

The Villager

The community magazine for the parishes of Martley and Wichenford

Volume 19 No. 12

May 2009

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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 and 3rd Wednesday at The Admiral Rodney

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

Thursdays

Wichenford Wine Club: 3rd Thursday in the month

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

See Church Words 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

The cover picture shows the garden of Mrs E E Britten in Wichenford.

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



News from the Village Hall Committee

Update on the Village Hall is that new carpets have been installed in the bar area together with "mood" lighting. A Grassroots Grant of £4,500 has been awarded to the Hall to assist with the refurbishment of the toilets. After the success last year we plan to hold another Table Top Sale in early October - we'll keep you posted.

Martley 100 Club

The May winner was number 42 - Brockwell Miller who collected £35.00. Many thanks to all those new members who joined the 100 Club after the flyer in the May issue of The Villager - this has enabled us to increase the prize fund.

Pensax Thrift Shop

Pensax Thrift Shop's Fund Raising Day is being held in aid of The County Air Ambulance on Wednesday 15 July from 9 - 11 am. We will be accepting items for the Sale until the 8 July. Please come and support this very worthy cause.

Martley Pre-School Snippets

Many apologies for the mistake last month- as I attached June 2008's version of pre-school snippets for the editor to print! Whoops!! Sorry!.

We would like to welcome Tristan, Orla, Archie and Esme to Pre-school.

We have just finished our 'Healthy Hearts- Happy Children' scheme with the Pre-School Learning Alliance. The children loved the activities that Alan Gormley and the



staff did with them, as well as learning more about their bodies and healthy living. They also tried several new fruits and snacks on these Tuesday mornings. Rhythm Time continues on Tuesday afternoons at no extra cost to parents.

We would like to wish all the children leaving Pre-School for 'BIG' school the very best of luck. We will miss you all!

Eco-setting Status

We achieved our Bronze Eco-School status some time ago, and have been working towards the silver award. Some of this include energy-saving activities such as learning turn off lights, taps and of course the

replacement of the old boiler with an energy-efficient one. The children have been learning to look after their environment and the wildlife that lives there, how to recycle their rubbish, put fruit waste in the wormery and to compost their paper towels.

Wellie Wednesday has become our Forest School day. These sessions are very similar to our Wellie Wednesdays, but we will be able to do



many more activities, and the children learn from small, manageable tasks. I have been completing an Advanced Award in Forest School Leadership and Outdoor First Aid

Course. For more information on Forest School please talk to me or go to http://www.foresteducation.org/forest_schools.php?page=1

Recycle your old mobile phone

Recycle your old mobile phone and printer cartridges. Collection points are at Martley Post Office and Central Stores. Every phone and cartridge benefits the environment and Martley Pre-School and out-of-school clubs. Last year collections raised over £200. Thank you.

Don't forget! We are a registered eco-setting with 20 years of history, where children can attend pre-school from two years old. They will learn through play and fun activities and do not have to be out of nappies! They are entitled to 15 hours per week free care funded

by the government, starting from the term after their third birthday. We also provide very popular breakfast (8-9am) and after school clubs (3.15-6pm) for children aged 2 to 13 years. There are many activities available indoors and outdoors, including sports, game console, art, craft, cookery, ICT and much more. If you need any information, or would like to book a place for your child please feel free to call Kath or Lucy on 01886 889127 or visit our website

www.martleypreschool.co.uk or email info@martleypreschool.co.uk

*Miss Kathryn Smith
BA (Hons) FdA eyp status*

Little Witley Film Society

We had our second very successful showing in May, of Kinky Boots – 77 came and we had a very sociable evening! Now we are looking forward to our next season of films. There are seven films over the autumn and winter. They have been chosen based on our audience surveys. So for your delight we have Slumdog Millionaire on 5 September; 24 October The Duchess; 14 November The Station Agent; 16 January Notes on a Scandal; 27 February 2010 The Kite Runner, 27 March On the Black Hill, finishing up with The Lemon Tree on 24 April. All gems!

We have just heard (end of May) the great news that our application for a grant for new equipment has been successful! It is exciting news for us and means we can purchase goodies like purpose-designed sound systems,



Teme Valley Views from the Teme Valley Children's Centre

In 2008 the Teme Valley Children's Centre started running Family Fun activities during the summer holidays. These sessions gave parents, carers and children the chance to participate in themed activities

at a time when normal activities had stopped for the holidays. These events were extremely popular, but due to limits on the number of children able to get involved, we could not include school-age children and, therefore, children with older siblings were unable to attend. We have tried to address this in 2009 by working alongside the Borrowers Toy Library Play Rangers so that a wider range of ages can benefit from the activities.

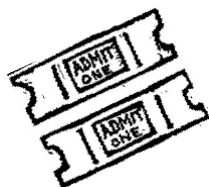
We are extremely lucky to be able to access the Play Rangers' services as it allows us to provide for the whole family. The Play Rangers' project is an open access, mobile play service, which is free for children and young people. Attendees can choose from a range of activities and materials so there is always something that will appeal. The service has many benefits – children develop social skills and an increased sense of community through interaction with other. In addition, the range of play opportunities provided means that the child gains experiences, which can

screen and projector. So now we shall have even better showings!

Season Tickets

Can we tempt you to join for a season and become a full member? Having a membership base will certainly help us. Membership costs £30 and you get one free film (7 for the price of 6), a complimentary drink (wine/beer/soft drink) and an invitation to the end-of-season supper party on 15 May, where you can join in the discussion of next year's programme. Or of course you can just come along to whichever films you choose. Either way - come and join us! If you would like a membership form please contact either Jean Latham on 01886 888122 or Bob Jose on 01886 888383. Look forward to seeing you in Little Witley in September!

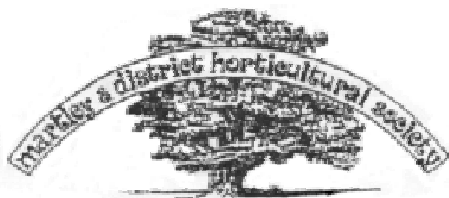
Jean Latham



equip them for adult life.

The final programme for this year's Family Fun sessions is still being finalised, but themes are likely to include: under the sea; the seaside; teddy bears' picnic; carnivals and gardening. The latter celebrating national allotment week that takes place between 16-22 August. Venues are likely to include Lower Broadheath, Martley, Leigh and Bransford, Tenbury Wells, Hallow and Clifton-upon-Teme. Please check the July/August newsletter for more details.

For more information about this or any other Teme Valley Children's Centre activity please check our website (www.temevalley-cc.org.uk), our monthly newsletter or contact the office (01886 812982).



Martley and District Horticultural Society

The Annual Plant Sale was held in the Village Hall on Saturday 23 May and as usual there were all sorts of perennials, bedding plants, container plants and vegetables, all hopefully awaiting their new homes – “please buy me, I’ll look lovely in your border!”

On 30 July it is “Visit to Chairman’s Garden”, and this promises to be a

most enjoyable evening. Saturday 15 August the Annual Show will be held on the playing field. All marrows will be dope-tested and any pumpkins measured in cubic hectares (EU regs.)

Tina Steele

Martley Ramblers

12 July 10am Church Car Park

With the glorious weather we have had this year, do not be tempted to lounge in the garden. That can be done when feeling righteous after enjoying this mystery walk led by Pauline and Richard Mills. A little bird tells me it is in the area around Clifton-upon-Teme. So come along and find out where exactly this mystery walk is. This is a morning walk, start time 10am. Recent walks to Mamble and around Hallow and Broadheath have been greatly enjoyed with different aspects of familiar areas. Many thanks to Jenny Underhill and the two Paulines for planning and leading them.

Kate King



Martley WI

8 July 7.30pm Heaton House

This month we welcome back Ray Sturdy who previously entertained us with tales and slides of his charity fund-raising ride around the Ring of Kerry. This time his subject will be very different – ‘Worcester Remembered’. How far back will

these memories go? Come along and find out. Visitors are always welcome. The competition is for an old postcard. Next month there is no meeting as we shall go out for our summer outing, this year to Blackmore Gardens on Saturday 8 August. There is plenty of time to put your names down and Sheila Craker will have all the details and will be taking your entrance money. Please remember we shall be



needing cakes for the WI stall at the Horticultural Show on Saturday 15 August. We hope to sponsor two kneelers for the church, so money needs to be raised for that. Also perhaps a member or members would be interested in stitching a kneeler.

Kate King

The Path-or-Nones **Martley footpath maintenance** **volunteers**

We recently tested walk-behind trimmers and found them very productive, so we intend to purchase one or two to ease the work of trimming the 10 miles of paths that need clearing up to twice a year. Numbers meeting each week average 6-8 mark—we need more of you please, it's only a couple of hours a month, and reasonably entertaining and we don't only trim. We are at times bridge-builders, fencing contractors, tree-removers and hole-diggers. Oh yes.

For more information or to offer your services, contact John Nicklin on 01886 888318 or johnn@martley.org or see thepathornones.co.uk

GeoPark Way Earth Heritage Trust

Opened right at the end of May, the GeoPark Way runs for 109 miles from Bridgnorth to Gloucester, passing through Martley Parish on existing rights of way. The Earth Heritage Trust (earthheritagetrust.org/blog/AbouttheTrust), based at University of Worcester, has produced a superb guide to the many interesting and varied geological features along the route, and is installing information boards too. Martley is right in the centre of this long but rather narrow area of land, the 17th of 25 GeoParks to be declared in Europe. Funding permitting, there may well be an additional geo walk through Martley and we are assisting with it's development. The Path-or-Nones have volunteered to receive training from



Footpath 75—Horsham

the geology department of the University so that we can guide visitors to the best rock shows.

John Nicklin

Heritage Weekend **12-13 September 2009** **St Peter's, Martley**

We are preparing an exhibition to illustrate the changes in the parish during the last century. If you have any old photographs that you think would be of interest, please contact Eve Fraser on 01886 888283 by 12 July.

Details of the Heritage Weekend and events linked to the forthcoming church celebrations will be appearing on the Church page of Martley.org.uk during July and August.

Wedding Congratulations

Congratulations on the wedding of Adam Surtees of Martley and Emma Webster of Castlemorton on the 25 April 2009 in Broadway. Love and best wishes from both families and friends.



Martley Parish Council

Unapproved draft record of the meeting held on Monday 11 May 2009 at the Memorial Hall

The Democratic Period/Public Question Time

Chairman confirmed that he is to speak with specific parishioners by the end of May regarding Neighbourhood Watch. Mr Lewington briefed the

Parish Council on future development plans for Martley Show. Tina Willer, a local resident and tennis coach, spoke to the Parish Council about funding to use for training days for local schools, such as The Chantry, Martley Pre-School and Martley Primary School. To be discussed in more detail at the next meeting. Councillor Rothwell will support Tina's grant applications. Chairman opened the meeting at 20:20pm.

Election of Chairman:

Cllr Mr. D. Cropp was elected as Chairman and Cllr Mrs. D. Goodyear was elected as Vice Chairman. Declarations of office were signed by both Councillors.

Standing Orders:

Standing orders will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Code of Conduct:

The Code of Conduct was noted by Councillors and the Clerk advised that copies of the Code of Conduct were available.

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 6 April 2009:

It was resolved to accept the minutes as a true record with an amendment made to a spelling error.

Progress reports:

The Clerk: The election to fill the vacancy on Martley Parish Council will take place on June 4 2009. All nomination papers should have been returned to Malvern Hills District Council by 7 May. A copy letter has been sent to The Crown re: bottle banks. The Clerk is to speak to The

Crown and the company responsible for the bottle banks to find out about the previous agreement that was made. To be discussed at the next meeting. The Clerk is waiting to hear from Worcester County Council and Malvern Hills District Council in relation to the bins at Ankerdine Hill. Waiting for the go ahead to put up the Smartwater signs on the approaches to Martley. Tom Pearsall is chasing up a meeting with the tip. The Clerk is waiting to hear from Malvern Hills Environmental Health in relation to the crows. It was confirmed that Holt Bridge may still be closed on the 22 June 2009 for 10 weeks. Awaiting further information as the meeting planned to take place at The Chantry on 12 May has been cancelled. The Clerk is to contact Balfour Beatty to make traffic management suggestions that may help alleviate the difficulties in consultation with Councillors.

Ditch clearance: The Clerk will ask the Lengthsman to open up the grips on Willow Road and from the centre of Martley to Ham Bridge. The Clerk will also ask the Lengthsman to notify the Parish Council of any hedgerows that need cutting back.

Meeting with John Wallace: Councillors will meet with John Wallace at Martley Memorial Hall on Wednesday 13 May 2009 at 7pm to visit Prickley Green and Pudford Lane.

Election of Councillors to other offices:

This item will be discussed in the July meeting once a full Parish Council is

established following the June election.

Annual Report:

Cllr Mr. D. Cropp presented his annual report (Addendum 1).

District Councillor's report: District Cllr. Mrs. B. Williams presented her annual report together with her monthly report (Addendum 2). It included the information that we could check out the Worcester PCT's website: <http://www.worcspect.nhs.uk> as they have a special page on Swine Flu which is regularly updated.

County Councillor's report: County Cllr. Mr. A. Davies presented his annual report (Addendum 3).

Youth Development:

Cllr. Mrs. E. Rothwell reported that there was a successful meeting at The Chantry last Friday. There are also new members who want to help and drive things forward. PC Hood is working on the Top Barn Farm Project. Buses from The Chantry will be used to provide transport to the Farm and can be used in the school holidays as two people have kindly volunteered. Summer activities can go ahead as transport is available. The Chantry building work has started. The Chantry are keen to integrate with Martley and help the village, for example, by offering conference facilities. The Police surgeries are likely to move to The Chantry in the near future. They are currently considering offering training to young people undertaking their provisional motorcycle license and offering cycling proficiency courses at Martley

Primary School and The Chantry High School; also liaising with Cobhouse Fisheries to arrange fishing days for troublesome youths. The next meeting will look at activities for all age groups but will be concentrate on how to reward those youths with good behaviour. The next YIMMS event is provisionally 10 April 2010 following completion of the building work. The Chairman referred to a recent visit to the church by more than 30 pupils aged 14 from The Chantry where they tried bell ringing. The Police are aware of a particular group of youths causing concern to Parishioners but are keen to point out that it is a known group and not all youths that have motorcycles who are causing concerns.

Allianz Insurance Renewal:

The Clerk is to contact Worcestershire CALC to obtain prices from other insurance companies for comparison. This will be addressed at the next meeting.

Freedom of Martley:

Cllr. Mr. D. Cropp and Cllr. Mr. T. Gale will co-ordinate with the supplier of the board. To be discussed at the next meeting. The Clerk will contact the Freedom of Martley nominees for 2009 to arrange for them to receive their certificates.

Planning:

New. 09/00423/FUL Bramblewood, Hipplecote – Replacement dwelling. 09/00514/HOU Rose Cottage, Berrow Green – Single storey rear extn. 09/00515/FUL Berrow Farm, Berrow Green Road – Fry pools. Pending.

09/00369/FUL & 09/00370/LBC The Old Barn, Hillside – Garden Room. Permitted. 09/00227/FUL Scar Cottage, Martley – Replacement garage, store and workshop. Appealing to Secretary of State. 08/01169/FUL Treetops Bungalow, Hillside – Replacement of existing dwelling (on-going).

Correspondence for information:

Items for decision included - MHDC – Facilities within your village. Equality and Human Rights Commission – Public Sector Duties.

Finance:

There were 11 cheques totalling £1462.23 approved. The Clerk is to contact Bank of Ireland to ascertain what level of access is linked to the account. To be discussed at the next meeting.

Parish Paths Warden's Report:

Mr John Nicklin's report was read (Addendum 4).

Councillor's reports and items for future agenda:

A Parishioner had contacted Cllr. Mrs. E. Rothwell with regard to the children's playground. The Clerk is to speak to Martley Recreation Association. Concern was raised regarding the overgrown hedges on Collins Green now causing damage to passing vehicles. Speed signs will be discussed at the next meeting – Clerk to establish probable costs. Cllr. Mr. D. Cropp confirmed that a speed bump is to be installed in Jury Lane to help alleviate the drainage issues.

Date of next meeting:

The next meeting will be held on

Saturday 16 May 2009 at 6.30pm and is the Annual Meeting of the Parish. The next full Parish Council meeting will be held on Monday 1 June 2009.

S. Williams
Clerk to the Parish Council
01299 832949

For Addenda, please apply to the Clerk to the Parish Council or see the Parish Council page of Martley.org.uk For the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 16 May 2009, please apply as above.

Martley's Past

From "The Rambler" (1850), Part 2
At the close of the services I stayed behind to inspect the old church: it consists of a chancel, nave, and a western tower, containing a peal of six musical bells. A portion of the walls and the south doorway (now in a great measure hid by a wooden porch, with a room over) are Norman and the rest of the building is made up of repairs and improvements of the 14th and 15th centuries. There are traces of a stoup at this entrance, and at the south of the altar is a piscine surmounted by a hood moulding, enriched by the ball flower; the moulding (which is broken off by the sill of the window above) being supported at the ends by corbel heads. The ceiling is semi-circular, and the walls are connected by rude tie-beams, but the whole interior is so plastered, whitewashed, and withal so dusty, that many points of interest are hid from the sight. There is a large gallery in the chancel, for which there

appears to be no necessity; but that at the west end would not I suppose, be readily given up by the choristers. I saw no font, but there is a wooden pedestal in front of the clerk's desk, and I suppose they make this available to put a basin on. In the south side of the chancel is a recumbent alabaster effigy, said to be intended for Sir Hugh Mortimer, Lord of Martley (temp. Henry VI) from whom Martley descended to the ancient Barons de la Ware, the families of Mucklowe, Slaney, Foley and the present Lord Ward. The figure of the knight is all armed except his head, under which lies his helmet, his hands joined in prayer, out of his wreath a plume of feathers (the crest of Mortimer); from a collar about his neck hangs a fleece as an order of knighthood, and at his feet a lion. On the north side of the chancel is the tomb part of an ancient monument but no figure or inscription remains. (Final part next month)

Alan Boon



*Running Stag/'Stoning & Roses' pattern, Martley, Worcestershire (≠Worcester) Mid C.14
From <http://www.paintedchurch.org/martley.htm>*



Over the Garden Wall in Wichenford

WICHENFORD NEEDS YOUR NEWS

Janet Andrews
01886 888303
Sheila Richards
01886 888378



Church flowers

5 July Janet Andrews
12 July Sheila Richards
19 July Anne Banks
26 July Jo Root



PCC

The next meeting of the PCC is on 21 July in the Village Hall at 7.45pm.

Ladies Fellowship

There will be no Ladies Fellowship meeting in July or August.

Birthday Thank you

A big thank-you to all relatives and friends who were present at the 80th birthday party of Dixon. A big thank-you also to all relatives and friends

who were present at the 70th birthday party of Margaret. Both parties were held at Wichenford Memorial Hall and it was requested that there should be no presents but instead donations to the County Air Ambulance. A total of £600 was raised for each party making a grand total of £1,200. We thank everyone for their generosity and for making both parties such a success. Thank you again, with regards.

Dixon Stinton and Margaret Fisher

Chocolate Quiz

A big 'thank-you' to everyone who participated in the Chocolate Quiz and to those who helped to distribute the quiz. It was good to hear how so many people had enjoyed the challenge and helped to raise £628 for the Nora Parsons' Day Centre. Well done! Six boxes of chocolates, kindly donated by Sainsbury, Tesco and Waitrose were won by: Trish Young, Sally Jones, Susan O'Brian, Martin O'Brian, Tracey Garside, Rachel and Sarah Dunn.

Barbara Whyatt

Wichenford 100 Club

May winners: No 52 M Harris £75.00. And returned subscriptions to No. 23 Linda Richardson ; No. 156 Jo Root. rawn by J Field

Motocross at Alsetts

As far as I know, the dates are: 12 July, 30 August and 4 October.

GBL

Kenswick and Wichenford Parish Council

Unapproved abbreviated draft minutes the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 18 May 2009 in the Memorial Hall Wichenford. Councillor Britten-Long chaired the meeting. (Chairman).

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.

Election of representatives to:

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

Councillor Rendall was re-elected to this post. Proposed by Cllr Britten-Long and seconded by Cllr Andrews. Snow and Flood Warden. Cllr Oldfield was re-elected to this post. Proposed by Cllr Britton- Long and seconded by Cllr Rendall. Worcestershire Calc Representative.

Cllr Panton was re-elected to this post. Proposed by Cllr Britton-Long and seconded by Cllr Rendall.

District and County Councillors Report

The District Councillor reported that all councillors have discussed how to improve the web site. They want to encourage the public to be more interactive. Swine flu will probably return in the autumn and everyone is encouraged to ring their doctors or the NHS Direct. Cllr Williams commented on the weight limit of 7.5 tonnes that has been placed at Holt Bridge which will affect a lot of businesses in our area. The road closure is being reviewed and no date is set as to when it will go ahead. There was no report from the County Councillor.

Minutes

The clerk was asked to change the name of item 09/30 from J Andrews to M Andrews. The minutes of the meeting held on 20 April 2009 were accepted and signed as a true record. Proposed by Cllr Rendall and seconded by Cllr Stinton.

Progress Reports

Mistletoe Lakes. Correspondence from the owner of the property was read out. Permission went through on

42 acres. The second application determined that an agricultural building was necessary but only for storage. Motor Cross. A letter from R Jennings the enforcement officer at Malvern Hills was read out. The County Councillor, District Councillor; Chairman and clerk will be meeting the Chief Executive of MHDC on 1 June.

Planning

Vicky Bilton, the Development Control Manager of Planning Services, has agreed to attend our meeting on 29 June. Applications considered since the last meeting. 08/01818/FUL. Crabtree Orchard. Reopening of gateway onto Willow Road and the erection of an agricultural building. The parish council has various concerns regarding this application. 09/00251/FUL. Cob House Fisheries. The parish council have already commented on this application. Applications Approved/Refused/Withdrawn. 08/01799/FUL. The Masons Arms. Proposed extension. (Refused) 09/00326/HOU. Mallenders. Replacement porch. (Approved) Applications to be considered. 09/00536/Ful. Single storey side extension at the Tallet, Cockshoot Farm. The parish council support this application. The West Midlands Planning Aid Annual Meeting is at Birmingham on 24 June.

Finance

The Internal Auditor has done the accounts. The balance for the 30 April stands at £16,379.82. The first half of

the precept of £3,350.00 has been received. There were 5 cheques totalling £845.44 for agreement and signature. The parish council have another £1000.00 from the Bluebell ride held on account for the Day Centre making the total amount £2,247.00. It was proposed by Cllr Rendall that the money for the paint totalling £508.70 should be paid by the parish council from our funds and not from the money that we are holding on account. This was seconded by Cllr Britten-Long.

Rosses/Guises Lane.

Worcestershire County Council is seeking a proposed permanent Traffic Regulation Order and we are waiting for the publication date.

Insurance Review

The parish council agreed to wait to pay the insurance and look into another policy.

NPDC

This item has already been discussed under finance.

Councillors' Training

Councillors are sent details of all training events in the CALC mail and should be able to see in advance the times and dates of forthcoming sessions. Cllr Rendall will be attending a Biodiversity event.

Correspondence

For decision by the parish council. (information only) - Councillor Rendall asked the parish council if they had seen in the CALC mail the grant promoting sustainable development. Cllr Latham has been asked if Kings Green could be cut for

the open gardens. Cllr Rendall agreed to write to those concerned.

Date and Venue of Next Meeting

Next meeting will be 29 June 2009.

Meetings were arranged for 17 August and 28 September 2009. Please check dates and bring your diaries. All will be in the Memorial Hall Wichenford at 7.30pm.

Nora Parsons Day Centre

AGM

The AGM was held on 20 May 2009. The most serious item on the agenda for the evening was that of finance. The valuable and shared asset that is the Day Centre is now financially vulnerable because of the necessity to effect reparations to the building in 2008/9 amounting to £19,000. As a consequence virtually all the reserves have been used resulting in an even greater need to raise funds.

As part of the strategy to generate income the Committee launched a Donor Friends Scheme. Anyone who is concerned to see that the Day Centre continues with its valuable work is invited to become a Donor Friend. In return for a number of benefits a FRIEND undertakes to make a small annual contribution of £5 -or more it can be afforded. While the Centre receives donations from the County and Parish Councils within the catchment area, without raising additional funds it would be difficult to survive.

David Cropp of WCALC gave a presentation on how the Day Centre may access grant funding. Harriet

Baldwin, Conservative Parliamentary Candidate for West Worcestershire and Alwyn Davies, Chairman of Worcester County Council also added words of encouragement.

The meeting closed with Revd Sherwin being presented with another puppet to add to his collection which had been named by the members.

Spring Outing

On Monday 18 May the members and helpers went on a lovely drive round the Worcestershire countryside with David Rogers and then were served with a beautiful meal at Badgers Walk Country Hotel in Clows Top – the day was enjoyed by all.

Friends of

Nora Parsons Day Centre

Anyone who is concerned to see that that the Nora Parsons Day Centre continues with its valuable work is invited to become a FRIEND. In return for a number of benefits a FRIEND undertakes to make a small annual contribution of £5 – or more if you can afford it.

If you would like to become a FRIEND of the Centre at Wichenford please contact Bob Whyatt on 01886 822298 or Dag Smith on 01905 641071 and request a DONOR FRIEND form.

Many thanks in anticipation.

Janet Dale, Secretary

Things to do in July

In and around Martley and Wichenford

Blues at the Fold, Bransford

Saturday 4 July 2009 2-11pm

Blues at the Fold will be an opportunity to listen to some of the best blues music around. Tickets for the whole day are £10 for adults and £3 for children under 12 and are limited. Tickets and information are available from the website. www.bluesatthefold.co.uk or by calling 01886-812888. The programme includes short performances from Dave Reeves a performer poet and free reed player. For more information contact Oliver Carpenter, Blues at the Fold, 01886-812888 or email oliver@ocsingstheblues.co.uk



Oliver in action on vocals

Abberley Hall Five-Yearly Fete

Abberley Hall are holding their five-yearly fete on Sunday 5 July, starting at 2pm. All the usual stalls plus trips

up the Clock Tower (and abseiling back down if desired), Silent Auction and The Midland Balloon Club will be landing (weather permitting) in the grounds and at 6pm several balloons will be taking off for a race. I do hope you can find space to give us a mention. The proceeds will be split between the charities 'Ewe & You', 'Megan Baker House' and the Abberley Foundation.

St Richard's Hospice Night on the Town midnight walk

Girls are being urged to grab their trainers, dress up and head for the second Midnight Walk through the streets of Worcester on Saturday 18 July, to raise money for St Richard's Hospice in their silver anniversary year. Starting at midnight from County Hall in Spetchley, walkers will stride out along a ten mile circular route under a moonlit sky.

St Richard's Hospice Fundraising Manager Tricia Cavell said of the first time it was staged, last year, "It was a ... great girls' night out. The atmosphere was incredible." She added that men were invited to get involved too, helping as marshals or with registration. The event is being sponsored by Hewett Recruitment of Worcester and Kidderminster. Walkers can treat themselves to breakfast at the Orchard café at the

countryside centre at the end of the walk.

For a registration form please call the Fundraising Dept on 01905 763963 or download the leaflet from the events section of www.strichards.org.uk/midnightwalk. Registration costs £10 or £15 to include breakfast and participants are encouraged to get sponsorship.

Harvesting the Past

If you haven't yet heard about 'Harvesting the Past', then read on. In May we launched this unique recording project at the Chantry High School. Our aim is to record the memories of lots of older people in the community, especially their experiences of growing up and farming in the 30s, 40s and 50s. These recordings will be saved for posterity at the Worcestershire Record Office. But they will also be used by a local playwright, John Townsend, to create a community play which will be staged at the Chantry next April.

We are now well into the recording phase of the project, and over the past few weeks, I have had the privilege of meeting some extraordinary people from Martley, Clifton and the Teme Valley, many of them in their 90s but with clear and vivid memories. Amongst many other things I have learnt how to make 'proper' hay ricks, how to find a curlew's nest, how to hunt for eels, pick hops, balance at the top of a 30 foot ladder, harness a cart horse, salt a pig, and make butter in an

old sweet jar.

One lady, born in 1919, told me how as a young girl she used to ride to Worcester to collect cows or horses from the train, and then herd or lead them back to the farm through the city streets and country lanes. Another, born the same year, remembers finishing her day's work in the fields pulling beet and then cycling 10 miles – two to a bike – to dances in the nearest village hall.

Bert Bradley, currently Chairman of Clifton's Parish Council, recalled his school days in Martley. The class room had high windows so you couldn't see who was coming into the village, but you could tell who it was by the sound of their vehicle. The most welcoming sound was that of the Eldorado man.

"He came from Worcester with the icecream box on his bike, and he would try to get to Martley at lunch time or when you were coming out of school. I think he had a uniform and a peak cap. To keep the ice cream cool ... he had a block of solid ice with something in there. You could put a little bit of this stuff on your hand but if you left it, it would burn, not like a burn mark but like a nicotine mark – the stuff that they used to keep the thing cold." Bert also remembers the circus coming to Martley and rushing to the field by the Crown to get first glimpse of the animals. The elephants, he recalls, gorged themselves on apples from the surrounding orchards.

These few examples are just the tip of

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In the Garden



In the garden in July

July weather is, generally, warm and dry, so it is important to keep up with the watering. If you are going away, remember to ask a friend or neighbour to keep an eye on your plants.

Now is the time to prune conifer hedges; regular trimming produces dense growth. Large-leaved evergreens like laurel should be pruned using secateurs to avoid cutting through the leaves. This makes pruning a long job so you probably need to tackle it in stages. Remove the long whippy growths on wisteria at the end of the month; cut them to within 5 or 6 buds of the main stem to encourage plenty of flower buds to form.

Deadheading plants helps flowering to continue. Keep picking sweet peas and dahlias and trim herbs to remove flower heads and produce dense, bushy plants. Cut flowers for drying. Remove faded blooms from roses and pick up any fallen leaves infected with blackspot, my nominated 'problem of the month'. Rose blackspot is a fungal infection which affects only roses; it weakens, but rarely kills, the plant. Fungicides are effective but need to be

applied regularly, not just once. The fungus gets back into the soil from the fallen leaves so you are unlikely to get rid of it permanently.

Prune summer fruiting raspberries as soon as they finish cropping by cutting the canes which have fruited back to ground level. Red and white currants and gooseberries are due for pruning at the end of the month. Remove old, discoloured leaves from strawberries and water the plants well. Healthy new leaves will soon grow. If you want more plants next year, peg down a few runners, no more than three per plant. Vegetables need to be kept well-watered. Those particularly likely to suffer in a drought are lettuce, runner beans and brassicas.



Top tips for containers

Big containers will dry out less quickly. Line the pots with bubble wrap plastic to insulate them and to reduce water loss from clay pots. Include slow-release fertiliser pellets and water-retaining granules in the compost. Group pots together and keep them well-watered.

Gardens open for charity in July

July 12 Worlds End Nurseries, Hallow. July 12 Wick Village nr. Pershore, a group of ten gardens. July 25,26, Orleton House,Stanford Bridge. Another great visit in July is Snowhill lavender fields. Mid-late July is usually the peak of flowering, and the harvest generally starts in the last week of the month.

JC



Church Words

The Rectory 01886 888664

Reading through the old church magazine of 1909 it told of an Infant School pupil teacher, Dorothy Young, having passed her examination in the 4th year and having gained the status of being “provisionally certificated”. It goes on to say that she deserves our best congratulations on having persevered and succeeded without the advantages of classes and competition that they have in more populous places.

Many of those at high school, college or university will have just completed many exams. All will be hoping they have passed and we do wish them well in their efforts and hope that their hopes will be realised. When we leave school we may hope that there will be no more exams and tests, yet it seems there are always more to be gained. We are always learning. I recently met with a group of people who were studying for MA’s and some of them were nearing if not already retired, the desire to learn had not diminished. May we always be ready to learn from the lessons of life, whatever our age.

The Book of Proverbs holds teaching

and instruction in high esteem, and in particular the teaching from God that we find in scripture. “Keep my commands, guard my teachings, bind them to you, write them on your heart”. (Proverbs 7). Whatever you achieve in the academic world, I pray we all may graduate in that university of life as God guides and directs our ways. Jesus himself, we are told, grew in stature and learned much that people held him in high esteem, yet he passed on this wisdom with all humility. (Luke 2)

I wish you well in your exam results and whatever you may hope to do in the future may you reach your goals.

God bless

Rev David Sherwin



Historic Churches Annual Cycle Ride

This is a rallying call to all cyclists in the Benefice! Please volunteer to participate in the annual sponsored cycle ride, which generates precious funds for the Worcestershire and Dudley Historic Churches Trust. The Trust plays a vital role in the life of the church by awarding grants for the preservation, repair, maintenance and improvement of any Christian church in the Worcestershire Diocese.

Please could those who will be willing to ride on Saturday 12 September telephone me as soon as possible and I will arrange to issue them with the sponsorship papers when these are available. In addition, I would be most grateful if someone in each parish could offer to take care of the pre- and post-event paperwork, including the collation and despatch of monies raised.

As many will know, the late Hugh Popplewell gave unstinting support to this charity, pedalling countless miles and raising significant amounts. Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors and Hugh's drive, we have been able to send substantial cheques each year. As a tribute to him, can we make sure that we achieve a big turnout this year and in future years?

Please telephone Rev David Sherwin 01886 888664 for info; Brian Woodburn 01886 888796 for Martley and Wichenford cyclists and for LTV cyclists Chris Baker 01905 333225.



Church services for July—the list of services is not available to The Villager at the time of writing, so please contact the clergy or churchwardens for information.

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the iceberg. I have recorded about 20 hours of material so far, and am still looking for more. If you know of anyone who really ought to be recorded, or you yourself have memories stretching back to the 30s, 40s or 50s, then please get in touch. We would particularly like to hear from anyone who was a midwife or district nurse in the area, anyone who sang or played in a band touring the village halls, anyone who was a prisoner of war and stayed on, or anyone who worked for an agricultural committee during the war.

Help in Other Areas

We also need help in other areas. Firstly, transcribing some of the interviews. This requires good typing and listening skills but is very rewarding. Secondly, is there someone out there who could give some time and expertise to help design a web page for the project?

We have been very lucky to receive funding from Worcestershire County Council to carry out 'Harvesting the Past'. I hope we can provide a real insight into rural life in this area half a century ago, and inspire today's youngsters to understand, value and relish these stories from the past.

Julia Letts, Oral History Producer

Please get in touch by emailing Julia.letts@virgin.net or calling the project researcher, Sue Broome, on 01299 251512.



Village Contacts



Editor of The Villager	Michelle Higgins editor@martley.org or 01886 888344 or leave articles at Martley Post Office
Advertise in The Villager	Aileen Parker—01886 888456
Church (Worcestershire West Rural Team)	<i>Rector:</i> Revd David Sherwin—01886 888664 or davidwin56@aol.com <i>Curate:</i> Revd Bruce Thomson—01886 888098 <i>Assistant Priest:</i> Revd Jennifer Whittaker—01886 833897
Martley Parish Council	<i>Chair:</i> Dave Cropp—01886 888398; <i>Clerk:</i> Sally Williams—01299 832949
Martley WI	<i>President:</i> Helen CoombeyJones—01886 888294
Martley & District Horticultural Society	Pam Minchin—01886 888521 or Margaret Jackson—01886 888654
Royal British Legion	Joyce Tyler—01886 821551
Martley Ramblers	Harry King—01886 888439
Martley Young Farmers	Lou Wickens—01886-812754 or Caroline Bullock—01905-333617
Path-or-Nones	John Nicklin—01886 888318 johnn@martley.org
Resource Centre	Alan Boon—01886 888527
Police “Surgery”	CSO Matt Smith 7184—Martley Local Policing Team Tenbury Wells Police Station extn. 3581
Martley Website	webmaster@martley.org
Martley Web Mesh	Richard Jackman—01886 821237 richard@martley.org John Layton—01886888460 johnl@martley.org Tom Pearsall—01886 888256 tom@martley.org
Martley Pre-School	Kath/Lucy—01886 889127 www.martleypreschool.co.uk
Wichenford contacts for The Villager	Janet Andrews—01886 888303 or Sheila Richards—01886 888378
Kenswick & Wichenford Parish Council	Clerk—Shirley Sanders 01886 888302
Wichenford Wine Club	Chairman—Bill Hylan 01886 888431

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 ...

Enjoy films?

**Then sign up for the Little
Witley Film Society SEASON
TICKET for only £30.00!**

Benefits include:

1 FREE show

End of Season party!

Help plan programmes

Contact: *Jean Latham* on

01886 888122

or *Bob Jose* on 01886 888383.

Mobile Library

Ockeridge

Silver Oaks 9.45–10.05

Wichenford

Malvern View 10.10–10.35

Church 10.45–11.05

Kings Green Farm 11.15–11.40

Rosses Green 11.45–12.05

Martley Hillside

Horn Lane Bungalows 12.10–12.25

Martley

Taylors of Martley 12.30–12.45

LUNCH

Heaton House 1.20–1.50

Church. 1.55–2.15

Clifton

Village Hall 2.30–3.50

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

7 & 28 Oct 2009 18 Nov 2009

9 & 30 Dec 2009

Any enquiries should be made to Stourport Library, Worcester Street, Stourport, Worcs DY13 8EH, tel: 01299-822866, stourportmobile@worcestershire.gov.uk