



# marlovian

all your news from the community

Autumn 2024



# Thames *Tradition*

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# Mayor's Message

## Autumn welcome

As your Mayor, it is both an honour and a privilege to serve this wonderful community. This year is going by so quickly and I am delighted that during the summer holidays we all finally felt the benefit of some warmer sunny days.

Over the last few months as Mayor, I have been fortunate to be invited to a variety of events. In May, I attended Blanchard's Law office opening and the Marlow Art Trail. In June, at the fabulous Marlow Town Regatta and Festival, it was a great pleasure to help present medals to the winners and to be part of this fantastic Marlow tradition.

*Marlow has always been a place where neighbours look out for one another*

I was really pleased to join in the Borlase 400 celebrations at the end of June, and in July I was invited to attend another event steeped in history and tradition, the annual Swan Upping. Witnessing the ancient ritual of counting and marking swans and the meticulous care and respect with which the Swan Uppers treat these majestic birds was a real privilege.



During August Cliveden Manor Care Home invited me to cut the cake at their 10th anniversary celebrations, and later that evening I attended the Marlow Arts & Craft Exhibition preview.



Marlow has always been a place where neighbours look out for one another, where the spirit of community is alive and well. Whether it's our thriving local businesses, our beautiful parks, or the many events and traditions that bring us together, there is much to be proud of.

As the Chairman of Marlow Town Council, it is my duty — along with that of our Officers and my fellow Councillors — to ensure that Marlow remains a place where everyone feels welcome, safe, and supported. It means listening to your concerns, ideas, and aspirations so that we can shape the future of our town together.

I encourage all residents to engage with their community. Whether through joining one of our fantastic clubs, a community organisation, volunteering, or simply reaching out with your thoughts, your engagement is vital to our collective success. Together, we can build on our strong foundation and make Marlow an even better place to live and work.

Thank you for your continued trust and support. Let us move forward with optimism, determination, and a shared vision for the future of our town.

*Mayor David Brown*



# Town Council News

Autumn 2024



## Hanging baskets

As part of its vision to be the most attractive and vibrant riverside town in the Thames Valley, Marlow Town Council has installed over one hundred hanging baskets in the High Street, Spittal Street, West Street and around the Wiltshire Road roundabout, creating a beautiful display.

Planters have also been installed around the Welcome to Marlow signs and other locations in the town, including the window boxes in Market Square, and there is extensive planting around the War Memorial and the Frohman Statue.



## Bunting

Colourful bunting creates a charming and festive display along the High Street from April to October, transforming the heart of our town into a vibrant and welcoming space. We believe it adds a cheerful aesthetic and fosters a sense of community pride, making Marlow a more attractive destination for tourists and residents to live and shop. At the same time it demonstrates our commitment to celebrating Marlow's unique character and ensuring it remains a lively and inviting town throughout the warmer months.



## Defibrillator list in Marlow

Here is a list of the locations of the defibrillators in Marlow. If you need to use a defibrillator, phone 999 and you will be given the code to open the box. The machine, when turned on, will talk you through what to do. You don't need any training to use one — just call **999**.

- **Marlow Medical Doctors**, The Doctor's House, Victoria Road.
- **Higginson Park** near the Cafe on the wall outside the public toilets. The nearest park entrance is the corner of Pound Lane and Marlow High Street
- **Court Garden Sports Complex** in Pound Lane.
- **Corner of Station Road** and Station Approach in the telephone box opposite the Marlow Donkey
- **Quoting Square** in the telephone box
- **Institute Road** near the Marlow Post Office. The sign is on the wall just past the post office at the entrance to the alley and the defibrillator is on the wall in the alley on the left-hand side
- **Corner of Oak Tree Road** and Seymour Park Road in the telephone box
- **Foxes Piece School**
- **Great Marlow School** in Bobmore Lane
- **Redgrave Sports Centre** in Wycombe Road
- **Sir William Borlase's Grammar School** in West Street
- **Savills** in West Street
- **54 Wycombe Road**
- **Prince of Wales** Public House on external wall
- **St Peters School**, in Prospect Road

Town Council News continued <<

## Deputy Clerk marks 25 years' service to the Council

We are thrilled to extend our heartfelt congratulations to Katherine Joy, the Deputy Clerk of Marlow Town Council, on reaching the remarkable milestone of 25 years of dedicated public service. Katherine's unwavering commitment, exceptional professionalism, and tireless efforts have significantly contributed to the growth and success of our community. Her deep knowledge of Council operations, coupled with her genuine care for the residents of Marlow, has made her an invaluable asset to our team.

Over the years, Katherine has consistently demonstrated her dedication to enhancing the quality of life in Marlow, always going above and beyond to serve with integrity and passion. We are immensely grateful for her many years of service and look forward to her continued contributions in the years to come.

## Remembrance

Marlow's Remembrance Parade and Service will be held on Sunday, 10th November at 10.45am on The Causeway, Marlow. 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 the event.

## Switch On

This year's very popular celebrity Switch On event will be held on Thursday, 21st November. Check our website nearer the time for more up-to-date information.

## Become a sponsor for Marlow's lovely Christmas Lights

It is around this time of year that we think about our Christmas lights and finding the sponsorship for them. The Christmas Lights in Marlow bring such cheer to the town, as well as visitors and shoppers. We so appreciate all those that have sponsored us in the past, and those that will be sponsoring us this year and in the future. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor and would like to find out about sponsor benefits, please contact **office@marlow-tc.gov.uk**.

The date for your diary of this year's Switch On is Thursday, 21st November. The next issue will feature images of our special night and list all our generous sponsors who help us make Marlow sparkle.





# Become A Councillor

*Would you like to be a councillor?*

Would you like to serve your community, influence local decision-making and really make a difference? If so, why not consider standing as a councillor in the May 2025 local elections?

There are roughly 20,000 town or parish councillors in England. Councillors are elected every four years to the local council to represent their local community, so they must either live or work in the area.

The role offers the chance to make a huge difference to the quality of life of people in your local area. Being an effective councillor requires both commitment and hard work. Councillors have to balance the needs and interests of residents, the political party they represent (if any) and the council.

*The chance to make a huge difference to the quality of life of people in your local area.*

The councillor's role centres around community leadership and engagement. Responsibilities include:

- Representing the ward for which they are elected.
- Decision-making, developing and reviewing council policy.
- Scrutinising decisions taken by the councillors.
- Regulatory, quasi-judicial and statutory duties.

*How can I get involved?*

Once you've decided to get involved and stand as a councillor there are two main routes: you can decide to stand for one of the political parties/groups or as an independent.

*Representing a political party*

If you want to represent a political party, then get involved with your party locally as soon as possible. They will advise on what is involved and ultimately select a candidate.

*Standing as an independent candidate*

If you're thinking of standing as an independent candidate, you can contact your council's electoral services department. You will need to become aware of

issues in your local area; what your local council is doing about these issues; and how your own opinion differs from that of the political parties.

*Getting officially nominated*

Whether you've been selected by a party or are standing as an independent candidate, you must make sure that you are officially nominated as the election date draws nearer. This means getting 10 people to sign your nomination papers which are available from Buckinghamshire Council's electoral services department. Signatories must be registered electors in the ward where you wish to stand.

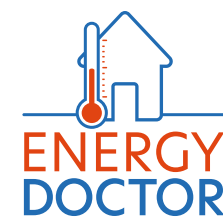
You must also give your consent in writing to your nomination. All the necessary documents must be submitted no later than 19 working days before the day of the election.

For more detailed information please visit:

[www.gov.uk/government/get-involved/take-part/become-a-councillor](http://www.gov.uk/government/get-involved/take-part/become-a-councillor)

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

Or for a more informal chat do pop into the Marlow Town Council offices.



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# Environment Committee

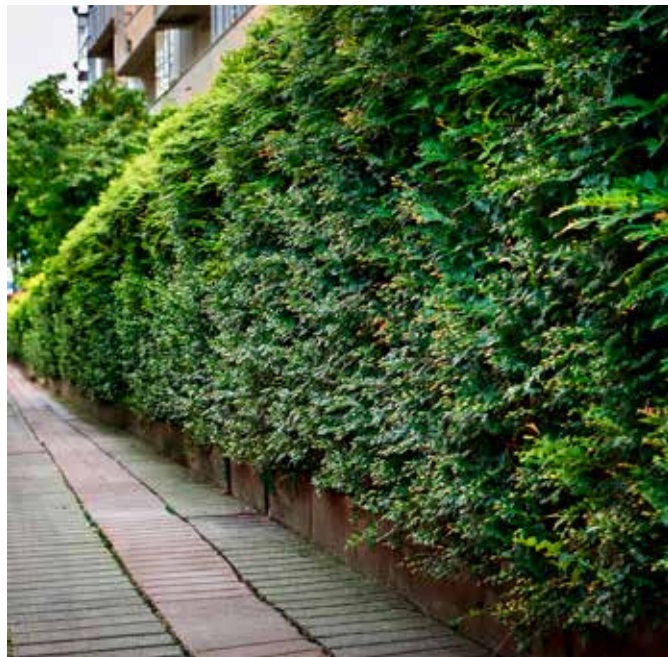
*Keeping footpaths clear for walking is in residents' hands*

It's the height of summer and luckily, we have had less rain and more sun lately which means more people are out and about walking around our beautiful town. Unfortunately, many of these walking journeys by residents and visitors haven't been as enjoyable, or safe, as they should be due to overgrown gardens spilling onto public footpaths.

Vegetation obstructions whether ivy growing over the pavement or plants growing through a fence or over a wall all reduce the physical walking space and make it less safe to use certain footpaths in front of or behind homes. These obstructions may seem like small and inconsequential inconveniences, but they are all safety risks.

*We ask all residents with a property bordering a public footpath to walk on the footpath and see if any of their garden growth is obstructing the usage.*

Obstructions growing on top of pavements can be a trip hazard for walkers and can tangle around pram and scooter wheels causing an accident. Vegetation growing through a fence or over a wall may not touch



the pavement - but it reduces the width and usability. Paths intended to allow two people to easily pass can be narrowed forcing a walker to stop or step off the pavement into the road, while already narrow ones can become completely unusable. Paths obstructed by vegetation are particularly unsafe for individuals with prams, children, visual impairments, mobility scooters and disabilities to use them especially when they need to divert obstacles or step into the road to avoid them.

It is every resident's civic responsibility to cut-back their gardens regularly throughout the year to ensure the public footpaths next to their property are safe. We ask all residents with a property bordering a public footpath to walk on the footpath and see if any of their garden growth is obstructing the usage. If there are any obstructions, we ask that you please cut them back now to the boundary line (which starts at the edge of the pavement and is a vertical line going up). If you have a hedge, please listen and check for nesting birds before cutting – if there are birds please wait until autumn to cut back the hedge.

If you are out walking and come across footpaths where you are forced to physically avoid while on a pavement that doesn't border your property, please follow these steps below.

## *Footpath obstruction reporting:*

- **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.



# 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 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 ensure the best for the residents of Marlow.

If you are in any doubt about who to ask just telephone the office on **01628 484024**.

## *Buckinghamshire Council is 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: <https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling/report-a-missed-bin-collection/>

They have a range of online tools to report problems. You can report potholes, problems with street lighting, highways issues, and issues and complaints regarding 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. Visit <https://fixmystreet.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/>

All local planning applications are also available to view online here:

<https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/view-and-comment-on-a-planning-application/>

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## *Marlow Town Council is responsible for:*

- Events such as: Remembrance Day Service & Parade, Carols on The Causeway, Christmas lights Switch On, 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 and 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 posters and illegal signs on public highway and attached to street furniture

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**Marlow Town Council**  
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Tel: **01628 484024**





# Best Kept Village

*Marlow wins Buckinghamshire Best Kept Village Michaelis Cup*

Marlow has been awarded the Buckinghamshire Best Kept Village Michaelis Cup in the small towns category of the annual competition. The judging, which took place in early June, evaluated various aspects such as green spaces, children's play areas, floral displays, the cemetery, war memorial, nature conservation areas and community engagement.

*Marlow received an impressive 192 points out of a possible 200*


The judging panel praised the town's hanging basket displays, the tidiness of the Cemetery, and the maintenance of The Causeway and War Memorial.

Marlow received an impressive 192 points out of a possible 200.

The competition, based in Buckinghamshire and held annually between June and July, was established in 1957 by Sir Francis Dashwood and the Local Councils' Association. It aims to encourage community collaboration across all age groups to enhance the attractiveness of villages and towns for both residents and visitors.




The Leader of Marlow Town Council, Cllr Chris Funnell stated, "We are proud of this success and see it as a foundation for addressing greater challenges, such as environmental issues. This recognition motivates us to continue improving our community and we would like to thank the council team, community groups and residents for their dedication and support of our entry. "

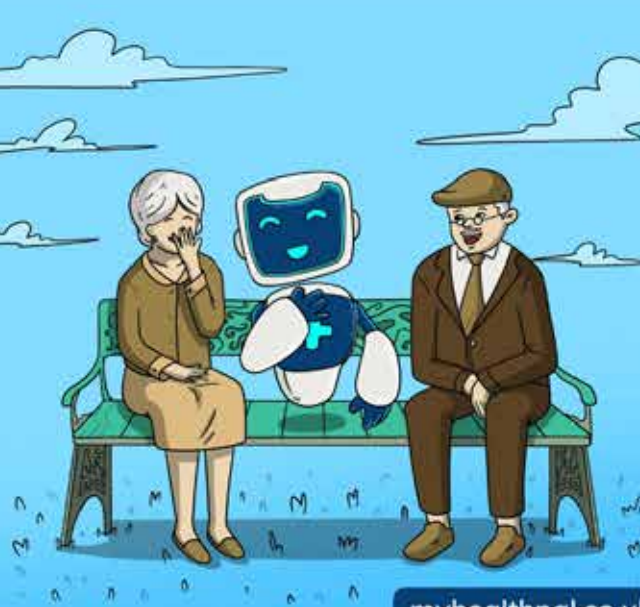







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# Royal Swan Upping

## Mayor joins Swan Uppers on the Thames in Marlow

This summer's Royal Swan Upping took place on Tuesday, 16th July, with the vibrant red outfits of the Swan Uppers providing a colourful sight for walkers along the Thames towpath.

Marlow's Mayor David Brown accompanied the Swan Uppers on the river from Marlow to Cookham and a return to Marlow, where he held a reception at the Two Brewers pub. "I was delighted to be part of this traditional event," he said. "The Swan Uppers ringed cygnets between Cookham and Marlow as part of the process of checking on the health of swans and cygnets on behalf of His Majesty, the King."

Swan Upping is an important event in the calendar each year. It plays a crucial role in the conservation of the mute swan and involves the King's Swan Warden collecting data, assessing the health of young cygnets and examining them for any injuries. Cygnets are extremely vulnerable at this early stage in their development and Swan Upping provides an opportunity to help both adults and cygnets that might otherwise go untreated. Swan

Upping 2024 commenced on July 15th from Sunbury lock and finished at Abingdon on Thames on Friday, 19th July.

According to the Swan Marker, last year saw a considerable downturn in cygnet numbers due to the loss of many breeding pairs during the outbreak of Avian Influenza. "So far this year we have received very few reports of Avian Influenza cases within the swan population in the Thames Valley," David Barber said. "This is very positive; however, the swans are contending with very high water levels and strong streams due to the widespread flooding that has washed many nests away. In some cases, the swans may rebuild their nests, which could result in a late breeding season this year."

Photo credits: (below) Paul Merchant;  
(opposite top & bottom) Jon Perry;  
(opposite middle) Paul Merchant





# Regatta & Festival

Rowing and revelry at Marlow's annual summer event

Marlow Town Regatta & Festival emerged victorious despite a rainy start, as the weather quickly turned, bringing sunshine and uplifting the spirits. Set within the picturesque Jim Campbell Enclosure, Chairman Robin Atkinson warmly welcomed everyone offering heartfelt thanks to dignitaries, sponsors, Marlow Rowing Club, local partners, and volunteers for their contributions to the event's success. The opening ceremony featured prominent figures, including Honorary President Sir Steve Redgrave CBE, DL, Naomi Riches MBE, DL, King's Swan Marker David Barber MVO, acclaimed author and screenwriter Robert Thorogood, known for the *Marlow Murder Mysteries* TV series, and local artist Lizzie Owen. Naomi Riches praised Marlow Rowing Club's pivotal role in adaptive rowing, highlighting our teamwork in hosting the inaugural Chelton Cup, an 'Open Adaptive' rowing event. David Barber emphasised the importance of preserving the riverside environment. Meanwhile, Sarah Campbell, Vice Chair, introduced Robert Thorogood, who announced the winners of the Schools Writing Competition. Lizzie Owen showcased her winning painting, "Swan Life," before Sir Steve Redgrave officially opened the Regatta & Festival for its 24th year. Super Saturday united the community for a vibrant day of rowing, with emphasis on Adaptive and Junior races. The enclosure was alive with the sounds of families, friends, and local businesses enjoying riverside picnics in the buzzing atmosphere. The classic car and motorbike show, including the debut of the 'Wells Vertige,' added a nostalgic charm. Marlow FM energised the crowd broadcasting live, setting the stage for the evening's 'Regatta Party.' The musical line-up presented jazz

by Dave Dunbar, rock 'n' roll from *The Rymatones*, and Britpop covers by *The Underground*. The Roundtable Riverside Bar served an array of beverages, complemented by gourmet food stalls, and the Marlow Town Band filled the air with summer tunes. As evening fell, the *Raiders of the Lost Archives* DJ Set, featuring Chris Richards, Ian Springwell, and Kev Kinch, had everyone dancing with classic hits. Festival Sunday, blessed with beautiful weather, offered a day packed with family entertainment. Highlights included the roaring Dragon Boat Festival, a moving Sunday service from Marlow Churches Together, and spectacular performances by Jam Theatre Company and Pedal Power V Parkour. Katy Kartwheel of Circus Passion captivated the audience, while Sheila Wilson's Schools' Choir delivered a heartfelt performance of enchanting original songs. Crowds enjoyed a variety of activities, from cake baking and a dog show to a petting farm and bouncy castle, amidst artisan craft and food stalls. With great thanks to our generous sponsors: Blaser Mills Law, Chelton, Pink Affinity, Softcat, The Shanly Foundation, Trio Flooring Ltd, The Marlow Cheese Co, Flow Marlow, Hutchins Marine, and Traylens Funfair. Thank you for your support this year! Mark your calendars on June 14th and 15th, 2025 for our 25th anniversary!

Photos: (top left to right) Schools Writing Challenge, overall winner Ashwath Singh; Schools Boat Race - Great Marlow winners; Dragon Boat Festival Winners - Leo Gym; (bottom left to right) Chelton Cup presented by Chelton VP of Engineering; Marlow Regatta & Festival opening



# Running For A Cause

Marlow Half Marathon, The Frankenstein, and Marlow 7 2024



We're thrilled to announce that entries are open for the 2024 Marlow Half Marathon, The Frankenstein, and Marlow 7 – happening at 9:30am on Sunday, 3rd November!

This is a community event with all profits going to support Marlow Sports Club, and local charities. Last year we raised a total of £24,000 to support these organisations and with your help we are aiming to better that this year.

Starting in front of the iconic Marlow Bridge and with fantastic crowd support as you race up the High Street, you'll embark on a memorable journey. All three races

provide miles of scenic running on virtually traffic-free country lanes.

Whether you're up for the Half Marathon, The Frankenstein's 10km multi-terrain adventure, or the classic Marlow 7 miler, we've got a route you'll love. The Chiltern Hills may pose a challenge, but the breath-taking beauty of this area will inspire you every step of the way.

Enter at [marlowhalfmarathon.co.uk](https://marlowhalfmarathon.co.uk)





# Marlow Rides Again

*The Fun Ride made a welcome return this year*

After an absence of five years, the annual Fun Ride was held once again in Wittington Estate, the beautifully maintained home of SAS Software at Medmenham. A record number of primary school children applied to enter the event, which consisted of various cycling activities designed to test riders' bike handling skills. Apart from demonstrating safety awareness, riders had to negotiate a twisty agility course and an unusual obstacle course that featured, amongst other things, an "electric shock" tunnel.

It also included a human obstacle in the form of an angry pirate who challenged riders with execution if they failed to, "walk the plank" safely. Long John Silver looked very like the Deputy Manager at our local Marks and Spencer's and, since his trophy bag contained lots of tasty refreshments, his threatening presence was tolerated. As far as we know, none of the participants was drowned!

Everyone who completed the event was awarded with a medal, presented by Marlow's Mayor, Cllr David Brown. He congratulated everyone for talking part and reminded parents that the town is keen to encourage all students to walk or cycle to school, where it is safe to do so. Councillor Brown also congratulated Marlow Rotary and local church members for arranging the ride. Malcolm McDonald thanked the Mayor on behalf of all the volunteers. He stressed its success relied very much on the generous support of local High Street businesses, including Saddle Safari and Bonner & Babington Estate Agents.

Thankfully no one was drowned or seriously electrocuted but it was good to have Bucks Search & Rescue there, just in case. Next year's ride is already being planned for 8th June 2025.

See you next year!



Events

# Santa's Fun Run 2024

*Event website now open to entrants. Book early to save money*

The Rotary Clubs of Marlow are pleased to announce that the 2024 Marlow Santa's Fun Run celebrates 20 consecutive years on Sunday 1st December at 9.30am with entrants congregating at Higginson Park, Marlow, from 8am on the day. Entrants can organise teams to raise money for their own favourite charities – or to raise more money for Rotary selected charities.

*On Sunday, 1st December we want the course to be a sea of red Santas*

The £15,000 "Charity Pool" has been made possible because of the fantastic generosity of a number of local organisations – specifically:

- The Shanly Foundation (lead sponsor)
- Softcat (core sponsor)
- The Clare Foundation
- The Heart Of Bucks Foundation
- Grundon Waste Management

For the sixth consecutive year The Shanly Foundation takes on the role of lead sponsor, and the organisers are delighted to confirm that local company Softcat has again agreed to become a core sponsor. A wide range of other sponsors, advertisers and supporters also contribute to this great event.

All three Rotary Clubs in Marlow are involved in running the event. Marlow Thames Rotary Club President Higel Lanchbury says: "On Sunday, 1st December we want the course to be a sea of red Santas. We want to create a fantastic fun weekend that includes teams from local businesses, schools, churches, charities, scout and guide groups, families, neighbourhoods, clubs – all running or walking for a great cause. Come and join us!"

This year the two lead charities are:

Helen & Douglas House

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

British Heart Foundation

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





# Neighbourhood Watch

*Do you live in an Easy Street?*

Burglars are often opportunistic thieves who prey on houses and flats. They seek out any opening that they can take advantage of, specifically doors and windows that are left open or unlocked or are easy to force.

- Point of entry is gained by burglars using ladders, garden furniture or drainpipes to get on top of flat roofs.
- They will then enter through a bedroom window to gain access to the upstairs of the property.
- Jewellery seems to be the main target; however all valuables are at risk, especially if easy to grab and go.
- The best advice is to take preventative measures to minimise the chances of becoming a victim.
- Lower fences at the front — around one metre high — are preferable to high fences as they allow for a clear view over the top and don't provide cover for anyone wishing to hide.
- At the rear and sides, taller fencing is recommended to prevent easy access.
- Trellis, thorny plants, or a suitable anti-climb topping such as plastic spikes make it difficult for anyone climbing over a fence or gate.
- Gravel driveways and paths will make sure you hear anyone approach.



## Distraction burglary

Distraction burglars will pretend to be someone they are not, so it's important you are aware of the common methods they use to get you to let them into your property.

- Pretending to be from a care agency, the council or a utility company investigating a gas or water leak.

*If you open the door, put the chain on first, always ask for ID and check it with the company before letting somebody into your home*

- Seeking help to leave a note for a neighbour or even asking for a drink of water if they claim to be thirsty or unwell.
- Claiming to be in a hurry or emergency and needing to get into your home quickly.
- Working in teams, with one person distracting you while the other searches your home.

If you open the door, put the chain on first, always ask for ID and check it with the company before letting somebody into your home. Use the phone number advertised in the phone book or online, as the number on their identity card could be fake. For a utility company, call the customer service department. Close the door while you do this.

If you feel threatened or in danger by the presence of the caller, call **999**.



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# Marlow Four Seasons Club

*New members welcome at friendly social club*

On the first Wednesday of each month (excluding January) the friendly Four Seasons Club meets at 10am in Liston Hall. Each month we have entertainment by a variety of guest speakers, which recently have included, wildlife photographer Tim Hartwell, showing us his amazing slides and speaking of his life as a BBC wildlife photographer, Marlow's very own 'Mary Shelley' (aka Nicola Metcalf) enthralled us with her thrilling tales of by gone Marlow, and Tony Eaton intrigued us with a talk on 'The Disappearance of Glen Miller'. These are just a few of the many interesting speakers so far this year.

Popular with members are our coach trips, and this year so far we have visited The London Museums, Exbury Gardens, The Downland Museum (Home of the Repair Shop), Portsmouth/Southsea, and many of us enjoyed

a cream tea onboard The Tenterden Steam Railway. Further trips this year include, Lichfield Arboretum, The Cotswolds and Christmas shopping at London's popular shopping destination Battersea Power Station.

A big attraction within the club are the twice a year holidays, in May a good time was had in Great Yarmouth with daily trips out including a boat trip on the Norfolk Broads, with great entertainment in the evenings. A 'Turkey and Tinsel' holiday to Lytham St Annes will be the members next destination in November.

At each meeting we have a raffle, Bring and Buy book sale, puzzle table and refreshments. Do come along and join our friendly club, new members are very welcome. Join us in Liston Hall or for further information call **01628 486596**.





# National Trust Association

Marlow association celebrates it's 40th anniversary

More than 60 members of the Marlow National Trust Association (MNTA), including past and present Chairmen, gathered to celebrate the association's 40th anniversary with a tea party in the town's Methodist Church Hall on Sunday, 23rd June. The warmth of the occasion was matched by the weather, as ladies turned out in their red summer dresses and men sported ruby red ties.

Local historian Michael Eagleton entertained guests with a trip back in time to the Marlow of days gone by, showing a selection of 50 slides from his extensive collection of vintage photographs, assisted by the Marlow Society's Adam Baxter, who manned the projector. Members also reminisced about MNTA holidays and outings from the last 20 years and national events of the past four decades, as portrayed in Chairman John Smith's witty film show.

Afternoon tea was served and everyone tucked into a scrumptious spread of home-made cakes and scones, baked by members of the committee, including a special

strawberry 40th anniversary cake, made by the MNTA's own 'star baker', Alison Pearce.

Congratulation cards from the National Trust's Regional Director and Supporter Group Co-ordinator were read out and a toast was made to the past and future success of the MNTA. Almost £500 was raised from the event and this will be donated to local National Trust property Nuffield Place, at Huntercombe, near Henley-on-Thames.

Marlow National Trust Association was founded in 1984 and has a lively programme of monthly speaker's evenings, monthly outings and holidays twice a year in the UK and abroad. The MNTA gives support to all our local National Trust properties, covering the Cliveden Estate, Hughenden Manor, which includes West Wycombe, and Greys Court, which includes Nuffield Place.

For more information and details of how to join MNTA, please call John Smith, MNTA Chairman on **01628 484156** or email **Chairman.marlownta@gmail.com**



## If you love Marlow and want to be part of a great cause, then why not join the Marlow Society?

We are the Civic Society for the lovely town of Marlow - and the surrounding villages. Our mission is "Supporting Marlow's Future".

With around 800 members, The Society is well placed to make a real difference to Marlow, ensuring the appropriate development and preservation of the Town and surrounding villages, such as Bisham, Medmenham, and Little Marlow.

Future generations are then assured of enjoying the unique qualities of living and working in a town of such character.

The Marlow Society was formed over 60 years ago - when plans were announced to tear down our iconic 200-year-old bridge and replace it with a modern concrete structure. This is how The Marlow Society came about and worked hard to retain our iconic bridge

The Exec committee work closely with our local Town and County Councillors at a series of monthly meetings to achieve positive outcomes on a host of issues. This includes air pollution, parking provision and traffic congestion, through to properly maintaining parks and pedestrian routes.

The Society recognises Marlow is now becoming a "Destination Town" and should have the right capacity for central Marlow parking.

A new Marlow Society website ([www.marlowsociety.org.uk](http://www.marlowsociety.org.uk)), holds a raft of information, including "The Library" - a vast resource of historic information. The Society now has an Instagram account ([themarlowsociety](https://www.instagram.com/themarlowsociety)) so do take a look at some of the latest concerns and updates the Society is working on.

Our Local History Group is dedicated to the research and education of the rich history of the Town and the four parishes. They run a series of monthly talks - both on Zoom and in person - on a range of interesting topics. And our walking programme offers a range of rewarding excursions, including Town walks.

**If you love Marlow then do join us. Being a member will make a real difference to our cause by helping to get our message heard. Annual membership starts at just £7.**



**Please scan this code to gain access to the application form on the Marlow Society website.**

As a member you will receive a regular newsletter, giving updates on local planning and heritage issues, an invitation to our Annual General Meeting and an opportunity to meet up at our Summer Garden Party.

**If you would like to have a say in shaping Marlow's future, please join us now!**



Photo: Past and present MNTA Chairmen and Committee members.



# The Marlow Society



# Marlow Museum

## The writers of Marlow

Are you an avid reader of novels? Did you know that Marlow has an outstanding relationship with well-known writers of the past and the present? Curious?

The Marlow Museum at Court Garden has recently completed a makeover of its premises and has opened its summer exhibition: 'The Writers of Marlow – from Frankenstein to Noddy'. The exhibition celebrates the town's rich local history through the lives and works of famous literary greats including (of course) the Shelleys, JK Jerome, Edgar Wallace and Enid Blyton. With the assistance of the Marlow Writers Society, The Marlow



Society, Eton College, Jonkers Rare Books, The Marlow Bookshop and supported by the Rotary Club of Marlow, the event offers a blend of interesting books, first editions, personal letters and objects. Each exhibit offers an author's story and their time.

The exhibition opens Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday afternoons. Entry is free but donations are always appreciated. Further details are on the website – marlowmuseum.org – but visitors are welcome to call in for a look and a chat. As well as arranging displays the museum also attends local events, schools and care homes. Bookings from groups at other times and days are often accepted. We might see you, for example, at our stand at the Marlow Carnival on 14th September, and if you attended the 'Borlase Bash' in July you may have seen us there.

Events like this one take a lot of preparation and organising, especially as the museum is run entirely by volunteers. If you'd like to be involved, say, as a steward, or can offer certain management skills or charity experience, why not consider joining us? We have regular get-togethers on the fourth Wednesday of each month, at Mel's Café in the Court Garden Leisure Centre from 2-3pm. You are welcome (mine's a cappuccino by the way!) or phone me, Michael, on **01628 485474**.

*Michael Hyde*  
Chairman



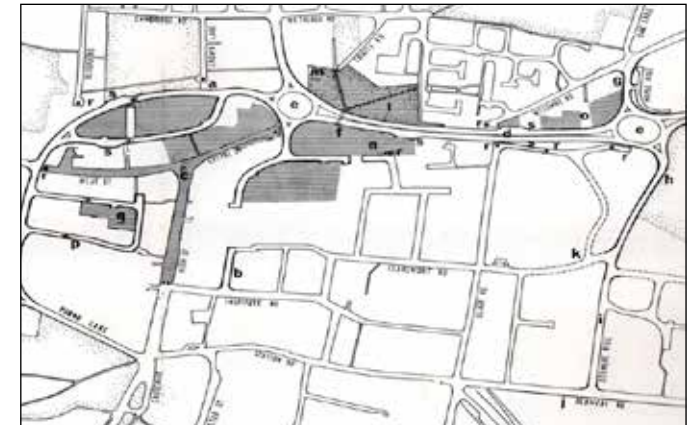
# History Of Marlow

## Pedestrianisation plans of the past

About 10 years ago, in the Marlow Free Press, I reproduced some crudely drawn maps and illustrations proposing a Marlow Bypass to the north of the Town Centre and the pedestrianisation and closure to all traffic of West Street, Spittal Street (they spell it Spital) and two thirds of the High Street, the latter to have flower beds in the centre. All this some years before the bypass we have now, and when the Rookery site remained undeveloped. Portlands Alley was to be widened to be a part of the bypass. Some readers thought it was my April Fool's joke, being around that date: the upheaval, the years of construction and the demolition of much housing seemed ridiculous. I have now obtained a more official folder dated February 1965 and published by the Departments of Architecture, Planning and Highways for Buckinghamshire confirming the plans. Pencilled on the cover is 'J.D.H 30.3.65'. I wonder if that might have been Councillor John Hester. And what the Town Council thought of the scheme – the final decision was not, apparently, in their hands. Other towns have found pedestrianisation of main streets has been a mistake. I think we can all give thanks that this never happened!

*Michael Eagleton*

Nostalgia contributor to The Marlow Free Press



a. Half dual carriageway. One way traffic, b. Service road as development requires, c. West Street, Spital Street and High Street north of Institute Road can now be closed to traffic, d. Dual carriageway from by-pass to Dean Street, e. First two roundabouts, f. Pedestrian underpass from Rookery site to central area, g. Maple Rise realigned, h. New local distribution to ease the congestion on Dedmere and Newtown roads, i. Dedmere Rise made up, j. Dedmere Road widened, k. Residential roads as developments advance



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