
MARSTON
SICCA
PARISH NEWSLETTER
OCTOBER 2025

EDITORS NOTES

As autumn settles in and the evenings draw closer, we find ourselves in one of the most colourful months of the year... speaking of colour, the new village hall roof is complete and looking great!
No movie this month but plenty more going on in and around the village.

Inside we have updates from the Parish Council, details of upcoming events, and information to help keep everyone connected and informed.

Enjoy reading, and as always, we welcome your feedback and contributions for future issues. All articles/adverts for the November edition must be submitted to editor@uberdoodle.com by Wednesday, 22nd October.

Simon

SHOEBOX COFFEE MORNING

Saturday October 4th
Long Marston Village Hall
10 to 12 noon

Coffee | Tea | Cake
Raffle | Bring And Buy

Come along and learn more about the Teams4U Shoebox Appeal

PARISH COUNCIL

New Parish Councillor

At the September Parish Council meeting, members welcomed a new councillor Thomas Jackson onto the council. Thomas resides in Shackleton and will help represent the wider community within parish council discussions. Our diverse, and proactive parish council is now representative of our entire parish, and we are pleased to have Thomas on the team.

Road Safety / Traffic Calming Measures

The parish council continue to monitor traffic through the village, examining data produced by the VAS units. With 15 months of accurate data now available and dissected, the parish council will be hosting a Road Safety public forum in Long Marston Village Hall, October 11th 12-2pm. This will provide the opportunity for the data to be available and explained, and for residents to raise any questions.

We are also pleased to advise the funding for a third build-out in Long Marston village has been confirmed by the County Councillor, and we are grateful for the financial support.

Planning Update

Keeping Residents Informed
We recognise the importance of keeping our residents well informed about planning matters. To this end, we will be sharing relevant information in our newsletter and on our website on wider topics relating to planning.

Current Planning Situation
While we must respect confidentiality and avoid speculation, we aim to provide a brief account of the present circumstances. Our goal is to ensure all residents are up to date and have access to factual information regarding planning within our community.

There has been concerns raised that SDC cannot demonstrate they have a 5-year land supply following the successful appeal by Gladman Development to build 130 homes on the old Chutneys site at Bordon Hill and how this could now affect other areas of the district, including Local Service Villages, of which Long Marston is a Category 4.

A proposal for up to 155 dwellings on this site by the same applicant was dismissed on appeal in 2015. Although the West of Shottery development had been granted planning permission in 2012, it had to be started and without it the inspector considered the proposal would be a “prominent isolated peninsula” of housing “incongruously detached” from the town. Overall, he concluded that there would be substantial erosion of important landscape character. He gave little weight to the West of Shottery site.

10 years later there have been significant changes to the land between the site and town with large numbers of houses and a link road under construction thus mitigating the original decision.

Recent changes imposed by the Government meant that the previous over-supply of housing could not be used in meeting the target for the 5-year land supply. If the traffic infrastructure upgrade to the B4632 Campden Road corridor and an additional river crossing was to be approved, it would likely mean that over 600 houses which are pending a decision by SDC could get approval at Meon Vale and Long Marston Garden Village (Shackleton). The crucial issue LMGV is the question of getting Government approval for these major highways improvements as without it, the site is unsustainable. This lack of Governments funding for the Relief Road/ River crossing which is holding back any prospect of sustainable development south of Avon. It is quite unbelievable that the Government selected LMGV(Shackleton) as one of 14 Garden Villages in the country and then not approve the funding to allow it to progress towards completion. This is holding back the approval for 500 new homes on Shackleton which would more than satisfy the 5-year land supply.

Parish Council Concerns and Actions

The parish council shares the concerns expressed by many residents regarding the implications of the recent Bordon Hill appeal decision. There is significant apprehension about whether this outcome could leave the district more susceptible to further planning applications, potentially impacting the character and future development of our community.

In response, the parish council is actively involved in a range of discussions and meetings to ensure that these concerns are thoroughly addressed. The council is committed to robustly presenting the community's perspective, emphasising several key priorities:

- Preservation of Rural Identity: Safeguarding the unique rural character of our area remains a top priority in all planning matters.
- Respect for Neighbourhood Plans: The council is advocating for greater consideration and adherence to established neighbourhood plans, ensuring that local voices are heard and respected in the planning process.
- Sustainable Growth: The importance of balanced and responsible development is being highlighted, with a focus on growth that meets community needs without compromising environmental or social sustainability.
- Adequate and Efficient Enforcement: The council is also stressing the necessity for effective enforcement of planning regulations to protect the interests of residents and uphold agreed standards.

Through these efforts, the parish council aims to robustly represent the views of the community and influence future planning decisions in a positive and constructive manner.

SOCIAL MEDIA

The use of social media (particularly Facebook) has been an increasing communications platform for parish councils over the

past few years. It is important however, to ensure that information is factual, represents fairness and is supported by evidence. The Parish Council will continue to post important information in the traditional way – the website, notice boards and newsletter, but will also post relevant information on the PC Facebook page.

ACTION FOR YOU

The parish council throughout the year juggle numerous topics with an increasing sense of urgency. We feel it is important to be transparent and share with the community the work that has been undertaken by the council for the benefit of the community. Please check out the PC website and review tab Action for You to see a summary of actions taken. Some of our successes have been in collaboration with other bodies including the Residents Association, the Pavilion Charity, our District Councillor and of course our residents who provide ongoing support and encouragement.

Next PC meeting – 20th October, 7.30pm Meon Vale Village Hall

Debbie Woodliffe | Parish Clerk.

11TH OCTOBER 2025, 12-2PM
LONG MARSTON VILLAGE HALL

This forum will allow members of the community to examine the latest 12 months charts showing driver behaviour and vehicle volume through the village, and to raise any questions or concerns.
The Parish Council is committed to facilitating open dialogue and working collaboratively to improve road safety within the village.

We look forward to seeing you on October 11th



HARVEST SUPPER

Come and join us on Friday October 10th for a celebration of thanks and an evening of food, fun and a raffle too!

Entertainment will be provided by Terry Jones

This will be in Long Marston Village Hall, 7pm for 7.30pm There will be a bar available

Tickets are Adults £12 and Children £6

Teresa Wright

LONG MARSTON LADIES

Maureen Beckett made a welcome return visit to Long Marston Ladies for the September meeting after her successful evening on the subject of Geese. This time Maureen told us “How she met her sister” A journey that lead her to Australia to meet the sister she didn’t know existed until later in life. Maureen is such an excellent narrator the ladies were feeling her emotions and were pleased she had actually met her sister, Florence.

October meeting is “From the Bottom of the Sea, to the Top of the World “ with Andy Ashford.

HELLO FROM THE POPPIN

We sell a wide range of exciting products many from local suppliers . Lovely fresh bread and cakes , tasty deli items , a wide selection of wines, beers and spirits and lots more . We are continuing to add new exciting lines so do pop by and see .

We will soon have winter pansies available from our local grower Lawrence at Grange Nurseries and the bunker at the front will be stocked with logs, kindling, fire lighters etc to keep you warm with the pending colder months .

We are delighted to have welcomed some new volunteers to our friendly team , if you would like to join us to pop in and let us know . Just an hour or two a month makes a big difference and it's rewarding knowing you are helping to keep our lovely village shop open .

Best wishes
Helen Leedham and the Poppin team .



ST JAMES THE GREAT

Life can only be understood backwards; but it must be lived forwards.
Soren Kierkegaard

Many people recognise that the benefit of hindsight can be a good thing in helping us to understand life. Things that have happened in the past seem much easier to make sense of when we can put them into context by looking back at what happened. With the benefit of hindsight we can see where decisions could have been made differently or for the better, and we can see where wisdom prevailed. And so, as the Danish theologian and philosopher Soren Kierkegaard said, we can understand life backwards.
But our lives are lived moving forwards through time, we cannot go back and change the past. So, does this mean we should not look back? Does this mean that looking to the past holds no value? I don't believe so.

The value of looking back, of remembering and understanding what happened before, is in the positive impact that this can have on our lives and the lives of others as, according to Kierkegaard, we live forwards.

The months of October and November give us plenty of opportunity to look back. Halloween (All Hallows Eve) on 31st October leads into All Saints' Day on 1st November and All Souls' Day on 2nd November when the church traditionally looks back to remember and give thanks for followers of Jesus who have died. That is why many churches choose this time of year to hold a service to remember and give thanks for lost loved ones - an opportunity for all to remember those who have been significant in their lives.
And of course, November brings communities together across the country to remember and give thanks for all those who gave their lives in the World Wars, and also those who continue to serve and risk their lives for the benefit of others. Church services on 9th, as well as community acts of Remembrance on 11th, will see many such gatherings.

As Christian churches gather this Autumn to look back and remember in different ways as part of their local communities, they do so, believing that Jesus lived, died and rose to life again to demonstrate the power of God's love for all. It is in this understanding of what happened in the past that hope and direction can be found, knowing that as we try to live in a positive way for ourselves and others, Jesus lives with us, offering to forgive us for past mistakes and to lead us forward in God's everlasting way of love.
Revd Yvette Grundy (Deacon - RiverVale Churches)

You are welcome to worship at our local RiverVale Churches (Welford, Weston, Long Marston, Quinton and Meon Vale). Details of regular local services and events can be found in the magazine, but look out for these special opportunities to look backwards and live forwards together…
Friday 31st Oct | Light Night 6pm, St. Peter's, Welford 'Lots of treats and no tricks' for Halloween

Saturday 1st Nov | 4 pm St. James, Long Marston Service to Remember Departed Loved Ones

Sunday 9th Nov | 10.45 am at St. Peter's Welford, St. James Long Marston and St. Swithin's Quinton Remembrance Sunday Services

LONG MARSTON GARDEN CLUB

In September we visited Coughton Court before returning to the Throckmorton Family from the National Trust. No free membership entries next year! However we thoroughly enjoyed the gardens and a few members toured the house as well.

This month on Wednesday 8th October we are visiting Sezincote Gardens at 2 pm. The garden was restored in 1968 having been neglected. There are canals and fine planting of the water garden where many rare plants can be seen. This is our last visit this year. Any suggestions for next year would be much appreciated.
Wiggy

THE PAVILION

CAFE & COMMUNITY SPACE

LOCALLY SOURCED | COMMUNITY POWERED



Tucked beside the playing fields, The Pavilion is a small charity café with a big heart. We serve top-notch coffee from Monsoon Estates and Billy's, homemade cakes by Helen, and fresh pastries and baps from Le Petit Croissant - all crafted just miles from our door.

Whether you're grabbing a takeaway or settling in for a chat, our friendly volunteer team is here to brighten your day. We began as a Community FoodShare (still going strong), and have grown into a welcoming space with a café and a room for hire - ideal for meetings, mum & baby groups, art therapy, or coffee mornings. Just £10/hr with free Wi-Fi.









Pop by, follow us online, or visit our website for events and updates.

WWW.MEONPAVILION.CO.UK

The Pavilion - where good coffee meets good company.

THE POPPIN - PLEASE HELP

As you are aware the Poppin is a community shop run by volunteers .

It is a valuable asset to the village and stocks a wide range of provisions , staple basics such as freshly baked bread,milk , tea and sugar , a good range of Willersly cooked and fresh meats , award winning Fladbury pies , a fantastic range of greetings cards , wide selection of beers , wines and spirits including Cotswold range of gins and whiskey and much more .
In order to keep the shop open we are desperately needing more of you to help . Just an hour or two per month would be such a valuable asset . There are many areas in which we would welcome new volunteers , if you are an early person we need openers or equally if you prefer a later slot in the day we have closers shifts. General till working , shelf stocking or even administrative jobs there are many areas in which your help would be greatly welcomed.
I started working in the Poppin over 15 years ago and can honestly say it is a great way of meeting people , getting village news first hand and you even a get a free read of the papers !! Not only is it fun but it's a rewarding knowing you are helping the village community. In return there are many complimentary social events that you & your partner are invited to thank you for your time .

Please do consider helping and keeping the shop open ..

Give it a try! Contact Helen on helen.leedham@btinternet.com for more information or leave your details in the shop .
We hope to welcome you soon !

Helen Leedham





VILLAGE HALL NEWS

MARSTON MOVIES – Please note that there will NOT be a film show in October, it is hoped to have a film early in November.

VILLAGE HALL ROOF - Work is progressing well on the new roof which we hope will be completed by the beginning of October

VILLAGE HALL DIARY for October

Long Marston Ladies	1st	7.30 pm
Private Booking	3rd 10th 17th 24th 31st	10-12 am
Shoebox Coffee Morning	4th	10-12 am
Beavers	6th 13th 20th 27th	5-7 pm
Yoga	7th 14th 21s 28th	7-8 pm
W.I.	8th	7.30 pm
Harvest Supper	10th	
Village Hall Committee Meeting	13th	7.30 pm
Parish Council Meeting	20th	7.30 pm
Private Party Booking	25th	
Library/Coffee Morning	28th	10.30 – 12 am
Coopers Trust Meeting	29th	

To book the hall please telephone Anne Harrison on 01789 720368

Feeling hot, hot, hot?

Transform your home with beautiful, custom-made heat-reflective curtain linings…

My name is Maria and I live in Long Marston, I live in a house that faces due East and West, getting the full force of the sun in the morning and evening. My windows are huge for the size of my house, so we know how it feels to live in a greenhouse! As I'm writing this we are experiencing the fourth heatwave of the year!
I have recently developed my own curtain linings that will reflect the heat in the summer and can be reversed to keep the heat in rooms in winter. I am currently looking for customers who need this custom-made service and willing to trust me to provide them with curtain linings that will:
1) Improve and protect the quality of their existing curtains
2) Make their home environment cooler in summer and warmer in winter through heat reflection and retention.
I am choosing to launch my business locally in Long Marston first!

How it works…
My curtain linings are made with advanced reflective and thermal materials designed to improve temperature control in your home. During the hot summer months, my linings reflect the sun's heat, helping rooms to be cooler and more comfortable. In the winter, they do the opposite - by trapping warmth inside, reducing the need for additional heating and keeping energy bills lower. It's a smart, all-season solution for any home using the opportunity for window dressings.

Made-to-measure for a perfect fit
Every home is unique, and I take the time to create curtain linings that fit behind your existing curtains (that you love and don't want to get rid of but currently let too much light through, or that need some enhancement).
Whether you have large windows (max. 2 metres wide, I do not currently cover patio doors), odd-shaped frames, or standard sizes - I can design and construct to your exact specifications.

The result? A tailored fit that enhances both the aesthetic and energy efficiency of your room.
Prices are likely to range from £125 - £300, depending on size (max. width 2m wide window frame). A full quote can be provided after measuring, active for 30 days.
I can also design and construct door coverings that cover panes of glass on front and rear doors.



Image of curtains with reflective lining installed on the right curtain, left curtain has no reflective lining.

Easy ordering process
Ordering your custom, heat-reflective curtain linings is a simple and hassle-free process. Reach out to me to book an appointment for measuring or to discuss more and see the product.

Only in this first phase of starting my business will I be offering ***FREE*** measuring and fitting (normally priced at £65) in return for a review that I can use on my website or social media in the future. If you aren't happy with the linings, I will make a full refund, only after the return of the linings. I am that confident you will see and feel a difference, especially if your current curtains have a thin lining.

Please email: silverliningsnew@gmail.com or phone 07821 311620 for a ***FREE*** quote today.

I hope to see silver linings across Long Marston!
Maria Carter

SHOEBOX APPEAL

Firstly a **BIG** thank you to all of you who have donated to our Appeal. The Shoebox Team's houses are filling up nicely and we are on track to pack 400 boxes.

However donations of all sorts are ***still needed***.
The things we put in our boxes are…
Soap / Flannels
Toothpaste/ Toothbrushes
Combs and small brushes
Hats/ Scarves/Gloves/Socks
Biros/Pencils/Crayons etc
Notepads
Fluffy toys for all ages
Small balls/skipping ropes
Card games/ Jigsaws/musical instruments.
Wrapped sweets
GIRLS….Hair slides/scrunchies etc. Jewellery. Toys
BOYS…..Toy cars, hero figures (No war related items)

It is amazing how many small items can fit in a shoebox!
If you have anything to donate, please leave at the Poppin or in the box outside Gaverne (opposite. Rumer Close).

SHOEBOX PACKING

On Friday Nov 7th we will be putting all the items we have collected in the hall and invite you to come along and pack a box or two. Everything will be there, we just need your help. CHILDREN ARE MOST WELCOME! They are our expert packers! Come along as a family.

The hall will be open for packing on
FRIDAY NOV 7th, 5pm to 6pm and
SATURDAY NOV 8th. From 8.30am until we finish about 11am.

Please come along we need lots of help to pack 400 boxes!

CHURCH SERVICES OCTOBER 2025

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

St. James the Great - Long Marston

Sunday 5th - Breakfast Service 10.30am
Harvest Celebration - Giving thanks to God

Sunday 19th - Breakfast Service 10.30am
Informal Communion 12.00pm

St.Swithin's - Quinton with Admington

Sunday 12th - Family Communion 10.30am

Friday 17th - Quinton House Service - 11.00am

Sunday 19th - All In Family Service - 10.30am

Sunday 26th - Communion - 10.30am

Meon Vale

Sunday 12th - Meon Church



St. Peter's - Welford

Friday 31st - Light Party at 6pm

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
Telephone- 01386 834321
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NEWSLETTER EDITOR
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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

ADVERTISING

If you would like to advertise your business in the Marston Sicca Newsletter, please email editor@uberdoodle.com.

HALF PAGE £12.50