

The Villager

The community magazine for the parishes of Martley and Wichenford

Volume 19 No. 3

August 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

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 Church Words on page 27 for details of services

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 picture shows part of the garden of Mrs R Cannon, at Wichenford Open gardens weekend in June.

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 Old Grammar School Foundation

Students in full-time higher and further education up to the age of 25 living in Martley, or who have attended the Martley schools, are invited to apply for a grant from the Martley Old Grammar School Foundation. Examples of items covered by the grant are books, stationery, computer items or materials for the course. The applications must reach the secretary by 30 September 2009. For an application form or for more information contact the secretary: Mrs Cheryl Pearsall at Inglewood, Hillside, Martley, Worcester, WR6 6QW or telephone 01886 888793.

Sports Reporter Wanted!

Are you a keen follower of our local sports teams? Do you think they should get more coverage in The Villager? If you would like to write reports for The Villager, please contact the editor,



Michelle Higgins, on msh_47@yahoo.co.uk. It doesn't matter if you think your writing skills aren't quite up to it – the editor can lick your reports into shape.

Martley Village Memorial Hall

Well summer is coming and so our work is continuing. At the start of July we received our grant for the toilet renovations - so they should be well on the way by the time you read this. We have also raised the money to buy an additional 40 chairs to match the new ones in the hall, and we have also commissioned the redecoration of the foyer (should start end of August, start of September). We have a grant to upgrade the stage lighting and finish off with some new lighting bars. We also have a brand-new DVD player (free business contact) so maybe we will be able to upgrade TV facilities in the Autumn. We are also now looking into upgrading the whole heating system of the hall, including, possibly, the use of solar panels. All this is possible because of the support from the community of Martley - all our volunteer groups that

hire the hall, all our fund-raisers - a big thank you to the 100 Club members - you have made it possible to go so much further this year, because your support can be offset against other grant providers - (did you know that so far we have been allocated grants of £6500 in this financial year?)

Martley 100 Club

And finally many congratulations to our June winners! Margaret Moll and Janet Jones

Dave Cropp, Treasurer

Invitation to all Carers

Are you caring for a relative, friend or neighbour who is sick, frail, mentally or physically disabled? Would you appreciate a monthly group to meet with other local carers, get information and support, and also enjoy some social and recreational activities? Worcestershire Association of Carers hopes to re-launch the Martley & Villages Carers' Support Group.

At the time of writing (mid-June) it was hoped to hold a preliminary meeting on Monday 20 July at Heaton House, for anyone interested, with a view to commencing regular monthly meetings from September, on the 1st Monday of each month, 10.30 – 12.30 at To register interest, even if you did not attend the 20 July meeting, please contact Helen Lubin 0800 6523151 or 01905 26500 or
Helen.Groups@carersworcs.org.uk

Contacting the editor by email

If you send an email to editor@martley.org or to msh_47@yahoo.co.uk, PLEASE put something in the message line about it being an item for The Villager e.g. "Article for September Villager". I get very many junk emails, particularly to the editor@martley.org address, and occasionally I do miss genuine emails. I reply to all emails I receive, so if you have sent me something and I have not replied within a few days, it could be because I have missed it in amongst the junk I have deleted, so please re-send it to avoid disappointment.

I understand that there are some problems with the Martley email server at the moment (early July)and that they are generated from outside the Martley system, therefore are more difficult to eliminate, so if you send an email to editor@martley.org and do not hear from me, please re-send the email using msh_47@yahoo.co.uk. Thank you.

Michelle Higgins, Editor



Martley WI

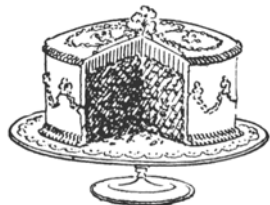
It was so disappointing to have a wet night for our Garden Meeting, the only wet night of the week. We were not able to enjoy Reg Snow's lovely garden, but it was a happy evening nevertheless. The food and drink were greatly enjoyed and George Coombey-

Jones, Harry King and Mike Kipping persuaded people during the auction to buy bargains they did not want and probably did not need. Over £150 was raised for funds.

There is no meeting this month as the outing to Blackmore Gardens is on Saturday 8 August at 4pm. Remember to bring a picnic tea. Remember also to support our stall at



the Horticultural Show when cakes, preserves and produce are always in demand by the hungry public.



Martley Klever Klogs took part in the recent County Quiz and although they did not get through to the finals, they were not bottom. Many thanks are due to members who helped at the WI tents at the Three Counties Show, especially Julia Roberts and Pat Crook, all of whom worked so hard, but apparently enjoyed themselves in the process.

Kate King

Martley Pre-School Snippets

As we look back over the last academic year we remember trips to the Sealife Centre- Birmingham, and the Santa Express - on the Severn Valley Railway, joined by many parents and grandparents too! We took part in the Healthy Hearts- Happy Children scheme with Alan Gormley

from the Pre-School Learning Alliance. Rhythm Time continued to develop children's musical and social skills every fortnight (at no extra cost to parents). Staff underwent training and qualifications in NVQ level two, Advanced Forest School Leadership and Outdoor First Aid, Safeguarding Children, Behaviour Management, SEF, and Speech and Language difficulties. Two new members of staff joined us- Joanne Stratford and Mary Norgrove. We continued with our quest for eco-status and now recycle plastic, paper and card; glass, fruit waste in our wormery; compost suitable waste; have clothes recycling collections; and recycle ink cartridges and old mobile phones. The children have continued to grow and plant vegetables from seed this year too, including beetroot, lettuce, tomatoes, potatoes and beans.



We had students from Worcester College of Technology, Hayley Powell and Stella Card, and we would like to thank them for all they brought to the pre-school and wish them every success for the future. We also opened a holiday club, two days per week for 3-13 year olds this summer.

Don't forget, 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 (3.15-6pm) clubs 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. Call in or phone Kath or Lucy for more information.

*Kathryn Smith
BA (Hons) FdA EYP Status*

Martley Ramblers

9 August 10am Church car park

This month's ramble is to Upper Arley, but remember to bring cash for the car park fee. On two recent walks the weather has been glorious. Wet conditions underfoot meant that Dot and Chris Fletcher changed from Tedstone Delamere to Ankerdine and Knightwick, some of which was new for the Ramblers. Part was on the new Geopark walk.

An evening walk in June was extra to the programme and some newcomers to the village were able to try some local footpaths.



Views were amazing in all directions across the Severn Valley and then across the Teme Valley.

Everyone felt they had earned their refreshments and relaxation in the late evening sunshine on such a lovely midsummer night. This month is a morning walk when Pam Bowers will be the leader. Everyone welcome to join us.

Kate King

Pudford Lane

The ongoing saga of Lane folk

It is so nice to hear that Pauline Woodward is so much better after all her months of treatment. Congratulations to Ray Ellis who has a certain birthday this month and to anyone else who is celebrating. It is picking, podding and processing time again. After all the hard work of sowing, coping with blight, moles, pigeons, mice, the wrong sort of weather and counting the cost of seeds (NB Lidl's do a good range of cheap seeds), the thought does occur that it could be nice just to go and buy what is wanted as and when. I did not really say that, did I? It must be exhaustion and the heat.

Kate King

Martley Allotment Association

Initial meeting of the Martley Allotment Association (without land) The first meeting took place at The Crown Inn on Tues 30 June at 7pm with 11 people attending. Apologies: Mr D.Cropp.

We have been informed that Martley Parish Council has opened negotiations to provide allotments for residents in Martley. So far, two potential sites have been identified but Mr Cropp is presently unable to officially disclose the location of either site. The Parish Council has asked for a list of names and telephone numbers of potential allotment holders, and size of plot required.

The Officers of the Provisional

committee were elected: Chair Angie Hill, Secretary Tina Steele, Treasurer Brian Woodburn. By appointing the committee as a provisional body, it enables people who are willing to work to get the Association going, and after wish to retire, to do so. Anyone who would like to be on this committee would be most welcome. A lively discussion followed, ranging from boundary fencing, water supply, sheds, greenhouses, bonfires, security, composting, to organising working parties to help out with major tasks, not forgetting the most important thing of all, growing our own vegetables and fruit! Samples of NSALG (National Society of Allotment & Leisure Gardeners) magazines and factsheets supplied by them were shown to the group. www.nsalg.org.uk For a fee of £2 per person (minimum annual fee of £20) the Allotment Society could gain membership of NSALG, with benefits such as Insurance, Seed scheme, Advice and Legal services.

With peak oil and climate change in the news every day, it was felt that this new incentive to create allotments in Martley is a timely one. Growing our own food has never been more important. Please check the Martley

website for news updates: www.martley.org.uk

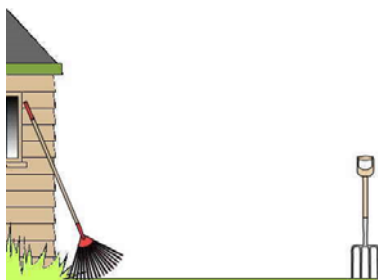
Next meeting : Thursday 8 October - 7.30pm at The Crown Inn.



Martley and District Horticultural Society

On 18 June members paid a second visit to World's End Nursery, Moseley Road, Hallow, this time to look round the three-year-old garden.

Welcomed by the owners Robin and Christina Pearce, we started off in the beautifully-laid-out part at the front of the house with its many varieties of thyme and its armillary sundial. There was much to admire here – lovely shrubs and perennials too, sheltered by a tall hedge. Moving on past many interesting plants (and a fascinating old tree trunk) we got to the terrace and a pool. A banana tree is a feature on this side of the house, also lots of 'things in pots' – so many little gems, and not a weed to be seen. There are ferns too and lots of hostas. The middle part of the garden is devoted to herbaceous borders with many excellent specimens, all well labelled. Lastly, the furthest part has a formal water feature with a double row of red painted posts – very effective, almost Grecian! Another feature is an area of evergreens. Naturally we had our



purses out in the nursery later!

To round off the evening the Pearces had kindly provided cheese and wine – much appreciated by all. A super visit.

Tina Steele

**Martley Show is on Saturday
15 August – get those entries
growing!**

Martley Parish Council

Unapproved edited record of the meeting held on Monday 1 June 2009 at the Memorial Hall.

Progress reports:

The Clerk will be on holiday from 4-14 June 2009. The Clerk has been asked to submit maps identifying particular telegraph poles with regard to the SmartWater signs. Tom Pearsall has again asked for a tip meeting. MHDC have asked for the name of a contact near the site affected by the crows. Cllr. Mrs. Rothwell will speak with MHDC. Holt Bridge closure has been deferred until next year; please see the website for further detail. The meeting with John Wallace was cancelled but any issues regarding Highways can be directed to him. The Clerk is still to contact the new representative for Martley Recreation Association. Nora Parsons Day Centre has confirmed that they would like to

purchase an item of £800.00 for which Martley Parish Council will reclaim the VAT. This is a two-year donation. MHDC have confirmed that no nominations were received for the last election therefore, a further election will be held.

Landowners support—ditch clearance. The contractor advised Cllr. Mr. T. Gale that he needs written permission from MHDC to comply with his public liability insurance. The Clerk is to ascertain from MHDC what information they need and whose responsibility ditch clearance is.

Allotments. Cllr. Mr. D. Cropp confirmed that an offer of land on Willow Green Road has been made for use as allotments. The landowner will lease the land to Martley Parish Council with the provision that the land is not damaged and returned to agricultural land. Possible other terms and conditions on either party. Councillors queried the access to and ownership of the land. The Clerk is to establish the legal requirements of allotments for discussion at the next meeting.

Village Hall. Cllr. Mr. D. Cropp reported that the Village Hall had been very successful in obtaining grants so the bar and kitchen have been improved. A further grant of £4,500 has been obtained will be used for new toilets. However, grant applications are often viewed with more favour if donations have been received from other sources. Therefore Cllr. Mr. D. Cropp asked the Council to consider ring-fencing a sum of money to aid

grant applications from the Village Hall in the future. The Clerk is to agenda this item for the next meeting.

District and County Councillors' reports:

District Cllr. Mrs. Williams reported that Worcestershire PCT are changing their name to NHS Worcestershire County.

Planning:

New. 09/00673/HOU Penny Patch, Hillside—Minor amendment to 08/00226/FUL, rear bay under balcony and front porch (10/06/09). Pending. 09/00514/HOU Rose Cottage, Berrow Green—Single storey rear extn. (21/05/09). 09/00515/FUL Berrow Farm, Berrow Green Road – Fry pools (28/05/09). 09/00369/HOU The Old Barn, Hillside—Garden Room (4/05/09). Permitted. 09/00370/LBC The Old Barn, Hillside—Retention of 2 rooflights (4/05/09). ~~Refused.~~ 09/00423/FUL Bramblewood, Hipplecote—Replacement dwelling (07/05/09). 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).

Tennis Coaching:

Cllr. Mrs. E. Rothwell and the Clerk are to liaise with Tina over possible contacts such as Lisa Seabright, Caroline Palthorpe and grant streams.

Bottle Banks:

Thamesdown Recycling has e-mailed the Clerk to say that they will be collecting every Thursday. They have

given a contact at MHDC. The Clerk is to contact MHDC to confirm what the current arrangement is regarding the bottle banks and agenda this item for the next meeting.

Bins at Ankerdine Hill:

The lengthsman is to remove the bins and tidy the area. The Parish Council will then review in a month to see if rubbish has been left at the site. The Parish Council notes that no rubbish has been found on Hillside lay-by since the bins were removed.

Insurance renewal:

It was agreed and accepted that the Allianz renewal would be taken out for 2009/2010. However, the Clerk will investigate other providers for next year. CALC are also looking to have a blanket insurance provider for all councils, which, maybe in place by next year.

Freedom of Martley:

The Clerk will write to the Freedom of Martley nominees and invite them to the Village Hall at 7.45pm on the 6 July 2009 and inform Councillors if they accept. Cllr. Mr. T. Gale is to speak with the Contractor for the Freedom of Martley Board to obtain a quote. The Clerk is to agenda this item for the next meeting.

Speed signs:

The Clerk has put an item on the CALC circular asking for details from other parish councils who have purchased speed signs. The Clerk is to agenda this item for the next meeting.

Finance:

There were four cheques totalling £824.40 approved. The Clerk is to

contact Bank of Ireland to ascertain what level of access is linked to the account. The Clerk will agenda this item for the next meeting.

Correspondence:

Items for decision. Brian Woodburn—Church clock. Community First—Membership Renewal. Items for information were also received.

Councillors reports and items for future agenda:

A parishioner had contacted Cllr. Mrs. E. Rothwell with regard to the children's playground. The Clerk is to speak to Martley Recreation Association. To be discussed at the next meeting. The Clerk is to speak to the Police about further speed-monitoring. The Clerk is to speak to MHDC about supporting requests to residents to cut back hedgerows. The Clerk is to write to County Councillor. Mr. Davies and County Council about the width of the footpath running from the pumping station to The Crown. The Clerk is to speak to County Council regarding the Worcester road sign by The Crown. The sign is slipping down the pole and is dangerous. The Clerk is to establish when the work will be completed at 24 Hollins Lane. The Clerk is to write regarding pot holes at Willow Road and outside New House Farm at Hope House Lane. The Clerk is to write to Severn Trent regarding the completion of works undertaken in Martley. The Clerk is to write to Worcester County Council to establish how long the weight restriction is to be enforced on Holt Bridge. Cllr. Mrs. E. Rothwell

resigned due to personal circumstances and left the meeting at 9.43 pm. Cllr. Mr. G. Coombey-Jones had been asked to raise concern on behalf of some parishioners as to the £300 donated to the Martley Show as it was felt by some parishioners that this money could have been used more effectively elsewhere.

Date of next meeting:

The next meeting will be held on Monday 6 July 2009.

Martley's Past

From the Rambler (1850), Part 3

"The other memorials here for the most part belong to the Nash family, and there was an inscription to Lettice Lane, spinster, daughter of Col John Lane of Bentley, Staffs, who died on 23 November 1709; she was sister to Mrs Jane Lane, who rode behind Charles II after the battle of Worcester; was blind many years before she died, and assisted her sister in polishing pebbles by rubbing them one against the other; some of the stones thus curiously polished are I believe still in the possession of the Nash family. A great friendship subsisted between the Nashes and Lettice Lane, who on their account, lived, died and was buried at Martley. Over the chancel arch is a painting of the royal arms, dated 1702. The accommodations of Martley church were enlarged in the year 1829, when 201 additional sittings were added, and in consequence of a grant from the Incorporated Society 151 of them are free, in addition to 110 previously.

This brings me to the state of the schools in this parish. Formerly there was a grammar school here, the revenues of which, exemplified under the seal of the Exchequer (temp. Elizabeth), were derived from lands in Martley, Wichenford, Knightwick and Doddenham, of the yearly value of 33 shillings (£1.65 today. ALB) for the maintenance of a learned schoolmaster for ever; and in the time of Charles I, other property worth £16 per annum was exemplified out of Chancery for the same purpose. What is become of this grammar school I cannot ascertain, but I saw the gravestone of one Anthony Mogridge, who was its master in the year 1709, and upon whose memory the epitaphist has heaped an abundance of eulogy. In the churchyard are the traces of an old school, which was recently pulled down, and I suppose this was the grammar school above alluded to. (Yes, sited by the yew cross close to the little side gate. See painting of it in library. ALB)

AL Boon

Flower Festival

St Peter's Martley 29-31 August

The Flower Festival will celebrate 100 years since the re-ordering of the interior in 1909. The floral displays will each represent a decade and reflect aspects of Christian life and world and national events. Villagers are invited to make donations in support of this festival in remembrance of special occasions in their lives—baptism, confirmation,

marriage—especially if they are associated with St Peter's, or in memory of a particular person or persons. The names of donors and the occasion/person(s) remembered will be recorded and available with the festival programme. If wished, donations may be given (or sent) to: Revd David Sherwin; Jenny Underhill; Catrine Ball or Brian Woodburn.

Harvest supper

Please contact Tom Pearsall for details.



Martley Web Mesh Update

If you live in the Rosses Lane or Newtown areas—you too can now join Martley Web Mesh—a locally-sourced, volunteer-run, competitively-priced Internet broadband service for local people. Out “techies” have been very busy installing the links to widen the coverage of the web mesh service, and it is now available as far afield as Rosses Lane and Newtown, depending upon prevailing landscape and your computer, of course.

Although this wider coverage is good

Continued on page 25

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)



Over the Garden Wall in Wichenford

WICHENFORD NEEDS YOUR NEWS

Janet Andrews

01886 888303

Sheila Richards

01886 888378



Flower Rota

2 August Mrs Thompson

9 August A A W

16 August Mrs Webb

23 August Mrs Weatherall

30 August Benefice Service, Martley

Wichenford Open Gardens

Open Gardens in Wichenford on the 27 and 28 June was a great, great success. The sun shone all weekend and it looks like we will make profits of in excess of £8,100! Many thanks to everyone who helped and supported us. More information in the next issue.

Congratulations and Thank You

We congratulate Derrick on celebrating his 80th birthday recently and wish him many happy returns. Derrick and his wife, Marion, work tirelessly for the church and village hall and also for many other village functions. We are most grateful to them for all they do for Wichenford.

Children's Society

The Children's Society boxes collected a total of £144 this year. Thank you all very much.

Arthur William Thomas (Joe) Pugh

We send our deepest sympathy to Vi and the family in their sad loss.

Joe was born at Rosses Green and attended Wichenford School followed by Martley. He worked for a short time at the Lloyd Loom factory but decided that he preferred the outdoor life. He moved to Brickyard Cottage and worked for Mr & Mrs Fred Ganderton for many years, and then for their son, Mike. He married Vi and they had four sons: Donald, Michael, Alan and George; sadly Alan died in a tragic accident. Joe and Vi celebrated their Golden Wedding in 2008. In retirement Joe helped in several local gardens; this he enjoyed very much. He liked a game of darts, and enjoyed and valued the countryside. Joe always had a smile, he was a very well known and popular member of our community. He will be sadly missed.

Lynne Burnett

On behalf of my daughters, my mother Gwen and Lynne's extended family, I would like to express our heartfelt thanks to all who were able to join us at St Laurence Church to share the wonderful service in celebration of Lynne's life. Our thanks also for the numerous messages of condolence that have been the source of great comfort in recent weeks and, on behalf of the nominated charities, their thanks for your generous contributions in support of their continuing good work.

Mike Burnett

Nora Parsons Day Centre

Great news! Nora Parsons Day Centre has been selected, against some strong competition, as Sainsbury's St John's store local charity until May 2010.

All Sainsbury's stores have been choosing a local charity they wish to work with for approximately 12 months as part of their 140th birthday celebrations.

We will be working very closely with the staff at Sainsbury's to raise awareness of the important work that the Nora Parsons Day Centre carries out plus trying to raise some much-needed funds. We are very much looking forward to the involvement from the Sainsbury's colleagues and are confident that both parties will benefit from the collaboration.

Friends of Nora Parsons Day Centre

Just a reminder—anyone who is concerned to see that the Nora Parsons Day Centre continues with its

valuable work is invited to become a FRIEND. In return for a number of benefits a FRIEND undertakes to make a small annual contribution of £5 – or more if you can afford it.

If you would like to become a FRIEND of the Centre at Wichenford please contact Bob Whyatt on 01886 822298 or Dag Smith on 01905 641071 and request a DONOR FRIEND form.

Many thanks in anticipation.

Janet Dale, Secretary

Wichenford 100 Club

Wichenford 100 Club June winners :
No 158 R Pound £75.00.

And returned subscriptions to No. 216 S Johnson & No. 104 M Parsons.
Drawn by E Fraser

Does anybody out there study the laws of probability? The members' names occupy 5 ½ pages in the 'Red Book'. One page has maintained form and produced its 12th winner this month - not bad for the ninth draw of the year! The following page has yet to have a single number drawn so far this year. Can anyone account for that?



Little Witley Film Society

Just a reminder to all you film lovers that our new season starts in September! We kick off with Slumdog Millionaire on 5 September and we hope to tempt you to join us for a great sociable evening in Little Witley village hall. We have an exciting autumn and winter programme- so you can catch up on all those films you wanted to see and didn't and some new ones you may not have heard about. You can become a full member for the whole season of seven films - with membership "perks"... or just come along to ones you choose. We are currently excitedly selecting all our new equipment- thanks to our successful grant application from Awards for All .

For more details of the programme or for membership forms contact Jean Latham on 01886 888 122 or Bob Jose on 01886 888 383. The membership form, which also shows the programme, is available to download and print from the Leisure page on www.martley.org.uk

Jean Latham

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:

7 Oct 2009 28 October 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



Live Longer, Gentlemen!

Come and sing with the *Ferndale Singers* on Thursday evenings, in Broadwas.

Our Musical Director, Merren Anthony, is holding an introductory evening for Tenors and Basses in the Village Hall, Broadwas, on Tuesday 1 September, between 7.30pm and 9.00pm when she will be delighted to welcome you and to give you details of the life and aims of the choir.

Please telephone her if you are interested, but are unable to attend that evening – 01905 749317.

Harvesting the Past—Update

If you have been following the progress of this project, you'll be pleased to hear that June has been a very busy month.

I have had the privilege of interviewing more than a dozen fascinating people, four of whom were in their nineties and whose memories stretched back as far as the 1920s and in one case, the First World War. It has given me a real insight into the communities and farms around Martley and the Teme Valley, how the Estates operated before they were broken up, the plight of tenant farmers in the late twenties and early thirties, and how everything changed with the coming of the Second World War.

"I think farming has become quite a lonely occupation" says David Powell, who still lives in a bungalow on the farm in Rochford where he grew up. "When I was going to school, there

were sixteen men working at the Bank Farm - I often wonder what the heck my father put them to do! They all had different roles... one gentlemen, more or less all he did for 11 months of the year was hedge trimming by hand. He had a straight arm - he'd got a shell in his arm - but boy, his hedge bill would cut. The Bank Farm was noted for its good hedges because he kept them small and nice. He was an exceptional man".

As more and more of the labour force went off to war, and the demands for food production got greater, farmers relied on help from the Women's Land Army and the German and Italian Prisoners of War, based at camps and hostels in Clifton and Tenbury. David Powell befriended a young German man called Reinhold Mullecker who cycled out to the Powell's farm every day from

Tenbury. David has vivid memories of Reinhold fearlessly scaling the perry trees and digging holes by hand for the hop poles. David still treasures the violin and toys that Reinhold carved him in the 1940s, and all these years later, the two of them are still in touch. The war also brought Gladys Hoskins to this area. She became a land



David Powell with a violin and toy made by a POW

girl in 1942. Based in Tenbury, she walked and later cycled to farms all over the area, doing everything from mucking out pig sheds, to cabbage planting and fruit picking.

"I remember one day we were doing beans. Golly, that was a filthy job. We were stooking these beans and we were filthy black. Suddenly a man's face peered over the hedge and he said 'Would any of you girls like a cup of tea?' – there was a little cottage we didn't know down in the hollow. Oh yes we would! He said 'You'll have to come over one at a time' and he put a ladder against the hedge! Their names were Mr and Mrs Smith and we made friends with them."

This is something that has come across in all of the interviews I've done to date: the friendships formed, the camaraderie and sense of community. I met one lady from the

Black Country, Sheila Smith, on the farm in Shelsey Beauchamp where she and her family had come every year at hop picking time. "It was absolutely beautiful here. I was a babby in arms when I first came, and as time ran on, I took notice of things and remember more. I was 21 when I finished. We never wanted to go back home, never at all." Sheila still visits every year

and once took a coach party of former pickers back to Church House Farm.

Whilst I am still collecting all this information, and continuing to interview people all over the area, 'Harvesting the Past' is about to embark on its next stage. In early July I'll be going into the Chantry High School to teach a group of students how to use recording equipment and make their own interviews. The following week it'll be their turn to do

the interviewing. We will be inviting a number of local people along who are willing to be quizzed by the pupils.

All this fascinating material will be available to the public by the end of the project. In August, John Townsend, our playwright, will start to create a community play based entirely on the oral histories I've collected. In

September we'll start recruiting actors and actresses and rehearsals will begin. If you'd like to get involved in any aspect of the project please email Julia.letts@virgin.net or ring Sue Broome on 01299 251512. We will be delighted to hear from you.

Julia Letts, Project Coordinator



Gladys Hoskins, Land Girl

In the Garden



In the Garden in August

If you are at home this month, get into the holiday mood and enjoy a bit of casual 'pottering' in the garden. All your summer bedding will need watering and you need to feed plants in containers. Tomato fertiliser works well for most. Avoid planting this month; most plants will establish much better in the autumn when it is cooler and not so dry. That said, however, it is a good time to plant out new strawberry plants.

My 'pottering' list includes deadheading; bedding plants, roses and lavender, picking up diseased leaves from shrubs, especially roses, and pruning; rambler roses, wisteria and summer-fruiting raspberries. If you didn't prune your conifer hedge last month, sorry, but you need to do it a.s.a.p.

Treat yourself to a garden or nursery visit and borrow a few ideas. Spring flowering bulbs will be available

towards the end of the month, so why not get something for a pot or bed close to the house, such as snowdrops, miniature irises or crocuses, which will flower in the very early spring?

Local gardens open for charity in August:

Shuttlefield Cottage, Birchwood, Storridge, on 8 August. A three-acre garden featured in the 'Good Gardens Guide'

High View, Hipplecote, Martley on 9 August. 'Best Private Garden' award from H&W Life 2008.

JC

Historic Churches Annual Cycle Ride

Calling all cyclists in the Benefice! Please volunteer to participate in the annual sponsored cycle ride, which generates precious funds for the Worcestershire and Dudley Historic Churches Trust. The Trust awards vital grants for the preservation, repair, maintenance and improvement of any Christian church in the Worcestershire Diocese.

The ride is on Saturday 12 September, so please telephone as soon as possible to get your sponsorship papers. We also need someone in each parish to take care of the pre- and post-event paperwork, including the collation and despatch of monies raised.

Rev David Sherwin
01886 888664

Brian Woodburn 01886 888796 for

**Martley Show is on Saturday
15 August – get those entries
growing!**



Martley and Wichenford cyclists
Chris Baker 01905 333225 for LTV
cyclists



Lammas Day

Lammas Day, also known as Lughnasagh, was one of the four main festivals of the ancient Celtic calendar. This calendar was based on the lunar, solar, and vegetative cycles, so the actual calendar date in ancient times might have varied, though traditionally it lasted for 15 days before 1 August and 15 days after. It is one of the four cross-quarter fire festivals—those festivals that celebrated the half-way points between each of the solstices at mid-winter and mid-summer and the equinoxes in spring and autumn. Lammas marks the beginning of the harvest season, the ripening of first fruits, and was traditionally a time of community gatherings, market festivals, horse races and reunions with distant family and friends. Fires were lit on prominent mounds like Silbury Hill in Wiltshire.

In tradition, Lugh is the sun king, who dies with the waning year and the corn king “John Barleycorn”, who dies when the grain is harvested. Each year

the male energy was symbolically sacrificed to the land to stop it becoming too powerful. Lammas is a time of abundance and marks the peak of the summer, from which time the green of the land turns to autumn gold and starts to prepare for the pause and outward rest of winter, when the energy of the earth turns inward and is unseen as the cycle of life and death prepares to start again. In modern times we can celebrate with family and friends at a barbeque or outdoor party, and remember the abundance of harvest and the satisfaction of a job well done, and our ability to do it.

MSH

(Continued from page 10)

news, the downside is that MWM needs MORE PEOPLE to assist with maintaining and running the operation. If you have a few hours to spare from time to time and would like to get involved with installations or the inevitable “paperwork”, please get in touch as MMW is also looking for a Secretary/Director as well as technical people. Contact any of the names on page 28 of The Villager, or Michelle Higgins on 01886 888344 for information about the role of Secretary.

The Martley website also needs volunteers. If you are interested, are a good team player and communicator and have a knowledge of Dreamweaver, get in touch with any of the people above. Your village needs you!

Michelle Higgins



Church Words

The Rectory 01886 888664

It's a busy month ahead for St. Peter's Church Martley—the celebrations begin in earnest for the centenary of the church re-ordering. The children's holiday club (5-11yr olds) which runs Monday 17 - Thursday 20 August at Martley Memorial Hall is open to all children from the communities around about. The week following will see the church decorated with flowers as we hold a Flower Festival, Fri. 28 Aug. – Mon. 31 Aug. It is based upon the decades of the century since the redevelopment of the church. It promises to be an exciting and varied display to make us think as well as wonder. May we also thank all those who have contributed to, and are making kneelers for, the church, I am sure they will all add to the beauty of the building in which we worship.

These events make us realise the importance of community. We need each other to make these events possible and being part of a community makes us part of its history. Without one another, with whom will we celebrate and enjoy our heritage and past? Wichford have recently enjoyed a community event in Open Gardens. Without that community spirit, the event would not

have been possible. Cotheridge, Broadwas and Knightwick all have their events too, as do other villages throughout the area. Each event and each member of the community is important for the building of community. This reminds me of the things Paul says in the New Testament about the church being a body and each member of that body having their part to play in the community of Christ, the Church. He emphasises that though we all have different gifts, those gifts are there for the building up of the body, the Church. As we celebrate together as a community, may it be a community-building exercise that lasts beyond our years, as it did 100 years ago.

Look out for your detailed list of all the events happening this autumn and hopefully there will be something for you enjoy and celebrate too.

Word has reached me that the Church page on the Martley website will be getting a make-over later this year, so we will be able to use it to publicise events for our celebrations and keep in touch with the community in modern and, what are to me, “mysterious ways”! God Bless.

Rev David Sherwin

Church Services in August

SUN 2 AUGUST	8.00am Holy Communion, Knightwick Chapel 10.30am Holy Communion, St Laurence, Wichenford 10.30 am Family Worship, St Peter, Martley 10.30am Morning Worship, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas 6.30pm Evensong, St Leonard, Cotheridge
Mon 3 August	9am Morning Prayer, St Laurence, Wichenford
Tue 4 August	10am Holy Communion, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
Wed 5 August	10.15am Morning Prayer, St Peter, Martley
Thu 6 August	9.00am Morning Prayer, St Laurence, Wichenford
SUN 9 AUGUST	8.00am Holy Communion, St Leonard, Cotheridge 10.30am Family Worship, St Laurence, Cotheridge 10.30am Holy Communion, St Peter, Martley 10.30am Morning Prayer, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
Mon 10 August	8.30am Prayer Breakfast
Tue 11 August	10.00am Morning Prayer, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
Wed 12 August	10.15 Holy Communion, Heaton House
Thu 13 August	9.00am Morning Prayer, St Laurence, Wichenford
SUN 16 AUGUST	8.00am Holy Communion, St Peter, Martley 9.00am Matins, St Leonard, Cotheridge 10.30am Holy Communion, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas 10.30am Morning Worship, St Peter, Martley 3.00pm Evening Worship, Knightwick Chapel 6.00pm Evening Worship, St Laurence, Wichenford
Mon 17 August	9.00am Morning Prayer, St Peter, Martley
Tue 18 August	10.00am Holy Communion, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
Wed 19 August	10.15am Morning Prayer, St Peter, Martley
Thu 20 August	9.00am Morning Prayer, St Laurence, Wichenford
SUN 23 AUGUST	8.00am Holy Communion, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas 9.30am Holy Communion, St Peter, Martley 10.30am Family Worship, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas 10.30am Holy Communion, St Laurence, Wichenford 6.30pm Evening Worship, St Peter, Martley
Mon 24 August	9.00am Morning Prayer, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
Tue 25 August	10.00 Morning Prayer, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
Wed 26 August	10.15am Holy Communion, Heaton House
Thu 27 August	9.00am Morning Prayer, St Laurence, Wichenford
SUN 30 AUGUST	10.30am Benefice Holy Communion, St Peter, Martley Flower Festival Services



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
Church (Worcestershire West Rural Team)	<i>Rector:</i> Revd David Sherwin—01886 888664 or davidwin56@aol.com <i>Curate:</i> Revd Bruce Thomson—01886 888098 <i>Assistant Priest:</i> Revd Jennifer Whittaker—01886 833897
Martley Parish Council	<i>Chair:</i> Dave Cropp—01886 888398; <i>Clerk:</i> Sally Williams—01299 832949
Martley WI	<i>President:</i> Helen CoombeJones—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

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 ...

Q. What's the definition of a farmer?

A. A man outstanding in his field.

Q. Did you hear about the magic tractor?

A. It turned into a field.

Q What's black and fluffy

A Pink fluff at night

Q What's white and fluffy

A Pink fluff in a snowstorm

Q What's orange and fluffy

A Pink fluff after a holiday in the sun

Q What's green and fluffy

A Pink fluff gardening



Cat Facts

A recent survey of 1800 cat owners revealed the following facts:

- Over 90% of cats in the UK are non-pedigree
- The most popular names for cats are Charley or Lucy
- 60% of cats live with at least one other cat. 7% live in households with more than 10 cats!
- Of the 20% of cats who share their home with a dog, only half were said to be friends. The rest simply ignore their canine companion.