

MARTLESHAM MONTHLY

incorporating
THE TALKING MARTLESHAM
MONTHLY

APRIL 2008

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Latest copy date is the 18th of the preceding month. Please e-mail contributions to:- martmonthly@gmail.com or martmonthly@ntlworld.com or deliver your copy to 54 Rosebery Road, Ipswich, IP4 1PS preferably word processed.

In order to standardise the publication of telephone numbers, all contributors are asked to include their STD code with their telephone number.

Contributors are also requested to limit their articles to approximately 250 words. This is being done in an effort to limit the number of pages of text in the Martlesham Monthly.

**MARTLESHAM MONTHLY
ONLINE
www.martlesham.org.uk**

DISCLAIMER

The views expressed in the Martlesham Monthly are those of the contributors and are not necessarily supported by the editor.

***PLEASE NOTE* - IMMINENT CHANGE OF MARTLESHAM MONTHLY E-MAIL ADDRESS**

Please be aware that I am changing the Martlesham Monthly e-mail address over to martmonthly@gmail.com E-mails can still be sent to martmonthly@ntlworld.com for the next two months (April, May) but I will be phasing out this address and it will no longer be in use by June. Therefore, please may I request that everyone gets into the habit of sending contributions and queries to martmonthly@gmail.com as soon as possible. Thank you for your cooperation.

Neal Goldsmith, Editor

TALKING MARTLESHAM MONTHLY

Now that the continued production of the Talking Monthly is assured, please contact the Editors if you, or someone you know, would benefit by receiving one of the monthly audio tapes. These are available free of charge and are delivered by Royal Mail, normally on the second Saturday of the month. When the recipients have finished with the tape it can be returned to Graham Downing post-free merely by reversing the address label and dropping the package in a letter box.

Martlesham Monthly Editors

MARTLESHAM VILLAGE HELP DESK

Many residents attended the Village Help Desk in the Pavilion on Saturday 15th March. Many favourable comments were received.

I am very grateful to all the Village Representatives and Suffolk Constabulary who attended and all agreed that it was a worthwhile morning and many concerns and problems are hopefully on their way to being solved.

With the many changes that are being planned for the area in and around Martlesham I am sure the Village Help Desk can become a very useful contact point for any residents concerned for the future.

The next Village Help Desk

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has been arranged for **Saturday 28th June, 10 am – 12 pm.**

Paul Firman

POLICE

Community Police Officer
PC 651 Richard Wright

In case of emergencies please always call 999. In non-emergency situations call the main switchboard on 01473 613500; you can also contact PC Wright on the following numbers for non-urgent matters: Office—01473 334980 E-mail—richard.wright@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

COMMUNITY RESPONDERS

Martlesham Community Responders are a group of 4 volunteers (funded entirely by donations) who are trained to provide first aid and resuscitation skills. We provide a first response to most 999 calls received by the East Anglian Ambulance Trust within Martlesham, Martlesham Heath, Waldringfield, Newbourne and Brightwell, in support of and until the arrival of an emergency ambulance.

For further details, contact Andy Oxborrow 01473 620432 (e-mail Andy.Oxborrow@suffolk.sja.org.uk), or see our web pages on www.martlesham.org.uk.

VIRGIN MEDIA PHONE NUMBER

We are still trying to establish a telephone number that we can call for all enquiries about the Virgin Media Cable service here at Martlesham Heath.

For the time being can you call Paul Keane on 01206 507473. Paul is a manager with Virgin Media and is trying his best to help us. He is based at Colchester and is as frustrated as we are. So please call him for all your problems and hopefully he will sort them out.

Martlesham Monthly

A LETTER FROM DARREN THE POSTMAN

1st Class Customers

I could not leave my post round at Martlesham Heath, where I have been delivering post for the last eleven years, without saying good-

bye to everyone.

I expect you have all been wondering where I have been but my dear wife's health, and of late sadly mine too, has taken a turn for the worse. With two young children and a disabled wife to contend with, life became intolerable, trying to start work at 3 am and with so many changes in a difficult market place for Royal Mail and business of today. I simply could not be in two places at once. Unfortunately it left me no choice but to resign from the Post Office after twenty years, and try to return to better health for my family's sake.

I will miss you all more than I could ever put into words, as I have watched children grow from paper boys/girls and mature into perfect adults, and go on to University, during my service to the village. It's a village you can all be so proud of and has a fantastic atmosphere. Your kind support, when I so desperately needed it back in August 2002, saved me on my loved post round, and I am very grateful to you all.

Although I will no longer carry a postbag around the village again, my heart will forever carry fond memories.

God bless you all.

Darren Fitch and family

Martlesham Monthly Writes

Darren will always be held in very high regard here at Martlesham Heath - nothing was too much trouble for him. He served us very well and will always be remembered for his kindness to everyone throughout the many years he was here. He became not only our postman but also a friend to many people and always had a cheerful word and always a joke to share. From all the residents in Martlesham Heath we wish Darren and his family well and a happy future.

In recognition of his work here, the Editorial Team think that we should now repay some of that kindness, and we have opened a fund for him. If you wish to contribute could you please contact John Tyler, e-mail: jbandjt2@tesco.net or telephone

01473 612736.

Please make cheques payable to "Martlesham Monthly" and write on the reverse "Darren the Postman".

MARTLESHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Annual Parish Meeting— Wednesday 23rd April

Your opportunity to have your say about issues that affect Martlesham; not a meeting of the Parish Council. This will take place at 7:30 pm in the Parish Room. A presentation on "Youth Graffiti Project and Holiday Activities (SP2B)" will be given by Andrew Down, Extended Schools Development Officer, and Kirk Jackson, Youth Project Manager. All welcome.

Litter pick on Saturday 26th April

Please join in – meet 10 am in the Martlesham Community Hall car park, Felixstowe Road. Sacks and gloves will be provided.

Report on Martlesham Parish Meeting, 4th March

The meeting was held at St Michael's Church Centre, Martlesham Heath and was attended by over 170 people. The Parish Council gave a brief presentation on the Local Development Framework Core Strategy consultation issued by Suffolk Coastal District Council (SCDC). The focus was on the Ipswich Policy Area section of the consultation.

People were concerned that the Ipswich Policy Area had been "allocated" 970 dwellings to be built on Greenfield Sites; 5 possible areas for them had been identified but apparently without any research being carried out as to where the housing was actually required.

The general feeling was that the area east of Ipswich is already at saturation point. The necessary infrastructure in terms of schooling, health, road access and public transport does not exist to support such development. The impact on access to and from the A12 was a particular concern. This has already been highlighted in the Martlesham Parish Plan.

People expressed their concern that amenities within area 3

(South of Kesgrave/Martlesham Heath) and 4 (South of Old Martlesham/east of A12) may be lost or destroyed if development were permitted. The impact on SSSI, Wooded and Common areas was raised and it was felt that some of these could be irreparably damaged or destroyed.

People identified the need to create open green spaces between communities and there was real danger of these being lost.

Development of housing opposite the Foxhall landfill site was considered totally inappropriate as demonstrated by the problems that had been encountered at Martlesham Heath by current residents. Housing in area 3 would be much closer and subject to even greater problems.

It was highlighted that attendees represented all age groups of the local community all expressing similar concerns.

Concern was expressed about the imprecise nature of the key diagrams in the consultation making it harder to provide meaningful objections or comments. It was noted that the whole of the Suffolk Coastal District had an opportunity to comment on this consultation and many people would not be familiar with the areas in question. It was therefore very important that local residents' views were given a high level of consideration before any firm decisions were taken.

Residents were encouraged to submit any feedback to SCDC directly by the deadline of 28th March.

By the time this report is issued the Parish Council will have met to prepare its own response and will have taken into account the comments from this meeting.

Structural alterations to the Parish Office

Work to enlarge the office and improve lighting and ventilation may start at the end of April and continue through May. The Council will seek to minimise disruption but it asks parishioners if they would please only contact the Clerk if absolutely necessary at that time. Further information will be available in the May newsletter, along with de-

tails of any necessary alterations to meetings and venue.

Forthcoming meetings

*Parish Council – Wednesday 2nd April

*Recreation & Amenities committee – Wednesday 9th April

*Development Plans committee – Wednesday 16th April

All meetings start at 7:30 pm in the Parish Room, Felixstowe Road, and are open to the public, who are welcome to ask questions or make comments to the council during the adjournment.

Contacting the Council

In writing to the Clerk to the Council, Parish Room, Felixstowe Road, Martlesham, Woodbridge IP12 4PB.

Telephone: 01473 612632

e-mail: clerk@martleshamcouncil.org.uk

MARTLESHAM COMMUNITY HALL

To contact Martlesham Community Hall or Richards Room for details of booking them, or any other reason, please use any of the following methods:

- phone and leave a message on the answer phone. The number is 01473 623203.

- e-mail martleshamcommunityhall@btinternet.com

- send post to Martlesham Community Hall Management Committee, Martlesham Community Hall, Felixstowe Road, Martlesham, Woodbridge, IP12 4PB.

(Martlesham Community Hall is a registered charity - no. 1009602)

MARTLESHAM HEATH HOUSEHOLDERS LTD (Formerly Martlesham Consultants Ltd)

For the few residents who have not yet paid their annual maintenance charge of £15 this is now well overdue.

Payment can be made by post or delivered by hand to C/O 6, The Square, Martlesham Heath, Ipswich, IP5 3SL.

Cheques should be made payable to Martlesham Consultants Ltd and the payment slip that you have received by post should be enclosed as well.

Complaints continue to be received that dogs are fouling footpaths and green areas, including the village green.

This applies to a very small minority of dog owners but it would be appreciated by all if owners can please ensure that they clear up behind their dogs and place the excrement in one of the bins provided for that purpose.

Are you interested in the open spaces we enjoy around the Heath? Do you want to have an input into maintaining the special character of the village? If so, have you thought about becoming a volunteer director for MCL? No special qualifications are needed, we only meet monthly (in the evening) and we are a friendly bunch. We only put in what time we can manage and it is all towards maintaining and improving the open spaces and environment for everyone who lives here. Please think about it and if you want to talk to an existing director you can get in touch with us via email or telephone and we will be pleased to talk to you.

The next monthly MHHL (MCL) Directors meeting will be held on Monday 21st April. This is an open meeting and all who subscribe to the maintenance charge are welcome to attend, 7:30 pm in the Committee room at St Michael's Church Centre. Contact us on voicemail – 01473 612207

Email – mcl@martlesham.org.uk

By letter – C/O 6, The Square, Martlesham Heath, Ipswich, IP5 3SL

MARTLESHAM IN BLOOM

Gardeners Top Tips

Our evening of "Gardeners Top Tips" and the launch of our entry into the Anglia in Bloom 2008 Competition will be held on Thursday 24th April at 7:30 pm in St Michael's Church Centre, Martlesham Heath.

Do come and bring your gardening ideas and experiences to share with others on the evening, *gardeners always have something new to learn!*

We will also be launching our own summer garden competitions.

During the evening there will also be light refreshments, raffle, plants for sale and activities to test

your knowledge. Admission is free.

Spring Clean Suffolk

As part of the annual Spring Clean Suffolk campaign, Martlesham in Bloom volunteers carried out a litter pick recently in Eagle Way near to the Tesco/A12 roundabout. The area looked much cleaner afterwards and we hope that it remains litter-free!

If you would like any further details on the above or any other Martlesham in Bloom activity please contact J Maureen Burrows (Secretary) on 01473 625196.

MARTLESHAM & DISTRICT FLOWER CLUB

Christine has been working in her own florist shop in Ipswich for over 38 years and we were pleased that despite a serious family illness she still managed to visit. During the afternoon she told some interesting stories about her family and shop. We were especially surprised to hear that she uses 10,000 red roses for Valentines Day orders.

Her first arrangement was in the form of a 'Spring Garden' of lilac, yellow and white with twisted willow, lilies, iris, mimosa and freesias followed by a 'Tropical Garden' design using Bird of Paradise as the main feature with red anthurium, blue thistles and orange roses and gerbera to complement them. A block arrangement was next featuring burgundy and green and containing beautiful Singapore orchids. She then did a low flat arrangement using two different orange roses, double yellow freesias and mimosa. A pyramid-shaped design containing cream carnations and large yellow roses interspersed with million stars was her fifth arrangement followed by a modern design in pink in which she used two dozen large roses, lisianthus and green chrysanthemums.

The competition was won by Sheila Swanwick.

The club meets at St Michael's Church Centre, Martlesham Heath on the third Wednesday of each month at 2:30 pm. The annual subscription is £12.50 with visitors welcome at £2.50 per session. There is a plant and flower arrangers stall at each meeting.

The next meeting will be 16th April when Mrs Crystal Dyball will

give a demonstration entitled 'Friends and Flowers'. ALL ARE MOST WELCOME.
Barbara Bown - 01394 383033

M.A.L.G.A.

Allotments

Correspondence from the Parish Council this year has been very disappointing.

They have suggested that due to LDF (Local Development Framework) and low staff they are going to shelve the allotment idea for 9 months.

As MALGA we will be contacting them and asking that they reconsider their actions. We feel at this important stage it would be inappropriate to ignore the fact that there is a large part of their parish hoping to see some "work in progress" for allotments. With the LDF possibly bringing 1000 new houses to the area, this is a vital time to act as those people too could require allotments and green spaces.

We have also been in touch with the District Council who said they see no reason why the parish can't go ahead with allotments at this stage as this would not interrupt the LDF in any way, shape or form and would be good for the people.

The Seed Swap meeting was due after the cut off date for the magazine, so I am unable to report back what the members' feelings were after making them aware of this tragic news.

You as the members of the parish can voice your concerns in this matter to: -

clerk@martleshamcouncil.org.uk

You can also contact me: -

malga@btinternet.com

I hope you've had a Good Easter and that the weather has not dampened your spirits.

Paul Day, Chairman of MALGA

MARTLESHAM W.I.

The Driving Standards Agency is responsible for setting driving standards and this month we welcomed Ann-Marie from the Agency, who gave us advice on safer driving. We were amused to see a video showing a driving test from 1935 and to see how much the vehicles and driving conditions have

changed. Ann-Marie said that in 1934 there were just 1.5 million vehicles but the death toll was 7,000 whereas today there are 27 million vehicles with fatalities of 3,500. The driving test has played the biggest part in reducing these statistics although unfortunately we still have 30,000 people seriously injured each year. Ann-Marie spoke about today's road conditions and mentioned roundabouts, crossings, gyratory systems, road signs, overtaking, etc. She explained the difference between the various road crossings and tested us on some of the road signs. She reminded us that driving is more complex and demanding than it used to be and we were grateful for all her advice and also for the informative leaflets she left to enable us to brush up on our knowledge.

Our next meeting will be in the Richards Room, Martlesham at 7:30 pm on 18th April when Mrs Linda Sexton will talk to us about The Girls of Hope House. We are a small and friendly group and new members are always welcome. Contact can be made to Audrey Burnell on 01394 386738.

Barbara Bown

MARTLESHAM LADIES CLUB

Welcome back after the Easter break. The meetings to the start of our Summer break are as follows:

*10th April - Poetry & prose/cake & produce stall

*24th April - Beetle Drive

*8th May - 'Images of Suffolk'; speaker Michael Stagg

*22nd May - Flower arranging competition

*5th June - 'My Life in Rural Turkey' - Part II; speaker Jenny Gibbs

*19th June - AGM

We meet alternate Thursdays at 7:30 pm in the Richards Room, Martlesham Community Centre and welcome all new members.

Any enquiries please contact Rita on 01473 624510.

Margaret Green

MARTLESHAM MOTHERS' UNION

We have been helping to send someone away. We raised over

£100 last month at our meeting to help pay for a family to go on holiday. Not just any family but one that is really needy and has met with adversity and with other branches in Suffolk we are able to meet this need. It is one of the many things we do as well as worshipping together and having a lot of fun.

We meet on the first Wednesday monthly at St Michael's Church Centre at 2:30 pm - why not come and see what we do? You will be most welcome.

Phone Elizabeth on 1394 210793 for more details.

MARTLESHAM WIVES

Next Meeting

Monday 21st April

Meet a Local Professional Artist

Presentation by Michael Coulter.

Venue

Margaret's

34 Saddlers Place

Tel: 01473 610167

For further details please contact:

Maureen - 01473 622670

Elaine - 01473 622269

LADIES DANCE KEEP FIT DANCE CLASS

Ladies fun and friendly funky hip-hop dance class is now being held on Tuesdays from 7 pm - 8 pm at Birchwood Primary School.

Ladies of all ages and abilities are invited to join us in our weekly class to have fun and keep fit at the same time.

Each class is just £3.50, with a trial session at £3.

Classes re-start Tuesday 8th April.

For any more information feel free to call Kristen on 07912065241 or 01473 622724.

MARTLESHAM CHILDMINING GROUP

The Martlesham Childminding Group is a small, friendly, voluntary group of Registered Childminders, providing help and support to each other. We meet on a monthly basis to swap ideas and news – and most importantly to organise stimulating and 'fun' activities for the children in our care, including: regular outings; safe outdoor play; cooking;

role-play; stories; music and dance; and arts and crafts.

Every one of us is highly committed to our profession in childcare and we are all CRB/police checked and fully insured. We successfully boast between us over 100 years of childcare experience with an abundance of knowledge, skills and training. Most recently, this includes an awareness of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) Framework, which comes into effect from September this year – this will see us work even closer with parents/guardians.

As a Registered Charity, the group organises many fund-raising activities. Jo Gell will be our guest speaker at our forthcoming fund-raising event on 'Communicating with Children' – more details to follow next month.

'Thanks' this month go to our chairperson Zoe Booth for organising a fun Easter Egg Hunt and arts and crafts day - for all age children. 'Good Luck' messages also go to Zoe as she prepares to run the London Marathon!

For further details about joining our group, or to find out more about our current childminding vacancies, please phone: Julie-Ann on 01473 611630 or Tricia on 01473 625837.

(Please note that the Martlesham Childminding Group is separate to the childminder who trades under the name of 'Martlesham Childminder'.)

Julie-Ann Bass and Tricia Burrows

CALLING ALL MUMS...

It is now 8 years since we 'called all mums' for the first time and at our meeting on Tuesday 8th April at St Michael's Church Centre, Martlesham Heath we will celebrate our birthday together. All mums with babies and toddlers are welcome to join us from 12:45 to 2:30 pm. Lunch will be served just before 1 pm and we will then enjoy a 'Mummy and Me' session with Julia Drewell. (This is a change to our previously advertised programme.) We do hope that you will come along and join in the fun!

For more information please 'phone Sue on 01473 624130 or

Kay on 01473 626169.

MARTLESHAM PLAYSCHOOL

We offer a friendly and stimulating environment for children from the age of 2 and a half. If you would like more information about the playschool or are interested in sending your child to our setting, please contact Nikki Smith (Bookings Secretary) on 07857 309365 or visit www.controltower.org.uk

If you would like to purchase anything from our buysite the address is www.buy.at/mplayschool Commission will go to playschool funds from all purchases made.

MARTLESHAM BEACON HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

The highlight of the term for pupils in years 5 and 6 was the appearance at the prestigious Suffolk Schools Music Festival, held at the Snape Maltings Music Hall. It was a very special night and everyone taking part performed so well in a presentation of music, dance and choral items that were original and unique. We are so proud of their achievement in the school.

The school swimming team began their competitive season in March in the Kesgrave Schools Pyramid swimming gala held at Deben Pool. Having won the trophy for the last four years the team came a creditable fourth place.

All the children have been inspired in Mental Arithmetic since the school registered in the World Maths day event. As a result children in Year 4 and Year 6 maths groups have qualified for acceptance and free subscription into the "Mathletics" programme, which continues throughout the year.

World Book Day was also celebrated in school with children sharing their favourite books.

The National Quiz club held their regional finals at Kesgrave High School in February and one child from each of the Key Stage 2 classes participated against Heath Primary, Bildeston Primary and Howard Primary, Stowmarket. After a very close competitive challenge the team came through as very strong runners-up to the Stowmarket

team.

Our netball team competed against Waldringfield at the end of February and both teams enjoyed a friendly atmosphere and a sporting game with Beacon Hill eventually running out winners.

As part of Sports Relief everybody came to school dressed as a sports person and the whole school were involved in a Musical Aerobics Session in the school playground at the end of the day.

MARTLESHAM HISTORICAL SOCIETY

At our meeting on Monday April 21st we are looking forward to another informative and entertaining talk when our speaker will be Mark Mitchels, the noted local historian and author. His topic will be "The Bayeux Tapestry".

The meeting will be held in the Pavilion on the Green at 8 pm and all are welcome with admission at £1.50.

John Tyler - 01473 612736

MARTLESHAM HEATH AVIATION SOCIETY

Our monthly meeting was held on Friday 7th March. The speaker was Mr Paul Strugnell and the subject was "Hawkeye – The Story of an Army Pilot."

Paul, who lives locally, gave a most interesting illustrated talk of his 24 years service in the army. 17 of those years was as a helicopter pilot.

He joined the Royal Army Signals Corp and spent some time with the SAS Signals Squadron before an uncomfortable period as a drill sergeant with the RA Signals Corp. Paul soon discovered that was not for him and when an opportunity to train as a helicopter pilot came along he jumped at it. Paul recounted flying the delightful DH Chipmunk and then on to helicopters. His first helicopter was the Bell 47 (of Mash fame).

His career took him to Germany and Northern Ireland and then back to Germany before being sent to Kenya. There he flew a helicopter at an indicated 21,000 feet to fly over Mount Kenya.

Paul's career rounded off as an instructor before retiring in 1984.

A vote of thanks was given by Ralph Rutherford.

Our next meeting will be held as usual on the first Friday of the month at the Community Hall, Felixstowe Road. This will be on 4th April and will be the occasion of our AGM. It will be followed by the annual photographic competition.

All are welcome, non-members for a payment of just £2 at the door. Meetings commence at 7:30 pm.

Alan Powell - 01473 622458

DAVID OWENS' BENCH

I would like to thank the Martlesham Monthly for their kind donation towards David's bench. As many of you will have seen, the bench is now in situ on the Green. I would like to thank Bill Copeland and Paul Firman for arranging everything and to John Barrett from the Douglas Bader for storing, building and erecting it all with no expense to the donation fund.

I have sent donations to The Portal Woodlands Conservation Group and to Martlesham Conservation Group to help them continue their work to maintain the Heath and Woodlands, which gave David so much pleasure over the years. Over £13,000 was donated in David's memory, a big thank you to every one for their continuing support and kindness.

Regards, Glenys Owens

PORTAL WOODLANDS CONSERVATION GROUP

April marks the end of the financial year and the occasion for the Group's Annual General Meeting (AGM), which will be held in the Parish Rooms of the Martlesham Community Centre on Monday 7th, commencing at 7:30 pm. Everyone is welcome to attend and hear what the Group has been doing in the last twelve months and hopes to achieve in the coming year. As expressed in the last issue, if anyone is interested in joining the Group as a volunteer or as a Committee Member would they please contact the Group's Chairman, Stephen Corley,

via the Parish Council's telephone number, 01473 612632, as soon as possible.

The Group's Nature Watch programme begins in earnest on 26th April at 10 am, when the subject will be 'Reptiles & Amphibians'. Details of the full programme of events can be found on our website at www.martlesham.org.uk/portalwoodlandsgroup. Please remember that those wishing to attend should register prior to the event by sending an e-mail to naturewatch.pwcg@martlesham.org.uk

Our thanks go to those persons who contacted the Group concerning our plea for help in the March Monthly regarding our continuing problem with the disposal of dog litter. Please be assured your reports are being followed up with the Group and the Suffolk Constabulary.

The Group would wish to express its sincere thanks to Mrs Glenys Owens for her gift of £250 in memory of her late husband, David. David got much pleasure walking through the woods and the money will, therefore, be used towards our next project, the development of the woodland pathways.

The Group's April workday is scheduled for Sunday 20th April commencing at 10 am, meeting as usual outside the rear gate to the Suffolk Police Headquarters, with new members always being welcomed. For more information about the Group, please visit our website (9,405 hits) or via the Parish Council as above.

MARTLESHAM CONSERVATION GROUP

Our thanks go out to all those who took part in the Megabash event on Saturday 23rd February, and our follow up work party on Sunday 9th March. Well done to everyone concerned. Hopefully it will be of longer-term benefit to the special wildlife that we have on our heath including the Silver Studded Blue Butterfly. Lowland, sandlings type heath is the rarest form of habitat in Western Europe.

Many thanks to all those who have commented to me on the

Suffolk Coastal District Council's Local Development Framework proposals. The group is deeply concerned about the impact on our local wildlife of some of the areas proposed. We would urge you all to write to Suffolk Coastal District Council expressing your concerns too. By the time you read this the deadline may have passed for the official response to the consultation but it always helps to let our politicians know about our views. Please write in.

The Group would like to express its grateful thanks for the donation received in memory of the late David Owens. David had a great love of the open spaces within Martlesham and was a great supporter of the community particularly through his work on the Neighbourhood Association. He had a great way with people and listened to people's concerns, great or small, as well as taking action on their behalf. The Group is considering putting the donation towards the purchase of equipment that would help manage the open space on the heath SSSI and in our local woodland.

Our next work party will be on Sunday 13th April when we will be working on the heath SSSI again. Please meet outside the Douglas Bader pub at 10 am or come and join us on the heath.

Please contact us if you are interested in any of the activities of the group or would like to share your observations on local wildlife.

Phil Smith - 01473 625630

SUFFOLK WILDLIFE TRUST

Woodbridge Group

On Thursday 10th April we will be in Wickham Market village hall at 7:30 pm when Duncan Sweeting will give an illustrated talk on Reptiles and Amphibians in Suffolk. If you have been watching the BBC series "Life in Cold Blood", this talk would be the ideal follow on about our local species. Please come and join us. Everyone is welcome - you do not have to be a member. Entrance is £2 as usual.

Phil Smith - 01473 625630

MARTLESHAM BRASS

Making Music Fun in East Anglia

Good news! We have recently been awarded £135 from the BT Community Champions Scheme. We hope to put this towards purchasing a 'tam-tam' (a type of gong).

April will be a busy month for all our bands. Our Main Band is looking forward to presenting a fundraising concert at Alan Road Methodist Church on Saturday 5th April at 7:30 pm. The Preliminary Band is also appearing at Landseer Road Methodist church in April - they will be playing a selection of hymns in the morning service on Sunday 20th April. On the same day, players from our other two bands will be marching along Felixstowe 'Prom' to a St. George's Day service organised by the Orwell District Scouts at The Spa Pavilion.

We have two advance dates for your diaries - our Spring Concert on Saturday 17th May at 7 pm at the Martlesham Community Centre and our Band Summer Fayre on Saturday 14th June at St. Michael's Church Martlesham Heath, from 2 pm. We would love to see you at these events!

Our band welcomes new players, young and old, with or without experience. Our aim is to encourage anyone who feels they would like to play in a brass band to come and have a go! If you would like to join us, or if you already play or have previously played a brass instrument and feel that you would like to come along and meet us, please contact us via the website or use the contact details below.

Membership enquires; Paul Jordan
0 1 4 7 3 6 2 5 0 6 1 o r
join@martleshambrass.co.uk

Booking enquires; Caroline Hale
01394 388173

Liz Benyon, Publicity Officer
01473 623276 or

liz.benyon@btinternet.com

Registered Charity No. 1100922

Visit our website -

www.martleshambrass.co.uk

ST MARY'S, MARTLESHAM THE NIGHTINGALE QUINTET

SATURDAY MAY 3RD, 7:30 PM

**TICKETS £6 including light
refreshments**

**Tickets available from 01394
387049 and 01473 625320**

In aid of Church Funds

MARTLESHAM CARPET BOWLS CLUB

At the present time the club is in the process of getting the preliminary rounds of the various club competitions completed, and, to this end, we met on Sunday 17th February and Sunday 16th March to play the Triples and Fours competitions. Both these days were most enjoyable and played in a spirit of friendly rivalry.

We are rather disappointed in our performance in the league this season but are pleased to say that we have had some better results recently and have now, hopefully, avoided relegation so we will have another opportunity next year to excel in this league.

Maureen Banthorp

MARTLESHAM BOWLS CLUB

The start of the outdoor season is almost upon us. A big thank you must go to Brian Davey, our Head Groundsman, and to the group of members who work hard during the winter months so that the Green is fit enough to be played on during the summer months. Also a big thank you must go to those members who join in with the spring cleaning.

This year will be the 80th birthday of the club. We are going to celebrate this milestone with a get-together of all club members and friends on Saturday 5th July.

We once again have a full programme of social bowling - club competitions, league matches, friendly matches and open tournaments. Our Wednesday Pairs Tournaments, of which we hold six per season, are very popular. We also

hold two Weekend Tournaments: Sheila McIntyre Rose Bowl - Pairs - Saturday 7th June, Cyril Marsh Memorial Shield - Pairs - Saturday 30th August

If you would like to play in the above tournaments, please contact our Chairman Brian Davey (01473 624789) and he will be only too pleased to help. We pride ourselves on providing outstanding refreshments and although the bowling is competitive we like to think that having an enjoyable day out is just as important as winning.

Good luck to all those members who have entered County competitions.

If you are interested in finding out more about the game of bowls and perhaps having a go, please do not hesitate to contact myself (Linda Brown) on 01394 384698 and arrangements can be made for you to come to the bowls club to learn and spend some time on the Green.

Linda Brown, Secretary

KESGRAVE TABLE TENNIS CLUB

The new Table Tennis Club at Kesgrave Sports Hall has recently obtained four more new tables. The junior section is currently full, although if you wish to join the waiting list please ring the phone number below. The adult section still has room for people interested in playing. Contact 01473 610177. Club night is every Friday from 7 to 9 pm.

LADIES EXERCISE CLASS Farlingaye High School, Woodbridge

Eaten too many Easter Eggs? Want to get into shape for the Summer?

Why not join our exercise class on a Tuesday evening,, 7:45 pm to 9 pm in the Gym at Farlingaye High School, Woodbridge. Classes cost just £3 per week, and are suitable for all levels of fitness - you can work at your own pace.

Our first class after Easter is on Tuesday 8th April. For more details call Liz on 01473 625617.

SPEAK EASY @ MARTLESHAM

Do You Go To Meetings?

Speak Easy @ Martlesham speakers' club meets on alternate Thursdays at the Richards Room in Martlesham. Affiliated to Toastmasters International, it provides members with the opportunity to practice speaking in front of an audience, plus be involved in running meetings. Most of us are involved in meetings at some point in our lives whether at work, clubs, charities, schools, etc. Whether these meetings achieve their aims, run smoothly and on time depends on how they are run – having the opportunity to take on roles at a speakers' club meeting such as Speak Easy can give valuable experience and confidence in learning how to run and be involved in successful meetings.

Future meetings: 3rd April, 17th April, 1st May, 15th May

7 pm for 7:15 pm start at the Richards Room, Martlesham Community Hall, Felixstowe Road, Martlesham (behind Tesco). Come along to a meeting as a guest and find out what we do. There is no pressure to speak and you will be made very welcome!

Further details can be found at www.speakeasyatmartlesham.co.uk or contact Sue Browne on 07730 971186 or Dave Nightingale on 07969 598633.

BRUSHSTROKES ART GROUP

This term we have enjoyed a pen, ink and wash workshop evening with Michael Norman. Thank you to members and guests who came along and helped raise the funds. We were given a very good insight as to how to use pen and ink and also how frustrating it is when you splodge the ink! Oh, and you must use waterproof ink if you do a wash over the picture!!

Our next workshop evening is on 8th May with Theronda Hoffman. We had Theronda to do a demonstration session some months ago but now we would like to have a go ourselves. If you would like to join us for the evening please contact the phone number below for further details.

We recommence after Easter

on 10th April and run fortnightly thereafter.

Brushstrokes is an art group of all different ages and abilities - (children must be accompanied by an adult). It is not a class but we help each other and enjoy a time set aside to do some art or craft making.

There is a membership fee of £10 per term or a drop in fee of £3 (£2 children). Workshop fee is £5 per guests. Includes tea and coffee and some tasty biscuits. 7:30 to 9:30 in the St. Michael's Church Annex.

For more information please contact Sue Sharman on 01473 610474, e-mail susannah.sharman@btinternet.com

VILLAGE VIEWS

The chance for you to write in and have your say...

LET'S THROW THESE PLANS ON THE TIP!

As a resident of Martlesham Heath I wish to record my disapproval of the plans to develop homes on greenfield sites surrounding this area for the following reasons:

1. The existing infrastructure is already stretched and will not support additional development
2. Existing schools are at capacity
3. Health facilities/doctors and Ipswich Hospital we are told are similarly stretched
4. Serious environmental damage to SSSI sites/heathland with loss of amenities provided by them
5. Increase in in carbon footprint exacerbated by removal of woodland used as a carbon sink
6. The Parish Plan is being almost totally ignored

Instead of the proposed build opposite the Foxhall Tip, I suggest the Tip as a final resting place for these ill-conceived plans.

W T Copeland

R.S.P.C.A.

The RSPCA are holding their annual sponsored dog walk on Sunday May 18th. The walk starts from Martlesham Animal Centre at 11

am, registration at 10 am. The walk lasts just over an hour and sponsorship forms can be collected from the Animal Centre or call Mo Reid on 01394 276678. Alternatively, turn up on the day and pay an entry fee of £5 per dog.

ST ELIZABETH HOSPICE

Open Gardens 2008

Throughout the summer months we have many people opening their garden to the public for us. These spectacular gardens have unique features. For more information on each garden visit our website.

Open garden dates for May

11th May - The Rookery, Eyke, Woodbridge, IP12 2RR

11th May - Tollemache Hall, Little Bricet, Offton, IP8 4RT

18th May - The Place for Plants, East Bergholt

25th May - College Farm, Forward Green, Stowmarket, IP14 5EH

25th May - Chapel Farm, Fen Lane, Earl Stonham, IP14 5EF

Upcoming events

5th April - 'An Evening of Bach to the Beatles', Woodbridge Community Centre

Tickets cost £7.50 including refreshments.

9th April - Ladies Golf Day, Seckford Hall Golf Club

Come along on your own or in pairs and take part in this fantastic day. Tickets only £35 with a 9:30 am start. Handicap not necessary.

17th April - Collection, Ipswich town centre

Volunteers are required to help collect and promote St Elizabeth Hospice in Ipswich town centre

18th April - Lady Tollemache Speech, Brandeston Village Hall at 7:30 pm

Award winning landscape and garden designer Lady Tollemache will be giving a talk entitled 'The Use of Plants in Design Across the British Isles', and will also launch St Elizabeth Hospice's season of Open Gardens. Tickets cost £5 including refreshments.

19th/20th April - Skydive Weekend, Old Bucklesham Airfield, Norfolk

Experience the adrenalin rush of a lifetime. Other dates are also available throughout the year.

April/May - Gym Challenge

Could you run a marathon on a treadmill, or row the English Channel on a rowing machine? These and many other challenges for all ability levels are available. If interested, please contact us to see if you gym is taking part.

For full details on all of our events visit our website or call the fundraising office on 01473 723600.

www.stelizabethhospice.org.uk

WOODBIDGE PROBUS CLUB

Members met on Monday 3rd March to hear The Rev. John Berg give a pictorial representation of his knowledge of Japan, and his work there with Missions to Seafarers.

The Chairman announced a proposed visit to Otley Hall, and also that Deben Club had invited members to take part in their visits to Houghton Hall and Hatfield House during the summer months.

The next meeting on 7th April at Waldringfield Golf Club will hear from a representative of the Suffolk Punch Trust.

Retired or semi-retired men interested in membership are invited to telephone Ron Fisher on 01473 631347.

FOOTSTEPS HEALING AND WHOLENESS CENTRE

Footsteps Healing and Wholeness Centre is a new project operating from St. Michael's Church. We are a group of local Christians who work in the healing and wholeness field who aim to provide professional services to people who are looking for help. At the moment we are able to offer a variety of services including coaching, counselling, spiritual direction, and prayer for healing. So if you find yourself wondering whether it's time for a change of direction in your life, or you simply can't cope; you find yourself asking whether there's more to life than this, or if you just want to chat a few things over; why not give us a ring or pick up a leaflet from the church? We are open on Mondays from 12 until 5. We can be contacted on 07770 75309 or at footsteps.suffolk@hotmail.co.uk

BRIGHT STARS

Services for April are on Monday 14th and Monday 28th.

We welcome all pre-school children and babies along with their carers to our fun, child-friendly services which are held on the second and fourth Mondays of each month during term time. We meet at 10:30 am in St Michael's Church Centre. There is a chance to meet for refreshments and a chat after the service which lasts about half an hour.

For more details about Bright Stars please call Pauline on 01473 625061 or Jo on 01473 622160.

BRIGHTWELL CHURCH

Thank you to all who supported the Music Quiz on 7th March and a good time was had by all. The evident need for new crockery in the Church Hall has been addressed and the £150 raised from the Quiz will go toward meeting this need to the benefit of all Hall users.

On Friday 4th April we welcome Roy Tricker to the Church to talk about its history commencing at 7:30 pm. Some tickets are still available.

Our regular programme of Worship continues with Holy Communion Services at 8 am on Sundays 6th and 20th April with Evensong on 13th and 27th April at 6:30 pm. We welcome you to join us for any of these Services.

Our Annual Parish Meeting takes place at the Church Hall on Monday 21st April at 7 pm. All parishioners are invited to attend this meeting to take the opportunity to elect the Churchwardens. Parishioners on the Church Electoral Roll may vote to elect Church Councillors.

In May the Parish Walk, this year to be led by Jessica Niblock, takes place on Saturday 17th May. Meet at the Church Hall at 2:15 pm, ready to move off at 2:30. Geoff Lambert, PCC Secretary
www.achurchnearyou.com
brightwellpcc@tesco.net

HOLY FAMILY & SAINT MICHAEL

Holy Family & Saint Michael on the main A1214 is the Catholic Chapel

servicing Martlesham and Kesgrave. It is part of the parish of Saint Mary in Ipswich.

Only the start of April and already Easter was a week ago. But why was Easter so early and why can't it be a fixed day, like the second Sunday in April for example? At the moment Easter Sunday is the first Sunday after the first full moon after the spring equinox. Pope John XXIII stated in the 1960s that there was nothing wrong with fixing the date of Easter. While there seems to be broad support in the World Council of Churches for a fixed celebration of Easter, it's just that no-one seems to have got around to it yet.

If you would like to be kept informed of services and activities please visit the website at www.st-mary.org.uk or ask to receive a regular copy of the weekly parish newsletter and monthly parish magazine by telephoning the Presbytery on 01473 728115.

Regular 'Sunday' Masses at the Holy Family are celebrated at 6 pm on Saturdays and 9:15 am on Sundays. Weekday masses are normally on Wednesdays and Fridays at 10 am.

MARTLESHAM CHURCH

On the 23rd of this month it is St George's Day. We don't seem to celebrate our Patron Saint in the same way as the Irish celebrate St Patrick and the Welsh St David - perhaps it is because we are not sure who he was.

He is always shown as slaying the dragon and that is a very good image of good triumphing over evil.

We are in the Easter season of our church life when we remember and celebrate what God did for us in sending his Son, Jesus Christ, to die for us on the cross. He rose from the dead and through that has triumphed over death and sin and opened for us the way to eternal life. Now that is something to celebrate! - and we do every Sunday. Why not come and join us?

Have a happy St George's Day.



THE CHURCH IN MARTLESHAM & BRIGHTWELL

PARISH MINISTER: The Revd. Ian Naylor, 17 Lark Rise, Martlesham Heath, IP5 3SA,
Tel: 01473 622424 and e-mail address: inaylor17@aol.com

CLERGY: The Revd. Elizabeth Corker, 12 Fairfield Avenue, Felixstowe, Tel: 01394 210793
The Revd. Heather Cooke, 9 Swan Close, Martlesham Heath, Tel: 623770

READERS: Carolyn Smith, 74 Heathfield, Martlesham Heath, Tel: 01473 625630
Lewis Currie, 18 Parkers Place, Martlesham Heath, Tel: 01473 625320

ELDERS: Margaret Rollins, 9 Angela Close, Tel: 01473 623868; Monica Twaits, 39 Angela Close,
Tel: 01473 623194

Services for the Month	Brightwell St. John's	Martlesham St. Mary's	Martlesham Heath St. Michael's
Sunday 6th April Easter 3	8am Holy Communion	11am Holy Communion BCP	9:45am All Age Worship 6:30pm Informal Worship
Sunday 13th April Easter 4	6:30pm Evensong	8am Holy Communion 11am All Age Worship	9:45am Family Holy Communion & Junior Church
Sunday 20th April Easter 5	8am Holy Communion	11am Family Holy Communion	9:45am Worship & Junior Church 6:30pm Youth service
Sunday 27th April Easter 6 Rogation	6:30pm Evensong	8am Holy Communion 11am Matins	9:45am Family Holy Communion & Junior Church
Thursday 1st May Ascension Day			7pm Holy Communion
Sunday 4th May Easter 7	8am Holy Communion	11am Holy Communion BCP	9:45am All Age Worship 6:30pm Informal Worship

MIDWEEK SERVICES: Holy Communion each Wednesday at 10am in St Michael's Church Centre. Bright Stars will meet at 10:30am on Monday 14th April and Monday 28th April in St Michael's. A warm welcome awaits you at all the above services.

PRAYER DIARY FOR APRIL

Please use the following suggestions as a basis for your thanksgiving and intercessions:

- | | |
|---|--|
| 5 persecuted Christians | 25 Inspire - Christian Counselling Centre |
| 6 all Christian leaders in our country | 26 those facing difficult family situations |
| 7 Gorseland School | 27 prison chaplains |
| 8 those who are bereaved | 28 Kesgrave High School |
| 9 the residents of Portal Avenue | 29 those caught in a debt crisis |
| 10 Karen Fletcher working with local young people | 30 the residents of Ravens Way |
| 11 the casualties of war - bereaved families and wounded soldiers | MAY 1 wisdom to manage our natural resources |
| 12 for the work of Christian Youth Ministries in Ipswich | 2 the congregations at St Mary's and Brightwell Church |
| 13 Baptismal service at MCF | 3 the clergy and leaders at St Michael's |
| 14 Beacon Hill School | 4 the Elders at Martlesham Christian Fellowship |
| 15 those facing serious illness | |
| 16 the residents of Post Office Lane | |
| 17 the work of the Mothers' Union | |
| 18 nurseries and pre-schools in our area | |
| 19 the situation in Iraq | |
| 20 freedom to preach the gospel | |
| 21 Birchwood School | |
| 22 those facing difficult family situations | |
| 23 the residents of Private Road | |
| 24 local and national government | |