

Reporter

News and Views from around the area

Volume 15 Issue 5

May 2023

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See page 15

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msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk

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

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Paper copy to any of the team.

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Remembering Harry Thomas



On Saturday 25th March we gathered to celebrate the achievements of Harry Thomas, who had had a long and happy life with his wife José, his sons and grandchildren.

We had a relaxed and joyful evening, as José and the rest of the family recounted tales from his life; excesses of concrete for a project (he was very fond of those); he built walls, summerhouses, and was very handy at DIY. He was keen on planes, making models which he flew with the children, as well as qualifying to fly a small aircraft. One of his grandchildren, Gabriel, read the poem, 'High Flight (an Airman's Ecstasy)' by John Gillespie Magee, of which Harry was very fond, apart from the last line!

Drama played a large part in his life. After moving to teach at a College of Further Education in the Midlands he was invited to meet some of the students at a lunchtime drama meeting and was catapulted into playing a part in the next production, Theodore Malek, a 'potty Czech'. Harry thought the part called for a tufty beard, which he sported for the rest of his life. He acted in many more plays over the years later moving on to direct as well.

He was involved for a time in politics, loved classic cars and sport, enjoyed football, swimming and cricket, a love that he passed on to his children. His son Chris wrote the poem, 'At Brierley Hill Cricket Ground' sharing with us the deep affection the boys had for their father. *Reproduced on page 23.*

We could all see that his greatest love was always his family, involving the children and later grandchildren in every facet of his life.

Josie Wright

Deadline for the next issue 14th May

*Send your articles to the Reporter by e-mail at
msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk or give to a member of the team*

A Right Royal Knees up!

JUST a few days until the Coronation of King Charles III and the Coronation commemoration group have been busily planning a picnic celebration for the village to mark the occasion.

Taking place in the Village Hall fields from 12 noon on Sunday 7th, we have all sorts of things planned. Central to the day is the picnic. Bring your family along and make new friends with your village community. There's a fancy dress for children and adults alike with prizes for the best ones. There will be a treasure hunt for the children. That traditional seaside favourite Punch and Judy is coming to give us a show. We'll have free stalls to try your luck and skills; a bouncy castle for the kids. There will even be maypole dancing with a demonstration by the children from the primary school. And you adults won't need to feel left out as you'll have your chance to show the kids how it's done (or not!) later on.

This will be a fabulous fun afternoon for all the family so come along, let your hair down and spend a lovely relaxing afternoon with friends and neighbours. You never know, you might go home having made some new friends and, after all, isn't that what village life is all about?

We've organised for the weather to be wonderful but just in case it's not, there will be plenty of room inside the hall for the fun to continue.

Don't be a stranger. We'll see you there. The Village Hall field, from 12 noon on 7th May.

See the programme on page 3 for timings and join in for as much or as little as you like. The bar will be open from 12 noon to 4.00pm.

Linsey O'Neill

The Wonderful Game of Cribbage



Ever wondered about the game of Cribbage?

CRIBBAGE'S creation began early in the 1600's and it's attributed to Sir John Suckling, who was a soldier, poet and gambler and derives from an original game called Noddy. It became very popular in the American colonies and still is to this day, especially in New England. It is still the only game you can legally play in an English pub for money.

Well we have been running a winter league in The Royal Oak for more than 14 years with everyone enjoying the peculiarities of the game and the social aspects of it. Elaine and I, therefore, thought it would be nice to see if anyone else might be interested in learning this old English game. We are happy to run some teaching sessions during the summer so that you would be up to speed when the league starts in the autumn.

So, if you are interested in learning it, or would like more information, please contact me Peter on **01258 837089** or **07505 284799**.

Oh! And don't worry. The Royal Oak Crib league do not play for money, only pleasure and the prestige of winning.

Peter Anthony

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Resolving your consumer complaint

WHEN you have a complaint with a business seller over a product or service, then the usual way to resolve things is through a stepped approach.

First check if the seller has an official complaints procedure that you could follow.

If you need to make things more formal, then it's best to email or write to the seller, keeping a copy in case you have to show later you have made a complaint. You can use a template letter mentioned below.

If you paid with a credit card or debit card, then you should also send a copy of your complaint letter to the card provider. This will help if you decide to make a claim against the card provider later.

Check if the seller belongs to a trade association. The seller might have to follow certain rules, and if they've broken the rules then you could get help from the association to take your complaint further.

Update your card provider with another letter that lets them know that you still haven't been able to resolve the dispute with the seller. You may have a claim against the card provider.

Some sellers belong to an alternative dispute resolution scheme, which is a way to solve problems through mediation. If you are thinking of taking a seller to court, you should try this route first, a judge will usually expect it. If the seller is not a member of this type of scheme, then ask them if they'd be willing to find and use one.

Finally, you can make a 'small claim' to court if your problem hasn't been resolved. Going to court can be stressful and time consuming and so it's probably only worth doing this if the item or service was particularly expensive.

For further advice, or to obtain general letter templates to help your claim, visit the Citizens Advice consumer helpline at citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer or phone 0808 2231133.



The Lost King

Friday 19th May 2023 at 7.30pm

Village Hall, The Causeway, Milborne St. Andrew

Doors and bar open 7.00pm

Tickets cost £6, which includes a drink or an ice-cream

The Lost King

In 2012, after having been lost for over 500 years, the remains of King Richard III were discovered beneath a car park in Leicester. The search had been orchestrated by an amateur historian, Philippa Langley, whose unrelenting research had been met with incomprehension by her friends and family and with scepticism by experts and academics. *The Lost King* is the life-affirming true story of a woman who refused to be ignored and who took on the country's most eminent historians, forcing them to think again about one of the most controversial kings in England's history.

The film is written by Steve Coogan and stars Sally Hawkins and Steve featuring as her on-screen husband.

One critic states "Sally Hawkins shines in the incredible true story of an indomitable woman who achieved an extraordinary feat. *The Lost King* reminds us that experts aren't infallible. A regular person with guts, intellect, and willpower can prove them wrong."

Changes on Reporter team

THE *Reporter* team are sorry to say goodbye to two long-standing members of the committee in recent weeks – Janet Allen and Carole Fornachon. Janet joined the team in January 2010 and has been our distribution co-ordinator, making sure that the freshly-printed *Reporters* get sorted and bagged to go to our delivery team. Janet also took on a delivery round that took in the far-flung houses of the *Reporter's* patch. Carole joined the committee in March 2012 and has been a valued team member, coming up with new features for the magazine and interesting subjects to write articles about. However, although Carole is stepping down from the team, she hopes to continue to write for the *Reporter*. We thank both Janet and Carole for their many years of commitment to the *Reporter*.

As we wish Carole and Janet a fond farewell, we give a hearty welcome to Rich Hawker who joins the team.

Rich joins the Reporter team



SINCE the last edition, I have been invited to join the *Reporter* team. The editor collared me in a dark alley one evening as I headed out to the village shop and held a flintlock to my temple, it was easier just to say yes!

The *Reporter* is a great asset to the village. When we moved to the village in 2018 we had no idea such an informative publication would drop onto our doormat each month. The various contributors have enlightened us no end with gardening tips, book recommendations, insights into the local history, not to mention the reliable resident tradesmen we have used when we have needed jobs done at short notice.

Kate and I moved here in the depths of winter in January 2018. I arrived via my home town of Weymouth, Kate made her way here from Cornwall via Poole. We were made to feel very welcome. Milborne St. Andrew is a great place to live, the village punches well above its weight and there is always something going on.

During the pandemic lockdown I headed out on foot along the footpaths and byways to explore the surrounding countryside and wrote several articles describing my ramblings which were subsequently included in the *Reporter*.

Anyone can submit anything that may interest anyone on any subject. If you were born in the village and have any interesting anecdotes of bygone days or if you have recently arrived in Milborne and would like to introduce yourself, the *Reporter* team are waiting to hear from you.

Rich Hawker



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***Local villages covered:
Milborne, Cheselbourne and Dewlish***

Milton Abbas Surgery

Did you know that May is National Walking Month?

Walking is an easy and accessible way to improve physical and mental health and even a 20-minute walk can reduce the risk of several preventable health conditions, including certain cancers, depression, heart disease and Type 2 diabetes.

Why not join our Walking Group on a Wednesday at 10am? For more information and to see the walking programme for May 2023 please see our surgery website: www.masurgery.co.uk/wellbeing-team. If you do not have access to the internet and would like a printout of the programme, please let Kelly, our Social Prescriber, know and she can arrange for one to be sent to you.

Or perhaps now you have mastered the habit of going for a walk, you would like to challenge yourself further? Why not look at the NHS running plan for beginners – Couch to 5K. See www.nhs.uk/live-well/exercise to download the weekly programmes.

Whatever you end up doing this May, let's keep on moving forward. Do something today that your future self will thank you for!

Healthier Together Website

It can be extremely stressful when your child or grandchild is unwell.

The resources on the Healthier Together website have been developed in partnership between parents and healthcare professionals from across Dorset, Hampshire, and the Isle of Wight.

You'll find clear information on common illnesses, including advice on what serious 'red-flag' signs to look out for, where to seek help if required, what you should do to keep comfortable and how long symptoms are likely to last.

Please visit www.what0-18.nhs.uk

Reminiscence

A friendly and informal group meet at Blandford Library on the fourth Tuesday of the month 11.00am till 12.00 midday to share recollections and fond memories on a new topic each month. For more information, please call 01258 452075.

In addition to the above group, there are many activities and things for you to do in the local community to get you out and about and keep you busy. Why not take a look at the latest edition of our Wellbeing Team Bulletin which highlights just some of the groups out there – pick up a copy in Reception or see our surgery website for more details.

Cancelling GP and Nurse Appointments

Recently there have been several instances where patients have not turned up for their booked GP or Nurses appointments.

If you can't attend an appointment, please can we ask that you cancel it at least one hour in advance so someone else can receive the care they need. This can be done either over the phone or by replying to your text reminder.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter – it could make a huge difference to another patient.

Surgery Closures

Just a reminder that the surgery will be closed on Monday 1st May 2023 for the Early May Bank Holiday and Monday 8th May 2023 for the Coronation Bank Holiday. We will also be closed on Monday 29th May 2023 for Late May Bank Holiday.

We apologise for any inconvenience caused. For out of hours care or advice during closures, please call 111. In the case of an emergency, call 999.

Dorset's Crafty Barn has moved



DORSET'S Crafty Barn has moved to a wonderful new location at Luccombe Business Centre at the top of Milton Abbas (DT11 0BD – there are signs). We are offering a few local crafters but we have a tearoom with wonderful cakes and drinks and light lunches such as jacket potatoes, baguettes and locally hand made sausage rolls. These are available to eat in or take away.



We will be open Friday through to Tuesday 10.00am till 4.00pm. During the summer and better weather we will have outdoor seating with wonderful views. It would be



amazing to see some of our old customers as well as new ones. We welcome dogs and horses as long as they are accompanied by a well behaved human. In the next few weeks we are opening a second unit which will have antiques, curios and collectibles. We look forward to welcoming you. Hope to see you soon!
Debi Bazeley



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Praying for our king

In a few days' time, King Charles III will be crowned. Aged 73, he will be the oldest monarch to ascend the throne that this country has ever known. His reign will certainly be shorter than that of his mother, but the time he has had to prepare for taking on the role has been much longer.

Over the years, King Charles has come in for some criticism, but he has also made a positive difference to so many people through the Prince's Trust, the Prince's Foundation and the Prince's Charitable Fund, which have raised more than £100 million a year for good causes, with a notable concentration on young people and the environment. Like his father Prince Philip Duke of Edinburgh, Charles spoke out about environmental concerns long before anyone else took them seriously.

Now that he is king, Charles has to forge a new role for himself and Camilla. He has said that he will have to be less involved with charitable work than before, but his patronages are to be redistributed among other members of the Royal Family.

At times of change, Christians have always found it helpful to pray and to remind themselves of the God in whom they trust. Charles has said that he recognises his responsibility for the Church of England: "the Church in which my own faith is so deeply rooted". The Bible encourages us to pray for our leaders.

So what prayers would be helpful for the King in his new role? However much he has prepared for it, it will always be a big responsibility. Praying that he will know God's presence around him might be a good place to begin. And all leaders need wisdom – no surprise then that that was the gift King Solomon asked God for at the start of his reign. King Charles may be rich and powerful, but like the Lord Jesus Christ he understands that the role of king is to serve one's people not to lord it over them. This takes humility and empathy, a listening heart.

Charles has committed himself to all the people of this nation: "whatever may be your background or beliefs, I shall endeavour to serve you with loyalty, respect and love, as I have throughout my life." Let us pray that he manages to do just that.

Sarah

Best wishes

Milborne St. Andrew Church News

LENT has come and gone, and we look forward to some warmer, more-springlike weather. The Service of Compline (Night Prayer), held on Wednesday evenings during Lent and Holy Week, proved to be very popular. So much so that we plan to continue fortnightly, recommencing in June (watch this space!). There were some changes to the usual pattern of Services, with Morning Worship led by the Churchwarden and a Morning Service on Palm Sunday led by Maggie, our Curate. The latter was well-attended. On Maundy Thursday, the churches of the Benefice met in the "Upper Room" in Puddletown for the Eucharist to commemorate the Last Supper. On Good Friday, Tony led the Liturgy of the Day; again, well attended and a welcome return to the Calendar. We welcomed the Reverend Jane Culliford as our Celebrant and Preacher for our Easter Day Eucharist. The church looked stunning with the flowers and candles, and our Alleluias rang out after the long weeks of Lent. Many of the lilies were given in memory of loved ones, their names are displayed in the Church, and they were remembered in our prayers on Easter Day. We thank Sarah, Maggie, Margaret and all who prepared and led our worship.

My thanks to all those who contributed in any way to decorating St. Andrew's for Easter; the flower arrangers, cleaners, brass and silver polishers (a special "thank you" to Sue), launderers, readers, and welcomers. Especial thanks to the young people, and those not quite as young, who made our beautiful Easter garden, which has been admired so many times.

Continued on page 13

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

May 2023

7th May – Easter 5/Coronation of King Charles III

9.30am	Celebrate the Coronation	Milborne Village Hall
11.00	Parish Communion + Holy Baptism	Puddletown
11.00	Service for the Coronation	Dewlish
6.00pm	Hymns and Pimms	Puddletown

14th May – Easter 6

9.30am	Parish Communion	Milborne
11.00	Parish Communion	Dewlish
11.00	Puddletown Praise followed by APCM and bring-and-share lunch	Puddletown
5.30pm	Sunday Reflections	Tolpuddle

ASCENSION DAY - THURSDAY 18th May

6.30am	Morning Prayer	Dewlish Churchyard
6.00pm	Holy Communion	Puddletown

21st May – Easter 7

9.30am	Parish Communion	Tolpuddle
9.30	Worship in Stillness	Milborne
11.00	Parish Communion	Puddletown
11.00	Family Service	Dewlish
3.00pm	Deanery Service	St Mary's, Dorchester

28th May – Pentecost

9.30am	Parish Communion	Milborne
10.00	Go Fourth	Tolpuddle
11.00	BCP Matins (traditional language)	Puddletown
11.00	Parish Communion	Dewlish

DAILY MORNING PRAYERS

Monday to Thursday 8.30am; Saturday 9.00am

On Zoom, please contact Sarah Hillman (sarah.c.hillman@outlook.com) for the link

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

Easter and April weather at Ladybirds

WITH April arriving blustery and wet, the children had fun with bubbles in the puddle made with washing up liquid and bursting bubbles from the bubble machine. On the windiest of days,



we made kites from nappy sacks and wool which the children flew from the climbing frame. They learnt how the wind sometimes blows hard and sometimes gently and the hardest lesson of all the kite no longer works when it's wet from the puddle.



The Easter Bunny scattered cardboard egg shapes over the field and the children got plenty of exercise running around seeing how many they could find. We

swapped the cardboard eggs for Easter treats which the children took home in little baskets they had made. We learnt all about eggs and what different creatures hatch from them. Our story was *The Odd Egg* by Emily Gravett where poor duck finds an egg which he waits to hatch only to find a crocodile inside. Following this the children chose and drew pictures of what they wanted to hatch from their egg. We cut big egg shapes from paper that we had previously marbled, cut in two and using a split pin hinged the pieces to reveal what was in their egg.

Humpty Dumpty had to be included – well he is an egg. The children drew Humpty's face on an oval shape then 'broke' it in half and used plasters to stick him back together again. Much fun although rather fiddly for some.

Liz Dyer



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Above: The Easter garden at St. Andrews.

Below: Angie Clark helping clean the church ready for Easter.

Continued from page 11



May is traditionally dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, and in some circles, it is customary to sing a hymn which begins, "The happy birds *Te Deum* sing, 'tis Mary's month of May." to the tune of the folksong, The Lincolnshire Poacher (I don't think we will be following that tradition in Milborne). But the final anthem traditionally used after Compline during Eastertide, the Regina Caeli, concludes with "Rejoice and be glad, Virgin Mary, for the Lord has risen

indeed." As the Angel Gabriel greeted her, we are reminded that Mary is "Blessed among women".

Our Service for the Coronation weekend (see right) will take place in The Village Hall on Sunday 7th May, beginning with refreshments from 9.30am, and then followed by a short Service. All are welcome to attend.

Some of you will remember Miss Shirley Parker, an erstwhile teacher at St. Mary's Middle School, Puddletown. She celebrated her 90th birthday at the end of March. She rarely misses a Service in Puddletown. Our Curate, Maggie, celebrated her birthday at the beginning of April; we send our love and best wishes and thank her for all she has contributed to the Benefice since she joined us last year.

Tony Fox, Churchwarden

Dewlish Church Notes

A BIG thank-you to all who supported and gave so generously for our church Spring Sale. We had some wonderful donations of goods for our stalls and raffles, also cash donations. Not only are we grateful to our villagers for their support but also to friends from neighbouring villages. We raised £486.10p for church funds – a brilliant sum!

On Sunday 7th May we are holding a **service to celebrate the Coronation** of King Charles III, which we hope will be at Sellers Field, Dewlish, (opposite School Lane) at 11.00am. Afterwards, we shall be joining in with the **Village Lunch**, and all the celebrations that have been arranged by the Committee.

We are holding our **Ascension Day service**, as usual, in the churchyard on Thursday 25th May, at 6.30am, so please set your alarm clocks and come and join us!

Daphne Burg



St. Andrews Celebrate Service – Sunday 7th May

ALL are welcome to join us at the **village hall** as we celebrate Christ the King during the Coronation weekend for King Charles III.

A simple breakfast of pastries, cakes and soft and hot drinks will be available from 9.30am with a short service from 9.45 – 10.15am

There will be activities for children and the chance for everyone to relax and share their memories of royal events past and present!

We will be finishing by 10.45am in order for everyone to prepare themselves in advance of the village picnic.

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Dear Advertiser

IT has come to my attention that at least one advertiser has received an email, and previously a text, requesting them to click a link to "Renew your listing in the Milborne St. Andrew Parish Business Directory". This has not been sent by the Milborne St. Andrew Reporter team and is probably a scam of some form. I would therefore suggest that you ignore all such communication.

For information, all requests for renewals will only come by email, not text. They will generally be sent out in the first seven to ten days of the month and will come from adverts.msareporter@yahoo.com.

Pete Constant (Reporter Advertising Admin)

Developer panned for inconvenience

BELOW is a photograph of the building site at Fox View in Little England.

We now have a toilet pan for all to see. How much longer does the village have to tolerate a developer using a "land bank" as a dumping ground for redundant material and site hut? This has been like this for 12 years, surely Dorset Council should be penalising the owners in line with the Government's policy to build more homes and stop creating land banks which end up like this. A good walk through our countryside spoilt.

Linda O'Dwyer

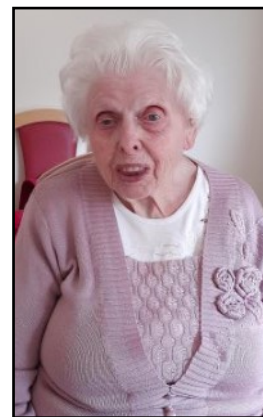


Deadline for the next issue 14th May

Send your articles to the Reporter by e-mail at msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk or give to a member of the team

Grace Lily Davis – 1923–2023

GRACE LILY ATKINS was born on the 9th November 1923 in a small place called Church Gresley near Burton on Trent in Staffordshire; she was one of three children, an older brother Norman and a younger sister Doris.



Grace attended a Church of England School and then went to an all-girls school until the age of sixteen.

For two years Grace worked in Swadlincote at a firm called the Salt Brothers and then at the age of eighteen joined the WAAF where she trained as a wireless operator at Coombe Basset in Wiltshire and once her training was finished, she was posted to various bomber command squadrons all around the country.

Grace met a dashing young man while on de-mob leave, no doubt at a dance, and that handsome young man, Sidney Donald Davis, then became her husband. They were married in Hartshorne Church on the 15th January 1947, and Grace then moved to Dorset, into the Davis family home "Woodville" in Milborne St. Andrew.

Grace and Don had one daughter, Avril, and from Avril's marriage to Norman, she was blessed with two grandchildren, Melitta and Steven.

Over the many years of Grace's life, she had many hobbies ranging from dressmaking, knitting, embroidery, dressing dolls in period costumes, and of course, her amazing talent for decorating the many eggs that would be in various states in the conservatory.

Grace used to attend the Milton Abbas village fairs where, dressed up in her vintage clothing, she would quite happily talk to anyone who would stop and ask her about the eggs that she had spent ages making.

Grace and Don were both avid dancers and loved all the modern sequence dances that would be held in the local villages, and until age caught up with her, she would be happy waltzing, foxtrotting, and tangoing her way around her house. When it came to attempting to teach her two grandchildren the finer points and technicalities of dancing, Grace always said that she had never met anyone who couldn't be taught to dance until she met Melitta and Steven.

If I remember correctly, Melitta was described as like a baby deer with no coordination and Steven as having sixteen pairs of left feet!

Later in life, Grace would be very happy following Strictly Come Dancing on TV.

After the death of Don, Grace continued dancing, with friends picking her up, but unfortunately, old age being what it is meant that Grace had to give up the hobby that she loved, and instead found a new love in reading and soon had a wide range of books amassing a large collection.

Grace, unfortunately, had a fall while at home and had to spend a few weeks in hospital, and it was while in there that Grace made the decision that at 96, she could no longer live at home, and she moved into Bosworth Care Home until her passing at the age of 99.



MILBORNE ST. ANDREW FIRST SCHOOL

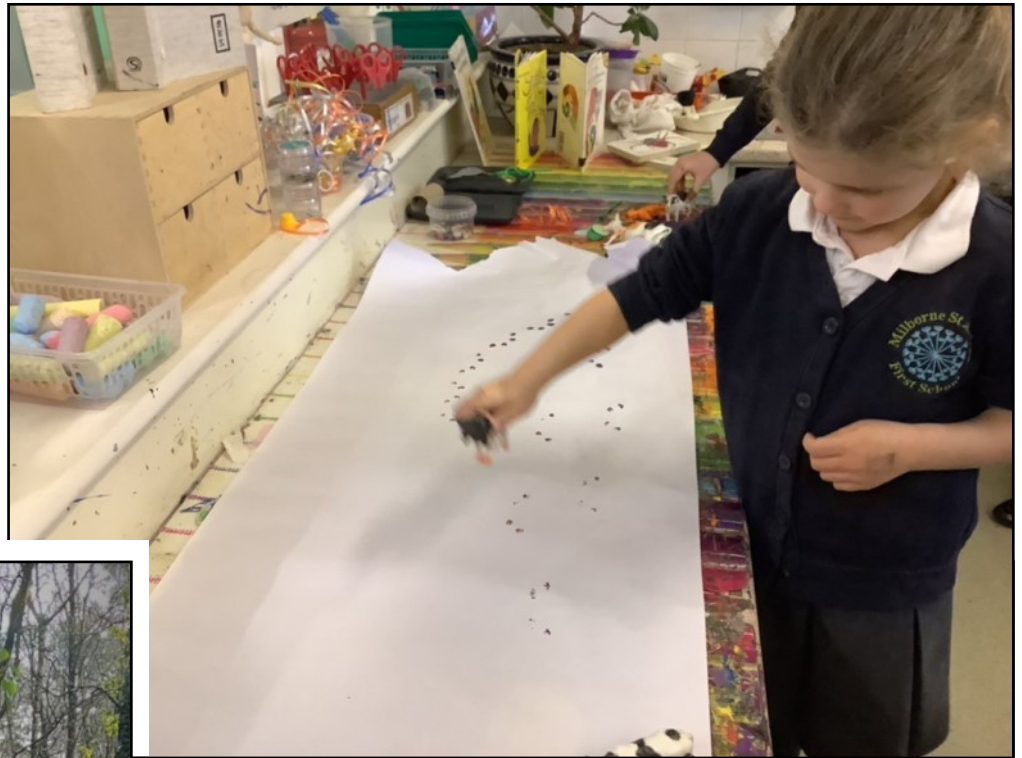
At Milborne we nurture and celebrate every unique child

SCHOOL NEWS



WE HAVE been investigating tracks that animals and people leave behind. We drew around our shoes to leave footprint tracks on the playground using chalk and asked a friend to follow the line of tracks. This was a trail that someone else could follow, recalling when we read 'Rosie's Walk' where Rosie went on a journey following a trail.

We followed this up by visiting Moors Valley, where we could walk around a nature trail. A nature trail is a circular signposted path with signs, symbols and photographs at intervals to draw the walker's attention to natural features. Along the walk

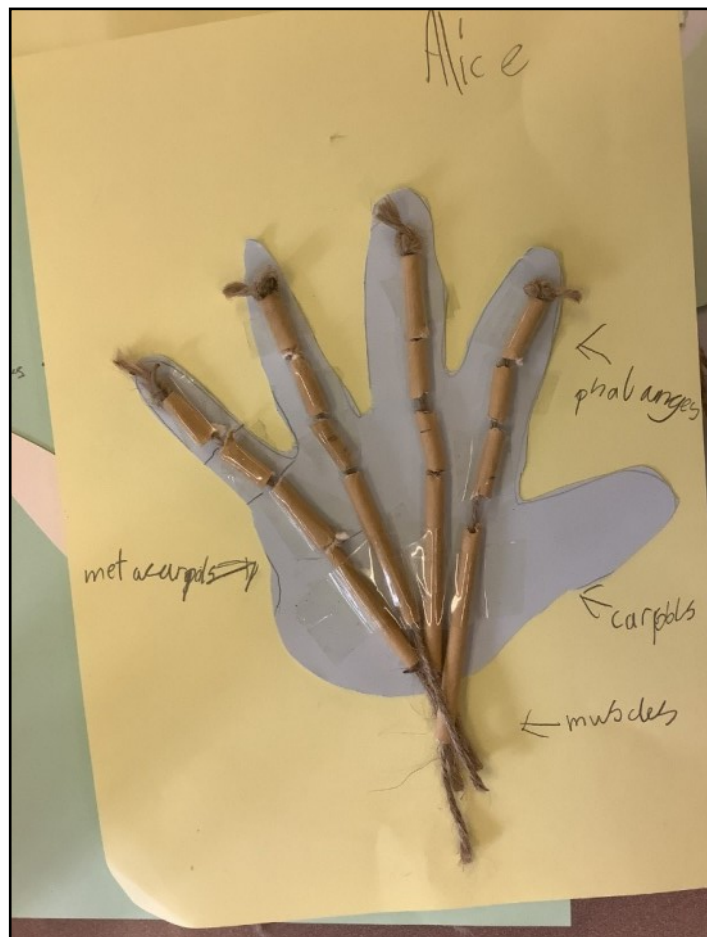


Miss Wittman talked with the children about physical or natural features they observed (things that would be present even if humans were not) and human made items and encouraged them to describe what they saw. Whilst investigating the environment we recorded (through photographs) and talked about those features of the natural world we liked most.

Back at school, the children were asked to recall the order in which they completed the dragon school challenges along the trail using appropriate vocabulary and created their own simple nature trail with photographs, drawings and labels of the features to be visited in the correct order.



The children of Milborne St. Andrew First School had a very exciting Science Week! We were fortunate enough to have several visitors from our local community from Langham Wine Estate to Wessex Water and many of our families too. We launched rockets, made moveable hands and tested the strength of some of the bones in our bodies.



CONTACTS

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

Head of School: Michelle Cheeseman

School Receptionist/Admin Assistant: Holly Latham-Winning

Chair of Governors: Caleb Brown

FOS Chairman: Kate O'Kelly

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Village Lunch

WHEN the Village Lunch closed a year ago there were surplus funds after all bills had been paid.

At an open meeting it was decided the money should be divided between St. Andrews Church and Blandford Food Bank.

We have now received letters from both organisations offering their grateful thanks.
Josie Wright

Wednesday Club News

ON Wednesday 5th April we had an afternoon at Holme Nursery. Car sharing was arranged and twenty members enjoyed some retail therapy followed by a delicious cream tea or cake of choice and tea and a convivial get together.

Our next meeting is in the Village Hall at 2.00pm on Wednesday 3rd May when it will be the AGM followed by games and a chat. We hope all members will be able to attend and look forward to seeing you.
Lis Watts

Talk by Sara Loch

A TALK on Saturday 20th May in St. Andrew's church, Milborne St. Andrew about the church of **St. Peter and St. Paul** in Blandford and including **Blandford Through Time**, given by a local history author, Sara Loch, starting at 2.30pm.

The talk is followed by tea and cake. No charge but donations appreciated.

Any queries contact Jenny Balcon 01258 837121.

Jenny Balcon

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.

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

Small but perfectly formed – at the April WI

OUR President, Jenny Preston, welcomed us to our Annual Meeting and thanked those who had contributed cakes for the Coronation celebrations. They will be safely stored! General business items included an invitation from Bere Regis WI to their 'Evening at Ascot', those going are reminded to wear their best hats! Lesley will arrange a skittles evening at The Royal Oak, and the monthly pub lunches continue.

Veronica reported that the Book Club members had met to discuss 'Shuggie Bain' by Douglas Stuart, a semi-biographical story set in Glasgow in the 1980s. A novel of poverty, addiction, sexuality and love, it is not a comfortable read but very powerful and deserving of the Booker prize it won. Our next book is 'Strange Flowers' by Donal Ryan.

Our Secretary, Lesley Clarke, gave a summary of the year's activities. These included a wide variety of speakers, our summer outing and Christmas meal, the skittles league, and our own 78th birthday celebration as a WI in Milborne. Particular mention was made of the death of our Queen, who had been a proud member of the WI for almost 80 years.

Jenny thanked everyone for their support and contributions over the year, especially the always welcome teas and cakes. She is proud of the WI and of its achievements, and values especially her membership of the WI here in Milborne, calling us "small but perfectly formed!"

Nelda, as our Treasurer, reported on the past year's accounts, which had been audited by John Wright, and took the opportunity to thank him for his help and support.

The new committee for the coming year comprises Val Andrews, Lin Chatfield, Angie Clark, Lesley Clarke, Dee Dilloway and Nelda Oakes. We are delighted that Jenny Preston will remain as our President.

After refreshments and a chat, we enjoyed a Beetle Drive – our new member, Jeanette Luckhurst was clever enough to win – having never played the game before! Well done Jeanette, it is lovely to have you with us.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, 11th May, when Lee Briggs will talk about beekeeping. If you have an item related to bees, please bring it along.

In our coming year we have several topics of interest. For instance: 8th June 'To see a man about a dog'; 14th September 'Exploring quiet lanes and villages in Dorset'; 12th October 'Julia's House'; 11th January – our very own Josie Wright 'Bras and Bars'; 14th March 'Weldmar'; **An especially important date for your diary is 13th July** when Amy Stevens will talk about *Cambodian adventures* and, as this will be an **Open meeting**, everyone is welcome, so please come along. *Pat Bull*

Milborne St. Andrew Gardening Club



THIS month, gardening club members will be busy holding our only fundraiser – our annual plant sale in the village hall on Saturday 13th May at 10.30am. Do come along and be tempted by all of our good value plants grown in Milborne St. Andrew soil. Refreshments will be available, including lovely homemade cakes. Hope to see you there!
Angela Johnson

Perfect Pairings with Poetry – May

Pheasant crumble pie and cherry brandy

The coronation of King Charles will be on Saturday 6th May and we have been awarded an extra bank holiday for the whole country to celebrate. It's good to see that many of us in Milborne St. Andrew are once again getting together and supporting street parties, community picnics and other celebrations over the long weekend.

Of course, it doesn't happen by magic, it takes a bit of thought and effort to start the ball rolling, but I've found over the years that most people are more than willing to do their bit for their own community. Not everyone is gregarious by nature of course (I know of someone who is flying away on holiday to escape 'the fuss'!) but personally I think that after the grim pandemic years it's so good to be able to get together again. You don't have to be a royalist to enjoy a bit of a party with your friends and neighbours.

I am really looking forward to meeting up with some of the new neighbours who have moved in nearby recently. I know of some people who have lived in their houses for over 20 years but can't name any of their neighbours in the same street.

On his 70th birthday in 2018, King Charles, then Prince of Wales, while guest editing for Country Life magazine, said that his favourite meal was pheasant crumble pie. Many years ago, he admitted that bread and butter pudding was his favourite pudding but of course when this became widely known he was offered it on every occasion and he is said to be now heartily sick of it.

Recipe for pheasant crumble

Frozen pheasant breasts are nearly always available at Mato the butcher in Blandford, but also from some supermarkets and online. This recipe also works well with chicken.

Ingredients

For the stock:

- 4 Pheasant breasts
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 large carrot, chopped
- 4 sticks of celery, sliced
- 2 bay leaves
- Large sprig of thyme
- 6 juniper berries
- 4 peppercorns
- 50ml sherry

For the roux sauce:

- 40g plain flour
- 40g butter
- 300ml pheasant stock
- 50ml cream
- Chopped parsley and thyme
- Seasoning

For the crumble:

- 170g butter
- 56g white breadcrumbs
- 28g finely grated Parmesan
- 2 smoked streaky-bacon rashers

Method:

To make the stock, place the pheasant breasts in a large saucepan and cover with water. Add all the other ingredients, except the sherry.

Bring to the boil, then turn down to a slow simmer and cook for 20 minutes.

Next, turn off the heat and leave in the water for 10 minutes, then remove the pheasant breasts and cover with foil.

In a clean pan, add the sherry and reduce until syrupy, then add the strained poaching liquor and reduce to about 300ml.

Next, make a thick roux by melting the butter in a pan, adding the sieved flour and mixing to a paste. Cook the roux for several minutes, then gradually start adding the pheasant stock, stirring all the time, until it becomes a thick sauce. Add the chopped herbs and cream, then check for seasoning.

Shred the pheasant breasts by pulling the meat lengthways between two forks, or chop into pieces if you prefer, add to the sauce and keep warm.

Finally, to make the crumble topping, melt the butter in a frying pan, add the breadcrumbs and stir constantly over a medium heat until they are golden and crispy. Turn them on to kitchen paper to soak up the excess butter and add the Parmesan cheese.

Next, cook the bacon rashers until they are crispy enough to crumble into medium fine pieces and add them to the breadcrumbs. Place the pheasant and sauce mixture into a pie dish, sprinkle with the crumble and finish in the oven at 180°C/350°F/gas mark 4 until piping hot.

Serve with green vegetables and Jersey Royals

On a visit to a school in Gloucestershire in 2004, King Charles confessed that the sprout – which routinely tops polls of the country's most hated – is his joint favourite vegetable. During a nutrition lesson at Brimsham Green school in Yate, he was asked to name his favourite vegetable. "I rather like brussels sprouts," he replied, before adding "and leeks are a very good Welsh vegetable".



When I was a child, my mother would frequently announce that various vegetables she was attempting to get me to eat were 'the Queen's favourite vegetable'. I used to believe her and was most impressed to be eating 'royal' food. I tried this with my own children when they were small but they were much less gullible.

Cherry Brandy

Back in 1963, when he was 14 years old, the then Prince of Wales created a national scandal after he was caught ordering a cherry brandy at the Crown Hotel in Stornoway during his time at Gordonstoun School. He was a pupil at the boarding school in Moray when its training ship the Pinta, arrived at the Isle of Lewis town on June 17 in 1963. Dinner was arranged for them at the Crown Hotel before a movie at the Stornoway Playhouse.

At the time Charles tagged along with a group of older lads to grab a quick drink. He said he had never tasted alcohol until then except when The Queen had once given him a tot of cherry brandy before a hunt. It cost him two shillings and sixpence (12.5p) but it was still illegal for him to be served the drink as he was under 18. He was reported as saying: "I said the first drink that came into my head because I'd drunk it before, when it was cold, out shooting."

Charles was unaware of the tabloid reporter at the pub who quickly got the story of Charles' underage drinking published. As a result, his bodyguard Don Green, who always accompanied him, lost his job.

Home-made cherry brandy recipe

Ingredients:

Half a bottle of brandy
2 punnets of cherries
(about 600g) you can
also use defrosted
frozen cherries
2 tbsp of caster sugar
1 cinnamon stick

Method:

Stone your cherries and pack them into a jar (I use a Kilner jar). If you don't have a cherry stoner then remove the stem from a cherry and hold the fruit between two fingers. Use a chopstick and position the smaller end into the stem hole. Gently but firmly press the chopstick down into the pit and push it out of the cherry. There are lots of different techniques on how to pit cherries on YouTube. Or you can just cut them in half with a sharp knife and remove the stone.

Add the sugar and stir well and pop in the cinnamon stick. Pour in the brandy and seal the jar. Shake well and put away in a cool dark cupboard for about two weeks.

Shake the jar occasionally. Pour through a sieve lined with two layers of cheesecloth/ muslin or paper towels to remove the cherries

Your cherry brandy should keep for at least a year stored in a cool dark place. The brandied cherries have lots of uses e.g. Black forest gateau or just spooned on top of ice cream.

A couple of rhymes this month to help remember the timelines of some of the kings and queens of England and the United Kingdom. I've taken the liberty of adding a couple of lines to the bottom to bring them up to date.

For much of my schooling, mnemonics played a big part in helping my very sluggish memory. I still remember 'Richard of York gave battle in vain' as a prompt for the colours of the

rainbow. Also 'never eat cornflakes, even special sorts are really yuk' (spelling of necessary). Another useful one is 'b' is for bright so put the circle on the right (for those who confuse lower case 'b' and 'd') As a girl I went to Sunday School weekly and we had to memorise bible verses, the following verse is one which I can still remember. It always brings a smile to my face and seems to sum up the optimism of life and the ethos behind street parties and community picnics. There are enough Jeremiah's around constantly preaching doom and gloom. Put me down as a Pollyanna!

Philippians 4: v4 Be cheerful with joyous celebration in every season of life. Let your joy overflow!

Nowadays there is no longer a need to memorise long lists of things because of the internet but once something has been thoroughly learned it seems to last a lifetime. I hated chanting the times tables every single day for years in the classroom but I still on occasions find it so useful to be able to have instant recall even after all this time.

In Jane Austen's 'Mansfield Park', Julia and Maria Bertram, when telling their Aunt Norris of the superiority of their memories to their cousin Fanny's boast

"I cannot remember the time when I did not know a great deal that she has not the least notion of yet. How long ago it is, aunt, since we used to repeat the chronological order of the kings of England, with the dates of their accession, and most of the principal events of their reigns!" "Yes," added the other; "and of the Roman emperors as low as Severus; besides a great deal of the heathen mythology, and all the metals, semi-metals, planets, and distinguished philosophers."

William the conqueror, long did reign,
William his son, by an arrow was slain,
Henry the first was a scholar bright,
Stephen was king - but not by right.
Then Henry the second - Plantagenet's scion
Richard the first was as brave as a lion,
John though a tyrant - the charter was signed,
Henry the third had a weakly mind.
Edward the first, conquered Cambria Dales
Edward the second was born - prince of Wales
Edward the third humbled France in her pride,
Richard the second in prison died.
Henry the fourth, for his own took the crown,
Henry the fifth brought the French king down,
Henry the sixth lost his father's gains,
Edward the fourth took hold of the reins,
Edward the fifth died with his brother,
Richard the third soon made way for another!
Henry the seventh was frugal of means,
Henry the eighth had a great many queens,
Edward the sixth reformation began,
Cruel Queen Mary prevented the plan,
Elizabeth the first had a great many aims,
England and Scotland were joined by king James.
Charles the first found his people a cruel corrector,
Cromwell was called Lord Protector.
Charles the second hid in an oak,
James the second took the catholic yoke.
William and Mary were offered the crown,
Anne was next - but reigned alone.
George the first from Hanover came,

Continued on page 22

Continued from page 21

George the second continued the name,
 George the third was loved in the land,
 George the fourth was polite and grand.
 William the fourth had no heir of his own,
 So queen Victoria ascended the throne.
 When good queen Victoria's reign was o'er,
 Edward the seventh, the British crown wore.
 His son George the fifth ruled the empire amassed,
 Where the sun never set – it was so vast.
 Edward the eighth gave up his crown for his wife,
 George the sixth ruled through world war two's strife.
 Elizabeth the second had a 70-year stay
 And Charles the third still rules today.

Willy, Willy, Harry, Ste,
 Harry, Dick, John, Harry 3.
 1 2 3 Neds, Richard 2,
 Henry 4 5 6 then who?
 Edward 4 5, Dick the bad,
 Harry's twain and Ned the lad.
 Mary, Bessie, James the vain,
 Charlie, Charlie James again.
 William and Mary, Anna Gloria,
 4 Georges William and Victoria.
 Teddy 7, Georgie 5,
 Teddy 8's no longer alive.
 George the sixth with great renown,
 Then his daughter Liz wore the crown.
 Charles the third is our new king
 William the fifth is his offspring

Rose Frost



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Our Hedgehog Observations



OUR hedgehogs did not hibernate at all this winter; our enclosed feeding station has been used continually throughout. We feel this is attributed to the fact that we have installed two hibernation boxes filled with dried autumn leaves. These boxes were used daily for sleeping, as we carefully observed this by the boxes having removable lids as one of the photos shows them asleep during the day. They have been eating a full bowl of feed nightly and we also have several fresh water bowls around. We feel we have at least five different hedgehogs by looking at the trail camera images and noting different markings.

We have also captured an owl, foxes and wood mice. We feed them with a dry Complete Ferret and Hedgehog Food, this is obtained in bulk from Hopewell's at £24.95 for 15kg. via eBay.

Heather and Frank

At Brierley Hill Cricket Ground

A shouted name and a clap of palms
And I find myself standing on the edge
Of that patch of grass once more –
Behind a sprawl of careworn semis –
Where you taught us not only the joy
When Philip Samuels launched the ball
Over the railway tracks into the brickyard,
But also the wonder of the subtle
Change, the sleight of hand – a slower
Ball; the one that hurries on; or
When a tiny parabolic shift in the ball's flight
Is just enough to clip an edge wide
To fingers clenching in triumph
Round half – scuffed and polished leather.



But mostly, how the brute force of
A savage arm's release can be
Met with nonchalant grace,
The back and across and sway
Into that deft pull, sending
A perfect red dot receding over
The undulating turf – the endless
Green summer – till we are left applauding
A moment we wish could have lasted forever.

Chris Thomas

Bridge dates are changing

THE MSA Bridge Group has now been going for around 10 years and has been meeting on Wednesday and Thursday evenings (depending on whether there has been a scheduled 'Theme Nite' or 'Pie Nite' in the pub) at The Royal Oak at 7.00pm more or less since we started.

As the village has many activities also scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday evenings and while the Cribbage league has a break until the end of September, several of our regulars have suggested that we move our bridge night to Monday. This would be to see if this gave new-comers a chance to see if they would like to learn or improve their skills and possibly be more convenient for regulars. To this end from Monday 1st May until the middle of September the Bridge Group will meet on Monday evenings.

For anyone who has never played before instruction will be provided along with a simple two-page 'crib' sheet. In fact, several of our 'regulars' had never played before joining the group but have enjoyed the way of learning and improving their game in a very social and 'blame free' environment. There is no charge for joining or playing.

If you would like to try something new or to improve your playing skills by regular practice and would like more information please contact me, Laurie Benn, on 01258 837720 or by email at laurie@benn.me.uk.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Laurie Benn



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May Events

KURLING - Every Thursday, 10am—12.30pm

CRAFTY NATTER, tea, etc - Friday 5th, 19th & 2nd June

MONTHLY BINGO - Sat 20th, doors open 6.15pm,
bar and hot drinks available during and after.

To book hall or for info, please email wwwvh@gmail.com

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or email: saryan6630@gmail.com

www.sarahryanyoga.co.uk



MSA Gardening Club Annual Plant Sale at the village hall

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Amazon warns customers about impersonation scams

IMPERSONATION scams are on the rise, and Amazon is one of the companies most regularly targeted by fraudsters. The retailer says it has taken down



thousands of phishing websites and dodgy phone numbers to stop fraudsters in their tracks.

Follow these tips to spot and avoid phishing calls and messages

How to avoid Amazon impersonation scams

Amazon says it has initiated takedowns of more than 20,000 phishing websites and 10,000 phone numbers that were being used for impersonation scams. Additionally, it says it has referred hundreds of suspected scammers to police forces around the world.

It has contacted customers to warn them of the growing threat of impersonation scams, and recommends following these tips to stay safe:

- Don't install apps or software. Amazon will never ask you to install anything on your device to get a refund or help from customer service.
- Don't pay over the phone. Amazon will never ask you to provide payment information for products or services over the phone.
- Don't be rushed. Scammers may try to create a sense of urgency to rush you into making decisions without thinking them through.
- Verify orders with Amazon. Check the 'Your Orders' section on Amazon's website or the Amazon Shopping app. Amazon won't call, text or email you about orders you aren't expecting.

How to report Amazon impersonation scams

You can report Amazon impersonation scams directly to the retailer by using its online reporting service.

Dodgy calls and texts

On an iPhone, you can report scam calls by texting the word 'call' followed by the scam number to 7726.

On an Android phone, you can text the word 'call' to 7726.

You will then be asked for the phone number the scam was sent from. Scam text messages can also be forwarded to 7726 to report them.

Scam emails

Scam emails can be forwarded to report@phishing.gov.uk. To report them to your email provider, select 'Report phishing' on Gmail or Hotmail, or from a Yahoo account you can forward emails to abuse@yahoo.com.

Suspicious websites

Never click on any links in suspicious texts or emails, but if you come across a suspicious website, it can be reported to the National Cyber Crime Security Centre.

What to do if you fall victim

If you are scammed, contact your bank immediately and also report it to Action Fraud online or by calling 0300 123 2040 in England, Wales or Northern Ireland. In Scotland, you can report the scam to the police on 101.

Which?

PC proposes new noticeboard

THERE was a proposal to purchase some sporting equipment with free access for the community to use. Concerns were raised about the equipment ending up in hedges. It was agreed that the Parish Council (PC) would offer £100 to the village hall and sports club to purchase equipment and it would be up to the individual organisations to come up with a process for the community to request to use the equipment.

The Obelisk fund had some monies left in it but there has been no desire to use the money to benefit the Obelisk. It was agreed that the funds should pay to replace the stiles on the way to the monument to make it more accessible.

The noticeboard on Milton Road has been repaired lots of times. The board itself has been accessed by someone wanting to add a notice without following official guidelines, and now the glass is cracked. It was agreed that the board should be replaced with something like that situated outside of the village hall.

S106 application from MSA allotments association. The contractors have suggested for longevity of work that is going ahead, would be wise to add gravel boards to protect the base of the fencing. Ten of the original wooden posts have rotted at the bottom. This would prevent animals eating vegetables that are being grown. It was agreed to support this application.

Date of next meeting is 3rd May 2023 at Milborne St. Andrew Village Hall at 7.00pm.

Jo Whitfield

No Self Control

By Jan Beaumont ©

Easter is looming and I have been trying
To make folks feel welcome so I've been out buying
Wee chocolate eggs and scorched almonds as well
To have on my table but it sure is hell.

For I cannot bear to just look at them there
And sadly I'm now in a state of despair
For my good intentions have gone up in smoke
And my chocolate consumption is really no joke.

The wee Easter eggs have been vanishing fast
And the days of my diet are now truly past
The almonds have gone so what I've had to do
Is go back to the shop and buy box number two!

The dinky wee eggs in their colourful foil
Just had to be eaten in case they should spoil
So tomorrow, first thing, I'll be right out the door
To return to the shop and stock up on some more!

Unfortunately Easter is still some way off
And who knows – given time – just how many I'll scoff
It seems very clear I cannot trust myself
So tomorrow they're going up high on the shelf.

So far I've resisted, and stuck to my guns
And I haven't yet bought any sweet hot cross buns
But even though I'm full of such good intent
I really don't know where my self-control went!

Deadline for the next issue 14th May



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Whatever Next?: Lessons from an Unexpected Life by Anne Glenconner



LADY Anne Glenconner is best known for the years she served as a Lady-in-Waiting to Her Royal Highness the Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon. Since that lady's death, Lady Anne has appeared as a commentator on various Royal Matters, and has, in her 90s, become a novelist and speaker to Zoom audiences on subjects from etiquette to fashion.

Lady Anne Coke (pronounced Cook) was born at Holkham, family seat of the Earls of Leicester. Whilst she was growing up there her father

became the Earl of Leicester on the death of her grandfather. Being a girl, she could not inherit the title, which has been held by her cousin since her father died. As was common for the daughters of aristocrats during the 1940s, she was educated at home, and spent a year at finishing school before being launched on the debutante circuit to find the right husband.

As a result of the Debutante Circus, she became engaged to Johnnie Althorp, Equerry to George V, but his father objected on the grounds of them having 'mad blood', this apparently comes through the Trefusis family, and was possibly a genetic disease shared by relatives of the Late Queen, causing early childhood deaths in male children and learning disabilities in females. Given the later behaviour of Johnny Althorp towards his wife, and the behaviour of their daughter, Diana, it's funny how things turn out, shall we say?

In 1956 Anne married Christopher Tennant, son of the 2nd Baron Glenconner. The wedding was attended by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother and Her Royal Highness the Princess Margaret, neighbour and playmate from Sandringham. Antony Armstrong-Jones took the photographs.

The book really is a terrific insight into the lives of those women who were raised to a life of duty, keeping aristocratic men happy, being dutiful at social and business engagements, providing heirs, spares and marriageable daughters to pass around the gene pool, and not rocking the boat. Anne knew nothing of marital matters and her honeymoon was a disaster in that regard. Her new Husband had no intention of helping, guiding or encouraging her, but took her to a live sex show in Paris during the honeymoon so she could 'pick up some tips'. She soon learned that you can never have too much training in being married to a person who is incredibly demanding and has violent temper tantrums if he doesn't get his own way. Later in the marriage, the violent beating he gave her on the island of Mustique was a criminal assault, and she was only saved by the Nanny, who made her safe and got medical help.

They did have children. Two boys arrived very quickly, and were raised by Nannies, as was the custom at the time in those circles. Anne was too young to stand up to the first Nanny and barely saw her eldest. The second Nanny was good with the boy, and loved him, which he reciprocated. Just as her second son was on the way, her husband summarily dismissed the Nanny. The older child was devastated and blamed his brother as a result. Luckily the third Nanny was an excellent help and support to the young mother as well as being just right for the children. Anne was obviously distraught at the time, but her role was to keep her head down and the family rolling on. A lot of the book is about how she grew up by learning to deal with things which didn't go her way. She is never mawkish, never complains, and takes a practical view that confrontation will be

avoided, and she will learn techniques to get herself some space, peace and relief from the relentless strain of living on a powder keg of her husband's behaviour. It's an astonishing contrast to much of what we see today.

Many things didn't go their way. Their eldest son became a heroin addict at 16, and despite many trips to rehab, remained one for many years. She describes her anguish when they took the decision to disinherit him, for fear that the family home would be sold to pay for heroin. He finally got clean (with the help of a good woman) but died of hepatitis C.

The second son, having married and had a son, came out as gay and died of Aids in 1990.

The third son was seriously brain damaged in a motorcycle accident when riding pillion with no helmet, aged 21. He was in a coma for months. Lady Anne and the third Nanny nursed him for months, bringing him round, arranging physio and other treatment. Even though he had been written off by medics, he went on to have a normal life.

They also had twin girls in 1970. So far so good, but it was a complete surprise to Lady Anne – she found out it was twins only two days before they were born, and had to borrow a second crib, extra clothes, nappies, etc. from a friend!

As if that lot and the general strain of her erratic husband, selling houses, moving them around, disappearing to Mustique, etc. weren't enough, when her husband died (they had been seeing less and less of one another as he spent most of this time in West Indies), he left all his assets to his valet. The family contested this Will, with the result that the assets were shared between the valet and Cody Tennant, Colin's Grandson and heir to the Barony. The author's description of attending the auction to buy back mementoes and property from the Mustique house, telling her children to smile, because the Press were watching, is very moving indeed.

Moving onto the subject of Press Intrusion, all of these events were covered in gory detail by the press, who intruded into their homes, gardens and estates to get pictures, made up stories about a 'curse on the family', and behaved despicably towards them. Lady Anne, like the new Queen, certainly knows what it's like to be mistreated by journalists and reporters. Her approach, like the Queen, is the stiff upper lip, good friends to help clear the air, peace and quiet, and vodka (Lady Anne is the vodka fan, not the Queen!). She has happy memories too, and these are spread throughout the book.

During this time, Lady Anne's position in society involved her in fundraising for, helping out with, and being a patron of, many charities. She speaks very movingly of her involvement with Erin Pizzey and the growth of the Womens' Refuge movement, a cause obviously still close to her heart, and sadly still needed over fifty years after being founded.

I was quite fascinated by her portrayal of Princess Margaret, a lifelong friend since they were childhood playmates. At a time when many bad things were happening to Lady Anne, the princess offered her the role of Lady-In-Waiting. A kind gesture, which allowed some escape from difficulties, and an opportunity to shine as an organiser, calm deflector of trouble, and steadying hand. There are some lovely stories of their adventures, and occasional exasperation at the doings of the Princess.

I really enjoyed this book. I love that a 90-year-old lady could write it and read it in such a lovely, calm voice, and that a lady raised in the 1940s still finds relevance as a guide, role-model and inspirational figure in the 2020s. Her approach of calmness, forgiveness and kindness towards those who do you wrong will not, I fear, appear in the next book I get to review, which is 'Spare'.

Susan Wilson



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Those caught fly-tipping can be prosecuted under the Environmental Protection Act 1990. Every year councils spend a considerable amount of time and money removing this waste from the landscape. We will always try to remove fly-tipping as soon as possible. The site will be investigated for evidence and the appropriate legal action taken. If we can trace the persons responsible for fly-tipping we can recover our costs and potentially the land owners costs in some instances.

Simple rules for reporting fly-tipping:

- do not remove any evidence found from the fly-tipping location, for example, addressed letters – instead take photographs;
- be as specific as possible when describing where the incident has occurred – what3words is particularly good;
- if you see the incident occurring do not approach the persons involved;
- if you see a person/vehicle involved in an environmental crime take as many details as you can, for example, description of the person or vehicle registration, type of waste and photos, dash cam footage if safe to do so;
- you may be asked to provide a witness statement and/or attend court in subsequent legal action.

Any fly tips reported that do not include evidence will go directly to our depot, not to enforcement. Whilst we don't recommend you searching the waste, cardboard boxes often have address labels and black bin bags normally have paperwork/envelopes etc. If in doubt state evidence present and we can then investigate swiftly.

Report fly-tipping using this link:

https://dorset-self.achieveservice.com/service/DWP_Report_litter_on_the_highway_or_pavement
Commercial Waste & Strategy—Dorset Council

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What's on in May

May

Monday 1st

Wednesday 3rd

Wednesday 3rd

Saturday 6th

Sunday 7th

Sunday 7th

Thursday 11th

Saturday 13th

Sunday 14th

Friday 21st

Saturday 20th

Thursday 25th

Bridge The Royal Oak 7.00pm.

Wednesday Club AGM and games Village Hall 2.00pm.

Parish Council Meeting Village Hall 7.00pm.
Coronation of King Charles III see on tv at The Royal Oak with Nina Garcia.

Celebrate the Coronation Milborne Village Hall 9.30am.

Coronation Picnic Village Hall Playing Field – see page 3.

WI Lee Briggs will talk about Beekeeping Village Hall 7.30pm.

Milborne St. Andrew Gardening Club Plant Sale Village Hall 10.30pm.

Reporter deadline – send copy and photographs by mid-day via msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk or give to a member of the team. Team members can be found on page two.

More than a movie *The Lost King* Village Hall doors open at 7.00pm for 7.30pm tickets £6 includes a drink or ice-cream.

Talk by Sara Loch on St. Peter and St. Paul church in Blandford and including Blandford Through Time St. Andrews church 2.30pm – see page 19.

Ascension Day service Dewlish churchyard 6.30am.

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 5.30–6.45pm.

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).

Kickboxercise Thursday 7.00–8.00pm (term time only).

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Community Contacts

More information about many community organisations can be found on 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	milbornestandrew@dorset-aptc.gov.uk	
	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 or call 01305 221000

Flooding: Environment Agency Floodline 03459 881188

Environmental Incident: Environment Agency Hotline 08008 807060 www.gov.uk/government/organisations/environment-agency

South West Highways hello@swhitd.co.uk 01404 821500

Wessex Water Sewerage Floodline 03458 505959

MSA Flood Warden, Non-Emergency Only: Mark Johnson 01258 839060

GENERAL — ADULT

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		
Head of School	Michelle Cheeseman	01258 837362
Chair Governors:	Caleb Brown	
Friends of School Chair:	Kate O'Kelly	

SPECIAL INTEREST

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	Bill Love	01258 837677
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
Kickboxercise	Jon Dodd	07742 015121

Pilates (school)	Claire Barratt	07703 648869
Football – Milborne Sports	Kelvin Dormer-Woolley	07544 725855
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

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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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