

The Villager

The community magazine for the parishes of Martley and Wichenford

Volume 13 No. 6

November 2003

Editor: Michelle Higgins (01886 888344)

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: Jim Sandison (01886 888393)

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

Contact The Villager: leave articles at Martley Post Office or 1 Oxford View Wichenford or email the Editor at 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

Diary

Regular events:

Teme Valley Shufflers Line Dancing

Weds 7pm Martley Memorial Hall.

Enquiries: Jeff and Thelma 01886 821772

Weight Watchers 6.30-7.30pm Tuesdays

Martley Memorial Hall. *Enquiries:* Jennie Barnes 01886 888712

Citizens Advice Bureau Teme Valley

Telephone Service Mon & Tue 10am—3pm
Thu 10am— 7.30pm 01584 810860

Great Witley & Knightwick Surgeries

Weds 10am -4pm - by appointment. Tel. 01584 810860

Short mat Bowling Tuesdays 2.30pm Martley Memorial Hall

Wichenford Local Heritage Group Evening Classes—Wednesdays 7.30-9.30pm

For Church services, please see Church page

Sun 2 **Martley Ramblers** around Martley to the Malvern area Meet 12 noon Church car park

Mon 3 **Wichenford Parochial Church Council Meeting** in the Memorial Hall, Wichenford at 7.45pm

Martley Parish Council Meeting 8pm Memorial Hall

Wed 5 **Bonfire Night!**

Fri 7 **Wichenford Ladies' Fellowship Whist Drive** 8pm Wichenford Memorial Hall

Sun 9 **Remembrance Sunday Teme Valley Farmers Market for local produce** 11am The Talbot, Knightwick

Wed 12 **Martley WI: AGM** 7.30pm Martley Memorial Hall

Tue 18 **Wichenford Ladies Fellowship** meet in the Memorial Hall at 2.30pm

Thu 20 **Meeting of The Wine Club** 8pm Wichenford Memorial Hall

Fri 21 **Schools closed** for teachers' Professional Development Day
Wine and Cheese Evening with Entertainment Wichenford Memorial Hall
Prize Bingo at Gt Witley Village Hall in aid of St Richard's Hospice 7.30pm

Thu 27 **Martley & District Horticultural Society:** AGM 7.30pm Martley Memorial Village Hall

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

Martley Parish Council

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Martley Parish Council held on Monday 1 September 2003 at the Memorial Hall.

Mr. D. Cropp Chairman

Matters Arising

The petition for Worcestershire Schools Funding was signed. The Lengthman reported that Prickley Green Road was satisfactory and that the lay-by had been levelled. Mrs. D. Goodyear thought the loose surface could cause problems. The Clerk to write to Highways requesting an inspection.

Parish Matters

The close proximity of the 40mph and 30mph speed limits on the Hillside towards the village - the Chairman explained the original thinking behind the placement and said that the limits may be reviewed in the future. The Lengthman was asked to check the footpath on the main Worcester Road from near the Taylors Yard around the bend at Barbers.

County Councillor's Report

Mr. A. Davies was unable to attend therefore no report was given

District Councillor's Report

Mrs. B. Williams reported on MHDC's thinking on recycling. The concessionary bus fare shows a take

up of 23%. A letter from a parishioner to MHDC concerning the non-reciprocal agreement between the bus companies to accept each other's return tickets was read and it was agreed that the situation was ridiculous. The "Safer Routes To School" consultation document indicated that substantial spending was proposed for Martley and included a Pelican Crossing in 2005.

Parish Footpath Officer's Report

Mr. J. Nicklin reported that work would be on replacement stiles and other hardware.

Planning

Land at Worcester Road. This application has been opposed and there was surprise that it was being classified as "affordable housing". The Chairman will attend the Planning meeting and represent the views of the Parish Council. White Cottage Kingswood. No objections providing the old building is not subject to historical interest. Martley Millennium Green Sign; no comment. Mardon Worcester Road Martley. Application withdrawn. Applications granted: Cherry Orchard Newtown; Endways Bungalow Hockhams Lane Formation of ponds; Endways Bungalow Hockhams Lane: Replacement dwelling. Application refused: Site at Laugherne Villa

Finance

There were 4 cheques totalling £5531.78 were signed. There was a special cheque for the second payment to Herries Development Ltd. of £4866.72 for the Library and Cyber Café project. This cheque will not be presented until the grant equalling this amount is paid to Martley PC and cleared through the account as for the first payment.

Correspondence

Correspondence included: West Mercia Constabulary-Tenbury Police Station Beat Manager. It was agreed to invite the Beat Manager to the next meeting.

Councillors Reports

Mr. G. Taylor mentioned that Kingswood Lane needs major repair. The Clerk to request Highways to inspect and report. Mr. N. Stammers reported that Neighbourhood Watch has lost the administrator at Worcester due to ill health and that there was poor interest at the Martley Show where he demonstrated security devices. Mrs. D. Goodyear reported a drain on Hillside was blocked with plastic; the Lengthman to check. Mrs. M. Randall reported that a special and rare type of vetch had been discovered down Rosses Lane - it is hoped this may influence the WCC when it came to controlling 4x4 vehicles in the lane. The Clerk stated that Rosses Lane is wholly in Wichenford parish according to the gully plans. Mr. J.

Slough said that the footpath up to the Referral School is becoming overgrown again; the Lengthman to check and clear. Mr. M. Nott reported that the temporary road signs for the top dressing were still up in Hollins Lane and Ankerdine Road and that excess gravel needs sweeping; the Clerk to discuss with Highways. In addition overhanging trees and bushes are causing problems in many places. A general letter in The Villager is needed to alert parishioners to their responsibilities. Mr. D. Cropp said that ten persons had indicated an interest in allotments and the problem now is to find some land for acquisition. Martley has been nominated for Village of the Year; a result is expected soon.

The next meeting is on Monday 6 October 2003.

Tom Pearsall
Parish Clerk 01886 888256



OUT AND ABOUT IN MARTLEY

Visit our website—www.martley.org.uk

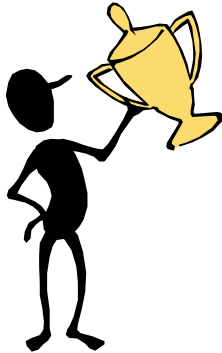
Martley Wins!

Now it is official - Martley is Worcestershire Village of the Year 2003, and has gone forward to the Regional and National Finals, in the last 40 top communities in England so to speak. Two of us from the Parish Council were honoured to go to Perdiswell Leisure Centre at the start of October for the official presentations.

For the next rounds we have had to provide—would you believe it! - twenty sides of A4 describing Martley, the community, the businesses, young people, older people, the environment, and information technology, six 8 x 6 photographs (many thanks to John Nicklin), media contacts, and maps and directions - plus six copies of everything!

By the time you read this, the second round of judging will have taken place, so maybe just maybe there is more good news to tell you.....

Dave Cropp, Chair



Martley & District Horticultural Society

At the September meeting in the village hall, chairman Barbara Kirby thanked everyone for their help in making the Annual Show a great success. The guest speaker was Roy Mantle, his subject “Mushrooms and Toadstools”. Roy has spent thirty years studying hundreds of varieties of fungi, some edible, but some very poisonous. He explained how fungi lived on their host, living or dead wood. Each variety has its own particular systems of producing millions of spores, some of which are exploded into the air. Others are washed into the soil. If all the spores were successful in propagating into new plants, half the country would be covered in fungi! Thank goodness only a few survive. Some of these are very attractive, producing very odd shapes and beautiful colours that were shown on many excellent slides. He was thanked by Ray Ellis.

The Annual General Meeting will be on Thursday 27 November at 7.30pm in the village hall. Do come along with ideas; new members most welcome.

The Annual Dinner is on Friday 5 December in the village hall; details in the December issue of *The Villager*.

Nellie Bradley

Martley Ramblers

Will the good weather hold for this last walk of the season? Even Pam and Colin Hill achieved a dry walk in August. Usually they lead in very wet conditions. The walk around Hawford, Claines and Bevere, led by Pam Bowers was equally dry, no mud, no waterproofs needed. The luscious blackberries on the hedges of the canal made us think of apple and blackberry crumble for supper, but we didn't stop to pick them.

This month, note change of day and time. Sunday 2 November (to avoid clashing with Remembrance Sunday) and start time 12 noon from the church car park, to leave for the Malvern area with Pam Southall and Jean Williams. A picnic lunch and drink to eat on arrival there would be a good idea.

Don't forget the AGM to plan next year's programme on Monday 17 November at 8pm at Hillend Cottage, Pudford Lane.

Kate King



Martley WI

Wednesday 12 November 7.30pm Memorial Hall

This is the AGM, to vote for President and Committee for 2004 and to be reminded of how busy we have been during the past year. As the business is usually over rather quickly, the rest of the evening will give more time for

social activities and to chat with each other; something we do not always have time to do. All old, young, present and future members very welcome. Do come along.

Kate King

Welcome

Nick Whitehouse and Annette Smith have come from Northfield near Birmingham to live at Fairview, Willow Road. Welcome to Martley.

Remembering those who died in combat

Those parishioners who gather round the War Memorial on 9 November 2003, might like to picture in their minds the scene on the very first gathering in June 1920 as described so movingly in the Berrows Worcester Journal of the time – an extract of which appears below. So different from today's journalism! However, the reporter did miss one of the original 16 names – W Wilson. Four other names were added in the next one or two years.

Alan Boon

Dedication of a Cross

Part of Martley's war memorial was dedicated on Saturday afternoon. It consists of a cross erected in the churchyard on the north east corner, whence one can obtain a fine prospect of the country with Ankerdine Hills in the distant background. The cross has been erected at a cost of £100. It is

proposed to erect also a parish hall. Towards this nearly £340 has been raised. The two things will mark, in a very impressive way, Martley's sense of its indebtedness to, and pride in, the gallant fellows who fell in the war.

The service was very much like those in dedication of other parish memorials of the kind. There have been many. ... These sad ceremonies furnish so many pathetic incidents; some of them are common to all these kind of services; some are quite distinctive. There was one of the latter on Saturday. There was present one blinded soldier – a spectacle that would move the heart of a cynic. A comrade beside him carried a wreath. Another comrade described it to the sightless one. "There's maidenhair fern and stocks and-", the recital went on. ... The very glory of the season and the day made him a figure pitiable beyond expression. But there were other human and pathetic elements. One was able to perceive, if only in a dim sort of way, what havoc war had wrought in Martley homes. ... In front of the memorial, in a semi-circle, were gathered the ex-Service men. Until the service commenced, they seemed embarrassed by the prominence given to them. When it began, they were among the most impressed of the company.

The Rector, (the Rev JF Hastings) briefly stated that they had long desired the completion of the memorial to those young lives, who were some of the hundreds and

thousands given for us in the Great War. He then asked those who had brought wreaths to lay them at the foot of the cross. Soon the green around the base was covered with beautiful flowers. For some this laying down of a simple tribute was an ordeal; they could not pass through it without breaking down.

A new arrival



Born on 7 September, a daughter, Katherine Isabel Barbara to Neal and Karen Kirby, of the Noak Farm, Clifton-upon-Teme. A granddaughter for Tony and Barbara Kirby of Hope House Farm, Martley.

Congratulations To...

Trevor Keegan, Carol Williams and Debbie Murphy for completing the "Great North Run". The 13-plus miles half-marathon left them not just with medals but also some very stiff aching legs. However, they did a very good job up in Newcastle, Carol and Trevor got over £800.00 between them for Cancer Research while Debbie raised over £400.00 for a Blind Children's charity.

Well done to Barbara Williams and Wiz Clift for completing the London To Pamplona Classic Car Rally while raising more money for the local Scanner Fund. Not only did they collect a few more hundred pounds for the fund along the way they also

picked up four trophies:- The First in their Class Cup, The Novice Cup, The Clubman Team Trophy and the "Against All Odds" Plate. I think Barbara will explain this latter one and tell you all about their adventures in a future issue of The Villager.

Beth Williams

Martley Spurs

Tottenham are not the only side to get a really bad start to the new season, our very own Spurs did too. All three of our teams have lost most of their early season games with just the one win on the 21st when the Sunday Premier side beat Perrywood 4 goals to 1. They had been in the lead the previous week when Scott Harford bagged a pair in the first half but failed to save a penalty in the second while playing away to last season's champions New Chequers.

Training is now held on a Wednesday evening, 6.30 on the field, anyone wishing to play should just come along.

Beth Williams

Martley Horticultural Society Show and Fete

The Fete Committee met at the end of September and decided to make donations as follows: Martley Village Hall £350.00; The Recreation Association £350.00; St. Peter's Church Martley £200.00; Martley Equipment Fund £100.00; Martley

Branch of The Royal British Legion £50.00; St John Ambulance £30.00.

Beth Williams (Show Secretary)

Pudford Lane

One subject rather bothering us during the last days of autumn was the question of equine passports for our donkeys. How would we get Pippin and Jacob into the little booth at Woolworth's for their photos? Hopefully, by the time this is read the problem will be solved, the donkeys are not illegal immigrants and we do not risk being fined. Allan's Old Girls, the four-footed woolly ones, tidy the remains of the orchids and herbs in our SSSI and the above-mentioned equines happily pass the winter munching through the hay, oblivious to the rare flowers they are digesting. The poultry keepers in the Lane are proliferating. Perhaps we should consider forming PLC plc (Pudford Lane Co-operative plc). Nominations for a chief executive on a postcard, please.

Kate King

Charity Jazz Picnic

On Sunday 31 August, 200 people enjoyed a sunny afternoon in the garden of Scar Cottage listening to music of The Perdido Street Jazz Band. The picnics ranged from smoked salmon and champagne to sandwiches and beer. Ron Dalton excelled himself by raising £370 on the raffle and the event produced a

new profit of over £1,300 for the charity "Action Research". We would like to thank those willing helpers who prepared the venue and manned the bar, everybody who came and supported the event, various donors who gave money or raffle prizes, Colin Bray for allowing us to park in his field, but above all to Pam and Ian for making their beautiful garden available to us.

Jackie and Peter Wenman

Martley Running Club

Are you tired and feeling jaded? In need of a change? Want to feel good about yourself?

Why not come and join the recently founded Martley Running Club. We are a friendly informal club for those of all ages and abilities who want to get fit, have fun and meet new people. Nobody is left behind and we particularly welcome beginners and those who have not been running or jogging for sometime.

We meet outside Sport Martley every Sunday at 10. am and again on Wednesday at 6.30 pm.

If you would like to know more please call Will on 821977 or Tony on 888500. Best of all just turn up and see what it's like!



Nigel Collett

With his untimely death at the early age of 64, Martley has lost a valued member of the community and The Villager a key member of its managing committee.

Nigel Collett was born in Worcester just at the outbreak of the Second World War on the 6 September 1939. His father served throughout the war in the Royal Air Force so his early formative years were largely guided by his mother, who happily is still with us.

After primary education, Nigel went on to the Worcester Royal Grammar School and, his bent being towards matters of a practical nature, on leaving school he became an engineering apprentice at Archdales. Having completed this, he joined Metal Box with whom he was to remain for some 36 years. His early years with Metal Box involved installing and commissioning can manufacturing plants; this took him to such diverse locations as America, Scandinavia and the Gulf States. His last years at Metal Box were spent as Apprentice Master in charge of training, a job to which his outgoing personality was well suited.

Nigel moved to Martley from Worcester in 1992 accompanied by his wife Margaret, whom he had married in Claines church in 1961, his sons Adam and Lee, a number of pedigree Shelties, and two Austin "Frog Eye" Sprite sports cars, the rebuilding of

which were to occupy much of his leisure hours. He somehow seemed to find time to keep the very large garden at the Glebe in immaculate condition. He was very gregarious and had soon joined the Village Memorial Hall Air Gun Club and the Admiral Rodney Skittles team. These two activities were to prove invaluable when he joined the committee of The Villager as his travels with these two teams were to provide him with a wide range of friends and acquaintances. He appeared to have an encyclopaedic memory for people and faces.

Nigel became advertising manager for The Villager in 1999. At that time the financial fortunes of the magazine were at a low ebb, and it was depending on handouts from the Parish Councils and village charities for its continued existence. Such dependence did not augur well for the future of the magazine. The committee agreed that making the publication financially viable was a top priority and Nigel, as the Advertising Manager, was the instrument by which this viability was achieved. As a look at the broad spread of its advertising will show he was outstandingly successful in this respect, and his wide range of contacts enabled him to sell advertising space to quite an amazing range of people and organisations, and even more importantly, having got people aboard, he was able to retain them, no mean feat at a time when the average businessman was looking at shedding expenses in his business.

The communities of Martley and Wichenford owe him their gratitude for his contribution to the community spirits of their villages.

However it is as a person that he should be and will be remembered. At a time when such values are no longer as universally admired as they once were, he was a thoroughly decent man, a man of complete integrity, a loyal friend, and one who had enormous goodwill towards his fellows and was never known to say a bad word about anybody. He was devoted to his family and in recent years was much exercised about the health of his mother. To Margaret, his sons and his mother we extend our sympathy in their loss.

Trefoil Guild

We invited members from Malvern, Redditch and Bromyard Guilds to join us for a Harvest Supper, at Broadwas Village Hall. 32 members sat down to a wonderful three course meal. Afterwards we sang harvest songs and the County Chairman told us of a special service to be held in Pershore Abbey on Sunday 30 November at 2.30p.m. to celebrate our diamond anniversary.

The November meeting will be an open one, at Clifton upon Teme. The speaker will be Heather Hill talking about her job with Lord and Lady Baden-Powell.

Geraldine Cooper

Road Safety

Now that the dark nights are here may I remind everyone, for their own safety, to wear something light-coloured when walking the lanes where there are no foot paths, especially when walking dogs.

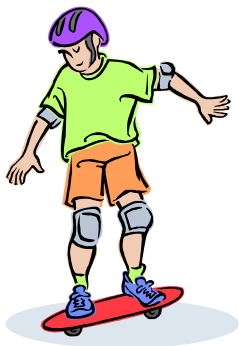
Last winter I had some near-misses whilst driving in the dark when people walking dogs had dark clothing on and could not be seen. It would be far better to wear a high-visibility waistcoat or jacket with reflective stripes to give yourself and motorist's a chance.

G. Neil Stammers

Martley Neighbourhood Watch Group

Co-ordinator.

Teenagers and younger children should also note that when they are skateboarding or riding bikes in the dusk they are invisible to car drivers unless they wearing light-coloured or reflective clothing—Ed.



Royal British Legion

The October meeting was well-attended and many items of business discussed, including arrangements for Remembrance Sunday which falls this year on 9 November. The service will be at Broadwas church at 10.45am—members please make every effort to attend. Meet on the car park at 10.30am. Following the service, we will go to the Royal Oak, Broadwas, for the traditional “sherry taking”. Our Martley members will be attending their own service at Martley church.

Six members and guests will be attending the Festival of Remembrance on Saturday 8 November, those of us who have been know they will find it a great experience!

Social Secretary, Thelma Taber, is planning two events for the New Year—the ever-popular Fish & Chip Supper Evening with entertainment and a film about the building of the Burma Railway. Watch this space for details.

Poppy Appeal—collectors are required for the Doddenham and Knightwick areas. Please contact Mike Peters on 01886 821504 if you can help.

The Treasurer wishes to remind members that subscriptions, still £13.59, are due.

The next meeting is Monday 3 November and will be the monthly meeting followed by the AGM. Please note that this meeting starts at 7.30pm.

Joyce Tyler, Hon. Sec.



Over the Garden Wall in Wichenford

WICHENFORD NEEDS YOUR NEWS

John Willis

We are very sorry to hear that John Willis has died. John managed Bulmers Orchards for some years, having previously studied fruit growing in New Zealand. He was dedicated to his work that was also a pleasure to him. His hobbies included walking and travel, which he enjoyed with his wife Gillian, who sadly died only a few weeks ago. John was a devoted family man and we send our deepest sympathy to his daughters Katie and Liza and their families. He will be remembered with respect and affection.

Get Well

We are sorry to hear that Don Bakewell has been in hospital and send our very best wishes for a speedy recovery.

Welcome

We welcome Adam and Sue Barwell and their family, who have come to live at Wichenford Court. We wish them happiness in their new home.



Janet Andrews
01886 888303
Sheila Richards
01886 888378

Phone your Wichenford news to Janet or Sheila or leave articles at Martley Post Office or 1 Oxford View Wichenford

In Memoriam

Sandra Webb wishes to thank everyone for showing her such kindness in the recent loss of her husband, Bill. To everyone who attended his funeral, for the cards, flowers and donations, thank you so much. It was a great comfort to her and she is so grateful.

We are sad to report the sudden death of Bill Webb at the age of 46 years. Bill was born in Wichenford and attended Wichenford School until his family moved to Dunley. However, six years ago he and Sandra moved back to Wichenford and perhaps they are most known for being seen walking miles through the country lanes, either together, or accompanied by their dogs. Our deepest sympathy goes out to Sandra and the family.

Ted Wojceichowski

We are saddened that Ted has passed away. Pam, Ted and their daughter Rachel, moved to Wichenford in 1980. They lived in a mobile home while Ted built their lovely home at Pughs Rough, where they enjoyed many happy years farming the land, and Ted carrying on his business in Oldbury. Eventually they decided to move to Clifton-upon-Teme where, unfortunately, 4 years ago Ted became ill and bravely fought his illness with great courage. He will be remembered for his patience, helpfulness and consideration for others. Our deepest sympathy goes to Pam, Rachel and Roger.

Remembrance Service

The Remembrance Service at Wichenford this year will commence at 10.45am and will be attended by representatives from various organisations who played their part in the Second World War and more recent conflicts. A choir from the Chantry High School, a Brass Ensemble from the West Mercia Police Force, with four singers, will perform during the Service, and it is hoped that as many parishioners as possible will be able to attend. Everyone is welcome at the Memorial Hall after the Service, for refreshments.

Wichenford Church News

Altar Flowers

2 November Mrs Barber
9 November Mrs S Britten –
Remembrance Sunday
16 November Mrs S Britten
23 November Mrs P Webb
30 November Advent – no flowers

Church Services

Evensong is to continue in November and December at the earlier time of 4pm, so do come and join us on 16 November. Anyone needing a lift please ring one of the Churchwardens.

Diary Dates

3 November Parochial Church Council Meeting in the Memorial Hall, Wichenford at 7.45pm
18 November Ladies Fellowship meet in the Memorial Hall at 2.30pm

Bingo

On Friday 28 November a Prize Bingo will be held in the Memorial Hall, Wichenford in aid of Princess Diana's Hospital (Charlotte's Trust).

Doors open at 7pm, eyes down 7.30pm All welcome for a fun evening and good prizes.



In Sympathy

Our deep sympathy goes to the families and friends of Mr Albert James and Mr WJ Webb (Bill), who passed away in September. May they rest in peace.

Wichenford Ladies fellowship

Our September meeting was held at Heath Farm, Hallow, by kind invitation of Mrs Jane Wheeler. Charlie and Jo from the St Peter's Garden Centre had brought along an interesting display of plants and shrubs, and some beautiful orchids, giving details on how to care for these plants and assuring us that orchids really aren't that difficult to grow. Mrs M Wall thanked Charlie and Jo on behalf of the Fellowship.

Rev Jennifer Whittaker, our newly appointed curate, was welcomed to the meeting and invited to join us at future meetings, as her duties around the parishes allowed. We were pleased and relieved to hear that Mrs Isabel Field has had her hip replacement operation and making steady progress. Two other members who had suffered recent injuries, Mrs Joan Banks and Mrs Pam Webb are now improving.

In October we had Sister Desi Green speaking to us, and on Friday 7 November the Fellowship will be holding a Partner Whist Drive in the Memorial Hall in aid of Church funds. Members agreed to support the

“Operation Christmas Child” appeal and bring items to fill a shoebox to the next meeting. Mrs Brenda Hadfield led the prayers. Mrs Jane Wheeler, Mrs Millie Pargeter and Mrs Sheila Richards provided a delicious tea, and we all wished Mrs Jane Wheeler a happy September birthday.

Wichenford Memorial Hall—Fund-raising Events

On Friday 31 October 2003 at 7.30pm for 8pm at the Memorial Hall enjoy an evening with Brian Draper MBE when he will be giving one of his illustrated and entertaining talks on the flora, fauna and local ecology of the River Severn. Light refreshments available, raffle.

Tickets are £3 on the door. Do please bring family and friends – our earlier talks by Brian Draper, illustrated with slides, were greatly enjoyed by everyone. Proceeds are to raise funds for the maintenance of the Memorial Hall.

On Friday 21 November a Wine & Cheese Evening is to be held at 7.30pm for 8pm. Musical entertainment provided by local Ladies Barbers Shop Singers.

Tickets £4 each available from Hall committee members or telephone bookings accepted on 01886-888214 or 01886-888368. A raffle will take place, and all profits will go towards the maintenance of the Memorial Hall.

Wichenford 100 Club

Unbelievably we have completed our first year and £1,400 has been raised by the villagers for the village. In addition, 12 lucky members have won over £100 each in monthly draws.

At the AGM it was decided to distribute the money as follows:

£900- Millennium Green upkeep and equipment

£200- St Laurence Church

£200- Village Hall

£100- Wichenford Nursing Association

Thank you so much to everyone who has participated and made the club such a success - and MOST important of all - PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

September winner: no. 191 J. Draper (£108)

Millennium Green Tidying & Inspection Rota

November: Jan Panton



Wichenford Wine Club

Wichenford Wine Club will meet on Thursday 20 November at 8.00.p.m. at the Village Hall. We look forward to what we are sure will be an entertaining visit and tasting of wines from Argentina and Chile hosted by Malpass Stallard, very well respected Worcester wine merchants. Members and visitors all welcome.

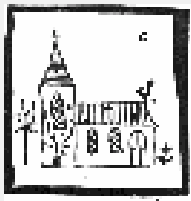
Wichenford Heritage Group

The exhibition staged by Heritage group members in the Memorial Hall on 13—14 September was a great success. The weather was very kind and it was wonderful to see so many visitors and share their reminiscences. Thank you to everyone who loaned their precious photographs and memorabilia for the exhibition, to the Chantry School for lending their display boards and to all who worked so hard to set up the display.

Over 30 people registered for the autumn series of classes in the Memorial Hall on 'The Making of the Local Landscape' enabling the course to start as planned on 1 October.

Wichenford Ladies' Fellowship Whist Drive

Friday 7 November 8pm at Wichenford Memorial Hall—refreshments and good prizes. In aid of the audio system for St Laurence's Church.



Church Words

The Rectory 01886 888664

This month our new Curate Rev Jennifer Whittaker writes for us:

Writing this in the middle of September shortly after arriving in this area with my husband Douglas, I am reminded of Keats' description of Autumn: "Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness, Close bosom friend of the maturing sun; Conspiring with him how to load and bless With fruit the vines that round the thatch-eaves run."

As I begin my ministry in this beautiful part of the country we have tasted many of the fruits of this harvest time, some generously pressed upon me as I call on people around the Benefice - not only is Nature herself generous this year! My appreciation of this along with the beauty of the countryside reminds me of God's generosity, seen not only in His creation, but also in the place in it which he has given to each one of us. The Psalmist writes: "When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established; What are human beings that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?" We are blessed through God's gifting but this gifting places responsibilities on all of us no matter where we live and

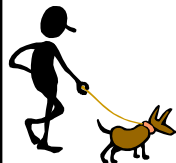
work. The care of the earth is ours. We have to learn to respect it, not abuse it, remembering the generations to come. As Douglas and I settle into the area, may we thank you for your warm welcome, and encourage you to say hello and introduce yourself if you see us around. Can I encourage you, even in the midst of the mists of November, to be aware that in his infinite wisdom God ".Has made them (humans) a little lower than God and crowned them with glory and honour" and to be thankful.

Revd. Jennifer Whittaker, Curate

For Church Services see page 22

Two messages from the Churchwardens

For the benefit of everyone who uses the churchyard, may we ask dog-owners to keep their pets under close control there, and if necessary, to clean up after them. Thank you for your co-operation.



The church cleaning rota is presently being revised and those wishing to help with the cleaning (approximately two hours per month) should contact Dot Fletcher on 01886 821884.

Church Services for November

2 November	
Wichenford	9.30am Holy Communion
Martley	11am Family Service; 3pm Memorial Service for the Bereaved
Broadwas	11am Morning Worship
Knightwick	8am Holy Communion
Cotheridge	6.30pm Evensong
9 November	
Wichenford, Martley and Broadwas	10.45am Remembrance Day Service
16 November	
Wichenford	4pm Evensong
Martley	8am Holy Communion; 11am Morning Worship
Broadwas	11am Holy Communion
Cotheridge	9am Matins
Knightwick	3pm Evening Worship
23 November	
Wichenford	11am Holy Communion
Martley	9.30am Holy Communion; 6.30pm Evening Worship
Broadwas	8am Holy Communion; 11am All-Age Worship
30 November	
Martley	6.30pm Benefice Advent Carol Service with guest speaker from Worcester Cathedral

In the Kitchen



Stuffed Onions

4 large onions about 225g/8oz each
 225g/8oz cooking apple
 100g/4oz fresh breadcrumbs
 100g/4oz Stilton cheese
 1 bunch watercress
 Salt and pepper
 50g/2oz butter

Method:

1. Peel the onions and boil for 15 mins. Drain and cool.
2. Peel, core and chop the apple and mix with the breadcrumbs and crumbled cheese.
3. Reserve 4 sprigs watercress for garnish and chop the rest and add it to the apple mixture.
4. Scoop out the centre of each onion with a spoon, leaving a thick shell. Chop the removed onion and add it to the apple mixture. Season the apple mixture and press carefully it into the onion shells.
5. Stand the onions in an ovenproof dish and dot each one with the butter. Bake at 180°C (gas 4) for 35-40 mins to cook the stuffing.

Garnish with the reserved watercress before serving.

Prize Bingo
at Great Witley Village Hall
7.30pm Friday 21 November
in aid of St Richard's Hospice
Tel. 01886 812497
for more information

News from Villa Fiore
(Witley Church)
Tea Rooms

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has supported us by visiting or recommending us to your friends. We have had a wonderfully successful season due entirely to our fantastic, loyal and dedicated staff. We have decided to extend our season to include group bookings for lunches, if required, and we will also be holding two special Friday Night Candlelit Suppers in November and special Christmas Lunches in December. For menu details, bookings and any other information please ring Carol on 01299 896978.

We will also be holding a local crafts evening to include hand-made jewellery, hand-made Christmas cards and art works on Monday 17 November at 7.30pm.

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★
 ★ **Norah Parsons Day** ★
 ★ **Centre Christmas Fair** ★
 ★ **2pm Monday 1 December** ★
 ★ **Home made cakes and** ★
 ★ **produce, wrapping paper, a** ★
 ★ **raffle and lots more ...** ★
 ★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

**A day of African drumming
with Ayodele Scott**

here in the wilds of West Worcestershire
Little Witley Village Hall
Saturday 6 December
10am-4pm.
£25 for the day

**Also an evening concert
7.30-11.30pm with Ayo and
workshop participants and one or
two guest performers.**

***This promises to be an exciting and
memorable event.***

**For more information, contact Angie
on 01886 888762 or
angiehill@supanet.com**

Pets and fireworks

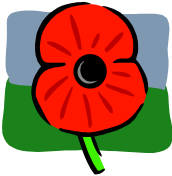
Please remember that many small animals are very frightened by fireworks, and “bonfire night”, which has now become “bonfire week”, is a horrific time of year for them and their owners. Out of respect for animals and their owners, please try to confine your bangs and flashes to 5 November only.

Lost Lippitts

Beneath the Poppies

*When long ago the carnage ceased
And left this desecrated land in peace
It came too late for us, who died,
Now amid the poppies side by side
We lie in graves beneath the grass
Where at the head there stands a cross
Bearing the name and service number
Of those left here in peace to slumber.
So many years have now passed
Since making our ultimate sacrifice
That few are left who shared those
years
With us who lie, in Flanders fields.*

Derrick Jinks



Dear Editor,

Some of my husband's "Lippitt" ancestors lived in Martley and we're hoping you can help us with some information or direct us to someone who could help us.

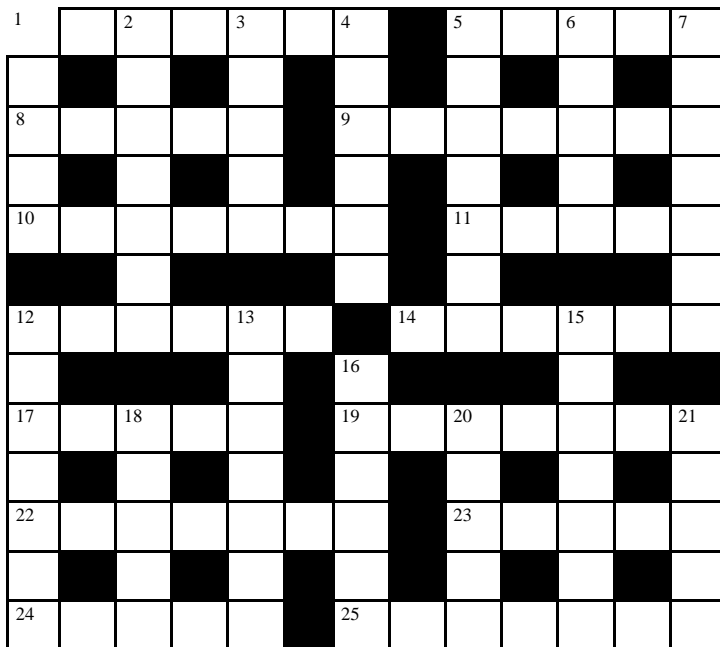
In the Martley churchyard is the following headstone: "*In loving memory of Alfred Lippitt died 10th November 1966 aged 73 also his dear wife Margaret passed away 13th October 1997 in her 100th year*". We know the history of Alfred from his birth backwards, but only recently were we told about this headstone. We would very much like to contact the family of Alfred and Margaret Lippitt and we are wondering if anyone knew her or any of her children and how we may come in contact with them?

Do any Lippitt families live in Martley or the area at the moment? What are the name(s) and address of any funeral homes in Martley or surrounding villages that service the people of Martley where Margaret Lippitt's funeral service may have been organized from so that we can contact them.

*Tom & Judy Mann
Milton Ontario Canada*

If anyone has any information, please contact The Editor on editor@martley.org.uk or leave a note at the Martley Post Office

Tea-break



Apologies for lack of numbers on clues in recent cross-words—this was an error, not a ploy to make the crossword more difficult! - Ed.

ACROSS

1. ONE OF THE MARVELS JESUS PERFORMED (7)
5. PART OF AN ACCLAMATION; CHRIST IS(5)
8. IN OUR CHURCH THEY ARE A AND B (5)
9. THE SEVENTH DAY (7)
10. GRADUAL ESCAPE (7)
11. MUSLIM RELIGION (5)
12. PRAYER WITH RESPONSES (6)
14. CHESTY AFFLICTION (6)
17. THEME (5)
19. BISHOP (7)
22. LOOK UP TO (7)
23. GARMENT (5)
24. DESIRE (5)
25. BRIDGE (7)

DOWN

1. ETHICAL(5)
2. WITHDRAW (7)
3. ‘.....BRAVA’ (5)

4. PACIFIC ISLAND (6)
5. TALKS TOO MUCH (slang) (7)
6. ONE OF A ROW OF SEATS IN CHURCH (5)
7. OT BOOK (7)
12. PRESCRIBED FORM OF PUBLIC WORSHIP (7)
13. ON UNCLE (anagram)(7)
15. PAGAN (7)
16. HURTS (6)
18. ITALIAN FOOD (5)
- 20.FOR THE RELIEF OF CONSTIPATION (5)
21. SENIOR (5)

Answers to October Crossword

ACROSS: 1.PAGANS 4.CENSER 7.RELIGIOUS
 9.EVER 10.NAME 11.PIOUS 13.THEIST
 14.EPOCHS 15.EXTOLS 17.MANUAL 19.MAKER
 20.SINS 22.ARTS 23.THEOCRACY 24.RECTOR
DOWN: 1.PRIEST 2.AVER 3.SPIRIT
 4.CLIQUE 5.NOUN 6.RIPENS 7.REPENTANT
 8.SANCTUARY 11.PSALM 12.SPEAR 15.EASTER
 16.SAVOUR 17.METERS 18.LISSOM 21.SHUT

In the Garden



Garden Tips for November

November signals the end of the growing season as we approach winter, and the end of the year. The seed catalogues will be at hand; it is not too early to plan your seed requirements for 2004.

No matter how long you have been a gardener, you will find new ways of producing and growing plants. We

have just come through a very trying summer for vegetable growers. The use of manure and mulch around plants has never been better demonstrated.

This is the time to prepare the soil for next year. Does your soil need lime?



This is an essential requirement in the growing of good brassicas. A simple kit to test the lime content of your soil can be purchased from

local garden centres.

Rhubarb is often planted in an odd corner of the garden and left to look after itself. Now is the time to pay attention to it. It needs a good dressing of compost or well-rotted manure to produce a good crop. If you wish to produce new plants dig up part of the old root and leave it spread out on the top of the soil for the frost to clean it up. Plant out early next year, splitting it up into small pieces with at least one bud showing. It will take about 12 months to produce a good plant.

Jack Bradley

**APEX
ADVERT**

Attention puzzlers!

If anyone fancies compiling a crossword, or just writing some clues, I will put together our very own Villager crosswords. How about a themed puzzle—the seasons, round and about Martley and Wichford, country pursuits etc? - Email me or leave contributions at Martley Post Office—Ed. editor@martley.org.uk