

Welcome!

Hello and welcome to our July edition!

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With July being the official hottest month of the year and the start of the school summer holidays, it is a favourite month for many - PLUS it is the month for our most excellent 18th Century Street Fair on Saturday 26th.

The bunting will be up and the village will be buzzing. I personally cannot wait!

I found some interesting facts about July too, some old folk laws for weather prediction:- *“if the first of July be rainy weather, twill rain for four weeks more or less together”* or for St Swithens day, 15th July:- *“St Swithens day if thou dost rain, for forty days it will remain, St Swithens day if thou be fair, for forty days twill rain nae mair”* J

Also, did you know that on 1st July 1937 our brilliant 999 services was introduced, and 100 years previously with the beginning of the registration of marriages, births and deaths. 2nd July 1928, equal voting rights were granted for women and 13th July 1985 was the famous live aid concert organised by Sir Bob Geldof. Apollo 11 landed on the moon on 21st July 1969 making Neil Armstrong the first man to walk on the moon. 25th July is marked as St James day (patron saint of Pilgrims) and the official start to the UK's oyster season and the date is also St Christopher's Day, the Patron Saint of travellers.

For you spud lovers out there, the first potato arrived from Columbia on 28th July 1586, and yesteryear changed on 28th July 1901 was when the first finger prints were used for identification purposes.

Finally, July Birthdays include:- Princess Diana, Tom Cruise, Tom Hanks, Kevin Hart, Daniel Radcliffe, Margot Robbie, Mick Jagger, Pamela Anderson and our lovely Beverly Martin (plus Paul Amor and Lisa Baker!)

The symbolised flower of July is Delphinium & Water Lily and the gemstone is the beautiful Ruby.

Happy July everyone, and don't forget your sunscreen!

Regards, Mrs Ed!



As I am writing this, we have around 4 weeks to go before the Street Fair on the **26th July**, and keeping all fingers and toes crossed for good weather; we have booked no rain and not too hot or too cold!

Don't forget that we are opening the Street Fair an hour earlier than we have done in the past, as we have tended to have a bit of a gathering at the top and bottom of The Street trying to get in early. The opening times this year will be **10am to 5pm**. Posters advertising the Street Fair will be starting to go up this weekend and Carl has been very busy advertising the event on social media.

We have put a flyer through every letter box in The Street, with details of the day and parking arrangements. If for some reason you haven't seen your flyer, please do give me a call and I can email you a copy.

As per my last article, we ask all Street residents to move their cars to the sports field for the duration of the Street Fair, preferably the evening before, as stall holders tend to arrive very early to set up their pitches.

It gets very, very busy in the morning, although we do enforce a strict route in and circuit for stall holders to minimise disruption. We will have someone providing overwatch of the Sports Field for the night.

For residents of the parish of Milton Abbas entry is free for the household with up to two additional free tickets for visiting relatives. We will be giving out wristbands to those who will be visiting the Fair which you can use on the day to gain free entry. We operate this system on a trust basis and would ask everyone not to ask for more wristbands than resident family members and a maximum of two visiting relatives. The Street Fair charity raises funds for many local good causes and every free ticket reduces the money we have available to give to our beneficiaries.

We also have a number of 18th Century costumes and items available. Please come along at the same time as the wristband collection timings below; perhaps you need an apron or cap; come along and see what we have to offer.



If you would like to collect your wristbands (and/or costume items) for free entry, a member of the organising committee will be in the Almshouse Reading Rooms (building opposite the church) at the following times (free entry will not be available on the day, so please don't forget!):

- ☐ Saturday 5 July: 3pm – 6pm
- ☐ Sunday 6 July: 3pm – 6pm

If you cannot make these times, please call Mark Castle-Smith on 0784 3271470.

If you need additional paid tickets, these can be bought in advance, following the link on our website. We are keeping the pricing for the Street Fair the same as for the 2023 event as follows:

- ☐ Adults: £7
- ☐ Child (11-15): £3
- ☐ Family (2 Adults and up to 2 children 11-15): £17
- ☐ Free admission for children under the age of 11

We look forward to seeing all on the 26th July for a great day; please spread the word and let all your friends and relatives know about our wonderful Street Fair.

If you have any questions about the day, please do give me a call on **07843 271470**.

Many regards

Mark Castle-Smith

On behalf of the Organising Committee



Milton Abbas Local History Group

For the 2025 Street Fair we are planning to have an exhibition in the south aisle of St James'. Come and see our new information on LiDAR mapping and Metal Detecting Finds. We hope to see you there, do pop in and say hello.

I note that 377 acres of freehold woodland have been sold by the Forestry Commission by auction of Symonds and Sampson on June 5 for £175 000. I wonder what will happen to this land which was previously open to the public? Let us know if you have any information. I have added this to the Timeline of Milton Abbas History.

At our next meeting on **Wednesday 2 July at 7pm** in the **Reading Rooms** we have an outside speaker, David Beaton, giving a presentation on Dorset Heroines. This will be the last meeting of this season whilst we take a break until 3 September. We are busy working on the programme of talks and if any of our readers have ideas on Milton Abbas history please get in touch via our website.

The day after David Beaton's talk one of our members will be giving a presentation to the Sydling St Nicholas Historical Society on the Deserted Medieval Village of Eliston, which was in the Heart of the Sydling Valley. More details on our website [blog](#). This is just one of many DMV's which were once on the estate of Milton Abbey and they provide much interest for researchers. Another is at Lyscombe, as noted in the June Bulletin, and another of our members has identified the location of the medieval houses using LiDAR.

Whilst visiting Athelhampton House I purchased a copy of 'Anne of Athelhampton and the Riddle of the Apes'. The author is Giles Keating, current owner of the house. This fictional book tells the story of Anne and John Tregonwell of Milton Abbas. The author has done much research and might be a useful contact.

There is more information on the [Athelhampton](#) website.

Another local history group, Tolpuddle, are interested in the visit of King Edward VII to Milton Abbas in 1909. We will be sharing information with them and possibly share talks.

(Thanks to Bryan Phillips)

All welcome to join, either in person or remotely, and we would be delighted to discuss with you all that the group has done and continues to do to preserve our local history. We would also be welcome to ideas about how we could support other activities and events that are going on locally.

Contact Simon Martin - simonmartin@btinternet.com for more information.

Milton Abbas Art Group



Milton Abbas Art Group are working hard getting prepared for their summer exhibition.

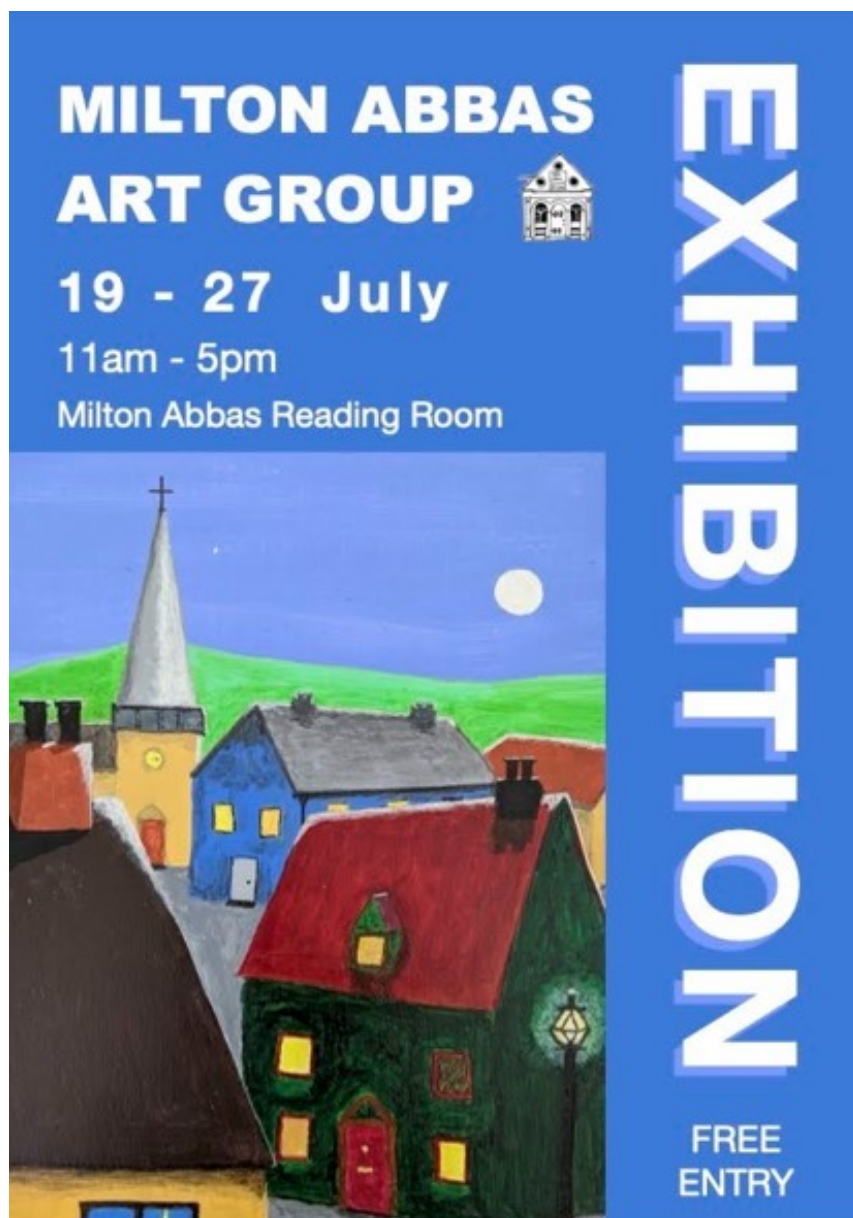
Pots are being thrown, photographs cut up and collaged, watercolours are being turned into cards and book-marks, and pastel, acrylic and oil paintings are being framed ready for the event.

The members are taking turns to steward across the 10 days so they hope to see you there!

Saturday 19th July – Sunday 27th July. 11am – 5pm in Milton Abbas Reading Room.

Please do share the poster on social media and with anyone who you think might be interested.

Thank you.



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.

The Hambro Arms

July Dates at The Hambro:

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

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

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 currently has a plethora of juicy, fresh Broad Beans in the Farm Shop, plus Beetroot aplenty!

‘Make the most of broad beans while they're in season. From broad beans on toast to vibrant salads, a fab summer pasta recipe and lamb shoulder served with broad beans, our easy ideas will give you plenty of inspiration.’

<https://www.olivemagazine.com/recipes/collection/best-ever-broad-bean-recipes/>





Strawberry Cottage Studio

As many of us are preparing for our Milton Abbas Street Fair, so is Louise at Strawberry Cottage Studio. For the first time, she will be opening her studio for the fair and is looking forward to being an integral part of the day alongside many other crafts-people.

Some new miniature paintings have been using pen and watercolours, focusing on the beautiful Dorset coast as well as some of the thatched cottages in the street.

The sewing machine continues to create delicate items using specialist fabrics and all will be on display both in the Reading Room for the Art Group Exhibition (19th July – 27th July) and in the studio for the street fair (26th July).

Strawberry Cottage Studio is open when Louise is home and the sun is shining; visitors from Chile, Canada and Holland popped in last month to appreciate our English country village and creativity!

Contact Louise to open by appointment, for commissions or for 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.



Milton Abbas Surgery

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.

Carer Friendly Surgery

We are pleased to announce that Milton Abbas Surgery has been recognised for the exceptional care and support we provide to unpaid carers within our practice and local community!

Letting us know you're a carer means we can better support you. We understand the extra pressure caring brings and want to make sure you have access to the right help and information. 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 and signpost you to where you can access support.

We would also encourage you to get a Carer Friendly ID card to prove that you are a carer when you are out & about and have access to online and high street discounts and offers. For more details go to www.dorsetcarerscard.org.uk

Autism Health Checks

We have recently launched Autism Health Checks at our surgery and are 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!

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 12.30pm at the Milborne St Andrew Sports Club Pavilion (DT11 0JA)



□ Nurtured by Nature group is on a Thursday during term-time & weather permitting

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

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 **9th of July** and have a delicious meal with us? To book your place, please register your name with:

Milton Abbas Post Office by Friday the 4th July, or email Jennifer:

hrrssnsup@aol.com

The main course in July is my wife's own, special creation. God help you all. I believe she's cooking Chicken in a white wine sauce with Jersey Royals, green beans and peas.

I hope you've had your jabs.

I'll be lunching at work.

Pudding is currently a surprise :)



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





Summer 2025 is in full swing!

Until September, our new Summer Menu is available Weds-Sat lunchtime!

Expect Seafood dominance, daily market specials, exceptional salads and our rave review Scotch Eggs and Sausage Rolls.

On Friday nights you can enjoy hand-stretched Pizza from our wood-fired oven and on Sundays - Brunch, Pizza and Seafood specials!

Picnics between the Vines and Afternoon Tea available, pre-booked every day throughout

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

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



St James Quiz Night!

St James Church held a quiz night on Saturday 21st June, and we had a wonderful turn out and support from the village. Thank you to all of you that came along and helped make the evening a success; further thanks to those who were unable to make it for one reason or another, but donated to the night regardless; and yet more to those who quietly donated more than was asked for. You know who you are, and we really appreciate your kindness!!

We had 'name the film' quotes, sporting questions, general knowledge, food and drink, science and nature, geography and music questions and much comradery was shared between the teams

The winning team was "Cocking it up" and consisted of David and Jill Cocking and their family with a impressive score of 98 out of a possible 120. Second place went to "The Sweaty Betties" with a score of 85 and third place to "Dawns Army" with 83.

The evening was a triumph, successfully raising money for St James Church and putting smiles on people's faces.

I'm glad to report that we also have wine stored safely away ready for our next Quiz night nearer the end of the year, so watch this space!

love

Jennifer, Bev and Paula



Street Fair - Stalls

Hello dear bulletin readers,

As part of the Street Fair Committee, it has been my pleasure to source and book stalls to come along and help make our 18th century street fair successful. This year we have a brilliant team, I took some time out of my Sunday to walk the street and chat with cottage owners and let them know what would be setting up outside their home. It was a pleasure chatting to those I met, and I thank you for your welcome!

If you look at our website, it will let you see what Stall Holders we will have in the village and the entertainment that has been secured for our enjoyment. Just click on the link to our website and open the stallholders and entertainers link on the top bar and you can see who will be here.

Isn't technology wonderful!

<https://miltonabbasstreetfair.co.uk/>

If I haven't caught up with you yet, my apologies, you are on my list to scoop up next week, promise!

See you at the weekend in the reading room if you are popping along!

Paula Driver





SUMMER CLOSURES

**Tuesday 15th July to Tuesday
22nd July - CLOSED**

Wednesday 23rd July - OPEN

**Monday 18th August to
Friday 22nd August - CLOSED**

Saturday 23rd August - OPEN

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

Thought for the Month

St. James and the Scallop Shell: A Story Rooted in Milton Abbas

Last week I went to the cinema to watch the Salt Path. This adaption of Raynor Winn's book is a powerful true story following the author and her husband as they walk the South West Coast Path after losing their home and livelihood. Along the way, they battle harsh weather, ill health and the physical demands of the journey, finding healing in nature and each other. In old language we might say that they made a pilgrimage.

St. James the Greater was one of Jesus's twelve apostles - a fisherman by trade, brother to John, and one of the first to leave everything behind to follow Christ. According to tradition, after preaching the Gospel in Jerusalem, St. James travelled west, possibly reaching as far as Spain. After his martyrdom around AD 44, his remains were said to have been transported back to Spain, where they were buried at what is now Santiago de Compostela - a city that would later become one of the most important Christian pilgrimage sites in the world.

Today, thousands of pilgrims still walk the Camino de Santiago (The Way of St. James) - some for faith, some for personal reflection, and many as a rite of spiritual passage. And at the heart of that journey is the symbol of the scallop shell.

In Christian tradition, the scallop shell is closely associated with St. James and pilgrimage. There are many layers to its symbolism:

Practical origins: Pilgrims to Santiago would carry scallop shells to scoop food and water, or as proof of completing the journey.

Spiritual imagery: The shell's grooves represent the many paths pilgrims take, all leading to a single point.

You may even spot scallop shells in our own St. James Church here in Milton Abbas, whether carved, painted, or embroidered - gentle reminders of the saint's legacy and the spiritual journey we all undertake.

Though Milton Abbas is far from the dusty trails of northern Spain, it has its own history of spiritual journeying. The current church replacing the medieval church nearer the abbey and placing this new structure at the heart of village life.

St. James Church today continues to welcome all - pilgrims, parishioners, and visitors alike. Next time you're passing, why not pop in and see the purple robed figure of St James in the stained glass windows, surrounded by scallop shells.

Blessings

Rev'd Lewis



Pews News

July 2025

Services in July

SUNDAY 6TH JULY

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

SUNDAY 13TH JULY

9am - Winterborne Stickland (Prayer Book Communion)
10:30am - Milton Abbas (Communion)
10:30am - Winterborne Clenston (Prayer Book Communion)
3:30pm - Milton Abbey (Deanery Wide Service of Evensong)
4:30pm - Winterborne Houghton (Cafe Church)

SUNDAY 20TH JULY

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

SUNDAY 27TH JULY

10:30am - Winterborne Houghton (Communion)
10:30am - Turnworth (Morning Worship)
6pm - St Catherine's Chapel (Beer and Hymns)



Bible Readings

Sunday 6th July - 3rd After Trinity
Galatians 6.1-6/Luke 10.1-11,16-20

Sunday 13th July - 4th After Trinity
Colossians 1.1-14/Luke 10.25-27

Sunday 20th July - 5th After Trinity
Colossians 1.15-28/Luke 10.38-end

Sunday 27th July - 6th After Trinity
Colossians 2.6-15/Luke 11.1-13

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

Admin & Pews News - Jennifer Harrison
wvmabenefice@gmail.com

www.wvmabenefice.co.uk

Services in August

IN AUGUST WE ARE SIMPLIFYING OUR SERVICE STRUCTURE JUST FOR THIS MONTH. THIS WILL ALLOW PEOPLE THE CHANCE TO VISIT OTHER CHURCHES IN THE BENEFICE AND ALSO ALLOW CLERGY, LAY LEADERS AND MUSICIANS A CHANCE TO HAVE A QUIETER MONTH AFTER A BUSY JULY. WE RETURN TO OUR NORMAL PATTERN OF WORSHIP IN SEPTEMBER.

SUNDAY 3RD AUGUST

10:30am - Winterborne Whitechurch (Communion)
6pm - Turnworth (Compline)

SUNDAY 10TH AUGUST

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

SUNDAY 17TH AUGUST

10:30am - Winterborne Stickland (Communion)

SUNDAY 24TH AUGUST

10:30am - Winterborne Houghton (Communion)

SUNDAY 31ST AUGUST

10:30am - Milton Abbey (Communion)

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.

Events in July

Friday 25th July - Stickland Church Beetle Drive at Pamela Hambro Hall (7pm)

Saturday 26th July - Milton Abbas Street Fair

Coffee Pot - Mondays at Stickland
Coffee Stop - Tuesdays at Milton Abbas
Cup n Cake - Wednesdays at Whitechurch

Future Events

Thursday - 7th August - Benefice Prayer Walk

On this day Rev'd Lewis will be walking and praying across the Benefice starting at Turnworth & finishing at Milton Abbey (and taking in all churches inbetween). If you'd like to join him for any part of this, please get in touch with him

Saturday - 9th Aug - Houghton Fete
(1pm-4pm)

June Picture Quiz Result:



Last month's photo was the of one of the 'niches' in the gateposts at the top of King Edwards Drive

(Niche: a recess or cavity constructed in the thickness of a wall for the reception of decorative objects such as statues, busts, urns, and vases)

On this occasion, nobody even ventured a guess, and I can't believe nobody recognised it! Please do have a guess: MiltonAbbasBulletin@Gmail.com

July 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 the editorial team directly:

Paula Driver

Bev Martin (July Birthday Girl!)

Stuart Driver