

Valley & Valence

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



May 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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SATURDAY JOB

Helping with cleaning/general household duties

in holiday lets for 2-3 hrs Saturday mornings

Suit student

Please call Anne-Marie at Little Glebe Farm, Winterbourne

Abbas Tel 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

Weddings

5th April - Megan James & Richard Furneaux - Martinstown

Baptism

13th April – Evie Rose Dovey – Steepleton

Funerals

17th April – Harry Hill – Martinstown

SUNDAY READINGS FOR MAY

4th May	7th of Easter	Acts 1: 6 - 14 1 Peter 4: 12 - 14; 5: 6 - 11 John 17: 1 - 11
11th May	Pentecost	Acts 2: 1 - 21 1 Corinthians 12: 3b - 13 John 20: 19 - 23
18th May	Trinity Sunday	Isaiah 40: 12 - 17, 27 - 31 2 Corinthians 13: 11 - 13 Matthew 28: 16 - 20
25th May	1st Sunday after Trinity	Leviticus 19: 1 - 2, 9 - 18 1 Corinthians 3: 10 - 11, 16 - 23 Matthew 5: 38 - 48

**COMPTON VALENCE
CHURCH FLOWER & CLEANING ROTA**

19 April - 2 May	Mrs Pearce
3-16 May	Mrs Mentern
17 – 30	Mrs Buckland
31 – 13 June	Mrs Andrews

THE VICAR WRITES



Dear Friends.

This month sees two more important days in the Church's year. On Thursday 1st May we will be celebrating **Ascension Day** at Martinstown Church at 7.30pm and the children from the school will attend a service in St Mary's Winterbourne Abbas on the Friday at 9am. The following Sunday we celebrate the **Day of Pentecost** the coming of the Holy Spirit, which ends the 50 days of Easter.

Another important date for your diary is the visit on Tuesday 10th June of the Rt Rev Timothy Thornton who is coming to confirm 4 adults at a service in Winterbourne Steepleton Church at 7pm followed by refreshments in Steepleton Manor.

The Annual Parochial meetings of all the churches took place during April and we expressed our thanks to all the Church Wardens and PCC members for their work during the past year and especially to Trevor Bassett who retired after 17yrs as Church Warden of Steepleton. I am delighted that John Crawford has agreed to take over and was elected Church Warden at the recent Steepleton meeting.

As many of you already know my 5year license ends at the end of October and Trevor and I will be moving into Dorchester where I will be licensed as a member of the Dorchester team. This will enable us both to have a little more time free for family and friends.

Naturally many of you will be wondering what will happen in the future, there will be an open meeting for members of all the four churches on Friday 30th May at 7.30pm in Martinstown Church. At this stage it will be an informal discussion with Rev Canon Karen Curnock the Rural Dean, regarding the future of the Benefice. I hope as many of you as possible will be able to come to the meeting to make your views known.

Yours in Christ

Rosemary

CHURCH NEWS

SPONSORED WALK

The Bishop of Sherborne, Tim Thornton, will be leading a team of walkers to trace the steps of the early pilgrims by walking 50 miles in one day following the route of the Aldhelm Way on Saturday 10th May. Starting at Sherborne Abbey they will attempt to walk to St Aldhelm's Head. The purpose of the walk is to raise funds for a new church in Crossways. If you would like to sponsor Bishop Tim, a form is available in Martinstown Church.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE GIFT OF MUSIC.

A Sung Eucharist in Milton Abbey with Sherborne Abbey choir on Sunday 22nd June at 6pm. Celebrant: The Venerable Paul Taylor. Preacher: The Very Revd David Shearlock.

PENTECOST PRAISE

There will be another Songs of Praise type service in Martinstown Church on Sunday 11th May at 6pm to celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Do come along for a good sing.

HEALING SERVICE

Our next healing service will take place at Steepleton Church on Sunday 18th May at 6pm; an opportunity to have prayer for yourself or for anyone else in need. All are welcome.

CHOIR FOR BLANCHARD TRUST GARDEN PARTY

St. Martin's Church Choir has again been invited to provide some entertainment at the Blanchard Trust Garden Party to be held at The Chantry in Martinstown on Sunday 29 June 2008. Performance time is not yet determined, but it will probably be about 3.00 or 3.15. As last year the choir will be augmented with additional singers and we hope to present a mixed programme of secular and sacred music. Practices are held either at 5 Hardy Close or St. Martin's Church at 7.45 on Wednesdays: as we get nearer to 29 June there will also be practices on some Friday evenings.

We extend an invitation to join us to anyone who enjoys singing and can sing in tune. The ability to read music is not a requirement, although it could be quite useful. If you are interested in taking part please let me know and come along on 23 April if you can.

Nigel Power

tel: 01305 889910 e-mail: nigelepower@btinternet.com

THE WAY AHEAD

May 2008

This month sees the start of summer according to my research into the origins of May Day. So – let’s all hope for some sunshine this month!

By the time this issue is distributed I hope to have delivered my cans of Guinness to the winners of last month’s “bath” poser. See page 24. The poser demanded some basic knowledge of maths but I have learned that it was overlooked (as being too easy??) by no less than two retired maths teachers living in the same Close in Martinstown!

Otherwise, no reaction to the appearance of Junior Sudoku in place of Wordsearch?? Are all you adults preventing children getting at the magazine??

This month, my sympathy goes to the Winterbourne Valley School, whose computer is controlled by County Hall. As often seems to happen after a school holiday, their computer “plays up” and during the last week it was receiving e-mails but refusing to send any. I know that I am already bald, but I was told the school staff were tearing their hair out!!

Finally, I would like to say a big thank you to all those volunteers in different organisations who contribute their articles each month. I know I send you reminders from time to time but equally, I know you are all busy (in many cases, mothers) so your efforts are much appreciated!!

Brian B.

PS My daughter Tessa, planning a “Home Birth”, had a Birthing Pool and some cylinders of anaesthetic gas in the house. As her husband is a diving instructor, my grand daughter was familiar with diving cylinders. “What are the gas bottles for?” She asked. “They’re for Mummy when she has her baby.” “But if the baby’s born underwater won’t it need bottles as well?!!” My grandson Laurie arrived safely on 8th April without the aid of either a Birthing Pool or SCUBA gear!

THIS MONTH 1st May is MAY DAY

The earliest May Day celebrations appeared in pre-Christian Europe in the Celtic celebration of Beltane and the Walpurgis Night of the Germanic countries. The day was a traditional summer holiday in many pre-Christian European pagan cultures.

While February 1st was the first day of Spring, May 1st was the first day of summer; hence, the summer solstice on June 25th (now June 21st) was Midsummer. May Day marks the end of the uncomfortable winter half of the year in the Northern hemisphere, and, regardless of the locally prevalent political or religious establishment, it has traditionally been an occasion for popular and often raucous celebrations. These often included dancing round a Maypole.



The May Day Bank Holiday was traditionally the only one to affect the state school calendar, although new arrangements in some areas to even out the length of school terms mean that the Good Friday and Easter Monday Bank Holidays, which vary from year to year, may also fall during term time.

May Day also refers to various socialist and labour movement celebrations conducted on May 1, to commemorate the international socialist movement generally. May Day in this regard is called International Workers' Day or Labour Day.

MARTINSTOWN 100 CLUB WINNERS

March £25 Lucy Highton

£10 Eileen Fisher

£5 Jean Burt

THE VALLEY CLUB

As the new Chairman of The Valley Club, I would like to thank Ian Gibson for all the leadership and support he has given to the Club over the last three years. He is continuing on the committee so we will still be able to benefit from his expertise. Welcome to Jo Grassby and Roger Hall who have also joined the committee.

The Club continues to go from strength to strength and new members and visitors are always welcome. £5 a year membership entitles you to:-

- free entry to various talks and activity evenings on club nights;
- reduced prices for social events, dances and outings;
- Autumn & Winter discount vouchers for Poundbury Garden Centre, plus an

annual visit (usually in April) to the Garden Centre where you get 25% off everything you buy.

Our next event is a visit to Longford Castle near Salisbury on Thursday May 15th. The coach will leave the village at 12.30pm for the afternoon tour. There are a few places still available and these can be booked through Maureen Battcock, phone 889194. The cost is £13 for members and £15 for non-members.

Future events:-

Saturday July 12th All day visit to East Lambrook Manor Gardens/ Lytes Cary. We will have lunch at East Lambrook and then continue on to Lytes Cary which is a National Trust Property. Tel. Maureen on 889194 for tickets.

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

Pat Willetts Tel. 889597



MARTINSTOWN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

At the AGM on 14th April we heard reports from the Secretary and President of a varied programme of talks throughout the year and of many other activities including table-tennis, Scrabble, book-reading groups, and garden and theatre visits. Heartfelt thanks were expressed to Margaret Hearing for all her hard work as President for the last three years and we send our good wishes to Jill Pearce who was elected as President and to the new committee.

The speaker was Mike Crankshaw who gave us a most entertaining talk about his time serving on the Royal Yacht Britannia. During his 10½ years' service he rose from cook's mate to Royal Chef and told us many interesting details about life on board. The crew felt very privileged to work on the Royal Yacht and took great pride in maintaining her in immaculate condition. Over the years billions of pounds were generated for British business as they sailed around the world.

Our thanks to Margaret Barden & Sheila Parker for providing refreshments.

Next Scrabble will be on 8th May at 8 pm at 1 Hardy Close.

The Speaker at the next meeting on 12th May will be Valerie Stevens of ACWW (Associated Country Women of the World), we will also be discussing the Resolutions for the NFWI AGM in Liverpool at which Margaret Ashworth will be representing us.

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 February we said a very fond farewell to Mr Trevor Bassett who retired from serving the school as a school governor. Trevor has worked tirelessly over the past seven years overseeing the finance of the school and supporting the staff on budget issues. Trevor will be sorely missed and the governors of the school wish to thank him for all his hard work and wish him all the very best for the future from all the staff and pupils of Winterbourne Valley CE VA First School.

I also want to say a big thank-you to Lily Loader's Grandfather who very kindly made the two benches for children in our Years 3 and 4 Class which arrived last term. Apologies to Lily's family for incorrectly thanking Mr Abbott, who, apparently, is also in the process of making a couple more benches.

Work in Progress - Rights Respecting Schools and Citizenship

Over the past year the children have been introduced to the idea that every child has rights but with these rights come with something equally important: their responsibilities towards others. These responsibilities link very closely to the school's own Golden Rules, our work on Citizenship and the work carried out in DASP on the DASP Citizen Charter (the 7 caterpillars of caring, considerate, communicative, courteous, confident, co-operative and conscientious!).

By allowing the children time to make these connections and to think about how they behave towards others, we foster positive attitudes and teach the children language and strategies for overcoming difficulties. Through this work we continue to constantly and consistently reinforce our expectations for behaviour and ensure our classrooms remain happy, safe and fair places to be.

It is hoped this work may also encourage children to develop their citizenship skills at home and around their village as well as at school, and hopefully into the wider global community. If you wish to find out more about the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and Rights Respecting Schools, please log onto www.unicef.org.uk and follow the schools link.

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

When the hall wasn't available in March, we decided to venture out to the Abbotsbury Children's Farm instead. The weather held out for us and the 10 children who came along all seemed to enjoy themselves, especially when we stopped to feed the guinea pigs. Although Freya kept nicking the carrot for herself! Thank you to everyone who came along. I hope we can organise some more outings in the near future.

Congratulations to Tessa and Tim Ferguson on the arrival of Laurence. It was lovely to see them at Toddler Group and I think he has broken the record for the youngest member! Membership continues to grow with new people joining us from within the valley and also from the surrounding area.

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

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”**

JUMP START IN MARTINSTOWN

Welcome back after the Easter holidays! Jump Start is continuing to flourish with local members attending. Some of the initial group now are beginning to move up to the bigger class and are making new friends, both children and parents alike which is lovely to see.

On the 1st^{May} Nicky Backus a representative from **Mini IQ** will be here with a selection of educational books, toys and games for children from the ages of birth to twelve. These products are both innovative, interactive and cover each developmental stage for children. They have been carefully selected to help stimulate and develop young minds, ideal birthday gifts!

A local member from the **National Childbirth Trust** will be here on the 8th May to enlighten members to the vast amount that the group offers, including local social events for families to enjoy. As a national charity they also have local advisors on all aspects of childcare, from birth to toddlers and will be pleased to help with any questions you may have.

The **Yummy Mummy Party Co** are here again on the 15th May with a different selection of children's clothes, footwear, bags, jewellery and other related goods from their last visit, if you fancy a pamper!

Jessica Reynolds and the team from The **Dorset County Library Service** are attending to promote the Bookstart initiative, and other weekly and termly events held in each of the local libraries for your reference.

It would be lovely to see some new local members at any of the above sessions, don't forget that there is no contract to join, you can just turn up as and when you want to. Sessions are £2.50 per child, however, for a family of two children (maximum for one adult attending) there is a cheaper price of £4.00 per family. Mums, Dads, Grandparents, Aunts and Uncles etc are all very welcome to attend this small friendly community weekly event, and I do look forward to welcoming you all.

Jump Start can also be booked for birthday parties in the village hall, and if this is something that you might be interested in having in the future, please do give me a ring (Tel 01305 889 250) or contact me via the website at www.jumpstartdorset.co.uk and I will be happy to speak with you about your requirements.

Becky Dovey



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

Our first week after Easter welcomed a new Brownie, Cerys. Sadly Shannon has had to leave as she has reached the grand old age of nearly 11. I understand she will be joining Guides and all the fun that they have there.

So far we made have made the most of the spring sunshine by playing outside and learning three ballets as part of our dancer badge. Unfortunately a clash of school dates meant we had to cancel our plans for a trip to Steepleton Manor. We hope to go later this month to entertain the residents.

We have lots of fun planned for the summer months including some trips out and completing our right to be happy badge

Finally, there are still places available for Brownies (aged 7-10) – please contact me on my new e-mail address

lisa.upward@btinternet.com.

Lisa Upward

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.raceforlifesponsorme.org/anniesalmon

Many thanks in anticipation, Ann Salmon

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

There is not much news this month as we have only had a couple of meetings due to the Easter break.

We have made lunar landscapes which look very inviting for intrepid astronauts to explore. We have also looked at how galaxies expand using balloons and paint.

We finished up the packet of balloons which were used as part of a skills obstacle course and so skilled were the boys that no balloons were burst and they all went home at the end of the meeting.

The cubs and scouts have also been practicing their navigation skills by designing trails for each other to follow using compass directions around the village hall. After a few false starts everyone completed the trails successfully and found a Kit-kat waiting for them at the end.

Akela

CHESIL BANK GARDEN CLUB

ANNUAL PLANT SALE

Saturday 3rd May

Portesham Village Hall

10am to 12 Noon

Loads of plants

Coffee

Bacon Butties

MARTINSTOWN PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The Parish Council meets in the Parish office and the last meeting was held on the 31st March. It was noted that Brian Thompson was ill and in hospital again. The council expressed its concern over his health and hoped to see him again soon.

The first half hour is an opportunity for people in the village to raise issues that concern them with the Parish council and the subjects aired were the future of the village post office and speeding through the village.

The first issue was raised by Mr. Browning who pointed out the threat to the village post office, that the nearest alternative was over 3 miles away in Dorchester and would the council lead in opposing any threatened closure. The Chairman replied that they had previously written about their concerns but would be happy to take a lead in opposing any planned closure, however this seemed to be a centrally driven government policy but it would be worth trying to oppose any shut down of the post office.

The second issue was speeding in the village and the Mallards Green area in particular where there is no footpath along the C road to the centre of the village. This is an issue raised repeatedly by Mr. Shaw and others, they are particularly concerned by the failure of the police or County council officials to help after Speed Indicating Devices (SIDs) showed the average speed to be nearly 40mph. at Mallards Green. The chairman will liaise with him and write to the Echo to indicate the concerns felt. In the mean time we will look again at cost of a radar gun.

When planning was discussed it was noted that approval with conditions have been given to Park House for an extension and to John Marsh for change of use of the Turkey shed

**MARTINSTOWN PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF LAST MEETING (continued)**

The troughs in the village were discussed but in spite of repeated requests for views no clear cut attitude in the village has emerged mainly because few views had been expressed. It was decided to remove the trough outside Church cottage as it disturbs the visual impact of the village green and that the one outside Rylestone should be moved back. Ian Gibson was thanked for his new planting and the chairman would talk to him about planting the rest and the final site of the trough by Rylestone. The scheme would be reviewed in September when a decision would be made if it was to continue.

At the end of the meeting an issue was raised that the Chairman considers to be of concern to the village and its reputation for fair play. It was reported that on more than one occasion foreign residents of the village had been subjected to hostile verbal abuse. On at least two occasions a car passing through the village has stopped, the female driver got out and verbally assaulted overseas guests in our village. Other incidents have occurred while waiting for the bus. If you see this sort of thing happening please try to stop it or make a note of the incident. The number of the car involved and its make would help so we can let the police know.

As an experiment 10 copies of the minutes of the parish council will be left in the shop for interested parties to take or peruse.

The next meeting will be the Annual Parish meeting on the 28th May followed by a council meeting.

POLICE COMMUNITY SUPPORT 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
7th May from 2.15 to 3.30pm and 21st May from 10 to 11.15am

MARTINSTOWN VILLAGE HALL COMMITTEE

News and events

ANN MATTHEWS Telephone 889248

“Connecting Dorset Computing” – Watch this space!!



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

May 2nd and 16th - Please come along and bring a friend.

COFFEE MORNING TABLE TOP SALE

Saturday 3rd May at 11 am – Call Ann to book a table (£5)

Also, a chance to meet Sarah, your PCSO, for a chat

YOUR VILLAGE HALL AGM

Monday 19th May at 7.30pm

To find out what is going on with your village hall please come along.
Hopefully your questions will be answered.

VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS

The Booking Secretary is Tessa Clark

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

ARTSREACH - Next Season

At the end of May Ann Salmon will get a list of shows available for next year. Some may not fit our own village hall or may be fully booked. However, there will be many others we could have. If you would like to see what is on offer, Ann can arrange to be at The Brewers or Steven's Farm Shop with the details. Please call her on 01305 889059 or e-mail samandann@googlemail.com

'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

FASHION SHOW REPORT

WINTERBOURNE VALLEY PTFA

(PARENT TEACHERS FRIENDS ASSOCIATION)

A huge THANK-YOU to everyone who bought tickets and came to the Fashion Show on Friday 11th April. We hope that all who came had a really enjoyable evening and were pleased to take advantage of the fantastic bargains on offer to brighten up their wardrobes for the summer! Thank you also to the models who took part, and really contributed to making the evening extra enjoyable. Due to everyone's generosity on the raffle and including a generous cheque for commission from 'Off the Peg' we made a total of £240.78, which is greatly appreciated.

Thank you to everyone who supported this event – we look forward to seeing some very smartly dressed people walking around the villages, maybe even some twins and triplets too!

Lorna and Gill

DORSET ART WEEKS IN MARTINSTOWN

Starting on May 24th, the biennial Dorset Art Weeks event will see two Martinstown residents staging exhibitions in the village over the 16 day period that the county-wide arts feast is staged.

Keith Lee - Photographer

The skittle alley at the Brewers Arms will take on a new look when this photographer puts on an exhibition of his varied work. - much of which is inspired by the local landscape. He says:- “My pictures are featured in galleries in Somerset, Devon and Dorset – and some readers may have seen a few of them locally up at the farm shop.”

“Thanks go to John and Jackie, who have been very supportive in putting on the exhibition at the Brewers, and I look forward to hearing the reaction from locals to a larger selection of my work, which is quite varied. Visitors to the pub may have seen my portrait of Jodie – one of the four legged pub residents – which now hangs in the bar. Animals are a favourite subject – when they stay still for more than half a second!”

The exhibition will be open every day from 12 noon until 7 pm, with late opening until 9 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

More information is available on Keith's website

www.keithleeimages.co.uk

Vicky Finding – Artist

She is well known for her stunning paintings, and will once again be taking part in the event at Clandon Farmhouse, on the outskirts of the village. Her abstract works are full of colour and movement, and are very popular with art lovers. Vicky's paintings are widely exhibited across the country. Currently she is feverishly working to complete new works in time for art weeks.

Opening times at Clandon are restricted, with details available on the Dorset Art Weeks website, and in the guide – copies of which will be included in the May issue of Dorset magazine.

The event continues to grow, and is one of the biggest events of its kind in the country, with some 350 venues across Dorset opening their doors this year. Do take the chance to experience the variety of art on offer during the 16 days.

BLANCHARD TRUST and the 2008 Garden Party

Blanchard Trust has been a village charity for many years. Originally, it was established to provide help for those in financial difficulties. Nowadays, although the Trust has been there for many individuals, its role has extended into supporting village organizations such as the Guides, the Brownies, the Cubs, the Village Hall, the Manor Grove Sheltered Accommodation and the Cricket Club. For example, last year, funds were given to the Cricket Club to help purchase an all-weather pitch.

In June, 2007, thanks to the hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Jeffery, a Garden Party was held in the Chantry gardens. In spite of the dreary weather, many turned up to support our local charity. Funds raised from this event went to the Village Hall.

As a result of this success, another Garden Party will be held in the Chantry garden (with kind permission of Mr. and Mrs. Jeffery) for Sunday 29th June 2008. All organizations, within the village, will be invited to help at this next event. So please come, join in and help us to make this a fun afternoon in Martinstown!

Fran Taylor

CHESIL EVENTS FOR MAY

Thursday 1st May

Spring Birds Week Walk

Saturday 3rd May

National Low Tide Day

Saturday 10th May

Spring Flowers Walk

Saturday 24th May

Fossil Walk around Herbury Peninsula

The Fleet Observer will be running again at the end of May so come and take a trip down The Fleet to see the underwater life. For further information please visit

www.Martinstown-news.co.uk

or phone 01305 760579

SPRING

Spring is here if:-

The first fur coated girls can be seen in the park modelling next winter's fashions.

Small green things appear on the dead sticks in your garden. They are leaf buds.

Your favourite motorway is decorated for the new season in orange and white cones, strings of bunting etc.

The traffic slows to a crawl to admire it.

You wake up one Sunday morning feeling uneasily that the night before, you should have put the clocks forward, or back. Or perhaps its next weekend. You go back to sleep.

Small green things are found behind the furniture. They are the needles of last years Christmas tree.

All fashion correspondents fly to Paris to see the spring fashion shows, so that the world will know what is being worn this year by a few leggy models in a few Paris fashion houses.

The world goes on wearing whatever is to hand when it gets out of bed.

The grass grows long enough to cut again, and mankind divides itself into those who have forgotten to get their mower serviced and those who have remembered.

Small green things appear all over the house. They are, of course, grass cuttings.

It rains...A cold biting east wind sweeps Britain. Many football matches are cancelled. Old papers blow in the streets.

Your knee joints play you up.

It could almost be summer!!!

A little bit late for St Valentine's Day?

T'is hard to lose the one you love
When your heart I full of hope
But it's harder still to find the towel
When your eyes are full of soap

MARTINSTOWN WASTE WATCH GROUP

Our Treasurer, Dave Clark, reported at the AGM in March that the Group had raised £2,039 from the sale of newspaper, and from credit received from Dorset County Council for disposal of glossies, between March 2007 and March 2008.

Grants have been made by the Group to the Martinstown Cricket Club, to the Valley Toddler Group and to the Valley Benefice towards the expenses involved with the monthly production of the Valley and Valence magazine. This left an outstanding balance of £1,214.

It was agreed that some of this balance should be used to repair the door to the garage at Church Farm, which Alan King kindly lets the Group use as a Store, and that some of the remainder should be made available for the Village Hall Annexe fund. However any requests for specific funding from local organisations would be welcomed and will receive consideration. Please let Dave Clark know (889493).

The Group are pleased that so many in the village do bother to take their newspapers and glossy magazines to one of the two chest freezers placed by the Village Hall or outside the Parish Office for collection. However the Waste Watch volunteers still have to spend a lot of time and labour retying paper bundles which are not tied correctly, and so cannot be processed by the paper dealer's machinery. There is a clear picture showing how papers should be tied on the underside of the lid in each freezer – and please do not simply stuff unsorted papers of all kinds into plastic bags as these take ages to sort out and retie!

Editor's Note

In February I wrote "Waste Watch – Worth £25,000- in the bank" This was based on raising about £1,000 a year. In view of the above article I must apologise to the amazing volunteer organisers of this scheme.

**I should have written not £25,000- but £50,000!
What a fantastic effort!!**

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.

NEWS FROM THE WINTERBOURNES

One aspect of pub life, especially in a village, is that it is like having an extended family. You get involved to a degree in other people's lives, the nice side of which is helping them to celebrate the good times like birthdays, weddings, anniversaries, new babies, passing their driving test, buying a new house etc. Just recently we had a lovely, local retirement 'do'. The downside is you get to hear about all their misfortunes as well and lately, this has read rather like a 'Who's Who?' of Casualty!

Our good wishes go to Marion 'Flump', who had a slight altercation with the grass verge a few weeks ago, and broke her ankle, whilst narrowly missing a dunk in the stream. Wishing you a speedy recovery Marion; we are missing you at the Quiz.

Love and best wishes also for a speedy recovery to 'our Eddie'.

Speaking of the quiz, we had a bit of a 'John Cleese' moment the other night. I got chatting to two very pleasant, youngish German visitors, who showed a great interest in the quiz. I ended up showing them the one from the previous evening and trying to explain what a 'dingbat' is and answering various questions they had. I had used the phrase 'not their finest hour' in a question about Terminal 5 at Heathrow and they asked me what 'finest hour' meant. I was some way into my explanations of Churchill and stirring speeches when light dawned and I said perhaps I didn't ought to be talking to you about this. Jo was killing herself behind the bar as she tried to resist the urge to shout 'Don't mention the war'! Fortunately they took it in good part.

Sorry, I had nearly shut up then, but the following Sunday night we were having a drink quite late after work when Jay noticed a cyclist racing backwards and forwards past the pub every five minutes. Having had a glass of whatever or two, it seemed, at the time, a great plan to go outside and applaud him as he went past. We asked him what he was doing and he called out something like '56 miles and a marathon'. Whoever you were Sir, and whatever it was, Good Luck with it!

Think we had better say 'Good Health' not 'Cheers' this time!

ADULT BRAIN TEASER

Answer to April poser

A bath will fill in 8 minutes with the hot tap and 12 minutes with the cold tap. 12 minutes will produce a bath and a half of hot water and one bath of cold water - a total of $2\frac{1}{2}$ baths. Divide the 12 minutes by $2\frac{1}{2}$ to get the time to fill one bath. This is 4.8 minutes or 4 minutes 48 seconds.

Winners were Arthur Singleton, well known meteorologist and poet, and Alan King at Church Farm. I am also offering a consolation prize to David Gaukroger who managed to fill just half a bath with an evening e-mail. Christine tells me that he then woke in the middle of the night to send me a second e-mail correcting his original answer! Despite distributing 750 copies of the magazine, these were the only three responses!

May Poser

What is the next number in the series
200, 199, 195, 186, 170

AND CHILDREN'S PUZZLE

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



	1		2		
					5
		1	5		4
2		5	6		
6					
		2		5	

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

(Abbotsbury & Portesham Branch)

At our **Annual Dinner** at the Upwey Wishing Well, we were honoured to have our County President and Branch Padre as our guests.

Group Skittles Match at the Brewers Arms, Martinstown 8th May at 7.30 pm
Committee Members only, as space is limited.

Annual Conference takes place in Lancashire on 17/18th May, 2008 and we shall have a delegate and three observers.

Branch Meeting At 7.30 p.m. on Thursday, 29th May, 2008 in Strangways Hall, Abbotsbury.

Coach Trip to the Rothchild's Exbury Gardens - Thursday, 5th June, 2008
- The event is open to non-members.

Branch Birthday Celebration Day Saturday, 21st. June, 2008, consisting of a service at St Peter's Church, Abbotsbury at 11.30 a.m., a Lunch at Portesham Village Hall for Members and their Guests at 12.30 p.m. and from 2p.m. until about 4.30 p.m. a Country Fair in the field behind the village hall at Portesham.

For more details of RBL events call Des Baker (Branch Vice Chairman) on 01305- 267617 or visit www.Martinstown-news.co.uk

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LOCAL'S LUNCH 14 MAY 2008

SOMERSET PORK WITH MASH & VEG

or MACARONI CHEESE WITH

GARNISH & GARLIC BREAD

PEAR & AMARETTO CRUMBLE

WITH CUSTARD or

TOFFEE CHEESECAKE & CREAM

THE COACH AND HORSES

LOCAL'S LUNCH 21 MAY 2008

CHICKEN BREAST ON THE ROCK

WITH CHIPS AND SALAD or

HOMEMADE CHEESEY COD & PARMA

HAM CAKES RATATOUILLE

APPLE & BLACKBERRY PIE CUSTARD

or HOMEMADE CRÈME CARAMEL

THE COACH AND HORSES

LOCAL'S LUNCH 28 MAY 2008

GAMMON, EGG, CHIPS & PEAS or

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HOMEMADE SPOTTED DICK

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CHURCH CALENDAR – MAY 2008

Thursday 1st ASCENSION DAY

10.45am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Park House
7.30pm	Parish Eucharist (CW)	Martinstown

Friday 2nd

4.00pm	Holy Communion (BCP)	Steepleton Manor
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Sunday 4th 7th of Easter

9.30am	Parish Communion (CW)	Winterbourne Abbas
11.00am	Sung Eucharist + Healing	Martinstown
2.30pm	Baptism of Yasmine Taylor	Martinstown

Tuesday 6th 12.30pm Valley View Lunch Club

Farm Shop

2.00pm Prayer Group

Rectory

Wednesday 7th 10.00am Teddy Praise

Martinstown

Sunday 11th DAY OF PENTECOST

8.00am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Martinstown
9.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Compton Valence
11.00am	Family Eucharist (CW)	Steepleton.
6.00pm	Pentecost Praise	Martinstown

Sunday 18th TRINITY SUNDAY

9.30am	Parish Eucharist (CW)	Martinstown
11.00am	Come & Praise	Winterbourne Abbas
6.00pm	Healing Service	Steepleton

Sunday 25th 1st Sunday after Trinity

9.30am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Steepleton Manor
11.00am	Family Eucharist & Baptism	Martinstown

Weekday Services – May 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

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