

The Villager

The community magazine for the parishes of Martley and Wichenford

Volume 20 No. 11

April 2012

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Opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of The Villager. The Villager cannot be held responsible for any goods or services advertised in the magazine.

Regular events in Martley and Wichenford:

Sundays

2nd Sunday in the month:

Teme Valley Farmers Market for local produce 11am The Talbot, Knightwick
Martley Ramblers meet Church car park

3rd Sunday in the month:

Path-or-Nones meet 9.30am Martley Memorial Hall car park to help maintain the local footpaths

Mondays

Martley Parish Council: 1st Monday in the month 7.30pm in The Library

Tuesdays

Short Mat Bowling: 2.00pm Martley Memorial Hall

Wichenford Ladies' Fellowship: 2.30pm

2nd Tuesday in the month (usually)

Martley Toddler Group: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays (term time) 10.30am Martley Memorial Hall

Wednesdays

Teme Valley Shufflers Line Dancing: 7pm Martley Memorial Hall *Enq.* Jeff & Thelma 01886 821772

Martley Folk Club: 1st Wednesday in the month at The Talbot, Knightwick and 3rd Wednesday at The Admiral Rodney

Martley WI: 2nd Wednesday in the month 7.30pm Heaton House

Thursdays

Wichenford Wine Club: 3rd Thursday in the month

Martley & District Horticultural Society: last Thursday in the month 7.30pm Martley Memorial Hall

See Church Words p. 27 for details of services

See articles for details of special events AND changes of time/date/venue of regular events

See the Diary page on www.martley.org.uk for a complete listing of all forthcoming events (that the Diary page editor knows about)

See page 28 for contact details of organisations

Articles to go in The Villager must be submitted by the 1st of the previous month

Records of the Parish Council meetings in the two parishes are not intended to be full and complete minutes. Minutes of meetings can be seen by contacting the respective Clerks to the Councils.

OUT AND ABOUT IN MARTLEY

Visit our website—www.martley.org.uk



Easter Lilies

If you would like to contribute towards the cost of lilies in Church at Easter, in memory of a loved one, donations may be given to Jenny Underhill or Catrine Ball. Jenny can be contacted on 01886 888306 or Catrine on 01584 881079.

Thank you

Hats off to Her Majesty



Martley Parish Council would like to invite you all to take part in a picnic style “**big lunch**” to be held on Sunday 3 June on the playing fields to celebrate Her Majesty’s Diamond Jubilee. You can bring your own party speciality food to eat or share with friends and neighbours too!. We also plan to have a BBQ on the evening of Monday 4 June culminating in the lighting of a beacon and fireworks. We would like to thank Wichenford Parish Council for their generous donation towards the cost of the fireworks. Full details of these events will appear in May’s edition of The villager.

Councillor Mandy Gardner

Martley Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Monday April 30 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

This is your opportunity to have your say. If you have any comments or suggestions on how you think the thriving community of Martley could benefit or how recent or proposed changes affect you please come along and join in. Everyone will have the chance to speak and refreshments will be served.

Janet Dale, Clerk

Fairtrade Fortnight

What a great Fairtrade fortnight both Martley Primary and The Chantry School had recently. Both schools played an active role in supporting the National Campaign to raise awareness for Fairtrade. At The Chantry School staff, governors and students took part in a talk with local MP Harriet Baldwin, listening to her experiences on her visit to Ethiopia with Save the Children, there was a Samba Drumming Session by the music department, logo and poster competitions across both schools, an

assembly by the students from The Chantry at Martley Primary and the newly formed craft group did some Fairtrade rag rugging! It was great to see so many students taking part across both schools. We are looking to take Fairtrade further by becoming a Fairtrade Village. Watch out for how you can help us in the coming months.
Miss White and the Fairtrade Steering Group at The Chantry

Buy LOCAL

I always tell the children at Fairtrade assemblies that we should always try to think LOCAL too. For example buy your fruit and vegetables local. But as we don't have any banana, coffee or cotton plantations locally we can try and buy Fairtrade products, even if just occasionally, as it really does help a farmer and his family in another country.

Pat Owen

George Arthur Pugh (Tiger)

We are so sorry that George (always known as Tiger) has died. We send our deepest sympathy to his mother, Vi, and to all the family. The large congregation at his funeral was a tribute to his popularity. He will be remembered for his friendly and happy personality, and his ready smile. It was always a joy to meet him. Vi and the family thank everyone for their kindness, cards and messages of sympathy which were very much appreciated. Special thanks to Rev

David Sherwin for all his help and to the organist who played so beautifully at the funeral. The generous offerings will be donated to the Air Ambulance.

Martley & District Horticultural Society

The Society continues to thrive – more new faces at the February meeting! Mike Dunnett announced that a coach is ordered for the trip to Lord Heseltine's arboretum on 28 April, leaving Martley at 12.30, at a cost of £22. Also the flora photography course is getting under way; one of the Show trophies needs an additional tier (local person asked about making it); Mike's gardening advice was on pruning hydrangeas (2 types), and roses, and owing to the probable drought – lots of mulching for all sorts of plants! But be careful what your home-made compost contains, it's easy to throw in the wrong things. Jane Cropp gave her Topical Tips: orange and lemon trees and strawberry plant bargains, the latter being only £2 for 8 small ones. She also passed around a sample of a lovely early flowering clematis 'cirrhosa'. Derek Walker, a tulip specialist, was our main speaker and is well-known for his extremely colourful garden which surrounds his most attractive half-timbered and thatched cottage at Astley. This is modern but people guess it is 400 years old! He and his wife began the garden 18 years ago, previously supplying plants to the Local Authority. The talk progressed

from a series of slides with music of various aspects of this hillside garden, to many close-ups of the brilliant clumps of tulips, shown off by other spring flowers and shrubs, walls, steps and many other features. Every year the couple plant 20,000 new bulbs (they manage 5,000 a day) using a special dibber. 140 varieties of all colours go in, and of course visitors come from far and wide to feast their eyes on this amazing garden. Derek and his wife have also created a 3 ½ acre bird sanctuary attracting 78 varieties of birds and there is a Nature Centre in the garage with lots to see and learn about. One problem the walkers do have though is squirrels stealing their tulip bulbs! Derek reeled off many tulip names, not surprisingly he's known locally as Mr Tulip! A really good enjoyable talk which did us all good, thinking of the Spring to come! On 26 April Jill Whitehead speaks on 'Hidden Gardens of Herefordshire'. Not long now until the Plant Sale on 19 May, so please 'Get Growing'.

Tina Steele

Pudford Lane

At the time of writing, early March, and with lambing just about to begin in earnest, everyone is hoping that the virus which has spread from Germany, and causing deformed and stillborn lambs, will not occur here. A recent unexpected visit from the Hunt caused mayhem. Remember the Nursery rhyme The Cow Jumped Over The Moon? well the frightened sheep

jumped over the high fence which was quite a sight. The little dog was too worried to laugh as he was bothered by the hounds dashing around the garden and orchard chasing a very frightened Jacob donkey. The fox is still around at night, snooping around the garden and doing what comes naturally all over the lawn. Only one chicken has gone missing, probably to be dished up as co-au-vin somewhere!!

Kate King

Martley Ramblers

15 April at 2pm

Church car park to Kidderminster

This month the walk is in the Kidderminster area, led by Pam Bowers. Once again, David Wilkes led a scenic, interesting walk around Suckley, and, again, the weather was kind. 15 ramblers and one dog were not too bothered by a little mud and were pleased there were only 2 stiles. The annual dinner at The Fox, Bransford was a highly enjoyable occasion with good company, good food and good attention from the staff. Many thanks must go to Richard and Pauline Mills for all their wonderful arrangements. Retiring Chairman, Harry King, was given the 'Boot' and gardening vouchers and Kate was given a lovely potted orchid. There has been a slight alteration to the programme and the May one will now be Bromyard Downs as Gill Gough has had to swap her walk around the canals to March, due to work commitments. Full details will be in

the May edition of The Villager.

Kate King

Martley WI

Wednesday 11 April 7.30pm Heaton House

The recent talk and slides about Orkney by Val Patrick was fascinating, so much history and archaeology contained in the island. We all felt like departing to explore and are hoping that Sheila and Gene enjoy their planned holiday there. Chris Jordan will be the speaker this month, telling us about Spokes which was set up to help disabled people and people with learning difficulties to do worthwhile work. The Emily Jordan Foundation was set up in memory of their daughter who was killed whilst on holiday in New Zealand. Competition this month is format for an invitation to our Garden Meeting. Thank you, Mary, for arranging a most enjoyable evening at The Lion, Clifton for our annual dinner. Various other happenings have been enjoyed, including the visit to see Nil By Mouth at the Swan, it was a very funny evening, but we may be a bit scared if needing a stay in hospital in the future! Other events included a cookery demonstration at the Aga Centre in Kidderminster and a coffee get-together at The Fold, Bransford. Poppy is always happy to give details of future attractions, for instance a visit to theatre to see "Me and My Girl" (you don't have to be a member of the WI to join in either!) We were pleased to receive a card from New

Zealand from the Institute in Hawkes Bay with whom we have been linked for some years. Please feel free to come and join us for an evening or longer.

Kate King

Martley Ramblers

Harry King, Ex-Chairman

I have been Chairman since 1993 and a Founder member since 1973. I retired at the AGM in November 2011 and although a little sad, after having made friends with up to 150 members over the years, I accepted that stiles and miles and hills and age were here to stay. Then, at our Annual Dinner in February, well, completely out of the blue, lots of flattering things were said, and I was presented with lots of gardening vouchers and a Golden Boot. I, (sometimes known as Harry the Verbose) could not summon up a word other than to say Thank you. I was completely overcome and the evening brought home the real significance of retiring. Never mind. From me, "Thank you everyone for everything."

Harry King

Play Area Update

By now the base of the games area and the imported mounds for the natural play area, should have been completed by Ringway. We would like to take this opportunity to thank Ringway for their very generous donation of time and labour that has been and will be spent on this project.

Fingers crossed for Community spaces grant approval so we can get on with the rest of the project, kick-started by Ringway. We are hoping to have a Community Olympics Launch, with medals, for the new Play area with lots of fun sports for all ages, including hopefully a Fun run too !! This will be held on the 8 July, so please keep this date free!! More information to follow in future editions of The Villager

Martley Youth Club Update

Following three drop in sessions we have now started our Monday 5pm until 7pm meetings in the Village Hall. At the beginning of March we had 26 members but numbers are steadily increasing with ages 11-16. Just because you don't go to The Chantry or Martley Primary please don't think you're not welcome. The youth club is about young people having fun making new friends and becoming good Martley citizens. We have a team of 7 brilliant leaders, some equipment, one grant but waiting on another one, worked on lots of policies and risk assessments but mainly we are really enjoying the fantastic young people, who are a credit to themselves and their families. We hope to continue the 'Martley Goes Active' theme with healthy snacks, Fruit, LOCAL and Fairtrade, use of the field for physical activities, but also a wide variety of different activities so everyone's interests are catered for. Please if you have a skill or talent that

would be of interest to young people we would welcome your input. When we get numbers fully sorted (if you're a maybe or thinking about it, we really need to know as soon as possible!) we will review and make decisions about different sections. This of course will require more leaders. For information about any of the above please contact Pat Owen on 01886 888406.

Pat Owen

Martley Spurs Football Club Update Feb 2011

The first two matches planned in February were postponed due to frozen pitches. We held KGV Worcester to a draw on the 19 Feb and had a 3-1 win against Northwick Vale on the 26 Feb. This means we are now in 3rd position in the Sunday 1st Division with a game in hand over the teams in 1st and 2nd places. Training sessions are held on Friday evenings at St Johns sports centre, new players are more than welcome to join us, please contact Simon Rawle on 07971 264107 for more details

M Gardner, Secretary

Martley Planning Group

Major changes to the planning system are happening now, and will have a major impact on the lives of people living in Martley. The aim of these changes is to give all of us more of a say in how our local community develops. But this will only happen if we make our voices known. Martley

does not at present have a parish plan, and Malvern Hills District Council are still at the early stages of developing their local plan. This makes it particularly important for us to develop our parish plan as soon as possible. Last year, the Parish Council set up the Martley Planning Group to prepare a parish plan. So far, this has organised a survey of all households and an open day when people could put forward their own views. We are now drafting a consultation document which will set out the results of the survey and the open day, and discuss options for how the parish should develop in the next 20 years. If you want to become involved in the Martley Planning Group, please email me at stuartcumella@gmail.com, or phone me on 01886 888797.

Stuart Cumella

Chair, Martley Planning Group

Martley Amateur Dramatics

On Monday 13 February, a small group from MAD went to the Nora Parsons Day Centre to present them with a cheque for £500. Cath Mackie, as patron of the centre, accepted the cheque on behalf of the charity. "Bella Donna" and "Sir Miles" were in attendance together with "The Bishop" and the "Woman with the pig" (This will make sense to those who came to the pantomime!). They gave a taster of the panto and a sing-song ending with "Make the Most of Every Day" this was well received by everyone who attended and once again, thanks to all who made this

possible. In July we are hoping to do an adaptation of a short Charles Dickens novel as it is the 200th anniversary of his birth. Any adults who would like to take part are invited to attend auditions at 6.30pm on 16 April in St Peters Church, Martley. If you are unable to attend, but would like to be considered for a part, please contact Ruth Mace on 01886 821366. Just a reminder about "Mad Kidz" summer school, it is not too late to enrol. For more information contact martleydramatics@hotmail.co.uk

Sport Inspired Multi-Sports Easter Camps brought to you by Malvern Hills District Council

This Easter Malvern Hills District Council's Sport Inspired programme will be running Multi-Sport Easter Camps at Sport Martley. These camps will be delivered by fully qualified and high quality sports coaches and activity leaders. The camps are open to boys and girls aged 5-16 years old. Children will have the opportunity to take part in a wide variety of sports and activities such as basketball, benchball, cricket, cycling, street dance, dodgeball, football, golf, hockey, rounders, tennis, tag rugby, ultimate frisbee and much more. Learn skills, take part in competitions and tournaments, and don't miss the daily coaches challenge. The Sport Inspired Multi-

Sports Easter Camp at Sport Martley will be running as follows Tuesday 10 April 2012 – Friday 13 April 2012 (9am – 3.30pm) – Costing £10 per day or £32 for 3 days. To book a place onto any of the Sport Inspired Holiday Camp's, then please visit www.malvern hills.gov.uk/sportinspired to download a booking form. Alternatively contact David Knapper by email david.knapper@malvern hills.gov.uk or call the Worcestershire Hub on 01684 862151. Places are limited, so please book now !

Martley 100 Club

Many thanks to everyone who has re-joined the Martley 100 Club this year and welcome to the three new members. Unfortunately we had 11 people who had decided not to renew, but if you do change your mind, please do get in touch, as the saying goes "you have to be in it, to win it". We will raise less funds for the Hall but have decided to keep the winning amounts the same as last year. Congratulations to our following winners, January winner, number 24, Eileen Stammers who won £40 and our February winner, number 8 was Margaret Taylor, who also won £40.

Martley Village Hall News

We're in the process of creating a dedicated website for the Village Hall and would welcome any old photos you may have of the hall (known as the Hut) we could add to its history

page. Please email them to villagehall@martley.org. Please also email any digital photos you may have of the village and surrounding area we would like to display them in the hall as we would like to repeat our Photo Competition that we held, which was very popular, a couple of years ago.

*Annette Smith
Secretary to VH Committee*

Martley Horticultural Show and Fete

Can you spare a few hours this year? We are looking for people who like having fun and could give a little time to join the Committee and help organise the Fete which will be held this year on 18 August 2012. No particular skills are necessary although a sense of humour is a good starting point! We would also welcome volunteers who are willing to assist on the day. If you are interested or would like to know more please get in touch with Tony Lewington on 01886 888500 or email lantrow@aol.com. Alternatively please come along and join us at our next meeting on 23 April at 7.00 pm in the Village Hall.

Many thanks

Tony Lewington

Teme Valley Geological Society

Teme Valley Geological Society will be running a number of varied Field Trips over the spring and summer months. Members and non members are invited to keep in touch with what

is going on via our website www.geo-village.eu. Whilst members always have priority everyone is very welcome to come along to any of the events where numbers permit, usually for a small charge. Indoor lectures will restart in the autumn. Any queries please contact Harriet on 01886 888382

Martley Parish Council Minutes

Abbreviated Edited Draft Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 5 March 2012

Democratic Period/ Public Question Time

Thanks to the Village Hall Committee for installing a timer on the car park lights. District Cllr Williams was in receipt of a note from Rt Hon Greg Clark MP concerning Neighbourhood Planning. The Clerk will ensure that all Councillors receive a copy. MHDC Councillors had attended an "away day" to consider a strategic review on "shaping our future". The Chief Executive of MHDC had made a ward visit of two hours and was most impressed and as a result has requested a further visit. Also, they have received a grant application from Martley Youth Club and she commented that they would look at the application favourably.

Planning

11/01571/LBC, New window at Prickley Cottage, Martley, the Council fully support this application.

12/00125/LBC and 12/00123/DEM, Demolition of agricultural

outbuildings associated with a Listed Farmhouse, the Council has no objections, however they would like the Conservation Officer to be consulted prior to approval.

Progress Reports

Hillside sign, WCC have said it is not financially viable to replace this sign.

Peg House Wood, the owner has been contacted and agreed to carry out the work.

Car parking on pavement, an email was read out from the CSO and it was agreed to write to the homeowner concerned about this problem.

Bus Shelter, Three quotations were considered for the supply of the bus shelter and it was unanimously agreed to accept the quotation from Mr S Miles. A meeting will be arranged to agree installation of the base.

Speed Sign, A request has been received to hire the speed sign for use at Red Marley Hill Climb. It was agreed to hire the sign at a cost of £50. The hirer is to provide replacement insurance cover.

Diamond Jubilee

Cllr Gardner outlined the proposals of the Working Party. After discussion the Council unanimously agreed to a budget of £1,000 for the celebrations. Wichenford residents will be invited and a contribution has been requested from WPC. Additional Footpaths, an email was read out about the possible creation of some additional footpaths in the village. This will be referred to the Footpath Officer. A suggestion had been received to plant a commemorative tree. After discussion

it was agreed to purchase a “specimen” tree to be planted on the playing field with a suitable plaque.

Finance

The payments as circulated were unanimously approved and payments made to the value of £1,347.27. Cllr Studer reported on the Finance Committee meeting held on 21 February. Minutes will be displayed on the notice board and the next meeting will be held on 1 May.

Correspondence

MHDC Area CALC meeting, no one was available to attend. Planning Aid England, Cllr Cumella will attend this event. Letter concerning the work being carried out on the playing field – comments were noted

Lengthsman Duties

Work for March included, Clear drain at junction of B4202 and B4197 (full of straw). The Lengthsman had reported fouling by dogs on the footpath opposite Rogers Coaches. The Clerk is to obtain signs for each end of the pathway.

Several items will be dealt with on Hollins Lane. Clerk to itemise these to the Lengthsman.

Cllr’s Reports

Cllr Gardner reported that the sub-station fencing had been further damaged. Cllr Cumella requested that the Parish Plan be included on the next agenda. He also reported a dangerous tree on the corner of Badger Close and as this tree is on land with no known owner the Clerk will report this to WCC. Cllr Studer commented on the poor quality of the printing for the

footpath map circulated with the Villager. The Clerk will report this to MHDC.

Date and Time of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday April 2 in the Library.

J C Dale, Clerk

6 March 2012

News from the Chantry Library Learning Centre

The craft and card-making club on Wednesdays has been a great success, with the emphasis on Fair Trade. An additional card club is also being held on Friday lunchtimes in the conference room. This term we have hosted Samantha Rowe from the Blue Cross animal charity. She talked about the importance of being safe around animals and talked about the First World War. The Blue Cross was founded during this time helping the animals that supported the war effort. This was particularly topical as this is being studied in school and the showing of War Horse at the cinema. A new Warhammer Club will be starting shortly after school on Tuesdays 3.30-5.00pm. As always, there are a lot of pupils wanting to train to become librarians. They are a huge support to the running of the library and form a great team.

Mrs Warr

Library Learning Centre



Over the Garden Wall in Wichenford

WICHENFORD NEEDS YOUR NEWS

Janet Andrews
01886 888303
Sheila Richards
01886 888378



Welcome - The Masons Arms

We would like to warmly welcome Nibs, Laura and their family who have come to manage The Masons Arms. We wish them every success and hope that they will be very happy in Wichenford.

Residents of Wichenford

News from Nora Parsons ***Day Centre***

It has been some time since I sent any news to The Villager about our lovely Day Centre, so I will try to catch up a bit! Christmas seems a long time away but we had a very successful Christmas season and boosted our bank balance with the usual raffle, Christmas Fayre and the selling of Christmas cards. A big thank you must go to everyone who took part in any of these events. We had a visit from MAD, Martley Amateur Dramatics, in January. They joined us for lunch and then, suitably dressed!!, gave all our members a brief pantomime and then everyone joined in with a sing along. Cath Mackie and her lovely daughter

joined us as well. MAD very, very kindly made a donation to the Day Centre of £500 from the proceeds of their very successful pantomime, The Prince and the Pauper. A big thank you to them for that wonderful gesture. For the Queen's Diamond Jubilee we will be having a "big lunch" on Thursday May 31. Everyone has to wear a hat decorated with red, white and blue and we shall be helping the members dress their hats a couple of weeks earlier. Whilst the Centre is decorated with bunting we will then hold a Jubilee Coffee Morning on June 2. Everyone is most welcome to come along and I am sure we will have a raffle! The Day Centre continues to go from strength to strength. We have 26 members now and as usual we are still looking for more volunteers to either drive or assist at the Centre, please call me on the number below if you feel able to help. We recently had to change our lunch supplier and are thrilled that Cob House Fisheries provides our members with a fantastic lunch. It is

good to be able to use a local supplier again.

Janet Dale, Secretary, 01886 888472

Wichenford Memorial Hall 2012

You may think there is nowhere suitable in Wichenford for your social event. Perhaps you have an idea to run a yoga or bridge club or perhaps organise Zumba fitness classes. You may think you have to travel to Martley or even further afield. Well, before you make a decision where to hold your party or your christening or your wedding reception or any other get together take a look at the new-look Wichenford Memorial Hall! It has always been a popular intimate venue, the hall can cater for 120 - for numerous local clubs and you have probably enjoyed the teas at the Village Fete, but now the facilities have been transformed thanks to fund raising activities and a grant from Worcestershire County Council's LEADER programme. The Memorial Hall, opposite the church in Venn Lane, now boasts an enlarged kitchen with all new first class commercial equipment ready to support your occasion's catering needs. A new bar area for the hall has been built into one of the two rooms available for hire. Lastly, so far, a brand new central heating system to radiators throughout the hall has been completed recently to allow you to enjoy the facilities in comfort at any time of year. The hall is managed by an enthusiastic committee who want to

ensure that Wichenford has an attractive hub for the community and if you would like to join us in this adventure we would love your support, whether as a co-opted committee member or on an ad hoc basis. Look out for the telephone numbers on the flyers in the Villager and give one of us a call, or do come along to one of the fund raising events at the hall. We have a quiz night on Friday 20 April at 7.30 pm, teams of four or more at £10 per head. This price includes a super fish and chips supper and an evening of great fun! We know our rates are very competitive, so do give us a try. To hire the hall give Derrick or Marion a call on 01886 888530 or e-mail derrick.jinks165@btinternet.com today.

Paul Furber

Memorial Window

An application has been made to the Worcester Consistory Court for permission to install a stained glass window in the south eastern most nave window in St Laurence's Church in memory of Susan, Patrick and Dorothy Britten. Copies of the relevant documents may be seen in the church. If anyone objects to the proposal they should write, giving reasons, to the Diocesan Registrar at 8, Sansome Walk, Worcester, WR1 1LW. Please ensure you include your name, postal address and the capacity in which you are writing. Thank you in anticipation.

Carma Wetherall (Churchwarden)

Big Bang Warning

Many thanks to our very thoughtful, but anonymous Wichenford neighbours who sent a written message to all nearby households to warn them about their impending Fireworks Party at end of January. This gave us the opportunity to have our animals safely tucked up in bed and then to enjoy a free display of pyrotechnics to boot. We hope you had a truly enjoyable evening.

HH

Kenswick And Wichenford Parish Council

Unapproved Abbreviated Draft Minutes Of The Parish Council Held On Monday 5 March 2012 In The Memorial Hall Wichenford District and County Councillors Report

District Councillor Williams report was read to the Council and she reminded Council to submit their bids for the new nets they would like for the Millennium Green. Councillors and Officers attended The Three Counties showground for the Strategic review for Malvern Council to shape the future. It was an all day event and the only day that the whole staff could get together. The NHS is under review and Councillor Williams is on the Joint Service Review Panel, reviewing options on hospital, health service, community and primary care.

Progress Reports

Highfields (sign)

The request for a new sign has been approved and a fingerpost sign will be

erected on the B4204 at the junction with Barbers Lane and at the Kings Green junction with Poplar Road. This work is scheduled to begin post April 2012.

Lengthsman

The Clerk has contacted Aquaclean and has asked for four drains to be jetted. These are located at Poplar Road, Ockeridge Corner, Willow Road and Venn Lane. The work will commence when the nights are lighter. Approval was given for residents around Kings Green to hold their own jubilee celebrations on the green. The Chairman has contacted the Fete Committee with an offer of a contribution towards the Jubilee.

Planning

Mayfly Café

The licence has been granted but certain restrictions have been put in place.

Applications considered since the last meeting

12/00011FUL Cob House fisheries (amendment). The PC received an amendment for the above application and our comments remain as previously. We agree with the planners that the land should only be used for the keeping of animals for visitor attraction only and are pleased that this has been suggested.

Applications approved, refused, withdrawn. None.

Applications to be considered.

Application Number 12/00033/HOU.

Detached double timber clad garage at Kenswick Mill Barn (approved)

Finance

The balance from 31 December to 31 January 2012 stands at £16,656.49. There were 6 cheques totalling £1,841 78 for approval. These included Lengthsman, Clerks salary and expenses, Councillors expenses for the bus shelter, and Martley PC Jubilee Celebrations. A request from Martley Parish council for a donation towards the fireworks for the Golden Jubilee was discussed. It was agreed that as Wichenford parishioners were also invited a donation of £250 towards the cost of the fireworks.

Memorial Hall

It was agreed at the Parish Council meeting that the Council would rather purchase the central heating boiler and radiators for the Memorial Hall than give a grant, therefore a cheque was written for £2220.

Nora Parsons Day Centre Grant

It was discussed and agreed that the Parish Council would like to make a donation to the Day Centre to help with their Jubilee celebrations.

Councillor's Reports And Items For Future Agendas

The extinguishment, creation and diversion of footpaths at Woodhall and Cob House have now gone through, although there appears to be some confusion as the old signs have not been removed and no map has been put on the stiles to allow you to find the new route.

Date, Time And Venue Of Next Meeting

Meetings were arranged for 16 April (Annual Parish Meeting) and the 28 May (Annual meeting) 9 July and 20

August. The Chairman unfortunately cannot attend the meeting on 16 April so the Vice Chairman will be in attendance

Red Marley 2012

The Easter weekend sees the Annual Red Marley Hill Climb return to Walsgrave Farm at Great Witley. Over 150 entries for the event have been received from all over the country, including Wales, Scotland and Southern Ireland with ages from 17 to 76. The oldest motorcycle entered is a 1929 Norton! Among those entered are three ladies, Doctor Hermina Gray from Usk in Monmouthshire, Michelle Harding, who is the licensee of the Kangaroo Inn at Aston on Clun in Shropshire and twenty-one year old Leigh Carter from Vowchurch in Herefordshire. Both Hermina and Michelle have previously competed at the hill but this will be Leigh's first time and she will be riding her late grandfather's machine as a tribute to him and to raise money for the British Heart Foundation. Last year the event raised £25,000 for the Help for Heroes charity and prior to that, since the Hill Climb was resurrected in 2000, local charities have received in excess of £50,000 from the club and will benefit again this year. The weekend begins with an observed trial at 12.00noon on Sunday April 8 and the Hill Climb begins at 12.00 noon on Easter Monday. Entrance on Monday is £7.00 with children under ten free and there is no entrance fee for the trial on Sunday.

U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U
U	BlueBell Cross Country Ride								U
U	To be held in Wichenford, (next to the church)								U
U	Raising funds for and in Aid Of The Air Ambulance and local charities								U
U	<u>Sunday 6th May 2012</u>								U
U	(Also the following weekend by appointment please ring the number below)								U
U	First Entries at 10.00am (last entry 1pm)								U
U	From the field next to the church, opposite Wichenford Dovecote and Court, WR6 6XY								U
U	Approximately 11 miles pleasure ride through lovely countryside and bluebell woods								U
U	Short cuts and many optional jumps of various heights and size and no roadwork!								U
U	All riders must have their own insurance and valid Horse Passports								U
U	Riders take part entirely at their own risk and the organizers accept no liability whatsoever for damage to persons, horses, or property whilst on the premises or taking part in the ride.								U
U	Sorry but no dogs allowed								U
U	Rosettes to all taking part and remember Hard Hats and adequate protection must be worn.								U
U	Toilets and First aid on hand								U
U	A Vet and doctor will be on call								U
U	Teas and Refreshments available								U
U	Entries to be made on the day								U
U	Adults £16, Children (under 14) £12								U
U	Enquiries: <u>gblwichenford@aol.com</u>								U
U	Mobile: 07767 788 273								U
U									U
U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U	U

Wichenford 100 club

March draw

1st ticket number 96 won by Mike Clarke, 2nd ticket number 115 won by S Murphy and 3rd ticket number 197 Martin Palmer. Congratulations to our winners this month.

Clair

Are you Wild About Plants in your parish?

The Wild Plant charity, Plantlife, which conserves wild plants on the ground, is interested in your wild plant memories, foraging tales and recipes to find out just how connected our lives still are to wild plants and whether they continue to be important to communities and individuals today. Parishioners can write in to the Wild About Plants team with their memories, poems and photographs which will be added to a plant anthology on the website, www.wildaboutplants.org.uk. If you have more time available, it would be great if you could complete a parish record form, which as well as asking about how local people use wild plants, also asks you to record whether certain wild plants grow in your parish. A parish record form can be downloaded from www.wildaboutplants.org.uk. Plant enthusiasts can also subscribe to a lovely free quarterly newsletter called Pioneer which aims to inspire the amateur botanist and nature lover with useful tips, facts and plant ID help – readers are encouraged to provide content and feedback regularly

making for a real hands on friendly and fun newsletter! Email: wildaboutplants@plantlife.org.uk to sign up!

London to Paris Cycle Ride- Andrew Darby

Ray and Gwyn Darby's son Andrew is cycling from London to Paris for Beating Bowel Cancer From the 11 to 15 April 2012 to raise money for the charity Beating Bowel Cancer (Registered Charity Number 1063614). This is a bike ride of approximately 300 miles over 4 days. He is self funding the event and this also means that every penny raised through sponsorship goes to the charity enabling it to help improve awareness of bowel cancer. There is a very personal reason for him taking part in this event. Just over a year ago one of his best friends passed away after a long fight against bowel cancer.. The charity provided great support to him and his wife during his battle and he wants to give something back to the charity on their behalf. That person was Mark Raby, son of George and Lynn Raby who are former residents of the village. Some of you may still remember them. If you wish to support Andrew in this challenge and make a donation it would be very much appreciated. To donate please visit his Just Giving page set-up in

memory of his friend Mark. Anything you donate really does help spur him on in his training especially in the cold, wind and the rain. However, more importantly it will help the charity raise awareness of bowel cancer. Thank you, Ray and Gwyn
<http://www.justgiving.com/mark-raby>

In the Garden



Longer, warmer days in April make it a good month for gardening, but keep an eye on the weather forecasts as late frosts can damage new growth and flowers on fruit trees in particular. I think that we will all welcome some April showers after so many dry months. Deadhead daffodils and other spring bulbs as they finish flowering, and apply some general fertiliser so the bulbs build up for next year. Make a note of any clumps of bulbs which are overcrowded, so that you can lift them and replant in the Autumn. There is still time to plant summer bulbs such as lilies and alliums, and you may find some end of season bargains as retailers try to clear their stocks. Keep deadheading winter pansies, they should then keep flowering until early summer. Spring flowering shrubs such as forsythia and quince need to be pruned as soon as flowering finishes

because next year's flowers form on the new growth. Without pruning the shrubs become very large, with all the flowers at the tips. Prune pentstemons and lavender by cutting them off just above the new growth, this will keep the plants compact. Ivy can be pruned hard, taking off any bushy growth at the tips. Salad leaves and spring onions can be sown outside now and main crop potatoes can go out in the second half of the month. Repeat sowings of broad beans, peas and carrots will give you a late summer crop. Indoors you can sow courgettes, sweetcorn, brassicas, runner beans, french beans and outdoor tomatoes. I recently came across a seed stockist with one hundred and forty varieties of tomato, now there's a challenge for a gourmet with a large greenhouse! A lovely Spring Garden Visit, Bodenheim Arboretum near Kidderminster has acres of daffodils, followed later by primroses and bluebells. There is a beautiful display of spring blossom on magnolias, cherries and crab apples. On April 10 they are hosting a 4 mile Breast Cancer Charity walk and on April 14 they will be holding a Plant Fair from 11am until 5pm

JC

In the Garden





Church Words

The Rectory 01886 888664



In the last couple of years I have returned to one of my teenage pastimes, that of fishing. What a letdown you say, you thought it would be much more exciting than that! Well, to a fisherman it is exciting. When I mention this to people I get the usual groans and laughter which a lot of fishermen get but there is something about sitting by a lake, a riverbank or on the seashore and casting your line wondering what will come on the other end, or if you will catch anything at all. I take great comfort from the fact that Jesus called fishermen to be his disciples. Peter and Andrew, James and John were all fishermen. They left their nets and followed him, but after his death they returned to their fishing, sitting on the lake contemplating what had happened. Jesus had died, reports of his resurrection abounded, some of them claimed to have seen him, but what next? One particular disciple, Peter, had also had to come to terms with his denial of his

friend and Lord. That night they caught nothing, but in the morning there was someone on the seashore telling them to cast their nets on the other side of the boat. After doing this their nets were full. Peter realised that this was indeed Jesus. Swimming to shore he met Jesus, who knowing that he had denied him 3 times asked him 3 times if he loved him, and each time Peter replied frustratingly "of course I do". The risen Lord Jesus restored him and we know he became one of the great leaders of the early church. Perhaps we need to be reaffirmed, need to know we are loved, need to feel forgiveness, need to know that Jesus is still there and although he died he is there to be with us always. Perhaps he will say to us afresh this Easter "do you love me". I cannot tell you what your reply will be only what Peter's was. It is up to us to receive all that he has for us and make us the people he wants us to be. Alleluia, Christ is risen, he has risen indeed, alleluia.

Happy Easter

David

Sunday 1 April, Palm Sunday

6.30pm Holy Communion and Dramatic Presentation, St Peter, Martley

Mon 2 April 9.00am Morning Prayer, St Laurence, Wichenford

11.30am Easter Service, Nora Parsons Day Centre

9.00pm Compline, St Peter's, Martley

Tues 3 April 10:00am Holy Communion, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas

9.00pm Compline, St Laurence, Wichenford

Wed 4 April 12 Noon, Prayer at the Heart, Chapel of St Mary and St Andrew, Knightwick

9.00pm Compline, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas

Thurs 5 April Maundy Thursday

11am Chrism Service, Worcester Cathedral

12-2pm Lunch in Company at Broadwas Village Hall

7 for 7.30pm Passover Communion – Wichenford Village Hall

Friday 6 April Good Friday

10am-12 Noon Holiday Club, Martley Village Hall

12Noon-3pm Devotions, St Peter, Martley

9.00pm Compline St Leonard, Cotheridge

Sat 7 April 9.00pm Tenebre, The Chapel of St Mary & St Andrew, Knightwick

Sun 8 April Easter Day

8:00am Holy Communion, St Leonard, Cotheridge

10:30am Holy Communion, St Laurence, Wichenford

10:30am Holy Communion, St Peter, Martley

10:30am Holy Communion, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas

6.30pm Easter Praise, St Peter, Martley

Mon 9 April 8.30am Prayer Breakfast

Tues 10 April 10:00am Morning Prayer, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas

Wed 11 April 10:15 Holy Communion, Heaton House

Sun 15 April 8.00am Holy Communion, St Peter, Martley

9.00am Matins, St Leonard, Cotheridge

10.30am Morning Worship, St Peter, Martley

10.30am Holy Communion, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas

6.00pm Evening Worship, St Laurence, Wichenford

Mon 16 April 9:00am Morning Prayer, St Peter, Martley

7.30pm Martley APCM at St Peter's, Martley

Tues 17 April 10:00am Holy Communion, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas

7.30pm Wichenford APCM at St Laurence, Wichenford

Sun 22 April 8.00am Holy Communion, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas

9.30am Holy Communion, St Peter, Martley

10.30am Family Worship, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas

10.30am Holy Communion, St Laurence, Wichenford

6.30pm Evening Worship, St Peter, Martley

Mon 23 April 9:00am Morning Prayer, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas

Tues 24 April 10am Morning Prayer, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas

Wed 25 April 10.15am Holy Communion, Heaton House

7.30pm LTV APCM at St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas

Sun 29 April 10.30am WWRT Holy Communion Service

Mon 30 April 9.00am Morning Prayer, St Leonard, Cotheridge



Village Contacts



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Martley Recreation Association (playing fields)	<i>Bookings</i> —Pat Owen 01886 888406 pat@owen01.fsnet.co.uk
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Kenswick & Wichenford Parish Council	Clerk—Shirley Sanders 01886 888302
Wichenford Wine Club	Chairman—Bill Hylan 01886 888431
Wichenford Local Heritage Group	Heather Rendall—01886 888239
Martley Village Hall Bookings	Please contact Lucy Horn, 07723064394 or 01886 889148, email lucyhorn@hotmail.com
Martley CSO	Helen W Cooper 40061

To put organisation and its contact details on this list, or to change the details shown here, email editor@martley.org or leave a note for the editor at Martley Post Office.

And finally ...

History at The Chantry

I am about to start a new project with a group of Year 8 pupils at The Chantry. We are going to research the lives of the men who appear on the war memorial as casualties of WW1. There are 16 men: Augustus J Anderson; Mark S Cooper; Arthur J Davis; Robert Dowding; William S Grubb; James Hill; James Hoskins; George Nash; James Nash; Henry J Page; Philip L Webb; Arthur H Wilcox; Charles E Wilcox; Thomas Willis; William Wilson; E George Woodyatt. Do any of your readers remember any of these men? Does anyone have any photographs, birth/baptism or marriage certificates or any other memorabilia that may help us ? If so, please contact Jo Roche on 01299 832666 or send an email to jomaro312@gmail.com

Apologies To Our Readers

Many apologies for the printing error that appeared in last months, (March) edition of The Villager. The error occurred on pages 25 and 26 in relation to times and dates of one Church Service in particular. May I take this opportunity to apologise to Rev David Sherwin and our readers for this printing error and I do hope that this did not cause any confusion. Thank you

Gail Dawson, Editor