

# The Villager

The community magazine for the parishes of Martley and Wichenford

Volume 14 No. 6

November 2004

**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:** 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

*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*

## November Diary

### Regular events:

#### Teme Valley Shufflers Line Dancing

Weds 7pm Martley Memorial Hall.

*Enquiries:* Jeff and Thelma

01886 821772

#### 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

#### Short mat Bowling Tuesdays 2.30pm

Martley Memorial Hall

#### Weight Watchers Tue 6.30pm

Martley Memorial Hall

*Enquiries* Tracey Hopkins

07710 493617

See Church Words for details of services

- |        |  |
|--------|--|
| Mon 1  | <b>Martley Parish Council Meeting</b> 8pm<br>Memorial Hall   |
| Wed 3  | <b>Wichenford Local History Group</b><br>7.30pm Memorial Hall  |
| Fri 5  | <b>Bonfire Night</b>   |
| Sun 7  | <b>Martley Ramblers to Kidderminster area.</b> Meet 1.30pm Church car park   |
| Mon 8  | <b>Kenswick and Wichenford Parish Council Meeting</b> 7.45pm Wichenford Memorial Hall  |
| Wed 10 | <b>Martley WI: AGM</b> 7.30pm Martley Memorial Hall<br><b>Wichenford Local History Group</b> 7.30pm Memorial Hall                        |
| Thu 11 | <b>Remembrance Day</b>   |
| Fri 12 | <b>Partner Whist Drive</b> 8pm Wichenford Memorial Hall  |
| Sun 14 | <b>Remembrance Services</b> 10.45am (see Church page)<br><b>Teme Valley Farmers Market for local produce</b> 11am The Talbot, Knightwick |
| Mon 15 | <b>Martley Ramblers AGM</b> 8pm Hillend Cottage, Pudford Lane<br><b>Wichenford PCC meeting</b> 7.45pm Memorial Hall                      |
| Tue 16 | <b>Wichenford Ladies' Fellowship</b> 2.30pm in the Memorial Hall   |
| Wed 17 | <b>Wichenford Local History Group</b> 7.30pm Memorial Hall   |
| Thu 18 | <b>Meeting of The Wine Club: Supermarket Bargains</b> 8pm Wichenford Memorial Hall   |
| Sat 20 | <b>&amp; Martley Art Group Exhibition</b> 10-6pm<br>Gt Witley Village Hall   |
| Sun 21 |  |
| Sun 21 | <b>Walking Not Working</b> —footpath surveying with the Path-or-Nones. Meet 9.30am Martley Village Hall carpark                          |
| Wed 24 | <b>Wichenford Local History Group</b> 7.30pm Memorial Hall   |
| Thu 25 | <b>Martley &amp; District Horticultural Society:</b> 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*

# OUT AND ABOUT I N MARTLEY

Visit our website—[www.martley.org.uk](http://www.martley.org.uk)



## *Martley Parish Council*

An ordinary meeting of the Martley parish council was held on Monday 4 October 2004 at the Memorial Hall. Cllr Mr. D. Cropp Chairman. In Attendance: Mr. T. Pearsall (Clerk), District Cllr. Mrs. B. Williams, and 6 members of the public.

### The Democratic Period/Public Question Time

A parishioner again raised the matter of High House Ankerdine; District Cllr. Mrs. B. Williams explained the meaning of “permitted development” and produced the booklet “Planning A Guide To Householders” which is produced by DTLR (Dept. for Transport, Local Government and the Regions). This booklet details what is permitted and not permitted under the Planning legislation. Considerable discussion ensued.

The Chairman opened the Parish Council Meeting at 20.20hrs and welcomed Mrs. Shirley Sanders, Clerk to Wichenford PC, who was observing.

Minutes of the meeting held on 6 September 2004:

Cllr. Mr. G. Coombey-Jones requested

minute 128-04 be amended to include after the word “meeting” “representations to return to Cllr. Mr. G. Coombey-Jones by September 26th.”; this addition was agreed. It was resolved to accept the minutes as a true record with the amendment.

### Communication:

The Clerk presented the list of duties. Certain amendments were agreed and the Clerk will circulate the list with the amendments.

### District Councillor’s Report:

District Cllr Mrs. B. Williams had already reported on the Planning Booklet during Democratic Period. She met Wichenford PC to discuss the issue of speeding along Barbers Lane. It is recommended that both parish councils agree a strategy and liaise with the two County Councillors involved. It is recognised that the 30 MPH limit may need to be extended to cover from the junction with B4204 to Threeways Nurseries.

Malvern Hills DC has now received its “OFSTED”, but the results are not known yet.

### County Councillor’s Report:

County Cllr. Mr. A. Davies had sent in

his apologies thus no report was given, however he did deliver a message to the Clerk to the effect that when a decision is reached concerning the road junction in the centre of Martley and a meeting arranged with Highways, he would like to attend.

Correspondence included:

Hallmarks Solicitors ref. meeting to discuss development and letter 23 Sept.; WCC Highway Service—progress report; MHDC Planning –“A guide to householders”; WCC “Human Race” pamphlet (3); Wall James & Davies solicitors ref. Taylors yard dev. Meeting at MHDC Planning 23 September; WCC Free composting clinics – poster and time table; The Boundary Commission—final recommendations for WCC; MHDC Planning – Lower Hollins Fm. Static caravans; DEFRA re. Rt. Hon Alan Michael MP “Clean Neighbourhoods” comments requested; N.Hatchard & C. Shaw letter ref. Berrow Green Road traffic and Clerk’s reply (this item raised the issue of heavy vehicles passing through the village. Some discussion took place); Sir Michael Spicer Surgery dates.

Planning:

Applications Received: none  
Applications Approved/Refused/Withdrawn: 04/01273/FUL Bank House Witley Road. Approved with provisos. 04/01173/LBC Barn at Hillend Farm. Approved with provisos. 04/01396/FUL Barn at Hillend Farm. Approved with provisos. 04/01096/LBC Quarry Farm.

Approved with provisos. 04/01095/FUL Quarry Farm. Approved.

Other issues:

1) Letter from MHDC Planning ref static caravans at Lower Hollins Farm (item 12 correspondence). 2) The Chairman reported that both he and the Clerk had attended a meeting at MHDC Planning as observers ref. the Taylor’s Yard development. It was agreed at the meeting that 50% of the housing would be low cost housing and the remaining housing would be aimed at the lower end of the market. A footpath will be established from the development to the village. In addition, it was announced that the proposed Hastings Close low cost housing scheme is now dead as the land owner has decided not to proceed.

Finance:

There were seven cheques totalling £1185.64 for agreement and signature. The Clerk announced that Lloyds TSB had stopped crediting interest to the account and statements were very late; he is exploring alternatives including internet banking.

Parish Paths Warden Report:

Mr. Nicklin was not present so no report was given.

Road Junction B4197/B4204 Centre of Village:

Cllr. Mr. G. Coombey-Jones declared that no responses had been received. The Chairman invited Mr. A. Gosling to express his idea. This was a gate system, similar to that used at the entrance to other villages for traffic-calming. It was agreed that the Clerk

would arrange a meeting on site with Highways and various councillors. In addition, the Clerk to write to the land owners abutting the footpath around the corner from the B4197 to the B4204 to request hedge cutting. The Chairman thanked Mr. A. Gosling for his input.

#### Waste Bins:

This item will be removed from the agenda until next year's budget has been determined.

#### Bell Ropes:

The Chairman declared an interest in this item and left the room; Cllr. Mr .G. Taylor took the chair. The Clerk stated that this item came under Sect 137 LGA 1972. It was resolved to grant £100.00 towards the refurbishment of the bell ropes, this expenditure was proportionate under the Act.

#### Urgent Decisions since last meeting:

Cllr. Mr. G. Taylor said that a pothole still existed on the B4197 near "Row End", Berrow Green Road; the Clerk to report to Highways. Cllr Taylor also announced that he had been appointed to the Freight Transport Council and that an agenda item in October is the extension to the Northern Link bypass in Worcester.

Cllr. Mr. M. Nott requested that the Chairman submit his usual appeal in The Villager for hedge cutting.

Cllr. Mr. R. McHugh is to obtain a list of contractors who are prepared to do hedge cutting. This list to be available from the Clerk and posted on the notice board. Cllr. McHugh also

reported two blocked gullies for the Lengthsman to investigate.

Cllr. Mr. G. Coombey-Jones enquired progress on the playground covering. Cllr. Mr. G. Taylor reported that the supplying company had confirmed that the covering complied with the relevant B.S. Specification. The Clerk to write to Cllr. Mr. G. Taylor in his capacity as chairman of the playing fields committee and request replacement of the waste bin.

Cllr. Mr. N. Stammers reported that recent burglaries had not been reported to him via the Neighbourhood Watch scheme. He will follow this up.

Cllr. Mrs. M. Randall reported on the visit to Throckmorton Waste Disposal Unit. She also reported on the speeding issues in Barbers Lane. It was agreed that an agenda item was needed for a review of the speed limits and signs in Martley.

#### Date and Time of Next Meeting:

As the Clerk is about to produce next year's list of meetings, it was agreed that the meeting days would continue to be the first Monday in the month. In addition, it was agreed to have an interim Parish Meeting in the spring. The next meeting is on Monday 1 November 2004 at 8 p.m.

*Tom Pearsall, Clerk to the Parish  
Council 01886 888256*

## *Martley Fete*

A meeting of the Fete Committee was held on 21 September to allocate the money raised at the Fete held in August. The following Village Organisations received financial support: Martley Village Hall £350, Martley Recreation Association £350, St Peter's Church £200, The Royal British Legion £50. The Committee expressed their thanks to all those people who assisted the Fete in any way, thus enabling the day to be so successful.

## *Martley & District Horticultural Society*

At the first meeting following the summer outdoor activities, Society members met in the Village Hall for their September meeting. Thanks were expressed to all members for making the Annual Show such a success. All Show trophies have been engraved and are back with the winners.

The guest speaker for the evening was Mr David Burton-Pye from Dudley. His subject was "Great Gardens in this Country". Illustrating his talk with many interesting slides, he described

the gardens and buildings that have been saved and reconstructed under conservation across the country. Some of these possess well-landscaped gardens that are filled with a great variety of plants. Mr Burton-Pye is very interested in sculpture and presented a number of slides on a variety of figures formed in metal and stone. The Society's Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday 25 November in Martley Village Hall at 7.30pm. Many things to be discussed, new members most welcome. The Society's Annual Dinner is on Friday 3 December in Martley Village Hall, 7pm for 7.30pm. Final details in the December issue of *The Villager*.

*Nellie Bradley*

## *Martley Ramblers*

### **7 Nov. 1.30pm Church car park**

This is the last walk of the season and will be around Kidderminster area, leader Jill Strudwick. Note earlier start due to darker afternoons, 1.30pm Church car park and 1st Sunday in the month to avoid clashing with Remembrance Day.

The AGM will be at Hillend Cottage, Pudford Lane, Monday 15 November at 8pm. Come and vote for Mabel's guardians for 2005. Come with suggestions for next year's programme. Come to refresh yourselves and chat over 2004 programme. New members always welcome.

*Kate King*



## *The Worlds Biggest Coffee Morning*

Many thanks to everyone who came to Martley Library for coffee, tea and cake on Friday 24 September, in aid of Macmillan Cancer Relief. We raised a total of £172.75, which included contributions from Helen and George who made coffee and tea for their work colleagues. Also a big thank you to Pat Crooke, Nellie Bradley and Neil for their help on the day.

*Eileen S Stammers*

## *Martley Tithe map Project*

There is now a nucleus of five or six people in Martley who are keen to partake in this project. We need to include teams from Clifton, Shelsley, Doddenham and Broadwas, so if you or a friend of yours would be interested, contact me (John Nicklin) on 01886 888318.



Peter Walker, from Knightwick, has recently delivered to me the complete typed and sorted Tithe Apportionments not only for Martley but

for all of the parishes with which we are going to be in the project. This is excellent news as it means that a huge amount of work has already been accomplished so the project can get off to a flying start. Our deepest thanks to Peter (the Great!).

*John Nicklin*

## *Martley Spurs*

As I write, the new season is already over a month old. Our three teams are all in the Worcester League, with one side in both the Saturday and Sunday Premier Divisions and the Reserves in Division Two.

Sunday 5 September the saw the first league games when just the Reserves kicked off well by winning 6 - 2 over CMB Sports, Luke Willets and Tom Birchley both netting a pair.

The following week, the Saturday Premier eleven had a goalless draw against Pershore Manor Rovers. Sunday the 12th offered up a bit of a record when the Reserves netted TWENTY ONE goals against the luckless AFC West Midlands, who did not even score once, in the first round of the Bernard Finnegan Cup. Of this wealth of goals, Luke Willets was top scorer with eight under his belt, Tom Birchley got a hat trick and Dan Mayfield netted a couple.

The eighteenth saw the Saturday Premier boys beat All Blacks 5 - 2 and the next morning, the Sunday Premier side drew four-all with Perrywood. However, the Reserves could not live up to their previous week's triumph and lost by two goals to nil in their away game with Droitwich Spa Reserves.

Two of the final games of the month were also a round of cup ties - both for the Worcestershire F.A. Cup, the Saturday eleven lost to Archdales while the Sunday Reserves won 8 - 0

and moved on to the next round, once again Luke Willets was the hero adding a further five to his name. The Sunday Premier side, not playing in a cup match, beat Droitwich Spa 3 - 1.

The Spurs wish to thank Dave and Roy Hudge of Worcester Tools and Fixings for their kind sponsorship of the kit for the Sunday Premier Eleven and also Eddy Murphy for the kind donation of a ball.

*Beth Williams*



## **Martley WI**

AGM Wednesday 10 November, 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall. Don't be put off by the words "Annual General Meeting" which is this month's meeting. The reports remind us of the fun we have had at this year's meetings and we will be told what is in store for 2005.

Brains will be sharpened up with a quiz or quizzes with fantastic prizes (maybe). Great bargains to be had on the Trading Table and a chance to chat over refreshments. An evening not to be missed.

Make sure you are there to support your committee and to thank them for their hard work over the year.

*Kate King*

## ***Pudford Lane***

Summer's gone, the nights are dark and the Lengthsman's done a wonderful job keeping the lane dry, in spite of abnormally high rainfall this year. We understand dealing and exchange of poultry continues. Some sold, some purchased from afar, maintaining a head-count in excess of humans (or even horses) in the lane. Can the ones purchased from Wales converse with the more local ones? The lay-by continues to provide work for the volunteer litter-picker. Two sacks and five plastic shopping bags were recently filled with an assortment of 8 spirit bottles, 22 beer-cans plus 18 other drinks cans. There was a complete picnic with adult magazines, much smoking equipment, newspapers and a towel. Obviously a good time was had by all. Perhaps the windscreen and side window of a car (matching) were the result of too much frivolity. Maybe the Parish council could provide a proper, large-size litter bin, and a fluorescent jacket for the litter-picker so that he doesn't get accused, by passing motorists, of dumping when he is actually clearing up.

*Kate King*

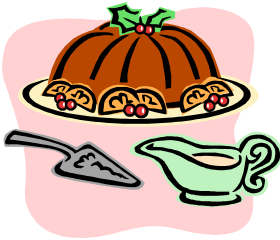
## ***Bon Voyage!***

Competition winners from Martley Show on my Personal Travel Advisor Stand were: winner for the £50 Travel Voucher - Miss A Pearson, Worcester - Egypt; 2nd Prize S. Watton, Little

Witley – Portugal; 3rd Prize A. Bowlcott, Hallow – Maldives. Bon voyage!

*Ann Carter.*

## ***Knightwick and District Trefoil Guild***



We met at the home of Jenny Barton for a "pudding evening" - everyone brought along a pudding to share and

there were fifteen members present!!!!!!

Letters of appreciation for donations received by Megan Baker House £85.50 and Talking Books for the blind £52, were read out by Sylvia Jeffrey's.

It was decided that during the winter months we would hold our meetings at 2.30p.m instead of 7.30p.m.

*Geraldine Cooper*

## ***Knightwick Local History Society***

Time for Reflection

"Reflection" was the keynote of our Local History Exhibition on the history of our local school and on "Guiding" in the area.

Summoned by the school bell (thanks to the new owners of the school), the Village Hall was at times flooded with

people, each bringing their own contribution. There were many for whom the exhibition jogged personal memories. Others brought enthusiasm and interest, reflecting upon the village and its life in the past.

Grateful thanks go to Kate Leach, Geraldine Cooper and Peter Walker for their preparation for the event. Also our gratitude goes to all those who gave invaluable first-hand information, which added much colour to an exhibition of this kind; our thanks to Doreen Davies in particular for this.

We hope to stage further events and would appreciate any thoughts or ideas you may have.

*Jane Green*

## ***Going Far?***

Martley's home-based Travel Agent, Ann Carter, found out recently that the company she works for, Future Travel, has won the first ever award for the 'Best Homeworking Agency of the Year' in the UK for 2004. Ann works for Personal Travel Advisors, which is a trading division of Future Travel, part of United Co-Op Travel. United Co-op Travel, based in Stoke on Trent, has long been associated with the Retail Travel Trade in the United Kingdom. Back in 1997, with just 59 travel agencies situated between Birmingham and Liverpool and across to Northern Ireland, they became involved with what is now recognised as a major part of the UK Travel



Trade. Future Travel has five trading divisions with over 600 homeworkers, all based in offices within their own homes.

Ann has been with the company since August 2001 and although she works from home as a Personal Travel Advisor, she has the backing of the third largest retail agent in the UK. Ann has travelled extensively herself and has a wealth of travel-related knowledge and experience. Ann says: 'Winning this award is a fantastic achievement and the result of many years hard work. It raises the profile of our company and the legitimacy of homeworking across the travel industry in the UK'.

AC 01886 889000.

### ***Martley Art Group***

Don't miss the chance to see what local artists have achieved during the past year! Saturday 20 and Sunday 21 November 2004 are the dates for the Martley Art Group Exhibition at Great Witley Village Hall. Admission is free and the hours are 10am-6pm. Work will be for sale, as well as viewing.

The Art Group are serious-minded painters of a wide variety of experience and ability, taught by Mel Williams. Participants say that classes are "inspiring, demanding but fun".

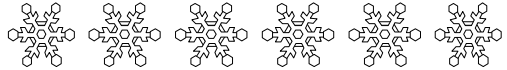
### ***The Royal British Legion***

Knightwick, Broadwas & Cotheridge with Martley  
The September meeting was well-

attended and the usual items of business discussed, including preliminary arrangements for Remembrance Sunday Service. This year it is 14 November at 10.45am and will take place at St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas. The branch dinner was held at the Royal Oak, Broadwas on Wednesday 20 October. We are always glad to welcome new member whether or not you are ex-service.

*Joyce Tyler*

*Hon Secretary 01886-821551*



### ***This month in Martley 100 Years Ago***

#### **November**

This month in Martley, 100 years ago, on the 17th, the schoolmaster reported that it was a very cold morning 'with no fire in stove at opening'. The caretaker was not at home, so lit it himself. Four days later, he recorded first snow of season – two days after that 'heavy snow at dismissal and bad journey home for many of the boys'.





# Over the Garden Wall in Wichenford

WICHENFORD NEEDS YOUR NEWS

## *Diary Dates*

**16 November** Ladies Fellowship meet in the Memorial Hall at 2.30pm. The speaker will be from the Worcester Cathedral Linen Guild. Non members welcome as always.

**15 November** PCC meeting in the Memorial Hall at 7.45pm.

## *Altar Flowers*

7 November All Age Worship Group  
14 November Mrs Britten, Remembrance Sunday  
21 November Mrs Britten  
28 November Advent – no flowers

## *Congratulations*

Congratulations to Lindsay Jones and Keith Webb married in St Lawrence Church. We wish them many years of happiness together.



## *Best Wishes*

We are very sorry to hear of your illness Wyn (Turner) and send you our good wishes and prayers for a complete recovery.



Janet Andrews  
01886 888303  
Sheila Richards  
01886 888378

## *Nora Parsons' Day Centre*

The Christmas Sale will be held on Monday 6 December at 2pm at the Day Centre.

Relief drivers are urgently needed for occasional driving. Do help if you can. The centre is open on Mondays and Thursdays. Tel: 01886-888374.

## *Thank You*

We extend our thanks to Henry Wood who has delivered The Villager magazines in the Laughern Hill area for some years and we welcome Betty Harris who has taken over from him. We are grateful to them both.



## ***Malcolm Perkins***

We are so sorry to hear that Malcolm has died and send our deepest sympathy to his widow Ivy and the family. Tribute to follow.

## ***Welcome***

We are pleased to welcome Andy and Rachel Hopkins and their children, Francessa, Florence and Edward. We wish them much happiness at their new home in Wichenford.

## ***Wichenford 100 Club***

September: Mrs Woolley. No. 208. £112.

## ***Millennium Green Tidying & Inspection Rota***

November: Jan Panton

## ***Christmas Bingo***

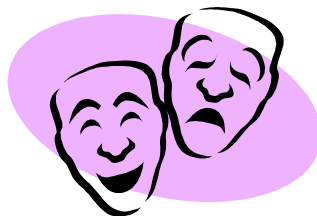
Gt Witley Village Hall  
8pm Friday 26 November 2004  
in aid of St Michael's Hospice

## ***Oh No She's Not, Oh Yes She Is***

It's almost the Panto season again and this year's pantomime at the Swan Theatre, Worcester, is Cinderella. The show stars Jack Wild (The Artful Dodger from the film version of Oliver) as Baron Hardup. Also taking part is a local youngster, Mary Cox,

from Wichenford. Mary is 14 and attends Star Stage School of Dancing, which is providing the dancers for the show.

There will be two teams of dancers and Mary will take part in eighteen performances. The panto runs from 10 December until 1 January and tickets are available from the Huntingdon Arts Box Office.



## **Fireworks and Animals**

Now that "firework season" is with use again, please remember that many pets and farm livestock can be frightened by fireworks so out of respect to owners and their animals, please try to confine your bags and flashes to 5 November only.

Remember that fireworks are DANGEROUS and should be handled only by adults and preferably set off only at public displays and not in people's back gardens.

## *St Richard's Hospice Lights up the City with Love*

**L**ights of love will be shining across Worcester when the annual St Richard's Hospice Christmas tree lights are switched on by Atlantic solo-rower Richard Wood. The event is at 7.30pm on Friday, 19 November 2004.

The evening's celebrations will start with a special Service of Light at Worcester Cathedral at 6.30pm followed by a candlelight procession to the Christmas tree, more than 20ft high, in nearby St Andrew's Spire (Glovers Needle), Deansway, Worcester. The spire is the perfect place for the switching-on ceremony and a place for those choosing to sit and reflect as love lights up the city once again in the hospice's 20th anniversary year.

Readers are invited to dedicate a light for love - whether in memory of a loved one, celebration of a birth or for someone who will be absent this Christmas but is still in your thoughts. For a donation of your choice, a light will shine on the St Richard's Hospice Christmas Tree throughout December. Each chosen name will also be displayed in the Book of Thanksgiving in Worcester Cathedral in the run up to Christmas, and also on display boards

surrounding the tree at St Andrew's Spire.

St Richard's Hospice Fundraising Manager Tricia Cavell said: "The lighting of the tree is a lovely event. Last year nearly 900 people dedicated

a light and the tree looked magnificent. With such great support we raised just over £12,500 towards the work of the Hospice. Due to the growing number of people who wish to come to the service, we will be holding it for the first time in Worcester Cathedral so there will be plenty of space for everyone."

St Richard's Hospice is an integral part of the community and in addition to its 60 staff,

there are over 600 volunteers, many of whom are specially-trained to care for patients. All its services are free and include a Day Hospice; Home Care Team; Bereavement, Social Work, Family Therapy and Counselling Service; 24-hour on call advice line and The Snowdrop Group for young women living with cancer.

The hospice needs to raise nearly £2m a year to provide all its services and is dependent on voluntary donations. Fundraisers recently launched a public



appeal to build a new £5.25m St Richard's Hospice including all its current services and 15 specialist hospice beds for patients, which are desperately needed but not currently available in South Worcestershire.

If you would like to make a donation to dedicate a light please pick up details at any of the St Richard's Hospice shops, or call the Fundraising Department on 01905 763963.

If you use Gift Aid and you can make your donation worth more. For every

pound you give us, we get an extra 28 pence from the Inland Revenue. So just tick here. It's that simple. \*

To qualify for Gift Aid, what you pay in income tax or capital gains tax must at least equal the amount we claim in the tax year.



### *Did you say this rhyme at your school?*

*Ip, dip, sky blue,  
It is not you.*

Or maybe this one?

*There's a party on the hill  
Would you like to come?  
Bring your own bread and butter  
And your own cream bun.*

A local researcher is very interested in your childhood memories of games, rhymes and songs that were used in the playgrounds or streets in Herefordshire and Worcestershire. They would contribute to the first-ever detailed collection of the children's traditional games in the two counties.

You might remember playing games such as Queenie-O, Stuck in the Mud or May I Cross Your Golden River. Perhaps you chanted rhymes as you played ball against the wall or while skipping or clapping. Do you remember how you chose the person who was going to be 'on or 'he' or 'it' in the game?

John Turrell who is putting together material as part of his research at University College Worcester would welcome memories of any games or rhymes used in the counties of Herefordshire and Worcestershire .

He hopes to publish a book on the subject when his research is completed. He can be contacted by post at:

Beechcroft Leys Lane, Bircher, Leominster. HR6 OAV  
or by e-mail to: [johnturrell@btconnect.com](mailto:johnturrell@btconnect.com)

## *Care, Concern, Charity and Cooks*

Have you begun to feel that nothing tastes like it used to? If you are fortunate enough to live in the Teme Valley you won't have had that experience. The valley offers the ever-changing delights of beautiful countryside and, more than that, bountiful fresh produce, used to great effect by local cooks. They have just launched a super recipe book containing lots of local secrets, some, such as 'A Greek Shepherd', handed down over generations. It has and has more than 100 recipes and will help to raise much-needed money for three local charities: Acorns Childrens Hospice, St. Richard's Hospice and St. Paul's Hostel.

The book was launched on 19 September, the beginning of British Food Fortnight, by Sir Anthony Winnington. Having tested some of the recipes, Sir Anthony said that they were an unexpected bonus of his inheritance and the cookery book would solve a lot of his Christmas present problems!

Having one of Rick Stein's Food Heroes in the valley has certainly helped. Almost £1500 was raised from the sale of the books on the day; and the food available for tasting on that occasion was greatly enjoyed

The paper for the book has been



donated and will produce more than 1500 books, but they are selling like the proverbial 'hot cakes' so anyone interested will have to shop very early for Christmas.

The book is available at outlets throughout the area, such as farm shops, village stores, farmers markets and from the local cooks - tel. no.

For further details contact Sue Dolman on 01886812461 fax – 01886812814.

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## *Catwords*

### **Part 2 DCI and flying felines**

In the summer months I suffer from DCI (Dawn Chorus Insomnia), the chorus including two of the more vocal members of my feline family plus a squirrel that sits on my van that is parked just outside my window. It churrs away happily, daring the girls to come near. My bedroom faces east so the early sunrise ensures I wake up nice and early. The girls, Minky and Flynne, leap in through my window, out through my door and then down off the roof via the bathroom window with a thud, only to pause briefly for an action replay! Minky has added her own personal touches to this ritual.

She walks up and down on me at hideously ungodly hours in the morning, reminding me that she "would quite like an early breakfast please Mummy!" Her arrival is announced in her usual VERY LOUD fashion, proceeding to walk up onto my chest, feet either side of my head,

purring loudly, eyeballing me intently and staring at me until I open an eye and groan (I have omitted the expletives uttered by me at the time).

Sprinting a few circuits of the bed, she chortles, disappearing outside again, but this time through the bathroom window. Just as I sink into blissful sleep, in she comes and does a repeat performance, having 'rewound' she now is on 'play' again! Flynne adds her own unique variation to the theme, sometimes arriving bearing gifts, usually of the rodent kind. Once I was woken by crashings and yowlings while she proceeded to bring me a rabbit breakfast in bed! Its no wonder I'm looking tired by the end of August.

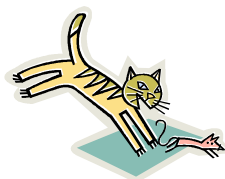
Minky is forever attempting to perfect her vertical take off. I believe she is trying to fly! The main problem is her inability to stay up there once launched. And the landing bit is definitely a bit heavy. You can hear the 'ooofff' as she hits the ground with a sickening thud. Her face lit up as she watched a light aircraft go over the other day with a look of 'oooohh can I catch it?' Helicopters fascinate her too, as they resemble noisy versions of big dragonflies that she has a penchant for. This leaping obsession has resulted in the demolition of guttering outside my bedroom window being part of the feline assault course, giving her power leap some extra upward motion on the way in to visit me in the wee small hours.

Spider is challenging the 'World's

Fussiest Cat' Competition and now refuses point blank to eat any tinned food except perhaps a tin of salmon, sardines or pilchards, which have to be the sort in tomato sauce. When seriously pressed by ravening hunger she may reluctantly pick at over-priced tinned offerings, but this is purely in order to stay alive you understand. But she would "prefer some REAL FOOD thank you", but lacks the willingness, ability or agility to catch her own. I mutter "What about your starving relatives in Africa?" but she isn't interested. Minky? She eats anything and everybody else's if she has the chance. Even Bert's dog food, which worries Bert no end! It's a hard life being an underdog.

Flynn, (so called because she used to swing from washing lines etc. as a kitten, and we also thought she was a he, until she presented us with 5 kits, so we added an 'e') has now taken up feline squatter's rights in my van, and gives me 'the look' if I dare to open the door and look in. Daisy keeps an aloof distance from all this silly behaviour, (having adopted Sir's greenhouse and potting shed as her rightful domain) with a look that says 'cats these days!' Now in my day.....'

Today the cats are doing their favourite thing... supplementing their meagre diet of top notch



*(Continued on page 25)*

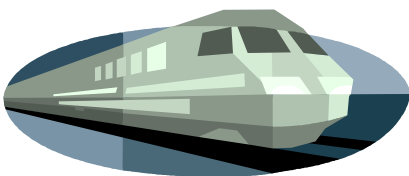
## *Tea in Paris*

The alarm clock proved to be still working as it rattled into life at 4.45am on Wednesday 8 September. After a light breakfast we motored to Hallow to pick up fellow Legion member Ted Finch, paying our £2.50 'All Day' parking fee at Shrub Hill Station and caught the 5.56am train to London-Paddington on the start of our 'Day Rail Trip to Paris'. A good start was the on-the-dot departure from Worcester. After climbing the Cotswold Hills, we arrived at Moreton-in-Marsh where we were joined by quite a few early morning commuters who were straight away into their lap top computers and would not have noticed the fox sitting on a bale of straw near the meandering River Evenlode or the two wild deer in a field near to Charlbury. At Oxford it was 'elbows in' as it seemed the whole town wanted to go to London in an inadequate three-coach train!

On arriving in London, right on time, it was straight to the Bakerloo Line for the tube to Waterloo. Here I broke all the rules of underground travel by speaking to a complete stranger next to me, who was reading a book whilst hanging from the strap of the jolting train. But surprise, surprise, I was told the story line of the book before the reader departed at Charing Cross, after bidding me a pleasant journey. We arrived at Waterloo Eurostar Terminal at 8.40am – could have caught the 9.09am but elected for the 10.40m. With passports checked and the steel toecaps in the shoes triggering the security alarm, a quick look at my fetlocks by the security guard, we entered the Departure Lounge. Being, as we were, in England we had the privilege of being ten minutes late in departing! Expecting to be thrust back in our seats on take-off we found we were snaking through stations such as Vauxhall, Wandsworth and Brixton at a stately speed and grinding round curves complete with discarded supermarket trolleys and a couple of old washing machines decorating the line side. We headed south. It was 40 minutes before we started to go. After leaving Ashcroft, we entered the Channel Tunnel and after exactly twenty-one minutes we emerged on French soil. From here on, all motorway traffic appeared to be standing still as we sped on to Lille and then down to Paris. In getting off the train in Paris Nord and walking to the exit, we found there was no operator to thank for our safe journey – at the front of the train, only a pointed, fly-spattered locomotive! With

modern day technology, was there anybody there at all? Had we experienced the ultimate ride machine?

After taking photographs of a railway nature and a walk outside the station, we settled down to our highlight of the day – A CUP





OF TEA IN PARIS! This appeared, complete with tea-bag and plastic spoon, no background accordion music, no one wearing a beret and everyone talking in a foreign language! After a feeling of achievement, it was then reverse procedure to the Terminal for our return trip and at 4.07pm we headed home. Armed with the purchase of a Paris key-ring, a glimpse of the Eiffel Tower between blocks of flats and skirting Charles de Gaulle Airport, we felt like ‘Mission Accomplished’! During our fast trip to Calais, it was surprising how many small military cemeteries we happened to see in the corners of various fields, knowing that every grave had its own personal story. After stopping at Calais and a twenty-minute run under the water, it was clocks back one hour and we were once again on English soil. A stop in Ashford in Kent and a final run to Waterloo and we arrived on time at 6pm, emerging at Paddington Station, knowing we were on the final run. However, at the top of the stairs our hearts stopped as it appeared we were walking into complete chaos! Everything was delayed, hundreds of people looking at departure boards all stating ‘Delayed’ or ‘Cancelled’. No one seemed to know what was running or where to! The station announcements were echoing up the middle of the roof of the station making all information practically inaudible – the only clear messages were ‘No riding of bicycles or skate-boarding is allowed on the forecourt of the station’. After about an hour, Hereford was mentioned and everyone dived off to platform 9. We joined the melee and found ourselves on another three-coach train with ‘standing room only’. On stopping at Didcot, we were passed by the train that we were told was cancelled at Paddington, which meant a five-minute delay getting to Oxford, a fifteen-minute delay waiting to go over the single track and a twenty-minute delay at Moreton-in-Marsh where all the smokers decided to de-train and have a cigarette on the platform, (which augments an argument for smoking!). On arriving at Worcester – one-and-a-half hours late, it was nice to find the car still in the car park, but we needed extreme concentration not to trigger the three speed cameras on the road home or it would have been an extremely expensive “CUP OF TEA IN PARIS”!

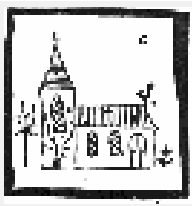
*Derek Grubb*

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*(Continued from page 23)*

tinned cat food with local ‘bush meat’. There seem to be few rabbits left since Flynnne’s systematic genocide earlier this year. But I am getting a little tired of finding the abandoned tail-ends of half-eaten rodents and other small body parts scattered over my house. In between feasting there is much r&r (rest & recuperation) being done, so while I work, they snooze. Nice for some!

*AH 2004*



# Church Words

**The Rectory 01886 888664**

**T**his year we have remembered D Day and Arnheim and remember with thanks those who gave so much for our freedom. We say “thank you” to them all, for our lives are different because of what they gave.

Saying “thank you” is an important part of life that we all need to say and receive. I would like to give belated thanks to all who have helped with the various events that happened during September and October: an Autumn Fayre, Harvest Suppers and Services and so much more that happens behind the scenes of our village life that would otherwise not happen with out those willing to give of their time and energy. Our lives are different for all they give. Thank you all.

Recently, an elderly lady thanked me for visiting her. I explained that it was my pleasure and privilege to be there, and I myself should thank her for the experience of life she shared with me on my visit. We all need to value one another, and to let that value be acknowledged from time to time, with a word or token of thanks. ‘Thank yous’ are not given just because we are given something material but because the quality of our lives is enhanced by our interaction with each other.

You may have heard of the lady who was lying on the pavement in London and no one stopped to help her until a bus driver pulled over to see what was wrong. I’m sure she said a big “thank you” to him. But it was not for thanks, but for his neighbour, that he stopped.

This reminds me of the story of the Good Samaritan who showed that he valued his fellow man. I’m sure the injured man would have been a little more than ‘thankful’. It also reminded me of the 10 Lepers whom Jesus healed yet only one returned to say, “thank you”. So often we fail to give thanks when it is due, yet what a blessing it is for us and those whom we thank if we do.

So “thank you” to those in our villages who serve them faithfully for no reward, and “thank you” to those who work to bring us all that we have in life. I also want to give thanks to God who has given us so much in Christ who has shown the greatest love for us in giving his life for us.

So as we remember those who showed the greatest love, let us learn to make those little daily sacrifices for each other, and be thankful.

*Revd David Sherwin*

## Services for November

<b>7 November</b>	
Wichenford	9.30am Holy Communion
Martley	11am Family Worship
Broadwas	11am Morning Worship
Knightwick	8am Holy Communion
Cotheridge	6.30pm Evensong
<b>14 November</b>	
Wichenford	10.45am Remembrance Day Services
Martley	
Broadwas	
<b>21 November</b>	
Wichenford	6.30pm Evensong
Martley	8am Holy Communion; 11am Morning Worship
Broadwas	11am Holy Communion
Cotheridge	9am Matins
Knightwick	3pm Evening Worship
<b>28 November</b>	
Wichenford	11am Holy Communion
Martley	9.30am Holy Communion; 6.30pm Evening Worship
Broadwas	8am Holy Communion; 11am Family Worship



## The Final Call

The winds of war; like surging tides  
 Sweep constant o'er the land.  
 No thought for life; the scythe moved  
 swift  
 Within the reaper's hand.  
 The fertile earth that knew the plough  
 Her tranquil scene now yields.  
 As violence turns the green pastures  
 Once more to killing fields.  
 With strident sounds of battle  
 Fierce cries that never cease.  
 Whilst pagan man's ancient greed  
 Denies all hopes of peace.  
 Where brother kills his brother  
 With all consuming rage  
 In a world of hate and conflict  
 Is this our heritage?  
 Where are they, who with honour fought:  
 The young, the strong, the brave.  
 Their future dreams, naught but dust  
 Lay deep in silent grave.  
 Did they count the cost for glory?  
 Or know the price for gain?  
 When pledging life to end all wars  
 Yet dying all in vain.  
 Wives and sweethearts left to mourn  
 With memorials of their loss.  
 A loved one in a photograph  
 A name etched on a cross.  
 It's time for man to reason  
 And look towards the light,  
 With nations trusting nation  
 To end the bitter fight.  
 For to meet in Armageddon  
 To kill with bomb and gun  
 Mankind could face the final call  
 Complete oblivion.

*William John Fair, Ipswich,  
 who kindly donated this poem to  
 the Red Cross.*

# In the Kitchen

## Chicken Yassa

*Serves 4*

This dish is similar to Moroccan cooking and is served in countries close to Morocco, such as Senegal and Sierra Leone. The strong flavours blend during cooking to make a fragrant and memorable meal.

**2 onions, sliced thinly; 4 cloves garlic, crushed; 2 fresh hot chilli peppers, chopped; ½ teaspoon ground ginger; 1 teaspoon black pepper; 1 tablespoon salt; juice of 4 fresh lemons; 1 tablespoon, plus 4 tablespoons peanut oil; 2lbs/907gms (4 pieces) chicken breasts, boned and skinned**

Combine onions, garlic, hot peppers, ginger, black pepper and salt in a large non-metal dish. Add lemon juice, 240ml water and 1 tablespoon peanut oil. Mix well. Add chicken breasts, arranged so that pieces are evenly coated. Marinate for 2hrs at room temperature, or longer if refrigerated. Heat remaining 4 tablespoons of oil in a heavy pan. Remove chicken from the marinade, reserving the marinade juices. Fry chicken until well browned on both sides and cooked through, (about 20mins). Remove from pan and keep covered. Strain marinade through a sieve and fry the strained onions until golden brown (10-15mins). Remove from pan and keep with the chicken. Add 120ml of strained marinade and 60ml of water to the pan. Simmer over medium heat for 5mins. Spoon this sauce over chicken breasts and serve warm with rice and mashed sweet potatoes.

*From South of the Sahara. Traditional Cooking from the Lands of West Africa, by Elizabeth Jackson.*

# In the Garden



## Garden tips for November

The growing season draws to a close. Time to clear up the garden, removing some of the old growth on many plants. Grease bands placed around the trunks of fruit trees, are very worthwhile, particularly apple, as this traps the winter moth that lays eggs that hatch out into the grubs you find in next year's apples.

A good dressing of manure will help next year's vegetable crops. This should be dug in, a good job on a cold day to get the body circulation going! This is particularly useful on the light land in the village. This is the time of year to apply lime to the soil, an ingredient often forgotten but very valuable, especially for the production of brassicas. A small kit can be purchased from garden centres that will show you the lime content of the soil. This is known as the PH. Plant trees, shrubs and herbaceous perennials. Cover globe artichokes with straw or bracken to help protect them from the winter frosts. Take some of the growth from strong-growing roses to help prevent the wind from rocking the plant, thus disturbing the roots. Do not finally prune until the Spring.

*Jack Bradley*

## *Village Contacts*



Editor of The Villager	Michelle Higgins editor@martley.org.uk <i>or</i> 01886 888344 <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	President—Pat Crook 01886 888550
Martley & Dist Hort. Soc.	Mrs J O'Leary—01886 888253
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