

martlesham monthly

**DECEMBER
2013**

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www.martlesham.org.uk**

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MARTLESHAM COMMUNITY HALL AND RICHARDS ROOM

To enquire about booking Martlesham
Community Hall or the Richards Room
please telephone the Booking secretary
on 01473 623203 who will be
available to help you with your enquiry
or will telephone you back if not
available.

Alternatively e-mail the new e-mail
address martcomhall@btinternet.com

MARTLESHAM BUTTERFLIES

Brimstone (*Gonepteryx rhamni*)

is large yellowish butterfly, at rest with wings closed looks as though it has a hint of green which blends in with vegetation. It has a bottle shaped white one egg singly laid on Buckthorn and Alder under new sprouting leaves. The caterpillar blends in with its surrounding green foliage and has a fine white stripe which looks like a leaves vein. The chrysalis is also green with purple marks but looks very much like a leaf .

MARTLESHAM EMAIL ALERT

A new system has been set up on the Martlesham Community Web Portal. Alert emails would carry information from MHHL, Notification of Meetings, Police Alerts, General Village Interests, etc.

These will only be from legitimate village organisations and will not include MARKETING, SPAM, ADVERTS OR JOKES.

You can register to receive these notifications at

<http://martlesham.org.uk/martlesham-alert>

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: paulpstockdale@btinternet.com) or see our web pages on www.martlesham.org.

POLICE

Community Police Officer PC 1732 Rachel Cable

In case of emergencies please always call 999.

In non-emergency situations call the the new number 101.

E-mail: the Safer Neighbourhood Team kesgrave.snt@suffolk.pnn.police.uk

MARTLESHAM VILLAGE HALL TOP STREET

Although we have regular bookings for evenings throughout the year, morning and afternoon sessions are available. The hall is ideal for small groups who need to meet at a reasonable cost, discount for residents of Martlesham.

For any queries or bookings please contact 01473 623655.

MOBILE LIBRARY TIMES

Tuesday

03 December, 31 December

Angela Close: 1:35-1:50pm

Redwold Close: 1:55-2:10pm

Falcon Mobile Home Park: 2:20-2:50pm
Douglas Bader: 3:00-4:30pm

Thursday , 19 December

Douglas Bader: 10:15-11:45am

THE MARTLESHAM HEATH PAVILION

The Pavilion is a great location for a children's party at weekends.

If you want to book the Martlesham Heath Pavilion or need more information please call the booking secretary on 07732 199 712

Alternatively, you can book via our website:

<http://www.martlesham.org.uk/pavilion/index.htm>

MARTLESHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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

Please note that our office will be closed from Friday 20 – Monday 30 December 2013.

Play Area Checks

Are you concerned whether the play equipment in Martlesham is well maintained and is somewhere to play without undue risks or hazards?

If so you may be able to help by carrying out checks. We are recruiting people to help with the regular inspection programme. If you take a child or children to any of the playgrounds then it's something you would be ideally placed to do. Please contact the Clerk for more information.

Free Microchipping for dogs in the community

The Dogs Trust has just started a huge chipping campaign because of the government announcement that, from 6 April 2016, all dogs will have to be microchipped. They will have teams offering FREE microchipping across the UK. For further information you can visit their website, <http://www.dogstrust.org.uk>

or call them on 020 7833 5135. For a current list of their microchipping events, visit www.chipmydog.org.uk.

Don't get in with a loan shark – It will cost you an arm and a leg!

The government has launched a campaign to stop loan sharks and protect vulnerable people from illegal money lending. Have you or anyone you know:

Been offered a cash loan without paperwork?

Been threatened when you couldn't pay?

Had your benefit or bank card taken from you?

Had a loan which keeps growing even though you make payments?

If so, you may have been bitten by a loan shark. For confidential help & advice contact the Illegal Money Lending Team on 0300 555 2222 (local call rate, including inclusive minutes from mobiles). Email: reportaloanshark@stoploansharks.gov.uk; Text: loan (space) shark (space) + your message to 60003; Website: www.direct.gov.uk/stoploansharks.

Forthcoming meetings:

NO FULL COUNCIL MEETING IN DECEMBER

Finance & General Purposes Committee – Wednesday 04 December 2013

Development Plans Committee – Wednesday 11 December 2013

Parish Council meeting – Wednesday 8 January 2014

Recreation & Amenities Committee – Wednesday 15 January 2014

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.

CHRIS BLUNDELL'S DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2013

Planning. The two current proposed major developments for Martlesham, namely Adastral Park and Mr Pipe's Field off Main Road are both on hold at the time of writing this report. The former which is currently the subject of a legal challenge in the High Court in London and the latter for purely commercial reasons. I have been led to believe that work on Mr. Pipe's field will begin in 2014. Let us wait and see!

Individual Electoral Registration. (IER) All District/Borough/City councils are responsible for the correct and proper conduct of all local and national elections. The method used to register eligible members of the public was to send out forms to a residence and ask a member of the household to complete the form listing all members of the household able to vote. That is about to change! This year the Government introduced 'The Electoral Registration and Administration Act 2013'

The basic change is that all individuals with a right to vote in elections must take responsibility for their own registration and must prove their identity by submitting their Date of Birth and National Insurance number. These will be cross checked with the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) and if found to be valid that person will be registered and their information will then be destroyed. Trials of this process have already been made with some interesting results such as dealing with second

home owners, students on the move, success rates in getting everyone registered are not 100%. It is planned that this new process will go live to the whole nation in June 2014 and be completed in time for the national elections in 2015. It is hoped that as many as possible will be able to register on line but for those who are unable to do so they will probably be visited by an authorised person in order to confirm their details. The whole process is being funded by Central Government. For those who refuse to register there may be penalties, as yet unknown.

Finally, May I take this opportunity to wish all our readers, residents and business community an enjoyable Christmas and a happy, healthy and prosperous 2014. As always if you would like to discuss these or any other matters with me please call me on Ipswich 01473 622716.

AGM OF THE MARTLESHAM HEATH PAVILION COMMITTEE.

8pm

Tuesday 3rd December, 2013 at the Pavilion

All welcomed and refreshments provided.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN NEWS

The Martlesham Neighbourhood Plan (MNP) is a golden opportunity for the residents and businesses within the Parish to have a major say in how Martlesham Parish will look for the next 15 years. Following the kick-off event in May we have formed a Neighbourhood Plan Team from volunteers and have been making progress on building the plan. The team have drafted a "Vision" which is a requirement and have been concentrating on the four areas we believe are important to Martlesham, namely environment, transport, housing and recreation. We have identified our likes and dislikes and are currently working towards the next stage of the plan.

We are looking for volunteers, especially on the communications side, to give you the Parishioner's more awareness of what's going on and most importantly to get your input into the plan. If you are interested please email at martlesham2028@gmx.co.uk, and we'll get right back. If you've already offered to help, and we've not yet been in touch, we'll contact you over the next few weeks.

We would like to hold another Parishioner's meeting soon, and hope to bring you more detail of the event in the January edition of the Martlesham Monthly.

MARTLESHAM HEATH HOUSEHOLDERS

The recent storm inevitably meant that members of the MHHL Board were extremely busy receiving and responding to reports about fallen trees, and co-ordinating efforts to remedy the damage caused. It has been extremely gratifying to hear from local residents who have clearly appreciated these efforts, and in particular those of the two trees surgeons, John Nayler and Owen Akers, who worked tirelessly to ensure that problems were resolved quickly. The Board of MHHL are profoundly grateful for their commitment and public-spirited work during this demanding time. Should anybody encounter trees that appear unstable, please notify MHHL.

Thanks are due to the local businesses that displayed posters explaining MHHL action, including Martlesham Heath Pharmacy, Admirals, McColl's, Duncan's, the Surgery and the Douglas Bader. Their support ensured that important messages were brought to residents' attention, and helped with the response to the storm.

The reports illustrated that many of the trees that fell were not on MHHL land. Where this situation arose, Suffolk County Council needed to be notified, and this applies generally to matters such as these where MHHL has no responsibility for the land.

As residents are aware, MHHL have decided to send certain householders reminder letters regarding foliage that overhangs paths and poses a danger, but this was suspended whilst a check was conducted following the storm that affected so many trees. However, this policy will be re-adopted in the near future for the benefit of all pedestrians and cyclists. It should be noted, however, that the responsibility rests with SCC for the ultimate resolution of such issues.

It is now common knowledge that the organisers of Music On The Green have decided not to proceed with the event in 2014, citing the fact that the occasion had become inordinately popular. MHHL had offered support to this committee prior to their decision, with the intention of improving safety and enjoyment, and the Board thanks this group for their considerable efforts on behalf of the village in the past.

MHHL welcomes other volunteers, and recent events have illustrated the pivotal role that it performs. Should you wish to join, or contact MHHL, you can do so by writing to PO Box 897, Martlesham Heath, Ipswich, IP1 9PB, by e-mail (mhh@martlesham.org.uk), or by voicemail on 01473 612207.

Alternatively, details can be obtained from the very accessible and informative website: <http://mhh.martlesham.org.uk>

MARTLESHAM SCOUT POST 2013

Dates MONDAY 25TH NOVEMBER –
TUESDAY 10TH DECEMBER

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

Price of Cards is 22p and money
should be in a separate envelope with
the cards.

Delivery to IP1- IP5 areas as well as
MartleshamVillage as well as the fol-
lowing other villages: Grundisburgh,
Great and Little Bealings, Bramford,
Sproughton, Tuddenham, Westerfield,
Henley, Great and Little Blakenham,
Playford, Claydon and Culpho

Please note we cannot accept cards
for Woodbridge and please only send
cards to the areas above.

Please include contact details with
your cards.

Any questions, call Simon on 01473
612410 evenings only

Many Thanks for all your support again
this year

Simon Smith

Scout Post Co-ordinator

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

CALLING ALL MUMS

Its Party Time at the next meeting of Martlesham Mums' Club to be held on Tuesday, 3rd December at St. Michael's Church Centre, Martlesham Heath between 12.45 and 2.30 p.m. All Mums with babies and toddlers are invited to join us for a Bring and Share Christmas Party. Just bring along a small quantity of food to share and start your Christmas celebrations with us!

A date for your diaries - The January meeting of the Mums Club will be on Tuesday, 7th January, 2014- same time - same place. This will take the form of a 'Chomp and Chat' - come and share lunch (provided for you this time) and then chat with your friends while your children play.

THE DRINKS AND DRIBBLES

BABY CAFE - a drop-in for Mums, babies and toddlers will be open between 10am and 12noon at St. Michael's on Thursdays, 5th and 19th December. Why not pop in? We offer friendship, refreshment and toys.

For more details of Martlesham Mums' Club or the Drinks and Dribbles Baby Cafe please 'phone Sue on 01473 624130 or Kay on 01473 626169.

MARTLESHAM BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

Hello from Martlesham Baby and Toddler Group ! We are an informal group who meet every Wednesday and Friday in the Pavilion for fun, games and songs. We are there from 9.30am until 11.30am and there's plenty of tea, coffee and the all important biscuits to keep you going ! There will be lots going on at our Christmas Party this year, there will be the usual party games and fund raising, our renowned cake sale and of course, the visit from the man himself, even though Father Christmas is extremely busy in December he has confirmed he will pay us a visit both party sessions (11th & 13th Dec)

We'd love to see you, old friends and new so please come along and join the fun We look forward to seeing you very soon.
mhbabyandtoddlergroup@yahoo.co.uk or find us facebook and Nemums.co.uk

CHRISTMAS STORY AT BRIGHT STARS

The Christmas story will be the theme of our December Bright Stars session. If you are a preschooler, toddler or baby why not bring your parents or carers to the session and enjoy the start of the festive season with us? During our worship and activity sessions so far this term we have been singing, listening to stories and doing all kinds of crafts and activities. After each session we have refreshments and there is a chance to chat and play. The half hour Bright Stars sessions are free and held on the 2nd and 4th Monday's of each month (during term time), 10:30am at St Michael's Church Centre, The Drift, Martlesham Heath IP5 3PL. Why not come and enjoy the lead up to Christmas with us? We look forward to seeing you.

Our remaining Autumn 2013 session is on: December 9th
If you would like any further information please contact:
Jo Dixon Tel.01473-622160 or Sonya Burrows Tel.01473-625196

MARTLESHAM PLAYSCHOOL

Our fundraisers are busy organizing our Christmas craft items which the children will have great fun making and take home before the Christmas holidays.

Normal sessions finish on Wednesday December 18th and Thursday the 19th will be our Christmas Party and Concert. As well as taking part in a short concert, the children will be enjoying party games and a party snack whilst parents and carers can watch the concert and enjoy refreshments. There will be a visit from an extra special person dressed in red ! We return to playschool on Tuesday January 7th 2014.

If you would like to put your child's name on the waiting list please visit our website for more details :- www.playschool.martlesham.org.uk or contact me on 01473 621315. We are registered to take children from 2 years.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from everyone at Martlesham Playschool
Caroline Swale (Business Manager)

THE SAPLINGS Pre-School, Breakfast Club, After-School Club & Holiday Club

"Jingle all the way!" In December you might hear Preschool Assistant Dawn singing as she helps our Preschoolers decorate sparkly, glittery Christmas Bells. Our Preschoolers will be singing lots of Christmas songs and having fun dressing up in the Christmas Nativity Play. There will also be fun and games at our Christmas Party.

After School Clubbers will be busy with Christmas crafts and are also enjoying playing table tennis!

Manager Jo Gadsden has been extremely busy with preparations for our new Baby Room, opening on 2nd January 2014. Our Baby Room will be open from 7.30am - 6pm Monday - Friday for babies from 3 months onwards. For more information, or to arrange a visit, please email Jo Gadsden: news@thesaplings.org.uk, or call 01473 614753.

We are also taking bookings for our Christmas Holiday Club (2nd - 6th January 2014), where our Holiday Clubbers can enjoy cooking and crafting activities and more!

Our Cracking Christmas Fair is on Saturday 7th December 10am - 12pm at The Saplings. Join us in our winter wonderland for a fun morning of festive crafts, games and gift ideas and Santa's Grotto!

The Saplings is open Monday - Friday, from 7.30am - 6pm for children ages 2-11. We offer Preschool, Breakfast Club, After School Club and Holiday Club sessions and a 'Walking Bus' to Birchwood Primary School. For more information, please call our friendly team of dedicated and experienced staff on: 01473 614753, email: news@thesaplings.org.uk, or visit our website: thesaplings.org.uk

MARTLESHAM'S MUSIC ON THE GREEN

After 13 wonderful years, it is with great regret that we announce that the 2013 Martlesham Music On The Green will be the last to be staged.

Music on the Green started as a small village day and developed into a fantastic free festival; one of the main events in the Suffolk music calendar. It attracted crowds of around 10,000 and it is this achievement that has been its downfall. Stuart Gordon, Chairman of the organising committee said "The day was a victim of its own success. With such vast crowds we were being asked to tone things down and close early at future events. This made the Music Day unviable".

Committee member Steve Lamb commented "The early closure stipulation also created another problem of the security of both the Green and the equipment. If we finished in the early evening, hundreds of people would stay around enjoying the summer night. This gave us a real concern as to who was responsible after the Village Day finished".

Stuart Gordon added "This real concern, along with the additional burden of higher costs and a shorter day, brought enormous pressures on the volunteer committee. As such we decided that we would no longer run the day. It is a real shame as it brought great pleasure to thousands of people and raised significant donations to EACH and other charities over its life. It was a community event run by the community for the community. "

The committee have decided to donate the remaining funds to charity.

MARTLESHAM CONSERVATION GROUP

Through the autumn and winter period is a time of increased practical conservation work as all the nesting activities of birds has been completed and it is possible to remove vegetation whilst minimising the impact on wildlife. Please join us for our next work party on Sunday 8th December at 10 am along the path next to Dobbs Lane on the heath SSSI (western corridor). We will be working along the path in conjunction with Martlesham Heath SSSI Ltd aiming to cut back the vegetation for the benefit of the public on foot and for the wildlife. All tools and instructions will be provided on the day.

Heathlands are usually found on nutrient poor soils that overly freely draining sands and gravels such as present on Martlesham Heath. Heather is obviously one of the key characteristics, indeed we have two types on Martlesham Heath; bell heather and ling, which flower at different times in the summer. Bell heather is the first to come into flower in June followed by ling in August. The nutrient poor conditions lead to a mosaic of other vegetation types, including acid grassland and gorse interspersed with trees, and bare patches of ground. This mosaic of vegetation types can lead to a wide range of special wildlife, particularly invertebrates. . Our conservation work is aimed at restoring the more typical heathland vegetation and

pushing back the invasive scrubby vegetation such as trees, bracken and gorse if it gets too prolific, for the benefit of the heathland wildlife.

During the autumn and winter period a number of bird species will join us from colder climates to the north. Please remember to put out food and water in your gardens to help them through the cold spells. Phil Smith 01473 625630

MARTLESHAM BRASS 'Making Music Fun in East Anglia'

December is a very busy time for Martlesham Brass! We will be playing carols outside supermarkets in Martlesham & Ipswich throughout December, raising funds for our nominated charities which this year are MIND, FIND and EACH. If you see us please try and make a donation to support these worthwhile causes. Don't forget to join us for 'Coffee and Carols' on Saturday 7th December at 10am at St Michael's Church Centre, Martlesham Heath. There will be refreshments, cake & craft stalls and a Christmas Hamper raffle - admission is free.

Our Christmas concert will be on Saturday 21st December at 7pm, also at St Michael's Church Centre. Tickets are £3 (Primary School free). You can get your tickets by phoning 07802 868924, 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 do get your tickets early!

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,

Liz Howard. (Publicity Officer) e_m_howard@talk21.com 01473 625617 Registered Charity No.1100922.

Visit our website www.martleshambrass.co.uk

1ST MARTLESHAM SCOUTS

We are trying to raise £10000 for significant repairs to be made on the roof of the scout HQ.

This building was built over 30 years ago & still supports many young people in the Guides, Rangers, Rainbows Beavers & Cubs as well as the scout troop. By the time you read this we should have held a successful family archery event, hopefully.

Our next fundraising venture is a Grand Christmas Raffle to be drawn on 19th December. We're very grateful to 'The Martlesham Monthly' for sponsoring the printing of the tickets. If you or your company are able to donate a prize it'd be much appreciated. Tickets are available from all scouts, cubs & beavers as well as any of the leaders or you could contact Rachel Pennick (fundraising) 01473 610437.

If you want to hire the Scout HQ please contact the same number or e.mail Rachel.pennick@btinternet.com

Don't forget we are still looking for a new scout leader as James is leaving.

Please contact keith.gleen@btinternet.com or Richard.walling@btinternet.com for further details.

PORTAL WOODLANDS CONSERVATION GROUP

The woods were checked before St Jude's storm arrived to make sure they were as safe as possible and again in the afternoon. On the day of the storm the woods were inspected, all pathways made safe and all hazardous areas taped off. Twenty three (23) trees had been uprooted and 6 trees with crowns and/or large branches had broken away from tree trunk. During the following week further work was carried out to make the woods safe. On 30th Oct Mr B Girling from "Grainger plc" visited to do a safety check as one of the landowner's representatives. He was satisfied everything was in-hand and being managed properly.

The brownies visited the woods on 22nd Oct for an evening of bat detecting. We saw and heard some pipistrelle bats hunting for insects before they hibernate for the winter. If you would like to bring a local group for an evening activity next year please get in touch. We hope to see all our volunteers for our last workday of the year.

Dates for the diary:

Woodlands Work Morning Sunday 15th December 10.00-Noon

Meet at the Education Area (at the Control Tower end of the woods)

Information and dates for 2014 Work Mornings, Nature Watch Club and Nature Explorers are 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 or phone Martlesham Parish Council on 01473 612632

HAPPY CHRISTMAS FROM SPEAK EASY!

Why not join us for a convivial evening of light hearted fun on December 19th?

At Speak Easy most meetings follow a similar format, however sometimes we like to change things around a bit and we will be doing just that at our meeting on December 19th which will have a festive theme.

Regular meetings of Speak Easy at Martlesham Speakers' Club 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 at our meetings, just turn up and enjoy the evening.

Future Speak Easy at Martlesham Speakers' Club meetings:

December 5th 2013

December 19th 2013

January 16th 2014

January 30th 2014

Further details about Speak Easy can be found at www.speak-easy.org.uk <https://twitter.com/SpeakEasyMart> and <https://www.facebook.com/SpeakEasyMartlesham>

Or call Bob Booker Tel.07968372563

THE ORWELL SINGERS – CHRISTMAS CONCERT

The Orwell Singers' Christmas Concert is to be held on Saturday 7th December at 7.30 pm at St Michael and All Angel's Church, Martlesham Heath, IP5 3PL.

There will be a selection of carols including excerpts from Benjamin Britten's A Ceremony of Carols. Sherry and mince pies will be served in the interval.

Tickets will be available at the door, price £7.00 for adults and 50p for accompanied children. A donation from the concert proceeds will be made to Macmillan Cancer Support Woodbridge and District.

If you would like more information please telephone 01473 635955 or email d.sharman@btinternet.com.

MALGA - the AGM and the future

Sometimes - whilst not admitting defeat - you need to know when to pause ... MALGA (Martlesham Allotment and Leisure Gardeners Association) was set up in 2007 to develop allotments within the Parish. In the last two years we have built a constructive working relationship with the Parish Council. The PC do have a legal obligation to provide or facilitate allotments within the parish; though with no real time limit imposed on them to make this happen. We have searched extensively for suitable allotment land to rent for several years, more recently with the PC's help. We very nearly had a Suffolk Country Council owned site lined up in April 2012, but it was withdrawn at the last moment due to it's apparent 'conservation' status.

The long-awaited Local Development (planning) Framework is still not completed and a decision about the Adastral Park development is still awaited. These and other planning factors within the Suffolk Coastal district mean that landowners we've approached appear unwilling to commit to even relatively short allotment leases at present. Put simply, they could rent or sell the land for (much) more if it gets designated for building.

MALGA's AGM is scheduled for Tuesday 14 January, at The Parish Room, Martlesham Community Hall (behind Tesco). Unless there is a major breakthrough in the mean time, at the AGM the current committee will propose that MALGA's operation is 'suspended' for 2014, whilst we wait for the planning 'fog' to clear. The committee still needs to work out exactly how to do this and what it means. If you have a view or some good/new ideas or feel that you could help or contribute in some way, please either contact me beforehand (info@malga.org.uk) and/or come to the AGM, where we can debate MALGA's short and longer term future.

MARTLESHAM LADIES CLUB

It's time to wish all members a Happy Christmas! Our last meeting of 2013 will be our Bring and Share Christmas Party on 12 December. During the evening, there will be musical entertainment and carol singing. All ladies are welcome to come along and join us.

Our first meeting in 2014 will be on 9 January when Julia Spicer will tell us about her experiences as a Game Maker at the 2012 Olympics. Meetings are held in the Richards Room at 7.30pm. For more information ring Doreen Boar 01473 622768.

MARTLESHAM & DISTRICT FLOWER CLUB

Our demonstrator this month was Wendy Munnion whose title "Cause for Celebration" was beautifully depicted in her six superb floral arrangements, each one representing a different stage through life. Beginning with a Wedding bouquet, she designed an all white creation of lilies and freesias adding silver sprayed aspidistra leaves. Following on came a pretty pink arrangement of small roses for a baby gift. Curled phormium leaves amongst chrysanthemums and carnations represented a Diploma for a graduation. Wendy then created two more arrangements for a New home and a Driving test. The last design celebrating a Golden Wedding Anniversary, was a striking mixture of lilies, alstroemeria, carnations and orchids, ending a very entertaining afternoon.

The competition was won by Margaret Forbes (Senior) and Janet Baxter (Novice).

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 will be no meeting in December so we would like to wish everyone a very happy Christmas and a peaceful and prosperous New Year. We meet again on 15th January 2014 for our AGM.

Margaret Doveson on 01473 624422

YOUR LOCAL COUNTRY MARKET

Our tables are full of Christmas fare, and to avoid disappointment orders are being accepted for collection or delivery on the Saturday prior to Christmas, or earlier if customers wish to freeze. Our cooks are available to discuss with you individually any requirements, and will help with dietary needs.

Craft tables offer a range of items suitable for gifts for this celebratory season, and our ladies in the kitchen will be serving tea, coffee and festive snacks.

Our last market before Christmas will be on Saturday the 21st December between 9am and 12.30pm, at Kesgrave, and Tuesday 17th December between 9.30am and 11.15am at Martlesham Heath. We will re-open at Martlesham Heath on January 14th, and at Kesgrave January 18th - times as above.

WE WISH ALL OLD AND NEW FRIENDS A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

M Gayfer 01473 623849

MARTLESHAM CARPET BOWLS

The Fun Day which was held on Sunday 20th. October was a very entertaining occasion with some good bowling. Our thanks to Diana for organising an excellent lunch which was enjoyed by all. Our congratulations to Martyn Shakespeare who was the overall winner.

In the league we had a real boost with a 10 nil win against Tuddenham, but have lapsed back into the more average result of winning 2 and losing 2 games in each of the last 3 outings but on every occasion losing the bonus points for the shots.

As usual we had a great afternoon with our friends from URC Felixstowe, this friendly game has become a standard fixture in the Club calendar and is much enjoyed by all who take part. True to form we again won 2 and lost 2 games.

We now look forward to the next few games in the run up to Christmas and I take this opportunity to send the Seasons Greetings to all Club members with best wishes for 2014. Judith Longman.

GIRLGUIDING MARTLESHAM

For all NEW enquiries to join Guiding as a young member or adult volunteer, please visit www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested or call 0800 1 69 59 01.

For general enquiries about Guiding in Martlesham, please contact Jo Dixon (Martlesham District Contact) 01473 622160

MARTLESHAM HEATH AVIATION SOCIETY

Our meeting on Friday, 1st November featured an illustrated talk by Squadron Leader Paula Willmott, entitled "The Royal Air Force, Past, Present and Future."

Paula Willmott is a spokeswoman and Press officer for the Royal Air Force. As expected, it was a slick and highly professional delivery. She was accompanied by her partner, Squadron Leader Tim Shirley, who is a pilot and who only returned from Afghanistan last week.

Paula spoke first about the origins of the Royal Flying Corp and the RAF. Her partner spoke of service in Afghanistan and the way that our defence strategy is presently undergoing enormous changes. The RAF of the future will consist more and more of "drones". Unmanned aircraft that are capable of remaining aloft for up to 30 hours and have such sophisticated weapons and surveillance systems on board.

The Typhoon fighter will replace the Tornado GR4

Many thanks for all those who were at the Barrack Square for our annual Remembrance Service, held each year at 3pm. Thankfully the weather was beautiful - bracing but beautiful and we had a record turnout!

Our monthly meeting on Friday, 6th December is something out of the ordinary. The talk is by Bill Clark, who will entertain us with "Since Records Began", a history of sound reproduction. He has a variety of different sound equipment ranging from the earliest Edison examples. He even has a recording of Florence Nightingale!

Non-members are welcome for a payment of just £2.50 at the door. Meetings are always held in the Community Hall, Felixstowe Road and start at 7.30pm with a tea and coffee break.

Finally, we have some excellent MHAS calendars featuring aircraft that were tested here at Martlesham. From £5. Just 'phone me!

Alan Powell 01473 622458

THE ROGER DAVID BURROWS MUSIC FUND

Applications for a grant are welcome from individuals and from groups. Application forms should be submitted to the address below by 1st January 2014.

This fund has been set up to inspire all abilities, adults and children, in music making by offering small grants to groups or individuals.

Grants will generally be of up to £150, e.g. towards the cost of instruments, music or equipment.

Further information and application forms can be obtained from the website www.rogerdavidburrows.co.uk

or from – The Roger David Burrows Music Fund

c/o The Burrows family,
17 Squires Lane,
Martlesham Heath,
Ipswich, Suffolk IP5 3UG.
Tel. 01473 625196

THE ROTARY CLUB OF WOODBRIDGE DEBEN

The Rotary Club of Woodbridge Deben will be holding their annual Heavy Horse and Father Christmas Event on the 14th December. Suffolk Punch horses from the Hollesley Bay Stud will process Farther Christmas through the Woodbridge Thoroughfare and around the town centre starting at 11.15 and going through till 12.45. Woodbridge Choral Society will be located outside Boots Store and will be singing some of the most popular carols. This year the proceeds from the street collection will go to The Suffolk Punch Trust and EACH.

SUFFOLK WILDLIFE TRUST

On Thursday 19th December we have our Christmas Quiz with mince pies and mulled wine at 7-30pm in the Woodbridge Community Hall. Please come along and join us for a fun evening. Individuals and teams are very welcome.

Phil Smith 01473 625630

Once Christmas is over.... Want to learn a new craft? How about Patchwork and Quilting?

I will be running small classes in Martlesham Heath for beginners to learn the basics and move on from there. You will come away with everything needed to complete a cushion cover.

Please contact me, Gillian Strange for further details, no obligation

07708258765

gillian_strange@talk21.com

MARTLESHAM W.I.

"It's the way I tell em" is the catchphrase of an Irish comedian whose name escapes me. It's very true. I thought I had zero interest in pig farming until Richard Wright came to tell us about the ups and downs of his family farm. He is an electrifying speaker, with a wonderful sense of humour who kept us enthralled with his talk on how they had survived by innovation and adaptability. Unfortunately his lamp making business has been closed down by an officious trading standards officer, but quite serendipitously they had alighted on a wonderful green packaging material which they are now supplying in bulk. He was one of the best of our excellent cast of speakers during 2013, and we have a really exciting programme planned for next year.

Because of Christmas, we always hold our December meeting earlier in the month than usual, this year on Friday December 13th, and because of a double booking of the Richards Room, we shall be meeting in the Community Hall. This is much larger than our usual venue so our entertainers will have plenty of room to perform. Which is good, as they are an exciting group - the Elizabethan Minstrels - who will be in costume, and will transport us back to the Tudor court. We'll also be enjoying some seasonal refreshments, and we shall be very pleased to welcome as many visitors as possible, at 7.30. Phone Pat Jackson on 01473 611811 for further details.

WOODBIDGE AND DISTRICT LIONS CLUB

As always December will be a hectic and busy month for the Lions Club of Woodbridge & District. Just before Christmas we will deliver over 200 food parcels in Woodbridge and the surrounding district, to those whom we believe will appreciate a few extra goodies at Christmas. We have to buy the contents, so that means fund raising! The recipients are mainly those living by themselves, often elderly, in remote housing and without their own transport. We know from experience just how much a few extras can mean at Christmas. So if you see us in the Turban Centre, Woodbridge or at Tesco, Martlesham in December with a collecting tin and you feel you can make a contribution then please do so. Your money will be used directly to fund this project which is undertaken by the members on an entirely voluntary basis. This year we hope to also have the involvement of senior pupils from Kesgrave, Farlingaye and St Albans schools, striving towards their Young Leaders in Service awards. If you are interested in helping in your community and want to find out about the Lions please contact us at www.woodbridgelions.org.uk or on 0845 8332820.

KESGRAVE LIBRARY NEWS

Sunday Crafts—The following activities will be taking place in the library in December:

Sunday 1st—Santa's helpers' hair has turned green! Plant some cress for the Christmas Cress Head Elf;

Sunday 8th—Which reindeer is your favourite? Make a Reindeer Handprint Picture;

Sunday 15th—Trim your house with a Woollen Wreath Decoration;

Sunday 22nd—Will it snow this Christmas? Decorate a snowman;

Sunday 29th—Be organised for next year with a 2014 Calendar Bookmark!

Activities are free and aimed at children aged four to eight years. Parents must stay with under eights. There's no need to book—just turn up and have a go. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Bookstart—Free activities each Thursday for pre-school children and their carers

Tot Rock—action rhymes, songs and stories for toddlers 9.45–10.15

BabyBounce—songs and rhymes for babies—10.30-11am

Kesgrave Library Community Group

Christmas Fayre—Saturday 14 December 2-4pm. There are loads of stalls with fun games and ideas for Christmas. Father Christmas is also visiting. Refreshments are available and homemade cakes.

Baking Club—Thursday 19 December (Christmas Themed Bakes) 7pm at Kesgrave Library. If you enjoy baking, why not make your favourite cake, pie, pastry or bread? It's a great way to spend the evening and make new friends. Admission is £2.00 which includes tea/coffee.

www.suffolklibraries.co.uk

**MARTLESHAM
CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP**

Wishing you all a very happy and peaceful Christmas

"The Mystery of our Faith"

The Holy Scriptures say (I Timothy Ch.3) - Great is the Mystery of our Faith! - Then goes on to quote a Poem (Or early Christian Hymn), summing up this Mystery.

"Christ appeared in the flesh,
Was shown to be righteous by the Spirit,
He was seen by Angels,
Was announced to the nations,
Was believed on in the world,
And was taken up into Heaven."

Each line merits careful examination, but perhaps the opening line is the most surprising.

Christ became flesh - To live as a man in our human world. He stepped out of the Kingdom of Light and Joy, coming into our world of darkness and shame.- Exchanging the place of adoration and worship, for a world of humanity where He was rejected and despised.

Despite this Christ was willing to grace our poor world with His Divine presence, bringing healing and joy to all who believed and followed Him.

"God with us --Emmanuel!" Hallelujah!

ACTIVITIES IN DECEMBER

SUNDAYS

Worship and Communion

TUESDAY CIRCLE - 10th December

(Carols and Afternoon tea)

WEDNESDAY

Home Group - 7.00 p.m.

THURSDAY

Mums and Toddlers - 10.00 a.m.

FRIDAY

Friends on Friday - 10.00 a.m.

CAROL SERVICE - SUNDAY DECEMBER

22 ND

(For further Information Contact John or Ruth mellen - 01473 624401)

THE SNOW GEESE

A farmer who did not believe the Christmas story was married to a lady who was a committed Christian. He sometimes gave her a hard time saying that it was all nonsense, "How can anyone believe in the incarnation of God in the baby of Bethlehem?" He argued, "Why would God lower himself to become a human like us? It's rubbish."

One snowy Sunday evening his wife took the children to church whilst he stayed at home. The weather took a turn for the worse and soon there was a blinding snowstorm. Suddenly he heard a loud thump, then another and another. He ventured outside to see what was going on and there in the field was the strangest sight, a flock of geese that had been migrating south had become disorientated by the storm and were stranded, unable to see and unable to fly.

The farmer had compassion on them, he wanted to help and realised that he needed to give them shelter for the night. He opened his barn doors and stood back so they would make their way in but they scattered in all directions. Perplexed he got some food and laid a trail to the door but still they did not catch on. Nothing he did would entice them into the safety of the barn. Feeling totally frustrated he exclaimed, "Why don't they follow me? Can't they see that the barn is the only place they will survive the storm? How can I possibly get them to follow me? He thought for a moment and realised that they would not follow him so he said to himself, "How can I possibly save them? The only way would be for me to become a goose. If only I could become like one of them then I could save them. If they followed me I would lead them to safety." At that moment he realised what he had said. The words ran riot in his head. "If only I could become like one of them then I could save them." Then he understood God's heart towards mankind, fell on his knees in the snow and asked God to lead him.

Tricia Shuler

Vicar

(Origin of story unknown)

MOTHERS UNION

As the year draws to an end, perhaps it would be good to reflect upon the achievements of our members throughout 2013. During the past year we have given generously to the victims of domestic violence, items which hopefully have helped them set up in new homes. We have given clothing and toiletries to the homeless through the Umbrella Trust of Ipswich. We have knitted many hats for the seafarers who call in at Felixstowe Dock, as well as giving them jigsaws and books. We have raised funds by having Coffee Mornings, lunches and little sales at meetings. This money has been used for projects overseas, teaching ladies to read and write, helping with crop growing and other little industries in parts of Africa as well as for prison work in this country and also to provide holidays for families in desperate need. We have enjoyed outings and even a holiday! We have experienced faith, fun and fellowship at our regular meetings, with many good speakers attending.

Quite a busy year! But this is no time to get complacent there is another busy year just waiting around the corner.

If you have a couple of hours once a month, why not join this busy group of people!?!
You would be very welcome.

FESTIVE COFFEE MORNING

SATURDAY 14TH DECEMBER
ST MICHAELS CHURCH CENTRE
10AM to 12 NOON
COFFEE! MINCEPIES & SAUSAGE ROLLS

Various STALLS! CAROLS! GAMES!
And FATHER CHRISTMAS

In aid of St Mary's Pew Fund

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

CURATE: The Revd Margaret Rittman Woodlea The Street Martlesham 07914 771061
(working days: Sunday, Wednesday, Thursday)

READERS: Carolyn Smith 74 Heathfield, Martlesham Heath.
Malcolm Rittman, Woodlea, The Street, Martlesham

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 1st December	9.45am All Age service	11am Holy Communion (Prayer Book)	8am Holy Communion
Sunday 8th December	9.45am Holy Communion and Junior Church	11am Morning Worship	6.30pm Advent Carol Service
Sunday 15th December	9am Breakfast @9 With Nativity	4pm Carol Service <i>NB:No 11am service</i>	8am Holy Communion
Thursday 19th December	7pm Carols in the Square		
Sunday 22nd December	9.45am Holy Communion with Junior activity 6pm Carol Service including Christingles	11am Morning Prayer for Christmas	6.30pm Nine Lessons and Carols
Tuesday 24th December	10am Holy Communion		
Christmas Day	9.45am Christmas Praise for all the family	11am Christmas Communion Refreshments from 10.30am	8am Holy Communion
Sunday 29th December	9.45am Benefice Holy Communion		
Midweek Services	Holy Communion each Wednesday at 10 am in St. Michael's except 25 December and 1 January. Bright Stars—for parents/carers and small children—meet on Monday 9 December, A warm welcome awaits you at all our services		

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

5	All those who work in our local shops	21	Martlesham Brass: the pleasure they bring us
6	Students coming home for Christmas	22	Christingle Service; the work of the Children's Society
7	All those enjoying football on the Green	23	That we may prepare for the coming of Jesus into our lives
8	Justice for the most vulnerable in society	24	All who will be far from home
9	Bright Stars meeting today	25	Give thanks for the birth of the Prince of Peace
10	The residents of Main Road	26	People who have to work today and on other public holidays
11	Give thanks for those preparing Christmas Lunch at St Michaels	27	Patients and staff in Ipswich Hospital
12	Those organising celebrations with children	28	The residents of Mayfields
13	That we may be content with the simple things of life	29	Refugee families
14	Families struggling with finance	30	Leaders of the nations
15	That we may work to bring healing and joy to all those we meet	31	Peace and reconciliation in the coming year
16	The Scout Group delivering Christmas cards	January 2014	
17	That we may be good neighbours	1	Welcome the New Year with joy and anticipation
18	The residents of Manor Road	2	The residents of Mayfield Lane
19	Those who work in the Mobile Library	3	Those who work to keep us safe in bad weather
20	The work of Street Pastors	4	Those who do not have a clean, warm bed to sleep in.