FEBRUARY 2020

The Valley & Valence Parish Magazine for
Winterborne St. Martin • Winterbourne Steepleton • Winterbourne Abbas • Compton Valence
Leanne, Ben & the pub family welcome you to The Brewers Arms.
Famous for our daily & weekend food specials.
We have TWO beautiful Bed & Breakfast rooms available to book online.
Dogs and children welcome and there is a stunning garden to the rear.

Looking forward to seeing you soon!

What’s on at the Brewers Arms this month?

Tuesday Night is Curry Night
Wednesday Night is Quiz Night from 8.30pm
Friday Meat Draw & Happy Hour – 6-7pm (tickets available all week)
Pie Night every last Thursday of the Month
All England 6 Nations Rugby – live on the big screen!

15% OFF TAKEAWAYS!

The Brewers Arms, Martinstown, Nr Dorchester DT2 9LB
TEL: 01305 889361 • WEB: thebrewersarms.com
“The English winter - ending in July, to recommence in August.”
Lord Byron

“It’s so cold here – flashers are just describing themselves.”
David Letterman

“Did you notice the heavy fog last night? - No, nothing wakes me.”
Morecambe and Wise

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.

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
“Rain, rain, go away, come again another day”. So says the old nursery rhyme, and it’s surely a sentiment we may have wanted to express during last December! Farmers and gardeners certainly wish they could ‘command’ the rain to fall at the right time and in the right quantity – if only it were so. We have to take what we get of course – little consolation I know if it’s your house or business that has been flooded or your crops that have failed because of a lack of rain. And how Australia must wish that they could have a torrential downpour or two.

The Bible has many references to rain, the most well known being the flood and Noah’s ark. An article in The Ecologist magazine a while ago offered a perspective on the story of Noah’s flood that I hadn’t considered before. It was based simply on the observation that God commanded Noah to take two of every living creature into the ark. What was the reason for that? The truth, it was argued, is that not only humankind but the whole of creation matters to God. God has a place in his heart for everything he has made.

There seems little doubt that the world today is in the grip of a growing ecological crisis. Sadly the response to this crisis has been slow to gain momentum but voices are now beginning to be heard and I wonder sometimes if those who call us to wake up to our environmental responsibilities, whether they be Christian or otherwise, are the true prophets of our time.

I have to admit to being a ‘Doctor Who’ fan. My favourite Doctor was David Tennant, and Jodie Whittaker has certainly been an excellent choice, but without good writing even the best of actors would fall flat. I’ve noticed that, in the last series and this current one, the storylines often have an environmental message – the Doctor’s travels into the future allowing an imaginative glimpse into how life might be on earth. At the end the episode on 12th January the Doctor and his companions saw in the future an earth that had no life, but the Doctor was nevertheless hopeful and reassuring. She said that it was one possible future, that the future is not decided yet, not fixed, and that it depended on billions of decisions and actions and people stepping up, but that we must face facts and change. She also said “you humans don’t know how powerful you are. Lives change worlds. People can save planets or wreck them – that’s the choice. Be the best of humanity.”

God has a place in his heart for everything he has made – do we not owe it to him, and to ourselves, to take care of it?

Jean
Team Vicar
The Parishes of The Winterbournes & Compton Valence

TEAM RECTOR
Vacancy

TEAM VICAR
Rev’d Jean Saddington (01305 889992)
Available on: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays & 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)

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), Roddy Kilpatrick (889238)
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.

Sunday 23rd February at 5pm
St Martin’s Church, Martinstown

A quiet, 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...

The Winterbourne Singers are a group that meets fortnightly to sing music of many different kinds, both sacred and secular. If you’d like to try us out, please come along to one of our Friday evening sessions. We meet in St. Martin’s church from 7 to 8.15 p.m.

Singers are invited to donate £1 each session towards church overheads, but music is provided. It probably helps if you can read music a little, but that’s certainly not essential.

Our 2020 season begins on 10th January. For any further information, please contact:
Peter Wilkinson – p_wilkinson@hotmail.com or 889077.
CHURCH CALENDAR

FEBRUARY 2020

SUNDAY 2 FEBRUARY – CANDLEMASS
10.00 Holy Communion Winterbourne Abbas
11.00 Holy Communion Martinstow

SUNDAY 9 FEBRUARY – 3RD BEFORE LENT
08.00 Holy Communion (BCP) Martinstow
09.30 Holy Communion Compton Valence
11.00 Holy Communion Winterbourne Steepleton

SUNDAY 16 FEBRUARY – 2ND BEFORE LENT
10.00 Holy Communion Winterbourne Abbas
11.00 Worship Together Martinstow
18.00 Taizé Winterbourne Steepleton

SUNDAY 23 FEBRUARY – TRANSFIGURATION
11.00 Holy Communion Martinstow
17.00 Church@5 Martinstow

WEDNESDAY 26 FEBRUARY – ASH WEDNESDAY
10.00 Holy Communion Martinstow

A service of Holy Communion and the Imposition of Ashes
Wednesday, 26th February • 10 am
St Martin’s Church, Martinstow
Lent begins - A time of reflection and promise

Lent Lunches
As in previous years, during Lent, we shall be offering frugal lunches of homemade soup and rolls with a cup of tea or coffee. The cost will be a minimum of £4 and proceeds will go to the Weymouth Food Bank, the need for which is continuing to grow. The lunches will be served in the Martinstown Village Hall at 12.30 pm on Fridays 20th and 27th March. All are welcome and we should love to see some new faces. There is no need to book, unless you are coming with a large party (in which case please telephone 889910).

In 2019 over £500 was raised for local charities, but we were able to offer two more dates than is possible this year. If we can achieve larger attendances we may still be able to get somewhere near last year’s figure.

Taizé Worship
Sunday, 16th February - 6 pm
St Michael’s Church,
Winterbourne Steepleton
Come and experience this beautiful, reflective service in this very special place.
All Welcome

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.
**Food Bank 2020**

Thank you for your generous donations during December and January. We received general groceries and lots of festive fare, in fact a whole car full to deliver. This made it possible for Food Bank clients to enjoy some seasonal ‘goodies’.

Unfortunately this is a time of year when more individuals and families struggle and turn to the Food Bank for support. Any tinned food, long life milk or bathroom necessities would help the Food Bank supply new requests.

Please continue your generous donations to the collection points in Martinstown at our village shop and church.

Thank you and good wishes for 2020 – Helen Thompson

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**Vigil for Refugees and Peace in the Middle East.**

Many refugees come from communities destroyed by war as well as places of famine and oppression. Their journey is perilous and they often get a very mixed reception on arrival to their chosen country.

Before we begin the 20mins silence we read out the identities of ten people who have died on their journey during 2017 (we have finished 2019/18). Please help us honour these often nameless people.

6pm on 4th February 2020. Jo Lacy-Smith 889476.

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**New times for MESSY CHURCH**

3.30pm on Saturday 22nd February
St. Mary’s Winterbourne Abbas
Crafts, story, song and tea. Children with adults very welcome looking forward to seeing you there.

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**Gifted a gadget at Christmas? Free and friendly help is available...**

If you have been gifted a computer or gadget over Christmas and don’t know how to switch it on or make the most of it then help is at hand.

There are over 75 Digital Champions volunteering in Dorset libraries to help people with computers, tablets, phones and more. Most have gained experience from their professional careers.

Not everybody has access or the desire to use computers but attending a session may spark an interest. Many learners have bought a tablet or similar, because of the programme. People without a device can learn free of charge on the library facilities. The sessions are held in a friendly environment and you go at your own pace.

Thanks to the Superfast Dorset Team it is easy to find your nearest volunteer. Call Dorset’s Digital Champion helpline on 01305 221048 and we’ll answer any questions about the support available.

All our help is free!
St. Mary’s Community Project is born...

At Winterbourne Abbas church, at 5pm on Saturday 11th January 2020, after a 9-month gestation period the birth went wonderfully well! Thirty people witnessed it and welcomed the St. Mary’s Community Project into Winterbourne Abbas. There are many stages to go but we have received wonderful backing from the village of Winterbourne Abbas and we are encouraged that a community space in the church is wanted and supported.

The Rev. Jean Saddington introduced the evening; Joy Parsons, the churchwarden, outlined the history of the project; Peter Allison took us through the changes we would like to make to the building and David Taylor and David Parsons talked about the all-important finances – the cost is estimated at £150,000. The evening was rounded up with a question and answer session and an encouragement to suggest how the money might be raised and how the space might be used. (Musical bingo, children’s clubs, cribbage club (with tuition), book club, topical discussion group, coffee drop in where just a few of the ideas.) By 6pm, as the meeting closed, there was quite a buzz in the air.

The proposed community space in the church would be created by the removal of the back pews, the installation of mains water and waste, installing a disabled toilet, and creating a servery area. The heating will be upgraded to make it more efficient and Wi-Fi and a projector and screen installed.

Fund raising ideas included a bingo night in the Trinity Club, Dorchester, with a proportion of the takings going towards the project – look out for the date! The Parish council are supporting the project and may well be in a position to provide some funding. Other grants will be applied for through church charities as well as corporate organizations like the National Grid and Wessex Water from their community funds.

When, 18 months ago, we asked residents in Winterbourne Abbas how the church could help them the overriding response was ‘get rid of the road’ and to provide a place where the community could come together. Unfortunately we cannot do anything about the road but we are offering the use of our beautiful church as a place where we can meet.

The church will always be a place of worship – regular twice monthly services (1st and 3rd Sunday), messy church four times a year (22nd February and 4th April at 3.30pm) and of course we are here for baptisms, funerals and weddings – those important occasions that mark life’s journey.

If you have any comments or ideas or can offer help with the project please email us at d.c.taylor@hotmail.co.uk

FRIDAY LUNCH CLUB 2020 DATES:

All are very welcome to our monthly Community lunches in the Village Hall which are mostly held on the first Friday of the month. Dates are:

Friday 7th February, Friday 6th March, Friday 3rd April (Lent Lunch menu)
Friday 1st May, Friday 5th June, Friday 3rd July, No lunch in August
Friday 4th September, Friday 2nd October, Friday 6th November
Friday 4th December

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!
### Regular Group Meetings

#### MONDAY
- **Baby & Toddler Group** 10.00am – 12noon  
  Contact: Claire Benson – Tel: 07859 849094
- **Beavers, Cubs & Scouts** 5.30pm – 7.30pm  
  Contact: Sue Gower – Tel: 01305 889388
- **Valley Club** (3rd Monday in month) 7.30pm – 10.00pm  
  Contact: Pat Willets – Tel: 01305 568458

#### TUESDAY
- **Botanical Art Group** (term times only) 9.30am – 12.30pm  
  Contact: Geoff Roberts – Tel: 01305 815735
- **Dance Group** 2.30pm – 4.30pm  
  Contact: Ann Matthews – Tel: 01305 889248
- **Badminton** 7.30pm – 9.30pm  
  Contact: Trevor Elliot – Tel: 01305 267897

#### WEDNESDAY
- **Chair-based Exercise** 11.15am – 12.30pm  
  Contact: Suzanne Fellows-Joyce – Tel: 01308 281882
- **W.I.** (2nd Wednesday in month) 6.45pm – 9.00pm  
  Contact: Rosie Duke – Tel: 01305 889555
- **Beginners Dance** 8.00pm – 10.00pm  
  Contact: Ann Matthews – Tel: 01305 889248

#### THURSDAY
- **Art Group** 10.00pm – 1.00pm  
  Contact: Teresa Blades – Tel: 01305 889947
- **Dance Group** 2.30pm – 4.30pm  
  Contact: Ann Matthews – Tel: 01305 889248

#### FRIDAY
- **Keep Fit Class** 10.15am – 11.30am  
  Contact: Suzanne Fellows-Joyce – Tel: 01308 281882
- **Bingo** (Every other Friday) 7.00pm – 9.30pm  
  Contact: Ann Matthews – Tel: 01305 889248

For BOOKING information, contact: **Ann Matthews** –  
Tel: 889248 or email: ronann.mathewes@btinternet.com
In the early days of 1942, the BBC could only broadcast bad news. These were the darkest days of the War. Even the great success of the British defeat of the Italians in North Africa collapsed when Hitler sent Rommel and the Afrika Korps to the rescue. Amazingly British morale held, and by the end of the year the tide had turned, and the Allies could foresee eventual victory though it took more than two years to achieve.

Meanwhile for most children in North London life was not very different from peacetime. Government concern for productivity in food and war manufacture led to greater interest in health and community standards, and the famous Beveridge Report laid the groundwork for our Welfare State. We didn’t miss luxuries because we’d never had them; we played safely (in daylight) in almost traffic-free streets; and we even ate more sweets because they were rationed and of course we had to buy our full ration! The stresses of war were felt by the grown-ups.

Our troop of Boy Scouts volunteered for a Harvest Camp in 1943, stooking wheat and pulling potatoes. It was very hard work, and I decided not to be a farmer. The following year we camped by the Thames at Pangbourne. On the other bank was an American Army base, and they were training for the D-Day invasion. Each night they would boat off up the river, and in the morning they would drop in to our camp for a mug of tea. We were taken out in their boats, which had very powerful outboard motors. To show off, they would steer directly at a flock of swans and suddenly accelerate so that the boat would take off over the heads of the startled birds. The American soldiers particularly admired our sheath-knives, casually carried on our belts in those days of innocence, and some of them even bought the knives – D-Day was a few weeks later, and perhaps the knives saw active service…..

February 1942...
by Terry Hearing

A week before D-Day Hitler used the first of his ‘secret weapons’. This was a ‘flying bomb’, the V1, a pilotless jet-propelled plane with an explosive warhead. When the fuel ran out the engine would stop and the bomb would fall. The target was big enough – London. The idea was to frighten the populace into demanding the government seek peace. Flocks of V1s began to arrive, and once more Londoners sought shelter. The government had recently distributed a new domestic shelter, which was a steel table bolted together with metal netting round the sides. Teams of Boy Scouts were recruited to assemble these shelters for those unable to do so, and indeed I earned my National Service badge for doing just that.

A further step had been to erect oblong brick shelters at street corners, with no windows and concrete roofs, and big enough for bunks for thirty people. There was one in our street and in the evenings the children were put to bed followed later by the adults. Seeing a V1 or ‘buzz-bomb’ was frightening – but it was the ones you could only hear that were worse, particularly when you heard the engine stop. There was no gunfire – shooting them down would only accomplish their purpose. I saw one begin to dive but it fell a mile away.

Going back to school on a bus after lunch one day I happened to look through the small aperture in the protective green gauze on the window. A V1 was flying along parallel with the bus about half a mile away. Nobody else had seen it, and the bus engine had drowned the noise. The bomb raced on – somebody else was going to be unlucky.
The shop had a very exciting visitor on Sunday 12th January from BBC RADIO SOLENT. I was sworn to secrecy last month as I was asked to appear on their ‘Clued Up show with Pat Sissons!’ Listeners have to find out where the clues are; they started in Abbotsbury and finally made their way to Martinstown, going to the church, then running to the shop and asking me are you the Clue Keeper? I must say the clues are very difficult and I was impressed the callers worked it all out.

I was very nervous to be chatting on air but the interview went well; it was nice to do something fun! If you would like to listen to the show just go to their website and look up the show and the right date and you can hear me from around 10 minutes into the programme.

Good to know Martinstown is on the map.

Karen Barrett

**MARTINSTOWN VILLAGE STORE**

**New year, new ventures!**

Promoting the cafe within the store each Saturday from the 1st February from 9am to 3pm the ‘Coffee Corner’ will offer hot drinks, teacakes, homemade cakes and breakfast rolls.

So please do come along and support...

Best Wishes Karen Barrett

Tel: 01305 889547  •  Email: martinstownvillagestore@gmail.com
**Martinstown Women’s Institute**

Due to the redecoration of the Village Hall, we were not able to meet in January, so our first meeting this year will be on Wednesday, 12 February when we will be discussing the proposed Resolutions for the National Federation Annual Meeting in June.

Over the years the WI have campaigned on a wide range of issues, increasing public awareness and bringing about policy change. The meeting this year will be held in London at the Royal Albert Hall and we are very pleased that Anne Tate has agreed to represent us as our delegate.

At the meeting in February we will also be taking a look back through the archives.

We meet in the Village Hall at 7 pm and new members are always very welcome.

*Angela Barrett – Secretary*

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**COMPTON VALENCE SNOW DROPS VILLAGE HALL LUNCHES and TEAS**

Monday 3rd Feb – Friday 14th February 2020

COME and WALK/DRIVE through our beautiful village and see the stunning white drifts of snowdrops. (The village hall is below the church)

OPEN (weather permitting): 10.30am – 3.30pm Daily

To book, please ring or email so we can cater accordingly: Tessa Russell, tel: 01308 482227 or email: tessacvfarms.co.uk

Pippa James, tel: 01305 889338 mobile: 07880882985 email: enquiries@dovehousedorset.co.uk

Pre booked guests will take priority as the hall is small. In bad/icy weather we may not be open. Please be considerate of our village/verges etc. when parking or ring us to discuss your needs so we can advise you where to go.

We very much look forward to seeing you.

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**Christmas Quiz Solution**

My three favorite things are eating my family and not using commas.

I wanted to marry my English teacher when she got out of jail, but apparently you can’t end a sentence with a proposition.

RIP boiling water—you will be mist.
The MILEATERS out and about...  
...walking to Wetherby Castle by Gerald Duke

Mileaters second walk of the year was blessed with wall to wall sunshine and 17 members enjoyed walking the six and a bit miles led by Gerald and Rosemary Duke. We started at the Martyrs pub in Tolpuddle and took the road beside northwards up to the bridge over the bypass. From there the old Roman road took us east along the A35 for a while and then down to Ashley Barn. Here was a spot of local folk law history where a Mulberry Tree reputedly referred to in the Domesday Book was still present. One of the more quizzically gifted members refuted this claim having checked a modern facsimile of the record, but then why spoil a good story with the facts?

As we then headed on to Wetherby Castle, we briefly made friends with Barbeque and Pulled Pork, two chummy Oxford Sandy and Black pigs.

Wetherby Castle was new to most of us and some found it an unusual and romantic spot. This is a little known Iron Age encampment hidden from view by extensive woodland. More can be found out about Wetherby Castle at https://tinyurl.com/umph399h. We stopped here for our coffee break under the Playdell monument which is hidden amongst the trees.

Just short of Milborne St Andrew we found the site of the lost medieval village of Churchton. The walk continued through the countryside until we reached the A35 which this time we passed under and once more back to the Martyrs for a well-earned pint and lunch.

Full details of the route can be found at https://tinyurl.com/r5mro5x

Thank you to all...

There are several events of 2019 that I wish to forget but one I shall remember, & that will remain with me, is the great sense of community & friendship that fellow villagers show here. Especially those that came immediately to my aid in December when my home unexpectedly flooded with water coming off the hill behind it.

I was deemed “too old” to assist in the heavy work (He’ll only get in the way ;‐; ) so I was packed off to my only distant relative for an” extended stay”.

I hope in the not too distant future that all those who very kindly came to help, and continue to do so, for which I am very grateful, will meet up in my new drier home where the only liquid will be in your glass and I shall happily raise a toast to you all. Until then... I thank you most sincerely for your kindness and for continuing to enquire after me.

Ken Symonds – Martinstown
FUN WITH FLOWERS
Would you like to join us?

We have planned some informal evenings in the Village Hall to be creative, share ideas and learn new flower arranging skills. Beginners and those with experience are all welcome.

We are meeting between 6 and 7.30pm on 6th February, 12th March and 23rd April to start with.

Cost is £5 to include refreshments and basic materials.

For more information about what you need to bring please contact:
Dawn Gepheart on 07748547708 or dawngepheart@gmail.com
Frances Clifford on 07780441043 or frances_clifford@hotmail.com

THANK YOU...

It may seem a bit after the event because it is. We held our Christmas Coffee Morning Bring & Buy in November 2019 but this is the first opportunity to let all those involved know that we raised £505 to be divided between the Weymouth Lantern Trust and the Bus Shelter charities. The two charities find beds for the homeless, hot food, warm clothes, give them advice, guidance and help some back into work and homes of their own. In the cold and wet weather that we are now enduring from the comfort of our cosy houses; it is good to know that we may have helped those less fortunate endure in bad times.

I would like to give a big thank you to all those who helped plan and run the event, those who attended and those who donated items and cash so generously. It is wonderful to live in such a caring community. I wish you all a Happy New Year and look forward to your continuing kind support in 2020.

Best wishes, Sally Webb

A very Happy New Year to you all.

November seems a long time ago now, but our social evening held on 22nd November was a most enjoyable and fun evening. Our thanks to Peter Wilkinson, The Winterbourne Singers and MUGS – the Martinstown Ukulele Group – who, under the direction of Peter, treated us to a wide variety of music and carols. With the addition of several recorders, it proved to be just what was needed to get into the Christmas mood.

The mulled wine helped the evening to go with a swing. Many thanks also to all the VC committee who helped to make the evening such a success.

We do not meet in February, so will look forward to seeing you all on Monday 16th March when we will have our AGM at 7.40pm followed by a presentation by Councillor, David Taylor on ‘Hidden Dorchester’ at 8.00pm. Membership fees of £8 per person will be due.

Pat Willetts – Tel. 568458

NEXT MEETING

Valley Club AGM and Presentation
Monday 16th March • 7.40pm • Village Hall
THE NEIL MAYA QUARTET
Cool Jazz At Its Best

Including (for the entire second set...)

THE BRUBECK PROJECT
www.neilmayaquartet.co.uk

MARTINSTOWN VILLAGE HALL
Sat 1 February, 7:30pm
£10, £6 (u18s), £25 (fam 4 - max 2 adults) on door,
or from Jan Griffiths: 01305 889738
or online at artsreach.co.uk | Bar & Raffle Available
Supported by Arts Council England, Dorset Council and Blanchards Bailey
I see from the November Valley and Valence Alison Crawford’s memory of the funfair held on the Village Green back in 1982. It was possible to do this for a couple of years as the showmen agreed to include Martinstown in their rounds as the date conveniently coincided with the rather larger Portland Fair. At that time, there was also room on the other side of the road to accommodate the showman’s caravans, today, the site of a terrace of four cottages.

To be a little more precise about the Valley and Valance piece, the granting of the charter for the fair in 1268, was granted not to the village but personally to Robert fitz Payn, the Lord of the Manor at the time. He held a number of manors in the county but it is most unlikely he would have ever lived here. At that time the village was little more than a small settlement around the area of the pub, Smithy and sheep dip and is described as such in Hutchins History of Dorset with the church being some 200 yards to the east of the village. There was also a watermill rendering 16d. a year. Interestingly the Domesday Book recorded five such watermills in the valley, the likely site of one which included the village pond having been infilled in recent years at the eastern end of the village.

The Manor (one among many in an estate that covered much of the County of Dorset and beyond) passed from Alaured (Alfred) de Lincoln IV (the uncle of Robert fitz Payn, the Lord of the Manor) to Margery his eldest sister and the last of the family. Most of her land holding including the Manor of Winterborne St Martin passed on her death to her husband Robert Fitz-Pain. His cousin, William de Goviz held neighbouring Rew among many other landholdings and Manors.

The question must be, why was the charter granted to Robert in the first place? From the Victoria County History of Dorset and Hutchins (vi,327), we learn that following their part in the Battle of Lewes in 1264, Robert and William played their part in taking the king prisoner. This enabled Simon de Montfort with Robert, William and no doubt others to effectively rule in the name of the King “and acted what they pleased in his name”. When the king was released and the seal returned, it seems he showed his gratitude with the granting of the charter in which he wrote “…to our beloved and faithful friend…”

The original charter can be found in the National Archives in Kew for all to see but knowledge of Medieval Latin will be helpful. There is a translation of the charter attached to the lease of the Village Green to the Parish Council which confirms that the rights to both market and fair are retained by their Landlord.
A belated welcome back to our Parish Magazine. Unfortunately, I missed that first deadline. The most important points of my missing piece were the comments of how much our magazine was missed, but it has now returned with a brand new and smart appearance. Well done, Graham!

However, Christmas is over and the New Year has been ushered in with bangs and flashes. Unfortunately some revellers started a tad early resulting in distressed horses. Revellers take note for future years.

So what was happening in the lead up to the festive season? For example 30 local children enjoyed a day of Advent Craft in Martinstown Church. They worked all morning on a variety of activities which had been set up and overseen by a team of volunteers. Eventually lunch time came and they walked up to the Brewers Arms for a tasty lunch of bangers and beans. A week later a wonderful exhibition of 40 Nativity scenes was set up. They were made of a variety of materials ranging from handcrafted wooden scenes to knitted characters, to lego and even tennis ball creations. Christmas carols in the pub followed swiftly on. It wasn’t long before the bar was echoing to the strains of ‘Silent Night’, ‘In the Bleak Midwinter’ and ‘We Three Kings’ with solo renditions, to name but a few. Later that week the Carol singing was taken on tour into the Care Homes where they were sung to receptive and appreciative audiences.

Earlier in the month the Valley Club had enjoyed their social evening in the village hall and, while they nibbled their nibbles and sipped their wine, the Winterbourne Singers entertained them with an eclectic musical programme. However Christmas would not have been the same without the appropriate carol services which took place in our 4 Churches. The Winterbourne Singers sang in both Martinstown and Steepleton Churches. This group of singers under the leadership of Peter Wilkinson was formed in 2018. It meets in Martinstown Church on alternate Fridays at 7 pm. I can recommend this as a great social gathering with lots of laughter and an opportunity to learn and appreciate something new. All new members welcome, particularly men!

And so to ArtsReach. Due to there being a double issue, information about the Neil Maya Quartet, entitled ‘The Brubeck Project’ was possibly only available on the web site. So I hope if some of you managed to get tickets you’ve enjoyed the programme.

On Sunday, March 1st at 4 pm we have a Scratchworks Theatre production in Martinstown entitled “Woman With a W”, a raucous and hilarious tale of the first female resistance told through a whirlwind tightly choreographed theatrical invention. It is suitable for children aged over 7. Tickets available from me on 01305 889963.

All that remains is to wish you all a prosperous 2020.
Recycling, Rubbish & Garden Waste Collection Dates

February 2020

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<tr>
<td>6th (Thursday)</td>
<td>rubbish and food</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20th (Saturday)</td>
<td>rubbish and food</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13th (Thursday)</td>
<td>recycling and food</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27th (Thursday)</td>
<td>recycling and food</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th (Weds)</td>
<td>garden waste</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19th (Weds)</td>
<td>garden waste</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

VILLAGE HALL 100 CLUB DRAW

Martinstown Draw
DECEMBER 2019
£25 Toni Cook
£10 R and T Pedder
£5 Kay Dawson

NOVEMBER 2019
£25 Sheila Pett
£10 Martin Usherwood
£5 Mr and Mrs Thompson

Compton Valence Draw
JANUARY 2020
£25 Norman Buckland
£10 Grace James
£5 Brian Buckland

DECEMBER 2019
£25 Chris Roberts
£10 Zoe Gray
£5 Patrick Johannes

Christmas £100 Draw - Peter Steel

www.martinstown-news.co.uk
...send us YOUR news and views!

The next meeting of the Parish Council is on:

Weds 26 February 2020
The Magna Housing Community Room,
Manor Grove, Martinstown, Dorchester,
Dorset DT2 9JD

April 2020 – Annual Parish Meeting
date and time to be confirmed and held
at the Village Hall

FURTHER MEETINGS: 25 MARCH 2020
27 MAY 2020 (AGM)

Last Weds of the month at 7pm

Be sure to visit the Parish Council website: www.martinstown-news.co.uk/the-parish-council
A-LINE TAXI SHUTTLESERVICE

Mondays & Fridays ONLY

A-Line Taxis: 01305 264747 to book

10.00am – TO DORCHESTER
1st Pickup – Mallards Green
2nd Pickup – Manor Grove
3rd Pickup – Village Shop
Finish – A-Line Office, Dorchester

13.00pm – TO MARTINSTOWN
Start – A-Line Office
1st Drop-off – Mallards Green
2nd Drop-off – Manor Grove
3rd Drop-off – Village Shop

West Dorset General Hospital
Williams Avenue, Dorchester, DT1 2JY
Tel: 01305 251150 • www.dch.org

Dorset Police
Emergency: 999 • Non-emergency: 01722 691000
www.dorset.police.uk

Dorset & Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Service
Emergency: 999 • Non-emergency: 01305 889411
Environmental Agency Tel: 0800 807060

Dorset ‘Out of Hours’ Medical Service
Tel: 0845 600 1013

Bus Timetables
Tel: First 0333 014 3490 • www.firstgroup.com

Train Timetables
Tel: South Western Railway 0345 6000 650
Web: www.southwesternrailway.com

Electricity Emergencies
Tel: 0800 072 7282

TO REPORT A POWERCUT
Tel: FREEFONE 105 • www.powercut105.com

Meet your local Neighbourhood Policing Team 2018
at Martinstown Shop & Post Office 2nd Wed every month • 11.00 -11.30
If you cannot make this but would still like to speak with us please contact:
101 or email: Dorchester-rural-npt@dorset.pnn.police.uk

Dorchester Rural Neighbour Hood Policing Team
Sgt 1756 Napper • PC 0229 Pete Moore • PCSO 5410 Sarah Pilcher

V&V FEB20.indd 19
15/01/2020 19:28
FROM 22 SEPTEMBER 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>X51 Bus</th>
<th>X51 Bus</th>
<th>X51 Bus</th>
<th>PlusBus</th>
<th>Taxi</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MTWTF</td>
<td>Sat</td>
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<td>Wed</td>
<td>MF</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For **PlusBus** please call 01258 287980 to register and book the service which runs on Wednesdays only. Service is to and from Trinity Street.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>X51 Bus Time</th>
<th>X51 Bus Time</th>
<th>X51 Bus Time</th>
<th>PlusBus Time</th>
<th>Taxi Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Winterbourne Abbas</td>
<td>07:23</td>
<td>07:23</td>
<td>07:45</td>
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<tr>
<td>Winterbourne Steepleton</td>
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<tr>
<td>Martinstown Post Office</td>
<td>07:31</td>
<td>07:31</td>
<td>07:53</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mallard Green</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poundbury QM Square</td>
<td>07:39</td>
<td>07:39</td>
<td>08:01</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poundbury Mansell Square</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dorchester Hospital</td>
<td>07:43</td>
<td>07:43</td>
<td>08:06</td>
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<td>A-Line taxi office/Trinity Street</td>
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<td>Dorchester South Station</td>
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**PlusBus**

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<td>Thomas Hardy School</td>
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<th>X51 Bus Time</th>
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<th>PlusBus Time</th>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Above services operate Monday to Saturday, inclusive, unless otherwise stated at the top of the relevant column.

**Not all stops listed above are on all routes. Times are shown where the routes are expected to stop, apart from Winterbourne Steepleton on the X51 service; however, times are not given on the operator’s schedules.

X51 bus service operated by First Group. Customer service 0333 014 3490. Mon to Sat 07:00 to 19:00. Sun 09:00 to 17:00.

Taxi service operated by A-Line. This is a first come first served service. Booking can be made on 01305 264747.

Thanks to Michael Hall for providing this timetable.
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• Beginners to improvers
• Fun, easy, social event
• We supply everything for you

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Website: www.woodsfuneralservices.co.uk
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