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Contact Details		
<b>Editor</b>	<b>The Revd Sarah Hillman</b>	<b>editor@parishmagazine.org.uk</b>
Advertising Manager	Marion Bishop	01305 848 427 advertising@parishmagazine.org.uk
Dewlish Editor	Geoff Bull	01258 837 316 dewlish@parishmagazine.org.uk
Milborne Editor	John Wright	01258 839 090 milborne@parishmagazine.org.uk
Puddletown Editor	Emma Hughes	01305 849 039 puddletown@parishmagazine.org.uk
Tolpuddle Editor	Marion Bishop	01305 848 427 tolpuddle@parishmagazine.org.uk
Distribution Co-ordinators	Jan O'Mara	01305 848 551
	Clare Campbell	01305 849 295
Tolpuddle Distribution	Liz Gould	01305 848464
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**Copy deadline for the July 2021 magazine is Saturday 5th June 2021.**

This month's cover photo: Kathleen Cheetham celebrating her 90th birthday, cupcakes were enjoyed by all after the service at St Mary's, Puddletown that morning.



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## Emerging into a new world

I wonder, if butterflies were able to talk, what they would say about the transition from chrysalis to the beautiful colourful creatures we know and love. Would they remark on the sense of freedom that comes with fluttering through the air? Would they moan about the dark wet days of summer we get from time to time where all they can do is look for shelter?

I wonder how you are feeling about the forthcoming lifting of many of the restrictions that we have experienced over the past fifteen months or more.

Some people I know are raring to go and can't wait to be able to gather inside and outside with family, friends and colleagues or at large gatherings like concerts and gigs, the cinema or theatre.

But others are fearful: fearful of coronavirus and its effects, afraid that they have forgotten how to be with others, scared that it will all be a bit overwhelming after so long away from the fray.

I imagine that many of us, myself included, are partly joyful at the thought of opening up and partly anxious about what it will mean.

There are difficult decisions to be made about what pre-coronavirus normalities we wish to return to and which we will forego. There are new things we have discovered – how many of them do we wish to retain?

Many of us are out of practice in being with groups of people or mixing with anyone outside those with whom we live. While some are longing for their delayed holidays abroad to happen, others are overawed by the thought of going anywhere future than their own village or Blandford or Dorchester.

How do we navigate these changes? I think there are some things we can do to make it easier for everyone.

Make kindness your default position. Judgement is all too easy but none of us can know exactly what it is like living in someone else's shoes.

Listen to the concerns of those who are anxious about the opening up, before giving them the benefit of your wisdom.

Help those who are fearful of the wider world to take it step-by-step. Why not invite them for a coffee or go with them for a walk before they have to face a larger gathering or more crowded space?

Cultivate a spirit of thankfulness for what you have, rather than focussing on what has been lost (though it's important to find space to lament the losses as well at the appropriate times).

Jesus said: Love your neighbour as you love yourself (Mark 12.31).

*Continued on Page 7*

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We're all different, but the qualities of sensitivity, peace-making, offering and seeking forgiveness, gratitude, patience, humility, openness and understanding go a long way towards these ideals of treating others as we would like to be treated.

And at the times when you are feeling vulnerable yourself, remember the words of Minnie Haskins quoted by King George VI in his 1939 Christmas broadcast regarding an unknown future: Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way."

*With best wishes*

*Sarah*

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## Happy Birthday Kath!



Singing may not yet be allowed in church, but we still managed to wish Kathleen Cheetham a Happy 90th Birthday at St Mary's last month with some recorded music, a bouquet of flowers and cupcakes for all when leaving the building!

Kath is pictured on our front cover this month, photograph taken after church on her birthday.



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## St Mary's Puddletown—June 2021

Intercessors		Scripture Readers
6th	Sue Turner	Sue Leonard
13th	Puddletown Praise	Team
20th	Jean Jeffreys	Rosie Hallett
27th	Margaret Rickard	Ursula Pomeroy & Peter Bishop
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



## **WANTED!**

We have plans to create a 3rd volume of the popular Church Mouse Cookbooks and are after new recipes. Do you have any favourite lockdown recipes? Have you lived abroad or in another part of the UK and would like to share a recipe from that place?

Please email them to

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

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

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

Thank you!



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## Prayer for the Month

Do you have a favourite prayer?

It might be a long loved prayer that has brought you comfort over the years. Perhaps someone else has put into words what you want to say to God but in a much more eloquent way. Maybe it's a prayer that reminds you of someone special. Or something to use when your own words run dry.

Well loved prayers can be like familiar friends. I'm hoping that we can include this new column in this magazine each month. But it will only work if you contribute! So, please do send me your favourite with a sentence or two about why they mean so much to you.

Dawn Loveless, one of Puddletown's churchwardens, will kick us off. Her chosen prayer was written by Reinhold Niebuhr, an American theologian, in the 1930s. She says it reminds her of her mother, who used to quote when there were problems. And that she has a copy of it pinned up in her bedroom.

### **The Serenity Prayer**

God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change,  
courage to change the things I can,  
and wisdom to know the difference.

To contribute to this new column, please send details of your prayer with a few sentences about why it's important to you, to Sarah Hillman ([sarah.c.hillman@outlook.com](mailto:sarah.c.hillman@outlook.com)). If you're not on-line we'd still love you to participate so snail mail is also great!

## Wanted!

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

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

Thank you in advance.

Please email or call Gini Astley: 01300 320695 or [vaastley@gmail.com](mailto:vaastley@gmail.com)



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## **TOWER NEWS**

**Dorset County Association**  
**Puddletown, Dorset**  
**St Mary the Virgin**



Saturday, 10 April 2021 in 11 m (6–1–18 in E)

### **Tolling 99 Times**

6 Robin J Mears

Rung half muffled in memory of HRH Prince Philip Duke of Edinburgh who passed away yesterday.

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**Dorset County Association**  
**Puddletown, Dorset**  
**St Mary the Virgin**

Saturday, 17 April 2021 in 20 m (6–1–18 in E)

### **Tolling**

6 Robin J Mears

Rung for 20 mins half muffled followed by 1 min silence in memory of HRH Prince Philip Duke of Edinburgh.

---

**Dorset County Association**  
**Puddletown, Dorset**

St Mary the Virgin

Sunday, 18 April 2021 in 20m (6–1–18 in E)

### **Call Changes on 3 Bells**

1 Tom Woodland

2 -

3 Emma Hughes (C)

4 -

5 Robin J Mears

6 -

For Evensong. Rung open in memory of HRH Prince Philip Duke of Edinburgh.

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## A Month on the Farm

The dry month of April with cold days and numerous frosts have led to very slow germination and growth of the spring barleys and of all the crops meaning the fertilizer and spraying programmes have to be considerably adjusted, no good applying the fertilizer to the crops without the moisture to wash it in.

We are already seeing the effects of the dry time which is pretty much world wide, the grain prices are being talked up with potential world shortages, but this all takes a tumble when we have a day or so of rain, it's always a gamble knowing how well our crops will yield and when the time is right to sell to the grain traders to get the best price.

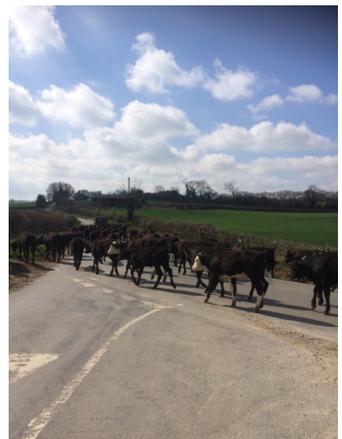
The grass growth is very slow with a purple tinge to it, by now it is normally lush and green on the meadows, but having said that swallows and house martins are back, arriving here on the same day as last year, flying over the fields and in and out of the buildings. Also the awns are emerging (the little spiky bits) on the early winter barleys.

Over the past year we have been saving up our baler twine, plastic containers, black bale wrap and plastic bags, this has to be kept all separate, clean and dry here on the farm, we then take it to a collection centre where it is all sorted and then sent for recycling to a specialist processor who deals with farm plastics. This is a service we have to pay for and is a required of the Red Tractor Farm Assurance, though all non recyclable waste has to be taken to the nearest licensed landfill tip which for us is at Shepton Mallet, a long way on a tractor and trailer!

Most of the cattle are turned out to grass, though a few youngsters are still inside, sometimes the livestock are moved in a large yellow trailer and tractor and other times we let them have a stroll along the road, not always popular with the traffic which gets held up, though many people like the scene and mention memories of similar events from years gone by.

*Wakely Cox*

5<sup>th</sup> May 2021





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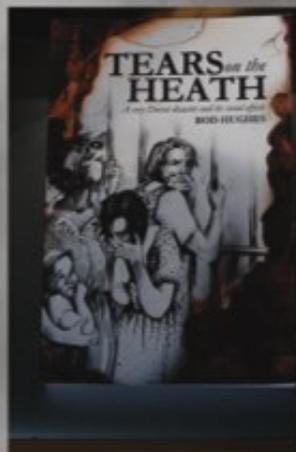
To mark the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary, to the day, of the tragic explosion at the Royal Naval Cordite Factory at Holton Heath

# Tears on the Heath

A Very Dorset disaster and its Social Effects

By Rod Hughes

*23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2pm at  
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# **PUDDLETOWN NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN (PNP)**

A very BIG 'Thank You' to all those who voted "YES" at the Referendum last month - 87.5% of villagers who voted have "Accepted" the PNP. This has been a six year project which began in 2015. For newcomers to the village and for those who may not remember why the PNP process began, the following will explain.

The catalyst for this third attempt to save our Green Spaces and protect the village from unwanted development was a planning application to build 2 houses on Blandford Road. In June 2015 I arranged to meet our MP (then Oliver Letwin) at his surgery in Dorchester; he responded with "You need a Neighbourhood Plan!". I then attended the next Puddletown Area Parish Council (PAPC) Meeting to report this; the chairman said "Yes, we know we do - will you lead it?" - and the rest, as they say, is history. I consequently became a Parish Councillor to report back on a regular basis the progress of the PNP. The first meeting of the Focus Group, which then became known as the Steering Group (SG), was (from memory) in September 2015 in the conservatory at my house 'Kissing Gate Cottage' in Sherrings Green Close. When more and more people became involved the SG meetings moved to the Church Room and Rod Hill Meeting Room. During the years there have been three leaders, with myself handing over to Paul Langdon, and then Peter Churchill who Chaired the project to fruition. Thanks must go to our two consultants - Richard Eastham (Feria Urbanism UK) and Jo Witherdon (Dorset Planning Ltd ). Also, a HUGE thank you to the current PAPC Clerk Anna Bendall who made an invaluable contribution, along with the previous Clerk Shirley Langdon.

There are also more Thank You's to be made; to those who have 'stuck with it' to the end and also to those who 'dipped in and out' - all have played a part in it's success. Apologies to those I don't mention - let me know if I've missed you out (07752 634773) and I'll rectify that in the next issue of the BenMag!

Ann Soderberg, Jan O'Mara, Yvonne Atkinson, John Ridout, Emma & Rod Hughes, Jayne & Paul Cottingham, Debby & Robert Thomas-Orchard, Mark Richardson, Sandra Shaw, Mary Miles, Jane Cox, Janey Gordon, Heather Mears and Lizzie Peckover. Both Chairs of the Puddletown Society - Bill Maunder & Kevin Bumby.

*Janet (Ranger-Dennis)*

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## Parish Council Update

Puddletown Area Parish Council held its final virtual meeting on Tuesday the 4<sup>th</sup> May 2021 on Zoom. Annual Parish Meetings were also held remotely this year. These had to legally go ahead but there was a poor turnout and the council aims to hold physical Parish Meetings as soon as it is safe and appropriate to do so.

The council meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> May was the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council. The first orders of business were the elections of the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen. Councillor Alan Sheppard (Puddletown) was elected as Chairman of PAPC and Councillors Peter Walton (Tolpuddle) and John Ridout (Puddletown) were elected as Vice-Chairmen. The Council is grateful to out-going Chairman Peter Churchill for his work during his two years in office.

The Council noted the resignations of Councillors Dan Weiss and Katie Weiss and is grateful for the time that they have dedicated to the Council. There are several vacancies to be filled on the Parish Council and any local people who are interested in being involved are invited to contact the Clerk for further information.

The Parish Council was asked at the Annual Parish Meeting for Tolpuddle to reinstate the quarterly newsletter that previously went out. Not everyone receives the Parish Magazine and a newsletter would be appreciated. The Council was also asked to continue its efforts to connect Tolpuddle and Puddletown with rights of way. Existing footpaths connect Tolpuddle with Burtleston and Athelhampton but there is no off-road link between Athelhampton and Puddletown. The Community Projects Group will discuss this.

There has now been some groundwork completed at the eastern end of Puddletown Community Play Park. This phase of the Play Park Project has now almost been completed. Once this is done, the committee will focus on the skate park. A resident has recently suggested that a pump-track be considered as an alternative. This will be discussed at later meetings. It is hoped that fundraising activities can resume again soon now that restrictions on social interaction are being lifted.

On the 6<sup>th</sup> May, Puddletown Neighbourhood Plan was supported at Referendum with over 87% of those who voted being in favour of the plan. The plan will now proceed to a Full Dorset Council Meeting on 22 June 2021 where a decision will be made on making the Puddletown Neighbourhood Plan part of the development plan for the Puddletown parish area. The Parish Council is grateful to all those who made the effort to vote and incredibly thankful to all those who have been involved with the project over the last six years. The Neighbourhood Plan brings many benefits including protection of green spaces, more control over development, the promise of more community spaces, plans for new rights of way and safe road crossings as well as an increase in Community Infrastructure Levy from 15% to 25% which will mean that more of developer's payments to Dorset Council will be passed to the Parish Council so that this money can be invested directly into this community.

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The next two meetings of the Parish Council will be held on the 8<sup>th</sup> June and 13<sup>th</sup> July at 7pm in Puddletown Village Hall as it is a bigger space and so will accommodate more people with social distancing measures in place. Following these meetings, PAPC will resume a cycle of alternating between Tolpuddle Village Hall and Puddletown Village Hall.

*Parish Clerk*

## Puddletown Weather

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

<b>April 2021</b>		
	Rainfall for the month	3.60 mm
	Cumulative for the year	249.30 mm
	2020 Rainfall for the month	45.00 mm
	2020 Cumulative for the year	383.40 mm
	Temperatures	Max. 18.20° C Min. -3.50° C
	2020	Max 25.10° C Min -0.60° C
	Maximum wind speed	17.40 mph
	2020	14.50 mph

### BENEFICE REGISTERS

#### Funeral

D. 30th March Aged 91	Edward Charles Graham Parsons	Dewlish
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## Dorset Children's Literacy Charity Celebrates Fifteen Years

Local charity Dorset Reading Partners is celebrating its fifteen year anniversary by recruiting more volunteers to help children become confident readers. The charity trains, equips and supports a large team of volunteer reading partners who provide regular 1:1 help to children in primary schools right across the county, and their services are needed more than ever as pupils settle back into school after a year of disrupted learning.



Charity manager Juliet Ruddick says “Dorset Reading Partners was set up in March 2006 to provide quality in-school help for developing young readers, and since then we have worked with more than 4,000 local children. Our reading partners don't just listen to children read; they make reading fun by offering choice, conversation and skilled support, and children flourish as a result of this approach. Our aim is to help children enjoy and succeed at reading, and it is always so satisfying to see a previously reluctant reader become more enthusiastic and confident as we progress.”

“We really look after our volunteers, providing comprehensive training, DBS checks, top quality resources, ongoing support, and regular meetings and visits to ensure they have the best possible experience with us. Many of our brilliant team have been with us for years, but we are always looking for more people to join us, especially now as we prepare for the busy year ahead.”

Could you help inspire a child to read? Dorset Reading Partners would love to hear from you if you love books, enjoy working with children and have two hours a week to spare over a year. You can find out more at [www.dorsetreadingpartners.org.uk](http://www.dorsetreadingpartners.org.uk) or contact Juliet on 01305 458515.

*DORSET READING PARTNERS MARCH 2021*



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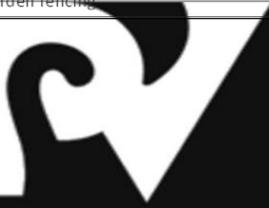


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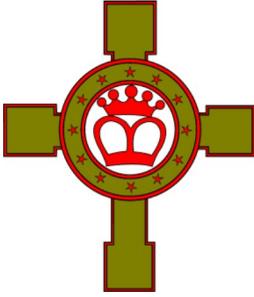
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REGISTERED MEMBER







## St Mary's Middle School

As the school year speeds on, it has been great to see all of the children settling back into lessons so well, reconnecting with their work and enjoying being able to talk and discuss with others. As, fingers crossed, the restrictions on us continue to be reduced, we look forward to the return of enrichment activities with

Sports Day happening in one form or another and clubs, so enjoyed by the pupils, re-appearing. There is so much to look forward to.

Do you know your diurnal from your nocturnal? Do you know the difference between an eyesight hunting or hearing-hunting bird of prey? Do you know what crepuscular means? All these questions were answered for Year 6 by Martin 'Birdman' Ballam, who visited us from Dorset Falconry Park in April. What a welcome back to school from the Easter holiday for our Year 6 students. In English in Year 6, we are studying 'Sky Hawk' by Gill Lewis. A book that follows the lives of Callum, a boy from Scotland, and Iris, an osprey nesting in Scotland and migrating to The Gambia. We follow their lives and their relationships and how the two become inextricably linked together. Martin's visit was originally planned to have been part of an immersive day based on our text. We would have looked at The Gambia, Scotland, Birds of Prey and Conservation as our key topics. Sadly, the lockdown prevented this from happening but through kind donations from parents and a



top-up from the PTA, we were able to have a safe visit from Martin and his birds. He brought four birds to show us: British barn owl, kestrel, Indian eagle owl and a bald eagle. The students were calm and collected during the talks and were brimming with inquisitive questions that were sensibly asked. Their behaviour and conduct were exemplary: Well done, Year 6! Many thanks to parents and the PTA for making the day possible.

Best wishes

*Darren Ayling*  
Head Teacher





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

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

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

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

**USEFUL & EMERGENCY NUMBERS**

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

**DEWLISH CONTACTS**

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

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



## St John's Church Tolpuddle—June 2021

I am starting this article this month with a brief report of the APCM ( Annual Parish Council Meeting) which Sarah hosted on Zoom – our secretary , Heather, having previously circulated all the appropriate forms and other information. As the last meeting was only held last October there

wasn't a lot to report, but Sarah took the opportunity to reflect over the year of 2020 and reminded us that the church had not been silent and some good will come out of the whole pandemic. She welcomed Pete Weir as a new Council member and John Taylor has agreed to continue as Treasurer. Sarah then warned us of the difficult financial situation the diocese finds itself in and asked for us all to be as generous in giving as we are able.

And so- we are now all coming out of hibernation, together with the birds, bees and gardens and church life is beginning to blossom too, as we settle into our new pattern of services. We will soon get used to regular services together with our friends from Puddletown at 9.30 in our church on the first and third Sunday of the month and then the opportunity to go to another church on the other Sundays if we wish- and I would recommend enjoying this option. Except of course we do also have **Go Fourth on the fourth Sunday of the month**, which together with the band and choir is a real delight. Indeed we hold this outside now when possible to give us the chance to sing along and enjoy our lovely churchyard, which has been a picture with the spring flowers.

As regards the church building, well- it doesn't seem to have suffered too much from the lock down, thanks to Teresa continuing to clean it and run the water through the system. We removed the kneelers though as they were suffering from the damp and have been very grateful to the Village Hall for allowing us to store them there. At this point certain areas are still closed off but hopefully soon all will be back to normal, as we prepare for the next challenge- that of offering overnight accommodation to visitors to Dorset in the form of a unique camping experience in a historic church. Do contact Jayne ([jayne.harris9@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:jayne.harris9@tiscali.co.uk)) if you want more information on this.

TEC - Tolpuddle Events Committee – which has incorporated the church events committee, has had two successful Zoom meetings and is now planning events for the year ahead. The big inaugural event will take place on **Saturday August 28<sup>th</sup>- The Summer Sizzle**. There will be children's activities, refreshments, Fun Dog Show, stalls and an Art and Craft exhibition, with a band and BBQ in the evening. Do put the date n your calendar and if you feel you would like to be involved please contact Marion ([66mregan@gmail.com](mailto:66mregan@gmail.com)) or Hilly ([hlcobban@gmail.com](mailto:hlcobban@gmail.com))

We look forward to an exciting summer ahead- do hope you will join us- in church or at a village event.

*Hilly and Jayne*

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# TOLPUDDLE VILLAGE HALL

## NEWS

Registered Charity No. 257403



### 150 Club 2021

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

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

2021	1st (£20)	2nd (£15)	3rd (£10)
April	Alan Washer (No.11)	Annabelle Turner (No. 66)	Peter Walton (No. 102)

### TOLPUDDLE VILLAGE HALL

After what has been a difficult year for us all, the good news is that the Hall can open more fully as from Monday 17th May.

The latest guidance permits a pretty wide range of activities to take place including:

indoor and outdoor events organised by a business, charity or public body;

indoor sports activities such as exercise classes and table tennis;

hospitality such as community cafes, coffee mornings, social clubs and luncheon clubs (all subject to seated service and in accordance with the rule of six people or two households per table);

outdoor gatherings in a group of no more than 30 people (with appropriate social distancing).

At present, it looks as though virtually all restrictions will be lifted from 21st June, but we await confirmation of that.

All this means that most usual activities at the Hall may resume. Many future community events will now be organised by the new Tolpuddle Events

*Continued on Page 37*



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Committee with any proceeds divided in an appropriate way between Church, Hall and other worthwhile causes.

The Hall Trustees are continuing with a programme of further improvements to make the Hall a really modern space for community activities and a desirable venue for those wishing to hire. During lockdown we have installed new curtains and a blind and replaced the failing night storage radiators in the old Hall with modern electric ones which will remove the need for the very expensive wall heaters to be used. Over the coming weeks months:

We expect to install broadband/wifi in the Hall, together with a large screen television that can be used for meetings, lectures and films etc.

During May, weather permitting (!), the Hall will be painted outside for the first time in many years and repairs will be carried out to the raised flower bed where bricks have suffered frost damage.

We are looking at replacing the inside chairs when we can with something more modern, comfortable and readily cleanable and at purchasing new “all-weather” tables for use in the garden.

Hall charges from 1st April remain very competitive - £12 per hour\* for hire with a 50% discount (ie £6 per hour) for residents of Tolpuddle and Southover hiring the Hall for community or private use (but not if it is for business or remunerated activities). All bookings should be sent to [tolpuddlevhinfo@gmail.com](mailto:tolpuddlevhinfo@gmail.com) and previous regular users should check that their previous places are still available.

The Hall has capacity to be used more extensively and we hope that, when not needed for community events which will have priority, we can raise more income from private and commercial hires, so reducing the need for constant fund raising from the community.

We are really looking forward to welcoming back local activities and events and to exploring ways in which greater use can be made of the Hall.

*Village Hall Committee*

*May 2021*

---

## **Tolpuddle Village picnic!**

Come along to Orchard Meadow on Saturday 26th June, 2pm–5pm for a village picnic. Bring your own picnic, drinks, chairs, picnic rugs etc. A very informal get-together to celebrate lifting of lockdown. Meet old friends and make new ones.

Please observe any Covid rules which apply.



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## WHAT'S HAPPENING



Tolpuddle Events Committee (TEC) are **currently planning** your super 'End of Summer Sizzler' to be held on August Bank Holiday at Orchard Meadow. There will be fun daytime activities for the children to get involved with, followed by an evening of Live Music on the Meadow! More information coming soon . . .

Let's get together and celebrate our wonderful village!

## HOW TO GET INVOLVED

No matter how long you've lived here, if you'd like to take part in the festivities in any of the ways below, just let us know! Would you like a stall? Perhaps you're handy and would like to help set up the marquee? Do you know a local company that could help with sponsorship or raffle prizes?

We've got lots of opportunities to get involved and we'd love some help.



### DONATE

Funds, raffle prizes, decorations, equipment



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### VOLUNTEER

You could be a judge, help on a stall, or use your skills to support the set up/take down

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## Do you have holiday accommodation in Tolpuddle?

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

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

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

*Julia Johnstone*

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## Spot the babies!

June is a time when you might notice some slightly different looking birds among your usual garden visitors. Rounder and fluffier, with (usually yellow) flanges at the sides of their beaks, the new fledglings out of their nests, can look quite different from their parents! Their behaviour is quite distinctive too, you might see them hopping about on the ground, or flapping their wings rapidly as their parents approach to feed them.

### *Baby house sparrow*

If you spot a fledgling on the ground, the RSPB advice is to leave it where it is as the parents will be coming to feed it. If possible, keep your cats inside, as baby birds are easy pickings! However, it might be necessary to move a baby bird if it is in immediate danger (on a road for example) but even then, it should only be moved carefully to the side of the road, so that the parents can easily find it again.

As they grow (and get better at flying!), the juvenile birds still look a little different from their parents as they gradually moult and gain their adult plumage. One of my favourites is the starling, the same size and shape as its parents but plain brown. The sociable starlings tend to bring their families together and you can spot them sometimes in the summer up on the telephone and electricity wires. These photos are all ones I've taken of young birds in my garden or nearby!

*Sally Cooke*



*Baby goldfinch*



*Juvenile starlings*



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## **Debenham's Stores and the links with Tolpuddle.**

The decline and fall of Debenhams Department Store over the last few years has come as a shock to a great many. We, in Tolpuddle had a special relationship with the Debenhams because Ernest Debenham sold up a large part of his share of Debenhams Stores which his grandfather had founded, in order to purchase farmland in Dorset (in fact at Bryantspuddle) where he established a modern farming system. The village of Tolpuddle was given assistance by Sir Ernest (1865 – 1952) who was a great benefactor to the village.

He provided the funds for the shelter which was built on the green in Tolpuddle by the Martyrs Tree in 1934 and was erected as part of the Centenary Celebrations surrounding the conviction and then pardon and return of the Tolpuddle Martyrs in the late 1830s. I have noticed visitors to the village have been sitting in it a good deal lately during "lockdown". At the same time in 1934 the TUC built the Memorial Cottages to celebrate the same terrible events one hundred years previously.

Sir Ernest also it seems provided the inspiration for the design for James Hammett's tombstone which was put up by the TUC in 1934. It was designed by Eric Gill as a further feature of the celebrations. As is well known, James Hammett (1811-1891) had originally been buried in an "unmarked" grave when he died.

As well as helping in the ways described Sir Ernest did something for which we are still grateful to him and that is that he bought some land from a local farmer to provide additional graveyard space in Tolpuddle. At the time there was little room for more graves in the Churchyard surrounding the Church and so the additional land which is separate from the Church and churchyard itself was given by Sir Ernest and has been of great benefit to future generations of village residents. Perhaps it is appropriate to explain that Tolpuddle was then linked with Affpuddle being part of what was then a joint benefice.

So, spare a thought for Debenham's Department Store which gave pleasure to so many over the years but not forgetting Sir Ernest Debenham whose generosity is still remembered in Tolpuddle.

*Tony Gould.*



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## Milborne St Andrews Church News

The last month has seen our services in church return to the pre-pandemic monthly rotas which are - our team led Celebrate service, 2 communion services and the recently added Worship in Stillness. We have all come to accept the measures implemented due to Covid-19 and they have now become routine. There have been benefits, such as having a variety of hymns, music and songs to listen to and welcoming other parish members into our services. However, we look forward to times when we can socialise again and share refreshments in church.

After the long period of not having flowers in church, it has been lovely over the last few weeks to see beautiful arrangements in church again, thanks to our team. I understand there are vacancies for more flower arrangers should anyone wish to join them.

As I write this, we are preparing for our Annual Parochial Church Meeting which may or may not be on Zoom. Even if we can physically meet the chances are that at a distance, parishioner involvement will be challenging.

Our Events Committee did a fantastic job on the 5<sup>th</sup> May of providing and distributing 35 meals consisting of a curry, rice, naan bread, mango chutney and Dorset apple cake. They were very pleased to hear how much the 'customers' enjoyed their home deliveries. The group of 6 women are exceptionally resourceful people and have managed to raise thousands of pounds over the years which help to maintain our church. They are very valued team.

*Pam Shultz*  
Church warden

---

## Milborne Movies again!

**Friday July 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7.30pm, at the Village Hall, The Causeway, Milborne St Andrew DT11 0JX. Doors and bar open 7.00pm**

Tickets cost £5, which includes a drink or an icecream (Contactless payment preferred)

### **A Beautiful Day In The Neighborhood**

When I saw a trailer for this film, I knew immediately that I wanted it for our first film. It is set in 1990s Pittsburgh and stars Matthew Rhys and Tom Hanks, who plays a good person beautifully (not an easy thing to do!) Here is what one (British) reviewer wrote:

'When a movie has you blurry eyed by the end but also leaving feeling warm and satisfied, you know it has been crafted into something unique between being moving and heartbreaking. ... Every shot feels special and important and every performance is sincere. Marielle Heller is a powerhouse director, an expert at quiet moments in film and we are lucky to have someone create such incredible art. You will be hard pressed to find a movie that fills you with more warmth than *A Beautiful Day in the Neighbourhood* and I suspect it will become a firm favourite for those gloomy, rainy days.'



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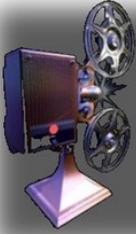
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## 200 Club winners April

1st Prize £40 Ticket 127 Tilly Cole  
2nd Prize £20 Ticket 112 Pam Fleetwood  
3rd Prize £10 Ticket 26 Sarah Crockett





## Milborne Ladybirds Playgroup

### Continuing the growing theme

Last month I wrote about the frogspawn we were given. This developed into what seemed like hundreds of tadpoles and was moved to a larger tank. After what seemed to be a very long time the tadpoles developed legs and rapidly became froglets. The children enjoyed checking on them every day. Then one day 2 girls were looking at the froglet sitting on the rock when we heard a squeal and there was the little frog on the floor – certainly a big leap for such a little animal. The frogs have now been released.



Now the update on our runner beans. We planted them outside and over time growth slowed and we decided they needed some 'food'. The older children in the afternoon session carefully mixed nettles and water then left it to make fertilizer. They all thoroughly enjoyed the 'dangerous' activity, learning how to handle nettles safely. All totally agreed after a few days the mixture smelt horrible – definitely like fertilizer!

To continue the food growing knowledge the children chopped up some fruit and vegetables – the melon was by far the favourite. With soil in a tray Ladybirds planted root vegetables which proved much harder to cut up – with persistence the swede, carrots and parsnip became lots of pieces. Our artwork included farm fields made with rollers in paint and tractor collages from different pre-cut shapes.

The school starter afternoon sessions have been running with the older children practising skills they will need when they enter school. They are all progressing well and contrary to news reports that children will be entering school further behind than usual we feel this is not the case for our children.



Thanks to Dave for repairing our shop the children have spent many hours playing shop, selling seeds (seed packets made by us), flowers, food and anything else they found in the room. The shop front can also be a puppet show and the curtains provide many opportunities for imaginative role play.

*Liz Dyer (Leader)*

01258 839117 or 07771 512427

*Kelly Haggett (Secretary)*

*secretary@milborneladybirds.com*

# May Wordsearch the answers

An easy month as there were only 21 words and here they are:-

Sunday, May, Rogation, Beat, Bounds, Asking, Blessing, Seed, Land, Romans, Processed, Cornfields, Spring, Earthquake, Storm, Prayer, Cross, Boundaries, Crops, Harvest, maps.



# Milborne St. Andrew Gardening Club



## Environmental Gardening for June

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

### Pollinators

Some summer bedding plants attract more pollinators than others. Consider incorporating pot marigolds, single poppies, tobacco plants and Antirrhinum.

### Butterflies

To attract red admiral and peacock butterflies, plant nectar rich flowering Buddleja.

### Your pond

Always make sure that your pond provides a ramp for wildlife to come and go. Leave any weeds pulled from the pond to dry out close by so displaced pond life can return to the water.

### Lawns

Remember to let areas go 'wild'; you'll be able to enjoy the flowers normally hidden in short grass. Even flowering dandelions, daisies and clover attract many insects.

*Mark Johnson*



## Fresh Start Campaign

LiveWell Dorset is the county's health and wellbeing service and has launched the Fresh Start campaign to try and motivate and support people coming out of lockdown.

LiveWell Dorset is inviting people across the county to take advantage of some friendly support to give themselves a mental and physical boost as we start returning to some normality.

If you want to lose weight, become more active, give up smoking or reduce your alcohol intake, the LiveWell team have the tools to help, from weight loss vouchers and quit smoking packs to 1-2-1 coaching sessions. And it's completely free. It's time for a fresh start.

Please contact me if there is anything else we can support you with.

If you have queries about unlocking for your village premises please feel free to contact Public Health Dorset COVID support: 01305 221000 or [publichealth-hp@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:publichealth-hp@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

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## News from Trading Standards: Helping you to recognise a scam

Scams can affect us all, but certain types of scams are more likely to target people by age. If you recognise your age group, then you may recognise a scam.

'Young people' aged 18 to 24 don't represent the largest group of people falling victim to scams, but numbers of scam victims in this group is rising. In particular, young people are a growing proportion of victims of online and identity fraud. Having grown up with technology they are often confident in their ability when using the internet. This can lead to them feeling that they are unlikely to fall for internet scams, making them complacent and increasingly vulnerable. Research shows that over half of young people are unlikely to report scams.

'Life established' people in their 40s to 60s are the group most affected by scams. Part of this is due to the fact that they are most likely to report scams, but also because certain demographics within this group are targeted due to their circumstances. For example, this group tends to be more settled and has access to financial assets. This makes them more likely to be targets of scams, such as pension scams, dating scams and property scams.

'Older people', over 70s, are often targeted by scammers. Research has found that 75 is the average age of reported scam victims and those over 70 suffer the highest detriment. Older people tend to fall victim most to phone and mail scams. Figures from National Trading Standards show that older people are deliberately targeted more than other demographics. This group also sees the largest proportion of people who are recurring victims of scams.

If you have fallen for a scam and you want advice on what to do then call the Citizens Advice consumer helpline freephone 0808 223 1133 or visit their website at [Citizens Advice Consumer Service](https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk)

Why not become a 'Friend Against Scams'? Over 2300 people in Dorset already have. Visit [www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk](http://www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk)

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## June Wordsearch—St Alban - the first British martyr

Persecution of Christians worldwide is rising fast, so it is worth remembering St Alban, the first British martyr. Alban was a Roman citizen living in England when the Roman emperor, Diocletian, began a fierce persecution. Soon Alban found a desperate priest on his doorstep, hunted by local soldiers. Alban gave the priest shelter, and within days was converted. When the soldiers arrived, Alban took the priest's place, refused to offer sacrifice to the Roman gods, and was condemned to death. Alban went to his execution on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 250AD with such serenity that one of the executioners was converted. He died on the site of the Hertfordshire town that now bears his name. There are 21 words from this text hidden in the grid below, can you find them?



## **Digital champions return to face-to-face advice sessions**

Dorset residents can once again get face to face advice on any digital queries such as setting up and using devices including phones, tablets and PCs.

Digital champions have started to return to Dorset libraries to help people who are struggling to get online. Meanwhile the Digital Hotline will keep running to help people who can't get to the face-to-face sessions.

Digital champions ran sessions in Dorset's libraries and community venues until the start of last year, covering enquiries ranging from how to switch on a computer and use it for the first time through to specific technical queries.

However, when the Covid pandemic struck these sessions had to stop and since then Digital Champions have been helping people with their digital queries through the telephone hotline.

Mike Watson is one of the volunteer digital champions. He said: 'In face-to-face support sessions the digital champion can see the exact issue and suggest a range of actions. If the first doesn't work, we can immediately try something else.

'An informal relationship develops between the Digital Champion and the user, and as the user starts to make progress dealing with the technology, genuine learning happens.'

The sessions will be spaced apart to allow full cleaning and other Covid secure requirements will be in place. Perspex screens will separate the user and the digital champion or two computer screens will be available to maintain distance between them.

Slots are currently limited to Dorchester on Thursday afternoons and Gillingham on Saturday mornings, with Weymouth, Littlemoor and Ferndown planned to follow soon. Anyone who can't access these can still use the Digital Hotline (01305 221048 10:00 – 12:00 Mon-Fri).

Councillor Peter Wharf, deputy leader for Dorset Council, said:

'It's great to see that our volunteer digital champions are able to start supporting people again in this way as face-to-face sessions are the best way to help people who struggle with technology to develop their digital skills.

'Part of our digital vision for Dorset is to enable it to be a digital place. We want to help residents learn new digital skills which will make their lives easier.

'Businesses will have access to people with the digital skills they need and together we will be able to use technology to make a real difference to people's lives.'

Face to face slots with digital champions must be pre-booked to ensure they are Covid secure. If you, or someone you know, would like some help from a

digital champion with a digital query, just call the Digital Hotline.

Two other community venues have also re-opened their digital help sessions, so you can also book slots at:

Sturminster Newton Community Learning Centre (within The Exchange) on Monday and Wednesday mornings by calling David on 01258 860905 or emailing [snclc@btconnect.com](mailto:snclc@btconnect.com)

Yarn Barton Centre, Fleet Street, Beaminster on Wednesday mornings by calling 01308 805060.



## Dewlish Church Notes

Have you noticed how beautiful the wild flowers are in our churchyard? We have been truly blessed to have primroses, violets and cowslips growing in abundance. A wonderful sight.

It is so good to be back in church each Sunday, and we are so looking forward to being able to sing again. At the moment we are lucky to be able to have Sarah taking the two Holy Communion services and Jim taking Morning Prayer and the Family Service.

Jim is hoping to have a **Pet Service** in the churchyard sometime in June so please do come along (with your pets, of course!). See the list of services for the date.

On 22<sup>nd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> June **the garden will be open at Yards Cottage** between 1.00pm – 5.00pm. We are providing refreshments, with all profits from these going to our church. We would be so grateful for any donations of cakes. Will you please let Daphne, Sue or Marg know if you can contribute. Thank you. The gate proceeds will be going to the National Gardens Scheme charities.

*Daphne Burg*

## **Do you subscribe to this Parish Magazine?**

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listed on Page 3 for more details.

## Services in the Benefice June 2021

### 6<sup>th</sup> June – Trinity 1

Psalm 138, 1 Samuel 8.4-11, 16-20, Mark 3.20-35

9.30am	Parish Communion	Tolpuddle
9.30am	Celebrate	Milborne St Andrew
11.00am	Parish Communion	Puddletown
11.00am	1662 Morning Prayer	Dewlish

### 13<sup>th</sup> June – Trinity 2

Psalm 20, 1 Samuel 15.34-16.13, Mark 4.26-34

9.30am	Parish Communion	Milborne St Andrew
11.00am	Puddletown Praise	Puddletown
11.00am	Parish Communion	Dewlish

### 20<sup>th</sup> June – Trinity 3

Psalm 9.9-20, 1 Samuel 17.32-49, Mark 4.35-41

9.30am	Parish Communion	Tolpuddle
9.30am	Worship in Stillness	Milborne St Andrew
11.00am	Parish Communion	Puddletown
11.00am	Pet Service	Dewlish

### 27<sup>th</sup> June – Trinity 4

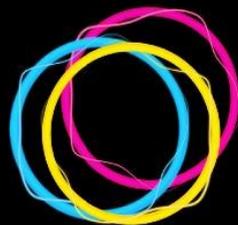
Psalm 130, 2 Samuel 1.1, 17-27, Mark 5.21-43

9.30am	Go Fourth	Tolpuddle
9.30am	Parish Communion	Milborne St Andrews
11.00am	1662 Morning Prayer	Puddletown
11.00am	Parish Communion	Dewlish

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

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