

MILBORNE PORT MAGAZINE



APRIL 2026 50P



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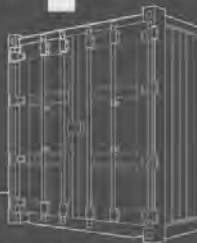
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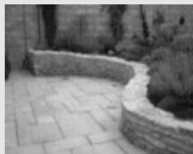
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A LETTER FROM REV RONA

April is a month of deep contrast and great hope. We walk through Holy Week, from the quiet intimacy of the Last Supper, through the sorrow of the cross, and into the joy of Easter morning. It is a story of love that is given freely, and life that is shared for the sake of others.



Here in our Milborne Benefice, we are discovering something of that same spirit. Over recent months, our eight churches have come together in new and encouraging ways. Friendships are forming, support is growing, and there is a real sense that we are stronger together than we ever were apart.

Our churches are here for everyone in our villages—whether or not you come on a Sunday. We celebrate life's great moments through christenings, weddings and funerals. We offer spaces of welcome through toddler groups, lunch clubs, Foodshare, dementia support, concerts, and community events throughout the year. These are not extras; they are part of who we are.

What is less well known is that **we receive no regular funding** from the national Church towards the running of our buildings. The care of these beautiful, ancient places—so central to our communities—rests with us all.

If you value having a church in your village, there are many simple ways to support it: a one-off gift, a regular donation, or even a small legacy in your will. You can give in cash in our churches, via QR codes, or by card in Milborne Port. We are so grateful for every penny given to support this vital part of our community.

This Easter season, as we celebrate new life, perhaps we might also consider how we can help sustain these places of welcome and hope for generations to come.

With every blessing this Easter,

Rev Rona

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS

Baptisms:

Teddy Andrew James Seymour 08/03/2026

Funerals:

Graham Josef Pinkawa 23/02/2026

Ernest Walter George Davis 12/03/2026

Gordon Rolls. Crematorium. 01/04/2026

Avril Anne Burroughs 15/04/2026



Congratulations to Trevor John who took the cover picture of the setting sun leaving a beautiful image of the stain glass window opposite the altar in the Gethsemane Chapel in St. John's Church.

The stain glass window above the cross shows Jesus being arrested when betrayed by Judas, which led to his crucifixion on Good Friday and his rising on Easter Day.

We are always pleased to receive new photographs for consideration as future covers. Please send your high-res images of scenes in and around the village to

magazine@milborneportchurches.org.uk



ST PETER'S CHURCH

GOATHILL

PLEASE NOTE from

Sunday 26th April 2026

EVENSONG SERVICE

Begins at 6.00pm

Everyone Welcome Always

Would you like to receive the Parish Magazine through your letterbox every month?

If this would be more convenient for you, please

contact Liz Redman

*(her details, and other useful village information,
see page 35)*

In recent months we have had some of our wonderful distributors move on out of the village. Could you spare a couple of hours every month to help with this? The more we have the less to be delivered per person. It also means that volunteers can see when new people move into their “patch” and welcome them with the magazine. The adverts for local businesses and articles can help them settle and find groups to join if they so wish and find local services quickly.

Please consider becoming part of the team – you will be very welcome and will be helping to provide a real service in our lovely, friendly village.

The Church House 100 Club was created to support the running costs of the hall, particularly utilities and insurance costs. This raffle is run monthly by the Church House Committee and currently costs just £15 a year, with monthly prizes of £10, £20 and £30 to be won.

There are a number of places available in the 100 Club. If you would like to join and help support this valuable community facility, please email 100club@mpchouse.org.uk.

Ben Grundy



Our MP in Parliament Contact: sarah.dyke.mp@parliament.uk

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.

- calls on Chancellor to scrap "disastrous" fuel duty hike as Iran conflict threatens prices at the pump
- welcomes £53m heating oil support but urges swift delivery to rural households

In Aid of St John's Church Repair Appeal



Quiz Night

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St John's Repair Appeal

Firstly, a huge thank you to everyone who has donated to the repair appeal so far. At the time of writing, (20th March), the fund stands at around £10,600. This is after payments for professional fees and pre-bought materials for the roof repairs: so, a brilliant start.



Secondly, an even huger thank you to the Davis family who agreed that all donations given in memory of Ernie Davis should go to this appeal. Thanks to the generosity of the family and all who attended Ernie's funeral, a substantial amount was added to the coffers.

Thirdly, thank you to the platoon of volunteers who delivered the leaflets around the village explaining why the church needs to raise funds. The concert on 14th March by the HMS Heron Volunteer Band was well-received, so thank you if you supported that. The Sausage and Mash lunch was a big success, as was Frank and Maureen's Marmalade Festival.

Work is due to commence on the roof repairs during the week after Easter and, depending upon what is found when areas are opened up, the work should be completed by the end of May. Conservation and repair work to the interior and exterior stonework is ongoing, and the stonemason will return later in the year to continue his work.



Fund raising continues – the next event is the Quiz Night on 2nd May and the Open Gardens and Cream Teas on 6th June. The Church Fete will be held on 11th July. There are plans for other events throughout the year too so keep your eyes peeled for more exciting opportunities to contribute to keeping our historical church open for future generations.

Susan Wales Church Warden

Help Restore St John's Church: Donate Your Unwanted Jewellery and Watches Support St John's Church Repair Appeal

Do you have jewellery or watches tucked away that you no longer wear and don't quite know what to do with it all? How about giving your pre-loved treasures a new purpose by donating them to our Church Repair Appeal? Your gift will help raise much-needed funds to restore and maintain our beautiful village church, ensuring it continues to be a welcoming place for everyone in the years to come.

What We're Looking For:

- Unwanted jewellery: rings, necklaces, bracelets, earrings (single ones accepted), brooches, cufflinks, etc.
- Watches in any condition—working or not

How Your Donation Helps

All suitable donated items will be sold via the Acreman St Auction House, Sherborne, with 100% of the proceeds going directly to the church repair appeal. Your generosity will contribute to all the essential work needed to help preserve our historic building for future generations.

How to Donate

1. Collect items you wish to donate.
2. Contact Maggie (01963 250108) or Susan (01963 250660) to arrange collection. Please include a list and a brief description of the items to act as a receipt.
3. If you have questions, please call Maggie or Susan (above) or email the Parish Office – milborneportchurches.org.uk

Thank you for supporting this appeal.



Fingerpost beautification at Milborne Wick

Many thanks to Somerset Forge for the excellent tender loving care taken with the restoration of the historically an aesthetically important fingerpost on the green at Milborne Wick; many thanks also to the CPRE Somerset for their generous donation of £250 towards the cost of this project.

The base of the oil lamp installed in 1896 has also been restored; the horizontal bar would have been a health and safety feature designed to support the lamp-lighter's ladder! We now have our sights on restoring the fingerpost at the junction of Furlong Lane and Osborne Road, which has lost two of its three fingers... Watch this space!



Milborne Port's Annual Parish Meeting Saturday 9th May 2026, 3 pm Village Hall, Springfield Road

This year's Annual Parish Meeting will be held at **3 pm** on **Saturday 9th May 2026** in the Camelot Room, Milborne Port Village Hall, Springfield Road. The meeting is being held on the same day and at the same location as the **Milborne Port: Community Matters** event; we think that this will convey the message that we are all on the same team! This is not a meeting **of** the Parish Council but is organised **by** the Parish Council. Its purpose is to share information about the activities of the Parish Council, County Councillors, local groups and organisations; it is also an opportunity for parishioners to question people and organisations on any issues relating to the village. You can find the agenda here:

milborneport.org.uk/sample-page/annual-parish-meeting/.

April Meetings: Full Council - Tuesday 7th; Planning Committee - Tuesday 21st; Management – 28th (to be confirmed).

Meetings take place in the Town Hall and start at 7 pm. Members of the public are welcome to attend and can address the meeting with questions or comments from 7-7.15 pm. 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.

What have an adult hippo and a large car got in common? Each weigh about the same as the amount Sherborne Repair Café has saved from landfill in the 4 years of its existence.

If you haven't heard of Sherborne Repair Café you will find us in Cheap Street Church Hall every 3rd Saturday morning of the month between 10 and 12.15.

We have a wonderful skilled team of individuals who can help with repairing household electricals, computers & IT equipment, ceramics, clothing, costume jewellery, leatherwork and woodwork. And we have a record of repairing 75% of all the items brought in. And all this is free except for any replacement parts we need to buy plus a donation should you wish.

We're a community venture aiming to bring people of all different ages, interests and backgrounds together with a shared goal of fixing the things they love and keeping things out of landfill.

If you want to find out more about us, see our website <https://repaircafesherborne.com/> or come along to one of the next sessions, where you will be warmly welcomed.

List of sessions: **April 18th, May 16th, June 20th**

If you are in doubt whether something can be repaired please email at repaircafesherborne@gmail.com, and attach a photo or give a good description and we will come back to you.

Lapwing

Though not a common sight, Lapwing occasionally frequent the fields and pastures around the village in the winter months. Recognised by a long crest on the back of the head, black wings with a beautiful iridescent green/purple sheen and a white belly, they are easily one of the UK's most attractive wading birds. Lapwing breed in most parts of the UK but are less common in the Southwest and the species as a whole has undergone a dramatic decline in recent years (UK Red List for birds of conservation concern).

Although often associated with water most Lapwing spend the winter in small flocks on farmland, either cultivated or wet pastures, where they feed on a wide variety of invertebrates such as worms.



In the spring males engage in dramatic aerial displays to attract females along with a loud “peewit” call which gives them their other name – Peewits.

The nest is a simple ‘scrape’ on the ground which the adults line with

grass or moss. Not surprisingly this leaves the eggs or newly hatched chicks prone to predation. However, Lapwing are well known for ‘mobbing’ any potential intruders whether it be a fox or a human!



Jane Hewitt

I always enjoy reading Jane's interesting bird articles. Some time ago I followed her advice and downloaded the Merlin app which identifies birds through their songs when they are camouflaged amongst the foliage.



The most interesting (and loudest!) song I have managed to record was that of a goldcrest in a park in Exeter. Other times have been surprising or sad. At February half term we took the granddaughters to Stourhead – I only found robins and blackbirds. Maybe it was just the busy footfall of humans, but it could also have been the abundance of laurel and rhododendrons (I didn't record by the lake). Last year on a trip to London, I recorded in the greenspace by Buckingham Palace – just three – a robin, a pigeon and a parakeet.

Whilst walking the dog last week I thought I heard a linnet. So today I took my phone and recorded around the field at the end of East Street. There is a lovely wild hedge around two sides of that field and open grassland looking out towards the cattle on the hill, happy to be out of the sheds in the spring sunshine.

The tally for that one ten-minute circuit of the field in mid-March: Crows. Rooks, Jackdaws, house sparrows, a goldfinch, a wood pigeon, a coal tit, a robin, a wren, a collared dove, a dunnoek, a chaffinch and a blue tit.

Other birds can be seen and heard at other times of year, gulls and geese, egrets, the peacocks at Ven, the swifts around the church, pheasants and yesterday I heard a woodpecker. We are so lucky to have our woods and hedgerows, our berries and seeds. the pasture, the waterways, and enjoy our native birds in this lovely village. But even here, hedgerows are being ripped out to make way for access roads for new builds.

Our garden is shaggy (a kind way of putting it!), but I can sit and hear several different bird songs even against the caw of the crows in the treetops and against the roar of the traffic on the main road. One year we even had a blackcap nesting in the honeysuckle. I hope you all enjoy this spring and the joyous sounds of nature in your corner of this village.

Felicity



ReBorne Community Church

Experiencing God's Grace
Proclaiming God's love
Demonstrating God's fellowship

Spring thoughts from Yvonne

What a difference a little bit of sunshine and the gorgeous spring flowers make. People seem to smile a little more, and we even begin to reduce the number of layers we're wearing. I love spring, and I think my favourite flowers are spring flowers – daffodils and tulips.

In our Toddler Groups and ReBorne Kids Club we have been preparing crafts and gifts for the relatives who look after us – whether that's mums or grannies for Mother's Day. But it's always good to remember all the people who are a positive influence in our lives, and to say thank you.

I always feel deeply grateful for my parents, who cherished, encouraged and disciplined my siblings and me. They helped to craft our personalities and have had a really positive impact on our lives. My aim has been to be that same influence for my own children and also be a positive impact for all those whose paths I cross.

We will celebrate Easter on the first weekend in April and goodness – what a thank you I have to say. It's the time when I want to say thank you to my Heavenly Fathers, because "For God so loved the world – (me and you)- that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him won't perish but have eternal life"

I am so grateful that my parents encouraged me to know Jesus. As my relationship with Him has developed and matured, I now have an amazing hope – the absolute knowledge that one day I will be in eternity with Him.

Here at ReBorne, we pray that in amongst all the great fun, the chocolate, the eggs, the family time, the parties and the joy of holidays, you encounter the living Christ and know the joy of His promise.

Happy Easter everyone, Yvonne

CHURCH SERVICES

(including the Principal Service Readings)

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

Sunday 29th. March Palm Sunday Benefice Service Charlton Horethorne

Wednesday 1st April

10:30 am Midweek Communion BCP Milborne Port

7:00 pm Holy Week in words and music Compton Pauncefoot

Thursday 2nd April

7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Last Supper Goathill

Friday 3rd April

10:00 am Good Friday Service

Milborne Port

2:00 pm Service of the Final Hour

Charlton Horethorne



Saturday 4th April

7:00 pm Service of Light Milborne Wick

Sunday 5th April Easter Sunday

Acts 10:34-43, John 20:1-18

9:00 am Holy Communion Blackford

10:00 am Holy Communion Maperton

10:30 am All Age Holy Communion Milborne Port

Wednesday 8th April

10:30 am Midweek Communion BCP Milborne Port

Sunday 12th April 2nd Sunday of Easter *Acts 2:22-32, John 20:19-end*

9:30 am Morning Service **Compton Pauncefoot**

10:30 am Holy Communion Milborne Port

6:00 pm Evensong Charlton Horethorne

FOR APRIL

Wednesday 15th April

10:30 am Midweek Communion BCP Milborne Port

Sunday 19th April *3rd Sunday of Easter Acts 2:36-41, Luke 24:13-35*

9:00 am Morning Service **Blackford**
10:30 am Matins Milborne Port
4:00 pm Reflective Service Milborne Wick
6:00 pm Holy Communion Charlton Horethorne

Wednesday 22nd April

10:30 am Midweek Communion BCP Milborne Port

Saturday 25th April

4:00 pm Memory Lane Milborne Port

Sunday 26th April *4th Sunday of Easter Acts 2:42-end, John 10:1-10*

9:00 am Holy Communion Compton Pauncefoot
10:30 am Holy Communion Milborne Port
6:00 pm Evensong Goathill

Wednesday 29th April

10:30 am Midweek Communion BCP Milborne Port

Sunday 3rd May *5th Sunday of Easter*

9:00 am Holy Communion Blackford
10:30 am Holy Communion Milborne Port
6:00 pm Evensong Stowell

Wednesday 6th May

10:30 am Midweek Communion Milborne Port

Year of Focus on Prayer

In 2026 the Diocese of Bath and Wells is focusing on prayer. <https://www.bathandwells.org.uk/faith/prayer/> Each month in this magazine I will include a short exploration of a particular style of prayer.

Imaginative Prayer - Ignatian Contemplation As we continue our exploration of different ways of praying, I am delighted to introduce **Ignatian Contemplation**, sometimes called imaginative prayer. All you need is a Bible, a little time, and your imagination. This way of praying comes from **St Ignatius of Loyola**, a sixteenth-century Spanish knight who noticed something unexpected while recovering from injury. When he daydreamed about Gospel stories, he felt as though he had actually spent time with Jesus—not just read about him. That experience became central to the Spiritual Exercises and remains one of the most accessible and powerful forms of prayer today.

Ignatian contemplation invites us to **step inside a Gospel scene**. We choose a story, place ourselves within it—perhaps as a character, perhaps as an observer—and allow the scene to come alive through our senses. What do you see, hear, smell, or feel? What catches your attention? Throughout, we ask the Holy Spirit to guide the prayer.

This is not an attempt to reconstruct “what really happened.” Rather, it is a way of entering Scripture more deeply so that we may come to know Jesus more intimately. Ignatius deliberately chose scenes where Jesus is active—walking, speaking, responding, showing compassion—because he wanted us not to think about Jesus, but to **encounter him**.

Imaginative prayer allows Christ to reach places the intellect alone cannot. It engages our emotions, shapes our desires, and helps the Jesus of the Gospels become *our* Jesus—real, present, and personal.

If you would like to try this prayer, I recommend the story of **The Woman at the Well (John 4:1–42)**. Imagine the heat of the day, the weight of the water jar, the surprise of the conversation, and the look on Jesus’ face as he speaks. Stay with whatever draws you—and see what emerges. Please let me know if you have tried this and we can have a conversation about how it went for you.

With blessings Rev Rona



Milborne Port Primary School: Empowering Our Pupils Through Learning and Community

What an inspiring day for Newtown and Crackmore classes! Our pupils enjoyed a theatre trip to watch the production of *The Boy at the Back of the Class*. The show

beautifully demonstrated empowerment: ordinary children using kindness, courage, and determination to stand up for their friend and challenge the unfair treatment of a refugee.

Back at school, Beeches and Gainsborough brought the magic of storytelling to life by orally reciting and retelling *We're Going on a Bear Hunt* to Venn class.

This term we have also looked at road safety, supported by Somerset Council. Pupils engaged attentively learning how to become independent and responsible road users.

We are also thrilled to introduce three new teachers to our school community this academic year: **Mrs Ross**, teaching Kingsbury class, loves musical theatre, runs our choir, and always has a song (or dance!) ready for the children; **Miss Kingston**, leading Newtown class, is passionate about the outdoors and is currently planning our outdoor learning areas. She oversees EYFS/KS1 (Beeches to Year 2) and our phonics programme (RWI)—often spotted in a pair of wellies around the school!; **Miss Harris**, Crackmore's class teacher and our school deputy headteacher, leads KS2 (Years 3–6), oversees inclusion as our SENCo, and supports Year 6 transition with her experience across primary and secondary schools.

We have also been supported by our school PTFA (Parent Teacher Family Association) this term. What a “jumping” day we all had, at the sponsored bounce! All funds are going towards our outdoor learning areas.

World Book Day: The children enjoyed coming to school in cosy pyjamas for a day of reading fun. Beeches preschool visited the local library to discover new books, while the pupils joined a live online lesson with Scholastic, learning directly from authors about storytelling.

Milborne Port Primary School is about nurturing kindness, courage, honesty, and empowerment. For more information, please visit our Instagram and Facebook page.

Carmen Danyali, Head teacher



Miss Danyali always does a great job of keeping us up to date with how our village children are getting on at school. This month, amongst all the news of activities and progress, she is introducing new members of staff. Our village school has, and has had, wonderful staff who are fondly remembered by past pupils. New staff bring new energy and ideas and can build on the foundations laid down by those who are leaving – at this time, Charlotte Carr and Julie Bown. I'm sure their charges will remember them as fondly as the now forty-somethings remember Mr. Goldthorpe, Mrs Solly and the many others before and since.

MILBORNE PORT GARDENING CLUB

Many changes have taken place recently within our wonderful Gardening Club. We have had to say goodbye and thank you, as well as a new hello, to several members of our committee. Long term committee member Jan Smith stood down as Chair at the turn of the year and Jane Daggett stepped into her very able shoes but was delighted that Jan then chose to stay on to continue her support. Next, we have had to say farewell to our equally able and hard-working Secretary Sam Dean, as she and her husband are returning to Africa. But we were then pleased to have new committee member Caroline Russell join us and offer to take over from Sam, as well as Fiona Price who will be supporting Judith Lazell, our inspired programme organiser.



Both new members bring with them much experience and enthusiasm and we warmly welcome them. We have also welcomed a good number of new club members since January, which is particularly pleasing.



Despite these shifts, our talk in March was a timeless reminder of stability and nurturing being an important part of our village life. We were delighted to have members of **The Allotments Group**, based in Milborne Port on Gainsborough,

come to describe all aspects of their hard work and care to maintain their plots, improving the quality of the soil and the really impressive diversity of plants grown throughout the 70 allotments. Led by Nathalie Hetherington, the Allotments Officer for the Parish Council, we heard about the history of allotments around the village, how growing methods have changed over time (for example, double-digging of the soil being replaced by the no-dig method and how more flowers are being grown now, amongst the fruit and vegetables, not just for picking but to increase biodiversity of insect pollinators) and modern day rules and practical advice. We could see there was a real sense of community and trust to be found there and we would like to say a special thank you to Nathalie, Gill Cleverley, Millie Furbie and Heather Richardson for sharing their knowledge.

Next Month: Swifts Over Sherborne - with Tim Phillips. These birds are now critically endangered because of habitat and insect loss, so good gardening practice can help our rare local colony. Tim is leading this local Swifts initiative to encourage awareness and nesting availability. Please join us on **Tuesday 14th April at 7.30pm. Doors open at 7.15pm. Free for members, £4 for guests, redeemable if you join us on the night.**

Annual Plant Sale: As always, we look forward to receiving your kind donations, whether seedlings, transplants or newly divided plants, for **our sale on Saturday 9th May**. Please get in touch with the committee, bring along your contributions to the April meeting, or Friday 8th May at the Village Hall 5-7pm. We are particularly excited that this year it will be held as part of the **Community Matters** event, with sales from 10am until 4pm.

Jane Daggett, Chair

new email address:

mpgardeningclub@gmail.com



We had a really enjoyable afternoon in March when we held our Mad Hatter's Tea Party. Millie, our secretary, had decorated the room beautifully with long tables set out with china, flowers etc. Quite a few of us had decorated hats - some of them were brilliant and showed great artistic merit - and we tucked into delicious cakes, savouries and cups of tea. Three visitors attended and we hope they enjoyed themselves so much they will become members this year.

Our April meeting will take place in **Church House** on **9th April at 7.30pm** when we will be given a talk and demonstration of CPR, entitled *Bystander as a Life Saver*. The reason for the change of venue is that we require more room for demonstration purposes than in our room in the Community Centre, and we hope that anyone who is interested in this important topic will come along. We charge £5 for non-members to help with our expenses; this includes a cup of tea or coffee.

As the clocks go forward at the end of March and the evenings become lighter, all future meetings will be in the evening.

In the meantime, do pop into our room at the Town Hall on Friday mornings when we will be serving coffee with cake/biscuits from 10.30am.

Christine Porter The Glovelies/MPWI

Milborne Port History & Heritage Group

Do join us on **Easter Monday 6th April Easter 2.30-4 pm** for a preview of what is new in the museum ahead of the Summer opening at the end of May. For those who have never been, the museum is in the Chapel at the cemetery on Wheathill Lane; the building itself is a piece of history!



Our next talk is on **Monday 20th April**: Elizabeth Lammas & Dr Caroline Rutter will talk about **Mary Caroline Tyler, née Southcombe**, a true daughter of Milborne Port who certainly did her bit to help bring the war to an end, mentioned in Debrett's for her achievements. Though not in uniform as her siblings were, she 'led a group of uniformed Wrens in Hut 7' at Bletchley Park but of course could not tell anyone that for 50 years!

Her husband, Mr FL Tyler, was a veteran of the D-Day landings. A full and fascinating life.

Join us at Church House in Bathwell Lane for a 7.30 pm start.

We are a charity and ask for a suggested donation of £2 per member or £5 per non-member to cover costs. If you are parking in Bathwell Lane, please do so considerately as it is a bit of a squeeze along there, although less so following the verge clearance than it was! If you wish to become a member of our group, and we very much hope that you do, please email us: mphhgroup@gmail.com

On **Monday 16th March** we were delighted to welcome back Joe Rogers, whom we first met in March 2025 when he entertained and informed us so eloquently and with such enthusiasm about the West Somerset Railway. This time, it was Tithe Barns. Joe is the author of *Tithe Barns and Railway Enthusiasm in Twenty-first-century Britain*. He visited his first tithe barn in 2014 and in 2019 spent the year exploring over 100 barns across the UK, from Cornwall to Scotland, Wales to Kent and everywhere in between. In this talk, he covered the general history of these buildings, showcasing some local Somerset and Dorset examples. Another lively and engaging talk from an extremely knowledgeable and eloquent speaker.

Coming up...

Saturday 9th May: Milborne Port: Community Matters event at the Village Hall. Display of the 1817 pre-enclosure and 1839 tithe maps and others, and a slide show of photographs/images of the village over the years. Camelot Room, 10am – 2.30pm.

Sunday 24th May: Summer opening of museum, every Sunday up to and including Sunday 30th August, 2.30-4 pm.

Monday 25th May: A guided walk with Dr Lesley Wray of the area of the ancient borough on the south side of the A30, including the Church. Meet at 7 pm at the Ball Court on the High Street.

Nathalie Hetherington, MPH&H Group Secretary

Remember that you can follow us on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/269663891785502> - for updates on talks and events, and for signposts to articles that are new to our ever-evolving website: <http://milborneporthistory.org.uk>. We have many people now posting brilliant material onto our Facebook pages, so if you are a Facebooker, it is well worth checking out these contributions. You can also get in touch by e-mail: mphhgroup@gmail.com



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April Events in the library

Easter trail until 10th April

Pokemon Session 7th April 10 – 11.30am

Science is magic – 14th April 10 – 11am

Lego Club 18th April all morning

Scrabble every Tuesday 2.30pm

Book Club 14th April 2pm



“Design a book cover” Competition: There were not as many entries as we had hoped but the following are our winners, Congratulations to them!

1st Prize: George P. Age 11. George was the overall winner. His entry was colourful and eye catching

2nd Prize: Arietty F. Age 7. Arietty put a lot of thought into her entry, with lots of detail

Runner up: Jess S. Age 6. For a good effort

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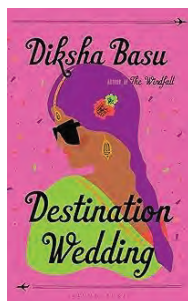
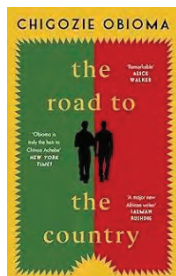
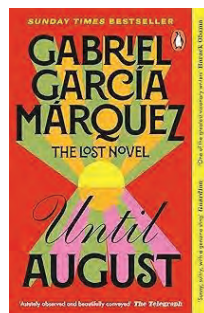
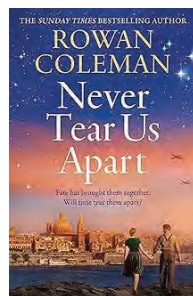
to Delhi in *'Destination Wedding'* by Diksha Basu,

Nigeria in *'The Road to The Country'* by Chigozie Obioma,

Lake Como with Charlotte Betts in *'The Italian Garden'*

and Spain with Gabriel Garcia Marquez's book *'Until August'*

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What to Watch in the April Night Sky

There are so many stars shining in the sky, so many beautiful things winking at you, but when Venus comes out, all the others are waned, they are pushed to the background.

Mehmet Murat Ildan

Venus is the dominant evening star this month, visible low in the western sky shortly after sunset. It outshines all other stars and sets approximately an hour after the Sun. Although similar in size to Earth, Venus differs significantly in its conditions. Its dense atmosphere is filled with toxic sulphuric acid clouds that reflect about 70% of incoming sunlight, making it the brightest natural object in the night sky after the Moon.



Unlike Earth, Venus rotates in the opposite direction, causing the Sun to rise in the west and set in the east. Also, a single day on Venus lasts 243 Earth days—longer than its 225-day year – now that would be something to experience!

Planets

Morning: Mercury, Mars and Saturn (all three are poorly positioned, unlikely to be seen in the UK).

Evening: Venus & Jupiter.

April 2025 Astronomical Events

2nd: Full Moon near **Spica**. 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.

4th Mercury at **Western Elongation**. **Mercury** will rise in the *east* just before the sun. However, the planet will be difficult to see.

10th: Moon at **Last Quarter**.

17th: New Moon

18th: Moon lies to the lower right of **Venus**

19th: Moon near **Venus**

22nd: Moon to the right of **Jupiter**

23rd: Venus near **Uranus**. **Lyrid meteor shower** at its best in the early morning, after the **Moon** has set at 2am. Unfortunately, the Lyrids are not only one of the weakest annual meteor showers they are also the most unpredictable.

24th: Moon at **First Quarter**.

25th: Moon near **Regulus**

Sunrise and Sunset

1st: Sunrise 6.47 am Sunset: 7.42 pm

30th: Sunrise 5.44 am Sunset: 8.31 pm

The first day of April is 12 hours, and 55 minutes long. The last day of the month is 14 hours, and 47 minutes, so the length of the days gets 1 hour, and 52 minutes longer during the month. Good Viewing.

Ganymede



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MAGAZINE DEADLINES

All entries for the May 2026 issue of the magazine to the editor please by **Saturday 18th. April** at 12 noon latest.

Distributors at the church on

Friday 24th. April at 2 p.m.

Editor's email :

magazine@milborneportchurches.org.uk

Please use the email as the default way of getting in touch.

All email contributions will be acknowledged. If you do not receive a reply, or if you are unable to use email, please ring 01963 250382.

Leave a message with your phone number and I will get back to you.



MILBORNE PORT CONTACTS

PARISH CHURCH: ST JOHN THE EVANGELIST

Staff

Priest in Charge	Rev Rona Stuart-Bourne	845278
Churchwardens	Mrs Susan Wales	250660
	Mrs Nicki Edwards	nickiedwards19@gmail.com
Parish Administrator	Ms Helen Solomon	250248

Other Useful Church contacts

Organist	Mrs Rachel Willetts	01935 813958
Vergers	Vacancy	
Magazine Editor	Mrs Felicity John	250382
Magazine Advertising & Magazine Treasurer	Mr Robin Bawtree	251359
Tower Captain & Sec	Mrs Susan Wales	250660
PCC Secretary	Mrs Felicity John	250382
Church Treasurer	Mr Paul Springett	220790
& Stewardship Recorder		
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	Amanda MacIntosh	mackintoshamanda@hotmail.co.uk
Church House Bookings	www.mpchouse.org.uk or Christine Porter	250821

OTHER LOCAL CHURCHES

Roman Catholic Church (Wincanton)		34408
ReBorne Community Church	Minister Adrian Bright	07975 755032

OTHER INFORMATION

Doctors	Drs Wyer, Bulley, Smith, Esteves, Palanisamy, Robertson, Gray & Squire	250334
Vet	Southhill Veterinary Group, The Old Glove Factory, 1-2 North Street, Milborne Port	250255
Primary School	Head Teacher Carmen Danyali	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		booking@milborneportvillagehall.org.uk
WI Contact	Millie Furby	07738 229322
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	07896 678267
	Chris Chiswell	07713 030782

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

Parish Council website <https://milborneport-pc.gov.uk/>

Benefice website: www.milborneportchurches.org.uk

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