

2024

# Refurbishing/ Rebuilding The Hinton Martell Fountain



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Hinton Ward - Vale of Allen Parish Council

4/1/2024

## Refurbishing/ Rebuilding

### The Hinton Martell Fountain

April 2024



**King Charles 111 Coronation June 2023**

The Hinton Martell Fountain, nestled in the picturesque village of Hinton Martell near Wimborne, in Dorset, stands as a timeless testament to both historical grandeur and natural beauty. This elegant fountain is a captivating centrepiece that has graced the village since the 1860's, captivating residents, and visitors alike. Historically it is believed it was for animals to drink from, but when Witchampton Mill Owner, Mr Burt, moved from Witchampton to Hinton Martell, he used the spring water from Pipers Hill for his personal supply, and the residents of Hinton Martell and created the fountain as an overflow. The Hinton Martell Fountain holds significant historical importance to the local community representing the rich history and traditions of the village.

It was erected during the late 19th century, and its presence has witnessed the passage of time, silently preserving the memories of bygone eras. It stands as a symbol of the village's heritage, reminding all who encounter it of the rich history and traditions of the area.



### **Community:**

Beyond both its architectural and historical significance, the Hinton Martell Fountain serves as a vital community gathering point. It provides a welcoming space for residents and visitors to come together, whether to admire its beauty, engage in conversation, or simply to enjoy a moment of quiet reflection. It is the centre piece of village life, for village fete's, New Year Gatherings, the Village Christmas Tree, and the lighting of the tree with Mince Pies and Carol Singing. It recently played a decorative role in King Charles Coronation bringing people from far and wide together.

The Hinton Martell Fountain stands as a testament to the enduring beauty of historical architecture and public spaces to foster community spirit. Whether visited for its historical significance, admired for its architectural beauty, or simply appreciated as a peaceful retreat, the Hinton Martell Fountain continues to be a cherished symbol of Hinton Martell and its surrounding community.

### **Preservation & Restoration.**

The Hinton Martell Fountain is an iconic landmark in our community, serving as a historical, cultural, and aesthetic centrepiece. However, over the years, it has fallen into disrepair and no longer reflects the pride and beauty it once did. It is our responsibility to restore this treasured monument to its former glory.

This prospectus outlines the objectives, scope, budget, and potential benefits of this refurbishment project. It has recently been inspected by a local Structural Engineer who says “it is not economically worthwhile to renovate, it needs a complete rebuild” given the extent of the disrepair.



Many reincarnations of the Hinton Martell Fountain over the years.



Still "an unique attraction" in 1931

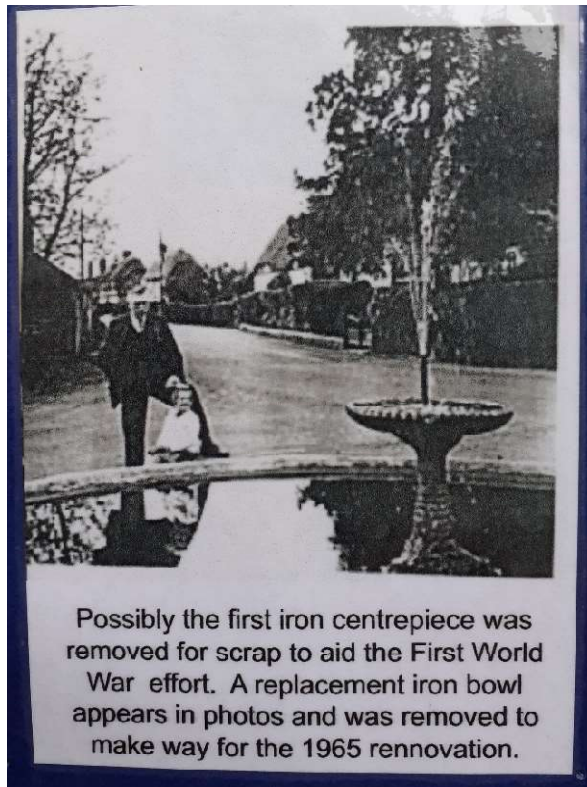


Unveiled by "Miss World" May, 1965



At the Coronation: E.R. 1953

Historical Importance.



The primary objectives of the refurbishment project for the Hinton Martell Fountain are as follows:

- **Restoration:** To restore the fountain to its original splendour, preserving its historical and architectural significance.
- **Safety:** To ensure that the fountain complies with modern safety standards, sustainability and minimising any potential hazards to the community and the public.
- **Community Revitalization:** To revitalize the area surrounding the fountain, making it a welcoming, clean, safe space for residents and visitors alike. A new bench was recently installed which is used by many, of all ages.

**The scope of this project will encompass the following key components:**

**Restoration:** Comprehensive restoration and rebuilding of the fountain's structure, in conjunction with the Conservation Officer at Dorset Council, as the fountain is of significant architectural heritage interest to Dorset.

**Replacing:** The concrete base, replacing the Fountain Bowl, and refurbishing the Cupid Centrepiece. Repositioning the utilities box for the electricity and water supplies.

**Plumbing and Mechanical Systems:** Upgrading and modernizing the fountain's plumbing and mechanical systems to ensure proper functionality and longevity.

**Accessibility:** Ensuring that the fountain is safely accessible for the enjoyment all individuals.



## **A preliminary budget estimate for the refurbishment of the Hinton Martell Fountain is estimated to be £25,000 - £30,000.**

(Please note that these figures are preliminary and subject to change pending a more detailed assessment and procurement quotes.)

The refurbishment of the Hinton Martell Fountain promises numerous benefits for our community as the project will restore and preserve an invaluable historical landmark, ensuring its legacy for future generations both residing in the village or visiting.

A revitalized fountain will serve as a focal point, attracting visitors, and fostering a sense of community pride.

The restoration project will enhance the overall appearance of the area, making it more visually appealing and enjoyable.

The local community are actively supporting the venture, and the local Parish Councillors, who own the fountain, invited residents to join a working group to oversee the project. We will naturally hold village fundraising events, but the bulk of the funds needed for the total refurbishment/rebuilding, will, we hope to be found from funding bodies.

Refurbishing the Hinton Martell Fountain is a pivotal endeavour being led by the Parish Council, that aligns with our continuing commitment to preserving our fountain and the community's heritage, seeking community input, and securing the necessary funding to proceed.

We would welcome your support in this pivotal endeavour to restore the Hinton Martell Fountain to its former glory.

Join us in this journey to revive and preserve our village's history. Together we can ensure that the Hinton Martell Fountain continues to stand as a symbol of our shared heritage for generations to come.







