

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







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JUNE 2024

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 ANGEL...

of St. Michaels Church

From the green church yard and painted walls of Winterbourne Steepleton this month's missive comes from St Michael.

Please feel free to imagine his fixed and stoic form writing this piece! He has seen the comings and goings of cowslips, wild garlic, the constantly running water of the winterbourne and probably the same genetic line of rooks that still keep parliament in the uppermost boughs above his and our church today.

He has seen vicars and church wardens, congregations, couples marrying, babies heads wetted and bodies being buried here, parliaments (more human this time) and politics coming and going on and on.

It's possible the recurrent floods ARE more novel and he probably bemoans OUR human actions creating climate changes as opposed to this being 'the British weather'. I'm guessing wing power is a very green option!

He will have enjoyed (although his face doesn't show this) gatherings of musicians each month, gardeners, cake makers and eaters, meditators, flower growers and arrangers who support and tend his special place which feels so sacred to so many. He will have noticed the active support and encouragement for the church to be open and welcome to villagers and other local people who are Steepletonophiles even if they don't attend on Sundays.

This year our stone angel has been the host of creative workshops and activities: Christmas angels, Dorset buttons, making of music and garden parties to share cake with him. Teresa (our soon to be incumbered incumbent ie new vicar) was excited to hear that we have a creative community and as the year progresses we look forward to you and her joining us to do Dorset feathery stitch workshops the painting and refreshing of the inside walls and people will come and be still for a moment or two of reflection and prayer.

If you'd like to see or do more we welcome you and all ideas.

So a bye bye to Dick at Martinstown and a hullo to Teresa and on on we go with St Michael watching on!

Ellie Sturrock - Winterbourne Steepleton Church warden



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.





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

The Winterbournes and Compton Valence Ministry Team

Team Vicar - Vacancy (please contact one of the Church Wardens for all parish matters)

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

Licensed Lav 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),

David & 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 answerohones 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.

CHURCH SERVICES during...

JUNE 2024

SUNDAY 2ND • 1ST AFTER TRINITY

10.00 - Holy Communion - Abbas

11.00 - Holy Communion - Martinstown

SUNDAY 16TH • 3RD AFTER TRINITY

10.00 - Worship Together - Abbas

11.00 - Morning Prayer - Martinstown

5.00 - Church@5 - Martinstown

SUNDAY 9TH • 2ND AFTER TRINITY

8.00 - Holy Communion (BCP) - Martinstown

9.30 - Holy Communion - Compton Valence

11.00 - Holy Communion - Steepleton

SUNDAY 23RD • 4TH AFTER TRINITY

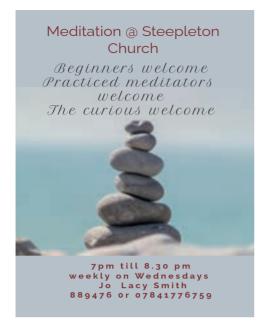
11.00 - Worship Together - Martinstown

SUNDAY 30TH • 5TH AFTER TRINITY

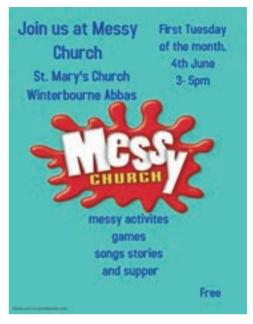
11.00 - Benefice Communion - Abbas







V&V JUNE24.indd 6



















THIS MONTH'S NEWS FROM

Martinstown Women's Institute

At our meeting on 8th May we had a talk from Alison Bristo about Orangutans. The name means Man of the Forest and they are found in Malaysia, Borneo and Sumatra. They live in trees on a wide diet including fruit, leaves, ants and termites and are remarkably intelligent, knowing which medicinal leaves to use to cure various ailments and are able to use tools.

Their only predators are tigers and mankind – fires, pollution, logging, clearance of forest for palm oil plantations, hunting and the illegal pet trade are all affecting their numbers. Alison has firsthand experience as she regularly visits an orangutan rehabilitation sanctuary in Borneo.

On Thursday, 13th June there will be a tea party at 3 Hardy Close in aid of Julia's House. Tickets are £5 available from me on 889628.

We are looking forward to the outing to Rosemoor on 20th June. The coach is now full so please inform Lesley lpemby@hotmail.co.uk (889886) if you are not able to come as we now have a waiting list. Don't forget we will be leaving at 8.45 am prompt.

At our next meeting on Wednesday 12th June at 7 pm Nicholas Willoughby will be speaking about "A Life of Fish and Ships".

Angela Barrett - Secretary

Lent Lunches 2024

Many thanks to all who supported the three Lent lunches held in the Village Hall in February and March. A special thanks to those members of the Home Group who donated the home-made soup and bread and provided teas and coffees. Thanks also to members of our community who attended the lunches. As a result of the generosity of all it has been possible to send £445 to support the work of the Weymouth Food Bank.

MARTINSTOWN VILLAGE HALL 100 CLUB DRAW

Martinstown MAY Draw

£25. Gerald Duke £10. Margaret Barden £5. Nikki Grattan Compton Valence APRIL Draw

£25. Pippa James £10. Emily Pulman

£5. Peter and Hazel Hayles

Compton Valence MAY Draw

£25. Tracey Symons £10. Timothy Chick £5. Claire Offer









MARTINSTOWN 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 3:30 - 4:30 pm Anne Tate - 01305 889506

(1st Monday in month)

Valley Club 7:45 - 10 pm Ange Schulke - 07788858935

(3rd Monday in month)

TUESDAY

Botanical Art 9:30 - 12:30 pm Pat Allen - 01308 862063

(term times only)

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-Jovce - 01308 281882

W.I. Rosie Duke - 01305 889555 6:45 - 9:00 pm

(2nd Wednesday in month)

Beginners' Dance 8:00 - 10:00 pm Ann Matthews - 01305 889248

THURSDAY

Poundbury Art Group Teresa Blades - 01305 889947 10:00 - 1:00 pm **Sequence Dance Group** 2:30 - 4:30 pm Ann Matthews - 01305 889248

6:00 - 7:30 pm Gemma O'Beirne - 07821593314 Yoga

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@htinternet.com







In the past months I tried to encourage the Councillors to introduce themselves and set out their stall in the V+V, and interspaced these with hopefully neutral reports from the Chair on the issues we are dealing with. As I'm no longer Chair (there has been an election and as I draft the Council have not yet elected their new Chair) I felt that I could take the same opportunity that I gave to the others.

So, my perspective: Lesley and I moved here ten years ago after a lifetime "following the flag". The things that attracted us to the area then are the things that I would seek to protect in my role as Councillor.

I see the Parish as an entity, not subordinate to or to be enveloped by Dorchester or Poundbury, and actually quite distinct from Winterborne Abbas by virtue of not being on the A35. The Parish area is rural and primarily agricultural, and this brings problems to set alongside the many benefits.

Similarly, the Parish is a mix of new and old. both in terms of residents and buildings, and all must have a say. I do think that the Parish has room for development but within constraints - expansion outside current development boundaries should be exceptional, and future developments should focus on affordable* and/or starter* homes in order to encourage younger residents to help the Parish thrive. However, I will campaign against any new development until the sewage system can cope. However, when that is resolved I would welcome small* infill developments. Flooding relief is more challenging as to my mind it is a balance of costs, benefit, and fighting the inevitable. Note. *words have legal definitions.

In all issues and we must find compromises that work for the majority without impacting the Conservation Area or National Landscape (the new name for AONB). Reaching such

compromises requires a mix of Councillors to cover the many varied perspectives but sadly there was not an election for Councillors as insufficient candidates came forwards to merit one. On the bright side, that will save the PC money, but on the down-side it is sad that of the 604 electors on the register only 6 cared enough to stand.

Thomas Jefferson said "the Government you elect is the government you deserve" and all those who have chosen not to come forward are therefore party to the election of those who were, and are now subject to the whims, prejudices or foibles of those who were willing to stand. So, please bear this in mind when you disagree with the PC's support for a planning decision you oppose, or opposition to a pet project of your own; or when the PC isn't doing enough about the sewers, the state of the roads or indeed mud on or flooding of the roads.

Or when you see the unbridled spending of your Council on grounds, stream or other maintenance, benches, or trees, or indeed when you see yet another hike in the Parish precept to pay for these things that you disagree with or consider wasteful. You could have influenced this and might still through election or co-option...

The one constant will be the Clerk and Vicky remains the Council's first point of contact on clerk@winterbornestmartin-pc.gov.uk. We are moving towards paper publication of the minimum legally required documents with the majority being published on our website www. winterbornestmartin-pc.gov.uk/community/ winterborne-st-martin-parish-council-18643/ home/. And, if you are interested in what we are dealing with please visit the website and subscribe for updates.

Mark Pemberton



Web: greenmartinstown.org.uk

Email: greenmartinstown@gmail.com

Events Diary

Open Meeting Friday June 14th, 6 - 7.30pm. Martinstown Village Hall.

Open to Members and Valley residents. Updates on activities, light refreshments and short interesting presentations on local natural history. A chance to meet up with members and the Core Group, ask questions, get involved in our projects and join our growing band of Greeners!

Bees, Bugs and Butterflies Saturday July 6thfrom 10-12am. Village Hall.

A morning of activities for young people to learn about the importance and wonder of insects. Come along and make bug hotels to attract helpful insects into your garden. Children must be accompanied by a responsible person. Materials supplied. A donation would be appreciated.

Community Asset Transfer

The Application Form is with Dorset Council and we expect a reply in a few weeks. So far we have had one comment from villagers about this. If you do have any comments, suggestions or questions please email or use the box in the village shop. Don't forget to buy something while you are there.

Playground hedge

The young trees have suffered over the winter and several have had to be replaced. Once the fence is removed please take care not to damage the young trees so that eventually they will form a fine hedge.

Water quality

GM is working with Citizen Science to monitor the stream from Winterbourne Abbas to West Stafford in 6 locations every month. The results are fed back to Wessex Water as part of an effort to lower sewage discharges.

Travel by Bus

Many thanks to Dorset Action Transport Group and in particular Les. They have worked really hard and got First Bus to reinstate the X51 bus service. This means we can now catch a bus to Dorchester, Weymouth, Bridport, or Axminster. There are up to 6 buses a day. The service is a trial run up to September. If it is not used we are likely to lose it again.

Gardening Eco Tips - Cut your carbon in the garden.

Here are some reminders that will help make better choices for the planet when you buy plants

- 1. Use peat-free compost.
- Read the label. Was it grown in the British Isles or imported? Imported plants carry a greater risk of introducing pests and diseases.
- 3. What is the pot made of? Is it plastic or something biodegradable?
- 4. How long will it last? Is it worth buying annuals or perennials which last longer?
- Is it good for insects? Choose plants with simple flowers - ones without lots of petals. They are more likely to attract bees and butterflies.



The Martinstown Flower Festival 2024





















The Martinstown WI display...

Three ladies under the supervision of Julie set to and created a masterpiece floral display for the Flower festival in our lovely church.

Not a normal coffee break... this is the WI you know, so Bucks Fizz it had to be. Back to work.

With the weather being so glorious ,lunch was outside on the village green . Then Julie had us back to the job. The finish article was a real treasure and I hope many people went to view the floral displays as they were all wonderful.





















2024 is a special year for the villages of Portesham and Abbotsbury. A year ago plans were put in place to recognise and celebrate that 1000 years ago in 1024 King Canute (Cnut) wrote a charter giving the area known as Porteshamme to his manservant Orc. This original charter is stored in Dorset History Centre and a copy is to be displayed on the village green in Portesham. This is the first written record that defines the area now known as Portesham. Abbotsbury will also celebrate its Millennium this year however, the written record has been lost.

There is evidence of humans inhabiting this area since Neolithic times but this document is the first written record.

To mark this important milestone both villages will hold a number of events throughout the year and some have already taken place. Villagers are entering into the spirit and celebrating in a variety of ways. Bunting made by residents showing the logo designed by an experienced local resident is already in place, Flags are to come and many of us now own a teeshirt or mug with the logo emblazoned on the front. A Millennium garden is being constructed in the village and a calender of events in both villages is on display in Portesham village hall. June, July and August will be the time of a series of events where we hope good weather will shine on us. Our Anglo Saxon village sign is already in place on the Green opposite the pub with more to come.

June planned events in Portesham & Abbotsbury where all are welcome are:

- 1. Open Gardens Sun 9th June Abbotsbury
- 2. Festival of landscape painting 9-14 June Abbotsbury
- 3. Open Gardens Sat & Sun 15/16 June 2 5pm. Portesham. Entrance £5 to cover both days. Teas in Village Hall
- 4. Historic walk around Portesham 2pm village green. £2
- 5. Flamenco & Paella evening 29 June Portesham village hall. Doors & bar open 6pm Tickets £18, essential to book call Jan 01305 250212 or www. ticketsource.co.uk then enter Portesham
- Flower festival Portesham St Peters Church 29 June 6 July. Entrance free or email maadp24@gmail.com for more details.

July events will include a Motor show in Kings Arms gardens, Portesham. Flower festival St Nicholas Church Abbotsbury, Fayre through the Ages Portesham school field. Entrance free to all events.



For full opening times, go to **Dorsetartweeks.co.uk** or download the app.

Flower Joy Ceramics - venue 116

Makes decorative ceramic homewares celebrating the beauty and fragility of nature. Made from porcelain paper clay imprinted with seasonal flowers and plants.

1 Higher Dairy Farm, Compton Valance

John A Graham - venue 133

John's oil paintings are displayed in the wonderful Ashton Farm Barn. Subjects include landscapes, animals, shells, hands, flowers, and more.

Ashton Farm Barn, Ashton Farm, Martinstown

Art Related - venue 134

Sister and Brother **Anne Tracey Guinea** and **Colin Tracey** bring together fabric, paint, photography and stunning stitch work, and new work emerging from each others art.

17 St Martinfield, Martinstown



Recycling, Rubbish & Garden Waste Collection Dates

JUNE 2024*

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

13th (Thursday)

- recycling and food

6th (Thursday)

- rubbish and food

27th (Thursday)

- recycling and food

20th (Thursday)

- rubbish and food

8th (Weds)

- garden waste

19th (Weds)

- garden waste

* Correct at time of printing.



The Community Lunch

Come and join us at the **Village Hall** for a scrumptious **2 course lunch and coffee**, with lots of chat and laughter, all for **£7.00**. Lunches are usually on the first Friday of each month, recommencing on **2nd February**.

Booking really is essential to ensure that we have the right amount of delicious food, so please 'phone Ced on 889438 if you didn't put your name down at the last lunch in July (or if you're not sure!).

- USEFUL CONTACT ADDRESSES & PHONE NUMBERS -

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X51 BUS MINI-TIMETAB	E Red: School Days only -			- Blue: Non-School Days				
Monday to Friday - Westbound		Carried W	Layer -	NSD	SDO	Superior .	Same	
Weymouth King's Statue	***	0914	1112	1314	1322	1519	1722	***
Dorchester Trinity Street	0756	0941	1138	1343	1351	1547	1750	1903
Martinstown Post Office	0814	0959	1157	1402	1410	1606	1807	1920
Bridport West Street	0841	1032	1231	1434	1446	1639	1834	1948
Lyme Regis Square	0923	1122	1321	1520	1536	1723	1913	2027
Axminster Railway Station	0950	1150	1350	1550	1604	1750	***	***
Monday to Friday - Eastbound		SDO	January 1	April 1 marie	in any	Lune	January P.	a system
Axminster Railway Station		***	0815	1015	1215	1415	1620	1815
Lyme Regis Post Office	***	***	0841	1042	1240	1440	1643	1835
Bridport West Street	0649	0736	0928	1133	1327	1529	1729	1915
Martinstown Post Office	0719	0801	0958	1204	1357	1558	1756	1939
Dorchester Hospital Bridport Rd.	0732	0813	1011	1217	1410	1611	1808	1950
Weymouth King's Statue	***	***	1048	1258	1451	1658	***	2025
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Dorchester Trinity Street	0757	0948	1144	1342	1551	1740	1904	
Martinstown Post Office	0815	1006	1202	1401	1609	1756	1920	***
Bridport West Street	0847	1039	1236	1435	1640	1824	1948	***
Lyme Regis Square	0926	1125	1323	1522	1724	1907	***	-
Axminster Railway Station	0950	1150	1350	1549	1750	***	***	***
Saturday - Eastbound						-	4	
Axminster Railway Station	0815	1015	1215	1415	1615	1815	***	***
Lyme Regis Post Office	0838	1039	1238	1439	1637	1835	100	
Bridport West Street	0927	1130	1326	1526	1722	1920	***	***
Martinstown Post Office	0954	1156	1353	1552	1751	1946	-	***
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Axminster Railway Station	0925	1015	1215	1415	1615	1815	***	***
Lyme Regis Post Office	0835	1034	1235	1434	1637	1836	***	***
Bridport West Street	0917	1116	1319	1518	1719	1919	***	344
Martinstown Post Office	0947	1146	1347	1546	1747	1945	***	***
Dorchester Hospital Bridport Rd.	0959	1158	1359	1557	1758	1956	***	****
Weymouth King's Statue	1032	1236	1435	1634	1831	2026	***	***

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