# **Parish Magazine**

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Annual Advertising Rates to end December 2023 (Sizes are cm)		

oo		
Eighth Page - (6.00 x 4.40)	£53.00	Half Page - (12.26 x 9.00) - £143.00
Quarter Page - (6.00 x 9.00)(P) (12.26 x 4.20)(L)	£78.00	Whole Page - (12.26 x 18.25) - £195.00

The Editor's decision is final. All items for publication must include name and contact number of the author. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the church or the magazine. Advertisers are neither vetted nor endorsed by the Parish Magazine.

Please mention the Puddletown Parish Magazine when responding to advertisers. For magazines by post contact the Distributors as shown above.

Published by the Parish Magazine, St Mary's Church, The Square, Puddletown, Dorchester DT2 8SL.

#### Copy deadline for the March magazine is 3rd February 2023

#### Front Cover Photos: Flooding at Southover - By Alex Smallwood





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### War and peace



On 24<sup>th</sup> February 2022, Russia began its "special military operation", otherwise known as invasion into Ukraine. There had been tension between the two countries for a number of years, heightened in 2014, when Russia annexed Crimea. Last year it moved onto a completely different level.

The response from Ukraine has been fierce and resolute, with military support from a number of countries. The United Nations has condemned Russia's incursion into another nation. People the world over have rallied around the Ukrainians offering help and refuge. There are a number of Ukrainian people living in the villages of the benefice who have been welcomed into our homes, schools and communities.

There are other conflicts too going on around our world; one estimate is 110 places are involved in some kind of violence between people and places.

How should Christians respond? It is a complex question and one with no easy answers. While I am firmly on the side of Ukraine, I also find myself deeply troubled by the violence and destruction that is being meted out by both aggressor and defender.

One of the problems is that war and conflict dehumanise the enemy. This is perhaps clearly seen in this quotation from Prince Harry: "When I found myself plunged in the heat and confusion of combat, I didn't think of those 25 as people. They were chess pieces removed from the board. Bad people eliminated before they could kill good people."

A sentiment almost as far as possible from the words of Jesus, who told his followers to love their enemies. In taking on that attitude, we learn to see the value of every human being, even those with whom we may be at odds.

There is always the temptation to declare that "God is on my side", which sometimes becomes the justification for religious conflict. We humans are all too good at trying to make God in our own image rather than aligning ourselves with the compassionate, peace-loving, healing, forgiving, justiceseeking values of the Kingdom of Heaven.

Lent begins this month. It is a season in which we can commit ourselves to a deeper commitment to God through prayer and self-sacrifice. It is a time when we are encouraged to strip back the luxuries of life to help us become more aware of our dependence on God. It is a time for penetrating honesty with ourselves about those areas of our lives which we would rather hide.



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In Jesus, God shows a different way -a way where true strength is found in a desire for love not hate, hope not despair, mercy not injustice, light not darkness and freedom for each of us to be ourselves without diminishing the value of others. May Lent be a time when we pray for peace to triumph over discord in and between nations, individuals and within ourselves.

With best wishes Sarah

BENEFICE REGISTERS			
Funerals			
d. 1st Dec	Dorothy Agnes Freemantle - Aged 91	Puddletown	
d. 14th Dec	Sally Murray - Aged 76	Poole Crematorium	

St Mary's Puddletown				
Intercessors		Scripture Readers		
5th Feb	Cynthia Metcalfe	Rosie Hallett		
12th Feb	12th Feb Puddletown Praise Team			
19th Feb	Bob Todd	Paul Fleetwood		
26th Feb	Dawn Loveless	TBA & Pat Bishop		
	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		



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#### St. Mary's Church Events -February

**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 9<sup>th</sup> February. The cards are good quality and very reasonably priced. Do come along and have a look. Through the sale of her cards Rosemary

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 Village Lunch** will be held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February from 12noon to 1.30pm. We shall be serving beef or vegetarian lasagne followed by the usual delicious puddings, this must be booked in advance. If you haven't yet booked your place then please contact Sheila on 849193 or Jean on 848211.



Warm Space!

Every Wednesday in Puddletown Church Room.

From 10am until 3pm

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## **TOWER NEWS**

#### Puddletown, Dorset

St Mary the Virgin Monday, 9 January 2023 in 45m (16–1–18 in E) **1260 Reverse Canterbury Pleasure Place Doubles** 

1 Nigel Pridmore
3 Jane Pridmore
5 Ashley FE Monck

2 Robin J Mears4 Angie Jasper (C)6 Robert Newton

Rung in Memory of John Mears (Father of Robin) who would have been 100 today

Reverse Canterbury was his favourite method

First Quarter in Dorset 5

Also 40th Anniversary Year of the Dorset County Association

### **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

Janet Voke - 01258 837550







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# **RING FOR THE KING** [EARN TO RING THE CHURCH BELLS FOR THE CORONATION



# WE HAVE TWO TOWERS

## IN PUDDLETOWN AND MILBORNE

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### Month on the Farm

The rain has certainly kept coming and filled the river to overflowing, putting large areas of the water meadows under water, but in so doing, fertilizing the grass as it flows over the surface.

This month sees the annual records filled out for the amount of nitrogen that the farm produces and used last year and the plan for this year. We have to do this calculation as the farm is in a Nitrogen Vulnerable Zone (NVZ) and also the Poole Harbour Catchment. So we are required by the Environment Agency to work out our nitrogen applied to the fields, the yield taken from each field and the number of livestock that have grazed over the field. It is a time consuming office job going through the records of each field, writing down the dates and amounts of different types of fertilizer and farmyard manure applied and then relating this to the yield of grain or grass taken from the field.

Then we start on the livestock: each animal is regarded as a livestock unit or part of, depending on its age, and we have to check back through the diary to see how many of what age and for how long they were grazing on that field, then work out the nitrogen produced by those animals on each field. When all the fields have been done and all the animals accounted for, we are able to see what the nitrogen loading has been for the year and we can work out the plan for the coming year.

Back out in the yard we have just done our latest short interval TB Test and gone clear, no bovine bumps on the cattle, so we will be able to start buying calves back in to rear on through ready for turnout. Before we can sell cattle easily we have to have another clear test so the cattle that are heavy enough to be sold, can only go to an approved TB Market.





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The sheep are grazing the downs above Puddletown, and on New Years Eve all the ewes were scanned to see if they are in lamb and how many lambs they were carrying. This unfortunately was done in the pouring rain with the sheep walking into the crate and son Anthony using the scanner under cover in the dry and marking the sheep in different colours depending on the amount of lambs the ewe is expecting.

Wakely Cox

8<sup>th</sup> January 2023



## **Puddletown Village Lunch**



Monday 13th February Served at 12.00noon Puddletown Village Hall



This month's special is lasagne followed by the usual yummy puddings

£8.00

Please book in advance:

Sheila: 849193; Jean: 848211

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## **Advent Crafts**

The Benefice Flex Team organised weekly craft sessions thoughout Advent.

Over the 4 weeks we made Christmas trees (with styrofoam cones, buttons, glue, and pearl headed pins), Christmas cards, gingerbread men tree hangers, and sequin baubles.

Around 10 people attended each session and enjoyed bread, cheese, and salad for lunch, with good company.

We are continuing our craft group on a monthly basis, starting at 12.30pm on Thursday 9th February in Puddletown church room. Lunch will be provided. All welcome.

Here are some of the crafts we made in December.







1202 Sunday 19th February 2023 10am - 2pm in the Village Hall Join us for coffee, tea, bacon sandwiches, cakes and local stalls. Or just come for a chat! We'd love cake makers and stall holders etc. If you can help, send us a message, or email us at puddcommcafe@gmail.com www.facebook.com/PuddletownCommunityCafe E-mail puddcommcafe@gmail.com

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#### **Puddletown Weather - December 2022**

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

December 2022		
	Rainfall for the month	119.40 mm
and the second second	Cumulative for the year	807.50 mm
	2021 Rainfall for the month	80.70 mm
i stati	2021 Cumulative for the year	771.20mm
~	Temperatures	ax 1.40° C
4 1		Min -5.50° C
tics the set white		Max 12.50 C
	2021	Min 6.50° C
Alter	Maximum wind speed	20.60 mph
	2021	19.70 mph



### **Church Mouse Stock**

Piddle Duck APRON (blue or pink) £15 River Piddle & Duck TEA TOWEL £4.50 Picture of St Mary's Church £2 Duck cards (pack of 4) £5 Single cards £1.40 Flower notelets (pack of 4) £3

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## Puddletown Food Bank

Please pass on to anyone you know who might be in need.

There is now a food bank in Puddletown church for the use of people, living in the village. (This would include Athelhampton, Burleston & Troytown).

Please feel free to take what you might need, and also donations welcome from all.





The food is in some kind of order in the labelled plastic boxes.

They can be found by turning left down the first aisle as you walk through the door.

This food bank is supported by Puddletown First School, Puddletown Surgery, Puddletown Spar Shop, and St Mary's church.

### The Benefice Flex Team are organising a

### **Benefice Social Event with Skittles**

#### Saturday 18th February



6pm



#### The Royal Oak, Milborne

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## SALE Sunday 5th March 10am - 1pm

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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	0///190.05/4
Area Parish Clerk	puddletown@dorset-aptc.gov.uk	
Bell Ringers	Robin Mears	01305 848 021
Children's Society	Dawn Loveless	01305 849534
		01305 848494
Church Room	Jane Stanley	07871 169014
Community Café	Katie Weiss puddcommcafe@gmail.com	
COMMUNITY LIBRARY - Run &	financed by volunteers. 01305 848 506	
	puddletownlibrary@gmail.com	
Opening Hours:-	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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Puddletown Surgery (Dispensary)		01305 849 329	
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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/puddletov	wnplaypark	
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 puddletownrfc@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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Orchard Meadow	Clerk to PAPC		
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	Tyra Nozaic Goosen, 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	
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Parish Clerk	Amanda Crocker	dewlish@dorset- aptc.gov.uk
Village Hall (Chair)	Andrew Barnett	07551 839296
Village Hall (Sec)	Alex Carter	01258 837 312
MILBORNE ST ANDREW CON	NTACTS	
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Archery	Mike Healy	01300 342 134
Badminton	Bruce Dyer	01258 839 117
Bellringers	Pip Bowell	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
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	Alison Riddle (Bookings)	01258 837 148
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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 February 2023

What a lot of water around - some creeping inside as well as in the water meadows and across the roads - in

fact we have been very interested that the damp and puddles in the church have come up through the floor and from condensation rather than through leaks in the roof!

Christmas is now well behind us and all the decorations stowed away for another year. We are left with many happy memories- the Carols under the tree, the Crib Service and well attended Christmas Day Service - all of which reminded us that Tolpuddle has a really strong community spirit which Covid has not destroyed. TEC is already



planning several events, including plans for the Coronation and Martyrs Weekend. Many of the villagers have been avidly watching the proposed plans for a Consortium buyout of the Martyr's Pub which will enhance the community further. We now have a fabulous Village Website, which is such a useful tool with its links to the church, hall and other groups.



January is often a rather dull month as regards church services - we can't offer 50% Sales or two for the price of one! - but this month we have been very fortunate to welcome Richard Hall's Barn Choir to join us at the Sunday Reflection – what a treat for us all as they sang a variety of Epiphany carols and other sacred music. This was interspersed with readings from Sarah and Maggie - some biblical, some contemporary and periods of silence and then we all joined in for a rousing rendition of We Three Kings from Orient Are!

On **January 29<sup>th</sup>** we are hosting the Benefice at St John's with a Bring and Share lunch afterwards.

Looking towards February we will have our regular **Parish Communion at 9.30am on 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>-** with **Sunday Reflection on February 12<sup>th</sup> at 5.30 pm** and **Go Fourth on February 26<sup>th</sup> at 10.00am.** We are sure that one of these services would suit you but if not please do tell us how we could improve things.

Continued on Page 35

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01305 239289 Homeinstead.co.uk/Dorchester Do remember that the Village Foodbank is set up at the back of the church and is for the benefit of anyone in the village who is finding it difficult to manage their budget as inflation sets in. You might want to fill in a long winter's evening with a good read - so do go and browse along the book shelves in the North Aisle and just help yourself.

The PCC held a regular meeting on Monday 12<sup>th</sup>, at which the Treasurer was able to reassure us that the church finances are holding up although costs have also risen dramatically. We would welcome more regular donors through the Church Giving Scheme - do contact John Taylor at <u>taylorjs113@gmail.com</u> if you want to know more about this. Archdeacon Penny gave a presentation and Benefice matters were discussed before the individual parishes discussed their own individual problems. We would welcome another member on the Council - please contact Hilly or Jayne for more information.

Tolpuddle Events Committee (TEC) are organising a Bingo Evening in the Village Hall on Saturday February 4th- for more information ask Hilly (<u>hlcobban@gmail.com</u>) or look at the Village Web Site. We are currently asking for help with planning the Coronation Celebrations on May 6th - do you have any ideas or do you want to join the team?

Let us look towards the spring as we see the snowdrops popping up in the churchyard and even the occasional daffodil.

Hílly/Jayne

#### **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.

Julía Johnstone



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#### TOLPUDDLE VILLAGE HALL NEWS

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#### **150 Club Draw - December Super Draw 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 (£50)	2nd (£15)	3rd (£10)		
December	Ian & Fran Cambrook	Mel Hunter	Beverley Clayton		



"He moved here after the PCC voted to lower the church heating bill. He says it is warmer out here."

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#### Tolpuddle Martyrs Inn hopes to reopen under village purchase plan

Since February 2020, Tolpuddle village has suffered the loss of its pub. When other communities were coming back together again after the COVID period, the continued loss of interaction between friends and neighbours in Tolpuddle only served to enhance the sense of loss.

News came through the grapevine that the pub had been sold and, to their collective delight, villagers were told it would soon open. The new purchasers, full of good intentions, became the victim of circumstance and have been unable to open.

Given the number of pubs in and around the area that have closed, the likelihood of someone rescuing The Martyrs Inn looked remote. A sense of foreboding descended on the village and fears grew that one day they might be challenging the prospect of residential development on the site which once in ancient times housed the Crown Inn and, since 1926, the Martyrs Inn.

A representative of The Plunkett foundation, a charitable organisation involved in supporting community ventures, gave a heart-warming presentation to the village residents on what they could provisionally offer and what would be required of a community to make it all work under their scheme. Whilst very encouraging, the timescale was too restrictive and to arrange a sizeable steering committee from among the residents to take on the unpaid responsibility was unlikely to be sustainable.

Barrie Lovelock, a long-time resident of Tolpuddle, came up with a new plan to rescue the pub and it's been very popular. The plan gained huge support on its first airing at a village hall meeting in December 2022. The villagers would become shareholders in a limited company that made an offer to purchase the pub and, by virtue of the vested interest, offered the pub regular patronage from those determined to see it succeed.

It was hoped that 500 shares at £500 each could be sold in addition to a mortgage which had provisionally been arranged for a further £200,000, thereby providing the funds to at least get the plan off the ground. An excellent landlord and his wife have also been provisionally lined up who themselves would invest a significant sum into the business.

Interest paid on shares plus a percentage of the net profits gives investors another reason to invest beyond the desire to see the pub re-open, but no-one expected the surge of interest in share take-up which, as of 11<sup>th</sup> January, has already exceeded £450,000 meaning the village no longer require a mortgage and can plan their next move with greater certainty.

At the time of writing, the village have yet to agree terms with the current owner, but an initial meeting has shown there is an appetite from both sides to reach a mutually beneficial result.

#### Do you run holiday accommodation or a local business?

The new Tolpuddle and Southover Village website <u>www.tolpuddlevillage.co.uk</u> 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.

We look forward to hearing from you. Please email: <u>tolpuddlevillagewebsite@gmail.com</u>

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www.blanchardsbailey.co.uk Call us on: 01305 251 222 The village web site has regular updates on its progress and business plan. With a fair wind and widespread goodwill the village hope to get the pub open again by early May, and everyone should feel justly proud of what they have jointly achieved, so far. Visit <u>https://www.tolpuddlevillage.co.uk/the-martyrs-inn</u> for full details and see how you can get involved.

#### **Editors' Notes**

For further information or interview opportunities contact:

Barrie John Lovelock

Email: bjl.highdean@gmail.com

Visit https://www.tolpuddlevillage.co.uk/the-martyrs-inn to learn more.



# Food Bank For YOU In St John's Tolpuddle

(Come and help yourself)



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#### **Milborne St Andrew's Church News**



St Andrew's updates

Christmas was, as usual, a busy time for our church. We had a well-attended Carols by Candlelight service, a Christmas Eve communion service and the Christmas morning service. As I write this, we are still in the church's Christmas season of Epiphany which is when

the wise men/kings/magi arrive to see Jesus.

Thanks to Richard Ferguson, a lovely Christmas tree was provided; the school had it until term their broke up after which it was transported to the church. Becky managed to organise the tree's transportation from school to the church and as a bonus for us, she decorated it as well. Thank you, Becky.

We are very lucky to have such dedicated flower arrangers who provided lovely displays in the church, many thanks to them. Our cleaning team have been challenged a lot this winter with leaves being blown in and muddy footprints on the carpets, thanks ladies for all you do.

It has been lovely to hear our bells being rung more frequently thanks to Robin and his team. We hope that they will continue to ring regularly and will welcome new ringers. See posters for more information.

Pam & Tony Churchwardens

#### Milborne St Andrew Gardening Club

Heaven Scent this month!

Unfortunately, due to flooding and icy conditions, we took the difficult decision to cancel last month's meeting and our 'Companion Planting' talk. Apologies to anyone who didn't get our message.

This month (Thurs. 16 Feb), we are looking forward to a talk by Jenny Short on 'Fragrance in the Garden'. She says: 'Memories of garden fragrances can stay with us for many years, so choose aromatic plants for yourself and the generations to come.' Jenny is providing lists of the best plants so that we don't have to make notes!

It won't be too late to join the club for the year, or do just come along for this one talk. Tea and biscuits at no extra cost!



Angela Johnson





Parish Magazine - February 2023



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# Norne St 4, here in the st school

#### **Milborne St Andrew First School**

We started reading the story, 'Lost and Found' and thought that the best way to help the boy was to find out more about penguins...we tried moving our body like a penguin, talking about how our body differed. We jumped, waddled and slid

but decided we needed a surface more like ice so how could we create it!



We talked about different surfaces and created an area using tarpaulin and water to slide like a penguin. This is called tobogganing! As we were investigating (which was a lot of fun) we discovered not only different techniques for travelling but also that some materials are better than others, which led us to think about a penguins feathers. We found out that penguins make an oil that waterproofs their feathers and those children who had similar material were far more slippery than those that had winter coats.





Parish Magazine - February 2023

Every Monday During term time

Toddlers

Tolpuddle m

1) ANA

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Crafts | Singing | Snacks | Play

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Update from Dorchester & Sherborne offices of Central Dorset Citizens Advice

"With the colder weather, I've noticed mould and damp in our flat. It's mainly in our bedroom, in-

cluding some black mould on the carpet. I've been chasing our letting agency, who say they'll speak to our landlord. I'm really worried about how this might affect our health. Our tenancy agreement isn't up for eight months, what can I do?"

**To raise the issue with your letting agency is a good move.** Unfortunately, it isn't always easy to work out the cause of mould or damp and this can make it difficult to work out if your landlord is responsible, unless there's an obvious cause, like a leaking roof.

**There are many causes of damp** in properties with rising, penetrating, construction and condensation damp as the most common. On our website there is information that may help you work out what type of damp you have, who is responsible and what you can do.

A common cause of damp is condensation. To prevent this, it's important to keep homes well-heated and well-ventilated, but this will be trickier to do given the colder weather and higher heating costs. You may be eligible for help to insulate and heat your home and should visit our website that has advice on such schemes, as well as things that can make damp worse and may impact the landlord taking responsibility for repairs, such as drying clothes on heaters or blocking air vents.

**Check your tenancy agreement** too for references to repairs and damp. A landlord will have to act in relation to damp if it makes the property unsafe for someone to live in such as if it is making the tenant or a member of their family ill. The landlord will also be responsible if the damp is related to repairs they should have carried out, like if heaters are broken. If the damp has damaged items that the landlord is responsible for, such as carpets and window frames, they'll likely have to pay the cost of repairs.

**Steps you can take** include reporting your landlord to the local authority if he/she is responsible for the damp in your property but doesn't act, **Use the landlord's formal complaints procedure** If you're in social housing. There is more information about this on our website.

#### Contact your local Citizens Advice on anything you're unsure

**about.** It is important to speak to an adviser first if it reaches the point where you want to get out of a fixed term tenancy agreement early as there might be better ways to approach the issue. Call our Adviceline on 0800 144 8848 between 10am and 4pm Monday to Friday or check our local office opening times on <u>www.centraldorsetca.org.uk</u>. You may also find helpful info on: https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/housing/renting-privately/during-your-tenancy/dealing-with-repairs/

Digital

Dorset

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#### News from Trading Standards: Buy Safe

A survey by the Chartered Trading Standard's Institute found that many people did not understand what to look out for to make sure that the goods they bought online were safe.



Counterfeit perfumes have been found to contain

dangerous levels of methanol, which can cause irritation to the skin, eyes and damage the nervous system. Counterfeit toys have been found to contain illegal levels of phthalates, a plastic-softening chemical than can cause cancer, asthma and fertility problems.

Toys and other electrical items which are operated by lithium-ion button or coin -cell batteries are also a particular concern; by law they must have lockable battery compartments, because if a button battery is swallowed by a child it can cause serious internal injuries.

Products such as electronic scooters that use lithium batteries also pose a risk to safety, and there have been several recent cases of these devices catching fire while charging. Poor-quality chargers have also been known to cause electrical shorts, which can lead to house fires.

Consumers are urged to:

Only shop at reputable retailers, as not only does this increase the likelihood that the product will be safe, but it also means that you will be entitled to a refund if there is a fault.

Don't always trust online reviews, these can easily be faked.

Look for the UKCA mark on products such as toys, electrical goods and cosmetics. This ensures that the product has been tested to comply with safety standards.

Make sure toys and other goods are suitable for children by checking the age range of the item, and never leave a child unattended with a toy that contains small parts.

Ensure that any item that uses button batteries has a lockable battery compartment.

Do not buy fakes or counterfeits, it funds criminality, can be poor value for money and is a serious potential safety risk.

If you have seen or have bought something that you think is unsafe, then report it to Trading Standards, by calling the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on 0808 2231133.



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#### **Dewlish Church Notes**

OUR Carol Service was very well-attended and was a most joyous occasion. Jim had struggled to get young children for the Nativity Story but, amazingly, on the day we had nearly a full cast, all

thanks to some parents who contacted friends to bring their children. Thank you everyone!

A host of thanks must also go to Aiden and his superb musicians, the older children for their beautiful story-telling and, of course the young people. Jim, who created the service, and Mandy, who typed up the scripts, are also deserving of the warmest thanks. Additionally, we are immensely grateful to David of Western Marquees, who lent us the staging and microphones.

The collection, which amounted to £217.17, has been donated to the Children's Society. After the service we all enjoyed refreshments at the Village Hall.

On Christmas Day the church was beautifully decorated, so many thanks to all those people who provided flowers and foliage and decorations. A big thank-you to Jim for decorating the Christmas tree so well, and for the crib scenes. The very well-attended service was led by the Rev. Rosemary Bassett.

The final total for our Christmas Bazaar was £592.79. Again, many thanks to everyone who supported the event in so many ways. We have so much in Dewlish to be thankful for.

The church does not have anything planned at present but Spring will be upon us soon, and there will be plenty going on then!



Daphne Burg

3	8	6	2	7	1	5	9	4
1	5	2	9	8	4	7	6	3
4	7	9	6	5	3	1	2	8
6	4	3	1	2	8	9	7	5
8	1	5	3	9	7	6	4	2
2	9	7	4	6	5	8	3	1
5	6	8	7	3	2	4	1	9
7	3	1	8	4	9	2	5	6
9	2	4	5	1	6	3	8	7



# 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

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

#### Services in the Benefice

Services in the behence							
4th February - Saturday							
2.00pm	Marriage of Luke Prescott & Bethany Woodington	Puddletown					
5th Februa	5th February - 3rd Sunday before Lent						
Psalm 112; Isaiah 58.1-9a; Matthew 5.13-20							
9.30am	Parish Communion	Tolpuddle					
9.30am	Celebrate	Milborne					
11.00am	Parish Communion	Puddletown					
11.00am	BCP Morning Prayer	Dewlish					
12th February - 2nd Sunday before Lent							
Psalm 136	; Romans 8.18-25; Matthew 6.25-34						
9.30am	Parish Communion	Milborne					
11.00am	Puddletown Praise	Puddletown					
11.00am	Parish Communion	Dewlish					
5.30pm	Sunday Reflections	Tolpuddle					
19th February - Sunday Next Before Lent							
Psalm 99;	Exodus 24.12-18; Matthew 17.1-9						
9.30am	Parish Communion	Tolpuddle					
9.30am	Worship in Stillness	Milborne					
11.00am	Parish Communion	Puddletown					
11.00am	Family Service	Dewlish					
22nd February - Ash Wednesday							
Psalm 51.1-18; Isaiah 58.1-12; John 8.1-1							
6.00pm	United Benefice Holy Communion with imposition of ashes	Puddletown					
26th February - Lent 1							
Psalm 32; Genesis 2.15-17; 3.1-7; Matthew 4.1-11							
9.30am	Parish Communion	Milborne					
10.00am	Go Fourth	Tolpuddle					
11.00am	BCP Matins (traditional language)	Puddletown					
11.00am	Parish Communion	Dewlish					

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