

Marston Women's Institute

We in the Women's Institute sometimes think the general public has a limited understanding of what we are and what we do. 'Jam', 'Jerusalem' and 'quintessentially English' are words that come to mind. So we thought it was time we aired a few facts about the WI.

Jam: we're very happy to be associated with jam, if by that you mean food as a whole. Immediately after the declaration of war in 1939 the secretary of the National Federation of Women's Institutes (NFWI) obtained 430 tons of sugar and distributed it to WI branches, including Marston; by 1940 there were 2,600 village centres making jam to feed the nation. Members also collected rosehips for vitamin C and foxgloves, the source of digoxin to treat heart disease.

Jerusalem: This anthem takes us right back to the suffrage movement. The words are by William Blake and the melody by Hubert Parry. Parry gave the copyright to the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies (NUWSS) for them to use on 13 March 1918 at a suffrage demonstration concert. When the NUWSS closed its doors in 1928, its work completed, the copyright was re-assigned to the WI.

Quintessentially English? Well, not at the beginning.



The movement originated in Canada and was brought to England in 1914 by a redoubtable woman called Madge Watt. The idea was seized on by the government as a way of increasing food production and she set up the first group, not in England, but in Anglesey in 1915 and the movement spread from

there. Mrs Watt said that the organization should hold to four freedoms: truth, tolerance, justice and friendship and that meetings should be fun but not frivolous! We certainly have fun and we don't discuss

politics, because that's an easy way to break up friendships and erode tolerance.

After the war the WI separated from the government, raised its own funding and set about educating women to take up their newly acquired responsibilities as full citizens. They lobbied for improvements to village life, such as piped water, sewerage systems, electricity, gas and decent bus services.

Ironically we are now again collecting data about the lack of rural bus services! We are also involved in making gardens bee-friendly, trying to lessen the amount of plastic beads being washed into the river system and lobbying MPs about their attitudes to climate change.

At local level, our own WI has a thriving craft club where, over the last twelve months we have learned, among other things, ribbon weaving and shisha embroidery, made collages and icing sugar bells. We have an 'Exploring Oxford' group which has 'done'



rather a lot of colleges and museums, the latest being the Pompeii exhibition at the Ashmolean in November. Our meetings are held in the Parish Hall on the second Tuesday evening of the month and occasionally have lunch at the Vicky Arms. So we're busy and friendly. We would love you to come for an evening and see how you like it. The

first two meetings of 2020 are:

14 January at 7.30pm: our speaker will be Andrew Hall on *The History and Philosophy of Hairdressing*

11 February at 7.30pm: our speaker will be Alistair Lack on *The Oxford of Inspector Morse*

MARSTON LIVING ADVENT CALENDAR

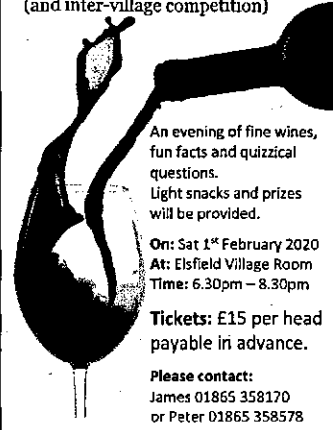
I am writing this around the midway point of our Advent Calendar – 12 down, 12 to go - and it's been fun! We started in the church on 1 Dec with a wonderful window of angels made by children from the Divya Shanthi School in Bangalore. Lovely window displays continued, with wonderful refreshments. Each evening we started and finished with an Advent prayer, revealed the window, sang a carol and blessed the house we visited. Old friends have met and new friends have been made – every evening a different group of people arrived. It was wonderful that, in the middle of all the Christmas rush, we stopped for 10 minutes to think about what Christmas is really about. As the first prayer in our short opening ceremony said, these Advent windows helped us to refocus our hearts towards you, Creator God.

Judith Piggott, Church Warden.

MARSTON COMMUNITY GARDENING

Our community tree planting on Sat 23 Nov, as first official event of National Tree Week, at New Marston Rec was the biggest turn out of any single tree planting event in Oxford, ever! Our community has been used as the inspiration for a *Friends of the Earth* promo video for tree planting across the UK: how cool is that? Over 650 trees, planted in under 3 hours by Cubs, Scouts, local schools, St Nicholas Church, Marston Community Gardening, Marston Forest Garden, Marston Mums, city councillors and the Lord Mayor. Thanks to everyone who came, everyone who supports what we are doing and everyone who will join us in the future, to make Marston greener, healthier and safer for generations to come.

Elsfield Wine Tasting Evening
(and inter-village competition)



An evening of fine wines,
fun facts and quizical
questions.
Light snacks and prizes
will be provided.

On: Sat 1st February 2020
At: Elsfield Village Room
Time: 6.30pm – 8.30pm

Tickets: £15 per head
payable in advance.

Please contact:
James 01865 358170
or Peter 01865 358578

MARSTON MILL LANE ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION

Spend time outdoors and grow vegetables, flowers and fruit all year round! We have plots available with running water, fertile soil and a friendly community. Plots cost £12.50 per annum for a half plot, £25.00 for a full plot. Contact the secretary, Chris Mitchell on chrisaw.mitchell@yahoo.com tel 07789 991051.

PARISH COUNCIL OPEN MEETING NOTES

Important information on the Oxford Road closure – from 6 Jan 2020 the stretch of Oxford Road through the village will only be open for access, due to gas mains work. This work should be completed by 20 Apr 2020. Stagecoach has stated that the 14A bus will not be running while the work is in progress.

At the Dec PC meeting there were no objections to a planning application from Hill View Farm but concerns were raised about 9 Gordon Close, due to overdevelopment. The CC has informed the PC that 24 Ashlong Road and 17 Haynes Road have been approved, 60 Mortimer Drive has been refused and 29 Mill Lane has been withdrawn.

Tony Harris from Galliford Try gave an update on the Swan School, informing the Council that work was on schedule, so that fewer vehicles were needed on site. There were no new complaints received.

Scott Urban from Oxfordshire Liveable Streets talked about the work OLS is doing with the OCC to combat traffic issues. Our road network has not changed in 40 years, increasing the number of cases of asthma due to poor air quality. He believes that drastic measures are needed to discourage the use of private vehicles across the city. They support the use of bus gates, one of which would be on the Marston Ferry Road. A filter – probably bollards - would be needed on the Oxford Road to prevent traffic diverting through the village, making part of the village only accessible from Marston Ferry Road/Cherwell Drive, the other part from Elsfield Road.

Some of the play equipment in the Mortimer Hall Recreation Ground is getting old. The PC is investigating its replacement. A tender will probably take place in the spring.

Over the years trees in the Boults Lane Recreation Ground have been removed. The PC has agreed to work with the Marston Community Garden Group to replace them with native trees and do its bit for the environment. The MCGG will also be replacing a section of hedge that has been removed and putting up bird boxes.

The Parish Council meets next on Mon 6 Jan 2020 in the Mortimer Hall at 7pm. All Parishioners are welcome to attend meetings.

The Clerk can be contacted by phone (203139) Mon to Wed 9am-1pm or a message can be left or email sent: clerk@oldmarston-pc.gov.uk. Information via www.oldmarston-pc.gov.uk, Facebook or Twitter.
Parish Clerk: Tim Cann – 01865 203139
Chairman: Duncan Hatfield - 07706 998224
www.oldmarston-pc.gov.uk

Parish Calendar for January 2020

St Nicholas, Marston

5 Second Sunday of Christmas

8am Holy Communion (BCP).....Revd Skye Denno

10am All Age Service Epiphany.....Revd Skye Denno

6pm Healing Service with HC.....Joel Denno

8 Wednesday

9.30am Holy Communion (CW)...Revd Skye Denno

12 Sunday - Baptism of Christ

8am Holy Communion (BCP).....Revd Andy Gosler

10am Parish Communion (CW).....Revd Skye Denno

6pm Evensong (BCP).....Revd Skye Denno

followed by Pints of View in the Red Lion

15 Wednesday

9.30am Holy Communion (CW) Revd Skye Denno

19 Second Sunday after the Epiphany

8am Holy Communion.....Revd Skye Denno

10am Parish Communion (CW) Revd Andy Gosler

6pm CTMN Unity Service

22 Wednesday

9.30am Holy Communion (CW) Revd Skye Denno

26 Third Sunday after the Epiphany

8am Holy Communion (BCP).....Revd Andy Gosler

10am Parish Communion (CW)... Revd Skye Denno

6pm Benefice Candelmas at Elsfield

29 Wednesday

9.30am Holy Communion (CW)...Revd Skye Denno

St Thomas of Canterbury, Elsfield

4 Saturday

10.30-12.30 Arts and Crafts in Elsfield (ACE)
in the Village Room

26 Sunday

6pm Candelmas with HC.....Revd Skye Denno
followed by refreshments

Bible Readings for Parish Communion

12 Isa 42: 1-9; Acts 10: 34-43; Matt 3: 13-17

19 Isa 49: 1-7; 1 Cor 1: 1-9; John 1: 29-42

26 Isa 9: 1-4; 1 Cor 1: 10-18; Matt 4: 12-23

Vicar

Revd Skye Denno202988

Churchwardens

Judith Piggott 764693; Eileen Palayiwa 725423

James Plunket 358170; Justine McCool 358578

Marston Times editor

Jan Lawrie..... marstontimes@gmail.com

Subscriptions and circulation

Colin Harris..... colingharris31@gmail.com

THIS IS THE DAY

Come and join us at our Dementia Friendly Service on Wed 8 Jan from 2.30 – 4pm at Marston URC, 352 Marston Road OX3 0JB. All are very welcome. This short Ecumenical service is particularly suitable for those living with dementia, memory problems or any kind of special needs and will be followed by tea and cakes, activities and fellowship. Contact Val Stolton on 246157 or 07712 495406 or valstolton@aol.com.

OVER 50s CLUB

On Mon 13 Jan Mike Payne will give a talk titled *The Wonderful World of Westerns*. On Mon 27 Jan Patrick Baddeley will give a talk titled *The K Walk - 1500 miles across India*.

WI MEETING

The next W.I. meeting will be on Tue 14 Jan in the Parish Hall at 7.30; our speaker will be Andrew Hall on *The History and Philosophy of Hairdressing*.

ECUMENICAL QUIET DAY

The next EQD will be on Thur 16 Jan at Marston URC from 12 - 4pm. All are welcome: please bring your own packed lunch. Those attending will be sharing their thoughts on 2020's theme for the Week Of Prayer for Christian Unity: *They showed us unusual kindness Acts 28:2*

MESSY CHURCH COMING TO MARSTON

Messy Church is for people of all ages who like to worship informally and is particularly aimed at mixed ages together. So if you are a granny or a grandpa, or a mum or a dad or an auntie or uncle, come along with your small people and give it a try. If you don't have any children, come along anyway. There will be stories, singing, prayers, activities and breakfast. Our first Messy Church is at 10am on Sun 19 Jan in the church hall and every third Sunday of the month after that. We look forward to welcoming you.

COFFEE POT

Our next meeting will be for coffee on Mon 20 Jan in the Parish Hall from 10.30 - 12pm: do come and join us! For lifts, please phone Eileen Palayiwa 725423 or Judith Piggott 764693. Next meetings will be on 17 Feb, 16 Mar and 20 Apr (lunch).

IF YOU CARE ABOUT THE PLANET, SAVE THE DATE!

Please come to the lecture on Thurs 13 Feb at 7pm in Horton-cum-Studley Village Hall, when Professor Dave Goulson will talk with practical and inspiring guidance on how to make our gardens even more wildlife friendly; £5 cash entry on the door.

Parish Organisations

Allotments Associations

Court Place Farm, Boult's Lane. Secretary: Mr. T. Cann
 Sunday mornings 8.30 am – 11.00 am 01865 202104
 Mill Lane Chairman: Dr. M. Unkovskaya 07771 702548
 Treasurer Dana Vlad 07919 493580
 Secretary Christine Mitchell 07789 991051

Baby and Toddler Club

Gill Hale, 64 Arlington Drive 01865 248260

Bellringers:

Practice Friday 7.30pm Learners welcome
 Anthony Hughes, 2, Oxford Road 01865 244570

Choirs and Musicians at St Nicholas

Junior Choir, SATB Choir, Music Group
 Practices at various times.
 Neil Barker 01865 604617 or 07774 050056

Coffee Pot

Coffee morning, monthly, Monday
 David Blair 01865 246959 or 07917 298408
 Eileen Palayiya, 27 Ouseley Close 01865 725423

Rainbow, Brownie, Guide and Ranger Units

Evenings throughout the week.Adult volunteers as well as girls welcomed!

District Commissioner, Lesley Dentry, 07765 418067

Leisure:

OXRAD Sports and Leisure Centre,
 Court Place Farm, Marsh Lane 01865 741336

Library (next to Mortimer Hall)

Tuesday 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm 5.30 pm to 7.00 pm
 Thursday 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm 5.30 pm to 7.00 pm
 Friday 10.00 am to 12.00 noon. 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm
 Saturday 9.30 am to 12.30 pm 01865 726823

Hedena Health Medical Centre 01865 227788

Marston Community Gardening

Alistair Morris 01865 724081
 Kate Robinson 01865 766620

Marston Saints Football Club

John Page www.msfc.org.uk

Mortimer Hall (Village Hall)

Chris Crane, 2 Raymund Road 01865 727995

Over 50s Club

Alternate Mondays, 2.30 pm in Church Hall.
 Secretary, Jane Madden 01865 209086

Oxford City Council (Marston Representatives)

Mary Clarkson, 8 Dunstan Road, Oxford OX3 9BY 01865 751493
 Mick Haines, 3 Croft Road 01865 421600

Oxfordshire County Council (Marston Representative)

Mark Lygo 07765 665 726

Oxford Preservation Trust, Marston Area

Lucy Hughes, Cross Farm 01865 244570

Parentline

Confidential helpline for parents 01865 726600

Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Tim Cann, 8 Nicholas Avenue 01865 203139
 (Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 9.00 am – 1.00 pm)
 Chairman: Duncan Hatfield 07706 998224

Pre-school at Mortimer Hall

open 9 sessions a week 07818 236348

Royal British Legion Club Hall:

Steward 01865 243991

Schools

Friends of St Nicholas School 01865 242838

Scouts — 43rd Oxford (St. Nicholas) Scout Group, Boult's Lane

Group Scout Leader, Tim Greaves tim.greaves@keble.oxon.org
 Beaver Scout Leader, Sue Springett 01865 251515
 Cub Scout Leader, Rachel Vallance vallance.whanau@gmail.com
 Scouts Leader, Linda Phillips 07804 925705

St. Nicholas Church Hall and Committee Room

Alison Edwards, Parish Office 01865 580354

Women's Institute

Second Tuesday in month, 7.30 pm in Church Hall.
 President, Sue Hawes 01865 247106
 Secretary, Mavis Curtis 01865 351325

Trade Directory

Airport transfers

MJM Airport transfers 07983 225474

Architectural services for Planning Permissions/ Building Regulations

Digby Architectural: 4 Broughton Close 07979 756918

Building/Builders Services

Lemarsh Building Services – plumbing and heating

22 Marsh Lane 01865 761896 , 07484 274331

Colin Simpson: High Class painting, decorating and coving etc:

10 Dent's Close OX3 ONP 01865 742842

Trevor Dines: No job too small - plumbing, complete bathrooms from fitting a door to building an extension. Free estimates.

8, Raymund Road 01865 452851, 07889 263140

Daniel Kelly: Painting and decorating services: All interior/exterior work covered. Free quotations 01865 738958

73, Coniston Ave. Headington OX3 OAW 07725 819264

Cleaning Carpets & Upholstery

Grimebusters: Quality carpet, rug & upholstery cleaning at competitive rates. Free estimates 01865 726983

Complementary Medicine

Oxford Therapies: Pain relief, stress management & more

www.oxford-therapies.com 07913 503257

Frances Valentine: Reflexologist – massage to reflex points in feet for relaxation, stress-relief and re-balance 07726 312719

Electricians

Brian Turner: Registered NICEIC domestic installer 01865 728729

All work guaranteed. 33, Salford Road 07538 382683

brian.r.turner@ntlworld.com

Craig Holloway Electrical Ltd: 07868 706392

6 Clays Close, Marston OX3 ONX enquiries@craigholloway.co.uk

Elderly wellbeing

EIWell: Helping people to stay independent. Mobility, balance, home adaptations, managing memory loss, nutrition and social connections.

Home visits www.ei-well.com 01865 238185

Foot Clinic

Oxfordshire Foot Clinic: We provide fast & efficient foot treatments, including nail cutting and corn/callus removal. We visit you at home.

Appointments 07742 964282

Funeral Directors

D L Hancock Ltd (Independent family-run firm)

Personal 24 hour service 7 days a week 01865 767780

126 London Road, Headington OX3 9ED www.dlhancock.co.uk.

Homewood Funerals (Family-owned and managed)

14 Cherwell Drive, Marston OX3 4LY 01865 570000

Hair and Beauty

Dee: Fully qualified, insured ladies mobile hairdresser 07736 668681

www.deehairdresser.co.uk

Fiona's Hair Salon:

Salford Road, Old Marston OX3 ORX 01865 241632

Lynette: Fully qualified mobile hairdresser, friendly and professional

offering excellent rates, in the comfort of your own home

..... 07977 403775, 01235 539245

Handyman, decorator, carpenter, general builder; Marston based and

excellent references; call Joe 07784 884116

Monumental Mason

Reeves Memorials: New memorials, removal for burials, added

inscriptions & renovations.

147A Magdalen Rd, Oxford. OX4 1RL 01865 251231

Pharmacy

Northway Pharmacy: 2 Cherwell Drive, OX3 0LY 01865 763706

Marston Pharmacy: 11 Old Marston Road 01865 243824

Plumbing, Heating & Gas

S. J. Moore: Installation and servicing for all gas appliances.

Gas Safe Reg. 146337.

76, Arlington Drive. 01865 724037, 07970 470176

Andrew Job Plumbing & Heating Ltd:

Gas Safe Registered Engineer 125206 .. 01865 761896, 07710 390980

Tree Surgery, Fruit Tree Pruning

R. Timms: 80 Oxford Road 01865 244608

Forwood: Tree Surgery. Hedge Cutting and Tree Pruning.

Mark Baldwin, 07765 935767, 01865 769917

Window Cleaning - MRF Window Cleaning Services

Mick Fry: 37, Green Hill Oxford OX4 7UD. Fully insured member of the

Federation of Master Window Cleaners .. 01865 777889. 07887 515168

Copy deadline for February's issue is
 Thursday 16 January