

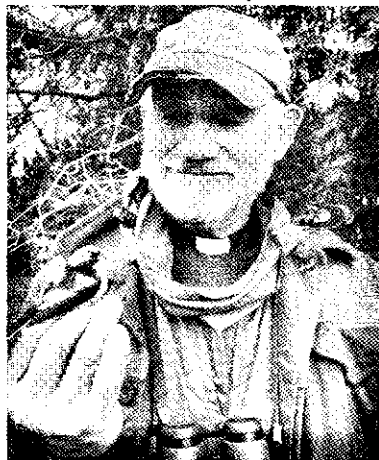
MARSTON TIMES

March 2020

stnicholasmarston.org.uk

30p

LIVING IN THE GAP (Ezekiel 22:30)



It's 7:40 as I enter the churchyard on my way to Holy Communion. I have the good fortune of a lull in the rain, though Storm Ciara is upon us. She is building and by the end of the day will have disrupted energy supplies across the country.

But just now the rain has eased and even in the teeth of the gale I can hear a robin singing in the Memorial Garden. Connections form in my mind, and by the time I step into the porch I have remembered that the robin had sung during the interment of Mary Greaves' ashes the previous week. I then reflected on the Memorial Garden as a centre of Peace in the Storm, on the gorgeous liquid song of the robin as that 'still small voice of God' speaking to Elijah and on Christ asleep in the boat in the storm, a centre of peace as around him the disciples panicked. The very name of this storm has taken me back to December 2014 when I received communion in the Basilica di Santa Chiara, the Church of St Clare, in Assisi.

I had been invited to lecture to the Rome Natural History Society on the importance of bird folk-names. As I'd had to pay my own way, I accepted the invitation on the condition that I might see Assisi and visit someone in a Swiss village near the Italian border. The friend who had invited me accepted my condition and even offered to drive me all the way. The person we were to meet was Michel Desfayes, amateur naturalist and retired linguist. Now 94, Mr Desfayes had spent a lifetime collating European folk-names of birds, and in 1998 had published his *Thesaurus of Bird Names*. This magnificent work of 2400 pages documented 100,000 European folk-names of birds in eleven European languages,

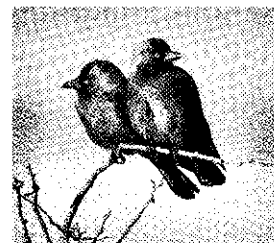
including more than 7000 English folk-names for about 150 British bird species. Thanks to him, I had been studying the English names to see what they might tell us about the connections people had had with birds in the past. I wanted to talk to Michel about the possibility of putting his life's work online so everyone might enjoy what he and I had found in the names. I was delighted to find him in excellent health, and I returned to the UK with his blessing. Last year we completed the first stage of *The Desfayes Project* and you can see the names at <https://EWAtlas.net/Desfayes>. The next stage is to map the names and then use them to help re-engage the public with nature: I published an article on the English bird folk-names and the EWA project in *British Wildlife* last August.¹

All this from a robin's song. Was anything else singing? Oh yes, a goldcrest, deep in a churchyard Yew tree, a distant goldfinch, and a red kite.

Rev'd Andy Gosler

¹ Gosler A. 2019. *What's in a name? The Legacy and Lexicon of Birds. British Wildlife* 30, 391-397.

In parts of the UK the jackdaw is known as the chimney sweep bird, college bird or caddow.



The barn owl is also known as the ghost owl, church owl or hobgoblin owl.

The goldfinch is also known as King Harry, goldie, gold linnet or redcap.



Parish Calendar for March 2020

St Nicholas, Marston

1 First Sunday of Lent

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

10am All Age ServiceGeoff & Gill Hale

6pm Healing Service with HC.....Revd Andy Gosler

4 Wednesday

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

7 Saturday

12-4pm Quiet Time for Spiritual Refreshment

8 Second Sunday of Lent

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

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

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

11 Wednesday

9.30am Holy Communion (CW) Revd Skye Denno

15 Third Sunday of Lent

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

10am Parish Communion (CW).Revd Andy Gosler

10am Messy Church in the HallSt Nic's team

6pm Eat, Love, Pray.....Neil Barker

18 Wednesday

9.30am Holy Communion (CW) Revd Skye Denno

22 Fourth Sunday of Lent – Mothering Sunday

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

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

6pm Evensong (BCP).....Revd Andy Gosler

25 Wednesday

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

29 Fifth Sunday of Lent – Passiontide begins

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

10am Parish Communion (CW)Revd S. Bullock

6pm Taizé ServiceRevd Skye Denno

St Thomas of Canterbury, Elsfield

7 Saturday

10.30-12.30 Arts and Crafts in Elsfield (ACE)

15 Sunday

10am All Age Common Worship..Revd Skye Denno

followed by APCM and bring-and-share lunch

4, 11, 18 & 25 March - Wednesdays at 8.30pm

Compline during Lent led by Revd Andy Gosler

Bible Readings for Parish Communion

8 Gen 12: 1-4a; Rom 4: 1-5, 13-17; John 3: 1-17

15 Exo 17: 1-7; Rom 5: 1-11; John 4: 5-42

22 Exo 2: 1-10; 2 Cor 1: 3-7; John 19: 25-27b

29 Eze 37: 1-14; Rom 8: 6-11; John 11: 1-45

Vicar

Revd Skye Denno202988

Churchwardens

Judith Piggott 764693; Eileen Palayiwa 725423

James Plunket 358170; Justine McCool 358578

OVER 50s CLUB

On Mon 9 Mar our talk will be on Fair Trade chocolate by Ann Sharman. On 23 Mar Jeff Roselaar will give us a talk entitled Winston Churchill Part 2.

WI MEETING

The next W.I. meeting will be our AGM on Tue 10 Mar at 7.30 in the Parish Hall. There will be *Poems and Prose* from our members. Come and join us!

THIS IS THE DAY

Come and join us at our Dementia Friendly Service on Wed 11 Mar 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 or any kind of special needs and will be followed by tea, activities and fellowship. Contact Val Stolton on 246157 or 07712 495406 or valstolton@aol.com.

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 dad or an auntie, 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. Messy Church this month is at 10am on Sun 15 Mar in the Parish Hall. We look forward to welcoming you.

COFFEE POT

Our next meeting will be for coffee on Mon 16 Mar 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 20 Apr (lunch), 18 May and 15 June.

ECUMENICAL QUIET DAY

The next EQD will be on Thur 19 Mar at Marston URC from 12 - 4pm. The day will be lead by Fran Walsh. All are welcome: please bring your own packed lunch.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE 2020

will be held at the church of St Anthony of Padua, Headley Way at 2pm on Fri 6 Mar. Churches Together in Marston and Northway invite you to join them for a service devised by the women of Zimbabwe on the theme *Rise! Take Your Mat and Walk*. Tea and cake will be served after the service.

THURSDAY EVENT

27 Feb - 12.30pm Lunch at Red Lion, Old Marston

26 Mar - 12.30pm Yarnton Nurseries - visit and lunch - ring Judith Piggott to book.

Come & Sing
Excerpts from Handel's Messiah

Directed by Benjamin Nicholas
 Director of Music, Merton College.
 at St Nicholas Church, Elsfeld Road.

Old Marston
 ALL WELCOME

SATURDAY 18 APRIL

2pm - 5:00pm

Rehearsal 2-4pm, tea break & performance
 4:30 - 5pm

Donations £10 per person. Performance free.
 In aid of the Memorial Garden fund

LENT COURSES

There will be three short courses to which anyone is welcome, exploring



LENT
Lent in the Benefice
 This year we are using 'The Kings Speech'
 a Lent course by Hilary Brand
 at Marston Vicarage (Elsfield Road, OX3 0PR)

Friday's 7:30 - 8:30pm
 6th March,
 13th March & 20th March,
 27th March & 3rd April

EVERY ONE is welcome
 And, every Wednesday during Lent
 Compline at Elsfeld, St Thomas at 8:30pm



Keeping
 a Holy Lent

topics of faith in a small group. *Superstar* is based on the 1970 musical, hosted by Ian Simpson (248962) at 10am and by Val Stolton (246157) at 7.30pm on Thursdays, starting on 5 Mar. *Finding a Voice* is based on the film *The King's Speech*. It will be hosted by Skye Denno (202988) at 7.30pm on

Fridays starting 6 Mar. A Tuesday Lent group starts at on 3 Mar at 8pm at Bricklayers Hse, Church Lane, hosted by Jane Campbell (240336). We shall be studying *Church Action on Poverty's Untold Stories* - based on Matthew's Gospel. Contact hosts for more information.



A time for Renewal
 and Refreshment

Saturday March 7th 12-4pm
 at St Nicholas Church

Starts and ends with a short evens prayer.
 Stay for all or for some of the time.
 Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) is
 available.
 This safe space welcomes ALL



ALLOTMENT MUSINGS

This is a great time of year to adopt an allotment. The weeds are still dormant and even a new plot will quickly be dug over and ready for planting next month. It's time to chit potatoes, plant sweet peas and tomatoes and lots of other plants on a warm window sill. Watch for worms and hedgehogs which might have overwintered in your compost heap.

MARSTON COMMUNITY GARDENING

Sat 29 Feb tree planting and mulching at Croft Rd Rec from 10am; Sun 1 Mar in Parish Hall - MCG's AGM 3-5pm: tea and cake! Al Morris 07804 847285

PARISH COUNCIL OPEN MEETING NOTES

At the February Parish Council meeting there were planning applications from 8 Haynes Road, to which the Council had no objections, 33 Elms Drive, to which the Council have concerns regarding the height of the building, and 139 Oxford Road, to which the Parish Council had concerns regarding overdevelopment and the parking arrangements. The City Council has informed the Parish Council that Manor Farm, 15A Mill Lane has been withdrawn.

Tony Harris of GallifordTry gave an update on the building of the Swan School. Everything is on schedule. SSE has installed a high voltage cable for Meadowbrook College. Tony emphasised that GallifordTry has no control over SSE works, which are outside their site boundary. They will, however, monitor the works and ensure that disruption is kept to a minimum.

Due to illness the talk by Julian Cooper (Countryside Officer for Oxford Direct Services) to the Council has been deferred to the March meeting.

The next open meeting will be on Mon 30 Mar at 7pm in the Mortimer Hall. The topics will be local environment, traffic, air pollution and parking. The Council agreed that, as before, fliers will be delivered to all households within the parish.

The next OxClean litterpick event will take place on Sat 29 Feb, meeting outside the Mortimer Hall at 10am. There will also be a chance to clean the road signs throughout the Parish: brushes, sacks and litterpickers will be provided.

The Parish Council meets next on Mon 2 Mar 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 leave a message; email via: clerk@oldmarston-pc.gov.uk. Information: www.oldmarston-pc.gov.uk, Facebook or Twitter.

Parish Clerk: Tim Cann - 01865 203139
 Chairman: Duncan Hatfield - 07706 998224

FROM THE REGISTERS

February 2020

Funerals

5 Feb Alan George Cross

Baptism

8 Feb Douglas William Wilson at Elsfeld

AND FINALLY ELSFIELD WINE-TASTING

Our thanks to everyone who made our wine tasting evening *such a huge success!* After costs we raised over £400 towards the running of the Village Room. We look forward to hosting this evening next year.

Parish Organisations

- Allotments Associations**
 Court Place Farm, Boults 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
 Eileen Palayiwa, 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:**
 OXSRAD 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, Boults 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: 07917 607949
- 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 0NX enquiries@craigholloway.co.uk
- Elderly wellbeing**
 ElWell: Helping people to stay independent. Mobility, balance, home
 adaptations, managing memory loss, nutrition and social connections.
 Home visits www.el-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**
 C S Boswell Independent funeral services 01865 553737
 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 DRX 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
- Yoga class on Wed evenings 7-8.30 in St Nic's Parish Hall**
 Jackie jackieyogaflow@gmail.com or 07747 070111

Copy deadline for April's issue is
 Thursday 12 March