

MILBORNE PORT MAGAZINE



APRIL 2024

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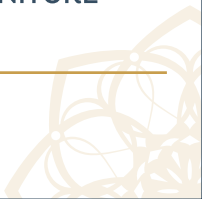
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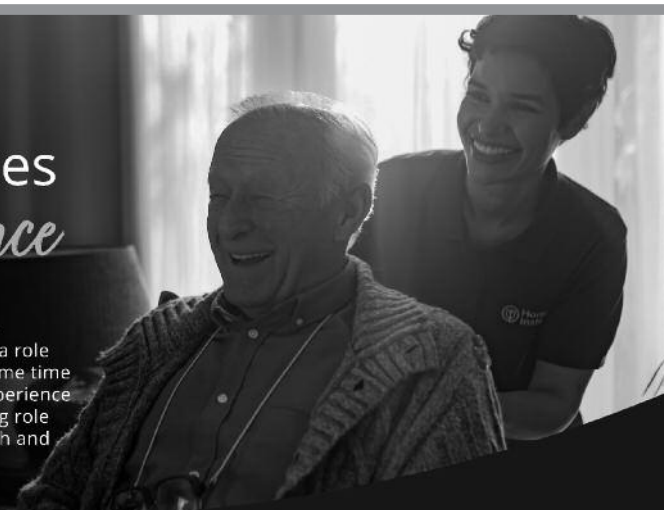
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A LETTER FROM REV RONA

As gardens and allotments awake in Springtime, I wanted to turn our thoughts to the humble trellis. Why? Well, Richard Carter in his excellent book *Letters from Nazareth, a Contemplative Journey Home* explains the spirit of prayer using the image of a trellis. I highly recommend this book, which is a beautiful collection of letters written about all aspects of Richard's life of faith.



The sturdy wooden parts of a trellis remind us of prayers we know, or are said in churches, and the spaces in between are our own prayers. Rather than strangle the plants, trellises offer a structure to grow around – free, yet supported. It's a lovely image for prayer.

Canterbury Press have kindly agreed for me to quote from Richard Carter's book, and these extracts come from Chapter 40; a letter written in April 2022 entitled Prayer.

“When we pray, we are turning towards the beloved, face to face. Our attitude or orientation in prayer is most receptive when it is one of complete openness and acceptance, a readiness to let ourselves become mirrors of Christ. In this practice there is nothing formulaic, no rules carved in stone. Yet there is a trellis of the Spirit that helps the life of God to grow within and helps guide and nurture all that seeks the light and waits to bloom where it is planted.”

Stay Faithful

“As when we love a person, so when we love God. Love needs time, presence, and perseverance. There are heady moments of infatuation but there is also most importantly a constancy: a returning again and

again to the beloved and a making space to be with. That faithfulness will involve moments of beauty and transformation but will also involve a faithfulness in the ordinary...

The more we pray the easier it becomes. Prayer is as essential as breathing. We may think that breathing is boring but stick your head under the water and you will quickly realise that this faithfulness to the breath is life itself. Our prayer is not an optional extra. It is life itself.”

Slow down and give time to prayer

...our love can easily become crowded out or choked. It needs a place and a space in our lives. We often think we have no time. When we are busy, contemplative prayer is often the first thing we sacrifice, in a way we would not miss an arranged meeting or a planned event...

But...Would you miss the date with a person you love? To pray, we need to give a generous space to God, a priority booking, a time when we leave the hundred different alternatives at the door and come, just as we are...”

I have loved this book and hope you will too.

With love

Rev Rona

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

BAPTISM

3rd March Frankie Haynes



RIP

Stephen Moore, formerly resident in Manor Road, sadly died in Chichester on 3rd March 2024.
Nigel Moore

CHURCH HOUSE 100 CLUB

Results of the March Draw

1st Prize	£30	Anon (no.60)
2 nd Prize	£20	Mr J Barker
3 rd Prize	£10	Mrs A Bennett



The Royal British Legion and District's final total for The Poppy Appeal for 2023, is £4,115.07. We are delighted Henstridge has joined Milborne Port in raising funds.

Since 2016, Milborne Port has raised £27,354.59.

Our thanks to everyone who has given so generously over the years.

Congratulations to **Julian Lukins**, who took our cover photo of Kingsbury Bridge, with a hopeful rainbow after last month's flooded cover!

We welcome all your photo submissions of scenes in and around the village for consideration for future covers.

Please email them to
magazine@milborneportchurches.org.uk

St Peter's Church, Goathill

Save these Dates! Full details next month

Monday 6th May

Duck Racing at The Mill and Cream Teas

2.00 p.m. – 4.30 p.m.

Sunday 19th May

Ukulele Singalong and Cream Teas

Church House

2.00 p.m. for 2.30 start

Hairy Bikers' Lunch

Saturday 27th April

12.30 p.m. in Church House

A lunch to celebrate and remember the cooking, love of food and motorbikes, and the bonhomie that was Dave Myers, one half of the Hairy Bikers. Minimum Donation of £10, with proceeds to Marie Curie.



Book tickets with Susan Wales, 01963 250660: pay on the day. Bring your own drink.

Quiz Night in aid of St John's Church

Sat 18th May

Village Hall

6.30 for 7.00 start

Tickets £12.50 including Fish and Chips, available from Wayne

Bring your own drinks/glasses and cutlery. Teams of 6-8

News from the Parish Council

Busy Year Ahead for The Parish Council: The Parish Council has a number of new projects in the pipeline for 2024/25, in addition to the normal everyday tasks of managing the allotments, two playparks, the cemetery, the Town Hall, the Churchyard and many of the Village's green spaces.

There is also the new Somerset Council taking shape, with the abolition of South Somerset District Council on 31st of March 2023. Sadly, the new shape of the services that Somerset Council will be offering is going to be completely dictated by the fact that it is almost insolvent, so there will be some quite considerable cuts to public services over the next year.

Back in the Autumn and Winter of 2023, councillors looked very carefully at the cost of providing all the carried out by the Parish Council, against a background of high inflation and growing costs. It will not come as a surprise that, even by keeping things close to the bone, the Parish Council is having to increase its share of the Council Tax from this April by £26.12 (per year, for a band D household). This increase of £2.17 per month will mean a Band D household will pay **£138.87** per year for services provided by the Parish Council.

How do we compare? **Bruton £184.92** (24/25); **Langport £325.05** (23/24); **Wincanton £195.73** (24/25); **Sherborne £228.59** (24/25); **Henstridge £106.44** (23/24) (Some are last year's figures, as we cannot find this year's, but we know from their minutes that there have been increases.)

The Parish Council - Delivering More Services Than Ever

There are three areas where the parish council is significantly extending its services in the coming year, two of them by choice, the last by default:

1: Youth Services / Youth Club: The Parish Council has teamed up with Bruton, Wincanton and Castle Cary Town Councils to employ a youth worker to serve across the four council areas; this will see the formation of a youth evening at the Village Hall each Thursday and improved engagement with the village's young people to better understand their requirements and reduce anti-social behaviour. This project is a three-year commitment costing £10,000 per year.

2: Facilities Officer (Village Hall Manager): As detailed in previous magazine issues, the former Trustees of the Village Hall requested support from the Parish Council in order to keep the hall in operation. The Parish Council immediately agreed to the awarding of a grant for £3,000 to keep the Hall open and solvent while the rent charges to users were assessed (and ultimately increased). The Parish Council will take over as the sole trustee of the Village Hall on the 1st of April to provide a solid foundation to build the business in the future. A Facilities Officer (Village Hall Manager) has been employed to take on the day-to-day operation of the Village Hall for the start of this April, as well as having a wider remit in terms of looking after MPPC's other facilities (i.e. the Town Hall, play parks). This will add a cost to the council of around £13,500 per year.

3: The Demise of Somerset Council What will the massive cuts to all Somerset Council's budget and services mean for the parish? Currently, Somerset Council provides a number of services, some charged to the Parish Council, some not:

- The Parish Ranger (paid for by the PC)
- Dog poo bin emptying (some paid for by the PC)
- Playground safety checks (paid for by the PC)
- High Street (and just off) sweeping & weed control
- Emptying and replacement of public litter bins
- Repair of potholes/emptying of gullies
- Cutting back dangerous overgrowth next to the highway.

What might come of other services not listed above will become apparent as the cuts start to take hold; these are just the day-to-day services that we most engage with in the Parish Office. Over the next year, the Parish Council will need to monitor all these areas of service reduction by Somerset Council to see what will need to be picked up and paid for locally and what will simply no longer be offered.

Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting will take place on **Tuesday 23rd April at 7 p.m.** at the Village Hall. The Parish Meeting is a meeting of the Parishioners; it is not a meeting of the Parish Council. However, it is chaired by the Chairman of the Parish Council and organised by the Parish Clerks. All local groups will be invited to attend and share information about their activities. This is an open meeting, so do come along if you would like to learn more about the organisations that make a positive difference to life in Milborne Port and if you would like to share your own ideas and suggestions about how to improve village life.

Parish Council Meetings in April

Full Council: Tuesday 2nd; Planning and Environment Committee: Tuesday 16th.

Meetings take place in the Town Hall and start at 7 p.m. Members of the public are welcome to attend and can address the meeting with questions or comments from 7 - 7.15 p.m. If you would like to attend but would experience access difficulties, please let us know in advance and we will relocate to the Community Room downstairs.

Simon Pritchard – Parish Clerk clerk@milborneportpc.org.uk
Nathalie Hetherington – Deputy office@milborneportpc.org.uk
Find us on Facebook! Search: Milborne Port Community Council
Parish Council Website: www.milborneportpc.org.uk



We have had a busy half term in school. On Thursday 7th March, we celebrated World Book Day. All of the children and staff dressed as a word and we had 'inventor', 'equestrian' and 'nocturnal', to name but a few. This opportunity enabled us to have a focus on vocabulary development. Millie Furby, Chair of the PTFA, ran story times with hot chocolate for each class in the Library and we also had a second-hand book sale after school.

On Monday 14 March, we welcomed Aaron Atkinson (one of our parents) with two of his colleagues from Tesla in Bournemouth. They led a whole school assembly and talked to everyone about electric cars, sustainability and environmental issues. During the day, each class had the opportunity to ask questions and look at two different Tesla models.



After Easter, we are planning to extend our links with local businesses, companies and those who are self-employed. We already have some volunteers who are willing to come and talk to the children about their work but would welcome others. If you, or anyone you know, might be interested in talking to the children in assembly, we would be delighted to hear from you. Please make contact through the School Office. The aim of this is to make children more aware of the world of work and the various career paths which are open to them.

Before term ends, we will have our whole school Easter Service in St John's Church. On behalf of the staff, children and Governors, may I wish you all a very Happy Easter.

Jonathan Rodd
Headteacher



Volunteers Needed

Milborne Port Primary School are looking for new volunteers to join the Pool Team for 2024.

The role as volunteer would include: opening and closing the pool, testing the water and adding chemicals (full training will be given) and cleaning. Volunteers can enjoy a free swim when they open or close (with the option to book a couple of free swim slots too).

Volunteers are only asked to commit to one day a week. If you can help, please either send us a message via our Facebook page or email the school office: office@mpprimary.co.uk

Jane Matthews

Milborne Port Football Club

Milborne Port FC was formed in 1891, and plays at the Memorial Recreation Ground, Springfield Road. Over the recent years the club has grown and is now very proud to have total 250 participants across 9 youth and 3 adult teams, with more than 10 of our managers and coaches having played for our teams before volunteering to assist with ensuring the club remains as vibrant as ever for the future generations.

This month we'll be focussing on the youngest members of the club, our Under 7's. Milborne Port FC Under 7's are coached and managed by Ben Southern. They play in the Yeovil & District League and are sponsored by Onwards & Upwards Scaffolding Ltd. Their matches are 5-a-side and matches are classed as non-competitive, to allow players to develop and learn without the pressure of the end scoreline being the most important thing. Football is fun, fantastic for health and

wellbeing and a great way for people to interact and socialise in a group environment.

This is the team's first year of playing team football and matches and they are focussing on teamwork, structure and learning to play football with a smile, as you can see from their team photograph!



Milborne Port FC's main priority is to offer competitive football in a safe environment and is open to all. We believe in teamwork, respecting each other, officials, our opponents and the game as well as having a positive impact on our local community.

The club is very fortunate to have great support from not only the people of Milborne Port but also local businesses who sponsor kits, balls, training equipment and clothing. We are always delighted to receive offers of support, as well as hear from players who would like to join us. Please contact mpfcsecretary@outlook.com if you would like to be involved in our fantastic club.

Pre-Loved Sale

In the Primary School Hall

Saturday 20th April 11.00 - 1.30 p.m.

Open to whole community

Tea and cakes available

Book a table for £5 and sell your stuff!

Email milborneportschoolpta@gmail.com

MILBORNE PORT OPERA PRESENTS

The Drowsy Chaperone

MPO's show this year is a very funny send up of 1920s Hollywood musicals, with an implausible plot, even more implausible characters, and some great music and dancing from the Jazz Age.

The Drowsy Chaperone of the title ("Drowsy" is an American euphemism for drunk) has the job of keeping the bride, a Broadway star who is giving up fame and the footlights to get married, away from her bridegroom, an oil heir, on their wedding day. Needless to say, she fails.

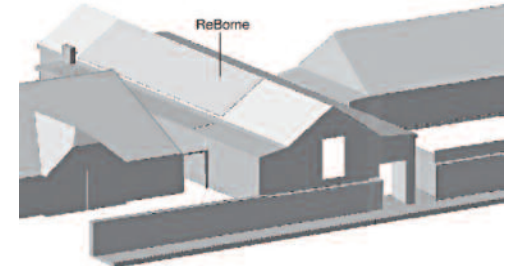
The "Drowsy Chaperone" plays in the Milborne Port Village Hall from April 3-6, the week after Easter. Refreshments and Gin Bar available. See our Facebook page for great Meal Deals with our wonderful partners. Tickets can be bought online at www.mpopera.co.uk.



Reborne Community Church

As you travel down North Street in the village many will have noticed the building work taking place in our old church building. Reborne Church is refitting the building ready for the 21st century, it will be a new beginning. Please visit our website

(<https://www.rebornechurch.org>) to see the improvements we are making, which we hope will not only be used by the church, but by our community as a whole. Most of our activities are still taking place and we are grateful to the Primary School who are accommodating our Toddler Group on Monday afternoons, and Kids Club and Youth Club on Tuesdays.



Our Sunday worship still takes place in the new Digby Hall, Sherborne as usual and you are very welcome to join us at 10 am for coffee, followed by our worship at 10.30 am.

This year our Good Friday morning service will be held at the Cheap Street Church Hall, Sherborne at 10 a.m. Early on Easter Sunday morning, 31st March, we will be holding our Easter Sunrise Service up on The Terraces in Sherborne at 8 a.m., followed by croissants at the Digby Hall.

Then at 10.30 a.m., on this special Easter day, we will be celebrating the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. Christ came to give each one of us a fresh start, a new beginning. Please join us if you can.

Ginny Bignell

The Village Hall Sat Indoor Market and Coffee Morning

In order to fit in with the Splendid Village Opera, **Saturday 30th March** (Easter Saturday) the market is temporarily moving into the Camelot Suite of the hall (car park side of the building at the bottom. Opening 10 – 12.30.

The following Saturday (**6th April**) the Opera needs the whole building so weather permitting we will be outside nearby or maybe miss a week. !!!!

My contact details are Tel: 07547 662393 or email nikki@pendragonwood.co.uk Call me if you need a free delivery!

CHURCH SERVICES

(including the Principal Service Readings)

Morning Prayer in the Lady Chapel at St John's: Daily at 9 a.m.

Wednesday 3rd April

10:30 a.m. Holy Communion Milborne Port

Sunday 7th April 2nd Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:32-35, John 20:19-31

9:00 a.m. Holy Communion Charlton Horethorne

10:30 a.m. Parish Communion Milborne Port

6:00 p.m. Evensong Stowell

Wednesday 10th April

10:30 a.m. Holy Communion Milborne Port

Sunday 14th April 3rd Sunday of Easter

Acts 3:12-19, Luke 24:36b-48

9:00 a.m. Holy Communion BCP Goathill

10:30 a.m. Parish Communion Milborne Port

12:00 p.m. Baptism Milborne Port

6:00 p.m. Evensong Charlton Horethorne

Wednesday 17th April

10:30 a.m. Holy Communion Milborne Port

Saturday 20th April

10.00 a.m. Community Thanksgiving Milborne Port

Sunday 21st April 4th Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:5-12, John 10:11-18

9:00 a.m. Holy Communion Milborne Wick

10:30 a.m. Family Baptism Service Milborne Port

6:00 p.m. Holy Communion Charlton Horethorne

FOR APRIL

Wednesday 24th April

10:30 a.m. Holy Communion Milborne Port

Sunday 28th April 5th Sunday of Easter

Acts 8:26-40, John 15:1-8

10:30 a.m. Holy Communion Milborne Port

6:00 p.m. Evensong Goathill

Wednesday 1st May

10:30 a.m. Midweek Communion Milborne Port

Sunday 5th May 6th Sunday of Easter

Acts 10:44-end, John 15:9-17

9:00 a.m. Holy Communion Charlton Horethorne

10:30 a.m. Holy Communion Milborne Port

6:00 p.m. Evensong Stowell

Wednesday 8th May

10:30 a.m. Midweek Communion Milborne Port

**On Thursday 9th May we are honoured to host the
Bruton and Cary Deanery Ascension Day Service. 7.00
p.m. at Milborne Port. Full details next month**

St Peter's Church Goathill

From Sunday 28th April

Evensong will begin at 6.00 p.m.

Everyone Welcome Always

Milborne Port Climate and Nature Action Group



The Nation Needs You! We are increasingly vulnerable to the impacts of flood events in Milborne Port, as their frequency and intensity continues to rise throughout the UK. It was only luck last May that meant Yarlington, rather than us, was deluged with 130mm of rain, causing so much damage and heart-break.

The cross-party campaign for the Climate and Ecology Bill needs your support. It's a new plan for the UK to tackle the climate emergency, global warming and biodiversity loss– written by scientists, experts and campaigners, firmly backed at the official launch by Deborah Meaden of Dragon's Den fame. It is a plan to:

1. Make sure the UK cuts its emissions fairly and fully
2. Make sure the UK reverses the destruction of nature by 2030
3. Involve citizens in finding the fairest way forward.

Will you back the Bill? It has cross-party support but not enough yet to make it law. Please sign up for your children's sake and your own; use the QR code below or www.zerohour.uk Climate change is unjust: the dire effects are and will be worst for those who have done least to deserve the consequences of the changes we are making.

Here's One Thing To Do: Share the Zero Hour Open Letter today using this QR code:



milborneportclimateaction@gmail.com
<https://network23.org/milbornecan/>

Village Hall Movies

The Trustees of the Village Hall, partnered by Flimflixs, present **One Life (certificate 12A)** on Tuesday 23rd April 2024. Doors will open at 1900, with the film starting at 1930.



ONE LIFE tells the incredible, emotional, true story of Nicholas 'Nicky' Winton (Johnny Flynn), a young London broker who visits Prague in December 1938. In a race against time, Winton convinces members of the British Committee for Refugees in Czechoslovakia to rescue hundreds of predominantly Jewish children before Nazi occupation closes the borders.

Fifty years later, Nicky (Anthony Hopkins) is haunted by the fate of the children he wasn't able to bring to safety in England. It's not until the BBC show "That's Life!" re-introduces him to some of those he helped rescue that he finally begins to come to terms with the guilt and grief he carried.

Tickets will be available for sale from Monday 8th April 2024, exclusively from Wayne Pullen, Family Butcher of Milborne Port. Ticket prices continue to be maintained (£5.00 per person in advance, and £6.00 on the door) through the generous support of the Milborne Port Parish Council.

As usual, a limited wine and beer bar will be available, and continuing this season, we can accept payment for "on the Door" tickets (and bar items) by credit or debit card.

Finches

In February I spotted a pair of Siskin in the garden. As they tend to frequent coniferous forests, I thought it was a one off, but I am delighted that they have become regular visitors. The smallest of the Northern European finches, the male Siskin is easy to spot with its black head, yellow breast and brown wings with bright yellow wing bars.



Siskin

In fact we have healthy populations of two other finches in Milborne Port. Firstly, the Goldfinch with its distinct red face and yellow wing bars, which can be seen, usually in small flocks, pretty much anywhere, and Chaffinches, which are more likely to be observed on the ground. The male Chaffinch is particularly distinct, especially at this time of year, with a blue head and pinkish orange breast. Less common, but equally stunning, are Greenfinches with their olive green plumage and yellow patches on the wings. A small group can be seen in the trees and hedgerows along the river in Higher Kingsbury.

Finches are largely seed eaters, so bird feeders will attract them to your garden at this time of year. Of course, these four species are not the UK's only finches, so I would love to hear if anyone has spotted any other finch species in the village, such as Brambling or Linnet.

Jane Hewitt

Milborne Port Gardening Club

At our last meeting we were extremely privileged to enjoy Sally Nex's amazing talk; "A Rogue's Gallery for Gardeners". Supported by photos from her own veg garden, she guided the rapt audience through the diverse threats – pests and diseases - to plants, and cleverly steered our thoughts towards prevention and protection, and a practical, positive approach to the management of plant care. Pure information was spiced with fascinating by-the-ways (Did you know, for instance, that some snails eat other snails?!) Her delivery is impeccable and her fluency awesome.



Our next meeting is Tuesday 9th April at the Village Hall, 7.00 p.m. - ***PLEASE NOTE EARLIER MEETING START TIME.***

We are very fortunate to have two presentations for our next meeting. Firstly, we have a bonus speaker. Tony Thorp, from Sherborne Beekeepers Association, will talk to us about Asian Hornets. Last year, there was a huge increase in the number of Asian hornet nests found in the UK. Tony is coming to raise awareness and hopefully offer some very helpful advice on how to deal with these potentially invasive insects.

Following on, our main speaker is Mike Burks of Castle Gardens, talking about Companion Planting. Mike's talks are not to be missed.

If you wish to know anything more about the Club, or to join us, please do come to any meeting or contact the Secretary (Samantha at samgraham2009@gmail.com). Membership will be £14.00 for 2024. We happily welcome guests to our meetings for a fee of £3.00.

Samantha Dean



MPGC Annual Plant Sale



**Saturday, 18th May from 10 a.m.- 12 noon,
The Grove Garden, Church Street.**

If you have any seeds, seedlings, plants or cut flowers that you wish to donate near the time, we would be very appreciative.

Please kindly contact Jan Smith jan.smith.43@btinternet.com or Samantha Dean - samgraham2009@gmail.com.



GLOVELIES

We were very lucky that a local award-winning photographer was able to come to our meeting in March at short notice. He is David Bailey (not THE David Bailey of sixties fame!) who is based in Dorset but has worked for the BBC on various nature programmes in different parts of the country. He specialises in photographing wildlife and showed us slides of his various photographs. There were many 'oohs' and 'aahs' as we saw baby owls, kingfishers, pine martens, hares and other animals beautifully captured. He was really entertaining and finished by showing us body parts (ears, tails, etc) and we tried to guess the relevant animal. After refreshments Jan, our President, reminded us of future events such as Henstridge inviting us to a Fashion Show in May. They held one last year and the evening was really enjoyable.

Our next monthly meeting is on 11th April at 7.30 p.m. in the Town Hall community room, when the speaker is Chris Forester whose talk is entitled 'London to Falmouth via Wincanton'. He will be talking about the origins and commercial life of the coaching era to its demise from

1844 and the advent of the railways. If this subject appeals to you, please come along - we charge £5 for non WI members which includes a drink. We hope you like us enough to want to join and become a member but there is no pressure to do so.

Our Open Afternoons which are held on the fourth Thursday of the month from 2.00-4.00 are open to everyone. There is a charge of £3 which includes a drink, usually cake, and you can just talk or take part in doing a jigsaw or other activities.

We are continuing to serve coffees etc. on Friday mornings and look forward to seeing you there.

Happy Easter!
Christine Porter



T'ai Chi & Qigong

First Session Free for Newcomers!

Summer Term starts in week commencing 8th April.
Current Classes with spaces are:

Monday 10.15 to 11.15 a.m. in Sherborne

Wednesday 10.45 to 11.45 a.m. (and 6 to 7 p.m. – improvers only) in Milborne Port

There may be spaces in others soon so please let me know if interested and I can add you to waiting lists. Milborne Port £8 per session (from April) and Sherborne £9.

Tel: 07517 183277, Email: taichilessons47@gmail.com or <https://facebook.com/LucyWellness>).

Friends of Milborne Port Library

Lego Club: Saturday 13th April 9.30 to 12 noon

Knit & Natter and games: Afternoon 2nd, 16th and 30th April

Storytime & Craft: 6th and 27th April 10.30 a.m. in the library.

Coming Soon! Author Caroline Newark. A treat in store for all book lovers. On Wednesday 24th April, 10.30 a.m., historical fiction author Caroline Newark will be returning to Milborne Port with more stories of her famous and not-so-famous ancestors. This time her talk is entitled "The Second Deadly Sin".

If you can't remember your deadly sins, the second is the one about greed, wanting to have more than you're entitled to, wanting to live the fairytale. There are women in Caroline's family tree who most definitely wanted to "have it all" but if you remember those childhood stories from long ago, you'll know there were big bad wolves lurking in the woods and a clock about to strike midnight - so not everything ends well.

Caroline has so far written nine books about her ancestors, beginning in 1299 with a marriage between the Royal Houses of England and France. She has promised to bring copies of all her books with her so you will have an opportunity to buy copies at a special discounted rate.

Limited spaces. Pick up your FREE ticket from Milborne Port Community Library by Tuesday 23rd April.

Refreshments available (proceeds to The Friends of Milborne Port Community Library).

Mary Clothier



Milborne Port History & Heritage Group

Our next Guided Walk – Easter Monday, 1st April, 6.30 pm

Last Summer's Guided Walk of the ancient borough of Milborne Port - basically the area south of the A30! - was a huge success and we would like to repeat the event for those who missed it last time, for newcomers to the village or to anyone who would like to do it again! We will be in the expert hands of Dr Lesley Wray and other members of the team. Meet us at The Ball Court at 6.30 pm. Donations welcome, as always!

Monday 15th April sees the return of Graham Cook, who gave a very engaging talk last year on the ancient art of thatching in this part of the world and beyond. This time, he will be covering aspects of the craft that have disappeared but which were once essential: protecting the harvest, working on major building projects over decades (including Sherborne Abbey) and the large role played by women in the craft.

Do join us at 7.30 pm at Church House in Bathwell Lane. We are a charity and ask for a suggested donation of £2 per member or £5 per non-member to cover costs (please Gift Aid your donation if you can). If you wish to become a member, and we very much hope that you do, please e-mail us: mphhgroup@gmail.com

**Milborne Port History Day
Saturday 11th May 2024**

We are very close to being able to publish our programme! Once everything has been arranged, we will publicise the event via our website, Facebook, email, posters and flyers around the village, May's edition of this magazine and any other channel at our disposal. It promises to be a really super day so do please



turn out for this community event! The programme will allow you to pick and choose which historical treasures to visit; our main venues will be the Town Hall, the Guildhall, the Chapel Museum, St John's Church, the Organ Museum and Church House. The Tippling Philosopher will be the information hub for the day.

Follow us on Facebook – search “Milborne Port History and Heritage” - for fascinating posts. You can also get in touch by e-mail: mphhgroup@gmail.com

Nathalie Hetherington

Our MP in Parliament

Notes on some of the issues that our local MP, Sarah Dyke, has engaged with recently. Not a party political pitch, but a record of her actions as our constituency representative.

- SD spoke in a House of Commons debate , calling on the Government to recognise the injustices faced by WASPI women. WASPI – or Women Against State Pension Inequality – campaigns for compensation for women affected by the DWP's failure to communicate State Pension age increases from 60 to 66.
- SD welcomed the news that local bus services 54, 58, 25 and 28 would continue to run. "I'm passionate about the need for good public transport links in rural areas, to allow people to access education, work and local services without having to rely on a car, and I've been working hard to keep these services running."
- SD is campaigning for a new train station to serve the Somerton/Langport area.



What to Watch in the April Night Sky

*. "I see the moon, the moon sees me,
God bless the moon and God bless me:
There's grace in the cottage and grace in the hall;
And the grace of God is over us all" – Old Irish Folk Song*

April 2024 Astronomical Events

At the beginning of the month after sunset in the west **Jupiter** the bright 'star' will be shining more brilliantly than anything in the night sky except the Moon. Also, at the start of April **Uranus** will be found to the upper left of Jupiter. However, by the end of the month it will have sunk out of sight.

Mercury, Venus, Mars, Saturn and Neptune are too close to the **Sun** to be observed in April.

2nd: Last Quarter Moon

8th: New Moon

10th: early evening, the thin crescent Moon is near Jupiter.

12th: the Comet Pons-Brooks passes below Jupiter. Also, just above Jupiter will be **Uranus** and above that forming a straight line **the Pleiades.**

15th: First Quarter Moon near Castor and Pollux in the constellation Gemini

20th: Jupiter near Uranus

22nd-23rd: peak of the Lyrid Meteor Shower: These shooting stars originate from the constellation Lyra, as debris from the Comet Thatcher burns up in the Earth's atmosphere. The Lyrids are one of the oldest recorded meteor showers with records going back over 2,500 years. Unfortunately, the Lyrids are not only one of the weakest

annual meteor showers but also the most unpredictable. In addition, the show will be ruined this year by a Full Moon.

23rd: Full Moon. The Celts named April's Full Moon the Growing Moon, the New Shoots Moon, or the Seed Moon; while the Anglo-Saxons called it the Egg Moon. In North America the pink wild ground phlox flowers bloom inspiring the name Pink Moon.

Sunrise and Sunset

1st: Sunrise 6.42 am Sunset: 7.44 pm

30th: Sunrise 5.42 am Sunset: 8.32 pm

The first day of April is 13 hours, and 02 minutes long. The last day of the month is 14 hours, and 50 minutes, so the length of the days gets 1 hour, and 48 minutes longer during the month.

*Good Viewing
Ganymede*

MAGAZINE DEADLINES

All entries for the May issue of the magazine to the editor please by Saturday 20th April at 12 noon latest.

Distributors at the church on Friday 26th April at 2 p.m.

Editor's email :

magazine@milborneportchurches.org.uk

All email contributions will be acknowledged. If you do not receive a reply, or if you are unable to use email, please ring 01963 33495



MILBORNE PORT CONTACTS

PARISH CHURCH: ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST

Staff

Priest-in-Charge	Rev Rona Stuart-Bourne	845278
Reader	Mrs Pat Elliott	250353
Churchwardens	Mrs Jacquie Hall	250328
	Mrs Nicki Edwards	nickiedwards19@gmail.com
Parish Administrator	Ms Helen Solomon	250248 / 07515 119952

Other Useful Church contacts

Organist	Mrs Rachel Willetts	01935 813958
Vergers	Mr & Mrs Ronnie Goodman	845082
Magazine Editor	Mrs Linda Mumford	33495
Magazine Advertising & Magazine Treasurer	Mr Robin Bawtree	251359
Tower Captain & Sec:	Mrs Susan Wales	250660
PCC Secretary	Mrs Susan Wales	250660
Church Treasurer & Stewardship Recorder	Mr Paul Springett	220790
Church House Treasurer	Mr Ben Grundy	bengrundy@mpchouse.org.uk
Parish Church of St Peter, Goathill:	Church Warden: Mrs Trudy West	250611
Milborne Wick Church:	Prowarden: John Sprake	250243
Church House Bookings:	www.mpchouse.org.uk or Christine Porter	250821

OTHER LOCAL CHURCHES

Roman Catholic Church (Wincanton)	hope@stlukeswincanton.org.uk	
ReBorne Community Church	Minister Adrian Bright	07975 755032

OTHER INFORMATION

Doctors	Drs Wyer, Bulley, Smith, Esteves,	250334
Vet	Palanisamy, Robertson, Gray & Squire Southhill Veterinary Group, The Old Glove Factory, 1-2 North Street, Milborne Port	250255
Primary School	Head Teacher Mr J. Rodd	250366
Clerk to Parish Council	Mr Simon Pritchard, Town Hall	251268
Registrar	Ms S Shire	435008
Spirit of Milborne Port	Claire Andrews	07729 582 669
Village Hall	Manager/Bookings: Chris Sheeran	07946 333542
WI Contact:	Christine Porter	250821
Police	Non Emergency	101
	Emergencies	999
PCSO on duty (Wincanton)		101
Library	At the Town Hall Tuesday 9-12.30 and 2-4.30, Friday and Saturday 9-12.30	07396 587767
Pharmacist	Ty and Mansur Lawal, Milborne Port Pharmacy	250259
Over 65s Tuesday Lunch Club	Anne Salkeld	250529
	Alison Flynn	06896 678267
	Chris Chiswell	07713 030782

Milborne Port community website and diary www.milborneport.org.uk

Parish Council website www.milborneportpc.org.uk

Benefice website: www.milborneportchurches.org.uk

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