Your independent village newsletter, produced ten times a year, omitting August and January. Delivered free to every home in Marsworth.

Items for next month's newsletter by the 18th of the month.
No issue in August or January.

Email to: editor@ marsworthnews.co.uk

Adverts to: advertising@ marsworthnews.co.uk

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Plus much more!

#### Serving the village and parish of Marsworth

## Marsworth murmurations

The wondrous sight of the starling murmurations has graced Marsworth reservoirs since the beginning of February. They come together in small groups and the murmuration grows as the starlings swirl and fold for around 45 minutes until they then drop down to roost. They used to roost in the reedbeds at Marsworth Reservoir but these days they are seen dropping down beyond Tringford Reservoir.

Word seems to have spread, and more and more people come to watch - from further afield as well as locals. People arrive early to get the best spot, either at Little Tring or between Startops and Tringford reservoirs where the brick wall is full of spectators sitting ready. It's such a great atmosphere and the birds don't disappoint. At Marsworth Reservoirs cars slow down to ask what everyone is gathering to look at.

Martin Rance has shared some beautiful photos on *Everything Marsworth*; framed prints of his work are on display for sale at The Red Lion.

#### The technical bit

Starlings are known as 'partial migrants': birds that migrate in some places but not in others. Our own starlings tend to stay put while those from colder countries in eastern Europe head to our shores during the winter months, swelling our numbers during autumn and winter to form impressive flocks.

As dusk arrives, the starlings set off for their communal roost in one of the most staggering natural spectacles of all. Flocks arrive from all directions, gathering in the skies above their roost sites. As the numbers reach the hundreds of thousands, the 'murmuration' (the name for a flying flock of starlings) takes on incredible

shapes in the sky, contracting and expanding as one flock merges into another, and taking on a life of its own, swirling back and forth in ever more complex and beautiful patterns.

Scientists believe that murmurations offer safety in numbers; protection from predators like peregrine falcons that are attracted by the sheer number of birds. After all, it can't be easy to single out just one starling from a whirling group of hundreds or even thousands! Experts still aren't completely sure how each starling knows which way to turn without bumping into the others.

Starling murmurations take place at dusk and early evening in the autumn and winter months in the UK, and always form over the birds' communal roosting site. As the numbers reach their peak and the last of the light fades, the birds suddenly decide the time is right, as if by a secret signal. They funnel down into the reeds and trees in one last whoosh of wings, and the show's over. The birds then settle down to sleep.

"The sight of thousands of starlings swooping overhead in perfect formation is one of the UK's most incredible wildlife phenomena".

Caroline Smith, plus information from the internet.

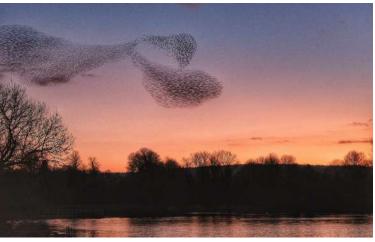


Photo: Martin Rance

## Marsworth News

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**Thank you** To all our volunteer distributors who deliver *Marsworth News* to every home in the parish.

#### Items for Marsworth News

Please send items preferably well before Copy Date - 18th of the month (other than July and December).

Marsworth News is also published online on the Marsworth Parish website. Back copies from November 2021 can also be viewed here: https://www.marsworth.org.uk/the-marsworth-news/

#### Village Hall defibrillator

Guidelines for usage of the defibrillator at the Hall are available on the Marsworth website: www.marsworth.org.uk



#### The Bucks Herald

Please send items about upcoming events, or other items of local interest, however small, to: Kate Andrew 01296 668727 / 07963 180466 or kate.andrew@btinternet.com

## Diary Dates - March 2024

11th Monday 8.00pm Parish Council meeting

24th Sunday 11.00am Litter pick

#### Coming events

20th March Bag2School collection (by 19th March please)

16th June Marsworth Steam Rally

#### **Editorial**

By Sandra Costello

Spring is on its way, with milder weather, blossoming blackthorn and snowdrops and daffodils doing their best to cheer us up. Sprinklings of greenery can be spotted in hedges in milder spots, but the towpaths and fields are still soggy for walking.

One of the things I enjoy about this editing job is learning about subjects that crop up. The wonderful topic of the starling murmurations got me looking online, as did that of the RAF Halton changes coming and I now know about the changing dates of Easter. I am also now aware of Men in Sheds, which is

apparently quite a thing in Britain and in many countries of the world.

It is lovely to have a first item about the Marsworth Archive, which I started back in the 1980s and expanded enthusiastically ever since. It is now in the excellent hands of Jonny and Jo Taylor of Church Lane. I was always very happy to share information with anyone who enquired, and I am sure they will be the same. Is there something you would like to know about your house, or somewhere in Marsworth?

We have another offering for a Local Treasure - do feel free to suggest a favourite place of yours that others might not know about.

#### **Recycling information**

For your own bin collection day, go to: https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling/ find-out-when-its-your-bin-collection/



## Marsworth

Send us your Photos, Articles and items of interest Help us make Marsworth News!

Send to editor@marsworthnews.co.uk

#### **Marsworth Food Bank**

We are extremely grateful for all the donations that have been received.

We would very much welcome donations of:

- Tins of soup, fruit, rice pudding, custard, baked beans, etc.
- Tea. coffee and biscuits.

Donations may be left in the box in the porch of All Saints church or at 'Karibu', Vicarage Gardens.

Thank you on behalf of the Marsworth Food Bank Team.



9.00am-12.30pm

Dates for 2024

9 and 23 March 13 and 27 April 11 and 25 May 8 and 22 June 13 and 27 July 10 and 24 Aug 14 and 28 Sep 12 and 26 Oct 9 and 23 Nov 7 and 21 Dec

# Parish Council meeting February 2024 - precis

For full Minutes of all meetings, future agendas and other information go to www.marsworth.org.uk/marsworth -parish-council.



#### The White Lion bridge

Cllr Town is to ensure that this will be put on an urgent works list for the road (Lower Icknield Way) going over the bridge to be repaired and for the gulleys to be cleaned.

#### Re-surfacing of bridge by the Recreation Ground

Cllr Town to ascertain why this area had been resurfaced as it was a no-through road except for emergency access and did not seem to be in need of repair, and yet the very large potholes along Watery Lane - reported in August - had not been repaired.

## Matted area for disabled parking at the Recreation Ground

It was agreed to draw down some of the Section 106 money to provide an additional 15 metre area of disabled parking for organised and marshalled events. This would give a total of 30 metres.

#### Caravan Illegally parked at Startops car park

Canal & River Trust had the caravan removed on 14th February.

#### MPC Budget for 2024/25

The budget for 2024/25 was signed off and can be found on https://www.marsworth.org.uk/marsworth-parish-council/annual-accounts/

#### **Next MPC Meeting**

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Monday 11th March. Any items for the agenda should be submitted to the Parish Clerk by Sunday 3rd March. All members of the public are welcome to attend but please let the Parish Clerk know in advance if you plan to be present parishclerk@marsworth.org.uk).

# Marsworth Village Hall 100 Club



#### February winners - £20

- 44 Lynda Brake, Lower Icknield Way
- 41 Ron and Sue Busby, Lower Icknield Way
- 109 Mrs Kay Pinnock -, Norvic Road
- 10 John and Judith Kaye, Startops Haze
- 120 Alon Josefsberg, Vicarage Road

The next draw will take place on Wednesday 6th March at the Village Hall. As usual all are welcome to attend and good luck to all for the next draw.

Stephanie Hurley

#### **Marsworth Parish Councillors**

 Bob Kennedy (Chairman)
 01296 661533

 Ray Brown
 01296 661211

 Denise Cornwall
 07501 783807

 Giles Monks
 01296 662104

 Chris King
 01296 660019

 Steve Smith
 07753 744437

 Robert John
 07768 004337

**Caroline Smith -** Clerk to MPC - :07557 289049 email: parishclerk@marsworth.org.uk

#### Parish Council meeting dates 2024

8.00pm in Village Hall

11 March 12 August
8 April inc. Annual Parish Mtg 9 September
13 May (Bank Hol. 6 May) 14 October
inc. Annual Mtg of Council 11 November
10 June 9 December
8 July

# Marsworth Recreation Ground Policy

Marsworth Parish Council wishes that the Recreation Ground be of benefit to parishioners and other members of the public alike. It is committed to ensuring it shall remain an open space for the enjoyment of pastimes by the public and will not wilfully obstruct, deny or prevent such enjoyment unreasonably. It does reserve the right to act as it sees fit for the preservation of the Recreation Ground for the majority of parishioners.

MPC is open to suggestions, comments and advice from parishioners and welcomes such at Parish Council meetings, the dates of which are displayed on both the Parish Council notice boards and the website: www.marsworth.org.uk and in the newsletter – see above.

An initial enquiry for use of the ground for a charity event should be submitted to the Parish Clerk – parishclerk@marsworth.org.uk - a minimum of six weeks before use and with proof of insurance and risk assessment.

The full recreation ground policy can be found on: https://www.marsworth.org.uk/marsworth-parish-council/ policy-documents-standing-orders/.

#### Tring Local History Museum

9 Brook St, Tring HP23 5ED

The history of Tring and the local area

Open: Fridays and Saturdays 10am to 4pm

The Museum is entirely volunteer run and entrance is FREE.



#### All Saints Church

I write this on St. Valentine's Day, an 8th century Christian, martyred in Rome for his religious beliefs, and still remembered to this day.



Now that Spring appears to be well and truly here I am reminded of a monologue by Bernard Miles, a broadcaster who was very familiar with this area, particularly with Ivinghoe and Ivinghoe Aston which goes something like this: The vicar was walking round the parish and glanced over a hedge to see an immaculate garden. He spoke to the man tending it and said, "What a wonderful example of God's work!" To which came the rather dry reply, "Yes, but you should have seen it when He had it to Himself!" The point I make is that God is there for us, but it is down to us to use our time and talents to make it happen.

Today is Ash Wednesday which marks the commencement of the period of the beginning of Lent. This comprises forty days and nights and marks the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, a period of self-discipline and preparation for his death and glorious resurrection. Many Christians acknowledge this time by not only self-denial but also in participating in activities such as Lent courses, or reading or any activity that enhances one's faith. Some will take on a commitment that would be otherwise well outside their normal routine.

Lent is followed by Easter, which this year falls much earlier than usual just within the month of March.

John White, Churchwarden

#### Services for March 2024

Sunday 3rd March

9.15am Common Worship Holy Communion

Sunday 10th March

**Book of Common Prayer Holy Communion** 8.30am

Sunday 17th March

9.15am Common Worship Holy Communion

Sunday 24th March

4.00pm Evensong with distribution of Palms

25th to 27th March

Complines - times and venues to be advised.

Friday 29th March

2.00pm Good Friday Hour of the Cross reflection.

## SAINT BARISTA POP-UP CAFE

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m S}$ aints,  ${
m M}$ arsworth

 $W_{ ext{ED}}$  |  $T_{ ext{HUR}}$  |  $F_{ ext{RI}}$ 11.00am - 3pm

A warm welcome awaits you!

#### Why does Easter change dates?

With the annual change from April to March and back again, it's not always easy to keep track of the Easter date. Unlike Christmas, the date of Easter changes every year. It comes early this year, falling on the last Sunday of the month, March 31st. This is ten days earlier than last year's April 9th date. Next year, Easter is back to the month of April, falling much later than the past two years on April 20th 2025.

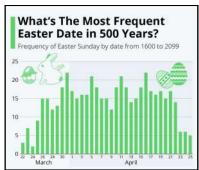
#### Ash Wednesday 2024

Ash Wednesday signals the 40-day period leading up to Easter, called Lent, when observants typically 'give up' some earthly pleasure (wine, chocolate, sugar) as a form of penance. Lent is an acknowledgment of the 40 days the Bible says Christ spent in the wilderness.

Because Ash Wednesday begins the Lenten season, its date is always exactly 46 days before Easter (40 days of Lent, plus six, as each Sunday is skipped) and thus is affected directly by what date Easter falls on that year. This year, Ash Wednesday fell on Wednesday, 14th February (coinciding with Valentine's Day).

#### Easter 2024

So why is Easter on a different date each year? The holiday, which celebrates Christ's resurrection from the grave following his crucifixion, can occur any Sunday between 22nd March and 25th April.



Easter's exact date varies so much because it actually depends on the moon. The date is set to coincide with the first Sunday after the Paschal Full Moon, the first full moon after the vernal equinox. Though the equinox's exact date can vary each year, the church always recognizes the vernal equinox as March 21st.

So why does Easter come after the Paschal Full Moon? Early Christians wanted Easter to coincide with Passover, because Christ's death and resurrection happened after the Jewish holiday. Because the Jewish calendar is tied to solar and lunar cycles, the dates of Passover and Easter fluctuate each year.

#### Who's Who at All Saints Marsworth

www.achurchnearyou.com/All-Saints-Marsworth



Vicar: James Grainger-Smith 01296 297915 j.grainger-smith@sky.com Churchwarden: John White: 01296 662252 horse.71shoe@sky.com

#### PCC members:

Ken Longhurst 01296 660711 k.c.longhurst@talk21.com Gavin Merrylees 01296 668046 gavin.merrylees@gmail.com Gill White 01296 662252 horse 71shoe@sky.com (Treasurer) Jenny Shiels 01296 668230 sheils.j@btinternet.com Ruth Monks 07751 430323 ruthmonks@btinternet.com

Church flowers:

Gill White 01296 662252 horse.71shoe@sky.com

Bellringers tower captain Richard Booth 07850 038197 rbooth.maffers@talktalk.net

Neil Gurney 07732 721953

#### Food Bank:

Richard Cooper 01296 661725 richard.bennettcooper@outlook.com

Church mowing: Gavin Merrylees 01296 668046 gavin.merrylees@gmail.com

Church cleaning: Elsie Beesley 01296 668492 elsiebeesley@aol.com

#### The Marsworth Archive

No one living in Marsworth can be unaware of the heritage of our lovely village. A visit to the Church will lead you to a sign in the lych gate proclaiming the village's listing in the Domesday Book, compiled by William the Conqueror in 1086. The survey listed 30 households in the village, a not insignificant size for the

period, and the lord was Ralph Bassett. To have such a sense of our history all around us is part of the appeal of living here, and the adage that every

feature and every

Kadulf baffer ven de Rabio MISSEVERSE MERLA P see ho le deft. The execut In In one fore and to see which the second in the fore and the second in the second i

> Marsworth's entry in the 1086 Domesday Book

person has a story to tell, makes it important that we all share in preserving and sharing our common heritage.

As former teachers of history, when the request for a new custodian of the Marsworth Archive was published in the Newsletter last year, it felt like too good an opportunity to miss.

The village owes a great debt of gratitude to Sandra Costello for the incredible work she has put in. She has amassed an impressive library of documents, photos, reference books, maps and digital records over a period of over 30 years that enable us



Just part of the Archive in its new home

to chart the development of the village through time. This has been the product of careful research and we would like to thank Sandra for her tireless work and for handing over such a well-organised and impressive collection. She will be a hard act to follow and we are very grateful that she is here to guide us!

We arrived in Marsworth two years ago and love the village, but are also acutely aware that we are mere novices in terms of its history and that we are surrounded by many long-standing residents whose families date back many generations. We have a lot to learn!

This includes our own house – 'Rookery Nook' on Church Lane. It was originally three workers' cottages, which subsequently were joined over time into one, with a garage added. Piecing together the narrative of a building is both challenging and extremely rewarding. Much work remains to be done, but there are plenty of clues to be found.

This auction of 1842 (see following photo) may refer to the cottages (Lot 2) in Church Lane, but they could be unrelated. Conveyancing documents from the 1920s suggest they were converted from three to two.

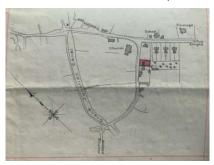
Our journey of discovery for our own house is only just beginning, but we are very conscious that within the village there are those who have lived in Rookery Nook, have visited it and even sat in the garden whilst their father worked in it!

All of which brings us to the point – that we are looking for your help with moving the Archive forward. We want to tap into the knowledge, experience and collective memory of those residents who have been here much longer than us.

We would like to hear your memories of village life and also suggestions for what we should be working on. Do you have

VOTES FOR BUCKINGHAMSHIRE Very Desirable Freehold Property at MARSWORTH, BUCKS. To be Sold by Auction, by
Mesers. HORNER and SON,
At the Red Lien Inu, Marsworth, on Wednesd:
20th day of January, 1842, at Two o'Clock
Afternoon, by Direction of the Devisees in Tri
the Mortgagees of the late Mr. Wm. Pickett,
to such Conditions as shall be produced at the
Sale. LOT 1. thatched, fronting the road, and each con-uning two rooms on the ground floor and two above, into a small barn and piece of garden ground to each.

Notice of auction of cottages in Church Lane, 1842



Map of 1924 showing cottages in Church Lane

photos of village life or artefacts that you would like to share with us? If you would like to contact us, the Archive can be reached at marswortharchive@gmail.com.

In the meantime, if you are looking for some things to develop your knowledge of local history, why not try the Tring History Society

(https://tringlocalhistorymuseum.org.uk/society/ talks.html), particularly as the next talk on 20th March on the Marsworth Polish Hostel will be given by Sandra Costello with Tony Gabis of Pitstone. This will be held in Tring High Street Baptist Church at 8.00pm.

Or if you want something on your doorstep, why not seek out the brasses in All Saints Church and see what they tell you?

Jonny and Jo Taylor



Brass in All Saints Church of the baby of Mary West, 1606

#### Everyone Welcome

## Thursday Coffee Morning and Drop-in

At Beacon Villages Community Library

Old Town Hall, Ivinghoe



Free tea, coffee and biscuits



Come along for a chat and friendly support.

## Ivinghoe-Pitstone Repair Café going strong

We are now into our second year of running the Ivinghoe and Pitstone Repair Café.

Since our first Café in February 2023 we have successfully repaired over 350 items that would have otherwise ended up in landfill, saving our visitors hundreds of pounds in avoiding buying replacement items! We are successfully repairing over 70% of items brought in, which is higher than the national average.

This is all thanks to our fantastic team of volunteers - not only our repairers, but also our co-ordinators and those running our café! We do not charge for our amazing refreshments or for fixing items, but we do ask for a donation to help with our running costs.

Kim Key, Co-ordinator









Saturday 23rd March 9.30am-12.30pm Ivinghoe Hub

#### **Bring along:**

- ♦ Household items
- ♦ Electrical goods
- ♦ Clothing and fabrics mending
- ♦ Furniture
- ♦ Laptops, phones, tablets

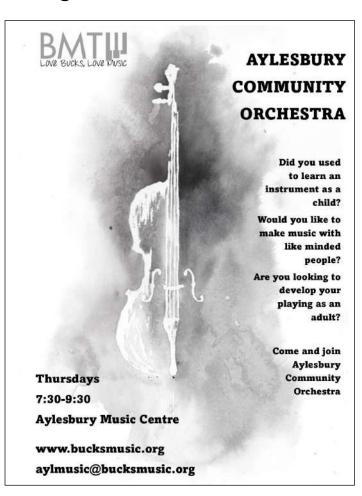
And more...

No charge for fixing, but donations are welcome



- Ivinghoe & Pitstone Repair Café
- ivinghoerepaircafe@gmail.com
  - www.iprepaircafe.wixsite.com/repaircafe
- @ivinghoepitstonerepaircafe

Have you used this Repair Café? Please send a report to editor@marsworthnews.co.uk.





Just some of the huge crowd that came to watch the starling display - Photo Sandra Costello



## **RAF** Halton consultation

Buckinghamshire Council have launched a consultation asking people to give their views on a draft Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) which provides a development framework for RAF Halton. This is a site allocated for growth in the Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan 2011-2031 (VALP). The site is located east of Halton village and on the edge of the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Bucks Council has worked in conjunction with the Defence Infrastructure Organisation (part of the Ministry of Defence) to develop a clear framework and principles for the development of the site as it transfers from military to residential use. The SPD builds on the policy D-HAL003 in the Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan to provide guidance on how the site should be redeveloped. The SPD is available at <a href="https://yourvoicebucks.citizenspace.com/planning/raf-halton">https://yourvoicebucks.citizenspace.com/planning/raf-halton</a>. The consultation closes on Monday 4th March 2024.

You can tell us your views as follows:

- complete the online survey at https://yourvoicebucks.citizenspace.com/planning/raf-halton
- email planningpolicyteam.bc@buckinghamshire.gov.uk
- write to Buckinghamshire Council, Planning Policy, RAF Halton SPD Consultation, Queen Victoria Road. High Wycombe, HP11 1BB.

## RAF Halton - future changes

#### **Bucks Free Press, 23rd January 2024**

A plan to build at least 1,000 new homes at the RAF Halton training base has been put forward by Buckinghamshire Council. The proposals also include a new primary school, community centre, landscape works, walking and cycling routes and the reuse or conversion of historical buildings.

RAF Halton, which sits between Halton and Wendover, is still used for training, but is set to close by 2027.

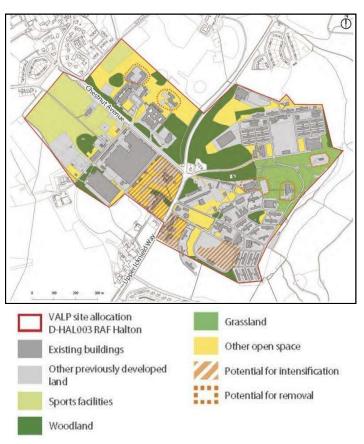
The council has asked members of the public to share their views on its plans by March 4th, after which it will publish a final draft.

The 82-hectare site set to host new homes is located entirely within the Green Belt, which is designed to control urban sprawl around towns. RAF Halton is also located on the edge of Wendover and the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

The council said the 'landscape-led' redevelopment of the site will 'address, protect and enhance the purposes of the Green Belt setting of Halton village, the Chilterns AONB, Halton House itself and its Grade II listed Registered Park and Garden.'

Meanwhile, 50% of the site will become publicly accessible green space and a north-south corridor of parkland will be created, the authority said.

RAF Halton is steeped in history, which the council says will be "respected and referenced in its redevelopment". This includes listed military accommodation buildings, as well as World War 1 training trenches and a former railway line that lie just outside the site.



To see this map in colour, go to https://wendovernews.co.uk/news/raf-halton-redevelopment-proposals.

## Sheephouse Wood and HS2

Bucks Council has expressed its extreme disappointment at the decision by the Planning Inspector to allow an appeal by HS2 Ltd, for development next to Sheephouse Wood in Charndon, Bucks (c. 4.5 miles north-east of Bicester).

**Sheephouse Wood** is a 141-acre (56.9 hectares) Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and Ancient Woodland. which is a cherished site of local, national, and international importance for nature conservation.

In March 2023, Bucks Council became aware of HS2 cutting back trees in Sheephouse Wood and asked why this was happening. HS2 stated that the works were needed for safety/technical reasons, to protect both the Bat Mitigation Structure they had decided to construct, and the railway line when it became operational.

The Council served a Tree Preservation Order (TPO) to protect trees at risk from being cut down. This ensured the trees were not touched for up to six months, but HS2 continued to insist that the removal of the trees was necessary.

Despite Council asking for more detailed information about the proposed work HS2 Ltd appealed the Council's 'non determination' of the application. This appeal was upheld by the Planning Inspector so development will now go ahead. This removes the protection afforded by the TPO. HS2 Ltd must, however, ensure that any works to trees is undertaken with great care and avoids harm to nesting birds. The Council will check activity to ensure proper methods and safeguards are followed.

# Bucks Councillor's February reports – extracts

Councillor Derek Town
01296 661637
derek.town@buckinghamshire.gov.uk
Buckinghamshire Councillor,
Ivinghoe Ward

The full report can be found at www.marsworth.org.uk.

## Fly-tipper's Christmas Day 'gift' to Bucks residents lands him in court

A man who brazenly dumped waste in the middle of a road in Beaconsfield on Christmas Day 2022 has been prosecuted following an investigation by Buckinghamshire Council's fly-tipping enforcement team and the assistance of local residents who were outraged by the incident.

On 25th December 2022, a commercial truck load of waste was dumped at the roadside near houses and offices on Windsor End in Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire. Vigilant local residents examined the dumped waste and found traceable details which were later investigated by an enforcement officer from the fly-tipping enforcement team.

Local residents and businesses checked their domestic and commercial CCTV systems and helped confirm the description of the offending vehicle and Thames Valley Police subsequently identified the vehicle. The details found in the dumped waste were traced to waste which the producer confirmed was removed by Acton and he was identified as the registered keeper of the vehicle seen carrying and depositing the waste.

High Wycombe magistrates fined Jordan Acton of Kingston upon Thames, Surrey, £693 and awarded full clean-up and investigation costs to Bucks Council who brought the prosecution, to a total of £1,838.70. A victim surcharge of £277 was also imposed meaning that Acton had to pay a total of £2,808.70.

#### Aylesbury town centre improvements

Work is due to start on a number of upgrades and improvements in Aylesbury town centre, to enhance the existing space with attractive lighting and other new features.

As part of a package of investment, these initial measures will bring forward immediate improvements to the heart of Aylesbury, kickstarting the wider regeneration of the town.

These improvement works are due to start in March and will include:

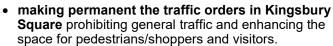
- upgrading the power supply to Market Square increasing power availability to many more market
  stalls, allowing for more traders and more variety with
  a new layout.
- improving the lighting in Market Square, including a newly designed lighting scheme to celebrate and illuminate the historic features of the square, also restoring power to historic



Market Square

lanterns and lighting the clock face on Market Tower.

- cleaning and repair works to the statues and monuments in Market Square.
- improvements to Cambridge Street to introduce a permanent pedestrianised section with new street surface and lighting.





Nightingale

#### Letter to the Editor

I only occasionally pop into The Red Lion but like to keep up with local news. So I borrowed the February 2024 edition of *Marsworth News* to read at home - I'll take it back soon, honest!

I'd like to pass on what a lovely read it is, interesting, informative, well laid out, colour photos, and not inundated with adverts.

Well done to you and your team,

Dave Barratt, Pitstone

We have now arranged to send Dave an electronic copy of all future issues of *Marsworth News. Ed.* 

# Remember a loved one with a Forever Red Rose

Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity has partnered with Waddesdon Manor to launch a very special Forever Flowers event to celebrate and remember loved ones this spring.

A stunning, temporary display of 750 bespoke metal Red Roses will be installed in the Rose Garden at Waddesdon Manor, near Aylesbury in April. Each flower will represent the life, love and memories of a loved one.

The Charity is offering you the opportunity to be a part of this event by

dedicating one of these limited Forever Red Roses, and an invitation to a private viewing of the display on Monday 15th April whilst the grounds are closed to the public. The installation will then remain on display to the public for two weeks. Once the installation is removed, those who have dedicated a flower will be able to take it home to display as a forever keepsake.

By dedicating a Forever Red Rose you will be helping us to provide excellent local hospice care and be there for more patients and families across Buckinghamshire and its borders.

To dedicate a Forever Red Rose visit https://www.fnhospice.org.uk/foreverflowers or call 01296 429975 for more information.

## Marsworth Women's Institute

By Denise Cornwall

#### WI Report for January

As we did not have a meeting in January, this was our first meeting in 2024.



The weather was not at all kind to us - the rainfall was like standing under a shower! But true to form the ladies turned out - well done, ladies. We even had two ladies who came to see what our WI was all about. We hope they enjoyed their evening, and we look forward to seeing them at future meetings.

The meeting started with the normal business of signing the minutes of our last meeting, along with matters that were discussed or brought up at our committee meeting, one of them being our 2024/2025 WI subscription. As with everything else, our subs for this period had increased, but due to us having a healthy bank balance the committee decided to subsidise our subscriptions. We were pleased that this was appreciated by our members.

It was confirmed that our annual dinner has been booked and this year it will be at The Bell in Aston Clinton. Again, the committee agreed that members will enjoy a subsidy of £15 for their dinner. That healthy bank balance is going down!

In my December WI report, I spoke about WI Resolutions for 2024. At this time, I do not have the WI national result but the choice with the most votes for Marsworth WI was Dental Health Matters.

All WI formal business completed, we moved on to our speaker for the evening, Fred Martin. Many of you will know Fred and his wife Stephanie as they live in our village. Fred and Stephanie are very much involved in looking after and training Medical Detection Dogs and this was what Fred's talk was about. He was accompanied by Stephanie and another representative from MDD, along with the star guest of the evening



(sorry Fred) - the wonderful MDD dog, Viking. What these dogs can do is truly amazing and Viking won the hearts of everyone in the room.

Fred explained the origins of MDD and gave us such an interesting talk about the charity and examples via videos of people who had been helped immensely, either through diagnosis of serious illness, or more directly when these dogs are able to detect an imminent collapse. The talk was so interesting and informative that the ladies have asked if our WI would arrange a trip/visit to the MDD centre. We are already looking into it.

Next month our talk is about 'My Time as an Officer at Customs and Excise'. This could prove to be an interesting talk and evening!

The finale of the evening was our raffle and giving of birthday presents. Three of our ladies have birthdays in February. All were given their presents and then we had to give one lady a special present. Yes, she is still here - Kitty Pinnock who will be 105 on 28th February. The WI presented Kitty with a beautiful 105 birthday cake and we all



sang Happy Birthday to her and we enjoyed the cake with our coffee/tea.

Winners of the raffle were: Brenda Pearson, Elsie Beesley and Caroline O'Donovan.

## Calling all crafters!

## Can you knit? Sew? Crochet? Do you have spare time on your hands?

"KNIT FOR NOWT' - A charitable service

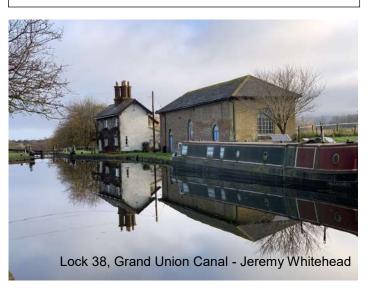
#### **Therapy Hand Puppets and Worry Monsters**

Knit for Nowt is a charity that provides knitted, crocheted or hand-sewn puppets and worry monsters to therapeutic services supporting children from abuse, neglect, bereavement or other serious issues. There is a huge demand and the waiting list has now had to be closed for two years so they can catch up!





If you can help at all, please do get in touch with 'Knit for Nowt': www.knitfornowt.org



## Long Marston Cricket Club

By Jon Beardmore

#### Play cricket in 2024!

Fancy getting into (or back into) cricket? We field teams across a wide range of abilities in the Cherwell Cricket League and friendlies.

We also have various youth teams. If you would like to join us or have a try-out at winter nets please contact James Beesley at <code>develop@longmarstoncc.co.uk</code>. Ladies are welcome as well as gents - all our teams are mixed!

#### Scorers and umpires wanted!

Have you played cricket in the past? Do you enjoy the game and want to be part of it? We're looking for umpires and scorers for 2024. Umpires need some knowledge of the game, but further training is available, whereas we can provide start-from-scratch instruction for would-be scorers – it's not difficult once you know how, and it's a role that can be enjoyed by anyone. So why not spend your Saturdays sitting (or standing) in the sun with one of our friendly teams at some of the finest and most picturesque cricket grounds in the area. Interested? Please contact *chairman@Jongmarstoncc.co.uk*.

#### 10km Fun Run Sunday 12th May 10.00am

After the success of the Long Marston Cricket Club 10K run last year we have decided to repeat the event. This fantastic off-road 10k will send runners on a beautiful rural route along the Hertfordshire / Buckinghamshire border. Come along for the charming views and claim your awesome goodie bag at the finish line. There are also custom event medals for all. Plenty of cakes, coffee and tea is available for a small donation at the end of the run and for those that may want a stronger drink, the bar will be opening at the end of the run. Free parking. Enter at <a href="https://www.letsdothis.com/gb/e/lmcc-10k-188696">https://www.letsdothis.com/gb/e/lmcc-10k-188696</a>. Cost is £16.00 per person plus £1.50 admin charge.

#### Club Sundays

The Club Bar is open on Sundays between 12.00 and 2.00pm - all are welcome. Please remember that our clubhouse is available for hire and includes a kitchen, large open area and licensed bar, which we can staff. Please contact Paul Marsh (*info@esipower.co.uk*) for more information.

#### **Ground Security**

If anyone spots anything untoward at either of our grounds at Marlins (Cheddington Lane, Long Marston) or Mentmore then please contact our Chairman Paul Dumpleton at chairman@longmarstoncc.co.uk. If a crime is in progress please call the police.

We would also like to politely remind dog owners that our grounds are not public open spaces. Dogs must be kept under control at all times and any mess must be cleared up.

Find out more at www.longmarstoncc.co.uk



# Marsworth and District Miscellany

Items for *Bucks Herald*, by local journalist *Kate Andrew*. Some of these get fuller treatment or have been covered elsewhere in this issue.

#### **EASTER FUN DAY**

Windmill Pre-School, at the back of Brookmead School, is holding an Easter Fun Day on Saturday March 23rd from 10am to 12pm. £6.50 per child, including an Easter trail, crafts and a chocolate treat.

#### **ZUMBA CLASSES**

These are on Thursdays at 6.15pm in Marsworth Millennium Hall and on Saturdays at 9.30am at Pitstone Hall. Call Jo on 07912644654 for more details.

#### SIGN LANGUAGE

There are sign language classes in Pitstone on Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm, starting March 5th. Email *julieevery5@gmail.com* for more details. The ten weekly classes cost £100 and proceeds go to three charities.

#### COFFEE AT CHURCH

The Saint Barista pop-up coffee shop is available at All Saints, Marsworth on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 11am to 3pm, run by Julian Mann.

#### POTHOLE PROBLEMS

A huge pothole outside 40 Vicarage Road has been causing problems for motorists. Several people have reported it and some have lost tyres to it, including three on the same day in January. The council has reportedly told people they are only obliged to survey the road once per annum, which they did in November, say members of *Everything Marsworth*, and claims are often refused. The pothole was apparently mended after it was first reported, but two to three weeks later it has returned – and is much bigger and deeper. A large cone has been placed in it to warn drivers.

Meanwhile in Station Road, Tring, numerous cars hit a large, deep pothole on the night of Thursday February 8th and were left stranded because of flat tyres and damaged wheels. Many will be attempting to get compensation from Hertfordshire County Council.

#### MURMURATIONS

The starlings have been putting on spectacular murmuration displays lately at just before sunset at around 5pm, visible from Tringford Reservoir. They tend to do this until March. Parking can be difficult, so many park at the Startops car park and walk over.

#### SPRING SING

Mojo Music is organising a Spring Sing at Wilstone Hall on Sunday March 24th from 10.30am to 4.30pm. £25 from *mojomusic.co.uk*. The acapella harmony class will be taught by four award-winning singers and no experience is necessary.

#### CHICKENS STOLEN

Potash Farms, Gubblecote, is asking if anyone has CCTV near the field off Lukes Lane where their chickens are. Some large chickens were stolen on Friday 16th February and the vehicles went up Lukes Lane towards Marsworth.

Kate Andrew, Journalist

#### Wendover Shed

By Caroline Smith

Wendover Shed was set up similar to a garden shed, but as a social community workspace in Wendover



to pursue practical interests, meet like-minded people, practise skills and enjoy making and mending. Practically-minded people are able to meet, work on joint projects (or their own), share ideas and experience or just chat. There is access to tools, electricity and, almost as important, a kettle!

Steve and I met with the Chairman of Wendover Shed, Bob Duggan, as we have been looking for someone to make us an advertising 'A' board for the Tring Farmers' Market. This is when we found that the shed is a whole lot more than just a repair shop.

Part of an international movement, Men's Sheds Association, the Wendover Shed is new - less than a year old - and established along the lines of the UK Men's Sheds Association. It is about meeting people, sharing skills and knowledge and gaining a renewed sense of purpose and belonging - and having fun. As a by-product of all of this, sheds like Wendover's reduce social isolation and feelings of loneliness, allow people to deal with mental health challenges more easily and remain independent, rebuild communities and, in some cases, save lives.

It has opportunities for all types of members of all ages and is gender neutral. Some might be looking to join the practical 'make and mend' sessions, or simply meet up for a coffee and a natter. Some might want to help paint the new shed or help with a small garden outside. Alternatively, some may be looking to get more involved as a volunteer, helper or sponsor to support the activities. It is always looking for Shed Leaders too. Anybody is welcome and The Shed team is working to be fully inclusive. It is a great opportunity for people of all ages

#### The Little Blue Book Shed

The little blue book shed in Church Lane is looking very full. Please do come along and take a book or two. I will have to donate some to charity shortly as we are unable to see what's there! I will also give it a tidy but feel free to have a little jig around in there!

Nikki Lucas





from 16 upwards to meet up to learn and to share skills. You are welcome to bring a friend.

The Shed is on Wendover Parish Council land and as well as the indoor workshop areas (The Hog and the Stables) it includes an open-sided but covered space for working and socialising. It is fully sustainable and totally off grid with its own solar power and a water bore hole. It is very much about social connections and friendship building, sharing skills and knowledge, and of course a lot of laughter. A session each week is dedicated to different metalwork projects, the current one being the building and repairing of scale model steam engines.

If you would like to know more about either going along to The Shed, commissioning a repair or having something made, go to https://www.wendovershed.org.uk or email info@wendovershed.org.uk.

Wendover Shed, Hogtrough Lane, Wendover, HP22 6NJ. The most accurate way to pin-point the location is through What3Words: https://w3w.co/painted.flopping.surfaces.



## Are you struggling with food, fuel, bills and finances?



If you or your family are in need of support, on low income or experiencing a financial emergency or crisis, find out what help is available.

#### Let us know if:

- you are struggling to afford food or fuel
- you cannot keep on top of your bills
- you are in debt
- you are struggling to pay for essential goods in your home

#### Get in touch

- buckinghamshire.gov.uk/helping-hand
- **©** 01296 531 151

Our phone lines are open:

- Monday to Thursday (9am 5:30pm)
- Friday (9am 5pm)

In an emergency our out-of-hours team can be contacted on 0800 999 7677.







## The Tring Anglers

Before Christmas I was fishing the canal behind Waters Edge Café, Lock 39. A couple of ladies stopped and asked me if I was the chap who organised the fishing coaching along this pound. Next thing I knew, I had agreed that having a 'Floating Market' next April would be a good idea and I would put together a Let's Fish session.

Lorraine, Market Coordinator for the Roving Canal Trading Association has now organised ten trade boats for the Floating Market on 27th and 28th April. Permissions have been granted by Canal & River Trust for no other moorings between locks 39 and 40. Navigation will continue as normal with the volunteer lock keepers providing a safe journey up the flight.

Tring Anglers are planning a Let's Fish event around the picnic table area; you will be able to book a try fishing slot prior to the date via Eventbrite and on the days. Canal & River Trust and Inland Waterways Association will also be present to answer your watery type questions. Look out for more information during early March with local posters and social media.

If you have any questions about our events, particularly the forthcoming 'Floating Market' please contact me on 07796 178313.

Tring Anglers will also be enjoying another appearance of Let's Fish coaching at the Marsworth Steam Rally on June 16th, as we did last year. More details in the May edition, including the plans for the rest of the summer season.

Work has started on both Marsworth and Startops reservoirs - I will give a report in the next edition. If any of you are regular walkers in the area, you will have noticed the activity as some areas will have been off limits.

The long term works at Wilstone Reservoir will now not start until January 2025 and will last six plus months, details nearer Christmas 2024.

The mill pond at Ford End, leased to Tring Anglers, is being dredged and excess tree growth being removed. This excellent little fishery will receive a restock of tench and crucian carp when things settle down.



The Inland Drainage Board have a serious machine for tree clearing at Ford End

Dick Pilkinton



## **Appassionata**



#### An afternoon of passionate and powerful classical music

On Sunday 17th March Aylesbury Vale Concert Orchestra is performing an afternoon of classical music favourites at Aylesbury Waterside Theatre from 4pm-6.30pm. All proceeds from the event will be donated to Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity.

Appassionata allows the audience to experience live orchestral music, including Rachmaninov's Piano Concerto No 2 and Addinsell's Warsaw Concerto. These, and many of the other pieces that the Orchestra has selected, are some of the most romantic and well-known classics, including Chariots of Fire by Vangelis, the Theme from 'The Mission' and excerpts from Swan Lake.

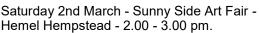
The Aylesbury Vale Concert Orchestra comprises both amateur and professional musicians who are committed to playing live music together.

Tickets are available from Aylesbury Waterside Theatre: Aylesbury Vale Concert Orchestra - Appassionata.



#### **New Moon Morris**

#### Coming events:



## Marsworth Neighbourhood Watch

Neighbourhood Watch are collaborating with the UK Government to advise practical tips from their 'It All Adds Up' campaign to help reduce your energy costs and make your home more energy efficient.

Small energy-saving changes to your home include tips for low and no-cost ways to save money on your energy bills:

- Reduce your combi boiler flow temperature to save up to £70 a year
- Insulate your hot water cylinder to save up to £50 a year
- Turn down radiators in rooms you aren't using to save up to £50 a year
- Install an energy efficient shower head to save £40 a year
- Take shorter showers and save up to £70 a year
- Wash clothes at a lower temperature to save up to £20 a year

For more tips on making simple changes and to see how it all adds up, visit *gov.UK/SaveEnergy.* 

#### **E-Scooters**

Under current legislation, the riding of **privately** owned e-scooters is illegal on roads, pavements, cycle ways and any other public area – as defined under the Road Traffic Act 1988. E-scooters are also covered by the same legislation as motor vehicles and therefore subject to the requirements of MOT, tax, licensing



and specific construction regulations. It is not currently possible to get insurance to ride privately owned e-scooters in public, meaning there is no way they can be legal.

Privately owned e-scooters can be legally used on private land providing the land owner has given permission.

In some areas of UK there are trials of Government owned e-scooters, which are legal to ride on roads and cycle paths. However a full provisional licence is needed to ride these. In Aylesbury you will find the Government owned "Zipp" E-scooters in various locations around the town.

# Marshcroft/Grove Fields Development update

This application for the development of 1400 houses on land between Bulbourne Road and Station Road in Tring went to Appeal and then to Public Enquiry. It is now with the Secretary of State (Michael Gove) for a final decision.

The reason given for the delay was so that the eventual decision could take into account the changes proposed for the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) made by Mr Gove in Parliament on 19th December 2023. This, in theory, gives more flexibility and resource to Local Authorities in relation to local housing need; clarifies a 'local lock' on changes to Green Belt boundaries; safeguards Local Plans from housing densities that would be wholly out of character and bolsters protections from speculative developments for neighbourhoods that develop their own plans.

For Dacorum, however, this move towards greater local accountability and enhanced protection of the Green Belt is not as clear as it might be. Currently, Dacorum's Local Plan is not finalised although the draft plan, which has just finished a period of public consultation, does not include the Marshcroft development. The proposed development at Dunsley Farm, plus a number of smaller sites, have been retained. The draft plan for Tring can be found, in colour, on the Marsworth Website.

The letter that was received notifying the Grove Fields Residents Association of the delayed decision date asked all parties to the Appeal for their comments on this new planning background. CPRE, on behalf of the Combined Objectors Group, prepared a response defending the Green Belt which can be read on the Marsworth website.

#### Further information:

NPPF Advice note by ONeill Homer https://www.marsworth.org.uk/planning-matters/
CPRE Comments on NPPF
https://www.marsworth.org.uk/planning-matters/
Dacorum Draft Local Plan
Local Plan 2024-2040 | Let's Talk Dacorum
Dacorum Draft Local Plan — Tring Map
https://www.marsworth.org.uk/planning-matters/
General Marshcroft Development
https://www.marsworth.org.uk/planning-matters/
marshcroft-development/

Steve Smith



The Library in Ivinghoe will be open on Wednesday mornings between 10am and 12 noon. We are pleased to have been able to bring back this time slot which many users have found to be useful.

#### **Opening hours**

Tuesday, Thursday 2 - 5pm Wednesday 10am - 12 noon Thursday 2 - 5pm Friday 2 - 5pm Saturday 10am - 1pm

A returns box is available in the foyer at other times.

General enquiries: info@bvcl.org.uk, 01296 387890.



#### Local Treasures

## Wilstone Community Shop

A local gem is the Community Shop in Wilstone, a short walk along the canal from Marsworth Recreation Ground or a short drive down Lukes Lane. The shop is self-funding and



run by volunteers (except for the manager Ali Driver).

A shop has been at this location for over a hundred years but was forced to close with the loss of its post office. Recognising the loss to community life, the villagers rallied round and in 2012 it became a fully-fledged community shop. In 2021 it negotiated a new 25-year lease on a peppercorn rent and completely renovated the premises, all with monies raised by the community.

The shop sells a wide variety of everyday groceries; there's fresh milk, frozen food and a well-stocked pantry with branded produce. Delicious home-made cakes abound and the shop has its own delicatessen with fresh cheese, ham, bacon, sausage rolls, pasties etc. and the lovely volunteers will make up filled rolls on request. A selection of fresh bread from Prudens can be ordered or picked up on the day.

Also available on order or on spec are daily newspapers and the shop stocks a good selection of greetings cards, including for special occasions. There's a small selection of gifts, as well as some homemade preserves plus it also offers a dry cleaning service.

Address: 34a Tring Road, Wilstone, Tring, HP23 4PB. Tel: 01442 891167 / info@wilstonecommunityshop.org.uk

As it is situated in the middle of the village why not sit and watch Wilstone village life and have a coffee and a bacon roll either on the front terrace or inside?

Caroline Smith



## Do <u>you</u> have a 'local treasure' you could share with readers?

Perhaps a favourite eatery, a garden nursery, somewhere special for tea-and-cake, somewhere where you can listen to music? It should be within a 15-mile radius of Marsworth. Just a few lines and a location would do. Please add a photo if you can.

Send to editor@marsworthnews.co.uk.



# Looking for everyday essentials or something special as a gift?

Wilstone's classic community-run village shop offers everyone a surprisingly wide range of produce as well as being very popular for cyclists and walkers stopping over for freshly-brewed coffee, hot rolls, sandwiches and homemade cakes.

Drop in any time - we're open 8am - 2pm Monday - Friday 8am - 1pm Saturday and 9am - 12pm Sunday.





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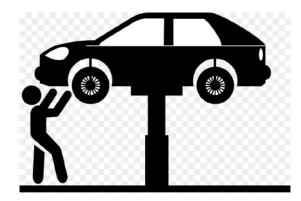
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All Saints, Marsworth churchwarden

John White - 01296 662252

**Marsworth Parish Council** 

**Chair -** Bob Kennedy - 01296 661533

Clerk to the Parish Council

Caroline Smith: parishclerk@marsworth.org.uk

**Bucks Councillor for Marsworth** 

Derek Town - 01296 661637

**Marsworth Infants School** 

Office: 01296 668440

Marsworth Preschool - 01296 661164

enquiries@marsworthpreschool.org.uk

**Neighbourhood Watch** 

MarsworthNHW@gmx.com

**Items for Bucks Herald** 

Kate Andrew - 01296 668727 / 07963 180466

kate.andrew@btinternet.com

**Marsworth WI** 

Chris King - 01296 660019

**Canal & River Trust** 

Customer Services: 03030 404040

enquiries.southeast@canalrivertrust.org.uk

**Marsworth Craft Club** 

marsworthcraftclub@hotmail.com

**Police** 

Non-emergency calls 101 Emergency calls 999

PCSO Megan Dean (101)

megan.dean@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

**Crime Stoppers** 

0800 555 111 / https://crimestoppers-uk.org/

**Public information Highways on Call** 

(roads, lighting, etc.): 01296 382416

Last postal collections

Church, Hall and Startops:

Mon-Fri 9.00am Sat 7.00am

Tring Post Office - Last post 5.30pm

Tring Distribution Centre 6.00pm

Ivinghoe Post Office: Open

Monday - Saturday: 7.30am - 8.30pm Sunday: 9.00am - 4.00pm

## Marsworth Village Hall Hire of rooms

**Main Hall** - available for parties and special occasions. Licensed for up to 100 seated and up to 200 for dances.

**Upstairs room** - available for meetings or activities. Can seat 24 for smaller functions.

For bookings, availability and charges please contact Frances Brown on 01296 661211 after 4.00pm.



Your area is covered by

## The Wing & District Neighbourhood Policing Team

73 Leighton Road, Wing, LU7 0RD

To contact the local team, email: greatbrickhillwingivinghoenhpt @thamesvalley.police.uk

To report a non-urgent crime, visit www.thamesvalley.police.uk or tel: 101 to speak with an operator

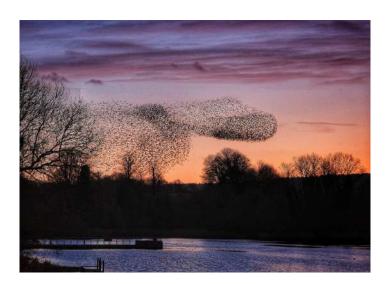
In an emergency always dial 999



# Marsworth Photo Gallery Please send your photos to editor@marsworthnews.co.uk

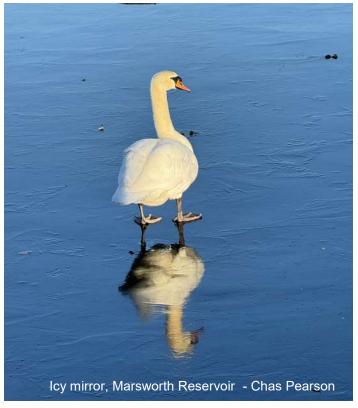


Starling murmuration over Tringford Reservoir 12th and 18th February 2024
- Martin Rance on *Everything Marsworth* 









Marsworth News email address - editor@MarsworthNews.co.uk