

# THE **MARNHULL** **MESSENGER**

SEPTEMBER 2024 | ISSUE 146

[www.marnhullmessenger.org.uk](http://www.marnhullmessenger.org.uk)

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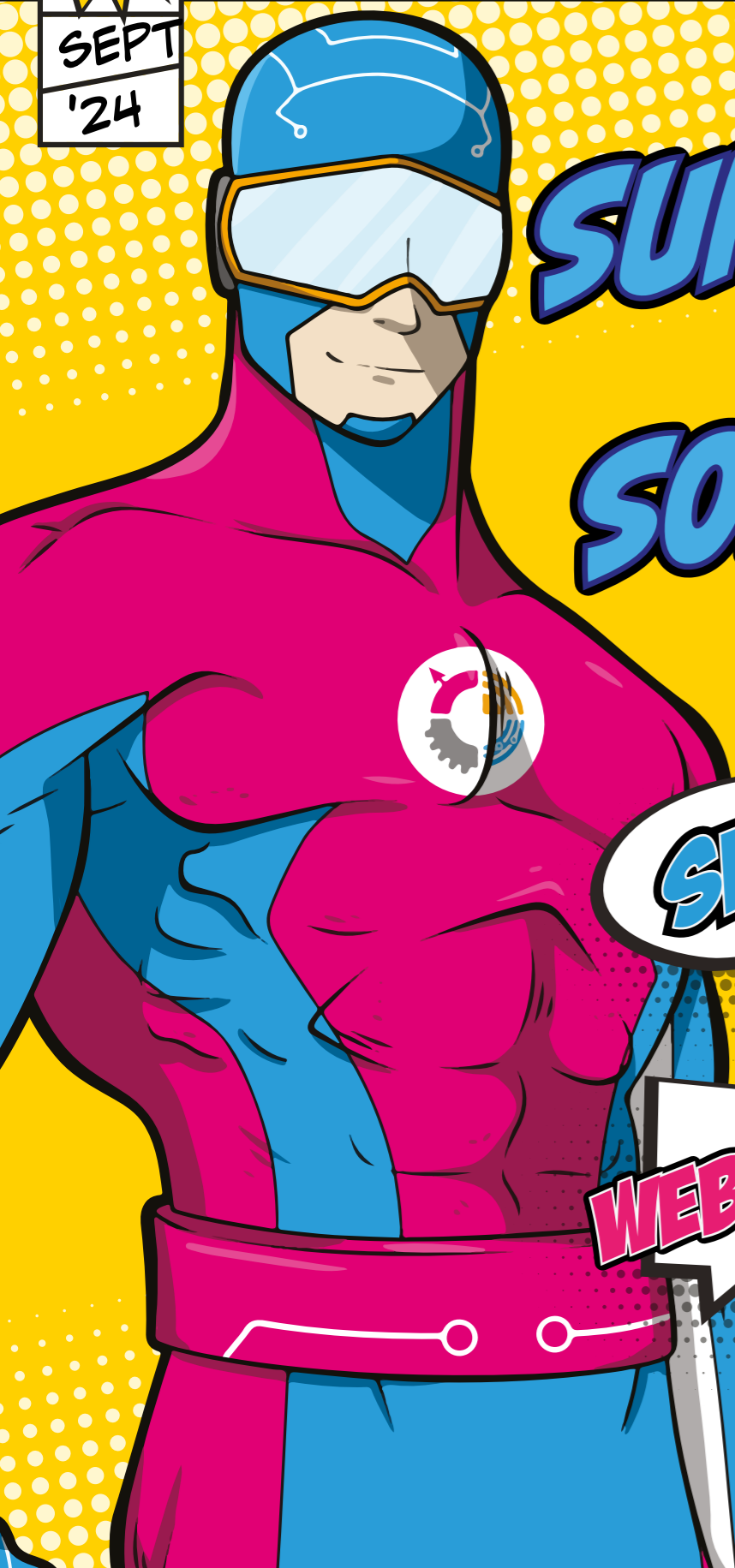
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#10  
SEPT  
'24



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**MARNHULL MESSENGER**



**CHRIS RYU**  
Messenger Editor

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)

Welcome back to the new look Messenger!

I hope you didn't miss us too much during the month off. I'm sure all the village events kept you occupied. We've certainly been blessed with some lovely weather. I can't help but feel that we'll be punished for it with a super cold winter.

I'm writing this after getting back from the Riverside Fest in Stur. Great to see some of the villagers down there. Well done to the organisers and thank you for letting us do a Tae Kwon-Do demonstration. 14 brave souls from the crowd also joined us to try out kicking and punching targets.

I've been a busy-bee recently, work is manic as always and the SDMA Martial Arts team have had a lot of social events; rock climbing, mud run and go-karts! I managed to finally take time to pass my motorbike test, so the village has another Harley and I've fulfilled a life-long dream.

We were away for the Marnhull Fest and Marnhull Flower Show but I hear that both went very well. Congratulations on another great year.

**REMINDER: NEW POLICY FOR EVENT ADVERTS**

You can still have a free listing in the diary and a free text based article, but coming later this year, 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.

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

**VILLAGE HELP**

**NORCAT** - Bookings 10am - 3pm - 01258 472164  
**Dial-a-Ride - Major & Immediate Emergencies Only** - 07900 261182  
**Marnhull Village Care Car Service:**  
Marnhull Village Care offer a door-to-door car service for people in the parish who cannot arrange their own transport for essential trips; medical appointments, for example. Passengers pay their volunteer drivers according to a mileage scale in line with HMRC regulations. Call 07777 559076 for all enquiries.

**DISCLAIMER**

The opinions expressed in the articles and on the pages of the Marnhull Messenger are not necessarily those of the Marnhull Messenger. All the dates and details are as supplied by the contributing organisations.. The Marnhull Messenger is not responsible for errors or omissions, accuracy of the content, nor the failure of any published event to go ahead. The letters and articles published in this magazine are accepted in good faith and the views expressed therein are not necessarily the views of the Messenger Steering Committee, whose decisions on publication are delegated to the Editor and are final.

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.

**PRIVACY POLICY**

The Marnhull Messenger respects the privacy of organisations and persons who submit information for publication. Personal details, including photographs, will only be published if approved and submitted by organisations or individuals. No personal details will be given out or sold to any third parties, whether individuals, organisations or companies.

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**MARNHULL MESSENGER WEBSITE**

**Who Do I Contact?**

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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 2024 *All events are held at the Village Hall unless otherwise stated.*

## September

<p>2nd - Monday Table Tennis - Monday @ 14:00 Lyn's Bingo @ 19:00 British Legion Club</p> <p>3rd - Tuesday Bridge Club @ 14:00 Methodist Hall</p> <p>4th - Wednesday Fitsteps dance and exercise class @ 11:15 Table Tennis - Wednesday @ 14:00 Community Choir @ 18:30</p> <p>5th - Thursday Craft Club @ 10:00 Methodist Hall</p> <p>6th - Friday Lunch Club @ 12:00</p> <p>7th - Saturday The Marnhull Hub and Repair Café @ 10:00 Rhythm Junkie @ 20:00 British Legion</p> <p>8th - Sunday St Gregory's Church Concert - Neil Sissons (Organ) @ 15:00 St Gregory's</p> <p>9th - Monday Pound Fitness @ 09:30 British Legion Table Tennis - Monday @ 14:00 Women's Institute - End of Life Doula @ 19:30</p> <p>10th - Tuesday Bridge Club @ 14:00 Methodist Hall Marnhull Garden Club - The Magic of Somerset Gardens - Abigail Ballinger @ 19:00</p> <p>11th - Wednesday Fitsteps dance and exercise class @ 11:15 Table Tennis - Wednesday @ 14:00 Tea with Friends @ 14:30 Methodist Hall Community Choir @ 18:30 Pound Fitness @ 19:00 British Legion</p> <p>13th - Friday Being here for each other @ 10:00 Methodist Hall Blackmore Vale Art Group @ 10:00 Quiz Night @ 19:00 Methodist Hall</p> <p>14th - Saturday The Marnhull Hub and Repair Café @ 10:00 Don't Frett @ 20:00 British Legion Club</p> <p>16th - Monday Pound Fitness @ 09:30 British Legion Table Tennis - Monday @ 14:00 Lyn's Bingo @ 19:00 British Legion Club Marnhull Music Society @ 19:15</p> <p>17th - Tuesday Bridge Club @ 14:00 Methodist Hall</p> <p>18th - Wednesday Fitsteps dance and exercise class @ 11:15 Table Tennis - Wednesday @ 14:00 Community Choir @ 18:30 Pound Fitness @ 19:00 British Legion</p>	<p>20th - Friday Marnhull Community Cafe @ 10:00</p> <p>21st - Saturday The Marnhull Hub and Repair Café @ 10:00 Reunion @ 20:00 British Legion Club</p> <p>22nd - Sunday St Gregory's Church Concert - Clapper Chaos (Hand Bells) @ 15:00 St Gregory's</p> <p>23rd - Monday Pound Fitness @ 09:30 British Legion Table Tennis - Monday @ 14:00 Bridge Club @ 14:00 Methodist Hall</p> <p>24th - Tuesday Moviola - Wicked Little Letters @ 19:30</p> <p>25th - Wednesday Fitsteps dance and exercise class @ 11:15 Table Tennis - Wednesday @ 14:00 Community Choir @ 18:30 Pound Fitness @ 19:00 British Legion</p> <p>27th - Friday Figure Drawing @ 10:30</p> <p>28th - Saturday The Marnhull Hub and Repair Café @ 10:00 DJ Bill Shannon - Soul and Motown @ 20:00 British Legion Club</p> <p>30th - Monday Pound Fitness @ 09:30 British Legion Table Tennis - Monday @ 14:00 Lyn's Bingo @ 19:00 British Legion Club</p>	<p>Craft Club @ 10:00 Methodist Hall</p> <p>4th - Friday Lunch Club @ 12:00</p> <p>5th - Saturday The Marnhull Hub and Repair Café @ 10:00 Dale Fender @ 21:00 British Legion</p> <p>6th - Sunday St Gregory's Church Concert - Louise Cousins (Piano) and Special Guests @ 15:00 St Gregory's</p> <p>7th - Monday Pound Fitness @ 09:30 British Legion Table Tennis - Monday @ 14:00</p> <p>8th - Tuesday Bridge Club @ 14:00 Methodist Hall</p> <p>9th - Wednesday Fitsteps dance and exercise class @ 11:15 Table Tennis - Wednesday @ 14:00 Tea with Friends @ 14:30 Methodist Hall Community Choir @ 18:30 Pound Fitness @ 19:00 British Legion</p> <p>11th - Friday Being here for each other @ 10:00 Methodist Hall Blackmore Vale Art Group @ 10:00 Marnhull Autumn Charity Quiz 2024 @ 19:00</p> <p>12th - Saturday The Marnhull Hub and Repair Café @ 10:00 Young At Heart @ 20:00 British Legion Club</p> <p>14th - Monday Pound Fitness @ 09:30 British Legion Table Tennis - Monday @ 14:00 Lyn's Bingo @ 19:00 British Legion Women's Institute - Orangutan - Man of the Forest @ 19:30</p> <p>15th - Tuesday Bridge Club @ 14:00 Methodist Hall</p> <p>16th - Wednesday Fitsteps dance and exercise class @ 11:15</p>
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## October

<p>1st - Tuesday Bridge Club @ 14:00 Methodist Hall</p> <p>2nd - Wednesday Fitsteps dance and exercise class @ 11:15 Table Tennis - Wednesday @ 14:00 Community Choir @ 18:30 Pound Fitness @ 19:00 British Legion</p> <p>3rd - Thursday</p>
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**FOR VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS**  
[www.marnhullvillagehall.org.uk](http://www.marnhullvillagehall.org.uk)  
 and click on 'Book the Village Hall'  
 For general enquiries, email:  
[bookings@marnhullvillagehall.org.uk](mailto:bookings@marnhullvillagehall.org.uk)  
 (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)



### FROM THE SURGERIES

#### National GP Survey Results 2024

The results from the National Survey have recently been announced and can be found online by searching 'GP patient survey results 2024'

Dorset had the highest average overall satisfaction with General Practice in England and the Blackmore Vale Partnership, at 83% was above NHS Dorset's average of 80% and the National Average of 74%.

#### Over the Counter Medicines

The NHS in Dorset wants each medicine prescribed to offer the best opportunity for improved health and wellbeing. For the most part, prescribing over the counter medicines does not achieve this.

The NHS has been spending around £136 million a year on prescriptions for medicines that can be bought from a pharmacy or supermarket (£5 million a year in Dorset). By reducing the amount the NHS spends on over the counter medicines, they can give priority to treatments for people with more serious conditions, such as cancer, diabetes and mental health problems.

In line with NHS England recommendations, NHS Dorset has asked Practice teams to stop prescribing medicine and treatment for 35 minor conditions. This allows GP Practices to focus on caring for people who have more complex needs.

NHS Dorset wants people to have the confidence to look after themselves where they can. This gives people greater control of their health without the need to visit their Surgery for minor conditions.

Your GP, nurse or pharmacist will not generally give you a prescription for over-the-counter medicines for a range of minor health concerns, even if you qualify for free prescriptions.

Instead, over the counter medicines are available to buy in a pharmacy or supermarket in your local community. The team of health professionals at your local pharmacy can offer help and clinical advice to manage minor health concerns and if your symptoms suggest it's more serious, they'll ensure you get the care you need.

The Practice will inform you, if this applies to you. As this is a national policy, if you have any concerns or questions please don't contact the Practice, but get in touch with NHS Dorset by email [customer.care@nhsdorset.nhs.uk](mailto:customer.care@nhsdorset.nhs.uk)

#### Carers' Clinic

The Practice holds monthly Carers' Clinics at Sturminster Newton and Abbey View Surgeries.

Each clinic provides 3 - 45-minute appointments with the surgery Carers' Lead and a carers' case worker from Dorset Council to offer information about relevant support, local organisations and services to help carers and those they care for. Sometimes it is just the chance to chat about how the carer is feeling with someone who is not directly involved with them or the one they care for.

The Practice makes annual phone calls to those on the Carers' Register in their birthday month to check that they are managing. Carers' Clinic appointments will be offered where it is considered appropriate, however, if a Carer feels they need an appointment they can contact the Practice and our Carers' Lead will respond.

By promoting the Carers' Clinic, it's hoped to raise awareness and to offer an appointment to anyone who provides any amount of care and support not already on the Carers' Register.

If you are a Carer and have not yet had an appointment, please contact the Practice to make one.

#### Pan Dorset Rheumatology Service

Rheumatology is now provided by a single pan Dorset service called the Dorset Rheumatology Service and University Hospitals Dorset (UHD) will be the sole provider.

UHD will be taking on the clinics currently provided by Dorset County Hospital (DCH). This means the clinics currently running at locations in the west of the county will continue as normal.

Patients will still be able to select their location of choice to be seen, inclusive of all current locations.

There are a number of benefits to having one service covering the whole of Dorset. These include:


- Improving the equity of waiting times
- Ensuring the consistency of service for patients regardless of location
- Improving the resilience of the clinical team
- Reducing health inequalities

#### BEING HERE FOR EACH OTHER

If you are grieving over someone or something you have lost, come and join our friendly, informal group to find support and explore ways to cope. Friday 13th September, 10-11.30am (monthly)

Marnhull Methodist Church Hall, Burton St DT10 1PS

For more details please contact End of Life Doula Flora on 07778 431264 or Nicky on 07975 570381



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# MARNHULL GREEN TEAMS

## Taking the Environment Around Marnhull Seriously

There have been a few changes at Marnhull Green Teams in recent weeks. A new Chair, Anthony Wilkinson; Secretary, Liz Bonnell, and Treasurer, Mike Ruth, were appointed at our AGM, and we wish them well, of course. There are a lot of things going on; and our new Chair's first action has been to seek ideas on what else we might do. More on that in a moment. Let's look first at the projects and activities that continue.

Our popular recycling centre behind the Village Hall will still be open for business when the Hub is open; that is, on most Saturday mornings, 10-12. Remember that the Hub operates a Repair Café too - and serves excellent coffee & cakes!

We hope to host a talk by the Dorset Council recycling team in the early autumn, to help us all better understand this useful but complex process, and we will be posting, and maintaining, a comprehensive guide to what you can recycle and where on our website, [marnhullgreenteams.com](http://marnhullgreenteams.com). We aim to make that service available later in the summer.

Our community allotment and orchard at the Sodom Lane allotments continue to thrive. If you would like to help with either, please do get in touch, via the website or by email: [marnhullgreen@outlook.com](mailto:marnhullgreen@outlook.com).

If you would like an allotment of your own there is one vacant now and another is expected to become available in April: please contact the Parish Council clerk for information about these, via [marnhull-pc.org.uk/contact](http://marnhull-pc.org.uk/contact).

We remain very interested in planting new trees. Contact us if you would like to acquire some saplings. We have hawthorn, oak, hazel, ash, sweet chestnut, blackthorn, field maple and horse chestnut in stock.

We intend to have an apple-pressing day later in the year, and there will be another Giveaway & Takeaway Day next spring. Watch for more details!

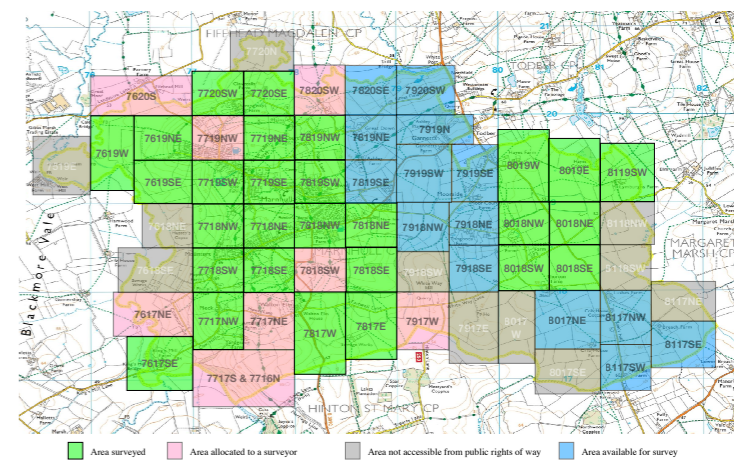
And our parish natural environment survey continues. The map shows a number of areas accessible from public rights of way which are still available for an initial survey - these areas are shown in blue. If you fancy having a good look at one of them during a summer stroll please get in touch.

We will supply you with a sketch map to work on and some guidance notes. Anything you can add will be very welcome. We need as full an understanding of our environment as can be managed, to help the village make decisions that affect that environment's future.

New projects? If you have ideas yourself, please email us about them: [marnhullgreen@outlook.com](mailto:marnhullgreen@outlook.com). Suggestions so far include:

- Another 'green' film showing, following the success of Marnhull Entertains' screening of 'Six Inches of Soil' earlier in the year
- Participation in bird, butterfly and other national surveys of our natural environment
- A solar panel database of panel configuration and actual outputs around the village, to give potential purchasers a clear information resource
- A Christmas decoration swap, in November at the Hub - do you have surplus, or are you a craftsperson...?
- Testing the water quality in our local rivers and streams: reported overflows from the Common Lane treatment works are particularly disappointing
- A 'Library of Tools', including kitchen equipment; and
- Hedgerow maintenance, possibly including laying.

If you are interested in any of these, or other ideas again, we'd like to hear from you!



## St Gregory's Autumn Series

St. Gregory's Autumn series of afternoon concerts continues in September with an organ concert by Neil Sissons at 3pm on Sunday 8th and a visit from the hand-bell group 'Clapper Chaos' at 3pm on Sunday 22nd. Neil Sissons studied organ with Richard Popplewell at The Royal College of Music, afterwards gaining an organ scholarship to Oxford University, where he read music. He has worked in many different areas as a musician, accompanying, repeteuring, teaching and writing about music. He was organist at Milton Abbey before being appointed to St. Peter's Bournemouth in 2015.

'Clapper Chaos' are a Poole-based hand-bell group and currently have 4 members. Between them they use 36 bells (3 chromatic octaves) and 25 handchimes (2 chromatic octaves). They play a wide variety of music from classical to pop and Disney. Admission to both concerts is free but donations towards the church reordering project will be welcomed. Refreshments will be provided following the performances.



St Gregory's Church  
Marnhull

# 2024 AUTUMN CONCERTS

(Alternate Sunday afternoons at 3pm)

- 25<sup>th</sup> August - Anthony Burns-Cox (organ)
- 8<sup>th</sup> September - Neil Sissons (organ)
- 22<sup>nd</sup> September - Clapper Chaos (hand bells)
- 6<sup>th</sup> October - Louise Cousins (piano) and special guests
- 20<sup>th</sup> October - Stephen Binnington (organ)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> November - Ian Jordinson's organ compositions (played by Stephen Binnington)

No tickets required but donations towards Church Funds will be gratefully received

For further information please call 07817 379006

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# STAYSAFE



**LOST OR STOLEN MOBILE PHONES**

**CHRIS WALTON**  
Oak Digital Solutions

Losing your mobile phone or having it stolen can be at best a pain, and at worst a distressing experience, there are some simple things you can do in both situations. If you are convinced that your phone is simply lost and you have a tracking app installed on your phone, such as Find My iPhone (for Apple devices) or Find My Device (for Android devices), you can attempt to locate your phone. Here's how:

**For iPhones:**

- Use another Apple device or go to iCloud.com and log in with your Apple ID.
- Open Find My iPhone and select your device to see its location on a map.
- You can remotely lock the phone, display a message with contact information, have it make a loud noise so that you can locate it if it is nearby, or erase all of the data on the phone.

**For Android:**

- Go to android.com/find and log in with your Google account.
- Select your device to see its location on a map.
- You can remotely lock the phone, display a message, have it make a loud noise so that you can locate it if it is nearby, or erase all the data on the phone.

If, however, you believe your phone has been stolen:

**1. Report the Theft to Your Network Provider**

Contact your mobile network provider as soon as possible to report the theft. This will allow them to:

- Block your SIM card to prevent unauthorized calls, texts, and data usage.
- Potentially block the phone's IMEI (International Mobile Equipment Identity) number, rendering the device useless on any network in the UK.
- All networks recommend getting in touch within 24 hours of losing your phone or getting it stolen. This ensures you'll only be responsible for paying a maximum of £100 for any excess unauthorised usage, and your network will cover the rest.
- If you wait more than 24 hours to contact your network, you may be liable to pay the full amount for any additional charges.

- Most network providers have a 24/7 hotline for such emergencies. Keep your network provider's contact details handy for such situations.

**2. Report the Theft to the Police**

If your phone is stolen, you should report it to the police straight away. You can call the non-emergency number on 101.

- possible, give them the phone's IMEI number. They can use it to register your device on their stolen phone database, and major retailers will be alerted to its stolen status if someone tries to sell it to them.

- The police should also give you a crime reference number, which

you can use if you want to claim on your insurance.

**3. Inform Your Insurance Provider**

If you have mobile phone insurance, notify your provider about the theft as soon as possible - usually within 24 or 48 hours, depending on your policy. They will guide you through the claims process. You will typically need the police crime reference number, proof of purchase and details about the phone.

**4. Protect Your Accounts and Data**

Change passwords for any accounts that were accessible through your phone. This includes:

- Email accounts.
- Social media accounts.
- Online banking and financial apps.
- Shopping and subscription services.

**5. Notify Your Contacts**

Inform your contacts that your phone has been stolen. This will alert them to be cautious of any suspicious messages or calls that might come from your number.

**6. Report the theft to your bank**

If you're worried about your online banking details being compromised, get in touch with your bank straight away. They can suspend your mobile banking app, keep an eye out for any unusual activity and put your cards on hold, if necessary.

You can now call **159** to get in touch with most UK banks directly.

To minimise the impact of future incidents, consider these preventive measures:

- Always keep your phone secure and avoid using it in risky areas.
- Never leave your mobile phone in your car.
- Enable security features like PINs, passwords, fingerprint recognition, or facial recognition.
- Regularly back up your data to The Cloud or a computer.
- Install and activate tracking apps.
- Make a note of your phone's IMEI number - each device's IMEI is a unique 15-digit serial number that can be used to identify it. You can find your phone's IMEI in the Settings, or by typing \*#06# into its keypad.
- Don't keep sensitive information like passwords in your phone's notes app - it's not secure. Instead, consider using a password manager.

HELP WITH ALL YOUR HOME TECHNOLOGY  
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## Marnhull Autumn Charity Quiz 2024

*In aid of Yeovil Hospital Breast Cancer Unit*

Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October

in

Marnhull Village Hall

7.00 p.m. start

£72 per table of 6

*Including Ploughmans Supper and Pud*

Bring your own drink

*Enquiries and table bookings to*

*Andrew Webb 01258 821318 [alwebb@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:alwebb@hotmail.co.uk)*



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**Marnhull Community Cafe**

We are open on the third Friday of each month (between 10-12), offering a lovely friendly, community space where everyone can relax and enjoy some company. We have a super team of volunteers to welcome you and it's a great chance to meet old and new friends, share interests, eat good cake and chat!!

Although the café is free – we are delighted to say that we still receive donations towards the running of it and since we opened we have been able to give donations towards good causes. So far we have donated £400 to the Dorset & Somerset Air Ambulance and £400 to Weldmar Hospicecare. Thank you everyone for continuing to come along. If you haven't been or are a bit nervous, please do pop in, we'd love to see you and we will always make you feel welcome. We can arrange transport if needed. Contact Rosie 07711 989403. The Café is supported by the Blackmore Vale Partnership team.



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**Tea With Friends**

Our September date is Wednesday the 11th.  
Join us 2.30 to 4pm at the Methodist Hall.  
Cuppa, cake and a chance to chat.

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# Marnhull Flower Show

What a great day! The sun shone, we had some fantastic exhibits, we were entertained, we enjoyed delicious cakes and food and marvelled at the classic car display. It was lovely to see so many people turning up to enjoy the day.

Whilst overall the number of entries was down from last year, there was still a magnificent display in the Marquee and Village Hall. We weren't surprised that there were fewer flower and vegetable entries, given the cooler and wetter Spring – not to mention the slugs and snails – but were delighted that the Handicraft and Hobbies entries were significantly higher this year. There are certainly a lot of very talented folk in Marnhull!

Congratulations to all those who were awarded 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes and to those who won the Cups and Trophies:

**RHS Banksian Medal**

Hilary Smith

Most points in Vegetables, Fruit and Flower Classes

**Hellins Cup** (Best Exhibit – Vegetables)

Debbie Calcott

**Eric Guy Cup** (Best RBL Member Vegetables, Fruit and Flowers)

Bob Heath

**Marnhull Garden Club Shield** (Best Floral Arrangement Class 39)

Lesley Ruth

**Elliot Cup** (Best Exhibit – Fruit)

Hilary Smith

**Beausire Cup** (Best Exhibit – Flowers)

Veryan Scott-Hayward

**Hambledon Dairy Bowl** (Best Exhibit – Home Made Beverages)

Ros Everleigh

**Committee Cup** (Best Exhibit – Homecraft)

Sue Winder

**Forbes Cup** (Best Exhibit – Hobbies and Handicrafts)

Hilary Smith

**Wells Bowl** (Best Exhibit – Art)

Sue Winder

**Bulford Club** (Best Exhibit – Photography)

Keith Collis

**VILLAGE GARDEN COMPETITIONS**

**The Lucy Smith Cup** (Best Wildlife Friendly Garden)

Deb Conduit

**Ross Cup** (Best Front Garden)

David Nott

**The Committee Cup** (Best Hanging Basket)

Dawn Ford

**The Committee Cup** (Best Planted Container)

Veryan Scott - Heyward

**Jack Hannam Cup** (Best Allotment or Vegetable Patch)

Rob Heath

**Novice Cup** (Best Exhibit in Novice Class)

Richard Palmer-Smyth

Our Charity Class this year was in support of Weldmar Hospicecare, and we'd asked people to create a Flowerpot Person and display them in their garden. There were nine amazing entries and Julie Hampton was chosen as the winner by a public vote at the Show, with her 'gardener in wellies reclining on the lawn' entry. Thank you to everyone who took the time to create a Flowerpot Person, it's been lovely to see them throughout the Village.

The Great Marnhull Bake Off was won by Andy Hopkins from the Tennis Boys, who was crowned Marnhull's Best Baker with his Coffee and Walnut Cake, despite stiff opposition.

In the Children's classes, we had lots of wonderful decorated poems and artwork depicting "My favourite toy" from the (Pre school) Jungle Hut, St Gregory's and St Mary's. Unfortunately, the pots of nasturtiums the children had also grown from seed, weren't quite out in flower for the Show Day, but have been returned to the children for them to plant outside at school, where they might even self seed for another display next year.

We'd like to thank everyone who entered, everyone who came along on the day to support the Show, the Marnhull Choir, the Wessex Morris Dancers and the Vale Ukes who provided such great entertainment, all those who helped with the preparation, set up and on the day, everyone who provided the refreshments and yummy cakes, and all the stall holders. A big thank you too to all the advertisers and the schools and businesses in the Village who supported us, particularly the Spar in New Street. We couldn't have done it without any of you.

We hope that you all had a good day and we're looking forward to doing it all again next year!

Julie Hampton's Winning Entry in The Charity Class



**Marnhull Community Choir**

**Open to all – no audition!** We are a friendly, mixed choir of around 50 singers that meet in the Village Hall on a Wednesday evening from 7.00pm-9pm. We normally operate on three 10-week terms (the same as schools) with a performance at the end of each term.

**Taster Session** - Not sure if you really want to join? Unsure whether you'll be able to keep up during rehearsals, or which voice part you sing? You don't need to be able to read music. The taster sessions are perfect for nervous or shy singers who think they can't sing, but fancy having a go in a fun and supportive atmosphere! Taster sessions take place on the first and second rehearsal of each term and you just need to contact us in advance by email or phone to let us know you are interested.

You will be placed next to a more experienced singer who will help you during the rehearsal and share music. If you decide to join at the end of the session you will be asked to complete a membership form and make a payment of £50.00 for the term. First rehearsal takes place on 25th September with half term break on 30th October and concert on Friday 6th December. This term we will be singing music by Burt Bacharach, the American composer who is widely regarded as one of the most important and influential figures of 20th-century popular music. For further information contact Chris Drake on [chris@christine-drake.com](mailto:chris@christine-drake.com) or visit our website [www.marnhullcommunitychoir.com](http://www.marnhullcommunitychoir.com)



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# Animal Awareness



## A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO SUPPORTING YOUR PET'S END OF LIFE PROCESS

**SALLY PALMER-WALTON**  
Wild Life Wellness

Nothing compares to the unconditional love and companionship that animals offer. Their love hugely benefits our lives and so it's inevitable that the hardest part of sharing our lives with them is knowing that the day will come when they physically leave us.

When your vet gives you a terminal diagnosis, it's always beneficial to take the time to plan for your pet's death. Planning ahead can reduce hasty decisions, painful surprises and unnecessary trauma, but it can sometimes be hard to know when the 'right time' is. Whilst your vet can provide guidance to help you, it's up to you to make the final decisions and to be comfortable with them. You know your animal better than anyone and, if you give yourself the space and time to be with them at this point, you will sense when they're ready to go.

We all wish for a pain-free, peaceful death, with our loved ones in the familiar surroundings of our home, and many would also wish this for their pets. If they're old and weak and not suffering, this is possible. They will slowly desire privacy, stop eating, sleep more, and will eventually die. In my experience, in these circumstances, the animal just needs to know they're surrounded by love and given verbal permission to leave their loved ones behind. What isn't required is for them to witness your own grief or despair. That is for after their passing.

Yet there are times when your companion is in too much discomfort to wait for a natural death. Euthanasia is supposedly painless to animals and, thus, a humane treatment. I always counsel that, wherever possible, euthanasia should take place at home. As mentioned above, this is a place of comfort to them. It can cause distress travelling to the vets, and this is not the time to inflict this on your pet. However, more and more vets typically can't offer home visits due to time pressures. If your vet won't, or can't, come to your house, don't think that you must take your pet to them. Ask your vet if they know of a local vet specialist who does offer this form of compassionate care. We're fortunate in our area of Dorset to have at least one very caring, mobile vet team who does perform home euthanasia: Fond Farewell Vets is family owned and run, based just north of Dorchester.

If you choose a vet surgery euthanasia, you may want to consider asking for an euthanasia appointment during a quiet time in the surgery's day and decide if you want to bring others with you to help you cope with the procedure. It's always your choice whether you stay in the room while your pet is euthanised, but I would always, always, say PLEASE do this last act of love for your animal.

Saying goodbye is painful but the underlying principle should always be that the love they've given to us through their lifetime is so pure and unconditional, that our love at their end of life must be stronger than the grief and impending sense of loss we feel. Veterinary anecdotes suggest that your animal will look for you at their time of need if you have left.

Preparing for the loss of your companion can be overwhelming, particularly if you live alone. Please look to your vet, relatives, and friends for advice and support. But if you don't have anyone, or don't wish to burden those close to you, you could consider hiring a pet doula. We are few and far between in the UK but are recognised worldwide as providing a compassionate service for you and your pet. Pet doulas can assist in ways specific to the needs and preferences of you and your pet:

**Emotional Support** - providing a compassionate ear and understanding throughout the entire end-of-life journey, whilst initiating caring conversation about the dying process. We will always prioritise your pet's comfort above all else.

**Legacy Activities** - a doula will work with you to find meaningful activities and rituals to help you heal, memorialise, and celebrate the love you have for your pet whilst honouring your pet's life and legacy.

**Practical Guidance** - We provide practical support when deciding on palliative care options, euthanasia considerations and aftercare arrangements. We can be present to support you when saying goodbye to your pet. We can travel to you, whether it's at your home or the vet's office. We can even drive you and your pet to the vets, having helped lift your companion into the car, if necessary.

Ultimately, with a little forethought and compassion, with support of professionals, friends and family, you can give your beloved companion the best death possible.

My next article will focus on After Death Care and Coping with Grief.

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## Events and News from in and around Sturminster Newton....

as discovered in the British Newspaper Archive by Graham Colls and Carol Groome



**STOP PRESS!**

Parish Council  
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Who does this fountain commemorate?

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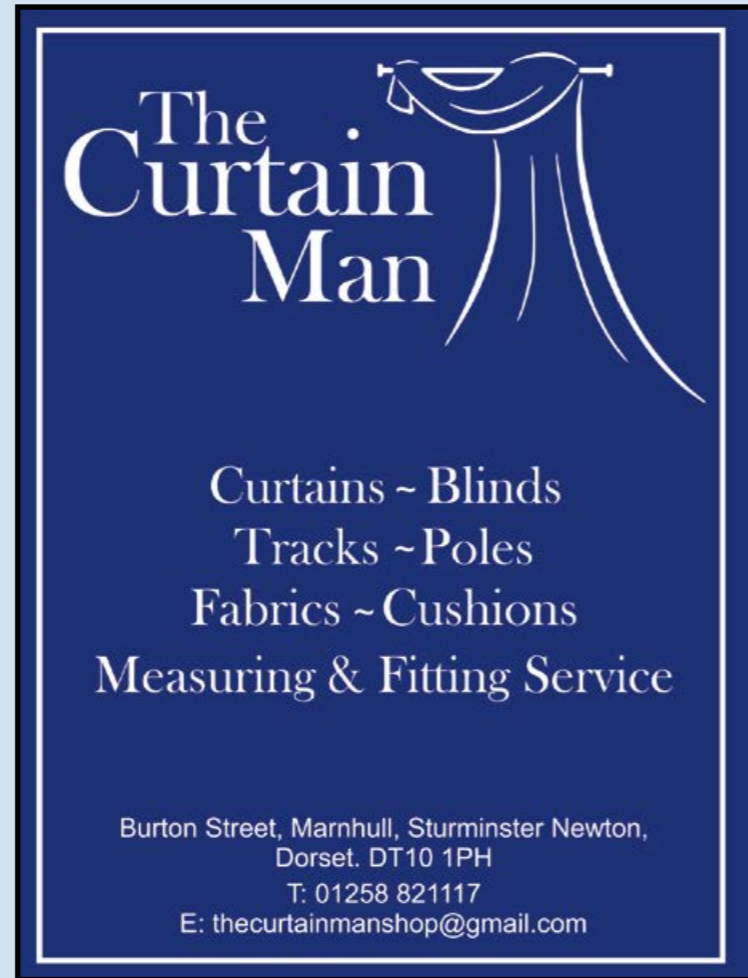
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**OUR LADY'S CHURCH**

Fr Joseph has had an uplifting impact on our parish over the last 14 months but has now returned to Nigeria and we welcome Father Cletus Ibeka who is also from Nigeria.

**Are you are interested in finding out what Catholics believe;** or want to consider becoming a Catholic? 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. Everyone lives their own life with all the ups and downs, all the disasters and successes that make it up. 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.

Contact Fr.Cletus or Deacon James:James.Mackain-Bremner@prcdtr.org.uk

**YOU are invited to a talk on Care for Creation.**

Tuesday 24 September 2024 at 6.30pm  
St Mary's Catholic Primary School in Marnhull at 6.30pm.

The Season of Creation is the annual Christian celebration to pray and respond together to the cry of Creation: the ecumenical family around the world unites to listen and care for our common home.

The season's "Celebration" begins September 1, the Feast of Creation, and ends October 4, the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology beloved by many Christian denominations.

This year we will unite around the theme "To hope and act with Creation" with the symbol "The first fruits of hope", inspired by Romans 8:19-25. Ecumenical faith leaders from across the world have prepared a special invitation for you and your community to take part.

Many have also shared their reflections to inspire our ecumenical family in this journey forward, as Christians everywhere prepare to witness the hope and action working together with and for Creation.

**THE METHODIST CHURCH**

I hope you find the brief information below about Susanna Wesley interesting. Whilst reading about John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, I came across a few details about his father Samuel, an Anglican priest, and mother Susanna who married in 1688.

I knew nothing about Susanna and was staggered to learn that she had 19 children. Only ten made it to adulthood. One was accidentally smothered by a maid and four of those who died were twins. (Susanna herself was the youngest of 25 children - goodness!)

Susanna claimed that a husband "has no power over the conscience of his wife," – a remarkable thought for the time. Her sons John and Charles witnessed their mother's effectiveness as a woman leading worship in their home for them and others outside the family. When John had been ordained and eventually commenced preaching in open fields he initially determined to stop the 'unauthorized preaching' of a chap called Thomas Maxfield. However, his mother warned, 'My son, I charge you before God, beware what you do; for Thomas Maxfield is as much called to preach the gospel as ever you were.'

John accepted her advice and his subsequent use of 'lay preachers' greatly helped Methodism. More lay preachers were allowed and they often spoke on the level of ordinary working folk in ways that many of the erudite, university educated clergy found difficult.

John Wesley also remembered his mother's success during her kitchen prayer meetings which may have led him to allow female lay preachers. They had Wesley's support, encouragement and approval to travel and preach. He also allowed women to exercise leadership roles in Methodist class and band meetings. However, John Wesley's support for women was not shared by other male leaders of Methodism. In fact, after his death, female preachers were censured.

So, as you see, Susanna Wesley was quite an influential woman and who is known today as the 'Mother of Methodism'.

Gillian

**Our Sunday services** start at 10.00, finishing about an hour later to enjoy a general "catch-up" over tea and coffee, and you are very welcome to join us.

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

**BISHOPS LETTER**

Dear friends

Welcome to this most wistful month of the year, when we sense the shift of summer into autumn, notice the mellowing light and take stock before starting again. I do hope there has been plenty of sunshine for you between the showers! With rhythms fixed in childhood term-times, September is the 'other' new year, and always an opportunity for reflection. Yet we could be forgiven for facing this new season feeling more than a little unsettled, for the times are uncertain. Warfare feels close at hand, not only for those who hear the low thump of guns on Salisbury Plain. We think of the Holy Land Jesus knew and loved – and are reminded of the prophet's cry: 'the harvest is past, the summer is over, and we are not saved'. Facing the destruction of his land and the exile of its people, Jeremiah asks: 'is there no balm in Gilead?' A cry which might be echoed by dispossessed people across the globe. In spiritual songs, the Lord Jesus has been described as the balm so needed by God's people – the soothing relief who bears our sorrows, binds our wounds and heals our soul. Those who follow and serve Christ might, therefore, see their own ministry as extending this anointing to those who need it most. To be a balm for the world: what a timely way to make Jesus known in the months ahead. May God bless you as you, in turn, are his blessing to others.

+Andrew Ramsbury

**NEWS FROM TRADING STANDARDS**

You may have been surprised that a recent E. coli (STEC) outbreak, which affected over 250 people in the UK, is suspected to be linked to contaminated salad leaves in pre-packed sandwiches.

How could a salad leaf be the source of E. coli (STEC)?

The reason may be that unlike most foods, salads, and other fresh produce such as strawberries and watercress, are eaten raw. The Food Standards Agency recommend washing salad and fresh fruit prior to eating. However, you wouldn't wash salad leaves within a readymade sandwich you have bought, you would expect that food is already safe to eat.

At Fresh Produce farms, E. coli (STEC) can be carried by cattle, sheep and other animals. Spread to humans can occur through:

- Eating contaminated food or water.
- Contact with animals or their faeces.
- Contact with a contaminated environment.
- Person-to-person spread, often resulting in multiple people in one household becoming infected.

Dorset Council Trading Standards routinely visit growers of Fresh Produce, inspecting and challenging growers on the steps and procedures they have in place to combat the risk of contamination. The main risk areas are:

**Water** – Is the water clean and how is the plant irrigated? Is there a suitable interval between the last watering and harvest?

**Fertiliser** – Is organic fertiliser used, such as farm manure? If so, is this well-rotted and what steps are taken to ensure the harvested fruit or leaves do not contact the organic fertiliser?

**Staff hygiene** – Similar to a catering establishment, you would expect any workers who handle food have hygiene training and procedures in place to ensure food is safe.

Trading Standards also make sure steps are taken to prevent wildlife accessing areas, and good cleaning procedures are in place.

Despite this recent scare we should all be assured that steps are taken to ensure good food safety, and these steps always begin at the farm or grower.



**Marnhull Neighbourhood Plan**

**Progress Report August 2024**

**Consultation**

A big thank you to everyone who took the time to come to the events in July, particularly the consultation event on the 2nd, as well as those who dropped in to see us at the Flower Show and Marnhull Fest. Your support is really appreciated.

We'd also like to thank everyone who took the trouble to write in and express their views on the Design Guidance & Codes and the Conservation Area Appraisal. Your comments are extremely important to the plan and to our ability to represent the parish as a whole and your suggestions have helped refine and strengthen the proposals. We have now come to the end of the consultation process for the design codes and the conservation areas and are in the process of collating the feedback and finalising the reports. We will be consulting on further issues later in the year. Watch this space!

**Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)**

We have been awarded the funding for a SEA which will focus on the housing

developments that already have planning approval, how they fit with local policies and the impact they will have on the village as a whole.

**Draft Plan**

The draft plan is in progress, with volunteers undertaking further research on traffic & road safety, flooding, green spaces and other key issues. We are especially grateful to Marnhull Green Teams for the excellent work they've been doing to map the natural environment across the parish. This is an important contribution to the plan as well as being a valuable resource for the future protection of our wildlife and biodiversity.

The draft plan is evolving but there is still a lot of work to do. We look forward to sharing it with you in due course. Please continue to support the work of the neighbourhood plan team by sending us your thoughts at [marnhullndp@gmail.com](mailto:marnhullndp@gmail.com), following progress on the Marnhull Parish Council website and discussing issues with your neighbours.

The Neighbourhood Development Plan affects us all and is for the benefit of the whole parish.

Thank you for your support.

Your Marnhull Neighbourhood Plan Team

**Marnhull Entertains**

**Barn Dance**

**Friday 25th October – Marnhull Village Hall**

When did you last Strip the Willow!! At your primary school? After someone's wedding? At a wild Butlins evening? Or at an Easter Fayre in Northumberland? Stir those long forgotten memories – or just find out what it means.

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What's the deal? You cant go wrong with tickets at £12.00 a head including ploughman's supper, and bar prices from bygone days, live band and super caller – no escaping her clutches.



Teasing the Cat have delighted Marnhull already with their irresistible energy and musical dexterity.

Read all about them at: [www.teasingthecat.wixsite.com/teasingthecat](http://www.teasingthecat.wixsite.com/teasingthecat).

Come on your own, 'with a friend' or as a group.

Doors open at 7.00 for drinks with music and dancing from 7.30.

Get your tickets from 1 October 2024 from Robin Hill Stores, the Spar Shop, or from **John Dowsett [dowsettjohn48@gmail.com](mailto:dowsettjohn48@gmail.com) 1258821534/07825057543**. They will also be on Ticket Source from 1 October. Numbers are limited so get your tickets early.



**ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL**

We are continuing to work hard this term even with rehearsals, sporting events, trips and Jam the T-Rex joining us for the day! St Francis had a fantastic time at Springhead with Mrs Baldwin and Mr Young at the beginning of July. During a dry spell, the whole school also joined our sister schools in Plymouth CAST marking the 10th anniversary of Plymouth CAST. To mark the day, we planted a commemorative tree in our new prayer garden.



Congratulations to the GIFT team who planned, funded and created our garden. Many thanks to Mr and Mrs Holdsworth who gifted the fountain and to the Dorset Garden Trust who have supported us with a grant and their expertise.

We had a visit from Teach-Rex, funded by our marvellous

PTFA. The children were introduced to Jam, the T-Rex. We learnt lots about what palaeontologists have discovered about the T-Rex, including the fact that they had an excellent sense of smell and hearing. So, we had to test this out!



**St Anthony's**

The children have really enjoyed our minibeast theme this term. They loved searching for bugs in our school grounds using pooters to carefully collect them. They are now able to identify which minibeasts are insects, understanding that insects have six legs and three body parts. The children all created their own collage pictures of insects ensuring they had the correct number of body parts. In literacy the children have been listening to stories with an insect theme. This included the story, What the Ladybird Heard, where two thieves steal the prize cow. They were shocked to discover that the thieves had escaped but created some wanted poster to spread the word.



**St Mary's Explorers**

The children have been enjoying books with a minibeast theme. Their favourite's being 'Snail Trail' and 'Super Worm', these books have led their learning around minibeasts. The home corner has continued to be a popular area in preschool.



Children playing in this area enjoy taking on familiar roles and being imaginative with their friends. They develop many skills playing cooperatively; taking turns, exchanging ideas and working together to solve problems.

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 Mark's**

It has been a very exciting and busy few weeks for St. Mark's. The children have been working really hard despite being tired as it gets to the end of the school year. We have been busy rehearsing for our school performance. The children have all worked hard at learning their lines to take part in the performance. Year 2 joined the rest of Key Stage 1 in Mini Olympics at St. Gregory's. The students were very polite to the coaches and represented the school very well with their teamwork skills and their behaviour. They were a pleasure to take to the event and I was very lucky to accompany them there. The children of St. Mark's have been a delight to teach this year and watch progress. I wish them all the very best of luck next year in Year 3 and Year 4.

**St Francis**

We, in St Francis, have had a brilliant second half to the summer term. At the start of July we were lucky enough to get to visit Springhead in Fontmell Magna, where we continued our learning on the water cycle and also got to drink directly from the stream, build boats and float them down the river, build dens in the woods and do some mapwork, to name just a few of our activities. In Literacy following our trip to Springhead we wrote poems all about rivers, streams and oceans.



In Science we have been learning about Space and planets, we have made up our own rhymes to help us remember the order of the planets. We were also lucky enough to get a visit from TeachRex and learn all about dinosaurs.

**St Alban's**

In St Alban's Class we have recently been busy making our paper mache dragon heads. We have been using a variety of recycled materials and skills before painting them and putting them on display around the school. We have also been reflecting on our time at St Mary's, thinking carefully about what we shall miss, what we are grateful for and what are some of our favourite memories.



Also, a big well done to the seven children who represented the school at the regional handball finals tournament in Christchurch recently. You determination, sportsmanship and team work is a real credit to the school.

We were also busy using any spare time to clock up miles for on our 'Path to Paris' mission. To celebrate this year's Olympic and Paralympic games, the children of St Mary's took part in the Get Set virtual journey to Paris – and we made it to Paris!

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When people in Littlehampton—including conservative local Edith—begin to receive letters full of hilarious profanities, rowdy Irish migrant Rose is charged with the crime. Suspecting that something is amiss, the town's women investigate. Starring a great cast including Olivia Coleman, Jessie Buckley and Timothy Spall. Don't miss this excellent film despite a lot of swearing!



**New Ward Opens For Elderly Patients**

New ward opens for elderly patients at Salisbury District Hospital

Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust has begun admitting the first patients into its new Imber Ward, which is housed in the Elizabeth building, named in honour of the late Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

This new £14m building provides 24 additional beds in a state-of-the-art ward, incorporating a mixture of four-bed bays and side rooms. By providing extra bed capacity, Imber Ward underpins the hospital's elective recovery programme.

The extra beds mean elderly care patients can be cared for in a dedicated space, which in turn, allows the hospital's surgical beds to be better utilised to deliver much-needed elective care such as day surgery.

It is an environmentally sustainable building, built with solar panels, low-carbon concrete, and heat pumps, so there is no fossil fuel used. There is also thermal insulation.

Lisa Thomas, Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust Interim CEO, said: "We are very pleased to have built and opened our new ward, which provides elderly care in a state-of-the-art modern environment.

Importantly, the new ward supports the Trust's elective recovery programme, and marks a major milestone in our efforts to deliver the very best compassionate, effective care to our community, while improving our sustainability."

The equipping and furnishing of the new ward has been supported by the Stars Appeal, Salisbury District Hospital's Charity. The charity provided £600,000 for equipment, including the latest patient monitoring system, furnishings and artwork to create a state-of-the-art, dementia-friendly space with an enhanced environment benefiting patients, their families and staff.

Much of the Stars Appeal funding has been made possible thanks to the legacy gifts of those who have so kindly remembered the charity in their Wills. Supporters of the charity were recently invited to a special private view of the Ward prior to it opening to patients.

President of the Stars Appeal, the Earl of Pembroke, said: "Imber Ward is another fantastic example of the difference that the Stars Appeal makes at Salisbury District Hospital, which is only possible thanks to donations, fundraising and, especially with this project, those who so kindly remember the charity in their Wills.

I thank everyone who supports the Stars Appeal for their generosity in making projects like this possible."



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September 2024

Dear Village Friends,

We are always so grateful for the generosity of our local community towards St Gregory's Church here in Marnhull. It is thanks to your support that we have been able to continue to maintain this historic building as a centre for local worship and a place where everyone in the community can celebrate and mark important life occasions and from where our wider ministry starts.

This year we are having a Creation-tide Week, culminating in the annual Gift Day and Harvest Festival to which you are warmly invited:

Sunday 29th September 9.30am Village Blessings in different locations, with an open air Service at 10.30am.

Our Gift Day will be held on Saturday 5th October 9am to 4pm concluding with a Pet Blessing Service at 4pm - bring your pet (whatever size!) for a blessing- in the style of St Francis.

On Sunday 6th October we have our Harvest Festival Services at 8am and 10am (both Holy Communion) with coffee after the 10am service. In the afternoon there will be a free Music recital at 3pm, followed by refreshments. The church will be decorated by our amazing flower team.

St Gregory's doesn't receive **any** outside funding from the national Church and depends entirely on the direct giving of our congregation and village fundraising to meet the costs of running the church and its wider village ministry. So we are holding a Gift Day this year to invite local people, regular worshippers and non-worshippers alike, to make donations to ensure that our historic church will remain open to serve our community in different ways.

We are **very** aware that not everyone is in a financial position to give as they would wish, but we ask for *whatever* support you can give. If you are already someone who gives regularly, but do not feel able to do more, please accept our grateful thanks for what you have given and do not feel any further obligation.

You are welcome to bring your gift in person into church on Gift Day or at any time during the Creation-tide Week and church is open 9am- 4pm daily. We also have an electronic giving machine in church for card donations. Any cheques should be made payable to 'St Gregory's Parish Church' please. If you would like an acknowledgement of your donation, please include your name and address.

If you are a tax-payer, we can reclaim the tax you have paid at no extra cost to you. To enable us to do that, please complete the declaration on the envelope enclosed with the magazine, together with your donation. We can provide further details about how you might make a regular gift to the Church.- just contact us via Facebook or our website.

However you choose to give, we will be very grateful for your support.

With every blessing

Revd Gaenor Hockey, Rector

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# TECHNEWS



## YOUR MONTHLY TECH UPDATE

**CHRIS RYU**  
Dorset Tech

Welcome back to my new column where I give you a brief overview of what's changing in the world of technology and how it will affect you in Marnhull.

### DO YOU HAVE A SAFE WORD?

You may have heard of "Deep Fakes". These are computer generated videos that look and sound almost identical to the person. These tools are getting so good now that it's probably time to agree safe-words with your family & close friends. For example; a tool called "Deep Live Cam" can generate a realistic deep fake from just 1 photo and it does it on a live video call!

It is only a matter of time before these are used in scams, so please think ahead and protect yourself. I'm sure you've all had the "Hi Mum, I've had to get a temporary phone, can you help me" scam attempts and this is the next evolution.

### GOOGLE PRODUCT LAUNCHES

Google have showed off a huge range of products - too much to cover properly, but I'll give you some highlights.

AI Call Notes - if enabled, an AI will automatically transcribe any call you have and summarise it for you. This isn't new, we have that in our office phone system, but this is the first time we've seen it as a mobile phone feature.

Photo AI features - Google has improved it's AI photo editing features. It's very good at removing unwanted things from photos now. The key feature of this update is adding you into a group photo. It works surprisingly quite well - no longer do you need to ask a stranger to hold your phone to take the picture.

Pixel Phones - They unveiled a huge range of Pixel 9 phones. Nothing that really stands out, but all faster, lighter and more expensive like usual. They've added the under screen finger print reader at last, but this has long been a standard of Samsung.

Earbuds and Watches - They unveiled a new range of watches and ear buds. The watches see some battery life improvements, but you'll still end up charging every day. Like the Apple version, it will now make an emergency call should it detect a heart emergency. The ear buds are smaller and lighter, but nothing special.

### WIFI CANNON

A fun one! Researchers have dramatically improved signal strength and range of communications by using an "Electromagnetic Vortex Cannon". It sounds so dramatic that I had to include it in my column, but in layman's terms it's like putting wifi or radio waves inside of one of those toys that shoot air out. It's way too early to see this in use, but I thought it was fun to include.

FOR WEBSITE AND APP DEVELOPMENT CONTACT CHRIS Dorset Tech

[www.dorset.tech](http://www.dorset.tech)



### NEWCOMERS SOCIAL EVENING: FRIDAY 18TH OCTOBER

Marnhull Village Hall, 7pm-8.30pm

#### Have you moved into Marnhull since October 2023?

In which case, we would like to invite you to come and meet other newcomers to the village at our annual Newcomers Social Evening. Organised by Marnhull Village Care, whose aim it is to welcome new people moving into Marnhull and to provide information about the many clubs and societies that are keen to welcome new members into their groups. Representatives from all the groups will be available on the night to chat to you, answer any questions and if you are interested, tell you how to join.

You will also have an opportunity to meet other villagers, parish councillors, members of the clergy and teachers from the local schools.

All you must do to confirm your invitation is contact Lesley Ruth on 01258 821306 or via email [lesleyruth4@aol.com](mailto:lesleyruth4@aol.com) no later than Saturday 28th September. Let her know your name and contact details and how many members of your household would like to attend on 18th October. A FREE glass of Prosecco, or non-alcoholic drink, will be waiting for you between 7pm-8.30pm in the Village Hall, along with a warm welcome and friendly smile.

#### ROAD CONTACT VACANCIES

We have two vacancies for Road Contacts. This is a voluntary service offered by Marnhull Village Care and provides a network of contacts throughout Marnhull. The primary role is to welcome newcomers into your patch. You might be the first person to speak to them once they have surfaced above the packing cases and you can not only give the newcomer a warm, fuzzy feeling of being welcomed into the village, but also provide a point of contact if they should need support. If you live in either of the two areas below and would like to offer your support, please contact Lesley Ruth by email : [lesleyruth4@aol.com](mailto:lesleyruth4@aol.com) or phone the Village Care number on 07777 559076

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# MARNHULL GARDEN CLUB



We didn't have a meeting in August but on the 9th July we had an interesting and often amusing presentation from Castle Gardens on seasonal interest and colour in the Garden. Steve Fry brought along a selection of plants suggesting where they might be placed in our gardens for best effect and success.

The Marnhull Flower Show took place on the 6th July at the Village Hall and was a huge success with the weather being very kind. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves and there were plenty of exhibits and displays to appeal to all individual interests. Entertainment was provided by Wessex Morris Dancers, Shaftesbury Ukelele Band and Marnhull Community Choir. Refreshments including a wide range of cakes were enjoyed by many and various stalls were available to peruse.

One of these stalls included Marnhull Gardening Club where there was a selection of plants for sale along with plenty of advice on placing and looking after purchases. Additionally, we had a popular competition which involved naming the 'duck with no name', all the way from France and this was won by Sue Piper with the name Coco.

The garden club stall raised £413 from the sale of plants and the competition. This was donated to North Dorset Bee Keeping Association who came to speak to us recently.

Marnhull's best baker was another popular event at the flower show and the brief, to bake a coffee and walnut cake, was won by Andy Hopkins of the Tennis Boys. Marnhull Garden Club also did rather well at this event winning 2nd and 3rd places by Martin Coldicott and Denise Baker respectively.

The flowerpot person competition was a great success with 9 entries and was won by Julie Hampton. Be sure to check out all the other amazing and imaginative entries on Marnhull Flower Show's Facebook page. All proceeds were donated to Weldmar Hospicecare, a Dorset charity providing end of life support.

On the 2nd September Marnhull Garden Club will be arranging a visit to Athelhampton House and gardens. This is open to both members and non members at a cost of £12 with an extra £1 for well behaved dogs on leads. There is also a guided tour of the garden at an extra cost of £3 and a talk on the history of the house for £2. Further details can be obtained from Dawn Ford on Dawnford0563@gmail.com

Our next speaker, Abigail Ballinger will be talking to us on the magic of Somerset Gardens. This will take place on the 10th September in Marnhull Village Hall at 7pm (talk starts at 7.30pm). As always, non-members are welcome at a day rate of £3.00 but if you would like to join the Garden Club as a member you would be made to feel most welcome. Part year membership (until the end of 2024) will cost just £10. As well as a programme of meetings with varied and interesting speakers, you would also benefit from discounts at local garden centres, organised trips and the odd social event. With over 100 members this is a particularly good club to join if you are new to the village and want to get to know people.

### And now some gardening tips for September.

Plant repeat-flowering pinks now in the front of your borders for a pretty flush of flowers in Autumn. Ideally they like free-draining soil with plenty of sun. Soak the plants in their pots before planting and plant them a little way back from the edge of the border to allow for flowers to spread. Firm the rootball into place and then water again to settle it in.

Cut back summer-fruiting raspberries. Remove spent canes (old stems will be browner in colour) while leaving in place a few of the new stems that

emerged this year so they can provide fruit next season. Cut them at the base, along with any straggly new growth. Leave in place the strongest new canes which will need to be at least 10cm from each other and tie them into supports.

Create an autumn container. Plant up large pots with heucheras, pansies, snowdrops, cyclamen, small evergreen shrubs, ferns and grasses for a long-lasting autumn display.



### NEWS FROM TRADING STANDARDS

Citizens Advice has revealed that last year its Consumer Service received a complaint about a used car every three minutes.

The charity, which helped with almost 43,000 complaints relating to used cars in 2023 alone, found most of these complaints were about defective cars, around 1 in 10 being about car safety. The most common issues included faulty cars, damage people were not told about, and cars having a higher mileage than shown.

Consumers are often left out of pocket when purchasing a used car. But unexpected car problems can cost more than just money, they can leave people missing work or unable to drop their children off at school. Buying a used car can be complex and that means consumers can be left confused and without the knowledge and information needed to make well-informed buying decisions.

People may be rightfully wary of the 'Del Boy' type car traders, but there is just as much harm and bad practice lurking behind used car adverts on online platforms, such as Facebook. Car clocking is still an ongoing issue where a car's mileage is adjusted and not declared at the time of sale, that's a Trading Standards' offence.

For peace of mind its recommended that people buy a used car from a garage that is a member of the Consumer Codes Approval Scheme (CCAS). These garages follow a robust code of practice. If a problem does arise, all garages in the CCAS family offer free Alternative Dispute Resolution to help resolve the issue quickly and effectively.

Alternatively, why not look for a Buy With Confidence Trading Standards Approved car trader at [www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk](http://www.buywithconfidence.gov.uk) or phone 0808 2231133.

For advice about something you've bought, or to report something to Trading Standards, visit the Citizens Advice consumer helpline at [www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/consumer) or phone 0808 2231133.

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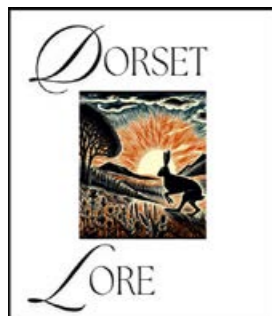
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CHRIS WALTON  
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Welcome to Dorset Lore, a monthly column featuring the rich heritage of folklore, tradition, ghost stories and legends of the county of Dorset. For September we have a drinking song that was recorded at Marnhull and usually sung at the Harvest Home Supper. We also have a traditional Marnhull harvest dance.

'Here's a health unto our Master, the founder of the feast.

I hope to God wi' all me heart his soul in Heaven may rest

And all his works may prosper, whatever he takes in hand

For we are all his servants, and here at his command.

Then drink boys drink, and see you do not spill,

For if you do, you shall drink two, it is our Master's will.

Here's a health unto our Master, our Mistress shan't go free;

For she's a good provider, provides as well as he;

For she's a good provider, and bids us all to come,

So take this cup and sip it up, for 'tis our harvest home.

Home boys home, home boys home,

Fill it up to the brim, and drink it off clane,

For 'tis our harvest home.'

'Clane' is 'clean' spoken in a proper Dorset dialect!

'Bricks and Mortar' is the name of a traditional dance of Marnhull, danced at harvest homes and social gatherings, and was still danced in the 1930's.

### Here are the instructions how to dance it :-

'Longways for as many as will-

A. (1) Top couple lead down the middle holding inside hands, other couples follow them, (Walking step).

(2) Cast off at bottom and return outside to places.

(3) Set to partner right and left for eight bars. (This is not quite the ordinary set, it is done on the spot, without a spring and is more likely marking time with a change of foot)

(4) All forward a double changing places, set to partner for four bars.

B. Repeat all this from the reversed position to arrive back at original positions.

Repeat whole dance until exhausted.'

That's it, pretty simple isn't it? I look forward to seeing you all dancing Bricks and Mortar at The Crown, Blackmore Vale Inn, Royal British Legion and village hall this Christmas!

This comes from the wonderful 'Dorset up along and down along' first published in 1935.

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

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

FOR ALL YOUR LOCAL LORE

Dorset Lore - On Facebook

Email: dorsetlore@gmail.com

## Marnhull



### Newcomers Social Evening

If you have moved into Marnhull since October 2023 you are invited to a social event on

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

**7pm-8.30pm**

**at Marnhull Village Hall**

Enjoy a glass of Prosecco and meet other villagers and representatives from local clubs & societies, parish councillors, members of the clergy and teachers from local schools

**ACTION: Contact Lesley Ruth**

**by 28th September to confirm your acceptance**

**on 01258 821306 or by email [lesleyruth4@aol.com](mailto:lesleyruth4@aol.com)**



### MARNHULL PLAYERS PANTO

Lots of exciting things have been going on getting things sorted, Casting is almost complete, costumes are starting to be put together, there is a pile of props ( looking forward to seeing some of those in action). We are also working out some technical things ( like flying), Music is coming together nicely, so everything is coming together ready to start our rehearsals in October.

We are also looking at the stage flats and extension to give it some much needed tlc, so they will hopefully be easier to use in the performances.

In the next update it will be close to us starting rehearsals and all the excitement that goes with that, I look forward to updating you then.

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

Thanks

The committee and Cast

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Email: [whiteheadjack51@gmail.com](mailto:whiteheadjack51@gmail.com)

**Alternate Mondays**  
(from March 6th to Dec 11th)  
**PRIZE BINGO**  
Starts at 7pm -10pm  
Open to everyone

Royal British Legion Marnhull

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**MARNHULL TENNIS CLUB**



It's been a very busy summer for Marnhull Tennis Club. Competing against other Dorset clubs in the Shaftesbury League, the Marnhull A Team took first place for the first time in history, while the Marnhull B Team were just pipped to the post, finishing in second.

It was the last competition for Dave Cooper, who has been an invaluable part of the B Team, winning many matches and even using his professional skills and knowledge in the specification for the new floodlights.

He will be missed! We've had an exceptionally exciting season for our junior members. Aside from the popular summer coaching sessions and the annual doubles tournament, we fielded our first Junior A Team, who competed against sides from Donhead and Wincanton.

We're looking forward to providing more opportunities for friendly, competitive play for our younger members in the future, as they continue to hone their skills.

In other news:

- The preparatory work for the new tennis court floodlights will begin in September. Apologies in advance for any temporary inconvenience this may cause. We hope the installation will benefit the Marnhull community by allowing tennis to continue throughout the darker winter months.
- The club ball machine has recently been serviced and is available to hire for members at £5 for adults and FREE for juniors.
- We'll be holding a finals day for our Singles and Tombola Doubles tournament in September. We welcome everyone to come down and enjoy the spectacle, accompanied by a picnic and Pimm's!

Marnhull Tennis Club is always eager to accept new members, from complete beginners to advanced players. To find out more about the club, please visit [marnhulltennisclub.net](http://marnhulltennisclub.net) or contact [marnhulltennisclub@gmail.com](mailto:marnhulltennisclub@gmail.com).



**MARNHULL WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

Alan Jenkins was a police inspector for 33 years and part of his role during the latter part of his career was to oversee public engagements for the royal family. In his highly entertaining talk entitled "The Royal Visit that went wrong" (and peppered with

TLA's \*) he let us glimpse the planning that goes into such an event.

Suppose a senior royal were to make a visit to Marnhull Village Hall, postulated Alan. This would be considered a fairly low-key event but nevertheless the planning would begin months beforehand. After discussions at the Palace, presumably, an official letter would be sent from the Lord Lieutenant to the Chief Constable of Dorset and a minute-by-minute schedule of the day would be drawn up. Every second had to be accounted for and Alan disclosed that a three-minute pause would be included for the Royal to pop into the loo.

Next the vetting would begin. All the people who would meet the dignitary would be scrutinised plus anyone with access to the hall. Special Branch would be on the look-out for known "nutters", deluded folk who had become obsessed with the royal in question, either for love or for hate and so posed a threat.

Immediately prior to the visit the Village Hall and surrounds would be searched by specialist teams including sniffer dogs, and then sealed off. Authorised firearm officers would take up station and the Royal Protection officers, also armed, would be with the royal person. When the moment came, the Royal would be driven in an unmarked car, by a specialist driver – an officer who has passed a gruelling 15-week driving course for this duty. There would even be traffic control officers ensuring that all traffic lights en route turned green to avoid dangerous stops.

Alan let us into the secret of his duty as Bronze Commander at such a visit when things went wrong. It involved an overcautious helicopter pilot, a grumpy and out spoken Royal, a Plan B which sent the "chain gang" in Mayoral robes racing up the main roads in the VIP car, a sudden reversion to Plan A, a commandeered Bentley and a surprised chap who had to greet a Royal on his day off. Alan revealed that (a) it wasn't his fault, (b) the Royal in question eventually had a jolly day with some horses, and (c) he felt the need for a reviving pint when to dust had settled. It was a highly entertaining talk but by the end the audience had firmly decided that such a visit – although very unlikely – would be just too much bother.

**QUIZ & RAFFLE AT METHODIST CHURCH**

There will be tables of four. Light refreshments will be served and all for only £7.00 per person. Join us, or raise a team of four, and enjoy a fun evening testing your quizzing skills!

**7pm on Friday 13th September**  
**Tickets – ring 01258 820203 (Blackmore Vale Foot Care) and leave your number etc.**

**JUMBLE SALE!**

JUMBLE SALE at Marnhull Royal British Legion DT10  
 1HR on Saturday 15th June. Doors open at 10.15.

**MARNHULL MEN'S SHED**

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

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Please contact Alan Loukes  
**Alan@loukes.co.uk or 07767 817173**

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# CLUBS & CLASSES



## Marnhull & Gillingham **BADMINTON** Club

### BADMINTON FOR BEGINNERS

**Monday Club Social Night:** 8-10pm (except bank holidays)  
 Joining Fee £25  
 Adults £4.50  
 Family (up to 2 adults & 2 children) £7.00  
 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

### MARNHULL COMMUNITY CHOIR

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

Contact Chris Drake 01258 820645 or email [chris@christine-drake.com](mailto:chris@christine-drake.com)

[www.marnhullcommunitychoir.com](http://www.marnhullcommunitychoir.com)

### MARNHULL LUNCH CLUB

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

Main Course, Dessert and Tea or Coffee £10.00  
 For more information please call  
 Liz 01258 821378 or Dawn 01258 820642

### MARNHULL GARDEN CLUB

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

Come and join us for refreshments and a chat.

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

Contact Secretary Phil Silvester 01258 394288 / 07921 214591 [marnhullgardenclub@gmail.com](mailto:marnhullgardenclub@gmail.com)

### MARNHULL MUSIC SOCIETY

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

FOR MORE INFORMATION:  
 Please contact Alan Loukes on 01258 821629

### MARNHULL AMBLERS & RAMBLERS

**Short walk (amble) approx 3 miles**  
 on 2nd Thursday morning of the month  
 Contact Anne Dowsett - [dowsetanne52@gmail.com](mailto:dowsetanne52@gmail.com)

**Longer walk (ramble) 5-7 miles**  
 on last Thursday of the month  
 Contact Elaine Spencer-White - [elainesw48@gmail.com](mailto: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

### FRENCH & SPANISH CONVERSATION

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

For more information contact Ros Eveleigh on 821049.

### MARNHULL WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Meets on the 2nd Monday in the month (except Aug)  
 At 7.30pm in the Village Hall

We look forward to seeing new and old members  
 President: Nicola Denham - 01258 821343

### BLACKMORE VALE ART GROUP

The group meets monthly on the second Friday at 10:30am in the Village Hall.

All styles and levels of experience are welcomed.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT  
 Yvonne 820247 or [mikyon@aol.com](mailto:mikyon@aol.com)



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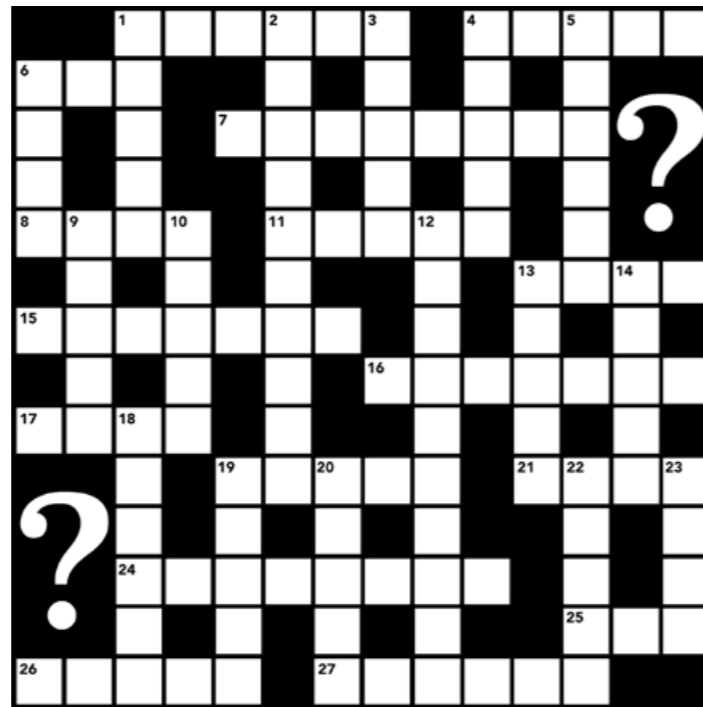
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ACROSS

- 1) A South American cowboy . (6)
- 4) A heron with mainly white plumage. (5)
- 6) In Scotland a high mountain. (3)
- 7) Herrings cured by salting and smoking. (8)
- 8) A member of the Dutch population that settled in South Africa in the 17th century. (4)
- 11) The third largest city in Israel. (5)
- 13) A large rope used to support a ship's mast. (4)
- 15) Member of a Protestant Christian denomination who believe in total immersion. (7)
- 16) The type of urn that John Keats wrote a poem about. (7)
- 17) Edible starch that is obtained from a palm. (4)
- 19) Pre decimal coin worth 25 new pence. (5)
- 21) An extremely small amount. (4)
- 24) Body of water that separates Ireland and Great Britain. (5-3)
- 25) The foremost division of an advancing military force. (3)
- 26) Smooth bodied lizard with short or no limbs. (5)
- 27) The main course of a meal. (6)



DOWN

- 1) Legendary dwarfish creature said to guard the world's treasures underground. (5)
- 2) Called Camulodunum, it was the first major city in Roman Britain. What is it called now? (10)
- 3) Large browsing mammal of the giraffe family. (5)
- 4) A procedure in which fluid is injected into the rectum to expel its contents. (5)
- 5) Dessert apple with a slightly rough greenish brown skin. (5)
- 6) Sharp projection near the end of a arrow or fish hook to make it hard to extract. (6)
- 9) Name of a US city that was used as a code name for a D-day beach. (4)
- 10) Imitative of a style from the recent past. (5)
- 12) Temperature scale name after a German physicist. (10)
- 13) Russian city the scene of the Winter Olympics in 2014. (5)
- 14) Nautical term meaning stop. (5)
- 18) Constellation representing the twins Castor and Pollux. (6)
- 19) Twist or strain the neck. (5)
- 20) Earthy pigment containing ferric oxide. (5)
- 22) Type of branch that the dove brought back to Noah after the flood in the Old Testament. (5)
- 23) Type of knitting associated with a group of islands off the West coast of Ireland. (4)

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**New Messenger Deadline:  
Mid-Day 14th September**

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



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