

What's on in June!

Tues 5th	WI Barry Fewster Hawkstone Park	Ifton Miners Lounge	7:30pm
Sun 10th	Sunday Social Club	St Martins Centre	3:30pm
Sun 10th	Vintage Car Display	Whittington Castle	11:30am - 2:30pm
Sun 10th	Green Gym	Ifton Meadows Main Entrance	1:30pm
Tues 12th	IMMC Meeting	St Martins Centre	7:30pm
Wed 13th	Weston Rhyn Gardening Club- The History of Herbs and their Kitchen use	Weston Rhyn Institute	7:30pm
Thurs 14th	St Martins Parish Council	St Martins Centre	7pm
Sat 16th	Car Boot Sale	St Martins Playing Field	11am - 3pm
Sun 17th	Car Boot Sale	Whittington Castle	9am start
Sat & Sun 30th & 31st	Multi Period Re-enactment & Living History Weekend	Whittington Castle	10am - 4pm

Please let us know the time and date of events in August and September for the next edition of Village Life by no later than **Friday 15th July 2016**

If you send us an article for the next edition, please bear in mind that it will be delivered at the end of July, so any events you report on will have happened before then. If you want to mention any upcoming events or activities please make sure they are in August and September (or later).



St Martins School has invited wonderful performers into school in June and we're very excited about them! First up we have M&M productions coming in on Monday 6th June to perform a fabulous pantomime version of Lewis Carroll's 'Alice's Adventures in Wonderland' to our Year 4-8. Following that we have Anthony Pedley coming in on Monday 13th June to perform his one-man story-telling version of Roald Dahl's 'The BFG' to our Year 1-3. If you haven't bought tickets for your children yet and would like to do so, give us a call on 01691 776500 to enquire.



GCSE exams are upon us (*there is no hiding from them!*) and we are encouraging all students sitting them to attend as many revision sessions as possible. Sessions are taking place during lunch time, after school and even on Saturdays. Students should have their revision time tables up-to-date but if they are unsure of any times/dates for revision sessions or exams now is the time to ask their teachers!

A message from all staff to our GCSE students, "Good luck to all of you sitting exams. We know it can be stressful and so please remember that we are available to talk to if you need us. So long as you try your absolute best then you can be proud of yourself. We'll be cheering you on every step of the way!"

Secondary students aren't the only ones revising at the moment, Year 6 have started preparations for their SATs tests this term. There are revision classes available after school and a whole host of other activities to keep Primary students busy, such as *rounders, cricket, junk modelling, football* and even *fencing!* Speak to our teachers if you have any questions, either at the school gate or call us on 01691 776500.

**PLAY
TIME**

Primary students are really enjoying their new play equipment that we were able to purchase with the help of the school council. Equipment includes circus skills, bats, balls, hoola-hoops and skipping ropes. Fund raising through St Martins Supporters Club is vital to ensure we can continue to improve equipment across the whole school and any support you can give when we have events is much appreciated.

Accelerated Reader is being introduced to our whole school and we're very excited about it! We'll be able to monitor reading development through interactive quizzes and give rewards for effort and progress. We hope that parents and guardians will work with us to encourage students, in every year, to read – after all, literacy is the key to learning!





Springing to success! Our very talented Year 4 gymnasts did so well at their competition in April that they came 2nd! Well done, (from left to right) Beth, Chloe, Sophie and Chloe, we're very proud of you!



If gymnastics and other physical activities aren't quite up your child's street, they could take part in some of our music lessons; keyboard, piano, clarinet, flute and drums. We're a musical bunch and lots of our secondary students enjoy forming bands – who knows, we might produce the next Nirvana or Rolling Stones here in our music rooms!

Career specialist's, Prospects, are visiting us on 30th June to talk about Apprenticeships with our Year 10 students. As you know, Year 11 students leave our school to go to further education or to complete an Apprenticeship. Therefore, we're very keen that before making important decisions about their future, our students have lots of information at their disposal. If you're an employer who has taken on an Apprentice before, or you have been an Apprentice and would like to share your positive experience with us please email us on reception@stmartins3-16.org.

Football is hot on everyone's lips at the moment; Well Done to Leicester City! We have our own Football hot shots to shout out about – Year 8's Callum Jones, Jac Gwilliam, Spencer Parrish and Luke Syrett all went for trials to join the North Shropshire under 13's Football Club. Spencer and Luke made it through to round 2 and are awaiting further news. Great effort boys, we're very proud of you!



We're also delighted that Ridgeways have sponsored our football team!

Take a look at our Year 7's modelling the new kit!

GCSE Exams: Start Monday 16th May and finish Tuesday 21st June

Swimming Pool: Refurb programme underway, due to complete during Summer Holidays.

May Half Term: Monday 30th May (Bank Holiday) – Friday 3rd June

St Martins Supporters Club is looking for new members. Call 01691 776500 and ask for Mrs Ellis or Miss Devismes for more information. We'll be preparing for a Summer Fayre and need all the assistance you can give!

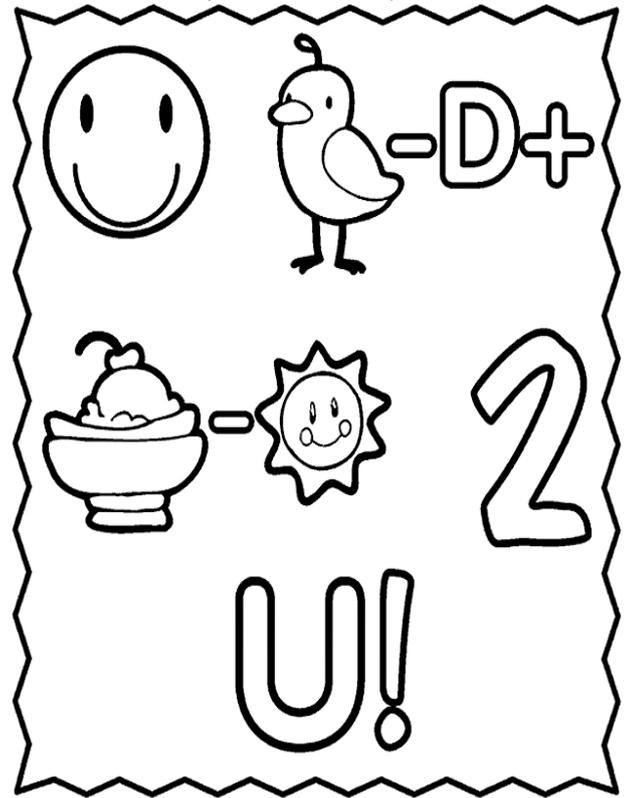
Student admission: If you are thinking about sending your child here in September or there is a mid-term move on the cards, simply give us a call on 01691 776500 and we can arrange time for you to visit to see for yourselves how our close-knit community would support and nurture your child throughout their school career.

SUDOKU

	2	6	7		8			
3				1			2	8
	9				2		4	
			6	2	1	8	9	
5	6	9	8		4	7	1	2
	8	1	5	7	9			
	4		9				7	
6	1			4				9
			1		5	2	6	

Rebus Puzzle

Can you solve this rebus puzzle?



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Here's a great picture for you to colour



Word Search Adventures

HIDDEN PIRATES!



- | | | | |
|-------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Arg | Captain Kidd | Mast | Ship |
| Blackbeard | Cutlass | Oar | Shiver Me Timbers |
| Black Spot | Flag | Parrot | Spyglass |
| Blunderbuss | Flint | Pieces of Eight | Tar |
| Bones | Gold | Privateer | Treasures |
| Buccaneer | Long John Silver | Ropes | Walk the Plank |
| Castaway | Marooned | Sea | |

b l a c k s p o t s s s a l g y p s
l g e d r a e b k c a l b p i h s s
u o a p r i v a t e e r m a s t d a
n l o r r e v l i s n h o j g n o l
d d o a d e n o o r a m f l i n t t
e t s e r u s a e r t o f l a g g u
r e e n a c c u b c a s t a w a y c
b a r g p i e c e s o f e i g h t a
u s h i v e r m e t i m b e r s a e
s d d i k n i a t p a c s e p o r s
s b o n e s w a l k t h e p l a n k



On the lines below, write the first 6 remaining letters that are not part of the word search words to answer this riddle:

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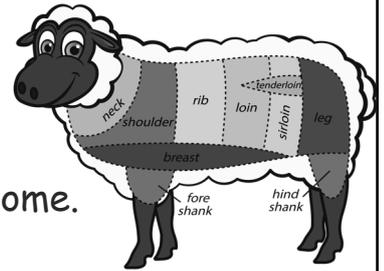
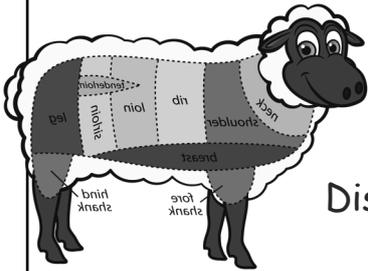
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Mutton meat(+2 years old): box containing joints, chops and mince £70 -75

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Miner's Bench

Recently, the Ifton Miners Institute have celebrated the grand opening of a bench in memory of the ex miners of Ifton Colliery pit. The ribbon was cut by ex colliery worker and Parish Councillor Brian Herbert and we enjoyed a few pieces from Ifton Colliery band. In November 1968 many local residents and people of the community were saddened by the closure of Ifton due to safety reasons and the constant threat of fire. In the previous 2 years, The Ifton Miners Institute has organised family fun days to raise money for this special memorial bench.



On behalf of the Ifton Miners Institute we would like to thank Annie Stokes, ex British Ironworks blacksmith, and Alan Burrows (Blacksculpt) for designing and building this exceptional, unique piece of art. We would also like to thank St Martins Parish Council for providing the football field, St Martins Centre for the changing facilities free of charge and their ongoing support, Duddleston Heath F.C. for kindly providing football kits, CGL builders for building the bench base, Oswestry Galvanizing, Alan Williams, Terrance Williams and Adrian Whittall for their input.

We would like to show our appreciation to all the local companies for the generous donations and raffle prizes. Thank you to all organisers, helpers, football players, referees, photographers and most importantly, the general public that attended the fun days. It would not have been possible to achieve this without your help and support.

We hope this bench brings pride and fond memories for all in the village and families of ex miners.

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NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Crime figures for April are encouraging, however the SNT are receiving a lot of complaints in relation to low level incidents which are having a high impact on residents and the community. Most of these issues have been publicised on our Twitter, Facebook and West Mercia Police's internet site. Some of the issues we have are environmental, these include litter, fly tipping and dog fouling (some dog owners go to the trouble of collecting their dogs mess in plastic bag and then discarding it on the pavement and in the hedge!). I am appealing to all dog owners to please clean up and dispose of their dogs' waste and those who litter and fly tip to use facilities provided by the local authorities. It's your village please look after it.

Traffic issues; St Martins School, there are a lot of vehicles using the drop off/pick up car park, in fact people are double parked causing a lot of congestion in the confines of a small area, don't let your vehicle's parking be contributory factor in a child's injury or worse, you may, given the right circumstances have to formally explain your parking.

To all drivers please obey the access only roads in St Martins and don't contravene these road signs. They have been put in place with public funds and for a reason.

Speed, keep your speeds down within the 30's. Your SNT will be out with speed gun over the next month.

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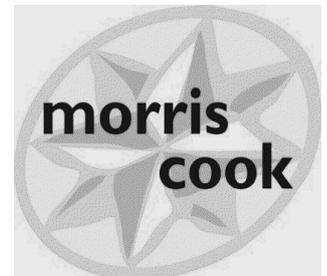
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Food For Thought

Where to go? We have just about covered all local eateries, but one place we hadn't been in ages was the Hand Hotel at Chirk. So off we went. We got off to a very good start, Darwin's Original at £2.95. It was very well kept and at £2.95 who can complain. I had to savour it slowly as it was my turn to drive, couldn't get out of it as it was my wife's birthday. So she went on the house red which just to rub it in she said it was excellent.



For starters my wife chose Goats Cheese Brushetta while I opted for Thai Cod & Prawn Fishcake both were very nice with warm plates and well garnished. For the main course my wife chose Pan Fried Fillet of Sea Bass with fresh vegetables. I mistakenly chose a Sizzling Platter of Beef whilst the sauce was nice despite being on the oily side, the beef was so tough I could hardly chew it. I politely mentioned it to the waitress who said "I'll tell chef". I established who the butcher was, it came as no surprise! Total cost just under £35.00 so reasonable enough.

We had already decided that we would only have two courses as some friends had given us some very nice German wine which is not available in UK, so back home to a variety of cheese and biscuits. The wine did cheer me up somewhat.

Sadly this will be the last Foodsmith's report as we have covered just about every pub/restaurant in the immediate area.

Our thoughts are that the people of St. Martins are very lucky to have The Greyhound at one end of the village, The Lord Moreton at the other and The Keys in the middle. No need to travel far!

The Village Life Foodsmith



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FRIENDS OF IFTON MEADOWS



You will have noticed that the fence to the Horse field has been removed to allow access to the new area. The lease to this field came to an end on 1st April and it will become the new events/picnic area.

Unfortunately the people who were instructed to remove the fence also removed the hedge which was definitely NOT on the order list. I am sorry to say that this now makes the area look very sparse, nothing like the Nature Reserve that it is. On the plus side this area along with the Railway field will soon be given 'Local Nature Reserve' status thus protecting it for the future.

We hope to replace the trees/shrubs as soon as possible but that may mean September. New trees will need plenty of water and as you know there is no water on site. Could I ask dog owners to keep their dogs off this area which is meant for children and families.

The path to the mosaic is to be repaired with the stone that is piled at the bottom of the slope. The Council have this work in hand and it should be completed shortly. It was started but due to selfish dog owners who allowed it to be used as a dog toilet it was put on hold. You will also soon see work being carried out on the right side of the path this will be a scrape/wildlife pond for frogs etc., which live in that area.



The Skylarks are back in residence but again the FEW put their breeding at risk. The breeding season for the grounding nesting bird is 1st March to 30th September and the signs stating this have been uncovered since March, but we still see people and dogs on the mound. These birds are on the RED endangered list and we should be grateful that they have chosen to use our site to breed. Last year we had an increase in breeding pairs and we should hope that this continues but the SELFISH few could ruin their chances of doing this. These same people when reminded get quite aggressive.

The '**its only me**' brigade are probably the same people who will **NOT** clean up after their dogs. Fouling is not only unsightly it is dangerous to both humans and dogs and we have had reports of 'canine gastro enteritis' connect to the site. If you know someone who does not clean up after their dog can you remind them this is both against the law and a health hazard.

Between 1st April 2015 to 31st March 2016 our small group worked 429 Volunteer hours, these were recorded hours which are sent to Shaun/Shropshire Council but many more are not recorded. Not bad for a small group of people.

For our group to continue we need more younger members - so if anyone would like to know more about us they are welcome at our meetings and green gyms.

Finally I would like to remind dog owners that from 6th April, 2016 - ALL dogs must be micro chipped or the owner will face a £500 fine.

Green Gyms start at main/colliery entrance 1.30 p.m. on 12th June and 10th July (Sunday's). weather permitting.

Meetings start at 7.30 p.m. at Community Centre - 14th June and 12th July (Tuesday) -

APRIL REPORT

President Shirley Willis welcomed members to our meeting on April 5th and reminded them it was our turn to man the stall at the Derwen Fete on 2nd June. A reminder was also given to make "knicker bunting" for our competition at the Group Meeting at Gobowen in September. Various invitations and outings were discussed. Our speaker for the evening was Jenny O'Leary, she gave a practical demonstration of tie dying silk. This was very much enjoyed by everyone. The competition of a hat made from re-cycled material was won by Shirley Willis, 2nd was Morfydd James, 3rd was Alice Wilding. The exhibition of a favourite bracelet was won by Ann Sadler, 2nd was Shirley Willis, 3rd was Ruth Dean. The evening ended with a word search competition.



MAY REPORT

Our President Shirley Willis welcomed everyone to our meeting on 3rd May. We took a vote on the resolutions for our AGM on 11th June at Brighton. These will be sent to our delegate at Oswestry W.I. We had a collection for parcels for the stall we shall man at the Derwen Fete on 2nd June. Shirley will attend the funeral of Ann Jones, who had been our Group Convener for a number of years, she will go as our representative for St. Martins W.I. Names were taken for two outings to shows in Chester, a music hall dinner show and a 60's party lunch show. We discussed the Autumn Ramble and will give two dates in September for County Office to make a decision. Angela Ree gave us a report as our delegate at our AGM on 19th May at the Theatre Severn, she also outlined the categories for the Oswestry Show competitions. It was decided that for our annual outing we would join another outing going from St Martins on a coach trip to Llandudno on 26th July. Our speaker for the evening was John Parkinson who demonstrated his technique of painting. He produced a beautiful landscape in about an hour, he talked all the while he was painting and regaled us with funny stories of his life as a Head Teacher and of his snowboarding antics!! He was thanked by Shirley Willis. The competition of 3 biscuits was won by Alice Wilding, 2nd was Ruth Dean and 3rd was Ann Sadler. The exhibition of something Oriental was won by Jill Doughty, 2nd was Ann Sadler and 3rd was Pam Doyle. John donated his painting to our W.I. and we raffled it.



Reduce our Carbon Footprint – and save money

Civic Day Exhibition in Oswestry – 26 June, all day

**Oswestry Civic Day – 26 June –
Reducing our Carbon Footprint**



The UK has agreed to cut its emissions of greenhouse gas by three quarters over the next 35 years. That will result in major change to the way we use energy. Oswestry and District Civic Society will be putting on an exhibition of the ways this can be done. Exhibitors will show renewable energy systems, ways of heating your home by heat pumps and wood, and ways of stopping the heat escaping through effective insulation. Buying local reduces carbon emissions, so we'll have local producers selling their foodstuffs. Nissan, BMW, Mitsubishi and Renault will be showing the latest in electric cars, which produce less than half the carbon of diesel and petrol cars, and no pollution in the face of the driver behind. And the bike shops will show the greenest way to travel.

Cutting carbon emissions is vital to stabilisation of climate change, but it can also save you money. Without it we will leave a wrecked planet to our grandchildren. Increased severity of flooding is known to be an effect of climate change. That may be the local dimension of a worldwide problem – so think global, but act local.

The exhibition will be in the central car park in Oswestry, from 10 til 4 on 26 June. Put it in your diary.



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12 oz Self Raising Flour

4 oz Soft marg or butter

4 oz Trex

4 oz Boiling water

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Fun Day out with Guiding.



St Martins Brownies, Whittington Brownies and St Martin Rainbows would like to thank the Parish Council for their kind donation to fund the coach to take us all to Shrewsbury Priory on the 8th May.

The Brownies whizzed around the world visiting the five Guiding centres ,India, Africa, UK. Switzerland and Mexico.

“We milked the cow and went to the chocolate fountain. We ate marshmallows, doughnuts and fudge covered in chocolate in Switzerland” Casey, Lexie and Louise.

“ We did Henna painting over ourselves” Beth.

“My favourite part was the Bollywood dancing and painting in India. I also liked the nachos taste foods from Mexico and making Sombreros hats” Georgie and Courtney.

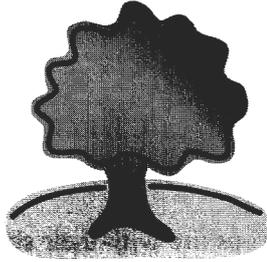
“My favourite part was icing the biscuits in Mexico” Molly and Chloe”

“I liked Switzerland and Mexico because they had a chocolate fountain and Mexico had nachos. In India we did dancing” .Elana and Abigail.

The Rainbows all had fun being scientists for the day working on experiments with water and finishing with a paddle and hooking a duck. There were over a hundred girls at this Guiding event celebrating the Queen’s Birthday for the UK Guiding centre waving flags and singing happy birthday with the Shrewsbury town crier everybody had a lovely day and the weather was kind to us. Pictures of this event can be seen on the St Martins community web page.



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Fri	11:45 - 1:30	5pm - 9:30
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Joe Stroke Club mascot

What does your local stroke group offer?

- Information about stroke and local services that might help
- Support for you, your friends and family through a range of social activities.
- Help in regaining your confidence after a stroke
- A warm welcome and a friendly face
- The opportunity to talk to someone who understands because they've been through it too
- The group meets on the second Thursday of each month

Make It, Grow It, Show It, Show

The produce and craft show will be held on

Saturday 17th September

We invite everyone who gardens, be it fruit, vegetables or flowers to start planning your entry for the show.

Maybe you knit, crochet, quilt or embroidery and have a special piece you want the show.

If you are a photographer, think about that special picture you could take this summer that could blow the socks off anyone else.

Children, what can you do this time?

Maybe you're a cook or make jams, there's some thing for everyone to enter.

A full schedule will be in the next issue of village life.

Should anyone have any good quality, unwanted gifts maybe you would consider donating them towards the raffle, just drop them in at the Centre



During the last few months, the Three Parishes Big Local Partnership has been pleased to award a number of Community Chest grants to local groups. The groups that have been awarded grants are:

- **Selattyn & Gobowen Parish Roundabout**, who have received £500 towards the costs of printing the quarterly edition
- **Weston Rhyn Bowling Club**, who has received £500 towards the cost of refurbishing their mower
- **Weston Rhyn & District Gardening Club** who have received £200 towards the cost of signs for their plant fairs
- **1st St Martins Brownies** who have received £500 towards the cost of a Boots, Bikes and Boats Challenge.

The Partnership is also pleased to be able to announce that they are supporting some larger projects through their Big Grants Scheme. Grants have been awarded to:



Oswestry Men's Shed towards the cost of equipping the shed with power and hand tools, and

Qube volunteering who are starting a project to support volunteers and volunteering in the Three Parishes Big Local area. As part of this project, Qube will be asking any local groups or organisations that are looking for volunteers, and anyone who is interested in volunteering to get in touch with them. Anyone who is interested in this project can, at this stage, contact our Big Local Co-ordinator, Bridget, who will pass your details on to Qube.

There are still grants available from both the Community Chest and Big Grants Scheme funds. Please get in touch with us for more information or if you would like to apply for a grant.

Our Community Plan (the document that lays out the aspirations and priorities for the Three Parishes Big Local project) comes to an end in August 2016, and the Partnership is now working on a Community Plan from September 2016 to August 2019. We need to send this for approval in mid-July so there is still plenty of time for you to let us know

your ideas about how we can continue to make our communities even better places to live. Please get in touch with our Big Local Co-ordinator, Bridget, with any suggestions or feedback.



Finally, after trying out weekly Service Points in each of the three villages of Gobowen, St Martins and Weston Rhyn over a twelve month period, the Three Parishes Big Local Partnership and FAIRshare Credit Union have taken the joint decision to withdraw the

service points. This decision has been made due to the lack of demand for a walk-in service within the area. However, we are still working with FAIRshare to ensure that the residents of this area get plenty of information about FAIRshare and the benefits of membership. You can now join online at www.fairshare.uk.com/about/how-to-join-fairshare. If you are interested in joining or would like more information but do not have online access, you can telephone FAIRshare on 01743 240403.



If you have an idea, would like to get involved with 3 Parishes Big Local, to keep up to date with the latest 3 Parishes Big Local news, or for more information, Contact the Big Local Co-ordinator, Bridget Laraway:

Write to: Qube, Oswald Road, Oswestry, SY11 1RB	Tel: 01691 656882
Email: b.laraway@qube-oca.org.uk	Check out our website : www.big-local.org
Follow us on twitter: 3PBigLocal	Like our facebook page: 3PBigLocal

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