

The Villager

The community magazine for the parishes of Martley and Wichenford

Volume 18 No. 2

July 2008

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

Regular events in Martley and Wichenford:

Sundays

2nd Sunday in the month:

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

3rd Sunday in the month:

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

Mondays

Rhythm Time: 9.30-11.30am Martley Memorial Hall Enq. Rachel 01886 812565
Martley Parish Council: 1st Monday in the month 8pm Memorial Hall

Tuesdays

Short Mat Bowling: 2.00pm Martley Memorial Hall

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

Martley Mums and Tots: 9.30-11.30am
Martley Memorial Hall

Wednesdays

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

Martley Folk Club: 1st Wednesday in the month at The Talbot, Knightwick

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

Thursdays

Wichenford Wine Club: 3rd Thursday in the month

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

See Church Words on page 27 for details of services

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

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

See page 28 for contact details of organisations

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

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

OUT AND ABOUT IN MARTLEY

Visit our website—www.martley.org.uk



Martley Old Grammar School Foundation

A reminder to students under the age of 25 years who reside in Martley, and who have at any time attended as a pupil at school in Martley and are in need of financial assistance, that they can apply for a grant from the Martley Old Grammar School Foundation. This also includes corporate organisations that may be eligible to obtain a grant.

For information or an application form, please contact Mrs C Pearsall, Secretary MOGSF at Inglewood Hillside, Martley, Worcester WR6 6QW. Tel 01886 888793



Tem Valley Views

Becoming a parent at any age can be extremely daunting – a big step into the unknown. If you are only a teenager yourself, the impact a baby will have on your life is enormous. A national report by the Royal College

of Midwives stressed that about one in 15 of all births will be to women aged under 18. It highlighted that these young women experience poorer maternity outcomes and poorer access to maternity and child health services. This has a long-term impact on the health and well being of both the mothers and their babies. The Tem Valley Children's Centre (TVCC) is taking part in a wide-scale initiative to maximise the chances of pregnant teenagers achieving a healthy and confident transition to parenthood.

The TVCC is arranging fun, weekly sessions specifically for parents and pregnant mums aged under 21. These will provide an opportunity for young mothers (and fathers) to get together with people of their own age to discuss matters that are important to them, obtain any advice they require and, once a month, attend the Borrowers' Toy Library stay and play session. The sessions will take place in Tenbury Wells on Wednesday mornings. We are currently finalising details for this new exciting initiative and would welcome any feedback or ideas you have to make this a great success. Please look out for posters.

The TVCC provides regular and one-off activities for families. Please find more details on our website (www.temevalley-cc.org.uk), in our monthly newsletter 'Teme Valley Views' or by contacting Sam on 01886 812982.

Martley Pre-School Snippets

We bid farewell this month to Jonah Kielty-Collins, Harry Pound, Ashley Banner, Hannah Williams, India Smith, Ethan Muller, Matthew Pearce, Ryan Taylor, Max Richards, Alex Mason, Harvey Eggleton, Kate Webley, Madeline McKeown and Oliver Elliker-Cole, who all move on to BIG school.

Children can attend Pre-School from their second birthday, and we also run a popular breakfast (8-9 am) and after school club (3.15- 6pm) for children age two to thirteen years. If you are interested in a place for your child, please contact Kath or Lucy on 01886 889127 or come and look around anytime.

Our Heart of Martley Appeal has raised nearly £10,000 towards our heating and electrical modernisation, but we still have a way to go until we hit our £15,000 target. A huge thank you to Katie, Mark and Lucy Albutt who very kindly opened their home at Martley Court for a coffee morning last month and raised £390, and will be opening it again for an open day on 29 June. An update on that event will be published next month. You can safeguard the pre-school's future and



donate at Martley Pre-School, Post Office, the Admiral Rodney and Central stores. You can also download a form at www.martleypreschool.co.uk Thanks this month go to Mr and Mrs Snow, Natasha White, Albutt Electrical Ltd, Edmundson Electrical, Rob Collins and Ruth Kielty, Miss C. E Hughes, Mr and Mrs Everts, Mr Cole & Miss R Elliker, Drs R and J Steven and The Rowlands Charitable trust.

Vacancies



Cleaner Wanted: three hours per week- flexible hours to suit.

Pre-School Assistant wanted: 7-14 hours per week- hours to be flexible and must be willing to undergo training. Call Kath for more information- 01886 889127

Kathryn Smith BA (hons) FdA

Martley and District Horticultural Society

On 17 May several members joined with Wichenford Heritage Group for a coach trip to Kew. The weather was not ideal for this occasion, also it was Cup Final day and members had to plough through a heaving crowd of (mostly male) football fans at the service station, all heading for Wembley. One lady was invited to join one of their coaches, but declined as she thought she would not be allowed on any Society trip again. However, everyone seemed to

thoroughly enjoy the wonderful gardens and had lots to talk about on the way home. The Heritage Group members spent a useful few hours researching in Kew Record Office – mainly ‘Parliamentary Complaints’ for Wichenford and Martley following the



Civil War in the 17th century. Special thanks to Heather Rendall for the organisation and making it such an interesting day out.

The Plant Sale on 24 May at the Village Hall went off extremely well. As usual high quality perennials, bedding plants, vegetables and numerous other specimens were on offer and a large proportion were sold. Thanks to all helpers for setting everything up and to those who donated plants.

July's meeting is on Thursday 31, when we will visit a member's garden (Village Hall 6.30pm). For your diary 8-13 July Hampton Court Palace Flower Show; 23-27 July RHS Flower Show, Tatton Park, Knutsford, Cheshire; 16 August Martley Show.

T Steele

Martley Spurs

Congratulations all round are due to our local sides. None of our three teams came out on top of their league tables this season, but they are now the proud possessors of not one, but four, pieces of silverware. For the first time in the club's history

they won the Katherine Rayer Cup with a truly thrilling second half 4-3 win over Perrywood. Perrywood were leading 3-1 after seventy minutes play. Atkinson equalised with a penalty, then Danny Scheppell got another just three minutes from full time, and this was followed by Mark Owen who, with the last kick of the match, netted a superb winning goal.

Two days earlier the Spurs bagged that lovely Martley Cup with a 3-0 victory over YMCA. Scott Morris was the shooting star with his hat trick and Adam Baldwin was named man of the match.

The Spurs have also won this season's Nursing Cup as well as the Phipps Cup. After quite a poor start to the season all three teams were fairly well placed in the final tables, the Saturday eleven was fourth and the Sunday Premier side lay in fifth spot.

Beth Williams



Martley WI

Weds 9 July 7.30pm Heaton House

This month we are back in Heaton House to see and hear Shirley Cadman demonstrate “Non-cooking Cookery”. This is an intriguing thought and probably appeals most to those of us who do not always want to spend hours slaving over a hot stove, especially if we do get any hot summer days this year. The competition is for a pretty jug.

The summer outing on the Avon, postponed from last year due to floods, is on Friday 1 August. Sheila Craker is organising it, so have a word with her for further details.

We have a break from formal meetings in August, but will be back with renewed vigour and interest in September. However, we shall be having our usual presence at the Horticultural Fete in August, so watch this space for details.

Kate King

Village Hall News

The tantalising smell of warm pasties and a drop of wine greeted the local 'brain boxes' into Martley Memorial Village Hall to answer a series of sometimes really difficult questions. Did you know that the Germans called a mobile phone a HANDY? I certainly didn't! Everyone seemed to enjoy both the game and the food and raised £317 for the much needed funds.

Beth Williams

Martley Ramblers

Sunday 13 July, 10am

Church car park

This has to be known as the year of major alterations to the planned programme. Never have so many had to be re-arranged for various reasons, mainly due to ill health. Isn't walking and exercise supposed to be beneficial? At the time of writing, the planned walk at Dudmaston has had to be cancelled again. Don't worry. There will be a walk organised for that day, so turn up at the appointed time,

(10am morning walk) church car park and be prepared for a surprise venue.

Kate King

Allotment Alert Update!

As many of you will know, Martley has no allotments at present. I wrote in the June issue of The Villager about the prospect of obtaining a site for allotments locally. With concern about food-miles, and the need to know just



what goes into the fruit and vegetables on our plates, the time is right for growing your own. For those with limited space, a local allotment is the ideal place. Anyone wishing to have the chance to grow their own vegetables and fruit (or flowers) at an allotment site in the Martley area should contact me, Angie Hill, as soon as possible so I have an idea of the number of interested parties. I shall then arrange an inaugural meeting to discuss the way forward.

Happy summer gardening!

Angie Hill

email: angiehill1350@yahoo.co.uk

Tel: 01886 888762

Malvern Hills District

Council Supports Recycling

You can buy a subsidised compost bin from www.recyclenow.com/compost or by calling 0845 077 0757. You can start using your bin right away—the right time to start composting is NOW! If your bin is filled with a

mixture of soft prunings, fruit and vegetable peelings and other compostable material like egg-boxes, toilet roll tubes and teabags and sited in a sunny spot, composting will be complete in about 10 months, although it can take much longer if the material you put in it is tougher and woodier and in larger pieces, or if the bin does not get much sun.

MHDC residents are also being encouraged to hold community Swap Shops—a bit like car boot sales, but without money involved. Contact the Council's Mission *Impossible* team on 01905 766883 for details. Contact the team also for details of other waste reduction initiatives.

Martley Parish Council

No record of the May meeting is available to *The Villager* at present.

Martley's Past

There were occasional treats for the school children, viz:

"May 15 1896. March 24th was the Jubilee of laying the foundation stone of these schools. In commemoration of the event a Tea was given to the children this afternoon. They were addressed by the Rector who also distributed a present to each child. There were also present The Rev J F and Mrs Hastings, Miss Hastings, Miss Nash (Worcester), Mr, Mrs and the Misses Rogers (Barbers), Mrs J Davis, Mrs Badger, Mrs C Holliday, Mr J Holliday and Mr Hall".

Also "July 13 1896. Miss Currie, Laugherne House, called this

afternoon and invited the boys to tea on Friday next."

"August 18 1896. Many boys belonging to the Juvenile Club of Foresters have gone today to Malvern". In contrast: "July 7 1896. F – and B- were flogged this morning for truancy." The school as a whole (? Managers?) could get into trouble. Viz: a note from school inspector, November 13 1896 "The school floors should be scrubbed monthly and swept and dusted daily. At present the daily dusting and sweeping are unsatisfactory. The path from the boys school door to the playground gate needs repair."

4 December 1896. "The Managers have repaired the path from the School door to the yard gate by paving it with blue brick." (Note. The blue brick path is still there, today!)

Alan Boon

Note from Editor: Do you recognise the names of some of "those present" in the names of the roads in Martley? Alan Boon has been instrumental in linking Martley with its past by judicious naming of new roads.

Pensax Thrift Shop

Pensax Thrift Shop is now accepting goods to be donated for the sale in aid of The County Air Ambulance which is being held on Wednesday the 9th July from 9am till 11am, at the Village Hall. Further information call Nerys on 01299 832388.



Over the Garden Wall in Wichenford

WICHENFORD NEEDS YOUR NEWS

Janet Andrews
01886 888303
Sheila Richards
01886 888378



Flower Rota

6 July Janet Andrews
13 July Sheila Richards
20 July Anne Banks
27 July Jo Root

Wichenford PCC

The next meeting of the Wichenford PCC is on 7 July at 7.45pm in the Memorial Hall.

Wichenford Fete

The Wichenford Fete is on 26 July at 2pm in the paddock behind the Memorial Hall. There will be many well-stocked stalls and various side-shows. Teas will be served in the Hall and Allsorts Dog Training Group will put on a display.

That afternoon at about 3pm we shall have the presentation for John Jenkins our postman who is retiring from the Post Office after 50 years of service, 20 or more around Wichenford and surrounding areas. So do come and join us. This is an afternoon of great entertainment and bargains for everyone.

P D Webb

Wichenford 100 Club

May winners

62 Zoe Griffin £85
And returned subscriptions to
126 Mr & Mrs Sanders £12.00
12 Mr Dance £12.00
Drawn by Bill Hylan

Obviously Kenswick Manor is the 'lucky spot' of the moment with its fourth winner in six months. Strange how the numbers fall - some areas producing no winners, others just the occasional one and then one area will have a real streak of luck with winner after winner.

Note For All Using Hedgecutters

Especially the large mechanical type.
Villagers and especially farmers or contractors cutting hedges are asked to note that if a finger post is accidentally damaged during hedge cutting and is then removed, it has to be reported by County Hall to the police as a theft. If, however, the damaged fingerpost is left in situ, then it can be dealt with as accidental

damage and no report made.

As insurance companies base their household insurance premiums on the amount of 'crime' reported within the post-code of the house concerned, it is in everyone's interests that damaged fingerposts should be left in the hedge.

Walk Wonders in Wichenford

Macmillan Cancer Support

We gathered together £128 from our May walk. It was great to see lots of new faces.

Thank you ALL for joining in and chipping in.

Harriet Howell

Organ Recital

St Leonard's Church, Cotheridge

Saturday 2 August 2008 at 7.00pm

Liam Cartwright is giving a recital on the above date, the fifth he will have given since the Knightwick organ was moved to Cotheridge. Those who have attended the previous recitals, have been treated to cleverly-conceived programmes, which complement this small organ, and so the 2008 event is awaited with eager anticipation.

For the benefit of those who do not know him, Liam was born in Worcestershire in 1984. He is a postgraduate student at the Royal College of Music, having graduated in July 2007 with a BMus (Hons) degree, and will complete the final year of his MMus degree in 2009. In addition, he is Director of Music at Great Missenden Parish Church in Buckinghamshire and also fulfils recital engagements throughout the

United Kingdom.

St Leonard's Church is an attractive and intimate venue for a summer recital and a warm welcome awaits regulars and "first timers" alike. Please put the date in your diaries and come to hear works by Bach, Liszt, Gardonyi, Vierne, Weitz and others, played by this most gifted musician.

Tickets, which can be purchased at the door, cost £7 and refreshments will be provided during the interval.

Elizabeth Pearce

We are very sorry to hear that Elizabeth has died. For many years she was the Headmistress at Wichenford School and much involved in village activities. She will be very sadly missed.

We will be sending our deepest sympathy to her family. Tribute to follow in the August issue of *The Villager*.

Nora Parsons Day Centre

The AGM will be held on 16 July, at the Day Centre, 7.30pm start. Light refreshments will be held after the short meeting and there will be a raffle. It is hoped to see as many of you as possible there.

Kenswick and Wichenford Parish Council—April

Unapproved abbreviated draft minutes Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 28 April 2008 in the Memorial Hall Wichenford.

Councillor G Britten Long chaired the

meeting. (Chairman)

In Attendance: Mrs S Sanders (Clerk to the Parish Council) 1 Parishioner

Democratic half hour/public question time

The chairman invited all present to ask questions or make statements about parish business. The concerns by a parishioner regarding application 08/00461/AGR were explained to the parish council. This application was discussed at a previous meeting as 08/00244/AGR.

District and County Councillors Report

No report was received from either councillor as an annual report was given at the prior meeting.

Minutes

Minutes were accepted and signed as a true record.

Progress Reports

Mini Digger: There has been no response regarding the free use of a mini digger. At the moment the district council has allowed a mini digger to do work along Horn Lane after discussion with the Lengthsman.

Masons Arms: The parish council is unhappy that a tree has been cut down when the application stated that no trees would be felled.

Nora Parsons Day Centre: The Parish Council has the responsibility to maintain the building of the building as at May 2005. The dilapidations need to be repaired. We have given £750 plus we have £819 in the bank from past rental. We will not hand over any money until confirmation is received from the Worcester Diocesan

Board of Finance relinquishing the Parish Council of its responsibilities.

Planning

Applications considered since the last meeting. 08/00421/Ful. Construction of new building to provide facilities for anglers and archers for Cob House Fisheries.

Decisions made by MHDC: 08/00131/FUL. Provision of additional high level window in south elevation to bedroom, at Woodbine Cottage, Wichenford. Approved. 08/00121/OUT. Three-bedroomed dwelling at Coldbrook House, Wichenford. Refused. 08/00244/AGR. Agricultural Barn and Storage Unit on Land at Willow Road. Permission is needed. This is now a different number.

Finance

The income/expenditure accounts were discussed and accepted. The current balance up to 31st March 08 stands at £13,207.31. There was four cheques totaling £647.95 for agreement and signature. The Lengthsman's invoice for Feb-March 08 will not be paid until the time sheets have been received. The council agreed to pay the Calc subscription of £208.17. The acceptance of the finances was resolved.

The Annual Return has been received and the date for the external audit is 21 July 2008. The clerk was given permission to contact the internal auditor. The bank reconciliation and end of year accounts were discussed at the Annual Parish Meeting and it was resolved to accept the accounts.

Smartwater Security System. (for information) : This item was discussed at the earlier meeting. Several kits have already been sold and information will be put in the Villager Magazine

Awards for All (Notice Board): Councillors have looked through the catalogues and have agreed to purchase two boards for the parish.

Correspondence

For information only. All correspondence listed on the agenda has been distributed in the folder to each councillor. Councillors commented that too much information was in the correspondence folder and as every councillor needed to read it there is not enough time to digest the information in it. The clerk suggested that councillors should copy anything of interest to be discussed at the meeting; as all correspondence is listed on the agenda. Email re: Kenswick Manor Carriageway Markings; Teme Valley Neighborhood Watch/The Smartwater Security System; Consultation on the new Children and Young People's Plan.

Date and Venue of Next Meeting

It was brought to the attention of the Parish Council that the Annual Meeting, which must be held in May, had not been arranged. The 19th May was agreed.

Meetings were arranged for 16 June; 28 July; 8 September; 20 October and 1 December 2008.

All will be in the Memorial Hall Wichenford at 7.30pm.

Kenswick and Wichenford Parish Council—May

Unapproved abbreviated draft minutes Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 19 May 2008 in the Memorial Hall Wichenford.

Councillor G Britten Long chaired the meeting. (Chairman)

Democratic half hour/public question time: The chairman invited all present to ask questions or make statements about parish business.

Election of chairman

The clerk asked for nominations for chairman. No nominations were received and Georgina Britten-Long agreed to stand for another year. The motion was carried unanimously that Georgina Britten-long continues as chairman.

Declaration of Acceptance of Office: Councillor Britten-Long signed the new Declaration of Acceptance of Office form.

Apologies and approval of absence

Mr. N Oldfield; Mr K Randall; Mr M Andrews; Mrs H Rendall; Mrs J Panton (all accepted) The District and County Councillor were not invited to the meeting.

Election of representatives to:

Memorial Hall Committee: It was proposed by Cllr Latham to elect Cllr Randall; Stinton; and Britton-Long. Environmental Pollution Officer: Cllr Andrews was happy to be re-elected to this post. Parish Path Wardens: Mr J Wells is happy to continue as the PPW along with Cllr Rendall. Tree Warden: Councillor Rendall was re-elected to

this post. Snow and Flood Warden: Cllr Oldfield is happy to continue in this post. Worcestershire Calc Representative: Cllr Panton was re-elected to this post.

Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 28 April 2008 were accepted and signed as a true record. Proposed by Cllr Woodward and seconded by Cllr Latham.

Progress Reports

None

Planning

Applications considered since the last meeting: 08/00533/Ful. The parish council has no objections to this application.

Decisions made by MHDC: 08/00461/AGR. Agricultural Barn and Storage Unit on Land at Willow Road. Prior approval is not required. The parish council has concerns regarding this application. The gateway has been widened and some of the hedge removed which is not allowed. On point number 5 of the decision it states that the building shall not be used to house livestock, or storage of slurry and sludge. A close eye is needed at this site and Malvern Hills informed if any livestock is kept. 08/00278/FUL. Outdoor exercise area for horses at Sledgemoor House. Approved. 08/00215-216/LBC New access road to house for Woodhall Farm. Planning consent is not required.

Applications to be considered. None.

Finance

The income/expenditure accounts were discussed and accepted. The

current balance from 1st April to 30th April stands at £16,324.22. There were two cheques totalling £387.20 for agreement and signature.

The Lengthsman invoice for Feb-March 08 will not be paid until the time sheets have been received. The clerk will contact the Lengthsman again and request his time sheets. The County Council has increased the lengthsman's budget to £2060. A list of items not covered in the scheme was read out. The internal auditors fee was agreed.

Insurance review: The Insurance Policy was examined and agreed. It was resolved to pay the fee of £307.20.

Councillors Training

Councillors could not attend any of the training dates.

To report any urgent decisions since the last meeting

None

Correspondence

For decision by the parish council: Nnne. For information only: there was no correspondence issued. Calc updates 08-14/15/16 were emailed to councillors.

Councillor's reports and items for future agendas

The clerk was asked to put the NPDC and Risk Assessment on the next agenda.

Date and venue of next meeting

Next meeting will be 16 June 2008. please check dates and bring your diaries.

The Wichenford Blues Festival

5 July 2008

The Wichenford Blues Festival

The first blues music festival for the area!

If you only go to see live music once this year then make it the First Wichenford Blues Festival, when the very best in a broad range of nationally-acclaimed blues musicians arrive on your doorstep on Saturday 5 July.

From acoustic artists like Chris Gibbons and Mumbo-Jumbo right up to our headliners The Big Blues Tribe - a nine piece blues orchestra with a full brass section, four singers with lots of vocal harmonies playing good time blues in the style of BB King, Ray Charles and, more recently, Jools Holland's R&B Orchestra.

The Big Blues Tribe will also be appearing at the Upton and Gloucester Blues Festivals this year and was described in Blues in Britain magazine as "The new band of 2007 with

outstanding musicians and singers supporting the tremendous vocals." Local stars Kenswick-based Cracker and the Woodpeckers - hot jump-jive, boogie-woogie rock'n'roll band led by Cracker's fantastic piano playing and Big Jim's buffoonery, has also joined the growing list of bands.

Held behind The Mason's Arms, this will be THE summer event in the area, with live music fans from across the Midlands being drawn by the excellent music and the growing reputation of The Mason's for putting on quality events.

The gates open at noon and the music starts at 1.20pm, running through to 11pm. As well as the



music there will be excellent food and beer tents, all sorts of stalls from rare records to special festival-style snacks.

Tickets are £10 for adults and £3 for under 12's and can be purchased in advance via the website www.wichenfordbluesfest.co.uk which also has lots of information about the bands on during the day, links to their websites and a full running order for the day.

Other than that, the story is that some of the best blues musicians in the UK will be descending on

Wichenford on 5 July—so see you there!!

Want a stall there?

Andy at The Mason's Arms is inviting local businesses and people to have a stall on the day – no charge and it's an opportunity to sell stuff to 'the crowds'. We thought it would add to the occasion if there were stalls selling anything from bric-a-brac to records and T shirts etc. We have a few stalls already planned including a record collector/seller but we are open to more.

They need to communicate their interest with Andy at The Mason's Arms by 30 June 2008.

Experience it all!

Chris Gibbons

Mumbo-Jumbo

The Big Blues Tribe

Cracker and the Woodpeckers

Beer tents

Excellent food

Jump-jive

Boogie-woogie

Rock'n'roll

Rare records

SATURDAY 5 JULY
at The Masosn's Arms

Get in free!

We are also looking for a few volunteers for a range of duties – directing people, car parking etc. They get free entry into the event of course. If they could contact Andy on the same number then that would be great.

Fine or Fines

The dictionary definition is a long list of adjectives such as remarkable, excellent, beautiful, thin, splendid, plus many more other applicable qualities, yet nowadays it is more likely to mean 'pay up'. Millions, even billions, of pounds are paid out in fines every year, but who cashes in all this lovely lucre I ask? The government, the local councils, the police, the courts? I wish I knew.

You can get fined (if caught) for all sorts of wrong-doing, that's FINE - breaking the law by drink driving, breaking the speed limit, all those things which may lead to dangerous, or even fatal, outcomes. But should someone be asked to pay up pounds for putting a bottle in the wrong recycling bin, overload it or put it out on the wrong day, not putting dog mess in a bin, dropping a cigarette end or parking a car half an inch out of the space provided . . . well! Many of these fines seem to me absolutely over the top, even truly extreme; for example £1,000 for not having a TV licence in my opinion is even more of a crime. Where will this fining system stop? I wonder, will we be fined for switching on a light before a given time (wastage of energy), slipping on a banana skin that someone was not caught and fined for dropping? I suppose that would be fine!

Beth Williams

Mobile Library

The library visits Wichenford on the first Wednesday of the month. We do not want to lose it, so please use it!

Malvern View

10am-10.30am

Wichenford church

10.35am-11am

Kings Green Farm

11.05am-11.35am

Rosses Green

11.40am-12.10pm

Martley Library

Opening Hours

Martley Memorial Hall
Berrow Green Road
Martley, Worcs WR6 6PQ

Mon 2.00-7.00pm

Wed 4.00-6.00pm

Thu 10.00am-1.00pm

Fri 2.00-4.00pm

Sat 10.00am-12 noon

Your news here

If your club or society is arranging an event or has recently done something that would interest other in our villages—why not write about it? Email the editor on editor@martley.org or write out your news and leave it for collection at Martley Post Office, or give it to Sheila Richards or Janet Andrews if you live in Wichenford.

Items are included in The Villager at the discretion of the Editor.

A Few Facts About The Blues

Blues is a vocal and instrumental form of music based on the use of the blue notes. blue notes are notes sung or played at a lower pitch than those of the major scale for expressive purposes. It emerged in African-American communities of the United States from spirituals, work songs, shouts and chants, and rhymed simple narrative ballads. The use of blue notes and the prominence of call-and-response patterns in the music and lyrics are indicative of African influence. Many of the blues elements, such as the call-and-response format, can be traced back to the music of Africa. The use of a wavy, nasal intonation also suggests a connection between the music of West and Central Africa and the blues.

Early blues frequently took the form of a loose narrative. The singer voiced often his or her personal woes in a world of the harsh reality of a lost love, oppression at the hands of white folk and hard times in general. The style evolved over a long period of time and existed in something approaching its modern form before the term *blues* was introduced. The phrase "the blues" is a reference to the blue devils, meaning low spirits, depression and sadness.

The first appearance of the blues is not well defined and is often dated between 1870 and 1900, a period that coincides with the emancipation of the slaves and the transition from slavery to sharecropping and small-scale agricultural production in the southern United States. The earliest blues musicians tended to wander through communities, leaving little or no record of precisely what sort of music they played or where it came from. As folk singers migrated north in the early 20th century, they took the blues with them. Joining them from New Orleans were "black-butt" pianists who played in honky-tonks.

In 1912 the sheet music industry published the first known blues composition—"Dallas Blues" by Hart A. Wand of Oklahoma City.. Two other blues-like compositions, precipitating the "Tin Pan Alley" adoption of blues elements, were also published in 1912: "Baby Seals' Blues" by "Baby" F. Seals (arranged by Artie Matthews) and "Memphis Blues", another ragtime arrangement with a single 12-bar section, by W. C. Handy. Also in 1912, another song, "The Negro Blues", was copyrighted by LeRoy "Lasses" White.

From the 1920s onwards, the blues form proliferated. Classic female urban or vaudeville blues singers were popular in the 1920s, among them Mamie Smith, Gertrude Ma Rainey, Bessie Smith, and Victoria Spivey. Mamie Smith, more a



(Continued on page 24)

In the Garden



In the garden in July

"In July, the sun is hot,
Is it shining? No it's not."

Flanders and Swann

July is the month to enjoy just being out in your garden. Keep deadheading, annuals, perennials and roses, and keep picking those sweet peas to ensure continuous flowering. Prune the early-summer flowering shrubs, such as Philadelphus, when flowering finishes. If you are going on holiday, now is the time to line up someone to keep an eye on your plants. Bear in mind that large containers don't dry out as quickly as small ones, and a mulch of fine gravel will help reduce water loss from the soil surface.

Conifer hedges should be pruned now to encourage dense growth. The large leaved evergreens such as laurel also need to be pruned, but using secateurs. If you use a hedge trimmer, the cut leaves turn brown and the plants will look a tattered mess. As for lawns..... just keep mowing!

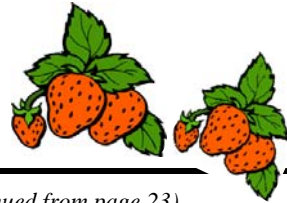
Rose black-spot rarely kills but it is unsightly and certainly the leaf-loss eventually weakens the plant. Pick up and destroy all infected leaves so less fungus gets back into the soil, and consider spraying with a suitable fungicide.

Enjoy those fresh strawberries and raspberries while they last. Prune summer-fruiting raspberries by cutting the canes which have fruited down to ground level. The end of July is also the time to prune red and white currants and gooseberries. Why not try striking the prunings and see if you can get some new plants? Tidy up your strawberries, removing old leaves and watering well to encourage new growth. Plant out well rooted runners into new beds.

If you have a sheltered sunny spot, why not try planting a few Autumn crocus. Autumn-flowering bulbs will usually be coming into the Garden Centres at the end of this month.

Local gardens open for charity this month include; Spetchley Park, Worcester 6 July, Worlds End Nurseries, Hallow, 13 July, Orleton House, Stanford Bridge, 26-27 July.

J Cropp



(Continued from page 23)

vaudeville performer than a blues artist, was the first African- American to record a blues in 1920; her "Crazy Blues" sold 75,000 copies in its first month.

The blues influenced later American and Western popular music, and it became the roots of popular music forms such as jazz, rhythm and blues, rock and roll, bluegrass and hip-hop.

Church news

Volunteer helpers required at:

Age Concern Day Centre at Holt Village Hall every other Tuesday from 11.00am. until 2.00 pm. to help with lunches. There is a travel allowance available.

If anyone is interested they should ring 01886 889236.

If you usually eat on your own

LinC

‘Lunch in Company’

invites you to

Broadwas Village Hall to enjoy a meal with others in the same situation on the first Thursday of every month.

12 noon – 2pm

(Lunch served at 12.30)

Cost £4.00

United Benefice of Martley,
Wichenford & the Lower Teme
Valley

Congratulations

Congratulations to Rev Bruce Thomson on his ordination as Priest. The service was led by our new Bishop, Rt. Rev John Inge, at Worcester Cathedral on Sunday 29 June 2008. Bruce and Margaret have now been with us for a whole year now and we are glad to have them with us and for their ministry among us.

Rural Dean

You may also like to know that Revd David Sherwin has been made Rural Dean for the Deanery of Martley, Worcester West. This role is in addition to his being Priest in Charge of Martley, Wichenford and the Lower Teme Valley. It does involve some pastoral and administrative duties for the parishes and clergy of the parishes of this area on behalf of the Bishop and the Archdeacon. Hence he is grateful for all that his colleagues Jennifer, Bruce, John, Rob the readers and the wardens and congregations do to help within the life of the parishes and beyond

Black Pear Credit Union

Black Pear Savings and Loans is a credit union—a co-operative that offers ethical .savings and loans for people from all backgrounds. Members who save with Black Pear can apply for loans that are dramatically cheaper than those charged by doorstep lenders and often also cheaper than mainstream lenders. Festival Housing, are supporters of the credit union and now offer Black Pear services through their Malvern office five days a week.. Call 01905 612197 or see www.blackpear.org.uk for more information.

*From View From the Hills
Summer 2008.*



Church Words

The Rectory 01886 888664

Caring for the Earth

A UN food summit is in Rome, who would have thought in the 21st Century we would be facing difficulties in providing enough food for the world? Food is something we all need every day and for so long we have enjoyed an abundance of food. We can now get food that only a few years ago was seasonal and was enjoyed only at certain times of the year. The earth, it seems, is being stretched to the limits as more and more people place demands on its resources. On top of that, oil and gas are at their highest prices and people struggle to pay their bills.

We are stewards of this earth which God has put us upon; we are expected to care for the earth and everything on it, to share its resources and make sure each has enough live. Living in the countryside brings home the difficulties our own farmers face in bringing forth crops and rearing animals. It makes us realise the fragility of the world in which we live. God expects us to take our part, however small in caring for the earth so that the world will sustain us and our children and our children's children until as God promised he would make a new heavens and a new earth.

It is easy to think that through technology and our own efforts we can make

the world a better place. This has been uppermost in people's thinking since The Enlightenment yet there has always been the tension arising from misuse of knowledge and technology that makes the world a worse place. The human characteristics of greed and selfishness cause global problems that haunt us to this day.

The final hallmark of faith, 'Caring for the Earth', may seem like a nice green and pleasant thought, but the issues that lie behind it have consequences for us all and ignoring them would be costly in more ways than financial. Taking our faith seriously demands that we take our part in the stewardship of the earth seriously too.

The Bible tells us that not only does our sin have a consequence upon our own and others' lives. It has an effect upon creation which St. Paul tells us 'groans' under the weight of sin until the day when all is made new. That does not mean we do nothing until that day, but we look for ways in which we need to show more care for the earth as well as each other.

Caring for the earth starts with us: God placed Adam and Eve in the Garden and asked them to tend and care for it; it is our duty now to carry on doing that.. God Bless.

Rev David Sherwin

Church Services July 2008

Tue 1 July	10.00am Holy Communion, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
Wed 2 July	10.15am Morning Prayer, St Peter, Martley
Thu 3 July	9.00am Morning Prayer, St Laurence, Wichenford
SUN 6 JULY	8.00am Holy Communion, Knightwick Chapel
	10.30am Holy Communion, St Laurence, Wichenford
	10.30am Worship All-Together, St Peter, Martley
	10.30am Morning Worship, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
	6.30pm Evensong, St Leonard, Cotheridge
Mon 7 July	9.00am Morning Prayer, St Laurence, Wichenford
Tue 8 July	10.00am Morning Prayer, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
Wed 9 July	10.15 Holy Communion, Heaton House
Thu 10 July	9.00am Morning Prayer, St Laurence, Wichenford
11th – 13th	Worcester Diocesan Conference
SUN 13 JULY	8.00am Holy Communion, St Leonard, Cotheridge
	10.30am Worship All-Together, St Laurence, Wichenford
	10.30 am Holy Communion, St Peter, Martley
	10.30am Morning Prayer, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
Mon 14 July	8.30am Prayer Breakfast at the home of Rev'd Jennifer Whittaker
Tue 15 July	10.00am Holy Communion, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
	2.00pm Leavers Service at St Peter's for Martley Primary School
Wed 16 July	10.15am Morning Prayer, St Peter, Martley
	7.30pm Nora Parsons Day Centre AGM
Thu 17 July	9.00am Morning Prayer, St Laurence, Wichenford
	9.00am Leavers Service at St Mary Magdalene for Broadwas PS
	2.00pm Pastoral Group Mtg at the home of Revd. Jennifer Whittaker
SUN 20 JULY	8.00am Holy Communion, St Peter, Martley
	9.00am Matins, St Leonard, Cotheridge
	10.30am Holy Communion, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
	10.30am Morning Worship, St Peter, Martley
	3.00pm Evening Worship, Knightwick Chapel
	6.00pm Evening Worship, St Laurence, Wichenford
Mon 21 July	9.00am Morning Prayer, St Peter, Martley
Tue 22 July	10.00 Morning Prayer, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
Wed 23 July	10.15am Holy Communion, Heaton House
Thu 24 July	9.00am Morning Prayer, St Laurence, Wichenford
SUN 27 JULY	8.00am Holy Communion, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
	9.30am Holy Communion, St Peter, Martley
	10.30am Worship All-Together, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
	10.30am Holy Communion, St Laurence, Wichenford
	6.30pm Evening Worship, St Peter, Martley
Mon 28 July	9.00am Morning Prayer, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
Tue 29 July	9.00am Morning Prayer, St Leonard, Cotheridge
Wed 30 July	10.15am Morning Prayer, St Peter, Martley
Thu 31 July	9.00am Morning Prayer, St Laurence, Wichenford

Village Contacts



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

And finally ...

Are you a Weak Link?

1. On a UK road sign, what does a red car and black car inside a red circle mean?
2. When milk is made into cheese, it is separated into two parts. Name them.
3. The "black Norfolk" is a type of what beast in the animal kingdom?
4. Which actor starred with George Cole in the TV series "Minder"?
5. In the TV soap "Dallas", which character was played by Larry Hagman?
6. Who composed the opera "Aida"?
7. In ancient times, Latium was the central part of which European country?
8. Who sang "Good Morning" with Gene Kelly and Donald O'Connor in "Singin' in the Rain"?

ANSWERS

1. No overtaking
2. Curds and whey
3. Turkey
4. Dennis Waterman
5. JR Ewing
6. Giuseppe Verdi
7. Italy
8. Debbie Reynolds