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Contact Details		
Editor	The Revd Sarah Hillman	puddletownparishmagazine@gmail.com
Advertising Manager	Mike Coyle	puddletownparishmagads@gmail.com
Dewlish Editor	Geoff Bull	01258 837 316
Milborne Editor	John Wright	01258 839 090
Puddletown Editor	Emma Hughes	01305 849 039 puddletownparishmagazine@gmail.com
Tolpuddle Editor	Marion Bishop	01305 848 427 tolpuddleparishmagazine@gmail.com
Distribution Co-ordinator	Jan O'Mara	01305 848 551
Tolpuddle Distribution	Liz Gould	01305 848 464

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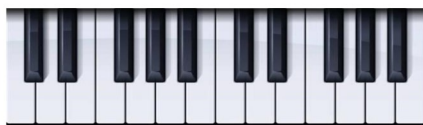


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Happy New Year

As I write this letter in early December, the New Year still seems a long way off. As yet the busyness of Christmas hasn't quite kicked in, but I know that in the blink of an eye 2023 will be here and we will be wondering what the New year will hold for us. New Year is often a time of reflection for people. Some people like to look back over the past 12 months, to see which, if any, of the resolutions they had made they have managed to keep. Other people, however, are just glad to see the back of the previous year and don't want to think about it anymore. I'm sure that we all hope that the coming year will be a better one for us.

As I reflect back on the past 12 months, I remember the uncertainty at the beginning of the year regarding Covid and lockdown and whether more restrictions were to be imposed. And I remember the collective sigh of relief when they weren't. Thank goodness, we thought, life can begin to return to 'normal'. However, just a few weeks later Russia invaded Ukraine, and life for many people has not been the same since.

This winter has been, and will continue to be, particularly challenging for many of us. We are in the midst of a major 'cost of living' crisis and many people are faced with the stark choices of feeding their families or heating their homes. There is no sign that the economic hardship faced by many is likely to abate any time soon. For many people the New Year continues to fill them with dread and anxiety, and very little hope that anything will change.

Christians are not immune to these challenging times, they too suffer financial hardships and have difficult decisions to make; but Christians also have hope. This is not the same type of hope as 'hoping something will happen,' this is the hope of God who is faithful in Jesus Christ. Christian hope is rooted in the deep & faithful love that God has for us all; the same love that gave us Jesus - Jesus whose birth we have just celebrated; Jesus who conquered death; Jesus who will come again; Jesus in whom we can put our hope.

However difficult and challenging the coming months ahead are, my hope for you all is that you will experience something of God's great love for you, and that perhaps you may feel able to place your hope in God too.

*With love and good wishes for the year ahead,
Maggie*

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St Mary's Puddletown		
Intercessors		Scripture Readers
1st Jan	Bob Todd	Dawn Loveless
8th Jan	Puddletown Praise Team	
15th Jan	Jean Jeffreys	Judy Bumby
22nd Jan	Margaret Rickard	Ursula Pomeroy & Geoff Hawkins
Charitable Giving 2022		
Lent		Bishop's Fund for Sudan
Mothering Sunday		Mosaic
Easter Day		The Salvation Army (Homeless)
Harvest		Water Aid
Christmas		The Children's Society

BENEFICE REGISTERS

Baptism

27th Nov Poppy Louise Wadey Puddletown

Funerals

d. 5th Nov Mildred Maria Cox - Aged 90 Puddletown

d. 9th Nov Audrey Jean Penniston - Aged 98 Weymouth Crematorium

Church Mouse Stock

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St. Mary's Church Events - January

Pop-in Coffee Mornings in the Church Room are every Thursday from 10am to 12noon. Everyone (of any age) is welcome. Good coffee and delicious cakes and/or biscuits are always on offer. Come and join us for a sociable hour or two.

Rosemary's Card Stall will be at the 'pop-in' coffee mornings in the Church Room on Thursday January 19th. The cards are good quality and very reasonably priced. Do come along and have a look. Through the sale of her cards Rose-

mary is helping to support the church room.

Prayer Group The Benefice prayer group meets on Tuesdays in Puddletown Church, 10.30 until 12noon. Coffee and conversation from 10.30 followed by prayers at 11.00am. All are welcome.

The Christmas Fair was a great success with music provided by the Puddletown Ukulele group. There were wreaths for sale and a great variety of stalls selling cakes, brownies, cards, baskets and bowls, books etc... Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves and we are hopeful that we will have raised a bit of money to help with church expenses.

The Village Lunch will be held on Monday 9th January from 12noon to 1.30pm. We shall be serving cottage pie followed by the usual array of delicious puddings. If you haven't yet booked your place then please contact Sheila on 849193 or Jean on 848211.

We regret that due to rising prices, we are going to have to raise the cost of our monthly meals to £8. This is the first increase for many years and we hope that you will still consider a delicious two course meal with coffee to be good value. If this will create any problems to you, please speak to Sheila or one of the other helpers in confidence.

Thank you

The Children's Society box opening on the 20th November went well and was preceded by an very informative talk from Paul Gray, Children's Society field worker representing the society. Paul talked about the lives and problems of some of the children that the society deal with. He expressed much gratitude to all box holders that donate to the society.

This year £685.38 was raised from our St Mary's collection boxes. Well done everyone. The figure was lower this year than previous years mainly because many people no longer handle cash as much as they used to. Several people have paid by cheque because of this. The Society depend on your valuable

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donations by whatever means the funds are raised and are offering a direct debit form for those of you that may prefer an alternative way of donating.

So far this year I have handed out five direct debit forms.

Many thanks to all the box holders and to all who continue to donate.

Ceilidh Had you passed by Puddletown Village Hall on the evening of Saturday 26th November, you would have been forgiven for thinking you'd been transported to the Highlands of Scotland as the music issuing forth consisted of Scottish dance music and Scottish songs from the ancient to the (relatively) modern.

The hall was beautifully decorated for Christmas with the addition of some tartan bunting and the tables were set in readiness for the ploughman's supper that was served mid-way through the evening. There was a large space left for dancing and the number of people on their feet for each dance was testament to the fact that they were enjoying themselves.



Puddletown Ukulele Group, assisted by Irene on piano accordion, led the singing and everyone joined in the choruses. Irene had also coached the PUGs in the dances so they were able to take the lead there too - at least that was the plan. It must be confessed, however, that some PUG members created more than a little chaos!

In addition to the music there was also (as demanded by the tradition of ceilidhs) some poetry - courtesy of Robbie Burns and Pam Ayres - and some storytelling, including an account of a visit to the Indian holy city of Varanasi and an extremely unusual form of 'bagpipe' playing. Who knew that the combination of a harmonica and an inflated balloon could sound just like bagpipes?

Thanks are due to Bob Todd for organising the event, all those who provided the entertainment, decorated the hall, provided refreshments and raffle prizes, got the hall ready and cleared up afterwards and all who took part so enthusiastically.



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Batty about Bells

And then there were the bells. Six of them. I knew a couple of people who had been bell ringers for years. They were short of numbers. Did I want to have a go? I looked at the ringers, the ropes going high up into the ceiling and wondered about my physical ability. Would they be too heavy for me? Would I make a fool of myself? Was I expected to take the bell all on my own straight away?

"It's all right. We will start you off with some qualified Association of Ringing Teachers people, give you an easy bell to begin with and promise not to leave you all by yourself at the end of a rope! If you don't like it then just say. It is a bit like marmite you will either think, ugh not for me! or become absolutely addicted."

I wasn't sure, but somewhat reluctantly went along to the practice session that had been arranged for a 1:1 lesson. I climbed the cobwebby spiral stone steps up to the ringing chamber, where ropes with red, white and blue 'sallies' disappeared up through holes in the ceiling. Robin and Richard were there to greet me and ready to explain how it all worked. They even took me up another flight of spiral stone steps to see a bell 'turned over' which meant actually ringing in a full three hundred and sixty degree circle. Once we returned to the ringing chamber the lesson began.

"The treble is the lightest bell and strikes the highest note and the tenor is the deepest-toned and heaviest at around fifteen hundredweight – three quarters of a ton. We will start you on this one first as it is not too heavy. First we need to explain some safety points and check if the bell is up or down...like this....." I was shown how to stand a hand stretch away from the sally and then asked to pull it to chime the bell. As the rope tugged at my arms, Robin, who was teaching me, guided me through gradually going down the rope until the pulling seemed less heavy as the bell gradually rose and it was propelled around by its own weight. I was told to keep hold of the end and not to let go. I had heard how much bell ringing enables one to exercise and this was certainly stretching my arms and back muscles. After a while Robin asked me to 'nibble' bits of the rope back in and the bell gradually rang faster and faster as the size of its rotational circle reduced.



"You are still pulling a bit too hard Mr Dunn!"



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The forty-five minute initial lesson seemed to me to go very quickly and I wondered why I had been so nervous in the first place. The experience was exhilarating. "After two to three more sessions like this you will be able to join the team," Richard told me confidently. I was given a little blue book and Robin ticked off tour of the bells, different parts of the bell explained, role of stay explained, explanation of bell up and down, ring a bell part up from down with assistance and arranged to meet a couple of days later for lesson number two. "When we have ticked a few more boxes you can be assessed for your Level One Certificate and badge," they said as we climbed down the spiral staircase and back to the world outside. I couldn't wait.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO START A NEW HOBBY THIS YEAR, GET OUT AND MEET PEOPLE AND DISCOVER A DIFFERENT WORLD THEN CONTACT THE ASSOCIATION OF RINGING TEACHERS WHO WILL PUT YOU IN TOUCH WITH SOMEONE IN YOUR AREA.

To find a ringing teacher near you go to <http://ringingteachers.org/get-involved/learn-ring-art>

With thanks to Jane Pridmore.

BENEFICE PRAYER GROUP

Janet Voke and Sue Turner warmly invite you to join them for a time of friendship and prayer for all of us in the benefice.

It will be in the Church Room, Puddletown on Tuesdays from 10.30 until 12.00 noon.

There will be coffee and conversation from 10.30 and prayers will begin at 11.00.

Do come and join us.

Prayer Requests

If anyone has any prayer requests for the Benefice Prayer Group, please contact:

Sue Turner - 01305 849030 or

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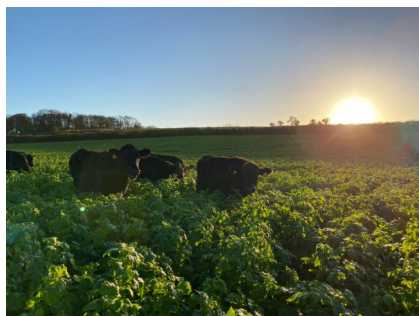
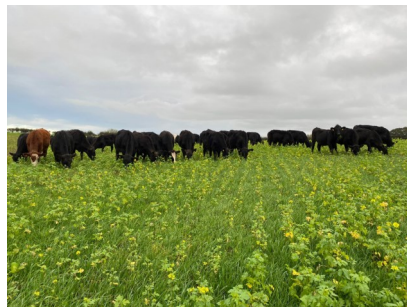
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Month on the Farm

As the year rolls on, the weather has turned a little more seasonal with some cold days and nights. This has been very welcome and allows us to blow lots of cold air through the barley and wheat that is still in store. It needs to be cooled right down to stop the grain mites from breeding and keep it smelling sweet.

More loads of wheat have been moving off the farm and we are rolling tons of barley (putting it between two metal rollers to break the grain) and mixing this with minerals and rape meal to feed to the cattle.

The first field of mustard and turnips has now been grazed and will soon be drilled into winter wheat, after the field has had a light coating of well rotted farmyard manure. With the later drilling of the seed we plant more seeds to the square metre to allow for losses due to weather and pest damage. The early sown crops have grown on well and some are now in need of some frost or cold wind to slow the growth and keep pests and diseases under control.



One group of cattle are still out grazing grass at Cheselbourne, with them being fed the barley mix to supplement the lack of quality now in the grass. Two more groups are eating their way through the mustard and turnips mixture, with the fence being moved daily to give them a fresh bite, and they are also fed some silage bales made back in the early summer and some straw.

All the other cattle are now housed and are fed on the barley mixture, hay, straw and or silage and are bedded on straw.



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Wakely Cox

6th December 2022

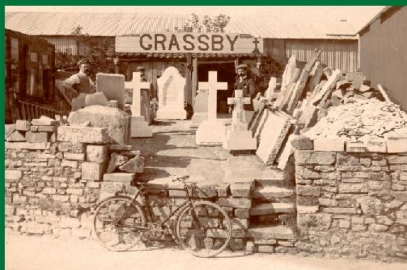


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Puddletown Weather - November 2022

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

November 2022		
	Rainfall for the month	214.50 mm
	Cumulative for the year	688.10 mm
	2021 Rainfall for the month	12.30 mm
	2021 Cumulative for the year	690.50mm
	Temperatures	Max 18.60° C Min 0.70° C
	2021	Max 15.90 C Min -1.30° C
	Maximum wind speed	20.60 mph
	2021	25.90 mph





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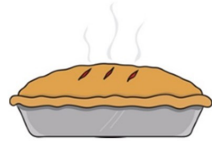
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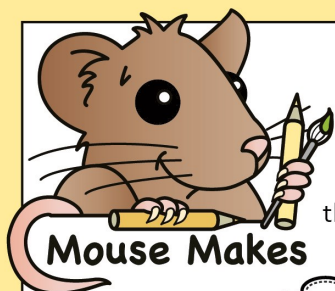
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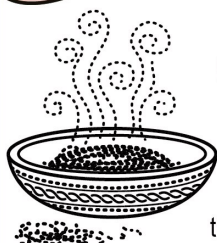
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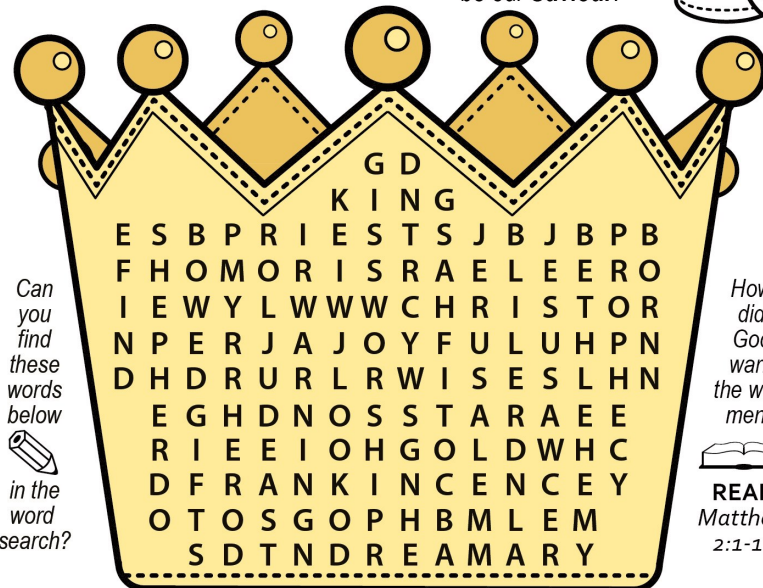
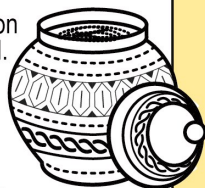
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	sarah.c.hillman@outlook.com	
CURATE	The Revd Maggie Crosbie	07561 053755
	revmaggiecrosbie@gmail.com	
LICENSED LAY MINISTER	Margaret Rickard	01305 849332
CHURCHWARDENS	Cynthia Metcalfe (Puddletown)	01305 848 043
	Dawn Loveless (Puddletown)	01305 849 534
	Hilly Cobban (Tolpuddle)	07817 557367
	Jayne Brayshaw (Tolpuddle)	01305 849 314
	Pam Shults (Milborne St Andrew)	01258 837 203
	Tony Fox (Milborne St Andrew)	01258 837 651
	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	
PUDDLETOWN CONTACTS		
Alcoholics Anonymous		
Area Parish Council	Alan Sheppard	07771 98 8574
	Email:alan.sheppard@oldpuddletown.co.uk	
Area Parish Clerk	puddletown@dorset-aptc.gov.uk	
Bell Ringers	Robin Mears	01305 848 021
Children’s Society	Dawn Loveless	01305 849534
Church Room	Jane Stanley	01305 848494
		07871 169014
Community Café	Katie Weiss puddcommcafe@gmail.com	
COMMUNITY LIBRARY - Run & financed by volunteers. 01305 848 506		
Opening Hours:-	puddletownlibrary@gmail.com	
	Wednesday: 3.00pm to 5.00pm	
	Friday: 10.00am to 12.00noon	
	Saturday: 10.00am to 12.00noon	
County Councillor	Emma Parker	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	Julian Hubbuck	07881 678 126
	julian.hubbuck@gmail.com	

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DOCTORS		
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
Friends of Puddletown Church	Ursula Pomeroy	01305 264 516
Friends of Puddletown Library	Paul Poser	01305 848 176
Gift Aid Co-ordinator	Bob Todd	01305 849 048
Guides, Brownies & Rainbows	Amy Knight	01305 848 602
Gym	Dan Weiss coachdan26@gmail.com	07547 713675
Handbells	Bob Todd	01305 849 048
Mini-Soccer/Youth Football	Jon Palmer	07891 173 999
Neighbourhood Plan	Clerk to PAPC	
PCC Secretary	Emma Hughes	
PCC Treasurer	David Elliott	David Elliott
Pilates (at First School)	Kathy Ashdown	Kathy Ashdown
Puddletown CPPP	www.facebook.com/puddletownplaypark	
Pumpkins Toddler Group	Amy Waldron	ajcinoz06@yahoo.co.uk
Puddletown Society	John Ridout	01305 848 940
Puddletown Ukulele Group	Bill Monahan bill.monahan@btinternet.com	01305 848377
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 puddletownrhc@hotmail.com	07966 412 467
SCHOOLS		
Pre-school	Sharon Brown www.puddletownpreschool.co.uk	01305 849 533
First School (Head Teacher)	Mr D Hunwick www.puddletownfirst.dorset.sch.uk	01305 848 206
St Mary's CE Middle School	Office	01305 848 293
Short Mat Bowls		
Village Hall Caretaker/Bookings	Kevin Smith (puddletownvh@gmail.com)	07706 798271
Village Hall Committee Secretary	Amy Knight	01305 848602

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Yoga	Mandy Cooper	07713 477737
Young Farmers (Dorset)		01305 263 947
TOLPUDDLE CONTACTS		
Defibrillator (outside Martyrs Inn)	Clare & Roger Angus	07720 059035 or 01305 848286
Orchard Meadow	Clerk to PACC	
PCC Secretary	Jayne Brayshaw	01305 849 314
PCC Treasurer	John Taylor	01305 848 552
Pilates	Kathy Ashdown	07967 655159
Streetfair	Annette Pitman	01305 848 219
Tolpuddle Home Group	Simon Dodd	01305 848 171
Tolpuddle Old Chapel Trust		tolpuddleoctrust@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.
Tolpuddle & Southover Village Website	www.tolpuddlevillage.co.uk	tolpuddlevillagewebsite@gmail.com
Village Hall Bookings Sec.	Julie Batchelor & Jo Austwick	tolpuddlevhinfo@gmail.com
Village Hall Chairman	Peter Walton pdwalton@btinternet.com	01305 848 034
Whist Drive		
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)		0800 0727 282
Gas Leak or a smell of gas		0800 111 999
POLICE—Local Officers	PC Moore 0229 & PSCO Alison Donnison 6500	101 or "Contact Us" section on Dorset Police Website

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DEWLISH CONTACTS		
Cricket	Elaine Kellaway	01258 837 696
Ladies Group	Judith Bridgen	01258 837 157
Parish Council	Chris Udens (Chair)	07973 167117
Parish Clerk	Amanda Crocker	dewlish@dorset-
Village Hall (Chair)	Andrew Barnett	07551 839296
Village Hall (Sec)	Alex Carter	01258 837 312
MILBORNE ST ANDREW CONTACTS		
Allotment Society	Joy Robinson	01258 837 661
Archery	Mike Healy	01300 342 134
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	Steve O'Neil	07490 691 121
Gardening Club	Sally Dyer	01258 837 061
Ladybirds Playgroup	Liz Dyer	01258 839 117
Milborne First School	Michelle Cheeseman (Acting Head)	01258 837 362
Milborne Players	Gren Davis	07876 793 319
Nightsabre Dog Training Group	Natasja Lewis	07896 275 357
Neighbourcar	Nigel Hodder	01258 470 333
Parish Council	Richard MacNair	07774 081 551
	Wayne Lewin (Clerk)	07419 136 735
Patient Voice Secretary	Nigel Hodder	01258 880 229
Pilates (at First School)	Claire Barratt	07703 648869
Scout Group	Sam Elliott	07873 762 035
Sports Club	Richard Lock (& Bookings)	01258 837 929
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	Angela Johnson	01258 839 060



St John's Church Tolpuddle - January 2023

Happy New Year to you all- It seems strange to be writing 2023 but we so quickly get used to it and can look forward to brighter days. We will all have our own plans for this new year but I am sure they will include friends, family and neighbours as we all strive to cope with increasing expenses. Do remember about our Food Bank in the church, which is regularly topped up. The church is always open during daylight hours.

Christmas has been and gone, lights will be put away for another year- indeed can I apologise that we had to cancel our official Lighting Up due to time constraints. However we have sung many carols, enjoyed various parties – for children and adults, and also raised some money for the Children's Society.

The church will continue with regular services- which can be found on the church notice board or on the Village Website. We host the **Benefice Service on January 29th at 11.00am** when the Barn Choir will join us. This will be followed by a Bring and Share lunch- do join us there.

We are always looking for more help to keep the church in good condition- both inside and in the churchyard- perhaps that could be your New Year Resolution. Do contact one of the church wardens if you feel you could spare an hour or two occasionally- St John's is such an important part of the village whether you attend services or not. We also need another member of the Parochial Church Council which is such a worthwhile post.

We will be looking at various community and fund raising events over the next few months in conjunction with Tolpuddle Events Committee, with the excitement of the Coronation in May to plan. There will be a special team set up to start work on this.

Thank you **all** for your support.

Hilly/Jayne



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TOLPUDDLE TIDY AND LITTER PICK

Please join us for the Tolpuddle tidy and litter pick on Sunday 5th March 10.00 – 12.00. We will meet outside Orchard Meadow.

All equipment including high vis jackets will be provided but please wear appropriate footwear.

Although many villagers litter-pick as they walk it's surprising how much litter we collect as a group on these occasions. Children are very welcome accompanied by an adult.

Julia Johnstone



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TOLPUDDLE VILLAGE HALL NEWS

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150 Club Draw - November 2022

In aid of the Tolpuddle Village Hall Development Fund

The new 150 club is now underway and the first draw has taken place. It is drawn live on the Tolpuddle Facebook Community page with results published here as well.

2022	1st (£20)	2nd (£15)	3rd (£10)
November	Margaret Walton	Clare & Roger Angus	Simon Smale



...the good news is - I've found a way of heating the church on unwanted chip-fat!...

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To become a home visiting volunteer, you will have a lived experience of parenting and have 2-3 hours a week available to support a local family. Our families need a wide range of support. This can range from parenting guidance to budgeting or help to get out of the house and connect with their local community. We need all types of volunteers; all levels of life or professional experience is valuable.

Our trustees are a hands-on team with a range of backgrounds and experience. They play a vital role in shaping the strategic direction of the charity, fulfilling our purpose and business goals. Becoming a trustee would be a great role for someone who would love to be part of Home-Start but can't commit to the regular home-visits.

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To find out more please telephone Helen on 01305 265072 or email office@homestartwestdorset.co.uk. You can see more about the work we do on our website www.homestartwestdorset.co.uk.

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Do you run holiday accommodation or a local business?

The new Tolpuddle and Southover Village website

www.tolpuddlevillage.co.uk has a Local Accommodation page and we would love to hear from you if you would like to add your holiday accommodation.

We also have a Local Business page and again, please do get in touch if you would like to advertise your business.

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Update from Dorchester & Sherborne offices of Central Dorset Citizens Advice

As an older person could Pension Credit boost your pension income?

In these difficult financial times the Government is concerned that around 2 million older people could boost their income by claiming Pension Credit (PC) but have not done so! Perhaps you know an older family relative or friend who could be eligible?

For those who have reached State Pension age, PC tops up your weekly income to £182.60 if you are single, and £278.70 if you have a partner, There are some circumstances where PC can still be paid if your income is higher, or you have some savings.

Eligibility for PC can be complicated; some key points are:

- no National Insurance payments record is required
- you can still be working and claim PC if your income is not high
- any savings over £10,000 will affect the amount of PC paid
- If you receive other benefits such as PIP, Disability Living Allowance or Attendance Allowance the weekly Guarantee Credit amount can pay more than the minimum income threshold of £182.60
- PC can be backdated 3 months provided entitlement conditions were met throughout that time
- PC is also important as it is a passport to other benefits, including free TV licence

For more information, please go to Citizen Advice website: <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/benefits/help-if-on-a-low-income/pension-credit/before-you-claim-pension-credit/check-if-you-can-get-pension-credit/s> that includes a calculator and information how to claim PC online or by phone.

If you would like help and advice with this or another problem that is bothering you, telephone our freephone Dorset Adviceline number on **0800 144 88 48** between 10am and 4pm, Monday to Friday, or check our local offices opening times on: www.centraldorsetca.org.uk

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Milborne St Andrew's Church News



I am writing this early in December, when the Church is still in the season of Advent, awaiting the yearly celebration of the coming of Christ into the world at Christmas. We are having our first real taste of winter, too. We await the coming of Christ, the Light of the world, and the lighter evenings as the days lengthen.

Our Service of Remembrance in November was well attended, with a good number gathering at the Jubilee Stone for the Act of Remembrance at 11:00. 20 had gathered at 11.00 to mark Armistice Day – the 11th hour, of the 11th day of the 11th month. Thanks to Maggie, our Curate, for leading the Service in Church, and to Margaret Rickard for preaching a challenging and inspiring sermon. It was good to have the Beavers with us. The Church was beautifully decorated with poppies, and a special dimension was added by the Clay Poppies made by pupils of Milborne School, which were on display, and greatly admired. Our thanks to Richard for organising the Act of Remembrance at the Stone; to Evie Andrews for speaking the Exhortation and Kohima Epitaph with such clarity and sincerity; to those who laid wreaths, and to Gren for providing the music.

The Christmas Fayre on November 28th raised £665 for Church funds. Thank you to all who contributed to this total.

We send our love and best wishes to Cynthia Clarke who celebrated a “significant” birthday at the beginning of December. We give thanks for all that she, and Derek, contributed to St Andrew's in so many ways in days past.

As we enter a New Year, may we remember the promise of Jesus, “Lo, I am with you always, even to the end of time”. May 2023 be a healthy, happy, peaceful, and blessed one for all of us.

Tony Fox & Pam Shults

Churchwardens

Have you ever wondered where the name 'Jesus' comes from?

The name Jesus is a transliteration of a name that occurs in several languages. It is of Hebrew origin, 'Yehosua', or Joshua. There is also the Hebrew-Aramaic form, 'Yesua'. In Greek, it became 'Ἰησοῦς' (*Iēsoûs*), and in Latin it became 'Iesus'.

The meaning of the name is 'Yahweh delivers' or 'Yahweh rescues', or 'Yahweh is salvation'. No wonder the angel Gabriel in Luke (1:26-33) told Mary to name her baby Jesus: “because He will save His people from their sins.”



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Mrs. Harris Goes to Paris



Friday 20th January
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Doors and Bar at 7.00pm

The Village Hall - Milborne St Andrew - DT11 0JX



MSA Gardening Club ... the year ahead.

In November, the Gardening Club held a successful end of season AGM and social event. Having successfully led our club for many years, Sally Dyer stepped down as Chairman and Bill Love became our new Chairman. That was followed by a quiz, mulled wine and mince pies.



Saying 'thank you' to Sally Dyer



The quiz winning team




Val ... overall monthly competition winner for 2022

We have an interesting programme planned for 2023, starting on Thursday 19th January with a talk on 'companion planting'. We meet in the village hall at 7.30pm ... why not come along?

Further meetings during winter and spring include presentations on 'fragrance in the garden', 'gardening for a changing climate', how to make a raised bed and how to make a mobile plant pot base.

Everyone is welcome to come to our events and if you decide to become a member, for just £12.00 you'll enjoy several benefits including 25% off all compost bought from Gardens Group garden centres in January, plug plants to grow-on at home, 25% off everything bought from Gardens Group garden centres on our arranged day in May, trips to gardens, daffodil bulbs to plant in the autumn, interesting talks and an opportunity to win a prize in our monthly 'bring along something from your garden' competition all with a friendly group of people, tea, coffee and biscuits!

Mark Johnson



Tolpuddle Toddlers

Every Monday
During term time

Friendly group for under 5's

10am-12pm

Tolpuddle village hall

£1.50 per family

Crafts | Singing | Snacks | Play



Milborne St Andrew First School

We talked about children in need and why we were raising money. We noticed that Pudsy loves spots and this reminded Miss Wittman of an artist who covered everything in dots (and wasn't sorry!).

We shared the book and looked at some of her art work online before using circles of tissue paper and card to imitate her work by gluing them in place. We finished our piece by using the dabbers and circles to print paint shapes.



The naming of Jesus

Matthew and Luke tell how the angel instructed that Mary's baby was to be named Jesus - a common name meaning 'saviour'. The Church recalls the naming of Jesus on 1st January - eight days after 25th December (by the Jewish way of reckoning days). In Jewish tradition, the male babies were circumcised and named on their eighth day of life.

For early Christians, the *name* of Jesus held a special significance. In Jewish tradition, names expressed aspects of personality. Jesus' name permeated His ministry, and it does so today: we are baptised in the name of Jesus (Acts 2:38), we are justified through the name of Jesus (1 Cor 6:11); and God the Father has given Jesus a name above all others (Phil 2:9). All Christian prayer is through 'Jesus Christ our Lord', and it is 'at the name of Jesus' that one day every knee shall bow.

Free Art Group for Carers



Friday Mornings 10:30-12:30

Puddletown Church Rooms

Call Eleanor on 07907 361257 to book a place

A chance to chat and be creative in a friendly environment
Explore your artistic side even if you have never picked up a pencil
Make new friends with lots of tea and cake!



Sponsored by The Leonardo Trust

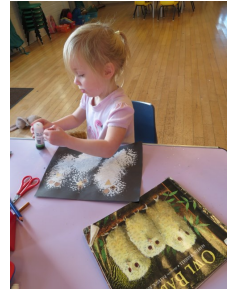


Milborne Ladybirds Playgroup

It's Christmas



This month's photos don't show Christmas – other activities have been going on – thank goodness! The weather has been unusually mild with many activities taking place outside, including a construction site.



One of our books has been Owl Babies – little owls that need to be brave as they wait in the dark for their mother to return. The pictures in this book are beautiful and the children made some lovely paintings of the owl babies using a woolly pompom to print with.

By the time the Parish Magazine reaches you, Christmas will have passed. But for now, our Ladybirds are busy making gifts and cards, cooking and getting ready to perform to their relatives at our Christmas party. This will be the first time since Covid struck that parents have been invited in, and it looks like a popular choice with adults outnumbering the children. Hopefully, nobody will get stage fright, and all goes well.

The cheeky elf has taken up residence in the Hall again, hiding in the Christmas tree and hanging from the decorations. For a while we thought he wasn't going to show but luckily was found in the Hall Christmas boxes where he has spent the last year instead of returning to Lapland to holiday with Santa. During November Ladybirds had an Ofsted inspection. These things are always stressful. Preschools receive a phone call at noon from an inspector who asks lots of questions and then comes in the following day. For a pack away setting in a village hall without office storage this is particularly challenging and as we were short staffed, I couldn't go home to prepare until session closed. With the inspector arriving at 8.00 the next morning I had an evening of phoning, messaging and ensuring all required items were packed in my car ready for an early start. As we haven't received the report back from Ofsted I can't give you the result but suffice to say the Ladybirds team worked brilliantly getting in early to set up and talk to the inspector. Not to mention the wonderful parents who spoke to the inspector and the children themselves who chatted and showed what they were learning.

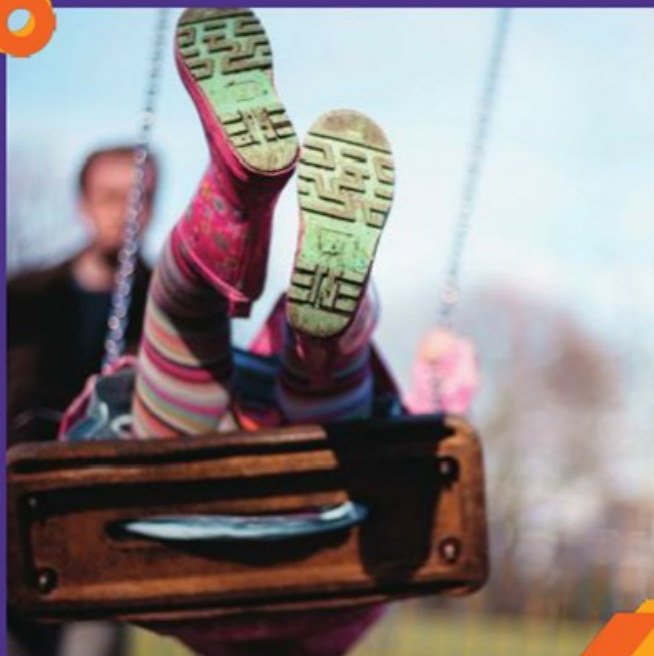
Liz Dyer (Leader)

01258 839117 or 07771 512427

Kelly Haggett (Secretary)

secretary@milborneladybirds.com

www.milborneladybirds.org.uk



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Could you use your parenting experience to support a family at a time of need?

Do you have 2-3 hours per week to commit to doing something amazing?

Contact us today to find out more

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The Crescent, King Street, Leicester, LE1 6RX

**HOME
START**

Friends of Salisbury Cathedral 2023 events

The Friends of Salisbury Cathedral have a full programme of events for 2023. The programme began in January when Dean of Salisbury the Very Revd Nicholas Papadopoulos was 'cast away' at a Desert Island Discs evening. Dean Nicholas talked about his life and chose his favourite music, book and luxury item.

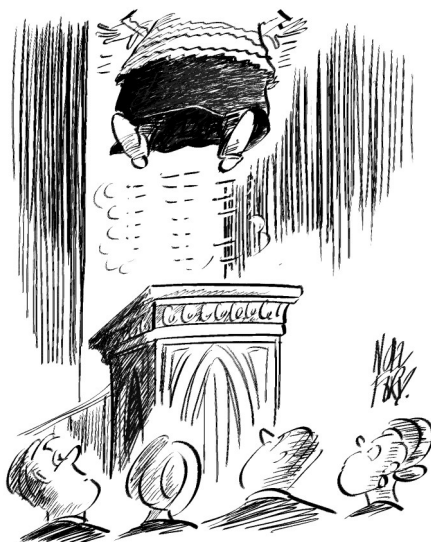
The twice-yearly coffee mornings continue in the Bell Tower Tearooms on **14th February** from 10am to 12pm. All are welcome for coffee or tea, biscuits and good conversation.

On **15th March** there will be an afternoon talk in the cathedral, followed by tea and cake in the refectory.

And on **19th April**, the annual coach trip will be to Wells, England's smallest city. The trip will include a guided tour of the cathedral and entry to the Bishop's Palace and gardens.

The popular *Secret Gardens of the Close* afternoon takes place on **28th May**, with some new gardens open, teas served at South Canonry, the home of Bishop of Salisbury the Rt Revd Stephen Lake, and an exhibition of botanical artwork.

Details of how to join the Friends and all the events are on the Friends' website www.salisburycathedralfriends.co.uk



The fan-heater under the cassock idea proved not to be such a good one

**Digital
Dorset**

Need digital help?

- Unsure how to operate your laptop/
smartphone/tablet?
- Want to feel more confident using
online services?
- Would you like help with shopping or
banking online or making zoom calls?



Our Digital Champions are ready and waiting to help you at their **free** and weekly surgeries:

Where:

**Puddletown
Library**

Day: **Weds**

Time: **3 - 5pm**



To book call the Digital Hotline on: **01305 221048**
(phoneline open Mon-Fri 10am to midday), or speak to library staff

Membership matters – so come and join us!

Now is a great time to join the Friends of Salisbury Cathedral! The Friends' charity, which was founded in 1930 and gives grants for projects at Salisbury Cathedral, has a great deal to be proud of.

In the last financial year, the Friends finished paying for the Little Paradise development of toilets, boiler room and storage facilities, and they provided the money for the new level-access entrance to the cathedral.

Now they are embarking on the funding of a project to replace the cathedral's exterior and interior lighting with LED units, which will greatly reduce the building's energy consumption and save thousands of pounds.

During the pandemic, the Friends funded live streaming equipment, enabling services to be broadcast live to those isolating at home.

With a New Year upon us, now is a good time to join the Friends so that the charity can continue to fund projects for years to come.

Subscriptions are £25 for a single membership and £40 for joint membership. Members receive free entry to the cathedral*, our newsletters and annual report *Spire*, and invitations to our programme of events.

The Salisbury Bug Cathedral

Salisbury Cathedral's green initiatives have continued with the creation of a bug cathedral.

The Revd Pete Atkinson, minor canon for young people, said that following the gaining of the Eco Church Gold award, the cathedral had run a project in the summer to engage young people in its life.

Pete and the education team ran a Youth Eco Day, to which a group of 20 12- 16-year-olds came along to create a bug cathedral and explore the cathedral via a tower tour.

"The young people from Salisbury and the surrounding area had the opportunity to create an amazing environment for insects in an enormous bug cathedral, which was built by the cathedral's carpenter, Richard Pike," he said.

Since then, the cathedral has run an evening bat walk and set up a weekly eco club.

Caption: The Salisbury Bug Cathedral in the Cathedral Close (*picture copyright Katharine Shearing*).



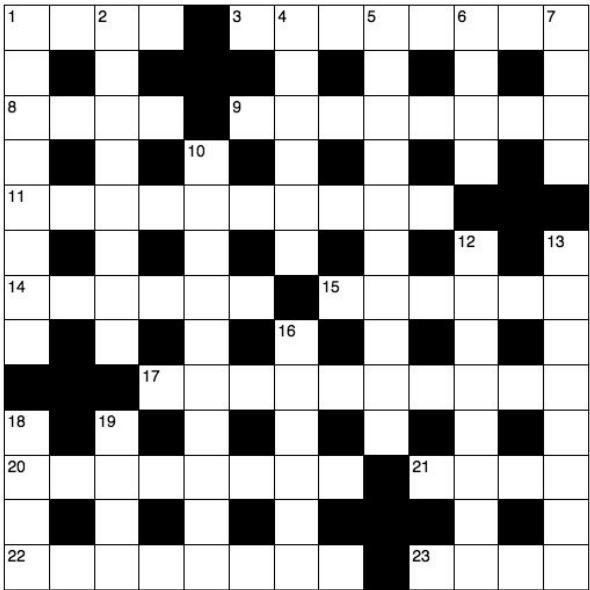
Crossword Clues for January 2023

Across

- 1 ‘Again Peter denied it, and at that moment a — began to crow’ (John 18:27) (4)
- 3 Fetters (Job 33:11) (8)
- 8 Perform on a musical instrument (1 Samuel 16:23) (4)
- 9 Paul describes it as ‘the third heaven’ (2 Corinthians 12:2–4) (8)
- 11 Loyally (Deuteronomy 11:13) (10)
- 14 Hens? Me? (anag.) (6)
- 15 Not visible (Matthew 6:6) (6)
- 17 Predicted site of the final great battle (Revelation 16:16) (10)
- 20 Jacob’s youngest son (Genesis 35:18) (8)
- 21 One of Zophar’s eleven sons (1 Chronicles 7:36) (4)
- 22 For example, London, Paris, Rome (8)
- 23 United Society for the Propagation of the Gospel (1,1,1,1)

Down

- 1 Favourite church activity: Fellowship round a — — — (3,2,3)
- 2 Divinely bestowed powers or talents (8)
- 4 Pile together (1 Thessalonians 2:16) (4,2)
- 5 Commanded to justify (John 8:13) (10)
- 6 Timothy’s grandmother (2 Timothy 1:5) (4)
- 7 Killed (Psalm 78:34) (4)
- 10 One of Graham Kendrick’s best-known songs, — — King (3,7)
- 12 Indecency (Mark 7:22) (8)
- 13 Unceasing (Jeremiah 15:18) (8)
- 16 He prophesied ‘the abomination that causes desolation’ (Matthew 24:15) (6)
- 18 British Board of Film Classification (1,1,1,1)
- 19 Pans (anag.) (4)





Dewlish Church Notes

OUR Remembrance Day Service was well-attended both at the War Memorial and at the church. John had kindly put up Memorial banners and sheets for each of the 21 people named on the Memorial. We were delighted to welcome six soldiers from Bovington Camp, along with a trumpeter.

Jim led the service, also Dom on the crossroads. Lauren read a poem, which was very suitable after Dom explained a heart-breaking experience he had when he was serving. Afterwards, we went to the Village Hall for refreshments. Many thanks to all who took part and contributed.

Tina has held another Jumble Sale, and raised £97 for the church roof repairs. Thank you so much to Tina and her family for all they do. I believe there is to be another sale in January, so please check the notice board for details.

Our Christmas Bazaar went very well indeed and, at the time of writing, raised £562.79. Huge thank-yous for everyone's support, to those who helped on the day, and also for the wonderful financial donations given. Our church can keep going!

Finally, our good wishes to all for **a happy and peaceful New Year!**

Daphne Burg

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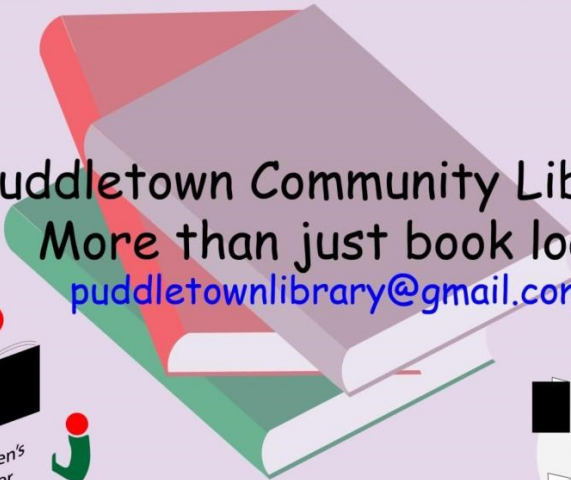
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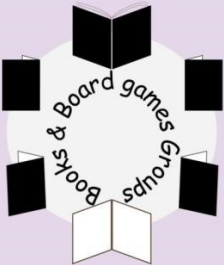
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The library welcomes
new volunteers
to help run the library



LIBRARY HOURS:

Wednesday 3pm-5pm

Friday 10am-12pm

Saturday 10am-12pm

The background of the entire page is a vibrant blue sky. In the upper left, a flock of about eight geese is flying in a loose V-formation. To their right, four swallows are perched on a thin, diagonal grey wire. Below the main title, the background transitions to a lighter blue. At the bottom of the page, there is a brown wooden fence with three horizontal rails. A white rectangular sign is attached to the fence, featuring the text 'Puddletown Community Library'. A small robin is perched on the left side of the fence. To the right of the fence, a dragonfly is shown in flight. In the bottom left corner, two small, light purple mushrooms with white stems are growing from a patch of green grass.

The 200 Club is Back!

We raise funds for the library through our 200 club.
Membership of the 200 Club costs £10 per year.
You will receive a membership number and be entered into a
monthly prize draw. Each month you could win:

1st Prize £40
2nd Prize £20
3rd Prize £10

Puddletown Community
Library

The Coming of the Magi

‘Where is the One who has been born King of the Jews? We saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him.’ So Matthew tells of the coming of the Magi, or Wise Men, to the baby Jesus. Today we remember it on Epiphany, on 6th January. Did they come from Arabia Felix – nowadays southern Arabia? How many came? No one knows, but by the 6th century they were named Gaspar, Melchior, and Balthasar. Why gold, frankincense and myrrh? Gold stands for kingship: Jesus was King of the Jews. Frankincense stands for divinity; Jesus was to be worshipped. Myrrh stands for death and burial; Jesus would become a sacrifice and die for His people. The Wise Men were the very first gentiles ever to worship Jesus. Isaiah foresaw this response to Jesus: ‘Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.’ The Magi wanted to worship Jesus; Herod wanted to kill Him. But the Jewish leaders who knew about the prophecy of a Messiah born in Bethlehem did not even bother to visit to Bethlehem. And it is only six miles from Jerusalem!

KING JEWS STAR EAST WORSHIP MAGI WISE MEN BABY JESUS EPIPHANY
ARABIA FELIX GASPAR MELCHIOR BALTHASAR GOLD FRANKINCENSE MYRRH
KINGSHIP DIVINITY DEATH ISAIAH NATIONS HEROD PROPHECY BETHLEHEM
JERUSALEM PRIESTS SCRIBES



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

Services in the Benefice

1st January - Naming & Circumcision of Jesus

Psalm 8; Numbers 6.22-27; Luke 2.15-21

9.30am	Parish Communion	Tolpuddle
9.30am	Celebrate	Milborne
11.00am	Parish Communion	Puddletown
11.00am	BCP Morning Prayer	Dewlish

8th January - Epiphany

Psalm 72.19, 10-15; Isaiah 60.1-6; Matthew 2.1-12

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

15th January - Epiphany 2

Psalm 40.1-11; Isaiah 49.-17; John 1.29-42

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

21st January - Saturday

TBA	Marriage of Steve Mulholland & Dawn Thompson	Puddletown
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22nd January - Epiphany 3

Psalm 27.1,4-12; Isaiah 9.1-4; Matthew 4.12-23

9.30am	Parish Communion	Milborne
10.00am	Go Fourth	Tolpuddle
11.00am	BCP Matins (traditional language)	Puddletown
11.00am	Parish Communion	Dewlish

29th January - Presentation of Christ

Psalm 24; Malachi 3.1-5; Luke 22.40.2-7;

11.00pm	United Benefice Holy Communion <i>followed by bring & share lunch</i>	Tolpuddle
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