

St Nicholas, Marston and St Thomas of Canterbury, Elsfield

MARSTON TIMES

June 2022 stnicholasmarston.org.uk Donations welcome

I wonder if you are one of those people who has a tidy set of matching mugs or cups and saucers in your kitchen cupboard that are perfect for bringing out for visitors? I am not one of those people, although I often wish I were! Instead of a kitchen cupboard of matching mugs, mine is filled with a real eclectic mix of all sorts – shapes, sizes, colours and patterns. This doesn't create the impression of an ordered kitchen in the vicarage, but it does have some advantages. This hotchpotch of mugs is great for focusing my mind, reflecting, praying and storytelling as I use them through the day; they are often good conversation starters as I offer them to guests. Each one of my mugs points me towards something seemingly quite ordinary, but which, on reflection, may appear quite profound. Sometimes I choose a mug that matches my mood and sometimes I choose one that reminds me important truths can be found in the ordinary and the everyday.

My first mug of the day is the Rainbow one. It's the one I drink my morning tea from and always makes me think about how beautiful, diverse and awesome God's world is, but also how hurtful we can be to each other if we don't agree, or think difference is bad. It was purchased at the start of lockdown, when rainbows were displayed everywhere. How might I live during this day to celebrate diversity?



Hares feature on several of the mugs which were gifts to me from family or friends; they remind me of all those in my care whom I love and who give me life. There is one that includes a picture Casper recently created at school. When I drink from it, I give thanks for family and friends (and furry companions) who help me through dark and difficult times.



And then there are the mugs which remind me of my calling, one which was given to me by my Nan. It features a picture of her church back in



Wivenhoe, the first Anglican church I encountered and loved. I have a mug which was given to me on my 40th birthday by my big sister that jokingly says 'God's Right Hand Woman' and there are others decorated with encouraging Bible quotes. These remind me of the One I follow, who gives me strength and peace, and why I am here serving the parishes of Elsfield and Marston.

I also have mugs emblazoned with funny words or heroes from popular films. Star Wars and Mr Men seem to be the most popular and depending on my mood a guest may be offered Darth Vader or Mr Cool! I wonder, if all of us look in our kitchen cupboards, what stories might unfold there that ground us in the world, in the relationships that sustain us and the tasks we are all called to do? As you journey through June, take time to be refreshed, not just physically but spiritually too, as you drink and reflect on the blessings of the ordinary.

With blessings,
Revd Skye



BENEFICE OF MARSTON & ELSFIELD



Here at St Nicholas and St Thomas, we will be offering a mixture of online and in-person services.

All the details can be found on our website - stnicholasmarston.org.uk Or call Alison on 01865 580354.

Wednesday 9:30am Holy Communion at St Nicholas Church

Wednesday 9pm Compline LIVE online St Nicholas Church Facebook page

Sunday 5th June - PENTECOST

9am Short *Taize* Communion Service at St Nicholas Church. **The service is LIVE streamed onto YouTube.**

10:30am **Green Church**. Start with prayer at the Memorial Garden and end with tea and coffee in Marston Eco Hub (Vicarage)

6pm **CHORAL EVENSONG at St Nicholas Church**
Celebrating the QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE.

Sunday 12th June - TRINITY SUNDAY

8am **BCP** Communion Service at St Nicholas Church

10am Holy Communion at St Nicholas Church.
The service is LIVE streamed onto YouTube.

10am **MESSY CHURCH** in the Church Hall

Sunday 19th June - 1st Sunday after Trinity

8am **BCP** Communion Service at St Nicholas Church.
The service is LIVE streamed onto YouTube.

4pm SERVICE in the Church Hall - with The Band

Sunday 26th June - 2nd Sunday after Trinity - Andy's last day with us!

8am **BCP** Communion Service at St Nicholas Church

10am *Celtic* Holy Communion at St Nicholas Church with the Jr and adult choir. **The service is LIVE streamed onto YouTube.**

6pm **HYMNS & PIMMS at St Thomas Church**

What to quote in June?

Sonnet by John Clare

I love to see the summer beaming forth
And white wool rock clouds sailing to the north
I love to see the wild flowers come again
And Mare blobs stain with gold the meadow drain
And water lilies whiten on the flood
Where reed clumps rustle like a wind shook wood
Where from her hiding place the Moor Hen pushes
And seeks her flag nest floating in bull rushes
I like the willow leaning half way o'er
The clear deep lake to stand upon its shore
I love the hay grass when the flower head swings
To summer winds and insects happy wings
That sport about the meadow the bright day
And see bright beetles in the clear lake play

What to see in June?

Dog rose and creamy scented elder blossom adorn hedgerows this month. Look out for speckled wood butterflies, common in parks and gardens, feeding on aphid honeydew. The swifts are back in Marston and often form "screaming parties" at dusk, close to



their nesting sites. Swifts have a distinctive crescent shape and are very fast fliers. At dusk you may see bats feasting on insects. June can be hot and dry, leaving wildlife struggling to find water so do keep a saucer or two topped up in your garden. This will help both birds and mammals such as hedgehogs and other night-time visitors to your garden.

JUBILEE CONTESTS

THURSDAY JUNE 2ND

JUBILEE BAKE OFF
COME JOIN IN WITH A JUBILEE INSPIRED BAKE OFF
BAKE WHATEVER YOU CAN BUT IT HAS TO BE JUBILEE THEMED.
WINNER WILL RECEIVE A LITTLE TROPHY AND £50 BAR TAB.

CORONATION CROWN
CAN YOU MAKE THE BEST CORONATION CROWN?
MAKE IT OUT OF WHATEVER YOU HAVE AT HOME
WINNER WILL RECEIVE LOTS OF SWEETIES AND £20 CASH

EVERYONE BRING THEIR CREATION TO OUR JUBILEE GARDEN PARTY AND JUDGING WILL BEGIN AT 5PM

What to cook?

Rhubarb Cake

Ingredients

For the cake:

300gm prepared rhubarb
Juice and zest of ½ orange
165gm self-raising flour
150gm sugar
3 large eggs
2 tsp vanilla extract

For the topping:

30g butter
2 rounded tbsps
1 rounded tbsps soft brown sugar
2 tsps ground ginger
Icing sugar to dust

Method

Heat the oven to 180C/170 fan/gas mark 4.
Grease and line a 23cm square cake tin or one roughly the same size. If using a bigger tin the cake will cook more quickly.
Make the topping by rubbing in the flour and butter to form fine breadcrumbs; stir in the brown sugar, orange rind and ginger. Set aside.
Trim and chop the rhubarb into approx. 1inch/3cm pieces. If it is a fat piece, slice lengthwise. Place in a bowl with the orange juice and set aside.
In a clean bowl beat the butter and sugar together and then beat in the eggs, flour and vanilla extract. Fold in half the rhubarb and gently spread the mixture into the cake tin. Scatter over the rest of the rhubarb. Sprinkle the topping evenly over the mixture and bake for 40 – 50 minutes until golden on the top and the sponge is cooked. To test



whether it is done, gently push a knife into the centre and if there is cake mix stuck to it when removed, pop cake back for another 5 minutes or so. Leave the cake to cool for about 10 mins and then sprinkle the top with icing sugar. Serve warm with crème fraiche or Greek yoghurt.



Inflatables **Disco**

Jubilee Garden Party

BBQ **Pizza**

Official Jubilee Beacon

THURSDAY 2ND June 1PM - 7pm @ RED LION OLD MARSTON

Official Jubilee Beacon will be lite at 9:45pm

THE QUEEN'S PLATINUM JUBILEE 2022

Choral Evensong



Sunday 5th June 2022 St Nicholas, Old Marston
6pm

Celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee




.... and Pentecost Sunday



All welcome to join us for this celebration with well-loved words and worshipful music

stnicholasmarston.org.uk

St Nicholas Marston

GREEN CHURCH

Outdoor services of gentle reconnection with our roots

On the **First Sunday** of the month

Meet at 10:30 in the Memorial Garden of St Nicholas Church for welcome and prayer, guided community creation-care activities, and coffee at the Marston Eco Hub (Vicarage OX3 0PR)



More details on our church website at <https://stnicholasmarston.org.uk/>

Celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Garden PARTY & Open Vicarage





SATURDAY, 4TH JUNE
11-2:30 PM

Venue: Marston Vicarage, OX3 0PR
FREE COMMUNITY EVENT
BBQ, Face painting, Crafts




Everyone Welcome
Bring a pudding to share

Made with PosterMyWise.com

St Thomas of Canterbury in Elsfield

Hymns & PIMM'S

All are Welcome

Along with singing our favourite hymns we will enjoy a glass or two of Pimm's (fruity version available too!)

This will also be **Andy Gosler's last Sunday** with us as he finishes his curacy and returns to his local parish church.

Come along and wish him well!

Sunday 26th of June at 6pm

Andy Gosler will complete his 4 years with us as curate at the end of June and returns to his own church, St Andrew's, Headington Quarry. Come and join him on 26 June, when he will preside over the 8am and 10am services at St Nicholas, then joins us for **Hymns and Pimms** at St Thomas' Elsfield at 6pm. Please come and mark the occasion by attending one, two or more of these services.

Blessing Boxes

St. Nicholas
Marston

In partnership with St
Nicholas' Primary School



We need shoe boxes and gift bags which we will fill with toiletry items such as:

- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes
- Deodorants
- Shampoos
- Shower gel
- Bubble bath
- Pull up nappies
- Sanitary towels
- Washing detergent



These boxes and bags will then be distributed to local families

Please drop off donations at the front in St Nicholas church (OX3 0PR)

St. Nicholas
Marston

Pause for Thought

- Throughout this year, guests have been invited to help us dig deeper with talks on a variety of subjects, following a Q&A times.
- Here are the remaining ones this year - don't miss out!
- All are welcome and refreshments will be provided.



Pause for thought painting by Akash Bhisikar

June Sunday 12th - 6pm - **Praying with Icons**
- with Revd. Cannon Richard Peers

July Saturday 9th - 10am - **Jonah: The Big Fish, Race Relations & Comedy**
- with Joel Denno

November Thursday 24th - 7:30pm - **Old Marston During the English Civil War**
- with Colonel Nicolas Lipscombe

All events are held at St Nicholas Church on Elsfield Road.
Do look at our Website for details about Speakers

Giving Garage at Marston Eco Hub OX3 0PR
& Loaves & Fishes Community Larder
Every Saturday 9-11am
& 1st Sat of month 12-2pm
Reach Skye on 202988 or

St. Nicholas
Marston

Pause for prayer 2022



Throughout the year there have been times for us to meet with others to pray.
Here are the remaining dates...

June Wed 15th - 6:30-7:30pm
- An hour of silent prayer

July Sat 30th - 12:30pm Picnic Lunch & Prayer
At the Vicarage with a time of Open Prayer

August Mon 22nd - 7pm Celtic Evening Prayer

September Thurs 15th - 6:30-7:30pm
- An hour of silent prayer

October Sat 15th - 8-9:30am Breakfast Prayer
Please let Alison know in advance if you would like to attend.

November Wed 9th - 7:30-9pm. Guided Prayer.
Reflective prayer with music, readings & poems ending with Compline at 9pm

December Thurs 8th - Celtic Advent Quiet Day with David Cole

Restoration of a chest tomb



A large limestone chest tomb in the churchyard, close to the Church to the right of the door (see photos), needs significant repair; it was listed Grade II in 1985. A quote states it

will cost £7,884 to repair the tomb properly. A very generous donor has already agreed to pay half this, so we need to raise the remaining £3,942. It is listed as mid 17th century but its inscription has worn away, so we do not know whose tomb it is. We are investigating possible grants but are not optimistic. If anyone knows anything more about this tomb or if you would like to give something towards the repair of this tomb, please contact Skye, Geoff Hale (our Treasurer), either of the church wardens or Alison, (administrator@stnicholasmarston.org.uk).

Lunch Club in June

This month's Lunch Club will be held on **Fri 24 June at 12.30pm**. The menu will be meatballs in tomato sauce, mashed potatoes and vegetables (the vegetarian option will be falafels in tomato sauce). Pudding is hot cross bun bread and butter pudding or bananas, with custard. Suggested donation of £3 as usual. Please book through Alison at the Parish Office on 01865 580354.

Old Marston Library



We still need more volunteers to keep our library fully open, particularly on Tuesdays 5.30-7, but at other times too. If you could spare 90 minutes each month, please email janlawrie@btinternet.com

St. Nicholas Music

MUSIC FOR A SUMMER EVENING 2022

6pm Saturday 18 June

Join us at St. Nicholas church, Marston to hear musicians from the local community and enjoy refreshments during the interval.

There will be a retiring collection for the Divya Shanthi Trust divyashanthi.org

Free entry

StNicholasMarston.org.uk

[stnicholasmarston](https://www.facebook.com/stnicholasmarston)
[divyashanthi.trust](https://www.facebook.com/divyashanthi.trust)

Divya Shanthi

WI

Our next meeting will be on Tue 14 June at 7.30pm, in the Church Hall. Please come for some Fun, Food and Frolics! Please come and join us and celebrate Her Majesty the Queen's Platinum Jubilee!

Coffee Pot

Coffee Pot will be held on 20 June from 10.30am to 12 noon. This group is primarily for those who have been bereaved but we welcome all who would like to meet more people. For further details please contact Eileen Palayiwa on 01865 725423 or eileenpalayiwa@yahoo.com.

Love to sing?

Junior & Youth Choir

Every Friday
At 6pm
St Nicholas Church

All young people welcome
Junior Choir from 7 to 11
Youth Choir from 11 to 18

For more information please contact
Neil Barker:
musicdirector@stnicholasmarston.org.uk

Concerts are returning to St Nicholas church

We shall have had two concerts in two months at St Nicholas Marston. One was given by an international cellist in May and our **Music for a Summer Evening** takes place on Sat 18 June at 6pm. Entrance will be free with retiring collections. All welcome. For more information see the posters in this magazine/in the church porch or contact musicdirector@stnicholasmarston.org.uk

Old Marston Parish Council Elections 2022

A thank you from PC Chairman Duncan Hadfield to all who stood at the May 2022 elections: particular thanks to Mick Cadd and Alan Spence, previously Parish Councillors, but not elected this time.

The following residents will serve on Old Marston Parish Council for the next four years are:

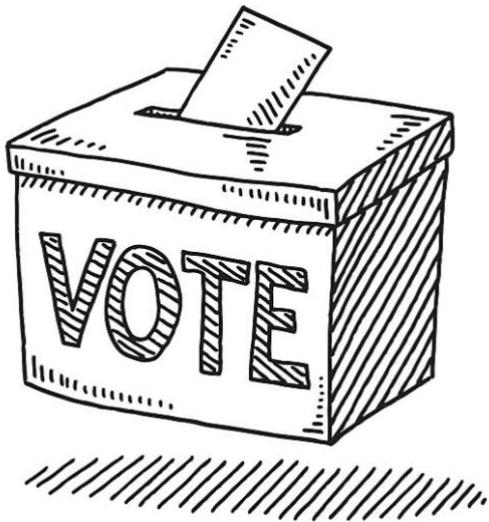
Mick Bates – I am originally from Rose Hill but have lived in Old Marston since 2015. A mechanic by trade, I am keen to help in the local community and joined the Parish Council to do this.

Peter Cox – I have lived in Old Marston since 1980 and was accepted onto the parish council in; I have been chair of the Parish Council's Pavilion, Recreation Grounds & Cemetery Committee for the last few years.

Skye Denno – I'm the vicar at St Nicholas church and co-founder of Marston Eco Hub. I serve this Parish with an inclusive and welcoming ethos, and care deeply about creation (environmental concerns) and those facing barriers, prejudice and isolation.

Pat Hall – I have lived in Old Marston for fifty years and have been a member of the Parish Council for ten years, currently holding the position of vice-chair. I'm a committed member of the PC which is working hard for the community.

Duncan Hatfield – I came to Marston in the 1990s to help with a local youth club and have been a part of the Parish Council for sixteen years, chairman for



four year and built their website. Our community is facing many challenges: proposed developments, increased traffic, threats to green spaces and residents not listened to.

Charlie Haynes – I was a member of the Parish Council for over 30 years and was the vice chairman and then chairman for many years. I feel I can offer the Parish my vast knowledge and experience gained over the years I served on the Council.

Mary James – I was born and educated in Oxford, originally worked as a Transport Planner in London, returned to Oxford as a teacher and have lived in Oxford Road for fifteen years. I am interested in the development of our community and have been a member of the Parish Council for the last four years.

Louise Milford – I trained as a nurse in the late 1970s, have been a resident of Old Marston since 1991 and worked part time running a private medical practice, retiring in September. I was co-opted onto the Parish Council in January 2019 and am on the finance and environment committees.

Alistair Morris – I have lived in Old Marston for 16 years and been on the parish council for the last 4 years as the official Green Party representative. I am absolutely passionate about the environment and climate change and do all I can both to mitigate the climate crisis and help local residents adapt to it. I am now also a City Councillor.

Louise Upton – I have lived in Old Marston for 18 years; as a scientist at Oxford University I teach medical students. For several years I have been a City Councillor for an adjacent ward, and I am on the management committee for Marston's village hall, Mortimer Hall.

Charlotte Vinnicombe – I've been active as a Parish Councillor and a member of the parish council environment committee, standing up for residents at city council planning meetings, fighting to preserve our green spaces, tackling traffic problems, and working hard to keep Marston a great place to live.

Peter Williams – I have been a resident of Old Marston for over forty years and a Parish Councillor for eleven years. I was a local GP and so know well the area, its social and medical needs.

Love to sing? 

Why not join our choir?

Come to St Nicholas Church on Thursdays at 6.30pm to find out more

All ages welcome from 18 to 80+



For more information please contact
Neil Barker:
musicdirector@stnicholasmarston.org.uk

Parish Organisations

Allotments Associations

- Court Place Farm, Boults Lane. Chair: Jane Wilson
membership@cpf-allotments.org.uk
- Sunday mornings 8.30 am – 11.00 am07530 068977
Mill Lane Chairman: Dr. M. Unkovskaya07771 702548
Treasurer Dana Vlad07919 493580
Secretary Christine Mitchell07789 991051
- Baby and Toddler Club Weds 10-11.30 term time in Parish Hall
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 Barker01865 604617 or 07774 050056
- Coffee Pot
Coffee morning, monthly, Monday
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,07765 418067
- Leisure:
OXSRAD Sports and Leisure Centre,
Court Place Farm, Marsh Lane.01865 741336
- Library (next to Mortimer Hall) Currently Click & Collect ONLY
Tuesday 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm
Thursday 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm
Friday 10.00 am to 12.00 noon
Saturday 9.30 am to 12.30 pm01865 726823
- Hedena Health Medical Centre.01865 227788
- Marston Community Gardening
Alistair Morris01865 724081
Kate Robinson01865 766620
- Marston Saints Football Club
John Page.www.msfc.org.uk
- Mortimer Hall (Village Hall)
Chris Crane, 2 Raymund Road01865 727995
- 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 Lygo07765 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
- 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
Group Scout Leader, Tim Greaves tim.greaves@keble.oxon.org
Beaver Scout Leader, Sue Springett01865 251515
Cub Scout Leader, Rachel Vallancevallance.whanau@gmail.com
Scouts Leader, Linda Phillips07804 925705
- St. Nicholas Church Hall and Committee Room
Alison Gray, Parish Office01865 580354
- Women's Institute
Future meetings planned
President, Sue Hawes01865 247106
Secretary.....

Trade Directory

- Airport transfers
Colin Dobson (taxi to anywhere).....07429 349187
MJM Airport transfers.....07983 225474
- Architectural services for Planning Permissions/ Building Regulations
Digby Architectural: 4 Broughton Close07979 756918
- Building/Builders Services
Colin Simpson: High Class painting, decorating and coving etc:
10 Dent's Close OX3 ONP01865 742842
Trevor Dines: No job too small - plumbing, complete bathrooms
from fitting a door to building an extension. Free estimates.
8, Raymund Road01865 452851, 07889 263140
Daniel Kelly: Painting and decorating services:07917 607949
- Cleaning Carpets & Upholstery
Grimebusters: Quality carpet, rug & upholstery cleaning at competitive rates. Free estimates01865 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 installer01865 728729
All work guaranteed. 33, Salford Road07538 382683
..... brian.r.turner@ntlworld.com
Craig Holloway Electrical Ltd: 07868 706392
12 Arlington Dr, Marston OX3 OSH.....enquiries@craigholloway.co.uk
- Elderly wellbeing
ElWell: Helping people to stay independent. Mobility, balance, home adaptations, managing memory loss, nutrition and social connections.
Home visitswww.el-well.com01865 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 4LY01865 570000
- Hair and Beauty
Fiona's Hair Salon:
Salford Road, Old Marston OX3 0RX01865 241632
- 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 1RL01865 251231
- Pharmacy
Marston Pharmacy: 11 Old Marston Road.....01865 243824
- Plumbing, Heating & Gas
Lemarsh Building Services – plumbing and heating
22 Marsh Lane.....01865 761896, 07484 274331
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 Road01865 244608
- 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 7-8pm in St Nic's Parish Hall or online
Jackie.....jackieyogaflow@gmail.com or 07747 070111

Copy deadline for September's (print) issue is
Thursday 13 August