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all your news from the community

Spring 2024

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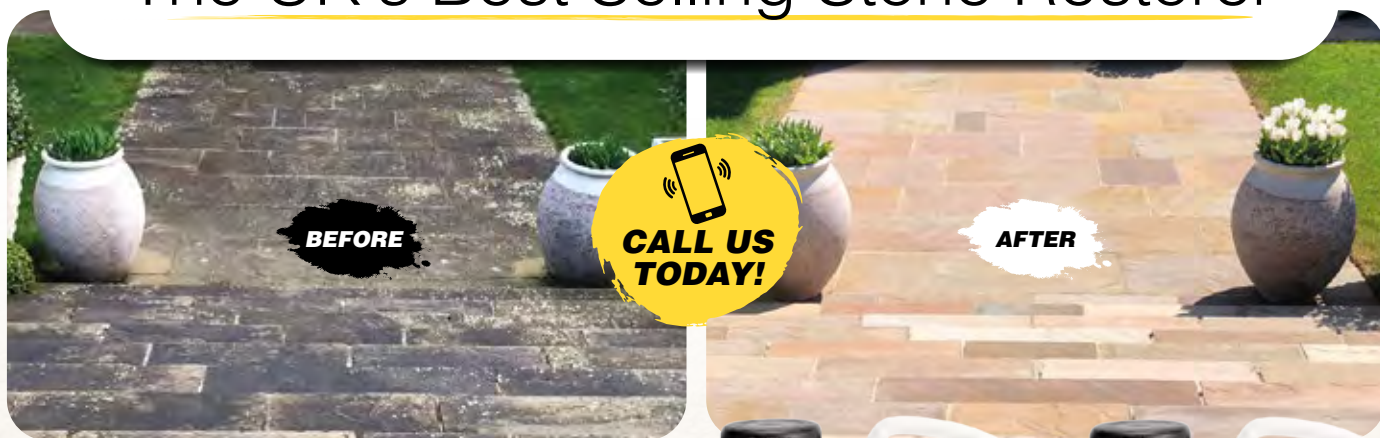
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all your news from the community

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# Mayor's Message

*Welcome to Spring 2024*

I find it hard to believe that in a couple of months, my year as Mayor will be drawing to a close. The year is passing so quickly and I continue to feel so privileged to be Mayor of our beautiful town.

Reflecting on my time in this position gives me an opportunity to look back at the wonderful events I've attended and the members of the Marlow community I have had the pleasure to meet — all of whom help to make Marlow the amazing town it is. This is a town where people love to live, love to work and ultimately love to become one community with kindness and generosity at its centre.

One of my first appearances as Mayor was the annual Marlow Town Regatta and Festival in June. The Regatta and Festival is a renowned event in the Marlow calendar and last year we were really lucky to be able to make hay while the sun shone all day.

When I reflect on my year so far, Remembrance Day stands out. The Marlow Remembrance Day Service attendance is one of the largest, if not the largest in Buckinghamshire. I feel honoured to have been part of a day where the community comes together to remember



the service and sacrifice of all those that have defended our freedoms and protected our way of life.

I would like to thank everyone who braved the winter weather to attend our Christmas Lights Switch On and Carols on The Causeway. Both events had a marvellous turnout, and Marlow Town Council and I thank you for your support. It was fantastic to experience the throng of the crowds and to be part of the wonderful atmosphere we create when we all come together. I also have to mention the Santa Fun Run — what an incredible sight, watching near on 3,000 Santas running around Marlow while raising a considerable amount of money for charity.

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*It was fantastic to experience  
the throng of the crowds and  
to be part of the wonderful  
atmosphere we create when we  
all come together*

---

The winter months have also been challenging, especially for members of our community who live by the river. A significantly wet winter resulted in our flood defence plan needing to be activated. Thankfully with the aid of flood defences, flooding was significantly reduced compared with the winter of 2014.

My Civic Celebration is on Sunday, 24th March at 3pm at All Saints' Church, a service dedicated to the community I have been truly honoured to serve. The celebration is open to everyone and I do hope you will be able to join me.

I am thankful that spring is coming upon us quickly, the days are growing longer and temperatures are beginning to rise. Marlow is such a lovely place to be in the spring.

*Cllr David Brown*

Marlow Town Mayor





# Town Council News

Spring 2024

## Budget 2024-25

The Budget was approved at Town Council on 23rd January.

We are pleased to present our budget for the fiscal year 2024/2025. The proposed budget not only sustains vital services for our residents but also continues a strong emphasis on financial control for 2024/2025, brought about by savings we have achieved in the current financial year.

Our focus on fiscal responsibility to mitigate an increased burden upon our residents ensures that once again we propose a zero-cost increase in the precept for our residents for 2024/2025.

While many councils continue to struggle to balance budgets, we will continue our commitment to protecting residents by continuing the process of organisational and systems modification to maintain a high level of service and minimise inflationary burdens.

*Marlow Town is well positioned financially to meet its commitments and maintain the high quality of services for the residents*

While our income in total is approximately £450,000 per annum, which sustains all local services for Marlow's 17,000+ residents, we are able to supplement that with additional revenue streams of circa £80,000 from investments and local service income. We're allocating this to support an exceptional level of local services, including the town bus, extensive private security patrols and enhancing the overall wellbeing of our community.

We continue our commitment to spending in the community with provisions of approximately £100,000, enabling us to continue with town events and community initiatives throughout the year. These bring residents together for civic occasions, Remembrance celebrations, Christmas events and national celebrations.

We continue to allocate employment costs of approximately £210,000 per annum and £20,000 as a proactive provision for this year's reorganisation review.

Devolved services will continue to be provided at a cost of £83,500 per annum for an external bespoke grass-

cutting contract, occurring eight times a year at twice the national parish average, which we will maintain along with continuing to deliver environmental rewilding initiatives.

Despite the challenges posed by inflation and regulatory requirements, Marlow Town is well positioned financially to meet its commitments and maintain the high quality of services for the residents.

*Cllr N Mityaeva*

Chairman of Resources Committee.

## Grants information and how to apply

The Town Council has a budget of £8,000 for 2024-25 to distribute grants to community groups, charities and local organisations who benefit Marlow, its residents, visitors and the wider community.

Applications are considered at each meeting of the Resources Committee. All applications must be received three weeks prior to the date of the meeting to be considered for a grant.

A Grant Application Form is available on the Council website here: [www.marlow-tc.gov.uk/grants](http://www.marlow-tc.gov.uk/grants)

## Marlow cemetery

Marlow cemetery is situated in Wethered Road and is managed by Marlow Town Council. The cemetery has been in use since 1911 and many Marlow families' ancestors have been interred here.

When a grave is purchased, a "Grant of Exclusive Right of Burial" is granted to the registered grave owner. This gives them the exclusive rights to the grave for 99 years. All full graves have space for two full burial interments



and six ashes interments, and as Marlow cemetery is almost at capacity we urge residents to check to see if there is a grave space in the family that they could use for future family interments.

If families are unclear on who holds the "Grant of Exclusive Right for Burial" for a plot containing a relative, they may contact the Town Council office for assistance. Once the previous owner has been identified, families will need to agree who will have responsibility for it.

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*As Marlow cemetery is almost at capacity we urge residents to check to see if there is a grave space in the family that they could use for future family interments*

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Transfer of ownership of the "Exclusive Rights of Burial" can take place once the Town Council has received all the appropriate paperwork and fees.

If you have any queries regarding ownership of a grave space, please contact the Town Council office for assistance. Telephone: **01628 484024** or email: **office@marlow-tc.gov.uk**

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*Campbell Park Playground mat replacement*

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The Council manages three playgrounds around the town, and they are all inspected daily to ensure that they are safe places to play. A recent inspection noted wear in the mat around the swings at Campbell Park Playground.

The Council arranged for the whole area to be rubber



bonded. The works are guaranteed for a minimum of eight years' use.

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*Save the dates*

---

**Christmas Lights Switch On**

This year's very popular Christmas Lights Switch On event will be held on Thursday, 21st November. Check our website nearer the time for the most up-to-date information. **www.marlow-tc.gov.uk**

**Remembrance Service and Parade**

Marlow's Remembrance Service and Parade will be held on Sunday, 10th November at The Causeway, Marlow, with the service commencing at 10.45am. All are welcome to come along. The High Street will be closed to traffic from 8am until the finish of the Parade at approximately 11.30am. Marlow Bridge will also be closed to vehicles during this time.

**Carols on The Causeway**

After its record attendance last year, this popular community event will be back on Tuesday, 17th December. Everyone is invited to sing carols around the Christmas tree with Marlow Town Band.

Check our website nearer the time for the most up-to-date information. **www.marlow-tc.gov.uk**



**STOP PRESS**

**Add this date to your diary.**

A team from the Marlow and Bisham communities have been working on an innovative proposal for a low impact hydroelectric scheme on the river. Join them at their 'drop-in' event on 20th April (10am-5.30pm) and 21st April (2.30pm-5.30pm) at All Saint's Church Hall to learn about this exciting scheme and to provide feedback.

Everyone welcome.





# Charles Frohman Statue

## Protection for the memorial monument on The Causeway

Marlow Town Council secures the future for grade II listed protection of the iconic Charles Frohman memorial monument on The Causeway.

The statue that depicts a nymph gazing toward the Thames was erected in 1924 to commemorate Charles Frohman, the renowned theatre producer who perished in the Lusitania sinking.

Frohman visited England every summer from 1900, having a great affection for Marlow, regarding it as, "The most beautiful spot in the entire world", particularly appreciating the view from The Causeway over the bridge and the river to The Compleat Angler, where the statue now stands.



Sadly, the statue continues to suffer from the effects of the weather and is particularly vulnerable during the freeze thaw cycle that the winter brings, and steps now need to be taken to mitigate expensive future repairs and to preserve its longevity.


Mayor David Brown emphasised: "This is a powerful monument defining an 'Object of Culture', representing Buckinghamshire's young and old generation, through world war crisis, to the joy of youthfulness and new life and is important to everlasting hope as well as an important landmark for our residents."

On advice from conservators at Cliveden Conservation the specialised three-layer impermeable cover, which is not just a standard tarpaulin but a specialised windproof, waterproof, and insulating and breathable cover that shields the Grade II-listed sculpture by Leonard Stanford Merrifield FRBS will help us positively and proactively preserve this icon for generations to come.


The cover will be applied from November to February annually and will form part of an extensive cost-effective maintenance programme.

*The Official magazine for Marlow Town Council*

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



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# Bleed Kits

*Vital bleed kits now available in Marlow phone kiosks*

Marlow Town Council has purchased three bleed kits from the Daniel Baird Foundation.

The kits have been installed in all three of the Council-managed defibrillators housed in phone kiosks in Quoiting Square, Seymour Park Road and the junction of Station Road and Lock Road. The kits can be accessed by dialling 999 and using the code given to open the box.

“Each of these kits could save a life by controlling catastrophic bleeding,” Marlow Mayor David Brown said. “We’re pleased to be working with the Daniel Baird Foundation to improve safety on the streets of Marlow.”

The Foundation aims to raise awareness of the importance of having publicly accessible bleeding control packs available. It works closely with local government organisations, community groups and business organisations to get vital bleed control kits into as many venues as possible.

**[controlthebleed.org.uk](http://controlthebleed.org.uk)**



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# Become A Foster Carer

*Change a child's life*

With over 500 children in Buckinghamshire in need of caring, supportive homes, we are looking for foster carers to make sure that children in foster care don't need to move far away from their family and friends.

We are seeking people from all kinds of backgrounds to come forward and foster children who are looking for a nurturing family and supportive environment.

Being a foster carer means caring for a child as part of your family in your home. You could foster a child for a single night, several weeks or a number of years, even until the child is an adult.

You can foster a child regardless of your sexual orientation, relationship status, faith or ethnicity and if you are in full-time employment. All that we ask is that you can provide a child (or children) with a stable and committed home-life that understands their needs.

**When you foster with Bucks, you will be joining a community of welcoming carers and will benefit from:**

- generous allowances to cover the cost of supporting your foster child
- clear and thorough ongoing training to help you feel prepared
- a dedicated Fostering Support team to go to for help and advice, including a Fostering Supervising Social Worker to work with you throughout your fostering career
- established and direct relationships with the children's social workers, allowing us to quickly respond to any questions you may have along your journey
- access to our fostering social events and support groups for you and your family



We have a growing fostering community in Marlow and its surrounds. Judith, one of our foster carers based in Marlow, shares her experience of fostering with Bucks: "As foster carers, we give children a bit of stability at an unsettling time for them. We also gain from having the children in our lives as they enhance it in ways we didn't expect. Fostering is not all plain sailing, but we roll with the punches!

"We are part of the fantastic Mockingbird initiative here in Marlow. Mockingbird brings together 8-10 fostering families who support each other. It allows the children we care for to be part of a bigger family and form friendships with others who share similar life experiences. John and I are home hub carers, so we can step in when needed.

"Having fostered with Bucks for over 15 years, I can honestly say that the training and support from the fostering team are excellent. We always feel appreciated for what we do."

If you are interested in learning more about fostering, visit: **[fostering.buckinghamshire.gov.uk](http://fostering.buckinghamshire.gov.uk)**

You can also follow us on social media:

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# Spring 'Green' Clean

*We're Going Wild 2024*



Spring and summer are the most active times of the year for both plants and people, which is why we need your help to keep our footpaths clear and help nature thrive in your garden.

During the spring and summer months, Buckinghamshire Council and MTC will be responsible for systematically clearing all footpath cut-throughs and coordinating maintenance activities. However, it is the responsibility of residents to ensure that vegetation from front and rear gardens do not obstruct these footpaths. This includes vegetation that crosses the boundary line at ground level, grows through a fence, or over a fence or a wall adjacent to the footpath.

Residents are encouraged to maintain their gardens by cutting back vegetation to the boundary line, ensuring it does not encroach onto the pavement throughout the year. This is especially important in the spring and summer months when our footpaths are the busiest.



Obstructed footpaths pose safety risks to residents of all ages and abilities. Overgrown vegetation can lead to trip hazards on the pavement surface and may also cause inconvenience or potential injury to pedestrians. It is particularly unsafe for individuals with prams, children, those with visual impairments, and people with disabilities who may have to divert or step into the road to avoid these obstacles.

## *Maintenance guidelines*

To maintain the safety and accessibility of footpaths, we request that residents follow these guidelines:

**1. Regular maintenance:** Gardens should be regularly maintained, with vegetation cut back to the boundary line (next to, but not over, the pavement).

**2. Seasonal considerations:** Hedges and overgrowth that may house nesting birds should not be cut between April and October unless they pose a hazard to humans.

*All residents are encouraged to support the local community by cutting back their gardens every spring before the growing season begins*

## *Footpath obstruction reporting*

If you experience or see any footpath obstructions, please follow these steps:

- **Photo:** Take photos of the footpath obstruction and upload them to "Fix My Street".
- **Responsibility:** Buckinghamshire Council and MTC will determine who is responsible for the obstruction and decide on the appropriate course of action.
- **Two weeks:** If the responsibility falls on residents, they will be contacted, and they will have two weeks to remove the obstruction.
- **Follow-up:** After two weeks, an inspection will be conducted to ensure the obstruction is cleared. If it remains, further communication with the resident will occur.
- **Non-compliance:** If the obstruction is not cleared within the two-week period and there is no future date set for resolution, no reasonable explanation for the delay, and no communication from the resident, the council will take the necessary steps to clear the obstruction. This is not the preferred course of action and may result in a remedial notice being issued by Buckinghamshire Council with the property owner liable for the costs.

All residents are encouraged to support the local community by cutting back their gardens every spring before the growing season begins and monitoring them throughout the summer to ensure clear, safe footpaths for everyone. If you have hedges or overgrowth that may house nesting birds, we ask that you please cut these back now to avoid any footpath obstacles during spring and summer. You can find the MTC footpath policy here: [www.marlow-tc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/Marlow-Town-Council-Footpath-Policy-v4.pdf](http://www.marlow-tc.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/Marlow-Town-Council-Footpath-Policy-v4.pdf)



*No Mow May - for one month, doing nothing does good*

For the month of May, all non-essential areas MTC is responsible for cutting are left to grow wild to give naturally occurring plants and wildflowers a chance to grow, helping to feed and shelter vital pollinators (regular cutting will resume the beginning of June). Tear out your No Mow May sign and pop it in your window or put it on a stake in your garden. That way others can see and understand why your grass is long and what you are doing – because knowledge is contagious.

*Why the long grass?*

Long grass and wildflowers benefit wildlife, tackle pollution and trap carbon below ground. That's why we are expanding our wild verges to create a 'corridor' for pollinators to follow. This year we asked the schools to join our efforts - look on the map to see if your school is helping pollinators.

The transformation from grass to wild doesn't happen overnight. We must change how we cut the grass to reduce soil fertility, which discourages grass and encourages wildflowers.

- 1. Reduce the number of cuts per year:** First year from eight to three cuts, second year two cuts, third year+

one cut.

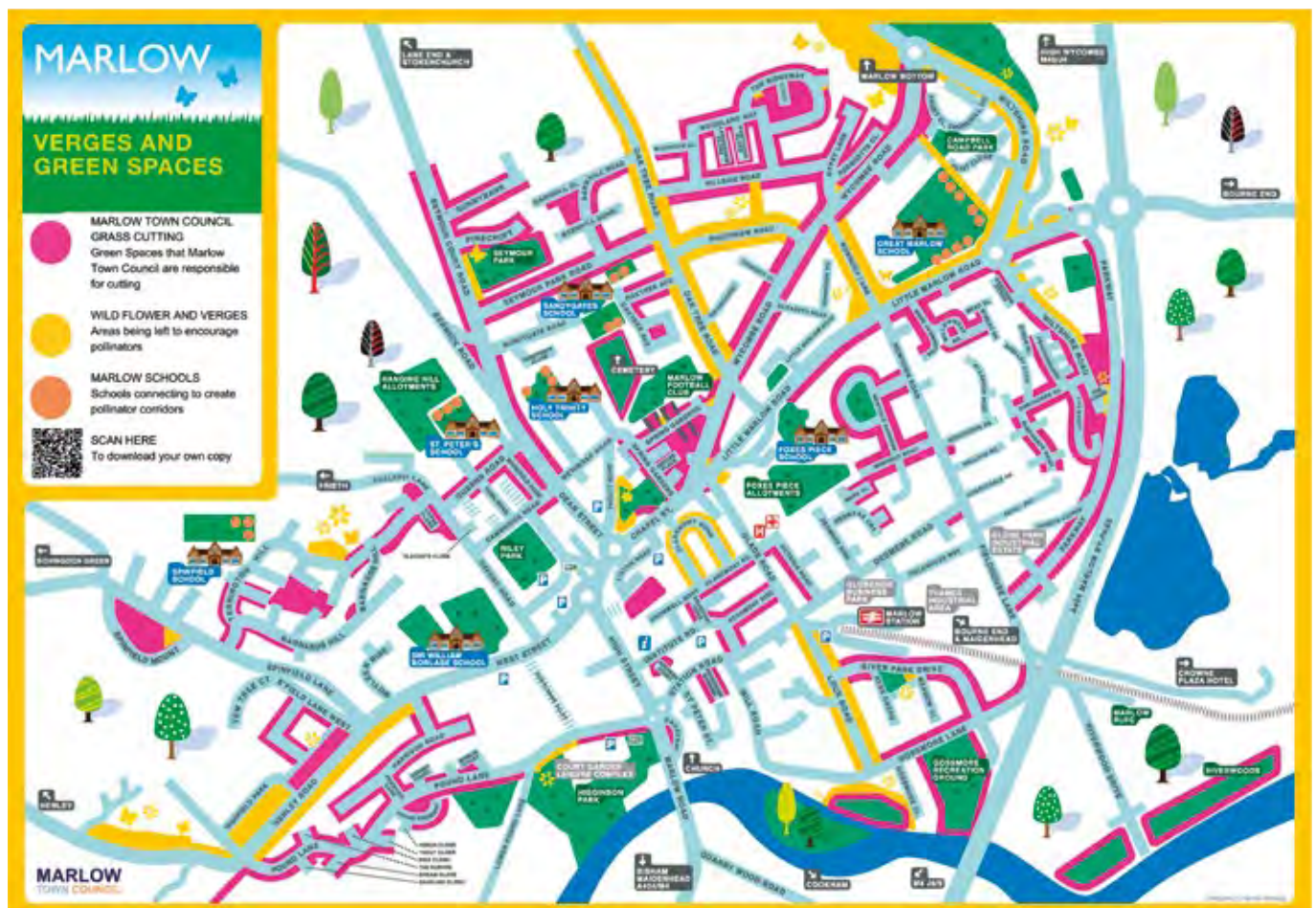
- 2. Collect the grass clippings:** Left clippings fertilise and grow more grass instead of wildflowers.
- 3. Keep the mower blade at 6cm:** keeping the low wildflowers from being clipped.

*The transformation from grass to wild doesn't happen overnight. We must change how we cut the grass to reduce soil fertility, which discourages grass and encourages wildflowers*

*There's no such thing as weeds in nature – only plants*

Sometimes there may be plants in the wrong place. When this happens MTC grounds maintenance and our grass-cutting contractor no longer use glyphosate (a powerful weedkiller); instead we use more nature-friendly methods.

*Where we're Going Wild 2024*



A decorative border at the top of the page featuring a large orange flower with a blue center, a yellow flower, and a bee on a pink leaf. There are also several small yellow plus signs scattered around.

We're taking  
part in

A cartoon bee with a yellow and black striped body, blue wings, and a smiling face, flying towards the right.

**NO MOW  
MAY**

A cartoon bee with a yellow and black striped body, blue wings, and a smiling face, flying towards the left.

To help feed bees and  
pollinators

A decorative border at the bottom of the page featuring a large orange flower with a blue center, a yellow flower, and a bee on a pink leaf. There are also several small yellow plus signs scattered around.

Please cut here and display in your window to help us promote other to join



# Marlow Energy Group

*Success for first greener home energy event*



Marlow Energy Group's (MEG) first major public educational event about greener home energy was held on 18th November 2023 in the Shelley Theatre of Court Garden — and proved to be a great success.

The event was made possible by generous grants from Marlow Town Council and Buckinghamshire Council (South West Chilterns Community Board). Fourteen exhibitors drew in over 240 visitors from Marlow and beyond, prompting hundreds of conversations between experts and residents. In addition, five interesting talks were given by exhibitors in Court Garden's Eliot room.

MEG is confident that the show will have inspired and accelerated many individual actions to improve energy efficiency, to switch to electric heating and install domestic renewables. Decarbonising household energy is one of the toughest challenges of Britain's transition to Net Zero.

MEG is proud that the Smart Energy Show has helped accelerate this journey and hopes to repeat the event in the spring of 2025. For additional information on MEG see our website: [www.marlowenergygroup.com](http://www.marlowenergygroup.com)

*Photos courtesy of Jon Perry.*



*One of the talks in the Eliot room*



*MEG's John Laker and Marlow Deputy Mayor, Cllr Colleen Stapley, at the MEG stand*



*General shot of the event*

# Releaf Marlow

*Extending the green canopy*



A busy winter planting season this year for Marlow's community trees group.

Local community group Releaf Marlow was out planting new trees again this winter, pursuing its mission to make Marlow and its surroundings better for both nature and people.

A highlight was the relaunch of the popular Free Family Trees scheme. Releaf Marlow distributed nearly 200 bare-root saplings to more than 75 local households, as well as to Marlow CoE Infant School. Participating residents could request up to three trees each from a choice of ten native species, including several smaller types suitable for gardens. This year's selection included hawthorn, bird cherry, pussy willow, crab apple and silver birch. Bare-root tree stock is only available each winter, while trees are dormant, and is much more economical to source than pot-grown trees.



Releaf Marlow also worked with Buckinghamshire Council to access central government funds for tree-planting projects agreed with landowners over the course of 2023. One of these involved inserting "standards" in a mature hedgerow abutting Marlow Valley Vineyard on Mundaydean Lane. Over time, these trees will add significant visual and nature value without interfering with how the land is managed.

Releaf Marlow also put several new ornamental trees into Gossmore Park in Marlow, replacing ones planted by the Environment Agency that had died.



At Harleyford Golf Course, the group revitalised a strip of decaying woodland between two fairways by planting new understory species including holly, hornbeam and hazel. It planted two new trees in the car park of Travelodge Hotel on Fieldhouse Lane.

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*The group is continuing its efforts to get more street trees planted in Marlow, and to improve survival rates of those planted*

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Releaf Marlow coordinator Nick Rowcliffe thanked all who have supported the initiative over the past year. This includes cooperative landowners and the volunteers who came out in winter weather to help plant trees. He also paid tribute to the Rotary Club of Marlow, which made a helpful donation to Releaf Marlow during 2023.

Meanwhile, the group is continuing its efforts to get more street trees planted in Marlow, and to improve survival rates of those planted.

Releaf Marlow is an initiative of Transition Town Marlow. The group welcomes suggestions for additional locations for trees and volunteers to help with planting and aftercare.

Find out more at [transitionmarlow.org/home/reeleaf](https://transitionmarlow.org/home/reeleaf) or email [reeleaf@transitionmarlow.org](mailto:reeleaf@transitionmarlow.org)



# GMS Eco-Status

*An update on Great Marlow School's eco journey*



Since the last update in the Marlovian, Great Marlow School has been working tirelessly to achieve the following goals: fund an outdoor classroom; finish the pond project; prepare for the Eco-Conference; and plan a trip to Flowerland before spring arrives.

The Outdoor Learning Space is a wonderful concept designed to benefit and enhance the learning of everyone. All our sponsors are thanked for supporting our endeavours.

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*Once again, Flowerland is thanked for its amazing support and contribution to our gardening endeavours*

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The Pond Project is near completion. Installing the decking for health and safety reasons is crucial, and we're delighted to say that Country Supplies have been generous, as have parents, carers and FreshScapes. Wild Marlow has been consulted and is supporting the clearing of the site before the installation begins.

The pond will become one of eight urban ponds in Marlow supporting the biodiversity projects of Marlow's eco-schools.

Recently it has been decided to create a fabulous piece of artwork to improve the aesthetics and well-being of the school community — an eco-mural. It will be an informative piece to help students connect with the natural world by highlighting ecosystems, biodiversity and environments. It will also show how the eco-system survives and thrives on the harmony between humans and the environment. The mural is to be designed by our enthusiastic art students, collaborating with local artist Dan Wilson from Wycombe Arts Centre, who has kindly offered to donate materials for the project.

In February, we took students to the Flowerland garden centre. The outing was joyous, as the choice of beautiful flowers and plants on offer is huge. Once again, Flowerland is thanked for its amazing support and contribution to our gardening endeavours.

Gaps in our hedges are to be filled in with trees donated by Marlow Rotary Club. This funding was facilitated by Head-Girl Mable Daw.

Finally, we are delighted that we are on the Marlow Town Council 'Wild Verges' map; the grass will be kept long and trees will grow wild.

GMS thanks our generous supporters: Veolia, Marlow Round Table, Softcat, Chiltern Rangers, Flowerland, LTL Nature Grant, Marlow Environmental Trust, Wild Marlow, parents and carers.



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## *The Eco-Conference*

On 14th March, in the Sixth Form Centre, GMS is hosting a fabulous conference aimed at educating and building awareness about climate change, environmental issues and eco-friendly measures. It wishes to deliver information on how change can be made in a fun, engaging and sustainable way.

The Eco-Committee has planned a stimulating and gripping symposium centred on the youth of our region. Engaging activities, with a stress on eco-action, are to be led by vendors who have invested in being sustainable and ethical. All pillars of environmental protection — biodiversity, energy, gardening, waste and recycling will be represented.

Attendees are local primary school students in the morning; GMS and Borlase students after lunch; and from 3pm the residents of Marlow. The conference hopes to enlighten people by expanding knowledge and understanding of environmental matters in our school, our town and beyond.

*By Arran Bligh, Eco-Prefect & Theo Papaioannou, Sixth Former*

# One Can Trust

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



The Covid lockdown days saw few positives but for the One Can Trust food bank, the incredible support from our local community was one. The plight of individuals and families, unable to work and make ends meet, was brought to the forefront of people's minds by national and local news and we gratefully saw a huge rise in donations as demand on our service increased three-fold.

Many local residents, particularly children, became Street Heroes and collected food from friends and neighbours before dropping the donations to our warehouse in Duke Street, behind the train station. To this day, our incredible Street Heroes, identified by the yellow boards outside their homes, generate 15% of all donated food. We are hugely grateful for their continued efforts.

Along with all the team at One Can, I'd hoped and expected demand to reduce following the pandemic but with the cost-of-living crisis, sadly the numbers of supported families and individuals has remained alarmingly high – over 600 a week, 45% of which being children. In the final quarter of 2023, we spent, on average, £13K a month on food to bridge the gap between donations and demand; the money being received from Bucks Council, local grant funders, businesses and individual donations.

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*If you could spare an hour or two to help with our much-needed supermarket food drives or packing and delivering food parcels to clients, please get in touch*

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Thank you to everyone who donates to us. Community support is as vital as ever – we simply couldn't manage without it and neither would the families we support, many of whom are often at breaking point.

Another incredibly important source of food is generated from our weekend supermarket food drives where you might see our volunteers, proudly wearing their yellow branded One Can Trust T-shirts, encouraging customer donations. We can be found at Marlow Sainsbury's on the first Saturday and Sunday of every month.

I am so very proud of our charity and how it has grown to support people in their hour of need. From the

volunteer calls made by our Community Support team, reaching out to clients and signposting to extra help, to the children's clothes bank held at the Wesley Church in High Wycombe and to the cookery classes at Hills Café in Micklefield. None of this would be possible if it were not for our amazing and selfless volunteer team – our charity's lifeline.



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## *Why not volunteer?*

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Have you ever thought about volunteering and 'giving something back'? If you could spare an hour or two to help with our much-needed supermarket food drives or packing and delivering food parcels to clients, please get in touch. Perhaps you work for an organisation that is looking to address a social responsibility objective and volunteer in the local community or maybe collect food donations in the office? If so, we'd love to hear from you. If you could help us to reach more people by sharing our social media posts, we'd be hugely grateful.

Thank you for reading today and for your ongoing support. If you'd like more information or are in need of food support yourself, please get in touch:

**01494 512277**  
**[office@onecantrust.org.uk](mailto:office@onecantrust.org.uk)**  
**[www.onecantrust.org.uk](http://www.onecantrust.org.uk)**

Thank you

*Jo Belshaw*  
Operations Manager





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**[volunteer@onecantrust.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@onecantrust.org.uk)**



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# Past & Present

## Marlow Ice Age



The previous 'Marlovian' Magazine included old photographs of the severe flooding in Marlow, late 1894. A few weeks further on came the 'Big Freeze' and here, as promised, are some relevant pictures. However, similar to Ernest Udy's signed photographs of the floods, these are in equally poor condition.

I had always thought that these might also be the work of Mr Udy, who lived in Claremont Gardens, but removing one from its frame for the first time ever I discovered the name of C.Hughes and the caption inserted above.

Without wishing to get involved in discussions about global warming, there is no doubt that winters in past centuries were considerably colder than today, and also lasted longer. The London Thames freezing right across was a regular occurrence, and 'Frost Fairs' on the ice attracted huge crowds and various attractions.

Here in Marlow, the last time the river froze right across was, as seen below, early 1895. I am sure that these days we would be reluctant to take our lives in our hands, as did these brave (or possibly foolhardy) Victorians, especially (amazingly!) the lady with her young child in the pram. The photograph in the poorest condition, lower right, includes a tricycle and a dog if you look carefully.

Up river at Oxford, where the Thames / Isis is a little narrower, there is a picture, possibly by Henry Taunt, in better condition than the below, depicting a stagecoach, passengers, and two horses on the ice.

1963 was the last really bad winter experienced in Marlow. Snow started to fall on Boxing Day 1962 and continued heavily through the following week. It did not completely thaw until late March. The Thames partially froze over, although a strong and fast flowing stream kept the centre free of ice. I doubt if too many locals tried to emulate the scenes of 1895.

In three of the below a tall mast or flagpole is visible next to 'Rye Peck', the house which still adjoins Tierney Court. This pole is assumed to have connections with Shaw's Boathouses, but has disappeared in pictures from the early 1900s. Alongside is the elegant 'Sunnybank', these days replaced by the slightly less elegant 'Dunstable House'.

By the time you read this we will hopefully be into spring, and I wish you a good summer, and perhaps a bit better than 2023.

*Michael Eagleton*

Nostalgia contributor to The Marlow Free Press





# Poppy Appeal

## Marlow Poppy Appeal and Remembrance Sunday



The Poppy Appeal in Marlow has exceeded our expectations since November, with almost £36,400 being raised so far. So a very big thank you to all in Marlow who donated and made this a great year so far. A thank you must also go to all those who have assisted in the Appeal — both Legion members and non-members. A special note of thanks must go to the Sea Cadets, Army Cadet Force and the Air Cadet Corps who collected on the Saturdays of the Appeal fortnight and braved some foul weather. They did magnificently.

Many do not realise that the Poppy Appeal runs throughout the year — from 1st October to 30th September and not just for the two weeks before Remembrance Sunday. The sums raised enable us to help our serving injured servicemen and servicewomen as well as veterans and dependants. It is of vital importance and without your assistance the Royal British Legion would not be able to continue this work.

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*The Parade was supported by an increase in youth participation, which is great to see*

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Remembrance Sunday's Parade has now resumed its post-Covid format and was a great affair last November, with the Buckinghamshire Lieutenancy being represented by Lt Col Simon Wilkinson DL, who also took the salute. The Parade was supported by an increase in youth participation, which is great to see. It is also heartening to see that the town's Remembrance Service is so well supported by an ever-increasing number of attendees who also take part. The number of wreaths laid increases and, as ever, includes a purple wreath to commemorate the animals that suffered in conflict.

This year sees a number of 80th anniversaries from the Second World War, notably the 80th anniversary of the 4th Battle of Monte Casino in Italy (May), the 80th anniversary of D-Day (June), and also the 80th anniversary of Arnhem [Operation Market Garden] (September).

The Poppy Appeal will run this year from Saturday, 26th October through to Monday, 11th November. There's always space for more collectors on our Appeal team during the Appeal fortnight, and we need you to help us provide as many opportunities as possible for people to wear a poppy. Collecting for us is easy and anyone can do it - you don't have to be a Legion member. You do

need to be over 16 to collect on your own but under-16s can collect when accompanied.

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*We need new faces to come forward and lend a hand to the Poppy Appeal. We couldn't achieve all that we do without the volunteers who give their time*

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Every year a number of volunteers and older collectors decide that they are no longer able to assist us. They have well and truly done their bit, and now we need new faces to come forward and lend a hand to the Poppy Appeal. We couldn't achieve all that we do without the volunteers who give their time.

If you can assist in any way please contact either Barbara Murphy or Shaun Murphy on **01628 474482**. Join the Royal British Legion family today and take pride in supporting all generations of the Armed Forces community. You do not have to have been a member of the Armed Forces to join.

Apply by phone: **0800 307 7773** or online at **www.britishlegion.org.uk/membership**. Membership confers the right to join the Royal British Legion Club Marlow, which is not part of the charity and is a stand-alone company. The Club is also classified as a Community Asset and is used by several organisations within Marlow. The Club needs support in these straightened times, so to ensure its longevity do come along and join and support it.



# MARLOW TOWN Regatta & Festival

Marlow's Premier Sporting and Social Occasion

Saturday 15th & Sunday 16th June, 2024



The two-day extravaganza stands as the pinnacle of Marlow's annual sporting and social calendar, solidifying its status as one of the longest-running community events in the area. With a regatta steeped in 150 years of tradition, Marlow has been a gracious host, captivating generations and drawing in crowds by the hundreds of thousands.

The weekend unfolds in the picturesque **Higginson Park**, where a **classic lawn regatta** and a **vibrant garden party** come together. The atmosphere is nothing short of spectacular, as families and friends unite, and local businesses revel in the cheerful surroundings. Picture-perfect picnics unfold along the river within the **Jim Campbell Riverside Enclosure**, blending harmoniously with the **thrilling rowing competitions**.

**The Saturday daytime rowing spectacle**, meticulously organized by the **Marlow Rowing Club**, features participants from **schools, universities, and clubs countrywide**. An exciting addition to the event is the **Cheesy Grape**, providing Riverside feasting in a bedouin teepee alongside the **Round Table Riverside Bar**, offering a grand selection of beverages.

'**The Schools Writing Competition**' explores the theme of '**Swan Life**,' judged by **Marlow's esteemed author and screenwriter, Robert Thorogood**, renowned for his creations such as the beloved series "**Death in Paradise**," **Marlow Murder Club**" books and TV show, as well as "**Beyond Paradise**". The fortunate winner will receive an **exclusive painting by the talented Lizzie Owen**, a cherished addition for their school's display. The enclosure is alive with entertainment, featuring **classic cars, motorcycles, roaming musicians**, and our very own **Marlow Town Band** performing from the bandstand. **This year also marks the debut of the Marlow Thames Rotary Silent Auction.**

**Marlow FM takes to the airwaves** as the afternoon transforms into our '**epic regatta party**,' offering a dynamic blend of music, interviews, and live performances. We're thrilled to welcome back a stellar lineup boasting **swing and jazz by the talented Dave Dunbar**, the return of **Rock 'n' Roll band The Rymatones**, and favourite **Britpop covers by lively local band The Underground**. **The grand finale spotlights** the come back of the DJ set '**Raiders of the Lost Archives**,' showcasing **80s and 90s dance floor hits** from **Kev Kinch, Ian Springell, and Chris Richards** – promising a wonderfully entertaining and energetic evening.

**Sunday ushers in the Festival**, a **FREE event** filled with an incredible sequence of family-friendly entertainment. The highlights include the roaring **Dragon Boat Festival**, **captivating circus acts**, a **combined schools' choir**, **cake baking**, a **dog show**, a **petting farm**, and a **bouncy castle**. The festivities are complemented by an array of **artisan craft and food stalls**.

Convenient car parking is available on the cricket pitch, subject to availability. The Marlow Town Regatta & Festival committee promises a weekend filled with tradition, excitement, and community spirit, ensuring an unmissable event for all.

Tickets go on sale early March @ [www.marlowtownregatta.org](http://www.marlowtownregatta.org)



# Lighthouse 2024

*Volunteer to help at this year's Lighthouse Marlow*

Lighthouse Marlow looks forward to welcoming children and volunteers back to the best week in the summer holidays – 5th to 9th August. Run by volunteers from local churches and the Marlow community, we hope to be able to welcome around 300 children age 5-11 for the week. Lighthouse is always oversubscribed but priority is given to the children of volunteers and those who live in Marlow and/or who attend Marlow schools.

This year we are in a new venue. We will be based in St Peter's School, using both the school building and their outside space, providing plenty of room for children to enjoy the usual Lighthouse activities – mainstage (with plenty of messy games), sport, drama, craft and discovery. The day is broken up into short sessions so all children can take part in all these activities each day.

The day runs from 10am to 3.30pm for children. Volunteers have a slightly longer day – 9am to 4pm. Children aged 12 and over can volunteer as well as

adults. There is a creche for young 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.

We will be open for volunteers to register very soon. We need over 200 volunteers in lots of different roles – helping to set up the site, looking after children during the week, helping to run activities, providing refreshments for volunteers and many admin tasks, both in the run-up to the week and during it. It is great if you can help for one or more days, but some roles just require an hour or two of your time. Could YOU help?

To register as a volunteer please go to [signmeup.org.uk/lighthouse-marlow/1](https://signmeup.org.uk/lighthouse-marlow/1). Children will be registered through the same link from early May.

Any questions? Please email us at [marlow@lighthousecentral.org](mailto:marlow@lighthousecentral.org)





# Marlow Horticultural Society

Events

## *Christmas wreath-making evening*

A festive evening was had by all at the December members' meeting of the Marlow Horticultural Society. Forty members, friends and families came together on 14th December at Liston Hall for a fun evening Christmas wreath-making with refreshments and mince pies.

This was the first time the Society had hosted such an event and we were delighted with the support we received. Tickets were only £5, which made it affordable for everyone. Greenery, wreath rings and various decorative items were included but most people brought their own decorations leading to a great variety of finished items from the traditional holly and berry versions to a full-on candy cane creation with flashing lights. The wonderful thing about having so many people together at the tables meant those with more experience could share ideas and help the first timers. I'm sure Marlow benefited from the many well-adorned front doors this year.

The Marlow Horticultural Society meets every second Tuesday in the month at Liston Court Marlow. Members, new members and non-members are always welcome. For a full programme of this year's events and speakers, please visit our website at [marlowhs.co.uk](http://marlowhs.co.uk) or visit our Facebook page for monthly reminders.





# 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**.

### *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](http://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/report-problems-on-roads-streets-and-pavements](http://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/parking-roads-and-transport/report-problems-on-roads-streets-and-pavements)**

Telephone **01296 383500**

All local planning applications are also available to view online here: **[www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/view-and-comment-on-a-planning-application](http://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/view-and-comment-on-a-planning-application)**

### *Buckinghamshire Council*

One of 55 Unitary Councils in England.

Tel: **01296 395000**



### *Marlow Town Council are responsible for:*

- Events such as: Remembrance Day Service & Parade, Carols on the Causeway, Switch on and Shop, Jubilee and Coronation events, 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
- 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

You can email us directly through our website here: **[www.marlow-tc.gov.uk/contact](http://www.marlow-tc.gov.uk/contact)**  
Telephone **01628 484024**

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter  
**@MarlowTC**

### *Marlow Town Council*

One of 169 Parish/Town Councils in Buckinghamshire Council

Tel: **01628 484024**





# Your Councillors

## Marlow North West Ward

**Cllr David Brown**  
*Mayor / Chairman*  
*Community Committee*  
Mob: 07988 690005  
dbrown@marlow-tc.gov.uk



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



**Cllr Natalia Mityaeva**  
*Chairman Resources*  
Mob: 07881 632820  
nmityaeva@marlow-tc.gov.uk



**Cllr Carol Heap**  
Mob: 07727 469759  
carolheap@marlow-tc.gov.uk



**Cllr Chris Hoyle**  
*Deputy Leader*  
Tel: 07944 151515  
choyle@marlow-tc.gov.uk



**Cllr Neil Marshall**  
Tel: 01628 475615  
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nmarshall@marlow-tc.gov.uk



**Cllr Roger Wilson**  
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## Marlow South East Ward

**Cllr Tim Avery**  
Mob: 07767 640212  
tavery@marlow-tc.gov.uk



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



**Cllr Colleen Stapley**  
*Deputy Mayor / Chairman*  
*Environment & Sustainability*  
Mob: 07784 196821  
cstapley@marlow-tc.gov.uk



## Marlow South Ward

**Cllr Richard Scott**  
*Chairman Planning*  
*Committee*  
Mob: 07740 926184  
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**Cllr Jocelyn Towns**  
Tel: 01628 477914  
Mob: 07715 547251  
jtowns@marlow-tc.gov.uk





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[drinkaware.co.uk](http://drinkaware.co.uk)