

The Villager

The community magazine for the parishes of Martley and Wichenford

Volume 14 No. 3

August 2004

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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

August Diary

Regular events:

Teme Valley Shufflers Line Dancing

Weds 7pm Martley Memorial Hall.

Enquiries: Jeff and Thelma

01886 821772

Citizens Advice Bureau Teme Valley

Telephone Service: Mon & Tue 10am—3pm

Thu 10am— 7.30pm *Great Witley & Knightwick*

Surgeries: Weds 10am -4pm - by appt.

01584 810860

Short mat Bowling Tuesdays 2.30pm

Martley Memorial Hall

Weight Watchers Tue 6.30pm

Martley Memorial Hall

Enquiries Tracey Hopkins

07710 493617

See Church Words for details of services

Mon 2 **Martley Parish Council Meeting** 8pm Memorial Hall

Wed 4 **Martley WI: Summer Outing to Glazy Days** in Ledbury

Sat 7 **Wichenford Church Spring Clean** 9am-1pm

Sun 8 **Teme Valley Farmers Market for local produce** 11am The Talbot, Knightwick
Martley Ramblers walk "Hill" Country. Meet 2pm Church car park

Mon 9 **Kenswick and Wichenford Parish Council Meeting** 7.30pm Wichenford Memorial Hall

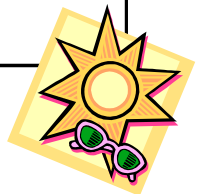
Sun 15 **Walking Not Working with the Path-or-Nones** surveying Martley footpaths. Meet 9.30am at the Memorial Hall. See thepathornones.co.uk

Thu 19 **Meeting of The Wine Club—Wines from Italy** 8pm Wichenford Memorial Hall

Sat 21 **Martley Horticultural Society 29th Annual Show and Fete** 2pm Playing Fields and Memorial Hall

Mon 30 **Summer Bank Holiday**

For an up-to-date listing of local events, also see the Diary page on: martley.org.uk



Articles to go in *The Villager* must be with the Editor by the 1st of the previous month

OUT AND ABOUT I N MARTLEY

Visit our website—www.martley.org.uk



Martley Parish Council

An ordinary meeting of the Martley Parish Council was held on Monday July 2004 at the Memorial Hall, Cllr Mr. D. Cropp Chairman.

The Democratic Period/Public Question Time

A parishioner expressed surprise at the inconsistency of the speed limits in Martley Cllr. Mr. B. Williams and the Chairman explained the Highways policy of varied limits. Concern was expressed at the length of time it is taking to complete the road repairs on the top of Ankerdine. The Chairman thought it was due to the amount of stabilising work required.

Development Working Party

A full summary of the survey will be submitted to The Villager for inclusion in a future issue and will be tabled at the next PC meeting. The clerk read out the latest letter from Hallmarks Solicitors. It was resolved that the clerk reply indicating that this council would not wish to be party to any meeting called by the developer having previously resolved not to support any greenfield development in Martley.

At this point the chairman suspended the meeting to allow public comment on this important subject. A discussion took place and there was general agreement with the PC's views on greenfield development. The feeling of the parishioners present was that something needs to be done about the road junction near The Crown.

Willow trees Badgers Close

Mr. Kevin Douglas, Corporate Director (Administrative, Democratic and Legal Services) MHDC, advised that MHDC would take care of the legal side of posting notices if this council would provide the means to do the work.

District Councillor's Report:

District Cllr Mrs. B. Williams confirmed that the Local Plan would be implemented in 2006 and that no settlement boundaries would be enlarged. All applicants to the Plan would have an opportunity to appeal. Affordable housing would be allowed near Hastings Close. The Housing Association would allow 80% ownership and target local people. The District Council had been given a presentation by The Youth Council

which was well received.

County Councillor's Report:

County Cllr. Mr. A. Davies report included: The WCC is looking at schools for children with special needs. There is no intention in closing any. Cliffey House may close and some pupils transferred to The Chantry. He asked if this council would send two representatives to a meeting to talk through the proposals.

Parish Paths Warden Report:

The Path-or-Nones are very busy with clearance and are currently building a set of steps for Penny Hill. Volunteers needed for the "Walk not Work" group. The idea being that the walking group prepare reports of where work is required. The group meet on the third Sunday in the month at 09.30 at the Village Hall.

Planning:

1.603250 WCC Martley Primary School extensions. Cllr.Mr D. Cropp left the room. No objections. Cllr Mr. D. Cropp returned. 2. 04/01059/FUL Land at OS 7555 5996 Worcester Road (near Chandlery). Referred to examine previous applications. 3. 04/01011/OUT Fair View Willow Road: Accept subject to final details. Cllr. Mr. G. Taylor left the room. Planning Inspectorate Ref.App/J1860/A/04/113981(Laugherne Villa) appeal withdrawn. The Clerk read out a letter from Wall James & Davies solicitors. Cllr. Mr. G. Taylor returned.

Approved/Refused/Withdrawn:

04/00605/FUL Heaton House conservatory. Approved. 04/00662/

FUL 9 Mortlake Drive rev. plan. Approved. 04/00643/FUL Brook Court Oak-framed orangery. Approved. 04/00405/FUL Ankers Hipplecote Garden decking. Approved. 04/00737/FUL Malvern View Newtown replacement bow window. Approved. 04/00689/FUL High House Ankerdine Hill New Access. Approved. 04/00690/FUL High House Ankerdine Hill Extn. Refused. 04/00581/FUL Hill End Farm House. Refused. 04/00582/LBC Hill End Farm House. Refused.

Finance:

There were nine cheques totalling £918.64 for agreement and signature.

Correspondence:

Included: The Chantry High School reply to letter ref parking; Martley PC letter); Sir Michael Spicer MP letter; Nora Parsons Day Centre Wichenford AGM 7 July.

Councillors Reports and Future Agenda Items:

Overhanging branches on some roads are a problem. The chairman invited each councillor to keep an eye on their area and report it. The chairman to consider an article for The Villager similar to last year. The pot hole just below the Referral Unit has not attended to; the Clerk to follow up. A video of neighbourhood watch matters is available from Cllr. Mr. N. Stammers.

The next meeting is on Monday 2 August 2004 at 8 p.m.

Tom Pearsall, Clerk
01886 888256

Congratulations

Jessica Oldfield has successfully auditioned for a place as a Junior Associate with The Royal Ballet. She will commence her Saturday morning lessons in September at The Hippodrome Theatre, Birmingham. This is a great honour for Jessica as up to two thousand children apply for one of twelve places every year. Jessica



will continue her twice-weekly dance classes at Harlequin Stage School. Well done Jessica.

Martley & District Horticultural Society

Not long now before the Society's twenty-eighth Annual Show on Saturday 21 August, 2pm at the Village Hall and Playing Field. So book the date, and collect your schedules from Central Store, the Post Office, or from a Committee member. If you have never entered the Show before, 'have a go' this year.

Over the past few weeks Society members have visited a number of 'Open Gardens'. Several members went to Ashton-under-Hill, a village at the eastern end of the Bredon Hill, and overlooking the Vale of Evesham where there were 25 open gardens! Some gardens were very large and some quite small, and they were

spread over quite a distance, but members were able to make use of the mini-bus that wound around the gardens every twenty minutes and so enabled visitors to visit all the open gardens. Refreshments were served in the village hall and the chapel, and there was a variety of plants for sale. New ideas for the home gardens were taken 'on board'.

A visit in the evening to Orleton House near Stanford Bridge by 19 Society members proved most interesting. The hosts Jenny and John Hughes outlined the history of the gardens and house, and escorted the party through the gardens pointing out the interesting features. There were many unusual plants in the borders and bog areas. The evening concluded with drinks and food being taken in the house. Many thanks to Jenny and John for a most enjoyable evening.

Nellie Bradley

Martley Show and Fete

The 28th annual show is to be held on Saturday 21 August at its usual venue of the Martley Village Memorial Hall and the Playing Fields. There will be lots of things to do for both adults and children; Grand Draw, tombola, kid's corner, lots of stalls and games, refreshments, BBQ and more! Do come along, it's a great occasion to see what our line dancers do -have a go, too - find a bargain or even win a prize.

Don't forget!! Someone will call on

you for a tombola prize, so please have something ready. Collectors really appreciate calling just once! Make sure all food or drink is within its use by date.

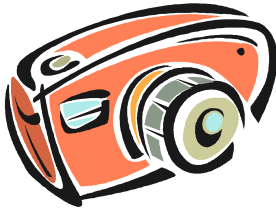
Photographic Competition

The categories this year are:

1. *A Country View*
2. *Animals*
3. *Your favourite photograph*

Entries please to Martley Village Hall by 11am on Saturday 21 August.

If you are unable to submit entries on the day of the show, these will be received by Neil and Eileen Stammers, Tel: 01886-888513. Entry fee 50p per photo. Entrance forms from Martley Post Office or Central Stores.



Martley Ramblers

8 August 2pm Church Car Park

This month Pam and Colin Hill will be leading us around "Hill Country". As the meeting time is 2pm, we are obviously not departing for the Himalayas or the Alps! It must be a little nearer home. Come and find out. You don't have to be a member to join us.



The recent Clifton walk, led by the Two Paulines probably could have qualified as Hill Country. Although a very hot day, there was plenty of shade and the views from the hilltops certainly made up for the climbing. We did have plenty of rests on route. This would be a walk worth repeating, for those members who were unable to come.

Kate King

Thank You

I wish to thank the following people for their support and caring over the last six to eight weeks. On the 23 May my beloved husband, Leslie, passed away. He had been fighting cancer for two years. He was always positive, having a laugh and joke. He was very strong and gave his all to fighting this evil disease. He has blessed me with Cameron and Tiegan and nine years of the best memories.

We would like to thank Dr Watson, a first class doctor. He was always honest and there when we needed him, not only caring for Leslie, but also for me and the kids. Dr Teague and Dr Jones, Helen (and her team) who was not only a great district nurse, but a wonderful person who was with Leslie, along with the rest of the family, when he died. It meant a lot to me that she was there.

My Mum and Dad, Steve and Tracey - I would never have got through without them. Jodie, whom Leslie adored, read so well at the service. All

Leslie's family. Oliver who also read brilliantly at the service, a young man that Leslie was very proud of. All the friends that attended the funeral, especially Michelle and Sue. Two of the best friends I have ever had, Lin and Annette, their support has been brilliant, and I'm so happy that I have their friendship to keep me going. Mary at the Post Office, the staff at Martley School and the girls at the Early Years Centres in Clifton, Desi, and of course, Revd David Sherwin. He prayed for Leslie before and just after he died, he also helped me with arranging a funeral that was perfect for Leslie. It was just how Leslie wanted it to be. Everyone who has offered their sympathy and support, thank you. I would also like to ask you to support James Greenhalgh in his para-motoring during the summer in memory of Leslie and in support of the Macmillan Worcester appeal. We will keep you posted. Thank you so much.

Jo, Cameron and Tiegan Smith



Martley WI

This month we have no formal meeting but do have our summer outing on Wednesday 4 August. We are going to Glazy Days at Ledbury to paint our own designs on the pottery supplied by them. Supper is available during the session. What masterpieces or heirlooms will members, friends

and partners produce? Further details re times, car-sharing from committee members.

The garden meeting at the home of Helen and George Coombey-Jones was a very pleasant evening. We were made very welcome, the weather was warm enough to be outside most of the time and over £125 for funds was wheedled out of our pockets by the auctioneer, Harry King and his trainee, Mike Kipping. Please remember cakes and produce for the stall at the Horticultural Show on Saturday 21 August. Also, small items for a jam jar lucky dip. Proceeds from that will go to Associated Countrywomen of the World project 'Water for All'. We grumble if Severn Trent have a burst and our water runs dry. Just imagine those third world women who have to walk miles for a supply of water that can be contaminated and unhealthy.

Kate King



Welcome

Welcome to Kate and Steve who have moved to Willow Bank, Hillend Farm. We hope they will be very happy there.

Farewell and Hello!!

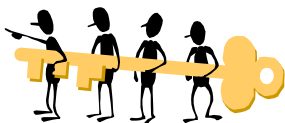


Sunday, 6 June saw a gathering of neighbours from Witton Hill and Prickley Green to bid farewell to

Malcolm and Jill Hendy.

They have lived at Pear Tree Cottage for the last fourteen years and everyone who has sampled their hospitality and good humour was sad to see them depart. They will be very much missed. As ever the event was a culinary masterpiece and the farewell lunch extended to 8pm!! We wish them every happiness in their new home, near Wotton-under-Edge, which is nearer to their family.

We all had the opportunity to meet the new folks, Alistair and Pam Thompson and we extend our good wishes and a warm welcome to them both.



The Royal British Legion

The June meeting was well-attended and the usual business discussed. The trip to The National Memorial Arboretum at Alrewas for the D-Day commemoration was well-supported with forty members and guests representing the branch. The

organisation at the Arboretum was excellent, the service from France very moving and all who attended were glad they had made the trip. The Arboretum is being created on a 150-acre site (generously gifted by Lafarge Aggregates Ltd) as a living tribute to the wartime generations of the twentieth century and as a gift in their memory for future generations to reflect upon and enjoy. The Arboretum itself is in its infancy but will be magnificent in its maturity. Admission is free but donations are welcomed. Well worth a visit!

Wanted – Volunteers for the job of Poppy Appeal Organiser.

Joyce Tyler, Hon Secretary (01886-821551)

A New Reader Writes

I have recently moved to Martley (Rose Cottage) with my partner Corrine and have found The Villager interesting and informative. The June edition on the Broadband update was particularly interesting as I need broadband to operate at a decent speed for the systems I access for my work. I made enquiries to BT as to a date when Broadband will be available. To my great surprise they confirmed that 8 September is the day to put in the diary! Let's hope they are accurate in the delivery.....

On a topical point of speed cameras and the debate taking place in all sectors, has it been considered that Berrow Green Road would benefit

from the dreaded yellow boxes? I cannot believe what I see some days and nights. I reckon speeds of 80 mph are being achieved by the reckless car and bike drivers. The danger this represents has concerned me enough to stop my children using bicycles on the road. I feel that an accident is waiting to happen here, but I hope I'm wrong.

Keep up the good work with The Villager and we look forward to meeting more of the populace of Martley.

Nick Hatchard

Martley Spurs

The new season is about to start, but we do not yet know exactly which league divisions we will be playing in, following last season's disappointing results. We will let you know in next month's issue of The Villager. It should be pointed out that no home games will be played in Martley until the cricket season closes.

BMW



Broadband for Knightwick

It has been announced that Knightwick exchange will be RTS (ready for service) on 20 October 2004. After that date broadband services should be available from the Knightwick exchange - just over a month after Wichenford. For more details, see www.martley.org.uk.

John Layton

Play/Bus?

Fancy a visit to the theatre in Malvern, with FREE transport? Dave Cropp is hoping to organise a trip during August using the new rural bus service and if enough people go, the discount available on the theatre tickets will pay for the bus fare. If you are interested, call Dave on 01886 888398.

This month in Martley a hundred years ago: August

This month in Martley in 1904, on the 26th, the schools closed for the annual four weeks holiday. (September being the 'holiday' month.)

ALB



Over the Garden Wall in Wichenford

WICHENFORD NEEDS YOUR NEWS

Altar Flowers

1 August Mrs J Root
8 August Mrs B Whyatt
15 August Mrs A Smith
22 August Mrs B Hadfield
29 August No Service

Wichenford Church Spring Clean

On Saturday 7 August from 9am to 1pm, we will be carrying out a Church Spring Clean. This is in no way a reflection on Mrs Marion Jinks who does a grand job every week, but there are certain areas that cannot be done, so help is needed. Anyone and everyone, young and older are welcome. Also help is needed outside where Derek can do with some strong men, as it is a big churchyard for one man to keep up to such a high standard. Coffee etc. will be provided.

Wichenford Ladies Fellowship

Eleven members enjoyed a most pleasant afternoon exploring all the delights of Webbs Garden Centre at



**Janet Andrews
01886 888303
Sheila Richards
01886 888378**

Wychbold. The range of goods on sale seems to increase with every visit, going well beyond the former idea of a garden centre dealing mostly with plants and tools. We all came away with purchases and ideas for our own gardens, but not before we met up in the restaurant for a pot of tea and cake, to round off a very pleasant afternoon. We have no meeting in August scheduled, but send Birthday Greetings to members Mrs Isabel Field and Mrs Brenda Hadfield. 21 September sees us gathering at the home of Mrs Millie Pargeter at 2.30pm.

Two Walks in Two Weeks!

For the third year, Emily and Hannah Burnett and their mother Lynne, have completed two charity walks in two weeks. The first was at Droitwich on 6 June for Diabetes UK and the second was at Worcester for the Race for Life Breast Cancer on 13 June. Well done girls! And a big pat on the back to any

other children and adults in our two villages who took part in these very worthwhile events!

Farewell and Thank You



We bid farewell to Molly Wall. Since her husband, Norman, sadly died, Molly has found it difficult living at Ockeridge as she doesn't drive. We thank her for all her valuable help over many years which has been much appreciated. Molly has helped so many village organisations and events; she was secretary to the committee of the Nora Parsons Day Centre, ran a stall at the fete, put together all our notes for *The Villager* and was organiser for the Ladies Fellowship, to name but a few. She also gave valuable help to the village of Little Witley. Molly is moving to Droitwich and takes with her our grateful thanks and very best wishes for happiness in her new home. We hope that she will visit us often. She will always receive a very warm welcome.

(The Editor of The Villager and her production team would also like the thank Molly for help collating and typing up Wichenford news every month.)

Congratulations

Congratulations to recently-promoted Flight Lieutenant Richard Pargeter of Bush Farm, Wichenford. Richard has just successfully completed his Basic Fast Jet training course at RAF

Lynton-on-Ouse in Yorkshire. At the graduation ceremony on 25 June he was awarded his RAF pilot wings. In addition, he won the Bishop Trophy for best formation pilot and the Ferranti Trophy for the best instrument flying. Richard now goes on to RAF Valley in Anglesey for Advanced Fast Jet training. This course was recently documented in the BBC2 series, *Combat Pilot*, and we wish him every success.



Wichenford 100 Club

June winner J Finnegan. Ticket no 23. £112.

Millennium Green Inspection and Tidying Rota

August :Heather Rendell.

Rubbish!

Could all parishioners please note that the litter bins are for litter only NOT household waste. Household waste is collected by the dustmen on Tuesday morning.

We have also had reports of litter left lying on the ground after the bags have been collected. Could you please make sure your bags are tied securely and once it's been collected, if any rubbish is left on the ground outside your property, could you please pick it up. Lets try to keep our village tidy!

S. Sanders

Kenswick and Wichenford Parish Council

Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting was held on Monday 26 April 2004 in the Memorial Hall, Wichenford. The meeting was chaired by Councillor Stinton.

The Annual report was adopted with the Financial Statement. The Parish Council has £4,357.95 in the bank with an excess of income over expenditure of £1,247.16. The clerk explained that the parish council budgeted £650.00 for the elections, but due to lack of candidates no elections took place. Also £500.00 has been allocated for the memorial hall having not yet received payment. Therefore we would only have an excess of £100.00. The Precept remained at £6,000.

Apologies were received from C. Wetherall, G. Britten-Long, K. Randall, N. Oldfield, M. Wickens, M. Fisher, B. Williams, and Rev Sherwin. Reports were given by the following village societies:

Martley Primary School – B. Wickens. Martley Primary School has 137 pupils on record. There are six teaching staff including the Head teacher, five Classroom Assistants, one Special Needs Assistant and seven Non-Teaching Staff. All classrooms now have a teaching assistant. This will be my last report as a Minor Authority Governor as there will no longer be a representative from the

Parish Councils. Extra Local Education Authority Governors will replace Minor Authority Governors. Some visits in school have included Road Safety Team, Worcestershire Fire Services, Martley Post Office, a Yamaha music demonstration and Kidderminster Harriers Football Club. The Harvest, Christmas and Easter services were all held at Martley Church. Fund raising for charity has continued with Operation Christmas Child and a Blue Peter sale. Representatives from three German schools visited in November and a Japanese intern student is in school until July. The Grounds Development project is still on target and gradual improvements are being made. The school has been successful in its bid to achieve an Investors in People standard. We are expecting our second OFSTED inspection in June. There have been concerns about road safety but we believe that Worcestershire County Council have a pelican crossing scheduled for late 2004. New building projects will be starting soon. The mobile classroom will be removed and a new bigger reception classroom will be built. Class 3 is to be extended and there will be a new cloakroom and toilets as well as other internal alterations.

Parochial Church Council – P. Webb. 2003 has been a good year with some increased congregation numbers for special services and steady attendance figures at the rest. Attendance to the All-age worship is disappointing.

There were three baptisms, five funerals and no weddings. The response to our Audio System appeal from parishioners has been very encouraging and generously supported. A grant was received from the Eveson Trust that enabled us to reach and even overshoot our target of £2529.38 in less than six months. Regular income has been helped by the introduction of gift aid envelopes placed on the pews in church. We are trying to build up reserves each. Soon the sandstone on the west end and tower will need replacing.

Memorial Hall Committee – D.Stinton

Three fund-raising events were organised during the year and a raised a total of £614.00. The amount is £225 less than last year with the Brian Draper talk being the best-supported function. Hazel Nicholls must be thanked for her support with an increased amount of income raised from her monthly whist drives. Hall lettings and table and chair hire have increased. Thank you to the harvest supper and the 100 club for their generous donations. £620.00 has been spent on pointing the brickwork along the back of the building and £86 on an adjustment to the ducting of the heating system. We are continually applying for grants for other building improvements.

Wichenford Charities – M.Fisher. The Wichenford Parochial Charities was first registered with the charity commission on 17 April 1923. Income generated in 2003 amounted to £35.05

making the total available for distribution £607.91. As reported last year, the trustees of the Wichenford Charities have been in regular contact with the charities commission because the constitution of the charity is not in keeping with modern day needs. A meeting was arranged with the trustees of the Wichenford Nursing Association known as the Britten Charity, as their constitution is more appropriate for today. The trustees of both charities agreed that a transfer into the Wichenford Nursing Association/Britten Charity would be in the best interest of the members of the parish of Wichenford. The charity commission has confirmed that it is in full agreement with this transfer, provided that generated income only is distributed, and that capital must stay intact. It is hoped that completion of the transfer will be in the near future.

Friends of St Laurence's Church – B.Whyatt. The year 2003 brought in new donations of £195.00. Those who have been supporting the friends have been regular visitors to the Church. The fund stands at £6,274 but this is well short of the amount required to do major repairs that will have to be done over the next few years. Now that the funds have been collected to install the Audio System, an appeal will be made to all the people living in Wichenford to raise the funds required to cover the coming repair bills.

Nora Parsons Day Centre Management Committee - D.Stinton. The management committee meets

twice a year and is responsible for the fabric of the building. No major expenditure has been incurred. It has been suggested that the two committees involved with the Nora Parsons Day Centre could be amalgamated, but before that is possible we need to seek professional advice.

Wichenford Fete Committee – J. Andrews. There was no village fete last year due to the open garden event. Wichenford Nursing Association – G. Britten-Long. The Hon. Mrs Britten set up the Wichenford Nursing Association in 1940, to assist the work of the district nurse during the war. The association is still run by the Britten family, with Pam Webb and Janet Andrews. Helen Woolley, our district nurse and Margaret Fisher joined the association this last year. We are trying to link up with the Wichenford Charities, as it was thought more appropriate that the two charities should be merged. At Christmas 44 gifts of cards, flowers and biscuits were allocated to parishioners, four new ones being suggested by the district nurse. The reclining chair has been in much use, and a tens machine and pressure relief cushion are to be purchased by the district nurse for use in the community. We have also given 3150.00

to the church for the Audio Loop System.

Footpath Officer – H Rendall. The Parish Council has joint footpath officers, (now known as Wardens) H. Rendall and J. Wells. Mr Wells has applied to join the Parish Partnership Scheme and has just learnt that he has been awarded a grant for 2004 for equipment and new stiles. He hopes to gather a team of volunteers to clear and maintain the footpaths. Worcestershire County Council agreed in June 2003 to create an all-weather access to Kingsgreen bridle path as the current access is severely rutted. This has not yet been done because of the budget. It is hoped to complete the work in 2004. A new kiss-gate has been delivered to replace a broken stile on Kingsgreen and we are waiting for the bridge to be repaired on footpath 20. A temporary closure notice has been put on our two green lanes as a result of 4x4 activity. Discussions with the Environmental Services are still on going. A decision

A few thoughts for those of us who are reaching middle age

- *The really frightening thing about middle age is the knowledge that you will grow out of it.*
- *Middle age is when everything new you feel is most likely to be a symptom.*
- *Middle age is when we can do just as much as ever – but would rather not!*

about the future status of these lanes is imminent. A public enquiry was held in April regarding The Elms bridleway. A decision from the inspectorate is expected soon.

The Definitive Map Review Consultation took place in July. Several footpaths needed to be corrected due to official changes over the years. It was discovered that Kingsgreen and Laugherne corner/triangle are in fact village greens. The only recognised common land in Wichford is Elm Corner.

Villager Report – S.Richards. It has been another successful year for the villager magazine thanks to our editor, Michelle Higgins, and her team. Most of the reports are sent directly to the editor by email that makes our life easier. This year the cost of the printing rose and a decision had to be made on how to meet the extra expense. We could make the printing smaller, increase the charge per copy, or have an extra double page of adverts. In the end we decided to take on extra advertising. We were saddened by the untimely death of Nigel Collett. He had been advertising manager since 1999 and was instrumental in turning the financial fortunes of the magazine around by his untiring work in selling advertising to his many contacts.

Millennium Green – H Rendall. 2004 sees the longest tenure of trusteeship. All four positions are due for election or re-election sometime this year-possibly June or September. The green

was inspected in March by ROSPA. Their comments were noted and acted upon. Metal pins, the cross posts have been permanently fixed, have secured the goal posts and the depth of bark under the swings is to be maintained monthly. We are grateful for the 11 volunteers/trustees who in turn check the green on a weekly basis. We have had no problems with dog fouling or litter. If anyone would like to become a trustee for the period 2004-2008 could you please contact the secretary? Insurance has proved a problem this year. Our insurers no longer carry such insurance and could only give the name of one insurer in the UK. We have applied for insurance for the period 2004/2005 and have been accepted at a premium increase by nearly 50%.

Wichford Heritage Committee – M. Hylan. This is the third and final year of the Heritage Group project funded by the Local Heritage Initiative. The dendrochronology core sampling was completed last year, and we are now waiting for the final report. The geophysics survey only shows 'ferric' deposits in the field at Cockshoot Farm. With the help of the archaeologists, we plan to cut a trench across the soil mark and see if there is evidence of a ditch. A preliminary field-walk over the field yielded a large amount of 18th C roof tile but relatively little pottery. A large number of the ancient trees have been photographed, described and mapped. We understand that there are

fragments of Roman and Medieval pottery amongst the finds, but are waiting for the final reports. A digital copy of the Tithe map is being framed and we plan to hang it in the Memorial Hall. There is no doubt that much of the parish boundary was defined in 757AD, but the history of the parish at the time of the Norman conquest is far from clear. The parish is not as ancient as the surrounding parishes such as Martley, Grimley, Holt and Little Witley. We hold on average 15 meetings a year and attendance is between 25 and 30. We plan to continue the Heritage group and are discussing the possibility of applying for more funds towards the end of the year.

Wichenford 100 Club – B. Hylan. The club finished its first year with a membership of 216. A total of £2739.00 via subscriptions, life membership fees and bank interest was raised. Prize money of £1259.00 was paid out leaving £1443.00 net profit after expenses. The money was distributed as follows: £900.00 to the Millennium Green Trust, £200.00 to the church and Memorial Hall. £100.00 to the Nursing Association.

Wichenford Book Fund – G. Britten-Long. The book fund was wound up during 2003 and the residual capital of £350.00 was donated to the St Laurence Church Audio System Fund. At that time, 15 books remained for sale at £15.00 each. Five books were sold at the Village Heritage Exhibition held in September and the money went

to the Audio System Fund. As the Audio Fund has reached its target it was agreed that the profit from the sale of the remaining books should be paid into the general church account.

County Council Report – Mrs. B. Hickling. Wichenford Parish Council and myself have been very busy this year in our attempt to prevent “off-road 4x4” vehicles ploughing through Rosses and Guises Lanes. The planning system is changing and we have to decide guidance on Landscape Protection. A public document regarding this will shortly be with all parish councils. It will determine where affordable homes may or may not be sited. Kenswick and Wichenford have been successful in their bid for a parish lengthsmen. He will be able to do odd jobs around the village for 20 hours each month. He will not however be expected to fill potholes. The refurbished household waste site on the Worcester Road has been reopened. The County Council has enabled the District Council to purchase a new fleet of vehicles. This will facilitate a kerbside collection of recyclables throughout the district. You have a new evening bus service providing leisure travel into Worcester through the week. This has been very well used and a great success. The Malvern Service Station was opened in July 2003 combining all County and District services under one roof. The number is 01684-862151.

District Council Report – Mrs B Williams. The Local Plan Review

1996-2011 the draft plan is now on deposit. We have seen the introduction of recycling of household waste and it seems to be running well. We have had a "Political Management Working Party" to put in place a number of improvements on customer focus, streamline decision process etc. We have also been working on "Worcestershire Hub" bringing together services between local governments. I am also a member of Panel "C" which has been looking mainly at homelessness in the district and concessionary travel fares.

This concludes the Annual Parish Report for 2003.

Shirley Sanders, Clerk to the Council.

Volunteers Drivers Needed

I am currently recruiting for volunteer drivers for local community transport groups in the Malvern Hills area. We are desperately short and rely heavily on the good will of a few individuals who give up their precious time to help people in need of our service. Without our volunteers, elderly, disabled and isolated members of our community are unable to make medical appointments, go shopping or simply visit friends and have the occasional day out.

All volunteers are unpaid but do receive expenses when



running their own car, or they can assist with driving the Community Action bus.

I would be extremely grateful if you could include a piece in your next magazine to highlight the need for volunteers and improve awareness of local community transport, which operates as a charity and due to the exceptionally low cost of travel they provide, are struggling to maintain the services, without which, many local people would be bereft of a vital lifeline.

The contact details for interested parties are as follows.

Rob O'Neil

Community Action

Third Floor

28 - 30 Belle Vue Terrace

Malvern

Worcs WR14 4PZ

01684 580638

I will explain to callers what we need and how they can help. Volunteers can give as much or as little time as they want to fit around their current lifestyle. Even if an individual can just give an hour a month, it can make a massive positive impact on someone's life.

Rob O'Neil

Apologia

The Editor apologies for any errors or omissions in this issue of The Villager but she was VERY busy during July and was unable to spend as much time as she would have liked on putting The Villager together. Michelle Higgins

St Richard's Launches New Hospice Appeal

Building Beds Together – please support us.

St Richard's Hospice is celebrating 20 years of care with a public appeal to help fund its future - a new £5.25m hospice including the first specialist beds for patients in South Worcestershire.

Appeal organisers launched the St Richard's New Hospice Appeal, *Building Beds Together* campaign on Saturday 3 July, asking everyone in the local community to help make the new hospice a reality.

The new, state-of-the-art hospice will combine all the current services offered to patients with 15 specialist palliative care beds, which are desperately needed but not currently available in South Worcestershire.

Thanks to generous donations, St Richard's has already been able to buy a 3.5 acre site at Wildwood Way, Worcester and is well on the way to raising the appeal target. But much more is needed to achieve the goal of building the new hospice in 2005 and opening to patients in 2006.

Please support your New Hospice Appeal by:

- Making a donation
- Organising a fund-raising event
- Inviting us to talk about the new hospice at your community group.

For more information call the Fundraising Team on 01905 763963

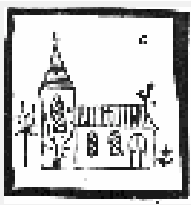
MOZARTISSIMO!!!!

Book early for this Autumn Concert and Extravaganza.

Mozartissimo will be presenting the Life and Music of Mozart, in Martley on Friday 26 November in 18th century costume.

An amazing evening - reserve your priority seats now, at an early bird price of £10.00 only for Martley and Wichenford readers of *The Villager* by the end of July - when the tickets will go on general public release at £12.00

Dave Cropp 01886 888398



Church Words

The Rectory 01886 888664

I recently received a letter encouraging me to reply to something because I might lose out if I didn't. So many people, it went on to say, ignore its contents and miss out. Some years ago I entered a competition to attend a cricket final. When a young man phoned to say that I had won, I didn't believe him—but I had won and enjoyed a day out at Lord's with my wife all expenses paid. I did not miss out on a great day. It was Worcestershire v Warwickshire too!

It made me think of the way we often view the Bible. It comes to us as an invitation from God to enjoy an abundant relationship with him and yet we often treat it like those letters, we ignore its contents. It is not that we disregard it completely but we fail to explore what God says to us through the Bible thinking we know what it says, and maybe even sometimes disbelieving what is being offered to us freely. With our mail and phone calls we are right to be a little suspicious and expect 'catches', yet with God's invitation there are no catches, unless of course we are ready to be caught by his free offer of his love to us in Christ.

Rev David Sherwin

1 August	
Wichenford	9.30am Holy Communion
Martley	11am Family Worship
Broadwas	11am Morning Worship
Knightwick	8am Holy Communion
Cotheridge	6.30pm Evensong
8 August	
Wichenford	10.0am Family Worship
Martley	11am Holy Communion
Broadwas	11am Morning Worship
Cotheridge	8am Holy Communion
15 August	
Wichenford	6.30pm Evensong
Martley	8am Holy Communion; 11am Morning Worship
Broadwas	11am Holy Communion
Cotheridge	9am Matins
Knightwick	3pm Evening Worship
22 August	
Wichenford	11am Holy Communion
Martley	9.30am Holy Communion; 6.30pm Evening Worship
Broadwas	8am Holy Communion; 11am Family Worship
29 August	
Knightwick	11am Songs of Praise followed by picnic

Happy Home Workers Project



AGE CONCERN is looking for **HOMEWORKERS** to support **OLDER CLIENTS** in their own homes.

Under the umbrella of Age concern you would be self employed and would charge between £6.50 and £7.50 per hour to undertake **HOUSEHOLD TASKS.**

WE will introduce you to the client
YOU will negotiate hours and jobs

Make a difference, join the Age Concern
HAPPY HOME PROJECT

Contact **ANNIE** 01684 561666

In the Kitchen



Melons with Summer Fruit

For each person:

1 small melon
1oz (30g) summer fruit, such as raspberries (with sugar, if you must)
1 dessert spoonful dessert wine or fruit juice

1. Cut the top off each melon and scoop out the seeds.
2. Spoon some fruit into each melon and pour over some wine or juice.
3. Chill until required.

To transport the melons, if you want to take them on a picnic, put the lids back on and carefully wrap each melon in foil or clingfilm before chilling.



In the Garden



Garden Tips for August

The gardener must always be thinking ahead. Crops that can be sown this month are beetroot, carrots, chicory, lettuce, spring onions and spring cabbage. Plant out brassicas for spring harvest. These include purple and white sprouting, winter cauliflower and kale. Winter onion sets appear in garden centres ready for September and October planting. Sow cyclamen seed. Pot prepared bulbs for Christmas flowering. Cuttings of geraniums, pelargoniums and fuchsias taken this month should make well-established plants when winter sets in.

Shallots and onions are ready to be harvested this month. Lift them and leave on the soil surface for a few days, collect and store when dry.

Don't forget to continue to spray roses for mildew, blackspot and rust. Pests will still create a problem on many species of plants: white fly on tomatoes and brassicas, black fly on beans etc. Only recommended sprays can control these pests. Spray early to prevent trouble - prevention is better than cure!

Jack Bradley



Village Contacts

Don't throw that old electrical appliance away!

Re-Cycle it!

The Network will collect your old fridge, washing machine, freezer or TV free of charge anywhere in Worcestershire and make it good as new.

The Network will re-cycle furniture too!

Re-furbished products available at great prices from the new showroom.

01562 68484

Registered Charity 1100198

The Network (Worcestershire)
Electrical Appliance Re-use Centre
Unit 1, Ricketts Close
Firs Industrial Estate

Caring for Carers

If you would like information about carer support, contact **Worcestershire Association of Carers** on 01905-26500 or e-mail to: mail@carersworcs.org.uk.

Editor of The Villager	Michelle Higgins editor@martley.org.uk or 01886 888344 or leave articles at the Martley Post Office
Advertise in The Villager	Neil Stammers neil.stammers@btinternet.com or 01886 888513
Church	Rector: Revd David Sherwin—01886 888664 Curate: Revd Jennifer Whittaker—01886 833897
Martley Website	webmaster@martley.org.uk
Martley Parish Council	Chair: Dave Cropp—01886 888398; Clerk: Tom Pearsall—01886 888256
Martley WI— President	Pat Crook 01886 888550
Martley & Dist Hort. Soc.	Mrs J O'Leary—01886 888253
Royal British Legion	Joyce Tyler—01886 821551
Martley Ramblers	Harry King—01886 888439
Wichenford contacts for The Villager	Janet Andrews—01886 888303, Sheila Richards— 01886 888378
Resource Centre	Alan Boon—01886 888527
Kenswick & Wichenford Parish Counl.	Clerk—Shirley Sanders 01886 888302
Wichenford Wine Club	Secretary—Mike Holmes 01905 641739
Trefoil Guild	geraldine.cooper@btopenw orld.com