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Spring 2023

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the **marlovian**
all your news from the community

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Divorce and financial settlement tax considerations

When a relationship breaks down there is an enormous impact on the individuals involved. For many people, the priority is the children or how they are going to be able to afford to put a roof over their heads after the separation.

When caught up in such significant change, it is easy to overlook some of the less obvious effects of the relationship breakdown which could have a substantial financial impact.

Although most of us are aware that “the only two certainties in life are death and taxes” often tax issues relating to the breakdown of the relationship are overlooked.

When considering options for settlement it is vital that you understand the tax implications of the options available to you. Money drawn from a business is likely to incur tax liabilities as will the encashment of shares and some investments.

In many cases couples who own second homes together or individually need to decide whether these should be sold or transferred from one or another to allow them to rehouse. As with any disposal, there are likely to be capital gains tax implications for selling a property or transferring it. These need to be considered when looking at a divorce settlement or when leaving a cohabiting relationship.

Even the sale or transfer of the family home can have tax implications, particularly if one of the owners has left the family home for some time and regardless of whether they have bought another home.

Although tax might be due on the transfer of assets, there is relief that might be available in some cases and you need to be aware of this. The timing of the transfer or sale of the property can also be critical.

The current rules regarding taxation are due to change as a result of the proposed new revisions which will be introduced in the Finance Bill 2022/2023.

These changes are due to take effect in April 2023 which could benefit individuals but again, timing is essential.

Although solicitors are not tax experts, it is important that your solicitor highlights any tax issues and refers you to specialist tax advisers, if they feel it is necessary, so that you are not adversely affected by tax and that any tax liabilities are considered in a financial settlement.

How Blaser Mills Law can help

The Family & Divorce team at Blaser Mills Law can highlight these issues and can signpost you to experts who can provide additional support if needed.

For further information or advice please get please do not hesitate to contact **Lucinda Holliday** on **01494 478603** or email **ljmh@blasermills.co.uk**.

About Lucinda

Lucinda is a Partner and Head of the Family & Divorce team at Blaser Mills Law and is based in the firms Marlow office in Liston Court.

Lucinda has lived in Marlow since 2002 and has strong local roots within the community.

Having experienced a divorce herself, Lucinda understands the emotional strain and stress that an individual may be going through allowing her to offer valuable advice and support to her clients.

For more information, visit:
blasermills.co.uk



Mayor's Message

Welcome to spring



This will be my last message in the Marlovian as I shall be standing down as your Mayor at our Annual General Meeting on 9th May – a public meeting to which the Council welcomes all residents.

I have served for four years as Mayor, the first two of which were affected by Covid, when most public engagements were cancelled. The Council was however able to continue with its statutory duties and our regular events, such as Remembrance Day and Christmas Switch On, took place in very innovative ways. Since then, life has changed from what we might have considered 'normal'. During these last two years, I have been able to attend and support many of our town events although some organisations have experienced less activity than previously; and I have represented Marlow at numerous civic events in the County and elsewhere including Marly le Roi. To round off my last year in office, I shall be holding a Civic Celebration at All Saints Church at 3pm on Sunday, 12th March. This event will include presentations from town organisations and choirs to reflect our community spirit and I invite you to attend.

Despite Covid and economic setbacks, Marlow continues to be a busy town with an excellent community spirit, a great place to live work and visit. Sadly, a number of businesses have closed, but most have been replaced; and whilst there continues to be a number of empty retail premises, we have not suffered in quite the same way as other towns. This was also evidenced by a recent BBC

online article, and I quote:

"Towns with shops, offices and housing all within walking distance - what planners call a 15-minute city - have done well. Town centres recording the biggest increase in activity include: Marlow: 33%; Glossop: 33%; Matlock: 32%; Colchester: 26%; Buxton: 26%; and Melton Mowbray: 23%".

In January, as part of the Council's environmental strategy we launched The BIG Sustainable Marlow Challenge which encourages simple steps towards greener lifestyles, helping Marlow to reduce its carbon emissions and to help nature. Full details are on our website, which I encourage you to visit and there is further information in this Marlovian.

Finally, as spring and summer approach we can look forward to our popular town events including Round Table May Fayre and Pub in the Park, both in May; the Town Regatta and Festival with Traylens Fun Fayre in June; and not forgetting our twice monthly market on The Causeway (elsewhere in the Marlovian, we outline minor improvements and enhancements to The Causeway).

On behalf of the Town Council, I wish you and your families a great spring and summer.

Cllr Richard Scott

Marlow Town Mayor



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



HELP!

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Town Council News

Spring 2023

Budget agreed for 2023/24 at Town Council Meeting on 24th January

We are pleased to announce that during this difficult economic environment the Town Council was able to prepare a balanced annual budget for fiscal year 2023/2024 that does not result in an increase in parish tax to our households.

The Town Council is committed to continue to provide much valued services and community events to its residents and has been carefully reviewing income and expenditure to ensure that residents get good value for money and important services continue to be effectively delivered.

We are not projecting an increase in revenues, which means careful management of expenses is necessary. Unfortunately, due to inflationary pressures, most of our costs are projected to increase — for example, the projected salaries for the office staff that work hard to look after our town are expected to increase in line with inflation. The other big item projected to increase is utilities including business rates, water, electricity and gas.

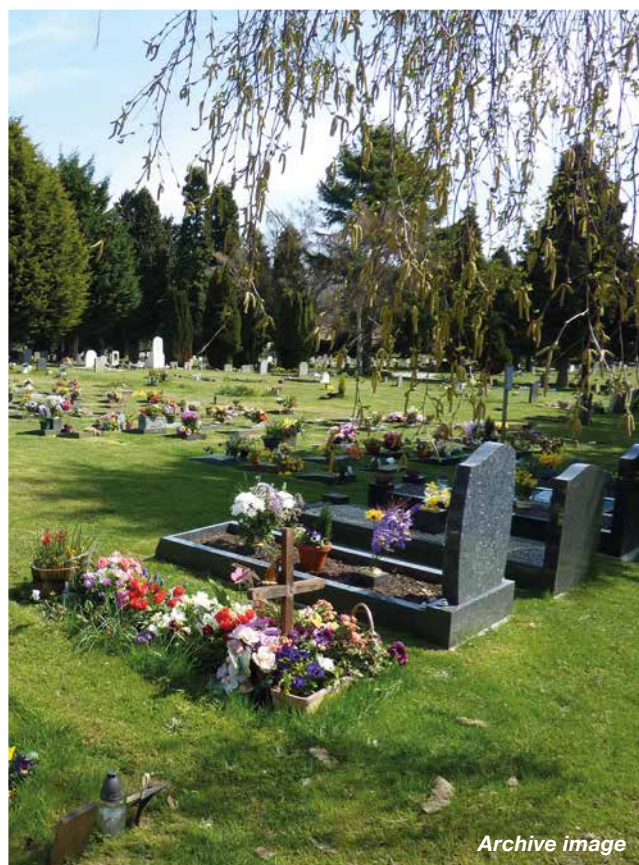
In order to manage costs for the benefit of our residents and not to seek an increase in parish tax, some of our community events planned for 2023/2024 will be covered through existing reserves that either were earmarked for specific purposes or come from the general reserves.

We are committed to reviewing and scrutinising our contract commitments and expenses to find real savings for the town and its residents. Although the town has always been prudent, we understand that securing value for money has become even important in the current environment.

Despite many challenges, we hope to have a great year ahead full of exciting community events, valuable services and support to our residents and we expect the current budget to deliver on our promises.

Marlow Town Council is responsible for:

- Events such as: Remembrance Day Service & Parade, Carols on The Causeway, Switch on and Shop, and Mayor's Civic Celebration.
- Two allotment sites – Hanging Hill off Prospect Road and Foxes Piece.
- The Cemetery and chapel at Wethered Road.
- May Balfour Gardens in Institute Road.
- A contribution to Marlow town bus service.
- Shopmobility in Marlow, based at Court Garden Leisure Centre.
- Gossmore Recreation Ground, football pitch.
- Seymour Park including the play areas.
- Riley Park and Campbell Road play areas.
- Grass and hedge cutting in designated areas.
- Hanging baskets and planters throughout the town centre and Wiltshire Road roundabout.
- Removal of flyposters and illegal signs on public highway and attached to street furniture.
- Contribution towards Marlow's PCSO.
- Night-time security patrols of Seymour Park recreation ground, Rookery Park, Gossmore and Higginson Park.



Archive image



Photo credit: Jon Perry

Carols on The Causeway

Despite freezing temperatures, Marlovians flocked to this year's Carols on The Causeway on Wednesday, 14th December. A large crowd gathered to sing around the Christmas tree, where Marlow Town Band was playing. Harmony Belles Choir joined with the crowd to sing carols and sang two of their own Christmas songs. Free mulled wine was generously provided by The George and Dragon pub. Children visited Father Christmas in his grotto and enjoyed free mince pies, battery candles and Christmas bells provided by Marlow Town Council. One Can Trust attended, taking donations of money and food for those who need help in the area.

Images: (left) Marlow Town Band; (right) One Can Trust volunteers.
Both images credit: Jon Perry



Fix My Street

Found a pothole? Blocked drain in the road? Damage to kerbs and pavements? Streetlight not working? Did you know that the easiest and quickest way to get any of these problems fixed is by reporting it online? Buckinghamshire Council is responsible for these issues, which can all be reported online. You will receive an immediate email acknowledgement of your issue, a follow-up report with a timescale to fix the issue and finally an email when the problem is resolved. The system is simple and easy to use, and you can choose not to have your name shown publicly. You can also see on their interactive map all the other problems that have been logged locally. You can use Fix My Street for Marlow by using this link www.fixmystreet.buckscc.gov.uk

Town bus

Marlow town bus operates on weekdays in and around the town centre and to and from Maidenhead and High Wycombe. It is run by Buckinghamshire Council and to support this important service we pay Bucks £6,300 per year. If you leave the car at home for that trip to the shops, to the park or to work, you can help reduce congestion and improve air quality at the same time. The bus stops in many places around the town and has links to Maidenhead and High Wycombe. See timetable opposite.

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MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY & FRIDAY ONLY				WEDNESDAYS ONLY			
	160	160	160		155	155	155
Marlow Court Garden	0905	1145*	1400*	Maidenhead Frascati Way		1230	
Marlow High Street	0906	1146	1401	Furze Platt		1237	
Marlow Brittania	0910	1150	1405	Marlow Court Garden depart	0905		1345
Little Marlow Winchbottom Lane	0911	1151R	1406R	Marlow High Street	0906		1346
Little Marlow Church Road	0915	1155R	1410R	Marlow Brittania	0910		1350
Westhorpe Caravan Park	0919	1159	1414	Little Marlow Winchbottom Lane	0911	1245R	1351R
Marlow Wiltshire Road	0926	1206	1421	Little Marlow Church Road	0915	1249R	1355R
Marlow Bottom High Heavens Wood	0932	1212	1427	Westhorpe Caravan Park	0919	1253	1359
Marlow Bottom Post Office	0936	1216	1431	Marlow Wiltshire Road	0926	1300	1406
Hillside Woodland Way	0938	1218	1433	Marlow Bottom High Heavens Wood	0932	1306	1412
Marlow Oak Tree Road Shops	0939	1219	1434	Marlow Bottom Post Office	0936	1310	1416
Marlow High Street	0942	1222	1437	Hillside Woodland Way	0938	1312	1418
Marlow Court Garden	0943	1223	1438	Seymour Park Road	0939	1313	1419
				Sunnybank		1315	
	160	160		Sandy Gate Road	0943	1317	1423
Marlow Court Garden	0945	1225		Terrington Hill	0947		
Pound Lane	0946	1226		Pound Lane	0952		
Terrington Hill	0952	1232		Marlow Court Garden arrive	0953	1327	1427
Sandy Gate Road	0956	1236		Marlow Court Garden depart	0955		
Sunnybank	0958	1238		Marlow High Street	0956		
Hillside Woodland Way		1240		Marlow Brittania	1000		
Marlow Oak Tree Road Shops	1001			Pinkneys Green The Lemon Tree	1008		
Marlow High Street	1004			Maidenhead Frascati Way	1014		
Marlow Court Garden	1005						
	158						
Marlow Court Garden	1010						
Marlow High Street	1011				155	155	
Sandy Gate Road	1014			Maidenhead Frascati Way	1020		
Sunnybank				Furze Platt	1027		
Seymour Park Road	1018			Marlow Brittania	1034		
Hillside Woodland Way	1020			Marlow High Street	1038		
Marlow Bottom Post Office	1022			Marlow Court Garden arrive	1039		
Marlow Bottom High Heavens Wood	1026			Marlow Court Garden depart		1130	
Marlow Bottom Post Office	1032			Pound Lane		1131	
Cressex Marlow Road	1039			Terrington Hill		1137	
High Wycombe Bus Station Bay 2 arrive	1044			Sandy Gate Road		1141	
				Sunnybank		1143	
	158	158		Seymour Park Road		1145	
High Wycombe Bus Station Bay 2 depart	1125	1315		Hillside Woodland Way		1146	
Cressex Marlow Road	1131	1321		Marlow Bottom Post Office		1148	
Marlow Bottom Post Office		1327		Marlow Bottom High Heavens Wood		1152	
Marlow Bottom High Heavens Wood		1331		Marlow Wiltshire Road		1157	
Marlow Bottom Post Office		1335		Marlow High Street			
Hillside Woodland Way		1338		Marlow Brittania			
Seymour Park Road		1341		Little Marlow Winchbottom Lane		1203R	
Sunnybank				Little Marlow Church Road		1207R	
Sandy Gate Road		1345		Westhorpe Caravan Park		1211	
Marlow High Street	1142	1348		Pinkneys Green The Lemon Tree		1220	
Marlow Court Garden	1143	1349		Maidenhead Frascati Way		1226	
* Journeys Serve Waitrose, Liston Road R = On Request							

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The Causeway Renovation

Plans to improve popular area for residents and visitors

Marlow Town Council is planning to improve one of the most popular parts of the town — The Causeway, close to Marlow Bridge. The aim is to create an area that ‘serves the community better.’

Mayor Richard Scott said: “The area around The Causeway has had the same configuration for many years and represents a landmark in the town. However, there are not many seating areas, spreading tree branches use up space and flagpole guy ropes extend over a large area, creating a tripping hazard and limiting walking space.

“Recently the local market has been using more of the area and it has become apparent that people do enjoy this space. However, it is not easy to manoeuvre around or to rest — and the benches all face the road, rather than the memorial. We would like to create more space for people to reflect on the war memorial, enjoy the Frohman Statue and take shade under the trees.”



The Council plans to resurface and level the grassed area, repositioning the flagpole to allow for greater use of the lawn. The current flagpole will be replaced with a single pole with no guy ropes, situated closer to the war memorial. It will be able to fly two flags.

Trees will be lightly trimmed to lift low hanging branches and most of the benches will be turned inwards, allowing people to enjoy the area rather than face the traffic.

Overall, there will not be a significant visual change, but the Council hopes the plans will enable better use of The Causeway. The final plan will be confirmed following internal and external consultation.

A photo of the area is included here. Residents are encouraged to send their thoughts on the proposed changes to The Causeway by email to **office@marlow-tc.gov.uk** by Friday 31st March.

Project Groundwater

Innovative groundwater flooding project launched in Marlow

In the Chiltern Hills and Berkshire Downs, almost 200 communities and 70,000 properties are at risk of groundwater flooding. Compared to other forms of flooding, groundwater flooding often has longer-lasting impacts on communities, but as it is less frequent and less understood, it often fails to qualify for flood management funding.

Project Groundwater is working to fill this gap, operating across the Chiltern Hills and Berkshire Downs to support nine at-risk communities to be prepared for groundwater flooding, with Marlow having been identified as one of these communities.

Recognising the critical role that communities play in flood prevention and recovery, the project will be working closely with local authorities, local community flood groups and the general public, to increase awareness and resilience to groundwater flooding in Marlow.

By working together, Project Groundwater will develop innovative and sustainable solutions to groundwater flooding that will:

- share understanding and increase awareness
- actively monitor flood events and improve warning systems
- prepare communities to respond to and withstand flood events

To find out more about Project Groundwater, please visit **www.projectgroundwater.co.uk**

Project Groundwater is led by Buckinghamshire Council as part of Defra's £150 million Flood and Coastal Resilience Innovation Programme, managed by the Environment Agency, which aims to test innovative and practical actions to increase our resilience and ability to adapt to climate change. For updates on the project, you can follow:

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Twitter **[@ProjGroundwater](https://twitter.com/ProjGroundwater)**

LinkedIn Project Groundwater



Project Groundwater
Are you flood resilient?

On The Verge

Pollinators to be supported with natural verges in Marlow



As part of a county- and country-wide effort, Marlow Town Council (MTC) is taking a natural approach to support insect life and expand the biodiversity of specific areas of our town.

This natural verge project aims to recreate and encourage insect-friendly environments after a dramatic reduction in biodiversity across the UK over the last 50 years. These small but mighty pollinators are vital to the whole planet's ecosystem. With 75% of crops in Britain relying on pollinating insects and animals. These pollinator-dependant crops provide food, fibres and medicine for humans and other animals.

Currently there are approximately 1,500 pollinating insects left in the UK — but there has been a decline of between 20% and 50% in some species due to loss of natural habitat. Humans have adversely affected the insect environment for decades, and it's vital that we as a town do as much as we can to address this issue as it ultimately affects us all. Encouraging these habitats on roadside verges enables these vital pollinators to thrive, move around more freely to farmlands and edible plants, and to create pollinator highways or corridors linking habitats together.



This new pollinator-friendly approach in Marlow will help us create natural wildflower corridors on the verges of the side roads. What this means to residents is that in specific areas in and into the town and not immediately in front of resident's homes, verge cuts will be reduced to three this year and the grass cuttings will be removed. This method of removing the grass cuttings helps make the soil less fertile for planted grass and helps the more natural thinner grasses come through instead. The first year or two it may not look like much, and the grass will grow longer initially, but we need to give nature time to come back. Each year the biodiversity will increase and



the naturally occurring wildflowers will return as well, although they may not be visible for the first year or two during this transition.

Additionally, the Council will maintain the original curated wildflower sites around town that have offered beautiful displays for the last couple years, as well as the wild habitat area (where we do not cut the grass) in the north-west corner of Rookery Gardens. Council are currently identifying appropriate areas adjacent to main roads, open spaces and in or near parks. Residential roads and the town cemetery will remain on their usual cutting regime.

If you are interested in doing more to support our pollinators, specifically bees, we recommend leaving out a small dish of water for bees in the hot weather (remembering that bumblebees do not generally sting unless they are threatened). Or even plant your own wildflower patch. If you decide to plant your own, we ask that you please ensure that the seed mix you purchase is native to the UK — and it's best to avoid using artificial fertiliser where possible. Soil that is low in fertility is better for growing wildflowers due to the low levels of phosphates and nitrogen.

If you see any interesting insects or plant life in your local verges this year, please take a photo and write to the Council at office@marlow-tc.gov.uk. Additionally, the UK Pollinator Monitoring Scheme has been set up to collate information on insect life in verges along UK roads and the scheme will start again for the year on 1st April 2023. Go to www.ukpoms.org.uk/fit-counts for more information. You can find out more general information on wildflowers on websites such as www.bucksmkneep.co.uk and www.plantlife.org.uk.

We thank you for your support and understanding as we work together to create a better environment for us all.

Releaf Marlow

Expanding Marlow's green canopy

Green-fingered volunteers have planted more than 100 new trees in and around Marlow this winter, making it another busy year for community trees group Releaf Marlow, a project of Transition Town Marlow. More trees add beauty to our town and are good for both wildlife and the climate.

This year's programme was helped by cooperative landowners, and government funding secured through Buckinghamshire Council, plus extra support from the county's South-West Chilterns Community Board.

Excitingly, the new trees include more than 60 native black poplars, planted in farmland close to the Thames upstream from Marlow, and in the Spade Oak nature reserve downstream. Black poplar is Britain's rarest native tree and a boon to wildlife. The project bolsters Buckinghamshire's position as the UK capital of this species.

On farmland at Bovingdon Green, volunteers planted not only trees but also more than 100 metres of mixed broadleaved hedging. At Harleyford Golf Club more than 30 new trees were added between the fairways.

Releaf Marlow also cooperated with residents' groups to plant new urban trees commemorating valuable events or people. Among these was a new silver birch in Riley Recreation Ground, planted with the Marlow Common Women's Institute to mark the late Queen's platinum jubilee.

Meanwhile, Releaf Marlow's new Free Family Trees scheme supplied more than 75 native saplings to requesting households around Marlow, to be planted in gardens. This project helps to expand Marlow's urban green canopy and improve the town's climate resilience.

Although the main tree planting season is in winter, residents can still benefit from the Free Family Trees scheme, via Transition Town Marlow's website:

transitionmarlow.org/home/reeleaf.

Residents can also follow Releaf Marlow on Facebook **www.facebook.com/ReleafMarlow** or request to join its mailing list by emailing **reeleaf@transitionmarlow.org**.



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Higginson Park Charity

Charity behind Marlow's popular public park



Higginson Park and Court Garden House, owned by the Higginson Park Charity, are among Marlow's best-loved spots.

The mansion, within the estate now known as Higginson Park, was built in 1758. The estate had various owners until the early 1920s, when it was due to be sold and divided into small plots for riverside homes. In response, a group of local people began fundraising by private subscription from members of the public for its purchase for the benefit of the town of Marlow and to commemorate the 100th birthday of General Sir George Higginson. Princess Mary, the Princess Royal, presented the deeds to General Higginson who in turn presented them to the town of Marlow.

Initially, trustees were appointed to administer the funds, with a company later being formed to administer the Trust Property. In 1928, this company conveyed part of the site to Marlow Urban District Council, subject to a covenant to use it as a public park and recreation ground.



Marlow Town Council and Buckinghamshire Council are committed to continuing to work closely so that the park's Green Flag award-winning facilities can be enjoyed by generations to come

The decades that followed saw the acquisition of the freehold of Court Garden House and the development of a wide range of facilities in the park, as well as the theatre and leisure complex completed in the mid-1970s. Following successive rounds of local government reorganisation, Buckinghamshire Council is now the corporate trustee for the Higginson Park Charity, with a duty to apply the charity's property in or towards the following charitable objective:

'The provision and maintenance for the benefit of the inhabitants of the district of Wycombe, with particular regard for the inhabitants of the town of Marlow, of a public park, ornamental gardens and recreation ground, with such facilities for physical exercise, training, lectures, classes and other forms of recreation or leisure-time occupation in the interests of social welfare, with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants as the Trustee shall from time to time think fit.'

The charity income is used for the cost of repairs, insurance and all other expenditure in respect of the property. This income comes from a range of sources including events, rent from the occupants of Court Garden House and the concessions in the park, car parking, and income from the leisure complex. The charity has also benefited from council grants, most recently for upgrades to the leisure centre, and for the replacement of the hugely popular children's play area (coming later this year!). The charity accounts can be found on the Charity Commission website.

Marlow Town Council and Buckinghamshire Council are committed to continuing to work closely so that the park's Green Flag award-winning facilities can be enjoyed by generations to come.

Buckinghamshire Council acts as the trustee of the Higginson Park Trust and manages the public open space.

Marlow Bowls Club

Come and try a game of bowls at one of the Open Days

Did you know that there is a thriving bowls club in Marlow? Do you know where it is? Well, the Bowls Club is situated in the heart of the town, with its entrance in the corner of Pound Lane car park, next to the tennis courts.

The club celebrated its centenary in 2019 and, despite the pandemic, it is still going strong. Nevertheless, it always needs new players of all ages. If you saw any of the Bowls in the Commonwealth Games in the summer, you will realise that not all bowls players are retired or pensioners!

Outdoor bowling dominates the summer months from April until September. Members can play any day of the week. A variety of bowls can be enjoyed by members: from friendly roll-ups, matches against other local clubs to competitive bowls in club, county or even national events. In the winter months, Short Mat bowls replaces outdoor play with the clubhouse providing the accommodation for social and competitive play. The clubhouse has good facilities including a kitchen, changing rooms and most importantly a bar where members can buy drinks at very reasonable prices.

Potential members are welcome to come and try the game on any Friday evening from 21st April and specifically on our Open Days on Friday, 12th May from 6pm and Sunday, 14th May from 10am to 1pm and also on Bowls England's Big Bowls Weekend on Monday, 29th May.

For further information, please contact our secretary, Peter Bartrop on **01628 476835** email **p.bartrop@btinternet.com** or visit our website **www.marlowbowls.co.uk**



Marlow Museum

Offer your support by completing a short community survey



Do you think that our beautiful town deserves a better museum? Marlow Museum has been in this small building at the entrance to Court Garden Leisure Centre since 2009. We would very much like to have bigger premises, to provide a better service to you and our visitors from all over the world. We are all volunteers and have to raise our own funding, for which we often have to provide evidence of community support.

So, would you please help us by completing a short survey?

Scan the QR code, which will take you to the survey on our website.



If you prefer, you can use this link:

www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/DG3ZW9M. You can then do the survey online and it will automatically be returned to us.

Alternatively, paper copies are available from the museum, the library and the café at Court Garden House. Please complete and return the survey to us at Court Garden, Pound Lane, Marlow SL7 2AE by Friday, 7th April 2023.

If you wish, you will be entered into a prize draw to win two tickets to Pub in the Park in May 2023, or a book token.

Thank you very much from the Trustees of Marlow Museum.

Marlow Lighthouse Needs You!

Could you help make this year's fun-packed week a success?



Marlow Lighthouse is a highlight of the year for many young Marlovians! From 31st July to 4th August this year, Lighthouse is a fun-packed week for children and volunteers alike, held at Holy Trinity School. Led by Christians from local churches, this holiday club welcomes kids of primary school age to join in the crafts, sports, Bible stories and general hilarity each day. And the fun is not just for the youngsters – the volunteers (adults and those aged 12 or more) also have a wonderful time. Many return year-on-year to help look after the children, organise the activities, serve in the tea tent, or play in the band. It's a worthwhile and rewarding experience.

The Lighthouse day runs from 10am to 3.30pm for children (9am to 4pm for helpers) and children aged 5-11 can attend. There is a crèche for younger children on days when a parent or carer is helping. Registration for children will open early in May, so watch out for the date on our Facebook page.

Could YOU help?

There are lots of opportunities to support Lighthouse, whether on the week itself or in advance, whether for a few hours or many, whether working directly with children or in a 'behind the scenes' capacity.

Marlow Lighthouse is a highlight of the year for many young Marlovians!

For instance, could you:

- Spare a few hours in June or July to offer some administrative support?
- Organise a fundraising event to help keep Lighthouse a free event?
- Get involved in site management – procurement, set up or security?
- Work with children, ensuring they have the best week of their summer?

If any of these sound like a task you could help with, please contact **marlow@lighthousecentral.org** or register to help during the week at **lighthousecentral.org/get-involved**.

We would love to hear from you!



Florence Shops

Volunteer at local Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity shop



If you want to try something new, meet people, raise money for charity, or make a difference in the Marlow community, then volunteering at a Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity shop could be the perfect opportunity for you.

Join the supportive family of volunteers at 19 West Street, Marlow and give your time to help the charity be there with the best possible care and support, for patients with life-limiting illnesses across Buckinghamshire and its

borders, whenever and wherever they need it.

"Volunteering is the ultimate way to do something truly meaningful. By gifting your time to a Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity shop, you are doing something very special for so many others," says Charmain Behan, Volunteer Manager at the charity.

Volunteering offers an opportunity to gain new skills, experience something different, whilst giving back to your local community. Becoming a volunteer also allows you to develop valuable job skills, build your confidence and connect with other people.

Graham, volunteer at Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity said: "Once you start volunteering, you are hooked. It's an absolute pleasure to volunteer and the people are all fantastic. I would highly recommend anyone thinking of volunteering to just do it."

To find out more about volunteering with Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity, visit **fnhospice.org.uk/volunteer/volunteer-in-our-shops**, email **volunteering@fnhospice.org.uk** or call **01296 429975**.





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Obituary: Lance Slater

In memory of popular Marlow town devotee



Lance Slater sadly passed away on 1st January 2023. He was a much-loved husband, father and grandfather with three daughters, two stepsons and two grandchildren. Lance and his wife Pauline moved to Marlow in 1984 where he set up his own company in 1990 before retiring in 2003. Pauline said: "The family cannot quantify how much they will miss him. We are such a close and happy family. It's heart-breaking."

Lance was one of the original founder members of the Marlow Town Regatta and Festival, of which he was Vice President, and was a President of Marlow Chamber of Trade. He was also a pivotal member of the Rotary Club of Marlow and was President in 1998.

Lance was called up in 1956 to do his National Service. After basic training he learned Mandarin Chinese and was flown to Hong Kong, (which took a week) where he worked in the radio station on Victoria Peak, listening in to the Chinese ground-to-air messages. He and others translated them and gave warning if there was anything dangerous being planned. He always said he was defending his country.

One cannot over-emphasise the enormous contribution he made to Marlow — and to the Rotary Club in particular. His enthusiasm and commitment meant he was able to accomplish a huge amount.

Chris Kelsey from the Rotary Club of Marlow had the following words to say about Lance at his memorial service, held in the Shelley Theatre on 26th January:

"Lance first joined Rotary in 1985 when he was working as a surveyor in Reading. When Lance set up his own business in Marlow, he transferred to the Rotary Club in Marlow where he quickly made his mark and within a few years, in 1997, became our President.



"It was in those early days that he and Niall Blair organised the fledgling Santa's Fun Run, which has become a hugely successful community event. Through his local connections he organised a number of our activities including the bridge night, the Ascot brass concerts, the seniors boat trip, and many more. He had an easy-going and friendly demeanour, cultivating good relationships with many local organisations. When he asked people to do things he had a way of ensuring they always said yes. He was chair of a number of our committees, particularly the youth committee, and he was instrumental in organising the Best Potential Citizen Awards with Great Marlow School. Even with failing health, he continued to participate in our events, including the boat trip in September and the Marlow Carnival in October. He ensured that we continued to assist the Town Council in serving mulled wine and mince pies at the Town Council Christmas Carol Concert, and he made a number of phone calls in his last few weeks to make sure we would all continue with the good things he was involved with.

"Lance epitomised the Rotary ideal of 'service above self'. This was most evident when he served as our membership secretary and inducted a significant number of our current members into the club. We are most indebted to him for his guidance and enthusiasm. He was well known in the club as a great orator, though his eloquence did sometimes go on longer than expected — a combination of gift of the gab and a bit of the Blarney. He will be fondly remembered both as a Rotarian, but most of all as a friend, and he leaves a big hole in the club and the Marlow community as a whole."

The Rotary Club of Marlow Thames invites you to a very new eating experience based upon Marlow High Street.



We're the people who help organise the **Marlow Santas Fun Run** and the **Cookham Regatta**. We raise thousands of £s for charity – and we want to raise even more!

Our idea is simple. You book a place in the inaugural **MARLOW TASTES©** event and join us on **Tuesday April 25th** in a progressive supper with a difference. Your group joins us for a short reception event - and then move on to three different restaurants for your first, main and dessert courses. All will be in easy walking distance, and you won't find out which restaurants until the night of the event.

The fantastic restaurants working with us in this inaugural year are:

LA CANTINA - THE COMPLEAT ANGLER - THE MARLOW BAR AND GRILL – THE OARSMAN - SUUM

ALL surplus proceeds will be shared across just two very good causes:

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We will publish the amount raised. **Interested?** Full details can be found on:

WWW.MARLOWTASTES.MENU

(You will need to act quickly! For the inaugural event we are restricting numbers to just 200)



Hidden Gems



Marlow FM's unsung heroes awards

After three years away (thanks to Covid) Marlow FM were delighted to bring the Hidden Gems Awards back, celebrating the unsung heroes in our wonderful town. In January we asked our listeners to nominate people/businesses in 10 categories. A shortlist was drawn up of the most nominated and the voting commenced. We received thousands of votes!

Additionally two categories, Services to Charity and Services to the Community are decided by a committee with representatives from the Town Council, The Chamber of Trade & Commerce and MyMarlow. The winners were announced at the Awards Dinner on Saturday, 18th February where Holy Trinity School gym was transformed into La Frecuencia restaurant!

We like to keep it all local so our delicious Mexican Fiesta-themed meal was supplied by local chef Geoff Salinas, our bar stocked by Rebellion, a fantastic photo backdrop from Globe Print and ShopforFrames supplied all our fabulous framed awards. This is a big fundraising event for Marlow FM and we are so grateful to all the individuals and local businesses who have generously supported the online auction and the raffle on the night.

Congratulations to the winners below, but also to every person, business and organisation nominated. Marlow is so lucky to have you all!

- Best Cuppa - The Cedar.
- Best Pub - The Duke.
- Best Sunday Roast - The Queens Head.
- Best Breakfast - Fego.
- Best Night Out - Grape Expectations.
- Best Sports Club - Marlow Rugby Club.
- Best Special Interest Club - Wild Marlow.
- Best Teaching or Learning Support Assistant - Jenny Britnell (Sandygate).
- Best Local Producer - Rebellion Beer Company.
- Best Tradesperson - Steve Carlton, Marlow Motors.
- Services to Charity - Alison Branch & Mu Reynolds of Meals from Marlow.
- Services to the Community - Marlow Poppy Ladies and Marlow Ukraine Collective.





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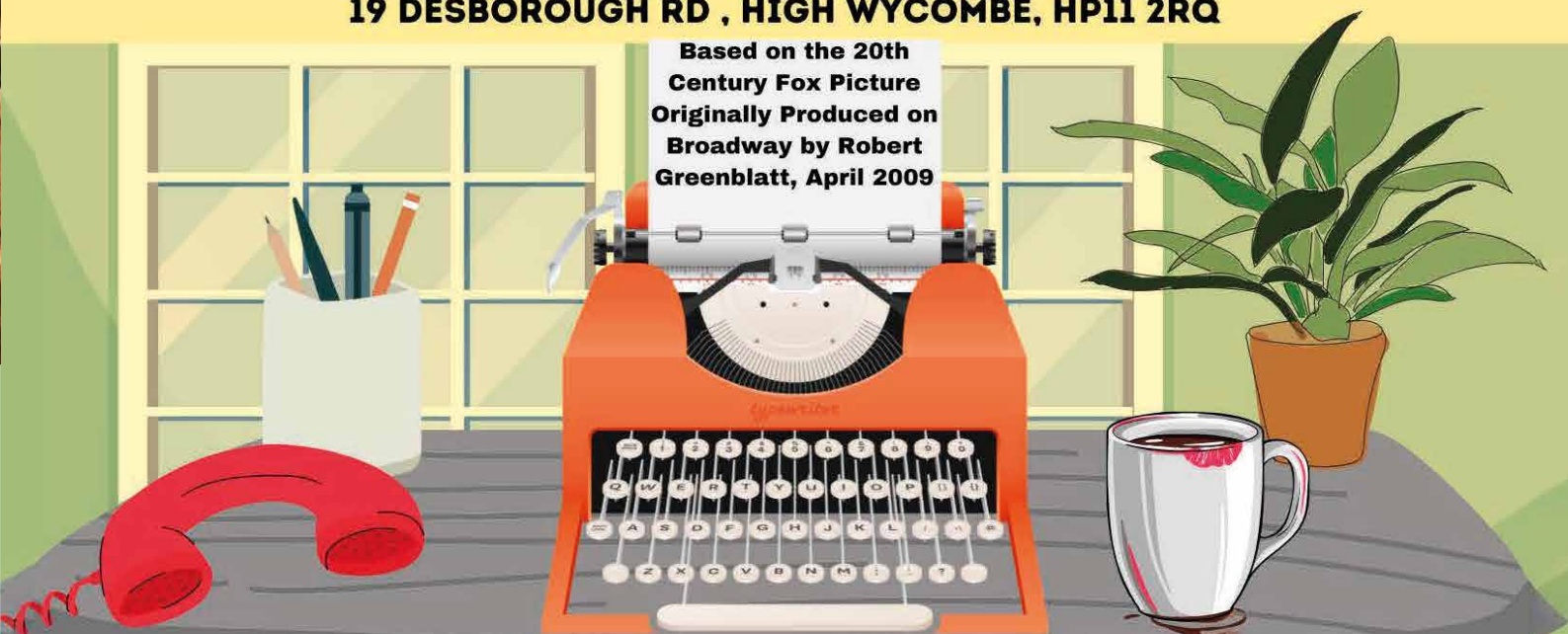
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www.mtishows.co.uk

Autism Awareness Day

Take part in some exciting activities and interactive experiences

South West Chilterns Community Board are delighted to be working in partnership with Longridge Activity Centre in hosting an autism awareness day on the 18th March. There will be an opportunity to go through an Interactive Autism Awareness Experience and to also take part in taster activities (token cost of £2 per person per taster activity). There will be a marketplace of information relating to services relevant to autism to accompany the interactive experience and the activities, along with refreshments on site.

Please use the following link to book onto the activities:

longridge.cinolla.com/longridge/courses/autism-awareness-day-at-longridge



For further information about the day, please contact Makyla Devlin, Senior Community Board Manager on **swccb@buckinghamshire.gov.uk**



Community Board
South West
Chilterns



WORDS Literary Festival

Save the date! Saturday, 17th June, Marlow's literary festival: WORDS

Are you a creative writer? A lover of song? An avid reader? A fan of drama?

Marlow Writers' Society is organising the first literary festival in Marlow which is open to all. Performing in a handful of venues in the town centre of Marlow, the WORDS literary festival will present all forms of the spoken word – prose, poetry, song and drama. It will be a community event with something for every member of the family. The event will coincide with the Farmers' market on The Causeway in Marlow which will provide a range of

delicious on-the-go lunches, snacks and beverages.

WORDS will run all day and into the evening of Saturday, 17th June 2023 with presentations from published local authors, drama groups, local choirs and musicians. Members of the Marlow Writers' Society will be performing their work including pieces from the two editions of our magazine 'SLACK' which raises funds for Marlow Refugee Action.

WORDS includes a new flash fiction writing competition for local schools on the 'Green New World' which offers cash prizes. Winners will also have the opportunity to perform their work at the festival.

Marlow Writers' Society meets at 6.30pm on the first Wednesday of each month at The George & Dragon, The Causeway, Marlow, SL7 2AA. Writing on an agreed theme every month, we meet to share our writing which is inspired by a spectrum of topics in a variety of styles and genres. New writers are welcome!

For further information, contact Mary on **07947 140104** and visit our website at **marlowwriters.org**



23 years of MARLOW TOWN Regatta & Festival

Marlow's Premier Sporting and Social Occasion

Saturday 10th & Sunday 11th June, 2023



Marlow Town Regatta & Festival returns for the 23rd year along the Marlow stretch.

'Marlow Regatta' has entertained hundreds of thousands of people through the ages and is one of the longest running social events in the area, spanning 150 years. First officially recorded in 1880, it became a formal regatta, then switching to a river carnival in 1885 - it's written that **General Sir George Higginson** went about restoring it to a traditional rowing regatta in 1901. Today the terrific atmosphere and community presence see past and present pupils of schools, families and friends, together with local businesses make the most of basking in the sunshine, enjoying picnicking along the river, whilst classic rowing adorns the Thames. '**Marlow's Own Boat Race**' takes place between local schools **Great Marlow** and **Sir William Borlase** as the rowing ends and the party begins.

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. The Saturday daytime rowing event organised by **Marlow Rowing Club**, includes teams from schools, universities and clubs from around the country, kicking off with our historical **Opening Ceremony**. This year we will be welcoming our **Twin Town Marly-le-Roi**, celebrating the **50th anniversary of the Town Twinning**, (last year). A '**Meet & Greet**' with your French community area will be created within the **Jim Campbell Riverside Enclosure**. '**My Twin Town Marly-le-Roi**' is the subject for the '**The Schools Writing Competition**', to be judged by distinguished screenwriter & novelist **Robert Thorogood**. The lucky winner will be presented with a 'one off' painting for their school to proudly showcase, by our fabulous local artist, **Bee Skelton**. **Round Table Riverside Bar** will be providing a fine selection of beverages, alongside varied food stalls for the peckish. Roaming **Rock & Strollers** are unplugged and unshackled throughout the day, with a **brass ensemble** performing summer afternoon classics on the bandstand.

MarlowFM takes centre stage live on air, when the afternoon evolves into the '**best regatta party ever**', presenting a repertoire of music, interviews and live performances. The lineup will include swing & jazz from **Dave Dunbar**, closely followed by the **The Rymatones**, a Bucks based Rock 'n' Roll band. For our grand finale, we are hugely excited to present **The Raiders of the Lost Archives DJ Set**, featuring **Chris Richards, Ian Springwell and Kev Kinch** - illuminating Marlow with a light show extravaganza, we take you back in time for those dance floor hits, with the best DJ's in Town!

The **Sunday Festival** is a **FREE** event, filled with an incredible line up of **family friendly entertainment**, including the thrilling **Dragon Boat Festival**, circus acts, combined schools' choir, cake baking, dog show, petting farm & bouncy castle - all complemented by an array of artisan craft & food stalls.

Tickets go on sale 01/03/23 @ www.marlowtownregatta.org



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Who Does What?

Who looks after you in Marlow?

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 169 Parish/Town Councils in
Buckinghamshire Council
Tel: **01628 484024**



Marlow Town Council are responsible for:

- Events such as: Remembrance Day Service & Parade, Carols on The Causeway, Switch on and Shop, Celebrate Marlow, Mayor's Civic Service, and the Mayor's Charity Golf Day
- Two allotment sites – Hanging Hill off Prospect Road and Foxes Piece
- The cemetery and chapel at Wethered Road
- May Balfour Gardens in Institute Road
- Marlow town bus service
- Shopmobility in Marlow
- Advertising banners across the High Street and Spittal Street
- Gossmore Recreation Ground
- Seymour Park including the play areas
- Riley Park and Campbell Road play areas
- Grass and hedge cutting in designated areas
- Removal of flyposters and illegal signs on public highway and attached to street furniture
- Contribution towards Marlow's PCSO

You can email Marlow Town Council directly through our website **www.marlow-tc.gov.uk/static/marlow/contactus.aspx**

Telephone **01628 484024**.

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter
@MarlowTC



Buckinghamshire Council
One of 55 Unitary Councils in
England.

Tel: **01296 395000**



Buckinghamshire Council are responsible for:

- 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
- 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.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/bin-collection-recycling-and-waste**

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.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/parking-roads-and-transport

Telephone **01296 383500**.

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**

Telephone **01494 461000**

Your Councillors



Marlow North West Ward

Cllr David Brown

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dbrown@marlow-tc.gov.uk



Cllr Roy Cadman

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*Cllr Natalia Mityaeva
Chairman Resources*

Mob: 07881 632820
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*Cllr Chris Hoyle
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*Cllr Chris Funnell
Leader*

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Cllr Colleen Stapley

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cstapley@marlow-tc.gov.uk



Marlow South Ward

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Mayor*

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rscott@marlow-tc.gov.uk



*Cllr Jocelyn Towns
Deputy Mayor / Chairman
Environment & Sustainability*

Tel: 01628 477914
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jtowns@marlow-tc.gov.uk



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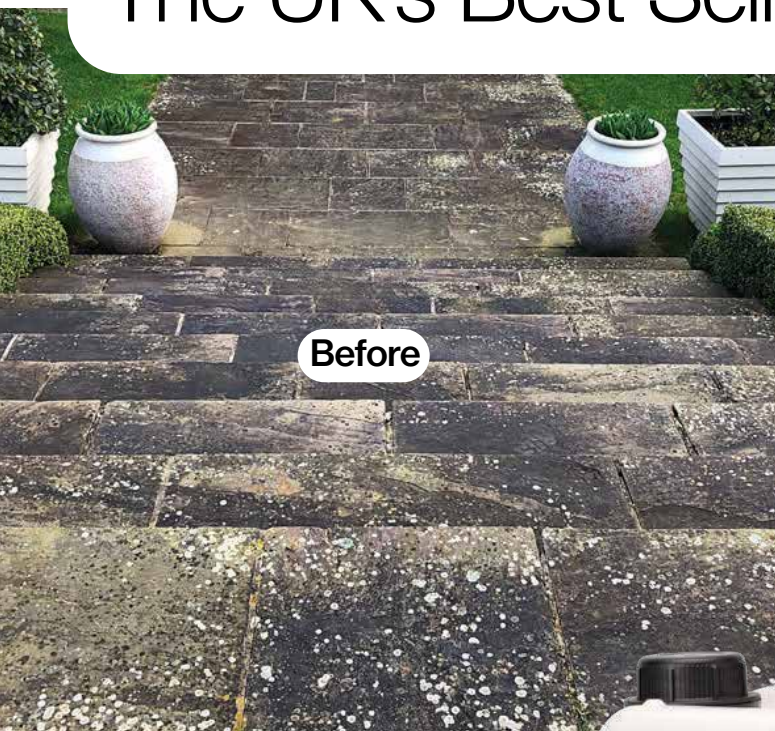
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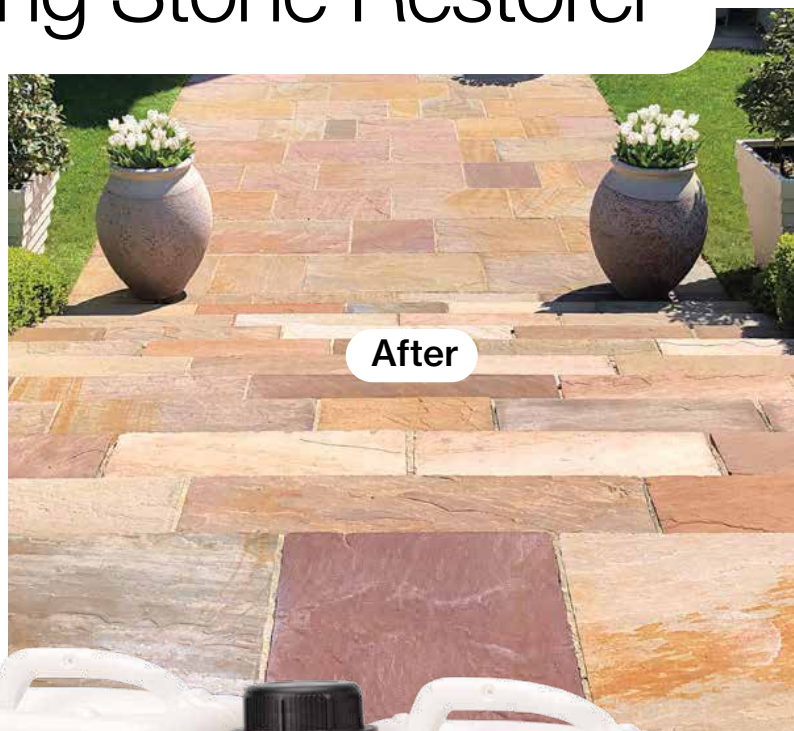
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