

Update from the Village Life Magazine Committee

In this issue of the magazine you will see the latest news on what is now called the Ifton Colliery Commemorative Project and a short history of the Miners Welfare Institute as remembered by two local residents. On the first, please let us have your thoughts on the project and its proposals, while on the second we would love to hear your memories of this - or any other - local places, events or people.

This is the final issue for 2016, so I would like to thank all those who have helped Village Life to survive and thrive over the 15 editions so far published. Getting each new issue from nothing to a complete magazine is both time consuming and costly. It relies on a good few people to provide the articles and information we print, through to the individuals who put in many hours to create, proof read and edit the contents, and finally to the many volunteers who deliver it to every home and many businesses in the St Martins Parish. Even printing the finished magazine takes around three working days!

The many businesses and local service providers who advertise with us on a regular basis, together with the Parish Council and Three Parishes Big Local who have so far given us annual grants towards our costs help to keep us going financially, but with costs likely to rise as inflation and the number of houses in the village creeps up (each copy currently costs more than 55p to produce), we will always need the support of individual donors to keep our income higher than our costs, so anything you can donate will be gratefully received.

Have a Merry Christmas – see you in 2017.

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 13th January 2016**

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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 held responsible for loss, however arising, from the use of or reliance on this information. The full text of this 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

From the Chair

Hello Everyone

GOOD NEWS. The new planning application for a further 8 dwellings on Cottage Lane has been rejected but we must not be complacent. The developers have the right not only to go to Appeal on this application but also to put in further applications with modified criteria. We must all be vigilant and willing to put the case forward whenever an application comes forward.

Saturday 10th December at 4.30pm Carol singing supported by Ifton Colliery Band and the switching on of the Christmas Tree Lights. All are very welcome, bring your children as one of them will switch on the lights for us, remember little Maddie Owen who did a fantastic job last year.

I am appealing to some of you strong guys to be available to help Ash Allum erect the tree on the morning of the 10th at about 10am. Please let me or Ash know if you can help.

Kimberley Lane is an on going issue. Heavy plant vehicles, delivery vans (but not to properties on the Lane) and numerous cars and vans using the Lane as a short cut are still a problem to the residents. Vehicles belonging to such as nurses visiting patients have had damage done; residents trying to get out of their driveways come into conflict with these vehicles who are illegally using the Lane; the elderly, infirmed and walkers risk their lives as most of the bigger vehicles don't even take their time negotiating the road and all of this despite the "ACCESS ONLY" signs at each of the road. Where are the Police in all this? Good question.

I have written to Simon Jones the Highways and Transport Portfolio Holder on Shropshire Council in the hope that he can at least get a temporary solution to this on going problem of at least 30 years.

A number of residents from Moors Lane have expressed their concern over scramble type motor bikes using the bridleway at the end of this lane. This is not acceptable but very hard to police. Please could all residents keep a log of when they are about - date, time and duration and if you can get a registration number without getting involved, it all helps to identify the riders.



MAY I WISH YOU ALL A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS

and a Brilliant New Year

Sue Schofield
Chair of St Martins Parish Council

Report from St Martins Parish Council Clerk

Although there were no police officers in attendance due to shift patterns, the latest police update on local incidents had been circulated to all Members prior to the meeting.

Councillors again expressed concern over the speed of traffic leaving St Martins on the Ellesmere Road. This had been brought to light by comments on Facebook from people outside the village. The main concern being HGV's. Although the police had been asked if speed checks can be carried out in this area, or a speed camera be placed in this area, or if the Parish Council purchased a hand held speed gun would you have officer time available to use it or can just speed camera warning signs be put up, Councillors again expressed concern that there had been no feedback from the police. This would now be taken up with the area inspector. Concern was again raised over large off-road motor bikes using the bridle track at the end of Moors Lane and when these riders were challenged over this local residents felt very intimidated.

Various meetings are now taking place with Shropshire Council on Devolution of Services to Local Councils. It has been agreed to hold a joint meeting of the Gobowen, Selattyn, St Martins and Weston Rhyn Local Joint Committee as soon as possible which will be chaired by our Local Shropshire Councillor Steve Davenport. This will be a chance for the three Parish Councils to come together and talk about any possible joint working across the three parish areas. Steve Brown, Highways, Transport & Environmental Maintenance Commissioning Manager will be invited to attend.

All highway matters are now reported through the Oswestry highways office. Recent issues included overgrowth along the footpath off Bull Lane, between Ellesmere Road and Mount Bradford Lane, which will be attended to by Shropshire Council's Countryside Maintenance Team. Street Name Plates that were missing on both entrances to Ifton View have been found and new backing plates and legs are on order. In School Lane, a roadside gully which was blocked and covered with grass has been cleared and the gully uncovered. A job has been raised to re-set the gully.

On the War Memorial quotations are being sought for the cleaning of the sandstone memorial to remove algae and loose dirt, re-cut approximately 680 letters to the memorial and re-point open joints and repair cracking areas of stone to rear face. This is being checked through the War Memorial Trust where grants are available for this type of repair.

On planning, Councillors made no comment on an application at Gilrhos, Overton Road, for the conversion of outbuilding to form new self-contained ancillary accommodation to include erection of first floor extension and single storey extension but did express concern over an application on Land Adjoining Croft Cottage, Moors Lane, for the approval of reserved matters (access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale) pursuant to permission 13/01233/OUT for the erection of a detached dwelling. The main concerns were access onto Moors Lane and visibility displays.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be a Full Council Meeting on Thursday 8th December 2016 at 7.00 pm in St Martins Centre, .

Edward Davies Fellow ILCM

St Martins Parish Clerk.

Current Parish Councillors

Ashley Allum	01691 770042
Andrew Cast	01691 773389
Gordon Fryer	01691 774520
Neil Graham	01691 778427
Mark Hayball	01691 770207
Brian Herbert	01691 772647
James Hoos	01691 661218
Duncan Laing	07702 991 845
Glenn Pennington	01691 778477
Lesley-Anne Roberts	01691 776438
John Lewis	01691 774676
John Sands	01691 772394
John Stevens	01691 770677
Sue Schofield	01691 777710



St. Martins Parish Church

Contact: Revd Stuart Jermy - sjvicar@btinternet.com; 778 468 or
text 07766 255436 - for weddings, Christenings or for a chat anytime.

Christmas Services at St. Martins Parish Church

You and your family are warmly invited to our **Advent and Christmas services**. Details below.

Sunday 4th Dec	11.00am	Sunday FIRST (MESSY CHURCH) Toy Service A short service with music, story and prayer and afterwards coffee, cake and some craft activities .	
Sunday 11th Dec	3.30pm	St. Martins Church Carol Service Telling the Christmas story with carols and bible readings, followed by mulled wine mince pies.	
Sunday 18th Dec	3.30pm	Christingle and Carols round the Crib A Short service with candle Christingles given out and a very special visitor! Great for all the family. Mulled wine and	
24th Dec	11.15pm	Candlelit Christmas Eve Midnight Service A candlelit Carol service with Communion. The best way to start Christmas day!	
25th Dec	9.30am	Christmas Day Family Communion A family service celebrating the birth of Christ. Short communion	

A favorite Christmas story of mine goes like this. (Apologies if you have heard me use it before).

Two young boys were spending the night at their grandparents' house the week before Christmas. At bedtime, as the two boys knelt beside their beds to say their prayers, the younger one began praying at the top of his lungs: "I pray for a new bicycle! I pray for a new *Xbox! I pray for some new star wars Lego!

His older brother leaned over and nudged the younger boy and said, "why are you shouting your prayers? God is not deaf."

To which the little brother replied, "no, but Grandma is!"

At Christmas we are invited to come to God like little children with faith that we will be heard as we bring our deepest longings to him. God is not deaf!

Take time out in the busyness to join us and to ask him for a present this Christmas – the gift of His presence. He knows our struggles and longs to invited to help us through them.

How silently, how silently,

The wondrous gift is given!

So God imparts to human hearts

The blessings of His heaven.

May the blessings of heaven fill your homes and your hearts this Christmas, bringing his peace and joy to you and those you share this holy-day with.

Hope to see you sometime.

Revd. Stuart Jermy.

**other game consoles are available!*

Shropshire Council

Councillor Steve Davenport

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

Dear St Martins Residents

Well I did start my last letter here saying hasn't the world for us changed in politics, but it really has now we have a new president elect in America - what more can one say. We are where we are as they say, so let's try and hope and pray for a peaceful world.

As far as our village goes, I'm working with the council and police on checking the speeding in the village and the Parish Council and myself are trying to get Kimberley Lane as a no through road or even blocked off. There are funds being put into the budget so it will happen it's just a matter of when.

I'm trying to limit the building of new houses in the village and have managed to stop more building on Cottage Lane, but builders keep applying.

We have now got the former Ifton primary school site released to be able to sell it, but I'm trying to ensure that it's not just sold off to builders, so any suggestions would be gratefully received. I have my own ideas, but whatever happens we need to keep the old school building.

Things are going very well at the School with very good exam results this time and some outstanding students coming out of the school. It is going from strength to strength now.

You'll be aware there's a lot of talk around Hospitals at the moment. There has to be a change to the way services are organised and you will all be aware of the ongoing discussion about where the A & E should be. Just so you know, I am supporting the need for an A&E unit in Shrewsbury as the central point. Things do have to change, but there is still a lack of much information about both A&E and Critical Care Centres.

Please call or email me if you have any queries

Tel 07944097876 Email: steve.davenport@shropshire.gov.uk

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## St Martins Youth Club

**Every FRIDAY evening (term time only)**

**ST MARTINS CENTRE, 7.30 – 9.00**

Age year 6 +, £1 entry.

Find us on FB – ST Martins YOUTH CLUB

Text us on Friday to check your child is in Youthie 07544581860

St Martins Youth Club and LJC support FUSION ART OSWESTRY.

Every SATURDAY EVENING at **ST MARTINS CENTRE 6.00 – 8.00**

Age 10+. £1 entry.

# Anti-Social Behaviour

## – Tell us about it!

Anti-social behaviour can take many forms, including playing loud music in the early hours of the morning, graffiti and vandalism, offensive and threatening behaviour, harassment and intimidation, fly-tipping and flyposting. Shropshire's Safer Stronger Communities' Partnership want to remind residents experiencing or witnessing anti-social behaviour that they can now call a single report it line on:

**0345 678 9020**

You can make your complaint anonymously. All calls are treated in utmost confidence and you don't have to give your name unless you want to. Please note however that if the information we get is limited this in turn can limit our ability to deal with the problem reported.

When dealing with complaints of anti-social behaviour, **we will do our best to protect your identity at all times.**

When reporting an incident of antisocial behaviour, our staff will ask you to provide where possible, specific details of the incident, and this will include;

- details of the date and time
- what actually happened and who was involved
- whether there were any other people affected by it.

It may also be necessary for you to report the incident to another agency we **will let you know this.** In an emergency always call **999**

The Safer Stronger Communities Partnership is the community safety partnership for Shropshire, made up of representatives from West Mercia Police, Shropshire Council, Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service, the Clinical Commissioning Group and West Mercia Probation Trust.

We are committed to working with communities to tackling antisocial behaviour so that Shropshire is a safe place for people to live, work and visit.

To help us do this we need you to tell us when you see anti-social behaviour, so that we can take action against it. When you call us with a complaint, you are doing much more than just dealing with nuisance behaviour.

You are helping to make Shropshire a better and safer place to live.

Your safety is our priority and we will endeavour to ensure that we take the appropriate action against those involved in anti-social behaviour.



# Ifton Colliery

## Commemorative Project 2018

November 2018 will mark the 50th anniversary of the closure of Ifton Colliery.

To commemorate this occasion, it has been proposed that a statue be placed in the current parish memorial garden. The statue will represent a miner and it is hoped that the statue will establish a permanent and lasting memorial that will:

- ◇ Serve as a reminder of the existence of Ifton Colliery and the individuals who worked there.
- ◇ Create a striking focal point at the entrance to the centre of the village.
- ◇ Inform visitors of the industrial heritage that was instrumental in creating the community of St. Martins that exists today.
- ◇ Provide an educational resource for current and future generations regarding the history and heritage of their village community.

The benefits of this project will result in the community having a permanent and lasting memorial of Ifton Colliery from which the current village of St Martins grew and of the many individuals who worked there.

It is hoped that local families will have an opportunity to add the names of their relatives who worked in the mining industry to the walkway running alongside the statue.

There are two proposals for the statue, and we seek your preference as to which statue should be erected, although, the final decision will be made by the Ex-Miners.



**Statue A**, Fabricated in Core 10 Steel depicting what happens over time, memories get further and further apart and things deteriorate and nature takes over.



**Statue B**, a commissioned bronze sculpture, giving a very life like depiction of a miner in the 1960's

# A Potted History of the Miners Welfare Institute

*As remembered by Jen Astley and June Newell*



Slates were being placed on the roof over the billiard hall in June 1932. The building consists of the hall, billiard hall, upstairs was a committee room while in the roof area was a film projector. The committee room was at one time the village library until it closed and was replaced by a library van calling at different places in St Martins.

The Institute was funded by subscriptions paid weekly by the miners from their wages. They also contributed from their wages to Dr Barnados and the building of Chirk Hospital which was supported by local business people.

At first, women were only allowed to attend socials at the Institute, while “tidy dress” was expected from gentlemen – young lads were not allowed in with patched trousers. Darts, dominoes, snooker and billiards were played in the Institute and Bowling Green, while the building in Green Lane was used by the football team to change and shower.



On Fridays in the 1930s and 1940s people without enough to live on received money from a “Social Fund”. Some thought it was charity although they were entitled to it. In the 1940s the CWS entertained young people with fancy dress competitions and film shows. The Co-op were the main caterers of the time, for weddings, birthday parties and after-funeral refreshments. It also at one time housed a dental clinic and the health clinic, while outside - on what is now the car park – was the “rec area” with play equipment for youngsters. There were also tennis courts for the (then) privileged!



During the war, American servicemen (GIs) stationed at Wem and Ellesmere often turned up for the dances at the Institute – and doubtless many people will remember the jitterbug dances as well as the old time dancing.

Films continued to be shown on a Saturday morning in the 1950s and samples of food such as tomato soup and breakfast cereal were given out, while the 1960s saw under 18s Tuesday dance nights featuring local groups from around the area, with Bingo being played on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays.

In the 1970s saw many Bernard Parr shows with a wide range of artists from Ruby Murray and David Whitfield to Emile Ford and Stan Stennet. Can anyone else remember Bill Gore and his dancing clogs – a winner on Opportunity Knocks?



Over the years many local groups have held meetings there including the Darby and Joan club and the WI (who still meet there).



It has been the venue for many events ranging from CHARITY FUND Raisers and bonfire night parties to the celebration of the Queen's silver jubilee when the youngsters of the village received jubilee cups given by the Parish Council.

There have always been many events put on by and at the Institute and we are no doubt all looking forward to the 85<sup>th</sup> birthday of the 'Stute itself!





# Happy 90th birthday for charity fundraiser



Beryl Stephens, nee Penrose, centre, pictured with, from left, Anne Ellis, daughter, Justin Smart, from Stans Superstore, St Martins who sponsor the St Martins First Responder vehicle, Vanessa Platt, Meadowbrook Care Home manager, Sarah Williams, daughter, June Jackson, Riv Carter, Sybil Jones, members of Chirk Community Hospital Circle of Friends HD131016

A CARE home resident has raised nearly £700 for charity after requesting donations in lieu of 90th birthday gifts.

Beryl Stephens, nee Penrose, who lives at Meadowbrook Care Home, near Gobowen, presented two cheques, each for £345 to the St Martins First Responders,

because of their continued support in the village, and the Circle of Friends at Chirk Hospital.

She explained: "I spent many days there in my younger years giving birth to my 10 children. "Chirk Hospital is a lovely family hospital and the Circle of Friends

are always busy raising funds to support it."

Beryl would like to thank family and friends for their donations and the cards given to her at her party, which was held at The Keys in St Martins, and to all the staff at Meadowbrook Care Home.

Cutting supplied by Ann Ellis who wished to say a Big Thank You to all those who donated towards the charities, Chirk Hospital Circle of Friends and St Martins First Responders



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ailments





# St Martins Methodist Church

(Ellesmere Road)

Minister: Rev. Heather Wilson 01691 769164

**Thursday Coffee Mornings 10.30 – 11.30**

Come along and join us for coffee, biscuits & a chat.

|                                   |                                  |                                                    |                                          |                                                 |                                          |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| <b>St Martins</b><br><b>10.00</b> | <b>Dec 4<sup>th</sup></b><br>AWT | <b>Dec 11<sup>th</sup></b><br>Busy Church<br>11.00 | <b>Dec 18<sup>th</sup></b><br>Rev Wilson | <b>Dec 25<sup>th</sup></b><br>Oswestry<br>10.00 |                                          |
| <b>Moors</b><br><b>11.00</b>      | Molyneux                         | Rev Watkins                                        | Rev Wilson                               | Oswestry<br>10.00                               |                                          |
| <b>St Martins</b><br><b>10.00</b> | <b>Jan 1<sup>st</sup></b>        | <b>Jan 8<sup>th</sup></b><br>Rev Wilson            | <b>Jan 15<sup>th</sup></b><br>Mr Walker  | <b>Jan 22<sup>th</sup></b><br>Roberts           | <b>Jan 29<sup>th</sup></b><br>J Williams |
| <b>Moors</b><br><b>11.00</b>      | AWT                              | Rev Wilson                                         | Rev Watkin                               | M Bennett                                       | AWT                                      |

## **ST MARTINS METHODIST CHURCH**



You are all invited to our



## **“BUSY CHRISTMAS GET-TOGETHER”**



**SUNDAY DECEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup> at 11.00**



Rev Heather Wilson will lead our Christmas Celebration

Carols

Colouring

Nativity

Fun

Cake!

*As well as making sure our Carols go with a swing, we are hoping that a small group of musicians from the Porthywaen Band will give a debut performance of a Carol written by a St Martins resident and chapel organist, Nellie Miller.*

# St Martins Allotment Association

## Would you like to have an allotment plot?

**Yes,** it is hard work especially in the early stages when there is a lot of digging to be done, but the rewards are great. Fresh, tasty organic food as well as exercise and fresh air. Plus you meet new people.



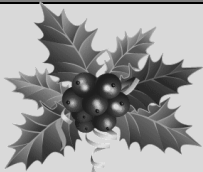
We will be having some plots available, both full and half plots to rent in the very near future.

We also have some raised beds for the disabled gardener, great for someone in a wheelchair or just registered disabled.

If you (or someone you know) would be interested in having a plot, please get in touch with Val Williamson on 01691 770105 or Tony Hall on 01691 777952.

Or you can email Val at [redvalerian2@btinternet.com](mailto:redvalerian2@btinternet.com)  
I look forward to hearing from you.

## Buy a Freshly Cut Christmas Tree



from only £17.99

**+ Receive a Christmas Turkey  
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**At Stan's Coffee Shop**

**\*Vegetarian option available**



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**SUNDAY 8AM-8PM**

# Growing Tips

## Potato Scab

Scab is caused by a soil bourn Bacterium, it is most active in alkaline soils which have high PH.

So do not add lime for potato plots. At this time of year dig in plenty of well-rotted manure or compost and add potting compost but not mushroom compost as it contains lime.

In Spring when planting potatoes put fresh grass mowings at the bottom of the trench about 2 inches deep also you can put a bit of compost on top of sets.

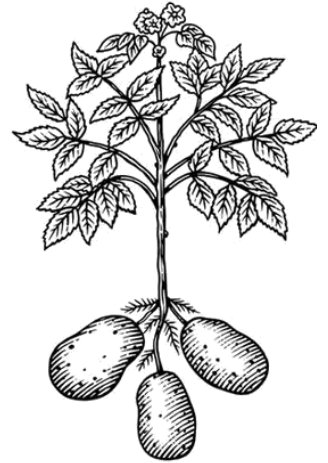
As Scab is worst on dry soils, keep well-watered when they start to flower.

You could try to grow them in a large pot, one or two in a half filled pot and top up with compost as they grow.

### **Some resistant potatoes are**

First Early:- Arrow Pilot, Rocket

Second Early:- Mari Peir, Nicola, Harmony



## Growing Big Onions

Sow them around Christmas time/ Boxing Day.

When sowing don't sow too thick, about ½ inch apart with some peat but not too much. 60 d"

When seedlings are at "crook stage" - this is when the leaves have not straightened, transplant into small pots or multi cell trays making sure you keep them warm but not too much heat or they will become "leggie". Or in March you can purchase them locally for potting on at home.

Varieties – Robinson's Mammoth and Kelso Onions.



## November Quiz

Answers on page 18

1. World boxing champion Tony Bellew comes from which city?
2. Who is Britain's Foreign Secretary?
3. Which striker is the all – time record scorer in the English Premier League?
4. During the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War the aircraft carrier Ark Royal was equipped with three types of aircraft, name two.
5. What is the difference between Sauté Potatoes and Lyonnaise Potatoes?
6. In what month does the Pheasant shooting season start?
7. Why did St Paul's Cathedral have to be re-built?
8. What is the River Thames called when it flows through Oxford?
9. What is the name of Cambridge University's cricket ground?
10. The Golden Bear is the nickname of which retired golfer?





# ST MARTINS COMMUNITY

## FIRST RESPONDERS

Before anything else we must thank John and Vicki Smout, The Keys and all their customers, guests and visitors for the donations we received during our collection at the fireworks night. The total of just over

£700 raised will keep the CFR car serviced and insured for a whole year. We are really grateful for this: raising money is not something we find easy or appropriate in the type of volunteering we do.



Thanks to those who have put up a new house sign at their gate – we enjoy spotting new ones and some of them are really good! Just yesterday when I was not on call we saw an ambulance on blue lights crawling along in the village obviously looking for an unmarked house. When they came past a third time we were nearby and able to point out where the house, which we knew, was. Local knowledge is useful but not as good as a clear sign.

As winter approaches please keep an eye open for elderly neighbours who live alone. Once it is dark, and doors and windows are closed against the cold we don't see each other around so much and that's when we may be needed even more. A cheery wave once a day could save a life.

Effie



### Meal Deal

Monday - Friday

### Food Served

7 days a week

### Function Room

Available please call

T; 01691 770258 - M; 07762139413

CHRISTMAS MENU NOW AVAILABLE

### Entertainment In December

Friday 2nd : Keith - Country 60s 70s

Friday 9th : Mark Brown - Guitarist - 90s new songs.

Saturday 10th: Kev Thursfield Singer, solo Artist mixed songs.

Friday 16th : Sheryl 50s 60s 70s 80s songs

Saturday 17th: Universal Exports Band

Xmas eve : Still Standing

New Years Eve : The Tilly Swats plus Disco and FREE Buffet and FREE Entry.

# St Martins Centre

Hi All

We had our AGM on the 14th Nov. Steve Davenport was returned as Chairman, Secretary, Judy Birkett and Treasure Sue Heard. Duncan Laing and Martyn Barker also remain on the committee. We are always looking out for new Trustees, if you have interest in helping the Centre and becoming a Trustee, please leave a message for Steve.

We now have a new fire door in the lounge thanks to Salop Glass for only charging us for the materials and Stan's for £350 donation towards the costs. A BIG THANK YOU to both. This door will not only keep out the drafts but is also a much more secure door.

We have also had the Dry Verging and the Facia Boards clad giving them a longer life span and cutting the maintenance cost as they won't need painting. It makes the building look really tidy.

We have upgraded the intruder alarm system too, making it more efficient and easier to use.

One big change is that Sue will no longer manage the Centre we wish her well for any new ventures she may undertake. Please bear with us as this will change a lot of things. For any enquiries please telephone 01691 770204 and leave a message and someone will get back to you.

Dance away those post Christmas blues



## FAMILY DISCO

SATURDAY JANUARY 21<sup>ST</sup>

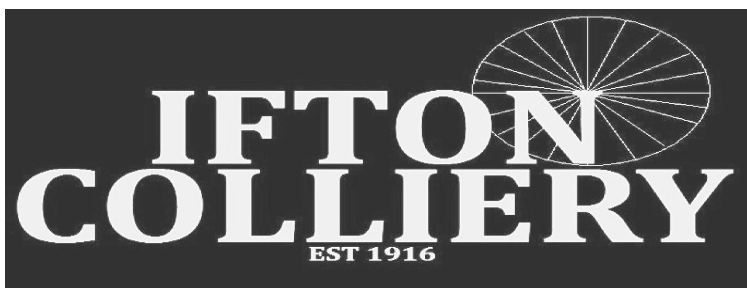
6.00 - 9.00

Family entry £6 (up to 5 in group) others £1.50 each

Bar, Burgers, Hot Dogs, Games, Prizes, Raffle

ST MARTINS CENTRE

(Happy Sounds Mobile Disco)



## DOUBLE SUCESS:

Shropshire based brass band Ifton Colliery are hitting all the high notes by taking the banding world by storm.

The band have notched up their second first place prize, this year by winning the

third section during the recent North West Area Brass Band Associations annual championships in Rochdale.

As well as being crowned third section champions, their principal solo cornet, Graham Taylor collected the best soloist award for his excellent playing during the bands rendition of the test piece 'Music for the common man'.

The bands other winning performance was during the Buxton Brass Band festival in May where along with being crowned section three champions, their talented Euphonium and Baritone section won the best section award during the completion which was staged in the towns floral pavilion.



The band which is based in St Martins has players travelling from Shropshire, North Wales and the surrounding areas to meet up every Sunday for rehearsals at the local community centre where under the direction of their Musical Director Scott Robert Lloyd, are busy preparing for their busy Christmas season and the last competition of the year, the North Wales Brass Band competition in Ruthin which is taking place on 26<sup>th</sup> November.

We welcome everyone to attend our Christmas concert being held in the Stute in St Martins on 17<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm. Tickets are £10 and can purchased on the door. Children in fancy dress attend for free!

The band have plenty of fun planned so why not come along for a great night's entertainment and support us.

The band would love to hear from any potential players who would like to be part of their award winning team, and are particularly looking to recruit a Trombone, Baritone and Cornet (positions Negotiable).

If you are interested please contact our Musical Director, Scott Robert Lloyd, on **07766303727** or email [tubateacer@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:tubateacer@hotmail.co.uk)

**IFTON COLLIERY BAND'S**  
**XMAS**  
**CELEBRATION**

**DECEMBER 17TH 2016 7.30PM**

MINERS INSTITUTE, ST MARTINS

TICKETS £10 ON DOOR OR CALL 07957469519

**PRIZE RAFFLE**

PLEASE COME AND SUPPORT THE BAND AND ENJOY A WONDERFUL FESTIVE NIGHT'S ENTERTAINMENT. MISTLETOE AND MINCE PIES WILL BE SUPPLIED IN ABUNDANCE. BAR AVAILABLE.

FREE ENTRY FOR CHILDREN IN FANCY DRESS WITH ADULT

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## Shared Reading Event

There are two in Oswestry at The Fox

Monday evening December 12 and January 9 (the second Monday on each occasion)  
@5.30 to hopefully catch people on their way home from work.

All materials provided.

People can come and, if they want to, just listen to a good story and poem.

### **BARA BRITH**

|                         |                                      |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 12 oz mixed dried fruit | 8 oz muscovado sugar                 |
| 10 fl oz stong hot tea  | 10 oz Self Raising Flour             |
| 1 beaten egg            | 1/2 teaspoon mixed spice is optional |

Put the fruit and sugar into a bowl, pour over the hot tea. Stir well, and cover and leave overnight to soak. In the morning, grease and line one 2lb loaf tin or two 1 lb loaf tins. Add the flour and beaten egg to the bowl and stir in the flour and egg. Put into oven at 150 C for approx. 1 to 1 1/2 hours. When it is cool, slice thinly and spread lightly with butter.

### November Answers

From page 14

1. Liverpool
2. Boris Johnson
3. Alan Shearer
4. Swordfish, Fulmars and Skuas
5. Lyonnais have the addition of
6. tried onions
7. October
8. The original was destroyed in
9. The Great Fire of London
10. Isis
11. Fenner's
12. Jack Nicklaus