



Welcome!

As we welcome September in and be thankful for the wonderful summer we have had, we wish all of the children going back to school a good year of study.

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Anglo-Saxons had another name for September, 'Haefest Monath.' This translates to the modern day name of harvest.

September was originally the 7th month of the year until it was changed to the 9th month in 451 BC. Romans associated September with Vulcan the Roman god of fire. This is due to it being very hot when it was the 7th month.

The main birthstone is sapphire and the flower is aster.



Significant historic events include Hitler invading Poland on September 1st 1939 beginning World War Two. We also remember the terrorist attack on America September 11th 2001.

Gardening jobs for September include harvesting apples and potatoes, pruning roses, planting spring bulbs and picking ripe blackberries.

To anyone celebrating your birthday in September have a happy birthday! Famous people born in September include King Henry V, Agatha Christie and Freddie Mercury.

So have a happy September to all of our bulletin readers and enjoy the freshly harvested food!

Bev.



Milton Abbas Local History Group

We have been enjoying the great weather in our summer break, interspersed by a great team from the History Group putting on a very well attended exhibition at the Street Fair. Thanks to all who supported this! It was great to see the interest in the History Group and the new Milton Abbas Experience Trail guide produced by Michael McAvoy from the group.

In addition, the Milton Abbas Village guide book has been reprinted so the village now has a plentiful supply for all our visitors. Thanks to Ann Fookes for organising this.

Our last monthly meeting was on the 2nd of July, very well attended with a fascinating external speaker - David Beaton, who gave a talk on "Dorset Heroines". Bryan Phillips concluded proceedings with an update on the very busy Research Group activities during June.

The next meeting will be on **October the 1st**, in the Reading Rooms and via Zoom at **7:30pm**. (see simonmartin@btinternet.com for details). It will also be our AGM, and there will be a talk on Artificial Intelligence and how it can be used by local historians.

Looking forward to welcoming anyone new who would like to attend.

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



Milton Abbas Lunch Club

We meet on **every second Wednesday** of the month in **Milton Abbas' Reading Room**.

Lunch is a two-course meal served at 1pm with a welcoming glass of sherry.

A small group of ladies take it in turns to cook a main and a pudding and we charge £5 per head. We have a 5-star food hygiene rating.

We also hold a small raffle at 50p per ticket and we ask people to bring along something to put into the raffle, ensuring everybody can take something home.

Why not come along to our next lunch meet on the **10th of September** and have a delicious meal with us? To book your place, please register your name with:

Milton Abbas Post Office by Friday the 5th September, or email Jennifer:

hrrssnsup@aol.com

The main course in September is Shepherds Pie with Sticky Toffee Pudding for desert!





USUAL OPENING HOURS

MONDAY: 9AM-4PM

TUESDAY: CLOSED

WEDNESDAY: 9AM-4PM

THURSDAY: 9AM-4PM

FRIDAY: 9AM-4PM

SATURDAY: 9AM-4PM

SUNDAY: 10AM-3PM

With a menu featuring hot and cold food, pastries, toasties, and unique treats. Vegetarian, gluten-free, and dairy-free options are available. We also sell Jurassic Roast coffee, Clipper teas, and local Piddle Brewery beers.

There is free parking, a bike rack, and family-friendly sports field.

Find us on our website: www.theviewcoffeeshopma.com or our social media pages

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 Art Group



Whilst we're all enjoying the summer weather, some of the members of Milton Abbas Art Group are busy preparing for a September event at Steeptonbill farm shop. We are hoping to further raise the profile of the friendly, creative group in the hope that more fellow villagers will join us on Monday evenings.

The 'MAAG goes to the Farm Shop' event will include opportunities for children (and interested adults) to draw and paint pigs which will then be shown on our website. You can already see the children's artwork from the Street Fair there – please take a look at the 'Young Artists' section!

The group returns to the Reading Room on Monday 8th September 7pm – 9:15pm. Do come and join us with whatever creative materials you have to hand and see if it's something you'd like to do regularly.

Or if you'd like to find out more, please contact one of the committee members via our contacts below.

Email: miltonabbasart@gmail.com

Website: miltonabbasart.wixsite.com/miltonabbasart

Instagram: [miltonabbasartgroup1](https://www.instagram.com/miltonabbasartgroup1)

Facebook: www.facebook.com/MiltonAbbasArtGroup



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.



Jennifer

Thought for the Month

Preaching to the animals

One of my favourite ever church services was at the little church of St Andrew's, Winterborne Houghton just a few miles from here. It was an animal blessing service to which all around brought their pets and animal for a special prayer of blessing.

As I blessed a dog..... up to the churchyard fence came a herd of cows putting their heads over the fence awaiting their blessing.

The idea of animal blessing services is closely linked to St Francis of Assisi. Francis was passionate about the natural world and my favourite story of him was when he decided to preach a sermon to the animals.

Saint Francis and his companions were making a trip through the Spoleto Valley near the town of Bevagna. Suddenly, Saint Francis spotted a great number of birds of all varieties - doves, crows and others. Swept up in the moment, Saint Francis left his friends in the road and ran after the birds, who instead of flying away patiently waited for him. He greeted them in his usual way, expecting them to scurry off into the air as he spoke. But they didn't move.

Filled with awe, he asked them if they would stay a while and listen to his sermon. He said to them: "My brother and sister birds, you should praise your Creator. God gave you feathers for clothes, wings to fly and all other things that you need. It is God who made you noble among all creatures, making your home in the air. Without sowing or reaping, you receive God's guidance and protection."

At this the birds began to spread their wings, stretch their necks and gazed at the saint, rejoicing and praising God in a wonderful way according to their nature. Saint Francis then walked right through the middle of them, turned around and came back, touching their heads and bodies with his tunic.

Then he gave them his blessing, making the sign of the cross over them. At that they flew off and Saint Francis, rejoicing and giving thanks to God, went on his way.

The good news is that we're going to have our very own Milton Abbas Blessing of the Animals to celebrate the unconditional love and joy our animal friends bring into our lives.

Bring your pets—big or small, furry, feathered, or scaled—for a short blessing and a moment of gratitude. If your animal can't attend, you may like to bring a photo instead.

Light refreshments for humans and treats for pets will be provided.

Blessings

Rev'd Lewis

PET SERVICE

A Celebration of Our Animal Companions



SUNDAY, 14TH SEPTEMBER
10:30 AM

MILTON ABBAS PAVILION AND SPORTS FIELD

Join us for a special service to bless and give thanks for the pets who enrich our lives: dogs, cats, rabbits, ponies, and guinea pigs.



Music



Pet
Blessings



Refreshments



Family Friendly
All Pets Welcome
(on leads or in carriers)

Bring your pet, your friends, and your love for animals!
Rain or shine — we'll be there with tails wagging!

Steeptonbill Farm Shop

Selling beautifully fresh, locally-grown produce all year round!

Opening hours:

Monday to Saturday 09:00 - 17:00

Sunday 09:00 - 16:00



Contact Steve at steeptonbill@gmail.com

Steve is current harvesting Pumpkins, Butternut Squash and Swede

Some tasty recipes here:

www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/collection/vegetarian-pumpkin-recipes

www.themediterraneandish.com/easy-butternut-squash-recipe-with-lentils-and-quinoa/

<https://greatbritishrecipes.com/honey-roasted-swede-chips-rutabaga/>



Milton Abbas Surgery

Welcome to the Team

We would like to welcome to the team our new First Contact Physiotherapist, Kerry Jones, who joined us back in July!

We were sad to say goodbye to Clare, but we wish her all the best in her adventures and look forward to working along with Kerry.

If you have new joint, muscle or bone pain then you can book yourself straight into our First Contact Physiotherapist's clinic at the surgery. Kerry is with us every Wednesday, and can prescribe, order tests and x-rays and refer you on to hospital services where necessary.

Diabetes Dietitian

Do you have Type 1 or Type 2 Diabetes? Would you like to chat about your diet and how it can help to manage your condition? We have a new Diabetes Dietitian running clinics at the surgery. The next one will be on **Friday 26th September**. Please call the surgery on 01258 880210 to book an appointment.

Annual Flu Vaccination Clinic

We will be running our annual flu vaccination clinic for our over 65yrs old eligible patients on Saturday 4th October 2025 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.

Patient Voice

Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday 9th September at 7.00pm** in The Reading Rooms, Milton Abbas.

All patients over 18yrs old are welcome. We would really appreciate support in how we can improve our service provision and would love to hear what patients of all ages and backgrounds have to say. Why not come along to our next meeting? To view minutes of the last meeting in June, please see our surgery website www.masurgery.co.uk/patient-participation-group-1

Blood Tests

Our nurses can only take blood samples that have been requested in advance by one of our GPs or the hospital. If you would like a specific test, please speak to a GP first - either by booking an appointment or submitting an eConsult online at www.masurgery.co.uk.

Thank you for your understanding.

Strawberry Cottage Studio



Having been off work for a few weeks, Louise has opened her studio most days and has been rewarded with tourists popping in for a peek.

The favourite item bought has been greeting cards – for birthdays and anniversaries, and some even bought Christmas cards (sorry – Louise just put them out to see if anyone would be interested!).

The latest card designs feature an elephant in black and grey tones and also one of the little cottages, but the favourites seem to be Gerald the Giraffe – from Louise's original pastel drawing, and the magnolia flower – from her original acrylic on canvas.



If you need a card, you know where to go! Most can be seen on the website, so you might like to take a look before popping in when the A-frame sign is out on the front lawn.

Strawberry Cottage Studio will be taking part in the 'Art Group goes to the Farm Shop' event in September, so you might like to join Louise there – or contact her via her website for opening by appointment, commissions or other enquiries.

Website: www.StrawberryCottageStudio.com

Email: lfreirart@gmail.com

Instagram: [@louisefreirart](https://www.instagram.com/louisefreirart)

Thank you very much for supporting your local businesses.



MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

Macmillan Coffee Morning

Come along and join us and help the Macmillan organisation. **23rd September at 10.30am** in the South Aisle, St James Church.

All cakes welcomed!

There will be a raffle, if possible, please bring a prize, it would be gratefully received and will help raise more money for this worthy charity.

Jennifer



Smiths Kitchen is open for lunch and regular events, where Mel's delicious menu celebrates the best local produce from Dorset and the south west of England. The Wine Barn features full height windows looking out to the vineyard, open and cool in the summer, warm and cosy in the winter.



Smiths Kitchen is supplied by local artisans and producers including Rawston Farm Butchery, The Real Cure Charcuterie, Davy's Locker Fish, The Book & Bucket Cheese Company & Oxfords Bakery, as well as growing its own herbs and edible flowers. For our famous Fizz Friday events there will be fresh pizza from the outdoor wood oven, as well as fresh seafood platters and charcuterie boards, with talented local musicians making for unforgettable Dorset evenings.

Please follow us online: <https://www.smithsdorset.com/>

Or to book via telephone, please call **01258 839095**

CHURCHES IN THE WINTERBORNE VALLEY & MILTON ABBAS

SUNDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER

9am - Turnworth (Communion)

10:30am - Winterborne Stickland (Morning Worship)

10:30am - Winterborne Whitechurch (Communion)

SUNDAY 14TH SEPTEMBER

9am - Winterborne Stickland (Prayer Book Communion)

10:30am - Milton Abbas **Pavilion & Sports Field** (Animal Blessing
Service)

10:30am - Winterborne Clenston (Prayer Book Communion)

4:30pm - Winterborne Houghton (Outdoor Harvest in Churchyard)

SUNDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER

9am - Milton Abbas (Prayer Book Communion)

10:30am - Winterborne Stickland (Communion)

11:30am - Winterborne Whitechurch (Cafe Church)

SUNDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER

10:30am - Winterborne Houghton (Celtic Style Communion)

6pm - Turnworth (Harvest)

6pm - Milton Abbas (SoulSpace)

**MORNING PRAYER..... IS PRAYED IN WINTERBORNE
WHITECHURCH EVERY THURSDAY MORNING 9AM-9:25AM. ALL
ARE INVITED TO THIS TIME WHEN WE PRAY FOR THE
BENEFICE. IF YOU WOULD LIKE ANYONE TO BE PRAYED FOR
DURING THIS TIME PLEASE LET LEWIS KNOW.**

August Picture Quiz Result:



Last month's photo was a bit of a tricky one! It's part of the name plaque for Vicarage Cottage:



September 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.



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