

The Villager

The community magazine for the parishes of Martley and Wichenford

Volume 16 No. 9

February 2006

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

Regular events in Martley and Wichenford:

Sundays

2nd Sunday in the month:

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

3rd Sunday in the month:

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 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



Malvern conservation appraisals

Martley is to be the first in Malvern Hills District Council's programme of conservation area appraisals for 2006, which I have been asked to carry out. So I thought I would make my first contact with those living in the conservation area via *The Villager*.

Malvern Hills District Council has 21 conservation areas within its area, and a number of them have not been resurveyed, or appraised, for over 20 years. The Best Practice guidance is that they really should be appraised every five years or so, but (like virtually every other authority in the country) this has rather slipped. Now, however, the bull has been taken by the horns and the Development Plans and Conservation section of the Council has drawn up a programme of conservation area appraisals for 2006/7. Priorities were considered but, as it happens, the first three of these appraisals will be carried out in Martley, Kempsey and Hallow, with Martley to be surveyed in February 2006.

You will probably see my colleagues

Nicky Wardroper, Chris Mayes and myself around the village in February, clutching plans and taking notes. We will be carrying out the appraisal, and this will hopefully be presented in drawn-up form some time in April, within the Village Hall, and also possibly brought to a public meeting in the Village Hall.

Your views

Your input, however, is vital and would be welcome at any stage, and you are invited to make your views known on the appraisal. Perhaps I can just make clear, however, what the appraisal involves. It's a character assessment of the existing conservation area (you may know the boundaries and whether you live within them), but also of its landscape setting, and an assessment of how it has changed since 1981, the last time it was appraised. We would therefore be interested to know your views on the Martley conservation area, its strengths and weaknesses and whether it should be extended, stay the same or possibly have tighter controls on the odd minor works that you may con-

sider have eroded the quality of the conservation area in the past 25 years. What an appraisal is not is a rescheduling of the Local Plan designations or a re-drawing of the Housing Settlement boundary of the village, both of which were considered within the recent Local Plan Inquiry to the emerging Malvern Hills District Local Plan and which were subject to lengthy public consultation. We are also not asking for views on the development merits of particular sites within the village. This would more properly be addressed to my colleagues, the Planning Officers. An appraisal would be looking at how the conservation area has changed or deteriorated and how it could be enhanced, not at where housing or particular uses should be sited.

If you have any views on this process or any good ideas as to how Martley could be enhanced, please let me know at the postal or e-mail addresses set out below.

David Piggott
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Don Taylor

In Memoriam

Many of you who read this will have known Don Taylor, some of you will have known him better than me, and some will not have known him at all. Those that did not know him are the unlucky ones. To say Don Taylor was larger than life is a bit of an understatement. In a world where we are told there are no characters left, he certainly was one.

Born and brought up in Martley, he never forgot his roots, and loved the place, he often complained about it, and strived to make it better, but he was often quoted as saying: "There's only one Martley in this world."

Don will be remembered by many for his passion for sport; cricket and rugby remained his great interests in later life. He was often to be seen at Six-ways and at New Road, and he loved the company of sporting people.

President's Eleven

He was a good cricketer, playing for Wichenford, Clifton and latterly for Martley, and always enjoyed getting his President's Eleven out to play the locals, and you were never sure who would turn up, a Test player alongside someone who turned out once a year. But it was always a highlight of the sporting summer, and there was always a crate of ale in the back of the 'dilley'.

He was a personal friend to many a top sportsman. When the Chantry opened new cricket nets he asked Ian Botham to come and do it, Gareth Edwards; Basil D'Oliveora and the like were all his mates.

He was as happy in the local pubs; whether it was at the Long Room at Lords or the back bar of the Lion at Clifton, Donald would be happy and would find someone to laugh and joke with.

And what a loud and infectious laugh. He also loved his shooting, and was at his happiest in the Teme valley, on Berrow Farm at the shoot he ran, and was always off somewhere in the season with his gun, getting back to open the bar in the Village Hall for the Air-gun team.

Don was a great family man, he and

Margaret were proud of their lads and their families and grandchildren. He was also a very astute businessman.

Anyone who can help take a one-lorry company to the heights that Taylors of Martley has achieved, with more than 200 trucks on the road, knows what he's doing.

He had some great phrases that he lived by: "Good old son" when you'd done well; "One job at a time" and when it was completed: "Job's done." There are some, including me, who felt Donald's other side as well: "What do you mean son you've crashed the tractor?" And when his head started to wobble, stand by! He liked people to be upfront with him, and he could often be blunt, but he always meant well and could be a very forgiving man.

These few words are just a scratch at the surface of the man who was Don Taylor; to put it all down on paper would require a book, or two. Like many others, I am proud to say that I knew him and will miss him.

Dave Bradley

THANK YOU

Margaret, Stephen, Grahame, Robert Taylor and their families would like to thank everyone for their wonderful support, love and friendship during such a difficult time. It was so overwhelming to see so many at Don's funeral; it was a wonderful tribute to his life.

Martley Ramblers Programme for 2006

8 January at 1pm – area Worcester, the leader, Gill Strudwick (01562-742820)

12 February at 2pm – ‘Follow my Lead’, the leader, Neil & Eileen Stammers (10886-888513)

12 March at 2pm – ‘Where ‘ere I wander’, the leader, George & Helen Coombey-Jones (01886-888294)

9 April at 2pm – Area Malvern on the level, the leader, Pam Southall (01684-567556)

9 May at 2pm – Brockhampton & Bromyard Down, leaders, the two Paulines (01886-888874 & 01886-888480)

11 June at 2pm – Follow the Rea, the leader, Jenny Underhill (01886-888306)

21 June at 7pm – Meet at the Fox & Hounds, Lulsley for Ravenswood, the leader, Alex Walker (01886-888063)

9 July at 10am – Hanbury, the leader Irene Walker (01886-888063)

13 August at 10.30am – Waterfall Walk, the leader, Colin Hill (01886-833209)

10 September at 2pm – Upper Arley & Trimpley, the leader, Pam Bowers (01562-66835)

8 October at 2pm – Kyre Park, the leader, Kate King (01886-888439)

5 November at 1pm – Stone, the leader, Gill Strudwick (01562-742820)

20 November at 8pm – Annual General Meeting at Hillend Cottage, Pudford Lane, Martley

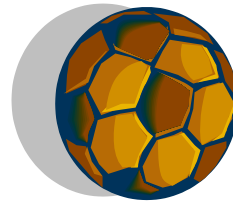
Martley Ramblers – 12 February 2pm Church car park

Eileen and Neil Stammers are suggesting we “follow their lead” this month. The big question is “Where will they lead us”? Probably locally and not astray, we hope. Come along and find out. The date and venue for the annual dinner is presently being decided, so watch this space.

Spring Flower Show

On Saturday 25 March at 2pm in Martley Village Hall, there will be a Spring Flower Show. Details in the March issue of The Villager.

Nellie Bradley



Martley Spurs

December was a lean month for most footballers what with frozen grounds and long holiday periods. The Saturday Premier side started the month with a 3-1 win over Powick in their first round match of the quarter-finals of the Bayliss Cup, a game in which Steve Prickett scored twice. The next morning the Sunday Premier 11 beat Droitwich Spa 4-2, Chris Collins getting a brace to his name in this game. On the same morning the Reserves lost badly to Powick. On the 10th the Saturday boys thrashed Lamb and Flag 6-0, Chris Collins netted a hat-trick while Steve Prickett got another couple to his

name. Sunday morning saw the Premier side lose to Trinity Lakes while the Reserves beat The Bridge 2-0. The wintery weekend of the 17th saw the Premier side lose to Powick, the Sunday Premier match postponed due to a frozen pitch, while the Reserves drew two all with Kays. Of course, no features were fixed over Christmas and the New Year. At that time, the league tables showed the Saturday Premier 11 in second place, the Sunday Premier side half-way up their league table while the Reserves stood well towards the bottom, but had played far fewer matches than the league leaders.

Beth Williams

Martley & District Horticultural Society

The last event for Society members in 2005 was the Annual Dinner held in the Village Hall Clubroom. About 40 people enjoyed an excellent meal prepared and served by Society members. During the evening Barbara Kirby, the chairman of the Society, presented gift tokens to Nellie Bradley, Pam Minchin, Margaret Jackson and Rena Davidson in appreciation for their help during the past year. The retiring Show secretary, Sylvia Jeffries, was presented with a token and a basket of flowers to thank her for all her help to the Society during her term of office over many years. To end a most enjoyable evening, there was just time for everyone to join in singing carols led by Rev David Sherwin.

At the meeting on Thursday 23 Febru-

ary at 7.30pm in Martley Village Hall the guest speaker will be Stan Yapp, his subject "Mistletoe".

Martley WI – 8 February 7.30pm Heaton House

Please note the meeting place will again be at Heaton House, where we are being welcomed whilst temporarily displaced from Sport Martley. The speaker this month is Mrs Noble telling us some of the secrets of Royalty "Kings, Queens and Mistresses". Past history we hope and not present day royalty. The competition is for a piece of commemorative china. We finished 2005 on a high with WWII reminiscences and mementoes on show. Many thanks to Mr and Mrs Hancox for bringing along some of their fascinating collection and to those members who brought along their treasures. We had a "where is it" quiz and a pass the parcel "12 Days of Christmas" forfeits parcel. Members did somehow manage to dispose of the parcel very quickly when it looked like landing in their lap. Perhaps the hot Christmas punch helped. It is planned to have a lending table for CDs, DVDs and videos for members to borrow, so bring along any that can be spared or are unwanted.

Members' tip of the month

Don't get left with a pantry full of out-of-date groceries and tins. Mark them in large writing with a permanent marker on returning from shopping, before putting away into the store cupboard. Then check monthly and bring

forward for use anything expiring that month. This system does work and saves a lot of wastage.

Kate King

Pudford Lane

Although we have had mini-glaciers this winter, spring is on the way and early primroses are beginning to show some life on the roadside banks. Pudford Poultry Enterprises appear to be in business again after the winter and the rat infestation seems to be under control. One inhabitant insists he shot 15 and a half rats. What? Does one have a rat which is half dead or should we put it down to too many tots over the festive season? Your correspondent has just been reliably informed that the total is now 18 and a half rats plus the original half or two whole and two halves plus the original half to make the total sum of 18 and a half? Forget it, it is too difficult without a flow chart and a calculator. The lay-by clearance operative has had to be reinstated as the litter is increasing again, mainly consisting of drinks cans and half eaten picnics. This month's brain teaser for you: which colour bag should be used to recycle a car wheel? Answers on a post card please.

Kate King

Martley's past

At the Parish council meeting on 27 August 1918, the Rev J F Hastings raised a question regarding the Parish Boundary with Doddenham as shown

on the 1840 Tithe Map. A committee was formed to take the measurements. What follows is the exact report of that committee on 7 February 1919.

"This committee consisting of Messrs Hastings, Hewlett and Humpherson inspected the said piece of land and, according to their measurement, it was 27 perch belonging to Martley and 16 perch to Doddenham Parish. It was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by the vice-chairman that the Clerk be instructed to write to the Overseers of Doddenham asking them to hand over (!!) the piece of land and cottage now tenanted by Miss Berry to this Parish as shown by the Martley Tithe Map." (They didn't add 'or else!')

ALB

Martley National School - Admissions Register

Does anyone have any knowledge of the whereabouts of the Martley National School Admissions Register for the turn of the 19th/20th Centuries?

Worcestershire CRO has advised that although it holds some records for Martley School, admissions registers have not been deposited and, if extant, may still be held at the school.

My interest stems from family history research into a Deane gamekeeper and what appears to be a possible family crisis resulting in dispersal of his children for a spell during 1905. Daughter Dorothy was admitted initially to Broadwas School in May 1904, but is recorded re-admitted to Broadwas

from 'Martley N.' in April 1905. Any assistance will be much appreciated. Please email me or leave a note for the editor at Martley Post Office.

Dorothy Jones

dee-jay@jones2115.fsnet.co.uk

Foresters brass band

With reference to the enquiry from Barbara Campbell about the Martley Foresters Brass Band, I do not know anything about the band, but I do know that there was a branch of the Ancient Order of Foresters that used to meet at the Crown.

As far as I know they had stopped meeting by the time I came to the village in 1976, but G Howard Heaton (known as Jim), who lived at the Tee, and after whom Heaton House was named, told me that he was or had been a member.

I know about the branch because the Royal British Legion, which used to meet at the Admiral Rodney moved to the Crown. This was before the first of the two revisions to the layout. At that time, one could enter through the front door, or through the side door to the left.

Inside on the left, behind the left hand bay window, was a small room where we met, and from the boards on the wall I am sure the Foresters met there also. The boards had names of prominent members, and one board was a memorial to those members who served or died in the First World War. I do not recall any of the details.

I also remember a picture, or more likely a photograph of a parade of members with a huge banner. The sort of banner held on two poles with guy ropes.

I imagine that a branch of the Order which was strong enough to have a large banner could well have attracted a band. Remember, Martley was the centre of a Rural District Council, of which Jim Heaton was chairman for some years. I am sure that based on these sketchy facts, a few enquiries from older members of the village, like Jack Bradley, Beth Williams or Alan Boon might elicit more information.

Michael Kipping

Out of school clubs

Martley & District Pre-School opened their Out of School Care on Monday 9th January, offering care for children aged 2 – 13 years. This includes:

- Breakfast Club 8.00 – 9.00 am. Cost £1.75 per 30 minutes, including breakfast.
- After School Club 3.15 – 6.00 pm. Cost £1.75 per 30 minutes, including snack.
- Activities are structured and non-structured indoors and out.

Please book early to avoid disappointment, call Kath or Chris on 01886 889127/888761



Horsing around in Martley

Expert map readers wanted

I was wondering if there is anybody in Martley who is proficient in reading old maps. We are trying to find bridle paths that have fallen into disuse. We have no alternative but to ride on the road and we don't like it any more than the drivers who have to slow down to pass. Indeed, as some don't it makes riding even more dangerous than it is! The map I have is dated 1904 and is very interesting; it shows a sanatorium on the right side of Ankerdine Hill as you go down. This must have had access, as would the old court house; suitable for horse drawn vehicles, it would not have been possible for horses to have pulled up the existing Ankerdine road. It looks to me as if going down the Horsham road would have been the obvious route and would indeed marry up with the Suckley bridle path/road.

As I am sure you are aware the traffic both in volume and size has increased dramatically over the last couple years on our roads, so any help enabling all of us to ride off them would be appreciated. It would help if people who were to use a way (if one were found) could contact me so that I had num-

bers to send to the relevant bodies! PLEASE do try.

Some food for thought

It takes two to pull.

When riding, find the lightest aid you can use, then work on making it even lighter!

When you want to go slower try slowing your own breathing down. Here's to 2006, regards Kate.

01886 822166

Martley oil syndicate

Please note there will be no syndicate oil order in March 2006. I will do the normal February order and normal service will be resumed in April.

If any member needs heating oil urgently during March then you will have to order independently. Alan Colburn: 01886 888575 or e-mail: Alan Colburn@aol.com

Barn dance

Back by popular demand.

Saturday, March 18, Martley Village Hall, 7.30pm.

Tickets on sale from Eileen & Neil 01886-888513

Price £6.00 to include supper.

All proceeds to Village Hall.

Martley Parish Council

Monday January 9, 2006 at the memorial hall

Present: Cllr. Mr. D. Cropp (Chairman, Cllr. Mr. G. Taylor (Vice Chairman), Cllr. Mrs. D. Goodyear, Cllr. Mr. R., McHugh, Cllr. Mr. J. Slough, Cllr. Mr. G. Coombey-Jones, Cllr. Mr. M. Nott, Cllr. Mr. N. Stammers.

In attendance: Mr. T. Pearsall (Clerk to The Parish Council), 10 members of the public.

The Chairman asked all present to stand and spend a few moments in silence as a mark of respect for Mr. Don Taylor who died on 26 December, 2005. Mr. Taylor was a former vice chairman of this council and had recently been presented with The Freedom of Martley.

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 question was asked why the weight limit proposed for Ankerdine Hill had been delayed. District Cllr. B. Williams explained the background and referred to correspondence with WCC Highways. The Clerk agreed to send a copy of the letter from Mr. M. Davies (WCC Highways Partnership Manager) to Mrs. Martin.

A further question was asked about the reasoning behind the proposed re-

moval of the white lines; the Chairman explained how perceptions of danger change when clear markings are removed.

A question was asked about the latest position on the renumbering of St. Peters Drive, because incidents are still occurring causing problems for neighbours. The Clerk to follow up with MHDC.

A question was asked about the provision of affordable housing in Martley. The Chairman identified the various difficulties with land provision, but confirmed that this council remains committed to early provision in this parish. The committee producing the Local Plan will be seeking to include affordable housing.

The Parish Council Meeting was opened by the Chairman at 8:28 pm.

The Chairman explained that item six on the agenda (land acquisition) would be held at the end of the meeting, in camera, due to the sensitivity of the issue.

Apologies: Apologies were received from Cllr. Mrs. M. Randall; these were accepted. Apologies were also received from County Cllr. A. Davies.

Declarations of Personal or Prejudicial Interests: The Clerk reminded everyone of the need to declare interests and to keep their list up to date.

Minutes of the last meeting held on 5th. December 2005: It was resolved to accept the minutes as a true record.

Parking on the Playing Field: The Chairman explained the need for extra

parking at the Memorial Hall and confirmed that no grants are available for this. It was agreed that the provision of notices would be explored (to remind car drivers that it is illegal to park on the pathways). In addition, the Playing Field Association would be encouraged to write to visiting teams explaining that parking is limited and that some vehicles may be parked using the top gate.

Parking in the centre of the village:

No simple solution is possible, therefore no action can be taken at this time; it will be kept under review.

District Councillor's Report: District Councillor Mrs. B. Williams announced that the "top slicing" of funding for the Development Control dept. had now ceased and full funding will be available.

The "speaking time" for Parish and Town Councils at planning meetings will now be three minutes.

County Councillor's Report: County Councillor Mr. A. Davies was unable to attend thus no report was given

Correspondence:

1. WCC: Budget consultation meeting Jan 19th.
2. MHDC: Local Transport; offer to attend meetings
3. WCC: Worcestershire tree warden scheme; volunteer needed. (E-mail to Andy Palmer 12Dec)
4. Community First: Newslines
5. CPRE: News letter and opportunity to join "300 Club". News letter refers to development around Malvern and area.

6. WCC: B4197 Ankerdine Hill, notification of delay in obtaining traffic order.

7. WCC: Recycling posters.

8. MHDC: Exec. Committee (20th. Dec).

9. WCC: Rosses Lane & Guises Lane Wichford, proposed prohibition of all motor vehicles (reply by 13th. Jan).

10. MHDC: Parish Council speaking at Development Control Committee; proposed to make it three mins from Jan 06.

11. West Mercia Police: Consultation, Meeting 17th. Jan 7:00 pm Hindlip Hall.

12. WCC: Lengthman Scheme, minutes of review meeting and notes for risk assessment.

13. Community First: Parish Plans information.

14. WCC Transportation and Development Control: CD version of consultation draft—comments by 27th. Jan.

15. WCC Highways Partnership: Transfer of calls to Worcestershire Hub. Plus list of direct numbers.

16. WCC: Reply ref. Mr. Sanders FP 37.

17. ODPM: Standards of Conduct in English Local Government: The Future: discussion paper.

18. Martley Recreation Association: Letter thanking for grant to insurance.

19. WCC: Submission Statement of Community Involvement (SCI), reply required by 17th. Feb.

20. MHDC: Guidance note on Pre-

Application Planning Advice.

21. MPC: Letters ref. Fireworks sent to Memorial Hall & Playing Fields

Planning:

05/01792/LBC & 05/01790/FUL Resiting Horsham Old Court and adding extn. Cllr. G. Taylor (Supported with conditions; MPC planning meeting 31-12-05)

05/01835/FUL Lower Hollins Fm. Conversion of barn to domestic use; Cllr. R Mchugh.

05/01857/FUL Unit 4a Hope House Farm Barns; change of use from B1 (office) to D1 (Osteopathic clinic); Cllr. R. McHugh

Applications Approved/Refused/Withdrawn:

None

Other items: None

Finance:

There were 10 cheques totalling £1,754.01 for agreement and signature Income October 05:

Total £0.00

Current Bank Balance Lloyds TSB 29th. Dec 05, £8313.24

Actual position 9th. Jan 06, £6356.22
Deposit Acc , £7308.60

It was resolved to accept the finances.

Waste Bins: It was agreed that the type of bins acquired by Wichenford PC would not be suitable for Martley and that funds would be sought for complete replacement.

Parish Paths Warden Report:

The Clerk read out the report, which is reproduced as addendum 1.

Urgent Decisions since last meeting:

It was reported the Mrs. Molly Ward, secretary of The Old Grammar School Foundation, had passed away and will be sorely missed. The Clerk will accept all invoices from students on the scheme.

A planning meeting was held on 31st. Dec 05 to discuss application 05/01792/LBC Horsham Old Court.

Councillors reports and items for future agendas:

1. Large pot hole appeared at Berrow Green, the Clerk to report to Highways.

2. Agenda item for charitable donation in memoriam for Mr. Don Taylor.

3. Parking at The White House Ankerdine; the clerk to investigate.

4. Easinghope Lane; a lorry has damaged the hedge, exposing a steep drop into the field; the Clerk to investigate and report to Highways.

5. Agenda item to consider funding for village signs and flower boxes.

6. Agenda item to consider funding for replacement Parish Council notice board.

7. Hollins Lane is still flooding both upper and lower; the Clerk to investigate further.

8. Pear Tree Cottage Witton Hill; the parking of a car is causing passing vehicles to damage the opposite verge. At this point the Chairman requested the public to withdraw to enable discussion of agenda item 6. The minutes of this part of the meeting will be confidential and held separately in the minute book.

Date and Time of Next Meeting:

The next meeting is on Monday 6th. February 2006 at 8 p.m.
Meeting closed at 22.47 hrs.

Addendum

Parish Paths Warden’s Report

January 2006

The most anticipated meet of the year usually resulting in a full turnout of members. In the event, being so close to Christmas, several of us were busy and so those on show were able to indulge to the full in the delights provided by Audrey Trumper. Marvellous mince pies and a warming drink of coffee. One problem; at this time of year Audrey digs out a bottle of milk she must keep under the sink or in the shed. At any rate, the ‘milk’ is so old, it seems to have fermented and gives to the coffee a rather unusual taint. Still, you can get used to anything!

Work completed on 18th December included a new bridge with handrail on FP70 below Woodside Cottage in Newtown, where the ditch underneath had been excavated so deep you can’t see the bottom. Also replacement of missing signposts in the Newtown area.

You might recall that in November we replaced a signpost on B4204 pointing towards the Tee. Two weeks after, the post had been removed and now is hidden behind the hedge. In Hollins Lane, three posts have been removed and lie, neatly stacked, by the side of the lane.

The Path-or-Nones is a volunteer group, whose members do not have

the time to repair the work of petty vandalism. Interference with any sign, whether on the M5 or a local footpath is a criminal offence with a potential fine of £1,000. To replace these four signs will take almost a full session for the group, delaying other important work that we have scheduled.

In December, I received a call out of the blue from a Mr Ted Clarke, editor of a quarterly magazine named Words’ Worth, dedicated to the intricacies and irregularities of the English language. Mr Clarke has spent several years of his life trying to solve a 10 by 10 word square, and did so by including the words NonesEvent as the last 10 letters. He called me to say that there was muttering amongst the expert chattering classes in these matters as to whether NonesEvent was valid. Slightly tongue in cheek I stated that in fact we were holding a NonesEvent that night at The Admiral Rodney—our annual skittles evening. He apparently wrote this down and is now quoting me.

Martley Library

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

Tel: 01886 888396

Opening hours

Mon 2.00-7.00

Wed 4.00-7.30

Thurs 10.00-1.00

Fri 2.00-4.00

Sat 10.00-12 noon



Over the Garden Wall in Wichenford

WICHENFORD NEEDS YOUR NEWS

Quiz Night

A quiz night is to be held on Saturday, 25 February, 7.30pm at Wichenford Memorial Hall; tables of four only at £3.50 per head. There will be a raffle and a block-buster, as well as light refreshments. Mr John Harwood will be the quiz-master, so please come to join us for an enjoyable evening to raise funds for the Memorial Hall. To book tables please telephone 01886-888214 or 01886-888368, payment will also be accepted on the door.

D E Stinton

Flower Rota

5 February Mrs J Andrews
12 February Mrs A Smith
19 February Mrs A Smith
26 February Mrs M Randall

Thank You

Many thanks to everyone involved in the Christmas Prize Bingo on Friday 2 December, which raised £788. This includes people who gave prizes, all the helpers and those who came to the Bingo. We hope you had a lovely evening.



Janet Andrews
01886 888303

Sheila Richards
01886 888378

Ladies Fellowship

The next meeting of the Ladies Fellowship is on 21 February at 2.30pm, venue to be arranged.

PCC Meeting

The next meeting of the Wichenford PCC is on 13 February at 7.45pm in the Memorial Hall.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Michael Harrison of Rosses Lane on attaining his Masters' Degree in Mechanical Engineering at Leeds University. Well done Michael.

Wichenford 100 Club

December winner: Mike Harris. No 52. £108.

We are looking for a small group of villagers to take over the running of the 100 Club. This would be a good way to contribute to village life, which

is not too onerous but an extremely effective way of raising funds for local needs. Please contact Bill Hylan on 01886-888431....Your Village Needs YOU. Yes - YOU!!!

Millennium green tidying and inspection rota

February: G Britten-Long

A very happy New Year to our Editor from Wichenford (thanks, ed).

Kenswick and Wichenford Parish Council

Minutes held on Tuesday 10th January, 2006 at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall Wichenford.

Cllr Britten - Long chaired the meeting.

Present, Cllr D. Stinton, Cllr J. Wells, Cllr M. Andrews, Cllr H. Rendall, Cllr K.Randall (vice chairman), Cllr A Chilvers.

In Attendance: Mrs S Sanders (Clerk to the Parish Council) 2 parishioners County Cllr Mr A Davies. District Cllr B Williams.

Apologies and approval of absence, Cllr N Oldfield (accepted).

Declaration of interest.

None.

Highways

This agenda item was brought forward at the request of the parishioners in democratic half hour. The clerk was asked to chase-up the highways de-

partment with regard to the missing sign at Dirty Lane.

Guises Lane and Rosses Lane Wichenford.

The first draft report on the status of Rosses Lane and Guises Lane were discussed.

The clerk was asked to send a letter to the legal department and the environmental department with the additional evidence that has been found, and further correction that needs re-examination.

The parish council have written to the highways department fully supporting the proposed prohibition of all motor vehicles on Rosses Lane and Guises Lane. The parish council along with villagers and parishioners support the closure recommended taken as a result of the archaeological and ecological report, and wish to see permanent closure notices to motor vehicles on both Rosses Lane and Guises Lane.

B4204.

The proposed traffic safety measures on the B4204 were discussed. Although the highways department want to put advisory speed limit signs and alternative traffic management measures to highlight the specific hazards along the route, the parish council feel that statutory speed signs would be more effective.

The measures proposed are:

Bend warning signs on yellow backgrounds with advisory maximum speed plates.

Slow carriageway markings at strategic locations to emphasise the importance of the warning signs.

Central hatched markings to give a narrowing effect at key locations.

The parish council have requested a meeting with the highways department to discuss the signage improvements. They would like the central markings to be solid white lines as they feel these will be more effective.

Residents at Kenswick Manor have concerns about the road as 7% of users exceed the 60mph limit. It was suggested that we contact the police and ask for a speed camera at peak hours. It was also suggested that the speeding problem at Castle Hill could be considered in conjunction with the Masons Arms planning proposals.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 22nd November 2005 were accepted and signed as a true record.

Progress report

Colketts Farm.

The property of Colketts Farm has been visited by Malvern Hills and the porch is permitted development and does not require planning permission.

Planning

Mallenders Cottage.

The owner of Mallenders Cottage has agreed to put up a boundary fence to define the agricultural area, but this would be on a voluntary basis.

The District Council has revised the arrangements for public speaking at area Development Control Committees.

Applications considered since the last meeting.

05/01761/Ful. Change of use of land for 10 touring vans using existing access, Masons Arms Wichenford. It was brought to the parish council's attention that this application has now been withdrawn. (Clerk to check)

Decisions made by MHDC

05/01419/Ful. Unit 3 Rimmers Farm. Approved

05/01443/Ful. Masons Arms Wichenford. Refused.

Finance

The income/expenditure account was discussed and accepted. The current bank balance up to 30th December 2005 stands at £8,472.05.

There were 4 cheques totalling £185.34. For agreement and signature. Lengthsman already paid for November/December.

The acceptance of the finances was resolved.

Parish Council computer

The clerk asked the council to consider the possibility of purchasing their own computer as it is becoming increasingly difficult to have access to her home computer. The parish council agreed in principle and asked the clerk to look for prices.

Mason's Arms landscaping

A letter has been written to the landscaping officer at Malvern Hills regarding the planting of 3 oak trees at the front. It has been reported to the council that the landscape officer is reluctant to allow any kind of fruit trees at the front of the pub due to the

blossom and bees!!

The owner of the pub has assured the parish council that he will not be removing the hedgerow, and will try to incorporate the planting of black pears on his land.

Councillors' training

The clerk reported that she will be attending the meeting at County Hall on 30th January. No one is able to attend the SLCC conference on Tuesday 28th Feb or any of the other forthcoming training events.

Lengthsman scheme questionnaire

The clerk was asked to complete the questionnaire and suggest at the next lengthsman steering group they discuss an increase in funding to parish councils to enable the lengthsman to carry out more minor works and increase in hours.

Correspondence included:

Newsline Magazine, Worcestershire Telecare Annual Report, Local Transport Services & Information, Worc Calc training events, Parish Paths Partnership Scheme Meeting. The Councils Charter Terms of Reference. Worcestershire Tree Warden Scheme, Winter Gritting Routes, Highways News, CPRE Worcestershire Newsletter. CPRE Fieldwork Magazine. Worc Calc Awards For All and Grants, Defra 'Community Halls For Rural People,' Worcestershire Transport and Development Control Guide. West Mercia Police Authority Consultation, Lengthsman Scheme Questionnaire. Sandy Lane Alfrick. Rosses Lane/ Guises Lane Correspondence. Com-

munity First Parish Plan. Community First Parish Plan, Guidance Note on pre-application Planning Advice (clerk asked to include this in the correspondence folder for next meeting) ODPM Standards of Conduct in English Local Government. (Taken by Cllr Rendall)

Councillor's report

The motion was raised as to whether some kind of fence/bollards could be erected on the corner of Kingsgreen to prevent the further loss of verge. Cllr Rendall will contact parishioners around the green for their opinion. The clerk will contact the highways department to see what can be done and report to the next meeting.

Overhanging trees have been reported at Peg House Wood.

The large hole that was repaired at Queensway has appeared again and will remain until the water board can repair the burst pipe.

Date and venue of next meeting

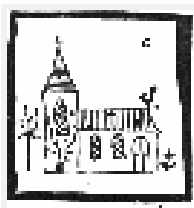
20th February 2006 at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall Wichenford.

It was resolved to change the Annual Parish meeting from the 17th April to the 18th as it falls on a bank holiday.

Meeting closed at 9.40pm.

District Councillor's report

The District Council has been given extra money by the government as a reward for the planning department, but the money has been going into the main coffers at Malvern Hills. The question was raised why this has been happening when the planning services need the money. Now £100,000 will be going to planning services.



Church Words

The Rectory 01886 888664

When was the last time you received a Valentine card?

Was it at school, or was it last year. Do you ever send them? Perhaps we feel that when we are married or in a steady relationship we don't need to try as hard. What's the point, they know we love them don't they?

For all its commercialism, it does give us the opportunity to tell someone we love them, someone we cherish and are in love with. Husband, wife, boyfriend, girlfriend, I am sure if they receive a card they will be well pleased.

Keeping the romance alive in a relationship is so important whether it is a recent one or one where we have been together for years; romance is a vital part of life. Telling your husband or wife of 30 years that you love them is something to be encouraged. Later this month, we will be holding a service for anyone who wants to celebrate marriage, and for those who are not to show support for them. Since arriving in the Benefice, I have officiated at many weddings, even celebrated my own 25th wedding anniversary. I have also performed some anniversary thanksgiving services from 10 to 50 years of marriage, people still very much in love and want to affirm that

love before their family and friends. Why not come along to the service on the 12th February, 4.00pm at St. Peter's Martley when we can give thanks to God for those we love.

Why hold such a service? Well if God is love, I think he has something to teach us about love, for now and the years to come. Ever read the 'Song of Solomon'? It's worth a read. It leaves us in no doubt that God approves of our love for each other and our desire to be together. May the God of Love, who showed how much he loved us in Christ, pour his love upon you all; married or single, divorced or widowed, may he be with you, and may you be strengthened as you know his love day by day.

St Valentine's day

Many legends and myths surround the celebration of this day. Most agree that it is named after St Valentine who contrary to all decrees forbidding marriage, carried out secret weddings for young lovers.

He was put to death and became a martyr for refusing to stop marrying couples, and the day he died, 14th February 269 AD, became a day for remembering him. And so he became the patron saint of lovers.

Church Diary for February

- Saturday 4th Feb 9-10.30 Benefice Prayer Group at St Peter's Martley
- Sunday 5th Feb 8.00am Holy Communion, Knightwick Chapel
9.30am Holy Communion, St Laurence, Wichenford
11.00am Family Worship, St Peter Martley
11.00am Morning Worship, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
6.30pm Evensong, St Leonard, Cotheridge
- Monday 6th Feb 9.00am Morning Prayer, St Laurence, 7.30pm Martley PCC
- Tuesday 7th Feb 10.00am Holy Communion, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
- Wednesday 8th Feb 10.15am Holy Communion, Heaton House
- Thursday 9th Feb 2.00pm Little Minnows at St Peter's Martley
- Sunday 12th Feb 8.00am Holy Communion, St Leonard, Cotheridge
10.00am Family Worship, St Laurence, Wichenford
11.00am Holy Communion, St Peter Martley
11.00am Morning Worship St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
4.00pm Celebration of Marriage Service, St Peter Martley
- Monday 13th Feb 8.30am Prayer Breakfast at George Lawrence's
7.45pm Wichenford PCC
- Sunday 19th Feb 8.00am Holy Communion, St Peter Martley
9.00am Matins, St Leonard, Cotheridge
11.00am Holy Communion, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
11.00am Morning Worship, St Peter Martley
11.00am Morning Prayer, St Laurence, Wichenford
3.00pm Evening Worship, Knightwick Chapel
- Monday 20th Feb 9.00am Morning Prayer, St Peter Martley
7.30pm Martley PCC at the Rectory
- Tuesday 21st Feb 10.00am Holy Communion, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
7.30pm LTV PCC at Knightwick Village Hall
- Wednesday 22nd Feb 10.30am Holy Communion, Heaton House
- Saturday 25th Feb 1.30-4.00pm Go West Workshop at St Mary Magdalene,
- Sunday 26th Feb 8.00am Holy Communion, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
9.30am Holy Communion, St Peter Martley
11.00am Family Worship, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
11.00am Holy Communion, St Laurence, Wichenford
6.30pm Evening Worship, St Peter Martley
- Monday 27th Feb 9.00am Morning Prayer, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
- Tuesday 28th Feb 4.30pm Evening Prayer at St Johns Parish Church, Shrove
- Tuesday Benefice Evening Social.

In the Kitchen



Pancake day

Pancake Day is the Tuesday before the beginning of Lent.

Originally a religious festival, it's now also an excuse to get out the frying pan and cook up a feast.

How did it start?

Shrove Tuesday is the day before Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent. Traditionally, families would use up their luxury foods like milk, sugar, eggs and butter, before the 40 days of fasting began.

Why shrove Tuesday?

The word shrove comes from the ritual of shriving. People would go to church and confess their sins to a priest, who would grant them absolution. The shriven individual would then be in a pure state, ready for the Lenten period of fasting and abstinence.

Skipping and flipping

On Shrove Tuesday in Scarborough, locals enjoy the customs of Ringing the Pancake Bell and Shrovetide Skipping. Long skipping ropes are set up across the promenade and up to 10

people have to skip at once! At St. Columb Major in Cornwall, rival villages play Hurling the Silver Ball, using a ball of applewood covered in silver. Meanwhile, pancake races take place in Winster (Derbyshire), Bodiam (East Sussex), and Olney (Buckinghamshire).

Pancake races

Pancakes are eaten and pancake races are held in villages and towns. The object of the race is to get to the finishing line first, carrying a frying pan with a cooked pancake in it whilst flipping the pancake a pre-decided number of times. The skill lies not so much in the running of the race but in flipping and catching the pancake, which must be intact when the finishing line is reached.

How to make pancakes

Ingredients: plain white flour: 8 oz, unsalted butter: 1 oz, milk: 1 pint, small pinch of salt, 2 medium eggs
Method: Mix the ingredients together to make a smooth batter and cook the pancakes in a hot frying pan until golden brown on both sides.

Good things to put on pancakes

Traditionalists favour lemon juice and sugar, but you could also try golden syrup, cinnamon, maple syrup, jam, fruit, yoghurt or even Marmite! Alternatively, why not adopt a continental approach and go for cheese, ham and mushroom or cream cheese and spinach.

Village Contacts



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