the war, it became clear that

Left: *Wilfred and Connie taken on their honeymoon in 1946 and Right: about 50 years later at their cottage in the village.*



there existed a high command order – issued from the War Ministry in Tokyo – to kill all remaining POWs.

Rumours about the bombings on the mainland circulated and then the guards disappeared, fortunately without carrying out their threats. The camps were then liberated and food and medicines were initially parachuted in. The first letters from home were delivered and letters were dispatched to Milborne.

It took some time before the prisoners could be repatriated. British Officers were sent to the camps to make arrangements and it was then that the prisoners found out about what had been happening in Europe. It was the first they knew about D Day.

Lady Mountbatten visited the camp and shook hands with all of the British POWs. There was also a parade by all the able bodied in the camp and a ceremony when the Japanese flag was taken down and the Union Jack raised which was very symbolic for the prisoners.

The POWs were flown to Singapore by the New Zealand Airforce to await further transport. Wilfred came home by sea on the *Cilicia* and they sailed into the port of Liverpool on 29th October 1945 where the returning POWs were greeted by the townspeople and given a heroes' welcome. Following assessment in hospital, Wilfred was finally given the all clear to return home to his family and fiancée Connie.

It was in the first week of November 1945 when Wilfred finally arrived home in Milborne. The flags were out at Byways with welcome-home signs and there was a joyous family celebration.

Waiting for him was a letter from Buckingham Palace and signed by King George welcoming him home and thanking him for his service.

In 1946 Wilfred and Connie were married in Milborne Church by Canon TCC Brochner and they set up home in the village where they remained for the rest of their lives joining in with village and church life. Wilfred served as Church Warden for 33 years and they both belonged to various village organisations.

*Liz Mott*





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## Days of Remembrance

November has traditionally been a time of remembrance in church and community.

On All Saints' Day (1st November), the saints of the past are remembered. Some of these are well known names: Peter, James, John, Augustine and so on. The Bible refers to all Christians as saints, so many of those who have been particularly good examples of living their faith are people whose names we will never know.

On All Souls' Day (2nd November), we remember the faithful departed – those who have died. Normally in our benefice we would have a special service and tea for all those who want to remember someone close to them who is no longer with us. We read out the names of all those who have had funerals conducted in the past year and others we are specifically calling to mind and light candles in their memory.

Then there is Remembrance Sunday (variable date) and Armistice Day (11th November), when people gather in great numbers to recall and honour the sacrifices of those who have died in war and pledge themselves to working for a peaceful future.

This year the remembering will have to take a different form because of restrictions concerning gatherings. We will still remember but it may be behind closed doors or with smaller groups of people than is usual. Marking these occasions is important and we can still do that but will need to think creatively about how this might be done.

I wonder how we'll remember 2020 in future years. For many it has been a time of disruption. For some it's been a period of isolation or despair; for others of fear and anxiety. But we also have the power to make good memories. As I write this I can think of the joy of seeing rainbows and window displays; the abundance of nature and the way in which the quiet of lockdown helped birds and animals enjoy wider freedoms; the hordes of volunteers in our benefice and across the country supporting their communities; the creativity with which people reached out to the lonely, hungry and struggling; the generosity of those who gave to Coronavirus funds, food banks and so on.

We have two months left. Perhaps we could use them to try to make some positive memories for this year when there has been so much sadness and pain.

Best wishes

*Sarah*

## Covid Church

THANKFULLY we have all now adapted to the new ways of worshipping together but there are things that we are not able to do; most of these you will already know. My greatest sadness is that, for the foreseeable future, we can no longer do many things that we used to. These include our Open the Book sessions in our local school, the school's Harvest and Christmas services in our church, Messy Church, the indoor Christmas Fair, our annual themed meal, home Bible study groups, and many more things. Hopefully we can still keep involved in the community one way or another.

The Annual Parochial Church Meeting, which had been postponed due to the pandemic and 'lockdown', finally took place in our church one evening early in October. Reports are available if anyone would like to read them, just contact me.

In October, we started a trial of a new style of service to replace

the lay led 1662 Said Morning Prayer service. It had become apparent that fewer worshippers attended the old service so we undertook a survey to find out what our congregation thought and what they would like to see. Eventually, in consultation with Sarah and our lay leaders, we decided to trial a new format; this is designed to be a quiet reflective service based on a theme, e.g. Peace, Love, etc. The purpose of this service is to give all who attend time to be still and let the Holy Spirit guide their thoughts and prayers. There will be no demands on those who do come but only for them to have time and space to ponder on the readings, music and prayers. The first of these was held in September and was well attended. After a few months we will evaluate what people think of it which will inform future services.

At the beginning of September several villagers undertook to Ride and Stride, either in socially distanced pairs or individuals. Thanks to the striders and the sponsors we raised just over £500 for Dorset Historic Church Trust, half of which will be given back to our church.

Our Events Committee are being creative as to planning and organising social and fund-raising events. They have been making and selling masks which is proving to be very successful. Instead of the annual Curry@Eva's night they have organised a Curry@home event delivering meals locally. A big thank you to all the team who work hard and donate so much of their own time and donate so much as well.

As I am writing this article, we are in discussion about Remembrance Sunday which will have to be different this year. Traditionally there was a service in church followed by a ceremony at our 'stone'; however, as we have to adhere to Covid-19 regulations, a new pattern is necessary and there will need to be a lot of planning to ensure things go smoothly.

*Pam Shults, Churchwarden*

## Dewlish Church notes

IT IS so good to be back to some sort of "normal" in the church once again.

Jim took part in the "Ride 'n Stride" and visited 20 churches. A big thank-you to him, and to everyone who donated so very generously. He raised £770, half of which will be returned to our church.

All Saints looked beautiful for the **Harvest Festival**, with lovely flower arrangements and plenty of produce. On the Monday afternoon we had a stall outside the church, which raised £273.80, a wonderful sum and a great help towards our costs. Thank you to all who supported us and gave so generously.

Additional thanks to Chris for printing the notices, and to Gadget and Andy for erecting the shelter to keep us and the produce dry. Weatherwise, it had been a dreadful few days, so we were most grateful!

We are hopeful that **Remembrance Sunday** (November 8th) can be held with our normal service – 10.50am at the War Memorial, and then in church. (All socially distanced, of course, and with masks on in church).

It doesn't look like we are going to be able to hold our **Christmas Bazaar** this year, which set us wondering about another way of raising money. I am pleased to say that Mrs. Sue Britton has offered to make Christmas cakes (not iced), puddings and mince pies. If you would like to order any, Sue can be reached on 01258 837218. Orders for cakes and puddings must be made before November 25th please.

I have jams for sale, and Jim has offered to make reindeer. These should be ordered by December 1st on 01258 837466. Jams are available at any time. If any of you talented villagers can offer anything else we would be most grateful. Thank you. *Daphne Burg*

Church contacts on page 21





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## Dorset Historic Churches Trust Ride and Stride 2020



SEPTEMBER is the month that Dorset Historic Churches Trust organises its main annual fund raising event. We ask friends and neighbours to sponsor us as we spend a day visiting as many local churches on foot, bicycle or horse as we can. Six of us from St. Andrew's set off in ones and twos and between us visited 17 different churches around Dorchester and Blandford. It was different this year as we all had to keep our distance and many churches were closed with nobody to greet and refresh striders, but all had a list to register our visit. With a very generous donation from *Reporter* we managed to raise £504 for DCHT which does a wonderful job raising money to give to Dorset churches towards costly repairs to our expensive buildings. They have always been able to help us with the bills for our church such as repairing the roof three years ago. Many thanks to all who so generously sponsored us. *John Wright*



## Warm response for village fridge but free light idea snuffed out

THERE were ideas aplenty for improving village life and resources at the October Parish Council, held virtually on Zoom at the earlier date of second not third Wednesday of the month. One of these was the idea for a 'community fridge', an accessible place for residents to place food items that they do not need for others to collect. Cllr Macnair said the initiative's aims was two-fold – to reduce food waste and also to act as a food bank, but without the stigma attached that using a conventional food bank may have. Councillors liked the idea of this "food recycling centre" for allotment produce or overbought groceries but a location and logistics of operating it were key. A safe electrical supply would be needed so talk of a space at the shop, pub or Village Hall for the fridge were mooted. Clerk Wayne Lewin and councillors were to follow up these possibilities and the item would be further discussed at the next meeting.

At the previous PC meeting, councillors were asked to canvass residents for ideas for community projects with the next year's budget in mind and there were a smattering of ideas put forward. Cllrs Head and Macnair were coming from a similar place, that of reviewing rights of way, making them more accessible by waymarking more effectively and displaying maps of circular walks. Other suggestions were for an accessible toilet at the Village Hall for park users and walkers and also a water fountain there too. Discussion was required with the Village Hall committee and Cllr Head took this on.

Cllr Macnair had noted that in his forays into the Milborne night there seemed to be more people about, particularly youngsters, without lighting or visible clothing. He was of a 'no lighty, no likey' opinion and suggested the PC purchase hi-vis vests, bike lights and torches for people to use. Councillors were quick to give their verdict to the idea with comments ranging from, "It's parents' responsibility to provide bike lights and adults should be carrying torches", to "people should be educated to use the Highway Code" in making themselves more visible at night.

Cllr Stephens had bigger thoughts for a village project, that of a skate park, with the most basic type of a small ramp costing around £35-£40k. She acknowledged that it had been discussed in years past but was prepared to put the work in to assess suitability and undertake proper consultation to make sure that "It didn't become a white elephant – we need to have the village behind it and know it will be used". Cllr Macnair said that "We shouldn't be frightened by

a price tag of £40k", saying that grants and funding could be accessed.

Talking of money, the cost of auditing the PC's accounts was a vexing point since the bill for this year was £534; in comparison Cerne Abbas PC paid only £140 for the same service. Cllr Macnair said that this was not value for money, but the council is tied to a three year contract with the auditor, which is on a 'pay as you go' basis.

The clerk said that the auditor is paid on an hourly basis and investigates fully what she perceives as issues, and is the reason for the high cost. Councillors agreed that the present conditions would be changed as soon as possible, but this may not be until the end date in two years' time.

Cllr Witherden said that the Conservation Area appraisal (CAA) was almost complete and would be ready for consultation with residents and Dorset Council but since the planning decision on Homefield, the pressure to get it done has eased. So she suggested tying the CAA with a review of the Neighbourhood Plan (NP) – which, due to a clause in national policy that weakens NPs if the local authority hasn't got a five year supply of housing development sites, needs to be done. Her schedule for doing this was displayed and councillors agreed that the NP should be reviewed so as not to diminish the huge effort that has been already been put in by the NP team. They also agreed that the Conservation Area work be included in the NP.

A walking party to assess new locations for bins in the village was proposed to tackle "litter hotspots". The PC is now responsible for any new bin, at a cost of £250 for supply and install plus a fiver to empty. Existing metal dog bins were most likely to need replacing since they rust and rot, but would be replaced with long-lasting, plastic multi-use containers. A new bin was agreed to be installed at the top of Homefield.

Cllr Cherry had had complaints of the state of the semi-built Fox View site, but councillors were told that there wasn't a lot that could be done other than asking them to tidy up; Dorset Council can place notices on landowners, but it is reliant on its enforcement by DC officers.

Cllr Macnair said advice had been given to restrict this year's Remembrance commemoration – of which the PC usually takes part in – due to Covid restrictions. More details on page 3.

*Ed Richards*



## Signs of autumn around the village



Photos by Carole Fornachon  
and John Wright



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# MILBORNE ST ANDREW FIRST SCHOOL



## Learning together and having fun SCHOOL NEWS

Raccoon Class (Year 3/4) visited Moors Valley this term as part of their Camp Raccoon topic where they have been aiming for Raccoon Rangers status in preparation for all future adventures. The children discovered their inner strength and teamwork skills as they supported each other to complete the Go Ape Treetop Adventure and impressed all the adults with their resilience. Well done Raccoon Rangers!

### Eco-News . . .

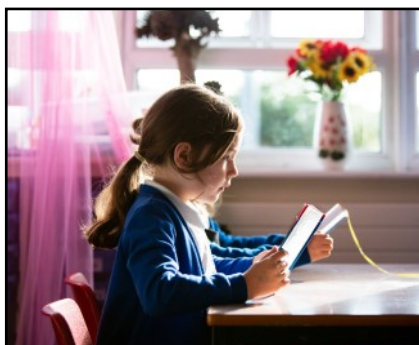
We need you! During the second half of the autumn term, Raccoon Class will be looking at sustainability in our local environment and the wider world. If you are interested in supporting our eco-efforts by linking with the children, please contact Mrs Cheeseman via the school office at [office@milborne.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:office@milborne.dorset.sch.uk). Our aim is to work with local people in the village to achieve great things for our community and for our planet. Ideas from the children so far include rewilding, tree planting, sustainable farming/food, litter picking and recycling.

It is our aim to hold a meeting with anyone who is interested in helping in any way via Zoom or Google Meets in November to allow the children the opportunity to make a real difference so please do email if you would like to hear from us.

Rabbit class have been engaged in 'Pirate Play'. We have become pirates, drawn our own treasure maps and even dug for treasure. We have created sea pictures using a form of bubble blowing, built a pirate ship in the scrap pod (where even the pirate captain had to walk the plank!) and used balance scales to investigate the weight of treasure collected. We read the story 'Pirates Love Underpants' and made our own, proudly hanging them on the washing line. We were worried that those "pesky pirates" from the story might try to steal our pants so we wrote warning signs to keep them at bay. We planned and followed an investigation in the water tray to find out how many pirates would fit on the boat and how much treasure could be stored before the boat sank. Fun filled learning ahoy!

### Thank you

A big Thank You! to Dave Lewis who recently came into school to take some amazing pictures of the pupils and staff as a snapshot of the 'school day' for our new promotional school video which will be available on our website to view very soon.



## 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:** David French

**FOS Chairman:** Marie Chappell and Natalie Dennis

e-mail: [office@milborne.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:office@milborne.dorset.sch.uk)

website: [www.milborne.dorset.sch.uk](http://www.milborne.dorset.sch.uk)

Tel: (01258) 837362

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# Never say never, I say

THE phrase “**You can’t teach an old dog new tricks**” dates back to 1546 and is considered to be **one** of the oldest idioms of **old** English language.

Its meaning is that those people who have long been used to doing things in a particular way will not abandon their habits.

If I had a £1 for every time I have heard “*It’s never been done before so it can’t be done, so why bother?*” I would be very rich and not much would have been done either. Also, if ever there was a stereotype about “oldies” that is ripe for rejection, it’s this **one**. As an “oldie” myself let me explain.

My mum was 100 on March 20th this year just three days before the lockdown so we had to cancel the big party as 150 family and friends and the Mayor of Winchester stuffed in the Winchester Rugby Club was too big a risk to take. So a quiet birthday at home with close family opening the cards and special presents was the order of the day.

Mum still lives alone at home in Winchester and survives with the aid of a stairlift, a wet room and a carer that comes in once a day to make sure that she is up. She is normally up by the time the carer arrives and is downstairs eating her breakfast.

## Before – during – after

Before lockdown she would get a taxi down to C&H’s (Goulds) twice a week, make her way upstairs to the café, have a cuppa and then toddle round to M&S, collect some shopping and get a taxi home.

During lockdown she became a bit isolated and certainly missed the company and the chats and was up for a cunning plan I had even though she had no idea what I was talking about (a common problem). Anyway I got a mobile phone sim, put it in a mobile Wifi router (she was definitely lost now!) set up an old iPad with only FaceTime on the home page, set the display to “always on” and placed it on a table alongside her chair. To start with I and others that could not visit would phone up on the normal phone with one hand and then Facetime with the other. However, she soon became a ‘right techie’ and got the hang

of leaning over the side of her chair, pressing the button and having a face to face chat.

We are now in the “AFTER” phase, 100 years and six months old and apart from venturing out and walking round the front garden footpath mum spends all the time indoors. One of her great loves is reading books but because of her eye



degeneration the letters and words jump around so that cannot happen. Knock, Knock, Alexa calling. My next cunning plan was to convince mum to have a chat to someone called Alexa and Audio Books and whilst she doesn’t have a clue about what I am talking about she is up for the challenge.



Broadband and an Echo Show was installed at home yesterday on 4th October and she was “tickled pink” with the things that you can ask Alexa to do. Not too impressed with the Alexa jokes but likes the idea that you can use it to call for help “*Alexa, call Richard*”.

As I write this ditty I have just ordered her first audio book entitled “*Daughters of Cornwall*” by her favourite author Fern Britton which will be her introduction to a whole new world of life opportunities as she maintains her independent living; living and enjoying life to the full . . . So, in these difficult days NEVER say “NEVER” and YES

you can be taught new tricks if you take a positive attitude to life.

*Richard Lock*




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# 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	07774 081551

**Dorset Council Services:** For matters relating to roads repairs, bins, litter, environmental health, planning, foot paths and parking, [www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk) or call 01305 221000  
**Flooding:** Environment Agency Floodline 03459 881188  
**Environmental Incident:** Environment Agency Hotline 08008 807060 [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency)  
 South West Highways [hello@swhitd.co.uk](mailto:hello@swhitd.co.uk) 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:	David French	
Friends of School co-Chair:	Marie Chappell and Natalie Dennis	

## SPECIAL INTEREST

Bellringers	Pip Bowell	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:	Sarah Ryan	01258 839230
Booking Secretary:	Alison Riddle	01258 837148

## HEALTH

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



Got a village project that needs funding? Grants are available to support community works or ideas.

## GRANTS AVAILABLE!

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Please contact the clerk, Wayne Lewin, on 07419 136735 and [milbornestandrew@dorset-aptc.gov.uk](mailto:milbornestandrew@dorset-aptc.gov.uk)

# Autumn: crunchy leaves, busy squirrels and Toyota engine changes

LAST month's epic up the Winterborne valley was summer's last hurrah. Rusty, tired leaves that have grafted hard throughout this gorgeous, but at times surreal, season have now fluttered down to earth to mulch. Autumn has been seen rummaging around car boot sales and charity shops looking for a pre-loved thick coat. I usually set off on these jaunts early in the morning; today it is a lunchtime start. A stiff breeze sends clouds scudding across a blue sky, their shadows fleetingly change the tonal contrast of the reaped fields as they scurry along. Shadows are longer, the sun seems too knackered to climb as high as it did in glorious June. I am wearing more clothes.

Today, I'm setting course due south from home along The Causeway, before squeezing through the short, narrow, meandering footpath that will take me on the most direct route up to Wetherby Castle. A boisterous, playful dog clocks me and bounds across to check me over. It is probably my squeaky trainers that makes him stop short. He turns sharply and runs back to the heel of his owner. With my extra layers on, the climb up to the ramparts induces some huffing and puffing and I shed a layer as I approach the northern gateway. Look down, as you enter and leave the fort, you will see a scattering of beach pebbles at each entrance. These artefacts are a legacy from Iron Age times and would have been gathered by the tribesmen to be used as slingshot in the event of an enemy invasion. Sometime during the Iron Age period, was there a day trip to Weymouth, fish and chips, a go on the pedalos, Punch and Judy, then an ice cream before gathering pebbles in the hem of your deer skin and catching the X12 back to Milborne? Sheep play hide and seek with me within the greenery. They win and I exit the ramparts and ditches without treading on any of their own particular brand of pebble.

I join Long Lane after a short diagonal descent from the fort. The strong breeze from the south amplifies the sound of traffic on the A35, although I am offered shelter from the high hedgerows of the lane. After the road bears sharply right and before it traverses the brook, I peel off left to join a leafy footpath strewn with freshly fallen, seemingly polished, horse chestnuts. Dehydrated leaves, having been cast off by their mother ship spiral down to earth, making my way ahead a soft crunching carpet of matter. This sets off a percussive rhythm of 'crunch, squeak' as I cover the ground, ceasing as I dive under the A35 before a short pull up through Kite Hill Plantation. I see no kites today, as I gaze skyward through the thinning canopy. During the summer months, these graceful birds ride the thermal currents above the surrounding fields, wings outstretched, a keen hunter's eye on the ground anticipating their next meal. Today, squirrels are scouring the earth looking for any useful sustenance for their winter larders. I consider directing them to the bountiful supply of horse chestnuts back beyond Roger's Hill Farm. Nature has probably provided them enough here and I am no Dr Doolittle. At no time during my rodent observations do I witness any evidence of 'panic squirreling'. No large commodities of toilet paper, pasta or flour are being buried; it all seems very dignified. A lesson to us all.

Continuing due south, the path runs away downhill flanked by open fields to my left and squirrel territory to my right. The view ahead opens up as the footpath falls away. Extensive coniferous plantations form a jagged horizon on the other side of the River Piddle, which flows just beyond the gravel lane that intersects my progress. Beyond the trees, deep into the forestation towards Bovington, I can hear the British Army playing with some of its Challenger II tanks. I swing left onto the gravel track, recent heavy rain has created water obstacles that in places span the width of the track. It seems that by Sod's Law I encounter groups of dog walkers approaching from the opposite direction at three of these pinch points. There is a bit of COVID-19 awkwardness as we all try to choreograph our way around the hazards. The dogs take the short cut through the water, everyone gets wet as they shake themselves down and I decide that the water option is preferable to the muddy verge. The submergence has even stopped my trainers from squeaking, which only lasts as a short while. By the time I pass Turnerspiddle Church they are back in full song. There are several pretty walks around here. Just past the church, a path on the right leads

down to Throop. It passes over tributaries of the Piddle, where in warmer times you can spread out on a tartan rug, open your wicker picnic basket, crack open a bottle of something nice, lay back and watch the clouds turn into faces.

Turnerspiddle marks the turning point of my walk and I kick due north by applying full left rudder just past the last farm building in the hamlet and climb up towards Damer Hill. This ridge is a continuation of the Kite Hill feature. The terrain is quite different up here, the stony path dissects thick bracken heathland; be careful of the tree roots that form trip hazards. Cresting the ridge, the undergrowth becomes thicker again. Going straight across a junction of pathways, I take the next left hander and drop down the side of the hill, through a gateway onto a path arched with trees. Another gate on the left and I'm briefly in the corner of an orchard, exiting immediately, heading down towards hmm, hmm, Shitterton. This quaint little gathering of character dwellings forms the western boundary of Bere Regis and its *entendre* suggesting name does it little justice; Midsomer Murders meets Miss Marple, with cottages sporting late flowering climbing roses and well-tended gardens.

Leaving hmm, hmm, Shitterton along, hmm, hmm, Shitterton Road, I join the old A35 and turn left again. At the last speed bump in the village I bear right, swing around 180 degrees and join the footpath that runs behind the houses on the main road. It is obviously washing day, wind aroused flapping bed clothes and pyjamas wave at me as if to encourage me forward on the final leg of today's walk. Saluting laundry gives way to Butt Lane, onto which I turn left and climb away from Bere Regis. As the lane thins out, somebody is swapping an engine in a Toyota pick-up. He is at the crucial stage of lowering the exchange engine into the vehicle before trying to line the transmission input shaft up with the flywheel spigot. Correct clutch plate alignment is vital for a successful outcome, as is the all important angle of the dangle. I know, because I used to do that sort of thing for a living . . . I digress. Through a frame of shrubbery, I hear and see the A35 and prepare to make a dash across it. Luckily, it being a Friday afternoon, the traffic is heavy and slow, with people making their way to wherever for a late summer getaway. Caravans, motorhomes and cars packed to the gun walls with 'are we there yet' children and camping equipment are as notorious as vehicles taking Joe Bloggs home from work.

I make it across safely and climb up through Butt Lane Hollow, part of the Jubilee Trail. Classic Dorset down land spreads out around me. Hardy's Monument protrudes like a nipple atop a bosom of land in the far distance beyond Dorchester. The twin wireless masts on Bullbarrow Hill point at two army helicopters as they nose their way through the air. Being higher up on exposed land the wind once again becomes a factor. A buzzard perched on a gatepost eyes me up before taking effortlessly to flight. The Jubilee Trail kinks left beyond a wireless transmitter and kicks left again as I approach Bere Down Farm, then traverse an expansive bare field. The buildings of Milborne stand out against a green background, and it is nice to finally join Roke Road opposite Roke Barn, after having taken one more left turn off the Jubilee Trail. My feet are wet and I don't think I can take much more of the ceaseless squeaking that follows me everywhere. I hit the junction with Homefield dead on four o'clock, three hours after leaving home.

I wonder if they are still playing with their tanks down at Bovington? The Challenger II has a thermal gunsight. My trainers, despite being damp, are quite warm. I consider driving them down to the firing range in the hope that they may receive a direct hit from a 120mm high-explosive shell.

*Rich Hawker*

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**Deadline for the next issue is mid-day  
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## Food and Wine club picnic

AS we set off for our lunchtime picnic a freckle of rain hit the car windscreen and my heart sank. Luckily, this proved to be just a brief flurry and by the time we reached Langham Wine Estate, just outside our village, the clouds had disappeared, the sun was shining warmly and it turned out to be one of those perfect, golden, early autumn days. We have been very fortunate with the weather for all our club's outdoor events this year, thank goodness.

37 members of Milborne St. Andrew Food and Wine Club met up on Saturday 5th September for the last of our al fresco meet-ups this season. Langham's stylishly re-vamped open sided barn was ready for us with a selection of socially distanced tables and comfortable seats set out in small groups, the picnic hampers were awaiting collection – and the bar was open. It was so nice to comfortably meet up and catch up with the many friends in our club who we hadn't seen for ages.



looked after. Smiling and attentive waiting staff deserve a mention as they went out of their way to make our visit such a pleasure.

Thanks very much to Penny Pearce and Jim Park for organising this very successful and enjoyable event, all their hard work and attention to detail really paid off and everyone had such a good time.

*Rose Frost*



We had pre-ordered a seafood picnic and an afternoon tea picnic to share between the two of us and we were not disappointed. Beautifully presented in a rustic wooden hamper, each item of food was very fresh and tasted delicious especially when complemented by a bottle of perfectly chilled sparkling English wine. We took our left-over food and wine home to be enjoyed later as the portions were generous and it was far too good to waste.

Some members brought their dogs along and, of course, all of them remembered their manners and behaved impeccably. (Although I was aware of soulful eyes watching the progress of each mouthful as we ate.) The peaceful surroundings of the vineyard are ideal for both dogs and their owners to wander round and get a bit of exercise after all that feasting.

The raffle prize was an afternoon tea for two at Langham Wine Estate and the lucky winners were Linda and Brian O'Dwyer. Grateful thanks to the Langham team for donating the generous prize and also for the most professional way we were served and

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## Epic ride raises £540 for Ladybirds

I WOULD like to thank everyone who sponsored me on my epic 123 miles cycling around Dorset on the 13th September. With all the support I was given, I was able to hand over £540 to Liz Dyer at Ladybirds, which was gratefully received and will go a long way to help them.

*Paul Stockley*



## Anthem for Doomed Youth

What passing bells for those who die as cattle?  
Only the monstrous anger of the guns.  
Only the stuttering rifles rapid rattle  
Can patter out their hasty orisons.  
No mockeries now for them; no prayers nor bells;  
Nor any voice of mourning save the choirs,  
The shrill, demented choirs of wailing shells;  
And bugles calling for them from sad shires.

“What candles may be held to speed them all?  
Not in the hands of boys, but in their eyes  
Shall shine the holy glimmers of good-byes.  
The pallor of girls' brows shall be their pall;  
Their flowers the tenderness of patient minds,  
And each slow dusk a drawing-down of blinds.”

*Wilfred Owen*

## Crafty Barn reopens

DORSET'S Crafty Barn has been closed this year due to family bereavement, Covid pandemic and two floods, but we are pleased to announce that we will be reopening on Friday 20th November when we will be following all government Covid guidelines. The tearoom will be table service with tea etc and cake, and from 1st December we will be selling fresh Christmas trees as we have done for the past three years. We will be open from 10.00am to 4.00pm and would love to see old and new customers again – come and see what we have to offer!

*Debi Bazeley*

## Selling fireworks safely

GUY FAWKES night is approaching, and many businesses are taking delivery of fireworks ready to supply their customers. Did you know the *Explosives Regulations 2014* require businesses storing fireworks and other explosives to have a licence and to store fireworks safely?

Trading Standards grant licences according to the amount and type of explosive a business wants to store. Most fireworks sold to consumers are classed as 'hazard type 4' and a licence from us allows storage of up to 250kg of net explosive content. We also inspect business premises to ensure the proposed store is safe and compliant.

The outer transport packaging that fireworks are delivered to shops in help to keep fireworks safe.

Ideally in shops fireworks should be kept in those same closed transport packages inside a locked storeroom that is used exclusively for the storage of fireworks. It sounds obvious but fireworks should be stored away from combustible material such as cigarette lighters, but that includes other sources of ignition such as electrical fuse boards.



If a dedicated locked storeroom is not available then fireworks should be stored in their closed transport packaging away from the sales area in a fire-resistant cabinet, container, or suitable cage. A lesser amount of fireworks can be displayed in a suitable display case in the shop floor area for customers to see, but no fireworks should be on display for sale outside of any shop display case.

It is also right to remember that it is illegal to sell fireworks or sparklers to any person under the age of 18 years old.

We want to help keep people safe while allowing businesses to sell fireworks in a safe and legal way. So, if you see firework sellers storing fireworks in a way that appears to you to be unsafe, or selling to people under 18 years old, then we'd like to hear about that promptly please. You can report it to us via the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on freephone 0808 223 1133.

If you are a business thinking of selling fireworks then further advice on how to do that safely can be obtained from our website <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/business-consumers-licences/licences-and-permits/explosives-licences/explosives-licence.aspx> or by calling our business advice line on 01305 225063.



### Church Contacts

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E-mail: [sarah.c.hillman@outlook.com](mailto:sarah.c.hillman@outlook.com)  
Rev Rosie Coldwell 01258 839214

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## New workshop at village vehicle business

IJ MOTORS is a family vehicle service business set up in 1978 by John Joyce and now run by his son Ian who worked alongside John for ten years. In 2011 we bought new premises on Milton Road near the goose farm, and this year at the start of lockdown we demolished the old workshop and are now working in our new workshop. We are able to offer a full range of services to all types of vehicle, including full



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# Martins head north and complete 1,200 mile journey

Ollie with mum, dad and sister, Hannah



IN HIS own words he was a novice cyclist, although now he's traversed the country on two wheels from Lands End to John O'Groats, Ollie Martin can comfortably upgrade his standing to something a fair bit higher. Twenty-two year old Ollie finished his 1,200 mile charity bike ride after we'd gone to print last month, so we wanted to share his experience more fully now. Ollie got on his bike during lockdown for a little exercise but

for parts of a day's ride while he was in their neck of the woods, so while he was essentially riding LEJOG solo, he felt fortunate to have a little company during parts of it. He says he only had one metaphorical wobble and that was in the early stages in Cornwall. "I was huffing and puffing up a 30% hill and wondering, 'Why on earth am I putting myself through this?!' But I quickly snapped out of it once I got to the top. It's been a steep learning curve." And each new day brought its own challenges and rewards, but Ollie says it was never a chore to get on the bike, "The unknown of the day was always exciting – having said that, I have never been more relieved to see a signpost! [At John O'Groats]" He also acknowledges his good fortune with the weather, for the twenty days he was in the saddle; "We somehow managed to dodge all the rain – even in Scotland!" That ranks as an achievement in itself!

Sister, Hannah, joining Ollie as they cross into the Scottish Highlands



soon came up with the idea, originally with a friend, to cycle the length of the British mainland. It was an idea that appealed to them for its ridiculousness since neither had ridden more than 20 miles in one go! Fast forward to late September and Ollie had completed the journey, on schedule, riding between 60 to 70 miles each day. He says that he started out without any aspirations of being the fastest LEJOGer or break any records and it actually made for a more pleasant journey. Ollie says, "It allowed me to take my time and it was amazing to see such a vast cross-section of the country and how the scenery changed the further into the ride." His favourite stages were in the Lake District. "I'd never been there before and the views were just stunning – tough cycling at points, but super rewarding".



Tregardock Beach, Cornwall

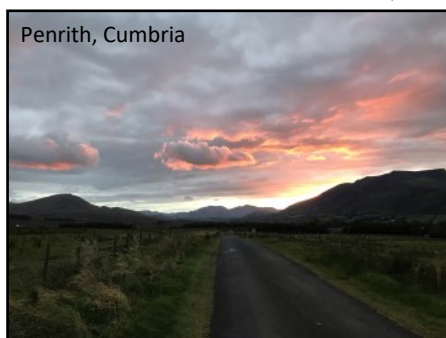
Joining him at different sections along the journey were his family –



Ullswater, Lake District

dad, John Martin, mum, Charlotte, sisters, Hannah and Frances and family friend, Julie Poad. While Ollie was putting the miles in on the

bike, his 'roadies' (as he called them) would tow the caravan to the scheduled site at the end of that day's stage. His mum was the stalwart, setting off from Milborne with him for Lands End with the caravan, and staying for the trip all the way to the far reaches of Scotland. He says of his family, "They are the backbone of the whole trip and have made it all possible – I think it would be a very different experience without them". He also had friends join him



Penrith, Cumbria



Loch Lomond, Scotland

It was only on the journey back to the family's home, Deverel Farm, that the realisation of the size of the feat he had achieved. "It wasn't until we were driving back

that it actually sunk in how far the cycle was!", he says. In hindsight, he thinks a little more training wouldn't have gone amiss, given that he'd shelved a lot of training rides after his friend pulled out in July, but on the other hand, feels that it added to the experience. And in a weird, pandemic-dominated year, doing the ride had other hidden benefits. Ollie says, "In all the craziness of this whole year, it's just been quite nice to disconnect from it all."

Two charities have also benefitted from his 1200 mile jaunt, The Dorset County Hospital Charity and Macmillan Cancer Support, with the total standing at just over £2500. Donations can still be made by visiting <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/fundraiser-display/showROFundraiserPage?pagelid=1197081> or using the QR code on this page. Phillip Smith, postmaster at the village PO has supported Ollie by giving him a window to broadcast his charity ride and by giving people the opportunity to donate with cash using the Post Office. Ollie says, "I want to thank everyone that has supported me along the way; the road crew with putting up with me, Phillip for letting me take over the window, the Reporter for their coverage and donation and anyone who has donated."

Ed Richards



Mission accomplished!



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# A Good Read

## The Secret Dead by S. J. Parris

THIS excellent, slim volume published in 2014 acts as a prequel to a series of five with the same protagonist as the central character. Set in Naples in 1566 we are introduced to Giordano Bruno (henceforth known as Bruno) an 18yr old who has just taken Holy Orders at San Domenico Maggiore and admitted to the Dominican Order despite doubts over his tendency to ask difficult questions and his own about Catholic orthodoxy. We know of him and his exploits from his own narration. The author (real name Stephanie Merritt) describes him as “(her) interpretation of an historical figure . . . whose original and unorthodox ideas get him into trouble”. In this book she tells of discovering the real man during her research into Renaissance occultism. His own search for a rare document is a theme which runs through all the subsequent books. He is already a renegade philosopher and fast becoming a heretic. Her writing is as powerful as in the other, much longer, novels. It is a tale pervaded with fear, retribution and darkness. We follow him to the Fontanelle cave described as a “maw of deeper shadows” wherein lie the bodies of the “lazzaroni” the nameless poor, the ‘sodomites’, the suicides and the plague victims who die on the streets of Naples. As he muses, ‘even the dead have a story to tell’. The images are raw and detailed. She brings us the smells, the sights and the sounds of sixteenth century Naples as she does in subsequent stories set in Oxford, London, Canterbury, Plymouth and Paris. Her use of the cadences of the Italian language and of the era in which it is set is impeccable. Bruno is forced to make a difficult choice after an horrendous episode into which we are pitchforked at the very beginning. This is the core of the story. It is one of many such experiences which forge his outlook and character over the following years. *Heresy* was published in 2010, a masterful blend of true events with fiction. As a student of the occult at the time of the Inquisition where any apparent turning from Catholicism, the one true faith, was punishable by torture and a particularly horrible death he is forced to flee the Inquisition. Based in Oxford University Bruno, currently protected by the King of France, witnesses a series of grisly murders. It is a clever, sophisticated, exceptionally enjoyable read with an unstoppable narrative propelled with stylistic flair.

*Prophecy* published in 2011 is set in the year of the Great Conjunction when two most powerful planets Jupiter and Saturn align, an astrological phenomenon that occurs once in a thousand years. It heralds the end of one era and the dawn of another. Set in the Court of Queen Elizabeth 1st she calls upon her Astrologer, John Dee and Bruno for help in dealing with the climate of fear pervading her household. Bruno is, as always, playing a dangerous game. It is utterly gripping and gorgeously set. There is no doubt she is the mistress of historical fiction. *Sacrilege* published in 2012, is set initially in London then Canterbury once England’s greatest centre of pilgrimage and seat of the cult of St Thomas Becket a 12th Century Archbishop murdered in the Cathedral. The stability of the Kingdom hangs in the balance as Bruno acts as one of Sir Francis Walsingham’s web of spies. It is addictively page turning. *Treachery* published in 2014 is concerned with fears of an invincible Armada built by Philip the Second of Spain intent on the invasion of England. Set in Plymouth mainly on board the fleet of Sir Francis Drake where Bruno and his friend Sir Philip Sidney are guests, Sir Francis is poised to embark on a Royal Commission to cross the Atlantic and seize major Spanish ports wherein lie captured English ships. *Conspiracy* published in 2016 is set in Paris, a city on the edge of catastrophe. Our fugitive monk is drawn into a dangerous web of religious and Court intrigue. *Execution* published this year, 2020, deals with a treasonous conspiracy to replace Queen Elizabeth with her Catholic sister Mary. We are taken to the heart of the Elizabethan Court, a world of secrets and lies. Waterstones trail it as “a brilliantly realised fictionalisation of the Babington plot” Yet again, another sharply plotted Elizabethan yarn. Historical fiction does not get much better than this. Consider the times in which we live with the threat of further lockdown and winter on the doorstep. If this is your type of reading why not acquire a set to keep you enthralled for the next, possible, enforced period of leisure?

Carole Fornachon

# Friends of Milborne St. Andrew

## First School Committee

WE have already passed the halfway point of the Autumn term and the children seem to have adapted to this ‘new normal’ well.

The Committee have also had to adapt their fundraising plans to factor in what is permissible under the ever evolving Government guidance. The big public events, which have historically been really successful fundraisers for us, are now a fading memory and have been replaced by a shift towards all things virtual. Our meetings and our fundraising projects are now having to be conducted almost entirely online. We are having to adapt and learn new ways to capture an audience’s attention (and their spare change . . .!).

On that note, we started our new school year’s fundraising with the Change Jar Challenge and raised £250. Thank you to all those who took part by filling a container full of spare change and kindly donating it to us.

Our next project was the Halloween Trail. Two pounds bought you a (very professional looking) activity sheet including a map of the village with the locations of a clue marked on it. Participants were encouraged to walk around the village jotting down the letter they spotted in each location in order to complete a well known, Halloween themed, phrase. Once completed, the activity sheets were collected in at the Post Office to be entered into a prize draw to win one of three fantastic prize bundles. (At the time of writing) The prize bundles included vouchers donated by The Oak in Dewlish, the Tank Museum, Kingsbere Fish & Chips and Seven Springs Photography Studios. Thank you so much to all those who donated a gift and helped to make the event a success.

Christmas is coming! We already have our thinking caps on coming up with new ways to make this year’s Christmas just as special as any other for our School’s children. In previous years, we would have put on a Christmas lunch with a visit from Father Christmas but this is having to be reworked with social distancing and ‘bubbles’ in mind. We are confident however that we can still provide plenty of ‘festive cheer’ for the children this Christmas, we just need to be slightly more inventive; who says change is a bad thing. . . ?

We have lots of exciting things planned for 2021 and we are looking forward to being able to share them with you in coming issues of the *Reporter*.

Please follow us on Facebook (Friends of Milborne St Andrew First School) to keep up to date with all the goings on and all the ways you can support us.

Marie and Natalie would also love to hear from you by email (msa\_fos\_chair@outlook.com) if you would like to donate a prize for one of our future projects. We will be pleased to give credit for all donations in our Newsletter and on social media.

Natalie Dennis,  
Co-Chair, Friends of Milborne St Andrew First School

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## Milborne Players Report

GREETINGS all who read.

The Player’s Committee has Zoomed again! Ron is working on the second act of a Cinderella pantomime. Coming it may be but we still have no more idea when that might be. We thoroughly enjoyed laughing and leg pulling over the first act. Ron will soon give us the second act. Like many people some of us are stuck at home while those with key jobs are sometimes too busy so we particularly enjoyed a bit of a get together even if it was virtual. We are very sad to lose Anita Wareham, a popular member of our company who has featured in many of our shows and who died in early September. You may remember her particularly as the Evil Queen in Snow White.

We are planning some play readings and a sound broadcast of A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens during the Christmas season. Look out for dates and arrangements in later *Reporters* and on the Players’ website [www.milborneplayers.org.uk](http://www.milborneplayers.org.uk).

Regards Jo Coetzee and Dot Karley



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## Curry@home

St. Andrew's Events Committee has been innovative in how they can organise and run social events which also bring in extra finance for the church. So, as they could no longer arrange Curry@Eva's, due to the pandemic, they came up with the idea of providing a take away delivery service on the evening of Wednesday 21st October.



It proved to be an exercise in planning and organisation which was very successful. All but one of the team members made one of four different type of curries and the other made individual Dorset Apple Cakes. One of the team offered to use her kitchen as the central service area while the

others became the delivery girls (not on little scooters either).



People enjoyed their curry, rice, naan bread, mango chutney and Dorset Apple cake in their own cosy safe homes – except the Bladen View girls, who met together in a safe, socially distanced venue.

St. Andrew's Parochial Church Council would like to thank the team for their hard work and organisation, also to all who ordered the meal for Curry@home. The event raised over £300.

## Longmead Farm update

GREETINGS from all at Longmead Community Farm. We were lucky enough to be invited on to KeeP106 for National Radio Day to talk about the work we do at the farm. If you would like to hear more you can hear the interview at <https://keep106.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/Sarah-from-Longmead-Community-Farm-121020.mp3>

Everyone is very much in love with the baby chickens that hatched last month, as well as our two new kid goats Mattie and Maria. They are shaping up to be lovely therapy animals. Wally and Blackberry have taken them under their wings and are very indulgent of their playful nature.



We were really sad to say goodbye to Lilly and Amy, the beautiful donkeys we borrowed for the summer. We are hoping to raise some money to build them a winter shelter so we can keep them all year.

We are still collecting surplus from M&S which generally comprises of bread and vegetables. If you live in the area and would find some extra weekly groceries helpful at the moment, please do reach



out to me on 01258837960 or [sarah.cooper@longmead.org](mailto:sarah.cooper@longmead.org).

If you are interested in helping LCF through volunteering on the farm, with the family work, fundraising, office help, or maybe donating to us we would love to hear from you. Do either email me on [sarah.cooper@longmead.org](mailto:sarah.cooper@longmead.org) or call 01258837960.

Please all take care and stay safe.

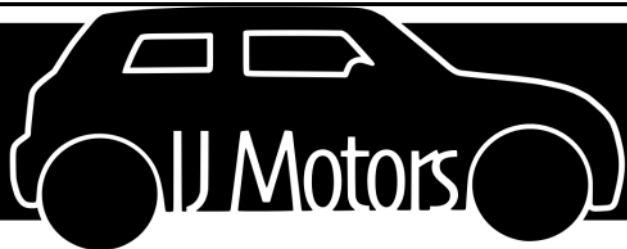
Sarah Cooper

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

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## It Could Just Happen

By Robert Perryment

A fictional current affairs novel

I RECEIVED this novel as a surprise; it wouldn't necessarily have been one I'd have chosen. However, after a sceptical start, I enjoyed it very much

Overall, it's a nice plot, with well-drawn characters, and offers some interesting insights into philosophy, religion, critical thinking and alternative ways of living. Against a background of conflicts – Brexit/ Remain, Citizens/Hooligans, ISIS/UN Coalition, EU/NATO, Christianity/ atheism/Islam. The writing style is clear, and keeps the story moving along nicely. The story unfolds gradually as the characters grow into the roles they play in it and the individual threads are clear and interesting. The main event is slightly implausible although as the title says – *It Could Just Happen*.

Although it's an adventure/thriller story, with some noisy and explosive parts, it starts slowly and develops its central characters well. Unfortunately this means that the final couple of chapters appear rushed. I'd have liked to have seen the outcome developed a bit further. Maybe there's scope for a sequel, but it probably couldn't be quite so exciting.

Definitely recommended to readers as a nice bit of 'plausible escapism'.

Susan Wilson

## Street Fair postponed until 2022

NORMALLY in the November bulletin a year before a Street Fair, the Trustees would be pleased to be announcing the provisional grants for local beneficiaries. Sadly, we are living in unprecedented times and so the Trustees met recently to review a quite different dilemma.

Instead, the Trustees of Milton Abbas Street Fair Trust unanimously agreed to postpone the Street Fair from July 2021 to July 2022. This is due to the uncertainty caused by Covid-19 and the risk this poses for the Street Fair. It will hopefully now be re-arranged for Saturday 30th July 2022, although a full review of this decision will take place next April. It is also hoped that the 2021 Fair date can still be 'celebrated' by the village in some way or other too.

Following consultation exercises with residents of The Street and beneficiaries of the Fair, it became apparent that while over 70% of residents would be happy to host a Fair in 2021, subject to Government approval, many of them felt it would be better to wait a year when hopefully a vaccine would be in place and the pandemic would be under control.

Beneficiaries did not feel that a postponement would result in hardship for their organisation – in reality, many of them are not incurring costs due to inactivity!

David French, Chair of the Trustees, said "the Trustees have taken this difficult decision having recognised that the predicted Covid-19 risk is too great and could impact on the health of villagers and visitors alike".

Freddy Robinson, Chair, advised that the Organising Committee agreed with the decision taken by the Trustees and added "the operational Covid-19 safety requirements and costs to mitigate risks e.g. implementing social distancing, hygiene including toilets, catering etc. would be excessive regardless of the size of Fair and number of attendees."

There are currently three Organising Committee vacancies for Secretary, Treasurer and Stalls Coordinator. Being part of this Committee is a great way to contribute to our village. Enjoy the fun and reward from organising an event that raises over £20k for organisations in Milton Abbas and adjacent villages. Anyone interested in joining the Organising Committee please ring Freddy on 881681 or email [masftrust@gmail.com](mailto:masftrust@gmail.com).

Keep safe and we look forward to a successful Street Fair in July 2022.

Nigel Hodder, Secretary, MASF Trust

## From Builders to Hedgehog Pumpkin

NEARLY the end of the first half term – where has the time gone? It's so great to be back. The children have settled into Ladybirds and with support they have become more confident coming in through the outside area gate. We seem to have covered a great deal since our last report. An old favourite is building the big outside play house. Dressed in builders' aprons and equipped with tools the house is soon erected by the children. The house undergoes many 'repairs' and becomes part of role play – the 'Three Little Pigs' being a favourite. Builders' topic led to



construction vehicles. We made pictures of vehicles using shapes and learnt how to make the back of the dumper truck tip using a split pin. Then we sailed the sea during pirate and

mermaids' topic making telescopes and using them while listening to 'Shark in the Park'. We experimented at dying paper with tea to make treasure maps. Last topic of the half term has been 'Room on the Broom' to introduce Halloween. Dressing up in witches' hats and riding besoms, these are the ones made last year during the Woodland days. Sadly we haven't been able to return to the Woodland this term due to COVID restrictions on the farm. Hopefully next spring life will be different and we will be able to offer the Woodland days to the older children then. We have tried to keep some of the Forest School skills alive. The children made a pumpkin hedgehog (under supervision) by hammering sticks into a large pumpkin. This was a popular activity and a great way of introducing the use of a hammer rather than nails into wood.

Liz Dyer



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# LETTERS to the Reporter

## The old creamery site

Now the Milborne Business Centre

Further to your informative and interesting article in the October Reporter on the history of the site, we as owners of Camelco Ltd, which owns the Milborne Business Centre, would just like to express our sadness at losing our milk transport tenant, Lloyd Fraser.

Milk has been transported to and from our site for 90 years, albeit we have only owned the site since 1998.

Lloyd Fraser were responsible for transporting milk for Arla, but Arla have decided to operate from their centre at Westbury, from where they will do the milk transporting themselves.

Your article mentioned that there is 'no news on what will become of the site'. We would just like to express that our milk tenant only represented about 10% of our turnover. We have numerous other well established tenants, and so all will continue as before at the Milborne Business Centre.

We will, of course, be looking for one or more suitable transport or coach companies to occupy the site that has been vacated.

There was also a mention that we 'owned the site with the helicopter pad for visitors'. This was used by previous owners, Northern Foods, prior to 1994. Sadly due to our very competitive rents, we are not in the helicopter league!

*Richard Ferguson, John Payne, Directors of Camelco Ltd*

## SUDOKU

Fill in all the squares in the grid so that each row, each column and each of the 3x3 squares contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

No prize, just a bit of fun.

6		3	1	8			9	
	9	7	6			3		
			7				5	2
		2	5				7	3
1			9		4			5
3	4				7	8		
4	8				1			
		6			9	1	4	
	5			2	6	9		8

## More travels with Rosie

HELLO everyone, Rosie here. You may remember a couple of years ago I went off on my travels across the big sea to France and Italy, well because of some strange thing called Corona Virus we have stayed closer to home this year.

Just after this weird thing called 'lockdown' finished in the summer we dusted off our dear little tin box on wheels and headed for my Mums favourite place, Cornwall! We stayed near a nice place called Looe (it's not a toilet, it's a real place)!

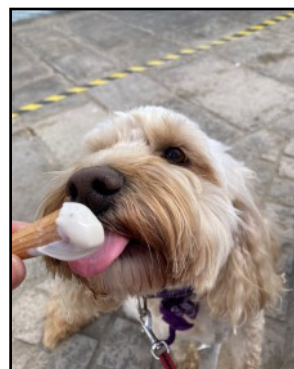


It was a great place for walks and we did lots of hikes along the coast. One day we walked all the way to Looe and sat outside a busy cafe for coffee and cakes, I don't like coffee but I do like cakes! One problem with Cornwall is the pesky seagulls, I don't like seagulls much, they are always looking to pinch your food, but I do a good job chasing them away, Mum and Dad don't usually like me chasing things but they don't seem to mind me chasing these big greedy birds.

After the cafe it was time to go back but Mum was feeling a bit tired so I walked back with Dad to get the car while Mum waited in the town for us. It was a lovely walk back to the car, up a great big hill (good job Mum stayed behind). When we picked Mum up she was smiling and carrying some shopping bags, I think she had a good time while she waited for us.



One of my favourite things is to go to the beach, I love to paddle and



splash about but I'm not so keen on swimming. I get a bit worried when the sea chucks the water at me and tries to cover my head, I don't think that's funny and not a good game! There are usually lots of other dogs for me to play with and if I'm lucky I get a bit of Mum's ice cream, yummy.

We all enjoyed being on holiday again and it was lovely to be sleeping in the tin box on wheels as I get to be with Mum and Dad all of the time. Bye for now, love Rosie x





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