



# Tormarton & West Littleton Newsletter

April  
2023

## Diary

Weds 5 April 7.30 pm Church meeting at Jennifer Woolley's  
Mon 17 April 8.30 pm Playing Field 100 Club draw at the Compass

## Advance Notice

Sat 6 May Tormarton Coronation Fayre at the Compass Inn  
Fri 9 June 6.30pm Defibrillator Awareness Session at Tormarton Parish Hall  
Mon 15 May 7.00pm Annual Parish Meeting followed by a Parish Council Meeting  
Sat/Sun 10/11 June 2.00pm-5.30pm West Littleton Open Gardens. 10 - 12 open gardens.  
Entry is £5 (children free). Teas and homemade cakes will be served and there will be a plant sale.

## Recyclable & Refuse Collection:

Recycling items and food bins are collected **every** week. Black and green bins are collected **alternate** weeks.

For details on Recycling items to be put in each box/bag, check information on South Glos website

### **Tormarton – Mondays**

Bins: 3 & 17 April

### **Old Hundred Lane – Wednesdays**

Bins: 12& 26 April

### **B4465 towards Codrington – Fridays (location)**

Bins: 14 & 28 April

### **West Littleton – Mondays or Tuesdays (depending on location)**

Bins: April 10/11 & 24/25

## TORMARTON CHURCH SERVICES

Sun 2 April 10.30 am All ages morning service followed by coffee, tea & biscuits Rev. Sally Wheeler  
Sun 9 April 10.30 am **Easter Family Communion** Rev. Lynne Godfrey & Mike Strathdee

## WEST LITTLETON CHURCH SERVICES

Fri 7 April 10.30 am Good Friday Service of Meditation Aurea Hart  
Sun 9 April 10.30 am **Easter Service with Holy Communion** (BCP) Rev. Sally Wheeler  
Sun 23 April 9 am Holy Communion (BCP) Rev. Sally Wheeler

## EASTER SERVICES at MARSHFIELD CHURCH

Thurs 6 April 7.00pm 'The Last Supper' a Benefice service for Maundy Thursday  
Fri 7 April 2.00pm 'The Last Hour at the Cross' Good Friday Vigil  
7.30pm John Stainer "The Crucifixion" choral oratorio with congregational hymns

## TORMARTON CHURCH NEWS

Those of you who attended the funeral for Gordon Berry might have noticed that most of the organ has been removed revealing the beautiful stained glass window that has for many years been hidden from view.

The space now available will eventually be taken up with the simple servery as we move towards our goal to provide an open space for community use.

We have also recently benefitted from an Enover community grant which funded much needed repairs to the tracery on the outside of the window nearest to the south door.

## **PARISH COUNCIL - NOTES from Sue Giles**

### **Neighbourhood Plan**

Thank you to the volunteers from Tormarton and West Littleton who have contacted us to find out more about this process. An information evening is being arranged to move this important plan along. Do contact our clerk by email [clerk@tormarton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@tormarton-pc.gov.uk) if you would like to be involved.

### **Coronation Fayre**

The 6<sup>th</sup> of May will soon be here so do come along to The Compass for this free event taking the form of a picnic and barbeque, with games and stalls from community groups together with live music and a large screen to view events in London.

Our thanks as a village to The Compass for hosting this event.

### **Annual Parish Meeting**

There will not be a meeting of the Parish Council in April, due to the elections on 4<sup>th</sup> May.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> May at 7pm, followed by a Parish Council Meeting. We welcome your attendance and contributions at both of these meetings. Any comments or questions can also be sent to our clerk, Jack, at [clerk@tormarton-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@tormarton-pc.gov.uk)

### **Demand Responsive Transport (DRT)**

WESTlink is a new type of bus service which will operate in our area from April 2023. It runs without a fixed timetable or route, which is booked 'on demand' by users through an app or by phone.

Passengers can get on or off at existing bus stops as well as at a number of virtual bus stops which will be created at easy to reach places, so that passengers can then link to major bus and rail services for their onward journey. More information is available at <https://travelwest.info/>

The Green Community Transport initiative is expected to continue in its current form.

### **New Voting rules**

On Thursday 4th May 2023 you will be able to Vote in the Parish and District Council elections. Please check your Poll card to ensure that you have the necessary photographic evidence which must now be presented before you are allowed to vote. You can check if you are registered or if you require further assistance by calling 01454 863030 or emailing [electoral.services@southglos.gov.uk](mailto:electoral.services@southglos.gov.uk).

You will not require photo id if you are already registered for a postal vote.

### **GORDON BERRY**

Jackie and the family would like to thank all those who helped to make Gordon's funeral last week the send off he so deserved, including all those who attended, those who helped to prepare the churchyard and church and especially Sally, Heather and Janet who ensured everything ran smoothly on the day (except for the rain).

Gordon was a Tormarton man through and through having been born in the village over 95 years ago, the third generation of a farming family who went on, with his brother, son and nephew to establish a thriving farming and hay and straw business. He could still be seen driving the grain trailers through the village at the age of 85. He helped found the first Tormarton Football team and played for the village cricket team. He acted as agent for several local councillors in district council elections and was a great supporter of Tormarton Church serving on the PCC and as a Church Warden.

After several years away he has now returned to his much-loved home, surrounded by many of those he has loved and lost. He will be greatly missed by his family and all his friends, many of whom recall his warm welcome when they first arrived to live in Tormarton, but he left a fine example of a life well lived.

### **PARISH HALL news from Stewart Waters**

The welfare room has been completed at the Hall and is a major improvement on the former portacabin. The manhole in the car park will be reset shortly which will remove the broken tarmac around the edge. Please remember that the playground gyro-spyrer has been taken out of use and should not be used until the repair has been completed

## **Parish Hall Bookings**

The Hall continues to be available in the evenings and at weekends for any function and the Rotowasher which is used to clean the floor in the hall is available to hire and can be used to clean carpets.

Please contact Sophie email: [sophiehthomson@hotmail.com](mailto:sophiehthomson@hotmail.com), phone: 07786 653834 for hall bookings and to arrange to use the cleaner.

## **GUIDED WALKS in the COTSWOLDS NATIONAL LANDSCAPE** – previously known as the Cotswold Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Every month the Cotswold Voluntary wardens issue a list of Guided circular walks in the Southern Cotswolds. This month they include:

April 1 – 2.5 mile easy walk around Marshfield starting at the Market Place

April 4 – 5 mile moderate walk around Colerne starting at the Fox & Hounds

April 18 – 5 miles moderate walk around Box

April 23 – 9 miles moderate walk around Castle Combe

April 29 – 7 miles moderate walk around Marshfield

All walks led by the Voluntary Wardens are FREE OF CHARGE however donations are welcome and help the wardens to take care of the countryside.

For full details of the walks available visit: <http://www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/visiting-and-exploring/guided-walks> OR check the village notice boards.

Our local footpath warden is Bev Hope-Bell who can be contacted for any issues with local paths [bevhopebell@btinternet.com](mailto:bevhopebell@btinternet.com)

## **NATURE NOTES**

**Did you know** that regularly cut grass contains very few wildflowers and has a low biodiversity value with few pollinating insects or other wildlife benefiting from this habitat.

Since the 1970s there has been a 50% decline in insects due to habitat loss, climate change, disease and use of pesticides.

What can we do to help?

- Consider leaving some areas of grass to grow and allow any flowers within it to bloom and seed before mowing or strimming and removing the cut grass.
- reduce or eliminate the use of insecticides and slug pellets
- leave an untidy and undisturbed corner in your garden for insects and hedgehogs to hide.

## **Would you like your newsletter via email?**

We are gradually replacing the printed newsletter with a regular email with printed copies for those households not on email. If you would like to receive future copy via email, please email [newsletter@tormarton.org](mailto:newsletter@tormarton.org) with your name, first line of address and email address.

## **Tormarton Community WhatsApp group**

The group has been set up by Noreen Finnamore to facilitate the sharing of important information relevant to the people of Tormarton. All are welcome and encouraged to join.

To join the group please send an email to Noreen at [home@thefinnamores.com](mailto:home@thefinnamores.com) giving details of your name, mobile number and the first line of your address.

**Pilates sessions** are currently held via zoom at 6 pm every Monday evening.

Anyone interested in joining, who has already done some Pilates, can contact Sophie, email: [sophiehthomson@hotmail.com](mailto:sophiehthomson@hotmail.com), phone: 07786 653834. Cost: £5 per session.

## **Rota Volunteers, Tormarton Church**

Church Flowers: 2 April – No flowers during Lent; 9/16 April – Mrs. J. Clark; 23/30 April TBC

**NB:** all festival flower arrangements for Easter on 9 April

Church Cleaning: Mrs. G. Bant

**Items for the next issue to be sent to [newsletter@tormarton.org](mailto:newsletter@tormarton.org) no later than 24<sup>th</sup> April please.**