

MILBORNE PORT MAGAZINE



MAY 2024 45P



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A LETTER FROM REV RONA

What does it mean to you to BELONG?

A few creative folk have been talking to an artist who is also a priest in the Bath and Wells Diocese about a creative project. The idea is to use themes and stories from Milborne Port and its residents, and to display these creatively in the Church. We were so excited to witness the success of the Christmas Light Switch on and the Easter Crafts and Egg Hunt, both of which were a collaboration between the Church, the Spirit of Milborne Port and the local school.



This project will possibly be created during the summer, with a view to having an art installation in the Church in September. Gill Sakakini (look up her impressive website!) is the artist who will come and lead a workshop as we work towards our goal of a visual display of what it means to belong in Milborne Port.

For example, 'Port' is part of the name of this village because it was a trading place. The sign for commerce – the goods being traded in this place – is a symbol which you can see outside the Church. What symbol do you think should sum up Milborne Port now?

The word BELONG is a wonderful one – it has a sense of permanence, being welcome, being contented and happy. The beginning of the word is Be. This is the root of 7 values of our local school – The Seven Bs. What 'Be...' word speaks to you most? Behold, beloved, befriend, believe, belong?

What do you think of when you hear the word BELONG?

After Easter the Church thinks carefully about what sort of Church Jesus came to build, and this year that's just as relevant as ever. The dedicated people who are part of Milborne Port Church believe in community, and in belonging, so we are delighted and excited to issue

this invitation – Watch this space and be ready to join in our community project of what it means to BELONG here.

*With every blessing
Rev Rona*

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

BAPTISMS

14th April Violet Tizzard

21st April Jasper and Florence Hughes

WEDDING

13th April Caroline Seaton and Stephen Russell

FUNERAL

26th April Madeline Mary Harding (Charlton Horethorne)



CHURCH HOUSE 100 CLUB

Results of the April Draw

1 st Prize	£30	Mr A Thorp
2 nd Prize	£20	Mrs M Lock
3 rd Prize	£10	Anon (no. 28)



Congratulations to **Rev Stuart Thomas**, who took our cover picture of the Chapel Museum, which the Milborne Port History Group has run since 2017. The group is holding Milborne Port's first History Day on May 11th – details on page 30.

Submissions for future covers are always welcomed – send to

magazine@milborneportchurches.org.uk

Remembering. . . .



This is an occasional series, commemorating each of the 19 Milborne Port men who died in service during the Second World War, on the 80th anniversary of his death. It reflects the wartime losses in real time but 80 years on. Our thanks to Naomi for her work on this.

John Mitchell died May 1944

John Albert Mitchell, son of William & Ethel Mitchell, lived in Station Road, Milborne Port. He was a Private with the 1st Battalion Somerset Light Infantry when he died, aged 31 years, in Burma and is commemorated on the Rangoon Memorial along with 27,000 Commonwealth forces who died in the Burma campaign and have no known grave. The Rangoon Memorial stands in the Taukkyan War Cemetery in Mingaladon, 21 miles north of the capital Rangoon. Documents found on the Find My Past website show that Pte Mitchell was posted 'Missing' on 27th January 1944. On 1st May information was received that he had died whilst a prisoner of the Japanese so this date was used as his official date of death.

James McCann died May 1944

James McCann was a Private with the 1st Battalion The Kings Regiment when he was posted 'Missing' in Burma on 25th May 1944 aged 29 years. Nothing more was ever heard of him so in 1946 he was officially 'Presumed Dead'. He is also commemorated on the Rangoon Memorial in Taukkyan War Cemetery, Mingaladon. He had married Phyllis Hopkins in 1938 and they lived in Newtown with their son John.



The 1st Battalion The Kings Regiment served with the Chindits in Burma. The Chindits, formed and led by Major General Orde Wingate, were a special force trained in commando methods to infiltrate behind Japanese lines.

News from the Parish Council

Coming Together for the Annual Parish Meeting The Annual Parish Meeting was held on Tuesday 23rd April at 7 p.m. at the Village Hall. A report of the meeting will be compiled over the coming weeks and published on the Milborne Port Community website.

Brave Village Litter Pickers Many thanks to those who turned out for our Litter Pick on 23rd March and experienced 'four seasons in one day'! We had bright sunshine, hail, wind, rain – you name it, we had it! A particular thanks to Mike and Kathy Needham who sorted out a pile of large items of rubbish that had been fly-tipped on Wick Road; they prepared it for collection by Somerset Waste Partnership and it was despatched very soon afterwards. Many thanks also to The Glovelies for providing warming refreshments and high-quality biscuits in the Community Room for our intrepid pickers!

If you see fly-tipping on any public land, please take a photo and report it via the Somerset Waste Partnership website; if you don't have the technology, let us have a photo and the exact location and we will do it.

We are sure that you will join us to thank Poppy Davis who, at the start of March, started a three-month stint of litter-picking at Springfield recreation ground and Gainsborough playpark as part of her Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award. If you see her in action, do give her a cheer!

Town Hall Decoration Many thanks for your patience during the time of the traffic management that allowed the decoration of the windows and guttering on the north side of the Grade II listed Town Hall to finally take place; we take very seriously our responsibility as steward of this historically precious building. We think that you would be amazed at how challenging it is to find a company willing to

take on the organisation of the whole package of the decorating, scaffolding and road traffic management!

Pointing in the right direction! Some readers might not be aware that our parish boundary extends surprisingly far north, beyond the B3145 and Seven Wells. The fingerpost at that junction was in a very sorry state: it was knocked over towards the end of last year and badly needed some overall TLC. Somerset Council no longer maintain these signs - some of which are important historical artefacts - so our



councillors decided to devote some funds to its refurbishment and reinstallation. The Campaign for the Protections of Rural England kindly gave us a grant for £250 towards the costs and the work was beautifully carried out by Somerset Forge.

Parish Council Meetings in May

Full Council: Tuesday 7th; Planning and Environment Committee: Tuesday 21st; Management: Tuesday 28th.

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

Milborne Port Community Plan

As announced in late 2023, Milborne Port has been selected as a Parish to receive professional support, sponsored by Somerset Council, in conducting a survey of Parish residents, and from the resultant data, developing a Community Plan.

A Steering Committee has been formed as a working group of the Parish Council. Its role is to work with the residents of the parish to produce a tailored survey, the aims of which are:



- to involve and engage local people in identifying and addressing local needs;
- to give direction to the Parish Council in deciding where its priorities should lie; and
- to provide a mandate for the Council for spending local council taxpayers' money.

The Steering Group will be working closely with the Community Council for Somerset who have extensive experience in supporting these projects. If you are interested in contributing to the work of this group and would like to become involved, or if you feel there are specific issues within the parish that you would like to see being surveyed, please get in touch with Cllr. Tim Carty for more information: tim.carty@milborneportpc.org.uk Our next meeting is on Tuesday 14th May at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall.

Marmalade Festival Footnote!

To the anonymous donor who left two jars of unattributable low sugar marmalade just inside the garden gate at the recent Marmalade Fest. The jar that I bought is absolutely delicious. Unfortunately, it is just about finished. I now wish that I had bought both jars!

John Taylor

In Aid of St Peter's Church, Goathill

Monday 6th May
Duck Racing at The
Mill, Goathill
Cream Teas
2.00 p.m. – 4.30 p.m.



£1.00 per duck
“Ex-stream-ly” good
fun!

Sunday 19th May
Ukulele Singalong and
Cream Teas
Church House
2.00 p.m. for 2.30 start
£5.00 including Cream Tea
(served about 3.15)



in Aid of St John's Church

QUIZ NIGHT

Sat 18th May
Village Hall

6.30 for 7.00 p.m. start

Tickets £12.50 including Fish and Chips from Something Else
Fishy, available from Wayne's

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

The Spirit of Milborne Port

'Working together for our Community'

As some of you may be aware, we have decided, for various reasons, that this year we will not be running the Village Fete and Party @ The Port. We understand that this may have a knock on effect for some clubs etc. who support this event and could affect their annual income. We are truly sorry for this, but we will be running the Christmas events as usual and hope that, based on the success of last year, more stalls will support this event. All being well, the Fete will be back next year.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for your continued support: stall holders, sponsors, Milborne Port Parish Council, playing field & the village hall committee, St John's Church & Church House committee, M.P. Primary School, everyone who attends come rain or shine, and S.O.M.P committee members past and present. THANK YOU!

The 2023 summer event generated a surplus of £2,162, compared with £6,667 in 2022 which was an extremely successful event following the barren Covid years. The 2023 Christmas light switch on generated income of £2,373, making a small surplus in what has historically been a break-even event, due to the cost of trees and lighting requirements.

S.O.M.P funds stand at approx. £6,000. This money is held at Lloyds Bank. Since its inception in 2012, The Spirit of Milborne Port has generated nearly £70,000 in surpluses and provided over £35,000 to community projects and events and nearly £18,000 to local charities and organisations. Our aims are primarily to help the community. We welcome all clubs, local business and organisations to use our events

as an opportunity to make money for their own enterprise and help raise their profile. By keeping pitch fees to a minimum, allowing others to sell refreshments for example, means our income is lower but we hope by doing this we can help, albeit in a small way, the aforementioned to stay in the village, thereby helping all the community.

This year we are hoping to have the hanging baskets back again through the High Street. The watering and supply was an issue last year, and we understand from MPPC that the baskets have been ordered. Due to increasing watering costs we will be asking the residents along the High Street who very kindly said “yes” to watering the baskets on their property last year, if they would be able to water this year.

Date for your diary – Christmas Light Switch On Friday 29th November *Thank you from all the team. Claire Andrews*
claireandrews246@gmail.com



Milborne Port Village Hall

I am very much looking forward to my new role as Village Hall Manager, having recently retired from HM Prison Service. I am aware that I have big shoes to fill but am determined that the Hall continues to develop in the heart of the community by attracting even more groups - of all ages - to use this flexible space. I am also involved at present with the reintroduction of Junior Cricket to Milborne Port and so it appears that I will be spending a lot of time either inside or outside of the Hall. That's fine with me because I don't think that I could ever tire of that view!

For information about how to book, please get in touch with me: call - 07946 333542, email - facilities@milborneportpc.org.uk or go to our website: www.milborneportvillagehall.org.uk

Chris Sheeran, Village Hall Manager

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN - WE NEED HELP.

We are a group of volunteers who help to make and serve food to members of the Tuesday Luncheon Club, a club for the more elderly of the village.

PLEASE - WE NEED SOME MORE VOLUNTEER HELP.

The task is not onerous and you would become a member of a group whose turn comes around at five-week intervals. We do not provide food in August or the bank holiday weeks. Each group decides its menu and shares out the cooking and preparation between themselves. Cooking is for no more than 30 people, often a lot less.

If you like cooking and being part of a happy friendly group who gain something from helping others please contact us. We would welcome a chat with you.

Jan Smith - 01963 251 451 Anne Salkeld - 01963 250529



Blackmore Vale U3A

David Boag is an acclaimed wildlife photographer and author of eighteen books, some of which will be for sale after his talk. He is a regular leader of African photographic safari trips. He is most proud of the online tutorials that he runs. As a treat we have chosen to go with him and his camera on a journey through the woodland.

Join us on Tuesday May 7th Henstridge Village Hall BA8 0QB when the doors open at 2.15 p.m. for refreshments. Visitors £3.00 inc. refreshments.

Music for Pleasure

Music for Pleasure is an opportunity for anyone to share their love of making music. The aim is to include all ages and abilities, from early beginners to seasoned performers. It's a feel-good, family friendly occasion. We typically have an eclectic mix of singing, instrumental, popular, classical, folk, comedy styles - anything goes!



The concert takes place this year on **Saturday 18th May, 7.30 p.m. in Charlton Horethorne church.** There is no entry charge (although donations for church funds are invited); Wine, soft drinks and nibbles are free.

Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy the occasion. Or if you'd like to take part feel free to get in touch: billcloss42@gmail.com.



Poyntington May Fair
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.
In the grounds of the historic
Manor House (gardens open)

Something for Everyone! Stalls featuring plants, local producers and artisans. Wessex Morris Men at 11.30 and 1.00 p.m.

Live music, Tombola, BBQ, children's activities, Café in the Courtyard. Free Car Parking

In aid of All Saints Church, Weldmar Hospice and The Rendezvous. Please bring CASH for purchases.

ReBorne Community Church



Letter from Lydia Bird, Youth Worker

Since joining the team in October, I have been working with children, young people and families across Milborne Port and Sherborne, which has been really fun! I have the privilege of working at Kids Club and Youth Club in Milborne Port on Tuesdays, through my role as Youth Worker with ReBorne Community Church and Dorset Youth for Christ.

One of the main groups I have the pleasure of running each week is our Youth Club which takes place from 6:00-8:00pm on Tuesday evenings during term-time. It is currently running at Milborne Port Primary School whilst we await the completion of our building, that I'm sure many of you will have noticed is under construction opposite the school. We are extremely grateful to Milborne Port Primary for continuing to allow us to use their building during this time, to provide a safe and fun space for the young people each week.

Our Youth Club has been growing over the last few months and it has been great to get to know more young people. We have just started back up again after the Easter holidays and it has been lovely to see the young people enjoy playing football and other games outside now the evenings are much lighter. We have also been providing a large variety of craft projects which the young people have really enjoyed. Their art work is brilliant and you can see some of their projects on our youth Instagram page @reborneyouth if you want to check this out.

We are looking forward to working with more children and young people across the Summer Term, including taking a group of young people to a camp in June, and we cannot wait to open up our building to the community in Milborne Port when it is completed in the coming months.

Lydia Bird, Youth Worker

CHURCH SERVICES

(including the Principal Service Readings)

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

Wednesday 1st May

10:30 a.m. Midweek Communion Milborne Port

Sunday 5th May 6th Sunday of Easter

Acts 10:44-48, John 15:9-17

9:00 a.m. Holy Communion Charlton Horethorne
 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion Milborne Port
 12:00 p.m. Baptism Milborne Port
 6:00 p.m. Evensong Stowell

Wednesday 8th May

10:30 a.m. Midweek Communion Milborne Port

Thursday 9th May Ascension Day

Acts 1:1-11, Luke 24:44-end

7:00 p.m. Deanery Ascension Day Service Milborne Port

Sunday 12th May Sunday after Ascension

Acts 1:15-17 & 1:21-26, John 17:6-19

9:00 a.m. Holy Communion BCP Goathill
 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion Milborne Port
 6:00 p.m. Evensong Charlton Horethorne

Tuesday 14th May

7:00 p.m. Rogation Goathill

Wednesday 15th May

10:30 a.m. Midweek Communion Milborne Port

Friday 17th May

1:00 p.m. Wedding Milborne Port

FOR MAY

Saturday 18th May

10:00 a.m. Community Thanksgiving Milborne Port

Sunday 19th May Pentecost (Whit Sunday)

Acts 2:1-21, John 15:26-27 & 16:4b-15

9:00 a.m. Holy Communion Milborne Wick
 10:30 a.m. Pentecost Celebration Milborne Port
 6:00 p.m. Holy Communion Charlton Horethorne

Wednesday 22nd May

10:30 a.m. Midweek Communion Milborne Port

Saturday 25th May

3:00 p.m. Wedding Charlton Horethorne

Sunday 26th May Trinity Sunday

Isaiah 6:1-8, John 3:1-17

10:30 a.m. Holy Communion Milborne Port
 6:00 p.m. Evensong Goathill

Wednesday 29th May

10:30 a.m. Midweek Communion Milborne Port

Saturday 1st June

12:00 p.m. Baptism Milborne Port

Sunday 2nd June 1st Sunday after Trinity

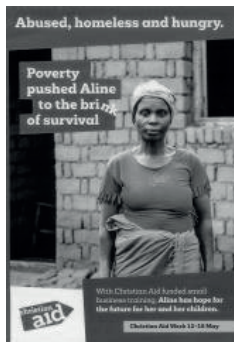
2 Corinthians 4:5-12, Mark 2:23-28 & 3:1-6

9:00 a.m. Holy Communion Charlton Horethorne
 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion Milborne Port
 6:00 p.m. Evensong Stowell

Christian Aid Week, 12-18 May

The focus of the week, this year, is on Burundi, one of the poorest countries in the world where more than 70% of the population is affected by malnourishment and poverty. In the areas where Christian Aid works, people without their own small business or income often head out on an empty stomach each morning to look for casual work to buy food for the evening. Most eat only once a day. Your gift will help fund the training that enables communities to form Village Savings and Loans Associations that will support people to grow food, buy medicine and improve living conditions. This ensures that more people in Burundi get the skills and knowledge they need to fulfil their ambitions and hopes so that families can plan for a better future that they will build together.

The special envelopes will be at the back of St John's Church from Sunday, 12 May. Please hand or deliver your envelope to Anne Salkeld (Keepers Lodge, Brook Street), Felicity John, Margaret Curtis (9 The Meads), Clare Silk (Southolme, Church Street) or me. If, for whatever reason, you cannot collect an envelope but would still like to make a contribution, then please telephone Anne Salkeld (01963-250529) or Clare Silk (01963-548472), who will be happy to deliver one to you. Alternatively, you can use an ordinary envelope labelled "Christian Aid". You can also give to Christian Aid online or by telephone (02075-232269) and details can be found on the website, christianaid.org.uk. And finally, please remember to use gift aid if you pay sufficient income or capital gains tax as it increases your gift, at no extra cost to you, by 25%.



Thank you, in anticipation, for your generosity.

David Johnson (Treasurer, Milborne Port Christian Aid Committee)

Milborne Port Climate and Nature Action Group

"Where flowers bloom, so does hope" Lady Bird Johnson

It's No Mow May time of year again! If you're tempted to get the mower out, why not resist the urge and have a tidy of the shed / garage / loft instead?! Or just mow a path and an edge so it looks purposeful. Letting wild flowers bloom and the vegetation grow enables insects and in their turn birds, hedgehogs, bats, frogs – and ultimately, us - to thrive! Sit back and enjoy the buzzing of the bees and a tittle while you relax and save fuel! Find out more by searching for Plantlife your No Mow May lawn guide. And please don't trim – hedgehogs don't run, they curl up in a tight ball and get mortally wounded.



Up on the wonderful piece of rare limestone grassland that is East Hill, after 15 years or so without any livestock, we are delighted to welcome some ponies whose grazing is going to help restore the wild flowers and rare insects. How can they do that by eating the vegetation? As there are just a few ponies in a large area there will always be plenty of plants in flower but the thatch of dead grass that has built up and the over-vigorous grasses will be knocked back leaving space for the flowers. Watch out for the return of masses more cowslips, orchids and butterflies!

Nature is struggling in the UK. We have to restore it now for our own sake too. If you haven't already, please don't delay any further in doing the single easiest, quickest yet biggest thing you can for nature this year...

One thing you can do: sign your support for the Climate and Nature Bill at <https://action.zerohour.uk>

milborneportclimateaction@gmail.com

<https://network23.org/milbornecan/>

The Remarkable Swift

When it comes to remarkable birds the Swift has to be top of the list. Why remarkable? Well, here is a bird that rarely touches the ground - it feeds, mates and even sleeps on the wing. Their scythe-shaped wings and streamlined bodies make them outstanding fliers, preying on aerial insects at heights of up to 2.5km. Not only is Swift flight rapid, but also accurate, enabling them to enter nest sites under the eaves of old houses like an arrow.



Sadly, the Swift is now on the UK red list of birds of conservation concern, having declined in numbers by at least 50%, partly due to lack of suitable nest sites. So we are fortunate that small numbers of Swifts return to Milborne Port each spring from their overwintering grounds in sub-Saharan Africa, bringing their unmistakable shrill call to our spring and summer evenings. Spotting the first Swift of the season in the village is a treat. Although they only spend 3 to 4 months with us before migrating back to Africa in late July and early August, for me they are a truly iconic summer resident.

Jane Hewitt

Milborne Port Gardening Club

How lovely it is to see the wonderful colourful profusion of blossoms. Many of the trees and bushes are bursting into life and though it's technically Spring, many of us are still waiting to feel the benefits of the 'Spring Air'.

At our last meeting the Club were treated to two excellent presentations. Tony Thorp our local Bee-keeper and Asian hornet expert, came to share and update. Mike Burks, from the Gardens

Group, also presented on companion planting. The depth of knowledge that we generally have access to is a privilege and hopefully inspiring, regardless of your prior gardening knowhow.

Our next meeting is Tuesday 14th May at The Village Hall, 7.30 p.m. It is our pleasure to have Angie Blackwell present to us on Flower Arranging.

Our summer club meetings are visits to various local gardens.
Tues 11th June 2 p.m. Frith House Stalbridge. £10.00 tour and tea
Tues 9th July 2.30 p.m. Kilver Court Gardens, £5.50 visit and tea
Tues 13th Aug, time tbc, Ven House Garden, £15.00 tour and tea

Should you be interested in attending any or all of the above, please be sure to let us know. Guests are welcome, please just advise so we can be sure the venue can cater for us.

Please note that members will need to arrange their own transport to these venues. Maybe you can get together and share a ride.

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

Please remember our MPGC Annual Plant Sale.

**Saturday, 18th May 2024 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.*



It will be our AGM on May 9th when our President and Treasurer will deliver their reports for the year, the future will be discussed, committee and officers elected and any questions will be answered. It is hoped that all members will attend, and prospective members are also welcome. We have an exciting and varied programme for the forthcoming year, such as a social afternoon when we will be holding a traditional afternoon tea in church house in June (hopefully it will be fine enough to use their garden). Meetings during the year consist of a talk of Homeopathic services by a local practitioner; a talk and demonstration with owls; the history of gin making and various other topics. We are also planning to have some 'get togethers' at local tea rooms/cafes during the summer months.

Chris Forester from Wincanton gave us a very interesting talk in April about the old coach routes, entitled 'London to Falmouth, via Wincanton'. Wincanton was obviously a very busy place for travellers before the advent of the railways when the only method of travelling was by horse drawn carriages which proved quite dangerous and expensive.

Our Open Afternoons for the village still take place on the third Thursday of each month from 2.00-4.00. We make a charge of £3, which includes a drink and biscuits or cake, and you can take part in completing a jig-saw, playing a game or just chatting. Everyone welcome!

In the meantime, we look forward to seeing our regulars and visitors at the Friday coffee mornings. We will also be open and serving drinks from 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m. on Saturday, 11th May, for the History Day, so please call in for a cuppa when you are visiting the various exhibits in the High Street.

Christine Porter

Introducing Local Businesses

When space permits, we like to offer local business people a chance to describe their business and services. Do contact the Editor if you would like to inform readers about your business, whether or not you already advertise on our commercial pages.

Sally Virginia Wright Reiki and Natural Energy Healing

I am trained in Natural Energy Healing and am also a Reiki Master. Those who seek energy healing do so for many different reasons. Some may come for non-specific or hard to explain emotional difficulties. Others may seek the support of energy healing at times of crisis, such as relationship difficulties, trauma, grief and loss, ill health, financial or work issues.

The goal of energy healing is always to restore balance and harmony for improved physical, mental and emotional well-being. Energy healing is often used to reduce stress and anxiety. Emotional issues can be greatly helped by supporting and balancing a person's inner resources, thereby helping them to cope better and perhaps see things a different way.



It is my passion to bring about an integrated holistic approach to my practice, one which supports working with body, mind, and spirit to bring about improved balance, health and general wellbeing.

I am local to Sherborne and surrounds and if this resonates with you or you would like to know more, then please do contact me on 07399 323992.

Sally



Milborne Port History & Heritage Group

If you haven't already saved this date for our History Day, please do!

SATURDAY 11TH MAY

The day will be heralded by the church bells as a team from Southampton come to ring at the Church of St John the Evangelist. There are various activities and displays at Church House, the Church itself, the Town Hall, the Organ Museum, the Guildhall, the Chapel Museum and in Lower Kingsbury.

The full programme of events on the day can be found on our website: <http://milborneporthistory.org.uk/whats-on/> You can also download a copy using the link provided on the webpage. There are copies of the programme at the Library, and The Tippling Philosopher will be our information hub on the day, so if you need a programme, do call in there to pick one up.

We are hoping for sunny skies to help us to celebrate - as a community - the rich history of our village. See you there!

Our next talk will be on Monday 20th May will be given by Howard Pell and is entitled **The Barter Story**. Could there really be a connection between a house in Baunton's Orchard; the playwright Oscar Wilde; Madison Square Garden in New York; and several world champion boxers? It may not quite be 'The X-files' but as the saying goes, the truth is out there. And it's all set to be revealed at Church House on Monday, 20th May. That's when historian Howard Pell will be telling a surprising story, revealing new research, and introducing a local hero to Milborne Port.



So, if you know a Barter, or a Fudge, or a Cabell, or a Hallett – or better still, are related to someone with those familiar local surnames – this talk is not to be missed, as you might just have 'a modern Hercules' in the family. Or maybe you're just plain curious to know about a local boy made good – one who had been all but forgotten on this side of the Atlantic.

Do join us at 7.30 p.m. 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: mphgroup@gmail.com

On April 15th, Graham Cook - Master Thatcher of our very own Newtown - returned to have us spellbound yet again with descriptions and stories of bygone thatching practices, dating from medieval times in his talk entitled *Some Forgotten Thatching*. 'Yelm' and 'stook' are new words for the Scrabble board, and who'd have thought that the cottage-sized hay and corn ricks of the past were such works of art! Graham is such an experienced, knowledgeable and articulate speaker.

You could have heard a pin drop on the evening of 18th March when Vic Flintham and Steve Underwood took us through the events leading up to the Luftwaffe's bombing of Sherborne and its impact on the town on the afternoon of 30th September 1940. Vic, an aeronautical expert, had carried out impressive research to dispel certain misinformation and get to the bottom of what *really* happened that day. And Steve talked to us about the cost to the town - in terms of human lives, structures and infrastructure. Vic and Steve are thinking about publishing their findings and would love to hear from anyone with recollections, stories or anecdotes from this time. If you would like to contribute, please contact Vic: vic@flintham.org

Nathalie Hetherington

Friends of Milborne Port Library

"The Friends of the Library" recently had a meeting with the County Council to ensure the way ahead is smooth. The anticipated financial issues were noted and Libraries should have a solid future.

We have new infra-red heating, making the library so cosy. This makes your visit even more enjoyable.

Dates for your Diary:

Saturday 4th May at 11 a.m. – Crime Lovers and Cake – Do you love crime books? Come along to our informal Crime Lovers and Cake, where we will chat about the books and authors we enjoy. Maybe you will find a recommendation for your next read?

Saturday 11th May Village History day – come and find out about the history of our library.

14th and 28th May (afternoon) Knit & Natter and games

Saturday 25th May Storytime & Craft

Mary Clothier marydmc38@gmail.com

What to Watch for in the May Night Sky

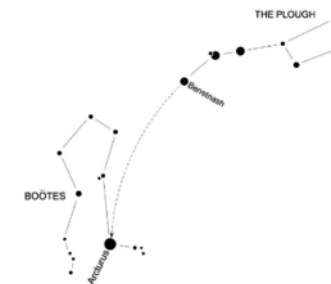
“There they stand, the innumerable stars, shining in order like a living hymn, written in light.” N.P. Willis

A quiet month on the planetary front with Saturn returning as a morning star which will be visible towards the end of May low in the southeast sky. Venus Mars and Jupiter are still unobservable.

At this time of year, the constellation Boötes comes into prominence in the evening sky. Boötes is mentioned in Homer’s Odyssey. The name is from the Greek for ox driver or herdsman referring to the way

the constellation seems to herd the stars that lie in the northern part of the sky as they circle the polar star Polaris.

Although not a well-known constellation, Boötes is prominent with the fourth brightest star in the evening sky Arcturus and its easily recognisable kite shape. Arcturus also forms part of the spring asterism – the spring triangle. It is the constellation closest to The Plough. To find Arcturus (the most prominent star you can see during May) find the handle of the Plough.



Trace an arc through the sky twice the length of the Plough’s handle and you will come to Arcturus at the base of the kite shaped constellation Boötes. My neighbour often mistakes Arcturus for a planet. Although the planets look like stars and just like stars they rise and set. But like the sun and moon, they gradually wander among the 12 constellations of the zodiac, always staying close to the same plane in the sky.

May 2024 Astronomical Events

1st: Last Quarter Moon

4th: before dawn lying to the lower left of **Saturn** is a narrow crescent **Moon**.

6th: this year there will be an excellent opportunity to observe the **Eta Aquarid meteor shower** as there is little moonshine.

8th: New Moon.

15th: First Quarter Moon

23rd: Full Moon. The May Full **Moon** is known as the Flower **Moon** because of the flowers that bloom during this month. Other names for the May Full **Moon** are the Corn Planting **Moon** and the Milk **Moon** from the Old English/Anglo-Saxon.

30th: Last Quarter Moon

Sunrise and Sunset

1st: Sunrise 5.44 am Sunset: 8.32 pm

31st: Sunrise 5.03 am Sunset: 9.15 pm

The first day of May is 14 hours, 48 minutes long. The last day of the month is 16 hours, 12 minutes, so the length of the days gets 1 hour, 24 minutes longer during May 2024.

*Good Viewing
Ganymede*

MAGAZINE DEADLINES

All entries for the June issue of the magazine to the editor please by Saturday 25th May at 12 noon latest.

Distributors at the church on Friday 31st May 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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