

Valley & Valence

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



June 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.

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THE BENEFICE

Priest in Charge

Rev. 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

Memorial Service

Friday 2nd May – Geoffrey Ferris – Martinstown

Baptism

Sunday 4th May – Yasmin Taylor - Martinstown

Sunday 25th May – Maisey White – Martinstown

Thanksgiving for the gift of a child

Sunday 25th May – Emma May Gardner – Winterbourne Abbas

Funerals

19th May – Terence Pugh - Steepleton

SUNDAY READINGS FOR JUNE

1st June	2nd after Trinity	Deuteronomy 11: 18 - 21, 26 - 28 Romans 1: 16 - 17; 3: 22b - 28 Matthew 7: 21 - 29
8th June	3rd after Trinity	Hosea 5: 15 - 6: 6 Romans 4: 13 - 25 Matthew 9: 9 - 13, 18 - 26
15th June	4th after Trinity	Exodus 19: 2 - 8a Romans 5: 1 - 8 Matthew 9: 35 - 10: 8
22nd June	5th after Trinity	Jeremiah 20: 7 - 13 Romans 6: 1b - 11 Matthew 10: 24 - 39
29th June	Saints Peter and Paul	Acts 12: 1 - 11 2 Timothy 4: 6 - 8, 17 - 18 Matthew 16: 13 - 19

THE VICAR WRITES



Dear Friends.

Trevor and I would like to thank the many people who have sent cards and messages of sympathy at the recent sad loss of our granddaughter at birth. Tragedy comes to many people in their lives and none of us is immune from suffering. But often the question on our lips is why? Why did God allow that to happen? There are no easy answers, but when we suffer God suffers too and shares the pain and anguish of our hearts. It is easy to sense God's presence when things are going right, but where is God when things fall apart?

God does not promise that life will be without its painful moments but what he does promise is that he will be with us through the pain; he promises to give us the power of his presence so that we can cope, so that the pain of loss and heartbreak does not overwhelm us.

In our world of suffering we can find God in the loving acts of those who stand by us. In our emotional distresses God comes to us through friends and family members who offer us encouragement and prayer support. God is there through those who care. In moments of deep need, God comes in a mysterious way to support us and give us courage. Most of all we find the face of God in the tears, the hugs, and the words of comfort others bring to us in times of great sorrow and pain. Here we can experience authentic moments of God's pure and unconditional love.

I pray that the Lord will comfort all who are experiencing suffering in their lives at this time.

On **Tuesday 10th June** we will welcome the Rt Rev Tim Thornton, Bishop of Sherborne to conduct a confirmation service at Steepleton Church at 7pm, and afterwards at Steepleton Manor. Please pray for Lucy, Patricia, Howard, John and Margaretta who are to be confirmed.

Yours in Christ,
Rosemary.

COMPTON VALENCE
CHURCH FLOWER & CLEANING ROTA

31 – 13 June	Mrs Andrews
14-27 June	Mrs Brookes
28 June-11 July	Mrs Bunce/Mrs James

STEEPLETON ROTA FOR JUNE

Locking – Paddy Russell
Flowers – Adrianna Eastham
Cleaning – Laura Jeff

CHURCH NEWS

Beaminster Gallery Quire – Saturday 7th June

The quire will be singing in Abbas church from 12.00 – 12.45 and in Steepleton church from 2.45 – 3.30 Please come and listen to them.

ST.MARTIN'S CHURCH FUNDRAISING

For many years now, we have run a Pass-It-On fund raising campaign at four yearly intervals. It is necessary to do this to compensate for rising costs due to inflation and the needs of the Church, and for the loss of committed givers due to a variety of reasons, including moving away. It is already five years since our last campaign so we are a bit late and already last year's income did not cover expenditure.

We will therefore be running a new campaign in September and we will approach most houses in the parish. People will have many reasons for supporting this campaign. For some it will be because the Church plays an important part in their lives. For some it will be because they look to the Church to support them at times of baptism, marriage and death and expect the Church to be there for them. For another important group, they give us support because the church building is an important part of the village scene and they want to keep it looking beautiful.

Whatever the reason, please give all the support you can when the campaign folder is delivered to your door in September. The people of Martinstown together with the people who come to the church from other places have always responded magnificently to these campaigns. We are extremely grateful for this support and look forward to a further success this time.

Thank you all in advance. Ian Gibson.

The Way Ahead

Jinga Cottage, Grove Hill,
MARTINSTOWN DT2 9JP

Tel 010305 889895 e-mail braidwood@braidwood.org.uk

June 2008

In June we have the very long recognised Mid Summers Day contrasted with the somewhat commercialised Father's Day. The latter serves to pacify fathers upset by the apparent gender discrimination perpetrated by Mother's Day! I was fascinated to see from my research that it owes something to President Richard Nixon (see page 11)

On local issues I have wondered if a "Fun Run" may not be an oxymoron when my 6 year old neighbour, Erin, encouraged me to actually attempt a run for about 50 yards! Luckily, she developed a sore knee along a path bordered by tall cow parsley so I recovered and between us we managed to hold up the rest of the field for about half a mile! This event and the Duck Race are reported on page 22. Both of these events necessitated refreshments at the Brewers Arms who, as always, welcomed all ages.

One respondent to the May Poser claimed that my e-mail address had dropped off the head of this page. As it was never there in the first place I have decided to add a heading this month in case it encourages more response from the readership.

There is a recurring theme in the magazine of raising money for charity and I must congratulate Andy Grassby on yet another charity triumph with his whopping (Bopping?) contribution to Prostate Cancer Research and the Village Hall Fund (see page 23).

Brian B.

PS For those who may have been wondering, and others, "Jinga" (Cottage) is the Swahili word for crazy and the name of our daughter, Tessa's, yellow labrador.

THANK YOU FROM THE FERRIS FAMILY

Pauline, Simon and Paul Ferris would like to thank all their friends for their kind letters of condolence and for their support during the memorial service for Geoffrey on May 2nd.

Pauline Ferris, Fair Field

Winterbourne Valley CE VA First School **Maths Week.**

We are having a Maths Week from 16th – 20th June 2008! During this week, there will be a Maths focus across the school.

We shall be running a small café serving biscuits, cakes and drinks (including Fairtrade products) on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoon from 1.15 till 2.45 p.m.. Profits will be put towards new Mathematical equipment. Please come and support this event if you can. All are welcome.

Fund raising for Cancer Research

On 8th June 2008 I will be running in Cancer Research's Race for Life at Kingston Mauward.

I have been taking part in this race for over 10 years as raising money for this charity is close to my heart. Both my parents died of cancer as did my mother in law. However earlier this year my sister was given the all clear after having a tumour removed and 6 months of gruelling chemotherapy. Perhaps we are beginning to see the effects of the research as cancer is no longer the killer it used to be.

I would be very grateful if you could sponsor me either online via the link below or in person if you prefer.

www.raceforlifesporsorme.org/anniesalmon

Many thanks in anticipation, Ann Salmon

MARTINSTOWN 100 CLUB WINNERS

April £25 David Gower - £10 Betty Legg - £5 Mary Clarke

21st JUNE IS MID SUMMER'S DAY OR IS IT?

*"Longest day of the year when the most minutes of daylight occur.
It marks the beginning of summer"*



Stonehenge

Midsummer can be on 21st, 24th or 25th or a date close to the Summer Solstice on the 23rd June. It may simply refer to the period of time centred upon the Summer Solstice but more often refers to specific European celebrations that accompany the actual solstice, or that take place on 24th June and the preceding evening, related to the birthday of Saint John the Baptist.

European midsummer-related holidays, traditions and celebrations, many of which are pre-Christian in origin and have been Christianised as celebrating the Nativity of St John the Baptist as "Saint John's Day" festivals, are particularly important in Norway, Sweden, Finland and Estonia, but are also found in Ireland, and in England at Stonehenge and Cornwall.

On the eve of Midsummer's Day, many bonfires used to be burnt all over the country. This was in praise of the sun, for the days were going to get shorter and the sun would seem to get weaker. This meant people would light fires to try and strengthen the sun. The celebrations would also include, feasting, singing and maypole dancing.

JUNE 15th (3rd SUNDAY) IS FATHER'S DAY (An American Invention!)

It all started in 1909 in Washington, USA when a Mrs Dodd was listening to a Mother's Day sermon. She decided to dedicate a day to her father who was a single parent and had raised her and her siblings after her mother died. She chose his birthday, 19th June.

President Richard Nixon established the third Sunday of June as a permanent national observance of Father's Day in 1972. It was not until the late 70's that it started to grow in popularity. It is not officially recognised by the government in the UK. (But that doesn't stop people buying cards!)

THE VALLEY CLUB

The Valley Club is a social, varied interest club where we welcome ideas for meetings and activities. We try to arrange a programme catering for all tastes and aim to meet every other month either in the village hall or on outings. New members are always welcome and details of membership and contact numbers can be found on the Martinstown website:-

www.martinstown-news.co.uk

Our next event is an all day visit on Saturday July 12th to East Lambrook Manor Gardens in South Petherton, Somerset and Lytes Cary Manor near Charlton Mackrell, Somerton, Somerset. The Grade 1 listed gardens at East Lambrook Manor are internationally recognised as the ‘Home of English Cottage Gardening’. Packed with rare and unusual plants, the gardens were designed in the 1950’s by the horticultural icon, Margery Fish. The Margery Fish Plant Nursery is also at the garden. We will have lunch at East Lambrook before continuing on to Lytes Cary Manor. This intimate manor house was the former home of medieval herbalist Henry Lyte. The manor spans many years with its 14th century chapel and 15th century Great Hall. Its Arts & Crafts-style garden is an intimate combination of outdoor rooms, topiary statues and herbaceous borders. There are estate walks as well as a River Walk.

The cost of this trip will be £18 for members and £20 for non-members, which will include coach travel, entrance to Lambrook Manor Gardens and lunch. Lytes Cary Manor is a National Trust Property, so NT Members will be free but non-NT Members will have to pay £7 Garden & House entrance or £5 for Garden entrance only. The coach will leave Martinstown at 9.45 am. Tickets are available from Maureen Battcock, 889194; Pat Willetts, 889597; or Eileen Fisher, 889584.

Future events:-

Monday Sep 15th A talk in the Village Hall by Andrew Duke on “Blackdown Hill & Hardy’s Monument”.

Friday Nov. 21st Social Evening with carols, mulled wine & mince pies.

Pat Willetts Tel. 889597

COMPTON VALENCE 100 CLUB WINNERS

	March	April	May
£5	Tessa Eames	Pullen Family	Chris Roberts
£10	Alex Tweed	Mrs F Andrews	Megan Johnson
£25	John Tweed	Mrs B Law	Wayne Briggs



MARTINSTOWN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

At the May meeting we heard from Mrs Valerie Stevens about the Association of Country Women of the World. She told us about the history of ACWW which was set up in 1927 as the International Committee of Women, an umbrella for rural women's organizations. ACWW has non-governmental status at the UN and has an important role in sharing the needs of women throughout the world; a lobbying and a friendship function.

The first international Conference was held in Vienna in 1930. Mrs Stevens had attended the Triennial Conference in Turku, Finland in 2007 where many of the delegates, particularly those from Africa, were in colourful national dress. She met many interesting and inspiring women.

The next European Conference will be held in Southampton this September. Projects are undertaken throughout the world wherever there are needs – in the Third World and in Eastern Europe; they are funded and monitored for three years. The current Dorset project is to support 20 women leprosy victims in the Tamil Nadu area of India. They will be trained in livestock management and cow shed construction and we are urged to support this worthwhile cause.

Our next meeting will be the Summer Outing on 9th June and there are still a few places left – details below.

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

WINTERBOURNE VALLEY CE VA FIRST SCHOOL

A message from Mrs Horne, Headteacher

In the last edition of the Parish Magazine I mentioned the work we have been doing in school about Rights and Responsibilities. By encouraging the children to remember their responsibilities to be caring, considerate, communicative, courteous, confident, co-operative and conscientious we continue to ensure our school remains a happy, safe and fair place to be. A Rights Respecting Day in school was held on April 9th and this was followed by an Exhibition in the school hall of the work carried out by the children. The Exhibition was visited by many parents, teachers and children from other schools in the Dorchester Area and by Mike Hilary and David Powell from the Local Authority.

The following week we had a visit from Mr Peter Barton, Education Officer from UNICEF. Mr Barton spent a morning talking to children in all year groups who spoke about their understanding of rights and responsibilities. We have since received a super report from UNICEF confirming that we have been successful in achieving Level 1 Rights Respecting School status. Mr Barton reports:

‘The values and language of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) are now an established part of daily life at Winterbourne Valley First School. All sections of the school community – children, staff, parents and governors – are fully aware of the school’s commitment to the UNCRC and all it stands for. Importantly, as a Church of England school, the links between the UNCRC and the core moral messages of the Christian faith have been endorsed by the school and highlighted for the children. The children describe how the adults who teach and support them make use of the language of ‘rights, respect and responsibility’. They report that the introduction of the language and values of the UNCRC has made a positive impact on relationships, with one pupil expressing the view that ‘We are kinder to each other’. Another pupil said that the views of children are now taken more seriously and they have more opportunities to express their opinions about school. The values of the school are very inclusive and the children express strong values of respect for cultural and ethnic diversity. This is now underpinned by their understanding that all children have a right to their own beliefs and values and to be safe and cared for. . The children report that there is no bullying at the school and everyone feels very secure.’

WINTERBOURNE VALLEY CE VA FIRST SCHOOL

SPORTS ACTIVITIES

We have also been very busy taking part in a number of sporting events recently. This month I have asked Harry Buttle and Andrew Ennals, who took part in all three events, to write for the magazine to tell you all about how we got on:

On April 27th 2008, Winterbourne Valley First School took part in a Biathlon at Clayesmore School. We had to swim 25 metres and run 400 metres. There was a boys team with Harry Buttle, Andrew Ennals and Adam Kirby and a girls team with Millie Hallet, Melissa Abbot and Lily Loader. Overall both teams came 4th, although the girls team came 2nd in the run out of 10 teams, and the boys came 3rd in the run out of 6 teams.

On May 6th there was a swimming gala at Thomas Hardy Leisure Centre. In the girls team there were Anna Elford, Lilly Loader, Melissa Abbot and Pheobe Unwin. In the boys team there were Harry Buttle, Andrew Ennals, Lewis Wortley and Edmund Shackleton. We swam relays, and both Harry Buttle and Andrew Ennals swam individually.

On May 10th there was a football tournament at Cerne Abbas. There were teams from Piddle Valley, Charminster, Manor Park, Cerne Abbas and Winterbourne Valley. Our team had Lewis Wortley, Adam Kirby, Christopher Clarke, Edmund Shackleton, Andrew Ennals, Harry Buttle and Angus Gaukroger. We came 4th out of five. Andrew Ennals won a medal for Player of the Team and Lewis Wortley was Team Captain.

Congratulations to all those who took part and thank-you to all parents who helped to support these events.

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”**

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

Winterbourne Valley Toddler Group

Our numbers continue to grow, and it's lovely in particular to see new members from within the valley come and join us. Recently, we have welcomed Yasmin Taylor and we hope to see a few more babies in the near future. Although our meetings can be quite lively with so many members, there is always a quiet area set aside for the babies to relax in and a separate area for all of the trikes and scooters to run riot. New members are always welcome.

Our babysitting circle has proved to be a resounding success. Thank you to Suzy for suggesting such a wonderful idea and then putting it into practice. I've used the system myself for a few much needed nights out!

We will be having a stall at the Blanchard Trust fete on 29th June. If you fancy coming along to decorate a biscuit, cake or muffin (and then eat them!) please come and find us.

We will also be holding a fun day at the cricket ground on 20th July if anyone is interested in joining us. During the event our members will be taking part in the "Barnardo's Big Toddle" where they are sponsored to walk around the boundary of the cricket pitch! If you are interested in sponsoring anyone please let me know. All of the children who are participating will be given a sponsor form.

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

JUMP START

Welcome back and by the time you read this, I hope you will all have enjoyed the Half Term break. Congratulations to Jenny from the Dorchester under 2 group, who won the Virgin Vie jewellery in Sarah's raffle, and thank you to all who supported Sarah.

TREATS Toy Library from Bere Regis, a Dorset Sure Start and Dorset County Council initiative are coming along with a selection of the vast array of toys and resources (all catalogued) costing from as little as 50p to a maximum of £2.00 to hire per item per week. With the summer months coming along, I thought it would be an ideal opportunity for them to visit so that you might like to consider hiring a few items for the garden over the summer holidays. They are able to drop off at sixteen different access points in and around our local area if items are too bulky to bring back in your own car! And if the weather dampens a little over the summer holidays, TREATS will also have a variety of small craft items for sale on the day for you to stockpile!

Carol Edwards is coming to Jump Start as a **Tempest photographer** the week beginning the 17th June. She will be able to provide you with a proof to take away on the same day as your sitting so that you are able to bring back your orders and payment the following week (beginning 24th June) Orders will then be processed and ready for collection the last week of term, the 15th July. A list will be going up at the beginning of term for those of you who want your child's photo taken, there is no obligation.

I will be attending the **Blanchard Trust Fete** (held annually in the Chantry Gardens, Martinstown) on Sunday 29th June, and do look forward to meeting many of you there.

Birthday Parties are also available. If you are interested, please contact me and have a chat as dates are filling up fast! As an ideal birthday gift, why not buy a Jump Start voucher pack? Each will include a birthday card and envelope and vouchers can be bought in denominations of £5.00 (for two sessions) at any one of the three venues. Jump Start T- Shirts are also available.

Thank you once again for your continued support. Becky Dovey

www.jumpstartdorset.co.uk, Tel 01305 889250

Email Becky@jumpstartdorset.co.uk



New for September ~ I will be introducing a Birthday Surprise for every child, as close to their birth date as possible within the weekly planned meetings.



Girlguiding

1st Martinstown Brownies

girls in the lead

1st Martinstown Brownies,
c/o 3 Cromwell Road
DORCHESTER DT1 2DN
T 01305 265574
e-mail lisa.upward@btinternet.com

We have had a lovely few weeks since my last entry into the Parish Magazine

Our trip to Steepleton Manor was a huge success. Suzanne and all of the residents made us feel most welcome. We sang many of our favourite songs and in the middle we read the story of Dracula's cousin. This involved the residents and a selection of musical instruments. Some needed a little persuasion to play percussion but we had several stars of the show. Of course it was absolutely necessary to sing Happy Birthday to the two birthday girls – one resident and one Brownie. Whilst the Brownies had drinks (thank you Suzanne) I chatted with some previous Brown Owls, Tawny Owls and Guides and they all commented on how well behaved the girls were and how nice their bright yellow uniforms are. I was also told by one lively resident that the moment I was out of the room she was going to jump up and run around the garden for a bit of exercise – all because I had dared to suggest that she had missed the very last verse of head shoulders knees and toes!!

We have been working towards our dancer badge this term and have learnt about three ballets by doing different crafts. Our first dance session was last week when Judy taught us three Scottish dances and we desperately need more Brownies to make up the 12 that we needed. By the time we had all done a dance each the Guiders were fair fit for bed. It was lovely to see Tawny Owl back in uniform – and not just because it meant I didn't have to do another reel.

Olivia attended the Division arts day and gained her arts day badge. She had to complete a sewn puppet, a pig box and a light switch holder. Olivia was then joined by 5 other Brownies for the joint sleepover with Charlton Down and Charminster. The Crystal Maze was the theme and the "Martinstown Girls" came a credible second, being the only group to get the 57 sums all correct. Despite the fact that some Brownies felt that 2am was a suitable time to go to sleep everyone had a lovely time.

Watch out for us at the Blanchard Trust fete where we will be doing a pick the jar stall similar to last year. Thanks to Dennis Legg for his donation of jam jars.

Lots of things planned for the rest of the term – Watch this space
The Owls

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

June 2008

The boys have all gained their Astronomer's badge this month, by making constellations out of string, drawing pins and ceiling tiles. Now they can all navigate by the North star if they ever lose their way on a starry night.

This month we have started our Communicators badge and so far the boys have learnt several Signalong signs which we have incorporated into games and tried reading each others Morse code messages – not as easy as it looks.

The good weather has meant games and activities outside – somehow these often involve water and getting wet!!!!

If anyone would like to join us see the notice above or just turn up on a Monday evening.

Akela

“Out of the Mouths of Babes and Sucklings”

I was trying to get a young niece to finish her food:-
“Why haven't you eaten your second sausage?”.“But I have.”
“So what's that?” I said, pointing at an uneaten sausage “That's my first sausage!”

MARTINSTOWN VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

News and events

ANN MATTHEWS Telephone 889248

SHORT MAT BOWLING



This has now stopped for the summer months but will restart in September, when Ron and Ann want to retire from running it. Anyone willing to take over the task please contact Ann or Ron.



BINGO ON FRIDAYS

June 13th 13th and 27th

- Please come along and bring a friend.

VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS

The Booking Secretary is Tessa Clark

Telephone 889493 (Please call between 9am to 8pm only)

“Connecting Dorset Computing”

Your Village Hall is now

“Connected” and Computer Literate” -

To achieve the same status read the next page!

ARTSREACH

Annual Review and Next Season

See the separate article by Ann Salmon on page 24

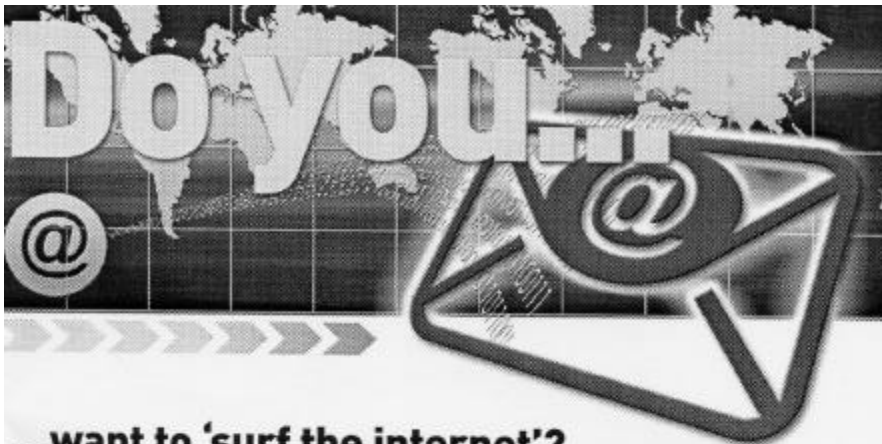
POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT JUNE DATES

We are looked after by our

Community Beat Officer Sandy Redford (PC178) assisted by Sarah Pilcher (PCSO 5410) and Jacqui Allen (PCSO 5396)

Sarah will also be back at Stevens Farm shop on Wednesdays 4th June from 2.15 to 3.30pm and 18th June from 10 to 11.15am

THE VILLAGE HALL COMPUTER



...want to 'surf the internet'?

...want to learn how to use a PC?

...want to email a friend or relation?

Working with Connecting Dorset, **Martinstown Village Hall** is now connected to the internet and **ALL** villagers will have **FREE** access to a **Laptop PC, Scanner & Printer**. A trained person will be on hand at all times to give **tuition** or **help** when needed.

Sessions start from **Monday 12th May 2008**

...then every **Mon at 2.30 - 3.30pm**

Tues at 7.30 - 8.30pm

Wed at 2.30 - 3.30pm

Fri at 6.00 - 7.00pm



**For more information, tel: 01305 889248 or 889440
or JUST COME ALONG AND SEE FOR YOURSELF**



“The Winner”

**FUN RUN,
DUCK RACE & BARBEQUE
WINTERBOURNE VALLEY PTFA**
(Parent Teachers
Friends Association)



“A Bad Loser”

A huge thank you from the PTFA to all of you who supported these events. Luckily it was a glorious day and fun was had by everyone who came along. The run was well attended and all who set off completed the two mile course - so congratulations to you all and a big “well done” to the winner, Joe Button. Thank you to the Headteacher, Mrs Horne for explaining the route and its hazards (as well as the duck race and its different hazards), to the Marshals, Trudi Stringer and Gill McCourtie, and to Tessa for printing the certificates.

After collecting Fun Run certificates at the finish by the Brewers Arms, we had the Duck Race. What an amazing picture it made with 181 ducks swimming downstream from the Washing Pool. Congratulations to the winners, Lucy Purbrick, John Dunford and Christine Corbett-Winder.

Thank you to all who sold numbers for the duck races. We also thank the residents who live near the Washing Pool for their help, Stephen Slade for clearing the route, Les and Julie, Jonathon and Lorna, and Andy, for their help, and finally Chris and Edel Chambers and Jindra Jehu. I hope you all had a splashing time!

The day ended with time to relax in the very attractive garden of the Brewers and enjoy a BBQ cooked by Jeremy (aka Jez) and PK – not to mention much needed beers and shandies!! Thank you Annie Buddle for making the BBQ Price Lists – very colourful! Thank you John and Jackie for letting us use your garden for our BBQ as well as for our Easter Egg Hunt earlier in the year.

The whole day raised £250-79P. This money will go towards good quality extras for the children at Winterbourne Valley First School. Without your help and support the children would not have the benefit of extras like the Timber Trail.

So, once again a big thank you to you all.

If anyone wishes to help in any of our events, or has any ideas please feel free to contact me

Lorna Miles, PTFA Chair - Tel 01305 889197

THE BLANCHARD TRUST 2008 GARDEN PARTY

**VENUE – The Chantry Garden
(by kind permission of Mr & Mrs Jeffery)**

DATE Sunday 29th June

TIMES From 2pm to 4.30pm

ENTRANCE FEE 50P (Children Free)

**TEAS AVAILABLE (Once again organised by the WI
who provided such a delicious spread last year!)**

ENTERTAINMENT Including our Church Choir - Free!

**STALLS All organisations from within the village have
been invited to take part so there will be lots of choice.**

**PLEASE COME and help us to make this
a fun afternoon in Martinstown!**

THANK YOU ALL VILLAGE HOPPERS!

A big thank you to everyone who supported the 'Village Hop' featuring local band Steel & Stone.

The event was a sell out and a great success raising a total of £1060 for charity (£640 to Prostate Cancer Research Foundation & £420 to Martinstown Village Hall). It was fantastic to see so many local residents & friends letting their hair down on the dance floor to music from the 60's and 70's. Fortunately, unlike many rock bands of that era, they did not set light to the stage or smash their instruments!

A great time was had by all.

Andrew Grassby

Artsreach in Martinstown Annual Review and Next Season

Artsreach is Dorset's rural touring arts organisation, giving rural communities all over Dorset the opportunity to see and participate in high quality arts events in their own villages. We offer large and small scale theatre, live music, dance, comedy, literature film and puppet shows as well as visual arts exhibitions. Project work and workshops are a key part of our responsibility, bringing professional artists and local communities together.

We are a charitable organisation (reg charity 1058198) and aim to make ticket prices accessible to everyone. To enable us to do this we receive regular funding from Arts Council England, Dorset County Council and the 4 District Councils in West Dorset. Although this funding allows Artsreach to subsidise events we also need to attract good audiences to help cover the costs.

Each venue can have 4 performing arts events per season. When holding an event, venues keep a percentage of the ticket sales, usually 20%, and any profits from the sales of raffle tickets and refreshments.

This season, 2007/2008, we have had 4 performances at Martinstown Village Hall. Two small scale theatre productions, a cabaret band and a dance company. The attendances have all been over 80% with the last two shows being sell outs. We have been able to give the Village hall just under £570.

On a more personal note I would like to thank the happy band of volunteers who have helped to ensure the smooth running of each show, the pub, shop and farm shop for selling the tickets for me and the locals who have very kindly donated gifts for the raffle. I could not manage these events without all of you.

I am also indebted to The Blanchard Trust for granting me £250 to buy equipment to help put on the shows. This money will buy a mirror, clothes rail, gaffer tape, a stool and non-slip mats.

At the end of May I attend the Promoters Event to learn about the shows I can book for the 2008/2009 season. Please let me know as soon as possible if you would like to know more about these. I only have a short time before I have to submit our list of choices.

Ann Salmon Volunteer Local Promoter

Moments in the History of Martinstown 1918-1919 The Ending of War

The First World War certainly made an impact on the village. There were of course no visual images to show people what was happening across the Channel. Not only was there no television news, but no radio bulletins either, nor did everyone have a daily newspaper. However many of the younger men did enlist in the army, and the result was a severe manpower shortage especially at harvest time. The school log book in 1915, 1916, 1917 and 1918 refers to continuous absences among the older boys in the summer months because they had to help with the harvesting.

The log also records that the children made a collection for the Blue Cross fund for sick and wounded army horses, one pound, sixteen shillings and nine pence was raised.

When at last the war ended on Armistice Day on November 11th 1918 celebrations were planned for the following year. When summer came there would be a horse race along the valley behind Grove Hill. On the appointed day all the riders and horses met on the Green. Harry Bowering, an eight year old boy at this time, can remember and name some of the riders and their mounts. Eddie Mills rode one of Colonel Duke's horses, Horace Mills was on a horse from Ashton called Sunshine, Mr Walbrin rode another, and Benny Forsey from South Rew was prepared to unharness the pony who pulled his cart and ride him, to everyone's amusement.

All the competitors rode off to the top of Grove Hill, to the start, except for Benny who walked up with his steed. Racing the entire length of the valley proved too much for some of the entrants but Benny Forsey and his pony completed the course and was first at the finish, claiming the £2.00 prize!

After this excitement everyone joined the children on the Green where they were enjoying a tea party organised by the vicar's wife. An accordion provided the music and refreshments were provided for everybody. Such was the never-to-be-forgotten celebration now that peace had come.

It was quite a long time after the fighting finished before all the soldiers returned home. The school log book tells us that one pupil was allowed to be absent on October 14 1919 in order to greet his big-brother soldier on his return. Four of the Martinstown men never did return, and their names are recorded on a plaque on the Parish Office wall. This simple building was erected in their memory as the village Reading Room.

Margaret Hearing.

**ROYAL BRITISH LEGION
(Abbotsbury & Portesham Branch)**

The Branch was represented at a South Group Skittles Match at the Brewers Arms, Martinstown on 8th May.

The Branch & the Women's Section will be celebrating its 60th Birthday on Saturday, 21st. June, 2008, firstly at St. Nicholas Church, Abbotsbury at **11.30 a.m.**, and secondly, by a Buffet Lunch at **12.30** p.m. in Portesham Village Hall. The previously advertised **Country Fair** has had to be cancelled.

The next **Committee Meeting** will be held at Portesham Methodist Hall at 7.30 p.m. on Thursday, 17th July, 2008.

Our **Annual Branch BBQ** will take place on the Patio of Portesham Village Hall on Friday, 18th July.

Our **Christmas Shopping Long Weekend** will now go ahead from Friday, 28th November to Monday 1st December, 2008, inclusive. Full itinerary details are available from 01305 267617 for the sake of asking and without obligation.

For more details of the above events visit the website:-

www.martinstown-news.co.uk

Des Baker, Branch Vice Chairman

CHESIL EVENTS FOR JUNE

Sat 7th June - Fossil Walk at Ferrybridge

Why not join us on a walk at Ferrybridge Meet us at the Crab House Cafe Cost adults £3, children £2. Who will find the first brachiopod?

Sun 8th June - World Oceans Day at the Chesil Beach Centre

This year we invite you to go on an incredible imaginary seabed journey.

Sat 14th June- West Fleet Walk

Learn more about the geology, birds and flowers. Meet at Abbotsbury Swannery car park, 10am. Cost adults £2.50, children £1.50

Sat 21st June - Pebble Investigation

Meet at the Chesil Beach Centre, 2pm. Cost adults £2.50, children £1.50

For further information call the Beach Centre on 760579

Or visit the local website martinstown-news.co.uk

ADULT BRAIN TEASER

Answer to May poser

Once again, there were the only three responses of whom two were Singletons!! (Not related) The series of numbers reduced by squares of 1 (1), 2(4), 3(9), 4(16) and then the answer 170 minus 25(5 squared) = 145. First response Irene Troup, then Ann Singleton, followed by Nigel Singleton.

June Poser

The bathroom has been refurbished by fitting new taps and adding a plug. The cold tap now fills the bath in 8 minutes but the hot takes 16. The new plug empties the bath in 12 minutes. An absentminded grandparent has turned on both taps to fill the bath but forgotten to put the plug in! How long before the bath starts to overflow? I am expecting an answer from someone I spoke to at the Duck Race about ecology and the relocating reptile populations.

AND CHILDREN'S PUZZLE

JUNIOR SUDOKU

Fill in blanks with only one of each number in any line or rectangle



	4			2	
			1		
3					
		5			4
		3			
	6			1	

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.

Heather Goddard

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CHURCH CALENDAR – JUNE 2008

Sunday 1st 2nd Sunday after Trinity
 9.30 a.m. Parish Communion (CW) Winterbourne Abbas
 11.00am Sung Eucharist & Healing (CW) Martinstown
 6.00pm Taize Service Steepleton

Tuesday 3rd
 12.30pm Valley View Lunch Club Farm Shop
 2.00pm Prayer Group Rectory

Wednesday 4th 10.00am Teddy Praise Martinstown

Thursday 5th 10.45am Holy Communion (BCP) Park House

Friday 6th 4.00pm Holy Communion (BCP) Steepleton Manor

Sunday 8th 3rd Sunday after Trinity
 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
 Martinstown
 9.30am Holy Communion (BCP) Compton Valence
 11.00am Family Eucharist & Baptism (CW) Steepleton

Tuesday 10th CONFIRMATION SERVICE at 7pm Steepleton
with Rt Rev Tim Thornton Bishop of Sherborne

Sunday 15th 4th Sunday after Trinity
 9.30am Parish Eucharist (CW) Martinstown
 11.00am Come & Praise Winterbourne Abbas

Sunday 22nd 5th Sunday after Trinity
 9.30am Holy Communion (BCP) Steepleton Manor
 11.00am Family Eucharist & Baptism (CW) Martinstown

Friday 27th
 1.00pm Marriage of Bridie Hewson & Peter Wiffen W/ Abbas

Sunday 29th – Peter & Paul Apostles
 10.00am Benefice Eucharist (CW) Martinstown

Weekday Services – June 2008

Silent prayer from 8.15am followed by

Tuesday 8.30am Morning Prayer Martinstown
 Wednesday 8.30am Holy Communion Martinstown
 Thursday 8.30am Morning Prayer Winterbourne Abbas
 Friday 8.30am Morning Prayer Martinstown

Printed and published by the Winterbourne Valley PCC