



MARSTON
SICCA

PARISH NEWSLETTER
APRIL 2023



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**CALL OR TEXT
STEVE FOR A
FREE QUOTE!**

COMMUNITY FOOD SHARE/CARE

Community Food Share – Operated by a small team who distribute food to those who require that extra help.

Please contact
Stephenie Hillier
(07720 975023)
or **Jane Batchelor**
(07522 559865).

**All inquiries and
conversations are strictly
confidential.**

If you would like to donate food
towards **The Community Food
Share** there will be a
collection box outside **The
Poppin, Long Marston.**

Thank you.



EDITORS NOTES

JACKIE JOHNSON

It is with great sadness that we learnt that Jackie passed peacefully away in her own home on March 17th.

Jackie came to the village as a young bride but sadly soon became a widow with three young children. Despite this, Jackie threw herself into village life, supporting every village function. She fund-raised for many years to provide a Christmas party for all the village children, wrapping an individual named present for each child from newborn to 11 years.

She was responsible for Fancy dress parades at the fete and was so determined that the Fete should return in 2023 that despite her illness she phoned round and began the basic organisation. She was a long term member of the WI and over the years held the post of President, Secretary and lastly Treasurer.

For over 30 years she was Newsletter Editor reminding us to get our articles in on time. An original volunteer at the Poppin Shop, she was always ready to take on extra duties. She served long term on the Village Hall Committee and was Booking Clerk for over 30 years. Member of both The Marston Singers and Village Orchestra when they existed. Fruit and Flower Show, Coffee Mornings, Line Dancing, Keep Fit, Garden Club, Bridge Club, Organizer of Grand National Sweepstakes, Pantomimes, Jackie did them all.

Her Laurel and Hardy sketch with George J. had us all in stitches, they rehearsed in secret and put on a very memorable performance at a Village Variety Show.

Jackie was real village Stalwart working hard at every Church and Village Event. She will be very much missed by us all.

Diana Rippin

You now need
Photo ID to
vote at a
Polling station

STOP PRESS!

Voter ID walk-in service now available
9am to 4pm, Monday to Friday
at the Stratford-on-Avon District Council offices
Elizabeth House, Church Street,
Stratford-upon-Avon CV37 6HX



Find out more at

<https://www.stratford.gov.uk/council-democracy/voter-id-at-polling-stations.cfm>

No ID? You can apply for free voter ID

DISTRICT COUCCILLOR

Manuela Perteghella



Dear Residents,

Hope you are all keeping well and looking forward to the warmer weather.

Full Council Meeting 27 February and budget

The District Council's budget was debated at the full council meeting on 27th February. The current administration's budget has been passed, but disappointingly of all our opposition group's important budget amendments only one was accepted. Our group listened to residents and parish and town councils and proposed the following: a review of the green bin charge; more resources for the next two years to improve planning enforcement; community funding for parish councils and groups to tackle

climate change in our rural villages; the review of the over 65s (or better over 66s) parking permit to make it a self-funded scheme. Of all these amendments, the only one accepted by the Cabinet was more resources for the enforcement team.

In better news, my cost-of-living motion, asking Council to review some of their schemes and help residents who need assistance, was passed unanimously at the full council meeting.

The next Full Council meeting will be held on Monday 24th April. This will be the last Council meeting before the new Council is elected on the 4th of May.

Voter ID

As you might know, new government legislation has introduced photo ID (unnecessarily in my view) for voting at polling stations at the next elections. There is a **Voter ID Walk-In service** at the Council Offices for anyone without acceptable photo ID, who wishes to vote in person. Anyone attending must have their NI Number to hand as well as their date of birth. The process takes

less than 5 minutes. People wishing to vote at the polling stations on 4th May, and without an acceptable form of ID, have until **5pm on 25th April** to apply for one of these Certificates whether on-line, by paper application or in person at the SDC offices. Please note that the Voter ID legislation currently applies if you choose to vote in person at the polling station. Residents can also apply for postal vote, you can fill an application on <https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/i-am-a/voter/apply-vote-post> and return the completed form to Stratford-on-Avon District Council, Elizabeth House, Church Street, Stratford-upon-Avon, Warwickshire CV37 6HX. Alternatively, e-mail a scanned copy to elections@stratford-dc.gov.uk Please note that the deadline for registering as a *postal voter* for the May local elections is **5pm on 18th April**.

More details here: <https://www.stratford.gov.uk/council-democracy/postal-and-proxy-voting.cfm>

Email: elections@stratford-dc.gov.uk
Telephone: 01789 260208

South Warwickshire Local Plan update

The South Warwickshire Local plan consultation ended on the 6th March. I submitted my representations with regards to our ward. There are concerns from residents about the large sites between Meon Vale and the Long Marston Airfield Garden Village, being submitted for housing and employment land to make up a new settlement. I raised my objections to this in my representation.

No decision has been made by the Council yet on which of the submitted sites is brought forward/proposed in the plan for consultation, as the officers need to undertake technical studies of all sites. There will be further consultations where we can comment eventually on the selected sites.

Recycling, green waste, and food waste.

I thought you might be interested to know where our recycling, green waste and food waste go:

Dry Recycling (paper, plastic, glass, cans, etc.)

Interim arrangements (August 2022 – July 2023)

Bulking of kerbside collected recycling at Tom Whites Waste (Coventry)

Materials Recycling Facilities provided by Biffa (Edmonton and Teesside)

Long term arrangements: (from August 2023)

Sherbourne Recycling Material Recycling Facility (Coventry)

A **Material Recycling Facility** is a facility designed specifically to receive, separate, and prepare recyclable materials for marketing to end-user manufacturers, so that these can be reused in products.

Food Waste

The food waste goes to Severn Trent Anaerobic Digestion Facility in Colehill. Anaerobic digestion is a process through which specialist bacteria break down organic matter—such as food wastes—in the absence of oxygen and produce biogas. I have been told that our food waste becomes biogas (energy). The biogas produced from this process is either converted to electricity and exported to the national electricity grid or further treated and exported to the national gas grid, supplying homes and businesses with renewable energy.

Garden waste

The garden waste goes to an In-Vessel Composter (IVC) treatment site at Ufton, near Southam.

Please note that these destinations for recycling, food waste and green waste are chosen by Warwickshire County Council as the waste disposal authority.

As usual, please don't hesitate to contact me with any query, issue or concern you might have.

Warmest best wishes
Manuela

Email: manuela.perteghella@stratford-dc.gov.uk

mob. 07870488071

Fb: <https://www.facebook.com/CllrManuelaPerteghellaWelford>

MEON VALE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Groups

The MVRA is helping create the following groups, if you are interested in joining any please just let us know:

- Youth Group
- Woodland Wetland & Wildlife Group
- Arts & Crafts Group
- The MV Strollers to be launched at the MV Leisure Centre, 18th April at 11.30am.

Earth Day is now the Great Big Green Day



GREAT BIG GREEN DAY IS ABOUT COMMUNITY ACTION - COME ALONG TO SEE HOW WE TACKLE IT

Our original plan was to hold this in April, however due to a conflict with another event, this is now being held on 10th June.

It is about tackling Climate Change and Protecting Nature

The celebration of Green Day is a joint event by the Parish Council, the Residents Association, Warwickshire and Stratford Councils. It highlights practically, the things we can all do to reduce the effects of climate change which is becoming an increasingly hot topic.

Part of this solution will also be about biodiversity (nature), what has caused the UK's decline in nature, the loss of 60% of our flying insects, and why the UK is one of the most nature depleted countries in the world. What steps can you take to reverse this decline.

SAVE THE DATE - Sat 10th June on Meon Vale

Bus Shelter

Waiting on news about the bus shelter, various types and costs are being investigated we hope to know more shortly.

The Pavilion Coffee Shop & Village Hall Refurbishment - temporary closure

As most people who use the Pavilion Coffee Shop and Village Hall will know, they are both now shut for refurbishment. They hope to reopen at the end of April, we will keep you informed of progress.

The new Pavilion will be relaunched with a new kitchen, interior ambience and fixtures and fittings with the ability to provide a wider menu. It will continue to source most produce ethically and sustainably from local suppliers, the manager will be looking for a paid helper on reopening. The Pavilion will be expanding its wide-ranging charitable work, including FareShare part of the UK's largest charity fighting hunger and food waste, if you have a little spare time, and wish to meet people it could do with more volunteers, please get in touch.

The village hall will be reconfigured to provide remote office-working facilities, which was a condition of planning consent; a bigger and better fitted kitchen with hatch, Stratford Foodbank will commence operating from its Meon hub a different charity to FareShare, the large hall will have acoustic treatment to make it more meeting and group-friendly.

Forthcoming Events at Meon Vale - save the dates...

- MVRA Easter Egg Hunt and Trail 10th April
- Celebration Party 6th May details tba
- Kings Coronation Big Lunch 7th May details tba
- Volunteering Day 8th May details tba
- Annual MVRA meeting with a guest speaker 18th May
- **Great Big Earth Day - Saturday 10th June 10am to 4pm - Community and family event on Meon Vale about the importance of biodiversity (nature) and climate change, what we can do, lots of wildlife stalls in the village hall,**

activities for kids in Pavilion, interactive video about 'food miles' also guided tours of our Woodland Walk by the ecologists and hopefully a tour of the Wetlands, an event for everyone please save the date.

- Meon Funfest 29th July
- MVRA Quiz – date tba

Meon Vale Football

The new Meon Vale Football Club is going strong and don't forget that boys and girls of all ages from three to 16 are welcome. New football goal posts are being installed for the club by St. Modwen, and the pitches will now be maintained on behalf of the community by the club's dedicated grounds team.

Timings for the training sessions are:

- Wednesday, 18:00 till 19:30 – Training for age groups U7, U13, U16
- Thursday, 18:00 till 19:30 – Training for age groups U8, U10, U12, U14
- Saturday, 09:00 till 13:00 – Matches
- Sundays, 09:00 till 11:00 – Little Kickers aged 3 to 6 years + Wildcats (female only)

The club already has lots of children from Meon Vale among its teams but would be delighted to welcome new members. For more information contact Matt Henson on 07803 608813 or via email at matt-henson@hotmail.co.uk

Volunteers

The MVRA is looking for volunteers, if you have a few spare hours and wish to meet new people and want to help make our community a better place to live, please email: meonvaleresidents@gmail.com

Useful Information

Any incidents requiring police attention can be reported as follows: dialling 101 is always an option this will be recorded and tagged to the local team at Shipston who will pick it up, alternatively email details and even a photo or recording to [sid.hammond@warwickshire.police.uk](mailto:hammond@warwickshire.police.uk) or for more urgent attention call his mobile on 07967 303185 In an emergency, then always use 999.

If you want to sign up to Warwickshire/Police Warwickshire Connected to keep abreast of police alerts & incidents in our

area you can sign up here: alert@neighbourhoodalert.co.uk

<https://www.facebook.com/MeonValeRA>

The MVRA website is now live at www.meonvalera.org
We're also on Facebook so make sure you follow us and stay up to date with everything that's going on in the community

R Whittaker on behalf of MVRA

LONG MARSTON LADIES

Mr Julian Marcus, recently retired veterinary surgeon from 'The Ark' entertained Long Marston Ladies at the March meeting with "It Only Happens to Vets."
From midnight walks with a lion cub to a dog who swallowed a ball of string, the stories came along thick and fast, much to everyone's delight.

The evening was held to raise funds for The Shakespeare Hospice amounting to over £200.

LIBRARY AND COFFEE MORNING

Please come and join us for the Library and Coffee morning on Tuesday 11th April 10.30 am and help the Library service to continue to come to the village.
This is a good way to make new friends.

Chris Rathbone

CLERGY LETTER

Resurrection Season

There is a pebble on my desk that I decorated a few years ago as part of prayer event I was at. It has some words from a song I like very much: "I know that there's a meaning to it all, a little resurrection every time I fall." It's a reference to the amazing gift that we have in God's grace, a gift that can pick us up, transforming us and our situation when things are rough. My goodness how we need those 'little resurrections'. Of course, the paradox is that every little resurrection is both an after-shock of a big resurrection and the foretaste of another. The first of those is of course Jesus' resurrection which we celebrate at Easter. You may have noticed that we live in a world with a lot of problems. The Bible explains this by telling us that humanity fell out of relationship with God, and this turning away from God rippled through all creation.

It released the power of death into the world, which makes sense – if you disconnect from the source of all life, what are you left with? Since then, the corrupting power of death has run rampant – in every natural disaster, every act of violence and selfishness, in every sickness and then most finally in our own physical death. It was never meant to be like this. Fortunately for us, death loses. You see, all this death breaks God's heart because it is not what he wants for his creation, for you and for me. He wants us to have life in all its fullness, which basically means life that is better than you can begin to imagine – no death, no tears, no suffering at all. So he sent his Son Jesus, who announced that the Kingdom of God has arrived, pushing back the power of death. He showed us the acts of love and compassion that undo the power of death and called us to live them out. Then he died on a cross, and

everyone thought that death had beaten him too. But three days later he rose from the dead, showing that death was defeated and that God's plan for eternal life in all its fullness is our destiny. Sadly, we still see death's power at work in our world, but it is a defeated power, lashing out before it is finally extinguished – a bit like how a war continues for a while even after the decisive battle has taken place. The promise we celebrate at Easter is that the victory is won and it will be finally sealed when Jesus returns – perhaps one day soon. By the way, that's the moment we experience our big resurrection – because everyone who has died will rise to meet him in that moment of triumph. You can understand why the church makes such a big deal about Easter can't you? So may this Easter be a season of resurrection for you. May you know God's 'little resurrections' as we live between the two big ones. May you know something of that

'life in all its fullness' that God longs to give you. And if you'd like to, we'd love to celebrate all of that with you at church on Easter Sunday. Sadly this will be my last entry for this magazine as in April I am moving to a new post in East Sussex, due to complications around the timescales of the Garden Village development. I have loved living and ministering in this beautiful part of the world and my family and I are grateful for the friendship we've found in the villages of the benefice. We will miss being here very much. But there is a little resurrection here too – for me, I am moving to a part time role which will help me to recover from some health issues I have been facing, and for the churches here, a season of renewed energy and vision when the new Rector is appointed. May it be a season of blessing, resurrection and new life for us all.

Reverend Andrew Goy

PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Council would like to thank and congratulate the team of residents who helped to plant a significant number of trees to Marston Meadow. We can finally see positive changes to the open space and will continue to improve the site in the coming months. We still have to conclude on the final transfer which has been delayed due to Severn Trent easement conditions but solicitors representing the Parish Council, Severn Trent and Lagan have been working to resolve the matter. The open space working group meet monthly to consider all options for the space including pathways, play area, sensory planting etc and will prepare for a full public consultation on key project ideas towards end of Spring.

Improvements to the Barley Fields play area have been completed with new fencing now in place. Further work is scheduled for the site.

Community buildings within Meon Vale are currently undergoing considerable refurbishment. The village hall will include a business centre, improved

acoustics, relocated fitted kitchen, separate meeting room for additional activities and improved storage.

The Pavilion will see a complete transformation with greater seating area, dedicated side room for meetings, job club, study area, enlarged and fully fitted kitchen, weather protection to outside seating area and greater menu option.

Charitable services are continuing to operate through the closure and the Parish Council would like to thank Steph and all the volunteers who work tirelessly to support the most vulnerable in our community.

This is an election year with voters needing photo ID at a polling station. There is a Voter ID Walk-In service at the Council Offices for anyone requiring acceptable ID who wishes to vote in person. Deadline is 5pm on 25th April to secure assistance at the Council Offices, and remember to take NI details and confirmation of DOB.

CLEAN UP MORNING

Council members are asking residents to join us 10am on the

15th April at Long Marston Village Hall for a litter picking morning. Pickers and bin liners will be provided.

GREAT BIG GREEN DAY

As part of the Parish Councils commitment to climate change and biodiversity, council members and the biodiversity working group will be hosting a Great Big Green Day on June 10th at Meon Vale. A range of speakers, activities and ideas will be presented and will include fun projects for the children. Please come along and share discussion on this important topic. Super prizes will be available on the day.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH

This gives an opportunity for clubs, activities and events held within the parish to be discussed. Please make a note in your diary –

April 17th at 6pm followed by normal parish council meeting. Nibbles and beverages will be available. This is an ideal time for clubs and organisation from both LM and Meon Vale to come together.

PLANNING

Council members discussed ongoing planning matters. No new applications received in the current month. The Parish Council continue to discuss the lack of infrastructure with SDC and the need to tackle congestion before additional housing is placed on routes with already exhausted roads. More details on the new ward will be placed on the Parish Council website.

Debbie Woodliffe – Parish Clerk

GARDEN CLUB

On Wednesday 22nd March we visited Trench Hill, a garden near Painswick to view Hellebores. We certainly weren't disappointed. One car got very lost which was transporting the organiser of this event. Didn't matter as everybody else were far more efficient finding this isolated garden with fantastic scenery. Delicious cakes were eaten outside in a howling gale but sunshine. Next month we are viewing Friterallies in Oxford. Make sure you have booked your place for a visit to Highgrove in May. There are only three places left.



Easter 2023

Special services at your local parish churches - all are welcome

Palm Sunday 2nd April

- 9 a.m. Holy Communion at St. James the Great, Long Marston
- 10.30 a.m. Family Communion for all ages at St. Peter's, Welford
- 10.30 a.m. 'Altogether' Breakfast Service at St. Swithin's, Quinton

Maundy Thursday 6th April

- 7 p.m. Holy Communion at All Saints', Weston

Good Friday 7th April

- 2 to 3 pm 'Last Hour' Service at St. Swithin's, Quinton

Easter Sunday 9th April

- 9 a.m. Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer) at All Saint's, Weston
- 10.30 a.m. Easter Family Praise for all ages at St. Peter's, Welford
- 10.30 a.m. Easter Holy Communion at St. Swithin's, Quinton and St. James the Great, Long Marston



LONG MARSTON WI

We welcomed Pia Wilkes to tell us about her childhood in Denmark prior to coming to England to University and completing an Engineering Degree and remaining in England. This led her to work for Lotus involved with their Safety Design. Pia now works for the Ministry of Transport in overall command of vehicle design and safety on the road. There are 300 workers in this sector who in turn complete miniscule intricate checks on the safety of every new design of vehicle made in this country before being allowed to be sold to the public.

For this and other services to the Motor Industry Pia was awarded Commander of the British Empire of which she is very proud. A very important perk was being invited to a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace – and the sun shone.

Next Meeting Wednesday 12th April 7.30pm
'Ration, Fashion and Fun' Lynda Sharpe
Guests always welcomed.

Liz Marcuse

THE POPPIN

The new fridge is in and working well. We thought that this might be a good time to make some changes with a newly created space next to the fridge, a change of shelving to enable the fridge door to open fully and the shelf with sweets only partly assembled as a starting point. A simple one page survey form is to be distributed to all village properties so please help us to improve the shop to make shopping at the Poppin a better experience. Under the current shopping climate we really do

need more people in the village to support us. While the changes are going on business carries on as usual with bread, which can be ordered, along with cakes, Danish pastries and other goodies. Meat, sausages, bacon and different kinds of cheeses are always available in the new fridge. We have an excellent selection of wine and all at good prices. Please pop in and give us your views on the future of the Poppin so that we can give you the service you would like from this very convenient local shop.

Blocked drains are causing problems in your area



Blockages can cause serious issues in and around your home, such as:



Prevent your toilet from flushing properly



Cause bad smells



Result in sewer flooding

Drains and sewer pipes take wastewater away from your home. If they get blocked by the wrong things being flushed or put down the sink, the wastewater cannot flow away. This can be a hassle to sort and costly to fix.

Help us to help you and your neighbourhood, see advice on how to avoid blockages on the next page.

WONDERFUL ON TAP



MARSTON MEADOWS

Tree Planting

We have recently planted a number of trees on Marston Meadows – to the rear of Perry Orchard and managed to do this before the recent cold snap at the beginning of March. Our thanks must go to the Parish Council, who provided the money, which in part was sourced from S106 funding. These trees were ornamental varieties on the Northern perimeter and replacement fruit trees in variety in the Orchard area, all have deer guards to prevent damage from predominantly deer and rabbits.

There is also a small coppice area planted, also of ornamental varieties in the NE area, in celebration of the forthcoming Coronation of King Charles III. These trees were generously given by the Long Marston Ladies, St James the Great, The Village Hall, Long Marston W.I., Andrew and Lulu Brown and The Poppin Stores

David Marcuse - Tree Warden

VILLAGE HALL NEWS



The A.G.M took place on February 21st, one member of the public attended. Diana, in the chairman's report, thanked the committee members for all their hard work and help over the year and especially Jackie Johnson who has been the booking clerk for over 30 years and the W.I. representative for much longer.

Members of the committee were re-elected en bloc for another year and we were pleased to welcome Karen Youdell to the committee. We still need more interested volunteers to join us to help look after the hall. A great deal of maintenance work has been carried out over the year including extensive electrical repairs, upgrade of the new heaters, new fencing, new bar floor and much, much more.

LONG MARSTON FETE

On March 2nd, Sally led the meeting to begin the organisation for the fete on July 1st. Our last village fete was in 2019 and money raised will provide much needed funds for St James Church and the village hall.

MARSTON MOVIES

Friday April 21st at 7.30 pm is the date for the next film in the hall. We will be showing the award winning "THE BANSHEES OF INISHERIN" Tickets £3 bar and snacks available as usual.

VILLAGE HALL DIARY

Saturday April 1st - Zumba 9.30

-10.30 am

Tuesday April 4/11/18/25 - Zumba 9.15-10.15am

Wednesday April 5th - Long Marston Ladies

Wednesday April 5/12/19/26 -

Morris Dancing - afternoons

Monday April 10th/24th - Line Dancing 7.45 – 8.45 pm

Tuesday April 11th - Library Coffee Morning 10.15 – 12 noon

Monday April 17th - Parish Council Meeting 7.30 pm

Saturday April 22nd - Shakespeare Hospice Coffee Morning 10 – 12 noon

To book the hall please telephone Anne on 01789 720368



FRIDAY 21st April - 7:30PM

Licensed Bar | Snacks | Ices

Only £3 on the door

Bring a cushion!

Why not hire our hall for a family and friends event. We have very reasonable prices and AIR PURIFIERS to help keep you safe. Phone Anne on 01789 720368

PUZZLES



3+ Letter Words

Grab pen and paper! Using the letters above **how many** words can you make, always including the central letter.

aeon	sen	naos	yon	sane X
eon	son	nog	any	snog
genoa	syne	nosey	gen	song
nag	yen	san	gone	vean
neg	agony	snag	nay	
nosegay	gean	son	nose	
one	gens	yang	nosy	

APRIL QUIZ QUESTIONS

1. On what date in April is St George's Day?
2. What is April's birthstone?
3. Which birds arrival in mid April, is said to signal the start of Spring?
4. 'It was a bright cold day in April, and the clocks were striking thirteen.', is a quote from which book?
5. Which event made British news headlines on the 2nd of April, 1982?

[CLICK FOR ANSWERS](#)

1. 23rd of April
2. Diamond
3. The cuckoo
4. Nineteen Eighty-Four (by George Orwell)
5. Argentina invaded the Falkland Islands

KIDS JOKE CORNER

Q: What do you call a blind dinosaur?

A: Doyouthinkhesaurus

Q: What's the fastest vegetable?

A: A runner bean.

Q: What do you get when you cross a snowman with a vampire?

A: Frostbite.

Q: What's brown and sticky?

A: A stick.



Ingredients (Serves 4)

1 pack of Gnocchi
100g peas, defrosted if frozen
1 bunch of asparagus spears, stalks finely sliced into rounds and tips left whole

For the beurre blanc

40g white wine vinegar
10g white wine
2 black peppercorns
1 shallot, finely chopped
Splash double cream
120g unsalted butter
1 tsp white balsamic vinegar

Method

1. To make the beurre blanc, put the vinegar, wine, peppercorns and shallot in a small saucepan and bring to a simmer. Cook for 6-8 minutes until the liquid has reduced until there's only around 2 tsp liquid left, then strain into a small pan.
2. Add a splash of cream to the vinegar reduction and put over a medium heat. Begin adding the butter a little at a time, continuously stirring to help it emulsify. Once all the butter is added, season with the white balsamic vinegar and a pinch of salt. Keep warm over a very low heat.
3. Cook the gnocchi as per pack instructions
4. Add the peas and asparagus to the beurre blanc to warm through.

To serve, drain the gnocchi, then add to the beurre blanc, tossing to coat. Divide the gnocchi among serving dishes, arranging the peas and asparagus on top.

SPRING VEGETABLE GNOCCHI WITH BEURRE BLANC





SICHUAN-STYLE ASPARAGUS WITH PORK MINCE

Ingredients (Serves 2 | 4 as a side)

Vegetable oil to shallow-fry
250g fine asparagus
1 tbsp garlic paste
1 tbsp ginger paste
4 dried red chillies, soaked in hot water
3 tsp sichuan peppercorns, 2 tsp ground to a powder, 1 tsp left whole
150g pork mince
2 tbsp light soy sauce
2 tbsp shaoxing wine
1 tbsp sugar

Method

1. Pour about 3cm deep of vegetable oil in a pan or wok and put over a medium high heat. Once shimmering hot, fry the asparagus until just starting to wrinkle – about 5 minutes. You may need to work in batches to avoid overcrowding the pan. Drain on kitchen paper, patting dry with paper to remove excess oil.
2. Remove most of the remaining oil from the wok, leaving about 1 tbsp in the pan. Add the ginger and garlic and fry until soft but not coloured. Add the chillies and sichuan peppercorns, followed by the pork mince. Allow to brown and crisp for 5 minutes then add the soy sauce, shaoxing wine and sugar. Cook for another minute or so until the sugar has dissolved and the sauce clings to the mince. Return the asparagus to the pan and stir to combine. Serve immediately with rice or other dishes.

Ingredients

400g rhubarb, cut into 5cm pieces
1 large red eating apple (or 2 small), cut into chunks
5 tbsp maple syrup
4 tbsp demerara sugar, plus extra for sprinkling
Finely grated zest 1 orange
1 cinnamon stick
1 tsp vanilla bean paste or vanilla extract

For the amaretti topping

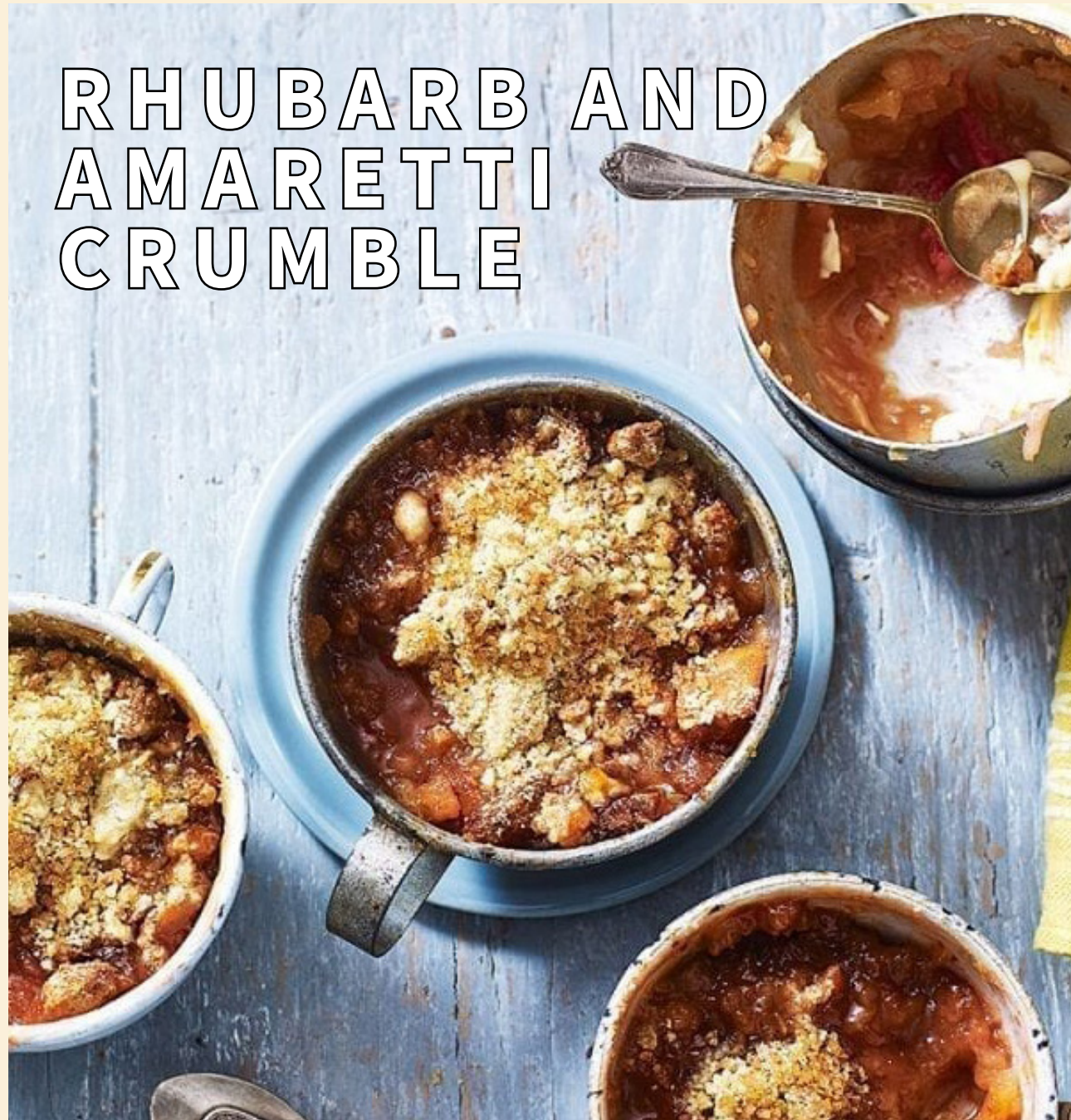
110g plain flour
75g unsalted butter, cubed
50g amaretti biscuits, crumbled
2 tbsp light muscovado sugar (bar pieces)

Method

1. Heat the oven to 190°C/170°C fan/gas 5. Put the rhubarb, apple, maple syrup, demerara sugar, orange zest, cinnamon stick and vanilla in a wide pan and cook gently for 5 minutes.
2. In a separate bowl, rub together the plain flour and butter with your fingertips until it resembles breadcrumbs. Stir in the amaretti and the light muscovado sugar.
3. Divide the rhubarb mixture among 4 ramekins or ovenproof dishes (about 200ml). Top evenly with the crumble mixture, then bake for 15 minutes or until the fruit is juicy and bubbling and the top is golden.

Before serving, sprinkle over extra demerara sugar for crunch.

RHUBARB AND AMARETTI CRUMBLE



CONTACTS

PARISH COUNCILLORS

Chairman - Ian Johnsey
Vice Chairman - Bill Tempest
Councillor - Anthony Hodges
Councillor - Noel Davis
Councillor - Margaret Clarke
Councillor - Richard Whittaker

Parish Clerk/RFO - Debbie Woodliffe
Email - parishclerk@marstonsicca-pc.gov.uk
Telephone- 01386 834321
Mobile - 07485 437702

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Simon Hanagarth - editor@uberdoodle.com

VILLAGE HALL BOOKINGS

Anne Harrison - 01789 720368

THE POPPIN VILLAGE STORE

01789 721011

THE POST OFFICE, LONG MARSTON

01789 721411

NOMINATED SAFE-GUARDING PERSON

Linda Thomas - 01789 721180

DEFIBRILLATOR

This is located outside the Poppin shop.
A 999 call giving the location will provide a code and method of use.

ST JAMES THE GREAT

Church Warden – Carol Watts 07730 419958
Church Warden – Mike Edwards 01386 644231 – 07786 484114

POLICE

999 - Emergency only
101 - Non urgent contact

SHIPSTON-ON-STOUR SAFER NEIGHBOURHOOD TEAM

www.safer-neighbourhoods.co.uk/ship

PCSO 6230	Emma Turner
PCSO 6362	Ben Cole
PC 1508	Sid Hammond

Shipston Police Station

01789 444670
shipston.snt@warwickshire.police.uk
www.facebook.com/ShipstonPolice

Crimestoppers

0800 555111

WEBSITE

www.marstonsicca-pc.gov.uk



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