

South Marston Community News

Honda Heritage Garden Play Area Now Open!

by Barry Thunder



The children's play area opened on Friday 19th of August, despite the adversity of flooding and muddy conditions, followed by a near drought on the site. Whilst later than Honda had planned, children can now enjoy the cleverly designed rail engine, depicting Swindon's railway heritage, and the plane with its wings forming play platforms, reflecting the plane manufacturing and airfield that contributed to the World War 2 work that took place in the village and surrounding areas.

The fishing trawler, casting its net for the young ones to scramble along, acknowledges Honda's international marine division. The little red cars on their springs humourlessly leaves us with a lasting memory of Honda's 36 years of car production in our village and their continued ownership of our allotment site and the Heritage Garden.

Looking forward, we are now entering a twelve-month period where the Heritage Garden will be managed by Ground Control, who were contracted to build the garden by Honda. A senior manager from Honda's Bracknell office will continue to oversee the garden's maintenance and resolve any teething problems, along with ensuring that the next phase of laying the wildflower and grass turf will be completed.

Continued overleaf

The turf laying was scheduled for August, but this has had to be delayed until an adequate supply of water is available from the newly created pipe work awaiting connection to the Thames Water mains under the Highworth Road.

Later in 2023 the maintenance of the gardens will pass to a local contractor who will be tasked with keeping the garden up to the high standard of Honda's management.



Honda have given the eight raised flower beds to our community for our own use once the plants and flowers in them are past their best. Several ideas are being considered: two beds to grow flowers for the Church; one for wild flowers growing at varying times of the year; and another for bulbs that flower in different months.

If you have an idea that will suit these growing conditions and would like to take on managing one of these flower beds, please send an email to Kevin our Parish Clerk clerk@southmarston.org.uk.

South Marston Friendly Club

The club organises monthly social events for the village residents and others in the nearby community for the over 50's. These include interesting and entertaining afternoon talks held in the Village Hall.

Join us on our last day trip for this year to the Weald and Downland Museum where the 'The Repair Shop' programme is filmed, as we still have some seats available. The coach picks us up from the School Car Park.

PROGRAMME

Tuesday 13th Sept at 2pm – 'Kencot Ukulele Group' will entertain us with music and song

Tuesday 20th Sept at 9.15am - Day trip to 'The Weald and Downland Museum'

Tuesday 11th Oct at 2pm - 'Bonsai Trees', Talk by Reg Bolton and his travels to Japan

Tuesday 18th Oct at 10.30am - Trip to Marlborough Golf Club for our 'Harvest Lunch'

Tuesday 8th Nov at 2pm - 'He's behind you', Talk by Lynda Warren on Pantomime history

For more information about the club please contact Sheila on telephone number 828545 or email – smfriendlyclub@gmail.com.

Honda Heritage Garden - Opens for Tea

by Lionel Cave-Ayland

It was a golden opportunity, on a beautiful sunny afternoon, to gather together many of our long term residents and help some of the less able, to join the leisurely walk or push, around the garden. Barry, who liaises between Honda and the Parish Council, and myself, the event organiser, gave details of the allotment and garden projects on our walk.



Following on from the walk and talk, everyone was seated in the green grassy area of the garden and treated to tea and delightful homemade cakes. This was enhanced by our own Jackie Sansum who performed some well know songs for all to enjoy.



However these events just don't happen, so a very big thank you to Mike New, for ferrying residents in wheelchairs. Thanks also to Janet Cave-Ayland and Rosemary New for baking the delicious tray bakes, especially the coffee bake, and serving the afternoon tea to all, not to mention all the clearing away afterwards!

The event was a great success with those able to attend commenting;

" When can we do this again?"... "Thank you it was lovely to get outside"... "It was wonderful to see old friends again, even though we just live around the corner."

"I can't believe how lovely the garden is, I remember walking through this area when I used to work at Vickers "

The Honda Heritage Garden is open to all and will become a delightful venue as the many Cherry Blossom trees and grass areas establish themselves.

South Marston Gardening Club

by Angela Newton

Our Annual Flower and Produce Show held on Saturday 20th of August had a record number of people enter, including children, and saw a lot of new faces. Though the number of exhibits were down, we think this was due to this year's dry hot weather.

Well done to all of our winners:

- Challenge Cup (Vegetables and Fruit) – Michael New
- Hanging Basket Cup – Rosemary New



- Rose Bowl (Flowers and Plants) – Jenny McEwen
- Bill Smith Trophy (Best Dahlia in Show) – Mary Case
- Flower Arrangers Cup – Rosemary New
- Photography Cup – Tony Leathart
- Cookery Trophy – Rosemary New
- Craft Trophy – Jenny McEwen
- Best Exhibit in Show Cup – Jenny McEwen for her handmade glass dish
- RHS Banksian Medal for the largest total amount of points in all the Horticultural classes – Mike New

- Under 5 years – Freya McIntosh for her Decorated Hard-boiled Egg
- Six to 8 years – Raine McElroy for her Decorated Lantern in a Recycled Jar
- 9 years to 11 years – Lily Banner for her Decorated Gingerbread Biscuits
- 12 to 16 years – Hollie Case for her Self-portrait
- Best Exhibit in the Children's Section – Lily Banner for her Decorated Gingerbread Biscuits

We would like to thank The F & E Harris Trust for sponsoring the Show, all the volunteers, the cake bakers and everyone that supported us on the day.



The RHS Banksian Medal can't be won by the same person for two years, so get your thinking caps on and start planning, and it could be you next year!

If you would like to receive a copy of the Show Schedule next year, please leave your details with Angela (see below).

Monday 5th of September, 7:30pm - 9:30pm, 'Gloucester & Cotswolds Gardens' a talk by Richard Harvey

Take a stroll through its beautiful rose gardens, flowing herbaceous borders, Cotswold stone architecture, rolling parklands and majestic woodlands.

Discover the people that founded these stunning gardens, the plant collections they created and why you should visit.



Gardens include: Kiftsgate Court, Batsford Arboretum, Sezincote, Sudeley Castle, Miserden Park, Painswick Roccoco, Rodmarton Manor, Buscot Park, Slimbridge WWF and Highnam Court.



Monday 3rd of October, 7:30pm - 9:30pm, 'Tales from the Potting Shed' a talk by Nicola Hope

Lots of growing of all sorts with some anecdotes from some of the wonderful places that Nicola has worked.

Nicola is a self-employed consultant organic horticulturalist, garden designer, writer and speaker. She holds the prestigious title of RHS Master of Horticulture.

All Events are held at South Marston Village Hall. Parking at Old Vicarage Lane, next to the school.

There is a £3 entry fee on the door for talks or join the Gardening Club for £12 (annual membership).

Refreshments included, an optional raffle. A warm, friendly welcome awaits you.

For more information, visit our Facebook page @southmarstongardeningclub or contact Angela on 07789068340 or email angelanewton01@gmail.com.



Tots and Toddlers is back!

Wednesday 14th
of September
9—11am at South
Marston Village Hall



£2.50 for up to 2 children

50p for each additional child



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20TH - 30TH OCTOBER

Ash tree replacement begins

by Chris Brooks

The Open Spaces Working Group (OSWG) has partnered with STERIS on work days in Oxleaze Wood to replace many of the dying and dead ash trees planted by villagers years ago. Managers from STERIS South Marston Laboratory had approached us asking how they could fulfil the company's commitment to sustainability, including contributing to the communities its people live and work in.



Our initial work day took place on the 23rd of August. It was perfect weather for tree felling and clearing it into neatly made habitats for the woodland wildlife. The team quickly and safely learned how to use our saws and cutters on diseased Ash trees felled by Chris.

We chatted to the five young volunteers and learned that they originated from different parts of the world, including Mexico, The Philippines and Greece. In rest breaks we exchanged information on how our various native countries differed in plants and wildlife. Hopefully they reported back to their colleagues that they enjoyed the day working with us!

There will be another session with STERIS in September, and a third is planned for November when we will be planting 14 trees/shrubs with individual supports and deer protection into some of the cleared space. We may organize further sessions with a local Scout Pack and/or village volunteers.

Around 50 ash trees need to be replaced in the short term to maintain carbon take-up and provide shade ahead of more dry summers. Initially, we plan to order two of each of the seven different species carefully chosen for durability, being native, wildlife benefits, and in some cases, rarity. Plants are between 1 metre and 2.5 metres tall which gives the best chance of survival. Each tree costs between £30 - £50, plus supports and protection.

Ash trees are not being replaced one-for-one as they were planted close together with an original expectation that some would need thinning in the early years. Our replacement plan anticipates no failures, due to using more mature trees.

As we continue with this work, more volunteer work days will be planned for 2023, hopefully more with the STERIS team, but also for anyone who would like to join us! For more details please email Barry Thunder at barry.thunder@southmarston.org.uk.

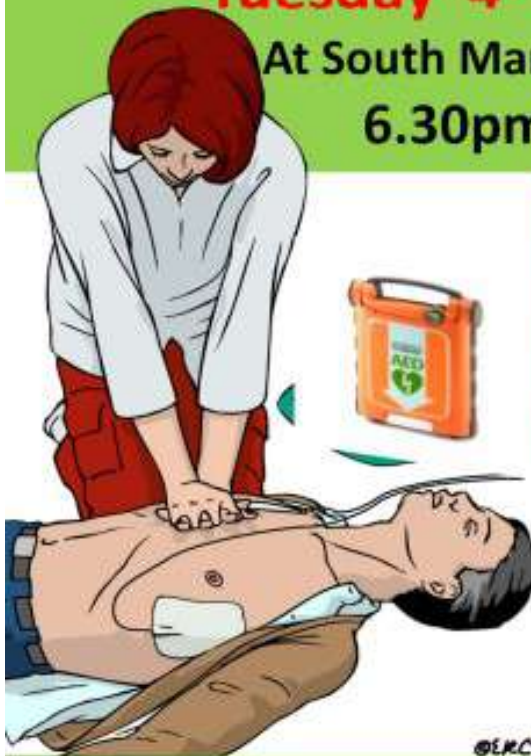
Be ready to save a life in South Marston?

Learn how to do CPR and use an AED at a **FREE**
workshop Awareness Session - all ages welcome.

Tuesday 4th October 2022

At South Marston Village Hall

6.30pm - 7.30pm



The session will include a presentation, as well as a **CPR demonstration** and how to use the public access **Automated External Defibrillators** from their new storage units.

For further information please contact
Barry Thunder on 01793 826697

The Village Hall now has the new circular cabinet for the Defibrillator.

Water, water where are you?

by Barry Thunder

It has long been a wish of the allotment tenants to have access to mains water on site. Over the years, many ingenious systems have been created to capture rain water from sheds and greenhouses plus a few other clever ideas. Perhaps some even taken from the onsite pond!

A few years ago, an underground brick built structure was found which was full of water. Where this water comes from remains a mystery,. Perhaps a legacy of the old South Marston Gliding Club?

Great excitement arose another year when a mains water supply pipe was discovered under the roadside hedge. With thoughts of re-connecting this supply, Thames Water were summoned to check this out. Sadly, whilst this was the old supply connection, this pipe no longer ran to the mains water pipe, having been replaced with a new pipe under the middle of the Highworth Road.

In 2021, we learn that Honda plan to develop a Heritage Garden on the unused land next to the allotment site. With a few discussions, and goodwill on Honda's side, it was agreed that the allotments would be allowed to take two metered spur pipes off the supply that they were installing in the Heritage Garden.

With renewed excitement, plans were drawn up to create a supply of water to the allotment site. Eager to have all in place prior to the Thames Water work, taps and troughs were installed in July this year. The prospect of mains water during the recent heatwave and near drought conditions gave hope that our crops would flourish this year.

Unfortunately, its now September 2022, and Thames Water still hasn't made that last vital connection to the water main!



The Diving Club at Supermarine

by Sylvia Brown

Tucked away in a corner of the Supermarine sports complex is the purpose built centre for Swindon Diving Club. Not many locals may be aware of its presence, yet the club has a pool, facilities for diver training and many different rooms for storage of equipment and maintenance. Two rigid inflatable boats are housed in the boat house, where club members keep them well maintained.

The club is a member of the British Sub Aqua Club (BSAC) and has all appropriate health and safety requirements in place to monitor club members' activity on site and the state of their equipment. Officer roles include training, diving marshals, equipment and building supervisors and of course the gas room officer maintaining the gas tanks – the most essential bit of kit for sub-aqua diving.

The club members have succeeded in creating a fantastic facility for anyone who is interested in diving.

Membership offers opportunities to take part in club trips around Britain and across the world, including Lundy and in the Azores.

The focus of trips can often be wreck diving or exploration of reefs.

The photo shows Jill, a long-standing club member, having a mid-dive experience with local sea-life in the Azores some years ago.



Dale Scutts, who helped us with this article has just emailed to say...

'We've been diving today, 3.30am start !!! Saw the biggest lobster I've seen for years. I left him on the seabed. Too nice to cook'.

Membership of the Swindon club costs just £11 per month plus £62.50 annual BSAC levy, but a diver's equipment can be an expensive investment. The dry suit is the greatest outlay, costing anywhere between £200 second-hand up to over £2,000. Members can advise how to buy or borrow other personal equipment necessary to get started. There are levels of training available, though the higher levels require attendance at courses elsewhere in the BSAC network. Special arrangements need to be made for children age 12 to 18 undertaking training.

Whereas the ground floor of the clubhouse is tiled and tailored to its use for diving sessions, a trip upstairs is definitely for post-session relaxation. There is a truly tremendous function room with a bar and even a 'sprung' dance floor. This and the ground floor patio overlook the neighbouring sports pitches.

The function room can seat up to 50 people and can be hired for events. On one wall there is an amazing cabinet displaying a superb find from a club trip – a full size cannon from the French ship Venezuela that was torpedoed by the Germans in 1918. Other finds, such as old anchors and cannonballs are evident on-site.

If you would like to enquire about membership, or the Club's 'try-a dive' or 'try a snorkel' sessions, use the website at <https://swindive.co.uk>.

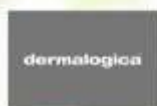


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SMRA update

By Jenny McEwen

This is members of the South Marston Recreation Association Management Committee team proudly showing off the outcome of many months of work to improve the play equipment on the Recreation Ground.

We started this venture in autumn last year with the survey of local children on what kind of equipment they wanted. It then took months of meeting suppliers and scouring catalogues to find a combination of items that met those requirements.

A very generous grant from The F&E Harris Memorial Trust, and the accounts services of the Parish Council, meant we could make the most of the finances SMRA had allocated to this project.



Angie Newton, Jenny McEwen, Sylvia Brown, Ian Clark and Lionel Cave-Ayland

Four new heavyweight benches were installed earlier in the year. The survey had told us that drainage would be important to avoid parents and children trudging through sodden grass to get to the play equipment, so we added levelling, drainage and a pathway from the Thornhill Rd gate. Those works were completed in early summer just as the drought took hold, so sowing of grass seed was delayed until it was likely to be successful.

Finally, the main equipment contractors arrived and different members of the team were involved on a daily basis, either opening and closing up or sorting out problems during the 2 weeks they were onsite. One of our members was even fielding emails from a beach on the Isle of Wight.

The construction work gave us some problems, when a young lad who was 'helping' the contractors drove a digger and dumper across areas we had asked to be kept clear. The result was a goal post beyond repair and serious damage to the brand new path - the photo shows the smashed concrete edging. However the contractors accepted responsibility and two new goal posts are now in place for the start of the football season. The path will be repaired by the time you read this.





Frightening cracks caused by the drought began to appear in the ground, particularly around the plinths of the 4 new benches. Ian and Lionel (who commandeered the Probation Team workers to help) ensured the worst of these have now been filled.

The grass is only now starting to grow through the rubber matting. Sowing seed on the remaining areas of levelled grass will be done later this month, when the weather is more suitable.

We're hearing some great comments from parents and children using the play area. On one day this week after school there were easily 20 kids on the Witches Hat and 10 on the new climbing frame.

This is great for our morale after all the issues, and we're pleased we took the time to understand what would be the best value for money.

Acupuncture

Acupuncture treatment can help with many health conditions including back pain, fatigue, digestive disorders, poor sleep, arthritic pain and migraines to name just a few!

Hazel Andrews Lic.Ac MAcS

7 Ash Gardens, South Marston.
SN3 4XX

For more information call me on
01793 827507

hazel@acuhome.co.uk

Cosmetic acupuncture also available

www.acuhome.co.uk

Elsewhere on the Rec, Lionel used the Probation Team to complete his work on the green storage container and the youth shelter, now looking much better and should last several years. Ian and Lionel also did some safety repairs on the old wooden climbing frame. The replacement of this is in Phase 2 of our project, awaiting developer contributions held by the Borough Council.

Finally, children enjoyed the annual funfair on the Rec at the start of the school summer holidays.





Parish Council News

By Colin McEwen

A Local DIY Store?

Plans for the development of the old Madison Hotel site have been filed with the Borough following initial consultation with Planning Officers and Parish Councillors. These see an extension of the existing retail park into the old hotel site with rumours of a major DIY chain that would complement Dunelm as the major tenant. Also proposed is a drive through coffee shop.

To our surprise, no relocation of the existing buildings or internal traffic layout is proposed. Our concern is that the exit onto the Gablecross roundabout already gets congested, and we have questioned whether the additional traffic has been fully factored into the plans. We have been told that no alterations to the eastern end of the site, with the entrance off Thornhill Road, are proposed.

HHT plans firm up

Following the grant of outline permission last year, major development consortium HHT are pressing on with how the plans will be delivered in practice. We are concentrating on the setting for the Community Hub at the centre of the expanded village. The Village Centre Design Brief, that villagers worked on, sets out the new Village Hall, car parking, play and sport facilities and links with the expanded school. We see safe and convenient walking and cycle routes from the existing and new part of the village as essential if this Hub is to become the centre of a thriving community.

You may have seen the heavy construction gear arriving on-site at the location where the access to the new 'link road' from Thornhill Rd, Hammerman Way, will be created just north of the Keypoint roundabout. This will be the construction road when building starts, and will ensure that construction vehicles can arrive on site without using our village roads. At the time of writing, the plans for this 'Haul Road' have not been finally agreed by the planners, but it is a sign of things finally moving.

Great Stall East

Detailed plans for this new community, to the east of the warehousing on the A420, have been submitted. Although this is within our parish, we will be concentrating on aspects of the design that impact residents on the A420 and our communities north of the railway. It should be otherwise, but we have quite enough on our plates coping with the HHT development. Swindon's decision not to review parish boundaries ahead of the development is regretted.

Energy Centre Site

L&G, who are the owners of the Keypoint estate, are conducting a review of the controversial Energy Centre site. Whether this will result in yet another warehouse rather than an incinerator we will have to wait and see!

Should Planning Regulations be Scrapped?

There is much talk about scrapping planning regulation to speed up housing provision, but unless developers are required to provide thought through schemes, they are unlikely to become successful, low carbon, communities. Our expansion has been in the offing since 2007 and it is hard not to think that the developers have not been 'land banking'.

Flood storage ponds, traffic calming, developer benefit money

Nothing to report. Poor maintenance of existing storage ponds north and northeast of the village is a problem we are pursuing with little to report so far. We continue to press the Borough for payment of monies from the Bellway site to be used for further improving the play area. And we may finally be entering into discussions about taking forward the traffic calming proposals on village roads. As mentioned in my last report, the Borough Council has significant issues.

Meanwhile, you may have noticed the first sign of Public Art associated with the New Eastern Villages - the plough horse now installed on the Gablecross roundabout.

This was paid for by the developers - it was at no cost to Swindon rate-payers. More Public Art installations in the near future include the stag to be erected on the western side of the White Hart roundabout, and the doe and 'bambi' planned for the eastern approach.



Finance

Our accounts passed the annual audit with only minor comments. Inflation and a reluctance by banks to supply community accounts have led to a search for a new interest-bearing account. The shrinking value of our funds make it particularly frustrating that we have not been able to progress projects with developer monies that are due to us.

School Planning

Permission Granted

By Sylvia Brown, PC Vice Chair

After some serious negotiation between SBC Education Department, the Borough planners and the Parish Council, the plans for the expanded primary school have finally been agreed.

If the Education Department had taken note of our Neighbourhood Plan when they first commissioned the proposal, we would all have been saved a great deal of work, time and money.

Nevertheless, we have now achieved most of what we asked for in terms of appropriate drainage, and access via off-road cycle and pedestrian pathways.

We do not yet have a start date, but the first part of the construction work will be rerouting the pathway around the new school boundary, creation of the 'temporary' car park alongside Old Vicarage Lane south of the existing changing rooms and ensuring that pedestrian links through from Magdalene Close are completed.

Exciting upcoming events at the **Carriers Arms !!!**

**Saturday 24th September, Sarah Fusco, 8:30/9pm,
'Solo Diva' - Music through the decades, with dance,
music and divas.**



Saturday 29th October, Halloween party from 7pm, fancy dress, full decor, quiz...

Saturday 19th November, The Hip Replacements, 9pm, six piece band covering many genres from Ska, Rocksteady, Reggae, Pop and Rock

Further news

We are making progress with the food service and the kitchen should hopefully be open again soon.

Real ale on tap. Regularly show Sky Sports and BT sports, Free guest wi-fi.



Carriers Arms, Highworth Road, South Marston, Swindon, SN3 4SE, 01793 822051

Guess where's the dog mess?

An increasing amount of dog fouling has been left laying around the village. This is our tally just in the last week. Can you spot where these offenders have been found on our 'Wall of Shame'...



1. St Julian's Wood
2. Oxleaze Wood
3. Orchard pavement
4. The Rec play area!
5. St Julian's Wood
6. Thornhill Road

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Thoughts from the vicarage - September 2022

September is here and we look forward once again to enjoying the colours of autumn all around us, the fruit trees heavy with fruit in our orchards and gardens, the leaves and seeds falling to the ground. Perhaps walks through woods with the crispness underfoot that we associate with this time of year, the 'seedtime and the harvest' being sung about again in our churches and schools, and all being well, as we recognise the familiarity of the turning of the seasons.



But the recent heat wave and drought in parts of Britain and also in significant areas of the globe, have meant that the browned dry grassland and fields, hedges and verges have been with us for quite some time, with wildfires breaking out across both field and forest. The seasons seem less defined, the wildlife less prevalent, and the lives we live just a little more precarious perhaps.

What are we doing to our world and what are we doing to mitigate disaster?

The Millennium Seed Bank at the Royal Botanical Gardens, Kew, suggests that two in five plant species are in danger of extinction – not just from this year's drought or fire but as a consequence of our failure to look after our world with respect, and the devastating changes to the climate that are happening as a result. The Millennium Seed Project is collecting seeds from as many species across the UK and the world as it can. Keeping them at sub-zero temperatures in specially designed underground flood, bomb and radiation-proof vaults. They currently have over 2.4 billion seeds and counting! A 'Noah's Ark' of seeds for the future, should we need it.

Seeds are the precious treasure-chests of life. They provide the food we eat as grain for bread, and crops of all kinds, as well as flowers and shrubs for our pleasure. They grow into trees for the cleansing and replenishing of the air we breathe. In so many ways they sustain life. The seed is so important for the future of our world, and for our survival, and to God that we should be mindful to make sure that we do our best to protect and preserve it.

This autumn perhaps we could find the space and time to reflect on the precariousness of our ecosystems, to think about how we use the world's resources and to make the changes needed in our own lives to preserve our world. Perhaps also, we could sow, plant or grow something new for God and for the future of our world.

Blessings this September,

Revd Elveen

Stratton Team Ministry

Seeking, Sharing and Serving God Together

Stratton Team Ministry will be conducting Sunday Morning services at South Marston St Mary Magdalene Church (unless otherwise stated).

11th September	9.30am	Holy Communion
18th September	10.00am	Team Service, <i>St Margaret's Church</i>
2nd October	10.00am	All Age Worship
9th October	9.30am	Holy Communion
16th October	10.00am	Team Service, <i>St Leonard's Church</i>
30th October	10.00am	Rosemary Service, <i>St Margaret's Church</i>
6th November	10.00am	All Age Worship
13th November	10.00am	Remembrance Sunday

Please Note: latest guidance from the Government and Church of England is followed.

Saturday Scene offers a very friendly welcome and an informal space for children to explore together in a Christian environment. Join us at 4pm in St Margaret's Centre on Saturday **10th of September & 8th of October**.

Getting in touch

We are very happy to hear from you if you have any questions about the church, our timetable of services and events, or if you need support.

Church Office:

☎ 01793 826505

South Marston Churchwarden:

Diane Whitford ☎ 01793 824339

💻 stmargaretsoffice2@btconnect.com

Stratton Team Ministry is also pleased to welcome you for private prayer at **St Mary Magdalene's Church**, which will be open daily from early morning till early evening.

MEETING POINT



St Mary Magdalene Church, South Marston

The 'drop in' is for all members of our community

Come and Join Us for Coffee

In the Village Hall, from 10.00 - 12.00

on Saturday 17th of September

and 15th of October

Enquiries or reservations please call 831473.



Low Noise Fireworks

by Lionel Cave-Ayland

We are hoping to hold an event on the Playing Fields, where the fireworks will be designed specifically for children up to 11 years old. However, all are welcome.

The event will be free, neighbour and pet friendly and car free - walkers only please.

For safety reasons the only access points will be via the small gate on Thornhill Road and the car park entrance by the school.

Date and time to be announced in due course.

Bonfires Safety Notice

As the finer weather continues, we know that some residents will choose to have bonfires to get rid of rubbish and cuttings.

Whilst there are no laws restricting the time and length of bonfires in private gardens, we ask that those planning bonfires follow the sensible guide below to ensure all residents can continue to enjoy their gardens:

- Please inform neighbours who may be affected that you intend to have a bonfire to allow them to take in washing etc
- Wet or green materials on bonfires will cause excess smoke
- For safety purposes, and to reduce annoyance, it is best to burn a small bonfire and then adding to it as opposed to making one great big bonfire
- Keep buckets of water prepared in case the fire gets out of control
- Never leave a bonfire unattended
- Never burn anything which is likely to cause excessive and pungent black smoke
- Rubber tyres and plastic containers should never be put on a bonfire.
- Avoid lighting bonfires on windy days as the wind will blow the smoke further causing annoyance to even more neighbours.

THE F & E HARRIS MEMORIAL TRUST

Barnes Coaches Swindon service change

The Trust arranged for the coach to take villagers to and from Swindon every Thursday following the village bus service ceasing in 2015. However with it now only being used by around 5 passengers a week, it will run on a fortnightly basis from the 6th of October 2022, as the Trustees are reluctant to stop it, though it is very costly. Fleming Way is now closed to all traffic, so the new destination/pick up point will be at Swindon bus station. The coach leaves from outside the Carriers Arms at 9.30am and returns at 12.00pm.

Christmas Hamper 2022

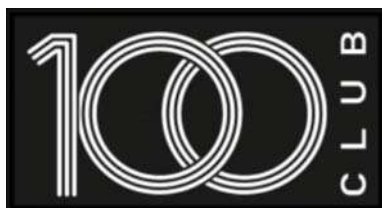
To qualify the recipient is to have been in permanent residency in South Marston for a 3 year period prior to registration submission and be aged 66 years or over before the 1st of January 2022. Existing recipients need not reapply.

Application forms can be requested from Robbie Taylor, call 01793 823757 or email robina.taylor@btinternet.com. The closing date is the 1st of November 2022.

Christmas Market Trip

The annual trip will be on the 22nd November 2022 to Birmingham, for senior citizens of South Marston Village aged 65 and over.

If you would like to go, please contact Robbie Taylor, call 01793 823757 or email robina.taylor@btinternet.com, if you need a carer to go with you please also let us know.



Congratulations from South Marston Recreation Association to our JULY winners.

£10 No. 76 Sarah Watch
£10 No. 82 Francesca McElroy
£10 No. 113 Carol Brickell
£10 No. 52 Kate Jackson

The 100 Club is an annual subscription of £12 with the chance of winning £10, £30 or £100.

All profits are used to support the maintenance of the Recreation Ground and the Village Hall.

The SMRA would like to thank all the participants and Club collectors for their continued support especially in these difficult times.

If you are interested in supporting the SMRA, please contact Julie Hatherall on 07749211867 or Angela Newton on 07789068340 to obtain a number and participate in the monthly draw.

Open Spaces Working Group (OSWG) Update

People on probation recently came to do maintenance work with us on the Rec.

They painted the green storage container, and strimmed and cut the grass and hedge. They also filled in numerous soil cracks, that had been caused by the recent dry weather, with soil and sharp sand.



Whilst the crew saw to the container, Lionel repainted the metal Youth shelter.

With the COVID risk reduced, the Probation Service are again allowing group travel for offenders. The village has benefited from these teams working in the Church grounds, St Julian's Wood, the Allotments and in other locations used for recreation.

PROUDLY INDEPENDENT...

Let our family take care
of your family



Big enough to cope, small enough to care

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01793 522483 drovevets.co.uk

Useful Contacts

South Marston Parish Council: clerk@southmarston.org.uk 686150

Wiltshire Police Community Support: PCSO Jocasta Bennett 07825658418

Neighbourhood Watch: martinhoffen@smsinternet.co.uk 823513

South Marston Church: via Stratton Team Ministry 826505

Church Warden: Diane Whitford 824339

Parochial Church Council (PCC): William Hiscocks, Richard Sansum, Diane Whitford, Mary Crichton and Dorinda Balchin

Meeting Point: Richard 831473, **Saturday Scene:** Pat England 826505

South Marston Church of England Primary School: 823379

SMRA: Julie Hatherall 07749211867, Jenny McEwen 07770633362

Village Hall hire: Rachel Case on smra@sky.com 07741549393

Youth Club: Julie Hatherall smyc0307@gmail.com 07749211867

Tots and Toddlers: Francesca francescamcelroy1@gmail.com 07716 277877

F&E Harris Memorial Trust: Robbie Taylor 823757

Gardening Club: Angela Newton angelanewton01@gmail.com 07789068340, Mike New 827807

Friendly Club: smfriendlyclub@gmail.com Sheila on 828545

Facebook page (South Marston): Sharon editor@southmarston.org.uk

Swindon Dial a Ride: 521123

Swindon Streetsmart 445501 or streetsmart@swindon.gov.uk

Editor's note

The summer has seen another successful Annual Show for the Gardening Club and more opportunities for the Community to come together. There has also been the opening of fantastic new green spaces and play area equipment in the village.

If you would prefer to receive Community News by email, please send a request to editor@southmarston.org.uk. Alternatively, read it on the Community News page of the village website at <http://southmarston.org.uk/latest-posts/community-news>.

With best wishes, Sharon

About Community News

South Marston Community News is produced by the Communications Working Group of South Marston Parish Council. Although funded by the Parish Council, the Editorial Board of Community News operates independently and aims to produce an impartial, community focused magazine of interest to all residents.



Produced in partnership with our printers, Orchard Press (www.Orchard-Press.co.uk) and sponsored by Eneco, which manages South Marston's solar farm (www.eneco.co.uk).



**SOUTH MARSTON
PARISH COUNCIL**



The Carpenters Arms

----- South Marston -----

Events

Saturday 17th September @ 8pm: Live Music with "Black Dog Acoustic Duo"

Saturday 24th September @ 8pm: Retro Disco Night

Saturday 22nd October @ 7pm: Black Tie Night

(£35 p/p Includes 3 Course Meal & Live Music From "Delores")

Saturday 5th November @ 5pm: Bonfire & Fireworks Night

(£7.50 p/p Under 5's Free, Includes a Hot Dog)

@ 7pm: Bonfire Night After Party

with Live Music From "Mark Colton"

New Year's Eve @ 8pm: Disco Night (Tickets £10 p/p Includes Buffet)

Old Vicarage Lane, South Marston, Swindon, SN3 4ST Tel: 01793 822997
thecarpentersarms1@gmail.com www.carpentersarmsswindon.co.uk

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TORQUAY TURKEY & TINSEL

Sun 6th November 2022

5 Days: From £449

Includes visits to Exeter, Dartmoor, Torbay & crossing the River Dart by Boat!



SIDMOUTH

Mon 7th November 2022

5 Days: From £449

Includes visits to Exeter, West Bay, Lyme Regis, Dawlish, Teignmouth, Donkey Sanctuary & Wells.



SKEGNESS TURKEY & TINSEL

Mon 7th November 2022

5 Days: From £389

Includes visit to Stamford, Lincoln, Boston, Louth, & Melton Mowbray.



SECRET SANTA MYSTERY

Fri 11th November 2022

5 Days: From £319

From North to South, to East, to West... our mystery destination is for you to guess! Includes visit to a famous Christmas market!



LOCH LOMOND ALL

INCLUSIVE HOUSE PARTY!

Fri 11th November 2022

4 Days: From £369

Includes a Michael Bubl  Tribute Night! With visits to Stirling, Luss, Loch Lomond shores & great scenery!



ISLE OF WIGHT, SANDOWN TURKEY & TINSEL

Fri 25th November 2022

4 Days: From £319

Includes visits to Alum Bay, overlooking the Needles, Yarmouth, Shanklin & Ryde.



ST AGNES' MISTLETOE & WINE

Mon 28th November 2022

5 Days: From £379

Includes visits to Bideford, Falmouth, Portleven, Padstow, Truro, views of Mount's Bay, Land's End, St Ives & Looe.



FESTIVE CHEER IN ST-ANNE'S-ON-SEA, LYTHAM

Sun 4th December 2022

5 Days: From £419

Includes visits to Bowness-on-Windermere, Fleetwood, Southport, Great Xmas Xtras' included too!



BELGIAN & GERMAN XMAS MARKETS, BRUSSELS

Fri 9th December 2022

4 Days: From £429

Includes Aachen, Bruges, Ypres & Brussels' Christmas Markets!



CHICHESTER FOR XMAS

Fri 23rd December 2022

5 Days: From £629

Includes visits to Southsea or Gunwharf Quay, Bognor Regis! Entertainment every night, Christmas Lunch & many more 'Xmas Xtras'!