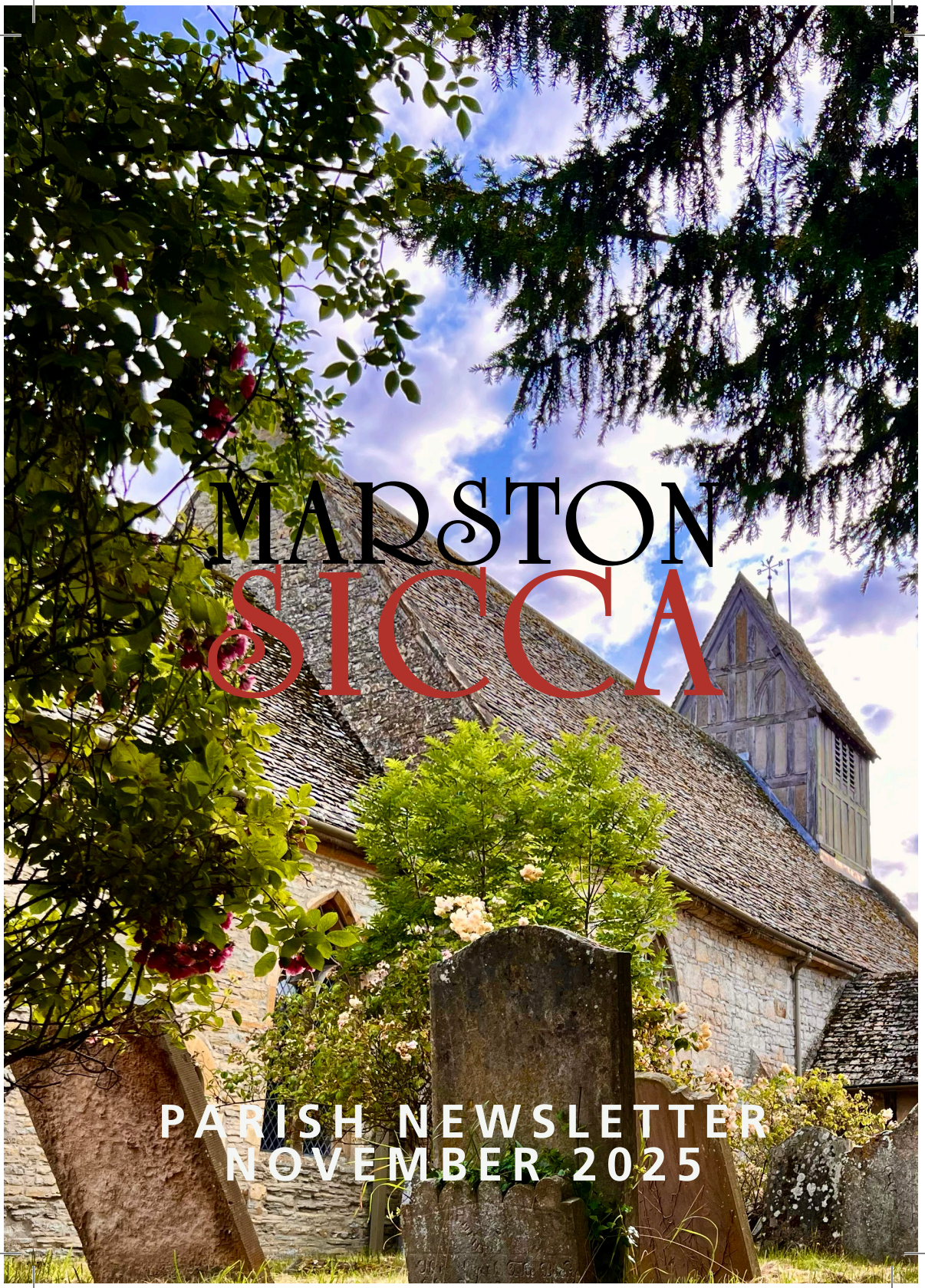


MARSTON SICCA

PARISH NEWSLETTER
NOVEMBER 2025

EDITORS NOTES

Please remember that next month is the joint December/ January edition, so please email your articles to editor@uberdoodle.com by Tuesday November 25th if you wish them to be included in the newsletter.

Have a safe and enjoyable bonfire night!



PARISH COUNCIL

The parish council reluctantly accepted Councillor Cliff Brown's resignation, as his County Councillor duties became too demanding to manage both roles. He will still support the parish council on various matters including road safety, open spaces, and planning issues. A vacancy is now available on the parish council for those interested in local issues and supporting the community. Visit the PC website, local notice board, or email Clerk@marstonsicca-pc.gov.uk for more details.

Marston Sicca PC and Warwickshire County Council have coordinated the installation of permanent signage featuring historical photographs and information about Long Marston railway station on the old notice platform located on the greenway near Station Road. The sign will provide greenway users with details regarding the station's history and heritage. If residents have historic pictures of Long Marston village, please kindly contact the Clerk.

At a recent Parish Council meeting, Meon Vale residents reported incidents of anti-social behaviour. The council has informed a neighbouring parish and is cooperating with police, who have conducted site visits to identify those involved. Possible solutions under review include installing CCTV, adding more lighting in affected areas, and distributing ASB awareness materials.

Road safety and traffic through the village remain priorities for the parish council. To share data from the VAS system, a public forum was held at the village hall. Although attendance was lower than expected, attendees received detailed traffic trend information. Information is available on the PC website https://marstonsicca-pc.gov.uk. Funding for extra traffic calming will be available once WCC completes an intended traffic survey.

Marston Sicca have submitted a funding request to support a feasibility study for Meon Vale Woodlands and Wetlands. This study will assess the necessary actions required to enhance and protect these valuable community assets and identify the most effective management solutions for the sites. A clear action plan will also guard the sites against future development threats.

Planning Matters
Marston Sicca has already submitted concerns over E1, Long Marston Airfield, which included the following comment as part of our objection: Marston Sicca PC OBJECTS to the development of Long Marston Airfield and adjacent parcels of land to be classified as a new mixed-use settlement, without an upgrading of the B4632 Campden Road Corridor, a relief road around Stratford, an additional river crossing and sustainable travel considerations along an upgraded Greenway into Stratford. Because there are no major designated routes locally and the site is poorly related to the Strategic Road Network of the A46 and the M40 junction 15 at Longbridge it is difficult to see how the site can be considered as sustainable if these highways infrastructure projects are not carried out. It certainly will not attract much by way of employment to the site, or indeed anywhere south of Stratford. The proposed development site is geographically bounded by the Greenway and the B4632 Campden Road and should remain so that Local Service Villages maintain their separate identities.

24/03282/FUL Meon Vale Phase 4B and 4D for a combined total of 55 houses.
While the proposed amendment addresses improvements to the application it does not acknowledge non-compliance with conditions 27 & 28 of outline application 14/01186/OUT. Prior to the occupation of the 650th dwelling the junction at Shipston Road with Clifford Lane and Shipston Road with Trinity Way should be constructed and completed to the satisfaction of the Highways Authority. Taken from the Electoral Register in February of this year this established that 728 dwellings are now occupied, and this is without those properties that sit within Pebworth Parish. Without improvements to highways infrastructure additional major developments of residential dwellings south of Stratford cannot be considered as sustainablewhich is the same for Long Marston Garden Village which has 500 dwellings pending a decision on infrastructure. Conditions should not be attached to planning applications if they are not enforced. Both Meon Vale and LMGV have had built approximately 1500 dwellings and the only improvement to the B4632 Campden Road is a barely adequate ghost island at the junction of Station Road and Campden Road.

The next parish council meeting is on November 17th at Long Marston Village Hall; the following one is December 15th at Meon Vale Village Hall. ***Future dates and venues will be listed on the website.***

LONG MARSTON LADIES

A true adventurer from Long Marston had the ladies in awe of his career and retirement achievements. Andy Ashford, “From the Bottom of the Sea to the Top of the World” summed up his life perfectly. Andy a sub mariner told of life below the sea for long periods and how all the sub mariners form a strong bond of companionship in this elite club. After retiring he felt he needed to be on land and a yearn for adventure lead him to Everest and Kilimanjaro to name just two of his many destinations. He explained how he had to train very hard to be fit enough to tackle the harsh mountain conditions.

LONG MARSTON GARDEN CLUB

For our last visit for 2025 we visited Sezincote Gardens, Beautiful garden and with the trees on the turn, a lovely time of the year to pay a visit. The house was very different from other Cotswold properties with a huge Indian influence. We had a couple of mishaps with one of our members stepping backwards into one of the ornamental ponds. An employer of the gardens said this was a common occurrence. A rather soggy bottom!

Then the second potential problem was my car keys were missing! Three members were dependent on me for a lift home. We didn’t envisage touring the garden twice but the Sezincote staff were very helpful in looking for them. Eventually found them the furthest point away from the entrance. I was planning on who I could contact in Long Marston to grab my spare keys and bring them to me.
We had a good tea at Batsford to make up for our mishaps.
Watch out for our annual lunch in January.

Good luck with all those leaves!
Wiggy



Charity Christmas Tractor Run 2025

Back for the third year running, and this time supporting a massive three charities!

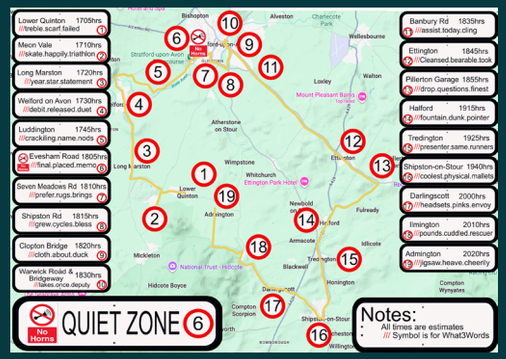
SUPPORTING PROSTATE CANCER UK

In Aid Of CLAPA Cleft Lip & Palate Association

The RainbowCareGroup Specialist Dementia Day Services

Save the date: Saturday 29th November 2025

COME AND JOIN US!
We will be calling at ...



Donate on the day,
or scan the QR code below.

In association with

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@emmajane.devilliers



HELLO FROM THE POPPIN

As the nights draw in and the chill arrives we have all the fuel you will need to keep warm, kindling , logs, coal and firefighters along with some great whiskeys too !
If beer and ale are more your taste we have re stocked on the range from local brewer Borderlines as they are proving popular.
We have introduced a new range of delicious cakes & bakes from the Yorkshire Flapjack company who have won gold taste awards for their products . Including in our recent delivery are some seasonal tastes including luxury festive flapjack ,millionaires & iced Christmas cake slice.
We will also be having the delicious mince pies, Christmas puds and cakes from Wests bakery available to order , more information will be available soon.
Simon will be busy wood turning to provide a range of hand turned reindeer , trees and snowmen & we have the lovely range of hand poured candles and wax melts from local company Whitfield Rose which all make the perfect gifts .
Also keep an eye out on our Facebook page **The Poppin Village Shop** for more news and promotions. Don't forget if you wish to join our team of volunteers to pop by and we will welcome you !
We look forward to seeing you soon

Best wishes, Helen Leedham and the Poppin team .





FRIDAY 21st November - 7:30PM

Licensed Bar | Snacks | Ices
Only £3 on the door
Bring a cushion!

Why not hire our hall for a family and friends event. We have very reasonable prices. Phone Anne on 01789 720368

Moving Pictures

LIVE &LOCAL

ST JAMES THE GREAT

We will Remember them?

"Those that fail to learn from history are doomed to repeat it."
— Winston Churchill

November is the month of Remembrance. But what are we remembering?

Why do we stop the world for two minutes at 11 o'clock on the 11th day of the 11th month every year, knowing full well that when the silence ends and the bugle sounds, life will carry on much as before?

I have a mixed relationship with remembrance. I'm an 80s baby, so my connection with the world wars comes through stories and television but those stories have left scars in story tellers of the ones that never came home, or those lucky enough to come home, but forever changed. Over the years, people have given me small relics of that time — things they think "the vicar will like." A cigarette paper box marked with a cross. Letters written between lovers, filled with longing and hope. They remind me that history isn't just about battles; it's about people — ordinary lives interrupted by extraordinary times.

War, in all its forms, still shapes our world. Nations against nations. Neighbours against neighbours. People against poverty. Bodies against disease. It's not something any of us long for, yet we still find ways to divide, to hurt, to take what isn't ours. We still forget the cost of conflict, and too easily repeat it.

That's why remembrance matters.

It's not nostalgia. It's not an annual pause before life resumes. It's a deliberate act of learning — of refusing to let forgetfulness take root.

When we remember those who wore uniforms of many kinds — soldiers, nurses, police officers, aid workers — we honour not just their sacrifice, but the peace they longed for.
If they could walk again on the ground where they rest, would they see that peace today? Perhaps not. Wars rage on, in Ukraine, in the Middle East, and in places that never make the news. Yet hope is not gone. Jesus once told his followers, “Do not be afraid.” He knew the world was broken, but he also believed that love could outlast fear, that peace could still be born in the darkest places.

And so, maybe the best way to remember is to live differently. To choose peace where others choose to divide. To turn words into bridges, not weapons. To look out for one another, as those we honour once did for us.

For as Jesus said, “Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.”

May we never take that love for granted.
And may we remember, not only with silence, but with the way we live — building the kind of peace for which too many gave their today.

And if you’d like a chance to explore life during the war, there is a brilliant exhibition at St Swithin’s in Quinton worth checking out as we prepare for Remembrance Sunday.

If you would like to stay in touch and up to date with other church services and events you can find us on:
Rivervalechurches
Email: admin@rivervalechurches.co.uk
Web: www.rivervalechurches.co.uk

THE PAVILION
CAFE & COMMUNITY SPACE
CAFE


OPEN
TUESDAY - SATURDAY
10am - 4pm

The Pavilion - where good coffee meets good company
TOASTIES | PANINIS | SANDWICHES | SOUP
LOCALLY ROASTED COFFEE
TEAS | HOT CHOCOLATE | PASTRIES | CAKES
FRESHLY MADE BAPS
meonpavilion.co.uk | hello@meonpavilion.co.uk





Long Marston Village Hall
Saturday Nov 29th
Doors open 7.00 pm
Eyes down 7.30 pm
Christmas prizes!
Licensed Bar, snacks,
And RAFFLE!

Families welcome.
Please come and support us!

LONG MARSTON WI

At October's meeting we learnt about Folk Music. It was good to see so many visitors who are always welcome.
Also in October we joined Bidford WI for a lively game of Skittles at Welford Bowling Club followed by a ploughman's supper and a good chat.

Our November Meeting on Wednesday 12th will be our AGM at 7.30pm followed by a FLOWER DEMONSTRATION by Jordan The Bearded Botanist, at 8pm. Visitors are welcome to join us from 8pm.
In December we will be getting Christmas off to a good start with our Christmas Party.

We all ready have an interesting programme planned for 2026.
Do come along one evening and join us.

VILLAGE HALL NEWS

By now, you have all had the opportunity to see the new roof on the Village Hall now that it is finished and hope you agree with the Village Hall Committee that the result is excellent. The total cost together with the new guttering, amounts to £36,443.85. We are very grateful to have received £34,000 in grants from The National Lottery Community Fund, Marston Sicca Parish Council and the Bernard Sunley Foundation. We have now also decided to add to the work on the roof by replacing the tiles on the porch as we have extra tiles available. As the porch was added much later to the hall, the existing ones are concrete and do NOT contain any asbestos. As well as the day to day running of the hall there are several large renovations to be carried out, but these are things for the future. Please continue to support the hall in whatever way you can.

MARSTON MOVIES - "White Bird" is the film that we will be showing on November 21st at 7.30pm. Admission £3, bar and snacks available as usual.

VILLAGE HALL DIARY for November

Yoga	4th 11th 18th 25th		7-8 pm
Long Marston Ladies	5th		7.30 pm
Private Booking	6th		
Private Booking	7th 14th 21st 28th		10-12 am
Shoebox Packing	7th 6-7 pm	8th	8.30 am onwards
W.I.	12th		7.30 pm
Quiz Night	15th		
Beav ers	17th 24th		5-7 pm
Parish Council Meeting	17th		7.30 pm
Film Night	21st		7.30 pm
Christmas Bingo	29th		

DECEMBER 6TH CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

MacMillan Coffee Afternoon.
Thank you everyone who supported this. We raised £270. This amount included £75 donated from the Tuesday Coffee Mornings that are held in the hall when the library van is in the village.

Shoebox Coffee Morning.
It was good to see the hall so full with everyone busy chatting. We raised an amazing £430 towards transport costs and essential items we are short of. Thank you all so much.

Shoebox donations continue to arrive and we are sure we will have enough to fill about 400 shoeboxes with toys and essentials such as writing things, soap and toothpaste, hats and gloves.
We now need you to come along and PACK!!! Bring the children, they are our expert packers (they know what children like). EVERYONE IS MOST WELCOME…..everything will be in the hall ready and waiting. Just come along on Friday Nov 7th between 5 and 6pm or Saturday Nov 8th from 8.30am until around 11am.

A BIG THANK YOU from the Shoebox Team to everyone who has supported us this year.

Shoebox packing
Come along and pack a box! Everything will be ready in the hall. Children most welcome.

Friday Nov. 7th 5 to 6pm.
Saturday Nov 8th. 8.30 am until finish about 11am.



CHURCH SERVICES NOVEMBER 2025

RiverVale Churches
Welford | Weston | Quinton | Admington
Long Marston | Meon Vale

St. James the Great - Long Marston

Saturday 1st - Remembering Departed Loved Ones 4.00pm

Sunday 2nd - Breakfast Service 10.30am

Sunday 9th - Remembrance Service 10.45am

Sunday 16th - Family Communion 10.30am

St.Swithin's - Quinton with Admington

Sunday 9th - Remembrance Service 10.45am

Sunday 16th - All In Family Service - 10.30am

Friday 21st - Quinton House Service - 11.00am

Sunday 23rd - Holy Communion - 10.30am

Meon Vale

Sunday 9th - Meon Church - 3pm

Sunday 30th
Vision Sunday - 10.30am -Quinton
Benefice Communion - 4.00pm - St Peters Welford

rivervalechurches.co.uk /RIVERVALECHURCHES

CONTACTS

PARISH COUNCILLORS

Chairman - Ian Johnsey
Vice Chairman - Noel Davis
Councillor - Cliff Brown
Councillor - Colin Parrott
Councillor - Bill Tempest
Councillor - Steve Barker
Councillor - Thomas Jackson

Parish Clerk/RFO - Debbie Woodliffe
Email - clerk@marstonsicca-pc.gov.uk
Mobile - 07768 684673

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
Simon Hanagarth - editor@uberdoodle.com

VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS
Anne Harrison - 01789 720368

THE POPPIN VILLAGE STORE
01789 721011

THE POST OFFICE, LONG MARSTON
01789 721411

NOMINATED SAFE-GUARDING PERSON
Linda Thomas - 01789 721180

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
Church Warden – Carol Watts 07730 419958
Church Warden – Mike Edwards 01386 644231 – 07786 484114

POLICE
999 - Emergency only
101 - Non urgent contact

SHIPSTON-ON-STOUR SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM
www.safer-neighbourhoods.co.uk/ship

PCSO 6230	Emma Turner
PCSO 6362	Ben Cole
PC 1508	Sid Hammond

Shipston Police Station
01789 444670
shipston.snt@warwickshire.police.uk
www.facebook.com/ShipstonPolice

Crimestoppers
0800 555111

WEBSITE
www.marstonsicca-pc.gov.uk



FULL PAGE £25

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HALF PAGE £12.50