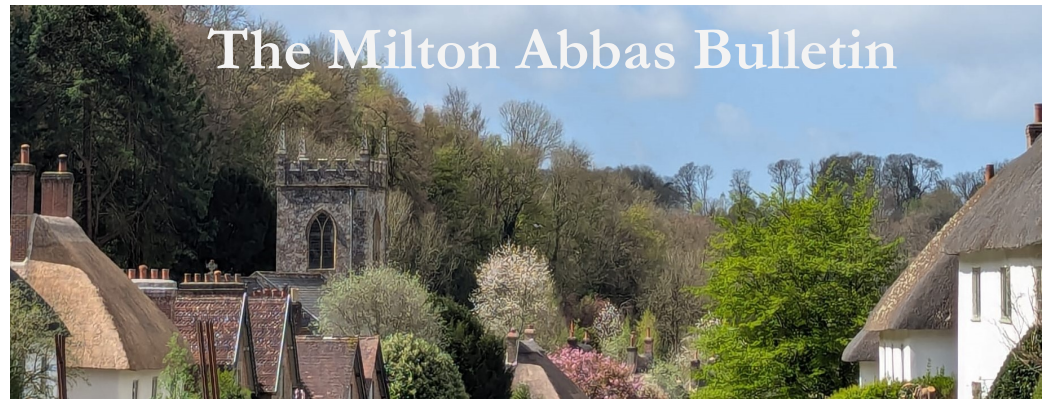


June 2026

Issue 22



Welcome!

Hello everyone and welcome to our June newsletter!

June has arrived, bringing the warmth and vibrancy of summer along with it. Those of us that are lucky enough to celebrate a birthday this month (me included!), can enjoy what I believe is the perfect time gap between a birthday and Christmas! Our lovely Tanzi Amor also celebrates a birthday this month on the 9th!

June is a month of long days, abundant sunshine, and endless opportunities for joy. As the season unfolds, it's the perfect time to find simple pleasures and reconnect with the beauty of nature. Open your windows to invite the fresh air and listen to the birds greeting the day. June brings a lush, vibrant burst of life. Take time to be outdoors, whether you're nurturing your garden, walking barefoot on the grass, or simply resting beneath the shade of a tree. These quiet moments help you feel grounded and deepen your connection to yourself and to the earth's rhythms. The summer solstice on June 21st marks the longest day of the year, in some cultures it's a time of celebration and reflection. The June full moon, often called the Strawberry Moon, is a celebration of light, warmth, and the height of summer's energy. It invites you to pause, take stock of how far you've come, and express gratitude for the abundance in your life. Summer is a wonderful time to strengthen bonds with friends and family. Host a picnic, attend a local event, or simply spend time together outdoors. Shared experiences create lasting memories and enrich your sense of belonging. One of the simplest pleasures of June is the opportunity to eat outdoors. Picnics in the Park, outdoor Breakfast or Brunch, BBQ's, take a picnic to the beach or by a river and/or have a Sunset Supper by setting a table up outside and enjoy dinner watching the sky change colours as you eat. June is a pivotal month for gardening in the UK, as warm soil and long daylight hours create perfect conditions for rapid growth. For tips on gardening, why not click this link:-

www.ngs.org.uk/june-in-the-garden-time-to-relax/

June is a time of abundance, where possibility blooms in every moment. By tuning into the rhythms of nature, you can cultivate a life that feels both vibrant and grounded. Allow its beauty to guide you through the days ahead. Focus on the small moments that make the season special, and welcome the warmth of summer with an open heart.

Oh, and don't forget Father's day on Sunday 21st!

Have a good June everyone!

Best regards

Mrs Ed x

Coffee Stop

Every Tuesday St James Church opens up its south aisle to welcome villagers and passers-by in for a cuppa and a slice of cake.

All are welcome! It is a great way to meet other villagers and catch up on things.

The coffee stop runs from **11am until 12 noon** and we charge just £1 for a drink and another £1 for a slice of cake!

All proceeds go to the up-keep of our beautiful church.



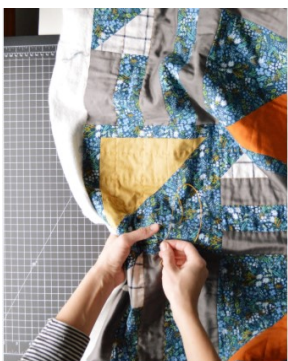
Friday Quilters!

Fridays from 9:30 to 12:00 in the Milton Abbas Reading Room.

You do not have to be a quilter! Bring your knitting or anything else that you are currently working on.

We stop for coffee, tea & biscuits or, if you are lucky, a piece of cake! We will be very pleased to see you.

Further details from **Anthea - 01258 269348**





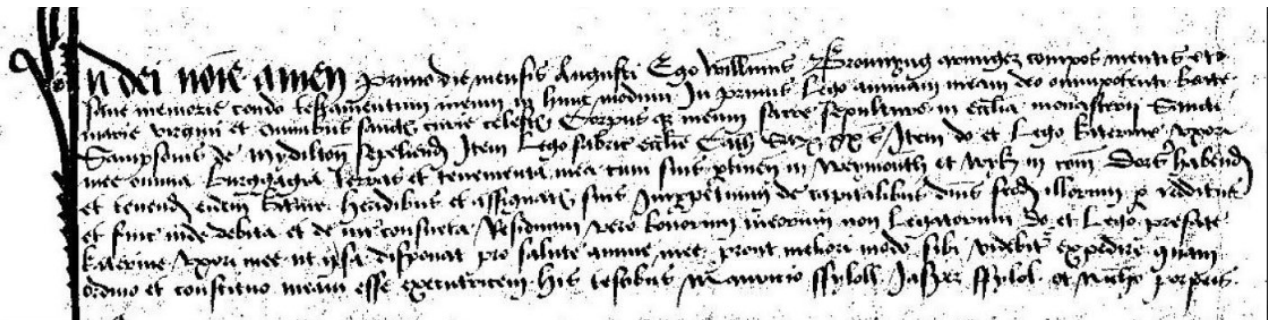
Milton Abbas Local History Group

One of our members, Clive Barnes, has conducted a targeted personal investigation into the historic graffiti at Milton Abbey Church over several visits between 2024 and 2025. Rather than performing an exhaustive architectural survey, he has focused on identifying anonymous marks and inscriptions that carry historical significance regarding the Abbey's fabric, internal timeline, and relationship with the surrounding community. The analysis builds upon prior documentation from the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments in England (RCHME) in 1970 and a 2016 glass conservation project. More information is on our website blog, and the full report is available on the Members Section of this website.

Clive notes that the vast majority of historical graffiti in the church was created by adult men - such as masons, glaziers, bellringers, and churchwardens - rather than representing youth vandalism. Many of the names are well known from the history of Milton Abbas and more information on those people who have inscribed their names in the Abbey church can be found in our extensive records.

MILTON ABBAS LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Bryan Phillips has been using AI to transcribe and research some of our early Latin Records. AI is changing daily and certainly gaining access to much more material old and new. An example is given on our website blog.



This is an image of a small paragraph from the will of William Browning of Melbury Sampford (12 miles north-west of Dorchester) 1493 in Latin. It has been transcribed accurately into modern English and the analysis and references are truly amazing. This took Google Gemini about ten minutes. The will is important as William left 10 shillings to Milton Abbey and asks to be buried in the Abbey Church. More information on the significance of this will is given in our blog.

As you see there is plenty of research going on into the history of this amazing place. Why not join our group to find out more and also add to our knowledge.

We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting at **7:30pm on 3 June 19:30 in the Reading Rooms** where our member Anne Gwatkin is giving a presentation on some of her research for her PhD - Monastic Life and Abbot Middleton. Abbot Middleton is extremely important in the history of Milton Abbas since he was the driving force in the rebuilding of the late 15th century abbey church which we see today and the founder of the Grammar School in 1521.



THE HAMBRO ARMS MENU

LUNCH		SUPPER Served from 5.30pm - 8pm	
Soup Of The Day	£6.50 <small>VE GF</small>	Ham, Eggs & Chips	£15.25
<small>Soup of the day, served with rustic bread.</small>		<small>Home-cooked ham served with fried eggs & chips.</small>	
Sausage Roll	£4.75	Fish & Chips	£17
<small>Homemade sausage roll, served with a garnish of salad & chutney.</small>		<small>Classic Fish & Chips served with chips, mushy peas & tartar sauce.</small>	
Halloumi Fries	£6 <small>V</small>	8oz Sirloin Steak	£24.50
<small>Halloumi fries, served with a garnish of salad & sweet chili dipping sauce.</small>		<small>8oz Sirloin steak served with tomatoes, mushrooms, onion rings & peas, with a choice of mash or chips. Peppercorn or Dijon sauce is included.</small>	
Scotch Eggs	£5.25	Sausages & Mash	£16.50
<small>Homemade Scotch egg, served with a garnish of salad & chutney.</small>		<small>Pork sausages served with mashed potatoes & a side of gravy.</small>	
<small>A choice of Chorizo, Black Pudding or Original</small>		Scampi & Chips	£15.25
Brie Bites	£5 <small>V</small>	<small>Breaded whole-rail scampi, served with chips, garden peas, tartar sauce & a wedge of lemon.</small>	
<small>breaded brie bites served with a cranberry dipping sauce.</small>		Pie Of The Day	£16.75 <small>V GF</small>
		<small>Homemade shortcrust pie. Served with creamy mash, steamed mixed vegetables & a side of gravy. Please ask your server for today's option.</small>	
SIDES		Whole Trout	£22.50
Chips	£4	<small>Whole trout cooked on a bed of mediterranean vegetables. (subject to availability) (locally sourced)</small>	
Cheesy Chips	£5	BURGERS	
Onion Rings	£4.50	Hambro Burger	£16.25
Coleslaw	£2.50	<small>Classic beef patty burger in a toasted brioche bun, served with lettuce, tomatoes, onions & gherkins. Add cheese £1</small>	
		Chicken Burger	£16
		<small>Crispy chicken fillet burger, served in a toasted brioche bun with lettuce & tomato.</small>	
		Vegan Burger	£16 <small>V VGF</small>
		<small>Vegan burger in a toasted bun. Served with tomato, avocado & lettuce.</small>	
		<small>All served with chips & coleslaw.</small>	
<small>Hambro Arms, Milton Abbas DT11 0BP 01258 721594 Email: info@thehambroarms.co.uk</small>			

Pie Night every Friday!

- Steak & Guinness
- Chicken, ham & leek
- Game, red wine & thyme
- Butternut squash, sage & spinach

Sunday Roast!

- Beef, Pork or Turkey
- All the trimmings!
- 12pm - 3pm every Sunday

Booking advised

Hours:

- Mon-Tue: Closed
- Wed-Fri: 12pm-3pm 6pm-Close
- Sat: 12pm-Close
- Sun: 12pm-Close

Sample Menu!
Plenty more things to follow in
the coming weeks!

www.thehambroarms.co.uk/
info@thehambroarms.co.uk

01258 721594



Milton Abbas Riding for Disabled Group offer therapeutic horse riding to young disabled children on Tuesdays 5-6.30pm and Fridays 10-12 noon in term time. We are a charity (Reg. no. 1177691) entirely run by volunteers and we raise our own funds to enable us to operate.

If you would like to consider regular volunteering with us, please contact Sue Hodder on 07739 469946 or suehodder01@talktalk.net Thank you so much.

<https://rda.org.uk/>

You can also find us on facebook:-

<https://www.facebook.com/p/Milton-Abbas-Riding-for-Disabled-Group-MARDA->



Huge Congratulations to Hayley, Erin, Hannah and Jules for completing their Race for Life! An awesome effort from you all!

The team are still welcoming sponsorship, either at the View Café or online here:

<https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/hayleys-race-for-life-3274657016701856>

NHS App

At Milton Abbas Surgery, we're working to improve our service and make the best use of our time as GP practices face growing pressure. Each week, our admin team spends many hours handling prescription requests, test results, and referral queries - time that could be better spent supporting patient care.

To help with this, we encourage patients to sign up for the NHS App. It offers quick, 24/7 access to services like booking appointments, ordering repeat prescriptions, and viewing your health records or test results. Using the app makes things easier for you and helps our team to spend more time caring for patients, especially those who can't use online services.

If you would like help setting up or using the app, support is available. Please contact our Social Prescribers at the surgery and they can point you in the right direction.

Carers Week 8th – 14th June 2026

Carers Week is a time to recognise the incredible work done by unpaid carers across the UK. This year's theme, Building Carer Friendly Communities, will highlight the impact carer friendly communities can have in making a real and lasting difference to the lives of carers everywhere.

You might not see yourself as a carer - many people simply help a family member or friend without thinking twice. But if you support someone with an illness, disability, mental health condition or addiction, and they rely on you, then you are a carer.

Letting us know you're a carer means we can better support you. If you haven't already, please tell the surgery that you're an unpaid carer and who you care for, so we can note it on your records. You can also pick up a carers information pack from Reception or view it online on our surgery carers page at:

www.masurgery.co.uk.

To all carers – thank you. We see you, we appreciate you, and we're here to help.



MA Surgery - Cont.

Community Coffee Morning

We would like to warmly invite all unpaid carers and anyone else who would like a cuppa and some company to our next coffee morning at **Winterborne Whitechurch Village Hall on Tuesday 9th June 2026 10.30am till 12.00noon.**

Whether you would like to come on your own for some 'me time' or with the person you care for, it would be great to see you. Tea, coffee and cake will be available.

Please feel free to just turn up on the day. We would love to see you!

Surgery Instagram Page

We're now on Instagram as well as Facebook! If you use Instagram, please follow us to stay up to date with surgery news, helpful information, and wellbeing support. Just search for 'Milton Abbas Surgery' and you will find us.

Computer Cafe



Got an issue with your computer or mobile phone?

Come along to the Reading Rooms on a Thursday between 10am and 12 noon and we will see if we can help. We ask you to buy a drink and a piece of cake for £2 to cover our costs.

Milton Abbas Lunch Club

The April Lunch Club will be on **Weds 10th June at The Reading Rooms**. All villagers over 55 are welcome, and we provide something warming and hearty to fill your tummy!

Sue Hodder is on mains with Lasagne and Paula 2 is on pudding with a planned chocolate sponge and pink custard.

The cost for the meal will be £5 per head, payable to Trevor Payne on the day

To book your place, please email Jennifer by 5th June:

hrrssnsup@aol.com



MA Football

MA Football kicks off on Friday evenings @ 6:30pm. We play on Milton Abbas Sports Field where we can see the sea and play on an excellent small sided pitch to suit 5,6 or 7-a- side games.

Our aim was to gather players of 50+ and get a little bit fitter each week. In truth we have some players in their 40's and had some younger ones too in their 20's as occasional visitors supporting their Dad.



Would you would like to play Football on Fridays? You don't need to be super fit and only need trainers with a grip for the grass pitch.

Contact Martin Kelly: Tel: 07802 260393

WhatsApp or Email: martin@redmailer.co.uk

Steeptonbill Farm Shop

Selling fresh, locally-grown produce all year round!

Opening hours:

Monday to Thursday: Closed

Friday to Sunday: 10:00 - 16:00



Contact Steve at steeptonbill@gmail.com for all your seasonal produce

**Steve currently has New Potatoes,
Lettuce and lots of herbs available.**

26 interesting New Pot recipes available here:

<https://www.olivemagazine.com/recipes/collection/new-potato-recipes/>



SMITHS
D O R S E T



Sunday Roasts are back at Smiths by popular demand!

Booking recommended!

Contact info

- @  [smithsdorset](#)
-  07821 175268
-  smithsdorset@outlook.com
-  Smiths



Langham Wine Estate, Dorchester, United Kingdom, DT11 0BS

Milton Abbas Art Group



The Milton Abbas Art Group has been having great fun over the past few months, with members sharing their talents and inspiring us to try new things.

Eve recently ran a wonderful workshop all about creating trees, which finished with a delightfully wacky challenge: the whole group working together on one enormous tree! It was a fantastic way to get creative, have a laugh and see how different styles can come together in one artwork.

Katie showed us all how to use pastels, and started a bit of a frenzy for pan pastels, which you can apply to paper with sponges to cover bigger areas more quickly.

We also enjoyed a workshop from Louise and Lucy, who introduced us to the world of zines. We learned how to create our own mini publications and discovered just how much can be packed into a few folded pages. It was interesting, imaginative and lots of fun.

One of the best things about our group is the friendly and welcoming atmosphere. We're always happy to see new faces and membership is open all year round. If you've ever fancied having a go at art, meeting new people, or simply spending a creative evening in good company, why not come along and see what we're all about?

To find out more, drop us an email at miltonabbasart@gmail.com – we'd love to hear from you.



Thought for the Month

No thought for the month as Reverend Lewis has been granted a 3 month sabbatical.

This begins on 1st June, and he has set up a blog called 'sacred pause' for some writing, photos and videos. He has put a few posts up this past month.

If you want to follow along the link is below:

<https://mysabbaticaljourney2026.wordpress.com>

Milton Abbas Sports Ground

Would you like to play cricket in Milton Abbas, using the lovely facilities of our Sports ground at the top of the village?

A few of the villagers are keen to get together and form a couple of friendly, unisex teams for an occasional game. We would need 8 players a side.

If you're keen to join in then please register your interest with Tayab De Steiger Khandwala:

tayabk@gmail.com



**Don't forget that we have a weekly pop-up Post Office in
The Pavilion on Thursdays between 9.30-11.00am!**

Strawberry Cottage Studio



Dorset Art Weeks is in full flow! Strawberry Cottage Studio is participating again in this creative initiative and will be open **11am – 4pm** each day except Tuesday until 7th June.

Please do pop in to see the art and textiles. Cards and gifts are available if you have a special occasion coming up.

After Dorset Art Weeks has finished, look out for the sign outside on the lawn or contact Louise to open by appointment.

www.StrawberryCottageStudio.com

□ Ifreirart@gmail.com
@louisefreirart

Dorset Art Weeks: <https://dorsetartweeks.co.uk>

Thank you very much for supporting your local businesses.





Wing Walking for Weldmar !

On 4th May 2026, Lisa Baker and Stuart Driver went quite literally "Above and Beyond" - wing walking above Compton Abbas Airfield in North Dorset to raise funds for Weldmar Hospice.



Lisa and I have been blown away by the incredible generosity of friends, family, work colleagues (and maybe others too - there were a lot of "Anonymous" donations - whomever you are, we thank you too!)

At the time of writing, including Gift Aid we have raised £6,079 for Weldmar, which has far outstripped our target. We really cannot thank people enough.



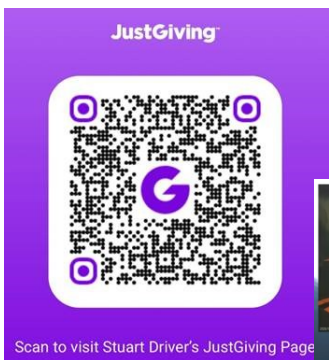
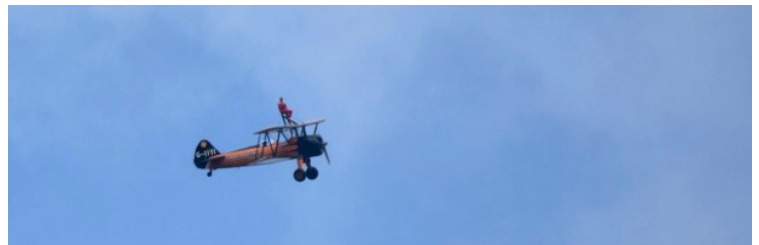
Although it was an emotionally charged day, we were joined by a contingent of fantastic supporters, and there was much laughter and noisy banter in the air.

The fundraising page is still open, so you've not missed your chance to help this incredible charity - if you wish to, please use the link below or scan the QR code to donate



www.justgiving.com/page/stuartandlisa?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL&utm_campaign=021

Thank you all!
Stu & Lisa x



Pews News

June 2026

Services in June

SUNDAY 7TH JUNE

Winterborne Stickland

10:30am - Communion

Rev Tina Stirling

SUNDAY 14TH JUNE

Winterborne Clenston

10:30am - Prayer Book Communion

Rev'd Arthur Houston

SUNDAY 21ST JUNE

Winterborne Whitechurch

10:30am - Communion

Bishop Karen Gorham

Milton Abbas

6pm - SoulSpace

Ian Bromilow

SUNDAY 28TH JUNE

Winterborne Houghton

10:30am - Communion

Rev'd John Wood

Turnworth

6pm - Compline

Jenny Tory

This is a scaled book service rota from June - Aug whilst Rev'd Lewis is on Sabbatical. This is a great opportunity to visit other churches and to both bless them, and be blessed by them

Bible Readings

Sunday 7th June - 1st after Trinity

Genesis 12. 1 - 9/ Matthew 9. 9 - 13, 18 - 26

Sunday 14th June - 2nd after Trinity

Genesis 18. 1 - 15/ Matthew 9. 9 - 23

Sunday 21st June - 3rd after Trinity

Genesis 21. 8 - 21/ Matthew 10. 24 - 39

Sunday 28th June - 4th after Trinity

Genesis 22. 1 - 14/ Matthew 10. 40 to end

Rector - Rev'd Lewis Pearson
review@pearsonp@gmail.com - 01258 880482
Chaplain to Milton Abbey School - Tuesday
Day Off- Friday

Admin & Pews News - Jennifer Harrison
wmbenefice@gmail.com
www.wmbenefice.co.uk

Services in July

SUNDAY 5TH JULY

Winterborne Stickland

10:30am - Morning Worship

Rev Sue Litchfield

SUNDAY 12TH JULY

Winterborne Clenston

10:30am - Prayer Book Communion

Rev Tina Stirling

SUNDAY 19TH JULY

Milton Abbas

10:30am - Communion

Bishop Karen Gorham

SUNDAY 26TH JULY

Turnworth

10:30am - Communion

Rev John Wood

Winterborne Houghton

4:30pm - Cafe Church

Rev Chris Beaumont

Upcoming Events

Whitechurch afternoon tea 13th
June 3pm - 5pm

Clenston Fete 4th July 2pm -
5pm Whatcombe House

Whitechurch 12th July, 4pm
Doggy Treasure Trail

Houghton Fete 18th July 2pm -
5pm

Rev'd Lewis - Sabbatical

From June-August 2026, with Bishop Karen's encouragement, I will be taking a sabbatical: a period of rest, retreat, and study after years of ministry. Sabbaticals renew clergy spiritually and physically, whilst also encouraging shared leadership and fresh perspectives within parishes.

During this time I will be doing a number of things, firstly I will have some time on retreat, I will visit a number of communities of prayer across the UK to see what we might learn from them. I will attend a number of different types and styles of church and will also be doing some research into neurodiversity and faith development. I plan to keep an online journal with video, writing and photos at the link below if you want to occasionally see what I'm up to.

<https://mysabbaticaljourney2026.wordpress.com>



Cream Teas

Featuring the amazing Dave and
his saxophone

The Old School Room,
Winterborne Whitechurch

Saturday

13th June 2026

3.00pm until 5pm

£5

All welcome!



In aid of St Mary's Winterborne Whitechurch

Poggy Treasure Trail



Mili invites you to join her on

Sunday, 12th July at 4pm

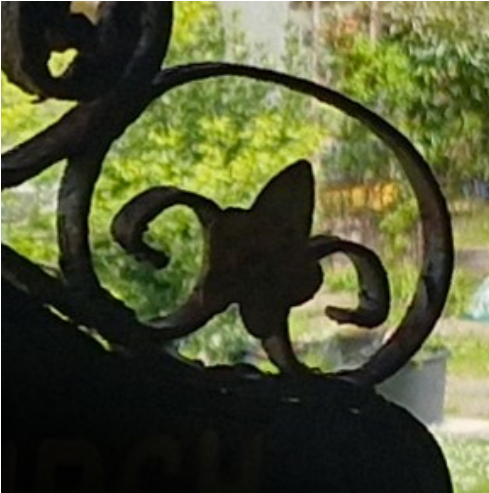
Winterborne Whitechurch

£5 entry (to include tea and cake)

Collect your clues from the Old School Room

Any questions: ask Helen 07810123713

May Picture Quiz Result:



Last month's picture

Well done to Baz Towers for the first correct response once again! I might ban him in future...

This is the back of the signage next to the steps in front of St James Church. Slightly concerning that Baz identified it by the colour of the bucket in the distance!

June Picture Quiz:

Do you know where this was taken?

Recognise the image?

Drop us an email and let us know!

The first correct responder gets their name in next month's MA Bulletin.



Articles and Feedback Gratefully Received:

MiltonAbbasBulletin@GMail.com

or contact:

Paula Driver

Stuart Driver