

The Villager

The community magazine for the parishes of Martley and Wichenford

Volume 21 number 9 February 2013

Advertise in The Villager: Gail Dawson, 01886 889180 or email editor@martley.org

Editor: Gail Dawson (01886 889180)

Editorial Team: *Martley* Alan Boon (01886 888527), Kate King (01886 888439)

Wichenford Janet Andrews (01886 888303), Sheila Richards (01886 888378)

Distribution: *Martley* George & June Lawrence (01886 821064) *Wichenford* Karen Furber (01886 888449)

Contact The Villager: Leave articles at Martley Post Office, call Janet or Sheila (Wichenford) or email the Editor at editor@martley.org

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

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

Martley Parish Council: 1st Monday in the month 7.30pm in The Library

Tuesdays

Short Mat Bowling: 2.00pm Martley Memorial Hall

Wichenford Ladies' Fellowship: 2.30pm

2nd Tuesday in the month (usually)

Martley Toddler Group: Every Tuesdays (term time) 10.30am 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 p. 27 for details of services

See articles 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

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



Abbreviated Unapproved Minutes Of The Parish Council Meeting Held On 7 January 2013

5 councillors present, District Councillor plus 6 members of the public and the Clerk.

Democratic Period/ Public Question Time

A parishioner said that she had been in contact concerning the village entering Heart of England in Bloom competition and that PC would receive a letter.

Safer Roads Partnership

The Chairman welcomed Mr Dave Perridge of the Safer Roads Partnership. Mr Perridge had reviewed the results of the speed camera positioned on B4197 at Hillside. He explained that the results actually showed that the speed limit for the stretch of road should be 40mph. The 30mph speed limit is not being complied with but if the limit was 40mph they could probably enforce the limit. As WCC had

recommended amending the speed limit previously they probably would not be prepared to make any amendments now. He left information with Council on alternative measures to try to cut the speed which Council will review at a future meeting. The Clerk is to contact WCC as they had agreed to paint some chevrons but this work had not been carried out. The Chairman thanked Mr Perridge for his time and the very helpful explanation.

County & District Councillor

Reports

District Councillor Williams confirmed that the applicant had withdrawn the application for the track on Berrow Hill.

Application for Dispensation

Cllr Gardner proposed and Cllr Goodyear seconded the proposal that Cllr Cumella has dispensation to discuss the council's budget/precept until the next election.

Correspondence

Letter from Pencroft regarding the Hillside speeds. Noted.

Letter from H Baldwin regarding Neighbourhood Planning progress. Noted. Came & Co, Increased frequency of public liability claims,

MRA to record inspections on a weekly basis. WCC, revised mobile library timetable. Noted. Letter from RBL Martley branch. Noted. Consultation letter from Post Office, copies handed to Councillors for discussion at February meeting.

Progress Reports

BT Phone Kiosk, carry this item forward to February. Trees on Church Lane, a letter was read out that Highways have sent to the owner of the trees. Drains on Hollins Lane. No response as yet from Dave Lavender from WCC Highways. Noise from MUGA, an update report was read out. Ongoing. Re-siting of the grit bin. Permission has been granted to move the bin and the Lengthsman is to be contacted. Cllr Gardner explained that a parishioner would like to take responsibility for landscaping a rough piece of ground next to the Central Networks substation. Clerk to check with Central Networks. All Councillors were in favour of this proposal.

Weighbridge Area

Carry forward as Cllr Studer was not present.

Finance

The payments as previously circulated were approved and cheques signed accordingly. The budget for 2013-2014 was reviewed. Cllr Goodyear proposed that the precept for 2013-2014 remain at the same level as the previous year. All Councillors were in favour. Library electricity costs, to be carried forward as Cllr Studer not present.

Lengthsman

Duties for January to include, tidying up around St Peters Court and Cllr Cumella to speak to residents. Clear gullies and grips and remove rubbish from lay-by at Hillside. As funds remain available from the Lengthsman scheme it was agreed to ask the Lengthsman to tidy up the area around the weighbridge and the hedge/grass along to the gateway close to the entrance to Mortlake Drive. Also to get a stump grinder for the playing field in readiness for the new tree to be planted.

Clerks Urgent Decisions

Letter sent to Pencroft regarding vehicles using Ankerdine. A parishioner reported that she had seen no further vehicles and thanked Council for prompt action.

Complaint regarding the bin by Millennium Green. Clerk requested to contact Mr Lewington about this ongoing problem. The clerk had received a complaint about dog mess in the Churchyard. This has been referred to the Vicar.

Councillors Reports

Cllr Gardner asked that Councillors area be added as an item to the February agenda. Cllr Cumella reported that he would attend the Knightwick PC meeting with the possibility of clustering with other villages regarding the Neighbourhood Plan.

Cllr Gale asked if the arrangement with Longside Radio had been formalised. The Clerk reported it was in hand.

Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday 4 February at 7.30pm to be held in the Library.

J C Dale
11 January 2013

In Memoriam

Gloria Muriel Miles passed away on 8 August 2012. Gloria's ashes were buried at St Peter's, Martley on 11 December.

Mobile Fish and Chips!!

Did you know that there is a Mobile Fish and Chip shop that visits the Martley Village Hall Car Park every Wednesday from 5.00pm until 7.30pm. The Village Hall also benefits by being given a donation too, so by enjoying fish and chips you are also helping to support the Village Hall. I can vouch for the quality as we have used them several times the latest being on Friday 4 January and having driven from near Rotterdam, were a very welcome supper!

Neil Stammers (Chairman)

Martley Spurs Football Club Update

We would like to say a big thank you to everyone who took part in the Annual Christmas Draw, from those who donated prizes; sold the tickets and those of you who supported the club by purchasing raffle tickets. Sheila Griffiths won the first prize (£70.00), Newton won the 2nd prize (Whisky) and Josh Stafford won the 3rd (Port). A full list of prize winners

is available upon request to Mrs M Gardner. The draw made a total profit of £219 which will be invaluable to our small club. The new year brought us a new kit (thanks to the sponsorship of Ian and Lyndsey from the Bell at Broadheath) and new heart to our team. We would love to see supporters at our home and away games. Interested in joining us? New players are more than welcome, please contact Simon Rawle on 07971 264107.

M Gardner, Secretary

St Richards Coffee Morning

Thank you so much for the support you all gave to the coffee morning held on 26 January at Martley Village Hall. We will advise you of the total raised for St Richards Hospice in the March edition of the Villager. The next Coffee Morning will be held on Saturday 23 February and the charity will be The Royal Institute for the Blind, which has been nominated by Tina Jarry. All parishioners are invited to attend and should anyone wish to help or nominate a good cause, please contact either: Mandy Gardner on 01886 888237 or Janet Dale on 01886 888472.

M Gardner

Martley & District Horticultural Society

49 members gathered in good spirits for the Annual Christmas Dinner on 7 December and as usual, an excellent meal was provided and much enjoyed by all. Speeches followed and thank-you's and presentations to all the

officers and people who had helped the Society during the year. Contrary to reports there was no dancing on the tables (so don't believe it) but the carols almost got out of hand and as a result the Village Hall roof is now slightly higher! On 28 February, Paul Cook speaks on 'Containers and Hanging Baskets'.

Tina Steele

Martley WI

**Wednesday 13 February 7.30pm
Heaton House**

Already we are approaching the second meeting of 2013, surely the months and years must be shorter nowadays. Not many of us know the history of Kingswood, so the visit of Chris Titshall this month may prove quite an eye-opener. Some of us know the ford across the Teme, (some of our children have swum there), but not much else about the area. As Chris lives at Kingswood, who else could we ask to tell us about it? Friends and visitors are always welcome to join us. Plenty of activities are planned for the coming months. We have entered a team for the County Quiz on 25 February when Julia will be making sure we do our best when representing Martley. Our annual dinner is planned in March at The Spires restaurant, Worcester Technical College, so keep a lookout for the date and book your place.

Kate King

Martley Ramble

Sunday 10 February 1pm Church

car park

This is an earlier start as the walk begins on Bromyard Downs, and getting everyone marshalled and there will take a little extra time. Pauline and Richard Mills will be leading. Let's hope the weather will be clear and dry, as there can be some lovely distant views on a good day.

Kate King

Martley's Past

Having written in the past how Parish Council minutes reflected the outbreak of the Great War, here is how the boys' School recorded the event after 4 August 1914.

August 3rd – Bank Holiday. School closed for the day.

August 6th – Harry Birch was very unwell on arrival this a.m. and as the symptoms suggested measles he was sent home.

August 12th – Three children who went to the Doctor at 11am had their attendances cancelled. E. Philpotts for Ringworm and H. Lippitt for bad face, have both been excluded. In fact, it wasn't until October that any mention of war was mentioned.

October 12th. Owing to hop-picking not being finished, the holidays were extended one week. (Please note that September was the regular Summer holiday month)

October 15th. Mr A.H. Gummery, gardening instructor, having gone on military duty, the gardening classes have been suspended.

Alan Boon

***Martley & District
Horticultural Society***

**Trip to Cirencester Christmas
Markets and Westonbirt
Arboretum.**

On Friday 14 December, 40 brave souls boarded the coach bound for Cirencester Christmas Markets..... in the pouring rain. We had all looked forward to the trip for some considerable time and could not believe how unlucky we were to wake up to torrential rain, which continued for most of the day. Nevertheless, gardeners are a hardy bunch and we made the most of Cirencester's lovely shops and interesting market stalls, warming ourselves up with plenty of mulled wine on the way. We continued on to Westonbirt Arboretum, cheered by a few Christmas carols, to see the one mile long illuminated forest trail. By this time the rain had eased and we were able to make the most of the beautifully illuminated trees. There were several inter-active exhibits along the way, with a chance to create your own sound and light symphony. The evening finished with more carols, this time expertly sung by a Victorian choir, who created a lovely festive atmosphere. Father Christmas was there in his traditional GREEN costume, not to mention the walking Christmas trees too !!

Martley Oil Syndicate

Will all members please note there will be no Syndicate order for March 2013 so put a note in your diaries and

order in January and February as you need. New members always welcome, and for further information on how to save money on heating oil please contact Alan Colburn at alan.colburn@martley.org or telephone 01886 888575

Missing Cupboard

A cupboard has gone missing from the Village Hall. This is a large piece of equipment so cannot be mislaid. Can you appeal to see if anyone has any idea where it might be or can you help us to locate it?

Many thanks.

*Janet Dale, Clerk
Martley Parish Council*

Marriages

The wedding of Tyrone Duncan Hemmings and Denise Tustin took place on Saturday 8 December at St Peter's, Martley. Many congratulations to you both.

Coffee Morning

Due to popular demand a coffee morning will be held on the last Saturday of every month, at Martley Village Hall from 10.30am to 12 noon. The proceeds of which will go to charity. If you would like to help on the day, donate cakes or would like to nominate a charity, please contact Mandy on 01886 888237 or Janet on 01886 888472. We look forward to seeing you on our next coffee morning, Saturday 23 February.

Mandy



Over the Garden Wall in Wichenford

WICHENFORD NEEDS YOUR NEWS

Janet Andrews
01886 888303
Sheila Richards
01886 888378



Cracker Evening

To be held at the Memorial Hall Wichenford. By popular request on the 1st March, tickets £25 to include supper and your first drink too! A Bar and raffle will also be available on the night. Please apply for tickets from Paul 01886 888449, Georgina 01886 888678 or Keith 01886 888514.

Thanks.

Georgina

Quiz Night

This is to be held at the Wichenford Memorial Hall on the 19 April. Tickets are only £10.00 and will include a fish and chip supper. There will also be a bar and a raffle available on the evening. Tickets from Paula Cox, by telephoning 01299 890 159.

Georgina.

Broadheath Farmers Discussions Group

Annual Goose Supper

The Broadheath Farmers Discussion Group held their Annual Goose Supper at Sapey Golf Club. It was a

super evening and a delicious meal. After the meal cups were awarded to the winners of the competitions; judges commented that despite the difficult weather conditions for farmers in 2012, standards were really high.

The winners were:

Winter Wheat, 1st, Geoff Probert, 2nd, Brian Wickens, 3rd, Peter Weeks.

Grass Ley, 1st, Simon Twinberrow; 2nd, Trevor Pargeter; 3rd, John and

David Richards.

Maize, 1st, Mark Andrews; 2nd, David Richards.

Dairy, 1st, Peter & Mark Andrews, 2nd, David & John Richards, 3rd, Peter & Matthew Field.

Beef, 1st, Peter Weeks, 2nd, Trevor Pargeter, 3rd, Martin Brian.

Sheep, 1st, Trevor Pargeter, 2nd, Martin Brian, 3rd, Bill Yardley.

Barley, 1st, Geoff Probert, 2nd, Andrew Simmonds, 3rd, Peter Weeks.

Break Crop, 1st, Tony Leach, 2nd, Peter Weeks; 3rd, Neil Farmers.



***Kenswick And Wichenford
Parish Council***

Unapproved abbreviated draft minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 17 December 2012 in the Memorial Hall Wichenford.

Present

Mr K Randall, Mrs H Rendall, Mr M Andrews, Mrs J Panton, Mrs C Woodward and Mrs G Britten-Long.

The meeting was opened by Councillor Britten-Long.

In Attendance

Mrs B Williams (District Councillor)
Mr A Davies (County Councillor) and
Mrs S Sanders (Clerk to the Parish Council)

Declaration Of Interest

Councillors declared an interest in the precept.

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 Councillor Williams reported that the meeting recently held at the Bank House to discuss the South Worcestershire Development Plan was a fiasco and as no local plan is in place it has left Malvern Hills in a difficult position. The National Planning Policy Framework will come into force in March. At the last meeting the original proposal was overturned and the SWDP must be submitted by March/April. The proposed Gravity sports track on Berrow hill has been

withdrawn by the applicant due to lack of information. The applicant failed to provide all the information wanted by the planning authority. County



Councillor Davies explained the reason they have had to put out the ice warning signs is due to the large amount of water run-off from fields onto the

highway and consequent danger of ice build up. This is a temporary additional precautionary measure to last as long as the cold weather persists. Not enough people have completed the Broadband questionnaire and Wichenford had the lowest number of responses. The consultation has been extended but more responses are needed as WCC has to show a need for faster broadband. There has been confirmation of the Ash die back disease in Tenbury Wells and Malvern Hills. WCC will not know their funding position until December 19 and they will then make a decision on whether they will be in a position to freeze council tax for 2013-2014. Councillor Davies will serve until the election on 3 May when he will retire.

Application For Dispensation

Councillor Randall proposed and Councillor Rendall seconded the proposal that all councillors present have dispensation to discuss the councils budget/precept until the next election.

Progress Reports

Highfields

The pipe under the gateway and

gatepost has now been repaired. The hole where the verge has come away from the road has now been filled.

B4204

It was agreed that there is probably no real requirement for permanent fencing that appears to be pretty useless. The council have carried out a "grip test" on the section of road where the majority of accidents occur and have concluded that re-surfacing of the carriageway is not warranted. The conclusion of the survey report states that the contributory factor in all the "loss of control" events is excessive speed, whereby drivers are choosing to ignore the 35mph advisory speed limit signs.

KingGreen

Replies have been received from the residents contacted, who are all in favour of the management plan proposed by the council. A quote has been received of £150 and the clerk was asked to get 2 more quotes before any decision is made.

Elm Common was also discussed as it is being driven over and has large ruts in places. The Chairman will speak to the person concerned.

Highways issues

The Parish Council are still waiting to hear from the highways department if the 30mph speed limit can be extended from the village to the church. The request for barriers to be placed at either end of Rosses and Guises Lane is still on-going. The Parish Council also asked for the speed limit to be reduced to 50mph along the B4204 and although they are

still waiting for a reply from the County Council they have been told that this was suggested before but was rejected by Broadheath Parish Council.

Planning

Applications refused/approved/withdrawn.

12/01564/HOU Brownscroft Farm, Temporary mobile home/annex accommodation for dependant relatives. (Withdrawn)

Finance

The balance from 1st November to 30th November 2012 stands at £11,353.33. There were 2 cheques totalling £159.60 for approval. The acceptance of the finances was resolved

Budget

The budget for 2013/14 will discussed and a decision made at the January meeting.

Lengthsman

The clerk has spent 2 hours driving around with the Lengthsman looking at various issues particularly flooding. The majority of flooding in the parish is down to blocked drains and poor ditching. The clerk has contacted the County Council to ask for the drains in the parish to be jetted although this won't happen over night. The Parish Council have spent £500 on digging out ditches along the B4204 and Kings green, and agreed to a further £500-£600 to complete the work on the B4204. Some of the ditches causing problems belong to landowners. There is a large amount of rubbish in the ditch by the B4204 lay-by which is acting as a dam; this has been reported

to the District Council. Salt has been put in the salt box at Boxley Cottage.

Date And Venue Of Next Meeting

Meeting dates were arranged for 12 March and 16 April (Annual Parish Meeting) 2013.

All will be in the Memorial Hall Wichenford at 7.30pm.

Memorial Hall, Wichenford

Memorial Hall

Charges for the Hall Rental will increase as from the 1st February 2013.



The Main Hall will be £10 per hour (to include heating) and the Committee Room will be £7 per hour (to include Heating). Kitchen usage for functions and food cooking and warming will remain at £10 but normal usage of Kitchen for meetings (coffee and tea), free of charge.

Hire of tables and chairs etc to remain the same.

*Memorial Hall Management
Committee
11th December, 2012*

Wichenford 100 Club

1st prize, E.Neath, 2nd prize J.Roberts and 3rd prize M.O'Leary. Many congratulations to our December winners. The lucky winners were drawn by Rita Chaplin. Many thanks to you all for your support.

Clair

Tribute to Eddie Murphy

Eddie was the 6th child of Sally and John (Pat) Murphy, born in Shelsley. The family moved to Wichenford briefly before moving to Martley in about 1948. When Eddie left school, he worked locally before being called up for National Service, where he served in Cyprus in the Catering Corp. When he was demobbed he worked for the Council then moved to work at a small factory making furniture. When it closed down he stayed on the same site working for Andrew Williams Sawmills before retiring. He enjoyed his spare time gardening and helping anyone who needed assistance. Eddie enjoyed helping out in the Millennium Field and also helping on the Children's Play Area. Whether it was helping in the Community or making a go cart for the neighbours children. Eddie enjoyed his quiet life. Being diagnosed with cancer, Eddie faced it as always with no complaints. The whole family would like to thank all friends, Doctors, Nurses and St Richards Hospice for all the care given to Eddie during his illness, also everyone who attended the funeral and for the donations received for St Richards Hospice. Donations totalled over £300 plus a collection of old florins which Eddie had collected over the years.



Flu

Flu is the common name for influenza and is a highly infectious disease caused by the influenza virus. Outbreaks of flu tend to occur in the winter each year and the infection is spread rapidly by coughing or sneezing. Unlike a common cold, the symptoms of flu come on very quickly and include a fever, aching joints and muscles. Although flu can be unpleasant, if you are otherwise healthy, the illness will usually clear up on its own and you will recover within a week. However, the effects of flu can be more severe in certain groups such as older people, pregnant women and people with an underlying health condition (particularly chronic heart or respiratory disease or those with weakened immune systems). Therefore, to protect against potentially harmful effects of flu, it is recommended that these 'at risk' groups are offered vaccination each year as the flu vaccine.

The flu vaccine

Studies have shown that having the flu jab provides effective protection against the flu. However, as nothing is one hundred per cent, protection may not always be complete and the level of protection may vary between individuals. Over time, the protection

from the flu vaccine gradually decreases and unfortunately the flu virus strains often change. As a result, the risk changes and that is why a new vaccine is introduced each year to try to cover the viruses around in any particular year. If you are at risk, the NHS recommends that you have an annual flu vaccine to protect you against potential serious complications such as pneumonia. Serious side effects of the flu vaccine are very rare. You may have a slight temperature and aching muscles for a couple of days and your arm may be a bit sore where you were injected but that is all that usually occurs.

Which flu jab?

Every year the World Health Organisation studies the types of flu virus that are circulating the world and tries to predict which ones are most likely to come into our country in the following winter. The vaccines are prepared during the summer months and then given to Primary Care in early autumn so that an immunisation programme can be offered. Every year, GP practices try to think of new and novel ways to encourage their 'at risk' population to attend for the flu vaccine. The higher the percentage of people receiving the vaccine the lower the risk for all of us so not only is the vaccination good for individuals but it

is good for our whole society. Some people think that you can catch the flu from the flu vaccine but the vaccine does not contain any live viruses so cannot cause flu. It is of course common at this time of the year for people to be getting viral illnesses anyway and it is most likely that, when a viral illness occurs after the flu vaccine, it has simply occurred by coincidence. As far as egg allergy is concerned. If patients have a confirmed serious allergic reaction (anaphylaxis) to hens eggs or have uncontrolled asthma or other type of allergy to egg, it is possible to get egg free vaccine. If that is difficult for the doctor to source, there are other vaccines with a low amount of egg in them which might be suitable. The flu vaccine can be safely administered to children over 6 months, if they are at risk, pregnant women and those who are breast feeding. One final point is that, after about 5 days of suffering from flu-like symptoms, the patient is probably no longer infectious to other people. **The Great Witley Practice still has plenty of flu vaccine available and we would encourage anybody who is concerned to talk to one of the staff about the vaccine. Please call us on 01299 896 788**

Dr S P A Watson (on behalf of Great Witley Surgery)

Craft and Table Top Sale

Appeal for Cruse Bereavement Care, Worcester Branch.

A Craft/Collectables/Junk & Jewellery Table Top Sale will be held on

Saturday 23 March 2013 at Great Witley Village Hall from 11am till 2.30pm.

Get rid of some clutter, whether it's old or new, from the garage or the kitchen, or even unwanted Christmas presents, come along and turn it into cash – book a table now. We are having our own 'Cruse Donation Table' so if you can donate anything for us to sell to raise funds, it would be greatly appreciated. Also running during the day will be a 'Silent Auction'. To date we have a rocking chair and a used (but in good condition) Kenwood Chef. If you have an item worth putting on the auction that you would like to donate for Cruse funds (not too big please) that also would be appreciated.

Cruse Bereavement Care, Worcester Branch have highly trained volunteers across the county, helping the bereaved come to terms with their loss and working towards easing the pain. To book a table, for donation collection or information please contact, Julie Mills 01299 896 762 or Marjorie Clare 01299 827 543 or email juliemills112@gmail.com

Little Witley Film Society

This month we have a delightful



French Film called The Chorus. A memorable entry in the genre of inspirational films, The Chorus is an uplifting tale of a masterful teacher who put his heart into his work and changed the lives of his students

forever. With a soundtrack of boys' singing, the lovely music of this film is the glue that will stick to viewers long after watching it. Set in 1940s rural France, at a school for poor boys who are delinquent or orphaned, the story feels timeless in the way that it captures a crucial moment in the lives of the boys involved. Ranging from early elementary school level to junior high, the boys struggle for independence and self-expression. Director/writer Christophe Barratier has created a moving and beautiful film with more than a few life lessons hidden within.

Did Gareth Malone see this film when it was made in 2004??

The doors will open at 7.15pm and the film starts promptly at 8pm. We look forward to seeing you there!

Jean

Baptisms

George Thomas Richardson and Grace Florence Mayne Richardson were baptised at Abberley Hall Chapel and registered at St Leonard's Cotheridge on Sunday 16 December 2012.

In Memoriam

Thelma Marston Robinson passed away on 21st November. A service for Thelma was held at Worcester Crematorium on 7 December.

Welcome To Vicki

Our First Book Reviewer

Vicki Howard, Hillside, Martley

For a number of years Brian had been

on his own and so had I. He enjoyed working on his little Ginetta sports car. He had lived and worked extensively in the Middle East and in Pakistan and I filled my empty days after retirement by taking a part time course with Open University and studied for my Degree in Art History. I had also done a fair share of travelling, to Canada, India, China and Australia but nearly always on my own and holidays are rarely as enjoyable as when you have someone to share it with you, male or female. In short, there was an empty space beside me. When Brian and I met we sort of 'clicked' and we talked endlessly and we still do! Without the demand of work or children, we took off on a few eventful holidays together before deciding to find somewhere to live together. We chose to live in France, which is a huge country, but we wanted a moderate climate where the seasons are recognisable and not too far away from England, so we chose The Dordogne in south-west France. To our good fortune, property prices in France at this time, in 2003, were considerably less than the equivalent in England. The all-important exchange rate meant that we could live comfortably on our joint pensions. So when asked why did we chose France ... the answer had to be "why not". We made a host of new friends, mostly English like ourselves and a few French as well. We married, in France, in 2004 but just one year later in the summer of 2005, I contracted septicaemia of the spine which

attacked my central nervous system and as a result of this I had a loss of my hearing due to the trauma of the illness and suffered partial paralysis of my legs and feet. So instead of lazing in the back garden, I had an enforced stay in a French hospital for 5 months. I was transferred to a rehabilitation hospital and there I managed to learn how to walk again, albeit very slowly and with poor balance. Brian is now my Carer and helps in every way he can but I do regret being no longer able to drive. Brian however, is always prepared and willing to take me where I need or want to go. After some 8 years of living in France we decided it was time to return to our home roots in England. We came back in August 2011 and chose Worcestershire because it was geographically within easy reach of our respective families. We now consider ourselves “home-birds” and apart from cooking and spending time at home, my other passion is to read. I spend hours with my nose in a book and hope in the coming months to share with you my joy and pleasure of reading. I hope to choose books that are of interest to both adults and children as I know *The Villager* appeals to audiences young and older! The first book I have chosen is "Shadow" by Michael Morpurgo, famed writer of "War Horse". I do hope you enjoy my first book review.

Vicki Howard

February Book Review

“Shadow” , written by Michael Morpurgo

Michael Morpurgo is a name which I am sure is familiar to you, as the writer of “War Horse” a story that became universally successful both as a film and a stage show. The setting for this book is again war, but the more recent war in Afghanistan and the story again follows in the footsteps of “War Horse” but the horse is a dog, a small brown and white spaniel that takes centre stage. Her name is “Shadow” and she ‘adopts’ a local Afghan family, Aman, a small boy, his mother and grandmother, who have all become victims of war and have been



reduced to living in a cave near Kabul. The boy, Aman, in spite of trying to chase the dog away, finds her easing her way into his daily life and that of his mother and grandmother, and into his and their

affection. The story is narrated by those who know it best, Aman, his best friend Matt and Matt’s grandfather. The beginning is set in Afghanistan where Aman lives in a cave with his mother and his gravely sick grandmother, during the most troubled period of war; the story follows Aman the boy, who, with his mother make their long and arduous journey to England. With incredible ingenuity, it is the little brown and white spaniel, Shadow,

who leads them; their journey seems destined to follow the dog through some of the worst and most terrifying events of the war-torn Afghanistan, until they are able to reach the next stage of their journey which will bring them safely to England. However, the story does not end there. Aman has settled happily into school life in England, meets Matt and Matt's grandfather, who each narrate the story. The boy is settling well until he and his mother are arrested and held as illegal asylums-seekers in Yarl's Wood, in Bedfordshire. Matt and his grandfather, a retired journalist, uses his talents to bring public attention to the plight of asylums awaiting extradition, and the conditions in which they are held. This is a story that has touched many lives and I am sure whether young or old, you will enjoy reading this fascinating tale.

Vicki Howard

A Poem To Make You Smile!

I Have a Little Sat Nav,
I have a little Sat Nav,
It sits there in my car,
A Sat Nav is a driver's friend,
It tells you where you are.

I have a little Sat Nav,
I've had it all my life,
It's better than the normal ones,
My Sat Nav is my wife!

It gives me full instructions,
Especially how to drive,
"It's thirty miles an hour", it says,

"You're doing thirty five".

It tells me when to stop and start,
And when to use the brake,
And tells me that it's never ever,
Safe to overtake.

It tells me when a light is red,
And when it goes to green.
It seems to know instinctively,
Just when to intervene.

It lists the vehicles just in front,
And all those to the rear,
And taking this into account,
It specifies my gear.

I'm sure no other driver,
Has so helpful a device,
For when we leave and lock the car,
It still gives its advice.

It fills me up with counselling,
Each journey's pretty fraught,
So why don't I exchange it,
And get a quieter sort?

Ah well, you see, it cleans the house,
Makes sure I'm properly fed,
It washes all my shirts and things,
And – keeps me warm in bed!

Despite all these advantages,
And my tendency to scoff,
I do wish that once in a while
I could turn the damned thing off!!

Anonymous

The Villager Back Copies Needed!

Can You Help?

This is an appeal for back editions of The Villager magazine please. I have editions dating back to 1993, but unfortunately have a few holes in my collection. I would be very grateful if you know of anyone who might be willing to give up any of those editions as listed below, so that I can fill those gaps. I am particularly looking for the following editions.

1993, January, February, March, April, May, July and August

1994, February

1995, June

1996, March

1998, June

2001, June

2002, June and July

2003, February

2005, February

Thank you so much. I would be very grateful of any help. Please contact me on emma.rothwell@martley.org

Emma Rothwell

Mobile Library

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



Ockeridge

Silver Oaks 9.50am–10.10am

Wichenford

Malvern View 10.20am–10.45am

Church 10.50am–11.10am

Kings Green Farm 11.20am–11.45am

Ross Green 11.50am–12.10pm

Martley Hill

Horn Lane Bungalow

12.15pm–12.30pm

Martley

Heaton House 1.10pm – 1.40pm

Martley Church 1.45pm – 2.00pm

Clifton on Teme

Village Hall 2.15pm – 2.55pm

Shelsley

Shelsley Barns 3.10pm – 3.25pm

Dates are listed below for the mobile library

16th January, 6th February, 27th February, 20th March, 10th April, 1st May, 22nd May, 12th June, 3rd July, 24th July, 14th August, 4th September, 25th September, 16th October, 6th November, 27th November and 18th December.

Enquiries About This Service Should Be Made To, Stourport Library, Worcester Street, Stourport, Worcs DY13 8EH or Telephone, 01905 8 2 2 7 2 2 o r e m a i l stourportmobile@worcestershires.gov.uk

Valentines Day

Valentines Day falls on Thursday 14th February 2013 !



In the Garden



This month there are signs of the approaching spring, with bulbs appearing and birds and wildlife waking up as light levels and temperatures increase. There's plenty to do indoors this month, all in preparation for the season ahead. Outdoors, the garden is coming to life again, and its time to prune shrubs, such as *Wisteria*.

Top 10 jobs this month

Prepare vegetable seed beds, and sow some vegetables under cover.

Chit potato tubers

Protect blossom on apricots, nectarines and peaches

Net fruit and vegetable crops to keep the birds off

Prune winter-flowering shrubs that have finished flowering

Divide bulbs such as snowdrops, and plant those that need planting 'in the green'

Prune *Wisteria*

Prune hardy evergreen hedges and renovate overgrown deciduous hedges

Prune conservatory climbers

Cut back deciduous grasses left uncut over the winter

Sowing and Planting

Dahlia tubers stored over winter (or bought this year) can be started into growth. Place them in a light, warm place to sprout before planting. They will need additional misting with a spray-bottle of water, to stop them dry-

ing out. Lily bulbs can be planted in pots, for flowers this summer. After growing on indoors or in a cool greenhouse, they can be moved onto the patio when in flower, so that you can enjoy the blooms. Bulbs coming up in the rock garden or in containers may benefit from overhead protection from the rain and snow. A sheet of glass or Perspex placed on piles of bricks will do the job. Hardy annuals can be sown in pots or modules to provide colour. Summer-flowering Dutch iris bulbs can be forced and used as cut flowers. Place gladioli corms in seed trays or boxes and place in a light, warm (around 10°C/50°F) spot to encourage them to sprout before planting. This will ensure an earlier display. Sweet peas can be sown under cloches, in a cold frame, or in a cool room in the house. Any sweet peas that were sown earlier in the autumn can now be potted. Check on tender plants overwintering outdoors to ensure protective coverings are still in place. Cut back ornamental grasses and other perennials left for winter interest. Continue to deadhead winter pansies and other winter bedding. Pansies will carry on into the spring and even to early summer, if attended to frequently. At the end of the month prune back the stems of pot-grown overwintered fuchsias and place in a well-lit, warm place to encourage new growth. Divide clumps of herbaceous perennials that you want to propagate, those that have become too large for their allotted space, and those that are flowering poorly or have lost their shape



Church Words

The Rectory 01886 888664

I recently went to school, you may say about time at my age, but I do enjoy being invited into school to talk to the children about questions of faith and about being a vicar. If there is one thing you can trust a child to do, it is ask the 'big questions!' Their questions have an innocence about them that can sometimes catch you out and also make you think. There is also a side to a child that accepts things, not without question, but with an openness of faith.

As we approach Lent, which starts quite early this year, Ash Wednesday being the 13th February, we will be holding talks at St Peter's concerning 'big questions' that we may have ourselves and be given the opportunity to ask some questions.

At present we are delighted to have Bishop John who will be speaking about sacred places and their relevance to our lives in the 21st century. Our new curate Revd Richard Tweedy will speak from his scientific background in astronomy about how it is possible to have faith and be a scientist, and we were also delighted last summer to have on placement a trainee vicar from Queens University in Birmingham and Reader at the cathedral and All Saints in Worcester, Peter Davies, who will be speaking

from his experience in his former career as a banker about a Christian attitude to money. These I hope will give you a flavour of what is to come. There will also be 2 other talks to look out for. Please feel free to join us.

During Lent we will also continue with our Home Groups, one being at the Old School Martley called 'Element' which will be run by Richard. If you wish to participate in a group where we can discuss matters of faith or find out more about the Christian faith then I would be delighted to enable that to happen.

Look out for more details as we approach Lent, especially as I am writing this well in advance of the events.

God bless,

Revd David Sherwin



Sun 3 Feb **8.00am Holy Communion, St Mary and St Andrew, Knightwick**
 10.30am Holy Communion, St Laurence, Wichenford
 10.30am Baptism Anniversary Service, St Peter, Martley
 10.30am Morning Worship, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
 6.30pm Evensong, St Leonard, Cotheridge

Mon 4 Feb 9.00am Morning Prayer, St Laurence, Wichenford
 Tues 5 Feb 10.00am Holy Communion, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
 7.30pm 'Element' course for WWRT at the Old School, Martley. Contact him on
 01886 888544 or rich@wwrt.org.uk

Thurs 7 Feb 9.00am P.A.T.H. St Laurence, Wichenford
 12-2pm Lunch in Company, Broadwas Village Hall
 3.30pm -5.30pm Messy Church, Old School, Martley
 7.30pm 'In His Name' Healing Course, Old School, Martley

Sat 9 Feb 10am-2pm Marriage Preparation Day at Martley Old School

Sun 10 Feb **8.00am Holy Communion, St Leonard, Cotheridge**
 10.30am Family Worship, St Laurence, Wichenford
 10.30am Holy Communion, St Peter, Martley
 10.30am Morning Prayer, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas

Tues 12 Feb Shrove Tuesday
 10.00am Morning Prayer, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
 7.00pm Shrove Tuesday Social at Broadwas Village Hall

Wed 13 Feb Ash Wednesday
 10.15am Holy Communion, Heaton House
 7.30pm Holy Communion, St Peter's, Martley

Thurs 14 Feb 9.00am Morning Prayer, St Laurence, Wichenford

Sun 17 Feb **8.00am Holy Communion, St Peter, Martley**
 9.00am Matins, St Leonard, Cotheridge
 10.00am Café Church, Wichenford Village Memorial Hall
 10.30am Holy Communion, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
 10.30am Morning Worship, St Peter, Martley
 3.00pm Evening Worship, St Mary & St Andrew, Knightwick

Mon 18 Feb 9.00am Morning Prayer, St Peter, Martley
 Tues 19 Feb 10.00am Holy Communion, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
 7.30pm 'Element' course for WWRT at the Old School, Martley.

Wed 20 Feb 7.30pm Lent Talk (1) at St Peter's, Martley

Thurs 21 Feb 9.00am Morning Prayer, St Laurence, Wichenford

Sun 24 Feb **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 25 Feb *Schools re-open*
 9.00am Morning Prayer, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
 7.30pm WWRT Team Council at The Talbot, Knightwick

Tues 26 Feb 10.00am Morning Prayer, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
 7.30pm 'Element' course for WWRT at the Old School, Martley.

Wed 27 Feb 10.15am Holy Communion, Heaton House
 7.30pm Lent Talk (2) at St Peter's, Martley

Thurs 28 Feb 9.00am Morning Prayer, St Laurence, Wichenford



Village Contacts



Editor of The Villager	Gail Dawson. Email editor@martley.org or 01886 889180 or leave any articles at Martley Post Office
Advertise in The Villager	Gail Dawson, 01886 889180 or editor@martley.org
Church (Worcestershire West Rural Team)	<i>Rector:</i> Revd David Sherwin—01886 888664 or davidwin56@aol.com <i>Assistant Priest:</i> Revd Jennifer Whittaker—01886 833897
Martley Parish Council	<i>Chair:</i> Cllr. D Goodyear—01886 888423; <i>Clerk:</i> Janet Dale 01886 888472
Martley WI	Mary Kipping 01886-812647
Martley & District Horticultural Society	Judith O'Leary , 01886-888253 or Janice Todd-Wood , 01905-830030
Royal British Legion	Joyce Tyler—01886 821551
Martley Toddler Group	Brenda 01886 888052
Martley Ramblers	Richard Mills 01886-888788
Martley Young Farmers	Brenda Crump 01886-812534
Path-or-Nones	John Nicklin—01886 888318 johnn@martley.org
Resource Centre	
Police “Surgery”	CSO Helen Cooper—Martley Local Policing Team Tenbury Wells Police Station extn. 3581 Local Policing Officer PC Paul Lambon
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
Martley Recreation Association (playing fields)	<i>Bookings</i> —Pat Owen 01886 888406 pat@owen01.fsnet.co.uk
Martley Memorial Village Hall Committee	<i>Chair</i> —Neil Stammers 01886-888513 neil.stammers@btinternet.com <i>Secretary</i> —Annette Smith 01886-821895 villagehall@martley.org or Lyn Wheeler 01886-889240 mortlake10@martley.org
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
Martley Village Hall Bookings	Dave Cropp, 01886 888 398 or Annette Smith on villagehall@martley.org
Martley CSO	Helen W Cooper 40061

To put organisation and its contact details 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 ...

Prayers

Men's Breakfast and Prayer Breakfasts



Bible Study

On Tuesday 5, 12, 19 and 26 Feb at 7.30pm Bible Study Group will be held at the home of Chris Woodburn, Berrow View, Hollins Lane, Martley

Ladies Prayers

On Wednesday 6 and 20 Feb between 10am-11am, a Ladies Prayer Meeting at the home of Dot Fletcher will be held

Mens Breakfast Club

On Saturday 23 Feb, at 8.30pm a Men's Breakfast is held at The Talbot Pub in Knightwick

Prayer Breakfast

On Monday 11 February at 8.30am a Prayer Breakfast will be held.

Please contact David Sherwin if you are interested in joining or attending any one of the above events. Everyone is very welcome and David can be contacted on 01886 888664