

# The Villager

The community magazine for the parishes of Martley and Wichenford

Volume 15 No. 7

December 2005

**Editor: Andrew Chilvers** (01905 641986)

**Editorial Team:** *Martley:* Alan Boon (01886 888527), Nellie Bradley (01886 888339), Kate King (01886 888439), Beth Williams (01886 888273) *Wichenford:* Janet Andrews (01886 888303), Sheila Richards (01886 888378)

**Advertising:** Neil Stammers (01886 888513)

**Distribution:** *Martley* George & June Lawrence (01886 821064) *Wichenford* Bill & Jo Root (01886 888585)

**Contact The Villager:** leave articles at Martley Post Office, call Janet or Sheila (Wichenford) or email the Editor at [editor@martley.org.uk](mailto:editor@martley.org.uk)

*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:**

**Walking Not Working with the Path-or-Nones.** Meet 9.30am Village Hall car park to help survey the footpaths

### **Mondays**

**1st Monday in the month:**

**Martley Parish Council** 8pm Memorial Hall

### **Tuesdays**

**Short Mat Bowling** 2.30pm Martley Memorial Hall (2pm winter months)

**Wichenford Ladies' Fellowship** 2.30pm  
2nd Tuesday in the month (usually)

### **Wednesdays**

**Teme Valley Shufflers Line Dancing**  
7pm Martley Memorial Hall.

*Enquiries:* Jeff and Thelma 01886 821772

**Martley Folk Club:** 1st Wednesday in the month at The Admiral Rodney

**Martley WI:** 2nd Wednesday in the month 7.30pm Sport Martley

### **Thursdays**

**Wichenford Wine Club:** 3rd Thursday in the month

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

### **Other events:**

**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

See Church Words for details of services

See articles inside for details of special events AND changes of times or dates of regular events

See the Diary page on [www.martley.org.uk](http://www.martley.org.uk) for a complete listing of all forthcoming events (that the Diary page Editor knows about)

---

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

# **OUT AND ABOUT IN MARTLEY**

Visit our website—[www.martley.org.uk](http://www.martley.org.uk)



## ***Christmas Fair***

The annual Christmas Fair will be held in Martley Village Hall on Sunday December 4 from 2-4.30pm. There will be the usual Christmas fare of mince pies and mulled wine, a tombola, lots of stalls, raffle etc. Come along, buy that last minute thing, your holly and mistletoe, a book for holiday reading and a chat with other local people having a different Sunday afternoon.

## ***Dancing on a Saturday night***

We were pleased to welcome over 40 energetic folk to our 3rd and most successful barn dance to date in Martley Village Hall on Saturday 8 October. Eve Evans and her husband John provided wonderful music for us to dance to as well as entertaining us with songs and spoon and banjo playing, which gave everyone chance to have well earned rest between dances.

So all in all it proved to be a great night and we were delighted to have raised around £200 for the Village Hall and have purchased more cutlery for the new kitchen.

Our thanks to Nellie for her efforts in selling lots of raffle tickets.

We hope that everyone enjoyed the evening as we much as we enjoyed organising it. For those of you who weren't able to come, all is not lost as the next Barn Dance is now booked for Saturday March 18 2006, so keep the date free in your diary and let us know if you would like tickets as they are already on sale.

*Helen & George Coombey-Jones –  
01886 888294*

*Eileen & Neil Stammers – 01886  
888513.*

## ***Trafalgar 200***

Martley-ites gathered atop Berrow Hill on Friday October 21 to celebrate the 200th anniversary of Nelson winning the Battle of Trafalgar. A blazing beacon that could have been seen from Malvern, Breedon and probably Clent and Walton reddened the night sky – at least, it could have been seen if thick cloud and heavy rain had not done their best to conceal it. Notwithstanding, the damp souls on Berrow



*The HMS Victory on Trafalgar Day*

Hill and those in the village with a view of the hill witnessed an astounding display of fireworks that shimmered and sparkled amongst the clouds. Nelson would be proud to think that Britons were celebrating his victory in such style. Well done to Helen Taylor, who organised the event, and to those who managed to make it to the top of Berrow Hill on such a miserable night.

The firework display by 'Dragonfire' (a local company) was excellent. If you did not go up the hill I am sure that you would have seen the bonfire and the fireworks light up the sky over the village, from the comfort of your home.

A big thank you to all the helpers both prior and on the day, and to everyone who generously gave a donation towards the cost of the firework display. It is good to see that our village could take part in this National Event.

*Michelle Higgins and Don Taylor*

## ***Pudford Lane***

Reading recently of the success of Nomads, the young Rockers from The Chantry High and their connection with Robert Plant of Led Zeppelin, brought back memories of long ago. How many readers know that the idea for the beginning of Led Zeppelin was thought up on a settee at Spring Meadow in Quarry Lane, off Pudford Lane? Robert Plant was one of the friends of Beth Bowden's daughter. A few chance remarks led to discussions and look where that led. This column is always full of useless facts.

The clearance operative for the layby has been made redundant from his post, but willing to resume again if necessary. It is now looking so tidy and clean, but why can't lunch-eating motorists take their rubbish home or put it in the bin? The dire forecasts of a forthcoming severe winter (disputed by Paul Damari) may see the reformation of the Pudford Glacier. In that case, pickaxes and shovels will be available and a list of volunteer clearers will be compiled.

*Kate King*

## ***Martley WI***

*Wednesday 14 December 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall.*

This month we are temporarily back in the Memorial Hall for a small celebration of 60 years since the end of the Second World War. As some of us are old enough (nay "mature" enough) to remember a little of it, it seemed ap-

appropriate to have an open meeting. Anyone is welcome to bring along any memorabilia and perhaps talk for a few minutes. There will probably be music from those years, but we cannot promise that Vera Lynn or Ann Shelton will be there. However, there will be mince pies and punch. The proceeds from the annual Red and Green table will go to Associated Country Women of the World for development in Third World Countries. The usual lucky dip jam jars will be on sale, so don't forget to fill one with goodies to the value of £1, so that you can then buy another; these proceeds go to local charities. We shall be having our cake stall at the Christmas Fair on Saturday December 4. Donations welcome. Do come along on December 14 and join in our celebrations. Perhaps this is an occasion for potential new members to try us out. Men are welcome, of course, but cannot join the WI, even in these days of political correctness. Sorry chaps!

*Kate King*

### ***Please slow down in the narrow lanes***

The lanes around Martley are not solely for the use of 4 x 4 drivers. Children, horse riders, dog walkers and cyclists all have the right to use them as well. This is a lovely area and should be enjoyable for all. With the dark mornings and afternoons at this time of year, the danger is worse and there have been several nasty incidents

recently. Whatever the excuse for driving above safety limits and lack of courtesy to others, please slow down and be aware before serious injuries happen.

### ***Martley Ramblers***

There is no walk this month as the afternoons can get dark early, but do not stay indoors until the New Year. Keep in trim until we meet in January to start the new programme for 2006. Watch this space to see where we shall be going and when, once the new programme is sorted out.

*Kate King*

### ***Martley & District Horticultural Society***

The October meeting of the Society was most interesting. The speaker was Reg Moule. Reg is well known for his weekly programme on BBC Hereford & Worcester and his subject for his talk was "What's wrong with me plant?" His experiences and knowledge of plants covers a wide range of different species. The diseases and problems that can attack plants were demonstrated with plants that had been brought along by members who were seeking advice on how to cure or how to prevent the everyday problems that can arise with indoor and outdoor plants. Members left much wiser about the plant world.

The Society's Annual Dinner is on Friday 2 December 7.00-7.30pm in

Martley Village Hall. Anyone wishing to join us should give their name to the Society's Secretary, Pam Minchin, on 01886-888521, as soon as possible. Meetings will continue during the winter months in Martley Village Hall on the last Thursday of the month, starting at 7.30pm, with interesting speakers. The next meeting is on Thursday 26 January 2006, when the speaker will be Gordon Forest talking about "The Wildlife Reserve".

*Nellie Bradley*

### ***Martley Spurs***

October began with the Saturday Premier side playing away to Hallow WMC, a game that they won by four goals to three with a hat trick by Steve Prickett. There were no fixtures for either of the Sunday teams. The Saturday boys were without a fixture the following weekend, but the Sunday Premier squad was busy with Callow End in a game that they won by three goals to two. Sunday the 16th saw the Spurs on a losing streak; the Premier eleven lost to Colwall St James, even though they netted three times. Then the Reserves missed out to Droitwich Spa Reserves. The 22nd saw them back to their winning ways when the Saturday eleven beat Pershore Manor 6-1, three of which were netted by Steve Prickett. Steve was scoring again the next morning when he got a couple of the Spurs' 7-3 win over St John's in the Katherine Rayer Cup round one. However, the Reserves lost

their game against Worcester Juniors in the same cup round. The final weekend of the month saw the Saturday side get another good win beating Welland Athletic by five goals to two. The Sunday teams did not do very well, the Premier eleven lost to AFC Mazak and the Reserves to Bedwardine.

The Spurs Annual Christmas Draw, with a top prize of £100, will be held at The Crown in Martley at 7.30pm on Sunday 18 December. Tickets are available from all club members, who also wish their fans and followers a merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

*Beth Williams*

### ***Memories are made of . . . .***

Once upon a time we all had a limited number of details to remember, a name and a signature to go with it, an address, birth date and, if you were lucky, a three digit telephone number. Nowadays names are not enough since they often also require a password. Addresses are no longer just a house name or number, but also a post code which, of course, leads to knowing your family and friend's numbers too. Telephone numbers used to be three or four digits, now you need national five figure dialling codes and yet longer ones for international calls and, even worse, try remembering a few of those kilometric mobile numbers.

Once you put your signature on a cheque or to pay with a credit card,

but now you need a series of PIN numbers for bank, credit, debit, store and an array of other cards, and you might have up to a dozen of these. Beware, don't get them mixed up, the little machine or hole in the wall will refuse it or even swallow it.

Other numbers to remember? Loads of them: car registration, driving licence, national insurance, other insurance, perhaps even your height and weight and cholesterol level if you go to the doctors. I am beginning to wonder if the good Lord got it wrong when he gave elephants infallible memories.

*Beth Williams*

### ***Martley's past Decembers***

1739: 4th; Baptism of Wm, (Spurious) son of Eliz -

1772: 27th; Marriage of Wm. - (Sojourner, Wid) and Mary - (Sojourner)

1879: 3rd; School lessons were stopped in the afternoon at 3.30, at which hour the Rev J P Hastings and the Misses Hastings came in the school. Mr Coleman (Master) presented Miss Eleanor Hastings with a salver on behalf of the Teachers and scholars of the schools, as a mark of their affection and esteem on her approaching marriage.

1887: 15th; Half Holiday given to the girls in order to prepare the classroom for a concert.

1894: 4th; The first Parish Meeting held in the Board Room of the Union. 15 nomination papers were handed in

for the nine councillors required. After a short period of questioning, voting took place - with a show of hands!

1895: 20th; School closed at noon for a week. 30th; reopened with rather poor attendance.

1933: 18th; The Annual Missionary Meeting was held in The Chantry Hall at 7pm. Mr Hain from Tanganyika gave a lantern lecture on his work in Africa for 20 years and very interesting it was. The collection at the end was 12s 9d (63p). (Written by Rev Hastings). *AL Boon*

### ***Thank you***

I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who came to the coffee morning on Friday 30th September, and those who sent donations in aid of the Macmillan Cancer Relief - we raised £94.30. Thank you also Nellie and Pat for your help at the Coffee Morning.

*Eileen*

### ***Martley Library***

Martley Village Hall, Berrow Green Road, Martley, WR66PQ.

Tel: 01886 888396

Opening hours

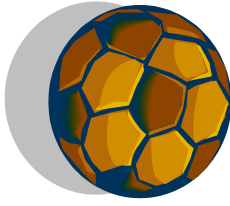
Mon 2.00-7.00

Tues 4.00-7.30

Thurs 10.00-1.00

Fri 2.00-4.00

Sat 10.00-12 noon



### ***Well done***

Congratulations to Ryan Norgrove who has been chosen by All Stars in association with Birmingham City Football Club. He will play for Birmingham City under 11s. Bravo Ryan.

### ***Engagement***

Margaret & Ray Rushgrove are happy to announce the engagement of their youngest son Justin, to Vanessa Leatham on 2 October. Also the marriage of their eldest son, Jason, to Colleen Gallagher on 15 October.

### ***St Richard's Hospice Lights of Love***

Lights of love will be shining across Worcestershire again this year on three St Richard's Hospice Christmas trees - in Worcester, Malvern and Droitwich. Everyone is invited to make a donation and dedicate a light for love - whether in memory of a loved one, celebration of a birth or for someone who will be absent this Christmas, but is still in your thoughts. Dedications can be made until Wednesday, 21 December.

The Lights of Love will be switched on in Worcester on Friday, 18 November. The celebration evening will start with a special Service of Light at Worcester Cathedral at 7pm followed by a candlelit procession to the Christ-

mas tree in nearby St Andrew's Spire (Glovers Needle), Deansway, Worcester. Last year more than 800 people filled the cathedral for the service. The spire is the perfect place for the switching on ceremony and a place for those choosing to sit and reflect.

For the first time this year lights will also be shining in new hospice initiatives in Malvern and Droitwich. There will be a dedication, music and 'switch on' of tree lights at Victoria Square, Droitwich on Thursday, 1st December. A service of Lights of Love and Life will be held jointly with St Michael's Hospice at the Malvern Priory on Thursday, 15th. December, followed by the switching on of the dedicated lights.

### ***Great news for Martley pre-school***

It's been a busy month for Martley Pre-School. Thank you to everyone who supported our Halloween cake sale in the Primary School hall last month, we raised £126. This will help the poor financial situation after a large school intake this September saw 17 children go to 'big school' leaving numbers low before new children start with us in January. November 20th saw a five-a-side football tournament at Sport Martley, thanks to Laverne Banner for all her hard work in organising a really fun day.

We would also like to say a big thank you to Gill & Eric Gagg, who opened up their home to us for a Halloween

dinner, raising an amazing £800 for Pre-School, it was a fantastic evening, lovely food and a great time was had by all.

We have also been lucky enough to be awarded an 'Awards for All' national Lottery grant of £4860, which will enable us to install an accessible toilet for children with disabilities and also provide the children with a new cloakroom area. The 'messy play' area, including activities such as the sand pit, water, play dough and paint will also benefit from some much needed non-slip lino. This award comes just in time as we open from 8am-9am for breakfast club and 3.15pm to 6pm for after school care in the New Year. These services will be open to children aged 2-13 years. Please call me or Chris on 889127 with any queries or to book your child's place.

*Kathryn Smith, manager*

### ***Pensax Thrift Shop***

"Pensax Thrift Shop had a very successful fund raising event on 12th October and will hand over a cheque to the County Air Ambulance on November 30 for £1200 - plus the amount from the sale of Christmas goods. Thrift Shop will close on 7th December and open again on the first Wednesday in March 2006. All the volunteer helpers would like to wish customers a very happy Christmas.

### ***Teme Valley Children's Centre***

This is the new name for the Children's Centre serving all families with young children throughout the Teme Valley. It's co-ordinators, Hilary Highton and the Children's Activity Supervisor Rebecca Davies, are working with many agencies as well as families in the Teme Valley, setting up services in health, education, social and child-care, addressing the issue of rural isolation and the current lack of services.

Already established is 'The Coffee Haven' - a 'drop-in' Coffee Shop on a Fair Trade theme which is open every Thursday during school term times from 11am-2pm at Clifton-upon-Teme Village Hall. Anyone of any age, with or without children, is welcome to drop by for a cappuccino, specialty tea or just a good old instant coffee - it is becoming a great place to meet people. In conjunction with the Coffee Haven is 'Leaps and Bounds' from Tumble Tots. Classes are available for children from walking-5 year olds.

From November 8th a free six week Post Natal 'Course' has been set up with the aim of providing support, advice and a meeting place for parents with babies 0-6 months

*If you would like more information about any of these events, please contact Hilary or Rebecca at the Centre on 01886 812982. If they are out and about, please leave a message and they will call you back as soon as possible.*





## *Horsing around in Martley*

Good news for all us horse folk, our own space in the Villager!

So please give us your news and views about your horse, about you and the interest-

ing shows or rides you have been on. You could also let us know about any horse-related items you may be looking for; books tack, etc. Perhaps you need some sort of help with a horse-related issue; we can try to put people in touch with you.

Possibly one of the best things to happen locally is the Bromyard Equestrian centre opening. It's a lovely venue with a smashing restaurant, very nice for a lunch even if you don't ride. The dining area overlooks the main arena, so you have free entertainment. We also find Allen's Hill at Pershore is quite user friendly, it's also easy to find. If hacking out is more your thing, you're lucky if you're Hillside way, with all its lovely bridle paths. But if you're on the Berrow Green side, it's roads and more roads, not one bridle path. Help!

Did you know that there are registered Irish Draught horses here, a stud standing an Appaloosa, Icelandic pony's off the A44 and at Holt, a Lutsitno stud. Do you know of any slightly less common breeds about?

Do let us know.

How many readers have heard of Pat Burgess? She was the trainer for the British eventing team during the 1980s and is famous for her pole parties (a book is coming out about her next year). My friend and I drove some three hours to attend a clinic with her and it was soooo worth it. She would be happy to come up this way if people were interested, so give me a ring if you are; she's not expensive. I am also looking for volunteers for some video lessons. I have recently completed a Mary Wanless teacher trainer course and I need people to teach. These lessons would be videoed and sent to Mary to assess my teaching. Would anybody be interested in a local fun ride? Would be nice to put one together.

*For any of the above please give me a phone Kate on 01886 822166*

### *Thank you*

A big thank you to everybody who came and supported our Autumn Fayre on Sat 5th November in aid of Acorns Childrens Hospice in Worcester. We raised £221.63. We would also like to thank all the people who gave their time to help set up, sell and pack away during the day.

*Wendy Birch and Karen Day*  
PS. The teddy's name was Max, won by Alex Davis.

***IN MEMORIAM:  
Margaret Wickens***

It was a sad day when I heard the news of Margaret's untimely death. Margaret Irene Wickens was born on January 16, 1939 into the Morris family at Broad Green, Broadwas on Teme.

Margaret married her beloved Brian on a summer's day in August 1961 when she moved to Ham Bridge, Martley, where she helped her husband with the farming business.

Margaret and Brian had four children, Kevin, Phillip, Chris and Carole, and six grandchildren. Being a very close family and all living locally, Margaret would often be seen going around in her car taking lunch and drinks to the men while they were working in the fields. She also took in tiddler lambs from farms around during the lambing season and lovingly bottle-fed them, whatever the weather - even on cold, wet, windy nights on her return from playing a game of whist.

Margaret was a very active member of our community; she was a parish councillor for 27 years, 11 of which she was chairman. She was a valued and active member of the Primary School Governors, serving some 20 years. She served as a governor of the Old Grammar School foundation; she once served on the Village hall committee and she was also a resident representative on the Penny Hill Landfill liaison committee.

I had the privilege to have been involved on many of these organisations. Margaret had very high standards and strong views and, rest assured, she would call a 'spade a spade' - you always knew where you stood with her.

She also helped at our annual charity clay shoot generally held in September, although this year she was too poorly to help, but still came to watch. It was so lovely to see her there where she was able to speak with some of her many friends.

Margaret supported Martley Young Farmers, she was their president for three years, and then made a life vice president thereafter. She also had been vice president of Worcestershire County Federation of Young Farmers. She was also a member of the ladies section of the Stoke Bliss ploughing society.

She was a founder member along with our late nurse Desi Green of the "Martley Care Nurses Fund" and helped raise much needed money for Air Ambulance.

Margaret was a great fan of Cliff Richards and Danny O'Donnell, often attending their concerts. She also enjoyed watching tennis, going to Wimbledon most years, and enjoyed her line dancing.

Margaret was an active lady, but most of all she was a wife, mother, mother-in-law, grandmother and a very good friend, she will be greatly missed. God bless you Margaret.

*Barbara Williams*

## ***Martley Parish Council***

*Monday November 7 2005 at the memorial hall*

Present: Cllr. Mr G. Taylor (vice chairman); Cllr. Mr. R. McHugh; Cllr Mr. G. Coombey-Jones; Cllr. Mr. M. Nott; Cllr. Mrs. D. Goodyear; Cllr. Mrs. M. Randall. In Attendance: Mr. T. Pearsall (Clerk to The Parish Council), seven members of the public.

In the absence of Chairman Cllr. Mr. D. Cropp, Vice Chairman Cllr. Mr. G. Taylor was confirmed as the meeting Chairman.

The chairman asked everyone present to stand and observe one minute's silence and remember Mrs. Margaret Wickens, a previous long standing chairman and Parish Councillor, who died recently.

The clerk read out a eulogy prepared by Cllr. Mr. D. Cropp.

### **The democratic period/public question time**

The chairman invited all present to ask questions or make statements about Parish business, the following points were raised:

A parishioner stated that there is no pedestrian provision from The Hillside to the Village centre and requested that the Parish Council investigate the provision of signs; the clerk to write to Highways and include all pedestrian routes into the Village.

A parishioner informed the Parish Council of recent antisocial behaviour by youths on the playing field and in

the centre of the village. These incidents had been reported to the police, but no action had been taken. The chairman informed the meeting that, at present, this council has no powers to issue antisocial behaviour orders, but this may change in the future; the clerk to write to the police beat manager to discover why no action was taken. He emphasised that all such incidents should be reported to the police.

The Parish Council Meeting was opened by the chairman at 8:15 pm.

Apologies: There were apologies from Cllrs. D. Cropp, N. Stammers and J. Slough; these were accepted.

Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interests: The Clerk reminded everyone of the need to declare interests and to keep their list up to date. There were no interests declared.

**District Councillor's Report:** District Councillor Mrs. B. Williams announced that she is to attend a meeting on November 9 ref. the single planning committee. The planning development grant is "top sliced" and it is not clear why this should be. Cllr. Williams asked for a feedback of opinion about the recent training sessions for parishes.

**County Councillor's Report:** County Councillor Mr. A. Davies reported that the footpath definitive maps were now being sent out. Neither the Clerk nor the Parish Paths Warden have received any maps. C Cllr Mr. A. Davies gave some statistics regarding speeding fines from cameras and mentioned that the surplus fund had been returned to the

Treasury and not retained by the police. West Mercia Police may have to merge with another force because it is too small; there is concern that the Shire Counties may be faced with funding this. Concessionary fares on buses for the over 60s will be available from 1st. April 2006, but will be limited to their own District (MHDC)

The average price of a house in Martley is £240,952 and the mortgage available to someone on an average wage is £68,000, thus affordable housing is vital for Martley.

**Planning: applications received:**

1. 05/01227/FUL. Lower Hollins Fm. Oil tank; Cllr. Mr. R. McHugh.
2. 05/01543/LBC and 05/01541/FUL. The Tee Farm Conversion of barns for ancillary accommodation; Cllr. Mr. J. Slough

**Applications approved/refused/withdrawn:**

1. 05/01331/FUL. High View Hipplecote, extn. to garage block approved subject to conditions.
2. 05/01361/FUL The Orchards, erection of bungalow, approved subject to conditions.
3. 04/01751/FUL Treetops, resiting of approved replacement dwelling approved subject to conditions.
4. 05/01326/FUL The Vineyard, Hillside enlarge existing ancillary accommodation, approved subject to conditions.

Other:WCC ref: Chantry High School, planning permission granted

**Finance:**

There were nine cheques totalling

£1238.00 for agreement and signature  
Income September 05:

Lengthman Sept 05 £350

Total: £350.00

Current Bank Balance Lloyds TSB  
26th. Sept 05 £7032.15

Actual position 3rd.October 05,  
£11,963.81

The acceptance of the finances was resolved.

It was resolved to donate £30.00 (£15 each) to two named charities in remembrance of Mrs. M. Wickens.

Budget 2006/7:

The Clerk presented the proposed budget which included an increase in the precept. It was resolved to accept the budget including the proposed precept for 2006/7 (£12,000).

Parish Plan: It was resolved to set up the following committee: Cllr. Mr. D. Cropp, Cllr. Mr. R. McHugh, Cllr. Mr. G. Taylor plus two parishioners who will be recruited by advertising. This committee will take soundings from the parishioners, evaluate the existing wish list of identified projects, evaluate these projects and produce a Parish Plan. The Clerk to advise the Chairman on meeting dates.

Playing Fields: It was resolved to defer this item to the next meeting.

Urgent Decisions since last meeting: The Clerk identified the payment of the BT 'phone bill for the library.

Councillors Reports and Items for Future Agendas: 1 Laugherne Park is using both entrances; the Clerk to check with MHDC.

2. The collapsing road edge on the

C2235 is to be re-reported by the Clerk.

3 Hollins Lane is flooding near the junction with Hope House Lane; the Clerk to ask Highways to investigate.

4. The visibility splay on the junction of C2066 and C2235 to be checked by the Lengthman.

5. Agenda item for waste bins required for December.

6. Agenda item for dog fouling required for December.

7. The road crossing lights at the Chantry are to be followed up by the Clerk.

**Date and time of next meeting:**

The next meeting is on Monday 5th. December 2005 at 8 p.m. Meeting closed at 21.48 hrs.

Addendum

B4197 Ankerdine Hill

Notes of a meeting held on 25th. October 2005 at the Memorial Hall Martley.

Cllr. Mr. A. Davies welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained that the purpose was to discuss the proposed traffic calming measures for an area of the B4197 including Hipplecote, Collins Green and the top of Ankerdine Hill. The purpose of the traffic calming proposals was to address residents' concerns about traffic speeds and safety issues.

Separate from the traffic calming issue, several serious incidents had occurred where large vehicles had got stuck on the hill and it was proposed to introduce a weight limit of 18 tonnes to address this problem. An ex-

perimental order for 12 months was proposed to commence in December. This would enable the effectiveness of the weight restriction proposals to be examined. The traffic calming measures were explained to be:

- Marking the edges of the road with white lines.
- Advance signing to emphasise the narrow sections of road.
- The removal of the white line from the centre of the road.

***Knightwick and district  
Trefoil Guild.***

Some 13 members met at The Old Rectory to hear Jo Dowling, our retiring county chairman, talk about her recent visit to New Zealand, she guided us through her tour, which started in Auckland, then a trip to the Bay of Islands. Some of the highlights were a clock museum with hundreds of ticking clocks, a "museum of wearable art", a helicopter ride to the glaciers, watching the bungy jumping. She liked Christchurch with all the local familiar names reminding her of home. Four seasons of weather were experienced in just three weeks. She had brought some souvenirs to show us including a lovely Paua shell bracelet. We all enjoyed the evening immensely, it was particularly interesting to three of our members who are planning a trip there in February.

*Geraldine Cooper*



# Over the Garden Wall in Wichenford

**WICHENFORD NEEDS YOUR NEWS**

## *Harvest Supper*

The harvest supper was a most enjoyable occasion. A delicious meal was served and John Monk entertained us all with his amusing stories. Margaret Fisher ran a successful raffle for church funds and the bar profits are to go to the Memorial Hall. Our thanks are due to Rosemary Clark and all her helpers and to those who ran the bar, also special thanks to all who prepared food for the evening.

## *Mr & Mrs Charles Breeze and Tony*

Mr & Mrs Breeze and Tony have left Moseley Villa to live in Claines to be nearer to their daughter Susan and her family. Charles, Beryl and Tony, how we shall miss them all; their regular worshipping on Sunday mornings, their support at our fund-raising and social events. Last but not least, the many good deeds such as cleaning the belfry of sticks, repairing and repainting around the church. All this quietly done during the 30 years they have attended the church. Their devotion has been invaluable, and we thank them all. We know that they have



**Janet Andrews**  
**01886 888303**

**Sheila Richards**  
**01886 888378**

---

made the right decision to live near their daughter, Susan, and her family. We wish them good luck, good health and much happiness in their new life.

## *Wichenford Scalextric Grand Prix*

The Wichenford Scalextric Grand Prix organised by St Laurence's Church and held in the Memorial Hall on 22 October was a great success, attracting drivers of the highest calibre. It was wonderful to see so many people, young and old, coming together to have fun. Thank you to everyone who helped with setting up the track, provided and served refreshments and helped with the clearing up afterwards. Special thanks must go to Kim and Mark Wild for generously allowing us the use of their wonderful racing circuit and keeping it running throughout a very long day. Thanks too to Rev David Sherwin and his young assistants who gave us such a lively commentary on the races.

Finally, thank you to everyone who supported the event and helped us raise £205.40 for the Millennium Green Climbing Frame Fund. St Peter's Church will host the next Scalextric Grand Prix in the Benefice in the Memorial Hall, Martley on 21 January 2006.

### ***Church Services***

Special early services for Christmas are on Sunday 11 December (this will be a Christingle Service) and Sunday 18 December, both services start at 4pm. Our Christmas Greetings card will be out in early December and will have details of all the season's services.

### ***Whist Drive***

The Memorial Hall Christmas Whist Drive will be held on Friday 9 December at 8pm. Super prizes to include Christmas fare.

### ***Nora Parsons Day Centre Christmas Bazaar***

The bazaar will be held on Monday 5 December at 2pm.

### ***Christmas Prize Bingo***

Come and enjoy Christmas Prize Bingo at Wichenford Village Hall in aid of Charlotte's Trust, Birmingham Children's Hospital. Doors open 7pm, eyes down 7.45pm.

### ***Ladies Fellowship***

The Ladies Fellowship Christmas meeting will be on Tuesday 13 December at 2pm in the Memorial Hall.

### ***Flower Rota***

4 December Advent, no flowers  
11 December Advent, no flowers  
18 December Christmas Decorations  
25 December Christmas Decorations

### ***Wichenford Memorial Hall***

Wichenford Memorial Hall Management Committee would like to thank everyone that supported our fundraising evening, "An evening with Brian Draper MBE". I am sure it was enjoyed by all present. Brian gave us an excellent informative talk with wonderful colour slides of Scotland; a presentation that would encourage holidays in that country.

Grateful thanks must go to Brian for an interesting and entertaining evening, to everyone who donated raffle prizes and refreshments, and for everyone who helped with the preparation of the event. We raised £140, and appreciate everyone's generosity for making the evening a success.

*Margaret Fisher, secretary to Wichenford Memorial Hall Management Committee.*

### ***Millennium Green Tidying & Inspection Rota***

December: Eric Delahay

## ***Kenswick and Wichenford Parish Council***

*Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 10th October 2005 at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall Wichenford.*

### **Progress reports**

**Bottle bank.** The clerk explained that she has spoken and emailed Malvern Hills and was told that there is no charge for a bottle bank. The clerk was told that she would be contacted to look at possible sites, but no one has yet got in touch.

### **Recycling Forum**

This was attended by the clerk and Councillor Panton who gave a brief summary on what changes people would like to see with the recycling process.

### **Cpre AGM**

This was attended by Councillor Randall who gave a brief report on their activities during the last 12 months. The guest speaker at the event was David Armitage who is in charge of Malvern Hills AONB.

### **Planning**

Applications to be discussed  
Revised windows positions for unit 3 Rimmers Farm. The parish council had no objections to these amendments.

Masons Arms. Change of use to accommodate 10 touring caravans.

The parish council resolved to arrange a site visit to enable them to assess the proposed new access.

Applications received for comment since the last meeting.

Single storey extension to existing house and conversion of garage at Cockshoot Farm, Wichenford.

Wichenford Court amended plans. These plans now show the chimney in the correct position, and the parish council has no objection.

Decisions made by MHDC

Fairview, Rosses Lane, (conservatory) passed.

Mallenders, Venn Lane (single storey extension) passed.

17 Queens Estate, (two storey extension) passed.

### **Finance**

The income/expenditure account was discussed and accepted.

The second half of the MHDC precept of £3,250 has been received.

There were three cheques totalling £257.33 for agreement and signature.

### **Budget**

Cllr Randall and the clerk produced a rough budget for explanation to the parish council. It was resolved that all councillors study the figures and discuss it in with a full council committee at the next meeting.

Annual return. The completed audit for 31st March 2005 has been advertised on the notice boards. It was resolved to pay the external audit fee of £141.00.

### **Wichenford Churchyard.**

It was resolved to give £300.00 to Wichenford Church. Proposed by Cllr Rendall seconded by Cllr Panton.

NPDC. It was resolved to donate



£250.00 under section 137 of LGA 1972.

### **Highways**

Ankerdine Hill

The new weight limit orders will be come into force during the next 1-2 months.

The parish council studied the proposed new traffic calming measures for the B4197 and agreed to contact Martley Parish Council and ask if they could attend the meeting arranged with the highways department on this matter.

Worcestershire County Council reply to our letter regarding the new surface on Barbers Lane was read out.

Kevin Olivers reply regarding Rosses Lane and Guises Lane TRO'S extension was read out.

### **Parish council co-option**

Only one application was received for this post. Andrew Chilvers of Kenswick Manor was proposed by Cllr Randall and seconded by Cllr Rendall.

### **Mason's Arms**

The clerk was asked to defer this agenda item to the next meeting.

### **Correspondence**

WCC Waste Core strategy, Highways News, Worc Calc area meeting, West Midlands 2021,CPRE, WCC Local Transport Plan, New Age Discrimination Measures, Roving Clerks Scheme.

### **Date and venue of next meeting,**

22nd November 2005 at 7.30pm

Meeting closed at 9.10pm

### **District Councillors Report**

The district councillor did not attend

the meeting and no report was given.

### **County Councillors Report**

A total of 51,000 speeding fines created an income of £3.1 million up 1.3% from previous year areas of cameras speeding reduction works.

**P.C Naulls.** Constable Naulls had little to report since his last visit. There has been a breach of the peace at Queens Estate, three non residential burglaries, one break-in, and four road traffic collisions.

### *Wichenford 100 Club*

In October we started our 3rd year and wish to thank everyone who has so kindly and generously supported the club in the first two years. At £1 per month, which will not even purchase a cup of coffee in town, the contribution appears modest. But when asked to produce £12 for the year we realise it may seem to be a large sum to find; we are most grateful!

At the AGM 50% of the annual proceeds were allocated as follows:-

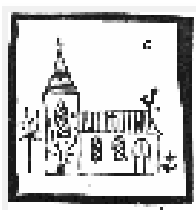
£1000 for the Millennium Green upkeep

£200 for Church upkeep

£200 for Memorial Hall upkeep.

We feel now that it is time to pass on the baton to other (younger?!) members of the village to take the Wichenford 100 Club forward. Please contact Bill Hylan on 01886-888431 if you would be interested in taking this on.

October winner: L. Webb. Ticket 90. £108.



# Church Words

The Rectory 01886 888664

Christian Indian painting, especially as the Church has been in India reportedly since St. Thomas travelled there with the message of Jesus.

Christmas stamps have become part of our Christmas celebrations since their origin in 1966, when two stamps were issued; a 3d King and 1\6d Snowman (for those born after decimalisation this is old pence). Since then a committee at the Royal Mail have commissioned designs each year, which have varied between religious and non religious designs - although it has to be said there has not been a religious theme for five years.

However, this year we have pictures of Mary and the baby Jesus from different parts of the world. The stamps depict Madonna and Child as Black, European, North American Indian, Indian, and Aborigine.

## Sensitive subject

You would not think that stamps could cause offence. Yet last summer the Church of England Synod asked the Royal Mail to print religious stamps for Christmas and now they have; some sections of the Hindu community find the Indian picture (painted by a Hindu in the 1620s) offensive.

I understand the concerns raised by the writer as it is a Hindu picture. One Bishop commented (who is of Asian background himself) that it is a pity the Royal Mail did not use a genuine

## Jesus came to Emmanuel

Whatever we think of the stamps and the paintings they are based on, they leave me pondering the message of Christmas once more and the stamps themselves confirm the fact that Jesus came to be Emmanuel, God with us, for the whole world. The Shepherds were told by the angels, Peace on Earth, not just for Israel, but for all. We do, of course, hope that the Peace of Christ might come in all its reality one day soon. This Christmas there will be people all over the world celebrating the birth of Christ, they will be Black, White, Asian, and of many other cultures and colours, for Christ crosses cultures and colour and came for all. These stamps, for me, emphasise this fact, that Jesus is:

‘Good News of great joy for all people; today in the town of David a saviour has been born to us, Christ the Lord’. Luke 2:10-11

May Christ bring you his peace now and in the year ahead. A joyful Christmas to you all.

*Rev David Sherwin*

## *Church Diary for December*

- Sunday 4 Dec 8.00am Holy Communion Knightwick Chapel  
9.30am Holy Communion St Laurence Wichenford  
11am Morning Worship St Mary Magdalene Broadwas  
4.00pm Christingle Service, St Peter Martley  
6.30pm Evensong St Leonard Cotheridge
- Monday 5 Dec 9.00am Morning Prayer, St Laurence Wichenford
- Tuesday 6 Dec 10.00am Holy Communion St Mary Magdalene Broadwas  
8.00pm Open Home – Open Bible at Ralph’s Worcester
- Thursday 8 Dec 2.00pm Little Minnows at St. Peter’s Martley
- Sunday 11 Dec 8.00am Holy Communion St Leonard Cotheridge  
11.00am Holy Communion St Peter Martley  
11.00am Morning Worship St Mary Magdalene Broadwas  
4.00pm Christingle Service St Laurence Wichenford
- Monday 12 Dec 8.30am Prayer Breakfast at The Rectory
- Tuesday 13 Dec 7.30pm The Chantry High School Christmas Concert at St Peter’s, 8.00pm Open Home – Open Bible, The Orchard, Newtown, Martley
- Wednesday 14 Dec 10.15am Holy Communion with carols at Heaton House
- Thursday 15 Dec 6.30pm Martley Primary School Nativity at St Peter’s
- Sunday 18 Dec 8.00am Holy Communion St Peter Martley  
9.00am Matins with carols St Leonard Cotheridge  
3.00pm Carol Service Knightwick Chapel  
4.00pm Carol Service St Laurence Wichenford  
6.30pm Carol Service St Mary Magdalene Broadwas  
6.30pm Carol Service St Peter Martley
- Monday 19 Dec 9.00am Morning Prayer, St Peters Martley  
9.00am Broadwas Primary School Christmas Service at St Mary Magdalene Broadwas
- Tuesday 20 Dec 10.00am Holy Communion St Mary Magdalene Broadwas
- Friday 23 Dec 8.30pm onwards, Carols at The Admiral Rodney
- Saturday 24 Dec 5.00pm Crib Service St Mary Magdalene Broadwas
- Christmas Eve 10.00pm Holy Communion St Laurence Wichenford  
11.30pm Holy Communion St Mary Magdalene Broadwas  
11.30pm Holy Communion St Peter Martley
- Sunday 25th Dec 9.00am Christmas Holy Communion St Leonard Cotheridge
- Christmas Day 9.30am Christmas Holy Communion St Laurence Wichenford,  
11.00am Christmas Family Worship St Peter Martley
- Sunday 1st Jan 10.30am Benefice Holy Communion St Laurence Wichenford



## Christmas fun quiz

Christmas Stamp Quiz - you may need help from those who are as old as I am! *Rev David Sherwin*

1. Who was responsible for introducing the first Christmas stamp?
2. What is on every other stamp in the world that is not on British stamps?
3. What was the name of the book that the Christmas stamps for 2004 were based?
4. How much was the Snowman stamp worth in 1966?
5. In 1973, the stamps were based on a famous king, a carol is sung about him. Who is he?
6. In 1977, the stamps were the 12 Days of Christmas. How many 'maids a milking' are there?
7. In 1995, the Christmas stamps pictured a British bird who's breast changes colour. What is it?
8. 2003 pictured sculptures made from an unusual material, any ideas?
9. In 1992, the stamps pictured the Christmas story shown in windows. What sort of windows?
10. In 1985, the stamps had characters from a special play we see at the theatre in the winter, what is it?

**The answers are upside down in the column opposite.**



- 11 Finally, name the bowler-hatted performer in the picture, above, with mystery guest. Also, write a witty caption, send it to the Villager and the winner will go into January's issue.

1. Tony Benn  
 2 The name of the country  
 3 Father Christmas  
 4 1/6d  
 5 Good King Wenceslas  
 6 8 maids a milking  
 7 A robin  
 8 Ice sculptures  
 9 stained glass  
 10 Pantomime  
 11 Rev David Sherwin

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

## Village Contacts



Editor of The Villager	Andrew Chilvers editor@martley.org.uk <i>or</i> 01905 641986 <i>or</i> leave articles at the Martley Post Office
Advertise in The Villager	Neil Stammers neil.stammers@btinternet.c om <i>or</i> 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	Pat Crook—01886 888550
Martley & Dist Hort. Soc.	Pam Minchin—01886 888521 <i>or</i> Margaret Jackson—01886 888654
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