

# **Update from the Village Life Magazine Committee**

A big Thank You to those 4 members of the community who have very generously donated towards the cost of keeping the magazine a float and those who have put an extra donation in the box at Stan's. A small regular donation through your bank can and does make a big difference and we the Editorial Committee do very much appreciate your support.

A big Thank You also goes to Three Parishes Big Local who again have granted us £500 towards the annual cost of printing the magazine. That's a big donation and will bring us very close to covering the costs for next year.

Added to this the Parish Council also gives us an annual grant. They have a mandate to report to the parishioners what they are doing on your behalf, hence the reports at the beginning of the magazine. Without this publication they would need to produce a newsletter and deliver it to each household.

The other large contributor as reported in the last issue is Ridgway Rentals Ltd. Their support covers the cost for one issue, Thanks again guys.

Between the 4 factions we have just under two thirds of this year's costs and with advertising covering most of the rest we are in a good place to continue.

We are still looking at ways to reduce the costs, getting quotes and operational detail to see if there is another way.

You will notice that there is not a lot on the 'What's on Page'; this may be due to not many clubs doing much in the way of fundraising and not wanting to plan ahead due to COVID. We tend not to report weekly groups because they will fill the spaces very quickly and not leave spaces for either one-off events or those who meet monthly, but if you are running a weekly group and planning an event to fundraise or running taster sessions please do let us know. It is a free service. I have been told that some people do rip the middle pages out and put them on the fridge to remind them, so it is worth while planning in advance.

Sue.

**If you wish to submit an article or advertise in the next publication  
please email it to [stmartinsvillagelife@gmail.com](mailto:stmartinsvillagelife@gmail.com)  
by no later than Wednesday 17th November 2021**

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**There is a large print version is available on request for**

# **Report from St Martins Parish Council Clerk**

Report for Village Life September 2021

At the September Parish Council meeting the two vacancies on the parish council were filled by Vivienne Fisher and Alan Langley which now brings the parish council back to full strength.

Concern was expressed over the delay in getting some street lights repaired along Ellesmere Road, which are owned and maintained by Shropshire Council. The faults have been caused by power cable issues which is the responsibility of Scottish Power. Some of the lighting faults were reported back in January this year. There are also a number of street lights that the parish council own and maintain and are again with Scottish Power for cable repair. Unless urgent action is taken the parish council will report these concerns to the head officers at Scottish Power and also copy in our M.P Owen Paterson.

You will have noticed that work is well under way on the new development at Morlas Meadows by Primoris Homes. Originally a public footpath was going to be constructed in front of the site adjacent to Overton Road. After discussions with the developers, the school and Shropshire Council highways it was agreed that the current footpath is wide enough in most places except at the end nearest the take-away shops which would be widened by removing the hedge and extending the footpath to at least 2m wide. This means that the new properties adjacent to Overton Road would benefit from not having pedestrian traffic so close to their front doors.

The big issue still outstanding is the proposed closure of St Martins Surgery by the current medical professionals in Chirk. We still await the results of their recent patient survey for St Martins which is due out at the end of the month when the Chirk practice will then make a final decision on the St Martins Branch surgery. We are still in discussions with the CCG and Shropshire Council.

Cornovii Developments Ltd (CDL) have now been granted planning permission to develop 35 new homes at the site in St. Martins, Ifton Heath, Oswestry and would like to create a Stakeholder Meeting Group with two Parish Council members and two members of the public

## **Current Parish Councillors**

Neil Arthan	01691 777751
Andrew Cast	01691 773389
Vivienne Fisher	
Mark Hayball	01691 770207
John Hodgson	07841 451212
Alan Langley	
Duncan Laing	07702 991845
Nina Mistry	01691 657324
Glenn Pennington	01691 778477
Lesley-Anne Roberts	01691 776438
Natalie Rowley	07870 507509
Pierre Saunier	01691 778806
Sophie Hughes-Saunier	01691 778806
Sue Schofield	01691 777710
Helen Williams	01691 777561

to meet on a monthly basis for 18 months whilst development works are ongoing. Stakeholder group will be by way of a terms of reference with stakeholders and members of Cornvii staff. They envisage the stakeholder group will support Cornvii in pre-contract matters, in particular helping to choose the build contractor, ensuring the chosen contractor delivers social value and creating a local connection criterion for the sale of new homes. Once works commence on site they envisage that meetings will be held on a monthly basis and will provide the Parish Council and local residents with a platform to get regular updates on the development, discuss challenges, develop community initiatives and discussions regarding the future ownership/management of the Public Open Space. Therefore, if any Members of the parish wish to be considered to join this group, please in the first instance contact either the Chairman Cllr Helen Williams or the Parish Clerk Edward Davies before our next parish council meeting on the 14th October.

The next meeting of the parish council will be held in St Martins Centre at 7.00 pm on Thursday 14th October 2021.

Edward Davies, Parish Clerk

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## Remembrance Sunday

November 14th 2021

St Martins War Memorial

10:30 for a 10:45am start

By Stan's Superstore

All are welcome but please do respect other people space and keep your distance.

There will **not** be a church service after due to COVID

# Parish Council

## FROM THE CHAIR

Hello

St Martins Parish Council does not meet in August, but all the councillors do keep working for the village. We keep reporting any lights out, but Scottish Power are really inept at repairing faults. Ellesmere Road, and the light at the head of Cherry Tree are probably the worst examples of their poor customer service. Please let any councillor know about a light out, they can get it reported to the right people. Parish owned lights are seen to by our own contractor, and main road lights are the responsibility of SCC. Only when there is a power fault does it need to be done by Scottish Power. Now the nights are drawing in we do need our lights.

The flowers around the village are lovely, and they do cheer us up.

Village Life do still need a few deliverers, it is enjoyable to visit a whole lot of gardens, and post a magazine through the door. If you can spare some time you can volunteer.

The St Martins Centre also needs a few volunteers, to keep the doors open for the Free Book Library, or join in some computer classes.

Look to the back page of this book to see who to contact for any of the groups you might be interested in, as a group member or volunteer. There's lots to do in this vibrant village.

We are still looking for any area that can be planted with a few trees, and welcome anyone who can offer to look after any part of the village that needs a bit of tidying.

Parish Council meetings are open to the public; St Martins Centre, 7pm on October 14<sup>th</sup>, and then 11<sup>th</sup> November. You are able to speak about anything to do with the village, or just come along to hear what we talk about.

Our Recreation Partnership group has been able to reform after the COVID delays, and we are able to announce that the official handover of the Project land to The Parish Council is about to happen. We shall be having a handover party, which will be advertised.

Detailed drawing are being finalised and the order of works is being planned.

All our litter pickers (volunteers), are still working hard to keep the village tidy; a problem area is still the play area by The Centre. If you would like to join in I have some litter picker equipment available, please contact me, I can meet you at The Centre.



A big thank you to all volunteers in any way that you help, our village is a better place for you all.

From Helen Williams, Chair of St Martins Parish Council.

# Shropshire Council

**Councillor Steve Davenport**

*County Councillor for St Martins, Dudleston, and Dudleston Heath*

Tel 07944097876 Email [steve.davenport@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:steve.davenport@shropshire.gov.uk)

Dear All

I have had some lovely comments from people saying how nice it is to receive Village Life again, we have to thank Sue Schofield and her committee for rescuing the magazine.

Updates re: Surgery

I have had further meetings with the CCG and Shropshire Council to discuss the future of our surgery. At the moment Chirk practice extended the Consultation to the end of September, at which point they will publish their findings. There is also some question over the building itself. Chirk Surgery say they own it, but we have found out it was given to the community by the Hill-Trevors and I have asked Ian to see what he can find in their archives to prove ownership. I think it's inevitable they won't carry on and I have asked Gobowen, West on Rhyn Parish Council to come together with us to find a solution, so a joint meeting will happen soon.

I tried hard to persuade Shropshire Council to keep Ifton school. Unfortunately, I lost the vote by one at the planning committee.

There will be a 20mph zone implemented outside the school with parking restrictions hopefully soon and the road to Escob as we know isn't good. This will be repaired soon and also speed restrictions put into place there.

07359176645

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## QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"WHEN YOU DANCE, YOUR PURPOSE IS NOT TO GET TO A CERTAIN PLACE ON THE FLOOR IT'S TO ENJOY EACH STEP ALONG THE WAY." —  
WAYNE DYER



# Police Report

We are committed to providing and maintaining a presence in St Martins and its surrounding area. The summer period with the children off school proved to be uneventful on the whole with incidents of ASB and associated incidents well below the average for the time of year.

Concerns raised with the school now back open is the parking during drop-off and pick-up times; we are encouraging people where possible to travel by foot or park away from the school. Parking also remains an issue within the residential areas, we are requesting those who park on the road to keep pavements and junctions clear at all times. Several reports of ASB and one of criminal damage from the Bullring area of Greenfields associated mainly with children playing football and cars being damaged and marked as a result. Parents please advise your children accordingly.

SNT will also continue to carry out speed monitoring and enforcement where necessary throughout St Martins.

We are trying to increase our accessibility and engagement to the public on the ground by the use of a mobile police station which will usually park in Stan's. We are advertising dates, locations and times on our Twitter account; Oscops. Another medium which has been put in place recently is the neighbourhood alert messaging platform which we are keen to promote; this is a system where we put crime alerts and other information dedicated and tailored to this area into the public domain. Registration is required; neighbourhoodmatters.co.uk.

David Hughes

PCSO Oswestry Rural North SNT West Mercia Police

Oswestry Police Station, Park Street, Oswestry, SY11 2HE

Mobile: 07870 219190 Direct Dial: Ext. 770 4041

For more crime prevention advice please feel free to get in contact with your local police team and please report anything suspicious to the police on 101.

**Kate Le'Clere, PC 3718**  
**Oswestry Rural North,**  
**Safer Neighbourhoods Team**  
**Mobile – 07870 219518**

**PCSO Dave Hughes – 07870 219190**

**PCSO Pete Roberts – 07870 219019**

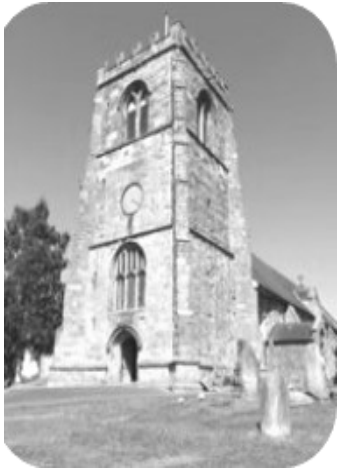
Please contact us on the above numbers if you have any issues you wish to discuss.

Email - [oswestryrn.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk](mailto:oswestryrn.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk)

**To report a crime please dial 101 or in an emergency dial 999**



# St. Martins Parish Church



## Children's Grave Area - THANK YOU

Thank you so much to the people kindly cleared and tidied the small children's grave area by the path in our churchyard. Also thank you to those of you picking up plastic flowers that get blown around the churchyard along with other rubbish left there. It makes a massive difference to the look of the churchyard.

## Service times

**Sundays: 9:30am** our usual Morning Worship Service,

also streamed on zoom. Goto our website for details.

## Weekly Events

**Mondays 1pm—2:30pm** Mother and Toddler Group 'St Martins Little Saints';

**Wednesdays 9:30am** - Morning Prayer.

**Wednesday 10:30am** - Coffee Morning now on again - NEW DAY same time.

**Fridays Youth Group** - school years 5-7 and year 9 - 11 *for info please ask.*

**Sunday Afternoon Social 3.30pm** Chapter House on first Sunday of each month

## **Celebrations**

### **Christenings**

In August and Sept we welcomed Oscar Jackson, Lacie-Rae Bebbington, Halle Edwards and Rhys Jones into the church at their Baptism.

### **Weddings**

Congratulations to Samantha Cank & Martin Scott ; Simon Oxberry & Rachel Davie.

**Sunday Social 3:30pm First Sunday of the Month** in the Chapter House next to the church.

It was great to see new faces join us for the start of our Sunday social time - which does "exactly what it says on the tin" - time to chat - eat cakes and sandwiches and drink tea. Trans

port available.

**and Wednesday Morning Coffee -10:30 - 11:30pm** in Chapter House. Our weekly meeting place - opens again. All welcome.

### **FRIDAY MORNING WALKING GROUP**

If you fancy a walk on a Friday morning, nothing too strenuous, often followed by a stop at a nice coffee shop on the way, please come along. We meet most Friday mornings at the Church car park at 10.00 & we're usually back by 12.30 / 1pm.

**To book a Christening or Wedding and for any other enquiry please contact.**

Rev'd Stuart Jermyn - saintmartinjohns@icloud.com: 778 468: mobile: 07766 255436



# St Martins Methodist Church

(Ellesmere Road)

Minister for St Martins

Rev Julia Skitt - phone: 07810 360778

## SUNDAY WORSHIP:

OCTOBER	3rd	10th	17th	24th	31 <sup>st</sup>
ST MARTINS	J Williams 11.00	@ Moors 11.00	Service 10.00	@ Moors 11.00	M Bennett 11.00
MOORS	@ St Martins	M Jackson 11.00	Service 11.00	J Brown 11.00	@ St Martins

NOVEMBER	7th	14th	21st	28th
ST MARTINS	Service 10.00	Remembrance Service	Service 10.00	Rev Eaton-Challinor H C 11.00
MOORS		Remembrance Service		@ St Martins 11.00

## Letter to the Editor

I recently contacted Councillor Steve Davenport via email about the state of some of our roads. I wrote; As a resident of St Martins I often travel to Oswestry centre via Gobowen village and find the state of repair in some stretches of road quite appalling. In particular the road adjacent to Gobowen railway car park and in Oswestry, the surface of Beatrice Street and adjoining roads.

Steve wrote back later the same day to say he knew repairs were planned and had passed my email onto Steve Charmley who is in charge of Highways on Shropshire council.



I received another reply that day, but this time from Steve Charmley and I quote :

*Thanks for asking the questions, you are right the roads do need improvement and that's exactly what is happening.*

*Gobowen Road is due for maintenance work shortly.*

*In Oswestry you will see plenty of new patches already in place where significant work has already taken place.*

*Roads such as Castle, Beatrice and Leg Street are awaiting road closures to be signed off with other partners, so that repair work can be done without interruption from traffic.*

*Other roads such as Salop and Shrewsbury Rd will be completely resurfaced in the coming months.*

*There is plenty of work already done, but there is also plenty of work scheduled, which will bring the roads up to a much better standard.*

I hope, like me, that motoring around the area won't be quite such a 'jarring' experience as it has been on some stretches of our local roads.

Keith Higgins



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## FRIENDS OF IFTON MEADOWS



We are still not back to normal with work days but hope to re start in the near future.

The old events and Horse field have been cut and collected unfortunately the hay had to be deposited again at the back of the old events field, this is not something that we like to do but is the only option on offer when the fields are cut by contractors. Ideally it should be cut and baled and taken off site. By cutting and removing the dying grasses we are helping the flower seeds to regenerate and this in turn will help us improve the wild flowers in these areas. Does anyone know someone locally who might do this for us next year?

Nature is at the moment giving us a bountiful collection of fruits especially the blackberries but we must not forget all the other fruits and nuts that the trees provide for both us and birds/ animals. As we move further into the Autumn/Winter we will also be able to see and enjoy the large variety of fungi that our site offers in all their shapes, sizes and colours - so keep a look out for them when you are taking a walk.

Looking forward we need to coppice some of the hazel areas to improve the habitat mosaic and we must tackle the birch which is invading the Skylark mound, restrictions the last two years have not helped. For this we need more able bodied volunteers. Can you help?

If we can cut down all the trees on this part of the site the cattle should be able to eat the new soft growth which in time will control this growth.

Covid meant that we are behind with both our surveys and the clearing of paths etc., so here again we need more helpers - if you are interested ring Ann on 01978710327.

Friends of Ifton Meadows.

The programme of bio-diversity monitoring of flora and fauna mentioned last month is still on hold but hopefully we can start organising this shortly. If anyone would like to help with this or general work please get in touch with Ann 01978.710327.

Friends of Ifton Meadows.



## Were you wondering what is going on at Mile End?

Here it is a new roundabout, just how it will work I really don't know but I hope it works better than the last changes.



ARRON ELLIS THOMAS  
*presents*

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**Email: [stmartinscentre@mail.com](mailto:stmartinscentre@mail.com)**

**We are gradually reopening, watch for details:**

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*WE DISCOVER, WE GROW*

**Girlguiding**

Dear Parents and Girl Guiding members.

We were pleased to see so many new faces at our first Brownie and Rainbow meeting.

It has been a long time to be able to meet up with you all, I hope you all had a fun packed night.

If you would like to know more about Girl Guiding or thinking of joining us then please contact Heather 01691 778598 or visit the [girlguiding.org.uk](http://girlguiding.org.uk) website.

We are always happy to help with new enquires, young adults and volunteer admin help welcomed.



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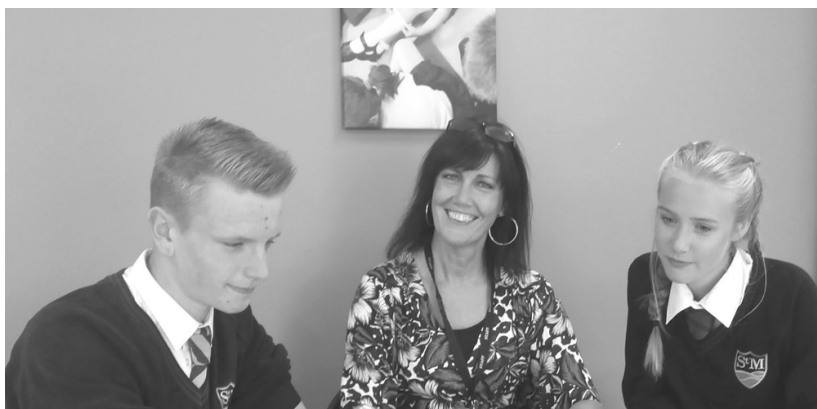
**07932 564507**



# St Martins School

St Martins School is a very special place and it is my privilege and pleasure to be leading the school at this exciting stage in the schools history.

As a 3-16 through school at the heart of the community of St Martins, we are able to deliver child centred, individually tailored education because of our small size and unique position in the community.



The family ethos of the school surrounds all who work and study here creating a safe, supportive and nurturing environment. We value academic progress and social development equally .

Our children are individuals, respected for their differences and celebrated for their strengths. Within this caring family environment our children feel confident to push themselves to achieve the best they can, they enjoy an exciting and sometimes daring curriculum which challenges and stretches them. We love our school and we hope when you visit you will too.

2021

## Healthy eating and enterprise! In our Primary phase



From next Monday, year 5 will be running a Health bar where all primary pupils will be able to buy a piece of fruit and a bottle of water for only 25p or a bottle of water or piece of fruit for 15p. Please help make our school a healthy place by encouraging our pupils to eat fruit and drink water at playtime and not crisps, chocolate and sugary cereal bars. We very much appreciate your support with this.


## Summer school

During the summer break, students who were about to join our secondary phase were invited to join in with summer school. We learnt about the continents and made 3D collages of them. We then considered the impact of the climate change on our planet and created art using bottle tops to raise awareness. We finished the week off with a mini sports day and a fantastic singing, drama and drumming workshop focused on 'Lion King'.



# Did you know...?

- ⇒ Fireworks can travel at speeds up to 150mph, the cruising speed of some biplanes.
- ⇒ It is illegal to sell fireworks to anyone under the age of 18.
- ⇒ If three sparklers burn together, they will do so at the same heat of a blowtorch used for joining metal.
- ⇒ Until 1959 it was illegal not to celebrate bonfire night in the UK.
- ⇒ Bonfire night was originally called 'Bone fire'.
- ⇒ Throwing a firework is a criminal offence and you can be fined up to £5000 for doing so.



# **SIX THINGS TO DO WHEN THERE IS A CARDIAC ARREST**

***In this order:***

## **1. Check that the patient is not breathing**

Don't panic

For 10 seconds look at them and see if they take a breath, put a hand on their chest and feel for a rise, listen for sounds of breathing

## **2. Shout for help – LOUDLY!**

... if the patient is not breathing at all or not properly

## **3. Call 999 straight away ...**

Ask for Ambulance

Listen to what the Controller is saying and do it

Once you have given the Controller your location the ambulance is on its way on blue lights

## **4. Start chest compressions**

As soon as you can. The Controller will guide you

Put your phone on loudspeaker so you have two hands free

Don't stop

## **5. Send for the defibrillator ...**

... if somebody is with you to help

They must take with them the key code for the defibrillator cabinet so write it down when the Ambulance Controller reads it out

## **6. Use the defibrillator**

When it arrives, take it out of the case and press the power button to switch it on.

It will give you all the instructions you need and you still have the Controller on your phone – they won't hang up until the crew arrives, so you are not alone

*If you haven't got a defibrillator, do what the Controller tells you until the crew arrives*

## **Defibrillators can be found at the following locations: RING 999 FIRST**

- On the front corner of St Martins Centre Building Available 24hr  
Lock code required from West Midlands Ambulance Service via 111.
- At Ridgway Rentals, phone **770171** Available Mon-Fridays 8am – 6pm  
Can be delivered within the village by trained operator.

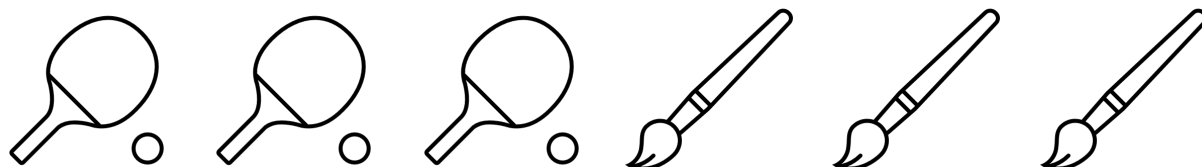
**Rip this page out and put it on your fridge**

**or somewhere handy should you ever need it in an emergency.**

# ST MARTINS YOUTHIE

St Martins Centre

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Full details can be found on our website

**[www.ridgwayrentals.com/careers](http://www.ridgwayrentals.com/careers)**

No telephone applications - Previous applicants need not apply

# What's on in October2021!

Sun 3rd	Sunday Social	Chapter House Parish Church	3:30pm
Wed 6th	WI	the lounge of The Miners Institute	7:30pm
Wed 13th	Hostas	Weston Rhyn Gardening Club at Weston Rhyn Institute	7:30
Thur 14th	St Martins Parish Council	St Martins Centre,	7:00pm