

THE MARNHULL MESSENGER

MAR 2025 | ISSUE 151

www.marnhullmessenger.org.uk

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WELCOME TO YOUR MARNHULL MESSENGER

CHRIS RYU
Messenger Editor



Welcome back to your new look Marnhull Messenger.

Hopefully by the time you read this, spring will nearly be upon us and I can finally shed a layer of clothing!

You'll see that there are a few advertising spots left this year. If you'd like to advertise in the Marnhull Messenger for 2025, please get in touch with Rosie on the details on this page.

I had the pleasure of attending all of the Panto performances earlier this month. The cast and crew all did amazing and it's so good to see the village tradition being kept alive.

This feels like a planning focused issue. There's an article about the Parish Council's fundraising campaign to fight the Tess Square application, there's a column on the Neighbourhood Plan and another on a new committee to understand what the village wants. I think the only thing we're missing in this issue is a comment from Mr Crocker himself!

This is clearly a very important issue of the Marnhull Messenger. I encourage you to read it all, have your say and be represented.

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:

Marnhull Village Care offer a door-to-door car service for people in the parish who cannot arrange their own transport for essential trips; medical appointments, for example. Passengers pay their volunteer drivers according to a mileage scale in line with HMRC regulations. Call 07777 559076 for all enquiries.

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DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE

MID-DAY 14th March

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

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These contact details are to be used in relation to the publication of the Marnhull Messenger ONLY

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MARNHULL MESSENGER WEBSITE

Who Do I Contact?

Any amendments or proposals for new pages in the messenger website 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 2025

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

March

1st - Saturday
The Marnhull Hub and Repair Café @ 10:00

3rd - Monday
Pound Fitness @ 09:30 British Legion
Table Tennis - Monday @ 14:00

4th - Tuesday
Bridge Club @ 13:30 Methodist Hall

5th - Wednesday
Fitsteps dance and exercise class @ 11:15
Table Tennis - Wednesday @ 14:00
Community Choir @ 18:30
Pound Fitness @ 19:00 British Legion

6th - Thursday
Craft Club @ 10:00 Methodist Hall

7th - Friday
Lunch Club @ 12:00

8th - Saturday
The Marnhull Hub and Repair Café @ 10:00

10th - Monday
Pound Fitness @ 09:30 British Legion
Table Tennis - Monday @ 14:00
Women's Institute - Kurling @ 19:30

11th - Tuesday
Bridge Club @ 13:30 Methodist Hall

12th - Wednesday
Fitsteps dance and exercise class @ 11:15
Table Tennis - Wednesday @ 14:00
Community Choir @ 18:30
Pound Fitness @ 19:00 British Legion

14th - Friday
Blackmore Vale Art Group @ 10:00

15th - Saturday
The Marnhull Hub and Repair Café @ 10:00

17th - Monday
Pound Fitness @ 09:30 British Legion
Table Tennis - Monday @ 14:00
Marnhull Music Society @ 19:15

18th - Tuesday
Organ Recital @ 12:00 St Gregory's
Bridge Club @ 13:30 Methodist Hall

19th - Wednesday
Fitsteps dance and exercise class @ 11:15
Table Tennis - Wednesday @ 14:00
Community Choir @ 18:30
Pound Fitness @ 19:00 British Legion

21st - Friday
Marnhull Community Cafe @ 10:00

22nd - Saturday
The Marnhull Hub and Repair Café @ 10:00

24th - Monday
Pound Fitness @ 09:30 British Legion
Table Tennis - Monday @ 14:00

25th - Tuesday

Bridge Club @ 13:30 Methodist Hall

26th - Wednesday
Fitsteps dance and exercise class @ 11:15
Table Tennis - Wednesday @ 14:00
Community Choir @ 18:30
Pound Fitness @ 19:00 British Legion

28th - Friday
Figure Drawing @ 10:30

29th - Saturday
The Marnhull Hub and Repair Café @ 10:00

31st - Monday
Pound Fitness @ 09:30 British Legion
Table Tennis - Monday @ 14:00

April

1st - Tuesday
Organ Recital @ 12:00 St Gregory's
Bridge Club @ 13:30 Methodist Hall

2nd - Wednesday
Fitsteps dance and exercise class @ 11:15
Table Tennis - Wednesday @ 14:00
Community Choir @ 18:30
Pound Fitness @ 19:00 British Legion

3rd - Thursday
Craft Club @ 10:00 Methodist Hall

4th - Friday
Lunch Club @ 12:00

5th - Saturday
The Marnhull Hub and Repair Café @ 10:00

7th - Monday
Pound Fitness @ 09:30 British Legion
Table Tennis - Monday @ 14:00

8th - Tuesday
Bridge Club @ 13:30 Methodist Hall

9th - Wednesday
Fitsteps dance and exercise class @ 11:15
Table Tennis - Wednesday @ 14:00
Community Choir @ 18:30
Pound Fitness @ 19:00 British Legion

11th - Friday
Blackmore Vale Art Group @ 10:00

12th - Saturday
The Marnhull Hub and Repair Café @

10:00

14th - Monday
Pound Fitness @ 09:30 British Legion
Table Tennis - Monday @ 14:00
Women's Institute - AGM Social with Cheese and Wine @ 19:30

15th - Tuesday
Bridge Club @ 13:30 Methodist Hall

16th - Wednesday
Fitsteps dance and exercise class @ 11:15
Table Tennis - Wednesday @ 14:00
Community Choir @ 18:30
Pound Fitness @ 19:00 British Legion

18th - Friday
Marnhull Community Cafe @ 10:00

19th -
The Marnhull Hub and Repair Café @ 10:00

21st - Monday
Pound Fitness @ 09:30 British Legion Club
Table Tennis - Monday @ 14:00
Marnhull Music Society @ 19:15

22nd - Tuesday
Bridge Club @ 13:30 Methodist Hall

23rd - Wednesday
Fitsteps dance and exercise class @ 11:15
Table Tennis - Wednesday @ 14:00
Community Choir @ 18:30
Pound Fitness @ 19:00 British Legion

25th - Friday
Figure Drawing @ 10:30

26th - Saturday
The Marnhull Hub and Repair Café @ 10:00

28th - Monday
Pound Fitness @ 09:30 British Legion Club
Table Tennis - Monday @ 14:00

29th - Tuesday
Bridge Club @ 13:30 Methodist Hall

30th - Wednesday
Community Choir @ 18:30

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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!

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FROM THE SURGERIES

Monthly Health Events

The Practice, in conjunction with the Patient Participation Group is holding a series of Health Events over the next 6 months to help patients. Each meeting will last for an hour and a half and will be based on a clinical condition or conditions and provide information, advice and signposting to further support.

These Events will cover Diabetes, Hypertension, Children and Young People's Health, Respiratory, Nutrition, Dermatology and Self Care. The meetings will alternate between Sturminster Newton and Shaftesbury.

The first one is on Wednesday March 5th at the Exchange, Sturminster Newton at 18.30, on Red Flag Symptoms. We recently held a survey about people's confidence in looking after their own health and in response to the question 'What support would you like in relation to this?' most people said – 'Recognising signs of serious health issues. So this meeting will feature Dr Simone Yule and Kay Green, Practice Pharmacist providing you with the opportunity of finding out when you might need to raise a concern regarding your health. Light refreshments will be available.

The April meeting at 18.30 on Wednesday April 16th in Shaftesbury (location announced in next month's Messenger) and will feature Diabetes and Hypertension.

Practice News

The Practice is generally operating as normal with demand and waiting times comparable to the same time last year. We have suffered from some staff sickness resulting in some postponed or rearranged appointments, or temporary reductions in administrative staffing, and thank patients for their understanding where they have been impacted by this.

Our dedicated flu clinics have now ceased although eligible patients can still obtain a flu vaccination if they wish to have one. RSV vaccinations are being offered to all eligible patients (aged 75-79 as of 31st August 2024, and those who are pregnant) – we will contact patients directly if eligible to book you in, and so patients do not need to contact us.

SystemConnect, our system for receiving requests from patients, which replaced Klinik on 1st November 2024, is generally working well. All requests received either online or via telephone are fed into this system and all requests are clinically triaged by one of our Clinical Partners to ensure patients are offered an appropriate appointment according to their clinical need. We received 17,723 requests from 1st Nov to 17th Jan inclusive, an average of 334 per working day. On our busiest day since launch (Mon 6th January) we received 633 requests, 56% of which were dealt with within 1 hour, and 88% within 3 hours. We welcome feedback from patients about the system and continue to look at ways to improve it.

Swap 2 Stop

This is a new nationwide campaign aimed at encouraging smokers to make the switch from smoking to vaping to improve their health.

LiveWell Dorset is offering adult smokers who live in Dorset the opportunity to sign up for a free vape kit including six weeks' worth of e-liquids, plus access to support via a downloadable quit app and online video coaching.

Nicotine vaping is now one of the most popular stop smoking aids. Studies show that when used alongside coaching support, it's a very effective way of quitting. Smokers are addicted to nicotine, not tobacco. It is the tar and toxic chemicals in tobacco smoke that kills, so switching from smoking to vaping is a positive health move.

It's an amazing offer for Dorset's smokers and a chance to finally break free from tobacco and its toxic mix of more than 60 cancer-inducing chemicals. Local smokers can sign up at www.livewelldorset.co.uk/swap-2-stop or call free of charge Monday - Friday 9am - 6:30pm 0800 840 1628

BVP PPG HEALTH EVENT

RED FLAG SYMPTOMS

WHEN TO RAISE YOUR CONCERNS

Q+A WITH DR SIMONE YULE AND
PHARMACIST KAY GREEN

WED 5TH MARCH, 18:30-20:00
THE EXCHANGE, OLD MARKET HILL, STURMINSTER
NEWTON

PLEASE JOIN US!

MARNHULL COMMUNITY CAFÉ

Open 3rd Friday each month

Pop in, we'd love to see you

Marnhull Village Hall, 10-12

Tea, Coffee, Homemade Cake & good company.

Everyone welcome

The village recycling bins will also be open during this time

The Blackmore Vale Partnership
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Progress to date

As many of you know, Marnhull Parish Council is currently preparing to participate in the planning inquiry into the Tess Square and Butts Close planning application, which was refused by Dorset Council in July 2024. The decision is now being appealed by Mr Crocker. The planning inquiry itself will be held at County Hall, Dorchester from 8th April with Mr Bore the appointed Planning Inspector.

Marnhull Parish Council's position remains that this proposed application is disproportionate for the size of Marnhull and presents many local issues that need to be surfaced at the inquiry in terms of highways safety, heritage and landscape. This view was widely supported by the 2023 parish survey feedback collected by the Neighbourhood Planning team, by representations from residents during the initial planning application and by feedback at several Parish meetings. Most recently, at our December 2nd 2024 meeting there was overwhelming support for MPC to actively participate in the inquiry as a Rule 6 party. The parish council established an appeal sub-committee to deal with the day-to-day activities relating to preparing for the planning inquiry and approved funding to engage a planning barrister and experts to support our case.

MPC submitted its Statement of Case as a Rule 6 party on 3rd January 2025 which was also published on the Parish Council website. Dorset Council also submitted a Statement of Case focussing mainly on why the proposed scheme contravened local planning policy and referring to the Dorset Council 5-year land supply recently validated by PINS. Disappointingly having objected on highways grounds to the initial application, Dorset Highways decided to not contest the appeal. As Highways safety was the primary concern of many in the village, we had no option but to engage our own transport consultant to help present our case. We have engaged Richard Fitter from a consultancy called Entrans to support us.

In parallel, as planned, we have also engaged a planning barrister, Simon Bell, a Kings Counsel who has much experience in such appeals. We are also continuing to work with Jo Witherden who is our planning consultant on the Neighbourhood Plan and has an excellent relationship with the Dorset Council team. We are very conscious of using Parish funds wisely and the appeal sub-committee is doing as much of the legwork as we can to minimise the money we spend on experts without weakening our case.

On 6th February we attended a Case Management Conference which identified the areas from the Statements of Case from us, Dorset Council and the Appellant that the Inspector thinks should be discussed during the Inquiry. The next step in the process is the submission of Statements of Proof by March 11th. Statements of Proof are essentially the evidence to support the issues raised in our Statement of Case. We anticipate three; one relating to planning, existing approved developments and the impact of these on the village using the lived experience of residents and feedback from the village survey; one relating to highways, which will be quite technical; and one related to heritage impact. We will also reference the draft Neighbourhood Plan but as it will still be draft at the point of the Inquiry this will carry less weight.

Crowdfunding Initiative

At the Parish Council meeting of 2nd December 2024, almost the entire room backed the proposal to raise funds to help us meet these costs. As you may have seen, we have now launched a crowdfunding appeal for that purpose as instructed by the village and we are very grateful for those who have made pledges but also for the supportive comments. Whilst the money raised is very much valued and appreciated, the number of people supporting the crowdfunding initiative is also a very powerful indicator of local opinion that we intend to reference during the Inquiry. If anyone would rather donate by cheque rather than via the crowdfunding site please send your cheques c/o Mrs S Upshall, Clerk, Marnhull Parish Council, 6 New Street, Marnhull, Dorset, DT10 1PY.

There have been questions raised regarding our funding model. To be clear, MPC has sufficient funds to meet our committed costs to get us to the inquiry but there is an element of uncertainty over future incremental costs as there are many unknown unknowns. The crowdfunding when we meet and exceed our target will give us flexibility to respond as more information is thrown at us and enable us to replenish somewhat our parish reserves as this may well be one skirmish in a longer engagement. If you have not supported the crowdfunding yet, please do so and please ask your friends and neighbours to support us as well.

The Planning Inquiry

Inspectors take heed of local opinion. It would be great to have as many villagers as possible attend the Inquiry. The Inquiry is scheduled to open at 10.00am on Tuesday 8th April 2025 at Dorset Council's offices, County Hall, Colliton Park, Dorchester, Dorset, DT1 1XJ. The agenda is anticipated to be as follows:

Day 1: Tuesday 8th April

- Opening statements: Appellant, LPA, Parish Council
- Interested persons wishing to speak
- Issue 1: Character and appearance and heritage

Day 2: Wednesday 9th April

- Issue 2: Highway safety and congestion

Days 3 and 4: Thursday 10th April and Friday 11th April

- Issue 3: Planning matters (formal inquiry session)

Day 5: Wednesday 16th April (virtual session)

- Closing submissions: Council, Parish Council, Appellant

Parishioners can ask to speak as interested persons on Day 1 but please ensure the issues you raise do not just repeat the case being made by the Parish Council. If you are planning to speak in support of our case we would really appreciate it if you could let us know beforehand so we can ensure our team is prepared.

We anticipate providing a further update at the next MPC meeting on Monday 3rd March.

MARNHULL VILLAGE CARE SUPPORTERS GET-TOGETHER!

All MVC Drivers, Road Contacts, and Anyone interested in learning more about volunteering for MVC are invited to get together for a celebration drink and chat on

Friday 21st March from 6.30pm - 7.30pm

In Marnhull Village Hall

Includes

Three brief presentations from Members of the Committee describing what has been achieved and what is planned, as well as a big thank you



POUND CLASSES

Pound is a cardio jam session inspired by the infectious, energising and sweat-dripping fun. Instead of listening to music you become the music in this exhilarating full body workout that combines cardio, conditioning and strength training with yoga and Pilates-inspired moves using ripstix and an exercise mat, also B'Active with Hayley which is a little body conditioning with small weights and resistance bands along the way pm for more details Email hayley.sandell@gmail.com



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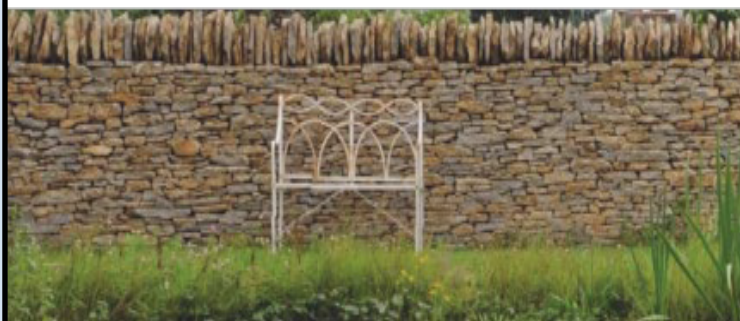
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HOLIDAY SCAMS

CHRIS WALTON
Oak Digital Solutions

It's that time of year when many people have had enough of the cold and rain and their thoughts turn to holidays, and of course scammers are keen to take advantage of that.

Based on an analysis of holiday scams reported by Lloyds Banking Group customers last year here are some of the most common scams:

Counterfeit flight tickets were the most prevalent scam, partly caused by people resorting to social media platforms (particularly Facebook) and less reputable websites to try to avoid increasing flight costs. Fraudsters create deceptive advertisements or claim to sell plane tickets they can no longer use, offering a discount for an upfront fee. Once they receive the payment, they disappear.

Caravan purchase scams involve fraudsters who attract potential victims by using images of vehicles sourced from Google or legitimate advertisements, often presenting them with enticingly low-priced offers.

Fake holiday home or cottage rentals on booking websites such as Airbnb also feature stolen or fake photos. Scammers may take deposits through legitimate sites first before asking for further payments via bank transfer or PayPal. Victims may only discover they've been duped when they arrive at their accommodation to find it doesn't exist or belongs to someone else.

Booking scams can be particularly clever, as hackers may hijack booking systems to pose as genuine hotels on legitimate platforms such as Booking.com and steal card or bank details.

The Booking.com platform does seem to be a very popular hunting ground for fraudsters. The national fraud reporting centre, Action Fraud, warned that between June 2023 and September 2024, it received more than 500 reports of phishing scams on Booking.com's platform, with losses totalling over £370,000.

Booking.com says that it never asks for payment details via email, chat messages, text or phone. Customers are encouraged to check payment policy details on the property listing page or the booking confirmation to be sure the message is legitimate, or to contact its 24/7 customer service.

Never trust a message asking for personal or financial information without first taking steps to check whether the request is legitimate. Get official contact details from the sender's genuine website to do this.

Typically, scammers will try to get you to 'verify' your details to confirm your booking and will use a threat to panic you and get you to take action immediately, such as cancelling your accommodation.

Tips to avoid being scammed:

1. Always buy tickets and hotel accommodation from trusted retailers or, even better, direct from the airline or hotel.
2. When booking holidays, look for valid reviews on websites such as TripAdvisor. Always use your debit or credit card, as this helps to protect your money should something go wrong.

3. When booking through websites such as Airbnb and Booking.com, only pay via their systems. Never transfer money directly to the host.

4. If you're booking a hotel through a third party – such as Booking.com – and receive what appears to be a message from the hotel asking for more money after the original booking has been confirmed, don't pay this without contacting Booking.com or the hotel directly.

5. Be cautious on social media. If buying a caravan or motorhome, always see the item in person before handing over any form of deposit.

6. Don't succumb to pressure. If a seller is trying to rush you or bombarding you with messages this should raise a red flag, take a step back and question why they are pressuring you.

7. Pay attention to warnings. Your bank will likely provide a warning when you set up a new payee or make an unusual payment. Be sure to follow any advice provided.

You can report scam messages to Action Fraud at www.actionfraud.police.uk and you can forward phishing emails to report@phishing.gov.uk.

About Me

I'm Chris Walton, I live in Marnhull and I can help with many of the problems that people experience with personal and home technology. I have nearly 40 years' experience teaching people of all ages and all skill levels to use a wide variety of gadgetry and software both in the workplace and at home.

I provide patient and friendly training carried out at your own pace, in your own home and at your convenience.

You can find out more at www.oakdigitalsolutions.co.uk or on my Oak Digital Solutions Facebook Page.

After each month's column has been published it will be posted to my Facebook page as well as the blog on my website where you are welcome to comment and ask any questions.

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VOLUNTEER FOR DORSET MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY!

Volunteer with us!

Did you know you can volunteer at the museum?

We are looking for people to join us as Welcome Hosts and Gallery Stewards to help out on weekends during the Gladiators of Britain exhibition (25 January - 11 May 2025).

No only will you gain valuable skills and knowledge, but you will also be surrounded by fascinating artefacts from our own collection and from renowned institutions like the British Museum!

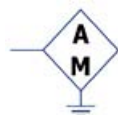
This is a fantastic opportunity to immerse yourself in history and be part of a dynamic team of volunteers.

Email enquiries@dorsetmuseum.org to find out more.

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Marnhull Village Care

A warm welcome to the Village & Support in our Community



Quotes from MVC passengers:

- As I can't drive at the moment - without Marnhull Village Care I'm not sure how I would get to my hospital appointments.
- The volunteer drivers are like family - they always greet me with a smile and make sure I'm comfortable.
- I couldn't find a taxi able to take me to an urgent dental appointment: Marnhull Village Care's help was invaluable.
- The drivers are always so friendly and helpful - I really appreciate it.

These are just a few of the lovely comments our passengers make in response to being collected by the Marnhull Village Care Drivers and it's what helps makes volunteering worthwhile. We rely on our volunteers and so do the Marnhull villagers they help. The customers are universally grateful and have frequently said: "I don't know what we'd do without you. It's a great service". **BUT WE URGENTLY NEED MORE DRIVERS NOW ... CAN YOU HELP?**

Last year, our volunteers answered 348 requests for transport and willingly gave their time, skills and passion to support Marnhull residents.

Volunteering with MVC provides an opportunity to enjoy new experiences, meet new friends, enhance your well-being, as well as helping to support your local community.

If you've got some free time, can you spare a few hours to volunteer and give something back to your community?

Quotes from MVC drivers:

I volunteer as a driver because it is a way of 'paying forward'. My mother had to give up driving after a heart attack and people in her community have been so helpful to her. I live too far away to be able to do as much as I would like, but I can help people in my community instead. I volunteer once every 2 - 3 weeks and am in complete control over which, and how many drives I accept. I have met some lovely, interesting folks, and they are always so grateful that it makes it all worthwhile. Esther

I've been doing the driving nearly five years. When I moved to Marnhull I thought it would be a good way to help and get to know people. This has been the case. A lot of them are seniors of course and many have lived in Marnhull many years and they have interesting stories to tell about the place. I like helping the community and as I choose when and how frequently to drive, it fits perfectly around my own schedule. Peter

Driving for MVC provides me with a break from my normal routine. They are rewarding and positive things to do on days where I have nothing else planned. Through MVC I get to meet interesting people, to drive across spectacular countryside, and I am able to enjoy coffees and shopping trips that I would not have had otherwise. Jo

You will not need to commit to specific days or times, or a minimum number of trips. We will contact you from time to time with trip requests - but you choose whether or not to accept.

Your passengers cover your costs, paying you direct in accordance with our set scale of charges. These are in line with HMRC regulations for volunteer drivers and equate to c.50p per mile for the return trip.

Interested in Volunteering?

To be an MVC volunteer driver you will need to complete an Application

Form with your contact details, availability preferences and holiday commitments and confirm:

- you are fully licensed and insured (your insurance company should include volunteer driving as part of your normal cover)
- you are fit and able to drive
- Your car is roadworthy and in good condition.

If you love driving and want to help others, please visit the MVC website NOW www.marnhullvillagecare.com and click on the VOLUNTEERING tab at the top of the homepage to be taken to our online application form. If you have any questions, please feel free to call our team on 07777 559076 or come along to the AGM on 17th March and talk to some of our drivers.

Thank you

Marnhull Village Care

07777 559076



**ROYAL
BRITISH LEGION**

The Dolly Parton tribute night was an overwhelming success with a sell out crowd enjoying a great night. The first half of the evening was a succession of Dolly Parton's greatest hits with the room singing along. The second half was a string of country themed tunes that filled the dance floor.

The evening had to end because the singer needed to return to Manchester but a rousing version of Tina Turner's 'The Best' brought a standing ovation to round the evening off.

The next tribute is Freddie Mercury on 31st May, tickets are on sale now at the Club, the Spar and the Post Office, priced at £10 in advance or £12.50 on the door.

The Dale Fender Band kick March off on the 1st then the following week we have a charity night in aid of motor neurone disease research. A truly terrible disease we all can agree.

2FM are the band performing that night and there will be a charge of £5 on the door and a raffle so hopefully we can raise some money to aid the fight against this awful illness. The Beagles and an Elvis tribute will complete the month's entertainment.

Not to be forgotten is the return from a well earned winter break of Lyn's Bingo on Monday March 10th. Eyes down at 7pm for a night of great prizes and great fun.

There will be a jumble sale on March 8th with the doors opening at 10.15. We could do with some more donations. Please let me know if you want me to collect.

March Entertainment

Sat. 1st March – Dale Fender Band

Sat 8th March – Jumble Sale 10.15am

Sat. 8th March – 2FM Charity Night for motor neurone disease £5

Mon. 10th March – Lyn's bingo 7pm

Sat. 15th Feb – The Beagles

Sat. 22nd Feb – Superleague Darts

Mon. 24th March – Lyn's bingo 7pm

Sat. 29th March – Elvis tribute

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Or whiteheadjack51@gmail.com

Club business contact Tony Junge on 01258 820397



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MARNHULL CRAFT CLUB



We had great fun making brooches from teabags at our February meeting. It was fascinating to learn how we could create new items of jewellery and accessories using dried tea bags, a bit of vilene, some thread, buttons and a bit of imagination. The fruit tea bags proved particularly popular and resulted in some very colourful brooches.

It was a very enjoyable morning and it was great to see new members joining us for the session.

We're looking forward to trying more new techniques during the year, including patchwork, decoupage and pergamano and, following the positive feedback from the workshop last year, Sweet Liberty Belle will be returning on Thursday 3rd April for a 3D Easter Bunny Needlefelt Workshop. This will be a half-day session costing £20, to include all materials - wool, plus felting pad and needles to keep for future projects. If you would like more information or to sign up for the workshop, please email Pippa - pippajj@me.com

For our March meeting, we're pleased to be joined by two ladies from Stour Lacemakers. They will be giving us a short demonstration of different lace designs and will show us the many ways lace is used. Stour Lacemakers aim to promote the craft of lacemaking and will also be bringing along some samples of their beautiful work, including pillows and a display board.

The meeting is on Thursday 6th March at 10am in the Methodist Hall. Following the demonstration, there'll be the opportunity to work on your own crafting project or you can just come along for a cup of tea and chat. We're a very informal friendly group and if you'd like to pop in to see what we do, you'd be very welcome!



MARNHULL HORSE RIDERS

Marnhull Horse Riders Committee – Final Update

Since our appeal for funding in the February edition of the Messenger, I'm delighted to share that we have received several generous donations. However, we are still slightly short of our target. Without these final funds, the track will continue to deteriorate, which would be a real loss to everyone who enjoys it. These last contributions will go towards repairing the drainpipe section by Mill Lane, completing the committee's work. We anticipate this will be carried out in early spring.

With this, it seems fitting to officially sign off the Marnhull Horse Riders Committee. Since our formation in May 2021, we have worked hard to improve conditions for horse riders in the village. It hasn't always been easy, but the positive feedback and encouragement we've received have made it all worthwhile.

Over the past few years, we have accomplished a great deal, including:

- Funding track renovations from Ham Lane towards Mill Lane, creating a scenic ride and walk through the trees in summer.
- Restoring the old UCR track from Ham Lane down to the river, providing a vital off-road exercise space with a useful incline on the way back up.
- Collaborating with Dorset Countryside Rangers to improve the bridleway track at Toogoods Farm. (Further work is still needed to make the gates more accessible on horseback.)

- Establishing horse rider warning signs around the village with Dorset Council.

- Funding and installing "Horse Slow" signs to alert traffic on smaller lanes and blind corners.

Most importantly, I believe these efforts have helped raise awareness among drivers and pedestrians about horse safety, especially through initiatives like last summer's Pass Wide & Slow event.

While the committee is closing, our Facebook page will remain active, and I encourage you to continue sharing and posting horse-related information there.

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who has supported me and our work over the years. I hope you continue to enjoy horse riding and walking in our beautiful village for many years to come.

Best wishes, Rosie Gall

07711 089403

MARNHULL GREEN TEAMS

Taking the Environment Around Marnhull Seriously

Beavers on the Stour

We have arranged for Steve Oliver from Dorset Wildlife Trust to give a talk on Beavers in the Village Hall at 7:30 on 1st April. There is recent evidence of beaver activity between Sturminster and Gillingham.

Steve is the DWT beaver expert and will talk about beaver biology and the experience from the beaver colony in West Dorset.

There will be no entrance fee but donations welcome to cover the costs, we would like to donate half of the proceeds to Dorset Wildlife Trust.

Giveaway -Takeaway day Hidden treasure Saturday 17th May 2025

Preparation for our fourth Giveaway and Takeaway day is underway. As last year there will be the added attraction of the Marnhull Garden Club plant sale and refreshments at the Hub in the village hall. John Dowsett will be the contact for this event and can be contacted on dowsettjohn48@gmail.com and 07825057543

Marnhull Bird Survey

We had some 48 responders to the RSPCA Great Garden Bird Survey in January despite it happening on a wet and cold weekend that was not conducive to either birds or surveyors. Many thanks to Annette Morley for coordinating this.

We are hoping to develop further bird recording projects this year.

Environment Survey

More progress has been made with this and interim results have been reported to the Neighbourhood Plan team. There are only a few more squares to do so if you would like to spend a few hours walking Marnhull Parish footpaths and recording what you can see, contact us on marnhullgreen@outlook.com

Reduce and Recycling

A date for your diary; Thursday May 8th at 7:30 there will be a presentation on re use and recycling again at the Village Hall, more details to follow.

We are sorry to announce that the dental recycling is no longer collected from the recycling bins at the Hub.

We will continue to monitor what can and can not be collected and let you know these either on our website or via future Marnhull Messenger articles.



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Marnhull Neighbourhood Plan

The Draft Marnhull Neighbourhood Plan has now been completed in draft and approved by the Parish Council. There is now a six-week public Consultation Period expiring on 31 March 2025. The Plan is now available for inspection either on line at:- <https://marnhull-pc.org.uk/draft-neighbourhood-plan-for-consultation/> or in hard copy (details below). This is a short summary of what is in the Neighbourhood Plan.

The status of this document

The Draft Marnhull Neighbourhood Plan has been prepared by local residents, shaped by the feedback from the various consultations, with technical input from a range of planning and other experts, on behalf of the Parish Council to reflect the development of the village to 2038. It has been approved by the Parish Council and will now go for a public Consultation Period lasting six weeks, ending 31 March 2025. Following any further changes, it will be submitted to Dorset Council. When approved, a formal referendum will be organised, for all residents of Marnhull, by Dorset Council. When this is approved, the plan will have official status and become part of the area development plan and used by developers and Dorset Council to determine planning applications.

This Plan looks ahead to the future as far as 2038 but consideration will be needed to review this Plan before then, in 5 years' time, to check how effective it is and whether there are any significant changes in the wider planning system at National and Dorset level which might affect the village.

The Neighbourhood Plan gives a profile of the Parish as a thriving, sociable and sustainable village that retains its unique character and heritage. This leads on to the future and a Vision for our village, reflecting our aims and aspirations, and takes into account the concerns and hopes of our community. The Plan covers six major subject areas and lays down in a series of Policies for each subject area.

What you told us

Our early consultations illustrated how much residents value the character of the countryside and of the village. The rural setting was one of the main reasons why people come to Marnhull and many of us feel that the amount of development planned in Marnhull could undermine its distinctiveness and village feel.

The loss of green space as well as the scale and density of proposed housing, were raised as key concerns, although the need for housing for younger people and for those wishing to downsize in their retirement, as well as more eco-friendly housing, was recognised.

Other significant concerns raised were around any growth leading to additional traffic on our narrow lanes and at substandard junctions, particularly given the lack of pavements in and around the village, as well as the impact of flooding.

The history of our village is also very important in shaping its character – and to help understand this better we embarked on an appraisal of the historic environment, including the influence of people like Thomas Hardy (the author of *Tess of the D'Urbervilles*), and generations of landowners of the larger estates such as Nash Court. The fact that the village as we know it today resulted from the growth of various hamlets, with a distinctive settlement pattern and easy access to the countryside in between, is something that people do not want to lose.

The various facilities available in the parish are considered to be very important, and funding exists to improve some of these as the population grows. The facilities are spread about the village, but there was no real appetite to create a "new" village centre with a larger food-store and other commercial units.

The reinstatement of full medical (GP) services was seen as important, but this is not something that can be controlled through planning as it is more dependent on other factors such as NHS policies including the availability of doctors. The Blackmore Vale Practice has no plans to have GP appointments at Marnhull Surgery in the foreseeable future.

So what is planned?

Housing Included in the Neighbourhood Plan are the approved plans to build new homes on four large sites, as well as some smaller sites, giving a total supply of 256 dwellings.

When these are built, Marnhull will have grown by more than 25%, which is quite a significant population increase over a comparatively short period of time. The Plan does not propose any more development but have included policies for the sites that already have planning permission but not yet been built, so that we can help influence how these are developed.

For more information on Housing, see Policies 7, 8 and 9 and Map 2. Employment We have also considered the need for employment opportunities, to ensure that Marnhull does not simply become a dormitory settlement.

Our survey showed that the typical needs for premises from people living locally were relatively small, ranging from retail/takeaway, consultancy and small building-related trades. We have therefore included a policy that would allow small-scale employment uses compatible with the rural character of the area and its highway network to come forward, focusing these on locations with direct access onto the B3092 and reusing previously developed land.

For more information on Employment, see Policies 8 and 10, and Map 2. Community Facilities In terms of community facilities, there are funds to improve some of the existing facilities, and a community building was permitted as part of the development off Crown Road. We have also identified land for the potential expansion of the cemetery and recreation ground, as well as for additional allotment space.

For more information on local facilities, see Policies 8 and 11, and Map 2. Traffic, Highways and Transport Given the strong concerns about the impact of more traffic on our local roads, we have explored options to make it safer to walk or cycle around the village and discussed these with the transport teams at Dorset Council. Whilst these measures will require funding, this work has put a marker down to highlight the lived experience of residents to inform any future transport assessments, as well as possible solutions to help address these points. For more information on traffic and highways, see Policy 12, and Maps 5 and 6.

Local Green Spaces and Views There is also guidance in the Plan spread across 6 policies to guide building development. These are intended to help make sure that any new development reflects the distinctive character of our village (including the use of Marnhull stone) and does not destroy its historic charm and interest or the rural character of the surrounding landscape. The policies look to safeguard the important green gaps and spaces that have shaped the village and relationship with the countryside, the many magnificent views that are deserving of protection. We are supporting changes that are needed to support zero-carbon homes with solar panels and increased biodiversity etc.

For more information on building development, see Policies 1 to 6. Flood Risk The latest available information on flood risk has been included to ensure that development does not take place in the flood areas or worsen flooding off-site. This includes local knowledge of the geology and recent flood events, which can affect homes and businesses, and make roads impassable.

For more information on this, see Policy 13.

FOR MORE INFORMATION visit the Parish Council website:

<https://marnhull-pc.org.uk/draft-neighbourhood-plan-for-consultation/>

Hard copy of the Plan available in local shops, Churches, Pubs, Schools etc.

Come along to have your say at one of the drop-in events at the

Village Hall

Saturday 22 February 25 from

14:30 to 17:00

Friday 14 March 25 from

16:30 to 18:30

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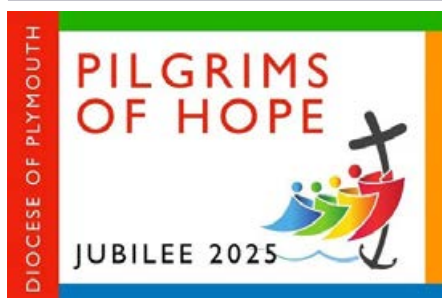




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OUR LADY'S CHURCH



2025 The Jubilee Year of HOPE.

In this Jubilee Year - a special year of forgiveness and reconciliation, in which people are invited to come back into right relationship with God, with one another, and with all of creation. The Jubilee Year will be a year of hope for our world suffering the impacts of war, the

ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and our climate crisis.

It is a time for a new beginning, rooted in the transformative power of God's Kingdom. We are called to embrace hope and renewal through service and fraternity, particularly towards the least, and through responsibility for our "common home" the Earth "so abused and wounded."

Pope Francis has invited us to reflect on six issues challenging us to live the Jubilee in our churches and communities today.

The six social action themes are: care for creation, food poverty, modern slavery, managing debt, forgiveness, rest.

Our Diocese has launched Pilgrims of Hope inviting pilgrims to visit four historically and spiritually significant churches in Cornwall, Devon, and Dorset:

- St Mary & St Boniface, Cathedral Church of Plymouth
- St Cuthbert Mayne, Launceston
- Holy Trinity, Dorchester
- The National Shrine of St Boniface in Crediton

"We invite Catholics and non-Catholics alike to make a pilgrimage to these four churches. The Jubilee Year is a time to reestablish our relationship with God, with one another, and with all of creation.

"May this Jubilee Year be for you a time of reflection, of new insight, and of a deepening of your relationship with the Lord. May our love be a witness to those who may feel lost or hopeless, and may it encourage them on their pilgrimage to find the way, the truth and the life."

THE METHODIST CHURCH

Well, today is a dreary, cold and wet – do you want to go out today? No thanks, think I'll just hunker down, wrap up in a blanket and catch up with some reading; it's one of those sorts of days! But... look a bit more closely and notice the bulbs breaking through by a couple of inches and one or two hardy plants in the garden are bravely starting to grow. Actually Mother Nature blessed us with a drying day just last week allowing washing to dry on the line – another small sign that spring is on the way? Praise the Lord, Nature, his creation, is still in charge and we can start to look forward to spring. John Clare (1793-1864) poet, was the son of a farm labourer who captured nature and the seasons in his work, I hope you enjoy this poem.

Young Lambs by John Clare

The spring is coming by a many signs;
The trays are up, the hedges broken down,

That fenced the haystack, and the remnant shines
Like some old antique fragment weathered brown.
And where suns peep, in every sheltered place,
The little early buttercups unfold
A glittering star or two--till many trace
The edges of the blackthorn clumps in gold.
And then a little lamb bolts up behind
The hill and wags his tail to meet the yoe,
And then another, sheltered from the wind,
Lies all his length as dead--and lets me go
Close bye and never stirs but baking lies,
With legs stretched out as though he could not rise.

LENT ARRANGEMENTS

** The Lent Talks and Lunches organised by Marnhull Churches Together start on Fri 7th March at 12md in the Methodist Church. They are then weekly on Friday up to and including 11th April.

On Friday the 14th, 21st and 28th of March they will be followed at 12.30 by a Lent lunch.

The theme for this year's Lent Talks is the Value of Prayer. If you would like to come along just turn up, there is no charge but donations for lunch would be appreciated. You will be very welcome.

Gillian

"Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, his love endures forever." Psalm 118 v 29

BISHOPS LETTER



Clearing away the rubbish

Returning recently to my former parish in Crystal Palace, South London, I was reminded of the glorious glass edifice that once stood atop Sydenham Hill, overlooking the city. It was a quite extraordinary building, one of the wonders of the Victorian age and entirely destroyed by fire one night in 1936. All that remains of the Crystal Palace are some grand steps and stone sphinxes leading to a deserted platform: a bleak and thought-provoking spot to this day.

It is thought to have been a single cigarette end that ignited the blaze, although what truly caused it was the build-up of decades of combustible gubbins lying beneath the floor. The boards of the palace had been constructed with gaps between through which dust could be swept by cleaners, which meant that, over the years a metres-deep tinder box was being prepared.

The story has lessons for our soul, not only health and safety, I think – especially at the start of Lent. Sweeping things under the carpet rarely works and, whether in our relationships, work, or worship, 'taking out the rubbish' by honest self-examination, discipline and penitent prayer is both healthy and helpful for us - and can prevent all kinds of disasters.

'Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me' cries the sorrowful King David in Psalm 51. A good prayer for us all, together and alone, as the church makes its way through this holy season, following our Lord to the cross and the celestial city beyond.



ST GREGORY'S CHURCH

Regular Weekly Services

Every Sunday

8am Holy Communion (traditional language)

10am Parish Communion except 3rd Sunday: All Age Worship & 5th Sunday: Service of the Word

Children's play corner available and coffee served after 10am service

Every Wednesday

9am Morning Prayer- during which we pray for those in the parish- using our Prayer Tree in church

Please contact one of us if you would like us to pray for someone.

SPECIAL EVENTS AND SERVICES IN MARCH

Wednesday 5th

11am Ash Wednesday Holy Communion with imposition of ashes

No evening service

Friday 7th

12pm Village Churches Together weekly Lent talk & lunch begins 1/6

Wednesday 12th

7pm Revd Angus' Installation in Knowlton Circle

Sunday 23rd

8am and 10am Pilgrim Parishes pulpit swap with Revd Andrew

Gubbins, Vicar of the Okeford Benefice

Thursday 27th

Making/gathering up of Mothering Sunday posies- volunteers welcome.

Friday 28th

Distribution of Mothering Sunday posies for St Greg's and St Mary

Sunday 30th

10am Mothering Sunday - Family Service of the Word

Monday 31st

Holy Week prayer stations set up for school and community

If you would like to receive the weekly Pew News via email please contact Revd Gaenor.

CONTACT US

Rector Revd Gaenor Hockey

01258 821605 revdgaenor@proton.me

Part time: Sunday, Wednesday and Friday

Licensed Lay Minister Judith Male

07852780517 judith.stgregs@gmail.com

Churchwarden Barrie Jenks

01258 821604 bazandmaz@thejenks.net

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Facebook pages : stgregschurch and musicatstgregs

Diocesan website: www.salisbury.anglican.org



ST GREGORY'S C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL

HEDGEHOGS CLASS:

This half term Hedgehog class have been busy being geographers with our Curious City enquiry 'Where is our school?' We started with a walk around the village following a map to find important landmarks such as the surgery, church and village hall. We used google maps and atlases to learn about where we are in the world naming continents and oceans followed by looking closer to home at the countries that make up the UK as well as exploring keys and their symbols.

We then took a journey via atlases and the internet to compare our village to that of a place in a non European country, we chose South America as we have a member of staff who was born there. Our challenge at the end of the enquiry was to create a map of the school grounds with a symbols key. The children worked in groups to take a piece of the school grounds to create part of the map which we then placed altogether to make one large one along with the symbols they had created for the key.

In other areas of the curriculum we have enjoyed learning about Chinese new year and indulged in some Chinese food tasting which the children thoroughly enjoyed. Some of the children were very brave and tried new foods they had not eaten before. In January it has been wonderful to welcome children from the Jungle hut pre school who have started to join us on a weekly basis making friends with the Reception children and getting used to the classroom ready for September.

We have also taken part in thinking and learning about our emotions as part of Children's Mental Health week and created a natural number line during our activities as part of the NSPCC number day. A busy half term's learning with the added excitement of a flurry of snow, well done Hedgehogs class!

BADGERS CLASS:

Have been super busy this half-term and lots of fantastic learning has been taking place!

In Curious City this half-term we have been studying the question 'What is Underneath our Feet?' and so have been working as Geographers and Scientists to carry out lots investigations. As Geographers we have studied the earth's core, volcanoes and earthquakes. We learnt what it is like to live near an earthquake/volcano zone and even practiced an earthquake drill! As Scientists we have been studying rocks and their different properties. Last week we carried out some testing to classify a group rocks as either igneous, metamorphic or sedimentary!

In computing we have been looking at programming using Scratch! We have learnt how to create our own sprites, backgrounds and then program them to move and make different sounds!

As Author-Writers we have been studying The True Story of the Three Little Pigs! We have had great fun acting in role as the wolf and pigs and using our ideas to start writing our own narratives based on classic fairy tale stories! Last week was Children's Mental Health Week and on Tuesday we took part in the NSPCC's Number Day. Everyone came in wearing number-based non-school uniform and Badgers class joined in by taking part in lots of fun maths activities! First we were code-breakers and solved sums to reveal a secret message and then we played a maths game which resulted in everyone making their own number robot - a Num-Bot!

Finally, in RE this term we have been acting as Philosophers exploring the question 'How do some Muslims show Allah is Compassionate and Merciful?'. We have learnt that the Prophet Muhammad was the

messenger of Allah and he showed Muslims how to be compassionate and merciful to all living things through a range of stories and activities. Last week we learnt all about Ramadan and how Muslims fast from sunrise to sunset during this month to remind them of those in need and always donate food and money to charity as part of this holy festival.

Well done on a brilliant half-term Badger class!

FOXES CLASS:

Have been enjoying their enquiry "How can science help the vulnerable". First we became scientists and explored mixing solutions, looking at reversible and irreversible changes, then we moved onto looking at thermal insulation. This has led us to our final challenge which has been to invent something which will help homeless people in our local community and beyond. The children enjoyed a STEM workshop which taught us all about inventors of the past, people who invented everyday items such as waterproof nappy covers and the three light traffic light. We have talked about how a simple idea can be revolutionary. The children have now set about creating their own inventions and the design process is almost complete - we have everything from hats that turn into scarves and gloves, to insulated tents which fold down to a backpack. Foxes class are so creative and innovative!!

On Tuesday 4th February, the whole school enjoyed the NSPCC Number Day, we all wore home clothes which displayed numbers and took part in various mathematical challenges. Foxes class completed a Maths Puzzle Challenge and had a house challenge in the hall where they had to solve mathematical problems in exchange for house points.

It's been a busy half term and we are already looking forward to the challenges and learning opportunities the next term will bring!



ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Of all the seasons, I think Spring is my favourite. Despite the awful weather that we can have, I love being reminded of the potential in nature around us. Daffodils and snowdrops, dotted along the roadside and hedgerows, add a splash of colour. The days are getting longer, and we have had some amazing sunsets these past few weeks. I love Spring and witnessing nature waking up after its winter slumber. It also reminds me of all the exciting things we can look forward to in school as the weather gets warmer.

As part of Children's Mental Health Week, the children explored this year's theme of 'Know Yourself, Grow Yourself', with the aim to equip and empower children to embrace self-awareness and explore what it means to them. We spent time with the children helping them to discover how getting to know who they are can help them build resilience, grow and develop. Internet Safety Day, which also took place during the same week, enabled the children to explore the theme 'Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others from scams online'.

Our Growing In Faith Team (GIFT) organised a Fair Trade Café. This group of children work hard to make a positive impact, not just locally, but globally. Through their dedication and creativity, they put together this event raising £81 for People First Dorset, whilst also promoting the importance of Fair Trade.

Explorers Pre-school & St Anthony's

This month, our EYFS adventurers at St Mary's have been busy exploring, learning new skills, and engaging in sensory experiences.

The children learned about the polar regions, discovering the Arctic and Antarctic and the animals that live there. They discovered that polar bears live in the Arctic while penguins inhabit the Antarctic, meaning they will never meet in the wild. They created snowy art and enjoyed experimenting with ice and water.

The children celebrated Chinese New Year by sharing noodles and fortune cookies, learning about customs such as decorating with red for good luck. Our Home Corner was transformed to include lots of traditional Chinese tableware and decorations.

During Mental Health Week, the children focused on their emotions

and the importance of resilience. They learned to say, "I can't do it yet," emphasising the power of perseverance and the importance of keeping trying when things are tricky.

What a treat it was for the children to relax in our very own St Mary's Spa. They enjoyed a relaxing sensory experience with calming scents, a bubbly foot bath, and cooling cucumber slices. This helped them understand the importance of self-care and relaxation.

During Internet Safety Day, the children learned to think before they click and to tell a grown-up if something online worries them, building awareness of digital safety.

With so many enriching experiences, our St Mary's Explorers continue to grow and learn. We look forward to another exciting month ahead!

St Mark's

It has been a very busy few weeks, from learning to mental health week to computer safety day!

In science, we have been studying animals including humans. The children will probably say that their favourite lesson is the one where we ate popcorn. We were looking at our senses and popcorn is a really good way to test our senses. We could smell it while it was cooking, touch it, taste it and we could see and hear it popping! This lesson really got all our senses tingling.

For Mental Health Week, the theme was "Know Yourself, Grow Yourself". We looked at what makes us happy and filled our sparkle jars with drawings of all these things.

The children have been working hard on their balances in PE and have really enjoyed testing out different balances.

Internet Safety Day was this week which is very important even from a young age. We spent time identifying what information we should and shouldn't share and how to keep ourselves safe online.

St Francis

We have been writing some amazing and exciting sentences full of wonderful vocabulary for our 'Bike Boy' stories during our Literacy lessons.

In History, we have been studying British History Heroes, including William Wilberforce, Mary Seacole, Winston Churchill, Lord Shaftesbury, Emmeline Pankhurst, and Elizabeth Fry.

In Maths, we have been continuing our work on multiplication and division and have started looking at fractions.

Our Science topic this month is Electricity, and we have been building electrical circuits.

In PE, we have been focusing on Hockey and Gymnastics.

St Alban's

Recently the children have been enjoying making some of their own music using the Chromebooks. They have learned to sample, loop and layer using different instruments to create pieces of music for Chinese New Year, Mental Health Week and their own enjoyment!

The children have been writing some fantastic stories using a variety of suspense techniques. We took inspiration from different images and video clips and then wrote our own versions of Monsters Inc.

During PE sessions the children have enjoyed learning new hockey skills which they have been putting into practice during a class tournament.

Some of our children in the GIFT Team helped to organise and run their own fair-trade cafe which was enjoyed by the whole school. The children helped to raise over £80 by selling homemade cakes and hot chocolate using fair-trade ingredients.

The children have all been working extremely hard recently and I have been very impressed by their efforts, enthusiasm and willingness to learn. Well done all...!



MARNHULL PLAYERS PANTO

What a terrific weekend of performances, Peter Pan was a great success and the feedback and support we have received from all of you has been amazing. We love organising these performances and performing them, so to have you all enjoy them and appreciate them we are truly grateful.

Firstly I would like to thank Fraser Wilson for stepping up and doing an amazing job as our Director he was clear from the start about what he wanted from us and the organisation and skills was what made this a great show.

There are sooo many other people to thank as well and we really couldn't put on these shows without the teamwork that goes on back stage and the help of this wonderful village so just a quick thank you to:

Jo Wilkinson for writing our great script.

Ian Kiddle, Jeff Wheaton and Pete McErlain for sound and Lighting.

Linda Pentland, Anita Tacon, SNADS and Michelle Woods for costumes, Props, make up and hairdressing skills.

Glynn Sylvester, Steve Finch, Andy Tebbutt-Russell, SNADS and Marnhull Men's Shed for the sets which were painted by Helen Chalkley and Irina Egorova

Helen and Peter Butcher for scene changes

Hawtree and Sons and Robin Hill Stores for selling tickets

Thanks to Dorset Tech, Hawtree and Sons, Robin Hill Stores, The Crown, The Blackmore Vale Inn, Marnhull Pharmacy, Marnhull Men's Shed, Sloanes of Shaftesbury, Cooks Garage, Mr Chips and Hayley Sandell for raffle prizes, promotion and supporting us.

Not forgetting the wonderful people who are helping on the door, those in the kitchen, and the cast and crew's long suffering families!

Finally a massive thank you to all the cast and crew for once again putting on a fantastic performance, you were all amazing.

We have Started thinking about next year already but things will be confirmed once we have had our AGM which is next month. Then we can get next years planning underway.

If you 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. Then let us know in the next month or to so we can make sure your in the list so we don't miss you out and we can fit you into the script before we go too far.

Contact Emma at marnhullplayers@gmail.com

Thanks for another wonderful Year

The committee and Cast



Marnhull Village Care

A warm welcome to the Village & Support in our Community



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to be a volunteer driver!

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We need to hear from you urgently!

Please call **07777 559076** or visit

www.marnhullvillagecare.com

for more information. Thank you!

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WHERE WERE YOU ON V.E. DAY?



A talk by **Felicity Harrison**
How did WW2 affect local
people's lives?

Wednesday 19th March, entry £4
7.30pm in Bow Room, The Exchange
Hot and cold drinks available at the bar



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Marnhull Village Show

Flowers and so much more



The Marnhull Village Show (formerly the Marnhull Flower Show) is fast approaching and you might not know that, as well as the Open Entry Classes for adults and children, the Show also has a number of Village Competitions, some of which are new for 2025.

The Posties' Pick is new this year and our wonderful local posties have kindly agreed to choose their favourite front garden in the Village. The winner will be crowned 'The Best Front Garden in the Village' and awarded 'The Ross Cup' at the Show.

You don't need to enter this class as the winner will be chosen from all the front gardens in Marnhull. All you have to do is make sure that your garden is looking its very best in the run up to the Show on the 12th July – and be nice to your Postie!

We'll also be looking for the Best Marnhull Allotment. 'The Crown Tankard', provided by the Show's sponsor, the Crown at Marnhull, will be awarded for the best allotment at the Marnhull Allotments site off Sodom Lane. Again, there is no need to enter, all the allotments will be eligible.

In addition to these new classes, we've also kept the old favourites and you'll be able to enter your hanging basket, planted container, wildlife friendly garden and vegetable garden or patch. These will be judged in situ and you'll just need to let us know on the entry form where the judge can find it on the day.

And finally, due to popular demand, we've kept the best Flowerpot Person or People class this year. We know that everyone enjoyed seeing them around the Village and we were amazed at the creativity of the displays.

It was a lot of fun and we hope that you'll have a go this year. All you need is a few old plant pots and a bit of imagination!

The Show takes place on Saturday 12th July in the Village Hall and Recreation Ground and the Show Schedule will be available at the beginning of May.

It promises to be a great day with entertainment, stalls, refreshments and lots of lovely exhibits. You can also follow us on FB 'Marnhull Village Show' for more information.

MARNHULL MUSIC SOCIETY

Bridge Brown's January concert programme was a box of little treasures, each delightful in itself but all different in colour and texture. It opened with the pure cool voices of Clare College choir singing "In the bleak midwinter", words by Christina Rossetti and score by Harold Darke.

Later we had the gauzy sound of "Dawn" from Britten's Peter Grimes soon contrasted by the smoky, gritty texture of Helen Shapiro singing "Someone to watch over me."

Shostakovich's music for The Gadfly is as soft and fine as a lace shawl, Scott Joplin's intricate "Elite Syncopations" seems neat and delicate as needlepoint, George Butterworth's "Banks of Green Willow" positively silky and translucent while Hector Berlioz' "Un Bal" from his Symphonie Fantastique is more like a robust tapestry.

If this seems too fanciful and twee, I make the excuse that sitting quietly to listen to music with absolutely no distractions, as we do on Music Society evenings, allows the mind to wander in surprising ways and conjure all sorts of images.

Come and try it for yourself! No hallucinatory drugs required.

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Tuesdays at Twelve

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* * * * *

Stephen Binnington

12 noon – 12.30pm

Tuesday 18th March
(Includes Mendelssohn's 3rd Sonata)

Tuesday 1st April
(Includes a poignant work for Lent and a Concerto)

Tuesday 20th May
(Includes Mendelssohn's 4th Sonata)

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tickets are available from the Royal British Legion Club, the Post Office and the Spar Shop in Marnhull

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NEWS FROM TRADING STANDARDS

Trading Standards Approved

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Many businesses across Dorset have signed up to the national Trading Standards approved 'Buy with Confidence' scheme.

This provides a wide choice of established traders committed to fair trading and good customer service.

Not only does choosing a 'Buy with Confidence' trader help protect you as the customer, but it also helps support reputable local businesses by signposting new customers to them.

'Buy with Confidence' covers all kinds of work, from plumbing and decorating to car servicing and gardening, carried out by local businesses all over the County and beyond.

Trading Standards approved members have been audited by Trading Standards officers to make sure they follow consumer protection law.

Customer references are taken, and complaint procedures are checked to make sure any issues that may arise can be resolved promptly.

In addition, to give you peace of mind, criminal record checks are undertaken for businesses whose employees work in or around your home.

It doesn't stop there! Once a business joins 'Buy with Confidence' they are monitored by Trading Standards through customer feedback, complaint monitoring and re-audits.

We would always encourage you to choose a Dorset based trader. However, as the 'Buy with Confidence' scheme is also run by all our neighbouring local authorities, then the pool of Trading Standards approved traders is much greater than just those who are based in the Dorset Council area.

Other trader approval schemes are available, but remember, only 'Buy with Confidence' has this level of Trading Standards approval.

To find a Trading Standards approved 'Buy with Confidence' trader, visit the national 'Buy with Confidence' website at www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk where you can search for local traders around your postcode.

Alternatively, call the Citizens Advice consumer helpline who can search for you on 0808 223 1133.

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After his home is conquered by the tyrannical emperors who now lead Rome, Lucius is forced to enter the Colosseum and must look to his past to find strength to return the glory of Rome to its people.

Marnhull Village Hall

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at 7.30pm

Doors open 7.00pm

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Marnhull Neighbourhood Development Plan



Public Consultation

Pre-submission (Draft) Neighbourhood plan
Regulation 14

Drop-in-events at Marnhull Village Hall

Saturday 22nd February from 14:30 to 17:00

Friday 14th March from 16:30 to 18:30

Residents are invited to come along to these drop-in events to learn more about policies and ask any questions relating to them.

The draft plan is available on the Parish Council's website at <https://marnhull-pc.org.uk/draft-neighbourhood-plan-for-consultation/>. There is a consultation form online, you can email or write to the address below or paper copies available at the drop-in events. Hard copies of the plan can be viewed from the following:

Village Hall, Surgery (Sturminster Newton), Robin Hill Stores, The Spar, the Churches, St Gregory's and St Mary's primary Schools (for parents), Blackmore Vale Inn, The Crown Inn, The Royal British Legion.



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CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS

ACROSS 1. Atomic 4. Flail 6. Ham 7. Offering 8. Jerk
11. Inlet 13. Gnat 15. Shingle 16. Cabaret 17. Ergo
19. Gypsy 21. Eddy 24. Abdicate 25. Che 26. Elegy
27. Sesame
Down 1. Amber 2. My Fair Lady 3. Creel 4. Feint 5. Aegean
6. Hajj 9. Ether 10. Kendo 12. Euclalyptus 13. Glace 14. Amend
18. Gyrate 19. Godly 20. Picts 22. Deuce 23. Yale

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THE FUTURE OF MARNHULL



Future of Marnhull What does the village need?

Over time, rural villages change. They evolve due to a change in technology, demographics, politics, changes in demand, or due to local employment. The village of Marnhull 100 years ago looked very different. Was it better? Some would say yes. Is our current village more practical for this year? I think we'd all agree it is.

20 years ago many in the village objected to the Surgery and Pharmacy being built. I don't think there's a single person in the village that regrets this wonderful asset to the village.

A number of property developments have been approved in the village, I believe 65% are social housing - correct me if I'm wrong there. This will likely bring in some families and more children in the next decade. This is great for our village schools, but some have objected to the developments putting more demand on existing infrastructure.

Take our Post Office for instance. Most would say that it is an essential asset to the village. Atul works tirelessly to give us the biggest range of products he can, the widest range of services and of course a Post Office. He's very restricted in space and of course the building is far from being disabled friendly. Remember this is a former house, now filled with commercial grade equipment to provide the village with what it needs.

Many of you will be aware of a recent planning application named "Tess Square". Recently it has become rather controversial due to some heated public comments, but a surprising number of residents don't seem to know anything about this application.

Marnhull Parish Council have publicly campaigned against the development. They've received over £16,000 of donations to fight the application - an outstanding achievement! The donations are from 69 people and 81 anonymous donations, but the pattern of which suggests that many of those are the same person, so we're unclear on the exact number.

The Parish Council are spending **your** money based on the premise of "speaking on behalf of the village" and claiming a strong consensus. However, this is based on the results of the last village survey and it has been demonstrated that the survey only represented a specific demographic (wealthy retired) and a maximum of 25% of the village.

We are therefore forming a new non-profit committee to determine the actual wants and needs of the villagers. We hope that the outcome of our work will also assist the Parish Council with the Neighbourhood Plan and reflect a wider demographic.

The first task of the "Future of Marnhull Committee" is to conduct a survey specifically addressing what villagers want to see in the village. We want to ask what facilities you want, what challenges you face and even want to tackle the important question of whether you want Tess Square or not.

Our work will likely not impact the current planning appeal that you've heard so much about, but will provide the Parish Council, land owners and business owners with insights as to how the

majority of the village feel.

We do not have the time pressure that the Parish Council had so there is no set end date to our survey, we see it as a rolling project until we have a true consensus. While we will be taking entries from outside the village, there will be an effort to report on this separately. Our primary reporting is on what our current villagers want to see.

Finally, we are aware of abuse received online against villagers that have expressed their opinions about Marnhull's future. We will campaign against this and stand in support of free speech. For the plans of Marnhull to truly be the "will of the people", the opinions of all people need to be heard.

We're fund-raising to cover costs of an independent study, but in the meantime, have published our first survey online. Please help us by completing the survey. Only once per household. A separate survey will be issued to businesses.

COMPLETE SURVEY ONLINE: marnhull.org

If you are interested in the future of Marnhull and would like to be involved in our efforts, or would like more information please email future@marnhull.org

The Future of Marnhull Committee

Sturminster Newton Floral Group

(flower arranging club)

our next meeting will be on

Wednesday
12th March 2025

2:00pm at

The British Legion Hall

Sodom Lane, Marnhull DT10 1HR

where we will be having a flower
arranging demonstration by

Katie Baxter entitled
Spring is Coming



Visitors are always welcome
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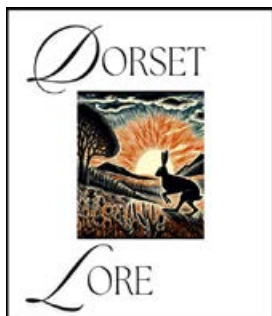
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DORSETLORE



LAWRENCE OF ARABIA'S GHOST

CHRIS WALTON
Oak Digital Solutions

Welcome to Dorset Lore, a monthly column featuring the rich heritage of folklore, tradition, ghost stories (occasional recipes) and legends of the county of Dorset. Spring is just around the corner, but the nights are still dark enough to enjoy a few more Dorset ghosts.

Lawrence of Arabia's Ghost

One of Dorset's most renowned spectral figures is Lawrence of Arabia, who perished in a motorcycle accident near Bovington on 13 May 1935. Local residents have reported hearing the distinctive sound of his Brough Superior motorcycle in the early hours just before dawn, which abruptly ceases before anything is seen.

After his exploits in the First World War, Lawrence joined the Royal Tank Corps, based at Bovington Camp, under an assumed name. He lived at the nearby cottage Cloud's Hill, which is now maintained by the National Trust, and was a frequent visitor to Wareham.

Tragically, just five days prior to his death Lawrence wrote to Nancy Astor expressing his profound love for Cloud's Hill. He stated, "Nothing would take me away. It is an earthly paradise and I am staying here."

True to his word, Lawrence's ghost has frequently been seen by visitors to Cloud's Hill, entering the cottage adorned in traditional Arabic attire before vanishing

Phantom Coach and Horses

On the night of a full moon, a ghostly coach and horses is said to travel over the medieval bridge on the River Frome at Wool, heading towards the now demolished Turberville Mansion at Bere Regis.

This phantom coach was the inspiration for the best known of Thomas Hardy's literary ghosts, which appears in *Tess of the d'Urbervilles*.

The Jacobean manor house was once the ancestral home of the Turberville family. Various versions of the legend exist, one associating the ghostly re-enactment with the elopement of John Turberville and Lady Anne Howard, back in the reign of King James I.

While the appearance of the spectral coach supposedly presages some sort of disaster, it is said, however, that "None can see the ghostly coach of the Turbervilles but those who have Turberville blood in their veins..."

Roman Soldier

There have been several reported sightings of the figure of a Roman soldier in Thorncombe Woods near Dorchester. One report occurred in October 1969 when a young camper claimed to have seen a ghostly figure among the trees.

The group returned to the location and observed what appeared to be the figure of a Roman soldier, hovering approximately 2 feet off the ground, equipped with a shield, sword, and helmet. When one member of the group approached the figure with a torch, it disappeared.

They later discovered that the sighting occurred at the site of the old Roman road from Badbury Rings to Dorchester, specifically at the level it would have been during the first century.

I have already gathered lots of folklore specific to Marnhull and surrounding villages and would be very interested to hear what stories locals recall, what their sources are, and what variations there are of the stories I have already researched.

You can now follow and message Dorset Lore on Facebook (just search for Dorset Lore) and you can email me at dorsetlore@gmail.com.

FOR ALL YOUR LOCAL LORE

Dorset Lore - On Facebook

Email: dorsetlore@gmail.com



THE VILLAGE HUB AT MARNHULL

The Marnhull Hub is a not-for-profit social enterprise entirely run by volunteers. Based at the Village Hall in Burton Street we provide a much-needed focal point for meeting friends with our weekly drop-in coffee morning, recycling point and repair café.

Our Travel Bursary programme has helped intrepid young people from Marnhull participate in very worthwhile volunteering projects in Africa, Europe, South America and the Caribbean since its inception three years ago. We are now pleased to invite applications for bursaries for 2025.

The Bursary's aim is to provide impactful financial support for young adults aged between 17 and 21 who have lived within Marnhull for at least two years to enable them to participate in a volunteering project overseas during 2025.

The recipient would be expected to raise a similar amount to the Bursary award from other means (their own funds, fundraising events, or sponsorship) to meet the full costs of the trip. If you are interested in applying for a travel Bursary please register your interest by sending an email to our Chairperson, Sioban Boyce, sioban@marnhullhub.org.uk or pop in to the Hub and we will provide you with details of the application process.

The Marnhull Hub, Recycling Point and Repair Café is open every Saturday from 10am to 12 noon. Please come along, meet your friends, recycle and repair to reduce landfill, and support us to help our not-for-profit organisation fund community initiatives in Marnhull.



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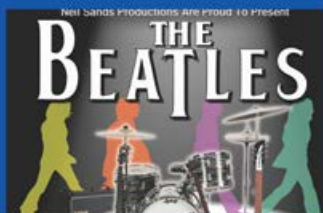
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THE CHRISTIANS

SATURDAY 26TH APRIL

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MARNHULL TENNIS CLUB



MARNHULL TENNIS CLUB

Despite the occasional subzero temperatures, it's been a busy winter on the Marnhull courts.

The newly installed floodlights have resulted in a considerable increase in activity, with hardy players braving the cold to get in their regular dose of social tennis.

Use of the floodlights will continue to be free to all Marnhull Tennis Club members for the foreseeable future, while non-members can take advantage of the floodlights for just £4 per hour.

In other news:

- The club's AGM is taking place on March 7 at 7pm in the Village Hall. Everyone is welcome to come along and take part.
- The Marnhull Men's team has made a solid debut in the Dorset Tennis League. The team have won 3 of their 4 matches and are currently sitting in joint second place, with 3 more matches to play.

We are currently exploring a range of opportunities for more competitive tennis. Please get in touch if you're interested in taking part.

- There are a couple of ball recycling initiatives being explored, as the club looks to find ways that we can more effectively save used balls from going to landfill. We hope to be able to announce a decision soon.

Finally, we would like to say a big thank you to John Seear, who has been a key member of the Marnhull Tennis Club Committee for many years.

John has been the driving force behind many club initiatives, including our juniors programme and crucial court maintenance.

Although he has resigned from his position on the committee, he will continue to play an important part in the club. Thank you, John!

Marnhull Tennis Club is always eager to accept new members, from complete beginners to advanced players.

To find out more about the club, please visit marnhulltennisclub.net or contact marnhulltennisclub@gmail.com.

MARNHULL WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Imagine this:

It's 4.45am and you are tucked up in bed. Your alarm jangles you awake. You jump up and pull on a one-piece lycra outfit. Then, whilst you force down an energy drink and a high-protein bar, you struggle into a skin-tight rubber wetsuit.

You leave your hotel room and emerge into the pre-dawn darkness to join a hoard of 2,000 similarly clad souls.

During the next seventeen hours you will swim 1.2 miles, cycle 112 miles and run a marathon.

For those of us who lack the physical stamina (and indeed the faintest inclination) for such an ordeal, it sounds like the very worst sort of torture.

But for Grace Lovell, opera singer and now accredited Ironman, it was something she yearned to do. It is a massive achievement involving many hours of rigorous training and a steely determination, not to mention quite a bit of money. You don't get to be an Ironman through hard work alone.

Having quite exhausted her audience with all this vicarious exercise, Grace admitted that she is planning another Ironman challenge soon. We will cheer her on – from the sidelines.

MARNHULL COMUNITY CHOIR

Marnhull Community Choir is seeking a new Music Director for September 2025

Marnhull Community Choir is looking to appoint a new Music Director for September 2025 following the departure of their current director, who is moving away from the area.

We are looking for a skilled, ambitious and motivating conductor to continue the development of the choir.

Marnhull Community Choir is an un-auditioned mixed choir of c.50 singers drawn from Marnhull village and the surrounding area.

We rehearse on Wednesday evenings in the Marnhull Village Hall and perform primarily in the hall or local church.

Our repertoire contains music from many different genres. About half the members do not read music and have never sung in a choir before but do so because it is a relaxed and friendly group who enjoy singing together for fun.

We perform a minimum of two concerts per year in December, March/April and an informal Cheese, Wine and Song evening in June/July with 10 weekly rehearsals during term time from September to June.

Conductor's fees £35.00 per hour, on the basis of three concerts and 30 rehearsals per year, in addition there is a termly admin fee payable of £100.00. Fees are reviewed annually.

Applications are invited for this post by midnight 19th March 2025.

For further information and to apply please contact the Chair, Christine Drake at

chris@christine-drake.com

www.marnhullcommunitychoir.com

BOARD GAMES CLUB, ANYONE?

I am looking to see if there is any interest in my setting up a board games club in the village. This would be a very casual affair; I would see it as a social club that happens top enjoy playing board games such as the classics Monopoly, Careers, Touring England etc. I would expect members to bring their own games along so that we would have a wide variety to choose from, but this is at the very early stage at the moment – details such as frequency, times, venue(s) etc still need to be sorted out and that would be by general consensus within the group (should I get enough interested parties).

So, if you are interested, please drop me an email at rob.cullender@gmail.com. Many thanks, Rob

MARNHULL MEN'S SHED

The Marnhull Men's Shed meets weekly at our workshop, where members can work on their own projects or work together on Community projects. There is also the opportunity to learn new skills or pass on skills to others. For those not project minded there is always the chance for a natter over tea and biscuits with friends old and new.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Please contact Alan Loukes

Alan@loukes.co.uk or 07767 817173

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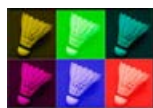
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Badminton Club Night Tuesday club night: 7.00–10.00pm

First night free to new members

All Cocahing 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

MARNHULL COMMUNITY CHOIR

A non audition group that meets on a Wednesday evening from 7pm–9pm in Marnhull Village Hall. We follow school term dates with a 10-week term. Membership is open to men and women over the age of 18. Our music genre is broad and includes musical theatre, light classics and seasonal favourites with the emphasis being on fun and enjoying singing together.

Contact Chris Drake 01258 820645
or email chris@christine-drake.com

www.marnhullcommunitychoir.com

MARNHULL LUNCH CLUB

Meets on the 1st Friday of every month in the Village Hall, except January. The club opens at 12 noon and lunch is served at 1pm. Transport can be provided to and from the Village Hall if needed.

Main Course, Dessert and Tea or Coffee £10.00

For more information please call

Liz 01258 821378 or Dawn 01258 820642

MARNHULL GARDEN CLUB

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

Come and join us for refreshments and a chat.

We usually have a guest speaker and learn some new gardening tips.

Contact Secretary Phil Silvester 01258 394288 / 07921 214591 marnhullgardenclub@gmail.com

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**

on 2nd Thursday morning of the month

Contact Anne Dowsett - dowsettanne52@gmail.com**Longer walk (ramble) 5-7 miles**

on last Thursday of the month

Contact Elaine Spencer-White - elainesw48@gmail.com**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 Sue Piper - 07787299227

MARNHULL BRIDGE CLUB

Marnhull Bridge Club meets in the Methodist Hall every Tuesday at 1:30 pm to play Chicago.

New Players always welcome.

Call 01258 820036 for information

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.

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



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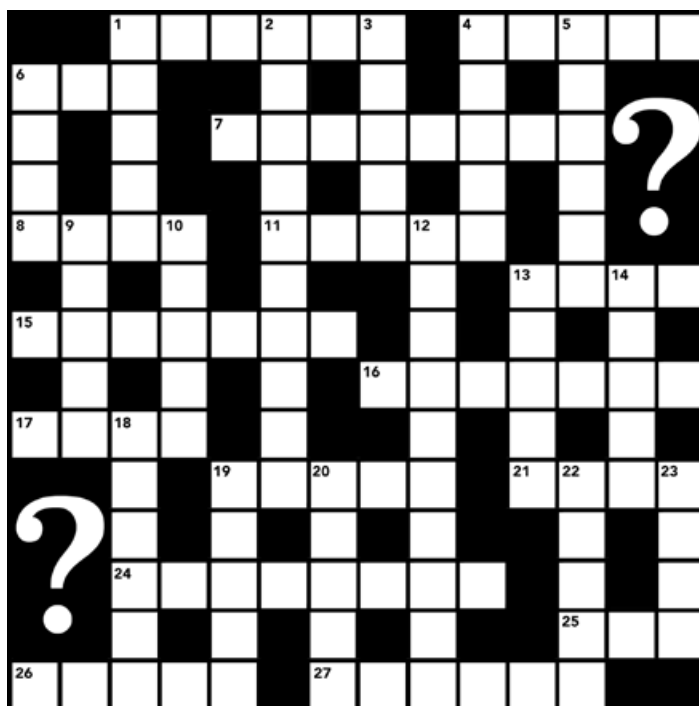
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ACROSS

- 1) Relating to nuclear energy. (6)
 4) A threshing tool. (5)
 6) In the Old Testament he is the the youngest son of Noah. (3)
 7) A religious sacrifice. (8)
 8) The raising of a barbell above the head from shoulder level. (4)
 11) A small arm of the sea. (5)
 13) Small two winged fly resembling a mosquito. (4)
 15) Rectangular tile used on roofs . (7)
 16) Musical set in Berlin in the 1930's. (7)
 17) Latin word meaning therefore. (4)
 19) Member of a travelling people who speak Romany. (5)
 21) Circular movement of water. (4)
 24) The act of a monarch to renounce a throne. (8)
 25) Adopted forename of the revolutionary Ernesto Guevara. (3)
 26) A lament for the dead. (5)
 27) Tropical plant cultivated for its oil rich seeds. (6)



DOWN

- 1) Fossilised resin from extinct coniferous trees. (5)
 2) Musical based on George Bernard Shaw's play Pygmalion. (2-4-4)
 3) Large basket for carrying fish. (5)
 4) Deceptive attacking movement in fencing. (5)
 5) Arm of the Mediterranean Sea between Europe and Asia. (6)
 6) Pilgrimage to Mecca that all Muslims should make once in their lives. (4)
 9) Clear fluid once used as an anaesthetic. (5)
 10) Japanese form of fencing with two handed bamboo swords. (5)
 12) Fast growing Australasian evergreen tree. (10)
 13) Preserve in sugar. (5)
 14) Make minor improvements to a document. (5)
 18) Move in a circle. (6)
 19) Devoutly religious. (5)
 20) Ancient people inhabiting northern Scotland in Roman times. (5)
 22) Score of 40 all in tennis at which each player needs two consecutive points to win the game (5)
 23) Private research university in New Haven Connecticut. (4)

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ALL PUZZLE ANSWERS ON PAGE 24

New Messenger Deadline:
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Email all texts, announcements
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