



THE MARNHULL MESSENGER



Original illustration by George Cox

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See what the schools are up to



THE BEST TECH HEROS IN TOWN!

TECH BAR
PHONES PC'S REPAIRS TESTING



WELCOME TO YOUR MARNHULL MESSENGER
CHRIS RYU
Messenger Editor

November 2023 - Issue 139

A few things to discuss this month...
New Policy For Event Adverts
We've always done our best to fit in whatever content you send us in whatever format, but print/paper costs are much higher now and space is limited, so we've decided to change our policy on adverts for events. You can still have a free listing in the diary and a free text based article, but from January, if you would like an image based advert placed in the Messenger you will need to pre-pay for the space on our website. There is an exception for organisations in the village. We believe this change will either free up valuable space for articles, or will help cover our print costs.

Columnists Wanted
As I haven't yet been replaced, I'm on a mission to kick the Messenger up a gear next year. We'll have a slight design re-refresh over the festive break and hopefully the above policy change will make it feel less "advert-heavy". We want to increase the amount of high quality content and keep you coming back for more, so we're looking for some regular columnists. You would have a professionally designed and promoted column where you can talk about your area of expertise. Ideas: Online safety, gardening, money saving, etc. Get in touch with me (details on the right) if you're interested.

Advertise Here
It's that time of year when the order books finally reopen for next year's advertising. Get in there quickly to secure your space. We have a strict policy so advertising space is limited. If you'd like to advertise your organisation, please contact Rosie on the details to the right of this text.

SUBMIT YOUR EVENTS INTO A LIVE CALENDAR
On the messenger website and they'll be added to the printed automatically:
www.marnhullmessenger.org.uk

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

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This publication is provided for your use "as is" without warranty of any kind, either expressed or implied; inclusion of an advertisement for an event or service does not imply that they are endorsed by the Marnhull Messenger. The Marnhull Messenger will take all reasonable precautions to ensure that the content is socially and morally acceptable.
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DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE
MID-DAY 14th November
E-mail all texts, announcements and other requests to:
editor@marnhullmessenger.org.uk

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MARNHULL MESSENGER WEBSITE
WHO DO I CONTACT?
Any amendments or proposals for new pages in the messenger web site should be made to:
Chris Ryu Email: editor@marnhullmessenger.org.uk

MARNHULL MESSENGER DELIVERIES
It takes about 40 people, all of whom are volunteers, to collate and deliver The Marnhull Messenger to every home and business in the village. We are extremely grateful to this dedicated team, without whom the magazine simply would not flourish.
Whilst we always aim to deliver the magazine by the 1st of the month, from time to time illness, family commitments and a myriad of other personal issues can sometimes get in the way, resulting in the occasional late delivery. Recently, there have been a few complaints from villagers, because they felt their copy of The Marnhull Messenger was delivered late.
It might be worth pointing out that if it is essential to you to receive the Marnhull Messenger by a particular date and it hasn't arrived, then the Church, the two pubs and all the businesses in the village have spare copies available.
Ian Gall – Chairman, The Marnhull Messenger Steering Group.

November

- 1st - Fitsteps dance & exercise class @ 11:15
- 1st - Table Tennis - Wednesday @ 14:00
- 1st - Community Choir @ 18:30
- 1st - Pound Fitness @ 19:00 British Legion
- 2nd - Craft Club @ 10:00 Methodist Hall
- 3rd - Luncheon Club @ 12:00
- 4th - Marnhull Hub: Repair Café @ 10:00
- 6th - Pound Fitness @ 09:30 British Legion
- 6th - Table Tennis - Monday @ 14:00
- 7th - Bridge Club @ 16:00 Methodist Hall
- 8th - Fitsteps dance and exercise class @ 11:15
- 8th - Table Tennis - Wednesday @ 14:00
- 8th - Tea with Friends @ 14:30 Methodist Hall
- 8th - Community Choir @ 18:30
- 8th - Pound Fitness @ 19:00 British Legion
- 10th - Blackmore Vale Art Group @ 10:00
- 11th - Marnhull Hub: Repair Café @ 10:00
- 11th - Jack's Poppy Quiz @ 19:00 British Legion
- 13th - Pound Fitness @ 09:30 British Legion
- 13th - Table Tennis - Monday @ 14:00
- 13th - Women's Institute - The Life of an Opera Singer with Grace Lovelass @ 19:00
- 14th - Bridge Club @ 14:00 Methodist Hall
- 14th - Marnhull Garden Club @ 19:30
- 15th - Fitsteps dance & exercise class @ 11:15
- 15th - Table Tennis - Wednesday @ 14:00
- 15th - Community Choir @ 18:30
- 15th - Pound Fitness @ 19:00 British Legion
- 17th - Marnhull Community Cafe @ 10:00
- 18th - Marnhull Hub: Repair Café @ 10:00
- 20th - Pound Fitness @ 09:30 British Legion
- 20th - Table Tennis - Monday @ 14:00
- 20th - Marnhull Music Society @ 19:15
- 21st - Bridge Club @ 14:00 Methodist Hall
- 22nd - Fitsteps dance and exercise class @ 11:15
- 22nd - Table Tennis - Wednesday @ 14:00
- 22nd - Community Choir @ 18:30
- 22nd - Pound Fitness @ 19:00 British Legion

- 24th - Coffee Morning @ 10:00 Methodist Hall
- 24th - Marnhull Village Hall AGM @ 18:30
- 25th - Marnhull Hub: Repair Café @ 10:00
- 27th - Pound Fitness @ 09:30 British Legion
- 27th - Table Tennis - Monday @ 14:00
- 28th - Bridge Club @ 14:00 Methodist Hall
- 29th - Fitsteps dance & exercise class @ 11:15
- 29th - Table Tennis - Wednesday @ 14:00
- 29th - Community Choir @ 18:30
- 29th - Fitsteps Dance @ 11:15
- 29th - Table Tennis @ 14:00
- 29th - Pound Fitness @ 19:00 British Legion
- 29th - Community Choir @ 18:30

December

- 1st - Luncheon Club @ 12:00
- 2nd - Marnhull Hub: Repair Cafe @ 10:00
- 4th - Pound Fitness @ 9:30 British Legion
- 4th - Table Tennis @ 14:00
- 5th - Bridge Club @ 14:00
- 6th - Fitsteps Dance @ 11:15
- 6th - Table Tennis @ 14:00
- 6th - Community Choir @ 18:30
- 6th - Pound Fitness @ 19:00 British Legion
- 7th - Craft Club @ 10:00 Methodist Hall
- 8th - Blackmore Vale Art Group @ 10:00
- 8th - Christmas Yuletide Fair @ 18:00
- 9th - Marnhull Hub: Repair Cafe @ 10:00
- 9th - Afternoon Tea with Santa @ 11:30
- 10th - Christmas Wreath Workshops @ 10:00
- 10th - Christmas Wreath Workshops @ 13:30
- 11th - Pound Fitness @ 9:30 British Legion Club
- 11th - Table Tennis @ 14:00
- 11th - Lynne's Bingo @ 19:00 British Legion
- 11th - Women's Institute Christmas Party @ 19:30
- 12th - Bridge Club @ 14:00
- 13th - Fitsteps Dance @ 11:15
- 13th - Table Tennis @ 14:00
- 13th - Tea With Friends @ 14:30 Methodist Hall

- 13th - Community Choir @ 18:30
- 13th - Pound Fitness @ 19:00 British Legion
- 15th - Marnhull Community Cafe @ 10:00
- 16th - Marnhull Hub: Repair Cafe @ 10:00
- 18th - Pound Fitness @ 9:30 British Legion
- 18th - Table Tennis @ 14:00
- 18th - Marnhull Music Society @ 19:15
- 19th - Bridge Club @ 14:00 Methodist Hall
- 20th - Fitsteps Dance @ 11:15
- 20th - Table Tennis @ 14:00
- 20th - Community Choir @ 18:30
- 20th - Pound Fitness @ 19:00
- 22nd - Figure Drawing @ 10:30
- 23rd - Marnhull Hub: Repair Cafe @ 10:00
- 26th - Bridge Club @ 14:00 Methodist Hall
- 27th - Fitsteps Dance @ 11:15
- 27th - Table Tennis @ 14:00
- 27th - Pound Fitness @ 19:00 British Legion
- 30th - Marnhull Hub: Repair Cafe @ 10:00

January

- 1st - Pound Fitness @ 9:30 British Legion
- 1st - Table Tennis @ 14:00
- 2nd - Bridge Club @ 14:00 Methodist Hall
- 3rd - Fitsteps Dance @ 11:15
- 3rd - Table Tennis @ 14:00
- 3rd - Pound Fitness @ 19:00 British Legion
- 4th - Craft Club @ 10:00 Methodist Hall

**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

STURMINSTER NEWTON MEDICAL CENTRE



Men's Health Event

Held in September, this event was enjoyed by more than 600 visitors and 60 exhibitors. As a result, it will improve the health and wellbeing of a great many of those who attended. For example, we offered free mini health checks, height, weight, blood pressure and pulse. 93 were carried out, in fact for some it was the reason they came, as the first twenty or so through the door headed straight for the health check! Amongst the 93 checks, 43 had raised blood pressure and 12, an irregular pulse.

15 were advised to make a GP appointment and 14 had an appointment booked there and then for blood tests and/or an ECG. These people had no idea that they had these issues and by identifying them and signposting them to treatment, support and advice it will help them and in the longer term, help the pressures on the health service. A small, but evidence based example of the benefit of these kind of events. A wide range of groups and organisations took part, all of whom felt their presence was worthwhile, with many saying that it was also a great way to network and quite a few didn't realise that some of the other organisations or groups even existed, so there will be lots of join up which will benefit people in the future.

A brochure containing the details of every exhibitor was given to every visitor. This is now on the Blackmore Vale Partnership website under Men's Health and we handed out spare copies at the recent Flu/ Covid vaccination clinics. From an exit survey of 135 visitors, 97% said it exceeded or met their expectations and the same percentage felt better informed about health and wellbeing opportunities in the area. Of those, 84% were male and 15% female and the age range was 75% over 50. We had hoped to attract more younger people given that the location was a leisure and fitness centre.

And finally a couple of comments – firstly from an exhibitor “The buzz, the venue, the contributors, and the ability to have some really good personal conversations with attendees that I hope made (or will make) a real difference. Your team set a great spirit among those attending, both for the groups and organisations, and the public”
And from a visitor - “Friendly, knowledgeable people, eager to engage and share knowledge and information”
So from the organising committee our grateful thanks to local sponsors and advertisers, for making the Event possible and supporting the people of North Dorset, many of whom are now much better informed about their own health and wellbeing and the support that is available to them. How to have a potentially life-saving conversation

We know that it can be hard to notice when somebody is having suicidal thoughts – and what to say. However, we can all learn simple but vital skills on how to talk to someone if we're worried they're thinking about suicide. World Suicide Prevention Day was recently.

The invitation was to spend 20-minutes of your time to learn how to spot suicide warning signs and how to have a conversation with someone you're worried about. Zero Suicide Alliance provides free online 20-minute suicide awareness training which can help you learn how to have a potentially life-saving conversation. The training is free and available to anyone aged sixteen or over. For more information - www.zerosuicidealliance.com

If you or someone you know is having a hard time and struggling with their mental health, there are organisations on hand to listen, day or night.

Call Connection, Dorset's NHS mental health helpline - 0800 652 0190

Call Samaritans for a listening ear with no judgement - 116 123

Text 'SHOUT' to 85258 for confidential support via text message

MARNHULL TENNIS CLUB

We're very excited to announce that our membership this year has swelled to over 250! This makes us one of the largest tennis clubs in the area, an incredible achievement for a small village club.

WHAT'S ON

- The main season is now slowing down, but club play continues throughout the winter at our weekly Friday morning club sessions. These are open to all abilities, just come along and have a play from 9.30am – 11.30am.

- 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 Seear on 01258 269743 or Chris Gregory on 01258 474646.

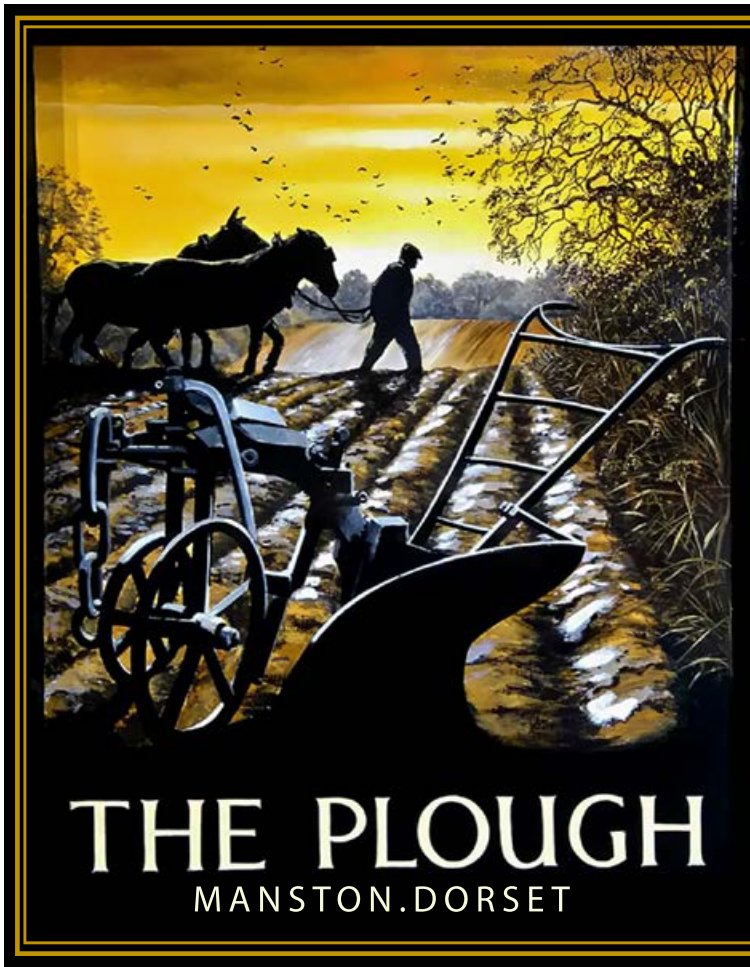
- Our LTA accredited coach Graham Howell is always available for one to one or group coaching. You can contact him on 01747 837839 or 07931 584778.

HALF PRICE MEMBERSHIP

It's never too late to pick up that racket! If you want to join the club, we're currently offering half price membership through to April 2024. That makes a single adult member just £26.00, seniors £23.00, and a junior membership only £6.00.

For more information on the club, how to join and lots more, head to www.marnhulltennisclub.net





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MARNHULL GREEN TEAMS

MARNHULL GREEN TEAMS

Taking the Environment Around Marnhull Seriously

In last month's Messenger we noted the interesting discussion on the village Facebook page about electric vehicles - cars, principally - that followed Marnhull Green Teams' announcement of our latest Electric Vehicle Show, in the Crown carpark on 23 September. We said then that we would pick up that discussion in this month's article. The Show was well-attended, with several cars (hybrid and fully-electric) and e-bikes to have a look at, and their owners to chat to about their experience. Our thanks again to the team at the Crown for accommodating us. But it is clear from the Facebook discussion that not everyone is convinced about electric cars - and it does have to be said that the apparent indecision and lack of guidance on climate issues at national level has not been helpful. Even the car industry is saying so.

It is worth saying again that Marnhull Green Teams' position on this has been our usual one; that of sharing experience - which we remain happy to do if anyone has questions. Contact us at marnhullgreen@outlook.com, via our website - marnhullgreen.com - or on (01258) 268714. We certainly recommend seeking advice from reputable experts; the AA, for example, at theaa.com/driving-advice/electric-vehicles or the RAC, at rac.co.uk/drive/electric-cars/choosing.

As to the vehicles themselves, none of us pretend that they are a perfect response to the climate crisis. Yes, the world must reduce the amount of CO2 and pollutants in the atmosphere; and yes, an electric car on the road does do this. If you can power up your car using your own resources - PV panels and domestic batteries - that's great; but it does involve investing capital that most of us can't spare. A good alternative is to sign up with an energy company which uses commercial solar and wind power. But do either of these options mean that an electric car is pollution-free? No, of course not.



To begin with there are all the issues around manufacturing the vehicle and its replacement parts and transporting them to you, as well as establishing the infrastructure needed to keep the car running and to dispose of it at the end of its life. There is a strong argument for all of us keeping our cars for longer - if switching to public transport is not a viable option - because the environmental costs of replacing our vehicles partially offset the gains from 'going electric'.

There are other issues too. 'Range anxiety' is one - although this can be overcome with what is basically a change of mindset, and will lessen as fast-charging capabilities improve. There's the recycling issue too - and you know how keen Marnhull Green Teams are on recycling! Vehicle batteries need materials in their manufacture that are hard to come by, and the recycling of these and other materials at the end of the battery's life needs to be improved. And then there are reports of insurance premiums rising and some ferry companies becoming reluctant to carry electric vehicles because of perceived risks: like any other vehicle, e-vehicles have to be manufactured and maintained properly to be safe.

We hope all this does not put you off considering an electric vehicle - do consider it, and talk to experts as well as those of us with user-experience. Get reputable expert advice on the concerns briefly discussed above, and any others you may have. It is no use pretending that there are no downsides: there are, as in everything else in life! Overall, most experts agree that an electric vehicle is better for our environment than a gas-guzzler. It's just that it's not perfect, that's all.

A couple of other things to finish off with!

Our organic gardening group will be running two seed share sessions at the Marnhull Hub, 10-12am on Saturdays 28 October and 25 November. If you would like to share seeds you have collected, or have to spare, please bring them along.

And we note that North Dorset Liberal Democrats are organising a talk on Caring for our Rivers on Thursday 16th November, 7.30pm at Hawker's Farm, Stour Row, with speakers from the Environmental Farmers Group, the Thames Tideway project, and the Upper Axe Landscape Recovery Project. Tickets are £5 each and are available from Ros Eveleigh on (01258) 821049.

RECYCLE AT THE HUB

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Marnhull Village Hall, Saturday mornings 10-12, and
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- Printer ink cartridges
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- Toothbrushes & toothpaste tubes

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

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION



Here we are again with Remembrance Day looming. On Sunday November 12th the Rev. Gaenor Hockey will be leading the service at St. Gregory's at 3pm. We would like as many of you as possible to attend to give thanks and remember those who gave their all for our freedom. We are hoping that there will be a parade of some kind setting off at 2.45 from Butts Close but sadly at this stage I cannot guarantee it.

There will be the usual short service and two minutes silence at the memorial the day before at 11am. We usually get a good turnout for this and being a Saturday and people not at work we hope a few more will come. Being a weekend we may not get our contingents from the two schools in the village as it will be harder to organise but if they want to lay their wreaths on the memorial beforehand they are quite welcome to do so.

We held a fund raiser for Prostate Cancer UK featuring Ska band Pressgang on the 30th September. This was because member Chris 'Ditcher' Phillips was sadly a victim of this disease which affects one man in eight in this country. Research into the treatment of this is obviously vital and we are pleased to announce that we raised just over £2,500 on the night. Thanks go to all who came and supported it or donated prizes and of course to Pressgang who gave us a fabulous evening.

The annual Fish 'n' chip quiz in aid of the Poppy Appeal will appropriately enough be on November 11th at 7pm. No need to book or pay beforehand but please give me a ring or email so I can warn Mr Chips about numbers.

Finally we held a thank you party for helping us purchase a defibrillator with free entertainment and free food. It went off very well and was enjoyed by all who attended but the turnout was disappointing. If free food and entertainment doesn't do it what will induce you to come to the Legion? Let me know on the email address below.

November Entertainment

- 4th - Owen and Darren
- 11th - Poppy Quiz 7pm £11
- 13th - Bingo 7pm
- 18th - The Dale Fender Band
- 25th - Don't Frett
- 27th - Bingo 7pm

For Branch contact Jack on 01258 820800 or whiteheadjack51@gmail.com
For hire of the hall contact Tony on 01258 820397

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Stonehenge - We Need to Talk

Sunday 26th November 10.00am -5.00pm



Stonehenge is a world-famous monument, the greatest achievement of our prehistoric ancestors. It has been the subject of investigation and speculation for centuries and, while science has provided some answers, there is much that remains enigmatic.

This day will feature presentations by three leading experts in their individual fields:

Julian Richards is an archaeologist who has studied Stonehenge and its landscapes for over 40 years. The author of a number of publications on the subject of Stonehenge, Julian also examines Stonehenge as a cultural icon.

Simon Banton is an archaeoastronomer - someone who studies humanity's eternal fascination with the sky and its expression through ancient monuments. He's been an astronomer for over 50 years and a Stonehenge geek for the last 30.

Luke Winter is one of the country's leading experimental archaeologists. Responsible for the design and build of the Neolithic houses at the Stonehenge Visitor centre, Luke brings a unique insight to the question of how Stonehenge might have been built and the lives of its builders.

After each presentation there will be an opportunity for questions and discussion and the remainder of the day will allow the opportunity to explore wider issues. This is the chance to ask all those questions about Stonehenge that you have always wanted to ask...

The course starts with registration at 10.00am. Tea/coffee will be provided throughout the day. Lunch is not provided and there are no shops or food outlets nearby so please bring a packed lunch. Lunchtime will give an opportunity to explore Springhead's beautiful gardens. Please note the heating is kept low so wrap up well.

The course is strictly limited to 40 participants and early booking is advised. The cost per person is £40 and all proceeds will go towards supporting Springheads education aims.
www.springheadtrust.org.uk

MARNHULL MUSIC SOCIETY

Those of you who regularly listen to Classicfm will know that there has been quite a lot of air-time recently directed at music especially written for the cinema. For our September concert Jo and Alan Loukes took a different approach and crafted a programme of classical music that has been appropriated by the film industry.

For example, who can forget the puissant sunrise in "2001- a Space Odyssey" heralded by Richard Strauss's "Also Sprach Zarathustra" or the Boccherini quintet which gave background cover to Alec Guinness and his inept hit-men in "The Lady Killers"? Another indelible image is of a panicking Micky Mouse with his unstoppable magic brooms in The Sorcerer's apprentice, music by Dukas.

Samual Barber's Adagio for Strings was the haunting soundtrack in the 1986 film "Platoon" and the Mozart piano concerto #21 got its popular name because it featured in a Swedish film called "Elvira Madigan". Inevitably Wagner's music is used quite often in films and a good number chose pieces from Tristan und Isolde, such as the 1996 film "Shakespeare - Romeo and Juliet". Mozart's "Lacrimosa" from his D minor Requiem captured the poignant atmosphere in a scene from "Eyes Wide Shut" starring Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman.

Jo and Alan provided our audience with a wealth of fascinating information about the films and the music borrowed to set off the mood and sensations sought by the directors. They suggested that often this was the first introduction to serious music for many film-goers. Our presenter in November will be Ian Treece.

Life Drawing

Looking for model work at classes ring Michael James 07545 552. 695. I am artist as well Bring fold up couch to model on and have photo book with 40.



Marnhull Village Hall A.G.M.

will be held on Friday 24th November 2023.

Doors open at 6.30 p.m. for a prompt 7.00 p.m. start.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Please forward nominations for elected Trustees to the Secretary at secretary@marnhullvillagehall.org.uk

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☎ 01963 364005

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

Graham Carr-Jones
Stalbridge & Marnhull

Cabinet Member for
Housing, Community Safety
& Emergency Planning



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



Do you need help with shopping, or a lift to a doctor's, hospital or dental appointment?

Do you feel lonely, just want to chat to someone?

Whatever concerns you may have and you live in Marnhull, then Marnhull Village Care can help.

We have a number of volunteers and professional people that are available, all you have to do is ring any of the following numbers:

Car journeys ring Ann Davis 01258 820456 or her mobile is 07434 638485

To chat about anything else you may need, ring Hilary Parker 01258 821667 or ring Trevor Vaughan 01258 821636

or you can email trevor.mpc@gmail.com



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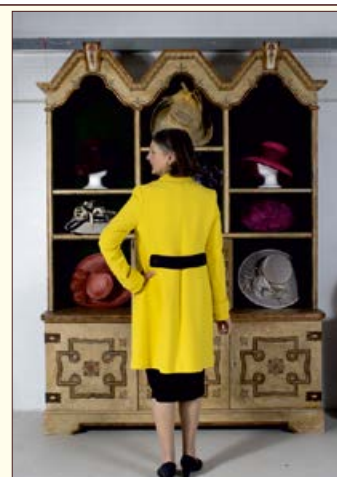
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MARNHULL HORSE RIDERS



Well summer has faded and we are now in to the dark side of life again for the next 6 months. Also with the days being shorter it's hard to find time to get your ponies and horses out for exercise in between work and household chores. The roads seem busier than ever and this isn't going to change. Remember dark ponies, dark clothing means you can't be seen so always wear as much hi viz as you can to keep you and your pony as safe as possible.

We are ever hopeful that the Toogoods Bridleway will have new equestrian gates soon - I know I've been saying that for months now but I've been reassured by Dorset Countryside Rangers that they have been out of stock for 2/3 months and they are expecting them within the next few weeks. They will be delivered and the work will be down to the farmer and when he can find time to do it - I have no control of this - but fingers crossed.



I walked the route with the Ranger a few months ago and access along the bridleway is far from easy as it is. The big old gates have been re hung. Existing gate handles are old inefficient (we hope to have these upgraded). Quite a few of the gates now have chains as well, I understand is to prevent livestock opening them when they rub against them. We are hopeful that we will have two new equestrian gates fitted beside the big field gates. One on the gate as you rise up the hill (the gate drops back towards you at the moment.



Also one new equestrian gate which goes out on to the road at the top. I should mention that there is also another new gate between these two which the farmer has installed. The gate latches are going to be changed. Though inconvenient to riders this extra gate does create a drove you can safely canter along without fear of livestock!

Through no fault of my own, this has taken 18 months so far but at the end of it we will have a super long ride from Toogoods Farm up to Whiteway Lane behind Hinton St Mary and beyond Keep safe everybody and keep trotting on!

News From The Exchange

THE BIG STUR WELCOME event at The Exchange on Thursday 5th October

A COMMUNITY VENUE FOR ALL

The Exchange has clearly established a reputation for providing some amazing performances and attracting both acts and attendees from far and wide and will continue to do so. Just take a look at the new brochure to see a wide variety of shows planned for the forthcoming months. But, let us remind ourselves that The Exchange is much more than this. It is the heart of Sturminster Newton. It plays a vital role for so many people. Providing space for meetings, gatherings, talks, information, fundraising and much, much more. There are over 35 groups, charities and organisations who regularly meet with many more who use the facilities occasionally and in an attempt to publicise this The Exchange will be opening up the Stour Hall to invite them all to join us so we can highlight what a thriving community we have in our town. This new bi-annual event, aptly named 'The Big Stur Welcome' is taking place on Thursday 5th October (1pm - 7pm). This is a free event for both the exhibitors and attendees. Although the idea was inspired as an information event for people new to the area, it will of interest to everyone. Come along and join us to discover, or be reminded, of the rich and vibrant community we live in.

VOLUNTEERING AT THE EXCHANGE

Not widely known, is that The Exchange is a charity, receiving no external funding, and relying heavily on volunteer help and support. Representatives from The Exchange will be on hand at 'The Big Stur Welcome' to provide further information about the volunteer opportunities available. The Exchange is an inviting, friendly place and if you can spare a few hours, whether regularly or occasional, helping in the café or in the bar on show night, the reception desk / box office or by getting more involved and becoming a trustee, we'd love to hear from

you. Alternatively, contact a member of staff on 01258 475137, email us on volunteers@stur-exchange.org or just pop in for a chat!
<https://stur-exchange.co.uk/>

MARNHULL FLOWER SHOW

Marnhull Flower Show

The 2024 Marnhull Flower Show is on Saturday 6th July. Did you know that the Show isn't just about flowers? Whilst there will be lots of opportunities to share your flowers and vegetables, there are also Hobby, Handicraft and Cookery classes, as well as Photography and Arts.

With the shortening days and less chance to get outdoors, now's the perfect time to sit down with your needles, brush or camera. Whether you knit, sew, paint, snap or crochet or enjoy a bit of macramé, decoupage or glass work, there's a place for it at the Show. There's even a Novice Handicraft class, for those who haven't entered before.

The Photography classes were very popular last year, with a wide range of photographs taken throughout the year. One of this year's classes is 'Trees' and, as autumn is the perfect season for photographs, why not get and about with your camera?

And don't forget to have a look at the seed catalogues and plan ahead to what you might want to grow for next year. If you can grow it, you can show it!

Do look out for more information on classes in the coming months and, in the meantime, do think about what you might want to enter. We know that there are a lot of talented people in Marnhull, and we'd love to see your work at the Show.



Dorset Chamber Choir Concert

Dorset Chamber Choir Concert
 'At Remembrance Time'
 Monday 13th November, 7:30 pm
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VILLAGE HARVEST SUPPER

Churches Together in Marnhull Village Harvest Supper Friday 13th October



What a lovely evening! Villagers including from the three village churches came together for our annual Harvest Supper with home cooked food, local cider, enjoying poetry readings and listening to folk singing! You could find the clergy in the kitchen! See you all next year!

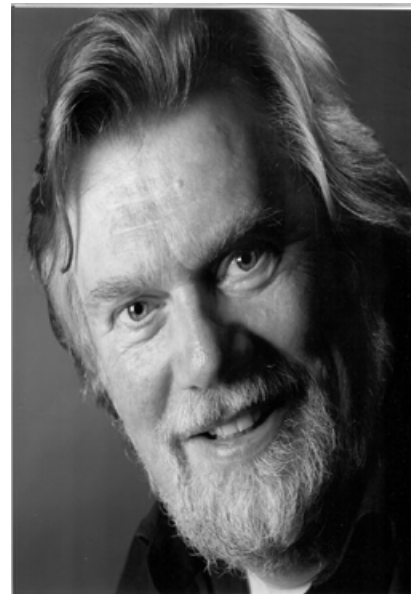
Autumn in Marnhull

Early mists roll across the Vale
And chill nibbles at the edges of the day;
Leaden skies overarch, still and pale,
And colours of the summer fast drain away.
All that growth that forged from the soft soil,
Giving fat courgettes and bright garden flowers.
All stand gaunt now, their energy recoiled,
Silent and brittle; pale, keeling towers.

And yet, take a closer look and they'll reveal
A hidden world of great intricacy, where
Crisp lanterns and silken threads conceal
Tiny, hard-cased bombs primed and ready to flair.

For autumn, they whisper, is not all death in unforgiving earth
But resting, waiting and promises of re-birth.

IT'S NEARLY CHRISTMAS AGAIN!



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also performed as an international guest soloist. The songs of Rodgers & Hammerstein, Cole Porter, Lerner & Loewe will be mixed in with a few seasonal songs and will feature some audience participation!

Sunday 26th November 7 pm

Child Okeford Village Hall

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Or Kate on 01258 863695 or 07725 245066

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HAVE YOU MOVED HERE SINCE LAST OCTOBER?
If so, we need to hear from you.

For several years, Marnhull Village Care has welcomed new people to the village by holding a Social Evening in October in the Village Hall at 7 p.m. With that in mind, please contact us with the following information.

- Names of all those in your household
- Address
- Contact telephone number.
- Email address
- Please send details to your road contact or our secretary as follows:
- Secretary: Hilary Parker 01258 821667.
- Email: hilarviparker85a@gmail.com

Frover Vaughan MBE
Chair



STURMINSTER NEWTON FLORAL GROUP

Sturminster Newton Floral Group meet on the second Wednesday of each month (except in August) at The Royal British Legion Club Marnhull at 2pm

Our next meeting is on the 8th November and features a flower arranging demonstration by Martina Coleman entitled "Anything Goes" New members and Visitors very welcome Visitors fee £7

Sturminster Newton Floral Group
(flower arranging club)
our next meeting will be on

Wednesday
8th November 2023
2:00pm at
The British Legion Hall
Sodom Lane, Marnhull DT10 1HR
where we will be having
a flower arranging demonstration
given by
Martina Coleman
entitled
"Anything Goes"
Visitors are always welcome
admission to non-members is £7
For more details phone 01747 685837

Dorset & Guernsey Area of NAFAS
National Association of Flower Arrangement Societies

ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL PTFA PRESENT

Christmas
YULETIDE FAIR

Join us for a festive evening of shopping, food and entertainment. Come and browse local businesses including beauty products, baked goods, handmade and locally sourced gifts. Visit Santa's grotto, enjoy the children's games & activities, listen to Marnhull Community Choir sing some festive songs whilst sipping on a luxury Hot Chocolate. We will also be drawing our fantastic raffle.

8
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MARNHULL VILLAGE HALL

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in association with
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Allelujah (12A)

Marnhull Village Hall
Tuesday 24 November
at 7.00pm

Doors open 6.30pm



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PLEASE NOTE THE EARLIER START TIME AS THE FILM IS LONGER THAN USUAL

Marnhull Entertains Presents



The Budapest Café Orchestra at Marnhull Village Hall on Saturday 18 November 7.30pm. The Budapest Café Orchestra play a blistering barrage of traditional folk and gypsy-flavoured music from across the Balkans and Russia. Tickets available from Robin Hill Stores and The Spar at Marnhull or on-line at artsreach.co.uk You can also call Pat Budden on 01258

Pound



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 move 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

MARNHULL PLAYERS PANTO

Rehearsals are in full flow now props, characterisation and costumes are started to come to light now. Starting to work on those dances too, that make the show so lively.

If you have been in the Village hall lately you may have notice The New lights that Marnhull Entertains have bought, they are fantastic and make changing colour much easier. We really appreciate your help with this. We also had an anonymous donation that bought all the wires for the new lights to be fitted and we got Hook electricians in to put in all new electricians. Thank you to you all and Not forgetting Ian Kiddle who has been organising it and making sure everything went smoothly.

If any one has any cardboard or materials that we could use to make props or costumes, we also need raffle prizes, if any one has anything lying around. Let us know and we will arrange to collect or somewhere it can be dropped off.

If there are any local businesses that would like to advertise in the programme let us know so we can send prices.

We are so pleased that we have a very strong team to keep the panto magic alive in Marnhull and we are all very excited about this upcoming panto.

The Performance dates for 2024 are:
Friday 2nd February at 7pm
Saturday 3rd February at 2pm and 7pm
Sunday 4th February at 2pm.

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



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OUR LADY'S CHURCH



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PACT, the Prison Advice and Care Trust, is the Catholic charity that supports prisoners, people with convictions, and their children and families. We provide caring and life changing services at every stage of the criminal justice process: in court, in prison, on release, and in the community. Discover more about the work of PACT here: <https://www.prisonadvice.org.uk/>
HMP Guys Marsh: Chaplain: Deacon Michael Turnbull
Contact: michael.turnbull@prcdtr.org.uk

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Last year, devastating floods hit Pakistan. 90% of the population are at risk of flooding. A third of the country was under water: crops destroyed, animals dead.

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To find out more visit: <https://cafod.org.uk>

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So, for example, when you buy chickens, you support our work with poor farmers in rural areas of the countries we work in, by contributing to our Farming fund.

This gives us the flexibility to respond in the best way possible to the individual needs of the different communities we work with all over the world.

Poverty often means people have no access to medical care, so many die from easily preventable diseases. The World Gifts Health fund supports healthcare, disease prevention, plus care for the most vulnerable people in poor communities.

For further information visit: <https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk/>

THE METHODIST CHURCH

Having had a momentary and exciting time falling down the last five of my stairs a few weeks ago I am somewhat hampered by a broken right arm at present – at least that's my excuse in advance for typing errors and spelling mistakes! Thank goodness for and a big thank you to Yeovil Hospital for their expertise and care.

The Village Harvest Supper is due tomorrow (13th) evening and hopefully all the planning and preparation will ensure it goes well.

The Churches Together Team have agreed to give any profit from the event to a local food bank and wish to wholeheartedly thank everyone who made or contributed food and time to the evening.

In November there will be our usual Sunday morning Service at 10.00 every Sunday.

On Sunday the 12th November we will join the congregation at St Gregory's Church for a Remembrance Service at 15.00. And the 10.00 service on the 19th November will be given by church members.

You of course are always welcome at any of our services.

Hearing and seeing all the terrible things happening in the world is just awful. We ask why, but there seems to be no answer except mans' inhumanity.

Will you, along with millions around the world of all faiths, pray that the men of hatred, terror and war will lay down their weapons and will talk peace and mean it. You may not believe prayer helps but if enough of us join in prayers for peace.....

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



MARNHULL COMMUNITY CAFÉ

The Café is held on 3rd Friday of each month
@ The Village Hall 10-12

We provide a warm, friendly space with homemade cakes, coffee and tea.
Pop in and say hello, make new friends & chat to old ones!!

Transport can be arranged if needed
No charge, but donations appreciated
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ST GREGORY'S CHURCH

Parish of St Gregory's Marnhull



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NEWS FROM ST. GREGS' FOR NOVEMBER

A huge THANK YOU to every one who supported our annual Gift Day and Harvest Festival last month; to Stephen Binnington for playing two amazing organ recitals; to Eileen Woodward and the Flower team for the beautiful Harvest arrangements and to God for the many blessings we receive here in Marnhull.

Our weekly Sunday services:

8am Holy Communion (traditional language) and 10am Parish Communion followed by refreshments 3rd Sunday/month 10am All Age Worship- a shorter service with a talk Every Wednesday 9am Morning Prayer- we pray for our village parish.

Please get in touch with one of the clergy if you would like yourself, a friend or relative to be remembered in our weekly prayers- or please write their name on our Prayer Tree in Church. You are always welcome to any of the services

THIS MONTH

Weds 1st Nov

11am Holy Communion for All Saints' Day
Sun 5th Nov 4pm All Souls' Service
Do sign the sheet in church if there is someone you would like to have mentioned by name during the service.

Fri 10th 12pm Churches Together Village Prayer at Our Lady's

Sat 11th Nov 11am Village Armistice Service at the War Memorial

Sun 12th Nov 3pm RBL Village Remembrance Sunday Service

Sun 19th Nov 10am All Age Worship with the Baptism of Hugo Hawtree

OTHER NEWS

We still have volunteer opportunities for a Children's Society parish representative;

School listeners; School Foundation Governor and the leader for our Looking to the Future building project. Please speak to Revd Gaenor for more information.

CONTACT US

Revd Gaenor Hockey, Rector-designate 01258 821605 revdgaenor@protonmail.me

Part time: Sunday, Wednesday and Friday

Revd Angus Mayhew, Curate

07788100885 revangusmayhew@gmail.com

Shared full time curacy: Marnhull and Gillingham Benefices

Rest day: Monday

Churchwardens:

Nick Lalor 01258 820553 nicklalor@gmail.com

Sharon Martin 01258 821009 sharon303martin@gmail.com

ONLINE

www.stgregorysmarnhull.org.uk

https://www.facebook.com/stgregschurch

Please contact Revd Gaenor if you would like to be on our weekly Pew News mailing list.

Church is open daily 9am-4.30pm for quiet reflection and prayer

ST GREGORY'S C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL



News from St Gregory's Primary School Marnhull Messenger Autumn 2023

The children have had a very busy start to the term, settling into their new classes and having fun with their friends. They are also getting used to working with a new, enquiry-led curriculum, known as Curious-city, where instead of 'doing history', they are learning how to be historians; rather than drawing or collage-making, they are being artists; and when studying physics, biology or chemistry they are being scientists. These 'states of being' are having a real impact on the children's learning already, and they are becoming much more involved in their learning, with parents telling us their children are able to talk with real enthusiasm about their day at school.

Other exciting opportunities this half term have included a number of Bikeability courses for the older children to learn how to ride safely on the roads, and visitors to the school to share their expertise on subjects as diverse as Coding for Computers and The Circulation System, while our Harvest Assembly in St Gregory's Church yielded a wonderful crop of breakfast cereals, baked beans and biscuits for donation to the local food bank. Shortly after half term, children in Years 5 and 6 are heading off to North Devon for a residential trip involving high ropes and orienteering, abseiling and camp fires, mud challenges and archery, excellent food and lots of singing! It also gives them the chance to get to know each other better in a different environment and, for many of them, experience their first trip away from home. The children will share their experiences in the next edition of the Marnhull Messenger.

Hedgehogs Class

This half term we have welcomed the new reception children who have settled well and the new Year 1 children have adapted to being great role models for them. We had an exciting start to the term with our first 'Curious-city' enquiry of 'Who Am I?' during which we learnt about who is in our family and painted self-portraits. During the first couple of weeks we took advantage of the sunshine and became familiar with our swimming pool, especially for the youngest members of the class this was an introduction to becoming water confident and we will continue our lessons in the Summer Term.



The second half of this half term our enquiry has been 'How can we lead a healthy life?'. During our learning we have investigated what we need to survive, which foods are healthy and how they are grown. We have been reading 'Oliver's Vegetables' as our class book with the Reception children enjoying acting out the story and role playing in our fruit and veg shop, and the Year 1 children have innovated the story using their own choice of vegetables. We had a fantastic trip to the village allotments where the Marnhull Green Team showed us around. We were able to explore what vegetables they grow and

help with harvesting some of the remaining ones of this season. Our final challenge is to design and make a healthy wrap using all the knowledge we have learnt about being healthy.

Badgers Class

This term, children in Years 3 and 4's Curious-city topic is 'What is sound?'. We have been Scientists, Musicians, and Engineers while learning all about what is sound, how sounds are made and how they change. We also learnt how sounds are detected and what are good sound insulators. We have learnt the vocabulary such as pitch, vibration, volume, insulation etc.



We have been Engineers and made straw pan-pipes. We learnt about different pitches and it was great fun to see how different straw lengths make different pitches. We also used a guitar to make high and low sounds.

Foxes Class

Foxes Class have been busy this half-term following the enquiry question: how are lives saved? We have learnt the functions of the heart and the circulatory system and will be producing a TED talk about the importance of easy access to defibrillators as our challenge. We have also been looking into the history of the school which celebrates its 150th anniversary this year – the old log-books are fascinating!



We have all immensely enjoyed reading Holes by Louis Sachar as our first class-reader this term and have produced some outstanding non-chronological reports about the deadly yellow spotted lizard from the book.

The children have been lucky enough to receive samba lessons on Tuesdays from Dorset Music – they sound wonderful playing all together in the hall and always come back from their lesson with big smiles!

This week we took part in Dorset Coding Day where we used Scratch to start to build our own video game. We were fortunate to have a volunteer from Dorset Council Care Records join us to share her coding knowledge and empower girls to consider careers in STEM.

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



As we draw to the end of the first half of the Autumn term, we have been enjoying the lovely warm days as well as the beautiful autumnal colours the season brings us. Parents had the chance to meet with teachers and hear how well their children had settled back into school. Children who joined us in September have quickly become part of our St Mary's family. It was great to be able to celebrate

our Harvest Festival with parents and grandparents, and I'm sure several of them went home with either 'Harvest Samba' or 'Big Red Combine Harvester' going around in their heads! It certainly did in mine!!



We were able to support The Vale Pantry in Sturminster Newton with the donations. The GIFT team took them down before we broke up for half term. We are now looking forward to a well-earned rest at the half-term break, ready to face the fun and mayhem that the second half of the term brings with the run up to Christmas.

St Mary's Explorers Pre-school

Explorers have been busy getting learning about the world around them, using all their senses.

They have loved 'Welly Walks', joining the peers in Reception and exploring the local area. A particular favourite has been the mud kitchen where the children have been snipping herbs and mixing potions. They also continue to enjoy our role play area, taking on different roles in their play and developing relationships with their peers.



Fiddly finger activities continue to be a focus for our preschool children, developing the muscles needed for writing.

St Mary's Explorers is open from 8:45am – 3:15pm every weekday during term time and spaces are available for children aged 3 years +, with wrap around care from 8am – 6pm. If you would like to have a look around, or come and stay for a taster session, please call 01258 820417 to make an appointment.



St Anthony's

The children are really enjoying our music lessons, they love singing and have been accompanying themselves using the claves and bells. They were the highlight at our Harvest Liturgy singing 'Big Red Combine Harvester'.



Another favourite this term has been PE lessons. In lessons, the children are spending time learning basic principles including finding a space, freezing on command and using and sharing equipment.

They are also developing fundamental movement skills like running, jumping and skipping. In our RE lessons, the children heard that we are all special and God wants us to love and spread kindness.

We made kindness wands and have been spreading kindness all over the school!

St Mark's

In St Mark's, we took our learning outside and braved the rain. We spent some time observing our surroundings and then sketched our surroundings. The children really enjoyed this and took their time. It was lovely to hear and see the children get so excited about their drawings and they were very proud of them.



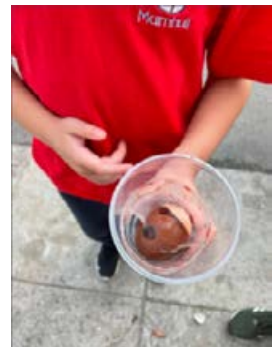
It was a very peaceful lesson where we listened to the birds and rain and took some time to enjoy the wonderful outdoor environment that our school provides us with.



In literacy and history, we have been learning all about Neil Armstrong and the Apollo 11 mission. The children have drawn a storyboard to represent the life of Neil Armstrong and we have been looking back at old videos and broadcasts of the Apollo 11 mission. In literacy, the children have been writing about Neil's childhood and have so far found out that he loved reading and climbing trees.

St Francis'

The children of St Francis' class have learnt all about Ancient Egypt this half term, they have independently researched Tutankhamun and are now writing all about his life.



In Science the last couple of weeks we have been studying teeth and the pupils undertook an experiment testing which drink had the most detrimental effect on teeth. The pupils put hard boiled eggs in different drinks last week and then this week they removed their eggs to see if

St Albans'

In St Albans' Class, the children have enjoyed finding out about some of the challenges and extreme conditions different explorers have faced over the years. From Sir Ranulph Fiennes to Ellen MacArthur, the children have rewritten diary recounts, used their map skills to plot the routes they took and created some wonderful watercolour art.

Recently, the children have completed their Level 1 Bikeability course and are now ready and are prepared for Level 2 in a couple of weeks which will take them out and about round Marnhull... so keep an eye out!

Do you have a child due to start school in September 2024?

With the deadline approaching for new parents to make choices on a school for their four year olds, any prospective parents are welcome to call the school on 01258 820417 to organise a tour or just pop into the school office and ask to take a look around.

Our popular preschool also has spaces. We find that children who attend our preschool setting make a smooth transition into Reception, since they are familiar with the environment.

ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL MARNHULL PTEA
PRESENT

Afternoon Tea with Santa

£10 pp

Saturday 9th December
2 x 1.5hr slots: 11:30am-1pm & 1:30pm-3pm

Ticket includes:
-Afternoon tea including festive sweet & savoury treats and refreshments.
-A visit to Santas grotto & present for every child
-A Christmas story with Santa
-Christmas colouring & games
Lots of festive fun to be had!

Held at St Mary's School, Marnhull, Old Mill Lane, DT10 1JX

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STMARYSMARNHULLPTFA@GMAIL.COM

This is a fundraising event and all profits go back into the school



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Please note: If you wish to make a mantelpiece garland we are also holding these workshops at The Writers Block Cafe at Clayesmore School.

Please contact us on the contact details above for the information of these courses. We can also arrange workshops for groups of 8+ if required.



Turning interests, challenges, and horizons. Not necessarily a mid-life crisis but a time for reflection and moving forward, with the benefit of experience and knowledge, to a new phase of life.

Marnhull Village Care will turn fifty next year, and it too must move with the times, taking the best of what's been learned and, hopefully, futureproofing it for a few more years to come.

Our thanks go to all the villagers who have been a part of MVC over the years, particularly Hilary Parker, who is standing down from the committee after many years of playing a pivotal role within the organisation.

We are now reviewing our structure to ensure that we can continue to build on the excellent foundations laid down over the last decades of support within our community. We will adopt a constitution as a recognised charity, allowing us to identify specific projects or areas needing focus and raise the appropriate funding to tackle them if necessary.

We will continue with the key activities currently undertaken, signposting any villagers needing assistance in the appropriate direction and offering transport to medical appointments. Whilst doing this the MVC committee will be reviewing roles and responsibilities and agreeing on a scope of operations which will clarify and streamline what we do to make us more efficient and effective in our response.

More news will follow at a later date when the necessary discussions have taken place, but for now, the makeup of the new-look MVC committee is as follows:

Chair: Trevor Vaughan
Treasurer: Mella Worley
Secretary/Transport Coordinator: Ann Davis-Penson
Committee: Sue Bailey; David Jardine-Smith; Angus Mayhew; Lesley Ruth; Mike Wilkins

There is also a loyal group of volunteer drivers (more are always welcome!) and Road Contacts, who play an important role in welcoming newcomers to the village. If you are interested in joining us, particularly as a driver or Road Contact, please get in touch with Ann on 01258 820456 or ann@alisarconsulting.com

It will be an exciting and interesting time over the next few months, getting all our ducks in a row, but we look forward to presenting the new Marnhull Village Care direction to you all in due course. In the meantime, if you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact one of us, and we will talk you through our plans.

VOLUNTEER



We would really love your help at Sturminster Newton Mill and Museum!

Perhaps you could offer a few hours for a front of house duty, meeting and greeting our lovely visitors.

Maybe you would enjoy helping with our social events, for example our famous cream teas! We are always looking for cakes.

We also need muscle power, erecting gazebos and carrying chairs!

Could you help us support your local history, the mill and museum are so very important!

If you have some free time please contact Zilla on 01258 473178



Sturminster Newton Heritage Trust

Carols at the Mill



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16TH DECEMBER 23RD DECEMBER

THE EXCHANGE



Phone Changes Information

The UK's telephone network is being upgraded, which means that landline services are changing. You can still have a landline in your home, but the technology that powers it will be different. For most, switching over will be straightforward, but some people may need new equipment or support to make the changes.

What's changing and when?

Traditionally, landlines have been delivered through an analogue network, but this is being replaced by digital technology. The new system is called 'Voice over Internet Protocol' (VoIP), but you may also hear the terms 'Digital Voice' (from the landline provider BT) or digital phone.

What is VoIP? Will I need an internet connection to make phone calls?

VoIP is a type of phone system that uses an internet connection to make and receive calls. Given this, you'll need an at-home internet connection to use the new landline digital system. Once you've moved to the new digital system, your landline will mainly work as it always has, although there'll be some differences – for example, it won't work if there's a power cut unless you have a battery backup.

The changeover has started, and some people have already been moved to the digital system. For almost all networks, the changeover will have happened by December 2025. The BT network, which is used by some other telecoms providers, will close by December 2025. Most other companies with their own networks, like Virgin Media, plan to follow the same timescale.

BT has started to roll out its programme on a region-by-region basis. However, in general, they aren't currently switching certain groups, including:

- people aged 70 and over
- people with additional needs
- people who only have a landline (and not broadband)
- people with telecare alarms
- people with no mobile signal at home.

Other companies have also started rolling out digital systems. In some areas, changes to the network will mean that everyone needs to move to the digital system. You may also be moved to the new system if you decide to move to a new phone and broadband package. If you haven't been moved over yet, don't worry – your phone company will get in touch with you when they want you to make the change.

What is Broadband?

Broadband just means a high-speed internet connection.

Why are these changes happening?

The current landline network needs to be replaced because it's old and is becoming difficult to maintain. The new system uses the internet to make phone calls – this offers better quality calls as well as some additional features. Phone and broadband companies are leading this change. The Government is supporting it. The aim of Ofcom (the communications regulator) is to make sure customers don't face unnecessary disruption or harm because of the changes.

What happens when I change to the digital system?

Your telephone provider will contact you in advance to let you know when your system's changing and what you need to do. In some cases, an engineer will need to visit to make changes.

For lots of people, the change will be straightforward. If you already have a broadband connection, you may just need to plug your phone into your broadband router or you'll be sent an adapter that connects to your phone and plugs into your router

If you have more than one phone socket with separate handsets, you may need additional adapters. When you're contacted by your provider let them know if you have any questions or concerns about moving to the digital service, or if you need any additional help.

Can I keep my phone number?

Yes – in most cases you'll be able to keep your current phone number.

Will I need a new phone?

If your phone handset is very old, you might need to change it. Your phone provider will be able to advise you on this.

Will anything else be affected, like my telecare?

The switch to digital landlines may affect telecare devices and other equipment such as personal alarms and security alarms if they're connected to your phone line. Although your telephone service provider will contact you before the switch takes place, you may want to let them know about any telecare devices that you have in advance. It's also a good idea to contact the supplier of your telecare device to check that this will work with the new system or whether any equipment will need to be upgraded. If you're buying a new device that's linked to the phone system, you should also check with the seller or manufacturer that this will be compatible.

What if I don't have, or don't want, the internet at home?

If you already have a broadband connection, for example to connect to the internet, then the new digital landline system will use this. If you don't have a broadband connection, your provider will supply one specifically to support the new digital system, but you shouldn't pay extra for this if you don't move over to a broadband service.

Will my new phone contract be more expensive?

BT has committed to not raise prices above inflation for 'voice only' customers until 2026. 'Voice only' customers are those who don't have home broadband. Virgin Media has also said that people won't pay more than what they already pay for their current service. This means that you shouldn't face extra costs if you need a new simple internet connection to make calls.

What happens if there's a power cut?

Unlike some traditional corded analogue phones, a digital phone will only work in a power cut if it has a battery back-up, because it'll run using your home electricity. In these instances, phone companies are advising people to use mobile phones as a backup.

If you're dependent on your landline phone – for example, if you don't have a mobile phone or you live somewhere where there's no or poor mobile signal, then your telephone provider must offer you a 'resilience solution' to make sure you can make emergency calls during a power cut. This could be a mobile phone (if you have mobile signal) or a battery-backup unit for your landline phone. This resilience solution should be provided free of charge to people who are dependent on their landline. If you're not eligible for a free resilience solution, you may be able to purchase one from your provider or another retailer – talk to your provider about the options available to you.

This information is taken directly from Age UK website at www.ageuk.org.uk
If after contacting your provider and/or BT you still have any queries or concerns please feel free to contact:

Chris Walton (Oak Digital Solutions)
07758032062

Or

Trevor Vaughan (Chairman of Marnhull Village Care)
01258 821636

Columnists Wanted

We're exploring the idea of having premium columnists next year. Do you know anyone interested in writing a column about their field of expertise? Ideas; Online safety, gardening, money saving, etc.

These pages will carry a fresh professional design highlighting the individual's brand. There would be a small fee to cover some of our print costs, but you can promote your business to our readers. If you're interested, email editor@marnhullmessenger.org.uk

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LITTERPICKERS

Help us keeping Marnhull village and
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Join our band of volunteers,
contact John Seear on 01258 269743

MARNHULL WOMENS' INSTITUTE

It hardly seems likely that a degree in Politics followed by a Master's degree in War and Strategy plus a brief foray into the catering trade would be the basis for staking one's fortunes on a start-up gin distillery. But that's what Wilfred Shron did. Installing himself in an industrial container, he began by importing distilling vats and apparatus from Portugal and quantities of raw potato alcohol from Poland. Having applied for the multiple licences and permits necessary he started the delicate task of blending botanicals in a variety of combinations as he searched for his signature taste.

There turned out to be a lot more to this business than mere chemistry. Wilfred explained about deciding on his "brand" and how it was to be presented. The Shroton Fair was a big rural event for hundreds of years. Thomas Hardy mentioned it in his writing as a place where labourers were hired for the coming months on the farms. Wilfred chose this name for his gin, and the extraordinary spectacle of a real live Bengal tiger being on show one year during the eighteenth century gave him his logo.

His choice of a black bottle was problematic as there were few companies able to produce it as he required, but eventually he realised his vision and now the recognisable squat black bottle with its red tiger's head can be seen at shows and fairs around the county and in several of our local shops.

Shroton Fair gin contains sixteen botanicals but rather than list them all may I suggest that you buy a bottle and sample it for yourself? Our November speaker is Grace Lovelass and her talk is entitled "The Life of an Opera Singer."

NEWS FROM TRADING STANDARDS

Digital Switchover scams

The UK's telephone network is changing. Between now and 2025 most telephone providers will be moving their customers from old analogue landlines to new upgraded landline services using digital technology. Services that rely on the old landline system such as home phones and healthcare devices will be switched over.

The new network will provide a future proof, more reliable and dependable broadband service that will support the UK for decades to come.

The Local Government Association (LGA) says the change will be straightforward for most people. However, they have warned that criminals are using misinformation about the switchover to confuse people vulnerable to scams.

The LGA says people who use healthcare telephony devices are particularly at risk of being targeted by scammers, who trick victims into disclosing their personal and financial information over the phone. Around 2 million people use these devices across the country.

The switchover is free of charge and councils and their homecare alarm providers or contractors will never ask for personal or financial information over the phone.

The LGA says it has seen reports of fraudsters calling people claiming their bank details are needed as part of the switchover or their service will be disconnected. It has also received reports of residents being contacted over the phone by callers claiming to work for the NHS, asking for their personal information.

The LGA expects scam attempts to increase as the switchover date nears. In addition to phone calls, criminals may create phishing emails and fake websites to try to obtain peoples' personal data.

Telecoms providers such as Virgin Media, O2 or BT should contact customers before the switchover to check in to make sure their service isn't affected.

Anyone with telecare services should check how the switchover will affect them, and what they need to do to be ready, so their care isn't disrupted.

Seen a scam? Report it to Action Fraud online or by calling 0300 123 2040.

If you want advice because you have been affected by a scam, then call the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on 0808 2231133, or visit citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer

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

STURMINSTER CHORAL SOCIETY

If you would like to take up/return to choral singing, try us out! Sturminster Choral Society meets again on Monday 18th September, 7pm, at The Exchange in Sturminster to rehearse for its Christmas concert (9th December): Vaughan Williams' Fantasia on Christmas Carols. We would be delighted to welcome you – sopranos, altos, basses and tenors all; no auditions. Just turn up or ring 01258 472274 for more details.

Tea with Friends

Our monthly get together for cuppa, cake and a chance to chat.
Wednesday 8th November Methodist Church Hall
2.30 to 4pm. ALL WELCOME

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Stur Action!



News from SturAction

With Halloween Spooky Fun out of the way, the SturAction team is working hard at bringing together a full programme of Sturminster Newton area festive activities in November and December. Printed copies will be distributed at various places around Marnhull when available.

For up to date information you can visit the Make Stur Sparkle Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/MakeSturSparkle> and on the website <https://sturminster-newton.org.uk/event/make-stur-sparkle-2023/>

Many of your favourite shops and businesses will be participating in the Late Night Shopping Event on Friday 24th November (until 8pm). There will also be an opportunity for you to take a peek in St Mary's Church at the very first Christmas Tree Festival ahead of the annual Christmas Tree Light Switch On. Saturday 25th November will also include the Anonymous Travelling Market, Christmas Market at The Exchange, William Barnes School Choir, Bulgarian Dancing, Bib the Bike and not forgetting Father Christmas at 1855. Dorset multi-award-winning folk duo, Ninebarrow will be performing at The Exchange in the evening.

On Saturday 18th November there is a Lantern Making Workshop at The Exchange in readiness of the annual Lantern Parade just before the Tree Light Switch On. Afterwards, the parade will then continue, led by Father Christmas, from the Market Place and down Church Street to St Mary's Church for refreshments and to get another chance to look at the many Christmas Trees on display thanks to the combined efforts of local groups, businesses and organisations.

SturAction raises funds for Sturminster Newton projects through profits provided by sales in its four shops (The Boutique, The Emporium, Furniture Warehouse and 1855 Sturminster Newton) pays for the road closure needed on Saturday 25th November and also pays Dorset Council to ensure there is free parking on 25th November, 2nd December, 9th December, 16th December and 23rd December. Added activities on these dates includes a Christmas Market at The Exchange and Father Christmas at 1855 Sturminster Newton. For additional joy, take a stroll around the town to appreciate the shop windows and ensure you visit the Christmas Room above The Emporium. More news about 'Make Stur Sparkle' will be in the issue.

NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN



Awareness-raising and consultation

As part of our aim to ensure that everyone in the parish is aware of the Neighbourhood Plan and has the opportunity to participate we produced a flyer which has gone to every household. We are very grateful to the Marnhull Messenger distribution team for their assistance in distributing this.

We continue to contact village clubs and societies, businesses, landowners and others. If you've not heard from us and would like to speak to us about the Neighbourhood Plan and what it can do for you, please contact us at:

marnhullndp@gmail.com
We met with Marnhull Green Teams to explore a range of shared issues from green space to transport to energy efficiency.

Work packages Having secured technical support for the development of design codes for new developments we have had an initial meeting with consultants AECOM and will be giving them a tour of the village before the end of the month.

We are also meeting this month with members of Dorset Council's Transport Planning and Community Highways team for a walkabout in the village reviewing a range of traffic and safety issues.

We have secured technical support for a Strategic Environmental Assessment, a key area of work which will help in assessing the impact of new developments within the parish.

The team is leading on a Conservation Area Appraisal reviewing the current conservation areas and other heritage assets of the village.

Village Survey Much of our time recently has been devoted to preparing a household questionnaire to ascertain your views on a range of issues

CONTINUED PAGE RIGHT >>

from housing to transport to environmental concerns. This will be a vital opportunity for everyone to have their say, so please keep your eyes open and an ear to the ground for announcements about the survey which will be available both online and in hard copy. It's essential we hear from you whatever your views, wherever you live in the parish and whatever your age.

Remember you can keep up to date with our minutes and progress reports by visiting marnhull-pc.org.uk/neighbourhood-plan/

MARNHULL GARDEN CLUB

Marnhull Garden Club met in Marnhull Village Hall on 10 October with 59 members present and 6 Day Visitors. Our guest speaker Wren Franklin from Ryewater Nurseries gave us a fantastic insight into how to properly create a wild area in the garden and the many benefits that brings, whatever the scale.

43 of the 86 places available for the MGC Christmas Party on 12 December were quickly reserved by members present on the night. Free Carlton daffodil bulbs & Spring Bulb discount vouchers, provided by Castle Gardens, were handed out to members at the meeting.

A seed swap table set up in the hall was well supported by a few members and will be repeated at our 14 November meeting.

We next meet in MVH on Tuesday 14 November at 7.30pm - Day Members welcome for a £3 fee on the door - Our Guest Speaker will be Paul Strickland from The Black Shed in Sherborne - Talking about the cut flowers business with a nod towards Dahlias and dried flowers.

Marnhull Hub and Repair Cafe Update



We are a not for profit organisation run by volunteers at the Village Hall every Saturday morning from 10am to 12. Our objective is to use all funds raised through the Hub and Repair Café activities to support community projects and initiatives in and around Marnhull.

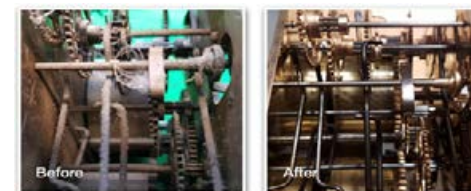
Funding provided has included:

- Travel bursaries for local teenagers to participate in overseas volunteering projects
- Recycling facilities to support the Marnhull Green Teams recycling initiative run in conjunction with the Hub
- Donation of recycling bins to support a recycling project at St Mary's school
- Food and energy vouchers for families in particular need during the cost of living crisis (working closely with Tom Hawtree and team at the Spar)
- Funding for Marnhull Entertains to support upgrading of audio visual facilities in the Village Hall
- Donations to support Help for Heroes and the local Men's Health Event

Our talented repairers continue to repair a wide variety of items to extend their useful life. Over the past year that includes 280 items: clocks, electrical goods, furniture, crockery, clothes, toys, and bikes. We also sharpen dozens of knives, secateurs, shears and even drill bits.



Come and visit us one Saturday, have some tea, coffee and delicious homemade cake in a friendly environment and bring along those items you have been meaning to get repaired. We are running a pre-Christmas get together on 16th December as we did last year. This will be a free event for all. To find out more please email sioban@marnhullhub.org.uk.



Finally, a big "Thank You" from our team to all of those who have come along and generously supported our activities in 2023.



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Royal British Legion Marnhull



BADMINTON FOR BEGINNERS

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

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BADMINTON CLUB NIGHT

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

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

BADMINTON SENIOR NIGHT

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

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

Contact: Robert Tulk - 01258 820728

Meet at Riversmeet on Mondays, Tuesdays & Thursdays

FRENCH & SPANISH CONVERSATION

Want to get those little grey cells working? Then come along to French or Spanish conversation! This can complement your work with Duolingo or refresh your memories of your O level days. For more information contact

Ros Eveleigh on 821049.

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 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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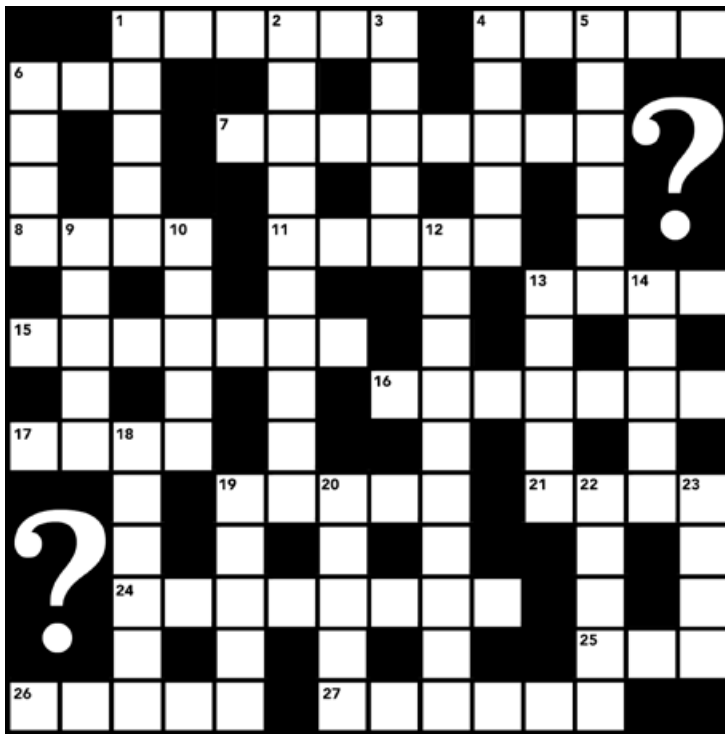
New Messenger Deadline: 14th November

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

CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS

4	9	5	1	6	3	8	7	2	2	3	1	4	7	5	8	9	6
6	1	2	7	8	5	9	3	4	8	5	6	3	9	2	1	4	7
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ACROSS 1. Bushel 4. Elgar 6. Era 7. Escalope 8. Silo
 11. Anode 13. Scow 15. Bedouin 16. Baldric 17. Bile
 27. Dengue
 Down 1. Basil 2. Hispaniola 3. Liano 4. Erode 5. Gaelic
 6. Eros 9. Icen! 10. Ozone 12. Decahedron 13. Sodom
 14. Orion 18. Lichen 19. Baron 20. Salad 22. Ingle 23. Kale



7	1	4		3				5
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ACROSS

- 1) Measure of capacity equal to 8 gallons. (6)
- 4) English composer of the Pomp and Circumstances Marches. (5)
- 6) A long distinct period of history. (3)
- 7) Thin slice of coated fried meat, especially veal. (8)
- 8) Tall tower used to store grain. (4)
- 11) Positively charged electron. (5)
- 13) Wide beamed sailing dinghy. (4)
- 15) Nomadic desert Arab. (7)
- 16) Belt for a sword worn over the shoulder giving its name to a TV comedy character. (7)
- 17) A fluid secreted in the liver that is used to aid digestion. (4)
- 19) City in Northwest Switzerland standing on the River Rhine. (5)
- 21) Semiaquatic stoat like carnivore farmed for its fur. (4)
- 24) System by which coats of arms are devised. (8)
- 25) The sheltered side away from the wind. (3)
- 26) Projecting piece of wood for insertion into a mortise. (5)
- 27) Tropical virus disease causing a sudden fever and joint pains. (6)

DOWN

- 1) An aromatic plant of the mint family used as a herb. (5)
- 2) Island shared by Haiti and the Dominican Republic. (10)
- 3) In South America a treeless grassy plain. (5)
- 4) As of land being worn away by wind or water. (5)
- 5) Type of football played mainly in Ireland. (6)
- 6) God of love in Greek mythology. (4)
- 9) Tribe of ancient Britons whose queen was Boudica. (5)
- 10) Toxic form of oxygen with three atoms in its molecule. (5)
- 12) Solid figure with ten plane faces. (10)
- 13) One of two Biblical cities noted for their wickedness. (5)
- 14) A constellation named after strong hunter in Greek mythology. (5)
- 18) A simple composite plant that grows on rocks, walls and trees. (6)
- 19) A member of the lowest order of the British nobility. (5)
- 20) A dish consisting of a mixture of raw vegetables. (5)
- 22) A domestic fireplace. (5)
- 23) A hardy cabbage with large leaves. (4)

**All PUZZLE ANSWERS ON
PAGE 32**

MARNHULL TABLE TENNIS

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

MARNHULL WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

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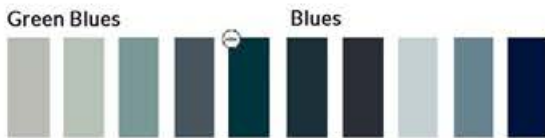
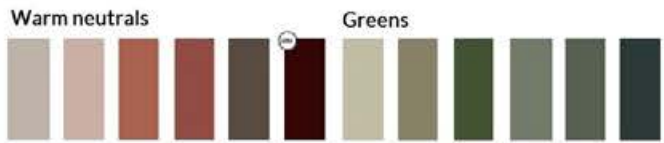


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