



Sept 2009

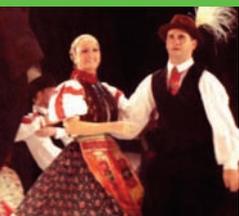
# THE marlovian

All the news  
from **YOUR**  
community



PHOTO SUPPLIED BY MARLOW CAMERA CLUB

THE MARLOVIAN IS PRODUCED BY MARLOW TOWN COUNCIL



# Marlow Food Festival



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# A HISTORY OF The Marlow Institute

The centenary of the opening of the Institute building in Marlow was celebrated in 1990. The Institute itself had existed since 1853 and had been reorganised in 1884. It met in a small building in the High Street and aimed to supply the literary and scientific needs of the town, supplemented by the Mutual Improvement Society with which it eventually amalgamated.

At a public meeting in January 1887, it was decided to have a new Institute building as a permanent local commemoration of Queen Victoria's golden jubilee (in addition to the more usual treats for school children and coals for the poor). General Owen Williams MP, President of the Institute, gave the site in what is now Institute Road. There was a prudent delay while funds were raised but eventually a start was made in 1889. Mr Somers Cocks (of Thames Lawn) laid the foundation stone and Colonel Wethered laid that of the adjoining building, which was to be the headquarters of the 1st Bucks Volunteer Rifle Corps. The buildings were to be "domestic Gothic" in style, costing £1630 for the Institute and £1040 for the Volunteer's building. Y.J. Lovell was the builder.

The new Institute comprised a recreation room, lecture room, library and offices and there were many gifts and endowments from prominent citizens.

A great public lunch was held on September 19th 1890 to mark the opening and there was an entertainment in the evening in aid

of the building fund which still had to raise £480.

At that time it was noted that there were 555 members paying 7/6 (37p) annual subscription and a scheme was proposed to allow people to pay by instalments.

The Institute was not sectarian, religious or political - "all ranks were to pull together" - and there were to be opportunities for "increasing knowledge of science, extending the sphere of the arts and learning more and better of literature". There was hope for University extension courses. As time went on, other opportunities for education and entertainment became more accessible and the recreational nature of the Institute became predominant, but it was well supported up to and including the last war, especially as it provided facilities for billiards. Indeed in 1949 after much discussion and considerable opposition, a bar was installed.

But the advent of TV sounded the death knell and eventually in 1957 the Institute was closed and the County Council bought the building for £4000 for use as a library, the money going to the Marlow Educational Foundation.

It is humbling to think of the initiative and enterprise of those people of the late Victorian age. They were great times in Marlow: the new railway, the newly opened hospital, and, just 100 years ago, the new Institute building.

*This article was produced by Marlow Society Local History Group*

# Best Kept Village ..once again!

Marlow has once again been awarded 1<sup>st</sup> Prize in the Bucks Association of Local Councils Best Kept Village competition.

The judges for this competition visit each village unannounced and assess features such as recreation grounds, village hall, graveyards and war memorials for good maintenance and lack of litter.

The Town will be presented with the Michaelis Cup by Vice Lord Lieutenant Mrs Jenny Hopkirk at a presentation ceremony to be held in Marlow on 12<sup>th</sup> September in the afternoon at the Best Kept Village sign on the Causeway.



The judges made the following comments on their visit to Marlow:

“ **Marlow looked especially lovely on a sunny summer day.** Higginson Park and its surrounds were immaculate with very little evidence of litter. There was a little bit of graffiti in the youth shelter but the skate board equipment was in good condition. Once again the absence of litter was notable. The Riley play area was well looked after and was extremely popular with youngsters and parents. It was heartening to see such a well used facility.

The notice boards were neat and tidy although there was one out of date notice displayed. The judges noted that no BKV posters were displayed either on notice boards or in the Liston Hall.

The Liston Hall was in full use and had a full programme of events. The judges admired the dedicated notice boards provided for user groups. All the statutory notices were in place.

The church was attractively maintained with only small areas where the mower had been unable to reach and the judges appreciated the difficulties of reaching the awkward corners of the burial ground in the section near the river. The other denominational churches were also neat and tidy.

The shopping area only had small deposits of litter and looked vibrant and well used.

**It was difficult to fault Marlow and as a result, it scored highly in all categories. Well done!** ”

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# New man in charge at Harleyford Golf Club

Harleyford Golf Club celebrated the arrival this month of their new General Manager - Trevor Collingwood, seen here being welcomed by Club Chairman - Roger Povey.



Trevor brings with him a wealth of experience in both Golf Club Management as well as golfing ability. He started playing golf at the age of 8, achieving a scratch handicap by the age of 14. In 1975 he signed his Professional papers and commenced playing regular Professional events.

In 1992 he became involved in the construction of Broke Hill Golf Club, a new golfing complex near Orpington in Kent, and embarked on his change of career into Golf Club Management. Since then he has been involved in several major golf club reorganisations the latest being the management of Northwood Golf Club during the recent reconstruction of all their greens to USGA specification.

With almost 35 years experience in the golf industry Trevor has become highly respected and he believes that Harleyford could become a much sought after golfing venue.

He has positive plans for Harleyford Golf Club which he believes should be the club of choice in the area. He intends to engage more within the local community ensuring that the local residents of Marlow are always made very welcome when visiting the Club. "We have some superb facilities here and are very proud to be able to host the Mayor's Annual Charity Golf Day, Harleyford should and will be involved with as many local events as possible in future years." quoted Trevor.

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(terms and conditions apply)

For membership enquiries, please call  
Nerys McGuinness and quote ref HC01 on

**01628 816178**

or email

[membership@harleyfordgolf.co.uk](mailto:membership@harleyfordgolf.co.uk)

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# TOWN COUNCIL NEWS



01628 484024 office@marlowtowncouncil.org.uk

## Seymour Court Recreation Ground

In the last edition we reported that the Town Council had been successful in bidding for funding from the Government's PlayBuilder allocations for 2009/10 and have been awarded the sum of £40,000. Tender documents have now been sent to five major play equipment providers and the tender return is 28<sup>th</sup> August. Subject to satisfactory tenders being received it is anticipated that the new play equipment will be installed during October.

## Cemetery

It is sad to report that recently there has been vandalism in the cemetery. A brick had been thrown through one of the chapel windows. Notice signs have been removed, two small trees have been snapped some 2 metres from the ground, and safety bollards have been removed and strewn about the entrance to the cemetery.

In addition to this rubbish has been left lying around and children have been seen putting milk cartons on the tops of railings at the entrance to the cemetery. There have also been a number of incidents of children riding bicycles in and around the graves and running about the cemetery. Also some children have been seen removing chippings from graves and putting them in their pockets.

It is a great shame when anyone, irrespective of age, treats the cemetery so disrespectfully. The Town Council requests that anyone who sees any incident such as this reports it as quickly as possible to the police (0845 8505505) and telephones the Town Council on 01628 484024. At present the cemetery gates are opened early in the morning and are not closed until sunset. If the problem continues then the Town Council may have to consider closing the cemetery late afternoon.

### Forthcoming Meetings

FINANCE SERVICES & ADMINISTRATION

20<sup>th</sup> October 2009 at 7.00pm

PLANNING COMMITTEE

6<sup>th</sup> October 2009 at 7.00pm (Plans Only)

27<sup>th</sup> October 2009 at 7.00pm (Full Planning)

17<sup>th</sup> November 2009 at 7.00pm (Plans Only)

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

10<sup>th</sup> November 2009 at 7.00pm

**A VERSION OF THIS PUBLICATION IS  
AVAILABLE IN LARGER PRINT**

**Please contact Marlow Town Council on  
01628 484024 if you would like a copy.**

# Marlow In Bloom FRONT GARDEN COMPETITION

The Town Council held its annual Marlow in Bloom competition again this year. Nominations were invited from homeowners who were proud of their front garden, neighbours and passers-by. The judging took place at the end of July. The gardens ranged from quite small compact gardens, to quite large but they all had one thing in common – they were delightful!

After a morning spent judging, decisions had to be made which was a very difficult task because of the diversity of gardens. However, the decision was made and the winners are listed below. They have all been invited to attend a Reception given by the Mayor, who will present the winners with cups, certificates and prizes.

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize**

**Mr K Kirby, Westhorpe Road**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize**

**Mrs E Cundy, Seymour Court Road**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize**

**Mr Springett, Barnhill Road**

**Highly Commended**

**Mrs P Hall, Dedmere Court**

Brooke Furmston Place have retained the cup for the best Sheltered Housing Display and The Cross Keys Public House has won the Cup for best Public House Display.

# Rotary Club of Marlow celebrates 60 years of service...

This year has seen the Rotary Club of Marlow celebrate the 60<sup>th</sup> year since its foundation in 1948, with its usual action packed schedule of events and good works to help the young and old in our local community, and those most in need in the many poor and deprived countries of the world.

The action motto for Rotary International, the largest service organisation in the world, with over 1.25 million members in some 165 countries, is - "Service Above Self", and the Rotary Club of Marlow, as all other rotary clubs, never ceases to try and achieve that aim.

In the year 2008/2009 the Club has again successfully completed many social and work projects, some being regular annual events and some new, and these have included:

**Mock Interviews • Young Chef • Youth Speaks** at Great Marlow School

**Kids Day Out** - for local disabled/disadvantaged children

**Father Xmas and gifts** - for disabled/ disadvantaged children at the Merryfields Centre

**Help for Senior Citizens** - River Boat Trip • Tea Marquee at Marlow Town Regatta

**Stroke Awareness Day** - Free blood pressure tests in Marlow

**Maputo in Mozambique** - 3 heart monitors for local hospital

**Shelter Boxes/Aqua Boxes** - to disaster/earthquake locations

## Vision aid Overseas – old/unwanted spectacles

Over the last 7 years we have collected some 15,000 pairs of spectacles from our collection points at Burgers, Insights Opticians, Liston Hall and the Tourist Centre.

All these spectacles are repaired as necessary and sent for use in those countries in Africa that have no such provision for the poorer population. We wish to thank all concerned for their continued support of Vision Aid.

## The Future – The Next 60 years

The Rotary Club of Marlow now has a total of 40 men and women members with several possible members likely to join this year to help provide the workforce to run and organise the many social, charity and goodwill events in our annual programme.

The new club President Gerry Sheppard and all the members of the Rotary Club of Marlow want to thank the people of Marlow for their continued support over the past years and into the future.

For more details about Rotary International, the Rotary Club of Marlow, future events and membership please contact the website [www.Marlow-Rotary.org.uk](http://www.Marlow-Rotary.org.uk) or contact the secretary Reg Markham on **01494 447654**.



President Gerald Sheppard (left) and President Elect (2010) Peter Bailey

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# Archaeology...

Archaeology In Marlow have been running the ROMADAM (Recording Of Marlow And District's Ancient Monuments) Project, funded by the Local Heritage Initiative, since the start of 2005.

Following the publication of the ROMADAM Project book (available in the Tourist Information Centre and WH Smith), the last parts of the Project to be completed were to design, purchase and install Interpretation Panels at all the four sites.

Although the Panels at Pullingshill Wood (First World War Training Trenches) and Warren Wood (Mediaeval Enclosure) were installed in 2007 and 2008 respectively, those at Medmenham Iron Age Hill Fort and Danesfield Iron Age Hill Fort were installed relatively recently in July and August this year.

For the Medmenham Panel unveiling, we were delighted to welcome our MP, Paul Goodman and the Mayor of Marlow, Neil Marshall, on Saturday the 18th of July. Neil spoke about the local area and Paul gave an amusing and informative speech. We all then raised our glasses of finest sparkling wine as Paul unveiled our interpretation plaque (see photograph).

We were also very pleased to see three of the Fort's landowners and Ruth Beckley representing Bucks County Council archaeology department.

The last two panels were to be unveiled at the Danesfield Iron Age Hill Fort. For the first unveiling, taking place at Danesfield Hotel, we welcomed Bucks County Councillor, Robert Woollard, on Tuesday the 28th of July.



The Medmenham Panel unveiling

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## READER COMPETITION

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# ... in marlow

The Danesfield Iron Age Hill Fort Panel unveiling



Proceedings commenced with Brian Miller (Danesfield Hotel & Spa Manager) speaking of the recent history of the Hill Fort. Councillor Woollard spoke about the more distant history. We all then raised our glasses of champagne, as Councillor Woollard unveiled our interpretation panel (see photograph).

We were also very pleased to welcome Sandy Kidd, Senior Archaeologist for Bucks County Council.

We were indebted to the hotel and its staff who provided the champagne, plus coffee and biscuits for later consumption on the Hotel's patio.

The second panel unveiling took place on Tuesday the 11<sup>th</sup> of August at SAS UK Ltd. We were delighted to welcome Bucks County Councillor, Robert Woollard, Neil Marshall, the Mayor of Marlow and SAS's Marketing Director, Amanda Koenig, who attended the event and unveiled the interpretation board, which is installed in the ditch between the two banks of the Danesfield Hill Fort.

Glasses of sparkling wine and orange juice were raised following short speeches by the three guests of honour, prior to the unveiling (see photograph). The visitors then embarked on a short tour of the north-eastern section of the Hill Fort.

Please note:- the Interpretation Panels at Danesfield (on land owned by SAS UK and Danesfield Hotel) can only be seen by prior arrangement with the landowners.

## WHAT'S ON?

### OCTOBER

- 03 **Marlow Antique & Bric-a-Brac Fair**  
09.00-16.00 Liston Hall, Chapel Street
- 04 **Marlow Society Town History Walk**  
14.00, Liston Hall, Chapel Street
- 13 **Marlow & District Horticultural Society.**  
A Talk by Jackie Watson, 'Christmas from your garden.'  
Liston Hall, Chapel Street 20.00
- 28-29 **'Spooks and Surprises'**. Two special scary afternoons for children with specially adapted tours of the house, plus a turf and yew maze for children to get lost in.  
14.00-17.00, Chenies Manor House.
- 31 **Marlow Arts & Crafts Fair**, 10.00-16.00  
All Saints Church Hall, The Causeway

### NOVEMBER

- 07 **Marlow Antique & Bric-a-Brac Fair**  
09.00-16.00, Liston Hall, Chapel Street
- 07 **Longridge Fireworks Display**
- 10 **Marlow & District Horticultural Society AGM**  
20.00 Liston Hall, Chapel Street

### DECEMBER

- 05 **Marlow Arts & Crafts Fair** 10.00-16.00,  
All Saints Church Hall, The Causeway
- 12 **Marlow Antique & Brick-a-Brac Fair**

Marlow  
Farmer's  
Market held  
10.00-14.00  
Dean Street  
Car Park  
every Sunday.



# Club News...

## MARLOW & DISTRICT U3A

Marlow and District U3A will celebrate its third anniversary in September 2009. It forms part of the National University of the Third Age Trust which is a charity actively encouraging the self help ethos for those no longer in full time employment. With a current membership of almost 500, the success of the organisation depends on the active support and initiative of its members who currently enjoy more than 50 interest groups and activities. These are very varied and are often held in members' homes, while many go further afield walking, playing Bridge etc.

The photographs offer a small flavour of what goes on, and there is also a monthly meeting with a speaker held on the 4th Thursday afternoon of each month. If you are interested in either learning a new skill or activity, or sharing your skills or interests with other people, please visit our website, [www.marlowu3a.org.uk](http://www.marlowu3a.org.uk)



Marlow Camera Club will be holding two exhibitions in the coming months.

**September 19th at the Marlow Carnival  
in Higginson Park, Marlow**

**December 1st-15th Marlow Library,  
Institute Road, Marlow**

Marlow Camera Club start their new season on 15th September at the Methodist Church Hall, Spittal Street, Marlow SL7 3HJ and would welcome new members.

Visit their website on [www.marlowcc.org](http://www.marlowcc.org) or contact on [enquiries@marlowcc.org](mailto:enquiries@marlowcc.org)

*The Marlow Camera Club provide photographs for use in this publication by Marlow Town Council.*

## THE FOUR SEASONS CLUB

The club has had an interesting year so far including an enjoyable holiday in Ilfracombe, a visit to Buckingham Palace and a trip to the theatre to see The Cherry Orchard.

Future events planned are a visit to Anglesey Abbey and Gardens in Cambridgeshire, a theatre trip to Woking to see The Northern Ballet production of 'Wuthering Heights', and a mystery tour with a guide which incorporates a visit to Warwick.

November heralds a Holly and Mistletoe break in Gilsland Spa near Carlisle with a visit to Hadrians Wall and is followed by a Christmas shopping trip to the historic city of Winchester.

In December there will be a trip to the Mill at Sonning to see an Alan Ayckbourn play 'Time and Time Again'

Every month on the third Thursday there is a meeting in Liston Hall in the afternoon when there is a speaker. In October it will be High Wycombe Central Aid Society and in November Colin Oakes on 'Plumbing the Depths'!!

As you can see we offer a varied programme. We always welcome new members and if you would like any further information please contact, **Mrs Norma Bowles Membership Secretary on 01628 483794**

## Thinking of fostering?

In Buckinghamshire there is a shortage of foster carers. More are needed so that children and young people in care can be placed closer to their community and maintain vital links with family and friends.

We are looking for people with a spare room, along with the skills and experience to meet the needs of the children and young people - no formal qualifications needed.

We need carers from a wide range of backgrounds and life experience who can provide a safe, warm environment. You can apply to foster regardless of your age, marital status, sexuality or residential status.

Foster carers receive professional support and will be provided with an allowance to cover the needs of the child or young person in your care.

If you would like more information regarding fostering a child or young person, please call the Buckinghamshire Family Placement Recruitment Team on **01296 382 555** or visit [www.bucksc.gov.uk/fostering](http://www.bucksc.gov.uk/fostering)



# 145 SOUTH BRIGADE



145 (South) Brigade is a Regional Brigade with its Headquarters located in Aldershot. The Brigade Area of Responsibility is divided up over 4 Counties, Hampshire & Isle of Wight, Oxfordshire, Berkshire and Buckinghamshire. Situated within the 4 counties are; 21,000 people, 427 units and sub-units, plus 17 Garrison and

Stations made up of soldiers and officers from the Regular, Territorial, Reserves and Army Cadet Forces. The area of High Wycombe is very much central to our area.

A bit of history about the Brigade. It was first raised as a volunteer Brigade following the South African War 1899 - 1902. The Brigade subsequently deployed to France in 1915 as part of Second Army with 143 and 144 Brigades, forming 48 (South Midland) Division. During the Battle for Dunkirk the Brigade recovered to England and became a Training Brigade until disbanded in 1945. In 1995 the Brigade was re-established as a Regional Brigade. The Brigade adopted the Roebuck as its emblem, due to this being the common wild animal in the area we now cover.

The main role of a Regional Brigade is to provide support to

soldiers and their dependants. We predominately do this by engaging with the local community, including local education authorities, housing associations and primary health care trusts to ensure they are aware and understand the need of the military and their families. In doing this we hopefully provide a secure and solid basis for soldiers and their families especially during deployments on operations to such places as Afghanistan. This in turn offers greater stability and a sense of belonging for military personnel and their families, and encourages closer integration with the

civilian community. Our aspirations are to continue to develop and share high quality recreational, sporting, leisure and retail facilities, alongside the new military estates. The Brigade has several other tasks, we recruit for the Regular and Reserve Army and conduct UK operations such as foot and mouth, flooding and security. At the moment, something occupying our time is maintenance of our key

outputs in this Swine Flu period.

As you can see much of what we are trying to achieve is reliant upon the support of the local community. In this area the support has been first class. Thank you. Soldiers and their families will benefit from the solid relationships which have been developed between military and civil communities.





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If you are a charity or a local organisation  
 and you would like to submit an article, contact  
**Jan Bailey at Marlow Town Council on 01628 484024**  
 or e-mail [office@marlowtowncouncil.org.uk](mailto:office@marlowtowncouncil.org.uk)

# Are Acting or Singing on your Wishlist?

IF SO NEXTSTAGE DRAMA HAVE A MARLOW COURSE FOR YOU



Nextstage have been holding Acting and Singing Courses for adults in the Home Counties and London for over 6 years. The courses are for the complete beginner to the advanced, from 16 to 90 years of age. All are welcome whether you have never sung a note other than in the shower, or you fear the prospect of acting in front of anyone.

Equally the courses are for the more confident and practised Singers and Thespians who are looking for further professional training and to enhance their present skills.

This Autumn we are bringing two

courses to Marlow. A CHRISTMAS SONGS COURSE to be led by RUSSELL SCOTT, a professional Singer, Vocal Coach and Artistic Director. Additionally, we are delighted to be introducing TERESA GRIMSDITCH to lead the acting course concentrating on IMAGINATION AND THE ACTOR.

We have seen many people over the years benefit both socially and at work from Acting and Singing training. Equally as important is the opportunity to get together with a group of like-minded people to enjoy the social aspect of our evenings. At the end of each evening we do hope that everyone attending the course will spend an hour (or more!) in the bar.

**For further details on NEXTSTAGE and the courses:**

**Telephone 01628 898 958**

**Email [info@nextstagedrama.co.uk](mailto:info@nextstagedrama.co.uk)**

**[www.nextstagedrama.co.uk](http://www.nextstagedrama.co.uk)**

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# Budavár Town Twinning Visit to Marlow



## A Town Twinning Milestone

Following last year's visit to Budapest by Marlovians, the first official Budavár Town Twinning visit to Marlow took place from the 10th to 15th June. The programme included a "Welcome to Marlow" reception with the Town Mayor, a walk round Marlow, a private visit to West Wycombe Park House and grounds and a visit to Windsor Castle. On Regatta Saturday, in splendid weather, they enjoyed a picnic in the Higginson Park followed by a stroll round the busy Regatta attractions and fun fair. That evening, Budavarians, hosts and other MBTTA members attended a barbecue with live musical entertainment. Sunday was a day for our Hungarian friends to choose what they wanted to do. Several went to Oxford for a guided tour of some of the colleges. The visit concluded with a "visitors and hosts" dinner at the George and Dragon. Next year Marlovians will visit Budapest and perhaps other parts of Hungary.



## Visit the Twinning Association on Carnival Day

On Saturday 19th September in Higginson Park you can learn all about our twinning with Budavár and discover some of the delights of Budapest.

## May we have the pleasure of the next dance?

On Sunday 11th October at the Liston Hall, Chapel Street, Marlow, starting at 7.30pm, a troupe of Hungarian dancers will be performing traditional dances, in national costume. The audience will be invited to join in - simple instructions on offer! Further encouragement, in the shape of wine, will be available. Tickets will be on sale at the Information Bureau, Marlow High Street.

Visit the website [www.marlow-budavar.info](http://www.marlow-budavar.info) for lots of information on Budavár and twinning activities.

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## MARLOW HOCKEY CLUB

### A proud history; an exciting future

This year the seniors and juniors of Marlow Hockey Club will wear the Club's crest on their shirts knowing that it is 100 years since the Club was formed in November 1909 in the George and Dragon. Whilst it was formed for Men's and Ladies' hockey, as the photo of the Marlow Colts in the 1950's shows, it has always put an emphasis on providing hockey opportunities for the youngsters of the town and surrounding area.

At no time is that more evident than today when the Club boasts around 200 juniors between the ages of 7 and 16 being coached and playing hockey. There was a huge rise in numbers after the successful Sport England grant in 2001.



A trip down to Bisham on a Saturday morning will see boys and girls up to the age of 11 being trained by several of the club's own players and the Community Hockey Coach. These boys and girls, as well as being coached, get a taste for competition by playing in structured tournaments run between several Clubs in the area. Children come from many of the primary schools of the area.

As they move into secondary school the Club provides coaching for girls under 14's and under 16's on a Tuesday night at Bisham and boys under 14's on Wednesdays. Boys and girls under 14 and under 16 teams play in Colts league matches on a Sunday.

All in all the Club runs 14 teams for youngsters from under 9's through to under 16's. Last year the junior teams were very successful. The two pictures show the successful boys and girls under 13 teams who won through the County round to represent Bucks at the South of England tournament. The boys won this, became South of England champions and went on to accredit Marlow well at the National Championship.

Anyone interested in joining our junior section should see the details on the website [www.marlowhc.co.uk](http://www.marlowhc.co.uk)

Whilst the Club is rightly proud of its juniors it also has a flourishing senior Men's and Ladies' sections. There are eight league sides and a great social environment. The Club welcomes players of all abilities. So whatever that might be get in touch with us through Margot Nicholls on 01628 521830, go to our website at [www.marlowhc.co.uk](http://www.marlowhc.co.uk) or come down to training on Tuesday nights at Bisham at 7.30pm starting on September 1<sup>st</sup> and give it a go.

We will be celebrating our 100 years with a birthday party at the Sports Club on November 28<sup>th</sup> when, with past and present players and guests, we will also be launching a book of the first 100 years of the Club and will mark the end of this important season with a festival of Hockey on April 24<sup>th</sup> 2010 followed by a Dinner Dance at the Crowne Plaza.

We can start our next 100 years with further strength if the Sports Club's development plan of purchasing the ground from Whitbread, successfully obtaining planning permission and building an all weather hockey pitch with Sir William Borlase School gives us the birthday present we desperately need.



## MARLOW BOWLS CLUB

The highlight of the bowling season 2009 for Marlow Bowls Club was the special celebrations for Ian Harvey in the early part of August, as many respected bowlers from Bucks and surrounding counties descended upon the green in Pound Lane.

The event was a big success and a perfect tribute for the long serving Harvey as he clocked up his 50th year with Marlow, a fantastic feat for a bowler who has amassed a huge collection of national and international honours during that time.

The expected 'barbecue summer' has not materialised and some of the matches have been played in less than favourable conditions, but this has not lessened the excitement of the season.

The club has had a successful recruitment drive this year topping 20 new members and this has helped further interest in both the outdoor game and, more imminently, the short mat format.

But apart from the emerging newcomers the club has had its successes with more established members. Ladies' Captain Lynda Taplin and Sheila Pounds have both attained County recognition, whilst the younger but experienced Charlene Turpie has hit the heights after winning the Ladies' National Under 25 Pairs title at Leamington with Princes Risborough bowler Vicki Room. She also reached the pairs competition at Leamington with fellow Marlow bowler and Bucks County Ladies' President, Jean Williams.

Success has also come to Men's Captain Doug Pounds who battled through to take the Bucks Unbadged Singles title this season, another excellent effort.

The men's new club shirts arrived in May and have provided a refreshing new outlook for matches. Soon the ladies will be fully kitted out and the club can look forward to next season with renewed vigour and continue to build on the club playing strength for future years.

But the seasons 'they are a changing', as the song goes and as the winter beckons, with it comes the impressively popular short-mat bowling that takes place in the Marlow clubhouse.

Short mat bowling has proved increasingly popular over the last few winters and competitive matches and roll-ups take place most days of the week. It costs just £20.50 for membership plus £2 per rollup session, including tea/coffee and biscuits. There is a joining fee of £10 for new members.

If you are keen to take up short-mat bowling there is an enrolment evening that will take place on Saturday 26th September at 7.30pm at the Marlow Clubhouse, the entrance to

which is in the left hand corner of the Court Gardens car park in Pound Lane, next to the tennis courts' entrance. This evening will also feature an American Buffet, Quiz, and the draw for the club competitions. Apart from enrolment it will be a social gathering as well, so everyone is invited – the bar will be open too ! If you need further information on short-mat bowls please phone either Dennis Bird 01628 472331 or George Malster on 01628 484515.

The Short Mat season commences on Tuesday 29th September 2009 at 7.30pm and continues on till 25th March 2010.

If you wish to play outdoor bowls for Marlow in 2010, contact Paul Simmons on **07867 547763** or email **paulsimmons@sky.com**.

You can read and see more about Marlow Bowls Club on our new website at **www.marlowbowls.co.uk**.

This not an expensive sport and captivates most people who take it up, so give it a shot, you won't regret it.



*Ian Harvey speaking to guests at the 50th Celebration Dinner at Marlow Clubhouse in August*



*Jean William (left) and Charlene Turpie at the Ladies National Championships at Leamington in August.*



*Mens Captain Doug Pounds and wife Sheila, Bucks County Unbadged Singles winner 2008 taken at Marlow*



# Santa Fun Run

**SUNDAY 6TH DECEMBER 2009**

MARLOW AND MARLOW THAMES ROTARY CLUBS

The sight of 750 Santas running from Higginson Park and around Marlow town was wonderful and very entertaining for spectators and participants alike. Children's faces were in amazement as they thought there was only one Santa!! If you missed it last year you really must not this year so why not join in rather than just be a spectator. It is only 5 km and you can run, jog or walk. You can do it on your own or with friends or even give your dogs some exercise.

Each person entering is given free Santa costume which all adds to the fun but most of all you will be supporting charity. You can just pay the entry fee of £12 for adults and £10 for 12-17 year olds. If you wish to obtain sponsorship half the money you raise will go to the charity of your choice and the other half to our charity theme which this year is **Youth in Marlow**, so we're particularly keen to have participation from those organisations who support local youth projects.

For more details please visit our web site which is [www.marlowthames-rotary.org.uk](http://www.marlowthames-rotary.org.uk) and click on the **Santa Fun Run** for more details.

Don't leave it too late to join in: we have a limit of 1,000 participants to take part in this spectacular fun event this year.

**SUNDAY 6th DECEMBER 2009  
at 9:30am with Sir Steve Redgrave  
as starter!**

*Sir Steve, Marlow's favourite son and supporter of many charitable causes, will also give out prizes at 11:00am close to his statue in the park which commemorates his wonderful achievement of winning 5 Olympic rowing gold medals in 5 successive games.*



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# Heston Blumenthal to appear at Marlow's first Food Festival

Three - Michelin - starred chef Heston Blumenthal is set to lend his support to the Marlow Food festival later this month. The chef-patron of the award winning restaurant The Fat Duck at Bray will conduct an hour long Q & A session followed by a book signing of his new book "The Fat Duck Cookbook", due to be launched in October.

Celebrity Chef, Jo Pratt (one of Waterstone's Authors for the Future) is also a new addition to the event. Jo will be talking about her new book "In the Mood for Entertaining" and the delicious no - fuss recipes which have endeared her to an international audience. A regular face on the popular cooking show Market Kitchen, Jo has worked with BBC's Gary Rhodes on The Good Food Show, contributed columns and recipes to Elle UK, Olive, BBC's Good Food Guide and Glamour. She also co-wrote, The Nation's Favourite Foods and contributed to the subsequent hit show.

Helen Rathbone, of Flying Pig Events, who is organising the event with sponsors, Hamptons International, and Crowne Plaza Marlow says "The Marlow Food Festival has already surpassed all expectations in terms of the level of support we have received locally. The festival will offer something for everyone of any age who is interested in food, and hopefully, this will become an annual event which is a credit to Marlow town"

The Marlow Food Festival aims to put Marlow on the map as a serious culinary destination. The winners of BBC Two's programme, The Restaurant, Russell Clement and Michele

English, owners of The Cheerful Soul, (opened in June this year in the Hare & Hounds pub in Marlow) were one of the first to get involved and will be participating in their own Q & A event on the day.

Local chefs, including Michael Macdonald of Vanilla Pod, Miles Warren of Aubergine at The Compleat Angler and James Penlington owner of The Royal Oak, Bovingdon (voted "Dining Pub of The Year 2009" in The Good Food Guide), will showcase their skills alongside renowned Chocolatier Damian Allsop and "Come and Cook" owner Dorn Kipping who will be conducting a "hands-on" children's cookery session. Food & wine tastings, displays and children's activities on the day.



General Admission will be free and tickets and more information about the scheduled events are available on 01491 635346

**Marlow Food Festival - Crowne Plaza Marlow**  
**Sunday 20th September 2009**  
**10.00am - 4.00pm**

## Macmillan Cancer Support *Ladies Lunch*

**WE ARE  
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with Virginia Ironside

Macdonald Compleat Angler Hotel, Marlow - Tuesday, 13 October

An entertaining Ladies Lunch with guest speaker Virginia Ironside and a fashion show by Scarlett Monroe will be held at the riverside Macdonald Compleat Angler Hotel, Marlow, Buckinghamshire on Tuesday 13 October in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support.

Virginia Ironside, author and agony aunt, will be presenting The Virginia Monologues, Why it's Great to be Sixty, based on her new book. She will arrive hot from having done a month-long one-woman show at the Edinburgh Festival.

To book tickets, which are priced at £25 per person to include lunch with coffee and a glass of wine, plus the speaker and fashion show, call the Macdonald Compleat Angler on 0844 879 9128 or the restaurant direct on 01628 405406, [www.MacdonaldHotels.co.uk/CompleatAngler](http://www.MacdonaldHotels.co.uk/CompleatAngler). The hotel will be donating £10 for every person attending to Macmillan Cancer Support.



# The Vanilla Pod



There are times when you fancy a cheerful meal in a laid back brasserie. And there are occasions that call for something extra special. And special is what you get at The Vanilla Pod.

This chic little restaurant in a beamed old building in Marlow's West Street has built up a well deserved reputation for fine dining, resolutely ignoring all things trendy and staying loyal to classic cooking.

That means good old-fashioned sauces to capture every last drop of flavour, carefully sourced ingredients, crisp napery and smart crockery, attentive waiters who are both friendly and well trained, a long finely-judged wine list. Yet keeping up traditional standards doesn't imply dearth of creativity.

All this was clear on a visit to The Vanilla Pod one damp evening last month. Outside all was grey. Inside, the welcome was warm and our mood lifted immediately when the bread basket came along bearing a choice of nine types of warm bread roll, ranging from beer bread to rosemary to bacon and onion (specially good).

It was just the start of a steady march-past of interesting seasonal flavours, artfully presented. An amuse-bouche of apple and celeriac bouillon, light but intensely flavoured, preceded our starters. Quails' legs on a salad of green beans and lentils with salted pistachio praline

was a deeply satisfying medley of flavours and textures that teamed perfectly. My partner's goats' cheese mousseline with poached pears in raspberry beer and walnut was a star dish, the mousseline incredibly creamy yet light, the pears and drizzles providing tingling contrast.

What they call a middle course – another unexpected extra dish – arrived on a pretty plate: two perfectly cooked scallops in a fine vierge sauce. Then mains: options included several tempting summery fish dishes, but perhaps the damp weather gave us autumnal leanings and we chose venison with celeriac puree and bitter chocolate oil – lightly cooked and tender, deeply flavoursome, beautifully presented with little details of ceps and shallots – and lamb provençal which came with an unusual polenta and bold olive jus.

We were beginning to feel like kids in a candy shop when yet another little treat was presented by our unflagging waitress as a predessert: pina colada. Rum jelly, coconut yogurt and pineapple sorbet layered in a shot glass were truly fabulous, and we appreciated every little spoonful. I'd return for that one every time...

Except that my dessert proper was totally delectable, a bitter chocolate soup served warm, which was rich and dark yet not at all cloying, and served with pieces of honeycomb like you get in a Crunchie bar. The stuff of dreams. My partner meanwhile was savouring a clever selection of cheeses matched with a homemade plum and red wine chutney.

This showcase of chef Michael Macdonald's talents wasn't quite complete. In with the coffee came a plate of the cutest petits fours: orange truffle and apple and cherry jellies which were the perfect finale.

The cooking here fair sparkles with talent. It makes for an extra-special dining experience. And at £40 for a three-course meal of this quality and expertise with three little extra courses thrown in, it would be hard to match it for price.

**The Vanilla Pod, 31 West Street, Marlow SL7 2LS**  
**01628 898101 [www.thevanillapod.co.uk](http://www.thevanillapod.co.uk)**



## The Vanilla Pod

The Vanilla Pod's discreet dining room is tucked away behind the elegant black door in Marlow's West Street which was once the home of T S Eliot, one of the most distinguished literary figures of the 20th century. The home has been transformed into a modern, stylish restaurant with rich colours and clean lines giving a contemporary and luxurious feel reflecting the outstanding quality of food.

Sociably round tables, with high backed chairs, give a sense of privacy and spaciousness with sophisticated air conditioning to further enhance comfort. The kitchen is run under the watchful eye of Chef Proprietor, Michael Macdonald, who uses local produce to inspire a creative and extensive menu that is changed frequently. Your meal can be enjoyed in the main dining room or the upstairs T S Eliot private dining room. The Vanilla Pod is fine dining at its best in a beautiful location, where the professionalism of the service allows you to relax and enjoy your experience.

Go to our website [www.thevanillapod.co.uk](http://www.thevanillapod.co.uk) to view our menus and special themed evenings.

31 West Street  
Marlow, Bucks SL7 2LS  
Email: [contact@thevanillapod.co.uk](mailto:contact@thevanillapod.co.uk), website: [www.thevanillapod.co.uk](http://www.thevanillapod.co.uk)

Marlovian readers special summer offer. Join us for dinner in September, October and November on Thursdays at £30 per person for a 3 course dinner and at £40 per person for the Gourmand Menu. Please quote MM09 when you book your table

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Wednesday 16th December with the Rat Pack Duo	-	£55
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Sunday 20th December with the Abba Girls	-	£55
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All prices are per head and include a three course seated dinner, 'look-a-like' entertainment, crackers and novelties and a disco until midnight.

Disco only party nights are available on  
Wednesday 9th and Tuesday 15th December for only £39.

## ENJOY LUNCH OR DINNER IN ONE OF OUR AWARD WINNING RESTAURANTS.

Our British restaurant 'Bowaters' will be serving a festive lunch of three courses for £25 or dinner for £35. Jazz dinner will also take place throughout the month, priced at £39.50 per person.

'Aubergine at The Compleat Angler', sister restaurant to Michelin-starred Aubergine in London's Chelsea, will also be offering a lunch menu from £28.50. The à la carte menu is priced at £45 for 2 courses and £55 for 3 courses.

BOOKINGS ARE ALSO BEING TAKEN FOR CHRISTMAS DAY, BOXING DAY AND OUR NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATIONS, where we round off the year with fireworks.

*We look forward to welcoming you*



For further details, you can download the full Christmas brochure from our website ~  
[www.MacdonaldHotels.co.uk/CompleatAngler](http://www.MacdonaldHotels.co.uk/CompleatAngler) or contact our Events Team on 0844 879 9128

Macdonald Compleat Angler, Marlow, Buckinghamshire, SL7 1RG T: 0844 879 9128  
For reservations in Aubergine, please call 01628 405 405 directly



*Aubergine at the Compleat Angler* is the country outpost of legendary London restaurant Aubergine in London's Chelsea which has held a Michelin star for over 15 years.

It offers the same renowned modern French haute cuisine in luxurious surroundings with stunning views of Marlow weir and the River Thames.

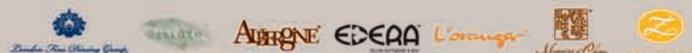
Lunchtime - Tuesday to Saturday,  
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Dinner - Tuesday to Saturday,  
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