

### The Old Bank Bed & Breakfast

*Comfortable, friendly Family Home in the centre of the village.*

The Old Bank, Burton St, Marnhull.

01258 821019

[enquiry@theoldbank-marnhull.co.uk](mailto:enquiry@theoldbank-marnhull.co.uk)



### Maintenance & Building Services

Home Improvements  
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[markgordgemgm@gmail.com](mailto:markgordgemgm@gmail.com)

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Marnhull Rd, Hinton St Mary

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Experienced and compassionate carer specialising in elderly care and issues caused by dementia. Excellent references available. For more information call

Trish Bright on **07789 244285** or e-mail:



### Taxi Car

Courteous Lady Driver

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Mob: 07929 983095



## The Mosaic

### Hinton St. Mary

April 2020





## What's Not On – Date for Your Diary

Date	Event	Venue	Co-ordinator	e-mail
15/04	Group Hug and Kissing Competition (all day)	Outside White Horse	Coro Navirus	Umust.Bejoking@hotmail.com

### From the Editors

Wow, folks! Many thanks to all those who responded to the challenge and have sent us some very interesting articles – so a bumper edition this month.

If your article has not been included, please be assured we will include it in the next edition.

At a time when we are kept apart and our social gatherings have taken a nose-dive, (**sadly including Gina's Village Coffee Mornings being cancelled !**), it makes this little publication an even more important way to share stories, (especially cheerful and funny ones), experiences and information.

Recipes, news of any activities, sharing hobby interests, funny stories, poems, political views, praise for good services, gripes etc., etc. are always welcome.

So please, Hintonians , why not use some of your 'lock-down' time to get tapping away at your laptop, smart phone (or even pen and paper!) and send us something new?

**Pauline Sherwood and John Harding**

[paulinequilts@aol.com](mailto:paulinequilts@aol.com) 471843  
[JohnFHarding1967@gmail.com](mailto:JohnFHarding1967@gmail.com) 471896



## The White Horse



Matthew and Sharon will be serving takeaway **Fish 'n' Chips** on a Friday evening, collection only from The White Horse. £8.50 each.

We will also be serving **Whole Roasted Chicken and Herby Potatoes** on a Sunday, collection only from The White Horse. £12 each.

**Takeaway Beer, Wine, Soft Drinks and Crisps** will also be available.

Your order for Fish 'n' Chips must be emailed to [showie32@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:showie32@yahoo.co.uk) by 6pm on a THURSDAY and will be ready to collect at 6pm on a FRIDAY.

Your order for Whole Roasted Chicken and Herby Potatoes must be emailed to [showie32@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:showie32@yahoo.co.uk) by 6pm on a FRIDAY and will be ready to collect at 12pm on a SUNDAY.

Start date: Friday 3rd April / Sunday 5th April.

More details of price and collection will be in the front porch of The White Horse.

Please may we also remind you to keep your distance from each other when paying and collecting your orders.

We are also offering a free dog walking service to the elderly and vulnerable residents of the village.

**Please email [showie32@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:showie32@yahoo.co.uk)**

**Your ongoing support is greatly appreciated, thank you.**

**Matthew and Sharon.**



## You Have to Smile ....

Just a couple of weeks ago, I came out of my hairdressers in Sherborne and encountered two well-groomed ladies at the top of stairs.

“Really”, says one to the other, “the only topic of conversation in there is about this blessed Corona Virus thing.

*... as if anything like **that** could possibly come to **Sherborne!**”*

### Anthea Harding

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I don't think it's going to be that hard to stay 6 feet away from my wife during the outbreak...that's 94 feet closer than the restraining order says.

In Germany they are preparing for the crisis by stocking up with sausage and cheese. That's the Wurst Käse scenario.

Nail salons, hair salons, waxing centres and tanning places are closed. It's about to get really ugly out there.

So many coronavirus jokes out there, it's a pandemic..



## Hinton St Mary Village – Group Facebook Page

In the current climate we thought it might be nice to have a village Facebook page which people can use to keep in touch with friends and neighbours in the village. Ideas could include requests for or offers of help, passing on useful information, suggestions and recommendations, notifying others if you have needed to go into isolation and any anecdotes or stories especially cheerful ones etc.

In case anybody isn't sure how to join a group:

- From your newsfeed click groups in the left menu
- In the search bar enter – Hinton St Mary Village Group
- Select – Hinton St Mary Village Group
- Click + Join

To post to the group:

- Join group (see above)
- In your newsfeed click Groups in the left menu
- Select Hinton St Mary Village Group
- Write
- Click Enter



If you would like to make sure you see all posts in the group:

In your newsfeed click Groups in the left menu  
Select Hinton St Mary Village Group  
Click Notifications  
Click see All Posts

Please remember that this is a public page so other people will be able to read what you are posting. Please don't post information about anybody else without their permission.

Hopefully you will find this helpful, and maybe even have some fun with it!

**Jo Martin**

## Thoughts on an early Spring in Dorset

Signs of Spring came to our garden in Hinton as soon as the New Year celebrations were over! Bulbs were pushing up everywhere through the earth and grass. So far there has been no snow, few frosts, deluges of rain and stormy weather and incessant wind! What will March bring?

Daffodils, crocus, primroses are now in flower and early cherry blossoms create a dusting of pink against a backdrop of still leafless trees. Always my favourites, beautiful Hellebores cut a dash in purple, cream and yellow. A winter into spring gardenescape which will soon be full of colour ..... and gentle breezes I hope.

A few bright blue sky days in between the dark grey ones make it possible to go out and feel the sunshine and see the affect the light has on everything.

Thomas Hardy wrote about the endless winter rain, not until the end of April did he feel we had turned the corner but with our climate changing springtime appears to be coming earlier each year.

“Week after week, month after month, the time had flown by. Christmas had passed. Dreary winter with dark evenings had given place to more dreary winter with light evenings. Thaws had ended in rain, rain in wind, wind in dust. Showery days had come - the period of pink dawns and white sunsets: with the third week in April the cuckoo had appeared; with the fourth, the nightingale.”

**Thomas Hardy (Desperate Remedies)**

The cuckoo is becoming more scarce to hear in our countryside and the nightingale’s song almost gone but the blackbirds and thrushes will soon be adding their voices to the dawn chorus and we must be grateful for that.

Not yet a **“Silent Spring” (Rachel Carson)**

In March we celebrate the Spring Equinox and gaining an extra hour of daylight - we turn our backs on winter and look forward to bluebells, may blossom and fresh green leaves. What joy!

**Lin Adams**



## Some Buzz about Buzzards

On a sunny day we are so lucky to live in such a beautiful village with its magnificent views to Hambledon and Hod hills and over to Marnhull and Shaftesbury. However, it can be miserable on a rainy, windy day with paths currently unwalkable. In order to alleviate the monotony of my daily physiotherapy walk along the village tarmac roads I started to carry binoculars and look for wildlife in what appeared to be the rather barren fields. I’m glad I did. Initially, all I saw were feeding pheasants, ravens, a swooping sparrowhawk, one woodpecker and a mistle thrush. I’m sure I missed much more.

Becoming more proficient I discovered the village buzzards feeding ground. Initially, confusing the first bird with a very fat hen pheasant, as they have similar colouring, I soon started to see more and more buzzards in the large field, on the north side of the village adjacent to the B3092 towards Marnhull. Regularly there up to ten or eleven birds, eating earth worms according to bird experts John and Sue East.

Buzzards seem to like each having a separate feeding space of up to 200 sq m or more. They don’t appear on rainy days and the best place in the village to view is standing on the verge at the junction of Veal and Castleman Lanes. If absent from there they often feed in the field on the right-hand side of the lane leading down to Cutt Mill: Marriage Lane – does anyone know the origin of this name?

### Some Buzzard facts

Wingspan - 3-4.5 ft - 1-1.4m

Length – approx 21 inches – up to 57 cm

Colour- speckled brown with a brown chest

Food - small mammals such as mice, worms, rabbits and carrion. Rarely game.

Very common, approx 70,000 in UK

Calling sound - similar to a kitten mewing

Need binoculars to spot due to excellent camouflage

**Richard Collins**



## Road Re-surfacing

Between 26 May 2020 and 5 June 2020, the roads highlighted on the attached map are scheduled for surface dressing. These sites will form a rolling programme that is weather dependent and liable to change.

For safety reasons, work will be carried out either under a road closure with local diversion in place or with temporary speed restrictions of 10mph and convoy working. Signs on site will indicate the traffic management in operation.

Working times will be between the hours of 8am and 5pm, works will not take place at night or over the weekend. Where we know of school transport, we will ensure this is able to pass through the site or alter working hours accordingly.

Due to the unpredictable weather, a narrower window for the work will be advertised two weeks before it's due to start through a public notice email and yellow advance notice boards will be placed on site two days in advance. Businesses and local farms affected by the works will also be notified two weeks before work starts.

Access for drivers and pedestrians will be maintained where possible, however they may be asked to wait while the site is made safe before travelling through.

A small surplus of loose chippings will remain on the road, these will be removed by a suction sweeper around two days after the work. If you wish to discuss any issues regarding this work, please contact us.

**Steve Higgs**  
Site Agent  
Dorset Highways  
01305 228100



## Coronavirus Epidemic: Help & Support



In accord with yesterday's emergency legislation, the church is now closed. In these difficult and uncertain times enforced isolation will cause loneliness and confusion and many will need help and support.

We want to ease this burden by keeping in touch and offering help wherever it's needed. This may include the odd household emergency, surgery visits, collecting prescribed medication, shopping, or simply just by offering a familiar, friendly voice to brighten up the day.

You may also at some time become concerned for the welfare of a friend or neighbour, if so, please let us know so that we can help there too.

### In no particular order, our Contacts are:

<b>Susie Burbridge:</b>	<b>01258 472 263</b>
<b>Robin Gibbs:</b>	<b>01258 471 493</b>
<b>Shane Johnstone:</b>	<b>01258 474 670</b>
<b>Kevin Jones:</b>	<b>07776 250 721</b>
<b>Mark Skegges</b>	<b>07745247 298</b>
<b>Kate &amp; Silas Warren</b>	<b>01258 475 627</b>
<b>Rev Philippa Sargent:</b>	<b>01258 473 905 (Vicar)</b>

*No one should suffer in silence; whatever the need, we will do our best to help, not just for now but as long as it's needed.*

**Robin Gibbs**



## Birdlife as seen in 2019 from our Hinton St Mary Garden

When we moved to the village in July 2018 we inherited a wildlife friendly garden which continued to be very rewarding for us in 2019. Following on from an item we wrote about “Butterflies” in the January 2020 edition of the “Mosaic” the birds said to us “what about us – get writing our story for the year” so here we go!

Our regulars were with us from start of the year – Great Tits, Blue Tits, Coal Tits, Chaffinches, Greenfinches, Blackbirds, Gold Finches, Robin and Wood Pigeons – which kept us busy replenishing their food and water supplies. These were very soon followed by regular sightings of Long-tailed Tits, Collared Doves, Dunnocks, Wrens plus the occasional Nuthatch, male and female Bullfinch and Starling. A Sparrow-hawk was around but was not always successful in catching its prey and the diminutive but very lovely Goldcrests were seen many times feeding on the Aphids on the roses.

The sound of the Song Thrush throughout much of the year was a real delight in 2019 and was heard early in the year, not only first thing in the morning but all through the day and into the night. Another distinctive bird we heard for the first time in Hinton was the “t’wit t’woo” call and response of a pair of Tawny Owls.

We were overjoyed to see what we hoped was the return to the garden of the same two Spotted Flycatchers that had welcomed us to Hinton in 2018 and even more pleased when they returned later with a young fledgling and started to give the young one lessons in how to catch flies and insects – wonderful to be able to witness this at close quarters for a migrant species in rapid decline.

Spring brought even more species to the garden and we watched both House Sparrows and House Martins building nests, feeding their young and both raising at least two broods which fledged successfully. A Grey Heron also decided that our fence was a good vantage point from which to closely monitor a nearby pond in the hope of finding an early breakfast.

During Spring and early Summer Swallows and Swifts were a common sight swooping and soaring above us. Pied Wagtails, Green and Great-spotted Woodpeckers were frequently seen in the garden and Buzzards, Herring Gulls, Jackdaws, Carrion Crows and Ravens were regularly seen flying over. On

September 4th a “charm” of about 50 Goldfinches landed in the garden and as the summer days shortened Autumn migration produced Chiffchaff, Willow Warbler and Blackcap.

Our greatest surprise of the year from an ornithological perspective came on the morning of 14th October 2019.

When Sue opened the dining-room curtains at around 08:45am she noticed some birds huddled underneath a large *Phlomis fruticosa* (Jerusalem Sage) bush in the garden. The movement of the curtains disturbed the birds and they then streamed across the lawn to the edge of the garden where there is some shelter and hedging. There were 10 birds in total and we were amazed to see that they were all Grey Partridges - a red listed bird that we have never seen before in the garden or anywhere in the locality. We spent the morning watching them from indoors so that we didn't disturb them as they scratched around like chickens looking for food and then sleeping. We noticed that they all had red leg rings and the group stayed in our garden all morning before moving through the hedge into the garden next door.

The two species completing our bird list for 2019 are both “autumn thrushes” – Redwings and Fieldfares in good numbers in the trees around.

In total we recorded 40 species of birds from our garden and still not a single Magpie which continues to surprise us.

### John and Sue East

