

# Marton Newsletter

December/January 2023/24



Joan Sherratt sends her seasons greetings to all her Marton friends and a special thank you to all of you who have so ably supported last year's projects and activities

Cheryl and Alan would like to wish all of you a very Happy Christmas and New Year



Happy Christmas to all past and present Martonians from Biddy and Roy



Barney and Jo Shirlaw send all their lovely friends and neighbours best wishes for a wonderful Christmas and a peaceful and happy New Year

Dear Marton, Happy Christmas and a peaceful and healthy 2024



Jenny & Joe Walsh



Happy Christmas & New Year to all our friends and neighbours.

Best wishes  
Ian & Celia



Merry Christmas and all the best for a happy 2024 in Marton

From Faye, Dave, Emmett & Rowan x

A very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year, to all my dear friends and neighbours in Marton  
Audrey xx



Carol & Ralph Denton send warmest Christmas and New Year Greetings to all their Marton friends

Wishing a joyful jingly Christmas to all our Martonshire friends  
Love from John & Judy xx





**A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS** to everyone in Marton, especially friends and volunteers of Marton Museum of Country Bygones. Also to all my friends and neighbours at Lairhillock Park, Marton. A Happy New Year to you all too.

**Ann Gregory**



**Happy Christmas** and best wishes for the coming years to all Martonians.



I have loved living in the village for 24 years, but time for a new adventure with Richard. I am sure you will give a big welcome to Gary and Sarah who are moving into 'The Firs' on 6th December.

**Sue and Richard xx**



Although it has been nearly 7 years since we left the village, thank you Marton for always making us feel so welcome when we visit. Wishing you all a wonderful happy healthy Christmas With love from the Edwards (Martonians at heart) ' xxxxx



**St Esprit Christmas Scenes**



# Marton Diary

## December

8	Village Cinema: <i>Sunshine on Leith</i>	20.00
10	Church: <i>All Age</i>	11.15
17	Church: <i>Carols and Nativity</i>	18.00
22	Church: <i>All Age</i>	11.15
24	Church: <i>Bethlehem Midnight Service</i>	21.30
25	Church: <i>Christmas Day Service</i>	11.00
26	Marton Walkers Boxing Day Walk	11.00
31	Church: <i>Long Itchington</i>	9.30

## January

5	Mobile Library	11.30
7	Church: <i>Holy Communion</i>	11.15
7	Church: <i>In the Spirit</i>	18.30
9	Marton Parish Council	19.30
11	Retirees' Tea	14.00
12	Cinema: <i>A Haunting in Venice</i>	20.00
14	Marton Walkers Christmas Lunch	12.30
14	Church: <i>All Age</i>	11.15
21	Church: <i>Holy Communion</i>	11.15
28	Marton Walkers	10.00
28	Church: <i>All Age</i>	11.15
29	Marton Local History Group	19.30
30	Church Coffee Morning	10.30

## Events



**Sign up for the village group email, which is invaluable for keeping you in touch with village life**

*If you want to be added to the group contact:*  
**admin@martonvillage.com**

## Marton Parish Council

**7.30pm Tuesday  
9 January 2024  
at the Village Hall**

***NB Please note the deadline for the February Newsletter is Sunday 21 January 2024.***

# Marton News

## Newsbites

### Street Sweeping

Rugby Borough Council is still committed to sweeping the streets once a month, though, they have said that personnel shortages means that they sometimes miss a visit. It has been suggested that if they let the parish council know in advance, villagers could be informed to keep cars off the road, where possible. Result—a clean gutter!

### Saving Slippy Marton

We can also help without RBC.



The falling leaves in the village turn into slush that can prove to be a slippery hazard as winter progresses. Where possible, give the paths outside your house a good clean and help prevent accidents.

## Marton Community Network – We can still help!

*As many of you are aware, before lockdown started a small group representing the Parish Council, Church and Village Hall met to discuss how to support the Marton community. We all believe it's beneficial to work together and support each other.*

So if you need some help with:

- **Picking up shopping or prescriptions**
- **Posting mail**
- **A friendly phone call**
- **Urgent supplies**
- **Transport to a medical appointment...or just a lift to the shops**

*Please make contact with either:*

**Helen on:** 07793 213048 or  
Helen.Keeves@hotmail.co.uk  
**or Rob on:** 07764 377163 or  
lummisrob@gmail.com

### ***Please don't be afraid to ask!***

We will be happy to arrange for you to receive the help you need. Please remember you should only accept help from people you know and trust - always ring for clarification if you are not sure.

**A big thank you:** to all the wonderful volunteers who continue to support the Marton Community with offers of help!

Thanks for reading, please take care and stay safe.

*Rob (Marton Parish Council)*

# Marton News

## Severn Trent Speaks to MPC

After weeks of invites, a representative from Severn Trent paid a visit to the village to advise MPC on sewage issues/ blockages/noisy drain covers etc.. All these matters have been raised since the summer but with no response previously, MPC have now been promised that all the matters raised would be looked into and a inspection/clearance of the sewers would be carried out before the new year. Here's hoping!

## Pig Club

The bad news is that our friendly abattoir/ butchery, that has looked after us so well for the last 2 years, has closed down. We are looking at other options before we commit to another round of pig club in 2024 (*STOP PRESS! Abattoir found. But new members still needed to make viable...*)

The good news is that we can't order our piglets yet, so you still have time to sign up! So, if you have been hesitating, now is your chance to think again. Imagine the fun that you could have, watching the piggies grow, and enjoying delicious meat from pigs who have had happy lives.

*Colin & Helen, Andrew & Sarah  
Marton Pig Club Organisers  
[sausages.marton@gmail.com](mailto:sausages.marton@gmail.com)*

## Newsbites

### RBC App

For those of you keen on your phone Apps - Rugby Borough



Rugby Borough Council  
Rugby Borough Council  
Designed for iPhone  
★★★★★ 2.0 x 10 Ratings  
Free

Council is keen for you to download theirs. It covers everything from bin day reminders to reporting fly-tipping. Give it a try.

## Don't Forget Retirees' Tea



**Marton Village Hall**

**2.00pm Thursday  
11 January 2024**

*All Welcome*



# Marton News

## Newsbites

### Marton Crime Prevention Event

So, on the sunny morning of Saturday 28 October, I hosted a Crime Prevention Event for the village - this was supported by our local PCSO David Banks, and his colleague from



the Rugby Area Neighbourhood Watch who bought their event trailer along. We were able to open the doors to the pavilion and set up several tables brimming with freebies

such as shed alarms, key safes, purse guards, PIR

alarms, torches and more, together with lots of leaflets on security and crime prevention.

The event was very well attended by villagers, and hopefully we can repeat it next year.

*Miranda*



Rugby, PCSO Lee. We were also joined by Edward and

4 Ron, two of the leads for



# Marton News

## Marton Speedwatch

The volunteers have been out on a number of occasions in the last few months. Timing is always constrained by the regulations under which the checks can be carried out. Weather, especially in winter, can affect

how frequently checks can be organised.

Although another member has been trained



to use the equipment, more volunteers would be helpful to facilitate more sessions.

Please contact Adam to volunteer:  
[adam27@btinternet.com](mailto:adam27@btinternet.com)



## Newsbites

### Did you Catch Marton Night Inn?

The last minute cancellation of the annual festival of entertainment that is Marton Night Out was compensated for by Marton Night Inn. Many of the acts pencilled in for the former performed for free at the latter. The traditional bar helped to compensate for the losses from the ticket sales for this yearly revenue raiser. Please support your village hall when you can! (see inside back cover for photos)

### Don't miss out on Marton Walkers' activities

Marton Village Boxing Day Walk: Meet at the top of the lane to Eathorpe at 11.00 am for a walk to Hunningham.

Late Christmas Lunch and AGM - 12.30 Sunday 14 January at the Malt Shovel Bubbennhall.

Normal routine resumes for Marton Walkers, 10.00am on Sunday 28 January.

# Marton News

## Flooding Report

### Flooding in Marton

At a recent Cemex liaison meeting with local parish councils, the issue of flooding in the village was raised. One of the WCC councillors present has responsibility for Community Safety in his portfolio and promised to look into current policy on managing flooding on the A423 in Marton. This is the response he received from WCC officers. The parish council thought it would be useful to share this feedback with the village.



*"The village is closely bordered on three sides by the River Leam, the River Itchen, and an unnamed watercourse. As such, much of the issues in the village relate to flooding from these watercourses, or water not being able to drain away as the levels of the watercourses are up."*

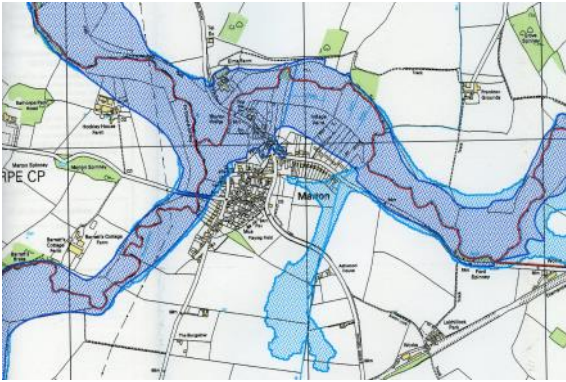


*Fortunately, much of the flooding is confined to the highway, and we do not hold any contemporary reports of internal property flooding. Anecdotally, we understand that vehicles driving through the flood water causes bow waves that may have flooded properties, but when we have followed up such reports, we have not been able to confirm internal property flooding.*

*To try to help reduce the impact of bow waves caused by driving through the water the village has always been keen to be able to put out signage and to close the road. This*



# Marton News



*was investigated by the team and the emergency planning team (CSWR) some years ago and found not to be possible. At the time, this was communicated to MPC, but possibly not clearly enough.*

*My understanding of road closures is that only the police or the local highway authority have the power to close roads. The police can close a road “on the spot” due to safety concerns and will usually request that county highways put up appropriate traffic management. The local highway authority however, have to follow a process to do so and timescales do not lend themselves to an emergency response.*

*Beyond having the appropriate powers to close a road, there are issues around villages closing off roads without appropriate diversions in place, and importantly informing relevant parties – for example, we wouldn’t want an ambulance not being able to get to*

## Flooding Report

*it’s destination due to a series of local-led road closures.*

*In terms of the wider flooding issues, the Environmental Agency (EA) undertook a feasibility study into possible Flood Defences at Marton in 2001. This report found that whilst a technically viable solution is possible, the benefit cost ratio for it was below 0.5 so could not be progressed. As such, the EA have indicated that this is not something they will revisit.*

*In response to this, the parish council commissioned their own study in 2016 with JBA and again the conclusion was that there are limited options to prevent the flooding, and focus should be on alerts, warnings and preparation. Part of this was to develop a local flood action plan with our resilience team.”*

*If you have any thoughts on this report please email the parish council:  
clerk@martonvillage.com.*

# Marton News

## Women's Institute

### Long Itchington W I

There will be some Martonians who remember that Marton once had its own WI. Sadly it was disbanded a number of years ago so I am taking the opportunity to introduce the Long Itchington WI, of which I have just been elected as President. We do have a number of members from Marton but we would, of course, like more.



2022/2023 has been a busy and successful year with over fifty signed up members. The Committee work hard together to organise WI meetings and a range of other activities. Meetings are held in the Long Itchington



Community Centre and School Hall on the Stockton Road on the third Wednesday of the month.

We had a total of eight speakers at our 2022/2023 meetings. We enjoyed theatrical anecdotes from Margot McCleary, got “hands on” with cake decorator Kay Byrne and willow weaver Deb Jones. We heard about writing crime stories from author Jane Isaac and learnt about the history of Sulgrave Manor and the Washington family from Martin Sirot-Smith. We also gained a deeper



# Marton News

understanding of the war in Afghanistan from Chris Mann. Our speaker organisers try to ensure that the subjects vary every month.

There was a variety of entertainment at our other meetings. Our Christmas meeting especially involved a fantastic spread and we enjoyed the singing of Cathy Morris.

Throughout the year we also had lots of other activities including quizzes, crosswords, jigsaws and craft activities. We have a members' Suggestion Box which has resulted in a number of good ideas including holding a "Swishing" event and a Line Dancing Session. We have also recently taken part in a Kurling event held at the Southam Bowls Club, which proved to be good fun. There is a monthly competition and raffle and refreshments are served at every meeting.

During the year a number of outside events were organised including a visit to the Malvern Show and a trip to Worcester Christmas Market. We also had two trips to the Belgrade theatre to see



## Women's Institute

The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel and The Full Monty. The Warwickshire WI Federation also organise many different events including a Treasure Hunt and a Quiz, both of which we won!

We communicate with members through meeting minutes, our monthly newsletter, email of urgent news and meeting reminders as well as our WI Facebook Group.

Interested in joining? You can attend a meeting as a guest to get a feel for what goes on. The membership fee for the year beginning April 2024 will be £48.

Contact me on **07703 172934** or email: **theleakes623@btinternet.com**

*Barbara Leake  
President  
Long Itchington WI*

## Marton Newsletter Christmas

# A Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the Newsletter Team -

**Contributors, Editors, Distributors  
and Advertising Executive**

**Grateful thanks all those who have  
helped keep it going (including the  
Greetings donations) ...**



***...and a very special thanks to our sponsors - the  
advertisers who have been so generous in their  
support throughout the year***

### **Still more news...**

#### **New Equipment in the New Storage Area**

An early Christmas present from Andrew Cooke: Four sturdy gazebos for use in future village events. No more having to rely on the generosity of villagers in borrowing such equipment by the Museum or the Playing

Fields Committee when they are having to plan their events. This equipment will provide serious cover whatever the weather.

NB The luxurious space and excellent lighting in the new the storage area!





# Marton Village Hall

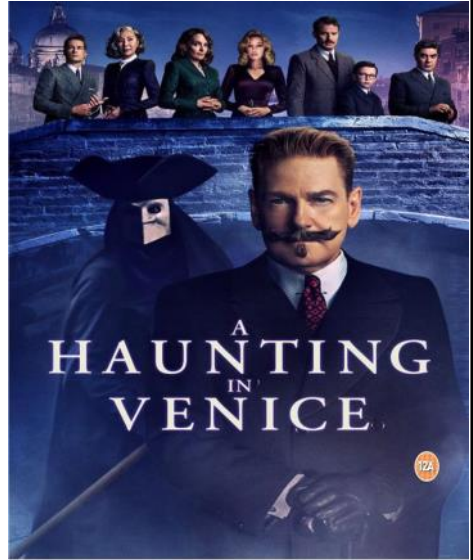
## MARTON CINEMA – JANUARY

*We are delighted to be showing*

**A HAUNTING IN VENICE**  
on **Friday January 12th**

**Doors open 7.30pm, film starting at 8pm**

Tickets £4



**Moving Pictures**

**LIVE  
& LOCAL**

### Sustrans Developments

Take one last look at the photo of the railway bridge at the end of Fields Farm Lane. It is no more. The Sustrans contractors have taken it down so it no longer poses a danger to anyone using the disused line.

The upgrading of the line is due to be completed by Christmas up to the A423. But a new metal bridge (to replace the one taken down last year), is not due to be installed until sometime in the new year. In the meantime

the track is not open to the public to use for walking or cycling.



# Marton Parish Council

## November Meeting

**Draft Minutes of Marton Parish Council (MPC) held on Tuesday 14 November 2023 at 19.30 Marton Memorial Hall**

### 1. ATTENDANCE

Cllr David Fry, Cllr Rob Lummis, Cllr Faye Chambers, Cllr Sarah Heath, Clerk Sarah Robson

RBC Cllr Dale Keeling

### 2. APOLOGIES

Cllr Mike Taylor. Edward Healey (Sustrans)

### 3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 12th September. Approved.

### 4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Community Transport meeting held at the pavilion – no updates so far.

### 5. COUNCILLORS DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None

### 6. POLICE ISSUES

6.1 **Crime Report** - No reports.

6.2 **Community Speedwatch** – another member has been trained to use the equipment. More volunteers would be helpful to facilitate more sessions which are likely to be affected by weather/light considerations over the winter.

Bad weather will reduce the number of sessions that can be undertaken over the winter period.

New sign frames have been purchased using £103 of the remaining budget.

### 7. PLANNING MATTERS

7.1 R23/0245 at 11, GREENACRES, BIRDINGBURY ROAD, MARTON, RUGBY, CV23 9RY

A unanimous opposing vote to this application was passed on the grounds of: CONDITION 4 of the original planning stated: The granny annex hereby permitted shall not be occupied at any time other than for purposes ancillary to the residential use of the dwelling known as Greenacres, 11 Birdingbury Road, Marton, CV23 9RY and shall only be occupied by members of the family occupying Greenacres, 11 Birdingbury Road and shall not be used as a separate dwelling. REASON: In the interest of residential amenity.

# Marton Parish Council

Also concern regarding precedent set for irregular infilling along Birdingbury Road.

## 8. VILLAGE ISSUES

**8.1 Storage.** Now complete. Most of the racking has been acquired. MPC equipment has been moved over to the storage space. MPC will cover the costs of getting keys cut for Cllrs and the Clerk.

**8.2 Flooding.** Cllr Fry reported that the issue of HGVs passing through the village at a time of flooding was raised at the Cemex liaison meeting. Problem with ingress of water into properties from bow waves needed to be pointed out to their drivers. The transport manager's phone number was shared so he could be informed when flooding occurs to warn drivers.

WCC councillor Andy Crump was also at the liaison meeting and as the 'Portfolio Holder for Fire & Rescue and Community Safety' he offered to investigate the issue of road closures. The response he received, which he then passed onto MPC, stated that it was not possible to change arrangements from the current situation that often resulted in tardy responses from police and WCC Highways. It was agreed to share the WCC report with the village via the December Newsletter.

**8.3 Tall trees on Marton Parish Council land** close to properties. Cllr Chambers to chase up

## November Meeting

report and training.

**8.4 Grass Cutting.** No update.

## 9. VILLAGE UPDATES AND MAINTENANCE

**9.1 Community Network.** Continues. Some demand for the service so is worth continuing to run.

**9.2 Neighbourhood Watch** Update. No Update. Emails continue to be circulated. Police drop in on 28th October was a positive event.

**9.3 Marton Playing Field Association.** Plans for pavilion improvements have almost been finalised. A meeting is planned soon for latest ideas to be discussed.

Table Tennis is moving to the village hall on trial for 6 weeks.

**9.4 Defibrillators.** No Update

**9.5 Roads and Footpaths.** Maintenance issues have been raised. Warwickshire County Council Highways have arranged for

# Marton Parish Council

## November Meeting

contractors to fix. There is an ad hoc job planned to clear out vegetation and gullies on a six monthly plan.

Drain on main road that was repaired has broken again. CC are looking to move this drain.

Hedges by the bridge are planned to be cut to clear the footpath.

North St flooding – the drains were jetted earlier in the summer.

Footpath from main road into the Orchard – emailed the department who dealt with the new footpath by the garages in the Orchard and raised as an issue.

Request for old sign to be removed in the Orchard.

Pothole on High St has been raised. DF requested photo. DF to action.

9.5a **Dog Bins.** DF to get installation moving with RBC

9.5b **Continuation of**  
14 **pavement on main road**

**to Long Itchington.** Requested RBC Cllr Dale Keeling looks into this.

9.5c **Upgrading the R213 footpath to a bridleway.** Sustrans were invited to attend tonight's meeting to discuss their responsibilities for managing access and signage to their planned upgrading of the Lias Line. This may or may not include consideration of the footpath's status and whether they plan to start the lengthy process of applying for a bridleway status change (to allow bike use).

The parish council is concerned about what Sustrans' plans are for access to the Lias Line, given the only local official entry points are Birdingbury Road and Long Itchington, but the wider public may see Marton as a place of access (potentially also parking if transporting bikes by car). Access for people living in Marton also needs due consideration.

MPC will continue to try to set a date when Sustrans can come and discuss plans in more detail and hear residents' views. Residents requested to continue to monitor and communicate any issues with MPC.

9.6 **Marton Practical Ecology Group (MPEG).** No updates. Aiming to cut the wildflower areas again before winter.

9.7 **Streetlights.** No update. Clerk proposes to raise a formal complaint with WCC.



# Marton Parish Council

**9.8 Rugby Area Meeting feedback.** Cllr Fry attended the reformed Warwickshire Association for Local Councils Rugby Area Group who met at the Rugby Council Chamber for their one face to face meeting each year (the other three by Zoom). All the principal RBC heads of department were in attendance to give brief reports It proved an invaluable meeting with other parish councils who raised many shared issues especially in respect of service regarding planning applications. Due to financial cutbacks, this was the first such meeting with any of the principal councils for at least four years and they have been much missed as an invaluable means for parish councillors to operate effectively.

**9.10 Liaison Meeting with Cemex.** They have submitted a planning application for developing an Addmixture site in Southam which will create 11 extra lorry movements through the village each day.

Asking for applications for their community fund.

**9.11 Severn Trent and sewage disposal in the village.** Cllr Fry shared his frustration at the lack of communication over various village issues with Severn Trent e.g. concerns with potential blockages in their pipes. Noise from drainage covers. Support on flood prevention issues. Despite regular phone calls and promises of call-backs no contact has been

## November Meeting

made for over a month. He has raised a formal complaint.

### 10. FINANCE

10.1 Financial transactions from 1st September - 31st October.

10.2 2024 - 2025 Budget. (Circulated to Councillors for initial review)

### 11. CHAIR ELECTION

Cllr Taylor

Proposed by Cllr Chambers

Seconded by Cllr Fry

### 12. DATE OF NEXT ORDINARY MEETING

Tuesday 9 January 2024.

## Next Marton Parish Council Meeting

**7.30pm Tuesday  
9 January 2024  
at the Village Hall**

# Marton Wildlife

## Winter Visitors

### Did you know?

#### - Marton's Migrants

- That one of our most common garden birds, blackbirds are actually partially migratory within the UK (Scottish populations visit Northern Ireland, for example) and are strongly migratory from and within Europe, with birds from Scandinavia and the Baltics joining our very own UK residents in winter.



- That one rather exotic looking bird to look out for this month is the Waxwing. These beautiful reddish-brown birds are not much bigger than a Starling, but their punk-rock crest makes them a “stand out”. They’re named for the red tips on their wings, looking as if they’ve been dipped in sealing wax.

Waxwings are more usually found in Scandinavia and Northern Russia, but small numbers visit the UK including occasionally, MARTON in winter, with flocks crossing the North Sea in a quest for their favourite food: berries. You’ll sometimes spot individual birds or small flocks in Rowan trees or Hawthorn bushes. I’ve seen them before on Paul and Ann’s Rowan opposite Marton Manor House.

Quite a few Waxwings have already been spotted this autumn, so fingers crossed... we might yet see them in Marton.

*Alan*

# Marton Heritage

## Marton Local History Group

### 'Warwick Metal Detecting Club - Detecting the Past'

**7.30 Monday 29 January 2024**

**Marton Village Hall**



*It has been quite a few years since we have had the county archaeologists talk to our group, but this time we have invited another organisation*

*dedicated to practical history. The Warwick Metal Detecting Club tread very carefully through the ethical minefield of metal detecting and have a well deserved reputation amongst landowners and the county museum for care taken in their work. They have detected in the area for a number of years, especially over the river at Hockley Farm. More recently they have carried out surveys in areas of Marton. Hear about their work and their finds in January and perhaps invite them to inspect your property!*

## MLHG/Museum

### Museum Working into November

Normally after a busy summer of openings, the museum volunteers can put their feet up for a while, but not this year.

The completion of the storage facilities has meant that work on the refurbishment of the office has continued into December. Also, the organisation of lots of the smaller exhibits that had been stored elsewhere in the village have been moved onto the storage racking. There has also been a meeting of the volunteers where the many tasks for next year were discussed.

We even had a visit from a local care home, in November despite the unheated building! See below.



# Marton Heritage

## Local History Group

### Tales from the Graveyard - October Meeting

Following on from last year's 'Tales from the Graveyard' members of the MLHG revealed further insights about some of those buried in St Esprit's graveyard.

Joan Cashmore's parents - the Kennings family history - was revealed in-depth from their nineteenth century origins in the area through to their move to Church Street, where Joan continued to live until recently. It was appropriate that this research had been done by Lisa, who bought the house from Joan's decedents.



Another grave has an intriguing headstone dedicated to the wife of a London based Victorian artist.

Elizabeth Harley was



married to George Harley. She died in 1905 having lived for the last few years of her life in the village with her sister, Harriet Twigger,

at Marton Manor House. The sisters had both originally come from Shropshire but had ended up marrying wealthy London based professionals. It was speculated how they could have met their husbands, but it is likely to remain a mystery.

Most revealing of all was a presentation on the gravestone of a Marton child, Nicola, who had died in the 1960s.



The revelation was not about Nicola's life but the gravestone itself. If it was not for the personal recollection of Joan Sherratt we would never have understood its significance. The small stone was carved with angels by Barbara Newsome, who lived in Marton House. She began the annual Marton Art Exhibition in the 1960s and created the sun sculptures seen on walls around the village. Look out for the stone by the east end of the church. It is rather weathered now and its features a little unclear.



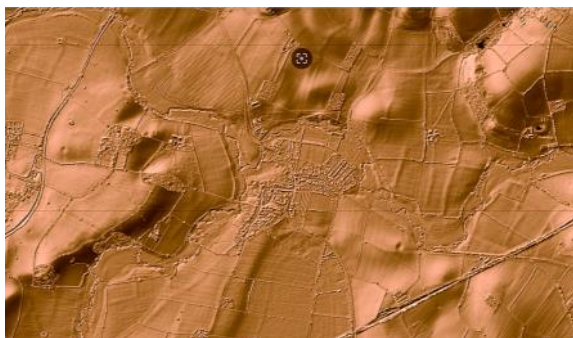
# Marton Heritage

## Back Tracks: Detecting the Past - November Meeting

Two amateur historians, Colin and Phil, spoke in November about their fascination with interpreting old maps and aerial photographs. They were especially interested in modern LiDAR views that are made up of millions of laser data points taken from aircraft.

Many examples from all over Warwickshire were used to give insights that can be derived from these photos and maps. Roman roads that are no longer obviously discernible on the ground can be picked up on the photos and then supported with further clues from large scale Ordnance Survey maps. A few potential examples were suggested for the Marton area (apart from the Fosse Way), and indeed some that passed right through the village.

A rather more complex theory relating to a type of Roman land measurement (an 'actus') was described. Examples were given showing how Roman roads, settlement layouts and fields from Roman times can still be found in the area today.



## Local History Group

The one disappointment was the lack of an analysis of the Marton LiDAR view that had been circulated before the meeting (see left); a complaint that was accepted by the speakers. Subsequent email discussion in the days since has helped to remedy the situation and members of the MLHG email group have had the findings passed onto them.

Some of the Marton features identified are existing patches of pre-enclosure ridge and furrow, and even older field boundaries that pre-date the Saxon three field system. The stronger and weaker candidates for Roman routeways have also been identified. Finally, the Saxon origins of the name Marton, meaning 'farm by the pool' has led to a search for the pool. There is good evidence that it stretched from the playing fields south to beyond the railway lines, where low-lying, boggy land has led to much drainage work over the centuries.

# Marton Services

## Vicar's Notes



### St Esprit Church in Marton

If you would like to discuss baptisms, weddings, home visits, hospital visits, funerals or any other pastoral needs or concerns, please contact Revd Richard confidentially on 01926 425070 or his email [revrwss@gmail.com](mailto:revrwss@gmail.com) or St Esprit PCC via Jenny Walsh or [StEspritMarton@gmail.com](mailto:StEspritMarton@gmail.com).

**You are always welcome to St Esprit Church, Marton** where we gather with refreshments at 11.00am for our services at 11.15am each regular Sunday and additionally at 6pm for 6.30pm on the First Sunday for a Deanery service.

Events to note: 17 December for Carols and the Nativity (please let Jenny Walsh know if you are willing to take part, adults as well as children please), new for this year a Bethlehem midnight service on Christmas Eve at 9.30pm and Christmas Day celebrations will be at 11.00am. We hope you enjoy the Advent windows and the twinkling of the Christmas tree, details of the Reverse Advent Calendar in support of LWS Night Shelter are available in church or from Jenny Walsh.

**Dear Friends,**

### **Christmas promise and the promise of a new year.**

Christmas promises a lot. Looking forward to the season, our imaginations paint a vivid and inviting picture for us. A powerful cocktail made up of nostalgia and advertisements conjures up a captivating scene, where loved ones gather, fires glow brightly, tables creak under their load of food and drink, lights twinkle, and the sounds are of laughter and merriment. It is a blissful scene where grievances, bank balances and family problems are forgotten, and from which all worry and unforgiveness have been banished. The image is often summed up in the phrase "The Christmas spirit."

I hope we will all enjoy at least some of such scenes this year. And yet, in truth, the season itself rarely delivers what it promises: someone is sick, an unexpected bill arrives amidst the Christmas cards, the internet is

# Marton Church

down or maybe a relative is upset about something. And then in the aftermath of Christmas “ho-ho!” turns to “ho-hum”. Relatives go home, decorations come down, presents get returned, diets begin, and the music stops. Some slide from celebration to desperation. “Oh no, another year has passed.” We move from revelry to routine. Such a scenario could be depressing, but it need not be so. There is a Christmas spirit with a lasting effect, but there are three conditions to keeping it:

Firstly, we need to remember that Christmas is about giving. Dig beneath the tinsel of tradition, listen beyond the noise and babble of the season, and you will discover that Christmas is about God’s gift to us.

He gave Himself to us in Jesus, the baby whose birth we celebrate, that we might be forgiven and brought back to Him. Christmas, ultimately, is about God’s gift to us. One of the best known and loved Bible verses, John 3:16, reminds us that “God so loved the World that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.” Yet to receive God’s giving comes with responsibility: to take it in, we must also give it out. Christmas is a time for open hearts, open houses, and open wallets. It is a season when we put others first. Jesus Himself reminds us that it is more blessed to give than to receive. (Acts 20:35.) The rejected opportunity to give is a lost opportunity to receive. In his depiction of the miser Ebenezer

## Church News

Scrooge in “A Christmas Carol” Charles Dickens managed to show someone who, through a better understanding of Christmas, came to find giving to be far more rewarding than taking. You can give without loving, but you cannot love without giving.

Secondly, Christmas is about forgiving. One of the most celebrated stories of the First World War is of the tragically short-lived truce that broke out on 25 December, 1914. Because of the coming of Jesus, Christmas is all about God delivering us from all we have done wrong. Christmas is God’s offer of a lasting peace to us all. If we are to accept God’s gift, we must understand that it is a peace that comes with obligations. To understand what it is to be truly forgiven is to practise forgiveness towards others. Nothing destroys the Christmas spirit more than the bitter flavour of unforgiven grudges and hurts. This Christmas don’t just give

# Marton Church

## Church News

but forgive.

Thirdly, Christmas is about living. To seek the festivities of Christmas and miss the message is to keep the wrapping and to throw away the gift! Christmas is about life. Jesus said: "I have come that they might have life and have it to the full." (John 10:10.) To understand Christmas and all that it really means is to receive God's gift of a joy that lasts, not just for a few days, but forever. To keep the true Christmas spirit, we need to find the one who gives it. This season, give, forgive and live!

I look forward to seeing you at any or all of the Christmas services detailed in this edition of the Marton magazine, on Facebook and through e mail info circulation. God bless you and your loved ones this Christmas time and into the New Year and forever,

Your friend in Christ Jesus,  
*Richard*

## CHURCH SERVICES

– all are always welcome to every service, please let Jenny know if you need transport to services or more information. A weekly service is also held at our sister church of Holy Trinity in Long Itchington at 9.30am.

- Sunday 10 Dec – an all-age worship service an all-age worship service, join us from 11.00am for a cuppa and cake to start at 11.15am.



- Carols and Nativity on Sunday 17 December at 6.00pm followed by plenty of refreshments, children and adults (the more the merrier) are invited to take part in the service, in the nativity or bible readings, please let Jenny know if you would be able to take part [StEspritMarton@gmail.com](mailto:StEspritMarton@gmail.com).
- Bethlehem Midnight Service on



# Marton Church



Christmas Eve at 9.30pm, celebrating the birth of Christ at what is midnight in Bethlehem.

- Christmas Day family celebration at 11.00am.
- Sunday 31 Dec: Joint

Service at Holy Trinity Long Itchington 9.30am.

- Sunday 7 Jan - Holy Communion, join us from 11.00am for a cuppa and cake to start at 11.15am.
- Sunday 7 Jan – In The Spirit, a Deanery wide contemporary lay led service, 6.00pm for refreshments and chat, starting worship at 6.30pm.
- Sunday 14 Jan - an all-age worship service, join us from 11.00am for a start at 11.15am.
- Sunday 21 Jan - Holy Communion, join us from 11.00am to start at 11.15am.
- Sunday 28 Jan - an all-age worship service, join us from 11.00am for a start at 11.15am.

Service details are on the noticeboard and the

## Church News

Marton email, please contact us by email ([StEspritMarton@gmail.com](mailto:StEspritMarton@gmail.com)) or 01926 632547 if you want to be included on our Church mailing list (email or posted).

### COFFEE MORNING

– Tuesday 30 January 10.30am to 12 midday. It is a lovely time with lots of chat and lots




of cake, all are welcome. There will be no coffee morning in December as it falls on Boxing Day.

### PROGRESSIVE DINNER

Saturday 2 March 2024 - There has been a great response to date, if you'd like to reserve a place and suggest your choice of course, contact Joe Walsh on [StEspritMarton@gmail.com](mailto:StEspritMarton@gmail.com).

# Marton Church



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[info@topgrass.net](mailto:info@topgrass.net)



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# Marton Adverts

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Come and see me

- \* Holistic Massage \*
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- \* Indian Head Massage \*




I massage any day  
between 8am - 9pm

Contact me, Maya:

07 537 853 866

Vitalmassagemaya@gmail.com

 Vital Massage Marton  
[www.vitalmassage.eu](http://www.vitalmassage.eu)

# Marton Adverts

## Need an Electrician?

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E: sparkeselectrical@gmail.com

www.asparkeselectrical.co.uk

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**\*STOP PRESS\*** We are now registered EV Charge point installers



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CV6 2NR  
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*Family run Window cleaning business cleaning in Marton and all surrounding villages since 1975*



# Marton Adverts



## Village News

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**We provide an EARLY and RELIABLE  
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01926 633138 or 07788991933*



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Your local automotive solution  
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Whether you've got a small leak or in need of something more we've got you covered.

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**ERIBA**

# Marton Contacts

## Outside the village

### Emergency Contacts

Gas:  
Water:  
Electricity:  
Floodline:  
NHS Direct:

0800 111 999  
0800 7834444  
0800 0568090  
0845 988 1188  
111

Rugby Borough Council

01788 533533

[www.rugby.gov.uk](http://www.rugby.gov.uk)

Warwickshire County Council

01926 410410

[www.warwickshire.gov.uk](http://www.warwickshire.gov.uk)

### Councillors

Borough Councillor Dale Keeling

07895 360422

[dale.keeling@rugby.gov.uk](mailto:dale.keeling@rugby.gov.uk)

County Councillor Howard Roberts

01788 519603

[cllroberts@warwickshire.gov.uk](mailto:cllroberts@warwickshire.gov.uk)

### Member of Parliament

Jeremy Wright (Conservative)

01926 853650

[jeremy.wright.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:jeremy.wright.mp@parliament.uk)

### Warwickshire Police

Rugby Rural South – Safer Neighbourhood Team

To contact the team directly (*not for reporting a crime*)

To report a crime or any suspicious incident

In an emergency

**Email:** [rrs.snt@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:rrs.snt@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk)

**Twitter:** @RugbyCops

Rugby Police Station, Newbold Road,

Rugby, Warwickshire, CV21 2DH

Rugby Anti-Social Behaviour Wardens

01788 853851

101

999

0800 096 8800

### 24-hour Free Confidential Helplines

Childline (for under 19s) [childline.org.uk](http://childline.org.uk)

MHM Coventry & Warks [mhm.org.uk](http://mhm.org.uk)

Samaritans [samaritans.org](http://samaritans.org)

YoungMinds Crisis Messenger [youngminds.org.uk](http://youngminds.org.uk)

0800 1111

0800 616 171

08457 90 90 90

Text YM to 85258

# Marton Contacts

## Inside the village

### Marton Parish Council

Clerk:	Sarah Robson
Councillors:	Faye Chambers Rob Lummis David Fry Mike Taylor Sarah Heath

clerk@martonvillage.com

(Contact via the Clerk)

### Village Organisations

Marton Newsletter (Editorial)	David Fry
Marton Newsletter (Advertising)	Sharon Edwards
Marton Vicar	Rev Cannon Richard Suffern
Village Hall	Maya Van Der Galien
Playing Field Association	Dinyar Baria
Marton Community Network	Rob Lummis
Marton Pig Club	Andrew Heath
Neighbourhood Watch	Miranda Aston
Marton Museum	David Fry
Local History	David Fry
Marton Art	Joan Sherratt
Marton Walkers	Mike Johnson
Brownies	Elizabeth Murray
Church Warden	Jenny Walsh
Emergency Flood Group	Parish Council
Snow Warden	Graham Wood

01926 632936

sharon.edwards0@googlemail.com

07876654495

revrwss@gmail.com

07537853866

[villagehall.marton@gmail.com](mailto:villagehall.marton@gmail.com)

07764 377163

07515911926

sausages.marton@gmail.com

07931 770249

01926 632936

01926 632936

01926 632837

jmsherratt@btinternet.com

01926 632960

01926 815466

01926 632547

See contacts above

01926 632610

### Website

**www.martonvillage.com** email:

**Join Marton group email and find out the news as it happens or circulate your requests or offers. If you want to be added to the group contact:**

[newsletter@martonvillage.com](mailto:newsletter@martonvillage.com)

[admin@martonvillage.com](mailto:admin@martonvillage.com)



**Marton Night Inn 2023**



**Valuable Police liaison  
thanks Miranda**

**Wonderful  
Remembrance  
Poppy Display -  
thanks Dy**



Merry  
Christmas &  
happy, healthy  
New Year.

The Dronfield  
Family x



Angie and Martin  
Woodhouse wish all  
our friends and  
neighbours in Marton  
a Happy Christmas  
and a healthy and  
prosperous New Year



Merry Christmas & A  
Happy New Year to all  
our Marton neighbours  
and friends.

Bernie & Jeff Bayliss



Happy Christmas to  
all our wonderful  
friends in Marton

Colin & Megan xx



Believe it or not we have  
been in the village for a  
year now and would like  
to thank everyone for  
their warm welcome and  
wish you all a very Happy  
Christmas.

Barrie and Alison Cressey

Wishing everyone a  
Merry Christmas and  
Happy New Year  
from Gary, Sue, Indi  
and Mimi xx



Wishing all our friends and neighbours in Marton a  
very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New  
Year. With love from The Cookes



A Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all  
our friends and neighbours in Marton,  
love from Miranda, Ulli, Eva and all the Sheep at  
Village Farm xxxx



We wish 'Merry Christmas' to all our friends, and hope  
that they are in good health.

Margaret & Mike Taylor at The School House



Wishing all our wonderful neighbours a very Merry  
Christmas and a Happy New Year! From Mike, Lottie,  
Fred & Charlie on Shepherd Street

