



MARCH 2023

The Valley & Valence Parish Magazine for
 Winterborne St. Martin • Winterbourne Steepleton • Winterbourne Abbas • Compton Valence





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The Valley & Valence Parish Magazine for

Winterborne St. Martin
Winterbourne Steepleton
Winterbourne Abbas
Compton Valence



NEWS & ARTICLES FOR THE V&V PARISH MAGAZINE

It would be much appreciated if copy is supplied electronically as a text doc. (Microsoft Word etc.) with any accompanying images as JPEG files to the address BELOW.

ALL COPY MUST REACH ME BY 5pm on 15th (LATEST) OF THE PRECEDING MONTH
in order to be included in that issue.

ADVERTISING IN THE V&V PARISH MAGAZINE • Rates and Contact details

Current rates & specifications enquiries, and advertisement copy for each month's issue to:

Graham Herbert, 1 Cowleaze, Martinstown, DT2 9TD

Tel: **01305 889786** or email: **info@valleyandvalence.co.uk**





THOUGHTS FROM THE DESK OF...

Rev. Jean Saddington



The fourth Sunday of Lent is set-aside in the Church's calendar for 'Mothering Sunday' (also known as 'Refreshment Sunday'). It's a timely respite from the stringencies of Lent as we relax whatever sacrifice we may have made for the six-week period of Lent – break out the chocolate! In the 16th century, Mothering Sunday was less about mothers and more about church. Back then, people would make a journey to their 'mother' church once a year. This might have been their home church, their nearest cathedral or a major parish church in a bigger town. The service that took place at the 'mother' church symbolised the coming together of families. Another tradition was to allow those working in the fields on wealthy farms and estates to have the day off on the fourth Sunday of Lent to visit their mothers and possibly go to church too. This was a variation on the theme of visiting the 'mother' church and was a move towards a more family focussed occasion.

I wonder what your understanding of Mother is? How we identify with 'mother' will very much depend on our experiences of childhood. 'Mother' may bring memories of warmth and love or sadly, for some, coldness and neglect. In fact there must be as many perceptions of 'mother' as there are people. I once gave a talk to the Mothers' Union of a church in Bournemouth. There were two men amongst the group and I naturally assumed that they were accompanying their wives, but I was wrong. They too were members of the Mothers' Union, as was the vicar of that church who is also a man. (I mention this to make the point that I certainly don't believe that the concept of 'mothering', defined as 'the nurturing and raising of a child', applies only to the female gender.)

'Mothers Day' has become a massive commercial enterprise. It's hard to ignore the advertisements for flowers and gifts or the restaurants vying for our business to take our mum's out for a lovely lunch – all to show our appreciation for the love that our mothers show to us. I'm not criticising that by the way, but I wonder, does it detract somewhat from a truer, deeper meaning of 'mother'.

The church encourages us to look at motherhood in an altogether more intense way in comparison to the commercial viewpoint of "your mum loves you so show her you love her by buying her a big bunch flowers". However we may personally identify with 'mother', on Mothering Sunday we look to one mother for our understanding – to Mary the mother of Jesus.

Love is most definitely at the core of the message of the Gospel but a mother's love, and most especially the love that Mary demonstrated, for God and for Jesus, is a love beyond love, a love that is demonstrated by costly self-sacrifice.

So this Mothering Sunday (19th March) come and celebrate all that is wonderful about mothers and mothering at a special family service in St Martin's Church, Martinstown – with posies of daffodils for all!

Jean • Team Vicar





CHURCH SERVICES during...

MARCH 2023

SUNDAY 5th • 2nd Sunday of Lent

10.00	Holy Communion	- Winterbourne Abbas
11.00	Holy Communion	- Martinstown

SUNDAY 12th • 3rd Sunday of Lent

8.00	Holy Communion (BCP)	- Martinstown
9.30	Holy Communion	- Compton Valence
11.00	Holy Communion	- Winterbourne Steepleton

SUNDAY 19th • 4th Sunday of Lent – Mothering Sunday

10.00	Worship Together	- Winterbourne Abbas
11.00	Worship Together family service	- Martinstown
17.00	Church@Five	- Martinstown

SUNDAY 26th • 5th Sunday of Lent – Passiontide begins

11.00	Holy Communion	- Martinstown
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The Parishes of the Winterbournes & Compton Valence

Team Rector – Rev'd Keith Magee (07766 645135)

The Winterbournes and Compton Valence Ministry Team

Team Vicar – Rev'd Jean Saddington (01305 889992) *Available on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays*
(On other days please contact one of the Church Wardens for all parish matters.)

Associate Priest – Rev'd Jo Lacy-Smith (01305 889476)

Licensed Lay Minister – Allen Knott (01305 267217)

Permission to Officiate – Peter Wilkinson (01305 889077)

Organists

Nigel Power – Martinstown (01305 889910)

Peter Wilkinson – Winterbourne Steepleton (01305 889077)

Laurie Reading – for music at Winterbourne Abbas (01305 889693)

For Compton Valence please contact the Church Wardens

The Parish of the Winterbournes

There is a single Parochial Church Council for Martinstown, Steepleton and Abbas but each parish church retains its own local church committee.

Churchwardens – Dick Corbett-Winder (889410), Ellie Sturrock (07980 089470), Joy Parsons (889611)

PCC Hon. Secretary – John Crawford (01305 889377)

PCC Hon. Treasurer – Tom Webb (01305 889097)

The Parish of Saint Thomas of Canterbury, Compton Valence

Churchwarden & Treasurer – Jeremy Russell (01308 482227)


Churchwarden & Secretary – Peter Steel (01308 482782)

Dorchester and The Winterbournes Team Website: www.dorchesteranglican.info

Any of the above can be approached in the first instance for Baptism, Marriage, Home Communion or just a visit and they would welcome being told when anybody has been bereaved or is ill. They have answerphones for you to leave a message.

If you want us to remember anything or anyone in the public prayer of the Church, we would be glad to do this as long as permission of the person involved is assured.



**PALM
SUNDAY**

*Come and celebrate
Palm Sunday
at a special service at 11 am
on Sunday, 2nd April
St Michael's Church,
Winterbourne Steepleton*

Meditation @ Steepleton
Church

*Beginners welcome
Practiced meditators
welcome
The curious welcome*



7pm till 8.30 pm
weekly on Wednesdays
Jo Lacy Smith
889476 or 07841776759



**church
@five**

Sunday 19th March at 5pm
St Martin's Church, Martinstown

An informal service centred on worship, prayer and the bible. We will begin with light refreshments, followed by music led worship at 5.15.

All welcome...

FREE



Join us at Messy Church...
St. Mary's Church, Winterbourne Abbas

Messy activities • games • songs • stories • supper

First Tuesday of the month!
7th March 2023 • 3pm – 5pm



Find us on Facebook

Did you know that the 3 churches in the Winterbournes Parish are now on Facebook? You can 'like' and 'follow' for news and photos from St Michael's, St Mary's and St Martin's.





Winterborne St Martin PARISH COUNCIL

NEWS MAR23

Since our last meeting, the Winterborne has continued to rise to very high levels. Over 50 day's worth of tankers pumping out and a 'Dry January' have now seen the level drop quite considerably.

The Parish Council has upped their pressure on Wessex Water for data about the releases of untreated waste from the Pumping Station and the possibility of replacing the sewer in the near future. The Chair has published official figures for the short period up to New Year and this does not include any seepage from drains etc. When tested the seepage is 95% water however, it is the 5% which we are very concerned about. We have lodged complaints to the Environment Agency who have the power to impose large penalties. It is no consolation but there are many villages in Dorset in a similar situation as Winterborne St Martin. Figures released for Thames Water show that 146 places where a similar problem occurs. WW do not publish their data as freely.

Wessex Water have said that we are in line for a full relining of the sewer throughout the village. Extensive camera work will need to take place before this can happen and it may take up to 12 months to complete. They cannot make a start at present because of the flow of sewage passing through the system would render the pictures useless. We will have to wait until the summer I fear.

Work continues to improve the Village Green with the planting of a Jubilee Tree in the near future. This is on top of the siting of an electrical point for council related activities on the Garage. Which neatly brings me to the point that the garage has been successfully let to a resident.

Sealed bids were opened at the January meeting.

We have the King's Coronation later this year and the Council are keen to support any person or body who wishes to lead on this. Our Annual Parish Meeting will also be in May but the Bank Holiday situation needs to be looked at in depth. The meeting is likely to be on a Friday night in the Village Hall.

I am sad to say that Cllr Follet has stepped down as of 31st January. Deborah has been the instigator of several initiatives (Christmas Tree for one) and a lead on the Winterborne clearance. This year we are all especially thankful to her and Jon for doing such a good job.

We are in the process of settling in a new Clerk, Marion Baird, who will be a great credit to us once she is au fait with the systems and the foibles of the councillors.

Martin Usherwood

Recycling, Rubbish & Garden Waste Collection Dates

MARCH 2023*

For more information contact: www.dorsetforyou.com/recycle

2nd (Thursday)	– rubbish and food	9th (Thursday)	– recycling and food
16th (Thursday)	– rubbish and food	23rd (Thursday)	– recycling and food
30th (Thursday)	– rubbish and food		
1st (Weds)	– garden waste	15th (Weds)	– garden waste
29th (Weds)	– garden waste		

* Correct at time of printing.





VALLEY CLUB NEWS

"For everyone, forever".

This is how the biggest conservation charity in Europe describes its cause and Emma Ayling, Senior Volunteering and Community Officer at the National Trust spoke to us on 16th January about what that means for the portfolio in North and West Dorset.

We heard how Octavia Hill, a pioneering thinker and social reformer and one of the three founders of the National Trust believed in the importance of access to nature for human wellbeing and the need to stop the destruction of the natural landscape. In a wide - ranging presentation, Emma showed how those principles are still today translated into action on our doorstep.

The conservation and preservation of the Hardy Monument and the spectacular Art-Deco villa, Portland

House are two examples and we learned about the work done to maintain them. Similarly, Clouds Hill, the country cottage TE Lawrence moved into 100 years ago this year has been cared for by skilled conservationists tackling

humidity, pests, light exposure and specialist cleaning of the furniture and art.

Hardy's cottage and Max Gate were given

similar treatment and we heard how the Trust is working on having the contents of Hardy's study returned to Max Gate from the Dorchester Hardy Centre.

Emma shared the outdoors work of the archeology rangers across the local National Trust land and the restoration of the Hill Forts habitats, implementing management plans to monitor conditions and maintain the ecology. The work of the gardening teams were covered and we discovered how the visitor experience

managers have been encouraging the best possible experiences, with new walks making the countryside accessible. This included making Trampers (mobility scooters built for all-terrain use) available for hire to access Golden Cap and Hive Beach. If that's not enough to get anyone outside, then how about Masterchef winner Matt Follas leading you in foraging expeditions with



the National Trust?!

The presentation contained a wealth of vivid images creating an entertaining presentation, made all the more so by the enthusiastically added snippets provided by Emma's National Trust colleague, Keith, who happened to also be her husband...!

I wasn't alone in feeling inspired to visit or re-visit some of the amazing properties. Some may even answer the call for more volunteers.

Turning to upcoming events, we have the AGM on the 20th March, when Tom and Chloe Marsh from Eweleaze Organic Dairy Farm will share their story. Find out how the team that brought us the local milk vending outlet created their organic system with an eye on sustainability and became a supplier to the multinational Müller brand. The AGM will also be an opportunity for us to thank Angela Barrett and Jill Empson for their long service on the Committee and also to Clive Willetts who has acted as examiner of our accounts for 17 years.

In breaking news, we now have a chosen venue and date for this year's village outing! After a close contest the final deciding vote was for Beaulieu and that is all set for the 22nd June. More details to come.

Chris Evans, Secretary.





T H I S M O N T H ' S N E W S F R O M

Martinstown Women's Institute

Wednesday 8th February was "Fit February". Anne Tate demonstrated Qi Gong which was developed in China thousands of years ago as part of traditional Chinese medicine. It involves using exercises to relax the mind and strengthen the body and is suitable for all ages and abilities. We meet on Mondays at 2 pm in the village hall to practice Qi Gong and Tai Chi. All are welcome.

Barbara Haslam then followed with exercises for legs and hips. A healthy eating quiz revealed how little some of us know about the calories we consume in a glass of wine or a hot cross bun with butter!!

At our next meeting on 8th March at 2.30 we are looking forward to a visit from Snooks Hats of Bridport. The Garden Club will resume on Monday 6th March at 3 pm.

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY - VILLAGE OUTING - Thursday 22nd June to Beaulieu More details to follow.

Angela Barrett - Secretary

POP UP CURRY TAKE AWAY NIGHT

In aid of the **Community Coronation Picnic** celebrating the **Coronation of King Charles III** in Winterbourne Abbas.

Friday 17th March
5pm and 7pm at
St Mary's Church,
Winterbourne Abbas

On Friday March 17th between 5pm and 7pm we will be selling fresh home made curries with all the trimmings. A tray of curry and rice will be priced from £5 and side orders from 50p a portion. There will also be a small selection of delicious deserts on offer.

The proceeds of the Pop Up Takeaway will be going towards the Coronation Picnic which will be held at Little Glebe Farm Orchard on Monday 8th May. We hope to be able to provide a free of charge, fun filled family day out with games, competitions and cake!

Come along and enjoy a delicious curry that can be taken home and enjoyed or you can pop it into the freezer to enjoy at a later date.





An invitation for the children of the village! An informative and fun morning of Hedgehog facts, games and artwork: Saturday 11 March 10 – 12 Martinstown Village Hall. If you would like to find out all about hedgehogs and learn what we can do in our gardens and green spaces to give them a helping hand, come along and join us, bringing your adult with you!

On February 4th Green Martinstown hosted a morning of Birdbox Making in the Village Hall for the children and parents of the valley. Differently designed kits of bird nesting boxes for Robins, Blue Tits/Nuthatches and Sparrows were all ready for the children to assemble. The hall was buzzing with the sounds of children, electric screwdrivers, hammering and the clinking of tea cups, and now Martinstown has nesting space for about 20 new bird families! Hopefully the boxes are now installed in trees around the village ready for the coming Spring and breeding time. For information placing birdboxes go to www.rspb.org.uk

On Feb 8th there was an Information Evening on the Green Martinstown Solar Panel Bulk Buy project in Martinstown Village Hall. Daniel Cole from local firm Wessex Eco Energy came to talk and answer questions about this project and now to date 33 households have signed up. There is still time to add you name: the more households the cheaper! Contact greenmartinstown@gmail.com

The Great Big Dorset Hedge. Dorset Climate Action Network (DCAN) has a major long term project to create wildlife corridors throughout Dorset! This exciting project includes our local

parishes. There are already over 100 volunteers at work along the route, but as it is over 100 miles long more help is needed! See www.dorsetcan.org/hedge.html for more information. The hedge will initially go along the Jubilee Way - the bridleway skirting the South West corner of Martinstown parish. The plan is to survey the state of existing hedges all along the route of the Jubilee Way and nearby, which will inform what needs to be done in terms of planting. If you are interested in helping as a volunteer surveyor, coordinator and eventually a planter of hedge trees – please do get in contact. greenmartinstown@gmail.com





SHELTERBOX CHARITY QUIZ - Please give your support

Please support the quiz on Friday, 10 March 2023 at 7pm in Martinstown Village Hall. The quiz is being held to raise funds for the charity SHELTERBOX. ShelterBox is a charity that delivers aid to families devastated by conflict and disaster, to give them durable shelter and the tools to rebuild. £30 could provide a family with

a sleeping mat and thermal blankets, £60 a water filter giving access to clean drinking water, £350 a strong, family sized tent, while £590 provides a tent, solar lights, water filter, cooking sets, blankets and mats. All shelter box kits are customised to meet the individual needs of each community they help, often supplying such items as timber, corrugated iron, tarpaulin and rope.

A series of powerful earthquakes have devastated southern Türkiye (formerly Turkey) and northern Syria. Thousands of buildings have collapsed leaving people homeless in the middle of a bitter winter. ShelterBox is responding by providing emergency shelter for families affected by these earthquakes. Survivors are in dire need of support; the type of support that SHELTERBOX can provide. Please come along and have a great evening of entertainment knowing that every penny you spend is going to help keep people in need alive. If you are unable to come, we are happy to take donations of money that we will send on to ShelterBox or please donate a raffle prize to raise funds on the night.

Tickets are priced at £10 to include supper, there will be a cash only bar at the venue. Tickets are available in advance only, from Sally Webb on behalf of the Charity Group of the Parishes of the Winterbournes on 01305 889097

PARISH OF THE WINTERBOURNES CHARITY GROUP

CHARITY QUIZ NIGHT & PLOUGHMAN'S SUPPER

IN AID OF SHELTER BOX

FRIDAY, 10 MARCH 2023 • 7PM

Martinstown Village Hall • **Cash Bar, Raffle**

Tickets £10

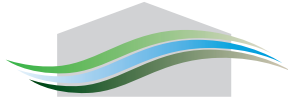
only available in advance from **Sally: 01305 889097**

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER – Friday 3 March

'I have heard about your faith' • A service for everyone!

St George's Church, Fordington at 10.30am





MARTINSTOWN VILLAGE HALL Regular Group Meetings

MONDAY

Martinstown Playgroup	10 - 12 noon	Louisa Shephard - 07585622699
Beavers, Cubs & Scouts	5:30 - 7:30 pm	Sue Gower - 01305 889388
Monday Meeting	2:00 - 3:00 pm	Anne Tate - 01305 889506
WI Garden Club (1st Monday in month)	3:30 - 4:30 pm	Anne Tate - 01305 889506
Valley Club (3rd Monday in month)	7:45 - 10 pm	Ange Schulke - 07788858935

TUESDAY

Botanical Art (term times only)	9:30 - 12:30 pm	Pat Allen - 01308 862063
Sequence Dance Group	2:30 - 4:40 pm	Ann Matthews - 01305 889248
Badminton	7:30 - 9:30 pm	Juliet Rose - 07969292973

WEDNESDAY

Chair Based Exercise	10:30 - 11:30 am	Suzanne Fellows-Joyce - 01308 281882
W.I. (2nd Wednesday in month)	6:45 - 9:00 pm	Rosie Duke - 01305 889555
Beginners' Dance	8:00 - 10:00 pm	Ann Matthews - 01305 889248

THURSDAY

Poundbury Art Group	10:00 - 1:00 pm	Teresa Blades - 01305 889947
Sequence Dance Group	2:30 - 4:30 pm	Ann Matthews - 01305 889248
Yoga	6:00 - 7:30 pm	Gemma O'Beirne - 07821593314

FRIDAY

Keep Fit class	10:15 - 11:45 am	Suzanne Fellows-Joyce - 01308 281882
Bingo (every other Friday)	7:00 - 9:30 pm	Ann Matthews - 01305 889248

Chairperson - Jan Griffiths - 01305 889738
 Bookings - Ann Matthews - 01305 889248
 or email ronann.matthews@btinternet.com





Cakes with an Angel...

Disaster Emergency fundraiser.

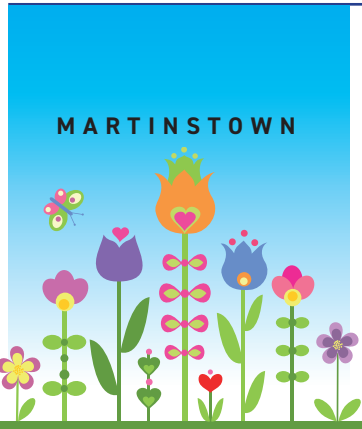
Come and help us help those in peril from the earthquakes.

We invite you for a hot drink and delicious home baked cake plus an opportunity to spend time in Steepleton church with the Saxon Angel, walk in the grounds and enjoy our beautiful space.

Bring a cake to share and sell, come and taste someone else's, load yourself with financial donations for the Disaster Emergency Fund. (We aim to have a card reader available as well as taking cash)

Saturday, March 18th 11-1pm St Michael and all the angels, Winterbourne Steepleton.

Call **Ellie Sturrock** to find out more and ask any questions you may have about our church: **07980 089470**. ...otherwise, see you there.



OPEN GARDENS

- 2 0 2 3 -

Martinstown Open Gardens will be returning this year, for the weekend of **17th and 18th of June**. Thanks to Toni and her team, there will again be a Dog Show, on the Saturday afternoon, and of course teas, with wonderful Martinstown cakes, in the Hall on both afternoons. There's a lot of work involved in Open Gardens, much of it behind the scenes, but the really important work goes on in all of our amazing village gardens, be they large or small. We'll be getting in touch with people who've been kind enough to open their gardens in previous years and hoping they'll be willing to do so again. It would be wonderful to have new gardens open this year. All gardens are interesting to open-garden-goers: long-established, newly made, developing, at the planning stage, and add to the pleasure of visitors. We'd love to hear from you and can offer plenty of help, advice and reassurance.

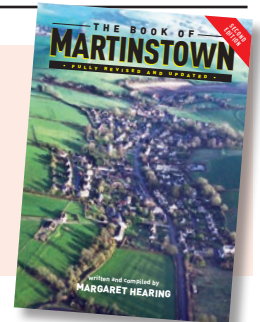
Please get in touch with anyone on the Village Hall committee to chat about it or 'phone me. We look forward to hearing from you.

Jan Griffiths - 889738

The Book of Martinstown...

...is now available to purchase at The Merchant of St. Martin for a limited time only!

Only 50 copies have been printed - so get yours before they go!





An Evening with Rural Arts...

by Fran Taylor

Saturday night - and "Project Dance" has arrived and because they are travelling light, unlike previous performers that we have hosted, there appears to be very little equipment for us to help with unloading. Introductions are made and cups of tea gratefully received. now its time to discuss the offerings of the hall. The stage? ...no, too small - so the floor is chosen for this evening's performance. Before long the dancers are warming up to music provided by Joseph who controls all the music via speakers and his laptop. The essential lightning is also controlled from his laptop.

This evening Ced and Louisa are in charge of the raffle and our barmaid is Annie - here she comes to organise the bar. The audience start to arrive.

"Welcome, welcome". Raffle tickets are sold, "only a pound a strip" and the bar is now open and waiting for custom and that wont be too long a coming. Seats are taken and 'Project Dance' is ready to entertain.

It was a fantastic evening. The audience demonstrated their enjoyment with their enthusiastic applause. At the end of the evening, the dancers remained to talk to several of the audience, which is something that hasn't happened for sometime. In addition Kerry, who represents Artsreach, spoke to the artists about 'Rural Arts' who up till then had never heard about it. I hope that 'Project Dance' will return once more to Dorset having been selected once again by Rural Arts.

Another fine example of the Artsreach generosity by selecting Projet Dance for Martinstown.

I do hope that this gives you some insight into an Artsreach evening, and inspires you to come and join us.

MARTINSTOWN JUMBLE TRAIL

Sunday 21st May 2023 • 10am - 4pm

Back in the Autumn I mentioned organising a **Jumble Trail** for **Martinstown**. This is definitely on the cards; put **Sunday 21st May** in your diaries. Each participating household will be charged **£5** for selling their unwanted jumble/goods from their own front door, garage, garden etc. This £5 fee will be donated to a charity - I'm hoping that, apart from posters, signage, etc, which we're happy to produce ourselves, most of the advertising will be by Facebook and word of mouth.

If you're still keen to participate, you will need to furnish me with your name, address and contact details.

You can do that either by (preferably but not exclusively!) email **elaineherbert@btinternet.com**, via direct message on the **Martinstown Facebook page** or a note through my door at **1 Cowleaze**.

Thank you, **Elaine Herbert**





MARTINSTOWN CRICKET CLUB

**We need new players, any age, any ability.
Coaching available for youth and adults.**

Martinstown Cricket Club has been in existence in its current form since 1988, and playing in the Valley at our beautiful Ashton ground since 2000.

There are two Saturday League teams, an Evening League team, and occasional friendly matches.

Join us!



or contact the Membership Secretary,
Stu Dawson on 07837 588165

<https://martinstown.play-cricket.com>





Merchant of St. Martin... *so much more than a shop!*

It's March and winter is past. (Technically) Hurrah!!

It is also a year since Michaela, and I had our first conversation about the village shop. So, it's a good excuse to reach out to the village and wider community and remind folk that, 'hey!' this is what The Merchant of St. Martin offers.

We have a **Post Office**, easy to get to and providing a wide range of services - cash withdrawals and deposits, paying in cheques, posting items, paying bills, topping up utilities, product returns. **Amazon Hub**.

A **Laundry service**. Instead of lugging a bag of items into Dorchester, then walking to the laundry, just drop them off with us for later collection. This includes **dry cleaning**.

We have fresh **bakery deliveries** every day, Mon - Sat.

Rise - Focaccia, croissants, sourdough bread and rolls, meat pies.

Wobbly Cottage - Scotch eggs with a tub of mayonnaise sauce (very popular) sourdough, sticky buns.

Baking Bird - sausage rolls, plain or with black pudding, savoury tarts, homemade cakes - apple, chocolate, lemon drizzle.

Peppina - sourdough, croissants - plain and chocolate.

Rebecca Bakes - Cream and sponge cakes, sweet tarts, Pizza Flat Bread.

Punch'n Judy - a basic range of breads including sliced loaves.

Our **freezer section** contains, meat, fish, ice cream, frozen veg, Olive's meals, for one or two people.

In the **fridges**, sandwiches, fresh veg, a wide range of milk, cheeses, pork pies, meat, and fish.

Misc. - fresh vegetables, fruit, and eggs. Wine beer, spirits, and a large collection of dried and tinned goods.

And always remember, you are welcome to pop in for a chat, maybe enjoy a hot drink at our seating areas inside and out.

Also keep up to date with us on **Facebook**.

Finally, a warm welcome to our latest recruit, **Bella**, daughter of Karen.

Be seeing you,

Keith and Michaela

THE MERCHANT OF ST. MARTIN



Monday to Thursday 08:00am until 6:00pm,
Friday and Saturday 08:00am until 2:00pm,
Sunday 09:00am until 12:30pm

Lots of new products are in, including fresh bread and bakery goods.

We look forward to seeing you soon,

Keith & Michaela

telephone numbers: 01305 - 880106 / +44 7394 163080





The **MILEATERS** out and about...

by Laura Baxter



Post Valentine's Day a happy group of 15 Mileaters, shared 4 cars and made the journey to Plush. After selecting our lunch from a menu that bore no relation to The Brace of Pheasant website, we set off up Dead Cat Lane. None were seen! We gathered, near a mysterious trig point, apparently not marked on the OS, for this magnificent photo, directed by Paula, to show off the view of Plush bowl. On we went across Kate's Gallop, at a reasonable pace but certainly not a trot to Ball Hill. While I can't offer an explanation to the naming of Dead Cat Lane, I do know that Kate's Gallop is where Kate's old racehorse retired to, and presumably she used to gallop across the area mentioned, which she owned.

Happily, the weather was dry and the descent down to the Folly was in reasonable condition. The ascent up the other side is always muddy

to begin with. However once over the style, we skirted the old drovers track, the happy throng continued in single file, (photo opportunity missed, sorry Lesley), up on manicured grass, onto the other side of Plush Bowl. Then through a couple of gates where we stopped for coffee to enjoy another stunning view of Lyscombe Bowl complete with a cross dyke, spotted by Nick our landmark specialist. Luckily the sunshine came out. Unluckily that meant the photograph had to be in the opposite direction to the view. After coffee we continued back through the gates towards the pub and past another marked trig point.

The lunch service was efficient, and the food enjoyed, even though there were no Faggots for Mark! Many chose fish and chips, and all agreed they were the best they had had.





BURROW

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Graham Herbert - Valley and Valence Editor

Tel: **01305 889786** or email: info@valleyandvalence.co.uk





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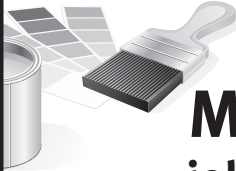
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