# The Clarion 

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\text { May } 2024
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The Clarion $40^{\text {th }}$ Anniversary Tree in Blossom


The Magazine for Lytchett Minster and Upton

## The Clarion

The Clarion is produced and distributed by unpaid volunteers, who form a management group. The aim of the magazine is to provide a news and information service for residents of Lytchett Minster and Upton.

Volunteer residents distribute the magazine. A subscription is called for of 30p a month for single copies or $£ 3.00$ for a year's issues to cover the costs of printing materials and some postal and telephone costs. Adult volunteers collect the annual subscriptions.

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| Editor |
| Phone 07585227419 |



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## LUBCA

Lytchett Minster and Upton Beacon Association (LUBCA) is a non-political and non-sectarian organization managed voluntary by an executive committee who are responsible for leasing, cleaning and maintaining the Centre at Upton.
The purpose of the association is to co-operate with local authorities, voluntary organisations and inhabitants in providing facilities for the recreation and leisure pursuits for the benefit of the community. The following officers from the committee can be contacted for any help or information required.


The Clarion cannot accept liability for anything printed in this magazine. Any questions should be addressed to the organisation or individual that offered the article and the Editor informed
(All telephone numbers are on the Bournemouth exchange unless otherwise stated)

## Notes from the Editor

A date for The Clarion AGM $10^{\text {th }}$ June 19.00 in St Dunstans it would be great to see you all.Please, please include a phone number in case there is a problem with your article and remember your pictures will be in black and white. If the pictures lacks contrast or are too dark regrettably I will not be able to use them

Should you wish to post or drop an article in to me at any time my address is:

> 14Overcombe Close Canford Heath
> Poole
> BH17 9E.Z
> Mobile 07585227419

Should you wish to send an attached document using E-Mail please save the document in Word.
The next stapling session will be in the Community Centre on May $28^{\text {th }}$. Just call in; we will be there from 7.15 am .

## FRIENDS \& UPTON LIBRARY FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Coffee Morning and Jigsaw Swap<br>Wednesdays 1st and 15th May 5th and 19th Junc<br>$10 \mathrm{am}-11.30 \mathrm{am}$<br>We will also be holding our AGM during the coffee morning on 1si May starting at 10.30 am<br>Please come along and find out how you can help support your library We will be electing officers for the forthcoming year<br>PEDAS

On its 100th anniversary, Poole \& East Dorset Art Society (PEDAS) celebrates the artists, events and achievements of this historic Society; a highlight of the festivities is this exhibition on the theme 'Celebrate!', with Members' work. The Gallery is situated above the tearooms in Upton Country Park on the shores of Poole Harbour. Part of Dorset Art Weeks.

Exhibition Title: 'Celebrate!' (PEDAS' 100th birthday, Dorset Art Weeks) Dates: Friday 24th May - Monday 10th June 2024

Venue: The Gallery Upstairs, Upton Country Park, Poole BHI7 7BJ
Opening times: $10 \mathrm{am}-5 \mathrm{pm}$
Lift for wheelchair access, free entry to exhibition, small parking charge
www.thegalleryupstairs,
WWw.pedas.org.uk

Minister: Rev Karen James


A Warm Welcome Awaits You Every Sunday Morning at 10.30am Everyone is Welcome,
Big Bug Club will be meeting on $12^{\text {th }}$ May \& Coffee will be served after this Service, do come \& joín us!
$5^{\text {th }}$ May
$12^{\text {th }}$ May
$19^{\text {th }}$ May
$26^{\text {th }}$ May

## SERVICES FOR MAY

Gerald Beddard
Rev David Gynes \& Big Bug Club
 Rev Tony Cavanagh -Pentecost-Holy Communion Margaret Scott- Trinity Sunday
 The Church runs an Ofsted approved Preschool every weekday. It is a happy, stimulating \& secure environment for children and their families. Warm and friendly staff encourage the children to grow in confidence, make choices and learn through play.
Please speak to Karen for more details on 07950700202
We also run our Noah's Ark Toddler Club in the Church Hall on Thursday Mornings during term time between 10am to 11.30am Children under five \& their parents/carers are very welcome.
To Contact Karen please ring 07950700202 for details.
Church Contact Details: General enquiries: Moira 07553400862

## UPTON WIVES

We did not have a speaker at our April meeting and instead Enid Prior presented a very enjoyable quiz ${ }^{\text {a }} \mathrm{My}$ name is...".

Our next meeting is on May 13th and the speaker will be Carol Norman with a ralk entitled "Keeper of Memories". Carol has visited on several occasions with interesting and humorous talks and so we are looking forward to this one.

We meet on the second Monday of the month in St Dunstans Church Lounge at 2.00 and new faces are always welcome.

## LUBCA

Charity number 1182444
Lytchett and Upton Beacon
Community Association.
Hall booking via the website
Or 07442967545 (Tues and Fri 9-12)
Or LUBCAHall@gmail.com

UPTON COMMUNITY CENTRE

wecome

Community Centre Hall Committee.
Chair Lynn Wright
01202622046
Lynnwright1952@hotmail.co.uk

A small newly decorated, re-carpeted and with new posh curtains, meeting room is available to hire. This room would seat 6-8 people and can be hired for $£ 8$ per hour at any time. Other parts of the centre are also available to hire at reasonable prices. But in September there will be a slight increase in prices of $£ 1$ or $£ 2$ per hour due to rising costs.

## Do you have any events you would like to display free of charge on our new outside notice board?

Just put a copy into our letter box on the front door of the centre (not the metal box on the side please) and we will be pleased to put them up. A4 copies only please.

Please remember the car park is for hall, church and scout hut users. Recently the car park has been over fuil with people parking all day. This is unfair to people using the facilities.

Please respect the grounds of the church and community centre by not dropping litter. Take it home, please do not leave it for our very dedicated volunteers to clear up after you. Remember there is a council litter bin about 50 paces from the car park entrance too!

The hall hosts many party celebrations both for young and old alike. However, due to poor behavior at some teenage parties we now do not accept parties for children aged over 13, but would take bookings for over 21 s . We recently increased the refundable deposit taken for parties from $£ 50$ to $£ 100$ so that any damage to the centre due to a party, could be repaired cost effectively.

Most of our party goers are very tidy and respectful of the premises, and it is lovely to see so many local people enjoying the centre.

Did you know on $21^{\text {st }}$ April it was 31 years since the centre was opened by the Duke of Kent, for the community to be run by the community volunteers?


The Quoen's dusord for Volunery Soovice

## Lynn Wright for Upton in Bloom

HORTICULTURAL SHOW DATE: $17^{\text {th }}$ August 2024.
Free Schedule out in cafes library and Town Council Offices
Plant sale in Upton Community Centre Saturday $18^{\text {th }}$ May 10-noon. Profits to Upton in Bloom Hooray! we got funding from Stanley Smith Horticultural Fund. Since its inception in 1970 the UK Trust had disbursed grants in excess of $£ 3.2 \mathrm{~m}$ to over a thousand recipients. The grant will be used to buy plants throughout the town under the Trusts aim of 'promoting the creation, development, preservation and maintenance of gardens, preferably gardens accessible to the public.

We also have worked with Bournemouth and Poole College to remake the benches in the poiytunnel, using a grant from Lytchett Minster and Upton Town Council.

## PLANT

## Saturday 18th May

10-12pm
Vegetables Herbs Annuals Perennials Refreshments

Pton Community Contre, Poole Road
Please help us make this sale a really good event for the town, by bringing any excess seedlings you may have planted or by donating plants from your garden. These can be brought in on the morning from 9am. We will be serving refreshments and holding a raffle. Plants will be reasonably priced starting from 50p.

Date of next Meeting $13^{\text {th }}$ May 2024 2pm in Upton Manor Care Home

You can contact Upton in Bloom on the links below:
Social media - Facebook - Upton in Bloom (Poole)
Twitter - @UptonInBloom
Instagram -
uptoninbloombh16 Email:Uptoninbloom@hotmail.co.uk or Lynn 01202622046

## Lytchett Minster Parish Church

We are a lively community of Christians of all ages who seek to worship God, grow in love for Him and one another and serve our local community.


You are warmly invited to join us at any of our regular Sunday services -

9.30 am Lytchett Minster Parish Church<br>11am St Dunstan's Church

During the 11am service, we have KIDS CHURCH. All children welcome. We have fun and games in the community centre for kids aged 6-13.

We also have First Steps - from 9am, every Tuesday, term-time only. A drop-in group for parents and carers with children aged 0

up!

Contact the Church Office to find out details of our Youth Programme or to hire our fantastic CJ's venue!

|  | Dates for your diary for May |  |
| :--- | :--- | :---: |
| Wed 15 th | LiNK GROUP for those recently bereaved | 1.30pm St Dunstan's |
| Sun 19m | Forest Church - Outdoor fun with food | 3pm Adventure Pirate |
| Sun 26 | Lunch \& Co for those who live alone | 12.30 St Dunstan's |

Please see our website or Facebook page for more information on groups and activities we run, from sewing to prayer, we have something for everyone!

For any enquiries, please contact the Church Office 01202624622

| Rector - Rev Matt Simpson | 01202632681 |
| :--- | :--- |
| Curate - Rev Michelle Cobley | 07771902302 |
| Church Warden (Carole): | 01202621509 |

CHURCH OFFICE OPEN 9am - 1pm Tues, Weds and Fri
(Poole Road, Upton)
WEB: www.lytchettminsterchurch.co.uk
EMAIL: churchoffice,1@btconnect.com

## From the Registers

## Baptism -_Lola and Sienna Irwin - 17th March

If you would like us to remember you or someone you love in our prayers please do contact the
Parish Office or a member of clergy.

## It's good to talk - and not always about the weather!

So many of the people tha" I have met recently have started their conversations with me with the question "When is this rain ever going to stop?" I have to admit that it does feel like we have had an awful lot of rain since recently. But, are we ever happy in this country with the weather that we are experiencing and if we were - what on earth would we talk about? According to internet research - "The weather and our fascination with talking about the it nas been puzzling outsiders for decades. According to recent research, 94\% of British respondents admit to having conversed about the weather in the past six hours, while $38 \%$ say they have in the past 60 minutes"


That quote got me thinking. What if we stopped using our conversation time chatting about something over which we have no control, and chatted to people about things that really matter, into which we could have some input, or maybe just help someone by offering a listening ear. Recently I have been privileged to spend some very special time with some people who have recently been bereaved, and who are still in the time where nothing is making much sense and the practical aspects of loss have taken up a lot of time. The ability to grieve and start to process what has occurred has been somewhat pushed into the background in favour of the practicalities.

These people really appreciated being able to talk about what was concerning them at the time - and it wasn't the endless rain! I wonder how often we use talking about the rain as an avoidance of actually asking how our neighbours are feeling, or what is on the mind of a colleague. There is so much more to life other than the weather and we can't change it anyway - we must just dress accordingly and carry on!

If you feel that you would like to meet people and be able to talk about something a bit more meaningful than the rain, there are a range of activities available to any member of the community at your churches. For anyone who is lonely, or just feels that it would be nice to meet new friends and chat, we have our afternoon tea and cakes group held at 4 pm on the first Friday of each month at CJs (the hall in the right-hand corner of the car park at the Parish Church, Lytchett Minster.) and a light lunch 12.30 on each $4^{\text {th }}$ Sunday at St, Dunstan's. We also have our 'Link Group' for anyone who is at any stage in the process of bereavement or coming to terms with loss. This group is held at St Dunstan's Church Lounge each $3^{\text {rd }}$ Wednesday of the month from 1.30pm. There is a varied plan of talks and sessions for the group throughout the year as well as time for one-to-one talks. There is always tea and cake at these meetings and there is no charge to attend. For younger people there is a youth group each week on Tuesday evenings 6.30 pm (years 7-11) at CIs where our young people find fun, friends, and fellowship - our youth leadership team encourage a wide variety of discussions and lead some fun activities each week. Each week on Friday at 2pm there is a prayer meeting at St. Dunstan's where our prayer team members are always pleased to be able to welcome new members or visitors who are need of prayer support.

There are many more groups and opportunities open to all - contact the church to find out what we can offer you - if you need to talk - we are here to listen. 01202624622

Rev. Michelle Cobley
Asst. Curate - The Benefice of the Lytchetts and Upton

## Upton Library News

## May Half term - Under the Sea story and craft session

 Wednesday $29^{\text {th }}$ May $3.30-4.30 \mathrm{pm}$. Suitable for ages $3+$ with adult assistance. All places must be booked in advance with the library.Please email uptonlibrary@dorsetcounci\}.gov.uk to book your places, giving the names of the children and a contact phone number.
Cuppa and company sessions take place every Monday afternoon, $2.30-4.45 \mathrm{pm}$. Come along for a free drink and a biscuit.

Digital Champion sessions are held here in the library on alternate Monday afternoons, with free 45 minute 1-2-1 sessions. Places must be booked in advance. Call into the library or ring 01305221048 to book.

Citizen's Advice Purbeck offer a drop-in session every Wednesday afternoon $2-4 \mathrm{pm}$ in the library - . no need to book for this session, just turn up.

Rhyme Time - Wednesdays for babies and toddlers $2.15 \mathrm{pm}-$ 2.40 pm , with a collection of rhymes and songs to join in with. This is a drop-in session.

Lego and Duplo clubs are every Friday, 3.30-4.45pm and Saturday mornings 9.30-11.30am. No need to book - just drop in.

The Friends of the Library run a coffee morning on the first and third Wednesday morning of each month - along with a small book sale and jigsaw swap.

The Dorset councillors for the area hold a surgery in the library the first Saturday of each month, 10-11.30am. No need to book, just come along and discuss any issues.

Opening times - Mon 2-5, Tues 9.30-12.30, Wed 9.30-12.30 then 2-6.30, Fri 2-5 and Sat 9-12.30 Lisa and Janet 01202623744

Prex. Lytchett Minster School

## May 2024

## Lytchett Minster School

Lytchett Minster School has long been recognised as an incredible learning environment with its stunning 200 year-old Manor House and state-of-the-art facilities - including the performing and creative arts block, the science laboratories, the Design and Technology workshops, and extensive sport facilities. In recent years however, it has also become a popular wedding venue.

I recently had the pleasure of attending a very special wedding at the school. The 160 guests, some of whom had travelled from as far afield as Australia, Denmark, Switzerland and the Cayman Islands, were in awe of the setting. They could not believe this was a state school, with a grand Manor House at the front and immaculately maintained grounds. We gathered for welcome drinks and nibbles in the Pavilion with its majestic views across the site and beyond to the Purbeck hills. Following this, we were invited into the wood-panelled Gallery in the Manor House for the wedding ceremony, where the happy couple made their vows under an arch of white roses, observed by 100 guests sat on the ground floor and another 60 standing around the balcony on the first floor. There then followed further drinks and the obligatory family photos on the terrace to the side of the Manor House, looking out over the lawn, framed as it is by two 300 year-old Cedar of Lebanon trees and an enormous London plain tree. The Secret (walled) Garden was also used for romantic photos of the bridal couple. The reception then followed in the specially decorated dining hall with all three delicious courses provided by the school's catering team and served by our great team of sixth form students. The evening entertainment took place back in the main Manor House with the Sixth Form Café converted into a cosy bar area and the old Gallery converted into a dance hall. It was a very special wedding and a very successful, happy day.

There is no doubt that Lytchett Minster School (formerly known as South Lytchett Manor) is an amazing venue for weddings. If you or your friends are looking for a beautiful, affordable wedding venue, please peruse the weddings page on our school website ( www.lytchett.org.uk/facilities-hire/weddings-at-lytchett ) or contact our Wedding Organiser, Nicky Thorne via weddings@lytchett.org.uk.

## News from Westminster

Last month I hosted a group of work experience students in the constituency office. Ten students from six different schools gave up a week of their Easter holiday to gain an insight into the world of local and national politics.

A few years ago, I was the chairman of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Youth Employment, and it was clear from our research that it is important that young people can have the opportunity to see first-hand how the skills and knowledge they are developing at school can be transferred into the work place.

My staff and I arrange a varied programme of activities which are both interesting, and reflect the types of work my staff and I do on a regular basis. This involves some of the more mundane administrative tasks like putting hundreds of letters into envelopes and delivering leaflets, as well as the highlights! During the week, the young people had the chance to ask questions of a member of the House of Lords in a virtual $Q$ \& $A$; chat to $m y$ staff about what it is like to work in the seat of our democracy in Parliament; find out about being a local Town or Dorset Councillor; and chat to me about their plans for their future careers. They asked me about being a local MP and Cabinet Minister, and we challenge them too - we ask them to imagine they are in charge. What laws would they change? What would they ban? How would they react to differing demands on their time? What would they do to solve various national issues? If they could be Prime Minister, who would they choose to be in the Cabinet?

They also take part in a Parliamentary-style debate on an issue that might particularly affect young people. This time they chose the legalisation of cannabis - a controversial topic! As expected, it was a lively debate, with well-researched arguments on both sides. They all contributed, including intervening on their colleagues, and challenging the points made, before a final vote.

They've also been drafting some news items for my email newsletter and website, learning about the media side of being an MP. All this is combined with biscuits and cake, and I will be inviting them to Parliament to see Government in action later this term.
I hope to host another work experience week in the summer - if you want to know more about what the students did this week, and how they felt about it, please do have a look on my website where you can find their diary entries for the week.
I continue to hold regular surgeries in the constituency so please do get in touch if there is something you need help with, or if you'd like me to visit your organisation or business. Email me on michael.tomlinson.mp@parliament.uk or contact my office on 01202624216. You can also follow what live been doing on Facebook wuvu.facebook.com/michaels,MDNP or on my website ww. michaeliomlinson.org.uk

It's that time of year again when the beautiful Spring flowers are on show bringing an abundance of colour to Upton for everybody to enjoy. There is a lot going on this year and everybody is getting ready for the big events including the Art Strand who are very much in the throws of preparing for them.
Easter decorations are being packed away for another year. We hope you enjoyed all the Easter Festivities, especially the hunt for the little chickens that were hidden for you to find. We certainly enjoyed the photos that were sent in and a big thank you to everybody that took part.
Our next venture is preparing for the RNLI 200 years celebrations this year so look out for the new mural, figurines and postbox toppers around the Parish. If you would like to be involved in the creation of these paintings we would love to have more help.
Along with this it is the 80 year anniversary of D Day when there is lots going on in the Parish to celebrate on the 8 June and like last year the Art Strand will be running a free craft stall where anyone can come along and take part in producing a large piece of work for displaying in the mural garden.
We are also planning a new mural and would love some military advice and help in achieving a mural that will reach out to everybody in honouring this great day to be displayed in the town.

It is good to be reaching out to the community and we look forward to working together in bringing new art to Upton and Lytchett Minster.


Beacon Association Community Art
tele: 01202623493 or 07818494371
Email: communityartsouptonandlytheit. org
Facebook Lytchett Minster and Upton Community Art

# Our History: Exploring the Rich History of Lycheit Minsier \& Upłon by Martyn Brown 

## A Legacy of Faith and Community: The Story of the Lees Family

In 1890, Sir Elliott Lees, a Baronet and MP, acquired land in Dorset and settled in South Lytchett Manor, which now houses Lytchett Minster School. Following his passing, his second son, John, inherited the title. Despite much of the Holton land being requisitioned by the Royal Navy during World War I for a cordite factory, the family retained East Holton Farm, later known as Holton Lee. The Manor was requisitioned again during World War II, leading Sir John and Lady Madeline to relocate to Post Green House in Lytchett Minster

Lady Madeline gained fame for producing ITV films on biblical themes involving the entire village, even featuring a borrowed camel. Their faith was tested when their eldest son perished, yet they forgave his killer and welcomed him into their home after the war. Their second son, Thomas, and his wife, Faith, took over in 1955

In the mid-1960s, Tom and Faith initiated a Bible study group, which expanded significantly with the arrival of evangelist Jean Darnall. They extended hospitality to those in need, accommodating up to 25 individuals in their home. Eventually, this led to the formation of the Post Green Community, providing support and care to others in the local community.

Recognizing the significance of Holton's land, Sir Tom declined a lucrative offer from a developer, instead establishing the East Holton Charity in 1992. This charity, renamed Holton Lee, focused on environmental and arts programs for disabled individuals. Sir Tom later married Christine Kelleway in 1998, and his son Christopher succeeded him upon his passing in 2016.

The Post Green Community, stemming from Tom and Faith Lees' desire to assist strangers, blossomed into a hub of support and care. Volunteers began renovating Holton Farmhouse in the 1970s, preparing the land for Christian camps. By the early 1980s, the community had expanded, attracting individuals through its inclusive and sacrificial lifestyle, characterized by shared resources and fervent prayer.

The Lees family's journey is not just a historical narrative but a testament to enduring faith, compassion, and the power of community.

## Local Artist Still Painting in $\mathbf{1 0 0}^{\text {th }}$ Year

Dennis Hill, the longest serving member of Broadstone Art Society, is again exhibiting some of his 'timeless' art works in the first of two exhibitions in Broadstone this year. What some may regard as remarkable is the fact he is in his 100th year!

Dennis, who lives in Broadstone, has been a member of the local society for most of its long history, joining in the mid 1950's. The club celebrated its $70^{\text {th }}$ Anniversary last year.

Many artists from the society will be exhibiting their latest and original works in the first of two exhibitions at the Youth Centre Gallery in Moor Road, Broadstone during the next half term between Saturday $25^{\text {th }}$ May and Sunday $2^{\text {nd }}$ June 2024.

Artworks will represent a wide range from styles that are Figurative to Abstract and from subjects that are observed to those that are imagined utilising a diversity of materials and including 3 -dimensional pieces. All are available for viewing and most available for sale. There is something for everyone. A special category this time will show visual artwork inspired by another art form - music. This will reflect how a particular song might be represented as well as how a tune might inspire visual effects.

Simon Merry from Broadstone Art Society says "We hope the exhibition will prove popular and visitors will spend a little time finding what they like amongst the work of local artists".

The exhibition can be seen at The Youth Centre in Tudor Road, Broadstone, open between 10 and 4 daily from Saturday $24^{\text {th }}$ May to Saturday $1^{\text {st }}$ June and until midday on Sunday $2^{\text {nd }}$ June.

## UPTON AND LYTCHETT U3A

As the year moves on and, having now arrived at the glorious month of May, Upton and Lytchett U3A continues to organise different kinds of events and introduce new groups to our members.

We are pleased that we are now able to offer over 35 different groups covering a wide range of activities and interests, such as:

Active groups - including Walking, Table Tennis, Petanque and Tai Chi.
Classic groups - including History of Art, Classic Books and Poetry.
Leisure Groups - including Mah Jong, Chess and Bridge.
Nature Groups -- including Bird Watching and Garden Visits.
Language Groups - including French and German.
We would particularly commend to you two of our recently formed Leisure groups, Play Reading and Photography, which still have spaces and would be delighted to welcome new members.

The groups mentioned above are, of course, just a small selection of what's on offer so, for more information, please visit our website by searching for Upton \& Lytchett u3a and clicking on Groups. We are sure that you will find something to interest you there and we look forward to welcoming you into our community.

## Castle Players present Love at the Musicals

After a four year break due to the time that shall not be named in 2022, it was an extremely successful panto season (oh yes it was!) with Dick Whittington, written and directed by Linsey O'Neill. It was amazing to be back in friont of the family audiences with lots of children joining in the audience number and lots of people coming forward saying they want to be involved. Pantos really are great when there's lots of people involved!

Moving onto our Spring production, Castle Players will be presenting a variety show - Love at the Musicals. With lots of singing, sketches and entertainment, for two nights you can come and enjoy yourselves and get immersed in all of your favourites! The show runs on the 10th and 11th May at 7:30pm in Lytchett Matravers Village Hall. You can get tickets on our website at www.castleplayers.com/tickets - we hope to see you there!

## Group visits at Livability Millie College

Are you a member of a U3A or WI group? Perhaps you support a charity, community or youth organisation or work in a school. Then our Holton Lee site is opening to you.

The 350 -acre nature reserve is home to Livability Millie College, which supports young people aged 16 to $25+$ with a range of learning and physical disabilities.

To support students' learning we are now taking enquiries for group visits to the site. This will enable students to practise and apply skills developed through the curriculum to workrelated experiences.

We can offer a variety of enterprise experiences from conservation walks, encounters with our rescue animals or creative arts and crafts activities to suit different group interests. Our site also lends itself to educational activities supporting curriculum themes.

If you would like to find out more, emailapearsall@livability.org.uk or book on to one of our upcoming events to get a feel for the experiences and group visits we can offer.

15 May - Explore Tour, £5 - Enjoy a guided tour of the site, stopping at the bird hides overlooking Poole Harbour. Learn about the college's garden development project, meet our rescue animals and round off your visit with a hot drink and homemade cake in our student-run cafe, Faith's Kitichen.

17 May - Explore and Draw Experience, $£ 20$ - A 2.5 -hour creative workshop for aspiring or experienced artists. Be inspired by Holton Lee's natural landscape on a walk round the site to collate ideas for your sketches, before putting pencil to paper.

More details and tickets available athttps://livability-millie-college.square.site Kindest regards


Did you guess the month/year photo of the Clock Tower shown in the APRIL 2024 edition was taken.

One or two clues might have given the year - e.g. the bunting.
The year was 2018 and month was July

## Lytchett Minister \& Upton Allotment Association.

We are all busy on our plots planting in anticipation of a good year of vegetable and fruit production. This wet and cold weather is not helping with germination, but things are starting to grow. Potatoes are coming through, carrots, beetroot, radishes are coming up.

The first pickings of asparagus are happening \& Rhubarb harvesting is in full swing.
We have plots of different sizes starting from just $£ 35$ for the year, currently we have a small waiting list if would like to add your name to the list then please email the address below.

Please email unmaa99@gmailcom if you would like to take on a plot or would like more details about having a plot.
Or follow us on Facebook

## Home Library Service

Calling All Book Lovers!
A popular home library service, run by Royal Voluntary Service, the national volunteering organisation is looking to grow its service for housebound readers in the Dorset and BCP Council area

The Home Library Service brings books to people who can no longer get to a library. It operates from most libraries in Dorset, Poole and Bournemouth.

Volunteers deliver books and talking books, and share their love of reading with the people they visit. They are a friendly face and a regular visitor to those whose mobility and social interactions are limited, and they provide a useful check on the safety and well-being of their readers too.

The Home Library Service is delivered free of charge; it is not only for older people, but for anybody who finds getting to the library difficult, including carers.

To find out more or to request the service please contact the Royal Voluntary Service office on 01305 236666, or email Maria on maria.jacobson@royalvoluntaryservice.org.uk.

Alternatively, you can speak to the staff at your local library.


Chairman: Len Roff :
01202622887
Vice Chairman: Fred
Drane 01202385114
Treasurer: Andrew
Starr: 01202631161 Secretary: Sandra
Williams 01202624561

By the time you get to read this piece Keep Upton Tidy will have conducted the Upton Spring 2024 Litter Pick. Unfortunately as we go to press we are not in a position to provide a report on the event. As I write though I will be hoping for better ( and drier!) weather than we have seen over these past few months. A report will be made in next month's edition.

Now we are (supposedly) entering the sunnier and warmer months people will be out and about more. We should always remember to take our litter home to minimise mess and any endangerment to wildlife.

If you have not been able to join us for the Litter Pick there are plenty of local events going on so keep a lookout for these in case you are able to attend. Meanwhile the Keep Upton Tidy Facebook page is another place to catch up on developments - See below for the link:
https://www.facebook.com/groups/963709358062270
We always hope to see new people at our meetings which are held a few times a year. If interested give one of us a call. You would not be expected to be officers ( unless you would like to be of course) but could bring new ideas to the table.

Meanwhile if there are major litter problems in your area notify the Council first. If you have difficulty in having any such issues resolved let us know (contacts are above) and we will make the appropriate authorities aware.

Richard Ealey<br>Communications Officer<br>Keep Upton Tidy

## Chiming In

By Bob Doubles

My journey into the bell-ringing world started at the end of 2019. I was always under the assumption that ringing a bell was all about brute force! it very quickly became apparent, after some mild rope burns and breaking two bell stays, (effectively the bell's emergency brake), that brute force was not the way forward! (Listening to your teachers always helps!)

Putting that behind me, I then proceeded to learn the art of bell control, being taught by some excellent instructors. After some time and once I had regained my confidence, I was able to join in ringing basic rounds, followed by simple call changes. (This is when the bell you are ringing changes place in the order eg. Instead of 1,2,3,4,5,6 it becomes 2,3,1,4,5,6)

The next hurdle came when I was introduced to the first step in change ringing "Plain Hunt" (when all the bells change their place simultaneously). At first, my eyes tended to glaze over after being given what looked like a whole load of telephone numbers to learn. The 'telephone numbers' basically tell you which bell to follow in each round of ringing. After struggling with this for quite a while, it gradually started to make sense, ie. hunting up or hunting down (moving your bell up or down the order in which the bells are ring at each stroke) and the different speeds involved.

Feeling quite confident ringing Plain Hunt using numbers, I was then told that you should count your place in the round and try to forget about the numbers. I could see the logic in this as it does make it simpler, as not so many numbers need to be memorised, but the transition from numbers to places did get a bit confusing. I'm not fully there yet, but progress is being made! I know that most of the 'old school' ringers say you should not learn by numbers, but in reality, most learners these days learn the numbers first. Maybe all this explains why I often wake up in the early hours with a head full of numbers and counting places!

I have also found it very helpful to visit different towers and ring alongside experts, concentrating on certain 'methods' eg. Bob Doubles and Grandsire.
I must say, I am in awe of some of the expert ringers as they seem to be able to ring with their eyes closed but I am fairly certain that they were all learners once!

I fully intend to carry on with my ringing journey and I am so pleased and proud to be part of the bell ringing community as everyone is so friendly, welcoming and helpful. I just hope I have enough years left in me!

Onwards and upwards as they say!
Robin Smith, Lychett Minster bellringer.
PS. On Easter Sunday before the service, the Lytchett Minster bellringers rang the method "Grandsire" for the first time in a very long time and Robin took part in the half hour of ringing it. It was a Milestone moment....

## BPOU ETMS OTFFEREMCS

Can you spot the 9 differences between these two pictures?


## Across

1. Intolerant Type
2. Ahead Of Schedule
3. Gave Cough Medicine To

## Down

1. Boxer, For One
2. Encircles With A Belt
3. Dallied (with)

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