

Parish Magazine

Serving the Church Communities of Puddletown, Tolpuddle, Milborne St Andrew
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DECEMBER 2019

80p





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This month's cover photo: "O come all ye faithful" - Puddletown awaits Christmas... Photograph by Emma Hughes.

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THE VICAR'S LETTER

Advent Hopes



Seeking inspiration for this letter, I asked some of my family what Advent meant to them. “Chocolate,” said Ben (aged 9); “I don’t know,” said Amity (aged 7). Not a great start!

We did get on slightly better when I asked what the meaning of Christmas was for them. “Giving, and thinking about Jesus,” was Amity’s response; Ben followed with “Jesus’s birthday”.

In our day, the marketing managers seem to have a good sales tool for their products by packaging them in cardboard behind 24 small doors and putting a premium price on them. Children may think Advent these days is about chocolate; adults are lured into believing it’s about make-up, whisky, gin, luxury food items, scented candles, coffee, cheese, perfumes, if modern calendars are anything to go by. The most unusual one I’ve come across this year is the Inkvent calendar, selling at a mere £67(!), which provides a new bottle of fountain-pen ink for each day of December until Christmas Eve.

This has totally turned the original meaning of the Advent calendar on its head. In the past their purpose was to help us wait for and anticipate the arrival of God’s gift of Jesus at Christmas time; now it seems they are about instant gratification.

This desire to have things and to have them now is part of modern society – and not I think a healthy one. It highlights the gaps between those who have and those who don’t; it causes stress and unhappiness and a constant desire for more rather than a sense of gratitude for what we already have. Our lives become a whirlwind of activity and doing, and we become less able to stop and allow ourselves to savour the experience of just being.

The busier we are, the more important it can be to take that time to stop and rebalance our lives. Let me encourage you this Advent to make time each day to stop and be. Perhaps the opening of an Advent calendar door could be the prompt you need. Whether it be five minutes or 25 minutes, why not find a place where you can sit and just be? If you’re a person of faith, use it to become aware of God alongside you, not requiring anything of you during that time than that you enjoy being in divine company.

If we use Advent well, we will find we reach Christmas in a more receptive frame of mind, less stressed and with more space to reflect on and welcome the Christ-child into our hearts and lives. After all, the simplest celebrations are often the most enjoyable.

With best wishes for a peaceful Advent and a Happy Christmas

Sarah

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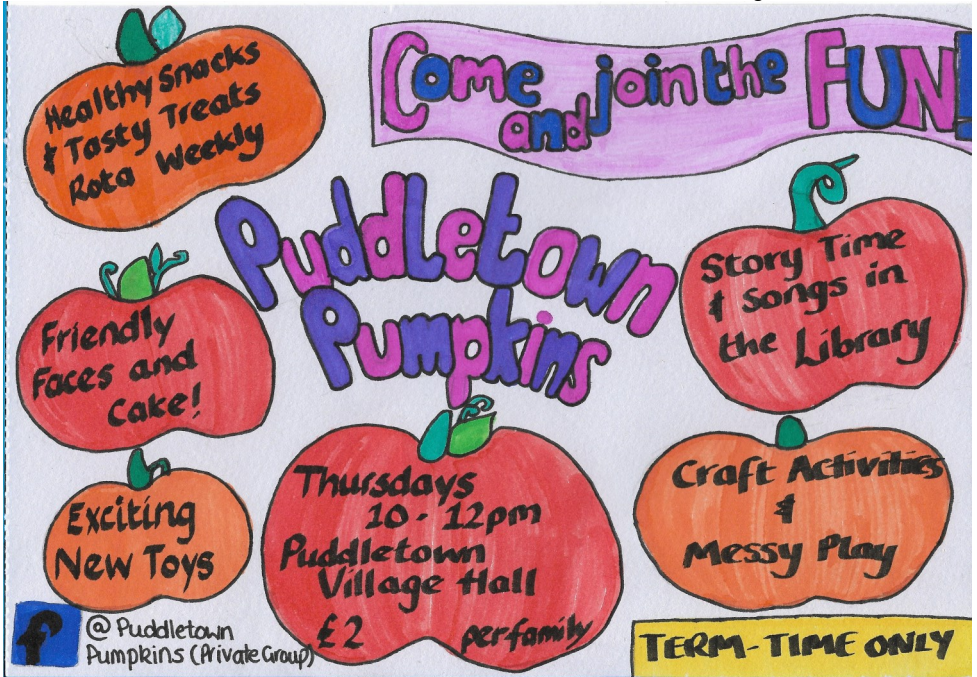
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All babies and toddlers welcome with their parents or carers. £2 per family which includes snacks.

Come and join in with our craft activities and messy play, and drop in to the library for stories and songs!

Puddletown Village Hall - Caretaker

Puddletown Village Hall has a new Caretaker. His name is Kevin Smith and we are hopeful of a long and happy relationship. He has extensive cleaning experience and comes well qualified for the job. Kevin lives in Brymer Road.

The Village Hall phone number remains unchanged as 07706 798271. We also now have an e-mail address:-

puddletownvh@gmail.com.

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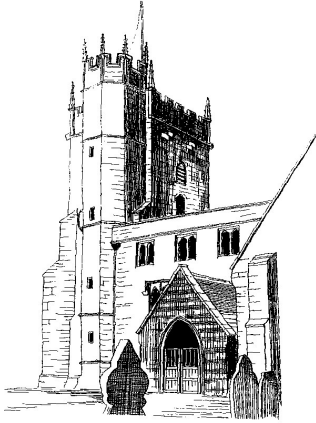


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St. Mary's Church Events—December

Messy Church will take place in Dewlish Village Hall at 4 pm on **Sunday 1st December**. There will be activities, crafts, songs, games, bible story and prayers followed by tea. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

There will be two **Pop-in Coffee Mornings in December** on **Thursday 5th and Thursday 12th** in the Church Room from 10

am to 12 noon. Rosemary will bring her card stall on the 12th. There is no mid-day communion this month. Pop-ins will start again after Christmas on **Thursday 2nd January**. We are always pleased to see you.

St Mary's Church Christmas Fair and Coffee Morning will take place on **Saturday 7th December** from 10 am to 12 noon in Puddletown Village Hall. There will be the usual tempting stalls, Christmas wreaths and a raffle. Stalls are £7 - contact Diana on 848510 to see if there are still any available.

The **Village Christmas Lunch** will take place on **Wednesday 11th December** in Puddletown Village Hall, 12 noon for 12.30 pm. St Mary's Middle School pupils will be providing the entertainment. The "age bar" of 70 has been lifted and all are welcome to a traditional turkey lunch. Please pre-book your place with Sheila on 849193 or Jean on 848211 by the closing date of 30th November. Tickets are £14.

The flower team will be decorating the Church for Christmas on Saturday 14th ready for the **Carol Service** on **Sunday 15th** at 6 pm. All are welcome.

The Crib Service is a lovely family occasion with angels and shepherds helping to tell the Christmas story. Do join us at 5pm in St Mary's Church on Christmas Eve, **24th December**.

Details of all the Christmas Services may be found at the end of the Magazine.

Do you need five minutes peace from the busyness of your day?

Our village churches in Puddletown, Dewlish, Milborne St. Andrew and Tolpuddle are open daily for solace and reflection.

'Cast your cares on the Lord and He will sustain you'. Psalm 55.22

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Puddletown's Centenarian has passed away

The "little old lady" who until recently walked to the village shop at least twice a day passed away at the wonderful age of 106.

Mrs. Nona Glasper was born in Darlington and was one of four sisters and five brothers. She worked in a large house and then went on to work for the railway painting signal boxes, bridges and tunnels and eventually working in a school as a kitchen assistant.

She married Arthur Glasper in 1949 and moved to Lincolnshire living in a shepherd's hut, where she had to cook everything on a two-ring hob and a wood burner (not like the modern ones) including cakes. They had one daughter who they also called Nona, and three grandchildren.

Later they moved to Salisbury, then to Northbrook in Puddletown, then to the Kennels where her husband was the Game Keeper and finally moving to Beech Road in 1980. Nona's husband died in 1982 and she has lived there for the rest of her life until she was admitted to hospital in Dorchester and peacefully passed away on the 2nd of November with her daughter by her side. She was only in hospital for a very short time.

Until very recently Nona enjoyed joining other residents in the Community Centre at Rod Hill, going out on trips with the group and very much enjoyed the monthly Lunch in the village hall.

Considering she was almost blind and deaf she enjoyed many, many years to reach the age of 106.

God bless you Nona.



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What Does Puddletown Church Mean To You?

Whether or not you go to church, are you glad we have St. Mary's in Puddletown? Are you proud of its physical presence in the village and of its heritage and role in the community? Do you take visitors to see the church? If so, is it that you value its long history, dating from the 12th Century, or its architectural significance as a Grade 1 listed building with many of its features relating to the life of Puddletown? Or maybe you appreciate its role in bringing together members of the community as a venue for concerts, or meeting of local societies, or coffee mornings?

The Need for Friends. Whatever the reasons, the visitors' book attests to the fact that St Mary's attracts people from both near and far. It surprises many however, to know that as a parish church it does not receive financing from the government or from the Church of England. It raises its funding from the congregation and the community. After operating costs, little is left for discretionary projects. This is where The Friends come in.

What We Do. Whether or not you are a member of the Anglican Church, if you have an interest in St Mary's, you might wish to join like-minded people in the Friends of Puddletown Church. Our objectives are to:

- raise funds to help maintain the fabric of the church and churchyard for future generations;
- help to finance special projects to benefit or help restore the church;
- promote public awareness of the church and its place in the history of Puddletown.

A Few Recent Projects: What We've Done and What We May Do.

- Contributed to tower repairs, the conservation of the Athelhampton Chapel, and the re-ordering of the North East Chapel (Chancel Aisle)
- Paid for additional lighting placed at the corner of the church tower and at the Lantern Arch by the main road to improve security and visibility for people attending evening activities in the Church and Church Room
- Commissioned a beautiful communion table for the small North East chapel
- Offered money towards the sizeable cost of repair of two of the Church bells - those in particular need of new bearings. All the bells need attention and we hope to make other contributions thus helping to secure bell ringing well into the future



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- Permission is being sought to repair the 1635 altar rail and the two big stained glass windows, both of which have holes (made, we think, by vandals), and we may contribute to the cost of these repairs.

How to Join the Friends. It's easy. Subscriptions vary from £2 to £10 a month. There are a few membership application forms at the church, but otherwise please contact Ursula Pomeroy, our Administrator, at duddle72@gmail.com. At present we meet once a year to discuss progress, needs and future plans, followed by a talk on a related topic and a social hour, but could be more active with new members and new ideas. We would love to meet you and have you on board! In the meantime we wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

PUTTING THIS MAGAZINE TOGETHER...

Many of our readers will be aware of how deadlines play a big part in the construction of a magazine, and the team who put our Parish Magazine together know this only too well! Timing has to be strict - missed deadlines affect the next process in the race to get each edition out to our readership every month.

We are aware that asking contributors to get their articles, write-ups, notices, invitations, and anything else to us, by the **5th day of the month**, can be 'challenging' as they say these days! It is, we know, quite an early date. But, in order for each piece to find its place in the finished production, that has to be the way. We have to put each issue together like a jigsaw and until all the pieces are in front of you - well it's hard to be creative and ultimately produce something that makes an interesting read. Once constructed, it then goes on to a team of proof-readers and when satisfactorily through that, it is sent to the printers who then deliver it back to us for distribution in the fourth week of the month.

So, please help us to help you. If you can provide us with your contributions by the **5th day of each month** there is almost a guarantee - no promises mind you - that your piece will appear in the following issue, but if not it will be appearing in the one after.

Someone once said that to remember something important, repeat it three times. So here it is again - the **5th day of each month**.

Keep your contributions coming in, send to your local Editor, because we are waiting to hear from you!

Thank you.

Parish Magazine Working Group

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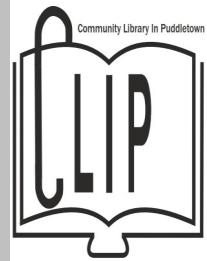
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The Friends of Puddletown Library (FOPL) 200 Club, October 2019 Draw winners




1st £40	Mary Turner
2nd £20	Carol Green
3rd £10	Paul Langdon

Please note the library will now close at 5pm on Monday, Wednesday and Friday.



Puddletown Weather

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

October 2019		
	Rainfall for the month	202.80 mm
	Cumulative for the year	828.30 mm
	2018 Rainfall for the month	18.60 mm
	2018 Cumulative for the year	371.70 mm
	Temperatures	Max. 19.90 ° C Min. 1.40 ° C
	2018	Max. 25.90° C Min -3.00° C
	Maximum wind speed	15.90 mph
	2018	14.50 mph

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BENNETT BULLETIN FROM TORONTO

By the time you read this the clocks will have gone back an hour, the days will be getting shorter and Christmas will not be far away. But as I write it is only mid-September, the leaves are beginning to take on the Fall (Autumn) colours and the weather cannot decide whether to be pleasantly cool or go back to summer heat. We have been warned that the weather experts say it will be an exceptionally long and cold winter – something to look forward to!

For us as a family it has been a very busy summer. We all flew to the UK in July to bring Roy's ashes back to Stoneleigh Churchyard in Warwickshire. After months of planning at long distance all the family gathered on a beautiful summer's day on 22nd July for a very moving ceremony conducted by a good friend of ours (Roy's training vicar). Quite an international gathering from UK, Canada, USA and Turks & Caicos Islands, the first time many of us had been together since Roy died.

Staying in Kenilworth gave me the opportunity to catch up with friends I have not seen for many years. The weather was rather unpredictable, e.g. glorious sunshine and the hottest day on record in the UK (my friend's train back to York was cancelled because the rails had overheated) interspersed with violent thunderstorms, and torrential rain. I had imagined the UK would be a bit cooler than Toronto in July but I got that wrong.

Stephanie's family packed a lot into their two weeks holiday, visiting Oxford, Stonehenge, London and Paris, getting back to Heathrow feeling exhausted but having had a wonderful time. Our flight home was cancelled because of a threatened strike but then reinstated in time for us to fly home as planned.

I was back in Canada for nearly 2 weeks before the Turks Islands family (Liz, Nicky and the boys) came to stay in Toronto for two weeks. The apartment was full to overflowing but we had some lovely family time, and I have finally finished up all the leftovers in the fridge.

In Canada we are in the midst of a Federal election campaign so all the news bulletins are full of political rallies, but there has also been great excitement because Canadian teenager, Bianca Andreescu won the US Open Tennis Tournament. She lives near Toronto, and as the Toronto Raptors Basketball team also won their championship, beating the USA this summer, Torontonians have been celebrating for most of the summer. Canadians are also following Brexit with great interest, and hardly a day goes when it does not feature on the news.

That is all for now. I will write in a few months and let you know if the winter was as bad as predicted.

Diana



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The Dorchester Men's Shed was founded in the Spring of 2015 by Graeme Trinder and was formally opened by the Mayor of Dorchester on the 16th of June 2015. The Shed is part of a growing organisation of Men's Sheds in the United Kingdom, under the UK Men's Sheds Association.

www.menssheds.org.uk The Sheds provide a space which replaces garden sheds which, in the modern world, are being lost through down sizing or moving into flats. A space where the members can come and meet over a cup of tea and work with wood whilst at the same time learn skills from other members

The Dorchester Men's Shed, a popular woodworking club open to men and women and is located at Kingston Maurward, meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays has just completed a replacement noticeboard for St Mary's Church in Puddletown.



Graeme Trinder, the Founder of the not-for-profit communal workshop, said: "We were very pleased to successfully complete another community commission."

The Shed which provides a workshop facility to those who have downsized their homes and given up their own workspace as well as a place where members can just get together for a chat and a cup of tea.

Members have made many replacement fingers for the local highway signposts, new oak bridges over the canal at Kingston Maurward College. The members are currently working on finger post signage for the Kingston Maurward Estate.

Since the **Dorchester Men's Shed** was founded the membership of the UK Men's Shed Association has risen from 90 to over 400 in the United Kingdom. Included in these are Wareham, Portland, Blandford, Bridport, Yeovil and Sturminster Newton.

For further information about **Dorchester Men's Shed** and about becoming a member contact Graeme Trinder at secretary@dorchestermentsheds.org.uk.

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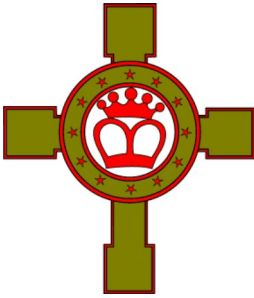
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St Mary's Middle School



As always, it's been a very busy Autumn term at St Mary's!

At Monkey World in October, the sun shone and the monkeys came out to say hello to Year 5. We are fortunate that a few of the parents of our current Year 5 children actually work at Monkey World with the primates so they received some special shows with lots of interesting and informative talks. The children were able to consider the maltreatment of these amazing animals; relating that to their humanities work on the rainforest and the pressures it is under with deforestation. While at the park, the children completed some statistical research, with one couple travelling as far as Edinburgh to visit our local attraction! They will use what they collected back in the classroom to conduct some data analysis of the park.



Year 8 enjoying the sunshine at Lulworth

Year 8, however, enjoyed the sunshine on an educational visit to Durdle Door and Lulworth Cove to support their geography topic: What is so special about the Jurassic Coast? Students were able to label and annotate their field sketches of the Jurassic coast, see first-hand the effects of coastal erosion and longshore drift and consider the impact of tourism on the area. In addition to this, students were able to identify the different forms of weathering and how the geology of this dramatic coastline was created.

I'm proud to be able to report that after two busy days of cake sales, glitter tattooing, 5 pence counting, and fantastic pink outfits, the St Mary's Pink Day 2019 total was £1519.29! This is a phenomenal total in aid of Breast Cancer NOW. I'd also like to say a BIG Thank you to the parents for all their Harvest donations, these have been donated to The Weymouth Bus Shelter and the Dorchester Food Bank.



Wearing pink for Breast Cancer NOW

This just leaves me to say that I hope you all have a peaceful and Happy Christmas!

Darren Ayling—Head Teacher

ALEX FROST & JOHN BUTLER



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	Sarah.c.hillman@outlook.com	
RETIRED CLERGY	Rosie Coldwell	01258 839 214
	The Revd Sue Turner	07775 710 429
CHURCHWARDENS	Vacancy (Puddletown)	
	Vacancy (Puddletown)	
	Hilly Cobban (Tolpuddle)	01305 848 552
	Julie Bonner (Tolpuddle)	01305 848 027
	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	
PUDDLETOWN CONTACTS		
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	
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	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	Mary Berry	01305 848 557
	Steven Buck	01305 848 575

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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
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	Paul Langdon	01305 848 307
Organist	Jenny Hansford	01305 849368
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
SCHOOLS		
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	Nancy Vincent	01305 848 218
Yoga	Mandy Cooper	07713 477737

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Young Farmers (Dorset)		01305 263 947
TOLPUDDLE CONTACTS		
Craft Club	Teresa Turner	01305 849 060
Orchard Meadow	Martin Cooke	01305 848 156
PCC Secretary	David Tackley	01305 849 352
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- dleoctrust@btinternet.com	tolpud- dleoctrust@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.	Diana Foreman	01305 848 419
Village Hall Chairman	Peter Walton - pdwalton@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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MILBORNE ST ANDREW CONTACTS		
Allotment Society	Joy Robinson	01258 837 661
Archery	Sheila Ryall	01258 837 504
Athletics (Information)	David Pearson	01258 837 057
Badminton	David Payne	01258 837 700
Bellringers	Pip Bowell	01258 837 329
Busy Bees Group (Under 5s)	Claire Tudge	07970 734 162
Cribbage	Peter Anthony	01258 837 089
Food & Wine Society	Julie Johannsen	01258 839 004
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 881 709
Parish Council	Joy Robinson	01258 837 661
	Colin Hampton (Clerk)	01258 837 011
Patient Voice Secretary	Nigel Hodder	01258 881 709
Pilates	Claire Barratt	07703 648869
Round Robin Ramblers	Ian Bromilow	01258 880 044
Scout Group	Brian Burton	01258 839 033
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	Steven Lang	07916 312 452
Village Hall	Pam Shults (Chair)	01258 837 203
	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



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St John's Church, Tolpuddle— December 2019

Winter has arrived together with rain, rain and more rain- our “old wives” tell us that it will be a hard winter as the holly trees are covered in berries but as I write this it unseasonably mild and definitely no sign of snow or frost. For this we

should be truly grateful as many of us remember how bitterly cold it can get in the church.

However..... yes we are delighted to report that we have finally received faculty (the planning consent from the Diocese, without which we cannot change anything in the church) and work starts on the total **Re-wiring, installation of a new heating system and lighting on Monday November 25th**. The Church will have to be closed until Christmas as there will be scaffolding. Of course this will be very disruptive but essential. Unfortunately our friends at the Methodist Chapel find they are also shrouded in scaffolding as the decorators have moved in. Thus we will be holding our services in the Village Hall - do come and join us there:

Sunday December 1st- 9.30am- Parish Communion (Village Hall)

Sunday December 8th 5pm- Carol Service (Village Hall)

Sunday December 15th 9.30am- Family Communion (Village Hall)

Sunday December 22nd – NO SERVICE

Tuesday December 24th- 3.30pm Crib Service (Church)

Wednesday December 25th 9.30am- Christmas Communion (Church)

Other events past and future- you are all aware that we had to postpone the **Bonfire Party** due to the dreadful wind and rain- however we were able to freeze down the gallons of soup and burgers ready for another day. Thank you to all our sponsors and those who helped with the planning and indeed the re-planning!

Visitation by the Rural Dean—this took place on Monday 21st October and had entailed a massive amount of preparation, we are so grateful to Jayne our Secretary and John Bacon and Hope Francis who have created very comprehensive Burial Records. He found everything in good order.

A date for your diary-

Sunday December 22nd—Village Christmas Party, 3pm with fun and games for the children and a crèche for the “Grown Ups” with Raffle and a bar.

Continued on Page 37

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We are then singing Carols with the band under Martyrs Tree where we will be collecting for the Children's Society and then we will all process along to the Martyrs Pub for the drawing of the Raffle, more singing, mince pies and mulled wine (kindly provided by the pub). The Raffle will be drawn there and further collections for the Children's Society.

Calendars—are you ready for 2020? Heather still has a few of her beautiful calendars full of local photos for sale 01305 848165. All the proceeds from these are being donated to our Sparks Appeal.

Parish Magazine- Please may I take this opportunity to thank Marion, Liz and all her volunteers who produce and deliver this excellent magazine. Do encourage others to order and read it so that they know what a busy community we are here in Tolpuddle.

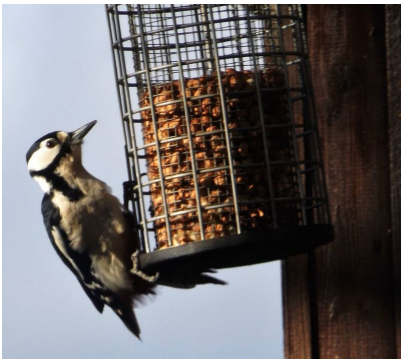
All that remains is for us to wish you all a **Very Happy Christmas and Peaceful New Year.**

Hilly and Julie
Churchwardens

Looking After our Garden Birds

Winter can be a tough time for our garden birds. Natural foods such as insects, berries and seeds become scarce and they often start relying on what we put out for them to get through the winter, particularly if we get any severe weather.

In my house in Tolpuddle, I have mesh feeders full of sunflower hearts and peanuts, and as well as attracting the extremely numerous house sparrows, I also see finches, tits and robins and the occasional woodpecker! The small birds are



quite messy eaters, but any sunflower hearts that end up on the ground are happily tidied up by blackbirds, collared doves and dun-nocks. I also make sure they always have water available for drinking and bathing, we have a garden pond but fresh clean water is also available in a bird bath on the flat garage roof!

If you've not fed the birds in the garden before and would like to start, the RSPB have excellent advice on their website (rspb.org.uk) on 'opening a bird café'! Here's some of their advice:

Place feeders high enough so they are out of reach of ground predators like cats. They should be a couple of metres away from thick cover like bushes, so that small birds can beat a hasty retreat from aerial predators such as sparrowhawks.

Continued on Page 39



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Clean your feeders and bird tables regularly.

Clear up under your feeders - you don't want a problem with rodents at night.

As well as buying nuts and seeds specially for the birds, you can feed them some of your Christmas leftovers!

Some of our own food can be good for birds – for example, fruit cake or mince pies, dried fruit (though be careful as they are poisonous to dogs), unsalted nuts, or apples and pears past their best. Try sprinkling grated mild cheese under trees and bushes for more timid birds like wrens and dunnocks. But choose the right stuff...avoid anything mouldy or salty (too much salt is poisonous to small birds).



Enjoy! It's time to take a moment to watch and enjoy the happy birds feasting on the food you've provided!

Sally Cooke

Winners: 100 Club 2019-2020

In aid of the Tolpuddle Village Hall Development Fund

Monthly draws take place between 11.00 and 12.00 during coffee club, in the pub on the last Tuesday of the month.

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September	Marion Regan	Hilly Cobban	Julian Francis

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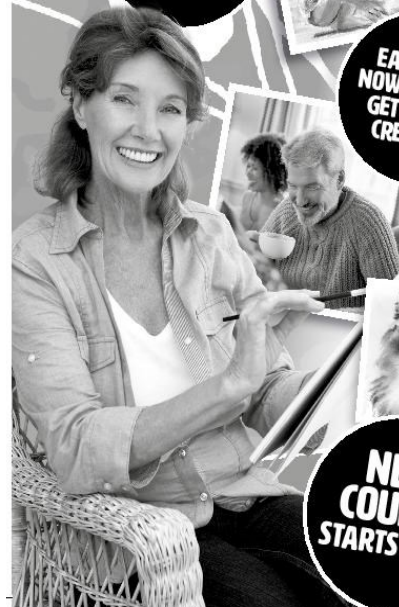
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Open at the United Church, South Street, Dorchester Sat 7th Dec and Thurs 12th – Sat 14th Dec 11-3pm (Fri 13th 11-2pm). The Stable only will be open from Mon 16th – Sat 21st and Mon 21st 10-12.30pm. In the busyness of all the Christmas shopping, writing the cards and icing the cake take a few minutes to be still and reflect on what Christmas is all about.

Feed me, Change Me, Love Me

United Church Dorchester will also be open for free baby changing, with a private feeding area and games for the older children during the last few shopping days to Christmas. Open Fri 20th Dec, Sat 21st Dec and Mon 23rd Dec 11am to 3pm. If you feel rushed off your feet come and sit quietly and enjoy the peace of Christmas, while the children are kept occupied.

ORCHARD MEADOW

Orchard Meadow is a much used and appreciated part of Tolpuddle. We want to ensure that it continues to be well loved and maintained in the future as a venue for play, recreation, wildlife and for community events and activities.



Winter Tidy Up!

Sunday 8th December 10am - 12 noon

Get some fresh air and exercise, meet new people and eat cake!

Just wear suitable shoes/boots, bring gardening gloves if you have them and we'll provide tools as well as hot drinks, squash and homemade cake. No experience needed. **See you there!**



Martin Cooke, Parish Councillor, 01305 848156, martycooke@aol.com/Rob Brunt 01305 848383.

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- Fast, safe weight loss



Call Marie for a no obligation chat on 07917 541857 or 01258 837241

Appointments available Monday, Thursday and Saturday daytime; and every weekday evening.

"Don't look back... you're not going that way"

OPEN HOUSE - Thursday 2nd January - Pop in for an informal chat to find out more and try some of the delicious products on offer. 2-4pm & 7-9pm, 13A The Rings, Milborne St Andrew DT11 0HY



Coffee & Company



Tolpuddle Village Hall every fourth Saturday

From 10am – 12noon

Why not join a friendly group of ladies for coffee and home-made cake?

We chat, relax and enjoy each other's company

A small contribution of £1 is asked to cover the cost of the hall

For more information please contact Jo on 07852 284357 or email Austwickjoanne@gmail.com

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Milborne St Andrew's Church News

Anticipation

It is only the beginning of November but already the world seems to be preparing for Christmas. Shops are full of exciting decorations, cards and all sorts intended to brighten our homes. Unfortunately, not many of these items relate to the real purpose of Christmas.

Of course, for Christians throughout the world, it is an extremely important and busy time of the year to celebrate the birth of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. However, for those involved with organising and preparing services and other related activities, there is so much to do. Advent starts and with it comes many celebratory seasonal services in St Andrew's, such as the Carol Service, Midnight Mass, Christmas morning Celebration, Christingle as well as the regular services in December. No wonder Sarah and churchwardens look so tired at the end of the Christmas period.

November can also be a busy month in our church. At the beginning of the month we hosted the service of remembrance and thanksgiving for those who have died. There is the Remembrance Service, which ends at our memorial when many villagers join the congregation to honour those who have died whilst in service. Our church also holds celebrations to mark St Andrew's day; this year is a fish themed meal to honour the patron saint of fishermen and fishmongers. Tickets are on sale to anyone, to buy tickets or find out more call Jenny on 01258 837121 or Eva on 01258 837468.

Pam Shults
Churchwarden

Milborne Christmas Market—save the date!



A 'new look' Christmas Market will be held at 4p.m. to 6p.m. on 7th December in the Village Hall.

All welcome.



Dorchester Choral Society

Registered Charity No. 285911

with Corelli Baroque Orchestra



Saturday 07 December, 2019

St Mary's Church, Dorchester DT1 2HL

at 7.00pm

Christmas Oratorio

J S Bach

Amy Carson

Soprano

Andrew Stewart

Alto

Ruairi Bowen

Tenor

Edmund Saddington *Bass*

Director of Music - Colin Howard

Tickets £16 and £12 (*+booking fee 7%*)

online at the DCS website

www.dorchesterchoralsociety.org

or Harmony Music 3-4 Forum Centre, Trinity Street, Dorchester

For information about disabled access contact 01305 260458

The Society is grateful for the support of its main sponsors:

PORTER DODSON *Solicitors & Advisors*
THE BREWERY SQUARE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY
POUNDBURY WEALTH MANAGEMENT

ROUND ROBIN RAMBLERS

The local villages walking group



Walks are normally held on the first Sunday and the third Wednesday of each month.

Please join us as we enjoy exercise, good company and the wonderful Dorset countryside. **Any questions, please feel free to contact: Ian Bromilow, 01258-880044.**

SUNDAY 1st December - 1:30 pm (*note earlier starting time during winter*)

Minterne Magna & Cerne Abbas

Meet in car park opposite the church in Minterne Magna

Grid reference: ST 769110 on OS Explorer Sheet 129 (approx. 4.5 miles)

No Wednesday walk in December due to proximity to Christmas.

SUNDAY 5th January - 1:30 pm (*note earlier starting time during winter*)

Broad Oak & Sturminster Newton

Meet at Fiddleford Mill car park, off A357 from Sturminster Newton to Shillingstone.

Grid reference: ST 802135 on OS Explorer Sheet 129 (approx. 4.5 miles)

Please note:

- WHO** All welcome including well-behaved dogs and their responsible owners.
No pre-booking required just turn up.
- WEAR** Suitable clothing for wet conditions and location, walking boots or Wellington boots.
- BRING** Waterproofs and refreshments (packed lunch on Wednesdays).
- PACE** We go at the pace of the slowest.
- TERRAIN** Expect mud, inclines and stiles.
- AIM** Keep fit, enjoy the Dorset countryside and each other's company.
- LEGAL** We look after one another but in the end you are responsible for yourself.

Cafe'



COMMUNITY

Sunday 1 December

Join us for the last Café of the year

Craft stalls Flamingo Paperie,

Tolpuddle Treats At the Patch Creations

Avon Cosmetics Maytree Crafts and Flowers

Beth-Anna Gifts Island Knitwear

Home Cooked Food

Bacon Rolls, Vegan options, Soup,

Cheese Scones, Cakes (Gluten Free)

Tea and Coffee



Live music from

Claude

and the Cats

Local Artist Paul L Matthews

in the Village Hall 10.00-2.00



Milborne Movies

Friday 6th December
at 7.30pm

Doors and Bar at 7.00pm



The Village Hall - Milborne St Andrew - DT11 0JX

Tolpuddle Christmas Fun

Sunday 22nd December 2019



Children of Tolpuddle Christmas Party with special guest
From 3pm at the village hall, Parents/Grandparents Creche with
bar. Watch for a leaflet through your door soon with details,
come join the fun, places will be limited



Christmas Carols let your voices be heard.
Around the old Martyrs Tree on the green from 5.30pm



Followed with much merriment at the Martyrs Inn
Continue the festivities and try your luck in the Christmas raffle.

For more information contact: Jo 848137

Collection in aid of Children's Society



Milborne Ladybirds Playgroup

November really is a wonderful time of the year.



A great way of keeping warm during our last woodland session before Spring was lighting the fire and cooking scotch pancakes. For some reason everything is so tasty when cooked and eaten outside and they were enjoyed by children and adults. Again we send thanks to the farmer who gives us access to their woodland for this invaluable learning experience for our children. The winter months will see several of the trees felled due to Ash

dieback which is sad but necessary to maintain a healthy woodland.

November is a busy month. We talked about the children's experiences of trick and treating and learnt that they loved dressing up and going out with their elders around the village. We read one of our favourite stories 'Room on the Broom'. While in the woods we made some witches' broomsticks and brought them back to the hall to act out the story. Also outside some interesting experiments took place making potions that change colour and foamed on containers.

The fireworks topic lead to some great artwork with pictures made from splattering paint, using a salad spinner and toilet roll 'flowers'.

On Remembrance Day we walked to the Memorial just before 11.00 and looked at the poppy wreaths and crosses. We sensitively talked about the brave soldiers before returning to the hall to make poppy pictures.

We have a new piece of exercise equipment – a teeter popper – which is like a wobbleboard with suction pads. The children (and a member of staff) had fun trying it out. This will help develop balance and core strength.

And finally we thought we would share some drawings of 'our mum' – we really love them and hope you do.



Liz Dyer (Leader) 01258 839117 or 07771 512427

Lucy Bishop (Secretary) 07866 267044

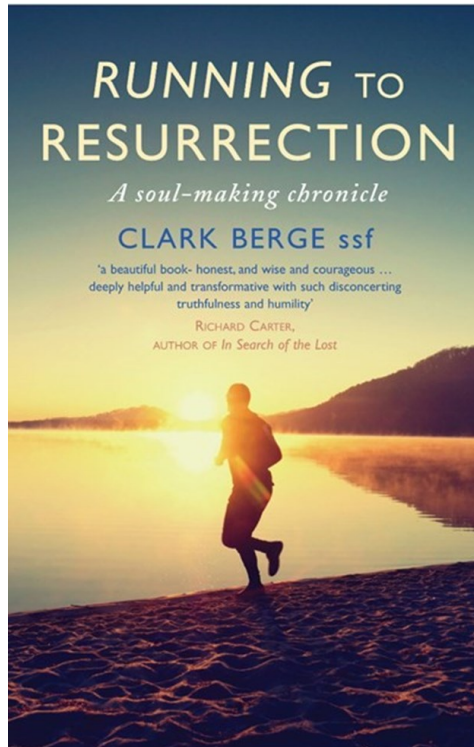
www.milborneladybirds.org.uk



Hilfield FRIARY

Society of St Francis registered charity number 236464

You are invited!
Book launch
8th December, 2019 at 3:00 p.m.
Hilfield Friary



Directions to the friary at www.hilfieldfriary.org.uk

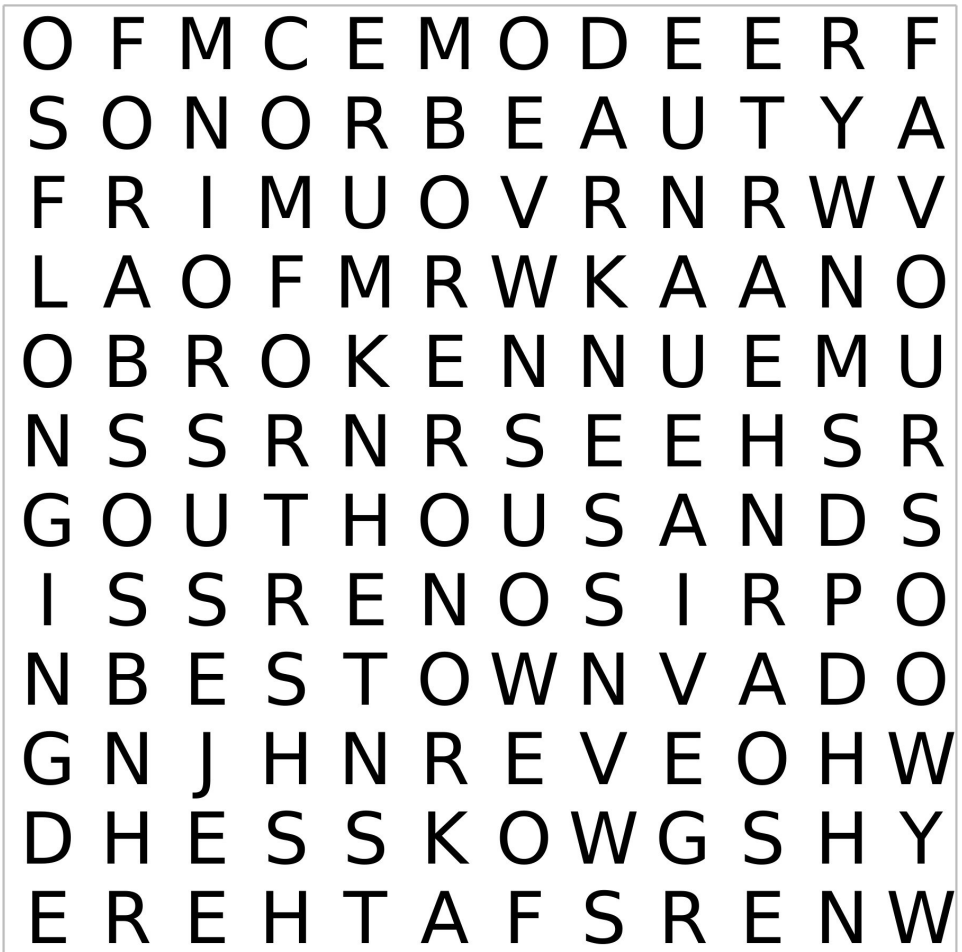
The book may be purchased at the launch or ordered from

<https://canterburypress.hymnsam.co.uk/books/9781786222169/running-to-resurrection>

Wordsearch for December 2019

Christmas is nearly here! More than two thousand years ago the Jews were longing for the coming of their Messiah. The Old Testament had promised that when He came, He would preach good news to the poor, bind up the broken hearted, proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, proclaim the year of the Lord's favour, comfort all who mourn and to bestow on His people a crown of beauty instead of ashes. Jesus did all those things. He was and is the Son of God, and whoever has seen Him has seen the Father. Whoever believes in Him will have the best gift of all – His Spirit within them, which gives them eternal life.

21 words from the paragraph above are hidden in the grid below, how many can you find?





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as adapted by the Milborne Players

DIRECTED BY CAROLINE NOBBS



**Dick
Whittington**

FEBRUARY 6TH, 7TH AND 8TH 2020
7.30PM WITH SAT MAT AT 2.30 PM

AT MILBORNE ST ANDREW VILLAGE HALL
TICKETS £7.00 BOX OFFICE 01258 839085
AND FROM M.ST.A LONDIS/GRAYS STORES



Dewlish Church Notes

Well, here I am once again writing the church news for December. Where does the time go!?

The final sum raised by Jim and Adam for their “Ride ‘n’ Stride” cycle ride was £1,030, a really good amount. This has now been sent to the Dorset Historic Churches Trust, and we are awaiting half to be returned to our church.

Our **Christmas Bazaar** will be held on Saturday 7th December at 2.30pm in the Village Hall. Stalls will be cakes and produce, toys, new items and gifts, Christmas decorations, books and puzzles, a raffle and a special raffle for a Christmas hamper. Any donations are very welcome but the most important thing is seeing you all there!

On Thursday 19th December we shall be **singing carols at the Oak** at 8.00pm. Dianne is kindly supplying the mulled wine and mince pies, and there will be a collection for Shelter. We introduced this last year and we all had a most enjoyable time. Please do join us.

The **Carol Service** is on Sunday 22nd December at 3.00pm in our church. If your children would like to take part, please contact Jim (Tel: 01258 837 466). The collection will be sent to the Children’s Society. Refreshments will be served afterwards in the Village Hall.

Christmas Day Holy Communion is at 9.00am – an early start!

Finally, a *Very Happy Christmas* to you all!

Daphne Burg

Milborne St. Andrew Gardening Club

The Gardening Club does not meet in December. We start again on 16th January 2020 in the village hall, starting at 7:30pm, when Linda Wright of Greensleeves, the lawn treatment experts, will talk to us about all aspects of lawn maintenance.

For more information about the MSA gardening club contact Ann Guy, 01258 837131.

Mark Johnson





Canzonetta at **Christmas**

Concert of seasonal songs, carols and readings

with William Bishop (organ)



Sunday 8 December 2019

Church of the Holy Rood
Church Lane

Wool

BH20 6DD

3pm

Free admission

Retiring collection

Mulled wine and mince pies

www.canzonettadorset.com



St Mary's, Puddletown – December 2019

Intercessors		Scripture Readers
1st	Rod Hughes	Emma Hughes
8th	Family Service Team	
15th	Carol Service TBA	Carol Service TBA
22nd	Cynthia Metcalfe	TBA
24th	Jean Jeffreys	Paul Fleetwood (Midnight Mass)
25th	Bob Todd	Shirley Parker
29th	Dawn Loveless	Pat Sparks
Flowers		
1st	No Flowers	Advent Sunday
8th	No Flowers	
15th	All team	Carol Service
22nd	All team	Christmas
29th	All Team	Benefice Service
Brasses		
Annie Cossins		
PCC Charity Donations		
<i>Please give prayerfully and generously</i>		
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	

Services in the Benefice – December 2019

1st December – Advent Sunday

Psalm 122, Isaiah 2.1-5, Matthew 24.36-44

9.30am	Parish Communion	Tolpuddle Village Hall
9.30am	Celebrate.....	Milborne St Andrew
11.00am	Parish Communion	Puddletown Church Room
11.00am	1662 Morning Prayer	Dewlish
4.00pm	Messy Church	Dewlish

8th December – Advent 2

Psalm 72.1-7, 18-19, Isaiah 11.1-10, Matthew 3.1-12

8.15am	1662 Said Communion	Puddletown
9.30am	Parish Communion	Milborne St Andrew
11.00am	Puddletown Praise	Puddletown Church Room
11.00am	Parish Communion	Dewlish
5.00pm	United Carol Service	Tolpuddle Village Hall

SATURDAY 14th December

6.00pm	Carol Service	Milborne St Andrew
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15th December – Advent 3

Psalm 146.4-10, Isaiah 35.1-10, Matthew 11.2-11

9.30am	Family Communion	Tolpuddle Village Hall
9.30am	1662 Morning Prayer (Said)	Milborne St Andrew
11.00am	Family Service	Dewlish
3.00pm	Christingle	Milborne St Andrew
6.00pm	Carol Service	Puddetown

22nd December - Advent 4

Psalm 80.1-8, 18-20, Isaiah 7.10-16, Matthew 1.18-25

9.30am	Parish Communion	Milborne St Andrew
11.00am	1662 Morning Prayer	Puddletown
3.00pm	Carol Service	Dewlish

Services in the Benefice— December 2019 Continued

24th December - CHRISTMAS EVE

Psalm 98, Hebrews 1.1-4, John 1.1-14

3.30pm	Crib Service	Tolpuddle
5.00pm	Crib Service	Puddletown
11.30pm	Midnight Mass	Milborne St Andrew
11.30pm	Midnight Mass	Puddletown

25th December - CHRISTMAS DAY

Psalm 96, Titus 2.11-14, Luke 2.1-14

9.00am	Christmas Holy Communion	Dewlish
9.30am	Christmas Holy Communion	Tolpuddle
10.30am	Christmas Celebration	Milborne St Andrew
11.00am	Christmas Praise	Puddletown

29th December – Christmas 1

Psalm 148, Isaiah 63.7-9, Matthew 2.13-23

11.00am	United Benefice Holy Communion	Puddletown Church Room
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Morning Prayer—Monday through Thursday 8.15am, Saturday 9.00am

Monday	Puddletown	Tuesday	Milborne St Andrew
Wednesday	Dewlish	Saturday	Puddletown



We wish you a happy & peaceful Christmas

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