

martlesham monthly

Incorporating The Talking Martlesham Monthly

COMMUNITY WEB PORTAL

DECEMBER 2012

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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.

MARTLESHAM MONTHLY ONLINE

www.martlesham.org.uk

TALKING MARTLESHAM MONTHLY

Please contact the Editors if you, or someone you know, would benefit from receiving one of the monthly audio tapes. They are available free of charge and are delivered by Royal Mail on the second Saturday of the month. The tape can be returned to Graham Downing free of charge by reversing the address label and dropping the package in a letter box.

DISCLAIMER

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

MARTLESHAM BIRDS

December-Robin (*Erithacus rubecula*)

A favourite garden bird especially around Christmas, the red breast given to the bird by God for protecting the Christ child from a camp fire as a story goes.

Male and female robins look identical. The young birds have no red breast and are spotted golden brown. The robin lives 3-5 years and makes open nests. They usually start breeding in March, lay 4-6 eggs and have two or sometimes 3 broods a year

They eat worms, fruit, nuts and insects.

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 or the new number 101.

You can also contact PC Wright for non-urgent matters:

Office: 01473 334980

E-mail:

richard.wright@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

Or the Safer Neighbourhood Team

kesgrave.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

COMMUNITY RESPONDERS

Martlesham Community Responders are a group of 5 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.

We now have our own website, which is updated regularly. Why not have a look at the site **www.martleshamcfr.co.uk**

For further details contact, Paul and Claire Stockdale 01473 621225. (e.mail: paulstockdale@btinternet.com) or see our web pages on www.martlesham.org.

The Martlesham Community Web Portal has been relaunched at <http://martlesham.org.uk> The purpose of the portal is to collect in one place useful information for and about Martlesham - have a look around. As well as local information and links there is a calendar of events. Back-issues of the Martlesham Monthly are also available for download. Martlesham-based groups or organisations are invited to send in links to their existing sites. If they don't have their own web presence then a section of the portal could be made available (e.g. <http://martlesham.org.uk/martlesham-monthly>) or a dedicated site (e.g. the MHHL site at <http://mhh.martlesham.org.uk>)

Any local event that you would like added to the portal calendar please send the details to calendar@martlesham.org.uk.

The new portal supports smart phones (e.g. iPhone, Android) and tablets (e.g. iPad) as well as PCs & Macs. You can also follow our Twitter account @martleshamUK for Martlesham news and reminders of events.

MOBILE LIBRARY TIMES

The mobile library is expected to visit on the following days/times.

Tuesday every 4 weeks on a Tuesday: December 4 .

Falcon Mobile Home Pk: 2:15-2:45pm
Douglas Bader: 2:55-4:30pm

Wednesday every 4 weeks on a Wednesday December 12, January 9 2013

Angela Close: 1:40-1:50pm
Redwold Close: 1:55-2:05pm

Thursday every 4 weeks on a Thursday: December 13 2012 January 10 2013

Douglas Bader: 10:20-11:45am

CONSULTATION ON THE PROPOSED MERGER OF SUFFOLK AND CAMBRIDGESHIRE FIRE SERVICE

This consultation runs until 14th January 2013. Please look at the website for full details.

<http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/your-council/decision-making/consultations/delivering-the-best-fire-service-to-you/>

MARTLESHAM PARISH COUNCIL

The Council wishes all parishioners a happy Christmas and best wishes for the New Year.

Diamond Jubilee Bike Trails

Whilst the Parish Council has been pleased to see the trails well used and looked after by most bikers, it has been very disappointing to have locked items stolen from site that were there so that ongoing work to the trails can be carried out. Thankfully some items have now been returned but it is felt that the Council cannot continue to store work tools on site.

Playspaces

The Council inspects the play areas and bike trails in the Parish but if you notice any defective equipment or anything which may be a safety concern please do report it to us.

Please clear up after your dogs!

There seems to be an increase in dog mess around the parish. The Council has provided quite a number of dog dirt bins so please clear up the mess and deposit your bag in one of these or, if there is not one to hand, please dispose of it at home.

Forthcoming meetings:

No Parish Council meeting in December
Finance & General Purposes Committee – Wednesday 05 December 2012

Development Plans Committee –
Wednesday 12 December 2012

Parish Council – Wednesday 09 January 2012 (please note that due to the holidays this is a week later than usual)

Recreation & Amenities Committee – 16 January 2012

All meetings start at 7.30pm 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

Clerk to Martlesham Parish Council,
Parish Room, Felixstowe Road,
Martlesham, Woodbridge IP12 4PB

É: 01473 612632

e-mail: clerk@martleshamcouncil.org.uk

website: <http://martlesham.onesuffolk.net> for latest news & events

Parish Office opening times: 9am – 12noon, Mon – Fri, excluding public holidays, but please book an appointment in advance.

MARTLESHAM HEATH HOUSEHOLDERS

Maintenance charge – A reminder to all householders that the annual maintenance charge became due on 1st October, and can we ask anyone who hasn't yet paid to send payment to our PO Box address or pay online as soon as they can. A reminder to all members that in line with the resolution passed at the AGM in February 2012 the charge rises from the initial £20 to £22.50 on December 1st. Polite reminders have been sent to all those properties who may have forgotten to pay during November.

As mentioned last month we have several properties being sold/transferred without the necessary legal process taking place. Could we please remind all members again to ensure that their potential buyers are aware that they will need to become members of MHHL and pay the annual maintenance charge? Many thanks for your co-operation in this matter.

During the last month a lot of work has been carried out around the village by MHHL following the extremely successful Village Help Desk at which in excess of 150 maintenance charge payments were received and a number of comments. The volunteer directors and volunteers are progressing all of these. Work has been carried out to remove vegetation growing onto the Eagle Way between Westland and Harvesters, a large silver birch had to be removed opposite Birchwood School as it had significant rot also the Clock Tower has been cleaned by a local contractor.

We are always seeking more volunteers to help with maintaining our village's appearance and any offers of assistance would be gratefully received. Please also take time to read the Martlesham Heath SSSI section and our response to the 'comments' in the Village Views section of last month's magazine.

To contact MHHL please leave a voicemail on 01473 612207, send an email to mhh@martlesham.org.uk or write to PO Box 897, Martlesham Heath, Ipswich, Suffolk IP1 9PB. Volunteers always welcome to help MHH maintain and improve the village

JOHN KELSO

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

Bloor Homes Planning Application The planning application to build 180 new homes at Mr Pipe's field Main Road and Mill Farm Felixstowe Road will have been decided at the Suffolk Coastal Development Control Committee which was held on 21st November. At the time of writing this report the decision is unknown but sadly the Officers are recommending approval despite the concerns and issues that have been raised by Martlesham and Waldringfield Parish Councils and many individuals. I will of course provide you with an update in the January edition.

The Local Development Framework (Core Strategy) The examination in public by the Government Planning Inspector has been taking place during October and November. Many points of concern have been raised by Parish Councils, No Adastral New Town (NANT), Save Trimley against Growth (STAG) and individuals. The Inspector is due to issue his preliminary findings and recommendations in the early New Year with his final decisions being made in the spring. I believe BT and Suffolk Coastal will wait until the Core Strategy has been declared sound before proceeding with the planning application.

May I take this opportunity to wish everyone a very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

John Kelso District Councillor

CHRIS BLUNDELL'

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT

The Core Strategy hearing by the Inspector Mr. Moore is the dominant feature this month. The technique adopted by the inspector was to consider and ask questions on key aspects of the core strategy. To all the topics considered he posed a series of questions in order to obtain a better view of how the 'Strategic Policies' (SP's) could and would be implemented. To the local residents in and around the Martlesham and Waldringfield areas the most contentious issue is the impact on the local environment and the wider effects that this will have. A particular issue was the question of recreational and open space. The representative for BT present at the hearing indicated that a significant area of land within the proposed development site had been allocated to leisure purposes. However the NANT (No Adastral New Town) and Waldringfield PC representatives were able to show that for the projected new population the allocation would be insufficient. For additional space within the Core Strategy and Development Management Policies (DM's) document the council had referred in SP 20 to the establishment of a country park at Foxhall that would make use of the waste tip site. However, Suffolk County Council who is responsible for waste management had written to the inspector stating that the waste tip site would not be available for conversion to a country park. During subsequent discussion it was revealed that development proposed for north Ipswich would contain provision for a country park that would extend into Westerfield. Since Westerfield is within Suffolk Coastal District that park should be taken into consideration. This issue and some other changes requested by the inspector means that an amended Core Strategy document will almost certainly have to go out for consultation again for a period of six weeks most likely early in the New Year.

Finally, I would like to wish everybody a Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year. If you would like to discuss these or any other matter with me I can be contacted on 01473 622716 or by email at chris.blundell@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk

MARTLESHAM HEATH SSSI

A reply to "Conservation or Devastation"

The article in the last Martlesham Monthly entitled "Conservation or Devastation." did not present a fair or balanced picture of the work being carried out on the Western Corridor

Natural England designated the Western Corridor as a SSSI in 1988. This is a legal protection on the land. We cannot opt out of it, and we are required to manage the land as heathland. If we do not, Natural England can fine us, impose management plans, or compulsorily purchase the land. The number of trees has increased over the years and this destroys heathland, so we have to reduce their numbers.

In 2011, MHHL agreed a management plan with Natural England to obtain some of the funding for the work. The alternative would have been to increase the maintenance charge for all MHHL members. This agreement, and the plan for work, was publicised at two open meetings and agreed by MHHL members at an AGM.

This area has never been woodland, so there is no real parallel with Sutton Heath. Removal of trees will take place over ten years, many of them will be small, immature trees, and the work is intended to restore some of the earlier character of the land.

The implication that MHHL is doing all this with a secretly appointed group of people, and without consultation, is simply not true. MHHL frequently appeals for support, publishes articles, and organises open meetings and AGMs, but you can not involve people unless they are willing to be involved.

As members of MHHL, we have volunteered to manage the land as a SSSI and an amenity area within the legal and financial constraints that exist, but which critics often ignore. We certainly do not believe that the plans for the area amount to devastation, and are trying hard to keep members informed.

A more detailed reply is available at mhh.martlesham.org.uk/sssi and you may send questions or comments at any time to the SSSI Interest Group, mh.sssi@btinternet.com, or through MHHL at mhh@martlesham.org.uk

Village Views

Conservation of the Western Corridor

I wish to respond to Mr Loosemore's letter in Martlesham Monthly's Nov. issue.

Having lived in Westland, adjacent to the Western Corridor, since 1982, I felt compelled to clarify some misconceptions. I am not a MHHL or SSSI Ltd committee member but I am passionate about restoring the Western Corridor to the state it was in when it was awarded SSSI status, namely heathland, grassland with heather and a few outcrops of gorse and trees (a photo is on the website).

The tone of the article inferred:

1) MHHL are the land owners of the Western Corridor

As I understand it from ad-hoc public meetings and numerous MHHL AGMs, MHHL are just the lease-holders with responsibility for its upkeep to retain SSSI status.

2) Western Corridor plans have only recently been publicised

MHHL took over management of the Western Corridor a few years ago and a work-plan was discussed at a well attended public meeting of the MH Conservation Group/SSSI and Natural England early last year.

3) That a small "clique" of individuals (MH SSSI Ltd) and Natural England agreed a plan that would destroy the Western Corridor's habitat.

I am convinced this is untrue. All the people concerned are "volunteer" residents who seem keen to get the views of the community and are now actively trying to publicise their work-plan.

Personally, I am grateful to these "volunteers" and convinced they will seek residents' opinions and plan accordingly, but on the understanding that MHHL/SSSI Ltd have legal responsibilities to maintain the Western Corridor's SSSI status.

Surely MHHL (us residents) must keep control over a valuable natural amenity enjoyed by the whole community.

Dave Beaumont

Mr Beaumont has supplied a photograph which can be viewed on Page 11 of this online edition

**MARTLESHAM HEATH
PAVILION – AGM**

The Annual General Meeting of the
Martlesham Heath Pavilion
Committee

**will be held at 8pm on
Tuesday 11th December,
2012**

All interested persons are welcome to attend. There will be an opportunity to make any comments or ask any questions about the Pavilion at the meeting.

Aldwyn Jones – Chairman
Email: chairmhpc@gmail.com

CHRISTINGLE CHRISTMAS PARTY

On Sunday 23rd December, from 3-5pm, the junior Church will be holding a Christingle Christmas Party for children of all ages. at St Michael's Church, Martlesham Heath. There will be party games, crafts, making a Christingle and traditional party tea.

All children are very welcome to join this event and if you would like to come, please let Deborah know on 01394 383410 by December 18th.

CALLING ALL MUMS

The Mums' Club meets in St. Michael's Church Centre, Martlesham Heath between 12.45 and 2.30 p.m. on Tuesday, 4th December for a 'Bring and Share' Christmas Party. All mums with babies and toddlers are invited to join us for lunch which will be followed by Festive Activities with Jo from Bright Stars. Just bring along a small quantity of food to share and join in the fun.

Looking ahead - our next meeting will be on Tuesday, 8th January and will be a 'Chomp and Chat' - share lunch and then chat with your friends while your children play. For more information about Mums' Club please ring Sue on 01473 624130 or Kay on 01473 626169.

THE DRINKS AND DRIBBLES BABY CAFE will meet at St. Michaels between 10 a.m. and 12 noon on Thursdays, 6th and 18th December.

Join us for refreshments, friendship and toys. All mums, babies and toddlers welcome.

CHRISTMAS AT BRIGHT STARS

The Christmas story is the theme for our last session of this term and all babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers are welcome to come along, with their parents or carers to enjoy the Christmas themed activities. Bright Stars are fun children's worship and activity sessions held on the 2nd and 4th Monday's of each month (during term time) 10:30am at St Michael's Church Centre, Martlesham Heath. The half hour sessions are free and are followed by refreshments and a chance to chat and play.

Why not come and visit us at our next session? We look forward to seeing you.

The remaining date for our Autumn 2012 session is:

December 10th

If you would like any further information please contact:

Jo Dixon Tel.01473-622160 or Sonya Burrows Tel.01473-625196

MARTLESHAM HEATH BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

Martlesham Heath Baby and Toddler Group would like to wish all our Mums, Dads, Grandparents, Carers, Childminders, babies and toddlers a very merry crackly Christmas and a jolly happy hopping New Year! We hope you have all enjoyed playing with us this year, and we look forward to seeing you all for lots more fun throughout 2013!

We're really looking forward to our Christmas parties which are coming up on Wednesday 12 and Friday 14 December, 9.30-11.30am, at Martlesham Pavilion. As well as Christmas crafts, there will be party games, cakes, stupendous raffle with prizes you might actually want to win, the wondrous "Grotto In The Cupboard" and an appearance by Father Christmas himself! If you've never visited us before, this is the perfect opportunity to drop by - the more the merrier!

Our sessions for the year finish on the 14th December, but we will be back again on Wednesday 9th January 2013 to gently ease into the New Year! Any queries or questions please email mhbabyandtoddlergroup@yahoo.co.uk or find us on Facebook!

SANTA TO VISIT MARTLESHAM HEATH!

The Rotary Club of Woodbridge Deben will be bringing Santa around the following roads in Martlesham Heath between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m.

Tuesday 11th. Burgess Place, Lark Rise, Swann Close, Avocet Lane, Coopers Road, Lancaster Drive, York Road, Birch grove.

Wednesday 12th. Mayfield & Lane, Heathfield & Closes and Roads off, The Oaks & Roads off, Harvesters Way, Sorrel Walk, Forest Lane.

Thursday 13th. Warren Lane, Westlands, Broomfield & Whinfield, Parkers Place, The Grove, Parkers Place, Demense Gardens, Squires Lane & Roads off.

Friday 14th. Manor Road, Carlford Close, Saddlers Place, Valient Way, De Brink, Farriers Close, The Chase, Hunters Ride.

Any queries Rotarian Ian Baker, Home Meadows, Martlesham IP12 4RD. 07747 610 894.

THE SAPLINGS

As we move into December, the children will be having lots of festive fun preparing for our annual Christmas play, which will be held at The Saplings in the afternoon on 14th December 2012. This is always a wonderful occasion and parents, grandparents and family of all the children are warmly invited to come along and watch the performance. On that day, the children will also enjoy their Christmas Party with us.

Looking further ahead, its not too early to book your child into our fun-packed Christmas Holiday Club! We welcome all children from age 2 up to age 11 and we'll have lots of festive themed activities to keep them happily entertained through out the school break. We offer extremely competitive rates with very flexible booking hours - please just give us a call for more details or to make a booking.

For further information on any of our child care services, please call us on 01473 614753, email us at news@thesaplings.org.uk or visit our website www.thesaplings.org.uk.

MARTLESHAM SCOUT POST 2012

Dates SUNDAY 25TH NOVEMBER – TUESDAY 11TH DECEMBER

BOXES AT : BT HUB, DUNCAN'S BUTCHERS, BLACK TILES POST OFFICE and 1ST MARTLESHAM SCOUT HUT

Price of Cards is 20p and money should be in a separate envelope with the cards.

Delivery to IP1- IP5 areas as well as Martlesham Village as well as the following other villages: Grundisburgh, Great and Little Bealings, Bramford, Sproughton, Tuddenham, Westerfield, Henley, Great and Little Blakenham, Playford and Claydon

Please note we cannot accept cards for Woodbridge

Any questions, call Simon on 01473 612410 evenings only

Many Thanks for all you support again this year

Simon Smith Scout Post Co-ordinator

KESGRAVE AND DISTRICT SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM

PAWS ON PATROL

On the 20th October 2012 our new initiative "Paws on Patrol" was launched.

Think of it as a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme but for dog owners (without the meetings!)

The idea behind paws on Patrol is that Dog Owners in general will be out with their dogs most days and therefore are far more likely to witness crime, anti-social behaviour or anything suspicious in their area. We are therefore asking that should you witness such incidents, you report these to us, and where necessary gather information. At no time do we expect you to intervene in any incident. Our new non-emergency number is 101 and such incidents can be reported this way, only use 999 if an emergency. Alternatively you can contact us via our email address: pawsonpatrolkesgrave@suffolk.pnn.police.uk.

For all Dog Owners that register with us you will be given a registration pack, this will include all the necessary information and telephone numbers you will require.

Help us by joining, email your contact details at the above address today.

PCSO 3241 Sally Thomas Kesgrave and District Safer Neighbourhood Team

(Near to Tesco – Ropes Drive, Kesgrave) Telephone: 101

USED STAMPS APPEAL FOR ST ELIZABETH HOSPICE

Christmas is almost upon us and we will soon be receiving lots of Christmas cards. When you have opened the envelopes please don't just throw them away - the used stamps on there can make money for our local charity. The St Elizabeth Hospice in Foxhall Road Ipswich are able to sell used stamps in bulk and turn them into cash. The stamps are sorted and sold by weight, ending up in stamp collections around the world.

So if you can save your used stamps and drop them through my door you will be helping the hospice. Just remember please to leave a 1cm border around the stamps to avoid damage (that's about 1/2 inch in old money!). Don't worry that you don't have many stamps - all the bundles and envelopes of used stamps pushed through my letterbox very soon add up to a great deal for the Hospice.

A very happy Christmas to you all and a big thank you for your continued support.

Bev Read

15 Demesne Gardens Martlesham Heath 01473 622721

THE ORWELL SINGERS – CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Join The Orwell Singers and guests to celebrate the traditions of Christmas at their concert to be held on Saturday 8th December at 7.30 pm at St Michael and All Angel's Church, Martlesham Heath, IP5 3PL. There will be carols old and new and sherry and mince pies. Tickets will be available at the door, price £7.00 for adults and 50p for accompanied children. If you would like more information please telephone 01473 635955 or email d.sharman@btinternet.com.

1ST MARTLESHAM HEATH RANGERS

Invite you to share & enjoy their

HOMEMADE SOUP after CAROLS IN THE SQUARE

Tuesday 18th December 2012

singing from 7pm, soup from 7.30pm

St Michael's Church Centre,
Martlesham Heath

Join Martlesham Brass for carols round
the tree

Followed by hearty, warming soup & a
roll

Served by the Rangers in the Church

All profits from donations will go
towards Unit funds

For further details contact Jo Dixon
01473 622160

MARTLESHAM COMMUNITY COUNCIL

REGISTERED CHARITY NO 273769

Our CRAFT FAIR which was held on Saturday 27th October 2012 in St Michael's Church Centre was very successful. We would like to express our thanks to the following who generously donated prizes for our Grand Draw

NEXT,

IPSWICH TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

THEATRE ROYAL, NORWICH ,

WYVALE, WOODBRIDGE

ESSFOODS OF RENDLESHAM

BENNETT'S

TESCO'S

SAINSBURY'S

IPSWICH REGENT

NEWBOURNE FARM SHOP

KINGPIN BOWLING CENTRE

and last but not least BT

Our grateful thanks to all

Our next Craft Fair will be held on Sat 30th November 2013 in St Michael's Church Centre, we have already got bookings for it

Our next JUMBLE, PLANT & BOOK sale will be held February 2013 in the Pavilion details next month, however if anyone has any Jumble, Books, etc., please get in touch with Jackie Bear on 01473623007

ALLOTMENTS, MALGA & AGM

MALGA (Martlesham Allotment and Leisure Gardeners Association) has had an interesting and lively year, on our continuing journey towards establishing allotments in Martlesham.

Unfortunately founder and Chairman Paul Day left Martlesham and MALGA early in the year. However, building on nearly five years hard work by Paul and others, by Easter we very nearly had an allotment site adjacent to BT Adastral Park. A proposal and business plan were prepared for April's Martlesham Parish Council meeting. At literally the last minute though, Suffolk County Council the site owners, were advised by their ecologist the site could meet the criteria for a County Wildlife Site - due to particular plant and animal species there - and recommending SCC should not proceed with renting it to the Parish Council, for management by MALGA as allotments.

Overall we have been working much closer with the Parish Council this year. We now have a Parish Council/MALGA allotments working group set up, helping us look for alternative sites and keeping allotments on the PC agenda. Discussions with one or two landowners are ongoing, though we'd be very pleased to hear from any Martlesham landowner interested in renting land for allotments.

It's now very nearly time for the MALGA's Annual General Meeting; so please come along and find out more about what's going on. The AGM is at 7.30pm on Tuesday 8 January 2013, in the Extension Room at St Michaels Church, Martlesham Heath. I know it's been a long journey towards the allotment site goal and it hasn't finished yet, but we'll only get there if we maintain our presence, activity and enthusiasm. The Association is only as good as its members and committee. It costs just £5 a year to join MALGA and we'll be very pleased to welcome you on-board at the AGM (or even before!). You might even want to join the committee, to help push the cause forward? See you there!
Ian Read Acting Chairman
01473 622721

SUFFOLK WILDLIFE TRUST

Are holding a Christmas Quiz with mince pies and mulled wine on Thursday 20th December at 7-30pm in Woodbridge Community Hall. Please come along and join us for a fun evening. Individuals and teams are very welcome.
Phil Smith 01473 625630

MARTLESHAM CONSERVATION GROUP

The Martlesham Conservation Group AGM took place on Thursday 8th November. Many thanks to all those who attended or offered their support. We elected a new committee comprising Phil Smith (Chairman), Chris Mulvey (Secretary), Carolyn Smith (Treasurer), Philip Wilmot, Mike Hall, and Duncan Sweeting. The work of the group was discussed and the accounts were presented. The membership subscription was kept at £2-50 per member. Our especial thanks go to Martlesham Parish Council for their continued support and use of the room.

Lowland heath is a precious habitat in national, European and world terms. Britain's contribution is especially significant as it contains about 20% of the world's remaining total of lowland heath. However only 8% remains compared with the start of the 20th century so it has become an increasing priority to conserve that which remains. It is important that we play our part on Martlesham Heath by preventing our heath from disappearing under a blanket of invading scrub, trees and bracken and so promote wildlife diversity. We can then look forward to enjoying some of the special wildlife that can be found on lowland heath right here on our doorstep. Natural England the government body responsible for Sites of Scientific Interest has quite rightly described such sites as England's natural treasures. They were so concerned about the declining condition of our heathland SSSI that they were prepared to provide funding over 10 years to effect specific conservation measures to reverse that decline. That funding is resulting in a necessary burst of additional conservation work boosted by volunteer effort such as our regular work parties and the "Megabash" coming up in February.

Our next work party will take place on Sunday 9th December when we will aim to clear scrub on Martlesham Heath SSSI (western corridor). This action should allow more heather or acid grassland to establish, to the benefit of a wide range of heathland wildlife. Please contact me for further details or come along and join us for the morning out on the heath. Phil Smith 01473 625630

PORTAL WOODLANDS CONSERVATION GROUP

An early Christmas message from the group. Why not take advantage of the beautiful woodland on your doorstep and have a wander through the trees in your free time over the holiday period. If you would like a break from all the hustle and bustle come and join us for our last work morning of the year. If you are walking with your dog off the lead please remember to keep them under control as not everyone appreciates unknown dogs bounding up to them. This has been a good year for fungi, there are many different ones to be seen and the first hazelnut has been harvested from the new trees planted over the past 3 years. Thank you to all our volunteers and supporters for their help during the year - and Merry Christmas to you all.

Dates for the diary:

Woodlands Work Morning Sunday 16th December 10:00am-Noon
Meet at the Education Area (at the Control Tower end of the woods)

Information and dates for 2013 Work Mornings, Nature Watch and Nature Explorers are now available at <http://pwcg.onesuffolk.net/> For more information about PWCg and its activities or if you have any questions please email us at pwcg@martlesham.org.uk or phone Martlesham Parish Council on 01473 612632

MARTLESHAM BRASS 'Making Music Fun in East Anglia'

We are hoping to raise plenty of money for local charities this year by playing carols and Christmas music at local supermarkets and other local venues. We know that in the present economic climate many charities are finding it difficult to raise funds so please give generously if you see us.

Don't forget to join us for 'Coffee and Carols' on Saturday 8th December at 10am at St Michael's Church Centre, Martlesham Heath, there will be hot chocolate with cream and marshmallows, mince pies as well as craft stalls and a Christmas hamper raffle!

Our ever popular Christmas concert will be on Saturday 22nd December at 7pm, also at St Michael's Church Centre. Tickets are £3 (primary school children free). You can get your tickets by phoning 07802 868924, or visiting our website www.martleshambrass.co.uk or by visiting the 2nd Stop Charity Shop next to Tesco in Kesgrave. This concert is often a sell-out, so get your tickets early this year!
Liz Benyon. (Publicity Officer) liz.benyon@btinternet.com 01473 623276.
Registered Charity No.1100922. Visit our website www.martleshambrass.co.uk

MOTHERS UNION

I was looking at the MU website recently and was interested in an article written by a member in the Canterbury Diocese. Mary has been a member in her branch for a number of years. She says that several of her branch members are quite elderly but still extremely active. They still do all they can to support the efforts of other members either through prayer, fundraising or general support. It is this attitude of selflessness and appreciation of the work of Mothers Union that keeps members spirits high and upholds them in their support of families in the community and worldwide.

God gives all members various gifts and talents and it is knowing how to put these into action that enables us to help others.

If you too would like to become a member, either to inspire others, actively change lives, or simply support the work of members such as Mary and her branch, please get in touch with Florence on 631347. Becoming a member enables you to join a fellowship of over 4 million members worldwide who not only make an impact on the lives of those in their communities through outreach work, but also support each other in difficult times.

We meet on the first Wednesday of each month at St Michael's Church Centre at 2.30pm. You would be most welcome.

SPEAK EASY FOR CHRISTMAS?

Are you looking for something a bit different to give a family member or friend this Christmas? If so why not consider a gift membership to Speak Easy at Martlesham Speakers' Club? It is a gift they can enjoy every fortnight, that will not only help them improve their confidence and speaking abilities in a friendly and fun atmosphere, but is also a great way to meet new people. Speak Easy is a Toastmasters' International affiliated club and there is a one-off joining fee of under £20 with which you become a member of Toastmasters International, plus the club membership subscription (£36 for six months). So for only £38 your gift will provide membership of Speak Easy until the end of March, our half yearly renewal date, or, £74 will provide membership right through until the end of September 2013. As well as coming to meetings members also receive a monthly magazine from Toastmasters' International. If you would like further information on gift membership please contact Dave Nightingale Tel. 07969 598633.

The meetings are held fortnightly on alternate Thursdays in the Richards Room, Martlesham Community Hall, Felixstowe Road, Martlesham IP12 4PB (behind the Tesco superstore). Meetings are 7.00 pm for a 7.15 pm start and finish at 9.30pm. Guests are always welcome to attend, we look forward to seeing you.

Future Speak Easy at Martlesham meetings:

December 6th & 20th 2012, January 17th & 31st 2013

Further details about Speak Easy can be found at www.speak-easy.org.uk Or call Dave Nightingale Tel. 07969 598633 or Sonya Burrows Tel. 01473 625196

NATIONAL OSTEOPOROSIS SOCIETY IPSWICH & DISTRICT GROUP

The Group held their 15th Annual General meeting in October which was very well attended. A big thank you to all who came along to give your support. The next event will be our Christmas lunch which will be held at Martlesham Community Hall, Felixstowe Road, Martlesham (behind Tesco's store) on Saturday 8th December commencing at 12.30 p.m. Soup, mince pie and tea/coffee including raffle and stalls, plus time to chat with friends old and new – what better way to start the month. If you would like to attend then please contact Barbara Branch on 01473-631673 so that we have an idea of numbers and you can pick up your ticket on the day. We hope lots of you will be free to come along.

MARTLESHAM LADIES CLUB

Where is the year going.. December already. November saw us welcoming Linda Scoles for another of her incredibly interesting and amusing talks, our Quiz Night and a talk on the history of the Citizen's Advice Bureau. On 13 December, we will be celebrating the season with our Christmas Party with a seasonal 'wear something red and/or green' theme and an 'up to £3 mystery gift. Who needs Santa!

We meet fortnightly at the Richards Rooms and new ladies are always welcome. Telephone our Chairman on 01473 622768 to learn more about us.

YOUR LOCAL WEEKLY COUNTRY MARKET.

We are here to help you with your Christmas planning by offering old and new friends the opportunity of ordering in advance for your Christmas and New Year needs. We are opening the doors to the market at Martlesham Heath Pavilion up until Tuesday December 18th, and at the Scout H/Q until Saturday December 22nd. The tables will be full of cooked items, preserves, and gift ideas, but if you wish to be certain of getting exactly what you require, please give us an order, which we shall be happy to deliver to your home free if you spend over £20.00, but £1 only if the location is within 5 miles of Twelve Acre Approach.

We shall be ready to open again after the new year on Saturday 12th January at Kesgrave, and the 15th January at Martlesham Heath.

We all wish our customers the very best for Christmas, and a healthy and prosperous New Year.

Tel. enquiries please to Margaret Gayfer 01473 623849.

MARTLESHAM WI

At our recent meeting we were pleased to welcome back Mrs. Vicki Westren who gave an illustrated talk entitled Exploring England. Her 'tour' started with East Anglia and we saw some lovely slides of Flatford Mill and its surrounds, Christchurch Mansion, Blythburgh Church, Walberswick Ferry, the Abbey Gardens at Bury St. Edmunds and numerous other well know landmarks here in Suffolk. We then moved on to London, Sussex, Bath, Yorkshire, the Lake District, Derbyshire, Harrogate and the Isle of Wight to name just a few. Mrs. Westren has certainly toured the countryside and her tales of her travels coupled with beautiful slides were much enjoyed by us all.

We meet in the Richards Room, Felixstowe Road at 7.30 p.m. Our next meeting will be on 14th December when we will welcome Terry Mackley who will be performing at the keyboard and telling us about popular music of the 1930s and 40s with stories of the songs and composers. This will be a relaxing social evening so we hope to see some new faces. Visitors and new members are always welcome and contact can be made to Susan Cunliffe on 01394-382199.

THE ROGER DAVID BURROWS MUSIC FUND

We would like to thank everyone who kept in touch with us during the 18 months of Roger's illness in many ways and in their prayers. Also thanks to all who attended his funeral and have spoken to us in the past weeks, this makes an extremely sad time much more bearable.

Many of you may not know about the above fund, which is now a charity trust, so here is a brief description of the fund which is now set up:

Roger's main interests in his life were music, helping people, plants and wildlife.

We have set up the music fund in memory of Roger starting with the money that he left. With this fund we hope to inspire all abilities, adults and children, in music making by offering small grants to groups or individuals.

Roger started to play the violin at the age of six when he was at Primary School. He went on to play the violin in school groups and in the South Suffolk Youth Orchestra. Over the years he has helped adults and children. While still at school he helped at a music group in Woodbridge and volunteered with Out and About (a local organisation that helps children with disabilities).

He worked for several years as a carer with a local housing association looking after adults with learning difficulties but after developing epilepsy he went to work with his uncle and mother at Home Meadows Nursery Ltd where his interest in plants developed.

During all of this time he played and took part in many concerts and events arranged by his family for charities both playing violin and singing. He was also a member of Hollesley Church Choir for several years.

For over ten years he had been playing the violin with the Melton Folk group and was in his element when performing at their many events during those years, which included Burns Nights, fetes, garden parties, barn dances and concerts.

We have been overwhelmed by the support given to us in all ways about starting this fund and would like to give our thanks to everyone. At present a website is being set up and in the spring of 2013 we hope to hold an event to launch the fund.

Laurence, Maureen and Sonya Burrows, Helen and John Ellison and Ian O'Brien Baker

MARTLESHAM COMMUNITY HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

are looking for a volunteer to be the Minutes Secretary for their meetings.

We meet approximately every 6 weeks (the next meetings are 31st. January and 31st. March 2013) The meetings are held in the Parish Council Room and start at 7.0p.m. and usually finish about 9 to 9.30 p.m. Either phone the Hall Telephone and speak to the Booking Secretary on 01473 623203 or contact Ian Baker, Chairman 07747 610 894, Home Meadows, Martlesham IP12 4RD

SCHOOL PLACES FOR SEPTEMBER 2013

If your child was born between 1st September 2008 and 31st August 2009, you MUST apply for a full-time school place by **Tuesday 15th January 2013**. You must make an application even if your child already has a place in a nursery class, pre-school or childrens centre.

To apply for a place or for more information you can visit;

www.suffolk.gov.uk/admissiontoschools
Information is also available from: The Admissions Team on 0845 600 0981 or your local School

MARTLESHAM & DISTRICT FLOWER CLUB

Our October meeting took the form of a workshop and our instructor Mrs Peggy Albertini, a retired demonstrator, kindly offered to come along and carefully guide us through the various stages of creating a traditional triangular design. She gave us many hints and ideas as she went along. Then it was our turn to get started. We all enjoyed the challenge and at 4 o'clock there was a splendid display of arrangements all so different and colourful. Mrs Albertini said she was very impressed with all our efforts.

The Club meets at St. Michael's Church Centre, Martlesham Heath, on the third Wednesday of each month at 2.30pm. The annual subscription is £15 with visitors welcome at £4 per session. There is a plant and flower arrangers stall at each meeting.

There is no meeting in December so we would like to wish everyone a happy Christmas and a peaceful and prosperous New Year.

The next meeting will be our AGM on 16 January 2013 with Peter Ollisse from Woodbridge who will give a talk and slides with flowers in mind. All most welcome.

Margaret Doveston 01473 624422

MARTLESHAM HEATH AVIATION SOCIETY

Our meeting on Friday, 2nd November was not as advertised. The scheduled speaker was Clive Denny, who was to have given an illustrated talk about his business, "Vintage Fabrics Ltd".

We can only offer our sincere apologies for this, which was outside our control. A video about Changi and Singapore and an interesting video about the development of the Gloster Meteor were shown instead. The Meteor was the first allied jet propelled aircraft to enter service in WW2.

Our next meeting will be on Friday, 7th December. The speaker will be Tom Tyler and his talk is entitled, "When Motoring Was Fun". This promises to be a humorous and entertaining presentation of motoring in the 1930's.

Meetings are held at the Community Hall Felixtowe Road on the 1st Friday of the month starting at 7.30, with a mid session tea or coffee break. Non-members are welcome for a payment of just £2.50 at the door.

MARTLESHAM CARPET BOWLS.

The winter season is now upon us and the Tuesday and Friday social bowling sessions are well attended, boosted by the summer outdoor bowlers returning.

So far as matches are concerned we have played five, winning at home to Burstall and East Bergholt, losing away to Nayland and Old Felixstowe, whilst the remaining game at Polstead was a draw.

The new players have put in good performances and have not let the club down. Two teams attended a charity event at Nacton and one entered a similar event at Tattingstone. Although they did not get amongst the prize winners, they had enjoyable days out and supported the good causes.

Maureen Banthorp

WHY JESUS IS BETTER THAN SANTA CLAUS

Santa Claus lives at the North Pole...

Jesus is everywhere.

Santa rides in a sleigh...

Jesus walks on the water.

Santa comes once a year...

Jesus is an ever present help.

Santa fills your stocking with goodies...

Jesus supplies all your needs.

Santa comes down your chimney uninvited...

Jesus stands at your door and knocks, then enters when invited.

You have to wait in line to see Santa...

Jesus is as close as the mention of his name.

Santa lives in children's imaginations...

Jesus gives you joy that is your strength.

Santa's little helpers make toys...

Jesus makes new life, mends wounded hearts and repairs broken homes.

Santa has to ask you your name...

Jesus said, "I have called you by name, you are mine."

Santa says, "Ho, ho, ho"...

Jesus says, "I have loved you with an everlasting love."

Santa says, "What do you want for Christmas?"...

Jesus gave us himself.

Santa eats mince pies and drinks sherry on his own...

Jesus shares bread and wine with his friends.

Santa wears a red suit and a funny hat...

Jesus wore a purple robe and a crown of thorns.

Santa is transient...

Jesus is eternal.

You are warmly invited to join us for one of the Christmas services, details are on page 10

Tricia Shuler, Vicar

MARTLESHAM CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP Are you a Saint' ??

In recent months some people have been elevated to Sainthood! - They are often depicted with haloes and surrounded with an aura of glory. This never happens with great men and women in the bible. They are portrayed 'warts and all' and are seen to be as human as the rest of us. The New Testament calls all Christians Saints and Priests., but clearly shows the imperfections and weaknesses of all of us, except the Christ Himself.

How encouraging to know that God is Love.- Perfectly aware of our shortcomings, yet willing to forgive, cleanse and renew. Psalm 103 reminds us that:-

God is gracious and merciful.

He is slow to get angry, and full of unending love.

He has not punished us as our sins deserve, for He understands how weak we are - He knows we are only dust!"

Such compassion should motivate us to walk more humbly and obediently before Him. We wish you much joy at this time of Advent!

ACTIVITIES IN DECEMBER

SUNDAYS

Worship and Communion - 10.00 a.m.

TUESDAY CIRCLE - 11th December Christmas Lunch, with Carols(12.45 for 1.00pm)

WEDNESDAYS House Groups - 7.30 p.m.

THURSDAYS Mums and Toddlers - 10.00 a.m.

FRIDAYS Friends on Fridays - 10.00 a.m.

Sunday 23rd - Carol Service 10.00 a.m.

(For further information contact John or Ruth Mellen - 01473 624401)

REMEMBRANCE PARADE

The parade was taken by Martyn Cook and the service by Rev'd Tricia Shuler in glorious sunshine on the Barrack Square MH.

In attendance this year, a USAF Honour Guard from the 48 FW RAF Lakenheath. They came to honour the return of WW2 pilot 2nd Lt. James DesJardins from the 360th Squadron 356th FG USAAF who disappeared during a mission from RAF MH in 1944. His plane and remains were discovered in 2011 in the Werra River Flood Germany.

The Kesgrave Suffolk Army Cadet Force marched on followed by the 356 (Felixstowe) Squadron ATC to music provided by Felixstowe Salvation Army band.

Also in attendance were the 1st Martlesham Scouts & Martlesham Guides and Rangers. The RAF was represented by Wing Commander Phil Nicholson RAF Mildenhall and the USAF by Colonel Mark Ciero, 48 FW RAF Lakenheath. The Iron Crows with their motor cycles, the RBL, Woodbridge RAFA, Aircrew Association, AAC and Martlesham Parish Council along with our President Mr Gordon Kinsey and Vice President's Richard Barker and Alan Smith.

Thanks to all who attended and for your continued support.

Alan Powell 622458

Bucklesham Players

Present

SNOW WHITE

AT

Bucklesham Village Hall

7.30pm,

Thu 17th, Fri 18th & Sat 19th Jan

Matinee: 2.30pm Sat 19th Jan

Tickets: Adults £7.00, Children £5.00,

Concessions £5.00
(Thursday & Friday only)

For tickets, call Valerie Smith on
01473 659619

Written by Leonard H. Caddy. By kind permission of N.O.D.A.

Building
God's
Family
Together

THE CHURCH IN MARTLESHAM & BRIGHTWELL

PARISH MINISTER: The Revd Tricia Shuler 17 Lark Rise Martlesham Heath IP5 3SA
01473 612659

READER: Carolyn Smith 74 Heathfield, Martlesham Heath.

ELDERS: Margaret Rollins 9 Angela Close, Martlesham. 01473 623868
Liz Welham 23 Deben Avenue Martlesham Heath. 01473 622709
Lynn Wilder Kenton Nr Debenham. 01728 860627

Services for the Month	Martlesham Heath St Michael's	Martlesham St Mary's	Brightwell St John's
Sunday 2nd December Advent Sunday	9.45am All Age Worship	11am Holy Communion (BCP)	8am Holy Communion
Sunday 9th December 2nd Sunday of Advent	9.45 Family Communion and Junior Church	11am Morning Worship for Advent	6.30pm Advent Carol Service
Sunday 16th December 3rd Sunday of Advent	9am Breakfast@9 and Nativity	11am Holy Communion 6pm Carol Service	8am Holy Communion
Tuesday 18th December	7pm Carols in the Square		
Sunday 23rd December 4th Sunday of Advent	9.45am Family Communion 3pm Junior Church Party with Christingle	11am Morning Prayer	6.30pm Christmas Carol Service
Monday 24th December Christmas Eve	10am Holy Communion with carols	10pm Christmas Communion	
Tuesday 25th December Christmas Day	Christmas Celebration for all ages	11am Holy Communion	8am Holy Communion
Sunday 30th December Christmas Sunday	Benefice Service		
Sunday 6th January Epiphany	9.45am All Age Worship	11am Holy Communion (BCP)	8am Holy Communion
Midweek Services	Holy Communion each Wednesday at 10 am in St. Michael's. Bright Stars meet on Monday, A warm welcome awaits you at all our services		

Prayer Diary Please use these thoughts as an addition to your daily prayers and pray for

4th for the Mother's Union	15th for hostages where ever they are held.	27th Residents of Angela Close
5th Residents of York Rd	16th for freedom to spread the Gospel	28th for all carers
6th for the homeless.	17th for those who visit St Michael's today	29th for all members of the armed forces
7th for the unemployed	18th for all seeking work	30th for new converts in the Christian faith
8th for the Air Ambulance and crew members	19th Residents of Alban Square	31st for all who feel forgotten and unloved
9th give thanks for freedom to worship	20th for the Rapid Responders	
10th for Bright Stars and all involved	21th for the Samaritans	
11th for victims of adverse weather conditions	22nd for safety on our roads	
12th Residents of Acorn Way.	23rd for all Christmas services today	January 2013
13th for all members of the Golden Girls group.	24th for peaceful family celebrations	1st A Peaceful New Year to everyone
14th for those with learning difficulties	25th Rejoice at God's gift of his Son	2nd Residents of Avocet Lane
	26th for those who work at Christmastide	3rd for all children in our parishes
		4th give thanks for the emergency services



Back of Westland, looking south.

From Dave Beaumont