



# Reporter

News and Views from around the area

Volume 14 Issue 10

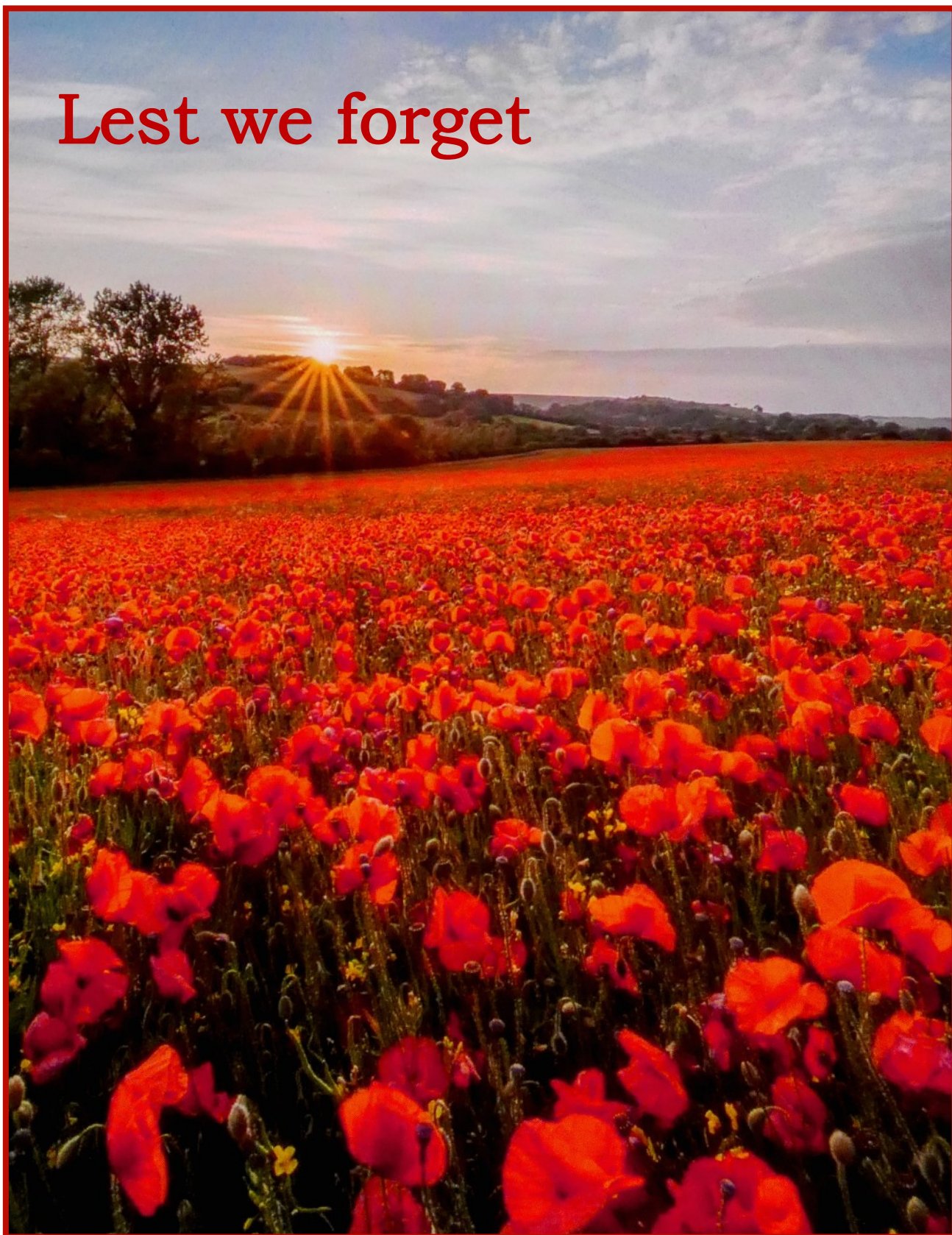
November 2022

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Advertising copy MUST be received by the 10th of the month

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

## Your *Reporter* Team

Janet Allen, Linda Constant, Pete Constant,  
Carole Fornachon, Heather V. Hogg, David Payne, Ed Richards,  
Jo Whitfield, John and Josie Wright

Advertising: Ed Richards 01258 837907 (07843 018007)

Advertising renewals: Pete Constant 01258 839246 (daytime)

Distribution: Janet Allen 01258 837551

Editor: David 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 12th November

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

Paper copy to any of the team.

## Parish Council notes

THE meeting began with the selection of a new Parish Councillor and welcomed Ash Batchelor.

The cherry tree that was planted for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee was added to the map by Cllr Williams. If you want to see it on the map go to <https://queensgreencanopy.org>.

As part of the traffic calming plans, the Parish Council (PC) are looking at options for a Speed Indicating Device (SID) for A354 at Dorchester Hill and Blandford Hill. In the past, Dorset Council have put speed wires down to see the speed of vehicles in these locations, and the results showed that the speed of vehicles was appropriate to the road, and that the VAS were doing their job in slowing vehicles down. Dorset Council have offered to turn the VAS off for seven days and see what the speed is then. If it can be proved that vehicles are speeding the VAS can be removed and replaced with SID. The cost for the one set of speed wires is £250, and the cost of a second is £175. This will be discussed in more detail at the next meeting.

### Planning

- P/LBC/2022/05641 – Woodville, Blandford Hill – Internal alterations, replacement of front doors and garage door. There were no concerns from the Cllrs, and agreed to support the application

To find out more about planning applications, and to comment, go to <https://planning.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/>.

During discussions around financial matters, it was shared that there is £2,426 in the Obelisk Fund. This money was raised by the community some time ago. The landowner of the obelisk is aware that the fund is still there. Cllr Redding requested that Clerk Lewin contact the land owner to reiterate that the funding is available for maintenance of the obelisk.

A request for S106 funding has been received from Milborne Sports Club. There was much discussion by Cllrs about the request, which states that it has been approved by the PC, which they said it hasn't. The request comprised two elements i) maintenance of the pitches, ii) access – the entrance, the outside toilet facility and the pavilion. Cllrs were not clear on what the access system was, or how it would work. GDPR policy had been requested from the Sports Club which hadn't been received prior to the PC meeting. There was concern whether the access request for £7,500 was good value for money. It was proposed to not support this request at this time, and reconsider it in 12 months time.

On behalf of the PC Clerk Lewin reached out to the community on Facebook as well as in the *Reporter* to get a feel on how the community would like to see the S106 funding spent. There were lots of suggestions which included swimming pool, soft play, skate park, and petting pens. Next steps will be to form a working group with volunteers from the parish along with Cllrs Mcleod and Batchelor, who agreed to represent the PC. Cllrs Mcleod and Batchelor were tasked with coming up with a proposal of how to structure the working group.

The PC will purchase a poppy wreath for the remembrance parade and the children of the school will lay it on their behalf. Refreshments before the parade will be paid for by the PC community fund. There will be refreshments and cake available after, which will be run by the Community Café.

There will be a village litter pick this autumn. The proposal will be discussed at the next meeting.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 2nd November at the Village Hall, starting at 7pm. Please come along. *Jo Whitfield*

## The St. John Ambulance Service

ON Wednesday 5th October our very own Dave Andrews gave the Wednesday Club members an interesting and entertaining talk on the St. John Ambulance service.

The service was first founded in England in 1877 and the name is taken from The Order of The Knights of St. John who set up a hospice to provide free medical care to sick pilgrims in the 11th Century. To this day the service is made up of unpaid volunteers.

Dave first became interested in it when he was 12 or 13 years of age when he used to go, with his father, to speedway events where there were often accidents and the St. John Ambulance were on hand to help. You joined, did an exam, got a uniform and then did an exam each year to ensure your knowledge was up to date.



He was made a storeman in charge of the equipment. Then became a transport officer for many years when he managed to obtain old local authority ambulances that had been stripped of all appliances and could be refitted for use by the St. Johns.

Over the years both Dave and his wife Val, who was a trained nurse, worked with the service as medical volunteers as well as helping to set up fun events to raise money and awareness about the service.

Thank you Dave, for giving us an insight into the great work of the St. John Ambulance .

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 2nd November at 2.00pm in the Village Hall when there will be a short Extraordinary General Meeting when Josie will present the accounts up to date as under the new Constitution the AGM will be held in May 2023.

This will be followed by a Beetle Drive, so be prepared for lots of laughs!

*Lis Watts*



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## Village Lunch EGM

As you will know, the monthly Village Lunch finished in March.

We will be holding an Extraordinary General Meeting in The Royal Oak on Wednesday 16th November at 12.15pm.

We also have some items for sale which are open to offers, any money raised will be added to a final monetary total and will be donated to a nominated charity.

2 Hostess 1KW hot plates HT6030C 68 x30 x6cm

40 large dinner plates

40 pudding bowls

10 salt and pepper sets

Serving cutlery – large spoons etc

Please contact Josie Wright for information 01258 839090.

## Village History Group

At the October meeting John Smith, Archaeologist, gave an enthralling talk about air battles over Dorset. He had around 20 wartime British and German model aircraft which he used to illustrate his talk. He managed to enthral visitors as well as regular history group members. John is a very competent and interesting speaker.

Brian Bates will be talking to our Group in November. He will give insight into 'An Imaginary Walk Through 17th Century Dorchester'. This will be on the 9th November at 7.30pm in the Village Hall and not The Royal Oak as usual.

The second book of information about Milborne St. Andrew's history is now on sale for £2.50 in the Post Office or by contacting me. Phone, 01258 837203 or pamshults@btinternet.com

*Pam Shults*

## Warning on scams

**The Heart of the South West Trading Standards service is warning residents to look out for scams that appear to offer financial support to help households with their energy bills.**

Scammers are using SMS texts and emails, posing to be genuine and legitimate sources, to contact recipients.

Messages vary, but their aim is for the recipient to click the link in the communication.

One such scam text wanted the recipient to think it had been sent by the government, but on closer inspection, the text omits the full stop between Gov and UK.

Steve Gardiner, Legal Process Manager for the Trading Standards service, warns:

"Don't click on the link. Scammers intend to either get money from you, obtain your personal details, or possibly to corrupt or gain access to the electronic device you are using. Either way, you want to avoid it.

"One thing is certain, whenever there is an opportunity – in this case the rising costs of energy and costs of living putting enormous financial pressures on households – there will be unscrupulous people wanting to take advantage for their own gain.

"If you receive an unsolicited SMS text or email that you suspect may be a scam, be safe, delete it."

To find out the best way to protect yourself from scams, please visit our website.

## ENA MARGARET KIMBER

1927–2022

Ena and her late husband, Don, lived in the village for more than fifty years, and both contributed much to the village, and especially to St. Andrew's Church; Don was Churchwarden for many years alongside Wilfred Haylock.

Ena was born at Walton-on-the-Naze, where her father was a Coastguard. Her father died when Ena was six and her mother when she was nine. Ena's maternal grandparents lived in Christchurch, and that is where Ena grew up, her eldest sister, Hilda, assuming the role of "mother".

Ena trained as a seamstress in London, and in 1959 she married Don Kimber at the Priory in Christchurch, before moving to Milborne, Don's home. Their daughter Christine was born in 1960, and their son John in 1963. Sadly, Christine died in 1970 aged 9 years, a tragic loss.

Ena joined the Sewing Room at Milton Abbey School. She was the "go-to" for any sewing jobs in the village, and beyond. She made numerous dresses for village brides and their bridesmaids; altered clothing; made curtains and soft furnishings and a hundred and one other jobs. She was also instrumental in making various items for the Church, alongside the other "Holy Sewers", Mesdames Haylock, Cooper, and Ham. The "Best" frontal was Ena's design, and it was appropriate that it was used for her funeral. The flower bowl, purchased in memory of Christine by her school friends, was also on display with flowers reflecting her love of the colour pink, bought by one of those school friends for the occasion. The Church was still decorated for the Harvest Thanksgiving, appropriate as Don used to supply Chrysanthemums each year for the occasion.

At Ena's request, her coffin entered the Church to the strains of "I do like to be beside the seaside", played on the organ. After the service, conducted by Sarah and Maggie, Ena was laid to rest in the churchyard, reunited once more with Don. We give thanks for all Ena and Don contributed to the village and we pray that her gentle soul may now rest in peace, in the arms of Him whom she worshipped and served so faithfully. We send our condolences to John and his family.

*Tony Fox*

**More than a movie**

## Operation Mincemeat

**Friday 18th November 2022 at 7.30pm**

**Village Hall, Milborne St. Andrew**

**Doors and bar open 7.00pm**

**Tickets cost £5, which includes a drink or an ice-cream**

### Operation Mincemeat

It's 1943. The Allies are determined to break Hitler's grip on occupied Europe, and plan an all-out assault on Sicily; but they face an impossible challenge – how to protect a massive invasion force from potential massacre. It falls to two remarkable intelligence officers, Ewen Montagu (Colin Firth) and Charles Cholmondeley (Matthew Macfadyen) to dream the most inspired and improbable disinformation strategy of the war – centered on the most unlikely of secret agents: a dead man. Operation Mincemeat is the extraordinary and true story of an idea that hoped to alter the course of the war – defying logic, risking countless thousands of lives, and testing the nerves of its creators to breaking point.



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# Milton Abbas Surgery

## Food banks

Calling all the wonderful people of Milton Abbas, Milborne St. Andrew and surrounding villages! We would like to do a special 'support your local food bank' shout out.

No one wants to have to choose between fuel, food, or cleanliness. And that's why we would like to encourage everyone who feels they are able, to give a donation to the local food bank when doing their weekly shop. It doesn't have to be much, and it doesn't need to be an expensive brand – if all of us pulled together and donated just one tin, packet, or tube of toothpaste it would soon add up!

Useful items to donate are tinned meat, tinned veg, tinned fruit, long life milk, loo rolls, soap, toothpaste, shampoo, washing detergents, nappies, and sanitary products. There are collection points in Tesco, Morrisons and Lidl, or you can add to the collection box in the Milton Abbas Surgery foyer.

Thank you for anything you can donate. Just remember: "Great things are done by a series of small things brought together" – Vincent Van Gogh

## Moustaches in November!

The Movember Foundation has done heaps to boost awareness of men's health issues, bringing attention to potentially serious conditions like prostate and testicular cancer, as well as mental health and suicide prevention.

We would like to remind all our patients that we are 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. Knowledge is Power – Moustache is King!

## Autumn Covid Vaccination Clinics

If you are eligible for the Autumn Covid vaccination, we will be running dedicated clinics throughout November.

Please call us on 01258 880210 after 10.30am to book your appointment. Please visit our surgery website [www.masurgery.co.uk](http://www.masurgery.co.uk) to read the vaccination information leaflet, alternatively please ask at Reception and we can give you a paper copy.

## Flu Vaccinations

If you are eligible for a flu vaccination and have not yet had one, please call the surgery to book in for one.

## Around the World Challenge

By the time that you are reading this magazine, Milton Abbas Surgery will have taken part in a challenge of epic proportions!

To encourage staff to be more active, the Mid-Dorset Primary Care Network challenged all nine practices to an Around the World event in October – each practice was to see how far around the world they could travel by walking, running, or cycling.

If you would like to know how we got on, please either see our surgery Facebook page for updates or ask one of our members of staff.

If you would like to kickstart your journey to becoming more active, the Wellbeing Team here at the surgery run walking groups and a beginner's line dancing group. There are also other activities run locally such as Kurling and Tai Chi. Why not pick up a copy of our Milton Abbas Surgery Wellbeing Team Bulletin in our surgery waiting room to see highlights of groups and activities happening in your area.

Kelly Best

## Remembrance Day 2022

By Jan Beaumont®

This Remembrance Day draws nearer and there's not so many left

Of those bright eyed boys who left their native shores  
They were so young, so hopeful of a life that promised much  
But they went to fight for freedom, mine and yours.

They left behind their families and so many tears were shed  
By their mothers, fathers, aunties, sisters, wives  
They never knew the horrors of the things that lay ahead  
But willingly they fought and gave their lives.

The ones who came back home to us could often not share stories  
Of the things they'd seen, those things they couldn't tell  
They quietly returned and tried to go on with their lives  
Trying to forget they'd been through hell.

As life went on the years went by and they were getting old  
They'd meet each year to talk and reminisce  
And then they slowly left us, slipped away without a word  
And we lost them, dearly loved and greatly missed.

Each Remembrance Day there's fewer now of these courageous men

Those once young boys are bent and frail and worn  
Do not forget the lives we have today we owe to them,  
Remember well this next Remembrance morn.

Our loved ones, we salute you, we will hold you in our hearts  
You've done us proud, you're heroes, every one  
We thank you for your sacrifice, you most beloved men  
And say another heartfelt 'Thank you, son'.

## A little poem for Seniors

By Jan Beaumont®

Another year has passed and we're a little older,  
Last summer felt much hotter, and winter seemed much colder.

There was a time not long ago when life was quite a blast.  
Now, I fully understand about 'Living in the past'

We used to go to weddings, football games and lunches,  
Now we go to funeral homes and after-funeral brunches.  
We used to go out dining and couldn't get our fill,  
Now we ask for doggie bags, come home and take a pill.

We often used to travel to places near and far,  
Now we get sore backsides from riding in the car.  
We used to go to nightclubs and drink a little booze,  
Now we stay at home at night and watch the evening news.

That, my friend, is how life is and now my tale is told.  
So . . . enjoy each day and live it up . . .  
BEFORE YOU'RE TOO DAMNED OLD !!

**Deadline for the next issue 12th November**

**Send your articles to the Reporter by e-mail at  
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# All things Autumn at Ladybirds

WHAT a beautiful month it has been. Damp mornings then glorious sunshine has provided lots of opportunities to be outside. A walk to collect conkers was great fun as the wind blew and we could hear and see them falling from the trees. With a large bag full we returned to the Hall and sorted them, comparing sizes and shapes. The conkers provided many maths activities



and ingredients in the outside kitchen.

A new story to us was Wide-awake Hedgehog by Rosie Wellesley. A lovely story of a hedgehog who doesn't want to go to sleep and wants to play but his friends are getting ready for winter, then he hears the wind. Isaac wishes he could see and hold the wind but the wise wind tells him the best

things can neither be seen or held – like Happiness. Ladybirds have played outside with bubbles and ribbons watching the wind blow, the clouds move, the trees wave and drop their leaves and listen to the wind blowing. Mother Nature is a wonderful educator.

Artwork has included many painted handprints – on a hedgehog body and an autumn tree. The children as competitive as ever want their handprints at the top – even if you can't quite reach! Hedgehogs were also created from clay and sticks. With a surplus of apples from my tree we made apple cake which was very popular – some children found it strange that apples grew in my garden so a bit more work on where food comes from to follow.

Liz Dyer

## Milborne Ladybirds

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# Perfect Pairings with Poetry

Following on from an earlier series of “Recipes, Rhymes and Reminiscences” Here is the first of a new series I’ve called “Perfect Pairings with Poetry”

One of my theories is that in difficult times, when all the news in the media seems bleak, then it can be reassuring to get back to basics.

Eating and sharing traditional food and drink always reminds me of happy times in the past and I am often comforted by those memories. Likewise, poetry has the power to inspire and cheer. Sometimes rhymes come into my mind from many years ago and it can send my thoughts back to easier times. The word comfort comes from the Latin *comfortare* which means to strengthen greatly.

## November – Dorset Apple Cake with Mulled Cider

When I married Ed in 2006, he told me that one of his favourite cakes was Dorset Apple Cake. I’d never made one before so I looked on the Internet for a recipe and discovered that this one had just won the Best of Dorset food awards for that year. (Greg Coomer from Bournemouth.)

I’ve never been all that keen on Dorset Apple Cake, finding some versions a bit heavy and somehow underwhelming. Be warned, this recipe is not at all like the traditional cake, but I love its lightness and flavour and I’ve never been tempted to experiment with any other recipe since.



### Greg’s Dorset Apple Cake

#### Ingredients:

225g self-raising flour  
1 teaspoon baking powder  
25g cornflour  
110g butter  
110g golden caster sugar  
225g cooking apples (peeled, cored and diced)  
Zest of 1 lemon  
1 large egg and 1 tablespoon of milk  
50g sultanas

#### To decorate the top of the cake:

1 unpeeled cooking apple, cored and thinly segmented

#### Method:

Sift flour, baking powder and cornflour into a bowl  
Rub the butter into the flour until it looks like breadcrumbs or blend in a food processor  
Stir in the sugar, prepared apples, lemon zest and sultanas  
Bind together with the egg and milk  
Turn into a lined baking tin and level the top  
Cut thin segments from the unpeeled cored apple and dip in lemon juice  
Arrange in a circle on top of the uncooked cake and dust lightly with brown sugar  
Bake at 190C / 375F / Gas Mark 5 for 30–40 minutes (it sometimes takes a little longer)  
Cool for 10 minutes in the tin before carefully turning out onto a cooling rack  
Best served warm with a dollop of clotted cream and another dollop of clotted cream ice cream.

Paired with this is a recipe for mulled cider. I’ve enjoyed plenty of mulled wine in the past so I thought I’d try this for a change. So many mulled cider recipes call for lots of exotic ingredients and I wanted something a lot simpler, using things I already have in my cupboards. I cleared out my spices drawer a while back and I am ashamed to admit to having to throw away so many out of date little jars, things often bought and only used once. I’m not talking about a few weeks or months out of date here but years and in some cases decades. (One or two had price labels in Deutschmarks and Pfennigs from the 1980’s!)

## Mulled Cider

#### Ingredients:

1.5 litres cider  
100g Demerara (or other) sugar  
1 cinnamon stick or a pinch or two of ground cinnamon  
1 clove  
A pinch or two of grated nutmeg  
Peeled zest and juice of 1 orange  
Peeled zest and juice of 1 lemon  
(Peel the orange and lemon thinly, I use a potato peeler)





### Method:

Gently warm all the ingredients in a pan until almost boiling. Cover with a lid for 10 minutes and keep warm, then strain through a fine sieve and serve. If it needs to be reheated be careful not to let it boil.

If you feel adventurous you can add about 100ml of sloe gin at the end to liven it up a bit.

### Great things – Thomas Hardy

Every year Thomas Hardy helped his father to collect the apples and make cider. The scene from “The Return of the Native” where Thomasin collects the store apples from the loft in preparation for Clym’s return mentions “russets” and “ribstones” and I’m sure there were other varieties of apple which are unheard of nowadays. The scene from the chapter “The people of Blooms End make ready” is described in such a way that you can imagine it as a scene from a film. Well worth re-reading. If you don’t have a paper copy, most of Hardy’s novels are available online at no cost – thanks to Project Gutenberg.

Although I am a great admirer of much of Thomas Hardy’s writing, some of it can be a bit depressing to read. This poem shows another side to him when he is celebrating the joyfulness of life. I love the line “joy-jaunts, impassioned flings, love and its ecstasy”. It really deserves to be read aloud to appreciate the sounds and rhythms.

### Great Things

Sweet cyder is a great thing,  
A great thing to me,  
Spinning down to Weymouth town  
By Ridgway thirstily,  
And maid and mistress summoning  
Who tend the hostelry:  
O cyder is a great thing,  
A great thing to me!

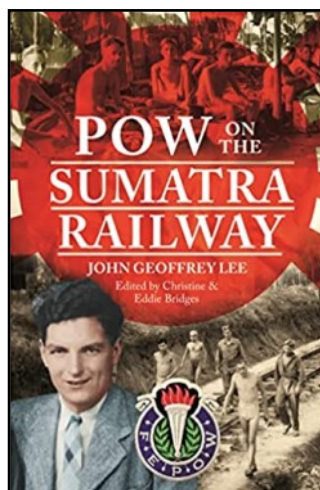
The dance it is a great thing,  
A great thing to me,  
With candles lit and partners fit  
For night-long revelry;  
And going home when day-dawning  
Peeps pale upon the lea:  
O dancing is a great thing,  
A great thing to me!

Love is, yea, a great thing,  
A great thing to me,  
When, having drawn across the lawn  
In darkness silently,  
A figure flits like one a-wing  
Out from the nearest tree:  
O love is, yes, a great thing,  
A great thing to me!

Will these be always great things,  
Great things to me? . . .  
Let it befall that One will call,  
“Soul, I have need of thee”:  
What then? Joy-jaunts, impassioned flings,  
Love, and its ecstasy,  
Will always have been great things,  
Great things to me!

Cheers! Rose Frost

## POW on the Sumatra Railway by John Geoffrey Lee



John Geoffrey Lee (Geoff) is a survivor of the Sumatra Railway Project, started by the Dutch before 1939, but stopped due to being too complicated in engineering terms. The Japanese decided to carry on with the project using slave labour from Sumatran civilians, Dutch expats and captured British, New Zealand and Australian servicemen.

This book, edited by his daughter and son-in-law, a Grenadier Guardsman, tells the story of his service from

enlisting in 1941, his experiences as a prisoner, his release, and his struggles to convince the Imperial War Museum, War Department and others that there had been a Slave Railway on Sumatra, with thousands of lives lost building it.

After a number of journeys, changes to plans and other confusion of war, the author survived the sinking of a Hell Ship and washed up in Java as it fell to the Japanese. He writes very clearly and well about the different things he saw on the way there from his native Nottingham, and his descriptions of his experiences until August 1945 were horrendous. He survived, amongst other things, malaria, a bridge collapse, beatings, loss of friends, daily burial parties, wounds in his foot and the horror of eating monkeys to survive (apparently when skinned they look like little babies, but hunger overcame squeamishness).

On return to the UK in 1945, he experienced the same disappointment as other FEPOWs that as Victory in Europe had happened months before, no-one was much interested in emaciated men returning from the Far East. His experience was worse because of an administrative error which had listed him as AWOL when he was added to the draft heading for the Far East at the last minute, and another which had listed him as dead. Doors were slammed in his face in his home town because of this.

An experience I didn’t know about, was FEPOWs discussing their experience with those who had been prisoners of the Germans being told that they were inventing tales of their experiences, because the Geneva Convention prevented armies from treating prisoners that way. This lack of understanding seems incomprehensible nowadays, but apparently went on in British Legion bars across the UK.

To add insult to injury, thirty years after all this, he was in correspondence with the Commonwealth War Graves Commission, the Imperial War Museum and the MOD wondering why the Sumatra Railway was not remembered as well as those in Thailand and Burma. He was told he couldn’t possibly have been a POW in Sumatra, and was confused about being in Burma! This started him on a course of research involving other survivors in the UK and Australia, newspaper articles of the time, an official 1945 report and his own Release Paperwork, which clearly stated that he was released in a town in Sumatra. He took a trip to Sumatra, helped by Dutch

Continued on page 16



# MILBORNE ST. ANDREW FIRST SCHOOL

## Learning together and having fun

### SCHOOL NEWS



On Friday 14th October, the whole of the country was celebrating Green Jumper Day. A day to bring awareness of, and take action against climate change. However, this required everyone purchasing a green jumper, which for us at Milborne St. Andrew First School, just didn't seem very eco friendly and was an unnecessary expense. So we decided to put our own spin on things. Instead, we had our very first 'Go Green Day'.

Along with the support of our wonderful families, the day was spent dressed as eco warriors, bringing awareness to our children, sharing ideas on how to look after our planet and teaching the importance of being a little more 'green'.



Our brilliant Eco Club compiled a Go Green Day Wish List, full of ideas and ways in which we really can make a difference to our world. They then ran a Book Swap after school!

The day was a huge success, full of glitter, face paint, fantastic ideas and most importantly, big smiles. We can't wait to do it all again next year!

The children in Raccoon Class had a very exciting trip to the Nothe Fort in Weymouth. We dressed up as evacuees and experienced what life would have been like for a child in the 1940s. We learned how to wash our clothes, write using an ink pot and experienced the air raid siren and sought safety in an Anderson shelter.



## CONTACTS

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

**Acting Head of School:** Michelle Cheeseman

**School Receptionist/Admin Assistant** Mrs Holly Latham-Winning

**Chair of Governors:** David French

**FOS Chairman:** Marie Chappell

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

Tel: (01258) 837362

Fax: (01258) 837170



# ‘Going home’ by Josie Wright

‘Going home’, the thing I’d talked about so often over the last thirty years was really coming true; I was flying back across the Atlantic.

I hadn’t seen England since 1913 when Dan and I settled in Virginia for our ‘great adventure’. That’s what we called it. It had been a wrench leaving everything we knew behind, but so exciting. Dan had been headhunted to help with the construction of a new road that would meander across the Blue Ridge Mountains. He regaled me with stories of rock falls and bears; he never actually saw a bear but, ‘heard them in the bushes’. I listened wide-eyed to his tales; they made my job as stenographer seem very dull. Life was good for us until the War. We were frantic for the people at home as we looked at the pictures on the newsreels. Then America joined in the fighting and I said goodbye to Dan for the last time.

The only other person I had ever cared about was Tom, but he was far away, fighting too, I suspected – best not to know.

‘Margaret Sergeant?’ the airhostess smiled, ‘You dropped this.’ It was the envelope with my reservations and the photographs I’d carefully collected together that had slipped from my lap as I buckled my seat belt. I smile and nod my thanks.

I had written to Tom now and again, but whether the letters reached him, I had no way of knowing – he never replied. I knew he’d taken it hard when I just left for America after only knowing Dan for such a short time. So I grieved alone, longing for home, but there was a war on and I couldn’t get back. I got on with things, didn’t marry again, but settled in, made friends and now there’s another war. Seeing my friends’ sons going away brings it all back.

So I’m going home and I’m determined to find news of Tom.

‘Ladies and gentlemen, we will be landing at Heathrow in twenty minutes, please extinguish your cigarettes and return to your seats.’

As we touch down at the Oceanic Terminal, I hide a smile; this building site of an airport is a long way from any ocean. It’s a grey and drizzly day but the sun is already struggling through the thin clouds as the bus takes my two cases and me to the nearby faceless hotel.

By the next morning, I’m ready to begin my search. The plan is to start in the street where we used to live. Surely some of the neighbours can help?

The taxi leaves me half a mile from my old home. I need to feel the pleasure of walking the familiar streets. The Blue Dragon Laundry is still in its place, I note with satisfaction, but where’s the little farm? A brand new fire station gleams at me from the spot. As I stroll along, I notice some newer houses and that many of the old familiar sights have gone. I stand uncertain at the end of the little alleyway and close my eyes to play our old game as I solemnly count to ten. Turning I see the house in the distance. The street seems longer and unfamiliar. Grass verges have disappeared under a shiny black caterpillar of tarmac. Sticky lime trees that had marched like

soldiers down the avenue have vanished like a dream. Some scruffy lorries have taken their places, faceless and grim. I determinedly keep my eyes on the pavement. The next time I see my old home; it will be face to face. My ache to stand before the old house makes me hurry.

This must be it; I stop, turn, and look up.

I am shocked to find the place derelict. The hedge in the front garden has been torn down and a skip has been dumped on the lawn. The front door hangs open. Mesmerised, I find myself inside, walking down the dirty hallway towards the kitchen – more desecration, broken windows and the reek of foxes. I look out to the back garden where Tom and I had spent so much time. A stained mattress leans crazily against the fence. Untidy piles of bottles sprawl out from a bank of nettles near heaped rubbish, piled high on the ashes of an old bonfire.

This betrayal of my memories brings tears to my eyes. For the first time I feel that Tom is really lost to me forever.

A voice brings me back to the present. A young man in a hard hat, clipboard in hand, touches my shoulder.

‘I’m sorry; you shouldn’t be in here, we’re gutting this place.’

‘Knocking it down?’ I gasp.

‘Good Lord, no! These old places were built to last. Just a refurb, smarten it up again. You really must leave though, it’s dangerous,’ he says, leading me back down the once familiar hallway.

I sigh and half listen as he enthuses about his new job.

I’ve been waiting to manage this street. My dad used to live here years ago, he often talks about his childhood, before my gran died and the family split up. Funnily enough it was this house – look!’ He points to the wall by the front door, where the paper has been torn away. I bend to see.

‘Tom was here’, painstakingly spelled out in faded pencil, and alongside in shaky capitals, ‘and his sister Maggie’.

**Could you write a story for the Reporter magazine? If so, send it via email to [msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk)**

## A fundraiser for St Andrew's church Christmas Market

Saturday 26th November 2022  
11.30am to 2.30pm 50p entry

- ★ Soup and hot chocolate
- ★ Cake stall
- ★ Christmas crafts
- ★ Wreath orders
- ★ Tombola
- ★ Guess the weight of the Christmas cake
- ★ Mince pies and mulled wine

If you are interested in having a table contact  
Pam Shults 07913 266230





# Rosie and Katie visit Romsey

YET again we are off on another adventure, we left home in the tin box on wheels to visit a place called Romsey. We arrived at a nice camp site called Three Trees, I thought this was a bit strange as there were lots of trees around, lots more than three, almost a new forest!

On Saturday we went into Romsey which was a boring walk for us dogs, we just wandered around the town. We stopped for coffee and sat outside watching the world go by (not exactly the world but a few people carrying shopping bags). It was too hot to do much so we all had a lazy day relaxing back at the campsite. When it got cooler in the evening we all had nice walk looking at all the lovely big houses along a quiet lane by some woods.

Sunday, we had a short drive to a little town called Stockbridge. It was a lovely day so Mum wore her new cream coloured shorts, BIG mistake! The walk started so well, across some fields and then we got near the river where I found a HUGE mud puddle and got covered in black mud, oops! It got worse though as Katie got excited and jumped up at Mum and put her muddy paws on her nice clean shorts, boy was Mum



white. We all had a great time on the beach, Mum had remembered to bring along a few sticks which was good as there's never any sticks on the beaches. The



four of us four legged friends enjoyed swimming and splashing around in the lovely calm sea. Then we went back to Sasha's camper van for bacon sandwiches (she never cooked us dogs any, all we got were scraps). Poor pup Harley was dog tired and had a long nap, we just had a snooze (so did Dad).

Tuesday, it was off to visit Winchester for a town walk, Mum said we were going to see some hares and we both got excited but I thought she

meant hairy hares not painted statues. Me and Katie had to pose nicely next to each one so Mum could take a picture, it wasn't too bad as we did get a few treats. Dad went into a shop to buy some shorts and the nice man in there gave us some Bonios, I think his name was Rohan (or that might have been the name of the shop).

On Wednesday it was more hares, this time in a big place called Southampton, we had a good run in the park to chase squirrels but then it was back on the lead to look for more hares. As usual we had to have a stop for coffee and tea cake, luckily although we're not allowed currants Mum kindly picked them out of hers so we could have a bit. Mum was happy and took



lots of photos of us with the hares but me and Katie got a bit bored. A sweet little girl came over and gave me a pat on the back, I think she knew I was fed up. Dad took pity on us and gave us a good run when we got back.

Mission accomplished, every painted hare in Hampshire had been snapped so it was time to head home to sunny Dorset to see if Mum's plants had survived the drought. Luckily, thanks to our lovely neighbour Holly, they were all fine.



mad with Katie! Despite this hiccup we had a lovely walk along the river and stopped for a pub lunch where a very nice man on the next table gave us some of his delicious gammon steak.

Monday, Dad drove to West Wittering to meet our cousins Hector and new pup Harley, she's a golden retriever but she's not very gold, almost





# Last Words on Hilary Mantel and her Good Reads

HILARY Mantel, the first female writer to twice win the Booker Prize died on 22nd September 2022. The two books for which she was so decorated were *Wolf Hall* (2010) and *Bring Up the Bodies* (2012) part of a trilogy charting the life of Thomas Cromwell. Altogether, with the third book *The Mirror and the Light* (2020) they consisted of 2,000 pages. Five million copies were sold worldwide. They were televised and recently staged. They constitute a feat of immersive storytelling and a monumental landmark in contemporary fiction. Before these she had written nine novels. Her first about the French Revolution was *A Place of Greater Safety* started in 1974 but not published until 1992. One of her best known is *Beyond Black* (2005) telling the tale of a medium in Aldershot. *Giving Up the Ghost* (2003) is a compelling autobiographical memoir. She was born in 1952, Hilary Thompson in Glossop, West Derbyshire the daughter of working class Catholic parents with Irish ancestry. Her mother and maternal grandmother both worked in a mill from the age of 14 years.

She has been described as “ferociously intelligent”. Her childhood was unhappy mainly due to the sidelining of her father and the move with her mother from the family home with her future second husband, Jack Mantel, leaving him behind. Hilary was then aged 11 years and says “My childhood ended so, in the autumn, the past and future equally obscured by the smoke from my mother’s burning boats”. Meeting her future husband Gerald McEwen when they were both 16 years they married when she had her Law degree. Ill health deflected her from her original intention to become a barrister and as they moved around the world for her husband’s work as a geologist she used her experiences within all her writings. Suffering years of pain due to misdiagnosis and denial she read medical textbooks and self diagnosed endometriosis having already undergone operations which caused in her words a ‘confiscation of (her) fertility’. Such have been the plaudits both during her life and after her death from many different quarters. Journalists have variously described her as “speaking in whole paragraphs . . . redefining what words can do . . . (having) a unique outlook on the world . . . she saw and felt things we ordinary mortals miss . . . one of the greatest English novelists writing this century”.

I have written about two of her novels for this magazine *Fludd* and *A Change of Climate*. Both show her depth and breadth of subject matter and amazing reach of imagination. I now highly recommend what I can describe as a ‘thriller’ *Eight Months on Ghazza Street* detailing life in Saudi Arabia for an ex-pat wife Francis Shore. It is a country where women were confined, not allowed on the streets alone.

Her characters are all real people of contradictions, of psychological complexity, relatable in any age. Myth and horror all honed by her satirical talent practised as a film reviewer for *The Spectator*. This book is a unique masterpiece, technically brilliant, impeccably researched and emotionally overwhelming exploring life lived in different and parallel realities bringing the “hot breath of everyday life” just going forward day by day walking in the dark. Life for Frances was a “blank creeping unease” within a corrupt and harsh regime within which her sense of self dissolves. Those eight months map areas of internal darkness. This from an amazing woman who says in her memoir “I was unsuited to being a child” and of whom one doctor called “Little Miss Neverwell”. What incredible achievements. She is well described by Lucy Worsley as “A Goddess walking amongst us”  
*Carole Fornachon*

# Things you didn’t know about me

MY uncle owned a small eight acre vineyard ‘Le Fonti’ in Italy and when I was in my twenties I went to help with the ‘vendemia’ or grape harvest. Uncle Richard had purchased this vineyard some years before, situated 30 miles south of Sienna and 50 miles south of Florence below the fortified hill town of Montalcino placing it in the Tuscany region. About 15% of the vineyard produced a sweet white grape with a relatively high sugar content, 70% Brunello red vines and the rest made up of various Sangiovese red vines. The grape harvest happened in October when the grapes had had enough sun to produce a high sugar content which is needed for fermentation. The bunches of grapes were cut from the vines with secateurs, collected in plastic boxes and carried up to the processing area outside the vat room.

Here the grapes would be loaded into a long narrow wooden ‘bigonsi’ where they were squashed with a three inch diameter thumper (no Italian maidens jumping up and down, I’m sorry to say). Four bigonsi of red followed by one of white were tipped into the vat, and a tally kept on the door. The vat was about six feet high and six feet across and could hold about 2,000 litres. Before filling it was cleaned out inside and a bung was hammered into the bunghole near the bottom – from inside the vat so that the pressure of the wine couldn’t push it out. A tap would be inserted later by knocking the bung inside.

There were about eight of us involved while my aunt was busy in the kitchen – we developed healthy appetites and she enjoyed cooking. With good weather it took two or three days to finish the job. We couldn’t start until any rain or dew had completely dried, as the wine didn’t need diluting. My uncle had two very good neighbours who knew a lot about caring for vines and they did all the pruning, weeding and spraying that needed to be done throughout the year. They were paid a percentage of the year’s finished wine, about half. It was totally banned to add any extra sugar to the vat, but it was amazing how supermarket sales of sugar went up in September and October. Uncle Richard, however, would openly add sugar as his wine was not for sale and had to have an alcohol level of 14% to ensure that he could bring it back to the UK, without it turning to vinegar. Which he did in great demigianos loaded onto his car trailer. Once back in England he would transfer the wine, one demigiano at a time to more convenient bottles, most of which he kept for two or three years.

The wine gradually improved for at least four years and benefited from being decanted eight hours before drinking, and very good it was too!  
*John Wright*

**Have you something to share about your family?  
Send in your stories and photographs to  
msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk**

## In Memory of David Way

It’s been a year since you passed away but you’re always in our thoughts, lots of love, Veronica and Paul Hoskins.



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*Continued from page 11*

survivors, and the Caltex Pacific company, took photographs and drew maps, only to have it all returned by the authorities as there were no official records of this 200 mile long railway being built.

Finally, in 1985, with help from the Dutch, who had much more evidence, there was grudging acceptance by the Imperial War Museum, and this persistent and determined man was able to contribute to their archive and to the building of a proper memorial at the National Memorial Arboretum. I find it incredibly hard to understand how the authorities could have overlooked so much, and thank heaven that Mr. Lee persevered. As a result of his research, he saved the lives of many survivors, making them aware of the link between Strongyloides, a parasitic nematode worm prevalent in the tropics which reacts badly with digitalis, often administered to heart patients. All FEPOWs were made aware of this, had the necessary tests and their medical records updated accordingly.

This is a cracking book, well written, well edited and full of information, much of it very sad. However, I am glad that Mr. Lee wrote it, and his daughter and son-in-law edited and published it.

*Susan Wilson*

## Whitechurch Wonderland

**Christmas Fayre – with grotto**  
**Sunday 20th November 2.00–6.00pm**  
look out for poster details.





## LETTERS to the Reporter

Dear Sir or Madam,

On Wednesday 27th September my wife and I went to Studland beach where we regularly go for a walk and coffee at the National Trusts Knoll beach.

I have volunteered for both the British Red Cross and the National Trust for the last nine years and I also have friends all over the world from my thirty-six years of volunteering through my church befriending overseas language students.

However to cut a long story short, I went into the café at knoll beach and heard a language that I did not recognize, a young lady was ordering food and drinks at the counter next to me.

I approached the young lady and asked "Where are you from", the lady replied the Ukraine, she said "that it was good that the people here had welcomed her," I replied that I had a heart international people and explained about my volunteer work with international language students in Bournemouth, I told her the people of Ukraine were very courageous and brave, she replied I hope to go home to my country again one day.

The young lady waved my good bye and I said "come this way and took her to the National Trusts brochure table and gave her some information leaflets on Kingston Lacy House, Corfe castle, the Purbeck and Studland beach coast walks also to share with the other Ukrainians she was with, as she was going I asked "What's your name?" she replied "Kate" and I said "I'm Nigel and my wife is called Julie". Kate told me that they were staying with an English family in Milborne St. Andrew. It was a blessing to meet Kate and her family and know that they are safe here in England, the children seemed happy on their scooters on the beach at Studland.

God bless them and all the families of Milborne St. Andrew.

Kindest regards, Nigel and Julie Sibley  
Address supplied

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## #SaveSafely this winter

With living costs rising all the time, everyone is looking for ways to save some money, so Dorset & Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service is highlighting some areas where a saving could be a false economy – and a fire risk.

The Service is asking people to #SaveSafely, and there is a wealth of information about staying safe at home and on the roads at [www.dwfire.org.uk/save-safely](http://www.dwfire.org.uk/save-safely). This includes energy saving tips, cooking safely advice, how to stay warm safely, staying safe when cutting costs, cutting the costs of driving, and signposting to financial help.

### Some top tips include:

- Pulling something like electric heaters or electric blankets out of the loft, that haven't been used for years, can be risky. Watch for signs of dangerous or loose wiring, such as scorch marks, hot plugs and sockets, fuses that often blow, or circuit breakers that trip for no obvious reasons.
- If you're drying clothes indoors rather than use a tumble dryer, keep them well away from the heat source so they can't catch fire.
- Air fryers and microwave ovens are great at saving energy when cooking, but please read the manufacturer's instructions and keep them clean between uses.
- Getting chimneys swept when you have a woodburner or open fire is essential to reduce the risk of chimney fires. Also be careful of what you burn; green (unseasoned) wood may seem cheap, but it doesn't create much heat and it creates a residue that can easily catch alight within the chimney.
- Get your boiler serviced – a well maintained boiler is more efficient and reduces the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning.
- Only use the correct charger for mobile devices. Although it can be cheaper to buy imported and unofficial chargers, fake ones are often made with poor quality components that fail to meet UK safety regulations. This means they can cause injury, electric shocks and even fires.
- Make sure you follow the manufacturer's instructions when using wheat bags – don't heat them for too long, or at too high a temperature.

The Fire and Rescue Service offers free Safe & Well advice, which can include a home visit and the provision of smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. To request this for yourself, a family member or a vulnerable person, please call 0800 038 2323 or visit [www.dwfire.org.uk/safe-and-well-visits](http://www.dwfire.org.uk/safe-and-well-visits)



**Remember to #SaveSafely  
when cutting costs**



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



## Hope and inspiration for the rural church

A number of us attended a day for rural churches last month – three of our four parishes were represented by members seeking inspiration and support.

It can feel quite hard being part of a small church so it was great to be able to join with lots of people from the area in a similar situation.

I've asked those attending why they went and what they gained from the day. Their thoughts form the basis of this piece.

One of those who attended had been to a previous gathering and found it inspiring, so she signed up again. Fortunately inspiration and hope were both mentioned by several people as a result of this year's event. As one wrote, "it can be disheartening to see dwindling congregations and to constantly worry about who is going to take on all the jobs that need doing. The Rural Day helped to give a sense of hope (tho' the problems remain) and also the knowledge that others face the same problems. There was a sense that, although we all have difficulties, they can be overcome."

When we work together across boundaries (in any area of life not just church), we gain so much. Ideas that really got our folk thinking were Walking Church, Forest Church, informal gatherings around a fire pit, letting go of things that are not working or which have passed their sell-by date, the positivity of the diocesan giving adviser and making more use of local resources.

Not all the ideas that inspired were about doing things, though. Several people were reminded positively of our need to surrender to God, if we are to transform our church life and support for our communities. The reminder that as Christians we are called to join in with the work that God is already doing is a helpful one – it's not only down to us.

Days like this are valuable for those who attend (the wish of one participant in answer to what might be of use to our benefice was to encourage more people to come to such events), but the inspiration they provide lasts much longer than 24 hours. People have carried on thinking about what they learned and the questions they are left with. Some reflections were: how can we encourage children and families more? Will more informal gatherings bring people together? How can we find people willing to help grow our little congregation?

Dream, pray, let go of what doesn't work, do less better and find ways to listen to what people want from their churches: good advice gleaned from the day, which I'm sure we can apply to more than just our church life.

I'm aware that this is a different kind of monthly letter from the ones I normally write, but it's important that the gain from such days as these is not just kept to the people who attended but can be positive for all when shared.

In this month of November when we remember those past who have inspired us by their love sacrifice, courage at All Saints', All Souls' and Remembrance, it's always good to think about how we too can inspire others.

With best wishes

*Sarah*

(With thanks to Cynthia, Dawn, Pam and Sue for their reflections)

## Milborne St. Andrew Church notes

OCTOBER saw the ceremonies which marked the passing of Queen Elizabeth II. Many people signed the Book of Condolence in Milborne Church, and we held a well-attended Service to commemorate the Queen, and her strong Christian faith, when The Rev'd Helen Croud celebrated the Eucharist and preached. It was surreal singing "God Save our gracious King" at the close of the Service.

Continued on page 21

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

### November 2022

#### 6th November – 3 before Advent

9.30am.	Parish Communion	Tolpuddle
9.30	Celebrate	Milborne
11.00	Parish Communion + Holy Baptism	Puddletown
11.00	BCP Morning Prayer (traditional language)	Dewlish
3.00pm	Service of remembrance and thanksgiving for those who have died (with tea and cake)	Milborne

#### 13th November – Remembrance Sunday

10.00am	Service of Remembrance (followed by procession to the Memorial Stone for 11am)	Milborne
10.50	Remembrance Sunday Service	Puddletown
10.50	Remembrance Sunday Service (starting at the War Memorial at the Crossroads)	Dewlish
5.30pm	Sunday Reflections	Tolpuddle

#### 20th November – Christ the King

9.30am	Parish Communion	Tolpuddle
9.30	Worship in Stillness	Milborne
11.00	Parish Communion (with emptying of Children's Society boxes)	Puddletown Church Room
11.00	Family Service	Dewlish

#### 27th November – Advent Sunday

9.30am	Parish Communion	Milborne
10.00	Go Fourth	Tolpuddle
11.00	BCP Morning Prayer (traditional language)	Puddletown Church Room
11.00	Parish Communion	Dewlish
3.00pm	Holy Baptism	Puddletown

#### DAILY MORNING PRAYERS

Monday to Thursday 8.30am; Saturday 9.00am

On Zoom, please contact Sarah Hillman  
sarah.c.hillman@outlook.com

### Church Contacts

Vicar Sarah Hillman 01305 848784  
E-mail: sarah.c.hillman@outlook.com

#### Churchwardens

##### Milborne St. Andrew

Pam Shults 01258 837203  
Tony Fox 01258 837651

##### Dewlish

Jim Burg 01258 837466  
Sue Britton 01258 837218

#### Benefice Office

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



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Continued on page 19

November is often referred to as the "Month of Remembrance". All Souls' Day is traditionally observed on November 2nd. This year's Service for the Benefice, when we remember "Those we love but see no longer", will be held in Milborne Church at 3.00pm on Sunday, the 6th. If you have names to be remembered, please get in touch with one of the Churchwardens.

Remembrance Sunday falls on November 13th, and we will meet in Church at 10.00am for a Service of Remembrance and then process to the Memorial Stone for the Parish Act of Remembrance at 11.00am. As we recall the sacrifice of former generations, the need to pray for peace in our war-torn world is even more urgent.

Our Christmas Bazaar will be held in the Village Hall on Saturday, 25th September, between 11.00am and 2.00pm. Various stalls, a raffle, and soup will be available. Come along and grab an early bargain and help us raise funds.

Advent Sunday, when we begin our countdown to Christmas, falls on November 27th this year, and we will have our usual Sunday Eucharist at 9.30am. And then, to round off the month, we commemorate St. Andrew on the 30th as we give thanks for our Church and Community.

One milestone which went under the radar occurred in September. Daphne Burg has been the Treasurer of All Saints', Dewlish for 50 years! What an achievement! Congratulations, Daphne – here's to the next fifty!

*Tony Fox and Pam Shults, Churchwardens*

## Dewlish Church Notes

WELL DONE, Jim, for visiting 21 churches on the recent "Ride 'n' Stride" for Dorset Historic Churches Trust. He raised £1,200, half of which will be returned to our church and the other half will go towards helping other Dorset churches pay for major repairs to their buildings. Village people played a huge part, of course, in producing this magnificent sum, so a big thank-you to everyone involved. Also, many thanks to our family and friends who also contributed.

Additionally, Tina and her family have made another wonderful effort towards helping to pay for our church's roof repairs: their latest jumble sale raised £118! I think there will be another sale in mid-November. Please see the village notice board for details.

Our **Remembrance Day Service** (Sunday 13th November) will start at 10.50am at the War Memorial, and then continue in church. We welcome everyone to join us afterwards in the Village Hall for coffee, tea, etc.

The **Christmas Bazaar** will be held in the Village Hall on Saturday 3rd December, starting at 2.30pm. There will be the usual Christmas stalls, with toys, new items, cakes and produce, Christmas decorations, reindeer, raffles and refreshments. Please do come along and support us! We would be very grateful for any donations. Thank you!

As usual, the church looked lovely for *Harvest Festival*. Thank you so much to all who decorated and brought vegetables, fruit, etc. What was especially good was to have such a wonderful congregation joining in the service of Thanksgiving. On a personal note, I had just celebrated 50 years of being church treasurer, so I was very touched by being presented with some flowers. Thank you; that was a great surprise.

We so enjoyed the *Harvest Supper and Auction* which was held two days later in the Village Hall. Thanks all round to Andy and

Gadget for helping with the shopping and preparation of the Ploughman's Supper, to Sue and Marg for their lovely apple cake and, not least, to Andrew for conducting the auction in such a fun way. He managed to "extort" £237.50 for WaterAid from a very generous audience. Lastly, a big thank-you to Iris for decorating the tables so beautifully. This was truly a village event, and something Dewlish can really be proud of!

*Daphne Burg*

## Milborne St. Andrew Gardening Club . . . our last meeting in 2022.



ON Thursday 17th November, the gardening club will meet in the Village Hall at 7.30pm for a short AGM followed by a social evening that will include food and a quiz on the themes of gardening (naturally) and royalty. Want to come along and test your knowledge? You're very welcome to join us. Non-members pay just £2 and that will include all refreshments.

Hope to see you there.

*Mark Johnson*

## News from Trading Standards: Illegal tobacco

SMOKING is seriously addictive and is the single greatest cause of preventable illness and avoidable death in the UK. The market for cheap, illegal tobacco, undermines public health.

### There are three types of illegal tobacco:

- **Counterfeit.** This claims to be an established, well-known brand. But it's not. It's fake.
- **Non-duty paid.** Legitimate tobacco purchased abroad cheaply, brought back to the UK, and sold at a fraction of the UK retail cost.
- **Unknown brands.** Made for the illegal market and unregulated.

Genuine tobacco products are manufactured to strict quality control procedures as manufacturers want all their products to be the same. A consumer will not know what contaminants, in what levels, are contained in their illegal tobacco bought from an illegal supply route.

Tobacco is taxed heavily as a deterrent to persuade people to stop smoking. The unpaid duty on illegal tobacco was estimated at £2.5 billion in 2017; money that should have otherwise gone towards funding hospitals, schools and other services.

Trading Standards officers who deal with illegal tobacco sellers often also discover involvement with other criminal activity such as drugs, stolen items, counterfeit goods and abuse of the benefits system. Profits made from the sale of illegal tobacco are then fed back into the criminal activities. These issues can have a negative impact on local communities.

The sale of illegal tobacco is not limited to shops, although this is still prevalent. Its sale can take place from private homes, pubs, clubs, car boot sales and via social media such as Facebook. You must be 18 to buy tobacco in the UK. Illegal sellers can target children, recruiting new smokers to keep their business sustainable.

All genuine tobacco products sold in the UK must be sold in standardised (olive coloured) packaging. If tobacco is cheap, then the chances are it is illegal. You can report illegal sales to Trading Standards via that Citizens Advice consumer helpline on 0808 2231133.



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## Milborne FC Reunion

Milborne St. Andrew Football Club (1976–1996) is having a reunion at Milborne Sports and Leisure Centre, Lane End – calling all ex-players, supporters and friends for a nostalgic get-together on Saturday 26th November at 7.00pm. It would be helpful for catering if you can let us know if you're thinking of coming along. Please call Mike Surtees on 01258 837182.





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## 13th November Remembrance Sunday Parade



After such a wonderful turn out last year we are hoping to see you all again this Remembrance Sunday. The format will be similar to last year however the Village Hall will be open from 10.00am for teas, coffees and mince pies. These refreshments, prior to the parade, will be free to anyone wishing to come, gather and meet up with people. It also means that if the weather isn't in our favour we have somewhere warm to shelter. The parade will commence at 10.50am from the Village Hall car park. After the parade everyone is welcome back to the Village Hall where refreshments will be sold, in aid of the Village Hall. If anyone has any questions please do not hesitate to contact Wayne Lewin on 07419 136735.

## Bin and gone

This bin may now be no more, an ex-bin, consigned to the Great Big Bin in the ground – hopefully, anyway. A replacement bin had been ordered and paid for over six months ago from Dorset Waste Partnership (DWP) by our parish council, as this one had long outlived its usefulness. Unless you count one of its uses as being a rain harvester. Or a health hazard. Before going to press, the *Reporter* spoke with DWP to ask when the already-paid-for replacement bin would be installed since the current one at Lane End was in such a state – and it must be a particularly yukky job emptying it, especially with rainy season imminent. A promise was made to get someone to look into it (hopefully from a safe distance) . . . so, has the bin been binned?



## What's on in Milborne

### NOVEMBER

**Wednesday 2nd**  
**Wednesday 2nd**

**Wednesday Club** EGM Village Hall 2.00pm.  
**Parish Council** Village Hall, all parishoners welcome 7.00pm.

**Thursday 3rd**  
**Wednesday 9th**

**Bridge** The Royal Oak 7.00pm.  
**History Group** talk by Brian Bates about 'An Imaginary Walk Through 17th Century Dorchester' Village Hall 7.30pm.

**Thursday 10th**  
**Thursday 10th**  
**Saturday 12th**

**Bridge** The Royal Oak 7.00pm.  
**WI** Village Hall 7.30pm.  
**Community Café** Village Hall 10.00am to 12.00 midday.

**Saturday 12th**

**Mid-day deadline** for copy for the *Reporter* msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk or give to a member of the Team. Team members can be found on page 2.

**Sunday 13th**

**Service of Remembrance** St. Andrews church 10.00am followed by procession to the Memorial Stone for 11.00am

**Wednesday 16th**

**Village Lunch** Extraordinary General Meeting The Royal Oak at 12.15pm.

**Thursday 17th**  
**Thursday 17th**  
**Friday 18th**

**Bridge** The Royal Oak 7.00pm.  
**Gardening Club AGM** Village Hall 7.30pm.  
**More than a movie** *Operation Mincemeat*, Village Hall 7.30pm.

**Sunday 20th**

**Christmas Fayre** Winterborne Whitechurch 2.00–6.00pm.

**Wednesday 23rd**  
**Saturday 26th**

**Bridge** The Royal Oak 7.00pm.  
**Christmas Market** Village Hall 11.30am to 2.30pm – see page 13.

## Regular Bookings at the Village Hall

**Ladybirds Playgroup** Monday–Friday 8.30am.

**Players** Monday 7.00pm weekly.

**Line Dancing** Tuesday 7.30pm weekly.

**Wednesday Club** 2.00pm 1st Wednesday monthly.

**Yoga** Thursday 3.30pm weekly.

**Karate** Thursday 5.10pm weekly.

**Women's Institute** 7.30pm 2nd Thursday monthly.

**Gardening Club** 7.30pm 3rd Thursday monthly.

**Artsreach Events** – look out for the posters.

Check the Village Hall Notice Board for any other events that are one off for you to join in with.

## Regular Bookings at the Sports & Social Club

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

**Yoga** (Mellulah) Thursday (evening): Friday (mornings).

**Beavers** Friday 5.30–6.30pm.

**Football** Saturdays and Sundays.

**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.

## Regular Bookings at the First School

**Pilates** Monday 6.30–7.30pm (term time only).

**Yoga** Tuesday 6.15–7.45pm (term time only).

**Badminton** Wednesday 6.30–7.30pm (term time only).



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# Community Contacts

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

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

## COUNCILS

Dorset Councillor	Emma Parker	07411 149997
Parish Council Dewlish	Clerk: Amanda Crocker	
	dewlish@dorset-aptc.gov.uk	
	Chair: Chris Uden	07973 167117
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, footpaths 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@swhtd.co.uk](mailto:hello@swhtd.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

Scouts, Cubs and Beavers	Sam Elliott	07873 762035
Busy Bees	Claire Tudge	07970 734162
Milborne Ladybirds	Liz Dyer	01258 839117

## POLICE

Police – Non-emergency contact		101
Community Beat Officer	PC Dave Mullins	101
Safer Neighbourhood Team	PC Dave Mullins and PCSO Luke Goddard	101

## SCHOOL

Milborne First School		
Acting Head of School	Michelle Cheeseman	01258 837362
Chair Governors:	David French	
Friends of School co-Chair:	Marie Chappell	

## 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	Steve O'Neill	07490 691121
MSA Allotment Society	Joy Robinson	01258 837661
MSA Gardening Club	Sally Dyer	01258 837061
Milborne Players	Gren Davis	07876 793319
Village History Group	Pam Shults	01258 837203

## SPORT

Hardy Country Bowmen	Mike Healy	01300 342134
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
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)	Angela Johnson	01258 839060

## VILLAGE HALL

Dewlish		
Chairman:	Andrew Barnett	07551 839296
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	07983 013781

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