

Valley & Valence

*The Parish Magazine for
Winterborne St Martin, Winterbourne Abbas,
Winterbourne Steepleton and Compton Valence*



April 2008

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THE BREWERS ARMS

YOUR VILLAGE PUB

01305 889361

Wednesday QUIZ Night New teams are always welcome.

Thursday evenings NINTENDO Wii competitions.

POKER Any volunteers? - Are you interested in playing poker for fun? If so, let us know because we would like to host a poker evening or even a regular Poker Night.

FULL MENU is available from Tuesday Lunchtime to Sunday Lunchtime.

And Don't forget -we offer **TAKEAWAY MEALS**

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Contact Anne-Marie Harrison MCSP
Telephone 01305 889662

THE BENEFICE

Priest in Charge
Revd. Rosemary Bassett
The Rectory
Martinstown.
Tel: 01305/ 889466

Please let Rosemary know of anyone sick or in hospital who would like a visit, or anyone housebound who would like to receive Holy Communion at home.

FROM THE REGISTERS FUNERALS.

26th February – Jack Robertson – Martinstown
18th March – Elizabeth (Libby) Barnaby Palmer – Martinstown

SUNDAY READINGS FOR APRIL

6th April	3rd of Easter	Acts 2: 14a, 36 - 41 1 Peter 1: 17 - 23 Luke 24: 13 - 35
13th April	4th of Easter	Acts 2: 42 - 47 1 Peter 2: 19 - 25 John 10: 1 - 10
20th April	5th of Easter	Acts 7: 55 - 60 1 Peter 2: 2 - 10 John 14: 1 - 14
27th April	6th of Easter	Acts 17: 22 - 31 1 Peter 3: 13 - 22 John 14: 15 - 21

COMPTON VALENCE CHURCH FLOWER & CLEANING ROTA

21 March – 4 April	Mrs James
5 - 18 April	Sarah Sclater
19 April - 2 May	Mrs Pearce

THE VICAR WRITES



Dear Friends.

I am writing this as we come to yet another Holy Week leading up to Good Friday and the death of our Lord on the Cross. By the time you read this we will have celebrated the triumph of the Resurrection on Easter Day. But Easter is not just a day of celebration but a period of 40 days which goes on to Ascension Day (1st May), when we remember Christ's return to heaven, finishing at Pentecost with the great outpouring of the Holy Spirit. However, each Sunday is a reminder of the Resurrection as we continue to celebrate Easter on the first day of every week.

I was delighted with the number of people who took part in our Lent courses and also all those who came to our Lent lunches, which were a great success held in the village hall this year; many thanks to all who helped in any way. The amount raised was approx £300 which will be divided between The Hub in Dorchester and a charity connected with Darfur.

The Annual Parochial Church Meetings of all the churches will take place during the early part of this month and you can see the dates under the Church News. This is an opportunity to review the work of the church in the past year but also an opportunity to express our thanks. Thanks to the many people who work so hard during the year in so many ways. There are too many of you for me to name personally here, but I would like publicly to express my thanks especially to all the Church Wardens and PCC members who have supported me during the year by their work and their prayers.

At the end of the month on Sunday 27th April we will be having a visiting preacher at our 11am service in Martinstown. He is John Eames from Tearfund. John is the co-ordinator for the Central South Coast and will be speaking about the important work of Tearfund.

Yours in Christ,
Rosemary

CHURCH NEWS

DATES OF THE ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETINGS

Martinstown Church – Sunday 6th April at 6.30pm in Church.

Steepleton & Abbas – Wednesday 9th April at 7.30pm in Abbas Church

Compton Valence – Thursday 10th April at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

CONFIRMATION

The Bishop of Sherborne the Rt Rev Timothy Thornton will be coming to Steepleton Church on Tuesday 10th June to confirm some adults. (time to be announced) It is still not too late if you would like to join the classes.

CHILDREN & COMMUNION

Some children will be admitted to communion on Sunday 29th June at our Benefice service at 10am in Martinstown Church.

CAFÉ CABARET

An Evening with Jane Austen and the dances that she knew. On Wednesday April 16th at 7pm in St George's Church Hall Fordington. Ploughman's Supper and a glass of wine. Free entry but collection for Dorchester Poverty Action Group. For tickets phone 268641.

DORCHESTER DEANERY THEOLOGY GROUP

The next meeting will be on Wednesday 23rd April at 7.30pm in St George's Church Hall. Following on from her earlier popular talk on the 39 Articles of the Church of England, Jean Lang will be asking the following question. "What do the vicar of Bray, Titus Oates, Charles Wesley, the Muggletonians and the Bangorian Controversy have in common?" Jean will look at the development of the Church of England from "Good King Charles' Golden Days" to that of "The illustrious House of Hanover".

COMPTON VALENCE

P.C.C. A.G.M AND VILLAGE HALL A.G.M.

will be held on Thursday 10th April 2008 at 7pm
in the Village Hall

Everyone is very welcome! Hope to see you there.

JACK ROBERTSON

Once again the sympathies of the Valley are with one of their members who has recently suffered a bereavement. In this case Anne Robertson has lost her husband Jack after a long illness. Jack Robertson was one of those quintessential Scots who journey to all four quarters of the world in the course of their chosen careers. In common with many of his fellow countrymen Jack found his skills lay in engineering construction work which covered projects ranging from roads and bridges to dams for hydro-electric power and water conservation.

Home conditions varied according to the location as his wife Anne was to find out for she was not one to stay comfortably in the UK but made a real home for Jack wherever his work took him. Ironically shortage of safe quality water often occurred when building a dam. Every continent in the world ,as far as Anne was able, was host to a proper Robertson home life.

After retirement Jack and Anne felt it time to put down roots and Martinstown was chosen as the perfect place to enjoy the more settled and peaceful life they both deserved.

Jack became a familiar figure walking through the village for his daily exercise and whenever he met up with someone the conversations became a most interesting mix of his Scottish brogue and the local Dorset dialect. Sadly illness prevented him from spending his final years peacefully in his own home but Anne paid him those regular visits that he so much looked forward to and of course the sweets that she brought with her.

The Rev. Rosemary Bassett conducted the simple dignified funeral ceremony which took place at the Weymouth crematorium against the most appropriate background music of a Scottish Pipe Band. If Anne thought that she and the family members would be left to mourn alone she was mistaken for many friends in the village and elsewhere and especially from the WI joined the family at the crematorium, and afterwards at the gathering in the Brewers Arms. Heartfelt thanks from Anne and her Family to all who have given her so much support not just at the funeral service but in those days when life became somewhat difficult and most particularly to a special friend Rita.

M.P.M

The Way Ahead

April 2008

I apologise to any Welsh readers for failing to mark St David's Day last month! This month we mark/suffer/enjoy (?) April Fools' Day. We also celebrate St George's Day. I have included some notes on both days on a later page.

I have no input from the Valley School this month but I am assured by my daughter and granddaughter that it is still thriving! The Easter Holidays started on Maundy Thursday (20th March) and the school will reopen on Monday 7th April.

When I look at the daffodils in Martinstown I hope that some "snowdroppers" from Compton Valence may have taken a look before they all fade away (the daffodils not the CV folk!).

For a change this month I am offering children a gentle sudoku puzzle on page 24 and for adults a simple poser to ponder in their bath! Find out why on page 25 and you could win a pint! As always, any comments would be welcome rather than a stunned silence.

For the recent Easter Egg Hunt children had to be accompanied by an adult so I went with my daughter Tessa. She in turn went with my two granddaughters so all was in order!

From a grandparent's view I was intrigued by the organisers' ingenuity in hiding golf tees instead of Easter Eggs. The latter would have not only deteriorated in the wet weather but also have been eaten before the finish. The instruction to collect just three tees produced a lot of good-natured sharing between younger and older children. At the end, golf tees were gratefully exchanged for eggs.

During the hunt I was amused at how some children's modern stories are widely read. I found myself joining with no less than three generations of McCourties reciting "We're going on a Bearhunt"! The event is described from a PTFA aspect elsewhere in this issue. Lunch afterwards in the comfort of the Brewers Arms was tasty as always.

Brian B.

The Martinstown Mafia to the Rescue

Jean and Roger Berry proved in the last week of February that lightning can strike twice, with Jean having hip repairs in Exeter and Roger having heart repairs in Dorchester. The mafia swung into action with hospital visits, home visits, shopping, meals, phone calls, cards and all the other help.

Jean came home first, and being on crutches was alone, unable to drive, and a bit stuck, but the good work continued, a number of friends having "sleep-overs" with her for a few nights.

When Roger came home he couldn't drive either so help continued with offers of transport. Nothing seemed too much trouble and we must heartily thank all our friends and acquaintances for their continuing support. We are so lucky to live in such a supportive community.

Jean and Roger

MARTINSTOWN 100 CLUB WINNERS

(or as the Editor originally requested "Winers"!)

February	£25	Rosemary Duke
	£10	Anne Bennett
	£5	Geoffrey Haine

COMPTON VALENCE 100 CLUB

Firstly a big thank-you to all village members, family and friends who have supported our 100 club, we are delighted to say all the numbers were sold and the first draw took place at our Christmas drinks in the village hall.

Winning numbers as follows:

December	£5	12	Camilla Russell
	£10	65	Chris Sundt
	£25	40	Megan Johnson
January	£5	26	Nigel Brook
	£10	2	Hannah Tweed
	£25	97	Sclater Family
February	£5	4	Robert Churchill
	£10	71	Timothy Chick
	£25	29	Chris Roberts

Many Thanks and Good Luck!

1st April is April Fool's Day

No one really knows where or when this idea started, but it may have been in France in 1582. Before then, the New Year was celebrated for eight days from March 25 and ending on April 1. Then in 1582, Pope Gregory introduced a new calendar for the Christian world, and the new year fell on January 1. News spread slowly in those days. Some didn't hear of the change, some chose to ignore it and some merely forgot. They continued to celebrate New Year on April 1 and were considered fools.

Tricks were played on them; they were sent on 'fool's errands' and people made them believe that something false was true. Today the day is commemorated in many parts of the world with practical jokes. In the past apprentices working in the shops of tradesmen were sent to the market to search for hens' teeth, pigeons' milk, striped paint, a box of straight hooks, a stick with one end, or a tin of elbow grease.

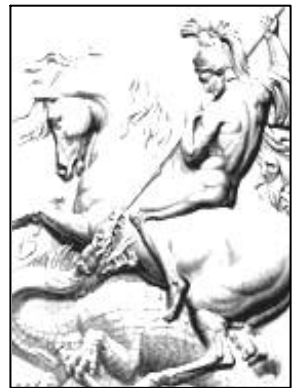
23rd April is St George's Day

St George, England's patron saint and a fourth century Christian martyr, is also the patron saint of Georgia and the city of Moscow.

Very little is known about the real St George. He is thought to have been born into a noble Christian family in the late third century in Cappadocia, an area which is now in Turkey. He followed his father's profession of soldier and became part of the retinue of the Emperor Diocletian.

The emperor ordered the systematic persecution of Christians and George refused to take part. In 303, he was himself tortured and executed in Palestine, becoming an early Christian martyr.

The legend of George slaying a dragon and rescuing an innocent maiden from death is medieval. St George's Day is celebrated in England on 23 April, reputed to be the day of George's martyrdom in 303.



VALLEY CLUB

By the time you read this, we will have had the Valley Club AGM and hopefully have elected some new members to the committee. After establishing and guiding the club through our first three years, I have decided to stand down as Chairman. I have had a wonderfully supportive committee who have come up with ideas for the programme and organised our various events. I should like to record a public thank you to them all and express my personal thanks for all they have done and I am sure will continue to do for the Club. The new chairman is Pat Willetts and I wish her all the best for the future of the Club.

Longford Castle is the family home of the Earl and Countess of Radnor and is not normally open to the public. It has been lived in continuously since it was built in 1591 to a triangular design including turrets at each corner of the triangle. There is an amazing collection of paintings by Breugel the elder, Hals, Kneller, Reynolds, Rubens Ruisdael and Teniers to name only a few. It is a castle which is unusual in many respects. The Valley club has been able to arrange a group visit on May 15th. We will leave the village by coach at 12.30 pm for the afternoon tour. Places for the visit can be booked through Maureen Battcock, phone 889194. The cost will be £13 for members and £15 for non-members. The castle is not far to the south of Salisbury.

The meeting on July 12th will be another visit, to Lytes Cary and East Lambrook gardens which are not far apart. This will be an all day outing with opportunities for lunch at East Lambrook. This is a National Trust property so members should bring their membership cards for free entry. Further details will emerge nearer the time.

On September 15th the speaker will be Andrew Duke and his subject will be "Blackdown Hill and Hardy's Monument". On November 21st. we will have a Social Evening with Carols, minces pies and mulled, or otherwise, wine. The January meeting will be with a speaker, February will see the Barn Dance, in March we are planning another talk on a gardening theme. The visit to the upper parts of Salisbury Cathedral has been put off until May 2009 and in July 2009 we are planning another outing, possibly to Tyntesfield.

Ian Gibson 889328

For all future events see the Martinstown website
www.martinstown-news.co.uk



MARTINSTOWN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

April 2008

We were very grateful to Mrs Ann King for braving the gales and floods to come from Wareham to speak at our meeting on 10th March. She gave us a most interesting talk on the River Piddle which rises at Alton Pancras and flows for 20 miles to enter Poole Harbour at Wareham. We heard of many historical connections from Emma, wife of Ethelred the Unready and King Canute, to the Tolpudde Martyrs.

Thanks to Barbara Figg and Maureen Marchant for providing the refreshments.

Arrangements have been made for a Lunch at "The Egg Cup" on 9th April at 12.30 and the menu was circulated.

The Casterbridge Group meeting will be held at Bradford Peverell on Friday 11th April – a hands on demonstration of "Encaustic Art". *(If, like me, you don't know what that is, this is your chance to go along and find out!)*

The next meeting will be the AGM and nomination forms for the Committee were circulated. The speaker will be Mike Crankshaw on "My Time on Britannia".

Angela Barrett

WI Summer Outing

Monday 9th June

1½ Hour Round trip on the River Exe from Exmouth

followed by free time in Exeter

£12.50 (inc. driver's tip)

Coach leaves Martinstown at 9 am -

Arriving back at 5.30 pm

To book contact 889459

Non-members welcome

VERY ADVANCED NOTICE!
The Blanchard Trust Garden Party
will take place on Sunday 29th June

WINTERBOURNE VALLEY
TODDLER GROUP



MEET
MONDAY MORNINGS
10am ~ 12 Noon



MARTINSTOWN
VILLAGE HALL

We are a small friendly group.
All bumps, babies, and toddlers welcome.
Come along for coffee/squash and a chat/play.

Contact Kay (Chairperson) on 01305 889140

Winterbourne Valley Toddler Group

Following our appeal for help last month, we are very pleased to welcome Linda Morris to our group. Her help with the refreshments has already made a huge difference to us and we are very grateful that she volunteered. Thank you Linda!

On 7th April we will be joined by Nicky from “Mini IQ”. She will set up a stall with the books, toys and games and chat to anyone interested in purchasing the products or hosting a party at home. Personally, I’m very interested in finding out some more information and encouraging Freya the Stunt Baby to stimulate her brain and avoid more bumps and grazes.

I have received a few comments that the quiz we wrote before Christmas proved to be a bit hard. Apologies for that but we wanted to be sure you couldn’t just surf the internet for the answers and get 100%. Stu and I will organise another quiz later this year and hope that everyone will give it a go – there will be something for everyone and another fantastic prize.

If you would like to come and join our group we will be at the village hall every Monday (unless it’s a bank holiday) from 10am to 12pm. Kay Dawson 01305 889140

“OUT OF THE MOUTHS OF BABES AND SUCKLINGS!”

Your parents have to tell you off because they don’t want you to grow up like them!

Jump Start in Martinstown

Jump Start in the village is going very well, so a big thank you to all those who are attending. There is lots of village interest and it is nice to welcome others from outside the village who are finding their feet and seem interested in attending other groups held in the village hall like the Winterbourne Valley Toddlers Group and we hope, when they are a bit older, the Brownies and Cubs!

April sees the start of 'Nappy Week' and there will be members of staff from Dorset County Council and West Dorset District Council who are supporting this initiative. I have a representative from a real nappy company, 'Lollipop', who will be attending on **Thursday 24th April**. All will be available to members of Jump Start and indeed if anyone else from the parish would like to come along at the end of the sessions, from 11.20 a.m. to meet and have a chat about anything concerning this subject, please feel free to do so. Alternatively, if you would like to come along with your child/children to participate in a Jump Start session, the session times are available in the advert on page 4 of this Parish Magazine.

Next month, on May 8th, a representative from the National Childbirth Trust will be attending, so if you ever wondered what the group was about, here's your chance to find out! More details next month.

I look forward to welcoming you at a Jump Start session soon!
Becky Dovey

MARTINSTOWN ON THE NET

This magazine and previous issues are now available at:-

www.martinstown.co.uk/mag

If you can't wait for the next issue of Valley & Valence go to

www.martinstown-news.co.uk

For colour and photos as well as **“Have YOUR say”**



1st Martinstown Brownies,
c/o 3 Cromwell Road
DORCHESTER DT1 2DN
T 01305 265574
e: Lisa.u@virgin.net

The Brownies are continuing with their Brownie Skills badge, addressing envelopes to their pen pals in Canada and hopefully by the end of term they will have all successfully completed enough of the syllabus to all gain this badge.

We all brought in a picture from home that complemented our gift of a flower picture frame which we all made our mothers for Mother's Day. A nice surprise, amongst others they would have received I'm sure on their special day.

We, the leaders have heard a lot of whisperings in the past few meetings; the Brownie Promise is being rehearsed by those taking their promise shortly. It's an important task along with learning the Brownie Guide Law, and others who have taken their promise have been helping those who are trying to learn it off by heart. Good luck to Iona Olivia Paige who will soon be a fully fledged Martinstown Brownie and also good luck to those who are taking their Hostess badge too!

We have enjoyed a night in the Thomas Hardy Leisure Centre for a dip in the swimming pool, when the hall was unavailable. The evening went down very well, and I think it will become a regular feature of our programme in the future.

We hope you all enjoyed your Easter celebrations, and we will be back next month with news on a new venture for us, the Dancing badge. More details to follow

The Owls

DORSET GUILD OF SINGERS

KARL JENKINS - "REQUIEM"
and
ELGAR – "THE MUSIC MAKERS"

Saturday 26th April 7.30pm At The Lighthouse, Poole
Full details of this event are on the Martinstown website
www.martinstown-news.co.uk

MARTINSTOWN VILLAGE HALL

News and events

ANN MATTHEWS Telephone 889248

Annex plans have now gone to three builders for estimates.

“Connecting Dorset Computing” hopefully will be up and running very soon

SHORT MAT BOWLING



Every Wednesday evening 7.30 to 9.30pm
Cost £1-50 each. Plus 20p for a cup of tea. We have the bowls. You bring your own warm socks!



BINGO ON FRIDAYS

April 4th and 18th - Please come along and bring a friend.

ARTSREACH - “BELOW”

**Martinstown Village Hall
Saturday 5th April at 7.30pm**

CScape dance company present a new work about the Cornish Mining Industry. “**Below**” delves into the depths of Cornish Mining telling tales of above and **below** the mine. It creates a moving and fascinating insight that harps back to an era of buckets and Bal Maidens

Not to be missed!!

Tickets from Ann Salmon on 01305 889059 or nearer the time from the pub, shop and farm shop.

Editor’s note - This is the company who performed excellently in “Women at War” when they visited Martinstown last year

The Mills Singers

Male voice choir from North Dorset

Saturday 26th April at 7.30pm in St Mary’s Church, Dorchester
Further details from **Age Concern** or **Martinstown-news** website

You are invited to an

"Off The Peg"

Fashion Show

Do you need a few separates to liven up your wardrobe? Would you like to buy them at bargain prices? LOOK NO FURTHER. Come along and enjoy this evening of fashion and fun hosted by "Off The Peg".

This special event will be held on:- Friday 11th April 2008

At:- Martinstown Village Hall

Doors Open At:- 7:00pm

Show Starts At:- 7:30pm

To purchase tickets please contact:-

Lorna Miles on 01305 889197 or Gillian McCourtie on 01305 889139

Tickets are only £5 each (includes glass of wine) – all proceeds will go to Winterbourne Valley First School.

**NO ORDERING – TRY ON AND BUY ON THE NIGHT!
PAY BY CASH, CHEQUE, CREDIT OR DEBIT CARD!**

"Off The Peg", 3, Primley Paddock, Sidmouth, Devon, EX10 9LA. Tel: 01595 513864

VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS

The Booking Secretary is **Tessa Clark**
and her telephone number is **01305-889493**
Please call **between 9am and 8pm** only

'Bop 'til you drop at the Village Hop'
 Live band *Steel & Stone*
 sounds of the 60's, 70's and more!
Saturday 3rd May
 8 to 11pm (doors open 7.30pm)
Martinstown Village Hall
Tickets £5.00 **Bar available**

Proceeds to **Prostate Research** & **Village Hall Funds**
PROSTATE CANCER RESEARCH FOUNDATION




Tickets from Andrew Grassby Tel: 889542 & Martinstown Shop

Easter Egg Hunt

The Easter Egg Hunt held on Saturday 16th March proved to be a great success. Over 40 children and numerous adults turned up helping to raise over £40 towards PTFA funds for Winterbourne Valley First School. Luckily we began in the dry but unfortunately it did turn rather wet about half way round so the warmth of the pub at the end was a welcome relief.

Well done to all the children who took part. They all managed to find three different coloured golf tees to claim their chocolate egg at the end. A special congratulations to Matthew McCourtie and Jo Hewitson who found the purple Easter Bunny and shared the giant egg!

Also a big THANK YOU to Gill McCourtie and Lorna Miles for organising such a fun event. We will definitely be returning next year!

Tessa Ferguson (Secretary PTFA)

Martinstown Scout Group

*Indoor and outdoor activities
for Beavers, Cubs and Scouts*

Meet every **Monday from 5:45pm till 7:15pm**
at **Martinstown Village Hall**

For more information call **Jenny on 01305**
889023

Adult helpers also sought
(no previous experience necessary)

Martinstown Scout group

April 2008

The past few weeks we have been working towards our Astronomer's badge. This has involved making a model of the solar system and glow in the dark star constellations. Unfortunately the weather has been too cloudy to do much studying of the real thing in the past weeks.

At our last meeting before Easter we cooked outside at Akela's house. First the boys had to design their cooker before cooking their goodies, burgers, sausages, chicken and beans.. After we finished our eating we invested Olly and Max into the Scouts, an event we celebrated by eating pancakes.

Everyone agreed food tastes much nicer out in the open air, even if it was a bit chilly.

Jenny

POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT

We are looked after by our
Community Beat Officer Sandy Redford (PC178) assisted by
Sarah Pilcher (PCSO 5410) and Jacqui Allen (PCSO 5396)

On Saturday 5th April the Police Community Contact Vehicle will be parked by the village green in Martinstown from 1.30pm to 4pm when you can come along and speak to them about any issues that are concerning you and our community.

Sarah will also be back at Stevens Farm shop on Wednesdays 9th April from 2.15 to 3.30pm and 23rd April from 10 to 11.15am

Royal British Legion (Abbotsbury & Portesham Branch)

The **April** meeting will be combined with the Women's Section at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 14th April, 2008, at Portesham Village Hall when the speaker will be Mr. T. Toop recalling his visit to North African War Cemeteries.

Des Baker Branch Vice Chairman 01305 267617

Events at Chesil in April

Sun 6th Apr - Low Tide Walk

Meet at the Chesil Beach Centre, 12:30pm

Sun 20th Apr - Great Dorset Beach Clean

Meet at the Chesil Beach Centre, 10 - 12pm

Sat 26th Apr - Walk at Ferrybridge

Meet at the Chesil Beach Centre, 2pm

For further information see website www.chesilbeach.org
or contact the Chesil Beach Centre Tel: 01305 760579

Winterbournes LOCAL News

Short and sweet from the Winterbournes this month. Three reasons to be cheerful:-

1. Carol and Liz enjoyed a lovely chat and tea and cakes with Michael Hallett, who certainly looked much better than the last time we saw him when he was in hospital.
2. Dan and friends emerged virtually unscathed from his battered car.
3. After scaring the life out of us all, Sean is home from hospital and making good progress. We all look forward to his return to the pub.

And that's it!

Hopefully things will be a bit more trivial next month! Liz.

Deaf Boozers on the London Underground

“Is this Wembley?”

“No - Thursday!”

“So am I - let’s have a drink!”

Martinstown LOCAL News

Skittles Notes

The Wurzels – Panic has set in as they are top of the league

The Bumkins – still “win some lose some”

The Troops – No panic – as much chance as us having a good government!

Coming Events

Wednesday Quiz Nights continue

Thursday Nintendo Nights continue

Saturday Night Special Quizzes on 26th April and 24th May

1st prize £25-

2nd Prize 90secs behind the bar (draught beers only)

3rd Prize A Xmas Teddy

Stop Press – Saturday 10th May 11am Morris Dancers

Protection for Water Voles

The Water Vole, or 'Ratty' was once common throughout Britain, but in recent years, has been threatened by habitat loss and predation by American mink, and has become the UK's fastest declining native mammal.

Today, conservationists are celebrating as water voles finally receive full legal protection. From 6th April it will be against the law to "intentionally kill a water vole, or to intentionally, or recklessly, damage or disturb the places they use for shelter or protection", meaning that their future is a safer one.

"Water voles prefer open banks, with plenty of long grass and not too many trees. Their burrows can be as deep as 5-8m from the bank, so management of the areas around streams and rivers is very important."

Unless channels are choked with weed, clearance is not always beneficial to wildlife. Clearing central sections of weed and leaving areas of aquatic vegetation at either side can be the best way of maintaining flow without removing valuable aquatic habitat. This keeps sediment on the move, keeps the gravel clean and is kind to species which lay their eggs in gravels, such as trout, mayfly, and caddisfly.

If your garden or field backs onto the winterbourne, you can find out more about management that benefits water voles and other wildlife on the Dorset Winterbournes website at www.dorsetaonb.org.uk

For further information, Contact the AONB on (01305) 756782

JUNIOR SUDOKU Fill in blanks with only one of each number in any line or rectangle					
		4		2	5
4		3			6
1			2		4
5	6		4		

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24 Blackbirds Baked in a Pie

3 Wheels on my Wagon But I'm Still Rolling Along

100 Years in a Century

6080 Feet in a Nautical Mile

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16 Men on a Dead Man's Chest

40 Ali Baba's Thieves

April's Poser

A bath will fill in 8 minutes with the hot tap and 12 minutes with the cold tap. How long will it take to fill with both taps?

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VALLEY & VALENCE ~ NEXT ISSUE

Please send all copy for the next issue to Brian Braidwood, Jinga Cottage, Grove Hill, Martinstown DT2 9JP (Tel 01305 889895 or e-mail to braidwood@braidwood.org.uk) by 16th of this month at the very latest.

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or SHERRY TRIFLE

THE COACH AND HORSES

LOCAL'S LUNCH 16 APRIL 2008

CAJUN CHICKEN BREAST WITH CHIPS

AND VEG OF THE DAY or

TAGLIATELLE CARBONARA WITH

GARLIC BREAD

SPOTTED DICK & CUSTARD

or VANILLA ICE-CREAM

THE COACH AND HORSES

LOCAL'S LUNCH 23 APRIL 2008

SMALL CARVERY

or

BATTERED COD, CHIPS & PEAS

RHUBARB CRUMBLE & CUSTARD

or LEMON MERINGUE PIE & CREAM

THE COACH AND HORSES

LOCAL'S LUNCH 30 APRIL 2008

HAM AND LEEK BAKE WITH VEG

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PINEAPPLE UPSIDE DOWN

PUDDING WITH CUSTARD or

CHOCOLATE TERRINE & CREAM



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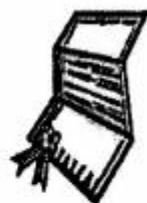
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CHURCH CALENDAR – APRIL 2008

Tuesday 1st

12.30pm Valley View Lunch Club Farm Shop

Wednesday 2nd

10.00am Teddy Praise Martinstown

Thursday 3rd

10.45am Holy Communion (BCP) Park House

Friday 4th

4.00pm Holy Communion (BCP) Steepleton Manor

Saturday 5th

12.30pm Wedding of
Richard Furneaux & Megan James Martinstown

Sunday 6th 3rd Sunday of Easter

9.30 a.m. Parish Communion (CW) Winterbourne Abbas

11.00am Sung Eucharist & Healing (CW) Martinstown

Sunday 13th 4th Sunday of Easter

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP) Martinstown

9.30am Holy Communion (BCP) Compton Valence

11.00am Family Eucharist & Baptism (CW) Steepleton.
of Evie Rose Dovey

Sunday 20th 5th Sunday of Easter

9.30am Parish Eucharist (CW) Martinstown

11.00am Come & Praise Winterbourne Abbas

Sunday 27th 6th Sunday of Easter

9.30am Holy Communion (BCP) Steepleton Manor

11.00am Family Eucharist (CW) Martinstown
Preacher John Eames from Tearfund

Weekday Services - April 2008

Silent prayer from 8.15am followed by

Tuesday 8.30 am. - Morning Prayer Martinstown

Wednesday 8.30 am. – Holy Communion Martinstown

Thursday 8.30 am. - Morning Prayer Winterbourne Abbas

Friday 8.30 a.m. - Morning Prayer Martinstown

Printed and published by the Winterbourne Valley PCC