

The Villager

The community magazine for the parishes of Martley and Wichenford

Volume 19 No. 8

January 2010

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

Regular events in Martley and Wichenford:

Sundays

2nd Sunday in the month:

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

3rd Sunday in the month:

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

Mondays

Rhythm Time: 9.30-11.30am Martley Memorial Hall *Enq.* Rachel 01886 812565
Martley Parish Council: 1st Monday in the month 8pm Memorial Hall
Martley & Villages Carers' Group: 1st

Monday in the month 10.30-12.30 Heaton House.

Tuesdays

Short Mat Bowling: 2.00pm Martley Memorial Hall

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

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

Wednesdays

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

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

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

Thursdays

Wichenford Wine Club: 3rd Thursday in the month

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

See 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)

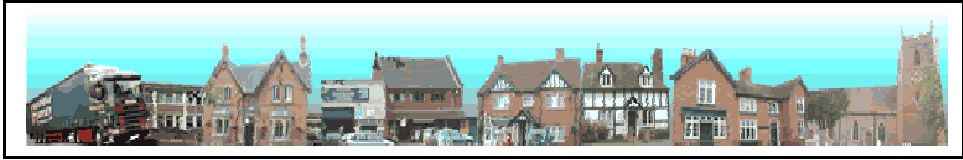
See page 28 for contact details of organisations

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

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



The Crown Inn

We have won another Award!! I had a telephone call from The Kennel Club to say that we had won an award as part of their "Open for Dogs" campaign. We had a mystery visit and they thought the dogs had a good welcome and that there was a lovely atmosphere. So - off to London at the weekend for the presentation. Many, many thanks to all the customers who took the trouble to vote for us.

*Caroline Cassell
The Crown Inn*

Evening Transport?

The Clerk of Martley Parish Council sent The Villager the following proposal:

"I would be obliged if you could put the following thought to your Parish Council. I say thought because it is just an idea and apart from words with the Licensing Department at Worcester City Council and a casual word with Dave Cropp at an allotment social at Broadheath allotments, I have spoken to nobody.



1) A shared taxi service between Worcester – Lower Broadheath - Martley. Easy from Worcester but will need a text or phone reservation from the villages. It would run in the evenings six days a week at set times.

2) An Application for Funding would be made to the LEADER project, although a sum would be required from the villages.

3) Fares bought on the day would be a bit cheaper than those bought upon the local bus but in advance considerably cheaper.

4) After funding ceases, a subsidy would be needed, but this would come from the Supermarkets giving very cheap fares on production of their loyalty cards.

5) OAP concessionary fares would not be eligible for this I'm afraid, as it would not be covered by Government funding. I should hope for some form of season ticket that might help: say £25 per year.

I would only operate the service between the two villages to start as there are bound to be snags and lessons to be learned. As the taxis would run only

on demand and Martley being the greatest distance, Martley's participation would be needed from the start because of its bearing on the cost of such a project. Others could join later add passengers but not significantly alter the cost. Alan Forrest."

Please contact 01299 832949 or e-mail sally@mamble.org. with your comments or suggestions.

Alan Forest is a member of Lower Broadheath Parish Council. The initial proposal is for the service to run between the villages of Lower Broadheath and Martley only. If this were to prove successful, consideration would be given to including other villages. The former, subsidised, evening bus service is part of the reason for Martley Parish Council wanting to ask parishioners for their thoughts as PC too had thought that the bus service had proved popular and were unsure as to why it stopped.

*Sally Williams
Clerk to Martley Parish Council*

Martley Pre-School Snippets December 2009

Our topic for the Autumn term has been fairy stories and nursery rhymes. The children have been following the tales of the Gingerbread Man, the Three Little Pigs, Jack and the Beanstalk, and sang to Incy Wincy Spider and Humpty Dumpty, to name just a few. Nursery rhymes and fairy stories are highly beneficial to all areas of your child's academic and

holistic development.

You may have noticed, we have had new gates fitted on the side entrance to Pre-School. The gates were kindly donated to us from Midwest Landscapes Ltd. A big thank you to Steve Pitt and Rachel Millichip. This donation has enabled us to fulfil our obligation to OFSTED to have free flow play inside and out, which has meant that during Pre-School and Out of School sessions, these gates will be locked. They will be open only between 8.45- 9.15 and 3.00- 3.30pm. I hope you understand that this is to ensure the safety of your child.

A Christmas trip was organised to the 'Santa Safari' at the West Midlands Safari Park at Bewdley. It was a very popular outing with many children, parents and grandparents meeting father Christmas and the animals.

Our holiday club is still in its first year, but thanks to Lucy, has proved very popular with children and parents alike. If you require holiday care for your child, please let us know as soon as you can.

We are well on our way to our silver award as an eco- setting. The last bag2school clothes collection was on 24 November, and helped to raise funds for pre-school (which is a registered charity) and also help people less fortunate than ourselves. Thank you for your support. The next collection is in April. We now recycle glass, paper, card, foil, plastic, fabric, clothing, ink and toner cartridges, mobile phones, sat navs, fruit waste in our wormery, compostable items and

tetra paks. We would like to encourage all parents to provide their child with a waste-free lunchbox, using small pots instead of plastic food bags where possible.

Martley Pre-School has shown its commitment to staff training and continual professional development. It has supported me in gaining my degree in Early Childhood and now in studying my Masters. It was proud when I became one of the first fifteen practitioners in the county with Early Years Professional Status. It supports and is proud of Lucy in her current study at degree level and Rachel in her foundation degree. Martley Pre-school is now happy to announce that all its pre-school staff are qualified and would like to congratulate Jo and Mary in gaining their recent qualifications. This dedication to quality is based on the knowledge that the quality of the care and education relies upon the quality of staff that work in the setting. WELL DONE!

Don't forget! We are a registered eco-setting with 20 years of history and children can start from two years old and are entitled to 15 hours free from the term after their third birthday. We also have breakfast and after school clubs for children aged two to thirteen years. If you need any information, or would like to book a place for your child please feel free to call Kath or Lucy on 01886 889127 or visit our website www.martleypreschool.co.uk

Kathryn Smith
BA (Hons) FdA eyp status

Martley Primary School

Travel Plan and Eco-Schools Status
As part of Martley Primary School's School Travel Plan and Eco-Schools Status, we have been trying to encourage pupils and staff to travel to school in a more sustainable way. To launch the idea of sustainable travel, in November we organised 'Get Going for Green Week'. During that week the following activities took place:

- Walking bus – pupils were dropped off by parents at St Peter's Church car park and then walked with other children along the back lane into school.
- Park and stride – parents and pupils parked at St Peter's Church car park and walked together along the back lane into school.
- Families tried to car-share for the week.
- More families walked during the week.
- Smoothie-Making Bike – this involved visiting school for each class to make their own smoothie. This helped to raise awareness of healthy eating and healthy lifestyles, along with what 'pedal power' could do.



There was also a competition to design the most eco-friendly mode of transport the pupils could think of, with one prize per class.

Village Hall News

Sadly the Village Hall was broken into in November and all the computers were stolen. We hope that by the time you read this they will have been replaced and additional security measures implemented. Progress has been made by the hard work of our committee member Pat Hodgson to investigate and obtain quotes for cavity wall installation and new heating system in the hall. Grants have been applied for and we await decisions before any commencement of these works, but we'll keep you posted. The committee would like thank Richard McHugh for his support over the last two years but unfortunately due to other commitments, has had to stand down from the committee. However, we are very happy to announce that we have two new members on the committee: Lynn Wheeler and Tony Lewington, who can both bring us some much-needed support. The Village Hall AGM will take place 24 February 2010 at 8pm and everyone is welcome.

Martley 100 Club

Many thanks for supporting the 100 Club this year and we hope you will join us again for 2010. The money raised is vital for the future of the Memorial Hall and to pay its running costs. This first year of organising the Martley 100 Club we have managed to raise £812 and paid out £465.00 as winnings with the remainder of £347.00 going towards day-to-day costs and a contribution towards the

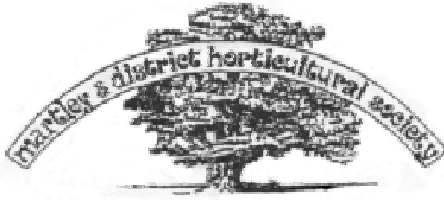
new chairs. This is very good and with your help we hope to raise the same or more next year. If you would like to join, the cost is again £18.00 per entry for the year. The more members we get the higher the prize fund will be. There will be extra draws in the months of June and November 2010.

Please send your name, address, phone number with an SAE to: Annette Smith, (Village Hall Committee Secretary), Fairview, Willow Road, Martley, Worcester, WR6 6PS (Tel: 01886 821 895) together with your subscription of £18.00 per entry valid until December 2010. Your ticket number will then be returned to you in your SAE. Please make cheques payable to "Martley Memorial Peace Hall" You can also download a form from the Village Hall page on www.martley.org.uk, which is linked from the Leisure page.

Martley 100 Club – 2009 Winners

January 28 Mandy Gardner; February 32 June Lawrence; March 2 Anne Layton; April 33 Mrs P A Milner
May 42 Brockwell Miller
June 26 Janet Jones
June 24 Mrs Margaret Moll
July 15 Richard McHugh
August 40 Angela Pearce
September 44 Marion Jolly
October 45 Dr T A Parkes
November 24 £50.00 Margaret Moll (who also won in June 2009) and 32 £20.00 June Lawrence (also a winner in February 2009)
Happy New Year from the Village Hall Committee.

Annett Smith, Secretary



Martley & District Horticultural Society

The year has flown by and it was AGM time at the November meeting. Prior to the 'business bit' chairman Mike Dunnett gave a short talk on the samples of plants and shrubs he'd brought, these being broom, formium, nerine; some evergreen shrubs (from New Zealand) and a camellia. Several of these shrubs do well in containers, ideal on a patio. Mike then demonstrated the procedure for taking hardwood cuttings and he used flowering currant, dogwood and blackcurrant. Taking hardwood cuttings is an exacting task (the ideal length of twig being reduced to 9.03") and getting the cuts in the correct place in relation to the buds is very important. Sharp secateurs essential! John Innes compost is OK, and make sure the cuttings aren't planted upside down (this has been known!). In his chairman's speech, Mike said how much he'd enjoyed his year and spoke highly of the three secretaries, the treasurer and the committee. He described how the various

events had gone, mentioning in particular the hard work involved in the Plant Sale, Flower Show and St Peter's Church Flower Festival. Ideas are wanted to attract new people and for the Society's future. Mike remains as chairman, Dave Cropp vice chairman, Pam Minchin and Margaret Jackson as joint secretaries, with Sylvia Jefferies as Show secretary. Rena Davidson retires as Treasurer, having done a superb 13 years in the job; Elaine Rice takes her place. President, Pat Finch thanked everyone for all their hard work throughout the year and presented Rena with a shrub. Judith O'Leary and John Jefferies join the committee.

The chairman read out the very exciting list of events planned for 2010. It could well be the best yet!

Tina Steele



Pat Finch (President) presenting a gift to Rena Davidson on her retirement as treasurer of the society



Martley WI

Wednesday 13 January 7.30pm Heaton House

At the November AGM, Patience Broad, our Group Adviser, and one visitor were welcomed and four members were wished Happy Birthday.

Patience announced that Helen Coombey-Jones had been re-elected Chairman. Mary Kipping was awarded the Millennium Plate for gaining the most number of points in the monthly competitions and Jean Hyslop, Chris Smith and Mary were the winners of the competition for a plate of canapés which were much enjoyed at refreshment time.

The evening finished with a short talk by Eileen Stammers about her 40+ years as a dental nurse. The speaker this month is Neil Churchill talking about Amnesty International and the competition is for your favourite Christmas card. Visitors and new members always welcome.

Kate King

Thank you

Thank you to WI County Chairman and Martley resident, Julia Roberts, for her idea of a celebration of Christmas, and to all the WI members (and few husbands) who helped organise the festive event at St Peter's on 5 December. We learnt some new words to "The 12 Days of Christmas" and enjoyed a huge range mince-pies

and other refreshments after we had all sung ourselves hoarse!

Thank You

The Villager would like to say a huge "Thank you" to Nellie Bradley for her interesting and valuable contributions to The Villager over many years. She helped Jack with his gardening tips and wrote out the results of the Horticultural Society competitions.—all by hand! It must have taken hours!. Although Nellie has expressed a wish to withdraw as a formal contributor, Nellie, please be assured that The Villager would be pleased to hear from you any time.

Michelle Higgins, Editor

Oh yes we do!

Martley Amateur Dramatics Society (MAD) would like to thank all who supported our production of Twelfth Night. £300 was raised for Martley Church funds. We hope that you will continue to support us by coming to our first pantomime (see flyer in this issue of The Villager) proceeds of which will be going to Acorns Hospice.

Anyone interested in taking part or helping in our next production, "Esther, The Musical", will be welcomed to the auditions on 25 January 2010. We are always looking for help behind the scenes especially any practical person who is willing to help with stage management. For further information please contact Ruth Mace on 01886-821336. Thanks,

Janet Eggleton, Secretary

Martley Ramblers

**Sunday 10 January
2pm Church car park**

This month Gill Gough will lead us around Severn Stoke. The last walk of the season was around Lower Broadheath and Cotheridge and led by Helen and George Coombey-Jones. There was a good number present and the weather was perfect for a Sunday morning ramble in late autumn. It was a very pleasant end to the season.

At the recent AGM, the officers were re-elected and treasurer Pam Bowers reported on a healthy financial situation. Is this the only group where the annual subscription has been maintained at £1? Mabel, the Ramblers mascot, was awarded to Dot and Chris Fletcher for having planned and led the most interesting walk. The programme of walks and social events for 2010 was finalised and the evening finished with chat and refreshments.

Anyone is welcome to join us, times and dates are on the Diary page of the Martley website or contact the chairman on 01886-888439.

Kate King



Especially for Dads!!!

Teme Valley Children's Centre (TVCC) recognises the very important role Dads play in the lives of their children. We also appreciate that it is not always straightforward for Dads to find quality time to spend with their children.

TVCC would like to support Dads by providing a variety of opportunities for you to spend special time with your children and perhaps enhance your own skills at the same time. The first opportunity comes at the end of January for Dads with children aged 4–5 years. By teaming up with local, expert nutritional therapists we are providing an informal, but informative, mini cookery course especially designed for you and your child. The emphasis will be on having fun and learning together (and also creating some simple, but impressive dishes, which will, of course, need sampling!!)

The course is taking place at Great Witley Village Hall on three consecutive Saturdays – 30 January, 6 and 13 February (10–11.30am) – and will cost £10 (including all food and recipes).

You and your child will get the opportunity to show off your impressive cookery skills to a loved one

/Continued on p.25

Martley Parish Council

Unapproved, draft, edited record of the meeting of the held on Monday 2 November 2009 at the Memorial Hall. There were 10 members of the public present.

The Democratic Period/Public Question Time

Electricity charges for the library: the Parish Council and the Memorial Hall committee will make a new payment arrangement for next year. There was some discussion concerning affordable

housing in Martley. The Parish Council confirmed that they had no more knowledge than other parishioners regarding the potential planning application for the land adjoining The Crown Inn.

Minutes:

It was resolved to accept the minutes of the previous meeting as a true record.

Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman:

Councillor. Mrs. D. Goodyear was elected as Chair by a majority and Councillor. Mr. M. Nott was elected as Vice Chair by a majority.

Progress reports:

The Clerk: The Clerk is to find out from MHDC if bins would need to be provided on all rights of way and common land if Martley were designated a poop scoop area. The Clerk is to clarify who owns the weighbridge and also contact West Mercia Police concerning responsibility for payment for the electricity used in the weighbridge since 2004. The Parish Council are making improvements to the weighbridge and have removed some of the overgrowth from around it.

Lengthsman: The Clerk will find out if anyone locally is a registered lengthsman for Worcester County Council with a view to establishing if they could take on the work in Martley until the end of March 2010. The Clerk will advertise for a lengthsman to take over from April 2010.

Highways: The Clerk will compile a new list of outstanding faults and send

it to Highways.

District and County Councillors' reports:

District Cllr. Williams congratulated the new Chair and Vice Chair. District Cllr. Williams referred to a current programme looking at joint services and two-tier working. The suggestion that two black waste bags only could be put out per week is to be reviewed in two years time. Until then there is no restriction on the number of bags a household can put out, within reason. District Cllr. Williams confirmed that the planning permission for Treetops refused by MHDC had been overturned by the government inspector.

County Cllr. There is £575 available to Martley to be spent on a highways project. The Clerk will send details of how Martley Parish Council wish to use this funding, and a cost analysis, to County Cllr. Davies. Martley Old Grammar School Foundation had 51 applications this year. They were able to give each application either £100 or £250.

Planning:

New

09/01325/HOU Bar Furlongs, Berrow Green – Proposed alterations.
09/01326/LBC Bar Furlongs, Berrow Green – Proposed alterations.

Pending

09/01195/HOU New House Farm, Hope House Lane – Proposed garage.
09/01209/TPA Apartment 1, Laugherne House – Reduce one lime by 30%.
09/00752/OUT Horsham Court, Horsham – Erection of

dwelling. 09/00751/FUL & 09/00750/LBC Stables at Horsham Court – Conversion to create new dwelling with new garages. 09/00749/FUL The Old Court, Horsham – Refurb. Of derelict former house with 2 storey extn. & new garage. 09/00662/FUL & 09/00663/LBC Rodge Hill Farm, Hillside – Conversion of barns to form staff and guest accommodation.

Appealing to Secretary of State

08/01169/FUL Treetops Bungalow, Hillside – Replacement of existing dwelling (on-going) – Appeal was allowed. 08/01498/FUL Longside, Hipplecote – Replacement dwelling (on-going) – Appeal was dismissed. 09/00423/FUL Bramblewood, Hipplecote – Replacement dwelling (on-going) Unable to access current status from Worcester County Council's new planning database.

Speed signs:

Worcester County Council are to provide and operate a Westcotec speed sign during December 2009. The speed sign will be on Hillside. Further consideration will be given to speed signs in January 2010.

Finance:

There were 5 cheques totalling £687.01 approved.

Councillors reports and items for future agenda:

The Clerk is to report a fridge freezer that has been fly-tipped on Horn Lane. The Clerk is to formally complain to County Council about the poor standard of work carried out by Ringway, especially in Pudford Lane. The Clerk is to pursue the possibility

of brown tourist signs for the village. Mr Gosling is to start work on the notice board soon.

Meetings are held on the first Monday of the month (Bank Holidays excepted)

Martley's Past

The Boys School – December 1909 and January 1910

“21 December – Holiday on account of re-opening of Church by the Bishop of Worcester.

22 December – Holiday, as Schools (B & G) are required for use in connection with St Thomas' Day Dole distribution.

23 December – Schools closed for Xmas holidays; 2 weeks (!!)

10 January 1910 – Re-opened School. Every boy present. Admitted 3 boys from Union Workhouse. No. on books 34. Ed Adams returned after an absence of 4 months.

14 January – J Gwynne came to school this pm after Registers were closed, (2nd time this week) and was refused admission. Mr Glover, Attendance Officer, called. No cases to report.

28 January – Tested registers and found them correct; 31 present. (signed) J F Hastings.” *Alan Boon*

Martley Library Opening Times

Monday 2—7 pm
Wednesday 4—6 pm
Thursday 10am -1 pm
Friday 2 - 4 pm
Saturday 10am -12 noon
01886 888396 (opening hours only)



Over the Garden Wall in Wichenford

WICHENFORD NEEDS YOUR NEWS

Janet Andrews
01886 888303
Sheila Richards
01886 888378



Wichenford Flower Rota

3 January Mrs Webb
10 January Mrs S Richards
17 January Mrs S Richards
24 January Mrs J Andrews
31 January Benefice Service at
Martley

Wichenford PCC

The PCC meeting will be held on 18
January at 7.45pm in the Memorial
Hall.

Ladies Fellowship

The next meeting of the Ladies
Fellowship is on 16 January and will
be held at the home of Millie Pargeter
at 2.30pm, weather permitting.

Wichenford 100 Club

Wichenford 100 Club November
winners: No 150 Anita Ball £75.00
and returned subscriptions to No. 106
Ivy Perkins, and No. 52 Mike Harris.
Drawn by Caroline Mattock.
Currently standing at 190, the current
member list is still 10 short of our
essential target, if prizes are to remain
at this level. So if any of the

outstanding 21 members could
possibly renew their subscriptions, we
would be very grateful! if all of them
renewed, we could increase the
winnings to £80 + two returned
subscriptions!

Heather Rendall

Local Fishing and Archery News

The Cob House Academy is offering
Juniors the chance to create their club.
Both Angling and Archery Clubs will
be available from 2010. We need to
know: what do you want from your
club? Is it times when you can use the
facilities free of charge, discounted
kit, coaching from some of the UK's
top coaches, competitions, family
days/sessions, days out with friends,
sharing experiences or a qualification?
These are just our suggestions, but we
want to hear yours. If you would like
to join either one of the clubs, please
let us know on sales@cobhouse.org
01886 888101. We look forward to
seeing you soon.

Cob House will be opening its new
Teaching Centre, Tackle Shop and

Cafe in Spring 2010. Match bookings for 2011/12 are now being taken. Don't forget, if you are planning to stock your pools you must complete the new CEFAS registration forms, downloadable from our website (news and offers pages), to register your Fishery. It will delay the Section 30 process if you have not done this already.

Specialist Breeder of Quality English Coarse Fish: as a CEFAS registered fishery, all our fish are health-checked twice-yearly as per CEFAS and the Environment Agency regulations. Follow the match results etc on twitter. www.twitter.com/cobhouse

Helen Taylor
Cob House Fisheries, Wichenford,
Worcester. WR6 6YE
Tel: 01886 888 697 / 101
Mob: 07889364410
www.cobhouse.org

Santa Visits the Hospital
(cont'd)

On Christmas morning with his sack overflowing with toys, Santa returned to give out presents to the girls and boys, Approaching the last bed with a fear he could not hide. He found the bed freshly made and no one inside.

His heart missed a beat on seeing the bed empty and bare. Turning to the nurse, Santa then said, with a feeling of despair, "It would appear Christmas Day has come a little too late For that little child who was



lying here, to celebrate".
 "Oh no", the nurse replied, she believed God had heard his prayers, And graciously smiled down on that boy of tender years, And in view of his faith helped him to quickly recover, He's now returned home, to spend Christmas with his Mother. On looking at Santa, the nurse showed no surprise At seeing the tears falling from the old man's eyes, For Santa was remembering as he walked out into the wintry sun How Christmas first began with a Mother and her Son.

Derrick Jinks

The Broadheath & District
Farmers' Discussion Club

The annual Goose Supper organised by the Broadheath Discussion Club was held at the Sapey Golf Club recently. Over 90 members and friends enjoyed a delicious four-course meal including locally-produced roast goose, and all the trimmings. After supper, the presentation of the cups for best crops, stock and the award for the best garden took place. The results were as follows: Winter Wheat - Peter Weeks, Ombersley; Barley - Richard Bray, Martley; Break Crops - Brian Wickens, Martley; Grass Ley - Geoff Probert, Holt; Maize - Peter Andrews, Wichenford; Sheep - Geoff Probert, Holt;

Beef - Trevor Pareter, Wichenford;
Dairy - John Richards, Wichenford;
Best Garden - Ann Yardley,
Ombersley

Kenswick and Wichenford Parish Council

Unapproved abbreviated draft minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 9 November 2009 in the Memorial Hall Wichenford.

Cllr Randall chaired the meeting. (Vice-Chairman).

District and County Councillors Report

County Cllr Davies has allocated £575 to the parish which is to be used to top up the lengthsman budget or on a specific highways project. The parish council will request quotations for ditching in the parish. The clerk will find out if money could be used towards a pavement from the village to the church .

Progress Reports

Masons Arms (meeting with planners): reports were read from Cllr Britten-Long, Cllr Randall and Cllr Panton. Present at the meeting were the chairman; vice chairman; cllrs Stinton, Panton, the District Councillor and Duncan Rudge (development control manager). The meeting was to ascertain: why the first application was refused; why the second application, being 23% or so smaller, was granted; why the parish councils and parishioners comments were largely ignored; and why the decision was delegated rather than

going to committee. All of the above were covered at the meeting and although the parish council did not agree with all of the points they understood their reasoning. There was little justification for refusal and had the application been refused and gone to appeal, the officers felt that they would loose. The parish council need to take some of the blame for not examining the second application in more detail. The fact that this is a contentious issue is not a valid reason to send it to committee. It was suggested that a letter be written to the Chief Executive of MHDC regarding the next local plan in 2011, and ask what exactly is the role of the parish council.

Adoption of phone box: The chairman has contacted BT and MHDC about adopting the phone box, which is a lengthy process. Also there may be hidden costs which could be legal fees to change the ownership, although the actual phone box should only cost £1.

Planning

Applications considered since the last meeting:

09/01192/HOU. Lingens Cottage, Broadwas. The parish council have a few concerns but overall agree with the proposal.

Applications approved, refused, withdrawn:

09/00328/FUL. Colketts Farm. Change of use from domestic annex to staff accommodation. (Withdrawn).
09/01138/HOU. The Old Coach House, Woodend Farm. Two single storey extensions. (Refused)

Harvesting the past

January update

This month sees start of several new initiatives relating to our local oral history project 'Harvesting the Past'. In a couple of weeks' time, several older people from Martley and Clifton will try their hand at tour-guiding, when they take groups of 12-year-olds from the Chantry High School around their old haunts. The children will also have the chance to interview some of the older residents and will then recreate what they've learnt in pottery tiles. What a great way to learn about and celebrate village life!

Staying on that theme, here are a few snippets from our Harvesting the Past Archive where our interviewees reminisce about their childhoods:

'We used to go nicking cherries up at Esenhope and the chap that was the bailiff there... he used to load the shotgun up with wheat. He'd take the pellets out and put wheat in and he'd give you a blast of that up the behind. That used to be a bit painful!' Brian Draper

'We used to go up into Wales and buy three or four ponies... you used to only pay about a pound each for them. They were youngsters and we used to break them in. We spent hours and hours pony-riding and getting thrown off... no saddles. We used to run them

round and round in a circle on a long wagon rope until they were reasonable tired and then I used to get on. Sometimes I stayed on and sometimes I didn't'. *Albert Tolley*

'There was a special place, just above Ham Bridge on the right-hand side, where we used to go and swim every Sunday. And there was quite a party of us, including the village policeman and grownups... and the grownups used to look after us youngsters. We had a ball... you'd swim for about ten minutes, quarter of an hour and then come out because it was cold. The river was very cold.' *Ivan Rimmel*

We're still looking for people to take part in our Art Project, so if you can give up a couple of hours of your time and would like to reminisce with the younger generation, please contact Sue Broome on 01299 251512.

Former Chantry teacher and local



Ivan Rimmel and friends swimming in the Teme

playwright, John Townsend, is back in town and keen to encourage as many of you as possible to get involved in our community play. He writes:

“Several years ago when I used to put on plays at The Chantry, it was my privilege to write and direct ‘Still Glides The Teme’ about life during the Great War. So when asked to write a new play based on local memories of the 1940s, I leapt at the chance. Our new play paints a picture of a former life around here, with many true stories woven into this ‘rural wartime drama’.

‘Through music, dance, film, voices and drama, you’ll discover how this area changed and what shocking things went on in and around Martley! Chantry students, primary school children and senior citizens will transform you to another world, now on the brink of living memory. We hope you’ll join us on our exciting journey back across the fields. A world premier on your very doorstep! Make a note of the dates in your new diaries and look out for publicity coming soon. I look forward to seeing you laugh and cry among the hops, hay, cider and stooks!’ *John Townsend*

The play dates are Wed 26—Fri 28 April 2010 and Saturday 1 May. For further information on Harvesting the Past, please contact Julia Letts on Julia.letts@virgin.net

Julia Letts

Burns Supper with Scottish Country Dancing.

**Friday 29 January 2010
Martley Village Hall, Berrow
Green Road, Martley,
Worcestershire WR6 6PQ
7:00pm for 7: 30pm prompt start**

A fun evening to celebrate the life and works of Robert Burns, Scotland’s finest poet, followed by Scottish Country Dancing

**Cock- a- Leekie Soup
Haggis neeps and tatties, buttered cabbage and carrots
Or Vegetarian mushroom stroganoff and wild rice
Topsy Laird (sherry & whisky trifle)
Followed by coffee and mints
(Catering by Cobwebs restaurant Evesham)**

**Entertainment (following meal): readings and poems of Robert Burns and a short speech in appreciation of the poet’s life & works.
Then tuition in Scottish Country Dancing with dancing following.**

**All Welcome. Tickets £17.50 per head. Cash bar. Book soon to avoid missing out. Wear tartan on the night or dress to kill!
Tickets: Sheila Richards tel: 01886 888378; Gill Richardson tel: 01905 425652 or James Hyslop: 01886 888359**

Arranged by the local Church of England churches for the whole community and sponsored by the NewAlphabet Group. Any profit will go to local charities.

In the Garden



January is the coldest month of the year, with valleys becoming potential frost-pockets. Frost means extra protection is needed for plants which are not hardy in the UK, so be ready with the fleece and the bubble-wrap if frost is forecast.

Deadhead winter cyclamen to keep them flowering and prune Wisteria side shoots to about 10cm (4in) to encourage more flowers in the spring. If you have an established rose bush which you would like to move, now is a good time to do it. Make sure to include plenty of compost in the planting hole but be careful not to get manure in contact with the roots, it causes root 'scorch'.

During mild spells you can also plant new fruit bushes. Apple and pear trees can be pruned, and some growers like to apply a winter pesticide wash at the same time.

In the vegetable garden January is traditionally a time for cleaning the greenhouse and clearing the beds. Towards the end of the month, start chitting early potatoes, ready for planting in March, and you can also start forcing rhubarb. Sow aubergine seed in a warm place indoors at the end of January, but it can take up to three weeks to germinate and also needs a long time to grow before fruiting, so an early start is important.

If the weather is awful why not try gardening on the Internet? The major seed companies all have sites and the BBC gardening site is well worth browsing. It even has a 'design' option for those of you thinking of a change in the new year!

JC

Continued from page 16

during the final session – just in time for Valentines Day!

If you would like to know more please contact us at the Children's Centre and ask about "Ready Daddy Cook" 01886 812982

Dads are fundamentally important to their children. Research shows that good enough fathering helps children develop:

- better friendships
- fewer behavioural problems
- better results at school
- higher self-esteem and life-satisfaction
- lower chance of becoming criminals or abusing drugs
- more satisfying adult relationships.

A father, like a mother, is one of the two people in the world most likely to love their child madly and stay loyal to them for life. Even men who rarely see their children usually think about them a lot. Disadvantaged dads love their children just as much as more skilled or confident fathers. (see www.dad.info for more information).



Church Words

The Rectory 01886 888664

Happy New Year to you all
Did you have anything new for Christmas? I expect you did; you were highly unlikely to have been given something that was not. It is nice having something new, something which we are the first to use, the first to enjoy something unused. However, once used, it is no longer new, but it has become used. God tells us, 'Behold, I will make all things new'. One day he will make the world new and everything in it. I am sure we could give our own pointers to where he might start the process of making things new. There are personal, family, community, national and worldwide issues that we would like to see given a new start. Just imagine if we could go back in time and erase some of the bad things that have led to problems in our own lives or on a larger scale! For instance, that which started the problems in Ireland or more recently, Iraq. What of the Israeli/Arab conflict, a problem through centuries? If



only we could make things new!

Jesus gives us the chance to make a new start, at least on an individual basis. The problems of the past are removed and forgiven in his love. We may have to live with the fact that there may be those who might not want to give us that new start, but Christ gives it to us as a free gift.

Why not make that new start with him this year and see the transformation he can bring?

Happy Birthday

Worcestershire West Rural Team (WWRT) is now a year old. To celebrate this birthday of the rural team of churches, we are holding a special service at St. Peters, Martley, for all in the team. This service will be on Sunday 29 January 2010, 10.30am.

We will have Bishop John to speak to us followed by a lunch together. Everyone is most welcome; if you would like to be involved with the music for the event, please let me know. For more information please contact Rev David Sherwin.

The full Church Events Diary for the current month can now be found linked from the Church page of www.martley.org.uk as well as in the churches.

Church Services for January 2010

SUN 3 JAN	8.00am Holy Communion, Knightwick Chapel 10.30am Holy Communion, St Laurence, Wichenford 10.30am Family Worship, St Peter, Martley 10.30am Morning Worship, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas 6.30pm Evensong, St Leonard, Cotheridge
Mon 4 Jan	9.00am Morning Prayer, St Laurence, Wichenford
Tue 5 Jan	10am Holy Communion – St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
Wed 6 Jan	10.15 Morning Prayer, St Peter, Martley
Thu 7 Jan	9.00am Morning Prayer, St Laurence, Wichenford
SUN 10 JAN	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
Mon 11 Jan	8.30am Prayer Breakfast
Tue 12 Jan	10.00am Morning Prayer, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
Wed 13 Jan	10:15am Holy Communion, Heaton House
Thu 14 Jan	9.00am Morning Prayer. St Laurence, Wichenford
SUN 17 JAN	8.00am Holy Communion, St Peter Martley
Pulpit Swap Day	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 4.00pm Evening Worship, St Laurence Wichenford
Mon 18 Jan	9.00am Morning Prayer, St Peter, Martley
Tue 19 Jan	10.00am Holy Communion, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
Wed 20 Jan	10.15 Morning Prayer, St Peter, Martley
Thu 21 Jan	9.00am Morning Prayer, St Laurence, Wichenford
SUN 24 JAN	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 Jan	9.00am Morning Prayer, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
Tue 26 Jan	10.00am Morning Prayer, St Mary Magdalene, Broadwas
Wed 27 Jan	10:15am Holy Communion, Heaton House
Thu 28 Jan	9.00am Morning Prayer, St Laurence, Wichenford
SUN 31 JAN	10.30am WWRT Holy Communion with Bishop John, St Peter's, Martley



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 CoombeyJones—01886 888294
Martley & District Horticultural Society	Pam Minchin—01886 888521 or Margaret Jackson—01886 888654
Royal British Legion	Joyce Tyler—01886 821551
Martley Ramblers	Harry King—01886 888439
Martley Young Farmers	Lou Wickens—01886-812754 or Caroline Bullock—01905-333617
Path-or-Nones	John Nicklin—01886 888318 johnn@martley.org
Resource Centre	Alan Boon—01886 888527
Police “Surgery”	CSO Matt Smith 7184—Martley Local Policing Team Tenbury Wells Police Station extn. 3581
Martley Website	webmaster@martley.org
Martley Web Mesh	Richard Jackman—01886 821237 richard@martley.org John Layton—01886888460 johnl@martley.org Tom Pearsall—01886 888256 tom@martley.org
Martley Pre-School	Kath/Lucy—01886 889127 www.martleypreschool.co.uk
Wichenford contacts for The Villager	Janet Andrews—01886 888303 or Sheila Richards—01886 888378
Kenswick & Wichenford Parish Council	Clerk—Shirley Sanders 01886 888302
Wichenford Wine Club	Chairman—Bill Hylan 01886 888431
Wichenford Local Heritage Group	Heather Rendall—01886 888239

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

And finally ...



***The Villager would like to
wish all its readers a happy
and prosperous 2010!***

Mobile Library 2010

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 its stops on Wednesdays on the dates listed below in 2010:

20 January	10 February	3 March
24 March	14 April	5 May
26 May	16 June	7 July
28 July	18 August	8 September
29 September	20 October	10 November
1 December	22 December	

Any enquiries should be made to Stourport Library, Worcester Street, Stourport, Worcs DY13 8EH, tel: 01905 822722 stourportmobile@worcestershire.gov.uk