Marston Sicca



Parish Newsletter

July/August 2021

LONG MARSTON
HANDYMAN
SERVICES
I CAN FIX IT

Indoor and Outdoor Services
Such As:
Painting • Decorating • Plumbing •Tiling •
Countertops • Mirrors • Shelving • Curtains • Blinds
Fencing • Decking • Pergolas
Shed Re-Felting

CALL OR TEXT STEVE FOR A FREE QUOTE!

07556 711318
www.facebook.com/LongMarstonSteve

COMMUNITY FOOD SHARE/CARE

Community Food Share – Operated by a small team of volunteers who distribute food to those who require extra help during this pandemic. Please contact **Stephenie Hillier (07720975023) or Debbie Woodliffe (07845437702). All inquiries and conversations are strictly confidential.**

If you would like to donate food towards **The Community Food Share there will be a collection box outside The Poppin, Long Marston and inside Londis, Meon Vale. Thank you.**



Editor's Notes

I honestly can't believe that it's the school holidays in a few weeks. All exams will be over, with a huge sigh of relief from parents and teenagers alike.

Summer holidays beckon and the weather forecast is for a good summer, which is fab as most countries still are not allowing tourists through their borders. Our British hotspots will be busy, but isn't that a positive for local businesses?

Whatever you do, and whoever you are with, have an amazing summer.

Take care everyone.

Steph

The cut off for the September edition is Monday 20th August.

Please email me at marstoneditor@yahoo.com if interested in advertising in the parish magazine.



Parish council comments

It was good to finally be able to meet in person again with the pleasure of seeing the newly decorated village hall.

Our meeting commenced with a discussion about speed calming and whether the build outs were effective enough to deal with the problem. Whilst offering some reduction in speed at either end of the village, cars were speeding up as they continued through it. The Parish Council are discussing the issue again with Highways to consider what further options may be available. Residents will recall, funding for a speed calming scheme came from S106 monies with almost the entire pot being used for the two build outs. The Parish Council have questioned the costs incurred by Highways along with further debate on having a cost- effective scheme that works. Speeding is also a problem within Meon Vale and surrounding villages.

Cllr. Perteghella provided a comprehensive report including a growing level of frustration from parish councils regarding enforcement officers. The issue of developers seemingly side- stepping planning conditions has been evident within Long Marston; We continue to pursue effective SDC support to enforce conditions for the open space to the rear of Perry Orchard which has taken a staggering three years to tackle. We are seeing some progress as our respective solicitors are in the process of organising documents for the land transfer to the Parish Council but the priority continues to

be the enforcement of conditions relating to the open space.

The Parish Council have been in contact with our ground maintenance contractors who have missed key areas for cutting as well as leaving grass on footpaths. A meeting is being arranged with the contractor to review the contract and the level of service required.

Concerns were raised about Wyre Lane and the poor state of the verge fuelled by cut trees lining the road. These were initially placed on areas cleared by Severn Trent when servicing the lane (primarily to avoid cars parking). It would seem residents who have cut trees have added to the pile making the verge look unsightly. The Parish Council are working on a solution.

The lease for both the Meon Vale Pavilion and Allotments have been concluded with the Pavilion Coffee Shop due to open in the coming week. The allotments require work to make the pitches fit for purpose with the parish council working with St Modwen to organise contractors to work on the site. The parish clerk has received a number of enquiries from residents interested in securing a pitch and details relating to license and service details will be sent out shortly.

The neighbourhood plan continues to gain momentum with the first draft submitted. We still have some way to go but good progress has been made.

PLANNING MATTERS

21/01399/FUL – Orchard Cottage
Dorsington Road (proposed extension to existing agricultural building for additional storage. Decision: Support

21/01340/FUL – 3 Box Bush Cottage
Proposed one and a half storey side extension. Decision: No Objection but with comment

21/01113/LDE – Gryffyn House, erection of outbuilding
SDC are requesting that a Planning application is submitted. This will allow the PC and the public to respond.

20/02745/OUT, Airfield House
Reduction in houses from 66 to 60. Decision: No objection.

Debbie Woodliffe
Parish Clerk

Swarms of Bees

Recently there was a post on Facebook re a swarm of bees, which has been shared many times.

It concerns a beekeeper who received a phone call from a concerned homeowner who had a swarm of bees in their hedge, but they were worried about them because children had been throwing water on them.

By the time the beekeeper arrived, what had been a beautiful prime swarm was reduced to a few hundred drenched bees, huddling limply around their queen.

She gently placed the bees that had survived into a collection box, hoping that when they have had a chance to dry out and settle, will survive.

Please tell your children that a swarm of bees are not dangerous – they're amazing creatures that are just looking for a new home.

If you are worried please call a local beekeeper who will gladly rehome them.

Kid's Jokes

Q: What did the letter say to the stamp?
A: Stick with me and we'll go places

Q: Why did Batman climb a tree?
A: To find Robin's nest

Father: Do you think your maths teacher likes you?
Son: Oh yes, she likes me a lot
Father: How do you know?
Son: She always puts lots of kisses in my maths book





Congratulations to
Sammy Jo Houghton on the 16th July, and **Lara Whitmore** on the 24th July. Both turn eighteen this month.

Daphne Beasmore – 25th July

Poppy Bluck – 25th July

Ned Fotheringham – 6th August

William Lavender – 12th August

If you would like your child's birthday to appear in the newsletter, please email me: marstoneditor@yahoo.com

Report from your District Councillor



Dear Residents

Hope you are all keeping well and enjoying the sunny weather, and hope you are all having a good summer. At the time of writing, as the country experiences an increase in rates of infections, the government has delayed the ending of restrictions, with the next date now been set as 19th July. This might change of course depending on the situation with Covid. Let's hope things will improve in the summer.

Stratford District Council Climate Change Panel

The overriding aim of the Panel (on which I sit) is to drive forward the climate change agenda for the Council and to act as the principal arena for engagement with and participation of the public. Once a quarter the meeting will focus on public participation and members of the public, including individuals, community groups, organisations, town and parish councils, may make representations or ask questions. The first Open forum is on the 6th July @4pm at the Council's offices, Elizabeth House, Stratford. The next Open forum will be on the 2nd November. Members of the public are asked to submit either a written submission or a video of their question or statement two weeks prior to the scheduled public participation meeting to climate.emergency@stratford-dc.gov.uk

Make your voice heard! Submit ideas, questions and let the Panel know what your council should do to cut carbon emissions and how the council can support communities to achieve that aim too.

Full Council meeting 12 July 2021

If residents have questions for the Council, these needs to be delivered or submitted in writing by Noon on Wednesday 7 July 2021 to the Head of Paid Services David. Buckland@stratford-dc.gov.uk

*****Update on the over 65s parking permits*****

Unfortunately, despite our alternative proposals and my colleague Cllr Rolfe's attempt to have the abolishment revoked, the Cabinet is going ahead and will abolish these permits in July. As a group we have tried once again to call in this decision on the grounds that 'due' consultation was not carried out and lack of evidence.

The abolishment of the parking permit will not take effect until around the end of July, so if you need to renew your pass at £10, you still can as long as you do it soon. If you are eligible and would like to apply for a new pass you can do that before the end of July and the £10 permit will be valid for a year. You can call the District Council on 01789 267575 and enquire how to apply for this pass.

All Things Wild proposal meeting

On Monday 14th June, I, as the ward member, was invited along with representatives of the Clifford Chambers and Milcote Parish Council, Stratford District Council Senior officers, Warwickshire County Council officers and members of the CWLEP & Growth Hub, to a pre-application presentation by All Things Wild, about plans to relocate from their current site in Honeybourne to a site in Willicote, in the Parish of Clifford Chambers, bordering Long Marston and Quinton. Representatives from ATW presented the proposals and answered questions. They highlighted their work will focus on conservation and will also include educational programmes. The proposed location is an 80 acres site and they are aiming to double the number of their current annual visitors. Plans should be formally submitted in the summer and I advise residents to look at these and submit their comments. Let me also have your views (via email or phone). I asked questions on issues which have been raised with me already by neighbouring residents: highway and traffic on the Clifford Lane/Campden Road, plans for sustainable transport and active travel to the site, the project's environmental sustainability, noise, impact on neighbouring residents, local employment, exploration of any alternative site.

South Warwickshire Local Plan

The public consultation of the scoping document of the South Warwickshire Local Plan, the future plan which will eventually replace the Core Strategy for all planning matters, ended on the 21st June. I have submitted my comments and made clear that the priorities in any future planning policy must be climate change, enhancement and recovery of biodiversity, community wellbeing and sustainable high-quality housing which will stand the test of time. I also raised my concerns to the growth option of 'dispersed' development (option G) in the scoping document, which proposes development all around South Warwickshire, including our rural villages, as this is completely at odds with the climate emergency, as there isn't the transport and drainage infrastructure in place to sustain continuous development in our rural areas. If you would like to have a copy of my comments, do let me know and I will get a copy to you. Here is the link to the consultation documents: www.southwarwickshire.org.uk/swlp

Planning Enforcement

My group and I are seeking an urgent meeting with the Senior Enforcement team – as well as the Portfolio Holder - at the District Council, as we are not satisfied with some of the decisions taken in our wards. We have been asking public questions about enforcement too for a while now. The draft local Enforcement Plan is undergoing a public consultation (deadline 12 noon on 19 July 2021) https://www.stratford.gov.uk/planning-building/draft-local-enforcement-plan-consultation.cfm

There were changes made to the policy back in 2018, and therefore we shall also see whether this can be improved.

EU Settlement Scheme "settled status"
The EU settlement Scheme (also known as settled status or EUSS) requires EU, EAA and Swiss nationals living in the UK to apply for permission to stay and continue to live here. The deadline for applying to the scheme is 30 June 2021. All EU, EEA and Swiss citizens and their family members who were resident in the UK by 31 December 2020, should have applied without delay at www.gov.uk/eusettlementscheme

If EU, EEA and Swiss residents in our villages have any queries or concerns please do get in touch.

Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure
Warwickshire County Council would like to hear your ideas on where you think new or improved cycling or walking facilities are needed, to help us develop their Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP).

In our rural villages we need more cycling infrastructure and more connectivity between villages. It's very easy to comment and you can place your comments on the map. Have your say here: warwickshirelcwip.commonplace.is/comment

SCAM WARNINGS FROM| WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Scammers Turn from National Insurance Numbers to NHS Numbers in Telephone Scam

Scammers are now cold calling Warwickshire residents to tell them that their NHS number has been suspended, Warwickshire Trading Standards is warning. Recipients of these bogus recorded phone calls are encouraged to press a number to speak to someone to 'resolve the problem'. Victims are pressured in to handing over personal and financial information in order to obtain a new NHS number. The more a fraudster knows about you, the easier it is for them to commit identity theft and other frauds.

NEVER PROVIDE COLD CALLERS WITH ANY PERSONAL OR FINANCIAL INFORMATION.

Help and advice on identity theft: www.actionfraud.police.uk/a-z-of-fraud/identity-fraud-and-identity-theft

'Met Police' Scam
Warwickshire residents have reported receiving bogus phone calls from people claiming to be from the Met (or Metropolitan) Police. The callers claim that the resident's debit card has been used recently. These bogus callers then attempt to get the call recipient to reveal personal and financial information and may ask them to move their money to a 'safe' account that is really controlled by the scammer.

Councillor's Street Surgery (SAVE the DATE)
I will be having street surgeries in Long Marston and Meon Vale on the 15 September 2021

Long Marston (next to the bus stop – opposite the Village Hall) 10am -11am

Meon Vale (outside The Pavilion) 12-1pm.

Hope to see you then. The surgeries will depend on government guidelines/legislation at the time. If I need to cancel these, I'll post on the Meon Vale Forum & the Long Marston Village Group FB pages.

Finally

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any query, issue or concern you might have.

Warmest best wishes,

Warmest best wishes

Cllr Manuela Perteghella
Manuela.perteghella@stratford-dc.gov.uk

Mob. 07870488071
Facebook: www.facebook.com/CllrManuelaPerteghellaWelford

What's in a name?

Have you ever wondered who St James the Great is and why your church is named after him?

James the Great was a Galilean fisherman who, with his brother John, was one of the first apostles called by Jesus to follow him. The two brothers spent lots of time with Jesus and were with him in the garden of Gethsemane just before his death and again when he appeared to his followers after his death. The title 'greater' is thought to refer to him being older or taller, rather than more important.

It's fair to say the two brothers annoyed the other followers of Jesus – particularly when they requested 'to sit one on his left and the other on his right when he came into his glory'. Jesus rebuked them, asking if they were ready to drink from the cup he was going to drink from (referring to his coming crucifixion and death) and saying the honour was not even for him to grant.

James was put to death by the sword on the order of Herod Agrippa (you can read about that in the Bible in Acts 12.1-2), who hoped in vain that, by disposing of the Christian leaders, he could stem the flow of those hearing the good news and becoming followers 'in the way' or in other words from becoming Christians. It has been suggested that James untimely death was caused by James's fiery temper, in which he and his brother earned the nickname Boanerges or "Sons of Thunder".

The site of martyrdom is located within the Armenian Apostolic Cathedral of St. James in the Armenian Quarter of Jerusalem. His head is said to be buried under the altar, marked by a piece of red marble and surrounded by six votive lamps.

Saint James is also the patron saint of Spain and, according to tradition, his remains are held in Santiago de Compostela. The traditional pilgrimage to the grave of the saint, known as the "Way of St. James", has been the most popular pilgrimage for Western European Catholics from the Early Middle Ages onwards, although its modern revival and popularity stems from Walter Starkie's 1957 book, *The Road to Santiago*. The Pilgrims of St. James. It would be lovely to hear from anyone who has completed some or all of the pilgrimage.

James' martyrdom is believed to have taken place in the year 44AD and his Feast Day is celebrated on 25th July each year.

This year we have a special service in the Benefice on the Feast Day of St James – when we will be joined by Bishop Rachel. We'd love you to come along and join in.

Due to the current restrictions on social distancing the service will be held in St Swithin's Church, Lower Quinton at 11am followed by a picnic and fun afternoon starting about 12.30pm at Quinton Village Hall and field – everyone is invited.

If you'd like to come to the service – please book with revdrosgreenhalgh@gmail.com or tel 01789 751546.

If you'd rather just come for the picnic and fun afternoon – come along to the village hall at 12.30pm with a chair/rug and your picnic.

We'd love to see everyone there.

Our other Benefice Saints also have special days:
St Peter (Welford on Avon) – 29th June

St Swithin (Quinton with Admington) – 15th July

All Saints (Weston on Avon) – 1st November

Look forward to seeing you on the 25th July (if not before)

Best wishes

Ros



Regular Church Services across the Benefice

Whoever you are and wherever you live, you are very welcome to join with us at any of our services and events.

Until restrictions lift, we simply ask that you pre-book with Ros on 01789 751546 or email revdrosgreenhalgh@gmail.com

1st Sunday of month
9am: Holy Communion at Long Marston Church

10.30am: Family Communion at Welford Church

2nd Sunday of month
9am: Holy Communion at Weston Church (Book of Common Prayer)

10.30am: Holy Communion at Quinton church

3rd Sunday of month
9am: Holy Communion at Welford Church

10.30am: Breakfast Service for all the family at Long Marston Church
(from June we hope to serve our famous Breakfast!)

4th Sunday of month
9am: Holy Communion at Weston Church (Book of Common Prayer)

10.30am: Family Communion at Quinton

5th Sunday of month
A united Benefice Service
(see article re 'What's in a name' for info re July)

Do come along and join us –
we'd love to see you!

Stratford Home & Garden Ltd



Handyman Services
- **Property Repairs**
- **Garden Maintenance**

Dmitri Hancock

Mobile: 01789 720099
or 0778 347 5552

contact@stratfordhomeandgarden.co.uk
www.stratfordhomeandgarden.co.uk



Milla Jackson

Painting and Decorating Service

No job too big or small
Professional Service

07821 782943
01789 750879

Honey

Why do bees make honey?

Honey bees are special in that they overwinter as a colony, unlike wasps and bumblebees. The colony does not hibernate but stays active and clusters together to stay warm. This requires a lot of food, which is stored during the summer. Although a hive only needs 20-30 lb of honey to survive an average winter, the bees are capable of collecting much more, if given storage space. This is what the beekeeper wants them to do.

Bees have been producing honey in the same way for over one hundred and fifty million years.

How much honey can one beehive produce?

One hive can produce 60 lb (27 kg) or more in a good season, however an average hive would be around 25 lb (11 kg) surplus.

Bees fly about 55,000 miles to make just one pound of honey, that's 2.2 times around the world. Romans used honey instead of gold to pay their taxes.

How does the beekeeper get the honey from the bees?

The queen bee is kept below the upper boxes (called 'supers') in the hive by a wire or plastic grid (called a 'queen excluder'), which the queen is too large to fit through. As the bees cannot raise brood above the queen excluder, only honey is stored in the supers. As the season progresses the beekeeper adds more supers until the time to harvest the honey.

A special one-way valve is then fitted in place of the queen excluder and gradually all the bees are forced into the lowest part of the hive. The beekeeper can then simply lift off the 'super' boxes containing the honey comb. The honey is extracted from the comb using centrifugal force in a machine called a spinner, which looks like an old-fashioned upright spin dryer.

Do the bees miss the honey that is taken?

No. A strong colony can produce 2-3 times more honey than it needs. If necessary the beekeeper can feed sugar syrup in the autumn to supplement for the loss of honey.

Why are some types of honey clear and runny and other types opaque and hard?

The type of honey made by the bees is dependent on the types of foliage and flowers available to the bees. Crops such as oil seed rape (the bright yellow fields in the spring) produce large quantities of honey that sets very hard, so hard that the bees cannot use it in the winter; garden flowers tend to give a clear liquid honey. If the beekeeper wants to produce a mono-floral honey, e.g. pure clover, orange blossom, etc, the beehive is put out of range from other floral sources. This can be difficult for the hobby beekeeper, who normally produces a blend of the season's honey. In the autumn, some beekeepers move their hives onto the moors to harvest the nectar from wild heather. Heather honey is thought to be the king of honeys and has a clear jelly consistency.

How do bees make honey?

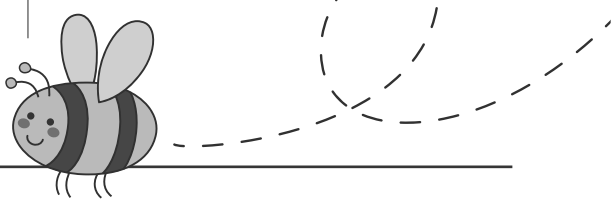
Bees take nectar, which is a sweet sticky substance exuded by most flowers and some insects (honeydew), and mix it with enzymes from glands in their mouths. This nectar/enzyme mix is stored in hexagonal wax honey comb until the water content has been reduced to around 17%. When this level is reached, the cell is capped over with a thin layer of wax to seal it until the bees need it. This capping indicates to the beekeeper that the honey can be harvested. Capped honey can keep almost indefinitely. For the school swot: Sucrose (nectar) + inverters (bee enzyme) = fructose + glucose = honey. Perfectly edible honey comb was found in the tombs of the Pharaohs, over three thousand years old. How's that for 'Best Before Dates'.

Does honey contain additives?
Unfortunately, there is a lot of mass-produced adulterated honey around at the moment. The most prevalent problems include:

1. dilution with different syrups
2. harvesting immature honey
3. using resins to lighten colour
4. mis-labelling origin

If you buy your honey direct from a local producer in the UK, these problems shouldn't exist. It should have it's source clearly labelled and be in its 'raw' form i.e nothing added to it, simply filtered to remove the comb and wax after spinning.

Melissopalynology
Melissopalynology is the study of pollen in honey. It originates from the Greek, Melisso for honey and Palynology for study of small particles. Palynology is a very established science, allowing the vegetative landscape over millions of years to be analysed through the pollen extracted from soil samples. However, it is not just limited to analysis of historical landscapes, it is equally applied to our modern-day environment, for example in solving criminal cases or predicting hay fever levels.



Nosh and Natter Group

Luncheons, Trips4U, Meon Tea and Chatter and New Nosh on Wheels

Hello everyone, I hope that you are adjusting to the new circumstances and keeping safe.

Following the recent announcement from The Government about Covid 19 and the gradual easing restrictions it may be that our lunches can soon take place. We are hoping that if everything goes to plan our lunches will be back on Wednesday 21st July 2021.

Trips4U
Our summer holiday to Beaumaris Isle of Anglesey has been rearranged to July 12th for 4 nights DBB. Come back home on 16th July 2021. There are still spaces available! The hotel and area are very special.

DAY TRIPS FOR 2021

Weston Super Mare – A favourite day out and this year will include afternoon tea on the way home.

Monday September 6th 2021 cost £25 per person, a minimum of 12 is required for this day trip.

Hereford day out for Festive Shopping, including an early festive lunch on Monday November 15th 2021. Cost £35 per person, a minimum of 12 is required for this day trip.

Both trips will depart from Lower Quinton.

Turkey Tinsel Holiday – Potters Resort-Hopton on Sea, Norfolk
29th November – 2 December 2021 is currently being organised, and places are still available. However, it is very likely that after July 2021 there will not be any places left. It's an extremely popular resort because of the quality of food, bungalows, entertainment and especially the evening shows (up to West End standard)!

Nosh on Wheels
This venture is still going ahead from July 2021 following the governments relaxation after lockdown. The team of volunteers and Isobel Slatter want to thank everyone for all the messages of gratitude and praise.

We will continue offering this service alongside our luncheons for those of you who would still like to have the meals delivered.

For more details on the above please contact Barbara 07771708151.

The Poppin

IT'S SUMMERTIME!

Hopefully by the time you read this, we will all be basking in the beautiful sunshine, enjoying our great outdoors, thankful for living in such an amazing part of the country.

This summer will be a bit of a throwback for many of us; back to the days when we didn't venture abroad but instead stayed local and made the most of what the UK had to offer. Ah, those happy carefree days!

Whatever you have planned for these glorious summer days, the Poppin is here to help.

Going for a road trip? We have fresh sandwiches, wraps and filled rolls (and cake).

Picnic? Sausage rolls, pasties, (and cake)- we have them all.

Entertaining? We have an amazing selection of drinks including a wide range of local spirits made here in the Cotswolds, featuring the new Summer Cup from Cotswold Gin, and Tivoli Gin from Cheltenham. Plus some wonderful cheeses, including parmesan, feta and mozzarella (and of course cake).

Staying home? We have a daily delivery of fresh baked goods from Le Petit Croissant. Baguettes, pain au chocolat, ciabatta, danish pastries, simply place your order the day before to enjoy something different for breakfast. (Cake?)

Need to cool down? We have a freezer full of ice creams, lollies and other iced treats.

So sit back, relax, and let us help. Poppin and see what we have.

Or send the kids- just don't send them down with a sixpence. Some things have changed!

Simon Kiener
Chairman, The Poppin Community Shop
01789 721047 – 07843 339762

The Pavilion Coffee Shop and Community Space

We are finally open!

We finally opened the doors to our coffee shop on Friday 25th June. After months of hard work and set- backs it was certainly worth it. Our volunteers were amazing, and our customers loved our coffee and cakes. The milkshakes were a definite hit as well!

We kept the opening quiet as we didn't want our volunteers to run for the hills after their first shift! We will be gradually opening more hours as we get more volunteers. The hours that we would want to open are:

Tuesday – Saturday 9-12, and 2-5.

These hours are not set in stone. Moving forward we have exciting ideas, but reality is we need volunteers to help us fulfil them. I can genuinely say that we have a laugh and have made new friends already. If you have some spare time, or have any questions, email me, marstoneditor@yahoo.com.

We are located next to the Children's playground and basketball court on Meon Vale.

For the moment we will post our opening hours at the beginning of each week on the local forums, but we are creating a fb page. Or again email me for the days and times.

Steph Hillier

Long Marston Ladies

Was it? Wasn't it? the last Zoom meeting for Long Marston Ladies before actual meetings are allowed to be held. A quick quiz, before a good old natter on the prospects of meeting up again, concluded in - we have no idea!

Since then, and in light of the new variant and no lifting of current restrictions, we find ourselves unable to hold a July meeting. We are reviewing on a month-by-month basis. In the meantime, support for all our Ladies is always on hand, especially the WhatsApp group.

Angela and Sheila

Shoebox Appeal

The Shoebox team would like to say a big thank you to everyone involved in the Admington Fun Ride. Once again they have given us a very generous donation which will ensure we can send shoe boxes this year.

Children across the world have suffered greatly during this dreadful pandemic and by sending a shoebox full of goodies, hopefully we can bring a smile to some young faces.

Mums and Dads, please, as you sort out your children's things, remember to let us have all the small toys, colouring books, crayons etc that your children no longer use. You can leave them in the Poppin or in the bus shelter. We are very short of everything this year.

Wishing you all a lovely summer.

Diana and The Shoebox team.

RN
WINDOW CLEANING



20 Years Experience

Free Estimates

07974 268304

RNWindowcleaning@yahoo.com

Long Marston Gardening Club

What a lovely garden on our doorstep. 21 of us visited Admington Hall on Wednesday 23rd June and were met with the most wonderful sight of a really amazing hidden gem. A delicious tea with homemade cakes was provided.

Hopefully you will have read a notice in The Poppin advertising a Garden Open on Saturday 26th June. Next month we are visiting Upton Wold, near Moreton in Marsh on 14th July and then in August on Wednesday 18th August, Miserden Garden in Stroud. If you wish to come along and join in, please let me know.

Happy gardening,

Wiggy Taylor
wiggytaylor@gmail.com

Avonvale MEL Miniature Railway

Looking for a fun but inexpensive few hours out with the kids in the summer holidays?

Then head to Hillers Farm Shop, Dunnington Heath Farm, Alcester, Warwickshire, B49 5PD, where you will find The Avonvale MEL Miniature Railway.

How did they begin?
The Society, originally the Badsey and District Model Engineering Society, was formed in 1996 in Brewers Lane Badsey. Vandalism of the track at Badsey meant that the Society needs to change venue and in October 2001 moved to Hillers at Dunnington. Along with the move, the Society changed its name to Avonvale MES and then to Avonvale MEL.



The Early Years at Dunnington
With the help of a JCB, the flat ground at Hillers was converted to a scenic layout, providing scope for bridges and tunnel. Some of the spoil was used to raise the ground between the track and the station allowing engines to pass out of view of the waiting passengers.

The original loop of 5" and 7¼" track was completed in early 2003 and opened to the public during April of that year. Two more years of track construction, tunnel building and signalling brought the second loop into operation. A new station building and signal box were installed in time for the Grand Opening on April 24th 2005.

During the closed season of 2005 and 2006 work was undertaken to increase the stock of carriages, necessitating the building of an additional carriage shed. In addition a new footbridge, a ground level turntable and an extra unloading facility has been added to the layout.

Normal running days
We open Saturday and Sunday from 11am to 4pm twice a month between March and October subject to weather conditions.

Avonvale Miniature Railway is situated well away from the road with a large grassy area making it ideal for children's birthday parties, etc.

Looking for a different hobby?
We have an active membership drawing members from a wide area. We can run 7¼ and 5 inch engines, on our ground level track. We have turntables and loco lifts for easy set-up and disperse.



Some of our members have built their own engines from basic castings, some have built from kits and others have bought a pre-built engine. All are welcome.

The club meets on Tuesday and Saturday mornings for maintenance work on the grounds and track.

Learn skills
The club welcomes new members.

Operation and Maintenance of our railway is undertaken by members, who are volunteers with a common interest in railways.

Our railway is run like the real thing, we have sophisticated signalling and train control and we train members who are interested in signal work so that we can run several trains at a time on running days.

Or you can be a train guard, on running days we want to ensure safety of all our passengers.

If you do not have your own engine, we do have some diesel locos to help out in busy days. You can learn to drive these too.

Running dates for 2021 (weather permitting):

Open from 11am to 4pm with all tickets £1 a ride

	Sat	Sun	Sat	Sun	Sat	Sun
July	10	11	24	25		
Aug	7	8	21	22	28	29
Sep	11	12	25	26		
Oct	9	10	**30***	**31***		

***SPECIAL HALLOWEEN EVENT**
with trains running from 3pm to 8pm

Why not enjoy a Children's Birthday Party with us?

www.avonvale.me.uk

contact: contact@avonvale.me.uk

Facebook: Avonvale MES

Line Dancing

Line dancing has resumed on a Monday from 6pm – 7pm in the village hall. New members welcome. If interested, please contact Jackie on 720328.

Thank you



Keep Britain Tidy Campaign – June 2021

A huge thank you to the villagers that gave up a few hours of their Saturday morning to help with the community clean up last month. Turnout was low, but hopefully next time there will be more support from residents.

Long Marston W.I.

The June Meeting was a great success. We met in our President, Diana Rippin's, garden for a Buffet Lunch.

It was a warm sunny day and seating was arranged around garden tables and umbrellas. Morrisons provided the lunch which made for an effortless, congenial, relaxed social gathering. It was the first time we have managed to get together since Lockdown in March 2020, so it was a very special occasion. Our next Meeting is on Wednesday 14 July. Location, time and speaker dependent on Covid Restrictons at the time. Our Meeting on August 11th is to be our Garden Party which is planned to take place at Lisa Blaxall's home in Harvington.

Liz Marcuse

How to Build a Compost Bin

There are lots of types of compost bin available to buy, at the garden centre or via your local council, but it's also easy to make your own. All you need is a bit of time, some basic tools and some old pallets.

A compost bin gives you the satisfaction of turning kitchen and garden waste into rich, crumbly compost, which you can use as a mulch in the garden. What's more, because food and garden waste releases methane (a harmful greenhouse gas) when sent to landfill, composting is good for the planet, too.

You will need:

- Spade or rake
- Strong wooden pallets
- Sturdy wooden stakes
- Sledgehammer
- Bow saw
- Strong wire

Step 1
Clear the area where you're going to put the compost bin and, if necessary, level the ground using a spade or a rake. You need to stand the bin on bare soil, not paving. Add a base of chicken wire if you are worried about rats getting in.

Step 2
Take a pallet and stand it on its long edge to form the back edge of the compost bin. Push a stake through the two layers of the pallet at either end, using a sledgehammer to drive them firmly into the ground – about 20-30cm deep.



Adding material to the new compost bin

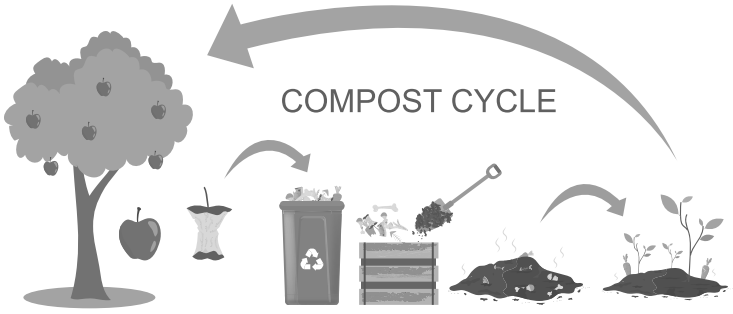
Step 3
Position the remaining two pallets at right angles to the first to make the sides, butting the corners tightly together to stop compost spilling through the gaps. Fix in place with stakes in each corner, as in step 2.

Step 4
To keep the structure stable, wire the pallets together at each corner. Trim the tops of the stakes with a bow saw.

Step 5
Wire the last pallet onto the front of the right side pallet to make a gate – you'll need to open it when you want to get to the compost – and start filling your bin with garden and kitchen waste.

Cover your bin and keep it moist.

Cover your bin with carpet to keep it warm – this will help to speed up the composting process. And check that it is moist – you may need to water it lightly in warm weather.



Are you okay?



You may have been feeling stressed, worried, tired or low over the last few months.

Perhaps you're feeling isolated and missing your friends.

You are not alone – it could help to talk.

Warwickshire County Council

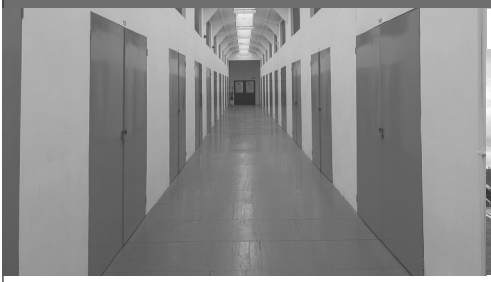
Summer holidays Wordsearch

L	S	P	D	I	Z	O	C	M	H	S	I	H	F
S	Y	A	D	I	L	O	H	L	O	O	H	C	S
N	A	R	N	R	E	S	O	A	S	F	O	A	A
C	E	K	U	D	E	A	A	G	R	U	B	E	B
N	E	S	O	D	C	S	K	I	U	N	A	B	I
L	Y	L	R	S	A	A	E	A	B	H	L	H	Q
N	S	E	G	S	U	N	S	H	I	N	E	C	G
E	I	W	R	N	D	M	A	T	N	E	C	U	N
L	E	F	I	S	E	M	A	G	L	L	A	B	I
A	I	A	A	M	I	C	E	C	R	E	A	M	P
P	R	M	F	A	M	C	I	B	S	I	S	S	M
K	B	I	K	E	R	I	D	E	H	E	E	Q	A
T	N	L	I	Y	M	Z	N	A	V	A	R	A	C
C	M	Y	C	I	T	T	S	G	G	E	H	A	C

SUNSHINE
SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
BEACH
ICE CREAM
FUN
SWIMMING
SAND CASTLES
BALL GAMES
FRIENDS
FAMILY
BBQ
ZOO
FAIRGROUND
PARKS
CARAVAN
BIKE RIDE
CAMPING
RAIN

STRATFORD SELF STORE .CO.UK

01789 720027





CRATE STORAGE
CONTAINER STORAGE

SELF-STORE ROOMS
CARAVAN STORAGE

VEHICLE STORAGE
REMOVALS

WAREHOUSING
OFFICES

COMMERCIAL AND DOMESTIC SELF-STORAGE

STARTING FROM £45pcm

J&H

MAINTENANCE
& TREE SURGERY

. All aspects of tree surgery
. Lawn mowing for all size gardens
. Hedge cutting
. Fencing

For a free quote call or text Jake

07873592707

Meon Vale
Residents' Association Update

Keep your fingers crossed – we've applied for some grants to support activities in our village.

The Residents' Association is working with Meon Vale Leisure Centre and with support from Warwickshire CAVA for funding taster sessions for sporting activities, including table tennis, badminton and walking football. The aim is to make activities more accessible to a wider range of residents and to help improve health and wellbeing.

We have also applied for Green Shoots funding from Warwickshire County Council for community initiatives to improve sustainability and our environment. If you have ideas or suggestions for community initiatives for Meon Vale, do please get in touch. We'd love to hear your thoughts. Even better if you have time to spare to help support new initiatives and community activities.

We are also making plans for two summer events in the village – Meon Fun Fest on 14th August and a BBQ on 30th Aug.

Please register to join our mailing list via eepurl.com/hrl34T to keep up-to-date with news and relevant information or if you are a resident, please do join the Association to show support for what we do.



let's do the
right thing
for Warwickshire

Help your community



Become a Covid-19 Youth Community Champion and help people do the right thing for Warwickshire

Do you want to support individuals in your community to be safe and well?

Training for young people who want to gain valuable skills in active citizenship. Hurry- places are limited

To attend the course you just need to meet the following criteria:

- Live or go to school/college in Warwickshire
- Be between 16- 18 years of age
- Have a passion for learning in an informal and fun environment.

Background info:

The purpose of the course is to offer increased protection to the Warwickshire public, particularly young people, during the Coronavirus pandemic by providing relevant training to young people who are willing to be Covid-19 youth champions. The course offers opportunities to learn more about being active as a responsible and supportive member of your community.

Warwickshire County Council

Contacts

PARISH COUNCILLORS

Ian Johnsey	Chairman
Bill Tempest	Vice Chairman
Anthony Hodges	Councillor
Noel Davis	Councillor
Michael Hillier	Councillor
Margaret Clarke	Councillor
Barbara Craig	Councillor
Debbie Woodliffe	Parish Clerk/RFO

Marston Sicca Parish Council

Email: clerk@marstonsicca-pc.gov.uk

Tel: 01386 834321 / 07485 437702

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Steph Hillier 07720 975023

marstoneditor@yahoo.com

VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS

Jackie Johnson 01789 720328

THE POPPIN VILLAGE STORE

01789 721011

THE POST OFFICE, LONG MARSTON 01789 721411

NOMINATED SAFE-GUARDING PERSON

Liz Marcuse 01789 720796

DEFIBRILLATOR

This is located outside the Poppin shop. A 999 call giving the location will provide a code and method of use.

ST JAMES THE GREAT

Rector Rev Ros Greenhalgh

01789 751546

revdrosgreenhalgh@gmail.com

Church Warden Carol Watts

01789 507319

POLICE

Emergency only – 999

Non urgent contact – 101

SHIPSTON-ON-STOUR SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM

www.safer-neighbourhoods.co.uk/ship

PCSO 6230 Emma Turner

PCSO 6040 Fin Moore

PC 1508 Sid Hammond

Shipston Police Station 01789 444670

shipston.snt@warwickshire.police.uk

www.facebook.com/ShipstonPolice

Crimestoppers 0800 555111

WEBSITE

www.longmarstonvillage.co.uk

BONDS

FREE TEA OR COFFEE WITH THIS ADVERT

Come and Spend a day with us

After all this time stuck at home shopping online it is time to go out & enjoy the shopping experience again! Spend the day with us at the newly improved Bonds and ignite your senses with textiles you can touch and sights to inspire you. From lush greenery for your home and garden to vintage furniture from all over the world our store is a unique 'day out' destination like no other close by. Our food & drink store will light up your taste buds, our flower displays will leave you breathless and not forgetting the luring scents from our in-house perfumery Rebecca Tracey. Once you are done shopping take a break in our gorgeous café which is beautifully styled with a relaxing atmosphere & excellent produce sourced locally. We are only a stone's throw away from Stratford upon Avon & Welford, open seven days a week, with ample free parking it is easy to meet up with friends. Follow us on Instagram @bondslifestyle for all the latest updates and a real feel for who we are!

We look forward to meeting you!











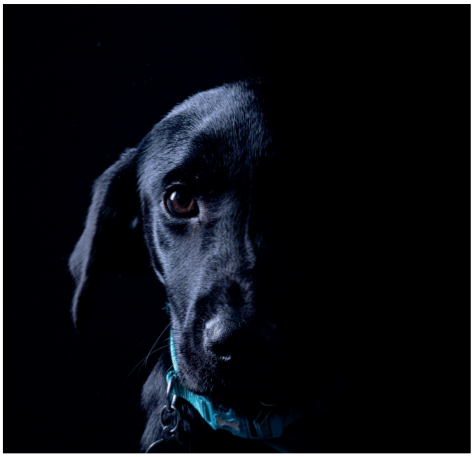
Dodwell
Evesham Road, Stratford-upon-Avon
Warwickshire CV37 9ST
e: hello@bondslifestyle.co.uk
t: 01789 297729
www.bondslifestyle.co.uk

@bondslifestyle

Stratford-upon-Avon: 2 miles
Warwick: 11 miles
Chipping Norton: 22 miles
Solihull: 19 miles

Bidford-on-Avon: 5 miles
Alcester: 7 miles
Cheltenham: 34 miles
Worcester: 22 miles

B439 Evesham Road











SIMON HANAGARTH
PHOTOGRAPHY







LOCAL PHOTOGRAPHY SERVICES
COMMERCIAL | PORTRAIT | FAMILY | WEDDING

www.simonhanagarthphotography.co.uk | 01789 439 789 | 07955 885529