

Reporter

Volume 16 Issue 3

March 2024

www.milbornestandrew.org.uk/reporter

 facebook.com/MilborneReporter



See page 7

Milborne St. Andrew



Mother Goose see pages 16, 17 and 22



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Community events at the Milborne St. Andrew Village Hall, half page or less free of charge, other community events in Milborne St. Andrew at half the above rates for half page or less, all subject to availability.

Advertising copy MUST be received by the 14th of the month

msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk

Your *Reporter* Team

Bob Clark, Linda and Pete Constant, Rich Hawker,
Heather V. Hogg, David Payne, Ed Richards, Jo Whitfield,
John and Josie Wright

Advertising: Ed Richards 01258 837907 (07843 018007)

Advertising renewals: Pete Constant 01258 839246 (daytime)

Distribution: Rich Hawker 07393 309037

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

Treasurer and photography: Heather V. Hogg 01258 837392

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

Enquiries and copy to: **msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk**

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

Paper copy to any of the team.

The Miracle Club

Friday 15th March 2024 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

SET in 1967, *The Miracle Club* is a heartwarming film that follows the story of three generations of close friends, Lily (Maggie Smith), Eileen (Kathy Bates), and Dolly (Agnes O'Casey) of Ballygar, a hard-knocks community in Dublin, who have one tantalizing dream: to win a pilgrimage to the sacred French town of Lourdes, that place of miracles that draws millions of visitors each year. When the chance to win presents itself, the women seize it. However, just before their trip, their old friend Chrissie (Laura Linney) arrives in Ballygar for her mother's funeral, dampening their good mood and well-laid plans.

It is a lovely story about a friendship, past mistakes, love and forgiveness, with a brilliant cast.

Trading Standards news – Burning solid fuel

HARMFUL levels of air pollution can damage people's health and reduce their quality of life. We can all be affected by this, but some, especially children, older people, and those with respiratory problems, can be affected most.

The Air Quality (Domestic Solid Fuels Standards) (England) Regulations 2020 brought in rules to protect health and the environment by restricting the sale of wet wood, which when burnt, produces more tiny particles than seasoned or dry wood. These particles are so tiny that they can enter the bloodstream which can potentially cause serious health issues for those most susceptible to them.

Today wood fuel can only be sold in volumes of less than two cubic metres if it is certified as 'Ready to Burn'. Certification confirms wood has a moisture content of 20% or less. It applies to both firewood and wood briquettes sold in single retail bags, or supplied as a bulk delivery in loose volumes. Traders are also required to store the wood in a way to prevent it being sold to customers damaged or wet.

As a consumer, look for the 'Ready to Burn' red flame certification mark when buying firewood for immediate use and for manufactured solid fuels. If you are buying wood in volumes over two cubic metres, you will need to have adequate space to store and season the firewood until it has no more than 20% moisture content.

In addition, having your chimney swept and appliance serviced regularly is also an important part of making sure you and your family are safe, burning fuel efficiently, and protecting the environment. Why not use a Buy With Confidence trader to check this for you?

Buy With Confidence traders are Trading Standards approved to ensure that they operate in a legal, honest and fair way. Search for a Buy With Confidence trader near you at buywithconfidence.gov.uk or by phoning the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on 0808 223 1133.



Blister pack recycling schemes

DURING my investigation into the disposal of blister packs for recycling, I discovered the following: This is Tesco's latest statement online:

"We will be giving new life to tons of hard-to-recycle material that would otherwise end up going to landfill or incineration. Shoppers can also use the recycling points to deposit plastic packaging, blister packs and spoons from other leading Kenvue medicine brands, including BENADRYL®, IMODIUM®, BENYLIN® and more. 9 Aug 2023"

However, Tesco stores locally do not accept them neither do our Local Authority depots. I am told by the latter that they must be put into general landfill as they don't recycle foil. *Superdrug in partnership with Terracycle stopped accepting them in December 2023.*

How were blister packs considered to be recycled?

This is what we understood to be happening once we had deposited our empty packs:

Empty blister packs were to be collected and transported to appropriate waste management facilities for recycling. Here they were to be broken down into their elements, which were then to be recycled alongside materials of the same type. Tablet blister pack recycling methods could, we were given to understand, vary depending on the facility. The general method for medicine blister pack recycling supposedly followed such steps:

- The blister packs were to be separated mechanically and by hand into their fibres, fabrics, metals, and plastic materials.
- These fibres were then to be hydro pulped to separate any coatings, such as wax and plastic.
- After separation, the fibres were then to be recycled into new paper products where possible. If not, they were to be sent for industrial composting.
- Plastics from the recycled blister packs were to be recycled into plastic polymers, while metals from the foil layer were to be smelted for steel making.
- If the blister packs contained any flexible and rigid plastics then they were apparently to undergo extrusion and pelletisation. Then to be moulded into new recycled plastic products.
- A sophisticated and very expensive solution
- **This is what we all understood to be happening when Superdrug collected our packs. However Liam of Business Waste assures me that they were in fact being sent to Household Waste.**

Who needs to recycle blister packs?

Any business that needs to get rid of empty blister packs or those containing expired or unused medication are currently seeking recycling solutions as this was not happening. Collection by licensed waste carriers of any commercial blister pack waste is a legal requirement. Some of the main organisations that need to recycle pill packets include: Care Homes, Hospitals, Shops (apart from our own private need.)

This now a considerable problem. Liam of Business Waste is currently advising us to "put them into your local landfill". Their previous offers to provide bins and bags free for an annual collection fee is not viable. So, a hornets' nest has been released following our need to know a solution to this growing and quite scandalous situation. *Carole Fornachon*

Thanks Carole for bringing this to our attention. *Ed*



Trustees say “No” to Electric Vehicle charging

IT’S almost three years since the idea of providing EV charging points at the Village Hall was first discussed and, when linked with an extended car park proposal, was judged to be a particularly positive initiative which would benefit both the users of the hall and the community in general.

Rumours of government financial support (via Dorset Council) were investigated but found to be non-applicable to the hall’s independent status. The hope was that the support would be extended in the near future so that the hall could be involved. Consequently, providing an EV charging facility at the hall remained a reasonable aspiration and provision was included in the plans for the enlarged car park.

Planning permission and funding for the car park extension were obtained last spring but the project had to be abandoned because of insurmountable environmental concerns which were presented at the very last minute.

In recent months the National criteria for funding EV charging were extended to include premises such as our Village Hall and we received a proposal from Dorset Council to install four EV charging points at the hall. These proposals were examined in detail by the Village Hall’s Management Committee meeting in January.

Unfortunately, the contractual requirements particularly those relating to site security and reserved access to the charging bays, were judged to be too difficult for the Trustees to guarantee and, since failure to do so could result in massive financial penalties for the hall, Trustees unanimously agreed to say “Thanks, but no thanks” to Dorset Council.

We know that this will come as a great disappointment to many villagers but Trustees are confident that the decision was the right one for the future well-being of the hall and the appropriate provision and maintenance of these community facilities in Milborne St. Andrew.

Solar Panels generate substantial savings

Twenty-four solar panels (9.6kw) and a 10kwh storage battery were installed at the Village Hall in the spring of 2023 – all paid for by an S106 (Huntley Down development) grant provided by Dorset Council – and they have been saving the hall money ever since.

For much of the year the solar panels and battery have provided more than enough energy to power the hall’s needs

throughout the day and for the evening clubs and other meetings. During the day the system prioritises providing electricity to the hall, any excess goes to the battery and when the battery is fully charged the spare is exported to the National

Grid. In the evening the battery provides the hall’s needs until it is exhausted, then electricity is taken from the mains.

Existing contractual arrangements for the supply of electricity meant that our export payment rate (Smart Export Guarantee – SEG) was minimal, but even this, multiplied by the 6,400kwh of exported energy resulted in a payment of almost £400! In addition, the hall consumed less than 50% of the amount of mains electricity used in past years – the remainder came from the sun!

In the autumn of 2023 we were able to move to a new contract for the supply and export of electricity. Imported electricity is almost 50% more expensive than before, as is the daily standing charge, however the payment for exported electricity is vastly improved from 6p per kWh to 15p per kWh. Without the solar panels we would expect our electricity costs to be more than £2,000 in 2024 but now we optimistically expect that, with reduced consumption and the much-improved SEG, our overall bill will be close to £0!

Sadly, it’s not all good news. When the Ladybirds playgroup moved from the hall to the first school last autumn, we lost a huge amount of income which is proving very difficult to replace but, with our reduced energy costs, things are not as bad as they might have been. Let’s hope that the sun keeps shining!

As a matter of interest, at current rates, had we not had the grant which paid for the solar panel-battery installation, it would take about eight years before we started to gain any financial benefit.

Trustees seek a new Treasurer

As a result of the imminent retirement of the current Treasurer from the board of Trustees the Village Hall urgently seeks a replacement.

The Treasurer manages the income and expenses of the hall, making sure that bills are paid and hire charges are received. Records are currently maintained on a spreadsheet and a summary report is produced for each monthly management meeting. Accounts will be audited and are submitted to the Charity Commission each year. A handful of hours are needed each month for the job along with occasional visits to the Post Office/bank to pay in cash and cheques. However, most transactions are made using on-line banking. Support/guidance can be provided, if wanted

The Treasurer will be a member of the Village Hall Management Committee and as such will also be able to contribute ideas and practical help to ensure the effective maintenance and future development of the hall. All members of the Management Committee are volunteers.

If you think you might be interested then do contact Linsey, our



chairman, at chair.msavh@gmail.com or Ed Frost, the current treasurer, at treasurer.msavh@gmail.com. A warm reception is guaranteed.

Get involved – be a Trustee

The hall's AGM will take place in April and, at that time, Trustees for the coming year will be confirmed. If you would like



to contribute ideas and/or expertise to the management of the hall and its surrounding site then do contact Linsey, our chairman, at chair.msavh@gmail.com to see how you could become involved.

Lots more information about the hall can be found at www.milbornestandrew.org.uk/villagehall.

The Village Hall

WORKING HARD TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY AND BEYOND

A musical tale of love and Tudor tragedy, Wednesday 20th March at the Village Hall

Tickets: £12, Under 18s £5. Family ticket £30
<https://artsreach.co.uk/event/wolf-at-the-door>
 or Tel 01258 839060

Doors and bar 7.00pm. Show starts 7.30pm



Bob Whitley (guitar, tenor guitar and mandola) and Lee MacKenzie (baroque cello) take us back to the 16th Century and the story of the triumph and tragedy of Anne Boleyn.

Anne Boleyn holds King Henry VIII in thrall for six years and supplants Katherine of Aragon as Queen of England on the promise that she will bear King Henry a son and royal heir. In a Tudor court of scheming courtiers, religious fervour and feuding families all are fighting for the King's favour in a deadly battle of destinies and dynasties. Expect a musical tale of love and Tudor tragedy.

MORE* THAN A MOVIE PRESENTS
 LAURA LINNEY KATHY BATES MAGGIE SMITH AND STEPHEN REA

The Miracle Club
Four Women Went to Lourdes in Search of a Miracle

FRIDAY 15TH MARCH AT 7.30PM

DOORS AND BAR AT 7.00PM

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T-rex's, Pterodactyls and Triceratopses race across Weymouth Beach for the First Time!

THE Great Dinosaur Chase was witnessed by thousands of onlookers. They ran from the Pavilion end to the Pier Bandstand and back. All to raise money for the Will Mackaness Trust (founded in 2008 in memory of a young pupil at Wey Valley School who died of cancer). The money raised will be to provide watersports activities for young people living in Weymouth and Portland. The winner was Dan Prince who will have the dubious honour of being the dinosaur chased by all the others next year. During the Chase hundreds



donned costumes and danced along to *Walk the Dinosaur* by Was (Not Was) best known for featuring in *Ice Age Dawn of the Dinosaurs*.

Carole Fornachon



Reporter Balance Sheet year ending 31st January 2024			Reporter 2023/2024 makes a loss		
Balance B/F from 2023 £5,854.84			THE <i>Reporter's</i> accounts for the year show a loss of £44.21 although the loss should really read £384.21 as the printing cost of the February issue was paid for in the 2022/2023 accounts, so there are only 10 issues paid for in these accounts.		
	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	Advertising revenue is down on the past few years and we have lost a few from next year already. Printing costs have risen by 10% for the last four issues but we were fortunate to have a donation and interest rates have also risen.		
Advertising	£3,770.50	Printing	Producing the <i>Reporter</i> is made possible by two important factors, the hard work and time given by dedicated volunteers, and the revenue provided by our advertisers. We thank all local businesses who have supported us in the last year. The <i>Reporter</i> is the best place for businesses to get their message into every village home, and some of our advertisers have been here from the very beginning. We also thank our deliverers for getting each issue through your door, come rain or shine. Our thanks once again go to Jenny Balcon for examining our accounts.		
Copies sold	£25.00	Expenses			
Bank Interest	£52.71				
Donation	£50.00				
<u>Total</u>	<u>£3,898.21</u>	<u>Total</u>			
Total Income	£3,898.21				
Less Expenditure	£3,942.42				
<u>Profit/Loss</u>	<u>—£44.21</u>				
Cash in bank 31st January 2024	£5,810.52				
Cash in hand 31st January 2024	£0.11				
<u>Total assets at 31st January 2024</u>	<u>£5,810.63</u>				
<u>Loss for year ending 31st January 2024</u>	<u>£44.21</u>				

Wednesday Club news

AT our February meeting we talked about our hobbies. A variety was brought along by our members. We were surprised by how talented we are, with exhibitions of art, crochet, knitting, weaving, cake making, delving into family history, making walking sticks, gardening and modelling to name but a few. At our next meeting at 2.00pm on Wednesday 6th March in the village hall, Pam Schults will tell us about the many countries she has visited on her cruises around the world.. *Josie Wright*

Milborne St. Andrew village are planning a Big Dorset Apple Cake Day

to be held on

Saturday 1st June 2024 at the Village Hall

1st June is in fact DORSET DAY!

We are planning to have 100 cakes which in turn will be displayed as one massive Dorset Apple Cake and are looking for bakers (do you have an old recipe stashed away? Or try your hand at a recipe found by other means).

On the day we will display the cake and have a Grand Cutting Ceremony followed by a cafe where you can buy a slice or a whole cake to be eaten over the days to come (don't forget to order your clotted cream!)

Have a look at our webpage on the village website Milbornestandrew.org.uk for further information.

We would love to see you there, so *Save The Date!*

MSA Village Hall Events *in association with Milborne Players*

Murder Mystery Night

Murder in Milborne! 6th April 2024.

Your mission is to unravel hidden secrets, deceit, and motives among the suspects to uncover the truth. As night falls, tensions rise, and villagers must work together to unveil the murderer in their midst before another victim is claimed.

Tickets: £20 per person

To include a welcome drink and two-course dinner.
(Please choose meat or vegetarian)

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Or at the Community Café.

Bar opens at 7.00pm when the clues will begin!

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Looking at the view

March this year is full of special times for Christians. All of it is in Lent, with Mothering Sunday, Holy Week and Easter itself in its 31 days. Our perspective shifts from penitence to gratitude, to harrowing sadness to great joy. It's going to be a roller-coaster month.

How we view these events can have a lasting effect on our lives.

We can choose to ignore them completely, in which case there is likely to be no effect at all, except for mothers missing out and rather less chocolate than others may consume.

But we can also look at them from a different perspective. For Christians Holy Week and Easter are pivotal points in the faith. Without them there would be no Christianity. For it is at Easter time that the depth of God's love is revealed. At Christmas we remember Christ entering our world; at Easter we celebrate his saving power. Christmas is about life; Easter brings new life.

For those who look at the resurrection in a more positive light, whole lives can change. It is about more than an empty tomb. It is about an encounter with the risen Christ, whose love is strong enough to overcome death.

God's invitation is to receive hope, forgiveness, healing and wholeness, and to know that even in the darkest times, we are not alone.

How we approach life depends much on our perspective of it. We can believe that this world is all that there is, or we can decide that we are part of a much bigger story that started at creation and continues on into eternity.

The Creed which we say at many Sunday services has these words: "We look to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come." God invites us to be part of the big story, the story that always brings hope, the story that has love at its heart.

I can't imagine Easter without a chocolate egg or two, but chocolate doesn't last – at least certainly not in the Vicarage. But Easter viewed only through a chocolate lens misses the point completely.

Easter viewed through a resurrection lens brings hope, a way of seeing life differently and a promise of love and life for ever.

Which view will be ours this year, I wonder.

With best wishes

Sarah

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

DAILY MORNING

PRAYERS

Monday – Thursday.

8.30am; Saturday.

9.00am

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

LENT

During Lent there will
also be:

Wednesdays Compline

in St. Andrew's,

Milborne at 6.00pm

Thursdays Evening

Prayer in All Saints',

Dewlish at 6.30pm.

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

March

3rd March – Lent 3

9.30am	Parish Communion	Tolpuddle
9.30	Morning Worship	Milborne
11.00	Parish Communion	Puddletown Church Room
11.00	1662 Morning Prayer (traditional language)	Dewlish
4.00pm	Bubble Church	Puddletown Village Hall

10th March – Mothering Sunday/Lent 4

9.30am	Parish Communion	Milborne
11.0	Puddletown Praise	Puddletown Church Room
11.00	Parish Communion	Dewlish
5.30pm	Sunday Reflections	Tolpuddle

17th March – Passion Sunday

9.30am	Parish Communion	Tolpuddle
9.30	Worship in Stilness	Milborne
11.00	Parish Communion + Holy Baptism of Jonah Morris	Puddletown
11.00	Family Service	Dewlish

24th March – Palm Sunday

9.30am	Parish Communion	Milborne
10.00	Go Fourth	Tolpuddle
11.00	1662 Morning Prayer (traditional language)	Puddletown Church Room
11.00	Parish Communion	Dewlish

TUESDAY 26th March

1.45pm	Milborne First School Easter Service	Milborne
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WEDNESDAY 27th March

9.30am	St Mary's CE Middle School Easter Service	Puddletown
11.00	St Mary's CE Middle School Easter Service	Puddletown

28th March – Maundy Thursday

7.30pm	Holy Communion	Puddletown Church Room
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29th March – Good Friday

10.00am	Good Friday Service music, prayer, reflection	Tolpuddle
12noon	The Good Friday Liturgy	Milborne
12 noon	Good Friday service for all ages	Puddletown
6.00pm	Good Friday service music, prayer, reflection	Dewlish

31st March – Easter Day

9.30am	Easter Holy Communion	Tolpuddle
9.30	Easter Holy Communion	Milborne
11.00	Easter Holy Communion	Puddletown
11.00	Easter Holy Communion	Dewlish

Milborne St. Andrew and Dewlish church notes on page 11



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News from St. Andrew's church

I'M writing this on a lovely spring-like day, with snowdrops, primroses, and daffodils in bloom in the garden, and it isn't raining for once!

Easter is "early" this year, so by the time you read this, we will be nearly three weeks into Lent, that annual 40 days when we accompany Jesus in the wilderness to prepare ourselves for the Holy Week, the most sacred week in the Church Calendar, culminating on Easter Day. Compline (Night Prayer) with hymns continues on Wednesday evenings at 6.00pm at St. Andrew's.

We can relive the Holy Week events with several services throughout Holy Week, beginning with our Parish Eucharist at 9.30am on Palm Sunday (24th) when Palm Crosses will be blessed. If you are unable to get to the Service but would like a Palm Cross, please let one of the Churchwardens know. On Wednesday in Holy Week (27th), we have our final Compline, and then on Maundy Thursday (28th), we commemorate the Last Supper and the Institution of the Holy Communion at 7.30pm in Puddletown. On Good Friday, we meet at the foot of the Cross at 12 noon, the first of the traditional "Three Hours", when Tony will lead the Liturgy of the Day – Hymns, Readings and Prayers. On Easter Day itself (31st), our Festal Communion will be at the usual time of 9.30am.

To quote St. John of Damascus writing in the 8th century AD.

"Thou hallowed chosen morn of praise,
That best and greatest shinest;
Fair Easter, queen of all the days,
Of seasons, best, divinest!
Christ rose from death; and we adore
Forever and forevermore."

On a more prosaic note, the floors in the two toilets at St. Andrew's are rotting and require urgent attention. So, for our visitors and regulars to continue using our facilities, we must spend rather more than a penny!!

February 2nd, Candlemas Day, marked the end of the Church's celebrations of the Christmas Season, and it is traditional for Christmas decorations and wreaths to be removed from graves around that time. As the grass grows, and the "first cut" is in sight, a respectful reminder to remove anything that may get caught up in the mower.

All of us at St. Andrew's wish you a very Happy and Blessed Easter, a reminder that even in the darkest of times, light and love will conquer.

Tony and Pam, Churchwardens

Dewlish Church Notes

AS I write these notes Lent is fast approaching, and the Easter period is so early this year! **Evening Prayer** continues each Thursday at 6.30pm in the church, the services being led by Jim.

Sarah is heading up a **Lent course**, based on the film, *Chocolat*. A different issue is discussed each week, all based around personal reactions in the film. This is being held each Monday at 7.30pm in the Church Room at Puddletown.

Next in the series of **Lent Lunches** is at Uptop, Dewlish, on Tuesday 5th March at 12.30pm, while the final one will be in Dewlish Village Hall on Thursday 19th March, also at 12.30pm. All donations go to WaterAid, so please do come along and enjoy the food and congenial company on offer, while supporting a most deserving cause.

Our **Mothering Sunday service** is in church on 10th March at 11.00am when, hopefully, there will be posies to give to your

Mum, or to enjoy yourself. It is such a special time to give thanks for all Mums, and our Mother Church, so please join us.

Our **Spring Sale** will be held on Saturday 23rd March in Dewlish Village Hall, starting at 10.30am. Refreshments will be available, also various stalls (including one for Easter), toys and books, raffles and – not least! – cakes and produce. We would be very grateful for some of you talented people to make a cake for us!

Details of our Easter services are given on page 9 and the church noticeboard.

Daphne Burg

Milborne Folk

THROUGHOUT the year, there comes a steady trickle of requests for information relating to figures from Milborne's past. Some relate to where someone is buried in the churchyard, particularly if no gravestone exists. I was recently contacted by a lady in Ireland who owns a Grand Piano "delivered to the Reverend F.G.M. Powell at Milborne Vicarage in 1887." The piano wouldn't have been here long, as the Reverend Frederick Glyn Montagu Powell was Vicar for just over six months in 1887/1888. It's such a short time that he is missing altogether in some list of Vicars! He came to Milborne having been a Vicar in Gloucestershire and, more recently, Vicar of St. Matthew's Church, Dunedin, New Zealand. He was ordained following a career in the Royal Navy. He left Milborne to become the Private Chaplain to the Duke of Buccleuch, responsible for the Episcopal Chapel of St. Mary's, Dalkeith. He died in Southbourne, Bournemouth, in June 1921. As well as being a pianist, he was also an author, publishing several Theological treatises.

Another inquirer was surprised to find a strong link between the Stuarts, Earls of Moray, and Milborne.

The Honourable Archibald Stuart, "Of the Dragoons", son of the 9th Earl of Moray, married Cornelia Pleydell, youngest daughter of Edmund Morton Pleydell of Milborne House, in 1793. Archibald just missed out on becoming Earl of Moray, as his twin brother, Francis, emerged into the world a few minutes before his brother. One of Archibald and Cornelia's sons, The Reverend George Gray Stuart, was Vicar of Milborne 1834–35, dying of "a rapid consumption" at the age of 30. Another son, Edmund Luttrell Stuart, became the Vicar of Winterborne Houghton. All are buried in the Churchyard here, and several of them have memorial tablets in the Church. Francis, the Ninth Earl of Moray, was responsible for the magnificent Darnaway House in Perthshire, although, at one time, it was said that the family owned as many houses and castles as they held Titles! As a result of a family without a direct male heir for many generations, all three of The Reverend Edmund Luttrell's sons inherited the Title.

Tony Fox

Milborne St. Andrew Church



Flowers for Easter in memory of loved ones.

If you wish to donate money towards the flowers this Easter (Lilies if we can get them). Donations can be given to Pam Shults or Lin Chatfield. A book of remembrance will be placed in the church at Easter.

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A Musical Birthday for the WI

IT is 79 years since the formation of the WI in Milborne St. Andrew and the heavy rain did not deter members from celebrating that anniversary. We were joined by Grace Lovelass, opera singer, dancer and ironman triathlete. What followed was a treat in every sense of the word. Her career did not start with opera, instead, with a degree in Classics from Kings' College, London. Grace spent some years in marketing and PR before going back to her real love of singing and drama. A fluent speaker of German, Italian and French, she went on to study opera at the Associated Studios and at the age of 31 began a career as a freelance opera singer.

Grace described the various levels of opera singers; she is herself a mezzo-soprano, and sang snatches of famous operatic



arias and musicals. Interestingly, Grace is a long-time supporter of the WI and referred to their aim 'to make a difference' – to the life you lead. As a consequence, along with the glitz and glamour of her individual concert work here and abroad, she works with charities and choral societies, U3As, WIs and Care Homes, the last affording her some brilliant and life-affirming experiences.

With many humorous anecdotes and impersonations, this was an evening we will all remember – *'Music just falls out of me, just tumbles out'* – but what music and what a voice!

After refreshments, cake and coffee, Jenny reminded us about our next meeting, on Thursday, 14th March, when Frances Gleason from Weldmar will be our Speaker. Please do come along and join us.

Pat Bull

Parish Council meeting notes

THE Parish Council (PC) have started a task tracker that will be reviewed at each meeting. It is aimed to keep the public updated on matters that the PC are dealing with:

- Traffic calming project – awaiting a decision from Dorset Council (DC) which will be discussed middle of February. PC hope to be able to give an update at the next PC meeting.
- The village gateway at Parish Pit – following the village sign on Dewlish Road being stolen, PC have looked at replacing it with a village gateway. It had been planned to erect a 2m wide sign, but after Clerk Lewin seeing signs in other villages PC supported his recommendation of a 1.5m sign, which will be more in keeping with the village as well as reduce the cost.
- Gates to replace stiles on the right of way heading to Weatherby Castle – waiting for costings from DC.
- Conservation area appraisal – following a virtual meeting with members of DC conservation team the feedback was that they were happy with the appraisal that was done but had a few matters that they wanted to be considered. These points have been sent back to the consultants doing the appraisal so that it can be revised and sent back to DC for review.
- Appointment of a village tree warden – there is a class in March to talk about the process and what is involved.
- Pedestrian road signs on Dewlish Road – DC will give the village two for free - they will be located one on the junction of A354 and Dewlish Road, and one by Parish Pit. Installation date was 6th February but at the meeting it wasn't confirmed whether it had been actioned.
- New rails on The Causeway – DC say they have funding and that the posts on order, date to be confirmed for works to be carried out.
- Access to the HIP – Clerk Lewin has spoken to Wyatt Homes and the response was that they were waiting for areas of the HIP to be repaired by Wessex Water. They have replanted and reseeded areas that were damaged and will reassess end of February to agree when it can be opened.
- 20mph speed limit on The Causeway – application is through to the second round. DC to review second quarter this year.
- Missing rail at Little England – this has been replaced.
- Spring into Action – Daffodil bulbs have been planted at the memorial stone, notice board on Milton Road, and around the Queen's tree.

Following discussion at the previous PC meeting about felled trees at an address in Stileham Bank Cllr Parker from DC gave an update that was that there were no tree preservation orders at the address on Stileham Bank and confirmed that the area is not in a conservation area.

As you know there has been scaffolding put up to make Corner House in The Square safe to pass. Cllr Parker's update stated that one of the chimneys have been reduced in weight down to ridge level to minimise the risk of collapse. The temporary traffic lights have now been removed. Note that this is not a PC matter – is with Dorset Council.

Planning application reference P/FUL/2024/00231 was discussed. This was for Milborne St. Andrews Sports Club to install portable sports rebound netting and associated posts. It was agreed to support the application.

It was agreed to hold a village litter pick on Sunday 24th March. For those wanting to help out then meet at the Village Hall at 11.00am – litter pickers and bags will be provided.

Continued on Page 30

Bookends Good Reads:

“Tall Tales and Wee Stories” by Billy Connolly

THIS short easy to read recollection of Billy Connolly's stage appearances and off the cuff patter received a mixed reception in the Book club. Some found it a profound shock to the system after the previous weighty, emotionally and psychologically effective books, others a huge difference from watching him perform on stage and Television. It was generally felt that the use of profanities was greater in writing than in person. Many still found involuntary humour especially in his anecdotes, and also much truth in his comparisons between people and things.

The overall feeling, however, was that when trying to categorise and rate aspects of the book it was an impossible task. Some felt it to be an angry polemic, full of obscenities and unacceptable references to bodily functions. This man has had a meteoric and highly successful career. He is, apparently, a mentor for young comedians and, as such, is regarded as a “gentleman and a scholar”, that he is a “most beloved/most treasured comedian” by global audiences who he leaves crying with laughter. That he is the “most influential comedian of our time”. His style is known as “observational comedy/warm, confessional; curious about the human experience and himself”. He is known to be totally spontaneous, unscripted, using adaptations, mime and embellishments whilst riffing in energetic and idiosyncratic performances laced with a “sense of the absurd” hating pretension and hypocrisy. It seems that his “popular touch” humour spans generations and social class and in 2010 he was voted the Greatest Stand-Up Comic on Channel 4's greatest stand-ups. One fan writes “thank you for

the joy”. His most revealing comment is that he founded his patter on what he describes as “merciless Glasgow humour” picked up whilst a welder in the shipyards. His wife, Pamela Stephenson, a psychologist, calls his behaviour “an intermittent explosive disorder”. She further comments on Billy's need to feel no pain, throwing everything away, hurting in a deep way”. Hence the fact that in the book, as we all felt, he comes across as a pugnacious, puerile (lavatorial jokes) and abusive person seeking validation from others. In the introduction he comments “When we're vulnerable we're funny”. It seems his vulnerability was exploited throughout his childhood.

His teenage mother left him to be brought up by his father's two teenage sisters. Between them all he suffered appalling sexual, physical and emotional abuse throughout his childhood and teenage years. It seems that he has conquered his main demons by stopping drinking (1985) and drug abuse. Whatever he attempted has been successful. He was in the T.A., the Parachute Regiment, in a popular musical group “The Humblebums”. He is now an artist since suffering Parkinson's Disease. It is called “Surrealist Automatism” during which the hand moves randomly across the paper without specific intent. Some illustrate this book. Notwithstanding our understanding of the fount of his rhetoric most of us found it a rant, belligerent, choleric and petulant. Maybe his memoir “Windswept and Interesting” might prove more satisfying.

Carole Fornachon

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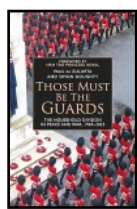
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Those must be the Guards by Paul de Zulueta and Simon Doughty

The Household division in Peace and War, 1969 – 2023



THIS is a nice hardback book with an eye-catching dustjacket, written by two former Guardsmen, and is intended to cover the three generations who served in the Household Division since a previous history (Julian Paget's 'The Story of the Guards') had ended, 1968. With a Foreword by the Princess Royal, lots of informative maps and some very interesting photographs, it's a cracking read.

The seven regiments which make up the Household Division are the Life Guards, the Blues & Royals, Grenadier Guards, Coldstream Guards, Scots, Irish and Welsh Guards. Focussing on these Regiments, the book covers in detail the human, political and national story of British Army Campaigns in Northern Ireland, the Falklands, the Balkans, Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as activities in the British Army of the Rhine (BAOR) and other small 'side wars' throughout the period, and includes a nice section about the British Army Training Unit Suffield (BATUS), a major Training Area in Canada.

I learned a lot about the changes needed for counter-insurgency work, learned the hard way by an Army whose thinking had been formed by World War 2, and the need to learn it all again by the time the mission to Afghanistan began. MoD and Politicians are given due credit for hollowing out the forces, and starting/joining wars where they understood neither full context of the conflict, the people nor their history, nor even the history of the British Army fighting in those places in the past!

It's a fascinating and informative book, obviously with a Guards emphasis, but a great read for those looking for the stories behind what we have seen in mainstream news for so many years.

A few snippets which I enjoyed:

- Despite having lived in BAOR for three years as a teenager, I was completely unaware of the Weser Vale Bloodhounds, a drag hunt formed in Detmold by three officers of the Blues & Royals, and now owned and run by German people, still using the blue and red 'honi soit qui mal y pense' badge.
- The response by Captain Sam Drennan AAC, former Scots Guard, flying a Scout in the Falklands. Forbidden to fly that morning because of 'other priorities', he ignored that and flew many times back and forth to Mount Tumbledown to pick up wounded former comrades.
- Vern Stokes, Garrison Sergeant Major, at the debrief following rehearsals for last year's Coronation, replying to a question from a Foot Guards Commanding Officer asking whether Guardsmen should carry their bearskins whilst walking across the slippery concourse at Waterloo Station. 'Sir, You and your Guardsmen will be in the public domain as soon as they step onto the platform. The Guards wore their bearskins at Balaklava, so they will wear them at Waterloo Station too.'
- A tip for not falling asleep when on guard in Iraq – light a cigarette, rest your head against the sights and when it burns you, you wake up, having had five minutes' kip and no more.
- -The standing joke about barbers giving recruits their first haircut – 'How would you like your hair today?' knowing full well that the same 'style' was going to be given regardless of the answer.
- A story about Major James Hewitt, completely different to all that most of us have read before about him. During the

campaign in Iraq, a column of tanks, thought to be T-62s (Russian Tanks used by Iraqis) was seen crossing ahead of the Challenger Tanks of the Life Guards. Commanding 'A' Squadron, he asked three times for confirmation of his order to engage, eventually requesting escalation to 4th Armoured Brigade, who insisted that no friendly forces were in the area. He requested clear verification before firing, and only one minute later, the training cry of 'Stop' 'Still' 'Unload' came across the radio. He had just avoided shooting an entire squadron of the 14th/20th King's Hussars!

The book confirms opinions often voiced by military personnel and others – that the MoD is institutionally incapable of keeping pace with rapid change and has no willingness to adapt. In the scary political times in which we're living, this, along with the lack of any awareness of anything other than soundbites by any politician of any party in Parliament, means that the next generation or three will be living through some days as tough as any seen by the lads and lasses mentioned in this book.

Susan Wilson

Help! 🙄

By Jan Beaumont®

I'm getting older
Without any doubt
For I got in the bath
And I couldn't get out!

At my place I've only
A shower, you see
So having a bath was
Like heaven to me.

I lay back in the bubbles
And soaked for a while
Felt just like a movie star
Lounging in style!

It was time to get dried
But I found I was stuck
For my knees wouldn't work
I was right out of luck.

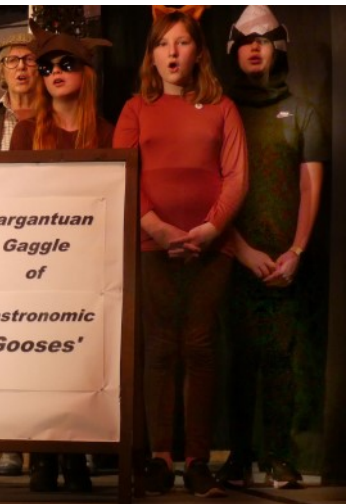
I tried and I tried but
It really was tough
Looks like someone will find me
Sat here in the buff.

It wouldn't be nice
In fact it would be rude
For someone to walk in
And see me here. Nude.

Thank heavens I managed
To exit the tub
All scrubbed up and shiny
No longer a grub.

I'll never get in there again
There's no doubt
Unless there's a volunteer
To get me out!





See also page 22

The Big Dorset Apple Cake – March update

THREE months to go until Dorset Day, Saturday June 1st, when our village will be attempting to assemble the Big Dorset Apple Cake.

Gluten-free apple cake

Thank you to Sue Gould, who has kindly emailed in her gluten-free Dorset Apple Cake recipe.

Hello Rose

As you can probably tell from this scan, the paper is a bit crumpled and dog eared as it gets used fairly regularly, as long as I have some spare apples! Being mean, I don't use butter, just Flora or something similar, the ground almonds are only added if I happen to have some, and quite often I don't have a lemon to hand so that goes out the window too! I use ordinary baking powder, as that's what is in my cupboard (rather than GF). Do put the sugar on top though, really nice! I've chopped in half and frozen half to enjoy later and it is fine. It's not a thick chunky cake, but is SO tasty!!

Good luck!

She tells me it doesn't 'taste' gluten free, as lots of recipes have a baking powder tang to them. The extra baking powder in many gluten-free recipes is to compensate for the lack of eggs.



When I decided to include a gluten free Dorset Apple Cake recipe this month, I thought I'd better do a bit of research about 'gluten-free' and exactly what that means. Blimey, I was soon completely out of my depth as there has been so much research about the pros and cons of eating a gluten-free diet.

The gluten-free diet has been advocated and followed by many celebrities such as Miley Cyrus, Gwyneth Paltrow, and Kourtney Kardashian, as a way of losing weight. Also, by some professional athletes, who believe the diet can improve energy and health. It became popular in the US, as the popularity of low-carbohydrate diets faded, despite there being no published experimental evidence to support views that the gluten-free diet contributes to weight loss.

Data from a 2015 Nielsen survey of 30,000 adults in 60 countries around the world concludes that 21% of people prefer to buy gluten-free foods, with the highest interest among the younger generations. In the US, it was estimated that more than

half of people who buy foods labelled gluten-free do not have a clear reaction to gluten, and they do so "because they think it will

help them lose weight, because they seem to feel better or because they mistakenly believe they are sensitive to gluten."

In some cases, the popularity of the gluten-free diet may harm people who must eliminate gluten for medical reasons. For example, servers in restaurants may not take dietary requirements seriously, believing them to be merely a preference. This could prevent appropriate precautions in food handling to prevent gluten cross-contamination.

Of course, people diagnosed with coeliac disease have to strictly avoid gluten and even one small breadcrumb contains enough gluten to react the autoimmune response in people with coeliac disease when they are following a gluten free diet.

When I first started teaching in the early 1970's I had a five-year-old boy in my class who had been diagnosed as coeliac when he was a small infant. He was a tiny, very frail child who was often absent from school due to his poor health. It was so difficult to make the other children in the class and their parents aware of how dangerous it was and how even a tiny amount of the wrong food could affect him.

I think nowadays we are more aware of extreme allergies and hopefully more understanding of the problems.

If you choose to make a gluten-free cake for our Big Dorset Apple Cake, then please label this clearly when dropping it off at the Village Hall on Friday 31st May, ready for our attempt to assemble The Big Dorset Apple Cake on Saturday 1st June. We are hoping that our supporters will bake one hundred 7–8 inch (18–20cm) square cakes (any recipe for Dorset Apple Cake is fine) to assemble into one enormous cake to be sold in portions to raise funds for our Village Hall.

If you would like to join our growing list of supporters or share your favourite Dorset Apple Cake recipe then please email Milborne.applecake@yahoo.com. We would be delighted to hear from you. Also have a look at our webpage on the village website Milbornestandrew.org.uk for further information and a selection of different recipes. If you have any questions then please come along to the next community cafe at MSA Village Hall on Saturday 9th March 10am–12 noon.

I'm also featuring a vegan recipe for Dorset Apple Cake this month. As with Gluten Free, the internet is awash with contradictory information about Veganism. Starting with the way it is pronounced.

Theoretically, there are four possible pronunciations of 'vegan' due to two syllables constituting this word, namely, 've' ('vee' or 'vay?') and 'gan' ('gun' or 'gen' as in 'generate'?). The accepted pronunciation seems to be vee at the beginning and gun at the end. It's a bit like sconn or scown I think, everyone is sure their way is the correct way.

"Veganism is a philosophy and way of living which seeks to exclude – as far as is possible and practicable – all forms of exploitation of, and cruelty to, animals for food, clothing or any other purpose; and by extension, promotes the development and use of animal-free alternatives for the benefit of animals, humans and the environment. In dietary terms it denotes the



practice of dispensing with all products derived wholly or partly from animals.” (The Vegan Society)

I’ve been a guest of a vegan cook on quite a few occasions, mostly the food offered has been very enjoyable. One memorably delicious meal started with chilled Gazpacho, then spicy mushroom risotto finishing off with sticky toffee pudding. (using Stork instead of butter) The whole meal was a delight and we both really enjoyed the evening.

However, on another occasion Ed and I were offered cheesy courgettes as a starter, then Aubergine and vegetable moussaka as a main course with a peanut butter and banana pudding. Unfortunately, courgettes are probably Ed’s least favourite vegetable and, as the courgettes were covered with a type of vegan cheese which had the flavour and texture of candle-wax, they were almost inedible. Aubergines are Ed’s second least favourite vegetable so the main course was also quite a challenge. The final hurdle was the pudding, peanut butter being another pet hate of his and I’m not overly fond of bananas. We were both very brave . . .

There are a few estimates for the number of vegans in the United Kingdom and its regions. YouGov, which has been running a biannual tracker since 2019, has found the number of vegans in Britain (England, Scotland and Wales) to be between 2–3%. The Vegan Society website is very positive about how the vegan movement is thriving; however, recent press reports tell a different story.

“A few years ago, consumer sentiment leaned towards reducing meat consumption and opting for dairy-free products, and brands responded accordingly. Recently, with the appetite for veganism waning, brands like Oatly have begun pulling vegan selections from the shelves after disappointing sales, and some online personalities are now publicly renouncing vegan lifestyles.” (*The Guardian*)

“Britain’s vegan market is in crisis with businesses going bust and products pulled from shelves amid concerns over ‘ultra-processed’ food and the cost of living. Meatless Farm has become a recent victim after the Leeds-based company made its 50-strong workforce redundant and collapsed into administration in June 2023. The firm was set up in 2016 and sold £11million worth of plant-based mince, burgers and chicken in 2021 – but has struggled as demand for meat-free products slowed recently.” (*Daily Mail*)

Fashions change with food as with everything else, however dedicated Vegans have been around for a very long time. One of the earliest known vegans was the Arab poet al-Ma’arri, famous for his poem:

“I No Longer Steal from Nature”

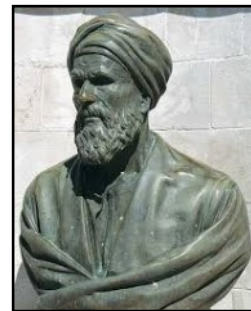
You are diseased in understanding and religion.
Come to me, that you may hear something of sound truth.
Do not unjustly eat fish the water has given up,
And do not desire as food the flesh of
slaughtered animals,
Or the white milk of mothers who intended its
pure draught
For their young, not noble ladies.
And do not grieve the unsuspecting birds by
taking eggs;
for injustice is the worst of crimes.
And spare the honey which the bees get industriously
from the flowers of fragrant plants;
For they did not store it that it might belong to
others,

Nor did they gather it for bounty and gifts.

I washed my hands of all this; and wish that I

Perceived my way before my hair went grey!

al-Ma’arri was a blind Syrian Arab philosopher, poet and writer. Born AD973, died AD1058.



Vegan Dorset Apple Cake

Wet ingredients

250ml plant milk soy, almond, oats

150g sugar plus 2 tbsp to sprinkle on top

50ml vegetable oil sunflower oil, canola oil, or 50g vegan butter, melted eg Stork baking block

Dry Ingredients

240g plain flour

1 tablespoon baking powder

3 teaspoons cinnamon

1 pinch salt

3 – 4 medium apples (2 apples for the filling and 1 to 2 apples for the top)



Method

Oil the sides of your pan and dust with flour. Line the bottom with parchment paper or use a cake liner.

Preheat the oven to 360°F or 180°C

In a medium bowl, add the wet ingredients: plant milk, oil or vegan butter and sugar. Whisk to combine.

Sift in the dry ingredients: flour, baking powder, cinnamon, and a pinch of salt.

Whisk on a low speed with a hand mixer for a few seconds till you have a smooth and thick cake batter.

Do not over-mix, or the cake will turn out gummy.

You can also stir the batter with a whisk or a silicon spatula. Add small apple pieces from 2 apples (about 11 ounces or 300 grams of apple chunks).

Apples should be cored and seeds removed. You can keep the peel on. Fold in with a spatula until the apple pieces are well incorporated into the batter, then pour it into the cake tin.

Cover the top of the cake with thin apple slices in a circular pattern, overlapping the slices a bit. Finally sprinkle the apples with 2 tablespoons of sugar.

Bake the cake at 360°F or 180°C for 55 minutes to 1 hour on the centre rack of the oven.

Take out of the oven and let cool down for about 1 hour.

Then sprinkle with some icing sugar if you want.

Rose Frost





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Polar explorers, returning alumni and open mornings – the excitement of a new term at St. Mary's

SPRING term 2024 got off to a terrific food-related start as our kitchen staff were awarded a coveted five star rating by the Food Standards Agency! Following an unannounced inspection of our catering facilities, staff were praised for exceptional hygiene standards, quality of staff training and food storage facilities. Congratulations to our cook, Marie Amey, and the rest of the catering team on this impressive achievement!

In January we welcomed back to St. Mary's two of our ex-students, Noah G and Kevin H, to complete a week of work experience with Mr Bingham in the PE department. The boys, who are now in Year 10 at Thomas Hardy School, were excited to be back with us and spent the week assisting the PE teachers in lessons and during after-school clubs. They both said how much they are enjoying life at THS, but also how good it was to be back at their old school!

Sports fixtures are now well underway with St. Mary's football, netball and hockey teams competing across the region.



We are particularly proud of our Year 8 girls' netball team who recently won the Under 13 area tournament! The girls were outstanding in every game, beating teams from Woodroffe, Beaminster and Budmouth, before thrashing St. Osmund's 10–2 in the final! Well done, girls!

Students in Years 5 and 6 have been entertained by the fascinating tales of real life polar explorer, Al Sylvester MBE. Al described to the children how he survived average temperatures of -35°C while crossing Antarctica to the South Pole. He talked about the challenges of sustaining frost bite and how he found the



mental resilience to keep going in one of the most hostile environments on the planet. Al demonstrated to the children how anyone with positive belief can achieve their dreams. It was a treat to have Al with us – he certainly inspired children and staff!

We have been busy showing prospective new parents around our wonderful school, in fact we have had so much interest in our open mornings we added two extra events to the calendar! Most of our parent visitors have children who are currently in Year 4, but we have also welcomed several families to our open mornings with children in other year groups. Visiting parents are always grateful to have the opportunity to see the school in action and they are consistently



impressed by our students' commitment to learning in lessons, the dedication of the staff and the range of facilities on offer. Having the opportunity to experience subjects like food technology, textiles, resistant materials and computing in Year 5 is always an exciting prospect, as well as being able to learn in fully equipped science labs and sports facilities. We always welcome the opportunity to

show families around our school; if your children are currently in Year 4 and you would like to visit St. Mary's, please don't hesitate to let us know by contacting the school office: office@stmaryscemiddle.uk. *Dr Tim Ennion* (Head of School)

CONTACTS

For further information, admission details or to arrange a visit, please contact the school office

Head of School: Tim Ennion Chair of Governors: Martin Kimberley

St Mary's School Association: Chairpersons: Briony Hosford and Marie Chappell

e-mail: office@stmaryscemiddle.uk website: www.stmaryscemiddleschool.co.uk

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Another fun panto

THANKS to each and every one of you who came along to watch and support our pantomime, Mother Goose, last month. It was such a fun pantomime to rehearse, and to finally – after five months – showcase it in its final glory to you, it was really momentous for us all.

We all thought the children brought a particularly invigorating energy to the production. They were full of charisma and fun, whilst working hard and showing such commitment and responsibility. We want to thank all the parents for helping them to learn their lines and ensuring they attended all the rehearsals.

A special mention I think should go to two people. The first is director Andy because of his unending patience and commitment to the cast, as well as making and organising all the props and back-stage changes during the show. And to Jo (working behind the bar) for her tenacity in securing such fabulous raffle prizes this year. We still have some unclaimed raffle prizes from Thursday night. The winning tickets are blue 378, 382, 396 and 402 and orange 861 and 878. Some will have been claimed by now. Contact me on 07804 600204 if you've not done so already.

We think our pantomimes are the best! When we perform a locally written production – such as Mother Goose – you can be sure of plenty of local quips and innovative – sometimes rather quirky – scenes and dialogue.

We hope we made some fond and enduring memories for you.

Kate Hawker

View the Reporter each month in colour at
www.milbornestandrew.org.uk/Reporter/index

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Elisabeth Frink: A View from Within

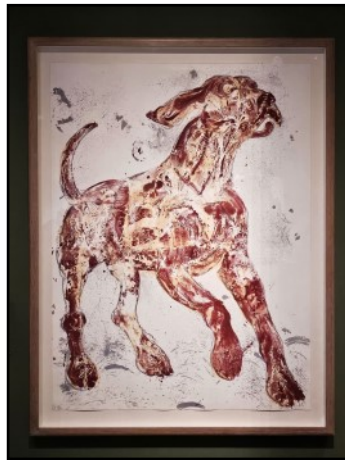
Dorset Museum and Art Gallery, to 23rd April4

INTEREST in this extraordinary exhibition has been gathering momentum since it opened. It coincides with the 30th anniversary of this British sculptor's death. It focusses on the significant body of work produced by Frink (1930–1993) at her Woolland studio in Dorset between 1976 and 1993. It explores her artistic process, personal life and the profound influences that shaped her work: human conflict and our relationship with the natural world. Her story is told through sculptures, artworks, photographs, papers, studio materials and domestic items that once belonged to her. From small bronze chess pieces and personal possessions to the large *Riace* and *Walking Madonna* sculptures, this exhibition provides personal insight into Frink's life and work at Woolland. Photographs of her friends, family



and studio, letters and film explore her work processes in the privacy of her studio as well as her social life. Many of these items, including working plasters that formed the basis of Frink's bronze sculptures, are on public show for the first time.

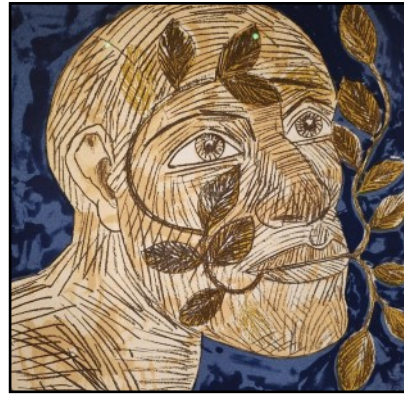
Elisabeth Frink: A View from Within comprises around 80 works arranged thematically in eight sections, each offering a unique perspective on her life and art. From her personal and artistic life at Woolland to a re-creation of her studio, the artist's creative methods are explained, along with insights into her



profound artistic vision. Through her sculptures the exhibition explores her intimate connection with the natural environment, the contemplation of human-animal interdependence, spirituality and humanist beliefs; her dedication to human rights advocacy and finally her enduring legacy. It also tells the story of her son, Lin Jammet's generous gift to the Museum. Jammet inherited the Frink Estate and Archive, which he gifted to the

nation on his death in 2017. Dorset Museum and Art Gallery received more than 400 items, with many of the artworks on permanent display in the Artists' Dorset gallery. More of them are included in this exhibition, along with loans from Yorkshire Sculpture Park (Wakefield) and Dorset History Centre (Dorchester) which were also provided with objects from the Frink Estate in 2020, in accordance with Jammet's wishes. As well as items from the Dorset Museum collection, the exhibition includes personal papers and photographs from the Frink Archive at the Dorset History Centre, and large scale sculptures from Yorkshire Sculpture Park and the Ingram Collection of Modern British and Contemporary Art.

Comments nationally on this exhibition are as follows: "This is an exemplary exhibition. Small, illuminating and surprising" *The Times*



"Her life-sized male figures have a physical presence, rare in modern sculpture" *The Spectator*

"The expressive sculptures of Elisabeth Frink portray people with animals with a rugged existential anxiety" *The Guardian, Pick of the Week*

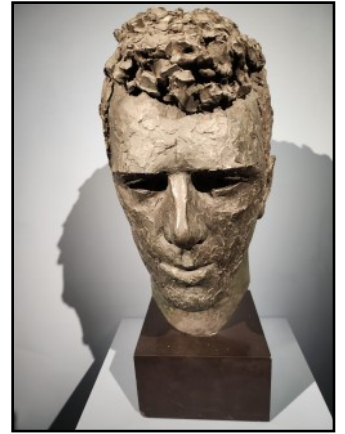
It highlights how her

creative freedom flourished in the privacy of her light-filled studio and how her garden became a gallery where animal sculptures mingled with real horses, chickens and dogs. By bringing together objects from public and private collections this exhibition celebrates the enduring legacy of Elisabeth Frink. The dying wishes of her son, Lin Jammet (2017), were that the entire Frink Estate and Archive be given to the nation ensuring that her vision of sharing her artwork within the public sphere was achieved.

I urge you to visit this moving and stunning exhibition. This can be combined with the permanent 4th floor exhibits and a (now famous) maquette bought at a car boot sale, shown on TV's "Fake and Fortune" recently.

Monday to Sunday: 10.00am–5.00pm

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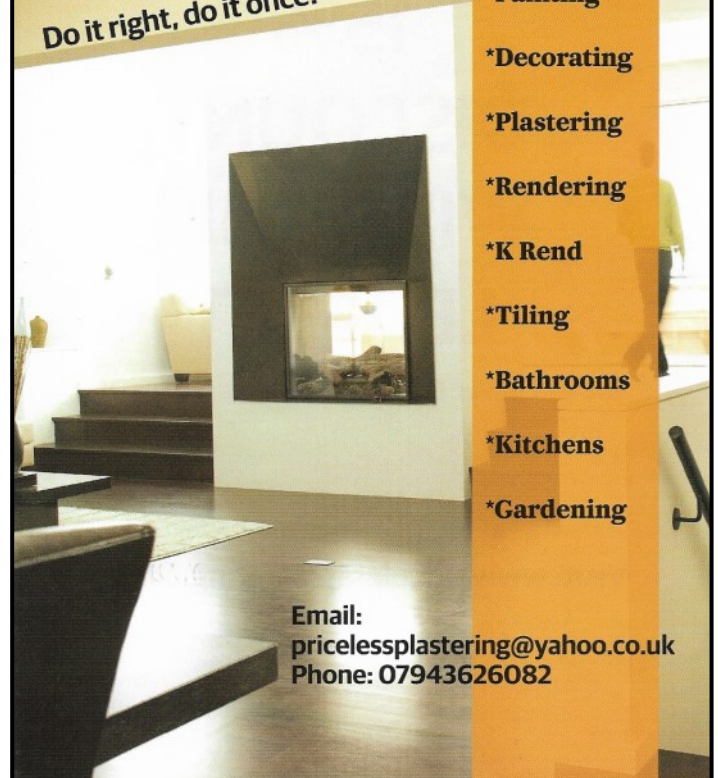
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Milton Abbas Surgery

Wednesday 13th March 2024 – Young Carers Action Day

Young Carers Action Day 2024 is about fair futures for young carers. A young carer is someone under the age of 18 who looks after or helps to look after someone. It might be their mum or dad, grandparent, brother or sister or a close relative. One in three young carers struggle to balance caring with education, missing out on opportunities to learn, earn and thrive. Every young carer should have the chance to fulfil their potential.

If you are a young carer, it is important that you let the surgery know so that we can understand the challenges you face and help you find the support you need. Give us a call on 01258 880210 or please send an email to miltonabbassurgery@nhs.net for the attention of Kelly. Remember, you are not alone in this – it's okay to ask for help.

Papercraft Group

Do you fancy trying some papercraft? Make your own cards or scrapbook? Or just fancy some company and a cuppa whilst you work on your own project? We are pleased to announce that our Papercraft Group run by our surgery Wellbeing Team now has two sessions a month! They meet on the first and third Wednesday of every month at the Milborne St. Andrew Sports Club Pavilion (DT11 0JA).

Craft material, tea, coffee, and biscuits will be available at no charge, but donations welcome to cover costs. No need to book, just turn up on the day – they would love to see you!

Repeat prescriptions? Only order what you need

Did you know that approximately 1.6 million medicine items are wasted unnecessarily in Dorset each year? Did you know that if healthcare were a country, it would be the 5th biggest carbon emitter in the world. In the UK, the NHS has estimated that the manufacture, supply, and use of pharmaceuticals accounts for 25% of the NHS's total carbon footprint. We need your help to reduce this. Please check what medicines you have at home before you order your repeat prescriptions. If you have enough, only request the medicines you need this time. You will still be able to order your medicine again in future, and you will be helping your community, the environment and your NHS. Find out more at: www.nhsdorset.nhs.uk/yourmeds

Urinary Tract Infections

Just a reminder that we have changed our surgery policy for patients with symptoms of a urinary tract infection. Rather than just dropping in a urine sample for the nurses to dip, our GPs would like to examine you. So, if you think you have a water infection, please contact the surgery on 01258 880210 at 8.30am or 2.00pm and we will book you in for a face-to-face appointment with a clinician. If you could also bring a urine sample along to your appointment that would be very helpful.

Home Blood Pressure Machines

If you are loaned a home blood pressure machine from the surgery to check your blood pressure readings, please could we ask that you return it as soon as possible after you have finished using it as we have a limited number of machines available to give to out to patients. Many thanks in advance for your co-operation in this matter.



Community Drop In

Your Surgery as part of Mid Dorset PCN invites you to our monthly community drop-in sessions being held at

Dorchester Library
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10am – 12pm

Come along and meet your PCN Carers and Social Prescribing Leads, together with other community Services.

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Emergency measures to secure ‘Mrs Ham’s house’

IN early February, Dorset Council (DC) oversaw work to ensure the safety of the public passing Corner House in The Square. The house has been in decline for many years, but in recent months it became far more serious with the partial collapse of the southern



gable end which threatened both neighbouring buildings and pedestrians alike. Barriers were first erected to keep people a safe distance away but residents were concerned that pedestrians – especially schoolchildren accessing the bus stop – were having to step into the main road to walk around the barriers.

DC later erected a second barrier to provide a walkway which, as it protruded into the road, necessitated single lane traffic controlled by lights. Although not popular with many motorists, some residents have said that the traffic lights made the A354 much easier to cross and reduced the speed



of traffic. Behind the scenes, however, plans were being drawn up to provide a solid barrier to contain debris if the house were to collapse. Paul Coombs of Building Control at DC said that drawings for buttress scaffolding to ensure public safety were produced by structural engineers but the Christmas period slowed the process as they had to wait for scaffolding companies to return to work in January. A specialist company from Bristol was contracted to undertake the work, which involved erecting a framework of scaffold at the front of the house with tonnes of concrete blocks placed on boards near the foot of the construction. This provides the ballast to keep the scaffolding in place if the worst was to happen. Sheets of OSB – structural timber board – were then placed in front of this to contain any rubble from a potential collapse. Before this was done, the chimney over the collapsed gable was removed. The cost of this and the scaffolding as well as the traffic control and so on is substantial and will be met by the owner. Mr Coombs said that before any scaffolding was erected, it was agreed by the owner through their representative.



A DC spokesperson said, “The scaffold is designed to allow the building to collapse into its own curtilage – not to prevent it collapsing – and we’ll continue monitoring the site for further movement”.

Many in the village will be aghast at the sorry state of such a prominent building in the heart of Milborne. Corner House – or Mrs Ham’s house, as older residents will know it as – was originally built in 1725. Mr and Mrs Ham lived there for many years, with Mrs Ham being the last permanent resident. Its future does look bleak due to its structural defects but it will need permission from the council if demolition is sought.



A DC spokesperson said, “The owner now needs to apply for planning permission to demolish and rebuild the dwelling. We are expecting a pre-application for redevelopment to discuss the proposed design of the dwelling with Planning officers, as well as a planning application for demolition and rebuilding. These applications normally take eight weeks to process.”

Within two weeks of the council enacting the emergency measures to deal with the dangerous structure, Corner House was listed for sale at auction on March 21st by Symonds and Sampson, who described it as, “An excellent re-development/conversion opportunity (subject to planning permission) comprising a 0.16 acre site in a central village location.” The guide price is £175,000.

Ed Richards

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Milborne St. Andrew Gardening Club



ON Thursday 21st March, starting at 7.30pm in the village hall, we have a speaker from The Gardens Group, because MSA Gardening Club is a member of the Gold Club. Benefits for our gardening club include discount shopping visits to three garden centres, discounts on spring bulbs, free plug plants for growing competitions and discounts on pre-spring compost orders. Members savings at the three garden centres more than offset the cost of our gardening club subscriptions!

The talk this month will be 'Growing your own'. Topical tips on growing your own vegetables, maximizing space and different planting combinations to try.

Do come and join us, as a guest for £2 or membership is just £12 FOR THE WHOLE YEAR. Everyone welcome, free tea, coffee and biscuits.

Angela & Mark Johnson

Do you have something to celebrate?

Your Community Café would love to be a part of it!

THE Community Café team would love to hear from you if you would like us to recognise a special birthday, anniversary or celebration. You may have been at the January cafe when we had the opportunity to sing 'Happy Birthday' to Dave Payne who celebrated his 80th birthday and surprised him with a candle for his slice of cake!! If you know of anyone who you would like us to recognise then please let us know and we will make sure that the community gets to celebrate with them for their special day. Contact Amy, Sandie, Jo Jo, Diane or Linda and we will happily surprise your special someone. We will then be able to pop your photo in the next month's *Reporter*, if agreeable, for the whole community to enjoy.

The Community Café Team



Fundraising at the March Community Café – get your Yellow on!

THE next Community Café is on Saturday 9th March, the day before Mother's Day and a few days after St. David's Day. As you all know we like to have a theme for the cafe when we can! The Valentine's café was quite the success!! St. David's Day highlights daffodils and so we thought that it would be a great opportunity to pick Marie Curie, whose logo includes a daffodil, to do some fundraising. Many of us have been touched by cancer and Marie Curie does wonderful work to support those affected by this cruel disease. So, we will have buckets for you to pop your donations in and we urge you all to wear yellow to highlight the day. Let's see how much we can raise to celebrate

the wonderful work that this charity does. Normal proceeds will still be going to the Village Hall, we are just taking donations for the Marie Curie charity, at this café. We look forward to seeing you all there.

The Community Café Team



What's on in March

Wednesday 6th	Wednesday Club Talk by Pam Shults about her cruises Village Hall 2.00pm.
Wednesday 6th	Parish Council Meeting Village Hall 7.00pm everyone welcome.
Friday 8th	Bridge The Royal Oak 2.30pm.
Saturday 9th	Community Café Village Hall 10.00am–12 noon see page 2.
Thursday 14th	Mid-day deadline for copy for the April <i>Reporter</i> .
Thursday 14th	WI Talk by Frances Gleason from Weldmar. Village Hall 7.30pm <i>all welcome</i> .
Friday 15th	Milborne Movies <i>The Miracle Club</i> Village Hall 7.30pm.
Wednesday 20th	Artsreach <i>A musical tale of love and tragedy</i> Village Hall 7.30pm.
Thursday 21st	Gardening Club Speaker from The Gardens Group Village Hall 7.30pm.
Friday 22nd	Bridge The Royal Oak 2.30pm.
Saturday 23rd	Spring Sale Dewlish Village Hall, starting at 10.30am.
Sunday 24th	Community Litter Pick Village Hall 11.00am.
Sunday 31st	Easter Day Communion St. Andrew's church 9.30pm.

Regular Bookings at the Village Hall

Players Monday 7.00pm weekly.
Line Dancing Tuesday 7.30pm weekly.
Wednesday Club 2.00pm 1st Wednesday monthly.
Yoga Thursday 3.30pm weekly (term time only)
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

Stitchcraft (kids) Wednesday 4.15–5.15pm and 5.30–6.30pm, Thursday 4.00–5.00pm
Sewcial Crafters (adults) Thursday 1.00–3.00pm and 5.30–7.30pm
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

Ladybirds Playgroup Monday–Friday 9.00am.
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.

Continued from Page 13

Parishoners who would like to litter pick at their leisure, outside of the village litter pick, are able to use litter pickers and bags, which are available for use from the sandbag store.

A request had been received from a parishioner regarding placing a bench on the concrete block that sits between Snag Lane and Waterbarn Lane. In order to fund the bench the PC would be happy for a plaque to be placed on the bench in return for a contribution. If you are interested in this please contact Clerk Lewin. Cllr Macnair will look into costings.

The dog waste bin in Coles Lane is damaged and it was suggested to replace it for an all-purpose waste bin. Cllr Greening will look into costings and update at the next meeting.

Please come along to the next PC meeting on Wednesday 6th March at the Village Hall, 7.00pm start.

Don't forget that agendas for the meeting and minutes from the previous meeting are available on the Milborne St. Andrew PC website.

Jo Whitfield

Come and join the Parish Council for a
community litter pick

All ages welcome

Sunday 24th March
Meet at the Village Hall at 11.00am
Litter grabbers and bags provided
Bring your own gloves

Any questions contact
milbornestandrew@dorset-aptc.gov.uk

Sacred Music for Holy week with CANZONETTA

at the Parish Church of St. John the Baptist,
Bere Regis
Sunday March 24th at 3.00pm

Canzonetta returns to the historic church of St. John the Baptist this Palm Sunday to present their annual concert of music for Holy Week.

The programme includes some greatly-loved classics by Vivaldi, Mozart, Fauré and Tchaikovsky alongside modern compositions tracing the story of Holy Week. We are privileged to be able to include two pieces composed especially for our ensemble by local composers, David Greenwood and Richard Hall, as well as two pieces from an Australian composer, David Basden, whose work we have recently discovered! Richard will also be accompanying us on the organ and making his own special contribution to the concert with an organ solo.

The concert is free with a retiring collection in aid of the church and refreshments will be served afterwards.

Barbara Rawlings

Deadline for the next issue 14th March

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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

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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

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	Chair: Chris Uden	07973 167117
Parish Council	Clerk: Wayne Lewin	07419 136735
Milborne St. Andrew	Chair: Richard Macnair	07774 081551
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Environmental Incident: Environment Agency Hotline 0800 80 70 60

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	Samantha Mercer	07767 450967

POLICE

Police – Non-emergency contact (North Rural team)	101
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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

Milborne St. Andrew Village History Group

AT our last meeting, we heard some interesting things about Longmead Community Farm. I shared the information, which was sent to me by Henri Monier-Williams, the Principle of The Luccombe Hub. This is an 'alternative education provision' and currently in partnership now with Longmead Community Farm. She has offered the premise to be used by the History Group and has also given new insight into some of the history of the farm. Henri explained that when they were doing 'refurbishments' in the attic, they found 'the names of the Italians who were prisoner of war, carved in the attic beams'.

At the meeting we also heard about some of the residents who lived at Longmead in 1939. That was the year that the Government issued a National Registration Act which was used to identify the civilian population in order that they could be given identity cards. These records are now available and show who lived in particular residences in the United Kingdom and the Isle of Man. The register for Longmead Community Farm included names of several men who had fought in the first world war. One had an MBE and had been a Major in the Rifle Brigade, he had previously lived in New York and Montreal; another had been in the 1014 war and post war emigrated to Canada. One of the female residents had worked as a nurse in the Falkland Islands in 1920 and also later lived in New York. There were several other interesting people with histories of living in the USA and of military connections.

The group started to explore the idea of creating a 'walking history map of Milborne St. Andrew'. We identified properties which could be included on the map; however, we need people to offer up some of their history. We will start with Heathcote House, Swiss Cottage and the 'Police Cottages'. If you know of their history or any other relevant information, please message me or come to the next meeting in March. All are welcome.

Pam Shults pamshults@btinternet.com



A FAMILY FRIENDLY TRADITIONAL VILLAGE PUB IN MILBORNE ST. ANDREW

March/April 2024



Sunday 10th March – Mother's Day

Thursday 28th March – Pie Night

Sunday 31st March – Easter Sunday

Friday 5th April – Quiz Night

Dorchester Hill, Milborne St. Andrew, Dorset DT11 0JG
Visit www.theroyaloakmilborne.co.uk
or for enquiries email hello@theroyaloakmilborne.co.uk

**TO BOOK CALL
01258 837248**