



# THE MARNHULL MESSENGER



Original illustration by George Cox

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## WELCOME TO YOUR MARNHULL MESSENGER

**CHRIS RYU**  
Messenger Editor

### September 2023 - Issue 137

Welcome back! I hope you enjoyed your break from me. I'm joined by a new helper this month as Bekka has flown the nest. Mikey will now be helping me with the Messenger each month. I sold part of the company at the end of June, so it's been manic, but the bit I've retained is now pretty much up and running in Shaftesbury.

Please excuse my use of a Tess Square image for the neighbourhood plan - I think it's important to generate conversation and interest in the plan and Tess' Square has certainly driven some interest.

Please check out the Mens Health Exhibition on Page 5. It's such a great idea and I know they've put some much time and effort into organising it.

I want to also direct your attention to the electric car event on page 7. I was hoping to be able to attend, but I have a prior engagement. It would have been great timing too as my own EV should be hitting the 100,000 mile mark around that time. According to Hyundai it still has 93% battery health too which I thought was pretty impressive..

#### 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  
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**Marnhull Village Care Car Service:**  
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This is offered for door to door transport for the elderly, disabled and unemployed for essential trips with a set scale of modest donations.

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#### DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE

**MID-DAY 14th September**

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

#### MARNHULL MESSENGER CONTACT DETAILS

##### EDITOR:

Chris Ryu - [editor@marnhullmessenger.org.uk](mailto:editor@marnhullmessenger.org.uk)  
01258 808577 (option 4)

##### WEBMASTER:

Chris Ryu - as above

##### ADVERTISING:

Rosie Gall - [rosiegall1@gmail.com](mailto:rosiegall1@gmail.com)

##### TREASURER:

Bill Shannon - [treasurer@marnhullmessenger.org.uk](mailto:treasurer@marnhullmessenger.org.uk)  
01258 820890

##### CIRCULATION:

Catherine & Mark Turner - [circulation@marnhullmessenger.org.uk](mailto:circulation@marnhullmessenger.org.uk)

##### CHAIRMAN:

Ian Gall - [chairman@marnhullmessenger.org.uk](mailto:chairman@marnhullmessenger.org.uk)  
01258 820484

##### ADMINISTRATOR:

Fiona Nelson - [administrator@marnhullmessenger.org.uk](mailto:administrator@marnhullmessenger.org.uk)  
01258 821036

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

#### 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](mailto:editor@marnhullmessenger.org.uk)

#### MARNHULL MESSENGER DELIVERIES

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

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

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

Ian Gall – Chairman, The Marnhull Messenger Steering Group.

**ANNUAL DIARY 2023**

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

**September**

1st - Luncheon Club @ 12:00

2nd - The Marnhull Hub and Repair Café @ 10:00 Marnhull Hub

2nd - The Beagles @ 20:00 British Legion

4th - Pound Fitness @ 09:30 British Legion

4th - Table Tennis - Monday @ 14:00

4th - Bingo @ 19:00 British Legion

5th - Bridge Club @ 14:00 Methodist Hall

6th - Fitsteps dance and exercise class @ 11:15

6th - Table Tennis - Wednesday @ 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

9th - The Marnhull Hub and Repair Café @ 10:00 Marnhull Hub

9th - Jumble Sale @ 10:15 British Legion

9th - Journey through the decades @ 20:00 British Legion

11th - Pound Fitness @ 09:30 British Legion

11th - Table Tennis - Monday @ 14:00

12th - Bridge Club @ 14:00 Methodist Hall

12th - Marnhull Garden Club @ 18:30

13th - Fitsteps dance and exercise class @ 11:15

13th - Table Tennis - Wednesday @ 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 - The Marnhull Hub and Repair Café @ 10:00 Marnhull Hub

16th - Don't Fret @ 20:00 British Legion

17th - Thank you for defibrillator party @ 12:00 British Legion

18th - Pound Fitness @ 09:30 British Legion

18th - Table Tennis - Monday @ 14:00

18th - Bingo @ 19:00 British Legion

18th - Marnhull Music Society @ 19:15

19th - Bridge Club @ 14:00 Methodist Hall

20th - Fitsteps dance and exercise class @ 11:15

20th - Table Tennis - Wednesday @ 14:00

20th - Community Choir @ 18:30

20th - Pound Fitness @ 19:00 British Legion

23rd - The Marnhull Hub and Repair Café @ 10:00 Marnhull Hub

23rd - Soul and Motown disco with Bill Shannon @ 20:00 British Legion

25th - Pound Fitness @ 09:30 British Legion

25th - Table Tennis - Monday @ 14:00

26th - Bridge Club @ 14:00 Methodist Hall

26th - Moviola - What's love got to do with it @ 19:00

27th - Fitsteps dance and exercise class @ 11:15

27th - Table Tennis - Wednesday @ 14:00

27th - Community Choir @ 18:30

27th - Pound Fitness @ 19:00 British Legion

30th - The Marnhull Hub and Repair Café @ 10:00 Marnhull Hub

30th - Charity Night -Prostate Cancer Research @ 20:00 British Legion

30th - Press Gang @ 20:00 British Legion

**October**

2nd - Pound Fitness @ 09:30 British Legion

2nd - Table Tennis - Monday @ 14:00

3rd - Bridge Club @ 14:00 Methodist Hall

4th - Fitsteps dance and exercise class @ 11:15

4th - Table Tennis - Wednesday @ 14:00

4th - Community Choir @ 18:30

4th - Pound Fitness @ 19:00 British Legion

5th - Craft Club @ 10:00 Methodist Hall

6th - Luncheon Club @ 12:00

7th - The Marnhull Hub and Repair Café @ 10:00 Marnhull Hub

9th - Pound Fitness @ 09:30 British Legion

9th - Table Tennis - Monday @ 14:00

10th - Bridge Club @ 14:00 Methodist Hall

10th - Marnhull Garden Club @ 18:30

11th - Fitsteps dance and exercise class @ 11:15

11th - Table Tennis - Wednesday @ 14:00

11th - Tea with Friends @ 14:30 Methodist Hall

11th - Community Choir @ 18:30

11th - Pound Fitness @ 19:00 British Legion

13th - Blackmore Vale Art Group @ 10:00

14th - The Marnhull Hub and Repair Café @ 10:00 Marnhull Hub

16th - Pound Fitness @ 09:30 British Legion

16th - Table Tennis - Monday @ 14:00

16th - Marnhull Music Society @ 19:15

17th - Bridge Club @ 14:00 Methodist Hall

18th - Fitsteps dance and exercise class @ 11:15

18th - Table Tennis - Wednesday @ 14:00

18th - Community Choir @ 18:30

18th - Pound Fitness @ 19:00 British Legion

20th - Marnhull Community Cafe @ 10:00

21st - The Marnhull Hub and Repair Café @ 10:00 Marnhull Hub

23rd - Pound Fitness @ 09:30 British Legion

23rd - Table Tennis - Monday @ 14:00

24th - Bridge Club @ 14:00 Methodist Hall

25th - Fitsteps dance and exercise class @ 11:15

25th - Table Tennis - Wednesday @ 14:00

25th - Community Choir @ 18:30

25th - Pound Fitness @ 19:00 British Legion

28th - The Marnhull Hub and Repair Café @ 10:00 Marnhull Hub

30th - Pound Fitness @ 09:30 British Legion

30th - Table Tennis - Monday @ 14:00

31st - Bridge Club @ 14:00 Methodist Hall

**FOR VILLAGE HALL  
BOOKINGS**

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For general enquiries, email: [bookings@marnhullvillagehall.org.uk](mailto: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



### Men's Health Event

This will be held at the RiversMeet Leisure Centre in Gillingham, Dorset on Friday September 15th, from 12.00-7.00pm.

This free Event, organised by the Patient Participation Groups covering Shaftesbury, Gillingham, Sturminster Newton & Marnhull Surgeries, will be a fantastic opportunity to meet around 50 experts who provide support, advice and information on many health and wellbeing issues.

With the unprecedented pressures on the NHS, people need to better informed about any conditions they have and take as much responsibility as possible in managing their own health.

Men between the ages of 16-60 are less likely to seek medical advice than women. This reluctance means that men often do not seek help until a disease has progressed, which can have serious consequences.

The Men's Health Event is a response to that, providing access to the information, services, support and treatment needed to live healthier, longer and more fulfilling lives.

Although aimed primarily at men, the majority of exhibitors will have information and support for everyone. This includes - mental health, diet, dementia, cancer support, rehab, drug and alcohol support, Citizens Advice, exercise, fitness, physio and volunteering and much, much more, including the offer of a mini health check.

A full list of Exhibitors on the Blackmore Vale Partnership website under 'Men's Health'

Everyone attending will be given a free brochure containing a wealth of information and details of every exhibitor.

We are most grateful to our sponsors who have generously supported this Event making it free to everyone to exhibit and attend. They are NFU Mutual, Dike & Son, C & O Tractors, Mole Valley Farmers, Sydenhams and Stalbridge Building Supplies and of course, the Gillingham Medical Practice and the Blackmore Vale Partnership.

Put September 15th in your diary now and don't miss this great opportunity - More information - menshealth2023@gmail.com

### Practice Pharmacy

The Practice Pharmacy team consists of three Prescribing Pharmacists and four Pharmacy Technicians. They are the first point of call for medicine related questions from patients and practice clinicians and practitioners. They respond to patient symptoms and minor ailments and they review medications, hold patient consultations and in some cases, prescribe.

The team also conducts Asthma reviews as well as HRT, depression and anxiety and pill reviews.

All discharge and hospital letters relating to medication are dealt with by the team as are Nursing home prescriptions.

The aim of all this is to increase patient safety, ensure a consistent and fair medication supply for all and to reduce GP workload.

You can contact the Pharmacy team through the Medication section of SystmOnline, through a Kilink submission or by telephone.

And remember that Community Pharmacies Prepare and check all dispensed medication; provide guidance on taking meds and information about interactions etc. They offer minor ailment advice and some provide other services such as vaccinations, smoke stop etc.

### Breast Surgery Research

Breast reconstruction surgery after cancer – come and join this friendly patient and public advisory group.

Over the next two years they will be supporting a research project that is using a new imaging technique which hopes to lead to fewer complications and better healing after breast surgery for cancer.

They are looking for people who have had a mastectomy to help make sure the research is guided by people who have experienced breast surgery. No other experience is needed.

Group members will take part in various activities. These might include: reviewing the information intended for patients about to undergo breast reconstruction surgery; developing a patient diary and designing interviews for patients and professional staff.

The meetings will usually be online and there will be around 6 meetings of 2 hours over the 2-year period.

There are also opportunities for people to join the research "Steering Group". This group makes sure the research is running smoothly and that targets are being met.

If you are interested in joining or would like to hear more about the project and getting involved, please contact Jo on 07342 025831 or j.r.welsman2@exeter.ac.uk.

£20 per hour is offered for taking part in the group.



# University of Exeter

## MARNHULL TENNIS CLUB

Despite the less than seasonal weather there's still been plenty happening at the tennis courts this summer; with our teams competing, record junior numbers, brand new MTC clothing and the ongoing Tombola Tournament, it's all go!

### JUNIOR TENNIS STARS IN THE MAKING

The recently expanded programme for tennis juniors has seen a bumper summer so far! The joint winners of the inaugural Junior Championship agreed to share their much deserved trophy after a round robin format competition – congratulations to Veronika Sinichenko and Rufus Rylatt, and to all the juniors who took part.



A new initiative for older juniors (9 -16 years) is offering free practise sessions with adult club members. A half or 1 hour session either individually or in a pair practising against one of our experienced members. If your child is interested call John Seear on 01258 269743 to discuss. They can have a 'one off' or, if happy with a first session, a further 3 can be arranged.

Tuesday afternoon sessions are continuing and have proven to be very popular! Ages 5-9 years: 4:00 to 5:00 pm and ages 10 to 16 years: 5:00 to 6:00 every Tuesday. To join these groups please contact Norma Amlot at dnamlot@icloud.com or call 07879 647559.

A huge thank you to committee members John, Norma and Helen for all their hard work developing this exciting junior programme, and to Gra ham Howell, our LTA coach for his dedication to Marnhull Tennis Club and our future tennis stars!

### IN OTHER NEWS!

- The Tombola Tournament is progressing – we hope to be announcing the winners in the next month or so!

- The new branded club clothing has been spotted all around Marnhull! If you need some new kit, head to our website and the shop page to get your MTC gear!

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• We will be attending the Men's Health event at Riversmeet in Gillingham on Friday 12th September 12pm-7pm. Come along to find out all about the health benefits of tennis, both physical and mental.

### FANCY GIVING TENNIS A TRY?

We run a friendly and welcoming beginner programme including regular sessions every Wednesday from 6pm – no previous experience needed! Balls will be supplied and rackets are available if needed. For more details please contact John Seear on 01258 269743 or johnseear@hotmail.com.

### WEEKLY CLUB SESSIONS - NO NEED TO BOOK, JUST TURN UP AND PLAY!

- Tuesdays 4.00pm-5.00pm Juniors 5-9 years – please contact Norma Amlot on dnamlot@icloud.com or 07879647559.
- Tuesdays 5.00pm-6.00pm Juniors 10-16 years – please contact Norma Amlot as above.
- Wednesday Evenings from 6.00pm - Rusty Rackets - perfect for beginners and those who haven't played for a while!
- Thursday Evenings from 6.00pm – 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 Seear on 01258 269743 or Chris Gregory on 01258 474646.

## The Plough

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## MARNHULL GREEN TEAMS

### MARNHULL GREEN T-E-A-M-S

Talking the Environment Around Marnhull Seriously

A bit of bad news to begin with, unfortunately. We are no longer able to accept medicine blister packs at our Saturday morning recycling centre at the Hub. We can still recycle all kinds of things that the Council cannot take - but no more blister packs, please!

This is because Superdrug, who have been taking these packs, have been overwhelmed. They will still accept small quantities at their shops - there will be a collection bin near the pharmacy section - but they do not have the ability to store large quantities until they can be collected and there is a risk that what we collect will end up in land-fill after all.

We do not mean to criticise Superdrug for this - they are still providing a recycling service - but the limits they have imposed are symptomatic of a wider problem. Is it that we - as individuals, as businesses, as Governments - only do what's 'green' until it gets too hard...?

Returning to the Hub recycling centre - behind the Village Hall on Saturday mornings, 10-12, and when the Community Café is open at the Hall, third Fridays 10-12 - we are happy to accept a wide range of other items. But we do have a problem of 'unwanted items in the bagging area!' Our volunteers have to sift through what's dropped off because some things are being left that we cannot take. Please do read what it says on the bins or ask for advice! We know it's complicated, but the contracts with the companies who support this additional recycling are very precise, and we have to abide by them. Thank you for your understanding.

### Let's switch to good news, shall we?!

The next Marnhull Green Teams event will be another Electric Vehicle Show, to be held in the Crown carpark by kind permission of the team at the Inn, 10-12 on the morning of Saturday 23 September. As with previous events, this will be an opportunity to chat with neighbours who use electric cars, bikes or vans, and learn from their experience. It will not be a sales event. If you have an electric vehicle you would like to add to the show, please get in touch, via [marnhullgreen@outlook.com](mailto:marnhullgreen@outlook.com) or our website, [www.marnhullgreenteams.com](http://www.marnhullgreenteams.com).

With green transport in mind, we are delighted to have been able to fund the installation of a bike and scooter rack at St Gregory's School. The pictures show the rack and some of its happy recipients at the formal opening ceremony. Not everyone can bike or scoot to school, we know, but hopefully the ability to secure their two-wheeled transport - good for the environment and for their riders! - will encourage more to travel this way.

More good news. Marnhull Green Teams have an informal organic gardening group, who meet from time to time in each other's gardens (indoors if wet!). This team is currently arranging a seed share. Please use the contacts above if you would like to join the group, or take part in the seed share, or both.

Finally, a picture of Green Teams members during a recent visit to the former Ryewater Nursery, now an exemplar of wildlife- (and sculpture-) friendly landscaping. Ryewater is only open to organised group visits, but we thoroughly recommend it. Let us know if you would like to join another tour: we will organise one if there is sufficient interest.



## RECYCLE AT THE HUB



### RECYCLE with TerraCycle



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

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- Toothbrushes & toothpaste tubes

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

## ROYAL BRITISH LEGION



We are pleased to announce that our much promised defibrillator has been purchased and is in situ on the wall of the Club available for use for anybody who needs it.

We would like to thank all who helped in the fund raising and invite everybody to a thank you party on Sunday September 17th between 12pm and 6pm.

The first part will be for children with face painting and then later some adult entertainment for the grown ups to enjoy. There will be a cold buffet and all are welcome so please come and enjoy what is on offer. The bar will also be open of course.

On Saturday the 30th September we will be holding one of our periodic charity nights which this time will be to raise funds for prostate cancer research. One in eight men will get prostate cancer at some time in their lives but it is highly treatable if it is caught in time and the need for constant improvements in treatment is vital so this is a very worthwhile cause. This event is dedicated to former member Chris (Ditcher) Phillips who sadly succumbed to the disease. The entertainment will be provided by ska band Press Gang and there will be a bumper raffle. All proceeds will go to the charity so we are hoping for a good turnout.

I had eleven teams for my quiz on the 29th July and the next one will be the poppy quiz which appropriately enough will be on Remembrance Day, which is of course Saturday November 11th and will include fish and chips from the chip van. You do not need to book but I could do with a phone call or email so I can warn the van on numbers. I will announce the price in the next issue after I find out how much they will be.

September Entertainment

2nd - The Beagles

4th - Bingo 7pm

9th - Journey through the Decades

16th - Don't Fret

18th - Bingo 7pm

23rd - Soul and Motown disco with Bill Shannon

30th - Press Gang £5 on the door



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**Graham Carr-Jones**  
Stalbridge & Marnhull

Cabinet Member for  
Housing, Community Safety  
& Emergency Planning





## MARNHULL ENTERTAINS

### GOOD NEWS FROM MARNHULL ENTERTAINS

Thanks to the generosity of many clubs and societies in the village and a grant from Awards for All we are very excited to say that we have been able to make some significant updates to our projection system in the village hall from which the whole village will benefit. We have purchased a motorised electric screen which will, we hope be installed in the near future, together with a new projector and sound system and all that goes with that. These improvements should enable us in the future to screen live events, music and theatre in the village hall, a very exciting prospect. Our next funding project will be a satellite system to enable a wider range of screening events. This season we are losing a much loved member off our committee. Jean Shiner who together with her husband Colin was instrumental in setting up Marnhull Entertains, primarily showcasing Artsreach events and then adding Moviola in 2005. Thank you Jean for all your hard work and dedication over the years, we will all miss your valuable input.

We are looking forward to an exciting season of films and Artsreach events.

Thank you to everyone who supports us in so many ways. This Season's films are:

September 26: What's love got to do with it?

October 24: Alleluia

November 28 Oppenheimer

Artsreach Event: Budapest Cafe Orchestra on 18th November

Look out for the yellow posters in the village and the announcement in the Marnhull Messenger and e mails.

How do you find lasting love in today's world? For documentary-maker and dating app addict Zoe (Lily James), swiping right has only delivered an endless stream of Mr. Wrongs to her eccentric mother Cath's (Emma Thompson) dismay. For Zoe's childhood friend and neighbors Kaz (Shazad Latif), the answer is to follow his parents' example and opt for an arranged marriage to a bright and beautiful bride from Pakistan. As Zoe films his hopeful journey from London to Lahore to marry a stranger chosen by his parents, she begins to wonder if she might have something to learn from a profoundly different approach to finding love.



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## Community Choir

SINGING WORKSHOP: Saturday 16th September

Another singing year has passed and the Community Choir are now looking forward to the new season, starting with our annual outdoor singing workshop titled, SHANTIES ARE US. This will be a great opportunity to meet members and experience the choir if you are thinking about joining us for the Autumn term starting 20 September 2023.

Run by our Music Director, Geoffrey Horton, as the title suggests, we will be learning a number of different sea shanties or songs associated with sailing, from around the world. These songs were, of course, written to be performed keel-hauling the capstan or raising the sails or whilst drinking a noggin of rum or ale at a local hostelry. Many of the tunes are simple and easy to learn, often sung a cappella.

We will use this opportunity to incorporate some development of sight-reading skills. Overall, the workshop is open to everyone over the age of 16 years of age, whatever standard or experience of singing.

The repertoire will include: Drunken sailor, Sloop John B, Spanish Ladies and The Wellerman. The aim is to be participative and designed for everyone to get involved. The emphasis will be on fun with some learning included. You can register NOW by going onto the Community Choir website [www.marnhullcommunitychoir.com](http://www.marnhullcommunitychoir.com) and booking online.

Just £10.00 per person, that includes your music and accompanist, under the direction of MD, Geoffrey. The morning session will start at 11 am-1 pm then we have an hour break for a packed lunch, which we ask you to bring along for yourself. We will start again at 2pm-4pm and there will be breaks throughout the day for complementary tea, coffee and biscuits.

Venue: The Paddock @ Clock House B&B, Burton Street, Marnhull DT10 1PH

Further information: Chris Drake via email: [chris@christine-drake.com](mailto:chris@christine-drake.com)



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## MARNHULL HORSE RIDERS



BHS Pleasure Ride Join BHS Dorset for their annual pleasure ride in aid of Ride Out UK! The BHS Ride Out UK campaign fundraises to protect and improve off-road equestrian access across the UK - by attending our pleasure ride, you are helping to preserve riding for the future.

SUNDAY 10TH SEPTEMBER from 10am.  
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The route offers stunning scenery and beautiful countryside, crossing mostly grassland with some tracks along the way. The ride begins alongside a stream and travels up onto the Ridgeway, down into a picturesque valley and back again. Registration from 9.30am - 11.30am. Starting from 10am - 12pm. If you don't want to be passed by faster riders we suggest you start later

Under 16s must be accompanied by an adult. Walkers are also welcome. Dogs on leads please £20 for adults, £10 for accompanied under 16s, lead rein riders and leaders, £5 for unmounted walkers. Book now!

At <https://bookwhen.com/bhssouthwest/e/ev-s104-20230910100000>



Living in such a beautiful part of the world, if you have transport or can team up with a few horsey friends, you can ride on the beach at Studland. There are daily or annual permits and those interested need to fill in an application form first. Beforehand this, it is always best to call the team at Knoll Beach to determine the availability of permits.

There are some restrictions on times and days during the summer months but riding on the beach is permitted between 1st October to 30 April. This is a ride that will definitely blow the cobwebs away! Call 01929 450500.

## MARNHULL FLOWER SHOW

# Marnhull Flower Show

Despite the dampness and drizzle the Flower Show on 22nd July was a great success; 586 adult entries from over 100 villagers and that doesn't include all the wonderful children's entries (many with the support and encouragement of Jungle Hut, St Mary's and St Gregs)

A huge THANK YOU to all our advertisers, lenders of equipment, those manning stalls, erecting the marquees (and taking them down again) making and serving teas & cakes, the village Choir, Ukulele Band, the wonderful Wessex Morris Men and of course to all who entered what they had sown, grown, baked or made and supported us by coming along on the day.

Congratulations to the 2023 silverware winners....

RHS Banksian Medal  
Wendy Hamilton-McLaren

Hellins Cup (best vegetable exhibit)	Anthony Wilkinson
Elliot Cup (best fruit exhibit)	Jean McErlain
Beausire Cup (best floral exhibit)	Kate Locke
Eric Guy Cup (best RBL member, Veg, Fruit & Flowers)	Rob Heath
Marnhull Garden Club (best floral arrangement)	Pamela Powell
Hambledon Dairy Bowl (best beverage exhibit)	Catherine Turner
Committee Cup (Best home craft exhibit)	Richard Harvey
Forbes Cup (best handicraft & hobbies exhibit)	Rob Vitali
Wells Bowl (best Art exhibit)	David Jetty
Bulford Cup (best Photography exhibit)	Stephen Boyce
Lucy Smith Cup (best Wildlife friendly garden)	Sioban Boyce
Ross Cup (best front garden)	Margaret Schellerup
Committee Cup (best hanging basket)	Dawn Ford
Committee Cup (best-planted container)	John Jeanes
Jack Hannam Cup (best allotment or veg patch)	Rob Heath
Novice Cup (best novice veg exhibit)	Lou Brockett

Work will soon begin on next year's Marnhull Flower Show on Saturday 6th July 2024, but until then here is just a glimpse of some of the beautiful floral entries from this year. Enjoy what remains of the summer.

Catherine Turner

Marnhull Flower Show





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## HERITAGE THEATRE

Five minutes of fame came to members at our last meeting in July when they were interviewed by Ruth Bradley and Paul Galthrop from BBC Points West about their views on the upcoming Somerset and Frome by election. This interview was then transferred to the BBC website and radio Somerset.

With thriving groups including garden visits and bridge groups and a new boule group being formed, Blackmore Vale u3a is looking forward to celebrating its 10-anniversary next year. The annual Open Afternoon on Tuesday September 5th from 2.30-4pm at Henstridge Village Hall, will see you with a glass of wine in your hand viewing a photographic exhibition and signing up for 2024.



What a triumph and how lucky are we to have such talented thespians in the village! The Heritage Theatre comprises Graham and Tracey Renwick and their son James, who brought three performances of Alan Bennett's 'Talking Heads' to Marnhull Village Hall last month. Isolation, suppressed emotions and the trials of domesticity are the key themes of the Talking Heads dramatic monologues, which were originally written in 1988 for the BBC. They are all set in Leeds and require the actors to master a convincing Yorkshire accent, which our two stars, Tracey and James, did convincingly.

'A Chip in the Sugar' - James's portrayal of the mild mannered, middle-aged Graham Whittaker (who we learn is a repressed homosexual with a history of mental health problems) was sympathetic and convincing. Graham's irritation and jealousy at the arrival of Frank Turnbull, his Mam's old flame, built to a climax and the audience was almost feeling sorry for him and wondering if there was a spare room in the village for him to stay. However, the status quo and his comfortable life was restored when he learnt of Frank's secret, that he was married with a daughter and cheerfully shared the information with his Mam, thus destroying her hopes of happiness in the process.

'Bed Among the Lentils' - Tracey's portrayal of Susan, an alcoholic, nervous vicar's wife was spellbinding, particularly since a clever wig and demeanour meant nobody recognised her when she came on stage and embraced her character. It was easy to feel sympathy for Susan, who has to travel into Leeds to go to the off-licence because of her debts with the local shop keeper. Her relationship with her vainly insensitive husband is difficult and as a distraction has an affair with a nearby grocer, Ramesh, discovering something about herself and God in the process. Susan does not feel cheated when Ramesh moves on to marry and the audience are left hoping she can find some solace in her fling. A truly convincing and touching performance from Tracey.

Congratulations to Graham Renwick, Tracey and James on providing such an enjoyable evening's entertainment. If they can be persuaded to return with a new production, don't miss it and make sure to get your tickets early.

Heritage Theatre's three performances of Alan Bennett's 'Talking Heads' in Marnhull Village Hall - James in 'A Chip In The Sugar' and Tracey in 'Bed Among The Lentils' - came to a close on Sunday 6th August.

None of these evenings would have worked without the help and support of a superb technical team lead by Ian Kiddle and very ably supported by Chris Hilder and Peter McErlain (The Tech Team providing light, sound and some scene changing - what versatility!).

A brilliant ambience was most ably created by Jean McErlain on Box Office and Vicki Cooper-Hammond as 'torch-bearing' Front of House! These things matter so much and of course The Bar helped too! Run by members of The Hub, lead calmly and efficiently by Sioban Boyce, this Donation Bar proved an immense success - well, of course it did, we're in Marnhull! A big thank you to Tom Hawtree in SPAR for his astute and generous attitude to our venture.

Of course, without such a generous audience we would have been a sorry crew - so huge THANKS to all you ticket holders; what brave souls you are.

Each performance was enhanced by a delicious Finger Buffet provided by Helen of Sweetpea Café in Sturminster Newton. This enabled audiences to mingle and chat after the shows, even spilling on to the Terrace on Sunday night when the sun shone just as it should in August.

And finally - yes, that's such a welcome word isn't it - Heritage Theatre is absolutely delighted to donate the profit from our venture on an equal basis; £750 to Cancer Research UK (Marnhull) and £750 to Marnhull Entertains.

Thank You All.

Graham, Tracey & James

(Photos by Nick Handel)



## MARNHULL PLAYERS PANTO

We have been very busy getting things sorted for the next panto, we had our script read through where we finalised the cast for Beauty and the Beast and started to think about our characters.

We are working on music now and starting to learn our lines ready for rehearsals to start in September. We are also starting to think about costumes, props and scenery. 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](mailto:marnhullplayers@gmail.com)

An exciting year ahead.

Thanks

The committee and Cast

## OUR LADY'S CHURCH



Parish Priest: Fr. Joseph Nwiboko Sunday Masses - 9.30am and 6pm (Marnhull) 11am (Gillingham) For weekly newsletter details see our website.

Are you interested in finding out what Catholics believe; or want to consider becoming a Catholic? Our Parish can guide you and provides teaching and support within the friendly Catholic community. Christian faith is a way of life – it is about seeing the world in the light of the gospel and trying to live our life in accord with that. No two people's lives are the same; everyone lives their own life with all the ups and downs, all the disasters and successes that make it up. But everyone lives their own life guided by what is seen as important, what is seen as right, what is seen as life-giving. For Christians that is the teaching of Jesus and the faith that the Church presents to us. We are all invited to live our own particular life guided in that way. For further information please contact the parish priest Fr. Joseph or Deacon James on Email: James.Mackain-Bremner@prcdtr.org.uk

## Youth Rally, 2023 Saturday 23rd September, St Rita's Honiton – 12-18.00

Join youth from across the diocese in fun, games and challenges at St Rita's Honiton. Are you ready for the infamous obstacle course? Or are you keen to score lots of goals in the penalty shoot out or netball challenge. There'll be bouncy castles, Didi cars, sumo wrestling challenges and much more for you to have a go at. The event is open to anyone 7 years through to 16. Come as part of a parish/school or group team or simply sign up and be placed in a team. The £8 contribution includes a BBQ and drinks. To book contact Saskia: youth@prcdtr.org.uk

## The Catholic Children's Society Plymouth

The Catholic children's Society Plymouth remains on the front line in responding to an ever-growing number of those seeking support to meet their basic needs and making every effort not to turn anyone away. The Our Lady Marnhull and St Benedict's Gillingham supports the Society and has benefitted enormously from the generous giving of so many people. Their contributions continue to make a significant difference in helping bring comfort and practical support to many families and individuals who are especially struggling in these difficult times.

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Discover more about the work of PACT here:

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## THE METHODIST CHURCH

As I write this the sun is shining between the showers. I think it must be difficult for farmers who have to wait for dry conditions to get crops in as the weather has been very unsettled so far in July and August. The lawns have benefitted, as have the runner beans, but that can't be much consolation if you have acres of field crops to gather in.

We continue to meet for worship each Sunday at 10.00 and you are very welcome to come along to any service – we're a friendly group and enjoy a short get together about 11.00 after the service. Along with our Christian friends in Marnhull Churches Together, we are beginning to organise the Village Harvest Supper – a date for your diary – on Friday 13th October at 6.30pm in the Village Hall. The theme is Rural and Village life and some of the poems submitted will be read out during the evening which should be fun, so I hope you can come.

I do hope that the summer time was good for you and your family and friends, that holidays were enjoyed. These are precious times of friendship and fun to be treasured. If you were fortunate, like me, to have this let us appreciate and give thanks for these simple, yet so valuable things in life.

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

Gillian

## ST GREGORY'S CHURCH

Parish of St Gregory's Marnhull



## GIFT DAY

### SATURDAY 14TH OCTOBER 2023

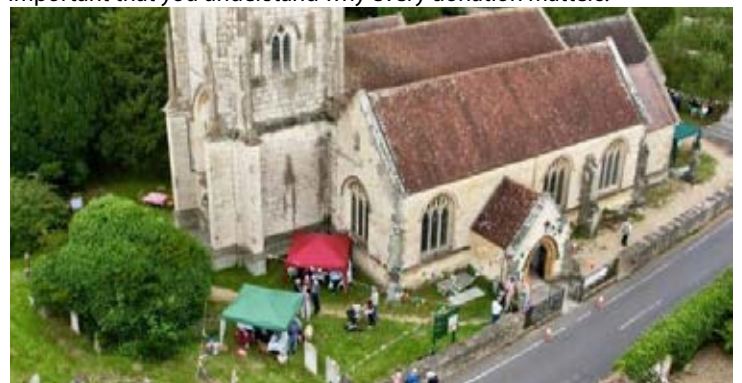
Firstly, thank you for supporting St Gregory's Church which has been a presence in the village for nearly 1000 years.

As the PCC of such a beautiful and historic, but expensive to maintain, church, we are acutely aware and often embarrassed that there is a constant need to ask for money for maintenance and repairs. We are also very aware of the current pressures on people's finances.

As you know we receive no state funding, so are reliant on our congregation and the wider village to "keep the ship afloat". We are obliged to pay our Parish Share to the Diocese as well as all the everyday operating costs of the church which in total amounts to around £1,000 per week. Our Church Fete and Gift Day are our main annual fund-raising events.

As you may know we have a plan to re-order the west end of the Church, by creating a flexible "social" space and refurbishing the kitchen area to enable hospitality and freer movement within the building as well as providing accessible toilet facilities. In addition, the Church desperately needs re-wiring and re-lighting before anything else can happen.

As a Grade 1 listed building there are several surveys which have already been done including an asbestos survey, a detailed inspection of the nationally significant mediaeval wall paintings and an archaeological inspection to ascertain how we can progress the plans. We feel it is important that you understand why every donation matters.



If you are a UK taxpayer, please sign the Gift Aid declaration on the envelope that will be enclosed in the October edition of your Marnhull Messenger. This will enable us to claim a further 20% from HMRC. Cheques should be made payable to "St Gregory's Church" or if you prefer to donate by bank transfer our bank details are: St Gregory's Parish Church - Lloyds Bank - 30-90-92 - 00815214

Again, on behalf of the PCC and congregation of St Gregory's please accept our thanks for your support.

Yours sincerely

Revd. Gaenor Hockey – Rector designate - On behalf of St Gregory's Church PCC If you would like to be kept informed of future events happening at St Gregory's please email me on revgaenor@proton.me

## BISHOP'S LETTER



### God's own field

Harvest, in the agricultural sense, is well past. All is safely (or soggily) gathered in and the appealing blocks of barley and hay baling our landscape into a pop-up sculpture park have all but disappeared.

The Church's Harvest celebrations – extended as a 'Creationtide' season into October – are in one sense, then, a delayed thanksgiving for the yield of former months. That needn't trouble us, however, for they are just as much focused on a rather less specific future point: the anticipated end of the world believers know as the Last Judgement. For many, this is merely one of the vestiges of a Christian worldview with little bearing on present times, a sickle blade blunted by unbelief.

Nevertheless, the idea of a harvest that separates the righteous from the unrighteous often crops up in Jesus' teaching and has gained a new edge as we witness the ecological ends of our actions, more fearfully evident with each passing, and slightly warmer, year. The once-familiar Parable of the Wheat and the Tares tells us that good and evil inevitably grow together in this life: one is easy to mistake for the other and this fact should caution us away from prejudice or self-righteousness. But it is also a warning that the real myth is the one that imagines our actions have no lasting or eternal consequences. They do, they will - and to ignore this is simply to hasten the day.

## STURMINSTER NEWTON HERITAGE TRUST

Local history enthusiasts and friendly faces wanted!

Calling all history lovers! The Sturminster Newton Heritage Trust (SNHT), which cares for the local museum as well as Sturminster Newton Mill, is seeking enthusiastic volunteers to dedicate a few hours each week to the charity.

The Museum, which is entirely run by volunteers and is free for everyone to enjoy, chronicles the history of the local area from the Romans to the present day. With regularly changing exhibitions on different aspects of local history, and a fascinating collection of objects on display, Sturminster Newton Museum seeks to provoke feelings of nostalgia for long-time residents, inspire a new generation to learn about local history, and provide interest and entertainment to visitors passing through the town.

Meanwhile at Sturminster Newton Mill, specially trained millers lead guided tours of the historic space, while keeping heritage skills alive with Milling Weekends, where visitors can see flour milled using traditional methods – later available to purchase in the shop. Whether they've travelled miles for a long-awaited tour of the mill, or just popped by on their weekend stroll to picnic by the mill pond, visitors are treated to a warm welcome four days a week from March – September by the friendly team of volunteer stewards.

The Sturminster Newton Heritage Trust also works in partnership with local schools to involve young people in research projects, work experience, and opportunities to connect with the history and heritage of the place where they live. Most recently Sturminster Newton High School students took part in the Trust's Swanskin Seafarers of Sturminster research project, connecting with young people in Newfoundland, Canada, who had shared North Dorset heritage with them.

All of this work is made possible due to the hard work of volunteers – local people with a few hours to spare each week who take on roles in the museum and mill. Volunteers come in all shapes and sizes, and everyone has different skills and experience to contribute.



Whether you're a keen baker who could contribute fresh scones to a fundraising cream tea, or a friendly people-person who would love to spend a few days greeting visitors to the mill or museum, the Sturminster Newton Heritage Trust would love to hear from you. If neither of those roles sound appealing, the SNHT is always looking for muscle power – erecting gazebos and lifting chairs to help set up for community events and summer holiday activities.

Interested parties should contact Zilla Brown, Secretary of the Sturminster Newton Heritage Trust, on 01258 473178.

## NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

What is a Neighbourhood Development Plan?

Neighbourhood development plans (NDPs) are a way of helping local communities to influence planning in the area in which they live and work.

NDPs can be used to:

- Develop a shared vision for your neighbourhood.
- Choose where new homes, shops, offices and other development should be built.
- Identify and protect important local green spaces.
- Influence what new buildings should look like.
- Influence decisions on traffic and transport; footpaths; local facilities; use of renewable energy, etc.

Who is leading the Marnhull NDP?

Marnhull Parish Council is leading the plan through a steering group. The steering group reports regularly to the PC and its minutes can be found on the Marnhull Parish Council website [marnhull-pc.org.uk/neighbourhood-plan/](http://marnhull-pc.org.uk/neighbourhood-plan/). The steering group is supported by a professional consultant experienced in neighbourhood plans in Dorset.

Who is on the NDP Steering Group?

The Steering Group is: Jules Cormack (Chair), Stephen Boyce (Secretary), Adrian Bailey, Anna Fraser, Steve Penson, Francesca Pratt, Mark Turner, Sarah Lyster.

Will I get a chance to express my views?

The process of developing the NDP is consultative so that the plan represents the broad consensus of the community as a whole.

The steering committee wishes to hear the views of individuals, organisations, businesses and landowners throughout Marnhull and there will be opportunities to contribute, both formal and informal, including surveys and public meetings at various stages during the process.

How long will the NDP take?

It is estimated that the work will take 18 months to two years to complete. Once the plan is drafted it must be approved by Dorset Council and will be subject to a local (parish-wide) referendum.

Will it make any difference?

The NDP is an important tool in helping manage development across the village. Once adopted it must be taken into account when planning applications are being determined.

Can I get involved?

The steering group will need the support of volunteers during the process of drawing up the NDP.

If you would like to volunteer please contact us at: [marnhullndp@gmail.com](mailto:marnhullndp@gmail.com) Please also spread the word among your neighbours – planning affects us all and no matter where in Marnhull you live the neighbourhood plan is for you.

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

Firstly, can I say thank you to all those in the village that have wished me well since I was elected Chair of the Marnhull Parish Council (MPC) back in May.

I have had time to reflect, meet and listen to lots of people and I thought it was sensible to put my thoughts down on paper for people in the Village to read. The Parish Council is in a difficult position; the first point of call for those wishing to complain about or object to something or some development in the village, yet, more often than not, without the requisite powers to make a difference. All we can do is to continue to influence, chase and push others to get the outcomes that we want. This uses up a lot of time, energy, and goodwill with only a small chance of success and, over time, we lose heart and the enthusiasm to keep pushing. I decided to stand as Chair of the MPC because I think I can make a difference to help the MPC and the village face today's key challenges. These are:

•Planning – we should assume that the recent stream of large and small planning applications will keep coming; therefore, we must continue the valuable work of reviewing and, where necessary, objecting to those applications. One of the things that the MPC can do to help is to sponsor the development of the Neighbourhood Plan (see next point). If you feel strongly about a particular application, it is always worth putting in a comment of your own via the Dorset Council planning website. We have provided some help and advice on making those comments and it can be found on the MPC website: <https://marnhull-pc.org.uk/how-to-comment-on-planning-applications/>

•Neighbourhood Plan – this is a vital plank in the village's response to planning applications. Producing a plan is a long and difficult process; I am therefore delighted that Jules Cormack has agreed to lead the development of the Neighbourhood Plan. I have been really impressed with the team that has come forward to help and the energy and enthusiasm shown so far can only bode well for the future.

All villagers will have a role to play in this process; not least participation in the consultations that are planned over the next year or so. Please do everything you can to respond to these consultations.

High levels of village engagement are vital to creating a great plan but also showing others outside of the village how determined we are to make it happen.

•S106 commitments – like it or not, the planning applications that have already been approved will be completed. The challenge for us is to ensure we get the benefits from those developments. In the short time I have been looking at the S106 agreements and the processes that sit around it, inaction on our part may lead to the community losing out on the commitments that have been made by the developers. Again, we will continue to push, enquire, chase, and secure the funds as the developments progress. I will ensure that we will provide regular updates as the developments move from planning consent into actual physical development.

•Keep doing the day-to-day work – I am not sure everyone understands what the MPC does around the allotments, recreation ground, cemetery, defibrillators, and other areas of the village. Over the next few months, I will be asking councillors to also write short articles for the Messenger about their areas of responsibility so that you can be as well informed about all the essential works that the MPC does. Over the next couple of months, we will have articles on:

oThe Councillors and their responsibilities

oThe MPC budget – how do we form a budget and what does it contain?

•Engagement – something I am passionate about. I believe there is more we can do to make the MPC and its councillors as visible and available as we can. I have been pleased to see good attendance at the MPC meetings. (I'm sure it was the content of the agenda rather than the new Chair that improved attendances) and it was great to see our stand at the Fest and Flower Show so well attended. You will have noted of course that the MPC team took first prize in the Great Marnhull Village Bake Off – well done Louella! I intend to visit as many local societies, schools, and events as I can so that I can see first-hand what happens and give you an opportunity to say hello. If you want me to pay a visit, please drop me a line at [mark.turner@marnhull-pc.org.uk](mailto:mark.turner@marnhull-pc.org.uk) and I will see what I can do.

Finally, a little bit about how I work and think. I still work full time so I will have to manage my MPC responsibilities carefully. I am a pretty level headed person and can cope with most of what is thrown at me.

However, things that do irritate me particularly include impolite and unprofessional behaviour. But... I like working in teams and believe that small, motivated teams can bring about big changes and have fun at the same time; that is what I would like the MPC to do.

## ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



St. Mary's Catholic  
Primary School

I was so happy to be able to share our wonderful Ofsted report at last. The staff have worked tirelessly to ensure that our children 'enjoy attending school' and 'become interested and confident learners who achieve well'. I was really pleased to see that the inspectors recognised that St Mary's is an 'inclusive school' where the pupils 'live out' our 'deep-rooted values of respect,

compassion, forgiveness, and tolerance'. I am so proud of our lovely school and I'm glad the inspectors saw how amazing our children and staff are.



The summer term is always a busy one, but with the support of our fabulous PTFA, we have been able to experience a range of special events. We had a sunny sports day where the children enjoyed earning points for their teams; and some work experience pupils from Gillingham High School ably supported us. This was followed by the PTFA Summer Fair, which gave the children an opportunity to 'soak the teacher' – rather refreshing on such a hot day!

In between continuing with our learning, creating artwork for the Marnhull Flower Show and rehearsing for our summer show, the children took some time out to learn some circus skills ranging from plate spinning to juggling! I was very impressed with their aptitude - we have some budding circus acts! It was great to have the opportunity to perform to our parents and grandparents. The fun didn't stop there! We then went on a whole school trip to Longleat Safari Park, which would support our science topics about living things including animals. Needless to say, we avoided the monkey enclosure! We had a great time there, despite the VERY heavy rain!



Our term culminated in the matinee and evening performances of 'Pirates versus Mermaids'. Again, parents' creativity with costumes was amazing! As a result, the children looked stunning on stage and gave a superb performance. I am so proud of them. We then enjoyed our bittersweet leavers' service for Y6, led by Deacon Mike and followed by a family picnic.

Our term ended with the opportunity to celebrate our End of Year Mass with Fr Joseph, parents and parishioners. As usual the children sang with great gusto and were prayerful when they needed to be.

It has been an exceptionally busy but rewarding year for our fantastic school, and I am sure that our whole school community will enjoy the summer holidays.

### St Mary's Explorers

Our Explorers continue to enjoy daily maths sessions and we are so proud of how they are progressing. We love watching them exploring and having fun with numbers. This, we know, will be a strong foundation for future learning as they move through school.

The children have really enjoyed hearing traditional tales this half term. When sharing the story of Goldilocks, we talked about respecting others' belongings. They felt it would be best for Goldilocks to apologise to the bears and try to make things better. However, their favourite part of the story was the porridge and enjoying cooking some which tasted just right!

Our preschool children loved joining in our whole school sports day. They were full of energy and enthusiasm as they raced with big smiles on their faces. We were so impressed with their confidence and we were all very proud of them.



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 on request. The unit allows preschool and Reception children to work together on lots of key areas of learning. We still have places available for September. If you would like to come and visit the school to see what we can offer your child, contact the school office [office@stmarymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:office@stmarymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk) 01258 820417 or just pop in! (Early Education Funding vouchers accepted and 30hrs funding available).

## St Anthony's

In science, we have been exploring materials and discovering their many different properties. This led to some great experimenting finding a suitable material for Winnie the Pooh's umbrella. The children decided it needed to be light, waterproof and strong.



In RE, the children have learnt about being a good neighbour and the importance of being compassionate to all. They have shown they understand this by living it out as they learn and play together.

## St Mark's

In Geography, the children have been learning about mountains and volcanoes. They have been linking their prior knowledge about how rivers are formed to understand how mountains are formed. They were very keen to learn about tectonic plates and the impact they have on the world both on land and under the oceans.



## St Francis'

The children of St Francis have spent a number of weeks this half term learning how to play the ocarinas. A music specialist who we are very lucky to have in our school, Mrs Chapman, has taught these lessons. When the children first started playing, some of them didn't know what an ocarina was and didn't know how to play them. They have worked really hard to learn to play some songs which they could perform for an audience. The children played two songs, one being 'Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star'. The children were amazing and I was very proud as their class teacher to watch them all play with such confidence. The other children really enjoyed listening to them and gave them a big applause at the end. The children of St Francis then received a certificate for their completion of learning the ocarinas. I think many of the children will be asking for one as birthday and Christmas presents. Well done, St Francis!



## St Alban's

In St Alban's we have been busy planning and designing our own zoos. We took inspiration from our whole school trip to Longleat and used our knowledge about animals and their habitats to help map out where each animal should be placed as well as using our maths skills to ensure we kept within our budget! We have also been able to make the most of the great weather and get outside to try out a variety of different sports such as; golf, cricket, tennis, volleyball and badminton. We enjoyed learning new skills, playing as a team and challenging ourselves.

## BLACKMORE VALE U3A



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*For retired and semi-retired people*

## Open Afternoon and Photography exhibition

**Tuesday 5th September  
2.30pm - 4.00pm**

**Henstridge Village Hall BA8 0QD**

**Please join us for a glass of wine and chat to our talented group leaders, see what they do and learn something new.**

**Become a member in September and get three months for free!**



*David Foster – Photography Group Leader – Join Us*

For more information about Blackmore Vale u3a  
call 01963 204318 or  
[www.u3asites.org.uk/blackmore](http://www.u3asites.org.uk/blackmore)

## MEN'S HEALTH-EVENT



Supported by local GP Practices



**Friday 15th Sept 12 - 7pm**  
RiversMeet Leisure Centre Gillingham, Dorset SP8 4HX

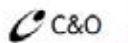
## Are You Living Life to the Full?

Support, advice & information on many health & wellbeing issues



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**CONTINUED PAGE RIGHT**



## 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

## Finds Identification



Bring your finds along for  
**Ciorstaidh Hayward-Trevarthen**  
to identify as she makes a welcome return  
to the **museum**

By **appointment only 10 -11.30am** contact  
[finds@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:finds@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

**11.30am – 1.00pm drop in session**

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2023  
10am – 1pm

## STARS APPEAL BENSON SUITE MARKS 10 YEARS OF SUPPORTING BEREAVED PARENTS

Press Release

11/08/23

Cyclists raise over £30,000 after completing Wiltshire to Devon challenge

A group of cyclists who travelled over 100 miles from Wiltshire to Devon have raised over £30,000 for the Stars Appeal, Salisbury District Hospital's Charity.

The Unlikely Cyclists made up of William Warden, John Matthews, Andy Hillier, Matt Oakes, Mike and Elaine Davis, Nick Cordel, Matt Hurley, Alistair Fenwick, Wayne Davis, Tristan Warden and Chris Combe, completed the challenge over two days.

William, from Devizes, came up with the idea of doing the challenge after his wife Sarah was diagnosed with breast cancer last year and cared for at the Stars Appeal funded Breast Unit. After telling friends of his plan, they were keen to support him, and the Unlikely Cyclists were formed.

Explaining more about what spurred him on to fundraise for Salisbury District Hospital's Charity, William said: "Sarah was diagnosed with Breast Cancer in late 2022 and while sitting in Salisbury Hospital's Breast Unit, one grey and damp morning, I read through the list of companies and individuals who had donated to fund the unit to provide a calm and peaceful atmosphere for treatment, and felt I would like to do something to help. The care Sarah received from the dedicated team of nurses was faultless."

Members of the group visited the Breast Unit at the Hospital on Monday, August 9 for a special cheque presentation and also had a talk about the charity's work.

The group, whose ages range from under 30 to over 70, set off from Marston near Devizes on Thursday, July 13 where they headed to Axminster then on to Mortonhampsted on the edge of Dartmoor the next day.

William said: "When we got to Axminster we were fairly tired, but we all made it. The weather on the Friday was a big challenge. Everyone was glad they did it," adds William, who had initially set up a JustGiving page with a target of £5,000 and was "amazed" as the fundraising total continued to grow.

"We never envisaged getting anywhere near that amount. To get over £30,000 we were astonished.

We hope it will make a difference to a lot of people.

"We can't thank everyone who supported us enough."

The Stars Appeal aims to raise over £1million each year to fund projects offering direct, practical support to patients, their families, and the Hospital's staff.

Alongside its Breast Unit the charity has provided the Hospital with additional CT and MRI scanners and a range of new facilities including an enhanced Children's Unit and Cardiac Suite.

Donations also help fund projects supporting cancer patients, including free aromatherapy, headwear for patients who lose their hair, free drinks for chemotherapy and oncology outpatients, and a prehabilitation programme offering one-to-one support to help patients prepare for surgery and treatment.

Dave Cates said: "We are so grateful to William and Sarah, and all of the cyclists and their supporters, for raising such an incredible sum for our charity. It will enable us to continue our work enhancing care for thousands of patients every week at Salisbury Hospital and supporting their families and the NHS staff that care for them."



Further information:

Katy Griffin - Communications and Engagement Officer  
Salisbury District Hospital Stars Appeal  
01722 429005  
info@starsappeal.org  
www.starsappeal.org  
Reg charity number 1052284



## MARNHULL NEEDS YOU !!

Marnhull Village Care offers a transport service for villagers who need to attend a medical appointment but are not able to drive themselves. This service depends on volunteer drivers, and

*we need more volunteers!*

If you have your own car and are able to spare some time to help a neighbour when they need it most, we would love to hear from you. You will be under no obligation to do specific times, days or trips, and you will be recompensed by your passengers according to a mileage scale in line with HMRC regulations.

Like to help?

Please let us have your name and a contact number: call Ann on 01258 820456.

Thank you!

## MARNHULL MUSIC SOCIETY

Colin Shiner opened his programme with a contemplative piece by Elgar for strings and harp called "Sospiri". It was followed by a song by The Scorpion Band, a Dorset original talent which is well known for its collection of traditional songs. Called "The Hard Times of Old England" it bewails the fate of soldiers returning from the Napoleonic wars who found there was little employment for them.

A bit later Colin played the 3rd movement of Rachmaninov's 2nd symphony dating from 1908. Surely there is no more lyrical, graceful and utterly perfect piece of music than this spellbinding melody.

After "Don't cry for me, Argentina" from Andrew Lloyd Webbers "Evita" the first half ended with the ethereal and dreamlike 3rd movement of Mahler's 5th Symphony.

Colin promised us a less introspective second half and he delivered by playing "The Lion and Albert" recited by Stanley Holloway, just to prove that our society is not forbiddingly high-brow. The delicious quartet "Bella figlia dell'amore" from Verdi's Rigoletto which came next was the highlight of the programme for me. Colin had interestingly discovered a piano piece by Liszt which paraphrased the previous melody.

The Vaughan Williams "Norfolk Rhapsody No. 1" which followed was unfamiliar to nearly all of his audience. Several of us back-row critics felt that it definitely captured the sense of wind and big skies usually associated with East Anglia and would be worth further study.

After the solemn and thought-provoking "Benedictus" from Karl Jenkins' The Armed Man with its hint of mediaeval plainsong, Colin sent us off into the warm evening with three very contrasting versions of the can-can.

Our next meeting will be in September and we urge anyone who enjoys music of a generally "classical" nature to come along and visit us for an evening.

## VILLAGE HARVEST SUPPER

Calling all 'Marnhullians' - or 86 village folk anyway!

The Village Harvest Supper, organised by Marnhull Churches Together, is being held in the Village Hall from 6.30 on Friday 13th October and you are warmly invited to come along.

It being Friday 13th shouldn't put you off as the food will be good, the company excellent and a fine time should be had by all. The theme for the evening is 'Village & Rural Life' and some poems submitted by guests will be read out during the evening. So, please bring a short, relevant poem along with you.

Tickets are £8.00 to include a main, a pud and one drink and they will be available from 10th September from the Post Office, the Marnhull Store and via the churches. There will be a vegetarian option.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Gillian - on behalf of Churches Together in Marnhull.



Marnhull Churches Together  
**VILLAGE HARVEST SUPPER**

*Celebrating village & rural life*

**FRIDAY 13th OCTOBER**

at 6.30pm in the Village Hall

**TICKETS £8.00**

(includes a main, pud and a drink; vegetarian option)

Available from the Post Office, the Marnhull Stores  
and through the churches. from 10th Sept.

**Why not submit a poem?**

It should be short, relevant to village life,  
the countryside or autumn.

Bring it along and it may be read out during the evening!

**ALL WELCOME!**



## AUTUMN CHARITY QUIZ

MARNHULL VILLAGE HALL

FRIDAY 6th OCTOBER

Teams of 6 £11.00 per head

Ploughman's supper with pud.

Bring your own drink, nibbles, scrap paper, pen and brains

Tea and coffee on sale

Bookings from individuals accepted - we will try to fit you in a team if possible

Contact

Andrew Webb: alwebb@hotmail.co.uk 01258821318

This years proceeds to

Julia's House and The Vale Pantry



HAVE YOU MOVED HERE SINCE OCTOBER 2022?  
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 / November in the Village Hall.

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: hilaryjparker85a@gmail.com

Trevor Vaughan. MBE

Chair

Email - trevorvaughan.mpc@gmail.com Tel - 01258 821636



## MARNHULL VILLAGE CARE - VOLUNTEER DRIVERS

As part of the role of Transport Co-ordinator for Marnhull Village Care, I have to submit an annual report to the Public and Community Transport Officer, Dorset Council, listing the number of trips made by our volunteer drivers and the mileage driven. I thought you might be interested to hear the numbers.

Between 1st April 2022 and 31st March 2023 we completed 190 trips, covering more than 5,500 miles.

That's 190 trips to doctors, dentists, hospitals, opticians, banks, shops and even, on one occasion, to an end of term play!

In short, although we focus on healthcare and hospital visits - and they take priority - we will help out if we possibly can.

A huge shout out to the trusty band of 12 regular drivers who are unfailingly cheery and pleasant to me on the phone, even though I'm sure their hearts sink when they see my number come up! Your willingness to give up your time to help others is much appreciated, not just by me but most certainly by all the people you've had in your passenger seat!

Anyone interested in upping our number and joining The Twelve?! If you are, please drop me an email - ann@alisaconsulting.com - or give me a ring on 01258 820456 / 07769 962840. I'd love to hear from you!

## 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.

## MARNHULL GARDEN CLUB

Marnhull Garden Club Chairman & Officers were extremely pleased to be able to present a cheque for £626.00 to Carole Jones a Trustee for The Vale Pantry Sturminster Newton.

(This donation will provide 300+ families The Vale Pantry support with a supply of fresh vegetables for a month)

The funds were raised on the Marnhull Garden Club stall at the Marnhull Flower Show in July by selling a fantastic array of plants grown and donated by members of Marnhull Garden Club and appropriately, given the wet conditions, the proceeds from a 'Guess the Frogs Name' competition.

Fortunately the plants, the frog, and many hardy souls seemed to like the damp conditions and the support we received throughout the afternoon from visitors to the show was amazing.

To learn more about the good work The Vale Pantry do locally please check out their website at [www.valepantry.co.uk](http://www.valepantry.co.uk).



A warm welcome to the Village & Support in our Community



## MARNHULL NEEDS YOU !!

Marnhull Village Care offers a transport service for villagers who need to attend a medical appointment but are not able to drive themselves. This service depends on volunteer drivers, and

*we need more volunteers!*

If you have your own car and are able to spare some time to help a neighbour when they need it most, we would love to hear from you. You will be under no obligation to do specific times, days or trips, and you will be recompensed by your passengers according to a mileage scale in line with HMRC regulations.

Like to help?

Please let us have your name and a contact number: call Ann on 01258 820456.

Thank you!



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Marnhull

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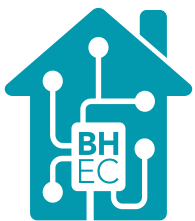


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### LITTERPICKERS

Help us keeping Marnhull village and  
surrounding roads litter free.

Join our band of volunteers,  
contact John Seear on 01258 269743

## MARNHULL WOMENS' INSTITUTE

It is plain that Clyde Jones is passionate about the concept of regenerative farming. In his talk entitled "Farming from the soil upwards" he told the story of his boyhood home on a smallholding with just a cow and a few chickens and ducks and, unusually, a racoon. From this beginning via years of study at different institutions he became interested in the culture of pasture quality. Who knew there was so much to learn about grasslands?

I feel thoroughly incompetent to relay even the most rudimentary content of this talk. It ranged over soil chemistry, root formation, different types of grasses and their needs, grazing patterns, fodder plants and much more. From my position of ignorance, however, I did manage to capture a few bullet points: the best way to keep your pasture healthy is (1) avoid tilling, (2) limit the time the animals are allowed to graze each patch, (3) avoid compacting the soil and (4) study the nature

of the soil and the grasses in your area before deciding what fertilizer best unlocks the organic potential of the land. I hope that anyone from the farming community who reads this will forgive so sketchy a report on what was obviously a fact-filled hour. But from henceforth I will look at a field with a slightly more discerning eye.

### 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

## NEWS FROM TRADING STANDARDS

### Age restricted sales

There are laws that restrict the sale of certain products and services to underage people. Just some of these age restricted products and services are:

Minimum age 18 – Alcohol, fireworks, knives, vapes and tobacco.

Minimum age 16 – Aerosol paint and petrol.

Minimum age 12 – DVDs and computer games with a 12 aged classification.

There are concerns about the potential availability of age restricted products to young people, and of the personal and social implications that come from buying them underage. Trading Standards enforce the law for many different types of products, helping to keep young people safe, and communities protected from anti-social behaviour.

Retailers know that they shouldn't sell age restricted goods to people younger than allowed. They are encouraged to put systems in place to make sure that they don't sell illegally. Challenge 25 is one such system that can be used. Shop staff are trained to always ask for ID from a person who looks younger than 25. If that is followed closely, then sales to people younger than 18 should not be made. Other processes can include having a refusals 'book' to demonstrate that sales are being refused, and by which members of staff. Posters can also be displayed that state that ID will be requested. Some shops have till prompts that put a sale on hold until the seller has had a proper look at the buyer to determine their age.

If Trading Standards have concerns about a seller, then they use young people as volunteers to check whether retailers are following the rules by attempting to buy age restricted products. It is a fair test; volunteers would always be picked on the basis that they look much younger than the age required for the product they are instructed to buy.

Trading Standards rely on information from the public about shops selling products illegally. So, if you have any concerns about a sale you have seen, please let Trading Standards know by simply calling the Citizens Advice consumer helpline on 0808 2231133.

### Marnhull Royal British Legion

present a Charity night for Prostate Cancer Research on September 30th  
Featuring ska band Press Gang  
There will be a bumper raffle  
£5 payable on the door

### TEA WITH FRIENDS

Our monthly get together for cuppa, cake and a chat will be on Wednesday September 13th 2.30 to 4pm  
Methodist Church Hall - All Welcome

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**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 7.30pm\***

**Geoff Whiting** -our compere - who has supported Michael McIntyre, Harry Hill, Lee Mack amongst others...

**Aaron Levene** -with his darkly funny tales of neurosis mixed with observational material

**David Tsonos** -Canadian comedian David has a friendly and confident persona, with his hilarious combination of banter and impulsive comments

**Lottie Hazell** -comic observations on her unlucky life , growing up in Devon....

**Billy James** -Salisbury based comedian, Billy, was a finalist in the Bath Comedy Festival New Act competition 2022

Tickets are just £15 and available from **The Gugg** by popping in or calling 01963 363456. Or online @[www.eventbrite.com](http://www.eventbrite.com) All proceeds to be split between **The Gugg** and **The Big Yellow Bus Garden Project**



**David Tsonos**



**Billy James**

**Guggleton Farm Arts, Station Road, Stalbridge, DT10 2RQ**  
[www.guggletonfarmarts.com](http://www.guggletonfarmarts.com)

**\*BYO drinks.**

**\*Warning: This show will contain adult material that some people may find offensive. Over 18's only!**

**(\*Acts may be subject to change on the night: if Hollywood call they can't say no!)**



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Royal British Legion Marnhull

## Marnhull & Gillingham BADMINTON Club



### BADMINTON FOR BEGINNERS

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

ALL COACHING FREE (Badminton England Coach)  
 Loads of fun for children and families

### BADMINTON CLUB NIGHT

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

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

### BADMINTON SENIOR NIGHT

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

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

Contact: Robert Tulk - 01258 820728

Meet at Riversmeet on Mondays, Tuesdays & Thursdays

## FRENCH & SPANISH CONVERSATION

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

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

Ros Eveleigh on 821049.

### 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

## New Messenger Deadline: 14th September

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

### CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS

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

Hard

Medium

ACROSS 1. Aldrin 4. Femur 6. Che 7. Balmoral 8. Hope  
 11. Midge 13. Carp 15. Veranda 16. Cellidh 17. Mews  
 19. Adage 21. Omen 24. Penelope 25. Alb 26. Quern  
 27. Tarzan  
 Down 1. Aesop 2. Real Madrid 3. Nomad 4. Forge 5. Malaga  
 6. Cash 9. Oxeys 10. Evans 12. Gamekeeper 13. Cello  
 14. Ridge 18. Wimple 19. Annan 20. Aglet 22. Milan 23. Numb





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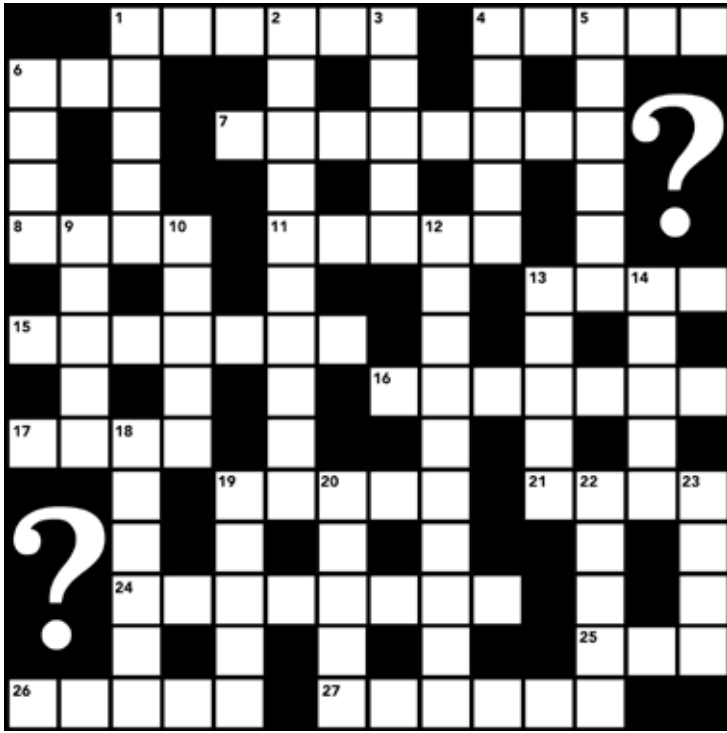
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## ACROSS

- 1) Surname of the second man to set foot on the moon. (6)
- 4) The longest bone in the human body. (5)
- 6) Nickname of revolutionary Ernesto Guevara. (3)
- 7) Scottish home purchased by Queen Victoria in 1852. (8)
- 8) All that was left in Pandora's box after she opened it. (4)
- 11) Small two winged fly that feeds on blood . (5)
- 13) Deep bodied freshwater fish. (4)
- 15) Roofed platform along the outside of a house level with the ground floor. (7)
- 16) Social event with Scottish or Irish folk music and traditional dancing and storytelling. (7)
- 17) A row of houses converted from stables. (4)
- 19) A proverb that expresses a general truth. (5)
- 21) An event seen as a portent of good or evil. (4)
- 24) Forename of the actress that played Audrey fforbes-Hamilton in the TV comedy 'To the Manor Born'. (8)
- 25) Vestment worn by clergy in some Christian churches. (3)
- 26) Simple hand mill for grinding grain. (5)
- 27) Literary Character invented by Edgar Rice Burroughs. (6)

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

## DOWN

- 1) Greek writer of fables. (5)
- 2) Spanish football club that play at the Bernabeu Stadium. (4-6)
- 3) Member of a people that continuously move to find fresh grazing for their flocks. (5)
- 4) Make a metal object by heating and beating it. (5)
- 5) Spanish city on the Costa del Sol. (6)
- 6) Australian winner of the Wimbledon men's singles championship in 1987. (4)
- 9) Widespread flowering daisy native to Europe. (5)
- 10). Chris, DJ and presenter. (5)
- 12) Occupation of Oliver Mellors lover of Lady Chatterley in a novel by D. H. Lawrence. (10)
- 13) Bass instrument of the violin family. (5)
- 14) Elongated region of high barometric pressure. (5)
- 18) Headdress worn by some nuns. (6)
- 19) Town and river of Southwest Scotland. (5)
- 20) Metal or plastic tube fixed on the end of a shoelace. (5)
- 22) Italian city which is the capital of Lombardy. (5)
- 23) Deprived of the power of sensation. (4)

### MARNHULL TABLE TENNIS

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 Now playing within Covid restrictions  
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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  
 mikyona@aol.com

**All PUZZLE ANSWERS ON  
 PAGE 32**



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