

MVN

MILLAND VALLEY NEWS

AUTUMN | SEPTEMBER 2025 | No 176

Royal British Legion Milland branch

Alison Parker



Over many years a dedicated band of collectors have walked the lanes of Milland and its surrounding hamlets to collect for the Royal British Legion annual Poppy Appeal. We have always punched well above our weight for a small community, consistently raising well over £2,000 pa.

Our habits have changed, however, especially since the Covid pandemic, and fewer people are at home when collectors call; many more have already bought their poppy on the high street and fewer people have actual cash to put in the tin.

To that end, I am going to change the way that we in the village raise money for the Poppy Appeal. Hollycombe School will still receive their box of goodies and there will still be collection boxes in both the Riser and the shop.

In addition, thanks to the generosity of the Milland Stores board, I am planning to run a stall outside the shop on Saturday, 25th October to sell poppies together with some extra items. There will be a cashless terminal!

I do hope you will put the date in your diary and come to support your local branch of the Royal British Legion.

Neighbourhood policing

PCSO Nathan Ford

The local neighbourhood policing team are hosting an open door meet and greet at the Milland Village shop on the 08/09/2025, starting at 10:00am until 11:30am. Please do come and speak to us if you would like to share any concerns about our community or discuss how we're tackling local issues. PCSO Ford will be in attendance, who has coved the aera for the last 5 years, and is keen to speak with locals.

Can't make it in person? No worries - you can reach us anytime:

- Online support and non-urgent reporting available 24/7
- Call 101 for non-emergencies
- In an emergency call 999



Milland History Exhibition 2025

Lorraine Grocott and Isabella Morton-Smith

Isabella and I are delighted to say that we will be holding another Milland History Exhibition weekend at the end of October.

Last year we collaborated with Stedham, who provided a very interesting display about the paper mill at Stedham from Tony Snelling, Coultershaw Heritage Site and from Dawn Cansfield who provided a very detailed survey of the graves and graveyard at Stedham Church. We hope you found these interesting. We also had displays from Hollycombe Steam Fair and information about the link between the ancient Linch Church on the Downs at Bepton and our St Luke's Church at Linch. There is so much history that we know about in this area but there is also so much history that comes to light when we put on these exhibitions.

This year we are reaching out to our neighbouring parishes at Liphook and Rogate to see if they can provide a display. Many new members of our community will be interested in seeing the local history of Milland, and many older members of the community always enjoy reminding themselves of our past. If you have anything you would like to add to the display, even on a temporary basis, this would be appreciated.

If you are interested in helping, either setting up or at the weekend, please get in touch.

Isabella on Tel: 01428 741393 or Lorraine on Tel: 01428 741393 or M: 07811 885572.



Milland Bonfire & Fireworks

Saturday 1st November

A whole evening of Entertainment
Bar, Hog Roast and other food options

Milland Recreation Ground

Gates open at 6.00pm

Free admission for children under 5

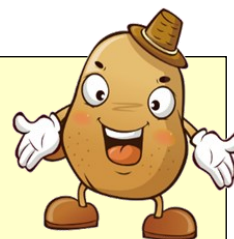
Advanced tickets available from
Milland Stores and The Rising Sun

Reminder

Potato in a Pot Competition

Weigh-in Saturday 6th September outside Milland Village Shop. Bring your pot, with foliage and pot contents undisturbed.

The potatoes are yours to collect after 11.30am, to cook, eat and enjoy.



MILLAND VALLEY NEWS

is delivered free to every household in the parish of Milland and by subscription to other areas. Views expressed in *Milland Valley News* are not necessarily those of the Editor or of the Editorial Team.

Editor:

Mark Keohane (01428 741637 or 07803 951921)
(mark@markkeohane.com)

Treasurer:

Diane Collier
(Diane.Collier@gmx.co.uk)

Designer:

Alison Ireland (fakireland@me.com)

Distribution:

John Collier
(jdcollier1955@gmail.com)

Copyright: Milland Valley News

Advertising and flyers

Deadline for submission of advertising copy:

Friday 7th November 2025

Please note, ads are required as print-ready, jpeg images in one of three standard sizes. Help with preparation is available for a nominal charge. Please allow extra time when submitting if this help is needed.

Editorial deadline

Deadline for articles for the next issue:
Friday 7th November 2025.

Send copy for ads, articles and photos to Mark Keohane at
(mark@markkeohane.com)

Milland Valley News subscriptions

MVN is available by subscription for those outside the free delivery area. For details, please contact John Collier
Email: (jdcollier1955@gmail.com)
Mobile 07836 535886

Community contacts (01428 unless otherwise shown)

If you know of any changes to these contacts, please inform the Editor.

Milland Mem. Hall bookings:	Bookings Clerk,	07500 510709
	Chairman: Andy Haslam,	07887 721346
Borden Village Hall bookings:	Sara	07717 043817
	bordenvillagehall@gmail.com	
Redford Hall bookings:	Marion Hansford	07740 192951
Milland Parish Council:	Clerk: Viki Williams,	07792 498087
County Councillor:	Yvonne Gravely,	
	Email : yvonne.gravely@west.sussex.gov.uk	
District Councillors:	Brett Burkhardt,	07876 594168
	Eleanora Newbery,	656941
Member of Parliament:	Andrew Griffith	
	email: andrew.griffith.mp@parliament.uk	
Rector for Milland and Linch:	Rev Trish Bancroft,	741285
Milland Stores:	Kriszta Sloan,	741066
Milland Sports Club:	Justin Whitehouse,	07752 658847
Milland Tennis Club:	Mark Dumas	07971 087305
Milland Valley Nursery School:	Jo Mealey	07876 260780
Hollycombe Primary School:	Head: Louise Pearce,	741332
Rake CE First School:	Head: David Bertwistle,	01730 892126
Model Railway Club:	David Pike,	07880 518628
Village Boules Club:	Colin Stopher,	741231
Wildflower Group:	Sue Strike,	01730 821783
Police:	Non-emergency: 101 (emergency 999)	
Liphook Herald:	Gabrielle Pike,	01252 899296
Power cuts (SSE):	call	105 or 0800 072 7282

Regulars at Milland Valley Memorial Hall

See also www.millandvillagehall.co.uk

If you would like to enquire about a regular hire session please contact mvmh.enquiries@gmail.com

(Please let the Editor know if your group makes any changes)

Milland Valley Nursery School: Monday –Thursday, 9am–3pm

Jo Mealey, 07876 260780

Yoga: Monday, 6.15 – 7.15pm Angela Thompson, 07961 127061

Yoga: Tuesday, 7.00 – 8.30pm Lorraine Grocott, 01428 741393

Pilates: Wednesday, 6.15–7.15pm Zannah Charman-Lambert, 07710 328844

Tap Class Thursday 6.30-7.30pm Gina Van Dyke

Pre-School Music Class Friday: 9:15am-11:15 am Shirley Stump 07970 202473

Liphook District Model Railway Club: Friday, 8–10.00pm, Committee Room

Nick Harling

Ballet Classes: Saturday mornings 9am-1.30pm Kirsty Pritchard

theballetacademymilland@gmail.com

Village Boules at Sports Club Wednesday mornings,

10.15am-12.30pm Colin Stopher, 741231

Community websites

Milland parish council website:	www.milland-wsx-pc.gov.uk
Milland parish Facebook:	www.facebook.com/millandcommunity
Churches website:	www.beneficeoflinchmillandstedham.co.uk
Milland Memorial Hall:	www.millandvillagehall.co.uk
Milland Stores :	www.millandstores.co.uk
Milland Evangelical Church:	www.millandevangelical.org.uk
Milland Volunteers:	www.millandvolunteers.co.uk

Well, hello everyone. I hope you're enjoying this incredible summer. I'm staying put for now, departing for Italy in September when it's cooler here but where it should still be nice and warm in the region of Puglia.

You'll find inside a notably interesting blend of items covering nature, science, history, current affairs, crime, local interest...and even AI makes – as far as I know – its first MVN appearance.

An article in the last issue stimulated some...er... comment and debate about its accuracy. I won't be specific but I'll say this: local history items are most welcome but I can't be responsible for the accuracy of every piece that gets published. I have to rely on authors' own research and I remind readers of the disclaimer on page 2. If you wish to challenge the accuracy of pieces herein or to me, please do it respectfully and politely. Thanks!

Sadly, the shop has been burgled. A report inside. Stories like this are depressing. To help the shop bounce back, **please consider the appeal for more volunteers** to keep the shop running with its current opening hours. I've said before; we love living here but it takes effort and participation to keep it the way it is.

More encouragingly, I'm aware of the starting up of two new businesses. Christine Hopps, who owns a mobile coffee bar, is teaming up with forager Megan Howlett to offer sauna experiences as Copper Glow Sauna at Home Farm; a full article will be in the next issue. And young Jack Appleton has started a bike refurbishing business; details inside. I bumped into Jack's mum, Josie Dew, while out on a walk with a friend of mine. Josie told me of Jack's venture and my friend and I reckoned we had four bikes between us that Jack could take in and bestow some TLC on. There should be no shortage of work for the young man.

The evenings are drawing in a bit; a good chance for some stargazing perhaps, as the nights descend earlier and grow darker. See the Stargazer's usual informative column for vital guidance.

I'm sure most of you will have noticed the endless stream of water down Milland lane and wondered at the cause. Wonder no more. Jeremy Parker provides the answers in a fascinating piece that covers, if you can believe it, continental drift, soil geology and a bill for half a million quid.

With the temperature, on the day I write, hitting the upper 20s, it's hard to start thinking of bonfire night. Yet we must for it will be upon us before the next issue is, er, issued. I can state with confidence that it will be roaring success. Please volunteer to help in some way, with setting up, tearing down or during the event or even as part of the team that makes it happen every year. A lot of work is required and the more help the easier it gets. If you want to be a part of it you can speak to [John Collier](#) on **07836 535886**. He and his team will be delighted to accept any help you can offer.

There is always talk of speed limits on our local roads and many of you will have noticed the removal of the national speed limit between Liphook and the top of Milland Lane. Isn't it strange that you are limited to 40 mph on a wide, well-paved road yet able to turn onto the narrow carriageway of Milland Lane and accelerate to 60?

Well, there are moves afoot to address this, though in the early stages. Stay tuned. Coming down said Milland Lane a couple of months ago, I was thwarted by the famed Brakes lorry, which I ended up following, along with several cars. An impasse of sorts formed as a building materials lorry came up the lane. It took me fully 20 minutes to travel the length of Milland Lane. Noone seems able to persuade Brakes to make their drivers follow a more sensible and resident-friendly route.

Finally, Viki Williams has announced that she is stepping down as clerk after five years. I had the pleasure of interviewing Viki a few years ago for the MVN. She is a truly remarkable person and has made an outstanding contribution to the village in her clerking and as an enthusiastic volunteer at village events. Viki; you will be a tough act to follow. Because I have my own column I have the editor's privilege of publicly thanking you and wishing you well.

See you next time for the Christmas issue!

Blackbird TLC Chrissie May

Recently I have been conducting a survey of blackbirds. As was mentioned in June's MVN, in an article by Val Porter, blackbirds have been reported to be in trouble in urban areas that is decimating them in some places.

This decline has been linked to the recent appearance of a mosquito-borne virus affecting the species in England

You can read about this on the British Trust for Ornithology (bto) website:- bto.org - to find the link to

the blackbirds in garden survey which has been active since this April until Sept I am pleased to say the more rural areas such as here in Milland so far are disease-free.

Although the recent spell of very hot and dry weather has made life even harder for most wild birds with the ground being so hard for lack of rain during the very hot spell so the blackbirds have been bringing their nestlings (at least two nesting pairs and their young of three or four) into the garden and begging for food.

The male blackbird seems to do the bulk of feeding the young and is very attentive. They have taken well to soaked soft sultanas which is a recommended good source of energy, especially for the young fledglings, and I have been putting water out daily which they have all enjoyed drinking and bathing in, and sunbathing with their wings outstretched to dry.

One young blackbird has become rather overfriendly and when I left the door open followed me into the house asking for more! It let me pick it up and carry it out before it realised that wasn't such a wise move and panicked and flew into a window or worse.

I was pleased we didn't have our cat Boris around at the time as he wouldn't have been very impressed! (we sadly lost our beautiful Boris just before Christmas) He was known to visit quite a few of the neighbours in West Meade!

One warm evening I sat outside as the day cooled and said friendly young blackbird jumped up on the patio table and sat next to me on the chair and happily perched there and fell asleep having earlier had its supper of sultanas and a flutter in the bird bath. So I grabbed my phone and got this picture.



Field, Moor & Stream



Classic Tweeds • Gore-tex • Loden • Leather • Boots
Caps • Shirts • Socks • Knitwear • Wellingtons
Shooting & Dog Accessories • Exclusive Gifts

A272 Hampshire / West Sussex County Border
WESTMARK COTTAGE Midhurst Road
Telephone 01730 263477



Clippings from the Clerk's cabinet

- * Following some changeable, but at times glorious weather, it is my pleasure once again to report on the work of the Parish Council.
- * The draft minutes of the July full council meeting have been placed on the notice board in the village hall car park and on the website.
- * Thank you for all the continued feedback regarding speed reduction throughout the parish. As part of this initiative, I am pleased to confirm that the application for a reduction to 20mph for Borden Wood has now been approved and should be implemented shortly; many thanks to Cllr Morton who worked tirelessly to get the application over the line. The council is very aware of the concerns regarding Milland and Wardley Lanes and is now focusing on investigating whether a speed reduction could also be achieved for them. All of these applications require community involvement and support so please do get in touch if you are interested.
- * The last Milland Meet Up took place on Wednesday 13th August 10am-11.30am at the Milland Stores coffee shop. These mornings continue to be well supported and offer a great opportunity to have an informal chat with councillors. Chair of the council, Cllr Myles, has emphasised the importance of these gatherings both as a means of providing face to face contact with councillors and as a way of providing company for residents who may not have the opportunity to meet up with people on a regular basis. **Please do come along for a free coffee and a chat if you can. We would love to see you.**
- * Following a great deal of interest in the wonderful Milland Welcome Pack prepared by Cllr Parker and hand delivered to all new residents, the council has decided to print some extra copies to sell at cost in the shop.
- * Lastly it is with a heavy heart that I announce that this will be my last clippings as I have made the difficult decision to step down as clerk. As many of you know I have kept on clerking alongside another job. After nearly five years serving Milland Parish Council it has not been an easy decision to make and one to which I have given much thought for some time. I am extremely proud of the time I have spent with the council and everything that all councillors have achieved. I wish the council, councillors and the new clerk every success in the future and know that they will continue to inspire and work positively for the people of the parish.
- * Please refer to the website www.milland-wsx-pc.gov.uk for council and local information. Next full council meeting to be held Wednesday 10th September 2025 at Milland Memorial Hall at 6pm

Milland Weather Stats

John Gilliard

(Stats courtesy of the Pollards weather station)

May 2025

Highest Temperature	29.1 deg C 1 st
Lowest night temperature	2.3 deg C 10 th
Strongest wind	21 mph 25 th
Highest daily rainfall	7.7 mm 27 th
Monthly rainfall	21 mm

June 2025

Highest Temperature	30.9 deg C 30 th
Lowest night temperature	7.6 deg C 2 nd
Strongest wind	20 mph 3 rd
Highest daily rainfall	17.2 mm 7 th
Monthly rainfall	50.0 mm

July 2025

Highest Temperature	32.7 deg C 1 st
Lowest night temperature	5.7 deg C 3 rd
Strongest wind	22 mph 15 th
Highest daily rainfall	25.1 mm 31 st
Monthly rainfall	79.6 mm

Classic car corner Jack Appleton

Chevrolet stylemaster 1946

Origin: USA

Engine: Straight six

Top speed: 80 mph

The US's best-selling car was a competitively-priced, pre-war-styled machine whose Stove-bolt Six engine dated back to 1937



architecture Ltd

engineering

Architecture
Interior design
Structural engineering

t: 01428 741671
m: 07734 703777
e: mail@engarc.co.uk

The Institution of Structural Engineers

www.engarc.co.uk

RIBA

Find us on

P

PRICE'S

DECORATION & PROPERTY MAINTENANCE

ALL ASPECTS OF
INTERIOR & EXTERIOR
DECORATING
TILING
PLUMBING REPAIRS
& GENERAL
HOUSEHOLD
MAINTENANCE

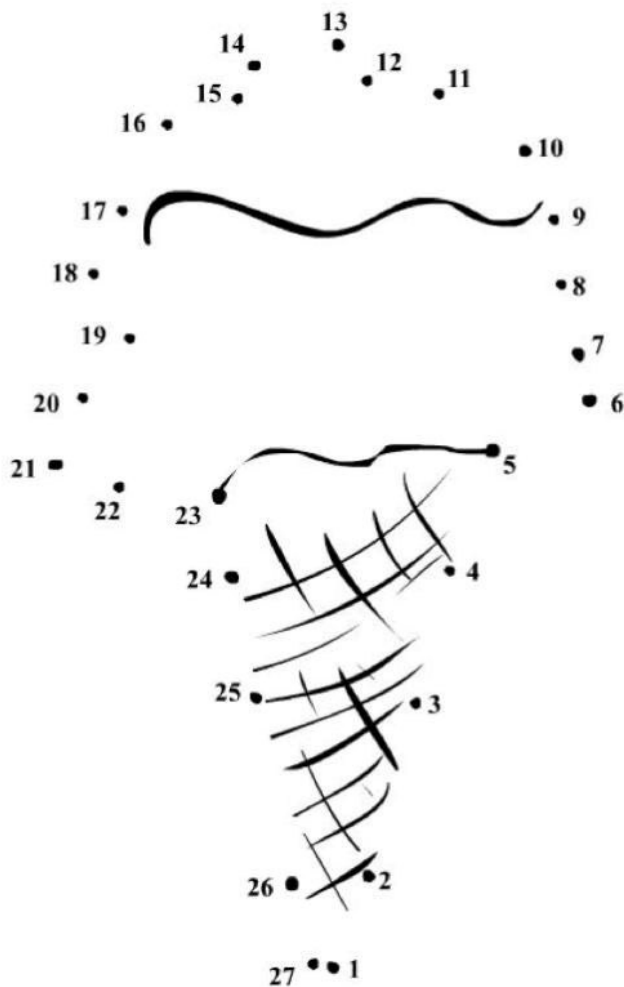
CONTACT HARRY: 07788747090
EMAIL: MILLANDER@HOTMAIL.CO.UK

D Findlay Tree Services

We are a fully insured, family run tree surgery business with over 16 years experience and NPTC certification.

For further details and a FREE quotation please call or email Duncan Findlay

Tel: 01428 724968 Mob: 07780 607126
Email: dfindlaytreeservices@hotmail.co.uk



SUMMER

k m e c p y d o f n v d
j x s h o i g b a l l t
p q w f o n u e k z m b
e t i v l c r a b g y i
s a n d z j f m s p u k
l r g y b q l c h o s e
d u k i t e v n e w f j
z g h m s p a i l q i c
f b o o k w t y l d r n
i c j a g h s p u t e o



ball



bike



book



crab



fire



hose



kite



pail



pool



sand



shell



swing

SUMMER MAZE



Milland Valley Memorial Hall 200 Club

John Collier

The latest 200 club winners were:

June

1st prize Peter Granger

2nd prize Dave Bullingham

3rd prize Alison Arnott

July

1st prize Mark Keohane

2nd prize David Robinson

3rd prize John Bridger

August

1st prize Penny Small

2nd prize Brian Hardy

3rd prize Lisa Ferguson

It only costs £5 a month to join the 200 club. Over £250 of prize money is paid out every month and more members would mean even bigger prizes and more money being raised for the village hall. For more details or to download an application form, please visit our web site

www.millandvillagehall.co.uk. Alternatively you should contact John Collier on 01428 741 225 or jdcollier1955@gmail.com

HALLS, CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

Cartersland Green Wildflowers suestrike@hotmail.com

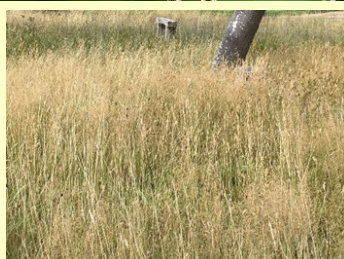
Grass is a type of plant with narrow leaves. Their appearance as a common plant was in the mid-Cretaceous period. A period lasting 80 million years from 145 to 65 million years ago. There are now 12,000 species.

Grass is a valuable source of food and energy for many animals such as deer, cattle, mice, grasshoppers, caterpillars and many other grazers. Unlike other plants, grasses grow from the bottom, so when animals eat grass, they usually do not destroy the part that grows. This is part of the reason why grass plants are so successful.

This year on the green the lack of rain has inhibited the wildflowers, forcing them to flower quickly so they can be pollinated and set seed before dying down. As a result, grasses have become the dominant species. Unlike wildflowers, grass species are better adapted to dry conditions, allowing them to out-compete other plants during periods of low rainfall. They release vast amounts of pollen, which is light and dry, into the air and have evolved feathery stigmas to capture the pollen carried by the wind. It also appears that grasses have developed specific characteristics, like the timing of release, to coincide with optimal wind conditions.

The end of season mow should take place in September. The islands of Devil's-bit Scabious will be left and hand

Seed wind dispersal



MVMH [Andy Haslam](#)

Our last Village Hall committee meeting was a lively affair (some may also use the words chaotic or raucous) where we welcomed Jeremy Parker as our new Parish Council representative and bade a fond and heartfelt farewell to Trevor Fairhurst. He optimistically believes the committee is in good enough order to pursue his other retirement interests and we will do our best to not let him down. He has been an absolute stalwart of the village hall tribe and we will all miss his sharp wit, honesty and enthusiasm to keep the Hall in great shape. After handing over his responsibilities to Harriet Carless and Kieran Docherty we all raised a glass in his honour and got back to the serious business of discussing which curtain rail tacks might work to keep the curtains in the right place. It was an emotional rollercoaster of a night.

Finally we had a healthy conversation with Jeremy on how we can work more closely with the PC and how we can make the most of the shared spaces around the Hall to the benefit of the whole community. In closing I will also extend our thanks to the Director of Horticulture, Claire Collins, and her willing assistant Brendan Collins, for keeping the borders and hedges all in good order. Well done everybody!

Milland Tennis Club [Mark Dumas](#)

We hope you all enjoyed Wimbledon, and it has encouraged you and your family to play more tennis on our courts.

The new LTA online booking system is now up and running on <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/MillandTennisClub>.

This is the way to reserve courts or amend any prior bookings. You only need to register once and thereafter involvement is easy. I literally enter *Milland Tennis* into my search-engine, and I can arrange my tennis. Non-members must register, as priority is always for those who have pre-booked online. Non-members can obtain the current padlock code after payment at the Milland Stores. We have withdrawn the diary booking system.

We are pleased that the monthly roll-ups have worked with most going to The Rising Sun afterwards for a social drink and a one course meal. The next one is on 9th September at 6.15pm. Sunset is at 7.31pm so don't be late!

Our annual mixed doubles tennis day is on Sunday 21st September. It is always a delightful event with a barbecue lunch at the Rising Sun. Emma Timberlake is kindly arranging the day on our behalf. All are welcome but non-members need to be partnered by a member. If you are a single player or would like to play, contact Emma who will try to find partner. etimberlake@rocketmail.com

If you want to enter a team and reserve a table for our popular Quiz night on Friday 21st November contact Tessa on rtcbmountain@hotmail.com

Encouragingly we had one or two new members joining the club recently. If you want to know more about playing tennis on our courts and becoming a member, contact Lizzie on millandtennisclub@gmail.com

Do come and join any of our events. mark@dumas.be or 07971 087 305.

PLUMBING & BATHROOMS

Full range of services - from fixing dripping taps to heating system installation

- Qualified, gas-safe domestic plumbers
- Plumbing and emergency repairs
- Heating and boilers

07919 537236

david@dwsplumbing.co.uk

DWS
PLUMBING & BATHROOMS

REDFORD VILLAGE HALL

£15.00 PER HOUR

Great for Parties, Meetings, Yoga

To book please contact
Marion Hansford
07740 192951

QUINN-OIL SERVICES

Milland based
plumber and oil engineer.

Oil fired boiler and AGA
installation/servicing/repairs.
Tank installation.

George Quinnell
01428 741 358 or 07825 796 082

OFTEC No: C11886

Dearest reader,

I have received the apparent deep and humbling honour of being forcibly elected as your correspondent for Milland Sports Club. Believe it or not, such a place does exist, and has done for a very long time. If you are new to the area, you may never have heard of it, or indeed, if you are a long-term resident, you may have simply forgotten. Please let me enlighten you either way even if you're not interested.

The Club

Milland Sports Club is located on the Fernhurst Road, approximately 100 meters after the turning to Hollycombe School on the left-hand side as you exit the village (plans for improved signage are underway). We currently host Real Milland Football Club, Milland Darts team, and Milland Boules Club. This truly is a lovely setting for a sports ground, being surrounded by grazing sheep, the occasional horse or cow, and sweeping woodland views. We regularly receive compliments on our enviable location.

Football

Real Milland Football Club play in Division 3 Central of the West Sussex Football League having recently been moved from the Southern Division due to a league restructure. Preseason training is already underway and starts at 7pm on a Wednesday at the sports club. Friendly matches are also booked in for later in the summer and as with any grass roots team, they are always looking for new players. If you are interested in playing, or know someone that is, please contact either Matt Clapham on 07545 385 502 or Alex Hall on 07725 636 252.

Darts

Milland Darts Team play in the Midhurst & District Darts League on a Thursday evening. As with the football team, if you are interested in playing, they are always eager to welcome you so please contact George Quinell on 07825796082 (I have heard recently that there is a local lady who is very interested in playing, or is that drinking? Perhaps you can join her?)

Boules

I would love to fill you in on the comings and goings of the boules club, but I confess to knowing very little. I'm sure they would be more than happy to welcome anyone new. Please contact Colin Stopher on 07860215214 for more information.

Other Sports

As well as the sports mentioned above, Milland has previously been able to field a Stoolball team which would be possible to resurrect if there was serious interest. We still have all the gear but unfortunately very little idea. Believe it or not Stoolball is still played locally. Cricket has now not been played for the best part of a decade, and the pitch has now unfortunately fallen into disrepair. It would be possible to re-start a team, however it would be a major undertaking, probably several years of work and not insignificant sums of money due to the machinery/groundwork/drainage requirements of the square and outfield. There is also a practice net available at the club which doesn't get used as much as it should. Some interest has been shown recently from various parties to start a youth football team, but this hasn't quite gotten past the post. If you are interested in any of these, or in starting any other sporting club or activity, please contact Justin 'Razor' Whitehouse on 07752658847, but be warned he is notoriously difficult to get a reply from.

Social

If like me, you find yourself more interested in watching and laughing at the spectacle on display, and perhaps offering some choice words of encouragement, then please come along. I promise a plentiful supply of targets to be jeered at. We have a small but well stocked bar with wine, cider, real ale, select spirits and draught lager on tap, all priced to undercut, and tempt you away from the village institution that is 'The Riser' for a short time. While in jest, it is worth mentioning that Milland Sports Club does have a long association with The Rising Sun; most recently with hosting the final iteration of the legendary but sadly short-lived Millfest. Will this ever return? The older residents of the village will also remember the glory days of AC and Inter Milland where 'The Riser' managed to field a pub team. Who would make your squad now? Ben? Hugo? Geordie? God forbid.

The Sports Club has also been known to open its bar to the public on a sunny Friday evening, and as the weather has been decent, this looks a possibility. We usually open around 5pm for a couple of hours. If you wish to be in the know and added to the WhatsApp group, please contact Razor as above or myself on 07855072069.

Events

Unfortunately, we were unable to get the annual Milland vs Trippetts football match organised this year, but rest assured it will be back next year. This is open to anyone from the village that would like to play and not just the football club. Keep your ears open for next time.

As with most village sports clubs, we rely solely on volunteers for the running of day-to-day operations and we have recently been in the process of renovating the clubhouse and grounds which has been long overdue for two wedding receptions that are booked in for the summer: Benjy and Annabel Larbey in July which went off without a problem; and Bella and Scott Bancroft in August. If you are interested in lending a hand for events in the future or helping out around the club, please get in touch.

Finally, my thanks for your attention and I hope you find yourself suitably enlightened. In the next issue I promise to fill you in on the history of the club and possibly our plans for the future. I'm sure however that by now you are all fed up of reading this, so I'll shut up.

Yours truly,

Tinker

SCHOOLS

Hollycombe Primary School Jon Reilly

The end of the school year signifies many differing things to many different people. For some, the excitement of six weeks of holiday, for others, a sadness to be leaving for pastures new, coupled with the exciting prospect of moving on to the next stage of their education. The last few weeks were as magical as ever at Hollycombe Primary School. Two wonderful performances of 'Ali Baba and the Bongo Bandits' took place at Liphook Millennium Hall to the delight of two 'full houses', whilst closer to home, our younger pupils offered their version of 'Jack and the Beanstalk' in the school hall.



We were delighted to take part in two music and dance workshops, which championed the traditions of 'Maypole Dancing' and 'Morris Dancing' to an initially sceptical audience, who later became 'devotees'! It was certainly a different experience also for our local MP, Andrew Griffith, who was also visiting us as pupils danced around the maypole...surely not a common occurrence when he is visiting other schools in his constituency!

We welcomed Olena, a Ukrainian refugee, who told us about Ukrainian culture, taught us Ukrainian folk songs and explained how life has changed for her since arriving in the UK. An enlightening and humbling afternoon for both pupils and staff.



The school fair took place on a showery Saturday in July, but the school community turned out in force to support the event, to make it one of the most successful fund-raising ventures our PTA has ever put on. Finally, we said goodbye to our Year 6 pupils with a wonderful 'Afternoon Tea' at Milland Stores & Café, followed by a very special assembly and garden party for the pupils and their parents on the last day of



term. Although the common belief is that staff will also be 'downing tools' for the duration of the summer break, most will want to make the most of the opportunity to plan and prepare for the forthcoming year, renew resources and change class layouts, without the need to teach pupils for a few weeks. However, this summer has been somewhat different for the Hollycombe staff. For, on the first day of the holidays, we handed over control of the building to a team of County Council electrical contractors, which has significantly restricted any access to the school site. The programme of work will renew the electrical wiring, sockets and lighting throughout the school and 'future-proof' the building for many years to come.

Looking to the future is an important aspect of what we aspire to achieve at Hollycombe Primary School. We know we have an outstanding village setting and learn in a beautiful Victorian schoolhouse, but we also need to ensure we prepare each of our pupils for a life in an ever-changing technological world. We just strive to do this in conjunction with the traditional values we hold so dearly, not at the expense of them.

Milland Nursery School Jo Mealey

Another year has gone by at Milland Valley Nursery and what a year it has been! The children have been very busy little bees this summer term, making the most of the sunshine. We have spent many hours keeping cool in the wooded area, using all resources that nature has to offer us. We were very lucky to have a beekeeper come and visit us to! The children were able to view the honeybees, touch and smell honeycomb and learn all about how they use the pollen and nectar. The children even tasted some honey from the hive – it was delicious! The children spotted the queen bee with the green spot on her back and some children tried on a beekeepers suit! What an amazing experience!

Save the Date! Milland Christmas Fair will be held at the memorial hall on 30th November. There will be crafts, food and games! If you are interested in having a stall, please email Jo Mealey at millandchristmas@gmail.com Keep an eye out for posters for more information.



milland pottery

hand thrown pots
made to order
commissions
gift vouchers
pottery classes
(booking essential)

www.millandpottery.co.uk

Ballet classes, Milland Hall.
Boys and girls from age 2.
Teaching for exams
and performance.
Trial classes.

[theballetacademymilland@
gmail.com](mailto:theballetacademymilland@gmail.com)

Kirsty Pritchard

Bespoke Carpentry

*Fitted & Freestanding
Kitchen Furniture, Wardrobes
Home Offices, Bookcases,
Individually designed and made by
hand in my Workshop.*

*Rod Aldcroft
01730 815922*

References & Portfolio available



The MOLE Auctions Lea Grocott

Let me start with an item from the Milland News issue 66 of July 2005:

That there mole by Val Porter

If you are fairly new to Milland, you might wonder why on earth Milland News has a mole in a wheel as its logo. Well, the wheel represents all the water in Milland, and harks back to the days when there was a working watermill at what is now Agecroft Mill, on one of the valley's many ponds. The mole is more complicated. Back in the 1980s, a group of volunteers decided to hold what used to be quite a regular and very popular and remunerative event: a barn auction, to raise funds for local causes. We were on this occasion raising money partly for Hollycombe School and partly for Milland's recreation field. After several glasses of wine (good meetings, they were) we felt in need of a logo for the auction. We happened to be sitting around a table at Studley, the Wardley Green home of Ralph and Chris Wild. Chris disappeared for a few moments and came back with a sketch of a mole. Very nice, Chris, we said, but what's that got to do with anything, apart from the fact that most of us have garden moles? But we immediately took a fancy to the little fellow and then had to come up with a good reason for using him. Rather laboriously, we decided that MOLE was an acronym for Milland Organising for Leisure (i.e. the recreation field) and Education (i.e. the school). So now you know, and some of us still have the T-shirts. And it just seemed like a good idea, when we launched Milland Valley News some 10 or 11 years ago, to put the mole in the millwheel and use it as our logo. Many thanks, Chris, for the original inspiration and artwork!

So let me now go on to explain how the barn auctions worked...

There were several auctions over the course of some years. Before each event, every household in the valley received a leaflet inviting them to allow the 'MOLES' to collect anything that they wanted to get rid of. Anything!

As a result, some weeks after the leaflet drop, imitations of Steptoe & Son could be seen moving through the village with vans and trailers stacked with items that their owners no longer wanted or needed.

Everything collected over a period of weekends was gathered in a local covered barn, subsequently sorted and accumulated into lots ready to be auctioned.

Inevitably, the collections yielded a certain amount of 'tat', and for the first auction a skip was arranged for the tat.

Come auction day there was usually a good turnout of punters and I think about £4,000 was raised. What hadn't been anticipated was the interest generated by the contents of the skip and several people were to be seen in the skip sifting for anything 'valuable'.

In subsequent years the tat was displayed on tables as bric-a-brac and fetched good money in the order of £500.

For the final auction there was a need for a relatively secure office and a local caravan dealer was approached to see if they would lend us a caravan which they did and told us not to bring it back – sell it. Quite a bonus.

These auctions were good fun and brought together lots of folk in the village and always raised significant money for the school and recreation field. Those helping to run the auctions were also provided with a 'corporate image' using the sketch of the mole that Chris Wild had created, printed on t-shirts and polo shirts.

THE *Rising* SUN
MILLAND

SERVING FOOD – LUNCH & SUPPER 7 DAYS A WEEK
OPEN ALL DAY ALL WEEKEND

Event Catering • Private Dining & Parties • Takeaway Menu
Children & Dogs Welcome • Huge Garden & Ample Parking

@risermilland
The Rising Sun, Iping Road, Milland, Nr Liphook, West Sussex, GU30 7NA
T 01428 741 347 E mail@risingsunmilland.com W risingsunmilland.com

I am currently offering a mixture of online and face to face classes.

Reiki energy healing treatments available upon request.

Monday - Online
Pilates - 9.30am - 10.30am

Tuesday
The Headley Pavilion
Yoga - 9.30am - 10.45am

Wednesday
Milland Valley Memorial Hall
Pilates - 6.15pm - 7.15pm

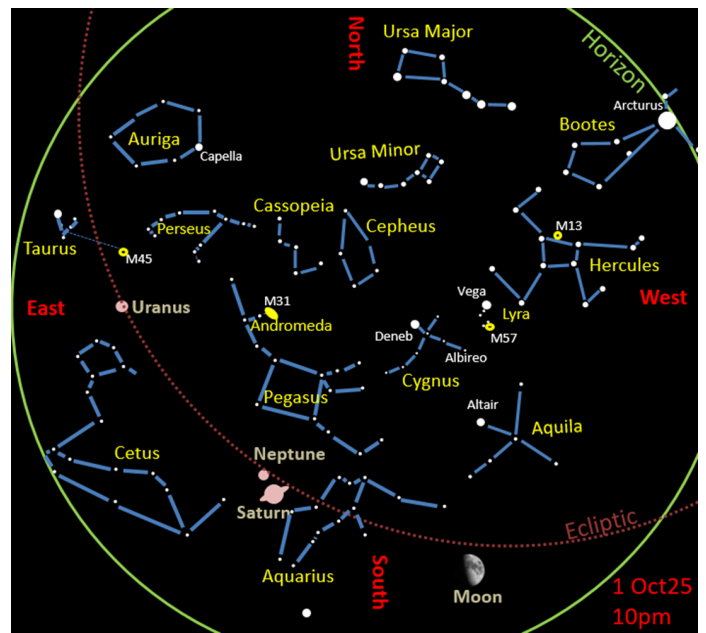
Thursday - Online
Pilates with Activation Bands
9.30am - 10.30am

Contact
Zannah M. Charman-Lambert
on
07710 328844
or Email:
zannah.charman@hotmail.co.uk

Reiki, Yoga & Pilates

Night Sky Events Autumn 2025

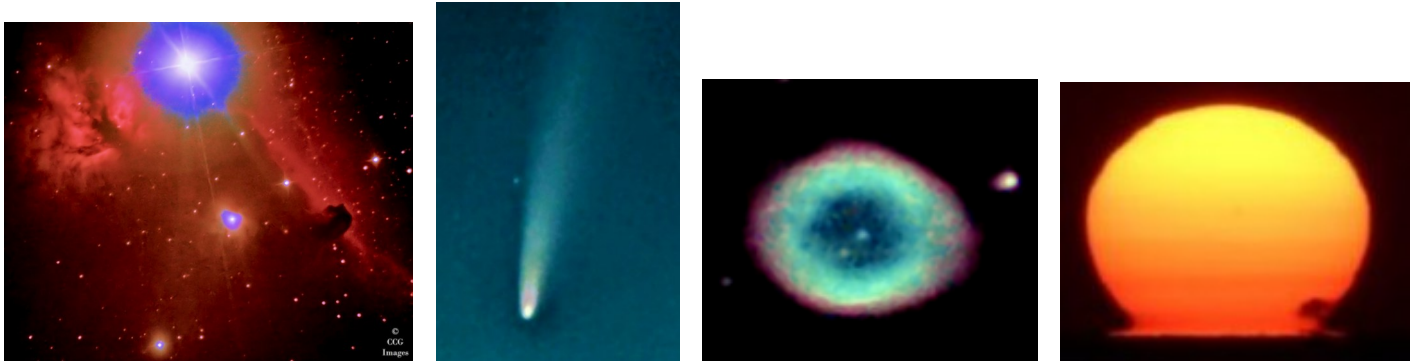
- Planet **Saturn** will be bright particularly in late September all night long.
- Oct29 good for **Mercury** just after Sunset, low down in the West.
- Sep7 **Partial Lunar Eclipse**. Moon rises 7:30pm as total eclipse, totality ends 7:50 and partial eclipse ends 9pm. Difficult to see because very low down in Eastern sky, and it'll still be fairly light.
- Oct21,22: **Orionids Meteor Shower**: after midnight – Halley's Comet debris. Might be good this year.
- Nov17,18: On a 33 year peak this year. Caused by debris from Comet Tempel-Tuttle.
- Dec13,14: **Geminids Meteor Shower** Multicoloured show after midnight. Debris from asteroid '3200Phaethon'
- Dec21,22: **Ursids Meteor Shower**: Favourable conditions, just after midnight. Debris from Comet Tuttle.
See timeanddate.com



Night sky at 10pm on 1st October.

ADVANCE INFO:
12 Aug 2026 almost total solar eclipse from UK – book good weather now!

We are not alone? The search for Life, or *life within life*



LIFE: Images in the heavens such as horses capture imaginations of life up there. Scientists once thought comets brought life to earth. Exploding stars create new elements heavier than hydrogen needed for life. Our sun is very benign such that it can support life. All images photographed by Stargazer.

130 years ago our Midhurst educated HG Wells brought to our imagination the possibility of alien life; Spock was misquoted in 1987, 'It's life Jim but not as we know it'. More recently we turned our attention to the effects of dark matter such as the anomalous rotation of galaxies and somehow mathematically derived the possibilities of multiverse, but the extrapolation into the realm of life requires something deeper than mathematical deduction, rather a massive stretch of imaginary hyperbole.

This Spring the astro community turned its attention to planet K2-18b with the discovery that we may not be alone in the universe. For in this distant planet scientists discovered the probable existence of two of the most important biosignature gases; dimethyl sulphide and dimethyl disulphide. (DMS and DMDS).

Search for planetary life has hitherto focused attention on the 'goldilocks zone', habitable regions in which the conditions, such as temperature, may support life. Several planets have been found orbiting red dwarf stars which meet this criterion. Unfortunately, such stars emit destructive radiation, hence viability is way more complex than that. In fact the excitement over discoveries including K2-18b have been rather overhyped according to the astro authorities.

The existence of life on the other hand is indisputable because it is within us. Hence the questions of 'how did we get here' and 'is there other life out there' are valid ponderings.

Life on earth had many false starts due to various cataclysms; meteors, radiation, climate, and 600 million years ago it was almost wiped out being poisoned by oxygen! But it has survived, advancing to the aspect arguably most precious, though little understood; consciousness. I think this is what propels our desire for answers. I ask my peers what drives us to ask and we get: companionship, commonality, tribalism. Relationships are one of our most important cooperative aspects and I think the key driver to our question is our ability to experience emotions. The answer we get may hopefully satisfy this, or on the contrary, disappoint our emotionally charged existence into utter meaninglessness.

Some people accept the idea that, somehow, our consciousness has evolved as a result of physical processes; Biochemical and microphysical. Others may consider this explanation intellectually or emotionally inadequate. Should this be the limit of our existence, then the explanation will not satisfy these others and the search must broaden. I therefore suggest what searchers wish to know is more than the search for Life, but the search for life *within* life.

Backpedalling Josie Dew

Recently, Cycling UK (the largest organisation in the UK supporting cyclists and promoting bicycle use) highlighted how 'paint on a road is not a cycle lane.' Too right! There's a road near Midhurst I cycle along most days which has a white bike painted on the road about twice over the course of a couple of miles. Every few moments the poor painted bike gets a right pummelling by cars and vans and HGVs and tractors. This is not a cycle lane, this is just your average country road used by mostly motor vehicles and the odd bike. Painting a bike on the road does not make it any safer for a cyclist. We are still jostling side by side with fast cars and big vans and lorries.

There are some very good bike lanes in this country but not nearly enough and often, just when you find a good one and breathe a sigh of relief, it suddenly ends and spills you out into noisy full fast-flowing traffic again.

Let's just flashback to cycling around the Netherlands last summer with Jack and the girls. Ahh, yes -lovely! This is how to properly tackle cycle paths. The country is a sophisticated lacework of interlinking segregated bike paths – you can often ride for hours without ever seeing a car. And where there is no space at all to put a cycle path the Dutch put a wide red overlay along the sides of the road red for bikes while the cars are squeezed into the middle narrow normal dark-coloured tarmac single lane to pass cyclists slowly and carefully. And it works perfectly. Most drivers are cyclists too so they drive respectfully and considerately and generally good-naturedly past the cyclist.

If our lanes around Milland were designed for bikes in similar style you would see whole swathes of drivers leaving their cars at home and leaping onto their bikes. While cycling back and forth as a parent at Hollycombe School for 14 years I lost count of the number of times children ran up to me saying

how they wished they could cycle to school but their mum or dad deemed it too dangerous. It seems a terrible reflection of our governments over the years that their inability to build and support an effective cycling infrastructure has deprived generations of children of their cycling independence and being able to cycle safely. Cycling to school can be such a simple and effective way to get there and it seems wrong that so many children are denied that fun and are strapped into big metal vehicles to be shipped at speed from place to place instead just because our governments have failed to plan for a cycling future.

The Dutch have been building an incredible cycling infrastructure for 50 years. In 1971 in the Netherlands, 500 children were killed by cars. One of those children was Simone Langenhoff, a 6-year-old girl who was struck and killed by a car on her way to school. In response to the tragedy, her father, a journalist, wrote a front-page article with the provocative title "Stop de Kinderdood" ("Stop Murdering the Children").

The article inspired protests against cars and an entire movement was born. Soon the Dutch government released a report showing that it would cost billions to continue building roads and highways. Nearly every politician at the time agreed that this kind of spending just wasn't feasible. They all agreed that the country needed to look at an alternative to cars.

Today there are over 35,000 km of bicycle paths interlinking with everywhere in the Netherlands. If only our various government ministers over the years could have had a similar lightbulb moment and done the same thing here (there's still time, but they need to get on with it blinking fast!) we would now see whole flocks of children cycling safely to school, to friends, to the shops, to their clubs and activities as well as half the population happily whipping along on their quiet whoosh of wheels in probably no helmets and normal clothes as the ever-practical, sensible, laid-back, forward-thinking Dutch do.

Heavily laden Chrissie May

The branches of our apple tree are so heavily laden they are touching the ground. Never seen this before and seems much earlier than usual as normally fruit starts to show early Sept.



Think the warm spell certainly might have something to do with it. Also pictured, the fantastic blossom it produced in the spring but never expected quite so many apples! I researched that apples are ripening earlier this year due to

the heatwave. Warmer weather, especially in spring, can cause trees to flower and fruit earlier than usual. This could mean that apple varieties are ready for picking sooner than expected.

That explains it then!



Every Day a New Treasure

An eclectic mix of local arts, crafts & small independent traders



Durleighmarsh Farm

GU31 5AX
5 mins from
Petersfield on the
A272 Rogate Rd

We have a vast selection of unique handmade jewellery, glassware, ceramics, pictures, handbags, needlework, crafted wood and iron work as well as vintage items, furniture, clothes and much more.

Staffed by the members themselves you can always be sure of a warm welcome.

Open every day.

Onsite customer parking.
Browsers welcome

www.barnemporium.co.uk



Esther Holford Acupuncture

MBAcC, Lic AC, BSc (Hons), BA (Hons)

Estherholford.com

01483 363 180

Liss Forest (Petersfield),
Guildford and Kensington Clinics



St Lukes Milland, The Church in the Woods

Bob Ireland

Firstly, a big thank you to everyone who helped at the Easter services at the end of April and our annual parish meeting in early May.

At the annual meeting we were delighted to elect Alison Parker as a new church warden, and re-elect the church council and Anne Alderman as our treasurer.

We now look forward to events and activities over the coming months, the first of which is the **Annual Ride And Stride on Saturday 13th September**, for which the church is open.

This is organised by The Sussex Historic Churches Trust, which gives grants for essential repairs and restoration to places of worship of architectural and historic interest throughout Sussex and involves sponsored walkers and cyclists visiting as many churches as possible on the day. Full details can be found at <https://www.sussexhistoricchurchestrust.org.uk/ride-stride> And we shall shortly be making an application to help with the installation of new water supply and flushing loo to replace the current composting loo. **THERE IS AN APPEAL COMING YOUR WAY SOON!**

The next significant service at the church is actually in Tuxlith Chapel, the 8th Century chapel in the grounds of our churchyard, on **28th Sept 11.00 am** to celebrate St Michael, the patron saint of the chapel. A wonderful chance to experience a service as thousands of Millanders have done for nearly 1,500 years; but these days we drive to church rather than climb the 76 steps from Milland Valley to the church, to enjoy a picnic lunch in the churchyard before evensong and the walk back home! Then, on 12th October, we have our **Harvest Songs of Praise**, again at 11.00am in the church, with the collection going to the Chichester Food Bank.

Recently, a number of us received a presentation from the manager of the Food Bank which has facilities in Midhurst as well as Chichester. They have over 250 volunteers and are supplying far more than food; they work with the working poor, abuse survivors, the homeless and refugees. In these holidays they will supply 900 children's lunch packs to kids missing free school meals. They provide cookery courses to those trying to provide nourishing meals to their families on a tight budget; they guide people to the best place to get further or more comprehensive help and are always looking for ways to raise awareness of the Food Bank within our area. In Midhurst and surrounding villages, including Milland, over the past year, they have helped 325 adults and nearly 220 children. It is a tragedy that such a facility is needed in our country in this day and age; and as sources of local government funding and grants shrink and food costs rise the situation is becoming more desperate.

More details can be found at chichesterdistrict.foodbank.org.uk (or email me at robireland52@aol.com and I can send you a copy of the presentation we received in July on their work and finances.)

The food bank also work with another organisation that our churches support – the Sussex Family Support Work Team, who again support families and children who are in need for a wide variety of reasons and it is certainly worth looking at their web site to see the wonderful work that they are doing locally.

<https://www.familysupportwork.org>

If you don't feel able to help, just pray for the day when our country no longer needs such voluntary organisations.

Concerning Tuxlith Chapel

Roger Chatterton-Newman

I'm afraid I have to say that Paul Strike is in error about the origins of Tuxlith Chapel (MVN issue 175). It has nothing to do with St Luke's Church, Linch, and is almost certainly on the site of the original parish church of Trotton. For centuries, the parish was known as Trotton-cum-Tuxlith, indeed the 'church of Tuxlith' is mentioned in the will of Isabel Colpece, who died in 1532, some fifty years before the Bettsworth family (with whom Mr Strike credits the building of the chapel) arrived at Milland Place. It must also be the chapel of St Michael, referred to in the will of Sir Roger Lewkenor, lord of the manor of Trotton, in 1572.

The present Trotton church dates from the early 14th century, and Tuxlith became a chapel of ease until 1863, when the northern half of Trotton was formed into a new parish, at first known as Tuxlith and shortly afterwards as Milland. The first patron of the living of the parish of Tuxlith was the Revd John Moore Heath, sometime vicar of Enfield, Middlesex, who had bought Milland Place. He appointed as first incumbent the Revd John Clayton, whose family owned the Old Place estate at Enfield.

Restoration work on Tuxlith Chapel in 1994 revealed unmistakable signs of Saxon workmanship; indeed, the font, now in St Luke's, Milland, is of the familiar Saxon tub-shape - one of only twenty or so to be found in West Sussex - and must have come from the chapel. It had lain buried in the churchyard for many years until rediscovered. Also, the site was of much earlier holy associations, as when St Luke's, Milland, was built in 1878-80, Roman funerary urns were uncovered on the site.

The Old St. Luke's Church, Linch Paul Strike

In 1770 the last ceremony took place at the 546 year-old church of early English design in Linch parish. Robert Allen and Mary Patrick were married by licence, with the ceremony performed and registered by the rector Francis Atkins. The use of a licence indicated that the couple did not need to publish banns before marrying.

The following year the church furniture was taken up the hill to Milland Chapel. The three-decked pulpit, a multi-level structure used for preaching and reading, had to be reduced to fit in. The gallery and box pews were put in position and the Saxon font (now in Milland Church) and piscina, a stone basin used for draining water used in church ceremonies, were installed. A section of Sussex marble flooring with three monumental brasses attached were also laid in the chapel. Once these fittings had been removed, the old church was desecrated, pillaged for any stone that could not be identified as ecclesiastical and the remaining masonry buried beneath the earth, erasing all evidence of its existence along with the graveyard. That church, had it survived, would now be over 1,000 years old.

There were, however, two sections of medieval, brightly coloured tiling 18" x 18" saved and installed behind the font of a new building for Anglican worship. Years later, in 1948, the scallywag who tampered with the Linch register (the official church record) insisted they be removed from the church. As a result, the authorities decided to remove the tiles and store them in the churchyard shed from where they unfortunately went missing.

Another Peter Bettesworth Paul Strike

Sir Peter Bettesworth was an iron master who lived at Milland Place. He died on a trip to London in 1635 and was buried under the chancel of Cornhill Church in the City. (Pew end!)

Another Peter Bettesworth from 1700-1712 repaired and rebuilt the chapel (not church) in Linch, Milland Chapel.

Peter Bettesworth, a silver smith, lived in Steep and completed his apprenticeship in 1622. In 1635/36 he crafted a silver ewer which in 2013 was found buried in Dorset by a detectorist. It was purchased by the Metropolitan Museum, New York where it is on display.



From the Wood Saskia Frost

It's been a peaceful summer in Borden Wood, with many of us making the most of the glorious weather. In July, we gathered for our annual village BBQ — a wonderful opportunity to catch up with neighbours and share in some lovely news: a warm welcome to our newest village member, Mabel Minneboo, born to Sara and Diederik at 2:55am on 10th July. Huge congratulations to them and their families. With the growing number of young children in the village, road safety has become an increasing concern. We're therefore delighted to announce that Borden Wood will soon become a 20mph zone. A heartfelt thank you to all of you who already drive with care along our road — your efforts are truly appreciated. And finally, something new to look out for: The Borden Wood Box — a pop-up honesty box soon to appear outside No. 2, opposite the village hall. It will offer fresh eggs, cut flowers, and small batch goods made with seasonal foraged produce celebrating our local landscape. A seasonal range of small artworks will also feature. Follow along on Instagram: @thebordenwoodbox



Butterflies and bees Val Porter

The 'Big Butterfly Count' started officially on 18 July, which happened to be perfect weather for counting butterflies: sunny, and the last fully dry day at the time. In the 15 minutes you are allowed for your count, I estimated nearly 30 Gatekeepers, about a dozen Meadow Browns (earlier in the week there had been lots more of these), only nine Large Whites (again, in the preceding days there had been many more), half a dozen Small Whites, three Green-veined Whites, a couple of Brimstones, a couple of Holly Blues, a couple of Marbled Whites and a couple of Ringlets, and one each of Comma, Peacock and Red Admiral. Not bad for sitting on the garden bench in the sun for quarter of an hour. I also saw others that the website did not let me record: a couple of Silverwashed Fritillaries, several Small Skippers, several Large Skippers, two Cinnabar moths (and a huge number of caterpillars on the Ragwort plants) and a big Hummingbird Hawkmoth.

And as for bees (a lot of different ones about, especially on my wild Thyme and Marjoram plants, plus wasps and hornets), the most interesting find was on my wild Knapweed plants, at the time in full flower. Alerted by very high-pitched buzzing, I found lots of very small sociable insects which seemed to be Shrill Carder bumblebees. This is a rare species and not recorded around this part of the country at all. They don't look very exciting, rather drab, and I don't have the equipment to take photos, but I'm pretty certain of the identification by their behaviour and by photos on various websites. The joys of an overgrown semi-wild garden!! No-mow May definitely helped.

Beware car parking charges

David Risley

We had lunch at the Anchor Liphook. Shortly after, I received a fine for using their car park. Apparently I was supposed to let them know I was parked when I ordered my meal. Beware!

Kingsham Val Porter

I was recently visited by long-ago neighbour, Clare Attwater, and her two sons. The boys, early teenagers back then but now in their 50s, have gone on to very successful careers.

And less than a week after their visit here I was alerted by chance to another hugely successful person who spent her childhood at our neighbouring Old Kingsham Farm: Jessica Taylor, daughter of Andrew and Jeannette and sister to Kit, and born in 1987 while John and Hugh were in East Kingsham. Quite a coincidence.

On 10 August there was a two-page article about Jess in the *Sunday Times* Homes section. She is now a highly successful real-estate agent in New York, where she sells properties worth many millions of dollars. The *Sunday Times* article had a picture of her childhood home at OKF, which the Taylor family lived in for something like two decades, and it talked a lot about her time living in Milland — including working at the Rising Sun.

As well as her immensely successful career, Jess enjoys cycling around the city (another Kingsham link?). She has a passion for animal welfare and is a voluntary dog walker in New York, and she still fondly remembers Bella, the llama who continues to live here in the Kingsham fields and who used to be seen at Milland Rural Fair.

On 5 December Jess will be starring in the second series of an eight-episode reality TV show on Netflix: 'Owning Manhattan', which promises to be pretty dramatic. Netflix claims that tensions will be high and the competition will be fierce. I'll certainly try to tune in!

Anyone else out there with interesting stories of former valley residents? — Ed]



TAXI – CHAUFFEUR – PRIVATE HIRE

Four - Eight - Sixteen Seat Vehicles

All Air and Sea ports covered

Licensed Security Chauffeur available for your car or ours

All major credit cards accepted

01730 82 10 44

info@rogatecars.co.uk



Successfully
selling property in
your area since
1919

To arrange a FREE Market Appraisal of your
home, contact your local Liphook office

01428 728900

2 Midhurst Road, Liphook, Hampshire, GU30 7ED

Offices at: Liphook, Haslemere, Guildford & Mayfair
www.clarkegammon.co.uk

Milland Store and Downlands Estate Jack Gratton

Here at Milland Village stores we are really keen to not just stock local produce but to showcase the very best. Over a series of articles, I will be sitting down and finding out more about these amazing local suppliers. For my first article, I met with James Gilboy of Downlands and asked him to tell us more about their organic produce current and future.

Downlands Estate, nestled in the village of Bramshott, Hampshire, is home to the Gilboy family and stands as a shining example of how tradition and innovation can come together in regenerative farming. As well as offering Simulated Game Shoots, run by Lydia Gilboy, the family's historic estate has upheld a legacy of agricultural excellence since 1550. Today, the farm is under the stewardship of James, and is at the forefront of regenerative farming, embracing practices that not only protect but actively enrich the natural beauty and productivity of the land.

"As a boy, I gained valuable experience working on a neighbouring farm in the Peak District, and it was there that I discovered my passion for farming. I knew early on that farming was the challenge I wanted to pursue. When my family took on Downlands Estate in Hampshire two years ago, it finally gave me the opportunity I had dreamt of since childhood.

Downlands hadn't been a farm for over 15 years and was being used as a pheasant shoot. The fields that had once been full of cattle had rotten fences, and the farm buildings had been sold off. The soil was naturally infertile and prone to drought. All in all, it could have been quite a daunting challenge. However, thanks to my interest in regenerative farming, I was far from deterred, I saw in Downlands a place that was crying out for the very things I wanted to put into practice.

We are now two years on in our regenerative journey and are dedicated to restoring soil health, protecting biodiversity, and producing high-quality, ethically-raised products. Our approach to farming is holistic and forward-thinking, blending traditional methods with cutting-edge techniques to create a sustainable and resilient agricultural system.

With the help of local Hampshire farmers, I sourced a herd of English Shorthorn cattle, and this year we have welcomed our first calves in the Downlands fields. The meat produced on the farm champions regenerative farming and as we grow, we'll be looking to supply Milland Village Stores with our cuts.

In addition, we have a herd of organic free-roaming Sika deer and we will soon be able to supply the best venison.

Next month will see our cattle roam across Ludshott Common, which is owned by the National Trust and meets our estate. We've teamed up with the National Trust to help manage the local environment and regenerate the heathland, in a really

natural way. Our cattle roaming on the common will play a vital role in restoring and maintaining its unique ecosystem. Through their natural grazing behaviour, cattle help control invasive scrub and tree growth, which, if left unchecked, can overwhelm the open landscape and reduce biodiversity. As they move across the heath, their trampling disturbs the soil surface, creating bare patches that encourage the germination of native heathland plants. Their muck also contributes to soil fertility, supporting insects and enriching the food web. By mimicking the effects of traditional land use, cattle grazing helps to preserve the open, species-rich character of heathlands and supports the recovery of wildlife habitats that are increasingly under threat.

I'm also passionate about our chickens. We've just received over 300 hens who are roaming on our wild meadow and we'll soon be able to say that we have the first pasture-raised eggs on a commercial scale in the UK- we are upscaling to produce over 20,000 eggs each week. The hens move with the cattle, which is important as they stop the fly cycle in cattle herds by eating the eggs and baby flies. We also have a herd of Alpacas to keep watch over our chickens. With a number of multi-tier mobile egg sheds coming to the estate imminently, I am proud to be providing the community with eggs that are far superior to any currently on the supermarket shelves and already available at MVS for £3.25 for 6.

Our woodland pigs arrive later this month and will be introduced into our woodland which will benefit both the animals and the land. As pigs root through the forest floor in search of acorns, roots, and insects, they naturally till the soil, breaking up compacted ground and encouraging new plant growth. This disturbance mimics the natural behaviours of wild boar, helping to regenerate woodland ecosystems by promoting biodiversity. At the same time, the pigs' varied, natural diet enhances the flavour and texture of the meat, producing pork that is distinctly richer and more complex.

It will soon be Christmas, so we have turkeys arriving this week. Roaming around our woodlands, turkeys thrive in a natural, diverse environment where they can forage for insects, seeds, and fallen nuts, which enriches both their diet and the flavour of the meat. Their movement through the undergrowth helps aerate the soil and control pests, contributing to the health of our woodland ecosystem. Our turkeys will be available to order in early November.

As we continue to shape the way Downlands is farmed, I hope to forge a stronger connection between Downlands and the community; educating, providing jobs and inspiring and supporting the next generation of regenerative farmers in the area."

Look out for regular updates on Instagram, @farming_downlands for projects and job opportunities.



THE COUNTRY HOUSE COMPANY
Sales | Lettings | Management

Selling, Renting & Managing properties in Milland

02392 632 275
countryhousecompany.co.uk



MacDonald Oates LLP SOLICITORS



Residential Property
Family Law
Mediation Services
Wills, Probate & Trusts
Litigation & Dispute Resolution
Employment Law
Company & Commercial
Commercial Property

Leading Client Service

Petersfield Office
Tel: 01730 268211 | Fax: 01730 261232

Midhurst Office
Tel: 01730 816711 | Fax: 01730 816016

www.macdonaldoates.co.uk

PHOTO GALLERY

Lighting of the beacon to celebrate VE Day taken by Vivien Gilliard

An unusual view of some poppies taken in Midhurst taken by Josie Dew



Milland Stores (sad) update

Izzy Fraser



Price Comparison - August 2025

	Milland Stores	Sainsbury's
4x 6oz Goodwood Organic Beef Burger vs 4x 6oz (170g) 'Taste The Difference' Burgers	£ 7.90	£ 8.50
Michael Courtney Free Range Chicken Fillet vs 'Taste The Diff' Free Range Chicken Fillets	£ 14.20/kg	£ 20.00/kg
Guacamole per 150g (Delphi Foods vs Holy Moly)	£ 2.70	£ 2.35
Mozzarella 125g (Galbani or similar)	£ 1.95	£ 1.95
Goodwood Organic Milk vs Yeo Valley Organic Milk 1ltr	£ 1.50	£ 1.85
Sourdough bread per 100g (SODT vs 'Taste the Difference')	£ 0.58	£ 0.59
Princes Tuna Chunks 145g	£ 1.59	£ 1.75
Dylans Locally Produced Ice cream vs Haagen & Dazs per 100ml	£ 0.75	£ 1.25
Young's Omega 3 Fish Fingers 10s	£ 3.00	£ 3.00
Duracell Plus 100% Extra Life AAA Batteries each (in packs of 4 or 8)	£ 1.24	£ 1.25

Prices are correct as of 7th August, and do not include any promotional prices e.g. Nectar Price offers

At approximately 4am on Wednesday 30th July the Milland Stores was burgled. Two men in a white van reversed very close up to the front doors of the shop which they then proceeded to smash in. They stole cigarettes, and a small amount of petty cash. They had obviously heard how delicious our home baked cakes are because, on their way out, they took a coffee and walnut cake, together with the plate and lid it was on! Sadly, the plate and glass dome did not survive as they were chucked out of their van window and smashed all over the road. On hearing the noise of the break in, a kind neighbour immediately rang the police. Once they arrived and checked the premises the forensic team came out to take samples. The door was then boarded up and, in our usual fashion, by 11am, the shop was open and ready for business!

We have since found out that the Rogate Store was burgled at roughly the same time by another team who once again stole cigarettes.

Like most small businesses, and especially ours which is NON PROFIT-MAKING, this year is proving to be a huge challenge for us due to the crippling rise in minimum wages and national insurance on top of the increasing cost of goods, and utilities. As you can imagine, to face this additional cost of repairs and loss of valuable stock is a huge blow. Yes, we are insured but we will have to pay the usual excess and no doubt our insurance premium will increase, something we can ill afford!

We have served the local community for many years and have become an integral part of village life and beyond. PLEASE, please we are crying out for your help. We rely on volunteers to be able to serve the community. Whilst we have a fantastic small core of volunteers who give so much, we cannot ask more of them. The result, I am afraid, is that we will have to look at drastically reducing the shop's opening hours if we cannot increase the number of volunteers willing to help. All we are asking is an hour or two of your time each week. Please do pop into the shop to have a word with either Kriszta, Ted or Lis who will be very happy to have a chat about joining our happy team. Here's hoping.

JACK'S BIKES

Mark Keohane

Here at the MVN, we're always keen to promote new business start ups.

Young Jack Appleton has started a new bike renovation business bringing unwanted, dumped, abandoned, forgotten and broken bikes back to life.

Jack will take in any bikes you no longer need or want. A collection service is available in Milland, Liphook, Midhurst and Rogate and payment is offered for bikes taken in for renovation.

A few renovated child and adult bikes are available at prices from £10-£100.

Jack also offers bike repairs. We wish this new enterprise well.



Text Jack on: 07900 343111

Reflexology
Ease stress



To book an appointment



Edwina Dowling MAR

07595 221 459

www.seahorseandstarfish.com

Milland Bonfire & Fireworks 2025 (with a little bit of help from AI!) John Collier



The organising committee is already planning this year's event and hope that our regular, dedicated band of helpers will once again turn up to help over the weekend and especially on the night. As always, the rewards for helping are minimal: a free drink and the chance to wear a fancy hi-vis jacket - but we couldn't do it without you. However, we are still on the lookout for one or two people to step forward and volunteer to join the committee and get involved with the long-term organisation and administration. The current committee have been around for many years and are now getting on a bit (and some of us have pensioner's bus passes to prove it). Unless some new volunteers step forward, the future of this important village party night and fund-raiser will be in serious doubt. One area where help would really be appreciated is with pre-event planning. This covers health and safety planning – advertising/press releases - ticketing – liaising with emergency services and Chichester District Council, etc. Writing slick press releases doesn't come easy to us (as this feeble effort proves) so at a recent committee meeting someone suggested that we use artificial intelligence to do the job for us. Given that some of us still can't use a smartphone and none of us knew anything about AI this was easier said than done. Fortunately, Google came to our rescue and pointed us towards ChatGPT. After inputting some basic facts, we pressed the go button and were amazed to get a pretty impressive response in no time whatsoever.

So here it is, our first AI generated press release:

Milland Bonfire and Fireworks 2025: A Night of Spectacular Fun for a Good Cause

The Milland Bonfire and Fireworks event, set to light up the skies on **Saturday 1st November 2025**, promises an unforgettable evening of dazzling fireworks, community spirit, and family-friendly fun. This highly anticipated event, a true highlight of the village's autumn calendar, is organised entirely by dedicated volunteers in collaboration with the Parish Council and is committed to giving back to the local community.

The event kicks off with a traditional bonfire lighting ceremony, followed by an impressive fireworks display, set against the picturesque backdrop of Milland. Visitors can enjoy food stalls, entertainment, and activities suitable for all ages, making it a perfect outing for families and friends to come together and celebrate the season.

A Community Effort with a Heart for Charity

The Milland Bonfire and Fireworks event is a labour of love, organised by a passionate team of local volunteers. Every aspect of the event—from the planning and setup to the entertainment and safety measures—is managed by those who live in the parish of Milland. What makes the event even more special is the fact that **all profits raised from the event will be donated to good causes within the Milland parish**. These funds help support a wide range of local initiatives, from community projects to charitable organisations, ensuring that the spirit of giving continues long after the fireworks have faded.

"We are so proud to host this event each year and are grateful to our volunteers, sponsors, and everyone who attends. It's a wonderful way to bring the community together while raising money for causes that make a real difference to the lives of people right here in Milland," said John Collier, one of the volunteers behind the event.

Event Details:

- **Date:** 1st November 2025
- **Time:** Gates open at 6.00pm, Bonfire lit at 6.15pm, Fireworks display at 7.30pm
- **Location:** Milland Recreation Ground, Iping Road, Milland GU30 7NA

Tickets: Advance tickets will be available from 13th October from either Milland Stores or The Rising Sun in Milland. They cost £5 per adult, £3 for children and £15 for families of up to 2 adults and 3 children. There is no charge for those aged 5 and under. **Tickets will also be available on the gate but will carry a surcharge.**

Join the Celebration

The Milland Bonfire and Fireworks event is more than just a night of fun—it's an opportunity to be part of something meaningful. With every ticket purchased, attendees are helping to fund important community initiatives and charitable causes. Whether you're a local or a visitor, your support helps make Milland a better place to live.

Don't miss out on this spectacular evening of entertainment, community spirit, and goodwill. Mark your calendars for **Saturday 1st November 2025**, and get ready to celebrate in style!

For further information please contact John Collier on 07836 535886 or at jdcollier1955@gmail.com

About Milland Bonfire and Fireworks

The Milland Bonfire and Fireworks event is an annual community celebration organised entirely by volunteers. All proceeds are donated to charitable causes within the Milland parish. The event has become a beloved tradition, attracting visitors from near and far to enjoy a spectacular evening of fun, fireworks, and fundraising.

A pretty good first effort, I hope that you agree. All we need now is an AI system that can build a bonfire, let off fireworks, collect money on the gate, cook and serve a hog roast, serve drinks clear up the recreation ground and undertake dozens of other practical tasks. The organising committee could then retire and put their feet up! Until then, any offers of help will still be appreciated.

We look forward to seeing you all on Saturday 1st November. Keep your fingers crossed for dry weather on the night.

Dave Allen, John Collier, Steve McKechnie, Jeremy Parker, George Quinnell, and Justin (Razor) Whitehouse.

If you're having a big event...

Be it big birthday, graduation, engagement, conference, prom, band gig, special anniversary or even wedding that you need professionally photographed to mark the occasion...we can cover it.

Qu4ttrophotography, for...

Portraits • Headshots • Events • Occasions • Products • Teaching

email@q4photog.co.uk

07803 951 921

www.q4photog.co.uk



QU4TTRO
photography
studio
QU4TTRO