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Reporter

News and Views from around the area

Volume 18 Issue 5

May 2025

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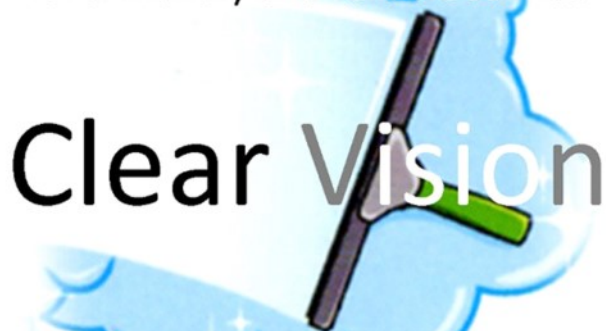
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Enquiries and copy to: msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk

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

Paper copy to any of the team.

April's Annual Meeting of the WI

WE were welcomed to our Annual Meeting by our President, Jenny Preston. Fund raising activities this year will include a 'table top' sale on Saturday 5th July at the Village Hall, as well as two open meetings.

Dee is working with Heather to finalise details for our Facebook page, which should be up and running shortly. Our next pub lunch will be on Thursday 15th May at The Royal Oak. The book club met to review Jack Jordan's thriller 'Do No Harm', which had a mixed reception. They move on to a novel, 'The Romantic' by William Boyd.

Jenny gave funeral details for Shirley Dunkley, who served as President and committee member of our WI for many years. She was a good friend to many of us and founded the Bookends book club, then under the auspices of our WI.

Our Secretary, Lesley, read her report detailing last year's activities, followed by our President, who thanked everyone for their support and friendship throughout the year, helping to ensure everything ran as smoothly as possible. The past year's accounts were detailed by Nelda and adopted unanimously. She thanked John Wright for his help and support in auditing the accounts, which he has kindly agreed to continue doing for us.

The committee for the coming year remains the same, with Jenny agreeing to stay as President, but in name only. For the first time, each member of the committee will chair one of the monthly meetings.

Our social time included the aptly named 'Corn Hole' game, which proved to be enjoyably noisy and good humoured.

We meet again on Thursday 8th May, please do come along and join us; we are sociable and friendly and will make you welcome.

Pat Bull

Bookends Good Read

"Do No Harm" by Jack Jordan

THIS dark, edgy unpredictable tale garnered almost universal accolades from group members. However a third, whilst scoring low for enjoyment, appreciated the cleverly plotted scenarios and tidy ending. A well respected heart surgeon, Anna, was being blackmailed by an anonymous gang. They had kidnapped her eight year old son Zac, killed her babysitter Paula, bugged her house and car and in return demanded she kill a top Labour politician during his heart operation. Using a mobile phone they sent her messages and images of her son. There are complex heart operation scenes, unpleasant details of people, of killings, of personal habits and a glimpse into the macabre world of international criminality. There were sub plots, back stories and all told from the perspective of three women. Anna, Margot, (a scrub nurse and thief stealing from her colleagues lockers to pay her rent, moving seamlessly into blackmail) and Rachel a Detective Inspector in the local Police Force. The latter is quickly on the scent of the real crime whilst her colleagues are still struggling with Paula's murder. The story had a strong emotional impact on all readers. Mainly because of the Surgeon's dilemma but also the overwhelming theme of motherhood. Margot believed she was pregnant, Rachel had lost a child some years ago who vanished on the beach and the main victim, Zac. The author was prompted to write this book following minor surgery in hospital. As the cover promises, "pulse-racing . . . a rollercoaster . . . a terrifying ride". If you like irredeemable characters, convoluted, contrived, unpalatable plotting, but like a heart storming thriller, this is for you.

Carole Fornachon

Village History Group

THE next presentation talk is scheduled for the 14th May at 7.30pm in the Function Room at The Royal Oak.

Martin Gething, a National Trust volunteer's talk will 'have a short introduction about T. E. Lawrence (Lawrence of Arabia), explaining how he came to Clouds Hill and renovated the cottage to exactly how he wanted it; the famous people who visited him there, and how it was passed on to the National Trust. He will also include a brief summary of the cottage's earlier history, particularly its role as a farm labourer's tied cottage in the nineteenth century (with a couple of links to Milborne St. Andrew!)

Everyone is welcome, however, there will be a small entry fee of £3 (cash only, please). If anyone wants to buy drinks from the bar, I recommend coming a bit earlier so that you don't miss the beginning of the talk.

Thanks to those who emailed me with their email contact details. If anyone else wants to be on my electronic circulation list there is still time to send me your address to pamshults@btinternet.com.

Pam Shults

Hannah Constance Spruyt "Paddi"

News has reached us that Paddi Spruyt, widow of the Reverend John Spruyt, Vicar here from 1970-78, has died at the age of 99 years. Born Hannah Constance Phoenix in Suffolk, she was always known as Paddi and worked tirelessly alongside her husband, involving herself in all aspects of Church and village life, including the Guide movement, and assisting John, acting as Lollipop Lady. A feisty, dedicated person who worked numerous jobs whilst raising a family of six children – Anne, Jill, Nick, Sarah, Tim and Katie. She once worked at the Gloucester Homes in Dorchester, where my Aunt worked as well; she could remember Paddi going about her work singing, "I was born with a smile on my face." So true! The death of John at a relatively early age hit her hard, but in true Paddi-style, she picked herself up and made a new life. She belonged to the Pilgrims of St. Francis and walked many a Pilgrimage route in England and across Europe until she was in her 80s. Her faith was always an integral part of her life, and after John's death, she reverted to her Catholic faith. She celebrated her 99th birthday on February 4th. She was visited by Katie, who lived nearby and devoted herself to caring for her mother, and by Nick, who made a surprise visit. Paddi's funeral was on April 17th at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Beeches Green, Stroud, Gloucestershire. We give thanks for a long life of active service and her friendship right to the end. She is now reunited with her beloved John. Requiescat in pace. Jesu mercy, Mary pray.



The photograph of John and Paddi was taken at the Presentation evening when the couple left Milborne.

Tony Fox

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Henry Bruce Dyer

01/04/1949 – 23/02/2025



Sadly Bruce passed away suddenly but peacefully at home in February.

Many of you may have known Bruce from badminton, cribbage, while walking around the village with his dog, Ciara, or from the help he gave to Milborne Ladybirds supporting myself, his wife Liz, in the practicalities of running the preschool.

Bruce grew up in Devon and when he left school he took a carpentry apprenticeship, some of the tools (and the box he built containing them) have stood the test of time and were regularly used. Bruce then moved into civil engineering working for Gleeson, Balfour Beatty and NUKEM Ltd. He moved around the country often living on site while working on a variety of projects. It was while working in Norwich we met in the pub I played darts for and Bruce regularly ate after work. We married in 1985 before moving to Newbury.

He was proud to point out “I built that . . . bridge/dam/shopping centre . . .” as we travelled around the UK. Some of the more memorable projects were the refurbishment of the Palm House in Kew Gardens and the refurbishment of the Metropolitan Police forensic lab. Bruce then moved into the nuclear decommissioning industry working as site manager at AWE Aldermaston and Harwell.

Our two children, Nicky and Mark, were born in 1989 and 1992 while Bruce was commuting to London and working long hours. When he became senior project manager at Winfrith we moved to Milborne in 2000 making our home here. Bruce settled in to village life and thoroughly enjoyed walking the dog whilst chatting with other locals.

In 2023, we welcomed grandchildren Cassidy and Rupert. It was in recent months while enjoying spending time with them that Bruce realised how much he had missed in our children’s early years. Bruce was immensely proud of his family.

He was looking forward to a hip replacement “so he could play badminton better” and was in the running (yet again) for the wooden spoon in the cribbage league.

We would like to send a big thank you for all the support and kind wishes that we have received, Milborne is a wonderful place to live.

Liz; Nicky, Tim and Cassidy; Mark, Charlotte and Rupert

Milton Abbas Surgery

Digital Champion Sessions

Digital Champions at Dorset Council are a group of friendly and patient volunteers who are good at explaining computers, without using jargon. They can help you to:

- set up and use devices including mobile phones, tablets and computers
- get online and show you how to do home shopping
- access digital NHS services like the NHS app or SystmOnline to be able to book appointments, view test results and consultation notes

Dorset Council run Digital Champion sessions in Blandford Library on Tuesdays from 10.00am till 12.25pm, and every other Friday 10.30am till 12noon. To book a session please call 01305 221048.

Surgery Facebook Page

Our surgery Facebook page (@miltonabbassurgery) is a great way to stay up to date with surgery news, closures, and helpful information to support you and your family’s health and wellbeing. If you’d like to learn more about using it, why not book a session with one of the Digital Champions sessions mentioned above?

Autism Health Checks

We have recently launched Autism Health Checks at our surgery and are currently in the process of reaching out to patients. If you would be interested in knowing more, please contact the surgery either by phone or email miltonabbassurgery@nhs.net and ask for Anna (one of our Social Prescribers).

We are also trialling a new Autism Support Pathway to ensure everyone over 18yrs old receives comprehensive support during and after their assessment.

If you have any communication or adjustment needs related to autism, ADHD, or mental health that would make it easier for you to access our surgery, please let our Social Prescribers know. They’ll be happy to help you!

Surgery Closures

The surgery will be CLOSED on **Saturday 3rd May** and **Monday 5th May** for the Early Bank Holiday, and **Saturday 24th May** and **Monday 26th May** for the Late Bank Holiday.

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

Donations

The Reporter Team would like to thank those who generously gave donations to help with the Reporter Finances. It is very much appreciated with the ever rising printing costs and loss of advertisers.



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Revisiting: A Good Read: “Fire and Fury ; Inside The Trump White House” by Michael Wolff (February 2018)

I BEGAN this piece by stating that “never has a book been so timely in its appearance or content for our present, uncertain and extremely concerning, time”. It covered the first nine months of Donald Trump’s term as President of the United States of America and is based, reportedly, on 200 interviews and ‘deep background’. By his own admission Wolff took advantage of the initial absence of official procedures and the lack of experience of its principal players. It is able to capture Trump’s “tireless, uncontrolled voice [both] public and private, shared by others on a daily basis, sometimes virtually as he utters it”. Throughout the book he is variously described as an ‘entertaining oddity . . . a natural wonder . . . a miracle worker (post-election) . . . beyond explanation . . . a man remaking the world (Steve Bannon) . . . a simple machine that can easily be switched on and off . . . a Clown Prince . . . a protagonist and a hero’. Having heard Trump’s Inauguration speech George W Bush was heard to say “That’s some weird s***. His hyperbole, reality distortions, flights of fancy, improvisations (whatever he knew ‘he seemed to have learned an hour before’) and mangling of facts were products (in one comment) of a ‘basic lack of guile, pretence and impulse control’. Amazing facts and points of view emerge page after startling page. Press Secretary Sean Spicer said “You can’t make this s*** up (he believed that Trump) didn’t give a f***”. Most incredible was that *the ‘worst candidate in modern political history’ entered the presidential race in order to lose not win*. Trump lore was that the prompt to make him run was his humiliation by Obama at the 2011 White House Correspondents’ Dinner. But to him ‘losing was winning’ which was why after the election result he gathered around him a severely under resourced team totally lacking in political experience who realised that it strained credibility for Trump to seize the mantle of global transformation. He had an outlaw prescription for winning, no scruples and contemptuous of rules.

Also, interestingly, despite his ‘conventional misogyny’ he found women more loyal and trustworthy than men. Steve Bannon, a literate and highly verbal man, commented “I now know what it was like to be in the court of the Tudors”. He saw the essential Trump problem as the way he helplessly personalised everything. He would dwell, ruminate and chew needing special handling and women, in his words, “got this more precisely than men”. He believed that women needed to focus on a man, a man like himself.

Of extreme importance throughout the book is the following comment: he ‘has extreme self-satisfaction – life is sunny’, “to say he knows nothing at all is a comic understatement” It is an insightful book which still has resonance today. As Wolff wrote “You hit Donald on the head and he keeps going. He doesn’t even know he has been hit”.

Carole Fornachon

Deadline for the next issue 14th May

Send your articles to the Reporter by e-mail at

msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk or give to a member of the team

The Reporter would welcome any new advertisers in this well-read magazine.

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DO you have spare time, and would you like to help others stay safe from scams and similar types of fraud? If so, we’re looking for people in the Dorset Council area who would like to help us promote the national Friends Against Scams scheme by becoming ‘Scamchampions’ and encouraging others to become ‘Friends’.

Today, more than one in every 100 people living in Dorset are a Friend with Friends Against Scams.

Friends learn how to spot the signs of a scam and can then use that learning to help other people. By having simple everyday conversations Friends can help to keep others safe, whether family, friends, work colleagues, in fact anyone a Friend might meet. Friends also know where to report a scam and where to go to get help.

It’s very easy to become a Friend. Anyone can. Just visit www.friendsagainstsams.org.uk and take the 20-minute online training at a time to suit you. If you don’t have a computer, then ask at your local library how to access the training from a public access computer.

If you are part of a group and would like face to face training for a larger number of people, then please contact Trading Standards on the email below.

Volunteers with Dorset Council Trading Standards become ‘Scamchampions’ who encourage others to become Friends in a more structured way. Examples include attending partnership events with Trading Standards staff, having face to face conversations with people in libraries, getting involved with informal coffee morning group discussions, and for some people who are confident in doing it, giving presentations.

We are always happy to hear from people who would like to talk about what they can offer to a volunteering role. We are led by you in terms of your skills and how much you’d like to be involved. To find out more about our Trading Standards volunteering opportunities, please get in touch with us at tradingstandards@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk



to the Reporter

Dear All,

On the 18th May I will be taking part in the annual Distinguished Gentleman’s Ride in aid of Prostate Cancer and men’s mental health.

This is a world wide event (121 countries around the world) and is partnered with the Movember charity that you may have heard of.

I shall be participating in the ride starting in Dorchester.

If you would like to donate (but please do not feel obliged!) then please do so via my sponsorship web page <https://gfolk.me/PeterConstant631809> Donations can be named or anonymous. Any amount no matter how small or large will be appreciated.

Cheers, Pete Constant



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Obituary Shirley Dunkley

“Literature remained a love to the very end of her life”

SHIRLEY and Peter Dunkley came to this village to live for 22 years moving to Nottingham at the end of 2018, Both talented and energetic people they contributed greatly to the life of this community. Shirley was Chair of the School Governors for eight years and Governor for 10 years. She was involved with the WI producing plays and poetry readings, serving on the committee at one time President of the MSA branch, Vice Chair of the WI County trustees and rep for the Combined Arts, running drama workshops and producing plays at County level. Peter was on the Village Hall Committee and worked on the, then, village plan. They were long time members of the Garden Club with Shirley Chair for three years. She founded the Bookends Book Club 21 years ago then under the auspices of the WI under the Presidency of Sheila Bird



(whose original idea it was), (see article December 2023 in the *Reporter*) writing a monthly Good Read for the *Reporter*. Peter was a co-ordinator of all census collectors. He also gave French classes in the local school. Sadly Peter died whilst they were in their new home in Nottingham after 63 years of a successful and happy marriage. Before they moved to Nottingham to be near their youngest daughter and her family, the Dunkleys held a 20 year celebration of their stay in their garden. They admitted regrets and wanted to say goodbye to neighbours thanking them for being “such good people to live amongst”. As prime movers in many ways all present felt they would be greatly missed. For them they were leaving behind their beloved dog Maisie who moved in with Sue and Laurie Benn.

The couple had met during their first term at Oxford University both studying English, both with a love of great books. In their library were to be found duplicate copies of their favourites marked “his” and “hers”. University courtship was a very different affair then. Their relationship blossomed at dances and cinemas, in cafes and play houses. Young ladies were not allowed in gentlemen’s Rooms after 7.00pm and all gates and doors were locked at 11.00pm. Exam time at university was hard whilst Shirley was revising three years worth of work in a few months, Peter was cramming three years worth of work in a couple of weeks. Although the pair shared a passion for education, their work ethic was actually quite different. This at a time when only 8% of the population went to University and only 2% went to Oxford or Cambridge.

Straight after the exams they went to Germany together to perform in a play and to await results which were to be published in *The Times*. On his results at the age of 24 years Peter was offered a BBC General Traineeship which offered security in the 1950’s so different from today. He spent a wonderful 32 years working on various TV and radio productions including travelling the world collaborating with

Wilfred Pickles and Richard Dimbleby. His comment on this momentous time was a laconic “Its better than working” For Shirley, post graduation, it was a teaching degree and in 1958 they married, renting their first flat from an art restorer in Fulham. Although the couple planned to start their family after five years of marriage fate took a hand and three children were born within those first five years. With the help of a friendly bank manager the Dunkleys then bought their first house. As the children grew older Shirley returned to teaching later becoming a counsellor of teenagers. The highlight of her career came after Peter had retired in 1986 when she got a wonderfully satisfying job as Counselling Manager at Childline where she trained volunteers to help troubled children over the phone. Due to the late hours and odd shift pattern,

Peter’s new “employment” was as Shirley’s chauffeur. Fearing retirement he seized opportunities with both hands to do various voluntary jobs. He was seven years with the Citizen’s Advice Bureau (Now C.A.) until the time was right to move away from London. In 1996 after looking at nearly 30 houses within a two hour radius of London they fell in love with “Little England”. Not exactly the modern, renovation free house they thought they wanted, but fate’s a funny thing. Here they flourished and enhanced village life, Shirley earning a reputation as a flawless hostess and cook. And the rest is history.

Shirley’s time in a Nottingham apartment on the banks of the Trent was not, of course, an idle one. She set up a Newsletter for the residents during Lockdown in order to keep them in touch. She joined a Book Club, and was even planning another in the Rest Home where she spent time for Respite care; enjoying social events and making new friends. Three weeks before her death she hosted a 90th birthday party for 50 people.

Shirley’s unceasing ability to listen and to help those who need it has continued. As current Bookends’ members say on learning of her passing “I have so much to thank her for”.

Carole Fornachon

Shirley Dunkley's Funeral

Funeral service is at Poole and Wimborne Woodland Burial Ground on Tuesday 29th April 2025 at 2.30pm

Live stream details

<https://wesleymedia.co.uk/webcast-view>

User name:

Password/PIN: 180-6853

In addition, Shirley’s family will also be holding a memorial event on Friday May 16th at 3.00pm at Riverview Court, 12-20 Wilford Lane, West Bridgford, Nottingham NG2 7TA

Please RSVP Charlotte Dunkley
charlotte.dunkley@ntlworld.com

Weltschmerz?

(A feeling of melancholy and world weariness)

Mark Twain said *'The best way to cheer yourself up is to cheer somebody else up'*.

Do you feel like screaming when reading about or listening to the world news?

Feeling a sense of despair when thinking about the world's problems is completely understandable. The sheer scale of suffering, injustice, and uncertainty can be overwhelming, but there are some ways to help manage those feelings and maintain a sense of hope and purpose:

1. Balance awareness with boundaries

It's good to stay informed, but doom scrolling or constantly consuming negative news can drain you. Limit your exposure to distressing media and balance it with uplifting or solution-focused content. I find it less upsetting to just read the headlines or first couple of sentences of an article so that I'm not too upset by all the details. Don't wallow in it.

2. Focus on what you can control

You can't fix everything, but you *can* make a difference in small ways – donating, volunteering, supporting causes, or simply being kind to those around you. Even small actions matter, I ask myself what can I do, today, to make a difference.

3. Seek out hopeful stories

For every tragedy, there are also stories of resilience, kindness, and positive change. Platforms like goodnewsnetwork.org or upworthy.com highlight stories that remind us of the good in the world. Look how many people rush to help after any atrocity or disaster. I think this is something that could be given more attention in Milborne, the *Reporter* is a great asset for promoting positive news in our community. So often we hear the negative stuff about moronic vandalism and littering. I'm certain that there are lots of good people living in and around the village, old and young, who do "good deeds". I would love to read about them and what they do for a change.

4. Strengthen personal connections

Despair often grows in isolation. Talk with friends, family, or like-minded people who also care about the world but help you process it in a constructive way. This is something our village is good at. Just take a look at the community contacts page in the *Reporter*. So many of us help out in so many ways to help create a vibrant and connected community. If you are not a member of a club, or have never been to the village hall or pub, church, sports club or Parish council meeting then perhaps reconsider? If nothing local appeals then why not start a club of your own, based on your interests?

5. Engage in meaningful action

Whether it's supporting a local cause, advocating for change, or simply helping a neighbour, meaningful action counteracts feelings of helplessness. We aren't all activists marching for a cause, but we can all support each other by attending everyday village events, buying raffle tickets, volunteering to serve on a committee etc and not just existing in your own little bubble in your own four walls. It is so easy to criticise, especially on social media, without giving any thought to the hurt feelings of others. Try to think of, and implement positive solutions.

6. Practice mindfulness and gratitude

Grounding yourself in the present moment and appreciating small joys – like nature, music, or a good conversation – can shift your mindset. It's an old-fashioned practice but I 'count my blessings' every night when I turn out the bedside light. Get outside each day, take time to appreciate just walking around the village, I especially admire the beautiful planters sponsored

by the Gardening Club on the corner of Milton Road. Don't fixate on the dog poo. As Oscar Wilde said "We are all in the gutter but some of us are looking up at the stars".

7. Accept uncertainty without losing hope

The world has always had darkness and light. While bad things happen, so do incredible acts of love, courage, and progress. History shows that change is possible, and often things improve over time. When I read about what life was like in the past, I realise how lucky we are to live in this moment. I've just finished reading a book called 'Medieval Woman' by Ann Baer and it was eye opening on the challenges of living at that time. Remember we live in quiet, peaceful Milborne St. Andrew, not Gaza or Afghanistan or Yemen, and be thankful.

I would like to write a series of articles about some of the good stuff that happens in and around Milborne. So, if you know of anyone who goes that extra mile to help others, perhaps by fundraising or volunteering or donating or anything else then please let me know and I will share the good news.

As an example, I've written about this in the *Reporter* before, many years ago, but I've never forgotten this particular incident. I was out for a walk on a leafy lane, miles from anywhere near Dewlish, when I came across a very elderly man collecting litter. He had a carrier bag full to the brim. We fell into conversation and he told me that he had lost his wife recently and so was revisiting all the old walks they used to take while on holiday in Dorset. He said he enjoyed 'tidying up' the hedgerows because his late wife hated litter. I told him his wife would be very proud of him and he said 'thank you' and we went our separate ways. I was so impressed with his modest attitude and his pragmatic approach. He didn't do it to trumpet his saintliness on Facebook or to impress anyone else but because it gave him personal satisfaction.

I am very aware that many people don't want any form of publicity and I would respect their anonymity but still would like to spread the word about what they do and why they do it, to highlight how many good people are out there and to shine a spotlight on the causes they support. So, if you can think of anyone who springs to mind then please email good.deeds.msa@gmail.com and let me know.

Portia from Shakespeare's "The Merchant of Venice" says "How far that little candle throws its beams! So shines a good deed in a naughty world". This timeless quotation (written in 1596-8) beautifully and simply captures the impact of small acts of goodness and kindness in a world which sometimes seems to be full of darkness and negativity.

Kindness is a powerful force that can transform individuals and communities. Moreover, kindness is contagious; when we experience it, we're more likely to pass it on. Ultimately, kindness strengthens relationships and nurtures a more peaceful, understanding world. Please put your thinking caps on and send me an email and then we can all enjoy reading some uplifting news from our beautiful village. Don't just pass by on the other side . . .

Rose Frost

Deadline for the next issue 14th MAY

Send your articles to the *Reporter* by e-mail at

msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk or give to a member of the team

The *Reporter* would welcome any new advertisers in this well-read magazine.



THE BENEFICE OF PUDDLETOWN, TOLPUDDLE AND
MILBORNE WITH DEWLISH
PART OF THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND IN THE DIOCESE OF SALISBURY



Peace at Last

"Well, darling, the war in Europe is over at last. I remember I used to say that, when it was, I would get drunk. This is honest, sweetheart, I never touched a drop but I said a prayer and thanked God for his guidance and kindness. It's been a long time and a good part of my life wasted. Still I suppose it was all for the best."

The above is an extract from one of more than 200 letters written by Douglas Lowe to his sweetheart Marjorie Suggitt. It is dated 10 May 1945. Two days earlier VE Day had taken place – marking Victory in Europe at the end of World War II. It was celebrated as a public holiday, and came exactly a week after German radio announced the death in action of Adolf Hitler.

The announcement that the war had ended in Europe was broadcast to the British people by the BBC late on 7th May. It was decreed that there would be a national holiday the next day, and the stage was set for huge celebrations. Prime Minister Winston Churchill had been assured that there was enough beer in the capital, and commemorative items, including VE Day mugs, were quickly produced.

St. Paul's Cathedral held ten consecutive services giving thanks for peace, each one attended by thousands of people, and churches throughout the country rang their bells. It was a day of jubilation, relief, and reflection. Streets filled with dancing and laughter, but also with tears for those who had not returned. For many, it was the beginning of rebuilding lives, families and communities.

Eighty years on, we still live in the shadow of that conflict, but we also live in the light of the peace that followed. This anniversary invites us all – whether people of faith or not – to pause and remember the courage and sacrifice of those who served, and to give thanks for the freedoms we enjoy today.

It's also a moment to reflect on our own calling, in whatever way we live our lives, to be people of peace. In a world that still knows war and suffering, each act of kindness, each step toward reconciliation, matters.

Churches were very much part of the celebrations in 1945. We will also be commemorating VE Day in two of our benefice churches this year and invite you to join us. On 4th May, the theme for our 9.30am Milborne Praise service, led by Tony Fox, will be the 80th anniversary of VE Day. Also on 8th May at 2.30 p.m. there will be a service of remembrance and thanksgiving in Puddletown church, led by Margaret Rickard. Both will contain hymns, readings and prayers.

And listen out for our bell-ringers later in the day too.
With best wishes

Sarah

Notes from St. Andrew's

I WRITE this just after we have begun our Holy Week observance with the Palm Sunday Eucharist. Palm Crosses were blessed, and the St. Luke's account of Jesus' Passion was read. It was a very moving occasion.

At the end of March, Mothering Sunday was celebrated at the Parish Eucharist, with Sarah celebrating (wearing a rose-coloured chasuble donated by a parish in North London where Tony has connections) and Margaret Rickard preaching. Posies, made by Lin and Tony, were distributed.

Milborne First School came to St. Andrew's on April 1st (no joke!) for their Easter Service. It was a wonderful occasion, with poetry, music and artwork. Congratulations to all involved; it was the first time year three led a Service. It was great to have many family members and friends present, too. See you all at Harvest!

On Sunday, May 4th, at 9.30am, Tony will lead a Service of Thanksgiving and Rededication for the 80th Anniversary of VE Day. There are other events on the day itself, including a Service in Puddletown at 2.30pm.

Continued on page 19

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

4th May – Easter 3

9.30am	Parish Communion	Tolpuddle
9.30	Milborne Praise – 80th anniversary of VE Day	Milborne
11.00	Parish Communion followed by APCM and bring-and-share lunch	Puddletown
11.00	BCP Morning Prayer (traditional language)	Dewlish

80TH ANNIVERSARY OF VE DAY – THURSDAY 8TH MAY

2.30pm	Service of Remembrance and thanksgiving	Puddletown
--------	---	------------

11th May – Easter 4

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

18th May – Easter 5

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

25th May – Easter 6

10.00am	Go Fourth	Tolpuddle
11.00	BCP Matins (traditional language)	Puddletown
11.00	Parish Communion, followed by APCM for Milborne and Dewlish	Dewlish

ASCENSION DAY – THURSDAY 29th May

7.00am	Morning Prayer	Dewlish Churchyard
6.00pm	Holy Communion	Puddletown

DAILY 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 07350414483
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

Milborne Movies – May Film Night

JOIN us at Milborne St. Andrew Village Hall on Friday 16th May for our film: *A Complete Unknown*.

This highly anticipated biographical drama delves into the early life of Bob Dylan, tracing his rise from a young folk singer to a cultural icon during the turbulent 1960s. With powerful performances and an evocative soundtrack, it's a must-see for music lovers and film fans alike.

Tickets are just £6.50, including a drink or ice cream! Doors open at 7.00pm, with the film starting at 7.30pm.

Come along and enjoy a relaxed evening of film, treats, and good conversation. Whether you're a regular or it's your first time, we'd love to welcome you!

Artsreach

We're lucky to have Artsreach bringing live performances to our community – but it only happens with a bit of local help!

So we're looking for a few friendly, helping hands to support Artsreach events in our village. It's just two or three times a year – not a huge commitment, but absolutely vital to keep live music, theatre, and arts thriving in our rural community.

Whether it's helping set up, welcoming guests, or just being part of the team that makes these special events happen, your time will make a real difference.

If you'd like to get involved (or just find out what it's all about), we'd love to hear from you.

Email Linsey: chair.msavh@gmail.com or call me on 07798 720812.

Milborne St. Andrew

Swift stream, by olden name a bourne,
This valley ran from ancient dawn,
'Fore mankind changed all nature's face,
And left his footprint on this place.

Since once his mark is made then so,
It shall with generations grow,
Far rooftops cloaking meadows green,
And God's small creatures little seen.

First came the Mill, and flour from corn,
And thus the name in part was born,
St. Andrews Church was builded then
The village took that sign – amen.

And yet, in truth, as it now stands,
Long settled midst these rolling lands,
It joins with God's creations wide,
Both home in hallowed countryside.

The Royal Oak, past years the inne,
Where trav'lers would abide within
Or local men might spend a night,
With friends and ale the world to right.

From patchwork field or distant farm,
Or modest hamlets wooded charm,
And villages around that lie,
The winding roads together tie.

Surrounding hills which watching keep
Their vigil, while below sound sleep
Good country folk, who now'days share
Frail nature, and make her their care.

For like the Mill this wheel has turned,
Mankind at least his place has earned,
And now the farmer often may
Be guardian of what once he slay.

And so in mill bourne, St. Andrew,
There live some many from the few,
Where hillock, wood and heaven's plan,
Now show their peace to humble man.

John Seymour



**Milborne St Andrew
Celebrates
VE Day 80
At the War Memorial**



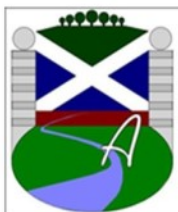
*Milborne St Andrew
PARISH COUNCIL*

10.30am 08th May 2025

The Lighting of the Lamp of Peace
The Tribute
Raising of the Flag
Tea and Cake

7 pm 08th May 2025

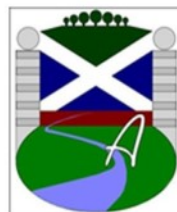
The Proclamation
Lowering of the Flag
A Toast



**Milborne St Andrew
Parish Council**

Annual Village Meeting

Wednesday 07th May 2025 7pm



1. What did your Parish Council achieve this year

2. What are the aims and objectives and projects for next year



3. What would you like from your Parish Council this year



Free refreshments prior to start of meeting – Doors open at 6.30 pm



**Milborne St Andrew
Wednesday Club**

**AGM on the 7th May at
2.00pm.**

**At the Milborne St. Andrew
Village Hall.**

**Members and friends very
welcome**



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

Red Nose Day 2025

This year for Red Nose Day the event focused on supporting those in need during the current living crisis, particularly issues like lack of food and



homelessness.

So, together with Ladybirds, our school decided to set ourselves a Milborne mission . . . to donate the biggest Red Nose Day hamper there has ever been to our local food bank, Nourish, in Blandford. We were completely blown away by the generosity of our families. Thank you so much to all of you.

Together we really did make such a difference.



Wessex Writing Event

Three of our brilliant year 3's, Maisy, Sebastian and Caspian were invited to Thomas Hardy to take part in a collaborative writing event. Along with several other first schools, year 8



students from St. Mary's and some sixth form students from THS, our children all came together to create their own stories which will be put together and published in their very own book. It was a wonderful morning and we can't wait to see the final piece of writing!

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

Fax: (01258) 837170

St. Mary's CE Middle School, Puddletown

Inspire today to shape tomorrow

IF you haven't yet made it to Lyme Regis to join in on some elephantastic fun, then you're missing out! Throughout April and May, this corner of the Jurassic Coast has been taken over by a stampede of around 50 elephants. From the iconic cliffs at West Bay to the Cobb at Lyme Regis, *Stampede by the Sea* features elephant sculptures of all sizes and colours placed across the area to create a fun art trail that is accessible to all.



St. Mary's very own elephant, named Sweetie for obvious reasons (see picture!), is the creation of our pupils who, under the guidance of art teacher Alison Moore, came up with the fabulous confectionary creation! Esme M in

Year 8 was the inspiration behind the eye-catching design that won us all over. Why not take a trip to Lyme to see our very own Sweetie, and the rest of the herd, in the wild? At the end of the trail, each elephant will be sold at auction to raise vital funds for Weldmar Hospicecare.

As you will be aware from our previous news stories, St. Mary's is building quite a reputation for sporting success, and much of this is about offering the best opportunities for our



students to experience success in a wide range of sports. Recently, our Key Stage 3 girls' football team were lucky enough to attend a football

talent festival at Budmouth Academy in Weymouth where they had the chance to show off their skills in front of talent scouts from Bournemouth FC. The girls enjoyed a terrific experience and are now patiently waiting by the phone for a call up to the Women's Super League! Watch this space!

Talking of fabulous opportunities, just before the Easter break, a group of budding Year 8 engineers did St. Mary's proud at the



Poole Rotary STEM challenge. Our teams, who were up against various other schools in the area, had to design and build a device to launch a ball into the air. The students put their Design and Technology skills very effectively into practice, taking second and third places in the competition. Their designs even won a special commendation from the Mayor of Poole!



Calling all St. Mary's alumni! Would you like to come back to our school to see what's changed? We would love to



welcome you back to St. Mary's on **Friday 13th June at 10.00am** for a tour of the school, a cuppa in the library and the chance for a reminisce! To confirm your attendance, please email Mrs Gaughan in the school office (email address below). We look forward to welcoming you back!

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

from the archive, 15 and 16 years ago . . .

www.milbornestandrew.org.uk/Reporter/Archive

Reporter – May 2009 / 2010

Village Fund-Raising, School counts the cost after roof vandalism and success for the Football Club

Vicar on the Piddle (2009)

Seventeen people and one dog set out from St. Andrew's Church to walk the 12 miles to Charminster to raise start-up funds for the installation of toilets and a servery at St. Andrews. Rev'd Benny Hazelhurst successfully navigated the route via Dewlish and Piddletrenthide to Charminster Church where the hungry hikers were met by a picnic prepared by friends and supporters. Several tens of thousands of pounds are likely to be needed for this project and the funds raised on the walk will be used to get proposals drawn up for planning and costing.

Football club news update (2009)

THE season is drawing to a close. A great one it has been following Milborne being awarded Southern Area Chartered Club of the year, the seniors virtually clinched 2nd place and promotion, Andy Draper assisted by Mike Tawfig will be running a reserve team next season.

New players are welcome. Call on Mike Tawfig – corner house Hopsfield – to register your interest.

The real success has to be Grant Taylors under 13's who having failed to win at all last season have won the last 3 games on the trot. We are still looking for a manager for our most successful youth team, the under 12's. Mark is stepping down at the end of the season and unless someone volunteers to manage the team we will not be able to run the side next year.

The summer gives the coaches a break, but please look out for and support our summer activities, Soccer schools, Golf Tournament, Car Boots, Summer Ball, BBQs and lots more. Your support of these events is crucial to our continuing financial viability.

John Kane has stepped down as CPO. Dave Smith taking on the role. Finally, we have sponsorship opportunities to promote local businesses.


Computers damaged after lead theft at local school (2010)

POLICE in Blandford are appealing for witnesses and information after thieves stole lead from the roof of a rural school which allowed rain water to cause considerable damage to the interior of the school.

Sometime between Monday 29th March and midday on Saturday 3rd April, thieves climbed onto a flat roof at Milborne St. Andrew First School in Hopsfield and stole roofing lead. Rainwater caused considerable damage to the school interior.

Police Constable Bruce Murdoch, of Blandford Police Station, said: "The damage subsequently caused to the inside of the building runs into many thousands of pounds, and all for about £100 worth of lead.

Six of the school's computers, and the newly installed server, were damaged in the information and computer technology room with damage also being caused in a medical room, a technology cupboard, teaching resource cupboard and the toilets in the children's reception class as well as damage to carpets, ceilings and display boards within the school.



Reporter

News and Views from around the area
Volume 1 Issue 4
May 2009

A leap of faith!



Water hazards en-route for the younger walkers taking part in the "Vicar on the Piddle (2)" sponsored walk

Seventeen people and one dog set out from St. Andrew's Church to walk the 12 miles to Charminster to raise start-up funds for the installation of toilets and a servery at St. Andrews. Rev'd Benny Hazelhurst successfully navigated the route via Dewlish and Piddletrenthide to Charminster Church where the hungry hikers were met by a picnic prepared by friends and supporters. Several tens of thousands of pounds are likely to be needed for this project and the funds raised on the walk will be used to get proposals drawn up for planning and costing.

Parish Council to employ dog warden

Milborne St. Andrew Parish Council has decided to employ a dog warden in another attempt to deal with the village's continuing problems of dog fouling. Dog wardens have the power to levy on the spot fines to any dog owner who allows their dog to foul without removing the faeces. Councillor Regan said "Regrettably, there remain some who persistently choose to allow their dog to foul whenever or wherever they wish, without respect for the village, the villagers, or their neighbours' homes. It has become a serious hazard to walk the unlit roads of Milborne St. Andrew after dark."

Full story on page 2

The Royal Oak pub quiz (2010)

OUR first dabble into the world of pub quizzes began as part of a record breaking attempt to raise money for the Family Holiday Association. Backed by politicians, celebrities and hundred of pubs and clubs not only in the UK but across the world the night did not quite make it into the record books but did raise a lot of money for the charity which helps disadvantaged families around the UK take a well deserved break.

Our village entered 11 teams and everyone got into the spirit of the evening. We raised £92, had fun and the winning team which turned out to have six contributors (but it was for charity) will be back to defend their trophy at the next quiz which will take part on Sunday 30th May at 7.30pm.



Building Site Anonymous; Jason Blake, Jo Perry (Quiz Master)
Richard Macnair, Don Macleod, Kate Williams and Brian Parkinson.



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Village Hall Car Park

Thank you for your continued support in keeping the Village Hall car park clear for hall hirers. Here is this months calendar.

more* than a movie at the Village Hall on the BIG screen

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as BOB DYLAN
EDWARD NORTON
ELLE FANNING
MONICA BARBARO
BOYD HOLBROOK

FRIDAY 16TH MAY AT 7.30PM
DOORS AND BAR AT 7.00PM

MILBORNE ST ANDREW VILLAGE HALL DT11 0JX

Today

< >

May 2025

Month

<div>MON 28</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 08:00 CR PH Sg 19:30 Players 	<div>TUE 29</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:15 Move it or 19:30 Line Danc 	<div>WED 30</div>	<div>THU 1 May</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15:30 Yoga 15:30 Yoga 17:10 Karate 	<div>FRI 2</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 09:00 Posturef 	<div>SAT 3</div>	<div>SUN 4</div>
<div>5</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 08:00 CR PH Sg 19:30 Players 	<div>6</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:15 Move it or 19:30 Line Danc 	<div>7</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 13:45 Wednesdi 19:00 AGM Pari 19:00 Parish Cc 	<div>8</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15:30 Yoga 17:10 Karate VE 80 event 19:00 WI 	<div>9</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 09:00 Posturef 	<div>10</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 09:00 Garden C 10:00 Pop Up C 	<div>11</div>
<div>12</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 08:00 CR PH Sg 19:30 Players 	<div>13</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:15 Move it or 19:30 Line Danc 	<div>14</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 09:30 NHS Kare 	<div>15</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15:30 Yoga 15:30 Yoga 17:10 Karate 	<div>16</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 09:00 Posturef 19:00 Film Nigh 	<div>17</div>	<div>18</div>
<div>19</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 08:00 CR PH Sg 19:30 Players 	<div>20</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:15 Move it or 19:30 Line Danc 	<div>21</div>	<div>22</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15:30 Yoga 17:10 Karate 	<div>23</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 09:00 Posturef 	<div>24</div>	<div>25</div>
<div>26</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 08:00 CR PH Sg 19:30 Players 	<div>27</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:15 Move it or 19:30 Line Danc 	<div>28</div>	<div>29</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 15:30 Yoga 15:30 Yoga 17:10 Karate 	<div>30</div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 09:00 Posturef 	<div>31</div>	<div>1 Jun</div>

Village Hall Bookings

Google Calendar

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Continued from page 11

Our annual Meeting is being held on May 25th in Dewlish this year (we alternate within the parish), following the Parish Eucharist at 11.00. Do come along and hear what has been happening over the past year and to elect officers for the ensuing year. There is still time to join the Electoral Roll.

We are grateful to those who supported the three Lent lunches. Just over £200 has been raised towards the work needed to stabilise the floors in the toilet cubicles. Thank you to all involved; the lunches were a most convivial time – after all, even in Lent, we are still Easter People!

A number of people from the village or with village connections have died recently. Among them are Bruce Dyer, Larry Wadham, Alan Cousins, Rose Gough, Geoff Minion and Paddy Spruyt (to whom a tribute appears on page three of this magazine). The cremated remains of John and Anne Miller and Martin Holdaway have also been interred in the churchyard. We send our condolences to all who mourn at this time and pray for the repose of the souls of the departed.

Although the weather has changed to a cooler, more unsettled pattern after the very warm and dry spring so far, we are reminded that we are still in Eastertide, the season of new life and growth. Compline has been well attended, reaching double figures most weeks. The Lent Group has also been good; it was a time of sharing ideas, reflection, and growing together. Our thanks to Sarah for leading it and to all those who attended and contributed.

Tony and Pam

Dewlish Church Notes

WHAT a glorious day it was on Mothering Sunday! Spring has now definitely arrived, and the flowers are a joy to behold. Our Mothering Sunday service went very well, with Jim leading the service, Aiden playing the organ and our young villagers reading about the story of Mary's relationship with Jesus. Beautiful posies of Spring flowers – lovingly made by some of our ladies – were distributed, and Sue very kindly made simnel cakes for each member of the congregation. Thank you everyone!

On Sunday 25th May we are hosting the church APCM after the 11.00am Parish Communion service for Dewlish and Milborne. All those on the Electoral Rolls of Dewlish and Milborne are welcome to join us - we would love to see you.

Ascension Day falls on Thursday 29th May so we hope to have our usual service in the churchyard but **at 7.00am**. Please note the new time. We have made it a little later this year to allow everyone to stay in bed a bit longer!

Daphne Burg



Milborne Players News

HOT on the heels of the roaring success of our pantomime in February, the Players are kicking ideas around for a summer production. We've lots of enthusiasm and energy to create something delightful for you all in July.

Whilst we have many dedicated actors and support actors, we would love to enlist more people to help with other vital roles. Our achievements are very much reliant upon the teamwork within the Players. As such, we'd love to hear from you if you are interested in any of the following:

- ** Props and Backstage Support: Are you skilled in making stage equipment? Or could you help backstage with scene changes and moving props?
- ** Costumes: Unleash your creative side with designing, making or helping cast members with their costume changes during performances.
- ** Marketing: Help us spread the word about our performances to reach more people.
- ** Front of House: Welcome our audiences on show nights, sell raffle tickets or help quench thirsts serving behind the bar
- ** Technical Team: Support our sound and lighting team with all those special effects that really help bring our performances alive!

If you – or anyone you know – have the skills or would like to learn skills in these areas, please email us at playersmilborne@gmail.com or message/call Gren on 07876 793319 or Kate on 07804 600204. We look forward to hearing from you!

Kate Hawker



- **Do you like ponies, children and want to make a difference?**
- **Can you spare a few hours on Tuesday evenings (term time only)**
- **Can you help?**

MILTON ABBAS Riding For The Disabled Group is a volunteer-run charity which provides important therapy for young riders with a wide spectrum of special needs who benefit both physically and mentally from riding sessions. This makes a big difference to their lives and is equally rewarding for our volunteers.

We are a friendly group who operate from Luccombe Riding Centre in Milton Abbas, and currently are very short of volunteers for **Tuesday evenings from 5.00–6.00pm**. So if you feel you can spare a couple of hours a week and would like to get involved, please ring Sue Hodder on 07739 469946 or email suehodder01@talktalk.net. Find us on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100067613680731>.

Deadline for the next issue 14th May

Send your articles to the Reporter by e-mail at msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk or give to a member of the team
The Reporter would welcome any new advertisers in this well-read magazine.

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Dorset Home Library Service recognised in Dorset High Sheriff Award Ceremony

Dorset and BCP Home Library Service (HLS) has been awarded one of 13 High Sheriff Awards at a ceremony in Poundbury recently.

The Dorset and BCP HLS is a service offered by Royal Voluntary Service, a leading charity which helps communities to thrive through the power of volunteering.

High Sheriff Anthony Woodhouse, who presented the award, said: *"Royal Voluntary Service is an exceptional charity that brings the library service to anybody who can no longer reach their local facility. Not only does the Home Library Service enable people to continue to access the joy of reading for longer but also provides an important antidote to feelings of loneliness and isolation."*

The award was presented to Maria Jacobson, the service manager for Dorset and BCP Home Library Service, who expressed the organisation's surprise and delight at being chosen for the special award.



Mrs Jacobson said: *"I am here representing our 250 volunteers across the area who provide this important service to almost 800 people in our community who are unable to access their local library, choosing and delivering books every month."*

"This is a free service, combining the delivery of individually chosen books with a much-anticipated visit by a trusted volunteer. We are not well-known despite our reach, and this special recognition means a lot to us and will no doubt help us to spread the word and reach many more people across Dorset and BCP."

To find out more about the Home Library Service and how to sign up as a reader, please contact Maria Jacobson on 01305 236666 or e-mail maria.jacobson@royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk.

A date to go in your diary

Wednesday 23rd July 7.30pm

In partnership with Artsreach, presents

Taff Rapids – Blŵgras From Wales

Milborne St Andrew Village Hall.

07798 720812. £12.50, £6 u18s, £35 family

What's on in May

Friday 2nd	Bridge The Royal Oak 2.30pm.
Wednesday 7th	Wednesday Club AGM Village Hall 2.00pm.
Wednesday 7th	Parish Council Annual General Meeting Village Hall 7.00pm – <i>see page 12.</i>
Thursday 8th	VE day 80 War Memorial 10.30am and 7.00pm – <i>see page 12.</i>
Thursday 8th	WI Village Hall 7.30pm.
Friday 9th	Bridge The Royal Oak 2.30pm.
Saturday 10th	Gardening Club Plant Sale Village Hall 10.30am to 12.30pm.
Wednesday 14th	Village History Group talk by Martin Gething, a National Trust volunteer, The Function Room, The Royal Oak 7.30pm.
Wednesday 14th	Deadline for February's <i>Reporter</i> . Send your articles and photographs via email to msa.reporter@yahoo.co.uk or give to a member of the Team. Team members can be found on page 2.
Friday 16th	Bridge The Royal Oak 2.30pm.
Friday 16th	Milborne Movies A Complete Unknown Village Hall 7.30pm – <i>see page 12.</i>
Sunday 18th	Annual Distinguished Gentleman's Ride in aid of Prostate Cancer and men's mental health – <i>see letter page 7.</i>
Friday 23rd	Bridge The Royal Oak 2.30pm.
Sunday 25th	Church APCM after 11.00am Parish Communion, Dewlish Church,
Thursday 29th	Pie Night The Royal Oak.
Friday 30th	Bridge The Royal Oak 2.30pm.

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
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.

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Community Contacts

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

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

COMMUNITY CENTRES

Dewlish Village Hall

Chairman: Andrew Barnett 07551 839296

Booking Secretary: Margaret Groves 01258 837617

Milborne St. Andrew Village Hall

Chairman: Linsey O'Neill 07798 720812

Booking Secretary: Susan Poet 07866 313999

MSA Sports & Social Club 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

Bellringers Robin Mears 01305 848021

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

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

Circuit training

Cricket – Dewlish

Karate

Move it or lose it

Pilates (school)

Football – Milborne Sports

Football – Veterans

Skittles – Dewlish

Tap Dancing for Adults

Tennis

Yoga (at school)

Yoga (at Sports & Social Club)

Yoga (at Village Hall)

Mike Healy 01300 342134

Grace Martin 01305 213885

Elaine Kellaway 01258 837696

Peter Thompson 07873 116118

wessexmartialarts@gmail.com

Pippa Thurgood 07545 241291

Claire Barratt 07703 648869

Kelvin Dormer-Woolley 07544 725855

Paul David 07841 506839

Simon Ross 01258 837606

Kevin Selby 01305 250386

Rich Hawker 07393 309037

Sue Chapman 01305 848053

Saira Francis 01258 880505

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



Winning team of the Village quiz 2025

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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