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all your news from the community

Spring 2019

Vision for Marlow *an update*

The most attractive and vibrant Thameside town

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MARLOW TOWN COUNCIL

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Mayor's Message

Spring welcome

As we go to press on this spring edition we leave behind another busy year full of great activities, the most recent being our fantastic Christmas events. Thank you all for your contribution at the end of last year.

The Christmas break already seems a distant memory but hopefully it gave you time to reflect on the important things in your own family, life in general, and our community.

As we wait for the warmth to return, we can celebrate that the community is in pretty good shape and the day job is really getting done. That deserves another big thanks to you all. While Marlow can be proud of the strength and breadth of its community engagement, there is of course more we can do. Please support us with the challenges we have set ourselves this year.

Mental health in young people

Last year for my Mayor's charity, I pledged to raise money to support Marlow schools in delivering mental health support for our young people. Our schools do not have the budgets to cope with this escalating issue and while they are doing great things with what little they have, it is an enormous critically underfunded task.

Mental health problems in childhood have a long-lasting impact on individuals within our community. The scale and urgency of this complex situation are highlighted below:

- Suicide is now the second leading cause of death amongst young people.
- Over half of mental health problems in adult life start by the age of 14, and 75% by the age of 24.
- 12% of 11-16 year-olds experience a mental health problem, compared with 8% of 5-10 year olds.
- 70% of children and young people with mental health problems have not had the right help when they first needed it.
- As few as 4% of children and young people approach their GP for support.

What we need to do

The tough part is always raising the money. We need to keep adding to the fund over the next few years and build a foundation until schools get priority and central government funding which is why a proposal will be made to the full Council to support mental health as a "rolling Mayor's charitable cause" for the foreseeable future.

Currently we only have funds to support a few schools with some very basic initiatives over the coming year

so we need to find a way now of supporting them all in Marlow. My request is an urgent call to arms to all of you: businesses, parents and organisations. Please offer your support and consider ways you could contribute to our funds for mental health in young people. Our details are below and I would be grateful for donations at any level and will continue to actively campaign for support from our Marlow community. I am available to discuss ways you can contribute, so please do not hesitate to contact myself or Jan Bailey with proposals you may have for support.

Making Marlow Dementia-Friendly

Marlow is now following a programme run by the Alzheimer's Society to facilitate the creation of dementia-friendly communities across the UK.

This is a big project for the newly formed Marlow Bridge Rotary Club, which is acting as both instigator and facilitator to get this project up and running. The Club needs volunteers and stakeholders to help Make Marlow Dementia-Friendly (MMDF). Please take time to read how you can get involved in the article on page (x) of this edition of The Marlovian.

We are all heading busily through this year with renewed goals and aspirations and we wish you every success with your challenges.

I look forward to meeting you around town and keeping you informed on the many exciting initiatives and projects we have planned for this year.



Cllr Chris Funnell

Marlow Town Mayor

cfunnell@marlow-tc.gov.uk

Bank details to make a direct donation:
Sort Code: 30-95-36 A/C 03635900

Jan Bailey, Mayor's PA:
jan@marlow-tc.gov.uk



Town Council News

Spring 2019

Santa's Fun Run

Barry and the Community Payback team worked hard in the build-up to the Santa's Fun Run to clear litter, pavements and overgrown bushes. We received this lovely thank-you from the organisers:

Dear Barry and Marlow Town Council

Please could I pass on a very big "Thank you" from myself, the whole Santa's Fun Run committee and of course all the 2750 runners and supporters, to you and the Marlow Town Council for all the help and support you provided for our Marlow Rotary Santa's Fun Run on Sunday.

The work that you organise for the Community Payback group to do on the course is essential and I am sure all the runners appreciate the effort that goes into providing a clear, clean and safe route for the event. Thank you also for the loan of various pieces of equipment that all help to make the day run smoothly and efficiently.

Firview Close

Barry and the Payback team also did some "siding out" at Firview Close. See the before and after pictures – quite a difference:



Yellow Lines Finally Installed

Marlow Town Council, in conjunction with Transport for Bucks, recently completed a scheme to install yellow lines for junction protection at many locations around the town. We have been overwhelmed with the positive response from residents.



Just after the yellow lines were installed at Trinity Court, two fire appliances were called to an emergency in the apartments. There would previously have been several cars parked on the corner, blocking the road. The firemen have in the past not been able to attend closely due to parked cars but this time they were able to drive straight through unhindered.

New Grounds Maintenance Contract

From April Marlow Town Council has a new grounds maintenance contract with Continental Landscapes, for grass cutting in the town. They have some great initiatives in place to improve the quality and frequency of grass cutting around the town.

A-Board Policy



Marlow Town Council's A-Board policy has been in force now for one year. During this time officers have worked closely with local business owners to ensure that

advertising boards are treated equally for all town centre businesses and do not obstruct footpaths.

Confiscation of offending boards is a last resort and officers ensure that the rules are enforced fairly. The full policy and guidelines are available on page 18.

Celebrate Marlow

Wanted: Marlow's 'Unsung Heroes'

Do you know anyone in Marlow who happily gives up their time to serve the community? Do you think they deserve to be recognised for their contribution?

If so, you have the chance to put them forward as one of Marlow's 'Unsung Heroes' in this year's campaign by Marlow Town Council to find the town's most dedicated and selfless individuals or groups.



Last year's campaign found 25 nominees, from carers to litter-pickers. The Council is hoping to exceed this number in 2019, and is calling on everyone to put forward their favourite. The nominees will be invited to the town's third 'Celebrate Marlow' event this September in recognition of their contribution to the community.

"These Unsung Heroes are the backbone of our community," Mayor Chris Funnell says. "We know that many people in Marlow give up their time and energy voluntarily for the community, without expecting or receiving acknowledgement or thanks.

"We want them to be recognised and rewarded, so please help us to find them so we can invite them to our community celebration in September and thank them for their support to the community."

Celebrate Marlow, organised by Marlow Town Council,

is a lunch event at the Crowne Plaza Hotel on 29th September, with guests from all parts of Marlow society: senior citizens, veterans, schools, cadets and volunteers.

To tell us about your Unsung Hero(es), please email office@marlow-tc.gov.uk

Liston Court Lights

Council officers turn detective for a light-bulb moment

Marlow Town Council officers followed a mysterious trail to restore the lighting on the pathway through Liston Court, which had left pedestrians in the dark.

Residents had reported that some of the lamps in the well used cut-through to the High Street were out of use. After extensive investigations with Wycombe District Council, it emerged that the lamps had been sold along with two of the local properties, which had been sold on again. The four lamps still owned by WDC had been fitted with solar lights, but the rest of the lamps remained unlit.

Not to be deterred, MTC officers set off on a detective trail and after extensive research were able to identify Lennox Estates as the probable owners of the lamps. The Town Clerk arranged a meeting and a site visit for the Mayor with Lennox Estates.

Lennox Estates agreed that they owned the four remaining columns, arranged for power to be reconnected and the bulbs to be replaced. All were working within a few days of the meeting.

We are very grateful to Justin Gurney of Lennox Estates for being so proactive and community-minded in solving this problem.

Riley Park Playground Resurface

The Council has had the whole of the Riley Park play area completely resurfaced. The old tiles were lifting and were coming apart, causing a trip hazard. The new surface is now in place and the park is open.



Great British Spring Clean

We are calling for residents and organisations to take part in the Great British Spring Clean on 30th March 2019. Volunteers will meet outside Court Garden House at 10am, wearing suitable footwear. Litter grabbers and refuse sacks will be provided. To get involved please contact Cllr Suzanne Brown via email: sbrown@marlow-tc.gov.uk or **01628 475726**. If you wish to suggest areas to be targeted please email office@marlow-tc.gov.uk. Please visit our website for more information: www.marlow-tc.gov.uk



A Vision For Marlow

Marlow Town Council vision and strategy update 2019

It is nearly seven years since we presented our first ever detailed vision and strategy for Marlow. Our 'Vision for Marlow' document, put together in 2012 in consultation with residents, local organisations and businesses, set out what we wanted to achieve for our town over the next ten years.

Our vision, then and now, is to make Marlow the most attractive and vibrant riverside town in the Thames Valley.

This has been our focus and guide and we have achieved a great number of the aims we set out in that first strategic plan.

Here are some of the highlights:

Making and keeping our town beautiful

- We've introduced and maintain floral displays all around the town.
- Bunting decorates the main streets from May to September.
- We have taken over from BCC and WDC the responsibility for ground maintenance around the town to ensure all areas are well tended.

Creating an environment to attract culture, arts and sporting events

- Marlow's Christmas lights are a huge success, thanks to the support of our many business sponsors, and our Christmas events are firmly established in the town's calendar.
- We provide support for the hugely successful food and music festival, Pub in the Park.
- We worked closely with Transition Town Marlow to establish their successful Community and Farmers' markets.
- We have created and run a project to help both primary and secondary school children understand democracy and be involved in the community.
- We provide a positive, supportive and proactive environment for many other cultural and sports initiatives, including Love Marlow, the Sprintathon, our community youth clubs, Marlow Regatta and more.

- We've created a Celebrate Marlow event in recognition of the many groups and individuals who contribute to our community.
- We're in active discussions over a literary and comedy festival for Marlow.

Protecting the environment for future generations

- Working with the supermarkets, we helped reduce the use of plastic bags in Marlow.
- To encourage the use of bicycles, we've introduced additional cycle paths around the town.
- Our wonderful litter-picking volunteers have made a real difference to the look of the town centre and green spaces.
- We've worked alongside the Environment Agency and Bucks CC to secure Marlow's flood alleviation scheme, which is almost complete.
- Working with WDC to look at ways of improving air quality in our town centre streets.

Looking after the transport needs of residents, visitors and businesses

- We campaigned successfully alongside residents, businesses and organisations, including the Marlow Chamber of Commerce and the Marlow Society, to overturn a plan to instigate paid-for parking in Marlow town centre. This was a triumph of cooperation in the town.
- We put forward detailed proposals for a decked parking area to alleviate the strain on parking in the town.
- We supported BidCo regarding the introduction of yellow lines on the roads in and around Globe Business Park.

Communicating and engaging with all sectors of the community

- Our improved website and social media presence has helped us both inform and engage with our community.
- The *Marlovian* magazine has been improved and updated.
- We've held 'drop-ins' and attended many events to encourage a two-way dialogue.

Keeping Marlow safe

- We work closely with the police to prevent oversized vehicles crossing and causing damage to our historic bridge
- 'Shop Watch' and 'Pub Watch' initiatives, which we set up in partnership with the police, help secure the safety in the town.
- We set up the Marlow Community Flood Plan in 2013 to ensure the town is well prepared for future floods.
- As part of the speed reduction campaign on key roads, we help monitor vehicle speeds around the town.

These are just some of the ways in which we are driving forward our plan to make Marlow the most attractive and vibrant riverside town in the Thames Valley. We have made huge strides in the last six years and look forward to the continuing success of the town in the future.

The imminent introduction of a Unitary Authority for Buckinghamshire means big changes in the structure of our local government. We welcome any changes which give us more control over our town and help us take it to the next level of success.

With our strategy and Vision already in place, we believe we are perfectly placed to take on more of the devolved

services which matter to our residents, businesses and visitors.

In particular we would like to take on responsibility for Higginson Park, the venue for many of our great events. The Park, though currently looked after by Wycombe District Council, was always intended for the use of Marlow's residents. Not only would we like to see it restored to the town, we want to nurture and protect it as a key attraction for all our community.

Marlow Town Council has the energy, the vision and the commitment to ensure we satisfy the aims of our Vision, and we hope you will support us over the interesting times ahead.

We welcome your feedback and suggestions to help us deliver our Vision for the next ten years, to keep Marlow:

- A fantastic place to live.
- A great place to work.
- An exciting place to visit.
- A wonderful place to bring up children.
- A caring environment for all.

Contributed by *Cllr Jocelyn Towns & Cllr Kathy Thomson, Vision & Strategy Group*





Maurice Oram Obituary

Long-serving councillor will be missed

Maurice Oram, Past Town Mayor, passed away on 20th December.

Maurice was, as everyone knows, a Marlow man through and through, and served his community in many ways.



He was best known for being a County Councillor at Bucks County Council from 1989-2005 and for being a Marlow Town Councillor.

He served as Town Mayor in 1983, 1984, 1991, 1992 and 2001, when he welcomed Her Majesty The Queen and Prince Philip to Marlow on the occasion of her Golden Jubilee at the end of his Mayoral year in 2002.

He was a lifelong supporter of Marlow Football Club and was instrumental in ensuring that Riley Park Trust was safeguarded for the future enjoyment of residents.

In 2011, he was presented with a Long Service Award by Mayor Jocelyn Towns at the Mayor's Annual Reception.

Councillor Richard Scott said: "I knew him for over forty years. He was one hundred percent for residents and did a lot of work with them to sort out their issues."

Mayor Chris Funnell commented: "He was 'Mr Marlow' and I knew him for a long time. The Council was very sad to hear of his passing and he will be missed by many."



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Love Golf? Time To Tee Off!

Town Mayor's Charity Golf Day

Mayor Chris Funnell will be holding the annual Charity Golf Day on Tuesday 30th April 2019 at Harleyford Golf Club. This is a great day out for friends, colleagues or companies wishing to entertain clients whilst raising funds for his charity at the same time. Companies can sponsor a hole on the course. This will enable a banner or board to be displayed on the sponsored tee and the company name will appear in all the publicity surrounding this event.

The fee for a team of four is £280 which includes a day's golf, coffee and bacon roll before teeing off at mid-day, and three-course meal in the evening followed by prizegiving and raffle. For more information on this and everything you need to know about the day, please visit our website www.marlow-tc.gov.uk to download the brochure and booking form.

This year we will be having a Frank Sweatman Memorial Cup. Cllr Frank Sweatman was Mayor back in 2003/2004 and was a keen golfer, so he set up the very first golf day. Unfortunately, Frank passed away last year so we thought it fitting to have this cup in his memory as a lot of money



has been raised for the various Mayoral charities as a result over the years.

"This event is a key part of my fundraising activity for the year. I wish to raise funds to support mental health professionals and initiatives in Marlow schools. I do hope you will support my efforts by booking a team or sponsoring a hole," said Mayor Chris Funnell.



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Marlow Market



Marlow Market celebrates 18 months

Have you experienced the bustling Marlow Market? Don't miss out on the newest of Marlow's many treasures. On the first Saturday of the month, you can wander on to the Causeway at the bottom of the High Street and enjoy Nordic cakes or Champagne, treat yourself to Chiltern lamb, fresh oak smoked salmon, or even a lardy cake! Marlow Market brings together a variety of stallholders selling fresh produce – meat, poultry, fish, cheese and seasonal vegetables and also offering artisan foods such as pies, breads, cakes and street food. Flowers and gin can now also be found at this little gem, which complements the town's high-quality restaurants, cafés and seasonal outdoor food festivals.



Marlow's environmental group, Transition Town Marlow (TTM), launched the Market in September 2017 with James Brownbill of the Marlow Cheese Co. The aim is to provide a regular place for local farmers and bakers to sell their goods. Eighteen months on, and the Market is blooming. Come rain or shine, traders and customers are coming together to share their enthusiasm for the produce.

The money raised from the market goes towards local TTM projects such as the community orchard in Seymour Park, the Marlow Cycle Loop, and wildflower planting to encourage bees and butterflies. Last Summer, as part of the Love Marlow Festival, TTM launched the Marlow Repair Café which joins the Market in March, June, September and December. The Café gives owners a chance to learn how to fix their damaged possessions, rather than throw them away. Help is available with electronics and furniture, jewellery, clothing and bikes.

For more about Marlow Market have a look at **www.transitionmarlow.org** or search for us on Facebook.

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Marlow Town Regatta & Festival 2019

Marlow's Premier Sporting and Social Occasion

Saturday 15th & Sunday 16th June, 8.00 am to 9.30 pm

The **two day** event is the highlight of Marlow's annual sporting & social calendar. Presenting a **Traditional Lawn Rowing Regatta & Garden Party**, located within **Higginson park**, an idyllic riverside setting. Enjoy picnicking in a vibrant atmosphere, accompanied by the thrill of the competition, featuring future Olympic rowing talent.

The **Saturday daytime rowing event**, starting from 8 am, offers **Riverside dining with Sojo Kitchen, Round Table Riverside Bar, varied food providers and Marlow FM on centre stage.**

The afternoon evolves into a music festival, featuring live performances from a host of talented musicians. The lineup is to include, local rock sensation **Interkoola, Reeve & Next Stage Choir**. We are hugely excited to present **Crocodile Mock**, our amazing 5-piece headline band, recreating the authentic sound of **Sir Elton John**. A tribute with a difference, expect a fabulously entertaining and energetic evening. **Crocodile Mock** will have you singing & dancing all night long!

The **Sunday Festival** is a **FREE event**, filled with an incredible line up of family entertainment, including dragon boat racing, circus acts, combined schools' choir, cake baking, dog shows, all complemented by an array of artisan craft & food stalls.

Car parking is available on the football field subject to availability.

For full details, to view Sojo menus, ticket pricing and to purchase, please go to: **www.marlowtownregatta.org**.

To book your table within the **Riverside Dining with Sojo Kitchen**, email: **riversidedining@sojokitchen.com**



Mother's Day Prize Draw



MarlowMums.com annual Mother's Day Prize Draw

This year's Mother's Day prize draw, organised by *MarlowMums.com*, offers the opportunity to win one of five fantastic prizes, including a tasting menu at Cliveden House, a Champagne afternoon tea for two at The Ivy Garden, and a hamper from The Butcher's Tap.

The draw is open to ALL local mums, young and old, and is free to enter. The competition is being run to give our much deserving local mums a big "Well done" and give away some really special prizes on Mothering Sunday.

The competition was started four years ago by Lisa Cook, founder of *MarlowMums.com*, as she feels passionately that mums deserve more recognition for the hard job they do. Lisa believes that the role of 'mum' is so often undervalued in today's culture. "Bringing up our children is one of the hardest but most important jobs we will ever do," she says. "It is challenging in ways no previous job will have ever challenged us before, but yet the 'mum' job gets no bonuses and rarely even a thank you or well done!"

Lisa runs the competition as a small way of saying: "Well done mums, you are doing brilliantly," and to give a handful of lucky winners a really special treat on Mothering Sunday.

She says: "I'm so thankful to our local businesses for supporting this competition by generously donating prizes. It's been amazing to have their support."

The competition will open on *MarlowMums.com* on 1st March and run until 5pm on 30th March. To enter, mums will simply need to visit **www.marlowmums.com** and follow the link to the competition page to give their contact details. The winners will be drawn out of a hat at random and announced on 31st March – Mothering Sunday.

Good luck!

Contributed by *Lisa Cook*



The Prizes To Be Won



A hamper of the freshest produce from The Butcher's Tap, Marlow



A Champagne afternoon tea for two at The Ivy Garden, Marlow



A three-month off peak membership at the Marlow Club



A spa experience day with manicure for two at Danesfield House

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Frank Percy Wild

Paintings by Marlow's famous artist from Gossmore House



Of a number of artists with Marlow connections, probably the best known is Frank Percy Wild who, although born in Leeds in 1861, spent much of his life at Gossmore House, Gossmore Lane, Marlow. He purchased the house from his friend, the very eccentric Captain Marshall, who was noted for having a well populated zoo in the grounds.

Here are just a few of Frank's paintings. The largest is the one that inspired this feature, since I only recently found out that it existed – a very impressive portrait of General Sir George Higginson's daughter Gladys and her two children Desmond and Eileen. This hangs at the home of Sir George's great grandson Michael Flower, the 11th Viscount Ashbrook, at Arley Hall in Cheshire. Gladys married the 9th Viscount Ashbrook, Llowarth Flower. Arley Hall is open to the public and includes a "General's Room".

Many of the rest shown here have a Thames and, in particular, a punting flavour; a path from Gossmore House led down to Frank's own punt and landing stage close to where the bypass bridge is today.

Top left is *Marlow Lock*; and next, *Punting On The Thames*, is in front of Bisham Abbey. Alongside *Feeding The Chickens* is *Punt & Swans* one of two Wild paintings that hang in the Higginson Room at Court Garden House. There is a third in the Town Council Offices.

Daughter Enid features in several of Frank's paintings and second along in the bottom row is *Enid At Marlow Point*, the former name for the sharp river turn before the fairly straight run to Bourne End. Quarry Woods are opposite. These days the banks are heavily overgrown with bushes and trees and in places the river is almost invisible from the towpath. Also on the bottom row is *Leaving Marlow Lock*,

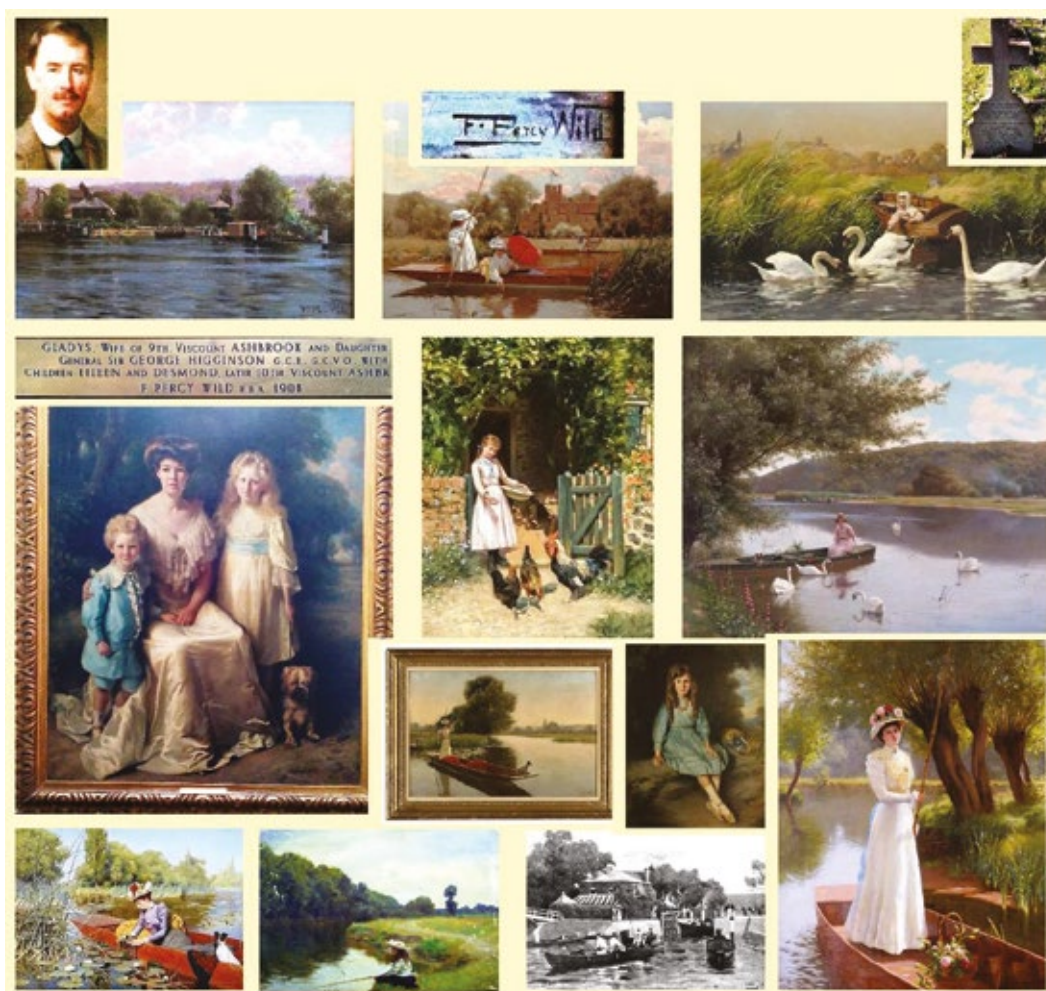
but regrettably only in black and white. This is how it appeared in an 1893 edition of the *Tatler* magazine. I have tried on several occasions to discover who has the colour original without success. It might make a nice project for Paul Merchant of *My Marlow* fame, who is skilled in the colourisation of vintage black and white and sepia tinged photographs.

Frank Percy Wild died in 1950. The family grave is close to the Thames in All Saints Churchyard. Some kind person regularly lays flowers there.

Contributed by *Michael Eagleton*

Michael is co-author of the *Trip Back In Time* booklets and contributes a weekly local nostalgia column to the *Marlow Free Press*.

michael@jazzfans.co



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A-Boards

Our A-board policy and why it's necessary

Marlow Town Council has put together guidelines to clarify the kinds of A-boards permitted in Marlow and the restrictions on businesses wishing to display them, below.

Pedestrians, disabled people, particularly those with visual impairment and people with pushchairs can have difficulty getting around A-boards, and they can also affect road safety and visibility if inappropriately used.

While we recognise that A-boards are an important way for businesses to communicate with shoppers and visitors, it is important that their number, size and position are controlled and that they do not cause difficulties for pedestrians. We seek at all times to be fair and consistent, and to support the High Street as much as we can.

“A-boards are an important way for businesses to communicate with shoppers and visitors”

If you are using A-boards to promote your business, we urge you to follow this policy; you may otherwise risk your board being removed, with a fee of £100 plus VAT payable to release it.



What is an A-board?

A portable free-standing advertising sign designed to be placed on the ground. If you use these signs on public land or adjacent to highways, then you must comply with these rules.

“A fee of £100 plus VAT to release any board that has to be removed”

Rules for the use of A-boards

If you wish to use an A-board to promote your business on public land or adjacent to the highway you will need to make sure that you follow the rules below.

- Businesses must only have one board directly outside their own premises, leaving a gap of no less than 1.5 metres to the kerb edge, and place it against the frontage or property boundary.
- Businesses who do not have a frontage on the main pedestrian routes will be permitted to place a board in a nearby sensible location, as long as they comply with the sizes and measurements detailed.
- New boards will be no more than 600mm wide at any location. Boards that are already on display, at the date of this policy, that are larger but still allow 1.5 metres to the kerb edge will be permitted.
- Board size and location will always be at the discretion of Marlow Town Council officers.
- If any board breaches these rules, officers will take action first in the form of a verbal notification, followed by a written notification. If the situation is still not rectified the board will be removed and the owner notified.
- Marlow Town Council will charge a recovery fee of £100, plus VAT, for any board that has to be removed following failed verbal and written notifications to the owner.
- Any board must be covered by the owner's public liability insurance.
- Vibrant colours are not appropriate in a conservation area.
- It must be stable and not weighted down or tied.
- It must not obstruct visibility at junctions.

Not sure if your A-board meets the rules? Contact Marlow Town Council for advice on **01628 484204**.

How to position your A-board correctly



More than one per property



Too obstructive



Single sign against property



1925



2012

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Spinfield School

Going plastic-free and achieving award success



Spinfield Primary School in Marlow has achieved Plastic-Free School status through the Surfers Against Sewage (SAS) education programme. We are the first school in 2019 to achieve this status!

Surfers Against Sewage said: "Spinfield Primary School has officially achieved Plastic-Free Schools Status. WELL DONE! The collective actions of the school community are creating waves of positive environmental change. Achieving Plastic-Free Schools Status is just the beginning; the hardest part is maintaining this level of pupil and staff commitment to keeping the school free of unnecessary single-use plastic."

Below is an extract from two of our pupils which will be appearing in the official SAS magazine *Pipeline*:

"Reducing plastic pollution is very important to us, because we know plastic harms the environment. We know that it ends up in the ocean, which means sea creatures can eat it and when we eat fish, the plastic can end up in our digestive systems. We know plastic pollution must stop as most of our oceans are now polluted. Other water sources are too. Some are so polluted that they are dangerous to be in."

"We are hurting our planet. Did you know that if we continue to use as much plastic as we are now, by 2050 there will be more plastic than fish in our seas? Also, in the Pacific Ocean, there is a rubbish patch twice the size of Texas. If we do something now we may be able to reduce the size of it, or at least stop it from expanding."

"SAS is the charity that we have partnered with to help us on our journey to becoming a plastic-free school by reducing our use of plastic as much as we can. We needed to complete five tasks to become a plastic-free school."

"Our first task was to form a committee and make an action plan to reduce single-use plastic in our school. We carried out trash mobs, where we cleared our school grounds of litter and noted the types of litter. We also wrote to local businesses and to our MP to suggest strategies for reducing single-use plastic. The last task was to ban three single-use plastic products that are currently in use in our school. We have stopped using small ice cream pots, single-use milk cartons with plastic straws and glitter."

THANK YOU to everyone, pupils, staff, families, Dolce, our meals supplier, and Cool Milk, our milk supplier, for helping us achieve this status. We continue to be committed to reducing single-use plastic as much as we can in our school. Thank you for your support in helping us to do this.



Spinfield has been awarded the British Council's prestigious International School Award (for the second time) for working to bring the world into the classroom.

The International School Award celebrates the achievements of schools that do exceptional work in international education. Fostering an international dimension in the curriculum is at the heart of the British Council's work with schools so that young people gain the cultural understanding and skills they need for life and work.

Spinfield's international work includes working with schools in Nepal, India and Pakistan on joint projects such as celebrating diversity, learning new languages and environmental and sustainability projects.

On hearing the news that Spinfield had received the award, Jayne Spreadbury, Head Teacher said: "We are all extremely proud to achieve this award for the second time. At Spinfield we are committed to our children being global citizens and forging partnerships with children in different countries. By doing this, our children gain a better understanding of the world and this in turn will help them to be compassionate and considerate citizens."



The award is sought-after worldwide by schools from countries such as India, Sri Lanka, Lebanon, Cyprus, and Pakistan. Around 5,500 International School Awards have been presented to successful schools in the UK since the British Council scheme began in 1999.

The International School Award encourages and supports schools to develop:

- An international ethos embedded throughout the school
- A whole school approach to international work
- Collaborative curriculum-based work with a number of partner schools
- Year-round international activity
- Involvement of the wider community.

Contributed by *Spinfield School*




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Marlow Library

Marlow Library becomes a vital community resource



You will undoubtedly have heard about Marlow Library's forthcoming refurbishment. We feel very lucky to have been chosen to be developed as a community resource, and spent December and January talking to our customers about their ideas and suggestions for the library.

One of the aspirations of the refurbishment will be to work with as many community groups as possible, enabling the people of Marlow to access local services easily and without confusion. We already offer a weekly one-to-one session with the Citizen's Advice Bureau, and we will be looking to develop so that we can offer other services from the library. Call us if you'd like to book a Friday morning appointment with CAB.

At the time of writing, I am busy organising a Wellbeing Fair for the end of February, when customers will be able to come and talk to experts about many aspects of physical and mental health and wellbeing. Again, as part of our future, we hope to be able to work closely with healthcare professionals to offer information and advice.

If while reading this, you are concerned that we'll lose our cultural identity as a library, please do not worry!

The core offers of providing book-lending and access to information will remain firmly entrenched. This week, I visited the newly refurbished library in Aylesbury, which is looking inviting, clean, contemporary and appealing. It is inspiring to see such a transformation, and here at Marlow, we can't wait to get started on our own improvements. Aylesbury Library had lots of lovely shiny new books to show off on their new shelves and I've been assured that the same will be the case here.

So, watch this space and we all look forward to inviting you to a lovely new library in the near future.

Contributed by
Maggie Ross,
Library
Manager



March On The Thames



*A procession of people this time of year,
Stroll, amble and stride on a day so clear,
All ages enjoy the river from bridge to lock,
Children feeding birds, with dogs running amok,
Anglers casting lines near the end of a season,
Visitors arriving for an obvious reason,
Oarsmen in teams from a local pub,
Practice their rowing, with aches yet to rub,
Wheelchairs carrying those who now are worn,
While pushchairs carry the latest newly born,
The water attracts people just like a magnet,
The sun creates perfection until it has to set,
A multitude of colours adorns the river bank,
As the day swiftly passes,
everyone has so much to thank.*

Poem kindly donated to
the people of Marlow by
Larry Dyer



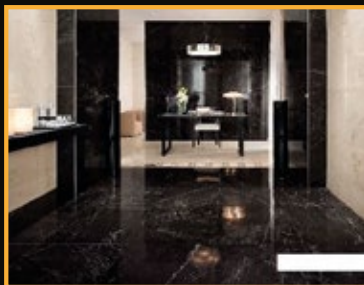
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Family Bereavement Support

Helping local children with Daisy's Dream



Daisy's Dream is a local charity which provides professional support and advice to children and families facing, or following, the death of someone close to them. All the charity's services are provided on an outreach basis and are completely free of charge.

A team of professionally qualified therapeutic practitioners supports children and young people directly through face-to-face, one-to-one sessions, tailored to each family's unique circumstances. These practitioners also offer help and guidance over the phone to the wider family and other professionals, such as teachers, who may be working with the child.

Families are also encouraged to participate in specialist group events, where they can meet with others facing similar circumstances. This therapeutic group work helps to break down the isolation so commonly felt by those affected by serious illness and bereavement, and also provides an important opportunity for children and young people to have fun.

Daisy's Dream currently supports around 700 children each year, and has helped over 9,000 since it started 23 years ago. Its work has been shown to help reduce the risk of future mental health, social, and educational difficulties by allowing children the time they need to explore and express their grief.

The charity receives no government funding for its work and, while it does receive a small amount of grant funding from charitable trusts and organisations, it is primarily reliant on donations from local communities to continue. In these challenging financial times, YOUR support is more important than ever to help raise the £410,000 needed this year to deliver the service to those in need.

You can help in several ways:

- Set up a regular monthly donation via the charity's website
- Nominate Daisy's Dream as the chosen charity for your company or club to support
- Sign up for a fundraising challenge or social event
- Volunteer as a Fundraiser at a local community event.

Here's what your support achieves:

- £10 could pay for a family to receive a tailored information pack, offering them easy to read, valuable advice at their most vulnerable time
- £50 is enough to pay for a young person to receive a one-to-one support session with a therapeutic practitioner, either at home or at school
- £1,000 could pay for a specialist therapeutic group event to be run for children and young people.

If you would like to get involved with supporting Daisy's Dream, or are concerned about a child impacted by bereavement or serious illness, you can visit **www.daisysdream.org.uk** for more information about how to get in touch.

Contributed by *Gemma Gittins*



Marlow Music Makers



Singers celebrate tenth anniversary

Marlow Music Makers are celebrating in 2019 with a "10th Anniversary Concert" on 27th, 28th and 29th June 2019.

The Music Makers were the inspiration of Barbara Whitehead, the Musical Director, who formed the MMM Choir in July 2009.

The choir has gone from strength to strength and has been enjoyed enormously by many people.

During the ten years since it began, MMM has donated a large amount of money to local charities and aims to donate money from its summer concerts to a local cancer charity.

The choir performs two concerts a year and the "10th Anniversary" will be held at the United Reformed Church, starting at 7.30pm.

Tickets will be available from Leighton Insight in the High Street nearer the time. Tickets will be £10, which will include a glass of wine and light refreshments.

Please make a note in your diary of these dates and we look forward to seeing you.

www.facebook.com/marlowmusicmakers

Contributed by *Carole Holme, Marlow Music Makers*



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We Need Your Support!

Painting the town MMDF yellow

A project started within Marlow Bridge Rotary Club has led to all three of Marlow's Rotary Clubs encouraging Marlow Councillors, residents, businesses, healthcare professionals and community groups to embrace an Alzheimer's Society initiative to 'Make Marlow Dementia-Friendly', which is part of the UK's biggest initiative to change the way people think, act and talk about dementia.

When up and running, the initiative will be driven by stakeholders from across the Marlow community, under the guidance of the Alzheimer's Society. Paul Bolton, who is leading the project, explained that presentations and dementia awareness training sessions have already started in Marlow, with many more events and initiatives being planned by a newly formed 'Make Marlow Dementia-Friendly' (MMDF) committee.

A pilot project aims to:

- Ensure there is a strong voice for Marlow people living with dementia, as well as their carers and loved ones
- Bring the Marlow community together to make a difference to those living with dementia
- Engage in awareness-raising activities and education in Marlow
- Encourage Marlow based organisations and businesses to see the importance of dementia awareness and work with us.

Paul explained: "We started this initiative late last year and have achieved a great deal in a short amount of time. We recently launched the MMDF Facebook page, and we shall be asking shops, restaurants and organisations throughout Marlow to display our distinctive yellow MMDF badges to show their support. We invite residents from across the town to attend short Dementia Friends Information sessions at Marlow's Cliveden Manor Care Home, and at other venues in due course. It is hoped some will go a step further and volunteer to become Dementia Champions and act as ambassadors for the project.

"Already a cross-section of the community has joined in and put ideas forward. We have even attracted the attention of musicians wanting to make a difference; some have already performed at Marlow Library to spark happy memories. This is a project for the community by the community. Age is no barrier and schools will also be encouraged to embrace the campaign."

Further details from www.marlowbridgerotary.org

Contributed by *Paul Bolton, Marlow Bridge Rotary Club*



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Marlow Folk Dance Club



Why not join in?

Marlow Folk Dance Club is a very friendly club which meets on the second and fourth Fridays of each month from September to June.

We dance from 8pm to 10.15pm, with a break for refreshments.

During the summer months we meet for dancing in members' gardens, and have other events so that we keep in touch with each other.

The club was formed in 1960 and has met regularly ever since.

Our dancing is best described as English Country Dancing, and we are often accompanied by live music. At other times we dance to CDs chosen by the caller.

All dances are walked through before being put to music, so that even beginners can pick up the moves easily. The moves are called throughout each dance at the discretion of the caller.

New members will always be welcomed, and beginners especially will find more experienced dancers ready to dance with them. It is not necessary to come with a partner.

"The moves are called throughout each dance...even beginners can pick them up easily"



Contact Janet on **01494 531716** for further details. You can find out more at www.chilternfolk.org.uk/home/clubs/mfdc

Contributed by *Marlow Folk Dance Club*

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The Official magazine
for Marlow Town Council

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Town Council Grants

How to apply

Does your community group, charity or local organisation qualify for a grant?

Marlow Town Council has a budget of £6,000 for 2018-19 to distribute grants to community groups, charities and local organisations which benefit Marlow, its residents, visitors and the wider community.

Applications are considered at each meeting of the Resources Committee.

All applications must be received three weeks prior to the date of the meeting to be considered for a grant.

A meetings timetable can be viewed on the website.

If you feel you are eligible to make an application on behalf of a local community group, charity or local organisation, you can submit a request to the Town Council.

A Grant Application Form is available to download from our website, **www.marlow-tc.gov.uk**, together with the Grants Policy document.

During 2017-2018 the Town Council were pleased to issue grants to the following organisations:

- Royal British Legion
- Marlow Choral Society
- Marlow Music Festival
- Marlow Town Regatta and Festival
- Marlow Regatta Ltd
- Marlow Camera Club
- Churches Together
- Marlow Players
- Marlow Museum
- Chiltern dial-a-ride
- Marlow Park and Marlow Cricket Clubs
- Marlow District Scouts
- Marlow District Girl Guides
- All Saints Church
- Citizens Advice Bureau
- Petanque Club

Homes for hearing dogs

We are urgently looking for local dog lovers for three exciting volunteer roles:

Puppy Parents

Provide a lifetime home to one of our hearing dog mums and look after her litters until they are 8 weeks of age.

Welfare Fostering

Give one of our young dogs, taking a break from training, a temporary home (3 months minimum).

Home-school a Hearing Dog

Look after and help train one of our clever hearing dogs during their advanced training.

If you have a house with a secure garden, plenty of time to spare and live locally, then one of these roles could be perfect for you.

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Marlow Medics

A day in the life of a minor illness nurse



No day is ever the same working in minor illness. From sore throats to head injuries, you name it, we see it!

As a minor illnesses nurse I am based at the Doctors' House and work within the Rapid Access Clinic. This clinic is designed for those who require same-day emergency appointments for more urgent problems that can't wait, such as chest infections, abdominal pain and urgent wound care. The clinic comprises Minor Illness Nurses, a Duty Doctor and a Community Paramedic. Together, we assess and treat those in need and try to work with patients wherever possible to prevent further illness or injury.

As a Minor Illness Nurse at the Doctors' House, I begin my day by looking at the emergency list of patients who have called the surgery that morning with problems that cannot wait for scheduled routine appointments. Between us we work through the list of up to one hundred patients per day, ensuring all are assessed and treated according to their care needs, and frequently bringing them back the next day to ensure they are responding to treatment. This method is very effective in reducing unnecessary hospital admissions, as we are able to monitor patients in the community and as a result alleviate strain on our local Emergency Departments.

Occasionally, patients present with more serious illnesses that cannot be safely managed in the community. In these cases we refer them to our local hospitals for further diagnostic assessment and treatment.

Lynette Trinder, Sian Blissett and I have all worked previously in Accident and Emergency and form the Minor Illness Nursing team together with Jo Parker, Michele Wills, Pauline Cole and Clair Holmes-Clough, who is an Advanced Nurse Practitioner. As a team we have several years' experience and learn from each other daily. The nurses are well supported by the GPs, and together ensure timely and appropriate care is available to our community every day.

Please remember that to avoid unnecessary trips to the surgery and long waits on the phone, you can visit our website: www.marlowdoctors.co.uk, where you can contact us 24/7. You can use options such as 'Ask a Pharmacist a Question' for any medication or prescription-related queries or 'Ask a Doctor a Question' and get a response within two working days. You can also 'Register for Online Services' to order repeat medication, book appointments and access your medical records.

Contributed by *Emily Potts, Marlow Medical Group*



Left to right: Emily Potts, Minor Illness Nurse; Jo Cook, Healthcare Assistant; Pauline Cole, Minor Illness Nurse



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Marlow Sea Cadets

Marlow Cadets in London for Remembrance weekend



Three Sea Cadets from TS Apollo were taken to London on 9th November to be a part of the important historical milestone, the Centenary Ceremonies of the First World War's Armistice Day.

The first event was attended by two cadets who had the honour to participate in the Lord Mayor's congregation at City Hall, as well as making an appearance on live TV.

Meanwhile, Cadet 1st Class Trew was on a tour of London. She was lucky enough to see the incredible "Weeping Window" poppy display at the Imperial War Museum.

During evening breaks they became acquainted with cadets from many different units in their area, and all helped one another to make their uniforms immaculate, ready for the Royal Albert Hall.

Cadets First Class, Steel and Trew attended the Royal British Legion's Festival of Remembrance at the Royal Albert Hall. They collected donations for the Legion, sold poppies and handed out programmes as well as watching the performance.

Trew directly sold 20 programmes to the Queen and the Royal Family and saw Her Majesty leave the Royal Box.

Steel described the day: "A truly moving experience. I am honoured to have been part of this special event."

On the 100th Anniversary of the Armistice, Able Cadet Lassen was the right-hand marker of the Sea Cadet squad who marched into Whitehall, past the Cenotaph.

AC Lassen said: "It was my best cadet experience so far. Not only because I was marching in the Cenotaph Parade, but it was on the 100th anniversary of the end of WW1."

Marlow Sea Cadets are still seeking volunteer officers and unit management to ensure that this great unit does not close. If you can help in any way, please contact Bob Savidge on **bobsavidge@talktalk.net**. Find out more at **www.sea-cadets.org/marlow**

Contributed by *Graham Cooper, Marlow Sea Cadets*



Marlow Bowls Club



Centenary year 2019

The sport of outdoor bowls is perhaps not known for its power and excitement; rather it is intrinsically linked in most people's minds with restful sunny afternoons, pots of tea and cream buns.

However, this season at Marlow Bowls Club it is not just about tea and buns; it is a very special season as the club celebrates its 100th birthday!

Life began for Marlow Bowls Club as The Crown Bowling Club and the original green was sited just behind The Crown pub at the top of Marlow High Street. Then, in 1931, the first wood was bowled at its current ground in Court Garden, Higginson Park. How the club has flourished since those early days.

Many fine bowlers have played for Marlow both at county and international level and the club continues to invite new members into its attractive clubhouse and grounds with all standards of bowling embraced.

The club has arranged several matches to mark the 100th year, including fixtures against the Bucks Bowling Association, Bowls England, London and Southern

Counties and an intriguing fixture in August against the Chelsea Pensioners.

The new outdoor season starts in the third week of April and on 3rd and 5th May the club holds its annual Open Day sessions. If you are interested in the game of bowls then do look at joining Marlow. Visit the website at **www.marlowbowls.co.uk** for contact details and information or contact Peter Barltrop on **01628 476835** (email **p.barltrop@btinternet.com**). The club also offers winter indoor short mat sessions that take place in the clubhouse at Higginson Park.

Contributed by *Marlow Bowls Club*



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