

# Marsworth News

Serving the village and parish of Marsworth

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](mailto:editor@marsworthnews.co.uk)

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**Plus much more!**

## Marsworth Polish Hostel Nissen hut at risk of demolition

An application has been submitted for the demolition of buildings at Bluebells, Lower End, Marsworth for 'the construction of a single storey dwelling with associated garage'.

This application involves the demolition and removal of the last remaining Hostel, which has often been referred to in *Marsworth News*. The Hostel was home to several hundred Polish people who had been displaced by World War II and found temporary refuge here in Marsworth between 1948 and 1961 in what had been the old buildings associated with the USAF on Long Marston Road, at the end of Church Farm Lane and at Bluebells.

An information board was erected in 2019 near the site of the main part of the hostel and many Polish people who had been children at the hostel attended a colourful and memorable unveiling ceremony. A website was also created.

Since the closure of the hostel in 1961 all the huts used for accommodation and services were demolished and returned to agriculture – with one exception. That is the Nissen hut still visible from Long Marston Road, painted white, which had been used by the subsequent owner for garden purposes. This hut was the home to two Polish families.

Apart from the graves in All Saints churchyard, this hut is the one remaining feature of the Polish Hostel, other than the brick building alongside which was used as a washroom.

To object to the application, go to: <https://publicaccess.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/online-applications> and enter 23/02482/APP in the Search box.

You have until 13th September to register your objection.

Note that planning permission has just been granted for the construction of an additional storey to create first floor living accommodation at an existing detached house at Bluebells.



The last remaining Nissen hut



The huts as they were used at the time by the Polish people



Unveiling the information board 2019

More on page 6

# Marsworth News

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**The views expressed by contributors are their own and not necessarily those of the production team.**

Notices from local groups and charities published free of charge.

For advertisements please contact our Advertising Manager.

### Thank you...

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

### Items for *Marsworth News*

Copy should be sent 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/>

## Marsworth Village Hall Hire of rooms

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

The upstairs **Mike Frost Room** is available for meetings or activities. This room can seat 24 for smaller functions.

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

## Editorial

By *Sandra Costello*

Two items competed for priority on this month's front page. We wished especially to welcome the families who have now moved into the Bulbourne Yard complex. This is so detached from the rest of the community by farmland and canal, but is still very much a part of Marsworth Parish - see the map on page 7. Perhaps in time those residents will find they have connections with the rest of the village and attend our events here.

The other story which tipped that off the front page is of course that of the threat to the Nissen hut at Bluebells. Some might think it trivial to be concerned about such a thing, but

having become so very involved with the Marsworth Polish Hostel, its information board, website and book, and having met so many of those people who were children at the Hostel I feel very concerned about this possible loss of a local feature.

If you feel this matters, please make the effort to register your objection by 13th September.

Once again All Saints church is organising its annual Harvest Supper. This is for everyone - not just those connected with the church. If you would like to meet up with other congenial people, do fill in the form and put it in your diary!

I'm sorry about the bin collection information on page 6 - I really did try hard to find a way around this, but the new website layout defeated me.



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**

## The Bucks Herald

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

## Marsworth Food Bank

We are extremely grateful for all the donations that have been received. We are looking after even more families currently and would love to receive donations of:

- Tins of soup, fruit, rice pudding, custard and baked beans.
- 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 very much on behalf of the Marsworth Food Bank Team.**

## Marsworth News

Wanted - articles for newsletter

**Either a regular feature or an occasional article**

Photos are always welcome.

Email *editor@MarsworthNews.co.uk*

## Facebook / social media

If you spot an item which you think may be of interest to readers of *Marsworth News*, please send it to *editor@marsworthnews.co.uk*.

Many do not access social media and may have missed out, if it is not drawn to their attention.



## Village Hall defibrillator

Guidelines for usage of the defibrillator installed at the Hall are available on the Marsworth website: [www.marsworth.org.uk](http://www.marsworth.org.uk)



## Dates for 2023

9 and 23 September  
14\* and 28\* October / 11 November  
2 and 16 December  
\* Special Apple Fayre markets

# All Saints Church



We are approaching Autumn, the season of mists and mellow fruitfulness! We shall see what this will have in store for us. Rest assured there will be a Harvest Supper in October and more details of that event are to be found below.

Our Vicar, James, has now been with us in the Benefice for just over one year, having taken up the post in July 2022. Some tweaks have been made, mainly in the timing to our services to enable James also to hold services in St. Mary's, Ivinghoe and Holy Cross, Slapton. James is now well embedded into the church community and is very approachable.

Within the church the summer period has been quite quiet but we are now looking forward to planning various social events. The first of these will be our evening concert held in the church on 1st September, starting at 7.30pm. By the time the newsletter is distributed it is most likely that the concert will have already taken place, but it has been well advertised across the villages, so we hope for a good attendance.

The next planned event will be the ever-popular annual Harvest Supper held in the village hall on Friday 15th October. It is emphasised that this is a village community event and everyone is welcome, so please come along. Following on from the supper, All Saints Church will be holding a Harvest Festival service on Sunday 17th October and it would be good to see you there too.

Please support your village church as much, and in as many ways, as you can. Thank you.

*John White, Churchwarden*

## Services for September 2023

### 3rd September

9.15am Holy Communion Common Worship

### 10th September

8.30am Holy Communion Book of Common Prayer

### 17th September

9.15am Holy Communion Common Worship

### 24th September

6.00pm Evensong

## Who's Who at All Saints Marsworth

<https://www.achurchnearyou.com/church/5941>



Find us on Facebook

**Vicar:** James Grainger-Smith 01296 297915 [j.grainger-smith@sky.com](mailto:j.grainger-smith@sky.com)

**Churchwardens:** John White: 01296 662252 [horse.71shoe@sky.com](mailto:horse.71shoe@sky.com)

Richard Cooper 01296 661725 [richard.bennettcooper@outlook.com](mailto:richard.bennettcooper@outlook.com)

**PCC members:**

Ken Longhurst 01296 660711 [k.c.longhurst@talk21.com](mailto:k.c.longhurst@talk21.com)

Gavin Merrylees 01296 668046 [gavin.merrylees@gmail.com](mailto:gavin.merrylees@gmail.com)

Gill White 01296 662252 [horse.71shoe@sky.com](mailto:horse.71shoe@sky.com)

(Treasurer) Jenny Shiels 01296 668230 [sheils.j@btinternet.com](mailto:sheils.j@btinternet.com)

Ruth Monks 07751 430323 [ruthmonks@btinternet.com](mailto:ruthmonks@btinternet.com)

**Church flowers:**

Netty Botting 07794 082812 [nettybotting@sky.com](mailto:nettybotting@sky.com)

**Food Bank:**

Richard Cooper 01296 661725 [richard.bennettcooper@outlook.com](mailto:richard.bennettcooper@outlook.com)

**Bellringers tower captain**

Richard Booth 07850 038197 [rbooth.maffers@talktalk.net](mailto:rbooth.maffers@talktalk.net)

**Church mowing:**

Gavin Merrylees 01296 668046 [gavin.merrylees@gmail.com](mailto:gavin.merrylees@gmail.com)

**Choir:**

Netty Botting 07794 082812

**Church cleaning:**

Elsie Beesley 01296 668492 [elsiebeesley@aol.com](mailto:elsiebeesley@aol.com)

## Harvest Supper

All Saints Church makes Harvest a big occasion in two ways; the first is a Harvest Supper which takes place on 15th October in the village hall; the second is the Harvest Festival Service held in the church on Sunday 17th October.

The supper will consist of three courses including a vegetarian option.

Please book using the booking form below to reserve a place. It is essential that we know how many will be attending for catering purposes. There will also be a raffle.

Thank you for your support.

### Harvest Supper 2023

**Friday 15th October, starting at 7.30pm - Marsworth Village Hall**

Please return completed form no later than **8th October** to John White at Horseshoe Cottage, 17 Church Lane, Marsworth / 01296 662252 / [horse.71shoe@sky.com](mailto:horse.71shoe@sky.com).

Name : .....

Address: .....

Number of people attending: £12.50 p.p. £5 p.p. for children under 16 years of age

Adults: ..... Children: .....

Payment of £.....enclosed. Please make cheque payable to All Saints Church PCC.

*If you have any dietary requirements please let us know well beforehand.*

# Parish Council meetings July and August 2023 - highlights



(For full Minutes of all Meetings, future Agendas and much other information go to <https://www.marsworth.org.uk/marsworth-parish-council/>)

## Ainscough's Application to build 320 houses on the old Marsworth Airfield site.

Awaiting determination by Buckinghamshire Planning.

## Marsworth Airfield – greenfield v brownfield

There has been a lot of discussion by residents and MPC agreed that the Airfield should not be considered brownfield. MPC will write to the Senior Planning Officer accordingly. Stephen Wooler has kindly assisted MPC in drafting a letter to this effect and also thanks go to Sandra Costello and Jonny Taylor (who now holds the Marsworth Archives) for providing some of the supporting historical documentation.

## Planning breach at Startops Haze

Following complaints from residents regarding an overbearing wooden fence that has been erected around the property, the Buckinghamshire Councillors have reported a planning breach.

## Local Heritage List

If residents are aware of buildings that should be on the Buckinghamshire Local Heritage List then they should let the clerk know. All Saints Church and the Nissen hut at Bluebells, Lower End have both been listed with the assistance of Richard Cooper and Sandra Costello respectively.

## Graffiti at Marsworth bus shelter

This was kindly cleaned by volunteer Ron Busby, but graffiti subsequently appeared again and was cleaned by Denise Cornwall. Please be on the lookout for our bus shelter being vandalised in this way.

## Community Speedwatch in Marsworth

Ron Busby has now met with Thames Valley Police and site locations have been agreed. Some overgrown hedges along Lower Icknield Way needed to be cut back before the scheme can start.

## Community Garden on corner of Lukes Lea and Vicarage Road.

Still awaiting approval from Buckinghamshire Council.

## Footpath Pitstone to Marsworth

As Buckinghamshire Council will only cut the verge once a year, MPCs contractor for the recreation ground will regularly cut the verge beside this footpath and ensure vegetation is cut back along the path.

## Overgrown hedges

MPC has received several complaints about overgrown hedges along the pavements. A note in *Marsworth News* (July/August issue) reminded residents that boundary

## Marsworth Parish Councillors

<b>Bob Kennedy</b> (Chairman)	01296 661533
<b>Ray Brown</b>	01296 661211
<b>Denise Cornwall</b>	07501 783807
<b>Giles Monks</b>	01296 662104
<b>Chris King</b>	01296 660019
<b>Steve Smith</b>	07753 744437
<b>Robert John</b>	07768 004337

**Caroline Smith** - Clerk to the Council:  
email: [parishclerk@marsworth.org.uk](mailto:parishclerk@marsworth.org.uk)

## Parish Council meeting dates 2023 8.00pm in Village Hall

11 September	9 October
13 November	11 December

hedges are the landowners' responsibility and should not obstruct the footpath.

## Marsworth Food Bank

Additional funding of £3,924 had been agreed with Helping Hands for the period 1st April to 30th September 2023.

## Picnic benches at the Recreation Ground

The two old wooden picnic benches which are rotting will be replaced with new picnic benches similar in size but manufactured in sustainable material.

## Police Report for July and August

Thames Valley Police tell us that there is nothing of note.

However see item on page 15 from TVP. (Ed)

## Next MPC meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be on Monday 11th September. Any items for the agenda should be submitted to the Parish Clerk by Sunday 1st September. 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](mailto:parishclerk@marsworth.org.uk)).

## New Councillor Robert John

Robert Nelson John is a retired (well, almost) Chartered Surveyor. He and his wife Christine lived for more than 20 years at The Ship, one of the older houses of the village, until Christine sadly passed away two years ago. He has two adult daughters and two young grandchildren.

Robert's interests include flying his glider from the London Gliding Club and Luton Someries Rotary Club where he is President in the current year.



Robert John

## Bucks Household Recycling Centres get top marks

Overall satisfaction with all ten of the county's Household Recycling Centres (HRCs) is 100% according to the latest figures from the bi-annual Customer Satisfaction Survey.

100% of those interviewed said they were satisfied overall with the HRCs.

The layout of containers on site and the helpfulness of site staff also received 100% satisfaction ratings.



Gareth Williams, Buckinghamshire Council's Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Environment said: "Our wish is to make it as easy as possible for people to be able to get rid of their household waste and recycling in a responsible and convenient way."

The survey also asked site users about the reuse facilities at the HRC sites, gauging awareness of the reuse shops at Aston Clinton and High Wycombe HRCs and their knowledge of donating items for resale and reuse.

In 2022-23, reuse tonnage was 941 tonnes in total. Staff working at all HRCs also keep an eye out for items brought to the sites to see whether they can be resold and direct residents to the reuse area. Items are taken from all 10 sites and delivered to the two shops in Aston Clinton and High Wycombe. Top selling items include furniture, garden ornaments, crockery and sporting equipment – all of which can be donated directly to one of the reuse shops which are run by South Bucks Hospice.

The reuse shops are open for the same hours as the HRCs and are staffed by South Bucks Hospice staff. More donations are always welcome.



Aston Clinton recycling shop

## Marsworth News

Send us your  
**Photos and Articles** and items of interest.

**Help us make Marsworth News!**  
Send to [editor@marsworthnews.co.uk](mailto:editor@marsworthnews.co.uk)

## Overgrown Hedges

Quite a few of the pavements and footpaths around Marsworth are currently obstructed by overgrown boundary hedges.

Birds nesting in our hedges will now have fledged and it is time to cut back overgrown hedges to ensure an accessible path/pavement along the outside perimeter of front gardens. Sufficient space needs to be made to allow for free movement, including space for wheelchairs and prams.

All residents have a responsibility to keep boundary hedges clipped to the edge of the footpath to allow unhindered access.

## Marsworth Village Hall 100 Club



**100 Club draw results for July & August.**  
**Our congratulations to the winners.**

### July winners

#### £20 prizes

- 12 Kay Pinnock, Norvic Road
- 216 Pam Knight, Church Lane
- 109 Joyce Head, Formerly Lower End
- 193 Niki and Martin Powell, The Crescent
- 27 Anne Anderson, Formerly Vicarage Road

### August Winners

#### £100 prizes

- 48 Robin Brookes, Church Farm Lane
- 60 Ray and Frances Brown, Lukes Lea

#### £20 prizes

- 46 Lynne Rayner, Startops
- 213 Marion Davies, Startops
- 181 Ron and Sue Busby, Lower Icknield Way
- 88 Tim Head, Formerly Lower End
- 86 Ali Wade, Church Lane

The current membership Starts 1st September, so if you haven't seen a collector and wish to renew, please do so by bank transfer, details MARSWORTH VILLAGE HALL 100 CLUB, Sort 20-39-07, Account 00602809. Please give the reference as house number and initials of your road, or drop £20 cash or cheque to Dick Brake, 11 Lower Icknield Way, with your name and address. The first draw will be taking place on 14th September, so renew as soon as possible.

The membership will be £20 for twelve months, those currently paying monthly will not be able to do so as the amount is not divisible. Four new £50 prizes will be made available, two in April and two in August.

Thank you all for taking part.

Dick Brake



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STRATEGIC PRINT & DIGITAL MARKETING  
BRANDING, SIGNAGE, DISPLAY & MORE... [GS2DESIGN.CO.UK](http://GS2DESIGN.CO.UK)

Nissen hut at risk - from front page



Diagram on the application



Google Earth, showing the Nissen hut in the top right hand corner.

## Bin collection information changes

Buckinghamshire Council has now changed the way it supplies information regarding forthcoming bin collection dates. No longer is a useful calendar supplied, which has been the way in which *Marsworth News* has been able to provide information for the coming month. Now it seems that the only way to get the information is by going online, entering your postcode and then identifying your actual address. This is presumably to check whether or not you have paid for Garden Waste collection. This then supplies the date for the next collection.



This information only covers the next two collections and is updated following each collection date. It seems it will no longer be possible to view a month's dates in advance.

Find my bin days

### Next collection date

Your next collection

## Thursday 17th August

**Recycling**

**Food**

✓ **When are the following collections?**

Bin type	Next	Following
● General waste	24/08/2023	07/09/2023
● Garden	24/08/2023	07/09/2023
● Recycling	17/08/2023	01/09/2023
● Food	17/08/2023	24/08/2023

This change is all very well for those who find going online a simple matter, but will be difficult for those either without a computer or who do not find the process easy.

Following exhaustive and frustrating attempts to clarify the situation I have had to give up. If anyone else can find a way of accessing longer term information, please let me know at [editor@marworthnews](mailto:editor@marworthnews).

To access the information on your own bin collection, go to: <https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling/find-out-when-its-your-bin-collection/>

# Welcome to new residents at Bulbourne Yard

Bulbourne Yard is located in a small corner of the parish of Marsworth

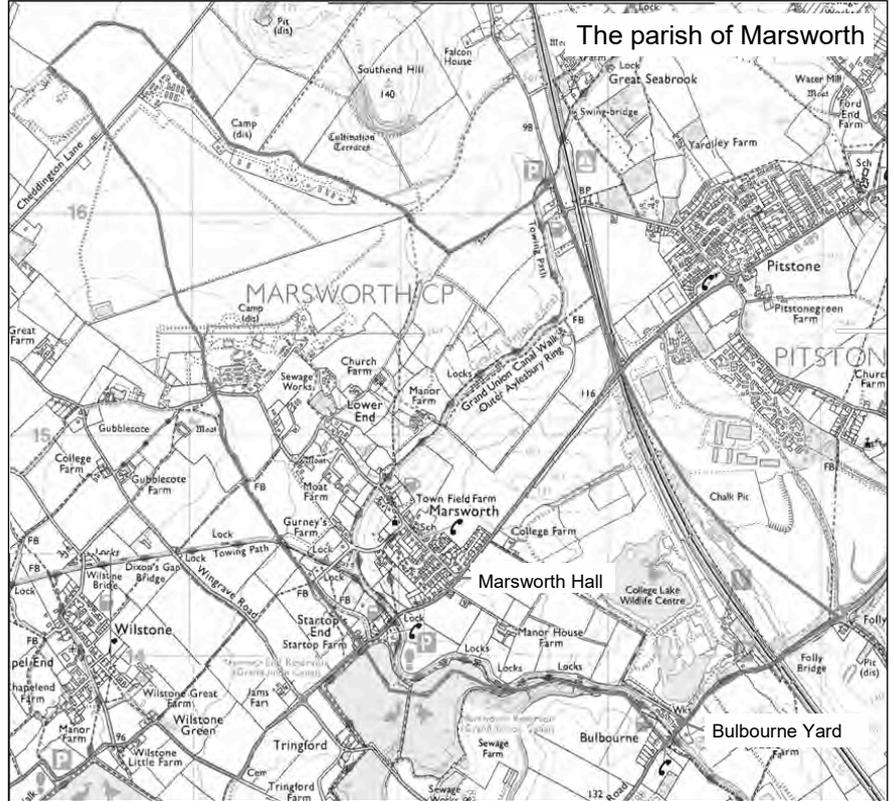
We now have the opportunity to extend a warm welcome to the new residents at Bulbourne Yard. Although some way from the heart of the Parish we hope you will take an interest in and contribute to life in Marsworth. Our Parish has always been closely associated with activity on the canals and reservoirs and it is good to see the old Bulbourne workshops, formerly owned and managed by the then British Waterways, given a new lease of life and a home to a new community within the Parish.

From this month we will be delivering *Marsworth News* to Bulbourne Yard. The magazine is published monthly (except August and December) and covers news, topics of interest and activities in the local area and is distributed free of charge by a network of local volunteer distributors. Publication costs are covered by advertising and it is a good source of contacts for local tradespeople and service providers.

The Grand Union Canal and the railway mark the boundary of Marsworth, a map showing this can be found on the Parish website ([Marsworth.org.uk](http://Marsworth.org.uk)) and on this page. The website also contains information on: the Parish Council, Buckinghamshire Councillors, planning, useful contacts and Neighbourhood Watch as well as back copies of *Marsworth News*.

If you would like to know more about the Marsworth Parish Council or would like to post an upcoming event on the website, please email Caroline Smith, the Parish Clerk. News or general interest articles for *Marsworth News* will be warmly welcomed, in this case email the editor. Contact details can be found within the magazine.

Steve Smith



Bulbourne Yard on the Grand Union Canal near Tring used to be an important historic site on the canal network, comprising a unique collection of canalside workshops, offices and dwellings.

The site was historically used for the construction of lock gates and other waterway infrastructure. However the layout, configuration and access to the buildings were designed predominantly for manual working with small workshops and low ceiling heights.

The decision was made in 2003 to relocate production and the site was eventually sold for development into residential properties.

Great efforts were made to ensure that the historic nature and architectural integrity of the site were retained. 25 homes have been created in what is now a very attractive location.

The yard at Bulbourne has been used as film locations for *Midsommer Murders* and *Call the Midwife*.

The CRT will no longer have a presence there other than access to the Wharfage for loading boats.



Bulbourne in its working days - date unknown



Work in progress 2020



A group of Bulbourne Ladies. Photo supplied by Margie Harris

# Bucks Councillor's August report – extracts

**Councillor Derek Town**  
 01296 661637  
[derek.town@buckinghamshire.gov.uk](mailto:derek.town@buckinghamshire.gov.uk)  
 Buckinghamshire Councillor,  
 Ivinghoe Ward



The full report can be found at [www.marsworth.org.uk](http://www.marsworth.org.uk).

## Adopters for children from Black African and Caribbean communities needed

Buckinghamshire Council is calling for people who may be considering adoption to get in touch. Adopters are needed for all children in Bucks, but those who are looking to adopt a child or young person from Black African and Black Caribbean heritage are particularly sought after.

## Day Travelcards to stay

Buckinghamshire Council has written to the Mayor of London insisting he immediately withdraws the proposal by Transport for London to cease sale of Day Travelcards for people travelling into and throughout London. This follows a motion debated and overwhelmingly agreed across all political parties at its recent full Council meeting.

In his letter to Sadiq Khan, Councillor Martin Tett, Leader of Buckinghamshire Council, states:

“Currently, Day Travelcards provide unlimited travel on TfL services, including London Underground, bus, tram, Docklands Light Railway, London Overground and the Elizabeth line, and National Rail services in London. They can also be used to obtain a one third reduction in River Services fares. The proposals to remove Day Travelcards constitute an unfair, unacceptable, and expensive levy on Buckinghamshire residents who wish to travel to London. The proposals have deliberately targeted the removal of the Day Travelcard as a method to generate additional income for TfL.”

Buckinghamshire Council awaits a response from the London Mayor's office.

## Bucks Household Recycling Centres continue to get top marks from residents

Overall satisfaction with all ten of the county's Household Recycling Centres (HRCs) is 100% according to the latest figures from the bi-annual Customer Satisfaction Survey.

In 2022-23, reuse tonnage was 941 tonnes in total, the equivalent weight to more than 78 double decker buses. Staff working at all HRCs also keep an eye out for items brought to the sites to see whether they can be resold and direct residents to the reuse area. Items are taken from all 10 sites and delivered to the two shops in Aston Clinton and High Wycombe. Top selling items include furniture, garden ornaments, crockery and sporting equipment – all of which can be donated directly to one of the reuse shops which are run by South Bucks Hospice.

See article on page 5.

**Growing Bright** at the... **Farmhouse KITCHEN**

## Autumn wreath-making workshop

**Thursday 28 September 10:00 - 12:30**  
 Mead's Farmhouse Kitchen, Tring HP23 4NT

- Stunning outdoor location (indoor option, depending on weather)
- Using only natural materials from the farm and local area.
- Quality tea, coffee and cake from Mead's Farmhouse Kitchen.

All included in the ticket price of just **£28 per person**

“As the autumn nights start to draw in, an indoor wreath is a heart-glowing way to bring nature into your home and to recognise the treasures that surround us at this time of year.”  
 - Lisa, Growing Bright

**No artificial materials**  
 Your wreath will make a big impact on you, but not on the planet.

We like to keep things cosy, so numbers are limited. **Contact Lisa to secure your place and arrange payment:**  
 07733 434 380  
[growing.bright22@gmail.com](mailto:growing.bright22@gmail.com)

## Ivinghoe & Pitstone Repair Cafe

**What's the Repair Cafe all about?**  
 It's so easy! You bring along anything you own that needs fixing, and we repair it for you while you sit and enjoy hot drinks and homemade snacks from our cafe area.

Our Repair Cafe is run by volunteers with a vast amount of expertise between them, making it possible to tackle most items that come through the door!

We run every 4th Saturday of the month 09.30 – 12.30. The location alternates between Bilsene Pavilion and Ivinghoe Hub on Ivinghoe Green (see maps).

So far we have run 6 Repair Cafe sessions, had over 200 items brought in and have successfully repaired two thirds of these!

Our repairs have saved the equivalent carbon emissions of ONE of the following activities:  
 Driving: 20,204 miles  
 Showering: 3,070 times  
 Tring: 29,755 (piles)

Excellent – very helpful and friendly people here. He explained the problem clearly and described the options.

Tremendous help  
 Thank you.

Very satisfied indeed. Would have otherwise ended up in landfill.

Very good to see and take part in the 'Happy Buzz' within the Hub!

**Here's what people are saying!**  
 Wonderful place to come with repairs, will be back.  
 Excellent craftsmanship, thank you.  
 Greatly appreciate this service.

We also take:  
 Contact Lenses & Packaging  
 Medicine Blister Packs  
 Oral Care Waste

**Our next Repair Cafe** –  
 Saturday 23rd September  
 at Pitstone Pavilion  
 Please tell your friends and family about us, and we hope to see you there!

Don't DITCH it  
 FIX it  
 SAVE:

**@ivinghoepitstonerepaircafe**  
 Ivinghoe & Pitstone Repair Cafe  
[ivinghoerepaircafe@gmail.com](mailto:ivinghoerepaircafe@gmail.com)  
[www.iprepaircafe.wixsite.com/repaircafe](http://www.iprepaircafe.wixsite.com/repaircafe)

# The great internet outage

Kate Andrew

Congratulations to all who survived the great Tring and surrounding villages internet outage!

Nesting rodents had gnawed through ducting, casing and multiple cables which would usually need a drill to get through, explained Openreach.

But was the glis glis, the 'edible dormouse' introduced to Tring Park in 1902 by Walter Rothschild, behind it all? The jury is out. Images of one of the culprits certainly looked like a glis glis, and one Facebook user claimed workmen had mentioned the so-called rats were 'protected', while another commented, 'It's the Tringest thing that ever Tring'd!'



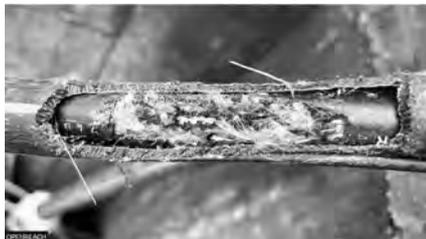
The culprit - rat or glis glis?



Glis glis

On Twitter, Tring Radio complained: 'How can a whole town be brought to a standstill by rats in this day and age? No internet for three days! Lots of compensation has got to be coming Tring and the surrounding villages way - for the 5000+ homes and businesses affected! Totally outrageous in the modern age.'

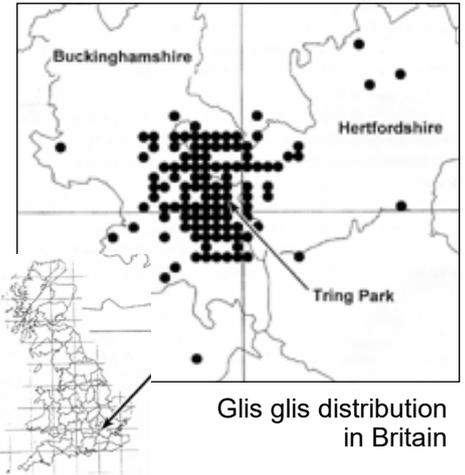
Another Tring resident wrote: 'Everyone around us has no internet, whether it be Sky, BT or Virgin etc. Very frustrating! Not sure how it can take such a big company so long to fix.'



Chewed cable

Meanwhile, those who tried to use data connections to work from home struggled, with local masts overloaded.

The outage lasted from Saturday July 29 to Wednesday August 2, with Marsworth coming back online on Tuesday evening.



More than 5,000 homes and businesses in an area spanning Aldbury Common, Berkhamsted, Marsworth, Long Marston, Cheddington and Cholesbury were all said to have been affected. They all use the same exchange in the Tring area.

Engineers used ducts to get to the damaged cables and repair them, then sealed them in to stop another rat attack, reports LBC. Repairs were hampered because a private property was on top of one of the underground chambers the cables run in.

But there is a positive - the internet seems a bit faster in Marsworth. Hopefully Openreach did some upgrading work alongside the cabling repairs.

## Report in Metro UK:

"A small UK town has been left without internet for days – and it could be down to a tiny creature linked to the Rothschild family.

Homeowners in Tring, Hertfordshire, were devastated after a nesting edible dormouse (known as the glis glis) bit through Openreach wires just outside.

Experts have said the whiskered wrecker, which was introduced by the family in 1902, is known to cause havoc. But their latest escapades led to around 10,000 homes losing internet connection for three days."

## Marsworth Village Hall

The Village Hall Committee needs new volunteers to help run the Village Hall.

We meet at 7:30 on the first Wednesday of the month at the Hall. Apart from attending the meeting, input can be as little or as much as you are able. Why not come along to the next meeting to see what being a member involves?

All local organisations can have a representative on the Committee without being elected. To date we have eight members, three of whom are shortly leaving due to longevity, one of which is the current Secretary.

Dick Brake, Chair.

## Desperately Seeking a Studio

I'm a local artist looking for a space where I can continue my Printmaking practice.

If you have a light space (like an outhouse, barn or garage) around 20 sq. mtrs, and you'd like to rent it out to a reliable, mature lady, then please contact me.

07821177685

sheiladeros@btinternet.com

References available

# Marsworth Women's Institute



By Denise Cornwall

## Report for July 2023

Well, what a way to start our evening. The rain was relentless, a few of us arrived a little bit on the damp side. However, after the antics of our magician speaker, I think we were equally as damp from the tears of laughter from watching and listening to him. Read on - all will be revealed.

Our President was enjoying a well-deserved holiday in Portugal; in her absence the Vice-President presided over the meeting.

On 28th June some of our members went to Little Heath Nursery. Weatherwise we could not have picked a better day. We were made very welcome, and several tables were reserved for us in the garden of the nursery. Also, a board was placed at the entrance welcoming Marsworth WI.

Those members who chose to go on this outing had a lovely afternoon. Most of them came away with a plant or two. We also enjoyed a very nice cake or cream scone tea. It is a very peaceful place and well worth a visit, even if it's just to sit among the plants and relax.

On 6th July Niki Powell and Denise Cornwall were guests at Cheddington WI. It was a very pleasant evening and the whole event was based on learning all about things South African. They were made to feel very welcome, and the food was excellent. They can remember the South African BBQ is called a BRAAI, but don't ask them to pronounce the name of the BBQ meat dish that they were given. They think it was Boerewors, apologies if we got it wrong.

Future trips that we have planned are a visit to Bletchley Park on Tuesday 12th September, a trip to Greatmoor on Wednesday 4th October and a trip to the Mini Car Plant in Oxford. For some of these trips we have extended invitations to husbands, partners and friends.

All official tasks done and Lynn Leaver giving us a very long-awaited talk about the famous bake-off book club. Our vice president then introduced our speaker for the evening, the multi-talented David Tompkins.

David started off by doing a few magic tricks. Then the part that we were all dreading came along. He selected some of the ladies to take part in his magic tricks. Though we were dreading taking part it was really good fun. Sylvia Frost and Jen Haywood were brilliant at their tricks and the laughter was never ending. David is an excellent magician and as hard as we all tried, it was impossible to see how he performed these tricks. We then had a surprise; we discovered David was also a very good ventriloquist, Glen Campbell paid us a visit and serenaded Evelyn Barber, then a very naughty dog called "Cheeky Dog" appeared and he lived up to his name. Roy Orbison and Elvis popped by; Elvis couldn't resist a little song with Kitty, our 104 year old member.

David is a very funny man. He had all the members laughing so much, some of us cried with laughter. He, along with his famous "guests", won't be forgotten. What a great evening.

Supper Club was held at The Bell at Aston Clinton. This is always a favourite venue with our WI. We had a brilliant evening: good food, lots of chatter and our waitress and the service was excellent.

Our Craft Club continues to be inspiring and next month we will advise what we're making or working on. It's all good stuff.

## Marsworth Miscellany

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

### Waters Edge lease

The lease for family-run cafe Waters Edge, at Startops End next to the reservoirs and canal, is being advertised on Right Move, at £20,000 per annum (£1667pcm), so it looks like owner Victoria is planning to hand it on.

The contemporary café, which remains open daily, serves freshly prepared, locally sourced menu including all-day brunch and various deals - and many in the village appreciate it being on the doorstep.

The advert states that the property comprises a fully functioning restaurant/coffee shop to ground floor with seating and working kitchen/bar.

Outside are more seating areas both open and under cover. Upstairs is storage, a prep area, and office space. The lease expires in 2035.

### Curiositea Rooms

This popular café at Pitstone village hall will have an additional venue from the first weekend in September - The Natural History Museum, Tring.



The award this month goes to

### Kate Andrew

for her constant help in supplying extra items of information for the newsletter. This is especially helpful for an editor who does not 'do' social media. Her items help make *Marsworth News* much more informative about local events.

*This award is to recognise the efforts and achievements of local individuals who have done something recently for the benefit of Marsworth.*

If you think someone in Marsworth deserves this award, **please let us know**. However you must also of course write a small item about the achievement! Send to [editor@marsworthnews.co.uk](mailto:editor@marsworthnews.co.uk).

## Rural Rambler By Steve

A series of walks around Marsworth and the local countryside. All the walks in this series can now be downloaded from the Marsworth website where a higher resolution map is available:

<https://www.marsworth.org.uk/the-marsworth-news/rural-rambler/>.

### No. 10 Studham: Queen Elizabeth Platinum Jubilee Walk. 3.8 (alternative extension of 5.5) miles

This lovely walk is within the Chilterns AONB and based in the village of Studham in Central Bedfordshire. It starts and ends within the village and traverses the surrounding countryside and local landmarks. The walk is generally well signposted, includes open fields and woodland and is easy going with kissing gates and one stile; some sections are muddy in wet weather. The walk outlined below is 3.8 miles (6 km) with the option for a 2.2 mile (3.6 km) extension. Two pubs, The Red Lion and The Bell, in Studham provide useful watering holes.

Studham is about 10 miles from Marsworth. Take the B489 from Ivinghoe towards Dunstable, turning right at the roundabout by the dental surgery then left up the hill (B4540) to Whipsnade Zoo. After passing the Zoo turn right at the next roundabout and follow the road through Holywell to Studham. Park opposite the war memorial on the common.

The walk commemorates Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee and the following description is based on the walk leaflet created by the Friends of Studham Common ([www.foscomm.org](http://www.foscomm.org)) which can be freely downloaded from the Chiltern Society <https://chilternsociety.org.uk/free-walks-leaflets/>.

#### The Walk

From the War Memorial opposite the Red Lion pub, follow the footpath along the common, keeping to the right of the goalposts, into woodland and continuing straight on until you come to the village school and School Cottage. Pass to the left of the school, with open fields to your left and continue on the same footpath until reaching Valley Road (point A). Cross the road and, after 250 yards, pass through a kissing gate, immediately after which turn right over a stile (B) and onto a section of the Chiltern Way. A short walk across a field will lead you alongside and then into woods. Just into the woods turn right then after a few yards join a track up to the 13th century St Mary's Church.

Enter the church gate and look around this very well kept churchyard, leaving via the kissing gate in the left hand (NW) corner of the churchyard (C) and turn right to join a footpath along the side of fields. After the second field, approx. 300 yards, turn left beside the hedge (Point D, signposted) and follow the footpath downhill to Dunstable Road.

Carefully cross the road onto the pavement opposite and turn left

towards Holywell. After 100 yards take the footpath on the right (point E, an easy to miss narrow entrance beside 'Longyards' farm) uphill and into more woods. Follow the footpath into open countryside and then into further woodland alongside the Holywell housing estate.

Turn right (F) and follow the footpath through a small wood and then across a large arable field and a small copse. After crossing the field, the footpath goes alongside further woodland and then passes between a small collection of houses and a Scout Activity Centre, before ending on the Byslips Road (G). Take great care, the road is winding and has no footpath. Turn left along Byslips Road and after 130 yards turn right on the footpath into Byslips Wood (H). As you walk through the wood note the many mature oak trees on your right, seemingly planted to mark an old boundary and many showing signs of coppicing in their youth. Turn right at the end of the wood finally coming out onto a well-worn track (point I, marked '16' on the waymark post).

**To take the alternative route** of an extra 2.2 miles (1.7 miles on the Chiltern Society leaflet but I measured it somewhat longer) turn left on the track, which becomes a footpath between hedges. Follow for 0.8 mile until reaching a road and Hollybush Lodge. Take the right turn signposted to Beechwood Farm B&B. After approx. 0.5 mile turn right at Beechwood Home Farm and walk past farm buildings and cottages, through a dilapidated kissing gate and onto a good track through the woods. This track ends at a junction with a flurry of 'No Footpath' signs; the route is straight ahead on a narrow path into the woods and marked with a yellow capped waymarker. Eventually coming out of the woods turn right and after a few yards join the main route at point M on Studham Common.

If staying on the main route, turn right on the track from point I, gently downhill until a water treatment works is reached. Just past the works a gap in the hedge on your left takes you on to Studham East Common. Continue up the hill on the edge of the common to point M and then follow the path west along the top of the common until you reach a small car park on Byslips Road (N). Take care crossing the road to enter Middle Common. At this point, follow the path diagonally across the Common, through the Jubilee Copse, planted to celebrate Queen Elizabeth's Silver Jubilee, and returning to the start of the walk.



## Filming at Pitstone Quarry

Hertfordshire Mercury reported that American A-list actors Hugh Jackman and Ryan Reynolds have been spotted on the Hertfordshire/Buckinghamshire border as filming for the much anticipated 'Deadpool 3' has begun near Tring. The high-profile actors were spotted filming at Pitstone Quarry.



Ryan Reynolds is seen in a Deadpool outfit and Hugh Jackman in his Wolverine costume.



Image: Dave Rance

Thanks to Kate Andrew for bringing this to our notice.

## Surgery changes

By Kate Andrew

Patients registered at Aston Clinton Surgery, but living outside the new Westongrove Partnership catchment area (which only extends as far as Wilstone in our direction), have been asked to find another GP surgery within 28 days. The reason given is the number of new builds in the area.

A letter to affected patients says: "For many years we were happy to continue to keep patients registered with us when they lived outside the new Westongrove Partnership boundary. However, with the increasing pressure on GP list sizes and the growth within the practice catchment area, it is unfortunately no longer possible for us to do so."

Those who do not change GP surgery will be automatically removed from the list after 28 days, so everyone is urged to register with their nearest practice as soon as possible."

Many affected and posting on Facebook, say they have been with Aston Clinton Surgery for up to 40 years and are very sad. 'It will be a bit of a mental and emotional adjustment' says one.

Another says: 'Yes - ceremoniously dumped after 26 years ... even people with Bucks postcodes have been dumped in Marsworth. Blamed all the new builds when I called. We are only 2.1 miles away but there is no right to remain.'

The majority are moving to Rothschild House Group, where former Aston Clinton partner Dr Craig White is now a doctor at Markyate.

It is easy enough to register online with Rothschild House Surgery in Tring, but access to records on the NHS app can be lost, at least temporarily.

# Exhibition of art and crafts

Saturday, 14th October, 10.30am to 4.30pm  
 Sunday, 15th October, 10:30am to 3:30pm

**ST MARY'S CHURCH, IIVINGHOE, LU7 9EW**

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Everyone Welcome

### Thursday Coffee Morning & drop in

At  
 Beacon Villages Community Library  
 Old Town Hall  
 Ivinghoe

Starts 17th August  
 10am til 12pm

Free tea, coffee & biscuits

Come along for a chat  
 Friendly support

## Beacon Villages Community Library, Ivinghoe

Open Tuesday, Thurs and Friday 2-5pm, Saturday 10am-1pm.

General enquiries: [info@bvcl.org.uk](mailto:info@bvcl.org.uk), 01296 387890.

# Heritage Open Days - September 2023



Welcome to England's largest festival of history and culture! **heritage open days**

Every September thousands of volunteers across England organise events to celebrate our fantastic history and culture. It's your chance to see hidden places and try out new experiences – all of which are FREE to explore.

These are just a few of the places available to visit locally. For more, go to <https://www.heritageopendays.org.uk/>.

## Judges Lodgings, Aylesbury

Walton Street, Aylesbury, HP20 1US

A rare chance to look around this historic building which is not usually open to the public. Hear about the architect, judges, paintings and even the Great Train Robbery!



The Judges Lodgings was built in 1849-50 to provide accommodation for the Assize judges on their visits to Aylesbury. It is a spacious four-storey building connected to the court rooms in the County Hall by an overhead passage. Judges continued to stay there until the abolition of the Assize courts in 1971.



Perhaps the most famous assizes for which the Lodgings was used was the trial of the Great Train Robbers at Special Assizes in 1964.

**Friday 15 September:** 10-11, 11.30-12.30

**Saturday 16 September:** 10-11, 11.30-12.30

Pre-booking required. Will close for bookings when all tickets are booked. Go to: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/judges-lodgings-tours-aylesbury-tickets-692337218257>.

## The 'Muddled Museum' Bucks Archaeological Society

Market Square, Aylesbury, HP20 1TW

The 'Muddled Museum' is an opportunity for adults and children to touch real objects of archaeological interest and to see if they can identify them and guess how old they are.

There will be a rare opportunity to handle real objects, some of them hundreds of years old, on the Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society's stall in Aylesbury's Market Square. Can you tell the difference between pig and sheep teeth? Is this really Roman? What on earth does this come from?



Plenty of questions at this stall and quite a few answers. Sometimes you may know better than we do!

**Saturday 9 September:** 10.00-16.00

No booking required

## A Walk into the Past: Berkhamsted Place, successor to the Castle

Top of Castle Hill/Castle Gateway, Berkhamsted Place, Berkhamsted, HP4 1LH

Tour includes the surviving servants' quarter, kitchen garden with Victorian vinery and the awesome Great Barn, the largest in Herts.



Berkhamsted Place was built by Sir Edward Carey, Keeper of the Queen's Jewels (Elizabeth I), using material from the castle. From the 18th century onwards it was frequently known as The Castle. Although little remains of the mansion itself, the area is rich in history.

Tours will include the Great Barn which is even older than the mansion. Although the mansion was demolished in 1967 much interest still remains.

**Friday 15 September:** 11.00

**Saturday 16 September:** 11.00

Pre-booking: Required. <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk>  
Booking closes: 14 September 2023 17:00

## Secret side of Berkhamsted:- Crusaders, Murders and Ghosts

Berkhamsted Castle, Brownlow Road, Berkhamsted, HP4 1HB

Discover the darker side of Berkhamsted from the Castle siege to the town's haunted pubs, Discover crusaders and highwaymen, Civil War prisoners and the first murderer caught via telegraph message, in a family walk with Dan Parry, former BBC producer and qualified London Walks guide.



**Friday 8 September:** 14.30

**Saturday 9 September:** 10.00am

**Friday 15 September:** 10.00am

Pre-booking: Required: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk>  
Booking closes: 7 September 2023 17:00

Parking is available at car parks in the town.

## BFI Film & Television Archive

BFI National Archive, Kingshill Way, Berkhamsted, HP4 3TP

See the specialist skills, technology and vaults preserving the film and TV heritage of the nation. We'll be hosting talks, demos, exhibits and mini-tours, all celebrating the National Collection and those integral to making it a world-class archive.



Following the success of previous years, the British Film Institute will open the doors to the John Paul Getty Jnr Conservation Centre for another year, providing rare access to the specialist skills, technology and stores which support the conservation of the BFI National Collection.

This year's Heritage Open Days event will include film inspection, video and television preservation, BFI Reuben Library, BFI Replay (streaming video platform), Special Collections, digital preservation and mini tours of our film vault. There will be a demonstration of the history of projection in our theatre\* plus a chance to see the rare 9.5mm film gauge projected. All of our displays will encompass this year's theme of Creativity Unwrapped.

\*As this demo is held in our theatre, spaces are strictly limited so tickets will be issued by the steward each hour. Sadly not everyone who attends will have the opportunity to see this and your patience and kindness towards our hard-working volunteers is appreciated.

**Sunday 17 September:** 10.30-16.00

No booking required

### Amersfort, Potten End

A fine Arts and Craft house, with garden designed by E Willmott and planted by Gertrude Jekyll.

Amersfort Hall,  
The Common, Potten End,  
Berkhamsted, HP4 2QF



This introductory talk and guided tour of the gardens gives visitors a rare opportunity to see Ernest Willmott's early 20th century design and garden layout, with its steps and terraces, a great deal of which remains intact. We shall also learn of the colour scheme which Gertrude Jekyll planned for the all-year round effect. The aim of the design was to blend into the surrounding countryside.

**Tuesday 12 September:** 10.30 and 14.00

Pre-booking required:

Booking contact: Sandra Jenkins 07942321901

Email: [admin@BLHMS.onmicrosoft.com](mailto:admin@BLHMS.onmicrosoft.com)

Booking opens: 11 September 10:00

Booking closes: 11 September 17:00

### Bucks Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers

Haddenham Village Hall, Banks Road, Haddenham,  
Bucks, HP17 8EE

Try your hand at spinning, weaving, natural dyeing and braiding at our Guild Open Day and find out about the history of our heritage crafts.



For the first time, the Guild is taking part in Heritage Open Days. We will be welcoming visitors free of charge to watch demonstrations of weaving and spinning, view our exhibition of historic and current craft work and have a go at activities for all ages throughout the day.

**Sunday 17 September:** 11.00-16.00

No booking required



**Sponsored Bike 'n Hike**  
BEDS AND HERTS HISTORIC CHURCHES TRUST

# Bike 'n Hike

## Saturday 9 September 2023

9am to 5pm



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Bike 'n Hike in association with the national Ride + Stride and with acknowledgements to THE WIXAMTREE TRUST  
www.b-n-h.co.uk BHMCT Registered Charity No. 1005697

## 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](http://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.



Buckinghamshire  
Council



# Marsworth Neighbourhood Watch



By Linda Beardsley, NHW Co-ordinator

Burglaries happen all year but peaks are seen around Christmas, when there are more dark hours, and also in the Summer. Doors and windows being left open in warmer weather offer burglars potential easy access and are an invitation for opportunists. Our village PCSO Megan contacted Marsworth NHW to report there has been an increase in the number of burglaries recently. She provided advice on keeping your home safe and you can find this on this page, if your NHW co-ordinator has not already provided you with it.

Always lock and secure your doors and windows, don't make access to your garden straightforward – wheelie bins are great at helping get over fences and secure any sheds and garages.



## Car Crime

There has again been an increase in our area of car and catalytic convertor theft. Never leave your car unlocked, windows open or keys in the ignition, even on your own drive. Don't leave any valuables in your car and if it has wing mirrors that fold in, ensure they always are. Criminal gangs look to see if they aren't as a sign the car is not properly locked.

## Thames Valley Police (TVP)

In the year from April 2022 to March 2023, TVP had nearly one million contacts from the public, attended 170,000 incidents, made 31,000 arrests and drove in excess than 13 million miles in the process!

### In the air:

TVP drones were sent out to 1,004 incidents, up 66% on the previous year. There has recently been a documentary series on television following the work of the Police drone units, which highlighted how invaluable they are in searching areas from above. They are especially effective when using heat seeking equipment that pinpoints suspected criminals hiding. Previously they would have escaped arrest.

### With four legs:

Police dogs were sent out to 6,990 incidents, up 11% on the previous year. Police horses went to 505 incidents, 33 of those times to support other police forces.

### A year like no other

This period also saw TVP undertake one of the largest policing operations in their history with the committal service of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II in Windsor.

They also policed Reading Festival, Royal Ascot, Henley Regatta, and have policed four of the UEFA Women's EURO 2022 matches at Stadium MK.

This summer Thames Valley Police (TVP) will open its doors to the public for the Force Open Day.

The event will take place between 10am and 4pm on Saturday 2nd September and will be hosted at the TVP training centre in Sulhamstead, near Reading.

The Open Day provides a fantastic opportunity to get a behind the scenes look at what it takes to police one of the biggest non-metropolitan policing areas in the country.

The Roads Policing Unit, Forensic Investigations Unit, Contact Management team and Major Crime Unit are some of over 40 exhibitors who will be there to showcase their work.

## Burglary Advice

There has been a recent spate of burglaries across the area, and we wanted to take this opportunity to offer residents some security advice.

- Ensure all windows and doors are secure and keys are taken out of the locks.
- Mark all valuable items with your post code using a UV pen or permanent marker. This makes it easier for us to return items to you should we recover them. It also makes them less desirable to thieves.
- Take photographs of valuable items such as jewellery. This will help us to identify them if they are taken.
- Consider installing a safe and have this secured to the floor or wall.
- Make a note of any serial numbers on electrical items or power tools.
- If you have a house alarm, ensure it is set when you leave your home and/or your property. This may act as a deterrent and could also help us to identify the offenders.
- Install PIR lights outside your home. This will alert you and/or your neighbours if someone was on your property during the hours of darkness.

Please report anything suspicious to the Police by calling 999. Even if you feel it is a small piece of information, this may be the missing piece that we are looking for. If it is not an incident in progress, you can report any information by calling 101 or via our online reporting system on the Thames Valley Police website.



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

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Trustatrader site.

## Muntjac deer

This article (here somewhat shortened) appeared in the Sunday Times of 26 March 2023. It was forwarded to us by Paula Abramson. Muntjac are quite common in the more rural Marsworth area.

The muntjac is a small non-native invasive species of deer no bigger than a medium-sized dog, which appears in gardens throughout southeast England and parts of Wales.

There are more deer in the UK than at any time since the Norman conquest, and in many places their population is far too large, according to the Countryside Alliance. Muntjac are a particular problem because they are small enough to get through garden fences and are less afraid of humans than larger deer species.

Muntjac were introduced to England from southeast China in the early 19th century. A pair resided in London Zoo and some were later placed in Woburn Park in Bedfordshire by the 11th Duke of Bedford, who was notorious for introducing invasive species to the UK. After releases and escapes, they became established in the wild in about the 1930s.

There are no up-to-date figures for their population. A 2009 parliamentary report put it at more than 150,000, mainly in England, but according to the British Deer Society the real number is likely to be a lot higher. They have not gained a foothold in Scotland, where it is illegal to release muntjac or let them escape into the wild.

Alastair Ward, of Leeds University, describes muntjac as "the most problematic deer species in England and Wales". They breed quickly and there is no proper strategy to contain them. They can destroy gardens and are also a cause of road accidents.

Last year the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs launched a consultation on deer management in the UK, which included muntjac. Proposals for population control include encouraging hunting for meat (their venison is considered very good).

In a garden they tend to gorge on the tips of flowering plants. They also like to scrape the sap from the bark of small trees. The Royal Horticultural Society recommends planting nearer your house, where the muntjac are less likely to tread, and to consider plants that they tend to avoid, such as lilac, honeysuckle and bay.



Under the Alien Species (Enforcement and Permitting) Order 2019, muntjac are classified as an invasive species, so their capture and rerelease is not permitted. You can, however, shoot them, provided you have the permission of the landowner and a gun licence. Muntjac are already culled under the provisions of the Deer Act 1991 and, unlike most other deer species, such as red, fallow and roe, may be hunted legally all year round.

With an excess of supply and lack of demand, the price of venison has dropped. A pilot project run by the Country Food Trust will serve venison ragout in food banks across the country. Muntjac meat is said by connoisseurs to be delicious. It is high in protein and has lower levels of saturated fat than beef and other red meat.

London restaurants are apparently now serving muntjac.

### A further description from The Wildlife Trust

A very small, stocky deer, the muntjac deer is about the same size as a medium dog. It is gingery-brown, with a pale underside, darker stripes in its face, and small, single-pointed antlers.



## Drinking tonight?

Will you be safe to drive tomorrow?

Research suggests that approximately 20% of people detected over the drink-drive limit are caught the morning after having a drink – between 6am and noon. This number has risen significantly in the last decade to approximately 5,500 people each year.

From April 2022 to March 2023 there were 385 drink-driving arrests in Buckinghamshire Council's area. This is why the message from the council's road safety initiative Travel Safe Bucks is: If you've been drinking the night before, remember you could still have alcohol in your system the following day; so if you have to go to work, appointments or make the school run, then plan ahead and don't drive the morning after.

On average, it takes one hour for alcohol to be absorbed into the bloodstream fully, and then one hour per unit consumed for alcohol to leave the body. So, eight units



of alcohol (approximately three large glasses of wine) takes around nine hours to leave the body.

There is no way to know how much a person can drink and stay under the limit, since it can depend on weight, age, metabolism, the amount of food they've eaten and other factors. It doesn't matter if you eat carb-based foods, drink two litres of water or have a cold shower, the alcohol still takes the same amount of time to leave the body.

Visit [www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/campaign/drinkdrug-driving](http://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/campaign/drinkdrug-driving) to find useful information and tools including:

- The Morning After Calculator to see approximately when the alcohol you've drunk will be out of your system
- How many units of alcohol are in popular drinks
- The effect on reactions even before you're over the limit
- Penalties and the impact of being caught drink/drug driving
- The effects of drugs including prescribed medicines

# The Tring Anglers



I always welcome September; the best month for angling in my experience. All wildlife begins to prepare for surviving the winter while the food supply is at its peak and the weather is still clement. Fish are at their fittest and finest in the Autumn and their coloration is at its boldest.

I have mentioned before that sometimes fish seem to vanish from the waters and we cannot seem to catch them. This year the roach fishing in our local canals was almost non-existent; only the odd small fish showing in our catches. All of a sudden August produced large numbers of good size roach up to 1.5lb in catches in many canal sections. These fish are from three to eight years old, so where have they been? Reports from the River Thames match angling groups showed that weights of roach followed a similar pattern. In June and July catches consisted of perch, small chub and some bream. In August, however, winning weights were mostly roach by quantity. This peculiar pattern is very noticeable this year, but it has always happened, to some degree, in all of my sixty years fishing.



Canal roach ready to be released

At the moment the fish are spread out along the network – be it river or canal – as winter approaches, however, fish shoal up together and fishermen need to know where they might be found to stand any chance of a reasonable

catch. I remember having a chat with one of the skilled men who move and rescue fish under contract to the Canal & River Trust, among other organisations. He recounted how often in the winter they would electro-fish a section, prior to works being carried out, and for 300 yards hardly a fish was to be found, then further on, all of a sudden it is like ‘fish city’, for no apparent reason. Clearly we still have much left to learn about fish, and all the underwater creatures, that are so often hidden from our sight.



Maja Davidson with her 5lb 8oz winning mixed catch of perch, roach, ruffe and small bream.

The Let’s Fish programme is reaching its conclusion and it has been an interesting and fruitful year so far. All the Saturday sessions in July and early August were wet and windy and we feared that many who booked a coaching slot would not turn out. In fact, we had the lowest number of ‘no shows’ since we started the booking system with Eventbrite. It also looks like we will finish the year with the highest number of repeat visits ever. It has now meant we can start a proper progress towards a junior club, rather than just being members of The Tring Anglers.

I am delighted to report that yet again our Junior angler Maja Davidson produced a successful match result. Fishing the Regional event on the Canal at Three Locks Stoke Hammond she had the top weight off all participants with 5lb 8oz. Congratulations Maja! We look forward to the National event in September.

Dick Pilkinton

# Aldbury Pond drainage

Visitors to Ashridge and Aldbury recently will have noticed that the famous pond in the centre of Aldbury village has been drained. This is because of a restoration programme for the pond.



Photo: Tamzin Green

A notice to local residents states: “Work will take place in three stages: the clearing, reprofiling and then relining of the pond. The final phase requires a respite from the rain, which means the timetable has to maintain a degree of flexibility.”



Aldbury Pond drained

Work with a mechanical digger was carried out by an experienced volunteer from the Wendover Canal Trust.

The notice calls for local volunteers to help with a number of tasks, including laying down the puncture-proof fabric and geotextile liner, and spreading and compacting the concrete overlay.

The work was scheduled over two weekends towards the end of August.

# Sculpture Garden at Ashridge House



This summer, Ashridge House presents its prestigious Sculpture Exhibition within the enchanting confines of its historic grounds.

This exclusive event promises an eclectic collection of contemporary and traditional sculptures crafted by talented living artists. Embark on a carefully curated sculpture trail that will take you on a captivating journey through our lush surroundings, where you will encounter awe-inspiring works by internationally acclaimed sculptors and budding talents.



31st July -24th September 2023, 9am-5pm  
Adult: £12, Child: £9

## New Moon Morris

New Moon is a mixed, inclusive Morris side, dancing 'fusion Morris' - a variety of traditional dance styles from around the country. We meet to practise on Tuesday evenings at Ivinghoe Town Hall (LU7 9EP) from 8.15 - 10.15 pm.



### New Moon Morris events over coming months:

#### September

**"Come and try Morris Dancing"** - every Tuesday evening in September (8.15 - 10.15pm) at Ivinghoe Town Hall. All welcome, no previous experience necessary.

**Saturday 23rd September** - Dancing and music at Princes Risborough Farmers' Market - between 11.30am and 2.00pm.

#### October

**Sunday 8th October** - Pitstone Green Museum (LU7 9EY) - dancing and music from midday to mid-afternoon.

**Saturday 14th October** - Tring Apple Parade. Meet at the Kings Arms, Tring, at 10.00am for a parade along the High Street at 10.30. Dancing with other local Morris sides afterwards.

**Sunday 29th October** - Dance the Sun Down - Dancing on top of Pitstone Hill to mark the end of Summer. Meet in the National Trust car park (HP23 5RT) at 3.30pm. Dancing on the hill until the sun sets - about 4.45pm.

For more information New Moon Morris is on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/NewMoonMorris>.

Additionally, this is not a New Moon Morris event, but are you aware of the Apple Day at Jeacock's Orchard in Cow Lane, Tring, on Sunday 1st October? One of our members organises the event and our musicians will be playing (usually from late morning onwards) - provided that it isn't raining.

*Cath Fincher*



New Moon Morris Dancing the Sun Down



Hayley Chalmers of Lower Icknield Way found this aerial photo of Marsworth in her loft. It is not dated, but was probably in the early 1980s. Can anyone confirm? If you would like to see a colour version, email the editor.

## FlorenceFest

The first ever FlorenceFest Saturday September 16th Roman Park Hall, Aylesbury (HP18 0YT) - a day filled with live music, street food and drink, creating a fun day (and night) out for family or with your friends.

The festivities kick off at noon and continue until midnight. The highlight will be the lineup of tribute bands that will take the stage, covering some of the UK's favourite bands and artists.

During the event there will also be a great range of food suppliers, along with our fully stocked bars.

In the first half of the event there will be an array of family-friendly activities to keep the little ones entertained, with face painting and a bouncy castle.

FlorenceFest is organised by Florence Nightingale Hospice Charity, raising funds for the local hospice and their patient care across Bucks.

[www.fnhospice.org.uk/florencefest](http://www.fnhospice.org.uk/florencefest)



## Sing Wilstone Community Choir

Tuesdays, 6.30 - 7.30pm, St Cross Church, Wilstone

Join your local choir

No audition, just enthusiasm. Your first session is free.

With members from Wilstone, Tring, Marsworth and other local areas, we are an established choir with a programme of charity performances each year.

New members are always welcome.

[www.singwilstonecommunitychoir.co.uk](http://www.singwilstonecommunitychoir.co.uk)

or call Bev Ralphs 07989961298  
or Jo Woodbridge 07719434620



## 1st Ivinghoe & Pitstone Scout Group

Pitstone Memorial Hall

**Beavers - age 5¾ - 8**

Monday / Tuesday 6-7pm

**Cubs - age 8 - 10½**

Wed. 6.30-8.30pm / Thurs. 6.30-8pm

**Scouts - age 10½ - 14**

Fridays 7- 8.30pm



For all enquiries or to enrol your child on our waiting list, please contact Andrew Woods on 01296 663728 / 07768 980311 or email:

[Ivinghoe.pitstone.scouts@gmail.com](mailto:Ivinghoe.pitstone.scouts@gmail.com)

## Girl Guiding UK

Pitstone Memorial Hall

**Rainbows:** Monday 4.30–5.30pm

**Brownies:** Monday 5.45–7.15pm

**Guide:** Tuesday 7.00–8.30pm  
(Millennium Room)



To join us, visit our website at [www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk)

**Children from Marsworth welcome at both groups.**

## The Ridgeway Ensemble

The Ridgeway Ensemble presents a new programme at 5pm on Saturday October 14th in Ivinghoe Town Hall, LU7 9EP, in connection with the Arts and Crafts Exhibition to be held in St Mary's Church on Saturday 14th (10.30-4.30, admission free) and Sunday 15th October (10.30-3.30).

Following the exhibition, which will feature many works inspired by nature, 'Walk in Beauty' is an exploration of humanity's relationship with nature as seen through the eyes of musicians and writers. Lasting approximately one hour 15 minutes, it's a varied programme ranging from the early 19th century right up to the present day. Music written in previous generations is complemented by the response of several contemporary composers to the crisis in nature.

Tickets £10 from [mrwslapton@gmail.com](mailto:mrwslapton@gmail.com) or on the door.

Tea and cakes will be available in the church during the exhibition and prior to the concert.

### WALK IN BEAUTY

Humanity's relationship to nature  
explored in a concert of words and music

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> October**  
**5.00pm**  
**Ivinghoe Town Hall**  
**7 High St, Ivinghoe**  
**LU7 9EP**

Tickets £10 on the door or from  
[mrwslapton@gmail.com](mailto:mrwslapton@gmail.com)  
Tea will be available in the  
church before the concert  
following the Arts and Crafts  
Exhibition.

Judith Sheridan, voice  
Margaret Richards, cello  
Daniel King Smith, piano  
William Winfield, reader

**RIDGEWAY**  
**ENSEMBLE**

## Pitstone Green Museum

Vicarage Road, Pitstone, LU7 9EY

[www.pitstonemuseum.co.uk](http://www.pitstonemuseum.co.uk)



### Open Days 2023

Sunday 10th September

Sunday 8th October

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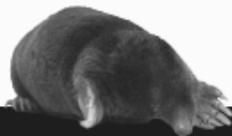
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## Diary Dates - September 2023

11th	Monday	8.00pm	Parish Council Meeting
15th	Friday	7.30pm	Harvest Supper - see p.3

## Recycling information

It is no longer possible to supply this information in calendar form. It is only available by enquiring using your own address. See article on page 6.

To access the information on your own bin collection, go to:  
<https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling/find-out-when-its-your-bin-collection/>



Photos for Studham walk - see Rural Rambler on page 11.



Caught on camera in an outside shed at Startop Farm. One of a family of cats intended to keep down a rat problem finds an intruder a little more daunting!

Photo supplied by Josie Kempster

## Local names and numbers

### Millennium Hall bookings

Frances Brown - 01296 661211  
after 4.00pm

### All Saints, Marsworth churchwardens

Richard Cooper - 01296 661725  
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

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

## Public information

### Highways on Call

(roads, lighting, etc.): 01296 382416

## Last postal collections

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Sat 7.00am

**Tring Post Office** - Last post 5.30pm

**Tring Distribution Centre** 6.00pm

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Reflections at The Wharf - Nigel Wright



Swans at The Wharf - Ginny Lewis



Pre-harvest - Jeremy Whitehead



Deer in wheat field - Jeremy Whitehead



Fungi at Startops Reservoir - Niki Powell



Harvest - Jeremy Whitehead