

Reporter

News and Views from around the area

Volume 18 Issue 3

March 2025

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See page 3

Millborne St. Andrew



See page 3

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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 13th of the month

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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.

Talking to June Maitland about the WI

AS a young wife and mother in 1972 June Maitland joined the Milborne WI and this was the beginning of her long and happy association with the organisation. Her initial reason for joining was to get to know other people in the village, and the WI offered a safe environment with much needed support from local friends. Alongside these benefits, June was generous with her own involvement, serving on the committee and acting as President and Secretary for a number of three-year stints. Wider roles were also enjoyed, in particular as a delegate on a number of occasions at the Annual National meeting at the Royal Albert Hall. She said it was something of an emotional experience to hear *Jerusalem*, the WI's anthem, sung in full voice in this huge hall by everyone there.

Many are unaware of the century of campaigning conducted by the WI, both nationally and locally, and the energy and enthusiasm that has always gone into this. For instance, the theme for 2024 was the very relevant 'Stop Violence against Women'. June is convinced that it would be a brave MP who opposed any campaign which has the full force of the WI behind it! The wider community also benefits from members' craft and baking skills, June has herself baked many cakes for the local music festival, Bestival and numerous village events.

On a personal level, June has kept a selection of badges – wearing one has always proved to be particularly useful as a conversation starter when visiting other WI's or the Dorset County Federation. Now they are very much an attractive souvenir and a memory of friends made and places visited.



Does June think the WI has changed over the years? She thinks some changes have been inevitable, but it is still valid and plays an important part nationally and in village life. She has made many friends there over the years, and remembers them all with affection.

At every meeting of our WI which June has attended, she is known for her meticulous checking of previous Minutes, and the subsequent signing-off of such. I hope she will feel able to sign off as accurate this version of her time with Milborne WI! We will all miss seeing you at our meetings, June. Take care.

Pat Bull

Not So Sainly Milborne St. Andrew

RECENT weeks have seen callous, cowardly and mindless vandalism in Milborne performed by certain members of our community, that will have shocked and disgusted many residents as much as they have me.

For those of you who are not aware of some of the events of the last few weeks, they include: -

- ◇ The breaking of windows,
- ◇ The explosion of a pressurized cannister in an elderly lady's hedge,
- ◇ The shattering of a conservatory window in the property of an octogenarian widow,
- ◇ The desecration of the memorial ground on the corner of Church Hill and the Causeway when the memorial wreaths were crushed and burnt, the flowers were trampled down and the Memorial Stone and surrounding area were fire blackened. All of this was done with the aid of an accelerant from a can of proprietary branded motor industry cleaner. and
- ◇ Further mindless arson on the factory site.

All of these events have been reported to Dorset Police and have been published in the *Dorset Echo* but I am writing this in case you hadn't heard of these awful things going on recently in our village. So, we are asking for your eyes, ears and voices to



apprehend these criminals and gather enough information to bolster the police files and advance prosecution. Any information can be reported to the Police on their 101 number or sent to

Chloe Boden at the *Dorset Echo* in Dorchester. Callers' names may be withheld. To the perpetrators, (who will probably not be reading this): we are sure of your identity and are working on verification.

Thank you for your time and let us work together to stop our village being spoiled by a tiny, degenerate minority and keep it as the great place it is and can surely continue to be. And it proves what a great place we live in that the

Memorial Stone was cleaned and returned to its dignified condition soon after by veterans and villagers, thank you.

An Infuriated Villager



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Reporter 2024/2025 makes a loss

THE *Reporter's* accounts for the year show a loss of £332.76 due to a loss in advertising, mainly due to the cost of living.

Producing the *Reporter* 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 *Reporter* 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. Also our thanks go to Jenny Balcon for once again examining our accounts.

Any donations would be very much appreciated.

Reporter Balance Sheet year ending 31st January 2025

Balance B/F from 2024	£5,810.63		
		Receipts	Payments
Advertising	£4,068.50	Printing	£4,309.12
Copies sold and donation	£11.00	Expenses	£140.11
Bank Interest	£61.97	Slab for VH	£25.00
Total	£4,141.47	Total	£4,474.23
Total Income	£4,141.47		
Less Expenditure	£4,474.23		
Loss	£332.76		

Cash in Bank 31st January 2025

£5,477.87

History Group Update

WHEN the Village History Group last met, it was decided that regular monthly meetings were not as interesting to villagers as when speakers were arranged. Consequently, it was agreed that a programme of speakers to give talks could be of more interest.

Talks for this 2025 will be as follows:

14th May – Martin Gething, a National Trust volunteer will deliver a talk about Clouds Hill, once the home of Lawrence of Arabia.

12th June – Linda Wright will deliver a talk about historical ‘Health and Deaths’ in Milborne St Andrew.

8th October – John Smith, archaeologist will talk about war aerial battles over Dorset.

12th November – Author Brant Shore, author will talk about Blessed are the Meek. ‘A story of labourer’s struggles which has some relevance to the Tolpuddle Martyrs, in that they occur at a similar time (1830s–1840s) and both relate to struggles for justice for the working poor.’

The sessions will be in the Function Room of The Royal Oak starting at 7.30pm. As speakers require a fee, a small charge of £3 will be asked of each person.

Unfortunately, my old computer suddenly stopped working which meant that I lost my list of people’s email addresses. If you would like to be on my new mailing list, please message me on pamshults@btinternet.com

I look forward to seeing if the relaunch of the History Group will be of interest to our villagers. Pam Shults

‘With a song in my heart’ – February WI

IT is now 80 years since the formation of the WI in Milborne St. Andrew; to celebrate our refreshments included some ‘extra fizz’, so we were able to raise our glasses and toast an important birthday. Jenny, our President, reminded us how many events and opportunities were available to members through the wider Dorset Federation and thanked Nelda and Lin for once again arranging our very successful New Year lunch.

José Thomas had offered to talk to us about her days in the WI choir. José was born in the ‘Black Country’, where she went to school, married and raised a family. Alongside her busy life, José has always had a talent for singing, as a soprano it has always been an important part of José’s life. Moving to Wolverley after the family had grown up, she joined their village choir, singing at a variety of festivals, concerts, musicals and national events over the years and taking many solo parts. When the choir eventually faded and disbanded, José joined a larger mixed choir nearby.

The pictures and clips taken down the years, for José clearly stirred so many memories, but one particularly close to her heart was being pictured alongside the wonderful actor and singer, Alfie Boe! Now, here in Dorset she is a keen member of our local Briantspuddle choir.

For us, this was a fascinating and inspirational snapshot of a life coloured and enhanced by singing and which we are sure will continue to give much pleasure for many years to come. Thank you, José; you clearly do have ‘... a song in your heart’.

Our next meeting is on Thursday 13th March, when Abbey Bartlett will talk about *Body Shop Ethics*. Please come along and join us. Pat Bull

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Village Hall bookings

Today < > March 2025							Month
MON 24	TUE 25	WED 26	THU 27	FRI 28	SAT 1 Mar	SUN 2	
• 08:00 CR PH • 19:30 Players	• 10:15 Move it • 19:30 Line Da		• 15:30 Yoga • 16:00 Tikka T • 17:10 Karate	• 09:00 Postur • 10:45 CH Pila 2 more Artsreach			
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
• 08:00 CR PH • 19:30 Players	• 10:15 Move it • 19:30 Line Da	• 13:45 Wednes • 19:00 Parish	• 15:30 Yoga • 17:10 Karate	• 09:00 Postur • 10:45 CH Pila • 12:00 CH Pila	• 10:00 Pop Up		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
• 08:00 CR PH • 19:30 Players	• 10:15 Move it • 19:30 Line Da		• 15:30 Yoga • 16:00 Tikka T 2 more 19:30 WI	• 09:00 Postur • 10:45 CH Pila • 12:00 CH Pila			
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
• 08:00 CR PH • 19:30 Players	• 10:15 Move it • 19:30 Line Da		• 15:30 Yoga • 17:10 Karate • 19:30 Garden	• 09:00 Postur • 10:45 CH Pila 2 more Film Night	• 19:00 Quiz Ni		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
• 08:00 CR PH • 19:30 Players	• 10:15 Move it • 19:30 Line Da		• 15:30 Yoga • 16:00 Tikka T • 17:10 Karate	• 09:00 Postur • 10:45 CH Pila • 12:00 CH Pila	• 17:00 J. Syke		
31	1 Apr	2	3	4	5	6	
• 08:00 CR PH • 19:30 Players	• 10:15 Move it • 19:30 Line Da		• 10:00 NHS K • 15:30 Yoga • 17:10 Karate	• 09:00 Postur • 10:45 CH Pila • 12:00 CH Pila	• 13:00 Kelly Bi		

THE Milborne St Andrew Village Hall hosts a range of events and activities for our community. From yoga classes to quiz nights, and even special celebrations, the hall is at the heart of village life – and so is its car park!

The car park is primarily for the use of those attending events or using the facilities at the hall. However, it can be used by residents and visitors when the hall isn’t busy. If you do use the car park at quieter times please make sure to move your vehicle well ahead of planned events so we have space for hall users.

Follow the Village Hall on Facebook for updates on events or view the calendar online at www.milbornestandrew.org.uk/VillageHall which highlights events where the car park needs to be clear.

Thank you for your cooperation and for helping us keep the Village Hall a welcoming space for everyone!



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Bob Lovett's 90th

A WEEKEND of birthday celebration took place for our newest Nonagenarian who turned the spritely age of 90 on February 5th.

The weekend started with the surprise arrival of his favourite niece from Canada (I too was concerned with surprising a 90 year old with a pacemaker). However after a few tears Bob



Bob with Margaret his Canadian niece

settled back to normal and the celebrations continued with a party with the family including all the grandchildren on the Sunday and then a lovely dinner with the family on the actual birthday itself.

Bob and Maureen moved to their bungalow in Bladen View with their two boys Mark and Andrew in the mid 60's and own The Spring Grove Forge in Puddletown. Bob still takes his daily stroll down to Grays Stores to get his paper and sometimes a little treat that he says is for Maureen but more often than not is eaten by the time he gets home. He loves a natter so be sure to give him a smile if you see him.

Jo Lovett

Village Hall Quiz Night Saturday 22nd March!

THINK you know it all? Put your knowledge to the test at our Village Hall Quiz Night! Grab some snacks, gather your team or join one on the night for an evening of trivia, fun, and friendly competition.

Max team size: six people – £2.50 per person
Bar opens: 7.00pm. Quiz starts: 7.30pm

Whether you're a quiz master or just in it for the laughs, everyone's welcome! Book your place now; email: chair.msavh@gmail.com

Come along for a great night out—see you there!

OBITUARY

NEVILLE WILLIAM KIRK

18.03.39 – 03.02.25

NEVILLE passed peacefully following two weeks at Dorset County Hospital.

We had been together since 1983.

Since moving into the village in May 2002. Neville supported me, in all the many organisations that I volunteered with. Including stapling posters to telegraph poles!

Neville and I shared many interests including singing. This we did together up until Summer 2024. He had perfect pitch and was a base baritone.

Neville was a qualified Precision Engineer and was Quality Manager for a company that produced high pressure valves. That is where we met. I was secretary to the Sales Manager. The Company was under contract to the Ministry of Defence. All employees signed The Official Secrets.

The Company we worked at was bought out and moved down to Poole.

We decided to sell our house in Buckinghamshire and buy a freehold corner shop, close to Southampton.

Neville and I had been to Australia, Singapore, South Africa, Mexico and in the UK Cumberland. Neville's family were from Maryport. They had a building business.

In 2012 Neville was officially diagnosed with Vascular Dementia and Mild Cognitive Impairment. This arrived uninvited to our marriage and caused much upheaval and heartache..

Neville was a kind caring man and his passing is mourned by his sister, stepdaughter and me who have happy memories of times and holidays before the Dementia.

Thanks to Dorchester Hospital for all your care and compassion!

His stepdaughter and I decided that he passed with dignity and pain free. He was loved and cherished to the end.

Margo

Milborne St. Andrew Gardening Club news



FEBRUARY was our In House Gardeners' Question Time.

March will see the Gold Club's live demonstration for how to create a stunning summer hanging basket. Why not come along and be inspired?

Also March will be members' daffodil judging so don't forget to bring your competition bloom with you.

Jobs for the Garden:

- Spring Clean the greenhouse
- Plant summer flowering bulbs
- Mulch border generously

Elaine Willcox

PLEASE NOTE: Any copy for the **April** issue should be received no later than **14th March**



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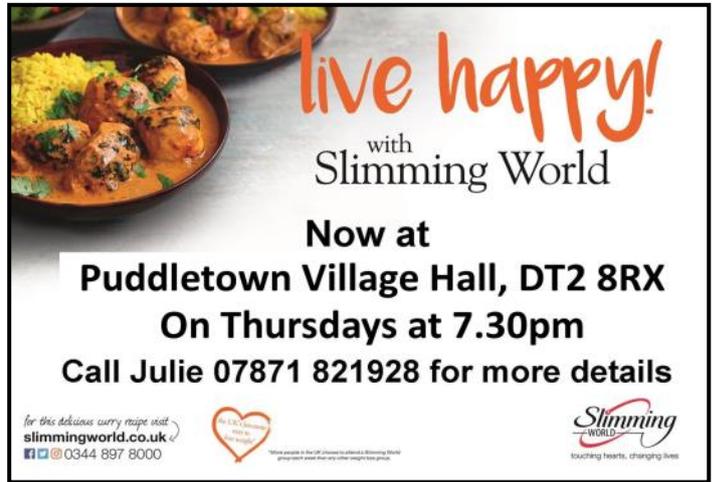
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Aladdin came to Milborne St. Andrew



SO, our pantomime curtain came down for the final time on Saturday 15th February, following – what we think – was our best yet!

We had the liveliest audiences we can remember; not to mention the most talented children, the most fearsome baddie and most gorgeous dame! Back stage, not even the cast had a clue what she was going to say next!

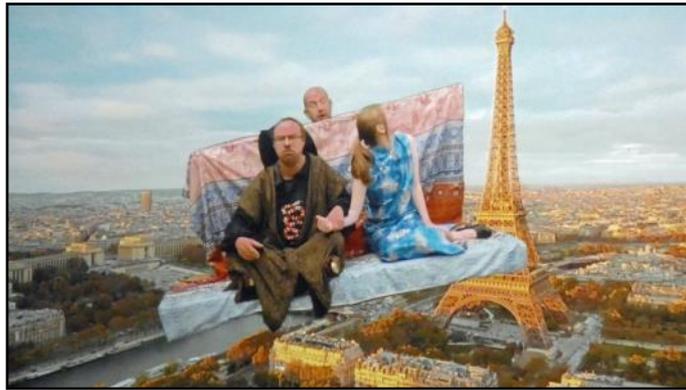
We are so lucky to have first class script writers in the Players, committed crew back-stage who created wonderful props, splendidly original costume designers and maker and an awesome special effects genius. They all played a critical part in making our pantomime amazing. Huge thanks are also extended to our front of house volunteers. Those running the bar, those organising and manging the raffle and those who managed and sold the tickets. Everyone worked super efficiently and flawlessly; how lucky are we?!

The final word goes to our director: her tenacity, patience and

expertise were of such value to the cast. We've learnt so much.

We hope to see you again in the summer, as well as next February for another stonkingly outrageous pantomime performance!

Kate Hawker



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Finding God's Presence in Lent

As we enter the season of Lent, which begins with Ash Wednesday on 5th March, we are reminded that the month of March is a time of reflection, renewal, and growth. The days gradually lengthen, the earth begins to awaken, and we too are invited to look inward and ask how we can deepen our relationship with God and with one another.

Lent is a season of preparation, a season when we can set aside distractions to listen more closely to God's voice in our lives. We might do that in all sorts of ways, and our churches are offering opportunities to come together with others to do just that. There are booklets in church with all the details in – as well as our usual Sunday services, we're offering short, midweek services; Lent lunches; and two courses: a daytime one in Milborne St. Andrew based on the book *Wild Bright Hope* and an evening one in Puddletown centred on the classic film *Casablanca*. All these are open to everyone – you don't have to be a regular churchgoer to come and join us. We'd love to see you.

Groups and services can help us become more aware of God's presence, but Lent is a good time to stop and reflect on where God finds us in our daily activities and life.

Wild Bright Hope has some quotations from children about where they experience God, reminding us that there are no limits to God's presence. Here are some of them.

Italian 5-year-old: I see God when I look at the stars with my mummy. They are so pretty and make me feel like God is watching me.

Indian 7-year-old: I see God when I light a candle with my parents. The warm glow makes me feel God is close to me.

Kenyan 10-year-old: I experience God when I help my friends at school. Sharing with others makes me feel God's love inside me.

Japanese 11-year-old: I see God when I meditate in the garden, listening to the birds and the wind. It feels peaceful, like God is whispering to me through nature.

Nigerian 13-year-old: I see God when we gather as a family to pray every evening. Our prayers bring us closer to God and to each other.

Iranian 15-year-old: I feel God's presence when I'm dealing with confusion or making tough decisions. When I pray or talk to someone I trust about my worries, it reminds me that God is guiding me through the confusion.

German 16-year-old: I experience God when I play music. The melodies and harmonies make me feel connected to something bigger than myself.

Nature, music, prayer, family, friends – there are so many different ways to experience God. I wonder how many you will find this Lent.

With best wishes

Sarah

Notes From St Andrew's

THE Christmas Season closed on Candlemas Day, February 2nd, with our Milborne Praise Service, when we were urged to "Shine as lights in the world." Rose read the Gospel story of Simeon and Anna, Josie read "Candlemas" by the contemporary Priest-poet Malcolm Guite, and we listened to a setting of the Nunc Dimittis in G by C.V. Stanford and sang rousing hymns!

We now turn our thoughts to Lent and preparation for Holy Week and Easter. Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent, falls on March 5th this year. At 6.00pm that evening, there will be a Eucharist with the imposition of ashes for the whole Benefice in Puddletown. All are encouraged to attend as we begin our Lenten preparations. On the following Wednesdays – 12th March and 16th April – at 6.00pm. Tony will lead

Continued on page 13

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

2nd March – Sunday Next Before Lent

9.30am	Parish Communion	Tolpuddle
9.30	Milborne Praise	Milborne
11.00	Parish Communion	Puddletown CR
11.00	BCP Morning Prayer (traditional language)	Dewlish

5th March – Ash Wednesday

6.00pm	United Benefice Holy Communion with imposition of ashes	Puddletown CR
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9th March – Lent 1

9.30am	Parish Communion	Milborne
11.00	Puddletown Praise	Puddletown CR
11.00	Parish Communion	Dewlish
5.30pm	Sunday Reflections	Tolpuddle

16th March – Lent 2

9.30am	Parish Communion	Tolpuddle
9.30	Worship in Stillness	Milborne
11.00	Parish Communion	Puddletown
11.00	Family Service	Dewlish

23rd March – Lent 3

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

30th March – Mothering Sunday

9.30am	Mothering Sunday Holy Communion	Milborne
11.00	Mothering Sunday Service	Puddletown
11.00	Mothering Sunday Service	Dewlish

LENT

During Lent there will also be: Wednesdays (from 12th March) Compline in St. Andrew's, Milborne at 6.00pm. Thursdays (from 13th March) Evening Prayer in All Saints', Dewlish at 6.30pm.

MORNING PRAYERS

Monday – Thursday. 8.30am; Saturday. 9.00am
On Zoom, please contact Sarah Hillman
(sarah.c.hillman@outlook.com) for the link

Church Contacts

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

Churchwardens

Milborne St. Andrew

Pam Shults 01258 837203

Tony Fox 07368 145584

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



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Continued from page 11

Compline at St. Andrew's. Two hymns and the traditional office of Compline provide a twenty-minute or so time of rest to recharge our batteries and "draw near to God."

There will be a Lent course in Milborne on Monday mornings, beginning on March 10th, from 10.30am to 11.45am. It will be held in the former chapel with the kind permission of Simon and Teresa. The Course will be based on the book "Wild Bright Hope."

There will be two Lent Lunches in Milborne – Soup, rolls, fresh fruit, etc. – on Wednesdays, 12th and 26th March, between 12.30pm and 2 00pm. Tony will host these at his flat in Manor Farm. Donations for St. Andrew's church will be welcome. It would be good to have an idea of numbers in advance, in case a second sitting is required or a second vat of soup needs preparing (telephone 07368 145584, email Tonytheorganist@outlook.com, or speak to him after a service).

Work to repair the toilet floors is one step closer to commencement. Who said, "Like a mighty tortoise moves the Church of God?" We also need to replace some light bulbs and heaters. Congratulations to all those who have survived chilly Services during the winter months!

There have been several deaths with parish connections recently, and we send our love and prayers to the families and friends of Will Pope, Robin Keller, Jackie Smart, Andy Fox and Neville Kirk.

Paddi Spruyt, widow of Fr. John, vicar here 1970-1977, celebrated her 99th birthday at the beginning of February. Greetings were sent from the Parish. Paddi lives in a nursing home in Stroud near her daughter, Katie. Nicholas made a surprise visit to see his Mum on her birthday.

Marguerite (Margo, or Peggy) Baillie, widow of John Baillie, Vicar 1959-1969, died a few months after celebrating her 100th birthday at her home in Louth, Lincolnshire, where she had been cared for by her daughter, Prisca. She is buried with John in the churchyard at Aldringham, Suffolk; John and Peggy's daughter, Jane, also died recently, and the flowers from her funeral were placed on her Great-Grandmother's grave in Milborne Churchyard. Prisca said, "Jane had a difficult life, so it seemed appropriate for the flowers to be in Milborne, a place where Jane had been happy."

Thinking back, at one of the Benefice Christmas Services, Sarah played a recording of "I Wish It Could Be Christmas Every Day" to introduce her address. It reminded me of words penned by John Greenleaf Whittier, author of "Dear Lord and Father of Mankind", amongst other things. "Keep while you may, brethren

mine, with honest hearts your Christmas-time, but judge not him who every morn feels in his heart the Lord Christ born." During Lent, we try to grow nearer to God and know more fully within our hearts that Love which came down at Christmas; but is "New every morning" for "Great is His faithfulness." Happy Lent!
Tony and Pam.

Dewlish Church Notes

AFTER a quiet January (apart from gales, rain and floods!) we are now eagerly awaiting Spring.

The **Ash Wednesday Service** on 5th March is being held at Puddletown Church. Please check the time for this on the church notice board.

We are pleased to say that we are once again holding a series of **Lent Lunches**, the donations from which will go to WaterAid. The dates and venues are as follows:

- ⇒ **Thursday 13th March** at Anne and Mike Fell's "Uptop", at 12.30pm.
- ⇒ **Tuesday 25th March** at the Village Hall, hosted by Margaret Groves and Daphne and Jim Burg at 12.30pm.
- ⇒ **Tuesday 8th April** at Sue Britton's Parsonage Farm at 12.30pm.

Do please join us: the soups and bread and cheese and grapes are delicious! This will be followed by coffee or tea.

Finally, a note for your diary: On **Saturday 12th April** we shall be having our annual **Spring and Easter Sale** in the Village Hall, starting at 10.30am. Included are the usual Easter stalls, raffles and refreshments. We very much look forward to having your support!
Daphne Burg

Open the Book – we need your help

OPEN the Book is an exciting storytelling project where Bible stories are shared with children in a way that is fun, interactive and memorable. Every three to four weeks, a small team goes into Milborne First School for an assembly on a Tuesday morning.

We would love more people to join our team as we have become very small in number. Do you like performing? Are you good at reading stories? How would you look dressed up as a biblical character? I know there are actors in the village, so why not offer your skills in this small way.

The children really enjoy the stories, and we enjoy acting them out. Training is available, and you will need to have a criminal-record check but we can organise that for you.

For more information and to volunteer, please contact Sarah Hillman sarah.c.hillman@outlook.com or 01305 848784.

Film Night at the Village Hall *The Critic*

Join us for an evening of cinema as we present *The Critic* on

Thursday, 21st March!

Doors Open: 7.00 pm

Film Starts: 7.30 pm

Tickets: £6.50 (includes a drink or ice cream)

A gripping tale of ambition, deception, and intrigue, with an all-star cast, *The Critic* is a must-watch for film lovers. Don't miss out!

Donations for Easter Flowers (Lilies) in memory of loved ones



If you would like to donate money towards the Easter flowers please contact:

Lin Chatfield 01258 837127

Pam Shults 01258 837203 or

Tony Fox 07368 145584

Your loved ones' names will be placed in the Book of Remembrance in the church. Thank you.

St. Mary's CE Middle School, Puddletown

Inspire today to shape tomorrow

Spring is in the air at St. Mary's and our sports teams have certainly put a spring in our steps!

Our Year 7 Area Cup football team has put on a series of fantastic display of possession-based football and clinical finishing. The team came away with a 7-0 victory and progressed



to the next round of the Area Cup with a tough game against Wey Valley School. Our Year 8 squad were involved in a much-anticipated match vs St. Osmund's Middle School. The team had to be resolute and disciplined against a strong St. Osmund's outfit. The boys took their chances on goal and restricted St. Osmund's to very few chances. St. Mary's came away with an impressive 3-2 victory and the team progresses to the next round where we will await our opponents with great excitement.

Our Year 8 students have enjoyed an incredible opportunity to deepen their understanding of World War II with a special visit to the Dorchester History Centre. This trip allowed students to explore historical archives, engage with expert historians, and



analyse primary sources from the era. The visit was an eye-opening experience, providing students with a first-hand look at how the war affected local communities. Many were particularly fascinated by letters and photographs from Dorset residents during the war, helping to bring their history lessons to life. "It was amazing to see real documents from the time," said one student. "It made everything feel so much more real."

We have been opening our doors to prospective students and their families for a series of Open Morning. These events give visitors the chance to explore our school, meet our dedicated staff, and learn more about the diverse opportunities we offer.

ST MARY'S CE MIDDLE SCHOOL
OPEN MORNINGS 2025

Open Mornings (9:30- 11:00)
Thursday 30th January
Thursday 13th March

We invite all parents of Year 4 children to join us for our school Open Mornings on Thursday 30th January and Thursday 13th March.

You will have the opportunity to meet the staff, tour the site and find out what it's like to be part of our wonderful school.

For the latest news, follow us on Facebook.

Parents and students were welcomed into classrooms, where they observed lessons in action. Many were particularly impressed by our inclusive learning environment and the strong sense of community within the school. The events continue to be a great success, and we look forward to welcoming more families to St. Mary's for our next Open Morning on Thursday 13th March.

To round off a fantastic first half term of 2025, our students enjoyed a vibrant Valentine's Disco! With music, dancing and plenty of fun, the evening provided a great opportunity for students to relax with friends at the end of a busy few weeks. The students danced to their favourite tunes and enjoyed delicious treats provided by our wonderful St. Mary's School Association.

CONTACTS

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

Head of School: Tim Ennion Chair of Governors: Caleb Brown

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

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

Follow us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SMCEMIDPUDD> Tel: 01305 848293

Davis, Biles, Brown and Way: Episode 10 of The Ways of Milborne St. Andrew by Andy Way

OVER the past year, we've been looking at characters and events in Andy Way's book *The Ways of Milborne St. Andrew*. Our recent focus has been on population trends in the village during the 19th century. To recap, in 1841 more than one in five of people in MSA had one of just four surnames: Davis, Biles, Brown and Way. We've looked at the Davises (pp.39-49 in Andy's book) and the Biles (pp.49-58) during the period 1841-91, so now it's the turn of the Browns (pp.59-62).

In 1841, the 16 Browns comprised 3 people in 2 houses in the MSA census, and 13 in 2 houses in Milborne Stileham (MS). In the MSA census, we see 3 Browns all over 70. In MS, the first listed Brown family comprises Robert, a widower, with his 8 children. The 2nd-listed family is headed by Grace, a widow, who is living with her 3 small children. Life for all these Browns – young and old – must have been very difficult at this time in agricultural Dorset.

The Browns decrease to 14 people in 1851: 3 in 1 house in MSA, and 11 in 3 houses in MS. The MSA Browns are James, Jane, and their baby son. James and baby Thomas are from Milborne, while Jane is from Langton Matravers. Looking at new censuses allows one to correct errors in previous ones, so in the first Brown family in the MS census, headed by 70 year old Robert, we can see that Susanna and Edmund are actually Robert's grandchildren, and not his children as declared in 1841. We find 23 year old John Brown from Milborne, one of six lodgers with Emmanuel and Elizabeth Martin, and Mary (from Lewes, Sussex) and her 1 year old daughter Emily lodging with Stephen and Hannah Davis. It is notable that in both the 1841 and 1851 census returns for the village, where children are living at home, only one family has both parents alive and living with the children. Given the circumstances at the time in rural England, it must have been a real struggle to survive.

By 1861, the number of Browns decreases still further, to just 10 people: 5 in 1 house in MSA, and 5 in 2 houses in MS. In MSA, we have John and Sarah with their 3 young children. John and the kids are from Milborne, while Sarah is from Milton Abbas; John has been present in all three village censuses to date. They have two lodgers, so it must have been very cramped, although the additional income would have been vital.

In the decade to 1871, the number of Browns almost doubles to 19, with 5 people in 1 house in Milborne Churchstone (MC), and 14 in 4 houses in MS. The MC family is that of John and Sarah Brown and three of their children, who were present in the 1861 census. This time we have additional information regarding both Sarah's and the children's middle names that was not apparent in the previous census. All Brown families in the 1871 MS census were present in the village ten years previously.

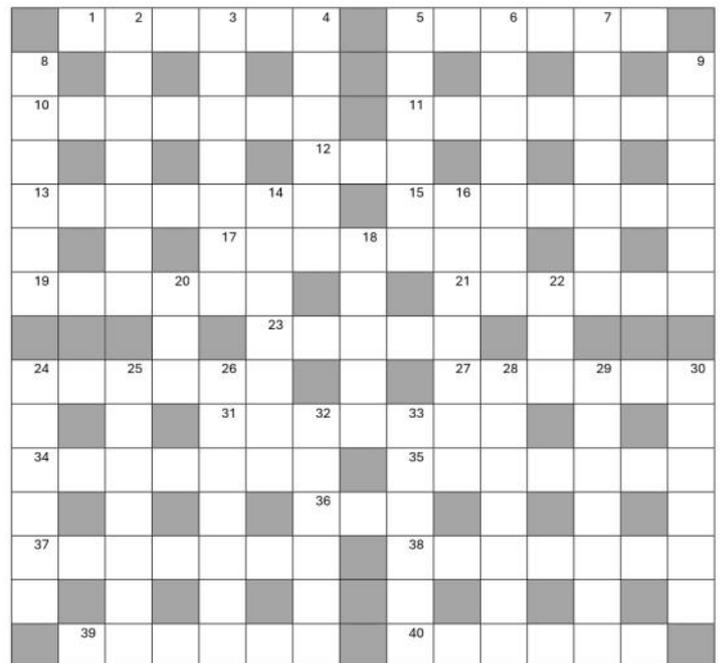
In 1881, the number of Browns in the village rises again to 24, with 18 people in 4 houses in MSA, and 6 people in 2 houses in MS. In the MSA census, we encounter 79 year old Elizabeth Brown (from Hilton), living on Church Rd. She is an "annuitant", along with 49 year old Mary Horner living at the same address. They are both widows, so their annuity probably came from the wills of their dead husbands, although sometimes people were bequeathed annual incomes in this way by ex-employers. Another MSA Brown is 44 year old Samuel, an assistant baker. Other professions held by Browns include agricultural labourer, seamstress, and laundress. Finally in MSA we find 5 year old

Eunice Brown visiting the Hookey family, although as she is herself from Milborne, perhaps this was the original sleepover!

In the decade to 1891, there is a reduction in the number of Browns in the village by 50% to just 12 members, comprising 7 people in 1 house in MC, and 5 in 2 houses in MS. The MC Browns are Samuel (the baker), Elizabeth, and their 5 children; Samuel is present in all six censuses, having been just 4 in 1841!

Next month we'll summarise the Ways over the same period. If you are related to someone called Davis, Biles, Brown, or Way, then you're probably in Andy's family tree on Ancestry! Please mail andy.way@adaptcentre.ie if you'd like a copy of his book, or would like to view the tree. *Andy Way/Carole Fornachon*

Sailor Bob's Crossword answers on page 25



Clues Across:

1. Chewed
5. Cheer
10. Canadian State
11. First Prime Minister
12. Seedcase
13. Nick Park Creation
15. Incited
17. Tusked Whale
19. Spin
21. Gain Feathers
23. Ledge
24. European Peninsular
37. Vertebrae Type
31. Three Lines of Poetry
34. Ask
35. Instructed
36. Droop
37. Stir
38. Lady's Maid
39. Me
40. No.1 or 2 Cricketer

Clues Down:

2. Cloudlike
3. Arresting Writ
4. Nappy
5. Elephant's Saddle
6. Hydrocarbon Drilling
7. Miscarried
8. Insect
9. Stylus
14. Rulers of Rome
16. Confused
18. Puppy
20. Melody
22. Tree
24. Incursion
25. Ask
26. State
28. Use
29. Body of Soldiers
30. Puzzle
32. Alone By
33. Musically Smooth



Village Litter Pick

11.00am Sunday March 16th

Can you spare an hour?

**Meet in the Village Hall Carpark
– All Equipment Provided**



Trading Standards Approved

Finding reliable traders can be a gamble. However, Dorset Council Trading Standards can help you identify businesses with good trading history and excellent customer satisfaction.

Many businesses across Dorset have signed up to the national Trading Standards approved 'Buy with Confidence' scheme. This provides a wide choice of established traders committed to fair trading and good customer service. Not only does choosing a 'Buy with Confidence' trader help protect you as the customer, but it also helps support reputable local businesses by signposting new customers to them.

'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.

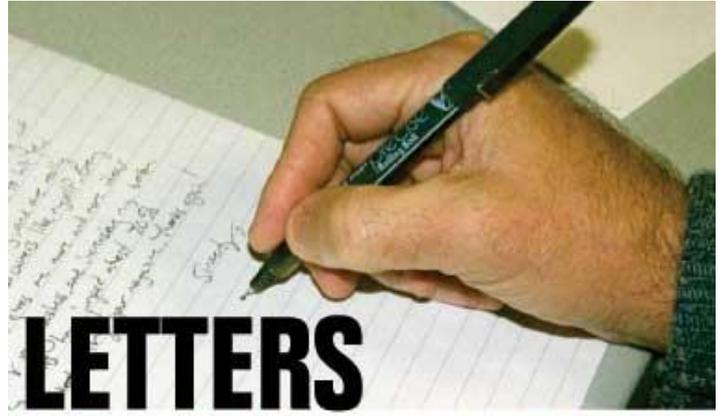
Trading Standards approved members have been audited by Trading Standards officers to make sure they follow consumer protection law. Customer references are taken, and complaint procedures are checked to make sure any issues that may arise can be resolved promptly. In addition, to give you peace of mind, criminal record checks are undertaken for businesses whose employees 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.

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.



LETTERS to the Reporter

*A Big THANK YOU to The Parish Council
We would like to say thank you for the handrail in The Snicket, the alleyway at the end of Stileham Bank. It has made it a lot safer for us and other Oldies.
Ian and Lis Watts*

Free range dogs

As a Milborne resident, I'm getting pretty fed up with dog mess on the pavements and in my garden by dogs running free. Dogs should be walked on leads – as it says in the Highway Code – but it's obvious there are some running loose or being walked off lead. It's especially bad in Hopsfield and Bladen View. So please be a bit more neighbourly and think of others – no one wants to see or step in dog muck especially on the way to school.

Name withheld

Help

Almost every month you probably get a flier through your door, telling you of the film that will be showing in the village hall. This is thanks to a splendid group of people who each deliver to their own road or patch. At the moment there are enough, but sometimes one or more of them can't do it, usually because they are away.

Would you be willing to do a round occasionally? It doesn't take very long, and our village is a pleasant one to walk around! If so, please email me saryan6630@gmail.com

*Many thanks
Sarah Ryan*

Wednesday Club news

AT our meeting on 5th February we had a very interesting talk from Fran Gleeson about Weldmar. Their hospice in Dorchester has 12 beds for the terminally ill and also provides end of life care at home. We then enjoyed our usual coffee and conversation.

The last meeting was a little earlier than usual but on Wednesday 5th March we will be back to our usual time of 2.00pm when members will be talking about their pets.

Do come and join us, everyone is welcome and if you would like to join our committee we would love to hear from you.

Josie Wright

from the archive, 16 years ago . . .

www.milbornestandrew.org.uk/Reporter/Archive

Reporter - March 2009

Winter Weather disruption in the village, Community comes together in a bid to save the Royal Oak and the first "Village Plan".

YOUR CHANCE – HELP SAVE OUR ROYAL OAK

FOLLOWING the public meeting in January which showed massive support for re-opening the Royal Oak a highly motivated group has worked up proposals based on a non-profit making community enterprise.

At a second meeting on 25th February pledges of a truly significant sum, units of £250, were requested to see if negotiations for the freehold of the pub might begin.

If you missed the meeting it is not too late to register a pledge on a form in the Post Office and seal it the special envelope. It will be held by Chris Nowell, the only person to know the individual amounts pledged. Please try to make your pledge by Friday 6 March.

The total pledges made will be assessed by the working group to decide if there is enough pledged to continue. Actual money will only be required once a legal enterprise had been set up.

If you do not wish to make a financial pledge at this stage but wish to be involved, a Promise of your Time and Talents, during the refurbishment phase of the pub, will be very welcome.

Local papers and radio stations have publicised the strength of our views; local authorities have taken notice and we understand that there have been several expressions of interest in the freehold of pub.

The aim is to re-establish the valued community facility of the Royal Oak for mutual benefit of all concerned whether owned by ourselves or someone else equally committed to the village of Milborne St. Andrew.

Tony Dyer

Frost, Rain, Snow

January/February 2009 Weather in Milborne St. Andrew

THE first 10 days of January was dominated by dry and cold conditions with the air temperature falling to -8 on the 9th. Temperatures at ground level would have been 2 to 3 degrees lower than this especially in the lower parts of the village. There were light snow showers on 3rd and 7th. From 11th the weather turned more unsettled with rain recorded on the next 20 days giving a total rainfall of 132.5mm which was 122% of the January average. It was the coldest January in the village since 1997.

February is proving to be an interesting month so far with snowfall recorded on the first 6 days of the month with accumulations of 50mm on both the 2nd and 6th. This was the most snow seen in the village since February 1996 when there was a fall of 150mm on the 5th of that month with electricity failures lasting for two days in some areas around Dorchester.

The return of cold winter weather reminds me of a verse from a poem written in 1912 by Thomas Hardy.

*Iced airs wheeze through the skeletoned hedge from the north,
With steady snores, and a numbing that threatens snow.*

And skaters pass; and merry boys go forth

To look for slides. But well, well do I know

Wither I would go.

Pluvius



Reporter

News and Views from around the area
Volume 1 Issue 2
March 2009

Snow fun



This picture-postcard scene of the village centre starts to tell the tale of a week of disruption at the beginning of February caused by sudden and heavy snowfalls in north Dorset. Journeys home from Dorchester and Blandford took more than six hours at the height of the storm as the Council struggled to cope with the extreme conditions on the roads. Schools were closed to ensure the safety of pupils and many businesses were unable to function as workers failed to get in to work. The Point to Point had to be postponed for a week and then problems were compounded by a power cut that left the south side of the village without electricity for more than eight hours and caused the cancellation of the Friday performance of the village pantomime.

Not all was doom and gloom though. What do you do when you can't get to school because of snow? Well... you go sledging, build a snowman, have snowball fights, have fun! Many people also took the time to get into the countryside to view the beautiful snow-covered landscapes around our village and had a wonderful time.



Oh yes it is!



For many young children this was the first real snow they had ever experienced. Show your snow pictures on the village website by sending them to gallery@milbornestandrew.org.uk

Milborne St. Andrew

YOUR CHANCE TO DECIDE THE FUTURE OF MILBORNE

The last Village Plan in 1981 identified several major items which have since been provided: the new school, the sports club and some mains gas. Twenty-five years later national, regional and local conditions had changed and the Parish Council saw the need for a new plan.

A team of volunteers have now produced a questionnaire which will be distributed throughout the village on 7/8 March together with a special questionnaire for 8 to 18 year-olds. We need the views of as many of the community as possible to make the new plan "bankable" with the local authorities

Another team of volunteers is required to distribute the questionnaire on 7/8 March AND to collect it on 21/22 March. Please contact Peter or Tony as below then come to a briefing in the Village Hall Committee Room at 7pm Wednesday 4th March.

All residents and businesses alike are encouraged to complete the questionnaire, which when analysed will set out our views on how Milborne St Andrew should develop over the next 15 to 20 years. A draft of the plan will be presented to the Village in the Autumn seeking endorsement before passing it on to the Parish Council and North Dorset District Council for inclusion in their statutory plans.

Anyone who needs their completed questionnaire collected on a date other than 21/22 March should also contact Peter or Tony.

Peter Dunkley, Tony Dyer

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN YOUR QUESTIONNAIRE

February Parish Council meeting notes

THE poppy wreath at the memorial stone has recently been set alight causing smoke damage to the memorial stone. The incident has been reported to the police. The memorial stone has now been cleaned. A replacement wreath has been donated by a parishioner who wishes to remain anonymous.

Thanks from a parishioner was given to everyone who cleaned the memorial stone. He also shared that he was disappointed that the police no longer attend PC meetings in our village. Cllr Parker stated that the only PC meeting in her area that has police representation in attendance is Puddletown where a PCSO attends at least once every three meetings, and if she doesn't attend she supplies a report for the PC meeting.

Update from Cllr Parker (DC):

- Road traffic calming – an email had been received to say that it was taking longer than expected to meet with the team manager and that they were hoping to meet later that week (first week in February). Cllr Parker will chase for an update.
- Application for 70 houses on Dewlish Road – spoke to the planning officer who is aware that it has taken over the 24 weeks that it was expected for decision to be made. Planning are still waiting for further information and anticipating that there will be a decision made in April, though at this stage it is not clear whether it will be a refusal or whether it will go to committee.

PC are waiting for notification from Wyatt Homes for removal of the barrier fence at Coles Lane giving access to the HIP.

Following the review of grit bins around the village, two grit bins were approved at Lower Barn Road and Lower Huntley Down. Two more requests for grit bins have been received at Lynch Close and Milton Road Close (by the surgery). It was

agreed to purchase the additional bins in green.

No update has been received regarding the planning at Corner House.

Handrail at the Snicket has been installed and paid for by DC.



The Annual Parish Spring Clean will take place on Sunday 16th March at 11.00am. Meet at the Village Hall carpark – all equipment will be provided though if you have a high vis then please wear it. There has been a litterpick for a few years now and it is usually well attended and lots of rubbish is retrieved.

Next meeting will be on Wednesday 5th March at the village hall starting at 7.00pm.

Jo Whitfield

Milborne Ladybirds

Learning through play to help children achieve their potential

Located in Milborne First School

Rated **GOOD** again by
Ofsted

*"Children enjoy learning"
"Staff are knowledgeable about
child development and know
when to stand back and let
children problem solve"*

Opening times
Term time 9.00 –15.00

With friendly knowledgeable staff,
we offer a high quality preschool ex-
perience for children aged 2 years to
school age in Milborne St Andrew
and the surrounding area

Minimum attendance 3 hours per day
starting at 9am

To find out more:
Call in to see us at the Milborne First School
Phone **07767 450967** during opening hours
Email secretary@milborneladybirds.com

Ofsted registered no.217717

www.milborneladybirds.com

Registered Charity no. 1087441



Our School Values

Respect For Self – We are kind to ourselves and responsible for our own learning

Respect For Others – We are kind to each other. Our differences make us stronger

Respect For Our World – We are part of nature. We will work together to make the world a better place

THIS term Buttercups Class embarked on an exciting and educational learning journey that took them all the way to the Arctic. Through an exploration of adaptation, Buttercups Class

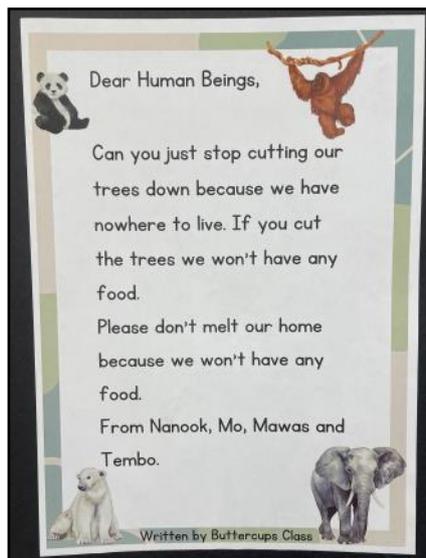
Buttercups have also been learning how animals adapt to the different environments they live in and a large interactive map of the world showcased where the different animals in our class



investigated how both Arctic animals and people survive in one of the most extreme environments on Earth. With the book *The Journey Home* as their focus, the children were able to uncover the secrets of the icy wilderness and discover the fascinating adaptations that allow life to thrive in such a harsh landscape. Buttercups Class then showcased their learning this week at their Great Works Exhibition. The Great Works Exhibition combined vibrant display of creativity, learning with hands-on experiences that brought the wonders of the ocean and Arctic regions to life.

Buttercups Class displayed their artwork alongside Bluebells Class to create a large collaborative piece of art combining different creative techniques including body art and weaving. This included a weaving element inspired by the work of textile artist Cecilia Vicuña where the children explored texture and pattern to represent the movement of the ocean. Striking blue paintings made using body art techniques were also included in the mural to depict waves and movement in the sea. Visitors could also explore hands-on science learning experiences including investigating the different sea creatures that live in cold and warm water environments and observing how seagrass plays a vital role in keeping our oceans clean.

book, *The Journey Home*, live around the world. Buttercups Class also have explored the concept of endangered species. Through the book *The Journey Home*, they learned about the threats facing polar bears, panda bears, orangutans and elephants and discussed how climate change and other environmental factors are putting these animals and their habitats at risk. To raise awareness about the importance of protecting these animals, the children showcased the posters and poems they created to highlight the issue of endangered species.



This exhibition was an inspiring reminder of the joy of learning and celebrated the hard work, imagination, and exploration of Buttercups Class.

Honeysuckle class have been learning about the story of the Empire Windrush, exploring the experiences of those who made the journey and the cultural contributions they brought to Britain. As part of their project, they welcomed grown-ups into school to create fabric prints inspired by the renowned artist and textile designer Althea McNish. Known for bringing the vibrant colours of the Caribbean to England, McNish even designed for the late Queen. The children and the grown-ups had a wonderful time creating their designs.

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 Winning

Chair of Governors: Paul Tasker

FOS Chairman: Kate O'Kelly

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

website: www.milborne.dorset.sch.uk

Tel: (01258) 837362

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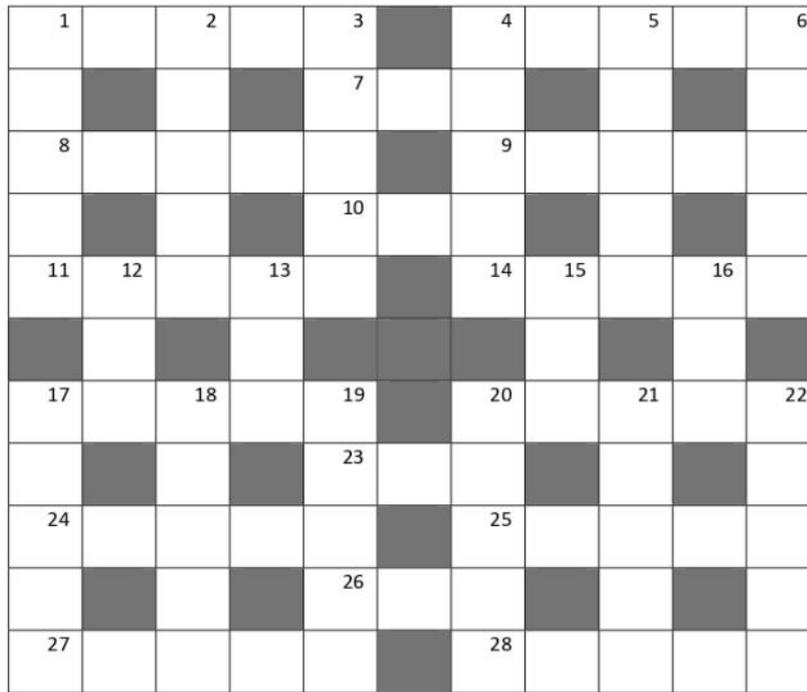


burrow-environmental.com 01935 507 508

Junior corner no prize just a bit of fun. Answers on page 25

Across

1. Computer tool
4. Settees
7. Fish Catcher
8. Beavers Home
9. Command
10. Male
11. Arrangement
14. Choose
17. Snake
20. Tale
23. Place
24. Arm Muscle
25. More
26. Meadow
27. Paddled boat
28. Earn



Down

1. Geroge Cross Island
2. Below
3. Foe
4. Granite or Flint
5. Sugary Sweet
6. Small Fish
12. de Janeiro
15. Melody
15. Allow
16. Automobile
17. Cc = Centimetre
18. ,,,,,, & Eggs
19. Fruit
20. Hot Water
21. Water Animal
22. Bread Ingredient .

1. Where in the Village would you find this?



2. What do you call a squirrel's nest?
3. Which Children's author lived in Studland?
4. How many spots on a dice?
5. What is the background colour of the Dorset Flag?

C			D
	B	A	

SUDOKU

Put the letters A, B, C and D in each row up and down, diagonally and 2x2 box.

Most of us are experiencing hard times and it's no different here at the Reporter - our balance sheet (*see page 4*) shows that in the long run, we can't continue to produce the magazine for the village as we're paying more for printing than we're receiving in advertising. We know how much our readers value their monthly delivery, the whole show being down to volunteers' hard work. So we're asking a favour - if you run a business, would you be interested in supporting us by taking out advertising? Our long-term advertisers definitely recommend it as there's no better way to get through the door of every home in Milborne! We want to keep the magazine going as we think it is a tremendous community resource - we hope you do too so please help us keep the wolf from the door. Please pass on the message!





PLEASE NOTE: Any copy for the **April** issue should be received no later than **14th March**
 Send your articles and photographs via email to m.s.a.reporter@yahoo.co.uk or give to a member of the Team.
 Team members can be found on page 2.

Milton Abbas Surgery

Surgery Staff

We would like to warmly welcome Mandy, our new Health Care Assistant, to the surgery Nursing Team. Mandy has come from the Southern Health Heart Failure Team and has lots of experience, so we are lucky to have her.

We are also very pleased to welcome back Alice in Dispensary from maternity leave!

We would like to extend our thanks to both our Nursing and Dispensary Teams for their dedicated efforts in covering gaps within their teams. Your hard work has been invaluable. We also want to express our gratitude to our patients, for your patience and understanding over the past few months.

Wellbeing Team Activities

Just a reminder of some of the great groups run by our fantastic surgery Health Champions:

- ◇ **Beginners Line Dancing group** is on a Monday 2.30pm – 3.30pm at the Winterborne Whitechurch Village Hall
- ◇ **Walking group** is on Wednesdays at 10.00am – please see our surgery Facebook page for the monthly walking schedule or collect a programme from Reception
- ◇ **Crafting group** is on the first and third Wednesday of the month at 12.30pm at the Milborne St. Andrew Sports Club Pavilion (DT11 0JA).

No need to book a space, just turn up on the day. Our Wellbeing Team would love to see you! Further information can be found on our surgery website www.masurgery.co.uk/wellbeing-team.

RSV

RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus) is an infectious disease of the airways and lungs. RSV infection often causes symptoms similar to a cold, including cough, sore throat, sneezing and runny or blocked nose. It can also make you become wheezy or short of breath and lead to pneumonia and other life-threatening conditions.

Everyone turning 75 years old on or after the 1st September 2024 will be offered a single dose of RSV vaccine. For the first year of the programme, the vaccine will also be offered to those who are already aged 75 to 79 years on 1st September 2024 as part of a catch-up programme. If you are eligible and would like to have the vaccine, please contact the surgery to book.

Wednesday 12th March 2025 – Young Carers Action Day

#YoungCarersActionDay 2025 theme this year is 'Give Me A Break'. 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.

Young carers have so much responsibility on their shoulders that they often have little time for themselves and are at serious risk of burnout. They need a break. They need time out from their caring responsibilities to rest, recharge and focus on themselves – be it for a hobby, or just spending time with friends, like other people their age.

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.

Carer Money Matters

Carers Support Dorset in partnership with the Carers Trust have a new service – Carer Money Matters. Their Financial Wellbeing Officers are available to provide advice and support on:

- ⇒ Financial Support: Guidance on understanding and claiming the financial assistance they're entitled to, along with practical tips for reducing energy bills.
- ⇒ Energy Saving and Debt Advice: Free support on energy saving, managing energy debt, and assistance with registering on the Priority Services Register for extra support during supply interruptions.
- ⇒ Work and Career Support: Help with job searching, interview practice, and CV guidance for carers balancing caregiving with work

Carers can access the service by calling Freephone 0800 368 8349 or email admin@carersupportdorset.co.uk

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MILBORNE ST ANDREW VILLAGE HALL
Friday 21st March at 7.30pm
Doors and Bar at 7.00pm

Ladybirds news

JANUARY and February have seen the children exploring the weather, night and day through play, art and stories.

Can you spot the foot prints in these grey clouds? Or the lightening in the dark skies.



But more importantly we've been able to live the seasons and be outside whatever the weather. There's been snow flurries, storm Eowyn, grey clouds, dark days and the sun along with blue skies has appeared on more than one occasion.

There's a saying that has lost its attribution over time

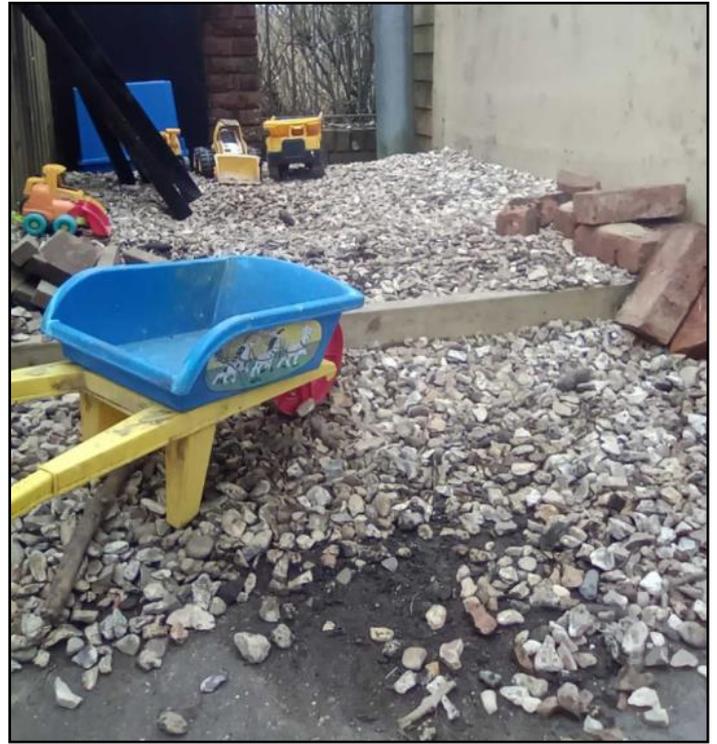
'There's no such thing as bad weather just inappropriate clothing' so we've got our waterproofs on and got outside. Which has meant our new gravel digging area has been used constantly!

The gravel area is what we've had made and paid for it from last year's fundraising – so thank you to everyone who participated in the Easter Egg and Jumble trail.

Next half term we are moving onto play and exploration based on the topic Jungle and pattern. Can you help? Do you have a child friendly pet that has a jungle or warmer climate link? Would you be happy to visit us? Please do get in touch.

We are also

looking for animal print fabric or clothing (any size) please bring to school reception in working hours.



Bookends' Good Read "Flight" by Isabel Ashdown

THIS book is trailed as containing "explosive family secrets" during which the protagonists' world is "thrown into turmoil". It certainly contained extraordinary elements of extreme responses to natural events. The group thoroughly explored these both in feedback and discussion. The story centred around three friends, Rob, Laura and Wren. Their friendship spanned many years. Rob and Laura since Primary School and Wren's from College. They seemed inseparable and incredibly close. However cracks showed as Wren and Rob married and had a child Phoebe. Laura tried many times to have a child without success.

There was a great deal of discussion amongst group members as to the mental health of such closeness, and its ramifications. Could such a close knit threesome maintain such love and forgiveness throughout a turbulent period of their young lives? There seemed no divisions or anger manifest despite apparent betrayals and abandonment. It was a complex tale told in a rather jolting manner switching from person to person and different time scales. On the whole most members found this disruptive but others liked the method of filling in gaps. The dynamics of friendship groups were not explored nor the psychological issues which arose. Wren in particular appeared to suffer from a form of anxiety disorder. Laura certainly was written clearly, warm, vivid, loving and forgiving. Wren distant and unhappy, Rob elusive. The slow pacing suited the Cornish scenario and the pain of intertwined lives, the bleakness echoing Wren's state of mind. Parents were incidental to the tale and its serpentine unravelling. Except that Wren's insecure attachment to her detached mother seemed relevant to her behaviour throughout. All agreed that the text explored the fluidity of human connections, emotional vulnerability, the chemistry and empathy between the friends. Most of all we appreciated the visual aesthetic and the sense of place which permeated the tale and felt it would be a book we could recommend to others.

Carole Fornachon

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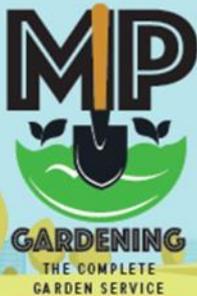
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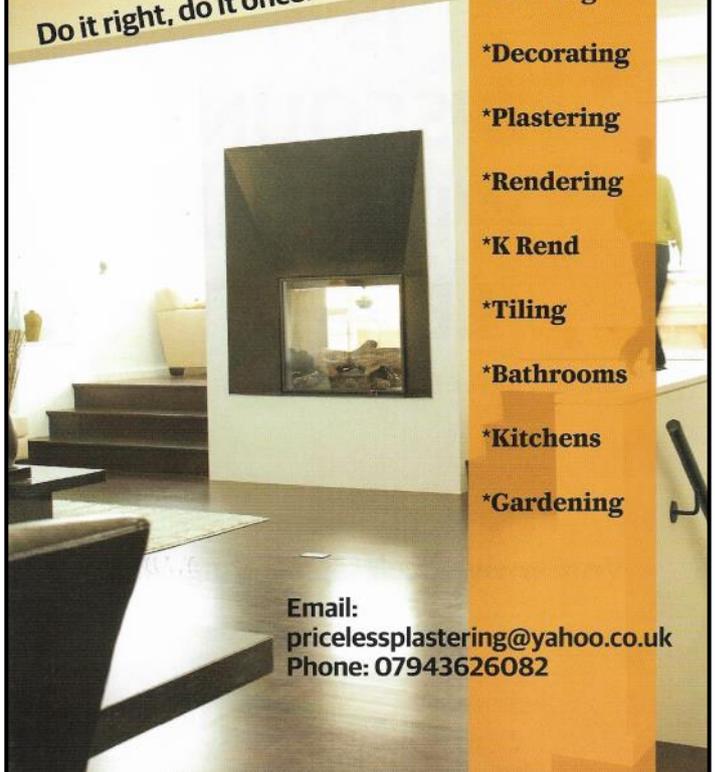


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Answers to Sailor Bob's Crossword on page 15

	G	N	A	W	E	D		H	O	O	R	A	Y	
E		E		A		I		O		I		B		N
A	L	B	E	R	T	A		W	A	L	P	O	L	E
R		U		R		P	O	D		W		R		E
W	A	L	L	A	C	E		A	B	E	T	T	E	D
I		A		N	A	R	W	H	A	L		E		L
G	Y	R	A	T	E		H		F	L	E	D	G	E
				I		S	H	E	L	F		L		
I	B	E	R	I	A		L		L	U	M	B	A	R
N		N		T	R	I	P	L	E	T		R		I
R	E	Q	U	E	S	T		E	D	I	F	I	E	D
O		U		R		S	A	G		L		G		D
A	G	I	T	A	T	E		A	B	I	G	A	I	L
D		R		T		L		T		S		D		E
		M	Y	S	E	L	F		O	P	E	N	E	R

Answers to Junior page on page 21

M	O	U	S	E		S	O	F	A	S
A		N		N	E	T		U		P
L	O	D	G	E		O	R	D	E	R
T		E		M	E	N		G		A
A	R	R	A	Y		E	L	E	C	T
	I		I				E		A	
C	O	B	R	A		S	T	O	R	Y
U		A		P	U	T		T		E
B	I	C	E	P		E	X	T	R	A
I		O		L	E	A		E		S
C	A	N	O	E		M	E	R	I	T

Junior Quiz Answers

1. "Byways" in Little England,
2. A Dray,
3. Enid Blyton,
4. 21,
5. Yellow

C	A	B	D
B	D	C	A
D	B	A	C
A	C	D	B

What's on in March

Wednesday 5th	Wednesday Club Village Hall 2.00pm.
Wednesday 5th	Parish Council Meeting Village Hall 7.00pm.
Saturday 8th	Community Café Village Hall 10.00am.
Thursday 13th	WI Abbey Bartlett will talk about <i>Body Shop Ethics</i> . Please come along and join us. Village Hall 7.30pm.
Friday 14th	Deadline for February's <i>Reporter</i> . Send your articles and photographs via email to m.s.a.reporter@yahoo.co.uk or give to a member of the Team. Team members can be found on page 2.
Sunday 16th	Village Litter Pick meet Village Hall 11.00am.
Friday 21st	Milborne Movies <i>The Critic</i> Village Hall 7.30pm – see page 13.
Saturday 22nd	Quiz Night Village Hall – see pages 5 and 7.
Friday 14th	Bridge The Royal Oak 2.30pm.
Thursday 20th	Gardening Club demonstration on how to create a Summer Hanging Basket Village Hall 7.30pm.
Friday 21st	Bridge The Royal Oak 2.30pm.
Friday 27th	Pie Night The Royal Oak.

Regular Bookings at the Village Hall

Players Monday 7.00pm weekly.
Move it or lose it Tuesday 10.15am.
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

Pilates Monday 6.30–7.30pm.
Yoga Tuesday 6.15–7.45pm.
Stitchcraft (kids) Wednesday 4.15–5.15pm and 5.30–6.30pm, Thursday 4.00–5.00pm
Surgery Wellbeing Papercraft Group 1st and 3rd Wednesdays 1.30–3.30pm.
Sewcial Crafters (adults) Thursday 1.00–3.00pm and 5.30–7.30pm
Kickboxercise Thursday 7.00–8.00pm (school holidays only).
Yoga (Mellulah) 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.
Badminton Wednesday 6.30–8.00pm (term time only).

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Community Contacts

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

More information about many community organisations can be found on www.milbornestandrew.org.uk

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	Bookings: Philip Smith	07776 561105

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 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

GENERAL — ADULT

Moonlight Swing Band	Gillian Pink	01305 260731
M.A. Neighbourcar	Nigel Hodder	01258 470333
Wednesday Social Club	Josie Wright	01258 839090
Women's Institute	Lesley Clarke	01929 471732

GENERAL — YOUTH

Scouts, Cubs and Beavers	Sam Elliott	07873 762035
Busy Bees	Leah House	07825 563862
	Louise Emily	07944 875337
Milborne Ladybirds	Samantha Mercer	07767 450967

POLICE

Police – Non-emergency contact (North Rural team) 101
Contact us | Dorset Police Online is dealt with in exactly the same way as non-emergency 101 phone calls.

SCHOOL

Milborne First School		
Head of School	Michelle Cheeseman	01258 837362
Chair Governors:	Paul Tasker	
Friends of School Chair:	Kate O'Kelly	
St. Mary's Puddletown	Tim Ennion	01305 848293

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
Karate	Peter Thompson	07873 116118
	wessexmartialarts@gmail.com	
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



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2025 EVENTS

Outdoor Markets

Saturday 26th April
Saturday 28th June
Saturday 11th October

Plant Fair

Sunday 11th May

Outdoor Theatre & Music

Twelfth Night

*performed by the Lord Chamberlain's Men
in conjunction with Dorchester Arts*
Thursday 5th June

Wind in the Willows

Saturday 21st June

Jane Eyre

Saturday 2nd August

Big Bad Wolf

Saturday 16th August

Abba Tribute

Saturday 6th September

Winter Food & Drink Fair

Saturday 8th November
Sunday 9th November



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