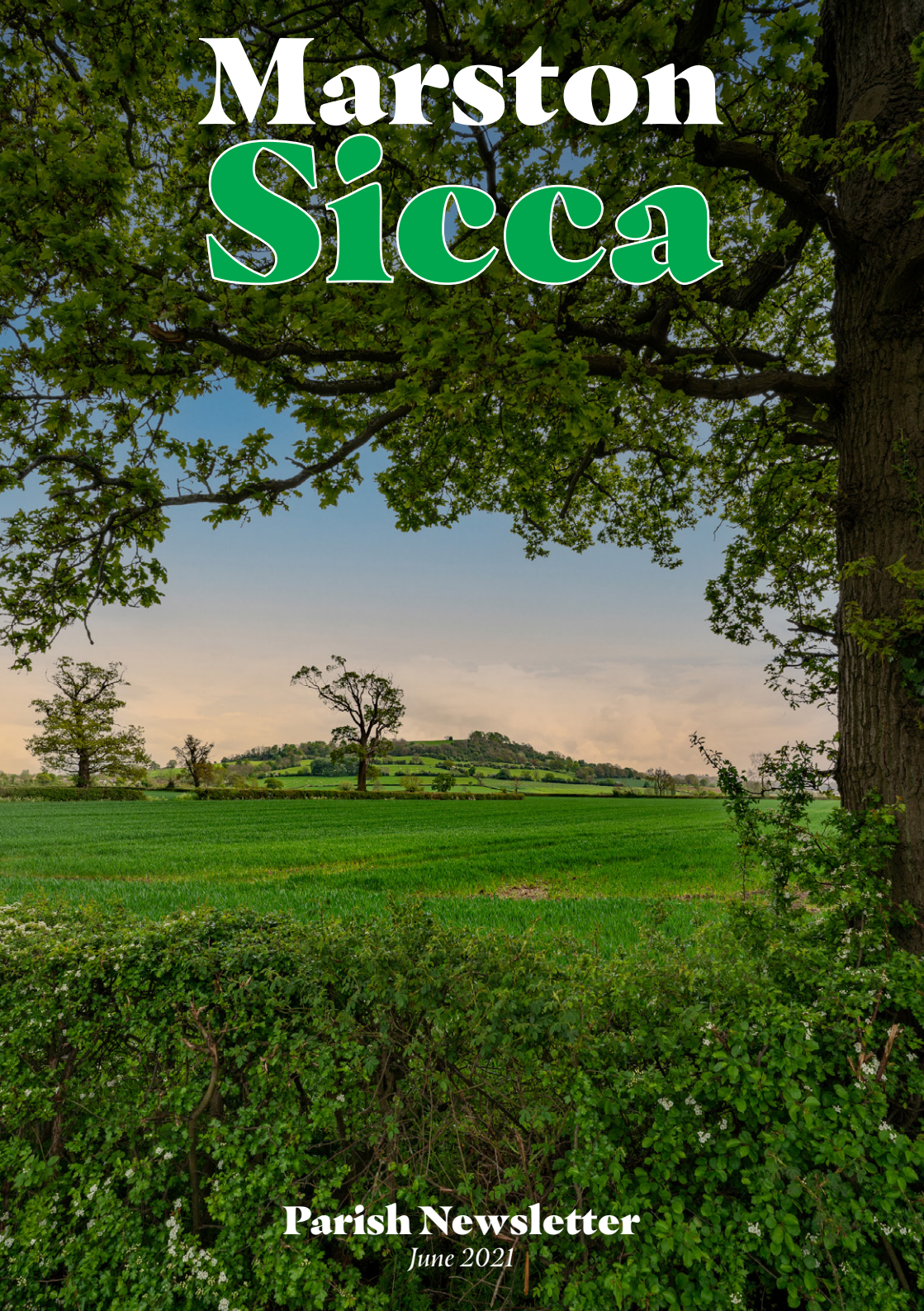
Marston Sicca



Parish Newsletter

June 2021

LONG MARSTON
SPIRIT OF
I CAN FIX IT
HANDYMAN
SERVICES

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

Another month has whizzed by. Anyone else feel the same, or is it just me? Weirdly, even though we can go out to shops, pubs and restaurants now, I have only been out once to Bonds with my daughter to have a mooch around and a coffee. I must get my act together! Though potentially the weather might have had a part to play. So much rain. Roll on a sunny June.

I would like to thank Simon from Simon Hanagarth Photography, for this month's front cover of the beautiful Meon Hill.

The village clean- up is this Saturday 29th at 10.30am, meeting outside the village hall. Please see the article on The Great British Spring Clean, and encourage our younger villagers to come along. Litter pickers and bags are provided. (There is a wee surprise for any children who help.)

Remember that the July/August edition is combined. If you have any advertising and articles, please make sure that both these months are included. Cut off is Sunday 20th June.

Take care everyone.

Steph



Parish council comments

The Parish Council held both the Annual Meeting of the Parish and the Annual Parish Council meeting during May with both hopefully being the last to be held remotely.

During the Annual Meeting of the Parish (Parish Assembly), both the District and County Councillors provided their reports. Cllr. Brain confirmed this would be his last meeting as he would be retiring.

The Chairman's report included some of the achievements made by the Parish Council over the past year which included a new play area located at Barley Fields, initial speed calming measures, a new vibrant newsletter, new bins finally in place and

new surfacing to Wyre Lane. The first draft of the Neighbourhood plan had also been completed. The Parish Council continue to push for conclusion to the Open Space behind Perry Orchard which includes enforcement offices and the PC and SDC solicitors. We hope to bring more positive news on this matter in the next newsletter.

The Village Hall Chairman noted due to various grants being received over the past year, there were sufficient funds to help address specific tasks planned for the hall including decoration and repair. New heaters and an update to the electrics had been completed and the painting of the hall was underway. A survey had been issued seeking residents opinions regarding the hall with some good suggestions having been received.

The W.I noted how they like so many other organisations had had an unpredictable and difficult year under lockdown restrictions. In the summer however, they did manage a couple of meetings as 'Coffee in the Garden' with social distancing. The village Flower Show organised by the W.I had to be cancelled but they did manage to organise the packing of over 400 Christmas 'shoe boxes' sending gifts to babies and children in Romania and deprived orphanages in Moldovia and Belarus. Several members helped with the making of PPE bags for scrubs and other useful items. The W.I plan to make their first reality meeting a celebratory buffet party.

The Annual Parish Council Meeting was again held remotely within the permitted time frame. Cllr. Johnsey was re-elected Parish Chairman and Cllr. Tempest as Vice Chairman.

The Council discussed the build outs and will be liaising with Highways with specific reference to visibility and costs.

The Parish Council were also reviewing the hedging to Wyre Lane again speaking with Highways and Severn Trent who had cleared hedgerow in order to site working vehicles.

With the agreement for the allotments to Meon Vale now finalised, the Parish Council would be working on licenses for residents interested in acquiring a pitch. These can be available for single or shared use. The Clerk confirmed several requests had already been received. St Modwen confirmed they would be organising a contractor to get the site made fit for purpose.

The Pavilion continues to be prepared for opening with its first meeting organised to secure volunteers. The aim is to create a pleasant, vibrant coffee shop for all the community with excellent outside space. All monies secured will be used for community driven projects.

PLANNING
20/03062/LDP Decision: Permitted.
Cllr. Tempest advised other previously discussed planning applications were still pending.

With summer approaching (hopefully) it was felt a village litter pick should be organised with the date of May 29th being confirmed.

As we gradually ease out of lockdown, the Parish Council look forward to organisations getting back into operation and activities throughout the village recommencing and thank all those who have helped with various schemes we have operated during these difficult times (including the food share).

Debbie Woodliffe Parish Clerk.

Kid's Jokes

Q: What did one eye say to the other?

A: Between you and me something smells.

Q: What do you call a zebra with no stripes?

A: A horse.

Father: Well, son how are your exam marks?
Son: They're underwater
Father: What do you mean?
Son: Below C level.



James Johnson – 9th June

A very happy eighteenth
to **Adam Johnsey** on 7th June

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

Annual Report from your District Councillor



Dear Residents

Hope you are all keeping well and looking forward to the summer. I thought it would be a good idea to report back on my work to the council on your behalf in the last year, so I'm going to tell you what I have done in the past 13 months (bear with me!)

This was my first year as your District Councillor, and I want to thank all the residents of Long Marston and Meon Vale, the Marston Sicca Parish Council, and the Meon Vale Residents Association for welcoming me and for all your support. It has been an unprecedented year, marked by the Covid 19 pandemic which has impacted on all our lives. My gratitude goes to all residents, parish council, community groups and volunteers who helped families, friends and neighbours, especially those who were shielding, during the various lockdowns; to all NHS workers for looking after us and keeping us safe, our key workers for ensuring services and supplies would continue, and again I want to pay tribute to the NHS and to all of our volunteers, including our brilliant vaccinators.

The government has now set out a roadmap to easing restrictions. We are looking forward to brighter months ahead. Good luck to all our local businesses, shops, pubs, cafés and restaurants which have reopened in the past few weeks or are reopening in the weeks ahead. Please remember that the virus is still around. Do continue to follow social distancing guidance as per official advice at all times.

The District Council has continued to provide its services to residents throughout the past year. It also quickly adapted and at the beginning of the pandemic it ran the community hub with food parcels distributed to those shielding and the most vulnerable residents across the district. The Council also administered various Business Support Grants to eligible businesses.

As your councillor, I have attended district council meetings and committee meetings, parish council meetings as a matter of routine and actioned queries and requests for help generated from these meetings. As your district councillor my job also includes scrutinising and if applicable challenging the council's decisions and policies, as well as helping to shape future policies. I attend meetings fully prepared, researched, and armed with challenging questions. I have represented the views of my residents at council and in committees, including speaking

at planning committees, as well as Cabinet meetings.

I have kept in touch with residents through emails, phone, social media, and articles in the Parish Newsletter, as well as regular reports to the Parish Council. I have signposted residents to the support they needed, and contributed to planning application consultations. I have contributed to several national, regional and the council's own public consultations (including the Site Allocation Plan, and Warwickshire Local Transport Plan 4).

One of the tools available to councillors to shape policy, is to move amendments and motions. I have proposed motions for clearer guidance on Class Q applications, tackling household food insecurity and seconded a motion on protecting our biodiversity. And while the motions were rejected, the topic of food poverty will now be considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, and there is scope in the new Local Plan to include measures for enhancing and protecting biodiversity. I have asked whether presentations on Class Q can be arranged for parish councils, because of the rural nature of our district.

At the time of writing, I sit on the Climate Change Panel and the Audit and Standards Committee, on the electoral boundary review working group, and I am proud to have joined Stratford District Council Respect Champions network. I am also Shadow Parish Champion Portfolio holder and Shadow Tourism and Economic Development Portfolio Holder. These positions will be reviewed at the next Annual council meeting when membership of committees will be decided. I have regular briefings from officers, group work, including researching and writing up policies, gathering data, liaising with stakeholders, Specialist Interest Groups, community organisations, charities, on a variety of issues, from transport to climate change, to promoting food justice. As your District Councillor I attended regular training events so that I can do my job more effectively.

Casework has been wide ranging, including planning consultations, maintenance issues, housing needs, dog fouling, waste collection, biodiversity, environmental health issues, planning breaches and enforcement (in particular to breaches of construction management plans, landscaping, felling and clearing of trees and hedgerows in new developments). Casework also included writing to Members of Parliament and Ministers on issues of biodiversity and planning.

Regarding planning consultations, I have worked closely with the Parish Council and listened to residents. I have studied both the Core Strategy as well as the National Planning Framework, all of which assist me with my representations. The Part V (Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation) of the Development Requirements Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) was also adopted. Part V is a welcome step towards providing additional advice and guidance in respect of climate change adaptation and mitigation in all developments.

I'm supporting the Marston Sicca and Quinton Parish Councils with the new brilliant community initiative of the Pavillion, and I look forward to seeing this important project develop.

Among the many important decisions taken this year by your Council there is the principle of a merger between Stratford District Council and Warwick District Council. The submission to Government will be the subject of a further report for approval by all councillors. Subject to this being passed a programme of implementation will be agreed by July 2021.

Among the consultations, the Preferred Options Site Allocation Plan (SAP) October 2020 was an important one, and we are now awaiting the Proposed Submission

Version. One of the results which has been announced is that the site known as Rural Proposal 4 (Meon Vale woodland) has been withdrawn as housing site and will be included in the SAP as a safeguarded site within a green space policy. This is a fantastic victory for the community and all the residents and parish councils which supported the campaign. I shall continue to work with stakeholders on making sure we get the best safeguarding policy for this important site.

South Warwickshire Local Plan
Another important consultation is that of the scoping document of the South Warwickshire Local Plan, the first of many consultations. Once the new Local Plan will be adopted, it will be the new core strategy for our area to 2050. A call for sites will also be announced, and a new addition to this plan there is also a call to nominate local green spaces in the plan. Consultation on the scoping document began on the 10th May and ends on the 21st June. Here is the link to the consultation documents:

www.southwarwickshire.org.uk/swlp

And an email to ask questions:
swlp@stratford-dc.gov.uk

Public Q&A sessions are being organised too.

Do you have any questions on the SWLP Scoping and Call for Sites consultation?

What is it?
Why would I want to get involved?
How does it affect me?

Then come along to one of the public Q&A sessions to ask officers directly (online sessions) The first one is on Thursday 20th May at 6pm. Head to the website to see a full list of dates: www.southwarwickshire.org.uk/swlp/events.cfm

Finally
I want to pay tribute to Cllr Mike Brain, who has decided to step down from his role as



our County Councillor. Mike has worked very hard for our ward, and has been a source of advice, support and expertise for me as a parish councillor first and then as a district councillor. He has more than 20 years' experience in public office at all levels, and I shall miss him personally and professionally. But I am glad to see that he will keep busy with his charity and educational work, and I wish him all the very best. Congratulations to the new County Councillor.

I look forward to working with the Parish Council, representing the views of residents in all district matters, and supporting our many community groups in the year ahead.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any query, issue or concern you might have. I am going to organise Councillor's surgeries around the ward in the summer and early autumn – depending on government's advice and on the Covid's situation- and I will let you know in due course of dates and times if these are possible.

Warmest best wishes,

Warmest best wishes

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

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

UBUS

The dial-a-ride service for all ages in Stratford District

Who can use UBUS?
UBUS is for anyone who is stuck for transport to travel locally on Mondays to Fridays.

The service is for you if you:

- Cannot access public transport because of mobility problems or other health issues; or
- Live in an isolated location with limited public transport or no bus service at all.

UBUS can be used for any prebooked journey between the hours of 9.30am and 7pm, except between 2.30pm and 4.30pm on school days.

People who wish to use the UBUS service have to register with us. There is no registration fee and when you register we will send you further details of the service and your membership number.

To register with UBUS call 01789 264491

UBUS vehicles are fitted with ramps or tail-lifts which means wheelchair users are able to travel easily. Drivers will provide reasonable assistance to passengers boarding and alighting the vehicle including help with up to 3 shopping bags and trolleys if required (this may not be available while Covid restrictions are in place).

For more information about our operating zones or any other aspect of UBUS, please speak to the booking centre staff on 01789 264491, who will be happy to provide you with information.

Booking a journey
Register with UBUS and book your journey by calling the booking team on 01789 264491, between 8.30am and 6pm, Monday to Friday. Please quote your membership number and let us know what journey you would like to make. We will need to know the day and times you require, where you are travelling from and to, the number of passengers and whether you are taking a mobility aid or shopping trolley with you

We will confirm your journey times (subject to availability) on the day you contact us. If we are not able to offer you your preferred times, we will suggest the nearest available.

You can book a journey with a maximum notice period of seven days ahead of travel, and with a minimum notice period of a day before travel, subject to vehicle availability.

On the day of travel, please be ready on time at your home address or agreed pick up point. Pay your fare to the driver and enjoy the ride! (Our buses will not leave early without you but can be up to 10 minutes later than the time quoted).



Sue welcomes you to

Mickleton Antique Centre

Open 7 days 10-5

Under new ownership! (formally The Shed)
25 dealers topping up weekly !
Seasonal plant centre
...a real Aladdin's cave...

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

How light pollution is key *bringer of insect apocalypse*

Scientists say that bug deaths can be cut by turning off unnecessary lights.

Light pollution is a significant but overlooked driver of the rapid decline of insect populations, according to the most comprehensive review of the scientific evidence to date.

Artificial light at night can affect every aspect of insects' lives, the researchers said, from luring moths to their deaths around bulbs, to spotlighting insect prey for rats and toads, to obscuring the mating signals of fireflies.

"We strongly believe artificial light at night – in combination with habitat loss, chemical pollution, invasive species, and climate change – is driving insect declines," the scientists concluded after assessing more than 150 studies. "We posit here that artificial light at night is another important – but often overlooked – bringer of the insect apocalypse."

However, unlike other drivers of decline, light pollution was relatively easy to prevent, the team said, by switching off unnecessary lights and using proper shades. "Doing so could greatly reduce insect losses immediately," they said.



Thousands of moths swarm around floodlights

Brett Seymoure, a behavioural ecologist at Washington University in St Louis and senior author of the review, said: "Artificial light at night is human-caused lighting – ranging from streetlights to gas flares from oil extraction. It can affect insects in pretty much every imaginable part of their lives.

Movement

Light pollution affects dung beetles, which use starlight to navigate. "For us, light pollution is a shame as we can't see the night stars, but for a beetle it is literally life and death," said Brett Seymoure.



A dung beetle pushing a ball at night

Reproduction

The corn earworm moth stops mating if light levels are above the illumination provided by a quarter moon at night.

Development

Some fruit flies emerge from their eggs before dawn when the temperature and humidity is just right, but artificial light can interfere with this.

Foraging
Artificial light can make insects think dusk is later than it is, leaving them vulnerable to cold, or meaning night pollinators miss the opening of flowers.

Predation
Warning colours that deter predators, such as those of Heliconius butterflies, can be obscured by light pollution, while unnatural colours of light have been shown to prevent parasitic wasps finding their victims.

Insect population collapses have been reported in Germany and Puerto Rico, and the first global scientific review, published in February, said widespread declines threatened to cause a "catastrophic collapse of nature's ecosystems".

The latest review says: "Insects around the world are rapidly declining. Their absence would have devastating consequences for life on this planet."

There are thought to be millions of insect species, most still unknown to science, and about half are nocturnal. Those active in the day may also be disturbed by light at night when they are at rest.

The analysis, published in the journal Biological Conservation, notes that light has long been used deliberately by farmers to suppress insects. But as human infrastructure has expanded, and the cost of lighting has fallen, light pollution has come to affect a quarter of the world's land surface.

The most familiar impact of light pollution is moths flapping around a bulb, mistaking it for the moon. One-third of insects trapped in the orbit of such lights die before morning, according to work cited in the review, either through exhaustion or being eaten.

Recent research in the UK found greater losses of moths at light-polluted sites than dark ones. Vehicle headlights pose a deadly moving hazard, and this fatal attraction has been estimated to result in 100 billion insect deaths per summer in Germany.

Artificial light also hinders insects finding a



A privet hawk moth in flight at night in Hungary

mate in some species, the review found, most obviously in firefly beetles, which exchange bioluminescent signals during courtship.

Some insects use the polarisation of light to find the water they need to breed, as light waves line up after reflecting from a smooth surface. But artificial light can scupper this. "Mayflies live for only one day, so they come out and look for polarised light. They find it – but from asphalt – lay their eggs there, and they all die. That's a good way to knock out an entire population in 24 hours."

The development of juvenile insects, such as field crickets, also has been shown to be affected by light pollution, which changes the perceived length of the day and night.

The review found the search for food is affected by light pollution. Insects that avoid light, for example weta, the giant flightless crickets found in New Zealand, spend less time foraging in light-polluted areas.

Insects are important prey for many species, but light pollution can tip the balance in favour of the predator if it traps insects around lights. Spiders, bats, rats, shorebirds, geckos and cane toads have all been found feeding around artificial lights. Such increases in predation risk was likely to cause the rapid extinction of affected species.

The researchers said light pollution is particularly hard for insects to deal with. Most human-caused threats to insects have natural analogues, such as climate change and invasive species, meaning some adaptation may take place. But the daily cycle of light and dark had remained constant for all of evolutionary time, they said.

However, light pollution was the easiest of all the threats to insects to deal with, Seymoure said. "Once you turn off a light, it is gone. You don't have to go and clean up, like you do with most pollutants. I am not saying we need to get rid of light at night, I think we just need to use it wisely."

Simply turning off lights that are not needed is the most obvious action, he said, while making lights motion-activated also cuts light pollution. Shading lights so only the area needed is illuminated is important, as is avoiding blue-white lights, which interfere with daily rhythms. LED lights also offer hope as they can be easily tuned to avoid harmful colours and flicker rates.

"The evidence that light pollution has profound and serious impacts on ecosystems is overwhelmingly strong," said Matt Shardlow, the chief executive of the conservation charity Buglife. "It is imperative that society now takes substantial steps to make the environment safer for insects.

"A national light-reduction target, enforceable in law, would be the most appropriate next step." He said new UK government light-pollution guidance failed to take into account the insect decline crisis.

Prof Nigel Raine, a pollination expert at Guelph University in Canada who is not involved in the review, said: "Light pollution could have significant ramifications at the insect population, species or community level."

He said more attention should be paid to the issue by scientists: "But it might be too soon to say the impacts are as significant as other stressors."

Seymoure's team said there had not been more research on light pollution and insects because of diurnal bias – a preference among ecologists for studying daytime phenomena.

The Poppin

I hope everyone is staying well and safe. Locally, things are easing, schools are back, pubs are open, and The Poppin has extending its opening hours till 4pm during the week.

Our Community shop, The Poppin, is struggling a bit at the moment. We really need villagers to use it a little bit more - just a few more purchases from each household makes a huge difference to the shop's viability.

Come in and see us and browse - we think you will be surprised at our competitive prices, the quality and range of our breads, cakes, dairy and deli products. We try to provide a good range of local products as well: Apple juice, honey, oils, jams and chutneys, gin and ales.

We also need some new volunteers (and to welcome old friends back). This could be manning the till, but there are also "back office tasks" that need to be done - some which can be done at home. If you have any interest at all, please just have a chat with Ann or myself (or any of the other volunteers).

If you have ideas of how we can provide a better service or product range for the village, again we'd love to hear from you; better still, come and join the team and help put the ideas into practice.

Stay safe everyone

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

Line Dancing

Line dancing will resume on Monday 21st June from 6pm – 7pm in the village hall. New members welcome. If interested, please contact Jackie on 720328.

Thank you

Long Marston Ladies

A quiz, sandwiched by bingo, was May's Zoom meeting for Long Marston Ladies.

As the Ladies concentrated, a rare silence came over the meeting, before returning to the normal banter and laughter.

Despite a week of constant rain, Sunday stayed dry for the much anticipated second Yard Sale in Long Marston hosted by Long Marston Ladies. Despite the 10am start, many buyers arrived early, giving the village a buzz of activity.

Many random items were available and snapped up much to everyone's delight. A promise of this being an annual event in May, gave customers something to look out for next year, and in future years.

Angela and Sheila

Village hall AGM

The Long Marston Village Hall AGM was held on Monday 18th May 2021.

Nine members of the public were present. The Committee were thanked by acting chair Jackie Johnston. The hall now has a new heating system, and is freshly decorated, so come along to our next function and see. The hall is now open for events and bookings at reasonable prices. For anyone wishing to start a new group or activity there is financial help available. We also need a volunteer to keep the ground around the hall tidy, ie sweeping, weeding and hedge cutting. Please contact Jackie Johnson on 720328 if you can help.

R N
WINDOW CLEANING



20 Years Experience

Free Estimates

07974 268304

RNWindowcleaning@yahoo.com

Long Marston Gardening Club

Fantastic news we are up and running!

On June 23rd at 2pm we are paying a visit to Admington Hall, looking at a continually evolving 10acre garden with an established structure of innovative planning and planting.

Features include lush broad lawn, orchard, water garden, large walled garden, wildflower meadows and extensive topiary.

Tea and cake included.

If you wish to join us on this visit, contact Wiggy 01789 720275 even if you are not a member.

Wiggy Taylor
wiggytaylor@gmail.com



LONG MARSTON VILLAGE COMMUNITY CLEAN UP

Saturday 29th May – 10.30am – (Meet outside the village hall)

We have so many families in the village. Let's join together and teach our #littleheroes that looking after our village is part of a bigger picture.

Long Marston can join Keep Britain Tidy and the community of #Litterheroes on their #MillionMileMission to clear litter from our village. Because what is good for our environment is good for our mental and physical health too.

In the past 12 months our outdoor spaces and places have mattered to us more than ever before. Come along and show some love for those special places that helped us through lockdown.

You can go online at Keep Britain Tidy, The British Spring Clean, and let them know how many hours & minutes of litter-picking you will pledge. You can pledge as an individual or as a family.

You can also read a little more about why litter-picking matters, and how you can make a difference.

Take pics and send to marstoneditor@yahoo.com, and I will (with permission), put on our village website.

Meon Vale – Residents' Association Update

Thanks to everyone who attended the online resident's meeting on Thursday 20th May, especially Cllr Izzi Seccombe, Cllr Manuela Perteghella and Stephenie Hillier who is running the fantastic new community coffee shop which will open soon at the Sports Pavilion. We had useful and informative discussions about several ideas and issues which face our community, and it was great to have the support of our local councillors.

The Residents' Association has recently made bids for funding from Warwickshire County Council's Green Shoots and from Sport England. Fingers crossed! Keep an eye on news and up-dates as if our bids are successful, we will have some great opportunities for residents. The group has also been working to improve communications between residents and St Modwen, Mainstay and the various developers/construction companies working in the village. We have set up a tracker system, so we can keep tabs on issues and problems which are reported to us, to ensure they are monitored and resolved.

We asked for drop kerbs to be installed by Londis, which has been done. And following discussions with St Modwen and their landscape contractor, we are pleased to see many of our green spaces have areas have been left with longer grass, to promote biodiversity within the village. The results are almost instant – with many more wildflowers quickly popping up adding a splash of colour and a source of food for many native insects and birds.

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 www.eepurl.com/hrl34T to keep up-to-date with news and relevant information or if you are a resident, to join the Association.

Long Marston W.I.

On our next Meeting we are planning a celebratory 'Get Together' in Diana Rippin's garden.

Zoom Meetings have not been popular with all Members, so we look forward to this breakthrough happening with an opportunity of meeting face to face.

Members are invited to a Buffet Lunch, Wednesday 9th June 12.30pm.

Liz Marcuse

The Pavilion Coffee Shop and Community Space

The team have been working quietly and persistently, sourcing equipment and items that are required to make this a vibrant, safe, and successful community driven project.

Thank you to all the volunteers who came to our walk-in volunteer evening, and to all the others who have emailed showing interest. If you have not, and have any queries, please email marstoneditor@yahoo.com. This is a voluntary staffed project, so rely on your generosity of time.

Trust us when we ay that we are just as impatient as you to fling open the doors and welcome you in!

We are fast approaching our last bank holiday in May. Writing this I am not sure what the weather is, but with hope and positivity in abundance, here are a few BBQ recipes. Hopefully we will be overwhelmed in the village by the delicious smell of (in our case anyway), the first BBQ of the summer.

Burgers & sliders with streaky bacon & spicy mayo

Ingredients

Burgers
- 2 medium red onions
- olive oil
- 6 Jacob's crackers , or 4 slices of bread
- 500 g quality lean minced beef
- 1 large free-range egg
- 30 g Parmesan cheese

Spicy Mayo
- 2 teaspoons low-fat mayonnaise
- 2 teaspoons fat-free natural yoghurt
- 1 teaspoon tomato ketchup
- Pinch of smoked paprika or cayenne pepper
- ½ a lemon

To Serve
- 6 rashers of smoked streaky bacon
- 6 large (or 18 small) burger buns
- 1 soft round lettuce
- 4 tomatoes
- 6 gherkins
- a few pickled chillies

Method

(You can make these burgers or sliders in an oven at full whack, if the weather lets you down.)

1. Peel and finely chop the onions. Put a splash of olive oil into a large frying pan on a low heat and add your onions. Fry for 10 minutes or until the onions have softened, then put to one side to cool completely.

2. Blitz your crackers or bread (remove the crusts first) in a food processor until you get a fine consistency. Oil a clean baking tray and put aside.

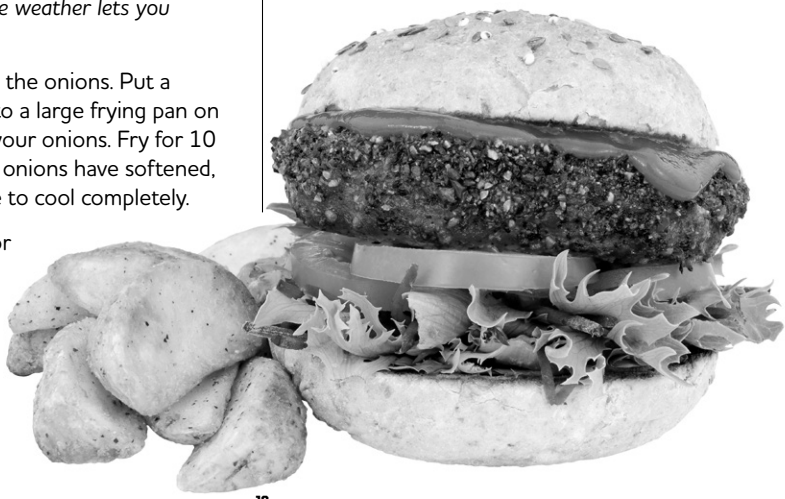
3. Put the cooled onions into a large bowl with the rest of the burger ingredients. Use clean hands to scrunch the mixture together really well, then divide into 6 equal balls for burgers and 18 equal balls for sliders.

4. Wet your hands and roll the balls into burger-shaped patties about 2cm thick. Place your burgers or sliders on the oiled baking tray and pat with a little olive oil. Cover them with clingfilm and put the tray into the fridge for at least an hour, or until the patties firm up.

5. This is a good time to make your spicy mayo, so put mayo, yoghurt, ketchup and smoked paprika into a bowl, squeeze in the lemon juice, mix well and put to one side.

6. If using a frying pan or griddle pan, put it on a high heat now and let it get really hot. However you decide to cook your burgers, they'll want around 3 or 4 minutes per side – you may have to cook them in batches if your pan isn't big enough.

7. When your burgers or sliders are nearly cooked on one side, add the rashers of



bacon – whichever way you're cooking them – then flip the burgers and cook the bacon until golden and crisp.

8. When the burgers are cooked to your liking and it's all looking really good, halve your burger buns and warm them through. Put the bacon on a plate lined with kitchen paper to drain.

9. Click off the lettuce leaves and wash. Slice the tomatoes and gherkins.

10. When everything comes together, pop your burgers or sliders on to their buns, add all your lovely toppings and your spicy mayo (you know how to put a burger together!), then tuck in with a lovely fresh salad, baked potato or potato wedges.

Spicy Corn and Chickpea Burgers with Smoky Sweet Potato Wedges

Ingredients

- 800g sweet potatoes
- 2 teaspoons smoked paprika
- 1 x 400g tin of chickpeas
- 1 x 340g tin of sweetcorn
- ½ a bunch of fresh coriander
- ½ teaspoon ground coriander
- ½ teaspoon ground cumin
- 3 heaped tablespoons plain flour
- 1 lemon
- 1 small round lettuce
- 2 large ripe tomatoes
- 4 wholemeal burger buns
- Extra virgin olive oil

Method

1. Preheat the oven to 200°C/400°F/gas 6.

2. Scrub the sweet potatoes clean, then halve and cut into wedges. Sprinkle over a pinch of sea salt and black pepper and 1½ teaspoons of paprika (save the rest for the burgers). Drizzle with ½ tablespoon of olive oil, toss to coat and spread in one layer onto two baking trays.

3. Bake in the hot oven for 35 to 40 minutes, or until golden and cooked through.

4. While your wedges are cooking, drain the chickpeas and sweetcorn and place in a food processor. Pick the coriander leaves, then add half to the processor along with all of the stalks. If you don't have a food processor, place in a bowl and mash with a potato masher or fork.

5. Add the spices, flour and a pinch of sea salt, grate in the lemon zest, then pulse until combined, but not smooth – you want to retain a bit of texture. If you don't have a food processor, combine with a fork, then scrunch with clean hands.

6. On a flour-dusted surface, divide and shape the mixture into four equally sized patties (roughly 2cm thick). Pop onto a tray and place in the fridge for around 30 minutes to firm up.

7. Heat a splash of olive oil in a large frying pan over a medium heat. Once hot, add the patties and cook for around 10 minutes, or until golden and cooked through, turning halfway.

8. Click off 4 nice lettuce leaves, then finely slice the tomatoes horizontally.

8. Halve the burger buns, then squeeze a large dollop of ketchup onto the base of each one (toast them if you like), then top with the burgers.

10. Layer over a couple of slices of tomato, a lettuce leaf, a few coriander leaves and finally the burger tops.

11. Chop the remaining lettuce with any leftover tomato, drizzle with a little extra virgin olive oil, add a squeeze of lemon juice, season, toss to coat and serve up with the burgers and sweet potato wedges.

Bugs Wordsearch

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

SPIDER
WORM
MOTH
LADYBIRD
APHID
LACEWING
BUTTERFLY
BEETLE
DRAGONFLY
CATERPILLAR
ANT
HOVER FLY
BEE
WASP
BUMBLE BEE
MANTIS
GRASSHOPPER
SLUGS
WHITEFLIES
STINK BUGS
LILY BEETLE
VINE WEEVIL
CRICKET
BLUEBOTTLE

STRATFORD SELF STORE .CO.UK

01789 720027





CRATE STORAGE | SELF-STORE ROOMS | VEHICLE STORAGE | WAREHOUSING
CONTAINER STORAGE | CARAVAN STORAGE | REMOVALS | 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





We're all part of the jigsaw!

I expect many of you have done a number of jigsaws over the past year in order to pass the time of day. Tim and I completed a 1000-piece jigsaw of Welford village which a relative had found in a charity shop in Bolton!

But hopefully, now is the time when we can begin to put our jigsaw puzzles to one side and start to mix again with our family, friends and neighbours – a time when we can retake our place in the big picture of life itself.

As Christians we are each part of a jigsaw – and not just a 1000 piece jigsaw. We are individually holders of one piece of the 2.4 billion piece jigsaw of Christianity. But as well as holding the piece of jigsaw that makes me a Christian, I also hold a piece of the jigsaw in which the whole population of the world holds a piece too - one piece of the 7 billion piece jigsaw of humanity.

Those jigsaws are perhaps a bit too big for us to imagine being a part of. Closer to home we each hold a piece of the jigsaw that makes us part of the Benefice of Lower Quinton with Admington, Welford, Weston and Marston Sicca – at the last count probably part of at least a 7000 piece puzzle.

And as a holder of that one piece of jigsaw we are part of God's plan for the world and for our community. Of course, we are all different! In jigsaw terms we're different colours and shapes, and we fit together with some and not with others. But you know, without me and you the jigsaw just isn't complete. Not only that, if we're not in place, it's difficult for the other pieces to fit in to their place.

So as we move out of 'lockdown' and go forward in to the future together, perhaps we can all think about what our personal piece of the jigsaw looks like and who we might connect with in order that we can complete the picture and take our place in our church and community.

Each of us, no matter how small, are significant in the life of our community and we all have a role to play. We've all got individual gifts that we can use to share the love of Christ with those around us – even if that's a simple smile or a helping hand.

As our churches reopen, we're trying to make it possible for more people to join us in the church jigsaw by planning different types of services and activities which will enable more people to connect with us. For now, we have a basic set of services each month which we will add to as and when we can (watch social media and future magazines for more info).

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

For now we do 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

(as we are unable to serve Breakfast, please feel free to bring your own refreshments and we'll also provide a little something to take home!)

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:

Sunday May 30th
3pm: Picnic Service in the church grounds at Long Marston Church.

Everyone is very welcome. Bring a chair/ blanket and your picnic.

We'll have a short service and then enjoy our picnic and a chat together. Do bring your friends and neighbours.

Our 'zoom' service of Morning Praise each Sunday at 10.30am will be reduced during June and eventually discontinued (probably from July) as we progress through the road map. Login details and further information from Rev Ros (Revdrosgreenhalgh@gmail.com or tel 01789 751546).

What's in a name? – every jigsaw puzzle has a name and we would love a shorter inclusive name which embraces all our communities who are part of the Benefice - Lower Quinton with Admington, Long Marston, Meon Vale, Welford on Avon and Weston on Avon. If you've got any ideas – then do let us know.

...and finally a forward notice for your diary:

Sunday July 25th
A special United Benefice Service at Quinton Church with Bishop Rachel at 11am followed by a picnic lunch and fun afternoon at Quinton Village Hall. Further information to follow. All Welcome.



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