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The Milton Abbas Parish Newsletter

June 2022

incorporating What's On - pages 6 & 7



Peter Chafer

We are all very saddened by the passing of Peter Chafer who did so much for Milton Abbas, including being a major advocate of an earlier history group and a founder member of the current history group. Thanks to Peter also for being the originator, editor and producer of the Bulletin for so many years. A series of surveys in the 1990's showed that there was great demand for better communications in the Parish.

The Bulletin was published for the first time in April 1997. Peter proved a highly professional editor, following on from his BBC stellar career as series editor of iconic television shows, That's Life from 1973 to 1979 and Crime Watch from 1984 to 1987.

The Bulletin is an important part of the history of Milton Abbas, and we have digital and paper copies of past issues which will be a great resource for historians to come. Peter was an investigative journalist too, as on the recent Sky production of Mothere Therese included a recent interview with him about his then many years ago ground breaking production about Mother Therese fronted by Malcolm Muggeridge.

We will miss his sharp and incisive wit and his ability to raise a smile at people who take themselves too seriously. Peter and The Bulletin, over his 20 years with the help from his wife Peggy, became lynchpins of our community. - innovative, informative, controversial, amusing (who can forget Avril Premier?) – all expressions used to describe the wonderful articles that graced his publications over the years.

I could have filled this whole edition with tributes but he would no doubt have 'chafered' at that. So that is a wrap! (Ed)

Pictures from Tony Shearn.

Family Gathering



**MILTON ABBAS PARISH
COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE PARISH COUNCIL** held
on

11th May 2022 in the Reading Room,
Milton Abbas at 7.00pm

PRESENT:

Mr S. Driver Mr N. Hodder (Chair-
man)

Mr T. Ives Mr R. Woodhouse
(Vice-Chair)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Mrs E. Sellen (Clerk) and 5 members
of the general public. Mr T. Khand-
wala, Unitary Cllr Mrs E. Parker and
an additional member of the public
attended via zoom.

1. APOLOGIES

Mr P. Amor, Ms K. Finlayson, Mr S.
Gould, Mr T. Khandwala & Unitary
Cllr Mrs E. Parker.

2. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

It was proposed by RW, seconded by
SD and unanimously agreed that NH
should be elected Chairman. NH took
the chair.

3. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

It was proposed by NH, seconded by
SD and unanimously agreed that RW
should be elected vice chairman.

4. APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS

Councillors retained the following,
for review following co-options for
numerous vacancies:

Transport Adviser Nigel Hodder

DAPTC Rep Paul Amor

Rights of Way Officer Steve Gould

Tree Warden Steve Bewers

MATCH /Jane's Wood Chris Dieck

Flood Wardens Steve Gould

& Rowan Woodhouse

Emergency Officer/Contac Steve
Gould

Homewatch Ellie Payne

Community Speed Watch Co-ordinator

Nigel Hodder & Freddy Robinson

Playpark Committee Louise Perry-

Warens (Chair), Gavin Bridle, Tom

Ives, Steve Gould, Jacqui Cooper,

Susan Woodhouse

Neighbourhood Development Plan

Working Party Susan Woodhouse &

Rowan Woodhouse and those detailed

on website

Welcome Pack Tayab Khandwala
Milton Abbas Health & Disability
Fund Tom Ives

Tregonwell Almshouses Rodger Press-
land

Website Liaison Rowan Woodhouse

Emily Faulkner Trustee Leo Hughes

Communications Office Nigel Hodder

Defibrillator Management Tayab

Khandwala, Tom Ives, Gavin Bridle,

James Farnham, Tina Sparks

Fingerposts Stuart Driver, Tom

Ives

Parish Mobile Comms Lead Leo

Hughes

Parish Broadband Lead David Cock-

ing

BT Kiosk Stuart Driver & Work-

ing Party

Village Flower Boxes Flower Power

Lloyds Bank Signatories Nigel Hod-

der, Tom Ives, Rowan Woodhouse

5. REVIEW OF GOVERNING

DOCUMENTS

Councillors had reviewed the

Standing Orders, Financial Regula-

tions, Code of Conduct, Risk As-

essment Document, Privacy Policy,

Welcome Pack and other policies.

It was unanimously agreed that no
amendments or updates are required at

this time. It was unanimously agreed

that the existing Financial Regulations

permit the Parish Council to operate
online banking, and and other policies.

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permit the Parish Council to oper-

ate online banking, and he Clerk was

asked to research the most

appropriate controls.

6. MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the previous Annual

Parish Council meeting of 4th May

2021 had been approved at the Parish

Council meeting on 14th July 2021.

There were no matters arising.

7. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

RW presented the Chairman's Report.

(See ADDENDA)

Mrs F. Robinson thanked the

outgoing chair for leading the parish

council over the previous years. 8.

FINANCIAL REPORT

The Clerk presented the financial

report. (See ADDENDA)

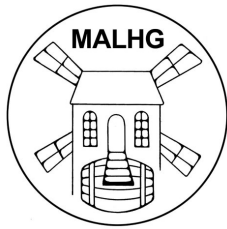
9. UNITARY COUNCILLORS RE-

PORT None

The meeting closed at 7.20pm.

One of the founder members of the Milton Abbey Bulletin, Michael McAvoy has informed us of the very sad news that his beloved wife June Anne McAvoy (nee Harper) died peacefully at home on the 26th May. She was the mother of Annabel and much loved grandmother of Milo, Tallulah and Scarlet.





MILTON ABBAS LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Bryan Phillips

NOTES NOTES FROM THE MILTON ABBAS LOCAL HISTORY GROUP JUNE 2022

The presentation at our April meeting was given by Brian Larcher, one of our members who now lives in Cheshire. That was all about the very early history of Milton Abbas over 1000 years ago during the reign of King Athelstan. Surprisingly we know quite a lot about our village during the middle ages (say 400 AD to 1500) because monasteries were good at record keeping, although the fire at Milton Abbey in 1309 didn't help. We have copies of these early documents

in Latin, of course, and most are now translated, although there are a few still to go, so if any of our readers would like to help.....!

Currently one of our newest members is transcribing some correspondence about the Milton Abbas Grammar School, which was then located in Blandford. The school was founded in 1521 and has a long and complex history. We have just discovered that it was proposed to change it from a boys' school to an all girls' school in 1885, and a headmistress, Miss Greatbatch, had been appointed. The curriculum seems to be progressive for a girls school of this time, including religious instruction, arithmetic, spelling, grammar, piano, algebra, composition, history, geometry, Euclid, geography, French and Latin - all for 4 guineas a term for the over 14s. However the Charity Commissioners, the Mayor of Blandford and a very long list of local worthies had plenty to say about that - the 'Humble Petition' makes interesting reading. I am hoping to write a blog on our history group website on this girl's school soon.

Pamela Phillips is currently very busy preparing an exhibition of the history of Milton Abbas, and beyond, from 1950 to today. This will be part of Milton Abbas Platinum Jubilee celebrations and will be displayed in the Reading Rooms on the afternoons of Friday and Saturday 3rd and 4th June. Do come along and see the changes in Milton Abbas, and the rest of the country, during the reign of Queen Elizabeth II. You will be surprised how much life has changed locally and nationally. We will be delighted to share our findings with you.

Our next meeting on 1 Jun features a presentation by our member Clive Barnes, 'The Story of Lord Milton and the Lake' and what a story it is - it tells us much about local politics, the law, the courts and the nobility. Clive is an avid walker and photographer around Milton Abbas and has explored the old roads and tracks and of course the lake. There will be more on the recent history of the lake, and the villagers attempt to buy it in the Jubilee Exhibition.

The WWI group are busy organising and writing up all their research into the lives of the people of Milton Abbas during the war, those who fought for their country, and those who stayed behind; and how life changed for them after the war. This is all in preparation for a publication due out in November. If anyone has information or documents of their ancestors in Milton Abbas at this time then please let us know.

**PLATINUM JUBILEE
CELEBRATION CONCERT**

ENJOY 70 YEARS OF FILM AND MUSIC HIGHLIGHTS
IN MILTON ABBEY SCHOOL THEATRE
ON FRIDAY 3RD JUNE AT 6.30 PM

£10 tickets available from Milton Abbas Post Office. Children free. Parking free.



Platinum Jubilee Organising Committee

Hopefully everyone's looking forward to the Jubilee weekend, the sun keeps shining and you are able to come and enjoy the many events we've organised in our community. (Dates and times below.)

We also hope that many of you are planning to decorate your home, garden, walls, fences with bunting, flags, etc. to create the perfect Jubilee feeling across our village. Please don't forget that on Sunday at 'The Milton Abbas Platinum Jubilee Big Lunch' it's your turn, when there will be prizes for the Best Dressed,

so please do create those Jubilee or Royalty themed costumes or just come along dressed up in any mixture of red, white and blue!

We hope you all have an enjoyable weekend.

Milton Abbas Platinum Jubilee Big Weekend

What's On – Friday 3rd – Sunday 5th June 2022

- St James' Church - Flower Display – a floral interpretation of the Jubilee.
Friday 3rd June (2:00 – 5:00 p.m.)
- Marquee on lawn outside St James' Church - Tea & Cakes. Come along for some free refreshments.
Friday 3rd June/Saturday 4th June (1:00 – 5:00 p.m.)
- Reading Room - Milton Abbas Local History Group exhibition – 70 years of history in Milton Abbas and beyond
Friday 3rd June (6:30 - 9:30 p.m.)
- Milton Abbey School Theatre - **Jubilee Concert** – an evening of film and music celebrating the last 70 years – tickets still available - £10 from the Post Office. Children free of charge. Friday 3rd June (6:30 - 9:30 p.m.) *****
- Saturday 4th June (8:00 – 10:30 p.m.)
Hambro Arms – a chance to watch the 'Party at the Palace' concert taking place at Buckingham Palace on Saturday night on a big screen under a marquee in front of the pub.
- Sunday 5th June (12:00 – 4:00 p.m.)

Millennium Green – 'The Platinum Jubilee Big Lunch' – for Milton Abbas villagers. A Bring Your Own Picnic and Drinks event with free lamb roll/veggie pitta bread lunch and drink for those who have already reserved tickets. Fun activities and games for all - including a Tug of War competition, Children's Races, a Competition/Treasure Hunt covering the Queen's 70 year reign, Face Painting or Transfers by the Playpark team and the Best Dressed Competition. Please see the Big Lunch 'You're Invited' flyer delivered to every household for details or email mabigjubileelunch@gmail.com with any queries.

***** Friday Evening Jubilee Concert - An opportunity not to be missed to see and hear Hal Cazlet:

Hal's appearances on TV and radio include: A Portrait of Wodehouse, Loose Ends, BBC Proms, In Tune on BBC Radio 3, Elaine Paige on Sunday, LBC Pete Murray Show, and WNYC Radio. Hal has appeared at Crazy Coqs (Live @ Zedel) for two seasons in his one-man show Play on Words, an homage to the great wordsmiths of Broadway and to his step-great grandfather, author and Broadway's first lyricist, P.G. Wodehouse. He also performed the show on the Queen Mary 2 voyage from New York to London as part of the Cheltenham Literary Festival at Sea. In the course of his career, Cazlet has appeared at almost all of the major operatic venues. His roles include Nicholas in Death and the Powers at the Monte Carlo Opera, Gerard in Les Enfants Terribles by Philip Glass' at the Brooklyn Academy of Music Opera House, and Charles in The Music Programme at the Royal Opera House.

(Ed)

Milton Abbas Surgery News Gillian Brindle



Supporting Our Carers

A carer is anyone who looks after a family member or friend who has a disability, mental or physical illness or who needs extra help as they grow older. Caring's impact on all aspects of life from relationships and health to finances and work can be significant. Whilst many feel that caring is one of the most important things they do, its challenges should not be underestimated. Caring without the right information and support can be tough. It is vitally important that we recognise the contribution

carers make to their families and local communities, workplaces and society, and that they get the support they need.

The COVID-19 pandemic had a monumental impact on unpaid carers' lives – not only because of the increased amount of care that many provided, but because of the far-reaching effect that providing this level of care has had on unpaid carers. Many people also took on new caring responsibilities for their relatives and friends who are disabled, ill or older and who need support.

They need to be recognised for the difficulties they are experiencing, respected for all they are doing, and provided with information, and given the support they need to care safely. So during Carers Week (6-12th June) in conjunction with Carers Support Dorset we are aiming to make caring Visible, Valued and Supported. For more information, advice & support contact our Carers Lead at the surgery, Kelly Best, and/or Carers Support Dorset on 0800 368 8349

www.carersupportdorset.co.uk

Health Champions

Our Health Champions are members of the community who voluntarily give of their time to work alongside us to develop new ways to meet the health needs of our local community, offering local activities to promote health and mental wellbeing.

Activities on offer so far are:

- **Walking Group on Tuesday and Thursday mornings**
- **Line Dancing on a Monday afternoon at the Winterborne Whitechurch Village Hall**
- **Papercraft on a Wednesday afternoon at Luccombe Hub**

There is also our surgery allotment group that meets on Thursday mornings which is open to patients who feel that they would benefit from some time outside with nature and a little company. If you would like to join our allotment group, please let Reception know and they will pass your details on to Kelly our Social Prescriber. Alternatively, please send an email to miltonabbasssurgery@nhs.net for the attention of Kelly.

If you are interested in becoming a Health Champion with the surgery, please just let us know.

LiveWell Dorset

As we turn our thoughts to the sunny summer months, perhaps we are also thinking about our weight and those extra pounds we may be carrying. If you're overweight or obese, losing weight can reduce your risk of developing some serious health problems. It can give you confidence to get active too.

Did you know that LiveWell Dorset can connect you with local services and offer 1:1 coaching to help you work through your challenges and build a healthy lifestyle that lasts. They can also pay for you to attend 12 x weekly group sessions at a local Slimming World or Weight Watchers group, with access to all the online and in-group information offered by your chosen provider.

For more information or to register for their support, please go to www.livewelldorset.co.uk or call 0800 840 1628.

Remember, you can always join and support the activities run by the surgery's health champions, mentioned above, to help you achieve your goals.

WHAT'S ON

Deadline for entries in the next edition is 20th of the month
Paula Driver 01258 882156 email: stuartandpaula@btinternet.com

HISTORY GROUP

Wednesday 1 June, 7.30pm in the Reading Room

Talk on the story of Lord Milton and the Lake by Clive Barnes

WHIST CLUB

Tuesday 11 June, 2:15-5:30pm

3rd Tuesday of each month in Reading Room.

Contact Nigel (880229) or Jennifer (881609) for more info.

COMPUTER CAFÉ

Every Thursday, 10-12 noon in the Reading Rooms

Cake and a hot drink, £1 per item

COFFEE STOP

Please note the change of start time

Every Tuesday, 11am-12 noon in the Church South Aisle

LUNCH CLUB

Wednesday 8 June

2nd Wednesday of every month 1pm in the Reading Rooms

Book your place at the Post Office £5

New members very welcome!

FRIDAY QUILTERS

9.30-12.00 in the Reading Rooms

You do not have to be a quilter, bring your knitting or anything else you are making. We stop for coffee, tea and biscuits or, if you are lucky, cake! We will be very pleased to see you.

Further details from Anthea on 269348.

CHURCH SERVICES

Sunday 12 June, 10.30am St James' - Communion

Sunday 19 June, 9am St James' - Book of Common Prayer Communion

Sunday 26 June, 6pm St James' - Soulspace

YOGA

Beginners' Yoga, every Tuesday, 7.30-8.30pm, Reading Rooms

Classes are £8 or 6 for £40. To reserve your spot email

yoga@clarehart.co.uk

Our classes focus on posture and range of movement to address the impact of repetitive daily movement. The aim is to help you regain flexibility, strength and resilience whilst quietening the mind. We would love to welcome you to this weekly community practice.

ART GROUP

Every Monday 7 - 9pm in the Reading Room

Bring your art materials and join us for a creative evening; everyone welcome!

Contact Louise, lfreirart@gmail.com for more information.

PREVIEW FOR JULY.....

History Group

6 July: "New Findings on Milton Abbas Grammar School" by Bryan Phillips.

This will be our last meeting of the season

MILTON ABBAS ART GROUP EXHIBITION

Our annual Art Exhibition is back!

Paintings, drawings, collages and photography by local creative artists.

Peruse, pause, purchase and take pleasure in the

Milton Abbas Reading Room

Saturday 23rd July - Sunday 31st July

11am - 5pm

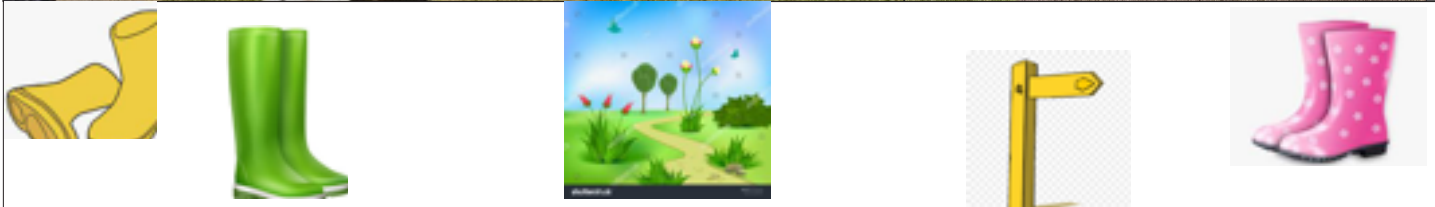
We look forward to seeing you there!

The ‘Milton Abbas Platinum Jubilee Big Lunch’ on Sunday 5th June

is nearly here and thanks to a wonderful bunch of villagers the Millennium Green is now spruced up ready and looks amazing! My thanks to all who turned up last Sunday to help and as the Before and After photos below show, what a huge difference you all made in just 2 hours, so thanks again.

Reservations for the villagers free ‘Big Lunch’ closed on Friday 27th May (sorry, we had to order the food and do the shopping!), but all without tickets are still very welcome to turn

up with their own picnics on the day – please see the Big Lunch ‘You’re Invited!’ flyer already delivered to each household for details. Thanks from Freddy Robinson on behalf of The Jubilee Organising Committee.



**Milton Abbas Walking Group
Come and join us!**

The aim of the Walking Group is to provide a regular, enjoyable activity for community, which has both social and health benefits.

There are so many health benefits to walking. Walking regularly can help you:

Improve your blood pressure, heart rate and lung function.

Decrease feelings of loneliness and depression.

Maintain a healthy weight.

Build stronger bones and muscles.

Boost your self-esteem and mood naturally.

Enhance your social life and your feelings of connectedness to others.

The group works as friends who walk together and invite others to join them. We are inviting you!

For more information, pick up a leaflet from the Milton Abbas Surgery



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