

ISOLATION

The temporary Valley & Valence
Parish Magazine for



SPECIAL

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

...at least it's Spring!



MAY 2020 • DIGITAL EDITION

Strange times...

Hello everyone – I hope you & all your loved ones are keeping well, and you are coping with all the restrictions (and their effects) that this global pandemic has forced upon us.

Events are changing at an alarming rate – so much so that the last edition of **Valley & Valence** was completely redundant before it had been delivered to your door. At the time of production there was no closures, no 'lockdown', no daily briefings, no Thursday night applause for the brave and dedicated NHS workers (and other key workers). All that changed shortly after!

What to do...

It was decided that we should 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 were out of the question, so here it is – the first (and possibly the last) digital edition of the Valley & Valence mag.

I am aware that many people may not be in a position to access this edition, so I appeal to you – 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 - it won't have the interactivity that this version does, but I'm sure they would very much appreciate it anyway!

Graham H - Editor

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

Keep Saying This

by Wendy Cope

**Keep saying this and don't forget:
Although you think you're very old,
The party isn't over yet.**

**You lie awake at night beset
By dread of being dead and cold.
Keep saying this and don't forget:**

**It doesn't help at all to fret
About what can't be controlled.
The party isn't over yet.**

**Although your nature wasn't set
In a serene or fearless mould,
Keep saying this and don't forget:**

**In ten years time you may regret
Surrendering to gloom. Be bold.
The party isn't over yet.**

**No point in living if you let
Your terror of the end take hold.
Keep saying this and don't forget
The party isn't over yet.**

...sent in by Margaret Hearing

CHURCH LECTIONARY • MAY 2020

While church services are suspended you may like to have the readings that would have been used if we had been able to meet.

SUNDAY 4TH MAY • 4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 2. 42 – end 1 Peter 2. 19 – end Gospel: John 10. 1 – 10

SUNDAY 10TH MAY • 5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 7.55 – end 1 Peter 2. 2 – 10 Gospel: John 14. 1 – 14

SUNDAY 17TH MAY • 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 17. 22 – 31 1 Peter 3. 13 – end Gospel: John 14. 15 – 21

THURSDAY 21ST MAY • ASCENSION DAY

Acts 1. 1 – 11 Ephesians 1. 15 – end Gospel: Luke 24. 44 – end

SUNDAY 24TH MAY • 7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 1. 6 – 14 1 Peter 4. 12 – 14, 5. 6 – 11 Gospel: John 17. 1 – 11

SUNDAY 31ST MAY • PENTECOST

Acts 2. 1 – 21 1 Corinthians 12. 3b – 13 Gospel: John 20. 19 – 23

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

or frances_clifford@hotmail.com

...or **Jan Griffiths** on 889783 or j.griffiths127@btinternet.com

...or **Joy Parsons** on 889611

www.martinstown-news.co.uk

...send us YOUR news and views!

E: info@martinstown-news.co.uk

Martinstown

news & views



Recycling, Rubbish & Garden Waste Collection Dates

MAY 2020

7th (Thursday) – **recycling and food** 14th (Thursday) – **rubbish and food**

21st (Thursday) – **recycling and food** 28th (Thursday) – **rubbish and food**

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

STOP PRESS: Garden Refuse collections are due to restart on Monday 27th April

VILLAGE HALL 100 CLUB DRAW

Martinstown Draw • APRIL 2020

1st prize Ann Tate • 2nd prize Maureen Marchant • 3rd prize Patrick Jeffery

Remember the Charities at this time...

This is a quite remarkable community. Faced with the challenges that the Coronavirus has given us all, it's been so encouraging to see the support and friendship that has flourished in our rural corner of Dorset. Just look at the "Friends of Martinstown & the Valley" group on Facebook www.facebook.com/groups/16019725106/, if you want to get a sense of what is going on.

It doesn't surprise me in the least. A couple of years ago, and like so many other people, I developed cancer. My wife and I will never forget the wonderful support we had from so many in the village – such as offers of transport to all those radiotherapy sessions. Developing a serious illness is frightening for any of us, and simple human connection makes such a difference.

Healthcare charities have become one of the key strands of support for people with all manner of illnesses and conditions – but they are struggling. Since the start of this year, I've been the Chair of a children's cancer charity – **CLIC Sargent**. From my viewpoint inside a major charity it has been extraordinary to witness just what a massive impact Coronavirus is having. All the big fundraising events, like the London Marathon, have been postponed. All face-to-face fundraising has been halted. Charity shops have all closed. Fundraising has dried up. Indeed, we are seeing a 60% drop in our income, while the number of families in crisis increases rapidly. Every other charity would tell you the same.

This isn't an article just about CLIC Sargent. It's about the charity sector in general. Every charity is struggling. If you are a regular donor to charity – please don't stop now. The need is greater than ever.

And keep on being a great neighbourhood too.

David Haslam

Purbeck House, Martinstown, DT2 9LB

Martinstown Village Store

Firstly I hope everyone is well and keeping safe; the past few weeks have been strange for us all!

The shop is still very much open to help, with reduced hours. My local suppliers are doing a great job ensuring I have a regular supply for you all of the staples of bread, milk, eggs, meat, vegetables and fruit.

We are also still offering a home delivery service to those in need with the help of several volunteers; alongside this we are cooking up a home cooked meal each Wednesday and Saturday.

The Post Office is still open too for cash withdrawals, deposits, bill payments, gas/electric and telephone top ups. Posting is still available but delays are possible.

Also I would like to say a big shout out to **Josh, Charlie & Meghan** whose paper deliveries have doubled ...well done guys!

Take care. Best wishes – **Karen xx**



Please use the phone number listed below for orders rather than ring the shop direct. If you experience problems with the mobile number used for orders please use 07775 195677 or 889410.



Martinstown Village Store now delivers!

From Monday, 23rd March you can ring 07985189077 to order certain produce to be delivered to you. The village shop can provide:

Eggs
Butter
Milk

Sausages
Fresh vegetables and fruit
Frozen ready meals

Cheese
Bread
Bacon

If you have to self isolate you can call between the hours of 10:00 and 11:00am to place your order and have it delivered to your doorstep. (you will be advised about payment)

Depending on demand, we may add further numbers to ring over the coming weeks.

- 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: FREEFONE 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



A 'Just for Fun' Quiz: **'Where is it?'**

All these photographs were taken within a 5 mile radius of Martinstown.

Where was the photographer at the time?

Answers next month!



How Self-Isolation Has Changed the World And Will Do Again – [CLICK HERE](#)



Milk bottle tops...

If there is anybody who is still collecting the coloured plastic bottle tops please could you drop them off, either with Les Scarth at Hill View, Martinstown or with me (Fran Taylor) at Stevens Farmhouse, Martinstown.

The Air Ambulance still need them. Thank you.

Food Bank Donations

Thank you so much to all the villagers who have generously donated to the Food Bank box which is currently situated in the village shop close to the counter. As I'm sure you will realise, the need for your donations during this pandemic is greater than ever, and everything is very gratefully received when we deliver to the Weymouth centre on Tuesday/Friday. Karen will also kindly put shop items in the box if it is easier for you to donate money.

Chris & Fiona Laidlaw

Thoughts on Corona Virus by Fran Taylor

The Corona Virus has finally reached this green and pleasant land and now it's time to do as we have all been asked and self isolate. My back door is closed and neighbours who once sat and gossiped over a cup of coffee or a glass of wine now stand and chat outside in the lane, all separated by the regulation 2 metres.

Mother's Day arrives and son Matthew hovers at the garden gate and delivers a card and a present of carpet stain remover. Midge, my geriatric Westie who sometimes forgets her manners has left a tell tale mark. No point in getting cross!

The day drags on. I'm restless. Polish the silver, empty the dishwasher, walk the dog, read a book. Then it's bedtime and the 10'o'clock news. Fortunately there is nothing new.

But there's no point in being gloomy and we all must make the best of everything – so today I'm going to sweep away dreary thoughts and take a good positive look around.

For a start there's this wonderful place we live in, the Winterborne Valley with its space for all, and amazing walks just a stone throw away.

Then there's the Martinstown Village Shop run by Karen who deals with the demands of the Post Office whilst doing her best to keep up with a steady stream of orders which are then assembled and delivered around and about by volunteers.

There's the strong community spirit. A knock on the door, "I'm going shopping, is there anything you want?" and always a friendly "How are you?" from passers by when I'm out and about.

Of course Thursday evenings at 8 cannot be missed. Many locals come out to clap, to whistle, to toot horns and to clatter saucepans. Then the Church bell starts to toll. Such a beautiful sound. We are all there to thank the NHS and also to thank Howard Bowering for ringing that bell every Thursday evening. A truly emotional moment.

There are so many people to thank and when this is all over, which it will be, I am sure there will be even more reasons to say thank you!

So keep well everybody.

Hello! from The Brewers Arms



Hello to one and all – it's not the same not seeing your gorgeous faces in the pub but we fully understand the necessity of staying where you are right now and beating this virus once and for all! A special THANK YOU is extended to all front line heroes at this time!

We are using the time wisely and giving the pub a polish and tidy while looking after our very own family too! I hope most of you are enjoying the daily videos and they are putting a smile on your face, that's the aim anyway!

We very much look forward to seeing you all soon and in the meantime stay safe and take care!

Much love – **Leanne & Ben** and our **pub family** xx

Social Media comes to the fore...

I started the Facebook Martinstown Page way back in 2007. The idea then was to keep in contact with a few friends who had left the village and keep them up to date with some of the local news and events. I remember getting quite excited when membership reached the dizzy heights of 50 members! It slowly began to evolve into a local news and events page with membership slowly rising over the ensuing years. A number of cats/dogs were reunited through it, as well as some cattle/sheep/pigs/tortoise, lost parcels, postcards and even a shower cubicle door!

With the Corona Virus outbreak and the March 23rd lock-down it suddenly took on a whole new role. Membership suddenly soared with an additional 100 members joining within the first two weeks, public information and advice was rapidly exchanged. As I write this in week four of lock-down membership has risen to over 570 spread across the globe.

We changed the name of the group from I've Lived in Martinstown, to – Friends of Martinstown and the Valley. Winterbourne Abbas also started their own group and the two exchanged posts together.

One of the best examples of how the spirit of the Valley pulled together was early in the first week when a nurse, new to the village and on shifts asked if anyone had a couple of Paracetamol she could borrow. This drew around 40+ comments and numerous offers of help within the hour!

There have been lots of examples of people sharing good news.

People offering to collect and deliver, do odd jobs etc.

The Brewers Arms have lifted our spirits with their daily comedy gold clips from their own Facebook page and it's lock-down postings.

People have been looking out for their neighbours in isolation by using a Red card/green card system.

There have been Teddy Bear Hunts, Wildlife updates, news from the Parish Council who have been using Zoom, lists of shops and services delivering to the Valley, Village Store updates and the Wednesday Pub quiz has continued online through the facebook page. We were even greeted to the sounds of the Church Bells peeling on Easter Sunday. Kindly sent by Robin all the way from Australia!

So it's been a great success, if a bit chaotic at times, keeping in touch with people on-line.

Thanks to my fellow admins for their work in keeping it all going! We certainly hadn't sign up for this when we started all those years ago, but glad it's been of use in these strange times.

Looking forward to the party in the Brewers when we return to some sort of normality!

Mike Bennett – Admin, Friends of Martinstown and the Valley

If you want to join us just type in 'Martinstown' in the Facebook Search button or click on the Facebook link below.



[Friends of Martinstown and the Valley](#)



[Winterborne Abbas](#)

Martinstown Cricket Club News

Despite the current shut down in our activities the club has undertaken a number of initiatives over the winter.

Pre season training had been underway and at the same time our Ladies team acquitted themselves well in the Dorset league with a very respectable mid table position prior to the cancellation of the remaining fixtures.



The club also benefited from a significant grant from National Grid which funded the replacement of our artificial wicket. This is an important item in any club's resource, enabling games to be played in a variety of weather conditions without impacting on the 'hallowed' grass wickets. Inevitably artificial wickets incur a certain amount of wear and tear so the opportunity to replace at this juncture was very opportune. Our thanks to National Grid for their generosity and of course as ever to our ground staff who managed the project. Alongside this activity the club has also gained an additional kit storage area.



The final achievement over the winter was a remarkable fund raising activity to finance a defibrillator to be located at the club. What started as initial suggestion from a club member rapidly gained momentum with contributions from all quarters, including crowd funding, individuals, our youth members and local companies. Special thanks to the Village Shop and Brewers Arms who excelled in selling numerous knitted characters Easter eggs.

At the time of writing it is impossible to project into the start of the season. We anticipate that the current uncertainty will continue but in the meantime the club will be ready for another season in whatever form that may take, and based on guidance from the national and Dorset Cricket Boards.

David Gargrave – Chairman

A few ideas for some local walks or runs, for the more energetic – all start from Martinstown church green.

by Nick Priddle

Route 1

Steven's Farm Lane, Bat's Lane, Clandon Farm, top of Maiden Castle, turn round and take the descending valley to Martinstown Cricket Club, Higher Ashton Farm, and up to the top of the Ridgeway, west along the Ridgeway nearly to the first set of pylons then descend to Grove Hill Bottom and back to Martinstown. *6.5 miles, 650 ft of ascent and no stiles.*

Route 2

Known locally as the Badger Sett Walk : Steven's Farm Lane, Bat's Lane, left up the lane past Higher Park Farm, after 5 mins take the Bridleway on the left, eventually passing the Badger Sett in the coppice on your left. Continue for 100m to the T-Junction of bridledways, turn left and follow the bridleway to Martinstown, passing the Washing Pool and The Brewers Arms on the way. *2 miles, 180 ft of ascent and no stiles.*

Route 3

Walk east through the village and take the Monkey's Jump road for 50 yards. Turn right past Four Acres and follow the river through the first field. Take the left hand field edge all the way to Martinstown Cricket Club where turn left up the valley and climb to the top of Maiden Castle. Return via Clandon Farm, Bat's Lane, and Steven's Farm Lane. *3.7 miles, 280 ft of ascent and no stiles.*

Route 3a

An extended version of 3). From Martinstown Cricket Club take the Monkton Lane eastwards for 3/4 mile (say 15 mins) and then left at the footpath sign up to the eastern entrance to Maiden Castle. Follow the innermost northern rampart to the west entrance and return via Clandon Farm etc. *Total walk 4.8 miles and 330 ft of ascent. Again, no stiles.*

Route 4

Steven's Farm Lane, Bat's Lane, Clandon Farm, after a further 1/4 mile at the x-roads of bridledways turn left (north) and follow the fields to the road, pass the entrance to the Digester, and keep straight on to the A35 (McDonald's is to your right). Cross the A35 and over the stile opposite, where turn left to follow the fence on your left. Keep heading west, over another stile, diagonally right across the next field, 2 further stiles bring you to Tilly Whim Lane, which cross to the gate opposite. Descend the field and through the wood at the bottom, then to the bottom right corner of the field ahead. Turn left on the wide farm track slowly climbing back up to the A35. Right and immediately left and follow the bridleway back to Martinstown, passing the back of Church Farm, Washing Pool and The Brewers Arms. *4.8 miles and 400 ft of ascent. 4 stiles.*

Route 5

Brewers Arms, Washing Pool, right on the Bridleway signed Bradford Peverell, across the A35 right and immediately left and descend on the bridleway. After 3/4 mile (15–20 mins) in woods turn right to follow the left hand field edge to the top of the field where meet a track. Turn right on the track, passing New Barn Field Centre on your left. Keep on this track as it descends left and right to reach Bradford Peverell Church. Retrace your steps for 1/4 mile then fork right on the b.w. up Strap Bottom. 2 gates bring you to the top of Penn Hill where descend past the pylon to reach a track below, Turn left on this track which slowly rises for 3/4 mile. At the top as the main track turns right, the route keep straight on in the same direction to descend a field to a gate in the hedgerow on the left. The b.w. maintains a south east direction down up down across 3 fields to reach a farm lane. Turn right up the lane to the A35. Follow the verge left for 100m to locate the b.w. on your right which returns to Martinstown via your outward route. *6.7 miles, 750 ft of ascent and no stiles.*

Route 6

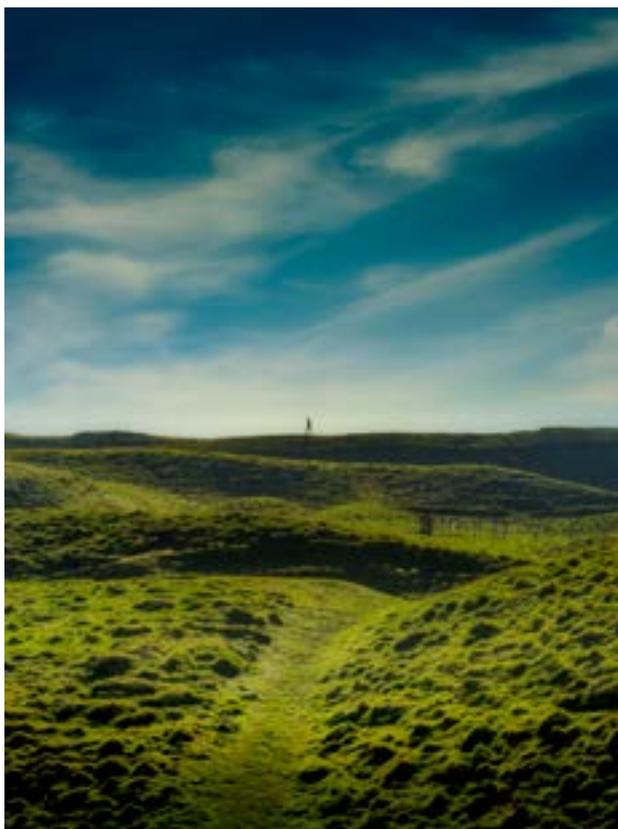
East through the village and take the steep lane right, up to the top of Eweleaze Farm. Continue, to reach the Ridgeway where turn right and follow for about 15 mins to just before the first set of pylons. Here turn right to descend the grassy ridge; follow Grove Hill Bottom, passing the vineyard and back to Martinstown. *4.1 miles and 375 ft of ascent. No stiles.*

Route 7

Take the lane up Grove Hill opposite the Green, to pick up the b.w. at the top. Cross the field, descend through the trees and pass the vineyard on your right. Continue along Grove Hill Bottom to the end and up the grassy ridge to eventually reach the Ridgeway at the "Seawall". Turn right to follow the Ridgeway under the 3 sets of pylons and up to the top at Bronkham Hill. The route descends through a gate to reach the path coming up left from Hell Bottom (approx 30 minutes since you joined the Ridgeway...1 1/4 miles). After 5 mins take the gate right following the fence to reach the Hardy's Monument Road. Turn right down the road and after 10 minutes (1/2m) take the b.w.

left which gradually descends under the pylons to the Steepleton Road at Rew (1m). Turn left for 100m and take the stile on the right to gain the f.p. behind Rew Manor. 3 more stiles follow before accessing the field leading east to Church Farm. Turn right and return to Martinstown. *6.25 miles and 550 ft of ascent. 4 stiles.*

I would strongly advise taking the local O.S. map with you but if you would like me to email you a copy of any of these routes please let me know at Email: nhmpriddle@hotmail.co.uk





THOUGHTS
FROM THE
DESK OF...

**Rev. Jean
Saddington**

Easter Sunday for the Church was, to say the least, strange this year. However, lots of us got together on 'Zoom' (what a revelation that is!) to celebrate Easter Day with an Easter service, including hymns. For those of you familiar with Zoom you will know that it doesn't synchronize sound, so communal speech or singing comes out as a cacophonous mess (though highly hilarious). So, with microphones muted for all but the pianist, we sang to ourselves. It was, it occurred to me, analogous of the situation we now find ourselves in – together and yet apart.

One of the benefits of using Zoom for church services (rather than using recordings) is that people get to see each other, to speak to each other and to be a congregation. This meeting of people is just as important as the prayers we say and the hymns we sing.

This glorious Eastertide (which, by the way, in the Church's calendar goes on for 50 days so we may be back to some normality before Easter ends) continues the joy of Easter Day reminding us that each and every day is a new beginning. The witnesses to the first Easter slowly came to realise that from an awful ending (the death of our Lord Jesus Christ) had come a new beginning, not just for Jesus but for everyone. Joy, hope, purpose and love, which had been buried with Jesus in the tomb, came leaping back to life; the future that a moment ago had seemed so empty was suddenly brimming over with promise. What an amazing message that is for us today.

A positive in this awful lockdown is that it's happening in spring, with the added bonus of beautiful weather. Spring is full of hope, offering signs of new life all around us, and in this wonder that is God's creation we are invited to live each moment in the context of the God who makes all things new. This time will pass and whoever we are, whatever we face, God holds out the prospect of a fresh start, a new beginning, through the reassuring message of Easter of joy, hope, purpose and love.



Green Martinstown

A new initiative by and for the residents of Martinstown, to make our village
SUSTAINABLE.

A public meeting was going to be called in April but that is obviously not possible now. In the meantime a new page on Martinstown News & Views has been set up to offer ideas, links to other similar projects and money-saving tips by being greener.

[CLICK HERE](#) to visit our page on www.martinstown-news.co.uk

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

01305 221000

communityresponse@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

