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MAY 2021

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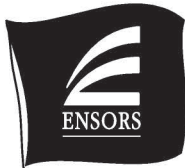
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GIRLGUIDING MARTLESHAM

Currently we have

1 Rainbow Unit (ages 5-7), 3 Brownie Packs (ages 7-10), 2 Guide Companies (ages 10-14) & 1 Ranger Unit (ages 14-18) meeting around the Parish.

If you are interested in joining as a member or helping as a volunteer, please contact Jo at

jo.d@btinternet.com (Martlesham) or www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested (HQ).

Come join the fun & start your Guiding adventure today!

1ST MARTLESHAM SCOUTS

For all enquiries regarding joining the groups please contact

Timandra Howell

martleshamscouts.thowell@yahoo.com.

Becoming a helper or hiring of the Scout HQ please contact

Rachel Pennick 01473 610437

POLICE

In case of emergencies please always call 999.

In non-emergency situations call the new number 101.

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

COMMUNITY RESPONDERS

Martlesham Community Responders are a group of 3 volunteers (funded entirely by donations) who are trained to provide first aid and resuscitation skills. We provide a first response to many 999 calls received by the East of England Ambulance Service Trust within Martlesham, Martlesham Heath, Waldringfield, Newbourne and Brightwell, in support of and until the arrival of an emergency ambulance.

For further details contact Johnny Dixon 01473 622160(johnny.dixon@btinternet.com)

MARTLESHAM PARISH COUNCIL:

The Recreation Ground Survey 2021 Results

We would like to thank respondents for the carefully considered and helpful responses we received. If you would like more detail the full response, and the priorities we have established, is available on the Parish Council website. This will be a major undertaking for the parish but at the end of it we should have a much improved and better used facility. Please do keep your eyes open for opportunities to volunteer to maintain and improve the ground, when life gets back to normal.

Improved Signage

Agreed that a consistent format should be used, with the minimum of signage and visual intrusion, to comprise name, notification of ownership, contact details, basic rules and facilities available.

When the project is complete an interpretation board placing the ground in its context will be provided as funds allow.

Replace Petanque Piste

No demand for the piste, which is considered unsuitable for organised competitions.

The much-valued natural setting and provision of hard surface facilities elsewhere persuaded us not to increase the size of the facility.

Replace petanque piste with safety play surface and netball and basketball practice nets.

MOBILE LIBRARY TIMES

Tuesdays Angela close: 1.30—1.45pm

Bridge Farm Day nursery 1.50—2.20pm

Falcon Mobile Home Park: 2.30—2.55pm

Douglas Bader: 3.00—4.

Thursdays:

Douglas Bader: 10.15—11.45am

27 May, 24 June, 22 July,

<https://www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/mobiles-home/using-the-mobile-library-service/>

Joining

If you live in Suffolk or a neighbouring county complete the online form and we'll post your card to you.

Alternatively, visit any Suffolk Mobile library with proof of identification and we'll give you a card.

Accessible walk and sensory garden. Additional seats and picnic benches

Accessible walks will be provided, the route of which will dictate the location of seating, picnic tables etc and should be able to accommodate the suggestions given.

We will begin the sensory garden project by seeking appropriate specialist advice and funding.

New Dog Bins

Further bins will be provided as necessary.

Screening and tidied fence lines. (Excluding comments on fence around football pitch)

Minimal screening will be carried out where necessary and possible so as to maintain the natural setting of the ground.

Screening and tidied fence lines, comments on fence around football pitch

The fence will have to be removed, although there was support for maintaining it so the football pitch could be used as a dog exercise area. For health and safety reasons and liability considerations the PC has to make the choice between a facility which attracts so many dog owners the football pitch becomes unusable or maintaining it as a football pitch.

Depriving the football club of this pitch would in practice mean the closure of the club as there is a severe shortage of pitches in the area.

To fence off the area for dog owner use only is arguably unlawful as the trust deed requires all beneficiaries must have access to the land.

Strong anecdotal evidence exists that dog owners are willing to travel considerable distances to access enclosed facilities for dogs, which already exist at Sutton Heath. This wide catchment area also suggests that significant numbers of users will come from outside the parish. It would be debatable whether such a facility can lawfully be provided at the recreation ground, which must primarily serve Martlesham residents.

Improved surface for vehicular entrance track and car park

On balance it was felt that the problems and the numbers supporting improvements were sufficient to go ahead with this project as far as the internal barrier only, then the plan will be reviewed.

Other comments received

Each of these is dealt with in the full response, in many cases the helpful comments have been taken account of in our planning.

MARTLESHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Death of Prince Philip

This is breaking news as this article is written. The Parish Council conveys its deepest condolences to Her Majesty The Queen and her family.

Coronavirus Update

For the latest government information on coronavirus, please visit www.gov.uk/coronavirus as circumstances may have changed by the time you read this.

The further easing of lockdown restrictions on 12 April will have been welcomed by many people. It is important to continue to follow all the



guidance to stop the spread of the virus so we can look forward to even more freedoms.

The government has announced that from 09 April everyone in England will be able to access free, regular, lateral flow tests (LFDs) for themselves and their families to use twice a week, in line with clinical guidance. This is a further step to help pave the way for businesses and society reopening. There are various ways of obtaining the LFDs including through a home ordering service and a 'Pharmacy Collect' service. For full details see:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/twice-weekly-rapid-testing-to-be-available-to-everyone-in-england>

Welcome to new councillor, Charlotte Driver

Charlotte was co-opted at our April meeting and she is a very welcome addition to our team of councillors. She has lived locally for over 16 years and community has always played an important part in her life. We look forward to working with her.

Only one Parish Councillor vacancy left!

If you are interested in what it means to be a parish councillor, take a look at our website and facebook page, join a council meeting or contact the Clerk who can put you in touch with an existing councillor to hear all about it first-hand! Help improve the quality of life for your fellow residents, join Martlesham Parish Council!

Are you concerned about speeding in Martlesham?

We are in the process of purchasing a Speed Indicator Device (SID) with a 'Slow Down' legend which can be moved around 6 locations in the parish. Six sites have been agreed with Suffolk County Council: 3 on Eagle Way, 2 on Main Road and 1 site on The Street. We already have a few volunteers to help with its deployment, but we need a few more. We are seeking at least 6 volunteers to go out in pairs to move the SID, on a rota basis. We are also seeking someone with IT skills to take on setting up the data gathering system to show us the scale of our speeding problems. Please get in touch with the Clerk if you're interested in helping.

Defibrillator in Martlesham

Having provided a community defibrillator on the wall of the Black Tiles Lane PH, the Council is now considering the best location for one at the bottom of the hill to serve that area.

Grant to Bowls Club

The Council has awarded a grant to the Bowls Club so that they can replace their ageing tarpaulin covered changing and seating area with a more permanent structure.

Ongoing services and meetings as restrictions ease

The staff are continuing to work from home for the time being. This has worked well with staff able to ensure the smooth running of the Council and its services despite working remotely.

However, legislation regarding the holding of virtual meetings is set to change from 07 May 2021 which

presents some challenges whilst social distancing rules remain in place and some councillors & staff do not yet feel ready to meet face-to-face in larger gatherings. The Parish Room is not big enough for our meetings which must be held in public. We are therefore investigating the hire of larger covid-secure premises for any meetings which must be held. We have also reviewed and extended the delegation to the Clerk so that key decisions can be made even if there is a break in our formal meetings. As a provisional measure we have also set up shadow working groups of our committees, which will not be able to make decisions but will be able to advise the Clerk.

VIRTUAL ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: WEDNESDAY 05 MAY, 7.30PM

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO OBSERVE AND PARTICIPATE IN THE PUBLIC FORUM AT THIS MEETING.

To join, please contact the Clerk, see below, no later than 5pm on Tuesday 04 May to receive an invitation.

Committee meetings during May have been cancelled. If legislation changes before 07 May to allow the continuation of remote meetings, these may be reinstated. Please check our website and noticeboards for updates.

Contacting the Council

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

Telephone: 01473 612632 – please leave a message if no reply and we will get back to you as necessary

e-mail: clerk@martleshamcouncil.org.uk (best way to contact us)

website: <http://martlesham.onesuffolk.net>

Please "Follow Us" on our Facebook page which is @Martlesham Parish. The full address is <https://www.facebook.com/MartleshamParish>

**From your Conservative District
Councillor: Chris Blundell, May
2021.**

Great Loss. As I began to write this article for May 2021, I learned of the passing of a person of great stature who most of the country had come to respect and admire. I was one of them. In my life I have met the Queen, The Princess Royal and Prime Ministers, but to my disappointment not The Duke of Edinburgh and yet when he introduced, in the 1950's, his 'Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme' I participated as a guide in the first outdoor activities that were held in the Pennines of Lancashire. His work and ideas benefitted many young men and women in their early adult lives. The Duke who had a strong faith in all that he did and achieved has set a good example to us all.

East Suffolk's Strategic Plan.

In all that we wish to achieve either personally or in business, it is essential to have a plan. The ambition of East Suffolk Council is to deliver the best possible quality of life for everyone who lives in or works in and visits East Suffolk. The current plan is the council's 'compass', guiding all its decision making, with five key themes showing the direction that is being taken:

1. Growing our economy.
2. Enabling our communities.
3. Remaining Financially Sustainable.
4. Delivering Digital Transformation.
5. Caring for our Environment.

This plan provides the measure for our ambitions to deliver outstanding services to those who need them most of all. The development of this plan is a collective achievement utilising the knowledge and experience of councillors and officers throughout the organisation. Deliberately, the plan does not list the specific 'nuts and bolts' of each and every service delivered by the council. It is the presentation of the five high level ambitions in a clear, concise and simple to understand format and the template for everything the East Suffolk Council does and seek to be.

Our Community.

When the two district councils of Suffolk Coastal and Waveney were merged, the number of councillors were reduced from ninety to fifty-five and that meant that each councillor would have to represent a much larger population than previously and in many cases an increase in the number of parishes that they would also have to represent.

In terms of 'our community' that your current local District Councillors represent, there are two distinct parishes; Martlesham and Purdis Farm with Brightwell and Foxhall.

Enabling Our Communities.

Clearly with much greater responsibility in terms of a larger local population the East Suffolk Council decide to introduce a scheme of funding such that each councillor would have a personal budget (currently £7.5k) each year to spend on projects that would help organisations within their ward to prosper. In addition to this a much greater amount was made available through a new

partnership scheme that divided the whole district into eight distinct areas.

The Partnership Scheme.

Our area was initially called the 'Martlesham, Kesgrave and Villages' but actually includes Martlesham, Kesgrave, Rushmere St Andrew, Purdis Farm, Brightwell, Foxhall, Carlford and Fynn Valley. Each Partnership has a budget of £25k each year while the over-arching Partnership Board has a further budget of £300k for major projects that exceed the £25k limit and are expected to benefit the whole community/District. The local community officer for the Martlesham and Kesgrave and Villages (Mr Andrew Jolliffe) has invited all the local towns/Parishes in the local partnership area to put forward their priorities for improving the local environment. The current issue for the 2021/22 period is "Environmental Care". I am the chairman of the local Partnership and the East Suffolk Council Leader is the Chairman of the local Community Board. The final decisions on which projects that are put forward by the Towns/Parishes and other bodies to fund is made between myself, the grants officer, the community officer and Communities Manager. It is hoped that as many organisations as possible will both join the workshops and put forward their projects.

If you would like to have further information on any of the foregoing topics or any other East Suffolk Council matters, please contact me by email at chris.blundell@eastsoffolk.gov.uk

Otherwise by phone on 07768213251 or 01473 622716.



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Hedgehog Nursery

We were delighted to have all our Hedgehogs return to Gorseland Nursery in March and to hear about all the activities and experiences they had enjoyed at home during the lockdown period. We were soon busy developing our skills and thoroughly enjoyed learning how to use potato peelers safely to whittle wood in the forest.



We were especially curious in our activities making 'magic potions' and exploring the effect of different coloured water. We developed rich language using words of full, empty, half way, overflow, in the middle - to describe our observations of our 'potions'.

Next term, the Hedgehogs are really looking forward to growing beanstalks and meeting giants! We will be setting up experiments to observe what happens to a seed under the soil and planting up the lovely free seeds from the 'Innocent Smoothie' company!

We offer wrap around care from 7:30 to 18:00 with our breakfast and afterschool clubs. Hedgehogs Nursery is open Monday to Friday for 3 and 4 year olds. If you are looking for a Nursery, please don't hesitate to get in touch with the School Office on 01473 623790 for further details.

Gorseland Primary School

Our Reception children have been having fun making magic potions too. They have been using the book 'Room on the Broom' to stimulate their thinking for their magic spell writing, making 'Witches Jelly'; learning how to measure using broomsticks and using forest resources to create their own magic wands.



The whole school came together in March to raise money to support Comic Relief, by dressing up as superheroes. We have our Poetry Week in early May when a visiting poet will join us for two days of workshops and children in Years 5, 6 and older children in our Specialist Support Unit are looking forward to their Bikeability Training taking place later this term.

At Martlesham Primary Academy we are able to let both our school and mobile classroom.

Our school hall is available to hire and measures approx. 10m x 10m. The cost of hall hire is £15 for one hour or £25 for two hours.

Our external mobile classroom is self-contained with tables and chairs, toilet facilities and a small kitchen. The size of the room is approx. 10m x 6m. It has the capacity to hold up to 30 people, and has full access to the school field. We have availability every night. The cost of the mobile classroom hire is £10 per hour.

If you are interested in viewing either of these rooms or would like to discuss any further information please contact the school office on 01473 624409 or email office@martleshamacademy.org



BRIGHT STARS

Do you have or care for pre-school aged children?

Would you like to receive our Bright Stars Activities sheets?

Bright Stars normally runs free fun Activity Sessions for Pre-school aged children with their parents, grandparents, friends, family and/or carers at St Michael's Church Centre, Martlesham Heath, on the 2nd and 4th Monday mornings of each month during term time. They usually involve singing, games, making crafts to take home and telling stories from the Bible.

Due to the coronavirus pandemic restrictions, we are unfortunately not able to meet in person, so instead we are keeping in touch remotely. We are sending out activity sheets by email and/or post for the children to enjoy doing with their family and/or carers. For Easter, as well as a story, and song to sing, the activity sheets included Easter cards to colour and decorate.

If you have or look after a child/children of pre-school age and would like to receive our sheets, please give us a call on the telephone number below; we look forward to hearing from you.

If you would like further information please contact:
Sonya & Maureen Burrows
Tel.01473 625196

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MARTLESHAM CONSERVATION GROUP

The weather through the late winter and early spring has been very variable. February was amongst the coldest in recent year, whilst March was cold and unseasonably warm at times with early April being relatively cold and dry. The impact on wildlife is difficult to predict. Chiff Chaffs appeared locally in mid March, shortly followed by Blackcaps and on the warmer days a few butterflies, including Brimstone, Small Tortoiseshell, Comma, and Peacock. However the sudden changes to cold weather may have been detrimental to their numbers. Several adders have been seen out on the heath so please can dog owners take care and keep their dogs on a lead. Throughout May more butterfly species should appear including the Green Hairstreak butterfly, a heathland species that relies on gorse as its food plant, as well as the wandering Orange Tip, and Speckled Wood. As for other birds, hopefully our heath and woodland will resound again to that prolific songbird the Nightingale especially at night, whilst other species including migrants such as Garden Warbler, Whitethroat and Lesser Whitethroat add to the soundscape during the day. Last year we also had a Willow Warbler on the heath, which is great as this is another bird that has been suffering a long term decline. It also has a delightful song with a lovely descending cadence.

A plea to cat owners. I witnessed a cat capture a baby rabbit out on the heath and proceed to play with it and pounce on it, and carry it off in its mouth. Presumably the rabbit subsequently died. In the encounter I noticed the cat did not have a collar. Some scientific studies have shown that the predation success of cats can be massively reduced (to about 50%) by fitting a cat with a breakaway collar which has two bells on it. So if you own a cat without a collar please could you try fitting one. It may also help our wildlife if you can satisfy your cats natural predation instincts by playing with it on a regular basis so that it is less likely to go out and hunt.

Our work parties and surveys may return more regularly depending on the restrictions imposed by the ongoing Covid pandemic. Please contact me if you are interested in taking part in any of our work parties or wildlife surveys.

martleshamconservationgrp84@gmail.com

Phil Smith 01473 625630

PLANTS FOR WILDLIFE ON YOUR DOORSTEP!

Suffolk Wildlife Trust's Woodbridge Wildlife Group offer people in the area an opportunity to get out and buy plants and second hand books from local doorsteps during their forthcoming "Plants for Wildlife Weekend" on Saturday 8 and Sunday 9 May 2021.

"We usually hold our popular Plant Sale at Foxburrow Farm, Melton at the beginning of May, but unfortunately current restrictions mean that a large event such as this is not possible" said Phil Smith, Chair of the local group. "However, we have come up with an alternative plan to take plants out into the community this year. Supporters in the Woodbridge area will be placing a table in their garden or on their doorstep during the weekend of 8 and 9 May, offering passers by the chance to browse locally grown plants and donated books, with funds from sales supporting Suffolk Wildlife Trust."

"We have 14 gardens/doorsteps in Woodbridge and surrounding villages open during the weekend" continued Phil. "All sales will be in cash, so I'd urge customers to make sure they have plenty of coins available before visiting our doorstep tables" added Phil. "An information sheet and trail map showing doorstep locations will be available. This will also highlight Suffolk Wildlife Trust reserves nearby and we hope that visitors will take the opportunity to visit a local reserve as well as seeking out our doorstep sales tables during this special weekend."

An information sheet and trail map can be requested by emailing swtwoodbridge@outlook.com. These will also be available to download from Suffolk Wildlife Trust's website from mid April.

Our local garden doorstep in Martlesham will be outside 58 Heathfield where we will have a selection of herbs, flowering plants, vegetables and books. Please drop along some time over the two days and support us.

Phil Smith 01473 625630

MARTLESHAM LADIES CLUB

With the coming of Spring and the relaxing of lockdown restrictions we can start to make tentative plans for reopening the Ladies Club.

There will be a meeting on Thursday 1st July 2021 at 2.30pm in the Richards Room. All old and any new members will be very welcome to come and discuss future plans for the club. It will be wonderful to meet again and catch up. Please bring your own tea and biscuits!

If all goes to plan we hope to hold our first meeting in the Richards Room on Thursday 9th September 2021 at 2.30pm.

For more information please contact Doreen Boar 01473 622768

POARTAL WOODLAND CONSERVATION GROUP

Unfortunately, all events have been cancelled due to the coronavirus. However, if you would like to sign up or get in touch, we will be pleased to welcome new faces once restrictions allow.

New volunteers of all ages and abilities are always welcome. No experience needed. For further information, please contact us at pwcg.martlesham@gmail.com, phone: 01473 612632 or visit our website: pwcg.onesuffolk.net or join our members' Facebook Group by messaging Duncan Sweeting.

MARTLESHAM BRASS 'Making Music Fun in East Anglia'

Martlesham Brass are hopeful that rehearsals should be able to restart in May, provided that the release of lockdown follows the course predicted by the Government in its road map. We will, of course, follow all the latest guidance from the Government & Brass Bands England, and carry out our own risk assessments before band activities resume. Meanwhile, some of our members are still rehearsing, and you can view our videos on the Martlesham Brass Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/MartleshamBrass>)

When band activities fully resume, we will be happy to hear from anyone who is interested in joining us, with or without experience.

Liz Howard. (Publicity Officer)
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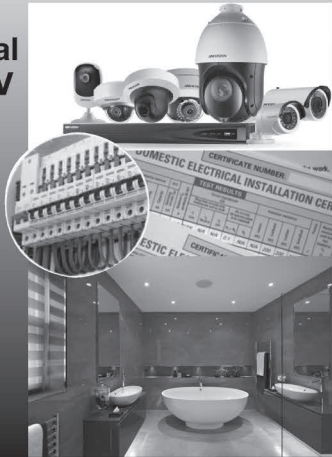


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AGM

The AGM will take place on 8 June 2021. Please look out for the AGM Notice that will be delivered/posted to your address. This notice will provide further information as to how the AGM will be conducted due to the social distancing required as a result of the Coronavirus .

Martlesham Wombles

We would like to thank "Martlesham Wombles" who have been picking up litter around The Heath and Woodlands. There has been a variety of litter collected including bottles, cans and general paper and card from discarded takeaways. Their effort helps to keep our neighbourhood tidy and such a great place to live. You can find more information on their Facebook page.

CCTV at Control Tower

A lot of work has been going on behind the scenes. We are glad to report that CCTV has now been installed at the Control Tower due to ongoing criminal damage to this amazing

building. Also, could we please ask everybody to prevent children climbing over the revetments as these are preserved as best we can and several bags have been dislodged of late.

Tree Maintenance

Tree maintenance has been carried out near to Heathfield and Parkers Place and a fence has been repaired by the mound next to The Grove. This area is also a pilot site for wildflowers, where seed was put down some months ago. Some tree work is also due to take place next to Avocet Lane.

Fly-Tipping

Unfortunately, a small amount of fly-tipping has taken place next to a litter bin on Eagle Way and we are getting this removed. If anyone is seen dumping sacks of rubbish, please report this to the local Environment Agency and take registration numbers of cars etc where possible. The same applies for garden waste which is seen as fly-tipping and not permitted on our land, two such incidents have been reported near to Forest Lane and Westland.

Behind Heathfield

There have also been several reports of damage to a fence and a new pathway being used on private land which runs at the rear of Heathfield. This is not our land and does not fall under our responsibility, we would like to remind people that this is in fact privately owned by other landowners.

The Volunteers

MHHL consists of fourteen volunteers who dedicate their time to maintain the village, the majority of which have busy day jobs. If we can all do our bit this will make life easier for all and keep the village looking as nice as possible.

Contact and further information

If there are any issues that you feel that need attention please do not hesitate to contact Martlesham Heath Householders Ltd by leaving a voicemail on 01473 612207 or by email to <mailto:martleshamheathhouseholders@gmail.com> or by post to Martlesham Heath Householders Ltd, PO Box 897, Martlesham Heath, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP1 9PB.

A Village of Vision? (6 of 6)

Gillian Darley (AJ Information Library, September 1979)

Martlesham Heath is no one's idea of a traditional East Anglian village. It is in the wrong place, the rough edges rubbed out of the design, with hamlets of different housing types strategically positioned around the village green which will never see an animal grazing. The more one considers the differences between model and copy the more preposterous the idea becomes. But that does not rule out the aim of building a place out of which it is hoped a sense of identity, a community of interests, will emerge. For the moment the divisions in the place are brought about by housing types and thus income levels. Hamlet L [Coopers Road], up to now the only possible route into the village for first-time buyers is, both physically and socially, a little apart. Hamlet F [Lark Rise, Swan Close, Avocet Lane], on the other hand, with a wider range of housing types has formed much the most cohesive community.

The scheme as it is planned, responding to a burgeoning market and overwhelming demand, seems devised less in favour of a balanced village community than of exploiting the financial good cheer of the present. Hamlet H [Forest Lane] consists of plots for sale with design guidance from Peter Barefoot and a considerable advantage in terms of existing mature landscape. The first 14 plots offered disappeared overnight. Other phases with planning permission include Hamlet B [Westland] (Mathews Ryan, whose L/2 was 'a bit up-market' of L/1); C [Carlford Close] (under construction, Culpin again); and F/3. As the report to the directors of The Bradford Property Trust put it at the end of the financial year 78-9 'the Martlesham concept has been established,

found to be acceptable, and in current markets is profitable'.

Although sites have been earmarked for a housing association scheme, for single 'working person' accommodation for 41 and for a sheltered housing scheme for 40 to 60 elderly people there is no provision for rented accommodation ('plenty of demand, no encouragement') nor is there any likelihood of a limited amount of local authority housing. Parker says a firm 'no' to that possibility, though an officer from the district council referred to a scheme for 150 units within the village as 'a nice thought' since they have almost no waiting list at present. So Martlesham Heath is to some extent a concept well-tailored to sales. The embarrassingly fey names (Lark Rise, Farrier's Close) are part of that ploy and it is tempting to dismiss the whole venture then and there.

Yet the property interests of The Bradford Trust are somewhat out of the ordinary. Its holdings include a number of the early Co-Partnership schemes at Letchworth, Brentnham Garden Village in Ealing and in Liverpool, as well as large amounts of workers' housing such as the model villages of Port Sunlight and Saltaire already mentioned. Modernising and selling off these houses, the firm has traditionally been immersed in communities of unusual cohesiveness. Parker's personal obsession with the making of a village is something of an historic continuation of the thread to which all these places belong—the establishment of clearly defined settlements rather than the amorphous process of suburban development.

With Martlesham Heath now well into the first stage of its existence, the overseeing, omniscient presence of Christopher Parker is somewhat irksome to the owners of these expensive properties. His creation is growing up, becoming independent, from time to time quarrelsome, and

less inclined to listen to advice. Yet this intermittent friction is further evidence of the measure of success of the original aspirations. The residents of a suburban cul-de-sac would not evidence such strong concern about the direction their neighbourhood was taking, unless the issues concerned the colour of their own front doors or the form of their garden fencing.

Christopher Parker likes to think that 'village is an adjective, not a noun'. He admits it is impossible to adequately define what he, or anyone else, considers to be a village; 'it's the way you see it'. His objective was to prove that the typical post-war estate was not the only potential form in which to provide housing; he wanted to employ good architects, he wanted to take trouble, he wanted to induce a sense of identity into the end result. There is undoubtedly an element of idealism in this, especially when matched to hard-nosed financial development, not supported by subsidy or short-cuts. Prices have undermined some of the original intentions. Under no circumstances could Martlesham be defined as a village with people of widely varying social backgrounds, but then many 'traditional' villages have long ceased to represent wide social differences. Everyone at Martlesham is an owner-occupier and this bundles everyone into a single economic bracket, however big a bracket.

With no permitted development rights and a string of 27 covenants on the housing, the form of the village seems inviolate; even after Parker ceases to exercise his function as squire. Whether the place could absorb expansion while retaining the intended plan above the limit of 1000 houses seems unlikely.

Its future, therefore, seems set. A tasteful, prosperous, one-off enclave, but a place of distinctive and original character. It is clearly evolving into a distinct entity; quite possibly into a village.



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MERLINS OVER MARTLESHAM - THE SECOND WORLD WAR.

On September 1st 1939 - just three days before war was declared the Aeroplane and Armament Experimental Establishment was hurriedly moved from Martlesham to Boscombe Down in Hampshire.

Where it remains to this day - but under a different name.

Martlesham was considered too 'front line' for such an important research and development organisation.

Then on 3rd September, on the day war with Germany had been declared, 'D' Flight, which was responsible for providing the aircraft for the research into airborne radar was also moved. 'D' Flight at that time consisted of about 10 experimental aircraft, but in addition there were 20 or more Bristol Blenheims which were in the process of being fitted out with air interception equipment. They were initially moved to Dundee, in Scotland.

However, on that day, presumably in the panic of possible imminent air raids, there suddenly appeared a stream of 10 ton trucks. They were loaded with soot of the blackest and sootiest variety! They proceeded to spread it in large gobs all over the airfield. This was laughably called aerodrome camouflage. It caused absolute chaos. Everybody began to look like coal miners. We can imagine what the ladies of the houses in Deben Avenue thought of this as they hurriedly brought their washing in! Needless to say this exercise was never repeated.

Then, in the late autumn squadrons on detachment arrived at Martlesham. Some for short stays. Hurricanes, with their Rolls Royce Merlin engines were by far the most numerous fighters we possessed at the time. Bristol Blenheim light bombers were also here for a while whilst the role of Martlesham was decided.

It became part of 11 Group. The famous group of airfields surrounding London, which included North Weald, Hornchurch and Debden.

By the late Spring of 1940 RAF Martlesham Heath was, for the first time in it's life a fully operational airfield as opposed to it's former purely research and development role.

Hurricanes would fly up to Martlesham, be refuelled and do sweeps over the North sea looking for ships to attack and also presumably signs of invasion barges.

We were woefully unprepared for war and there are tales of pilots visiting from airfields further south sleeping underneath the wings of their aircraft. There was just no accommodation for them. A cousin of my late wife told me that he flew Hurricanes of 56 Squadron, which was based at North Weald and had to sleep under the wing of his aircraft. He remembers gathering the Pine needles to make a mattress!



**Hawker Hurricane of 252 sqdn.
With Douglas Bader's sqdn markings**

In the afternoon of 15th August 1940 Martlesham was attacked by a force of Messerschmitt BF110's and Messerschmitt BF109's.

They came out of the sun to attack Martlesham. Their bombs caused damage to various station buildings, the airfield and the newly constructed wireless station at the end of Dobbs Lane. One lucky hit struck a bombed-up visiting Fairey Battle. This exploded and destroyed the Watch Office, (control tower). The then resident squadrons were either airborne or at stand-down.

The Control Tower, which is now our aviation museum was rebuilt in 1943, when hard runways were constructed for the first time.

1940 was the period that saw the arrival of Group Captain Bader, Group Captain Stanford Tuck and Group Captain Peter Townsend, (who was engaged for a while with Princess Margaret.) They were all at Martlesham at one period or another.

I included an article in a previous Martlesham Monthly of attacks by the Italian Air Force in November 1940. These were repelled by Hurricanes from Martlesham and North Weald with serious losses to the Italians, who were not seen again in this theatre of the war.

Another important role for Martlesham was Air Sea Rescue. With it's proximity to the coast Martlesham was an obvious choice for this vital service. Unlike the Germans, we had no Air Sea Rescue service at the outbreak of the war.

The autumn of 1943 saw the arrival of the 356th Fighter Group of the USAAF. They shared the airfield for a time with 56 Squadron RAF, who were then equipped with the heavily armed Hawker Typhoon. The Typhoons were on permanent standby to attack enemy shipping in the North Sea and targets in Holland and Belgium. Their squadron marking was US, followed by another letter of the alphabet. One of the Typhoon was therefore US-A. This caused some confusion at the time! The Americans were later equipped with North American P-51 'Mustangs'. These were also fitted with the Rolls Royce Merlin engine, albeit built in the USA by the Packard automobile company under licence.

So once again we heard the roar of Merlins over Martlesham.

Alan Powell.

Martlesham 'Climate Emergency Summit', Saturday, 25 September

Save the date!

March/April Update

Covid regulations permitting, we are planning a 'Climate Emergency Summit' to be held at St Michael's and All Angels church on Saturday, September 25th. We hope to have interesting presentations on climate change and what local people are thinking and more importantly, doing about tackling climate change, stands for residents to wander around and learn more and some fun activities for all the family.

The focus of Martlesham Climate Action is 2 fold:

1) Build on existing wildlife projects in the Parish and achieve 'Wildlife Friendly Village' status. This means continuing to support and enhance existing projects but also encouraging more residents to get directly involved by re-wilding some of their garden spaces and creating more wildlife corridors across the Parish. A draft proposal has been produced for the Parish Council to consider and a small working party will be starting to put initiatives in place to make our Parish even more wildlife friendly.

2) Encourage residents to reduce their carbon footprints through sharing our own experiences of carbon reduction efforts. There is much we can do as individuals that start to make a real difference rather than just hoping the problem will go away or hope the government and technology will sort it out. As consumers, we have real power if many start to act. The summit will provide some examples of what residents have done. My personal actions have included dietary changes, buying more locally, refilling rather than buying new, reducing gas (a fossil fuel) consumption through heat pump and PV panel/battery system installation. Residents have been gathering 'real world' data on their own installations including carbon dioxide reduction estimates and costs to provide advice to others looking to install similar solutions to stop burning gas and reduce

consumption of carbon from the grid by generating their own power.

Our working group continues to meet on Zoom. If you would like to get involved, contact via e-mail and we will be very happy to welcome you! A local student recently joined us. She has written a personal blog about her feelings: an extract is reproduced below with the full text posted on our website.

A Young Person's View

From my earliest memory I've been irrevocably in love with the great outdoors. Completely perplexed by its beauty. How everything seemed to have its own pre-written path. This newfound love made me realise that Mother Nature lives to provide. Rivers and oceans don't drink their own water. Trees don't eat their own fruit. The sun doesn't shine for itself. A flower's fragrance is not for itself. Living for each other is the rule of nature and should be our rule too.

But like other youths today, I was blind to the wrongdoings of humanity...I think of 'our world' encompassing mankind, animals, plants, ecosystems and all our environment. Sadly for many their idea of 'our world' focuses only on human species. Is this wrong?

This world we so passionately define as 'ours' is reliant on money, goods and land. We're becoming governed by greed and hunger for more...more; nothing is enough. This greed will soon run out. Soon will we.

We seem dominated by conquering all forms of life. But have become oblivious to the damage we leave. I worry minds have become governed by negative news, closed-minded journalists and news reporters showing no real light to these crises. We must retain a polite passion for our environment. This world is our home. It's home to many others too, that love and feel as we do. But if we carry on like we are, we will kill off ourselves and all other species on this planet. I don't think anyone wants that on his or her conscience.

One of my major concerns is plastic. Humans have produced 8.3 billion



metric tonnes of plastic, our stunning oceans hold 51 trillion micro-plastic particles: five hundred times more than the stars in our universe. Unexplainable. Disgusting. Let's DO something!

Most plastic doesn't biodegrade. It wasn't made to. It was made to withstand wear and tear. Plastic's EVERYWHERE. Supermarkets, the worst culprits of all driven by our desire for convenience: our addiction to online shopping, our consumption resulting in excess packaging with huge implications for our planet. But still we all continue to do it.

For a Turtle a plastic bag seems like a tasty jellyfish, but in reality it's indigestible poison. It's a real life threat to marine animals, not just us. We're treating these animals with near to no respect. It's wrong and we know it.

<https://hillno13.wixsite.com/oursacredworld/post/our-world-should-be-loved-not-conquered>

The author has become a 'Plastic Action Champion', a voluntary East Suffolk Council role and we look forward to working with her to help reduce single use plastic use in our parish.

Remember, we can all do our bit by making sure we don't spoil the recycle bin load by putting the correct items in and pick up litter where you see it. We have got into the habit of taking a litter picker with us on walks for example.

Dave Green
Co-chair, Martlesham Climate Action
martleshamclimateaction@btinternet.com
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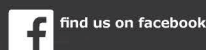
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We need your assistance with nominations for our Community Service Award.

We are looking for an individual or group of people who have given exceptional service to the communities of Kesgrave, Martlesham, Woodbridge or Melton in the last twelve months. The winner will receive a £500 donation to the charity of their choice.

Write to us at mail@debenrotary.org.uk (in about 250 words), explaining why your nomination is worthy of this award and if your nomination is shortlisted, we will be in touch with you for further details. Entries must be in by Monday 14 June 2021 and all nominations will be featured on our website.

Our next ZOOM lecture is at 7pm on Monday 26 April where Marti Lauret will be talking about 'Being at a school in a racially segregated society in South Carolina circa 1955'.

Our final lecture of this season, which ends in June, is Ian Read on 'Martlesham Heath 1917-2021'.

We would like to extend our thanks to all those who took part in our ZOOM quiz – Nerd Immunity 2 on the 26 March. The winning team was "The Rebels" and their nominated charity for the £100 donation was Home-Start Suffolk.

To contact us about The Community Service Award, joining our lectures or anything else you would like to know about us, either go to our web page: www.debenrotary.org.uk or email us at mail@debenrotary.org.uk

Richard Boothe – President Deben Rotary

SPEAK EASY MARTLESHAM

Speak Easy is part of Toastmasters International, and we offer public speaking opportunities. We provide a fun and supportive forum to speak, and to evaluate.

When we are not facing a pandemic, we usually meet at Richard's Room in Martlesham, but for now we are finding our online Zoom format really effective. It also enables us to include guests from further afield - giving us the opportunity to be even more inclusive!

In recent meetings we have welcomed guests from around Europe, India and America, as well as more widely across our region. It really is an interesting time to join us!

Guests are welcome to join Speak Easy to see what we have to offer, and to take part if you would like. We hope you will choose to become a member, whether to beat public speaking nerves, develop your abilities, enter competitions, or help us run the club!

Speak Easy meetings are held on alternate Thursdays. Our next meetings are 29th April, 13th May and 27th May

Join at 7:00pm for a 7:15pm start and finishing at 9:30pm

Speak Easy is an inclusive and diverse group, open to anyone 18 years or over.

If you would like any further information, or to attend one of our online meetings please contact Adam Green:

Adam Green: vprr@speak-easy.org.uk
or www.speak-easy.org.uk
or find us on Facebook: Speak Easy Martlesham

EAST SUFFOLK U3A LOOKS TOWARD A BRIGHTER FUTURE

Spring is finally in the air and there is new hope that, just maybe, u3a groups may meet up again towards the end of the year.

Groups that regularly meet outside are finding ways to get together in smaller numbers to enjoy country walks. There's a chance too that groups with few members will be able to enjoy meals and visits once again, being careful to stay within government guidelines.

Of the 160+ different interest groups, many have gone online and members are continuing to learn about and discuss the arts, history, science, foreign language and many other topics.

A key - and much-loved - part of u3a's offering is the regular speaker programme, with talks held at four venues across East Suffolk. They have been cancelled for the time being, and will be reinstated as soon as restrictions are lifted.

Happily, many talks are available for members to view online. To date there are nearly 30 available, on various topics from Lancashire Witches to John Betjeman!

u3a is aimed at older people who want to get as much as possible out of life, even in difficult circumstances. There are no entry qualifications, no barriers to joining and lots of activities to get involved in. New members are welcome.

If you are interested, then please visit the website and make contact with the appropriate group leader to find out how u3a membership can help you keep in touch with others, find new interests and friends and learn fresh skills.

Details of membership are available on: www.u3aeastsuffolk.org.uk or call the membership secretary on 0300 123 3913.

KESGRAVE LIBRARY NEWS – May 2021

Staff are pleased to announce that Kesgrave Library is now open for browsing. Due to the size of the library, we are only able to accommodate three customers in the building at any one time.

To avoid disappointment and prolonged queuing, we are asking customers to phone and book a 15-minute appointment to come in. Please ring the library on 01473 626103 to book a time.

We understand that some customers may be feeling nervous about returning to browsing, so will be continuing to run our Select and Collect service alongside the re-introduction of opening the library space. If you would like to continue to use this service, please ring us to arrange a time/date for collection of your requests.

Select & Collect – This service is open to any age group and has proved very popular. Staff select a variety of books for customers, based on the information you give us about the types of books and authors that you like to read. Staff can also reserve in any items for you if they are not available at Kesgrave.

MARTLESHAM COMMUNITY HALL - REOPENING ROADMAP

The Government's 12 April COVID-19 restrictions 'roadmap' step has been successfully passed. Hopefully we remain on target for the next step, on 17 May.

Suffolk Country Council have asked us if they can continue to use the Community Hall as a COVID-19 Community Test Centre, potentially until the end of June, though their plans may change as the situation evolves.

Our reopening plans are, for now:

- *From 17 May (Step 3 date)* - we'll reopen the Richards Room to hires. It appears most indoor sport and activity classes will be allowed from then and some 'life event' gatherings. Social distancing etc. will still be in place until 21 June, which will mean a maximum of 15 people in the Richards Room.
- *From 1 July* - we'll reopen both the Community Hall and Richards Room to normal hires - but see below.

We'll agree a temporary Richards Room schedule for our regular hirers who wish to (and are allowed to) return from 17 May. Regular hirers will be then able to return to their previous session(s) and location when we fully reopen both the Community Hall and Richards Room at the start of July. The Richards Room will be used on 6 May for the Local Elections; this is permitted under the COVID-19 restrictions.

We've started taking bookings again - for Richards Room hires from 17 May and from 1 July for both the Community Hall and Richards Room. The government have said that COVID-19 restrictions should be lifted from 21 June, but if you're thinking about a summer event we recommend you still think carefully about numbers attending. For single event hires, you can check our booking calendars and make a booking request online - mchall.org.uk/booking. You can also call our Bookings Secretary on 01473 623203.

Please check our website for general updates and further details - mchall.org.uk.

You can contact us with general queries, via our website contact form or call us/leave a message on 01473 623203.



All being well, and government restrictions permitting, we are hoping to re-open the Runway on 18 May.

We will resume opening on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 9am-noon, ensuring the safety of all our volunteers and customers with appropriate PPE and hand gelling facilities.

We'll continue to serve good coffee & tea and home baked cakes and scones will continue to be on the menu.

We've missed you all and look forward to welcoming you back whether alone, with friends or in a community group.

Sharing Hospitality

I suspect that for the majority of us, now that lockdown restrictions are easing, the thing we are most looking forward to is having a cuppa or sharing a meal with family and friends. It's been lovely keeping in touch over the internet, but it's not the same as chatting face to face is it?

I've been fortunate with half my family who live in travelable distance as we've met up a couple of times, outdoors for a BBQ and it's been lovely to watch the grandchildren get up to whatever they get up to, whilst the rest of us chat away.

Hospitality is so important to God as well. Throughout the Bible we read of people entertaining angels and Jesus spent many hours sharing meals with his friends and anyone who was willing to make him a meal and sit and chat. A favourite picture for many is 'Light of the World' by the English artist William Holman Hunt. It shows Jesus standing by a locked and rarely used door waiting for someone to open it and let him in. The verse from the book of Revelations reads, 'Look, I'm standing at the door and knocking. If anyone listens to my voice and opens the door, I'll come in and we'll eat together.' So as we open our doors to family and friends, to chat and share some time together, let's remember that God is also open to a chat as well.

*Rev Margaret Rittman
Brightwell with Martlesham.*

Christian Aid Week in Martlesham

10-16 May 2021 -

it's all online or by phone again, and the need is as urgent as ever!

I was hoping things would be different this year, but sadly we have had to take the difficult decision to shelve our usual house-to-house collection for Christian Aid once again. This is to protect not only our volunteer collectors but also you, the person who would be opening the door.

I say sadly because although this year is Christian Aid's 75th anniversary, the need to fund local projects worldwide to ease poverty and suffering has not gone away – in fact the Coronavirus pandemic and the ongoing effects of climate change have made that need even more pressing.

We have all suffered over the past year, but both of these crises are disproportionately affecting poorer communities around the world. Scarcity of health facilities and vaccine combined with a lack of fresh clean water to wash with due to erratic rainfall are hitting vulnerable people hard.

This means these communities will need every penny in donations even more urgently than usual. So, although we cannot come to your door and invite you to make a donation, I am once again making a personal appeal to you. Coronavirus and climate change are impacting us all, but love can unite us all.

Making a donation is a wonderful way of sharing love with our vulnerable neighbours living in poverty. You responded magnificently last year, please consider making a donation online or by phone this year.

Please give online by visiting www.christianaid.org.uk and clicking on the red 'Donate' button, use our e-envelope at <https://envelope.christianaid.org.uk/envelope/martlesham-benefice>

or give over the phone by calling 08080 006 006.

And if you would like to join our online quiz in early May to raise funds and have fun, see the Martlesham Benefice Facebook page for details.

And on behalf of the poor and vulnerable people of the world, thank you.

Carolyn Smith

MARTLESHAM COMMUNITY HALL AND RICHARDS ROOM

You can find out about our venues at our website—mhall.org.uk.

You can check hire rates, if they're available and make an online booking request.

Alternatively you can call our Booking Secretary on 01473 623203.

If leaving a message, please speak slowly and repeat your telephone number.

THE MARTLESHAM HEATH PAVILION

Martlesham Heath Pavilion is a great location for children's parties at the weekend.

You can check availability and book the Pavilion online at:

martlesham.org.uk/pavilion

Alternatively, please contact the booking secretary:

**email: bookingsecmhp@gmail.com
phone: 07732 199712**

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.

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Church phone 01473 612659 (rest day Friday)

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

CURATE: The Revd Christine Pinder 3 Mayfields, Martlesham Heath
07555 748345 (working days: Sunday, Wednesday, Thursday)

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

ELDERS: Janet Foster janetwf33@gmail.com
Margaret Rollins 9 Angela Close, Martlesham 01473 623868
Simon Smith 11 Squires Lane, Martlesham Heath 01473 612410 (evening only)
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	Online on Facebook and YouTube. Search for 'Martlesham Benefice'
Sunday 2nd May	St Michael's 10am Holy Communion	10am Holy Communion 5pm Zoom After Hours
Sunday 9th May	St Michael's 10am Morning Worship	10am Morning Worship 6.30pm Evening Worship
Sunday 16th May	St Michael's 10am Holy Communion Service	10am Holy Communion 10am Family Zoom 7pm Zoom Reflecting with God
Sunday 23rd May	St Michael's 10am Pentecost Worship	10am Pentecost Worship 6.30pm Evening Worship
Sunday 30th May	St Michael's 10am Holy Communion Service	10am Holy Communion

A warm welcome awaits you at all our services in our church buildings and online.

**It would be helpful if you could contact Toby by the Saturday before for Zoom codes & if you are planning to come.
In the event of changes to Covid-19 restrictions find up to date service information on our Facebook page.**

Midweek Services Wednesday 10am Morning Prayer on Facebook and YouTube

Prayer Diary Please include the following as an addition to your daily prayers:

May

- 5 The residents of Bradford Court
- 6 For Foodbanks, providers and those provided for
- 7 For those making dangerous journeys to safety
- 8 We give thanks Lord, that you are always with us
- 9 Come to the Father through Jesus the Son
- 10 For Christian Aid at the start of Christian Aid Week
- 11 That we may live in harmony with all people
- 12 The residents of Broomfield and Broomfield Mews
- 13 Ascension Day
- 14 For better understanding of everyone's needs
- 15 For people living in refugee camps across the world
- 16 Father God, help me to live my life for you with faith and hope
- 17 For homes where there are stresses and strain at this time
- 18 For the Children's Society
- 19 For the residents of Buckingham Close

- 20 For the leaders of all nations and those in authority
- 21 For those entering our ports illegally
- 22 Give hope to those living on our streets
- 23 Pentecost, give thanks for the gift of the Holy Spirit
- 24 For CAFOD reaching out to people living in poverty
- 25 Father, Son and Holy Spirit, dwell in us
- 26 For the residents of Burgess Place
- 27 For the community of Martlesham
- 28 Holy Father, renew our vision, and restore our faith
- 29 For all who have lost their faith during the pandemic
- 30 Trinity Sunday
- 31 The Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth

June

- 1 Give thanks for the changing seasons
- 2 For the residents of California
- 3 For our farmers and food producers
- 4 Father we put our trust in You and Your saving power



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