

Reporter

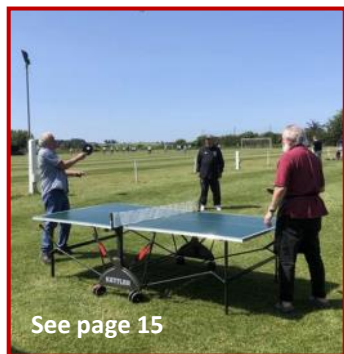
News and Views from around the area

Volume 15 Issue 7

July 2023

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See page 15

Boules away! Pétanque in full swing



See page 18

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Paper copy to any of the team.

Aliens take over the Village

THE Milborne Players are back on stage in July!

After their successful Cinderella pantomime in February, The Players have been rehearsing for their next production. It's a Summer Double Act, a show of two parts with an apt village theme. The evening's entertainment will showcase The Milborne Players with some new faces, some old faces and some rarely seen on stage faces.

"Acting, It's Not Plumbing" is a one act play and shows The Players taking part in a drama workshop, which Jilly has an ulterior motive for running. During the workshop the attendees are brought together in some amusing takes on well-known nursery rhymes, whilst they get to know each other. And all before lunch.

And now for something completely different! "Welcome to our Village: Please Invade Carefully".

"War of the Worlds" meets "The Archers." A live radio play set against the alien invasion of an English country village. The village resistance group attempt to convince the community to boycott the aliens and force them to leave. Unfortunately, it does not go well.

Our Summer Double Act will be appearing at the Milborne St. Andrew Village Hall for two nights in July, Friday 21st and Saturday 22nd July, curtain up at 7.30pm. Tickets available from the Londis village shop or the box office.

Apologies for the interview with one of our actors not appearing this month as promised. This will be published in a later Reporter edition.

Andy Coetzee

The Milborne Players Present
"Summer Double Act"

Acting, It's Not Plumbing
By Cheryl Barrett

M.S.A
Village Hall
Curtain up 7.30pm
21st & 22nd July 2023

Tickets £7.00
Available Soon

Welcome to our village. Please invade carefully
A Radio Play By
Eddie Robson

It's a Vet's Life – at the June WI

MANY of us are familiar with the often used excuse for an absence 'to see a man about a dog'. Our speaker, retired veterinary surgeon Hillary Green, had no need of such an excuse; she had seen many animals, including dogs, in her long career. Pony-mad from an early age, the turning point for her at the age of 13 was a visit to the local vet with her family dog, where she watched him lance an abscess, and decided that she would like to do exactly that! Hillary trained at the Royal Veterinary College in London, where, out of an intake of 70, there were very few girls. Interestingly, this is not the case now. There has been a significant increase in the number of women entering the profession, now more than males.

Hillary spent five happy years in training, qualified in 1979 and moved on initially to a practice in Oxford and from there to Dorchester. Her role as a vet involved safeguarding the health and welfare of animals, as well as responsibility for the medical and surgical treatment of a range of animals.

After time spent with the Ministry of Agriculture, bringing up a family, and fitting in some teaching at Kingston Maurward College, Hillary looked back with enthusiasm and a lot of humour at her life tending the animals she loved. Among many amusing anecdotes she included a fascinating description of how to put a ring in a bull's nose, not for the faint-hearted! All in all, a generous and humorous look at the life of a female vet.

Our President reminded us that next month's meeting would be open to all interested parties, and as such we would need a good supply of cakes.

Thursday 13th July is to be an Open meeting, when Amy Stevens will talk about her Cambodian adventures. Please do come along and listen, there will be ample refreshments available.

Pat Bull

Cambodian Adventures!

COME and listen to Amy and Sandie who are going to talk to the Milborne St. Andrew WI on Thursday 13th July at 7.30pm about their trek in Cambodia and how that led to the birth of a community café and how and why they chose to support the charities Shelter Box and The Alzheimer's Society.

Funny and full of photos, they will present their story at this open meeting where everyone is welcome.

If you come to the Community Café in Milborne on the second Saturday every month and wonder how and why it all started last year come and find out.

We look forward to seeing lots of new faces and hope to inspire the inner traveller in everyone!!



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Hedgehogs at the Wednesday Club

IT was with great pleasure that we welcomed Pip Bowell to our June meeting to talk to us about hedgehogs, a subject close to his heart. The talk proved to be most interesting, amusing and informative.

Apparently our friendly little hedgehogs are known by a number of different names, depending on which part of the country you hail from, including, hedge pigs and furze pigs. In fact they are not related to pigs at all but distantly to shrews and moles. We understand there are about 17 species of hedgehogs spread round the world.



Hedgehogs are a gardener's friend as they eat beetles and caterpillars, worms and slugs and other invertebrates including small snails. Being quite small they grow to about 20 to 25cm and can weigh up to 1.2kg but the healthy weight is about 400g. The quills are modified hairs like our hair and fingernails and they are soft and white at first but later become firm and brown. Their defence mechanism is to roll up into a ball to protect their soft underbelly, however unlike the Alice in Wonderland stories, they cannot roll like balls!

If you are lucky enough to have hedgehogs in your garden you can leave out cat food and water. This needs to be protected from other interested animals. Also, ensure they have access to other gardens by making a small gap in the bottom of your fence.

Pip ended his talk with a poem by Pam Ayres called *The Last Hedgehog*, which is reproduced here. Thank you Pip for a most enjoyable afternoon.

Our next meeting is an outing arranged by Dave Andrews to The Xtreme Falconry Park in Lewell, Dorchester DT2 8AN on Wednesday 5th July, all people who have booked to go will meet at 2.00pm in the car park to organise car sharing. *Ian & Lis Watts*

The Last Hedgehog

by Pam Ayres[®]

Farewell, farewell, for what it's worth
From the final hedgehog left on earth
Cousin Henry, young and bright,
Went up in flames on Bonfire Night
And poor old Grandpa, fast asleep,
Was stabbed to death in a compost heap.
My uncle in one playful bound
Fell in a swimming pool and drowned.
My aunt was old, her eyes had dimmed,
But all the same she wound up strimmed.
You didn't look, you didn't see,
and there she goes. An amputee.
If in your fence you'd made a space
We could have moved from place to place,
Have found a gal, paid our respects,
Had some cautious hedgehog sex,
And in a cosy pile of logs
Produced a nest of little hogs.
From now on, as you pull the drapes
You'll see no round familiar shapes,
Nevermore from dusk till dawn
Will we eat slugs on your lawn.
So little gratitude you've shown
From now on you can eat your own.
Drowned in rubbish, drowned in junk,
That's why our population's shrunk,
You threw down stuff you couldn't use.
The plastic rings from packs of booze,
Polluted, poisoned, burned and mowed,
and ran us over in the road.
If you'd been a hedgehog's friend,
You'd give your pond a shallow end,
You'd leave a drink when gardens fried.
You'd cover drains where creatures died
Where walls are vertical and steep,
And starving hedgehogs fall asleep.
Like the owl which hunts the mouse
Like swifts returning to a house
We fit like interlocking rings
Neatly in the scheme of things.
This is the truth, these are the facts,
The whole of nature interacts.
And so, farewell, for what it's worth
From the final hedgehog left on earth,
In garden netting tightly wound
I have no hope of being found.
Some curtain call. Some final bow.
You crocodiles.

Start crying now.

Thank you Pam for allowing us to reproduce your excellent poem.

Have you something to share?

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HIP concerns and traffic calming

THE Parish Council meeting started with the appointment of a new councillor, Rob Greening. Rob is new to the village and said he has been made to feel welcome in the village.

There was a lot of discussion about the Heathland Infrastructure Project (HIP) at the top of Huntley Down, which was supposed to be accessible prior to occupation – it is currently still not open for use. A resident raised concerns:

1. the level of the land being raised which he claimed is a flood risk to properties in Coles Lane and Bladen View;
2. the state of the surface, which he claimed is not fit for purpose due to the rubbish that has been buried. Bartlett's dug some up when they were laying the pipe across the area, and where it wasn't dug up, the dog area, it is covered in flint and other rubbish.

PC have raised concerns with DC regarding the change of the level of the land and DC have said there is no evidence that it has been raised – and they will only review it once more information has been received. It was suggested that PC should ask DC Flood Officer to request current levels of the land from the Developer. The resident went on to say that the HIP will not be accessible from Coles Lane, as that was not part of the planning application. If anyone reading this has any proof that the level of the HIP behind the recently built houses at the top of Huntley Down has been raised then please get in touch with a member of the PC.

The defibrillator at the Village Hall, which was broken, has been replaced whilst the broken one is fixed or replaced.

Cllr. Stephens proposed that the rent that the Sports Club and the Allotment Society pay should be reduced to a peppercorn rent – as these are facilities for the community. It was agreed that the Allotment Society should move to a peppercorn rent, but a discussion is required with the Sports Club regarding the maintenance of the track, which is currently shared. If the Sports Club agree to taking on the full responsibility of the track then they too can pay the peppercorn rent.

The pavement on the A354 next to the village pub is narrow and after some recent chat amongst the village questioning why the pavement hasn't been widened Cllr. Stephens wanted it on the agenda to discuss and formally document why it has not been widened. Cllr. Macnair shared details of historic requests to DC, which included every few years the PC requesting a crossing. There is a proposal for the road to be painted to indicate caution, as detailed in the Neighbourhood Plan.

Councillors are not allowed to reply on Facebook under their role of Councillor. If you have a concern and you want PC support then contact any of the councillors (details on their website or Community Contacts on page 31) and request for it to be added as an agenda item at the next meeting.

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 5th July at the Village Hall at 7pm. Please come along and get involved with the discussions.

Jo Whitfield

Milborne St. Andrew Gardening Club



IN June, members enjoyed a talk on 'companion planting'. This was all about how different plants, for one reason or another, compliment each other. Our members also visited Bennett's Water Garden, a great day out.

On Thursday 20th July in our village hall we will listen to a talk on 'gardens worth a visit'. So, if you'd like to learn about beautiful gardens to visit, do please come along. All are welcome, it starts at 7.30pm, only costs £2 and includes light refreshments.

Mark Johnson

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'Buy with Confidence' covers all kinds of work, from plumbing and decorating to car servicing and gardening, carried out by local businesses all over the County and beyond.

Our members have been visited in person and audited by Trading Standards officers to make sure they comply with consumer protection laws.

We take customer references and make sure complaint procedures are in place if needed. In addition, to give you peace of mind, criminal record checks are undertaken for staff who work in or around your home.

It doesn't stop there! Once a business joins 'Buy with Confidence' they are monitored by Trading Standards through customer feedback, complaint monitoring and re-audits.

We would always encourage you to choose a Dorset based trader. However, as the 'Buy with Confidence' scheme is also run by all our neighbouring local authorities, then the pool of Trading Standards approved traders is much greater than just those who are based in the Dorset Council area.

Other trader approval schemes are available, but remember, only 'Buy with Confidence' has this level of Trading Standards approval, alongside access to the national Citizens Advice database of consumer complaints, which allows us to truly vet a business.

To find a Trading Standards approved 'Buy with Confidence' trader, visit the national 'Buy with Confidence' website at www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk where you can search for local traders around your postcode. Alternatively, call the Citizens Advice consumer helpline who can search for you on 0808 223 1133.



Volunteers are occasionally needed to deliver the Reporter magazine to cover for holidays.

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Bookends . . . an Introduction

DEAR Readers,

This is a brief but revealing history of the village's own Book Club . . . *Bookends*, plus a taste of what we have been reading recently.

Its gestation period was within the sheltering womb of the WI under the Presidency of Sheila Bird whose original idea it was. The first meeting was held Autumn 2004 thereby responding to the Library's invitation to set up groups using their "Reading Diaries" and supplying sets of books, up to 10 copies, from a reading list. Josie Wright, then WI Treasurer, offered her house as a permanent venue. Books were supplied monthly from the Library's list. Shirley Dunkley suggested the first book "*The Warden*" by Anthony Trollope. 12 original WI members met monthly and each chose a book from the Library List. The next time the authors and titles were, Anita Shreve, Joanne Harris "*Blackberry Wine*", "*Mist in the Mirror*" by Susan Hill, "*Birdsong*" by Sebastian Faulk and "*To Kill a Mockingbird*" by Harper Lee. The latter was the first film watched by the Group. This has since been an additional feature in our programme. The "Diaries" were little changed until 2009 when "first impressions" was removed (as each member often had different copies). Val Andrews converted them into email and circulated them. This has been an important focus for reading, assimilating and discussing within our meetings. Without this no parameters were drawn and organised reading and appreciation could not be taken forward. Over time with computer skills more widespread and curiosity sharpened it is possible to read around some stories to enrich the debate and exchange of views. To know the background to the writing, the circumstances and experience of the author has made each book a more fulfilling experience. Following the tragic, untimely death of Sheila Bird, Shirley Dunkley took over leadership of Bookends until her departure from the village in 2018.

Currently there are 13 members all of strong and well expressed views each their own. It is a vibrant and evolving group but now at full capacity with the need to share books. We now meet in turn at each other's houses and attempt to deliver our thoughts to the meeting if unable to attend. It is now a fully fledged group weaned from the WI.

Several films have been viewed, the last "*Unbroken*" by Laura Hillenbrand. This was a totally amazing account of an Olympic Athlete imprisoned by the Japanese having survived 48 days in an open boat in the Pacific Ocean during the Second World War. Poignantly we learnt that the author is a Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS) sufferer never leaving her flat to write this book which details intolerable hardship and resilience. She wrote of a man who suffered with hope and resolve answering desperation with ingenuity. Mirroring her own limitations she painted an interior perspective of a remarkable person. Of the two books she has published both won awards. Our Feedback forms contain a rating system which runs from 1-5 5 being the top score. The categories are Characterisation/Style/Plot/Literary Merit and How Much We liked it! This book garnered the highest scores of this year's reading. Ms Hillenbrand proved herself a brilliant storyteller holding our attention throughout, but also a summariser, explainer and interpreter of a forgotten war that still holds so much historical interest. There was so much for the whole group to both amaze and appal proving that the written word can have a long lasting and powerful effect.

Recent reads have been "*Shuggie Bain*" by Douglas Stuart (soon to be brought to our TV screens). This engendered a great

deal of discussion and revelation amongst members. It can be regarded as an odyssey, a pilgrimage back to the author's roots as the child of a single alcoholic mother in Glasgow during the closure of the mines and the disastrous effects of policies which corralled disenfranchised people, people without hope or the means to change their lifestyle. It was a blistering slice of realism with vivid characters, greedy capitalists, families hurting each other. It is a dark narrative of violence in which Shuggie's mother Agnes subjected her child to a community marinated in abuse, addiction, hatred and self disgust. A forgotten history of impoverished people experiencing horrors detailing the author's grim, grey and complex feelings towards his own mother. The overwhelming response was that, although tough, gritty, raw and uneasy to read it needed to be known despite its sometimes sordid details. There was a lyricism which many members picked up and echoes of childhood experiences almost forgotten. Powerful and moving for us all.

"*Strange Flowers*" by Donal Ryan in contrast was a gentle, subtle, innocent, somewhat naïve elegy to a lost way of life in Southern Ireland. It centres on a farming family working the land in Co Tipperary as tenants and details a life full of beliefs in a higher power. Some of us found the pace and direction slow and tedious, others beautiful and satisfying. So for many the gently flowing language and its obvious literary merit captured our attention. At its centre was an inexplicable and mystifying absence which is repeated later on in the book. It was excellent on the ceaseless scrutiny and class hierarchies of small village life and their reliance on others in the face of adversity. There was a mere gestural rendering of village racism which some in the group found a wasted opportunity. A biblical rendering of the miracle of the Blind Beggar which appeared as a story within a story was felt by most to be an interruption of the narrative flow without adding anything to the novel's impact.

Since its inception the Group's numbers have barely fluctuated and for many years the Library Service was free. It now cost us £50 per year but with so many members it is a bargain at twice the price. Our new reading year begins in July (Lockdown changed the Calendar). Choosing is often a task fraught with pressure especially when time given to choose is telescoped and over 400 Reading Groups in Dorset vying for similar titles. Next time I shall be discussing "*The Man On the Street*" by Trevor Wood.

My thanks to Val Andrews and Pat Bull for their help.

Carole Fornachon



Reporter Team on Holiday

The Reporter Team will be taking a holiday in August.
Deadline for the August/September issue will be 14th July
and the deadline for the October issue of
the magazine will be 14th September.

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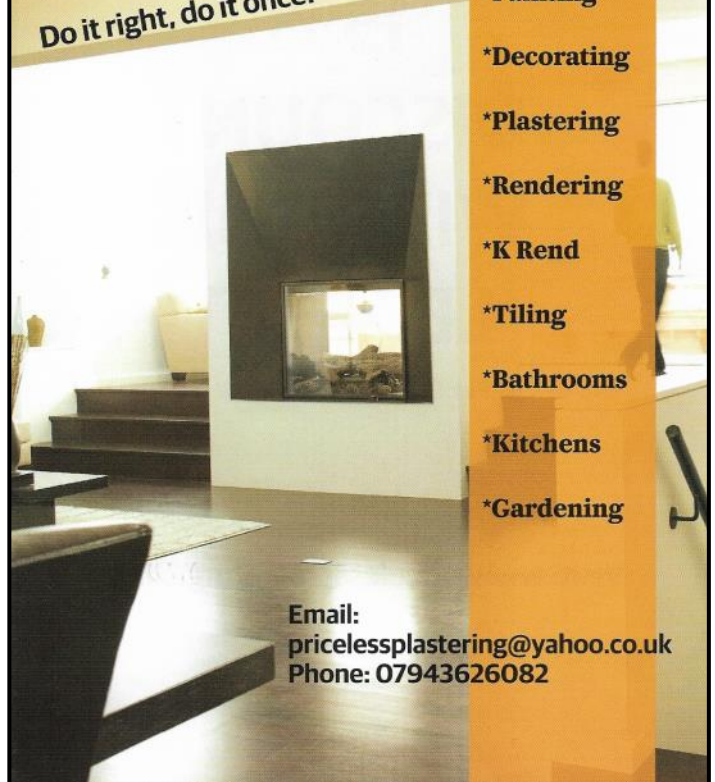
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Dealing with life's challenges

It's hard to believe that I have been living, working and serving in the Puddletown benefice for a year already. Time has flown by and it has been great to be here so far and to get to know so many new people in all four villages. (I think I can just about remember everyone's names now!) I have recently reached a point when I finally feel I have some idea of what I am doing, however that is soon to change as by the time you are reading this letter I will have been ordained as a priest in Salisbury Cathedral. This is the next stage in my journey of ordained ministry. Once priested there will be many more things for me to learn – presiding at Holy Communion and taking weddings being two examples. Both of which I am looking forward to being able to do enormously.

The past year has not been without its challenges for me though, particularly these past few months. As some of you know, I am caring for my parents after my mum became unwell earlier in the year. This has meant I have reduced my hours and I am currently working part time.

I certainly did not expect this during this part of my training but like everyone else, life throws us curve balls when we are least expecting them. Being obedient to God's call on my life does not mean I am immune to the challenges that life throws at us all from time to time. For me, it is my faith that helps me deal with these unexpected challenges. I am clear that God called me to ordained ministry, and that God is also currently calling me to look after my parents. I have faith that God will equip me with the resources I need to be able to do both, particularly the energy, stamina and patience I need right now.

Often when faced with difficult or challenging circumstances we can be tempted to ask 'why me?' but I find it more helpful to ask 'why not me?' I am no more or less important than anyone else so why shouldn't it happen to me? Reframing how we think about life's challenges can often help in the way we respond to them. As a Christian, knowing that I am not facing life's challenges on my own, also helps me enormously. I find this particular verse from the Bible comforting – 'The Lord himself goes before you and will be with you; he will never leave you or forsake you. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged' (Deuteronomy 31:8). These words of encouragement and comfort aren't just for Christians though. This is God's promise to everyone. So if you are facing a particularly difficult time, remember these words and know you are not alone and that God is there with you.

With best wishes

Maggie

Milborne St. Andrew Church Notes

I AM writing this as the temperatures soar and summer arrives with a vengeance. I'm reminded of words from a favourite hymn:

Summer suns are glowing

Over land and sea;

Happy light is flowing,

Bountiful and free.

Everything rejoices

In the mellow rays;

All earth's thousand voices

Swell the psalm of praise.

We celebrated Pentecost/Whitsunday at the end of May. We are grateful to Sarah, who produces the Liturgies for special occasions, with acclamations, prayers, and other material for the festival. The following Sunday was Trinity Sunday, when we give thanks for "God in three persons, blessed Trinity." We now begin the long "Green"

Continued on page 13

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

July 2023

SATURDAY 1st July

4.30pm Ordination as Priest of the Revd Maggie
Crosbie Salisbury Cathedral

2nd July – Trinity 4

11.00am United Benefice Holy Communion followed by bring-and-share lunch (Maggie's first Celebration of Holy Communion)

SATURDAY 8th July

3.00pm Marriage of Josh Baudains and Ellie Trousdale

9th July – Trinity 5

9.30am Parish Communion Milborne
11.00 Puddletown Praise Puddletown
+ Holy Baptism
11.00 Parish Communion Dewlish
3.00pm Holy Baptism Puddletown
5.30pm Sunday Reflections Tolpuddle

16th July – Trinity 6/Martyrs' Festival

9.30am Worship in Stillness Milborne
11.00 Parish Communion Puddletown
11.00 Martyrs' Festival Songs Tolpuddle
of Praise
11.00 Pet Service Dewlish

23rd July – Trinity 7

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

30th July – Trinity 8

11.00am United Benefice Farm Parsonage
Service Holy Communion Farm,
followed by bring-and- Dewlish
share lunch

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 from page 11

season, which runs until the four weeks leading up to Advent. Green is the colour of “ordinary time”, but it also reminds us of growth and the bounty around us in fields, gardens, and hedgerows.

“Yes, God is good – in earth and sky,
From ocean depths and spreading wood,
Ten thousand voices seem to cry:
God made us all, and God is good.”

On July 1st, Maggie, our Curate, will be Ordained Priest in Salisbury Cathedral, and on the following day, she will Celebrate the Eucharist for the first time in the Benefice at a joint Service in Milborne Church at 11.00am.

Two descendants of William and Caroline Besant visited Milborne church in mid-June: one from Canada and one now living in North Wales. William Besant farmed at Deverell Farm in the mid-late 19th century. He was Churchwarden for many years and instrumental in the Restoration of the Church in 1876/78. He and his wife and two daughters, who died in infancy are buried in our churchyard. The two stained glass windows in the south wall of the Chancel were given in their memory – that depicting the Good Shepherd in memory of William and of the Nativity in memory of Caroline.

Enjoy the summer weather.

Tony & Pam, Churchwardens



Dewlish Church Notes

ON 1st JULY Maggie, our Curate, is being ordained at Salisbury Cathedral at 4.30pm. She would be delighted if any parishioners would like to come to the service to support her. Maggie is a great asset to our Benefice, and we are so pleased that she is here.

On Sunday 2nd July there will be a **Benefice Service** at Milborne St. Andrew at 11.00am when Maggie will be conducting her first Holy Communion. This will be followed with a bring-and-share lunch (and, hopefully, some cake!)

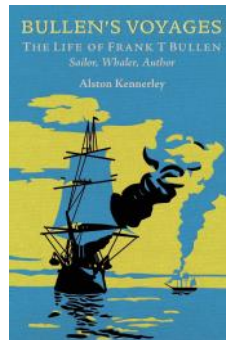
Our **Pet Service** this year is on Sunday 16th July at 11.00am in the churchyard. We do look forward to meeting your pets – and you, of course!

On Sunday 30th July we have our annual **Benefice Farm Service**, this year at Parsonage Farm, the home of Mrs Sue Britton, at 11.00am, followed by a bring-and-share lunch. We very much look forward to meeting up with our friends from the other churches, and sharing time together.

Daphne Burg

**Deadline for the AUGUST/SEPTEMBER issue is mid-day
14th July**
**Send your stories and pictures to
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Bullen's Voyages The life of Frank T. Bullen By Alston Kennerley



FRANK BULLEN was an author who died in 1917, who was famed for writing stories of sea voyages, based on his long career as a sailor in the nineteenth century. He wrote thirty-seven books, hundreds of magazine and newspaper articles and delivered many, many public lantern slide lectures across the British Empire and USA. He was a contemporary of Joseph Conrad, but a new name to me, so I chose this book with enthusiasm.

The book starts describing his early childhood in dense housing north of Paddington Station, not a salubrious start in life. Times were tough and his family moved house often, his parents separating when he was eighteen months old. He and his sister were raised by a maiden aunt, which brought them some stability. At the age of twelve an uncle arranged for him to be taken onto the crew of a ship which he captained, and his career as a sailor began.

I really enjoyed and learned from the descriptions of voyages, difficulties of operating and navigating sailing ships, stingy owners, inadequate equipment, food, ropes and sails, and the many destinations he visited. Even the descriptions of whaling expeditions held my interest, despite modern-day abhorrence of the activity.

I learned a great deal about the life of a Merchant Sailor in the 19th Century – the cost and requirements for passing certificates, poor and insufficient food, the uncertainties of being ‘paid off’ at the end of a voyage, bribery and corruption between chandlers and captains, and the ‘crimps’ and unscrupulous captains who preyed on unwary sailors to separate them from their money. I had no idea that a merchant sailor’s life was so hard and grinding.

The author has clearly done a huge amount of research, and writes clearly and well. However the central section of the book becomes rather a samey series of voyages and difficulties. I am glad I persevered to finish the book, as the later chapters, where Bullen finds success as an author, lecturer and traveller, were very interesting.

I found this book a very interesting insight into an area of social history I didn’t know about, and would draw it to the attention of anyone who believes that upward mobility didn’t happen in the 19th Century. This man was born in a London slum, raised by relatives when his parents separated and ended up travelling First Class to destinations around the world, a well-respected author, a lecturer who sold out venues in many countries, and whose life ended in the quiet peace of Madeira.

Susan Wilson

Have you something to share?

Send your stories and pictures to
msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk
or give them to a member of the team.

And now for something completely different!

THIS time some news from the Sports Club, or to be more precise, if you look at what is now on offer, the Milborne Sports and Community Centre!

We might not have reported much of late in the *Reporter* but we have been very busy bees with more to come and plenty to be proud of!! Like the June 2023 confirmation of booking response:

“That’s great! Thank you so much. We love it at your place at group on Thursdays so we’re very excited!”

Anyway, I digress. Speaking of Busy Bees and before I forget, we would like to offer a huge vote of thanks to Claire Tudge and Leesa Scaplehorn who have done an absolutely sterling job of keeping the Busy Bees parent toddler club going following Covid. However, the time has now come for them both to move on and we now welcome Leah Marie who has taken over the reins and has some very exciting plans in mind.

Making things happen!

Another string to our bow worth reporting (racquet, etc actually) is the wide range of “free to use” community play equipment. We now have something for (nearly) everyone!

Inside, there is pool and table tennis, a sound system to Bluetooth your own music, a SMART TV and, a community meeting space to be proud of.

Outside, there is a choice of badminton, rounders, football, cricket, frisbee golf and table tennis. Or whatever else you want to bring! The new outdoor badminton set should make for some challenging but fun games even in a gentle breeze.

Some may even like just sitting around having a chat and a picnic, so the veranda provides a welcome shaded area to sit and one of the picnic benches provides wheelchair or pram access. Kids seem to get a great deal of fun just running around the vast open space and we have created some winding paths in an area of long grass for them and to provide a hiding place for small mammals from their natural predators.

Something to be proud of and worth the effort

Top food hygiene rating of 5; regular 10 out of 10 score rating from our pitch up campers and feedback from our inside and outside users that is second to none is something to be proud of but not a time to sit back and do nothing (*consolidate*).

Inside feedback from Hen party: *“Thank you so much again, it’s been such a perfect day. The party was amazing and we had a lot of people comment on the venue, the amazing views and how perfect the pavilion is here. We really appreciate you letting us hire it today”*.

Outside feedback from South West Region Women’s Cup finals. *“Please accept our grateful thanks for hosting our finals day. Your facilities are second to none and the team in charge today are a credit to your whole centre”*.

We hope we will have another opportunity to use Milborne St. Andrew Sports and Social Club again.

And from campers: *“Hi Richard, just wanted to say thank you, we had a lovely stay and the site is immaculate. Regards Angela & Rich”*

Making improvements – for the future

We are now moving forward with Dorset Council Section 106 (Huntley Down) Funding Allocation and have been successful with an initial bid for funding to bring about improvements,

enhancements and provide the foundation for further opportunities.

From the Formal Sports Maintenance pot of £3,488.85 we have been allocated the full amount in the knowledge that we will be spending far more from our own reserves to achieve the outcomes.

1. Replacement of the Fire Alarm
2. Replacement of ineffective and poor-quality shallow guttering with deep flow.
3. External painting of walls, fascia and veranda canopy of the Pavilion.

From the Formal Outdoor Sports Provision Enhancement pot, we have been allocated £7,989.31. This will be used on:

1. Replacing the padlock and keys to the main gates and the Pavilion with a vandal resistant digital keypad system with personal programmable access codes that can be issued to anyone / group.
2. Upgrades and enhancements to the electrical system including low energy LED lights
3. External extension cabling and distribution box to facilitate and enhance the range of outdoor activities that require electrics.
4. Drainage works to divert the run-off of rainwater from the driveway from the pavilion and access walkways.

The external cabling and distribution box has already arrived, the drainage works completed and all the other elements are now work in progress.

Report of a definite maybe – hopefully

Nothing whatsoever to do with the above but we can also report a definite maybe:

It is likely, very likely in fact, that Dorset league cricket will be established on the lower area.

Twenty-two established cricketers have expressed an interest to move in en-bloc, possibly under the illusion that they will be playing for the MCC.

Preliminary ad hoc meetings have already taken place and if everything goes to plan, Dorset league games will be played in Milborne in 2024. The current (1st) challenge has been to fit both football and cricket on the lower level and we think (now know) that we can do it!

With the top food hygiene rating of 5 at the Pavilion, another cunning plan is that you will also be able to enjoy the culinary delights of Flynn and Philip’s refreshment whilst taking in the rustic sound (whack) of willow against leather. To get that top rating at the 1st attempt is no mean feat and something to be proud of.

HOWZATT for a bit of breaking news!

We, YOU, now have a community space with a wide range of play equipment that can be easily accessed with a football pitch on both levels; with one coexisting with cricket, plenty of room for camping, wedding receptions and parties and the occasional festival, music event, or just a place to rock up to, relax, play traditional games and take in the view.

We have come a long way in a very short space of time, since the noughties when the space was nothing more than a tip and the Parish Council at the time put out a call for help for local willing volunteers to step up to the mark and to get them out of the fix that they were in.

We still move on.

Richard Lock





MILBORNE ST. ANDREW FIRST SCHOOL

At Milborne we nurture and celebrate every unique child

SCHOOL NEWS



ON Thursday 11th May, Raccoon Class (years 3 and 4) visited Thomas Hardy school and got to meet the well-known author Cressida Cowell. Cressida was the children's laureate from 2019-2022 and has written many wonderful books, including the 'How to Train Your Dragon' series. The children listened to Cressida speaking about her new series 'Which Way to Anywhere' and were able to purchase a signed copy of her book.

It was a wonderful morning and continued to inspire our love of reading.



ON Tuesday 13th June we had our French Day. An opportunity to look at a different culture. The children had a selection of activities to choose from including a 'French colour' word-search, colouring pictures of the Eiffel Tower, learning some simple French phrases, watching an episode of 'Go Jetters' where they had to stop an inverted Eiffel Tower (dropped by the baddie who had tried to steal it to use as a giant T.V. aerial) from falling on top of people and playing 'pétanque' a game similar to boules and hopscotch. All of the children had a chance to sample some French bread, spiced meat, grapes and cheeses – "Brie and Camembert" (some were more popular than others).



The Raccoons class drew part pictures of the Mona Lisa and then joined them together to make a complete 'Pablo Picasso-esque' style picture. It was a wonderful day!



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

e-mail: office@milborne.dorset.sch.uk

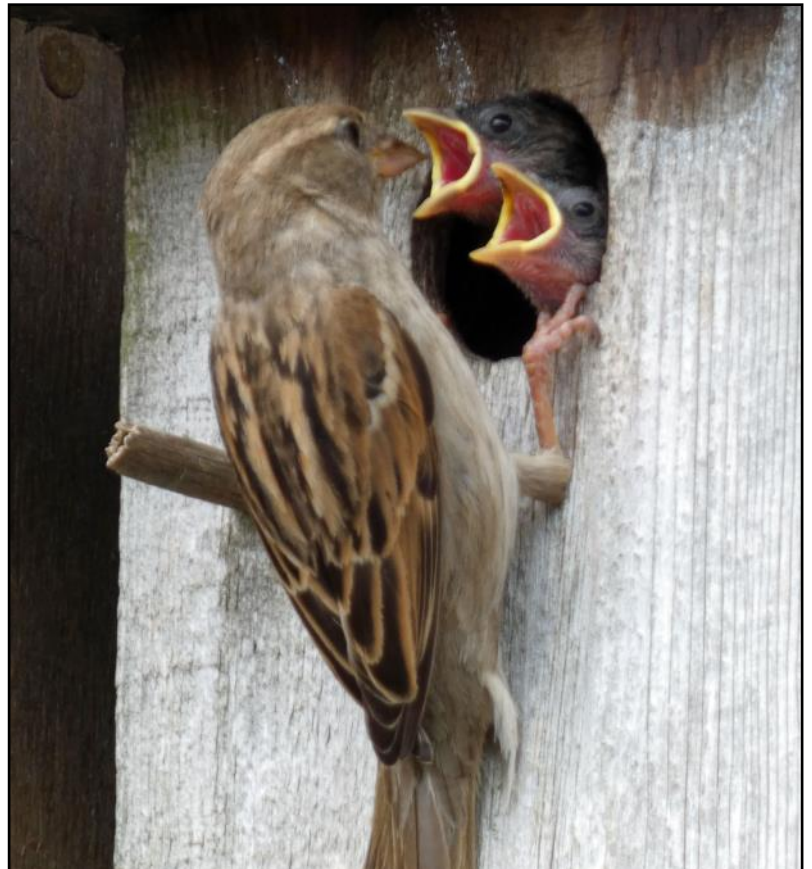
website: www.milborne.dorset.sch.uk

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New family set up home in the Causeway

Sparrows in Heather Hogg's garden



Pétanque in the park – c'est bien!

At the time of writing, it is 11th June and we have not had any rain for three weeks or maybe four – ages anyway. I'm sure the plants in my tubs and baskets are looking at me pathetically and accusingly, desperate for rain! Then at 10.40 it started to drizzle – eek! What rotten timing! Our 'Have a go' Pétanque was due to start at 11.00. We want rain but not just now, thank you. Ed Frost, being an eternal optimist, had already arrived at the court/terrain to divide it into two. At 11.00 eight players and spectators assembled for a run through of the rules. We put the twin courts into use, each with two teams of two players. My team partner, Ernst drew the short straw. He proved to be excellent, but even so we were trounced by our even better opponents, Dennis and Margaret, with a score of 15 to 2. We heard cries of 'don't worry about the jack, just hit their boules out of the way' and other tactical play – very sporting, I'm sure! I'll name no names! (In fact, when I think about it, it just might have been me, but I'll keep that quiet).

We were well underway when more 'have a go's' turned up. Our numbers swelled when Angela and Mark arrived with visiting family. In all there were about 13 or 14 players. Giles and Ed, having warmed up with a game against John and the other Ed, were privileged to take part in an international match against a delightful young couple from New Zealand who were highly competitive. Their match was decided by the throw of the very last boule. At 12.55, when we agreed that enough was enough in our damp clothes, the sun came out to laugh at us!

A big 'thank you' to all who took part. It was great fun.

The court is available for anyone to play just for fun or regular boules teams – full details on the Village Hall website: <http://www.milbornestandrew.org.uk/villagehall> using the link to pétanque. Rules are explained as well as how to borrow boules. So, now, how about competitive teams for inter-village games? The pétanque organising team would love to hear from you at: Milborne.Petanque@gmail.com.

Penny Pearce



WINTERBORNE WHITECHURCH VILLAGE HALL

July Events

MONTHLY BINGO - Sat 1st, 6.30pm

KURLING - Every Thursday, 10am—12.30pm

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Nearing the end of another school year at Ladybirds

IT SEEMS unbelievable that we are nearing the end of a school year. This last half term is always the busiest with transition to school programmes and the widest age range of children we have at any time. Currently there are children from three cohorts – those starting school in September 2023, 2024 and 2025 – with many of these children born in Covid times. There have been several discussions on how Covid has affected children and we have seen some who need more support in sharing and separating from parents. We are lucky to be a village preschool which can offer support to children and parents who are struggling with these issues.

Now we are out of Covid restrictions we have reinstated the comprehensive transition to school programme with Milborne First School thanks to the hard work of Miss Wittman the Reception teacher.

The weather has been glorious. Parents have been brilliant at covering their children with suncream and on hottest days we have made sure the children drink plenty and come inside to cool down. The children have enjoyed outdoor play which has included water play, giving an opportunity to



wash some of the toys. In the photo the children are using paint brushes and rollers to wash the playhouse. Unfortunately, it looked just as dirty afterwards. The older children were challenged to number games like rolling a dice and then throwing their beanbag to the numbered tyre.

Inside we have continued the experiments started with dripping water onto skittles and watching what happens to the coloured water; making a 'squid' go up and down in a bottle of water; and creating a rain cloud with water, shaving foam and blue food colouring.

At long last there seems to be progress with Ladybirds moving into the spare classroom at the

First School. The legal agreement should soon be passed, and the small amount of building work needed can be put out to tender. No date has yet been set for Ladybirds move but we hope it will be by Christmas.

Ladybirds wish to make it clear they will still be a privately governed charity organisation, renting a room at the school and not governed or run by the school.

Liz Dyer



Milborne Ladybirds

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Leader- liz@milborneladybirds.com 07771512427

Committee - secretary@milborneladybirds.com

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Supper at Pleck

Off on our travels again, yippee!

OFF we go again to stay in the tin box on wheels in the middle of a field, our favourite sort of holiday. This time we are staying in a place called Malvern, there are some big hills here and lots of good walks.

We started out on a nice walk across some fields, it was very boggy underfoot but me and Katie were not bothered, Mum wasn't too pleased though as she had her nice new walking boots on (still it tested them to make sure they were waterproof). It all went a bit pear shaped on the way back as some very loud bangs kept happening in the sky, then it started to rain but only a bit. We nearly got back to the box on wheels before the heavens opened and it sounded to me like the sky was falling down, then some really strange white marbles crashed down around us, very scary and I began to shake. Luckily we got inside quickly and I was happy to be back in my cosy bed, Mum had to dry us off with her hot air blowy thing which was quite nice!

The next day was nice and sunny so we all went off on a hike up Great Malvern, it was a great walk, through some woods and up onto the big hill, Katie shot away in front and got told off by Dad (this was unusual as she is a bit spoilt). When we got to the top we could see for miles and miles, Mum said it was worth the hike to see the lovely view, Katie and me thought the hike was better than the view.

Guess what happened the next day, our old friends Bulmer and Tilly arrived, what a lovely surprise! We were all so excited

to see each other. Mum and her best friend Mandy went off to Malvern to look at a load of flowers in some show (boring) but we were lucky and went with Dad and Colin for a lovely walk in the woods, happy days! Katie and Tilly raced around like a pair of lunatics while Bulmer and me just enjoyed sniffing around.

Back at base the sun was shining and we all sat outside the tin box on wheels watching the world (and all the world's dogs) go by, that's the trouble with these places, too many other cute dogs getting all the attention.



Perfect Pairings with Poetry – July

Salmon Mousse with Elderflower Presse

Do you remember how hot it was last summer? During last year's heatwave our lawn became totally brown and crisp because we had so little rain. When it's so hot normal cooking is impossible, putting on the oven just makes the kitchen and the whole house unbearably hot. People still need to be fed though so a bit of adaptation is needed.

Many people enjoy barbecuing in hot weather and the aroma of sizzling steak and other foods often smells delightful. On the other hand, it can be annoying to be sitting in your own garden or inside by an open window and be assaulted by the stink of firelighters and clouds of acrid smoke. Usually followed by the even more unwelcome stench of burning fat from cheap sausages and burgers drifting through the neighbourhood.

Barbecues were unknown when I was a child, I can remember buying my first portable barbecue while on a camping holiday in Normandy with my two small children in 1980 and struggling to get the charcoal to light.

Another way of making the best of the fine hot weather is by going for a picnic. Fortnum and Mason produced their first travellers' baskets for long distance carriage and coach journeys in the 1730's. On their website today they are offering a selection of filled picnic hampers costing up to £1,500.

Picnics were a constant feature of my childhood; I remember summer expeditions with my large extended family to gather wild bilberries high up on Emley Moor in West Yorkshire. Our parents' generation reminiscing about their own childhood bilberry picking expeditions to the same spot, travelling by pony and trap.

Such happy memories of eating our sandwiches with purple stained hands, sitting on picnic rugs among the heather and low growing bilberry bushes. A small tribe of cousins sticking our blue tongues out at each other to see who had the brightest colour, having guzzled so many bilberries while picking.

When we got home mum would bottle the bilberries in Kilner jars, store them on a stone shelf in the cellar, then we would eat them throughout the year. Incidentally Kilner jars, originating in 1842, were made in Yorkshire. I know my mother, with typical frugality, was still using ones belonging to her grandmother so they may have been among the first ones ever made. We have all year-round availability of fresh blueberries now but they are nowhere near as tasty as the wild bilberries.

Garden parties are another way of entertaining and making the most of our summer weather. You can guarantee that with our climate you will need either shelter from the wind and rain or shade from the sun, which is why having a pop-up gazebo is so handy.

In the past gazebos were complicated affairs to erect, a bit like putting up a frame tent, with a jigsaw of poles to assemble, needing at least two people and double that number of bickering arguments until at long last they were ready to use. Thank goodness the basic design has changed on most and they have evolved into something much more manageable.

I love the simplicity of a traditional afternoon tea al fresco, with elegant small sandwiches, cream scones and cake, perhaps with a glass of something sparkling, as well as cups of tea.

Hot weather also suggests salads and cold food to tempt jaded appetites. One of my favourite cold dishes during a heatwave is salmon mousse. As a girl, our family shared a small sized tin of salmon between the four of us when enjoying salmon salad. I didn't taste fresh salmon or smoked salmon until

after I left home aged eighteen. Fresh salmon then was prohibitively expensive until farmed salmon came into production in the same way that chicken was also a very expensive luxury before today's factory farming methods. The first marine fish farm was started in 1965 in Inverness. They started with trout but quickly changed to salmon and the first commercial harvest was in 1971.

Salmon mousse recipe

Ingredients:

- 400g salmon either canned or fresh or smoked
- 15g powdered gelatine
- 200ml hot fish stock
- 6 tbsp finely chopped fresh dill
- 200g plain quark or mayonnaise
- Ground black pepper to taste
- Juice of 1 lemon
- Fresh dill sprigs or cucumber and lemon wedges, to serve



Method:

1. Line a small 450g loaf tin or mould with cling film. You can also line the tin or mould with thin slices of smoked salmon or gravad lax.
2. Sprinkle the gelatine over the hot stock and stir to dissolve completely.
3. Put the salmon in a food processor with the dill, quark or mayonnaise, pepper and lemon juice. Pour in the gelatine liquid, season lightly and blitz until smooth. Spoon this mixture into the lined tin. Cover and chill overnight or for at least 3 hours, until set.
4. To serve, carefully turn out the terrine or mould and peel away the cling film. Garnish with the dill sprigs, cucumber and lemon wedges.

Elderflower cordial

Of course, elderflower cordial is readily available in most supermarkets but it's very satisfying to make yourself. The smell of elderflowers is heady with an earthy Muscat fragrance, and is a potent addition to many foods, classically partnered with the gooseberry. Elderflower syrups and cordials stretch back to at least Tudor times, and classic elderflower champagne seems to have become popular in the late Victorian era, peaking in popularity in the 1920s

The elder has been used for medicinal purposes for centuries and has a very interesting folklore; because the foliage and green stalks are mildly poisonous, elderflowers and leaves together have been used as a purgative since the days of Hippocrates. In Britain, it is traditionally used to soothe sore throats and reduce the intensity of flu symptoms.

The flat arrangement of tiny cream coloured flowerheads are called 'plates' that also go under the name of curds, hands or slices of bread, depending on where you are in the country. Pick them after two or three days of dry sunny weather and give the flowers a good sniff to check they are full of fragrance. Snip the heads off with some scissors – aim to get about 20 heads.

Elders burst into life at the end of May and flower through to the middle of June. The secret to making a well-flavoured cordial is to pick flowers on a sunny day before it gets too hot, then use as soon as possible. Choose the freshest-looking heads, frothy with creamy-white flowers.

Ingredients:

- 2½kg white sugar, either granulated or caster
- 2 unwaxed lemons
- 20 fresh elderflower heads, stalks trimmed
- 85g citric acid (from chemists)
-

Method:

1. Put the sugar and 1.5 litres/2¾ pints water into the largest saucepan you have. Gently heat, without boiling, until the sugar has dissolved. Give it a stir every now and again. Pare the zest from the lemons using a potato peeler, then slice the lemons into rounds.
2. Once the sugar has dissolved, bring the pan of syrup to the boil, then turn off the heat. Many recipes call for the flowers to be rinsed in water before use but I think that destroys so much of the perfume and flavour. I just pick off any insects and then transfer the flowers to the syrup along with the lemons, zest and citric acid, then stir well. Cover the pan and leave to infuse for 24 hrs.
3. Line a colander with a clean tea towel, then sit it over a large bowl or pan. Ladle in the syrup – let it drip slowly through. Discard the bits left in the towel. Use a funnel and a ladle to fill sterilised bottles. The cordial is ready to drink straight away and will keep in the fridge for up to 6 weeks. Or freeze it in plastic containers or ice cube trays and defrost as needed.

Use your cordial to . . .

Drizzle over fruit salad; whip into a gooseberry fool; set into jellies and serve with berries; splash over the sponge in a trifle; drizzle over lemon sorbet.



To make Elderflower Presse just add a small amount of cordial to a champagne flute and then top up with fizzy water. You can also top up with sparkling wine. St. Germain is a French Liqueur made from elderflowers and is available in Waitrose. It's expensive but comes in a very elegant Art Deco bottle. It has an ABV of 20% or 40 percent proof, about

the same as most spirits, so if you choose a schuss of this and mix it with sparkling wine it will supercharge your cocktail!

I was going to select Shakespeare's sonnet 16 "shall I compare thee to a summer's day?" to end this article but instead I'm reminiscing about Morecambe and Wise and their signature tune. I can't help smiling when I think of their shows.

As a carry-over from their music hall days, Eric and Ernie sang and danced at the end of each show, although they were forced

to abandon this practice when Morecambe's heart condition prevented him from dancing. The solution was that Eric would walk across the stage with coat and bag, ostensibly to wait for his bus, while Ernie danced by himself. Their peculiar skipping dance, devised by their BBC producer John Ammonds, was a modified form of a dance used by Groucho Marx. Their signature tune was Bring Me Sunshine. They either sang this at the end of each show or it was used as a theme tune during the credits (although in their BBC shows they used other songs as well, notably "Following You Around", "Positive Thinking" "Don't You Agree" and "Just Around the Corner").

A standard gag at the end of each show was for Janet Webb to appear behind the pair, walk to the front of the stage and push them out of her way. She would then recite: "I'd like to thank you for watching me and my little show here tonight. If you've enjoyed it then it's all been worthwhile. So, until we meet again, goodnight, and I love you all!"

Bring me sunshine (apparently Ernie's nickname as a child was sunshine)

Bring me sunshine
In your smile
Bring me laughter
All the while
In this world where we live
There should be more happiness
So much joy you can give
To each brand-new bright tomorrow
Make me happy
Through the years
Never bring me
Any tears
Let your arms be as
warm
As the sun from up above
Bring me fun
Bring me sunshine
Bring me Love
Bring me sunshine
In your smile
Bring me laughter
All the while
In this world where we
live
There should be more
happiness
So much joy you can give
To each brand-new
bright tomorrow
Make me happy
Through the years
Never bring me
Any tears
Let your arms be as warm
As the sun from up above
Bring me fun
Bring me sunshine
Bring me Love, sweet love
Bring me fun
Bring me sunshine
Bring me Love
Hey!



Rose Frost



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Doorstep scams and how to avoid them

WHAT is a doorstep scam?

A doorstep scam or fraud involves someone calling to your front door out of the blue, with the aim of tricking you out of money.

The logo for 'Which?' is a red rectangle with the word 'Which?' in white, bold, sans-serif font.

There can be an added pressure when dealing with someone face-to-face. This can sometimes be even more challenging than dealing with other types of scams, such as phone scams or online scams. There are some honest doorstep sellers, but there is a fine line between a scammer and an unscrupulous trader.

Scammers usually have the gift of the gab and will try to smooth talk you with a convincing story. Or they might be pushy and intimidating, trying to get you to sign a contract or buy something you don't want. Their main aim is to trick you out of money or gain access to your home to steal valuables.

Either way, the key is not to let them in, and report them as soon as possible. Follow our tips below to prevent doorstep scams.

How big is the problem?

According to Action Fraud, around £18.7m was lost to doorstep scammers in 2020, but it also believes that many of these offences go unreported.

Scammers often target older people for doorstep scams as they are more likely to be at home during the day, and scammers might find it easier to intimidate or confuse them. In fact, 85% of victims of doorstep scams are aged 65 and over, according to National Trading Standards.

Protect yourself from doorstep scams

- **Be on your guard:** always be suspicious of anyone turning up at the door uninvited – regardless of their story.
- **Put up a sign:** place a sign in the window near your front door saying that uninvited callers are not welcome.
- **Keep your home secure:** don't let any stranger into your home. Keep your doors locked with the chain on.
- **Look for ID:** ask to see callers' ID cards and call the company to see if they are genuine. To be safe, look up the company number yourself rather than trust the number on their ID card. If you feel uncomfortable or have any doubts, don't let them in. It's your home. Tell them you're not interested or that now is 'not convenient' and ask them to come back at a different time (when you can have a friend or relative with you).
- **Set up a utilities password:** you can set up a password with your gas and electricity providers so that you can be sure callers (such as meter readers) are genuine – only genuine callers will be aware of your password. Call your utility company to arrange this. To activate the service they might need to put you on their Priority Services Register.
- **Nominate a neighbour:** if you have a relative or friend who lives close by, ask if they'd mind being on standby in case you get any suspicious callers. Before letting a stranger into your house, give your neighbour a call and ask them to pop round. If you don't know anyone nearby, contact your local Neighbourhood Watch Scheme or Safer Neighbourhood Team to find out if they can help.
- **Consider smart security devices:** smart doorbells incorporate a camera and can enable you to speak to a caller without opening the door; some can also send a message to a relative notifying them that you have a visitor. Find out more in our guide to smart security.
- **Take a photo:** if you're suspicious, ask the caller if you can take their photo on your mobile phone. Then send it to a close friend or relative. If the caller is genuine, they probably won't mind.
- **Call the police:** if a caller is really persistent and refuses to

leave, you can call 999. If you are suspicious, but not in immediate danger, call 101, the police non-emergency number.

Common doorstep scams to look out for

Rogue traders *The scam:* a trader will come to your home and offer to do some work for you at a special rate – this might be new paving or a new driveway. Another common tactic is to claim that you have a hole in your roof or damage to your guttering – usually something that you can't easily check yourself. They'll say that it's very urgent and put pressure on you to get the work done immediately. *The reality:* it's highly likely that they've made up the problem. They might pretend to fix it or do a shoddy job. They'll then charge you an extortionate amount for the 'work'.

Hard-luck stories *The scam:* a stranger (who might seem perfectly respectable and friendly) will turn up on your doorstep pretending that, for example, they need to use the phone because their car has broken down or their pregnant girlfriend is ill – they need a glass of water – they've lost their dog in your garden. *The reality:* they'll say anything to make you feel sorry for them and will take advantage of your good nature to help them. While you fetch the water or go to get the phone, they might pocket your valuables. Or they might work in pairs – while one distracts you the other will gain access to your home.

Bogus officials *The scam:* an official looking person with a uniform and ID badge turns up on your doorstep. They might say they are there to read the gas meter or conduct a survey for the local council. *The reality:* their ID could be fake. They want to get into your home or trick you into divulging personal information that can be used for ID fraud.

Nottingham Knockers *The scam:* usually carried out by young men, who go door to door selling household products. They carry a fake ID and claim to be recently out of prison or on probation, and claim that this is a legitimate rehabilitation scheme. *The reality:* the household goods are supplied by a man (traditionally from Nottingham, hence the name) who employs them. A group of young men are dropped off to work an area, and then collected by the same man later that day. The knockers' role is to establish where elderly or vulnerable people live, and this information is then sold on to other criminals. If they come to your door, the advice from the police is to phone 101 to report them. However persistent they are with their hard-luck stories, do not buy from them.

What to do if you're caught out by a doorstep scam?

If you're caught out by a doorstep scam, there are several steps you can take.

Report the incident to Action Fraud, the UK's National Fraud reporting centre, who monitor and investigate cases of fraud. Speak to an Action Fraud adviser directly on 0300 123 2040. Alert your local police or Neighbourhood Watch so they can warn other residents that the fraudster is in the area.

Report dodgy salespeople to Citizens Advice (CA) (who can pass complaints to your local Trading Standards authority) if you believe they have sold you faulty, inferior or overpriced products or services. Call the CA Consumer helpline on 0808 223 1133 or chat with an adviser online.

If you buy something as a result of an unsolicited visit to your home, you have a legal right to cancel – but be warned that you might not be able to track down a scammer.

If you've paid by card or cheque, contact your bank to see what it can do. It should be able to offer advice on stopping the payment and keeping your bank account safe.

Article taken from [which.co.uk](https://www.which.co.uk)

Change

By Jan Beaumont®

My hair once was vibrant, it now has turned white
And I've lost all those 'partying' ways
After two drinks I'm tired and I have to lie down
Oh how things have changed since those days!

When I was young I could stay up for hours
And celebrate through till daylight
But now sad to say when it's just 10 o'clock
It's time to turn in for the night

I still have many friends but the things we discuss
Aren't boyfriends or gossip or parties
They're more likely to be 'bout arthritis or such
Or someone we know with clogged arteries!

We still talk of clothes but bikinis are out
Though something that gets our attention
Is how to fit into the clothes that we have
Or just needing a new bra extension!

Some of us these days are living alone
And we talk of the times that have gone
Of kids growing up and now grandkids as well
And the mem'ries just go on and on.

So many changes in so many years
But something will never depart
And that is the person I always will be
And the love that still lives in my heart.



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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.



VILLAGE DOG SHOW AND FAIR

Milborne St. Andrew Village Hall
and playing field

Saturday 15th July
1pm to 5pm
Dog show from 1.30pm

★ Refreshments ★ Raffle ★ Cakes ★
★ Lucky dip ★ Hoopla ★ Sweet treats ★
★ Punch and Judy show ★ and more ★



Village History Group

AFTER a break of a few months, we met in June to hear about the history of the village school, written by Jane Mills. This stimulated interesting discussion about memories of personal experiences of our first and middle schools. How things have changed!

There will not be any meetings over the summer months of July and August but will start up again in September. Sarah Loch will illustrate a talk about St. Peter and St. Paul's church in Blandford. She will show pictures of the remedial work that was recently carried out which uncovered some interesting historical features.

We will meet again on 13th September at 7.30pm in the function room of The Royal Oak. All are welcome to come to hear the talk. No membership is needed but we ask for a subscription of attendees of £1.00.

Pam Shults

VOCES8 International Summer School and Festival at Milton Abbey, Dorset

31st July-5th August 2023

FOR the eleventh year, the world-renowned ensemble VOCES8 will be in residence at Milton Abbey, bringing a week-long feast of music accessible to all.

Highlights of this year's festival include evening concerts given by VOCES8 and their sister group Apollo5, an evening of jazz, and a performance to round off the week by all the Summer School participants of Handel's great oratorio Israel in Egypt, accompanied by the Academy of Ancient Music under the baton of Barnaby Smith.

Other events include services of Choral Evensong and Compline sung in the Abbey by the VOCES8 Foundation Choir.

Members of the public are warmly invited to attend these events, and more information and tickets are available at <https://voces8.foundation/miltonabbey>. Traditionally some concert goers enjoy a picnic on the lawn on Saturday afternoon as part of their concert experience.

For more information, please contact Anne Smith, Summer School Administrator: summerschool@voces8.foundation / +44 7977 296652



What's on in July

July

Monday 3rd

Wednesday 5th

Wednesday 5th

Wednesday 5th

Monday 10th

Thursday 13th

Friday 14th

Saturday 15th

Monday 17th

Thursday 20th

Friday 21st

Saturday 22nd

Monday 24th

Bridge The Royal Oak 7.00pm.

Wednesday Club Outing to Xtreme Falconry at Lewell, meet at Village Hall 2.00pm.

Sports Club AGM Pavilion 6.00pm.

Parish Council Meeting Village Hall 7.00pm

Bridge The Royal Oak 7.00pm.

WI Open Meeting Amy Stevens will talk about her Cambodian adventures. Village Hall 7.30pm. All welcome.

Reporter deadline for the August/September issue – 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.

Village Dog Show and Fair Village Hall playing field 1.00 to 5.00pm

Bridge The Royal Oak 7.00pm.

Milborne St. Andrew Gardening Club talk on "Gardens worth a visit" Village Hall 7.30pm.

Players Double Act Village Hall curtain up 7.30

Players Double Act Village Hall curtain up 7.30

Bridge The Royal Oak 7.00pm.

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 6.30–8.00pm (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

COMMUNITY CENTRES

Dewlish Village Hall
Chairman: Andrew Barnett 07551 839296
Booking Secretary: Margaret Groves 01258 837617

Milborne St. Andrew Village Hall
Chairman: Linsey O'Neill 07798 720812
Booking Secretary: Susan Poet 07866 313999
MSA Sports & Social Club
Chairman: Richard Lock 01258 837929
Bookings: Richard Lock 01258 837929

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
milbornestandrew@dorset-aptc.gov.uk

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
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

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



Notice of Charity Annual General Meeting

Milborne St. Andrew Sports Club

Charity Number : 1091790

**Wednesday 5th July 1800 hrs –
The Sports Pavilion**

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of previous AGM
3. Chair's report
4. Financial report
5. Confirmation of serving trustees
6. Feedback and priority issue proposals from members of the community

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