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Summer 2019

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Inside...

- 05. Mayor's Message
- 06. Annual Meeting
- 08. Town Council News
- 11. Mayor's Charity Golf Day
- 12. Marlow Regatta & Festival
- 14. Through The Looking Glass
- 17. Annual Parish Report
- 22. Marlow Opportunities Playgroup
- 27. Test Your Local Knowledge
- 31. Parkinson's UK
- 32. Who Does What?
- 34. Your Councillors



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Editor: Hilary Martin
Magazine Co-ordinator: Jan Bailey
To submit an article, email jan@marlow-tc.gov.uk or call 01628 484024.

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Tel: 01491 837621
www.randagroup.co.uk
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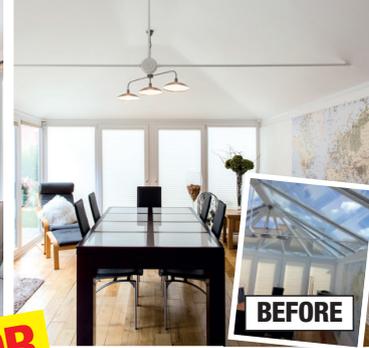
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Mayor's Message

Summer welcome

I am honoured and privileged to be your Mayor for the forthcoming year. I commit to serving all residents of Marlow to the very best of my abilities and of course with enthusiasm, compassion and devotion.

I have a strong belief that you should put something back into the community in which you live

I have lived in Marlow for nearly 45 years and during that time I have been involved with its community in many ways, including having been your Mayor from 2006 to 2008 and currently as Chairman of the Community Association, which runs Liston Hall. I have a strong belief that you should put something back into the community in which you live. I am delighted that Cllr Bob Johnson, another experienced Councillor, who has lived in the town



for many years, will support me as my Deputy Mayor. I was your Buckinghamshire Councillor for eight years and will remain as a Wycombe District Councillor until 31st March 2020, when the Council will be dissolved to become part of the new Buckinghamshire Unitary Council. This is the first structural change to local government in Buckinghamshire since 1974 and gives your Town Council the opportunity to consider taking on further devolved services that were previously carried out by the County and District Councils. In addition, the Town Council continues to develop its Vision for the town and is already undertaking a number of key projects.

To help with this increased workload, the Council has created a new role of Leader, whose responsibilities will include delivery of these additional services for the benefit of residents, businesses and visitors alike. Cllr Jocelyn Towns, an experienced Councillor and former Mayor, has taken on this role. My position as Mayor will become more ambassadorial on behalf of the town and I will also chair the Town Council.

It is usual for the Mayor to raise funds for charitable causes during their year and last year Cllr Chris Funnell raised monies to help young people with mental health issues. This is a complex and time-consuming matter and cannot be resolved in one year; therefore my fundraising will be for the same cause as we develop services, particularly with the schools, to address some of these issues.

The Town Council continues to develop its Vision for the town and is already undertaking a number of key projects

Finally, I want Marlow to remain a busy, dynamic town with a vibrant town centre, adapting to the challenges of the 21st century, whilst mindful of our history. We should also build on our strong community spirit. Your Town Council team is dedicated, strong and fully committed to this approach.

Cllr Richard Scott
Marlow Town Mayor





Annual Meeting

Marlow Town Council appoints new Mayor and new Leader

At the Council's Annual Meeting held on 14th May, Cllr Richard Scott was appointed as Marlow's Mayor from May 2019 to May 2020. A new Leader role was announced to be fulfilled by former Mayor Jocelyn Towns.

"The introduction of the Leader position is an important change and the first in the structure of this Council since 1974," he said. "The prime role for the Mayoral post has always been and will remain a civic one ; however the workload of this role has increased exponentially in recent years, so the transfer of non-civic duties to a Leader will help to balance the workload between Mayor and Leader for the benefit of the town and its residents."

The role, which is in addition to the Mayor's position, will support the development and management of the town's successful Vision and strategy and manage further devolved services from the proposed new Buckinghamshire Unitary Council after April 2020.

The Mayor presented outgoing Mayor Chris Funnell with his Past Mayor's badge and thanked him for his work over the last twelve months. Cllr Funnell presented his partner, Mia Frank with a bouquet to thank her for her support during his Mayoral year. He will take on the role of Deputy Leader in the coming year, while Cllr Bob Johnson is Deputy Mayor.

Town Clerk Hilary Martin received a bouquet for her work over the last year, and PA to the Mayor Jan Bailey was presented with a bottle of Champagne by the outgoing Mayor.

Also present at the meeting were Mayor of High Wycombe, Cllr Sarfaraz Khan Raja and Chairman of Wycombe District Council, Cllr Tony Green.



Photo (left to right): Deputy Mayor Cllr Bob Johnson, Mayor Richard Scott, Leader Jocelyn Towns and Deputy Leader and outgoing Mayor Chris Funnell.



Leading Change

New Leader role introduced to take on non-civic duties

The adoption of the continually developing Marlow Vision/Strategy and the strong probability of further devolved services from the proposed new Buckinghamshire Unitary Council after April 2020 will require strong leadership and direction. In order to deliver these changes, the Town Council has agreed to introduce the Leader role to work alongside the Mayor in responding to these challenges and adapting to the growing needs of our community. Separating the role of Leader from that of the Mayor to achieve these objectives has been successfully adopted by a number of other Town Councils over recent years.

Currently, the Mayor undertakes this joint role, but the prime role for the Mayoral post, introduced in 1974, has always been and will remain a civic one. Within the Council, this civic representation role alone has proved increasingly time-consuming, so the transfer of non-civic roles to a Leader will help to balance the workload between Mayor and Leader for the benefit of the town and its residents.

On 14th May 2019, Cllr Richard Scott, an experienced Councillor and previous Mayor, was appointed as the

Mayor of Marlow for the year May 2019 – May 2020. Cllr Jocelyn Towns, also a previous Mayor of Marlow was appointed as the Leader of the Council, an inaugural role for Marlow.



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Town Council News

Summer 2019

Community Payback

Barry Cross, our Communities and Amenities Officer, and Community Payback have been hard at work siding out and tidying up pathways around the town, clearing litter and removing graffiti. A day was recently spent tidying up Little Marlow Road.

Tidying up the Hanging Hill Allotments and replacing fencing

Contractors have cleared a significant part of the site and replaced a whole section of fencing, which has resulted in new plots being created on the busy Hanging Hill site. Plots are available to rent; if you are interested and would like to find out more about the commitment of renting an allotment contact Debbie Abbott in the MTC office.

The Great British Spring Clean and volunteering

What a great campaign the "Keep Britain Tidy" Great British Spring Clean is. We promoted this initiative last year and had a reasonable response, with residents joining Councillors to target areas of Marlow that needed a tidy. This year the response was huge. On the last Saturday in March we had over 40 residents turn up on a gorgeous spring morning to help litter pick in areas all over the town.

In an ideal world it would be lovely to have the resources to send teams of people out to pick up after those who don't clear up after themselves. But we don't. We need to educate those who spoil our environment by littering but in the meantime pull together and all do our bit to improve our home town. At the Town Council we value volunteers enormously. After all, our Councillors are volunteers, giving their time and experience for the benefit of our community. Just think for a moment about all the volunteering that happens in Marlow. Our children are supported in after-school clubs and sporting activities; our older residents are offered company, hot meals and transport; our green spaces are litter-free; lost property is returned and local information is shared via social media. All these things would simply not happen if there weren't people willing to give their time. We have one member of staff who dedicates a large portion of his working week to keeping Marlow safe and looking its best — but there's only so much we can cover. So let's think about adopting the Great British Spring Clean philosophy all year round and extending it not just to litter picking, but to other areas. There are so many fantastic groups and organisations crying out for volunteers.

At the Town Council, we often hear a caller say, "sorry to moan..." but what we actually hear is someone who has taken the time and trouble to report something that really matters to them, and that's what matters to us too. So please call in, pick up the phone or send us an email. We do want to hear, and we do want to help.

By the way, we do have plenty of litter-pickers, gloves and bags, so if you'd like to carry out a little tidy-up operation yourself, please let us know and we can kit you out!



Volunteering in the community

Cobham PLC have been volunteering again. Their star team spent a day clearing the Savill Way footpath of rubbish. We are so grateful for their support! If your company would like to get involved with a volunteer day please contact us on: office@marlowtc.gov.uk



Saving the Gunthorpe Road trees

Town Clerk Hilary Martin was accompanying Community and Amenities Officer Barry Cross on a day inspecting sites around the town when she was alerted that contractors had arrived on a piece of land on the corner of Gunthorpe Road, with the instruction to fell

three mature pine trees. The contractors, who were working on behalf of Red Kite Community Housing, were entitled to carry out this project and it was perfectly legal. However, local residents were upset that they hadn't been consulted on the matter and there was a significant stand-off on the site. Marlow Town Council's stated position is to object to the felling of mature trees in and around the town. The officers negotiated with the contractors to stop work while they spoke to Alastair Cunningham, Senior Tree Officer at Wycombe District Council (WDC), who agreed to the immediate application of an emergency protection order on the three trees.



Travellers come and go at Seymour Park Recreation Ground

When Town Clerk Hilary Martin arrived at Seymour Park Recreation Ground late on Saturday May 11th, she found the park security locks had been removed with an angle grinder and travellers had descended on the park with some 16 caravans and motorhomes. Thames Valley Police (TVP) soon arrived to make a formal assessment of the situation, and during the course of Saturday evening reports were filed to Bucks County Council (BCC) enforcement officers and TVP to start the eviction process. On Sunday morning Hilary went along to the park with local Community Police Constable Darren King and issued a verbal warning to the travellers to leave the park by 5pm. They left the park confident that TVP would issue authority to use S61 powers on anti-social behaviour grounds to evict the travellers forcibly from the park. Unfortunately, the senior officer in charge assessed the situation and reported that the threshold for enforcement had not been reached and 5pm passed without the travellers leaving.

Members of the public continued to contact Marlow Town Council (MTC) with numerous pictures and videos of anti-social behaviour. The incidents continued through Sunday evening and after numerous phone calls to the police, the duty inspector sent an officer to view the video footage that had been shared. Later that evening, the Inspector filed his report to recommend the use of S61 powers, and posted on the TVP Wycombe Facebook page that enforcement would take place on the morning of Monday, 13th May. Throughout this time, MTC kept residents abreast of the ongoing situation through social media, encouraging them to report any incidents to the police.

Monday morning arrived and more incidents were reported, with the MTC office team fielding numerous calls from concerned residents, but the decision on whether or not to enforce an S61 eviction was still outstanding from the police. The civil process to evict continued with BCC officers, and together with the Town Clerk they served formal legal notice to commence the section 77 process for civil eviction. A 12-noon deadline for the following day was given. Throughout the day and following night officers continued to gather information from local residents to share with the police. On the morning of Tuesday 14th May, after repeated phone calls, the news finally arrived that S61 powers were formally approved by the police. The travellers were informed, vacated well ahead of the given deadline, and within 72 hours of their arrival the park was back under the Council's control.

Then the clean-up operation began in earnest, as did measures to secure the park from any future attempts to occupy it, with 24-hour security on the park gates. Barry Cross, the Council's Community and Amenities Officer and the Community Payback Team cleared the park of litter, the playground equipment was thoroughly checked and cleaned and a specialist contractor brought in to clear hazardous clinical waste. Finally, the grass was cut and the park was returned for all our residents to enjoy by Wednesday 15th May.

Town Clerk Hilary Martin said: "We are most grateful for the support, help and guidance throughout the whole period from our community officers PC Darren King and Sgt Robin Hughes."





A Day in the Life of..

Debbie Abbott, Administration Officer

My name is Debbie Abbott and I'm the newest member of Marlow Town Council, appointed last summer, as the Administration Officer. I have a very varied role and no two days are the same.

The day generally starts with replying to emails, these could be anything from fallen trees to members of the public tracing burial records of family or friends. We get the odd compliment too which I delight in passing on to my colleagues.

Between answering the phone and helping residents that come into the office with queries I work on the new software that Marlow Town Council has invested in for the cemetery, collate plans and prepare the presentations for planning meetings that take place every three weeks.

I might take time out of the office to visit the allotment sites which are currently being mapped and measured for the first time in several years. Families liaise directly with me when booking interments for their loved ones in Marlow Cemetery. It's a humbling experience dealing with grieving relatives during a time of great difficulty for them.

I've learned a lot about how Marlow works in a very short space of time and continue to pick up news and information that helps me to help our residents. Marlow is such a fantastic place, I've lived here now for 10 months, having relocated back from South Africa 2 years ago, and see the town through very new eyes. I believe this fresh perspective and a strong will to help maintain this beautiful town, enables me to help residents and visitors to the very best of my ability.



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Awesome Result

Mayor's Charity Golf Day

The Mayor's Charity Golf Day was held on Tuesday 30th April at Harleyford Golf Club. There was a full house of competitors, with 24 teams taking part. "It was a glorious day's golf," Mayor Chris Funnell said. "Everyone enjoyed their time with us, both the day on the course and the great dinner, with raffle prizes and a silent auction. I want to say a big thank you to all our sponsors and to everyone who took part."

The overall winners on the day were The Awesome Foursome, who are the first all ladies' team to win this trophy.

A new competition trophy this year, The Frank Sweatman Memorial Trophy, was awarded in honour of the late Past Town Mayor Frank Sweatman. Frank initiated the Mayor's Golf Day back in 2004 and it has since raised significant funds for the various Mayors' charities. Frank's daughter Joanne presented the team who came second: Dude, Where's my Par? with the trophy.

The Mayor's charity this year has been raising funds to support ways of delivering mental health support for Marlow's young people. The event has raised £6,000.



The results were:

Mayor's Trophy - Team Event

Awesome Foresome: Sarah Lumley/Liz Duncan/Ellen McKenzie/Jenny Pyres - 127 points

Frank Sweatman Trophy – Team Event

'Dude, Where's my par': Dave Cheng/Tim Strand/Phil Osborne/Mark Biggs - 124 points

Highest Individual Scores:

Men's Winner

David Cheng - 41 points

Ladies' Winner

Sarah Lumley - 41 points

Straightest Drive on 13th: Sarah Lumley

Nearest the pin in three on 17th: Chris Biggs

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The Marlow Club
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Dave Martin
Kathy Thomson
Tiger Garden



Photos: (Top left) the winning team, Awesome Foursome; (Bottom left) Winners of The Frank Sweatman Memorial Trophy - Dude, where's my Par; (Right) Past Town Mayor Frank Sweatman and his Mayoress, Mrs Gill Sweatman



Photo credit: Anita Ross Marshall

Marlow Regatta & Festival

Events

A fantastic weekend in Marlow on the banks of the Thames

Marlow's premier sporting and social occasion kicked off on the banks of the river with our opening ceremony. We are grateful to Bellwood Homes for being our main sponsors on the Saturday.

Nav Ali handed over his stewardship as Chairman to Robin Atkinson. Nav has been steering the committee successfully for 8 years since the passing of Jim Campbell. We raised a glass, donated by Lauren Perrier, as Robin Atkinson thanked Nav for his leadership - saying it had been 'inspirational' and presented him with an engraved tankard from the committee. We were delighted to welcome Lady Ann Redgrave, who officially opened the ceremony thanking Nav for his tremendous efforts with a stunning painting of the sunset over the River at Marlow which was presented by Sophie Redgrave.

We had fantastic attendance, with the atmosphere along the Jim Campbell Riverside Promenade and the thrill of the competition pulling in the crowds. Marlow Rowing Club fitted in Adaptive Rowing amongst the other races, and Sir William Borlase were glorious in their victory this year in an historic head-to-head race against Great Marlow School.

The Roundtable Riverside bar was overflowing serving up Pimms and Rebellion beer. We were thankful to Sojo Riverside Dining who returned for the second year running in a new luxurious marquee which looked superb!

The afternoon and evening entertainment were hosted and managed by our local radio station Marlow FM and featured live performances from local talented musicians. Kicking off with local band Muddy Duck from Great Marlow School. Next Stage Choir swooned us into the afternoon with a wonderful portfolio of harmonies. Swiftly

followed by the talented Reeve showcasing a range of infectious covers spanning four decades. Local sensations Interkoola were welcomed back to support our headline act this year, impressively covering indie, rock & British bands. The authentic sound of Crocodile Mock, recreating the hits of Sir Elton John, brought the evening to a close like a 'candle in the wind'.

Sunday was a free event that was sponsored by the Shanley Foundation. The day started with a Churches Together service and continued with the combined schools' choir, led by Sheila Wilson, singing their hearts out to 'We Love Marlow!'. There was an action-packed main arena, bursting with dog shows, bake offs, Kobika dance and circus acts, along with performances from the Marlow Orchestra.

We were over the moon to welcome Paul Bell to exhibit his exclusive paintings of the Town & Regatta, bringing to life the soul of our rowing event. We are filled with appreciation for these images, now incorporated within the heart of this year's overall theme.

Dragons were alive at our Sunday Festival firing up their energy with 'Seas the Day' pipping 'Marlow Ageing Dads' to the finish line and claiming the title.

Naomi Richie was inundated with her initiative 'Have a Go, Have a Row' raising money for the Bucks Buoys Atlantic rowing venture. The team, who moored nearby, were on hand to answer questions and demonstrate the boat.

Thank you to EVERYONE! Save the dates 13th & 14th June 2020!

Contributed by *Sarah Campbell, MTR&F*

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Through the Looking Glass

All Saints' Church concert with cellist Nicola Tait Baxter

On Sunday, 30th June at 3pm, All Saints' Church, Marlow will play host to a musical journey exploring virtuosic and meditative music for the unaccompanied cello from 16th century to the present day, performed and presented by 'cellist Nicola Tait Baxter.

The attractive and varied programme will include works by Gabrielli, J.S. Bach, Duport, Sibelius, Tavener and Tait! Admission is free and there will be a retiring collection in aid of All Saints' Marlow Music Trust. The concert will be followed at 4pm by afternoon tea.

Nicola Tait Baxter is one of our foremost cellists. Her great love of the instrument led her to study at the Royal Academy of Music in London, winning first prizes for solo and chamber music and graduating with first class honours; further studies and a scholarship took her studies to Germany and Brussels. At the age of 24 she gave her first solo broadcast for Radio 3 and joined the chamber

orchestra The Academy of St. Martin in the Fields, whilst also touring regularly with the Philharmonia and the LSO.

From 2001 to 2005 she was 'cellist of the Fitzwilliam String Quartet, with whom she performed and gave masterclasses throughout Europe, Russia, North America and South Africa. In demand as a soloists and chamber

musician these days, her repertoire includes most of the major 'cello concertos; she has performed all six solo suites by Bach in festivals in Scotland, England and Germany and has appeared as a soloist in Switzerland and the USA.

Passionate about teaching, Nicola runs chamber music and cello courses and holds teaching posts at Harrow Boys & Merchant Taylors' Schools. We are delighted to welcome her to Marlow.

"her lightness of touch and powerful, sonorous tones were breathtaking" (from a review of a recent Elgar Concerto performance).



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Soundtrack To Summer

Events

The Marlow Community Orchestra's free summer series



The Summer Series 2019 will be held on 4th and 7th July and features a varied programme from classical favourites to Scottish jigs and songs from the shows.

If you enjoyed the performances at the Marlow Town Festival and On The Lawn at the Compleat Angler, you'll love the atmosphere of these events in an informal setting at one of the local pub venues:

The Ship, Marlow 7.30pm Thursday 4th July
The Bounty, Bourne End 1-4pm Sunday 7th July

For more information about attending an event or joining the orchestra email marloworchestra@gmail.com

Photo credit: MyMarlow / Neil Venison



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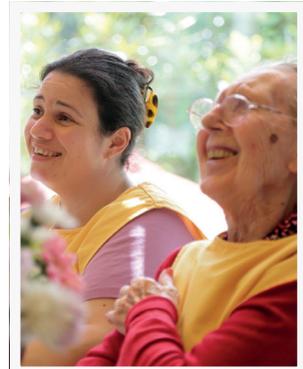
We are regulated by the Care Quality Commission and comply with the required standards for residential care.

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ANNUAL PARISH REPORT 2019



Shaping the future of Marlow

It has been a great year and one that has seen us working even harder in the background along with our fantastic community to “shape our future” and build a new and even stronger foundation for everything we do in Marlow. I am very proud to be part of this community and to have had the privilege to serve Marlow during my Mayoral year to begin our transition which will see new responsibilities for our Town Council over the next few years. We celebrated some significant events this year; the Centenary of Armistice day with a packed High Street and Causeway; RAF 100 Baton Relay that came through town, which once again showed the significance of Marlow and its importance and long association with the RAF as a key and critical wartime base. Our heroes and supporters in the community came together again at ‘Celebrate Marlow’, held at the Crowne Plaza for the Town Council to thank all those who do so much for our town, who are often not recognised (*this will be on 29th of September this year so please do let us know of any of our unsung heroes that you think should be invited*).

It was a very busy summer in the town with a Royal visit by HRH Princess Anne who joined the traditional Swan Upping ceremony as it made its way down the river. Carnivals, fetes, and regatta were amongst many of the events which took place, proving time after time our town is a sought-out destination of significance in the UK.

As summer left us, Marlow was again the centre of attention as the Christmas lights lit up the town at the “Switch On” event by the hero of the motoring world, Mr Edd China, who rode into town on his festive record-breaking red sofa. The lights were magnificent again, so a very big ‘thank you’ to all our sponsors. Thank you to all our residents, The Marlow Chamber of Trade and Commerce and The Marlow Society, for your support.

“Shaping the future”- We recognise Marlow is growing successfully and I am grateful to everyone in the community who volunteer to put huge time and effort to make it happen and drive that Marlow success. To further ambitions on the prospects of our town, we believe the only way to address growth is to recognise the opportunities for continuing improvement in service in Marlow not only through community but also to challenge ourselves as a Council to deliver more locally and cost effectively. In the last few months our Council team has looked closely at the challenge of a newly formed Buckinghamshire Council and how that may manifest itself during Spring 2020 and recognised, as

change approaches, we must act and be ready to seize opportunity. I am therefore pleased to share with you that we have set out our plan and are taking bold steps to change our Council model in readiness for the opportunities in devolved services that we believe will create benefits for us to have more control over the town’s destiny.

In recognition of the future, the role of the Mayor which has traditionally been one of leader of the Council, attending many civic duties as well as more lately, with engagement with infrastructure and new projects and initiatives, we recognise the need to restructure and support the growing projects and initiatives with a new Leader position to work alongside the Mayor and with the Town Clerk to ensure we continue to deliver the day job, as well as new initiatives and services we take on as efficiently and quickly as possible.

My chosen charity this year was a little different and has focused more locally on raising funds to support mental health provision and initiatives in our own Marlow schools and amongst our young people. We need to support the efforts of our teachers and school professionals through funding support directly to the schools and enable them to continue to embed resilience in the young through their own school initiatives. The great news is we have had generous support and the even better news is that the Council has raised this to a higher priority. Mayor Elect, Cllr Richard Scott has agreed that throughout the next Mayoral year we will continue to drive that initiative and begin to commence funding as the school’s plans develop. If you would like to make a contribution to the charity, please consider any corporate or individual support and please do continue to engage on thoughts and initiatives.

Sort Code 30-95-36
A/C 03635900, the Mayor’s Charity Account.

Finally thanks to you all for your hard work and support in this my Mayoral year, thanks to Hilary Martin, our Town Clerk, and her team of officers for the work they do in running everything in the background supporting us and you, in keeping our town special and a special thank you to all my fellow volunteer Councillors, and to my Deputy, Tim Avery, in giving up their time to serve on the Council. I have very much enjoyed representing our town and as I end this year of change, there are still further changes ahead and a lot of hard work and we welcome the opportunity to take on more responsibility.

Cllr Chris Funnell
Town Mayor



Chairman, Cllr Richard Scott

The prime responsibility of the Resources Committee is to manage all financial and administration services required by the Town Council. It meets six times during the year and residents are welcome to attend the meetings.

The Committee seeks to maximise the use of the Town Council element of your Council tax to provide excellent value for money in procuring and administering services for residents.

In the last financial year, which ended on 31st March 2019, a small surplus was realised on our general fund and this will be added to our reserves to ensure future financial stability. This surplus arose through good levels of income and prudent management of our expenses. Our income was in excess of budget, largely as a result of increased income from the cemetery, which we maintain to a high standard. The majority of the expenditure was close to our approved budget.

In terms of our regular expenditure, this was the third year of assuming responsibility for devolved services for grass cutting and other maintenance matters from the District and County Councils. Your Council has continued to maintain this excellent service and been able to act more quickly to residents' requests in dealing with maintenance issues.

We are pleased to report that we have re-tendered this service and agreed a new and improved contract with Continental Landscapes with effect from 1st April 2019. If appropriate to do so, we will look to take on further devolved services from the new Buckinghamshire Unitary Council to be established in May 2020.

As part of our Vision of keeping Marlow an attractive and vibrant place to live, visit and work, we continue to provide the following services to a very high standard:

- Floral Town from May to October.
- Expanded provision of Christmas lights and decorations.
- Provision of another successful 'Switch On and Shop' event to launch the Christmas festivities in Marlow.
- Maintenance of all of our play areas and green spaces to keep them in excellent condition.
- 'Celebrate Marlow' event.
- Grants and donations to local organisations totalling over £7,000.
- Provision of half the cost of a dedicated Police Community Support Officer and support for the Community Payback scheme.
- Maintenance of the Allotments to a high standard.
- Support for the Town Bus Service.

Your Council has strong general and earmarked reserves and have taken the decision to use some of those to further improve the Town and its infrastructure. These include:

- £35,000 for a safer crossing across the Causeway from Station Road to Higginson Park.
- £20,000 on improving the footpaths and street scene in Spittal Street jointly with Wycombe District Council and Sorbon Estates.
- £25,000 for new electrical infrastructure to ensure our Christmas lights remain reliable.
- £1,700 for gateway signs at two entrances to the Town.
- £35,000 for the possible lighting of our world famous bridge across the Thames.
- £4,500 to refurbish the Frohman statue on The Causeway.

We are pleased to confirm that the Town Council element of your Council Tax bill for the current financial year to 31st March 2020 has not increased and the annual charge for the average Band D property is less than £1 per week.

Chairman, Cllr Neil Marshall

Planning

Marlow Town Council is a statutory consultee to the local planning authority Wycombe District Council. The Planning, Environment and Transport (PET) Committee meets every three weeks to review planning applications within the Marlow Town boundary.

The bulk of the applications reviewed each year are for minor extensions or changes of use and we have a strong correlation with the Planning Authority findings.

The New Local Plan is in the final stages of approval without any major changes affecting Marlow and maintaining our Green Belt protection areas against developer threats.

A couple of significant developments are currently under consideration, Regal House in Station Road and a new larger sports hall for the Sir William Borlase's Grammar School.

Environment

This is becoming an area of great concern for Marlow as well as in the wider community. An Air Quality Management Area has been declared for the Chapel St,

Spittal St, High St and West St areas of Marlow and we are working with both the District and County Councils to consider actions to alleviate the issue.

The PET Committee is initiating the setting up of an advisory panel of Marlow residents with professional knowledge in environmental matters to help raise public and commercial awareness of the issues and possible actions to improve our environment.

Transport

We are always mindful of the challenge of parking availability in the town, largely brought about by the vibrancy of the town itself, but solutions which satisfy residents, shoppers and inward commuters (all of whom are essential to the viability of the town) prove to be very challenging.

We are working with both the District and County Councils (who hold responsibility for off-street and on-street parking respectively) and have suggested decking the Central Car Park.

We successfully defended the principle of free parking on street. Bucks Highways have recently improved the parking bay marking and installed sensors to aid enforcement and this can also aid motorists with finding vacant spaces via a mobile app.



VISION UPDATE

Cllr Jocelyn Towns

Our Vision is to make Marlow the most attractive and vibrant riverside town in the Thames Valley, we said this seven years ago and it is still our mantra today.

Making and keeping our town beautiful

- We've introduced floral 'gateways' to the town, and we will soon be installing planters on the Wiltshire Road roundabout.
- 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 work closely with Transition Town Marlow and support their successful Community market on the first Saturday of the month on The Causeway.
- We collaborate with primary and secondary schools to help children understand democracy.
- We provide support for the hugely successful food and music festival, Pub in the Park.
- We provide a proactive environment for many cultural and sports initiatives, such as Love Marlow, the Sprintathon, youth clubs, Marlow Regatta and many others.
- We've created Celebrate Marlow, an event to recognise groups and individuals who contribute to our community.
- We're in active discussions for a literary festival for Marlow.

Protecting the environment for future generations

- Working with the supermarkets, we helped reduce the use of plastic bags in Marlow and it is our aim to eradicate single-use plastics completely.
- We encourage the use of bicycles, whilst looking at ways to reduce car movements.
- Our wonderful volunteers recently joined in the Great British Litter Pick, with support from the community and the Wombles, who do a brilliant job in the town.
- We've worked alongside the Environment Agency and Bucks CC to secure Marlow's flood alleviation scheme, which is nearing completion.
- BCC has committed to fixing the Marlow Bridge lights at the town end of the bridge.
- BCC will improve the bollards and signage to protect the bridge.

Looking after the transport needs of residents, visitors and businesses

- With BCC we helped deliver new marked parking bays and sensors to aid enforcement.
- We put forward detailed proposals for a decked parking



area at the central car park to alleviate the strain on parking in the town, which are with WDC for review.

- We supported BidCo (the organisation that represents Globe Park businesses) with the introduction of yellow lines around Globe Business Park.
- The Business Park is trialing a bus route from Wycombe Station to the Park, and looking at lift share and bike schemes.
- We await results and next steps re the Westhorpe Interchange consultation.

Communicating and engaging with all sectors of the community

- Our social media presence has helped us inform and engage with our community.
- The improved Marlovian magazine is distributed to all homes in Marlow quarterly.

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' have been set up with the police to help keep the town safe.
- As part of the speed reduction campaign on key roads, we help monitor vehicle speeds around the town and regularly report the findings to the police.

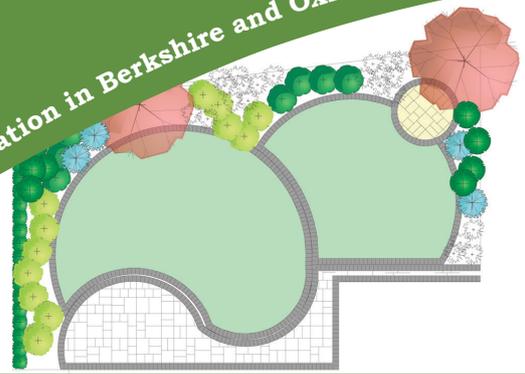
The imminent introduction of a Unitary Authority for Buckinghamshire (replacing Wycombe District Council and Bucks County Council) means big changes in the structure of our local government. We welcome any changes which give us more control over our town and help us take it to the next level of success.

Marlow Town Council is committed to the aims of our Vision, and we hope you will support us over the interesting times ahead, to help keep Marlow: A fantastic place to live. A great place to work. An exciting place to visit. A wonderful place to bring up children and a caring environment for all.

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Crowning Glory

Local playgroup volunteer receives royal recognition



Three Buckinghamshire residents were formally recognised by the Crown for their tireless commitment to helping others. Marlow resident Alison Rae was awarded the British Empire medal last week. An Investiture Ceremony was convened at Missenden Abbey, Great Missenden, hosted by HM Lord Lieutenant of Buckinghamshire, Sir Henry Aubrey Fletcher, in order to present the three individuals with their medals on Thursday 16th May. The ceremony was also attended by a number of Buckinghamshire's Deputy Lieutenants who read the citations.

The British Empire Medal is awarded for civil or military service worthy of recognition by the Crown and was first created in 1922.

Alison Rae has been a volunteer and supporter at the Marlow Opportunity Playgroup (MOP) for 37 years. MOP was first set up in Marlow in the 1970's as part of the Red Cross, but is now based in Wooburn Green. It is a specialist playgroup for children under five years of age with complex and profound needs. They provide a unique service to the South Bucks/Northeast Berks area and has received Outstanding ratings by Ofsted in 2011 and 2015. So successful is the playgroup that there is now a waiting list for children wanting to attend.

Reading her citation, Deputy Lieutenant Mr Allan Westray said: "Alison has recently retired from some of her duties with the playgroup, but she continues her support

through fundraising events and still visits regularly to see the children and staff. Alison has clearly touched the lives of very many families and really helped to raise the awareness of children with special needs."

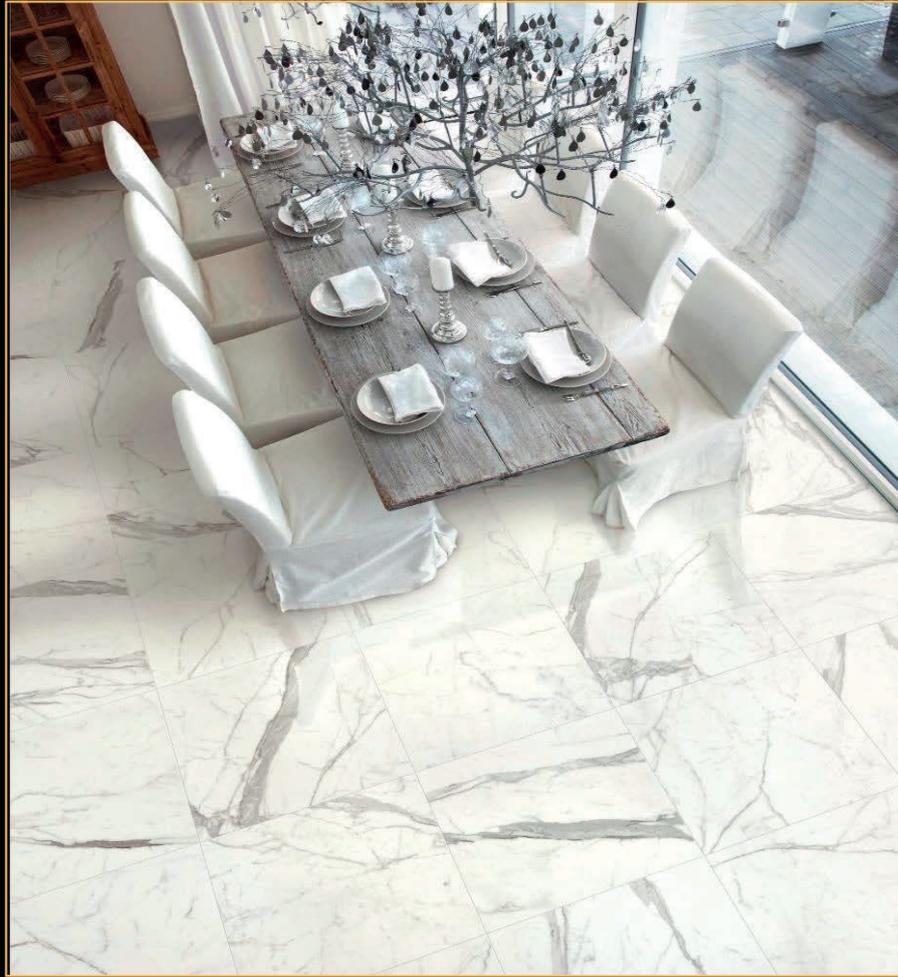
Jane Gibbons, Leader of the MOP, said "Alison is a wonderful, warm and characterful lady. She has a real fondness for the charity and holds it very dear to her heart, having seen it grow and flourish over time. She has directly helped hundreds of children and their families over many years. Alison loves all children, but the children who attend the playgroup are particularly special to her. She has become very attached to many of the children and loves to hear of their progress."

Sir Henry Aubrey-Fletcher, speaking after the ceremony said: "The British Empire Medal is only awarded to the most exemplary candidates and these three residents embody everything it represents. They have tirelessly devoted their lives to helping others in their local communities in a variety of different ways. The one thing they have in common is their dedication and commitment. On behalf of HM The Queen, I heartily applaud each and every one of them - well done!"

The other two individuals who received medals were Mrs Joyce Rutter of Aylesbury for her commitment to volunteering for Cancer Research UK and Mrs Jennifer Woolveridge of Gerrards Cross for charity and community work.



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Marlow Library

Summer programme

At Marlow Library, we are preparing for a Summer full of fun activities, hopefully providing something for all our customers.

Once the schools break up in July, we will launch 2019's Summer Reading Challenge. In the Summer 2018 Reading Challenge 699, 076, children took part with research showing that participants maintain their reading skills during the long summer holiday. Each year, the Summer Reading Challenge has a different theme, and in 2019, it's Space Chase, an out-of-this-world adventure inspired by the 50th anniversary of the first moon landing. Children taking part will be challenged to read 6 library books over the School Holidays, joining a space family, The Rockets, for a thrilling mission to track down books nabbed by mischievous aliens!

At Marlow, we'll be providing the opportunity for young readers to come and share their reading experiences and celebrate their successes. We'll also have a programme of space-related activities to enjoy. We welcome any Reading Hacks (volunteers aged 14-25) who would be interested in helping to deliver the Summer Reading Challenge.



Take a look at www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/libraries/support-your-library/volunteer/reading-hack-duke-of-edinburgh-volunteer/ if you'd like to find out more.

Contributed by *Maggie Ross*,
Library Manager



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Design and plan your own allotment space

A standard allotment plot measures approximately 10x15m, giving you a good growing area to sow or plant fruit trees, bushes, flowers, vegetables or herbs.

Battling the elements

Taking on an allotment plot is not easy; there's a constant battle with weeds. Then of course, there is the wildlife – birds, rabbits, foxes and deer, so some crops will need to be netted to give them protection.

Companion planting

There are allies to help in the war with insects. Herbs act as a deterrent by confusing the insects with their

fragrance. Some vegetables are good companions, such as onion and carrots; when sown in alternate rows they each deter the onion and carrot fly. Some flowers complement vegetables and detract pests and some flowers such as Calendulas and Nasturtiums attract bees and beneficial insects.

How to get a plot

There is a choice of two allotment sites in Marlow, managed by Marlow Town Council: Foxes Piece Allotments Site and Hanging Hill Allotments Site. Please either call Marlow Town Council on **01628 484024** or visit **www.marlowallotments.org** and follow the link to request an allotment. Your name will be added to the waiting list and we will contact you to arrange a viewing.



Allotment visits

For a guided tour of the allotments to see if you feel that you would want to take one on, please contact Sylvia Miller, the Site Co-ordinator on **07939 097771**.



41st THAMES TRADITIONAL BOAT FESTIVAL 19th - 21st JULY 2019

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Great Music 'til LATE in the pub and at the Food Court. By popular demand we have:

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Open 12.00 noon - late Friday. 9.00 a.m. - late Saturday, 9.00 a.m. - 9.00 p.m. Sunday.

NB: shops may close, but Pub, street food and bars stay open 'til the music stops.

Book now for discounts, camping, boat entry: www.tradboatfestival.com

Sponsors include: Shanly, Grundon, The Rug Company, Bremont, Mr. Hobbs' Gin,

In The Bag

Focus on upcycling specialist and Green Award winner



At the beginning of this year, Ragsto Bags won the Green Award in the Buckinghamshire Business Awards. I am very proud of this award, as it shows that I am not only making items that people love, but making them in a positive, sustainable way. I formed Ragsto Bags a few years ago because I could see so many beautiful and usable fabrics such as leather sofas or clothing, coffee bean sacks or vinyl ad banners being thrown away when they could be transformed into amazing luggage. So now, in my workshop in Marlow, I create handbags, hold-alls, shopping bags, laptop bags or custom bespoke designs combining gorgeous but unwanted leather with stunning upholstery fabrics. Donations of leather and upholstery come from office refits from the likes of Lego, Expedia, Premier League football clubs, Land Rover or even saddles from Olympic horses!

I appear on the BBC programme *Money For Nothing* as the BBC's 'Sewing Artisan', where a presenter goes to a recycling centre and waits for someone's rubbish to emerge

from the boot of a car that could be turned into a profit. The programme's ethos, and mine, is about recycling, reducing waste and inspiring people to look at what they can do at home with their junk. For instance, I have been given items such as bicycles, boats, headboards and deckchairs to transform!

I ensure the film makers take lots of footage of our lovely town and because of that Marlow has been featured all over the world on the BBC and I have turned a passion into a life-changing career. We are about to start filming again for the next series of *Money For Nothing* so I will be able to show off our beautiful town to even more people worldwide.



Contributed by
Neil Wragg, Ragsto Bags
BBC's *Money For Nothing* Sewing Artisan
Sales@Ragsto.com
www.Ragsto.com
[instagram.com/neilwragg_ragstobags/](https://www.instagram.com/neilwragg_ragstobags/)
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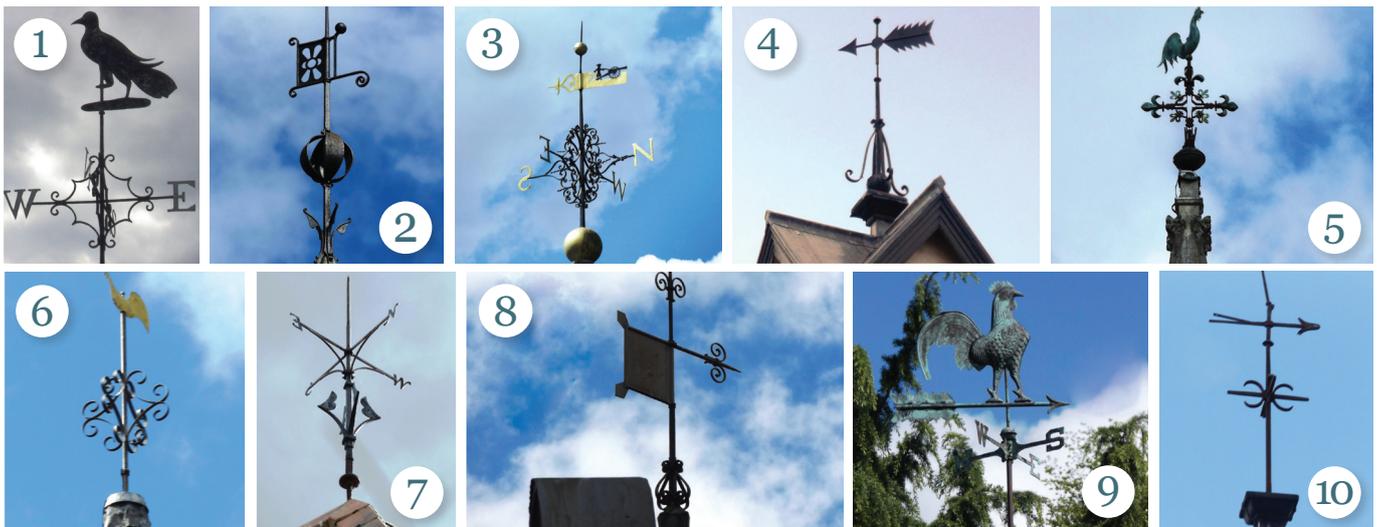
Weathervane Quiz

Test your local knowledge by identifying these weathervanes



They are all to be seen in Marlow! We'll start with an easy one first, but then it might get a bit more difficult. It's not a competition with prizes, but anyone who gets them all correct, especially 4, 7 & 8, deserves a pat on the back! Answers and wider-angled views can be found on page 28.

Compiled by Michael Eagleton. Michael is the co-author of the *Trip Back In Time* series of Marlow picture booklets, and contributes a weekly Nostalgia Column to The Marlow Free Press.
michael@jazzfans.co



CLIVEDEN MANOR - CARE & NURSING HOME

The National Trust: Hughenden Manor Wednesday 24th July, 3-4pm

National Trust speaker and experienced volunteer John Poules will tell us about some of the secrets within the Manor's walls... from the 33 years it was home to Victorian Prime Minister Benjamin Disraeli, to the undercover map making unit based at the house during the Second World War.

Please call to reserve your place, as spaces are limited.
Cliveden Manor offers residential, nursing and separate dementia care.

For more information, or to arrange a tour of Cliveden Manor on a separate visit, please call Sarah Loveday.

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» Weathervane Quiz continued

Answers to Michael's Weathervane Quiz on page 27

1: The former Crown Hotel / Market Hall. 2: Liston Court, the New Court Stable block. 3: Remnantz. 4: Riversway, Marlow Bridge Lane. 5: St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church. 6: The former Holy Trinity Church. 7: Rear of

Rookery Lodge, Chapel Street. 8: Old Bridge House, St. Peter Street. 9: The Garden House off Henley Road. 10: Holy Trinity School.



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Support 4 Parents

Barnardos charity is looking for volunteers



Have you ever thought...
If only I knew then
what I know now?



Now you can help in a really practical way. We're looking for volunteers to work in a structured way with families in your area who are struggling to parent children under eight.

If you are interested in working with families and have experience in looking after children, you can make a difference. If you can spare about three hours a week, we'll train you in how to pass on your precious skills and knowledge and we'll support you in doing a really worthwhile job.

Want to know more?

Telephone Barnardo's Support 4 Parents for an informal chat on **(07715) 428 690**

Email: **support4parents@barnardos.org.uk**

Or see the Barnardo's website **www.barnardos.org.uk**



Outstanding Job Opportunities

We are seeking full and part time staff to support our well established team in South Oxfordshire delivering care to individuals in their own homes.

Are you seeking a new challenge or career progression? We currently have a full time senior carer vacancy.

Are you a parent on the school run or looking for a flexible working pattern to suit your family life? If so, we have school hours, as well as, evenings and weekend shifts to suit.

No experience necessary - we will provide you with a comprehensive induction to provide you

with the necessary skills to provide the highest possible standards of care.

What does caring involve? Excellent good communication skills which can be tailored to the needs of the individual being cared for, delivering personal care, medication, assisting with shopping and hospital appointments.

Age 16-18 and looking for an apprenticeship? We have supported over 15 apprentices through our service and supported individuals in their career progression to nursing and other adult social care placements.

If you would like to find out more, please call us to discuss on 01865 858895
or visit www.countywidecaringltd.co.uk



A very special children's charity on Marlow's doorstep

Alexander Devine Children's Hospice Service is an award-winning charity that provides essential support to over 120 families of children with life-limiting and life-threatening conditions across Berkshire, South Buckinghamshire and other surrounding communities.

A bespoke service for every child and family

Our children's hospice service means very different things for each child and their family and as such our care is very personal. Whatever and wherever the need, we are dedicated to bringing comfort and care to these families. This includes: respite care, specialist play, symptom management, family support, end of life care and bereavement support.

Care wherever it is needed

Care is delivered either at home, in hospital, in schools or within our very own children's hospice, which was opened in Summer 2018. Just six miles from Marlow, the hospice has state-of-the-art facilities such as a hydrotherapy pool, sensory room, music room, games room, family accommodation and bereavement suite.



There are over 600 local families who need our help

84p in every pound raised goes directly on the service we provide to local children and families

We need your help

Our work is only possible because of the kindness and support of the local community, of people like you!

- **Donate**—every penny makes a real difference as we rely on public donations to run our service. Just £36 could pay for an hour of respite care in the community
- **Fundraise**—walking, running, baking, busking, skydiving.....just some of the amazing ways people have raised money to change the lives of local families
- **Volunteer**— at the hospice, in the care team, in the community. There are so many ways volunteers help us. Whatever your interest, skills or experience and however much time you have to give, we would love to hear from you

Parkinson's UK

Local branch introduces two new activities for Marlow

The Amersham and High Wycombe branch of Parkinson's UK is a very active group that offers a wide range of social, support and exercise activities across South Buckinghamshire. Thanks to a generous donation from the Marlow Thames Rotary Club, we have recently started two new activities in Marlow – a drop-in "café" and a new type of exercise class called PD Power.

Parkinson's café

For everyone affected by the condition, including partners and family carers, our new Parkinson's café is a monthly informal drop-in session to meet others living with the condition for mutual support and encouragement over a coffee or tea. It's a chance to share tips and experiences and make new friends. Join us from 10.30 to 12 noon at the Britannia, Little Marlow Road on the third Tuesday of the month, except August. Our next two meetings will be on 16th July and 17th September 2019.

PD Power

PD Power is a new type of exercise programme aimed at slowing the progression of your Parkinson's. It's a philosophy for self-managing the condition rather than

exercising to keep you fit. Run by a specialist neuro-physiotherapist, the exercises are tailored to individual needs. We have our classes at Bisham Abbey Sports Centre on Thursday afternoons and you don't have to be a member of Parkinson's UK to come. See our website for details and to apply to join a course.



PARKINSON'S^{UK}
CHANGE ATTITUDES.
FIND A CURE.
JOIN US.

More information

Phone: **0300 030 4667**

Email: **secretary@parkinsonsahw.org.uk**

Website: **parkinsonsahw.org.uk**

marlovian
all your news from the community
The **Official** magazine
for Marlow Town Council

Published by **ROUND & ABOUT** Publications Ltd
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- Autumn edition copy deadline - 16th August 2019
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Who Does What?

Who looks after you in Marlow?

It is easy to think of “The Council” as a single entity. In fact that are three entirely separate councils that have responsibilities for Marlow, and each council plays a very different role. Do you know which council empties your dustbins, runs the Marlow Library, owns our allotments, repairs broken lights, owns and runs our cemetery and chapel, or is responsible for Higginson Park?

We know it can be confusing. It’s not always easy to find out who is responsible for what, which can sometimes be very frustrating. The information below is designed to point you in the right direction. The Marlow Town Council office will always try and help you with your initial queries and put you on the right path, even if we can’t help directly. We all work together to try and ensure the best for the residents of Marlow. If you are in any doubt who to ask just telephone the office on **01628 484024**.

Marlow Town Council
 One of 28 Parish/Town Councils in Wycombe District
 Tel: **01628 484024**



- A wide range of civic and community events throughout the year such as Celebrate Marlow, the Remembrance Day Service and Parade, Carols on The Causeway, Switch On and Shop, the Mayor’s Civic Service and the Mayor’s Charity Golf Day
- Consultee for planning
- Two allotment sites: Hanging Hill and Foxes Piece
- The Cemetery and Chapel at Wethered Road
- Shopmobility in Marlow, at Court Garden Leisure Centre
- Contribution towards the Marlow Town Bus
- Advertising banners across the High Street and Spittal Street
- Gossmore Recreation Ground (excluding the car park and section of land leading to the river bank)
- Seymour Park including the play areas
- Riley Park and Campbell Road play areas
- Grass and hedge cutting in and around the town
- Responsibility upkeep for designated footpaths and parish paths
- Removal of fly posters and illegal signs on public highways and attached to street furniture
- Contribution towards Marlow’s PCSO
- Christmas Lights, for which we actively fund-raise each year
- As a town council we can help influence BCC and WDC in their decision-making process

You can email us directly through our website www.marlow-tc.gov.uk/static/marlow/contactus.aspx
Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter @MarlowTC

Wycombe District Council
 One of four District Councils in Buckinghamshire
 Tel: **01494 461000**



- Higginson Park, upkeep and maintenance
- Court Garden Leisure Centre
- Car parks – Court Garden, Dean Street, Institute Road, Liston Road, Riley Road, Gossmore Recreation
- Planning applications and building controls
- Environmental health
- Street trading
- Street name signs
- CCTV
- Public toilets and litter bins
- Bin collection and pest control

You can use their website to report a missed bin collection: www.wycombe.gov.uk/pages/Recycling-and-waste/Bin-collections/contact-waste.aspx

All local planning applications are also available to view online here: www.wycombe.gov.uk/pages/Planning-and-building-control/Planning-applications/Find-a-planning-application.aspx

Buckinghamshire County Council
 One of 17 County Councils in England
 Tel: **01296 395000**



- Trading Standards
- Transport for Bucks, highways, pavements, street lighting
- Highways and public footpath repair and maintenance
- Social care, adult and children’s services
- Schools
- Libraries
- Household waste sites

They have a handy range of online tools to report problems. You can report potholes, problems with street lighting, highways issues, and report issues and complaints with public transport. You can also apply for a whole range of licences from planting shrubs on council-owned land to placing a skip on the road.
www.buckscc.gov.uk/services/transport-and-roads/report-a-highways-problem

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Chiltern Grange, Ibstone Road, Stokenchurch, Buckinghamshire HP14 3GG (Sat Navs HP14 3XR)





Town Council Committees

Resources Committee

Cllr Bob Johnson
Tel: 01628 891361
Mob: 07831 124271
bjohnson@marlow-tc.gov.uk



Cllr Roy Cadman
Tel: 01628 482299
roadman@marlow-tc.gov.uk



Cllr Camilla Keighley
Tel: 07971 102257
ckeighley@marlow-tc.gov.uk



Cllr Chris Funnell,
Tel: 01628 482654
Mob: 07766 300421
cfunnell@marlow-tc.gov.uk



Cllr Kathy Thomson
Mob: 07798 615086
kthomson@marlow-tc.gov.uk



Cllr Roger Wilson
Tel: 01628 482469
Mob: 07889 305429
rwilson@marlow-tc.gov.uk



Planning Environment & Transportation Committee

Cllr Neil Marshall
Tel: 01628 475615
Mob: 07919 113855
nmarshall@marlow-tc.gov.uk



Cllr Tim Avery
Mob: 07818 555313
tavery@marlow-tc.gov.uk



Cllr Suzanne Brown
Tel: 01628 475726
Mob: 07984 929812
sbrown@marlow-tc.gov.uk



Cllr Jocelyn Towns, Leader
Tel: 01628 477914
Mob: 07715 547251
jtowns@marlow-tc.gov.uk



Cllr Emily West
Tel: 01628 482100
Mob: 07879 814888
ewest@marlow-tc.gov.uk



Cllr Roger Wilson
Tel: 01628 482469
Mob: 07889 305429
rwilson@marlow-tc.gov.uk



Staffing Committee

Cllr Richard Scott, Mayor
Tel: 01628 488186
rscott@marlow-tc.gov.uk



Cllr Jocelyn Towns, Leader
Tel: 01628 477914
Mob: 07715 547251
jtowns@marlow-tc.gov.uk



Cllr Bob Johnson
Tel: 01628 891361
Mob: 07831 124271
bjohnson@marlow-tc.gov.uk



Cllr Neil Marshall
Tel: 01628 475615
Mob: 07919 113855
nmarshall@marlow-tc.gov.uk



All Members serve on the Town Council



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Caversham:

0118 391 3864

Freephone:

0800 6965760

www.bespokeroofingservices.co.uk

bespokeroofingservices@gmail.com

Taste the flavours of chef Atul Kochhar



SINDHU
SINDHU
by Atul Kochhar

Sindhu by Atul Kochhar, The Compleat Angler, Marlow
www.sindhurestaurant.co.uk, info@sindhurestaurant.co.uk
Tel 01494 728126

Hawkyns
BY ATUL KOCHHAR

Hawkyns by Atul Kochhar, 16 High Street Old Amersham
www.hawkynsrestaurant.co.uk, info@hawkynsrestaurant.co.uk
Tel: 01494 728126