

The Villager

The community magazine for the parishes of Martley and Wichenford

Volume 19 No. 11

April 2010

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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

Rhythm Time: 9.30-11.30am Martley Memorial Hall *Enq.* Rachel 01886 812565

Martley Parish Council: 1st Monday in the month 8pm Memorial Hall

Martley & Villages Carers' Group: 1st

Monday in the month 10.30-12.30 Heaton House.

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



Martley Recreation Association

MRA looks after the playing fields in the village. The committee was set up in 1990 to provide adequate recreational facilities for all Martley villagers. At the moment we have thriving football and cricket teams for teenagers and adults. Their members maintain the field with no cost to the village. We have a children's play area, which is also kindly maintained by the football and cricket clubs. However they have had to spend extra time repairing damage to the sheds and playground equipment through needless vandalism.

The committee would like to encourage residents to use the playing fields and a contact number for booking is here in The Villager and on the Leisure page of www.martley.org.uk. We also are hoping for volunteers to help, give ideas and time to develop this wonderful village asset.

Contact number for bookings and volunteers: Pat Owen
01886 888406 or
pat@owen01.fsnet.co.uk



Martley WI

**Wednesday 14 April
7.30pm Heaton House**

Hopefully, we will not have to cancel any more meetings because of bad weather. At our last meeting Michael Andrews, telling us of his two years in Papua New Guinea with the Voluntary Service Overseas, transported us there with his humour and anecdotes. It was a most enjoyable evening. This month we are nearer home with Sandy Cole taking us back to Elegant Georgian Worcester. The competition is a flower arrangement in a kitchen utensil, which should bring some interesting ideas. This is a busy month with lots happening countryside and with our own WI. The annual dinner is at Collington on 21 April, and Sheila

Craker will want our choices from the menu. Friends, partners and family are welcome to join us. A craft morning has been arranged for Saturday 10 April when



Pat Crook will be helping us to make fabric boxes, suitable for storing precious keepsakes.

Lastly, but not least by any means, we hear our secretary and husband will be celebrating a special wedding anniversary. We send our very best wishes for many more happy years.

Kate King

Village Hall News

News update

We'd like to thank everyone who attended our AGM for drinks and nibbles in March. It's great to get feedback and constructive help in what we are trying to achieve.

With the support of local grants, it is planned for a new heating system to be installed. We have chosen EcoHeat Wise, which is an air-sourced heat-pump system which also provides cooler air in the summer. We aim to try and update the hall as greenly as possible by introducing reusable energy.

We are organising an Ascot-themed event on Saturday 12 June where there will be horse racing and we'd like to invite local business to sponsor a race please. How about Taylor's of Martley Challenge Cup, the General Store Sweep and the Crown Pub Chase? Come along and dress up for the occasion!

Martley 100 Club

February winner (number 34) Mrs Elaine Pearce won £40. Thank you for everyone's support.

Photo Competition

We'd like a large photo of a scene

from the village to be displayed in the hall. The photo will need to be a digital – high resolution image as we hope to have only one print on the wall which will be very large. Please send your photo to villagehall@martley.org –by the closing date of Monday 31 May 2010. the committee will then take a vote on the image to be used in the hall. There will be prize and presentation for this competition. All ages welcome.



Martley & District Horticultural Society

At the February meeting Jane Cropp's topical tip was about the care of soil, and she told members about the importance of manure, compost and organic fertiliser and mentioned different types of soil; she also advised us to study articles on soil – and to read seed packet instructions carefully. To sum up – prepare soil before you plant, especially in the vegetable garden. Mike Dunnett mentioned a piece on soil in the RHS magazine and reported that Aldi is good for cheap fruit trees. He had brought some lovely samples of Witch Hazel to show members, and gave advice on pruning this shrub.

'Facts About Most Feared Pests' was Roger Umpelby's talk. He had superb

slides – close-ups of all sorts of wee beasties (good and evil!) and being an entomologist, he certainly knew his subject. ‘Marvels of evolution’, successful pests, just doing what comes naturally! He showed the RHS list of pests over several years, the order of these mostly changed. Slugs, snails, aphids, beetles, weevils, caterpillars – you name it and Roger could enlighten you as to what they all get up to. He gave advice on dealing with the little so and sos, and told us what creatures are good in our gardens and will feed off pests, for example, ladybirds eat aphids: a fascinating talk by a very good speaker.

On 29 April Andrew Gagg will speak on ‘How to Photograph Flowers’, and the **Plant Sale is on 22 May**.

Tina Steele

Martley Allotment Society

Good News! A local landowner has offered Martley a portion of land off Berrow Road, close to Maylite Trading Estate. Three members of Martley Allotment Society met with the landowner in February to view the potential site. It was deemed highly suitable, so at last it looks like Martley will have its own allotments! The field in question is presently under cultivation, so we will have to wait

until the autumn before we can go ahead with any preparation. The first job will be to fence the area off, and mark out paths etc. We expect this to take some time, but hope to offer plots to Martley residents in Spring 2011.

If you haven't already got your name on the list for a plot, please do so now. We will be offering full-sized and smaller plots. Contact Angie Hill on 01886 888762 or email; angiehill1350@yahoo.co.uk

Thank You ...

From Martley Amateur Dramatics: many thanks to all who supported our first attempt at a pantomime “Robin Hood and the Beast of Monkwood”. We are pleased to let you know that we have been able to donate £1000 to Acorns Hospice. Thank you very much!

Our next production is a musical extravaganza, written and produced by our own Ruth Mace “Esther - The Musical” to be performed on 15 May. Look out for further information around the villages. Proceeds from this production are to be shared between the Village Hall funds and a new venture “Mad Kidz” which we hope to set up. Mad Kidz will be a summer school for 8 - 16 year olds who are interested in performing arts, acting, singing and dancing. For further information and to register interest, please contact Lousie: Email: louisa.j.wilde@gmail.com or phone 07870 585661. Once again thank you for your support and we hope to see you all again at “Esther”.



The Martley Friendly Society

In the sixth year of the reign of King William V rules and articles to be observed by this Society were listed. The Club held its meetings at the house of William Key, this being the Crown Inn in the parish of Martley, and in 1845 a pamphlet was printed by H F Sefton, Britannia Office, 33 Broad Street, Worcester (probably a second edition). William Key was president and secretary, John Tidd Pratt of London was the Barrister at Law appointed to certify Rules of Savings' Banks. Members' names were listed at the back of the pamphlet. There were forty-three rules and the following three rules are perhaps the most interesting:

That this Society shall meet at the sign of the Crown Inn, in the parish of Martley, on Monday the 6th day of June 1836, and continue to meet on the first Monday night in every calendar month, at the aforesaid place, at the times following: from Lady Day to Michaelmas, at eight o'clock, and continue till ten, and from Michaelmas to Lady Day, at seven o'clock, and continue till nine.

12. That there shall be a box with three locks and three keys, to keep the treasure in, and the keys to be kept in the following manner; one by the master of the society, and one by each of the stewards. All forfeits to be paid the next club night, or pay twopence extraordinary to the box.

19. That the two stewards in being shall make a feast once in the year which shall be on Trinity Monday, the

same to continue for ever for all the members of this society, and each member shall pay two shillings towards the same on the club night before, or forfeit sixpence and every member of this society shall meet at the meeting house on the feast day, at nine o'clock in the morning, decently dressed, in order to attend divine service at the parish church of Martley, or forfeit one shilling; and the master shall conduct them, followed by the two stewards, and the two assistants shall place the rest two and two as they stand on the roll, and they themselves shall bring up the rear of the society, with each of them a club in his hand; and if any member shall refuse to go with his fellow next on the roll, or be disguised in liquor, he shall, for each offence, forfeit sixpence; the stewards shall provide a good band of music to attend on the club to and from the church on the feast day. Every member shall pay the waiter one penny; and no part of the expenses for dinner or music to come out of the funds.

There were other rules that suggest that members could not benefit from the club if they ran themselves into any danger playing football etc! Or, worse still, acquired certain diseases!

As readers are probably aware, there is a small stone halfway up on the North wall of St Peter's church tower in the ringing chamber: William Key died September 12th 1853, also the date May 1815 – we don't know why. He must have been a highly-regarded man. The Crown (or a building) is

shown on the 1736 Glebe map of the village and the land behind the Inn was known as Little Longstone, and later (on the 19th Tithe map) as Longstone Hopyard.

Tina Steele

Engagement



Mr and Mrs Mark Albutt of Martley are delighted to announce the engagement of their beautiful daughter Lucy to Mr Lee Frost, son of

Mr and Mrs Nigel Frost of Stafford. Lucy and Lee are to be married in August 2010. Both families wish them a lifetime of happiness.

Martley Ramblers

Sunday 11 April 2pm

Church car park

The Fort led by Pauline and Richard Mills

This intriguing walk takes us around Clifton and Sapey. Come and view "The Fort", otherwise known as Hope Mill, now empty and up for sale at £800,000. Does anyone fancy making a bid? This is a repeat of a popular walk two years ago.

The walk led by Sue Hoskins around the revised Martley Loop had a good turnout on what was a lovely sunny Sunday between days of rain, snow and sleet, and it was not too muddy underfoot. Nobody cared to try a swim at the weir at Kingswood. I wonder why?

Kate King



***Martley &
Villages
Carers' Group***

We meet on the first Monday of the month between 10.30am and 12.30pm at Heaton House, Mortlake Drive, Martley. In April we will meet on 12 April (not 5th) as the 5th is a Bank Holiday. The theme is Bring & Share. Anyone who wishes is invited to bring a poem, picture or special item to share with the Group.



World Health Day 7 April 2010

World Health Day, is organised annually by the World Health Organization (WHO). This year the aim of the day – named '1000 cities – 1000 lives' – is to encourage cities around the world to close some of their streets to traffic to allow activities promoting better health to take place.

Stories of urban health champions will be gathered together to illustrate the lengths people are going in order to improve health in their cities. The theme was selected in recognition of the effect urbanisation has on our collective health globally and for us all individually.

Some facts about urban living:

- Over 3 billion people live in cities
- In 2007, the world's population living in cities surpassed 50% for the first time in history

- It is estimated that by 2030, six out of every ten people will be city dwellers, rising to seven out of every ten people by 2050.

Urbanisation is associated with many health challenges related to water, the environment, violence and injury. In addition, the incidence of diseases such as cardiovascular diseases, cancer, diabetes and chronic respiratory diseases and illnesses associated with an unhealthy diet, physical inactivity and harmful use of alcohol is high. The global goals of the 2010 campaign are to open up public spaces to health, whether it be activities in parks, town halls, clean-up campaigns, or by closing off streets to motorised vehicles. Embracing the positive side of urban health goes beyond the roles and responsibilities of government. The '1000 cities – 1000 lives' campaign is dedicated to bringing communities together towards a common goal united around health – municipal authorities, community groups, and individuals. It also represents an opportunity for people to enjoy exercise, music and being outdoors with friends and neighbours.

The Teme Valley Children's Centre offers many different activities for children and their families to take part in within the community, these range from Family Fun walks to Family Fun events, for more

information on upcoming events please contact the Children's Centre on (01886) 812982

Pudford Lane

The ongoing saga of Lane folk

It is so nice to be in Pudford, now that the glacier has gone. We can slosh along the muddy lane without fear of slipping base over apex.

Lambs are arriving and spring flowers make a lovely show. It was surprising how the snowdrops and aconites came into bloom last month in spite of the cold and frozen ground.

Did you hear the one about the lorry and the sat-nav? May be you saw the photos on the Martley web site? The driver of a load of heavy timber bound for the wood yard drove on to Southwood and almost overturned on Holton Bank by the Stanley's cottage. Luckily it did not go right over into Lynne's stables... It took a lot of effort and many hours before it was free, but the driver was given accommodation for the night by the householders. What a lovely kind



Photo © Kate King Feb 2010

gesture. Those inhabitants who had not got their cars out, were stuck at home, and those who were out had to stay at the top of Mike Froggatts' drive. Numerous promises have been made to erect more signs and one has now been placed at the top of Hillend Bridge lane. Meantime, lorries and delivery vans continue merrily along the lane, usually turning in our drive or in the access to The Teds, when they realise they are wrong. We are wondering if we should charge parking/turning fees, proceeds to a named charity, perhaps Worcestershire County Council road surfacing fund.

Kate King



Martley Web Mesh

Your broadband provider, Martley Web Mesh, now has close on 60 clients, with whole new areas (e.g. Teme Valley) begging for connection. We have provision in the valley but not distribution at this time, so we need to obtain more help. Some of this would be technical, so anybody with an interest in and knowledge of IT / wireless technology (amateur radio - great) who could spare a hand for half a day a week would be a real benefit - and it's fun too. Gets you out of the house, keeps the brain active, meet loads of new people (some clients provide pretty good refreshments when we are installing, so that's a bonus) and keep up with the latest technology. Meeting up with the team

is a great time to discuss and find a solution to computer problems and between us we can offer a very wide spectrum of support - never been beaten yet! Those of you who don't feel you have technical skills are also vital in the more mundane aspects of installation, so please do get in touch! Martley Web mesh is a community project, very well established and well respected in the wider community.

John Nicklin 01886 888318

Martley Parish Council

Unapproved abbreviated draft record of the meeting held on Monday 1 February 2010 at the Memorial Hall

Democratic Period/Public Question Time

A parishioner thanked Martley Parish Council for their response to MHDC regarding the planning application on the land by The Crown Inn. The Clerk will organise a public question and answer session about planning applications in general, the process they follow, SWJCS, etc. with MHDC Planning Officer. The Clerk is to investigate grant funding for a metal plate for the milestone. The Allotment Association confirmed they are to meet a village land owner to discuss the potential for allotments on their land.

Minutes:

It was resolved to accept the minutes as a true record.

Outstanding actions from previous minutes:

The Police confirmed there was no available funding for improvements to

the weighbridge but Cllr Metcalfe is pursuing another funding route. Cllr McHugh will investigate any flooding concerns relating to the recent work in Jury Lane. The Clerk has received an agreement from MHDC to re-fill the grit/salt bins. The pot holes, sitting water and the broken pipe at the bottom of Hollins Lane are still to be addressed. The Clerk will advertise the vacant position for a councilor.

Progress reports:

The Clerk: The Clerk has written to the C of E Primary School to clarify the representation they need from Martley Parish Council. The Clerk has requested improvement to be made to the lane to Prickley Green. **Lengthsman:** The Clerk has sent a draft contract to CALC for advice. The Clerk will ask the lengthsman to clear out gullies in Horn Lane by the Prickley Green turning and the layby at Hillside. **Evening transport:** the Clerk has had calls from three individuals expressing an interest.

District and County Councillors' reports:

Dist. Cllr. Mrs. Williams reported on activities of Malvern Hills District Council that included: MHDC continued to provide key front line and back office services throughout the bad weather. MHDC was one of only three District Councils in the West Midlands to score 3 (a high score) for Use of Resources. MHDC state that whilst there are no deprived rural areas in their area, there are deprived people in the rural areas so they will carry out a study to help

them to target their work on areas of deprivation effectively.

Planning:

New

10/00019/HOU Lingens Cottage, Sledgemoor, Broadwas – Two storey extension. 10/00090/FUL Conversion of barns.

Pending

09/01670/HOU Orchard Bungalow, Newtown – Replace existing garage/workshop and construction of additional access. (Further correspondence received). 09/01604/OUT Outline application for development of land with 83 dwellings, including 33 affordable dwellings and 2 live work units. Provision of new doctors surgery and parking (to be shared with the Crown Public House) Open space and pavilion. All matters reserved except access. 09/01209/TPA Apartment 1, Laugherne House – Reduce one lime by 30%. (No tracking details attached to this application on the website) 09/00752/OUT Horsham Court, Horsham – Erection of dwelling. 09/00751/FUL & 09/00750/LBC Stables at Horsham Court – Conversion to create new dwelling with new garages. 09/00749/FUL The Old Court, Horsham – Refurb. Of derelict former house with 2 storey extn. & new garage. Horsham Court was approved by Northern Area Development Control Committee on 02/12/2009.

Allocation of areas:

Cllr Coombey-Jones produced detailed maps showing each

councillor's area. The Clerk will arrange for a laminated map and contact details to be put on the parish notice board. The Clerk will arrange for updated contact details to be published in The Villager and on the website.

Speed signs:

The Clerk ask WCC if they have any purchase arrangements with the company. The Clerk is to ascertain from Safety Camera Partnership if they provide funding.

Finance:

Business included: seven cheques totalling £2082.88 approved; agreement was made to pay the total night charges on the electricity invoice for the Memorial Hall and to pay for the hire of the Memorial Hall.

Councillors reports and items for future agenda:

The Clerk will contact MHDC to request a grit bin for Prickley Green. Cllr McHugh reported that there is a considerable amount of bottles being dumped at the bottle banks every weekend. It is thought a company may be using the bottle banks to dump bottles. The Clerk will chase WCC regarding the footpath at The Crown.

Dates of meetings:

Meetings are held on the first Monday of the month, Bank Holidays excepted.

Martley's Past

Just a few items in records of boys' school over some past Aprils, the head being Mr Michael Coleman.

6 April 1868. Commenced the Summer routine – the afternoon hours being now from 2 till 4.30.

13 April 1868. Attended church from 10.30 to 11.45 and then dismissed them for the day it being Easter Monday. (!)

27 April 1868. Dismissed the school at 12 for the day in order that the room may be scoured. (?)

19 April 1869. ... and following 4 days very bad attendance on account of the wet weather.

3 April 1871. Sent Standard 1 into the house for reading in the afternoon to Mrs Coleman. Mr Hastings took the Scripture on Wednesday and Friday.

17 April 1871. C Bowkett and E Gittens absent to attend the meeting of the Trustees of Webb's Charity.

24 April 1871. Rev D examined the three candidates for Webb's Charity and declared C Bowkett the successful one. Taught Standard 1 simple subtraction.

Alan Boon

Martley Library Opening Times

Monday 2—7 pm

Wednesday 4—6 pm

Thursday 10am -1 pm

Friday 2 - 4 pm

Saturday 10am -12 noon

01886 888396 (opening hours only)



Over the Garden Wall in Wichenford

WICHENFORD NEEDS YOUR NEWS

Janet Andrews
01886 888303
Sheila Richards
01886 888378



Church Flowers

4 & 11 April Easter Decorations
18 April Mrs Jill Williams
25 April Mrs Randall

Wichenford PCC

The Wichenford PCC AGM is on
Monday 19 April at 7.30pm. Open to
all parishioners.

Ladies Fellowship

The next meeting of the Ladies
Fellowship is on Tuesday 20 April at
2.30pm. The venue has yet to be
decided.

Golden Wedding

Congratulations and best wishes to
Janet and Peter
Andrews, who
celebrated their Golden
Wedding Anniversary
early in March



Wichenford 100 Club

February winners: No 78 Bill Root
£75.00 and returned subscriptions to
No. 187 David Richards and No. 218

Phil Smith. Drawn by P M Bather.

When we kept a record of members on
pages of a book, we were always
taken aback by how one particular
page seemed to be crowded with
winners and others remained
stubbornly blank. Now that the
records are kept on a spreadsheet, a
new pattern is emerging: the higher
numbers have a large concentration of
returned subscription winners and a
range of 40 numbers lower down the
order have seven winners either 1st or
2nd draw; whereas another range of
50 numbers have yet to produce a
single winning number. Odd, isn't it?
Heather Rendall

My Mum

A Story of a Typical 20th Century Life

Elsie Whitehead was my mother and
my relationship with her very special.
My mum was born in 1919 in Hetton-
le-Hole, Sunderland. The youngest of
eight children born into a Christian
and hard-working mining family, she
soon learnt of the love of a close
family. She also learnt the many skills

required to make a warm, loving, well-cared-for family home. In 1927 the 'North' suffered the misfortunes of the General Strike and my grandfather moved to Yorkshire to secure work in the mining village of Maltby, near Rotherham, South Yorkshire.

My mother left Maltby Grammar School when she was 15 to help run the family home. At 17 she met a very handsome red-haired grocer's assistant – my father to be. They were married and very much in love. The second World War was imminent and my father was called up to serve in the army. In 1940 their first child, Peter, was born and mum coped with bringing up this baby and fighting for a council house for her young family, while dad was at war in Burma for five years.

When dad returned from the war, my parents re-started their married life in a new council house with their young son. Next came Jean my sister, a beautiful red-haired girl. My dad was so proud of his young family. My mother provided a home full of love, home-cooked food, warmth and home-made treats and home-made clothing. Money was tight, but as a family we never wanted for any of the essentials. My father worked hard and long hours as a milk roundsman for Co-op Dairies and as a part-time firefighter. In 1954 along came myself, their third child, and another a bonny red-head.

My young life and early childhood, is just full of memories of happy family times: birthdays, Easter, Christmas, very, very special times. We always

had a two-week family holiday in the summer, even if it was just visiting relatives in Sunderland. These holidays are packed with memories that unite us as a family: traditional seaside days out, the family picnics, exploring new and exciting locations as a family. My memories are a goldmine of happy times. This is not to say as a family we haven't had sadness, problems, tragedy, but the moral strength, faith, love and security made sure that as a family we were secure.

In 1984 my parents moved to Wichenford to be near myself and my young family. This was a great joy to me, but I'm sure a great upheaval for them. Sadly in 1986 we lost my father. My mum showed how strong she could be, and although stricken by grief, she was determined to be a part of our life here. She doted on myself and my son, her only grandson, and we doted on her. Grandma's skills as a needlewoman, knitter and baker and overall support, were very, very welcome.

My mum became a special part of Wichenford village life. She was very prominent in community activities such as the Church, WI, Ladies Fellowship and the Day Centre and much more. When I married for second time, and came to live in Wichenford, I became known as 'Elsie's daughter' rather than Mrs Wells! I'm not complaining! I have never been more proud to be 'Elsie's daughter'. My relationship with mum will always be special. A proud,

independent woman, so skilled and knowledgeable, but so humble and innocent, never thinking ill of anyone. When she passed away in January, it was a very, very great shock. However, because she was a loving, caring, giving person and touched many people's lives within the village, I feel sure she will live on in many people's hearts and memories for a very long time.

I would like to say thank you very much to the Rev David Sherwin and Ref Jennifer Whittaker for their services and support on 3 February, and for the hospitality of the Nora Parsons Day Centre.

Here's to my mum, from Elsie's daughter!

Janet Wells

Cob House Fisheries

Help to raise funds for our new Angling Academy, serving the local area and wider.

The Angling Academy is now formed and has a willing committee of volunteers. We have registered with a



Working on our new main carpark

fund-raising website to help raise funds - please pass this information around your friends and colleagues - please. It is www.buy.at/CHAA. This site has hundreds of stores such as Amazon, M&S, Next, Play.com, Hertz car rentals, Sky, even ebay and many, many more and you can search for specific stores or products. It works like this: when you go to the "buy at" site and enter the store you require through it, when you purchase something, they send the Academy some money and it hasn't cost you a penny but benefits the Juniors. Thank you!

Abberley Young Farmers Club – Help Please!

A record of their recent meeting is being put in all the local parish magazine to announce the closure of Abberley YFC and if no response received before the end of June 2010, club funds will be signed over to a County closed clubs account where they would be held for seven years in case the club decides to re-launch in the meantime.

If anyone would like to be the chairman and run Abberley YFC and has a minimum of six friends (10-26 years of age) who would join the club please contact Tom Goodwin on 07790 967291 to discuss it further.

Bluebell Cross Country Ride in Wichenford,



**In Aid Of
St Richards Hospice & local charities**

**Sunday 25 April 2010
Starting at 10.00am
(last entries 1pm)**

**From the field next to the church, opposite Wichenford Dovecote
and Court
(for location map, multimap website: WR6 6XY)**

**Approx 11 miles pleasure ride with optional short cuts through
Bluebell woods and fields (no roadwork) and many optional
jumps of various heights and sizes**

Riders must have their own insurance and valid Horse passports

Riders take part entirely at their own risk:

***The organizers accept no liability whatsoever for damage to
persons, horses, or property***

No dogs allowed

Rosettes to all taking part

Hard Hats and adequate protection must be worn

WCs and First aid on hand. Vet and doctor on call.

Refreshments

Entries on the day: Adults £15 Children (under 14) £12



**Enquiries: gblwichenford@aol.com
Mobile: 07767 788273**

Harvesting the Past

***'Back Across the Fields'* is a play based on the interviews recorded for the oral history project
Harvesting the Past**

Wed 28th April to Sat 1 May

**7.30 on the Wed, Thur, Fri and 6.30 on Sat.
In the school Hall.**

**Tickets for are on sale at the Chantry School
Office (open 9am to 3pm).**

Adults £5, Concessions £4.

Harvesting the Past

How quickly the last year has gone! Twelve months ago I was embarking on the first of a series of oral history interviews in and around Martley at the start of Worcestershire County Council's Harvesting the Past project. I soon realised that Harvesting the Past was not only going to be a fascinating journey for me, but also an important window on the past for future generations. Many of my interviewees were nonagenarians who could recall farming in the twenties and thirties. How vital it is to record their stories and memories before they are lost forever. Now I am watching the final rehearsals of *'Back Across the Fields'* being brought to life by a large cast of Chantry High and

Martley Primary pupils, along with a few members of the older generation.

Martley May Fair

The last performance falls on May Day which has given us an excuse to join other organisations and create a traditional 'Martley May Fair'. This event (at the Chantry High) will start at midday with children from the primary school dancing round the May Pole and finish at 5pm, giving a short break before the last showing of *'Back Across the Fields'*. Themed on the 1940s and 50s and with lots of people in costume, there really will be something for every generation, including sports, crafts, entertainment, dancing, singing, nature trails, stalls, stands, a farmer's market, hot food and cream teas.

Julia Letts

Eco Swap Shop at Hallow

Hallow WI Eco Group are holding a Swap Shop at Hallow Village Hall on Saturday 22 May 2010. We are doing this in conjunction with Hallow Village Community Group to reduce the number of items going to landfill. We will be "open" from 10.00am until 12noon. From 10.00 - 11.00am it will be swaps only on a 1 for 1 basis. From 11.00 until mid-day items will also be for sale. There will be refreshments available. Any items left at the end will go to the Hallow Car Boot on 31 May or to charity shops - not landfill!

Little Witley's April film

Little Witley's April film is *Lemon Tree* and will be shown on Saturday 24 April. A topical drama based on the true story of a Palestinian woman who must defend her lemon trees when an Israeli government minister moves next door to her, it is both clever and unusual. Don't miss it: this is the last film of the season.

See details of the Little Witley Film Society on the Leisure page of www.martley.org.uk or phone Jean Latham on 01886 88888122 or Bob Jose on 01886 888383.

Mobile Library

Ockeridge

Silver Oaks 9.45–10.05

Wichenford

Malvern View 10.10–10.35

Church 10.45–11.05

Kings Green Farm 11.15–11.40

Rosses Green 11.45–12.05

Martley Hillside

Horn Lane Bungalows 12.10–12.25

Martley

Taylor's of Martley 12.30–12.45

LUNCH

Heaton House 1.20–1.50

Church 1.55–2.15

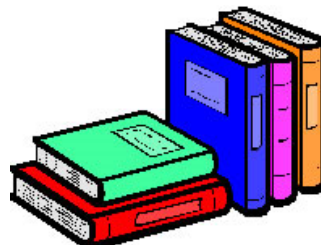
Clifton

Village Hall 2.30–3.50

The Mobile Library will be visiting these stops on Wednesdays on the dates listed below in 2010:

20 January	10 February	3 March
24 March	14 April	5 May
26 May	16 June	7 July
28 July	18 August	8 September
29 September	20 October	10 November
1 December	22 December	

Any enquiries should be made to Stourport Library, Worcester Street, Stourport, Worcs DY13 8EH, tel: 01905 822722 stourportmobile@worcestershire.gov.uk



In the Garden



In the garden in April

April is a good month for gardeners, rising temperatures and longer days give us better growing conditions. Do keep an eye on the weather forecast though, watch out for late frosts and keep some horticultural fleece ready to protect fruit blossom and tender plants. The warmer weather does mean that aphids and other insect pests emerge and their numbers can soon build up. Try to deal with them quickly-'squash or wash' off, if you can, rather than spray.

Keep deadheading daffodils and other spring-flowering bulbs and when flowering has finished, apply a general feed to help build up the bulbs for next year. There is still time to plant summer bulbs and you may pick up some late bargains when the retailers clear their stock.

Forsythia and quince should be pruned after they finish flowering. Cut all the flowering growth off any winter flowering heathers, and prune penstemons, teucrium and lavender by cutting them off just above new shoots. Trim ivy by pruning hard and cutting off any bushy growth at the top.

In the vegetable garden there is quite a list of plants to sow or plant outdoors such as asparagus, broad beans,

carrots, peas, salad greens, maincrop potatoes, to name a few. Indoors you can start off courgettes, sweetcorn, runner beans and French beans.

If you have time after all these tasks, Little Larford, Astley Burf, is opening for charity on Sundays 18 and 25 April, to show off thousands of tulips.

J. Cropp

Blooming Marvellous

Great news for Martley residents now that there's more garden waste to compost as the weather improves. Garden waste can help create fantastic compost, when mixed with other ingredients such as scrunched up paper and vegetable peelings, to make the gardens of Martley blooming marvellous!

Residents of Hereford and Worcester are once again able to order a compost bin at a discount and delivered to their front door, through the council's scheme. Prices are £12 for 220 litre bin, and £15 for 330 litre bin. Bins are available in green or black. A wide range of compost bins, wormeries and Bokashi, plus composting accessories, is also available through the scheme. The offer is limited to two bins per household. Order you bin by phone: 0844 5714444 (local rate between 8-5.30 Mon-Fri) or on www.hw.getcomposting.com or through the council's weblink. There is also an opportunity to get a second bin at half price. Your local Composting Advisor is Master Composter Angie Hill. Contact her on 01886 888762 or angiehill1350@yahoo.co.uk



Church Words

The Rectory 01886 888664

This month as you will know, Bruce Thomson our Curate will be running the London Marathon for Christian Aid's work in Zimbabwe. Running such distances may be beyond most of us and I am filled with admiration of those who can undertake such feats; yet each of us have those 'races' in life that we have to show perseverance and dedication to win. St Paul saw the Christian life in terms of a race when writing to the Church of Phillipi. Philippians 3: 12-14 'Not that I have

already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. 13. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, 14. I press on towards the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus'.

For each of us that race will pose different obstacles, yet with Christ before us and the heavenward call, we press on. Perseverance and dedication are a necessary part of life and in particular the Christian life. They are not 'trendy' words in this age, yet we know that showing perseverance and dedication brings its rewards. I am reminded by that song the great entertainer Roy Castle used to sing on 'Record Breakers' – Dedication is What You Need. Roy Castle had a difficult race in his life towards the end yet he carried on 'running'. We may face or know those who face a difficult road ahead. Let us be assured that we do not run the race alone – Jesus is always by our side, so let us fix our eyes on him and the road ahead. God Bless.

Revd David Sherwin



Church Services for April

Thu 1 April	9:00am Morning Prayer, St Laurence, Wichenford
Maundy Thursday	11.00am Chrism Service, Worcester Cathedral
	7 for 7.30pm Passover Communion – Wichenford Village Hall
Fri 2 April	12pm-3pm Devotions, St Peter, Martley
Good Friday	9.00pm Compline, St Leonard, Cotheridge
Sat 3 April	9.00pm Tenebre, Knightwick Chapel
SUN 4 APRIL	9.00am Holy Communion, St. Leonard's Cotheridge
EASTER DAY	10.30am Family Holy Communion St. Peter's Martley
	10.30am Holy Communion St. Laurence, Wichenford
	10.30am Holy Communion St. Mary Magdalene Broadwas
	6.30pm Easter praise and Worship St. Peter's Martley
Tue 6 April	10:00am Holy Communion, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
Wed 7 April	10:15am Morning Prayer, St Peter, Martley
Thu 8 April	9:00am Morning Prayer. St Laurence, Wichenford
SUN 11 APRIL	8:00am Holy Communion, St Leonard, Cotheridge
	10:30am Family Worship, St Laurence, Wichenford
	10:30am Holy Communion, St Peter, Martley
	10:30am Morning Prayer, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
Mon 12 April	8.30am Prayer Breakfast
Tue 13 April	10:00am Morning Prayer, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
Wed 14 April	10:15 Holy Communion, Heaton House
Thu 15 April	9:00am Morning Prayer, St Laurence, Wichenford
SUN 18 APRIL	8:00am Holy Communion, St Peter Martley
	9:00am Matins, St Leonard, Cotheridge
	10:30am Holy Communion, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
	10:30am Morning Worship, St Peter Martley
	3:00pm Evening Worship, Knightwick Chapel
	6:00pm Evening Worship, St Laurence Wichenford
Mon 19 April	9:00am Morning Prayer, St Peter, Martley
Tue 20 April	10:00am Holy Communion, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
Wed 21 April	10:15am Morning Prayer, St Peter, Martley
Thu 22 April	9:00am Morning Prayer, St Laurence, Wichenford
SUN 25 APRIL	8:00am Holy Communion, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
London Marathon	9.30am Holy Communion, St Peter, Martley
	10.30am Holy Communion, St Laurence, Wichenford
	10.30am Family Worship, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
	6:30pm Evening Worship, St Peter Martley
Mon 26 April	9:00am Morning Prayer, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
	7.30pm Broadwas APCM at St Mary Magdalene
Tue 27 April	10am Morning Prayer, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
Wed 28 April	10.15am Holy Communion, Heaton House
Thu 29 April	9.00am Morning Prayer, St Laurence, Wichenford



Village Contacts



Editor of The Villager	Michelle Higgins editor@martley.org or 01886 888344 or leave articles at Martley Post Office
Advertise in The Villager	Aileen Parker—01886 888456
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Martley Parish Council	<i>Chair:</i> Dave Cropp—01886 888398; <i>Clerk:</i> Sally Williams—01299 832949
Martley WI	<i>President:</i> Helen CoombeyJones—01886 888294
Martley & District Horticultural Society	Pam Minchin—01886 888521 or Margaret Jackson—01886 888654
Royal British Legion	Joyce Tyler—01886 821551
Martley Toddler Group	Will—01886 888340 or Jane—01886 888852
Martley Ramblers	Harry King—01886 888439
Martley Young Farmers	Lou Wickens—01886-812754 or Caroline Bullock—01905-333617
Path-or-Nones	John Nicklin—01886 888318 johnn@martley.org
Resource Centre	Alan Boon—01886 888527
Police “Surgery”	CSO Matt Smith 7184—Martley Local Policing Team Tenbury Wells Police Station extn. 3581
Martley Website	webmaster@martley.org
Martley Web Mesh	Richard Jackman—01886 821237 richard@martley.org John Layton—01886888460 johnl@martley.org Tom Pearsall—01886 888256 tom@martley.org
Martley Pre-School	Kath/Lucy—01886 889127 www.martleypreschool.co.uk
Martley Recreation Association (playing fields)	<i>Bookings</i> —Pat Owen 1886 888406 pat@owen01.fsnet.co.uk
Wichenford contacts for The Villager	Janet Andrews—01886 888303 or Sheila Richards—01886 888378
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

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 ...

Moments When Your Cat is Embarrassed by You.

No. 1—In the Bath

So your cat is coming in through it's usual route of the bathroom window. The cat does a double-take when it realises there is SOMETHING NOT NORMAL about the bathroom and sees you in the bath. "Arrgghhh!" the cat is obviously thinking, "It's a sea monster!" And flees from the bathroom, ears back and eyes wide, uncomfortable at having been observed in the act of meeting something unexpected.

MSH

The Glossary – Some medical terms explained?

Benign: What you be, after you be eight

Artery: The study of paintings

Bacteria: Back door to cafeteria

Barium: What doctors do when patients die

Caesarean section: A neighbourhood in Rome

Catscan: Searching for Kitty

Cauterize: Made eye contact with her

Colic: A sheep dog

Coma: A punctuation mark

Dilate: To live long

Enema: Not a friend

Fester: Quicker than someone else

Fibula: small lie

Impotent: Distinguished, well known