



THE MARNHULL MESSENGER



Original illustration by George Cox

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MARNHULL COMMUNITY CHOIR

WORK UNDERWAY FOR THE GROUND SOURCE HEAT PUMP AT ST GREG'S

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IN OUR CHURCHES

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OUR SCHOOLS

See what the schools are up to

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WELCOME TO YOUR MARNHULL MESSENGER

CHRIS RYU
Messenger Editor

December 2021/January 2022 - Issue 120

Welcome back to your Marnhull Messenger Magazine. A huge thank you for all your great articles as usual.

We're trialling a new local printer for this issue, so hopefully you all receive this on time and in a good quality.

ADVERTISE HERE

It's that time again! If you'd like to advertise in the Messenger, then please speak to Rosie (details on the right) as spaces are limited. As a long-time advertiser I can certainly vouch for whether they work! In my opinion and of course I'm slightly biased, I think the Messenger is the best value print advertising out there.

NEW CIRCULATION TEAM

Well done to our new Circulation Team - Catherine & Mark Turner on their first successful issue.

VILLAGE DIARY SECTION IS BACK

It's so good to see the village diary back! Submit your events on the Marnhull Messenger website and they'll automatically be included. We'll do a redesign of this section over the festive break to fit more in.

NEW EDITOR STILL REQUIRED

A new Editor is still being looked for, but for the time-being I'm delighted to continue... just with the help of some of my lovely team at Dorset Tech.

Stay safe Marnhull - looking forward to seeing you all soon

SUBMIT YOUR EVENTS INTO A LIVE CALENDAR

On the messenger website and they'll be added to the printed one when it returns in the near future

www.marnhullmessenger.org.uk

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DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE

MID-DAY 14th January

E-mail all texts, announcements and other requests to:
editor@marnhullmessenger.org.uk

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MARNHULL MESSENGER WEBSITE

WHO DO I CONTACT?

Any amendments or proposals for new pages in the messenger web site should be made to:

Chris Ryu Email: editor@marnhullmessenger.org.uk

MARNHULL MESSENGER DELIVERIES

It takes about 40 people, all of whom are volunteers, to collate and deliver The Marnhull Messenger to every home and business in the village. We are extremely grateful to this dedicated team, without whom the magazine simply would not flourish.

Whilst we always aim to deliver the magazine by the 1st of the month, from time to time illness, family commitments and a myriad of other personal issues can sometimes get in the way, resulting in the occasional late delivery. Recently, there have been a few complaints from villagers, because they felt their copy of The Marnhull Messenger was delivered late.

It might be worth pointing out that if it is essential to you to receive the Marnhull Messenger by a particular date and it hasn't arrived, then the Church, the two pubs and all the businesses in the village have spare copies available.

Ian Gall – Chairman, The Marnhull Messenger Steering Group.

ANNUAL DIARY 2021/2022

All events are held at the Village Hall unless otherwise stated.

DECEMBER

1st - Fitsteps Dance Exercise Class @ 11:15am
 1st - Table Tennis @ 14:00
 1st - Community Choir @ 19:00
 1st - Zumba @ 19:30 - St Gregory's primary
 2nd - Craft Club @ 12:00pm - Methodist Hall
 2nd - Meditation & Wellbeing Circle @ 9:45am
 2nd - Marnhull Baby & Toddlers Group @ 12:00pm
 3rd - Marnhull Lunch Club @ 12:00pm
 4th - The Marnhull Hub & Repair Café @ 10am
 4th - Nick at the Legion @ 20:00
 5th - Marnhull Baby & Toddler Group Christmas Fair @ 10am
 6th - Yoga @ 9:15am
 6th - Table Tennis @ 14:00
 6th - Christmas Bingo at the Legion @ 19:00
 7th - Pilates Class @ 9:30am - Methodist Church
 8th - Fitsteps Dance Exercise Class @ 11:15am
 8th - Table Tennis @ 14:00
 8th - Community Choir @ 19:00
 8th - Zumba @ 19:30 - St Gregory's primary
 9th - Meditation & Wellbeing Circle @ 9:45am
 9th - Marnhull Baby & Toddlers Group @ 12:00pm
 10th - Blackmore Vale Art Group @ 10:30am
 11th - The Marnhull Hub & Repair Café @ 10am
 11th - St Greg's Primary School - Marnhull Soul 70's Christmas Disco @ 19:30
 11th - Bud Martin at the Legion @ 20:00
 13th - Yoga @ 9:15am
 13th - Table Tennis @ 14:00
 13th - Women's Institute - Fish & Chip Supper & Social @ 19:30
 14th - Pilates Classes @ 9:30am - Methodist Church
 14th - Marnhull Garden Club - Christmas Social Supper & Professional Entertainers @ 19:30
 15th - Fitsteps Dance Exercise Class @ 11:15am
 15th - Table Tennis @ 14:00
 15th - Community Choir @ 19:00
 15th - Zumba @ 19:30 - St Gregory's primary
 16th - Meditation & Wellbeing Circle @ 9:45am
 16th - Marnhull Baby & Toddlers Group @ 12pm
 18th - The Marnhull Hub & Repair Café @ 10am
 18th - Just Bertie Plus Christmas Draw at the Legion @ 20:00

20th - Yoga @ 9:15am
 20th - Table Tennis @ 14:00
 22nd - Table Tennis @ 14:00
 22nd - Community Choir @ 19:00
 23rd - Meditation & Wellbeing Circle @ 9:45am
 31st - Just Bertie at the Legion @ 20:00

JANUARY

3rd - Yoga @ 9:15am
 3rd - Table Tennis @ 14:00
 4th - Pilates Class @ 9:30am - Methodist Church
 5th - Fitsteps Dance Exercise Class @ 11:15am
 5th - Table Tennis @ 14:00
 5th - Community Choir @ 19:00
 5th - Zumba @ 19:30 - St Gregory's primary
 6th - Meditation & Wellbeing Circle @ 9:45am
 6th - Craft Club @ 12:00 - Methodist Church
 6th - Marnhull Baby & Toddlers Group @ 12:00
 7th - Marnhull Lunch Club @ 12:00
 8th - The Marnhull Hub & Repair Café
 10th - Yoga @ 9:15am
 10th - Table Tennis @ 14:00
 10th - Women's Institute - Indoor Kurling @ 19:30
 11th - Pilates Classes @ 9:30am - Methodist Church
 11th - Marnhull Garden Club - Chris Francis - 50 years of History of Thorngrove Garden Centre @ 19:30
 12th - Fitsteps Dance Exercise Class @ 11:15am
 12th - Table Tennis @ 14:00
 12th - Community Choir @ 19:00
 12th - Zumba @ 19:30 - St Gregory's primary
 13th - Meditation & Wellbeing Circle @ 9:45am
 13th - Marnhull Baby & Toddlers Group @ 12:00
 14th - Blackmore Vale Art Group @ 10:30am
 15th - The Marnhull Repair Hub & Repair Café @ 10.00am
 15th - British Legion - Just Bertie @ 20:00 - British Legion Club
 17th - Yoga @ 9:15am
 17th - Table Tennis @ 14:00
 18th - Pilates Classes @ 9:30am - Methodist Church
 19th - Fitsteps Dance Exercise Class @ 11:15am
 19th - Table Tennis @ 14:00
 19th - Community Choir @ 19:00

19th - Zumba @ 19:30
 20th - Meditation & Wellbeing Circle @ 9:45am
 20th - Marnhull Baby & Toddlers Group @ 12:00pm
 22nd - The Marnhull Hub & Repair Café @ 10am
 22nd - Marnhull Soul Night @ 19:00 - British Legion Club
 24th - Yoga @ 9:15am
 24th - Table Tennis @ 14:00
 25th - Pilates Classes @ 9:30am - Methodist Church
 26th - Fitsteps Dance Exercise Class @ 11:15am
 26th - Table Tennis @ 14:00
 26th - Community Choir @ 19:00
 26th - Zumba @ 19:30
 27th - Meditation & Wellbeing Circle @ 9:45am
 27th - Marnhull Baby & Toddlers Group @ 12:00
 29th - The Marnhull & Repair Café @ 10am
 29th - 2 Foot Moose at the Legion @ 20:00
 31st - Yoga @ 9:15am
 31st - Table Tennis @ 14:00

FOR VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS

Email: bookings@marnhullvillagehall.org.uk
 Phone: 07376 911878
 (between 9 and 5 weekdays)

SUBMIT YOUR EVENTS INTO A LIVE CALENDAR

On the messenger website and they'll be added to this diary in the next issue!

www.marnhullmessenger.org.uk

STURMINSTER NEWTON MEDICAL CENTRE



Covid Booster Vaccinations

We are running clinics on Wed 1st Dec and Thurs 16th Dec for boosters. We are unable to hold many more sessions before Christmas due to the availability of The Exchange and getting vaccinations and administrative staff, due to current pressures on the Practice.

Patients are being invited as clinics open up and this is after they reach the 6 month mark. We are inviting patients based on clinical need and when we have appointments available. You can choose to go to a mass vaccination site and the Government have enabled patients to book a month earlier, however clinically they are still suggesting that all patients wait for the 6 months and 1 day before having a booster.

Patients who are immunosuppressed are being invited for a 3rd primary vaccine. All patients can book in with us if there is availability or through the national booking service by telephone 119 or email for mass vaccination sites: <https://www.nhs.uk/.../find-a-walk-in-coronavirus-covid-19/>

Winter Pressures

We'd like to ask people for their continuing support in accessing NHS services wisely, as the COVID-19 pandemic continues this autumn and winter. The NHS needs the public to play its part.

Our hospital emergency departments are under extreme pressure. If you're unwell and are unsure about where to go, visit 111.nhs.uk or call 111. Please be patient and choose the right care. Get the right treatment, at the right time, in the right place.

At this very busy time, your 111 call may take a little longer to answer than usual but staff will get to you as quickly as possible.

For ongoing or non-urgent concerns please contact your local pharmacist or GP practice.

Call 999 in a medical emergency. This is when someone is seriously ill or injured and their life is at risk.

Meanwhile, please help and support relatives or friends to leave hospital so that they can be more comfortable and recover more quickly at home.

Injured or unwell? Use the right service **NHS**

Self-care <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grazed knees Sore throat Coughs & colds Visit nhs.uk for self-care advice	Pharmacy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Headaches Upset stomach Aches & pains Bites & stings 	111 NHS 111 Visit 111.nhs.uk or call 111 for advice and support 24 hours a day 7 days a week	GP Call your GP for symptoms that won't go away	Minor Injury Unit Urgent but not life-threatening <ul style="list-style-type: none"> sprains fractures burns 	999 A&E <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Unconscious Breathing difficulties Stroke Heart attack Heavy bleeding Severe burns
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By using the right services at the right time - help us to help you. Thank you.

Right care, right time, right place.

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Veteran Friendly Practice

We are accredited as veteran-friendly through the Royal College of General Practice (RCGP) scheme and are committed to doing all we can to continue to meet the expectations set out in the NHS 'Healthcare for the Armed Forces Community: A Forward View' released in May of this year. We commit to the following -

- Ask patients registering with the surgery if they have ever served in the British Armed Forces.
- Code it on the GP computer system. We recommend writing it out rather than using Read codes as these vary according to which computer system is used.
- Have a clinical lead for veterans in the surgery. This should be a registered health care professional, but not necessarily a GP - it could be a nurse or paramedic.
- This clinical lead is required to undertake dedicated training, attend training events (RCGP or other provider), stay up to date with the latest research and innovations and ensure that the practice is meeting the health commitments of the Armed Forces Covenant. They should also be available to provide advice to colleagues, as well as possibly seeing veterans themselves.

MARNHULL VILLAGE HALL - AGM 2021



MARNHULL VILLAGE HALL
Your Village ~ Your Hall

A very successful and well-attended Annual General Meeting of the Village Hall was held on Friday 12th November 2021 in the bright and pleasant Hall, which was a marked improvement on the AGM in November 2020 which had to be held on Zoom. Thank you to all those who attended and contributed to an informative and positive meeting.

The Trustees gave a particular vote of thanks to Graham Renwick, who has stepped down after three years as a Trustee, the last two being as Chairman, during which he guided the Management Committee through not only building project but also the turbulence of the Covid pandemic. His good humour, calmness and diplomacy has been an inspiration to the other members of the Committee and his will be a very hard act to follow.

Following the AGM, the Management Committee meeting welcomed the two new Trustees, Ros Eveleigh and Chris Drake, and agreed that the Chair would be held on a rotating basis, with Jean McErlain taking the first stint, in addition to her role as secretary. The Treasurer will continue to be Rob Norton.

The Management Committee: Jean McErlain (Chair and Secretary); Rob Norton (Treasurer); Dave Bruce; Vicki Cooper-Hammond; Chris Drake; Ros Eveleigh; Steve Finch (Fire Officer); Chris Gassmann; Jeremy Hamer; Alan Loukes; Peter McErlain (Facilities Officer); Lesley Ruth (Parish Council).

THE FRIENDS OF BLANDFORD HOSPITAL

The Friends of Blandford Hospital will be at their Unit in Nicholson's Yard at Hinton St. Mary on Saturday 4th December from 10:00 until 12:00 where they will be pleased to receive your donations.

Thank you
Mary Clacy

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MARNHULL GREEN TEAMS - TAKING THE ENVIRONMENT AROUND MARNHULL SERIOUSLY



By the time you read this, Marnhull Green Teams members will have met to discuss what projects we can take on in 2022. There will be more news on this in the next edition of the Marnhull Messenger.

If you would like to join one of our meetings, by the way, everyone is welcome and it's all very free and easy! We usually get together on the third Tuesday evening of each month, in the lower room at the Blackmore Vale Inn. There won't be a meeting in December, so our next scheduled meet will be on Tuesday 18 January. See you there?

But what of next year? Whatever the outcomes of COP26 (still uncertain as this is written), we can all do something green ourselves. The environment is a concern for all of us, not just governments. And every little helps. So to 2022...

'Wilding' or 'rewilding' are terms used to mean an ecological approach to land use, encouraging species diversity in particular. For example, Isabella Tree's book, *Wilding*, tells the story of rewilding the 3,500 acre Knepp estate in Sussex - but very much smaller areas of ground can benefit in the same way. We are reviewing what might be done in and around Marnhull, with the permission and support of all the relevant landowners and authorities, and with a little effort on our own part. Every little helps...

There's also discussion going on about what might be done to support greener transport in the area. Bike racks at strategic locations, for instance; and an electric car charging point has been suggested.

We're very keen to encourage tree planting, and are able to offer bird cherry, hornbeam, sweet chestnut, oak, ash, hawthorn, and hazel whips and saplings, at very low prices. Get in touch if you'd like one or more: contacts below.

The village recycling centre is a continuing success. It's usually open on Saturday mornings, 10-12, at the same time as the Hub Repair Café, and can be found at the back of the Village Hall. We can take many materials that the Council can't, supported by the Terracycle network. Please note, however, that we can no longer accept pet food pouches, as Terracycle's sponsors for these items have withdrawn. But the good news is that you can take them to the plastics recycling bin at Tesco's instead.

Our eight traditional fruit trees are doing well. They were planted this year on one of the Sodom Lane allotments, with the help of youngsters from St Gregory's and St Mary's schools. We have pasteurised apple juice available - not from the young trees at Sodom Lane; not yet - but using local fruit and recycled wine bottles. In years to come the fruits of our own trees will be added to the mix!

However we will have to decide whether to continue with the community vegetable allotment, also at Sodom Lane. The idea is that this is a shared resource, cultivated on a strip basis by people needing a bit of land or, perhaps, advice from experts in the village. The pandemic has certainly not helped here, and most of the allotment work has fallen to a very few people. If you would like to join in, and help save the community allotment(!), please get in touch soon.

You can contact us at marnhull@outlook.com, on (01258) 268714, or via Facebook. Please feel free to do so if you'd like to know more about the allotment or any of the other ideas mentioned above - or if you would like to be added to our newsletter distribution list to keep up to date with what we're up to. For now, Merry Christmas from Marnhull Green Teams - and here's to a happier (and greener!) New Year.

ENTERTAINMENT AT THE LEGION

Saturday December 4th - Nick
Monday December 6th - Christmas Bingo
Saturday December 11th - Bud Martin
Saturday December 18th - Just Bertie plus Christmas Draw
New Year's Eve - Just Bertie
Saturday January 15th - Just Bertie
Saturday January 22nd - Soul Night with DJ Bill Shannon
Saturday January 29th - 2 Foot Moose

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION



Due to the deadline date I can't report much on the Poppy fortnight except to thank Val Eslick for her sterling work over the past few years and to thank Eilileen Woodward for stepping into the breach.

The Armistice Day service at the memorial however was particularly well attended and parties came from both schools in the village and laid their tributes following an immaculately observed silence. We were also pleased to have a Standard Bearer in attendance after so many years without one. Newcomer to the village Robin Jackson performed the role superbly and as usual Adrian Stone played the bugle for the Last Post and Reveille. We greatly appreciated their efforts.



Much disappointment has been expressed at the lack of a parade this year. This is due to an insurance issue. The way around it I have learned is that the Legion must attach itself to a local authority run parade. I shall be looking into this via the Parish Council for next year.

The Poppy Quiz on Saturday 13th November was very well attended with sixteen teams fighting it out for the privilege of being crowned Poppy champions for 2021. The main winner however was the Poppy Appeal with the night raising £555, a big thank you to all who were so generous and of course Mr Chips for his delicious fish 'n' chips.

All are welcome to see the New Year in with us this year including children and we have the ever popular Just Bertie to entertain us, you are invited to wear fancy dress if you wish but it is not compulsory.

Lyn's Christmas bingo will be on Monday December 6th and as usual she will be going all out to get some fabulous prizes for one line, two lines and the house. She works incredibly hard and has raised thousands of pounds for the Poppy Appeal. Have fun, win prizes and support a good cause. Back by popular demand on January 22nd DJ Bill Shannon will be here with his Northern Soul Disco. It will be night of dance music for all ages. The last one was a revelation to us soft southerners, don't miss it.

On June 4th we have booked the Land Girls to give us a night of nostalgia to mark the Queen's platinum jubilee. Plans are underway to make this a day of celebration to mark this historic event, put it in your diary and watch this space. If you have any coronation day mementos we could display please let me know we would love to borrow them.

For Branch business contact Jack Whitehead on 01258 820800
or whiteheadjack51@gmail.com

For Club business contact Tony on 01258 820397



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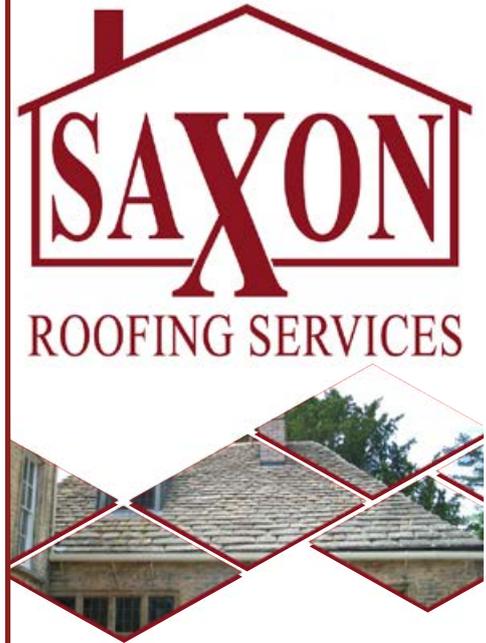
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MARNHULL VILLAGE CHURCHES WISH YOU A VERY HAPPY AND PEACEFUL CHRISTMAS

Advent and Christmas Services 2021

Marnhull Methodist Church - www.yeovilblackmorevalemc.org.uk

Thurs 16th Dec - 5pm - Candlelit Carol Service

Sun 26th Dec - 10am - Morning Service

Please note there will not be a service on Christmas Day

St Gregory's Church - www.stgregorysmarnhull.org.uk/ @stgregschurch

Sun 5th - 4pm - Advent Family Tea Service

Tues 14th - 2pm - St Gregory's School Nativity

Weds 15th - 6pm - St Gregory's School Nativity

Sun 19th - 6pm - Village Carol Service

Tues 21st - 7:30pm - Blue Christmas Service

Fri 24th - 4pm - Crib Service

- 11:30pm - Christmas Night Eucharist

Sat 25th - 8am - Christmas Day HC

- 10am - Christmas Day Eucharist

Church of Our Lady, Marnhull & St Benedict's Gillingham

www.marnhullandgillinghamrc.org.uk

Mon 29th Nov - 6:30pm - Our Lady's - Service of Light (An ecumenical service of Advent readings and carols, followed by some social time with our fellow Christians).

Thurs 2nd Dec - 6:30pm - St Benedict's - Service of Light (as above)

Wed 8th Dec - 9:30am - Holy Mass with St Mary's School for the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception).

Thurs 16th Dec - 3pm - Our Lady's - St Mary's School Carol Service and the blessing of the crib.

Fri 24th Dec - 8:30pm - St Benedict's - Christmas Mass

Midnight - Our Lady's - Christmas Mass

Sat 25th Dec - 9:30am - Our Lady's - Christmas Mass

Sat 25th Dec - 11am - St Benedict's - Christmas Mass

Sun 26th Dec - 9:30am - Our Lady's - Mass, Feast of the Holy Family

Sun 26th Dec - 11am - St Benedict's - Mass, Feast of the Holy Family

Please note there will not be a 6pm Mass at Our Lady's Marnhull on Christmas Day, or on Sun 26th Dec

AN UNCLUTTERED CHRISTMAS



Having just returned from leading a Diocesan pilgrimage to Iona, I am reflecting upon the rich threads which weave their way through Celtic Spirituality, including an appreciation of God's creation. A life that treads gently on the earth because God created it and gave it to us to enjoy also reflects the fifth mark of mission: To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth. COP26 provided a platform for Christians as well as other environmentalists

to highlight some of the ways God's earth is being damaged beyond repair, calling us all to live simpler lives.

Advent is a time for preparation and gives all of us an opportunity to make changes to the ways we live to make the world a better place. As consumers, the temptation is to accumulate and to waste; as Christians, the call is to be generous and live as good stewards. The trappings of Christmas surround us - do we really need another special bauble for the tree? Or that glittery wrapping paper that will not easily recycle? Can we invite people in for a simple supper? Or give just one or two presents and not the usual dozen? The first Christmas was very much a stripped-back affair. God's Son, born in simplicity, grew up to teach the same simplicity,

telling us not to store up possessions, and to give things away to others. His appreciation of the birds of the air and the lilies in the field were a challenge to our own worries and anxiety about 'many things'. Therefore, let our response be to tread gently on the earth, to: Pointing out to those who have influence when the decisions they take mars God's creation; preparing through a simple advent, and welcoming the Christ child in the most uncluttered way we can.

+Karen

A CHRISTMAS STORY

Once upon a mountain top, three little trees stodd and dreamed of what they wanted to become when they grew up. The first little tree looked up at the stars and said: "I want to hold treasure. I want to be covered with gold and filled with precious stones. I'll be the most beautiful treasure chest in the world!" The second little tree looked out at the small stream trickling by on its way to the ocean. "I want to be travelling mighty waters and carrying powerful kings. I'll be the strongest ship in the world!" The third little tree looked down into the valley below where busy men and women worked in a busy town. "I don't want to leave the mountain top at all. I want to grow so tall that when people stop to look at me, they'll raise their eyes to heaven and think of God. I will be the tallest tree in the world."

Years passed. The rain came, the sun shone, and the little trees grew tall. One day three woodcutters climbed the mountain. The first woodcutter looked at the first tree and said, "This tree is beautiful. It is perfect for me." With a swoop of his shining axe, the first tree fell. "Now I shall be made into a beautiful chest. I shall hold wonderful treasure!" the first tree said. The second woodcutter looked at the second tree and said, "This tree is strong. It is perfect for me." With a swoop of his shining axe, the second tree fell. "Now I shall sail mighty waters!" thought the second tree. "I shall be a strong ship for mighty kings!" The third tree felt her heart sink when the last woodcutter looked her way. She stood straight and tall and pointed bravely to heaven. But the woodcutter never even looked up. "Any kind of tree will do for me," he muttered.

With a swoop of his shining axe, the first tree rejoiced when the woodcutter brought her to a carpenter's shop. But the carpenter fashioned the tree into a feed box for animals. The once beautiful tree was not covered with gold, nor with treasure. She was coated with sawdust and filled with hay for hungry farm animals. The second tree smiled when the woodcutter took her to a shipyard, but no mighty sailing ship was made that day. Instead, the once strong tree was hammered and sawed into a simple fishing boat. She was too small and too weak to sail on an ocean, or even a river; instead, she was taken to a little lake.

The third tree was confused when the woodcutter cut her into strong beams and left her in a lumberyard. "What happened?" the once tall tree wondered. "All I ever wanted was to stay on the mountain top and point to God..." Many, many days and nights passed. The three trees nearly forgot their dreams. But one night, golden starlight poured over the first tree as a young woman placed her newborn baby in the feed box. "I wish I could make a cradle for him," her husband whispered. The mother squeezed his hand and smiled as the starlight shone on the smooth and the sturdy wood. "This manger is beautiful," she said. And suddenly the first tree knew he was holding the greatest treasure in the world. One evening a tired traveller and his friends crowded into the old fishing boat. The traveller fell asleep as the second tree quietly sailed out into the lake. Soon a thundering and thrashing storm arose. The little tree shuddered. She knew she did not have the strength to carry so many passengers safely through the wind and the rain. The tired man awakened. He stood up, stretched out his hand, and said, "Peace." The storm stopped as quickly as it had begun. And suddenly the second tree knew he was carrying the king

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of heaven and earth.

One Friday morning, the third tree was startled when her beams were yanked from the forgotten woodpile. She flinched as she was carried through an angry jeering crowd. She shuddered when soldiers nailed a man's hands to her. She felt ugly and harsh and cruel. But on Sunday morning, when the sun rose and the earth tremble with joy beneath her, the third tree knew that God's love had changed everything. It had made the third tree strong. And every time people thought of the third tree, they would think of God. That was better than being the tallest tree in the world.

The simple story to me sums up the heart of the Christian faith and the meaning of Christmas: Immanuel, God with Us in every era of global history and at every stage of our lives. It reminds us of the Love that God has for the world - including creation - and challenges us to respond in kind. Whatever the plans, whatever your hopes, may you know the blessings of the God of the crib, the boat and the cross this Christmas.

Revd Gaenor Hockey

On behalf of the Churches Together in Marnhull

THE METHODIST CHURCH

Church Services

We look forward to welcoming everyone to our Candle-lit Carol Service on **Thursday 16th December at 5:00pm**. Stephen Binnington will be leading our singing from the organ. Please join us for this traditional welcome to Christmas. We are not able to hold a service on Christmas morning (Saturday 25th) but look forward to welcoming everyone to a service at **10:00am on Sunday 26th December**.

Methodist churches follow a tradition initiated by John Wesley of beginning each year with a Covenant Service during which Christians re-affirm their faith and commitment to spreading the Gospel. This year we shall hold our service on **Sunday 16th January at the usual time of 10:00am**. It is always a delight to welcome friends from other Christian traditions to join us in this simple service and hope to see many of you.

Hayden Williams

Our organist and treasurer, Hayden Williams, continues to make steady, positive steps to recovery from the severe stroke he suffered at the end of April thanks to the skill and dedication of the wonderful staff at the Stroke and Brain Injury Unit at Poole Hospital. We thank everyone who joined us for a delightful afternoon tea in the church hall on Thursday 11th November and the organ recital by Stephen Binnington on Thursday 25th November. The donations made at these events have been passed to the stroke and brain injury unit where they will help to provide the very specialised and individual equipment used to aid their patients' recovery and return to normal life.

Youth Work

Girls Brigade continues to meet at 6:15pm on Wednesdays in the church hall. We were pleased to welcome 4 new members this term and all the girls enjoyed the annual enrolment service in October making their annual promises to Seek, Serve and Follow Christ. This term finishes on 8th December and the new term starts on 5th January 2022. Any new girls are welcome. For further information please contact the Captain Rachael Findlay on 07771 897262.

Craft Club

The next meeting will be on Thursday 2nd December at 10:00am in the church hall when members will be bringing any Christmas projects that they are working on. There will also be a bring and share Christmas lunch. For more information on Craft Club, please contact Allison Palmer on 07810464630.

Hire the Hall

For more information on hiring the hall, please contact Mrs. Marlene Plowman on 01258 820869.

OUR LADY'S CHURCH



Catholic Church of Our Lady, Marnhull & St. Benedict's, Gillingham
(www.marnhullandgillinghamrc.org.uk) Tel. 01258 820388

Parish Priest: Fr. Francis Straw OSB

Sunday Masses - 9:30am and 6pm (Marnhull) / 11am (Gillingham)

Weekday masses: check the website.

Parish News: We now have 2 Sunday masses at Our Lady's, at 9:30am and 6pm. Refreshments are available after 9:30am Sunday mass most weeks.

New to the Parish?

You are most welcome to our community whether as brand new parishioners or existing ones drifting back to the fold after the imposed separations.

Parish People - Joyce Healey died on the 10th November. May she rest in peace.

HMP Guys Marsh: Chaplin: Deacon Michael Turnbull

Contact: michael.turnbull@prcdtr.org.uk

"In the family we learn to love, to forgive, to be generous and open, not closed and selfish. We learn to move beyond our needs, to encounter others and share our lives with them. That is why families are so important in God's plan." Pope Francis



The question the Pope is asking us to consider is: "A synodal Church, in announcing the Gospel, 'Journeys together.' How is this 'journeying together' happening today in your local Church?"

What steps does the Spirit invite us to take in order to grow in our 'journeying together'?"

Fr. Francis welcomes your suggestions about how this parish can best do this during Advent.

Plymouth Diocesan Synodal Process - A couple of weeks ago Bishop Mark wrote a pastoral letter to us about the Synodal Process which Pope Francis wants the whole Church to take part in? Every parish is to hold meetings during Advent, at which: "The aim is to foster as broad a consultation as possible, reaching out to integrate the voice of the poor and the excluded, and not only engaging those who have some role or responsibility within the local parish."

Charity: CAFOD

<https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk/>



The True spirit of Christmas giving Gifts in Action

Each World Gift is a real example of CAFOD's work. When you choose a gift, you support the area of our work that this gift represents. So, for example, when you buy chickens, you support our work with poor farmers in rural areas of the countries we work in, by contributing to our Livestock, Agriculture and Livelihoods fund. This gives us the flexibility to respond in the best way possible to the individual needs of the different communities we work with all over the world.

MARNHULL WELCOMES NEWCOMERS

On Thursday 11th November at Marnhull Village Hall saw the tradition of Marnhull Village Care welcoming those families that had moved into the south area of the village since 2019.

They were updated on the many facilities the village has to offer and it was also a chance of meeting close neighbours who had also arrived in the village.

Rev Gaenor Hockey from St Gregory's spoke about the plan to upgrade St Gregory's into a Church for the Community.

Cllr Graham Car-Jones spoke about the work of the County Council and Trevor Vaughan MBE Chairman of Marnhull Village Care spoke about how he was delighted to see so many newcomers and explained that the function was an annual one but because of Covid had not been held since 2018 which of course meant that some of those present were not so new but hoped they got the idea behind their invitation. He thanked Dike and Son for their assistance and the villager who had made a donation towards the cost and by the photograph it would seem all had an enjoyable evening.

Marnhull Village Care

Information: We are an organisation of volunteers which was set up in 1974 by the members of the Churches in Marnhull, to welcome all newcomers to the village and to offer help and support where possible to anyone of any age who may need it in the village including trips to hospital, doctors, etc plus a network of Road Contacts covering the whole village.

Transport for medical needs: Ann Davis: 01258 820 456: Mobile: 07434 638 485

Secretary: Hillary Parker - 01258 821667

THE VALE PANTRY



The Vale Pantry was set up in Sturminster Newton in 2020 following a need identified through the local GP surgery, The Blackmore Vale Partnership. Run entirely with volunteers, the Pantry offers memberships to any family who struggle financially and who have had to cut back on food

in order to try and make ends meet.

Members of the Pantry may visit once a week and pay £6 on each visit, before choosing the food they would like for the week ahead. The variety of foods available include fresh fruit & veg, chilled and frozen produce including meats, fish, cheese, etc.. and store cupboard essentials. A typical weekly shop taken home is worth in the region of £25 - £50. More than 500 people are benefitting from the Pantry, every week.

To become a member, to donate or to find out more, go to the new website <https://www.valepantry.co.uk/> or

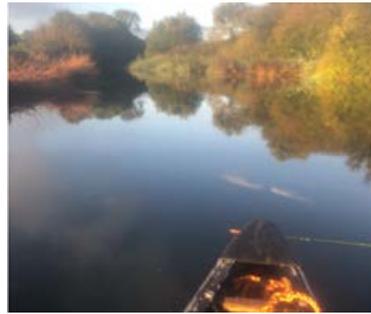
email: thevalepantry@gmail.com or call 07868 348481.

As the pantry is run entirely by volunteers, more help is needed.

- We need a secretarial role for the Trustee Meetings
- We need help in asking people to do their online shopping through Easy Giving and choosing The Vale Pantry as their nominated charity, (so many retailers participate with this scheme and the retailer then will give us a very small donation - but if we can get lots of people doing this - it will add up)
- We need help in putting together a robust 'Friends of the Vale Pantry' - if we can get lots of people just making a small contribution monthly, - and we can claim Gift Aid - we can ensure we are sustainable.

If you can help in any way, please contact Carol Jones through the above contact details - Thank you!

ON SAFARI ON THE STOUR



Back in the summer, I was invited to go on a kayak trip on the River Stour. Good news, we would see lots of wildlife, bad news, we had to be in Wimborne at the; 'Oh my god it's early time' of 07:00 and then there was the possibility of rain...So when the alarm went off at 5:30 on that late summer morning, and the rain of the previous evening hadn't stopped,

I was wondering how our adventure would go. It was too late to cancel, so we set off in the dark with the windscreen wipers on max, hoping for the best. And our hopes were fulfilled! As the dawn broke, the rain stopped and with our trusty guide, Steve Burrows, we were ready for our safari to begin. First step, life jackets on, second step, securing important items in a sealed tub. It was then time to take the kayaks down to the river for instruction on how to paddle. Not like ordinary canoeing, not like punting, but with a bit of determination we were on our way.

We had barely learnt how to control the kayak, when within 200 metres of the pontoon, the first otter appeared. He (or was it she) stuck her head out of the water and then dived back into the deeps. After that, we saw another otter followed by swans, a heron, kingfishers, a few dog walkers and a lonely fisherman, all in that lovely clear early autumn air. After some hard paddling through a stretch of shallow water, (maybe calling it rapids would be an exaggeration), we pulled up on to the bank for breakfast. Coffee and toast were served and we had a chance to catch our breath and once again to look at the countryside along this section of the Stour. All that remained was to float gently back downstream, but still on the look out for wildlife, then it was farewell to Steve, his kayaks and the natural world on our doorstep.

Thanks must go to Steve Burrows, a local adventure training leader, who made sure that we didn't miss anything as we paddled along the Stour.

Marnhull Village Care
A warm welcome to the Village & Support in our Community



Run a business in Marnhull if so, here is a Sponsorship Opportunity?

Marnhull Village Care have run a New Comers Party every year up until 2019 and because of Covid have not been able to run one since so this year the need to probably run two (one in late October the other in November) has arisen but will require extra funding so are you willing to help as follows?

We are looking for a limited number sponsors for a small fee who would not only be invited to attend the event but would be given sponsorship credit in any press article so, if you are interested why not give me a call for further details?

T.B.Vaughan
T.B. Vaughan MBE
Chairman Marnhull Village Care.
Trevor.mpc@gmail.com
07796443832 / 01258 821636

DON'T BE A DARK HORSE!



Horses and their riders are among the most vulnerable groups of road users. Whether you're on a main highway or country lane, make sure you're safe when riding on UK roads.

For horse riders, (and cyclists) now the Winter

is here you may have no

alternative but to ride on the road at night or in poor visibility. If you do have to, make sure you wear reflective clothing, and your horse has reflective bands above the fetlock joints. Wear lights, which can be seen clearly flashing white to the front and red to the rear. They should be fitted with a band to the rider's right arm and/or leg/riding boot. If you are leading a horse at night, carry a light in your right hand, showing white to the front and red to the rear, and wear reflective clothing - on both you and your horse. Some insurances are void if you do not wear the correct hi viz, so read your policy.

For drivers, be particularly careful of horse riders and horse-drawn vehicles especially when overtaking. Always pass wide and slowly. Horse riders are often children, so take extra care and remember riders may ride in double file when escorting a young or inexperienced horse or rider.

Look out for horse riders' and horse drivers' signals and please if the rider asks you to slow down or stop, you do just that - they are warning you of a potential problem. Always take time and take great care when passing them. Treat all horses as a potential hazard; they can be unpredictable, despite the efforts of their rider/driver.

Keep safe everyone and take care.



MARNHULL SOUL - USING MUSIC FOR GOOD



A group of like-minded Music Lovers are using their passion for Soul Music to help support various causes in Marnhull.

It all began when Music entrepreneur and DJ Bill Shannon, a Marnhull resident, approached the Blackmore Vale Inn to put on a Northern Soul night at the Pub. The night was

a great success and it led to thoughts of how this could be progressed.

'Marnhull Soul' was born and a team comprising Bill and his wife Kathy, plus fellow residents Steve and Ann Davis-Penson and Mali Gudgion got together to take Northern Soul, Motown and 70's Club Music to the people and spread some good throughout the community at the same time. In August this year, a fund-raising Northern Soul night was held at the British Legion to help the venue get back on it's feet after the crippling lockdown. The evening was a roaring success with attendance far exceeding expectations on all sides. So much so that a follow-up has been booked for January 22nd 2022 at the Legion.

Before then, the team has joined forces with St Gregory's School to put on a Christmas Event at the Village Hall and raise much-needed funds for school activities. This time, the music will come from 70's Disco era, so you'll hear well-known classics by Chic, Sister Sledge and Shalamar alongside lesser-known but very danceable exclusives from Bill's vast vinyl record collection. The date for this is Saturday 11th December - Tickets are already on sale and selling fast!

As Bill says 'we just want people, young and old, to share the wonderful, upbeat feel of this timeless music. If we can do that AND help some worthy local causes at the same time, it's a win-win, isn't it?'

MARNHULL WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

If you have ever contemplated joining one of the advertised holidays walking on the Great Wall of China, Mike Spencer would urge you to think very carefully. He knows that it is nothing like a comfortable stroll along Bournemouth prom.

Walls have been constructed in China for thousands of years when small fiefdoms barricaded themselves against neighbouring powers. They consisted mainly of packed earth ramparts, but when China came under the unified rule of the Mings in the middle of the fourteenth century the emphasis was to guard the whole country against attack from the Mongols in the north. The Great wall, as we know it today, was the product of that aim and was a vastly superior undertaking to the primitive constructions that preceded it because of the use of bricks and stone.

The gargantuan structure, now thought to be about 13,000 miles long, incorporated many earlier stretches of wall. The finished height and width was about 25 feet and 25,000 watchtowers were sited at intervals. It's fair to say that work on the fortification, including its precursors, was pretty well continuous for two thousand years.

Mike undertook a challenge to walk 50 miles along the wall in 5 days. He and his group were raising money for his local hospice and this stalwart band ranged in age from 18 to 75. Little did they realise when they signed up that on some mornings they would have to climb a thousand feet up rough paths from the road below before they even reached their starting point for the day.

Mike showed us hair-raising photographs of sections that had partly crumbled leaving walkers to teeter fifty feet above vertiginous drops, almost vertical "staircases" rising a thousand feet into the mist with steps of any depth up to about three feet, rubble-covered switchbacks where a fall could result in serious injury. He also showed a snap of a grisly Chinese breakfast intended to sustain these intrepid walkers for the day. He did reassure us that the evening meals were of better quality.

By the end of the evening Mike's audience was weak with vicarious exhaustion after contemplating the physical labour this trek involved, but equally filled with admiration for his stamina.

In December we have our Christmas fish & Chip supper.

MARNHULL MESSENGER GRANTS

The Marnhull Messenger Steering Committee is delighted to announce that due to continued good management and careful stewardship of resources over the past decade, we have accumulated funds which we would like to offer to village organisations and societies.

The grants will take the form of donations for specific projects, events or items of equipment. Any Marnhull Organisation, Club or Society is invited to apply and will be expected to make a contribution to the same project.

Applications will close on January 31st 2022 and the successful grants will be announced by the end of February.

Your application should make a clear case for funding, the amount requested and your organisation's anticipated contribution to the project.

Send your application to Fiona Nelson, Marnhull Messenger Administrator
Email: administrator@marnhullmessenger.org.uk

Tel: 01258 821036

Ian Gall - Chairman, Marnhull Messenger Steering Committee

ST GREGORY'S C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL



BIKE FOR BOOKS! The Ladies of St Greg's have now begun their training to spin from Marnhull all the way to Rome. The event: taking place in the school hall will be held between Jan 20th - 21st 2022. A team of 50 ladies has formed to take on this challenge that will involve keeping 5 spin bikes turning for 24 hours. As the title suggests we are raising money for books at the school. Budgets are incredibly tight and so we

must collectively turn to fundraising to make ends meet.

Donations greatly received at:

<https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/ladiesofstgregsbike4books>

LOVE, FAITH, HOPE! St Greg's have altered our school values. These values play a huge part in our children's lives, helping them see that they are not only an important part of the educational process but also to their overall development as individuals. For us as a school, their importance should never be underestimated. We live in a changing world, and we want our values to reflect this, that we are a church school which belongs to a strong community and a diverse wider world. We collaborated closely with all stakeholders, church, community, governors, staff, parents and children to consider what we wanted our new values to be and portray. In launching these new values, we planned some special events.

The whole school enjoyed an action-packed day the highlight of which was a surprise appearance by a hot air balloon which is to be the school vehicle for displaying our values. Special thanks to Virgin Flights for kindly giving up their time and balloon to give lasting memories to the children and teachers. Revd. Gaenor kindly commenced our day with a worship assembly focusing our minds on how the Bible teaches us about Faith, Hope and Love through a bible reading from I Corinthians 13. Banners were created displaying each of our special values, these will

hang in our school hall. We enjoyed a range of activities thinking and discussing what each of the values meant to us and their relevance to the Bible and why these are significant to us as a church school.

After a busy morning inside classrooms, we strolled down to Marnhull Village Hall and the surprise hot air balloon. Each of the children enjoyed piling into the 1 tonne basket with key stage two breaking a world record for the most people in the basket at the same time. Squeals of delight followed, the pilot opened the burners and gave us a terrific display of flames which would have inflated the balloon creating 13 tonnes of air inside. We created our own natural balloon, foraging natural materials from the recreation ground to make the basket with some children adding leaf angels to the centre of our giant natural balloon. A truly memorable day was enjoyed by all, there is lots more learning connected to our new values still to come. This term we are focussing on the value of Love.



STAY AND LEARN! The school opened its doors to the community for a guided school experience. Parents and members of the community were guided around the school, into classrooms and outside around the grounds by Year 6 pupils. Visitors witnessed a school full of life, exercise, song and laughter, parents were able to view first-hand their children's classrooms and work, such a treat! Special thanks to our tour guides who presented the school with a smile and with much maturity. We hope this will be the first of other such stay and learn days.



BRONZE AMBASSADORS. A long time has passed since any inter school sports have taken place and so it was with great excitement that events have resurfaced, we kicked things off with a mixed tag rugby tournament at North Dorset Rugby Club where our team played brilliantly finishing 5th! A short while afterwards a netball tournament was hosted by Gillingham school with our team finishing 4th! The children have represented the school with distinction, and we look forward to plenty more sporting excellence whilst attending two upcoming football tournaments and other events in 2022.



WE WILL REMEMBER THEM. Foxes class attended a very moving and thought-provoking service to the school and Reverend Gaenor. In advance they created their own wreaths. The whole school also observed a minute's silence, our key stage 1 children can be seen reflecting with their own poppr creations.



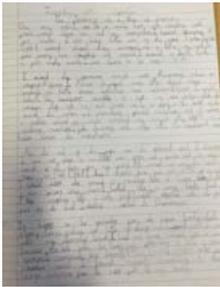
COMING SOON. The whole school will be travelling to Mayflower in Southampton for panto, we are watching Cinderella, having missed out last year we are super excited to be heading out for a festive favourite. Also returning for the first time since 2019 our whole school performance - Hosanna Rock

JOY, LIGHT, SWEETS & HAPPINESS! Hedgehog class have been celebrating and learning about the Hindu 'Festival of Light' celebration Diwali. The children have been reading and acting out the story of Rama and Sita, making Diyas Lamps from clay, making, and eating Coconut Barfi sweets and learning Indian dance moves.

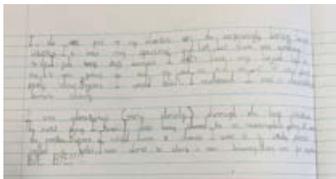


DON'T BE MEAN JUST GO GREEN! This term our new whole school topic is 'Reduce, Reuse, Recycle' Owls class have enjoyed a visit from Sarah Wise of DEEDS (a charity serving Dorset and Hampshire) to promote global education and learning.

Sarah came to kick start our new topic with both an assembly and workshop activities teaching us on one use plastics and how we can help reduce this and why this is crucial to the health of our planet now. Working in small groups we sorted through different types of plastics in the process thinking of the plastics we all use in our everyday lives. The school has made a pledge and filled out a foot template stating what their personal goal would be to reduce their own carbon footprint on the world. Our class read is 'A planet full of plastic' by Neal Layton and we have created posters to encourage other people to reduce their plastic use, highlighting the effects this has had on our oceans. It is fair to say that the children are very enthusiastic to play their part in helping the planet with new class compost bins, recycling old pens and glue sticks as well as using scrap paper wherever possible. We are enjoying our new role as Eco Warriors!



PIZZA. Class have been continuing their learning of all things digestion and here we have a piece of writing by Amy Brocca (Yr. 4)



ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

Explorer's Preschool

Excitement was sky high this month at Explorers as the children discovered many of the festivals celebrated at this time of year. The children learnt about the Hindu festival Diwali and how it is celebrated with parties and fireworks. They enjoyed sharing heart-warming story books

about children celebrating Diwali and were able to compare this festival to some of their own celebrations. They loved using clay and beads to create their own diva lamp and creating rangoli patterns with small parts.



The children marked Remembrance Day creating poppy collages and discussing the importance of peace. They thought of ways to spread peace in our school and came up with some lovely ideas. They also joined the whole school for 2 minutes silence, we were so impressed with how they coped with this.

St Mary's Explorers is open from 8:45am - 3:15pm every weekday during term time and spaces are available for children aged 3+ with wrap around care from 8am - 6pm on request. The unit allows Preschool and Reception children to work together on lots of key areas of learning, something that OfSTED agree allows younger children to make greater progress. Please make enquiries by calling 01258 820417.

St Anthony's

Our youngest children have made amazing progress with their phonics this term, we are all so proud of them as they use these new skills to read and spell words. They are always delighted when they realise, they can read! Alongside learning the skills for reading we are also developing a love of



reading with weekly visits to our beautiful library and twice daily story times.

Our Year 1 children have become poets recently writing beautiful firework poems. They watched video clips of fireworks displays and talked about their own experience of visiting displays. They then used all these experiences to write their poems, the finished products were fantastic.

St Mark's

This week, the children have enjoyed learning all about day and night! We used torches and globes to locate where the sun is situated and what happens when planet Earth spins. We learnt how long it takes earth to rotate on its axis, how many hours are in a day and night and began learning about the different time zones around the globe. The children were inquisitive and engaged throughout and relished the opportunity to visually create day and night, using the torches and globes. They were excited at the realisation that when it is day time for us, it is night time for those countries on the other side of the world and vice versa.

The children also completed a fantastic homework project to design and make their own space rockets! These were absolutely amazing and something which the children put a lot of time, thought and effort into, we were absolutely blown away!

St Francis'

The children have been scientists discovering how to keep their bodies healthy. They have been learning about balanced diets and are all trying hard to hit their 5 a day targets. They were shocked to discover how much sugar in some of their favourite drinks including 6 tablespoons in a glass of orange juice! In DT they are using this new knowledge to create some healthy balanced meals, this week they made a delicious pasta sauce, which had staff feeling very peckish as the aroma filled the corridors.



St Albans'

In St Albans' Class, the children have been studying the life of Ernest Shackleton and the expeditions he endured. We have been mapping the different routes he took, exploring the extreme conditions he encountered and creating pieces of art related to Antarctica. Last week, we went to Carymoor Environmental Centre for a 'survival day' where we learned about den building, collecting fresh water and carried out many other fun, but challenging, team building activities.





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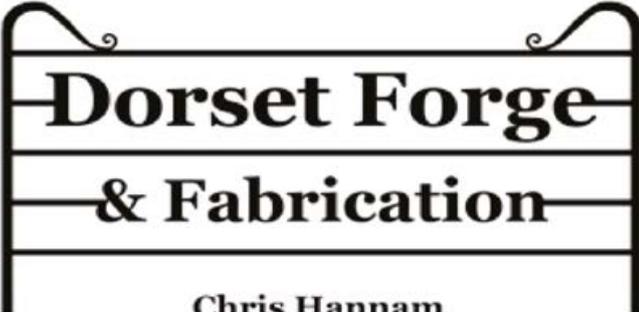
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St Gregory's
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to

Our school is in need of books!

Reading for ALL of our children is such a high priority that the ladies of St Greg's have spun into action and resolved to spin from Marnhull to Rome, a whopping 2000 miles in just 24Hrs.

Parents, governors, staff and friends of St Greg's are seeking your help in funding a defined series of high quality, inspiring and aspirational texts to engage our boys and girls across all ages.

The way in which children are taught to read is a priority for school inspectors, under the new educational inspection framework, St Greg's will undergo a mandatory reading deep dive or in-depth examination of our reading. To fulfil this we need to invest in our books

Please help us raise the £3,000 we need to fund this most crucial element of our children's education.

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St Gregory's
C of E Primary School

ARE YOU A SINGER? DANCE ACT? COMEDIAN?

We are looking for entertainers who would donate their time to perform for a fundraising event which will be held at the exchange in Sturminster Newton. All funds raised will be donated to our local NHS budget (Blackmore Vale).

We are supported by a charity organisation for the Westminster memorial hospital in Shaftesbury. Please would you reply to our chairman Mr Julian Prichard friendsowmh@mail.com or Lawrencerbulman@gmail.com if you are interested.

DORSET COUNCIL RECEIVES CRUSHING REJECTION OF THE DRAFT LOCAL PLAN'S HOUSING STRATEGY



Is Dorset Council hoping to hide the scale of the opposition to the 39,000 plus housing target in the Draft Local Plan? The recently published summary of responses to the draft Local Plan (LP) has revealed overwhelming opposition to Dorset Council's housing strategy, disguised as a

misleadingly low number of responses. This was achieved by recording the submission of each town and parish council as a single response and by incorrect categorisation of many of their responses.

A search for DEV1: Do you agree with the suggested approach and what it is trying to achieve? suggests only 460 responses, of whom 72% disagree. Although this shows a rejection, it is highly misleading. Amongst the responses are the names of Town and Parish Council Clerks, who represent over 108,000 residents between them. As statutory consultees, the views of Town and Parish Councils should be easily accessible but the alphabetical listing of responses by first name, rather than surname, makes this more difficult. Discovering the true scale of opposition to the LP is further complicated by the fact that responses are recorded in the name of individuals, rather than their organisations. Who would know that the Dorset Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) response can only be found under the name of Chairman Peter Bowyer, or Jo Witherden - the Planning Consultant who put together our submission. All of this seems like an effort to hide the reality, or at best it is a poor collation.

CPRE also found numerous examples of respondents who had comments to make on housing policy, but their comments have been recorded elsewhere. Places such as Wimborne Minster are unable to support the LP, but have confined their comments, understandably, to their own town - as have Weymouth, whose own affordable housing needs are not at all met by this plan. CPRE identified the representatives of a further 124,000 residents of Dorset towns and villages, who do not agree with the housing proposals.

Peter Bowyer, the Chairman of Trustees of Dorset CPRE, commented "Our analysis, which is ongoing, was made much more difficult since each response was filed under the name of the respondent. This is fine for individual people but the Parish Clerk of, for example, Corfe Mullen, is responding on behalf of 10,000 residents and the Town Clerk of Dorchester represents over 21,000."

Dorset CPRE will be requesting a meeting with the chairs of Dorset Council's Northern, Southern/Western and Eastern Planning Committees to outline their case that Dorset Council should claim exceptional circumstances to reduce the number of planned homes, following the example of Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council.

WORK UNDERWAY AT ST GREG'S FOR THE GROUND SOURCE HEAT PUMP

The drilling for the new Ground Source Heat Pump has started at St Gregory's School. Apologies to anyone affected by the noise. The drilling is expected to take 3 weeks. There will be 12 drill wells going down 112m into the clay and limestone beds underneath the playing fields. Water will be circulated in these and the warm water pumped into a new pump room, through a heat exchanger and the heat will then be used to heat the various classrooms, hall and school offices sustainably. The heating system has been funded by The Salisbury Diocesan Board of Education and Dorset County Council. All very exciting!

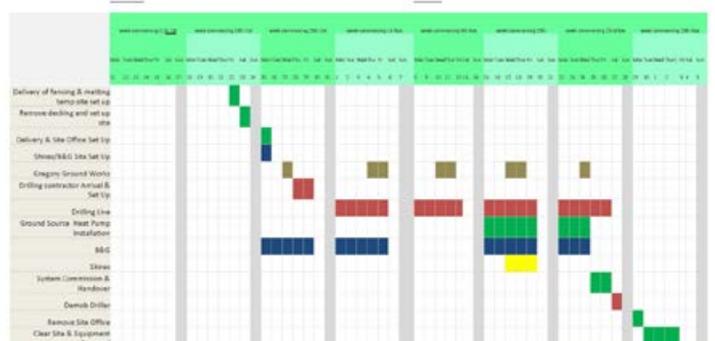


Ground Source Heat Pump Installation



Project Schedule

Start Date: Friday 22nd October Site Set Up



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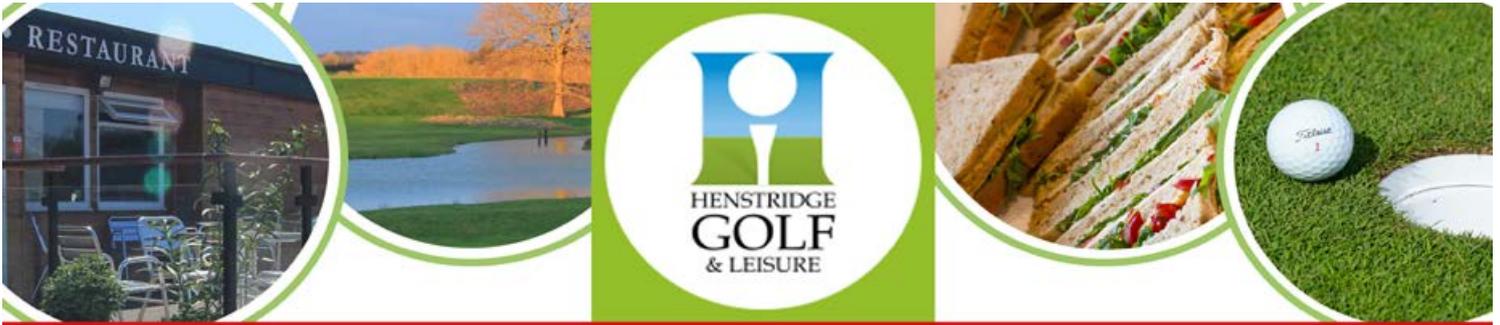
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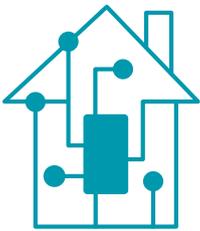
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MARNHULL COMMUNITY CHOIR

After 18 months of not being able to meet and sing due to Covid, it has been such a joy to be able to get the choir together again and start rehearsing under our new Music Director, Geoffrey Horton and Accompanist, Neil Sissons. Equally enjoyable has been meeting in the beautifully refurbished Village Hall with all that space and light.

We were excited to welcome 12 new members to the choir this term, as well as most of our original pre-Covid members, taking our numbers up to 46, which includes 14 men (that's something special and unusual!)

The 'Lollipops at Christmas' concert on Saturday 4th December at 7pm will be our first ticketed concert that we have ever performed, so no pressure on the members! The music programme is split with the first half being a collection of well loved and well known tunes, including a medley from West Side Story, A Nightingale Sang in Berkley Square and a beautiful song entitled Bethlehem, taken from the show 'Martin Guerre', plus a jolly rendition of Do-Re-Mi from the Sound of Music.

At the interval you will be invited to enjoy a free glass of mulled wine, or mulled apple juice and a homemade mince pie, before you settle down for the second half of the concert and get into a festive mood with carols and festive-themed readings.

Our Music Director and Accompanist will both be taking a solo spot and providing yet another twist to the musical enjoyment of the programme. As we will be adhering to Covid regulations we have had to limit the number of tickets for sale to 90 - so please buy your tickets as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. Tickets cost £10.00 each or £5.00 for under 16's. All the Community Choir members look forward to welcoming you to our first concert lead by our new Music Director - a real community event in the Village Hall!

Anyone interested in learning more about the choir should visit the website - <https://www.marnhullcommunitychoir.com> or contact Chris by email - chris@christine-drake.com

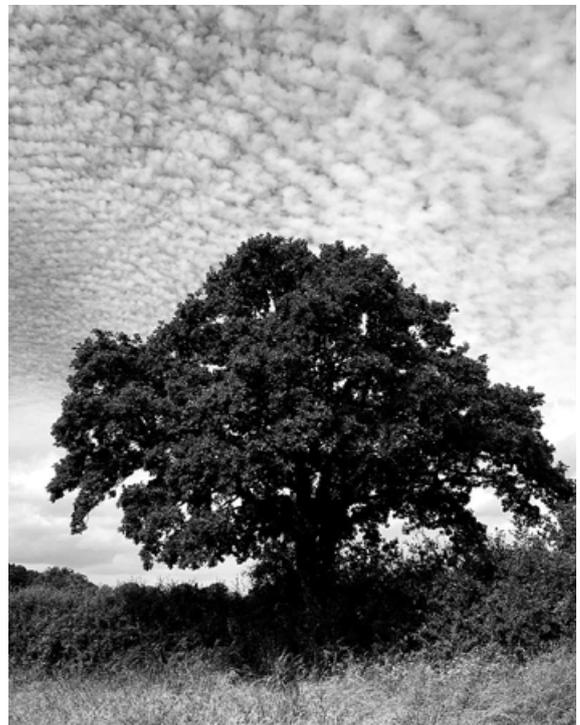
MARNHULL FLOWER SHOW

Marnhull Flower Show

The Marnhull Flower Show is not just about flowers, beautiful beans or wonky vegetables, it's also about encouraging new hidden talents, and show casing skills - old and new. Each month we will be highlighting some of the new classes for the 2022 Show and this month we are featuring Photography. As it's the Queen's Platinum Jubilee year we are being a bit more creative with one of our photography classes and want keen photographers to think about **"A crown or crown connections"**. This class is open to interpretation obviously, but you can frequently see shapes in the simplest of things, so keep your camera handy - it's not just Her Majesty who has crown connections!

Also, other classes include **"A close up of flora or fauna"**, **"A photo of a local landmark"**, **"A black and white image on an agricultural theme"**.

All of these are easily snapped up when you are out and about, even from a window!



This is Rob Hurlow's winning entry from one of the 2021 classes.

Hopefully with Covid regulations permitting we can see more of our families in the coming months - so take the opportunity to capture an entry for **"A portrait; My generation(s)"**.

"A digital photograph", is a very popular class and emphasises computer skills in digital enhancement - it's not as difficult as you think, so give it a go!

And if your perfect photo doesn't fit in to any of those categories there is always a chance to pop it in the **"Open"** class. We'd love to see the fun, quirky or atmospheric photos.

Entries are open to any amateur photographer. We are really looking forward to seeing lots of inspired entries at the show in 2022.

Katherine Turner
Flower Show Committee

**Marnhull
Community Choir**

Presents



Lollipops at Christmas

*A medley of well-known and well-loved songs,
including carols and festive-themed readings*

Saturday 4th December
7pm
Marnhull Village Hall

Tickets: £10.00 Under 16's: £5.00
Available from Robin Hill Stores & SPAR



*Includes a glass of mulled wine
or mulled apple juice
& homemade mince pie*

MARNHULL CALENDAR 2022



Copies of the first Marnhull Calendar have been flying out the door at Robin Hill Stores and the SPAR and a second printing had to be ordered so sorry for delay if copies were not available for you. There are still a few available for that last minute Christmas stocking present. Or why not send one to a friend abroad that

you have not seen for such a long time? Copies still available at the Special Offer price of £10.99 each for 2 or more copies or £11.99 for one. HURRY before they run out!

MOTHERS' UNION

On December 8th we are having a Christmas social meeting and would like to invite anyone interested in finding out a little more to come along and join us and have a chat. - Methodist Church Hall - 2:30pm.

NEWS FROM TRADING STANDARDS

Food allergies and intolerances.

If you have a food allergy or intolerance, it is important that you have the information you need to make safe food choices. There are allergen labelling laws that require food businesses to provide you with information about what is in your food, whether you are eating out or making your own food at home.

In the UK there are 14 legally identified allergens that food businesses should inform you about if they are used as an ingredient in foods. These are: Cereals containing gluten such as Wheat, Eggs, Fish, Milk, Celery, Crustaceans such as prawns, Molluscs such as oysters, Mustard, Sesame, Peanuts, Soybean, Lupin, Tree nuts such as walnuts and Sulphites and sulphur dioxide.

There are lots of ways that businesses can provide allergen information to their customers. They can be emphasised in an ingredients list on the packaging, be listed on menus or signage next to the food or be given on websites. In cafes or take-aways, signage may tell you how you can obtain the allergen information, for example, you may be advised to speak to a member of staff who will ensure the information is made available to you.

If you have an allergy or food intolerance it is important that you check the allergen information that is given carefully and if appropriate ask staff about your own particular issue, so you can be sure that the food you buy is safe for you to eat. If you are unsure or you don't feel the person you are speaking to understands your needs, don't be afraid to ask for the manager or someone who may be better able to help you.

If you come across a business who is not meeting allergen information requirements you can report this on the Food Standard Agency's report a food problem form.

<https://www.food.gov.uk/contact/consumers/report-problem>

ARE YOU A SINGER? DANCE ACT? COMEDIAN?

We are looking for entertainers who would donate their time to perform for a fundraising event which will be held at the exchange in Sturminster Newton. All funds raised will be donated to our local NHS budget (Blackmore Vale).

We are supported by a charity organisation for the Westminster memorial hospital in Shaftesbury. Please would you reply to our chairman Mr Julian Prichard friendsofwmh@mail.com or Lawrencerbulman@gmail.com if you are interested.



Are you a person struggling either practically or emotionally with everyday life? Do you know someone who is vulnerable and in need of some assistance with shopping, getting to hospital, Dentist or Doctor?

If the answer is yes to any of the above then we need you to tell us as follows:

Transport Ann Davis- Penson 07434-638485 or 01258 820456

General help: Hilary Parker 01258 821667.

Trevor Vaughan 01258 821636

Trevor Vaughan

Chairman

MARNHULL PARISH COUNCIL



November 2021 Newsletter

A Message from the Chairman Trevor Vaughan MBE.

Dear Villagers,

Highways, Road Safety, Planning, Flooding, Grit Bins, Dogs, 2022 Budget as well as next years Jubilee are all under consideration by your Parish Council so, if you wish to comment please contact us?

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee - 2-5th June 2022

The Parish Council is currently in early-stage discussions about ways in which the whole community can come together to celebrate The Queens Platinum Jubilee from Thursday 2nd June - Saturday 5th June (inclusive) next year.

The Council is anxious that as many members of the local community as possible should be involved in deciding how this most important Event should be celebrated in the Village, **we are particularly interested in what our young folk think of this venture. With this in mind, if you would like to get involved to ensure that Marnhull celebrates "in style", please contact The Parish Council Clerk via the website at: <https://marnhull-pc.org.uk>; and let us have your suggestions and/or any plans you might have for commemorating the Platinum Jubilee.** Further details of progress being made in respect of the proposed Programme of Events will appear in the Parish Council Website so, watch this space!

THIS IS YOUR VILLAGE WHICH NEEDS YOUR HELP FOR THE FUTURE
Wish to volunteer, make a donation towards safer streets or have any comments / views on the above, if so, contact me or go to <https://marnhull-pc.org.uk>

Cllr Trevor Vaughan. MBE

Contact me at - trevor.mpc@gmail.com / 01258 821636

CHRISTMAS COLOURING



QUEENS PLATINUM JUBILEE MARNHULL VILLAGE COMMEMORATIVE TEA TOWEL

Marnhull Fest committee are looking to produce a commemorative tea towel to celebrate this amazing event.

We are hoping that every school, club or organisation within the village will be willing to provide either a logo or a design of some description that can be added to the design.

If your club or organisation would like to submit a design or for more details please email - janetdimmack@hotmail.com

Prices and availability to purchase will be made available soon.



WE ARE BACK FOR 2022 BIGGER AND BETTER

TO HELP CELEBRATE THE QUEENS PLATINUM JUBILEE
WE WILL BE HOLDING THE FOLLOWING EVENTS
OVER THE EXTENDED BANK HOLIDAY WEEKEND

FRIDAY JUNE 3RD

Children's Fancy Dress Procession
Picnic In the Park
Family Disco and Fireworks

SATURDAY JUNE 4TH

The FEST
Craft Stalls, Food Vendors, Entertainment, Inflatables and
It's a Knockout out
Followed by Live Music in the Evening

SEE ADDITIONAL ARTICLE WITH DETAILS OF
ENTERING A TEAM IN
IT'S A KNOCKOUT

Full details to follow and all events are subject to change
at this time.

**It's a Knockout Challenge @
The Fest
Saturday 4th June
@ The Rec**

12 teams

8 games

4 hours of fun and laughter

Enormous inflatables

Great prizes to be won

If you are interested in entering a team, be it
work colleagues, club members or just enter a
team from your street **then please contact
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You could even use it as a fund raising
opportunity for your club.



St Mary's Catholic Primary School
Headteacher - Mrs Sharon Betts

office@stmarymarnull.dorset.sch.uk Telephone: 01258 820417



Do you have a child due to start school in September 2022?
Do come and visit St Mary's – we look forward to showing
you around our lovely school and seeing our fantastic
children enjoying their learning.
Please telephone or e-mail to book a time and date.

Time: 9:30 am

Dates: 22nd November, 29th November, 6th December or 10th
January 2022



The closing date for applications on 15th January 2022

Dorset School Admissions Contact:

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Please see St Mary's Catholic Primary School website for further information on our admissions policy. <https://www.stmarymarnull.dorset.sch.uk/home>

Evidence of a negative lateral flow test will be required on a mobile or other portable device on the day.



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INFORMATION

What would you do if you won £150?

For just £10.00 per ticket, you could win a top prize of £150.00, a second prize of £100, or one of three £50 prizes. By buying a ticket you will also be helping support the future running of the Village Hall. Buy your ticket before 28 December and be entered into the next draw on Friday 31 December 2021.



One ticket will entitle the owner to be entered into four quarterly draws. To pick the numbers, we now use **RandomPicker**, which is an online solution that helps non-profit organisations to conduct secure and unbiased random raffles, featuring data encryption and SSL security.

To simplify the payments, we have introduced the option of bank transfer, as well as cheque or cash. You can join the Club at any time of the year. You will then be entered for the next Quarterly Draw. Please complete the Application Form below and send either in the post or via email with your payment

Marnhull Village Hall Supporters Club APPLICATION FORM

I /We wish to become member(s) of the Supporters Club and purchase tickets at £10.00 each per annum to be entered into the prize draws.

NAME PHONE No

ADDRESS POST CODE

..... EMAIL

PAYMENT METHOD

- (1) BACS payment to: Marnhull Village Hall, Sort Code 30-90-92, Account No 00622645
Please use SUPPORTERS CLUB as the Payees reference
- (2) By Cheque payable to MARNHULL VILLAGE HALL
- (3) By Cash

Signature Date/...../ 2021

Please return your application form to: Rob Norton, Treasurer, Marnhull Village Hall, The Retreat, New Street, Marnhull, DT10 1QA. If you are paying online you can scan or photograph your application form and Email to: treasurer@marnhullvillagehall.org.uk

method to the Treasurer – details at the bottom of the form.



HAVE YOU MOVED HERE SINCE OCTOBER 2019?

If so, we need to hear from you?

For a number of years Marnhull Village Care has welcomed new people to the village by holding a Social Evening in October. Sadly, as we are all aware since the onset of COVID things have been a bit different however there will be a time when we can again hold social events and with that in mind, we would like you to contact us with the following information.

Names of all those in your household

Address

Contact telephone number.

Email address

So, we can compile an invitation list to this most prestigious event. Please send details or contact our secretary as follows: Hilary Parker 01258 821667
Email: <hilaryjparker85a@gmail.com

Trevor Vaughan
Chairman



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BADMINTON FOR BEGINNERS

Monday club social night: 8–10pm (except bank holidays)
 £25 Joining Fee
 Adults £4.50
 Family £7.00 (up to 2 adults & 2 children)
 Juniors £3.00

ALL COACHING FREE (Badminton England Coach)
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BADMINTON CLUB NIGHT

Tuesday club night: 7.00–10.00pm
 First night free to new members

ALL COACHING FREE (Badminton England Coach)
 Intermediate level players always welcome

BADMINTON SENIOR NIGHT

Thursday senior league night: 8.15-10.15pm
 The club is interested in players who wish to play at a league level.

The club participates in the salisbury district league – div2 mens and div2 mixed and div3 mixed

Contact: Robert Tulk - 01258 820728

Meet at Riversmeet on Mondays, Tuesdays & Thursdays

FRENCH & SPANISH CONVERSATION

Want to get those little grey cells working? Then come along to French or

Spanish conversation! This can complement your work with Duolingo or refresh your memories of your O level days. For more information contact

Ros Eveleigh on 821049.

WINTER DOESN'T STOP TENNIS AT MARNHULL!

With our all-weather courts play continues

throughout the year including:

- Club sessions
- Starter sessions for beginners and 'rusties' looking to return
 - Junior 'fun' coaching sessions
 - Individual coaching for juniors and adults

Membership now **half price** till the end of the season (march)
 e.g. Adults £22.50, Juniors £6. Or 'pay and play' at £2 per person.

Full details on our website, marnhulltennisclub.net, or contact John Seear at johnseear@hotmail.com, 01258 269743

MARNHULL CRAFT CLUB

Meets at 10:00am on the first Thursday of every month (except August) in

The Methodist Church Hall

Relax, meet new and old friends for coffee and chat. Use your skills and learn something new, in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere.

More information from Allison Palmer - 07810464630

MARNHULL BRIDGE CLUB

Marnhull Bridge Club meets in the Methodist Hall every Tuesday at 2 pm to play Chicago.

New Players always welcome.

MARNHULL GARDEN CLUB

The Garden Club meets at 7.30pm on the 2nd Tuesday of the most months, in Marnhull Village Hall.

Come and join us for refreshments and a chat. We usually have a guest speaker and learn some new gardening tips.

For further details contact Dave Bruce (Chair) on Bruce11@sky.com

New Messenger Deadline: 14th January

E-mail all texts, announcements and other requests to: editor@marnhullmessenger.org.uk

CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS

1	3	5	6	8	7	2	4	9	5	1	3	6	4	9	5		
2	4	7	3	9	1	5	6	8	6	8	9	2	5	4	3	7	1
3	8	4	1	9	5	6	7	2	7	2	8	4	1	9	6	5	3
4	9	3	8	7	5	1	2	6	8	7	2	1	3	6	4	9	5
5	6	1	9	4	2	8	3	7	9	7	1	6	8	2	4	5	3
6	1	5	3	7	4	2	8	9	4	9	3	8	7	5	1	2	6
7	2	8	4	1	9	6	5	3	3	5	4	7	6	8	9	1	2
8	7	2	1	3	6	4	9	5	9	1	6	5	2	3	7	8	4
9	7	1	6	8	2	4	5	3	7	2	8	4	1	9	6	5	3

ACROSS 1. Agenda 4. Babel 6. Cud 7. Twitther 8. Port 11. Rioja 13. Iona 15. Minaret
 16. Anosmia 17. Ankh 19. Issue 21. Echo 24. Lent lily 25. Ore 26. Dinar 27. Asylum

DOWN 1. Adder 2. New Orleans 3. Astro 4. Bahia 5. Barrio 6. Carp 9. Orion 10. Teach
 12. John Wesley 13. Issue 14. Neigh 18. Kaolin 19. Inner 20. Salsa 22. Carom 23. Oche

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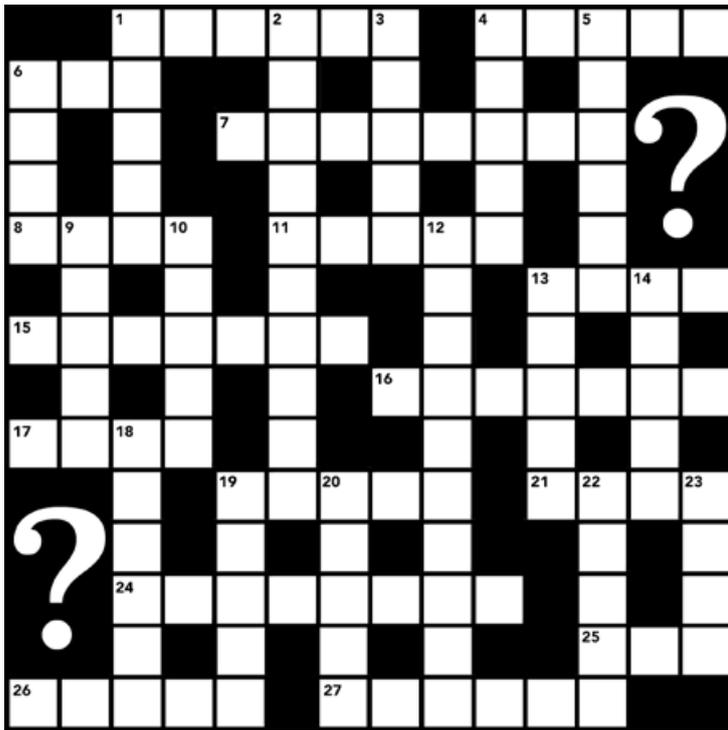
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ACROSS

- 1) List of items to be discussed at a meeting. (6)
- 4) Biblical tower where God confused the languages of the builders. (5)
- 6) Partly digested food returned from the first stomach of ruminants. (3)
- 7) Birdwatcher devoted to spotting rare birds. (8)
- 8) Dark red fortified wine. (4)
- 11) Wine region in Spain. (5)
- 13) Small island in the inner Hebrides known for its abbey. (4)
- 15) Slender tower from which the Muezzin calls Muslims to prayer. (7)
- 16) The loss of the sense of smell. (7)
- 17) Ancient Egyptian symbol of life. (4)
- 19) Children of one's own. (5)
- 21) Nymph in Greek mythology whose voice is taken away so she can only repeat what she hears. (4)
- 24) Flower also known as the wild daffodil. (8)
- 25) A naturally occurring solid material from which metal can be extracted. (3)
- 26) Basic monetary unit in Libya, Algeria and the Sudan. (5)
- 27) Protection granted by a state to political refugees. (6)

DOWN

- 1) Small venomous snake with a dark zigzag pattern on its back. (5)
- 2) US city known as the Big Easy. (10)
- 3) Relating to the stars. (5)
- 4) Brazilian state. (5)
- 5) A district of a town in Spanish some speaking countries. (6)
- 6) Deep bodied freshwater fish. (4)
- 9) Constellation names after a mighty hunter in Greek mythology. (5)
- 10) Surname of the pirate known as blackbeard. (5)
- 12) Clergyman who was leader of the Methodist movement in the 18th century. (10)
- 13) Each of regular series of publications. (5)
- 14) Sound made by a horse. (5)
- 18) Soft white clay used for making porcelain. (6)
- 19) In archery the division of the target next to the bullseye. (5)
- 20) Type of Latin American dance. (5)
- 22) A cannon in billiards or pool. (5)
- 23) The line behind which darts players stand. (4)

		6	8	7	2	
4				1		
	9				7	
	8			6		
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3						
4	9			5	2	
5		9			8	3
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				2		
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	9	6				

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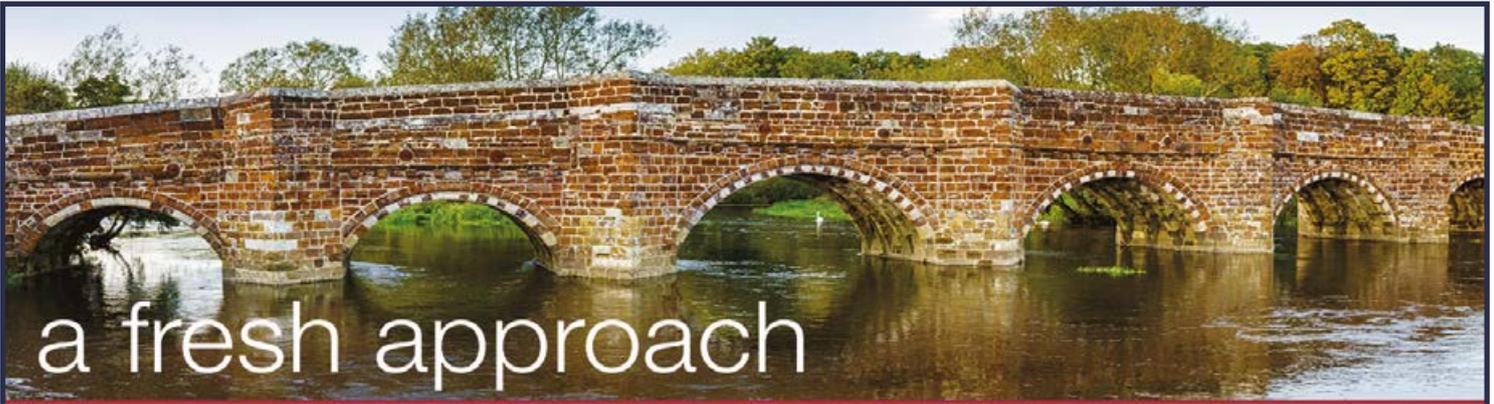
Contact: Boyd Sofield - 01258 820964 or
 John Dowsett - john.dowsett@virgin.net

MARNHULL WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Meets on the 2nd Monday in the month (except Aug)
 At 7.30pm in the Village Hall
 We look forward to seeing new and old members when lockdown permits

President: Nicola Denham - 01258 821343

ALL PUZZLE ANSWERS ON PAGE 32



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