

# IWERNE MINSTER NEWSLETTER

February – March 2023

## CORONATION OF KING CHARLES III

Do you have any ideas for an event you might like to organise for Iwerne Minster Villagers during the Coronation Weekend?

We are looking for any ideas, especially from the newer members to the village. Villagers who have organised these events in the past feel that their tried and trusted ideas maybe are somewhat dated!

The Council has a small grant budget so any ideas would be welcomed. If nothing is suggested, we could still have a community party gathering on the Parish Field where people bring their own food, drink, eating irons, etc. and join others to celebrate the event. Some suggest smaller groups, possibly in someone's garden, to have a get together. **Please help by letting us know what you want to do and send your ideas to the Parish Clerk:**

[clerk@iwerneminsterparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@iwerneminsterparishcouncil.gov.uk)

All suggestions will be discussed at the next full Council meeting on Monday February 13th. One idea already proposed is for some sort of memento for our younger residents, as has been done in the past.

**IT'S PANTOMIME TIME AGAIN - Oh  
yes it is!**

**Cinderella [with a twist]**

**17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> February**

Rehearsals are going extremely well. As in previous years we are hoping to have a really good raffle on both evenings. We are calling again on your generosity in helping to provide suitable prizes. **If you can help please contact Penny [811339] or leave at "Dwell Deep".**

**TICKETS are now on sale at the Village Shop.**

## ONE WOMAN ARMY WINS TAP DANCING SILVER



In November 2022, Iwerne born and bred resident Poppy Marshall, then aged 15, went to the International Tap Dance World Championships held in Croatia to represent Great Britain in the small group category. After a gruelling set of heats, against seventeen other countries, her group, 'One Woman Army' got through to the finals where they won a silver medal. They beat the reigning championships, America, but narrowly missed out on gold which went the Czech Republic. Poppy is now continuing her training which takes place in Swindon, and hopes to represent the country again in the future.

**Mel Marshall**

## RADIO SOLENT



You may or may not be aware that BBC Radio Solent broadcasts a Dorset-only programme, weekdays 7-9am with Steve Harris. We feature local stories and information that may be of interest to residents in your area.

The programme is available to listen to live on 103.8FM, digital radio or on Freeview channel 726. You can also listen anytime on BBC Sounds. The link to listen online is here: [www.bbc.in/SolentDorset](http://www.bbc.in/SolentDorset)

If anyone in your area has any local stories that we may like to feature on our programme please get in touch via email at [radiosolentnews@bbc.co.uk](mailto:radiosolentnews@bbc.co.uk)

## CHRISTMAS DINNER 2022

The first Abingdon Christmas dinner since lockdown took place on the 6th December and was attended by 56 villagers who enjoyed a three course Christmas meal.

The dinner was organised by Sue Le Prevost ably assisted by a band of willing helpers. Everyone's little grey cells were put to work solving the clues to a quiz put together by Neil Davies and the reading by Malcolm Green kept everyone enthralled.

The hall had been beautifully decorated by Sue, Maggie, Paul and Judith which contributed to the Christmas atmosphere.

The committee are grateful to everyone who supported the event and together with the raffle £632 was made for hall funds.

**Dianne Benfield**

## NEWS FROM THE VILLAGE CLUB



We had hoped to end the year with a Coffee Morning where we would offer Mulled Wine & Mince Pies to celebrate Christmas. However this had to be cancelled because, owing to a spell of very cold weather, the Club was frozen up. Not to be outdone, we re-arranged the morning for January 14th. A good number of villagers turned out to devour the mince pies, mulled wine and coffee. It being the



first event of the year, it was good to see so many people enjoying socialising. Coming up on 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> February is the Pantomime "Cinderella" [with a twist]. Hope you have got your tickets which are on sale at the Village Shop. Mentioned already in the Newsletter, there are ideas about the Coronation Celebrations.

**Penny Marsh**

## BATTERY DISPOSAL

Please separate ALL batteries out of your waste going to landfill. Particularly the lithium-ion type which is present in many items, even some greeting cards! See:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-63809620>

Most supermarkets have a separate collection point for batteries by the checkouts.

## TABLE AND CHAIRS FOR SALE



Walnut table with double pedestal 60 inches in length and 35 inches high. Inset leaf 14 inches. Also, eight chairs with leather seats and shield backs. Two of the chairs need attention but the other six are in good nick. Set can be split up. Contact Chuck Berry 07860 294240 or 01747 811625 to discuss a price. Customer to collect.

## IWERNE MINSTER 100 CLUB RESULTS

### November 2022

£15 Jean & Peter Robinson (25)

£12 Marion Harrison (56)

£10 Neil & Jane Davies (68)

£5 Jonathon & Susan (33)

### December 2022

£30 Richard Thomas (64)

£20 Tony Weeks (59)

£20 Steve Harrison (40)

£20 Marion Harrison (50)

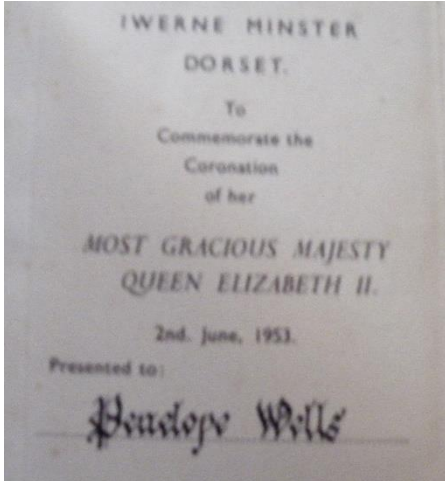
£20 Penny Marsh (48)

## CORONATION 1953

1953 now seems a very long time ago and I have been asked for my memory of how it was celebrated in Iwerne Minster. The memories are rather vague which shows that we certainly were not on the map of "The Biggest Celebration". On the morning of a dullish day, I think it rained in London. We all attended a church service, pleased to be free from

(CORONATION 1953 continued from page 2)

school. Then came the bit I remember most. We were allowed through the corner gate into the garden of the “Homestead”, now “The Oakhouse”. It was almost forbidden territory to us youngsters. There we each received a cup & saucer [now lost] and a copy of the New Testament [still treasured], by the chairman of the Parish Council. Standing with him would have been other councillors and Sir Cyril Norwood who lived in the “Homestead”.



Of course TV was a new thing in the village, so those lucky enough to have one [not many] invited people to cram into their cottages later in the day to watch the procession and recordings of the ceremony. Such was the squash that most of us youngsters got hot and bored so decided to go off and play. We didn't perhaps realise the importance of the occasion.

A few days later we went to Clayesmore School Theatre where we watched the Pathé News film of the event which we all enjoyed much more. I don't remember any flags or bunting on the houses.

Penny Marsh

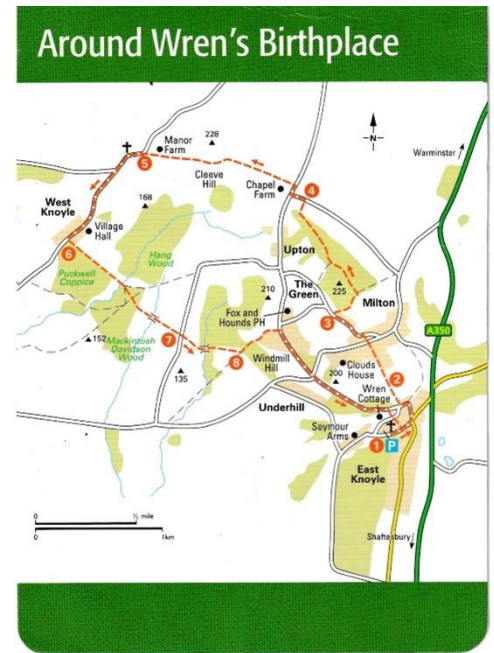
**Do other readers have memories of the 1953 Coronation? If so, please write them down and send them to [monique@hairy-barbarian.com](mailto:monique@hairy-barbarian.com)**

### **PROPOSED TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF POST OFFICE ROAD, IWERNE MINSTER**

Post Office Road between A350 Blandford Road and The Old Coach House, a distance of approximately 20 metres, will be closed from March 6<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The closure has been requested to allow Brynwell Southern Ltd safe access to carry out works with scaffolding to The Talbot. The closure will be in place 24 hours a day.

## **IWERNE VALLEY WALKING GROUP DECEMBER 2022 EAST KNOYLE WALK**

Our Christmas walk began and ended at the Fox and Hounds pub in East Knoyle. It was a circular walk, to West Knoyle (6) and back, approximately 4 miles, since we omitted the extra mile or so, around East Knoyle (1).



It was a lovely walk with plenty of variety – setting off up the road from The Green and through woods and fields, with a break at the church in West Knoyle, where this photo was taken. Although it was still frosty, there was no rain so we were lucky with the weather.



The photo shows the walkers from the group plus Clare's daughter and two grandchildren, and her dogs, Archie and Molly. Helen had also brought Diana's dog, Smudge.

On our return, we were joined by a few extra people for lunch at the Fox and Hounds, which everyone seemed to enjoy.

Clare Martin

## THE VIEW FROM ST MARY'S

It was entirely fitting that the service at which we remembered the life of Richard Hood took place at St Mary's, the church to which he devoted so much of his time and energy since moving with Jane to Iwerne Minster in 2011. It brought to mind the inscription on the memorial to Christopher Wren in St Paul's Cathedral – "si monumentum requiris, circumspice" (if you seek his monument, look around you). The church was packed with family and friends for a moving and uplifting service. There was standing room only as so many people came to pay their respects and to remember Richard. An unforgettable occasion.

The work on the refurbishment of St Mary's is continuing now that the Christmas break is over, and completion of the work really is in sight. The re-laying of the floor in the chancel should be completed soon, followed by lighting, plumbing and heating. Then the last of the pews and the choir stalls will be re-positioned and the area decorated. The new Bishop of Salisbury, the Right Reverend Stephen Lake, has kindly offered to lead a service of celebration on Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> April.

The beginning of December saw the revival of the St Mary's Christmas Bazaar, which had to be cancelled in 2021 due to the pandemic. It was very well attended and people spent generously, particularly on the excellent raffle. The Bazaar raised an amazing £700 which was given to Alabare, (the charity for the homeless which the church has supported for many years), with an additional £300 from St Mary's to round the donation up to £1000. Huge thanks are due to Sue Le Prevost for organising the Bazaar and to all those who contributed to a very successful event.

It was wonderful to enjoy the Christmas services in the newly decorated nave and in warmth and comfort! We held a traditional crib and carol service on the Sunday before Christmas. The midnight communion service on Christmas Eve is always popular, and a well-attended Christmas Day service was led by Bishop Tim Thornton, who revealed a great store of "knock knock" jokes during his sermon.

The church looked glorious during the Christmas period. The features were the traditional crib which has graced the church for so many years, the beautifully decorated Christmas tree kindly

donated by Clayesmore School, and the flowers which I think were as lovely as I have ever seen them.

The period between Christmas and Lent is traditionally relatively quiet, but Home Groups continue and Carolyn Jervis and Jenny Parkhouse are launching another Bible Course focusing on the Gospel of John, starting on 31<sup>st</sup> January. All are welcome whether or not they have attended any of the previous courses. Contact Jenny Parkhouse (01747 812603) for details. And there will be other events taking place as we approach Lent and the joyous celebration of Easter.

**David Parkhouse – Churchwarden**



*Taken on New Year's Day 2021 (John Goodliffe)*

**Knock, knock.**

**Who's there?**

**Broccoli.**

**Broccoli who?**

**Broccoli doesn't have a last name, silly.**

**Knock, knock.**

**Who's there?**

**A little old lady.**

**A little old lady who?**

**I had no idea you could yodel.**

# ELECTRICITY SUPPLY TO IWERNE MINSTER

Whoever is billing you for electricity, the actual physical supply is provided by the Scottish and Southern Electricity Network (SSEN). SSE is the organisation you should contact in the event of a power cut.

IM is supplied from the high voltage distribution station at Park Farm. Supply comes into the village past Oyles Mill and then splits around the village, creating something like a ring main or a net. This means that the village itself has a pretty robust supply. Thus, if a section goes down, it is possible, via the substations in the village, to reconnect the section. Outlying sites, like Hill Farm, Peggs Farm, Farrington, West Lodge, are on spurs and consequently more vulnerable.

How do we use electrical power? All households use electricity for lighting. Many use it for cooking. All those with oil or gas central heating boilers will use it to run the timers, to fire up the boiler and to drive the central heating circulation pumps. For some the LX supply is critical, those needing dialysis machines, for example. Households which are classed as vulnerable, such as those with very young children, the old, the infirm and those with certain health conditions, should ensure they are on the SSE list of vulnerable households, so they can be prioritized and additional provision made in the event of an outage.

This applies whether the outage is scheduled or unscheduled. **See box** for info about getting on the register.

In the event of a severe, long term outage, SSE can provide generators. SSE can also deploy a 'meals van' providing basic hot food and drink. In an extreme outage event, they would be sited somewhere near a communal hall that that can be lit and heated, for example Abingdon Hall, the village Club House or the church (when the present work is completed).

## Vulnerable peoples' register

Vulnerability includes: disability, children under five, blindness, deafness, chronic illness, aged over 60, those using medical equipment or aids reliant on electricity. This is not a definitive list, so contact SSE and discuss your situation.

If you have vulnerable people in your house, let SSE know.

You can do this either by 'phoning them on **0800 294 3259**

Or visiting their website: [Priority Services Register - SSE](#)

Or completing their form (available from the village shop)

## What simple pre-emptive preparation can we as individuals make now?

Well, quite a bit, in fact:-

**Torch:** The simplest preparation is to have a torch *easily* to hand, i.e. not buried at the back of a drawer (which drawer was it?) and a set of fresh batteries.

**Warm clothes & blankets:** Keep them easily accessible.

**Cordless devices:** Keep your mobile 'phones, iPad, etc charged. Similarly for stair lifts and any medical equipment.

**Camping gas cooker:** If you have one, keep it handy with spare gas cylinders.

**Electric car:** Keep charged.

**Vulnerable household:** Make sure you are registered with SSE.

**And what can we do in the longer term is: - Use less electricity! All sorts of things can reduce your usage and your bill. Change to LED lights; when you replace any white goods, favour low energy models with the green A, A+ or A++ rating; cold wash laundry (and do it less often!) and switch off appliances at night.**

John Goodliffe

## SUTTON WALDRON – IWERNE MINSTER WOMEN'S INSTITUTE



SWIM WI ladies attended their annual Christmas lunch at the Fontmell Village Hall. The committee cooked a traditional roast turkey dinner with all the trimmings. Entertainment was provided by Jan McNeill who sang for us and let us dance off our mince pies. It was a lovely festive afternoon and we left with our Secret Santa gifts.

On a blustery and intermittently wet day on January 9<sup>th</sup>, a few of us were lucky enough to attend the Child Okeford WI meeting in their Community Hall. They had invited the Wareham Whalers to sing and we were very well entertained by their selection of rousing sea chanties sung as they would have been done on the ships and on shore: pulling ropes, turning the capstan, pining for their girlfriends and wives back home, and getting very drunk when they had the chance. In between the shanties, we were treated to an amusing explanation of the origins of all the different sayings connected with the sea. Did you know, for example, that keeping a log comes from the practice of throwing a log overboard to help tell the speed of the ship and that sea knots comes from the knots in the rope which helped mariners to see how far they had travelled? Minding your Ps and Qs is apparently related to the pints and quarts served at bars. Many bars and pubs traditionally kept track of customer tabs on a large slate board, adding up the P's and Q's at the end of the night. Fascinating stuff. We would have liked to join in more but we did enjoy helping to sing the chorus of their final song.

On Wednesday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, S.W.I.M. W.I. met in Abingdon Hall for the first time in 2023 and celebrated its ninety-third birthday. Chairwoman, Minnie McCann, told us that the S.W.I.M. W.I. Facebook page is up and running and we should look at it. We voted on the WI resolutions and the

one which gained the most votes was the call to regulate online gambling. Liz Westwall then took us through our paces with several rapid games of Bingo. Thank you to Hilary Abbey, Jane Hood and Tanya Antipova for providing tea and cake. Tanya's offering was called Napoleon Cake and based on a recipe from her homeland. She explained that it was invented at a time when the Russian/Ukrainian aristocracy looked up to France as the acme of sophistication and spoke French better than their native Russian. It certainly made for a very exotic teatime treat!

The next meeting will be on Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at 2.30pm. There will be a talk and demonstration about Dorset Buttons.

All ladies who live in Sutton Waldron or Iwerne Minster are welcome to join S.W.I.M. W.I. If you would like any further details please email Minnie: [minx@naughty-moo.com](mailto:minx@naughty-moo.com)

S.W.I.M. W.I. would like to pay tribute to one of its members, Briony Long, who passed away recently.

Briony was born Bristol in 1953 and trained as a nursery infant teacher. After teaching in West Sussex she moved to Brunei where her husband, Jeremy had taken up a post with The British Army schools. From there she moved to Germany where she returned to work now that her three boys were in school. Once the army schools began to close after the Wall came down, she and Jeremy joined the international teaching circuit and they lived in Bahrain, Cairo, Prague, where they settled for over 10 years, and finally Oman, from where they retired to Dorset in 2016.

Briony loved their garden in Fontmell Magna and it became her passion. She also became a valued member of Fontmell Magna's Friendship Garden team and the community lunch project.

At the beginning of 2022 she stepped into the role of Secretary of S.W.I.M. W.I. when no one else was willing to take it on; that was very much Briony's way of doing things. We remember her as a vibrant, positive, helpful and warm person, someone who could be relied upon to be supportive and she will be greatly missed. We also send our warmest thoughts to Jeremy and her sons.

**Minnie McCann and Monique Goodliffe**

**COMING SOON**

**DOMESTIC  
ABUSE PEER  
SUPPORT  
GROUP**

**COMING SOON**

**CARER'S  
SUPPORT  
GROUP**

**MENOPAUSE PEER  
SUPPORT**

**2ND WEDNESDAY OF  
EACH MONTH  
  
4 NIGHTINGALE COURT  
  
CONTACT SARA FOR  
INFO**

**TODDLER ARTS  
GROUP**

**2ND & 4TH  
MONDAY OF  
EACH MONTH  
  
10AM - 12PM  
  
YOUTH CENTRE £1  
PER FAMILY**

**SNOOKER /  
POOL CLUB**

**WELCOMES  
PLAYERS OF ALL  
ABILITIES  
  
CONTACT:  
07966276612**

**DEES LUNCH  
CLUB**

**1ST FRIDAY OF  
EACH MONTH  
  
CONTACT DEE:  
07850500552**

**BLANDFORD  
PARK RUN**

**SATURDAY'S  
9AM ON THE  
TRAILWAY**

**DORSET BLIND  
ASSOCIATION**

**3RD MONDAY OF  
EACH MONTH  
2PM - 4PM  
  
UNITED REFORMED  
CHURCH  
  
CALL LEAH:  
07789997620**

**DIABETIC SUPPORT  
CONTACT SARA FOR INFO**

**SUPPORT IS ALSO ON  
FACEBOOK:  
BLANDFORD TYPE 2 DIABETES  
SUPPORT**

**PTSD / MENTAL  
HEALTH SELF  
SUPPORT GROUP**

**1ST WEDNESDAY  
OF THE MONTH  
7PM - 8PM**

**THE ROYAL BRITISH  
LEGION**

**CONTACT SARA FOR INFO**

**F.A.B  
FAMILIES AND BABIES**

**BREASTFEEDING  
SUPPORT GROUP**

**MONDAY'S  
10.00AM - 11:30AM**

**BLANDFORD PARISH  
CENTRE**

**SUSPENDED COFFEE  
BUY ANOTHER  
COFFEE FOR  
SOMEONE IN NEED  
WITH NO.8 CAFÉ  
AND YELLOW  
BICYCLE**

**CONTACT SARA  
FOR INFO**

**BEGINNERS  
RUNNING  
GROUP**

**WEDNESDAY'S  
9.00AM  
MILLDOWN CAR  
PARK**

**NORDIC  
WALKING**

**FRIDAY AM**

**CONTACT  
BRONWEN:  
01258 458350**

**CRAFTS**

**WEDNESDAY'S  
2.00PM - 4.30PM**

**BLANDFORD  
YOUTH CENTRE**

**THE BLANDFORD GROUP PRACTICE**

# **WHAT IS ON IN BLANDFORD?**

**SARA.STRINGER@DORSETGP.NHS.UK**

**VOLUNTEER HEALTH CHAMPIONS**

**THE  
COMMUNITY  
FRIDGE**

**WED/FRI  
9AM - 11AM**

**THE YOUTH  
CENTRE**

**HEAR US  
HEARING LOSS SUPPORT  
GROUP**

**THE WOODHOUSE GARDENS  
THURSDAY'S 9.30AM - 12.30PM**

**TRAILWAY  
SCOOT ROUTE  
GROUP**

**CONTACT VICKY  
FOR INFO**

**VICKY.RUSSELL@  
DORSETGP.NHS.UK**

**WELLNESS WALKS FOR NEW  
MAMAS**

**THURSDAY'S 9.15AM**

**STOURPAINE VILLAGE HALL CAR  
PARK**

**WALKING  
GROUP**

**WEDNESDAY'S  
2PM  
CORN  
EXCHANGE**

**COSY CORNER CHATS**

**MEET UP & CHAT  
MONDAY'S 10AM - 11.30AM  
SCRUPLES CAFE  
CONTACT JACQUI:  
07950753320**

**GARDENING**

**TUESDAY AM**

**THE VICTORIAN GARDEN NEXT  
TO THE MUSEUM  
(LIMITED NUMBERS)**

**FIBROMYALGIA  
GROUP**

**THE WOODHOUSE  
GARDENS  
THURSDAY'S  
9.30AM - 12.30PM**

**SING TOGETHER  
SINGING FOR HEALTH  
BLANDFORD RUGBY CLUB  
EAST STREET**

**TUESDAY'S 1.45PM - 2.45PM**

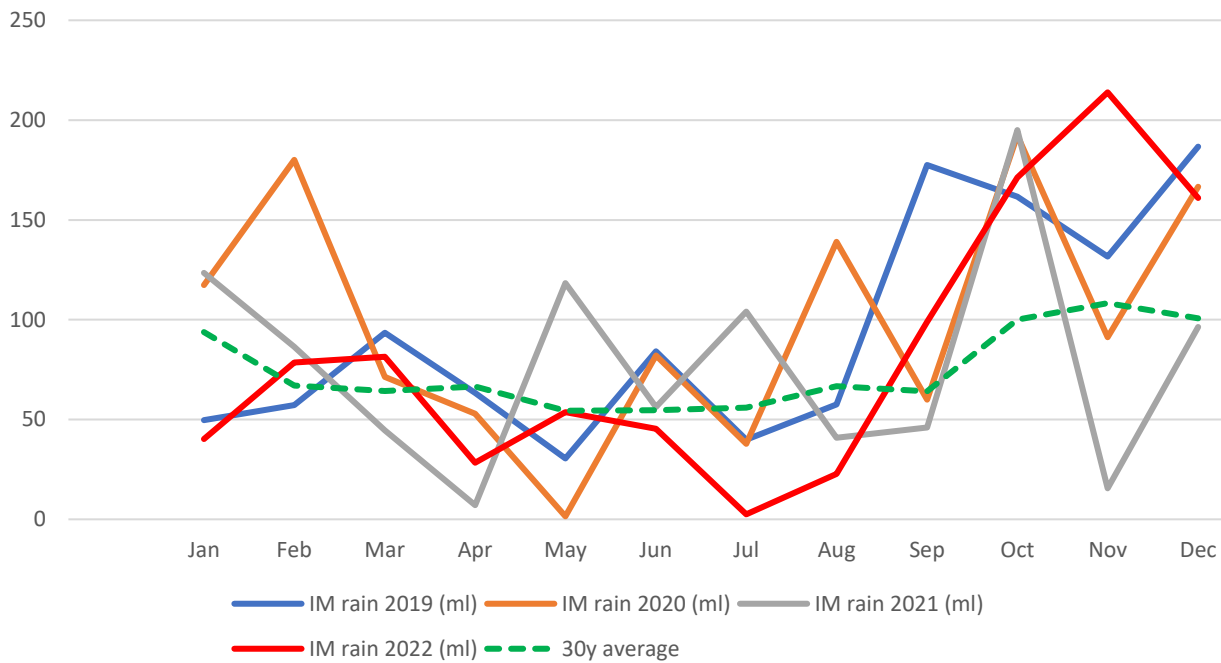
**ORIENTEERING  
AT THE MEADOWS**

**ASK FOR A MAP  
OR GO ON THE  
MAPRUN 6 APP**

**BEFRIENDING  
FEELING LONELY  
OR ISOLATED?**

**CONTACT SARA TO  
ARRANGE A  
BEFRIENDER**

### IM rainfall (ml) 2019 - 2022 compared with 30 year average



Points worth noting: A much wetter November than usual and a drier January.

Thanks to Ron Benfield for the measurements.

## IWERNE MINSTER NEWS

Published every two months on the first of the month.

Next issue: April 1st, 2023

Contribution deadline: March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023

### Editor

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Contributions are welcome from residents of Iwerne Minster or anyone with an interest in the village. Get in touch if you know of anything that is newsworthy.

Please send any contributions by email or hard copy through the letter box.

Digital photos should be high resolution (i.e. direct from the camera, not down-sized for websites). Please send the image file rather than embedding it into a text document. Copyright should be agreed with the photographer.

The views expressed are not necessarily those of the editor.

### Village Diary

Paul Le Prevost compiles the Iwerne Minster Village Diary, available by email and pinned to noticeboards. Please let Paul know of new events at [paul.leprevost@btinternet.com](mailto:paul.leprevost@btinternet.com)

### Printer

Parish Magazine Printing