



# THE MARNHULL MESSENGER



Original illustration by George Cox

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DEFIBRILLATOR AWARENESS SESSION

## KING CHARLES III CORONATION 6TH MAY 2023

2 KINGS, 1 CORONATION DAY AT THE BRITISH LEGION!

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All the latest news from the churches

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See what the schools are up to

**DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE**

**MID-DAY 14th May**  
E-mail all texts, announcements and other requests to:  
[editor@marnhullmessenger.org.uk](mailto:editor@marnhullmessenger.org.uk)

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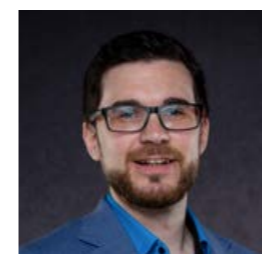
**MARNHULL MESSENGER DELIVERIES**

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.



**WELCOME TO YOUR  
MARNHULL  
MESSENGER**

**CHRIS RYU**  
Messenger Editor

**May 2023 - Issue 134**

OK I've changed my picture. Too many people have been dissatisfied when they see me face-to-face, when they discover that I've lost my pink lock-down hair. My boring black hair can stay until my next internal crisis... so next week?

I had a chuckle to myself when I refreshed my memory this morning. Last month I spoke about de-icing the car, since then our Sakura tree has blossomed and has already gone over. As my favourite band said when singing about Cherry Blossom's "you look so pretty but you're gone so soon". There we go, I did it. It took 8 years, but I managed to include my love of Pop Punk in my intro.

I haven't checked in with Wessex Internet yet, but hopefully lots of you attended the evening and have an ETA on your fibre connection.

As some of you will know, we've been having a rough time at work recently due to an ex-employee's sabotage attempt. It's not been fun that's for sure, but the team are clubbing together and we'll get through it. I'm stepping down as Chair of the Gillingham Chamber of Commerce at the AGM, so I can focus on business survival.

**New Advertisers**

There's a few spaces left, so if you'd like to advertise your club, business or group, please contact Rosie on the details to the right of this text.

**New Editor Still Required**

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

**SUBMIT YOUR EVENTS INTO  
A LIVE CALENDAR**  
On the messenger website and they'll be added to the printed automatically:  
[www.marnhullmessenger.org.uk](http://www.marnhullmessenger.org.uk)

**VILLAGE HELP**

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

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

**MAY**

- 1st - Pound Fitness @9:30am British Legion
- 1st - Table Tennis @14:00
- 1st - Lyn's Bingo @19:00 British Legion
- 2nd - Bridge Club @14:00 Methodist Church
- 3rd - Fitsteps Dance & Exercise @11:15am
- 3rd - Table Tennis @14:00
- 3rd - Community Choir @18:30
- 3rd - Pound Fitness @19:00 British Legion
- 4th - Craft Club @10am Methodist Hall
- 5th - Luncheon Club @12:00
- 6th - The Marnhull Hub and Repair Café @10am
- 8th - Pound Fitness @9:30am British Legion
- 8th - Table Tennis @14:00
- 8th - Women's Institute - Resolutions & Beetle Drive @19:30
- 9th - Bridge Club @14:00 Methodist Hall
- 9th - Marnhull Garden Club @18:30
- 10th - Fitsteps Dance & Exercise @11:15am
- 10th - Table Tennis @14:00
- 10th - Tea with Friends @14:30 Methodist Hall
- 10th - Community Choir @18:30
- 10th - Pound Fitness @19:00 British Legion
- 12th - Blackmore Vale Art Group @10am Methodist Hall
- 13th - The Marnhull Hub and Repair Café @10am
- 15th - Pound Fitness @9:30am British Legion
- 15th - Table Tennis @14:00
- 15th - Lyn's Bingo @19:00 British Legion
- 15th - Marnhull Music Society @19:15
- 16th - Bridge Club @14:00 Methodist Hall
- 17th - Jumble Sale @10:15am British Legion
- 17th - Fitsteps Dance & Exercise @11:15am
- 17th - Table Tennis @14:00
- 17th - Community Choir @18:30

- 17th - Pound Fitness @19:00 British Legion
- 19th - Marnhull Community Café @10am
- 19th - St Mary's PTFA - Night at the Movies @19:30
- 20th - The Marnhull Hub and Repair Café @10am
- 20th - Help for Heroes - Plant Sale and Coffee Morning @10am Recreation Ground
- 20th - Coronation Bingo - Jungle Hut Pre School @19:00
- 22nd - Pound Fitness @9:30am British Legion
- 22nd - Table Tennis @14:00
- 23rd - Bridge Club @14:00 Methodist Hall
- 23rd - Moviola @19:00
- 24th - Fitsteps Dance & Exercise @11:15am
- 24th - Table Tennis @14:00
- 24th - Community Choir @18:30
- 24th - Pound Fitness @19:00 British Legion
- 27th - The Marnhull Hub and Repair Café @10am
- 29th - Pound Fitness @9:30am British Legion
- 29th - Table Tennis @14:00
- 29th - Lyn's Bingo @19:00 British Legion
- 30th - Bridge Club @14:00 Methodist Hall
- 31st - Fitsteps Dance & Exercise @11:15am

**JUNE**

- 1st - Craft Club @10am Methodist Hall
- 2nd - Luncheon Club @12:00
- 3rd - The Marnhull Hub and Repair Café @10am
- 5th - Pound Fitness @9:30am British Legion
- 5th - Table Tennis - Monday @14:00
- 6th - Bridge Club @14:00 Methodist Hall
- 7th - Fitsteps Dance & Exercise @11:15am
- 7th - Table Tennis @14:00
- 7th - Community Choir @18:30
- 7th - Pound Fitness @19:00 British Legion

- 9th - Blackmore Vale Art Group @10am
- 10th - The Marnhull Hub and Repair Café @10am
- 10th - Organ Recital @19:00
- 12th - Pound Fitness @9:30am British Legion
- 12th - Table Tennis - Monday @14:00
- 12th - Women's Institute - Scenes with the National Trust - Andrew McElwee @19:30
- 13th - Bridge Club @14:00 Methodist Church
- 13th - Marnhull Garden Club @18:30
- 14th - Fitsteps Dance & Exercise @11:15am
- 14th - Table Tennis @14:00
- 14th - Tea with Friends @14:30 Methodist Hall
- 14th - Community Choir @18:30
- 14th - Pound Fitness @19:00 British Legion
- 16th - Marnhull Community Café @10am
- 17th - The Marnhull Hub and Repair Café @10am
- 19th - Pound Fitness @9:30am British Legion
- 19th - Table Tennis - Monday @14:00
- 19th - Marnhull Music Society @19:15
- 20th Bridge Club @14:00 Methodist Hall
- 21st - Fitsteps Dance & Exercise @11:15am
- 21st - Table Tennis @14:00
- 21st - Community Choir @18:30

**FOR VILLAGE HALL  
BOOKINGS**

www.marnhullvillagehall.org.uk and click on 'Book the Village Hall' For general enquiries, email: bookings@marnhullvillagehall.org.uk or if unable to access the internet, phone 07376 911878 (9 to 5 weekdays)

**SUBMIT YOUR  
EVENTS INTO A  
LIVE CALENDAR**

On the messenger website and they'll be added to this diary in the next issue!  
[www.marnhullmessenger.org.uk](http://www.marnhullmessenger.org.uk)

**STURMINSTER NEWTON MEDICAL CENTRE**



**Spring Covid Booster**

The campaign started on 17th April 2023 for adults aged 75 years and over and individuals aged 5 years and over who are immunosuppressed. However, they are only available until June 30th. The Blackmore Vale Partnership are not providing these vaccines this Spring, so please do not ring the Practice. The NHS will write to people to remind those eligible that they can get the vaccine, but bookings can be made at any time via the National Booking Service or calling 119 - most sites are appointment only. There are some local clinics being held in the following venues:

- Blandford Community Hospital (Outpatient Clinic), Blandford Forum. DT11 7DD. Clinics will be held on Saturdays between 09:00 - 17:30.
- Westminster Memorial Hospital, Abbey Walk, Shaftesbury, SP7 8BD. Clinics will be held in the Outpatients Department on Thursdays between 09:30 - 16:30 and Fridays between 13:30 - 16:30.

The residents in care home for older adults has already begun. Patients who are registered as housebound will be contacted by Dorset Health Care when their COVID booster is due, to arrange a visit from a vaccination team. For any queries from patients, please contact Dorset Health Care direct in the first instance. You can find out all you need to know about COVID-19 vaccinations, including who is eligible for a seasonal booster by searching 'Dorset vaccination service' online or calling 119.

**Make Time for Young Carers**

We know young carers can start feeling overwhelmed because of everything they need to do for their caring role on top of all their schoolwork and being a kid. Often their mental and physical health is affected. That's why it's more important than ever to ensure you are registered as a young Carer with the surgery, so that they can make sure they are supporting you the best way possible, in what matters to you.

**World Sleep Day**

The theme for the recent World Sleep Day was "Sleep is Essential for Health". Just like eating well and exercising, sleep is a behaviour that is foundational to one's physical, mental, and social well-being. However, sleep is not yet commonly considered an essential behaviour for good health. The Wellbeing team at the Blackmore Vale practice are here to help, and can advise you on good sleeping practice. World Sleep Day is an annual event, intended to be a celebration of sleep and a call to action on important issues related to sleep, including medicine, education, social aspects and driving. It is organised by the World Sleep Day Committee of World Sleep Society and aims to lessen the burden of sleep problems on society through better prevention and management of sleep disorders.

Routine sleep without interruption means lower rates of:

- Diabetes & Obesity
- Chronic illness
- High Blood Pressure

You can contact the Wellbeing Team on [bvpswellbeing@dorsetgp.nhs.uk](mailto:bvpswellbeing@dorsetgp.nhs.uk) or 01747 856786.

**Please cancel unwanted GP appointments**

The Practice Senior Partner and Deputy Chair of the Dorset General Practice Alliance Dr Simone Yule is thanking patients who take the time to communicate with the practice when they cannot attend appointments: "We want to thank the patients who let us know when they no longer need an appointment. This is a busy time for general practice,

and these patients are freeing up vital clinician time that we can reallocate to other people who need it. We know that our phone lines can be busy, and we are starting to provide more online solutions for more effective and efficient communication. This also has a positive impact for those who cannot access an online option by freeing up the phone lines for those that need to use them. It's never too late to tell us if you can't attend an appointment."

In Dorset last month, there were around 12,000 appointments in general practice where the patient did not attend an appointment. This is 3000 hours of valuable time with a health care professional that was not used.

"We recognise that people have commitments and situations can change" comments Dr Ben Sharland, GP partner in Bournemouth and Deputy Chair of Dorset General Practice. We want to understand the reason why people might be missing their appointments and how we can help with this. We are concerned that people might be missing appointments and leaving themselves with medical problems that are not being diagnosed or treated in a timely way. We know that the sooner people seek help the better the outcomes."

**MARNHULL TENNIS CLUB**

The tennis season is now underway and there's plenty to get involved with on the courts! If you're new to the area or fancy giving tennis a try in 2023 head to our website [www.marnhulltennisclub.net](http://www.marnhulltennisclub.net) for all the details on membership, bookings, coaching and more! The Easter Holiday Junior Coaching was a great success! Not only did we have beautiful weather, but we also had a whopping 29 young players, ranging from the age of 5 to teenagers. We also welcomed 10 Ukrainian visitors who got to join in on the fun for free! They were all super keen and added an extra spark to the court.

**WHAT'S ON THIS SPRING...**

**HEY JUNIOR TENNIS STARS!  
JOIN US FOR NEW WEEKLY CLUB SESSIONS**

Every Tuesday Afternoon  
Ages 5-9: 4.00pm – 5.00pm  
Ages 10-16: 5.00pm – 6.00pm

Have you been waiting for your chance to show off your tennis skills? Marnhull Tennis Club has got you covered! We're excited to announce that our Junior Programme has expanded with brand new weekly Junior Club Sessions. These sessions are running every Tuesday throughout the season (fingers crossed for good weather, of course!) and the best part? They're free to all our junior members! And if you're not a member yet you can come along to your first 2 sessions for FREE!

So what are you waiting for? Grab a racquet (we can provide these!), throw on your tennis shoes and join us for an afternoon of fun, energetic tennis! If you're planning to come along, make sure to let Norma Amlot know on [dnamlot@icloud.com](mailto:dnamlot@icloud.com) or 07879647559. We can't wait to see you there!

**ADULT COACHING**

Our coaching programme starts up again this May – check the website for up to date times and days plus details of how to book your spot!

**ADULT CLUB SESSIONS - NO NEED TO BOOK, JUST TURN UP AND PLAY!**

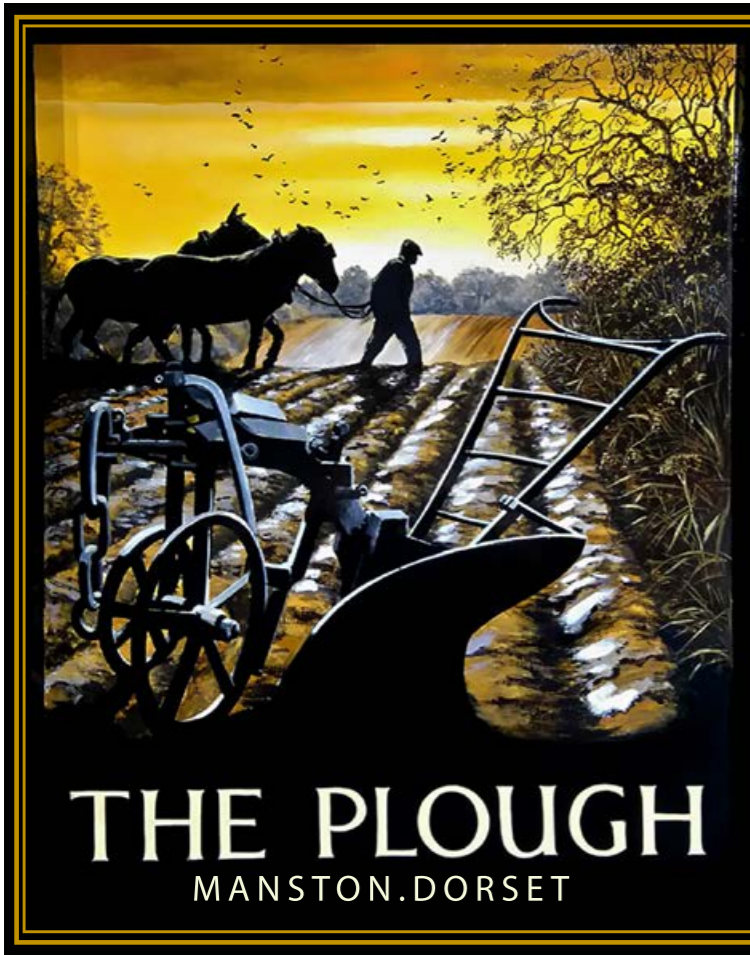
- Alternating Saturdays & Sundays 2.30pm – 4pm - Friendly social tennis sessions that give everyone a chance to play. Check the website for a list of days.
- Wednesday Evenings from 5.30pm - Rusty Rackets - perfect for beginners and those who haven't played for a while!
- Thursday Evenings from 6pm – Open sessions for all adult members and ideal for coming along to after work.
- Friday Mornings 9.30am – 11.30am - Open to all adult members of any ability.

**PAY & PLAY**

If you're not a member or are visiting the area, you can book the courts on a pay and play basis for just £3.50 per hour! To book, contact either John Sear on 01258 269743 or Chris Gregory on 01258 474646.

CONTINUED PAGE RIGHT





## THE PLOUGH FREEHOUSE

A beautiful 350 year old stone built country pub offering superb fresh homecooked food, excellent wines and great beers. After a two year renovation project Peter and Karlene have created a super cosy snug bar and a light and airy conservatory/dining area.

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Website: ploughmanston.com

**THE PLOUGH**  
MANSTON.DORSET

### MARNHULL GREEN TEAMS

## MARNHULL GREEN TEAMS

*Taking the Environment Around Marnhull Seriously*

The Marnhull Messenger deadline means that this article had to be written before both Marnhull Green Teams' Annual General Meeting and talks on our local rivers and streams on 18 April, and the second Marnhull Giveaway and Takeaway Day on the 22nd. So we cannot report on either here! However, we would like to thank our speakers, and everyone involved in organising and participating in our G&T Day, especially all the Givers for setting out their stall, and the providers of refreshments; and most of all to the coordinating powerhouse that is Mr John Dowsett, whose boundless enthusiasm and energy made the event the success we hope it will have been - if you see what we mean!

Re-using things that we ourselves no longer have a use for but others very well might is an important part of the Reduce / Re-use / Recycle ethos that makes sense in so many ways. So we'll re-use the idea too. Watch for news of future Giveaway and Takeaway Days in Marnhull.

The next event to tell you about is the Dawn Chorus Walk planned for Sunday 7 May. This is International Dawn Chorus Day, when the RSPB (and Marnhull Green Teams) are inviting you to 'wrap your ears around the most amazing sounds on the planet.' Wrappable ears are optional - but an alarm clock is a must! The walk starts at the Village Hall at 6am. It will last an hour or two, depending on what birds, plants and other wildlife are encountered.

Chris Hilder is kindly organising this walk. In order not to scare the mobile wildlife away, we are limiting the party to no more than 12 people, with places available on a first-come, first-served basis. If you would like to join in, please contact Chris by email at [chris.hilder@hotmail.com](mailto:chris.hilder@hotmail.com). If you don't use email, please phone (01258) 268714. The event is weather-dependent and will be postponed if the elements are unkind. Let's hope not. And if more than 12 people want to be up at 'crack o' sparrows' we will seek to organise a second walk.

As to our AGM and the decisions about what the Marnhull Green Teams are going to get up to next, please see the next edition of the Messenger. If you would like to know more and can't wait until then, please phone (01258) 268714, email [marnhullgreen@outlook.com](mailto:marnhullgreen@outlook.com), or find us on the village Facebook pages.

### DEFIBRILLATOR AWARENESS SESSION!

Come and learn how to use your defibrillator. You are invited to a demonstration, including hands on involvement and all your questions answered on THURSDAY 25th MAY 2023 at the VILLAGE HALL at 18:30.

Marnhull currently has two defibrillators in the village available to everyone at any time of the day or night. One is located at the Village Hall and the other outside The Crown.

This session is free of charge and will be presented by our Assistant Community Responder Officer from the Dorset Ait Ambulance Service.

### OPEN GARDENS AT SPRINGHEAD

The gardens will be open on Good Friday between 10-3. Entry is free but donations towards its upkeep would be appreciated.

Come along and enjoy the spring flowers and take part in the Easter Trail being organised and run by St Andrew's School Fontmell Magna PTFA in aid of school funds (£2.50). There will be a pop up cafe with drinks and cakes.

Dogs on lead welcome and assisted wheelchair access.

We will again be open on Monday 8 May between 11-4 with a pop up cafe. More details nearer the time.

Find out more at: [Springheadtrust.org.uk](http://Springheadtrust.org.uk)

## HELP for HEROES

Reg Charity Number GEN23-3228847-1.

### PLANT SALE

## & COFFEE MORNING

**Sat 20th May 10:00-13.00**

**\*New Venue Marnhull Recreation Ground\***

Coffee and Cake  
Raffle  
Flamingo Cards

**\*\*\*Please Bring Your Own Carrier Bags\*\*\***



### ROYAL BRITISH LEGION



Hopefully you all got the leaflet in last month's issue of the Messenger regarding the events going on in the Club on Coronation Day. There is something there for most people especially the kids so we hope to see some of you there on the day. In the evening we have another King to enjoy, Elvis 56 will be performing his Elvis act which is always an exciting night so if you haven't been down before make an

effort to come and enjoy this. The final total on the fundraising for the defibrillator was around £2,500 so the search is on for where to purchase one. We have a short list of three possible ones to choose from and will be making a decision soon. Don't forget to pop into the Post Office and sponsor Atul doing the Marnhull 12k run as he is giving his money to our appeal so we can buy a top of the range defibrillator that we ironically will be happy never to have to use.

The jumble sale on Saturday 8th April went well with about £325 being raised, most of which will go to the Poppy Appeal. The next one will be on Saturday the 17th June so as usual we are on the lookout for donations. I will be pleased to come and collect or if you wish feel free to leave your items in the porch at the Club.

Lyn's Easter bingo on April 3rd attracted a record of 86 people who vied for some wonderful prizes. Lyn works very hard to do this and has a dedicated following but there is always room for more so come down and join the fun. Everything she makes goes to the Poppy Appeal and she has raised tens of thousands of pounds over the years.

### May Entertainment

Mon 1st - Bingo 7pm  
Sat 6th - Coronation Day fun plus Elvis 56  
Sat 13th 0 ABBA tribute £5  
Mon 14th - Bingo 7pm  
Sat 20th - The Originals  
Sat 27th - The Up and Running Band  
Mon 28th - Bingo 7pm

For Branch contact Jack on 01258 820800 or [whiteheadjack51@gmail.com](mailto:whiteheadjack51@gmail.com)

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- Volunteer opportunities
- Call us for information
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**RECYCLE AT THE HUB**

Ever wondered what to do with the plastic that can't go in the council recycling bin? At the Hub and Repair Café we have 15 bins for a wide selection of waste - see the poster for what we can take.

The plastic is processed and manufactured into new objects. (Visit terracycle.com for more info.) Local charities & organisations benefit financially from the collection.

Come and have a look! The bins are open every Saturday morning from 10-12, along with the Hub and Repair Café, and every third Friday 10-12 with the Community Café.

Questions? Please email [celiajardinesmith@gmail.com](mailto:celiajardinesmith@gmail.com), or call 07427 645445.

**RECYCLE with TerraCycle**

Marnhull Village Hall, Saturday mornings 10-12, and  
Community Café, third Fridays 10-12

**We can take:**

- Beauty product packaging
- Bread bags \*
- Cake and biscuit wrappers \*
- Cheese wrappers \*
- Coffee bags \*
- Crisp packets \*
- Disposable razors
- Laundry and dishwashing packaging \*
- Medicine blister packs
- Milk bottle tops
- Pens of all sorts
- Pringles tubes
- Printer ink cartridges
- Sweet packets \*
- Toothbrushes & toothpaste tubes

\* Also accepted at Tesco / Asda / Co-op soft plastic recycling bins

**AGE CONCERN REQUEST FOR TRUSTEES**

Trustees needed for Age Concern North Dorset Age Concern (based in Sturminster Newton) is looking for local trustees willing to help the charity move forward with new skills. We help older people in the area with services including telephone advice, welfare support, foot clinic, befriending and balance classes. The role would involve a commitment to attend approximately six meetings a year, as well as supporting the charity's work in some form, dependent on experience. Training and expenses are provided.

For more information, please call the office on 01258 475582 and see our website [www.acnorthdorset.org.uk](http://www.acnorthdorset.org.uk)

**STURMINSTER NEWTON LITERARY FESTIVAL**



Sturminster Newton Literary Festival is back for a fourth year and will run from 5-10 June 2023.

This year the programme in the North Dorset town has expanded to include non fiction events and now encompasses the wider Wessex footprint.

This year, ticket holders can hear about a range of topics from a sequel to Tess of the D'Urbervilles by Michael Langridge, to the experiences of a helicopter test pilot from Chris Taylor, and nuggets of Dorset history from Jon Woolcott. Highlights of the festival include journalist Felice Hardy talking about her grandmother, an Austrian tennis champion who escaped the Nazis and went on to play at Wimbledon. West Dorset based author Brian Jackman will discuss how the natural surroundings of his parish inspired him to write Wild About Dorset. Local poet David Caddy will be reading Rupert Brooke's poetry in a railway carriage at Shillingstone Station. The exquisite nature photography of Jane V Adams is the focus of another festival talk. Fiction writers include Salisbury based Elisabeth Conway and Matthew Harffy from Wiltshire.

A dramatic monologue by local playwright Sue Ashby, From Sturminster Newton to The White House: the Fuller sisters in America will premiere during the festival. Local singers Rachael Alexander, Rachael Revell, and Lina Felsa will perform some of the songs sung by the Fuller sisters on their tours at the turn of the 20th century.

The festival is collaborating with other businesses and organisations this year. The 1855 building will be transformed into a pre-loved fashion show catwalk for a talk by Libby Page on her new book, The Vintage Shop of Second Chances. And pomologist Liz Copas and cider maker Nick Poole will talk about their research into the lost orchards of Dorset. The walks programme includes a look at Robert Young's Sturminster Newton and the Marnhull setting for Tess of the D'Urbervilles. Talks on the stained-glass windows in St Mary's Church will be given during festival week.

The church has glass designed by Harry Clarke and Mary Lowndes, two of the most famous stained glass artists of the 20th century. Festival committee chairman, Pauline Batstone said: "I am delighted that we have such a full and wide ranging programme for our fourth year. Thank you to all those who have worked hard to bring this together and to all those who plan to attend our events."

**WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE HUMAN?**

On June 8th Churches Together are delighted to offer the first of some inspiring talks and discussions on theology, philosophy, and ethics, which are open to all. The first topic is entitled "What does it mean to be Human?". This talk will essentially take the form of a philosophical approach to the big question of who we are. Obviously, the subject is vast and cannot be covered in a short space of time, so the talk will focus on the debate about the existence of soul. The presentation will be given by Jacintha Bowe, who holds a degree in theology and philosophy, and who has taught and lectured theology and philosophy for many decades.

Further details will follow. Jacintha Bowe RGN, BA Hons, PGCE, CCRS, Cert Bib Stud

**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.

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**MARNHULL HORSE RIDERS**



We are delighted that at last we will now all be able to enjoy the fruits of many years hard work for the group in getting the Toogoods Bridleway renovated and safe to use. It will be worth it – I promise.

The surface and ground work has been done. This included putting in a new drain to take the water away towards the ditch more easily. Then we have laid 40 tonnes of stone/scalping and after rolling and a bit of dryer weather, the lower entrance to the track will be so much better.

The large old gates are waiting new handles and removal of the barbed wire to the right hand side of the first gate. Half way up the hill, the Countryside Rangers are also going to put in an equestrian gate to the right of the main gate. I know it's been a frustrating time for everyone, but it will be worth it. To celebrate we may even have an opening ceremony – with cake – of course.

We have Charlotte Warman, Biting Solutions coming to the Village Hall on May 18th to talk about biting and bridle fitting for performance and welfare. Tickets are £7.50pp, under 16's are free. Raffle, bar and refreshments. Please ring Rosie 07711 0894903 to book.

**TEA WITH FRIENDS**

Tea with Friends second Wednesday of the month.  
Methodist Church Hall 2:30 to 4pm  
Cuppa, cake and a chance to chat.  
Next date - **Wednesday May 10th**  
All welcome!



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**MARNHULL PLAYERS PANTO**

We are still receiving amazing feedback from our performances and being asked what the next one will be. All I can say at this point is that there will be another one, what it will be we still need to decide, we have a few ideas but nothing confirmed yet.  
On the 10th March we had a lovely get together at the village hall and we watched the recording of the performance. As we all miss bits when we are back stage it was nice to see it from start to finish, no re-dos, in costume and not have to worry about getting into position for your next part. It was a lovely evening to relax and reflect with everyone with some lovely nibbles.

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

Thanks  
The Committee and Cast

**MARNHULL FLOWER SHOW**

**Marnhull Flower Show**

**Saturday 22nd July**

Thankfully there is still plenty of time to practice your entries for cooking in all shapes and forms from cakes, jams, pickles, bread or biscuits. We are hoping for lots of team entries this year for the DORSET APPLE CAKE class in the Great Marnhull Bake Off! So the challenge is out there - whatever you do, dig out that old family favourite recipe and make sure you enter - you know it's a winner!

As the weather is less predictable these days, we've been told to expect a shortage of tomatoes and cucumbers in the supermarkets this year. So, if you are growing your own - especially for the first time - or have a few years' experience under your belt, why not enter a few of your successes in the Fruit or Veg classes. You don't need a huge garden or plot to grow your own. Tomatoes and salad leaves are very happy grown in pots on a sunny window sill and tubs are also a good option. Some fruits like strawberries grow very well in a hanging basket; slugs have to be very fit and determined to find them!

If you enjoy taking photos, making things (out of literally anything) or growing things, there will be a class that you could enter. We've even got a class for the ones that are work in progress.

The Marnhull Flower Show Schedules will soon be freely available in the village shops, pubs, Cook's Garage and the Village Hall, so look out for them soon.

We look forward to see you at this year's show - Saturday 22nd July, the Village Hall & Recreation ground.





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Our members come from all over the country so we try and arrange Study Breaks in different areas each year with diverse subjects. The charity is run by volunteers and is self funded so everyone has to pay, although guides get a reduced rate. Where necessary we employ professional tutors or speakers. Last year we learnt about the history of the Horn and listened to a variety of music whilst staying in Weston Super Mare, then it was out and about in Norwich for local history and then all things 'eco' at the Centre for Alternative Energy in Wales.

This year it is Agatha Christie in Torquay and Leicester for local history, and another study break is being planned for later in the year.

If you are interested in becoming a sighted guide or have organisational skills that you could offer, or know of a visually impaired person that would benefit from our breaks, then do look at our website [www.add-ventureinlearning.org.uk](http://www.add-ventureinlearning.org.uk). If you would like any further information then ring Barbara on 01460 281226 or email [mrickitt@hotmail.com](mailto:mrickitt@hotmail.com)

**MARNHULL WOMENS' INSTITUTE - APRIL**

It is always intriguing to get a glimpse into a lifestyle which is completely different from one's own and we had that opportunity when Kay Townsend came to speak to us.

Kay was born into a showman's family. Her parents owned fairground rides and earned their money taking these around to various carnivals and fairs in the west country. She was at pains to point out that although various social groups are accustomed to living in caravans and leading a somewhat peripatetic existence, there was a difference between gipsies, circus people and showmen. To the untutored eye they may seem similar but their origins, lifestyle and traditions are quite distinct.

The fairground tradition evolved gradually from the jugglers and acrobats who began to entertain folk at the cloth and livestock fairs which were held in town squares during the 13th and 14th centuries. The first "rides" catering for children consisted of a central pole with radiating ropes which held a circular wooden platform. For a halfpenny each children could perch on the seat and the whole suspended ring would be whirled round manually by the showman. The only motive power available at the time was the horse or the muscles of the man.

With the advent of the steam engine in 19th century things got a lot more exciting. A traction engine could tow a much larger load so living caravans became progressively more luxurious. On the fairground the rides also increased in size and complexity. By degrees the Waltzer, the Dodgems, the Gallopers and so on that we now expect to find at the fair began to appear.

A showman has to make all his money at the fairs and carnivals. As well as his own living quarters he needs one or two lorries to cart the rides from place to place and a team to erect and dismantle them as well as run them for the public. He must adhere to the very strict health and safety regulations which involve regular inspection from mechanical engineers, electrical experts and also an ultrasonic inspector who assesses the strength and durability of every metal joint in the structure. The lack of any one of these essential certificates would mean he would not be allowed to run his ride.

Kay herself used to run and manage one of the smaller stalls to be found at every fair, such as the hoopla or the coconut shy. She plainly revelled in the memories of an unusual and rather exciting childhood.

The April meeting is our AGM.

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**New to the Parish?** We welcome visitors to join our community this Easter, also brand new parishioners or existing ones moving forward.

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Our Easter celebration was also a time of change as Father Francis Straw has returned to Buckfast Abbey after spending 18 months as our parish priest. We thank him immensely for his spiritual guidance during this time and welcome Fr. Joseph who has joined us from Newton Abbot. We held a party for Father Francis on Easter Monday with about 100 guests.



**Our Dorset Deanery Big Lent Walk was a great success.**

We walked the trailway from Sturminster Newton to Shillingstone on Saturday 25 March and met a group who walked from Blandford to Shillingstone. Our community came together to support communities around the World who are living in poverty.

**THE METHODIST CHURCH**



After having a bit of a moan last month I have resolved to be cheerful for May after all, I don't think you need me to remind you of the country's trials and tribulations, so here goes – a few reasons to be cheerful in May!

**First**

King Charles 111's coronation on 6th May. I'm pretty sure that this will be a great celebration for most people and, with the Queen Consort becoming Queen Camilla too, let's hope all will be well with the world at least for a day! I think the Royal Family (except for one or two) do great work for this country and am truly grateful that we don't have to vote for a President; having an apolitical Head of State is, for me, an unreservedly good thing.

**Second**

As I write this piece the sun is shining, the sky is blue and the birds are singing. Tulips, daffodils and other spring flowers are dancing in the breeze and with the white plum tree blossom set against the blue sky, it's just lovely. OK, the weeds are pushing through as well and the lawns will need cutting before long, but hey, today is just fine!

**Third**

I have a family celebration in summer to look forward to which set me thinking of family and friends and how important the relationships we have with others are. I am fortunate in having quite a few siblings. Growing up we weren't at all well off and had to help out a lot on the farm, but the shared experiences, the love and the learning to get along with each other means that we enjoy a close bond. Even though we may not all see each other very often now – the bond is there. And it's similar with good friends isn't it? I had hadn't been in touch with my best friend at school in Yorkshire for donkey's years but, quite out of the blue three or so years ago, she contacted me and we almost picked up from where we left off! Not quite, we had quite a bit of catching up to do, but certainly the bond of friendship had survived intact all the years of no contact and we do now stay in touch. Yes, let's hear it for family and friends!

**Fourth**

I live in a lovely village in great country. For all the almost constant negativity our country it is still, I believe, a great place to live! To start with, where would we be without our weather to contend with and endlessly discuss.....?!

I can think of more reasons to be cheerful but won't bore you with them. The four above make me truly thankful to God for helping me through life and enabling me to appreciate the wonders of this beautiful world. Lift up your hearts, sing praises to the Lord and be thankful – Amen!

**The Girls' Brigade**

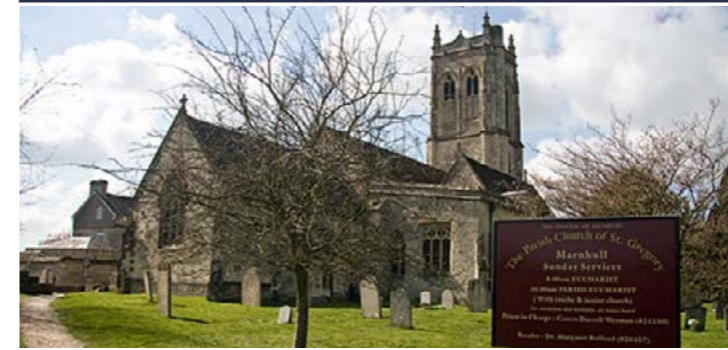
The Girls' Brigade continues to enjoy its 30th year in Marnhull. We meet every Wednesday at 6.15- 7.30 pm in term time at the Methodist hall. Currently the girls are working on their badge work under the headings of 'Our Toys, Hope and Getting Creative' for the 3 different age groups, whilst also enjoying fun and games evenings.

Over the past year some of the older girls have been attending Young Leaders Training thus gaining experience and confidence. The older girls are also looking forward to a fun weekend later in the month in Weymouth. All girls are welcome to join GB from age 4 plus. Information may be obtained from Team Leader Mrs Rachael Findlay on 07771 897262.

**For Hall Bookings**

For Hall Bookings – contact Marlene on 01258 820869

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Facebook/stgregschurch

Church is open to everyone for visits / quiet space daily between 9am and 4.30pm

**Contact Us**

**Revd Gaenor Hockey, Parish Priest**

01258 821605 [gaenor@protonmail.com](mailto:gaenor@protonmail.com)

Part time: Sunday, Wednesday and Friday

**Revd Angus Mayhew, Curate**

07788 100885 [revangusmayhew@gmail.com](mailto:revangusmayhew@gmail.com)

Shared curacy: between Marnhull and Gillingham Team

**Churchwardens:**

Nick Lalor 01258 820553

Sharon Martin 01258 821009

**LENT LUNCHEAS AND TALKS**

The Lent talks and lunches hosted by Churches Together in Marnhull raised £390.30 for Ukraine, this is an outstanding amount, and the group wishes to extend their grateful thanks to everyone who supported the events. The monies will be sent to the Red Cross Ukraine Crisis Appeal who have volunteers working with those on the frontline to give them support and provisions during this long conflict.

The subject of the Lent talks was "Pilgrimage", and the speakers were drawn from our three churches: St Gregory's, Our Lady's, and the Methodist Church. Starting with a very inspiring talk on how the physical external pilgrimage leads to an interior journey to the soul, Reverend Gaenor led those present in reflective prayer. Her talk was followed by a personal account of his pilgrimage to the Holy Land given by Deacon Mike Turnbull from Our Lady's Marnhull.

Revd Lin Francis, from the Methodist church, engaged all present with her story of the pilgrimages undertaken by the Celtic saints and Revd Angus Mayhew spoke about his own personal pilgrimage, which will lead to his ordination later this year.

Revd Lin concluded the talks with Scripture references and readings. The lunches were provided by parishioners from all three churches, and whilst they were very simple, they were delicious. Our thanks must extend to those willing volunteers.

**NEW ORGNAIST FOR ST GREGORY'S CHURCH**



St. Gregory's Church Marnhull seek to appoint an experienced and enthusiastic organist and choir director to develop our strong church musical tradition and our small, enthusiastic and able SATB choir for today and for the next generation.

The focus is on church worship on Sundays and key festivals, together with opportunities for community-wide recitals. Top RSCM rates are given. Post to start as soon as possible.

For further information please contact the parish priest Revd Gaenor Hockey [gaenor@protonmail.com](mailto:gaenor@protonmail.com). 01258 821605.

**BISHOP'S LETTER**



How does one crown a king? After much rehearsal and with a steady hand, I suspect – and bated breath around the globe in that solemn moment.

There is a weightiness, not only to the physical act but its deep spiritual and symbolic import, which is hard to explain but nevertheless of immense value. For the coronation remains a profoundly Christian occasion, in which an ancient connection is made between earthly and divine power, and our monarch's complete dependence on God for the grace to govern. The greater the authority - or majesty - the greater the need to emphasise this dependence.

The Christian heart of our monarchy, much discussed and disputed, is an historic safeguard against vainglory and the abuse of power: it means that the anointing to rule becomes, inescapably, the anointing to serve in the pattern of Christ.

These are ideas requiring careful translation in an era when we have almost lost what was once instinctive in our culture – humility before the Almighty, whatever our station. Sceptical of God's existence and suspicious of those who aren't, the Christianity of our monarchy and all the mythmaking of a coronation appears to some as no more than an eccentric kind of national window-dressing.

Whilst it may be this – and no worse for it - I believe the impending celebrations are also a reminder to our fretful, forgetful age of the higher yet humbler calling to which we may yet respond, while the Lord is near.

Thank you and God bless

**ST GREGORY'S C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL**



**JOKE OF THE MONTH.** Did you hear about the mathematician who's afraid of negative numbers? He'll stop at nothing to avoid them.

**CHAPEAU!** The school supported Brain Tumour Research with a special "wear a hat day" Below you can see Owls class sporting their headwear. Those eagle-eyed amongst you will notice the Easter egg in the room, this is no ordinary Easter egg for within its shell resides Mrs Dunn who just loves to dress up, more on that later.



**JUMP OFF THE BEAM, FLIP OFF THE BARS, FOLLOW YOUR DREAMS, REACH FOR THE STARS!**

Years 1 & 2 enjoyed a trip to Port Regis school to test their gymnastic skills with a taster session. Part of the School Games scheme, our children were joined by another school to make use of the fantastic facilities. The fundamentals of strength, balance, flexibility, agility, coordination, and endurance promote excellent all-round health and will benefit many other sports. Our pupils relished the opportunity, and we hope that the trip will inspire some to take up gymnastics outside of school.



**COMIC RELIEF CHALLENGE!**

Once again Comic Relief brought about the giggles amongst staff, parents and pupils as the whole school helped raise funds. A series of challenges were undertaken all in great spirits. School lunches were also served with an extra dollop of humour with our staff including the effervescent Mrs Dunn sporting various outfits.



**SPRING MUSIC CONCERTS.**

Our KS2 children staged a wonderful early evening instrumental concert showcasing their talents, and what a talented bunch they are. From violin to drums, guitar to piano and even the glockenspiel, parents were treated to a lovely hour or so with refreshments from the PTFA also adding to a relaxing time.



Continuing the musicality, the whole school choir also performed to parents allowing us to sign off for Easter on a high note (excuse the pun).

**M12K.** The deadline for this issue was days before the M12K took place so for now let's assume it was a success and a proper update can be read in the June edition.



**NEW LIFE.**

Easter and springtime are of course a time of new life. This was highlighted during a visit to St Greg's Church to see Rev. Gaenor. The children heard about the Easter story and received seeds to plant reflecting the new life we see all around us.



**SMOOTHIES GALORE!**

Owls Class set up and ran a pop-up smoothie café for parents and grandparents selling delicious smoothies, designed and taste-tested by the children themselves. Following a visit to Dikes supermarket and café, penning job applications for their chosen roles and participating in a rigorous interview process, the class were almost ready to receive customers. Tables were rearranged and decorated to transform the classroom into a café; the spare classroom became a kitchen; aprons were donned, and the blenders were buzzing. It was over to the children to assume their role of either waiter/waitress, chef, front of house or business manager. Huge fun was had by all, and the children were fantastic, a budding group of entrepreneurs. Thank you to all who came and supported us. We made £43 and the children are deciding on what they would like to buy for the classroom with their earnings.



**FUN AT THE FAIRGROUND.** Badgers have been working on Design Technology projects to culminate our 'Scream Machine' topic. Working in small groups the children were set the challenge of making a moving fairground ride - either a Ferris Wheel, Swing or Carousel. The task involved designing, making, and finally evaluating their finished product. The whole endeavour proved extremely popular with many of the children already looking forward to the next DT project.



**SCHOOL HALL FOR HIRE!** If anyone wishes to let our school hall, this can be arranged - contact the school office on 01258 820206 for all enquiries.

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

**INTERESTED IN JOINING ST GREG'S?** We always welcome prospective families no matter the time of the year. Come and see first-hand what a wonderful place St Greg's is. Our website gives an insight into the school, but nothing compares to seeing and hearing our classes in action. <https://stgregorymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk/> Telephone- 01258 820206 Email - office@stgregorymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk



**Letters from Lily**



BADGERS CLASS

Dear Readers

May 2023

This term in Badgers class we have made fairgrounds in Design and Technology. We worked in groups, Lollie, Jonathan and my ride was called McWormington Mobile . Jonathan said worm as a joke but Lollie and I took it very seriously and we built it, we made our worms themed and the people. Then Miss Edwards got us all to make a sign, ours had a worm on the pole that we called the ultimate worm. Jonathan got a load of pipe cleaners and blended them together. We put motors on the ride so it spun round on its own.

At the end of term we did a singing concert and all the parents came and watched. After that we were all excited to show parents our work. We had fairground music on and Miss Edwards bought popcorn to share with our families. After that I went to help my mum with TUCK SHOP which my mum does for PTFA. While my mum and Harriette's mum do tuck shop, Harriette & I hold the guinea pigs.

That's all from me this month I'll be happy to tell you more in May. Thankyou for reading

*Lily xx*

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# Martha's Monthly Message



Hi Everyone.

Since I last wrote we have had an amazing trip to London to watch *Back to the Future the Musical* at the Adelphi Theatre. It was such an amazing show and we all had a really good time. Whilst in London we also visited Downing Street, Horse Guards Parade and Buckingham Palace. We didn't get home until 2 o'clock in the morning so were all really tired the following day - as were our parents who came to pick us up!

In class we have been learning more about the Tudors, King Henry VIII and his six wives of whom we have drawn pictures. In Tudor times there were also lots of horrible torture instruments which were used for people that committed treason, vagrancy and witch craft. Some of these instruments included the rack, ducking stool and flogging. I'm glad I didn't live in those times!

As well as Forest School we are also doing Pound with Hayley where we use pound sticks and make as much noise as we can. It's really fun and enjoyable.

We are getting close to our SATs now which start in May so we have been doing lots of work to get ourselves ready. This has included going to SATs club after school and looking at past papers which is really helpful. When SATs finish we have lots of fun things to do including our residential which I will tell you more about next time.

I hope you've all had a brilliant Easter and enjoyed some chocolate I will write again soon, Martha x



May 2023

*Martha*

## ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



What a busy term we have had! The children have continued to be engaged in their learning and enjoyed finding out about new topics ranging from Scott of the Antarctic, The Great Fire of London to the Shang Dynasty in History to name but a few!

It has been great to see the children's enthusiasm for learning both in class and when presenting their work in Celebration Assembly. We have had special events days such as NSPCC Number Day, World Book Day and Red Nose Day, where the children and staff wholeheartedly throw themselves into the spirit of the day!

### LENT DAY OF FAITH

We ended the Spring Term with our whole school Day of Faith. It was a time for the whole school to stop and reflect on the events of Holy Week, participating in an interactive prayer space. The children always value the opportunity to sit quietly with their own thoughts and as a result, they engaged well with the prayers. Although the prayer spaces are primarily an opportunity for personal reflection, they also spark thoughtful conversation and support our children's mental health and spiritual development.

On Wednesday, Mrs Myatt and our Growing In Faith Team (GIFT) organised a prayerful day for us to reflect on our own Lenten journey and that of Jesus during the events of Holy Week. We began the day with a liturgy, led by the GIFT team and during the day, the children had time to reflect on Holy Week in our prayer spaces. They all made a Holy Week ribbon and a coloured bracelet with beads as they said the 'Our Father'. Prayer spaces were set up around the hall, providing the children with opportunities to be thankful, celebrate and learn to understand people who are different to us; reflect on special friends; praying to God to ask for help just as Jesus did in the Garden of Gethsemane and saying sorry, knowing that we are forgiven through Jesus' death on the cross.

The day included children thinking about compassion and Jesus' message: to heal the sick, feed the hungry and care for the poor whilst walking for our charity appeal. The day was ably supported by Deacon Mike and two parishioners.



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## ST MARY'S PTFA

We are very grateful to our PTFA who made the end of term even more joyful for the children. They all enjoyed the Easter Egg Hunt, with the younger children searching for famous bunnies around the school and the older children had to find answers to Easter-related questions - all children received a chocolate egg to take home at the end.

Many children entered the Easter bonnet and colouring competition. It was lovely to see them proudly wearing their bonnets at our end-of-term assembly.

This term the PTFA have also held a successful book fair enabling the school to buy books for classes, a movie night for the children and they have bought games for the children to use during wet play times. We are looking forward to upcoming events including a Street Party for the King's Coronation and for adults, a Night at the Movies.

**ST MARY'S EXPLORERS** This term, we invited our parents into our setting alongside their children. It was a great opportunity for parents to see how their children interact with others and to observe how their children learn in preschool. We really value parents' knowledge of their children and it was great opportunity to talk with them.

The children continue to enjoy learning through play, helping them to form positive relationships with their peers and work on their communication skills. At the end of term the children enjoyed making chocolate Easter nests, we talked about how the chocolate changes when it is heated. They also made cards to take home which included practicing their name writing.



Tickets £8 each and include your first drink!



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ST MARY'S PTFA INVITE YOU TO DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY AT OUR FUNDRAISING EVENT

# Night at the Movies

19th May 2023. Doors open at 7:30pm. At Marnhull village Hall.

Tickets £8 each. Available at Robin hill stores or contact the PTFA directly on 07985288745 [stmarysmarnhullpta@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysmarnhullpta@gmail.com)

Come dressed as your favourite movie character or star! Prize for best dressed!

**MARNHULL ART FOR EVERYONE SUMMER EXHIBITION RETURNS!**

Marnhull Village Hall  
Sunday 21st May - 1pm to 5pm  
Free Admission - Refreshments Available



After a very long wait I am thrilled to announce that Marnhull Art For Everyone class will once again be holding a summer exhibition of paintings. Come along and see what we have been up to since our last show all the way back in 2019. Meet the artists, vote for your favourite painting and of course enjoy some delicious refreshments, it seems artists are amazing bakers too!

It's great to be back to normal, yes, classes had to close due to the pandemic but we soldiered on, email lessons and step by step instructions were sent out every week and the results pinged back on my laptop as if by magic!

It was fantastic of my wonderful students to support me during a difficult time for my business and it was much appreciated.

Now we are back to full steam we have a bumper batch of fantastic paintings to show you.

I'll look forward to seeing you there.  
Deborah Chisman - tutor.  
Tractor paintings by Gill Grout & Jeanette Hardiman



**DEFASHION DORSET - HAWKERS FARM**

Hawkers Farm is hosting the first of what is hoped to be an annual event, Defashion Dorset. This will be an opportunity to celebrate local fibre growers and makers and a local clothing culture. Vintage garments and natural fibre second hand clothing will also be for sale.

As well as 20 or so exhibitors there will be workshops, demonstrations and talks. The two large barns will provide sheltered space and a pop up cafe / refreshments will be available.

Opening Hours  
Friday 26th May - 10am - 5pm evening film and solar disco 6-10:30pm  
Saturday 27th May - 10am - 5pm

Ticket Price  
£5.00 for adults, children under 16 free.

Any queries please contact:  
Jennifer Morissetti - defashion.dorset@gmail.com or 07801 240103

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[www.hawkersfarm.org/defashion-dorset](http://www.hawkersfarm.org/defashion-dorset)

**MARNHULL MUSIC SOCIETY**

Merle Evans has a wide range of musical knowledge and so we have learned to expect plenty of novel experiences when she present a programme, and we were not disappointed in March.

We started with satisfying Chopin concerto and then Merle introduced a somewhat otherworldly piece by Paul Brandenburg called "Mirador Lanzarote" from his Mystic Islands suite. It involves flutes and pipes and a keyboard in an eerie melody with a faintly Hawaiian feel. It is totally strange to the ear but immensely attractive.

Merle is a keen opera fan and so we knew we would have a selection of great voices and the first was Beniamino Gigli singing a Verdi aria., and soon after came Jessye Norman with Strauss' "September" from his Four Last Songs.

Between these vocal treats we heard Claire Jones playing Gliere's Harp Concerto in E flat. Then the delicate sound of the harp was contrasted with a heavy and rather gloomy organ piece by Vierne which imitated the sound of a carillon of bells.

Mozart's symphony No.4 and Tchaikovsky's balletic and buoyant "I Musici do Montreal" finished the first half of the programme.

The louche and syrupy brass of Shostakovich's "Fox Trot" from his Jazz Suite No.1 began the second half of the concert. I love this piece but it's no wonder that the soviet authorities declared it decadent. It certainly conjures up visions of smoke-filled nightclubs.

Another new experience was Hawes' "The Waters of Love" from The Wedding at Cana. It is a superbly melodic piece for a soprano and a tenor, and well worth further investigation for lovers of the voice. After Tasmin Little playing Lalo's sprightly "Symphonie Espagnol", Massenet's "Meditation" showcasing the flute and Angela Gheorgiu singing a Charpentier song, we finished in rousing style with Dvorak's Symphony No. "From the New World!"

In June we have a presentation by Colin Shiner.

**NEW FROM TRADING STANDARDS**

**Resolving your consumer complaint**

When you have a complaint with a business seller over a product or service, then the usual way to resolve things is through a stepped approach. First check if the seller has an official complaints procedure that you could follow.

If you need to make things more formal, then it's best to email or write to the seller, keeping a copy in case you have to show later you have made a compliant. You can use a template letter mentioned below.

If you paid with a credit card or debit card, then you should also send a copy of your complaint letter to the card provider. This will help if you decide to make a claim against the card provider later.

Check if the seller belongs to a trade association. The seller might have to follow certain rules, and if they've broken the rules then you could get help from the association to take your complaint further.

Update your card provider with another letter that lets them know that you still haven't been able to resolve the dispute with the seller. You may have a claim against the card provider.

Some sellers belong to an alternative dispute resolution scheme, which is a way to solve problems through mediation. If you are thinking of taking a seller to court, you should try this route first, a judge will usually expect it. If the seller is not a member of this type of scheme, then ask them if they'd be willing to find and use one.

Finally, you can make a 'small claim' to court if your problem hasn't been resolved. Going to court can be stressful and time consuming and so it's probably only worth doing this if the item or service was particularly expensive.

For further advice, or to obtain general letter templates to help your claim, visit the Citizens Advice consumer helpline at [citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer](http://citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer) or phone 0808 2231133.

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Help your neighbour is a saying very often used so here is a chance to put it into practice as Marnhull Village Care need some help from someone living in the roads listed below.

- Burton Street (Love Lane to Orchard House)
- Burton Street (Tapshays House to Cooks garage)
- Burton Street (Mill Lane to Blackmore Vale Inn, including Burges Close)
- Hardy Close
- Musbury Lane, Musbury Close
- New Street (St. Gregs to Sackmore Lane)
- Phillips Road
- Plowmans Close
- Sackmore Lane (Midway to New Street)

so, if you would like the chance of helping your neighbour, and to find out more about being a road contact why not have a word with either.

Hilary Parker on 01258 821667 emails; hilaryjparker85a@gmail.com;  
Or Trevor Vaughan on 01258 821636, email; trevorv.mvc@gmail.com.

Trevor Vaughan  
Trevor Vaughan. MBE  
Chairman Marnhull Village Care



Sturminster Newton  
Heritage Trust

## Finds Identification



Bring your finds along for  
**Ciorstaidh Hayward-Trevarthen**  
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By appointment only 10 -11am contact  
[finds@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:finds@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

11am – 2.00pm drop in session

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2023  
10am – 2pm



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If you just moved into the village or have time on your hands, why not join Marnhull Village Care? Several vacancies are required to be filled.

So why not give me a call?

*Trevor Vaughan*

Trevor Vaughan, MBE  
Chairman Marnhull Village Care  
[Trevor.vvc@gmail.com](mailto:Trevor.vvc@gmail.com)  
01258821636

**LEUKAEMIA PATIENT SHARES STORY OF HOW THE STARS APPEAL HAS SUPPORTED HIM THROUGHOUT HIS CANCER TREATMENT**



At the age of 26, Charles McGrath from Salisbury was given the shocking news that he had acute leukaemia. After his diagnosis on September 16, 2022, he had intensive

chemotherapy and says projects for cancer patients funded by the Stars Appeal, Salisbury District Hospital's Charity, made all the difference to him during his time in hospital.

The charity's cancer support projects include free drinks for chemotherapy and oncology outpatients, aromatherapy, free headwear for patients who lose their hair, dedicated swimming sessions in the Hospital pool as well as wellbeing programmes. It also funds enhancements to the Pembroke Unit's furnishings and décor along with additional medical equipment.

Charles said: "Having the volunteers come around with free drinks and a friendly face made my time in hospital much more comfortable. For blood cancer patients like myself, you often have to spend long periods of time in hospital. I wouldn't have known what to do if I hadn't had the Stars Appeal's free Wi-Fi! It was not just about having access to the internet; it was also being able to call my family and friends and stay in touch with the outside world."

Charles, who is a councillor on Salisbury City Council and Wiltshire Council, is currently waiting for results to find out the next steps for his treatment.



Recalling the day he received his diagnosis for acute myeloid leukaemia, he says he felt "numb" and added: "It was a pretty shocking time overall. I'm appreciative that I was able to start treatment as quickly as I did, which was all down to the haematology team and the staff on the Pembroke Ward at Salisbury District Hospital."

Experiencing the support of Stars Appeal-funded projects first-hand inspired Charles to do a sponsored head shave. It was also a way to thank Pembroke Unit staff for their "constant support" throughout his treatment. Earlier this month, he returned to the unit to present a donation of £1,780 to staff for the charity's Pembroke Unit Fund.

His fundraising efforts for the Stars Appeal will continue when he takes part in Walk for Wards on Sunday, July 9, which will be the sixth time he's done it. He said: "The Stars Appeal fund so many things from new medical equipment to free drinks and food given to patients receiving their cancer treatment. It's a great opportunity to give back to such a vital cause."

Stars Appeal Ambassador, Dr Tracey Parker, Consultant Haematologist at Salisbury District Hospital, added: "The Stars Appeal helps to fund fantastic programmes like physical rehabilitation and complimentary therapies for our blood cancer patients. This helps them to feel good and have better outcomes from their chemotherapy and bone marrow transplants. Thanks to everyone like Charles who supports the Stars Appeal and makes this possible!"

Nearly 500 people have signed up for Walk for Wards at Wilton House. To get involved visit [starsappeal.org/event/walk-for-wards](http://starsappeal.org/event/walk-for-wards)



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**BADMINTON CLUB NIGHT**

Tuesday club night: 7.00-10.00pm  
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**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

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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 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 Allison Palmer - 07810464630

**MARNHULL BRIDGE CLUB**

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

New Players always welcome.

Call 01258 820036 for information

**MARNHULL GARDEN CLUB**

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

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

Chairman: Mr David Bruce, bruce11@sky.com - 01258 820569 / 07867 553442

Secretary: Julie Reeves, marnhullgardenclub@gmail.com - 01258 820560

Treasurer: Lesley Ruth, LesleyRuth4@AOL.com



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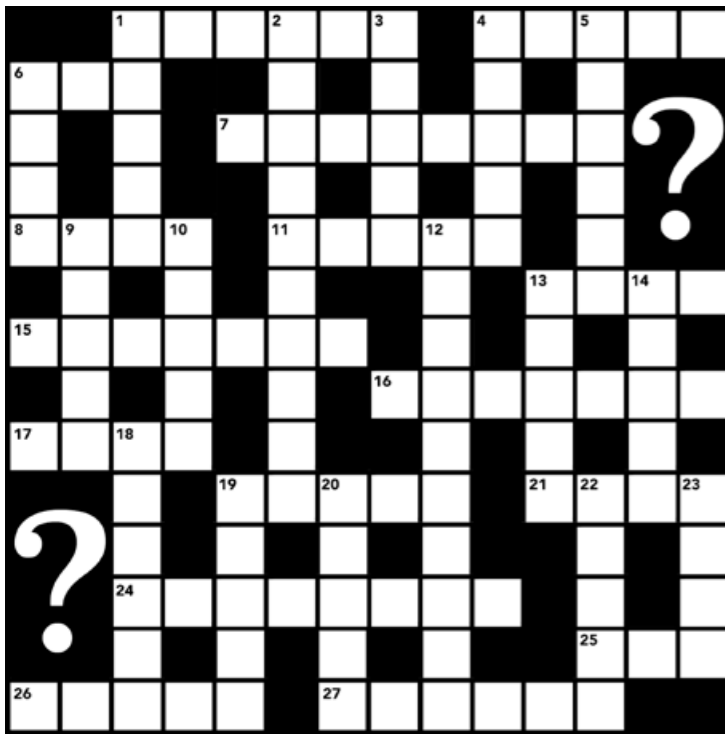
**New Messenger Deadline: 14th May**

E-mail all texts, announcements and other requests to: [editor@marnhullmessenger.org.uk](mailto:editor@marnhullmessenger.org.uk)

**CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS**

7 5 9 8 1 4 2 3 6 7 4	3 1 8 6 9 2 7 5 4	1 3 9 6 5 2 2 4 8 7	1 3 9 6 5 2 2 4 8 7
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**ACROSS** 1. Cereal 4. Kerry 6. Ear 7. Coalport 8. Last 11. Accra 13. Agar 15. Pointer 16. Ikebana 17. Undo 19. Bravo 21. Maxi 24. Cenotaph 25. Boo 26. Guano 27. Harare  
**DOWN** 1. Craps 2. Ebola fever 3. Liliac 4. Krona 5. Rating 6. Earl 9. Acom 10. Tango 12. Rock hopper 13. Album 14. Banko 20. Aitch 22. Adobe 23. Iago



**ACROSS**

- 1) Grain used for food. (6)
- 4) County in the Southwest region of Ireland. (5)
- 6) Proverbially to do this is human. (3)
- 7) Kind of porcelain produced in Shropshire. (8)
- 8) Shoemakers model for shaping or repairing a shoe or boot. (4)
- 11) The capital of Ghana. (5)
- 13) Gelatinous substance obtained from some seaweeds and used as a thickener in foods. (4)
- 15) Type of dog used for scenting game. (7)
- 16) Japanese art of flower arranging. (7)
- 17) Reverse the effects of a previous action. (4)
- 19) Code word for the letter B. (5)
- 21) Skirt reaching the ankle. (4)
- 24) Monument whose name means empty tomb. (8)
- 25) Show contempt. (3)
- 26) excrement of seabirds used as fertilizer. (5)
- 27) Capital of Zimbabwe. (6)

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**DOWN**

- 1) Game played with dice. (5)
- 2) Often fatal viral disease named after a river in the Democratic Republic of Congo. (5-5)
- 3) Shrub or small tree with violet, pink or white blossom. (5)
- 4) Monetary unit of Sweden. (5)
- 5). Non-commissioned sailor in the Navy. (6)
- 6) British nobleman ranking above a Viscount and below a Marquess. (4)
- 9) The fruit of the oak. (5)
- 10) Ballroom dance originating in Buenos Aires. (5)
- 12) Small penguin with a yellow crest. (10)
- 13) A collection of recordings that are issued as a single item. (5)
- 14). Add to one's own territory by appropriation. (5)
- 18) A country house in Russia. (6)
- 19) Stringed instrument of the guitar family. (5)
- 20) The letter H. (5)
- 22) Type of clay used the make sun dried bricks. (5)
- 23) Main antagonist in Shakespeare's Othello. (4)

**All PUZZLE ANSWERS ON  
PAGE 32**

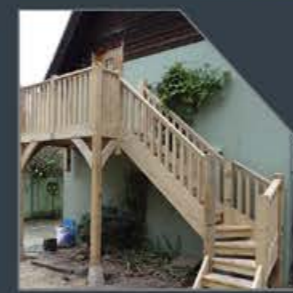


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**BLACKMORE VALE ART GROUP**  
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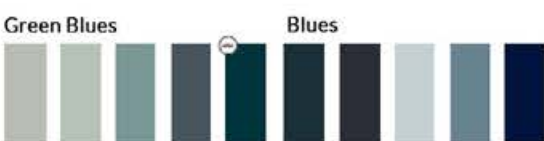
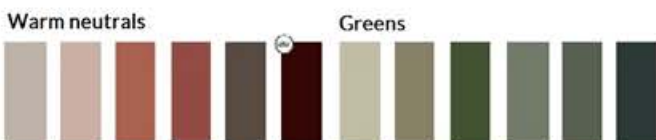




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