

Martlesham Monthly

JULY 2026 • Produced and Distributed by Volunteers

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at Martlesham Heath

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Martlesham Monthly

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Then for the 12 August deadline
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The copy deadline for issues is the
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Contributors are requested to limit
their articles to approximately 250
words.

DISCLAIMER

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

YOUR NEW MARTLESHAM MONTHLY TEAM

After many years of amazing service, the current Martlesham Monthly team are finally retiring from the magazine business and taking a well-earned back seat. They will still be involved, but the new team will be taking over from this issue.

On behalf of all of the MM readers, the new team would like to say a huge THANK YOU to Paul, Janet, Ken, Gwynneth and Rob for all they have done in producing the magazine and keeping everyone informed about life in Martlesham. It has grown from humble beginnings to one that is delivered all over Martlesham Parish and keeps everyone informed. Please bear with the new team as we try our best to fill such big shoes!

I am pleased to say that Gwynneth has kindly agreed to stay on for an extra couple of issues as editor and Rob will continue in his role with distribution, working alongside the new team. We are hugely grateful for their support during this transition.

We look forward to continuing the great work started by the previous team and thanks again on behalf of all the MM readers.

Heather, Chris, Richard, Evie, Heather, Johnny and Rachel (your new MM team)



Chonosuki Crab/Pillar Crab Apple *Malus tschonoskii*

This crab apple tree is growing on Martlesham Common next to the path west of Martlesham Community Hall car park. It is planted in memoriam of Frederick Hunter for services to the Parish of Martlesham. He was active in the local community, was a member of Martlesham Community Council, and helped with the building of Martlesham Community Hall.

Japan and East Asia are the native range of this species of crab apple. It has a narrowly conical shape and features to enjoy through the year; white blossom in spring, small yellow-green, red tinged fruit, and good autumn colour.

GIRLGUIDING

Currently we have 1 Rainbow Unit (ages 4 – 7), 1 Brownie Unit (ages 7-10) & 1 Guide Unit (ages 10-14) meeting on the Heath.

If you are interested in joining as a young member, or helping as a volunteer, please contact www.girlguidingsuffolk.org.uk & select the "join" or "volunteer" buttons on the home page.

Come & join the fun & start your guiding adventure today!"

1st MARTLESHAM SCOUTS

We have Beavers (6-8) who meet each Tuesday, Cubs (8-10.5) each Monday, Scouts (10.5-14) each Thursday and Explorers (14-18) who meet the first Monday of each month

For all enquiries regarding joining the groups please contact
membership@martleshamscouts.org.uk

For becoming a helper or hiring the Scout HQ, please contact Lindsay lindsayfw@msn.com

MOBILE LIBRARY TIMES

Tuesdays (Route 10)

Angela Close: 1.30-1.45pm

Bridge Farm Day Nursery 1.50-2.20pm

Falcon Mobile Home Park: 2.30-2.55pm

Douglas Bader: 3.00-4.15pm

Tue 25 Aug 2026

Tue 22 Sep 2026

Tue 28 Jul 2026

Thursdays (Route 3)

Play2Day Nursery Gloster Road 10.10 - 10.40,

Douglas Bader: 10.50 - 11.50

Thu 16 Jul 2026

Thu 13 Aug 2026

Thu 10 Sep 2026

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

COMMUNITY RESPONDERS

Martlesham Community Responders are a group of 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@btinternet.com

POLICE

In case of emergencies please always call 999. In non-emergency situations call the new number 101

Email the Safer Neighbourhood Team
woodbridge.snt@suffolk.police.uk

Martlesham Council

Parish Councillors and Volunteers

Do you have an interest and are passionate about your community? Then come and join the team at Martlesham Parish Council.

As a councillor the expected commitment is a minimum of 2 hours per month, but there are plenty of opportunities to become more involved.

You don't need any special qualifications, just a passion for your community and a willingness to listen, learn and contribute.

As a volunteer there are many aspects of community life that you could become involved with.

Local councils give communities a voice, and we need you to help shape change for the benefit of our local area.

Diamond Jubilee Bike Trails – Have your Say!

A Grant has now been secured through East Suffolk District Council to redesign the Diamond Jubilee Bike Trails. If you have children that uses the bike trails, and they would like a say in how the jumps and berms are redesigned, please contact the Parish Council through enquiries@martleshamcouncil.org.uk.

We are planning for the work to be taken place in September/October, ready for October half term.

Forthcoming Parish Council Meetings

Meetings scheduled over the next couple of months include: -

Full Parish Council meeting – Wednesday 1st July

Recreation & Amenities Committee – Wednesday 8th July

Full Council Meeting – Wednesday 2nd September

Meetings are held in the Parish Room, Felixstowe Road, Martlesham, IP12 4PB. All Council meetings start at 19:30 and are open to the public, who are welcome to ask questions or make comments to the Council during a public forum. Before attending we recommend that you check our website and Notice Boards.

Contacting the Council

Councillors and staff can be contacted at the Parish Room, Felixstowe Road, Martlesham, Woodbridge, IP12 4BP.

Telephone 01473 612632, Email - enquiries@martleshamcouncil.org.uk, Social Media Platforms -Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn. Web enquiries - www.martleshamcouncil.org.uk

PORTAL WOODLANDS

Portal Woodlands is a valued and well-used local amenity for residents of Old Martlesham, Martlesham Heath and surrounding communities. Its 10 acres of woodland and open space provide an accessible setting for walking, cycling, recreation and quiet enjoyment, while also supporting biodiversity, wellbeing and access to nature close to home.

The woodland also has wider heritage and landscape significance, forming part of the setting of the former Martlesham Heath Airfield, linking to local walking routes including the Sandlings Walk, and containing a Bronze Age burial mound on site.

Portal Woodlands is now due to be sold. Martlesham Parish Council has secured **Asset of Community Value (ACV)** status for the woodland, and has triggered a moratorium to give time for a community bid to be prepared. However, ACV status does not guarantee a successful purchase, and the seller is not required to accept any offer made by the Council or by the community.

The Council is exploring all possible options and has welcomed expressions of support from neighbouring councils, including Kesgrave and Woodbridge, whose residents also use and value the woodland.

This is a significant undertaking for a Parish Council and there are important financial, legal and practical considerations to assess.

Over the coming months, resident feedback and evidence of community support will help inform the Council's next steps and any potential funding discussions.

How residents can support this work:

- Volunteer to assist with the planned local leaflet distribution
- Display a Council sticker or poster where possible
- Complete the short questionnaire when it is delivered
- Provide brief written feedback on why Portal Woodlands matters to you and your household
- Consider whether you would be able to support any future community fundraising effort
- Share updates with neighbours who may wish to take part in the consultation

For more detail, please contact enquiries@martleshamcouncil.org.uk

Telephone: 01473 612632

Mob: 07355 31125

Martlesham Heath Householders Limited

Considerate Use of Visitor Parking Spaces

Martlesham Heath Householders Ltd (MHHL) understands the frustration that can arise when visitor spaces appear to be occupied on a regular basis by the same residents, particularly where alternative parking may seem to be available nearby.

We would like to remind residents that the current MHHL Car Parking Policy does not prohibit residents from using the visitor parking spaces. However, the policy makes clear that these spaces must be used reasonably and with consideration for others. In particular, it states:

"Residents are asked to use these spaces in a reasonable manner, with regard and consideration for fellow residents and their visitors. Spaces are not to become an extension of residents' own parking areas. Regular, sustained or exclusive use of a space will not be tolerated."

The intention of the policy is to provide flexibility when needed, not to allow visitor spaces to become permanent parking locations for individual households. When visitor spaces are occupied on a continual basis, visitors to the village and neighbouring residents may find it difficult to park conveniently, undermining the purpose for which these spaces were originally provided.

Residents who have available parking on their driveways are therefore encouraged to make use of their own parking facilities wherever possible and reserve the visitor spaces for occasional or temporary needs. A considerate approach benefits the whole community and helps ensure that parking remains available for visitors, tradespeople, carers, and residents who genuinely require additional parking from time to time. MHHL is not seeking to prevent legitimate use of the visitor spaces by residents. Rather, we ask everyone to observe both the letter and the spirit of the parking policy by avoiding persistent, exclusive, or inconsiderate occupation of these shared facilities.

We appreciate the cooperation of all residents in helping to maintain the friendly and considerate character of our village.

Annual General Meeting

The Martlesham Heath Householders Limited AGM took place on Wednesday 10th June 2026 at the Martlesham Heath Pavilion starting at 8.00pm. During the meeting Dr J P Hudson and Mr R Boggon were elected as volunteer directors and we wish them well in their new roles. Mr A Macleod was re-elected as a volunteer director in accordance with article 23.1.1 of the company's Articles of Association.

Volunteers

This is a call to any residents who would like to volunteer a bit of time. It is important that a good base of volunteers is maintained. For anyone interested it is a good opportunity to see what goes on behind the scenes and have your say on a variety of issues that arise from time to time. Should you be interested please leave a voicemail on 01473 612207 or send an email to martleshamheathhouseholders@gmail.com

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 martleshamheathhouseholders@gmail.com or by post to Martlesham Heath Householders Ltd, PO Box 897, Martlesham Heath, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP1 9PB.

**Martlesham Heath Control Tower Museum
opens
Every Sunday Afternoon
from 2:00p.m. to 4:30 p.m. until 25th October.**

**Entry is FREE. It is behind Parkers Place, off Eagle Way, Martlesham
Heath, IP5 3UZ**

**All enquiries and pre-booked visits at other times,
please call 07 7077 11104**



MARTLESHAM IN BLOOM

Flowers now and next Year

Summer beds, borders, containers and hanging baskets will be looking really good with many annuals and perennials flowering now.

Deadheading will help keep your annual flowers in bloom into autumn by encouraging them to produce new buds.

If you like to grow vegetables it is not too late in this part of the UK to make a last sowing of runner beans and french beans for a late crop. The flowers of these, along with other garden flowers, will provide food for many insects. You can also start sowing your autumn/ winter salad crops now.

Looking ahead to next year, July is the perfect time to sow the seeds of many biennials.

These are plants which grow their leaves and roots one year then flower and set seed during their second year, so biennials sown and grown this year will flower next year. Those to sow now include Honesty (*Lunaria annua*), Foxgloves (*Digitalis*), Wallflowers (*Erysimum*), Canterbury Bells (*Campanula medium*), Forget-me-nots (*Myosotis*), and Sweet Williams (*Dianthus barbatus*).

Do not forget to let us know if you have any ideas of what we could include in our portfolio celebrating Martlesham.

It could be events, or activities, that you know about which are taking place in the parish during the year leading up to Martlesham in Blooms 30th anniversary in May 2027, or it could be information about groups in the parish and good locations for us to photograph to show Martlesham as it is now as a record for the future.

We look forward to hearing from you.

For further information about Martlesham in Bloom please contact: martleshaminbloom@gmail.com or J Maureen Burrows (Secretary) on Tel. 01473 625196

Activities sheets for preschool aged children.

Would you like to receive them?

At the moment we are sending out free activity sheets by email and/or post on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month during term time, for the children to enjoy doing with their family and/or carers, instead of meeting in St Michaels Church Centre, Martlesham Heath.

The activity sheets usually include a story, song and a craft or game about a theme or a story from the Bible; recently our themes included Ascension and Pentecost, and the story of Peter and the Roman soldier Cornelius.

If you have or look after a child/children of pre-school age, or slightly older and would like to receive our activity 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



Hedgehog Nursery at Gorseland Primary School

The Hedgehogs have had a sporty month ... as well as the usual weekly P.E. sessions in the big hall where they have been using the apparatus, dancing to music and playing games, they had sports day! In the run up to this, they practiced the different activities in teams and enjoyed cheering each other on!!

The sunshine has been out and so lots of water play has been happening too. The children have had fun using the hose, playing with bubbles and cooling down!

As lots of our Hedgehogs now get ready for big school we know they will continue growing on their journey and we will see those staying at Gorseland 'over the fence!'

Do you have a child aged 3-4 years old? Are you looking for high quality care and learning in a stimulating environment? Have you thought about the huge benefits of sending your child to a school Nursery?

Hedgehog Nursery is open Monday to Friday for 3 and 4 year olds during term time. We offer wrap around care from 7:30 to 18:00 with our breakfast and afterschool clubs.

Hedgehog Nursery is part of Gorseland Primary school and is led by a dedicated team of qualified and experienced staff. We are very lucky that we have the use of the school's fantastic facilities including our forest school, library, large sports hall and extensive grounds to explore. This makes our provision very special. We provide a learning atmosphere where children can explore and investigate in a safe, stimulating and challenging environment. We capitalise on the children's interests to springboard them into learning experiences that extend what they can already do.

If you are 'curious' and have a 3 or 4 year old, please don't hesitate to book a tour of the Nursery, via the school's website, or contact the School Office instead on 01473 623790. We warmly welcome families from our community to come to see us in practice.

COMMUNITÉA Natter

MARTLESHAM

1st Martlesham Scout Hut, The Drift, Martlesham Heath,
Martlesham, Ipswich, IP5 3PL

Second Tuesday of The Month, 10am-12pm
Dates: 14th April, 12th May, 9th June, 14th July, 11th August,
8th September, 13th October, 10th November, 8th December,
12th January 2027, 9th February 2027, 9th March 2027.

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**July 12 & 26
August 9 & 23
September 13 & 27**

All are welcome to join us for our church service at 10am
and/or tea and coffee at 11am

KESGRAVE LIBRARY NEWS

Sunday Crafts 10.00 – 12.00 noon – during July we will be making the following crafts:

Sunday 5th – This week we are making library card holders, for when you start the reading challenge.

Sunday 12th – Create your own treasure map – what will you draw on it and where will you hide the treasure?

Saturday 18th – Saturday 25th – The Reading Quest begins: create your own detective avatar. This will be moving around the library with you throughout your quest. What will you create?

Sunday 26th – Saturday 1st August – Make a corner bookmark and turn it into a curious creature. What will you choose?

Activities are free. Parents must stay with under eights.

Word Play Sessions – Every Thursday Morning. Trained staff run these free sessions which are continuing throughout the summer holidays.

Tot Rock – 9.45 – 10.15 a.m. – active songs and rhymes for pre-school children.

Baby Bounce – 10.45 – 11.15 a.m. – Gentle songs for you and your baby to enjoy.

No need to book. Please just pop along. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Story Time – Fridays 3rd, 10th, and 17th July 9.45 – 10.15 a.m. Fun stories, rhymes, and songs – this is a free activity. We hope to see you soon. We are taking a break for the summer whilst the Reading Quest is running.

Lego Club – Tuesday 7th and 14th July 3.30 – 4.30 p.m. Free play with each child given a basket of Lego bricks to create designs of their choice. We hope to see you soon. We are taking a break for the summer whilst the Reading Quest is on.

Stay and play – Tuesday 7th, and 14th July 10.00 – 11.00 a.m.

Bring your little ones to our Stay & Play group for a relaxed and informal opportunity to meet other parents and carers, share experiences and chat. This session will be stopping over the summer whilst the Reading Quest is running.

Kesgrave Library is 20! – Saturday 18th July from 11.00 a.m. we are celebrating with coffee and cake!

The friends and staff of Kesgrave Library would like to welcome our customers to celebrate our 20th birthday in our current location of Kinsey House. We are also celebrating the official unveiling of our new shelving and the launch of this year's Reading Quest: Curious Creatures.

We look forward to seeing you.

Reading Quest: Curious Creatures

This year the quest is running from Saturday 18th July to Monday 31st August.

Launch: Saturday 18th July 11.00–1.00 pm & 2.00–4.30 pm.

Why not pop along to sign up to this year's Reading Quest? This year's theme has new characters - a group of creatures who are detectives.

Kesgrave Library is running the following sessions each week throughout the challenge:

Monday 9.00 – 12.00 pm.

Tuesday 2.30 – 5.00 pm.

Wednesday 2.30 – 5.30 pm.

Thursday 2.30 – 5.30 pm.

Friday 9.00 – 12.00 pm.

Saturday 2.00 – 4.30 pm.

Sunday 10.00 – 12.00 noon

This is a free activity and open to all 2–12-year-olds.

Children will need their own library card, which can be issued before the challenge begins. Please speak to staff. Adults will need to bring ID to act as a guarantor.

To finish the challenge each child needs to visit the library four times throughout the holidays and tell our amazing volunteers all about what they have been reading. They can read anything they choose but we do ask for at least one of the choices to be non-fiction.

There are prizes and stickers throughout the challenge to motivate our young readers to finish, as well as a competition to enter.

Those who finish the challenge will be invited to the presentation of medals and certificates on Sunday 6th September.

Why not pop along and join in the fun!

Tel: 01473 851374

Martlesham Conservation Group

Our thanks again this year to Martlesham Scouts who joined members of our Group on 4th June and cut back intrusive vegetation along a path on the SSSI to the benefit of both wildlife and walkers.

On the 7th June the Group commenced its major summer activity of clearing bracken on the heath SSSI. Our long term aim is to increase the area of heather and reduce the area of bracken because heather supports a much wider diversity of wildlife than bracken and is particularly good for invertebrates, which include the nationally rare Silver Studded Blue butterfly. These butterflies are not on the wing for long so if you get on to the Heath before early July or sooner it may give the best chance to see them until next year. They may be seen around the clumps of heather next to the paths towards the southern end of the publicly accessible part of the heath SSSI. Martlesham Heath SSSI is a very good site for butterflies. As well as the Silver Studded Blue butterfly other species that may be seen through July include the Meadow Brown, the Ringlet, the Purple Hairstreak, Large, Small, and Essex skippers, Small Tortoiseshell, Peacock, Painted Lady, Red Admiral, Large, Small, and Green Veined White and several others. Please take some time to take a look. You may even find some of these species in your garden.

Heathland is also a good habitat for reptiles and we have two native species of snake present on our heath, the adder and the grass snake, as well as two other native species of reptile, the slow worm and the common lizard. These reptiles are cold blooded animals and consequently need to bask sometimes in sunny spots usually close to cover of some sort, so that they can easily disappear if disturbed. Alternatively in hotter weather they may seek shade in order to lower their body temperature. if you come across one unexpectedly and you are concerned it is best to step back and let the animal get out of your way of its own accord. It may take a few minutes if the animal is cold. You should never try to pick one up or attempt to harm them. Adders are venomous. Please be aware that our native reptile species are protected by law. For further information consult the ARC (Amphibian and Reptile Conservation) website <http://www.arc-trust.org> which has lots of useful information on topics such as identification, conservation and FAQs.

We also have some interesting invertebrates that can be seen at this time of year across our heaths. Whilst looking for birds on Martlesham Common. I was fortunate to spot some Green Tiger beetles hunting along a path. With green backs and buff spots they are quite distinctive but are so well camouflaged they can easily disappear when in vegetation or standing still and can run at an amazing speed as they attempt to ambush other insect prey. It is also a good time of year to see Glow Worms but you will need to be out after about 10.30 pm. The females emit a pale green light in an effort to attract a male partner in contrast with the surrounding darkness, another amazing site, especially if there are several out at once.

Our work party in July will be on Sunday 5th July at 10 am. Please meet on the Heath SSSI on the bank that runs east-west across the site just along from the interpretive sign between "Heathfield" and "The Oaks". We will aim to cut some more bracken and promote the growth of heather. No special skills are needed, tools will be supplied but please bring some sturdy gardening gloves. Please consider coming along and giving us a hand. We welcome all new members.

If you have some interesting observations of local wildlife then please get in touch we would love to hear about them.

Phil Smith 01473 625630 martleshamconservationgrp84@gmail.com

Portal Woodlands Conservation Group

We were very relieved that the sale of part of the woodlands had been postponed, giving us a chance to save it.

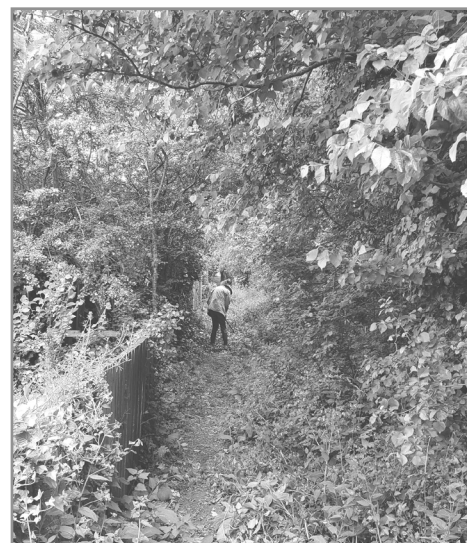
Despite the hot and dry weather in May, the woodlands were looking very lush and overgrown in places. Our Volunteers focused on keeping the paths clear by cutting back the foliage, most importantly the fire service access path along the back of Deben Avenue.

Our next work morning is Saturday 18th July, from 10:00 to noon, meeting at the Education Area.

New volunteers of all ages and abilities are always welcome; no experience is needed.

For further information, please contact us at pwcg.martlesham@gmail.com, phone 01473 612632, visit our website: www.martleshamparishcouncil.org.uk/what-we-do/portal-woodlands-working-group, or join our members' Facebook Group by messaging Duncan Sweeting.

Stephen Corley, Chairman



Suffolk County Music Service unveils greener, energy-efficient upgrades

Suffolk County Music Service is progressing a range of environmentally friendly improvements at its Martlesham base to boost energy efficiency.

Recent upgrades include a new heating system powered by air-source heat pumps, with a mix of infra-red panels and air conditioning units providing year-round comfort.

Work is also underway on a new insulated roof with solar panels, and two EV charging points will soon be installed in the car park through Suffolk County Council's Plug in Suffolk scheme.

County Music Groups - Applications Open!

We are currently accepting applications to join Suffolk's premier youth music groups for the next season of quality music-making from September

onwards. Suitable for brass, percussion, string and woodwind players, our County Music Group programme offers a varied range of activities throughout the year with Suffolk Youth Orchestra, Suffolk Youth Wind Band and Suffolk Young Strings.

This includes rehearsal days, an Easter residential rehearsal course, concert tours (this year to Spain and Sweden) and performances at venues such as The Apex in Bury St Edmunds and Snape Maltings Concert Hall.

Visit our website for how to apply: <https://suffolkcountymusicservice.co.uk/take-part/county-music-groups/>

We're looking forward to other events that we have coming up and hope to see you soon!

South Suffolk Youth Jazz, St Margaret's Church, Soane St next to Christchurch Park, part of Ipswich Music Day on Sunday 5th July

Suffolk Youth Orchestra Prom Concert, Tuesday 4 August at Snape Maltings

Folk East, 21-23 August at Sotterley Estate nr Beccles. This is an especially exciting collaboration with the FolkEast organisers, as we'll be offering violin decorating workshops each morning of the festival (paint and brushes supplied, and of course enough decommissioned violins too!) followed by a playing session in the afternoon. Details can be found on our website.

County Music Groups Gala Concert, Sunday 6 September at Snape Malting

Please visit our website www.suffolkcountymusicservice.co.uk/take-part, where you can learn more about the wide range of activities we offer your children and young people at various locations across the county.

Follow us on our social media pages for more updates and find out how you can join in!



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MARTLESHAM CLIMATE ACTION

Thoughts after 18 months driving an EV

What have I learnt after driving for 18 months in an electric vehicle?

If you can charge from home and go onto a cheap night rate electricity tariff it is ridiculously cheap to run. My night rate is 9p per kWh (one unit of electricity). Other providers offer even cheaper night rates. It costs me £3.60 to 'fill up' half my battery (40kWh or 40 units). My battery can hold 81 units (81 kWh) representing about 350 miles of range in the summer (I get 4.3 miles per unit) or around 270 – 300 miles in the winter. Another way of thinking about the costs is I am paying around 2p per mile in the summer or 2.5p per mile in the winter. As I said, ridiculously cheap!

A home charger will charge at a rate of 7 units per hour (7kW) and costs around £1000 to instal. My Zappi charger fills up half my battery overnight in around 6 hours. If you have solar, you will be able to charge for free when it's sunny.

On road trips you may need to charge away from home. I find I plan comfort breaks around whilst having a coffee/loo break. Charging at around 60-65p per unit at a fast charger is about the same price as diesel so I usually seek out cheaper ones like Tesla or Ionity (albeit with a £10/month subscription) as, like petrol and

diesel, main road service stations are generally more expensive. So, for example, the Tesla chargers just off junction 1 of the M6 and Gloucester South and North on the M5 at 41p per unit were our stops. Many Tesla chargers are open to non-Tesla cars. I have not experienced range anxiety at all on trips to the southwest and northwest (there are now more EV charging points in the UK than petrol stations).

The acceleration from an electric motor really helps to get out of trouble when needed!

The driving experience is a joy; I would not go back to a combustion engine out of choice.

What about the carbon footprint? The embodied carbon to build an EV is a bit more than a combustion engine car (mainly due to the battery) but is rapidly paid back in 1 – 2 years by not burning a fossil fuel (i.e. petrol or diesel) that not only emits CO₂ into the atmosphere but has high carbon cost in the production (drilling, shipping and refining).

Some common myths about EVs

It costs a fortune; see above! New and used EV costs are now comparable with combustion engine cars, especially with the government grant. There is a lot less to go wrong so lower whole life maintenance costs. 2-year servicing is the norm.

Unreliable. The AA has reported that almost 90% of EV issues are fixed at the roadside, better than combustion engine cars.

I'll get stranded. 1.5% of EV callouts are for an

empty battery compared 8.3% for petrol cars. Just top up a bit when you have a break!

Run Meadow pollution incident update

The latest testing (June 1st) has shown there are still high levels of e-coli in the stream so be careful. The Environment Agency have been informed for further investigation.

Martlesham Repair and Climate Advice Hub

The next Repair Hub is 10-12, on Saturday 11th July in the Parish Room (old Felixstowe Rd near big Tesco's) as usual.

THERE IS NO REPAIR HUB IN AUGUST. If you have items to repair, you can also take them to the Repair Shed off Sandy Lane. See <https://suffolkrepaired.org>

I should also be there with information and leaflets on insulation, warm home grants, solar PV, heat pumps and other advice on how we can all do our bit to tackle an increasingly scary climate crisis and save on energy bills. Alternatively, why not drop into the Deben Climate Centre floating hub at Whisstocks in Woodbridge (by the Quay café) for advice. It is staffed by volunteers 10.00 – 13.00.

Dave Green, co-chair Martlesham Climate Action (a Parish Council working group)

Website:

www.martleshamclimateaction.onesuffolk.net

E-mail: martleshamclimateaction@btinternet.com

Bluesky: @martleshamca.bsky.social

THE ORWELL SINGERS – SUMMER CONCERT – SATURDAY 4TH JULY

The Orwell Singers will be holding their summer concert on Saturday July 4th at 7.30 pm at St Andrew's Church, Rushmere St Andrew, Ipswich. The choir will be singing an eclectic mix of songs for a summer evening, from Sondheim to Lennon and McCartney, Billy Joel to Eric Whitacre, directed by Lindsay Gowers and accompanied on piano by Ian Ray.

Entry will be on the door - £12 cash/credit card (free entry for accompanied children) and will include light refreshments and a raffle.

For further details of the concert, please contact d.sharman@btinternet.com or 07768 911512.

STAMPS & COINS APPEAL FOR ST ELIZABETH HOSPICE, IPSWICH

The hospice in Foxhall Road, Ipswich is a charity providing a free and invaluable service to the people of East and Mid-Suffolk, Great Yarmouth and the Waveney area. They need over £12 million a year to keep running and 70% of that comes from donations, fundraising and the support of their wonderful volunteers.

One way you can help is by donating your used stamps, surplus holiday coins and old pre-decimal coins. They are sorted and sold either at auction or online to raise much needed cash.

Please will you continue to help raise funds by saving your used stamps and old coins, even old pre-Euro notes have a value. Bundle them up and bring them to my address below, or if it's more convenient, take them directly to one of the hospice shops in our area. Don't worry that you don't have many stamps - all the bundles of used stamps pushed through my letterbox very soon add up to a great deal for the Hospice.

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MARTLESHAM HEATH AVIATION SOCIETY

On the evening of Friday 5th June Martlesham Heath Aviation Society had a very well attended talk by Royal Air Force Squadron Leader Rich Green (Aerosystems Engineer Officer). He was particularly pleased to give the talk here as he was born and lived locally on "The Heath" ... indeed members of his family continue to live locally.

Rich told us about his Career so far, with some of his experiences, including times abroad on deployment, and becoming an RAF Engineer Officer in 2009, and his thoughts of the future.

He joined the RAF when the world was (relatively speaking) a more peaceful place – indeed some said that, with the collapse of the Soviet Union – there was a "Peace Dividend". This meant that most countries cut back on their military assets. The RAF was not excluded from this – and may of the well-remembered aircraft, such as The Harrier, Jaguar and even Buccaneers were scrapped. However, these cutbacks (not just in the RAF) have (he acknowledged) not necessarily reduced the expectations on the RAF.

The RAF have now got approximately 151 fast jet combat aircraft (Typhoons and Lightning II) with about nine squadrons. More Lightning II aircraft are on the way – however modern aircraft and weapon systems are complex and costly and being continuously modified to stay relevant to any adversary threats. However, Rich mentioned that modern true multi role aircraft are capable of taking on many tasks, now being capable of using or dropping very accurate smart munitions – fewer aircraft being required to have the intended effect.

He looked at modern threats which now include cyber and space assets. Satellites are now highly valuable assets across many

functions. There are now thousands of satellites in orbit – monitoring what is happening terrestrially. If current military activity escalates into a more global conflict – then undoubtedly satellites and their systems would be targeted in a cyber or physical manner.

This is where Rich operates – as a member of the UK Space Command – working in a Tri-Service team alongside military and civilian colleagues to grow UK Defence space capability.

Looking at modern warfare, the military threats are now far more complex, one of the main differences on the battlefield is the huge effect of unmanned vehicles in changing the traditional domains of Air, Maritime and Land. One of the main things that hotly anticipated is the Defence Investment Plan, which will set out how the Strategic Defence Review (2025) will be achieved.

Regarding his time in the RAF – he says life in the modern RAF is fascinating, and well worth considering as a career.

Now looking to the future meetings of the Society:

On Friday 3rd July at 7:30pm, Jimmy Blackwood presents: RAF Aerial Photo Reconnaissance in World War 2 This is one of the illustrated talks he regularly gives to raise money for St.Elizabeth Hospice.

Jimmy states that: There can be no doubt that photographic reconnaissance was a key contributor to the overall intelligence picture throughout the Second World War. The old saying that a picture is worth a thousand words was never more truly demonstrated. The camera pictures only what is there, omits nothing, provides a record which can be easily duplicated and supplies a means of recording the truth.

Martlesham Heath Community Centre, Felixstowe Road, Martlesham Heath, Suffolk, Suffolk, IP12 4PB

The talk starts at 7:30 p.m., and the evening usually finishes by 10:00 pm. Admission is £5 for non-members, £3 for Society Members. You can join the Society on the night if you wish.

Pay by Cash or Card on arrival at the talk - there is no need to book in advance - just turn up in good time.

In August Society members are sharing a Coach with the Ipswich Aviation Society on a VISIT BY Coach to The Northern site of The RAF Museum – when we go to their RAF Cosford Site. So no normal meeting that month!

On 4th September Patrick Peal presents "The Lady and her Spitfire" raising money for the "East Anglian Air Ambulance" .

AN EARLY NOTICE: for your diaries....

On Sunday 13th September we are holding our Annual Fundraising Event for our Control Tower Museum. It will run - from 11:00 to 4:30. Bookings for attractions are going well... and are already looking to book some surprises!

In the meantime,

Our Control Tower, Bunker, and Anderson Shelter are open every Sunday afternoon 2:00 to 4:30 until the end of October (other times for groups by previous appointment) It is located behind Parkers Place, off Eagle Way, Martlesham Heath IP5 3UZ. Parking is FREE, as is admission – but we do like donations – particularly generous ones!

For more information.....

Website: www.mhas.org.uk Telephone: 01473 274300

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BADMINTON IN KESGRAVE

Woodbridge Badminton Club is now running a summer badminton club on a pay-as-you-play basis at the Kesgrave Community Centre Sports Hall on Thursday evenings 8pm - 10pm. This will run until the end of August.

The cost is £6 per session. For latest details check out our website at <https://www.woodbridgebadminton.co.uk> or email jim.cavanagh955@gmail.com or ring Jim Cavanagh on 0780 323 2892.

We welcome a range of abilities but unfortunately not complete beginners. Our league matches and junior sessions have finished for this season but will restart in the autumn. The junior section currently has a waiting list.

BAWDSEY RADAR MUSEUM

Activities continue at the block this month. The Museum is open every Thursday, Sunday and Bank Holiday Mondays.

Amateur radio station GB2BRS will be operational on certain days over the summer, including 28th June and 19th July. Come and say hello to the world or perhaps listen to the Universe!

Over the school summer holidays we will be again running our Spy Trail. Learn how to become a spy and how to communicate covertly.

The virtual reality Climb the Radar Tower will also be available on 26th July.

Further details of all our activities may be found on our website: www.bawdseyradar.org.uk

For more information contact info@bawdseyradar.org.uk or phone 07821 162879.

GIPPESWYK SINGERS

Gippeswyk Singers are taking a break over summer and will be back rehearsing in September.

Choir rehearsals take place at St Michael's Church on Martlesham Heath, Monday evenings.

We are a friendly chamber choir that enjoys singing in a variety of choral music genres including madrigals, carols, folksongs and spirituals, under the direction of Janette Ruocco accompanied by Sabine Sutton.

There is no membership fee for young singers aged 18 to 25. Whatever your age, why not come along to a couple of rehearsals to try us out and find out about how we work?

Please phone 07949 803594 for further information.



MARTLESHAM LADIES CLUB

Well the month of June sees our Club finishing for the summer, we resume in September. We have had a really good year with some smashing speakers and the membership is very strong, with an average of 40 people coming to each meeting.

In May we enjoyed a talk by Maureen, one of our members, on the history of the typewriter. The sculptor, Sean Hedges-Quinn, who produced the figures of Sir Alf Ramsey, Sir Bobby Robson and Kevin Beatty in Ipswich and one of Roy Hudd in Stowmarket will have been to tell us all about his work.

We will have had our day out to Wroxham and Potter Heigham; hopefully the weather was kind. Our programme for June is varied and we look forward to another year of interesting speakers. Our meetings are held fortnightly in the Richards Room, Felixstowe Road from 2 - 4 and we finish with tea and biscuits and a raffle.

More details ring June on 07867525422.

LADIES ON THE GREEN

Our very successful ladies club was formed in 2025 for the benefit of ladies from Martlesham and the surrounding villages, to meet and make new friends. We meet monthly and usually have an interesting speaker followed by chatty social time, a competition, refreshments and a book stall. Plus a raffle with all proceeds going to our chosen charity for the year.

During the rest of the month we also have a coffee morning club in the Runway Cafe, a Walking/Pub Lunch group combining a nice walk with an even nicer lunch, a Film and Theatre Group catching films and shows at local cinemas and theatres and recently a very enjoyable coach trip to the National Flower Show in Chelmsford.

At the moment we have reached our numbers limit of members and have a waiting list, but you are still very welcome to come to one of our meetings to see if you would be interested to join in the future. So give us a call. We meet usually on the third Friday of the month, in the Martlesham Heath Pavilion, The Drift, Martlesham Heath, IP5 3PL 1.45pm to 4.15 Contact : Rosemary on 07512 776232 or June on 07594 189100 for more information.

MARTLESHAM BRASS 'Making Music Fun in East Anglia'

Martlesham Brass Main Band will be performing in St Margaret's Church in Ipswich on Sunday 5th July at 3.50pm, as part of Ipswich Music Day.

There is another chance to hear the Main Band playing on Sunday 19th July at 2.30pm, as part of the 'Brass on the Grass' series of free concerts at the Arboretum in Christchurch Park, Ipswich.

If you feel you would like to learn to play a brass instrument, or if you already play and would be interested in joining us, please email join@martleshambrass.co.uk - we currently operate a waiting list for our Beginners' band.

If you wish to hire the band to perform at an event, please contact our booking secretary by emailing booking@martleshambrass.co.uk

SPEAK EASY AT MARTLESHAM

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

We meet at Richards Room in Martlesham, and we are also using Zoom to enable greater participation, including from abroad. We encourage new members to join us in the room, where we add the online audience giving us the experience of one meeting.

Guests are welcome to attend Speak Easy to see what we have to offer, and to take part if you would like. On a typical evening, you can expect introductions, a round of impromptu speaking, three prepared speeches, and evaluations throughout.

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. The next are 2nd, 16th and 30th July, and 13th and 27th August

Join at 7:00pm for a 7:15pm start, 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: vpe@speak-easy.org.uk
or www.speak-easy.org.uk
or find us on Facebook: *Speak Easy Martlesham*

Thought for the month

I recently made a visit to nursery and Year 1 children at a local primary school to talk about bees. Apart from my own presentation the children had compiled lots of questions to ask me. Some were easy to answer such as 'How far can a bee fly?' – around 3 or 4 kilometres in case you too were wondering – and 'Why are bees stripy?' – we discussed possible responses to this one. But one which has kept turning over in my mind was 'How do bees know who is who as they all look the same?' We thought that they might not look the same to each other and we might look the same to them. But I guess the real answer is 'does it matter?' After all, so long as they work together to maintain the health and welfare of the colony, does it matter if Jess, Mary and Grace (all worker bees are female) should be cleaning the cells, finding nectar, feeding the queen, or getting rid of the debris? And to be quite honest, with around 50,000 bees in one colony in summer, they would need to remember an awful lot of names to keep track of all their friends.

In his letter to the Romans, St Paul writes 'A body is made up of many parts, and each of them has its own use. That's how it is with us. There are many of us, but we each are part of the body of Christ, as well as part of one another'. Like the bees, we too need to work together for the health and welfare of the place in which we live, whether that is our local, national or international community. To live and work as one body, without worrying about discrepancies between us and our neighbours, but with an awareness of the impact our lives have on everyone, can make the difference between war and peace, wellbeing and insecurity. A healthy hive and a healthy world.

Rev. Margaret Rittman PTO
Martlesham with Brightwell

OUR CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 2026 TOTAL

We have now counted all the donations made up to the time of writing, and we are delighted to be able to say that our benefice collection (including gift aid) currently amounts to over £1,800, an increase on last year!

Thank you so much to everyone who donated, either in a red envelope or online, and thank you to the Runway for being a collection point and to all the wonderful volunteers who delivered envelopes through doors. We are really grateful, as every donation is used to help our vulnerable neighbours worldwide who are hungry and living in poverty in these difficult times.

However, the need is still urgent and it is not too late to donate.

Gifts can still be sent online at <https://www.christianaid.org.uk/give>, by posting a cheque made out to 'Christian Aid' to: Christian Aid, York House, Wetherby Road, Long Marston, York, YO26 7NH, or you can give over the phone by calling Christian Aid on 0333 555 1060.

On behalf of the poor and vulnerable people of the world, thank you. Carolyn Smith

The Runway

Coffee Shop Manager required

The Runway Coffee Shop in Martlesham Heath is looking to employ a part-time manager (16 hours/week) to oversee its operations.

The Runway is a not-for-profit coffee shop operated by the church in Martlesham and is an important Christian outreach project serving the local community.

For further details please email: therunway@martleshamcofe.org.uk

Closing date 17th July 2026

ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH LUNCH CLUB

The Lunch Club has been running successfully for nearly 22 years serving on average 35 guests a month.

We now find we are short of helpers in the kitchen. We would welcome anyone (preferably with some cooking experience) to join the team.

Lunches are held on the second Wednesday of each month.

We arrive at 10 30am to start preparations serving lunch at 12 30pm and having our lunch at about 1 30pm when the guests have finished.

For more information contact Mary Stalley Tel. 01473 623752

MARTLESHAM COMMUNITY HALL AND RICHARDS ROOM

You can find out about our venues at our website - mchall.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 623 203. (Monday to Saturday 08:00 - 20:00).

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: 07873 557999

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)

CURATE: The Revd Rob Allinson rob@martleshamcofe.org.uk
07359 463312 (rest day Friday)

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

READERS: Marga Gibbs van Dijk 16 Deben Avenue, Martlesham 07837587340
Carolyn Smith 74 Heathfield, Martlesham Heath

CHILDREN & FAMILIES MINISTER: Emma Allinson emma@martleshamcofe.org.uk
07359 339452

ELDERS: Simon Smith 11 Squires Lane, Martlesham Heath 01473 612410 (eve only)
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 5th July	St Michael's 9.30am Coffee and pastries 10am Breakfast Church St Mary's 11am Holy Communion	
Sunday 12th July	St Michael's 10am Holy Communion St John's 6.30pm BCP Evensong	10am Holy Communion
Sunday 19th July	St Michael's 10am Morning Worship St Mary's 11am Holy Communion	10am Morning Worship 7pm Zoom Reflecting with God
Sunday 26th July	St Michael's 10am Holy Communion St John's 6.30pm BCP Evensong	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.**

Midweek Services	Every Monday: 8.30am Morning Prayer at St Mary's Wednesday 8th and 22nd July: 10am Holy Communion at St Michael's
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Prayer Diary Please include the following as an addition to your daily prayers:

July

1 for the residents of Lark Rise
2 for our local Councillors
3 for those persecuted for their faith
4 for world leaders that they may act with integrity
5 take time to be still and listen to God in prayer today
6 for all working in our local GP surgery
7 for university students graduating this year
8 for the residents of Lugano Avenue
9 for the work of CAP (Christians Against Poverty)
10 for staff in our local care homes
11 give thanks for sunshine and rain
12 that the world may know God's peace
13 those starting new jobs
14 those living with painful medical conditions
15 for the residents of Main Road
16 for Parliament and MPs going into summer recess today

17 all young people leaving their current school this term
18 those working for reconciliation and peace
19 give thanks that God is with us
20 for staff and students at the end of school term
21 for safety for families going on holiday
22 for the residents of Manor Road
23 for parents caring for sick children
24 for the work of the Children's Society
25 St James' Day: pray for all ministering at our Cathedral
26 that we may spread the good news of Jesus' love for all
27 for those facing difficult choices in life
28 give thanks for the mobile library coming today
29 for the residents of Mayfields
30 for all at the Runway today
31 give thanks for those who care for us

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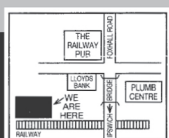
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