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This month's cover photo: The new Puddletown bell ringers team after they had rung in the New Year at midnight on 31st December 2018, at St Mary's, Puddletown. Photo by Heather Mears.



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MEMORIAL MASONRY

Bumping into God



The title of this month's letter comes from a book by Dave Tomlinson (who was until he retired in July last year a Vicar in London). The book's title is unusual: *How to be a bad Christian . . . and a better human being*, but that shouldn't mislead you. Its content is actually mostly very wise and about expanding our experience of faith beyond the institutionalisation that happens all too easily in the Church of England and other denominations.

He writes: "We all have moments when we glimpse something beyond the purely material world, when we 'bump into God'. But we don't necessarily think of them as religious or spiritual experiences." He goes on to list the sort of things he means, the sacred moments that make us stop and reflect. These are things like receiving a smile from a child, gazing at the stars on a clear night, holding the hand of a loved one as they die, hearing a blackbird sing.

Some of these moments are joyful; some are hard. But all can be God moments. And sadly in our busy world, we so often miss the encounters with God because we don't make space for them. We don't linger long enough in contemplation or spend enough time being rather than doing.

These moments draw us to the greater reality beyond our human sphere that people of faith believe is God. Faith is a way of interpreting the world that helps us to make sense of those experiences of something other beyond us.

In the Church of England and many other Churches we use simple everyday things to remind us of God inside the church – bread and wine at holy communion, water at baptism. These sacraments are outward signs of God's inner work and grace among us.

But everyday things can speak of God outside the confines of a church service and ceremony too. God is all around us.

Tomlinson ends his chapter with these words, which for me sum up what bumping into God is all about. "Enjoy receiving Communion, but celebrate Christ's presence in every meal, every human interaction. 'Break open any loaf, taste any glass of wine, you'll find me there. Look not the eye of friend or stranger alike, you will see me looking back at you.'

Emmanuel – a title we hear used for Christ at Christmas – means God with us. It's not just one for the festive season.

With best wishes, Sarah



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D. 14th October Aged 78	Irene Margaret Stockley	Weymouth Crematorium
D. 12th November	Joyce Mary Baker	Weymouth Crematorium
D. 28th November	Margaret Louise Jamieson	Puddletown
D. 18th December	Sybil Esme Palmer	Weymouth Crematorium

Sponsored Walk Puddletown Forest 17th February 2019

Crowd funding to send Rico to Zimbabwe to work for the Pamushana Emthunzini foundation. 15% donation to Puddletown Play park.


Rico is 12 years old, attends St Mary's Middle School and wrote the following paragraph:

There is a foundation to help women and young children in Zimbabwe, we are fundraising to help them, and in April we will go to Zimbabwe to give our time to help the children.

We are doing a sponsored walk, which will help the foundation Pamushana Emthunzini to support the volunteer group in Zimbabwe. If you wish to be part of the sponsored walk please contact Carly for sponsor forms: 07850 732303.

See the full page advert on Page 50 of this magazine for more information.





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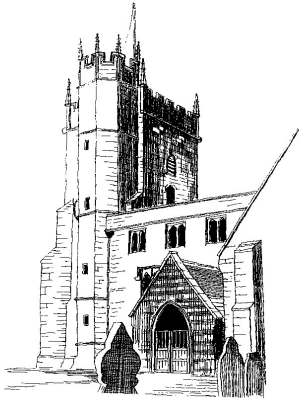
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St. Mary's Church Events—February



The copy for the January magazine had to be in before the Christmas activities had taken place but now we can thank everyone involved and, in particular, Sarah for all the different services held in St Mary's: a full church for the carol service with the middle school singers and a performance of a carol they had written, a lively crib service with runaway shepherds doing bunny hops down the aisle, midnight mass and Puddletown Praise; Jenny who had quite an organ marathon during the Christmas

season. Bell ringers who were kept busy; Heather's flower team who decorated the church and archway beautifully; Sheila and her team, together with the pupils from St Mary's Middle School, who provided an excellent Village Christmas Lunch which was enjoyed by about 70 people. Guests were greeted with carols by the Church Hand Bell team, well trained waiters and waitresses served the traditional fare and the choir entertained us after the meal. The Christmas fair and coffee morning was held earlier in the month and the "workshop" made door wreaths to sell alongside the other crafts and goodies, which raised over £800.

Pop-in Coffee Mornings are held throughout the year on Thursdays in the Church Room from 10 am to 12 noon – you will be very welcome to join us for tea/coffee and some home baking. There will be a short communion service at 12 noon on the 21st. Rosemary will be there on the 7th with her card stall.

Messy Church takes place on Sunday 3rd February, starting at 4pm in St Mary's Church, Puddletown. There will be activities, crafts, songs, games, bible story and prayers followed by tea.

For more details contact sarah.c.hillman@outlook.com.

The Village Lunch will be held on Monday 11th February from 12noon to 1.30pm in Puddletown Village Hall. The "special" will be chicken traybake with vegetables followed by all your favourite puddings – and custard! Please contact Sheila on 849193 or Jean on 848211 if you haven't already booked your lunch.

The Flower Team AGM will be held on 23rd February at 11am in the Church Room.

Please let us have your ideas for our next **Events Committee Meeting** on Tuesday 12th March. Three dates for your diaries are :

Continued on Page 11

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Saturday 6th April - a **Concert** by the Briantspuddle Singers in St Mary's Church.

Saturday 18th May – a **Concert** with the well-known Dorset Rock Choir and Clapper Chaos, an award winning hand bell ringing group from Poole.

Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th June – a **Flower Festival** in St Mary's Church.

TOWER NEWS

Back in the summer, after an absence of over ten years, weekly bell ringing practice recommenced at Puddletown. Paul, Rod and I came along to learn under the instruction of Robin, Nigel, Jane and Paul. Firstly we were taken up the tower to see the bells and learn the different parts and understand how they worked. Over the weeks we were slowly taught how to ring a bell up and down, and eventually ring the handstroke and backstroke independently. A couple of months later we were joined by Mike and Poddy.

On November 11th we learners joined in with “proper” bell ringers in some rounds as part of the “Ringing Remembers” project. This was to honour the memory of 1,400 bell ringers who died in the First World War. We also received badges by becoming one of 1,400 new ringers across the nation, ringing on the centenary of the Armistice.



Mike, Emma, Poddy, Jane, Rod, Paul, Robin, Howard & Ian

11th November 2018

Our own learners and instructors rang the bells before several services over Christmas, and, on New Year's Eve, 13 of us took turns to ring out the old year. After a countdown in the tower, Robin rang 12 times on the tenor bell for midnight, and then we rang in the new year.


Continued on Page 13



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Robin ringing the midnight chimes.

With several more new learners, (our youngest only 10 years old), and also joined by learners and ringers from Hilton and Tolpuddle, we are now getting crowded in the tower!




Most of us have now been awarded the “Learning the Ropes” Level 1 in Bell Handling certificate, and will soon be working our way through the next stage.

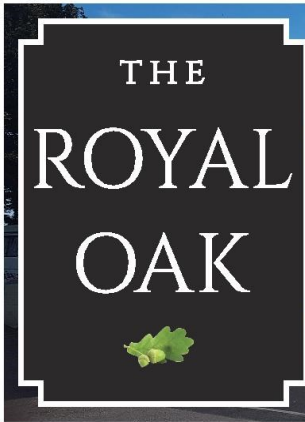
Thank you Robin, Nigel, Jane and Paul for all your patience with us and giving us this chance to learn the ropes!

Emma Hughes

Puddletown Weather

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

December 2018		
	Rainfall for the month	116.70 mm
	Cumulative for the year	603.90 mm
	2017 Rainfall for the month	103.80 mm
	2017 Cumulative for the year	889.80 mm
	Temperatures	Max. 16.40 °C Min. -2.70 °C
	2017	Max. 13.50° C Min -3.70° C
	Maximum wind speed	12.00 mph
	2017	20.60 mph



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Charity donation to Dorset Blind Association

On Thursday 20th December Crossways Travel, a local Coach Tour Operator, based near Dorchester, operating day excursions and holiday tours from Dorset, made their "Charity Of The Year" Donation for 2018 to Dorset Blind Association. This year, Crossways Travel are delighted to announce with the help of their loyal customers, that they donated a staggering £2114.16 at their annual Christmas Party Lunch, which was held in the New Forest.

Matthew Crocker, owner of Crossways Travel, said he was delighted with the amount raised this year for the charity and that Dorset Blind Association were very grateful. Crossways Travel are now starting the planning for 2019's Charity Of The Year (yet to be chosen). He would like to thank all the people that have made this donation possible.



From The Left – Barry Tyson (Driver), Matt Crocker (Owner of Crossways Travel), Helena Sinclair (Dorset Blind Association), Sonia Abbiss (Crossways Travel), Penny Bayley-Maynard (Crossways Travel) and Ron Lewis (Driver).

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But be careful: if you eat chocolate daily you could experience a 17 per cent *increase* in your risk of heart failure. So the advice from the researchers at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai in New York is: 'moderate dark-chocolate consumption is good for health.'

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Puddletown Village Lunch

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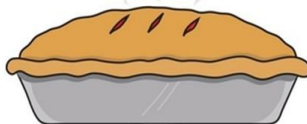
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Future Dates:

Sunday 3rd March - Dewlish Village Hall

Sunday 7th April - Tolpuddle Village Hall

Sunday 5th May - Milborne Village Hall



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Puddletown Area Parish Council

The Puddletown Area Parish Council, serving Puddletown, Tolpuddle, Athelhampton and Burleston, is currently 7 Puddletown councillors short, which leaves only 2 councillors representing the community. If anyone from Puddletown would like to fill one of those vacancies now then please contact the Clerk, Colin Hampton via email at puddletown@dorset-aptc.gov.uk or telephone 01258 837011. You can be co-opted to the council immediately as we are now less than 6 months away from the local elections. The whole council will be up for election in May with places available as follows: - Puddletown 9, Tolpuddle 3, Athelhampton 2 and Burleston 2. More details on how to put your name forward for election will be promulgated nearer the time and nomination papers will be available from me.

Information about the Parish Council can be found on the council's website <http://www.puddletownareaparishcouncil.co.uk>. It is recognised that this website is not particularly inviting to view, consequently a new website is currently being produced by a specialist firm which will be much more intuitive, easy to navigate and more informative. It is hoped that the new site will keep the same address but if not, a new one will be advertised as widely as possible.

At the December meeting of the council the budget for 2019-20 was agreed, which was set in order for there to be no increase in the precept on the current year of £44K. It was felt that with the uncertainty over the new Dorset Council's decision to introduce full council tax harmonisation in year one, which is certain to raise council tax by more than the previously capped levels, an increase in the parish precept should not add to the burden this year. At the January meeting it was confirmed that in addition to the Puddletown Recreation Ground and Tolpuddle's Orchard Meadow Playground, the council intends to develop the Butt Close play area and is currently seeking a grant to assist with this project.

Most of you will be aware that the Puddletown Neighbourhood Plan is currently on hold and the group members have sadly all resigned following a recent planning decision by the council which the group disagreed with. It is hoped that it will be possible to resurrect the plan and continue it to completion after the May elections.

Colin Hampton

Clerk to PAPC

Future meeting dates are as follows:

February:	Tuesday 12th—Tolpuddle
March:	Tuesday 12th—Puddletown
April:	Tuesday 9th—Tolpuddle
May:	Tuesday 14th—Puddletown



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"See you later, Benny"

It was with great sadness that we heard of Benny's death on Boxing Day, with Mel, Iona, Zac and Eleanor at his side in the Weldmar Hospice.

Benny's fifty-five years were action-packed and, as he said in his "blog", he always had a premonition that he would never see old age. Mel and their children had given great support since his diagnosis of cancer in August 2017 and Mel raised more than £6,000 for Cancer Research when she bravely had all her hair shaved off. We send them our love and deepest sympathy.

We would like to share the following written by Mel, Isaac, Iona and Eleanor on the back of the service sheet for the celebration of Benny's life, held at a very full St Peter's Church, Dorchester, on Tuesday 15th January, conducted by the Revd Sarah Godfrey :

Thank you for joining us today as we celebrate the life of our Benny. We know that his death will have left a hole in the hearts of many, but hope that the memories we share of his fierce thirst for justice and gentle, big hearted, compassionate love for everyone will be able to heal the pain we feel today...

Remember to smile, because we're not saying goodbye, only "See you later, Benny."

Benny was appointed Vicar of the Benefice in 2005 and with Mel, Zac and Iona left their London parish and came to live with us in Puddletown, with Sarah Godfrey as his Curate. Mel was still recovering from her horrific accident from two years earlier and the children settled into the local school. We were privileged to have them here for the next five-and-a-half years. During this time Benny started "Chill Zone" for the children after school and a social "get together" for the men involving fishing trips, whisky tasting and other activities. A very busy time with our four churches.

We were glad that the family stayed nearby when they moved to their new home at Cheselbourne in February 2011, as Benny became Mel's carer and took on part-time work as Prison Chaplain and more recently, as the Diocesan Vocations Co-ordinator.

Anyone who had the privilege of being in the congregation at the service at St Peter's will have been reminded of the inclusivity of Benny's ministry and the amazing impact he made on all those he met. God bless you Benny, and thanks for all the wonderful memories.

We hope to print the obituary for Benny in the next magazine, which will be in the *Church Times* shortly. You may also like to read Benny's final "blog" written just after he retired officially on 30 November. Within this he refers to a quote from the film *Blade Runner*.

"The light that burns twice as bright burns half as long, and you have burned so very, very brightly"

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QWERTY celebrates a big birthday

The inventor of the QWERTY keyboard – now almost universally adopted in English-speaking countries – was born 200 years ago, on 14th February 1819, in Pennsylvania. Christopher Latham Scholes was an Episcopalian who could trace his ancestry back to two of the original Mayflower pilgrims, John and Priscilla Alden.



Although he did not invent the typewriter from scratch, Scholes was instrumental in developing a successful working model. Vital to this was his changing the keyboard, which was originally in alphabetical order but had a tendency to jam. Scholes rearranged the levers so that frequently used keys would not interfere with each other.

Scholes started out as a printer and then, after moving to Wisconsin, became a newspaper publisher. He served two terms as a Senator for Wisconsin, one as a Democrat and one as a Republican.

His typewriter was not a commercial success until he joined forces with the Remington company, selling them half his rights for \$12,000. In 1878 he added a shift key so that the writer could switch easily between capitals and lower-case letters. He died in 1890, probably of tuberculosis.

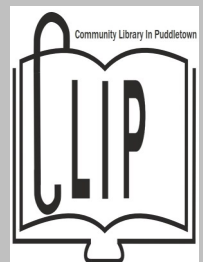
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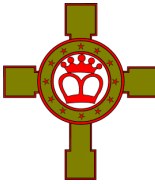
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St Mary's Middle School

I am very proud of the outstanding musical talent we have at St Mary's. Before Christmas, we showcased this talent through a show stopping 'Night of The Beatles' concert. With more than a third of the school participating and hundreds of tickets purchased, this concert was made memorable for all.

Performances included those by the school orchestra, the brass ensemble, the flute quartet, the new ukulele group, the whole school singing group, the boys' singing group and the rock club. As well as all the school's ensembles, the concert also featured lots of soloists and band performances well done to everyone who participated!

In Year 8 Resistant Materials, the pupils have been taking home some splendid looking clocks, now involving some electronics, they themselves deciding on which materials to use and the techniques they would need to produce the final piece of work. This is a great example of how we are developing a balance between all important knowledge and understanding, while also promoting pupil-led learning.



Year 5 children getting up close to some exotic creatures!



Year 5 had an exciting start to the New Year! Dave 'The Bug Man' Sharpe came to visit us with his menagerie of exotic animals. Children went to a workshop in classes as a 'hook' activity to engage them in their next scheme of work in English: 'Persuasive Pets Project Based Learning: Is it morally right to keep exotic pets?' The children were able to get up close and personal with the likes of rats, milk snakes, tarantulas, bearded dragons, African land snails and even a Harris Hawk! We were thrilled with Dave's amazing knowledge of the creatures and what it takes to care for them correctly. Our children did us proud: they were engaged; polite and very enthusiastic. Even the teachers held some of the creatures! I'd like to express our gratitude to St Mary's PTA for fully funding the experience for the children.

Darren Ayling
Head Teacher



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	Sarah.c.hillman@outlook.com	
RETIRED CLERGY	Rosie Coldwell	01258 839 214
	The Revd Sue Turner	07775 710 429
CHURCHWARDENS	Rod Hughes (Puddletown)	07791 216540
	Vacancy (Puddletown)	
	Hilly Cobban (Tolpuddle)	01305 848 552
	Julie Bonner (Tolpuddle)	01305 848 027
	Pam Shults (Milborne St Andrew)	01258 837 203
	Vacancy	
	Sue Britton (Dewlish)	01258 837 218
	Jim Burg (Dewlish)	01258 837 466
BENEFICE OFFICE	Emma Hughes	01305 849 039
(www.puddletownbenefice.org)	puddletownbenefice@outlook.com	
PUDDLETOWN CONTACTS		
Alcoholics Anonymous		01202 296 000
Area Parish Council	Stephen Baynard (Chair)	01305 849 237
Area Parish Clerk	Colin Hampton puddletown@dorset-aptc.gov.uk	01258 837 011
Bell Ringers	Robin Mears	01305 848 021
Carer's Association		
Children's Society	Dawn Loveless	01305 849534
Church Room	David Jeffreys	01305 848 211
COMMUNITY LIBRARY - Run & financed by volunteers. 01305 848 506		
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	Wednesday: 3.00pm to 5.30pm	
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County Councillor	Nick Ireland	01305 837 177
Cricket Club	David Stevens	07720 411 952
Cubs, Scouts & Beavers	Alf Justin	01258 839 080
District Councillor	Patrick Cooke	01305 848 363
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	Lizzie Peckover	01305 848 712

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DOCTORS		
Puddletown Surgery Dr J Griffiths, Dr C Burnham & Dr J Bond		01305 848 333
Puddletown Surgery (Dispensary)		01305 849 329
Out of hours medical advice & NHS Direct	Out of hours medical advice & NHS Direct	111
Gift Aid Co-ordinator	Bob Todd	01305 849 048
Guides, Brownies & Rainbows	Amy Knight	01305 848 602
Handbells	Bob Todd	01305 849 048
Mini-Soccer/Youth Football	Jon Palmer	07891 173 999
Neighbourhood Plan	Paul Langdon	01305 848 307
Organist	Jenny Hansford	01305 849368
PCC Secretary	Emma Hughes	01305 849039
PCC Treasurer	Bob Todd	01305 849 048
Puddletown Countrywoman's Club	Sylvia Hanby	01305 849 562
Puddletown CPPP	www.facebook.com/puddletownplaypark	
Puddletown Pumpkins Toddler Group	Kelly	07786 916515.
Puddletown Society	John Ridout	01305 848 940
Recreational Multi Games Area	David Knight	07890 260 320
Recreation Ground Pavilion	Liz Knight	01305 848 380
Royal British Legion (RBL)	S Ridout	01305 848 940
Rugby Club	Ray Stephens puddletownrfc@hotmail.com	07966 412 467
SCHOOLS		
Pre-school	Sharon Brown www.puddletownpreschool.co.uk	01305 849 533
Pre –school	Laura Evans	
First School (Head Teacher)	Mr D Hunwick www.puddletownfirst.dorset.sch.uk	01305 848 206
St Mary's CE Middle School	Darren Ayling—Head Teacher	01305 848 293
Short Mat Bowls		
Sunday Church Creche	Vacancy	
Sunday Seekers	Lynda Skinner	01305 849 485
Village Hall Caretaker/Bookings	Paula Kellaway	07706 798271
Village Hall Committee Secretary	Nancy Vincent	01305 848 218

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Young Farmers (Dorset)		01305 263 947
TOLPUDDLE CONTACTS		
Craft Club	Teresa Turner	01305 849 060
District Councillor	Patrick Cooke - house@athelhampton.co.uk	01305 848 363
Orchard Meadow	Martin Cooke	01305 848 156
PCC Secretary	David Tackley	01305 849 352
PCC Treasurer	John Taylor	01305 848 552
Streetfair	Annette Pitman	01305 848 219
Tolpuddle Home Group	Simon Dodd	01305 848 171
Tolpuddle Old Chapel Trust	tolpud- dleoctrust@btinternet.com	tolpud- dleoctrust@btinternet.com
Tolpuddle Toddler Group	Harriet Tory	07780 670709
Tolpuddle Village Meeting	Julia Johnstone, Clerk.	tolpuddlemeeting@yahoo.com
Tolpuddle Village Show	Penny Ruddock	pennyruddock@msn.com
Village Hall Bookings Sec.	Diana Foreman	01305 848 419
Village Hall Chairman	Peter Walton - pdwalton@btinternet.com	01305 848 034
Whist Drive	Diana Foreman	01305 848 419
Yoga (Iyengar)	Sue Chapman	01305 848 053
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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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Allotment Society	Joy Robinson	01258 837 661
Archery	Sheila Ryall	01258 837 504
Art Group	Elaine Anthony	01258 837 089
Athletics (Junior)	David Pearson	01258 837 057
Badminton	David Payne	01258 837 700
Bellringers	Pip Howell	01258 837 329
Busy Bees Group (Under 5s)	Claire Tudge	07970 734 162
Cribbage	Peter Anthony	01258 837 089
Food & Wine Society	Julie Johannsen	01258 839 004
Football Youths (Under 12)	Joy Robinson	01258 837 661
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	01305 849221
Neighbourcar	Nigel Hodder	01258 881 709
Parish Council	Joy Robinson	01258 837 661
	Colin Hampton (Clerk)	01258 837 011
Patient Voice Secretary	Nigel Hodder	01258 881 709
Pilates	Claire Barratt	07540 626 174
Round Robin Ramblers	Ian Bromilow	01258 880 044
Running Group	Anne-Marie Pearson	01258 837 057
Scout Group	Brian Burton	01258 839 033
Sports Club	Richard Lock (& Bookings)	01258 837 929
Swimming Club	Pat Cowan	01258 880 601
Tap Dancing (Adults)	Kevin Selby	01305 250 386
Tennis - Member's Secretary	Steven Lang	07916 312 452
Village Hall	Pam Shults (Chair)	01258 837 203
	Alison Riddle (Bookings)	01258 837 148
Wednesday Social Club	Sheila Burton	01258 839 033
Women's Institute	Lesley Clarke	01929 471 732
Yoga –at First School (Iyengar)	Sue Chapman	01305 848 053
Yoga—at Village Hall	Sarah Ryan	01258 839 230
Youth Club (8-13 years)	Joanne Miller	01258 881 496



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St John's Church, Tolpuddle—February 2019

Our entry in the magazine last month was a time for reflections of 2018 but now we need to look at 2019 and what it will bring.....

There will continue to be a service at 9.30am every Sunday in St John's, offering variety for those who prefer the traditional and those who like more evangelical services. We will be hosting Messy Church here on April 7th - and will enjoy Messy Church in the other parishes between now and then.

However, we are aware that we have to support the church financially as well as attending services and pastorally. We thus need to call on every member of our community to assist us in this, particularly now that we have been granted our faculty (Planning Permission from the Diocese) to renew the electrical works and install new heating and lighting but with the proviso that we have to use industrial type cabling. This is going to increase the cost further – we know that we will have to raise in excess of **£30,000** on top of the **£20,000** we have to raise annually just to keep the church ticking over. **£50,000** is a lot of money for our small village to generate.

So.... these are some of the ideas of the Events Committee, we ask that you put the dates in your calendars and help us along the way please.

Saturday March 2nd- the Frampton Arms at Moreton have very generously offered us the facilities for a **Skittles Evening** - the tickets are £10 to include the evening's entertainment and a hot meal. This will be the inauguration of our "Sparks Campaign" to raise money for the re-wiring of the church. Tickets are available from Julie 848027 and Heather 848165

Street Fayre- May 26th- we will be supporting Annette in this.

Saturday June 22nd **Midsummer Party** at Orchard Meadow. We will be offering Cream Teas and an evening BBQ with music and hope that other groups in the village will organize other activities. Do contact Hilly 848552 if you have any ideas.

Looking towards the autumn there will be many other events to keep us busy; Martyrs Weekend, the Benefice Fete (August 26th) the Village Show (August 10th), the Craft Show (October 26th/27th), Ride and Stride (September 14th) and the Bonfire Party (November 1st) - more details of these events in due course.

As usual we would like to thank you ALL for your support of this historical church which is integral to a village community, whether you attend services there or not

*Hilly and Julie
Churchwardens*



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Tolpuddle Village Tidy-up

This will take place on Saturday 2nd March at 2.00pm.
Meet at Orchard Meadow – all equipment will be provided.



ORCHARD MEADOW

Winter Work Party – Sunday 17th February 10 am - 12 noon

Come along and get some fresh air while helping to keep Tolpuddle's beautiful park in good condition. No experience is necessary, and we'll always welcome new volunteers, just wear suitable clothes, bring gardening gloves if you have some and we'll provide the tools, tea, cake and company! See you there!

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Martin Cooke 01305 848156
martycooke@aol.com or Rob Brunt
01305 848383.





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Milborne Ladybirds Playgroup

Sharing Christmas and putting on a show

On our last day before Christmas Ladybird children did a brilliant Nativity performance. All the children were wonderful, all the practising paid off and a packed audience watched on - some shedding a tear. Thank you parents and families for supporting the children and sharing this magical experience.



On returning to Ladybirds some of the children – catching the performing bug? – arranged chairs in front of the stage and invited everyone to sit and watch their show. The older girls took charge making a welcome speech to the audience and introducing each child with “we hope you enjoy their show”. At first the older girls were the performers but gradually the others joined in, some in twos for confidence. It was great to see confidence growing, great singing and dancing and how the children could organise themselves and take turns.

Our notice board had individual drawing work of the children showing their Christmas presents. While drawing they talked about what they did, who they saw and where they went over Christmas. Some families had a very busy time and are now glad to be back in the school routine.



We have talked about New Year and the children have learnt what a New Year's Resolution is. Each child has helped choose their own challenge – like, putting their shoes on themselves, reading stories, practising writing their name or making up rhyming words. Next will be Chinese New Year, Valentine's day, St David's Day and of course Pancakes.

Liz Dyer (Leader) 01258 839117 or 07771 512427

Lucy Bishop (Secretary) 07866 267044

www.milborneladybirds.org.uk

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3.30 to 4.00pm Refreshments available.

4.00 to 5.00 Angel Heart Theatre - The Boy who Cried Wolf

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St Andrew's Church News

February always seems to me to be a dull month which is not surprising following a diary full of church and other celebratory events over the Advent, Christmas and Epiphany period. It always takes the rest of January to settle down and catch up with things that have been non-urgent and postponed. So, come February, the excitement is gone and there always seems to be a bit of a lull.

However, on the positive side, life seems to blossom at this time of year; the days grow longer, there are new plants and flowers appearing and the birds are singing beautifully. It makes me thank God for all the miracles that happen with or without human intervention. God's creations are awe inspiring and we must thank Him not only in prayer but in respecting all that we embrace and have contact with. This means caring for the environment and for people which can be done in so many ways.

One such way is to come to church to pray, praise and meet other similar minded people. There are a variety of services on a monthly basis and special ones planned over the next few months. Some of these services celebrate events such as Mothering Sunday, Ash Wednesday, Lent services (including Compline), Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

We try to welcome all who come to St Andrew's church, especially newcomers and help them to feel comfortable. Every month we provide services to suit all needs. Our Celebrate service is an informal one which begins with breakfast, we have a formal 1662 Said Morning Prayer service and two Parish Communion services. On a 5th Sunday of a month the people, who come from the four churches in the benefice, join together in one of the churches for a Benefice Communion service.

The monthly rotas are displayed on our notice boards, in the Reporter and on Facebook. If you would like more information or want to talk to someone about any of the services or need a lift or would like to come with one of our regulars just contact me and I can arrange the necessary.

Christingle

Before Christmas St Andrew's ran a Christingle service. This was very well attended by children and their families. They all enjoyed making their own Christingle and other craft items. We all enjoyed watching a video clip about the nativity, listening to Sarah and the singing of carols.



Continued on Page 45

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The £80 collected at the service was sent to the Children's Society to support the work that they do in protecting vulnerable children, including unaccompanied refugee children.

We hold a Christingle service every year to which all children, their families and others from Milborne and other villages are welcomed; watch out for the announcements next December and come along and join in the celebrations!

Messy Church in Milborne

January's Messy Church was hosted by St Andrew's church in Milborne's Village Hall. Amazingly there were 19 children accompanied by one or both of their parents (and some grandparents) who came to make, listen and learn. The theme was 'belonging' and was based around the Bible story when Jesus was about 12 and, with his parents, went to Jerusalem for the Passover. However, unbeknown to his parents he did not start his journey home with them and was not found for 3 days. Jesus was eventually found in the temple, absorbed in religious discussion with Jewish teachers.

The session started with children and families doing activities which related to the theme. They were able to make a model temple; make cards which showed Jesus as a baby and as a 12-year-old; mark on a map the area that was special for them and to say a prayer; create a family shield; make a web to illustrate relationships; make a scroll similar to those used in the temple and finally get to taste foods that Jesus would have had to celebrate the Passover.

After the crafting Sarah explored with the children the difference between a baby and a 12-year-old child. She told the story of Jesus being 'lost' by his parents and made us all think about how terrified they must have felt but how he had found the place that he could stay with his 'Father'. We all sang a song to end this session.

Those who were able to stay enjoyed a hot meal cooked and supplied by volunteers. Many thanks go to all who helped make this session another successful Messy Church.

The next one will be on the 3rd of February in St Mary's Church Room, Puddletown starting at 4 pm. All are welcome to come along.

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Churchwarden

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Conservatory Restaurant



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Stable Bar Function Room



Family Room



Lounge Bar

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Word Search for January 2019—the answers.

Here are the words you were looking for:

Magi, three, gifts, gold, frankincense, myrrh, king, worship, God, temple, spice, burial, Jews, divine, sacrifice, die, Gentiles, faith, evidence, promises.



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Milborne St Andrew Gardening Club

A date for your diary



It's February already! Where did January go?

Some of you will remember the talk on orchids given by Jocelyn Jenkins in our Village Hall, but if you missed it make sure you don't miss out again. At our next club meeting in the Village Hall on 21st February, starting at 7:30pm, we're looking forward to a talk on 'Water in Gardens' by Alan Eason. You'll learn about the ways in which water can add interest to your garden, benefit wildlife and enhance your enjoyment of your outside space. Do come along, members and non-members are most welcome.

Mark Johnson



Milborne Movies
at the Village Hall
on the BIG screen



Supported by

Milborne Movies

Friday 15th February
at 7.30pm

Doors and Bar at 7.00pm



Milborne St. Andrew Village Hall



Puddletown Forest Sponsored Walk/run

**Fundraising for the Pamushana-
Emthunzini Foundation -To support
volunteer group in Zimbabwe. 15%
funds to Puddletown Play Park**

**SUNDAY 17th February 2019 10am. Start point White
Hill, Puddletown. 1/2 mile kids, 5k and 10k
12:30pm bring a picnic for a family picnic at
Puddletown Park.**

**Contact Carly for sponsor forms:
waveconnections@outlook.com or 07850732303.**



Pamushana-Emthunzini Foundation is a women and youth mentoring organisation that uses various techniques to build communities in impoverished areas in Zimbabwe.

ROUND ROBIN RAMBLERS

The local villages walking group



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

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

SUNDAY 3rd Feb - 1:30 pm *(note earlier time during winter)*

Ibberton & Belchalwell

Meet at Ibberton Hill picnic area, just down from Bulbarrow in the direction of Okeford Fitzpaine.

Grid reference: ST 792071 on OS Explorer Sheet 117 (approx. 4.5 miles)

WEDNESDAY 20th Feb - 11 am

Blandford St Mary & Bryanston

Meet at the free car park behind Tesco and the brewery in Blandford Forum.

Grid reference: ST 889058 on Explorer Sheet 117 (approx. 7 miles)

Bring a packed lunch.

Grid reference: ST 923035 on OS Explorer Sheet 118 (approx. 4 miles)

Please note:

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

This Month

at the MILBORNE ST ANDREW
GARDENING CLUB



Topic

Water in Gardens

THURSDAY
21st February



Refreshments



VENUE
**The Village
Hall—7.30pm**

Open to All — everyone is welcome

Entry: £2 non members



MILBORNE ST ANDREW FIRST SCHOOL



**Learning together, playing together;
all for one, one for all**

Whales come to Milborne!

If you peeped through the door into the hall on Friday morning, you would have been surprised to see a dolphin and porpoise relaxing on the floor. I know all of the pupils were very surprised when they were invited in to whale workshops throughout the day... luckily the two cetaceans were life size plastic models!

The workshops were led by Anna from Orca (a group that work to protect whales and dolphins and their environments.) We all learnt a lot of interesting facts about these beautiful and varied creatures. Children were able to handle and investigate the model jaws and found out a lot about the teeth and feeding habits of the many different species.



*"It feels like fingernails!"
Models of teeth and touching
a baleen plate.*

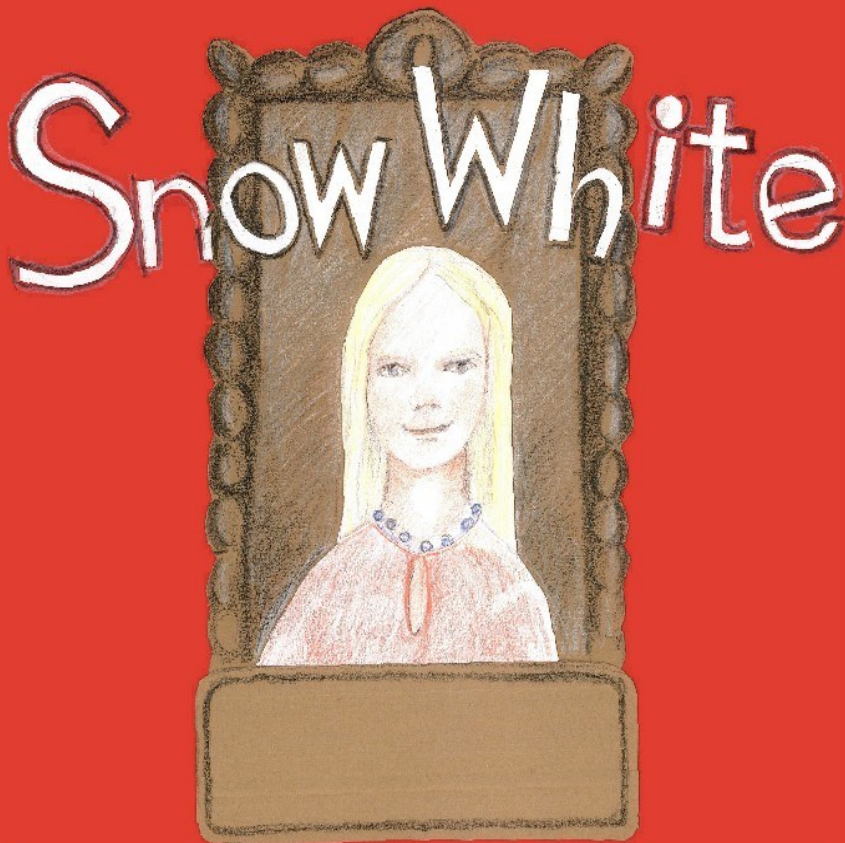
Year 2s were most impressed by the fact that a blue whale would be the same length as all 22 pupils and 2 adults lying head to toe! (33m.) We fitted around 3 sides of the hall!

We found out about the dangers that whales and dolphins face from mankind. Oil spills, noise pollution, over fishing and pollution. Over 80% of the litter in the ocean is plastic, that does not break down.

Children were so concerned about this that they immediately (and independently) organised a playtime litter club to collect any litter at school before it could be blown or washed into the stream. How wonderful to see such commitment to a cause that they took action in whatever way they could immediately! Well done, Milborne pupils!



The
Milborne Players
present



Written and Directed by Ron Karley
February 2019

8th, 9th, 10th at 7.30
Matinee 10th at 2.30

Tickets available from the box office
01258 839085 and the Milborne Londis



Dewlish Church Notes

We all enjoyed a very busy December in our village, including a lovely meal provided by the locals. Thank you so much to you all for your hard work and thus producing such a good evening.

Dulcie played at her last service here on 16th December, and she was presented with a bouquet of flowers and a thank-you card. We are pleased to say that Aidan is willing to play on the extra

Sundays, when he is able.

This year we sang carols at the pub, and I am delighted to report that about 20 of us took part. Aidan accompanied the singing on the piano and we all had a most enjoyable time. Dianne kindly provided refreshments of mulled wine and mince pies. Thank you so much! We intend doing this again in 2019 so we will be hoping that more people will join us. The collection of £65 has been donated to Shelter.

For the Carol Service - which was delightful once again - Ed provided us with fantastic lighting and sound which gave the Christmas Stable a lovely atmosphere. Thank you, Ed. Thanks also to David for providing the staging, and to Jim and Graham for erecting the stable, complete with its many props!

The children were wonderful, and thanks all round must go to the readers, to Aidan and Becky for playing for us, and to 11-year-old Edward who had composed a special song, and sang and played it! Edward has talent! None of this would have happened without Jim's hard work. Well done, Jim; I know how hard you work!

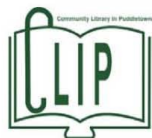
The church looked beautiful on Christmas Day. We welcomed quite a few visitors and enjoyed a wonderful service led by Janet Smith. Many thanks, Janet, and of course to all our flower arrangers.

Daphne Burg

THE MILBORNE PLAYERS PRESENT SNOW WHITE

IT'S HERE! The dwarves are ready. The dame is ready. Snow White is ready. The fairy is checking her spelling. Be prepared for loads of laughs in this enjoyable family show. Even though an alien and two useless inventors feature, the plot still manages to keep (more or less) to the original story. And just wait till you meet our ultra-wicked queen! The show days are - Thursday 7th, Friday 8th and Saturday 9th February at 7.30pm. Saturday matinee at 2.30pm. Don't miss it!

Ron Karley - Author and Director



Book Night Party
Thursday 7th February
Puddletown library 5 – 6.30pm



Fancy Dress – Prizes for best Costumes
Games , Puzzles and Quizzes
Please join us for a fun evening

Ticket entry only – Tickets are free, but there are limited spaces available.

Please register for your Free Ticket at Puddletown Library

St Mary's, Puddletown—February 2019

Intercessors		Scripture Readers
3rd	Rod Hughes	Emma Hughes
10th	Family Service Team	
17th	Dawn Loveless	Pat Sparks
24th	Jean Jeffreys	Ursula Pomeroy & Richard Tilley
Flowers		
3rd	Caroline Cox	Presentation of Christ
10th	Caroline Cox	4th before Lent
17th	Heather Mears	3rd before Lent
24th	Heather Mears	2nd before Lent
Coffee		
2nd Sunday of every month—Family Service Team		
February: Emma Hughes		
(Please let Jean know of any problems over dates.)		
Brasses		
Caroline Wood Homer & Sylvia Hanby		
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	

February Wordsearch

**The Presentation of Christ in the Temple/ Candlemas—
25 words are hidden in the following text for you to find.....**

Candlemas, 2nd February, comes exactly 40 days after Christmas. In New Testament times 40 days old was an important age for a baby boy: it was when they made their first ‘public appearance’. Mary, like all good Jewish mothers, went to the Temple with Jesus, her first male child - to ‘present Him to the Lord’. Thus, we have the Festival of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple. (Luke 2: 22-40) So where does the Candlemas bit come in? Jesus is described in the New Testament as the Light of the World, and early Christians developed the tradition of lighting many candles in celebration of this day.

P	B	P	Y	O	D	E	I	B	P	N	N	M	G
T	N	W	F	R	M	L	S	I	A	N	I	H	R
W	T	L	E	T	A	P	R	P	F	B	S	N	S
T	W	T	S	N	D	M	P	O	S	I	Y	A	F
N	F	N	T	A	G	E	R	A	W	D	M	I	A
A	N	O	I	T	A	T	N	E	S	E	R	P	V
D	E	C	V	R	Y	N	J	L	L	S	H	L	R
A	E	A	A	O	T	E	T	D	T	C	Y	I	I
B	T	N	L	P	P	M	N	N	H	R	L	G	T
S	C	D	D	M	S	A	M	T	S	I	R	H	C
E	E	L	B	I	C	T	P	J	G	B	A	T	I
S	W	E	Y	E	A	S	A	H	O	E	E	I	B
A	W	S	Y	A	D	E	T	Y	N	D	F	N	A
P	U	B	L	I	C	T	I	Y	G	C	I	G	G

Services in the Benefice— February 2019

3rd February – Presentation of Christ in the Temple

Psalm 24.1-10, Malachi 3.1-4, Luke 2.22-40

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

10th February – 4th Sunday before Lent

Psalm 138, Isaiah 6.1-13, Luke 5.1-11

8.15am	1662 Said Communion	Puddletown
9.30am	United Methodist Service	Tolpuddle
9.30am	Parish Communion	Milborne
11.00am	Puddletown Praise	Puddletown Church Room
11.00am	Parish Communion	Dewlish

17th February – 3rd Sunday before Lent

Psalm 1, Jeremiah 17.5-10, Luke 6.17-26

9.30am	Family Communion	Tolpuddle
9.30am	1662 Morning Prayer (Said)	Milborne St Andrew
11.00am	Parish Communion	Puddletown
11.00am	Family Service	Dewlish

Thursday 21st February

12.00noon	Lunchtime Communion	Puddletown
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24th February – 2nd Sunday before Lent

Psalm 65, Genesis 2.4b-9, 15-25, Luke 8.22-25

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

Morning Prayer—Monday through Thursday 8.15am, Saturday 9.00am

Monday	Puddletown	Tuesday	Milborne St Andrew
Wednesday	Dewlish	Thursday	Tolpuddle
Saturday	Puddletown		

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