



THE MARNHULL MESSENGER



Original illustration by George Cox

PAGE 7

OUR FIRST

CHRISTMAS GIFT FAIR

PAGE 9

CALLING ALL VILLAGERS!!

ST MARY'S PTFA CHRISTMAS GIFT FAIR!

PAGE 11

A BIG THANKS TO THE MEN'S SHED

PAGE 5



THE SURGERIES

What's new from our local doctors surgeries

PAGE 16



IN OUR CHURCHES

All the latest news from the churches

PAGE 20



OUR SCHOOLS

See what the schools are up to

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WELCOME TO YOUR MARNHULL MESSENGER

CHRIS RYU
Messenger Editor

December 2022 - Issue 130

Thank you to those that reached out to wish me a happy 7th Messenger Anniversary and for your invites. I will of course get back into village events once my life slows down again. If it's any consolation, I haven't even been to any of the Panto rehearsals.

We've been recruiting again (3 new website/app developers), so in theory at least I should be free to do more of my "real job". It's so strange to me how my role has changed so much in the space of 2 years.

Just a little note to say that I wish everyone the very best Christmas and New Year. It's been another very odd year, with many of you having a rough time. Here's to a much better 2023!

See you on the other side...

No Deadline Next Month

Here is your annual reminder that there's no issue next month. I'll try to use the "month off" to give the Messenger a bit of a tidy up.

NEW EDITOR STILL REQUIRED

This paragraph almost seems silly now, but we're still looking for a new Editor. No specific experience needed, just a good level of computer literacy.

SUBMIT YOUR EVENTS INTO A LIVE CALENDAR

On the messenger website and they'll be added to the printed automatically:
www.marnhullmessenger.org.uk

VILLAGE HELP

NORCAT - Bookings 10am - 3pm - 01258 472164
Dial-a-Ride - Major & Immediate Emergencies Only - 07900 261182
Marnhull Village Care Car Service:
Ann Davis-Penson - tel: 07434 638485 or 01258 820456.
This is offered for door to door transport for the elderly, disabled and unemployed for essential trips with a set scale of modest donations.

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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 2022/2023

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

DECEMBER

1st - Craft Club @10am Methodist Hall

2nd - A Technicolour Christmas Concert @19:00

3rd - The Marnhull Hub and Repair Café @10am

3rd - Dale Fender Band @19:00 British Legion

4th - St Mary's PTFA Christmas Gift Fair @12:00

4th - The Ridgeway Singers - Traditional Dorset Christmas @15:30 St Greg's Church

5th - Qigong & Tai Chi @13:00 Methodist Hall

6th - Bridge Club @14:00 Methodist Hall

7th - Fitsteps @11:15am

8th - Marnhull Amblers - Short Walk - approx 3 miles @10am

10th - The Marnhull Hub and Repair Café @10am

10th - Community Christmas Quiz Night @19:00

10th - The Sturminstrels @19:00 British Legion

12th - Qigong & Tai Chi @13:00 Methodist Hall

12th - Bingo @19:00 British Legion

12th - Women's Institute - Christmas Supper & Social @19:30

13th - Bridge Club @14:00 Methodist Hall

14th - Fitsteps @11:15am

14th - Tea with Friends @14.30 Methodist Hall

14th - Marnhull Garden Club Christmas Party @19:00

16th - Marnhull Community Café @10am

17th - The Marnhull Hub and Repair Café @10am

17th - Outrage @19:00 British Legion

20th - Bridge Club @14:00 Methodist Hall

24th - The Marnhull Hub and Repair Café @10am

27th - Bridge Club @14:00 Methodist Hall

27th - Moviola @19:00

29th - Marnhull Ramblers - Long Walk - 4-7miles @10am

31st - The Marnhull Hub and Repair Café @10am

31st - Bill Shannon's Disco @19:00 British Legion

JANUARY 2023

3rd - Bridge Club @14:00 Methodist Hall

5th - Craft Club @10am Methodist Hall

7th - The Marnhull Hub and Repair Café @10am

9th - Women's Institute - Kurling @19:30

10th - Bridge Club @14:00 Methodist Hall

14th - The Marnhull Hub and Repair Café @10am

17th - Bridge Club @14:00 Methodist Hall

21st - The Marnhull Hub and Repair Café @10am

24th - Bridge Club @14:00 Methodist Hall

24th - Moviola @19:00

31st - Bridge Club @14:00 Methodist Hall

FEBRUARY 2023

2nd - Craft Club @10am Methodist Hall

3rd - The Marnhull Players Panto - The Magical tale of Snow White @19:00

4th - The Marnhull Hub & Repair Café @10am

4th - The Marnhull Players Panto - The Magical tale of Snow White @14:00

4th - The Marnhull Players Panto - The Magical tale of Snow White @19:00

5th - The Marnhull Players Panto - The Magical tale of Snow White @14:00

7th - Bridge Club @14:00 Methodist Hall

11th - The Marnhull Hub & Repair Café @10am

14th - Bridge Club @14:00 Methodist Hall

18th - The Marnhull Hub & Repair Café @10am

21st - Bridge Club @14:00 Methodist Hall

25th - The Marnhull Hub & Repair Café @10am

28th - Bridge Club @14:00 Methodist Hall

28th - Moviola @19:00

MARCH 2023

2nd - Craft Club @10am Methodist Hall

4th - The Marnhull Hub & Repair Café @10am

7th - Bridge Club @14:00 Methodist Hall

11th - The Marnhull Hub & Repair Café @10am

14th - Bridge Club @14:00 Methodist Hall

18th - The Marnhull Hub & Repair Café @10am

21st - Bridge Club @14:00 Methodist Hall

25th - The Marnhull Hub & Repair Café @10am

28th - Bridge Club @14:00 Methodist Hall

28th - Moviola @19:00

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**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



Klinik

This new efficient way of contacting the Practice if you have online access, seems to be going well. The telephone lines are of course still available, but as many people are using Klinik, the number of abandoned calls has reduced and waiting times are becoming shorter. Once more Practice staff are recruited and trained, it's hoped that this improvement will continue. However Klinik is the best way to contact the Practice and the vast majority of people receive a response and if appropriate, an appointment the same day.

Covid/Flu clinics

The Practice has administered over 17,500 vaccinations over the past few weeks. This includes about 170 housebound patients and people at home will continue to be vaccinated as quickly as possible, but this takes time, given the rurality of the area.

For patients who have yet to be vaccinated, please ring 119, or go through the NHS national booking website where you can also find local pharmacies who can provide Covid or flu vaccinations.

Dementia

There are a number of organisations in the area who provide help and support for those living with dementia, their carers and families. Here are just a few

Age UK hold Cognitive Stimulation Therapy sessions in this area, which can help people with dementia improve their memory and thinking skills. More information from cts.ageuknswd.orh.uk - Tel 01305 269444.

Melodies Remembered a fun and sociable singing group for people living with dementia and their carers. Every other Thursday at Shaftesbury Football Club dementiafriendlyshaftesbury@gmail.com 01747 852420 www.shaftesbury-tc.gov.uk/sddfc

Mindful Memory Café in Gillingham and Stalbridge, provide support to those living with dementia and their carers. There are two social drop in cafés, a Christmas get-together, a summer outing and a men's group, offering skittles, boule, darts and Xbox games. More information - www.mindfulmemorycafes.com Tel 07910 663392

Help & Care run a Dementia Coordinator Service which is available to everyone over 18 across Dorset, to help people live well with dementia, to maximise independent living and prevent a crisis. They also provide support to immediate carers and loved ones. memory@helpandcare.org. uk Tel 0300 123 1916

The '**Life is for Living Group**', meets every Wednesday at Stour Connect in Sturminster Newton.

Lunch is offered, along with activities and carer support. admin@friendsofstourconnect.org Tel 01258 471359.

'**Jolly Days**' in Shaftesbury on alternate Tuesdays from 10.00-12.00, provides uplifting and fun activity meetings which are suitable for those with or without memory loss. It's an opportunity to enjoy life and discover new interests and a chance to appreciate local musicians, artists and craftspeople. Refreshments are included. injollygoodcompany@gmail.com Tel 07884 333117.

Online Access to Patient Records

If you have a computer, you don't need to ring the surgery if you use SystemOnline, though the Practice website, to check recent test results, order your repeat medication and view your patient record. We are told after a blood test that we will only be contacted if there is anything to discuss about the test results. However, some of us would still like to

know that everything is as it should be.

If you've heard nothing after a week and you have online access, you can check for yourself and see 'Normal' or 'Satisfactory' and 'No further action'. This puts your mind at rest and saves an unnecessary phone call.

By far the easiest way to re-order your medication, is through SystemOnline, or the NHS App by simply ticking the boxes of the items you need and a few days later they will be ready in your nominated pharmacy. If you are on a repeat batch, you don't need to contact the surgery, just collect your medication as usual from the pharmacy.

Your records contain details of appointments, prescriptions requests, test results, hospital and other relevant letters and information - all in the one place. Being able to see these records can help you to better understand any issues you might have and help you manage your condition. You can also cancel an appointment through the app - which is really important, so that the slot can be offered to another patient.

SystemOnline is easy to set up, go to Klinik - "General enquiries/update your details" and then ask in there to be registered for online access. You will be contacted with easy to follow instructions how to set it up on your computer and/or phone.

So you can use SystemOnline and the NHS app for many things, but Klinik is still the route for GP and clinical appointments and medical issues, as well as queries relating to medications.

MARNHULL GREEN TEAMS



Marnhull Green Teams' two 'electric' events in early November were well-received.

The first was 'Going Solar', an evening at the Village Hall which enabled people to meet and chat with PV (solar) panel and battery installers DES Renewable Energy (see desrenewables.com) and Dorset Energy Solutions (dorsetenergysolutions.co.uk). Several individual contacts were made, and a group of people interested in making a joint approach to installers was established. The potential benefits of this idea are that it benefits busy installers to have several projects ongoing at the same time in the same area - and therefore your installation might happen more quickly - and that there may be some economies of scale to be had - and who doesn't like a bargain?

This interest group will be independent of Marnhull Green Teams: any contracts agreed will be direct between clients and the installation company they choose. But if you are interested in joining the group, please contact us at marnhullgreen@outlook.com or on (01258) 268714 and we'll put you in touch.

If panels and batteries are not appropriate for you, other options are available. As we noted in last month's Messenger, Ridgewater Energy have been appointed by Dorset Council, BCP Council and Public Health Dorset to provide free, impartial energy advice, including on funding support schemes. Depending on your circumstances they may be able to install free cavity wall insulation and/or free loft insulation, and can provide new heating systems or replacement boilers. For more information visit www.healthyhomesdorset.org.uk; call freephone 0300 003 7923; or text INSULATION followed by your NAME to 07984 440584 and they will call you back.

The second of Marnhull Green Teams' electric events was an electric vehicle show, which was also popular. Here, owners of electric cars, bikes and a van shared their experience of these vehicles with people interested in driving or riding electric in future. We hope to hold another show in the Spring. Watch for details!

Marnhull Green Teams will be running other projects too in the New Year. For example - and as you may have seen on BBC Points West - we are helping Dorset CAN (Climate Action Network) with their Great Big Dorset Hedge campaign, which aims to create a county-wide network of wildlife corridors. Dorset CAN are looking for hedge surveyors (training will be given), local coordinators and planting teams, and/or you can set up or contribute to a local tree nursery, collecting and planting seeds, or relocating seedlings from your garden. For more information, or to volunteer, visit: dorsetcan.org/hedge

More in the New Year. For now, season's greetings from Marnhull Green Teams!



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IF YOU WANT TO JOIN A TEAM PLEASE LET US KNOW AND WE WILL SORT OUT A TEAM FOR YOU TICKETS AVAILABLE VIA ROBIN HILL STORES, SPAR, OR TELEPHONE STEPH ON 07773 795697

MARNHULL MUSIC SOCIETY

Meets every 3rd Monday of the month (except July and August) at 7:15pm in the village hall.
We listen to a varied programme of music (mainly but not exclusively classical) presented by one of our members and enjoy a social 'cuppa' during an interval.
For more information, please contact
Alan Loukes on 01258 821629

MARNHULL AMBLERS & RAMBLERS

Short walk (amble) approx 3 miles
Second Thursday of the month a.m
Contact for details: Elaine Spencer-White - elainesw48@gmail.com
Longer walk (ramble) 4-7 miles
Last Thursday of the month a.m
Contact for details: Anne Dowsett - dowsetanne52@gmail.com

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION



To Paraphrase Mark Twain it turns out that the death of the Gillingham Town Silver Band was greatly exaggerated. Despite being down on members they did turn up to play in the church for the Remembrance day service. There was just a drummer on the march to keep everyone in step but after all the dramas and rumours flying around I was very relieved that the whole thing went off without too

many problems on the day.

We were pleased to see the returns of the Army Cadets and the Girls' Brigade and there were quite a lot of marchers bringing up the rear all perfectly kept in order by Parade Marshal Owen Wells. Also a big thank you must go to the Parish Council for arranging the insurance and road closures that allowed us to go ahead. The Reverend Gaenor Hockey led the service with help from the other Marnhull Churches and a group of children who enthusiastically held up letters illustrating how to turn hate into love.

Following the service the parade formed up for the laying of the wreaths with contributions from Marnhull RBL, the Parish Council, the Girls' Brigade, the Lions, the WI and the Army Cadets. Then it was back to the Club for something to eat provided by Lyn Bartlett, Eileen Curtis and Lin Whitehead.

The service and silence at the memorial on 11/11 was enhanced by delegations from St Mary's School and St Gregory's School who observed the silence impeccably and afterwards laid the wreaths they had made themselves on the memorial thus hopefully keeping the memory alive for that generation. Adrian Stone once again turned out to play the last post and reveille either side of the service, he has been doing that for as long as I can remember and it would not be the same without him.

Too soon to know how the Poppy fortnight went but it was good to have collectors out knocking on doors again. I will provide some details in the February edition. I do know however that the fish n chip quiz raised very nearly £400 and was won by some interlopers from Stour Provost. Come on Marnhull! We must avenge this next year.

December Entertainment

Sat 3rd - Dale Fender Band
Sat 10th - The Sturmstrels
Mon 12th - Christmas Bingo 7pm
Sat 17th - Outrage
New Years' Eve - Bill Shannon's Disco

For Branch business contact Jack Whitehead on 01258 820800
or whiteheadjack51@gmail.com
For Club business ring Tony on 01258 820397



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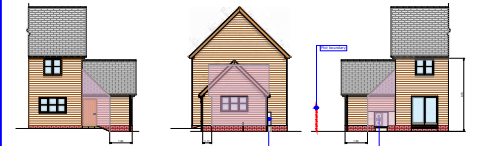
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Contact details for Your Dorset Councillor
Graham Carr-Jones

☎ 01963 364005

✉ Clrgraham.carr-jones@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk

Graham Carr-Jones
Stalbridge & Marnhull

Cabinet Member for
Housing, Community Safety
& Emergency Planning



CALLING ALL VILLAGERS - AN OPPORTUNITY TO FUND YOUR PROJECT!

Did you know that, as a result of the recent approval of the developments in Crown Road, Burton Street and Butts Close, funding can be made available to support projects in the village? No? then read on... For large developments, the owner/developer has to have what is called a 'Section 106 agreement' (no idea why its called that...) that sets out monies that can be distributed to projects that help offset the impact of the developments.

We have 106 agreements for the Crown Road and Burton Street developments and the agreements set out potential funding for things like **footpaths, village hall enhancements, play area refurbishment and development, libraries and others.**

I have deliberately used the words 'may', 'potential' and 'opportunity'. **This funding is on a use it or lose it basis and we will lose this money if we don't have a set of well thought out, ready-to-go projects when the funds become available. This is where you come in.**

If you have ideas for projects for the village, please make contact with a Parish Councillor or with me at mark.turner@marnhull-pc.org.uk and we will collate the list for review. As a guide the projects should be a 'one off' investment (e.g. solar panels for the village hall) rather than of an ongoing basis (e.g. extra doctors in the surgery) and should try to address impacts from the development (e.g. extra folk in the village, additional stress on existing infrastructure etc). If in doubt, please send it in anyway as it will be useful to have everyone's ideas.

A S106 Working Group (snappy title) has been set up to help co-ordinate this effort. More about this in the next issue of the Messenger and on Village Facebook updates. **If you have experience of 106 agreements, planning processes or contracts in general and would like to help, please also contact us at the above email address.**

Remember, this opportunity won't last forever, so lets get our ideas together!

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS



Once again there will be a lovely display of Xmas lights outside the parade of shops in Burton Street, Marnhull, including Robin Hill Stores, for everyone to enjoy over the Xmas period and in to the New Year. Last year we managed to raise £450 for this wonderful charity and this year we hope we can perhaps raise even more in recognition of the invaluable work that the Fortuneswell Unit at Dorchester Hospital does to treat and support people with cancer.

Please enjoy the light display, which this year has a few new additions, thanks to Castle Gardens in Sherborne donating some of their decorations which were past their sell by date but have been repurposed and hopefully enhanced!

Seasons greetings to you all - enjoy and please don't forget to pop a donation into the collection pots at Robin Hill Stores and James Colmer's Hair and Beauty.

Thank you

DORSET CHAMBER CHOIR CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Dorset Chamber Choir Christmas Concert at Merley House, Merley House Lane, Wimborne BH21 3AA.

Monday 19th December 7:00pm

Celebrating 10 years since formation of the choir with Christmas Cantata: Geoffrey Bush and carols for choir and audience.

Tickets on the door or from choir members £12, £5 students/children. Free parking.

MARNHULL PLAYERS PANTO

Rehearsals are going really well and we are all starting to find our feet with our characters. We have started adding in dances and getting our singing voices ready. We are not allowed scripts on stage from 1st December so lets hope we can all remember our lines by then.

Costumes are starting to have ideas and our prop collection is looking good. We just need to remember to take them on stage to practice with them. Lights are all programmed and we are going to see how the performance looks with our lighting effects.

We have started to white wash the scenery hopefully we should be able to get the amazingly talented Helen to get the painting done in the next few weeks.

As it's nearly Christmas we don't have long left, it's getting exciting now but also a little scary. Its time for us to get everything sorted ready to show you all.

Tickets will be on sale from 1st December, Prices information will be in the next issue and the poster will start to go up around Marnhull before the 1st December.

The Performance dates are:

**Friday 3rd February 2023 at 7pm
Saturday 4th February 2023 at 2pm and 7pm
Sunday 5th February at 2pm**

Would you like to be involved in this fun pantomime group? Even if you don't want to be on stage, there's plenty of roles to help out with - no experience needed, we would love to have you on board. Contact Emma at marnhullplayers@gmail.com

Thanks
The committee and Cast



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THE MAGICAL TALE OF
SNOW WHITE

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TEA WITH FRIENDS

A friendly village group that meets on the second Wednesday of each month.
2.30 to 4pm in the Methodist Church Hall.
A chance for a cuppa, cake and a chat.
ALL welcome.
Next Date: December 14th

MARNHULL MUSIC SOCIETY

We always expect a thoughtful presentation from Nick Lalor and he did not disappoint in his October concert entitled 'In Praise of Talented Women.' All the pieces he selected were either performed by women or inspired by women, and his playlist of vocalists was a sort of Dream Team of the twentieth century. First was Agneta Falskog from ABBA singing "Thank you for the Music" which seemed an appropriate opening to show.

Later we heard the breathy, intimate tones of Enya, Vera Lynn in an uncharacteristically gently style singing "We'll Meet Again", the superlative operatic tones of Cecilia Bartoli with "Care mio ben", Elkie Brooks with "Don't Cry Out Loud" and lastly Renata Tebaldi, another magnificent diva singing "O Mio Babbino Caro." Taken together this was a sensual and acoustic feast which would be hard to parallel.

Nick's choice of instrumentalists was equally wide ranging: the clarinetist Sabine Meyer played the slow movement of Mozart's wonderful concerto in A major, Gabriela Montero was the soloist for the exquisite adagio from Rachmaninov's 2nd piano concerto and Nick relayed the astonishing information that this lady was able to pick out the notes of the national anthem on the piano when she was only 4 months old, and gave her first public recital at the age of five.

An unfamiliar piece was also one of the most interesting of the evening: Jacqueline du Pre played a Jewish religious song called Kol Nidrei which had been arranged by Max Bruch. It was a haunting and contemplative performance; Nick ended the evening with a recording of a poem by William Barns called "A bit o sly coorten" read in a delightful Dorset accent and which sent us home laughing.

Altogether it was a most interesting evening, though I confess to Nick that I am still not won over to the sound of the tin whistle.

In December we have our Christmas Party with a programme selected by the committee, mince pies, mulled wine and a bran tub.

THE PANTRY

Nick from St Gregory's, Jacintha from Our Lady's and Gillian from The Methodist Church presenting a cheque for £269.76 volunteers at The Pantry in Sturminster which was raised at the Churches Together Village Harvest Supper in September.



A BIG THANKS TO THE MEN'S SHED

Recently we purchased 10 horse riders' signs for display and distribution around the village. The Marnhull Men's Shed have been brilliant in kindly helping us getting them ready for the road - we couldn't have done it without them - and as a thank you they were forced to eat homemade chocolate cake!!

For everyone who contacted us about offering to take a sign, a big thank you, we were oversubscribed and have had to think carefully about positioning them to hopefully cover as many hot spots as possible. We will be in touch soon about delivering them. We think they are going to look brilliant and will benefit everyone both riders and pedestrians.

If you would like to join our group or just support us please email us - marnhullhorseriders@gmail.com or call 07711 089403 for more information.



MARNHULL TENNIS CLUB

2022 Tombola Tournament

Many congratulations to the 2022 winners Dee & Jeff! Our Club Chairman Jeremy gave this report from the match...

On a gorgeous November afternoon the much heralded **Marnhull Tombola Tennis Tournament Final** was held between Sue Northcott & Mike Burch vs Dee Judd & Jeff Hunt. 32 club members had begun the tournament in the early summer with several will contested earlier round matches. The sparse crowd of 5 were enough to add a bit of edge to the match and in the early stages the nerves were more obvious from Dee and Jeff who lost the first set 3-6. But with the rallies lengthening and tennis quality rising Sue and Mike served at 5-3 ready to take the title. The crowd, still enjoying the sun, were starting to pack-up for an early cup of tea but Dee and Jeff were planning something very different. Despite match points against them in both that service game and the subsequent tie-break Dee and Jeff took the second set 7-6. The crowd were now needing coats as both the sun and light were disappearing. At the start of the third and final set Sue and Mike went 2 games ahead, Dee and Jeff levelled it and so it proceeded to 5 all. The match had now been running for 2 and quarter hours and everyone present was tiring! With the clock approaching 4.30pm and after several more lengthy rallies and some nail biting moments, Dee and Jeff took the lead for the first time in the match and held serve to win the trophy, 3-6, 7-6, 7-5. It was a fitting end to what had been a much enjoyed tournament whose format will be followed again next year.



Coming up in December...

New Weekend Club Sessions - Open to All!

The new club sessions got off to a great start with a dozen members attending the inaugural Sunday. The days and times for December are as follows: **Saturday 3rd 11.00am, Sunday 11th 11.00am and Saturday 17th 2.30pm.** Check the website soon for dates over the festive period and into 2023! Sessions are held on alternating Saturdays and Sundays giving everyone a chance to play, plus there will be the option to use the ball machine. **No need to book, just turn up and play!**

Friday Morning Club Sessions Fridays 9.30am - 11.30am

Continuing throughout the year, these are open to all members and any age and ability. For further information contact Chris Gregory on 01258 474646 or c.j.gregory@outlook.com.

Coaching

Private and group coaching is available from our LTA registered coach Graham Howell. Contact Graham on 01747 837839 or 07931 584778 for individual lessons.

To keep up to date with all events and news, head to our website. www.marnhulltennisclub.net

MARNHULL LUNCH CLUB

By the time most of you will read this the club will have had their Christmas lunch! Where has this year gone. Over the last twelve months we have been very lucky to have had several new people who have joined us as helpers, and we are pleased that they have fitted in so well. We have also had quite a lot of new members and our reputation has spread, we now have guests from Sturminster, Stour Provost, Gillingham, Childe Okeford and Stalbridge, as well as those from Marnhull. Sadly, we have also lost several members, some have moved away, others have reluctantly, through age related problems, decided that they can no longer join with us and some have died. They are all missed.

We do NOT have a meal in January, but all being well, we shall hope to have a meal on the first Friday of every month after that. We always have room for new members, so if anyone is wondering if it is the right thing for them, we say come and try it and we are sure you will want to stay.

No club can exist without a good team running it, and to all the helpers and drivers who give so much of their time to ensure our success I say thank you very much.

Norval Faro



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NEWS FROM TRADING STANDARDS

Where to get trusted advice on consumer problems?

With budgets stretched we want to make sure we are buying wisely and know what to do to get our money back, or problems sorted, if a purchase goes wrong. This is especially true as we approach Christmas, a time when we all probably spend a bit more.

If you've read our trading standards' editorial before, then you'll know what we often mention the Citizens Advice consumer service, their website and helpline. They are the one stop shop for independent and trusted consumer advice, assistance and to report something to trading standards.

Topics covered include energy, holidays, buying or repairing a car, scams, insurance, water, phone internet and TV, home improvements, issues with your post as well as when something goes wrong with a purchase, or if you change your mind.

Many people access this trusted advice through the consumer section of the Citizens Advice website at <https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer>. There you'll find pre-shopping advice and what to do when things go wrong, including template letters to help you to sort out simple consumer problems for yourself.

When you need more tailored advice, usually because you have a more complex problem and the general guidance on the website is not specific enough, then you can chat with a web advisor using the Citizens Advice online web chat facility.

When you haven't access to the internet, or if you would just prefer to speak with an advisor, then you can call the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on 0808 223 1133. This is also the number to use to report something to trading standards.

If you would just prefer to speak with someone in person, then this is supported through the network of local Citizens Advice offices found in Dorset's larger towns.

As you can see there are many ways to receive independent and trusted consumer advice from Citizens Advice. Hopefully nothing will go wrong with your purchases this Christmas, but if it does then Citizens Advice is here to help.

SUNFLOWERS FOR UKRAINE

Art exhibition and handmade card sale in the village hall raised an amazing £1426! for the D.E.C. Ukraine appeal.



A great big thank you to everyone who came along last month to our charity fundraising event it was a wonderful afternoon, so lovely to see so many visitors. It was truly heart warming to see the community coming together to support others in a time of need. The handmade cards and original paintings by the Blackmore Vale art group and Art for

Everyone members from Marnhull and Durweston classes and looked absolutely fantastic. Sunflowers, the national flower of Ukraine and a symbol of hope, made a great subject to paint but with a serious message to make us all think about the difficult times facing many displaced people as winter approaches.

Thanks to everyone who helped out. All the generous folk who donated prizes to the raffle and silent auction we really appreciate your support and to Carol Collis for organising it. On the day the raffle team put in a sterling effort, even making hand written tickets when we ran out! Thanks Gwen Bland, Sue Hughes and Carol & John Hutton. Also Joan Stewart our "security" on the door, making sure no one sneaked in without paying, top job!

I have to mention the bakers, who surpassed themselves! What amazing cakes, truly deserving of a Paul Hollywood handshake, each and every one delicious.

Finally, well done all the artists who took part and donated their time and work you are a very talented bunch!

Deb Chisman
Art for Everyone



DEC charities have prioritised helping the most vulnerable people, and empowered local people and organisations to reach them. They've also worked alongside international partners and the

Ukrainian authorities to provide medical equipment and supplies for hospitals and restore water supplies. More information www.dec.org.uk

MARNHULL FLOWER SHOW

Marnhull Flower Show

2023 is going to be another challenging year, but we hope we can bring you something fun to brighten the Winter days - the date for

the Marnhull Flower Show 2023 - is Saturday 22nd July! We will once again be teaming up with the cricket club to bring a very traditional village show. It's the perfect moment to take in the backdrop of the sound of bat on ball whilst we delve deeply into the marquees filled with a wealth of fantastic entries.

We all look forward to seeing the fruit & vegetables and the beautiful flowers that have been grown in the village. We are introducing some new classes too so that even the oddest shaped veg won't feel left out. For crafty people the Winter months and longer nights provide an excellent time for preparing your show items.

Next year the Art entries will cover landscapes, still life, interiors/everyday life, figures/life drawing, animals/wildlife, flower/tree/plants and a charcoal/pencil drawing.

Also remember when you are out and about with your phone or camera, keep snapping those photos. We have some super topics in Photography - including water reflections, sky/clouds, a child with any animal, a black & white photo of an historic building/part of a building, and also the first sign of Spring.

In the meantime, the Flower Show Committee would



like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Wishing you all a very Happy Christmas
Catherine Turner
Flower Show Committee

Green TEAMS

Did you miss the first one?! MARNHULL GIVE AWAY & TAKEAWAY DAY 2023

SATURDAY 22ND APRIL

MORE INFO IN NEW YEAR

Contact: John Dowsett

dowsettjohn48@gmail.com

01258 821534

MARNHULL MINI TRAILWAY - YOU CAN HELP!!

We've had so many great comments regarding the first part of the Ham Lane track that we want to make is useable for everyone throughout the year, not just during the summer months. We are delighted with the reactions we've received, and it means a lot to know that we are starting to make a difference in the village. Thank you to everyone for your support.

However, whether you travel on foot, bicycle or horseback, the challenge for all of us is to try to cope with the huge lorries, buses, school coaches and farm traffic that comes through the village every day.

If you're a dog walker - do you use it? Do you like it? What can we do to improve it? We'd like to hear from you. We do need your help and want to create something for the whole community, not just for horse riders - but a safer off-road route for everyone. Outdoors is the place to be, looking after your physical and mental wellbeing, is so important these days.

Please support us where you can - this isn't just for horse riders - it's for everyone.

We have a Facebook page where you can follow our progress. We will also be holding a Christmas Quiz on December 10th in the Village Hall. Tickets from Robin Hill Stores and the Spar. We have some super raffle prizes too. If however you are unable to come along on the night, but would like to purchase raffle tickets, these will also be available at the shops.

If you would like to be involved, have any ideas, or would like to donate something towards this, then please contact Steph Holt 07773 795697 or Rosie Gall 07711 089403 or email marnhullhorseriders@gmail.com

OUR LADY'S CHURCH



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

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Parish Priest: Fr. Francis Straw OSB

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

Weekday masses: check the website.

Parish News:

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.

Advent:

Advent brings us closer to Christ who is with us. We are reminded that no one is beyond the reach of God's love. We wait with joy for the Lord, the hope of the world. We are called to reach out with love to our sisters and brothers in need, sharing out hope for a world transformed.

Light up our lives

Christ, come into our world of darkness

Light up our lives with your coming.

Fulfil all our longings with the joy of your birth

Strengthen our resolve to work for change in our world

And to share the hope of your birth that each Advent brings.

A lifeline for married couples:

- Anxious about your marriage relationship?
- Alone or distant from your partner?
- Disillusioned or bored in your marriage?
- Without the time or desire to communicate?
- Experiencing coldness or conflict?
- Frustrated, hurt or angry with your partner?
- Unable to see how to change your situation?

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Discover more about the work of PACT here: <https://www.prisonadvice.org.uk>

HMP Guys Marsh: Chaplin: Deacon Michael Turnbull

Contact: michael.turnbull@prcdtr.org.uk



CAFOD WORLD GIFTS

Can you give someone a gift, this Christmas, that will help change lives in these challenging times? 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 Farming fund.

The Farming fund provides people in the developing world with aid for essential skills to provide for themselves for the long term. The Health funds supports healthcare, disease prevention, plus care for the most vulnerable people in poor communities.

Soup kitchen, vegetable garden or chickens...Make your Christmas gift count.



To find out more visit: <https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk/> (Many World Gifts are under £10)

Candlelit Family Carol Service
at The Methodist Church

Wednesday
21st December
At 5pm

Join us for
Tea/Coffee and Mince Pies
after the service.

THE METHODIST CHURCH

I wonder how Christmas will be celebrated in households up and down the country this year? In many, I suspect worries about money and paying for the heating will take the edge off but I hope that much enjoyment may still be had and that worries can be set aside for Christmas time.



After all, it isn't really about the presents we buy or receive, nice though they are, it's about spending time with loved ones, reaching out to the lonely and appreciating what is good about our lives. Looking to Christ's birthday and on to the life he led reminds us of how we may help

others by being kind, helpful and thoughtful.

Thankfully, our country is at peace - thinking about Ukraine we can only be truly grateful that we are not having to suffer as they are at the hands of an expansionist regime. Let us remember them in our prayers and in our giving.

Wishing everyone a HAPPY CHRISTMAS and peace in the New Year.

Christmas & New Year Services

Wed 21st December

You and your family and friends will be warmly welcomed at our

Candlelit Family Carol Service at the Methodist Church at 5pm on Wed. 21st December.

There will be mince pies tea and coffee served after the service so a chance to catch up before Christmas!

Christmas Day, Sunday 25th

A service will be held at 10.00 at the Methodist Church led by Rev Lin Francis

New Year's Day

A service will be held at 10.00

Sunday 8th January

Is our Convent Service which will be held at 10.00



The Girls Brigade continues to meet at 6.15pm on Wednesdays at the Methodist Hall in term time. In November we had a Light Party where girls can bring a friend and have some fun.

The girls and leaders appreciated and were proud to march with the British Legion and other groups to St Gregory's Church on Remembrance Sunday. We continue with scheduled badge work so girls can earn their badges. We break for the Christmas holiday on 7th December finishing with a Christmas craft evening.

New girls are always welcome, please contact Mrs Rachael Findlay on 07771 897262.

Village Harvest Supper

As promised, I am now able to say that the Churches Together Village Harvest Super held on 29th September raised £269.76 which was presented to The Vale Pantry in Sturminster to help them buy fresh food, fruit, vegetables, meat and fish for local families in need.

'For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.' John Ch 3 v16

BISHOP'S LETTER



Your Kingdom come...

The season of Advent begins on Sunday the 27 November. Like Lent, it is a penitential season when the liturgical colour is purple and a time of preparation to celebrate the feast of the Incarnation without which there would be no feast of the Resurrection. Advent is not as long as Lent and it seems to be more about feasting than fasting! In a way it's 'Lent's-lite' but for many of us one of our favourite seasons of the year as we watch and wait in anticipation of the joy and excitement of the celebration of the birth of Jesus in Bethlehem and also contemplate the realisation of God's eternal Kingdom at the end of time.

It is becoming something of a cliché to list the crises that presently beset us: climate, war, recession, refugees etc in a world already feeling unsettling different post-Covid. At times we can begin to feel overwhelmed and turn in on ourselves rather than remaining outward facing as is the Christian's orientation. God in Christ became a human being not to be served but to serve. Christ the King is with us still - here and now. His kingship is not based on human power but on serving and loving others. We are called to exhibit those Kingdom values in their lives until at last our prayer will be answered and God's Kingdom will 'come on earth as it is in heaven.'

As part of our on-going discernment of a new vision and strategy for the diocese, the Dean, the Very Revd Nicholas Papadopoulos, has kindly written some prayers for us all to use a Diocese this Advent in our personal prayer time and when we meet together in church or on other occasions [see www.salisbury.anglican.org/Advent]. They are beautiful and I commend them to you most warmly. They recognise the situation in which we find ourselves but remind us that we are never alone and that our calling is to join in where God is already at work in his world.

May the God of peace make you completely holy, ready for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

+ Stephen Summ

An Advent Prayer for the Diocese:

Faithful God,
your world is full of fear.
Hunger, cold, and loneliness are all around.
Your children are hurting.
Into our darkness comes the child of Bethlehem -
Jesus, the light who cannot be overcome.
He is with us always.
He speaks words of hope and words of truth.
May his Spirit fill our hearts this Advent
and awaken us to your purposes:
making us generous in giving,
active in serving,
and alert to your reign of justice, mercy, and peace,
which he calls us to bring to birth - here, and now.
Amen

ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND CONTINUES SUPPORT OF ARTSREACH TO KEEP CULTURE ALIVE IN DORSET'S RURAL COMMUNITIES



Today (4th November) Arts Council England announced that Dorset based charity Artsreach will remain as a National Portfolio Organisation, successfully securing three years of funding to support rural touring in partnership with Dorset's rural communities.

Phil Gibby, Area Director, South West, Arts Council England said: 'We're pleased to be welcoming Artsreach back into the Arts Council's 2023-26 National Portfolio programme. Their fantastic calendar of cultural activity reaches people across Dorset. Their programme of performances and creative workshops connects rural

communities, organisations and artists to make a real difference to people's lives. This renewed funding helps us to achieve the vision we set out in our strategy Let's Create - so that there are more opportunities to take part in creativity, and be inspired no matter where we live.'

Since 1990 Artsreach has provided people in living in rural Dorset with access to professional live performances and creative arts projects in rural venues and communities, at affordable and accessible prices. Its programme is delivered in partnership with a large network of community volunteers and together the scheme coordinates around 150 high quality professional events every year, usually in village halls and often in rurally isolated communities right across rural Dorset.

Artsreach Director Kerry Bartlett said "This continued support from Arts Council England is invaluable in enabling us to continue to deliver our programme of cultural activity, enriching and positively impacting the lives of people living in rural Dorset by connecting and empowering communities. Our volunteer promoters work tirelessly to make Artsreach events happen in their communities, and this funding recognises both the work they do, and the quality of the artistic work presented on the Artsreach programme now, and over the last thirty-two years."

Chair of Trustees, Patricia Pryor said "We're delighted that Artsreach continues to be included in the ACE national portfolio. This is recognition of the important role Artsreach plays in our rural communities and testament to the hard work of our network promoters. Congratulations!"

The confirmation of this grant funding, combined with the support Artsreach receives from Dorset Council, will ensure that the scheme is able to continue to bring professional live performances and creative arts projects to rural venues right across Dorset, in turn helping to nurture strong, healthy communities.

To find out more about Artsreach and the current programme, visit www.artsreach.co.uk



MARNHULL PARISH COUNCIL

Whilst appreciating being a Councillor is voluntary and a thankless task and also recognising the positive contributions that are made, I was very disappointed to witness at the latest Council meeting, the lack of proactivity from ***** (Editor Redacted) and the sometimes hostile and disrespectful manner of some of the councillors towards questions submitted.

Surely it is the role of the Parish Council to proactively set out plans on expenditure and challenge decisions made on the S106 monies. The council's recommendations should then be presented to the village for consultation. The village cannot be expected to be aware of all the projects which may require financial support and is dependent on the Parish Council to disseminate this information.

Plus, if a submitted question is said to be on the agenda, please make sure it is.

Most people in Marnhull only want the best for the village and expect our council representatives to work together to achieve this. The "them and us" attitude which was evident from some of the councillors at the most recent meeting is not conducive to achieving a satisfactory working relationship.

Name withheld.

TRAFFIC SPEED 20'S PLENTY - THE NEW NORM

A novel but apt way to mark Entry to my Eighth decade (I intend to acclimatise gradually to 70), was attendance at the national 20sPlenty conference held in Oxfordshire County Hall, as coordinator for 20sPlenty for Dorset campaign. I invited all 82 Dorset Councillors to celebrate with me in Oxford and even to cover the £100. Public Delegate fee for one lucky Member but alas, I was the sole Dorsetonian (a name reserved for residents, not just indigenous folk). Our last conference in 2019 was held in London's Borough of Walthamstow to which I had travelled by train bus and bike with ease, given that Borough's 20mph roads.

the day before conference, we viewed Oxford's sights from atop a double-decker with its history and fascinating facts relayed to us via red earphones to match our bus. Choral Evensong at Queens and Merton Colleges (not the same night) were an unexpected delight to our senses as was The Botanic Garden in rain: it was the site of an early Jewish cemetery before Edward 1 expelled them from his shores in 13thC.

On 20th Oct, County Hall welcomed people from across the country to learn how highway authorities, both urban and rural, are reducing traffic speeds, and with it road injuries and deaths, in built up areas from the 30mph limit, introduced before WW2 when motor vehicles were a rarity, to the NEW NORM of 20mph. Over 26million people in the UK (over 1 in 3) now live in an authority where fear of traffic speed is recognised as a major factor in car dependency = deterrent to active modes of travel such as walking or cycling = obesity through lack of physical activity = poor mental health and social isolation and have done something about it by changing their default limit from 30 to 20mph. Consider too deaths and disease caused by Particle Pollution from heavy vehicle emissions (the modern car) which will not be addressed by switching to electric powered since tyre particle pollution increases with increased weight of e-vehicles. If you are lucky enough to be the 1 in 3 living under a forward looking authority, we heard how your chance of injury or death by collision with a vehicle on the road has reduced by some 40% since the majority of collisions occur on 30mph roads. It is why our young and old no longer consider it safe to walk to school or the shop even though it may be within easy walking distance and certainly a short bike ride away. Vehicles travelling at 30 travel twice as far to stop as those moving at 20 when 'thinking distance' equals the 'braking distance' ie:

30mph: 24 metres - 6 car lengths

20mph: 12m = 3 cars

and at 20mph a driver's visibility splay is twice that of a driver at 30mph.

We were inspired by Lee Waters, Wales' Dep Minister for Climate Change, whose country recently passed legislation to introduce a default 20mph limit with 30 or more as the exception in built up areas and announced Wales Transport Strategy five year priorities to make communities safer and encourage Active Travel. We heard how North Yorkshire and Cornwall campaigners, both rural regions akin to Dorset, are pushing from bottom upwards by helping town and parish councillors understand the facts and pathway by passing a Motion in support of the 20sPlenty campaign and seeking a 20mph limit from their highway authority to show support and demand for lower traffic speeds.

On 6 Oct, I and several others spoke at County Hall during the latest draft 20mph policy to be debated by Dorset Councillors. Having partially succeeded in persuading Councillors to reject the policy last April in favour of one which enabled (not prevented) communities from getting lower speeds, we were not satisfied with the tweaks made to the policy details and particularly the criteria imposed by Dorset Council following its interpretation of Dept for Transport's now decade old guidelines. The policy was recommended for approval by full Council to be heard shortly but it is never too late to voice your concerns.

If your parish or town council has not yet discussed traffic speed in your patch (which I doubt), then ask in the Public Session of your next Council meeting for a Motion to be passed in support of 20mph and get it submitted to Dorset's Executive Member for Highways (Cllr Ray Bryan), to your ward County Councillor and Dorset Council's Leader Spencer Flower.

Might your local councillors welcome a short informative presentation from me on the subject? ...and don't forget to ask me for your Love20 Wheelie Bin Sticker which at just £1. Bulk buy cost, can bring home one day a week that vehicle drivers passing your door should behave with expectation of human beings using the road too.





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ST GREGORY'S C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL



SPORTING PROWESS!

Our fabulous children have been involved in some inter-school competitions of late. First up a swimming gala at Clayesmore school and with our amphibious heroes coming a creditable third against much larger schools from the local area. Our children had to swim a lot more than the other schools owing to our small number. Children were required to swim different strokes and showed why we are so very proud, they are a real credit to St Greg's. The swim team photographed outside of Clayesmore. Left to right: Izzy, Jessie, Leila, Neri, Rowan, Karolina, Ripley & Alfie.



Our Netball team have also been flying the St Greg's flag during a tournament at Gillingham High School. Our team did an outstanding job in finishing third out of nine local schools. Each of the players rotated their positions so every player enjoyed a different element of the game. Our netball superstars are Zoe, Eve, Katy, Lily, Parker, Martha & Ruby.



HEDGEHOGS OUT & ABOUT!

Hedgehogs have been on tour these last few weeks. First up we had a local trip to Sturminster Mill. We walked from the park in Sturminster to the mill and enjoyed a lovely tour of the inside but owing to remedial works we have had to defer a proper tour of the working mill until next summer. Inside we learnt of the process of turning grain to flour, our appetites whetted for the trip by a class read of The Little Red Hen. Finally, we walked back to the town centre and to meet our friendly bus driver for an exciting trip back to St Greg's. We did however have time for a little tree hugging.



Hedgehogs visiting Sturminster Mill.

Enjoying our walking adventure to Sturminster Mill.

Our second trip was a little further-a-field to Wimborne and the Priests House Museum. We learned about traditional games and got to touch and feel a selection of very old toys, some over 100 years old! To help preserve these splendid old toys we had to wear special gloves. Listening to old traditional stories added a further fun and fascinating element to our trip and has got us fully in the mood for our topic this half term, Toys Now and Then.

Elsewhere we have taken up a new class read, Dogger by Shirley Hughes, it is a story about a boy who dearly loves his favourite toy, a teddy named Dogger.

We have continued to enjoy our story sacks at the weekend. It was lovely to welcome parents into the classroom to view our learning journals and



for the Year 1's to show parents their workbooks. The children are rightly proud of their work and whenever parents can share in that pride is a joyous time.



Badgers

"IN FLANDERS FIELDS THE POPPIES BLOW. BETWEEN THE CROSSES, ROW ON ROW"

Flanders Fields by John McCrae has inspired Badgers to create some 'blackout poetry', this is a process where you take a body of text, this could be from a book, magazine or a poem and some of the words are redacted or blacked out, the idea being that the words you leave visible create a new body of text in their own right. As you can see, we also create some lovely art in the process.



More of these can be seen on our class webpage: <https://stgregorymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk/badgersclass-2/>

MARTHA'S MONTHLY MESSAGE



During October we've had another really busy month. Apart from all the fun things we've participated in such as a Netball Tournament at Gillingham High School (which we came third place in!) and carrying on with our class book 'Holes' by Lewis Sacher, we spent a lot of time focusing on Black History month.

This has been really interesting and important for us to learn about. Some of the areas we covered were about the death of George Floyd, Black Lives Matter and the 'I have a dream speech' by Dr Martin Luther King Jr. Dr Kings speech was inspirational and helped us to think about racism and how this affects the way people are treated and the opportunities they have.

In class we spent time writing our own 'I have a dream' speeches about what we thought were the damages in the world and how we can make a difference. I can't wait to write to you all again and give another update on what we have been doing in Foxes Class. Martha.



CHRISTMAS CARDS

The children have created some wonderful Christmas card designs. Parents have been able to purchase these personal unique designs. Parents have been able to purchase these personal unique designs a lovely festive greetings for friends and family. Funds raised go straight back to school.



FESTIVE ENTERTAINMENT

Our whole school performance will take place on 13th Dec with a full dress rehearsal on 12th Dec. Tickets will be on sale for the performances, if you are interested please contact the school office 01258 820206. The school will be once again going to enjoy the Pantomime season, this year it's Sleeping Beauty at the Weymouth Pavilion.

FRIENDS OF ST GREGS

The school relies heavily on the goodwill of local businesses, some of these goodwill champions are showcased on our school website. We are extremely grateful for their support.
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 If you feel your business or you personally can help the school in anyway pleased do get in touch.

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SCHOOL HALL FOR HIRE!

If anyone wishes to let our school hall, this can be arranged - contact the school office on 01258 820206 for all enquiries. Anyone who has attended the Zumba classes on a Wednesday will be familiar with the hall.

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



St. Mary's Catholic
Primary School

Explorers Preschool

Explorers marked Remembrance Day painting and collaging poppies and discussing the importance of peace. They thought of ways to spread peace in our school and came up with some lovely ideas. These included using kind hands and sharing. They also learnt about remembering.



This term we have been busy discovering the treasures of autumn! We began our topic with the story 'Leaf Man' it tells the tale of autumn days, gusty winds and a Leaf Man drifting through the countryside. The children loved listening to the story and then went searching for their own leaf person. They then created their own leaf collages.



We continue working on the children's ability to retell familiar stories; they have really enjoyed getting to know the story of Owl Babies. They are enjoying retelling it in our small world set up.

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. Please make enquiries by calling 01258 820417.

St Anthony's

In Geography, we are learning all about our place in the world. The children have explored their locality using 'Google Earth' and were able to identify local places that were familiar to them. We continue to enjoy regular welly walks to the paddock and the children are noticing the changes in the seasons. They can explain what is happening to the trees and plants and have learn about animals that will begin their hibernation in coming months. They have loved kicking through leaf piles and collecting Autumn treasures.

Our first class book this term has been 'Stanley's Stick' and the children have enjoyed collecting their own 'fantasticks' and creating their own stories around them.

In Art, we are continuing our work on night time collages creating some explosive fireworks pictures. The children used printing, painting and combining materials to create their pictures.



St Mark's

This half term we have been fossil hunting to inspire our study of Mary Anning, the famous palaeontologist. The children enjoyed looking at fossils from bones, shells, plant life and especially that you can get



fossilised poo!

In maths, we have continued our fabulous work on addition and subtraction calculations so we can confidently solve a mix of problems using number lines, base 10 equipment and our favourite: the column method. Now we are beginning to use our knowledge of number families to check our answers or use estimating when working at speed.

We finished our Native American fable about the origins of a crow's feathers in 'A Crow's Tale' and have just begun a non-chronological report all about the life of a lion. The class have already found out lots of great information, as St Mark's is full of budding David Attenboroughs!

In preparation for Remembrance Day on the 11th, we learned about why we wear poppies and how they come in many different colours to symbolise the different people and animals that sacrificed their lives for our freedom. We made a collage of purples, blacks and whites as well as the original reds inspired by the flowers that grew in Flanders Field.



St Francis'

This half term, the children from St. Francis have started to look at sound in science. We have been exploring what actually makes sounds and how it is the vibrations that cause the sound. The children explored different sounds around the classroom from playing different musical instruments to banging their tables and tapping their water bottles. The children then had to use onomatopoeia to describe the sounds that they heard. Some of the words included boom, bang, bump, zip, clatter, clunk. The children really enjoyed this lesson as they obviously got to make lots of noise! Soon we will be investigating how sound travels and making our own cup telephones to investigate and develop our understanding of sound further. We will also be investigating the pitch and volume of sounds.

St Albans'

Recently, St Alban's Class have been looking at the lives of refugee children and asylum seekers. We are currently working hard to create speeches about the rights of all children which has been inspired by our class novel, 'The Boy at the Back of the Class'. We have also started our new science topic, 'Electricity' where we have been investigating different variables which affect the brightness of a bulb.

CONTINUED PAGE RIGHT





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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)
 Loads of fun for children and families

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.

FIX DON'T THROW

The team at Dorset Tech have been training with specialist micro-soldering techniques and will soon be able to do levels of tech repairs that are not offered in the area.

This large investment in high-end microscopes, hot air stations and Apple accreditation will allow us to save even more devices from becoming e-waste. We're encouraging residents of Marnhull to "Fix don't throw". Something as simple as a battery replacement can make an old phone feel like a new one.

Currently our repairs are carried out at our high street branch in Gillingham, but we're investigating having pop-up tech help sessions in the village. We'd love to have your feedback on this.

For more information visit dorset.tech or call 01258 808577.

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 2pm to play Chicago.

New Players always welcome.

Call 01258 820036 for information

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

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

Hard

Medium

ACROSS 1. Setter 4. Fagin 6. Vat 7. Missouri 8. Okra 11. Ketch 13. Dada 15. Bambino 16. Sternum 17. Tiny 19. Amber 21. Yoda 24. Montague 25. Tim 26. Angel 27. Idylls
DOWN 1. Steer 2. Twickenham 3. Rest 4. Flush 5. Geisha 6. Veto 9. Khaki 10. Abbey 12. Canterbury 13. Derry 14. Druid 18. Nutmeg 19. Annul 20. Bhai 22. Oasts 23. Atom



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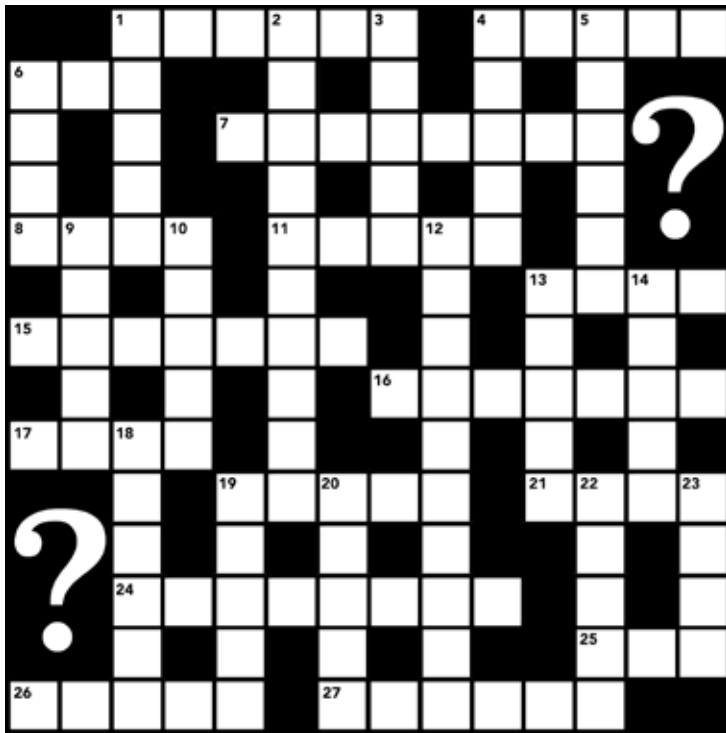
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ACROSS

- 1) Long haired dog used for scenting game.. (6)
- 4) A receiver of stolen goods in Dickens' novel Oliver Twist. (5)
- 6) Large tub used to hold liquid. (3)
- 7) The longest river in the US. (8)
- 8) Vegetable also known as ladies fingers. (4)
- 11) Two masted sailing boat. (5)
- 13) Early 20th Century art movement mocking social conventions. (4)
- 15) Baby or young child in Italy. (7)
- 16) Another name for the breastbone. (7)
- 17) and 25A) Crippled child in Dickens' A Christmas Carol. (4-3)
- 19) Fossilised resin from extinct trees. (5)
- 21) Character from the Star Wars franchise of films, a leading member of the Jedi Order. (4)
- 24) Family name of the Shakespeare character Romeo. (8)
- 25) See 17A).
- 26) Seraphim and cherubim are types of these. (5)
- 27) Blissful periods. (6)

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

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

DOWN

- 1) Castrated male bovine raised for beef. (5)
- 2) The home of English rugby. (10)
- 3) Take an exam again. (5)
- 4) In poker a hand of all the same suit. (5)
- 5) Japanese hostess. (6)
- 6) The right to reject a decision made by a law making body. (4)
- 9) Cotton or wool fabric of a dull brownish-yellow colour used often by military personnel. (5)
- 10) Establishment occupied by a community of monks or nuns. (5)
- 12) Cathedral destination of a group of 14th Century pilgrims in a book by Geoffrey Chaucer. (10)
- 13) Second largest city in Northern Ireland. (5)
- 14) Priest in the ancient Celtic religion. (5)
- 18) Hard aromatic seed of a tropical tree from where mace is obtained. (6)
- 19) Declare a contract invalid. (5)
- 20) In Indian cuisine a ball of vegetables fried in batter. (5)
- 22) Kilns for drying hops. (5)
- 23) Smallest particle of an element. (4)

MARNHULL TABLE TENNIS

Monday & Wednesday afternoons
 Now playing within Covid restrictions
 Come and try us!!
 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
 President: Nicola Denham - 01258 821343

BLACKMORE VALE ART GROUP

The group meets monthly on the second Friday at
 10:30am in the Village Hall.
 All styles and levels of experience are welcomed.
 For further information contact Yvonne 820247 or
 mikyon@aol.com

**All PUZZLE ANSWERS ON
 PAGE 32**



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