

Welcome!

Hello All and welcome to our May bulletin

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Celebrations were usually on the first day of the month, celebrating spring, and looking forward to warmer weather and the summer.

May Day traditions were of course the Maypole, and the Maypoles are linked to pagan history, when young trees were cut down, stuck in the ground and people would then dance around the poles in celebration!

Teddy Rocks is live and on our doorstep the weekend of 2nd – 4th May, and Hedgehog Awareness Week is 4th to 10th.

8th May is VE Day, marking 80 years since the Second World War came to an end in Europe. We plan to mark the occasion in recognition to those who sacrificed their lives up at our Sports Ground.

The Eurovision song contest begins 13th – 17th May in Switzerland, the UK has won the event 5 times – winning last 17 years ago! Our UK entry this year is by girl band 'Remember Monday' with their song "What the Hell Just Happened?"

12th May is a nod to our brilliant Nursing staff with International Nurse day and the day is shared with national limerick day... tempted..!?

27th May marks the famous Cheese Rolling in Gloucester. An iconic British tradition since 1826, drawing in participants worldwide to pursue a 9-pound wheel of Double Gloucester cheese down a hill!

Famous people born in May include Bob Dylan, Adele, John F Kennedy, James Brown, Stevie Wonder and Mr T along with Queen Victoria and William Pitt (the younger) to name a few!

Flowers of May are the hawthorn & the lily of the valley & the birthstone is the emerald. Our gardening link is on the back page.

So happy May one and all!

Stay safe in the sun and enjoy the two long weekends!

Regards, Mrs Ed!

Thought for the Month

When I ask people how they are, a very high proportion of the time they tell me that they're busy. Likewise, when people ask me the same thing, I'm almost bored to answer that I'm busy, often too busy.

The writer Mark Yaconelli tells a wonderful story about his sons. Every morning Mark tried to get his two sons ready for school and every morning it ended with him having to make a run for it to make it on time. The biggest reason for their delay was that his youngest son Joseph just couldn't hurry. He walked slowly, enjoying every fallen leaf, every odd-shaped rock along the way. No matter what his Dad tried, he couldn't get Joseph to walk faster.

Mark was frustrated by this, but so was Joseph. He expressed that frustration by starting a new club: Slow Club. The one rule of slow club was that you couldn't hurry, you had to do everything slowly. After much nagging, Joseph finally persuaded Mark to become a member, for just one day. But that one day of not hurrying, of taking the time to enjoy your surroundings, to wonder at little marvellous surprises like squirrels and flowers, that one day showed Mark that his son had something that he himself had lost: the ability to wonder.

Our soul is in constant wonder and wants to slow down and appreciate all that we see, feel, hear and taste. It wants us to slow down and enjoy what's happening around us and in us.

It wants us to wonder.

If we keep hurrying, keep doing, keep being busy, we lose that sense of wonder. We lose the deep peace and satisfaction that wonder can bring. Ultimately, we lose the connection with our soul, with who we are and for me with God.

I don't have simple answers to being less busy in a world that seems to only be speeding up, but perhaps the most disruptive action we can take is to occasionally intentionally join slow club and to notice the wonders all around.

Blessings

Rev'd Lewis

Pilates



PILATES WITH CATHERINE

PILATES WITH CATHERINE

MILBORNE ST ANDREW VILLAGE HALL

Do you have aches and pains, osteoporosis, joint replacements or sciatica? Still able to get up and down from a mat and want to stay active and supple?



If so, my classes will improve your strength, mobility and balance as well as keep you in better shape.

FREE TASTER CLASS OFFERED

Friday mornings 10.45am - 11.45am and 12 pm - 1pm

I am a **Pilates Foundation** trained teacher with over 15 years experience of both matwork and rehab apparatus

TO BOOK YOUR SPACE OR FOR MORE
INFORMATION CONTACT CATHERINE ON:

07449 346229

catherinehoworth@outlook.com



PILATES FOUNDATION
ESTABLISHED
1996



Milton Abbas Dog Show!

what a brilliant day we had, and we were so lucky with the weather, a little breezy to say the least, but it wasn't raining and the sun showed itself too!



We held 8 categories for people to enter their beloved companions in, and we had over 67 entrants overall plus people who came to watch.

Here are the results:-

Cool Pup

- 1st place was awarded to Andy with Ted (7months old)
- 2nd place – Ellie with Pip
- 3rd place – Jade with Mr Pickles

Golden Oldie

- 1st place was awarded to Primrose with Purdie (12 years old)
- 2nd place - Louise with Spencer
- 3rd place - Steve with Lulu

Best Rescue

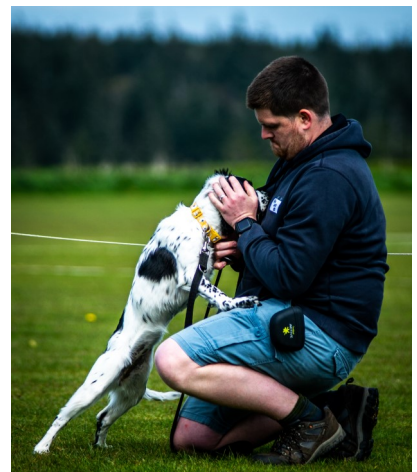
- 1st place was awarded to Steve with Lulu
- 2nd place – Vanessa with Maisie
- 3rd place - Chris with Millie

Loveliest Lady

- 1st place was awarded to Katie with Amber
- 2nd place - Katie with Barley
- 3rd place - Lisa with Nelly

Most Fabulous Fella

- 1st place was awarded to Richard with Dylan
- 2nd place - Lily with Bobby
- 3rd place - Jill with Kaiser



Young Handler

1st place was awarded to Phoebe and Toby with Willow
(congratulations to the 2nd and 3rd place winners)

Best trick

1st place was awarded to Annieke with Eri
(congratulations to the 2nd and 3rd place winners)

Dog with the waggiest tail

1st place was awarded to Arabella with Ella
(congratulations to the 2nd and 3rd place winners)

We then called all winners to see who would be voted

“Best in Show”

and that went to....

Katie with Amber! Congratulations!

Huge congratulations to all who took part and a huge, massive thank you to Ellie from

<https://www.eleanorrosedogtraining.co.uk/>

for judging the whole event for us so beautifully.

Thank you also to **Kevin Oakley** for his commentating on the day.

Overall, after all expenses were taken into account, we raised just over £800 pounds for St James Church and Milton Abbas Sports ground! Brilliant! We could not have done it without your support!



VE Day Celebration



Join us for
VE DAY
Celebrations



8TH MAY - 6PM

MILTON ABBAS SPORTS FIELD

- **BBQ**
- **7PM - Cadets from Milton Abbey School will be raising the flag and doing readings**
- **8PM - Lighting the beacon (firepit)**

SHANTY
SPIRIT



**SHANTY SPIRIT WILL
BE TASTER EVENING**

**TRY OUT SOME SAMPLES
LEARN ABOUT SHANTY
BOTTLES TO BUY**

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 **14th of May** and have a delicious meal with us? To book your place, please register your name with **Milton Abbas Post Office by Friday the 9th May, or email Jennifer:**

hrrssnsup@aol.com

The main course in May is going to be Beef Casserole Pud is yet to be announced, but is bound to be delightful, as ever!



The View

Come and visit us, we are located at the Milton Abbas Sports Field and offer a welcoming spot with scenic Dorset views. We have a cosy indoor space, and beautiful expanding covered outdoor area sheltered from sun or rain, dogs are very welcome!

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.

OPENING HOURS

MONDAY: 9AM-4PM
TUESDAY: CLOSED
WEDNESDAY: 9AM-4PM
THURSDAY: 9AM-4PM
FRIDAY: 9AM-4PM
SATURDAY: 9AM-4PM
SUNDAY: 10AM-3PM



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

Coffee Stop

Coffee Stop at St James Church.

Each Tuesday from 11am until 12noon, come and enjoy a chance to catch up with fellow villagers over a hot drink and a piece of cake.

We meet inside the church in the south aisle, all are welcome.

£1 for a hot drink and £1 a slice of cake.

All proceeds go towards the upkeep of St James.



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 currently cultivating lots of lovely spring veg at Steeptonbill
Meantime why not drop in for a coffee, tea or a hot chocolate in the woods!

St James' Churchyard Care

We would like to make you aware, if you are not already, of the fabulous job that the Criminal Payback Scheme of Dorset County council have achieved at St James Church.

They have cleared an abundance of weeds and overgrowth from the top Churchyard and have painted the gates at both entrances to the church.

Thank you!





Strawberry Cottage Studio

Louise Freir at Strawberry Cottage Studio is currently preparing for the Spring Fair in the Allendale Centre on 3rd May and then will be exhibiting and demonstrating at the Gallery Art Event at Clayesmore on 24th and 25th May.

Packing up her studio will be a momentous event, as deciding what to take might take the whole week.

So what's new in the studio?



The birds are singing in our trees – a new owl acrylic is underway. The hares are leaping in the fields – more tea-towels have been designed. Magnolias are bursting open with flourish – silk paintings have been Louise's new focus!

The studio is open when Louise is home and the sun is shining, so please do pop in and take a peek.

Contact Louise to open by appointment, for commissions or for other enquiries:

www.StrawberryCottageStudio.com

✉ lfreirart@gmail.com

@louisefreirart

Thank you very much for supporting your local businesses.



The Hambro Arms

May Dates at The Hambro:

Tikka Trak – Thursday 1st, 15th & 29th May
Basilico Pizzas – Thursday 8th & 22nd May .

Saturday 4th May – Longdog (3pm - outside stage, weather permitting)
Saturday 17th May - Thames Valley Morris Dancers (12:30 - 1:30pm)
Friday 23rd May - Bex & The City (7:30 pm onward)

Keep an eye on our Facebook page for posters giving details of events!

Our lunchtime food service is available from 12 noon until 2.30pm on Thursday's, Friday's & Saturdays (until the season picks up when further days may be available)



The Hambro Arms Milton Abbas

Tel. 01258 880233

The Hambro Arms

Milton Abbas

Dorset

DT11 0BP

01258 880233

www.hambroarms.com

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

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 Local History Group

The next meeting of the Milton Abbas Local History Group will be in the Reading Rooms on 7th May at 19:30. Two of our members will be giving talks - a will and inventory of Jacob Bancks, the owner of the Mansion House in 1734. This tells us how richly it was furnished and the amount of booze held there! Also there is a presentation on the graffiti which are in the Abbey Church.

We are lucky to have the Reading Rooms - a Grade II* listed building - to have our meetings and exhibitions in.



This building was in the Old Town of Milton Abbas in Newport Street before Lord Milton had it moved about 1780 stone-by-stone and brick-by-brick to its present positions. We also have a considerable archive stored there as well as exhibition display boards which other village groups may borrow on request, contact the history group [here](#). The Reading Rooms now has fibre broadband access and is available for groups to hire. By the way the Reading Rooms was just that in the 19th century - a place to read books and newspapers.

We are still awaiting your photographs to add to our website "Your Sense of Place". We will be happy to hear from you with your pictures of the hundreds of sights (or sites) or objects which you find of interest.

Our website still attracts a considerable number of viewers from around the world. I am surprised to find that my articles on [peasant life](#) in Milton Abbas in medieval times are beginning to raise awareness of how important the Benedictine Milton Abbey once was. I am continuing to research and write about their lives. This topic has put us in touch with two postgraduate researchers interested in the medieval Milton Abbey Church and what it contains, we are sharing information and they are helping us in our research of documents. The Abbey Church is a little-known jewel in a spectacular location and a very rare survival of the Dissolution of the monasteries,

Our history group has an active Research Group which is exploring many of the mysteries of this amazing place, but there is always more to do. See some of the topics which we believe would benefit our research. Please do get in touch and tell us about the topics you are interested in.

We hope to see you on 7 May.
Bryan Phillips

Please contact simonmartin@btinternet.com for more information or questions

Milton Abbas Street Fair

Street Fair provisional awards

The Milton Abbas Street Fair Trustees have agreed how this year's Street Fair surplus should be distributed. Grants are being awarded to a total of 18 organisations, listed below, within the village and nearby. It is good to see some new beneficiaries and we look forward to their support at the Street Fair in July.

The total allocation assumes that the 2025 Street Fair will generate a surplus of c. £20,000, but this

Chalk Valley WI
Cheselbourne School Friends
Community Transport Group
Flower Power
Friends of Dunbury
Friends of Luccombe Hub
Friends of Milborne School
Milton Abbas Art Group
Milton Abbas Church
Milton Abbas Lunch Club
Milton Abbas Play Park
Milton Abbas Reading Rooms
Milton Abbas Sports club
Old Brewery Hall
Milton Abbas Riding for the
Disabled
Saint Mary's School Association
St Martin's Cheselbourne
Tregonswell Almshouse Trust

would need to be reduced on a pro rata basis if this figure is not achieved.

In addition, Street Fair Trust Members have decided to support the "Weldmar Hospicecare" as the 2025 Street Fair local charity in Dorset.

To become a Trust Member please contact the Secretary, John Widdowson on 837791 or email masftrust@gmail.com.

David French, Chair, MASF Trust

Milton Abbas Parish Council



You're Invited!



Milton Abbas Annual Parish Meeting



Venue: The Reading Room



Date: Wednesday, 21st May



Time: 7:00 PM

Join your fellow parishioners for an evening that's **informative, sociable, and potentially life-saving!**

Enjoy **complimentary refreshments** as we:



Learn how to use a **defibrillator** – you could save a life!



Be introduced to our **Emergency Plan** – be prepared, not surprised.



Discover the **new-style Elliegram** – connecting our community.

Whether you're a long-time local or new to the village,

this is your chance to connect, contribute, and feel confident in our community's readiness.

We look forward to seeing you there!



Questions? Contact the Parish

Clerk clerk@miltonabbasparishcouncil.gov.uk



The Milton Abbas

18th Century

Street Fair

Saturday

26th July 2025

10am - 5pm



Welcome!

Join us in celebrating our countryside occasion with costume, rural crafts, traditional entertainment and craft demonstrations. A large number of stalls, with food and drink venues along the thatched cottage street will surely make your day a rural success!

We hope that you will join in the spirit of the day, supporting local good causes which benefit the communities in the surrounding villages and our nominated external charity for this year.

Milton Abbas Art Group



Milton Abbas Art Group are inspired by the sunshine and busy creating again after the Easter break.

This half term, Natasha Barr led a workshop on silk painting which was inspiring for all!

If you would like to join our friendly, creative group, please do pop along:

Monday evenings 7pm – 9:15pm

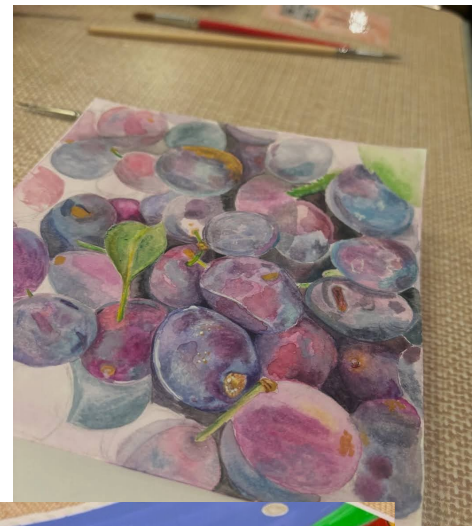
(although we do have a few bank holidays coming up so best to check with one of the members first or contact them below:)

Eve (Chair Person): pen@evebonham.co.uk

Louise (Treasurer): lfreirart@gmail.com

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

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MiltonAbbasArtGroup>



Milton Abbas Surgery

Digital Champion Sessions

Digital Champions at Dorset Council are a group of friendly and patient volunteers who are good at explaining computers, without using jargon. They can help you to:

- set up and using devices including mobile phones, tablets and computers
- get online and show you how to do home shopping
- access digital NHS services like the NHS app or SystmOnline to be able to book appointments, view test results and consultation notes

Dorset Council run Digital Champion sessions in Blandford Library on Tuesdays from 10am till 12.25pm, and every other Friday 10.30am till 12noon. To book a session please call 01305 221048.

Surgery Facebook Page

Our surgery Facebook page (@miltonabbassurgery) is a great way to stay up to date with surgery news, closures, and helpful information to support you and your family's health and wellbeing. If you'd like to learn more about using it, why not book a session with one of the Digital Champions sessions mentioned above?

Autism Health Checks

We have recently launched Autism Health Checks at our surgery and are currently in the process of reaching out to patients. If you would be interested in knowing more, please contact the surgery either by phone or email miltonabbassurgery@nhs.net and ask for Anna (one of our Social Prescribers).

We are also trialling a new Autism Support Pathway to ensure everyone over 18yrs old receives comprehensive support during and after their assessment.

If you have any communication or adjustment needs related to autism, ADHD, or mental health that would make it easier for you to access our surgery, please let our Social Prescribers know. They'll be happy to help you!

Surgery Closures

The surgery will be CLOSED on **Saturday 3rd May** and **Monday 5th May** 2025 for the Early Bank Holiday, and **Saturday 24th May** and **Monday 26th May** for the Late Bank Holiday.

We apologise for any inconvenience caused. For out of hours care or advice during closures, please call 111. In the case of an emergency, call 999.

Milton Abbas Surgery (cont)

NHS

Repeat prescriptions?



Only order what you need



If you have enough medicine at home, there's no need to order now – **you can request more in future.**

nhs.uk/yourmeds

Dorset: Becoming Health Literate





Smiths Kitchens provide drop-ins for coffee and cake, lunches and light bites and welcome walk-ins (with or without dogs!)

There are regular '**Fizz Fridays**' with evening meals, with an a-la-carte menu available on selected nights. Mel also hosts a number of live gig nights, featuring some superb artists! Well worth a listen in the evening sunshine!

Langham's provides a huge heated barn, an indoor Café, dining space and outdoor seating. There is also al-fresco kitchen area with pizza oven which will be fired up on special pizza evenings.

To keep up to date with the latest information, follow them on:

<https://langhamwine.co.uk/#:>

<https://www.smithsdorset.com/>; (why not join Langham's newsletter!)

<https://www.instagram.com/smithsdorset/>

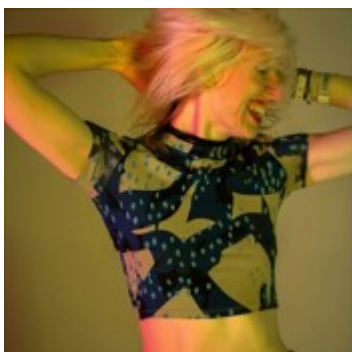
There is free parking available, and there are some gorgeous walks to be enjoyed around the vineyard (please check availability in the tasting room beforehand in case of essential work on the vines).

So come along, walk, refresh and enjoy the location. Equestrian guests are also very welcome; there is a bridle path that comes alongside the estate.

16th May onwards - Fizz Fridays, Weekly Pizza Oven

29th June - English wine week - Langham Summer Fayre

Sundays! - Roast Lunch until 11th May
- Brunch Menu from 18th May



This Sunday (4th May) Smiths are delighted to be hosting the incredibly talented **Carley Varley**, performing from **1pm to 4pm**

Don't miss out!



PEWS NEWS

MAY 2025



SERVICES IN MAY

CHURCHES IN THE WINTERBORNE VALLEY & MILTON ABBAS

SUNDAY 4TH MAY

9am - Turnworth (Communion)
10:30am - Winterborne Stickland (Morning Worship)
10:30am - Winterborne Whitechurch (Communion)

SUNDAY 11TH MAY

9am - Winterborne Stickland (Prayer Book Communion)
10:30am - Milton Abbas (Communion)
10:30am - Winterborne Clenston (Prayer Book Communion)
4:30pm - Winterborne Houghton (Cafe Church)

SUNDAY 18TH MAY

9am - Milton Abbas (Prayer Book Communion)
10:30am - Winterborne Stickland (Communion)
11:30am - Winterborne Whitechurch (Cafe Church)

SUNDAY 25TH MAY

10:30am - Winterborne Houghton (Celtic Communion)
8pm - Milton Abbas (SoulSpace)

ASCENSION DAY - THURSDAY 29TH MAY

7pm - St Catherine's Chapel (SoulSpace with Communion)

COMMUNION

MUSIC/PRAYER/REFLECTION & SHARING BREAD & WINE

BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER

A GENTLE & TRADITIONAL LANGUAGE STYLE SERVICE

CAFE CHURCH

FOOD/INTERACTIVE CRAFT

SOULSPACE

SHORT/CONTEMPLATIVE WITH REFLECTION AND SILENCE

MORNING PRAYER/WORKSHOP

A MIXTURE OF MANY OF THE ABOVE WITHOUT COMMUNION

SERVICES IN JUNE

SUNDAY 1ST JUNE

9am - Turnworth (Communion)
10:30am - Winterborne Stickland (Morning Worship)
10:30am - Winterborne Whitechurch (Communion)

PENTECOST - SUNDAY 8TH JUNE

9am - Winterborne Stickland (Prayer Book Communion)
10:30am - Milton Abbas (Communion)
10:30am - Winterborne Clenston (Prayer Book Communion)
4:30pm - Winterborne Houghton (Cafe Church)

SUNDAY 15TH JUNE

9am - Milton Abbas (Prayer Book Communion)
10:30am - Winterborne Stickland (Communion)
11:30am - Winterborne Whitechurch (Cafe Church)

SUNDAY 22ND JUNE

10:30am - Turnworth (Morning Worship)
10:30am - Winterborne Houghton (Celtic Communion)
6pm - Milton Abbas (SoulSpace)



SUNDAY 29TH JUNE BENEFICE SERVICE

10:30am
St Catherine's Chapel
(Taize Style Communion)

BIBLE READINGS FOR MAY

SUNDAY 4TH MAY - EASTER 3 (WHITE)

ACTS 9.1-6/JOHN 21.1-19

SUNDAY 11TH MAY - EASTER 4 (WHITE)

ACTS 9.36-END/JOHN 10.22-30

SUNDAY 18TH MAY - EASTER 5 (WHITE)

ACTS 13.1-18/JOHN 13.21-35

SUNDAY 25TH MAY - EASTER 6 (WHITE)

ACTS 16.9-15/JOHN 14.23-29 OR JOHN 5.1-9

FUTURE EVENTS

4TH JUNE - INTERCESSION TRAINING (7.30PM)

24TH JUNE - CHURCHWARDEN VISITATION AT
WIMBORNE MINSTER (7.30PM)

28TH JUNE - CLENSTON FETE (2PM-5PM)

EVENTS IN MAY

TURNWORTH IN MAY

SUNDAY 25TH MAY - 11AM - 4.30PM

ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

WHITECHURCH - 4TH MAY 11.30AM

HOUGHTON - 7TH MAY 7.30PM

CLENSTON - 11TH MAY 11.30AM

MILTON ABBAS - 14TH MAY 6PM

TURNWORTH - 19TH MAY 2PM

STICKLAND - 21ST MAY 7PM

COFFEE POT - MONDAYS AT STICKLAND
COFFEE STOP - TUESDAYS AT MILTON ABBAS
CUP N CAKE - WEDNESDAYS AT WHITECHURCH

RECTOR - REV'D LEWIS PEARSON
REVIEW@PEARSON@GMAIL.COM - 01258 890482

ADMIN & PEWS NEWS - JENNIFER HARRISON
WYMABENEFICE@GMAIL.COM

WWW.WYMABENEFICE.CO.UK

From the front page - cont.

Here is the link for what we might like to be thinking about in our gardens!

<https://www.sundaygardener.co.uk/what-to-do-in-the-garden-in-may.html>

April Picture Quiz Result:



Well done to Kay Leigh who recognised this image pretty much instantly!

“I recognise the dilapidated but beautiful wrought iron gate/fence at the head of the green steps that lead down to the Abbey... Beautiful views!”

Well done Kay - quite right of course! And there was me thinking I'd blurred out the Abbey sufficiently!

May Picture Quiz:

Perhaps too easy this month!

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 the editorial team directly:

Paula Driver

Bev Martin

Stuart Driver