The Parish Magazine for
Winterborne St. Martin (Martinstown) • Winterbourne Abbas,
Winterbourne Steepleton • Compton Valence

MARCH 2017
The “fake news & alternative facts” Edition
THE BREWER’S ARMS

Great homemade food, real ales and a warm welcome await you at the Brewers Arms in Martinstown.

Daily and Weekend Food Specials
...making the most of the best local produce.

Curry Night
...every Tuesday for £10 including a drink.

Quiz Night
...every Wednesday starting at 8.30pm with cash prizes.

Bed and Breakfast
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A 17th Century Georgian House, set in the idyllic village of Winterborne St Martin.

Park House has a dedicated team to provide residential care for up to 20 residents, with 20 single rooms, 19 with En-suite facilities. The home is small enough to offer a truly homely atmosphere and believes wholeheartedly in the motto “Home is where the heart is”.

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To find out more please call Antonia Cook
Tel: 01305 889499 or Mobile: 07813 196 958
There is nothing better than settling into your favourite chair with a drink and your preferred paper or magazine.

We stock all the national papers and have several magazines to choose from too. Please do note we can put by your paper daily or you can even have it delivered by our paper boy - seven days a week.

I can also order in your favourite magazine or one that you wish especially for a treat so please do ask.

Hope to see you soon. Karen Barrett

Tel: 01305 889547 • Email: martinstownvillagestore@gmail.com • Martinstown Village Store

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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 15th (LATEST) OF THE PRECEDING MONTH in order to be included in that issue.

CONTRIBUTORS WANTED
If you have a story to tell, an interesting anecdote or some news that you would like to share with others, please send them in - and don’t forget to send photos!
Graham Herbert, Editor – Tel: 01305 889786

Contributors
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Winterbourne Valley School PTA 10
Martinstown Village Hall Notice Board 12
Garden and Craft Show 14
Martinstown’s Prison Camp - Margaret Hearing 20
Valley Club News 22
NEW revised Bus Timetable 23

Remember: the shape of this page does not necessarily reflect the page number of this issue.

Front cover main photograph by Donald Trump ©2017.

MARCH 2017

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Dear Friends

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 welcome posies of daffodils into the church and relax whatever sacrifice we may have made for the six-week period of Lent.

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 recently 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 is 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 (especially as I welcome it when my sons take me out to lunch), 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 (26th 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!

Yours in Christ
Jean Saddington - Team Vicar
The Parishes of The Winterbournes & Compton Valence

TEAM RECTOR
Rev’d Canon Thomas Woodhouse (01305 267944)

TEAM VICAR
Rev’d Jean Saddington (01305 889992)
Available on: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays & Sundays
Please only contact her for urgent matters on other days.

LICENSED LAY MINISTER
Allen Knott (01305 267217)

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), John Crawford (889377), Joy Parsons (889611)
PCC Hon. Secretary Alison Crawford (889377)
PCC Hon. Treasurer Bruce Robertson

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.

CHURCH CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY 1 MARCH – ASH WEDNESDAY
19.00  Holy Communion  Martinstown

SUNDAY 5 MARCH - 1st OF LENT
10.00  Holy Communion  Winterbourne Abbas
11.00  Holy Communion  Martinstown

SUNDAY 12 MARCH - 2nd OF LENT
08.00  Holy Communion (BCP)  Martinstown
09.30  Holy Communion  Compton Valence
11.00  Holy Communion  Winterbourne Steepleton

SUNDAY 19 MARCH - 3rd OF LENT
10.00  Holy Communion  Winterbourne Abbas
11.00  Holy Communion  Martinstown
18.00  Songs of Praise  Winterbourne Abbas

SUNDAY 26 MARCH - MOTHERING SUNDAY
19.00  Morning Worship – a Family Service to celebrate Mothering Sunday  Martinstown

Morning prayer is every held every Tuesday and Thursday at 8:30am in Martinstown and evening prayer on Thursdays at 5:30pm at Winterbourne Abbas.
Holy Week and Easter (Advance Notice)

Palm Sunday Services – 9th April
8 am – Holy Communion (BCP) – Martinstown
9.30 am – Holy Communion with palm procession – Compton Valence
11 am – Holy Communion with palm procession – Winterbourne Steepleton

Holy Week
Monday, 10th April, 9 pm – Compline (Night Prayer), Winterbourne Abbas
Wednesday, 12th April, 8 pm – Compline (Night Prayer), Martinstown
Maundy Thursday, 13th April, 7 pm – Holy Communion & Vigil, Martinstown
Good Friday, 14th April, 11 am – Family Service, Martinstown
3 pm – Good Friday Service, Winterbourne Steepleton

Easter Day
Sunday 16th April, 9.30 am – Holy Communion, Compton Valence
10.00 am – Holy Communion, Winterbourne Abbas
11.00 am – Holy Communion, Martinstown

Lent
The Ecumenical York Course - ‘Receiving Christ in Five Different Ways’ by Canon John Young

Thursday mornings from 9th March–6th April – 10.30–12 noon at The Rectory, Martinstown

‘To all who received him, he gave power to become children of God’ raises big questions: aren’t we all children of God anyway? Just how can we receive Christ? And what does it mean to have ‘a relationship with God?’

Session 1: Receiving Christ: as children of God
Session 2: Receiving Christ: in the stranger and the needy
Session 3: Receiving Christ: in Holy Communion
Session 4: Receiving Christ: through prayer and fellowship
Session 5: ‘Christ in you, the hope of glory’ (Col 1.27)

For more information go to: www.yorkcourses.co.uk

Lent lunches will be held in the Village Hall at 12.30 pm on Fridays throughout Lent (beginning 10th March). Come and enjoy delicious home made soup and bread and great company. Money raised will go to support the Dorchester Poverty Action Group.

Messy Church at Easter
At St. Mary’s Winterbourne Abbas
On Saturday 8th April 2017 10am till 1pm
For families of all shapes and sizes.
Please do come along and join with us for stories, activities, song and sharing lunch together
Jo Lacy-Smith 01305 889476
Dates for your diary:
Fundraising events for Winterbourne Abbas Church
18th March 2:00pm Jumble sale at Martinstown Village Hall
8th April 7:30pm Quiz night at Martinstown Village Hall
For all enquiries please contact Joy Parsons on 01305 889611

Church Flower Team

The annual meeting of the Church Flower Team occurred on the evening of Friday 10th February at the Manor Grove Community room. Ladies and gents arrived with plates of food to share and a small flower arrangement to go into the raffle.

The business part of the evening, discussing upcoming flower events and themes, happened at the beginning – followed by the tasty home made refreshments.

The fun and learning part of the evening was a couple of flower arrangement demonstrations with the theme of Spring and Easter flowers by Dawn Gephart, co-partner of Combe Blooms, a local grower of British flowers for weddings and other events. Dawn is a talented flower arranger of 20+ years experience.

Dawn demonstrated how to work with greenery, flowers and grasses to show them all to their best advantage, while answering questions thrown at her by the audience. What some of us lacked in flower arranging skills we made up for with our enthusiasm to pick Dawn’s brain for ideas.

If anyone wants to join the team then please contact Geraldine Canniford, who would be very pleased to add you to the rota.

Do you enjoy singing? Would you like to meet from time to time in Martinstown to sing a varied repertoire (including music for some services at St Martin’s) with a small group of local people? We would welcome all voices, but most particularly altos, tenors and basses. If you’re interested, please contact Jan Griffiths - 01305 889738.
Charity Chamber Music Concert

Jurassic Strings (a quintet of local professional musicians) will perform a programme of music including works by Handel, Mozart, Vivaldi, Puccini and Brahms

Sunday 5th March at 7.30 pm at Bridehead, Littlebredy, DT2 9JA

In aid of Chesil Sailability and Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra Benevolent Fund.

Space in the auditorium is limited, so admission is by prior booking only. Further details and booking forms may be obtained from: pennyjtweed@gmail.com

A Silent Space: Connectedness

At this time where signs of divisiveness are often in the headlines, it is easy to forget what connects us all.

We invite you to join with a group who come from different spiritual paths on Tuesday March 7th at St. Martin’s Church, 6pm for 20 minutes of silent mediation, drawn to a close with a story or poetry. Jo Lacy- Smith 01305 889476

We hope the children are enjoying the new play equipment which they received just before half term. Currently each class has a set day to use the equipment.

At our most recent meeting, the PTFA have agreed that a sum of money will be donated to each class. The children will decide how best to spend this money with the help of their teacher and could be related to their topic area. We look forward to seeing what ideas the children come up with. Obviously, the more money we can raise, then the more funds can be given to school to pay for new classroom equipment and external resources.

Please note the following dates for your diaries:

CHOCOLATE BINGO – 5pm Friday 31st March, Martinstown Village Hall

FUN RUN, DUCK RACE & BBQ – Saturday 13th May. 10.30am onwards, Martinstown

SUMMER FAYRE – Saturday 1st July at Winterbourne Valley First School

Please do come along and support these events. Volunteers are also needed to help and the success of the events very much depends on them. Please let me know if you are able to give up an hour of your time to help out.

The next PTFA meeting will be on Thursday 27th April at 7pm at school. Please do come along and support your PTFA. All are very welcome.

Beverley Smith - Chairperson
office@winterbournevalley.dorset.sch.uk

“Please can you collect Sainsburys Active Kids 2017 vouchers for Winterbourne Valley Primary School and deposit them in the container on the counter in the Martinstown Village Store. With grateful thanks to Karen for allowing us to use the shop as a collection point.”
CHARITY

CONCERT

IN AID OF HILFIELD

St. Martin's Church, Martinstown

Saturday 22nd April at 7.30

Local Choirs and Musicians

Refreshments in the interval
- nibbles and a glass of wine or soft drink

Donations will be gratefully received.

Please come and support this event
<table>
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<tr>
<th><strong>MONDAY</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Baby &amp; Toddler Group</strong></td>
<td>10.00am - 12noon</td>
<td>Contact: Lizzie Walden - Tel: 07949 639011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Table Tennis</strong></td>
<td>2.30pm - 3.30pm</td>
<td>Contact: Margaret Hearing - Tel: 01305 889346</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Beavers, Cubs &amp; Scouts</strong></td>
<td>5.30pm - 7.30pm</td>
<td>Contact: Sue Gower - Tel: 01305 889388</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Valley Club</strong> (3rd Monday in month)</td>
<td>7.30pm - 10.00pm</td>
<td>Contact: Pat Willets - Tel: 01305 889597</td>
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<th><strong>TUESDAY</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Botanical Art Group</strong> (term times only)</td>
<td>9.30am - 12.30pm</td>
<td>Contact: Geoff Roberts - Tel: 01305 815735</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dance Group</strong></td>
<td>2.30pm - 4.30pm</td>
<td>Contact: Ann Matthews - Tel: 01305 889248</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Badminton</strong></td>
<td>7.30pm - 9.30pm</td>
<td>Contact: Trevor Elliot - Tel: 01305 267897</td>
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<th><strong>WEDNESDAY</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Pilates</strong></td>
<td>9.30am - 10.30pm</td>
<td>Contact: Sammie McFarland - Tel: 07807 090013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chair-based Exercise</strong></td>
<td>11.15am - 12.30pm</td>
<td>Contact: Suzanne Fellows-Joyce - Tel: 01308 426390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>W.I.</strong> (2nd Wednesday in month)</td>
<td>6.45pm - 9.00pm</td>
<td>Contact: Jan Griffiths - Tel: 01305 889738</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Beginners Dance</strong></td>
<td>8.00pm - 10.00pm</td>
<td>Contact: Ann Matthews - Tel: 01305 889248</td>
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<tr>
<th><strong>THURSDAY</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Art Group</strong></td>
<td>10.30pm - 1.00pm</td>
<td>Contact: Betty Hoddinott - Tel: 01305 262217</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dance Group</strong></td>
<td>8.00pm - 10.00pm</td>
<td>Contact: Ann Matthews - Tel: 01305 889248</td>
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<th><strong>FRIDAY</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Keep Fit Class</strong></td>
<td>10.15am - 11.30am</td>
<td>Contact: Suzanne Fellows-Joyce - Tel: 01308 426390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bingo</strong> (Every other Friday)</td>
<td>7.00pm - 9.30pm</td>
<td>Contact: Ann Matthews - Tel: 01305 889248</td>
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Chairperson: Jane Jones – Tel: 01305 889202
Bookings: Ann Matthews – Tel: 889248 or email: ronann.matthews@btinternet.com
Martinstown Baby & Toddler group provides a friendly meeting place for parents, grandparents, carers & childminders. We offer a safe and fun environment for your babies and toddlers to play and socialise. We are an inclusive group and welcome new joiners from all locations. We meet every Monday from 10-12pm all year round, including school holidays. There is also plenty of free parking.

Do come along and enjoy the benefits not only for your little one, but for you too! The cost is £2 per family and we look forward to meeting you and your little ones. ;)

In order for our group to run successfully, we do need some extra volunteers. If you are able to offer any help, whether that’s on a ad-hoc basis or regular support, please contact Lizzie, either on 07949 639011 or on our Facebook page ‘Martinstown baby and toddler group’.

FRIDAY LUNCH CLUB 2017 DATES:
All are very welcome to our monthly Community Lunches in the Village Hall on the first Friday of each month, except for April (Lent Lunches each Friday until Easter) and December (2nd Friday).

3rd Mar (NB this will be a Lent Lunch menu), 5th May, 2nd June, 7th July, 4th Aug, 1st Sept, 6th Oct, 3rd Nov, 8th Dec (NB second Friday).

To book, please telephone Ced on 889438.

We are always pleased to hear from people who’d like to be involved in any way, from cooking to laying tables. Please contact Jan on 889738 if you’d like to be involved – we do enjoy ourselves as well as work!

MARTINSTOWN OPEN GARDENS 2017
Saturday & Sunday 17th and 18th June

The biannual open gardens weekend will be in mid June this year when gardens should be at their best. This year the funds raised will go to improving the children’s play area by the village hall.

A successful event depends on gardens being open.

Please consider allowing your garden to be open, the more open for visitors to wander round, the greater the chance of raising money for the play area refurbishment.
We are currently working on the Show Schedule which will be published in April/ May. There will be some exciting new additions to the Classes and all of the old favourites too.

Following the success of last year’s class for the Greatest Weight of Potatoes we will be providing seed potatoes again thanks to sponsorship of the Castle Gardens Group.

GARDENING TIPS FOR MAY

If you haven’t already done so it is time to go to the Garden Centre or look through a Catalogue for your flower and vegetable seeds. You can also think about getting some bulbs to enter the Summer Flowering Bulb Class. Gladioli, Lilies and others are available now. Gladioli are very easy to grow. They can be planted into the border any time from April onward. It is a good idea to plant a few every fortnight or so. That way you will get a succession of blooms over a long period and will, hopefully, have some ready just in time for the Show.

Now is a good time to feed the soil. Composted chicken manure is easy to use and will benefit everything. Simply sprinkle it around existing plants or scatter it across the empty beds.

There is still time to make Marmalade. Seville Oranges are still available but you can also make Marmalade from other Citrus fruits. Please do remember that any Preserves that are entered into the Show must be in jars which show no commercial markings. This applies to screw top lids as well if used.

Whilst the weather is still rather cold and damp you can do an indoor job that is to repot or feed and tidy your indoor plants. As the days are getting longer they will benefit from fresh soil, feeding and cleaning dusty leaves. If you have Orchids they will respond well some care and attention but it is essential to use the special compost and translucent pots because the roots photosynthesize as well as the leaves but they need light to do so.

Wishing you Happy Gardening.

FILM NIGHT at the BREWERS ARMS

Next screening - Thurs 16th March at 7.30:
High Society
Starring Bing Crosby, Grace Kelly & Frank Sinatra
At our meeting in February we enjoyed a highly entertaining talk about the experiences of a vet from Martin Fielding. He had us all laughing at many amusing and sometimes embarrassing incidents when dealing with animals and their owners – ranging from budgerigars to cows and even, on one occasion, an elephant!

Next month on 8th March at 7 pm in the village hall we are having an evening of indoor kurling. This is great fun – why not come and give it a try.

This year we are combining with the Valley Club for a Village Outing on Wednesday 21st June to Mottisfont (NT) and Romsey. Mottisfont is renowned for the rose gardens which should be at their best in June. The cost will be £16 (non-refundable) for the coach plus £11 entry to Mottisfont house and garden (free for NT members). All welcome – book the date in your diary now.

To book contact me on 889628 or Eileen Fisher 889584.

Angela Barrett – Secretary
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Abbotsbury and Portesham Branch

Our intention to hold Committee Meetings was thwarted last month due to illness and unavailability of some members. New date to be arranged.

The dinner at the Sugar Loaf Cafe, Portland was well supported in February.

Our next get together will be the Branch Annual Lunch which will be held at the Highlands End Social Club premises, Eype, at 12.30 for 1 pm on Thursday 23 March (note confirmation of date). Last date for booking is 12 March, meanwhile contact the writer for full menu details.

There are a lot of newcomers who have moved into the villages in the past few months. We welcome enquiries about membership of the Legion – do not wait to be asked. If you are an active person we will no doubt find you a job to keep you occupied!

One of our friends is also a member of the Burma Star Association – he has kindly offered to pass on his monthly journal to anyone who is interested in seeing those publications. Contact Des Baker to arrange this.

Des Baker’s privately arranged tour of Switzerland from 24 September for 7 nights is filling up nicely with just three spaces left (these could be singles or one twin/double). Now in their 21st year of operation, these tours are intended to raise funds for the Legion Poppy Appeal 50% and one other. Enquire now for detailed itinerary before it’s too late!

Des Baker – Social Fund Chairman • Tel: 01305 267617 or email: aveswood@sky.com

MINI PUZZLE - with a twist!

1. One of the two horizontal 7-letter words is part of a bird’s wing and the other is stomach.

2. One of the two vertical 7-letter words is liberty and the other is concoction.

3. One of the 5-letter words is pass out and the other is desert plants.

4. The 4-letter words are group of three; light fog; reverberation; compass direction.

5. The two 3-letter words on the left are kind of fairy and young bear.

6. The two 3-letter words on the right are consume and frozen water.

ANSWERS IN NEXT MONTH’S ISSUE - no prizes... just for fun!

There are no clue numbers in the grid so use your powers of deduction to solve the puzzle and place the right words in the correct positions.
Despite a very cold wind, it was sunny and dry when thirteen bipeds and two quadrupeds, set out from Tarrant Keyneston on 13th February. It was a circular route of 5.75 miles, commencing at the “True Lover’s Knot” public house, quite appropriate for Valentine’s week!

We walked through the charming village and then on reaching open countryside we crossed over the road by the weir of the River Tarrant, and followed its path until we came to the church of St Mary of Tarrant Crawford. This beautiful old church was surrounded by snowdrops and nestled amongst the trees beside the river. We needed to press on, so decided to visit inside the church on our way back, and study the frescoes.

We continued uphill through fields and passed the site of the remains of Tarrant Abbey. After crossing over the main road at Spetisbury, we followed the old railway path that runs adjacent to the village. A slight detour took us up to the old hill fort of Spetisbury Rings, where we had magnificent views of the surrounding countryside. On our descent we stopped off at Spetisbury station for our coffee break. This derelict place has some interesting information regarding the old station and details of its journeys from Bristol and Bath. It also has plenty of seats and tables to enjoy a short respite.

Crossing back over the A350, we headed for Keyneston Mill, traversing bridges over the River Stour. Despite the many rivers and streams we crossed, the ground was not very muddy. After completing our circle back to the church, and a brief stop, we headed back to the pub for a well earned meal and drink.

For further information on the Mileaters please contact Nick Priddle on 01305-889189.
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NEW ART CLASS
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THE SEASON'S
Art Class
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Weymouth Avenue Pavilion, Dorchester
Limited Spaces - Call now for details
Seventy years ago about a hundred German soldiers were based in Martinstown. Neither they nor the village had any say in this influx! They were Prisoners of War. A camp was set up in the field opposite the Green and the church. The field had been the traditional site of the annual fair, and now it is Hardy Close. To show that it was a prison camp a length of barbed wire was strung alongside the river and round the boundary of the field.

The Prisoners of War arrived in May 1946. The war against Nazi Germany had ended a year earlier, but the Allies held on to the PoWs for security and to use their valuable labour on the farms. One of the prisoners, Gerhard Hauptmann, paid a return visit to Martinstown in September 2006. His memories seemed happy as he recounted how good relations soon developed between the German soldiers, erstwhile enemies, and the people of Martinstown.

Their housing was a collection of Nissen huts, and the cold was intense in the winter, but there was a strong priority to keep the tiny wood burning stove alight during the nights. The field was used for growing vegetables but parts became flower gardens. One derelict hut was gradually transformed into a miniature theatre and proudly named The Wintergarten. It was reroofed from scraps of timber, a stage was constructed from rubble covered with cement, old bits of material were made into curtains and suitable lighting was rigged up, with sophisticated dimmers! Rehearsals were important social events.

During the daylight hours most of the soldiers worked on the farms or dug ditches, and they were allowed to earn wages; two shillings (10p) a day, one shilling in coin, and the other a token which could be spent in the shop. All prisoners had to carry an identity card when outside the camp, and gradually they were permitted to walk into Dorchester; use of the local bus was allowed if there were a sufficient number of empty seats to enable the soldiers to sit on one side of the bus, and locals on the other! The pub remained out of bounds. One of the prisoners played the organ in church on Sundays. Regular workers on the farms had yellow painted bicycles, so they could reach farms as far away as Friar Waddon.

Relations between the camp and the village became increasingly cordial. A Christmas dinner was shared at Church Cottage with three Germans. Mrs Coffin at Park House sometimes opened her big kitchen for birthday celebrations among the inmates. Lots of children were given intricately carved wooden toys.

A high spot in cordial relations was achieved when the camp put on a variety show to which all villagers were invited. The poster said Music and Sketches, in English. An audience of 160 turned out on this April evening for the free show. The standard was extraordinary. Fine professional music was provided by a quartet of two violins, a piano and a piano accordion. Sketches and dance routines followed, with lots of female impersonations, and then German folk songs and stories. All this was so much enjoyed that a further production was promised which was equally successful. Because the original title was As You Like It, some had thought they were to have a Shakespeare evening!

The camp lasted over two years and then the soldiers were at last repatriated. They found that their friends who had been held in Russian prison camps had had very different experiences.
Martinstown Parish Council Meeting
23rd January 2017

The Parish Council meeting for January was attended by 7 members of the Village who asked where the dates of future meetings were displayed. The Chairman answered they were on the new website which goes live on 1st February. He will ask if they can also appear in the magazine as rolling dates for the year ahead.

The perceived danger to traffic exiting from North Rew lane onto A35 was raised but in a letter from the Highways authority in Dec to the clerk they stated that they had no concern. Car parking on pavements was raised and owners will be asked to park at least partly in the road. The Council believes that parking in the road has an additional benefit of slowing traffic speed through the village. Speed outside the pub where there is no pavement is a worry and the police asked to have a speed presence in this area. Highways authority will be asked to consider moving the 30mph sign back along the B3159 beyond the double bend. The village speed team has noted the concern.

**Dog muck on the footpaths has got out of control, please dog owners pick up as there is a danger to cattle health if left.**

The need to raise the precept was an important issue and we agreed to increase it £5500. This means an increase of £2.93 per year for a band D property.

2 planning issues were discussed in some detail. Both are at the Rew end of the village. One, an application to develop a holiday let at Lower Rew in same space as an existing store barn. The other one is to convert 2 existing building/features into houses at Rew Manor farm. The plan arrived the day of the meeting so members were asked to visit the site and then give their views to the clerk.

The meeting closed at 9.38.
At our meeting in January, Joy Wallis gave a fascinating and informative presentation on “Wildlife in Your Garden”. She emphasised how important it was to encourage as much wildlife as possible. An untidy garden encourages hedgehogs as they have somewhere to hibernate for the winter and can find a plentiful supply of natural food. Joy showed us many excellent photos including Robins, Bats and House Martins and gave us advice on how to attract them into our gardens. She talked about how the weather affects wildlife and, in particular, how the butterflies in the garden seem to be down in number. An excellent evening was enjoyed by all who attended.

Our next event will be our AGM on Monday March 20th at 7.40pm in Martinstown Village Hall. Subscriptions will be due on that evening. After a review of finances, it has been decided to increase the annual subscription by £1 to £8 per person. The AGM will be followed at 8.00pm by a presentation by Dr. Peter Down on the “Past, Present & Future of Dorset County Museum”. There are exciting plans for the Museum, so do come along and find out what will be happening. Guests are very welcome to attend at a cost of £3.50 which includes tea/coffee and biscuits.

The annual visit to Poundbury Garden Centre will take place on Monday 3rd April when a discount of 25% will be given on all purchases. Meet at the Garden Centre at 6.45pm. You will also be given a geranium ‘New Century Appleblossom’ plug plant which can be grown on and entered in the Village Show on Sunday 20th August.

Our Village Outing this year will be on Wednesday 21st June to Mottisfont (NT) and Romsey. The cost will be £16 for NT members and £27 for non-NT members. The £16, which covers the coach fare, will be non-refundable. A list will be available at the AGM to sign up for this trip. We expect this outing to be very popular, so make sure you book your place as soon as possible.

Pat Willetts - Tel. 889597
A Regularly Updated Version of This Timetable is Also Available at www.Martinstown-News.co.uk
Recycling, Rubbish & Garden Waste Collection Dates

February 2017

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<tr>
<td>2nd (Thursday)</td>
<td>recycling and food</td>
<td>16th (Thursday)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9th (Thursday)</td>
<td>rubbish and food</td>
<td>23rd (Thursday)</td>
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<td>10th (Friday)</td>
<td>garden waste</td>
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For more information contact: [www.dorsetforyou.com/recycle](http://www.dorsetforyou.com/recycle)

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**COFFEE MORNING**

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*Meeting Mondays 5.30pm - 6.30pm (Beavers), 6.15pm - 7.30pm (Cubs & Scouts)*

*• Martinstown Village Hall*  For more information call SUE GOWER - Cub Leader on 01305 889388 or 07800 537722. *Adult helpers sought (no previous experience necessary).*

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**Take a look at the...**

**MARTINSTOWN WEBSITE**

- Notice Board
- About the Village
- Clubs & Societies News
- Useful Information
- Village Hall site
- Parish Council site
- Letters Page
- Photo Gallery

*Get involved* - send us your stories, your info, your photos... anything really!

*Read about* - the history, the events, the clubs & societies, the services and contacts...

in Martinstown (and round about).

[www.martinstown-news.co.uk](http://www.martinstown-news.co.uk)
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Sessions will operate on Thursday **16th March**, between **9am** and **12.30 pm** at Age UK Dorchester.

To make an appointment, please contact Age UK Dorchester on 01305 269444 or at Rowan Cottage, 4 Prince of Wales Road, Dorchester DT1 1PW

www.ageuk.org.uk/dorchester

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Anthony Burgess

“Comedy is simply a funny way of being serious.”

Peter Ustinov

Knit and Natter...

“Laugh and the world laughs with you, snore and you sleep alone.”

Anthony Burgess

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