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Friday 16th to Sunday 18th May

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FRIDAY 16th MAY
CHARITY ROCK’N ROLL PARTY!
WITH ‘ELVIS’
(aka Ben Portsmouth)
Dinner by Paul Clerehugh of the
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The feedback we have had is that residents like the format of the Marlovian and its content. If you have any comments you would like to make on this or future issues, please ring and let us know.

I would like to thank everyone who has attended my charity events since November – namely: an auction at The Slug and Lettuce, the second quiz at Clayton’s, the BBO concert and the Choral Society concert. Equally, many thanks if you sponsored me in the Santa Fun Run. The total amount raised for Marlow Age Concern and Marlow Rowing Club is approaching five figures!

The last quarter will be remembered for the floods for a long time! I have been overwhelmed by the support from the community during this emergency. The team in the Council office worked tirelessly late into the evenings and weekends and this was appreciated by both Councillors and residents. My particular thanks go to Annie Jones, our Town Clerk.

I also have a whole list of organisations to thank. Asda and Grant and Stone for sandbags. Sainsburys, The Slug and Lettuce, Zizzi’s, The George and Dragon, Pizza Express, The Marlow Bar and Grill, Penguin Fish Bar, the Marlow and Lane End Women’s Institutes, The Chequers, Fegos, Waitrose and Asda for providing food. Asda for providing free waders, and local residents for offering their time and help. The churches for providing support and accommodation for flood-hit residents and Sandygate Church of England School for offering accommodation.

Special thanks go to Nikky, Amber Allen and grandson, as well as Cllr Ian Wernham and Cllr Roger Wilson for helping me deliver leaflets to residents to keep them informed and provide necessary phone numbers.

Here’s to a quick recovery and Marlow back to its bustling self!

Mayor Suzanne Brown will be holding a Charity Golf day on 22nd April 2014 at Harleyford Golf Club. This is a great day out and many teams, corporate and private, come back each year to take part. The best team wins the Mayor’s Cup with many other prizes to be won! This year we have new prizes – Best Female Player, Straightest Drive, as well as Nearest the Pin and Beat the Pro. So there are even more reasons to play!

Entry for a team of four costs £275; this includes light refreshment before teeing off at 12.00pm, a day’s golf at the prestigious Harleyford Golf Club, and a two-course evening meal in the Club’s Pavilion Restaurant. An auction and a raffle will be held to raise funds for the Mayor’s charities, Marlow Age Concern and Marlow Rowing Club.

Why not use this as a way of saying thank you to customers or clients, or just for a great day out with friends or colleagues?

If you don’t play golf, you can still book dinner in the evening at a cost of £30pp and be part of the post-golfing festivities.

Please visit our website: www.marlow-tc.gov.uk/charity-golf-day for more information and a booking form, or alternatively call Jan Bailey on 01628 484024.

Hope to see you there!
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Marlow’s Floods
A huge thank you to everyone

Marlow pulls together in a crisis

The Marlow community showed its true mettle during the difficult weeks of the flooding in January and February. Businesses, community organisations, public bodies and individuals demonstrated their public spirit and generosity in helping those struggling to contain the rising water in homes and offices.

“The entire community has worked together tirelessly,” said Mayor Suzanne Brown. “We’re so grateful to everybody who helped – too many to mention! The Army, RAF, Fire Service, Search & Rescue and businesses providing food and other necessities – it was a fantastic demonstration of our ability to work together in adversity.”

The three local councils, Buckinghamshire County Council (BCC), Wycombe District Council (WDC) and Marlow Town Council (MTC) worked together to support those who needed help. WDC estimates it delivered 8,000 sandbags throughout the district in the space of a week, with council workers diverted to sandbag duty and some even giving up holiday to help out.

Council contractor Serco worked round-the-clock packing sandbags to meet the growing demand, with Marlow Town Council helpers assisting in getting the flood defences to the most vulnerable residents.

Many local people offered rooms to those who had to leave their homes, or entire houses where they were able, and food was taken by local businesses to the workers at various sites around the town.

“It’s been a great team effort,” commented Suzanne Brown. “Now that - hopefully - the worst is over, the clean-up operation can begin and we are working with all the agencies, WDC and BCC. We’re doing all we can to get people back into their homes and businesses as quickly as possible.”

In this phase, MTC will be part of the Recovery Team that is charged with the responsibility of dealing with the many after-effects of the flooding and learn lessons for the future. If you would like to contribute to this, please email your comments to office@marlow-tc.gov.uk

Photo Credit: BFP, Wycombe District Council & Bucks Free Press
Macmillan Cancer Support Lunch

Macdonald Compleat Angler, Marlow - Tuesday 13th May

We are really delighted to announce that the guest speaker for this lunch will be John Craven OBE, well-known and popular presenter of BBC Countryfile. John will speak about his life and career following lunch in the newly refurbished riverside restaurant.

The price for the two-course set lunch, including a glass of wine and coffee, will be £30 (a vegetarian option will be available). Guests are welcome from 11.30 to enjoy a drink in the bar.

To book a table for the lunch, which will start at 12.30, please call the restaurant on 01628 405406 or the hotel on 0844 879 9128.

For additional information about the lunch or Macmillan Cancer Support, please call 01628 298168.

Congratulations Hunts!

Hardware store listed in the country’s top 20

The Daily Telegraph in December listed 20 of the top hardware stores around the country. Marlow’s own ‘little gem’, Hunts in Station Road, was voted as 4th, with B&Q being 1st on the list. This family-run business was established in 1996 and had premises at two shops in Spittal Street but eventually moved to its Station Road premises in 2006, which are considerably larger.

Mayor Suzanne Brown said of the shop: “Marlow would certainly not be the same without Hunts solving our DIY problems and stocking just about anything you could possibly want. The shop is like the Tardis – very much larger on the inside than it looks from the outside!”

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www.rjca.co.uk
The Senior Citizens’ Lunch – a much-loved annual event - was held on 25th January at Court Garden House, with 100 guests invited by Marlow Town Council and hosted by Mayor Suzanne Brown.

On arrival, guests were invited to take part in a quiz to break the ice with their fellow table guests. Margaret Tate won with a score of 23 out of 25 and was the happy winner of a bottle of wine. A festive three-course meal was served by the excellent waiting staff at Court Garden House.

Mayor Suzanne Brown visited each table and told some of the jokes that had come out of the crackers - much to the amusement of her guests. Her progress around the room could be tracked with the amount of laughter coming from a particular area!

The free raffle was then held with the chance to win various prizes including a tealight lantern, a cushion, glasses and a silver photo frame. The mystery prize was £30-worth of vouchers for John Lewis.

A great day was had by all.

“We would like to thank all concerned for the enjoyable lunch that we attended on Saturday. As first timers we were pleased to be able to participate and of course it was a wonderful bonus to win the top raffle prize. Certainly not our usual raffle performance!”

Angela and Michael Davis
Vision Update

Our Vision for Marlow

In recent editions of the Marlovian, we have reported on the wide variety of projects we’re involved with as part of our Vision for Marlow, which was launched in May 2012.

In this issue, we’d like to update you on all aspects of the Vision, a ten-year living document that is regularly updated. Here is a snapshot of what we’ve achieved, where we are today and some of our plans for the future.

Environment

Floral town
This scored highly in our consultations with Marlovians.
- Hanging baskets adorned the High Street last summer, along with floral displays installed at all the entrances to the town – and on the bridge.
- We also provided bunting to decorate the High Street from the May Fayre to the September Carnival and plan to do the same this year.
- Also, last year we were able to provide winter hanging baskets.
- The triangle of land at the top of Lock Road opposite the Marlow Donkey was cleared, re-landscaped and re-planted, greatly improving the area, which as the plants bed in, continues to flourish.
- We funded the planting of wild flowers by Transition Town Marlow in Seymour Park to help our bee and butterfly population.
- WDC also provided a wild flower garden in Higginson Park, which should also have helped our bees.
- Marlow Town Centre was proud to win a Silver Award in last year’s Britain in Bloom contest.
- 350 saplings have recently been planted at the cemetery and Riley Park.
- We have laid a new central pathway at the cemetery to support its peaceful environment.
- First Great Western Trains provided beautiful hanging baskets at Marlow train station.
- The maze in Higginson Park has been renovated.

To come in 2014
- Town orchard – we are currently discussing with Transition Town Marlow the possible creation of a Marlow Town Orchard in Seymour Park.
- Tierney Court flower bed – a sponsor has been found to improve the upkeep and appearance of this key space at the entrance to Marlow, by Marlow Bridge.
- We continue to look for volunteers to help us to support all these initiatives.
- Britain in Bloom – MTC will consider entering the competition once again.

Under discussion/In the pipeline
- River – we’re working closely with the EA, WCC and BCC to review the impact of recent flooding. We’re also working with the relevant agencies to move the proposed flood alleviation scheme forward.

Litter
Another very popular topic. We were asked to address the issue of litter in and around our town.
- We are including messaging on litter on our website, on all our correspondence, in articles in the Marlovian and in the press.
- Volunteer litter-pickers have been active on a regular basis.
- High-visibility jackets have been generously donated by Grant & Stone; litter-grabbers have also been donated.
- Improved litter bins have been installed in Higginson Park.
Culture and Heritage

Christmas in Marlow

• The new Christmas lights display was launched in December 2012 to fantastic approval from the community. To enable this display to continue, we needed sponsorship, and were delighted that The Shanly Foundation supported us for a second year and that Comland sponsored us last year.
• This sponsorship enabled us to extend the number of small Christmas trees to West Street and Spittal Street for December 2013.
• As a Council, we are heavily reliant on sponsorship to ensure we can maintain the Christmas lights going forward.
• Switch On and Shop, November 21st. As Marlow Town Council had taken over responsibility for the Christmas lights from WDC, we were able to set up this very successful celebrity event, with local actor Tom Chambers. The evening was especially good for Marlow’s retailers - most of whom opened until late evening - giving them a longer Christmas shopping period.
• Carols on the Causeway/Lantern Event - the annual Carols on the Causeway event was combined with a children’s lantern competition.

Town Clock

• The town clock mechanism has been lovingly re-assembled (by a Marlow Town Councillor) and is now working and on display in the Assembly Rooms (no pun intended!).

To come in 2014

• Switch On and Shop was so successful that we intend to repeat this in 2014.
• Our Carols on the Causeway event is scheduled to take place again this year.

Under discussion/In the pipeline

• A Children’s Literary Festival has been suggested. Before undertaking such a task we will put in the necessary research to help us decide if this is something we can take on. Should it be agreed to go ahead we will need volunteers to become very involved in getting this off the ground.
• Sculpture Garden – we’re in the early stages of discussions with the Tate Gallery about the placement of a Sculpture Garden in the town. This would also rely on available finances from sponsorship, or donations.

Sustainability

Plastic-free zone

• Waitrose event – We held a very successful event to reduce plastic bag usage in the town and help Waitrose customers dispose of their unwanted packaging. Waitrose gave customers bags for life during the week, held in October 2013. Feedback was very positive, with residents committing to reuse them in the future.

To come in 2014

• Sainsbury’s event – Marlow Town Council will be joining forces with Sainsbury’s in West Street to host another ‘Plastic Bag Free’ week from 27th March. On Saturday, 29th March, Marlow Town Council will once again help shoppers dispose of their unwanted packaging.

Under discussion/In the pipeline

• Walking and cycle paths – a number of these have now been put in place, with plans for more to come.
• Water station – there are no immediate plans for this and we need to assess viability regarding health and safety, particularly given the recent water issues we have experienced in and around the town.

Transport

Town bus

• We were happy to announce that a Saturday bus service was introduced on a year-long trial in December 2013. This is in addition to the weekday service.

Cycling and bus shelters

• Cycle racks have been provided in Dean Street, the High Street and Higginson Park, and two bus shelters have been erected in West Street and Dean Street.
• The final piece of the cycle path from Marlow town centre to Little Marlow is underway and should be completed soon.
Parking
• An initial parking review took place; the results are on the MTC website. Once Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) is introduced, we will be able to take a holistic view, to include on- and off-street parking, together with WDC and BCC.

Railway
• An improved passenger information system has been installed at Marlow station, and we are working closely with the Marlow-Maidenhead Passenger Association (MMPA) on the next steps for the line, including electrification.

To come in 2014
• Pop-up surgery at Sainsbury’s, West Street on 29th March and Marlow Carnival on 20th September.
• Revamped website.
• Review of Marlow Town Council’s representation on outside bodies.
• Review of the Residents’ Guide.

Finance
Sponsorship/donations
• A three-tier package has been developed, i.e. Gold, Silver and Bronze levels. Details are available on our website.

Annual plan/budget
• We are very happy to announce that a zero increase to the precept has once again been achieved, whilst maintaining levels of service to residents.

To come in 2014
• Structured communication of the sponsorship package.

Under discussion/In the pipeline
• Five-year financial plan.
• Review of charity status.

Our Businesses
To come in 2014
• We will engage with the Marlow Chamber of Commerce on the feasibility of appointing a Business Development Tsar.

Planning and Housing
Local Plan
• Consultations on the WDC Local Plan are ongoing into 2014 and your Council is actively involved.

Under discussion/In the pipeline
• Portland Alley – we will work closely with WDC to keep this under review.
• Plan for our verges – some of our grass verges have homes at the end of May and is still available at many strategic points around the town.
• The new-look Marlovian was introduced in January 2013 and is being published quarterly. The winter addition contained a new pull-out guide to provide advice to residents for winter conditions. In hindsight it should have been on flooding!

Communication
Pop-up surgeries
• Two MTC surgeries took place in 2013, at Marlow Carnival on 21st September and at the Waitrose ‘Plastic Bag’ event on 19th October.

Residents’ Guide/Marlovian
• The new Residents’ Guide was delivered to all Marlow...
been ruined by, for instance, cars driving over them and people putting boulders on them. We will work with BCC to determine a plan for their repair.

Community
- The recent flood issues in Marlow have shown us what a wonderful community we have - the helpful spirit of the residents, businesses and Emergency Services has been phenomenal. We have a great community.
- We are also working closely with Dave Bull, Town Rector of All Saints with his ‘Love Marlow’ initiative.

Sports and Health
To come in 2014
- We have started working with Marlow Sports Club to develop a comprehensive catalogue of all the sporting opportunities and facilities in Marlow, of which there are a large number - this must be one of the best towns for the diversity of its sports.
- The Marlow Water Sports Hub is now underway and, although not officially in Marlow, it is a major landmark which is, and will remain, well used by the town. They hope to complete the re-build in September 2014.

Under discussion/In the pipeline
- BMX track – this was a suggestion from the consultation, that it would be a ‘nice to have’ for young people. We are reviewing options.
- Gossmore Park facility improvements along with the flood alleviation scheme. More news on this when we have it.

Summary
So plenty has been achieved, but there is still so much more we would like to do on behalf of Marlow. We will be looking regularly at all the ten categories in the Vision and we welcome your comments. It’s a Vision that is being driven on behalf of everyone in Marlow, and we need your help to achieve our goals. Please do give us your feedback as this will help us structure our future plans. Please send your comments to Cllr Jocelyn Towns on jtowns@marlow-tc.gov.uk

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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- Wolsley
- Riley
- MG
- Triumph
- Ford

In 1986 we were appointed as dealers for Ford Motor Vehicles. Today we carry out all makes servicing and MOT testing, we have a car wash centre and run one of the few served petrol stations that still sells 4 star fuel.

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A special event celebrating the lighting of the first ever Heritage Flame at Stoke Mandeville Stadium has been hailed as a great success.

Entertainment including a performance by the winner of BBC’s The Voice, Andrea Begley, was laid on at Aylesbury Waterside Theatre on 2 March, the day after the flame lighting.

The theatre event, titled ‘Spirit in Motion’, was hosted by disabled actor Ben Owen Jones and featured Paralympic athletes, film, visual arts and live music.

Hundreds of people living or working in Buckinghamshire applied for the ticket ballot for up to two free tickets to attend the event, which was directed by Bradley Hemmings, Co-Artistic Director of the Opening Ceremony of the London 2012 Paralympic Games and Director of Greenwich + Docklands Festivals, one of the UK’s leading outdoor arts organisations. Bradley was also director of the remarkable Heritage Flame Lighting Ceremony at Stoke Mandeville Stadium on 1 March.

Andrea Begley performed songs from her debut album, including Jake Bugg’s Lightning Bolt, Eva Cassidy’s Songbird and the Lumineers’ Ho Hey, and spoke of her pride at being asked to perform at the event.

Blind soprano Denise Leigh sang the Paralympic tribute song Spirit in Motion, whilst Rachel Gadsden, artist for WheelPower UK, created artwork live on stage representing the spirit of Paralympians.

Paralympic themed artwork, entitled Fire Flight, was also on display at the event. The artwork was created by students from across Buckinghamshire, including from The Mandeville School and Pebble Brook School, with help from artists Pippa North, Dave Dunn-Birch and Kristina Veasey. It took inspiration from the culture and landscape of Sochi and Buckinghamshire, and Mark Briggs GB sledge hockey player, whilst also reflecting the Paralympic values of determination, inspiration, courage and equality.

A number of Paralympians were included in the celebratory show including Chris Holmes MBE, who spoke of his mammoth six gold medals at the Barcelona Paralympic Games.

The Paralympic Heritage Flame also made a special appearance. It was brought on to the stage by para-skier Andy Barlow, who played an important role in the flame lighting ceremony at Stoke Mandeville Stadium.

Earlier in the day Lord Rothschild, the British investment
banker, arts patron and philanthropist, and Kirsten Hart, clinical specialist physiotherapist at the National Spinal Injuries Centre at Stoke Mandeville Hospital, accompanied the Heritage Flame on its visit to Waddesdon Manor. It was then taken to Marlow by Olympic gold medalist Katherine Grainger and Paralympic gold medallist Naomi Riches.

The Heritage Flame will link with eight other flames from the different departments of Russia at a special ceremony at the Alpine Village of Roza Khutor on 5 March to create the Paralympic Flame. The torch will then take part in a two-day relay before arriving at the Olympic Stadium in Sochi as part of the Opening Ceremony.

Just as the Olympic Torch begins its journey in Olympia, the Heritage Flame ceremony will now be held before every Paralympic Games to recognise Stoke Mandeville as the birthplace of the movement.

The Armillary Sphere, which was central to the Heritage Flame Lighting event at Stoke Mandeville Stadium, is now on public display at the stadium for six weeks and can be viewed by the public for free. During the event, multi-gold medal winning Paralympian Hannah Cockroft used human endeavour to work the Armillary Sphere and create the spark that legendary ten gold medal winning Paralympian Caz Wallton used to light the Paralympic Cauldron and torches.

Arts Council England awarded a £155,000 grant to Aylesbury Vale District Council to fund this year’s stadium and theatre events.

Councillor Howard Mordue, Cabinet Member for Leisure at AVDC, said: “Months of hard work and planning has been put in by officers from across the council and partner organisations to make sure the Heritage Flame celebrations were a success. The effort was worthwhile because the response of people attending the stadium and theatre events was absolutely tremendous. I would like to thank all those involved for making the celebrations such a memorable occasion.”

If you weren’t lucky enough to attend the Heritage Flame celebrations, view the footage at www.buckslegacy.org from 10 March.

To find out more about the Fire Flight project, email vicky.hopewalker@btinternet.com or call 0777 6471066.

“I would like to thank all those involved for making the celebrations such a memorable occasion.” Cllr Howard Mordue

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We regret that pushchairs and pets are not allowed in the Pavilion. Baby backpacks available free.

Cut out this FREE ticket which admits two

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**All Saints Church**

*Plans to make the church more accessible*

**All Saints Church is an iconic building in the Marlow landscape...**

Positioned as it is on the river, overlooking Tierney’s suspension bridge at the entrance to the town, there has been a church on the site for many generations. The current building was opened in 1837.

The church is a centre of Christian worship with increasing numbers attending, and it’s used widely for school services, weddings, baptisms and funerals – as well as a variety of musical concerts and events. The church was originally designed to escape the risk of flooding, which had plagued the previous building, and for this reason there are steps up to the main entrance. Permission has now been granted to modify the stonework and build up the approach areas, making it accessible to all, including children in buggies or disabled people who rely on wheel chairs.

The cost of the work, which we hope to start this summer, is estimated at around £25,000, and the church has already raised some funds towards this. The Friends of All Saints, an independent charity set up to support projects for the church by the wider community, has agreed to underwrite any outstanding balance – and we’re inviting the wider community to contribute towards the cost.

This is the first of several planned projects, including the addition of kitchen facilities and improving the toilets.

If you would like to make a donation or consider getting more involved with fundraising please contact the Parish Office (opening times 10.00am to 12.30pm Mon-Fri).

For more information about the church and to obtain details of all the services and activities visit [www.allsaintsmarlow.org](http://allsaintsmarlow.org) or call the office on 01628 481806.

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**One Can Trust**

*Christian food bank*

One Can Trust is a Christian-based organisation with values underpinned by the demonstration of faith. Its primary aim is to operate a food bank.

A food bank is a simple idea: collect food, sort it and give it to those who need it. One Can Foodbank provides a short-term free emergency food supply of non-perishable items such as meat, vegetables and puddings, donated, packed and distributed by people from local churches, schools and companies. The parcel provides enough nutritious basic ingredients, together with menu cards, to create a number of meals. Non-perishable food items such as toothpaste, nappies, shampoo and other toiletries are also available.

Under the scheme, people or families who are ‘in crisis’ and needing food are referred by a registered agency or organisation and invited to one of a number of Pickup Centres to collect a food parcel. The food bank operates from the Big Yellow self-storage facility located on the London Road in High Wycombe.

The Trust partners with many churches from all denominations based all around Wycombe and the South Bucks District, from Penn to Denham, Wooburn Green to Marlow, Lane End to Stokenchurch, Princes Risborough to Speen, Hughenden to Hazlemere.

Collection points are available in many locations, including All Saints Church, Marlow, where gifts can be left when the church is open, between noon and 3.00pm most days. Other ways of supporting One Can are by donating or volunteering.

To find out more information about how you might help and what you can donate go to [http://onecantrust.org.uk/](http://onecantrust.org.uk/) or call 07731 789313.
2014 Housing Market

2014 will be another interesting and exciting year in the local housing market. 2013 showed a continuing return to confidence in the UK economy and that also helped lead to a positive return in the growth of the housing market. Hamptons International had a very strong 2013, new buyer enquiries rose significantly year on year and the demand across the whole of the market was strong. The booming London market, where Hamptons operate out of 29 offices, had greatly assisted the steady growth of house prices in the Marlow area especially as many families are looking to get their children into great schooling, not too far a commute from London and in many cases buying more affordable homes.

Looking at some basic numbers, the local Hamptons International offices have seen a 45% increase in new buyer numbers coming into the market so far in 2014. Viewing numbers, in general, have increased by 33%. There is an increasing ‘punt up demand’ in the area, and as fewer properties are coming to the market asking prices across the market are starting to increase. In particular, the market for properties up to £500,000 is very active with several of the properties we have sold in Marlow and Bourne End having gone to multiple offers and over their initial asking prices. The further up the market, in price terms, the numbers of new buyers decreases on an affordability level, however if a property is priced correctly the interest is very strong.

If you are considering moving, now is certainly an ideal time. With low stock levels of property on the market, competition between buyers is certainly increasing and buyers also have to make more compromises when buying as there aren’t the options available to them. The common trend is for people to bring their property to market in the spring when homes typically look their best. This increases supply and lowers demand which therefore makes pricing more realistic than figures being achieved at the moment.

Even if we have been out to appraise your property within the last year, it may be that you could potentially receive more now. We would be happy to come out to see you, for a no obligation market appraisal, and discuss how the market is working and what the year ahead holds for your home.
**Mill Road, Marlow**  
**Guide Price £1,395,000 Freehold**  
A stunning and well appointed townhouse with views to both the front and rear aspects over the River Thames, the property has a mooring and is offered to the market with no onward chain. EPC:E

**Bedwins Lane, Cookham Dean**  
**Guide Price £1,200,000 Freehold**  
A well appointed detached period cottage in a rural setting within Cookham Dean. The property fronts onto National Trust land, is previously extended and has additional parking area to the rear of the house. EPC:E

**Winter Hill Road, Pinkneys Green**  
**Asking Price £1,295,000 Freehold**  
A detached modern family home with detached annexe located close to National Trust Land. Benefiting from 5 reception rooms, 4 bedrooms and a double garage all set within approx 0.25 acre of private gardens. EPC:D

**Claremont Gardens, Marlow**  
**Guide Price £1,100,000 Freehold**  
Located within a short walk of Marlow High Street is this well appointed detached family home, the property has been extended and improved over time and originally dates back to the 1920’s. EPC:D
South Bucks Hospice

£1.8 million legacy propels new hospice plans

South Bucks Hospice, which provides expert care for local people with cancer and other life-limiting illnesses, has received a £1.8 million legacy from an anonymous benefactor. The news has astounded staff, volunteers and trustees who were overwhelmed to receive such a generous donation.

It means that the vision for the charity to build a brand new, state-of-the-art hospice in Kingswood, Totteridge, will now be a reality much sooner than anticipated and a new completion date of winter 2016 has been set. The original appeal was launched in 2011 and the charity has so far raised over £500,000 with the help of its supporters and volunteers in the community.

The new purpose-built centre will have the capacity to care for up to 60% more patients and will bring together the day care service and Lymphoedema clinic, with staff able to collaborate and share expertise. The current range of activities and therapies will also be expanded, including the vital Lymphoedema service, providing an even higher level of care to local people with serious illnesses.

The donation was awarded as the executors of the benefactor’s will were extremely impressed with the vision for the new hospice and the passion shown by new Chief Executive, Jo Woolf. She says:

“This incredible legacy, along with the funds raised by our wonderful supporters, will ensure we are able to offer the very best care for generations to come.”

Chief Executive, Jo Woolf

Keep up to date with the new build story here www.sbh.org.uk

South Bucks Hospice; Jo Woolf, Chief Executive; and an artists impression of the new hospice.
From 1st January 2014, victims of hate crime in Buckinghamshire can report incidents through the Victim Care Unit, a dedicated service within Thames Valley Victim Support.

Thames Valley Victim Support offers emotional support, information and practical help to victims of crime, whether or not the crime has been reported to the police or a third party.

To report hate crimes and incidents phone the support line on 0845 38 99 528 or email shorehamvcu@victimsupport.org.uk. Immediate phone support to hate crime callers is available Monday to Friday 8am to 8pm and Saturday 9am to 5pm. Outside these hours, callers can leave messages on their 24-hour answerphone, which will be dealt with in the morning of the next available working day after the call was made.

Hate crime occurs when a person is targeted because of hostility or prejudice towards their:
- disability
- race or ethnicity
- religion or belief
- sexual orientation
- transgender identity

Bucks CC, district councils and Victim Support are dedicated to seeing not only a reduction in crime, but also a fall in the fear of crime. Hate crimes are amongst the most insidious of crimes as they often target the most vulnerable and frequently go unreported. We are working together to ensure victims are supported and feel confident in the support offered.

Thames Valley Victim Support offers emotional support, information and practical help to victims of crime.

For support and information see the hate crime page on the Victim Support website.
Next Stage Choir
A fun, non-classical, ‘tutored’ community choir

“Next Stage Choir is a fun, non-classical, ‘tutored’ community choir where vocal development and skill are as important as the development of the choir itself.”
Chorus Director, Russell Scott

Though the Choir is run like other traditional choirs, its focus is on non-classical music in a fun and dynamic environment, where vocal development and skill are as important as the development of the choir itself. Next Stage is known as a ‘tutored’ choir because while working on a repertoire in preparation for performances, we also work on developing your voice and your singing skills.

Since its inception, we’ve continued to develop and broaden the choir’s repertoire, building a reputation for friendliness, a non-pressured environment and a determination to bring singing to everyone - something Russell has been doing for several years.

2013 was a busy year, with performances at Harpenden Carnival, Highfield Fete, Childwickbury Arts Fair, and most recently at the Marlow Switch On and Shop event.

New members are always welcome, no matter whether you are an experienced singer or have never sung in a choir before. The choir rehearses every week in Marlow and St. Albans. For more information on joining Next Stage Choir, please visit: www.nextstagechoir.com or telephone 08445 67 68 96.

Chorus Director, Russell Scott

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How a former Marlow boatyard helped the war effort in World War II

J G Meakes Ltd, an established boatbuilder, whose boatyard was where Rivermead Court stands today, built high-speed air sea rescue launches (HSLs) for the Air Ministry during WWII. These boats were used for the rescue of air crew from the sea and were of wooden construction, mainly mahogany. They were 67ft in length, 15ft beam, 4ft 3ins draft and powered by two 650BHP Thornycroft engines, with a speed of 25 knots and a range of 350 miles.

The vessels were fitted out with a well-equipped sick bay for survivors, a galley to provide hot food and drinks etc for survivors and crew, radio cabin and crew accommodation. They were fitted with armaments to protect themselves against attack and had armoured protection. The first order was placed in August 1941, with a second in July 1942. In all, Meakes built 16 of these craft, the last one having been delivered in April 1945.

The first HSL Meakes built, No. 2507, operating from the Shetlands, carried out a daring rescue in poor weather conditions within the Arctic Circle to save a flying boat crew in June 1943. In June 1944, another of the Meakes built HSLs, No 2512, was involved in Special Combined Operations off the Normandy coast in the hours before D-Day 70 years ago. In January 1945, HSL No 2507 rescued the crew of a German midget submarine off Great Yarmouth – this must have been a significant rescue because it was mentioned on Berlin radio by Lord Haw-Haw.

One must consider the organisation and logistics required for Meakes to build such large craft when prior to WWII they mainly built river cruisers, slipper launches and small craft. During WWII, the RAF Marine Rescue Section saved nearly 14,000 from the seas.

Contributed by Neil Garside
The Great Barn at Harmondsworth
Dr. Justine Bayley
Secretary to the Friends of the Great Barn at Harmondsworth.

This talk will present much of what is known about the Great Barn and its history, running from its construction in the early 15th century through its various changes of ownership and use to the present day. In late 2011 the Barn was bought by English Heritage and since then they have undertaken investigations, such as geophysical surveys, archaeological excavations, as well as research relating to both medieval and more recent events.

Garden Room, Liston Hall, Liston Road, Chapel Street, Marlow, SL7 1DD
£2.50 entry for Archaeology in Marlow members and £3.50 for non-AIM members, includes refreshments.
For more information visit: www.archaeologyinmarlow.org.uk or telephone 01628 481792.

Local National Trust Properties – an Update
A talk by Gary Marshall
National Trust Regional Archaeologist.

Gary gave a fascinating talk in early 2013 on the activities of the archaeologists who work for the National Trust and their investigations into a range of issues and opportunities that arise on local properties. He will provide an update on this work and new developments. The hot summer of 2013 resulted in interesting sets of parch marks appearing on a number of properties so there should be plenty to talk about.

Garden Room, Liston Hall, Liston Road, Chapel Street, Marlow, SL7 1DD
£2.50 entry for Archaeology in Marlow members and £3.50 for non-AIM members, includes refreshments. For more information visit: www.archaeologyinmarlow.org.uk or telephone 01628 481792.
Bucks Art Event

Event announced

The Visual Images Group (VIG), an alliance of 600 artists and craftspeople living and working in Buckinghamshire, has announced that it will again be organising its members into the annual Bucks Open Studios this year.

Now in its 29th year, Bucks Open Studios is the largest visual arts event in Buckinghamshire and one of the largest in the country. It will take place from 7th to 22nd June 2014.

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.

Bob and Ann Marshall, the new Joint Chairs of the Visual Images Group said: “Bucks Open Studios has grown in every way year on year - more participants, more venues, and more visitors - and we want to make sure that it continues to gain in popularity with the public. Artists and makers in Buckinghamshire are very grateful for the support that they receive from the public and we are sure that Bucks Open Studios will continue to prosper.”

To find out more about Bucks Open Studios 2014, please visit the website www.bucksopenstudios.org.uk

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Marlow Orchestra
Brand new Marlow Orchestra launched

Don’t be shy, dust off the instrument and get involved!

Tuesday, 7th January saw 25 people, who had made a New Year’s resolution to get together, meet for the first rehearsal of the brand new Marlow Orchestra.

Rehearsing in the Christ Church United Reformed Church on Tuesday nights from 7.30-9.00pm, this brand new orchestra aims to give a new opportunity for players of all ages and abilities to get together in a relaxed and enjoyable environment. We hope that this can establish itself as another fantastic social opportunity in the town and to play a varied repertoire appealing to all. If you or anyone you know would like to get involved please get in touch, or just come along. All instruments are welcome (especially string and brass) at £1.50 a session or £5 for the month (full-time students are free).

Contact Tom Horn marlow.orchestra@yahoo.com

On the side...We are also looking for a name/logo for the orchestra, so any ideas or suggestions are welcome, and there’ll be a prize for the winner.

Contributed by Tom Horn, Marlow Orchestra

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or visit www.roundandabout.co.uk
Life as a member of the Rotary Club of Marlow is busy and rewarding, offering fun and friendship, as well as achieving much to help others, both locally and overseas. Rotary has been part of Marlow life for over 40 years, and is well respected and supported by the people of Marlow for the wide range of work that the 40-plus men and women members carry-out every year in the town.

2014 will again be a busy year of work in the community, following on from the hectic pre-Christmas period, which saw us collecting money at Heathrow Airport for Children In Need, taking part in the Remembrance Day Parade, having our usual food and drink stalls at the great traditional Marlow Chamber of Trade Late Night Shopping event, helping at the Mayor’s Christmas Carol Concert - and of course organising the spectacular annual Santa’s Fun Run with our friends from the Rotary Club of Marlow Thames.

We have many activities planned for 2014, so do visit www.marlow-rotary.org.uk or contact us on 01628 484323 for more information about Rotary International in general, the Rotary Club of Marlow in particular, future events and membership details.

Contributed by Rotary Club of Marlow

President David Duxbury with winner of the Marlow heat, Tara Nadi from Sir William Borlase School.
Rob James-Collier, the evil valet from the internationally acclaimed Downton Abbey period drama television series, made a guest appearance at Clayton’s Marlow to be quizmaster for their monthly charity quiz on Wednesday, 15th January.

With all entry fees going to the charity, as well as the proceeds from the raffle (which included a Downton Abbey cookbook signed by the entire cast), they managed to raise £970 for The Chilterns MS Centre. Chosen by Rob himself, The Chilterns MS Centre, based in Wendover, is a registered charity founded in 1988, providing services and advice to people with multiple sclerosis (MS), their families and carers.

The Clayton’s Marlow monthly charity quiz, which began in September 2011, has now raised over £10,000 for various charities. Each month, it supports a different charity, a mix of local charities ranging from Helen & Douglas House to more recognised charities such as Mind and Cancer Research, with all proceeds from the entry fees going to the designated charity.

Unsurprisingly, the event was fully booked, with 15 teams participating in a keenly contested quiz. Team Hmmmnnnnnnn were the eventual winners!

If you have missed out on this one but are looking for a fun night out with friends, the next two quizzes will be on Wednesday, 16th April and Wednesday, 21st May.

Contributed by Clayton’s Marlow
‘Make the Batter Matter!’
Great British Fish and Chip Supper – Friday, 16th May 2014

Want to eat fish and chips, while raising money for charity? Hold a fish and chip supper on Friday, 16th May 2014, whilst raising awareness of spinal cord injury and supporting the Spinal Injuries Association’s (SIA’s) vital services. In 2014, we’re celebrating SIA’s 40th anniversary, and we’re aiming to ‘Make the Batter Matter!’ by raising £25,000 – twice last year’s effort - from everyone holding suppers.

You can have a fish and chip supper in your own home or at work - or organise a larger supper at your local community centre. SIA will provide a fundraising pack containing hints and tips, recipes, invitations and donation envelopes. By inviting eight friends and asking them to donate an additional £5, you’ll raise at least £40 from your supper – and we’ll give you additional fundraising ideas for the event.

The money raised from the suppers will help us support individuals who become paralysed and their families, from the moment a spinal injury occurs and for the rest of their lives.

Every year in the UK over 1,000 people experience a spinal cord injury and there are an estimated 40,000 spinal cord injured people in the UK alone. SIA offers services and information to enable and encourage paralysed people to rebuild their lives after spinal cord injury.

For more information or to request a fundraising pack call Community Fundraising Manager, Elizabeth Wright, on 0845 071 4350, email fundraising@siafishandchips.co.uk or visit www.siafishandchips.co.uk

SIA offers services and information to enable and encourage paralysed people to rebuild their lives after spinal cord injury.
On 1st December 2013, another great record was set for Marlow, with over 2000 Santas charging through the streets in the 9th Charity Santa’s Fun Run, organised jointly by the Rotary Clubs of Marlow and Marlow Thames. After months of planning, the event was again a great success, with good weather allowing everyone to enjoy the experience.

A record number of young entrants made it even more of a family affair, and there were prams – in one case a double pram and two babies – and dogs, and all types of odd-looking Santa outfits.

Marlow FM provided the music, the delightful Lizzie Webb of TV fame led the great pre-race warm up session, and of course Marlow’s own most famous son, Sir Steve Redgrave, started the race, running along with his wife Lady Ann. Sir Steve also helped to present the prizes to the three fastest Mother Santas and Father Santas.

Santa’s Fun Run has become a great tradition in Marlow, providing a great spectacle for runners and spectators, as well as attracting sponsorship from many local companies. Runners raise money for their chosen charity, and the two Rotary Clubs raise funds to help them carry out the many good works undertaken every year to benefit the local Marlow community and those in need overseas.

Already plans are well in hand for the 10th Rotary Santa’s Fun Run on Sunday 7th December 2014 —giving everyone an extra week to train — so look out for the details and put the date in your diary.

The two Rotary Clubs of Marlow wish to thank all the authorities for their help, the sponsors for their support, and most of all, the runners of all ages for taking part.  

Contributed by Rotary Club of Marlow

www.santasfunrun.org
Carols on the Causeway
Illuminated by lanterns

Carols on the Causeway this year included - for the first time - a Children's Lantern Competition. The Mayor visited all the local primary schools with examples of lanterns made by the Council's Officers - in true Blue Peter style! - and asked the children to make their own lanterns. The Town Council provided battery-operative tea lights to every child to use in the lanterns.

Many children and their families braved the wet weather on the day to come along. The Mayor joined with the children singing their favourite carols before announcing the winners, presenting them with framed certificates and prizes, including Golden Tickets to the Roald Dahl Museum and Story Centre and vouchers for the Empire Cinema and AMF Bowling. Father Christmas mingled with the crowd to give out bags of chocolate coins donated by Sainsbury's to all the children.

The Town Band kicked off the evening with the Marlow Choral Society swelling the voices of the crowd. Free mulled wine was provided by the George and Dragon, and mince pies by Waitrose and Marlow Town Council. The Rotary Club of Marlow handed out delicious hot chestnuts from their stall.

With the backdrop of the fantastic Christmas tree and Christmas lights, this event got everyone into the festive mood. Our thanks to the George and Dragon, Sainsbury's and Waitrose for their support.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Danesfield School:</th>
<th>Leona Peggs - Winner, Lauren Dewar - Highly Commended, Amber Butler-Adams - Merit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Foxes Piece School:</td>
<td>Aisha Wahid - Winner, Lili-Ella Scott - Highly Commended, Hannah Duthie - Merit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holy Trinity School:</td>
<td>Harriet Evans - Winner, Hannah Sloper - Highly Commended, Emily Morris - Merit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marlow C of E:</td>
<td>Martha Robinson - Winner, Jacob Scott - Highly Commended, Isabelle Berger - Merit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spinfield School:</td>
<td>Alice Cogram - Winner, Sadie Smith - Highly Commended, Daniel Johnson-Greenwood - Merit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Peter’s C of E School:</td>
<td>Christopher Mantle - Winner, Isabella Papa - Highly Commended, Brooke Gosnell - Merit</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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2014 - 2015

Town Council
All Councillors

Resource Committee
Cllr Bob Johnson - Chairman
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Cllr Richard Scott - Vice Chairman
(South East Ward - Tel: 01628 488186)
Cllr Jeremy Bedford
(North & West Ward - Tel: 01628 440130)
Cllr Philip Ditchfield
(North & West Ward - Tel: 01628 482648)
Cllr Kathy Thomson
(South East Ward - Tel: 07798 615086)
Cllr Jocelyn Towns
(South East Ward - Tel: 01628 477914)
Cllr Roger Wilson
(North & West Ward - Tel: 01628 482469)

Planning Environment and Transportation Committee
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(North & West Ward - Tel: 01628 475286)
Cllr Tim Avery - Vice Chairman
(South East Ward - Tel: 07818 555313)
Cllr Roy Cadman
(South East Ward - Tel: 01628 482299)
Cllr Neil Marshall
(North & West Ward - Tel: 01628 475615)
Cllr K Thomson
(South East Ward - Tel: 07798 615086)
Cllr R Wilson
(North & West Ward - Tel: 01628 482469)

Town Mayor, Suzanne Brown - is ex-officio and is entitled to sit on any committee.
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