

martlesham monthly

APRIL 2024

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Ofsted 'Good'
August 2022



martlesham monthly

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Front cover photo

Spring flowers -sweet violets
(Viola odorata) blooming
beautifully in Portal
Woodlands.

Tree of the Month April 2024 - Weeping Willow (Salix babylonica)



Online:

www.martleshammonthly.com
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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.

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 Jo on martleshamguides@gmail.com or 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

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 Macleod lindsayfw@msn.com

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: 3.00-4.30pm
9 April, 7 May,

Thursdays

Play2Day Nursery Gloster Road 10.15 - 10.45,
Douglas Bader: 11-12noon
25 April, 23 May
<https://www.suffolklibraries.co.uk/mobiles-home/using-the-mobile-library-service/>

This graceful weeping willow can be found near the water's edge at Martlesham Recreation Ground. *Salix babylonica* is a medium to large sized deciduous tree which can grow to 25m tall. Whilst it grows rapidly, it has a short lifespan of between 40 and 75 years. The leaves are alternate, long, narrow and light green. They turn gold-yellow in autumn. In early spring, slender catkins are produced. Branches and twigs are pendulous or ‘weeping’ in nature, often reaching the ground. *Salix* is known for attracting bees, birds, moths and butterflies. It is a caterpillar food plant and provides shelter and habitat

POLICE

In case of emergencies pleas always call 999. In non-emergency situations call the new number 101
Email the Safer Neighbourhood Team
woodbridge.snt@suffolk.police.uk

COMMUNITY RESPONDERS

Martlesham Community Responders are a group of volunteers funded entirely by donations who are trained to provided 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

Martlesham Council

Decisions made

Recent decisions made by Martlesham Council include:

- Continuing to show our commitment to road safety by purchasing hi viz jackets and body cameras for Martlesham Community Speed Watch volunteers who are soon to take to the road after completing their onsite training with the Police and purchasing a laptop to help process data collected by the Speed Indicator Device (SID)
- Reviewing council policies including our Equality and Diversity Policy and Safeguarding Policy
- Continuing to undertake our financial responsibilities

Wildlife Friendly Garden Competition

Is your garden a wildlife magnet full of food and shelter just right for bugs and birds? If so, why not take part in our Wildlife Friendly Garden Competition? To enter, send in photos of your garden (these will be judged on the wildlife friendly nature of gardens not on the quality of the photography) and add explanatory notes, if you wish, to enquiries@martleshamcouncil.org.uk.

Top tips for a wildlife friendly garden include:

Don't cut down plants when dead, leave some to develop seed heads to help feed birds and save some seeds for planting next year.

Leave areas of long grass and short grass for a range of insects to thrive.

Create a wood pile topped with leaves to create a bug hotel.

Make a pond, it does not have to be big and provide much needed water for drinking and bathing.

Active Travel Woodbridge consultation

Suffolk County Council would like to know what you think of the active travel schemes that are planned for Woodbridge. The schemes are to make it easier to choose more active ways of getting around to benefit mental and physical health, improve air quality, road safety and quality of life. To find out more about the proposals and submit your views click on the following link:

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/transport-planning/activetravelwoodbridge>

Forthcoming meetings

Parish Council meeting – Wednesday 3rd April

Development, Environment & Transport Committee - Wednesday 17th April

Please note that Parish Council meetings will be held in the Parish Room, Felixstowe Road, Martlesham, IP12 4PB. All meetings start at 7.30pm 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 strongly recommend you check our website or noticeboards in case of changes.

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:

enquiries@martleshamcouncil.org.uk

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>

A wildlife garden looking attractive and well managed.



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April 14 & 28
May 12 & 26
June 9 & 23

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

Please Note New timings from April

UPDATE FROM SUFFOLK EAST DISTRICT COUNCILLOR MARK PACKARD

In February I was delighted to be invited by Charlotte to Martlesham Pre School in Deben Avenue, Martlesham Heath. The school is run by a charity and is a really welcoming and busy place. Nicola is the Head and I also met Danielle and Rachel who look after the children. See photo below. The school is very active at fundraising and has a full complement of boys and girls. After hearing of their plans for the future I was impressed with the outside space and their plan to upgrade their sandpit. I had some money available in my Community Grant Fund and have put in an application to help fund the sandpit.

I was also present at the Community Partnership meeting held recently at Tuddenham St Martin Village Hall where £9,700 was voted to Martlesham Parish Council towards their plan to create a wildlife corridor between Martlesham and the Martlesham Wilds Space. The funds are voted on by Parish Councillors from Rushmere St Andrew, Carlford and Fynn Valley, so that includes villages like Bealings, Grundisburgh and as far away as Charlsfield. The idea is to create a sensory landscape on an existing grassed area that will stimulate the senses and bring a calming, welcoming space to the natural countryside. Developing the Playground Area so that it attracts residents from both Martlesham and the surrounding villages will make the area more alive and contemporary so I am fully supportive of the Parish Council's plan.

As always if you have any concerns you can contact me at mark.packard@eastsuffolk.gov.uk

Martlesham Heath Householders Ltd

Tree Survey

One of the enjoyable things about living on Martlesham Heath is the rich abundance of trees of various types. However, not only are we all getting a bit older but the many trees that abound Martlesham Heath are also getting older. The problem is that we are now faced with the fact that some of the older trees have suffered damage and need attention. This is especially due to the recent winter storms that we have experienced. After much discussion it was felt that in order to avoid accidents that could occur with falling branches and trees it was necessary to complete a survey of the trees throughout Martlesham Heath in order to get to grips with the severity of the problem and take the necessary action. This survey has been completed recently and we are now getting rid of any dangerous branches and trees. If you are out walking in the woods and see work ongoing, please don't go near.

Woodland Tidy Up

We reported last month of the tidy up work that had been carried out in Birchwood's by volunteers. We are delighted to report that many residents have commented on how much easier they have found the paths as the silver birch logs have defined where the paths are whilst the leaves are on the ground. Also, the first tree survey, at our request, focused on the defined and much used pathways. If you deviate from these areas, please be careful as the trees in these areas are still to be assessed.

Tree Planting

By the time you read this MHHL will have planted 28 saplings to replace trees that we have lost over the past year. These are all native species namely Wild Cherry, Common Beech, Hornbeam, Field Maple, and Hazel. We are trying to add some spring blossom and autumn berries around the village to add a bit of colour and help the wildlife. If you find we have put a tree sapling near you, could you kindly water it in periods of drought until it is established. We would like to thank Jane Hall, a Martlesham Parish Councillor and one of the Suffolk Tree Wardens, who kindly arranged the supply of these saplings free of charge.

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.

MHHL Website

A reminder that lots more information about Martlesham Heath Householders Limited can be obtained on our website at www.mhhl.co.uk



Spring is here

Now we are into April there is lots of wildlife to see and enjoy in our outdoor spaces. Bird nesting is well underway; look out for birds making the most of your outdoor space for food, nest materials, and/or nest sites. If you need to do any minor pruning of vegetation be careful not to disturb nesting birds (which is illegal). Major work should be done wherever possible during autumn and winter, outside of the main bird nesting season from around February to August, (although different species vary and changing climate is affecting timings).

Other wildlife you may spot or see signs of, in the form of their 2-5cm long dark, cylindrical droppings, are hedgehogs who will be busy building up body fat they lost during hibernation. They will be hungry so do not clear up all your garden leaves and wood piles - the invertebrates they harbour such as slugs will be enjoyed by hedgehogs, who are a gardener's best friend, and there may still be hedgehogs asleep under them. You can also help by ensuring there are gaps for them, (15cms by 15 cms), through garden boundaries.

Wildlife really brings an outdoor space to life. Many invertebrates spend winter hidden from view as eggs, larvae or adults but can now be seen out and about, bumblebees, bee fly and shieldbugs for example.

While you enjoy the wildlife and beautiful spring blooms you can think ahead to summer with annuals that can be sown in April, such as sunflowers, nasturtium, cornflowers and borage. All can be sown indoors then grown on to be planted out later. If you choose varieties that have flowers with a single form (i.e. you can see the flower's centre, unlike doubles which are made up completely of petals) they will provide us with colour, pollinating insects with pollen and nectar and some, like sunflowers will provide seeds for birds to eat in situ or for us to harvest and feed to them.

There is food for us to think about too! If you would like to grow tomatoes outside this summer April is the perfect time to sow seed indoors ready to grow on and plant out at the beginning of June.

Happy wildlife watching and gardening!

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

Martlesham Community Hall

We're here for you ...

The Community Hall and Richards Room are popular venues. However we do have spare sessions available for both regular and occasional hire. You can check the facilities, hire rates and booking calendars on our website - mchall.org.uk. For one-off booking requests, you can use the website booking request form. For regular bookings please contact our Booking Secretary directly on 01473 623203 (between 08:00 and 20:00). We look forward to seeing you.

Our next Community Quiz will be on Saturday 18 May. We'll be taking bookings from after the Easter weekend, when the quiz team booking form will be online at: mchall.org.uk/quiz. Alternatively you can call Ian Read on 01473 622721 from that time onwards. Please book promptly; the quizzes are proving very popular.

Martlesham PreSchool



We've been so busy in the lead up to Easter.

We began this half term with a healthy living week where we spoke lots about healthy food, staying active and oral hygiene. Its involved lot's of role play as dentists, doctors and nurses; and of course lots of dancing!

World book day was celebrated with parents shared story sessions and the children were invited to come in, in any costumes. Wow! we were treated to some wonderful costumes which then influenced lots of their play.

It was then all preparation for Easter, with lots of Easter crafts and baking, as well as a visit to the local church for an Easter Service, which was thoroughly enjoyed with lots of singing and dancing too!

We have spaces available for September if you would like to get in contact to arrange a visit, please call us on 01473 625986 or email: Martleshampreschool@outlook.com

Martlesham Preschool
www.martleshampreschool.co.uk

Martlesham Brass

'Making Music Fun in East Anglia

All our bands are busy rehearsing for our Spring Concert on Saturday 11th May at St Michael's Church Centre - there will be more details next month.

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 have spaces available in our beginners band. Members are supplied with an instrument on loan for the time they remain in the band. The subscription is just £7 per month.'

Liz Howard (Publicity Officer)
publicity@martleshambrass.co.uk
07544 962205
Registered Charity No.1100922.
Visit our website
www.martleshambrass.co.uk

Hedgehog Nursery –

The Hedgehogs have enjoyed seeing their Spring bulbs come into flower and bringing colour to the garden. We had a go at some observational pictures of daffodils using different media. We also discovered how plants have a drink and how they stand up strong. We have added some new story titles to our spine books and have enjoyed exploring our favourites (my vote was for Naughty Bus!). We enjoyed celebrating World Book Day with our favourite books and dressed up as characters. The Hedgehogs also sang to their Mummies to thank them for being superheroes!

Hedgehog Nursery is part of Gorseland Primary School and is led by a qualified teacher, Mrs Haig, who is supported by highly 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.

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

If you are 'curious', have a three or four-year-old and are looking for nursery care, please don't hesitate to get in touch with the school office to arrange a visit!

KESGRAVE LIBRARY NEWS

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

Sunday 7th – This week are creating fish out of old CDs. How will you decorate yours?

Sunday 14th – Spring is here – make a flower garland to brighten up your room.

Sunday 21st – Today is the London Marathon and we are designing new running shoes. What colours will you use?

Sunday 28th – To cope with the April showers, we are making umbrella pictures. What colour umbrella will you have?

Activities are free. Parents must stay with under eights.

Work Play Sessions – Every Thursday Morning.

These free sessions are run by trained staff.

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 9.45 – 10.15 a.m. Fun stories, rhymes, and songs – this is a free activity. We hope to see you soon.

Lego Club – every Tuesday 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.

Book Groups

Morning Book Group – Tuesday 10.00 a.m. 2nd April at the library. The group are discussing A Man Called Ove by Fredrik Backman.

Afternoon Book Club – This group's next meeting is Thursday 4th April at 2.45 p.m. where they will be discussing House of Correction by Nicci French.

Evening Book Group – Thursday 25th April 7.00 – 8.00 p.m. The group are currently reading Shuggie Bain by Douglas Stuart.

If you are interested in joining any of the above book groups, please contact library staff. The library supplies copies of the titles being read.

Adult Scrabble Club – every Monday morning from 10.00 a.m. Why not pop along and meet new people and have a game?

Tea/coffee are provided.

Menopause and Me Support Group – Special Session - Thursday 4th April 7.00 – 8.00 p.m. This

peer led support group will be run by staff and Jen Evans, who is a menopause advisor. All sessions will comply with both NHS and NICE guidelines; and are for anyone who is affected by the menopause and its symptoms.

At this month's session we are inviting partners to attend and find out how they can support you through your menopause and how the menopause can affect you.

These sessions will offer practical advice, as well as be a chance to talk to others and get support. Tea, coffee, and biscuits will be provided.

Stay and Play – Every Tuesday 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.

Our Stay & Play groups are a chance for parents to socialise and give their babies and young children a fun, interactive play session that engages their senses and helps their development. These sessions are suitable for under 5s.

This event is part of our Me Myself and Baby perinatal support service. The aim of the project is to help reduce isolation and improve emotional wellbeing for new parents.

Warm Space – Kesgrave Library is a designated warm space throughout the winter, offering hot drinks and a safe, welcoming area to pop along to and spend some time in.

Home Library Service – If you would like to access the library but are unable to visit us, Kesgrave runs three home library routes, where volunteers come out with a selection of books to your homes. To access this service, whether you are house bound, recovering from an operation, receiving treatment for an illness, or enquiring for a relative/friend or someone you care for, please ring the library 01473 626103 or log onto the Suffolk Libraries website and complete the online form.

Easter Opening Times – please don't forget we are closed on Easter Monday: 1st April.

Opening Hours -

Monday 9.00–12.00 noon
Tuesday 9.00–12.00 noon/2.30–5.00 pm
Wednesday 2.30 – 6.00 pm
Thursday 2.30 – 8.00 pm
Friday 9.00–12.00 noon/2.30–6.00 pm
Saturday 10.00–5.00 pm
Sunday 10.00–3.00 pm
Tel: 01473 626103
www.suffolklibraries.co.uk

Martlesham Conservation Group

The Martlesham Heath (SSSI) on the western side of the village is an example of dry lowland heath (the rarest type of habitat in Europe), which should ideally be dominated by heathers with a mix of other low growing plants including fine grasses. Much of the work of the Group is involved in conserving this habitat for wildlife but also helping to support good public access. On our last work party in March we filled in holes in the central part of the heath and cut back the encroaching brambles and other scrub along several paths. We would like to thank all the members who helped on our recent work parties and also those who gave up their time and effort on the Megabash that took place in February. Also we give our thanks to the Greenways project for their support on the last Megabash and continuing support over many years.

Members of the public, especially dog walkers can make a valuable contribution to the conservation of our heathland and its associated wildlife by sticking to the main paths. The areas cleared in the winter could be colonised by ground nesting birds and reptiles especially if the disturbance level could be kept low. Please stick to the main paths, and if you are a dog walker we strongly advise you to walk your dog on a lead and stick to the main paths. This is partly for the benefit of our local wildlife but also for the protection of your dog as we seem to have a good population of adders present on the heath based on the numbers seen last year. Please don't be tempted to take short cuts across the open areas, and please remember all our British snakes and lizards are protected by law. For more information about reptiles (and amphibians) try the website <https://www.arc-trust.org>.

In April, we should see the major influx of migrant birds with more varied song such as from the Nightingale, Whitethroat, Garden Warbler and Lesser Whitethroat. Please listen out for these birds on our heaths and woodlands this year, and enjoy the rich soundscape of their birdsong. Later in the month if the weather warms up we may begin to see more butterflies which may include the Green Hairstreak, Brimstone and Orange Tip, adding colour and movement to the landscape.

Our next work party will be on Sunday 7th April at 10am. Please meet on the Martlesham Heath SSSI next to the bank that runs east-west across the site (along the path from the sign board between Heathfield and The Oaks). We will be creating small patches of bare ground for the benefit of solitary bees and wasps, reptiles, butterflies and some birds that light to eat seeds off the ground. In May we will be conducting some birds surveys.

You may be interested in taking part in our work parties or wildlife surveys please contact us via our email - martleshamconservationgrp84@gmail.com for more information.

Phil Smith 01473 625630

Martlesham Village Fete - Saturday 20th July 2024

The Green Martlesham Heath

We thought we'd concentrate this month on giving you a preview of some of the entertainment we have planned for you on the big day. More good reasons to have the date firmly in your diary.

There will be two areas to visit. The first will be near the church centre or inside if that is more appropriate. The acts we have here include John Studd who specialises in Elvis songs, and he will be followed by the Kesgrave singers with a varied programme from their wide ranging repertory of songs. We will also have a choir of Rock singers and to round things off musically we have our very own Martlesham Brass, always a firm favourite.

This area will also host the conclusion of the day with a prize giving for the photograph competition "Reflections" We hope you will consider entering this free competition, contact the organisers at the email address below.

We are also lucky enough to have a children's storyteller who will be entertaining young and old throughout the day in the church centre.

We are also planning a sports area which will give younger visitors a chance to develop and show off their sports skills. In this area we will also have demonstrations from a children's street dance company and a Karate group, displays not to be missed.

All of this is in addition to the stalls and displays of local organisations, charities and local groups and the fun fair.

The fete is organised by a working group of Martlesham Council which can be contacted at mvfete@gmail.com if you have any questions or would like to book a stall.



Bright Stars 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.

In March we continued the theme of Creation and how God made all types of creatures, some living on land, in the sea and birds that fly. We had a picture puzzle of animals to colour and to cut out and put the animals together or to put them together with any backs and fronts making funny looking creatures!

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*

Portal Woodlands Conservation Group

Sadly, the past year has seen sooty bark disease, caused by the fungus *Cryptostroma corticale*, killing many of our sycamores. Visibly, the tree trunk and branches become blackened. Physically, the tree becomes very weak and brittle, with high winds easily snapping the tree. Unfortunately, there is no effective treatment so we hope the disease will take its course and subside.

Fortunately, Spring is bringing more uplifting sights, with lovely displays of daffodils (*Narcissus*) and sweet violets (*Viola odorata*) for visitors to enjoy.

Our next Volunteer work morning is Sunday 21st April from 10:00 to Noon, meeting at the Education Area. 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.

Stephen Corley, Chairman



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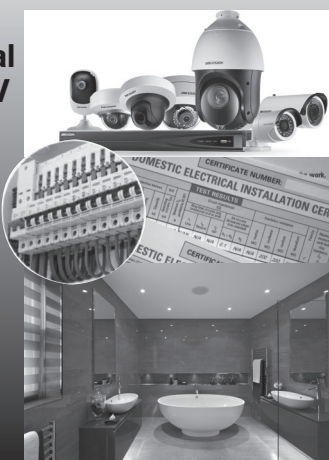


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Martlesham Climate Action

'Climate Change: what can we do?'

Following our climate event in March, here is a list of actions and behaviour changes you might consider, reducing your own personal impact on carbon emissions along with rough annual carbon emission estimates. The average person in the UK is responsible for around 8-10 tonnes of carbon per year mainly through their diet, consumer spending, energy use and travel (basically using and consuming things that involve burning fossil fuels). If we all start changing it will have a significant impact.

1. Go car free (2 tonnes)
2. Reduce/stop flying (one trip London – New York is nearly 2 tonnes, London – Rome 0.5 tonnes)
3. Switch your electricity to a renewable supplier (1.6 tonnes)
4. Reduce/eliminate food waste (0.3 tonnes)
5. Try Vegan or Vegetarian diet or at least reduce meat consumption (0.2-0.8 tonnes)
6. Eat local food (0.3 tonnes)
7. Insulate your home as best you can (up to 0.9 tonnes by saving heating bills)
8. Reduce buying new clothes (0.2 tonnes)
9. Working from home (0.7 tonnes)
10. High active travel i.e., cycling/walking/public transport (0.8 tonnes)
11. Recycling/buy refills (0.2 tonnes)
12. Install solar PV panels (1 tonne)
13. Replace fossil heating e.g., gas boiler with a heat pump (1 tonne)
14. Replace old fossil fuel car with EV (2

tonnes if you do an average/high mileage) but better to reduce car use completely!

15. Think carefully about pets (no pets = 0.5 tonnes)

16. Plant 10 trees (10 years to save 1 tonne)

Why not choose some actions/changes?

Aim to save around 4 tonnes by 2030. You can then tell the next generations you did your best!

The carbon estimates are based on research published by the University of Essex.

Martlesham Repair and Climate Advice Hub – Martlesham Parish room (next to the Community Centre)

The next Repair and Climate Advice Hub will be on Saturday, April 13th from 10-12 in the Parish Room. The Climate Advice hub will be there with advice on how you can do your bit to reduce your own carbon emissions and reduce your energy bills and I can demonstrate the infrared camera if you are interested in detecting heat loss in your own home!

Discounts for home insulation

A reminder that Suffolk County Council have teamed up with Travis Perkins to offer 50% discount on insulation up to £200. Go to <https://www.greensuffolk.org/at-home/grants/> to find out more. The online order form is at <https://forms.office.com/e/aAX5csv5LE>

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

Website:

www.martleshamclimateaction.onesuffolk.net

E-mail:

martleshamclimateaction@btinternet.com

Twitter: @martleshamclim1

From Jessica Ratcliff

Martlesham Wilds Warden

Springtime! March '24.

Spring is in the air and as the winter bird surveys wind up, the breeding bird surveys begin! The changes on site are subtle but already happening – the weedy stubbles have been left over winter, and the last of the heavy machinery work, to disc any deeply furrowed fields, took place in February.

During last year's breeding season there were an estimated 11 skylark territories, and we can only imagine that with all the additional, undisturbed areas that this year there will be even more, along with other ground nesting birds like meadow pipits. Recently there has been a woodlark singing in the eastern part of the reserve, and flocks of golden plover, curlew and lapwing roosting on some of the fields nearer to the river.

Work parties have begun, mainly repairing fences on the marshes in anticipation of the beginning of the grazing season and we are very lucky to be having 22 Belted Galloways this year, helping to maintain and perhaps improve floristic diversity. Although this year they will not be grazing next to the footpath, you will be able to see them in the distance as you cross the marsh onto the river wall.

Volunteers have also been busy with the task of removing old spiro-guards from hedges - an uncomfortable but gratifying job!

Preparations are now underway for this year's survey season; training for butterfly and soil surveys will start in the next weeks, and there will be more to come.

Please do feel free to get in touch if you have any comments or questions, or if you are interested in getting involved – we are always happy to hear from you!

JJ – Martlesham Wilds Warden

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MORE MARTLESHAM WILDS NEWS

Thanks to a generous grant of £340,453 from Biffa Award, Suffolk Wildlife Trust can begin the vital conservation works and habitat creation, which will help to boost nature’s recovery across the reserve. As thickets of hawthorn, blackthorn, gorse and wild rose establish on the dry sandy soils, they will support growing flocks of linnets and yellowhammers, and in time we hope nightingale will return. Small mammals will thrive in the dense undergrowth and insects will abound. Grass snakes, slow worms and common lizards will expand into the new areas of habitat and barn owls will come a regular sight at dusk. This ‘wilded’ land will become part of a connected landscape of ancient woodland, scrub, grassland and saltings, linked by the River Deben.

The funding from Biffa Award will support a range of works across the nature reserve including:

- The building of livestock shelters, fencing and troughs for the grazing animals that are being introduced to the reserve for conservation grazing,
- The purchase of surveying and monitoring equipment that will enable reserve staff and volunteers to carry out essential wildlife surveys as the nature recovers and reestablishes on the reserve,
- The creation of habitats across the reserve to kick-start “rewilding” of the site, including ponds, invertebrate banks, scrapes, lagoons, and foot drains,
- The installation of species surveying platforms to enable staff, volunteers, and visitors to observe wildlife and the landscape as it returns to nature

Karen Bainbridge, Volunteer at Suffolk Wildlife Trust who has led many guided walks of Martlesham Wilds says:
"The news of funding for infrastructure work at Martlesham Wilds is fantastic. As an Engagement Volunteer, jointly leading Discovery Walks for members of the public, it means I will be passing on the message that Suffolk Wildlife Trust can now begin conservation and habitat work on the site."

MARTLESHAM HEATH AVIATION SOCIETY

Bruce Macpherson presented: “The Kings and Giants of Rendlesham Forest”. This is the story of the USAF 67th Aerospace Recovery and Rescue Squadron” .

Bruce gave a fascinating and detailed report of his time flying the Lockheed Hercules – mostly from RAF Woodbridge, but very occasionally from Keflavik in Iceland – in the Recovery and Rescue role.

The history of the Unit started in 1952 Justly proud of his time in the service he started his talk by going through his training – much of which was pretty much the same as a fighter pilot. As with all pilots he started with the basics, and eventually aimed for pilot selection – which was, for him, flying the Lockheed Hercules Transport. He outlined the hard working required to graduate.

Some of the other pilots, destined to become Fighter Pilots, sometimes used a hybrid version of the T-38 Trainer in dummy dog-fights. These fighter pilots often went on to use the F5 “Aggressor” at Alconbury, touring Europe providing air-to-air Combat Training for United States Air Force Europe pilots. Bruce had started to specialise on the Lockheed C130 Hercules. First designed in the 1960’s, with latest versions still produced by the Lockheed Aircraft Company. He eventually trained to use the specialised HC-130P/N version.

Throughout his years on this aircraft, he moved around a lot. In Britain he recalled going to Prestwick and Alconbury – with most of his time at RAF Woodbridge. In his time with the 67th – he worked with the HH3 “Jolly Green Giant” helicopter. Many in the large audience recalled seeing these flying around Suffolk.

Bruce then talked about some of the rescue missions which his unit undertook – including the lifting of a fisherman from a Russian Trawler way out in the Atlantic.... with very tricky air-to-air refuelling required in dreadful weather conditions.

The Unit was also involved in aerial rescue duties in case the Presidential Airforce One ever came down as it flew across the North Atlantic – the main role of the Hercules was

continual aerial refuelling of the HH3 Helicopter way out in the Atlantic.... As the President’s aircraft passed overhead.
Bruce then talked us through the technique of air-to-air refuelling. He had the help of a friend/ colleague Mark Service, from RAF Mildenhall. They used a funnel and a bit of hose, (the donor aircraft) and a probe (the recipient) to demonstrate with some hilarity the technique involved.... of a Hercules flying real slow refuelling a very large HH3 helicopter going as fast as it could!

Finally, Bruce talked about his time at the USAFA (United States Air Force Academy), – where he obtained his degree. This is the equivalent of The US Army West Point Academy.

His talk to a very large and appreciative audience, continues the trend of our talks just getting better and better. It was given in a very friendly style – with a lot of humour. It was also obvious that Bruce was enjoying himself.

The next meeting is on Friday April at 7:30pm, when Terry Holloway (who coincidentally worked at the Lockheed Europe facility at Marshalls of Cambridge), will be talking about his time with the Royal Air Force, especially his time with an RAF Team flying over Chile and Peru. His talk is entitled “Flight over the Andes”.

Finally – it is worth noting that our Martlesham Heath Control Tower Museum reopens for the 2024 Season on Sunday afternoon 7th April from 2:00 to 4:30. Come along and see what we have been up to over the winter...

Entry is FREE – we welcome donations.
The Museum is located at the Rear of Parkers Place, off Eagle Way, Martlesham Heath, IP5 3UZ. Parking is easy....

It is then open every Sunday afternoon until 27th October.
We also welcome Group and School visits at other times. These have to be pre-arranged. To book one of these visits call Ian on 077 077 111 04 or e-mail mhasmuseum@mhas.org.uk
To find out more about our Aviation Society look at www.mhas.org.uk There is a linked Facebook page.



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SINGING FOR NATURE!

Sunday 14th April, 2.30pm

**St Mary's Church, Church Lane,
Martlesham**

Come along and listen to this vocal concert by 'Unusual Way', a talented local group of musicians Julian Ochwat (tenor) and Deborah Edwards (mezzo-soprano) with accompanist Sabina Sutton.

They will take you on a musical journey in song from operatic favourites to toe tapping popular musical theatre items.

The concert is free, and donations will be shared between St Mary's Church and Martlesham Wilds, Suffolk's new nature reserve.

Parking is limited, so please walk, cycle or share cars if you are able. Thank you.

More info:
www.suffolkwildlifetrust.org/martleshamwilds

Suffolk Wildlife Trust - Woodbridge Wildlife Group

A great big thankyou to all those who came along to our February talk on Badgers and especially to our speaker Adrian Hinchcliffe from Suffolk Badger Group. We have two events in April and a plant sale in early May.

Talk

"Finding W.H. Hudson - the writer who came to Britain to save the birds" by author Conor Jameson

Thursday 18th April at 7.30pm

in Woodbridge Community Hall

Admission £3 per person. Free for under 25s.

WildlifeWalk

AN EVENING BIRDSONG WALK at Pound Farm, Great Glemham (by kind permission of The Woodland Trust)

Date and Time: Friday 26th April 7 pm

Booking - via Suffolk Wildlife Trust website

Plant Sale

Sunday 5th May 2pm
at Foxburrow Farm Nature Reserve
Plant sale, with books, refreshments and more

Phil Smith 01473 625630

MARTLESHAM LADIES CLUB

Every year we raise money for a chosen charity by raffles, used book sales etc. At our last meeting we presented a cheque for £500.00 to the Hedgehog Rescue Charity. There are two meetings planned for this month. On 4th April Mr Parfitt is paying a return visit to give a talk entitled 'Romania beyond Dracula' and on 18th April Dorothy O'Grady will demonstrate 'Ways with Wrapping'. Looking ahead, on 2nd May Petra Welham will give a talk entitled 'If You've Never Met a Trans- Woman'. Meetings are held on alternate Thursday afternoons at 2.30pm in the Richard's Room. Unfortunately our numbers have increased so much we cannot welcome any more new members until September at the earliest.

For more information contact June Peck tel. 07867525422.

BRIGHTWELL UKULELES are pleased to invite you to our Spring Charity Concert in support of the Ipswich and East Suffolk Parkinsons Assn.

The Concert will be held at Waldringfield Village Hall on Tuesday 30th April commencing at 2.15pm. Light refreshments will be served after the performance.

Admission is free and no ticket is required, but there will be a retiring collection for the Parkinsons Association, Please bring cash!

An afternoon of lively music, humour and good social contact. We look forward to seeing you.

Geoff Lambert- Secretary

MARTLESHAM BOWLS CLUB

We are looking forward to the start of the new bowls season and the Bowls Club will open on Saturday 13th April.

Although the Club was closed, work continued throughout the winter months to prepare the green for the upcoming summer bowling season to ensure that the green is in perfect condition.

Like most of you we encountered unusual amounts of rainfall this winter, the worst occurring in November which found the club under 4 feet of water for a time! Fortunately the green has suffered no long term effects needing just a few weeks of warmer and drier weather to recover.

The club actively bowls in several local leagues for those who want to bowl competitively and also encourages social bowling on Thursday and Saturday afternoons at 2.00pm. We would love to see some new faces. Why not come along and give it a try any Thursday or Saturday afternoon. Just wear comfortable clothing and flat shoes, have a go at bowling and join the members for a cup tea and biscuits.

For more information, please contact the Secretary, John Anderson on 01473 808678 or 07547727439

TRIANON MUSIC GROUP

Rehearsals are about to start for the TMG group's next concert on Saturday 27 April entitled "From Italy with Love", at the beautiful church of St John's, Cauldwell Hall Road, Ipswich. TMG is made up of over 200 musicians and singers, from all over the southeast of Suffolk, and a few who come further!

The concert will include works by Vivaldi, Rossini, Mascagni, Verdi, Morricone. The whole of the second half is devoted to Giacomo Puccini's *Messa di Gloria*, remembering 100 years since Puccini's death in 1924.

The conductor will be Stephen Rumsey, in place of Chris Green, who has been unwell for several weeks.

We would like to welcome our sponsors for this concert, "The Friends of the Trianon Music Group". Our next Community Concert is at Harvest House Felixstowe on Saturday 18 May at 7.30pm.

If you would like more information about our concert programme, the music we play, purchasing tickets or joining us as a performer, please visit our web page tmg.org.uk (membership is free for under 18s) or for tickets email tickets@tmg.org.uk

Richard Boother – Publicity Officer publicity@tmg.org.uk

Easter fun day for the whole family

On Easter Monday Ipswich Croquet Club invites you and your family to have a go at the sport that is making a big comeback throughout the country; join the hunt for Easter Eggs; try your hand at various competitions and more.

Gone are the days of elitism. Today's croquet is a sport for all regardless of age, background or gender. It's a competitive community sport fit for the 21st century. It's challenging and it's fun.

Ipswich Croquet Club looks forward to seeing you on Easter Monday at Bucklesham Road, IP10 0AA (What3words/// waitress.escorting.landlords). Plenty of free onsite parking. Gates open 10 AM and close 4PM. www.ipswichcroquetclub.com. Email: croquetclub.ipswich@gmail.com, Club Secretary Tel: 07780 704 792.

CITIZENS ADVICE

OUR NEXT FREE ADVICE SESSION IN KESGRAVE IS ON TUESDAY 16th APRIL

Citizens Advice says it is seeing more people in full-time work and people with mortgages finding themselves living on empty, cutting back spending to under the bare minimum and going without vital food or heating to stay warm.

The charity's latest research found that despite falling inflation, the cost of essentials remains stubbornly high with 2.35 million people cutting back on things like meals, energy and seeing friends and family.

For others, falling behind has been unavoidable. In particular, pensioners privately renting are more than three times more likely to be in a negative budget than pensioners generally.

Citizens Advice can help with debt, benefits, family issues, consumer and much more. Our free drop-in service is there to help you. We are in the Kesgrave War Memorial Community Centre, Twelve Acre Approach, Kesgrave, IP5 1JF on the third Tuesday of every month between 9am and 12 noon.No appointment is necessary and there is plenty of free parking at the centre.

For further information call Citizens Advice East Suffolk on 0808 278 7866

Suffolk Coastal Disability Forum

The Suffolk Coastal Disability Forum was set up many years ago and works to assist East Suffolk Council and other organisations to make sure that the needs of people with disabilities are fully taken into account. The Forum meets quarterly and membership is open to anyone who is disabled or is a family carer, those that work with disabled people or those that have an interest in disability.

The topics discussed are very varied and range from access to new developments, local shops and businesses, health and social care, parking difficulties, to travel by bus, train or taxi. People also have the opportunity to raise their own particular areas of concern.

We would be delighted for you to join us at our meetings. Currently meetings take place via Zoom but we hope to offer hybrid meetings very soon. Our next meeting will take place on Tuesday, 9th April, 2024, at 2pm, via Zoom. Everyone with an interest in disability issues is welcome.

If you would like to know more and see previous minutes, please go to: <https://www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk/community/disability-forums/suffolk-coastal-disability-forum/> or contact: Margaret Morris (Secretary) Tel: 01394 274345 or email margaretamorris@hotmail.com

**MARTLESHAM COMMUNITY HALL
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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:07732 199712

THE ORWELL SINGERS

APRIL CONCERT

Saturday 20th April

**St Michael and All Angels Church,
Martlesham Heath**

7.30pm.

They will be joining forces with Manchester based upper voices choir, Bravura, who are coming to Ipswich in response to the Orwell Singers visiting and singing with them in Manchester last year.

The programme will be an eclectic mix of musical styles ranging from light classical to jazz to songs from stage and screen.

**For further details please contact
d.sharman@btinternet.com or
07768 911512.**

Martlesham Heath Householders

Are you proud of your garden?

Do you want to show it off?

Large or small, if it means something to you, it may be of interest to others.

I'm organising a Charity Open Gardens, raising money for Martlesham Wilds on Saturday 1st June 1200-1700hrs.

If you want to be a part of it and open your garden to the public and support this local conservation project, then drop me an email at drawekim@hotmail.co.uk or call me on 07841054582. Mike Ward

WOOLLY WONDERS

Martlesham's Premier Knitting and Crochet Group

We meet every Thursday 10 -12noon for sociable knitters and crocheters, in The Runway Cafe

**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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THE CHURCH IN MARTLESHAM & BRIGHTWELL

RECTOR: The Revd Toby Tate The Rectory, 17 Lark Rise, Martlesham Heath
Church phone 01473 612659 (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 01473 624035
Carolyn Smith 74 Heathfield, Martlesham Heath

ELDERS: Janet Foster janetwf33@gmail.com

Margaret Rollins 9 Angela Close, Martlesham 01473 623868

Simon Smith 11 Squires Lane, Martlesham Heath 01473 612410 (eve 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 7th April	St Michael's 9.30am Coffee and pastries 10am Breakfast Church St Mary's 11am Holy Communion	5pm Zoom After Hours
Sunday 14th April	St Michael's 10am Holy Communion St John's 6.30pm BCP Evening Prayer	10am Holy Communion
Sunday 21st April	St Michael's 10am Morning Worship St Mary's 11am Holy Communion	10am Morning Worship 7pm Zoom Reflecting with God
Sunday 28th April	St Michael's 10am Holy Communion St John's 6.30pm BCP Evening Prayer	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 Wednesday 10th and 24th April: 10am Holy Communion at St Michael's

Prayer Diary Please include the following as an addition to your daily prayers and pray daily for peace:

April

5 thanks for springtime
6 for all faiths
7 for children hearing about God's love
8 for homes suffering from flooding
9 for all experiencing disappointment
10 for the residents of Jackson Court
11 for all who struggle with everyday chores
12 thanks for good neighbours
13 for safety at sports events
14 for farmers and food producers
15 for godparents & godchildren
16 thanks for wedding anniversaries
17 for the residents of Laburnum Gardens
18 for all suffering hearing loss
19 for our police forces
20 for all athletes & sportspeople

21 for meeting together in God's house

22 for all medical students
23 for the country in which we live
24 for the residents of Lancaster Drive
25 for all who are moving house
26 for all taxi drivers
27 for grandchildren
28 thanks for spiritual mentors
29 for secretaries and receptionists
30 for all in trouble with the law

May

1 for the residents of Lark Rise
2 for Christians in China
3 thanks for love and friendship
4 for all suffering persecution

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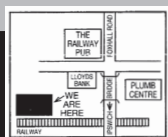
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