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This is my last column as your Town Mayor as I shall be handing over the reins just before the next issue. The past two years have been really busy and extremely enjoyable. We have introduced some great changes in the town, of which we’re really proud, and you’ll see more of these as the Vision unfolds in future years.

I entered the Santa Fun Run in support of the Mayor’s three charities and Rotary. I don’t do keep fit, so had to do some intense training! Happily I completed the 5K in 39 minutes, which I was delighted with.

...Continued on page 04.
Funds are dribbling in with the total just over £5,000 so if you haven’t sent your sponsorship yet please do, and a very big thank you to all who supported me.

Please join the Mayor’s Charity Golf Day on 23rd April. Don’t worry if you are not a golfer, come and join in the dinner and if you have any raffle or auction prizes to donate, they would be very gratefully received.

Over the past two years I have been invited to many events, met many people and been supported by the many groups and organisations in the town – all of which I have appreciated and would like to say a big thank you.

I close with another thank you to my fellow councillors and officers who have been wonderfully supportive throughout my two terms of office.

‘The past two years have been really busy and extremely enjoyable.’

Cllr Jocelyn Towns

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New local showroom opening soon
S
ince the launch of Marlow’s Vision, part
of the Town Council’s 10-year strategy, in
summer 2012, an enthusiastic and active group
of councillors and officers has been planning
and setting up some of the early initiatives.

The first of these, the new Christmas lights
display, was launched in December to
overwhelming approval from the community, and
a number of other initiatives are underway.
Here are some of them:

Volunteering

M
arlow’s Deputy Mayor, Cllr Suzanne
Brown, has been busy organising
volunteers for projects suggested by the public
– in particular, litter picking. The litter creating an
eyesore in Marlow’s parks and around the town
centre is mainly fast food rubbish - cans, crisp
packets and sandwich containers.

She approached the Air Cadets, Sea Cadets,
Army Cadets, as well as Brothers, the
hairdressers in West Street, who took on the
challenge and started litter picking on 9th March
in and around the town centre.

“Each group will look after a specific area and
we plan to carry this out monthly if possible,”
says Suzanne. “We have been donated some
litter picking tools by a local company and high
visibility jackets from Grant and Stone, for which
we’re very grateful. If litter is a problem in your
area, do contact us and we’ll know where to
target next!”

Cllr Suzanne Brown has also been helping
the Marlow Allotment Association to obtain
volunteers for the Triangle project, see page 22

Further help would be gratefully received; if you
can help, please call Suzanne on
01628 475726.

Comments from local residents:

“Let’s form litter picking groups.”

“Keeping the town attractive and litter free is
very important to me.”

“Create a volunteering culture.”

Floral Marlow

I
f you’d walked down Marlow High Street last
year, you must have noticed the wonderful
floral displays created by the many hanging
baskets – as well as the flowerbeds and tubs at
the entrances to the town.

Cllr Roy Cadman is spearheading the ‘Floral
Marlow’ effort and was delighted with the
reaction of residents and visitors to Marlow
last summer. “The Council plans to extend the
scheme to beautify the town still further,” he
says. “However, it is not a simple matter as the
ownership of sites for flowerbeds, troughs and
hanging baskets is complex – county, district
and town councils, retailers, business premises
and private householders can all be owners!
Their permission has to be obtained to hang a
flower basket or create a flowerbed.” This year, he says, there will be both summer and winter baskets.

However the cost of buying and maintaining the flowers is considerable and as a result Marlow Town Council is looking for sponsors in the shape of organisations and individuals who can help. If you could be one of this band of Marlow enthusiasts, please contact Cllr Cadman on rcadman@marlow-tc.gov.uk

Comments from local residents:

“The hanging baskets are wonderful.”

“Please keep up the good work with the hanging baskets.”

“We feel very proud of our baskets.”

“At last now our hanging baskets are as good as those in Henley.”

“Let’s create a Floral Town – yes!”

“I really support a Floral Town; it immediately raises our spirits and looks attractive to all.”

Sustainability

Cllr Philip Ditchfield is passionate about inspiring a ‘sustainability culture’ in Marlow, and in particular about the overuse of plastic bags. He says: “In the UK we consume about 17 billion bags each year and if a bag is not recycled, it takes 400 years to degrade.”

Interesting discussions are in progress with local stores, he says, and he hopes to be able to announce the details in the summer.

“In the UK we consume about 17 billion bags each year and if a bag is not recycled, it takes 400 years to degrade.” Cllr Philip Ditchfield
La Cantina Del Vino in Marlow, Bucks features good authentic Italian food in comfortable modern surroundings.

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SUNDAY
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We are situated opposite the side entrance of Marks and Spencer in Marlow with spacious car parking in Liston Road near the restaurant.
Senior Citizens’ Luncheon
Marlow Town Council provides a feast for 100 senior citizens

“Super food and drink; excellent conversation and lovely prizes.”

That was a comment from attendees at the Senior Citizens’ Luncheon on Saturday, 26th January, hosted by Mayor Jocelyn Towns. The event was greatly enjoyed by the one hundred guests who appreciated a traditional Christmas lunch served in style.

The lunch, at Court Garden House, was attended by nine Marlow Town Councillors including Suzanne Brown, Deputy Mayor, as well as Annie Jones, Town Clerk. Each hosted a table and marked a special quiz compiled by the Council for guests to win a bottle of wine. The delighted winner was Norma Bowles, with a score of 23 out of 25.

There was also a free raffle for the chance to win one of 24 prizes provided by the Town Council. The ‘star’ prize was a luxury fruit basket donated by Westside Fruit of Booker. Each guest went home with a small gift donated by Waitrose, Sainsbury’s or Marlow Town Council - and also a coin commissioned by the Town Council to celebrate the Queen’s Jubilee in 2012.

Mayor Jocelyn Towns said: “We really enjoyed meeting so many residents who have lived in Marlow for a long time, and hearing their fascinating stories about the town. Many old friends were able to meet up at the lunch and catch up with each other’s news. Our thanks to those who helped us with donations for this event.”

“To everyone involved in the Senior Citizens’ Luncheon on 26th January, thank you all so much for a most enjoyable afternoon,” said guests Eric Rollings and Mary Jennings.
Your Councillors

2011 - 2015

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Deputy Mayor
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Cllr Jocelyn Towns
Town Mayor
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jtowns@marlow-tc.gov.uk
Town Council News
Marlow Town Council’s Civic Service

There was a great turnout for the special Civic Service held on Sunday, 24th February, at All Saints’ Church, Marlow. Jointly hosted by The Reverend Dave Bull and Marlow’s Town Mayor, it was the first time that this event has been held as a stand alone service.

“All Saints’ Church is one of Marlow’s landmarks,” said Reverend Dave Bull, who led the service, ably assisted by John Bustin. “But it’s not just the building that’s integral to our community - the people and partnerships are even more central to the life of our town. We were celebrating the people who work together - often behind the scenes - to keep the fabric of our community strong.”

Attendees included: The Lord-Lieutenant for Buckinghamshire Sir Henry Aubrey-Fletcher; the High Sheriff of Buckinghamshire, Mrs Carolyn Cumming; the Chairman of Wycombe District Council, Wendy Mallen and Rt Hon Dominic Grieve QC MP. Marlow’s Mayor, Cllr Jocelyn Towns, says: “This was an important event for the community, bringing people together to celebrate the work and commitment of those people who give their time for the town.”

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In and around the town from Marlow Town Council

New cycle racks have been installed in the Dean Street car park and the Higginson Park end of the High Street. The racks have been installed by Bucks County Council to complement the Little Marlow Road cycle route following a proposal from Marlow Town Council.

Bucks talent event announced

Now in its 28th year, Bucks Open Studios is the largest visual arts event in Buckinghamshire and it will take place from the 8th to 23rd June. Over 500 artists and makers from the county including painters, glass workers, basket weavers, metal workers, wood turners, jewellery makers, book makers, print makers and silk makers will be opening their studios to the public for free and showcasing their talent through demonstrations, exhibitions and workshops.

Ben Boswell, Joint Chair of Bucks Open Studios and photographer said “We are delighted to announce the dates for next year’s event and hope to have more participants, new entrants and venues than ever before. We also want to exceed last year’s record of just over 38,000 visits made to studios and exhibitions by around 12,000 visitors during the fortnight.

To find out more about Bucks Open Studios 2013 or if you are an artist interested in being part of the event then visit the website www.bucksopenstudios.org.uk

Christmas Colouring Competition

The Mayor visited local primary schools to announce the Town Council Christmas Colouring Competition, and invited all Marlow primary school children to take part and to post their entry in Father Christmas’s post box at the Carols on the Causeway event held on 17th December.

Father Christmas helped the Mayor choose a winner. The winning entry was submitted by Rachel Dunleavy of Holy Trinity School. Rachel was presented with her prize of a family day out at Longridge Activity Centre by the Mayor during a school assembly. Runners-up were Cariad Lucas, from Holy Trinity, who came second and Hollie-Jayne Cuthbert, from Foxes Piece, who came third. They both received WH Smith vouchers from the Mayor during their school assemblies. Rachel’s picture will be used for the Town Council’s Christmas card for 2013.

Congratulations to Rachel, Cariad and Hollie-Jayne!
Marlow Town Bus Service 160
Marlow Circular

Monday - Tuesday - Thursday - Friday

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<th>Marlow Court Garden - dep</th>
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<td>Marlow Hillside Woodland Way</td>
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R - Bus will serve this stop if requested with driver.

This service is operated by Red Eagle and funded by Bucks County Council, Marlow Town Council, Marlow Bottom Parish Council and Little Marlow Parish Council.
Marlow Town Bus Service - 160

Did you know there is a local bus service that you can use to get out and about in Marlow?

The Marlow Town 160 Bus service is a community service for everyone and operates on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday each week. The service stops at various locations around the town including Terrington Hill, Hillside Rd, Seymour Park Rd, Wiltshire Rd and the High Street to name but a few.

The service is perfect to help reduce car use and parking in the town and for when your shopping is just too heavy for walking. You can pick up a handy pocket size timetable from the Town Council office in Court Garden or Wycombe District Area office in Institute Rd, Marlow.

The Town Council spends £5,000 per year subsidising this local service to provide greener transport provision for Marlow residents and visitors.

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www.marlow-tc.gov.uk
Marlow Watersports Hub

A new facility to replace Marlow’s fire damaged Boat House

In the early hours of 3rd August, 2011, Marlow Rowing Club suffered a devastating fire. Bungling burglars twisted a security light shining it directly onto the boathouse’s wooden cladding. This quickly ignited and a fire rapidly ripped through the 120 year old wooden structure. 18 months on and the boathouse, standing next to Marlow Bridge, is still a sorry sight, however that is about to change. Demolition is scheduled for this summer with the completion of a new building by summer 2014.

Undaunted, the club was up and running again within days of the fire, winning the Victor Ludorum at Maidenhead Regatta. Generously, Bisham Abbey allowed the club to boat from its grounds and erect a marquee to house a temporary gym. Within 3 months, the less-damaged newer part of the building was repaired and back in use, together with temporary portacabin changing rooms. A vast amount of work has been put in by the committee and volunteers putting together the funding and the plans for the new building. Before a new building could be contemplated, the club had to secure the freehold of the land and thanks to the West family this has been achieved.

All the hard work has come to fruition with the unveiling of plans for the Marlow Watersports Hub. All the existing buildings on the site will be replaced by a magnificent new boathouse, gym and social facility. The new building will mean much increased boat storage, a 120% bigger state of the art gym and on the 2nd floor, a bar, kitchen and large club room with a balcony giving the best view in Marlow. The Hub will be a regional watersports centre for rowing, adaptive rowing, canoeing, triathlon and open water swimming, so it will also be home to Marlow Canoe Club, Longridge Canoe Club, High Wycombe Triathlon Club and Henley Open Water Swimming Club.

The estimated cost of the Hub and the land is £2.35million. Together with the insurance settlement, money already raised and an anticipated grant of £1m from Sport England, MRC has set itself the challenge of raising £400,000 to complete this total. The Marlow Boathouse Appeal is a quest for Gold, Silver and Bronze Patrons. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to help build a boathouse that will last well into the 22nd century and enable future generations to enjoy sport on the river in Marlow. MRC is asking £10,000 from Gold Patrons, £5,000 from Silver Patrons and £1,000 from Bronze Patrons. Patrons can be either individuals or companies. As MRC is a charity, donations can be Gift Aided.

Sir Steve Redgrave, elected President of MRC in September 2012 said: ‘I was delighted and honoured to become President of the Club. The Watersports Hub is close to my heart and as President, I wanted to be heavily involved in the fundraising and building. I would urge local people to support this fantastic new community sports facility in any way they can.’

For more information see www.mwsh.co.uk or contact fundraising@marlowrowingclub.org.uk
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Encouraging Beginnings

The property market has seen a brisk start to 2013. Our network has been exceptionally busy so far this year, recording the highest number of market appraisals for potential vendors on record and an 11 per cent rise in the number of new purchasers, year on year.

A further boost to the market has come from the highest number of early year sales since the boom of 2007. All of this has come together to support the most encouraging market sentiment since the downturn started in 2007.

Looking ahead, there are a number of factors which are positively influencing the sales market. These include record low interest rates, a seemingly increased appetite from lenders to lend, and the receding threat of a Eurozone meltdown.

Together, these have led to a greater degree of confidence and commitment from buyers, making it an excellent time for those thinking of selling to bring their properties to the market.

Marlow, Bucks  £1,750,000
Approached via a secure gated access, this barn has been sympathetically converted to create a stunning family house. The property has been finished to a high standard and specification and occupies an elevated position to the north of Marlow.

---

This Grade II Listed property stands as a fine, rarely available home in the heart of one of the most sought after villages around Henley-in-Thames. EPC:E

Making an ideal weekend retreat or “lock and leave”, this charming period cottage has been cleverly extended in 1985. Offering a character yet practical home the current owners have created a delightful mix of period appeal with modern touches. EPC:D

Carefully extended period cottage situated in a pretty location within level walking distance of the River Thames. The Cottage has been thoughtfully refurbished combining the period features with modern needs. EPC:F

This Victorian semi detached cottage has been modernised over time to create a contemporary home with the benefit of high ceilings in the reception area giving a spacious feel. EPC:E

A range of superbly appointed Norwegian timber lodges available within riverside parkland grounds of the beautiful Harleyford Estate.
Town Council News

Tidying up the hedges

Visitors to the cemetery will have noticed that the Council has been undertaking the annual maintenance of the hedges to help maintain the well kept and pleasant surroundings in this peaceful area. There’s also been hedge cutting in the allotments and around footpaths. We are grateful for the support we have been given by the Community Payback team on these projects.

New bus shelter for Dean Street

A new bus shelter has been installed at the bottom of Dean Street, near the car park. At the request of Marlow Town Council, Bucks County Council has agreed to provide a shelter at this well used bus stop.

The Council at work

- The central path of the Marlow Town Cemetery will be re-laid to make it safer, allow it to be more effectively looked after and add to the neat and well-maintained look of the area.
- You may have noticed that one of the tree surrounds in the High Street pavement outside the Chequers Pub has been damaged. This particular tree ‘pit’ is alongside a loading bay and in spite of requesting that the tree pit is avoided by the various delivery firms that use the bay, it continues to deteriorate. Marlow Town Council has agreed to replace the existing resin with a more substantial design and will continue to try and ensure that it is not mistreated.
- Residents’ Guide – Marlow Town Council are working with the Local Authority Publishing Company to produce a Residents’ Guide. Look out for it dropping on your doormat in late spring.
- Christmas – yes we’re already planning for it! Look out for some new events to complement our wonderful new lights.
- Station Approach – Work will be starting soon on improving the piece of land on the corner of Lock Road. Some diseased and dangerous trees will be removed and replaced by new trees and shrubs.
- Welcome to Marlow signs – look out for our new look signs!
- “A” boards on Marlow High Street and West Street, - following concerns expressed by Marlow town councillors and residents, the Town Council will be working with businesses to help keep the signs within their permitted areas.
Charity Golf Day
Teeing off to raise money this April

Town Mayor, Jocelyn Towns will be holding the 10th Mayor’s Charity Golf Day on St George’s Day, Tuesday, 23rd April at Harleyford Golf Club. Teams of four are invited to take part in this very enjoyable day’s golf. The cost of entering a team is £275 and entry includes a day’s play on the 18-hole course, with light refreshments before the shotgun start at 12.00pm, followed by a three-course dinner in the Pavilion Restaurant the 6.30pm. Competitions are ‘The Mayor’s Cup’ for the overall winning team,’ Nearest the Pin’ on the 6th and 14th, and ‘Beat the Pro’ on the 12th for £5 a shot. Also, new this year, there will be a prize for the golfer who has beaten the Pro and is then nearest the pin.

If you’re not a golfer but would like to come and join the Mayor for the dinner and festivities after the golf at 6.30pm, tickets are available at £30 per person to include a three-course meal.

After dinner there will be the presentation of awards to the winners by the Town Mayor, together with a raffle and auction to raise money for the Mayor’s three charities: Marlow Sea Cadets, Lighthouse Charity and Marlow Youth Club.

It is a great day with many teams returning every year, so come and join in! For more details, visit our website www.marlow-tc.gov.uk or contact Jan Bailey on 01628 484024. or email: jan@marlow-tc.gov.uk

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Macmillan Cancer Support  
Compleat Angler lunch raises £900 for charity

Thank you to all who supported the lunch in November when we raised nearly £900.

We are happy to announce that the next lunch will be on Tuesday, 23rd April 2013 in the Bowater restaurant at 12.30pm.

Tickets are £30 each to include two courses, a glass of wine and coffee. Please call the restaurant on 01628 405406 to reserve a table.

For more information about the lunch or Macmillan Cancer Support call 01628 298168.

Details of the guest speaker will be announced nearer the time.

The Town Clock  1805 - 2013
Town clock to be born again following restoration

The Town Clock, officially described as a ‘chair frame turret clock’ was presented to Marlow by local M.P. Pascoe Grenfell on the 3rd April 1805. Until relatively recently it ticked away up in the tower above what was the Town Hall, then Court and Gaol, then Fire Station, then Crown Hotel and now Cook Shop and Assembly Room at the top of the High Street.

Sadly, the original clock was replaced by an electric clock and the old mechanism almost assigned to oblivion. Eventually it ended up in a great many bits in the cellar of the Cemetery Chapel. Happily that is not the end of the story. Sarah Dove, who runs The Assembly Room, offered the clock a permanent home adjacent to the restaurant room. The problem was finding someone who could restore, assemble and set the clock going. Fortunately Town Councillor Roy Cadman, who has a passion for clocks, particularly mantle and longcase clocks, has come to the rescue.

He reports that, miraculously, all the bits have survived and he has temporarily assembled the clock, as shown in the picture. Fortunately the room is 16 inches taller than the length of pendulum, so Cllr Cadman is designing a suitable stand to support the clock and has started work on cleaning and restoring the mechanism. Hopefully there will be a ‘Born Again’ Clock Celebration on the 3rd April, marking the clock’s 208th birthday.
Beth Storry, who achieved a Bronze medal in last summer’s Olympics as goalkeeper for the Great Britain hockey team, was disappointed when she was unable to attend the Town Mayor’s Champagne Reception for Olympians in November; she had returned to Holland where she now plays. At that event, awards were presented to Naomi Riches, who won Gold in the Paralympics in the Mixed Coxed Fours, and Greg Searle, who won Bronze in the Olympics in the Men’s Eights.

When Beth was in Marlow over Christmas, the Mayor, Jocelyn Towns, with Marlow Hockey Club’s Graham Sweet, was able to present her with her award from the Town Council at the Compleat Angler Hotel.

“Receiving this award from Marlow Town Council is a lovely recognition. It’s great to have support from the community.” Beth Storry
Marlow Museum

Exploring Marlow’s heritage

Starting in March, our latest exhibition is ‘What’s Brewing in Marlow’ an illustrated history of Wethereds plus other brewers and our past and present pubs. If you are out for a stroll in the park or by the river at the weekend why not call in at the Marlow Museum at Court Garden between 1pm and 5pm? It’s free!

We love to chat about our town. Perhaps you have a story to tell, or even local heritage that you can donate to us for display? As the museum is run entirely by volunteers and has to raise funds to meet all running and display costs, could you or your company/business help us?

Or maybe you would like to become a Steward? Just ask a staff member what it entails. In any case do call in for a look-see. It’s a bit like the famous Tardis inside and we travel back in time! You have probably read about our financial dilemma in the press recently. So far we have been lucky enough to attract some support from Council funds and generous donors, so we can press on for a while recording and displaying our area’s heritage. Our ambition is to have a larger and more permanent home but that will take time and a lot more tokens (green or otherwise). If you can help please contact Mike Hyde on 01628 485474.

The Triangle

Allotment gardening for people with a disability

Spare allotment ground in Marlow, known as The Triangle, is being made suitable for use by disabled people.

Sylvia Miller, a Committee Member of the Marlow Allotments Association (MAA), has successfully obtained support for the project from the Shanly Foundation, Marlow Town Council and the Marlow HealthCheck, along with donations from allotment tenants. This has enabled MAA to organise the clearance of the tree and bramble roots, the purchase of a shed and weed suppressant membrane for the paths, with the help of Marlow Town Council.

“We’ve had invaluable support from volunteers from both of the main allotment sites,” says Sylvia. “These new gardeners have very little or no income and would have been unable to organise this without our help.”

MAA will organise volunteers to help the new tenants with their exciting challenge, and there has been a generous offer from King’s Seeds, a local garden centre, of flower and vegetable seeds towards the project. Once the area is ready for the new tenants to start work, a grand opening ceremony will be held.

Allotment Association prizegiving

At the Annual General Meeting of the Marlow Allotment Association, Marlow Town Council recognised some of the many hardworking allotment tenants. Three new tenants were recognised for their plots. Best Newcomer Awards were presented by the Town Mayor to Mr T Kippax at Foxes Piece Allotment, Ms S Beddall Hill and Ms L Spence, both of Hanging Hill Allotments, each receiving a cheque for £10, a crystal glass trophy and a certificate.
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Marlow’s Hungarian Twin Town

In November 2006 Marlow was officially twinned with Budavár. The inspiration for the link is a shared bridge design. 1832 saw the opening of Tierney Clark’s Marlow bridge over the Thames. 1849 saw the opening of his similar but much larger bridge linking Buda with Pest, thus ensuring the effective amalgamation of Obuda, Buda and Pest into Budapest.

Budavár, officially known as District 1 of Budapest, is on the west side of the river Danube, where one end of the bridge rests. It is perhaps the most delightful part of Budapest. It includes Castle Hill with the Royal Palace (now a series of magnificent museums), carefully restored old streets, the Matyas Church and Fishermens’ Bastion. To the south is the Taban park area and Gellert Hill with superb views of the Danube and Budapest. To the north is the interesting and historic Vizivaros area.

However, the proximity and ease of access with excellent public transport to the whole of Budapest is a splendid bonus for our twinning. Across the river is Pest with fine shops, a magnificent opera house, thermal baths, Heroes’ Square, museums and parks. To the north is Obuda, complete with the remains of a Roman amphitheatre.

The Marlow Budavár Town Twinning Association organises regular events in Marlow with a Hungarian or Budapest theme, ranging from wine to music to tourism to food and much more. Join our “Taste of Hungary” evening on the 20th April. In addition, regular exchange visits take place. The next will be Marlovians visiting our Budavár friends from 12th to 17th September.

To join the Marlow Budavár Town Twinning Association get in touch with the Membership Secretary on 01628 898287.

Town road dedicated to late Major James Campbell

We are delighted that after a planning meeting to discuss the Great Marlow School development, we were able to ask WDC to name the new road after the late Major James Campbell who was previously a school governor there. This, along with the bench that has been installed in Higginson Park, funded by Marlow Town Council, Town Regatta, Royal British Legion and Riley Park in recognition of Jim’s work for the town, is a real tribute to him.
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Certainly life in the Rotary Club of Marlow has continued at a cracking pace during the winter months and there is a full programme of events and speakers planned for the next quarter to keep all the members both busy and entertained.

Rotary is a dual gender worldwide service organisation, with over 1.2 million members covering 34,000 clubs in about 220 countries, with some 60 plus clubs in our own local district which covers Buckinghamshire, Berkshire, Oxon and Middlesex. The motto of Rotary International is ‘Service Above Self’ and for the over 40 men and women members of the Rotary Club of Marlow, that is what they seek to achieve, while enjoying great friendship and fun at the same time.

Recent activities carried out by the Rotary Club of Marlow include:

- Laying a Rotary wreath at the Marlow Remembrance Day parade and service.
- The Giant Santas Fun Run (organised jointly with the Rotary Club of Marlow Thames). This year there were approximately 2,000 runners, including many more children.
- Food and drink stalls at the Marlow Late Night Shopping Event – which is so well organised every year on behalf of the Town by the Marlow Chamber of Trade.
- Food and drink stalls to support the Mayor of Marlow at the Carols on the Causeway event.
- Young Chef competition to aid schoolchildren with cooking.
- Youth Speaks Competition to help schoolchildren with public speaking.
- Borlase School – We helped them to form an Interact Rotary Club with the pupils.
- All Saints Crypt Youth Club – we help with safety stewards.
- All Saints Church – Youth Orchestra Concert – always a firm favourite with the Public.

We have many interesting speakers at our weekly Club Lunches and many varied club visits.

So please check our club website for more details about Rotary International in general, the Rotary Club of Marlow in particular, our future events, and membership. www.marlow-rotary.org.uk or tel. 01628 484323.
A very successful late night shopping event organised by the Chamber took place on a cold but clear night (until 9pm when it poured with rain) on Thursday, December 6th. We have received many congratulations from the 50+ stallholders, both charity and commercial and also from some of the 3,000 visitors who attended the event. A carol service took place at the Causeway accompanied by the orchestra from Great Marlow School and many local primary school children who helped the Town Mayor switch on the Christmas tree lights. A note for your diary – we are already working on this year’s event to make it even better – Thursday, December 5th. Father Christmas already has the date in his diary.

Monthly business meetings have continued to be a great success with varying businesses kindly hosting the evenings. Presentations by new members have taken place, together with updates on how the Chamber is working on behalf of businesses. There were planning updates by Paul Deriaz and we heard Martin’s Matters – a light presentation by Martin Spittle on serious subjects affecting businesses.

We are hoping to join with Maidenhead and Windsor Chambers with a view to organising speakers on subjects that members have asked for. Visit the website for more details on this and our future meetings and events. If you would like to know more about how the Chamber can help you contact Jo Braybrooke on 01628 488238 or e-mail jorod@btinternet.

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With the enthusiastic backing of the Rector, Dave Bull and the Church Council, a Trust has been set up to support and enhance funding for music at All Saints’ Marlow. The church has a long-standing musical tradition, with a choir of men and boys, a separate girls’ choir and an adult choir. In his opening remarks at the official launch celebrations held recently, Clem Virgo, former Director of Music and Chairman of the Trust, explained:

“Support from the top, and an able Director of Music with drive and charisma are essential prerequisites for success. We have those in place, but it is not enough. Adequate funding is vital too. The Church Council does its level best, but our needs are already running ahead of the contribution it is able to make, and that is exactly why we have set up the Trust.”

Director of Music Martin Seymour introduced a splendid demonstration of the wide repertoire currently sung by the choirs, after which a sumptuous tea was served at the Macdonald Compleat Angler Hotel by special invitation of Gaius Wyncoll, General Manager. He is pictured above with the Rev’d Dave Bull and the Mayor, Cllr Mrs Jocelyn Towns. Other guests included the Archdeacon of Buckingham, the Ven. Karen Gorham and the Director of the Royal School of Church Music, Andrew Reid.

The Trustees welcome all contributions. For details, please go to asmmusictrust.org.uk, or e-mail chairman@asmmusictrust.org

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Rights - Respecting School Day

Over the last year, pupils at Sandygate have been finding out about the UN Convention for the Rights of the Child and in recognition of this they held a Rights-Respecting Day in January.

Each class has Rights-Respecting Ambassadors who work with teachers, teaching assistants, parents and governors to make sure that the articles in the Convention are at the heart of the schools planning, practice and ethos. The Ambassadors chose particular Articles from the Convention that they felt were particularly important and decided on a theme for the Rights-Respecting Day. Their chosen theme was hats from around the world – their reasoning behind this was that it would allow everyone to think about children in different parts of the world as well as exploring the meaning of the Articles.

In leading whole school worship, the Ambassadors were able to challenge everyone to think about children’s rights and responsibilities as well as the need to respect each other. Throughout the day, each year group enjoyed activities related to the focus articles. At the end of the day each class shared their hats and learning with the rest of the school.

Marking the Church Festivals

As a Church of England School, we mark many of the Church’s Festivals. On Thursday January 6th you may have seen a lot of children from the school walking towards town. They were on their way to All Saints Church, to take part in an Epiphany Service to mark the end of the Christmas season and celebrate the beginning of the new term. The school connection with the church continued on Sunday 27th January, Education Sunday, when the Headteacher and a group of children took part in the @10.45 service. The Headteacher gave the address and the children supported her by answering questions and making big Lego bricks into buildings to show how small parts work together to make the whole and how each of us, though different, is special and has a part to play.

Then we were into February and the children’s turn to run the worship in school to mark Candlemas. The worship leaders from Year Two told the story of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple by readings and acting out the story in front of the rest of the school, leading the prayers and singing.
Year Six Pupil is Hair-raising!

We are so proud of Conor in Year Six who has taken the dramatic decision to shave off all his hair in order to raise money for Sue Ryder cancer research. The charity, which this year celebrates its 60th anniversary, organises a Febru-Hairy campaign in order to raise much needed money to run its 13 care centres across the UK.

Conor told us: “My granddad has Motor Neuron disease. He has been looked after in the past by the lovely people at the Sue Ryder Hospice in Nettlebed. He will probably go back there when he is no longer able to live at home. Sue Ryder looks after people at the end of their lives and is funded entirely by donations.”

Ready ... Steady ... Exercise!

Circuit mania has hit the school with a real focus on fun fitness in our weekly P.E. lessons.

Planned by Mr Ingram, our incredibly keen fitness-guru, our hour-long sessions are designed to help us improve our cardiovascular system through a rigorous set of exercises. Pumped up by the loud pop music, we work together in pairs to motivate each other and ... we love it!

Show Racism the Red Card

Following on from a whole school assembly, Year Five enjoyed a fantastic day of workshops provided by the Show Racism the Red Card campaign.

We were delighted to welcome former premiership player Luther Blissett (England, Watford, Bournemouth and A.C. Milan) to our school where he taught us a few tricks of the trade! We especially enjoyed our workshop aimed at helping us understand what a stereotype was and giving us time to consider what racism really is. It was also fun to help Luther celebrate his birthday – we even bought him a cake!

We all want to work together to beat racism in the future ... we’ll certainly be showing it a RED CARD!

Make One Small Change - Make One Big Difference!

Every year Trinity pupils help support UNICEF and the work they do across the world to make lives better for children and their families by supporting the Day for Change campaign.

This year, we challenged ourselves to give up a special food or treat and instead, donate the money we didn’t spend to those less fortunate than ourselves. We are delighted to announce that at our last count, we have raised over £300 and we still have pledges coming in! What one small change could you make, to make a big difference?
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The 2013 Marlow Town Regatta and Festival will take place on the Thames in Higginson Park, Marlow on 8th and 9th June. The website at www.marlowtownregatta.org and twitter account at www.twitter.com/mtrfl both contain up-to-date information.

Following the success of last year’s event, the 2013 event will follow the same format with only a few small changes. Those who wish to picnic will have direct access to the river allowing them to watch and enjoy the rowing. The Riverside Bar will be run by Marlow Round Table with all proceeds going to local charities and good causes. In addition to the picnic area, visitors to the riverside enclosure can expect musical entertainment provided by Marlowfm97.5 and trade and food stalls, as well as some great competitive rowing organised by Marlow Rowing Club. A family friendly atmosphere is guaranteed for all.

This year, entry to Saturday’s event will be by traditional Regatta Badge. From mid March onwards, it will be possible to purchase badges in advance through the website or from the Marlow Information Centre on Institute Rd, Marlow, priced at £7 for adults and £4 for children (aged five to 18). It will also be possible to pre-book picnic pitches for gazebos, tables and chairs within the enclosure, with pitches on the Green and Lawn being priced at £35 and £45 respectively. A small number of premier riverside pitches will be available within the Jim Campbell enclosure priced at £110.

The Traylens Funfair, which runs in parallel to the Town Regatta & Festival, will close at 6pm on the Saturday. The annual Marlow Dragon Boat Festival, which takes place on the Sunday, will once again be managed by Dragon’s Alive. This regularly attracts in excess of 500 participants in over 30 teams making Marlow one of the largest events of its type in the UK.

This year, for the first time, it has been decided that spectator entry will be without charge. More information on how to enter a dragon boat team will be available through the website.

About the Marlow Town Regatta and Festival

The annual Marlow Town Regatta and Festival is Marlow’s premier sporting and social occasion. It takes place in Higginson Park, Marlow, in early June. Saturday’s traditional rowing Regatta and garden party is complemented by a Sunday Dragon Boat Festival. The event is organised by a volunteer committee and runs on a not-for-profit basis with the support of a number of local organisations including Marlow Round Table and Marlow Rowing Club.
This will be my last article as your local police Inspector as I am retiring from Thames Valley Police after 30 years.

Much has changed in that time but the fundamentals of policing are still the same: to protect life and property and to keep the peace. Technology has had a huge impact on policing as it has on the rest of society. What did we ever do without computers and email? We certainly did the job well without them. Society has not changed that much and it is certainly no worse. One of the greatest effects of technology is to exponentially increase the volume of calls that we get.

Thirty years ago many people would have had to walk down the road to a phone box if they wanted to call the police. Nowadays, with mobile phones, emails and social media we are dealing with millions of calls and yet the numbers of police officers have only increased very slightly - and we still also receive written mail. We are seeing increasing numbers of cyber crimes being reported as well as sophisticated computer frauds and scams. It must be time for me to hang up my truncheon and leave this modern technological world of policing to the next generation who will understand it far better than I.

If you want to find out about local policing or crime then you can visit us at www.thamesvalley.police.uk. There you can also sign up to Thames Valley Alert and find out about what crime is happening in your area.
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