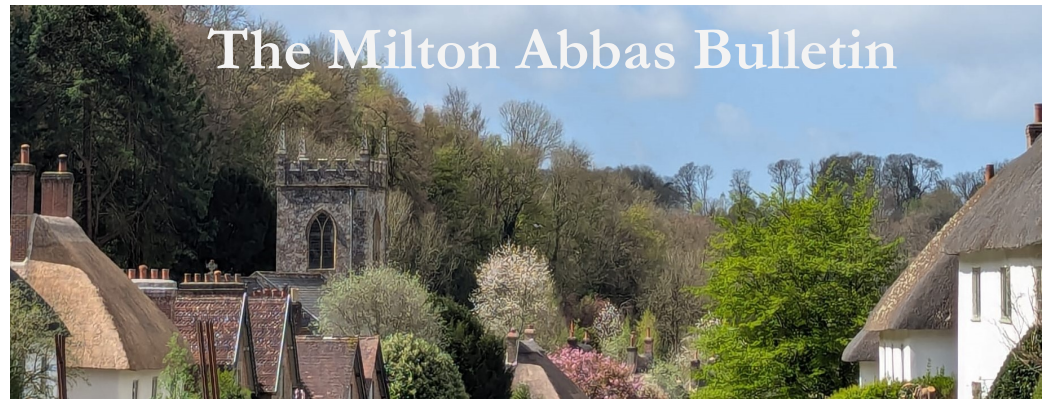


July 2026

Issue 23



Welcome!

Hello Villagers and enjoyers of our Bulletin!

Wow! July! How on earth did that come about?

This month is all about relaxing and feeling optimistic, the long, summer school holidays are about to begin, and families can enjoy spending precious time together. It is the perfect time for sandcastles, crabbing, sea shell collecting, and maybe a swim in the sea. Harvest has begun in the fields with Oilseed rape, winter barley and wheat, haymaking & silaging, plus it is sheep shearing time!

Overall, the weather should be calm and warm! and the deep green of summer is settling into gardens, parks and country landscapes. There are plenty of things to see and do this month, so it's an ideal time for getting out and about with family and friends, especially as July is busy with various folk, food and music festivals, so check your local calendar and Facebook groups.

If your birthday falls this month, your birthstone is the ruby and July births are celebrated with the larkspur and the water lily. (Shout out to Lisa Baker and Paul Amor for the 24th and a glass raised to our hugely missed Bev for the 28th)

Wimbledon starts on the first, in fact on 9th July 1877; the inaugural Lawn Tennis Championship was played on top of the croquet lawns at Wimbledon, with Spencer W Gore taking the men's singles title!

American Independence Day falls on July 4th, you can celebrate at the American Museum in Bath, plus many restaurants host an evening of American cuisine or you can host at home with a barbeque of hamburgers and hot dogs garnished with plenty of onions, ketchup and mustard, corn-on-the-cob, baked beans and potato salad.

St Swithen's Day falls on 15th. "St. Swithin's day, if thou dost rain, For forty days it will remain; St. Swithin's day, if thou be fair, For forty days 'twill rain na mair."

Mole hills might appear in your garden and you may see or hear hedgehogs in the evenings. The birds are quieter this month, as many fledglings have flown the nest, but sea birds are still rearing their young. Listen out for the familiar song of grasshoppers and crickets, and spot different species of butterfly and moth.

Happy July people, may the seventh month be all you hope it will be.

Stay safe, and always be kind.

Mrs Ed x

Milton Abbas Sports Ground

Many of you will be sadly aware of the devastating fire on Friday night/ Saturday morning and the realisation on the 27th June that The View Cafe has been destroyed.

Clearly Hayley and her fabulous team are devastated, and many in the village are equally shocked by this tragedy and the impact it has had.

I would personally like to thank you for the outpouring of love, support and care that has been bestowed upon Hayley, her family and her team, and the wider recognition of the impact on our community too.

On behalf of the Sports Ground Committee, we wish to not only convey our deepest sadness over this tragic event, but also to pledge our support in working together to devise a plan to raise a phoenix out of the ashes.

Thank you for all who are supporting Hayley with the GoFundMe page:

<https://gofund.me/d160bb570>

We are looking at all of the logistics and legal requirements to get Hayley and the View team back up and running as quickly as humanly possible, and we will keep you updated with news as we work our way forward.

Thank you for your understanding.

Best regards

Paula Driver

Chairperson MASC

MA Surgery

Annual Flu Vaccination Clinic

We will be running our annual flu vaccination clinic for our over 65yrs old eligible patients on **Saturday 3rd October 2026** at the Winterborne Whitechurch Village Hall. Please save this date as we would like as many of our eligible patients to attend; further details including whether we will also be doing Covid vaccinations will follow closer to the time.

Details of dates and locations for the flu vaccination clinic for our eligible patients under 64yrs old will also follow.




Stay Connected with What's Happening Locally

Looking for local activities, community groups, or events in the area? Each month, we produce a bulletin highlighting a range of opportunities to help you stay active, connected, and involved in your community.

Printed copies are available in our surgery waiting room for patients to pick up. If you would prefer to receive the bulletin by email each month, simply send an email to miltonabbassurgery@nhs.net for the attention of Kelly, one of our Social Prescribers, and she will be happy to add you to the mailing list.

Wellbeing Activities

Just a reminder of some of the great groups run by our fantastic surgery Health Champions:

-  Beginners Line Dancing group is on a Monday 2pm - 3pm at the Winterborne Whitechurch Village Hall
-  Walking group is on Wednesday's at 10am - please see our surgery Facebook page for the monthly walking schedule or collect a programme from Reception
-  Crafting group is on the first and third Wednesday of the month at 1.00pm at the Milborne St Andrew Sports Club Pavilion (DT11 0JA)

No need to book a space, just turn up on the day. Our Wellbeing Team would love to see you! Further information can be found on our surgery website www.masurgery.co.uk/wellbeing-team

MA Surgery (cont)

Swanage Beach Hut for Carers

Are you an unpaid carer supporting a friend or family member who couldn't manage without your help?

As a thank you for the incredible role you play, unpaid carers can enjoy **free use of a beach hut in Swanage** for a full or half day. Whether you're looking for some peaceful time to yourself or a relaxing day by the sea with the person you care for (and up to 5 people in total), this is a wonderful opportunity to unwind and enjoy Dorset's beautiful coastline.

To book, you must be registered with Help & Care or MYTIME Young Carers. For more information or to request use of the beach hut, email: dorset.carers@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Please share with any unpaid carers who may benefit from this opportunity.



Return – Recycle – Reuse

Do you have any walking aids, bath stools, or other medical equipment at home that you are no longer using?

Please help your local council and NHS services by returning equipment no longer needed. To arrange a free collection, contact Medequip on 01305 235499 or by emailing PanDorset@medequip-uk.com



Milton Abbas Lunch Club

The April Lunch Club will be on **Weds 8th July at The Reading Rooms**. All villagers over 55 are welcome, and we provide something warming and hearty to fill your tummy!

Paula Driver is on mains with Quiche, New Pots & Salad and Freddie is on pudding with a Trifle.

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 3rd July:

hrrssnsup@aol.com



**MILTON ABBAS
ART GROUP**



18 - 26 July

11am - 5pm

Milton Abbas Reading Room



EXHIBITION

FREE
ENTRY

Strawberry Cottage Studio



Louise would like to thank all of you who supported her during Dorset Art Weeks. She even had a visit from Valerie Singleton who was very complimentary about the art and the studio and was really interesting to talk to. She commented that she opened Dorset Art Weeks many years ago and loves to support the creativity across the county. Louise now feels honoured to have her artwork hanging in Valerie's home.

Strawberry Cottage Studio has also been a stopping point for a coach tour from Holland who come and visit our Dorset countryside every fortnight. This means the studio is open twice a month on Fridays between 10am and 11:30am so if you need something special as a gift, please do pop in.

The studio will also be open at other times when the sun is shining - look out for the sign outside on the lawn or contact Louise to open by appointment.

www.StrawberryCottageStudio.com

□ lfreirart@gmail.com

@louisefreirart

Thank you very much for supporting your local businesses.





The Hambro Arms

Hours:

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

THE HAMBRO ARMS

LUNCH MENU

Served Wednesday - Saturday 12pm until 2:30pm

LIGHT BITES.

- Homemade Scotch Egg** £6
Served with a garnish of salad & chutney.
A choice of: Chorizo, Black Pudding or Original.
- Homemade Sausage Roll** £6
Served with a garnish of salad & chutney.
- Halloumi Fries** £6.50
Served with a garnish of salad & sweet chilli sauce (v).
- Soup Of The Day** £6.50
Served with rustic bread (ve, gf).

CIABATTAS.

- Chicken, Mozzarella & Pesto** £10.25
- Prawn & Marie Rose Sauce with Lettuce** £10.50
- Ham & Piccalilli** £9.50
- Coastal Cheddar, Avocado, Tomato & Cucumber (v)** £9.50
- Vegan Mozzarella, Avocado, Tomato & Cucumber (v, ve)** £9.50

All served with salad, coleslaw & crisps.
Gluten free available on request.

PLOUGHMANS.

- Stilton (v)** £14.25
 - Smoked Trout** *Subject to availability.* £17
 - Cheddar (v)** £13.25
- Served with chutney, pickled onions, celery, gherkins, spring onions, apple, coleslaw & warm bread (v, gf).

SALADS.

- Greek Feta Bowl (v, gf)** £15
Feta, tomatoes, cucumber, olives, onions & a dash of olive oil dressing.
- Caesar Bowl (v, gf)** £14
Boiled egg, croutons, lettuce & parmesan shavings with a classic caesar sauce.
Add Chicken for £2.50.
- Waldorf Bowl (ve, v, gf)** £15
Lettuce, apples, celery, grapes & walnuts in a dijon mustard mayo sauce.
Add Stilton for £2.

SIDES.

- Chips** £4
- Cheesy Chips** £5
- Side Salad** £4
- Coleslaw** £2.50

Hambro Arms, Milton Abbas, Blandford Forum, DT11 0BP



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

01258 721594



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



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.



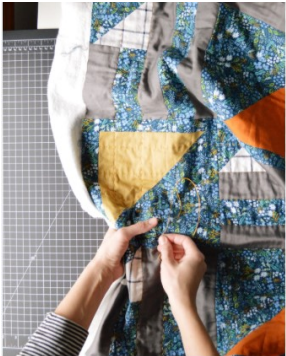
Computer Cafe



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.

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 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->

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,
Mint, Parsley, Spinach, Chard, Beetroot, Beans,
Courgettes and Kale!**

Lots going on!

Chard is a nutritious, earthy green with distinct stems and leaves. Because stems are thicker and take longer to cook, always slice them and sauté them in oil first for 4–5 minutes, then add the tender leaves, which wilt in just 2–3 minutes

<https://www.janelovett.com/blogs/vegetables-sides/swiss-chard-with-chickpeas-chilli>



Thought for the Month

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

This began 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 Local History Group

The next meeting of the Milton Abbas Local History Group will take place at 7:30pm in the Reading Rooms, Milton Abbas.

The meeting will benefit from a talk on “The Bell Pulls of Milton Abbey” by Anne Litchfield, which will be followed by refreshments.

There remains 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 1st July 19:30 in the Reading Rooms** .

Milton Abbas Street Fair 2027

“So we went to the brink and volunteers from the village saved the day!”

The Trustees and Organizing Committee are delighted to announce that we now have a treasurer and a coordinator and that the street fair can now go ahead next year.

Many thanks to all the committee members for stepping forward and literally saving the day - without the organizing committee the street fair could not and would not happen.

The fair is a great asset to the village and raises money for local beneficiaries such as the sports club and the play park so please offer your support to the committee members by stepping forward and volunteering to help.

The committee members are:

Richard Morton
Richard Saunders
Sara Saunders
Paula Driver
Steve Bowers
Julie Bradshaw

Thanks to all for stepping up for this fantastic cause!

Karen Mott
(Chair of Trustees)

Pews News

July 2026

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

Bible Readings

Sunday 5th July - 5th after Trinity
Genesis 24, 34 - 38, 42-49 58 to end/Matthew
11, 16 - 19, 25 to end

Sunday 12th July - 6th after Trinity
Genesis 25, 19 to end/ Matthew 13, 1-9, 18 - 23

Sunday 19th July - 7th after Trinity
Genesis 28, 10 - 19/ Matthew 13, 24 - 30,
36-43

Sunday 26th July - 8th after Trinity
Genesis 29, 15 - 28/Matthew 13, 31 - 33, 44 -52

Upcoming Events

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

Whitechurch 12th July, 9pm
Doggy Treasure Trail

Houghton Fete 18th July 2pm - 5pm

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

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

Services in August

Sunday 2nd August

Winterborne Stickland
10.30am - Morning Worship
Rev Sue Litchfield

Sunday 9th August

Winterborne Clenston
10.30am Prayer Book Communion
Rev Hilary Bond

Sunday 16th August

Whitechurch
10.30am Communion
Rev Janet Smith
Milton Abbas
6pm SoulSpace
Debbie Albery

Sunday 23rd August

Winterborne Houghton
10.30am Communion
Rev Arthur Houston
Turnworth
10.30am Communion
Rev Janet Smith

Sunday 30th August

St Catherine's Chapel
10.30am Iona Communion Booklet
Rev Hilary Bond

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 difference 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>

**WINTERBORNE
HOUGHTON
SUMMER FETE**

SATURDAY 18TH JULY 2-5PM



CAKE COMPETITION

THEME: DUCK POND

**CHILDREN'S CUPCAKE
CATEGORY**





**WINTERBORNE
HOUGHTON
SUMMER FETE**



IN THE GROUNDS OF THE BEAUTIFUL
ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH

**SATURDAY 18TH JULY
2-5PM**

**CREAM TEAS, HOMEMADE CAKE,
CIDER, PLANTS, LIVE MUSIC,
TOMBOLA, ICE CREAM, CHILDREN'S
GAMES, CRAFT, CHURCH TRAIL AND
LOTS MORE! FREE ENTRY!**



JOIN US FOR A

Summer FETE

FUN FOR ALL THE FAMILY!



CAKE
STALL



ICE
CREAMS



BOOKS /
BRIC A BRAC



LIVE
MUSIC



RAFFLE

SATURDAY
4TH JULY
2026

2PM - 5PM

WHATCOMBE HOUSE
WINTERBORNE WHITECHURCH
DT11 0PB

Everyone welcome!

June Picture Quiz Result:



Last month's picture

It pains me to say it, but once again "well done" to Baz Towers for the first correct response.

This is the back of the finger post that points the way to MSA down by the lake field - tragically Baz even drove around to ensure he got the right sign!

July Picture Quiz:

Do you know where this was taken? Recognise the image?

Someone must be able to knock Mr Towers off his perch!

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