

MARSTON SICCA



PARISH NEWSLETTER
MAY 2026

EDITORS NOTES

Welcome to the May newsletter.

A couple of days to go until this years Yard Sale and the weather looks to be dry, but it goes ahead whatever the weather, so make sure you get out there and have a look around!

On Monday the Village Hall & The Poppin jointly celebrate big birthdays so do get along to that and show your support. We're lucky to have them both.

Please email your articles to editor@uberdoodle.com by Monday May 25th.

Simon

PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Council members and County Councillor Cliff Brown were reminded of signage problems within Long Marston – signs in disrepair or missing. Cllr. Brown confirmed he will be conducting a walk-through of the village with a senior manager from Highways to review several outstanding matters including the signs. There was also an update on traffic matters including speed mitigation – a speed check will be conducted in two sessions the date will be confirmed asap.

The South Warwickshire Local Plan (SWLP) is approaching the regulation 19 phase where a publication draft of the proposals for the Examination in Public is made available for representations. A Council meeting will be held to vote on the Publication Draft a few days before the consultation period which starts on 11th June. The consultation period will last for six weeks. Click for more information: [South Warwickshire Local Plan](#)

NEWSLETTER

The existing method of providing the village newsletter will end after the June publication. The Parish Council are aware of the importance of conveying information and will organise a new approach to share news with more residents. Details will be announced soon.

PLANNING MATTERS

Councillors questioned planning changes related to applications for 10 or fewer dwellings, arguing that Long Marston's LSV status and its new Neighbourhood Plan should exempt it from the directive supporting small developments. The response indicated the recent Neighbourhood Plan offers some protection, but the situation is being monitored.

Breakfast Service
1st Sunday of the month

Food from: 10:30am
Informal Feel, Food, Refreshments
Little ones friendly &
All Ages Welcome

All Age Communion
3rd Sunday of the month

10:30am

Our all age communion begins with refreshments and pastries, we use accessible language and engaging activities for children. All are welcome!

@ St James, Long Marston
rivervalechurches

Facebook icon Instagram icon

26/00624/LDP, 17 Hodges Grove, Shackleton. Application for Certificate of Lawful Development for construction of a single-storey side extension to existing property. Decision: No objection

26/00448/PIP Dairy Fields, Long Marston. Application for a single dwelling in place of the remains of a single-storey building which was formerly used as an office. Due to limited information the decision was to respond with No Representation.

26/00428/FUL. Sicca Lodge, Wyre Lane Long Marston. Conversion of existing over-garage accommodation, ancillary to Sicca Lodge to form self-contained one-bedroom dwelling. Decision: There was confusion over this application as the annex with parking already exists and is ancillary to the main house which is a listed building. The PC will contact the case officer.

26/00623/VARY Meon Vale. Application for removal of Conditions 27 (offsite Highway works at the junction of Shipston Road with Clifford Lane) and 28 (offsite Highway works at the junction of Shipston Road with Trinity Way) of planning permission 14/01186/OUT, dated 02/04/2015.

Resolved: Objection. Full notes of Marston Sicca objection comments can be found on the SDC site Eplanning 26/00623/VARY.

NEXT MEETINGS

20th May 2026 at Long Marston Village Hall
6pm to 7.30pm ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH (PARISH ASSEMBLY). This is an opportunity for local organisations to come together and share information on the years activities.
7.30pm onwards ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL.

The Poppin Village Shop & Village Hall Invite You To A Free Event To Celebrate Their 25th & 100th Year Birthdays!

Monday 4th May 2026



Drinks & Nibbles



Treasure Hunt Around The Village (Prizes for the Children)



A Chance To Meet Up & Chat With Other Villagers



Photo Displays

THE POPPIN NEWS

25 YEARS OF OUR POPPIN SHOP!

This year is a big milestone in Poppin History
.....25 years of dedicated volunteering!

In 1999 both the shop and garage owners decided to retire. Planning was put in for a small development on the combined site (Jackson's Orchard). Planning was granted providing a shop was included. On completion the shop was offered for rental. No one was interested because it was so small!

A newcomer to the village, Mike Moore, suggested we started a community shop. There were very few in the country at the time and ours would be the first in Warwickshire.

We had all missed the shop so much. Only dog walkers walked down the road. We didn't get a chance to chat to fellow villagers. In fact we became rather lonely. We realised how much the shop had been the hub of the village.

Mike put together a working party and with help from the Plunkett Foundation and local rural help groups, our shop began to take shape.



We were asked to buy £10 shares(still available today) and make unsecured loans, which were later repaid. The money came in. Courses were held in the Hall for potential volunteers. Plans were made for shop fittings and buying stock.

Then the volunteering began. The Post Office opened later in the year.....the first one to reopen in the country.

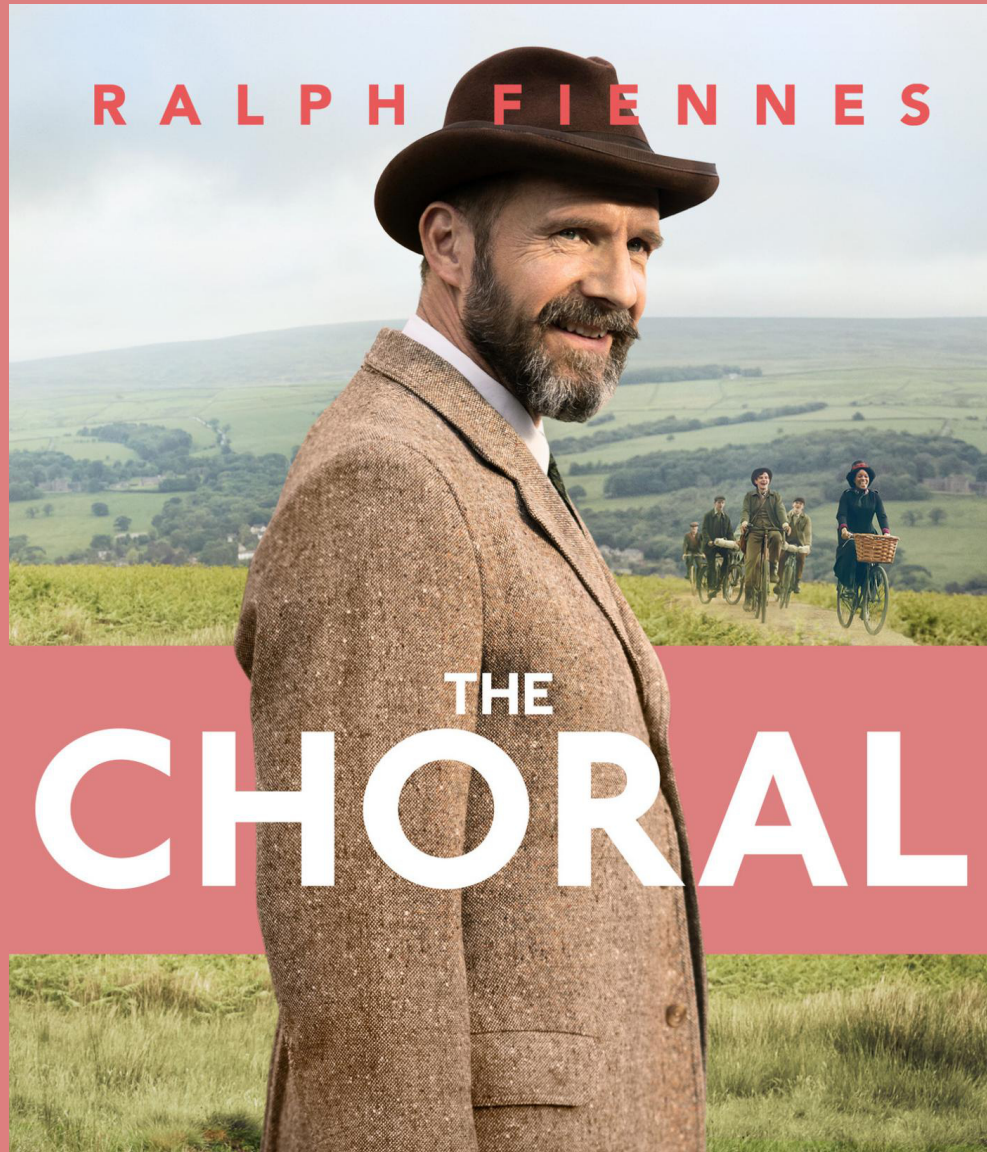
It is so important we keep our shop going, it does keep our village alive. I have enjoyed my 25 years of volunteering, I only worked 2 hours a month to begin with. It has been fun and kept me in touch with you all.

Please consider volunteering, just a little each month. Also remember when you do your supermarket shop to buy just a little from the Poppin each week.

Come in and see what we offer. We don't want the village to become a lonely place again.

Diana Rippin

MARSTON MOVIES



FRIDAY 15th May - 7:30PM

LICENSED BAR | SNACKS | ICES
ONLY £3 ON THE DOOR
BRING A CUSHION!

LONG MARSTON WI

Long Marston Women's Institute
On 8th April David Chatterley visited us to tell us the history of the Teddy Bear. He only possesses over 400 teddies! Luckily not all came with him instead he had a smaller collection showing the different styles from different countries. Many were very old and several had the little metal buttons showing their authenticity. Next month in May we have the skittles night.v



What a disaster. I had to cancel our last outing to Winterbourne Garden with only one member wishing to go. Let us hope more are interested in visiting Shepherds Close, Chipping Campden on Saturday 16th May. This is a private garden only open once a year in aid of Chipping Home Nursing. Entrance is £5 but only accepts cash. We are meeting up at 2pm. Make a note for 18th June when we will be visiting Gardeners World Live at the NEC. Happy gardening. **Wiggy**

LEARNING TOGETHER

Help us celebrate the founding of Evesham u3a in 2001

25TH ANNIVERSARY

u3a Evesham & District
25th Anniversary

evesham.u3asite.uk/25-years/

Were you or someone you know a member of Evesham & District u3a in the early years?

HELP U3A CELEBRATE THEIR 25TH ANNIVERSARY IN EVESHAM

Evesham and District u3a members are celebrating their 25th Anniversary.

Were you or someone you know a member of Evesham u3a in the early years?

Please get in touch with Lorna Slaughter via <https://evesham.u3asite.uk/25-years/>.

From small beginnings, we have over 1,200 members and 90 interest groups, from French to History, and walking and physical activities. The u3a is open to all who are no longer in full-time employment. Look us up on Facebook or our website.

If you're a member of the Alcester u3a you're welcome to join u3a groups in Evesham.



OPEN
TUESDAY - SATURDAY
10am - 4pm

The Pavilion - where good coffee meets good company

TOASTIES | PANINIS | SANDWICHES | SOUP

LOCALLY ROASTED COFFEE

TEAS | HOT CHOCOLATE | PASTRIES | CAKES

FRESHLY MADE BAPS

meonpavilion.co.uk | hello@meonpavilion.co.uk

VILLAGE HALL NEWS



FETE 2026 -This summer there will be two events raising funds for St James Church and the Village Hall. On June 13th there will be a traditional village fete in the field behind the Church, commencing at 2 pm. A smaller event will take place on July 25th in the field behind the Masons Arms, also at 2pm, in conjunction with the music festival. Tickets for the fete raffle will be sold at both events and also at The Poppin. The draw will take place on July 25th There is to be a fete meeting at 7.30pm on May 14th in the Village Hall.

MARSTON MOVIES – On May 15th at 7.30pm the film will be “The Choral”. Admission £3 with bar and snacks as usual.

VILLAGE HALL DIARY for May:

Yard Sale	3rd	8am onwards
Poppin/Village Hall joint celebration	4th	3pm onwards
Yoga	5th 12th 19	7-8pm
Long Marston Ladies	6th	7-30pm
Beavers	11th 18th	5-7pm
W.I.	13th	7.30pm
Fete Meeting	14th	7.30pm
Marston Movies	15h	7.30pm
Parish Council Meeting	18th	7.30pm
Library/Coffee morning	19th	10.30-12am

To book the hall please telephone Anne Harrison 01789 720368

CHURCH SERVICES MAY 2026



RiverVale Churches
Welford | Weston | Quinton | Admington
Long Marston | Meon Vale

St. James the Great - Long Marston

Sunday 3rd Breakfast Service - 10.30am

Sunday 17th All Age Communion - 10.30am

St.Swithin's - Quinton with Admington

Sunday 10th Family Communion - 10.30am

Friday 15th Quinton House Service - 11.00am

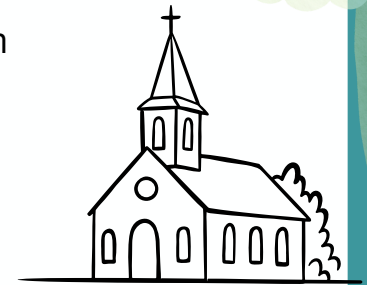
Sunday 17th All In Family Service - 10.30am

Sunday 24th Holy Communion - 10.30am

Meon Vale - Village Hall

Sunday 10th Meon Church - 3pm

Thursday 14th - Ascension day
Benefice Communion - Welford
Sunday 31st - 5th Sunday
Benefice Communion - Welford



LONG MARSTON LADIES

Angela Kierans, founder and owner of the Long Marston Ladies group, opened the April meeting with a talk entitled Angela's Amazing American Adventures. She shared personal stories and photos from the annual road trips she and her husband have taken across America, covering over 40 states and 35,000 miles since 2015. Her presentation included off-the-beaten-path insights and amusing anecdotes, which made for a highly entertaining and enjoyable evening. The evening concluded with the hope that she will share more of her adventures after her next trip.

ST JAMES THE GREAT

Being Real Brings Real Life

I'm a bit of a nerd for film, not in a film studies sort of way, but I do love to notice themes and clever stylistic choices directors and actors use to make something simple potent. For example, there's a scene in Good Will Hunting where a young genius Will (Matt Damon) finally stops performing — stops being clever, stops deflecting, stops hiding — and really listens and the words hit his heart: 'it's not your fault'. And that changes everything.

When did you last have a conversation like that? Where there was real listening and honest conversation?

Not the "fine thanks, busy, you?" kind. Not the carefully chosen highlights reel we tend to offer at the school run or at the pub. But an actual, honest, slightly-terrifying conversation where you said something true about yourself and the world didn't end.

Most of us spend a lot of energy making sure that doesn't happen. We're all wearing masks — some of us have been wearing them so long we've forgotten what's underneath. The mask that says I'm coping. The mask that says I've got it together. The mask that says no, honestly, everything's fine (usually whilst screaming inside).

At Church, over Lent we explored something we called Heart to Heart talks — a series looking at the moments when Jesus sat down with people and simply... talked to them. Really talked. There was Nicodemus, a respectable religious leader who came with his awkward questions. There was the woman at a well in Samaria who'd been married five times and wasn't exactly expecting a rabbi to ask her opinion on theology or even talk to her. There was a man born blind who everyone else had written off. In each case, Jesus met them exactly where they were — no judgement, no performance, Jesus sees through it anyway — and their lives were changed by these simple yet extraordinary conversations.

Turns out that honest conversation, without judgement and fuelled by genuine care, is quietly revolutionary. We all know this. We've all had that friend, that moment, that catch up over coffee or beer, that went on for three hours and left us feeling somehow lighter. Like we'd been heard, like there was something missing and it's finally clicked.

And yet we resist it. Because being real feels risky.

But here's the thing Jesus says "I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full" (John 10:10). A full life. Not a managed life. Not a carefully-presented life. A proper full one. But how often does our fear of losing the mask get in the way of that?

For Christians Easter is more than one day, it's a whole season when we think about new starts, renewed hope and new life. I think it is a great time to have a heart to heart, a real conversation and maybe lose a mask or two. To quote another great film, right now is a great time to 'remember who you are' (Lion King). Ultimately for me my best honest conversations are with Jesus through prayer, but my friends are pretty good too! So how about you find someone safe, put the kettle on, and enjoy your own freeing honest conversation.

New life has to start somewhere. It might as well start there.

FULL PAGE £25

ADVERTISING

If you would like to advertise your business in the Marston Sicca Newsletter, please email editor@uberdoodle.com.

HALF PAGE £12.50

CONTACTS

PARISH COUNCILLORS

Chairman - Ian Johnsey
Vice Chairman - Noel Davis
Councillor - Colin Parrott
Councillor - Bill Tempest
Councillor - Steve Barker
Councillor - Thomas Jackson

Parish Clerk/RFO - Debbie Woodliffe
Email - clerk@marstonsicca-pc.gov.uk
Mobile - 07768 684673

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Simon Hanagarth - editor@uberdoodle.com

VILLAGE HALL BOOKING

Anne Harrison - 01789 720368

THE POPPIN VILLAGE STORE

01789 565006

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

