

Marsworth News

April 2023

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

Adverts to: advertising@marsworthnews.co.uk

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The Big Coronation Lunch

The Coronation weekend will soon be with us! Pack up your picnic baskets and blankets and put the grey skies of winter behind you and walk down to the recreation ground on 7th May from 12 – 3pm to get together and celebrate!



The past few years have been tough for everyone, and things are still a struggle in different ways for many of us. One thing we now have that we did not have during the long grey days of Covid, is a chance to get together. Remember how we longed to see people and be active? How much did we miss socialising and the chance to say "hello" to a neighbour? Let's pull together again and show what a friendly village Marsworth is.

There are many people in Marsworth with amazing talents that might help to make our picnic even better. We do need help to make this day a success. We have the support of the Parish Council and now we have the task of engaging the people of Marsworth to lend a hand. This will be an event for the people, and if we have a few willing members of the community contributing, no one will have to do very much.

How you could contribute:

- Do you sing or play an instrument?
- Can you organise games for children? Can you do face painting?
- Could you organise something for the older children in the village?
- Could you put up bunting or collect litter afterwards?
- Do you have any ideas for fun things to make this day special?

Help us to come together as a village. We can mix with our fellow residents (old and new), get to know each other better and reinvigorate our community spirit.

If you can give a little time or have any ideas, we would love to hear from you. Contact: marsworthpicnic@gmail.com or 01296 661820.

If you just want to come along and enjoy the day - we look forward to seeing you there!

Organisers:

Sue Wright, 01296 661820
Jenny Sheils, 07967505598
Linda Beardsley, 07921 780817

CORONATION
big lunch

SAVE THE DATE!

BRING YOUR PICNIC AND SMILES TO THE MARSWORTH PICNIC IN THE PARK!

Sunday 7th May 2023
12.00 - 3.00pm
Marsworth Recreation Ground

More info soon....
or contact: marsworthpicnic@gmail.com

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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*

Great news about the proposed Coronation lunch - a very special opportunity for all Marsworth to get together. Much credit should go to the three ladies for taking up the challenge, coming up with this idea and driving it forward. They deserve full support from everyone and a great day should be had by all.

Perhaps not quite such a jolly event, a proposed village litterpick the following day could be another opportunity for the village to pull together. It does need someone to organise it, however. See page 3.

The proposed community garden and the Speedwatch initiative are further indications that there are many in Marsworth with a very positive attitude. See pages 4 and 7.

Facebook / social media fans



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

You may think that if you have seen the item, so will everyone else - but many do not access social media and will 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

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 to Karibu, Vicarage Gardens.

Thank you very much on behalf of the Marsworth Food Bank Team.

The appearance of the little blue book swap shed in Church Lane is another example of local initiative for the benefit of others. See page 8.

We will all be sorry at the retirement of our postman, Trevor, who has been such a cheerful and ubiquitous presence around our village for about ten years, as well as taking part in the Marsworth Fun Run on a number of occasions. His retirement is well deserved and we wish him all the very best. See page 5.

You may note that we have made two *Marsworth News* special awards this month, and it looks as though there may be more in the pipeline. These are an opportunity to publicly express the appreciation of the community for individual or group efforts made for the benefit of Marsworth.

Anyone can suggest a recipient of this award, provided they supply a little write-up to explain how or why it has been earned. Just send to the editor!

Marsworth News

Wanted - articles for newsletter

Either a regular feature or an occasional article

Photos are always welcome.

Email editor@MarsworthNews.co.uk

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



Dates for 2023

8th and 22nd April
13th and 27th May
10th and 24th June
8th and 22nd July
12th and 26th August
9th and 23rd September
14th and 28th October
11th and 25th November
2nd and 16th December

All Saints Church



On Friday 3rd March, 2023 the church celebrated The World Day of Prayer, which is a women-led global ecumenical movement. This year the day of prayer was prepared by the women of Taiwan.

The event was hosted by All Saints Church for the Benefice, and members of all three churches were present and participated in the service which began with a welcome and an introduction into the lifestyle and history of Taiwan. Hymns and readings, interspersed by music, followed. Finally a cold lunch, including Taiwanese biscuits and a special cake, was enjoyed by all.

On 7th March we celebrated the life of John Kearsley who was active in our community, caring for our church premises and helping with church events. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife Carrie and daughters Grace and Helena.

We now look forward to the Festival of Easter, the most important event in the Church Calendar. Eastertide celebrates the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, our Saviour. This is a joyous time within the church following on from the gloom of Lent and the sadness of Holy Week.

We like to decorate the church on Easter Saturday morning and if you would like to help, please contact either Netty Botting on 01296 662007 or Gill White on 01296 662252 and they will advise on what you will need to bring along with you on the morning.

John White, Churchwarden

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

Churchwardens: John White 01296 662252 horse.71shoe@sky.com

Richard Cooper 01296 661725 richard.bennettcooper@outlook.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:

Netty Botting 07794 082812

nettybotting@sky.com

Food Bank:

Richard Cooper 01296 661725

richard.bennettcooper@outlook.com

Bellringers tower captain

Richard Booth 07850 038197

rbooth.maffers@talktalk.net

Church mowing:

Gavin Merrylees 01296 668046

gavin.merrylees@gmail.com

Choir:

Netty Botting 07794 082812

Church cleaning:

Elsie Beesley 01296 668492

elsiebeesley@aol.com

Services for April 2023

2nd April

9.15am Common Worship Holy Communion.

5th April

8.00pm Compline.

7th April

2.00pm Hour of the Cross Reflection.

9th April

8.00am Common Worship Holy Communion.

16th April

9.15am Common Worship Holy Communion.

23rd April

6.00pm Evensong.

30th April

Benefice Service to be arranged.

Passing of John Kearsley

We are so sorry to hear of the death of John Kearsley of Lukes Lea, following a long illness.

A service was held at All Saints church, followed by refreshments at the Red Lion.

We hope to have an obituary in next month's newsletter. Our condolences and best wishes to his wife Carrie and daughters Helena and Grace.

Cream Teas every Sunday in Wingrave Parish Church

Every Sunday during the Summer
3.00pm – 5:30pm.
Coffee and cake also served.



Monday 8th May

Would anyone like to organise a village litterpick for the Coronation Big Help Out?

Contact: marsworthpicnic@gmail.com



Parish Council meeting March 2023 - highlights



(Full Minutes of all Meetings, future Agendas and much other information can be found at <https://www.marsworth.org.uk/marsworth-parish-council/>)

We had quite a full-house on Monday night for our Parish Council meeting with almost 20 residents attending. It was great to see everyone coming together to listen to the residents' proposed initiatives for our village.

First up was the Community Speedwatch – see page 7 for further details.

Next was the Community Garden – see page 4 for update.

Councillor Town attended the meeting and has undertaken to ascertain from Buckinghamshire Council when the Chiltern Beechwoods Special Area of Conservation (SAC) will be determined (Dacorum have already determined theirs). This will have a significant impact on the planning application at the White Lion and if Ainscough were again to apply for planning permission for the Marsworth Airfield site prior to this determination.

See <https://www.marsworth.org.uk/planning-matters/> for more information about the SAC.

A new Councillor was co-opted to the Parish, Steve Smith – see page 5 for further details.

Tree protection

There was a very interesting discussion on the protection of trees within our Marsworth Conservation Area. Please see <https://www.marsworth.org.uk/planning-matters/> for the map of the area covered. This is from 2012 so a little out of date now.

The Parish Council is not automatically notified when an application (a 211 Notice) is submitted to Buckinghamshire Council for tree work or the felling of trees and the Parish Council is not a statutory consultee so there is no requirement for Buckinghamshire Council to consult the Parish Council. Rest assured, the Parish Clerk will now check on the Planning website on a weekly basis.

Up-coming events:

- Coronation Picnic at the Rec on Sunday 7th May. Jenny Sheils and Sue Wright came to the meeting to discuss their plans for the event. The Councillors were very supportive and offered advice and assistance in relation to sharing items used for other events such as the Fun Run and the Steam Rally.
- Marsworth Fun Run on Sunday 21st May.

Photo ID

Residents were asked to note that photo ID is now required for local and national elections. Residents could use a passport, driving licence, bus pass or blue badge. People registered to vote by post won't need photo ID. An out-of-date photo ID can be used as long as the photo looks like you. If you don't have a suitable photo ID, you can apply for a Voter Authority Certificate. Go to: <https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a-voter/voter-id/applying-a-voter-authority-certificate>.

Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Monday 3rd April at 7.00pm in the Village Hall. All residents are welcome. The Parish Council welcomes this opportunity to meet with residents to address matters of concern and to support local organisations. The new local Operations Manager for the Canal & River Trust will be attending. Please let the Parish Clerk know if you are intending to come to the meeting. (parishclerk@marsworth.org.uk)

The next Parish Council meeting for April will be earlier in the month, on **Monday 3rd April** due to Easter. Any items for the agenda need to have been submitted to the Parish Clerk by **Friday 24th 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 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
Keith Thomasson	01296 661182

Caroline Smith - Clerk to the Council:
email: parishclerk@marsworth.org.uk

Parish Council meeting dates 2023

8.00pm in Village Hall:

3 April + Annual Parish Meeting		
Wed 3 May	12 June	
10 July	14 August	11 September
9 October	13 November	11 December

Marsworth Community Garden update

Further to the article in the February newsletter about the proposal for a community garden in Marsworth, Lisa Tervit would like to thank everyone who took the time to vote and to put their views forward. There has been a fantastic response, with 57 'yes' votes on the Facebook poll, only six 'no thank you's' and an overwhelming 27 people who are willing to help with the project. There have also been several verbal comments and emails that Lisa has received with some very helpful suggestions.

Gathering all of these views has identified that the favoured site is the plot of land at the Lukes Lea/ Vicarage Road junction.

The results were discussed at the Parish Council meeting on 13th March and the Parish Council is now taking steps to seek the required permission from Bucks Council for use of that piece of land and to ascertain any restrictions in place. There will be further updates as this progresses and Lisa would like to thank the Parish Council for its support, and to everyone who has responded and agreed to be involved.

Marsworth Village Hall 100 Club



100 Club draw results for March
Our congratulations to the winners

£20 prizes

- 143 Paul & Rachel Horrocks, Vicarage Road
- 180 Jean Goodrum, Startops
- 77 Alon Josefsberg, Vicarage Road
- 173 Liz & David Rollinson
- 6 Gill & Roger Neal, Norvic Road

The next draw will be in April for our regular five £20 Prizes and two Bonus £100 prizes, to be drawn at the Hall Committee Meeting, 5th April at 7.30pm.

If you wish to join please contact me on 01296 662533.

Thank you all for taking part.

Dick Brake

New Parish Councillor

Steve Smith has been co-opted as a councillor to Marsworth Parish Council. He has lived in Stepnells, Marsworth since 2015, prior to which he lived in Wilstone for many years, where he still maintains an allotment. He is a geologist by profession but is now retired.



Steve takes an active interest in community and environmental issues and is a member of the Chiltern Society, Woodland Trust, the Wendover Canal Trust (aka Wendover Arm Trust) and the Herts & Middlesex Wildlife Trust. He has recently joined the Tring Farmers Market Committee.

He regularly contributes to *Marsworth News* (Rural Rambler) and the Wilstone Village News (allotment articles).

His wife, Caroline, is the Marsworth Parish Clerk. Steve helps her by assisting with the accounts and runs the Marsworth.org website. Steve felt that as he had been acting as the 'informal Assistant to the Clerk' for the last two years it was time to contribute his knowledge and experience to the Parish in a more formal way.

He looks forward to working with the Parish Clerk, Chairman Bob Kennedy and the other councillors for the benefit of our community.

Coronation bunting

The Royal British Legion is offering a range of decorative items which can be purchased to celebrate the coronation of King Charles. All products are made or fulfilled by veterans supported by RBLI.



These range from flags at £15.99, lamp post signs from £4.99 for one to multiples, and coronation bunting from £12.99 for 5 metres. In each case, postage is extra.



Visit www.rbli.shop.



Lamp post sign



Coronation flag

Postie retires

Our popular postman, Trevor Perkins, retired on Monday 20th March after around ten years of delivering in Marsworth.

A collection for him was made, amounting to several hundred pounds, and presented to him as he made his rounds on his last day. A small group (and several dogs) had gathered in Vicarage Road to wish him well.



Postman Trevor on his last round
Photo: Ruth Monks

Trevor says he will be working on his allotment, keeping up his fitness interests - and his wife has a long list of jobs for him to do. He will also be taking part in this year's Fun Run and plans to visit Marsworth from time to time on his bike.

For the November 2020 newsletter Trevor said: "The thing I most like about Marsworth is that I have been made to feel a part of your community from my first day. Despite not living in Marsworth, I have enjoyed taking part in some of your activities over the years."

We wish him all the very best for the future.

Marsworth Parish Council

Coronation of King Charles III

Saturday 6th May 2023

In celebration of this event there will be an additional bank holiday this year on Monday 8th May.

Marsworth Parish Council will support events in the parish where appropriate. Please contact the parish clerk at parishclerk@marsworth.org.uk if you are planning to organise anything to mark the occasion.

Ivinghoe & Pitstone Repair Café

By Alex Razak

What is a Repair Café?

Started in 2008, Repair Cafés are a community-run venture where local people can bring along broken items for volunteers to try and fix. The main purposes are to promote sustainability, looking after the environment, and having a mindset of reusing/fixing instead of disposing.

After hearing about the concept, I have recently set up a new Repair Café to cover Ivinghoe, Pitstone and surrounding areas.

The drive behind the idea

In our own home we have needed to repair many items over the years: a kettle that was leaking water is now into its 10th year of life, a Hoover that had been clogged up with hairs and dust but needed a bit of know-how and tools for it to work again, that's now over 30 years old!

The list goes on of items that we have mended, given a new lease of life to, and avoided their journey to the ever-increasing landfill mountain. We in Britain are worse than any of our European neighbours for the amount of landfill we produce every year.

These repairs are often simple but do sometimes require specialist tools and know-how to fix them.

Our repairs have been made possible as my husband Ahmed is an electronic engineer and I myself am a general 'fixer'. Of course, this is not the case in many households. Manufacturers make household items and technology difficult to take apart and repair, and make parts expensive, difficult to purchase and costly to repair. As a result, in Britain, we have come to believe that these items do not have a lifespan beyond a few years. We have been encouraged to throw away, without the thought of the CO2 footprint in manufacturing new items.

We need to revitalise the 'make do and mend' concept into people's lives!

Setting up the Repair Café

I heard about the concept of repair cafés in December 2022. Initially I researched it further, and discovered the worldwide foundation started in 2008 in Amsterdam, with lots of invaluable templates and guidance on their website.

I visited a couple of local repair cafés and gained advice from a trustee of the Bath Repair Cafés. They now run 13 in Bath and operate a 'Library of Things' shop.

I approached the Ivinghoe and Pitstone Parish Councils to test my idea with them at the beginning of this year.



They were very supportive. Finding venues was harder, but again the Parish Council support made this happen.

I received in-house help to design the digital graphics logo for our Repair Café and the advertising, and with this I put out a request on Facebook for Volunteer Repairers/Fixers. The response was fantastic and made the project a 'goer'.

The project now needed funds and a team of co-ordinators to make it feasible and sustainable. Timing was on my side and I was alerted to the Community Board small funds grants with less than 24 hours to the deadline! Thanks to the Community Board, who provided two-thirds of the start-up costs and Ivinghoe and Pitstone Parish Councils for making up the rest, we were able to launch our first Ivinghoe & Pitstone Repair Café on 25th February 2023 - less than two months after I first approached the Ivinghoe Parish Council!

I have also had a huge amount of support from Councillors, particularly Peter Brazier and Karen Groom (Chair of Ivinghoe Parish Council), Dave Nicholls (Chair of Pitstone Parish Council) and clerks to both Councils.

This is by no means down to me alone. I now have five co-ordinators who help run the Repair Café and do the back room planning and prep. We also have 22 volunteer repairers: electrical, electronic and mechanical engineers, seamstresses, people with woodwork skills, computing and technology skills, and bike repair and welding skills.

Our technology specialist is happy to help those struggling to understand or use their technology, are having problems with it, or need advice.

We have specialist tools that are provided by the Worldwide Repair Café Foundation that allows the repairers to open up technology that manufacturers make very difficult to access. This allows repairs to be done that would otherwise be difficult. If parts are required and the repairers can identify what is needed, the owner can then purchase this and return the following month to get it fitted.

We run every fourth Saturday morning at either Pitstone Pavilion or Ivinghoe Hub.

We do not charge for the repairs; we only ask for a donation. We offer refreshments, including homemade savoury items and cakes.

If the item requires a new part before it can be repaired, we can help the person order the correct



part and we can then fit it the following month. Some repairers also take items home on agreement, if it requires more time.

Everyone who attends fills out a form for contact details, information about the item needing repair. This information is then uploaded to the Worldwide Foundation database. We are then able to have a record of how many kgs of items we have saved from landfill and how much CO2 emissions we have prevented.



Marsworth Community Speedwatch



First on the agenda at the Parish Meeting on Monday 13th March was the Community Speedwatch initiative. The purpose of this initiative is to deter drivers from exceeding speed limits in the village, particularly along the Lower Icknield Way, and to provide the police with the details of vehicles who do not comply with those speed limits.

Ron Busby has been championing the initiative in Marsworth and thanks to him there has been significant progress. The first stage in the establishment of the Marsworth Community Speedwatch Group ("MCSW") has now been successfully completed.

Following PC Lee Turnham's visit and talk at the Parish Council meeting on 9th January, Ron has been in contact with PC Turnham to discuss what would be involved in setting up and running a community speed watch scheme and collecting names of Marsworth residents who would like to be involved.

A total of 22 residents have so far confirmed their interest in participating in MCSW and moving forward to Stage 2. This will involve online training in the use of the equipment and how the information obtained is securely stored and passed to Thames Valley Police.

MCSW will join with the Speedwatch groups in adjacent villages in the shared use of the Sentinel tripod mounted video radar which will be operated by MCSW at chosen locations within Marsworth. At the Marsworth Parish Council (MPC) meeting on 13th March, the establishment of MCSW was endorsed and MPC agreed to apply to Buckinghamshire Council for permission to use the signs and also agreed to fund the Speedwatch signs that will be affixed alongside the existing 30 mph signs at each end of the village on Lower Icknield Way and on Long Marston Road at Lower End.

Once set up, the operation of the radar is automatic and requires two group members to be present to ensure its security. Each session will last for between 30 minutes and two hours in daylight hours and will be arranged with Thames Valley Police at the locations, dates and times deemed to be most suitable using data from the MVAS (mobile vehicle activated sign) and SID (speed indicator device). MCSW will regularly update MPC with the results of its efforts.

Ron Busby will continue to be the co-ordinator and the Parish Council expressed its sincere appreciation to Ron and the other volunteers in coming forward to operate the MCSW.

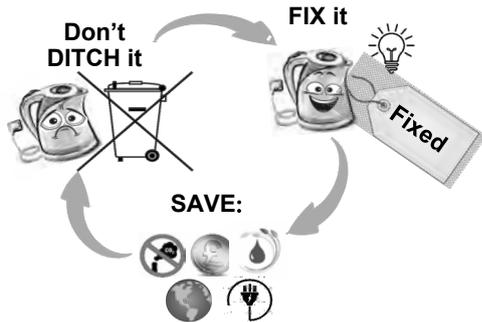
It is hoped that the MCSW will begin its operations by the end of April and any residents who wish to join the group or require any further information are welcome to contact Ron Busby at ron@startops.co.uk



Saturday 22nd April
9:30am-12:30pm
Ivinghoe Village Hub

Bring along broken items to be fixed by volunteers!

No charge for fixing, but donations are welcome



Bring along:

- Tools and equipment
- Electrical goods
- Clothing, fabrics, jewellery
- Electronic devices (phones/tablets/laptops)
- Household items
- Toys and games
- Bicycles
- And more...



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

Marsworth 10k Fun Run

Sunday 21st May 2022

10.00am start

Check the website for further details:

www.marsworthfunrun.co.uk

Raising funds for All Saints Church



April is the cruellest month, breeding lilacs out of the dead land, mixing memory and desire, stirring dull roots with spring rain.

T.S. Eliot, The Waste Land

Bucks Councillor's March report – extracts

Council calls for ULEZ expansion to be scrapped



Buckinghamshire Council is calling for the planned extension of the Ultra Low Emission Zone (ULEZ) in London, due to come into effect at the end of August 2023, to be scrapped. One of the council's main concerns is the cost implications for the many residents who commute into the Greater London area, particularly at a time when other cost of living pressures are already having a serious impact on people's lives.

Don't pay cash to remove your trash, council urges

Buckinghamshire Council is renewing its call for residents not to pay in cash when employing someone to take away their waste. However big or small the amount, if dumped illegally, the original owner of the waste can be liable for prosecution.

Buckinghamshire Council approves 2023-24 budget.

High inflation and added demand mean that, in spite of ongoing savings from becoming a unitary authority, the council needs to find an extra £63 million to cover its costs for the coming year. Like most councils with responsibility for social care, it means that, to raise enough money and to present a balanced budget, the Cabinet has agreed to put forward to Council a 2.99% rise in the base rate of council tax and a plan to take up the Government's proposal for a Social Care Precept of 2%, meaning a total rise of 4.99% in bills.

This equates to a rise in council tax of £1.61 per week for the average home (Band D) in Buckinghamshire.

Council aims to improve local air quality with grant

Buckinghamshire Council's Strategic Environmental Protection Team has been awarded £120,000 from the Government's Air Quality Grant Scheme to carry out a travel planning and eco-driving project.

The team will be working with local business engagement groups such as Bucks Business First (BBF) to lead a campaign to accelerate a shift away from single occupancy car use to more active travel and sustainable ways of travel in Buckinghamshire.

Photo ID requirements for local and national elections

From 4th May 2023, voters in England will need to show photo ID to vote at polling stations in some elections, including local elections and UK parliamentary by-elections. From October 2023 it will also apply to UK General elections.

For people registered to vote by post, no photo ID will be required. This is because postal voting requires other identification checks, such as signature and date of birth verification.

Extra investment in county's roads

Buckinghamshire Council is investing an extra £5 million in the county's road network, on top of £100 million it

is already committed to spending on the roads over a four-year period.

It means that in total, £105 million is now allocated directly to maintaining and improving the county's road network. Overall, £130 million in funding is being dedicated to roads and other highways infrastructure in Buckinghamshire including pavements, drains, street lighting and bridges during the council term.

The agreed budget includes the following investment:

- nearly £143 million for improvements to schools
- £20 million on housing and tackling homelessness
- more than £14 million to tackle Climate Change and prevent flooding
- more than £20 million towards our waste and recycling facilities

Councillor Derek Town

01296 661637 dtown@aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk

Buckinghamshire Councillor, Ivinghoe Ward

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

Little blue book swap shed

A little blue structure has appeared in Church Lane meant for villagers to be able to share books.

Situated at the corner of Church Lane and the approach to neighbouring houses, the shed was the idea of Nikki Lucas. To raise money for the shed she and her son Max (10) baked cakes. The construction of the shed was the work of Nikki's husband Joe, then she and Max painted it.



They are hoping to get an appropriate sign for it, not just to encourage people to use it as a book swap, but perhaps to deter delivery drivers who have been using it to leave items.

Please leave any books that are unwanted in the shed and take any you would like to read.



The award goes to **Nikki Lucas** for her initiative in providing the Blue Book Swap Shed. This is a facility for the benefit of individuals and the community. We hope that it is well used.

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.

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.

Specs collection

Second-hand spectacles are being collected by the Lions at their Birmingham HQ, to help people in a range of countries, as part of their Sight Projects across the world. Locally, Robert John is collecting them at The Ship, Ship Lane, Marsworth. He is passing them on in bulk via a local Lions Club working together with his Rotary Club. Less hassle, no postage costs, he says.

Jumble sale

Josie Kempster says the jumble sale on 25th February has so far raised £870 for those affected by the earthquakes in Turkey and Syria. A large amount of clothes was donated for the sale. Left over clothes and shoes went to Leighton Buzzard Recycling and will be sent to Kenya and New Guinea. Shoes are being sent to Pakistan to be made into tyres. Josie says she was lucky to be shown around to see how they are wrapped and transported. 'Well done, Marsworth!' she adds.

Farm footpath

Josie asks that walkers with dogs stick to the footpath from Mill House going across a field to Wingrave Road. The field contains high protein feed, essential for the cattle later on in the year.

Speedwatch group

The speed of vehicles travelling through Marsworth has been a source of concern to residents for many years, says Linda Beardsley. In November, a petition signed by fifty residents, mainly from Lower Icknield Way, The Crescent and Vicarage Road was presented to Marsworth Parish Council.

Since then, a number of these residents have supported the creation of a Community Speedwatch Group in Marsworth in the belief that this will deter drivers from speeding through and in the village. This group would be established under the guidance of Thames Valley Police and similar groups already exist in Mentmore, Ivinghoe, Cheddington, Pitstone and other surrounding villages.

Marsworth Parish Council discussed this matter at their monthly meeting in the Village Hall on Monday and all interested residents were invited to attend to show their support. The establishment of this group is being coordinated by Ron Busby (ron@startops.co.uk) and he would like to hear from any residents who may wish to be involved.

Speedwatch update

The speed device will be on a tripod, not hand-held. There are 15 volunteers so far. £200 was authorised for purchase of signs and fixings and permission will be sought from the county council.

See article on page 7.

New bar

A new bar named Heroes opened at Pitstone Memorial Hall in March. It will be open on Friday evenings from 6pm, on Saturdays from 12 noon until 11pm and on Sundays from 12 until 6pm. Jobs for bar staff are being advertised on *Everything Marsworth* and other local

Facebook sites and there is a competition to design a logo.

Wildflower project

Clive Cohen of Vicarage Road is involved in a project to wildflower two grass verges outside his house and is looking for volunteers to help for a 'dig in' weekend workout. Help from anyone with wild-flowering experience would be especially helpful, as would the loan of a rotavator, he says.

Lock keeper

Canal & River Trust is looking for a volunteer lock keeper at Marsworth to start at Easter. Sign up at their website canalrivertrust.org.uk/volunteer. Lock keepers provide a friendly welcome to waterway visitors, assisting boaters through locks and helping maintain the surrounding area of our canals.

Sully's Fish and Chips

Sully made his last visit to Marsworth on Friday 10th March.



Sully's familiar van

He texted: "This will be the last weekend trading for me in the van. Rising costs and the problems I've had over the last year have forced me to evaluate and make the decision to stop trading after this weekend. It's been a blast and has been great getting to know many of you over the last 10-11 years! Hope to see you all and please don't be too nice to me because I'll be mainly crying into the fryer all night!"

Quiz Night

Marsworth Pre School is organising a quiz night on Saturday, 22nd April at Marsworth Village Hall. Doors open at 6.30pm, with the quiz starting at 7pm. £10 per ticket with grazing board-style food. Bring your own drink. For tickets, text 07962 100265 or visit marsworthpreschool.org.uk.

Postman retires

Our fantastic postman, Trevor, retired on Monday 20th March after around ten years of delivering in Marsworth. Ruth Monks organised a collection for him.

See item on page 5.

Zumba

Zumba classes have started at Marsworth Hall on Thursdays at 6.15pm. Call 07912 644654 for more information. Zumba is a fitness programme that involves cardio and Latin-inspired dance.

New café in Tring

Another new café, Beans and Brunch, has opened in Tring and getting good reviews for its beautiful styling, atmosphere, great coffee and amazing food. Tring High Street just got even cooler!

Whan that Aprill with his shoures soote
The droghte of March hath perced to the roote ...

**Geoffrey Chaucer (1343-1400) -
The Canterbury Tales**, opening lines

Marsworth Women's Institute



By Denise Cornwall

The evening of our March meeting was wet, cold and snow was on its way. In these conditions it was nice that so many of our ladies turned out to attend our meeting, especially as it was the evening where they had to pay their annual subscription!

The annual subscription this year has increased to £46. The Committee decided that as our bank account was looking healthy, it would subsidise everyone's subscription by £6, reducing the membership cost for each member to £40.

We are very pleased to say that we have had four new ladies join our WI. They are very welcome and it will be great to get to know them better and we hope they will enjoy the exciting programme we have organised for this year.

One of the highlights of the WI year is the annual dinner. We do like to push the boat out, put on our best outfits and go somewhere special. Last year we went to the Kings Head in Ivinghoe; sadly that's not an option this year as it has closed. The Committee looked at various venues and the one that they all agreed on was the Bedford Arms, Chenies. If, on the 2nd May, you see a number of ladies around the village dressed in their best outfits heading towards a coach at the village hall you will know what it's all about and where they are going.

To celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III some of our WI ladies are trying to arrange a village 'family and friends' picnic, music and fun event in the recreation ground. Past events like this have been very successful. It was agreed by the Committee that the WI should support this and encourage members and their families to attend. If you would like to know more about it, please contact Sue Wright and Jenny Sheils. *See front page.*

Returning to the meeting, our speaker for the evening was our new vicar the Rev. James Grainger-Smith. Of course, this meant we had to put extra effort into singing the WI anthem, 'Jerusalem'. Well done ladies - you did us proud and belted it out!



The Rev. James

James opened his talk by telling us a little bit about himself. His mother was English and his father was Australian and James was born and brought up in Kent. After attending secondary school in London, he went on to University and it was there that he met Janice, his future wife. Janice's family lived in Hong Kong and after their marriage he and his new wife decided to live and work there. James went on to talk about their work and the highs and lows he experienced living there. It was also here that he experienced a very different form of religion.

At the end of his talk, he was asked the question "what was it that made him decide to be a vicar?" He was very open in his answer, and we were surprised to be told that in his first attempt he was turned down. Thank goodness

that at a later date he was successful, and someone saw what we all see in him, and that we have him with us in Marsworth now.

His bubbly personality and wonderful sense of humour was very evident, and we all enjoyed his talk very much. Afterwards, James stayed for the rest of the evening and spent time talking to the ladies on each table. He scored a hit doing that!

This month's supper club was held at the Haldi Indian restaurant. We all had the taster menu, and at £14.95 per person it was good value. The food was delicious and some of us went home with doggie bags. Two meals for the price of one - can't be bad.

Craft Club was fun; we made a very colourful shopping bag and drank wine and ate nibbles whilst doing it. These bags were displayed on a table in the hall at our meeting.

The Book Club – well what can I say? The food was once again reported to be superb. The book they are reading is never talked about and remains a mystery. You know my theory on this - the book does not actually exist!

As well as the usual programme of speakers, we are planning some additional trips and visits. A visit to Bletchley Park, a trip to Little Heath Farm Nursery for tea and cake, and a visit to Greatmoor, an amazing place the other side of Aylesbury, where all our food bin waste goes to be incinerated and in doing so generates enough electricity to run 18,000 houses.



The award goes this time to a special group of people, **the Rothschild prescription delivery team**. It has been nominated by Linda Beardsley:

"Back in 2020 when we went into lockdown due to the Covid virus, Marsworth rallied to help its neighbours and the Marsworth Support Group was started. One of the senior GPs from Rothschild House Surgery saw our leaflet and asked if we would help deliver prescriptions, mainly to the elderly, vulnerable and housebound.

Many villagers came forward to help and the system worked perfectly ... and it still does today! We are now a team of five and I would like to nominate for the Marsworth Village Award, not only all those who have helped, but especially Mark Bridle, Gerry and Lia Duggan, Ali Wade and Howard Wright who still every Friday collect from the Pitstone Surgery and deliver, in all weathers! I would also like to add Andy Anderson who only moved from the village recently but did the deliveries until he left.

Thank you to all on the team."

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.

Marsworth CE Infant School

Tel: 01296 668440
www.marsworthschool.co.uk



April 2023

This half term has once again been very busy with lots of learning taking place.

In Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) the children have been learning about the Hindu festival 'Holi'. They have enjoyed making 'rangoli' patterns, as well as taking part in the colourful event of throwing coloured powders. A lot of fun was had by all ... even the staff!

Also, in EYFS, we have recently acquired new resources to enhance the children's learning. Wooden treasures, recordable talking buttons, illuminated mark making boards and pens, and water guttering, to name just a few.

During February half-term we had the whole of our playground and forecourt resurfaced and I think you'll agree from the photos that it looks great.



On Thursday 2nd March it was World Book Day and here at Marsworth it was a great success. We had some parents come in to read stories to small groups of children, the children dressed up as a character from their favourite book and there were some lovely costumes! We had a book fair at the end of the day at which a representative from Usborne Books came in to visit and brought an array of books which the children got to choose and purchase. Added to this, the children took part in a sponsored read to raise money for the book fair and a total of £339.70 was raised! A huge 'well done' to all the children that took part, an amazing achievement for our little school.

A plea for lunchtime or afternoon clubs. In the past we have held French, cooking, gardening, sports and yoga clubs. Should you, or if you know anyone who may be interested in running either a lunchtime or an after-school club, please contact the school office on 01296 668440 or email office@marsworth.bucks.sch.uk.



Please do visit our new website: www.marsworthschool.co.uk. This is more accessible and reflects the school more. The children have contributed to the class information pages, to explain a day in the life of a *Goldfinch* (KS1 years 1 & 2) or *Robin* (EYFS). The feedback from parents so far has been very positive.

Upcoming events

We have two open days coming up later in the year, one in June and one in July for any late applications, or for any child wishing to start nursery with us in September. Keep an eye on social media and our website.

Admissions

If your child is due to start school in the next year, please contact us to arrange a visit by either emailing us at office@marsworth.bucks.sch.uk or phoning 01296 668440.

We also take children from the term after their fourth birthday into our Nursery year, either part-time or full-time, depending on parental choice.

We break up for the Easter Holidays on Friday 31st March and return on Tuesday 18th April, with Monday 17th being an 'inset day'.

Mrs Polatci, Headteacher

Free trees

We have three walnut tree saplings growing in our garden (planted courtesy of the local squirrel!) and a young oak tree in a pot that we have grown from an acorn. The walnuts are currently about five foot tall and the oak about four foot and will all soon become too big for our garden. We would like to give them away to people who have the space. They should transplant well during the autumn.



Walnut sapling

The walnuts make attractive trees up to approx. 20ft tall and will produce nuts (if you can keep the squirrels off). The oak will obviously become very large and will need plenty of space.

They are free to collect from within Marsworth. Contact Steve by text or WhatsApp on 07753 744437.

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.



Marsworth Neighbourhood Watch

By Linda Beardsley, NHW Co-ordinator



Neighbourhood Watch is launching its biggest recruitment campaign in recent years, under the title 'A Better Place To Live'. There are already 2.3 million members nationwide but there is always room for more!

Neighbourhood Watch works in communities to reduce fear of, and opportunities for, crime; supports neighbours; aims to reduce isolation and loneliness; and provides opportunities for making new friends.

Marsworth has had a scheme for over 20 years, but it was reactivated in 2021. We now have 15 co-ordinators, covering all the roads, who pass on relevant and urgent messages. Thankfully, there is generally little crime to report in Marsworth.

As a NHW member you can register to receive news from around the country, and useful crime prevention information at www.ourwatch.org.uk which is the official neighbourhood watch website and www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk for more local Police reports.

If you are not yet a member of Marsworth NHW and would like to join then please contact us at MarsworthNHW@gmx.com and we will arrange for your road co-ordinator to call you.

Printed and published by Neighbourhood Watch Network, a charity registered in England & Wales, OIO no: 1173349

Thank you for making Marsworth a better place to live.

Home Thoughts, from Abroad

O, to be in England
 Now that April 's there,
 And whoever wakes in England
 Sees, some morning, unaware,
 That the lowest boughs and the brushwood sheaf
 Round the elm-tree bole are in tiny leaf,
 While the chaffinch sings on the orchard bough
 In England - now!

Robert Browning



Your area is covered by

The Wing & District Neighbourhood Policing Team

Charlotte Cottage, 73 Leighton Road, Wing, LU7 0RD

To contact a member of 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 the event of an emergency always dial 999

Set building at Ivinghoe

Further to the item and photos in last month's newsletter, we have this letter from a 'clued-up' reader:

"I hate to disappoint my fellow 'Star Wars' fans, but with five minutes' research, I can say this simply isn't true. The set that is being built at Ivinghoe Movie Lot (formerly Ivinghoe Turf) is for the upcoming movie 'Wicked: Part One'. Most likely it is the town of 'Rush Margins'.

Filming is due to take place between 6th April and 25th July 2023."

Ran Matthews, Cooks Wharf



Film set

The 'Wicked' set from the air

The movie 'Wicked: Part One' is reportedly being filmed locally. A film set at Horton (Ivinghoe Turf) has big fences around it by the canal. Security is tight but the tops of buildings are visible from various paths.

It is likely to be the set of the town Rush Margins where Elphaba grew up in the Wicked story. Drone footage shows tall, thatched buildings. There is a mound to block visibility from the canal and a footpath has been screened.

The movie, an adaptation of hit musical 'Wicked', is due to be released in 2024 and is being produced by Universal Pictures.

Kate Andrew



MARSWORTH COMMUNITY

QUIZ NIGHT

Just £10 Per Ticket

Grazing Board Style Food

Bring Your Own Drink

Cash Only Raffle

Saturday 22nd April

Marsworth Millennium Hall

Doors Open 18:30 Quiz Starts 7pm

For Tickets:

Text Tracey on 07962 100256 or go to

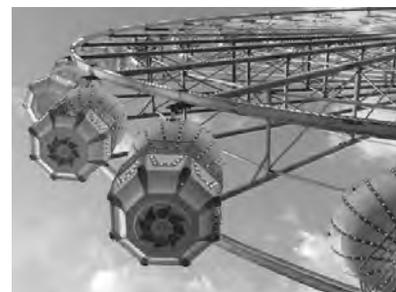
www.marsworthpreschool.org.uk

Easter at Ashridge

The first-ever Ashridge Vintage Fayre
1st - 10th April 2023

Enjoy a day out at Ashridge House with favourites such as the big apple coaster, dodgems and the big wheel, along with food and drinks stalls (even some vintage sweets!)

Admission: £12
(includes access to all rides)



Mentmore Arts Festival

Saturday May 27th – Bank Holiday
Monday May 29th 11am - 5pm



We will be showcasing over 60 artists, including painters, photographers, ceramicists, jewellers and more. Their work will be displayed in the Mentmore Village Hall and St Mary's Church in Mentmore and is available to buy.

We will be raising money for Bucks Mind and Leighton Buzzard Mencap.

This will be our 13th Festival and over the years we have donated a total of over £90,000 to a variety of local charities. Last year we donated £5,000 each to Leukaemia UK and WheelPower.

The Festival provides a wonderful family day out with refreshments available, including light lunches, tea, coffee and cakes and a bar.

We will have a raffle with some great prizes. We look forward to seeing you there.



MARSWORTH STEAM & CLASSIC Vehicle Rally

Historic Steam Engines, Agricultural, Classic Cars, Bikes and Trucks

Sunday 18th June 2023 11am-5pm

Treat dad to a fun day out on Father's Day!



Family Entertainment, Rides and Attractions

Stalls galore!
Charity fundraising
Family entertainment
Live music
Crafts
Working models

Face painting
Tring Fire Engine*
Steam Engine rides
Bouncy castle and slide
Kiddies fairground fun
and much more!

Ice Cream
Popcorn
Candy Floss
Fish & Chips

Teas, Snacks and
Homemade Treats
Beer tent
Local Real Ales

Startup Farm
Marsworth HP23 4LL

B489 livinghoe to Aston Clinton Road

Adults £7.00
Children £3.00

*Subject to duty commitments. All proceeds go to local fundraising and charities.

www.MarsworthSteamRally.co.uk

Wingrave with Rowsham Parish Church

Gardeners' Bring and Buy Sale

Saturday 13th May
10.00am – 12:30pm



Vegetable plants - seedlings -
cuttings - bedding plants -
herbs - household plants



Home produce - pottery - jigsaws & cards - books

Refreshments and bacon butties!

Please donate any spare plants
you have

All proceeds to support the
Parish Church



The Pitstone Cement story

This article appeared on the Ivinghoe & Pitstone Memories on Facebook. Thanks to Kate Andrew for spotting it and passing it on.

Over five decades the Pitstone Cement Works provided the raw material for Britain's post-war building. A generation after its closure, and with new plans for part of the site, Clayton Hirst examines its legacy



The 17th Century Pitstone Windmill with the former Cement Works (Photo: Des Blenkinsopp)

On a drizzly Boxing Day morning in 1999, thousands of people gathered in the village of Pitstone on the edge of the Chiltern hills. There was an air of anticipation as an Anglia TV news crew interviewed locals, while celebrities - including the actor Geoffrey Palmer - mingled with the crowd.

At 11am there was a loud explosion as the first of four 300 ft chimneys was brought down in a cloud of dust. With a fifth chimney demolished months later, this closed an extraordinary chapter of Pitstone's history.

This is the story of how this giant plant became an important part of the social community, and how residents fought to prevent a damaging environmental legacy after its decline.

Pitstone Cement Works opened in 1937. Operated by Tunnel Cement, the site was chosen thanks to the abundance of high-quality chalk that was extracted in three vast local quarries over the decades.

The cement works, three miles north of Tring, became the largest in Britain, growing five times in size. It profited from the post-war building boom by supplying cement for projects such as the construction of Heathrow Airport and was the raw material for many modern bridges and tunnels. While its chimneys were incongruous to the backdrop of the Iron Age hillfort of Ivinghoe Beacon and the nearby 17th Century Pitstone Windmill, the works became central to the local community.

The works became a social focus for the community, with its own football team, dance nights and Friday night social. Darts were particularly popular in the 1980s.

Having a large cement works on the doorstep had downsides; locals complained about cement dust - reportedly the size of snowflakes - falling on the village. Checking the direction of the wind became a daily ritual for locals, especially in the summer when washing was on the line.

Boom and bust

During the 1960s and early 1970s production increased as demand for cement grew. To increase capacity, Tunnel Cement constructed a fifth kiln at Pitstone, producing



The Cement Works at peak production in 1972 (Photo: Historic England)

300,000 tonnes of cement a year, three times the volume of the original kiln.

Sales peaked in 1973 but the recessions of the mid-1970s and the early 1980s hit the works hard. In 1982 Tunnel Cement was acquired by the mining group Rio Tinto and the company was later renamed Castle Cement.

It was the economic recession of the next decade that delivered the final blow to the works. In 1990, 250 workers were made redundant with a further 300 the following year when the plant closed its gates for the last time.

Today, there are a few clues in the landscape area's industrial past. After its demolition the works site was turned over to housing, home to the Castlemead Estate, with each street named after a famous castle, a nod to the former cement company. Opposite the estate you can find the original works office. Built in 1937 and fittingly made from reinforced concrete, the elegant building is Grade II-listed.

The oldest chalk quarry, on the land next to the cement works through which Westfield Road runs, was lightly restored and over the years there have been experiments with growing crops on the surface.

Community says NO

It's the second quarry, south of the Icknield Way, that has been subject to considerable controversy and debate. In 1994 Castle Cement submitted proposals to turn the quarry into a giant landfill site to be filled with 500,000 tonnes of domestic waste over 19 years. Waste would have eventually towered above the neighbouring Pitstone Hill, a Site of Special Scientific Interest. As well as the obvious visual blot, there was concern about the pollution of the water table through the porous chalk soil.

The plans enraged the local community which mounted a vigorous campaign, led by the Chiltern Society and the Beacon Villages Society. This culminated in locals hiking up Pitstone Hill to spell a giant human 'NO' above the proposed landfill site.

The case was taken up by the late George Walden, MP for Buckinghamshire, who raised the issue in the House

of Commons. The debate struck a chord nationally, as the country was waking up to the need to recycle. The idea of piling up domestic waste in an area of outstanding natural beauty seemed wrong-headed to many. The proposals were finally thrown out in 1997. A second attempt to secure permission for landfill at the site was also refused in 2011.

Landfill back on the agenda?

The quarry is still in use today, with chalk extracted for agricultural use. But the debate about what to do with this cavernous scar on the landscape continues.

In late 2022 the site owner Clark Contracting announced plans to turn the 61-hectare site into recreational facility in two phases, with a planning application due later in 2023. Once each phase is complete then the land would be handed over to the National Trust, that owns neighbouring land.

However, the proposals could reopen the long-running landfill debate once more. The second phase of the plan includes “restoring” the quarry with “inert material” - imported from nearby construction sites: another way of saying landfill?

Nature takes over

The story of the third quarry, off the Upper Icknield Way, is a happier one. Commissioned much later than quarries One and Two, it had far more stringent conditions for its reinstatement, and landfill was never an option. Today, it is a 67-hectare nature reserve called College Lake. Home to 1,000 wildlife species, the wetland was the vision of Graham Atkins, a former Castle Cement lorry driver who had campaigned for its creation.

During the summer months, College Lake supports rare breeding wading birds including the lapwing and redshank. It is also home to rare plants including Cornfield flowers that grow among remnants of the site’s past, including a giant chalk cutting machine head, half-buried in the ground.



College Lake - a former quarry, reclaimed by nature

The cycle of industry and nature keeps turning; the natural environment is gradually reclaiming the land once scarred by quarrying and cement production. While most of the infrastructure has been demolished, and the dust from those five giant chimneys has long blow away, the imprint on the local communities endures today.

This is an extended version of an article first published by the Tring & District History Society

“O! how this spring of love resembleth
The uncertain glory of an April day,
Which now shows all the beauty of the sun,
And by and by a cloud takes all away!”

**William Shakespeare:
The Two Gentlemen of Verona**

HGV traffic restriction scheme in Ivinghoe area

Buckinghamshire Council is taking action to reduce the number of heavy goods vehicles travelling through Cheddington, Mentmore, Wingrave, Long Marston and Ivinghoe villages.



The council has introduced new traffic regulations that prevent freight vehicles weighing more than 7.5 tonnes from driving through the area in an effort to improve road safety and reduce air pollution. These regulations have been designed to minimise the impact of HGVs on residents and communities in the Ivinghoe area.

These new restrictions are the first of their kind in Buckinghamshire and will mean that HGV traffic will be prevented from coming off main roads to take a shortcut through the villages. Signs have been placed around the area making this restriction legally enforceable. HGVs that need to service commercial and residential needs in the area will still be permitted.

The Ivinghoe Freight Zone HGV restrictions are part of a pilot programme across five areas in Buckinghamshire. The programme aims to create safer roads in local communities and make them cleaner and more enjoyable places.

For more information visit the council’s website.



New HGV restriction signs outside Ivinghoe

All Saints
Marsworth

Plant Sale

Sunday June 4th 2 – 5pm
All Saints Marsworth Churchyard

Teas and cakes also on sale

Plant donations welcomed - please bring them to the churchyard between 10am and 12noon on the day

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. 7 Hidden Tring and Tring Park

This walk takes us into Tring and explores Tring Park. The walk starts in the car park off Frogmore Street but there is an alternative start off Hastoe Lane – from the crossroads in the centre of Tring take Akeman Street towards the Natural History Museum, at the T junction turn right and first left and the car park is on the left after approx. 100yds. Note that the open pastureland of the park is often used to graze cattle; if they are present please keep dogs on leads.

The total walk is about 4½ miles and takes around two hours. If starting from Hastoe Lane it is about ½ mile shorter. There are some hilly sections and steps on the A41 bridge.

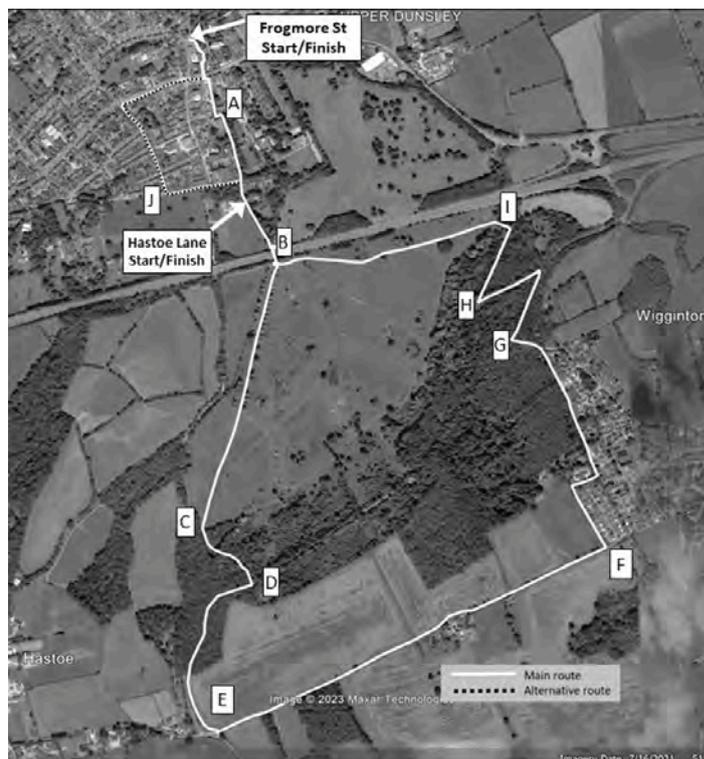
Starting in the Frogmore Street car park walk through to the High Street, cross the road via the pedestrian crossing and enter the small passageway between the old bank buildings, one of which is currently occupied by the Barracuda restaurant. After about 120 yds turn left and then right (broken signpost to Tring Park, Point A). Continue on the path which takes you between the Natural History Museum and the grounds of Tring Park School, bringing you out in Park Street. Cross the road onto the signposted footpath. After a few yards notice the natural history paintings on the wall on your left.

If starting at the Hastoe Lane car park you join the walk at this point, taking the pedestrian exit furthest from Hastoe Lane and turning right onto the footpath. Follow the footpath to the footbridge over the A41 (combination of ramps and steps). Cross the bridge and when at the apex (B) pause to appreciate the avenue of mature lime trees ahead. Looking back, you can see the remains of this avenue leading to the Rothschild mansion.

Descending from the bridge take the route along the avenue towards the wooded hills in the distance. At the end of the avenue, on the brow of the hill, look backwards for a good view along the avenue to the mansion – the bridge is a slight eyesore but the original layout of the park can be appreciated. Occasional signposts mark "Walter's Wander", a reference to Walter Rothschild who lived in the mansion and opened his zoological museum in Tring in 1892.

Follow the track down a dip and then up the incline to the wooden gate in the corner of the open pasture (C), pass through and enter the woods. The path heads gently uphill and bears left with some signs highlighting items of interest. Stay on the main path, keeping right at the next "Walter's Wander" signpost and up a steeper section of hill, eventually meeting a major track, part of The Ridgeway long distance path (D). Turn right.

Follow The Ridgeway and at the first gate leave the woods and take the path along the side of the field with the hedge (and the road) on your right. At the end of the field turn left onto a gravel road (E). Follow this road, past a metal gate, and past the small development around Wick Farm until reaching the houses on the outskirts of Wigginton.



A footpath on the left (F, footpath 80, with a broken signpost) starts the return journey but ahead takes you into Wigginton where refreshments can be obtained at The Greyhound pub or in the Wigginton Village Community Shop.

To return to Tring Park take footpath 80 which runs behind gardens, turns right and then left and eventually meets a tarmac road. Go straight ahead past the 'Welcome to Tring Park' sign with gardens on your right and woodland to the left. At the last house you once again meet The Ridgeway, turn left and after approx. 50yds turn right (G) through a wooden gate onto a path heading downhill to a white, classical looking building. This is Rothschild's 'Summer House' and used to be a lot bigger, the rear part was demolished when the new road (Fox Road) to Wigginton was built.

At the Summer House turn left along the major track to an obelisk marking a meeting of paths (H). Turn right, diagonally downhill until you can exit the woods on your left (I). Walk through the open park parallel to the A41 and return to the bridge. Retrace your steps back to the Hastoe Lane car park or to Park Street. If returning to the Frogmore Street car park one can either walk back along the footpath, or alternatively turn left and walk down Akeman Street.

Another alternative route passes through a historical part of Tring. Turn left at Park Street, cross the end of Akeman Street and walk past the beautiful Louisa Cottages on Park Road. Built as almshouses by Emma Lady Rothschild (Louisa was her second name) between 1893 and 1901 they were provided for Rothschild estate workers and local people. Next to the almshouses is a small terrace of houses with unusual Dutch style gables; shortly beyond them turn right into Langdon Street. This is the heart of the Tring Triangle, characterised by Victorian terraced houses but also containing many other interesting buildings and well worth an exploratory stroll.

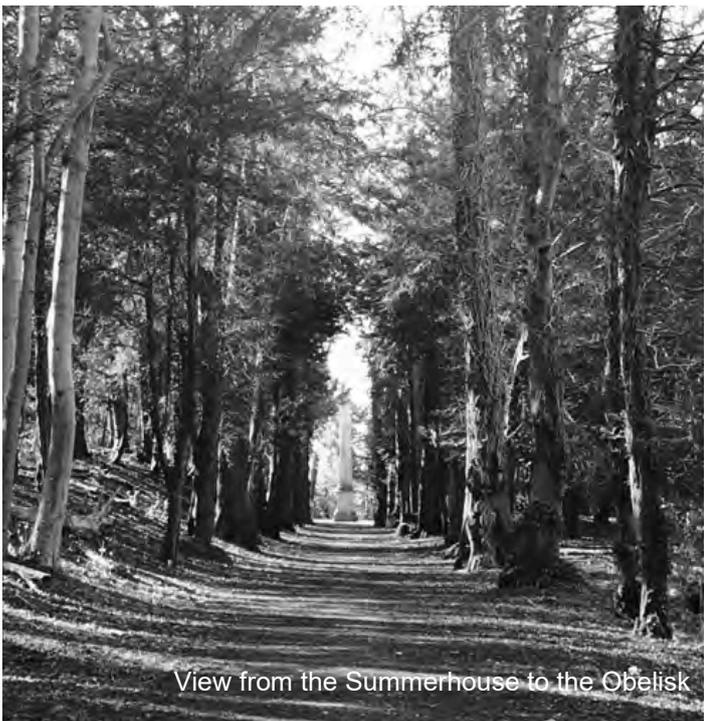
To finish our walk follow Langdon Street to Tring High Street, turn right and make your way back to the car park.



One of the Walter's Wander signposts. The text says, "In 1892, when Walter was 24, the Walter Rothschild Zoological Museum on Akeman Street in Tring was opened to the public"



Natural History paintings on the wall near the Hastoe Lane car park



View from the Summerhouse to the Obelisk



Winter Aconites and Snowdrops in the woods near The Summerhouse

Photos by Steve and Caroline Smith

The Tring Park Summerhouse

The Summerhouse was built of red brick and painted plaster in the 18th century in neoclassical Greek style, designed by James Gibb. The front façade, which is all that remains, looks like an ancient temple, with four columns supporting a decorative portico.



The Summerhouse was practical as well as decorative; it was used as a dwelling and by the late 19th century it housed a gamekeeper and his son. A later resident was the actress Dame Peggy Ashcroft, who lived in the Summerhouse during World War Two while her husband Jeremy Hutchinson was away at sea.

The main part of the Summerhouse was later demolished when the Wigginton road was widened in the 1970s.



Louisa Cottages, Park Road



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The Tring Anglers



Part of The Tring Anglers' responsibility to its members and to the fish and other wildlife of the canal and reservoirs is to liaise with its 'landlord' the Canal & River Trust (CRT). By the same token the CRT is obliged to communicate with its 'customers', such as The Tring Anglers who have paid for the fishing rights, in what is, in effect, a rental agreement. Over the years I would like to think that the club and the CRT have enjoyed a fruitful relationship and will continue to do so in the years to come.

Many of you will have noticed that the works activity in and around Tring's reservoirs and canals has been almost constant over the last few years. The failure of the spillway at Toddbrook reservoir in the Peak District, which attracted international news in 2019, continues to greatly influence the CRT work schedules on its reservoirs. I have taken the following quotation from the CRT's website regarding Toddbrook; *'The two independent reports agree that "poor design" of the spillway, added in 1970, was the underlying cause of the partial failure of the auxiliary spillway at Toddbrook Reservoir on 1st August 2019'*. This, of course, begs the question as to why was the original Victorian construction work from 1840 superior to the 1970 effort?

This year the focus will be on Startops reservoir and its spillway by the footbridge near Tringford Road. The Tring Anglers met with Nick Baggalley of the CRT Fisheries and Angling team and representatives from

the CRT engineers and project managers. Work will take place from May until September and the reservoir level reduced by 1200mm for the duration of the project. This will mean that that angling will continue to be viable, with the exception of the spillway area itself. To maintain navigation on the canal the amount of pressure on the other reservoirs will be very much dependent on summer weather.

It is important that anglers and other reservoir users understand that the slipway and the overflow stream is currently not fit for purpose in the event of excessive rainfall. There is not a threat to the fish stocks and minimal interference with angling. A similar disaster to Toddbrook would result in angling activity ceasing for a long period. More importantly, it would be potentially life-threatening and cause serious property damage.

Fishing-wise, Startops has recently produced a number of large perch over 4lb and the stock of large (30-50lb) carp continues to provide great sport. If we had to remove these fish, in case the reservoir had to be drained, they could be saved but not replaced.



Large bream are also resident in Startops, like this 12lb fish.

Dick Pilkinton, The Tring Anglers

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What's on at College Lake

<https://www.bbowt.org.uk/events>

Nature Explorer's Day Camp

Thursday 13th April
10.00am to 3.00pm



Wildlife Day Camp for 7-12 year olds. Fully supervised by trained staff, without the need for parental supervision.

Meeting point - Learning team staff will be at the Welcome Hut in the car park. Children must sign in with their adult before being left.



Drop off/sign in between 9.45 - 10.00am.
Pick up 3.00pm

Wildlife themed activities for children to explore and engage in the great outdoors. The day is packed full of activities, games and crafts.

Over the course of the day, children can expect to:

- 🐾 Connect with nature and learn about wildlife
- 🐾 Meet new like-minded friends and join Team Wilder
- 🐾 Create fun wildlife crafts to take home

N.B. Tickets for this event close on Tuesday 11th April.

Dress for the weather in clothes and sturdy shoes that you don't mind getting dirty. Please check the weather forecast and bring appropriate clothing. We will be outside for the whole session, and you will need to carry your own things.

This club is for children only - Adults are on site to drop off, register and then pick up at given timings.

Cost: £35 per child (Full day 10:00am -15:00pm).

Young Rangers

Saturday 15th April 10.30am-12.30pm

A wildlife club for children aged 8 -12 years who love nature and wildlife, and want to get involved at our fantastic nature reserve.

Sign in at the Welcome Hut in the car park.
Please arrive promptly .

Young Rangers sessions typically run on the second Saturday of the month. Join the learning team to find out how you can become part of Team Wilder.



(NB: due to the Easter holidays this April session is on the 3rd Saturday).

Wildlife and seasonal themed activities. Sessions last for two hours and are packed full of fun games and activities to teach you all about the natural world that surrounds you.

Over the course of a year, you can expect to:

- 🐾 Learn, through play, about wildlife
- 🐾 Learn, in an upbeat way, about valuable conservation work and how to use tools safely
- 🐾 Develop scientific knowledge and bush craft skills as you build up experience.

Cost: £7 per child.

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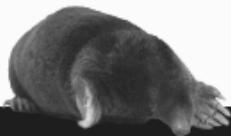
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		7.00pm	Annual Parish Meeting
3rd	Monday	8.00pm	Parish Council Meeting
5th	Wednesday		Food & Waste collection - Route A
6th	Thursday		Food, Waste & Garden collection - Route B
12th	Wednesday		Food, Recycling & Garden collection - Route A
13th	Thursday		Food & Recycling collection - Route B
19th	Wednesday		Food & Waste collection - Route A
20th	Thursday		Food, Waste & Garden collection - Route B
26th	Wednesday		Food, Recycling & Garden collection - Route A
27th	Thursday		Food & Recycling collection - Route B

Coming events

6th May	Coronation of King Charles III
7th May	Coronation Picnic
21st May	Marsworth Fun Run
18th June	Marsworth Steam and Classic Vehicle Rally



The re-watered section of the Wendover Arm. Photo: Jeremy Whitehead
The sign reads: "Wendover Arm Restored - Thanks to all our Volunteers."

Local names and numbers

Millennium Hall bookings

Frances Brown - 01296 661211
after 4.00pm

All Saints, Marsworth churchwardens

John White - 01296 662252
Richard Cooper - 01296 661725

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

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PCSO Megan Dean (101)
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Startops:	Mon-Fri	9.00am
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Marsworth Reservoir - March 2020. Jeremy Whitehead



Sara Wood



Jeremy Whitehead - Locks 37-38 Dec 2022



Mystery tracks in mud - the Aylesbury Arm
Liz Rollinson



Signs of spring - Jeremy Whitehead

