

Latest Changes for **Village Life Magazine**

You have probably noticed that the magazine cover has changed for this issue. We have kept the name banner and the map of St Martins Parish, but we thought a picture more specific to the village would be more appropriate than the original cover, so thanks to Mike Wade for the picture of Prices Dingle

In this issue we are carrying out a survey for the Parish Council who want to know your views on the current policy of switching off street lights after midnight, so please complete and return the survey form before the end of October. Are there any other issues on which you think a future survey might be useful? If so, let us know

The new primary school department is now open on the old Rhyn Park site – and that raised the question at our editorial committee meeting of where are the past St Martins students, and what are they doing with their lives. We want to start a “Where are they now” feature in the November issue, so if you have any stories to tell, share them with us and we will be happy to include them.

Finally, the dreaded but inevitable subject of money. Each copy of **Village Life** costs about 55p to produce. Most of that is covered by advertising revenue, but if you are able to make a donation of any amount to help keep us running, please do so either through the collection boxes around the village or by contacting us at St Martins Centre.

John Stevens (Chair of the Editorial Committee)

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If you wish to submit an article or advertise in the next publication please email it to stmartinsvillagelife@gmail.com by no later than Friday 14th November

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Disclaimer: Whilst we make every attempt to ensure the accuracy and reliability of the information contained in these pages, errors may occur. Village Life Magazine will not be responsible for loss, however arising, from the use of or reliance in this information. Full text of disclaimer can be found on

www.stmartins-online.org.uk/villagelife

This publication will be delivered FREE to every household within the Parish of St Martins, should you not get one please email stmartinsvillagelife@gmail.com

There is a large print version at the St Martin Centre for people with sight impairment.

Parish Council

Hello to you all.

Well hasn't there been a few changes in the weather, quite autumnal, but still very pleasant days, much cooler at night.

I've had a good look around the village, seeing lots of footpath widening, ready for the start of the new school term, with the primary department now at "The Big School", exciting new premises, and a new light controlled crossing.

I feel I must note here the effort that was above and beyond the call of duty that Peter Imbery has made in his time as caretaker of the Ifton Heath School. Thank you Peter I am sure many children young and old, and staff will remember you fondly. He has now retired and we wish him well for the future.

The War Memorial is looking very pretty with the new flower boxes and the three tier planter adds a splash of colour to the Memorial Garden, our thanks to Ashley Alum for his donation towards them. The local gardens are full of colour too, with the vast variety of shapes and forms of the flowers and shrubs which bring pleasure to so many. The Allotments have had a good growing season too, I just hope there are vegetables and flowers left for the Grow It, Make It, Show It Show on Saturday 27th September. Arthans Pond is looking good as a group of young men have been working very hard of late to bring it back up to scratch. Mirror Carp and fresh water clams are known to grow well in the good quality water.

Bower Farm development should also have their first occupants by the time you read this and the second phase plan of action should be well under way. We welcome more homes for rent to allow families to have their own space and people that have lived here for many years to down size and have a property more in keeping with their circumstances.

St Martins looks like a quiet out of the way place, but there is so much happening, it's also has a vitality that is now beginning to show itself and not far to travel to the larger towns/cities with the bypass right on our door step, I'm glad I live here and happy to serve our community.

Sue Schofield Parish Council Chair



REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY PARADE

Sunday 9th November 2014

Start at the War Memorial 10:45am

Then after at St Martins Parish Church for a service of remembrance

All Welcome

Report from St Martins Parish Council

September 2014

The Chairman of the Parish Council, Councillor Sue Schofield welcomed everyone to the September meeting held in The Moors Community Centre. The Chairman also welcomed Corrie Davies, Shropshire Community Enablement Officer to the meeting. Corrie explained her role within Shropshire Council which includes assistance with grant applications, supporting local groups and organisations and working with Shropshire Council Members who represent Oswestry and surrounding rural areas.

Concern was expressed by a number of Councillors over the lack of interest shown by the police recently over a number of incidents in the parish. These concerns would be passed to the West Mercia Police & Crime Commissioner Bill Longmore and the Police Inspector for the area who will be invited to the next meeting to explain why these incidents were classed as low priority and not followed up.

A number of planning application gave cause for concern which included Outline application for the erection of 10 new dwellings at Gilrhos, St Martins which the Parish Council objected to on the following grounds; too many houses on site, unsuitable site for development due to frequent flooding in a low lying area, poor access and visibility and outside the SAMDev. Also the Phase 2 development at Bower Farm, St Martins for residential development of 26 new dwellings to include access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale, the Parish Council objected to on the following grounds; plots 25 to 38 should be bungalows and not houses so that they do not overlook existing bungalows adjacent to Overton Road which these would back onto.

One of the key exercises the parish council will be undertaking over the next few months will be a review of the Shropshire Place Plan for the St Martins Parish area. The Place Plans provide an important evidence base to supporting delivery of Shropshire's Local Plan, assisting in informing planning decisions, inform local partnership working, assist with external funding bids and provide transparency to local communities.

Edward Davies PILCM

St Martins Parish Clerk

12th September 2014

Current Parish Councillors

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------|
| Ashley Alum | 01691 770042 |
| Gordon Fryer | 01691 774520 |
| Neil Graham | 01691 778427 |
| Emma Harkess | 01691 238334 |
| Mark Hayball | 01691 770207 |
| Brian Herbert | 01691 772647 |
| James Hoos | 01691 661218 |
| Alison Kynaston-Jones | 01691 777671 |
| Duncan Laing | 07702991845 |
| Brian Latham | 01691 772890 |
| Glenn Pennington | 01691 778477 |
| John Sands | 01691 772394 |
| John Stevens | 01691 770677 |
| Sue Schofield | 01691 777710 |

Shropshire Council

Councillor Steve Davenport

Unitary Councillor, St Martins School Governor, Chair of St Martins Centre Trustees

I write this fresh into the first year of our new school's junior department which couldn't have been achieved without the support of the community and governors. Without that, a new school may not have been possible in the first place.

All my feedback to date, from parents and students alike, has been extremely positive, enabling us to be confident of a secure future. While we still have issues with the roads and footpaths to the school, I am assured these are being treated as a matter of priority, but at least we now have the light-controlled crossing in place which was also a priority for safety.

It's also the day before the Scottish referendum – a turning point for the UK whichever way it goes.

In the past four months I've been busy handling your issues ranging from housing to hedges. These have all been forwarded to the relevant council departments, and while some have not had the outcome you would wish, at least your voice has been heard.

I hope you will agree that the "Village Life" publication is fast becoming a well-read addition to village life.

Once again, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me by leaving a message with Sue Schofield at St Martin's Centre or by emailing me at steve.davenport@shropshire.gov.uk or calling 07776 173678.

Ifton Colliery Band News

The Band entertained a large crowd in Oswestry Cae Glas parks bandstand on the 20th of July.

This concert was part of the town councils music in the park series which saw the bandstand being put to excellent use by local groups.

The band is ready to travel to Cheltenham to take part in the National Brass band finals on the 20th of September. This will be the bands second appearance at the finals after coming 3rd last year. Hopefully we can improve on last year's results.

The Band will also look smart when we take to the stage in our new uniform, the purchase of these has been made possible thanks to the support of the 100 club.



The Band would like to thank everyone who has signed up to the bands 100 club. The first draw is going to be drawn on the 1st of October.

Results of competition 9th of 19 bands., WELL DONE ALL
Onwards and Upwards

A couple of emails received at the Office.

Hello, I am writing to ask if you could please put the out of hours number for Chirk Surgery in the Village Life Magazine. A neighbour of mine was taken ill recently one evening. Her husband not knowing the out of hours number, picked up the magazine and rang Shropdoc. They told him they could not do a home visit as the lady was under Chirk Surgery. They did give him the number to ring but of course this all took extra time to get her the help needed. In fact, an ambulance was required. As there are lots of people in St. Martins who are under Chirk Surgery, I told them I would ask if this could be done as it could save valuable time for people in future. The number is 0300 1235566. Thanks E T

Answer: Thanks E T — I have included it in this issue. Sue

Hello

I have read your Village Life from cover to cover as it is a wonderful publication and found there is so much to do in the village - much more since the time I lived there many moons ago.

I have just returned from visiting my sister and brother who have both lived in the village all their lives. I left St Martins when I married and we moved to Essex, but I still say I am 'coming home' when I visit the family. I have thought of moving back many times but my 5 year old granddaughter lives in Kent and I see her most weekends and I would miss her too much.

I was dismayed to hear a resident saying that there is nothing to do! I just glared at him. There is so much to do if you look for it. Your booklet listed several things I would take part in if I moved -

Historians

Computer skills

Craft Guild

W.I.

Voluntary gardener

Circle of friends

Book Reading Club

(I would also love to hear the Colliery Band.)

Doing all this would make me a very busy and happy lady.

Thank you for your great publication as without it I would not know how much goes on in your village.

Margret



Never make your son or daughter another one of you, one is enough

ST MARTINS ANGLING CLUB

St Martins Angling Club, based at Arthans pond on Ellesmere road, has started to take shape since a new committee was formed, myself as a trustee has got a group of new and old fishermen together to come along weekly and remove the overgrown weed and keep on top of the grass and hedges to make it a better place to fish and visit.

Our main aim is to get the youth more involved including all the local youth groups, so we will be holding fishing matches throughout next season for the youth and senior fishers. So please come up and have a look at what we are doing.

You can find us on FACEBOOK under 'st martins angling club (arthans pond)', log on to see upcoming events and news

For night fishing please ring myself on 07752 438 392 or Water Bailiff, Paul Vickers on 07860 342 443

Tickets available from St Martins service station and water bailiffs

Senior: £20.00 a Season, £10.00 half season, £5.00 a day, £3.00 half day,

12 – 16 years old £5.00 a Season, £2.00 a day, £1.00 half day

Under 12 free

Many Thanks

Keith Allum Trustee of Village Centre

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St. Martins Parish Church.

The Benefice of St. Martins and Weston Rhyn.

Service Times: Holy Communion Service 9:30 am. 1st, 2nd & 4th Sundays.

First Sunday of month 11:00am - Sunday FIRST family worship. A short, fun service for all, with craft and refreshments afterwards.

Weekly events:

Tuesday Coffee morning at 10:30 in the church hall

Wednesday 9:30am Mid-week communion. 10:30 - 11:30am Foodbank

There are various home bible study groups that take place at different times - please ask if interested.

St. Martins and Weston Rhyn Church youth group - Fridays 7:30 at Weston Rhyn church.

Our Harvest Festival takes place on the 5th October. We will be collecting for the St. Martins Foodbank this year. These items have been requested by the Foodbank: Juice, jam, sauces, sponge puddings and milk (UHT or dried). Also tinned fruit, tinned vegetables and tinned tomatoes. Thank you.

Harvest Festival verse. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was ill and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me."

'Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison and go to visit you?"

'The Lord will reply, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." from the Gospel of Matthew 25vv 35-40.

Christenings / Baptisms / Confirmations

It doesn't cost anything for a Christening service and it can be done during morning worship or in the afternoon.

It is never too late to get baptised or confirm your own infant baptism. Perhaps God is calling you to do this this year. Speak to the Vicar if interested.

Weddings

Please contact Revd. Stuart 778 468, if you would like to get married. There are dates available at Christmas time if you fancy a candlelit winter wedding.

If you have questions about the faith, things you want to ask God or just want to learn more about Christianity we are starting Christianity Explored and Alpha Course in September.

Also a new bible study home group is starting up in the new term. See Church notices for details.

The St. Martins **FOODBANK** is open every week, part of the Oswestry and Borders Foodbank network. Wednesday - 10:30am -11:30pm - in the church hall.

If you find yourself in difficulty (and it can happen to us all) and you do not have a Foodbank voucher - please come on a Wednesday and talk to us and we can help.

Church Website: www.stmartinsparish.co.uk

Contact Revd Stuart Jermy - sjvicar@btinternet.com; 778 468; mobile/text 07766 255436

Three Parishes



Weston Rhyn • St Martins • Gobowen

Three Parishes Big Local

“Community Chest” – Grants for Community groups, projects and activities.

In August, we launched our Community Chest - grants of up to £500 are **NOW** available for Community groups, projects and activities within the Three Parishes Big Local area. Look out for posters and postcards around the villages with more details about the scheme. Full information, application forms and guidance notes are available on our website, www.big-local.org, or by contacting our Co-ordinator (details below). We are hoping that we will receive completed applications very soon so that we can start funding some groups, projects and activities. If you have an idea for a project but are not sure if it qualifies for funding by Big Local, or if the funding needed is greater than £500, please contact our co-ordinator.

The Community Plan was submitted to Local Trust on time and has been reviewed by them. This is the document that describes how the Big Local funding will be used within Gobowen, St Martins and Weston Rhyn over the first 2 years of the 10 year programme. As this document has now been approved, we will be producing a short version for residents which will be available within the next few weeks. We are already starting to develop some of the projects within the Community Plan and we welcome ideas and comments.

We are currently recruiting a Community and Youth Worker who will work with residents of all ages across the three villages, but with a core focus on young people and senior citizens. In the next few months, we will also be recruiting volunteers to help deliver some of the projects in the Community plan, so please let the co-ordinator know if you are interested in volunteering with Three Parishes Big Local.

If you would like to get involved with Three Parishes Big Local, to keep up to date with the latest 3Parishes 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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Shropshire

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St Martins Methodist Church

Happy Birthday

to the St Martins Methodist Chapel building (Ellesmere Road)

100 years old this year!

An old red brick chapel was demolished and the existing one built in 1914. The foundation stone was laid on Easter Sunday with the official opening on December 17th.

We are celebrating the centenary of our building on Sunday October 26th with a service at 11.00 followed by lunch in the School Room.

Please come along to join our celebration, especially if you have fond memories of a wedding or baptism in the building. We hope to create a 'Memory Board' so look out any old photos or just write down your memories.

For more details or to donate towards the Bring & Share Lunch: e-mail Nick Heard on heard@btinternet.com or call Enid Prichard on 01691690289.

Looking forward to seeing you all.

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WI Report—September

Our September meeting on the 2nd was presided over by Myfanwy Dulson due to our President Shirley Willis being on holiday.

We welcomed 3 visitors, Jane, Debbie and June. We made arrangements for our Christmas Dinner on 2nd December. We made available to our members the Organ Donor Pack we had received from Head Office, this is very worthwhile and we hope many will register, and talk to others about it too. We reminded our members of the open evening at Criffins W.I. on 9th September and also our Group Meeting at West Felton W.I. on 17th September, both should be very entertaining evenings.

The speaker for our own meeting was Mrs Jessica Pannett who spoke about "Colour in the Winter Garden" and she brought many small samples of evergreen and variegated shrubs and trees with colourful foliage and berries. She gave a slide show of many other plants and flowers which give colour in the winter. Her knowledge was extensive and her talk was informative and full of interest and anecdotes. She was thanked by Myfanwy Dulson.

Our competition of a wild flower posy was won by Isobel Banham, Gill Doughty was 2nd, 3rd was Morfydd James. Our exhibition of a favourite gardening book was won by Joyce Sands with Ruth Dean 2nd and Jean Lloyd 3rd. Our raffle was won by Emma Sands.

Our next meeting will be on **October 7th at 7.30 pm** at St Martins Institute and our speaker will be Judy Arliss on "Being a Nun, before, during and after".

New members and visitors are welcome.

Ashgrove Residential Care Home for the elderly

this year celebrates 27 years of providing a service to the local community and surrounding areas. In 1987 when we converted the old vicarage into a home for ten residents it was our intention to provide a "home from home" with a lovely family atmosphere in a familiar environment for local people. We also have provided employment opportunities and used local suppliers and trades people whenever we could. We also offer one day care placement on each day of the week. At the moment we employ twelve people including our deputy, Carole, who has been with us for 26 years.

We have been privileged to know some very interesting and memorable residents and their families. Their stories have fascinated us and continue to entertain us with lively discussions and information. For those who may be new to the area we are situated down a short lane off Church Lane in St Martins. We can be contacted on 774101.

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you for providing a very informative magazine which provides a valuable link for people in the community who prefer to see things written down rather than in electronic form.

WELL done to all concerned.

Helen and Brian Case

THE KEYS

ST MARTINS

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WEDNESDAY-STEAK NIGHT

5pm-8pm

Rump Steak & A Glass of Wine £12



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Forty Two - Not For You?

The 1978 comedy radio series *The Hitch Hiker's Guide to the Galaxy* was memorable for its Deep Thought computer which gave an answer to the problem about *Life, the Universe, and Everything*. The answer was 42. Forty two? What?! The comedy sketch writers then tried to clarify this enigmatic answer by stating although 42 was the answer to life, the universe, and everything, what really was the *question* that gave such an answer? Tongue-in-cheek they wrote that an even greater computer must be built in order to ask the *correct question* for the answer of 42. Humorous as it was, it raises the point that we can all give an individual answer (not just 42!) to why we live as we do, why the universe exists as it does, why everything unfolds as it does. That is because we all have brains and can think things through.

But we all think things through from a point of reference. Just as we stand on the beach and see the arc of the horizon of the sea and then work out that the earth must be round, so from our own faith system (which is our point of reference) we work out our own answer to life, the universe and everything. The problem is, since we can have many different answers, we can not all be right! Just as the only correct answer to the question why do we have a curved horizon is a global earth, so there can be only one correct question to the answer for life, the universe, and everything. Ultimately, our point of reference must be either there is a God or there is Nothing because it takes a God of some kind to create life, the universe, and everything. And if we believe in Nothing, then Nothing must be equal to God because we believe it was Nothing that created life, the universe and everything.

The writer's thoughts echo the Bible where it says in Psalm 14:1, "The fool has said in his heart that there is no God." The Bible said that thousands of years ago. Half my life had gone before I woke up and realised that I was a fool. Then I went from belief in Nothing to belief in God. So I can chuckle when I hear an answer such as 42 because it reminds me that I know the correct question to ask and where to find it. The first book of the Bible, the first chapter, the first verse, says it clearly for me, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." For me, both the question and the answer to *Life, the Universe, and Everything*.

Glenn Pennington

 *Change your thoughts and you can change your world*

Faith is taking the first step when you can't see the whole staircase

Age UK in St Martins - Volunteers needed.



Can you spare a few hours on a Tuesday to help out at one of Age UK's Day Centres?

Age UK Shropshire Telford & Wrekin run a Day Centre for local older people at Cedar Close Community Room in St Martins every Tuesday, the Day Centre is open between 10am and 2.00pm. The members enjoy a social day out with various activities, a hot meal and good company. The team of volunteers organise activities, serve lunch and generally support the members.

Even if you can only spare an hour or two, by volunteering to help you will be helping older people, but you will also have fun, feel appreciated, make new friends, widen your knowledge and have a rewarding experience. Age UK will provide support and training and pay out of pocket expenses.

If you think you may be interested in helping then please contact Age UK's Whitchurch Office on 01948 665317, or call in and see us, our opening hours are Tuesday to Friday 9am – 1pm

The St. Martins Craft Guild

Is an independent organisation which meets from 2 – 4pm on Wednesdays in the Cedar Close Community Room. It is open to anyone from the St. Martins area. There is no joining fee but a small donation is requested to cover costs of refreshments.

The group aims to share and enhance the skills of its members in an informal setting, and its skills are available to other groups in the village. New projects would be gladly considered. We also donate to charities and good causes.

We were busy making items for The Kenyan School Project. 82 items were handed over to a representative of the project at the end of July 2012



Military Quiz



1. Which Field Marshall had the nickname "Old Nosey"?
2. During WW2 Sailor Malan served in which branch of the Armed Forces?
3. Robert Stanford Tuck was a famous what?
4. What do Johnson Beharry and Guy Gibson have in common?
5. Which is the most senior in rank a Captain in the army or a Captain in the Royal Navy?
6. During WW2 "Window" was used to what.
7. In which conflict was the Vulcan Bomber last used?
8. Douglas Bader and Guy Gibson went to the same school True or False?
9. What was Rommel's nickname.
10. The Royal Navy field gun race (as seen at the Royal Tournament) had it's origins in which conflict?

Tie Breaker Question: What do you like/dislike about Village Life?

Please use a separate page and include your name address and Telephone number.

Thanks and good luck.

FIRST PRIZE £10 If more than one person has the same amount of questions correct then the Editorial Committee will judge the Tie Break Question for the winner. All entries must reach St Martins Centre before 16th October 2014

Answers to July's Quiz

1. Horse Radish is the sauce for Chicken Maryland
2. Dover Sole is a Flat
3. A Leg of Mutton is a cut from a Steer/Cow
4. Eggs, Milk, Plain Flour make Yorkshire Pudding
5. Chasseur Sauce has White Wine in it.
6. Eclairs are made with Choux pastry.
7. 16 ounces in a pound.
8. Bright eyes, Smell, Firm to touch
9. Halibut is a Flat Fish
10. Minestrone Soup is NOT suitable for vegetarians. False
11. Pasta originates in China
12. Prunes are in Cockie-leekie soup.
13. Crab has Dead Mans Fingers.
14. Meringue is the egg product in an Eton Mess
15. Scrambled Eggs makes Scotch Woodcock

HOW MANY DID YOU GET?

COULD YOU HAVE WON THE £10?

Winner of this Culinary Quiz

Louise King

Well done Louise



St.Martins Village FC



St.Martins Village FC was formed in 2014 after deciding to fold The Keys FC from the now disbanded North Shropshire Sunday League. After discussions between Chairman John Smout and manager Daryl Davies it was felt right to form a Saturday league team to play back in the Village.

We would like to say thank you to a few businesses and people that helped us get up and running. Firstly we would like to thank James Carless for designing our badge. Also Andrew Faulks and Stan's Superstore for their donation and sponsorship of £300 to help us buy a new kit. Secondly we would like to thank Neville Peate on his donation of £100 to help us purchase training equipment, also we would like to thank Sue Schofield and the Community Centre for allowing us to use the changing rooms for every game that we will be playing this season at home. A big thank you must go to the St. Martins community that helped us raise close to £900 on our race night back in June. Without the money raised that night we wouldn't have been able to pay the insurance and entry fees. Lastly, we would like to thank John and Vicky Smout for their hospitality after every training session and also every match.

We have recently just received a donation from Ultra Clean-Oswestry of £120 to purchase warm up t-shirts. We would like to say a big thank you to Claire Evans who managed to get this donation for us.

Our first game of the season saw us play away to Whitchurch Alport Res in which we won the game 4-0. Great performance for the lads on their first competitive outing together, with goals that night coming from Cal Capener x2, Aaron Coulson and Will Humphreys.

The following two games saw St.Martins Village FC pick up 2 points with two draws. These points came from a 1-1 draw with Llyncllys FC and a 2-2 draw with the Telford side Spalga Britannia. Goals in these games came from Daniel Smout, Daryl Davies and Daniel Meredith.

St.Martins Village FC's next two games were a bit of a disappointment, travelling to AFC Broseley Res and losing 9-1. This game saw us travel there with 11 men, then things soon started going down hill after a goalless first half, with the referee dismissing Tom Nash and Brian Wood with second yellow cards. Our only goal came from Aaron Coulson. The next away game saw us travel to HMP Stoke Heath where we gave away a 2-0 lead to lose 6-4.

Goals coming from Joe Roberts, Daryl Davies, Brian Wood and Daniel Smout.

Our next home game sees us enter the Shropshire Challenge Cup for the first time. We will host Division One side Bishops Castle Town FC. This game will take place on October 4th at 3pm Behind Stans.

OCTOBER: Away game: 11th against Gobowen Celtic
 Home Games: 18th against Dawley Town 25th against Denso

St.Martins Village FC also run a fundraiser known as the Super 7's, in which you need to predict 7 football matches correctly. Its £1 per go and you could win a maximum of £250. Please ask a member of the team or pop into the Keys for a go.

Find us on Facebook – Search ST.MARTINS VILLAGE FC
Follow us on twitter – Search StMartins Village FC or smv_fc

FOOD FOR THOUGHT



Having said in my previous report there was no need to venture out of the village to enjoy a good meal, we did just that.

We had heard good reports of the Thai – Mere Restaurant at Ellesmere.

We were not disappointed! As neither of us is an authority on Thai food we opted for the £18.00 per head set menu minimum order 2 people.

I won't bore you with a list of items served as starters, six in all. All very good and well garnished.

The starters were followed by Hot & Sour Soup which was the only down side of the whole meal. It was too hot (for our taste) but contained a good portion of king prawns.

Main course was again six items plus rice. I really enjoyed the Red Thai Chicken Curry whilst my wife preferred the Stir Fried Beef in Mushroom & Oyster Sauce. Duck in Sweet 'n' Sour came a close second for both of us.

We were full up, but went for a Crème Brulee with raspberries and lemongrass (extra) and shared it. We went for it as it was a new flavour for us. It was different and very good.

An interesting feature of this Restaurant was the fact that the kitchen was upstairs! We counted 14 steps. No need to go to the gym if you work here.

A point to note is that should you decide to eat at The Thai Mere book well in advance. We went having booked at 7pm and all the tables were already reserved.

A great night out, good food, good service and reasonably priced drinks.

The Village Life Foodsmith

St Martins Book Group

The Group met in the St Martins Centre on Monday 8 September to discuss their first book which was – The Rosie Project by Graeme Simsione. The story told is that of a university lecturer who has Aspergers and Autism to some degree and his quest to find a life partner. The book is entertaining but at the same time thought provoking. Everyone agreed that it was certainly a book worth reading and an interesting discussion followed.

The Group will be meeting again on 20 October at 6.30pm in the St Martins Centre to discuss their next book which will be – The Legacy of Elizabeth Pringle by Kirsty Wark. We would love to have more people join us so, if you are interested, please come along or contact:

Kathy Latham on 01691 772890 or email at kathy.latham1946@btinternet.com



Tel: 01691 777223

CGL Homes Ltd are pleased to be working with Wrekin Housing Trust and the St Martins Parish Council to build much needed affordable housing in St Martins.



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Free blood pressure checks, free diabetes checks and free prescription deliveries are all on offer at a local pharmacy in St Martins near Oswestry as new owners Shropshire Healthcare Ltd roll out a series of customer benefits. Located within Stan's Superstore in St Martins, the pharmacy offers health advice for free and also a full Health MOT test for a small charge alongside the regular services that customers have come to expect. New owners Kieran Kapoor and Prakash Jha are not just waiting for customers to turn up though, they are offering health based community events out and about in the local community with advice and health checks for all ages.

“We are really pleased to be offering a flexible and independent service here at St Martins Pharmacy, we're here to offer health advice to customers and provide a range of free health checks. We also pick up prescriptions from doctors surgeries free of charge and deliver to customers. We've found a great welcome here at St Martins Pharmacy and are looking forward to future community events” said Kieran Kapoor from Shropshire Healthcare Ltd.

Free delivery of prescriptions to the home or work place are available in St Martins and surrounding areas including Weston Rhyn, Chirk, Oswestry, Gobowen, Ellesmere, Overton, Bangor-on-Dee, Knockin.

To find out more about the services on offer customers can call in at the pharmacy located within Stan's Superstore in person 9am to 6pm Monday to Friday and 9am to 1pm on Saturdays or phone on 01691 778873 and keep up to date with the latest news and health tips and information on Facebook at St Martins Pharmacy.

Ifton Beech Shropshire Sheep

Lamb & Hogget

½ boxed, joints, sausages, mince

Call 01691774097 to order

Fully traceable meat



Kieran Kapoor from Shropshire Healthcare Ltd out and about delivering with St Martins Pharmacy



MD Warriors have held classes in St Martins for over six months now and have over twenty students that add to MD Warriors ever growing total. The students will

shortly be competing in our club competition against 35 of our other clubs and without a doubt we believe they will do well. Over the past six months the classes have been training hard, and constantly learning the syllabus, this has been proven successful as all students have healthily graded and are now looking to future belts.

As well as training the modern syllabus and fitness, the classes are learning skills to help them develop the personality of a traditional Martial Artist, concentrating on the five characteristics of MD Warriors — Character, Effort, Sincerity, Self Control, Etiquette. This ties in with our syllabus we work to prepare our students to achieve higher grades successfully and mold them into great Black Belts .

The choices once a black belt at MD Warriors are vast and really open the doors to other martial arts and fitness.

It goes without saying that behind all of our classes there is a community that helps and supports their children, which also supports us to move forwards and give chances to other clubs therefore creating these opportunities for more children. St Martins is no different and we would like to take this opportunity to thank the St Martins community for all their support over the last six months and we look forward to the future in the village.

Good luck to the St Martins Dragons at the competition!!

If you would like any information on MD Warriors and any of our classes please do not hesitate to visit our website- www.mdwarriors.co.uk or drop us an e-mail at info@mdwarriors.co.uk



THE IFTON MINERS

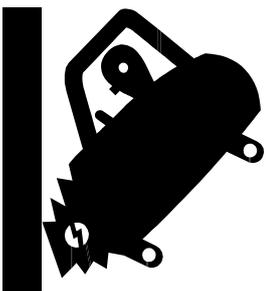
The 'Stute



We would like to thank all that helped organise and support our charity family fun day which took place on Saturday 30th August. The event was a huge success raising a total of £669.58. All funds raised will be processed into purchasing a bench in memory of the ex miners.

Throughout the day there were many family activities taking place starting with a charity football match behind Stan's, where a big thank you must go to St Martins Centre for donating the changing rooms free of charge. Another tribute was 'Name a Miner' which is also still available in the bar until 1st October if anyone is interested in naming a family member or friend.

Thank you again for all your support to The Ifton Miners.



Q: What gear were you in at the time of impact?

A: Gucci sweater and Reeboks.



Freedom is like a two sided coin, one side is privilege, and the other side is responsibility.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE IFTON MINERS (THE STUTE)

SATURDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER – SHOT AND COCKTAIL NIGHT
(SHOTS £1, COCKTAILS FROM £2.50)

SATURDAY 11TH OCTOBER – LIVE BAND 'THE TILLY SWATS'

FRIDAY 31ST OCTOBER – CHILDRENS HALLOWEEN PARTY
(CHILDREN £1 ENTRY, ADULTS WELCOME FREE OF CHARGE)

SATURDAY 22ND NOVEMBER – LIVE BAND 'EGO FRIENDLY'

SATURDAY 13TH DECEMBER – CHRISTMAS SKITTLES

SUNDAY 28TH DECEMBER – LIVE BAND 'THE TILLY SWATS'

LIVE FOOTBALL

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FREE FUNCTION ROOM HIRE

BIG HALL HOLDS UP TO 250 PEOPLE

LOUNGE HOLDS UP TO 80 PEOPLE

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TEL: 01691 773304

What's on in October!

| Date | Event | Venue | Time |
|-----------------------|--|---|-------------|
| Sat 4th | Family Night Out | St Martins Centre | 6:30pm |
| Sun 5th | Harvest Festival | St Martins Parish Church | 6:30pm |
| Tues 7th | Spanish Classes Start | St Martins Centre | 2pm & 5pm |
| Wed 8th | WI Judy Arliss | Ifton Miners | 7:30pm |
| Wed 8th | Gardening Club Your garden soil and how it works | Weston Rhyn Institute | 7:30pm |
| Wed 8th | FIT-STEPS Start date | St Martins Centre | 7:30pm |
| Sat 11th | Live Band 'The Tilly Swats' | Ifton Miners | |
| Sun 12th | Graham Edwards Memorial Trophy Dinner | Lion Quays | 12:30pm |
| Mon 20th | Book Club | St Martins Centre | 6.30pm |
| | | | |
| Sat 25th | Exploring Embroidery | St Martins Centre Please contact Shropshire Collage If you are interested | 10am |
| Fri 31st | Children's Halloween Party | Ifton Miners | |
| 27th until 3rd Nov | Half Term | St Martins School | |

What's on in November!

| Date | Event | Venue | Time |
|-------------|-----------------------------------|--|--------------------|
| Tues 4th | WI Robert Adams | Ifton Miners | 7.30pm |
| Fri 7th | Mini Tag Album | St Martins Centre Please contact Shropshire Collage If you are interested | 10am |
| Sun 9th | Remembrance Parade | War Memorial | 10.45am |
| Wed 12th | Weston Rhyn Gardening Club AGM | Weston Rhyn Institute | 7:30 |
| Tues 18th | St Martins Centre AGM | St Martins Centre | 7:30pm |
| | | | |
| Fri 21st | Waterfall Card Making | St Martins Centre Please contact Shropshire Collage If you are interested | 10am |
| Sat 22nd | Live Band 'Eco Friendly' | Ifton Miners | |
| Sat 22nd | Table Top Sale | St Martins Centre | Doors Open 11am |

Please let us know the time and date of events in December and
January for the next edition of Village Life by no later than

Friday 14th November.

If you send us an article for the next edition, please bear in mind that it will be delivered in early December, so any events you report on will have happened. If you want to mention any upcoming events or activities make sure they are in December or January (or later).



St Martins School, new term, new buildings!



A new term has started and we are so excited to be in our new buildings. Ahead of our official opening night on the 7th of October we would like to give the village a sneaky peak.



This is “the Hub” the centre of our school. This is an area used by secondary and primary students. It contains a library area, an area for students to access IT, our main reception and all of our offices.

This is our fabulous new reception classroom. It contains all of the play areas that are needed in a reception classroom and has a promethean screen, which is like a giant ipad which the children can play phonics games on, watch high resolution video and is used by the teacher when delivering lessons.





This is our year 6 classroom situated on the first floor. These rooms have had a complete refurbishment and new furniture throughout. These classrooms are light and airy and the year 6 classroom has a lovely view of the village church over the rooftops. All of the primary team have worked exceptionally hard to get the rooms ready for the new term complete with some stunning displays.

And perhaps my favourite bit of the whole building, the nursery toilets! These have a spacious and well thought out design. The colours are bright and exciting and you can even learn your 1 to 10 and alphabet on the toilet doors. Sure Start are sharing part of our new building and have equally gorgeous toilets.



**Please come and see
St Martins School soon.**

Our opening night is
October the 7th

There will a tour of the new building
and a celebration concert.

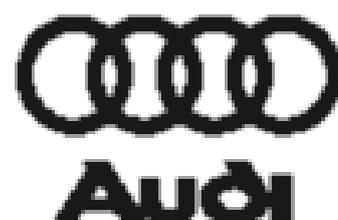
Further details to follow soon.

Or come to our open evening on the 14th
of October. Reception at 6pm and year 6
into year 7 at 6.30pm.

Don't forget.....Community choir every
Monday 4.15pm – 5pm. We need more singers
young and old. All welcome



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Consider the Poor Pedestrian

The roads through St Martins are busy and from time to time we all have to walk along them. For the most part the pavements alongside are adequate for the purpose but the experience can be made more pleasant and sometimes less dangerous with a little consideration of pedestrians, especially those with mobility aids, mums with buggies and dog walkers.

A number of problems arise regularly.

Pavement Parking.

Technically this is an illegal obstruction although but enforcement action is rarely taken. The roads in the village are of such a width as to encourage motorists to park partially on the pavement rather than risk their wing mirrors being taken off by passing vehicles but this should never be done where it forces pedestrians to walk in the road. It is also worth bearing in mind that parking partially on the pavement encourages drivers approaching from opposite directions to pass in a constricted space without slowing, so your wing mirrors will be at risk regardless. On the other hand parking fully in the road is more likely to result in the passing traffic slowing down.

Hedges encroaching on the Pavement

It appears that some residents rarely walk past their own property and do not notice that their hedges have grown over the pavement, forcing pedestrians to step into the road. Again, this is an obstruction so check your hedges from time to time and cut them where necessary. As a last resort the Council has the power to serve a notice requiring the work to be done and if disregarded, can have the hedge cut and charge you with the costs.

Dog Mess

Considering the number of dogs that are walked in the village, there is surprisingly little dog mess on the pavements and the majority of people do pick up. However there are several hotspots and a few persistent offenders who do not clean up after their dogs. 'Latch-key' dogs that are simply turned out to do as they please and dogs walked by children can be a problem.

Dog-poo bags are readily available very cheaply (Stan's Superstore sells them) and the Parish Council provides litter bins where they can be disposed of along with general litter. The Parish Council is gradually increasing the number of bins throughout the village although the cost of providing them and emptying them is paid for out of the Parish Precept. Persistent offenders are at risk of being reported and may be fined.

Litter

Most of the village is relatively tidy but there are some hotspots, some of them very close to litter bins. Littering seems to be habitual with some youngsters (the Parish Council incurs substantial costs litter picking around the play area at the Community Centre). This habit seems to carry on in later life because it is easy to follow the trail of fast food packaging on Clarks Lane, Church Lane and Cottage Lane that can only have been dumped from cars. Please take your litter home or put it in one of the bins.

Obstruction by Services

Here and there, lamp posts, telephone posts and road sign posts obstruct the pavement, including a couple on the improved pavement from the school to the village. This kind of obstruction should not occur. Please report them to the Parish Council.

St Martins is a pleasant village. If we each make a small effort, we can help keep it that way.

Brian Latham

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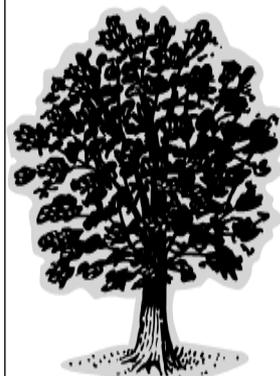
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St Martins Centre

Hi All

I do hope you have had a great summer.

The Centre's diary is looking better with one or two more regular bookings, like M D Warriors and Anti-Aging Aerobics and Slimming World, but most are one offs. There are some new classes such as the dance exercise called FITSTEPS and we hope to start a beginner Spanish class at the beginning of October, if you are interested please contact Gail on 01978 780539.

The community garden in front of the Centre, although is not looking bad, it is in need of more care than I can give it. Is there any one who would be willing to give an hour a week of their time to keep on top of the general upkeep of the shrub borders etc. If that is you come along to the Centre and talk to Sue.

Keith Allum, one of the Trustees is making a vast difference to Arthans Pond and again there is a vibrant committee there. Why not take a walk up there and encourage the lads, they are usually there on a Saturday morning.

ECDL course is available to anyone but is free (thanks to LJC) to anyone unemployed. You will learn about file management, how to use Microsoft Office Word, Spreadsheets and how to produce a report using these three modules. If you would like to sign up give me a ring or pop-in and we'll have a cuppa and talk it through.

Sue - Centre Manager

FAMILY NIGHT OUT-

IT'S A PARTY

Sat 4th October

Dave Lloyd Entertainments

Disco & Games for ALL the FAMILY

Adults £5 Children 12 and under Free

Doors Open 6:30 for a 7pm start.

Food & Bar Available

Any Profit from the nights entertainment will be split between the
Centre and Macmillan Nurses

Cycling on the Pavement



Hello everyone.

I have received some complaints about inconsiderate cycling in some of the villages, namely cycling on the pavement. Can I remind cyclists that it is against the law to cycle on the pavement.

I am not against the use of 'common sense' and therefore if you are cycling on a busy stretch of road or with children when the pavement is very wide or not in use by pedestrians and you are not causing nuisance or danger to pedestrians then people generally aren't going to mind. However, it is not acceptable to cycle on pavements when pedestrians are present putting them in danger. Please be considerate of other people or you could be breaking the law and be eligible for a large fine. Parents, please remind your children of this, especially older children and teenagers.



Many thanks for your assistance with this.

For crime prevention advice please feel free to get in contact with me.

Please report anything suspicious to the police on 101.

Kate Le'Clere, PC 3718

Oswestry Rural North,

Safer Neighbourhoods Team

Mobile – 07792 774024

Please contact us if you have anything you would like to discuss.

Our SNT North mobile number is
07816 172510.

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Supporting St Martins Centre

BACK TO SCHOOL WORD SEARCH

Find and circle all of the words from the word list below.

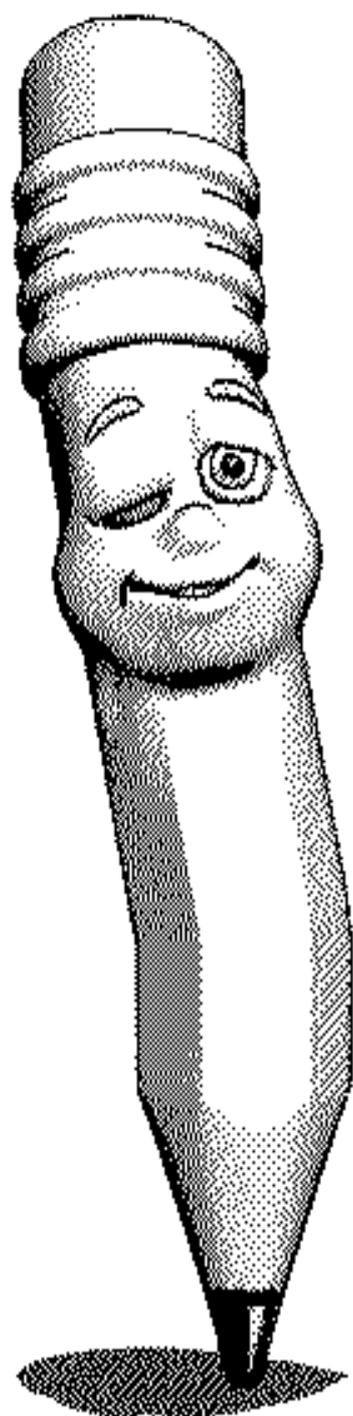
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W G L U E R I Z D B N E G R U
C R A Y O N S R W X O B W E W
S R T Q F Q Z R E F M O E E P
T W P M U S I C F A E S K M L
U C S Y V E G G F G D C O S A
D S T U D E N T W X U I K I Y
Y Y S C I E N C E B Y S N W G
Y J J W L I B R A R Y S L G R
W S P E L L I N G K P O G J O
R Y A O S B U S E O P R G H U
I W P C C P S I R D T S R O N
T A E P H W B N R U L E R I D
I F R P O M E N A F G Y M D O
N M M P O L E A R N I N G R C
G Z J W L F P R I N C I P A L



Sudoku

How well can you colour in this picture?

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



St Martins Youth Club

St Martins Centre

FRIDAY EVENINGS

(in term time only)

ENTRY £1

Doors open 7:30

PS3, Pool, Table Tennis, Table Football, Air Hockey, WiFi, Tuck, Craft, etc

Age: Year 6 and above



Why talking to your doctor could be dangerous for your health.....

GPs are unique amongst doctors as we often live amongst the communities where we work. People see us at school, in the shops and walking our dogs. How natural then for a patient who knows the doctor also as a fellow parent or villager to ask some question about their health, certain that the doctor won't mind.

Sadly this can be a dangerous thing to do.

Whilst the GP was eating out with the family a patient on the next table rolled up her trouser leg to show a skin problem, wanting reassurance that it was "nothing serious". The lighting was poor so the doctor asked the patient to make an appointment. When seen in the surgery, with good lighting, it was clear that the skin problem needed further treatment and was possibly cancerous. This could easily have been missed.

Whilst in the supermarket in Oswestry (selecting potatoes as it happens!) another doctor was asked by a patient if some tests were "normal". The doctor thought he had seen the tests but in fact they belonged to another patient with the same surname and similar age. Again the patient was asked to phone in, which resulted in them receiving the appropriate advice.

In the gym, the doctor was asked by a fellow gym member which prevention for malaria he should take whilst travelling in Africa. The patient asked several questions about the options for treatment. The doctor in question tried to answer the questions but only afterwards remembered that it is particularly important not to take one specific malaria tablet during pregnancy. The tablet can stain the unborn baby's teeth. The doctor tried to ask his acquaintance about pregnancy but found this difficult in a crowded gym – and had to follow this up later.

How dangerous each of these cases could be to your health! So much better to keep the questions to the surgery, and keep day to day discussions for day to day matters

A Local GP

St Martins Allotment Association

We are now well and truly into our harvesting season. All our hard work is now (hopefully) coming to fruition. When growing organically, we are always trying to find ways to stop the pests from spoiling our crops. Butterflies laying eggs to make caterpillars, slugs and snails, mice, rabbits not to mention a myriad of possible diseases. I have picked up an expression from Joe Swift – “If you don’t net it, you don’t get it”

Having netted most vegetables this season, they have been very successful. All my brassicas are secure under a cage. (More fondly known as ‘Barassic Park’).

Most of my neighbours in The Hollies have benefited from carrier bags full of runner beans, plus loads have gone in the freezer. My potatoes have been a great disappointment due to a bad attack of scab so I am now searching for a cure or varieties that are scab resistant.

The raspberries have been wonderful, and there are plenty more waiting to be used in the freezer

The Keswick Codling apple tree (a very old variety) is so loaded with apples; the branches are bending down to the ground. Also I have the best crop ever of Egremont Russet eating apples.

We had an allotment barbeque on 16th August. We had a great few hours apart from the biting wind that made us all feel quite cold. I would like to thank all those who helped to organize it and supply and prepare the food. Tony and Martyn did a great job on the barbeques. Tony, Inga, Brian, Fred and myself supplied plenty of food and drinks whilst Vicky made a wonderful trifle and Helen a fabulous courgette and walnut cake. Yum!

Needless to say we got round to checking out some of the planned entries for the Grow It, Make It, Show it, St Martins 2nd Annual Show which takes place on 27th September. Guessing the weight of a marrow is never an exact science.

Val Williamson.

There is vacant half plot available. Any resident of St Martins may apply to: Val Williamson 01691 770105 or Tony Hall 01691 777952.



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Love2Dance

It's time to put on your dancing shoes, even if you can't dance. St Martins is about to go 'Strictly' mad starting on Wednesday 8th October!

If you want to get fit, fast, lose those unwanted pounds and have more fun than you can believe doing it, here's some great news for you.

'Strictly Come Dancing' dance stars Natalie Lowe and Ian Waite have teamed up with six time world champion swimmer Mark Foster, a former Strictly contestant and an expert in fitness and conditioning, to produce a unique dance and fitness programme – 'FitSteps'.

They have combined, for the first time, the best known and most popular Latin and Ballroom dances with proven fitness techniques, to develop a dance/fitness programme that is capable of delivering fast fitness results, with a heap of fun thrown in!



And for anyone who's thinking, 'But I can't dance' or 'I don't have anyone to dance with', there's no excuse – you don't have to be able to dance and you don't need a partner! You just have to want to get fit and have fun.

So, if you're ready to take to the floor and FitStep your way to a new you, all you need to do is be at St Martins Centre on 8th October at 7.30pm where Michelle from love2dance, an accredited FitSteps Instructor, will be waiting to put you through your FitSteps paces! Get there early, there's going to be a rush!



Looking something for the little ones? Michelle also teaches Baby Ballet every Tuesday 10.45-11.30 at the St Martins Centre. Suitable for those under or up to Pre-school age.

A Fun filled class introducing children to the world of dance.

Classes also held in Weston Rhyn, Gobowen, Chirk and Oswestry. Private lessons also available.

For more information call Michelle on 07590632050 or 01691 688662, message at <http://www.facebook.com/love2danceclasses> or love2danceclasses@hotmail.co.uk



Friends of Ifton Meadows

On Saturday 27th July we had an open picnic at Ifton Meadows when the sun shone for us and those who attended had a pleasant afternoon.

Unfortunately the cinnabar caterpillars never arrived so our idea of bio-control of the ragwort on site did not materialise. However, on a positive note we did find a small number of home grown caterpillars. This is a good sign because we have in the past had a slightly different variety of cinnabar moth. Hopefully next year will see an even larger hatch.

You will have noticed work taking place to the pathway in Prices Dingle. The path at the bottom near the railings has been raised and extra drainage has been installed. We hope this will reduce flooding of this area in the winter. In the future work will also be taking place in and around the pond.

We have been asked to have a kite festival. If you would like us to go ahead with holding such an event please send us an e-mail or give us a call.

We are always looking for extra practical assistance, so if anyone would like to help us at the Green Gyms we will be on site from 1:30 on the 2nd Sunday of each month (weather permitting) so come and join us.

If you want to know what is happening why not join us at our monthly meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of each month (excluding December) 7. 30 p.m. at St. Martins Centre.

More information and photographs at st.martins-online.org.uk and on our facebook group page "Friends of Ifton Meadows".

Contact e-mail: beawilliams52@btinternet.com, Tel: 01978 710327 or via our facebook page

September 2014

Calling all Coffee drinkers!

You can recycle all coffee packaging and Tasimo waste at St Martins Centre. So far we have raised over £29.00.



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COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDERS

Everyone will have seen items in the Advertiser about slow ambulance response times. Just occasionally it is because we cannot find the patient.

John and I have each had a frustrating job in August when we were delayed reaching a patient for the simple reason that we could not find the house. Neither of these jobs was in St Martins, but the same thing could happen here.

We have OS maps. We have "The A-Z for Oswestry and District". We have a new SATNAV in the car thanks to the generosity of St Martins' residents. And we both have local knowledge.

None of them is any good, however, if the house we are trying to find isn't marked clearly.

John was trying to find a place in the dark and heavy rain and when he eventually got there the name plate was painted all black, half covered by an overgrown shrub, and on the side of the house at the end of a 50 yard drive! He had spent fifteen minutes going up and down every lane and drive in the area of the postcode. It wasn't until he walked past in daylight several days later that he saw the obscured name.

The house I was trying to find had no name plate at all, the building wasn't visible from the road, and the postcode was wrong! It was daylight and I was lucky enough to meet a local who pointed the property out to me, but I was still delayed by about 10 minutes reaching a cardiac patient and in the most serious case, 10 minutes could mean the difference between life or death.

I have asked before, but I plead again: look at your house with the eyes of a stranger. Is the number or name big enough to be seen easily, where the drive or entrance meets the road, clearly visible, clean, not overgrown, bright enough to be seen on a dark night in the rain? White on black or black on white is best, block letters, on the gate or gatepost if the gate is open.

Also, when you call 999 please don't forget to unlock a door so that we have access. I spent a good five minutes banging on the doors and windows of a property recently only to discover that the deaf occupant was sitting upstairs with the patient having omitted to unlock any doors.

And if there is a key safe, please let the ambulance controller know the number. Again, it is very frustrating sitting outside knowing someone is ill inside but we have to wait for the police to come and break in for us.

Finally, to clear up a misunderstanding, it isn't possible to call one of the village Community First Responders directly. The system is that whoever of us is on call will appear at your door having been sent by the ambulance service after you have called 999. You have to ring 999 first.

Effie Cadwallader CFR RC 1189 St Martins

Brownies welcome back to a term full of Fun and Activities.



We will be working on a Dream Home Adventure as part of an invitation by The Wrekin Housing Trust to take part in understanding how they are providing homes in and around St Martins.

09th September first week back saw a Photo call of Brownies receiving much needed High visibility vest given to us from the Wrekin Housing Trust. We will use them to be seen and safe as the nights are growing darker.

16th September we met at St Martins School playing fields to meet the Bird man and some feathered friends and the weather stayed fine.

23rd September we had a speaker coming to talk to the children about Road Safety — very important given the nights will be getting darker and many girls will be walking the foot paths to schools. We also had practice walks in our new high visibility vests.

I hope as many as possible of the girls and their family members will take part in the Grow and Show on the 27th September and enter the many competitions. Good Luck.

The Brownies will have the opportunity to visit the Housing site in the village and have a look around the homes now finished to ask questions and to speak their minds on any matter concerning the build.

Brownies will be working on designs of their own as part of a competition set by Wrekin Trust this may involve model building , sketching ,painting drawing mapping out their vision for the housing of the future.

8th November we have a trip to Drayton Manor Park as part of Adventure in the Midlands

A reminder of Remembrance Day all Girls to attend in full uniform with a poppy button hole please.

If You are interested in joining the Guiding movement we start from the age of 5 years with the Rainbows, 7 years for the Brownies and 10+ years for the Guides. There are many ways in which you can be part of the Guiding family please look on www.girlguiding.org for information.

Leslie Younger
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The theme Bill Gates used was how feel-good, politically correct teachings have created a generation of children and young people with no concept of reality. He believes this has set them up for failure in the real world. These are the rules for those age groups that he shared

Rule 1: Life is not fair - get used to it!

Rule 2: The world won't care about your self-esteem. The world will expect you to accomplish something BEFORE you feel good about yourself.

Rule 3: You will NOT make \$60,000 a year right out of high school. You won't be a vice-president with a car phone until you earn both.

Rule 4: If you think your teacher is tough, wait till you get a boss.

Rule 5: Flipping burgers is not beneath your dignity. Your Grandparents had a different word for burger flipping: they called it opportunity.

Rule 6: If you mess up, it's not your parents' fault, so don't whine about your mistakes, learn from them.

Rule 7: Before you were born, your parents weren't as boring as they are now. They got that way from paying your bills, cleaning your clothes and listening to you talk about how cool you thought you were. So before you save the rain forest from the parasites of your parent's generation, try delousing the closet in your own room.

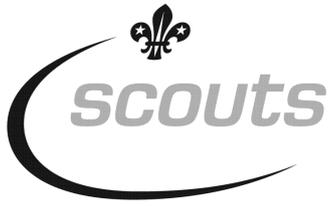
Rule 8: Your school may have done away with winners and losers, but life HAS NOT. In some schools, they have abolished failing grades and they'll give you as MANY TIMES as you want to get the right answer. This doesn't bear the slightest resemblance to ANYTHING in real life.

Rule 9: Life is not divided into semesters. You don't get summers off and very few employers are interested in helping you FIND YOURSELF. Do that on your own time.

Rule 10: Television is NOT real life. In real life people actually have to leave the coffee shop and go to jobs.

Rule 11: Be nice to nerds. Chances are you'll end up working for one.





2nd St Martins Scout Group

We are back for the Autumn Term and looking forward to lots of different activities.

Our Sections are:

Beavers – Tuesdays, 5.30-6.30pm run by Kerry and Debbie

Cubs – Mondays, 6-7.30pm run by Barry and Nigel

Scouts – Wednesdays, 7-8.30pm (for the Autumn Term) run by Rob and Nic

Fees remain at £30 per term or £15 per half term

Our Summer Term activities included our Badge Presentation in June. Afterwards we enjoyed a BBQ and bonfire.

District Camp was in July where Beavers, Cubs and Scouts were able to have a go at canoeing, archery, climbing, crafts, backwoods cooking and much, much more!

Two of our scouts, Tommy Pickles and Joe Bolton have both received their Chief Scout Gold at our badge presentation.

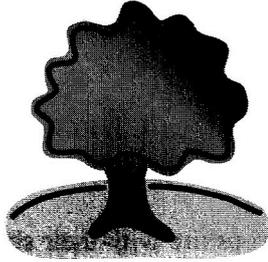
We are always fundraising and are hoping to buy some new axes and saws, archery equipment, a new marquee and weather proof camera for starters!

We are thrilled to announce that one of our scouts, Tommy Pickles, took part in a selection weekend to win one of 18 places to take part in the International Jamboree being held in Japan in July 2015. We are very proud and will be helping him fundraise towards the £3,500 cost of the trip!

If your children are interested in joining us or you would be interested in becoming a leader do give Nic a ring on 07800 655961 or come along when we are open.



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| Thur | 11:45 - 1:30 | 5pm - 9:30 |
| Fri | 11:45 - 1:30 | 5pm - 9:30 |
| Sat | 11:30 - 2pm | Closed |

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01691 777130

Wilf's Working Life

By Don Borland

When you are approaching ninety years of age it is not surprising that a working life can have been varied and punctuated with unexpected turns. The list of Wilf Evison's means of earning a living and supporting a growing family is good evidence of this. He began as odd-job and delivery boy in Usher's Store and quickly became an active hand in the bakery developing his muscles in kneading the dough among other duties. Wilf's father was a miner, which may or may not be the reason why Wilf did not go down the mine. Having begun his working life on leaving school in 1939 at the beginning of the Second World War he was old enough to be conscripted in 1943, but he volunteered and was assigned to the Royal Navy with whom he served in the galley of a freighter, HMS Lothian, till his demob in 1946. He travelled round the world, to New York and then to Indonesia and Australia. This, it must be said, is the kind of dramatic turn in life that at that time in history was common for young men like Wilf. For most of us in the uneasy peace that has prevailed since then there has been no such obligation.

He came home first to work in an RAOC depot and then to resume work in bakeries, in Chirk and in St. Martin's, aspiring unsuccessfully at one stage to be boss in the bakery near to where he has lived for all of his married life in Kimberley Lane. Then, in the late fifties came sliced bread, and the pressure on local producers of bread became too much for many of them to withstand. Sliced bread was not the best thing! For Wilf this meant a change of situation if not job and he returned to Chirk to work for a number of years, for less money, but doing what he liked doing getting up every day very early, as bakers must, and crucially for him, providing for his young and growing family. When this job ended in 1968 he had a brief period of uncertainty before opportunity came through an old navy colleague to work in Ellesmere for a company making stainless steel milk storage tanks for farms, grinding and polishing the welded seams and corners, noisy work. Miraculously, Wilf's hearing has survived this assault reasonably well, conversation with him being no effort. He may have some of the selective deafness that can afflict many of us older men but that depends on the input from others! In this year, 1968, Ifton Colliery closed, unanticipated, in that a fire at the pit stopped production, the ending of mining an event that must have begun a transformation in the character and fortunes of St. Martin's.

The company in Ellesmere, for possibly economic or its own political reasons, moved its operation abroad in 1984 and while Wilf was in hospital recovering from a gall bladder operation he learned of redundancy. He was fifty-nine and for the first time in his life there appeared to be no prospect of employment. So, for a year he sought work, 'signing on' as he had to, but busying himself walking the lanes in the early morning, early rising a lifetime's habit, always 'doing', compiling his own photographic account of the community, painting watercolours and oils, writing, gardening and actively seeking work. Then Oswestry School found in him a good kitchen porter whose wartime experience in the galley on board came back into its own. This post evolved, into painter and decorator, odd-job man and general factotum till he took retirement, with some ambivalence and reluctance, on qualifying for the State Retirement Pension at the age of 65. The parting gift from the school was a typewriter, an indicator, if ever there were one, of how 'retirement' was to be spent. Many in St. Martin's will be familiar with Wilf's writing and his poems in this journal's predecessor 'Chatabout'.

It's been a long and eventful life; from one perspective, ordinary and mundane, but when considered 'close to', as in many such instances, it is the person, the personality, who injects into this kind of account the interest and the sense of the special. The kind, conscientious and fun-loving man that Wilf still is, this personality permeates his life choices and lifts it from the ordinary. This is the man who, as a boy, fed his younger sister, Olive, 'turkey rhubarb' when she came home from school hungry. 'And what is that?' asked Olive's teacher when the children were asked what they had had for tea. It was a slice of bread toasted at the fire on a toasting fork ('Don't burn it!'), hot tea poured on it and then sprinkled with sugar. Olive loved it. And why 'turkey rhubarb'? Only Wilf knows, but maybe it was because it simply had to have a name.

Don writes a good story.
Do you have a story?
Would you like it if Don
wrote your story?

Contact Sue at the
Centre and leave your
name and telephone
number and she will pass
it on to Don and it may be
your story in the next
addition.

St Martins Parish Street Night Lighting

Almost all of the street lights on the main roads through St Martins are maintained and operated by Shropshire Council. All of the street lights on the minor and estate roads are operated and maintained by the Parish Council which is also responsible for the cost of the electricity used to light them.

Since April of this year, 49 of the 79 "County" lights have been set to switch off at midnight and remain off until 05.30 or dawn, with the rest operating fully from dusk until dawn. At the same time all except 15 of the 140 "Parish" lights have also been set to switch off between the same hours. The current exceptions are 3 of the lights in Ifton View, 2 of the lights on the side of Stans (leading to the St Martins Centre), the 1 light in the alley to Garden Village, 1 light at the junction of Puddle Lane and Church Lane, 1 light nearest the Church in Church Lane, 4 lights in Cedar Close, 2 lights in Cottage Lane and 1 light on Ellesmere Road opposite Mount Bradford Lane.

Part-night lighting is estimated to save around 40% of the electricity running costs for each street light converted. As the scheme has now been in operation for almost six months, the Parish Council would like to review the cost savings against the impact, if any, on the residents of St Martins. Please help by making your views known by returning the completed form below to St Martins Centre by no later than 31st October 2014.

Please note that any change resulting from this survey of opinion will affect the "Parish" lights, but not the main road "County" lights. Any comments on the County street lights will be passed on through our Shropshire councillor.

| | |
|--|--------|
| I agree with the current policy (as above) on Parish street lights | YES/NO |
| I want all Parish street lights switched off at midnight | YES/NO |
| I want all Parish Street lights switched on from dusk until dawn | YES/NO |
| I want one half of the Parish street lights on from dusk until dawn | YES/NO |
| I want only the following Parish street lights left on from dusk until dawn:- | |
| I think the following County street lights (in addition to those already on) should be left on from dusk until dawn:- | |

Name.....

Address