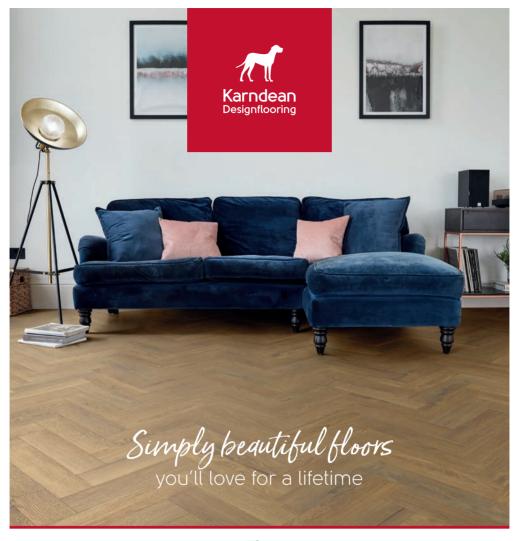


The Valley & Valence Parish Magazine for

Winterborne St. Martin · Winterbourne Steepleton · Winterbourne Abbas · Compton Valence





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NOVEMBER 2024

The Valley & Valence Parish Magazine for

Winterborne St. Martin Winterbourne Steepleton Winterbourne Abbas Compton Valence









NEWS & ARTICLES FOR THE V&V PARISH MAGAZINE

It would be much appreciated if copy is supplied electronically as a text doc. (Microsoft Word etc.) with any accompanying images as JPEG files to the address BELOW.

ALL COPY MUST REACH ME BY 5pm on 15th (LATEST) OF THE PRECEDING MONTH in order to be included in that issue.

ADVERTISING IN THE V&V PARISH MAGAZINE • Rates and Contact details

Current rates & specifications enquiries, and advertisement copy for each month's issue to:

Graham Herbert, 1 Cowleaze, Martinstown, DT2 9TD

Tel: 01305 889786 or email: info@valleyandvalence.co.uk





THOUGHTS
FROM THE
DESK of...

Rev. Teresa Stewart–Sykes

As the days grow shorter and the nights close in, November is a season of remembering and can be a hard time of year for some, particularly those of us who are bereaved and missing people we love. November can be a hard month whether our grief is new and raw, or whether it is an old companion.

November is also a particular time of the year for remembering within our communities. At the very beginning of the month the church keeps a special day to pray for those we love but see no longer; this year the All Souls Service will be on Sunday 3rd November at 4pm, at St Michael's Church at Winterbourne Steepleton. This will be a reflective service remembering those who have died in the past year in the Valley and those we still remember and grieve for. Everyone is welcome to come along and hear the names of their loved ones read aloud as candles are lit and special prayers are said. If you would like to add the name of a loved one to the memorial list, please contact me (revteresa@ outlook.com 01305 549242). And of course, we look forward to Remembrance Sunday 10th November, a day to remember those who served our communities during times of war: please refer to the Church services list for details of Remembrance Services in the villages.

Our memories are what make us who we are both as individuals and as communities. Grief is a significant experience in our lives so of course it is important that we have the opportunities to share our memories and to acknowledge our grief. As we reflect during the month of November, we may ask ourselves how grief shapes our lives and makes us the people we are. We also reflect on lessons we learn from the experience of international conflicts; these questions are particularly important as war in Israel, Lebanon, Gaza, Sudan and Ukraine continues to bring fresh horror to innocent civilians in those communities.

Of course, we all hope that conflicts will not be part of our world in the future, that leaders of the world will understand that bullying and violence do not solve whatever issues they have.

The end of November brings to a close the Churches year. During these few weeks before once again we begin preparations for Christmas we get a glimpse of what our world should look like when it is fully renewed, 'a new heaven and a new earth'. We are promised a better more peaceful way.



He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

Yes, November can be a month for remembering past experiences and the special people who have played an important part in our lives, however today is always an opportunity to make new memories for the future.

The Winterbournes Churches are running a short course all about our experience of bereavement called 'The Bereavement Journey'-please see the advert. If you would like to talk about how grief affects you, or if you would like to join the course, please contact Rev Teresa on 01305 549242

THOUGHTS
FROM THE
DESK of...

Rev. Teresa Stewart–Sykes



God bless you,

Rev Teresa

SAVE THE DATE...

Bereavement Journey Course: Mondays 4pm-6pm in Martinstown Village Hall - see advert **Carol Services:**

A Quiet Christmas Carol Service

- St Michael's Winterbourne Steepleton, Wednesday 11th December 7pm

Winterbourne Valley School Carol Service

- St Mary's Winterbourne Abbas Thursday 12th December 6pm

Candlelight Carols @ St Thomas

- Compton Valance, Monday 16th December 6.30pm

Traditional Carols for Christmas

- St Martin's, Martinstown Sunday 22nd December

Crib Service for Families on Christmas Eve

Children can dress up and help tell the Christmas story

St Mary's Winterbourne Abbas 3pm

St Martins', Martinstown 4pm





The Parishes of the Winterbournes & Compton Valence

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

The Winterbournes and Compton Valence Ministry Team

Team Vicar - Rev'd Teresa Stewart-Sykes (01305 549252) - from 5 September

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

Licensed Lav Minister - Allen Knott (01305 267217)

Permission to Officiate - Peter Wilkinson (01305 889077)

Organists

Nigel Power - Martinstown (01305 889910)

Peter Wilkinson - Winterbourne Steepleton (01305 889077)

Laurie Reading - for music at Winterbourne Abbas (01305 889693)

For Compton Valence please contact the Church Wardens

The Parish of the Winterbournes

There is a single Parochial Church Council for Martinstown, Steepleton and Abbas but each parish church retains its own local church committee.

Churchwardens - Ellie Sturrock (07980 089470), David & Joy Parsons (889611)

PCC Hon. Secretary - John Crawford (01305 889377) **PCC Hon. Treasurer** - **Tom Webb** (01305 889097)

The Parish of Saint Thomas of Canterbury, Compton Valence

Churchwarden & Treasurer - Jeremy Russell (01308 482227)

Churchwarden & Secretary - Peter Steel (01308 482782)

Dorchester and The Winterbournes Team Website: www.dorchesteranglican.info

Any of the above can be approached in the first instance for Baptism, Marriage, Home Communion or just a visit and they would welcome being told when anybody has been bereaved or is ill. They have 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 SERVICES during...

NOVEMBER 2024

SUNDAY 3RD • 4TH BEFORE ADVENT

10.00	Holy Communion – Winterbourne Abbas
11.00	Holy Communion - Winterbourne Steepleton
15.00	All Souls - Winterhourne Steenleton

SUNDAY 10TH • REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

8.00	Holy Communion (BCP) – Martinstown
9.30	Remembrance - Compton Valence
10.45	Remembrance - Martinstown Green

SUNDAY 17TH • 2ND BEFORE ADVENT

10.00	Worship Together – Winterbourne Abbas
11.00	Morning Prayer - Martinstown
17 00	Church @5 - Martinstown

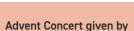
SUNDAY 24TH · CHRIST THE KING

10.30	Benefice Service at St Peter's, Dorchester
	with Bishop Tim Thornton

(Please share transport – contact Rev Teresa if you have space in your car or if you need a lift)

V&V NOV 24.indd 6





The Occasional Singers

Sunday 24 November at 3.00pm

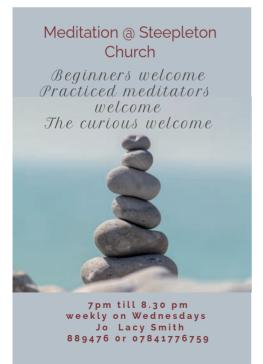
St Mary's Church, Edward Road, Dorchester DT1 2HL

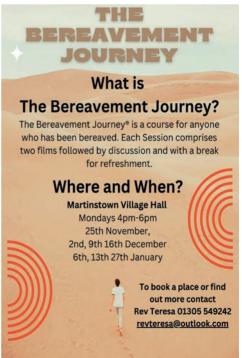
On Sunday 24 November at 3.00 in the afternoon, St Mary's Church in Dorchester will once again be filled with the glorious sounds of choral music, as the Occasional Singers perform a programme of Advent part songs. Taking us from 1607 through to the present day, the songs and carols will range from contemplative to joyful.

Admission is FREE. There will be a retiring collection in aid of Dorchester Poverty Action.

Everyone is most welcome.







V&V NOV 24.indd 7 15/10/2024 17:54



All Souls Service

Come and light a candle in the church in memory and thanksgiving for someone you love but see no longer

St Michael's Church Steepleton

SUNDAY 3RD **NOVEMBER** 4PM

Names will be read from our **Book of Remembrance**

If you wish do stay for a cup of tea and a piece of cake afterwards

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M N N T H 'S

Martinstown Women's Institute

In October two intrepid travellers from the village, Phil and Roelie Newman, told us about their recent trip to Ethiopia. They gave us some fascinating facts about the country and we were pleased to welcome a number of visitors for this very interesting talk. We hope to hear more about their travels in the future.

On 17 October four of us will be attending the Dorset Federation Annual Meeting in Poole when we join with other Institutes from around the county and our beautiful new banner will be included in the parade of banners.

As the clocks go back on 27 October we will be meeting in the afternoons during the winter months. The speaker on Wednesday, 13 November at 2.30 pm will be Doug Skinner "Threat to Marine Life in Dorset".

A reminder that at our December meeting we will be making our usual collection of essential toiletries for the Dorchester Women's Refuge.

Angela Barrett - Secretary



GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!

There will be an

Evening of Entertainment

Martinstown Village Hall

on

Saturday 23rd November • 7.30pm.

Come along and enjoy the theatrical experience of the week! There will be drama, poetry readings, storytelling

and music all for your delight!

Tickets are £10

and can be purchased from Ann Matthews, Telephone 01305 889248 There will be a bar and raffle.

Come along and let us entertain you!









MARTINSTOWN Regular Group Meetings

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The Monday Meeting 2.00 - 3.00 pm Anne Tate - 01305 889506

W.I Garden Club 3.00 - 4.00 pm Sheree Fitzgerald - 01305 889226

(1ST Monday in month)

The Valley Club 7.00 - 10.00 pm Ange Shulke - 077888 58935

TUESDAY

Botanical Art Pat Allen - 01308 862063 9.30 - 12.30 pm

(term times only)

Sequence Dance Group Ann Matthews - 01305 889248 2.30 - 4.40 pm

Badminton Juliet Cleal - 07969 292973 7.30 - 9.30 pm

WEDNESDAY

Chair-based Exercise Suzanne Fellows-Joyce - 01308 281882 10.30 - 11.30 am

6.45 - 9.00 pm Anne Tate - 01305 889506

(2nd Wednesday in month)

Beginners' Dance 8.00 - 10.00 pm Ann Matthews - 01305 889248

THURSDAY

Poundbury Art Group 10 - 1.00 pm Teresa Blades - 01305 889947

Sequence Dance Group 2.30 - 4.30 pm Ann Matthews - 01305 889248

Yoga Gemma O'Beirne - 07821 593314 6.00 - 7.30 pm

FRIDAY

Exercise to Music 10.15 - 11.45 am Suzanne Fellows-Joyce - 01308 281882

7.00 - 9.30 pm Ann Matthews - 01305 889248

(every other Friday)

Chairperson - Chris Evans 077714 223587 Bookings – Ann Matthews – 01305 889248 or email ronann.matthews@btinternet.com

V&V NOV 24.indd 11







Having been in my role as Parish Clerk for nearly a year, I thought now was a good time to reflect on my time so far.

It's no secret I came into this role with no previous experience but as I sit here today and reflect on the past year, I feel I've come a long way. That's not to say the work is done!

As well as the role being interesting, rewarding and varied, it's fair to say the path to becoming a fully trained and experienced Clerk is a long one, which at times can be tricky to navigate. Where I sit to date couldn't have been achieved without the support and patience of the Councillor's (old and new) and in particular Cllr Pemberton who has been my guide and mentor when needed – so for that I express my sincere thanks.

As well as the day-to-day management of the Clerk role I have undertaken a number of training courses and Zoom calls over the past year on areas such as internal audits, meetings /minutes /agendas, FOI and GDPR and most recently the Scribe software. The latter was a big task to get set up but, in my opinion, a huge step forward for the council with regards to productivity and it's been a pleasure to be an integral part of getting this up and running.

Not only has it been a year of learning but also adapting my home life to accommodate my

work. With a 2-year-old daughter, a dog and a husband they've all got used to me nipping off when I have some spare time, to the point my daughter tells Daddy "Mummy's checking emails". Conversely, the Councillor's don't seem to mind my early morning or late-night emails.

Despite the progress, there is still a long way to go, and I am not complacent about this. I remain passionate about learning more and more in the hope this will free up councillor's time to focus on other things and being the support they need in what can be a challenging role. I've dealt with such a wide spectrum of topics in this first year and very much look forward to what the next year brings.

I have had the pleasure of meeting/speaking to some local parishioners, whether it be face to face or on email, and I hope to engage with more of you over the months and years.

As always, if there is anything I can help with, then please get in touch on clerk@winter-bornestmartin-pc.gov.uk. As a reminder I try to publish everything pertinent on our website so if you are interested in what we are dealing with please visit the website and subscribe for updates.

Victoria Badman - Clerk

MARTINSTOWN VILLAGE HALL 100 CLUB DRAW

Martinstown OCTOBER Draw

1st. £25 Eileen Hobday 2nd £10 Howard bowering 3rd £5 Wendy Durrant

Valance SEPTEMBER Draw

£25 Penny Tweed £10. Chris Roberts £ 5. Chris Roberts

Valence OCTOBER Draw

£25. Pippa James £10. Malcolm Smith £5. Guy Kelsey



Web: greenmartinstown.org.uk Email: greenmartinstown@gmail.com

Green Martinstown's Annual Supper Evening

On Saturday, October 12th, I had the pleasure of attending Green Martinstown's annual supper evening at the Village Hall, themed "Soil: The Foundation of Life." An enthusiastic gardener and eco-conscious individual, I was really looking forward to what promised to be an educational and fun evening.

The evening began with folk music by local duo A Long, Long Walk, followed by a thought-provoking TEDx talk by Dutchman, Youri Post, a friend of Colin Tracy. Sharing his transformative journey on a smallholding in Ibiza, Youri passionately described the vibrant colours, textures, and scents of the soil. He explained how his connection to the earth helped him overcome addiction and deepened his sense of belonging in the world.

After a delicious home-cooked supper, we heard from Professor Mark Kibblewhite, Chair of Trustees at the Dorset Wildlife Trust and a leading soil expert. Mark emphasized that "soil is not simply inanimate dirt—it is teeming with life." He invited us to envision ourselves shrinking down, like Alice in Wonderland, to a microscopic level to appreciate the hidden life within the soil. Mark explained that soil experiences time differently, evolving over spans that make our lifetimesseem brief. He likened soil to a living engine, a crucial reservoir of carbon that sustains an endless cycle of life and death.

The evening's message was clear: soil is a living entity, a vibrant habitat in its own right, that supports our ecosystem. Perhaps we should all take a quiet moment to engage our senses, dig our hands into the earth, and recognise the significance of this vital resource for life on our planet. A special thanks to Trilby and Pete who played superbly and managed to successfully engage the whole hall in song... we sounded pretty good! Thank you to all who helped create such a good evening.

Charlotte Beare

Open Meeting • Thursday 5th December 7.00pm • The Manor House

On Thursday 5th December we are hosting another Open Meeting at the Manor House. Our Open Meetings are open to anyone (as the name suggests!) There will be 2 short talks on Fungi and Bird Ringing. We will present updates on our current projects and events, including an update on the ongoing Community Asset Transfer of the Dorset Council owned land north of the church and St. Martinsfield. We also welcome your ideas for projects and possible new directions to do with sustainability and care for the Earth.

Please come and join us - there will be drinks and nibbles provided along with a warm welcome.

Positive News (From Positive News Magazine)

The Iberian Lynx has been removed from the endangered species list as conservation work has allowed their numbers to rise from 93 in 2002 to 2,021 in 2023.

The Flow Country in Scotland, a 4000 square kilometre pristine blanket bog, has secured world heritage status. It stores around 400 million tonnes of carbon – more than all of the UK's woodlands combined.

V&V NOV 24.indd 13

Winterbourne Abbas & Steepleton Parish Council

Following our September meeting, your Parish Council would like to share what we are focusing on in respect of our two villages.

Copyhold Lane, Winterbourne Abbas: The Parish Council made a formal objection to Dorset Council's official order to change the Lane to a "restricted byway". This was accepted and the matter will now be referred to a Public Inquiry. It is understood that this process could take another 2 – 3 years to complete.

National Highways (A35): We continue to have regular correspondence with the A35 route manager to discuss road crossing safety, street lighting, drainage and pavement issues.

Work to improve the highway ditch at the rear of the Steepleton Water houses has been started and a regular inspection regime set up. The filling station forecourt works are nearing completion and this will allow the pavement along the forecourt to be finally resurfaced. National Highways have cleared the greater part of the leat through the village and we are chasing them to complete this work. Street lighting has all been upgraded with LED equipment and we have asked for investigations to prevent excessive light levels.

Dorset Highways (roads other than A35): The SID in Steepleton was vandalised but we are pleased to report that it is now reinstated with a more secure enclosure and protected screen. We are investigating possible further traffic calming measures through Steepleton. There have been issues with illegal HGV parking near the A35 junction and this is being dealt with by Dorset Police, Dorset Highways and DVLA.

Public Footpaths: We have had discussions with Dorset Council's Ranger department with a view of upgrading signage and fingerposts in both parishes.

Wessex Water: Wessex Water have made some progress in reducing surface water ingress into

the sewer. Please make efforts to assist Wessex Water by preventing wet wipes etc getting into the system and causing further problems due to blockages.

Flooding: The hedges in Steepleton have now been cut and annual stream clearing will be undertaken in the near future. Sandbags in each village have been checked. We have again corresponded with the landowner and tenant farmer of Manor Farm in Abbas and made suggestions for enlarging catchment areas. We are arranging meetings with them together with Dorset Council, Wessex Water and the Environment Agency in an effort to contain and greatly reduce run off from this farmland.

X51 Bus Trial: First Wessex have extended the trial period for the bus service through Winterbourne Steepleton and Martinstown. We urge everyone to use this service in order that it can be sustained in the longer term.

Bleed Kit Installation: Our new "bleed kit" has now been installed adjacent to our defibrillator at the Abbas filling station. This is a specialised trauma kit for bystanders to use to stop lifethreatening bleeding until emergency services arrive.

Website/Facebook: We update our noticeboards in the bus shelters and our website and the Winterbourne Abbas facebook page on a regular basis. Our website can be accessed via Dorset Council's website or by entering the web address www.winterbourneabbassteepleton-pc. qov.uk/home

Meetings: We meet normally on the third Monday every two months starting at 7.00pm, in the rear room of the Coach House Inn, Winterbourne Abbas. Our next meeting is on Monday 18th November 2024 starting at 7pm and residents are very welcome to attend and raise any issues that they consider important.















Recycling, Rubbish & Garden Waste Collection Dates

- recycling and food

* Correct at time of printing.

NOVEMBER 2	PO24* For more inf	ormation contact: WWW.0	lorsetforyou.com/recycle
14th (Thursday)	- recycling and food	7th (Thursday)	- rubbish and food
28th (Thureday)	- recycling and food	21ct (Thureday)	_ rubbieb and food

6th (Weds) - qarden waste 20th (Weds) - qarden waste

Music at St Peter's Dorchester

31st (Thursday)

November is a busy month of music-making at St Peter's Dorchester. Our programme of events begins with a performance of the Duruflé Requiem for All Souls Day on Saturday 2nd November between 5pm and 6pm. This is offered as an act of worship, so admission is free, and all are welcome. Our monthly Choral Eucharist takes place the next day on Sunday 3rd November at 10.30am, with glorious music by Palestrina, Morales and Eleanor Daley. Do join us over the weekend if you can!

On Saturday 9th November between 12.30 and 1pm our free, monthly lunchtime concert takes place. We welcome soprano Iris Lam and Rob Taylor (piano) to perform a programme of English and Italian songs and arias. From Salisbury, Iris is currently a student at the Glasgow Schol of Art. Do break up your busy Saturday with a fantastic half hour of music. Admission is free and all are very welcome.

Our monthly, cathedral-style service of Choral Evensong takes place on Saturday 23rd November at 4.30pm. The music includes Tallis 'O nata lux', Ives 'Edington Service', Rose 'Preces & Responses'

and Ireland 'Greater love hath no man' and we welcome Graham Scott as guest organist. Do join us for this free event and stay for a glass of wine after the service.

Finally, we welcome University Music Bournemouth Chamber Choir to lead the singing at our Advent Carol Service on Saturday 30th November at 4.30pm. Opening in candlelight, the service moves from darkness to light with glorious choral settings, plainsong and congregational carols. Admission is free and all are very welcome.

You can keep up with events via our website:

www.musicatstpetersdorchester.org or by following us on social media: Facebook: www.facebook.com/musicatstpetersdorch - X (Twitter): @musicatstpeter - Instagram @ musicatstpetersdorch. If you would like to join our email list to receive news about our events, subscribe through the website or drop us a line at: musicatstpeters@mail.com All of our social media and contact details can be found at: linktr.ee/ musicatstpeters



The First Bus X51service...

First Bus's new bus timetables show the trial of the X51 is continuing and remains unchanged apart from very minor alterations to the times of the **Bridport to Dorchester**Mon-to-Fri schooldays only bus that comes through Martinstown just after 0800 hrs.

While this news is most welcome, if the bus is not well used, we face it being cut once more. So... **USE IT, OR LOSE IT!!!**

PLEASE NOTE - First Bus WILL NOT be running an X51 Sunday Service

X51 BUS MINI-TIMETABLE	Re	Red = School Days only			Blue = Non-School Days			Updated 01.09.24	
Monday to Friday - Westbound				NSD	SD0				
Weymouth King's Statue		0914	1112	1314	1322	1519	1722		
Dorchester Trinity Street	0756	0941	1138	1343	1351	1547	1750	1903	
Martinstown Post Office	0814	0959	1157	1402	1410	1606	1807	1920	
Bridport West Street	0841	1032	1231	1434	1446	1639	1834	1948	
Lyme Regis Square	0923	1122	1321	1520	1536	1723	1913	202	
Axminster Railway Station	0950	1150	1350	1550	1604	1750			
Monday to Friday - Eastbound		SD0							
Axminster Railway Station			0815	1015	1215	1415	1620	1815	
Lyme Regis Post Office			0841	1042	1240	1440	1643	1835	
Bridport West Street	0649	0739	0928	1133	1327	1529	1729	1915	
Martinstown Post Office	0719	0804	0958	1204	1357	1558	1756	1939	
Dorchester Hospital Bridport Rd.	0732	0816	1011	1217	1410	1611	1808	1950	
Weymouth King's Statue			1048	1258	1451	1658		2025	
Saturday - Westbound									
Weymouth King's Statue	0731	0923	1115	1313	1522	1711			
Dorchester Trinity Street	0757	0948	1144	1342	1551	1740	1904		
Martinstown Post Office	0815	1006	1202	1401	1609	1756	1920		
Bridport West Street	0847	1039	1236	1435	1640	1824	1948		
Lyme Regis Square	0926	1125	1323	1522	1724	1907			
Axminster Railway Station	0950	1150	1350	1549	1750				
Saturday - Eastbound									
Axminster Railway Station	0815	1015	1215	1415	1615	1815			
Lyme Regis Post Office	0838	1039	1238	1439	1637	1835			
Bridport West Street	0927	1130	1326	1526	1722	1920			
Martinstown Post Office	0954	1156	1353	1552	1751	1946			
Dorchester Hospital Bridport Rd.	1003	1205	1402	1601	1802	1953			
Weymouth King's Statue	1039	1241	1441	1636		2027			

For a full X51 BUS TIMETABLE visit: www.firstbus.co.uk/wessex-dorset-south-somerset/plan-journey/timetables







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