

The Villager

The community magazine for the parishes of Martley and Wichenford

Volume 20 No. 1

June 2010

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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

Martley & Villages Carers' Group: 1st

Monday in the month 10.30-12.30 Heaton House.

Tuesdays

Short Mat Bowling: 2.00pm Martley Memorial Hall

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

Martley Toddler Group: 1st and 3rd Tuesdays (term time) 10.30am 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 p. 27 for details of services

See articles 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



To Those Who Go Along and get the Job Done

Thank you to those who go along and get the job done. You deserve recognition. For the work carried out on the children's play area: thank you Michael and Lil Morris and Gordon and Sheila Griffiths, Eddie Murphy (who also cleared the rubbish from the Millennium Green) and Lionel Minchin. To these few senior citizens who toil tirelessly raising funds for football kits, supplying refreshments to the players, laundering the kit and arranging bingo games and raffles – thank you.

C. Roberts

Village Hall News

News update

The hall is currently being used for quite a variety of events and we are glad to see that villagers are using the facilities available to them.

The committee is glad to announce that Neil Stammers has kindly taken on the role of "our maintenance man" for the village hall. We are most grateful to him for his continued support and commitment to ensure

that the hall is kept safe and comfortable. There is now a book in the foyer for anyone using the hall to make comments or observations regarding any general repairs needed – so please do use it. (or email – villagehall@martley.org)

Social Events

Don't forget to pop along to our fundraising event on Saturday 5 June at 7.30pm for our "My Fair Lady Ascot Day". We'd like to invite local business to sponsor a race please. How about Taylor's of Martley Challenge Cup, the General Store Sweep and the Crown Pub Chase? Come along and dress up for the occasion!

Further events planned are for Table Top Sale in October and our Christmas Fair on 5 December.

Booking the hall

After many years of diligent service, John Woolley has decided to stand down as booking secretary. The committee are grateful to him for the service he has given. While the committee considers a long term solution, please contact Dave Cropp on 01886 888398 or dvecro@dialstart.net about bookings.

Martley 100 Club

April winner was Mr Derek Pugh with number 5 - who won £40.00. There will be two numbers pulled out of the bag for the month of June £60 and £30.

Annette Smith, Secretary



Teme Valley Views from the Teme Valley Children's Centre

National Breastfeeding Week 2010
National Breastfeeding Awareness Week, supported by Teme Valley Children's Centre, runs from 21–27 June 2010 and aims to promote the importance and benefits of breastfeeding. Run annually since 1993 by the Department of Health, this is a key event for promoting breastfeeding. The campaign aims to raise awareness of the health benefits of breastfeeding, increase social acceptance of breastfeeding and promote support for breastfeeding. The organisers hope that women will recognise their right to breastfeed at any time, in any place and also that their friends, family and healthcare professionals provide the support they require. Breast milk gives babies all the nutrients they need for the first six months of life. Breastfeeding allows the mother and baby to get closer, both physically and emotionally. Women who breastfeed return to their pre-pregnancy figure faster. Breastfeeding helps protect your baby against:

- Infections: ear, gastrointestinal, chest, urine infections
- Diseases: childhood diabetes, eczema, obesity, asthma.

Breastfeeding helps protect mothers against:

- ovarian cancer
- breast cancer
- weak bones later in life.

For more information on breastfeeding or events being held during National Breastfeeding week please contact the Children's Centre on (01886) 812982 or see www.nhs.co.uk

Martley Ramblers

**2pm 13 June Church Car Park and
7 pm 24 June Hillend Cottage**

As ramblers at the AGM suggested having more local walks, we have tried to do that and we have TWO this month. How about that?

Pam Bowers will be leading on 13 June around Martley and Wichenford and then there is the Midsummer evening one on Thursday 24 June. This walk will start and finish at Hillend Cottage, Pudford Lane. Keep your fingers crossed for as lovely an evening as we had last year.

Kate King



Martley WI

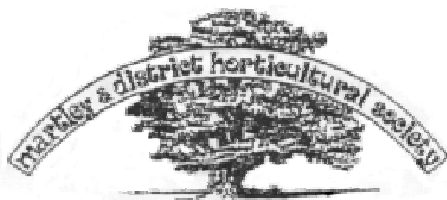
9 June 7pm Stoneybridge House

Reg Snow has very kindly invited us again to his lovely home and garden for our garden meeting this month.

Hopefully, the weather will be kinder than last year, although the rain did not spoil the happy evening. Note the earlier start, and here is a list: please bring a garden chair in case we can sit outside, a plate of eats for supper, a rose for the competition, objects for the fun auction (all those things somebody else will be desperate to buy) and last but certainly not least, bring family, friends, husbands and partners to join us.

Many thanks to Sheila Craker for arranging the annual dinner at the Granary, Collington. It was a most enjoyable meal in a lovely setting and a chance to relax and chat. We are still debating where to go for our summer outing in August, so watch this space. Lastly, but very importantly, congratulations to our very own Julia Roberts for being re-elected County Chairman for a second year. Didn't she do well?

Kate King



Martley and District Horticultural Society

April's meeting began with our Chairman welcoming four new members – our fame must be spreading! Next came Jane Cropp's topical tips, the first being news of a large pile of conifer bark chippings up

for grabs at Broomfield's Farm Shop. Then Jane showed members a very useful tool called a 'podger' (available at Laylocks) - it is brilliant for removing dandelions etc by the roots. Lastly she advised harvesting Hellebore seeds now from their pods and sow them straight away (if dark, not green) but beware of the sap – it's toxic.

This month's Black Bag: Mike Dunnett produced three samples of evergreen flowering shrubs: Viburnum Burkwoodii, Phillyrea Decora, and Skimmia Kew Green, all scented and 'shade happy'.

Mike then welcomed the speaker – Andrew Gagg, his talk entitled 'How to photograph flowers'. A member of the Garden Writers' Guild and a very experienced photographer of plants in their own habitat, he has provided pictures for books, magazines, calendars and on seed catalogues and packets – he has visited several countries for this purpose. He prefers 'a thin veil of cloud' across the sun for light, but carefully described using all sorts of aids for good pictures – even a white hat and white golf umbrella! Cameras must be capable of close-ups; and he explained how to get the best out of the camera. His last bit of advice – keep the best and bin the rest! It was a most interesting evening.

The Spring Show made a handsome profit this year! June's meeting is a visit to Broadheath Allotments (with strawberries and cream!). 16-20 June is BBC Gardeners' World Live at the NEC, Birmingham. Everyone is

looking forward to the Wisley Trip on 17 July (details later). There is an 'Evening Garden' meeting on 29 July.

Tina Steele

Pensax Thrift Shop

A sale and large raffle will be held in aid of Help for Heroes at the Village Hall (on the B4202) from 9am till 11am on Wednesday 14 July. Items to be donated for the Sale are now being accepted on any Wednesday morning during Thrift Shop. For further details please phone Nerys on 01299832388.

May Day Fair

Saturday 1 May was the date of the 1940's-themed May Day Fair celebration of the Harvesting the Past oral history project. Held at The Chantry High School, the fair was sponsored by Generations Together with Youth Support Worcester, the school and the police. Although the weather was damp and cloudy, visitor numbers and enthusiasm were high. Local producers offered herbs, freshly-baked organic bread, preserves and more and the school's Young Enterprise team were out in force once again—we saw them at the Horticultural Society Spring Show in March. The Museum on the Move told visitors about memory and our brains, there were sporting activities and the mobile library, Neighbourhood Watch, hot pork rolls, ice-cream, face-painting, a tarot readings (just for fun), an entertainer tying balloons into animal shapes, a vintage carousel and an interesting car that looked hand-

built (but I didn't track down the owner). The County Record Office had an interesting exhibition of memorabilia, sound-clips from the oral history project, a film show and some very knowledgeable people manning the stand. My favourite part was the cream teas with lashings of scrummy cream and home-made jams to accompany the delicious scones and cakes, and I am sorry if I have missed anyone off. It was an event well worth attending. Photos on the Marltey website.

MSH



MWM AGM

On 23 April, Marltey Web Mesh held its AGM and several members attended. Chair Richard Jackman told members that the membership has increased considerably over the last year, but that the small band of volunteers had pretty much reached its capacity for supporting the service, making it harder to expand the service. Much of the original equipment had recently been replaced and updated, due mainly to funds from a grant obtained in the previous year, but also to the growing membership. The service offered is now excellent in quality and has the capacity to spread further to offer the web mesh Internet service to even more people—if MWM could only get some more help on board. *(To find out about MWM to sign up or help in some way, see details of the Contacts list on p. 28—Editor)*

MSH

Martley Parish Council

Unapproved edited draft record of the meeting held on **Monday 12 April 2010** at the Memorial Hall. There were 9 members of the public present.

The Democratic Period/Public Question Time

Data Link (see *Parish Council Notices* below for details): the Clerk will obtain 50 packs and communicate with local doctors' surgeries, stores, Nora Parsons Day Centre and Heaton House to distribute Data Link where needed. Simon Jones, Malvern Hills District Planning Officer, answered general planning questions from parishioners. PC Hood confirmed that the police will be using the weighbridge more once the renovation work is complete. He reported further damage to the pavilion, a recent burglary at the sawmills, fuel thefts in Nash Close, machinery taken from Ross Farm, attempted theft at Cob House Fisheries and a number of cannabis plants that were found in a property in Nash Close. He will arrange to circulate registration numbers and cars they are looking for via the Central Garage, Martley. The meeting was opened at 20:50 pm.

Minutes:

It was resolved to accept the minutes as a true record.

Outstanding actions from previous minutes:

The Grant Adviser at Worcester County Council is looking at grants appropriate for the proposed metal plate for the milestone, the play area

and signs designed sometime ago by The Chantry High School pupils. Copies of the letter and fault report have been sent to John Wallace at Worcester County Council. John has confirmed receipt of both documents and is now looking into matters raised. The Clerk has written to Millennium Green committee regarding the bin. The Clerk advertise the councillor vacancy.

Progress reports:

The Clerk. Martley is a designated 'poop scoop area' (See *Parish Council Notices* below). A 'No Through Road' sign has been ordered for Pudford Lane, to be fitted in 8 weeks. The Clerk will add Freedom of Martley nominations to the agenda for the next meeting. The lettering for the boards has been approved by The Chair. Any parishioners with concerns about the burning of waste are urged to refer the matter to Environmental Officers at Worcester County Council or in writing to Martley Parish Council.

Lengthsman. The rolling three-month contract is now in use; the salary will remain at £10 per hour. References for Mr Passey have been requested and will remain on file.

Weighbridge. A cheque for £750 has been received from the police and renovation work will in the next two weeks. The Parish Council will pay the outstanding invoice to British Gas for the electricity. The Clerk will approach other electricity suppliers for quotes on standing monthly electricity charges.

Potholes, drains and bins. The Clerk

will address some of the identified issues next month and will laminate a map for the notice board.

District and County Councillors' reports:

District Cllr. Williams confirmed that the new recycling scheme started on the 5 April. She stated that a recent report commissioned by the council had shown the full effect of rural deprivation in the district. Whilst the district is generally regarded as affluent, with relatively high levels of income and low levels of unemployment and a whole range of other positive indicators, research covering areas with roughly 150 people and about the size of a single postcode, shows that the picture is quite different, especially in rural areas. 46% of these areas are in the worst 10% nationally for geographical barriers to service. By definition, that accounts for almost half the population. Looking at the worst 10 deprived areas in more detail, they are characterised as follows when compared to the rest of the district: fewer young people and more older people; more single-pensioner households and more lone-parent households; twice as many live in social or private rented housing; more live in caravans or mobile homes; there is more overcrowding and more homes without central heating; unemployment is higher and more people are economically inactive; more adults have no qualifications at all and fewer have degrees; more have limiting long-term illness; more have

no car or van; all are more than 10km from a job centre; all are more than 6km from a GP or secondary school. These rural areas contain significant numbers of people who are deprived in a variety of ways but are usually overlooked and hidden by the general affluence of the district. So the big question is: what should the council be doing to help address these inequalities? County Cllr. Davies sent his apologies.

Planning:

New

10/00375/CLE White Cottage, Kingswood, Martley - Application for a Certificate of Lawfulness for an Existing Development - siting of dwelling not in accordance with planning permission 03/01087/FUL.

10/00280/LBC Bar Furlongs, Berrow Green, Martley - Demolition of conservatory and single storey extension to rear (amendment to 09/01326/LBC).

10/00217/HOU Bar Furlongs, Berrow Green, Martley - Demolition of conservatory and single storey extension to rear (amendment to 09/01325/HOU).

Have not received any paperwork for these applications.

Pending

10/00126/FUL Barn adjacent to Hillside Farm, Hillside – Proposed agricultural implement storage building.

Withdrawn by applicant

09/01604/OUT Outline application for development of land with 83 dwellings, including 33 affordable

dwellings and 2 live work units. Provision of new doctors surgery and parking (to be shared with the Crown Public House) Open space and pavilion. All matters reserved except access.

Permitted

10/00187/HOU 18 Mortlake Drive - Single storey front and rear extensions.

10/00105/FUL Rodge Hill Farm – Change of use and alterations to one bay of existing agricultural barn. Installation of pipe work trenches 1m deep to serve ground source heat pump.

Refused

No refusals.

Speed signs:

The Clerk is to arrange a demonstration by 3M and stated that no funding is available from Safety Camera Partnership.

Finance:

Items included: lengthsman salary will be £10 per hour for 2010/2011.

Councillors' Reports and Items for Future Agendas:

The Clerk is to find out if curbs can be dropped at the junction of Mortlake Drive and Vernon Close. The Clerk is to speak to John Nicklin regarding the finger post at Hill Top Farm. The Clerk is to speak to Wichenford Parish Council Clerk regarding overgrown hedges. Cllr. Stammers attended the Village Hall AGM and gave The Chair a list of 14 items to be addressed such as fire door, lights, etc. Cllr. Stammers confirmed that the Village Hall Committee has received a grant

which will enable them to change the heating. John Woolley has retired from the Village Hall committee and in the meantime any hall bookings will be made to Annette Smith via e-mail. (Note – Dave Cropp is acting as temporary bookings officer – Editor)

Date of next meeting:

The next meeting will be held on Monday 10 May 2010 and will be the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council.

Parish Council Notices

Message in a Bottle

If you were to suffer an accident or sudden illness at home, is there any medical information that people caring for you would need to know? In an emergency, the level of care delivered to you by the emergency services could be compromised if they are unaware of essential medical or personal information. Data Link or Message in a Bottle is a scheme that works by storing information such as relevant illnesses, allergies, medication and contact details in a clearly-labelled container, which is stored in your fridge door. Labels are stuck to the outside of the fridge and to the inside of your front door to indicate that medical details can be found in the fridge. The Clerk to Martley Parish Council (Sally Williams) is getting some packs that contain the bottles and labels. If you, or someone you know, would like a pack please call or e-mail Sally and she will arrange for one to be sent to you in the post. Sally's contact details are sally@mamble.org or 01299

832949.

Neighbourhood Watch

Martley is looking to revive it's Neighbourhood Watch and is looking for volunteers who have some spare time to help the community. If you would be interested in helping in any way, please contact Sally Williams, Clerk to Martley Parish Council either on 01299 832949 or at sally@mamble.org.

Dogs Fouling of Land Act

Martley Parish Council would like to remind local dog owners that Martley is a designated poop-scoop area under the Dogs (Fouling of Land) Act 1996 and as such dog waste must be picked up and disposed of appropriately. This Act applies to any land which is open to the air and to which the public are entitled or permitted to have access (with or without payment). A local authority may by order designate any land in their area to which this Act applies.

Martley's Past

Parish Council Meeting, 13 August 1943: "Housing, Post-War Programme.

A letter from the RDC was read relating to a request by the Ministry of Health on a Post War Housing Plan.

The County War Agricultural Committee had suggested that 16 houses should be erected in the Parish, 12 near Crown Inn and 4 near Prickley Green.

The RDC asked for observations on the number of houses suggested, and also would be glad to learn of any

sites considered suitable.

The matter was thoroughly discussed and it was thought that the number of houses was thought to be adequate, but that they should be more widely dispersed throughout the parish; as follows:

1. 2 Houses opposite to main entrance to The Noak.
2. 2 opposite to the back drive to The Noak.
3. 2 opposite to the Memorial Hall.
4. 2 on land at Berrow Green, about 150yds from Admiral Rodney Hotel.
5. 2 on land in Horn Lane near Hillside end of the lane.
6. 2 at Prickley Green near Prickley Green Farm.
7. 2 opposite the Chantry Hall on Glebe land.
8. 2 near Upper Hollins Farm on North side of road.

(In each case the landowner was named.) It was agreed that these suggestions be forwarded to the Martley Rural District Council."

Does anyone know how many, if any, of these suggestions were adopted? Or were they all built around Nash Close and Hollins Lane?

Alan Boon

Martley Library Opening Times

Monday 2—7 pm

Wednesday 4—6 pm

Thursday 10am -1 pm

Friday 2 - 4 pm

Saturday 10am -12 noon

01886 888396 (*opening hours only*)



Over the Garden Wall in Wichenford

WICHENFORD NEEDS YOUR NEWS

Janet Andrews

01886 888303

Sheila Richards

01886 888378



Church Flowers

6 June All Age Worship Team

13 June Mrs Weatherall

20 June Mrs Whyatt

27 June Mrs Whyatt

Wichenford PCC AGM

At the Annual Meeting of the Parochial Church Council Revd. David Sherwin gave his thanks and gratitude for the work all through the year done by Marion and Derrick Jinks, who keep both church and churchyard in such perfect condition, together with those who regularly do the flowers, clean the brasses and the men who clean the tower each year. These are the unseen folk that quietly help to keep our church in good condition. They are very much appreciated.

Pam Webb

Millennium Green

The AGM and General Meeting of the Wichenford Millennium Green was held on the 13 April. Trustees remain as Georgina Britten Long, Dixon Stinton, Heather Rendall, David

Woodward, Alistair Webster. Richard Hawkins is our Treasurer.

Martin O'Toole looks after the maintenance and upkeep of the Green weekly during the summer months, and volunteers on a rota check the equipment and the Green year round on a monthly basis. This last year Kate Webster looked after the Green for six months as part of her Duke of Edinburgh Award – thank you Kate.

The Green costs about £1200 to run each year in maintenance and insurance etc, which is funded by the Wichenford 100 Club, ably run by Heather Rendall over the past few years, and Bill Hylan, who retired last year. Heather wants to hand over the admin to someone else: it is not an onerous task in maintaining the records, collating the subscriptions every September/October, doing the monthly draw and reporting the winner to The Villager each month. We are looking for someone to take over this simple but very important job - (knowledge of Excel an advantage!) – it doesn't take long, and is vital in maintaining the income

for the Millennium Green; and every month there is a cash winner somewhere in the Parish!

Someone has stolen the picnic table from the Green – probably nothing other than a pathetic prank – so maybe they would like to be really brave and put it back without anyone noticing. If they don't, we will have to replace it, and concrete in to the ground to stop it happening again. Dogs have been fouling on the Green, and worse – some has been found in the bark in the swings area where children jump off. If this happens again we shall have no option but to ban dogs from the Green completely. Please make sure you take your poo-bags with you if you have a dog, and put the package in the bin by the gate.

GBL

Ladies Fellowship

The next meeting of the Ladies Fellowship is on 15 June at 2.30 at the home of Mrs Banks.

Wanted! Photos or Postcards ... of Wichenford and Martley of Yesteryear

The Wichenford Local Heritage Group will be manning a stall at the Village Fête on Saturday 24 July. We would LOVE to see (and perhaps be allowed to copy: we will have a photocopier with us) any photos or postcards you may have that show events or people of Wichenford or Martley. All eras are of interest from the 1980s backwards to the 19th century. Old newspaper cuttings of

items of interest to the village or village families will also be welcome. Bring them along and add to the ever-increasing bank of local history.

We are also collecting information about the Bullock and the Holloway families who lived at Ruggs Place and Newlands Cottage (Ruggs Cottage) respectively. Any information about descendants of these families will be gratefully received. Thanks

Heather Rendall, 01886 888 239

Bluebell Ride in Wichenford

It was another beautiful spring day for the Bluebell ride in Wichenford on 25 April this year.

Over 150 riders arrived with horses (and riders) of all shapes and sizes and embarked enthusiastically on the 12-mile course. Some took the short cut options, some without horses walked, and all made it safely home, except for one poor lady whose horse decided that it had probably had enough, and left her in a field. Unfortunately she had to be collected by the Air Ambulance and taken to the hospital, but luckily the only damage was her pride and a few bruised ribs.

The bluebells did us proud and with a few days of hot sunshine in the days prior to the ride had come out in abundance.

The ride could not have taken place without the help of the Wichenford Farms team preparing the course and the jumps, Matthew and Pete monitoring the course all day, the Randall family checking everyone in and out, Carma and Helen who did the

refreshments, and all the helpers on the gate and road crossings. We will have raised nearly £3,000 and will be able to give money to the Memorial Hall, the Church, the Day Centre, St Richards Hospice and of course we have to support the very important Air Ambulance!

GBL

Wichenford 100 Club

April winners: No 124 N Mountjoy £75.00 and returned subscriptions to No. 208 Mr Smith and No. 115 S Murphy, drawn by B Sinclair. Congratulations to our 'drawer' this month; she managed to pick three numbers - well four actually but one was a free number - without any coincidences or connections or oddities. So for my last report on the draw - I am happy to announce that I shall be handing over the running of the 100 Club before the next draw - I can sigh with relief that we have three clear and uncontested winners.

Heather Rendall



Nora Parsons Day Centre

News from the Day Centre

A short update on what has been happening at the Day Centre recently and what is about to happen. With the demise of The Crown we had to find an alternative food supplier and we are now having food from The Clockhouse in Tenbury. The meals we have had so far have been absolutely excellent – no complaints.

Painting classes have recommenced thanks to the kindness of Margaret Lloyd-James; Extend exercise classes continue to be enjoyed by all. We have had very interesting talks by Alan Boon on “One Man’s Lucky War” and Brian Draper on “The Rivers” – both of which were enjoyed immensely by the members. We continue to have musical entertainment and were very fortunate to be entertained by Deborah Hodgson who has recently moved to Martley – she was so good that one of the members acted as her “roadie” and helped her with her bags to the car! We will be listening to Deb’s magical voice again I am sure.

Fund raising

Now to fund raising – we held a very successful bingo session just before Easter and ran an Easter raffle. Jointly these events brought in £1000. Sounds a lot of money but the volunteers have to raise around £4000 per year to enable the Centre to continue.

We have been successful in raising funds through grants and have recently been awarded a grant to create a “garden area” behind the Day Centre. Currently this area is rather derelict but we plan to create a shaded area for sitting, bird feeders and raised beds so that any member who has green fingers but is unable to get out at home, can garden in safety. We have also received a grant to provide “activities” for members – A Wii being one item. Our Chairman, Rev Sherwin, has promised to come along and play!

Future Events:

The AGM will be held at the Day Centre on 9 June at 7.30pm. Everyone is welcome. Come along and meet Cath Mackie (BBC Midlands Today) our Patron.

Open Coffee Morning – 15 July 10.30am – 12 noon. Again everyone is more than welcome to come along have a coffee and home made cake and see how the Centre operates. Cath is hoping to be with us again on that morning.

Janet Dale, Secretary

Wichenford Fete

This year the fete will be on Saturday 24 July, at 2.00pm at Wichenford Memorial Hall. Put it in your diary now!

Wichenford Memorial Hall

As the Memorial Hall is a registered charity, it is of paramount importance that there is continuation of responsible officers. The outgoing officers, myself, Peter Andrews and Margaret Fisher have ensured that there were elected officers to take our places before we retired. We would never have left the committee leaderless.

At the 2009 AGM I, the vice chairman and secretary stated that we would take office for one further year only, but in spite of nomination forms being sent to the Memorial Hall Management Members six weeks before the 2010 AGM on 10 March, no nominations were received. As chairman at that meeting, I stated that

I would chair a special meeting in one month's time with the purpose of electing chairman, vice chairman and secretary. The meeting was held on 12 April, although I had still received no nominations. At the meeting I asked for nominations from the floor, and after discussion, officers were elected as follows: Chairman – Paul Furber, Vice-Chairman – Keith Webb, Secretary – Georgina Britten-Long to be assisted by Paula Cox when necessary, Treasurer – Paula Cox.

The outgoing officers wish the new officers and their committee every success for the future.

Dixon Stinton, Retired Chairman

Tea Party and Open Garden

**In aid of
Help for Heroes**

**At
Keepers Lodge, Wichenford
By kind permission of Mrs E
E Britten**

**Sunday 13 June 2010
2-6pm
Entrance £6 to include
Scrummy Tea**

Harvesting the Past

A big thank you to all of you who came and watched the play 'Back Across the Fields' at the Chantry High School and who supported our May Day Fair on Saturday 1 May. It has been a tremendously busy, exciting and emotional time for everyone involved in the play and the Harvesting the Past project.

I must also thank everyone who has freely given their time and expertise: to the teachers at The Chantry who have worked so hard over the past few weeks, the cast, the backstage crew, the musicians, the primary school children who danced so beautifully, the parents who've ferried their offspring to and from rehearsals for months, the people who've helped with publicity, promotion and transcription, those that helped with the Harvesting the Past stand at the fair including the irrepressible 'Sheila' who led our sing-along.

The play, created by John Townsend from the oral history recordings I made last summer in Martley and the Teme Valley, was something special. It was a complicated production - mixing acting with live music, dance, audio, and film - and had a large mixed cast, ranging in age from 7 to 88. It was full of humour and emotion, very slick and very true to the original material.

Most of all though, it really meant something to those involved and those watching it. Here are a few words written to me by the youngsters in the

cast: *"It meant a great deal to us, that we were picked to be responsible for telling the tales of what really happened here 70 years back, and it's an experience that we will never forget. We were all so happy to see that it meant so much to the elderly people that were involved and the people that came to watch it. It's safe to say that these memories will stick with us for the rest of our lives."*

We set out on this project to create an archive for the Worcestershire Record Office reflecting farming life in this area in the 1930s-50s, and to share this heritage with the younger generation. We've gone a long way to achieving those aims—but I still see this as the beginning, not the end. Please keep the stories coming.

The Harvesting the Past Archive will be available to the public in the Record Office in a few weeks' time. We also have a small display with audio that can come to venues such as day centres, community halls and schools. Please contact me if you want to book it. There is also the Harvesting the Past CD, containing 70 minutes of extracts from the interviews mixed with folk music. It is an inspiring listen. There will also be a DVD of the play which is currently being edited but will be available by the time you read this. Both CD and DVD will be on sale at the school office or by contacting me.

Julia Letts
Julia.letts@virgin.net

A Popular Landlord

One morning in August 1883, Mr John Hill, Landlord of The Crown Inn, Martley, and a friend, went on a visit to Worcester (horse-drawn transport of course). They called at The Bell, Broadheath on the way for a quick whisky and in the course of the day, Mr Hill topped up with glasses of beer and more whisky. During their journey home they called again at The Bell and at The Dewdrop where the two had cider. At the Masons' Arms whisky and soda was consumed. When the friend dropped Mr Hill off outside The Crown that evening, it was said by some that he was drunk, others that he was not (!) but he certainly did attract a lot of attention from his conduct in the road there. PC Giles (very handy for this incident, being on duty by the Workhouse and probably residing in Rectory Cottage) rapidly became of the 'WAS' opinion. However, when the case came up the following month, Mr Hill's supporters got it dismissed, but Mr Hill got PC Giles and another officer (PC Hayes) on charges of perjury. Again case dismissed – insufficient evidence!! There were great festivities at The Crown when Mr and Mrs Hill retired shortly afterwards. A bellman had gone round the whole village – at least 170 children sat down for a very nice tea, also nuts, apples and buns. Songs were sung and hearty cheers given for the couple. A few days later 120 women (age range 16-85) were treated to still more substantial fare. They all

took their own cups! Martley Brass Band was in attendance; there was dancing etc till 10pm when the company (swelled to nearly 400) quietly dispersed.

The inhabitants of Martley presented Mr Hill with a gold watch and a gold brooch for Mrs Hill – she is said to have been at The Crown for nearly 50 years. She sent money to the Workhouse inhabitants for tobacco etc. Later that year, Mr Hill was presented with a portrait of himself by members of Court Moncrieffe AOF. It was painted in oil by Mr Bennett of Worcester and mounted in a massive gold frame – 'a capital likeness'. Mr Lawson succeeded Mr Hill as Landlord.

Tine Steele

Correction: April's issue of The Villager said William V – it was William IV!

FERNDALE SINGERS Saturday 3 July 2010

at 7.30pm in

Martley Village Hall

Admission £5

(to include wine and light refreshments)



Christian Aid's Community Work in Zimbabwe

Revd. Bruce Thomson is drawing to a close his appeal for the people of Zimbabwe and Christian Aid's community development work. While training for the London Marathon, he covered hundreds of miles on the roads around Wichenford, Martley and Hallow. Unfortunately Bruce sustained an Achilles tendon injury that forced him to withdraw from the run on 25 April. The orthopaedic surgeon at Droitwich hospital said that "there was a high chance of an Achilles rupture" if he attempted the run. Bruce wants to thank all those who supported his appeal. He has raised just over £5000 so far and is aiming for £7500 as this would go a long way in Zimbabwe. So to give to Christian Aid's community work in Zimbabwe please either send Bruce a cheque made payable to Christian Aid to his home address (Wichenford Oak, Wichenford Worcs WR6 6YY) indicating if you are a tax payer so that gift aid can be added, or you can give on line at <http://original.justgiving.com/brucethomson>. Thank you.

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

Taylor's 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 in 2010:

16 June	7 July	28 July
18 August	8 September	
29 September	20 October	10 November
1 December	22 December	

Any enquiries should be made to Stourport Library, Worcester Street, Stourport, Worcs DY13 8EH, tel: 01905 822722 stourportmobile@worcestershires.gov.uk

Blues at The Fold

Blues at The Fold, the Festival of Blues with a large splash of green held at The Fold just outside Worcester, has announced its 2010 lineup. Featuring nationally-acclaimed musicians including The Trevor Burton Band, The Big Blues Tribe, The Dirty Robbers, The Cohen Brothers, Mumbo-Jumbo and more, the festival is on Saturday 3 July - doors open at 1pm and the music runs from 2-11pm. Tickets are £10 in advance and £12 on the gate. More details are available on www.bluesatthefold.co.uk

In the Garden



In the Garden in June

Warm weather means plants grow quickly, including weeds and grass, so you will probably need to spend extra time in the garden this month. Ideally you will have mulched in late April or May, but if you haven't, do it now; it will cut down the need for weeding and watering. June is often dry and watering will be one of the main jobs this month. Anything that is growing quickly such as beans, peas, lettuce and annual flowers, will need more water than well-established plants. For best results and least wastage, water in the evening or early morning. A thorough drenching is much better than regular light sprinkling, because drenching gets water right down to the roots. Ideally, sprinkle first so the surface is damp and the water doesn't simply run off, then soak, using 2-3 gallons for a shrub, 5 gallons for a tree, every ten days.

Prune Spring-flowering shrubs now and cut back Clematis montana. You can clear the last of the foliage from spring bulbs and if you have overcrowded clumps of daffodils you can lift and replant the bulbs. Primroses and primulas can still be divided but be sure to keep the new plants well watered. By the end of the month, bedding plants in containers

will need feeding if they are to keep flowering well.

June is also a busy time in the fruit garden. Thin out fruits on apples, pears and plums and prune plum and cherry trees. Pin down a few runners from strawberry plants to provide new plants next year.

This is also a peak month for garden visits: Treetops, 28 Hallow Lane, Lower Broadheath, is open 19,20 June. Moors Meadow, Collington (4 miles from Bromyard) 14 June 14, and The Bannut, Bringsty, 6 June.

JC

Transition Martley

In the May issue of *The Villager*, Angie Hill introduced readers to the concept of "transition". A Transition Initiative is a community-lead response to the pressures of climate change, fossil-fuel depletion and economic contraction. There are thousands of initiatives around the world starting their journey to answer the crucial question: for all those aspects of life that this community needs in order to sustain itself and thrive, how do we significantly lessen our dependency on oil, mitigate the effects of economic contraction and drastically reduce carbon emissions to mitigate the effects of climate change? So you will be interested to know that there is now a Transition page on the Martley website (martley.org.uk). We hope it will become a focal point for local ideas and information.

M Higgins



Church Words

The Rectory 01886 888664

June already! For me it is the month of sport: especially tennis—Wimbledon. There's also Ascot and, this year, the World Cup in South Africa. It's all about winning isn't it? ... We all want England to win the World Cup even if we're not great football fans, Worcester Warriors (oh dear!) and the cricket team to win their respective leagues. Sport is fun but it's also serious; we can get very passionate about it. Bill Shankly once said: 'Some people think football is a matter of life or death—I assure you it's much more serious than that.' I take sport seriously when I'm playing, being one of those termed 'competitive', but, let's be honest, there is more to life than sport. The passion we feel about something can pull us in, whip up our enthusiasm and take over our lives, but it has to be worth the sacrifice! For the first disciples of Jesus, this passion and enthusiasm were there. It's seen in the Bible in the accounts of their response to meeting the risen Christ on different occasions and coming to the realisation that he is really alive. They not only met and shared a meal with him but also, as they experienced the reality of the risen Christ, they recognised him as the bringer of life,

life in all its fullness. They could not stop talking about Jesus and all he had done for them and for us. Following Jesus and championing him is a matter of life and death. He gave his life for us on the Cross and his victory over death—his resurrection—offers us new life, the opportunity to live free from guilt and fear in the knowledge that he is alive, walking beside us on our journey through life. We may not be great sportsmen or women, not good enough to make the grade, but we can all be in his team. His is the one for which we don't have to qualify, for which we don't have to be better than everyone else. All that is required is a trust and a belief in him which enables a love and a passion for life, in and through him, to be born and grown in us. Fame and fortune may not be the result but the rewards are greater than a cup or a medal at the end of the season for he has already won and we are free to celebrate his victory and life everlasting, here and now. Will England win the World Cup? Can Andy Murray win Wimbledon? For that we will have to wait and see!

*Revd. Jennifer Whittaker
(Associate Priest)*

Services for June. For a full list of events, see leaflets in churches, their notice boards or the church page on martley.org.uk

Tue 1 June	10.00am Holy Communion, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
Wed 2 June	10.15am Morning Prayer, St Peter, Martley
Thu 3 June	9.00am Morning Prayer, St Laurence, Wichenford
SUN 6 JUNE	8.00am Holy Communion, Knightwick Chapel 10.30am Holy Communion, St Laurence, Wichenford 10.30 am Family Worship, St Peter, Martley 10.30am Morning Worship, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas 6.30pm Evensong, St Leonard, Cotheridge
Mon 7 June -	9.00am Morning Prayer, St Laurence, Wichenford
Tue 8 June	10.00am Morning Prayer, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
Wed 9 June	10.15am Holy Communion, Heaton House 7.30pm Nora Parsons Day Centre AGM with Cath Mackie
Thu 10 June	9.00am Morning Prayer, St Laurence, Wichenford
SUN 13 JUNE	8.00am Holy Communion, St Leonard, Cotheridge 10.30am Family Worship, St Laurence, Wichenford 10.30am Holy Communion, St Peter, Martley 10.30am Morning Prayer, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
Mon 14 June	8.30am Prayer Breakfast at Jennifers
Tue 15 June	10.00am Holy Communion, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
Wed 16 June	10.15am Morning Prayer, St Peter, Martley
Thu 17 June	9.00am Morning Prayer, St Laurence, Wichenford
SUN 20 JUNE	8.00am Holy Communion, St Peter, Martley
<i>Fathers Day</i>	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 June	9.00am Morning Prayer, St Peter, Martley
Tue 22 June	10.00 Morning Prayer, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
Wed 23 June	10.15am Holy Communion, Heaton House
Thu 24 June	9.00am Morning Prayer, St Laurence, Wichenford
SUN 27 JUNE	8.00am Holy Communion, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas 9.30am Holy Communion, St Peter, Martley 10.30am Family Worship, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas 10.30am Holy Communion, St Laurence, Wichenford 6.30pm Evening Worship, St Peter, Martley
Mon 28 June	9.00am Morning Prayer, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
Tue 29 June	10.00am Morning Prayer, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
Wed 30 June	10.15am Morning Prayer, St Peter, Martley



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> Cllr. D Goodyear—01886 888423; <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 Toddler Group	Will—01886 888340 or Jane—01886 888852
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
Martley Recreation Association (playing fields)	<i>Bookings</i> —Pat Owen 1886 888406 pat@owen01.fsnet.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
Wichenford Local Heritage Group	Heather Rendall—01886 888239

To put organisation and its contact details 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 ...

Raise some funds, why don't you?

Knightwick Surgery are entering a team comprising both staff and patients in the Race for Life at Worcester Racecourse on Sunday 13 June in aid of Cancer Research. We would be most grateful for sponsorship - either online at www.raceforlifesponsorme.org/knightwicksurgery or in person at Knightwick Surgery, Clifton Village Stores, Whitbourne Shop, The Talbot at Knightwick or The Admiral Rodney.

The fifth Acorns Triple Run is to take place at the Three Counties Showground on Sunday 6 June. This family event consists of three runs: the 'Malvern Half Marathon', the '5km Spring Fun Run' and a 1km wheelchair-friendly 'Chicken Run' suitable for children and adults with special needs. There are several ways you can help, although the deadline for race entries is now past. You can sponsor some friends or bring the family along to watch, and we would love to hear from you if you can volunteer on the day as a marshal. See www.acornstriplerun.org.uk or call the Triple Run Hotline on 0844 984 0405 or email triplerun@acorns.org.uk

An "Antiques Roadshow" at Birtsmorton Court, Malvern, on Sunday 11 July 12-4pm, will be raising money for St Richard's Hospice. This is an enchanting location to while away the afternoon, wandering around the grounds with a glass of Pimms. For tickets please contact Marilyn Peachey on 01905 763963 or email mpeachey@strichards.org.uk