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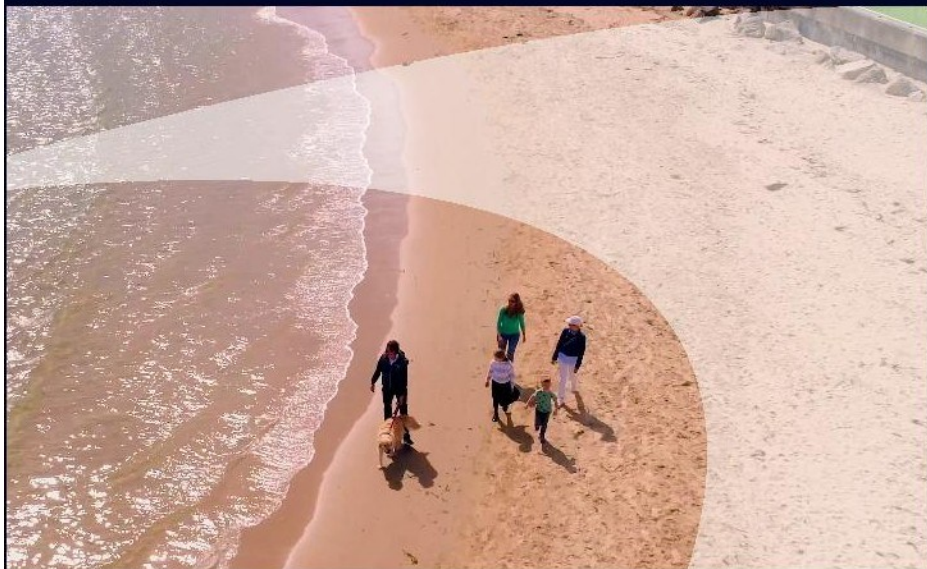
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Front Cover Photos: Tolpuddle Martyrs Festival.

Revd. Rachel Bending (District Chair, Southampton District of the Methodist church), Matthew Forsyth (Vice-President of the Methodist Conference 2025/26), Revd. Richard Andrew (President of the Methodist Conference 2025/26), Karen, Bishop of Sherborne, Sarah Hillman, and John Yarrien (Superintendent Minister, Dorset South & West Circuit).

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The power of small things

For many people, August often brings a change of pace. No children to hustle out of the front door to school, perhaps some time away, fewer meetings and long, sunny evenings of relaxation. Many people take the opportunity to slow down a bit.

But not everyone has that luxury: farmers can't just abandon their animals or leave the crops unharvested, working parents still need to get the children out of the door to childminders or holiday clubs, employees in hospitality face one of their busiest times, and fortunately people who work in our essential services – medical, power, refuse collection and so on – carry on working, often even harder than usual because of colleagues who take a summer holiday. For some, August can be one of the busiest months of all. To all of you who keep things going while others pause: thank you.

This mixture of rest and activity, of stillness and service, reminds me of something deeply important: the value of small things. Often, it's the smallest gestures that stay with us. A friendly wave from a passing car. A neighbour who checks in. A kind word in the queue at the shop. These simple acts may not seem much in themselves, but they can quietly transform someone's day. And we can include them in our daily life regardless of how busy or not we are.

Three small examples from my recent experience show how easy it can be to make a powerful difference even with a small action.

I was with a group of young people who were given a choice between two activities. The sun-catcher option proved unexpectedly more popular than the other, but there weren't enough materials for everyone to participate. As the children eagerly rushed forward to grab their preferred craft, one thoughtful girl, who had managed to secure one, noticed the disappointment on another child's face. Although she had wanted that activity for herself, she generously gave it away. It was a lovely gesture. But the story didn't end there – the second child then offered to let the first join in with her, and they made the sun-catcher together. A small unselfish act led to partnership and friendship.

Not long ago I lost the white part from my Vicar's dog collar. I knew roughly where I'd been so I put a post with a photograph on the relevant village's Facebook page asking people to look out for it and to let me know if they found it, so I could go and collect it. A few hours later, two people turned up on my doorstep, collar in hand. I was so grateful.

There are lots of sweet peas around at present. These lovely flowers always remind me of my father, a particularly poignant memory since he died last year. I mentioned this to someone in passing; not long afterwards a small vase of that same flower was left on my doorstep but not I discovered by her; I don't know where it came from but it meant so much.

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I believe God is often found in those small moments. Not just in grand cathedrals or dramatic events, but in the everyday exchanges that reveal care, compassion, and attention. Jesus himself so often noticed what others missed: the widow's coin, the child in the crowd, the tired fisherman. That's the kind of seeing we're invited to practise too.

So whether you are taking a break this summer or working flat out, I hope you find time to notice the little things — and perhaps to offer a few as well. A conversation, a gesture, a prayer. In God's eyes, no act of love is ever wasted.

With best wishes,
Sarah

St Mary's Puddletown		
Intercessors		Scripture Readers
3rd August	TBA	Judy Bumby
10th Augusy	Puddletown Praise Team	
17th August	Jean Jeffreys	TBA
24th August	TBA	Ursula Pomeroy & Geoff Hawkins
31st August	Benefice Service	
Charitable Giving 2025		
Lent		Dorchester Poverty Action
Mothering Sunday		Mosaic
Easter Day		The Salvation Army (Homeless)
Harvest		Water Aid
Christmas		The Children's Society

BENEFICE REGISTERS

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D. 28th May Anne Plant Weymouth Crematorium

Interment of Ashes

D. 24th Michael John Pretty Puddletown
December
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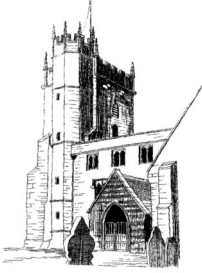
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St. Mary's Church Events - August

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 cards will be available at coffee pop-in on Thursday August 14th.

Prayer Group This continues to meet in the church room on Tuesday mornings from 10.30 until 11.30am. All are welcome

The Craft Group are taking a break through the summer.

The Village Lunch becomes tea this month. We shall be serving a delicious afternoon tea on Monday August 11th at 3.00pm and will be entertained by our local ukulele group. This must be booked in advance. If you haven't yet booked your place then please contact Sheila on 849193 or Jean on 848211.

The Summer Fair, followed by Hymns and Pimms on the Sunday, were both a great success, we raised £660.99 for church funds and a good time was had by all.

Summer Family Fun Day this was enjoyed by everyone, who attended. Games were played, various crafts took place and a good time was had by all.

Wimbledon Afternoon Teas in the church room were attended by quite a few people, both afternoons were most enjoyable social events. Strawberries and cream, tea/coffee and cakes, prosecco etc were consumed while watching the finals on the big screen.

As a bonus to a very pleasant afternoon we raised £192.50 for the church coffers.

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Bennett Bulletin from Toronto July 2025.



I have just checked back in my files and realise I have not sent a Bulletin since December, 2024. There was a suggestion that the family and I might be able to visit the UK in 2025 but that has not been possible. There is still a chance we may make in in 2026 so I hope to visit Puddletown then.

This year so far has been busy in both my daughters' families. Stephanie's father-in-law died at Easter and her husband Charles has been spending time in Windsor (Ontario) helping his mother. Liz, living in the Turks & Caicos, has been back and forth to Canada because her son, Isaac is at boarding school here. Chloe, older granddaughter, graduated from Toronto Metropolitan University with a degree in film studies, Emelie has another year of university before graduation. When Isaac comes through on his way from school he brings an enormous pile of dirty laundry which Granny deals with! Despite the laundry it is always a joy to spend time with them all.

I see in my last bulletin I hoped that 2025 would see a more peaceful world, but sadly that has not happened yet. Apart from the fighting around the world, everyone seems to be suffering from heatwaves. Toronto is very hot at the moment, thank goodness for air conditioning.

I send blessing and good wishes to all my friends in the Benefice and hope to see you again one day.

Diana

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 11.30am.

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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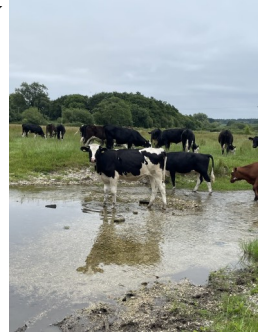
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Month on the Farm

Last month I said the rain had at last arrived, unfortunately it did not amount to very much and as a consequence we are very short of grass with many of the fields completely burnt up. Some of the fields shut up for second cut silage have had to be grazed and some of the cattle are being fed the silage that we made in May, their winter feed!



The maize is extremely patchy with the earlier drilled growing well but the later sown after the turnip/cover crop mix is really suffering from the dry conditions, some plants having germinated and then dying off, the maize loves the sun and heat which has made it shoot up where the roots have some moisture and is above shoulder height, while the later plants are not even up to my waist which though was great for small school children to run through on recent school visits.

The ewes and lambs are about to be weaned with the ewes going to graze some downland near Bramblecombe on the edge of Cheselbourne and the lambs staying here hopefully getting heavier but with the hot temperatures they are mainly lying around eating very little. With the large fly population everything will have a fly spray applied to help keep the flies off and so prevent any fly strike problems, the maggots hatching out and eating into the flesh of the sheep!

The cattle are growing well and everything outside is grazing along with either our barley mix or some silage. In a dry time the stock always look and do well as each mouthful of food whether it is dry grass or the corn is dry rather than mouthfuls of wet grass. We are still selling the bigger cattle but will be stopping soon as our 60 days after the TB Test movement permit will lapse.



Harvest has started with the winter barley all cut and in store with the straw baled and stacked in the barn. The yield for both the grain and straw was better than I had anticipated with everything being a nice bright yellow, rain would usually dull the colour. The price of grain has dropped still further which is usual at harvest time while the markets see what the yields



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are like and grain gets moved to central stores to allow space on farm to store the later harvested crops. The fans have been running at night to cool the grain down as much as possible. Our next crop will be the Oil Seed Rape which will have to be cut at different times as the drilling dates were a month apart and the later drilled is about 2 weeks behind the earlier drilled fields.

We had some interesting conversations at the Health and Safety Event held here from overhead electric cables to the Air Ambulance and First Aid, we even had the Dorchester Fire Engine and crew discussing the ways to tackle any incident, an interesting and informative morning for the 70 farmers attending which was rounded off with a hot pasty.

We have just had another school visit this term, this time being Puddletown First School and the river stop was a real success catching lots of little fishes and numerous other freshwater creepy crawlies, hopefully Dorchester Girl Guides the following evening had a similar success.

Wakely Cox

9th July 2025





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The latter stages of the summer term are traditionally enlivened by trips and residential experiences for the children, and this year has been no different! Year 6 recently returned from a four day stay at New Barn Field Centre, located in the beautiful countryside above Bradford Peverell. The children spent the week enjoying an incredible range of fabulous activities, from sports to working with clay, and from learning about the history and geography of Bradford Peverell to making fire, churning butter, grinding wheat to make flour, making Viking Savlon cream, shelter building, analysing Viking tools and artifacts, orienteering, and, last but not least, they got to meet a wide range of animals from tortoises to turkeys! Needless to say, the children loved every minute of the trip and soon overcame any feelings of homesickness.



No sooner had Year 6 returned to school than our Year 8 students departed for their residential break at Budden's Activity Centre in Poole. It's true to say that the trip has left the students with some very special memories as they approach the finale of their final term at St Mary's. What an active few days it was with the students enjoying the high life on the high ropes and climbing wall, getting drenched during the raft-building and feeling the satisfaction of hitting the bullseye on the archery field. We are massively grateful to our wonderful staff for giving up so much of their own time to provide such fabulous experiences for the children.

Our summer concerts and performances are always guaranteed to pack the school hall. This year, Year 5 rose to the ambitious challenge of performing a play with a Greek theme, that drew inspiration from Jason and the Golden Fleece. The children were fabulous; all that time practicing lines, dance routines and lyrics, certainly paid off!

And to finish the year in style we celebrated our 60th anniversary with a summer festival of music and the arts, an impressive event when those pupils



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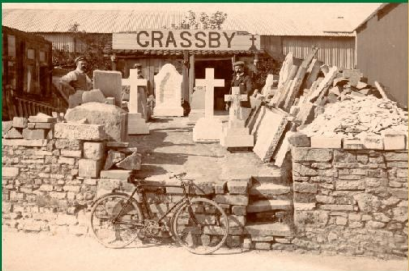
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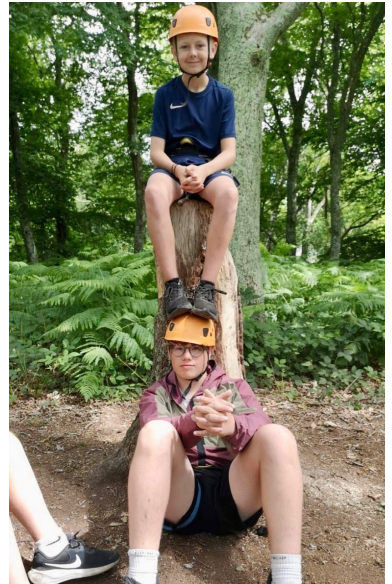


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who have a passion for the arts had the chance to show off their talents. Well over thirty different acts, including rock bands, vocalists, instrumentalists and dancers enthralled the audience in a packed, and very hot, sports hall! At the same time visitors enjoyed the opportunity to view a wide range of art work that our students had created during the year, from ceramics to drawings and paintings. To see more of the terrific art that our students create, why not follow **@stmarysschoolart** on Instagram? We guarantee you will be impressed by our students' work!

Finally, we would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone in our community for their valued support, and to wish you all a wonderful summer from all the staff and students of St Mary's.



CONTACTS For further information, admission details or to arrange a visit, please contact the school office

Head of School: Tim Ennion

Chair of Governors: Caleb Brown

St Mary's School Association: Chairpersons: Briony Hosford & Marie Chappell

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The Puddletown Society

There is no meeting in August

Wednesday 10 September 2025

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7.30pm

For details of the society contact the Secretary: Janet Ranger-Dennis

tel: 07752 634773 e-mail: janet.ranger@yahoo.co.uk

Tower News

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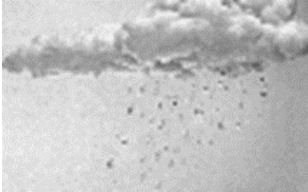


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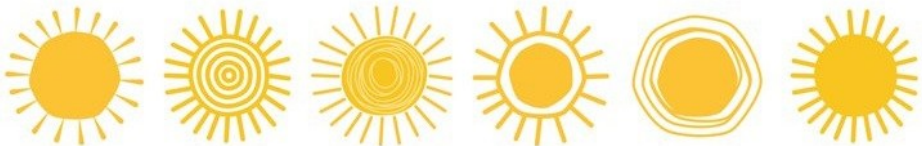


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Puddletown Weather - June 2025

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

June 2025		
	Rainfall for the month	44.10mm
	Cumulative for the year	341.40mm
	2024 Rainfall for the month	10.20 mm
	2024 Cumulative for the year	454.80 mm
	Temperatures	Max. 31.60° C Min. 8.00° C
	2024	Max. 29.00° C Min. 4.80° C
	Maximum wind speed	14.50 mph
	2024	15.90 mph





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Lord's Prayer tops Shakespeare, Dickens, Churchill and National Anthem in public recognition poll

People in the UK are more likely to identify correctly a short extract from the Lord's Prayer – also known as the Our Father – than one from the National Anthem and other sources chosen for their deep cultural resonance, a new poll has found.

The polling, carried out for the Church of England, also found the reference in the prayer to being forgiven and forgiving others was the element people found most meaningful to them.

Pollsters Savanta surveyed more than 2,000 people across the UK. They asked them to match seven famous lines - spanning areas ranging from literature and history to popular culture – with their source, from a list of correct answers.

Overall, the phrase from the Lord's Prayer was recognised correctly by the largest number of people (80.3 per cent), just ahead of Star Wars (79.9 per cent).

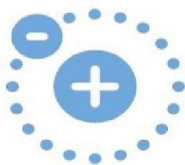
They were followed by Hamlet's "To be or not to be" (73 per cent) the extract from the National Anthem (63 per cent); the line from Churchill's 'The Few' speech (61 per cent); and You'll Never Walk Alone (58 per cent).

Overall, 89 per cent of those surveyed said that they had previously heard of the Lord's Prayer or the Our Father. This was highest among those who described themselves as Christian (95 per cent), but also by 88 per cent of those who said they had no religion.

The Archbishop of York, Stephen Cottrell, is currently leading a 'Lord's Prayer Tour' of events at churches and cathedrals across the north of England attended by thousands of people, as part of his *Faith In The North* initiative.

He said: "In a world of shifting cultures and changing circumstances, the Lord's Prayer remains a steady guide - perhaps never more so than now.

"Lines like 'Give us this day our daily bread' speak powerfully to today's challenges, reminding us to seek sufficiency, not excess, and to consider what 'enough' truly means."



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CLERGY	The Revd Sarah Hillman (Vicar)	07350 414483
	sarah.c.hillman@outlook.com	
LICENSED LAY MINISTER	Margaret Rickard	01305 849332
CHURCHWARDENS	Vacancy (Puddletown)	
	Dawn Loveless (Puddletown)	01305 849 534
	Hilly Cobban (Tolpuddle)	07817 557367
	Jayne Brayshaw (Tolpuddle)	01305 849 314
	Vacancy (Milborne St Andrew)	
	Tony Fox (Milborne St Andrew)	07368 145 584
	Sue Britton (Dewlish)	01258 837 218
	Jim Burg (Dewlish)	01258 837 466
BENEFICE OFFICE	Emma Hughes	
(www.puddletownbenefice.org)	puddletownbenefice@outlook.com	
PUDDLETOWN CONTACTS		
Alcoholics Anonymous		
Area Parish Council		
Area Parish Clerk	Michelle Harrington clerk@puddletownareaparishcouncil.gov.uk	01202 670105
Bell Ringers	Robin Mears	01305 848 021
Children's Society		
Church Room	Jane Stanley	01305 848494 07871 169014
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	
Cricket Club	David Stevens	07720 411 952
Cubs, Scouts & Beavers	Barry Thomas www.puddletownscouts.org.uk	01305 852314
Flood Warden	Cllr Richard Green clrrgreen@puddletownareaparishcouncil.gov.uk	
Flower Rota	Heather Mears	01305 848 021
Football Club	Steve Brown	07789 821 408
Footpaths & Rights of Way	Michelle Harrington clerk@puddletownareaparishcouncil.gov.uk	01202 670105

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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	Jill Temple friendsofpuddletownchurch@gmail.com	
Friends of Puddletown Library	Paul Poser	01305 848 176
Gift Aid Co-ordinator	Bob Todd	01305 849 048
Gym	Dan Weiss coachdan26@gmail.com	07547 713675
Exercise Classes For All	Sylvia Salcedo sylvia.a.salcedo@gmail.com	07788 101075
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	07776 256537
Pilates (at the Middle School)	Kathy Ashdown	07967 655159
Puddletown CPPP	www.facebook.com/puddletownplaypark	
Pumpkins Toddler Group	Find us on Facebook or Instagram @puddletownpumpkins	
Puddletown Society	Janet Ranger-Dennis	07752 634773
Puddletown Ukulele Group	Bob Watson bobwatson55@hotmail.com	07725 684 400
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 of School)	Mrs A Seal www.puddletownfirst.dorset.sch.uk	01305 848 206
St Mary's CE Middle School	Mr Tim Ennion	01305 848 293

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Short Mat Bowls	Mervyn Harris	07794 787588 (Mervyn) 01305 849 049 (Sue) mervynharris981@btinternet.com
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Tree Warden	Cllr John Ridout cllrjridout@puddletownareaparishcouncil.gov.uk
-------------	--

Village Hall Caretaker/Bookings	Kevin Smith (puddletownvh@gmail.com)	07706 798271
---------------------------------	---	--------------

Village Hall Committee Secretary	Amy Knight	01305 848602
----------------------------------	------------	--------------

Young Farmers (Dorset)	01305 263 947
------------------------	---------------

TOLPUDDLE CONTACTS

Defibrillator (outside Martyrs Inn)	Clare & Roger Angus	07720 059035 or 01305 848286
-------------------------------------	---------------------	------------------------------

Orchard Meadow	Clerk to PAPC
----------------	---------------

PCC Secretary	Heather Saunders
---------------	------------------

PCC Treasurer	John Taylor	01305 848 552
---------------	-------------	---------------

Physio-Led Pilates	Sam Buxton	samjbuxton31@gmail.com
--------------------	------------	------------------------

Pilates	Kathy Ashdown	07967 655159
---------	---------------	--------------

Tolpuddle Events Committee	Ian Cray
----------------------------	----------

Tolpuddle Home Group	Shirley & Richard Woolford	01305 849539
----------------------	----------------------------	--------------

Tolpuddle Old Chapel Trust		info@tolpuddleoldchapeltrust.org
----------------------------	--	----------------------------------

Tolpuddle Toddler Group	Maria Palmer	07717 506020
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Tolpuddle Village Meeting	Tyra Nozaic Goosen, Clerk.	tolpuddlemeeting@yahoo.com
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Tolpuddle Village Show	Jo Austwick	austwickjoanne@gmail.com.
------------------------	-------------	---------------------------

Tolpuddle & Southover Village Website	www.tolpuddlevillage.co.uk	tolpuddlevillagewebsite@gmail.com
---------------------------------------	----------------------------	-----------------------------------

Village Hall Bookings Sec.	Jo Austwick	tolpuddlevhinfo@gmail.com
----------------------------	-------------	---------------------------

Village Hall Chairman	Peter Walton pdwalton@btinternet.com	01305 848 034
-----------------------	---	---------------

Yoga (Iyengar)	Sue Chapman	01305 848053
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USEFUL & EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Benefit Enquiry Line	0800 88 22 00
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Dorset Community Action	info@dorsetcommunityaction.org.uk
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Dorset County Hospital	01305 251 150
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Electricity Failure	(Southern Electric)	0800 0727 282
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Gas Leak or a smell of gas		0800 111 999
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POLICE—Local Officers	PC Moore 0229 & PS CO Alison Donnison 6500	101 or "Contact Us" section on Dorset Police Website
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DEWLISH CONTACTS		
Cricket	Elaine Kellaway	01258 837 696
Parish Council	Chris Udens (Chair)	07973 167117
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 CONTACTS		
Allotment Society	Joy Robinson	01258 837 661
Archery	Mike Healy	01300 342 134
Bellringers	Robin Mears	01305 848 021
Busy Bees Group (Under 5s)	Claire Tudge	07970 734 162
Cribbage	Peter Anthony	01258 837 089
Food & Wine Club	Steve O'Neill	07490 691 121
Gardening Club	Bill Love	01258 837 677
Ladybirds Playgroup	Samantha Mercer	07767 450967
Milborne First School	Michelle Cheeseman (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 (Chair)	07774 081 551
	Wayne Lewin (Clerk)	07419 136 735
Patient Voice Secretary	Nigel Hodder	07983 013 781
Pilates (at First School)	Claire Barratt	07703 648869
Scout Group	Sam Elliott	07873 762 035
Sports Club	Philip Smith (& Bookings)	07776 561 105
Tap Dancing (Adults)	Kevin Selby	01305 250 386
Tennis - Member's Secretary	Rich Hawker	07983 013 781
Village Hall	Linsey O'Neill (Chair) chair.msavh@gmail.com	07798 720 812
	Susan Poet (Bookings)	07866 313 999
Wednesday Social Club	Josie Wright	01258 839 090
Women's Institute	Lesley Clarke	01929 471 732
Yoga –at Milborne Sports Pavilion	Sue Chapman (Iyengar yoga)	01305 848 053
Yoga—at Village Hall	Angela Johnson	01258 839 060



St John's Church Tolpuddle August 2025

Summer continues apace, with its inevitable English rain, but now interspersed with hotter days than we have been used to in the past. The birds are still noisily rousing us every morning and at the beginning of July we were blessed by a family of swans on the brook by our house, although sadly a loose dog chased them away - hopefully they are surviving quietly elsewhere on the river. Our pets need to cool off in the heat, but please remember that the wildlife is struggling to adapt to the changing climate too.

As in previous years, we welcomed the TUC here for their weekend of fun - bigger and livelier than ever. To make sure all went with a bang it was all hands to the pump - such a great way to get involved in village life. The festival itself had a packed program of music and comedy plus more serious debates on the Friday and Saturday leading up to the march and speeches on the final day. Sunday started with a special Songs of Praise at St John's church, to which we were delighted to welcome Bishop Karen for a moment of quiet but joyful celebration of the Martyrs' legacy and followed by the laying of wreaths on the Martyr, James Hammett's grave.

Last month we sadly had to say goodbye to Hilly Cobban and John Taylor. Both have been strongly involved in church life for many years, Hilly as churchwarden and John as treasurer to the PCC. Their skills and commitment to the church will be a sad loss. But the village as a whole will miss them too, their organising skills and busy engagement in all aspects of village life will be hard to replace. In typical manner, Hilly and John treated the village as a whole to a cheerful Goodbye at The Martyrs Inn one Sunday evening. This was followed on their last weekend by a special farewell lunch in the church after the Go Fourth service.

Meanwhile life carries on and our regular church services continue - we keep hoping that the congregation numbers will improve to ensure that our church remains viable - it is so important that it is always available for special family occasions like weddings and baptisms as well as the sadder events. Luckily the church is open every day, an opportunity to sit quietly away from the noise and bustle of life. For people who enjoy that do try our **Reflective Service** held on the second Sunday of every month at 5.30pm. It is a time for peace and meditation, listening to poetry and music around a different theme each month. For those looking for something livelier we have **Go Fourth** at 10am - on the fourth Sunday obviously - in the summer months we are often able to hold this service outside which is a joy. Finally on the other two Sundays we have the familiar **communion services** at 9:30am for those who prefer a more traditional worship.

So we finish this report on an upbeat note, as summer approaches and the vegetable gardens are beginning to produce mountains of goodies, children are enjoying their break from school and other members of the family working

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around them. We are truly fortunate to live in such a lovely village and to be able to welcome the many visitors here.

Jayne

Dear All,

What a wonderful evening we had in the Martyrs saying Goodbye to John and Hilly yesterday evening. It has all been a very sudden change for them - and for us as well - but luckily they will be with us for a couple more weeks so there will be an opportunity for the church family to say farewell to them properly too.

Their last weekend in the village will be at the end of July, when we will have our regular Go Fourth service. However we have changed the time slightly to 11 o'clock and will have a special buffet lunch afterwards from 12 o'clock.

Their contribution to the church has been immense over the years and they will be sorely missed by us all. So please come along to join in our rousing farewell to them, and spread the word to your friends and neighbours who might not have seen this email.

Best wishes

Jayne

John and Hilly wish to take this opportunity to bid you all farewell as they are leaving The Old Mill on July 30th after many very happy years in Tolpuddle. We thank you sincerely for your friendship and support and hope to keep in touch. We were able to see dozens of you at the Martyrs' on Sunday, where Mark and his team had put on a magnificent spread. We were very touched to be presented with the imaginative gift of a Sundial as well as a generous voucher. THANK YOU ALL.

John & Hilly

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THE "STRAIGHT EIGHT" OUTING FROM THE PUB IN TOLPUDDLE – THE MARTYRS INN.

On Saturday, 14th of June 2025 took place the twelfth outing from the pub. The event was once again organised in style and with great success by Simon and Glen. We went into Corfe Castle and the Isle of Purbeck and returned via the Frampton Arms which our old friend Chadwick (Chad for short) runs. Lunch was taken at the Seven Stars near Wool, a large pub who gave us a smashing lunch and had extensive lawns on which we could relax: and the weather was good. However, first we had a good fried breakfast prepared by Mark and his colleagues in the Martyrs Arms to line the stomach and get us underway.

We have since 2011 visited over one hundred pubs and these too numerous to mention (and sadly some have closed) but herewith a look at the history of the annual village outing:-

2025 – CORFE CASTLE RUN.

2024 - MID DORSET EXPLORATION

2023 – CERNE ABBAS & PUDDLETOWN

2022/21/20 – COVID/PUB CLOSED

2019 – S/E DORSET & into HAMPSHIRE

2018 – YETMINSTER & THE GIANT

2017 – THE JURASSIC COAST

2016 – SHAFTESBURY & INTO WILTSHIRE

2015 – THE BLACKMORE VALE.

2014 – THE BRIT VALLEY

2013 - WIMBORNE & UP-WIMBORNE

2012 – THE ISLE OF PURBECK

2011 – THE PIDDLE VALLEY.

People were asking how the idea sprang into life and it was sadly through the terminal illness of an old friend of Bill Hull and myself. In spite of being unwell he expressed a wish to go out and have a pint. After one pint he said he felt better and so on to another pub. In this way in 2009 the expedition started although I am sorry to say our old pal died in 2010.

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Back at the Martyrs we told Paul Taylor who lived at Southover about this spontaneous event and he immediately said that we ought to organise it on a bigger scale from the Martyrs Inn. This we did in 2011 with an inaugural outing up the Piddle Valley. In spite of the interruption of covid and technical details like the need to hire a larger coach as we attracted a bigger crowd we are going as strong as ever thanks to Simon and Glen. The name by the way is alliterative as well as referring to the old medieval fact that there were eight pints in a gallon although there is no obligation to have eight drinks but we do visit eight pubs!

There is a stated aim which is to foster the spirit of community goodwill and a sense of social cohesion. In the Parish Magazine of March 2021, I was more or less obliged to emphasise that there would definitely be another outing. Covid put the dampers on it as well as the sale of the pub by the brewery and the eventual purchase by people from the locality. **I am very glad to say that in more recent years we have started the annual outing again.**

Tony Gould – former joint organiser with Paul Taylor - July 2025.





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Dogs and heatstroke

An over-hot dog is a serious matter – if they can't cool down, they are in trouble. So when is a dog too hot?

Vets warn that in temperatures of 20-23C, you need to be careful not to exert them. At 24-27C you are well into the danger zone, and over 27C is life-threatening for them.

Dogs who suffer early on are those with short noses, flat faces, or heavy coats. Small dogs suffer worse than large ones, as do all older and overweight dogs.

Dogs cannot sweat through their coats, but only through the pads on their feet. They cool themselves by panting, which releases heat through the evaporation of their saliva from their extended tongues.

Here are the signs of heatstroke. If you see these in your dog, take action **FAST**, and call a vet: *Excessive panting, drooling, increased heart rate, very red or very pale gums and tongue, vomiting, diarrhoea, bloodshot eyes, increasing lethargy.*

Get your dog out of the sun and into the shade. Stand it in a tub of cool water, and splash its tummy, between its legs and under the tail – not just on the back. But cool it gradually - don't use very cold water, to avoid causing shock. Let your dog lie on wet towels.

As for Walkies, in hot weather, go before 8am and after 7pm. Hot pavements and roads can seriously burn a dog's pads. Try holding your palm on the pavement for 15 seconds - if it is too hot for you, it is too hot for your dog.

NEVER leave your dog in a parked car. A car left in the sun can heat up to 47C within an hour. And your dog enters the life-threatening zone at 27C.





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PUDDLETOWN AREA PARISH COUNCIL

As summer continues, we're back with another round-up from your Parish Council, covering everything from youth-led safety improvements and new councillor appointments to car park works and planning decisions. Here's a summary of our July meeting highlights.

Welcome to New Councillor Robert Patterson: We're pleased to welcome Robert Patterson to the Parish Council, following his successful co-option to represent the Burleston & Tolpuddle area. Cllr Patterson brings valuable insight and is already active in the community. We're delighted to have him join the team.

Young Voices Making a Difference: A big thank you goes to the children of the Youth Council for submitting a detailed report highlighting issues along the Coombe Road footpath. The Parish Council has asked Dorset Council to: * Cut back overgrown vegetation. * Level uneven parts of the footpath (This includes the stepped area, the unmade mud ramp and several general areas along the path), * Install a salt bin and a new litter bin * Add safety railing near the school & Improve lighting / clear vegetation to allow more daylight in the winter months. The Parish Council is proud to see young residents taking such initiative to improve their local environment.

Keeping Our Spaces Safe and Enjoyable: Playparks: New netting will be ordered for the Orchard Meadow goalposts after damage was reported. Car Park Maintenance: Works to resurface Puddletown car park have been scheduled for October half-term. Defibrillators: All devices are in working order. Due to access issue with the Tolpuddle cabinet, the cabinet code will be displayed for emergency use.

Planning & Licensing Decisions: The Council discussed and responded to three applications this month:

21 Main Road, Tolpuddle: No objection to proposed porch and extension works.

Manor Farm, Lower Waterston: No comment submitted on the pre-application for a slurry lagoon.

West Farm Barn, Tolpuddle: No objection to installation of new flue pipe

As always, you can find full details and decisions on the Dorset Council planning portal, <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/w/planning>

Ongoing Projects and Updates: Neighbourhood Plan: The Council is in the process of selecting a consultant to assist with the review. Speed Watch: Six volunteers have now signed up. The Clerk will coordinate training sessions with Dorset Police. If you'd like to join and help keep your community safe, please contact the Clerk. Speed Indicator Device: Repairs are underway, and



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mark@mabheatingservices.co.uk

the device will return to Puddletown shortly.

Correspondence Highlights: Dorset Council has temporarily closed BOAT S39/12 near Norris Mill Farm due to recent damage.

Help Save Our Neighbourhood Plan! Puddletown Area Parish Council is urging residents to support a national petition calling on the government to reinstate funding for Neighbourhood Plan reviews.

Our Neighbourhood Plan plays a crucial role in shaping the future of our area. It gives us a greater say over local development and planning decisions, ensuring that what happens in our parish reflects the needs and wishes of our community.

Creating this plan required a significant investment from the Parish Council. Thanks to that work, we've been able to influence planning matters more effectively. However, Neighbourhood Plans must be reviewed every five years, and this process typically costs around £5,000.

Until recently, the government provided funding to help cover these costs. That funding has now been withdrawn, putting a strain on parish budgets across the country. We're asking for your help.

Please consider signing the petition, calling for the government to reverse this decision.

Every signature counts, and your support could help us protect this vital planning tool without diverting funds away from other important local projects, like playpark improvements and community safety measures.

You can find and sign the petition here: <https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/continuing-support-funding-for-community-led-neighbourhood-plans>

Let's work together to ensure local voices continue to shape local places.

Next Council Meeting: Our meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month, alternating between Puddletown Village Hall and Tolpuddle Village Hall. Our next meeting is Tuesday 12th August 2025, at 7pm in the Tolpuddle Village Hall. Please come and join us and have your say.

Parish Council contact details: (Please remember to give permission for your details to be shared with Councillors, but note your details will NOT be shared with anyone else)

Clerk: Michelle Harrington, Telephone: 01202 670105,

Email: clerk@puddletownareaparishcouncil.gov.uk, Write: 34 Egmont Road, Poole Dorset BH16 5BZ, Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/>

PuddletownAPC/, Website: <http://www.puddletownareaparishcouncil.co.uk>

That's all for this month's update. Thank you for continuing to stay involved. As always, your ideas and feedback are welcome, and please don't hesitate to get in touch.



MUSIC AT ST PETER'S
Dorchester

Saturday 6th September

St Peter's Church, Dorchester, DT1 1XA, 7.00pm



THE GENTLEMEN OF ST JOHN'S In Concert

A septet from the internationally acclaimed Gentlemen of St John's College, Cambridge present a programme drawn from their repertoire, which spans some 600 years!



Buy your ticket

Tickets £18 or £14 (limited view)

Purchase online from

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/st-peters-church-dorchester>



Notes from St Andrew's

We've now entered the long season of "Sundays after Trinity," when, in the Church Lectionary (List of Readings), we focus on what it means to put our faith into action. Recently, the Gospel reading was the story of the Good Samaritan. Sarah began her address that day by saying it was difficult to think of something new to say when the story is as well-known as that one. She then went on to preach an absolute tour-de-force of a sermon, jolting us out of our complacency and familiarity with the story. She certainly gave us plenty to think about!

Our Service pattern continues as usual. On the 31st of August, a fifth Sunday in the month, we hold the popular Farm Service at Parsonage Farm in Dewlish at 11:00 a.m. Harvest is now in full swing, and among the days of celebration during August, are Lammas Day (August 1st) the day when the "First Loaf" was offered, giving the alternative name to the day of Loaf Mass Day.. August 15th is the major Feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we pray for the Church community in Puddletown that day as the Church is dedicated in her honour. St. Bartholomew, about whom little is known, is celebrated on August 24th.

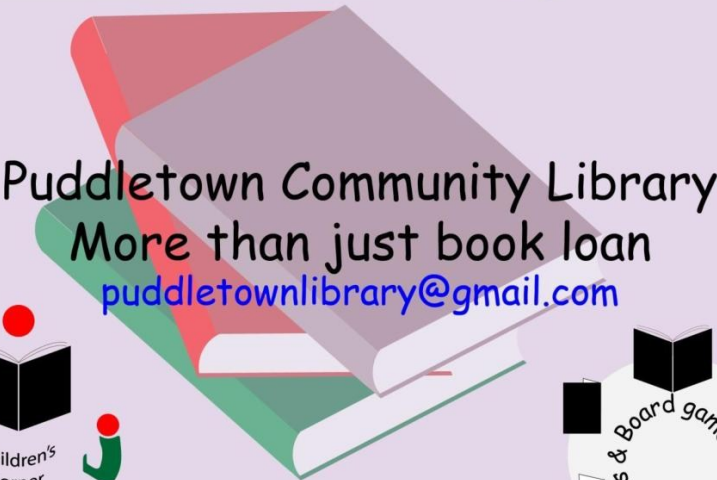
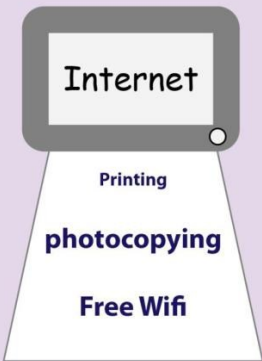
We continue to pray for those we know who need or have asked for our prayers. If you would like to be included on our prayer list, please get in touch. There is a board in the church where you can add names or situations we can pray for or about. The Benefice prayer Group meets in Puddletown on a Tuesday.

I close with words by the Reverend George Timms (1910-1997), one time Archdeacon of Hackney, London. written for August 15th:

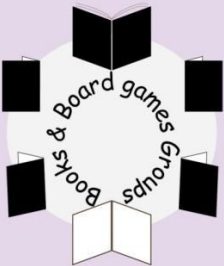
"Sing the greatest joy of Mary
When on earth her work was done,
And the Lord of all creation
Brought her to His heavenly home:
Virgin Mother, Mary Blessed,
Raised on high and crowned with grace,
May your Son, the world's redeemer,
Grant us all to see His face."

I hope you can enjoy the rest of the summer.

Tony (Churchwarden)



The library welcomes
new volunteers
to help run the library



LIBRARY HOURS:
Wednesday 3pm-5pm
Friday 10am-12pm
Saturday 10am-12pm

We need you!

Puddletown Cub group is in need of new leaders. The pack has been going for 10 years and needs new leaders to keep this brilliant opportunity for young people (Ages 8-10) in the village going. Help them develop life skills, friendships and have fun! No prior experience is needed, just a willingness to work with young people and like-minded adults. There is a wealth of online training opportunities and you will need a DBS check.

Currently Cubs meet on a Friday evening in the village hall (this could move to a Wednesday evening). If you are interested and would like to know more please contact tiger@puddletownscouts.org.uk





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YOU TO WHERE YOU NEED TO BE.*



*The hard core fans were at the
back, playing air-organ*

Puddletown Community Library

The winners of the 200 club draw for June are:

1st prize - Chris Leonard £40

2nd prize - Lesley French £20

3rd prize - No publicity £10

The winners of the 200 club draw for July are:

1st Andrew Dean £40

2nd Molly Palmer £20

3rd Maggi Ellman £10

Watch out for counterfeit pet medicine

A cat named Smokey nearly lost his life after being treated with a counterfeit flea product bought online. The counterfeit product was a copy of a genuine and widely used 'Frontline' tick and flea treatment. The packaging itself looked legitimate but inside was a toxic insecticide that led to emergency surgery. Smokey survived, but his story is a warning to pet owners everywhere.

The Intellectual Property Office is warning that criminals are increasingly targeting pet owners through online marketplaces. In fact, over 18,000 illegal animal medicines and supplements were intercepted last year alone. A recent survey revealed that 60% of buyers were influenced by ease of access in buying online, and 72% wrongly believed the quality of counterfeit products would match the real thing.

Pet owners, beware: counterfeit pet medicines including flea treatments are being sold online and they could make your pet seriously ill. These products are untested, unregulated, and potentially lethal. One pet owner described a fake treatment that smelled like white spirit. Others have reported spelling errors and poor-quality packaging. Both reports can be clear red flags that something isn't right.

So, in general terms, how can you protect your pet?

Buy only from trusted sources - such as licensed vets, pharmacies, or reputable pet retailers.

Check the packaging - look for spelling mistakes, poor print quality, or unusual smells.

Be wary of large price discounts - if the price seems too good to be true, it probably is.

Report suspicious products - contact Trading Standards if you suspect a fake.

To report something to Trading Standards that doesn't look right, visit www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer or, phone the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on 0808 223 1133.





VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- Make a difference to the lives of parents and children
- Enhance your wellbeing
- Access free, high quality training
- Learn new skills
- Make friends & connect with your community

If you could give as little as two hours a week to support a parent and their children, we would love to hear from you:



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West Dorset



Dewlish Church Notes

OUR Pet Service was very well attended by adults and children – and dogs! Thanks to their owners, the dogs were well behaved throughout. Additionally, Sue brought some lovely small chicks. Thank you, Jim, for arranging, and leading, this most enjoyable service.

The following Sunday Christine and Ross opened their beautiful garden at Yardes Cottage to raise funds for Save the Children and Dewlish Church, both receiving £255 as a result. A huge thank-you for all the really delicious cakes and to the ladies for making countless cups of tea and coffee. Many thanks especially to Christine and Ross of course. We shall miss you so much when you move shortly and wholeheartedly wish you a good life in your new home.

And now to August...

On August 25th (August Bank Holiday) we are holding a **Pop-up Market Stall** outside (weather permitting!) the Village Hall starting at 2.30pm. Tea and cakes will be available as usual while gifts of surplus produce would be much appreciated. The event is to raise money towards our Church Insurance. Hope to see you there!

On Sunday 31st August Sue will be hosting the **Annual Farm Service** at Parsonage Farm at 11.0am. We hope you can join us for this lovely service.

Daphne Burg

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Tolpuddle Toddlers

Friendly group for under 5's

Every Monday
during term time

10am-12pm
Tolpuddle Village Hall

£2.50 per family

crafts | singing | snacks | play



What a term this has been! Our children have worked super hard and have now well and truly earned their summer break! The run up to the end of the school year is always a busy old time for us. Our families have been treated to so many events. Sports day, leavers assembly, celebration assembly, our Milborne break-fast, tennis coaching, football tournament, sports festival and we've done all of this during a heatwave!

Last week, we were treated to the Honeysuckle Class Summer Show, where the years 3&4 performed their version of 'Wonka'. Each and every child, from the stage crew to the chorus line, to the actors, were absolutely brilliant. We are so incredibly proud of our children. They all shone like total stars.

Our Summer Fayre was another highlight. Held during the school day so that everyone could attend, we invited our families in and enjoyed an afternoon of fun. There were smiles all round and we can't wait for next year already.

We raised a whopping £812. A big, big thank you to our children, families, our wonderful Friends of School team and our dedicated staff for helping to make the day so special.

We would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a wonderful summer. We will, of course, be sending our year 4's the biggest luck and love as they embark on their new adventure at middle school, whilst sending a big hello to our new little Buttercups starting in September.

Enjoy the sunshine everyone :)

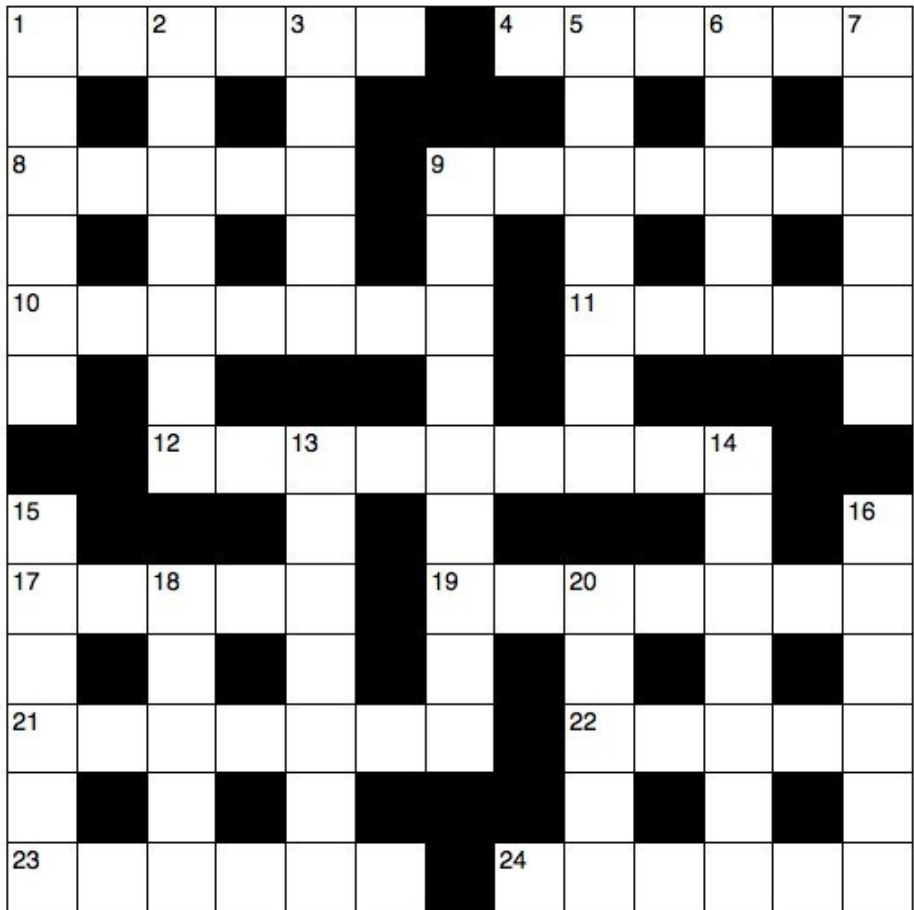
Crossword Clues

Across

- 1 'The people were — at his teaching' (Mark 1:22) (6)
- 4 'He saved —; let him save himself' (Luke 23:35) (6)
- 8 He addressed the crowd in Jerusalem on the day of Pentecost (Acts 2:14) (5)
- 9 Father of James and John (Matthew 4:21) (7)
- 10 One who charges another with an offence (Job 31:35) (7)
- 11 '— thy ministers with righteousness' (Book of Common Prayer) (5)
- 12 and 15 Down 'All — is God-breathed and is — for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness' (2 Timothy 3:16) (9,6)
- 17 'No — of the field had yet appeared on the earth and no plant of the field had yet sprung up' (Genesis 2:5) (5)
- 19 Made to feel embarrassed (Isaiah 24:23) (7)
- 21 This man built his house on sand (Matthew 7:26) (7)
- 22 David's hypocritical message to Joab on the death in battle of Uriah: 'Don't let this — you' (2 Samuel 11:25) (5)
- 23 Detest (Job 10:1) (6)
- 24 'God made two great lights, the greater light to govern the day and the — light to govern the night' (Genesis 1:16) (6)

Down

- 1 To make a serious request (1 Corinthians 1:10) (6)
- 2 Launches an assault against (Genesis 32:8) (7)
- 3 'The wicked man — deceptive wages' (Proverbs 11:18) (5)
- 5 Tuba ale (anag.) (7)
- 6 'The day thou gavest, Lord, is — ' (5)
- 7 Old Testament measure of weight, equivalent to about 12 grammes (Exodus 30:13) (6)
- 9 Where Elijah restored life to the son of a widow with whom he lodged (1 Kings 17:10) (9)
- 13 Paul said of whatever was to his profit, 'I consider them — , that I may gain Christ and be found in him' (Philippians 3:8) (7)
- 14 City visited by Paul, described by the city clerk as 'the guardian of the temple of the great Artemis' (Acts 19:35) (7)
- 15 See 12 Across
- 16 Rioted (anag.) (6)
- 18 She had a surprise when she answered the door and found 8 Across outside (Acts 12:13) (5)
- 20 Maltreat (1 Chronicles 10:4) (5)



Puddletown Pumpkins

Puddletown Village Hall, High Street, Puddletown, Dorchester, DT2 8RX

every Thursday 9:30am-11:30am during term time

come and join our friendly baby and toddler group!

play, activities, snacks and rhyme time for the littles, and for the bigs -

enjoy a cuppa and a chat!

Just £3 per family!

Join us on Facebook and Instagram

@puddletownpumpkins



31st August - Trinity 11

Psalm 112; Hebrews 13.1-8, 15-16; Luke 14.1, 7-14

11.00am	United Benefice Farm Service Followed by Bring & Share Lunch	Parsonage Farm, Dewlish
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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

3rd August - Trinity

Psalm 49.1-12; Colossians 3.1-11; Luke 12.13-21

9.30am	Parish Communion	Tolpuddle
9.30am	Milborne Praise	Milborne
11.00am	Parish Communion + Holy Baptism	Puddletown
11.00am	BCP Morning Prayer	Dewlish

10th August - Trinity 8

Psalm 33.12-22; Hebrews 11.1-3, 8-16; Luke 12.32-40

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

Saturday 16th August

2.00pm	Marriage of Michael Clarke and Elsa Meadows	Dewlish
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17th August - Trinity 9

Psalm 82; Hebrews 11.29-12.2; Luke 12.49-56

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

24th August - St Bartholomew

Psalm 145.1-7; Isaiah 43.8-13; Luke 22.24-30

9.30am	Parish Communion	Milborne
10.00am	Go Fourth	Tolpuddle
11.00am	BCP Matins	Puddletown
11.00am	Parish Communion	Dewlish

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