



Tormarton & West Littleton Newsletter

March 2024

Diary

Mon	4 March	10-12am	Village Coffee Morning at the Compass Inn, all welcome, no need to book
Fri	15 March	7.30 pm	Madrigals at St. James's Church, West Littleton (see below)
Mon	18 March	10-12am	Village Coffee Morning at the Compass Inn, all welcome, no need to book
Mon	18 March	6.30 pm	Parish Council Meeting in the Village Hall
Weds	20 March	evening	NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN MEETING at the Village Hall
Mon	25 March	8pm	Tormarton PCC meeting

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: 4 & 18 March

Old Hundred Lane – Wednesdays

Bins: 13 & 27 March

B4465 towards Codrington – Fridays

Bins: 1, 15 & 29 March

West Littleton – Mondays or Tuesdays (depending on location)

Bins: March 11/12 & 25/26

TORMARTON CHURCH SERVICES

Sun	3 Mar	10.30am	All ages morning service followed by coffee, tea & biscuits	Rev. Sharon Roberts
Sun	17 Mar	9am	Parish Communion	Rev. Sally Wheeler
Sun	31 Mar	10.30am	Easter Family Communion	Rev. Lynne Godfrey

WEST LITTLETON CHURCH SERVICES

Sun	10 Mar	10.30 am	Matins (BCP)	Aurea Hart
Sun	24 Mar	9 am	Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev. Sally Wheeler
Fri	29 Mar	10.30 am	Good Friday Service of Meditation	Aurea Hart
Sun	31 Mar	9 am	Easter Service with Holy Communion (BCP)	Rev. Lynne Godfrey

AN EASTER MESSAGE from Rev. Sally Wheeler

Easter is approaching fast as it falls early this year on 31st March. In Holy Week there are some special services in the Benefice, hosted by St Mary's Marshfield: an 'Experience the Last Supper' evening on Maundy Thursday at 7pm, and a moving concert of choral and congregational music for Good Friday 'Before the Cross' at 7.30pm.

Easter Sunday will be celebrated at 10.30am in St Mary Magdalene Tormarton, and we hope many of you will join in this celebration of joy and hope. This service will be taken by Rev Lynne Godfrey and it will be her last service in the Benefice as she goes on to take up a post as Associate Minister in St Peter's Chippenham. We wish her well and are so grateful for her ministry in our Benefice over the last seven years.

Easter Blessings from the Rev Sally Wheeler.

Madrigals in St. James's Church, West Littleton 7.30pm Friday 15th March

Come and join us for a magical evening of song performed by The Bristol University Madrigal Society to be followed by a two course, plus cheese, supper at the Fine Cheese Company premises at Tolldown.

There will be a retiring collection after the concert and the cost of the supper will be the same as last year at £15. All of the proceeds will go to St James's Church.

There is no need to pay in advance but if you would like to come please email sallyyoung106@gmail.com

Lent Soup Lunch at Grange Farm

Many thanks must go to Heather and George Gent who organised a very lively and successful Soup lunch at Grange Farm on Weds February 14th. We were treated to a lovely variety of different soups and the, much appreciated, donations of £230 will go towards the cost of the new hospitality area in Tormarton Church.

Benefice Lent Lunches Saturdays 12.00pm

Benefice Lent Lunches will be held at St Mary's, Marshfield on the 9th and 23rd March and at Marshfield Chapel on the 2nd & 16th March. Donations will be in support of Tearfund and Christian Aid.

A message from The Sisters of the Church for Lent and Easter

We are looking ahead to Easter and our annual Easter Egg Appeal. We love to share the joy of Easter with Easter eggs for the families who visit the food bank at this time of year and would be delighted as always to receive your donations.

Revd Sharon is happy to take any Easter Eggs to the Sisters of the Church – but these would need to be left at St Mary's Marshfield by **Sunday 10th March**. Alternatively, you can donate directly via bank transfer: account no: 65075960, sort code: 08-92-99.

With thanks, best wishes and every blessing for Lent. Revd Sr Teresa Mary CSC

PARISH COUNCIL NOTES from the Chairman

Spring really is just around the corner, honestly!

...and in tune with the season of new beginnings, the Parish Council are pleased to announce that we have finally secured a new Clerk for the parish who will be starting with us from the 1st of March. To make the transition as smooth as possible our current Clerk Jack will be working alongside him for the first couple of months and sharing his knowledge. I will save the formal introductions until the next Newsletter, where we are hoping that our new Clerk will be able to introduce themselves personally with a few words.

In other news, a huge thank you to Councillor Katy Pool for all her work to secure a grant from Avon & Somerset Police Community Trust for an upgrade of our speed signs. The grant will pay for the conversion of our VAR signs to solar power, which will save the Parish council several thousand pounds per year, as well as making them a lot 'greener'. As you can imagine, there were a great number of hoops that needed to be jumped through to secure such a large grant, and thankfully Katy cleared all of them to make the application a resounding success.

We have also had an update from the team driving the 'Neighbourhood Plan' forwards. The team have already met a couple of times, and I am excited to announce that a village meeting, similar to the one that took place in Marshfield a few weeks ago, has now been planned for our Parish. The meeting will take place in the village Hall on Wednesday the 20th of March, and details will be circulated in leaflet form to each house, and via the usual social media channels. This next step in the process will aim to help the group start the consultation process with residents, and find out exactly what's important to them, and what they may want any final plan to look like.

The next meeting of the Parish Council is currently planned to take place at the village hall on Monday 18th March 2024 at 6:30pm. As always, Parish Council members will welcome your attendance and contributions in person on the night. However, please remember that you can also submit comments and questions electronically by emailing our Clerk at clerk@tormarton-pc.gov.uk.

A useful reporting link to South Glos Council

It is easy and quick to report fly tipping, broken signposts, potholes etc to South Glos Council using the link <https://beta.southglos.gov.uk/report/>

PARISH HALL NEWS from Stewart Waters

Painting continues at the Hall with a fresh coat of paint planned in the corridor and Committee Room. By popular choice a calming velvet tone has been agreed and Steve will be working on weekends over the next month or so. Also the new floor in the Committee Room will improve the décor in this part of the Hall. A deep clean will be organised in the near future and at the same time any faulty fluorescent tubes will be replaced.

Unfortunately there was a blockage in the drains to the side of the Hall recently and a contractor had to be called out to clear the system. He found paper towels and wet wipes had been flushed down the toilets and had

caused the blockage. Please could all users of the Hall ensure that these items are disposed of in the appropriate bins.

Rob James has been busy clearing the moss in the playground and so hopefully that we pass the next inspection. Thank you Rob for manning the pressure washer.

Hiring the Village Hall

The Hall is available for hire outside of nursery hours (8am to 6pm weekdays) for any activities including parties, badminton or any other social gathering and the Rotowasher which is used to clean the floor in the hall is available to hire, this can also be used to clean carpets.

Please contact Sophie email: sophiehthomson@hotmail.com, phone: 07786 653834 for all enquiries.

Badminton Club

The Badminton club plays every Tuesday at the Tormarton Parish Hall from 7 - 9 pm.

New members of all ages and experience are most welcome to join us.

Please contact Heather Gent on 218223 for any further information.

Pilates Sessions continue on zoom starting at 7 pm every Monday evening. Anyone interested in joining, please contact Sophie, email: sophiehthomson@hotmail.com phone: 07786 653834

You could save a life! - DEFIBRILLATORS

We have TWO AED (Automated Electronic Defibrillators) available locally, one by the entrance to the Village Hall in Tormarton and one near the village noticeboard in West Littleton.

If you think that someone has had a cardiac arrest (that is they are not obviously breathing or responding to you) you should:

- 1) Dial 999 and shout for help
- 2) Start doing CPR - the 999 operator will talk you through this, you DON'T need to breathe into anyone's mouth, just do chest compressions.
- 3) Send someone to get a defibrillator if you can. These do not need any specialist training to use. They talk you through how to use them and will only deliver a shock if the onboard computer thinks it's appropriate.

Using a defibrillator fast after a cardiac arrest saves lives

The Defibrillator case **DOES NOT need a code** – just twist the cover to remove and access.

Playing Field 100 Club:

Lucky winners in the February Draw were:-

D & H Maddicks (£50), R.Monyard, B.Spruels, R.Orme, Tormarton CC, and E.Abbott (£10 each).

Many thanks to all those who continue to support the playing field facilities.

The next draw (the final one for 23/24) will be held at The Compass Inn on Monday, 15th April, 2024 at 8.30pm. Please contact Pam Davis if you do not wish to be included in the 24/25 draws.

Contact Details for our Local Community Police

Bianca Rotariu – PCSO9061 Email: 9061@avonandsomerset.police.uk

Emma Sheppard – PCSO 7315 Email: 7315@avonandsomerset.police.uk

WESTlink – ‘on demand’ bus service

WESTlink is the ‘on demand’ bus service which operates in our area. It runs without a fixed timetable or route and can be booked 'on demand' by users through an app or by phone 0117 457 8561.

To find out more about the service visit <https://travelwest.info/westlink/> or download the WESTlink App to your mobile device.

Green Community Travel (GCT)

Green community transport provides affordable and accessible transport from your door.

More information about the service and about becoming a volunteer driver is available at www.greencommunitytravel.co.uk or telephone 01454 228706.

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:

March 5 – 5 mile walk around Colerne starting at the Fox & Hounds

March 12 – 6 mile walk around Bath starting at Café Nero, Bath Bus Station

March 16 – 10.5 miles circular walk from Cold Ashton via Charmy Down, St Catherine's Valley and Marshfield

March 19 – 5 miles walk around Box

March 21 – 8.5 miles circular walk from Sherston via Westonbirt Arboretum

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

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

NATURE NOTES Are You Hedgehog Aware?

Did you know that the population of Britain's hedgehogs has declined by between 30 and 70% since the millennium? The main threats to hedgehogs, beside the obvious road collisions are:

- habitat loss – tidy gardens , garden fences and walls
- chemicals – insecticides and slug pellets
- mowers and strimmers
- steep sided ponds and cattle grids with no slope or ramp for them to climb out

So what can we do to help?

- make sure the hedgehogs can move around easily with access holes in your boundary fences or walls - they travel up to a mile at night foraging for food
- provide a simple safe source of water in dry weather
- reduce or eliminate the use of insecticides and slug pellets
- leave an untidy and undisturbed corner in your garden for a hedgehog to sleep and hibernate

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 with your name, first line of address and email address

Rota Volunteers, Tormarton Church

Church Flowers: There are no flowers during Lent, 31 March Joan Marshall

NB: all festival flower arrangements for Easter on 31 March

Church Cleaning: Heather Gent and Noreen Finnamore

The village newsletter is kindly printed by Simon Stevens. Thank you Simon.

Items for the next issue to be sent to newsletter@tormarton.org no later than 24th March please.