

The Villager

The community magazine for the
parishes of Martley and Wichenford

Volume 15 No. 10

March 2007

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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

2nd Sunday in the month:

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

Mondays

1st Monday in the month:

Martley Parish Council 8pm Memorial Hall

Tuesdays

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

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

Wednesdays

Teme Valley Shufflers Line Dancing

7pm Martley Memorial Hall.

Enquiries: Jeff and Thelma 01886 821772

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

Martley WI: 2nd Wednesday in the month 7.30pm at 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

Weight Watchers

6.30 pm - 7.30 pm Martley Memorial Hall

Other events:

Citizens Advice Bureau Teme Valley

Telephone Service: Mon & Tue 10am—3pm Thu 10am—7.30pm **Great Willey**

& Knightwick Surgeries: Weds 10am - 4pm - by appt. 01584 810860

See Church Words for details of services

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

See the Diary page on

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

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

OUT AND ABOUT IN MARTLEY

Visit our website—www.martley.org.uk



God of war

March was originally called Martuis in the Roman calendar and was named after Mars, the God of war. It was the start of the yearly calendar up until 1752 when England switched to the Gregorian calendar.

The Anglo-Saxons called it Hyld Monath, which meant the Stormy month.

One of the flowers most associated with March is the narcissus or wild daffodil. It was named after the boy in Greek mythology who was changed into a wild daffodil. Narcissus is also called the Lent Lily and blooms in early spring, usually disappearing by Easter

Weather lore

A dry March and Wet May

Fill barns and bays with corn and hay.

Dates to remember

St David's Day—Patron Saint of Wales, March 1st

St Piran's Day—Patron Saint of Cornwall, March 5th

St Patrick's Day—Patron Saint of

Ireland, March 17th

Mother's Day—Mothering Sunday, March 18th

Simnel Sunday—the fourth Sunday in lent when Simnel cakes were eaten, 18th March



Mother's day

Mothering Sunday was also known as 'Refreshment Sunday' or 'Mid-Lent Sunday'. It was often called Refreshment Sunday because the fasting rules for Lent were relaxed, in honour of the Feeding of the Five Thousand, a story in the Christian Bible.

No one is certain how the idea of Mothering Sunday began, but we know that on this day about 400 years ago people who lived in little villages started avoiding their local church and instead began attending the nearest big church, or what was called the mother church. Some would go to the nearest city to worship in the cathedral.

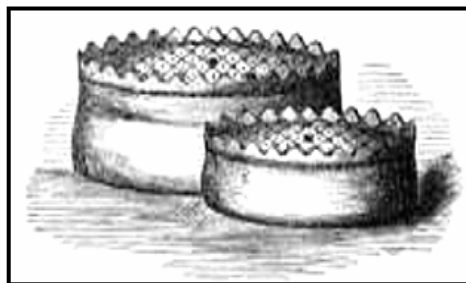
People who visited their mother church would say they had gone "a mothering". Young English girls and boys 'in service' were only allowed one day to visit their family each year. This was usually Mothering Sunday. Often the housekeeper or cook would allow the maids to bake a cake to take home for their mother. Sometimes a gift of eggs or flowers from the garden (or hothouse) were allowed.

Simnel cakes

Simnel cakes have been known from medieval times and the word simnel probably derived from the latin word 'simila', meaning fine, wheaten flour from which the cakes were made. Once made to mark Mothering Sunday, the cake actually has ancient roots that stretch back to the Romans and Athenians.

In Britain, known as the Shrewsbury Simnel, it is made using white flour, fragrant spices and is generously studded with dried fruits and pungent peel. Like a Christmas cake, it is covered with pale sweet almond paste.

The decoration is plain - 11 little balls of smooth paste, which represent the apostles (omitting Judas). There are



bakers who prefer a yeast dough, while others make a creamed mixture. Whichever you choose, a specially baked simnel cake is considered the most traditional offering around Mothering Sunday. .

Been framed?

Strange and often embarrassing things have happened to me during my times abroad. The other day a programme on TV called to mind just one of these and thinking back I realised just how funny it was. Worn out, weary and very hungry after a tiring day teaching Italian teenagers and talking to their mothers during a parent teacher meeting, I called in to my local supermarket that was in a department store.

As I came back up the escalator, loaded with my books and shopping bags, I was accosted by a promotional stand worker who wanted to sell me some fantastic new face creams and beauty products, or at least offer me some samples.

I took the opportunity to rest my weary limbs and, against my better judgement, allowed myself to listen to his sales pitch. Just what was he offering me? Only a face cream containing

penguin fat and a shampoo based on dolphin oil.

Being a lover of animals and wild life, you can well imagine my anger. My wrath started off at a normal level of conversation asking him if he was mad, and ended up with me screaming at him “if you put this stuff on the market, I’ll strangle you”.

Afterwards I was calmed down by a nice lady who told me it had all been videoed and would I sign a form to agree for it to be part of a TV show. Feeling even more hungry, weary and less willing to argue, I signed and went home.

A few weeks later, having forgotten the incident, I went into a class which proclaimed “you were fantastic on TV last night”. I had not seen it, but fortunately it was repeated a few days later – I have still got the video.

I was so surprised by it all. It was part of a programme made by an ‘ecological – green party-type’ group, and the results were fascinating. Nearly all those interviewed wanted to know how much it cost, where to buy it and so on, while only the odd one like me actually reacted negatively.

Beth Williams

Women’s World Day of Prayer

The Women’s World Day of Prayer 2007 for our part of the Deanery of Martley and Worcester West will be at 2pm on Friday 2 March at St Thomas’ Church, Crown East, with the speaker, Dr Grace Emmerson, on this year’s

theme prepared by the women of Paraguay “United under God’s tent”. All are welcome to the warm church and the service will be dedicated in loving memory of Jane Wheeler who did so much to keep it going since 1974.

Alison Reynolds

Martley Spurs



January’s wind and rain made for few results for all three of our teams and obviously there were no fixtures

over the New Year weekend. The Saturday Premier eleven thrashed The Talbot 5-1 on the 6th, with Chris Collins netting a pair to keep them on top of the league table. There was no fixture for the Reserves on the 7th and the Premier Side’s game with Callow End was postponed.

All games were postponed through waterlogged pitches over the next weekend, as were both Premier matches on the 20th and 21st. The only game played, the Reserves against Powick in the Katherine Rayer Cup, ended in a bad loss for them. The 27th saw the Saturday boys being beaten by Powick in their Bayliss Cup tie. The Sunday Premier side lost to Arrow 2000 and the Reserves also lost, this time to Prinners Sports, thus ending the month on a pretty sad note.

Beth Williams



Diary of a Superdad

It's tough being a multi-tasking Superdad, dealing with the endless dramas that occur when children bump and grind their way through their days. From Spiderman's missing head to dog poo on the hall carpet, who you gonna call? Superdad.

Let's face it, dads have a tough time of it. They're endlessly patient and understanding, practical and wise, while mums fret and worry, stomp and shout – then bask in the praise and sympathy given by others.

It's time for dads to stand up and be counted; it's time for Superdads.

January 7

It was the first decent day since last summer, so I was prodded and punched until I finally agreed to get the bikes out. This was going to be no simple task. I'd already seen the flat tyres the last time I looked in the shed (last summer). Back then I had mistakenly told wifey who then nagged me to mend them. I hadn't. But now she gave me the knowing "told you so" look as I ambled out to the shed, pulling out empty plant pots, lawn mowers, old scooters and worn out pedal cars till I found the dishearteningly deflated bikes in the far corner. Both boys have shot up recently, so I'd also have to raise the seats. No easy task on second hand bikes with

nuts as worn and round as washers.

The last time I mended a puncture the Rubettes had been no 1 with Sugar Baby Love. So for a Superdad this also called for a supermemory. I recalled spoons, a bucket of water, a pump, a bicycle repair outfit and an antiquated chopper. I expertly set to my task, trying to tug and heave out the inner tube with spoons (why spoons?), which bent and broke under the strain. Maybe I should have used the handles rather than the spoon ends...all the time the two boys looked on. Six-year-olds whispering to each other conspiratorially, chuckling at some in-joke.

Wifey then came out with tea. Isn't it ready yet? All three of them smirked and shuffled as I tried desperately to pull out the inner tube and find the puncture, my own inner resolve as shot to bits as the ancient inner tubes.

Then suddenly like all good Superdads a eureka moment hit me. Fancy going to the garden centre? We could pick up some of those pansy boxes you've wanted for ages for the window sills and get a coffee and chocolate cake. All agreed it was a splendid idea. Wifey marched swiftly back indoors to pick up the debit card. As the clouds came rolling in, everyone agreed the bikes could be fixed another time. It was also acknowledged that I was a Superdad for having the idea and doing something to lighten the dead weight of such a boring Sunday afternoon.

Boo!

“Snowie”

I still can remember how she, when small,
Would leave little puddles in the hall,
And then in her most delightful way
Would look up at me as if to say
‘I know it’s wrong, just like you,
But that’s what little puppies do’.
As the weeks passed she increased in size,
With a snow-white coat and dark brown eyes,
Also with a boundless energy that never tired
Of retrieving sticks or running wild.
Then each night, mounting the stairs she would creep
To the foot of my bed where I lay asleep,
There she would lie, alert yet quiet,
My guardian angel throughout the night.
But as the years began to take their toll,
Her legs grew weaker as she grew old,
For whereas before she would race ahead

Martley Library

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

Tel: 01886 888396

Opening hours

Mon	2.00-7.00
Wed	4.00-7.30
Thurs	10.00-1.00
Fri	2.00-4.00
Sat	10.00-12 noon

She then became content to walk instead.

She’s gone forever now, my beloved pet,

Having shed my tears, paid my last respects,

I will now grieve no more, and yet,

I will always remember her, and will never forget.

Derrick Jinks

Martley Post Office

Martley Post Office now has euro notes, euro and sterling travellers’ cheques in stock, so they can be purchased over the counter. Also available over the counter is travel insurance at a competitive price.

Martley and District Horticultural Society

On 25 January John Meilkejohn gave a most informative lecture on insects, crustaceans, which normally inhabit gardens in Britain. Using his own superb photographs as slides, he showed many different species of crawling, burrowing, hopping and flying creatures – some welcome in the garden and some not. He told us there are some 6,000 different flies in this country. Hoover flies in particular do good by eating aphids. Ladybirds (actually beetles) also perform this useful function. However, if we should see a Harlequin one (larger than our native sort), John would like to hear about it as these prey on our British ones. His advice was ‘never put your foot on a

quick moving insect – it is hunting and therefore doing good’. He particularly mentioned the long living Coach-horse beetle for being a useful resident.

John explained how weevils use hazel nuts in their life cycle, boring into the shells with their long snouts. He mentioned the good rooks do in a cornfield by eating cockchafers which do damage to corn. We also learned about cuckoo spit and its inhabitant, the froghopper. A very interesting part of the talk was how some insects actually give ‘parental care’ to their young. Our speaker had kept watch over a sheildbug family for weeks!

Ants do good by curbing the activities of aphids. Lace wings are helpful too, they lay their eggs on long ‘stalks’ stuck to plums. Spiders are not really insects, but they are garden friends. Some guard their young.

John showed us the difference in male and female earwigs, these care for their eggs and even polish them! Woodlice are crustaceans and need damp, a tiny variety inhabits the hill of the yellow ant. We heard about centipedes and millipedes; snails and their predators, hairy snails and even snail anvils. John pointed out that not all slugs are bad in a garden – the big black ones actually eat other smaller types. He showed a number of lovely butterflies, also the more bothersome white ones whose caterpillars devour brassicas (best to squash the eggs by hand!). Moths got a mention too, also parasite grubs residing in their caterpillar hosts – quite a horror story! One slide showed a cone-shaped nest made

by the large black German wasp, which is apparently very vicious. Hornets, John said, are protected. Lastly, we were told of 26 different species of insects living in one large tuft of rough grass.

Our future programme includes a talk on 29 March by Mike Dunnett on ‘how to prune and when to prune’ at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Spring Show on 31 March at Martley Village Hall at 2pm, including sale of perennials, polyanthus, pansies and cakes, preserves etc. Entries on the day; schedules available at village shops or Society members. Please note that the programme sheet shows an incorrect date for September’s meeting; this should read 27 not 29 September.

Tina Steele

Spring Show Classes

3 Daffodils or Narcissi, single flower, mixed or one variety.

1 single Hyacinth

3 Daffodils or Narcissi, double flower, mixed or one variety

3 miniature Tulips, any species

3 Daffodils or Narcissi, multi-headed, mixed or one variety

5 stems cultivated primroses

3 miniature Daffodils or Narcissi, single-headed, mixed or one variety

5 stems polyanthus

3 miniature Daffodils or Narcissi, multi-headed, mixed or one variety

6 Pansies, mixed or one variety

3 miniature Daffodils or Narcissi, double flower, mixed or one variety

A vase of Hellebores

Specimen bloom – Daffodil or
Narcissus

A vase of mixed cut Spring flowers,
excluding shrubs

An arrangement of Spring flowers and
foliage

A vase of flowering shrubs

An Easter table decoration using any
medium

A limerick about Spring

Children's Classes

Collage of an Easter chick
(6 years and under)

A painting for Mothering Sunday
(7 years and under)

A lamb made from recycled material
(8 years and under)

A Spring picture using ICT
(10 years and under)

An acrostic poem using
'MOTHER' (11 years and under)

A decorated hat (11 years and under)

An Easter egg for the winner of each
class.

many wanted to be policemen! Any of
these belong in your family?)

28 March 1918 – At the Annual Parish
Meeting the following minute was
recorded: "Removal of Guards. Mr C
Howlett proposed and Mr H E Roberts
seconded the following resolution: 'In
view of the risk and insecurity felt at
the German Prisoners being allowed to
pass along the roads without escort,
this meeting strongly protests against
their being allowed to go along un-
guarded and respectfully request that
the matter be considered by the
authorities in the hope that a more
efficient safeguard be furnished and
the confidence of the Public restored.
Carried'"

(Note: At the time of this meeting, the
Old Chantry was being rented by the
Army – an officer accommodated in
the caretaker's cottage, with soldiers
barracking in the Hall.)

A L B

Martley's Past

18 March 1912 – At the Annual Parish
Meeting the chairman, R Slade Nash,
read a circular from the Justices' Clerk
asking for the names of men who
would be willing to act as Special
Constables in the Parish. The follow-
ing are the names taken:

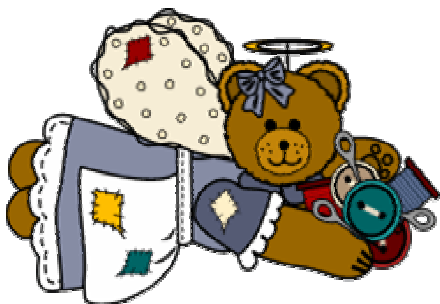
W Nott, H Rowley, A H Gummery, A
Birt, A Hancox, W Gwynne, E H
Dabbs, W Wilcox, F Grubb, G Jones, J
Wilcox, A Lippett, J & L Dew, J Rus-
sell, H Fidoe, W Millward, H J L
Lane, C Rimell and W Milward. (So

Martley WI

14 March 7.30pm Heaton House

In January we were almost submerged
with the tales of the sinking of the
Titanic and wondering if the true story
of the how and why will ever be
discovered. In February we were
crafty with the dried flower demo.
This month we are going to climb
aboard a preserved steam train to go
on a journey in search of Shangri La
under the guidance of David Barrie.
The competition is for the annual
award of the Millennium Plate – an

Pre-School Snippets



The theme for the term has been Nursery Rhymes. As Jack and Jill, we rolled down the hill on a fun-filled Wellie Wednesday. This helped overcome a childhood fear of getting dirty (some mothers may find this hard to believe as their children seem to attract dirt!) and put the concept of up and down into a real context. For Pat-a-cake, the children were bakers through role-play, making their own hats and 'cakes' with their initials. Apologies to our neighbours for their early morning wake up call as lots of little dukes marched with their instruments for The Grand Old Duke of York. The topic will continue throughout March.

Thank you to everyone who collected mobile phones for us. We have sent in our first collection totalling 52 phones

and expect to receive the cash reward and the children's prizes soon. We also collected 85 inkjet cartridges which is super; as well as earning the Pre-School cash rewards, the process also helps the environment. This is an on-going fundraiser and there are still collection points at Martley Post Office, Central Stores and the Pre-School itself.

Welcome to Tori Powell, George Rose and Oliver Elliker-Cole who have joined Pre-School. Another hello to Alex Higgs and Toby & Alex Randall who join us from Great Witley School to attend After-School Club. We are also pleased to be open on Tuesdays, making our services available five days a week once again.

We are still looking for a cleaner, three hours a week. If there are any green fingered people with a little time on their hands, we are also looking for a volunteer gardener. A big thank you to all our regular volunteers who come and help at Pre-School.

Congratulations Corner: A belated "Happy Birthday" to Casper Mulcahy who turned 4 in February. We hope you had a fabulous day!

Martley & District Pre-School: 01886 889127

Sue Gibbins

article made from recycled materials. Keep saving your milk bottle tops and cardboard toilet roll centres. Have you booked your place with Sheila Craker for the annual dinner at the Live and

Let Live at Whitbourne on Wednesday 21 March? There is still time but don't delay much longer.

Kate King

Martley Ramblers

10am Church Car Park Sunday 11 March

Surprise, surprise. Neil and Eileen Stammers are keeping the venue for this walk a secret, so turn up at the earlier time to find out where. Note that this is a morning walk at the request of some members – it does not mean it is a full day walk, just earlier in the day, and will be the usual distance of 5 to 6 miles. All members have been informed that the May walk will be a week later than originally planned, so hopefully the new date has been written in your diaries.

Kate King

Pudford Lane

Poor old Pudford Lane has been showing signs of wear and tear recently. The large amount of building traffic has decimated some verges and then the January gales brought down many trees and portions of hedges. The constant song of the Greater Chainsaw was heard in many areas but, at the time of writing, the Friends of Pudford have done a wonderful clean-up job. Everywhere looks cared for and ready to welcome the official start of spring. Do birds have a secret contact line with each other? What happened to them when we wanted to do the RSPB garden bird survey? Usually flocks of hungry birds are clamouring to be fed but very few were around at the time of the survey. Where did the ravens and buzzards go when they were

wanted? One can only presume they were illegal immigrants and did not want to be counted or deported. Oh well, better luck next year.

Kate King

Pensax Thrift shop

"Pensax Thrift Shop re-opens on Wednesday 7th March at 9 am till 11.15 am and every Wednesday thereafter. Ideal for passing on those unwanted Christmas presents".

Teme Valley Views

Is your attic full of children's clothes that are just too good to throw out? Are you tripping over toys that your children no longer play with? It seems that many parents in the Teme Valley have these problems and we hope that the Children's Centre can help! In March a dedicated team of volunteers will help to run the third Teme Valley Children's Centre Nearly New Sale of babies and children's clothes, equipment and toys.

We run two sales each year – one in the Autumn and one in the Spring – and we have been overwhelmed by the quality and quantity of clothes that are sold. Our last sale was fantastic with over 100 shoppers in the hall at one point and some sellers received over £100. Unlike many sales you do not have to fill and man a stall yourself, just obtain a sellers' pack in advance with full instructions of how the sale works and on the day turn up with your priced items. The team will sell

them for you, you receive 70% of the sale price (any profit will be used for the benefit of children in the Teme Valley) and you pick up anything unsold at the end of the sale and wait for your cheque to arrive a few days later. If you want to get more involved we are always looking for more volun-

teers who not only receive 80% back on anything they sell but also receive a free lunch and refreshments.

The next sale is on Saturday 24th March at Great Witley Village Hall from 11am to 1pm. Please contact the Teme Valley Children's Centre (01886 812982).

Barrow's Way

Just because you're a fireman doesn't mean you only put out fires. Ask Norman Barrow about his life in the fire brigade and he'll tell you yarns of derring do, such as dealing with a shootout in Washington DC, or the time he had to rescue a "very large lady" who was stuck in her bath.

After 37 years putting out fires and rescuing damsels in a state of undress, Norman decided to set up his own business – and buy his own fire engine. Called Chariot's of Fire, Norman's trusty red steed can still put out fires, but is more likely to turn up to children's parties to hose down the exuberant revellers. As well as birthdays, he does college graduations and even weddings.

"We had a case when we picked the bride and groom up and took them to the church. They had no idea they were going to be taken there by fire engine—they were completely overwhelmed."

Norman's part-time business and hobby has flourished through word of mouth and summer can get pretty

busy. But he enjoys the parties and any earnings cover the wear and tear.

Originally from the Forest of Dean, Norman is still every bit a station commander. So there's no misbehaving while in-

side Chariot's of Fire or while soaking your adversaries outside.

"We allow the children to use the hose, but only under supervision and under low pressure. They're then allowed to spray each other."

He's also no nonsense when it comes to a tippie and no one who's been drinking alcohol is allowed to ride in the engine. He'll drop people off at 21st birthday parties, but seldom picks them up. For Norman, rules is rules.

"There's a saying in the Forest of Dean: 'we do it the Barrow's Way', which means we do it the way I say we do it."

To find out more about Chariot's of Fire call Norman on 01905 640592.

Andrew Chilvers



Martley Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting, February 5, at the Memorial Hall.

Cllr. Mr. D. Cropp, Cllr. Mr. G. Taylor, Cllr. Mrs. D. Goodyear, Cllr. Mr. J. Slough, Cllr. Mr. N. Stammers, Cllr. Mr. R. McHugh, Cllr. Mr. G. Coombey-Jones, Cllr. Mr. M. Nott. In Attendance: Mr. T. Pearsall (Clerk to The Parish Council), 8 members of the public.

The Democratic Period/Public Question Time

The Chairman invited all present to ask questions or make statements about Parish business;

Car parking on pavements in Mortlake Drive and St. Peter's Drive is still a major problem; the Clerk mentioned that the police had promised to look at this at the last Parish Council meeting; he will follow up.

A question was asked about the Parish Link bus service. The Chairman confirmed that the service is being withdrawn by Worcestershire County Council. However, the parishes involved are considering the logistics of running a service themselves, depending upon funding.

Electronic Display of Parish Council Information: The Clerk outlined how information could be displayed and gave an estimated cost of £1400 and £12 per month (broadband cost); it is expected that the cost will be available as a grant from CALC. It was resolved to proceed with the project.

Village Signs & Waste Bins: The Clerk presented prices for the bins,

signs and information board. It was resolved to replace all the existing waste bins, provide an information board for the village and acquire four village signs subject to the availability of a suitable grant. A working group was formed with Cllrs G. Coombey-Jones and G. Taylor; they will prepare the grant application. The Clerk to enquire when the designs for the village signs will be ready from the Chantry.

Quality Parish Status: The Clerk presented a report on the meeting with senior executives from MHDC. Quality Parishes are to be allowed to arrange litter picking via the Lengthman; the funding to be matched between MHDC and this Council. There will be a bursary scheme to enable Quality Parishes to electronically display planning applications at their meetings. A proposal will be examined to install a portal (possibly in the library) into MHDC's website to give access all that Council's services.

District Councillor's Report: District Cllr. Mrs. B. Williams said that the planning information may be provided via a CD thus a broadband connection may not be required (the Clerk to investigate). An investigation is being undertaken with the police and MHDC into the provision of a youth club at Martley. She asked if a youth link to the Martley Web site would be possible; this would be investigated. D.Cllr. Williams discussed the Regional Spatial Strategy with respect to housing. She asked if MPC had been notified of the proposed T-Mobile mast at The Noak farm; this was confirmed.

Planning:

Applications received:

1. 07/00016/FUL The Orchards Martley: Proposed dormer windows to existing bungalow. Cllr. Mr. D. Cropp
2. 07/00047/LBC B a r b e r s Martley; Internal alterations, Cllr. Mr.D. Cropp
3. 07/00086/FUL Treetops Hillside: Replacement dwelling to replace existing. Cllr. Mrs. D. Goodyear.
4. 07/00089/FUL & 07/00091/LBC Martley Court Modifications to outbuilding to form garaging and accommodation at 1st. floor: Cllr. Mr. D. Cropp
5. 07/00120/LBC Lorien 3 Martley Court Barns; replmnt. of Velux windows: Cllr. Mr. D. Cropp.
6. 06/01742 Land adj. to The Cottage Jury Lane (rev. plans) Cllr. Mr. D. Cropp

Approvals/ refusals:

1. 06/01521/FUL & 06/01522/LBC: The Barn Hillside Approved.
 2. 06/01496/LBC St. Peter's Church, sundial. Withdrawn
- Other:APP/J1860/C/06/2020967
Appeal against enforcement notice in respect of Brook Court, to take place 27th. March 2007 Priory Lodge Hall 10:00 am
Decision from Planning Inspectorate ref. APP/J1860/A/06/2022883 Pasmead St. Peter's Drive: dismissed

Finance:

There were 8 cheques totalling £1471.00 for agreement and signature.

Income

6th Dec:	£685.15
Current Bank Balance Lloyds TSB	
17th. Jan 2007	£8135.54
Actual position	
5th. Feb 07	£6660.94
Deposit Acc	
6th Dec	£7532.58

It was resolved to adopt the finances.

Parish Paths Warden Report:

Urgent Decisions since last meeting: The Clerk reported the road blockage on Hope House road caused by fly tipping, thought to be in the early hours of 5th. February 2007; photographs and a report can be seen on the web site.

Councillors Reports and Items for Future Agendas:

1. The Clerk was requested to follow up the PEM reports at Highways.
 2. The Clerk was requested to contact the owner of the land in Pudford Lane where branches have fallen into the ditches.
 3. The Clerk was requested to contact the Path or Nones to clear the "Green Lane" (FP 698) at the rear of Maylite
 4. The Chairman agreed to produce an article for the website and The Villager about the responsibilities of land owners for dangerous trees. .
- Date and Time of Next Meeting:
The next meeting is on Monday 5th. March 2007 at 8 p.m.



Over the Garden Wall in Wichenford

Church Flowers

No altar flowers throughout Lent.
Mothering Sunday in St Laurence's Church is on 18 March, time to be arranged.

Ladies Fellowship is to meet at 2.30pm on 20 March at the home of Pam Webb, Rosses Lane.
Wichenford Open Gardens

Wichenford 100 Club

January winner: John Howell. No 130. £100.

N.B. We are URGENTLY seeking one or even two people from Wichenford who will take the 100 Club forward. This is not a particularly onerous task but Bill Hylan has been running the club since its inception and deserves a REST!!!

He and a few helpers have done a terrific job and the Millennium Green in particular has benefited from the fund raising. Many people in the village and some beyond, generously pay out £12 per year and quite a few have subsequently enjoyed the not inconsiderable winnings.

Clearly this is a most successful and worthwhile enterprise. It would

WICHENFORD NEEDS YOUR NEWS



Janet Andrews
01886 888303

Sheila Richards
01886 888378

therefore be extremely sad if the club could not continue due to APATHY and there would be the additional problem of how to finance the upkeep and improvement of your Millennium Green.

Please could everybody give this serious consideration.....a quick call to Bill (01886-888431) or Heather (01886-888239) would tell you all you need to know. Thank you.

Millennium green tidying and inspection rota

March: Mervyn Mitchard

Wichenford Open Gardens

This year the gardens will be open on 23 and 24 June. We are compiling an "Open Gardens Cookery Book" and should be very pleased to receive your favourite recipes for inclusion.
Tel: +44 01996-888158,
mobile: 0780-3077121.

Happy birthday

Mrs Kay Higgins has recently celebrated her 90th birthday, we send our very best wishes and congratulations. We wish her many, many happy returns.

In memoriam, Jane Wheeler

Jean Audrey Wheeler (Jane) – 9 September 1920 to 6 January 2007

Jane was born in Acton, London. She first came to Wichenford to visit her aunt and cousins at the age of 7 and began an association which was to last the rest of her life. She was educated at Haberdashers Aske School and became a King's Guide. At the outbreak of World War II, she was at Teacher Training College, but because of the danger was sent by her mother to the safety of Monkwood with her Aunt. During the war she joined the Land Army.

In 1949 she married Jack Wheeler of Heath Farm, Hallow. They regularly attended services at Hallow and thereafter at Wichenford. Jane was soon involved in church affairs, and before long she found herself in the role of treasurer – a post she held for some 43 years. For a number of years she also served as Deanery Treasurer. She was a member of Wichenford WI and belonged to the Ladies Fellowship. She was always at the centre of fund raising for the church.

Jane was mother to Dorothy Grace and stepmother to Jim and Sally; she was also a much loved grandmother and

great-grandmother. In her spare time she ran Hallow Guides, she supported Jack in all his activities including taking over the Presidency of the Wyre Forest Pony Club on his death. In her latter years she enjoyed the company of her grandsons and great-grandchildren. She was always in touch with her friends by letter and phone, especially when her driving days were over.

Dorothy Grace and family would like to thank everyone for their kind support during recent years by keeping Jane connected with Wichenford and by visiting and by transporting her to church, Ladies Fellowship and other events.

In recent weeks this support has been especially appreciated. 19 January proved to be a very humbling moment for us, and will be a day we will treasure for a long time.

In memoriam: Michael John Wadley

We are so sorry to hear that Michael has died aged 56. He was the son of Eddie and Joyce Wadley and grew up in Wichenford. Michael had suffered from MS, which he bore with great courage. He made his home in Loughborough and before his illness worked as an engineer.

He also qualified as an international football referee. We send our deepest sympathy to Eddie and Joyce, his son Owen and daughter Ceri, and to all the family.

Wichenford PCC

Wichenford PCC wish to express their heartfelt sympathy to Jane Wheeler's family in their loss. Jane will be greatly missed by members of St Laurence and the wider church in Worcestershire. Her dedication and outstanding contribution to the church over many years have been deeply valued and appreciated. The huge attendance at her funeral showed the esteem and affection in which she was held.

Welcome

We welcome Mr and Mrs Mitchell of 23 Queens Estate and Mr and Mrs Campbell of 1 Malvern View and hope that they will be very happy living in Wichenford.



Mobile Library

The mobile library visits

Wichenford on the first Wednesday of every month. We do not want to lose it, so please use it.

Wichenford, Malvern View

10am-10.30am

Wichenford Church

10.35am-11am

Wichenford, Kings Green Farm

11.05am-11.35am

Wichenford, Rosses Green

11.40am-12.10pm

Kenswick and Wichenford Parish Council

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 29th January 2007 at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall Wichenford.

Councillor Britten-Long Chaired the meeting. (Chairman)

Present: Cllr J. Wells, Cllr J Panton, Cllr K Randall, Cllr H Rendall, Cllr A Chilvers

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

PC Gary Jones from West Mercia Constabulary introduced himself as the new beat officer for our area. Things in our area are very good at the moment. The local policing team will be situated in a new office at the Sports Hall in Martley.

The parish council were introduced to the new lengthsman, Rob Wilkes, who will start on the 1st Feb. He already does the lengthsman job in the parishes of Martley and Clifton on Teme.

Declaration of interest

The clerk reminded every-one of the need to declare interests and to keep the book up to date. No interests were declared

Progress reports

The parish council has received the resignation of Mr. Clay the lengthsman and was introduced at the meeting to the new lengthsman Mr. Wilkes. The signs and cones will be collected by the new lengthsman.

Planning

Applications considered since the last

meeting.

07/00034/Ful. Demolition of part ground floor and erection of a rear extension.

Woodbine Cottage, Wichenford.

The parish council feel that the extension could be erected on the conservatory side of the house; this would enable the profile of the roof to be maintained.

Decisions made by MHDC

06/01480/FUL. The Firs. (Field shelter and store room) Approved

06/01470/LBC-06/01469/FUL. The Elms. (Extension of dwelling house into ancillary outbuildings. Approved.

It was pointed out that one of the conditions was that it can only be used as an integral part of the existing dwelling and for residential purposes incidental to the enjoyment of the occupiers of the dwelling, and shall not be used as a separate dwelling unit.

06/01606/FUL.Orchard Cottage. (Timber garage) Approved

06/01252/FUL. Cob House Farm. (Additional fish breeding and fishing pools) Approved

Applications to be discussed

07/00095/LBC. Demolition of existing external store. Laughern Hill.

The parish council had no objection to this proposal.

Finance

The income/ expenditure account was discussed and accepted.

The balance up to the 29th Dec 2006 stands at £10,828.28.

There was 1 cheque totaling £20.00 for agreement and signature.

A cheque for £335 and letter from Laugherne Valley Travel were read out. The remaining funds that were left have been distributed equally to the parishes. The clerk was asked to send a receipt and letter of thanks.

The parish council decided that they did not want to join the Cpre 300 Club.

The parish council's precept request was received by MHDC on January 15th.

No one is able to attend the MHDC Budget Consultation Meetings.

The acceptance of the finances was resolved.

Highways

Rosses lane/Guises Lane.

The current TRO's run out on Feb 16th. New TRO's are going to be applied to both lanes under the new act to enable them to be registered as Byways.

As the objections have not been withdrawn it must go to the Secretary of State.

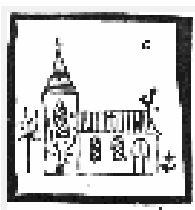
The hedge that belongs to Laughern house has still not been cut. (Clerk to follow up.)

There is concern regarding a white van parked just off the highway opposite the drive to Laughern House. (Chairman to speak with owner)

The clerk was told that it is illegal to have stones on the verge as the householder is responsible if an accident occurs.

The clerk was asked to report the verges on Barbers Lane to the highways dept.

Meeting closed at 9.50pm.



Church Words

The Rectory 01886 833897

Most of the bulbs planted last Autumn will have struggled from the darkness of the soil into the light of day and will be offering welcome splashes of colour along the roadside and in our gardens.

How glad we all are when we begin to emerge from the dingy, dark afternoons of January and February! Light, the natural light of the sun, not only brings clarity but seems to have an enlightening effect on us – it lifts us, helps us to look at everything from a more positive viewpoint. While I often feel dismayed at the dust and cobwebs which show up as the early morning rays shine through my windows, it is a joy and delight to feel the sun's warmth again and to marvel at the different effects caused by its light.

In our Christian Faith, too, light is very important. At the very beginning of the Bible we read "... the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep ... Then God said, 'Let there be light'. (Genesis 1, v2&3) Light is necessary for growth and development. Jesus is called 'the light of the world' and often, as in our local schools, a candle is lit during assembly or worship time to signify his presence with us. At a baptism service (or christening) the newly baptised are pre-

sented with a candle as a sign of their commitment to Jesus and are instructed to 'shine in the world to the glory of God the Father'.

Each one of us can be a light for another person – we talk about a smile lighting up someone's face – remember if you respond to someone with a smile their face too will light up! And so on – try it! Any act of kindness acts as a light, something that pushes the darkness away. We all need light and we can all, like the newly baptised, be light bearers as we draw on the love and compassion of Christ and reflect it in the world today.



Rev'd Jennifer Whittaker

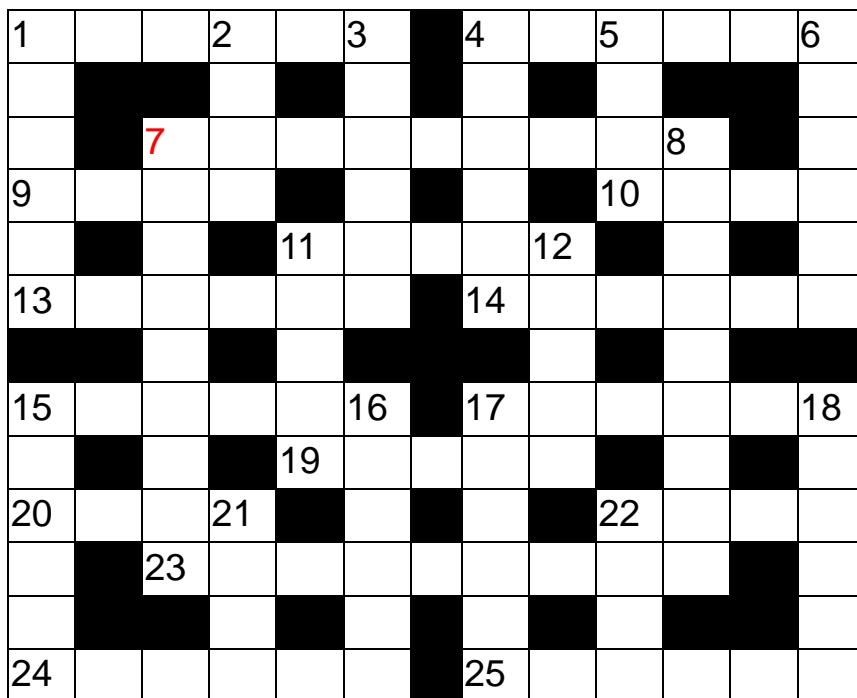
Crossword answers

Please note that the answers to the last three crossword puzzles will appear in next month's Villager .

Church Diary for March

Friday 2nd March	2.00pm Women's World Day of Prayer, Crown East
Sunday 4th March	8.00am Holy Communion, Knightwick Chapel 9.30am Holy Communion, St Laurence, Wichenford 11.00am Family Worship, St Peter, Martley
Monday 5th March	9.00am Morning Prayer at St Laurence, Wichenford
Tuesday 6th March	10.00am Holy Communion, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
Thursday 8th March	2.00pm Little Minnows, St Peter, Martley
Sunday 11th March	10.00am Morning Prayer, St Laurence, Wichenford 11.00am Holy Communion, St Peter, Martley 3.00pm Service of Healing and Wholeness, St Laurence, Wichenford
Monday 12th March	8.30am Prayer Breakfast at the home of Rob Barlow 7.30pm Wardens Meeting at Knightwick
Wednesday 14th Mar	10.15am Holy Communion, Heaton House
Thursday 15th March	2.00pm Pastoral Team Meeting, at Jay Popplewell's
Sunday 18th March	8.00am Holy Communion, St Peter, Martley 11.00am Family Communion, St Peter, Martley 11.00am Family Worship, St Laurence, Wichenford 3.00pm Evening Worship, Knightwick Chapel
Monday 19th March	9.00am Morning Prayer, St Peter's, Martley
Tuesday 20th March	10.00am Holy Communion, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
Wednesday 21st Mar	10.15am, Holy Communion, Heaton House
Thursday 22nd March	12.00 Mothers Union at the home of Muriel Coombe
Friday 23rd March	7.30pm Agricultural Chaplaincy AGM – speaker MP Peter Luff
Sunday 25th March	8.00am Holy Communion, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
BST begins	9.30am Holy Communion, St Peter, Martley 11.00am Morning Prayer, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas 11.00am Holy Communion, St Laurence, Wichenford 6.30pm Evening Worship, St Peter, Martley
Wednesday 28th Mar	10.15am, Holy Communion, Heaton House

Take a break



CLUES ACROSS;

- 1.DOES IT BLOW IN THE WIND?(6)
- 4.TEACHER (6)
- 7.CHRISTIAN FESTIVAL (9)
- 9.BLACK EYE LINER (4)
- 10.THE BELLS DID (4)
- 11.GEM (5)
- 13.LIFTED HIGH (6)
- 14.ACCELERATED (6)
- 15.CLEVER (6)
- 17.NASTY FLY (6)
- 19.VISION (5)
- 20.SNATCH (4)
- 22.AIR (4)
- 23.BELIEVER IN AN OLD PHILOSOPHER (9)
- 24.PLANET (6)
- 25.SHORTENED FORM OF A PLURAL 7 ACROSS (6)

CLUES DOWN;

- 1 OVEN (6)
- 2.STORY TELLER (4)
- 3.WENT OUT (6)
- 4.MARY WAS ONE (6)
- 5.A SIGN FOR THE WISE MEN (4)
- 6.TORN (6)
- 7.A FOLLOWER OF JESUS (9)
- 8.WHAT JESUS PROMISED (9)
- 11.THE SON OF GOD (5)
- 12.TINIEST (5)
- 15.HEAVENLY MESSENGERS (6)
- 16.HEED (6)
- 17.PART OF THE BODY (6)
- 18.BIRDS (6)
21. OLD BOYFRIEND (4)
- 22.STORY (4)

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