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This month's cover photo: The volunteers working on the middle churchyard burial ground at St Mary's Puddletown.



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## Coming Together

One of the joys of the past few months has been the way in which people from across the four churches in our benefice have come together much more to worship, both in person in our church buildings and on-line at our Zoom services.

It has always saddened me that in the past, when we have had a benefice service on the fifth Sunday, a number of people have chosen to stay away, if the service hasn't been in "their" church. People have differing reasons for this, but at the heart of it is the sense that their particular building in their home village has become more important than worshipping God with others in community.

During the past year, those who have been brave enough to venture outside their own village to join us in worship have realised that it is a positive thing to do. Doing something new or going somewhere different can take courage, but it's worth remembering that it doesn't take many visits for what was new to become what is familiar. And the sense of togetherness and growing friendship and community across our congregations is definitely worth the effort.

The future of rural churches is a precarious one. If we support one another across our village boundaries, we are much more likely to flourish than if we insist on being too parochial. We've all seen what has happened to village shops and pubs over the years – let's not watch our churches go the same way.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> May, we will be celebrating Pentecost, taken to be the birthday of the Church. That was the day when the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in Jerusalem brought people together of many nationalities and languages and united them. Three thousand people were baptised that day - how amazing that must have been! In spite of all their different backgrounds, they were joined by their faith in Christ. People of different cultures found unity and understanding across the boundaries of language and tradition.

We people of Dorset are much more like each other than those people in Jerusalem that first Pentecost day. If they could come together in the power of the Holy Spirit, then surely we can cross village boundaries to worship together.

Look out for information about what we will be doing to celebrate Pentecost Sunday this year. As the magazine goes to press, plans are still being made, but I am hoping that we can have a benefice service and picnic to celebrate the birthday of the Church, our togetherness across the four villages and beyond, and the power of God to create and sustain community.

*With best wishes*

*Sarah*

PS. If transport is the reason you don't come to benefice services, please speak to your churchwardens. We can always arrange lifts to help people attend worship.

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## **THIS MAGAZINE HAS A VACANCY FOR AN**

### **ADVERTISING MANAGER**

Regular readers will know that we run advertisements for local businesses which we hope helps them and our readership, and those advertisements in return, help to fund this magazine and keep it in existence.

With only one exception, all of the roles which work together to create this magazine each month are taken on by volunteers who live in the villages it serves, and that includes the person who takes care of the advertising within.

If you have an interest in people and effective communicating skills, alongside being able to offer a little of your time, please get in touch. Our small, enthusiastic group works hard to bring this publication to around 350 purchasers every month - and we will happily tell you what that commitment involves and answer any query you may have.

*Contact Clare Campbell of the Parish Magazine Working Group - 01305 849295*

We may not be able to pay you, but volunteering has its own rewards!

## **Wanted!**

### **Stories and anecdotes about church porches**

We are compiling a small booklet and would like to include people's memories and tales of things that happened in church porches, however weird and wonderful!

Thank you in advance.

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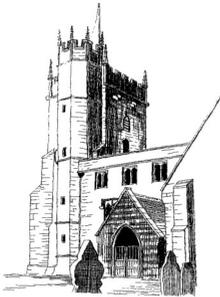
# St Mary's Puddletown—May 2021

Intercessors		Scripture Readers
2nd		
9th	Cynthia Metcalf	Paul Fleetwood
16th		
23rd	Dawn Loveless	Judy Bumby
30th	TBA	Pat Sparks

## PCC Charity Donations

*Please give prayerfully and generously*

Lent	Bishop's Fund for Sudan
Mothering Sunday	Mosaic
Easter Day	The Salvation Army (Homeless)
Harvest	R.A.B.I . And Water Aid
Christmas	The Children's Society



## **WANTED!**

We have plans to create a 3rd volume of the popular Church Mouse Cookbooks and are after new recipes.

Do you have any favourite lockdown recipes?

Have you lived abroad or in another part of the UK and would like to share a recipe from that place?

Please email them to

[puddletownbenefice@outlook.com](mailto:puddletownbenefice@outlook.com)

It doesn't matter what measurements or temperatures they are submitted in.

Please do not copy directly from a cookbook or internet page for copyright reasons. Maybe tweak the recipe to make it "your own".

Thank you!



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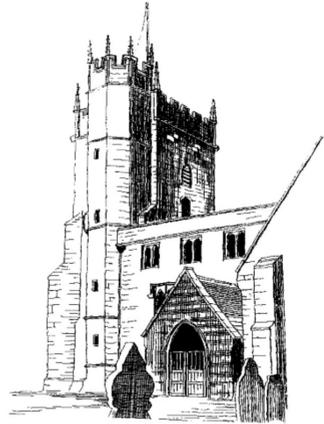
## Puddletown St Marys

Work has resumed on the middle burial ground top extension.

Focus is on preparing the larger area for levelling and seeding, aiming to return the kindly lent black polythene at the soonest opportunity!

The small, but incredible volunteer team, pictured on the front cover, achieved great things today exposing the converging redundant utility pipework junctions under a deep manhole, ready to bring to the surface.

The average age (calculated by someone with GCSE Maths!) of our indefatigable stalwarts is 75 years!



*Jacky Burden*

7 April 2021



### **PENTECOST SERVICE AND PICNIC**

**At 11 a.m. on 23<sup>rd</sup> May**

**Come and celebrate the birthday of the Church in style with Special guest: the Archdeacon of Sherborne, the Ven. Penny Sayer**

**Outdoor service at Warren Hill Farm (in a barn if wet)**

**Please bring your camping chairs and a picnic and join us for a great time**

**ALL WELCOME**



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Howzat! Cricket at the Rec finally comes carefully out of lockdown in April and we're raring to go.

This year, Puddletown CC has 10 teams across our Junior Puffins, WAGtails Ladies and Senior Kingfishers. There's a lot to be excited about.

**JUNIORS** - Friday evenings from 14<sup>th</sup> May - We already have over 50 girls and boys registered for the ever-popular All Stars (age 5-8) and the brand new Dynamos (age 8-11). It's not too late to book – scan the QR codes in the picture below, or follow the links on our Facebook pages.

**WAGTAILS AND KINGFISHERS** - Monday's evenings from 12<sup>th</sup> April - will see training sessions for.

**LEAGUE MATCHES** - Saturday and Evening start in earnest from 1<sup>st</sup> May.

And as your community club, we're always keen to welcome new players and supporters – for more information and to keep up with latest news, check-out our Facebook pages.

Up the Puddle!

All Stars

**Age 5-8**

- Amazing Kit Bag
- 8 Sessions
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**Join our Amazing CRICKET FAMILY FUN @ Puddletown Rec**

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## A Month on the Farm

With all the turnips now having been grazed off by cattle, the fields were then sprayed where necessary and last year's farmyard cattle muck spread over them, before being incorporated in with a heavy duty cultivator which mixes all the muck, left over turnips and soil together to create a good seed bed. It is then drilled with spring barley seed using a seed drill sowing a 4 metre width of seed at a time. As the drill goes over the ground being pulled by the tractor it has a sub soiling leg in front of the 24 seed coulters which breaks up the sub soil and the seed is blown by a fan down the pipes at the correct rate. This is for spring barley at 230 seeds per hectares at an inch and a half depth, the seed is a variety called Planet which we grew last year and then had it cleaned by a company with a mobile seed cleaner which cleans and grades the sample.



The warmer weather has allowed the crops to grow on well but are way behind the growth stages they were this time last year. Fertilising is still ongoing as the crops require and weather conditions allow.

Most of the cattle are now turned out to grass, some on the water meadows and some on the dryer land where they are enjoying the spring growth of high quality grass with the younger cattle being supplemented with a home milled barley mix.

Once again the whole herd has had its annual TB test which was all clear. While the cattle were going through the handling race on the second day of the test, which is the reading day they had a squirt of fly deterrent on their backs, as the biting flies are a general nuisance to the cattle and can also cause an eye problem in the warmer weather.

A three strand stock proof fencing has been put up by the newly laid hedge on the meadow and the brush wood has been pushed up into a pile ready for burning while the larger wood is being removed to season for fire wood for the coming winters.



*Wakely Cox*

5<sup>th</sup> April 2021



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## The Children's Society

Now that we have a lowering of Covid 19 restrictions we can at last hopefully start the belated count on the contents of the Children's Society Boxes.

If possible can box holders put their boxes in St Mary's from Sunday 9th May please? If this is a problem I can come and collect from your homes by arrangement.

Thank you,

*Dawn Loveless*

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## BENNETT BULLETIN FROM TORONTO

I am writing this bulletin on Good Friday. By the time you read it Easter will be behind us but I hope it is not too late to wish you blessings of the season.

Today in Toronto we have blue sky, sunshine and sub zero temperatures. Just when we think spring has come winter creeps back, but spring flowers are beginning to appear so we have something to look forward to, apart from going back into lockdown tomorrow because COVID numbers are on the rise again. The vaccination campaign is at last well under way, and I had my first vaccination shot last week at our local hospital. It was very well organised and I had no after effects. The second dose is due to happen in July.

The other big event for me this week has been my citizenship ceremony, which took place on Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> March at 8.30am on Zoom! I had certainly never thought about swearing the oath of allegiance to the Queen on line. It was certainly a new and different experience. My daughter, Stephanie, was with me for which I was very grateful because I was not sure I could cope with all the technology and the ceremonial all at the same time. After taking the oath, and signing the paperwork I had to cut my Permanent Residency card into four pieces. All this had to happen on screen. I was very touched that my neighbours appeared on my doorstep at about 8.15am with cards, cake, flowers and a Canadian flag.

All in all, an eventful week which I wanted to share with friends in the Benefice. I hope you are all well. I still look forward to catching up with the local news in the parish magazine. My very best wishes to you all,

*Diana Bennett*



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## BENEFICE REGISTERS

### Funeral

D. 24/02/2021	Raymond John Preston, aged 79	
---------------	-------------------------------	--

### Interment of ashes

D. 24/10/2020	Martin Robert Backholer, aged 65	
---------------	----------------------------------	--

## Puddletown Weather

*Site location (GPS): N 50° 44.937' W 2° 20.862' altitude 88.39 metres (somewhat sheltered from easterly winds)*

<b>March 2021</b>		
	Rainfall for the month	78.00 mm
	Cumulative for the year	245.70 mm
	2020 Rainfall for the month	64.50 mm
	2020 Cumulative for the year	338.40 mm
	Temperatures	Max. 21.70° C Min. -3.00° C
	2020	Max 15.40° C Min -1.30° C
	Maximum wind speed	19.70 mph
	2020	21.30 mph

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## TOWER NEWS

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St Mary the Virgin

Tuesday, 23 March 2021 (6-1-18 in E)

**Tolling 365 Times at 12.01pm**

6 Emma Hughes

Tolling for 365 days since the first National Lockdown

As part of the National Day of Reflection

### **Dorset County Association**

#### **Puddletown, Dorset**

St Mary the Virgin

Sunday, 4 April 2021 (6-1-18 in E)

#### **Rounds on 3**

- 1 Tom Woodland
- 2 -
- 3 Emma Hughes
- 4 -
- 5 Robin J. Mears
- 6 -

Bells rung for Easter Sunday Morning Worship  
and as a Birthday Compliment to Tom yesterday.

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## Salisbury Cathedral – a grand vaccination centre

With public visiting suspended at the start of the third national lockdown in January, Salisbury Cathedral turned itself into a vaccination centre.

History was made on 16<sup>th</sup> January as Salisbury citizens queued along the cloister before going inside to receive their Covid-19 injection.

The cathedral has hosted many sessions since that first one and by the end of March 25,000 people had received their jab.

National news coverage described the cathedral as the ‘grandest vaccination centre’ and the event was made more special, thanks to director of music David Halls and assistant director John Challenger playing a selection of music on the cathedral’s famous Father Willis organ.

Coverage spread internationally, with the New York Times one of those to take up the story.

Dean of Salisbury the Very Revd Nicholas Papadopoulos said: “We are proud to be playing a part in the life-saving vaccination campaign and look forward to seeing the NHS team, volunteers, and even more of our neighbours in their cathedral.

“Here they will receive a warm welcome, discover a beautiful place, and leave with fresh hope - and with our prayers.”

*An aerial view of the south transept showing the cubicles, patients and staff.*

***Picture by Ash Mills (copyright).***



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## Parish Council Update

Puddletown Area Parish Council met on Tuesday the 13<sup>th</sup> April 2021 on Zoom. A representative from the Dorset National Park Team attended to answer questions from Councillors and members of the public present. The Council has assurance that the National Park Team intends for the whole of Athelhampton, Burleston, Puddletown and Tolpuddle to be included in the National Park which is welcome news as Councillors were keen that the parishes are not divided by this proposal and that the parishes are not left just on the outside of a National Park.

*Continued on Page 25*



*We will be reopening  
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*Andrew & Sarah Fox*

**BE PATIENT - BE SAFE - BE KIND**

The Council agreed to re-nominate the Martyrs Inn as an Asset of Community Value as the designation is due to expire shortly. Other possible nominations were also discussed briefly and it was agreed that the matter would be discussed again in June when Councillors had thought carefully about assets which could and should be nominated. The designation offers some protection in that the community would be given six months to raise money to purchase the asset in the event that it was to be sold. When the Martyrs Inn was put on the market, this opportunity was not taken as it was hoped that a private buyer would come forward to run the facility again as a public house, however, it is a useful protection to maintain.

The Parish Council agreed to pay £50 to replace glass panes in the Tolpuddle K6 telephone kiosk with ones engraved with the word "information". The Clerk was also instructed to obtain quotes for electrical work in the kiosk which will be considered at a later meeting.

Following a request from a resident, the Parish Council will be reviewing the condition of all public benches across the four parishes. Where benches are owned by other organisations, they will be monitored and any concerns reported. Where benches are owned by the Parish Council, Dorset Council, or are unclaimed, they will be inspected and maintained as appropriate.

A new litter bin is to be installed by the long layby near to the recreation ground subject to agreement from the highways authority. A local resident has been litter picking at the location and made the suggestion. The Parish Council is grateful to all residents who take it upon themselves to collect litter and dispose of it appropriately. It is hoped that organised litter picks will be able to begin again soon as social distancing measures are reduced.

Work has been ordered at Orchard Meadow to maintain or replace timber that needs attention. Noticeboards will also be installed soon in both Athelhampton and Burleston.

A Community Governance Review is due to take place in Dorset next year. This means that some changes to the parish boundaries could be considered. Parishes can be merged together or boundaries could be altered slightly. The possibility of merging the parishes of Athelhampton and Burleston together or merging them to join with Puddletown and Tolpuddle respectively has been discussed amongst Councillors. Any residents who wish to comment on such suggestions should contact the Clerk to the Parish Council. There will be a full consultation before any final decision is made.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm and it will be a remote meeting. Face to face meetings will resume from June.



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**CONTACTS PAGE - Please help us keep these pages up to date by notifying us of any changes**

CLERGY	The Revd Sarah Hillman (Vicar)	01305 848 784
	Sarah.c.hillman@outlook.com	
RETIRED CLERGY	Rosie Coldwell	01258 839 214
	The Revd Sue Turner	07775 710 429
CHURCHWARDENS	Cynthia Metcalfe (Puddletown)	01305 848 043
	Dawn Loveless (Puddletown)	01305 849 534
	Hilly Cobban (Tolpuddle)	01305 848 552
	Jayne Brayshaw (Tolpuddle)	01305 849 314
	Pam Shults (Milborne St Andrew)	01258 837 203
	Vacancy	
	Sue Britton (Dewlish)	01258 837 218
	Jim Burg (Dewlish)	01258 837 466
BENEFICE OFFICE	Emma Hughes	01305 849 039
(www.puddletownbenefice.org)	puddletownbenefice@outlook.com	
<b>PUDDLETOWN CONTACTS</b>		
Alcoholics Anonymous	Alcoholics Anonymous	
Area Parish Council	Peter Churchill	01305 849292
	Email:peter.churchill.gooner@gmail.com	07407 235798
Area Parish Clerk	Mrs A Bendall	01305 849 596
	puddletown@dorset-aptc.gov.uk	
Bell Ringers	Robin Mears	01305 848 021
Carer's Association		
Children's Society	Dawn Loveless	01305 849534
Church Room	David Jeffreys	01305 848 211
COMMUNITY LIBRARY - Run & financed by volunteers. 01305 848 506		
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	Wednesday: 3.00pm to 5.00pm	
	Friday: 3.00pm to 5.00pm	
	Saturday: 10.00am to 12.00noon	
County Councillor	Emma Parker	
Cricket Club	David Stevens	07720 411 952
Cubs, Scouts & Beavers	Alf Justin	01258 839 080
Football Club	Steve Brown	07789 821 408
Flower Rota	Heather Mears	01305 848 021
Footpaths & Rights of Way	Phil Drake	01305 848560
Friends of Puddletown Church	Ursula Pomeroy	01305 264 516
Friends of Puddletown Library	Paul Poser	01305 848 176

<b>CONTACTS PAGE - Please help us keep these pages up to date by notifying us of any changes</b>		
<b>DOCTORS</b>		
Puddletown Surgery Dr J Griffiths, Dr C Burnham & Dr J Bond		01305 848 333
Puddletown Surgery (Dispensary)		01305 849 329
Out of hours medical advice & NHS Direct	Out of hours medical advice & NHS Direct	111
Gift Aid Co-ordinator	Bob Todd	01305 849 048
Guides, Brownies & Rainbows	Amy Knight	01305 848 602
Handbells	Bob Todd	01305 849 048
Mini-Soccer/Youth Football	Jon Palmer	07891 173 999
Neighbourhood Plan	Anna Bendall	puddletown@dorset-aptc.gov.uk.
Organist		01305 264485
PCC Secretary	Emma Hughes	01305 849039
PCC Treasurer	Bob Todd	01305 849 048
Puddletown Countrywoman's Club	Sylvia Hanby	01305 849 562
Puddletown CPPP	www.facebook.com/puddletownplaypark	
Puddletown Pumpkins Toddler Group	Kelly	07786 916515.
Puddletown Society	John Ridout	01305 848 940
Recreational Multi Games Area	David Knight	07890 260 320
Recreation Ground Pavilion	Liz Knight	01305 848 380
Royal British Legion (RBL)	S Ridout	01305 848 940
Rugby Club	Ray Stephens puddletownrfc@hotmail.com	07966 412 467
<b>SCHOOLS</b>		
Pre-school	Sharon Brown www.puddletownpreschool.co.uk	01305 849 533
Pre –school	Laura Evans	
First School (Head Teacher)	Mr D Hunwick www.puddletownfirst.dorset.sch.uk	01305 848 206
St Mary's CE Middle School	Darren Ayling—Head Teacher	01305 848 293
Short Mat Bowls		
Sunday Church Creche	Vacancy	
Sunday Seekers	Lynda Skinner	01305 849 485
Village Hall Caretaker/Bookings	Kevin Smith (puddletownvh@gmail.com)	07706 798271
Village Hall Committee Secretary	Amy Knight	01305 848602
Yoga	Mandy Cooper	07713 477737

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Young Farmers (Dorset)	01305 263 947
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**TOLPUDDLE CONTACTS**

Craft Club	Teresa Turner	01305 849 060
Defibrillator (outside Martyrs Inn)	Clare & Roger Angus	07720 059035 or 01305 848286
Orchard Meadow	Anna Bendall—Clerk to PAPC	01305 849596
PCC Secretary	Jayne Brayshaw	01305 849 314
PCC Treasurer	John Taylor	01305 848 552
Streetfair	Annette Pitman	01305 848 219
Tolpuddle Home Group	Simon Dodd	01305 848 171
Tolpuddle Old Chapel Trust	tolpud- dleostrust@btinternet.com	tolpuddleostrust@btinternet.com
Tolpuddle Toddler Group	Maria Palmer	07717 506020
Tolpuddle Village Meeting	Julia Johnstone, Clerk.	tolpuddlemeeting@yahoo.com
Tolpuddle Village Show	Jo Austwick	austwickjoanne@gmail.com.
Village Hall Bookings Sec.	Julie Batchelor (9am to 6pm)	07866 678358
	Jo Augstwick (6pm to 9pm)	07852 284357
Village Hall Chairman	Peter Walton - pdwal- ton@btinternet.com	01305 848 034
Whist Drive	Diana Foreman	01305 848 419
Yoga (Iyengar)	Sue Chapman	01305 848 053

**USEFUL & EMERGENCY NUMBERS**

Benefit Enquiry Line	0800 88 22 00	
Dorset Community Action	info@dorsetcommunityaction.org.uk	
Dorset County Hospital	01305 251 150	
Electricity Failure (Southern Electric)	08457 708 090	
Gas Leak or a smell of gas	0800 111 999	
POLICE—Local Officers	PC Moore 0229 & PCSO Alison Donnison 6500	101 or "Contact Us" section on Dorset Police Website

**DEWLISH CONTACTS**

Cricket	Elaine Kellaway	01258 837 696
Ladies Group	Judith Bridgen	01258 837 157
Parish Council	Andrew Booth (Chair)	01258 837 284
Village Hall (Chair)	Bernie Cosgrove,	01258 837 152
Village Hall (Sec)	Alex Carter	01258 837 312

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<b>MILBORNE ST ANDREW CONTACTS</b>		
Allotment Society	Joy Robinson	01258 837 661
Archery	Sheila Ryall	01258 837 504
Athletics (Information)	David Pearson	01258 837 057
Badminton	Bruce Dyer	01258 839 117
Bellringers	Pip Howell	01258 837 329
Busy Bees Group (Under 5s)	Claire Tudge	07970 734 162
Cribbage	Peter Anthony	01258 837 089
Food & Wine Club	Rose Frost	01258 837 921
Football (Youths)	Andy Brown	07427 503 373
Gardening Club	Sally Dyer	01258 837 061
Ladybirds Playgroup	Liz Dyer	01258 839 117
Milborne First School	Sharon Hunt (Head Teacher)	01258 837 362
Milborne Players	Roy Sach	01258 837 033
Nightsabre Dog Training Group	Natasja Lewis	07896 275 357
Neighbourcar	Nigel Hodder	01258 470 333
Parish Council	Richard MacNair	01258 837 912
	Wayne Lewin (Clerk)	07419 136 735
Patient Voice Secretary	Nigel Hodder	01258 880 229
Pilates	Claire Barratt	07703 648869
Round Robin Ramblers	Ian Bromilow	01258 880 044
Scout Group	Sam Elliott	07873 762 035
Sports Club	Richard Lock (& Bookings)	01258 837 929
Swimming Club	Pat Cowan	01258 880 601
Tai Chi	Brian Burton	01258 839 033
Tap Dancing (Adults)	Kevin Selby	01305 250 386
Tennis - Member's Secretary	Richard Hawker	07383 309 037
Village Hall	Sarah Ryan (Chair)	01258 839 230
	Alison Riddle (Bookings)	01258 837 148
Wednesday Social Club	Sheila Burton	01258 839 033
Women's Institute	Lesley Clarke	01929 471 732
Yoga –at First School (Iyengar)	Sue Chapman	01305 848 053
Yoga—at Village Hall	Sarah Ryan	01258 839 230
Youth Club (8-13 years)	Joanne Miller	01258 881 496



## St John's Church Tolpuddle—May 2021

Oh my word, the gardens are all looking so beautiful, as is the churchyard with its carpet of celandines. The top churchyard has a smart new hedge along the southside where Matt Cope has kindly planted some Portuguese Laurel and Marion has planted up the pots by the church porch. Now we have a new water-butt so it will be much easier to water them through the warm summer days. There were of course lots of flowers and wreaths in the churchyard over the Easter period, with a beautiful spray of flowers from Anna Kerslake's coffin which had been laid sombrelly on their daughter Lou's stone, as many of the villagers stood at a distance to say farewell to a very dear friend.

Easter approached with various competitions around the village, with hidden bunnies and Easter Cards ( thanks to Jo Austwick) The church itself had been beautifully decorated for Easter although we didn't have any services of our own on Easter Sunday. Sarah had arranged a very moving Reflective Service on Good Friday with Dr Richard Hall playing the organ and readings and music. We are now looking at future services for the next few months- it has been agreed that we will have Communion services here in Tolpuddle on the first and third Sunday of every month and then join our friends in Puddletown on the second and fourth Sundays. We are also hoping to offer a less formal Go Fourth in Tolpuddle on the fourth Sunday as an alternative- this will be held outside (weather permitting) where we are allowed to have the band and ~~sing~~- this will indeed be a pleasure for us all. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Sarah for all she has done for us over the past year and say how much we have enjoyed the Combined Benefice Services and have the opportunity to worship together in a Covid Safe environment. We hope she can enjoy a bit of rest through her well deserved leave even though she can't go away.

We are also combining another aspect of church life – as we join with the Village Hall and other groups to form the Tolpuddle Events Committee (TEC) - the purpose of this will be to raise the community spirit and of course raise some much needed funds. Jonathan Van Baars and Hilly Cobban will be joint chairmen, hoping that a Vice Chair will soon be appointed to take over this role, by the end of the year. We already have our first event booked for **August 28th** when we are hoping to hold a **Summer Party and Dog Show**- as a celebration- we will need many volunteers to help with this – do contact [hlcobban@gmail.com](mailto:hlcobban@gmail.com) if you want to know more about this or indeed more about Tolpuddle Events Committee. We know there are many new people who have moved into the village and now we would like to get to know you!

*Continued on Page 35*

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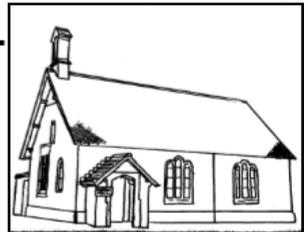
Another new initiative is ~~Champing~~ this idea of offering camping within the church building is growing in strength around the countryside. It is run by the Churches Conservation Trust as a way to encourage the use of our beautiful buildings in different ways, and to provide a much needed extra income to put towards their upkeep. We have a well-balanced team preparing this initiative and hope to be able to offer this to our first visitors after the Whitsun break.

All that is left to say is keep safe as we gradually come out of our long hibernation and let us look at the future with hope

*Hilly and Jayne*

## **TOLPUDDLE VILLAGE HALL NEWS**

**Registered Charity No. 257403**



### **150 Club 2021**

#### **In aid of the Tolpuddle Village Hall Development Fund**

The new 150 club is now underway . The first draw will take place in the middle of April and will be drawn live on the Tolpuddle Facebook Community page. Results will be published in this magazine next month.

2021

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## Tolpuddle history (pt 3)

As part of the phone box information point project I have borrowed from the Puddletown library a copy of 'Pidela' – an account of the village of Tolpuddle' written by Audrey Wirdnam in 1989.

hope you find this information about some of the older housing (all grade 2 listed) interesting.

*Julia Johnstone*

### The Mill House

The mill was mentioned in Domesday records as being a watermill worth 20 shillings per year. It was used by a succession of millers throughout the centuries to grind village corn.

The miller in 1650 was Roger Drew who was apparently elderly at that time but his wife Anne was said to be 'an active woman'. She arranged for her daughters marriage without consulting her husband and promised a dowry of £200, 10 good sheep and various household goods, bedding, brass, pewter, linen goods to the value of £40 and one years "dyett'. On the wedding day Roger Drew unexpectedly came home to find that the marriage had taken place and minstrels playing in his house. He turned the wedding party out of the house and they later sued him!



MILL BUILDING BEFORE CONVERSION TO A DWELLING HOUSE — 1972

In 1817 the (*current*) mill was described as being new built. It seems to have been in use up until around 1900.

### Three Thatched Cottages 1-3 The Green



1-3 THE GREEN SHOWING A BYRE AT WEST END.

All three cottages date from the 16<sup>th</sup> century and possibly before that. The third cottage was found to have a blackened wattle casing around the chimney area when modernisation took place and so the cottage could date from the 15<sup>th</sup> century and may have originally been a Dorset 'long house'. At the end of the cottage there was a byre with an earth floor and this was taken into the present house conversion.

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## Mid Dorset Mencap Group Update

Over the past 11 years Tolpuddle and Puddletown residence have provided vital support to the above group, like everyone else this past year for us has been a challenge, when our charity shop in High East Street, Dorchester was forced to close in March 2020, little did we expect that we would not ever open again.

Because of Government guidelines it was found that it would be impossible to comply with Covid-19 Government regulations therefore the committee and Trustees decide to withdraw from our lease agreement in November 2020.

Because we as a group are passionate in the services we provide, we decided to look for a larger shop. We looked at various locations in Dorchester, one being "Munchkins" a property in Trinity Street Dorchester. After the Committee members and Trustees of MDM viewed the property, (The viewing was carried out in November 2020) it was agreed by everyone that this would be a great location if suitable funding and negotiations to reduce the rent could be found.

After a great deal of work we have been fortunate in obtaining a lottery grant that will enable us to refurbish the property in Trinity Street. We have been able to negotiate a reduced rent and we have a 4 month rent free period for us to get the place "Fit for Purpose".

This is a very exciting time for us and we hope that we will be able to offer more services to local people with learning difficulties and those with special needs.

I would like to thank the following people who have been a great help in assisting with part of the relocating plan: Jim Mason, Will Vickery, Sam Large and Nigel Pitman, and not forgetting the team from our committee members.

We will need to restock our new location so if you have any donations of cloths etc, that you can store for a short while I will be happy to collect at a later date.

Once again my thanks for your past support and support in the future.

*Merv Harris*

Vice Chair/Secretary

Mid Dorset Mencap Group

Email: [mervynharris981@btinternet.com](mailto:mervynharris981@btinternet.com).

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**Do you have holiday accommodation in Tolpuddle?**

We are adding an additional page to the village website ([www.tolpuddlevillage.co.uk](http://www.tolpuddlevillage.co.uk)) as this is a busy holiday area with little accommodation available.

It is hoped that this will bring more business to the local area and enable more holidaymakers to enjoy our beautiful countryside.

Please email [Tolpuddlemeeting@yahoo.com](mailto:Tolpuddlemeeting@yahoo.com) if you have any comments or suggestions.

*Julia Johnstone*

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## Celebrating the Dawn Chorus



*Robin*

May is probably the best time of year to appreciate the collective birdsong that occurs as the sun comes up each morning. If you're up early enough to enjoy this 'dawn chorus', you can hear that it tends to have a set sequence like an orchestral piece. The robins, blackbirds and thrushes start to sing first, as much as an hour before the sun appears. These pre-dawn singers are joined by woodpigeons, wrens and warblers while the house sparrows, tits and finches only join in when the sun is up and it is light enough for them to see.

So, why do the birds all sing in the morning? The Woodland Trust says that the dawn chorus is all about defending territory and raising chicks. The singing you can hear in the morning

is typically carried out by male birds. Making so much noise uses up a lot of energy, especially on an empty stomach and after a chilly night, so only the strongest, best-fed males will produce the loudest songs. In doing so they demonstrate to females that they are fit, healthy and hold a territory with plenty of food. A loud song also serves as a deterrent for any rival males who may be looking to move in.

If you feel like wrapping up warm and getting out to hear the performance, Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> May is International Dawn Chorus Day! You will need to be in position very early to hear the first singers though, sunrise is at 5.42!



*Blackbird*

*Sally Cooke*



*Song thrush*



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## Milborne St Andrews Church News

### Easter, the new beginning

We were so pleased, at St Andrew's Church, to host a service on Maundy Thursday and Easter Sunday both of which were well attended. Everyone undertook the social distancing processes with acceptance so all went well. They were lovely services thanks to Sarah's planning and delivery.

Our flower arranging team provided us with wonderful displays for Easter Sunday and after, which were lovely to see following the absence of such over the last few weeks.

It is so nice to look forward to services in our church every week in the coming months (provided no more lockdowns!). The schedule will be the same as before the restrictions and these can be seen on our church

notice boards, in the Parish Magazine and in the Reporter. We will still have to adhere to social distancing procedures and look forward to filling our church every Sunday.

We are delighted to welcome a few new volunteers onto our cleaning rota and our churchyard working party, thank you all who continue to support us and help out. Two of the women who have regularly cleaned the church have now retired and we thank them for all the years that they have done a wonderful job as part of the team; Margaret and Eva thank you very much for all your dedication and diligence over the years, enjoy your rest.

After several years and a lot of hard work, our churchyard is starting to look cared for and awash with beautiful wildflowers. We are slowly moving the old compost heaps and starting to build a 'dead hedge'. Thanks to a member of the Garden Club, we have been told that a patch of daffodils in the west side of the 'old' churchyard are of a 'heritage' status and have been identified, as believed, to be the variety to most likely be: *N. Pallidiflorus*. It was sold in the 1900s as *Pallidas Preecox*. Another good example of why wildflowers should be encouraged in churchyards.

*Pam Shultz*  
Church warden

*N. Pallidiflorus. It was sold in the 1900's  
as Pallidas Preecox.*





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## Milborne St. Andrew Gardening Club – Longer days for gardening!



The days are getting longer and on warmer days you can choose to stay outside a little later and enjoy your garden. Sally Dyer has sent in a photo showing an array of daffodils and tulips sunbathing below a wonderful pink camellia. Ann Guy has sent in a photo of her lovely new greenhouse and so will be able to grow all sorts of flowers, fruits and veggies that love heat and protection ... have fun Ann!

### **Environmental Gardening for May**

Courtesy of the RHS magazine 'The Garden', the Gardening Club offer you top greener gardening tips for the beginning of May.

#### **Wildflowers**

Attract pollinating insects to your garden by sowing wildflower seed in a bare patch of border or lawn.

#### **Garden Birds**

Keep birdfeeders and birdbaths clean and fresh for the benefit of the birds. Fledglings can choke if fed whole nuts or large pieces of birdfood.

#### **Nesting Birds**

Before pruning, check hedges and shrubs for nests; if frightened away the parents will abandon their nests.

#### **Early Pollinators**

Don't cut your grass too short or leave it unmown. Cutting grass too short prevents clover and other flowering plants from providing pollen and nectar. It can cause insect carnage ... so please think about it.

---

### **Nectar in your garden**

Our home gardens are now the largest source of food for insects such as bees and wasps in towns and cities.

They yield 85 per cent of the nectar produced in urban areas, according to a study published in the Journal of Ecology.

Three such gardens will generate about a teaspoon a day of the sugar-rich liquid which is found in the flowers that the pollinators drink for energy. A teaspoon of nectar is the equivalent of more than a ton of food for an adult human, and it is enough to fuel thousands of flying bees.

One ecologist has called home gardens "pivotal" in promoting biodiversity in urban areas across the county. Gardens are thought to cover 29 per cent of the land in urban areas, which is six times the area of parks and 40 times that of allotments.

The research was carried out in partnership with the universities of Edinburgh and Reading and the Royal Horticultural Society.



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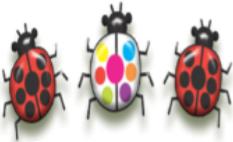
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## Milborne Ladybirds Playgroup

### Spring is in the air

It's that wonderful time of the year when everything bursts into life and there is so much to learn about. Thanks to Rose and Ed Frost we have been studying frogspawn and learning the lifecycle of frogs. At the time of writing this we have a tank of tadpoles which we await to turn into froglets. In this instant world of today some children find it difficult to understand that some things take time to develop. On checking the tadpoles every day, a boy comments "they STILL haven't got legs!" Perhaps that's just as well or we might turn up one morning and find lots of frogs jumping around the Hall.

Another growing project that we thank Marion Clemens for is Runner Bean planting. The children planted the 3 beans and have carefully watered them. We now have 2 healthy looking bean plants – what happened to the third is a mystery. It's possible that one was pushed further into the soil and is yet to appear. We watch and wait. Whatever the outcome it is learning that not everything grows the same and some things don't grow at all.

In March we did activities around St David's Day which we followed up with St Patrick's Day. We talked about lucky things and created a big picture of a rainbow using fingerpainting. This is on the board in the Hall to share with other Hall users when they finally return from lockdown.



Of course, we have had lots of Easter fun activities this month. Creating pictures of decorated eggs, making clay chicks, learning what hatches from eggs, playing with the dinosaurs, counting and matching patterned eggs, playing vets for the Easter bunny and finally we had an Easter egg hunt on the field. Not real chocolates out there but card ones. The photo shows some of the children

holding these as they return to the adults. At the end of the day all children went home with their made basket containing some chocolate eggs in praise of all the hard work they have done this term.

We are planning for the Summer term and the new school year in September. So if you have a child who wants to join us in the next 2 terms knock on the Hall door for a starter pack or phone me (07771 512427) and I'll get one to you. Life is still not quite back to 'normal' so currently we aren't able to show prospective starters inside but can in the outside area or from the kitchen hatchway.

*Liz Dyer (Leader)*

01258 839117 or 07771 512427

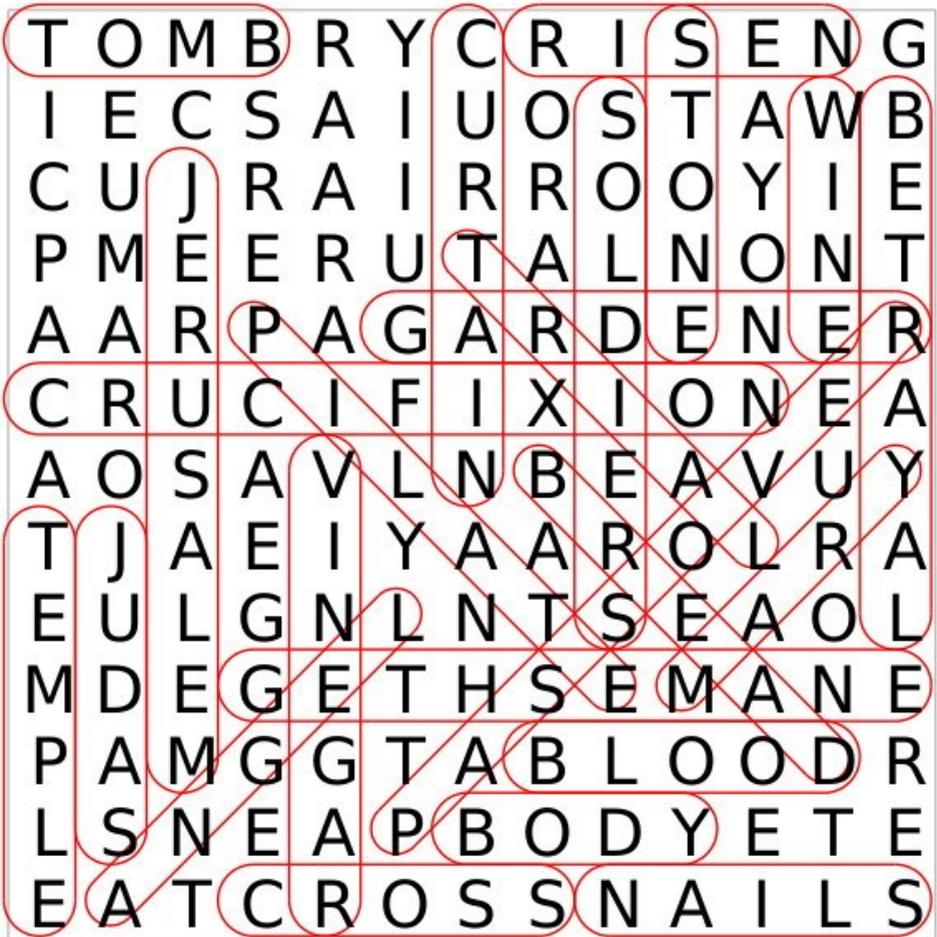
*Kelly Haggett (Secretary)*

*secretary@milborneladybirds.com*

## April Wordsearch the answers

Here are the 24 words you were looking for:-

Passover, bread, wine, body, blood, betrayal, Jerusalem, Pilate, Judas, Gethsemane, trial, crucifixion, soldiers, cross, nails, vinegar, temple, curtain, tomb, angel, stone, risen, gardener, Mary.





# MILBORNE ST ANDREW FIRST SCHOOL



**Learning together, playing together;  
all for one, one for all**



**RABBITS class** have enjoyed some physical fun, developing our travelling skills on, over, under and through the apparatus. We have been creative choosing different ways to move around using all our different body parts as well as travelling at different levels ... some of us moved in high narrow shapes others in low wide shapes and when Miss Wittman shook the tambourine we froze, holding a shape balance.

**Red Nose Day!** The children enjoyed sharing their jokes with the teachers and class. We then laminated

them and strung them up on the school fence line to share with our parents and the local community as well. Hopefully you may have seen them whilst out and about near the school. We raised a fantastic £154.00!



**Science Week finale...** The children designed and made their own boats for Science week, but as the weather wasn't very pleasant, we delayed their maiden voyages. Each class walked down to the Milborne stream and staff launched each boat whilst the children watched their creations float down stream. We unfortunately 'lost a few' but those we could retrieve safely were

retrieved. As with anything like this, some got stuck where staff were unable to reach and then relaunched themselves when everyone had returned to school. So you may have seen a boat or two on their own unaccompanied journey.

**EASTER Activities at Milborne...** The children were challenged to use their creative ideas to decorate one egg with whatever design they wanted. We had some marvellous entries, there are some very talented children at Milborne.



## Dorset Gap—The Walk for May—by Rich Hawker

For this month's piece, I have travelled to the ancient droves and paths around Melcombe Bingham and Ansty, a short ten minute drive from Milborne. The old faithful OL25 map suggests my carefully plotted route will take in some historically significant points. I have been eyeing this walk up for a while. The two factors that have caused a delay to this expedition are, firstly, the overhead conditions; the views from today's summits are purported to be a little bit special so I need the visibility to be good. Secondly, someone in the know has told me that conditions underfoot can be very heavy during the winter months, and I really don't fancy stomping around on the rooftop of Dorset like a mud-caked yeti.



I have left my car at Cross Lanes, where the road from Cheslebourne becomes Hartfoot Lane, which then leads into the bright lights of Melcombe Bingham. The former telephone box on the junction has been turned into a book swap and I peruse the titles, which are mainly novels. *The West End Front*; *The Wartime Secrets of London's Grand Hotels*, by Matthew Green catches my eye. The front cover depicts high kicking can-can girls sporting gas masks and tin helmets plying their trade in The Ritz Ballroom. The only publication I have to offer as a swap is the owner's handbook for my Toyota Yaris, which I doubt many of the good folk of Melcombe Bingham have read from cover to cover. The conclusion of my book is somewhat lame, the owner

being instructed as to what grade of oil is suitable for the 1.3 litre engine. It lacks credible characters and the plot is a bit difficult to understand. The section you would refer to if you wanted to adjust the clock or tune the radio being particularly bamboozling. I leave the book, but will return another day with a more suitable swapsie. An unusual green fingerpost at the crossroads directs me up the private road, onwards towards Higher Melcombe Farm. Game on.

Melcombe Bingham is one of a number of place names that contain the word Melcombe in this locality, and is the modern settlement. Behind me, a mile or so away, is the deserted medieval village once known as Bingham's Melcombe. Not much remains to be seen here apart from the Manor House and the parish church of St Andrews. The village is thought to have been deserted from about 1400. The Bingham family lived at Bingham's Melcombe from the 13th century and were responsible for building both the church and the Manor House. A headstone in the churchyard bears a touching memorial to a Thomas Bingham: 'who came into this world on November 13<sup>th</sup> 1710 and left it on June 26<sup>th</sup> 1711', his mother hoping that, 'his dust may never be disturbed'. Sir Frederick Treves, a native of Dorchester and a prominent surgeon, an expert in anatomy and author who famously befriended Joseph Merrick (dubbed 'The Elephant Man' due to his deformities), wrote of the Manor House in his 1906 book *Highways and Byways in Dorset*: 'The little mansion is of grey stone, warmed by many

bcenturies of sun.' Two days before his coronation on 24<sup>th</sup> June 1902, the then to be King Edward VII was diagnosed with acute appendicitis. Treves, as an Honorary Sergeant's Surgeon to the royal household was summoned to Buckingham Palace. The future King insisted that an operation should not take place as this would scupper his crowning. Treves told the Monarch in waiting that if he were not permitted to operate there would instead be a funeral. The procedure took place on a table in the Music Room.

The next day, Edward was sitting up in bed, smoking a cigar and became king as planned. Treves died in Lausanne, Switzerland in 1927 aged 70. His ashes are buried in Dorchester's Weymouth Avenue cemetery, just up from Tesco's.

The lane rises gently and runs out of buildings. In the distance away to my left, the white sight screen beyond the wicket at Cheselbourne cricket club punctuates the early spring greenery. It's April 9<sup>th</sup> today, the late morning sun feels warm on my face but when it hides behind high white sight screen coloured cloud, the temperature drops dramatically. Nature has a playful way of teasing us into the spring season. One or two balmy warm days and we begin to wonder where we left the factor 20 last August, believing we are beyond Jack Frost's icy reach. We are reined in as the wind turns northerly making jackets flap and teeth chatter. Two days after this walk I was engulfed in a surprise hailstorm whilst wearing only a t-shirt, shorts and flip-flops. Beyond a small brick pumping station the lane becomes flanked by uniformly planted trees on one side, interspersed with a variation of subtly different coloured daffodils. Nordon Hill, a flint escarpment, rises to the right and at the end of this promontory concealed in a leafy bluff is The Dorsetshire Gap, the focus of this ramble.

The lane joins three other paths in a kind of starfish formation in front of a motley collection of agricultural buildings. Ahead, the track leads on towards Higher Melcombe and its associated farm. I take the third exit at the tentacle-like junction. The weathered signpost confirms that I am on course for The Dorset Gap. This is where you may need to pin back your ears as it gets a little bit complicated, not in terms of navigation, but in terms of Melcombes. As I mentioned earlier, the Melcombe dynasty extends way back into history. Beyond the fence at the left hand edge of the field the remnants of Melcombe Horsey, a deserted village believed to date back to Saxon times can be detected by its tell-tale earthworks that litter the field. The parish derived its name from the Horsey family who were Lords of the Manor here during the reign of Henry VIII. Melcombe Horsey is now known as Higher Melcombe, which in turn, in days of yore has itself also been referred to as Upmelcombe or Overmelcombe. During this medieval period, Bingham's Melcombe was known as Nethermelcombe, from the old English word Neotherra, meaning 'lower', to distinguish it from its neighbouring settlement. Confused? Don't worry, so am I, and it doesn't really matter anyway.

I plough on, leaving the Melcombes to it. Lyscombe Hill provides a towering backdrop the view ahead. The path I am taking rises gently, before being swallowed up in a dusty steeply banked track. The little dickie bird who told me to delay my journey through the gap had given me sound advice. What would have been very deep thick mud a few weeks ago has now dried to a hard light grey surface and, as the path bears right, the incline rises again making a mid-winter assault on The Gap; probably something akin to the Front Line at

Flanders or Ypres during The First World War, minus the human carnage, dried biscuits and tins of bully beef. Wild garlic is out in force on the steep banks either side of me. Although not yet in flower, I can smell its pungent aroma. All of a sudden in the leafy ravine I reach The Gap. Here, four ancient trackways meet on the crest of the ridge. Centuries old ridgeway pathways from Devon and Wiltshire converge here. The gap is a crossroads where people and animals moving east/west along the high ground were able to access the north/south tracks. A prominent four-way signpost gives directions onwards.

A sense of quiet mysticism floods through me; I'm caught for a moment in a time trap. This main crossing point has seen people come and go since humans first occupied the land here. Prehistoric tribesmen have walked before me, taking advantage of the gap in the ridge, crossing from the chalky south Dorset ridges to the wet fertile plains of Blackmore Vale. All around me is evidence of this activity, the nearby hilltop cross dykes and barrows and the incomplete Iron Age hill fort at Nettlecombe Tout a short hop along the westerly path, and of course the medieval settlement of Melcombe Horsey now far below me. The many have worn these paths into the deep gullies or Holloways seen today. I am standing on a motorway junction from another age. I begin to imagine trains of pack horses laden with goods, highwaymen, vagrants, rag-tag pustule-covered plague victims, snippets of conversation in old Dorset dialect. Or is that just the rustling of the wind in the still bare tree branches. As more permanent and substantial turnpikes were constructed and with the dawn of the railway age, traffic across the gap dwindled and the past lives of clinking horse harnesses and simple folk in smocks shrunk back into the undergrowth. The Gap may not have changed much over the intervening years and is an ideal space to leave the modern world behind and hit the reset button.

Maybe with this in mind, a visitors' book has been left in a sturdy plastic box next to the gate that commands a glimpse of the view to the north. I duly sign the book, acutely aware that Dick Turpin, aboard Black Bess may appear through the undergrowth whilst I write and relieve me of my iPhone, and car keys. There is clearly lots of equine traffic still present here today in the form of horse shoe imprints in the hard bridleway clay. Eager to push on - and slightly concerned I may be stuck forever in a time warp - I replace the lid on the box, pat my pockets to check I still have my phone and keys and climb out of the Gap via the path signposted Bulbarrow Hill. Through the gate, the Holloway continues along the side of Nordon Hill.

The path rises to the top of the hill and I am now spoilt by two conflicting views which both simultaneously try to grab my attention. Away to the right, I can see the down land of south Dorset lifting and falling away to the Purbeck Hills beyond. If I pan left, I see Blackmore Vale. God - or someone - has thrown a huge green cloth over this large expanse of flat rich land. The greens vary in colour, hedges and coppices give way to a horizon of hills far away in the distance. Somerset and Wiltshire are both visible from here. Once again, the lack of condensation trails from aircraft signifies the strangeness of the past year. In the left hand corner of the field a gate leads on to the last rutty path of the day and I skirt Cony-gar-Copse to my left. From my lofty vantage point here I look over the trees and see that some of them have been savagely mown down by the strong winter winds. Robust looking trunks have been snapped in two, their tops

now facing planet Earth, the bark twisted and mangled looking, like a huge discarded banana skin. Every now and then a pheasant cackles, far down below on the valley floor. Again the exit from the field is via a farm gate at the left end and I pass through Melcombe Park Farm yard and down the lane. Here, in a field below the farm, some nicely built eco pods have been built, complete with grass roofs. The view across the Vale even from this reduced height is still stunning. Since leaving the Gap a few minutes ago, the path ahead has been a section of The Dorset Ridgeway. I wave goodbye to this as I swing sharply to my right at Breach Wood where more pheasants busy themselves in the undergrowth.

It's a straight run down Cothayes Drove and back to civilisation. The hawthorn is beginning to flower and buzzards circle over the adjacent fields looking for their lunch. Entering the village of Ansty at the end of the Drove, I see the unusual sight of a robotic lawn mower silently going about its work. These clever little chaps are set in motion by their handlers and are then left to their own devices to quietly traverse and trim the lawn. They change direction automatically when they encounter an obstacle or obstruction; I'm not sure what happens to them if the garden contains a pond? My encounter with Ansty is a brief one. I join Hartfoot Lane and turn right back to my starting point. Directly in front of me at the junction stands another telephone box, which still seems fit for purpose. Cothayes Drove, from where I have just come, is again waymarked by a green fingerpost labelled Melcombe Park Farm. The parishes split just to the right of the phone box and a regulation sign proclaims Ansty to my left and Melcombe Bingham to my right. Ansty is an interesting place; its name means, 'narrow path' and it seems to possess its fair share of local folklore. Clive Hannay, writing in a 2012 article for *Dorset Life* revealed that during the 1970s there was a move made to revive some of the villages historic customs, one of these being Randy Day. On this designated day the young men of the village would arm themselves with decorated bamboo canes, or 'randy poles' and chase the girls of the village. If the men successfully touched any girl with their pole, they were (in theory) allowed to have their way with the young maiden! The idea to restore this practice was actually proposed by the local vicar at the time. The vicar also organised a housebrick push. Terry Mears pushed 298 housebricks weighing over half a ton, nine yards in a standard wheelbarrow. The enterprising curate was also behind a record breaking 121 people sitting on each other's knees in a circle with no other means of support.

I weave my way back along Hartfoot lane, passing cottages that bear testament to their former use, the Old Schoolhouse, the Old Forge to name a couple. It has been a shortish walk, about three and a half miles and I close the loop just after 1.00 pm. As I drive away towards home I switch on the radio. Something doesn't sound right and I soon realise that lots of commentators are referring to the Duke of Edinburgh in the past tense. Indeed, Prince Philip has passed away at Windsor Castle just short of his century. Out for 99. It's a sad day for us all; the Queen has lost her Consort of 69 years and husband of 74 years. They don't make them like that anymore.

Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. 10<sup>th</sup> June 1921 – 9<sup>th</sup> April 2021; may his dust never be disturbed.

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## May Wordsearch—Rogation Sunday

The first Sunday in May is Rogation Sunday. This is when many parishes still 'beat the bounds'. Rogation means an asking of God - for blessing on the seed and land. The practice began with the Romans, who processed around the cornfields each Spring, singing and dancing, sacrificing animals, in order to get rid of evil. About 465 AD the Western world was suffering from earthquake and storm. Mamertius, Bishop of Vienne, aware of the pagan custom, ordered that prayers should be said in the ruined or neglected fields. Thus 'beating the bounds' became a Christian ceremonial. It arrived in England early in the eighth century. Each Spring, led by the priest, a little party from the parish would set out with a Cross to trace the boundaries of the parish. They'd implore God to keep their corn and roots and boughs in good health, and bring them to harvest. In the days when maps were scarce, 'beating the bounds' helped remind everyone just where the boundaries were. Do you know yours today? 21 words to find.

G	D	N	P	L	M	B	S	E	E	R	A
N	O	I	T	A	G	O	R	N	K	E	A
I	S	I	P	N	S	U	N	D	A	Y	A
S	S	S	D	D	S	N	A	E	U	A	M
S	Y	C	N	P	I	D	A	E	Q	R	C
E	P	U	R	O	M	A	N	S	H	P	H
L	O	I	S	S	O	R	C	H	T	A	K
B	N	S	D	L	E	I	F	N	R	O	C
G	A	T	B	D	D	E	A	V	A	E	R
P	R	O	C	E	S	S	E	D	E	O	O
A	D	R	U	O	A	S	K	I	N	G	P
Y	A	M	S	E	T	T	P	G	S	N	S



# 1<sup>st</sup> Puddletown Scout Group

After a short absence, the Puddletown Scout Group was re-opened in 2014.

The Group consists of three, all co-educational sections and currently has a number of vacancies:

Beaver Scouts	Fridays 5.30-6.30pm	5¼ to 8 years	£25 per term	Spaces
Cub Scouts	Fridays 6.30-8.00pm	8 to 10½ years	£30 per term	Limited spaces
Scouts	Tuesdays 6.30 to 8.30pm	10 to 14 years	£30 per term	Spaces

We have not let the current pandemic stop us from Beavering or Scouting about! Anything but!

We have cooked: *pizzas, cakes, ice-cream in a bag, armpit fudge (it tastes nicer than it sounds!), sweets, pancakes, Christmas cakes, marshmallows, popcorn – nom, nom!*

We have made: *dragon masks, ice art, carrot flutes, bird feeders, giant catapults, Christmas cards, valentine hearts, flowerpot ladies – very busy peeps!*

We have taken part in: *virtual camps, Monopoly run and Christmas party, quizzes, scavenger hunts, escape rooms, an origami evening, international events, pumpkin carving, high ropes course, body percussion and samba drums (it was very loud!), Chinese New Year activities, fire lighting and more!*

We are really looking forward to resuming our normal programme of both outdoor and indoor activities in April!

For more information, please check our website at: [puddletownscouts.org.uk](http://puddletownscouts.org.uk) or contact us at [join@puddletownscouts.org.uk](mailto:join@puddletownscouts.org.uk)



## Crossways Youth Centre

Our Centre is looking forward to the sessions resuming on Friday evenings, for year 7's. If you are interested in joining, please provide your name and contact details to [cwatters@crosswaysycc.uk](mailto:cwatters@crosswaysycc.uk)

*Debs Thomas*  
Secretary



## Dewlish Church Notes

I am delighted to report that Jim was awarded Maundy Money this year. He was one of 95 recipients in the country to receive it for services to the Church. It was scheduled to be given by the Queen in a service at Westminster Abbey but that was not to be of course because of the Covid restrictions.

We were told that this practice has taken place since the 6<sup>th</sup> century, and it commemorates the Last Supper, and Jesus washing the disciples' feet. This washing was actually carried out by the monarch until the 18<sup>th</sup> century but then ceased.

Jim feels very honoured to receive the money – silver coins with a face value of 95p (to represent each year of the Queen's life), a newly-minted £5 coin to celebrate the Queen's 95<sup>th</sup> birthday, and a 50p coin to mark 50 years of decimalisation.

Well done! and congratulations, Jim. Congratulations also to Mrs June Kellaway of Cheselbourne, who also received the Maundy gift.

Our church looked beautiful for Easter. Many thanks to the ladies (and man!) who decorated it. The service had its normal format but without hymns. Instead, Sarah chose some lovely music to accompany our communion service. Now we are hoping to return to our 11.00am service each week, and pray that this time our emergence from lockdown will be permanent!

*Daphne Burg*

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## Services in the Benefice May 2021

### 2<sup>nd</sup> May – Easter 5

9.30am	Parish Communion	Tolpuddle
9.30am	Celebrate	Milborne St Andrew
11.00am	Parish Communion	Dewlish

### 9<sup>th</sup> May—Easter 6

9.30am	Parish Communion	Milborne St Andrew
11.00am	Parish Communion	Puddletown
11.00am	Family Service	Dewlish

### Ascension Day—Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May

6.30am	Morning Prayer	Dewlish Churchyard
6.00pm	Holy Communion	Puddletown

### 16<sup>th</sup> May—Easter 7

9.30am	Parish Communion	Tolpuddle
9.30am	Worship in Stillness	Milborne St Andrews
11.00am	Parish Communion	Dewlish

### 23<sup>rd</sup> May—Pentecost

11.00am	United Benefice Pentecost Celebration and picnic Service	Warren Hill Farm (in barn if wet)
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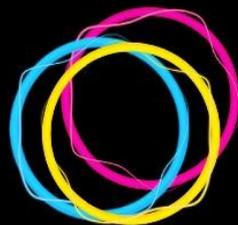
### 30<sup>th</sup> May—Trinity Sunday

9.30pm	Go Fourth	Tolpuddle
9.30am	Parish Communion	Milborne St Andrew
11.00am	Parish Communion	Puddletown
11.00am	BCP Matins	Dewlish

**MORNING PRAYERS (Mon. – Thurs. 8.30 a.m.; Sat. 9.00 a.m.)** On Zoom, please contact Sarah Hillman ([sarah.c.hillman@outlook.com](mailto:sarah.c.hillman@outlook.com)) for the link  
(Please note that the calendar of services is subject to change)

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