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# Reporter

80P WHERE SOLD

News and Views from around the area

Volume 12 Issue 3

March 2020

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Milborne St. Andrew



Dick Whittington comes to Milborne





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The *Reporter* is not responsible for the content of any advertisement or material on websites advertised within this magazine.

## Please note

Please ensure that your anti-virus software is up to date before e-mailing. Copy should be sent as a Word (or other) text file and do not embed pictures, logos, etc. into the document. Photos should be sent as separate .jpg files. Do not send articles as .pdf.

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

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

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

Paper copy to any of the team

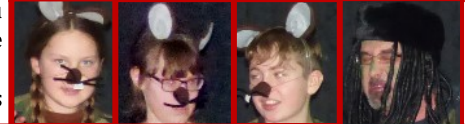


## JOURNEY'S END –

### DICK WHITTINGTON ARRIVES IN LONDON TOWN

A TRADITIONAL pantomime story with some lovely performances from all the principal cast and the outstanding young cast playing a variety of roles as Londoners, Rats, Rockin Cookies, Sailors and Guards. It was full of colour, cheerful music, gags, slapstick, audience participation with some very loud booing and cheering. This show certainly cheered up chilly and damp February evenings and Saturday afternoon. Included in the show was a film produced with the technical skills of Lee Wadham (Lee Wadham Media) which was a big undertaking for the Players but created something totally unique. Our thanks go to him for his hard work on this project. The show was adapted from the original script of Limelight Scripts by me to provide original roles for the young cast and other bits and bobs along the way. Costumes altogether were a triumph, with some beautiful dame creations from Lizzie Bowers and Adrienne Rogers making the role of Dame very much an original piece. That table will be talked about for some time, I'm sure! To those of you who came to see it, grateful thanks, and for those who didn't then next year don't miss out on live community based entertainment and get on board. The Players are always looking for new members in all areas so if you fancy a go then get in touch or look out for future information here in the *Reporter*, around the village or on our website [www.milborneplayers.org.uk](http://www.milborneplayers.org.uk).

*Caroline Nobbs – Director for DW 2020 on behalf of the Milborne Players*





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## Tip of the Month 1

AFTER the gloom of winter, the days are lengthening, flowers are coming out and there are young animals in the fields, March is the start of spring and hopefully the worst of the weather is behind us now. So if it is fine this month you may be thinking about venturing out to blow off the cobwebs and enjoy the magnificent beauty of Dorset, but whilst you take in the scenery, here is some advice to help you stay within the law and above all, safe.

Lots of people like their dog to enjoy the countryside with them, but whilst walking in the rural landscape there is the likelihood that you will encounter both wildlife and grazing farm animals.

Livestock are a valuable asset and being chased by dogs can cause serious damage, ewes can abort their lambs and all animals can injure themselves in the panic to escape. Allowing your dog to worry sheep is an offence and in some circumstances farmers are legally entitled to shoot dogs that are endangering their sheep, so it is vital to keep your dog on a lead around livestock, even if you can generally trust it to come when you call.

Cows with calves are very protective and have been known to cause serious injury and even death to dogs and their owners, so try and avoid going into fields where they are grazing. If you do encounter cows with their calves, avoid coming between them and keep dogs on leads, but release them if chased or threatened.

For more information go to Gov.uk and search for the Countryside Code. As well as following the Countryside Code, it is important to take care when walking along cliffs and beaches especially if you are accompanied by dogs or children.

The main rules are:

- Keep to paths and stay away from the edge of the cliff
- Rock falls and landslides can happen at any time, especially following the heavy rainfall over the last few months
- Warning signs are there for your safety, so pay attention to them
- Avoid being cut off by incoming tides, checking tide times before you set off
- Be aware of mud flows on beaches, they can look deceptively like the beach itself
- Keep dogs on leads on cliff tops to prevent them from running or falling over the edge

If you have taken your vehicle to your chosen walking spot, please park considerately and never park in gateways or block drives, don't forget to lock it up and keep valuables out of sight. Don't put handbags, laptops and other valuables in the boot, someone could be watching – if you aren't taking it with you on your walk, leave it at home.

Please take your litter home with you, littering is not only anti-social, it spoils the beauty of the countryside and is harmful to wildlife and the natural environment.

Finally, wherever you chose to walk whether with your dog, your family or friends or just on your own enjoy it and stay safe.

## Don't be a black sheep – get to the barn dance!



AN evening of barn dancing is lined up at the Village Hall, with the "cask-conditioned Celtic rock" band, Black Sheep providing the tunes to dance to. The ever-popular Dorset band are playing at the event that includes a prize for the best dressed cowboy or girl, so get your best check shirts, boots and denims ready to go! Advance tickets are on sale at £12 for adults, £6 for children, and this includes food with a licensed bar available so you don't get thirsty while you hoedown. The event will also benefit local charity for bereaved children and families, Mosaic, and there are prizes to be won in a raffle, with all proceeds going to the charity.

The barn dance is on Saturday 14th March at 7.00pm, ending at 11.00pm and tickets can be bought at the village Londis or <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/thecherrybarevents>



## Play & Bloom at the Pavilion

PLAY & BLOOM is a small business founded in Dorset to provide babysign and forest school sessions for families and their children under five years old.

Our babysign classes run Monday mornings from Milborne St. Andrew Sports Pavilion. From April we will be running a beginner's class from 9.30–10.30am weekly. We also run forest school sessions at Charisworth Farm, to find out more information find us on Facebook @playandbloom or check our website [www.playandbloom.co.uk](http://www.playandbloom.co.uk).

Faye Samways Play & Bloom



## Break-even year, but higher costs for 2020

The accounts of the *Reporter* for the year ending show what appears to be a healthy balance, though we finish the year breaking even. Printing costs have remained the same for over three years – although actual monthly costs vary slightly due to number of pages in each month's issue, as well as inclusion of inside colour pages. However, printing fees for the coming year are to rise by over 8%.

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 thanks go to Jenny Balcon for once again examining our accounts.

### Reporter Balance Sheet Year ending 31st January 2020

Receipts		Payments	
Advertising	£4485.00	Printing	£3672.69
Copies sold + refund	£105.60	Expenses	£174.58
£60 dog show			
Bank Interest	£26.85		
<b>Total</b>	<b>£4617.45</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£3847.27</b>
Receipts	£4617.45	Payments	£3847.27
B/F Cash	£51.66	C/F Cash	£31.88
B/F Bank	<u>£7128.48</u>	C/F Bank	<u>£7918.44</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>11797.59</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>£11797.59</b>
Cash in Bank 31st Jan 2020		£7918.44	
Cash in hand 31st Jan 2020		£31.88	
TOTAL IN HAND at 31st Jan 2020		<u>£7950.32</u>	
Profit for year ending 31st Jan 2020		£770.18	

Surplus due to advance payments of approx. £1100





THE BENEFICE OF PUDDLETOWN, TOLPUDDLE AND  
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## Growing in faith

Simon Parke writes: "It is a sobering thought that life does not automatically result in self-development. Many people imagine that, as they grow older, they develop but it is far from inevitable. The passage of time does not make for growth."

"Think of a seed. Like us a seed is genetically programmed to grow into a plant; but it will stay a seed for a million years unless conditions for growth are right. The seed is crammed full with potential, but it will stay a seed until placed in the soil and fed with food, air and light."

"And so it is with humans. We are self-developing organisms, but life does not develop us if it's not the right sort of life. The human being is no more the finished article than the acorn. In order to become an oak tree, the acorn needs to be planted in something other than itself, and we are the same."

It is also the same for those with a Christian faith. If we are to grow in faith, we need to be planted in the right soils with the right catalysts for growth.

Jesus never envisaged his followers going it alone, yet many today think that they can do just that. Belonging to a church community is important, if we are to grow closer to God.

Being part of Christian community provides the right soil for growth and development. It's about much more than just tipping up on a Sunday to sing some songs, say some prayers, hear a Bible reading and a sermon, boring or otherwise. A living Christian community is a place where we learn to pray, to share our experience of God, to understand what a deep relationship with God looks like, to find a fellowship of mutual support and a place where we can be truly accepted as we are. That doesn't mean to say it's a place where we can then stay as we are; the journey of faith requires a deep and continuing transformation.

Faith requires commitment. It requires a commitment to God, and a commitment to other Christians. And yet too many of us see God as an add-on to the rest of our lives, fitted in when we feel like it, rather than at the very heart of our being. Being a Christian is exciting and joyful, but it also needs to be embraced whole-heartedly. And that includes challenging those excuses we make not to gather each week with our fellow Christians. They need us, as much as we need them.

Best wishes

*Sarah*

## Saying Yes to Life in Milborne

YOU will probably already know that our vicar, Sarah, is running two Lent courses. One of which is 'Saying Yes to Life'. At St. Andrew's church, we have already taken steps to become an Eco Church so it is particularly pertinent for us.

Speaking at the Synod recently, Bishop Nicholas said that, while Salisbury was the first Diocese to achieve an Eco Diocese award, there was still a great deal to do. He challenged members to see how their churches could get involved with Eco Church and expressed his desire that all parishes use 'Saying Yes to Life' during Lent 2020 in place of the Diocesan 'Praying Together' booklet which is not being produced this year. The Bishops hope both adults and children might engage in God's plea for us to "Care for Creation".

We are finding that becoming an Eco Church is a long process; however, Carole our Eco Champion, continues to lead the way. Last Lent we encouraged people to reduce their use of plastic and also gave information about saving resources such as water, electricity, etc. This year during Lent we will again run the 'Jars for Change' challenge which encourages people to collect their change during lent to support WaterAid.

We will also focus on the use of Fairtrade products. Although we already use Fairtrade tea and coffee when we provide refreshments in church, we hope to raise awareness of this subject. Carole has arranged for Judith Holmes to tell us about the work of Fairtrade on the 25th March (see page 13). It will be held in the committee room of the Village Hall starting at 2.00pm. There will also be Fairtrade items for sale as well as refreshments (Fairtrade of course). It is a free event so please come along and find out more.

Pam Shults, Churchwarden



## Dewlish Church Notes

MARCH (and Lent) will be an altogether very busy time in the churches.

In Dewlish we are once again holding our **Lent Lunches**, which consist of soup, bread,

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

March 2020

### 1st March – Lent 1

9.30am	Parish Communion	Tolpuddle
9.30	Celebrate . . .	Milborne
11.00	Parish Communion	Puddletown
11.00	1662 Morning Prayer	Dewlish
4.00	Messy Church	Puddletown

### 8th March – Lent 2

8.15	1662 Said Communion	Puddletown
9.30	Methodist United Service	Tolpuddle
9.30	Parish Communion	Milborne
11.00	Puddletown Praise	Puddletown Church Room
11.00	Parish Communion	Dewlish

### 15th March – Lent 3

9.30	Parish Communion	Tolpuddle
9.30	1662 Morning Prayer	Milborne
11.00	Parish Communion	Puddletown
11.00	Family Service	Dewlish

### THURSDAY 19th March

12 noon	Lunch-time Communion	Puddletown Church Room
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### 22nd March – Mothering Sunday/Lent 4

9.30am	Mothering Sunday Go Fourth	Tolpuddle
9.30	Mothering Sunday	Milborne
	Holy Communion	
11.00	1662 Morning Prayer	Puddletown
11.00	Mothering Sunday	Dewlish
	Holy Communion	

### 29th March – Passion Sunday

11.00am	United Benefice	Milborne
	Holy Communion with preacher from the Bible Society followed by a bring-and-share lunch	

### MORNING PRAYERS

Monday to Thursday 8.15 am Saturday. 9.00am

Monday – Puddletown	Tuesday – Milborne
Wednesday – Dewlish	Thursday – Tolpuddle
Saturday – Puddletown	

### LENT

During Lent there will also be: Compline in Milborne at 6.00pm and Evening Prayer in Dewlish at 6.30pm on Thursdays

### Do you need a lift to church?

If you have difficulty getting to church or need transport when the Benefice Service is at another church, we can arrange transport for you. Please contact Pam on 837203.





cheese, grapes, and a coffee or tea. All of the lunches will be held on Thursdays, 12.30pm for 1.00pm, at the following venues:

March 5th	Dewlish Village Hall
March 12th	Uptop (Mr and Mrs Mike Fell)
March 19th	Parsonage Farm (Mrs Sue Britton)
March 26th	Dewlish Village Hall
April 2nd	Elm View (Daphne and Jim Burg)

We charge £5 per person, all proceeds being donated to WaterAid.

Also throughout Lent Jim will be leading an **Evening Prayer Service** in the church at 6.30pm. The dates are the same as for the Lent Lunches, except on 26th March when he has a hospital appointment. We do hope that you will support both things.

**Mothering Sunday** is on 22nd March, and our church service will start at 11.00am. Posies will be distributed to all mums, grannies, etc. during the service. Do please join us.

Our **Spring Sale** will be on Saturday 4th April, 10.30am – 12noon, in the Village Hall. Carole has kindly allowed us to share our stalls with the Community Coffee Morning, so do come for a bacon butty, or a full English breakfast, or cake and coffee as well. Donations for the stalls will be most welcome. There will be an Easter stall, New stall, cakes and produce, toys and books, and a raffle.

*Daphne Burg*

## Easter Church Flowers – Lilies for Remembrance



EASTER is late this year and will be celebrated at the weekend of April 10th – 12th. We have a lovely tradition in Milborne of dedicating the Easter flowers in St. Andrew's church in memory of friends and relatives. We use the large white lilies which are beautifully scented and usually manage to fill the church with them. The names of those being remembered are written in a special book

which is also displayed in the church at the time.

If you would like to participate, please put your contribution, cheque or cash, in an envelope *with the names of those you wish to remember* (important), though not your own name.

These may be left with Pam Shults at 26 Stileham Bank, or Sally Dyer at 13 St. Andrews View. They may also, of course, be brought to a church service, or placed in the locked collection box in the wall inside the main church door.

It would be helpful if you could do this during March as the flowers have to be ordered in good time.

We hope for another beautiful display this year. Thank you in advance.

*Sally Dyer*

## Church Contacts

Vicar Sarah Hillman 01305 848784  
E-mail: sarah.c.hillman@outlook.com  
Rev Rosie Coldwell 01258 839214

### Churchwardens

**Milborne St. Andrew**  
Pam Shults 01258 837203

### Dewlish

Jim Burg 01258 837466 Sue Britton 01258 837218

### Benefice Office

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

## Heffalumps, Hippolyta and Diggory

IF you can link these three names you are what is called a galanthophile. Galanthus being the name for snowdrops. Gala=milk and Anthos =flower. There are more than 1,000 different varieties. Their bulbs are very expensive and it's difficult to tell one variety from another. They are best planted 'in the green' just when they have stopped flowering as bulbs dry out very quickly. It can take from two to four years to grow from seed or 'twin scaling'. The last method involves dividing each bulb into ten chips using a craft knife, washed in spirit, shaken in sulphur powder and put into vermiculite and water. By September there should be pin sized bulbs (nine to ten weeks) potted into compost, labelled and put outside (bring in if the temperatures fall to freezing). In year two repot, in year three they will be of flowering size. A form of recycling for those with infinite patience! Currently there is a tremendous surge of interest in these beautiful, fragile little plants. They are cross pollinated by bees, and variations can be found, some of which are very small. There are even yellow varieties such as Wendys Gold. The wild snowdrop here is mostly *nivalis* (milk flower); this is the one that spreads in woodlands in the spring. They have been cultivated in England since the 16th century, though it is possible they were brought to our shores by Norman monks even earlier than that. They were once used to treat 'problems of the head', and, interestingly, a chemical found in snowdrops is now being used in a treatment for Alzheimer's. Locally there is a National Collection of 40 different varieties at Kingston Lacy. Also a unique project in Shaftesbury creating Britain's first 'snowdrop town'. There is an annual Snowdrop Festival with snowdrop walks, an art exhibition and snowdrop-themed craft classes. February is their most prolific month. Hopefully, weather permitting we can all walk and enjoy them on our doorstep.

*Carole Fornachon*



Have you got a funny story you'd like to share? Or joke, anecdote or anything that would make us and

the village chuckle?! The Reporter would love to share your funnies, so get in touch:

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

[facebook.com/MilborneReporter](https://www.facebook.com/MilborneReporter) or see

one of the team.





## More Rain, Bird Watch and Valentines at Ladybirds

WEATHER remained an interest at Ladybirds in February. The children continued playing in the rain and puddles and did some wonderful artwork. A group project of a rainbow picture included scissor use and sticking for the younger children while the older children had a go at writing words and cutting out the sun and cloud. We tried creating a weather station to catch and measure the rain but the wind proved too strong.

We participated in the RSPB birdwatch, making bird feeders to attract the birds. The children then equipped with binoculars, clipboards and tally sheets went outside to look out for birds. Unsurprisingly most of the birds



kept their distance but we were able to spot lots flying high in the sky. The blackbirds and a robin have become more used to the children and enticed by food are now regularly seen in the outdoor area from the doorway.

With Valentine's Day this month the children made cards, most of them deciding to send them to their mum. The photo shows a variety of the cards – all different according to choice and ability. The task offered was to cut out a heart shape and make it into a Ladybird.

*Liz Dyer*

# Milborne Ladybirds

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### To find out more:

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Liz Dyer (Leader) on 01258 839117;  
07771 512427; [liz@milborneladybirds.com](mailto:liz@milborneladybirds.com)  
Committee on [secretary@milborneladybirds.com](mailto:secretary@milborneladybirds.com)

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## Tea Clipper Tea Rooms

INTRODUCING the Tea Clipper Tea Rooms. We are a small, family run business in Milton Abbas. Two years ago Alastair and Kathy Beaven were looking for a property with holiday let potential when they came across one of the 36 almost identical thatched cottages in Milton Abbas which was for sale offering two apartments behind the cottage ideal for holiday lets. When looking round the building they discovered the cottage also used to operate as a tea rooms and restaurant and recognised the potential to re-open the tea



rooms. After spending a significant amount of time and money upgrading both the holiday lets and the tea rooms, including a new counter and upgraded kitchen, Alastair and Kathy opened the Tea Clipper on 24th November 2018. A year later they are still going strong and would like to welcome you to the tea rooms for a cup of tea, slice of cake, Dorset cream tea or a light snack of a toasted sandwich, baked potato or bowl of soup.

They also offer regular afternoon teas, the next one on Mother's Day weekend, bookings being taken on [info@teaclippertearooms.co.uk](mailto:info@teaclippertearooms.co.uk), call 01258 881337, or via our website [www.teaclippertearooms.co.uk](http://www.teaclippertearooms.co.uk), Twitter @teaclippertearoom, Facebook The Tea Clipper Tea Rooms or Instagram Teaclippertearooms.

*Kathy and Alastair Beaven*

## CELEBRITY QUIZ NIGHT

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# Food and Wine try the Cock and Bottle

THIRTY-TWO members of Milborne St. Andrew Food and Wine Club went to the Cock and Bottle at Morden on Sunday February 2nd for our first event of 2020. As usual we shared cars and arrived just after midday for a pre-lunch drink before sitting down for Sunday lunch in the garden room. This was a light, bright and pleasant setting for our meal on what turned out to be a lovely and sunny almost spring-like day.

A choice of two or three courses of delicious food was enjoyed, although it's always a bit of a dilemma for me when deciding which two courses to choose. If I pick a main course followed by pudding then I really drool over other people's choice of starter, however if I decide on starter followed by main then I am faced with pudding envy. Perhaps the best solution to this dilemma is to order all three courses!

During tea and coffee the raffle was drawn and the first prize of a complimentary main meal for two at the Cock and Bottle was won by Valerie Darrington. Thank you to Jenny Balcon and Linda Caldwell for organising this. The proceeds from the raffle will go towards subsidising our next event which will be a St. George's Day supper at The Fox at Ansty on Thursday 23rd April.

Many thanks to Paul Solway for donating a most generous raffle prize and to all the waiting staff who gave us such a warm welcome and looked after us so well. The food was fantastic and it was such an extensive menu to choose from. I think you can tell from the photos that we had a great day out at the Cock and Bottle and I personally would thoroughly recommend a visit to this local hostelry, which is only a 15 minute drive away from Milborne St. Andrew.

*Rose Frost*

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Interested? Please contact Royal Voluntary Service in Dorset by phoning 01305 236666 or e-mailing [dorsethomelibraryservice@royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk](mailto:dorsethomelibraryservice@royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk). You can also contact your library directly.





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## Fair Trade in Milborne St. Andrew

THERE is an opportunity to learn more about this organisation in the **Village Hall on 25th March at 2.00pm**. Entry is free and refreshment will be available. **Judith Holmes** will be bringing visual aids and Fair Trade goods to help explain her work travelling to countries which participate in the scheme. To further explain their system and philosophy I include some basic details.

Fair Trade is an institutional arrangement designed to help producers in developing countries achieve better trading conditions. Members of the Fair Trade movement advocate the payment of higher prices to exporters, as well as improved social and environmental standards. The movement focuses in particular on commodities, or products which are typically exported from developing countries to developed countries, but also consumed in domestic markets (e.g. Brazil, India and Bangladesh) most notably handicrafts, coffee, cocoa, wine, sugar, fresh fruit, chocolate, flowers and gold.

The movement seeks to promote greater equity in international trading partnerships through *dialogue, transparency, and respect*. It promotes sustainable development by offering better trading conditions to, and securing the rights of, marginalized producers and workers in developing countries. Fair Trade is grounded in three core beliefs; first, producers have the power to express unity with consumers. Secondly, the world trade practices that currently exist promote the unequal distribution of wealth between nations. Lastly, buying products from producers in developing countries at a fair price is a more efficient way of promoting sustainable development than traditional charity and aid. I hope to see you there. By attending you may feel better able to support these beliefs.

Carole Fornachon

## Round Robin Ramblers

### *The local villages walking group*

WALKS are normally held on the first Sunday and the third Wednesday of each month. Please join us as we enjoy exercise, good company and the wonderful Dorset countryside. Any questions, please feel free to contact Ian Bromilow, 01258 880044.

#### **Sunday 1st March – 2.00pm**

##### **Fifehead Neville**

Meet near the church in Fifehead Neville

Grid reference: ST 769110 on OS Explorer Sheet 129 (approx. 4.5 miles)

#### **Wednesday 18th March – 11.00am**

##### **Bovington Forest and Lawrence's Grave**

Meet near the church in Moreton. Grid reference: SY 805894 on Explorer Sheet OL15 (approx. 6.5 miles) Bring a packed lunch.

#### **Sunday 5th April – 2.00pm**

##### **Wareham Forest**

Meet at the forest car park close to Stroud Bridge. Grid reference: SY 886916 on OS Explorer Sheet OL15 (approx. 4.5 miles)

#### **Please note:**

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| <b>Who</b>     | All welcome including well-behaved dogs and their responsible owners. No pre-booking required just turn up. |
| <b>Wear</b>    | Suitable clothing for wet conditions and location, walking boots or Wellington boots.                       |
| <b>Bring</b>   | Waterproofs and refreshments (packed lunch on Wednesdays).  |
| <b>Pace</b>    | We go at the pace of the slowest.   |
| <b>Terrain</b> | Expect mud, inclines and stiles.  |
| <b>Aim</b>     | Keep fit, enjoy the Dorset countryside and each other's company.  |
| <b>Legal</b>   | We look after one another but in the end you are responsible for yourself.                                  |

## Exciting live-in vacancy at Longmead Farm

AN exciting vacancy with a three bedroom flat has arisen at Longmead Community Farm for a volunteer warden or wardens. The focus of the role is to care for the livestock onsite at Longmead, as well as ensuring the building and grounds are safe and well maintained. This role does not need expert skills, just a practical knowledge and willingness to learn. Volunteers with other skills, especially working with people or administrative skills may be able to develop these roles as well.

Longmead Community Farm helps families in crisis, it's a safe, supportive rural environment for learning new skills, re-kindling relationships and building the self-confidence needed to cope with the challenges of modern urban life.

The expected contribution of hours offered by the volunteer is up to 40 hours per week. These can be completed by an individual or split between family members as agreed at successful appointment.

Please contact Sarah Cooper for a job description or for a chat about the opportunity at [sarah.cooper@longmead.org](mailto:sarah.cooper@longmead.org) or on 01258 837960. Further information about Longmead can be found at [www.longmead.org](http://www.longmead.org).

## Volunteer Sunday – March 1st – 10.00am to 4.00pm

We really need to get some repairs and jobs done around the farm. There are jobs for all: painting, woodwork, clearing, sorting, fixing and gardening. A delicious hot lunch will be provided.

If you have any trade skills that would be fab, otherwise enthusiasm and a good spirit are all the qualifications required.

We welcome families, but under 18s must be supervised at all times as some areas of the farm are unsuitable.

Please let me know if you are planning to come so I can organise the catering: [sarah.cooper@longmead.org](mailto:sarah.cooper@longmead.org) 01258 837960.



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## Picture this! Rita puts her new digital skills at the great-grandkids' fingertips

ANYONE wanting to improve their digital skills to stay in touch with friends and family can book for free, one to one help.

Dorset Council has a network of 75 volunteers who run free, one-to-one computer help sessions in libraries and other venues across the county. They can help with everything from switching on a computer and using the internet safely, to managing email and learning to use video calls.

Rita, a learner in her 80s, who lives in Verwood, has taken all she has learnt from her Digital Champion one step further and is now teaching her great-grandchildren how to create photo albums.

Rita said: "My digital skills were very "hit or miss" when I started. I had a new tablet but I didn't understand which buttons to press and on a scale of ten I scored about one! I heard about help from the Digital Champion at Verwood Library and I thought I could only improve!

"My friends and family were very knowledgeable and I felt left behind. My great granddaughter would take lots of photos but I couldn't join in. But now I am taking lovely photos of family and also of my holiday cruises and storing them in different albums and sharing them – and they can't do that! They think I am quite clever – I am one step ahead!"

Rita is also using her Digital Champion's expertise to help her prepare for the years ahead, in case she finds she is less able to get out. She has learnt how to do online shopping, how to use the doctor's website to order medication and can now renew and order books from the library.

Rita added: "My next challenge is to keep in touch more regularly with my friend in Australia. I haven't seen her for many years and I wish I could do Skype – we ring each other once a year." Rita's friend already uses Skype to keep in touch with family in the UK, so Rita is planning to be Skyping her soon!

Cllr. Gary Suttle, Portfolio Holder for Economic Growth and Skills, Dorset Council said: "We all recognise the link between having strong and meaningful social connections and living a healthy and successful life.

Skype is one of the digital tools we are encouraging people to use more. It is more personal because you can see someone close up to have a regular catch up. You may be unlikely to travel to Australia but you can keep in contact with friends and family wherever you are which is good for our overall health."

Rita added: "It is so much easier to learn when you have one to one support and it is free. The Digital Champions help you at your own pace and they are very patient."

If you would like help to keep in contact digitally with friends and family, take and share photos, book a doctor's appointment, renew your library books or just switch on the computer then please call 01305 221048 or visit your local library and we will match you with a volunteer in your area.

Further enquiries: Gill Patterson, Communications Officer (Interim) Superfast Dorset & Digital Inclusion

### Further information:

Get help with computers with Superfast Dorset <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/business-consumers-licences/superfast-dorset/getting-online.aspx>

LearnMyWay A couple of examples are – using email – <https://www.learnmyway.com/courses/using-email/> or how to use GP services online – <https://www.learnmyway.com/courses/gp-services-online-a-how-to-guide/>

For anyone who uses a computer and wants to practice email or look up GP services themselves, could use "LearnMyWay" which is provided by a national digital inclusion charity.

—:—

All copy for the **April Reporter** must be received by mid-day **14th March**

## 'One for the scrapbook' at the February WI

WE celebrate 75 years of the WI in Milborne this year. Eva had kindly made a delicious cake, there was bubbly on hand, and Angela took the opportunity to ask us to join her in remembering all those ladies in the village who, at that time (more or less the end of the war) had with great courage and in many cases personal loss, set up our institute. We raised a glass to them all.

Thanks were expressed to Heather for arranging a highly successful post-Christmas meal, much enjoyed by all. We are to hold a coffee morning and 'bring and buy' on Thursday 19th March at Josie and John Wright's house. Please come along and enjoy a cuppa and a chat with us.

Veronica reported on our recent Bookends meeting at Jill's house. We discussed '*We Have Always Lived in the Castle*' by Shirley Jackson, an American author. A black comedy, largely enjoyed by all, it was a good read and stimulated a very lively and amusing discussion. We move on to '*Educated*', a memoir by Tara Westover.

Our speaker, Rob Clarke, a physicist who has spent all his working life in the paper industry, owns to a love of paper in all its forms, and was keen to share his extensive knowledge of the process with us. He showed us first how very simple it is to produce a sheet of paper, using water, fibre and a mould to sieve the fibres. The first paper-making process can be traced back to 8th century China, using mulberry bark, hemp and rags, mixed with water, mashed into pulp and dried in the sun. Papyrus and parchment were precursors, but not true paper. By the 11th century the process had spread to Europe and, once embraced by the Europeans, it was not long before they created the world's first paper-making industry.

Rob explored in great detail the evolution of paper making, with a range of examples. Watermarks were of particular interest, and, to celebrate our 75th anniversary he had designed one especially for us. Pauline Trim effectively produced the end-product, a sheet of paper showing the institute's watermark, which is destined for our scrapbook. (*Thank you, Rob*). Despite the everyday use of computers and data storage, paper in its many forms has transformed our lives, allowing communication through letter writing, newspapers, magazines and books.

Our competition -'*a paper item*' produced some interesting objects. Veronica won the cup with her delightful small box, designed and made entirely out of paper. Apparently it was a treasured gift from a Japanese girl who had stayed with her family whilst visiting schools in the area.

At our next meeting on Thursday 12th March, Gail Del Pinto will talk about food bank services. We are asked to bring a donation for our food bank. Please come along and join us, and do make a note of the coffee morning date at Josie's, at 5 Brooklands on the 19th March, 10.00am to 12 noon. We would be delighted to welcome you all on both occasions.

Pat Bull





# 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](http://www.milbornestandrew.org.uk)

## COUNCILS

Dorset Councillor	Emma Parker	01258 881631
Parish Council – Dewlish	Clerk: Sandra Sims	01258 837132
	Chair: Andrew Booth	01258 837284
Parish Council –	Clerk: Wayne Lewin	07419 136735
Milborne St. Andrew	Chair: Richard Macnair	01258 837912

**Floods** A354 problems contact the Highways Agency 03001 235000  
Dorset Direct 01305 221000  
[dorsetdirect@dorsetcc.gov.uk](mailto:dorsetdirect@dorsetcc.gov.uk) [www.dorsetforyou.com/](http://www.dorsetforyou.com/)  
reportroadproblems  
Environment Agency Floodline 03459 881188  
South West Highways [hello@swhitd.co.uk](mailto: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

Milborne Ladybirds	Liz Dyer	01258 839117
Scout Group	Sam Elliott	07873 762035
Under 5's Group – The Busy Bees	Claire Tudge	07970 734162
Youth Club age 8 – 13 years	Joanne Miller	07940 017577

## POLICE

Police – Non-emergency contact		101
Community Beat Officer	PC Dave Mullins	101
Safer Neighbourhood Team	PC Dave Mullins and	101
	PCSO Luke Goddard	101
Home watch Co-ordinator	Richard Macnair	01258 837912

## SCHOOL

Milborne First School		
Headteacher:	Sharon Hunt	01258 837362
Chair Governors:	David French	
Friends of School co-Chair:	Marie Chappell and Natalie Dennis	

## SPECIAL INTEREST

Bellringers	Pip Bowell	01258 837329
Bridge Group	Laurie Benn	01258 837720
Cribbage	Peter Anthony	01258 837089
Dog Training Behaviour	Natasja Lewis	07896 275357
Food and Wine Club	Rose Frost	01258 837921
MSA Allotment Society Chair:	Joy Robinson	01258 837661
Secretary:	Anna Cullen	01258 837143
MSA Gardening Club	Sally Dyer	01258 837061
Milborne Players	Roy Sach	01258 837033
Round Robin Ramblers	Ian Bromilow	01258 880044
Tai Chi	Brian Burton	01258 839033
Village History Group	Pam Shults	01258 837203

## SPORT

Abbey Swimming Club	Pat Cowan	01258 880601
Archers – Crossways	Sheila Ryall	01258 837504
Athletics – Information	David Pearson	01258 837057
Badminton	Bruce Dyer	01258 839117
Circuit training	Grace Martin	01305 213885
Cricket – Dewlish	Elaine Kellaway	01258 837696
Pilates (school)	Claire Barratt	07703 648869
Football – Veterans	Paul David	07841 506839

## Football – Under 14s

Manager/coach	Andy Brown	07427 503373
Treasurer	Simon Buckingham	01258 839122
Skittles – Dewlish	Simon Ross	01258 837606
Sports & Social Club	Chairman: Richard Lock	01258 837929
	Bookings: Richard Lock	01258 837929
Tap Dancing for Adults	Kevin Selby	01305 250386
Tennis	Rich Hawker	07393 309037
Yoga (at school)	Sue Chapman	01305 848053
Yoga (at Sports & Social Club)	Saira Francis	01258 880505
Yoga (at Village Hall)	Sarah Ryan	01258 839230

## VILLAGE HALL

Dewlish		
Chair:	Bernie Cosgrove	01258 837152
Booking Secretary:	Margaret Groves	01258 837617
Milborne St. Andrew		
Chairman:	Pam Shults	01258 837203
Booking Secretary:	Alison Riddle	01258 837148

## HEALTH

Bere Regis Surgery		01929 471268
Milborne St. Andrew Surgery		01258 837383
Milton Abbas Surgery		01258 880210
Puddletown Surgery		01305 848333
NHS for non-emergencies		111
Patient Voice Secretary	Nigel Hodder	01258 880229

FRIENDS OF  
MILBORNE ST ANDREW FIRST SCHOOL

# Second-Hand Child's Clothing Sale



**Saturday 29th February**

Milborne St Andrew Sports Pavilion, Lane End

**9.30am to 11.30am**

FREE ENTRY  
Refreshments Available



**Donations Welcome!**  
of good quality, used  
children's clothing  
Contact Natalie on:  
[msa\\_fos\\_chair@outlook.com](mailto:msa_fos_chair@outlook.com)

# Community Events Diary

Add your event to this diary by contacting the **Reporter** – tel: 01258 837700 or email: [msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk)

## February

**Saturday 29th** **Second hand child's clothing sale** Milborne St. Andrew Sports Club, Lane End, 9.30am to 11.30am – see page 16.

## March

**Sunday 1st** **Volunteer Sunday** 10.00am to 4.00pm Longmead – see page 13.

**Wednesday 11th** **Milborne History Group** The Royal Oak function room 7.30pm "A history of Blandford Forum" – see below.

**Thursday 12th** **WI Village Hall** Gail Del Pinto talk about "Food Bank services" 7.30pm – see page 15.

**Saturday 14th** **Reporter** mid-day deadline. Copy and photographs to [msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk).

**Saturday 14th** **Barn dance** Village Hall 7.00pm tickets £12 includes food – see page 15 and below.

**Wednesday 18th** **Parish Council** Village Hall 7.30pm. February's report can be found on page 23.

**Thursday 19th** **WI coffee morning** 5 Brooklands at 10am to 12noon – see page 15.

**Friday 20th** **Milborne Movies "Judy"** Village Hall 7.00pm for 7.30pm start – see page 19.

**Sunday 22nd** **Mothering Sunday** See page 6 for church services.

**Wednesday 25th** **Fair Trade** Village Hall Judith Holmes will be bringing visual aids and Fair Trade goods 2.00pm – see page 13.

**Saturday 28th** **Village Lunch** Village Hall 12.15pm All welcome to attend – see page 2 for menu.

## Regular Bookings at the Village Hall

**Ladybirds Playgroup** Monday–Friday 8.30am–1.00pm MH (term time only)

**Beavers** Monday 5.00–6.30pm MH (term time only)

**Players** Monday 8.00–10.00pm MH

**ABC Line Dancers** Tuesday 7.30–10.00pm MH

**Wednesday Club** first Wednesday 2.00–4.00pm MH

**Zumba** Wednesday 6.00pm MH

**Yoga** Thursday 1.30–2.45pm MH

**Gardening Club** third Thursday 7.30–10.00pm MH

**Karate** Thursday 5.10–6.40pm MH

**Village Hall Committee** every fourth Wednesday 7.30pm

**Women's Institute** second Thursday 7.30–10.00pm

**Youth Club 8–13 years** every other Friday MH (term time only)

**Village Lunch** last Saturday of the month 12.15–2.30pm MH

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

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

## Regular Bookings at the First School

**Pilates** Monday 7.00–8.00pm (term time only)

**Yoga** Tuesday 6.30–8.00pm (term time only)

**Badminton** Wednesday 6.30–8.30pm (term time only)

**Circuit training** Thursday 6.30–7.30pm (term time only)

## Regular Bookings at the Sports & Social Club

**Kickboxing** Monday evenings 4.45–5.30pm Kanga (guide ages 5–8), 5.30–6.30pm Stripes (guide ages 9–13), 6.30–7.30pm ladies class, 7.30–8.30pm all ages and abilities. Contact Nikki Rich on 07752 199409.

**Tai Chi** Tuesday mornings 9.30am run by Geoffrey Bellinger. Local contact Brian Burton 839033.

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

**Nightsabre Dog Training** Behaviour and Rally Group. Tuesday mornings; Wednesday evenings; Saturday mornings. Contact details 01305 849221.

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

**Boxing style fitness** Friday 12noon–1.00pm. Contact Nikki Rich on 07752 199409.

**Ballet style fitness** Friday 1.00–2.00pm. Contact Nikki Rich on 07752 199409.

**Beavers** Friday 5.30–6.45pm

**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.

# • BARN DANCE •

## FEATURING THE BLACK SHEEP

### A FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENT



## SATURDAY 14TH

## MARCH 2020

## 7PM - 11PM

## MILBORNE ST ANDREW

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## Milborne Village History Group

### A History of Blandford Forum

a talk by Sylvia Hixon Andrews

Wednesday 11th March at 7.30pm

In the function room of

**The Royal Oak**

Visitors are welcome to come





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## Yoga in Milborne

Yoga class on Thursdays in term time  
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[emmawhittington@btinternet.com](mailto:emmawhittington@btinternet.com)

Follow us on



## Tip of the month 2

WE humans are social beings, in the main we enjoy the company of other people, be that family or friends, so we seek out companionship. Social interaction contributes to good health, whereas loneliness can be as bad for us as smoking.

No surprise then that many of us celebrated Valentine's Day, but if you were hoping to treat that special someone, or you were looking for companionship it pays to be cautious.

If you are purchasing a gift or flowers, make sure that you are buying the genuine article, buy from reputable businesses or follow recommendations from other buyers and if the price is far too low think, is this genuine or am I buying fake goods? No one likes to be ripped off, but more than that, counterfeit goods such as perfume and alcohol can also contain harmful ingredients and the money gained is often used to fund serious organised crime.

Romance fraud affects people throughout the world and is one of the cruellest of scams as it plays on the human emotions. Scammers use online dating sites to seek out their victims and using a fake profile to build the relationship, slowly gain their trust. Their objective is either to ask for money, or to obtain enough personal details to steal the identity of their victim.

You can also protect yourself by:

- Not accepting friend requests from people you don't know on social media sites like Facebook.
- Not giving away personal details about yourself online. Revealing your full name, date of birth and home address could lead to your identity being stolen.
- **NEVER** send or receive money or give away your bank details to someone you've only met online.
- Using reputable dating sites and only communicate through their messaging service. Fraudsters want you to switch to text, social media or telephone quickly so there is no evidence on the dating site of them asking you for money.

Going back to loneliness, some people may choose to live alone, but others do so out of circumstance such as family break down or bereavement. It is estimated that one million older people haven't spoken to anyone for a month, so when you see someone on their own, instead of looking away, smile and say hello.

## Milborne Reformatory School

AT the History Group this month we looked at the Reformatory School which is now Longmead. It was established in 1857 for 20 boys with Mr. Mansel-Pleydell as its patron it took boys who had committed crimes and gave them training in agriculture. It was enlarged to take more boys and although most boys came from Dorset, there were some from as far away as London.


In 1881 it changed to an Industrial School which not only gave the boys a wider choice of training such as tailoring, shoemaking and so on, but also took boys from "difficult" backgrounds. A lot of boys went into the army after leaving. In 1901 Mr. Mansel-Pleydell gave the school, free of charge, to the County Council who continued to run it until it closed in 1920.

We also looked at two boys who had gone through the school. One, Luther Gosney, was only ten when he was sent to the school in 1876 for five years, found guilty of stealing. He had a chequered life when he left including a spell in Winchester Prison.


The other boy was James Huntley Knight who came from a broken home and was admitted to the school sometime between 1881 and 1891 when he appears on the census. When he left the school in 1893 he joined the Kings Liverpool Regiment and was presented with the Victoria Cross by General Kitchener in 1902 after bravery in battle in the second Boer War and who is commemorated on his wife's gravestone in our churchyard.

Next month we have Sylvia Hixon Andrews from Blandford Museum to talk - all are welcome 7.30pm at The Royal Oak 11th March.

Linda Wright

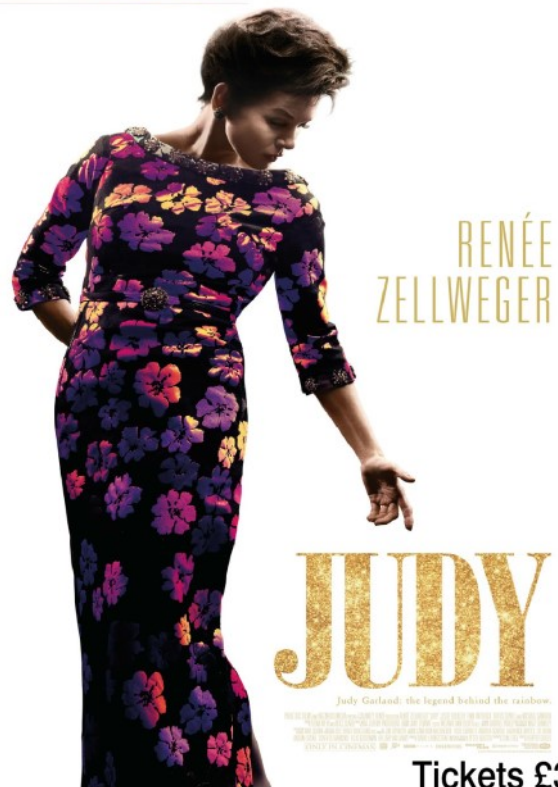


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Doors and Bar at 7.00pm



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## Milborne Movies

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At Milborne St. Andrew Village Hall

Friday 20th March.  
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# LETTERS to the Reporter

## Open Letter to readers of the Reporter

Dear Reader

If you are a resident of Milborne St. Andrew, you will have almost certainly received a flyer inviting you to volunteer with Milton Abbas Neighbourcar in recent weeks. You will also, almost certainly, have transferred that flyer to your recycling bin.

Milton Abbas Neighbourcar has been providing a community transport across those villages served by Milton Abbas surgery for almost ten years, following on from the "Friends of the Practice" scheme that preceded it. We have covered over 100,000 miles during that time – four times around the world – providing trips to surgeries, hospitals and many other medically related appointments. We also occasionally help with shopping and trips to lunch clubs in our attempts to minimise social isolation.

We have just over 180 clients across the villages served by 30 drivers – a ratio of 6:1. Milborne St. Andrew provides 40 of these clients (22% of the total) but currently we have only four fit drivers – a ratio of 10:1 – and are reaching crisis point. As some of these drivers are in the 70+ age group we need to consider increasing the number for the day when they feel unable to continue driving and that is where you come in.

The leaflet (sponsored by "Our Dorset" – a combination of the NHS and Dorset Council) makes the point that you only need to give up as much time as you are able to. We are totally flexible but without doubt, the job is easier with more rather than less drivers!

So, if you think you would like to support your local community by offering up some of your spare time driving neighbours to their medical appointments please contact us on 01258 470333 (answerphone) or by email to [maneighbourcar@gmail.com](mailto:maneighbourcar@gmail.com). We would love to hear from you.

Nigel Hodder (Transport Coordinator)

## Cat Litter in the Playground by the Village Hall

Dear Editorial team,

Regretfully I feel it necessary to write a brief email to request that the person or persons throwing cat litter into the playground around the base to the baby swings stop doing so. It is highly dangerous as cited in many articles and medical journals online. Here is one extract

"The infection toxoplasmosis is caused by the *Toxoplasma gondii* parasite. Cats are the usual host for these parasites, but children, adults, and other animals can also be infected . . . The adult parasite lives in the gut of cats, and the eggs enter the environment through the cat faeces. 21 Nov 2015  
<https://www.healthychildren.org>

Toxoplasmosis can be transmitted by: Touching your mouth with your hand after handling soil or sand that contains mature eggs"

If contracted Toxoplasmosis can cause vision problems,

varying levels of developmental delay, seizures, deafness, and other more serious or even life-threatening illnesses.

So, whoever you are, please stop doing this! Children regularly play in the soil, fall over and wish to use the swings and you are denying them this simple pleasure.

Yours Sincerely,

A concerned Milborne Resident.

If you see any criminal or worrying behaviour you can email Dorset Police on: [101@dorset.pnn.police.uk](mailto:101@dorset.pnn.police.uk)

Or of course call 101 or 999 in an emergency.

## Dear Editor

Once again The Milborne Players have succeeded in presenting a very entertaining pantomime. The audience came from far and wide to enjoy the presentation of Dick Whittington. Every night the audience supported the cast by laughing and booing very loud, sometimes when it was least expected. The spectacular costumes were beautifully made (locally) for the central characters.

I think that congratulations must be given to the people we don't see who add the finishing touches to the performances. The stage hands who make certain all the correct scenery and equipment are in place. The lighting and sound making sure the special lights are shining on the actor at the right time and thunder that made all audiences jump every night. The music giving such an atmosphere to the performance. People who source sponsorship for the programme, the prompter, the ticket sellers especially the village shop who sold most of the tickets. And all the other people who help, the players cannot put on a performance without you.

Well done and congratulations to everyone involved, you all worked very hard.

Name and address supplied

## Thank you to The Milborne Players

A big THANK YOU to everyone involved in our very own village pantomime Dick Whittington. We are so lucky to be able to walk to the Village Hall and have a glass of wine or Coca-Cola and sit and be entertained with lots of laughter and fun. If you didn't get to go then you missed a treat "Oh yes you did!!"

We look forward to The Players' next production. Well done to you all.

Ian and Lis Watts

## Donate to your local food bank

At the moment there are about one in five in the UK (that's about 13½ million people) who live below the poverty line. Redundancy, illness, benefit delays or cancellations, domestic violence, debt, and the cost of heating in winter are reasons why many of them don't have the money to buy basic food. It was in Salisbury that the problem was highlighted to the Trussell Trust, who set up the first food bank in the year 2000. They started with 600 people to feed and in 2004 they set up the Foodbank Network which now has about 400 branches run by volunteers.

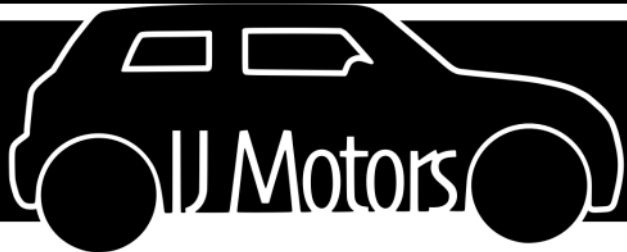
Recipients are referred to them by front line care professionals, including doctors and church ministers, and they aim to provide each person with a food parcel containing non-perishable but nutritionally balanced food for three days. There are now about a million recipients, a third of them are children. This is particularly important during school holidays as there are no school meals.

A packet of sugar, some teabags, milk powder or tinned or dry packaged food, or anything that you would like to have if you were in this position. Large or small contributions will be gratefully received.

In Milborne St. Andrew, collection points are in the church and at WI meetings on the second Thursday in the month or John and Josie Wright at 5 Brooklands will take contributions for the Blandford or Dorchester food banks at any time.

Josie Wright





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## Petrol Station Flowers

MIRANDA PENDER, a singer/songwriter entertained us at The Wednesday Club on Wednesday 5th February. In 2008 Miranda was diagnosed with breast cancer and after successfully beating the disease, it changed her life.

As a teenager she had a brief interest in playing the guitar, due to the fact she and her friend had a crush on the young man who taught the guitar at their local youth club. This interest quickly passed when they found out that it was not easy to learn how to play and the young teacher had no interest in two "silly" girls. Following her recovery from breast cancer she and her husband went on a family holiday where her brother-in-law played the guitar each day and everyone sang. On their return she ordered an acoustic guitar and was hooked!



Miranda found a good guitar tutor near her then home in Saffron Walden and began writing and singing songs about life. She joined a singing group who performed for each other and steadily grew in confidence. One day she met her teenage hero Richard Digance, the performer singer/songwriter, who at one point asked her to join him on stage at one of his concerts to sing one of his songs.

From then on Miranda began travelling round performing and telling her story and has made a number of CD's. Most of her songs are humorous as is "Petrol Station Flowers", the title of this report.

We thank Miranda for an uplifting, amusing and entertaining afternoon which we all thoroughly enjoyed.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday March 4th at 2.00pm in the Village Hall when we will be playing "Bingo with a difference!!" so please feel free to join us and find out what this might be. *Lis Watts*

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## New, safer bus stop agreed at PC

FEBRUARY'S Parish Council meeting began with the addition of a new councillor after Caron Redding was co-opted onto the PC. In her address to councillors, Ms Redding said she had a desire to see the village run as a community and that she would represent people living in social housing. Cllr Redding joined the other five councillors after a unanimous vote to accept her onto the PC. The full complement of councillors and clerk easily outnumbered the low public turnout. But the attendance of the public consultation meeting in January was far greater, Cllr Macnair said, which was, in part, for residents to discuss the moving of the Dorchester-bound bus stop. Clerk, Wayne Lewin, stated a number of concerns from the public, including parking in the layby, it being a dangerous crossing point and inaccessible pavements. Mr Lewin said that if vehicles are parked in the layby by the telephone exchange when a bus is due, then the service would pull up at the nearest kerb, which would still be a safer option than the current stop on a very narrow pavement. People could still cross at the safest point on the A354 to reach the new stop and, on the accessibility question, buses can lower their steps to suit pavement height and ramps can be used. In addition to the new stop adjudged safer by councillors than the current one – where a wall adjacent to the bus stop was recently demolished by a car – there would be no cost to move it. Damory, the bus company, have offered to pay for the signage of a new stop as well as posting timetables there. The new stop will come into effect after the Easter holidays, on Monday 20th April.

The Parish Council has had good dialogue with Wessex Water in an ongoing attempt to alleviate potential flooding. Cllr Macnair said the company has been very helpful and has a fund for short term fixes to enable low-lying residents to continue flushing their toilets (installing open topped cisterns and one way valves) as well as longer term work of lining sewers to stop surface water infiltration. On a similar note, county councillor, Emma Parker (not present), has been attempting to bring all the agencies together; senior councillors, Wessex Water, Environment Agency and Highways in a bid to see action.

Cllr Witherden reported back from a Dorset Council meeting which discussed the county's Local Plan. Sustainability and accessibility of rural villages was looked into, with the impact of the loss of a key asset such as the surgery, school, shop or pre-school discussed. Buses were brought up again and, given the threadbare nature of the services, accessibility and sustainability were questioned.

Cllr Smith had been to a Dorset Association of Town and Parish Councils (DATPC) meeting and brought news of the re-organisation of the group as well as a number of public consultations that may, or may not, bear fruit. He also told of new regulations concerning Conservatories, before repeating that the Planning advice was about conservatories. Cllr Smith said that the general feeling was that smaller PCs were being "pushed aside", with the county council calling the shots.

The clerk suggested a re-jigging of the PC reserves account, since new items needed listing and others reassigning. A new line was added for the maintenance cost of the three village defibrillators, and IT hardware is now included in an assets fund.

There were no objections for the request for replacing timber sheds at the Sports Club with a metal container but a further request for help with the cost could not be heard since it had come too late for inclusion on the agenda.

The village ramble is set to take place on Saturday 19th September and residents are invited to take part in a one, two or three mile walk. Free refreshments before and after are offered at the Village Hall. If you're available on the day to support with marshalling or helping at the hall, Wayne Lewin would appreciate your call on 07419 136735.

The next Parish Council meeting is on Wednesday 18th March at 7.30pm. All residents are welcome to attend. *Ed Richards*



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## Funding available for affordable homes for the future

IS there a need for affordable housing in Milborne? Many people would think so, with the relatively high price of homes for sale or rent on the private market in the village in mind. The recently published Neighbourhood Plan found that there was a need for affordable homes to rent as well as starter homes for single adults and young families, which the policy advises should be on a shared ownership basis. Ordinarily, these homes would be built by developers abiding by the planning rule of building 10% affordable homes against the total number of units on their development site. But there is another method, a way in which village residents have a say on what gets built and where, get the scheme funded by Government and have it remain in trust for perpetuity. Community Land Trusts (CLT) have built affordable housing in towns and villages all over Dorset, Devon and Somerset and there's no reason why Milborne shouldn't take the opportunity now to provide homes that will remain assets forever for current and future generations of the village.

How can you help? You don't need to be an expert or professional in planning, building or finance, but a small group of people is needed to form the Milborne CLT and take the project forward. Simon Parker, Dorset Council's Community Led Housing Enabler, emphasised this point at the meeting in the Village Hall in January. He said that the main qualification for getting involved was having common sense rather than any specialist knowledge, as this was contracted out to professionals. Advice is freely available from Wessex Community Assets, a 'hand-holding' organisation for local

trusts, and initial set up costs – and for architects, surveyors and so on – are funded by Dorset Council. The capital cost of building comes from central Government, as part of the Homes for England scheme and many millions of pounds have been given to CLTs to build homes for their communities. Also, Community Land Trusts have the legal right to plan developments on 'exception land'; this means sites where building would not normally be allowed, such as agricultural land.

What would be built for Milborne? The first job of a newly formed trust would be to find out what the real housing need of the village is, and work from there. CLTs around the country have identified other needs for their communities, from shops and post offices to electricity generation and food growing, but housing is generally the primary concern for most CLTs. There are many completed developments around the region including ones at Worth Matravers, Lyme Regis, Queen Camel, Norton-sub-Hamdon and Beer, as well as lots of schemes in development. Will our village join this list?

This is a golden opportunity for Milborne to not only build fully-funded homes for the future, but for the village to retain control over these properties in perpetuity. There has already been some interest in helping this become a reality, but more people are needed to get involved with a project that will have a lasting legacy in Milborne.

Interested? There will be a public meeting at the Village Hall in April date to be confirmed.

*Ed Richards*



*Housing built by Lyme Regis CLT*

## Ladybirds Easter event

Saturday 4th April 10.30am to 12.30pm

Milborne St. Andrew Village Hall

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If you do however see unfair or unsafe trading that you'd like to report to Trading Standards then call the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on 03454 04 05 06.



## Milborne First School seeks Governors

**MILBORNE ST. ANDREW First School seeks to appoint two new School Governors.** The School is a successful, Ofsted-rated 'good' first school for pupils between the ages of five and nine.

The Governor's role is to provide effective oversight and support development of school plans to improve education standards, ensure effective safeguarding and sound finances.

This is a very rewarding position. To apply, or seek further information, please e-mail David French, Chair of Governors, at Milborne First School – [dfrench@milborne.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:dfrench@milborne.dorset.sch.uk).

## Village Hall news

ALTHOUGH we have looked at the possibility of refurbishing the kitchen before, it is now looking very tired and so once again we will be considering what can be done and more importantly what it will cost!

We are very pleased to host Artsreach events at the hall and this year they are celebrating 30 years. To mark the occasion, they have asked if one of their commemorative trees can be planted in the grounds in the autumn, to which we have agreed.

Good news for all hall users is that there will be no increase in rent this year. With several of the committee away there will have been no meeting in February unless there's an emergency! The AGM is at 7.00pm on 22nd April. As always please support the film night and any Artsreach event in the hall.

*Linda Wright*

## Reducing my carbon footprint – part 3 – clothes

MY previous two articles have described doing the two things which the government says we will all have to do in the next 20 years – ditch the gas boiler and the petrol/diesel car. It was reasonably easy but imagine doing this for 20 million boilers and 30 million cars! Together with the electricity generation and infrastructure! We will all need to work together.

But this is only the start – heating and cars account for only a quarter to a third of the UK's greenhouse gas emissions. So, what next?

Clothing accounts for around 10% of the world's greenhouse gas emissions together with intensive land/water usage to grow cotton.

In the UK we buy two tons of clothes every minute – more than double what we bought a few decades ago. Clothes are cheap – my first pair of Levi's cost about £6 in the early 1970s (four weeks' paper round money). That's around £85 after inflation – a similar price. But a pair of cheap jeans in Woolworths was £1.75 – £25 now, which is much more than the £10 you pay at Primark or Asda.

Those of you who see me wandering around the village in tatty clothes for working on the house would think I am not a great fashion lover. True, but I do like to dress up now and then. My focus has previously been on trying to buy clothes that have been manufactured ethically. You may remember we had an ethical clothing retailer in the old dairy a while back – but they closed when austerity reduced the amount people could spend on clothes. I now try and buy clothes made in the UK, where hopefully working conditions are good.

I think the quality of clothes is now poorer: back in the 1970s, way before international container shipping became so cheap, M&S promoted the fact that most of their clothes were made in the UK. I found an unopened M&S shirt when cleaning out my parents' house and wore it for work. It lasted much longer than my modern shirts from Gaults.

I have always been torn between natural materials (nicer next to one's body) and synthetic performance materials (easier to wash and dry). Cotton has an enormous water footprint (about 7000 litres to make a pair of jeans) and a high carbon footprint due to intensive agriculture (the weight of CO<sub>2</sub> released is 20 times the weight of the garment).

Synthetic materials require oil extraction, refinement and lots of chemistry and of course do not break down in the environment. Also, we now know about microfibers being released during washing. I use a Guppyfriend to catch them.

I have always worn my clothes until they are only fit for the rag bag (they can still go to clothing recycling! – 11 million tons of unrecycled clothing goes to landfill in the UK every year). So what am I doing to reduce my clothing footprint?

The only thing I could do was buy less! And buy good quality so they will last longer. Last year the only new clothes I bought were two nightshirts from UK made by British Boxers (the house is now too well insulated for my thick nightshirts!). I have resisted all the emails with sales and money off. I will have to buy some things as my old clothes wear out but that will be all.

I am not suggesting that we all go to such extremes but the average garment in the UK is only worn seven times. Because clothes are cheap, we do not value them.

So my ethos is: value my clothes, wear them more times and recycle them (charity shop or rag collection as appropriate).

Next month – Food

*Andy Mott*

All copy for the **April Reporter** must be received by mid-day **14th March**.

View the reporter online

[www.milbornestandrew.org.uk/Reporter/index](http://www.milbornestandrew.org.uk/Reporter/index)



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## Heathcote House

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Heathcote House is a lovely Grade II listed guest house right in the heart of Milborne St Andrew. We offer a warm welcome and friendly service, all rooms have king size beds, en-suite bathrooms and are tastefully refurbished to a very high standard.

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- A secluded garden with delightful seating areas.
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Heathcote House, Milborne St Andrew, Dorset DT11 0JG. Website: [www.heathcotehouse.co.uk](http://www.heathcotehouse.co.uk)



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## 2019 Weather in Milborne St. Andrew

RAINFALL total in Milborne St. Andrew in 2019 was the highest since 2014 with 1259.9mm. There have been six wetter years in the last 49 years, 1974, 1994, 2000, 2002, 2012 and 2014.

Rainfall from January to July had been quite low. The first heavy rainfall of the year was August 16th with 34.5mm. The wettest day of the year was September 23rd with 66.4mm and this heralded prolonged rainfall for the rest of the year. Rainfall from September to December was 723.8mm. There has only been one year in the last 49 years with higher September – December rainfall and that was in 2000 with 788.0mm.

There was 9mm of snow between 29th January and 1st February with drifting which caused some disruption for a few days.

There was a prolonged dry spell with no rain from 25th June to 13th July. The temperature reached 31°C on 25th July which is a normal summer high for Milborne but the temperature reached 38.7°C at Cambridge on that day.

The lowest temperature of the year was -6°C on 30th January and 2nd February.

The wettest place in Dorset in 2019 was Cerne Abbas with 1525.7mm and the driest place in Dorset was Portland with 745.0mm. The highest annual rainfall in Dorset is usually in the Cerne Abbas/Buckland Newton area and Portland usually has around half of that area.

The highest sea temperature of the summer at Weymouth was 18°C which is still 1°C lower than the summer sea temperature reached in 2004.

My 30 year rolling average annual rainfall for Milborne has increased by 88.1mm since the year 2000 and my 30 year rolling average annual temperature has increased by 0.67°C in the same time. Whether that trend has occurred in the past is unknown and whether that trend will continue in the future remains to be seen. The average temperature for 2019 in Milborne was 10.34°C which was the same as it was in 1975!

Much publicity has been given to the flooding in Yorkshire over the winter and to the recent storms Ciara and Dennis as if there has never been flooding and storms in this country before but in 1852, so much rain fell in the catchment of the river Thames that the whole of the Thames valley became a gigantic lake and in the Great Storm of 1824, the sea breached the Chesil Bank at Chiswell on Portland and destroyed 30 houses with a loss of more than 30 lives. In the same storm the village of East Fleet was destroyed and the Cobb at Lyme Regis was severely damaged.

*Pluvius.*

## Sacred music for Holy Week

FOR the last eight years, the beautiful church of St. John the Baptist, Bere Regis, has welcomed Canzonetta, the Dorset-based female vocal ensemble to sing the glorious sacred music of Eastertide.

Since 2015, Dr Richard Hall, Director of the Blandford Forum Dorset Rural Music School has supported this annual performance on the organ and has also composed specially commissioned pieces for the occasion.

This year's concert, on Palm Sunday, April 5th will feature beloved classics from the sacred repertoire with pieces by Pergolesi, Mozart, Brahms, Franck, some less well-known delights from contemporary composers such as Gjeilo and Karl Jenkins, a heart-warming spiritual and a lovely version of the Lord's Prayer.

Celebrate the mystery of Holy Week in the presence of the Twelve Apostles, the unique carved and painted figures who gaze down from the roof of this historic church.

The concert, at 3.00pm, is free with a retiring collection in aid of the church. Tea will be served afterwards.

More information about Canzonetta can be found on [www.canzonettadorset.com](http://www.canzonettadorset.com)

*Barbara Rawlings*

# This Month

at the **MILBORNE ST ANDREW GARDENING CLUB**



**Some *unusual* Perennials**

*Brian Matters*

**Thursday**  
**19th March**



Refreshments

**The Village Hall**  
**7.30 pm**



**Open to All — everyone is welcome**



**Entry: £2 non members**

TWO SCOUT GROUPS  
HAVE MERGED INTO ONE!



**Scouts**  
The Winterbornes



Milborne Beaver Scout Colony (5½ - 8 years)  
Fridays 5.30-6.45pm Milborne St Andrew Sports Pavilion



Winterborne Cub Scout Pack (8 - 10 years)  
Fridays 6.30-8.15pm Dunbury School Gym



Winterborne Scout Troop (10 - 14 years)  
Fridays 6.30-8.30pm Winterborne Whitechurch Village Hall

Come and enjoy our new adventure!

Contact Sam Elliott, NEW Group Scout Leader  
[thewinterbornes@gmail.com](mailto:thewinterbornes@gmail.com)





## This could literally save your life

MILBORNE has three defibrillators – the one above which is outside the shop, as well as at the Village Hall and Sports Club. Joy Robinson was instrumental in getting the AED's (Automated External Defibrillator) installed and carries out a monthly check on the three machines as well as fundraising for maintenance. She demonstrated the AED at the Londis, showing me how all the instructions necessary are contained in a video – with sound – on the machine.

The life-saving machines are designed so that any member of the public can use them, without needing any training. The user is talked through the process with a pictorial guide showing the steps to take up to and including giving the vital shock if necessary. If an emergency happened somewhere in the village, Joy explained, the 999 call handler would instantly be alerted that an AED was within easy reach and advise that a third person be sent to fetch it. It could then be used until the ambulance arrives, and quite possibly save a life. The AED at the shop has been taken from it's base three times due to an emergency since being installed but in all cases an ambulance came before it was used.

On arriving at the AED base in an emergency situation, the housing has to be unlocked – this is a simple task, not like other community's defibrillators which can be key or number locked. A plastic tag is looped through an eye at the bottom of the housing and, after this is ripped off, the clear plastic lid can be unscrewed in the direction of the arrows. Lifting out the pack, you will find a hi-vis vest, and a torch for night time use. After taking the unit out, the sealed pads can be found in a slot on the back together with an icon showing how to turn the machine on. Once powered, the video starts and reminds the user to call for help in case not already done. Then in a simple step-by-step guide, the aider is instructed to remove the upper clothing of the patient, open the pads package and, after unpeeling the backing, positioning on the torso. Using this, the AED detects heart activity and advises the correct procedure for the user to take – and ultimately save a life

*Ed Richards*



1 Pull break-tag at bottom to unlock

2 Turn cover in direction of arrows

3 Take out AED pack, hi-vis and torch attached



4 Unzip pack to reveal AED unit

5 Turn over: instructions and pad location

6 Turn on using button and video will start



7 Call 999 if not already done so

8 Remove upper clothing of patient

9 Take pad package from rear slot



10 Open the sealed packet ...

11 ... and peel backing from pads

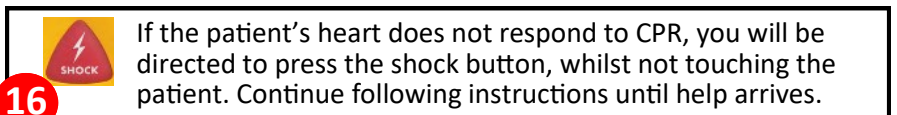
12 Apply pads on patient at positions shown



13 AED detects heart activity via pads

14 Start giving compressions

15 Follow audible rhythm giving CPR as shown



If the patient's heart does not respond to CPR, you will be directed to press the shock button, whilst not touching the patient. Continue following instructions until help arrives.



# Milton Abbas Surgery

THIS month I thought I'd highlight the responsibility we all have to look after our own health by living well. There is so much information around telling us how we should eat and drink and how much exercise we should take, it's difficult to know what's right.

Part of the NHS choices website is focussed solely on Living Well and provides a huge amount of help and advice that is directly from the NHS. There is help to stop smoking, get running, support your mental wellbeing and eat a better diet- all things that will help you stay healthier longer and reduce the need to visit your doctor. The website is <http://www.nhs.uk/livewell/Pages/Livewellhub.aspx> There are over 100 topics, some of which won't apply to you, but others that are definitely worth a look at.

For the more personal touch, Dorset has its own 'Live Well Dorset' team who can help you. You can contact them via their website or by phone and work with an advisor who can help you to identify and achieve your goals. They can be contacted free of charge on 0800 8401628, Monday to Friday 9.00am-6.30pm or look at their website <https://www.livewell-dorset.co.uk/> where you can register or contact the team by email. The website includes several success stories from people in Dorset who have been supported by 'Live Well Dorset'. Why not give it a go?

Gillian Brindle

All copy for the **April Reporter** must be received by mid-day **14th March**. Please send copy via e-mail to [msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk).

Send photographs as .jpg file, **not** .pdf file

## Milborne charity takes positive steps for Malawi

POSITIVE STEPS is a small Dorset based charity that has raised over £55,000 so far. One hundred per cent of this has been used directly at the Nkhoma Hospital in the central region of Malawi, providing medical and healthcare assistance, and indirectly funding support with training healthcare professionals and provision of resources where needed.

Positive Steps was founded by Jane Cherry following 18 months in Malawi as a Nurse Tutor in 2007/2008, with Volunteer Services Overseas, supported by the Department for International Development. The charity has been set up and is run by volunteers, all of whom have at some point lived in Milborne St. Andrew. Trustees, Jane, Rosy and Clare grew up in Milborne; Nick, who is also a trustee and manages the governance of the charity, lives in Milborne; and Laura and Laura – who also grew up in the village – have been integral to some of our fundraising projects.

Positive Steps aims to bridge the gap in the provision of healthcare by allowing access to healthcare education or trained healthcare professionals and providing resources to allow self-development and sustained improvement. For more information please contact us at [info@postivestepscharity.org](mailto:info@postivestepscharity.org)

### Ladybirds Easter event

Saturday 4th April 10.30am to 12.30pm  
Milborne St. Andrew village Hall.

Come and join us for :

Children can enter decorated Easter basket competition for £1.

We look forward to seeing you there.

- Tea, coffee and cake
- A raffle
- Few craft tables
- Tombola
- Lucky dip
- Guess number of eggs in a jar
- Name the Easter toy

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**Sunday 22nd**  
Mothers Day  
All mothers on booked  
tables receive a gift



**Saturday 14th**  
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[www.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk)

**Thursday 26th**  
Pie Night  
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