

The Villager

The community magazine for the parishes of Martley and Wichenford

Volume 19 No. 5

October 2009

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

Regular events in Martley and Wichenford:

Sundays

2nd Sunday in the month:

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

3rd Sunday in the month:

Path-or-Nones meet 9.30am Martley Memorial Hall car park to help maintain the local footpaths

Mondays

Rhythm Time: 9.30-11.30am Martley Memorial Hall *Enq.* Rachel 01886 812565

Martley Parish Council: 1st Monday in the month 8pm Memorial Hall

Martley & Villages Carers' Group: 1st

Monday in the month 10.30-12.30 Heaton House.

Tuesdays

Short Mat Bowling: 2.00pm Martley Memorial Hall

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

Martley Mums and Tots: 9.30-11.30am
Martley Memorial Hall

Wednesdays

Teme Valley Shufflers Line Dancing:
7pm Martley Memorial Hall *Enq.* Jeff & Thelma 01886 821772

Martley Folk Club: 1st Wednesday in the month at The Talbot, Knightwick and 3rd Wednesday at The Admiral Rodney

Martley WI: 2nd Wednesday in the month 7.30pm Heaton House

Thursdays

Wichenford Wine Club: 3rd Thursday in the month

Martley & District Horticultural Society: last Thursday in the month
7.30pm Martley Memorial Hall

See articles inside for details of special events
AND changes of time/date/venue of regular events

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

See page 28 for contact details of organisations

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

The cover photo shows one of the displays at the St Peter's flower festival at the end of August.

Records of the Parish Council meetings in the two parishes are not intended to be full and complete minutes. Minutes of meetings can be seen by contacting the respective Clerks to the Councils.

OUT AND ABOUT IN MARTLEY

Visit our website—www.martley.org.uk



Martley and District Horticultural Society

The Annual Fete and Flower Show was held on 15 August at the Village Hall and Playing Field, and was a real village social occasion. The afternoon was pleasant but breezy. Entries (372) were up by 23 on last year and there were some lovely displays, particularly the floral art, pot plants and specimens of vegetables—the onions were top-class and the straightness of the runner beans incredible! It all seemed worth the months of planning, cultivating, worrying and finally struggling with the first gazebo the day before the Show. A lovely ‘village’ day and lots of people there too. At 5.30pm everyone went home tired but happy, leaving a path of squashed grass between the trestles, a few petals and an empty flagpole. But the Show proves that the people of Martley and District are keen on the pursuit of

excellence! Entries as follows:

R Lloyd Gibbons Open Challenge Cup, best exhibit in show, R Evans.

Messrs Landale & Son Challenge Cup, most points in vegetable section, R Evans.

F W Morris Challenge Cup, most points in flower section, D Goodyear.

Ted Whelan Memorial Trophy, most points in floral art section, J Jeffries.

Shield, under 6 yrs in children’s section, Lucy Williams.

Shield, under 11 yrs in children’s section, Sara Gale.

T W Sanders Trophy, most points in fruit section, R Snow.

Shield, most points in cookery section, Angela Everiss.

Charlie Amos Memorial Trophy, most points in onion classes, L Minchin.

Wilf Hill Memorial Trophy, for the best fuschia, D Goodyear.

Society Cup, club member gaining most points, J Jeffries.

John Clark Memorial Cup, best tomatoes, S Jones.

C & Barnard Trophy, 3 blooms of roses, Pam Spokes.

Wendy Stinton Memorial Shield, flowering pot plant, M Jackson.

Banksian Medal, highest amount prize money, M Dunnett.

Jack Millward Memorial Trophy, best gladioli, Sylvia Jeffries.

Trophy, most points in preserves, O Carpenter.

Smallholder Cup, best exhibit in vegetables, K Draper.

Claudia Steele Martley Poetry Cup, best poem, J Crabbe.

Flower Festival

The Flower Festival at St Peter's church, held over the Bank Holiday weekend of 29, 30 and 31 August attracted many visitors from far and wide. The festival was to celebrate the centenary of the big restoration in 1909, and Rev David Sherwin had carefully planned what each floral display should represent. Members of the Horticultural Society decorated the church porch – No 1 – 'Foundation', and because the New Testament quotation concerned St Peter ('The Rock') they portrayed a Holy Land desert landscape along the stone side seats with sandstone rocks, sand and cacti/drought tolerant plants, with earthenware type jugs and pots. Either side of the main door they placed large displays of brilliant flowers, also on ledges higher up. Outside the porch were pots of greenery appearing to grow in a stony surface and most suitable of all – two young olive trees! We all enjoyed the Festival so much it was as though we'd no homes to go to!

The next meeting of the Society is on 29 October. Howard Drury talks on "40 years of Ashwood Specialities" – bound to be interesting!

Tina Steele



Martley WI

Wednesday 14 October 7.30pm at Heaton House.

We are off travelling again, to Norway this month, in spirit if not in body and Jane Davey will be our guide. The competition is an "Ode to your holiday" so it will be interesting to hear them in Social Time. No secrets of holiday romances or such will have to be revealed.

The WI window in church at the recent Flower Festival was a wonderful example of the talent we have amongst our membership and WI husbands. It was such an amazing interpretation of "Jerusalem" and relating to the decade, the 1970s that was allocated. Many congratulations to all concerned.

Kate King

Village Hall News Update

We are currently obtaining quotes so we can bid for a grant to upgrade the insulation and the heating of the hall. The toilet renovation should be well on its way, the foyer will be redecorated in September and the external lighting is to be upgraded. The stage is being refurbished before production of Twelfth Night at the end of September. The Committee agreed that if anyone wishes to sample or try to set up a new group using the Hall, reduced start-up hire fees are negotiable.

The Committee would to thank Jill Studer and Jane Hall for all their support and enthusiasm whilst on the Committee. Unfortunately due to work and family commitments they have not been able to offer as much support as they had hoped. However they have both kindly agreed to assist the Committee with any future events (I really hope so as they will be greatly missed also from a personal point of view I'm very sorry to see them go). Therefore we are in need of additional support if anyone is interested in joining us, please pop along to one of our meetings on 20 October or 17 November or give me a call.

Martley 100 Club

The August winner is Angela Pearce with number 40. Happy spending Angela and thank you for joining the 100 Club. New application forms will be circulated in November ready for 2010 Martley 100 so please look out for the form in The Villager - all existing members will be invited to renew their numbers.

Annette Smith
Secretary 01886 821895

Martley & District Preschool

Great News! Many of you will now have seen the wonderful facelift our building has had. After a long (and fretful - on my part!) application process, we were awarded a £20,000 grant to replace the pre-school roof and install new double glazed windows. This will vastly improve the building's energy efficiency and the overall wellbeing of children, parents

and staff at the pre-school.

Over the last three years, the pre-school has benefitted from many improvements, including a new kitchen and office, new cloakroom area, facilities for children with disabilities (including toilets and ramp), and also new heating systems. I see these new modernisations as a much-needed and welcomed improvement to the service we provide to your community, not to mention the long-term sustainability of Martley pre-school.

Recycle your old mobile phone

Recycle your old mobile phone and printer cartridges. Collection points are at Martley Post Office and Central stores. Every phone and cartridge benefits the environment and Martley pre-school and out-of-school clubs. Last year it raised over £200.

Thank you.

Don't forget! We are a registered eco-setting with 20 years of history, where children can attend pre-school from two years old. They will learn through play and fun activities and do not have to be out of nappies! They are entitled to 15 hours per week free care funded by the government, starting from the term after their third birthday. We also provide very popular breakfast (8-9am) and after-school clubs (3.15-6pm) for children aged 2 to 13 years. There are many activities available indoors and outdoors, including sports, game console, art, craft, cookery, ICT and much more. If you need any information, or would like to book a place for your child please feel

free to call Kath or Lucy on 01886 889127 or visit our website www.martleypreschool.co.uk or email info@martleypreschool.co.uk

Miss Kathryn Smith BA (Hons)
FdA eyp status

Martley Ramblers
Sunday 11 October 2pm
church car park

Considering the uncertain weather we have had this year, we have been lucky that the majority of walks have taken place on warm sunny occasions. Keep your fingers crossed that Colin Hill will have a good window for the local walk this month around Wichenford. The recent walk at Upper Arley was not well attended but Pam Bowers led in a very interesting pleasant area, along riverside, through woods and along the reservoir side. We had glimpses of the Severn Valley trains and heard the nostalgic “Toot, Toot” of the engines through the trees. Thank you Pam.

Kate King

Footpath Day
15 October 2009

I am very pleased to announce that on Thursday 15 October, Worcestershire County Council has arranged the official opening of the recently-upgraded Martley and Abberley loops of the Worcestershire Way. It will take place in front of invited guests and appropriate council dignitaries and commence at around 2pm at Millennium Green by the new Martley Loop signboard, and then move to

Martley Memorial Hall.

Worcestershire County Council will be launching leaflets for the two loop walks and these will be freely available in all local outlets. The Path-or-Nones intend to take the opportunity to publicise not only the work that we do on our rights of way, but also Earth Heritage Trust will be there to promote the Geopark Way through Martley. In addition, we will announce our Walkers are Welcome success and you should see evidence of this through a borrowed banner and stickers in local pubs and shops. Walkers have been welcomed to Martley for many years so our application to this new organisation was readily accepted in January this year when we became the 15th member, nationally.

All of this is very exciting for those keen to take advantage of our wonderful footpaths and the benefits they bring to our community. The ceremony on 15 October is, I am afraid, an invited-only do, but we really want everyone to look at what's available and step out into the network. We are proposing introductory sessions to our local routes and walking in general, so if anyone at all feels they need a bit of confidence boosting or questions answered then please get in touch. Details of events for the wider community will be publicised nearer the time on our website (Martley.org.uk) and in the usual local venues.

John Nicklin, Footpaths Officer
01886 888318 johnn@martley.org



MWM update

Firstly, the directors would like to apologise for disruptions to our service at the end of August and beginning of September. Problems with speed of connection to the Internet resulted from the amounts of data being downloaded exceeding the figure agreed with our supplier. We felt this was not satisfactory, with the increase in membership and the growing amounts of data that individual members wish to download (BBC i-player, films and so on), we decided to change to a different supplier. Please note - your monthly subscription will not change but those affected by the disruptions should by now have seen an improvement in the service.

We feel we have taken the appropriate measures to provide a more reliable and secure Martley broadband service for the future. Our speeds compare very favourably with other suppliers (in Martley) at most of our customers houses; we do a speed-check whenever we are there. Most will receive at least 1M and many can receive close to 2M at certain times. If you look closely at prices, the oft-quoted figures from our competitors are for a three-month period, thereafter they revert to the “normal”. In August we looked at prices for the “top ten” and found the “normal” prices are around £20 per month. Our biggest attraction is that we provide “personal” service (in the professional

sense of course) and the feedback is very, very favourable. Please see our advert elsewhere in The Villager for contact details, or find us on the contact list on page 28, if you want to find out more about receiving your broadband connection via Marley Web Mesh.

Secondly, you may be aware that our email system was seriously compromised by malicious outside agencies using it to constantly broadcast many thousands of emails. This is a fairly common problem for all email service providers. The directors have taken the unanimous decision that the best possible solution is to engage an outside agency to manage MWM emails whilst still retaining our current email addresses. Our service switched to the new provider on 5 September.

Want to get involved with the technical or admin side of MWM? Contact any of the names on the contact list on p. 28.

Thank You

To all the members of the Martley Village Fete Committee:

Once again I am writing to say thank you for allowing the use of two marquees for the Teddy Bears Picnic which was held in Gheluveldt Park on 23 July. Unfortunately the weather was not kind to us and we so needed the marquees – I am not sure how we would have coped without them. As the ladies from St Richard’s Hospice put it “It was like Glastonbury for toddlers”.

We estimate that about 500 people came to picnic with us even though the forecast was not good. We had two heavy showers but somehow every one still seemed to have a good time and the atmosphere was great. We made £830 for St Richard's Hospice – sadly not as much as last year when the sun shone but nevertheless it was not a bad sum in two hours in the rain. We are very grateful for the co-operation and help of Gordon Griffiths, John Hayden, Len Hoskins and Tom Pearsall.

*Pat Hodgson
Worcester Christadelphians*

Martley Recreation Association

At a meeting held in August, Mr Len Hoskins resigned as Chairman due to personal reasons and the committee thanked Len for all his good services to the Playing Field over the past few years. Vice-Chairman Gordon Griffiths has taken over as Chairman on a temporary basis. For all future contacts regarding the Association or booking the playing field for an event, please contact Gordon Griffiths on 01886 888602.or gordygriffo@aol.com.

Martley Parish Council

Unapproved edited draft record of the meeting held On Monday 3 August 2009 at the Memorial Hall. There were 7 members of the public present.

The Democratic Period/Public Question Time

The Chairman of Martley Parish

Council tendered his resignation and left the meeting. The Chair was handed temporarily to Cllr. Mrs. D. Goodyear; Cllr. Mr. G. Coombey-Jones was nominated as temporary Vice-Chair. Bottle banks: a Parishioner asked that it be noted that she lives opposite the bottle banks and is not being disturbed at all by people using them or by them being emptied. She is in full support of them remaining on the car park of The Crown Inn and feels that other alternative areas such as the car park of The Village Hall are more likely to mean the bottle banks being vandalised. The Clerk will contact MHDC for further advice. Allotments: Cllr. Mr. M. Nott confirmed that a local farmer has identified some land for use for allotments. The Clerk is to seek advice from Malvern Town Council regarding the legal aspects of allotments and will agenda this item for the next meeting. Thanks: a parishioner also took the opportunity to thank MHDC (Malvern Hills District Council) for showing their commitment to climate change.

Progress reports:

The Clerk - a) The Clerk is to clarify with MHDC if the three current Councillor vacancies can be advertised together. b) The Clerk is to confirm with the Clerk for Clifton Upon Teme PC that Martley PC is interested in the training. c) The Clerk stated that MHDC have advised her that they need to authorise a cycling event and the route it wishes to take eight weeks prior to the event. The

Clerk is to ask MHDC to inform Martley PC of cycling events so details can be passed to parishioners.

Landowners support – ditch clearance - the Clerk is hoping to obtain from Malvern Hills District Council the letter of permission needed for the ditch clearance and will agenda it for the next meeting.

Lengthsman - The Clerk will ask the Lengthsman to 1) clear the drain opposite Pudford Lane as there appears to be grass growing through it. 2) Continue to clear the footpath running from The Crown Inn to the pumping station. 3) Once Martley Parish Council is a full council, work for the lengthsman in Martley will become the responsibility of all Councillors where each Councillor will be responsible for part of the area and will report any work needed to the Clerk, who will arrange for the Lengthsman to carry out the work and report when it is complete, so the Councillor can check it and remove it from the works list.

Affordable housing - Nigel Potter is to report to the Council at the next meeting. He has identified two possible sites.

District and County Councillors' reports:

Dist. Cllr Mrs. Williams reported that following a detailed consultation exercise MHDC have agreed that the council will provide a weekly collection of both recyclables and residual waste using sacks to help the council meet its recycling target of 38.5% by 2014. This exemplifies a

Council listening to feedback from their communities. MHDC have signed up to the Worcestershire Climate Change pledge. We are looking at how we can reward Quality Parish councils and build even more positive working relationships. Parish councillors pointed out to Dist. Cllr Mrs. Williams that, unlike the promises that were made initially. Councillors felt that Martley was a quality parish council until February this year but had seen no advantage to being a quality parish council. County Cllr. Mr. Davies confirmed that quality status was in line with a white paper which should have seen power devolved to the third tier and acknowledged that it had been unsuccessful. County Cllr. Mr. Davies recognised Cllr. Mr. D. Cropp for the good work and commitment he had shown to Martley. County Cllr. Mr. Davies asked that an application be made ASAP for YIMMS.

Planning:

New

No new applications were made. The Clerk read part of a letter from Malvern Architects that stated: "We are in the process of formulating an application on behalf of our Client Marsten Developments Ltd, for the development of the land adjoining the Crown Inn which would be for affordable housing, possibly Doctor's Surgery, Nursery, live/work units and open market housing. We thought it would be beneficial if we could have a meeting with members of the Parish Council prior to the application to

explain the proposals for the site. The application would be for outline approval and not detailed.” The Clerk is to contact Malvern Architects suggesting an open public meeting for the first week in October 2009, during either an evening or weekend to enable all parishioners to attend.

Pending

09/00837/FUL Adj Three Acres, Willow Road – Proposed 2 no 4 bedroom detached dwellings. 09/00789/HOU Old House Farm, Horsham – Proposed first floor roof light to courtyard elevation. 09/00752/OUT Horsham Court, Horsham – Erection of dwelling. 09/00751/FUL & 09/00750/LBC Stables at Horsham Court – Conversion to create new dwelling with new garages. 09/00749/FUL The Old Court, Horsham – Refurb. Of derelict former house with 2 storey extn. & new garage. 09/00748/FUL The Old Smithy, Hillside – Change of use of land to domestic curtilage and erection of building for storage. 09/00662/FUL & 09/00663/LBC Rodge Hill Farm, Hillside – Conversion of barns to form staff and guest accommodation

Appealing to Secretary of State

08/01169/FUL Treetops Bungalow, Hillside – Replacement of existing dwelling (on-going). 08/01498/FUL Longside, Hipplecote – Replacement dwelling (on-going). 09/00423/FUL Bramblewood, Hipplecote – Replacement dwelling (on-going)

MHDC Malvern Flood Study:

Deferred to the next meeting, when Cllr. Mr. G. Coombey-Jones will

provide a summary report for consideration.

West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy Phase III:

Councillor will read a survey and provide feedback to the Clerk who will contact Cllr. Mr. G. Coombey-Jones who will then complete a survey incorporating all Councillors’ comments.

Speed signs:

The Clerk stated she had received information that it could cost from £3100 for a small sign to £4100 for a large sign. The Clerk is to contact Hallow Parish Council to ask whether it would be possible to use theirs. The Clerk will obtain a price list from Westcotec.

Martley Recreation Association:

Copies of deeds and leases have now been obtained. The Clerk is to contact the National Association of Local Councils for explanation of legal terminology. Cllr. Mr. T. Gale was nominated as Martley Parish Council’s representative for Martley Recreation Association. The Clerk will write to the Vice Chairman of Martley Recreation Association to introduce Cllr. Mr. T. Gale and to assure them of the support of Martley Parish Council in anyway possible.

Finance:

There were 7 cheques totalling £913.89 approved. The Freedom of Martley boards have been made. It was agreed and accepted that payment be processed for the boards. It was agreed and accepted that Martley Parish Council will purchase three

bins to be located in the centre of the village. The Clerk will persevere with The Bank of Ireland. Agreement was made that the funds held by Bank of Ireland will be transferred to a new account with Lloyds TSB until interest rates improve and then the Clerk will look again at alternative providers.

Correspondence:

Items for information included - Worcestershire NHS Malvern Hospital Newsletter; Festival Housing updated five year strategic plan; Cllr. Mrs. I. Powell Resignation .

Councillors reports and items for future agenda:

The Clerk is to write to David Cropp thanking him for his work over the years. The Clerk is to write to Imogen Powell thanking her for the time she committed to Martley Parish Council. CPRE subscription was deferred to the next meeting. Both Cllr. Mr. G. Coombey-Jones and Cllr. Mr. N. Stammers gave their apologies for the September meeting.

Date of next meeting: The next meeting will be held on Monday 7 September 2009.

***Outgoing Chairman's
Statement***

After considerable thought I have decided to resign both as Chairman of Martley Parish Council and as a Parish Councillor. The highspots in my memory came at the start of the new millennium, with Martley twice taking the Award of Worcestershire Village of the Year and also a South West Regional Winner for the Environment,

for Information Technology, and for support for the Elderly...I could have wished to retired from the Council at a calmer time ... Each member has the right to express a view and to debate decisions but sadly the last two months seem to have become a position for some involving ... challenging the truth of what is said ... Each of us became Councillors voluntarily, and hopefully everyone has at the core a desire to be of service for the whole diverse community of Martley ...Whatever the circumstance I do wish this Council success in the future - because without it, Martley will be the lesser and weaker for it.

D. Cropp 31/08/09

(See the full text of Mr Cropp's statement linked from the Parish Council page of www.martley.org.uk)

Martley's Past

Some extracts from the minutes of the Parish Council during the church renovations 1908-09.

July 17th 1908. "The letters of correspondence between the Chairman (R S Nash) and W F Taylor Esq referring to the dangerous corner in Martley Village. The chairman proposed and Mr James Rowley seconded that copies of this correspondence be sent to the clerk of the County Council. (carried)."

"The Rev J F Hastings then brought before the council the necessity of a new burial ground as the present one could not hold many more. He then proposed and Mr J Rowley seconded that this council should form a small

committee to inquire into this matter as to what steps should be taken.”

Nov, 12th 1908. “Members of this council desire to place on record their deepest sympathy to the relatives of Mr E Lawson and Mr Wm Edwards, both respected members of this council.” “It was proposed that Mr David Jenkins of Prickley Green Farm and Mr Wm B Rowley of Hill End Farm become members of this council. (Both were at the next meeting. ALB)”

March 12th 1909. “Proposed by Mr C J Holliday, seconded by Rev J F Hastings, that the whole of the Parish Council should attend the meeting that will be held in the Girls’ Schoolroom on Monday 29 March 1909 at 2.30pm concerning the Trusts belonging to the Martley Old Grammar School.”

April 15th 1909. “Overseers elected the only business.

July 19th 1909. Minutes of last meeting read and signed the only business.

Oct 14th 1909. Minutes of last meeting read and signed the only business.

Jan 20th 1910. Minutes read and signed.”

Note: Meetings were held quarterly in the Board Room of the Union Workhouse.

(It is apparent that nothing was done about the corner in Martley Village until the late 1970s and nothing was ever done about enlarging the churchyard.)

A L Boon

Martley Library Opening Times

Monday 2—7 pm

Wednesday 4—6 pm

Thursday 10am -1 pm

Friday 2 - 4 pm

Saturday 10am -12 noon

01886 888396 (*opening hours only*)

Mobile Library

Ockeridge

Silver Oaks 9.45–10.05

Wichenford

Malvern View 10.10–10.35

Church 10.45–11.05

Kings Green Farm 11.15–11.40

Rosses Green 11.45–12.05

Martley Hillside

Horn Lane Bungalows 12.10–12.25

Martley

Taylors of Martley 12.30–12.45

LUNCH

Heaton House 1.20–1.50

Church. 1.55–2.15

Clifton

Village Hall 2.30–3.50

The Mobile Library will be visiting these stops on Wednesdays on the dates listed below:

16 Sept 2009 7 October 2009

28 Oct 2009 18 Nov 2009

9 Dec 2009 30 Dec 2009

Any enquiries should be made to Stourport Library, Worcester Street, Stourport, Worcs DY13 8EH, tel: 01299-822866, stourportmobile@worcestershire.gov.uk



Over the Garden Wall in Wichenford

WICHENFORD NEEDS YOUR NEWS

Janet Andrews
01886 888303
Sheila Richards
01886 888378



Altar Flowers

4 October Harvest Festival
11 October Harvest Festival
18 October Mrs Randall
25 October Mrs Whyatt

Harvest Supper

The Wichenford Harvest Supper is to be held at 7.30 for 8pm on Saturday 10 October in the Memorial Hall. Tickets available from Sheila Richards on 01886-888378 and Janet Andrews on 01886-888303.

Ladies Fellowship

The Ladies Fellowship will meet on 20 October at 2.30pm at Brenda's home.

Calling all Whist Players

The new series of whist drives commence on Friday 9 October at 8pm in Wichenford Memorial Hall. These will continue on the second Friday in the month through until April 2010. A warm welcome awaits you. For further information please telephone Sheila Richards on 01886-888378.

Karen Challis

The people of Wichenford and district have been deeply saddened by the news of Karen Challis' tragic death at the age of only 42. Karen was a lovely girl, always cheerful and always smiling. She attended Wichenford school and then the Chantry High School where she made many friends. At the time of her accident she was working at Shipley's Amusement Centre in Angel Place, Worcester. Her popularity was evident at the funeral by the vast amount of people who were there to pay their respects to a person who was loved by everyone who knew her. She was kind-hearted and had such a happy nature. We send our very deepest sympathy to Karen's parents, Mr & Mrs Challis, and her brothers Bernard and David.

Thank you—Karen

On behalf of my husband and sons, I would like to thank all who sent lovely cards and messages of sympathy at the loss of our precious daughter, Karen, and to those who kindly attended the service at the Crematorium. Our

thanks also for the lovely flowers and donations in aid of the Worcester Air Ambulance.

Beryl Challis

Thank You

Vi and the family wish to thank everyone for the kind messages of sympathy received on the sad loss of Joe Pugh. Also thank you to all who attended his funeral. Special thanks to Rev David Sherwin, the Co-op Funeral Services and to Pat for all their help. The generous donations were much appreciated and amounted to £525.30. This has been given in aid of the Air Ambulance Service.

Happy Birthday to Joyce Wadley

Congratulations and very best wishes to Mum on celebrating her 80th birthday. Have a wonderful day.

Lots of love from John and Jeanette, Belinda and Mick, Petra and Rob, Adrian and all her grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

News from Nora Parsons Day Centre

Our summer break, during which we had a new central heating system installed, is over. No more putting on electric heaters when our old LPG system decided not work! Hopefully a cosy winter is ahead of us.

We have also had a couple of successful coffee mornings in conjunction with Sainsbury's – we even had a keyboard player to one of them and he entertained the members

for several hours afterwards plus joined us for lunch. We have been concentrating on new activities and so far have arranged an exercise class to music (Extend) once a month, plus we have started painting classes which, hopefully, will be held monthly. We also plan to have a keyboard player entertain on a regular basis. Watch this space for new activities!

Music, Songs and Performance

We are having a fund-raising evening on 31 October when we will be entertained by “music, songs and performance”. Call the Day Centre on 01886 888374 for more details.

Little Witley's October film

Little Witley's October film is *The Duchess* and will be showing on **Saturday 24 October**. See details of the Little Witley Film Society on the Leisure page of www.martley.org.uk or phone Jean Latham on 01886 888888122 or Bob Jose on 01886 888383.

Wichenford 100 Club

August winner's no 35 C Morris £75.00. And returned subscriptions to no. 22 Miss Beckwith & no. 43 D Hiams. Drawn by Matt Fowle.

If we had asked the drawer to avoid our 'lucky' page and to pick all three numbers from another single page, we could have been criticised for setting tough parameters. As it is, that's just what has happened! Is this the first

time all three numbers have been two digits? I shall have to check.

Subscriptions Reminder

Subscriptions are due this month for the 12 months to September 2010. It still costs just £1 a month to take part and members will receive reminders before the end of September.

There are two ways of paying: send or hand in the complete annual £12 to the Secretary at The New House, Kings Green or: wait till a collector calls!

The prize money this year had to be dropped to £75 + two returned subscriptions, due to some members not responding to reminders or getting in touch to say that they would not be renewing. This makes it difficult for us, as we leave numbers on the book hoping a subscription will arrive. So far this year we have had to ignore SEVEN numbers that have been drawn for prizes, because the holder had NOT renewed. Our grateful thanks go to all those Club members who do continue to support us. The more members we have, the larger the main prize, so it is in everybody's interest a) to renew promptly and b) to encourage friends and family to take out a new subscription. n.b. New members pay an initial £1 life membership of the Club.

Wichenford Heritage Group

Don't forget that the Group reconvened on 23 September. See the September issue of The Villager or the Leisure page of www.martley.org.uk for details—or phone Heather Rendall—01886 888239.

Kenswick and Wichenford Parish Council

Unapproved abbreviated draft minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 17 August 2009 in the Memorial Hall Wichenford. Cllr. Britten-Long chaired the meeting. (Chairman).

Democratic half hour/public question time

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

District and County Councillors Report

District Cllr. Williams said the next census will be in 2011. The census gives an important insight into communities. Support grants rely heavily on population. An email from Cllr Davies had been received regarding funding for the NPDC exercise project. There was no report from Councillor Davies.

Minutes

County Cllr. Davies asked for a change to the wording of the minutes on page 191 from city to county. The minutes of the meeting held on 29 June 2009 were accepted and signed as a true record.

Progress Reports

Allsetts Farm Motor Cross: Letters from the district council were distributed. The monitoring equipment was very complicated and intimidating and the residents couldn't work it. It was agreed that at the next meeting on August Bank Holiday that the equipment should be used by Malvern Hills themselves as was originally

thought. The parish council agreed to write to the District Council to remind them of the next event.

Ditching along Venn Lane: The contractor has moved to a different county and it is likely that he will not be returning. The County councillor was asked if any money would be available from the highways department. It is possible that the money may be reimbursed providing the parish council incur reasonable costs and keep the invoice as proof.

Planning

Applications considered since the last meeting.

09/00723/HOU. Arundels Farm, Wichenford. The parish council did not agree with the revised plans submitted on the advice of the planning department, they preferred the original application which is also what the applicant wanted. Councillor Randall met with the planning department and architect and it has now been agreed to reinstate the application to the original. The parish council is to write to Vicky Bilton thanking her for her intervention in this matter. 09/00904/FUL. Masons Arms, Wichenford. The parish council have again refused this latest application on the same grounds as previously. It was pointed out to the council that with this new application a 2 metre high accoustic wall is to be erected between Berrow View and the pub, but there is an issue with the Village Pound that has been brought to the attention of the planning department.

Applications Approved/Refused/Withdrawn.

09/00680/HOU Meadow Cottage, Wichenford. Conversion of roofspace to create a bedroom and erection of garage. (Approved)

Applications to be considered.

None.

Finance

The balance for 31 July stands at £16,607.50. There were two cheques for agreement and signature which included payment for the printer purchased in April. The clerk's salary and expenses were approved. The insurance documents have been received and the parish council saved money by insuring the Millennium Green at the same time. The acceptance of the finances was resolved.

Rosses/Guises Lane.

The temporary TRO'S have been renewed and a report is expected from the county council within the next two weeks.

NPDC

The Chairman is still in talks with the Day Centre and has a large box of paperwork to look through.

Correspondence

For decision by the parish council. (Information only) - WCC Funding in the Parishes.(emailed to Councillors); Letter regarding Traffic Regulation Order on Rosses and Guises Lane; Emails regarding Arundels planning application; Emails regarding Allsetts Farm; Calc update 9-21, 9-23 (emailed to councillors); Comments regarding the Masons Planning application.

MHDC Annual report; News from the Hills; The Tallet planning appeal. Ancient Trees and Orchards; MHDC electronic planning consultations. Partnership Matters magazine; Newline magazine

Councillor's Reports and Items for Future Agendas

Councillor Rendall commented on the Community Greenspace Scheme which involves an initial half-day advice and regional training for free; and asked the parish council if she could arrange to speak to someone about pollarding and how best to manage Kings Green.

Date and Venue of Next Meeting

Next meeting will be 28 September 2009. Meetings were arranged for 28 September; 9 November and 14 December 2009. All will be in the Memorial Hall Wichenford at 7.30pm.

Home-Start Malvern Hills

May we make an appeal to readers for help on behalf of local families with young children?

Home-Start Malvern Hills wants to make sure that every parent in our area has the support they need to give their child the best possible start in life. To this end we offer friendship and practical help to parents with young children.

Families are referred to Home-Start Malvern Hills by health visitors and other health professionals, Children's Centres, nursery staff, social workers, schools and the families themselves

contacting us direct to ask for help. We cover the whole of the Malvern Hills district and need volunteers throughout the area. At the moment we urgently need volunteers in the Martley and Wichenford area.

No special qualifications are needed except experience of parenting and an open mind. Volunteers come from all age groups and all walks of life. Each volunteer attends a Preparation Course and is regularly supervised and supported. Our volunteers make at-home visits to every family who has at least one child under five, and offer them support. Each volunteer visits a family every week for an average of 6—9 months. This support is free, confidential and non-judgemental. It is both rewarding and demanding—an average volunteer stays with us for two years which means we continually recruit and train new volunteers.

Home-Start Malvern Hills is supported by Home-Start UK and its volunteers are among 16,000 trained parent volunteers across the country. We also need new trustees—particularly people with experience of business, media and fund-raising. The current recession means that we, as a voluntary organisation, have entered a very testing time and we need all the expertise we can muster. If you think you have something to offer either as a volunteer or as a trustee please ring Jan at Home-Start Malvern Hills on 01684 893125 or e-mail homestartmalvern@btconnect.com.

Support at Home Service

Festival Housing provides their service not only for Festival residents, but we also go out to people in the wider community who are 55+ years. Find out more on our main website – www.festivalhousing.org. – then click on Festival@55+ at the top of the menu – which will open up our information page. There is a link to this website on the Links page of www.martley.org.uk.

*Jane Price, Team Co-ordinator
Older People's Support Team
Festival Housing Group
01684 579627
jprice@festivalhousing.org*

In the Garden



In the Garden in October

Autumn is really here: it feels colder and the days are shorter. Make the most of any calm, dry days and be prepared for gales and frost!

Tender plants need to be protected or moved under cover now. Any remaining summer bedding plants are best cleared and replaced with spring bedding such as winter pansies, primulas, wallflowers and forget-me-not. If bedding is too time-consuming for you, try investing in some perennials, Brunnera has a similar flower to the forget-me-not, and

primroses will also come up year after year. There is still time to plant some spring bulbs - try spring flowering cyclamen to give you an early splash of pink around the base of a tree or shrub.

In the vegetable garden, pick your last runner beans; any really late ones will be better used for compost than for eating. It is also time to dig up any outdoor tomato plants and any remaining potatoes and carrots. When clearing pea and bean plants, just cut off the tops, dig the roots into the soil where they will act as a natural, nitrogen-rich, fertiliser. Removing plant debris reduces the spread of pests and diseases, but you should be careful not to put any diseased material into your compost heap, domestic composters do not get hot enough to kill pests.

Houseplant growth slows as the days shorten, so reduce the watering. Tropical plants which prefer a humid atmosphere can be stood in trays of wet gravel so they don't get too dry when your central heating is on.

The 'garden visit' season is over but there are a couple of local events which may be of interest. First is the plant sale at Avonbank Nurseries at Pershore College, an opportunity to buy plants, trees and shrubs, direct from the grower. From 10am on 10 October. Also at Pershore College on 17 October is the Royal Horticultural Society Apple Day, with trees for sale and apple juice tasting, 10:30am-12:30pm.

JC

Update on “Harvesting the Past”

As the autumn approaches, we are moving into the second stage of this exciting project in and around Martley and the Teme Valley. Many of you have already been involved and I would like to thank you for the support and wonderful contributions you have made. I would now like to get more people involved so please read on and keep your eyes peeled for further updates.

The aim of this project is to create an archive of farming and countryside stories for the Worcestershire Record Office, and to create a community play based on people’s memories and experiences. I have now completed 20 interviews, and have recorded about 50 hours of material. It has been a privilege to drive around such a beautiful area interviewing such welcoming and knowledgeable people, five of whom were well over 90.

The next stage of the project is to share some of their amazing stories with the rest of the community. All the recordings have now been transcribed, each running to between 30 and 60 pages of A4! These transcripts have now been delivered to the project’s playwright, local man John Townsend. By the time you read this, he will have

turned the stories into a 90 minute play for the Chantry High School. When the term restarts in September,



Eric Delahay with a tractor in 1949

the Head of Drama there, Sue Rickman, will start to audition and cast parts in the play. So if you have any interest or ambitions in community drama, now is the moment to come forward.

The play will have parts for all age ages and we would like as many people from the community to be involved as possible, including the older generation. This is your play and it is about you. You will need to be available for rehearsals at the Chantry which will be on Wednesday afternoons/ early evening.

We are also desperate for some technical help, particularly with the lighting and sound side of the production. Are there any retired or available people out there who would relish the challenge of getting involved in the production?

My last appeal for volunteer transcribers was rewarded with three wonderful people (thank you so much!) so I’m hoping for a good response again. Please feel free to contact me on Julia. letts@virgin.net or 01905 453023.

Julia Letts

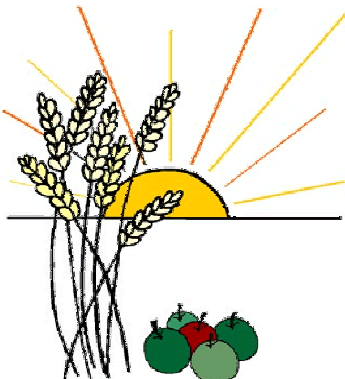


Church Words

The Rectory 01886 888664

Living in the countryside we are very much influenced by the times and seasons of the year. Our celebrations are linked closely to the changes around us day by day, month by month and year by year, changes that are given to us by and unchanging God.

We have recently celebrated a flower festival based upon the changes of the last 100 years and the changes to the Church in that time, both physically and to its spiritual life. We also had an exhibition which highlighted the change in the area over that time. So much is so different now, so much has changed. We may feel that change has not been for the better or we may think it has. Whatever we think we have to live with the change. For that which is not good, we can try to bring about change, and change those things for the better. Bringing about such change can be costly. We see the cost our armed forces pay in trying to bring about change for the better in Afghanistan: the cost of many lives. We see the cost involved in our charity appeals like Comic Relief and Children In Need. Celebrities go to great lengths to tell us our small donation can make a difference - a small cost for us to help those in great need.



Great changes for the better have happened in our world because people were willing to make great and small sacrifices. The world would be a worse place without the cost they were willing to pay. The God we serve was willing to pay a great cost for us in giving his Son, Jesus, to enable each of us to change and become like the one who is the same yesterday today and forever.

Although much may change, God never changes. Let us thank him for his goodness to us and in the midst of an ever changing world be assured of his unchanging ways.

Rev David Sherwin

The Villager apologies for not printing details of the Church services and related events for October—we ran out of space.



Village Contacts



Editor of The Villager	Michelle Higgins editor@martley.org or 01886 888344 or leave articles at Martley Post Office
Advertise in The Villager	Aileen Parker—01886 888456
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Martley Parish Council	<i>Chair:</i> Dave Cropp—01886 888398; <i>Clerk:</i> Sally Williams—01299 832949
Martley WI	<i>President:</i> Helen CoombeyJones—01886 888294
Martley & District Horticultural Society	Pam Minchin—01886 888521 or Margaret Jackson—01886 888654
Royal British Legion	Joyce Tyler—01886 821551
Martley Ramblers	Harry King—01886 888439
Martley Young Farmers	Lou Wickens—01886-812754 or Caroline Bullock—01905-333617
Path-or-Nones	John Nicklin—01886 888318 johnn@martley.org
Resource Centre	Alan Boon—01886 888527
Police “Surgery”	CSO Matt Smith 7184—Martley Local Policing Team Tenbury Wells Police Station extn. 3581
Martley Website	webmaster@martley.org
Martley Web Mesh	Richard Jackman—01886 821237 richard@martley.org John Layton—01886888460 johnl@martley.org Tom Pearsall—01886 888256 tom@martley.org
Martley Pre-School	Kath/Lucy—01886 889127 www.martleypreschool.co.uk
Wichenford contacts for The Villager	Janet Andrews—01886 888303 or Sheila Richards—01886 888378
Kenswick & Wichenford Parish Council	Clerk—Shirley Sanders 01886 888302
Wichenford Wine Club	Chairman—Bill Hylan 01886 888431
Wichenford Local Heritage Group	Heather Rendall—01886 888239

To have your organisation and its contact details appear on this list, or to change the details shown here, email editor@martley.org or leave a note for the editor at Martley Post Office.

And finally ...

**The “Entertainers”
Entertain**

Saturday, 31st October

**7.30pm Martley Memorial
Hall**

**Come along and enjoy an
evening of live entertainment
(music, songs and
performance)**

**Wine, beers and soft drinks
will be available**

**This event is in
conjunction with
Sainsbury’s at St John’s
and is to raise funds for
Nora Parsons Day
Centre**

**Nora Parsons Day Centre –
“Sainsbury’s St John’s Local
Charity of the Year”**

*Tickets £5 each
available from
Central Stores, Martley or
the Day Centre 01886 888374*

**Book a table and sit back,
relax and enjoy the
entertainment**