

MARSTON TIMES

March 2019

stnicholasmarston.org.uk

30p

Bangalore, India

The weather is warm, but not too hot. It's 8pm and the roads are busy. The sounds of cars, scooters and Autos manically beeping their horns can be heard from our hotel room. It's a familiar sound and one that I have come to enjoy over the past two weeks. Bangalore is a fast growing city, where there are many opportunities and rapid financial expansion, but also hardships and poverty. It is a city that wears her heart on her sleeve. We have found the people to be warm and friendly and happy to say hello.

St Nicholas, Marston has had a link with the Christian charity Divya Shanthi since 2000, although the organisation itself was started 50 years ago by Revd Vinay Samuel and his wife Coleen. Visiting Divya Shanthi has been an eye-opening experience; what Joel and I have found, in essence, is a loving, caring community. Divya Shanthi is a school for 500 children, all of whom are drawn from the poor areas of the city; it provides social care to 1000 families; it has a children and toddler centre; is a 24hr care home for children; it is a theological training centre, a women's centre and has a newly opened medical centre, providing cheap medical expertise to those who otherwise could not afford it.

Under the umbrella of Divya Shanthi, several churches operate. Their pastors are employed, supported and nurtured by the organisation. Some of our most moving experiences here involved spending two evenings with these local pastors - visiting families and offering prayer to those who were sick. When one family heard we were doing the rounds several more would invite us into their homes. Hospitality is a huge gift here: everywhere we have gone we have been looked after and fed very well!

A group from St Nicholas church set up a trust to support the charity, encouraging people to sponsor children whose own families cannot contribute to their education. These children live at Divya Shanthi full time. We met these children and their relatives (some of whom have been tracked down through Colleen's tireless detective work) and were blown away by their appreciation and sheer joy to meet us.

Joel and I came here to learn. Although we were asked to preach, lead workshops, teach and give support to the excellent (95) staff, we knew we would be the ones most changed by the experience and return to St Nicholas with a renewed vision. And this has proved to be true. Because the most striking things about this community are that it is held together by honest love; everyone is afforded respect; lost dignity is returned and hope is restored.

Divya Shanthi means Peace of God and it a community that truly shares the peace of God with others. Although it is a Christian community, there are those among the staff and students who belong to other faiths, but who contribute to the common goal of sharing God's peace.

I travelled 5000 miles to find a community of brothers and sisters with whom to share a vision of God's peace. And what does that peace look like to me? It looks like a place of hospitality; it looks like a place that finds joy in the few material possessions it has; it looks like a shelter from the storm (especially, in Joel's case, if that storm is food poisoning); it looks like a place united by love, and it looks like a place where people feel valued and appreciated just for being themselves. What does God's peace look like to you? I would love to hear your experiences.



As you read this I pray you feel God's peace surround you. Skye

Parish Calendar for March 2019

St Nicholas, Marston

3 The Sunday next before Lent

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

10am All Age Service

6pm Healing ServiceRevd Skye Denno

6 Ash Wednesday

9.30am Ashes and Holy Communion

7.30pm Ashes and Holy Communion

10 The First Sunday of Lent

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

10am Parish Communion (CW) Revd Skye Denno

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

followed by Pints of View in the Red Lion

13 Wednesday

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

17 The Second Sunday of Lent

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

10am Parish Communion (CW)Revd Skye Denno

6pm Eat, Love, PrayNeil Barker and team

20 Wednesday

9.30am Holy Communion (CW) Revd Skye Denno

24 The Third Sunday of Lent

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

10am Parish Communion (CW).....Revd S Bullock

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

27 Wednesday

9.30am Holy Communion (CW) Revd Skye Denno

31 Mothering Sunday

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

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

6pm Taizé ServiceRevd Skye Denno

Bible Readings for Parish Communion

10 Deu 26:1-11; Rom 10:8b-13; Luke 4:1-13

17 Gen 15:1-12, 17-18; Phil 3:17-4:1; Luke 13:31-end

24 Isa 55:1-9; 1 Cor 10: 1-13; Luke 13:1-9

31 Jos 5: 9-12; 2 Cor 5: 16-end; Luke 15: 1-3, 11b-end

St Thomas of Canterbury, Elsfield

Compline will be celebrated through Lent on Weds

13, 20 and 27 March at 8.30pm.

23 10am Churchyard and church spring-clean

24 Sunday

10am All Age Service, followed by

12pm PC AGM and shared sandwich lunch

Vicar

Revd Skye Denno202988

Churchwardens

James Lawrie 276177; Eileen Palayiwa 725423

James Plunket 358170; Justine McCool 358578

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ECUMENICAL QUIET DAY

Our next EQD will be on 21 Mar at Marston URC, 352 Marston Road, OX3 0JB 12 noon - 4pm; led by Revd Jean King. All are very welcome. Please bring your own lunch.

COFFEE POT

We next meet on Mon 11 Mar in the Parish Hall from 10.30 - 12pm. It's an opportunity to meet others and to share news and stories with one another. Please phone Eileen Palayiwa 725423 or David Blair 246959 to arrange a lift. Further planned dates for 2019 are 8 Apr (a lunch), 6 May, 3 June and 1 July.

WI MEETING

The next W.I. meeting is on Tues 12 Mar in the Parish Hall. It is our AGM: members and non-members all welcome: please come and join us!

OVER 50s CLUB

On 4 Mar Jeff Rozelaar is going to give a talk titled *An Actor's Life for Me*. On 18 Mar we are having a talk called *Remap* about custom-made equipment for people with disabilities.

OXCLEAN

Come and join us for our annual litter pick in Old Marston. Meet us on Sat 2 Mar at 10am at Mortimer Hall. Litterpickers and sacks supplied and bags of rubbish are collected by the city council. For more information call 07706 998224 or email info@oldmarston-pc.gov.uk or just turn up!

MARSTON COMMUNITY GARDEN GROUP

The date of the AGM had to be changed and will now take place in the Parish Hall on 3 Mar 3-5pm: all welcome.

Two projects the group wants to publicise widely are free compost bins to Marston residents and free trees for planting in gardens, either with or without help. It needs as many people as possible to donate space in their gardens to plant as many trees as possible. This is needed urgently to mitigate climate change, control temperature extremes and improve air quality, provide shelter and food for many species of wildlife, including birds, bees and insects...Tell us whether you would like a compost bin and/or trees. katejorobinson@gmail.com inarticulateal@yahoo.co.uk

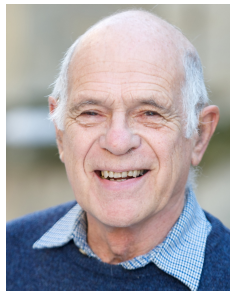
THE SHOTOVER SINGERS

Come and hear a choral concert of songs old and new by the Shotover Singers with refreshments to follow at Elsfield Church on Sat, 23 Mar at 7.15pm. Entrance is free: donations to the Church Stonework Repair Fund.

MICHAEL GREEN

Marston has been home to many remarkable people, but perhaps few who lived life with such passion as Michael Green. When he and Rosemary moved here in 1996 many were delighted to welcome them back to Oxford to begin a new phase of life, not in retirement but continuing their life-long commitment to share the good news of Jesus Christ. Michael had enjoyed a distinguished career as scholar, theologian, writer, college principal and pastor. He was an accomplished sportsman and loved his family, but perhaps his greatest pleasure was to see a life transformed by the love of Jesus. So into his late eighties he continued to write and to lead evangelistic missions around the world with characteristic humour and graciousness, showing the very nature of Christ through his words and life. He constantly gave praise and encouragement to younger people and his example inspired countless others – as can be seen from many tributes published elsewhere.

Michael Green
20 Aug 1930 - 6 Feb 2019




EAT PRAY LOVE (OXFORD)
A CHRISTIAN GATHERING FOR ALL

A café style meeting place
Conversations with the gospels
Contemporary worship
Reflections on living for Christ

6.00pm to 7.15pm
3rd Sundays of the month
(February to October)

St Nicholas' Parish Hall
Elsfield Road OX3 0PR

EatPrayLoveOxford.Wordpress.Com



FROM THE REGISTERS

December 2018

Wedding

Thomas Joseph Littlejohns & Jemima Roas Hume

Funerals

17 Dec Janet Justice

19 Dec Mary Tansley

22 Dec Mavis Jones

January 2019

Baptism

Ella Rose Kerry

Funerals

16 Jan Christine Carter

18 Jan Jack Payne

PARISH COUNCIL FEBRUARY MEETING NOTES

At the February Parish Council meeting the Council viewed a planning application for Cumberledge House in Cumberledge Close. This is to erect nine residential dwellings; 2 x 2bed, 4 x 3 bed and 3 x 4 bed. Although the Council is aware of the need for such properties, it has concerns over the extra traffic that would be generated, especially through an already dangerous 'S' bend in Mill Lane, as well as overdevelopment of the site and the privacy of residents in neighbouring properties in Mill Lane.

Oxford City Council advised the Parish Council that applications for 34B Oxford Road and 7 Nicholas Avenue have both been approved.

The Parish Council also looked at the potential development in lower Elsfield, which is part of the South Oxfordshire District Council's Local Plan for 2036. The Parish Council had great concerns over potential flooding effecting Marston and the surrounding area, as well as overdevelopment of the site, the loss of greenbelt land, the decrement or potential loss of the SSSI (Sydlings Copse).

The Council decided to defer electing a vice-chairman until the May meeting, when all the positions and representations are decided.

The Parish Council is also concerned about the local environment. An Environment Policy was adopted and agreed to investigate possible ways to use more sustainable practices. With this in mind, it was agreed to purchase several tablets. This is to reduce the amount of paper used for meetings, although there will obviously be an initial cost, this will be clawed back over time by the reduced need to buy paper, ink, envelopes, etc.

Please note that OXCLEAN will take place on Saturday 2nd March, meeting at 10am in the Mortimer Hall, all welcome.

The Council meets next on Monday 4 March in the Mortimer Hall at 7.30pm. All Parishioners are welcome to attend meetings.

The Clerk can be contacted by phone Mon to Wed 9am -1pm; otherwise a message can be left or email sent: clerk@oldmarston-pc.gov.uk. For information go to 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 Organisations

Allotments Associations

Court Place Farm, Boults Lane. Secretary: Mr. T. Cann.
Sunday mornings 8.30 am – 11.00 am01865 202104
Mill Lane Chairman: Dr. M. Unkovskaya07771 702548
Treasurer Dana Vlad07919 493580
Secretary Christine Mitchell07789 991051

Baby and Toddler Club

Gill Hale, 64 Arlington Drive01865 248260

Bellringers:

Practice Friday 7.30pm Learners welcome
Anthony Hughes, 2, Oxford Road01865 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 Palayiwa, 27 Ouseley Close01865 725423

Rainbow, Brownie, Guide and Ranger Units

Evenings throughout the week. Adult volunteers as well as girls welcomed!
District Commissioner, Lesley Dentry,01865 07765 418067

Leisure:

OXS RAD Sports and Leisure Centre,
Court Place Farm, Marsh Lane.01865 741336

Library (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 pm01865 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 Road01865 727995

Over 50's Club

Alternate Mondays, 2.30 pm in Church Hall.
Secretary, Jane Madden01865 209086

Oxford City Council (Marston Representatives)

Mary Clarkson, 8 Dunstan Road, Oxford OX3 9BY01865 751493
Mick Haines, 3 Croft Road01865 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 parents01865 726600

Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Tim Cann, 8 Nicholas Avenue01865 203139
(Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 9.00 am – 1.00 pm)
Chairman: Duncan Hatfield07706 998224
Vice Chairman: Tony Greenfield..... 07876 205200

Pre-school at Mortimer Hall

open 9 sessions a week07818 236348

Royal British Legion Club Hall:

Steward01865 243991

Schools

Friends of St Nicholas School01865 242838

Scouts — 43rd Oxford (St. Nicholas) Scout Group, Boults Lane

Chair, Tracy McAteer07714 653088 tracymcateer@hotmail.co.uk
Group Leaders, Rob & Lisa Pocock
07841 577567 lisapocock@hotmail.co.uk
Beaver Scouts Leader, Sue Springett01865 251515
Cub Scouts Leader, Karen Holliday01865 760559
Scouts Leader, Linda Phillips07804 925705

St. Nicholas Church Hall and Committee Room

Alison Heard, 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 Close07979 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

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73, Coniston Ave. Headington OX3 OAW..... 07725 819264

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Complementary Medicine

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www.oxford-therapies.com 07913 503257

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 ONXenquiries@craigholloway.co.uk

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

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

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S & R Childs NAFD, part of Dignity plc. A British Company

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Hair and Beauty

Dee: Fully qualified, insured ladies mobile hairdresser.....07736 668681

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

Monumental Mason

Reeves Memorials: New memorials, removal for burials, added

inscriptions & renovations.

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

Locksmith & speciality car keys

Keyfit Security Products: 24h emergency call-out for vehicles & houses

13 Salford Rd, Old Marston OX3 ORX 01865 242898

Pharmacy

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

Marston Pharmacy: 11 Old Marston Road. 01865 243824

Plumbing, Heating & Gas

A. Exell: Gas Safe installer,

34 Campion Way, Witney OX28 1ES..... 07779 298030

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 April's issue is
Thursday 14 March