

ISOLATION

The temporary Valley & Valence  
Parish Magazine for



SPECIAL

Winterborne St. Martin, Winterbourne Steepleton  
Winterbourne Abbas & Compton Valence

*Misty Woodland*



OCTOBER 2020 • DIGITAL EDITION

**Hello everyone...**

I hope you & all your loved ones are keeping well, and you are coping with the ever-changing restrictions that this global pandemic has forced upon us.

We are continuing to produce some kind of V&V publication in order to get you a few messages, a few words of comfort, a few little things to pass the time. The usual means of production and delivery is STILL out of the question, so here it is – the FIFTH (and probably NOT the last) digital edition of the Valley & Valence newsletter.

**As before, if you know someone that would like to read this but can't, PLEASE print a copy out for them and pop it through their letter box - I'm sure they would very much appreciate it!**

*Graham H. - Editor*

NB. Since starting to produce this month's edition, further restrictions have been introduced, meaning the club meetings reported here, may sadly be the last for some time!

VILLAGE HALL  
**100 CLUB DRAW**

**Martinstown Draw  
SEPTEMBER 2020**

1st – Chris Laidlaw  
2nd – Angela Barrett  
3rd – Christine Mooney



Winterborne Abbas

Friends of Martinstown and the Valley

*Dedicated to all the people that are selflessly and tirelessly helping others during these difficult times (you know who you are)!*

## CHURCH SERVICES

OCTOBER 2020

### Sunday, 4th October – Trinity 17

10.00	Worship Together	Winterbourne Abbas
10.00	Zoom Service	
11.00	Harvest Service	Martinstown

### Sunday, 11th October – Trinity 18

09.30	Harvest Service	Compton Valence
10.00	Zoom Service	
11.00	Harvest Service	Winterbourne Steepleton

### Sunday, 18th October – Trinity 19

10.00	Worship Together	Winterbourne Abbas
10.00	Zoom Service	
11.00	Holy Communion	Martinstown

### Sunday, 25th October – Bible Sunday

10.00	Zoom Service	
11.00	Worship Together	Martinstown

## CHURCH LECTIONARY

OCTOBER 2020

### SUNDAY 4TH OCTOBER • 17TH AFTER TRINITY

Isaiah 5. 1 – 7	Philippians 3. 4b – 13	Matthew 21.33 – end
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### SUNDAY 11TH OCTOBER • 18TH AFTER TRINITY

Isaiah 25. 1 – 9	Philippians 4. 1 – 9	Matthew 22. 1 – 14
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### SUNDAY 18TH OCTOBER • 19TH AFTER TRINITY

Isaiah 45. 1 – 7	1 Thessalonians 1. 1 – 10	Matthew 22. 15 – 22
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### SUNDAY 25TH OCTOBER • BIBLE SUNDAY

Nehemiah 8. 1 – 4a, 8 – 12	Colossians 3. 12 – 17	Matthew 24. 30 – 35
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theWI  
INSPIRING WOMEN

October 2020

Martinstown Women's Institute were able to meet on 9th September for the first time since March. With chairs placed 2 metres apart we were able to accommodate 18 members and it was so good to meet up again after such a long time.

This was our postponed Annual Meeting which should have been held in April. The committee had all agreed to continue so no elections were needed. We are very grateful to Rosie Duke for continuing as our President, particularly during this very difficult time. We looked back over the year from April 2019–March 2020 when we enjoyed a variety of speakers ranging from English country cheese, exploring the Silk Road, trekking in Peru, Beautiful Wild Dorset, the 12 Days of Christmas, a very successful outing to Knightshayes with cider tasting, visits to gardens and the cinema. How we miss all this and look forward to getting back to normal one day.

Now that new regulations are coming into force and we may not be able to meet in the hall, we are considering holding meetings on Zoom in future, meanwhile we will continue to keep in touch with members via our regular newsletters.

Angela Barrett • Secretary



## Remembrance Sunday Services

### Sunday, 8th November

10 am a short service outside the church at Winterbourne Abbas

10:55 am on the green, Martinstown



A helpline for vulnerable people in need of vital support in the Dorset Council area

01305 221000

communityresponse@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk







THOUGHTS  
FROM THE  
DESK OF...

**Rev. Jean  
Saddington**

The current Coronavirus restrictions have affected many aspects of our lives and the functioning of businesses and organisations. Over the last few weeks the Church has begun to return to its services of worship, weddings, funerals and baptisms, albeit with reduced numbers of people, wearing masks and socially distancing. We are still conducting services via the mysteries of 'Zoom' and using Zoom for our meetings. But there are people within the church who have been studying hard for the past three years, in answer to God's call for them to serve God as ordained ministers in the church or as licensed lay ministers. They, like others in the world of education, had their studies interrupted by the COVID 19 lockdown and now the glorious Ordination and Licensing services held in Cathedrals all over the country must be adapted so that they are COVID secure occasions - wearing of masks, much reduced numbers of people attending etc.

Those studying for ordination in the Church are firstly ordained as Deacons before (usually) being ordained as Priests the following year. The Anglican Church is a Church of three orders - Deacon, Priest and Bishop - and the life of the Church needs to reflect all three. Perhaps due to its transitory nature, often little is known about the work and life of a Deacon. They look the same as priests (wearing a clerical collar) but their role isn't quite the same. For example they can't administer the sacraments - communion, weddings etc. but the Deacon's primary role is to remind the Church of what it should be and they represent Christ's own diaconal ministry - to serve others - not in a subservient way but in a loving way. The introduction to the Common Worship service for ordination of Deacons says:

*Deacons are ordained so that the people of God may be better equipped to make Christ known. Theirs is a life of visible self-giving. Christ is the pattern of their calling and their commission; as he washed the feet of his disciples, so they must wash the feet of others.*

At their ordination Deacons put on the mantle of Christ - 24 hours a day and for the rest of their lives. Furthermore, once ordained as a priest they are still a Deacon and Bishops too are Deacons. (A previous Bishop of Salisbury would always wear the vestment of a Deacon (called a Dalmatic) under his priestly vestments as a constant reminder to himself that he is still a Deacon.)

So this year, because of COVID the Ordination services will have a different feel about them in terms of physical presence. Their purpose, however, remains constant - to send out people whose call it is to live a life of visible self-giving, to serve others and to make Christ known in the world.

Yours in Christ  
**Jean**



A big thank-you to all those who kindly sponsored me for this year's Ride and Stride fundraising event. I walked around the 6 town churches and then out via Stinsford to West Stafford, where I stopped to chat with The Wise Man. After taking his advice and a pint of his finest I continued to West Knighton and finished at Broadmayne, a total of about 8 miles. It was a lovely walk on a sunny late summer's day and it was good to find most churches taking part despite the covid restrictions. At the time of writing you have generously donated £525; half of this will be returned to the parish, and be split equally between the 3 churches to help with their repair and upkeep; the other half plus GiftAid will be kept by the DHCT to boost their grant-making reserves.

**John Crawford**

## THE WINTERBOURNE COMMUNITY TRUST

...is here to support individuals and families experiencing financial hardship in these difficult times. We can offer grants to help with everyday living expenses and some practical support.

We cover Martinstown, Winterborne Steepleton and Winterborne Abbas.

ALL ENQUIRES ARE CONFIDENTIAL.

Please contact: **Frances Clifford** on 889400 or 07780441043 [frances\\_clifford@hotmail.com](mailto:frances_clifford@hotmail.com)

or **Jan Griffiths** on 889783 [j.griffiths127@btinternet.com](mailto:j.griffiths127@btinternet.com)

or **Joy Parsons** on 889611

# The Mileaters Walk

on 8th September 2020.



The first mileaters for many months prompted a good turnout of 18, all raring to go. A short socially distanced meet on the green followed by a drive to Evershot and by 10 am we were ready for the off. At least everyone was apart from the leader who somehow got confused about directions from the start. Phil wittily pointed out this was some what of a record even for a walk led by Stuart. Much laughter.

Things improved after that and we kept a steady pace to Lewcombe church where we planned to have our coffee. Fate intervened since we met the lovely Jean who kindly gave us a talk on the Church, fairies and times gone by. The Church is well worth a

visit and the circular stained glass window is striking.

Of the mini assault course and stream crossing we will say little other than it was accomplished without anyone getting wet and it was quite fun.

Melbury Osmond is a lovely village and leads onto the park and it's avenue of Oaks and Beech trees. An ideal picnic spot beneath the boughs and time to rest and enjoy the tranquillity before a short distance back to our cars.

An excellent walk and such good fun after all this time.

**Stuart Nuttall** (walk leader on the day)

## USEFUL CONTACT ADDRESSES & PHONE NUMBERS

### West Dorset General Hospital

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

### Dorset Police

Emergency: 999 • Non-emergency: 101  
www.dorset.police.uk

### Dorset & Wiltshire Fire & Rescue Service

Emergency: 999 •  
Non-emergency: 01722 691000

### 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: FREEPHONE 105 • www.powercut105.com

### Gas Emergencies

Tel: 0800 111999

### Drains/Water Emergencies

Tel: 0845 7300600

### Flooding Enquiries

Local Flood Warden (S.Slade) Tel: 01305 889411  
Environmental Agency Tel: 0800 807060

### RSPCA West Dorset Branch

PO BOX 5460, Weymouth, DT3 6WH  
Tel: 01305 259672 • www.westdorsetrspca.org

### Age UK Dorchester

4 Prince of Wales Road, DORCHESTER DT1 1PW  
Tel: 01305 269444 • www.ageuk.org.uk

The **Parish Council** would like to welcome **Deborah Follett** and **Andy Daw** who were recently co-opted onto the Parish Council.

### We now have all seats filled.

The next Parish Council meeting is **Wednesday 28th October** 7pm via zoom, if you would like to attend the zoom details will be on the agenda and on the website.

## Recycling, Rubbish & Garden Waste Collection Dates

### OCTOBER 2020

1st (Thursday) – **rubbish and food**  
15th (Thursday) – **rubbish and food**  
29th (Thursday) – **rubbish and food**

8th (Thursday) – **recycling and food**  
22nd (Thursday) – **recycling and food**

14th (Wednesday) – **garden waste**

28th (Wednesday) – **garden waste**

For more information contact: [www.dorsetforyou.com/recycle](http://www.dorsetforyou.com/recycle)



# Martinstown Village Store



Shop is fully stocked with all your everyday needs plus some extra treats!

Also have crafty gifts galore along with some wool and knitted items.

Home deliveries still available, just give me a call. Also once a week homemade meal on Saturdays continuing and delivered too!

Doing our best to help you all.

Best wishes · **Karen**



Hi all! We would just like everyone to know that we shall be hosting the **Christmas Carols** this year on **6th December** from **16:30 – 18:30** and in light of the current pandemic and the possibility that this may have a presence in December the event will be held outside for the first time.

*We would also like to personally thank the community for their kind words and best wishes while we've been closed and since re-opening. Its been humbling to see so many friendly faces and we are grateful of the support while trying to return to some normality as your local village freehouse.*

**Opening hours are as before only we currently close at 10pm. We have an ever changing menu with fresh seafood and local produce daily. Guest ales on every week and a large welcoming beer garden perfect for enjoying the evening sunshine.**

We can't wait to get back to it, the menu is available on our website:

[www.thebrewersarms.com](http://www.thebrewersarms.com)

Best wishes, Leanne and Ben

## The Artsreach production of **Squashbox** at Martinstown Village Hall

At last, thanks to the hard work of our Village Hall committee, the hall has reopened with some regular groups returning. So when we were contacted by Artsreach with an offer of the return of Squash Squashbox Theatre we jumped at the opportunity to see Craig Johnson once more. He is a man of many talents: comedian, storyteller, comic, musician and, of course puppeteer.

Now began the preparation before the arrival of any audience to ensure all measures were in place to adhere to the Government's rules. The hall had already been deep cleaned and hand sanitizers were screwed to the walls with many instructions in evidence. Ticket sales were slow in the beginning but eventually, with chairs carefully set out for social distancing, it was obvious that we were going to have a large family audience in attendance.

Craig arrived with his scenery, puppets and music (all of his own creation) and of course, his squeeze box! At 11am all was ready and the audience were invited in and shown to their pre-designated seats. The show began and we were entertained to a fantastic

mixture of music, magic, archeology, geology – with a baby dinosaur and huge dinosaur thrown in for good measure. We were even treated to an erupting volcano. I've never seen a volcano spewing party poppers before! All this was delivered with side-splitting humour.

It had been a wonderful experience. Not only was it an excellent performance, but we were also sharing something normal during these days of the abnormal. At the end of the show our fantastic audience (in their groups) were invited to leave the hall by the fire exit. And so with cries of "thank you" and "wonderful show" -- they left.

Success! We had proved that live theatre could still take place. So here's to the next production!

**Editor's note:** *this was written before the latest Coronavirus restrictions.*



# Cruise Control...

by David Haslam



They became one of the defining images of 2020, first glimpsed during that initial phase of lockdown, when many of us could only leave the village on foot. But all these months on, they are still there.

Climb the hill out of the Martinstown valley, up towards Grove Hill Farm, keep going past the vineyard, glancing a deer or two if you're lucky, and keep going onwards and upwards until you reach the South Dorset Ridgeway, and there they are. Everyone's reaction is to stand and count. Is it five or six or – as it was on one memorable day a remarkable nine? They are cruise ships, drifting out there, near motionless in Weymouth Bay. Cruise ships which in any normal year would be far away in the Mediterranean or Caribbean, coasting perhaps through the Norwegian Fjords, or steaming out in the furthest parts of the

South China Sea. But here they are, waiting listlessly, endlessly waiting, just offshore in Weymouth.

Look at the fascinating website – [www.cruisemapper.com](http://www.cruisemapper.com) and you can see exactly which ships are where. Today, as I write this, Weymouth Bay is the temporary home to the Queen Elizabeth, Britannia, Queen Victoria, and five others with far less emotive names. Over in Portland Harbour is tucked away the Marella Explorer 2, a bijou little ship with a mere 907 cabins, 9 restaurants, and 10 bars.

Although Weymouth Bay has been a safe anchorage for centuries, being sheltered from westerly storms by Portland and Chesil Beach, 2020 has been something very special. Even when the Navy was based in Portland,

it was unusual for there to be so many huge ships at anchor relatively close to the shore. And, of course, this is all caused by Covid-19. Around the world few cruise lines have been able to operate, resulting in zero income. Allied to this, the cost of berthing at cruise terminals is huge, so the ships sit silently out in the bay, with a few crew still on board, keeping the vacant vessels viable.

It will be good when they are gone. The sight of them might well be impressive and distinctive, but they are an ongoing symbol of this crazy year. Whatever normal is destined to be in 2021 let's all hope that the ships aren't part of it. They may be impressive and distinctive, but it will be good to get back to counting raptors and deer on those Ridgeway walks, rather than counting cruise ships. **I can't wait!**

**CANCELLED**