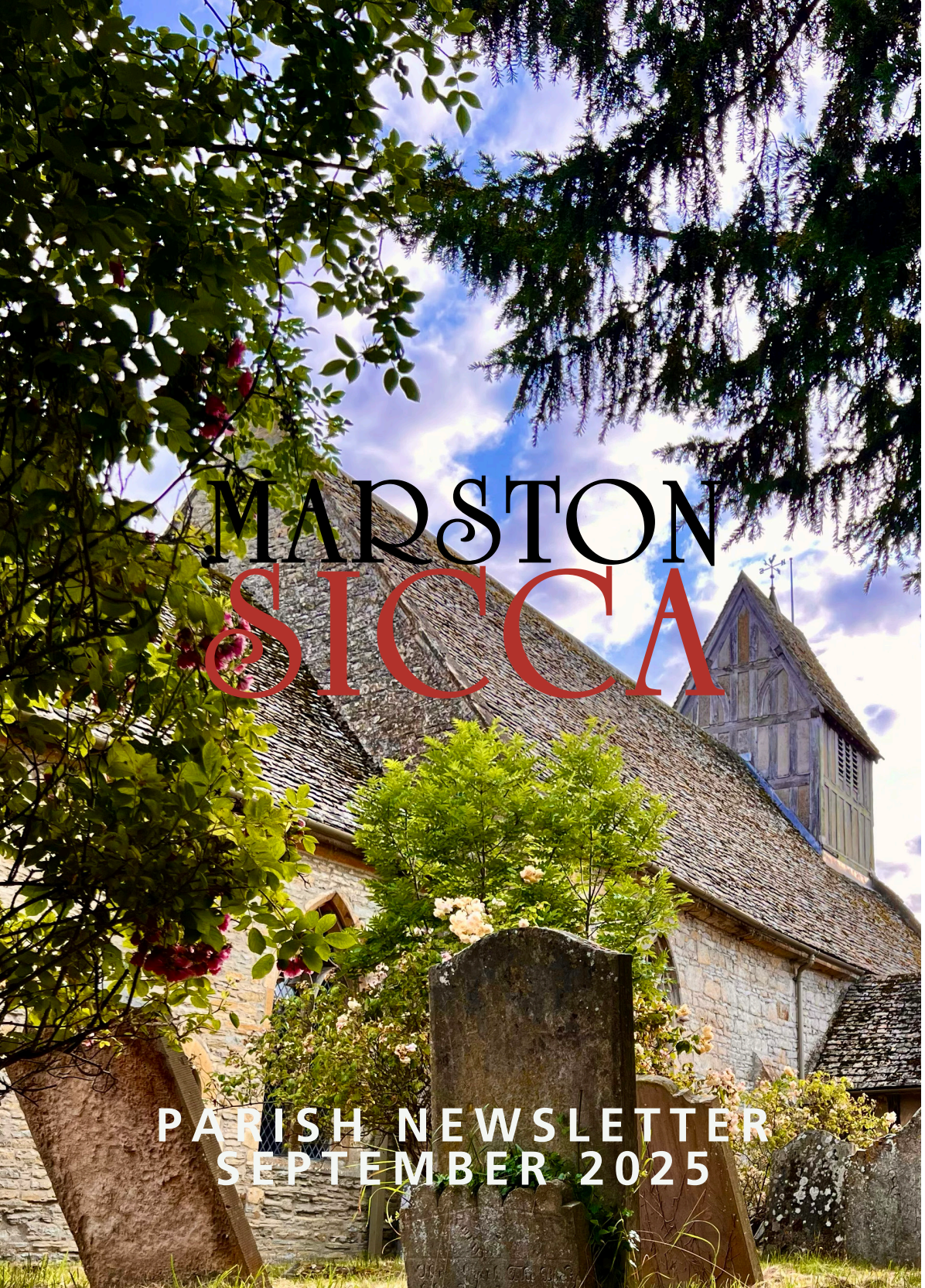


MARSTON SICCA

PARISH NEWSLETTER
SEPTEMBER 2025

EDITORS NOTES

I hope everybody had a great summer!

The Village Fete is just around the corner as of going to press there are still a few volunteers needed. Contact Adam at the pub if this is something you could help out with. We also have the annual W.I. Flower & Produce show coming up on the 13th, so do try and get there to show your support.

All articles/adverts for the October edition must be submitted to editor@uberdoodle.com by Wednesday, 24th September.

Simon



PARISH COUNCIL

Anti-Social Behaviour
The Parish Council believe most young people in the parish remain considerate and responsible. The parish council, however, has recently noted a rise in anti-social behaviour by a small minority, affecting some residents' quality of life. The council is working with police and other authorities to develop strategies that prevent such behaviour and ensure a safe community. More information will be shared before the next parish council meeting.

Speeding
Managing speeding in the village remains an ongoing focus for the parish council and is regularly included on meeting agendas. Data collected from the VAS unit will soon be made available on the Parish Council website, along with approved action plans. This includes funding for a third build out supported by the County Councillor fund, and consideration of a fourth and final build out as part of the next parish council budget. The parish council collaborates with Highways, the police, and the County Council to address road safety within the parish.

Parish Assets
The comprehensive asset register, detailing the ownership of buildings and land, will soon be made available on the parish council website. With asset transfers completed and management procedures implemented, residents will have enhanced access to community facilities.

Honeybourne Railway Station
For residents who park their cars at this station, charges for parking will commence from 1st September. Full day parking prior to midday will be £3 per day, reducing to £2 after midday.

Local government in Warwickshire is changing
It is being Recommended that all councils in Warwickshire – County, District and Borough – be reduced to two: one in the north and one in the south. Take a look at the proposals and have your say: www.shapingourcouncils.co.uk

Clerk | Marston Sicca Parish Council

HELLO FROM THE POPPIN

New exciting ranges continue to arrive in the shop , the Tyrell's beef brisket furrow crisps , Mrs Darlingtons marmalades and the farmhouse range of biscuits are going down a storm !
Whilst I was serving in the shop the other day I heard two young girls saying 'wow this is like a shop you get on a holiday campsite , small but has everything you need !'. Another couple who were holidaying in the area came in enjoyed freshly made sandwiches , homemade cake and purchased a bottle of local Cotswold gin to take home commented that they wished they had a wonderful friendly little shop by them.

We are delighted that new volunteers are coming forward as without them the Poppin wouldn't survive. We always welcome more help so do let us know if you can work maybe just one or two hours a month , every little offer counts .

If you haven't called in lately do come and visit and see what you have on your all on your doorstep and maybe even try those Farmhouse biscuits!! The Oat flips are delicious!!

Helen Leedham and the Poppin team .





FRIDAY 26th September - 7:30PM
Licensed Bar | Snacks | Ices
Only £3 on the door

THE PAVILION

CAFE &
COMMUNITY SPACE

Did you know we have a side room available for hire?

If you are looking for somewhere to host a meeting, hold an event, or just somewhere to work from (with easy access to amazing coffee & cake!) then get in contact with Steph for further information.

steph@meonpavilion.co.uk



LONG MARSTON LADIES

The unsung hero's of life saving came to Long Marston Ladies for the July meeting. The Blood Bikers from Warwickshire and Solihull area touched the hearts of the ladies with the amazing work they do. Jon and Chris, a husband and wife team, explained how everyone is an unpaid volunteer with no government backing. They go from local hospitals and nationwide if they are needed, carring not only blood but breastfeeding milk to special baby units, urgent medication and other life saving supplies. A bring and buy and donations raised over £400 on the evening for this very worthy charity.

LONG MARSTON WI

theWI
INSPIRING WOMEN

Speaker for July Meeting: Analiza Jones – Shells from the Phillipines

There followed an interesting and animated talk on the importance of the Phillipine Shell Industry. The beautiful and varied species of shells (some 12,000).

The Kapiz shell (Window Pane Oyster), is used to create items such as lampshades and vases. Also building materials like window panes. Many livelihoods rely on the 'shell-craft', however, there are also environmental concerns. Fishermen are being educated to not pollute the waters where these shells are harvested. Women are encouraged to abandon single use Plastic in favour of woven baskets.

Many of the local people learn from an early age lear to dive for these shells. Developing a technique whereby they can hold their breath under water for long periods of time. For the indigenous population, the shells can also be symbolic of fertility and status. Other shells of note, Abalone and Mother of Pearl. These feature highly in jewellery.

Some shells are becoming very rare such as the Giant Clam Shell, due to loss of habitat. Demands from the Chinese market resulting in poaching, being a particular problem.

The evening concluded with refreshments.

AUGUST LONG MARSTON WI GARDEN PARTY

This was very kindly hosted by Lisa Blaxall and family, at their lovely home by the river in Harvington.

It was a perfect Summer's evening. A grand array of food was on display

brought by the members. Pimms was on hand to greet everyone on arrival. It was a thoroughly enjoyable evening. Thank you to Lisa and family for making everyone feel welcome!

LONG MARSTON WI MEETING - SEPTEMBER 10TH
SPEAKER:

ROGER BEADLE - SURGEON
Visitors are very welcome! £5 including refreshments

Please come and support YOUR Local Village Show!!

LONG MARSTON FLOWER AND PRODUCE SHOW
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 13TH 2025

SCHEDULES AVAILABLE AT THE POPPIN

Entries for Classes- 9.00am - 10.45am
Doors closed at 11.00am for Judging

Refreshments available including homemade cakes!

We look forward to seeing you there. !!

Invitation from Bidford-on-Avon WI to Long Marston WI.

Skittles evening at Welford Bowls Club

22nd October

Bar available | Ploughmans
£6 per ticket.

LONG MARSTON GARDEN CLUB



During July and August we had earmarked two visits to gardens with the NGS Scheme. One was Sandy Lane in Cheltenham and the other Highnam Court in Gloucester. I was away, but feedback indicates nobody went to either. Summer Holidays and very hot weather??

Let’s make up for things, as the next visit is to Coughton Court, Alcester on Wednesday 17th September. Take note that this property is returning to the family and will discontinue with The National Trust. However Members of the National Trust are for the foreseeable future still have free entry. We plan to meet at 2pm.

Wiggy Taylor

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@google.com or phone 07821 311620 for a ***FREE*** quote today.

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

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 – The film for September will be "Black Bag" starring Cate Blanchett and Michael Fassbender. Admission £3, bar and snacks as usual. 7.30 pm on the 26th.

VILLAGE HALL DIARY for September

Library/Coffee Morning	2nd	10.30-12 am
Yoga	2nd 9th 16th 23rd 30th	7-8 pm
Long Marston Ladies	3rd	7.30 pm
Private Booking	8th	
W.I	10th	7.30 pm
Private Booking	12th 19th 26th	10 -12 am
W.I Flower Show	13th	
Beavers	15th 22nd 29th	5-7 pm
Parish Council Meeting	15th	7.30 pm
MacMillan Coffee Afternoon	26th	
Marston Movies	26th	7.30 pm

Please also note – ***SHOEBOX COFFEE MORNING –OCTOBER 4TH***
To book the hall please telephone Anne Harrison on 01789 720 368

LONG MARSTON FLOWER SHOW
SATURDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER 2025

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

PRODUCE
5 Potatoes - same variety
3 Onions - same variety
5 Tomatoes - same variety
3 Courgettes
5 Runner/French beans
3 Root vegetables
3 Orchard fruits same variety/mixed
You've grown it - Let's See It!!
Collection of Vegetables (minimum 5)

CUT FLOWERS IN A JAM JAR
Single Rose
3 Cut Flowers- same variety
5 Cut Flowers (any variety)
Branch of Flowering OR Fruiting Shrub/Tree
Selection of Herbs

POT PLANTS - Best Overall (Pat Robbins Trophy)
Flowering
Foliage
Cacti/Succulents

FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS (Accessories allowed)
Arrangement in Unusual Container
Harvest Colours
Petite Arrangement no greater than 5" (12.7cm) in any direction
Floral Wedding Accessory
Foliage

DOMESTIC CLASSES
Tea Loaf - (Pat Tredwell Trophy)
Coffee and Walnut Cake
Victoria Sandwich Cake - (Liz Marcuse Memorial Trophy)
Traybake
6 biscuits
Fruit Crumble
Jar of Marmalade
Jar of Chutney
Quiche - (including Vegetarian)

HANDICRAFTS
Painting (Any Medium)
Alternative Art - Computer or Other

Handicraft Item - (Miss Sandars Memorial Trophy)
Knitting/Crocheting
Sewing/Embroidery

PHOTOGRAPHS
The Sky
Village Life - Past or Present
Pets in Action
A Study in Black and White
Historical Interest
Gardens

CHILDRENS CLASS
Look What I've Made!!
Split into 3 Age Groups
5 yrs and under
6 - 8 yrs
9 - 12 yrs

ST JAMES THE GREAT

Connection
One of the biggest privileges of my role as a vicar is journeying with people through life's sacred moments: celebrating baptisms and weddings, and holding people with love as we grieve at funerals. What always amuses me, though, is how these occasions gather family and friends — some we see often, others we haven't seen for years. And then come the classic lines:

'Oh, haven't you gotten so tall!' says Aunt Bernice.

'This is Jimmy, he'll be 21 next month.'
'21?! Has it been that long since we last saw each other?'

Or the slightly more confused:
'This is Karen my wife.'
'What happened to Sharon?'
'Do you mean Lillian?'
'Who's Sharon then?'
'I don't know, Dave.'
'…Who's Dave?'
'Aren't you uncle Dave?'
'…No, I'm cousin Darrell.'
[1]

In my case it usually goes:
'You have four children?! When did that happen?'
'Steadily, over the past 12 years since we last saw each other, I guess.'

These moments make me smile, but they also reveal something deeper: we long to belong. We thrive when we are part of a family, a friendship group, or a wider community. And yet, according to the Campaign to End Loneliness, nearly half of people in the UK feel they lack meaningful relationships — a sense of fundamental separateness from others. Even in a world of instant messages and global connectivity, real connection is still in short supply.
[2]

But connection isn't just nostalgia or a thing of the past. We can choose connection — even if it takes courage, and even if it looks different from

what we once had. Sometimes we need to let go of unhealthy ties, but none of us are made to do life alone. We need people to walk with us through the busyness and messiness of life.

At the end of the day, nobody looks back and wishes they'd been more disconnected. And the good news is there are plenty of ways to connect locally. The Pavilion Café in Meon hosts lots going on, run by a variety of groups — for example we run a weekly meet up 'Arts, Crafts and Chat' on a Tuesday afternoon. The Gym in Meon has sports for different abilities and ages; that's a great way to meet new people. The Village Halls in Long Marston and Quinton always have something happening. And there are many amazing people in this community creating events to get together — the latest example being the wonderful sunflower picking event in Admington. Such a great way to connect with others over a coffee and some secateurs!

And no surprise, the Church is here for you too. In fact, the Bible often uses the language of family to describe the church: "You are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household" (Ephesians 2:19). We believe that humanity is one big family and in Jesus we are brought together — messy and beautiful, a community of people choosing to do life together, learning together how to do life well and be a blessing. It's not perfect, but it's 2000 years old and somehow is still just about net positive when it comes to relationships with each other and our Creator.

As Mother Teresa once said, "The greatest disease in the West today is not TB or leprosy; it is being unwanted, unloved, and uncared for. We can cure physical diseases with medicine, but the only cure for loneliness, despair, and hopelessness is love."

I don't know what family, friend or community events you have coming up, but I hope you find joy in them. I hope you have the occasional Cousin Darrell moments — they are hilarious — but most of all I hope that you know where you belong, have good positive people to connect with and never feel alone.

Revd Jay

1. These conversations may or may not have actually happened but if they did, names have been changed to protect privacy.
2. https://www.campaigntoendloneliness.org/facts-and-statistics/

SHOEBOXES

We are still collecting items of all sorts to put in the boxes. They can be left at the Poppin or in the boxes outside “Gaverne”.
A Big thank you for all the donations received so far.

Shoebox packing will take place on Friday November 7th …6 to 7pm and again on Saturday November 8th …8.30am until we finish. Everyone will be most welcome to come along and pack a box or two!

MACMILLAN COFFEE AFTERNOON

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

Friday September 26th 2.30 to 4 pm.
Come and join us to support this wonderful charity. There will be cakes, tea, coffee, a RAFFLE and a BRING AND BUY.
Donations of cakes, raffle prizes or Bring and Buy items can be bought along in the afternoon or left at The Poppin before the event.
Many thanks.
Look forward to seeing you there.

SHOEBOX COFFEE MORNING

Saturday October 4th 10.30am until Noon.
Coffee, Tea, Cakes, Croissants.
RAFFLE
BRING AND BUY.

Please come along to support us and learn more about The Teams4U Shoebox Appeal and their distribution of the boxes to the very poor areas of Eastern Europe.

CHURCH SERVICES SEPTEMBER 2025

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

St. James the Great - Long Marston

Sunday 7th - Breakfast Service 10.30am

Sunday 21st - Breakfast Service 10.30am
Informal Communion 12.00pm

St.Swithin’s - Quinton with Admington

Sunday 14th - Family Communion 10.30am

Friday 19th - Quinton House Service - 11.00am

Sunday 21st - All In Family Service - 10.30am
Harvest Celebration giving thanks to god

Sunday 28th - Communion - 10.30am



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

Parish Clerk/RFO - Debbie Woodliffe
Email - clerk@marstonsicca-pc.gov.uk
Telephone- 01386 834321
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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