

# The Villager

The community magazine for the parishes of Martley and Wichenford

Volume 17 No. 11

May 2006

**Editor: Andrew Chilvers** (01905 641986)

**Editorial Team:** *Martley:* Alan Boon (01886 888527), Nellie Bradley (01886 888339), Kate King (01886 888439), Beth Williams (01886 888273) *Wichenford:* Janet Andrews (01886 888303), Sheila Richards (01886 888378)

**Advertising:** Neil Stammers (01886 888513)

**Distribution:** *Martley* George & June Lawrence (01886 821064) *Wichenford* Bill & Jo Root (01886 888585)

**Contact The Villager:** leave articles at Martley Post Office, call Janet or Sheila (Wichenford) or email the Editor at [editor@martley.org.uk](mailto:editor@martley.org.uk)

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

## ***Regular events in Martley and Wichenford:***

### **Sundays**

**2nd Sunday in the month:**

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

**3rd Sunday in the month:**

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

### **Mondays**

**1st Monday in the month:**

**Martley Parish Council** 8pm Memorial Hall

### **Tuesdays**

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

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

### **Wednesdays**

**Teme Valley Shufflers Line Dancing**

7pm Martley Memorial Hall.

*Enquiries:* Jeff and Thelma 01886 821772

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

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

### **Other events:**

**Citizens Advice Bureau Teme Valley**

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

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

See Church Words for details of services

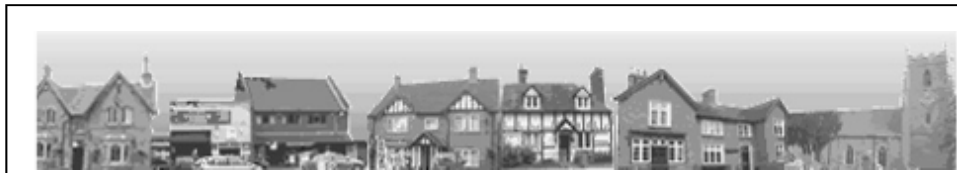
See articles inside for details of special events AND changes of times or dates of regular events

See the Diary page on  
[www.martley.org.uk](http://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](http://www.martley.org.uk)



## *Games for May*

The first day of the month is traditionally known as May Day. It is the time of year when warmer weather begins and flowers and trees start to blossom. It's also a time when people celebrate the coming of summer with lots of different customs that are expressions of joy and hope after a long winter.

### **May Day Bank Holiday**

May has many traditions and celebrations. For the public, many May Day activities have now been moved to the May Day holiday, on the first Monday of the month.

**And in the good old days?** May Day celebrations have their origins in the Roman festival of Flora, goddess of fruit and flowers, which marked the beginning of summer. People would decorate their houses and villages with fresh-cut foliage and flowers gathered at dawn in the belief that the vegetation spirits would bring good fortune.

### **Mischief night**

Historically, May Eve was known as Mischief Night in some parts of Britain and all sorts of practical jokes were played and a general nuisance made. May Day was an important day in the Middle Ages and was a favourite holiday of many English villages. People used to cut down young trees and stick them in the ground in the village to mark the arrival of summer. This is the origin of the maypole. People danced around them in celebration of the end of winter and the start of the fine weather that would allow planting to begin.

In the early morning, young girls went into the fields and washed their faces with dew. They believed this made

them beautiful for the following year. May Day was also the day when the young men of each village tried to win prizes with their bows and arrows.

In the North of England, the first of May was a kind of late April Fooling, when all sorts of pranks would take place and “May Gosling” was the shout if you managed to trick someone. The response would be: “May Goslings past and gone. You're the fool for making me one!”

### **May Day Celebrations today**

In some places May Day celebrations begin at sunset on 30 April. They include lots of floral decorations and processions through towns and villages.

### ***Maypole dancing***

Maypoles were once common all over England and were kept from one year to the next. These were usually tree trunks or long branches and did not always resemble the maypoles of modern times. The tallest maypole is said to have been erected in London on the Strand in 1661; it stood over 143 feet high. It was felled in 1717, when it was used by Isaac Newton to support Huygen's new reflecting telescope.

May is the month for traditional dancing round the maypole. Schools would practise skipping round the pole for weeks before the final show on the village greens. The end results would be either a beautiful plaited pattern of ribbons round the pole or a tangled cat's cradle, depending on how much rehearsing had been done.



Many English villages still have a maypole, and on May 1 many villagers still dance around it.

### ***Odd fact***

Although May Day is now the first day of the month of May, before 1752, when the calendar was changed, it was 11 days earlier.

### ***Martley WI – 10 May 7.30pm at Heaton House***

The WI and Elgar Housing Association have agreed on the terms for meeting at Heaton House for the coming months, but please will members not park in the residents' allocated places. There is a car park at the rear of the building with a pathway leading to the front.

Discussion of the resolutions for the annual meeting, this year in Cardiff,

always brings forward some interesting, if not provocative, points of view. "Fancy, I have known her for years and never knew she felt that way about that!" Usually a decision is made for guidance for the delegate. After that, cheese and wine will be offered as a relaxation. The competition is a member's tale, not necessarily true, in under 200 words, of an interesting day. These will be read out later.

A flyer giving details of our meetings went out with the April Villager. Please do give us a try if anyone is interested. The possibility of offering baby-sitting to local families was discussed at the last meeting. Please get in touch with members for further details. Many thanks to Sheila Craker for arranging the annual dinner at the Admiral Rodney and to the staff for their friendly and efficient service. Conversation did not lag and the jokes told were not too risqué, so we hope we can return next year.

*Kate King*

### ***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

### ***Egyptian foot soak***

Mix together 0.25 litres lemon juice, ½ teaspoon cinnamon, 1-2 tablespoons olive oil and 0.10 litres milk. Add enough warm water to make a soak to cover your feet and soak for about 10 minutes. Wash with soap (if needed) and dry thoroughly. Use once a week.

*Farah, NFWI staff member*

### ***Answers on a postcard***

Whatever is a broadband: Is it something I can wear?

A belt perhaps for waists like mine or something for my hair?

Where should I put an iPod? Has it come from outer space?

Should I keep it in my deepfreeze or find another space?

I just can't think where eBay is – it has a foreign sound,

I seem to think that someone sold it for several hundred pounds.

And what's a maxi-pixel?

Might I have one in my pond – a rather dumpy garden gnome

whose shape has gone all wrong.

Explain to me "down-loading", think I might be pleased with those,

if they put away my shopping whilst I have a little doze.

If you have any answers, write them on a postcard,

Please don't phone, then drop them in the digibox

That I planted near my home.

*Margaret Waddingham*

## *Pudford Lane*

The flowers have come, so have the rains.

“Thanks” to the Lengthman who has cleared the drains.

Vauxhall hub-caps are here again,  
They’ve moved to Hillend Bridge and Lane.

Frisbee-like from wheels they fly -  
Bad luck to any passers by.

Tornadoes and Harriers scream over-

head,

While lay-by diners keep wildlife fed.  
The plastic wraps from thrown-out food

Kill more wildlife than cars on the road.

On the ridge young buzzards cry  
For food from parents circling by.

Bluebells and orchids line the Lane -  
“Hurrah” for Spring is here again.

*Kate King*

## *Pre-school snippets*



The theme at Pre-School for May is “Where I live.” The children will be looking at the environment and the local community. We are becoming an eco-nursery: exploring recycling and raising the environmental awareness of the children. We also have an exciting trip on the Severn Valley Railway to look forward to in early June.

We are delighted that building work has commenced on the new kitchen, toilets and cloakroom area. We apologise for any inconvenience to parents and neighbours.

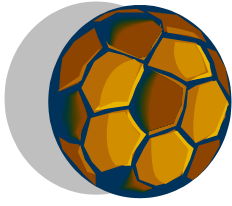
For all you sweet tooths – we will be holding a cake sale in the Primary School hall on Friday 28th May at 2.30pm. Any helpers and cake donations gratefully welcomed. Don’t forget to send your children along with an extra few pence on the day!

There will also be a sponsored walk in May. Keep a look out for details.

A huge thank you to Helen Taylor who, due to family commitments, is stepping down as chairperson of the committee this month. Helen has done a wonderful job for us including hosting fundraising dinners, creating our new website and much, much more.

We are looking for a Pre-School and an After-School Club assistant. Training is preferred but not essential, as this will be provided. Hours are negotiable.

*Phone or drop in for a chat and an application form. 01886 889127/888761. We are still looking for volunteers for gardening.*



### ***Martley Spurs***

March started off with all three teams' games ending in a draw. The next weekend saw a better time for the Saturday Premier side when they beat Hallow 5-1, Chris Collins netting four times, but the Sunday Premier eleven lost 4-3 to Perrywood. The 18th produced one loss, one win and one draw, while the next weekend saw disaster when the Saturday Premier side lost to Powick, and Excel Metro truly thrashed the Sunday Premier boys, and the reserves succumbed to Barbourne. The league tables at the end of the month showed the Saturday Premier side in third place, while both the Sunday Premier eleven and the Reserves were both in mid table.

*Beth Williams*

### ***Martley & District Horticultural Society***

The Spring Show was unfortunately cancelled due to the inclement weather during the greater part of March. The Spring flowers were too reluctant to bloom in time for the show. The speaker for the evening of the March meeting was Geoff Oke, from Evesham, his subject, "Fuchsias are Fun". There are a vast number of named species of this plant, some very well known, others unique to this country. Geoff explained the secrets of propagating this plant, with the taking of cut-

tings and the various ways that the plant can be trained into shapes from standards to topiary. This is a popular hanging basket plant where the right species must be used. The talk was assisted with slides showing the plant off to its full potential on the 'Show Bench'. There were about 20 entries in the Hyacinth Bulb Competition, the result being first Jack Bradley, second Tina Steele and third Pauline Ellis.

It's not long now before the Society's Annual Plant Sale and Car Boot Sale. It will be held in the Village Hall and on the Playing Field on Saturday 27 May at 2pm. If you have any surplus flower or vegetable plants would you like to donate them to the Society? Please bring them to the hall on the morning of the sale.

If you have any ideas for speakers or gardens to visit in 2007, the programme secretary, Margaret Jackson, would like to have them.

*Nellie Bradley*

### ***Martley Ramblers – 14 May, 2pm Church Car Park***

We have had a very wet ramble and a cancellation due to snow already this year, but we should be fine in May shouldn't we? Keep fingers crossed. This month is planned to be around Bromyard Downs and Brockhampton with the two Paulines as leaders. They always plan something a little out of the ordinary for us, so do come along to see what's happening this time. It was a shame that Helen and George's walk had to be cancelled due to the

weather, but we are assured it is on file and we shall be doing it at a later date.

*Kate King*

### ***Hear books here***

Great news for those with sight problems (or those who just like listening while doing the ironing). Martley Library now has a stock of audio books, both on tape and CD, to go with their supply of books in large print. Any title can be ordered from a wide selection available. Just call in for more details, library opening times are regularly printed in the Villager.

### ***Martley's past***

On 8 May 1871, Teacher Harriet Shaw wrote: "The attendance this week has been very poor owing to so many of the children (NB girls and infants) being obliged to stay away for the purpose of gathering cowslips." She continued: "The Rector has been in several times this week either to give Scripture or to notice how the children are progressing with their lessons. Miss Hastings has also been in twice, once to examine the needlework and hear the children sing and once to reprove the choir for their inattention over the singing in church."

On 18 May 1896, schoolmaster Mr Humpherson recorded: "24 March was the Golden Jubilee of laying the foundation stone of these schools (NB at head of churchyard). In commemoration of the event, a tea was given to the children this afternoon. They were



addressed by the Rector who also distributed a present to each child. There were also present the Rev JF and Mrs Hastings, Miss Hastings, Miss Nash (Worcester), Mr J, Mrs and the Misses Rogers (Barbers), Mrs J Davis, Mrs Badger, Mrs C Holliday, Mr J Holliday and Mr Hall."

*ALB*

### ***Knightswick and district trefoil guild***

We met at the home of Pat Bradley in Clifton-on-Teme, because of the lighter nights we were able to enjoy the magnificent views she has across the valley to Worcester and the Malverns.

There were 11 members present, and we welcomed Mrs. Pat Lewis who gave a talk on dowsing for food allergies, and also Bach flower remedies, there was a lot of interest in what she had to tell us, and it triggered off a lively discussion on health issues.

Plans were made for some of the members to attend the County A.G.M.

which is to be held in Bromsgrove on April 29th.

*Geraldine Cooper.*

## ***Martley Parish Council***

*Meeting held April 3, 2006 at the Memorial Hall*

Present: Cllr. Mrs. D. Goodyear; Cllr. Mr. M. Nott; Cllr. Mr. R. McHugh; Cllr. Mrs. M. Randall; Cllr. Mr. G. Coombey-Jones; Cllr. Mr. N. Stammers.

In Attendance: Mr. T. Pearsall (clerk to The Parish Council), seven members of the public.

In the absence of a chairman and vice chairman, the clerk invited the councillors to elect a chairman; Cllr. Mr. G. Coombey-Jones was duly elected.

### **The democratic period/public question time**

The chairman invited all present to ask questions or make statements about parish business, the following points were raised:

1. A question was asked what the Parish Council could do about the damage being caused to the lanes and verges around Easinghope Lane and near Hawkesnest Farm by the large lorries moving spoil. The clerk explained that he had already received several complaints and had taken the matter up with WCC Highways. Apparently, there is no weight limit on those lanes and the landowner is entitled to use large vehicles to access his property. The clerk passed contact details of the CPRE to the questioner.

2. The question of Ducton Coppice, Withy Beds and Millennium Green being considered for including in the conservation area was discussed. Ducton Coppice is already carefully managed and may not benefit from inclusion. The clerk to contact The Millennium Green Committee to enquire about safety of the unfenced pools with reference to small children and the trees along the south eastern boundary (if they become subject to conservation orders they may not be able to be pollarded, thus spoiling the only clear views of the church). Canada geese are also becoming a problem at the pool (these can be controlled humanely).

3. The potential loss of The Resource Centre was raised; the council will consider using the weighbridge.

4. The date for reopening Ankerdine Hill was queried. The clerk had spoken with WCC Highways who said it was on target for the end of March; this had now passed. The clerk had also received information from C. Cllr. Mr. A. Davies who had information that it will open this week.

**The Parish Council meeting was opened by the chairman at 8:25 pm.**

**Apologies:** Apologies were received from Cllr. Mr. D. Cropp, and Cllr. Mr. G. Taylor, these were accepted. Cllr. Mr. J. Slough was also absent.

236-06 **Declarations of personal or prejudicial interests:** The clerk reminded everyone of the need to declare interests and to keep their list up



to date. There were no declarations of interest.

237-06 **Minutes of the last meeting held on 6th. March 2006:** It was resolved to accept the minutes as a true record.

238-06 **Village signs and flower beds:** The clerk to arrange for a committee to meet to determine designs and budget.

239-06 **District Councillor's report:** District Cllr. Mrs. B. Williams had previously sent in her apologies, thus no report was given.

240-06 **County Councillor's report:** County Councillor Mr. A. Davies had previously sent in his apologies, thus no report was given

241-06 **Correspondence:**  
**Correspondence for 3rd. April 2006.**

1. CPRE: Countryside Voice, magazine.

2. RAWM: News letter

3. Bus bulletin

4. CPRE: Invitation to meeting Sunday 6th. May Cold Comfort Farm

5. West Mercia Constabulary: Neighbourhood crime alert. (Contact PC Dave Glass 01905 331089).

6. MPC: Copy letter to Highways ref. seat adjacent to Weighbridge.

7. MPC: Letter to Playing Fields Association ref. use of field.

8. MHDC: Exec committee agenda 21st. March 06.

9. Mr. N. Bruen: Copies of letters sent to MHDC Planning ref. Hawksnest Farm Easinghope.

10. HM Revenue & Customs: Clerk's gratuity reply.

11. MHDC: CEO reply to our letter of 8th March (acknowledgement).

12. Rogers Coaches: Worcester service terminating on Friday 7th. April.

13. MHDC: Standards committee agenda.

14. CALC: Review of quality status.

15. MHDC: From Mr. C. Bockock CEO ref. Numbering on St. Peters Drive.

16. Community First: "Newslines".

17. DEFRA: Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005- "a parish guide".

18. Cllr. D. Cropp: Copies of correspondence with Ms. Thompson Peartree Cottage. Witton Hill.

19. WCC:Reply to Clerk's letter requesting funding for electronic office equipment.

20. MHDC: Reply to Clerk's letter requesting funding for electronic office equipment.

21. WCC: (Experimental prohibition of heavy goods vehicles over 18 tonnes) order.

22. WCC: Concessionary fares scheme introduction 1st. April 2006

**242-06 Planning: applications received:**

1. .05/01835/FUL Lower Hollins Cottage; proposed conversion of adjoining barn to domestic use. Cllr. R. McHugh.

. 06/00394/FUL Land adj. to Hollins Cottage: Change of use of agricultural land for 2 no. 2 bed mobile home for agricultural workers; Cllr. R. McHugh.

**Applications approved/refused/withdrawn:**

1. Pasmead St. Peters Drive: refused.
2. Tomkins Fm.(agri building): Planning permission is required.
3. Unit 4A Hope Hse. Fm. Change of use: approved
4. Fair View Willow Rd. replt. Dwelling: approved

**Other items: planning committee agenda 4th. April 2006.**

243-06 **Finance:**

There were 7 cheques totalling £1677.11 for agreement and signature  
Income February 05: 0.00

**Current Bank Balance Lloyds TSB  
15 March 06 £4028.60**

Actual position 3rd.. April 06  
£2232.49

Deposit Acc  
£7308.60

It was resolved to accept the finances.

. It was resolved to pay a terminal gratuity in accordance with the clerk's contract of employment and limited by regulation 41 of the local government (Discretionary Payments) Regulations 1996.

**244-06 Parish paths warden report:**

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

245-06 Weighbridge Electricity Supply: It was agreed that this matter

would be taken together with the proposed resiting of the Resource Centre.

**246-06 Urgent decisions since last meeting:**

None

**247-06 Councillors reports and items for future agendas:**

The clerk to enquire from The Parish Link if a small change of route can be made to include parishioners along The Hillside.

An agenda item is required to discuss why there are so many empty flats at Heaton House.

The Clerk to enquire why spray patching was carried out in Horn Lane two weeks prior to the closure for major repairs.

The Clerk to request the Tree Warden to inspect a large beech near the bridge in Barbers Lane (it may be dangerous).

An agenda item is required to amend the finance committee composition.

The clerk reminded councillors that the deadline for agenda items is the 19th. of the previous month.

**248-06 Date and time of next meeting:**

The next meeting is on Monday 8th. May 2006 at 8 p.m. (Finance committee at 7:30 p.m.). This meeting will be the Annual meeting of The Parish Council and will include election of officers.

Meeting closed at 22.00 hrs.

**Addendum 1**

**Parish paths warden's report**

For March 2006

March 19th saw us at last tackle a little

known route that leaves the private road from Horsham to The Talbot, and climbs through woodland up hill to Sunningdale, and through Sunningdale to Ankerdine summit.

Although this route crosses into Knightwick/Doddenham area we had volunteered to assist the local paths warden to open it. Thanks to Mrs Mary Walker and Mr Tatlow for access to the roads, we were able to take the trailer close to where we needed to work. The route had been marked for us by the Rights of Way at County.

In all, we cleared several hundred metres of light woodland, installed 3 waymark posts and one stile along the private road. There is still a flight of perhaps 15 or 20 steps from Sunningdale to the B4197 for next month's working party. One interesting aside is that the mother of John Corbett, one of the group, used to live in the Old Court House and walk to school along the very path that we cleared.

Over the last few years there have been many instances of sheep fencing adjacent to stiles being cut, one can only assume, by dog owners, to allow their dogs easy access beyond the stile. Unconsidered perhaps by them, but land owners take a very dim view of this practice for obvious reasons, and leave yours truly very clear on their feelings about it. The County Council too, used not to recommend easing the passage of dogs on to farm land—more dogs, more problems with animals and so on.

Time has moved on, and the CC now

approves the installation of suitable 'dog-stiles'.

I have contacted the manufacturer, Centrewire (01953 602085), which is phasing them out, but has perhaps 5 or 6 @ £31 in stock. However they will continue to supply the brackets @ approx. £4 per set.

I am afraid that the Path-or-Nones would not be able to manufacture and install these gates; we are far too busy attending to other work. So, come on you dog owners, band together and make some of them. We will help as much as we can when they are ready to be installed, in terms of advice, tools and securing the agreement of the land owner.

Isn't it time to put a stop to the petty vandalism of cutting sheep fencing?

*JSN 3rd April 2006*

### ***The Parish of Teme Valley North***

We invite you to The Five Church Festival, celebrating the church in the Community.

Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st May 2006.

Come and enjoy our local musical talent:

- Classical guitar
- Baroque and Bach recorder music
- Saxophone quintet
- All-age workshop and concert of world music

- Organ recital
- Hymns that have local connections

All of these events will be performed in the setting of our country churches filled with the fragrance and beauty of flowers.

Along with the entertainment there will be refreshments, worship, church history and story telling.

St Michael's Knighton-on-Teme, St James' Pensax, St Lawrence's Lindridge, St Mary's Stanford Bridge.

*For further details, travel directions, etc, please phone: the Revd Louise Grace 01584 881331*

*or Pauline Briggs 01584 881216*

*www.temevalleynorth.co.uk*

St Andrew's Stockton-on-Teme.

## ***What else is happening in May?***

**1-31 May**

Shindig Events - High-quality live arts for rural and community venues in Worcestershire - see their web site.

[www.shindig.org.uk/](http://www.shindig.org.uk/)

**7 May 2006**

Antiques Fair -

Venue: Three Counties Showground

E-Mail: [info@threecounties.co.uk](mailto:info@threecounties.co.uk)

Phone: 01636 702326

[www.dmgantiquefairs.com](http://www.dmgantiquefairs.com)

**10 May 2006**

NT Event Croome Park - Bat Walk in the evening.

Venue: Croome Park

Phone: 01905 371006

[tinyurl.co.uk/pci0](http://tinyurl.co.uk/pci0)

### ***Services at Martley Post Office***

**Banking Services:** On-line banking for the following banks; Alliance and Leicester, Barclays, Lloyds TSB, Co-operative Bank and UK Smile. For each of these banks you can pay money in, pay cheques in and withdraw money all free of charge. For all other banks, the use of a cashpoint is available for a small charge of £1.75.

### ***Shop facilities***

Services: Photo copying, faxing, laminating and DVD hire.

Film Processing: Photos from your memory cards, CDs, 35mm and APS films all processed within 24 hours and brought to you in partnership with Bromyard Post Office.

Advertising in the shop window for a small charge.

Items for purchase: Tobacco, wine, beer, a selection of spirits, soft drinks, sweets, crisps, ice cream, 35mm and APS films, disposable cameras, batteries, torches, lottery, scratch cards, greetings cards, postcards, gifts by silver scenes.

Also available: glass hire and sale or return on alcohol (glasses come free on all purchases over £50).

### **11-14 May 2006**

Spring Gardening Show - 4 days long for the first time - 11 May is preview/press day, 12-14 May public days  
Venue: Three Counties Showground  
Phone: 01684 584900  
[www.threecounties.co.uk](http://www.threecounties.co.uk)

### **12 May 2006**

Concert - James Galway & London Mozart Players  
Venue: Malvern Theatres  
Phone: 01684 892277  
[www.malvern-theatres.co.uk](http://www.malvern-theatres.co.uk)

### **13-14 May 2006**

Shelsley Walsh Hill Climb - Aldon HSA & Invited Championships (13th); Midland Speed & Invited Championships (14th)  
Venue: Shelsley Walsh  
Phone: 01886 812211  
[www.shelsley-walsh.co.uk/2006.htm](http://www.shelsley-walsh.co.uk/2006.htm)

### **13-14 May 2006**

Tenbury Walking Festival -  
Venue: Tenbury Wells  
Phone: 01584 810136

### **20 May 2006**

Charity Event - St Richard's Hospice:  
22nd annual walks on the Malvern Hills. 2 mile – Mini Malverns; 5 mile – Midi Malverns (a medium trek for all the family – a circular route); 11 mile – Major Malverns  
Venue: Malvern Hills  
Phone: 01905 763963  
[www.strichards.org.uk](http://www.strichards.org.uk)

### **21 May 2006**

Charity Event - Malvern Hills Lions Sponsored Walk  
Venue: Three Counties Showground  
Phone: 01684 833379  
[www.threecounties.co.uk](http://www.threecounties.co.uk)

### **27 May 2006**

Spring Walking Festival - A week of 30 short, medium and long walks through town, hill & Elgar country  
Venue: Malvern Hills District  
Phone: 01684 892289

### **28 May 2006**

Eastnor: Steam & Woodland Fair -  
Venue: Eastnor Castle, Ledbury  
E-Mail: [enquiries@eastnorcastle.com](mailto:enquiries@eastnorcastle.com)  
Phone: 01531 633160  
[www.eastnorcastle.com](http://www.eastnorcastle.com)

### **29 May 2006**

Tenbury Carnival -  
Venue: Tenbury Wells  
Phone: 01684 892289  
Website:

### **31 May- 3 June, 2006**

Elgar Festival 2006 - Wed 31 May - Malvern: Enigma Variations etc. Thur 1 June - Malvern: Pomp & Circumstance etc. Fri 2 June - Malvern: Violin Concerto in B minor etc. Sat 3 June - Worcester: The Kingdom  
Venue: Malvern Theatres & Worcester Cathedral  
Phone: 01684 560696  
[www.eso.co.uk](http://www.eso.co.uk)



# Over the Garden Wall in Wichenford

**WICHENFORD NEEDS YOUR NEWS**

## *Church Flower Rota*

7 May Mrs Root  
14 May Mrs Whyatt  
21 May Rogation Sunday, Service at Bush Farm  
28 May Mrs Weatherall

## *Ladies Fellowship*

Ladies Fellowship meets at 2.30pm on 16 May – venue to be arranged. The speaker will be the Rev Jennifer Whittaker. On 17 May the fellowship will join other groups at the Annual Diocesan gathering in Wychbold Church.

## *Wichenford PCC*

The Wichenford PCC will be holding their meeting at 7.45pm on Monday 14 May in the Memorial Hall.

## *Compost for sale*

On Saturday 6 May compost will be on sale for only £2.50 a 40-litre bag outside the Millennium Green gates from 9am to 12 noon. This is reclaimed council soil conditioner, which can be used with very good effect to break down clay soil. It is ideal for top dress-



**Janet Andrews**  
**01886 888303**  
**Sheila Richards**  
**01886 888378**

ing around shrubs, bushes and roses, and is especially useful as a mulch should this summer be dry again. It is suitable for containers mixed with other compost as well. Help will be available with delivery locally for the elderly. The object of the exercise is to help towards costs of stonework repairs to our church tower. Do come and support us.

*Pam & George Webb*

## *Quiz night*

Wichenford Memorial Hall Management Committee would like to thank everyone who supported our fund raising event quiz night on Saturday 25 February. We all had a good time and we raised £150.80. This money will be put to good use as we are about to embark on some urgently needed refurbishment of the interior of the building. Thanks must go to all members of the committee and their families who donated all prizes, raffle prizes and food. Special thanks to Mr Bill Root who cooked and donated some food, to Mrs

Sheila Richards who organised the food so efficiently on the night and to Mr Peter Andrews who kindly took charge of all liquid refreshments. Grateful thanks to Mr John Harwood who presented us with an excellent quiz and who always supports us with our fund raising night. Many thanks once again to everyone who helped in any way possible because without you all the evening would not have been a success.

*Margaret H Fisher, Secretary  
Wichenford Memorial Hall Manage-  
ment Committee*

### ***Congratulations***

The Elgar and Festival Housing Association organised a competition to find a "Community Star". The competition is for young people up to the age of 16 years and is awarded to those who give the most help to the community. We are delighted that Dale Jaime Matthews of Queensway has been declared joint winner of the award for her help at The Nora Parsons Day Centre and for her charity swimming. Dale will receive £250 to "Make a wish". Well done Dale!

### ***Patrick Ailwyn Jinks***

We extend to Derrick and Marion Jinks and their family our heartfelt sympathy in the loss of their son Patrick, who sadly died at the age of 51 years. The funeral was held at Broadheath Church and the huge congrega-

tion was a tribute to the affection and respect in which Patrick was held.

### ***Edward "Ted" Lewis***

We are so sorry that Ted Lewis has died and send our deepest sympathy to his widow Sarah and to their relatives. A lovely funeral was held for Ted at Stone Church attended by many relatives and friends. Ted loved his garden and enjoyed his aviary, displaying his fondness for birds. He will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

### ***Wichenford 100 CLUB***

February winner: Adam Hylan. Ticket no.1. £108

March winner: George Webb. Ticket no 61. £108.

### ***Important announcement***

The annual general meeting of the Wichenford Millennium Green Trust will take place on Monday 22nd May, 2006 in the Wichenford Memorial Hall at 7.30 p.m.. All parishioners of Wichenford are cordially invited to attend.

#### **The election of trustee**

The election of a general Trustee will take place at this meeting. After 10 years as secretary Mrs H Rendall will be stepping down and so the Trust is looking to appoint a new Trustee who will take over the secretary's rôle.

The trustees appointed by the PCC and the PC are also to be confirmed at the AGM.

Nominations should be sent before the AGM to the Hon Sec. at The New House, Kings Green or by e-mail to Heatherrendall@compuserve.com

### *Offer*

We have been asked to mention that a well-respected Martley village lady is willing to warm cold hands of gentlemen at the Norah Parsons Day Centre. There is no charge.

### *Kensick and Wichenford Parish*

Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 10th April 2006 at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall Wichenford.

Cllr G. Britten-Long chaired the meeting. (Chairman)

Present

Cllr D. Stinton; Cllr J. Panton; Cllr J. Wells; Cllr A. Chilvers; Cllr H. Rendall; Cllr M. Andrews; Cllr K. Randall (vice chair)

In Attendance: Mrs S Sanders (clerk to the Parish Council)

District Cllr B Williams.

#### **Democratic half hour/public question time.**

The chairman invited all present to ask questions or make statements about parish business.

Apologies: Cllr N. Oldfield (accepted)

County Cllr A. Davies.

#### **Declaration of interest**

Cllrs D. Stinton and K. Randall declared a personal interest in Wichenford Memorial Hall. It was requested

that the nature of the interest be recorded in the minutes, and state what the personal interest is. The clerk will issue all councillors the latest calc BPG on interests.

Councillor Rendall declared a personal interest in Kings Green.

#### **Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 20th February 2006 were accepted and signed as a true record.

#### **Progress reports**

Milestone Plate.

The clerk explained that the Milestone plate has been ordered and she will speak to the milestone society for an update.

#### **Litter collection**

After numerous conversations with MHDC, the litter on the lay-by on the B4204 and the broken bottles along Venn Lane has still not been cleared. It was agreed that this is unacceptable after three months and the chairman will contact the authorities.

#### **Guises Lane/Rosses Lane**

Both these lanes have Temporary Closure Orders in place until 16th August 2006. The County Council has been contacted and we were informed that things are progressing at a speed to be anticipated. There is no date as yet for the final status report and 1 objection has been received.

#### **Wichenford Memorial Hall**

It has been confirmed that the Parish Council can spend money on the Memorial Hall as it is a war memorial, and we can also reclaim the VAT.

#### **Parish computer.**



The clerk has purchased a parish council laptop and would like to minute thanks to the parish council as it has made things a lot easier at home.

### **Planning**

The Planning Enforcement Policy Document has been returned to the clerk with the parish councils comments for inclusion.

### **Masons Arms planning appeal**

This application has not yet been decided.

Applications considered since the last meeting.

06/00315/Ful. Proposed external porch and rebuilding of retaining wall, for the Masons Arms Public House.

The Parish Council has no objections to this application but is not in favour of retrospective planning.

Decisions made by MHDC

06/00091/FUL – LBC Stable Court, The Kedges, Wichenford. Approved.

05/01761/FUL Masons Arms, Castle Hill. Withdrawn

05/01195/FUL – LBC Wichenford Court, Wichenford. Approved.

### **Finance**

The end of year account was discussed and accepted. Proposed by Cllr Rendall seconded by Cllr Wells.

The current bank balance up to 31st March 2006 stands at £7,064.38.

There were 5 cheques totalling £828.32 for agreement and signature.

It was resolved to hold off the payment for calc until contacted about the newly worded invoice as it was difficult to understand and to cancel the invoice for additional mail.

The clerk was asked if the finances could be done Net of VAT, and to look at changing accounts as the interest rates are so poor. (clerk and cllr Randall)

The parish council would like to see the consols certificate to see if it would be worth cashing them in.

The acceptance of the finances was resolved.

VAT reclaimed of £508.81. Councilors were reminded that £305.72 of this belongs to the Parish Path Wardens, for 05/06

### **Insurance review.**

The clerk asked if the council would like to add the parish computer to the policy. It was agreed that this was not necessary as it has its own 3 year warranty, but it should be included on the asset register. It was resolved to review the policy at the Annual Meeting.

### **Risk assessment**

The clerk explained that the parish notice boards were in need of an overhaul. It was agreed that the clerk order some catalogues to assess the cost of replacing them.

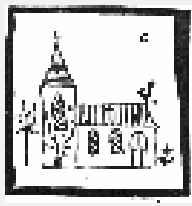
It was resolved to complete the risk assessment at the Annual Meeting, along with the clerks salary review.

### **Lengthsman**

A report was read out from the lengthsman who has now been doing the job for a year. The biggest problem he has encountered is that of litter.

### **Date and venue of next meeting**

To confirm the date of the next meeting arranged for 15<sup>th</sup> May (AM of the PC) at 7.30pm.



# Church Words

The Rectory 01886 888664

## *Rogationtide*

This was traditionally a time when Christians prayed for God's blessings on their crops and other aspects of their work on the land. A service was followed by a visit to various places in the neighbourhood. Often this was combined with 'The Beating of the Bounds', a very old custom from a time when it was important to know the boundaries of the parish. In many cases, food and drink were supplied by the church or people within the village.

George Herbert, the poet and country parson who lived in the seventeenth century, called this tradition 'Procession' and described it in the following terms:

- first, a blessing of God for the fruits of the field;
- second, justice in the preservation of bounds;
- third, charity in loving walking and neighbourly accompanying one another, with reconciling differences at that time, if there be any;
- fourth, mercy in relieving the poor by a liberal distribution of alms.

The way we celebrate Rogation may have changed somewhat since then but we still hold dear the principles for which it stood.



The churches of Martley, Wichford, Broadwas, Knightwick and Cotherdge are holding a Rogation Sunday service on Sunday 21st May at Bush Farm, Wichford, at the home of the Pargeter family.

By happy coincidence Rogation Sunday coincides with the 50th anniversary of the Pargeter family living at Bush Farm and they extend a warm invitation to everyone to stay on after the service and enjoy a pig roast and a glass of wine. Two walks are also planned; one will take in Monkwood and be no longer than 2 miles. The other will be a short walk to the wood of Bush Farm.

The service is particularly relevant to those involved in agriculture, but would be of interest to anybody, all are welcome.

*Further info from Revd David Sherwin*

## *Church diary for May*

- Monday 1st May Bank Holiday
- Tuesday 2nd May 10.00am Holy Communion, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
- Thursday 4th May 1.30-3.00pm Pastoral Care Meeting at the home of Janet Andrews
- Saturday 6th May 9-10.30am Benefice Prayer Group, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
- Sunday 7th May 8.00am Holy Communion, Knightwick Chapel  
9.30am Holy Communion, St Laurence, Wichenford  
11.00am Family Worship, St Peter, Martley  
11.00am Morning Worship, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas  
6.30pm Evensong, St Leonard, Cotheridge  
6.30pm Youth Service, St Peter, Martley
- Monday 8th May 8.30am Prayer Breakfast at The White House
- Tuesday 9th May 7.30pm LTV PCC at Knightwick Village Hall
- Wednesday 10th May 10.15am Holy Communion, Heaton House
- Thursday 11th May Bishop David in Parish all day  
Timetable: 9.45am Morning Prayer at St Laurence, Wichenford  
10.30am Visit to Nora Parsons Day Centre  
12.30am ? Admiral Rodney lunch + local dignitaries  
2.00pm Little Minnows, St Peter, Martley  
3.30pm Afternoon Tea + Pastoral Team at Broadwas Village Hall  
4.30pm Evening Prayer at St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas  
7.00pm "Meet the Bishop" at St Peter, Martley
- Saturday 13th May 2.00pm Martley Spring Fair
- Sunday 14th May 8.00am Holy Communion, St Leonard, Cotheridge
- Christian Aid Week 10.00am Family Worship, St Laurence, Wichenford  
11.00am Holy Communion, St Peter, Martley  
11.00am Morning Prayer, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas  
3.30pm Pet Thanksgiving Service, St Peter, Martley
- Monday 15th May 9.00am Morning Prayer, St Peter, Martley  
7.45pm Wichenford PCC at the Village Hall
- Tuesday 16th May 10.00am Holy Communion, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
- Saturday 20th May 9.30-11.00am Preaching Training Session at St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
- Sunday 21st May Benefice Service  
10.30am Rogation Service at Bush Farm, Wichenford
- Monday 22nd May 9.00am Morning Prayer, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas

# In the Garden



Final selections for planting should be made this month. Start hoeing to remove the weeds that are now beginning to show themselves and finish off the digging and rotovating to prepare the beds for planting. In dry weather some watering should be undertaken, but sparingly to conserve water from now and throughout the summer. Consider installing a water butt under the house rainwater downpipe. Keep an eye open for pests and diseases.

## Flowers

Hardy annuals raised under glass should be planted out. Bulbs want tidying after the foliage has died down. Remove old leaves from Carnations

and pinks and loosen the ground round them. Make sure they are free from weeds. Sweet peas will need supporting and tying up. Put corks on short canes to protect people from injury. Check the support for other climbing plants and look at plants that need staking and pegging down.

## Seeds to sow

Look through the seed packs that you have bought to see what has to be sown. There is still time to buy those that have been overlooked whilst making lists by the winter fire. Some seeds to be sown are asters, hardy annuals and night-scented stocks.

## Plant

Plant antirrhinums, begonias, Calceolarias, dahlias in pots and half-hardy bedding plants. Divide Spring flowering plants, such as primroses, for next season. Plant out the late flowering annuals. Thin out and transplant where necessary.

## *Church diary for May (cont)*

Tuesday 23rd May 4.30pm Evening Prayer at St Johns Parish Church

Wednesday 24th May 10.15am, Holy Communion, Heaton House

Thursday 25th May 12.30am Ascension Day Holy Communion + Mothers Union at St Peters Martley

Sunday 28th May 8.00am Holy Communion, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas

9.30am Holy Communion, St Peter, Martley

11.00am Family Worship, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas

11.00am Holy Communion, St Laurence, Wichenford

6.30pm Evening Worship, St Peter, Martley

Monday 29th May Bank Holiday

## Village Contacts



Editor of The Villager	Andrew Chilvers editor@martley.org.uk <i>or</i> 01905 641986 <i>or</i> leave articles at the Martley Post Office
Advertise in The Villager	Neil Stammers neil.stammers@btinternet.c om <i>or</i> 01886 888513
Church	Rector: Revd David Sherwin—01886 888664 Curate: Revd Jennifer Whittaker—01886 833897
Martley Website	webmaster@martley.org.uk
Martley Parish Council	Chair: Dave Cropp—01886 888398; Clerk: Tom Pearsall—01886 888256
Martley WI	Gwynn Darby—01886 888490
Martley & Dist Hort. Soc.	Pam Minchin—01886 888521 <i>or</i> Margaret Jackson—01886 888654
Royal British Legion	Joyce Tyler—01886 821551
Martley Ramblers	Harry King—01886 888439
Wichenford contacts for The Villager	Janet Andrews—01886 888303, Sheila Richards— 01886 888378
Resource Centre	Alan Boon—01886 888527
Kenswick & Wichenford Parish Counl.	Clerk—Shirley Sanders 01886 888302
Wichenford Wine Club	Secretary—Mike Holmes 01905 641739
Trefoil Guild	geraldine.cooper@btopenw orld.com