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# Milton Village View

Issue No. 143 – June 2020



## In This Issue...

- Virtual Summer Fayre
- VE Day celebrations
- Covid-19 support group

*And much more!*

*Photo: Jo Nix*

# Contact Us

Send us your news and photos:

**[mvv@milton.org.uk](mailto:mvv@milton.org.uk)**

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Deadlines for articles are:

**12th January**

**12th March**

**12th May**

**1st September**

**1st November**

Issues will be published approx.  
3 weeks after the dates above.

## Online Archive

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(back to 1991) on our website:

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## Milton Virtual Summer Fayre!



Due to the current government guidance, the committee has had to take the hard decision to cancel the Fayre for this year. The Fayre will be back in 2021! However, we still wanted to mark the day that would have been the fayre to keep spirits up in the village.

We would like to introduce - Milton Virtual Fayre! On Saturday 11th July we will be organising activities for families to do whilst social distancing. We are currently planning a treasure hunt, quiz and photography challenges. We are hoping for a surprise in the sky - fingers crossed. Look out for more information on the Milton Facebook page, Milton News and on posters around the village! If you have any ideas of what we could do on this day, then please email your ideas to us at [summerfairmilton@gmail.com](mailto:summerfairmilton@gmail.com)

We will be watching the government's guidance closely and we will plan accordingly to help everyone stay safe on the day!

*Summer Fayre Committee*



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# June

**Weds 24th** Landbeach Tithe Barn Trust AGM via Zoom, 7pm (see below)



# July

**Sat 11th** Milton Virtual Fayre (see p.2)

**18th-26th** Open Studio, Hall End, 10am-1pm, 2-5pm each day (see below)

## Open Studio at Hall End



All being well, my studio will be open every day from Sat 18th - Sun 26th July.

Times: 10am - 1pm & 2pm - 5pm (closed for lunch)

Garden Studio: Smallstone, Hall End, Milton, CB24 6AQ

I will be exhibiting my hand-pulled prints, screen-printed tea towels, coasters and a large range of cards and wrapping paper. Also for the first time my daughter, Emily Cooper, will be showing work that couldn't be shown at her Illustration Degree Show this year. She was supposed to

graduate from Bristol (UWE) this summer.

My offer of **FREE delivery** of any of my products to people in the village is ongoing. I have a large range of cards for all occasions. See my website to order: [www.hullyer.co.uk/shop](http://www.hullyer.co.uk/shop)

You can have a free extra card of your choice to cover the postage charged or have the postage refunded.

*Alison Hullyer*



## Tithe Barn AGM via Zoom

Due to Covid-19, the Landbeach Tithe Barn Trust is holding its AGM this year via Zoom. So we've set up a practice session for anyone who is new to Zoom on 13th June; then our AGM will go ahead on 24th June.

**Practice Zoom session:** Saturday 13 June, 11-11.30am. Free. This session is for all those who are new to Zoom and would like to try it out and practice. To find out more, email [tithebarntrust@gmail.com](mailto:tithebarntrust@gmail.com)

Meeting ID: 781 5912 0128

Password: 2PFcMj

**Annual General Meeting:** Wednesday 24 June, 7-7.40pm. Free. Meet the Tithe Barn Trust volunteer team online and learn all about the Tithe Barn project.

Meeting ID: 794 7376 5149

Password: 7drb1E

## Self-isolating? Need support?

The **Milton Covid-19 Support Group** has been running since March, to support people in the village during the Covid-19 (coronavirus) pandemic. Over 170 people have volunteered, and the group has responded to nearly 100 requests for help so far, many on an ongoing basis.



If you are vulnerable (e.g. over 70s), ill or self-isolating, and you need support at this time, please:

call: **07933 550989** or email [covidmilton@gmail.com](mailto:covidmilton@gmail.com)

Please be ready to give us your name, address, contact number and what you need help with. We will try to put in you in touch with a volunteer who can help you.

## Prescriptions

You can get prescriptions delivered to you from Waterbeach pharmacy (01223 564422). There are other online pharmacies available, as well as the Nuffield pharmacy in Chesterton (01223 425090), who will deliver to those who are shielding.

## Foodbank Referrals

If you need a foodbank voucher, please contact the foodbank on 07772 538628 or email them [info@ccfb.org.uk](mailto:info@ccfb.org.uk) to get information about agencies that can refer you for a voucher.

## Church of England for Those not Online

If you're not online then the free **Daily Hope telephone line** offers music, prayers and reflections as well as full worship services from the Church of England. The line – which is available 24 hours a day on 0800 804 8044 – has been set up particularly with those in mind who are unable to join online church services during the period of restrictions.

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Dear neighbours and friends, I hope you are keeping well and looking after yourselves in this difficult time.

Elsewhere in this Village View are details of All Saints' online presence, both our website and new YouTube channel where you can find Sunday worship, weekday Thought for the Day, Praise and Play, and Assemblies. I hope you are finding them helpful and enjoyable.




I am very pleased with the response to our plea for volunteers to help the vulnerable, being co-ordinated by the **Milton Covid-19 Support Group**. Do please call the number or visit the website ([miltoncovid19.info](http://miltoncovid19.info)) if you need assistance with any of the things that the group can help with. It's not too much trouble - it's what the group was set up to do!

It is clear that this time is very stressful and worrying for many of us, with families juggling working from home with childcare and home education, grandparents unable to support or even see their grandchildren, many people concerned about finances and job security, the general concern about health and wellbeing. Although we can't do much to change the situation, we at All Saints' Church would like to offer the opportunity for anyone to **call for a chat** - maybe simply to let off steam to someone outside their immediate situation, perhaps for a listening ear, maybe to request prayer for themselves or someone else. If that would be helpful to you, please call me on 01223 861511, or email [rector@allsaintsmilton.org.uk](mailto:rector@allsaintsmilton.org.uk) to ask for a call back for a chat or with your prayer requests. I'm happy to be called between 9am and 9pm, or at any time in an emergency.

A particular concern is the limit to the number of people allowed to attend funeral services. This is likely to apply for some time yet, so the Church of England has produced some resources to help. There is a sheet with a simple **reflection for use on the day of a funeral you can't attend**, also a prayer card which can be used at any time. I have put copies of both in the church porch; please do take as many as you need. They are also available on the Church of England website here, along with other helpful suggestions: [tinyurl.com/CofEFunerals](http://tinyurl.com/CofEFunerals)

With my prayers and best wishes, *David*. Rev David Chamberlin, Rector of Milton

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Let's Get Silly! with this year's free Summer Reading Challenge from the library service, for every child aged 4-11!

[summerreadingchallenge.org.uk](http://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk)

Families can join in with downloads, activities, reading recommendations, rewards and unlockable content to keep everyone engaged throughout the summer.

## What's Open (at time of going to press)?

- ✓ **Takeaways:** local pubs, Unicorn House, Grounds café
- ✓ **Tesco:** open 6am-10pm Mon-Sat, 10am-4pm on Sundays
- ✓ **Tesco priority time** for elderly/more vulnerable: Mon, Weds & Fri 9-10am
- ✓ **Post Office:** 9am-5.30pm, Mon-Fri
- ✓ **Country Park** is open — please respect social distancing and avoid crowds
- ✓ **Footgolf** is open
- ✓ **Bus route 9** running 2-hourly.
- ✓ **Citi 2** bus: last bus of the day arrives in Milton at 22:45.



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## "Mrs Wilson's" Field

The field next to the A14 has been used by the A14 construction teams for the last few years. Now that the main construction on the A14 has finished, the car park surface and portacabins have been removed, returning it a field once more.



Photo: Nat Johnson

To connect with your neighbours at this time, keep an eye on the [Milton Community Facebook group](#) and the [Milton News](#) and [Milton Chat](#) email lists, which are on

[www.milton.org.uk](http://www.milton.org.uk)

## What's Closed?

- ✗ No public services at All Saints' church
- ✗ Restaurants, gyms, leisure centres, theatres, cinemas & nightclubs
- ✗ Playgrounds are all closed
- ✗ Milton Maize Maze is closed for 2020
- ✗ Park & Ride busses are suspended

**Buses take exact change only, or contactless payment.**



**Pilates Classes**  
**Milton, Landbeach & Cottenham**

Mon 9.30am - Mixed Ability Mat Class (MCC)  
Mon 10.30am - Mixed Ability Mat Class (MCC)

**TIMES FOR MILTON SCHOOL CLASSES**  
Tues 6.30pm - Mixed Ability Mat Class (Sch)  
Tues 7.30pm - Mixed Ability Mat Class (Sch)  
Fri 9am - Mixed Ability Mat Class (SARMY)  
Fri 10.30am - Mixed Ability Mat Class (LVH)

Contact Liz on 07768 155278  
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for further information on classes & venues

## Florists donate to Country Park



I run The Flower Project. We are a eco-friendly florists in Milton and we have been contact-less delivering flowers and plants in and around Milton by bicycle during the lockdown.



Also, we are donating 10% of every bouquet purchased to the Milton Country Park, because green spaces

are more important than ever and the park is charity run. I have added a couple of pictures for your attention of pictures taken during the lockdown.

Clare Cook, [www.theflowerproject.uk](http://www.theflowerproject.uk)

## Rainbow House

Ron Nix, who taught art at Bottisham Village College for 32 years before retiring, has painted a rainbow on the side of his house in tribute to the NHS, where his children and children-in-law work.

Mr Nix said the rainbow would stay on the house "as long as we are all going through this".



## Green Bins

South Cambs District Council are now able to collect green bins again. Initially, this will be 4 -weekly, but please put your bins out every 2 weeks, as they may be able to collect some extra bins at the end of their rounds. Upcoming bin dates are on the front page of the village website [www.milton.org.uk](http://www.milton.org.uk)

[www.harmonysalon.co.uk](http://www.harmonysalon.co.uk)

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## Foodbanks

Demand on Foodbanks has increased, and donations reduced, due to the Covid-19 pandemic. So, to try and make it easier to donate, we have set up another donation point on the drive at West Manor, **57 Butt Lane, on Monday and Wednesday each week, 1-5pm.** Just leave your donations there and we will take them to the Cambridge Foodbank. They were delighted with our first delivery.



**Please give generously. So many more people are living in hardship. The Foodbank only needs NON PERISHABLE items.** Any items with a long shelf life are appreciated, with the following list most wanted:

- ✓ UHT milk, long life juice or squash
- ✓ pulses, noodles, tinned pasta, pasta sauce
- ✓ tinned tomatoes, rice pudding, custard
- ✓ cooking oil - 500ml, soap, hand sanitizer, bags for life

*Thank you for your support, Lorraine and Mike Hannant*

## Phone Box Books & DVDs

Timea White has put books and DVDs on a shelf in the phone box on Coles Road, for anyone to borrow.

Please keep the books & DVDs off the ground, and feel free to add to the collection yourself!



*Photo: David Chamberlin*

## Clappers for Carers

At the start of the lockdown, the church of England guidance was that churches must stay closed. When clergy were allowed back in, in early May, Rev. Chamberlin rang the bells in All Saints' Church at 8pm on the next Thursday evening "clap for carers" event.

## Matthew Harney Ltd

## Fencing – Decking – Sheds - Gates





## The Farmland Museum and Denny Abbey

The Farmland Museum and Denny Abbey remains closed for the foreseeable future and we are sad not to have been able to open our museum to visitors from Milton this season. The weather has been spectacular and the gardens look empty without children playing and families enjoying the space. In April and May we should have held a number of big events, including our ever-popular annual 1940s weekend, and it was incredibly disappointing that these couldn't go ahead.

The Farmland Museum is an independent charitable trust, which relies on visitor income to maintain the collection, provide learning experiences for schools and families, and celebrate the rural heritage of the Cambridgeshire Fens.

All the money we receive from admissions, the gift shop, cafe and bookshop, and loose change put into donation boxes, goes straight into the museum.

Covid-19 has created an uncertain future for the museum. Our visitor revenues this year are zero.

Once the world starts to return to normal, our museum will be a vitally important local institution for families and friends to come together again to enjoy our heritage in beautiful, tranquil surroundings.

If you are in a position to help us through these challenging times, we would appreciate any support you are able to give. Without help, our future remains uncertain.

You can make a donation to us on our CAF Donate page here [cafdonate.cafonline.org/12856](https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/12856) Thank you.

We hope to be able to welcome you again soon! Keep an eye on our website [www.farmlandmuseum.org.uk](http://www.farmlandmuseum.org.uk) for updates.

Sarah Michael





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## Life in Lockdown



Brian White



Sally Milligan



Sharna Liptrot

## From the Archives

25 Years Ago: June 1995

*The memorial stone in the Country Park was unveiled 25 years ago, to mark the 50th anniversary of VE Day.*



The ceremony of the unveiling of the memorial stone

10 Years Ago: June 2010

**Milton Win Cup Final**

Milton played Brampton at Histon Football Club on Monday 3rd May. [...] With two late goals Milton went on to win 5-3.



Milton players collecting their trophies

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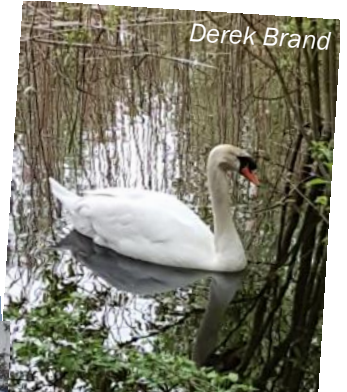




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Heather Coleman



Jane Thomas

## Your Photos Could Be Here!

Photos taken in and around Milton always welcome — of places, people, events or just something that strikes you as beautiful. No lower or upper age limit!

Send them to [mvv@milton.org.uk](mailto:mvv@milton.org.uk), and we'll include as many as we can.





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The car park at Milton Country Park is now open for visitors who have no other options but to drive for their daily exercise. This is in line with advice from the Government and National Police Chiefs Council (NPCC).

Please only come to the park for your daily exercise. We ask that dogs are kept on lead at all times and in all areas.

The car park is open from 8am-7pm. We will be monitoring numbers. If you feel it is busy please leave. If you have to drive please do not park in Tesco or any nearby business, or you will be asked to leave the park and move your vehicle.

For fully contactless payment you can purchase your ticket online at [www.miltoncountrypark.org/parking](http://www.miltoncountrypark.org/parking). The car park machine is card only and there is a cleaning station for those who need to use it. As always blue badge holders can park free of charge.

Access to the park is permissive: there is no public right of way. The Park will only be able to remain open if used responsibly and visitors comply with these requests.

**Support the Park**

Milton Country Park is managed by Cambridge Sport Lakes Trust, a charity which receives no regular external funding. The Country Park has now lost all income required to keep it open as a viable park with a free access model.

We are fighting to remain open to provide a safe green space. The park will have a vital role to play in our recovery back to regular activities, and eventually for coming together again.

Please help us to keep going and manage our way through these most challenging times. We want to be there for our visitors and we look to you to help us by donating at [www.crowdfunder.co.uk/support-milton-country-park](http://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/support-milton-country-park).

*MCP Team*

## Milton Recycling Centre Reopened

The recycling centre is now open for residents who have essential waste that **cannot be stored safely at home**. The recycling centres will open their doors for their usual summer hours. Here are a few rules to help you safely use the site:

- ◇ Do not bring any waste which could be infected with Covid-19.
- ◇ Do not attend if you or your household are suffering from Covid-19 symptoms.
- ◇ There will be a delay before we are able to accept vans and trailers that require a permit. This includes current permit holders.
- ◇ The site is for the use of Cambridgeshire residents only. If you need to visit the site, please bring proof of your address (utility bill, council tax bill, driving licence or similar).
- ◇ Please avoid peak times (9-10am, 12-1pm, 5-6pm).
- ◇ Sites cannot accept their usual number of vehicles and so we will be required to have a limited number of vehicles on site at any one time. No pedestrian access onto site.
- ◇ Social distancing of two metres will be enforced. Maximum of two adults (preferably only one) unloading the vehicle. Staff will be unable to help people unload vehicles.
- ◇ All materials is accepted as normal, apart from:
  - ◆ Textiles/Shoes/TV/computer monitors and paint - these cannot be accepted at the moment, because the organisations that collect these are not operating;
  - ◆ Items for reuse and sale.

## Milton Surgery Update

We continue to run a telephone triage surgery at present for our doctors. If you have a smartphone which is able to receive video consultations please be prepared for the doctor to consult by video where needed. We are still seeing patients face-to-face where necessary.

Please can we request that, if you have a new medical issue, you call the surgery and we can arrange a telephone call with the doctor. It is difficult to deal with such issues via email. For prescription requests please email [admin.miltonsurgery@nhs.net](mailto:admin.miltonsurgery@nhs.net).

We would also like to thank our generous patients for all of the donations to the surgery of personal protective equipment. It has been gratefully received.

*Milton Surgery*



**TELOS**

Is it time to kickstart your journey to a healthier you?

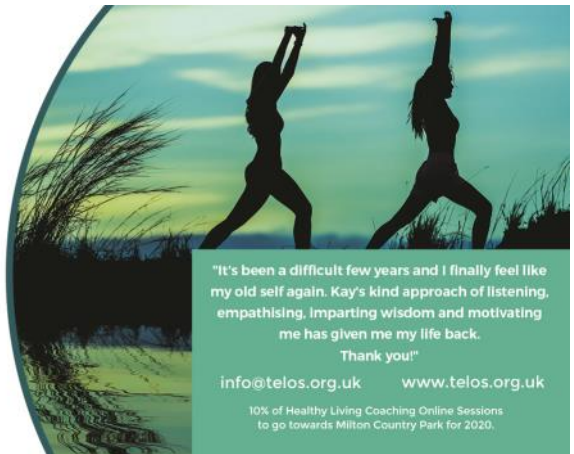
What is holding you back? Are you:

eating or drinking unhealthily or excessively?	lacking in motivation and discipline to change lifestyle habits?	not moving enough or the exercise you do doesn't have desired effects?
--	--	--

Get healthier while supporting our country park

**Kay White**

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"It's been a difficult few years and I finally feel like my old self again. Kay's kind approach of listening, empathising, imparting wisdom and motivating me has given me my life back.

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[info@telos.org.uk](mailto:info@telos.org.uk)    [www.telos.org.uk](http://www.telos.org.uk)

10% of Healthy Living Coaching Online Sessions to go towards Milton Country Park for 2020.



## Parish Council Chairman's report

**Parish Council** My last report included an invitation to the Annual Parish meeting on 27th April. In March, meetings were suspended under lockdown rules. New legislation allows Parish Council meetings to be held remotely, but does not enable Parish meetings, so our Annual meeting had to be postponed.

We are asking people not to visit the Parish Council office. If you have an urgent issue that requires direct contact, then please first telephone the Clerk on 01223 861447 or 07853 170646 so that we can arrange a way to help you whilst minimising direct contact. Further information, including how to join the online meetings, is on [www.miltonvillage.org.uk](http://www.miltonvillage.org.uk)

The double yellow line questionnaire published in the previous edition of the view has now closed. Results are being analysed.

**Village Maintenance** Maintenance that can be completed following distancing rules is continuing. Planting the three trees funded by SCDC was an interesting social distancing challenge. Our Tree Warden Anna Bradman planted a Mountain Ash on the Hawthorn Hedge area, and the Chair of the Maintenance Committee Adam Horne and I planted two Flowering Cherry trees at The Rowans play area.

Additional tree planting is planned for late autumn. Hopefully by then we will then be able to involve more people in the process.

**Care in the Community** Our Care Warden continues to support the most vulnerable group whilst following safety guidelines. Parish Councillors are working with the COVID-19 group, which is providing excellent help through the network of volunteers to other people in need of support during isolation. It is very pleasing to note that the number of volunteers exceeds the number currently needing help.

Thank you to everyone helping us through these challenging times.

*Don Wildman*



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## Phoenix Trust

Phoenix has been closed during the lockdown, in accordance with government guidance, but at the time of writing, we are formulating plans for re-opening when we are permitted and able to keep everyone, in our Phoenix Community and beyond, safe and well. We have, however, kept in touch with our co-workers, who have shown themselves to be a very talented and creative bunch: but we really knew that already!



Our appreciation to everyone who has been in touch to ask if we are still selling products, and expressing a wish to support us during these challenging times. When we re-open, please come and visit and buy! We have paving slabs in a multitude of designs, sizes and colours and a wide variety of wooden items. Monty the cat is particularly fond of his owner's planter!

Do keep an eye on our website: [www.phoenixtrust.org](http://www.phoenixtrust.org), or Facebook: Phoenix Trust Milton, for updates about our re-opening arrangements or email: [info@phoenixtrust.org](mailto:info@phoenixtrust.org).

## All Saints' Milton Online

All Saints' Milton now has its own **YouTube** channel: AllSaintsMilton. Here you can find online Sunday services, Thoughts for the Day, Praise and Play videos for pre-school children and Rev. Chamberlin's School Assemblies. You can also find links to these videos from the All Saints Milton **website** ([allsaintsmilton.org.uk](http://allsaintsmilton.org.uk)) in the 'All Saints Together Online' section. We post regularly on **Facebook** at: [www.facebook.com/allsaintsmilton](http://www.facebook.com/allsaintsmilton).

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## Lion and Lamb

Tel: 01223 860202  
[www.lion-lamb.co.uk](http://www.lion-lamb.co.uk)

The Lion & Lamb re-opened for takeaway and delivery meals and drinks at the end of April. The kitchen is open 5-8pm Wednesday-Saturday and 12-4pm Sundays.

Bottles of wine and other soft drinks, chilled bottled beer, ale and ciders are also available to order with your meals. Bags of ice too!

The menu is shared on our website, our Facebook Page and the Milton Community Facebook Page.

You are welcome to pre-order in advance. In fact we recommend you do!

We will be operating a completely contactless service.

- ✓ Meals will be ordered and paid for via phone. 01223 860202 or email: [pre-order@lion-lamb.co.uk](mailto:pre-order@lion-lamb.co.uk) (please ensure you supply a phone number on your order)
- ✓ Collections via a drive-through service from our car park at your booked time.
- ✓ Delivery slots are also available.

*Sally Champion*

## Brewers Inn

Tel: 01223 861349  
[www.facebook.com/thebrewersinn](http://www.facebook.com/thebrewersinn)

The Brewers Inn is currently closed. During lockdown we have been focusing on making our garden a beautiful space to enjoy and make memories. With any luck we will see you all again soon!

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## Waggon & Horses

Tel: 01223 570471

[www.waggonandhorsesmilton.co.uk](http://www.waggonandhorsesmilton.co.uk)

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## White Horse

Tel: 01223 860327

[www.facebook.com/whitehorsemilton](https://www.facebook.com/whitehorsemilton)

We hope you're all keeping well and safe. Takeaway service for meals and beverages on Thursday, Friday and Saturday from 5.30pm to 8.30pm. Please phone early to place your orders.

There is a safe collection with a one-way system in place. Card payments preferred but cash will be accepted.

Deliveries available in Milton (cash only).

You can find the menu on our Facebook page or on the board outside of the pub. It will change each week.

If all goes well we will expand days and menu.

Please support us. Looking forward in seeing you all. Missing normal pub life, as we are sure you all are missing your normal routines and family.

*Ava and Alan*



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## Organisations

### Milton WI

At the present time, we are 'closed until further notice' but life goes on as far as we are safely able.

Several members have joined other villagers in the 'Each Stitch Counts' network, which is making scrubs and laundry bags for healthcare workers; some of these have been photographed in the local press. We have an active online link to keep in touch and support each other, which has been invaluable to those members who are on their own. We still quiz, have competitions and 'chat' to each other as well as keeping in touch via email and post with newsletters.

We have no idea when life will return to normal but, in the meantime, we will Keep Calm and Carry On. We send our best wishes to our fellow villagers.

In time, we will be 'open' to new, past and present members and, if you feel that you would like to join us in the future, our President, Gill Offley 01223 293231, would be very pleased to hear from you. We look forward to getting back to our meetings on the third Tuesday of each month in the Church Hall; our programme includes speakers covering a broad spectrum of topics and we have varied activities outside meetings including ten pin bowling, walks, lunches, theatre trips and other outings, and our own darts teams who compete within a WI League.

*Anne Newman*

## Are You Looking for a Pre-School Place for your Child from September or January?

The Cygnets Milton Pre-School is open for applications to start in September 2020 or January 2021.

The pre-school offers places to children aged 2 to 4, with flexible full and half day sessions available every day of the week in term time. With a newly renovated, large outdoor play area and two exciting indoor rooms, we have space to provide a variety of fun activities to suit all children. We aim to be as flexible as we can to offer a place at Cygnets which meets your family's requirements.

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The impact of COVID-19 means that we're unable to show your family around as we normally would and affects the number of children we can accommodate at present. However, if you are thinking about enrolling your child at Cygnets please contact us so we can keep you up to date.

Take a look at the 'About Us' and 'Apply for a place' pages at [cygnets.org.uk](https://cygnets.org.uk) to find out more. If you would like to chat about what we offer, please don't hesitate to get in touch. Call us on 01223 712286 or email [milton.cygnets@gmail.com](mailto:milton.cygnets@gmail.com)



## Inspiring Women

This poem was especially written for Milton WI. It was written in 1945 after the end of WWII and the author is believed to be the husband of a then WI member. It comes from Mary Daniels' collection of WI papers. Mrs Burling, mentioned in the poem, was Mary's mother and the grandmother to Ray and Jim Daniels who still live in Milton.

### *A Tribute to the Milton Women's Institute*

by F J Harding, 20th November 1945

May I a mere spectator  
A humble tribute pay  
To the members of your Institute  
And the really splendid way  
You have stood & worked together  
Through these bitter days of war  
When hope had almost vanished  
And fainting hearts were sore  
When we saw our cities shattered  
And we passed each night in dread  
As hostile aircraft frequently  
Were droning overhead  
And we oftimes stood & wondered  
If Britain could survive  
And yet inspite of all, you kept  
Your Institute alive

When your late President was called  
That better land to share  
You elected Mrs Lander  
To occupy the chair

And to give you loving service  
In her constant joy & pride  
And your able secretary  
Mrs Wayman at her side  
And we think of Mrs Burling  
Who exacts no more or less  
And the stalwart Mrs Missing  
Correspondent to the Press  
And your businesslike Committee  
With your faithful members too  
By your true co-operation  
You have proved what you can do

You have thought about our brothers  
In the Air, on land, or foam  
And have carried out your motto  
"For Country and For Home"  
And this firm bond of fellowship  
We trust may never cease  
And we wish you every happiness  
In these brighter days of peace



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## Go Club

Paul Smith ran a club for 12 years at Milton Primary School to teach children to play Go, the strategy board game from China. When the lockdown started, he began running an online club for children (and any interested parents) to play the game. It has been successful and so it will carry on meeting regularly, usually on Sunday afternoons. There are already more than 20 members but more are always welcome! He can also teach the rules online to any beginners. For more information contact Paul at [paul361smith@gmail.com](mailto:paul361smith@gmail.com) or 07503 898934.



*Photo by Jane Willis*

## Tortoise Tale

Tootsie, the sprightly 70-year-old tortoise, went missing last August but was spotted in April crawling past the finder's front door. Tortoise and owner are happily reunited.

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## Wildlife Notes

There are advantages to having one's freedom to travel severely limited, although at least I'm lucky as I've neither been told to shield nor have mobility problems. At least I have been able and permitted to go outside for a walk. I've had seven weeks from the end of March basically doing variations on a few routes either on foot or cycle, and doing them more frequently as it's been the only time out and about. It was a good time of year for this, as things change so rapidly and I've really seen spring coming this year as I've used the walking time not only to exercise my body but also my mind and take care observing.

I may have seen a couple of housemartins on 10th April, but there was a large gang of them above the north end of the Country Park on the 13th. I saw my first swallow on the Mere Way on the 17th and three in Landbeach two days later. Between those two days, the whitethroats had flooded in; the hedgerows were silent on the 17th but full of their scratchy song on the 19th. I may have heard a blackcap and willow warbler too but I'm not that good on bird song so can't be sure. Others may have seen them earlier but I saw my first swifts, above the Waggon and Horses, on 8th May. The chiff-chaffs have been cheerily chiff-chaffing since early April; one bird song that is unmistakable.

I mentioned last time birds who didn't have a tradition of using garden bird feeders now doing so. The latest is a jay. We moved the peanut feeder from a tree where it wasn't very visible as the tree came into leaf onto the pole in the middle of the lawn, and took off the anti-squirrel cage since the pole has a defensive baffle. Within a couple of days, a jay turned up. From the expert landing, elegant hops down to pick up spilled nuts and tidy flight back up onto the feeder, ours is not the first peanut feeder this jay has used. He or she is now a regular visitor. We also have a blackbird who does a kind of humming bird impression to knock seeds from the feeder onto the ground where he can pick them up.

The owl is still regularly audible in the Country Park if you are listening at the right time and at least one black squirrel is still around. A hedgehog finally came to our feeder in early May; where have they been? I've seen reports on the Milton Facebook group from those who walk in the Country Park that there are great crested grebes nesting; look out for the "humbug" chicks!

*Heather Coleman*



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## Virtual Tang Soo Do

I'm one of the Instructors that assist Master Keerie's classes on a Wednesday at Milton Community Centre. Since 23<sup>rd</sup> March, I have hosted twice weekly live virtual classes to our students & fellow instructors from my garage!

Its been really successful in keeping a small & increasing number of us going during this period. Virtual classes are by no means ideal & we all long to get back to training together again in the Community Centre (when it's safe to do so) and not have to worry about avoiding household obstacles like lamp shades, TVs & dogs when doing our kicks!

If you wish to find out more about Milton Tang Soo Do (for when classes resume), you can find us on Facebook or contact Master JG Keerie on 01954 230075.

*Simon Clarke,  
Instructor, Milton Tang Soo Do*



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