Marlow Town Regatta

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PLUS+ Mayor’s reception | Mayor’s Annual Parish Report | Local charities

THE QUARTERLY MAGAZINE FROM MARLOW TOWN COUNCIL
Inside...

05. Mayor’s Message
06. Annual Meeting
08. Taste of Democracy
10. Town Council News
12. Mayor’s Regatta Reception

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14. Marlow Town Regatta & Festival
17. Mayor’s Annual Parish Report
22. Marlow Remembers WWI
28. Marlow Bridge Rotary Club
32. Marlovian Questionnaire

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cover image courtesy of Marlow Camera Club
To submit an article, contact Jan Bailey at jan@marlow-tc.gov.uk or
call 01628 484024.
The Marlovian Magazine is published on behalf of the Marlow Town Council, Court
eren, Pound Lane, Marlow, Bucks, SL7 2AG by Round & About Publications, Windrush
innovation House, Howbery Business Park, Benson Lane, Wallingford, Oxon OX10 8BA.
Marlow Town Council
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ROUND & ABOUT PUBLICATIONS LTD
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Mayor’s Message
Cllr Bob Johnson

It is with great honour that I am able to write this summer address to you as your Town Mayor. I am so pleased to have been voted in for a second term as Mayor of this wonderful town.

I am looking forward to the events that Marlow is gearing up for this summer. The bunting and hanging baskets are also up, which mark the start of our busy summer rota of events.

The Mayor’s Golf Day at Harleyford Golf Club on the 19th April was a great charity event raising funds for my three charities. Thank you to all that took part. The St George’s Day Parade followed on Sunday 24th April at All Saints Church. Many thanks for the great attendance and support.

Then followed the excellent May Fayre where Jocelyn Towns, my Deputy, helped start the Duck Race and ‘hooked’ the winner! I am sorry I couldn’t have been there but I was on my way to France to join in the VE Day celebrations which took place in our Twin Town of Marly le Roi. I laid floral tributes in three different locations in the town to mark the occasion. The Mayor of Marly le Roi and his Councillors sent their best wishes to the people of Marlow for a happy and successful summer.

The Marlow Regatta was easily the highlight of the year, preceded by the Love Marlow events in the weeks running up to the Regatta and Festival itself. I do hope that there was something you were able to be involved in. On Sunday 12th June of course there was the great Dragon Boat Race, and the exciting family day in the park with the many activities which included a Selfie Stand with ‘Her Majesty’ to celebrate her birthday, organised by the Town Council. I do hope you took some great pictures!

I presented cheques to my chosen charities at the annual Mayor’s Regatta Reception on 11th June and I announced my charity for next year. I also presented awards to the winners of the Town Council’s Sports and Community awards. See page 12 for pictures of the event.

Be sure to come down to Marlow Lock on 19th July when we will welcome the ‘Swan Uppers’ again to enjoy our hospitality. This has been a feature in Marlow for many years now. It is a lovely piece of pageantry that also checks on the health and wellbeing of the swans and their cygnets on this stretch of the river. It is quite a spectacle as they arrive at Marlow Lock in the late afternoon. They moor-up their skiffs and enjoy some hospitality at the Two Brewers. It is always a great evening.

We have such a great town with such a brilliant ‘community spirit’. Thank you all so much for helping to make this town so special to live in.

Cllr Bob Johnson
Marlow Town Mayor

“I am looking forward to the events that Marlow is gearing up for this summer. The bunting and hanging baskets are also up, which mark the start of our busy summer rota of events.”
At Marlow Town Council’s annual meeting on Tuesday, 10th May, Cllr Bob Johnson accepted the mayoral chain for the second year running, with Cllr Jocelyn Towns serving as Deputy. The move was unanimously supported by Councillors at a meeting of the Town Council in March.

Marlow’s Mayor pledged to provide a platform for young people to speak and to teach them about democracy. The Council plans to set up mock elections in primary schools to give younger children a taste of democracy – for instance, by getting them to vote for their favourite cake, which will then be distributed to the entire school.

Cllr Johnson said: “This a wonderful opportunity to raise awareness of how to shape the future within our society. It will be great fun for the children, and us, too.”

The Mayor will continue to engage with secondary schools and work towards creating a Youth Council to provide a platform for young people to have their voice heard in the community.

Marlow Town Council will also focus on making sure the devolved services of grass cutting and hedge trimming will be carried out effectively as it anticipates taking on more services from the district and county councils.
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Taste of Democracy
Raising awareness of democracy amongst Marlow’s youngsters

The Town Council kicked off its ‘Taste of Democracy’ project with a visit to Spinfield School on Thursday, 19th May. The Town Mayor, Cllr Bob Johnson and Deputy Clerk, Katherine Joy, had great fun talking to Year 5 about the work of the Town Council. The project aims to raise awareness of democracy and the voting process among the young people of Marlow. “The children were so well informed about how our country is run - I was very impressed,” the Town Mayor said.

As part of the Town Council’s ‘Vision’ to engage with the town’s younger residents, the children were asked for their feedback. The Town Mayor promised to share all their ideas with his fellow Councillors and to post a selection of their comments on the Council’s website. Katherine commented: “The children were very socially aware and had a great level of understanding about how communities function, demonstrating an awareness beyond their years. It was a pleasure meeting them.” All the children were presented with a button badge as a thank you from the Town Mayor.

This visit starts a summer-long project run by the Town Council. “We want to listen to all our residents, young and old. Meeting our younger Marlovians at school and offering a glimpse of what we do in exchange for hearing their views is hugely beneficial - they are the voters of the future,” commented the Town Mayor.

To make this process fun, as well as informative, the Council is offering to hold ‘Mock Elections’ in all the Marlow primary schools. Children will be taking part in the great ‘Cake Debate’ and voting for their favourite bake. Pupils will be given a taster of what a real election involves, including campaigning, voting in a real polling booth, designing election posters, filling in ballot papers and counting the votes. The Town Council will then deliver to schools enough of the favourite and democratically chosen cake for all the children and staff to enjoy.

“I’m very excited about visiting all the schools this summer,” the Town Mayor said. “If the excitement shown at Spinfield School is anything to go by, we’re in for a very busy time.”

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YOUR DENTURE PROBLEMS SOLVED
Mayor Bob Johnson held the Annual Charity Golf Day at Harleyford on Tuesday, 19th April. Eighteen teams teed off in brilliant sunshine at midday.

Legendary Zinzan Brooke headed up a team of golfers who had bid for a place on his team. Zinzan is an All Black legend who played 58 tests for the New Zealand All Blacks and was the part of a wonderful All Black team that won the Rugby World Cup in 1987. Zinzan is an Ambassador for OK our Kids, one of the charities supported by Cllr Johnson during his first Mayoral year. His other charities were the Local Multiple Sclerosis Society and Marlow Sports Club.

It must have been fate when we titled the article publicising the Golf Day in the Marlovian spring edition ‘Hole in One’, because for the first time in this event, a Hole in One was achieved! Colin Hunt of the Flackwell Boys team accomplished this on the sixth. Following a great day’s golf, the teams joined the Mayor in the Pavilion restaurant for dinner, and Colin bought a bottle of wine for everyone’s table in celebration. After dinner a charity auction was held with guest auctioneer Ed Cox wielding the gavel.

The Mayor presented the winners of the Mayor’s Cup to the Flackwell Boys, who won with 108 points. The Highest Individual Score for Men went to Mark Abbas of the Scene Stealer team, who had to leave before the awards; Neil Riddick his fellow team member collected the award on his behalf. The Highest Individual Score for Ladies went to Bryony Moore, the Ladies Captain at Harleyford.

Mayor Bob Johnson said, “It was a fantastic day and I would like to thank all those who took part and those who have sponsored the event by providing auction and raffle prizes, and sponsored holes. We raised £4,200 on the day. It was a pleasure to have the legendary Zinzan join us for this event and I hope he enjoyed his day’s golf.”
Website

We’d welcome your views on the Council website. We will be increasingly using our website as a key communication tool so please visit us regularly to keep up to date with our news. We have also set up links to other social media platforms – Facebook, Linkedin, Instagram and Twitter.

Flood Alleviation Scheme

The April 2016 update from the Environment Agency is as follows:

The Marlow Flood Alleviation Scheme will reduce flood risk to 287 properties in Marlow from a combination of fluvial and groundwater flooding. The Environment Agency has implemented the planning permission for the scheme. This took place in accordance with the planning conditions which required us to start highway work at Gossmore Lane next to the railway line. We completed this work in August 2015. We are currently undertaking two approaches with the scheme. Whilst we continue delivering the existing scheme we will review the standard of protection and requirements for compensatory storage provided by the scheme.

Work on the existing scheme includes:
• Undertaking ecological surveys at Pound Lane and Lower Pound Lane - these will continue into autumn 2016.
• Finalising the existing design - for example detailing the groundwater pumping system.
• Discussing with landowners requirements of constructing the scheme.

The review of the scheme will include:
Our flood modelling on the lower part of the Thames is being updated as part of the work to develop other schemes. Whilst we continue to develop the scheme, we will be using this latest modelling to check the standard of protection and details for compensatory storage provided by the scheme.

The review should be complete by September 2016.

Under both approaches we envisage construction of the scheme to begin in spring 2017 subject to all legal and land requirements being finalised. For more information, visit our website at www.marlow-tc.gov.uk/Flood-Alleviation-Scheme.aspx

Barry’s Mobile Drop-In

Marlow Town Council is trialling a new initiative to support the communication aspect of our Vision for Marlow. Many of you will know Barry Cross – our Community and Amenities Officer. He will be holding regular surgeries all around Marlow to get feedback from residents - any comments, queries or issues that you may have with how we are looking after Marlow. He may not be able to answer all your questions but he will be able to point you in the right direction or will follow up with Councillors and Officers as appropriate. Please see our website for more information www.marlow-tc.gov.uk/Grounds-Maintenance.aspx or phone us on 01628 484024.

Devolved services/Grounds maintenance

We are in month three of our Devolved Services contract, having taken responsibility for many aspects of grounds maintenance throughout Marlow. We have seen a prolific
growth of vegetation in this time – the weather has been perfect for grass growth. We have worked with our contractors to try and keep on top of this. Residents have been so helpful in advising us of areas of concern and we would encourage you to keep us informed. There is a form on our new website designed specifically for reporting any issues on grounds maintenance, so please keep your feedback coming in. Visit: www.marlow-tc.gov.uk/Feedback-Form.aspx or phone us on 01628 484024. Or, speak to Barry at one of his surgeries.

‘Siding out’ Herons Court

We use the services of Community Payback for many of the maintenance jobs around Marlow – here’s an example of some great work they undertook at Herons Court in April. 1,340kg of waste was removed from the site.

Obelisk

You may have noticed many ‘yellow jackets’ looking at the obelisk on May 19th. Bucks County Council have called in specialists to report on and assess the likely costs of restoring it. We are hopeful that this may lead to progress on renovating this important listed monument.

Tree pits

Following extensive damage and unsuitable repairs using tarmac or concrete, the resin-bonded gravel was recently replaced in the tree pit located outside the Chequers pub on the High Street. The Town Council has identified at least six of the ten tree pits on the High Street that need replacing with a suitable material, as they are currently in a state of disrepair. Concerns surrounding the depth of the tree pits were raised, as there is a recommended depth to ensure a strong layer of gravel is laid. As this tree pit was in the worst condition, it was selected for a ‘trial’ repair to determine the depth available. Now the tree pit has been relaid and measurements taken, the Town Council will now consider their options for the remaining nine tree pits.

Annual return

The Marlow Town Council Annual Return for 2015/2016 has been completed and signed off by our Internal Auditor and the Town Council. It has been sent to our External Auditors who review the information and provide a certificate and report. In the meantime, Marlow Town Council must inform the electorate of a 30 day period in which electors have the right to inspect the accounts. This will take place between 1st July and 12th August 2016. Please see our website for more information www.marlow-tc.gov.uk/Annual-Return.aspx

Change of meeting dates

Please note the following meeting date changes: Parish and Annual meetings on 9th May will now take place on 16th May 2017. Planning, Environment and Transportation meeting on 10th May will now take place on 17th May 2017.

Link to TVP report

For the latest report on the Thames Valley Police, please visit the Marlow Town Council website.
Mayor’s Regatta Reception

Annual awards ceremony for Marlow’s clubs and organisations

In the beautiful surroundings of Court Garden House, Mayor Bob Johnson greeted his guests at the start of the annual Mayor’s Regatta Reception. The Mayor welcomed guests including the Lord Lieutenant of Buckinghamshire, Sir Henry Aubrey-Fletcher; MP Dominic Grieve; Lady Ann Redgrave; Marly-le-Roi’s representative, Cllr Christian Hubner; and Mayors and Chairmen from surrounding areas. He thanked the many organisations that were represented for the work they do within the Marlow community.

The Mayor raised £14,000 for his three chosen charities throughout the year and called on Tony Churchill from OK Our Kids, Belinda Peddle from The Multiple Sclerosis Society and Roger Dye from Marlow Sports Club to come forward and receive their cheques. He announced his charity for the current Mayoral year, the Thames Hospice, which has a presence in the town with its Vintage Boutique in Spittal Street. Debbie Raven, Chief Executive Officer for Thames Hospice, gave a moving talk about the work of the Hospice.

The Mayor announced the winner of the Community Award, Richard Boast, who joined Buckinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service in 1984 aged 28. He became the Sub Officer (subsequently re-named Watch Commander) in charge of the Marlow station in December 1997 and in his 28 years of service he gave 100% cover responding to calls. In 2002 he, along with his crews, received a commendation from the Chief Fire Officer for exemplary firefighting actions at Protim Solignum, in Fieldhouse Lane, Marlow, on 4th May 2002, resulting in the successful extinguishing of a major factory fire.

Richard and his crew played a major part in the 2014 floods. He has also been active in supporting other parts of the Marlow community with charity events, static displays at schools and the Marlow Regatta. Remembrance Day is particularly important to him; he makes sure every year the Marlow Parade and the Parade in Marly-le-Roi France are attended by the Marlow crews and through these events has built a strong relationship with the fire crews in Marly-le-Roi. Unfortunately, Richard was unable to attend so the award was received on his behalf by fellow fire service colleague David James.

The winner of the Sports Award was Emma Mitchell. Emma is a sporty, competitive person who started rowing at Marlow Rowing Club when she was 16. She has rowed for England at the Home International Regatta, for Cambridge in the boat race and for Marlow Rowing Club and City of Bristol Rowing Club in national and international regattas.

Emma was given the award to mark her feat of rowing a 29-foot boat across the Pacific from America to Australia as part of a crew of four called the ‘Coxless Crew’. They covered 8,446 miles in just 257 days, breaking three world records – first all-female crew to row the Pacific unsupported, first 4s boat to row the Pacific and the fastest crossing. The crew’s aim was to raise £250,000 in support of Women with Breast Cancer and Walking with the Wounded. Emma’s mother Sara Bowater collected the Award on her behalf.

Finally, the Mayor announced the winner of the Mayor’s Award, which went to Roger Dye of Marlow Sports Club. Roger is a staunch Trustee and supporter who has helped oversee the acquisition of an important piece of land, securing the sports facility for life and for Marlow’s future generations. Roger has led the club to unparalleled growth and development with membership at an all-time high of around 3,000.
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Warm weather and occasional sunshine provided a pleasant backdrop to this year’s Marlow Town Regatta and Festival. In her opening speech, Lady Ann Redgrave spoke of Sir Steve’s childhood memories of the event, the importance of family and community, and how the event forms part of the fabric of Marlow’s community.

Saturday’s Rowing Regatta was a great success with a full schedule of races from 8am to 6.30pm. One visiting school’s team coach was heard to compliment the day as, “the junior version of Henley Royal Regatta”. Within the riverside enclosure 4,000 spectators enjoyed the rowing and nearly 200 picnic pitch parties. The Round Table riverside bar was joined by street food stalls and a seated restaurant and Marlow FM broadcast from the event with live music throughout the day.

On Sunday, the arena was filled with dancers, fire eating, acrobatics, duck herding and a dog show and was surrounded by numerous trade, craft, food and local community ‘showcase’ stalls. Marlow Ageing Dads won the Dragon Boating competition, while the Canoe Regatta provided fast, frantic action between each Dragon Boat race. The evening screening of Garsington Opera’s Così fan tutte was very well received and provided a colourful ending to a great weekend of sport and community entertainment.

Contributed by David Hudson
Marlow Town Regatta & Festival

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COMMUNITY SUPPORT IS AT THE HEART OF THE TOWN

As my first year as your Town Mayor concludes, I’d like to emphasise how heartening it’s been to see Marlow people - residents, our many organisations, associations and services - providing the vital ‘glue’ that goes into creating our town’s fabulous community spirit. Marlow has around 17,000 residents, 5,500 homes and a very busy business economy, all of whom have made an important contribution to this spirit.

Since becoming a Town Councillor, then Deputy Mayor for two years and now Mayor, I have been impressed with the number of people who help those in need of support and guidance to cope with and improve their daily lives. It’s important to acknowledge the many sporting, educational, spiritual, social and developmental activities provided, as well as the essential support from our emergency services: Fire, Ambulance, Police and St. Johns, that is critical for all our safety. I thank them on behalf of all in Marlow for being ever ready when called upon.

As a Town Council we have the responsibility, on your behalf, to embrace all the varied social groupings across our lovely town. As Mayor I want to see, with our Chairmen of Committees and Members, that we pay due attention to all walks of the lives that go to make up our special Marlow community.

We want to work with young people in Marlow to ensure their voices are heard and we are actively looking at ways in which we can achieve this. This will take time, but we will make significant progress on this over this term of our Elected Administration.

My chosen charities The Multiple Sclerosis Society, Marlow Sports Club and OK Our Kids will all benefit from many generous donations and I thank you all on their behalf.

In conclusion, I want to thank my wife Shirley for her fantastic support, as well as my Deputy Jocelyn Towns, my fellow Councillors, our Town Clerk Annie Jones and the officers of the Town Council. But, above all else, thank YOU for helping to make our town so good by giving your ‘special time’ for the good of others.

COMMUNITY SPIRIT IS ALIVE & WELL IN MARLOW

Bob Johnson
Town Mayor
Chairman, Cllr Richard Scott

The prime responsibility of the Resources Committee is to manage all financial and administration services required by the Town Council. It meets six times during the year and residents are welcome to attend the meetings. The Committee seeks to maximise the use of the Town Council element of your Council Tax to provide excellent value for money in procuring and administering services for residents.

For the year under review, your Council Tax remained at the same level as the previous year, making it the sixth consecutive year with no increase. This was achieved by maximising available resources, further reviewing procurement and contractual agreements and extremely prudent management. Your Council continues to be financially sound.

We have continued with the following services for the benefit of residents:

- The ‘Floral Town’ project.
- Provision of Christmas lights.
- The highly successful ‘Switch On and Shop’ event to start the Christmas festivities in Marlow, which is now in its third year.
- Responsibility for the new play area at Campbell Road and maintenance of all our play areas and green spaces ensuring they are kept in excellent condition.
- Provision of grants and donations to local organisations.
- Provision of half the cost of a Police Community Support Officer and support for the Community Payback Scheme.
- Lunches for our senior residents and war veterans.
- Maintenance of the Town Cemetery and allotments to a high standard.
- Support for the Town Bus Service.

From 1st April 2016, the Council has taken on devolved services for grass cutting and other maintenance from the District and County Councils. This has resulted in an increase in your Council Tax for the first time in six years. For the average Band D property, the Town Council element of your overall Council Tax is still less than £1 per week.
Chairman, Cllr Neil Marshall

Marlow Town Council is a statutory consultee to the local planning authority Wycombe District Council. The Planning, Environment and Transport (PET) Committee meets every three weeks to review planning applications within the Marlow town boundary.

The bulk of the applications reviewed each year are for minor extensions or changes of use and we have a strong correlation with the Planning Authority findings.

There have been some interesting and challenging major applications in the past year, including:

- Windsor House. Demolition and replacement with a supermarket on the ground floor, accommodation units above and underground parking. This has now finally been approved after a number of amendments and the demolition is under way.

- An application to amend the frontages of Anglers Court so as to be sympathetic with some of the character of the new Windsor House development opposite, including replacement of the existing trees with more appropriate species. This is also now under consideration by the Planning Authority.

- The improvements to Spittal Street pavements, drainage and lighting, as well as the new ‘shared space’ crossing should also take place in the near future in co-ordination with the other works in that area.

- Finally, the Portlands Development has also now gained approval after a number of revisions and many years in the waiting. Construction is now finally underway and we can say farewell to what had become a rather unsightly area of the town.

We are still awaiting an update from the Environment Authority on the next stage of the Marlow Flood Relief Scheme. It is believed that the latest modelling suggests that the compensating flood waters capacity provision at Lower Grounds Farm may be somewhat less than originally envisaged, which may help speed up the delivery of the next stage.

We are always very mindful of the challenge of parking availability in the town, largely brought about by the vibrancy of the town itself, but solutions which satisfy residents, shoppers and inward commuters (all of whom are essential to the viability of the town) prove to be very challenging. We are working with both the District and County Councils (who hold responsibility for off-street and on-street parking respectively) towards finding solutions that are acceptable to all parties, keeping Marlow an attractive place to live, work, shop and dine out.
Deputy Mayor, Cllr Jocelyn Towns

The Town Council’s 10-year strategy, launched in 2012, presented a Vision for Marlow – ‘To make Marlow the most attractive and vibrant riverside town in the Thames Valley’ – underlining that this is a fantastic place to live, a great place to work, an exciting place to visit, a wonderful place to bring up children and a caring environment for all. This is a living vision that grows and develops.

It is with this background that your Town Council has recently taken on devolved services from Bucks County Council and Wycombe District Council. This major commitment took time and due diligence to assess, but it fits with our vision to have more control over our town. It will be a steep learning curve for us, but one we really look forward to.

We are also happy to announce that, working with Transition Town Marlow, the orchard planting has begun, with a variety of trees planted in Seymour Park. Volunteers are always needed to help look after the trees, which are fast becoming established.

Another of our goals is to engage more with young people in our town and we are moving forward on this initiative and working closely with local schools; more to follow. Our website has also recently been updated to deliver a more modern, interactive site.

Lastly, we would like to thank our fabulous community for its continued support. Whether it involves volunteering, fundraising or sponsorship, your help makes Marlow a wonderful town.
The Thames Traditional Boat Festival

returns in 2016 with an even bigger display of vintage & classic boats, cars and aeroplanes! Highlights include: the exclusive Bluebird K3 returning to try again for her first ever Thames run, WWII Dunkirk Little Ships, WWII fast patrol boats, WWI dog fights, amphibians, military vehicles and over 180 traditional boats that makes this the largest event of its type in Europe plus all the quintessentially English eccentricity that makes it so utterly unique!

Following the great success of 2015, with over 10,000 visitors, the “Trad” will run for 3 days from Friday 15th to Sunday 17th July. Please see website for details.

Friday to Sunday 15·16·17 July 2016
Fawley Meadows • Henley-on-Thames www.tradboatfestival.com
Marlow Remembers WWI

Marlow commemorates the Battle of the Somme

The 100th anniversary of the start of the Battle of the Somme, when the British and French armies on the Western Front launched a large-scale offensive to push back opposing German forces, is on 1st July this year.

The battle began on the morning of 1st July, when nearly a quarter of a million shells were fired at the German positions in just over an hour. So loud was the barrage that it was heard in London. At 7.30am, British and French troops attacked along a 25-mile front.

While the French made good progress, 1st July was the worst day in the history of the British army, which suffered almost 60,000 casualties with very few gains. The battle continued throughout the summer and autumn and involved casualties of more than one million men on both sides. By the end, British and French forces had penetrated six miles into German-occupied territory but failed to capture two of their key targets, the towns of Péronne and Bapaume.

The war memorial in All Saints Church, Marlow, records the names of over 20 men from the town who were killed during the Battle of the Somme.

In Marlow, we will be showing the original film of the battle that was made in 1916. This will take place at 7.30pm on Friday 1st July at All Saints Church Hall on The Causeway. Entry is free. Before the film, we are asking people to gather at 7.25pm at the War Memorial on The Causeway to mark the occasion. After the showing of the film, we will hold a short commemorative service at the memorial in honour of the local men who fought and died during the battle. Please bring along whistles and candles.

In addition, on Saturday 2nd July, we will hold an exhibition on the role of Marlow men in the Battle of the Somme. This will take place by the war memorial on The Causeway between 10am and 3pm.

Contributed by Andy Ford
Marlow Remembers WW1 Association

The war memorial in All Saints Church, Marlow, records the names of over 20 men from the town who were killed during the Battle of the Somme.
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Marlow Music Makers, a choir of mixed voices, are preparing for their seventh annual summer concert by casting their net widely over the last 70 years for popular songs which have given pleasure to many since the end of the Second World War. Some of the titles are well known, others less so, but together, the selection should make for memorable performances on the nights of 30th June, and 1st and 2nd July 2016 at Christchurch United Reformed Church, Oxford Road, Marlow, starting at 7.30 pm.

The songs chosen include the haunting numbers Angels as recorded by Robbie Williams, My Heart Will Go On (the theme song from the film Titanic), and Skyfall as recorded by Adele. Also featured will be a medley of classics by The Beatles. As in all the choir’s previous concerts, James Church will be the accompanist on the grand piano. In addition, James, along with organist Greg Phillips, will perform some exciting musical numbers.

Musical Director, Barbara Whitehead, who founded Marlow Music Makers in July 2009, said: “We try to ensure that our concerts are light hearted and fun for everyone involved. Our activities are centred round two main concerts in July and December, but we also enjoy singing at other events in Marlow. In addition, we place much emphasis on support for local charities. I’m delighted to report that our 2016 summer concert charity is ‘Parkinsons’.”

Tickets for ‘70 Years of Song’, which include a glass of wine and light refreshments (£10), may be obtained from Leightons Insight Opticians in Marlow High Street or by telephoning 01628 484618 or 01494 883392.

For further information, please call Barbara Whitehead, Marlow Music Makers, on 01628 486366.

Contributed by Marlow Music Makers

“We try to ensure that our concerts are light hearted and fun for everyone involved.”
Marlow has a tremendously rich heritage of sporting glory and, on 24th September, will attempt to achieve the ultimate accolade by running the fastest marathon time on the planet.

Currently, Dennis Kimetto holds the individual marathon world record at 2 hours 2 minutes and 57 seconds, but this is not the fastest time that has been run. Indeed, in January 2015, 105 runners from Limerick, Ireland ran a spectacularly quick time of 1 hour 56 minutes and 54 seconds. This was achieved by running a continuous relay race in 400m segments.

In true Marlovian spirit, 422 runners will attempt to go even quicker by running the marathon distance in 100m segments. Schools, sports clubs, folks of Marlow, and some very special guests including Derek Redmond, Naomi Riches and Andrew Strauss, will sprint around Little Marlow athletics track just under 106 times, averaging less than 16.62 seconds per 100m, in order to make history and raise money for Stand Up to Cancer. Stand Up to Cancer is a fantastic charity that seeks to accelerate innovative cancer research that will get new therapies to patients quickly and save lives now. Therefore anyone participating can be proud of the fact that they are contributing to a very good cause.

If you would like to get involved as either a runner or a helper, please contact Mark Evans by email markevans123456@gmail.com. You can also donate via bit.ly/sprintathon2016.

Contributed by Mark Evans

Stand Up to Cancer is a fantastic charity that seeks to accelerate innovative cancer research that will get new therapies to patients quickly and save lives now.
This article has been prompted by the restoration of our ancient sundial on Dial House on the Causeway, carried out by the Oxford Diocese of the Church of England. Rotting wood has been replaced with patterned timber and a brilliant white oil gloss paint used for the surrounding frame.

The project was put in hand and managed by Tony Kerry and Mike Smith who work in the Buildings Maintenance Team based near Oxford, and the actual work was carried out by Leedon Maintenance Contractors of Wallingford (timber/joinery repairs) and Dan Haines Signs of Dorchester-on-Thames (specialist painting/sign writing). Leedon have an apprenticeship scheme for local young people and two young men from the scheme acquired fresh skills as a result of participating on this project.

The English Heritage listing description reads: ‘Dial House has a long garden with an arched gateway of brick and flint, older than the house, and with a superstructure containing panel with painted sundial facing the Causeway, hence the name.’ Dial House itself was built before 1830 and there is evidence that, originally, all the land between the Causeway and St Peter Street belonged to the church. So it’s a reasonable guess that the sundial might have been on the south wall of the old church which was demolished in 1831 and which dated from the 12th century.

The mottos in Latin above and below the dial are commonly used on sundials around the country. The upper one ‘Ne Quid Pereat’ means ‘Let Nothing Be Lost’ and the lower one ‘Horas Non Numero Nisi Serenas’ means ‘I Do Not Count The Hours Unless They Are Sunny’.

The before and after photos below show clearly the improvement in the appearance of this lovely old sundial.

Contributed by Geoff Wood
Marlow Society

‘Horas Non Numero Nisi Serenas’ means ‘I Do Not Count The Hours Unless They Are Sunny’
Marlow Museum

Summer exhibition focuses on Marlow’s famous general

The Marlow Museum’s Summer Exhibition featuring the life and times of one of Marlow’s most famous residents, General Sir George W.A. Higginson, GCB, GCVO, nearly stumbled at the beginning but raised its game by the official launch in April.

At the early part of the year the museum’s aircon and heating unit failed. After investigation, the elderly unit was found to be non-repairable so replacement was the only choice. This was done at a cost in excess of £4,000 met from funds set aside for running costs and from donations from supporters and local organisations. The delay in achieving this repair meant that the official opening had to be postponed until all works had been done.

On 29 April 2016, the museum was attended by Marlow’s Deputy Town Mayor, Cllr Jocelyn Towns, and Town Clerk, Annie Jones, who witnessed the official opening together with members and the public. Capt Moynan accompanied by L/Sgt MacMillan, Grenadier Guards, the General’s former regiment, cut the tape to signify the official opening and then proceeded on a tour of inspection guided by Trustee Chairman Mike Hyde. The exhibition designed by our own Philip Kersey tells the over 100-year life of the general and his military career. It also explains how Marlow has the Higginson Park which is right next to the museum.

The General’s portrait kindly loaned by Wycombe District Council is on display together with a number of artefacts loaned by the Grenadier Guards and by Michael Eagleton. The museum has many other interesting items and includes the national and local stories of The Great War.

The exhibition will run through the summer with FREE entry. The museum is open afternoons on Wednesdays and at weekends. Visits can be arranged at other times by appointment. We have a Children’s Corner and our Children’s Photographic Competition is related this year to ‘Love Marlow’ in June. To learn more about the museum or to offer assistance why not drop-in to one of our open sessions? These are held on the morning of the first Wednesday of the month at the Waitrose Café, Marlow. Or visit www.marlowmuseum.org

Contributed by Mike Hyde

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Platts Motor Co. began trading as R.J.E. Platt in Quoiting Square in 1925. Originally started by Reginald Platt, the business is now run by the third generation of the Platt family. In 1932, our service facilities moved to the Oxford Road site. From 1925 through to 1985 we were agents for:

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Marlow Bridge Rotary Club

New Marlow Rotary Club gets off to a flying start

- New club is called ‘Marlow Bridge Rotary Club’.
- First meeting was in January 2016.
- Now approaching 20 members.
- Naomi Riches becomes Associate Member.
- Aims to formally launch as an independent club in July.
- Great opportunity for new members to shape the club to reflect its membership.
- Becomes the third Rotary Club in Marlow. ‘Marlow’ and ‘Marlow Thames’ are both well established.

For many years, there have been just two Rotary Clubs in Marlow, the original was ‘Marlow Club’, formed over eight decades ago, followed by ‘Marlow Thames’ which was formed in 1997. Together there are over 80 members in these two clubs – and over the years many hundreds of thousands of pounds have been raised by them for community needs and charities both at home and abroad. And many enduring friendships have evolved along the way.

The third and new club – ‘Marlow Bridge Rotary Club’ - is aimed at reflecting the needs of perhaps younger generations. With three clubs in the town, all generations are well represented and, as always, Rotary continues to seek new community-minded members.

The new club is already close to achieving 20 members, and is now shaping its approach to future fundraising, community events and indeed its own ethos. Last Tuesday evening another seven new members were officially welcomed to the Rotary family - and Paralympic Gold Medallist Naomi Riches MBE also became an Associate Member.

Some members of the club joined Naomi for a photoshoot outside the gold post box on Marlow High Street, and the club is already looking to support her attempt to become the fastest female to row the Thames, starting on Saturday, 17th September.

The club meets every month on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday evenings, and the founding members have elected Louise Kelly as its first ‘chair’. Louise says: “To be able to help found a new club is tremendously exciting. We can shape the club to reflect our particular life styles and our interests – and it is a great time to join. We really would like to talk to other potential members - they are very welcome just to come along and see what we are all about.”

Details can be found at www.marlowbridgerotary.org

Contributed by John Prout

With three clubs in the town, all generations are well represented and, as always, Rotary continues to seek new community-minded members.

Photo: Some members of the newly formed Marlow Bridge Rotary Club with Associate Member Naomi Riches MBE around the Gold Post Box in Marlow High Street.
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www.marlow-tc.gov.uk marlovan 29
Putting the ‘M’ in Marlow
A small organisation with a big heart for music

On April 23rd over 150 wind musicians, young and old alike, filled All Saints Parish Church with the sounds of the Marlow Bandfest 2016. No fewer than six local groups performed, with youth contributions from Borlase Grammar School, Chiltern Music Academy and the High Wycombe Music Centre providing a serious challenge to the grown-ups of the Bisham Concert Band, Chiltern Hills Brass and RAF Halton. An appreciative audience heard a great range of pieces including military marches, movie themes and pop songs, folk tunes, swingtime and arrangements of the classics. Marlow really did “strike up the band” for St George’s Day, with sponsorship from Dawkes Music of Maidenhead.

The Bandfest was the initiative of Christ Church Music in Marlow, a small organisation but one that has run almost 40 concerts in the past five years. Most have taken place in the lovely acoustic of Christ Church URC on Oxford Road but, as organiser Martin Ashford comments, “The Bandfest needed a bigger venue and we were delighted with the great support we received from the music team at All Saints to make this happen”. Whatever the venue, Music in Marlow aims to cater for a variety of tastes: choirs, small orchestras, songs from the shows, chamber groups, instrumental recitals, jazz and even opera have all featured. Details of past and future events are shown on their website, www.musicinmarlow.org.uk.

“We have a fantastic tradition of amateur music-making in this country,” Martin Ashford observes, “not least in this local area. We also have professional musicians and rising young players who don’t always find it easy to get a platform. We are fortunate in being able to draw on both to bring music of high quality to Marlow, and in having the excellent venue of Christ Church for them to use.”

Special Offer for readers of the Marlovian. Join the Music in Marlow email group to receive information on future concerts, and you can benefit from a £5 discount on your first booking. Go to http://eepurl.com/b05Pwr to register (conditions apply). If you act now you should still be in time to catch the last event in the current season, the Derek Nash Acoustic Quartet performing on Tuesday July 12th!

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‘The friendliness of the staff, the members and the all over relaxing feel of the Spa just makes it a joy to visit.’
# Marlovian Questionnaire

We would like your views on our quarterly magazine – The Marlovian

One of our categories in our Vision is ‘Communication’. We’d like to know if The Marlovian meets your needs as a tool for communication between Marlow Town Councillors and our residents. We’d be very grateful if you could take the time to complete the questionnaire below:

Q1. Do you read the Marlovian delivered to your door?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Every time it’s delivered</th>
<th>Occasionally</th>
<th>Not at All</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Q2. Do you prefer to read it:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>As a hard copy</th>
<th>Online</th>
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</table>

Q3. How many times a year would you like to receive an issue of The Marlovian?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Once</th>
<th>Twice</th>
<th>Three times</th>
<th>Quarterly</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Q4. What do you think about the number of articles in The Marlovian?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Too many</th>
<th>Too few</th>
<th>About right</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Q5. What do you think about the content/subject matter of the articles in The Marlovian?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Very Good</th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>Poor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Q6. What do you think about the number of adverts in The Marlovian?

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<th>Too many</th>
<th>Too few</th>
<th>About right</th>
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Q7. Please let us know any other views that you have, we welcome your feedback!

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**OPTIONAL**

Please return your completed questionnaire to:

Annie Jones, Town Clerk, Marlow Town Council, Court Garden House, Pound Lane, Marlow SL7 2AG

Or email to:

[office@marlow-tc.gov.uk](mailto:office@marlow-tc.gov.uk)

Or drop the completed questionnaire to the MTC Office or the Area Information Office at the Library

Or complete the questionnaire on our website:

[www.marlow-tc.gov.uk](http://www.marlow-tc.gov.uk)
Barry's design transformed my small, dark, miserable garden into an airy welcoming space that I actually wanted to spend time in. Friends comments have mostly been along the lines of - I can't believe it's the same space, and ... It looks bigger than it was. Although a lot of the design was hard landscaping, Barry's use of curves gives the garden a very organic feel. In addition his recommendation of using various mixtures of pavers and slabs hugely added to visual interest in the garden. I was very pleased indeed with the result and would recommend Barry and BSW landscapes to any one.

Alex Dewart

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