



# MARCHWOOD VILLAGE NEWS

Issue 170

December 2024



In this issue:

Chairman's Report; District Councillor Reports; Marchwood Village Hall;  
Marchwood WI; Fun Quiz ; Marchwood Fete; Gospel Church and lots  
more ...

The items in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of  
Marchwood Parish Council

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## Marchwood Village News Magazine

This Magazine is for the Parish of Marchwood, Southampton, UK. Individual points of view expressed in the contributions are not necessarily those of Marchwood Parish Council, or the Editor. The Marchwood Village News Magazine is published by Print Dimensions for and on behalf of the Parish Council. Full contact details for members of the council can be found on Page 3 of this publication.

## Councillor John Case- Chairman

I cannot believe there are only a few weeks left before the festive season – where has this year gone.

As is traditional it is fitting to review the year and update you on matters of interest as your council plans for the year ahead.

But before I do, I want to let you know that Colette Cockeram has decided the time is right to enjoy the next chapter of her life. So, after 27 years of dedicated service to our community Colette has decided to retire.

On behalf of us all I would like to thank her for her tireless work in helping make to Marchwood a great place to live.



It was her hard work that made our Party in the Park events so memorable and successful.

Colette has ensured that the parish council fulfilled its obligations to the highest standards and always offered help and guidance to parishioners who called or visited the parish office.

We wish you a long and happy retirement.

Tony Levington, another long serving member of the parish grounds team also decided to retire during the year and is enjoying his retirement.

Keith Petty has been co-opted on to the parish council. Keith has previously been a Marchwood Parish Councillor, and his experience and prior knowledge will be a tremendous asset.

I am pleased to announce that Dave Bartlett and Rob Cockrane key members of our ground staff have been promoted and are enjoying their new roles. They have already suggested many new ways to be more efficient and help reduce costs. Their energy and enthusiasm are to be admired and celebrated.

We welcome, Gal Tsarfaty to the outdoor team and Gal has already settled in very well and is a pro-active member of the team. Gal also lives in the village.

The Ground Staff do an exceptional job throughout the year and in all weathers, and they must be congratulated for the exceptional work they did on the Falklands Memorial, the Millennium Border, and the improvements where the old rowing boat was on the junction of Main Road and Oakland Drive.

As usual the flower beds and shrubbery were in immaculate condition for the D-Day and Falklands Memorial Services and Remembrance Sunday. They did our village proud as we remember those who gave so much for our freedoms we cherish to this day.

However, it was disappointing to learn that a couple of shrubs have been unlawfully taken. Why do people do such things? It is not a victimless crime, and it does not reflect well on our community when a minority of parishioners undertake anti-social behaviour.

It was also pleasing to note that Hampshire County Council saw sense and abandoned their plans to close the Marchwood household waste recycling centre. I know we were all worried about the inevitable increase in fly tipping and all sighed with relief when common sense prevailed.

Like many households in the village my colleagues and I are fully aware of the cost-of-living pressures we face so managing the parish budgets is our highest priority.

It is at this time of year we finalise the next financial year's budget (2025-26) and strive to balance the books and keep the increase in the precept as low as possible.

Our task is made more difficult as our parish have similar costs to their other neighbouring parishes but with fewer properties from which to raise revenue and currently our other income streams are minimal.

The effects of climate change have made our tree maintenance budget increase disproportionately to other budget expenditure.

These reasons have made the council challenge existing norms and protocols to reduce costs.

We are pledged to become more carbon neutral and are actively engaged in switching to electric vehicles and leasing rather than large capital expenditure. This will save the parish significant money in the short and long term and makes sound financial sense.

My colleague, Nigel Buckett, has provided compelling evidence in his Amenities Report why our approach is financially sound and proportionate.

We are also exploring ways to switch to greener energy at the Lloyd Recreation Ground by switching to LED and solar options wherever possible by utilising all funding streams available.

Unfortunately, we have had to make one difficult decision. So, from next year we will reduce the publication of the Marchwood Village News to three editions. This was not an easy decision, but our recent distribution audit highlighted that a significant proportion of Marchwood had not received a copy for many years. Therefore, to correct the situation something had to be done and reducing the editions was the most prudent outcome.

Our Clerk, Tina Dudley and Financial Officer, Angela Woodward continue to monitor our finances and alert us to funding opportunities to ensure you get value for money and the highest service delivery.

Our staffing is at the lowest level to maintain service delivery and all other budgets heads are constantly under review.

One unexpected pressure on our finances was the Autumn Budget announcement to increase the level of Employer National Insurance Contributions on the staff we employ.

We have yet to digest the full financial implications of the NI increase, but we will endeavour to make financial savings wherever we can.

I would also like to thank all Parish Committee Chairs and fellow councillors in supporting me and helping to make Marchwood a great place to live.

## District Councillor Richard Young

As a former Chairman of Marchwood Parish Council I continue to work closely with MPC officers and councillors as one of your New Forest District Councillors to foster a productive working relationship between NFDC and MPC. In recent weeks I attended a meeting with Parish Council Officers, the Parish Chairman, and an Officer from NFDC's open spaces team to discuss land at Oak Park, Admiralty Quay, and the refurbishment of the footpath which runs from Kingfisher Way, across Bilberry Drive, The Rushes, and Main Road, before then reaching The Gulls and Tides Way.



On the latter of these three projects, I am very pleased that after a few false starts over recent years we now have something being worked up which will deliver an accessible all year-round newly resurfaced walking route taking in a large chunk of the village. In future years there may also be possibilities to extend this route depending on any detailed proposals which come forward for the Corks Farm strategic housing site which was granted outline planning permission last year. I am keeping my ear close to the ground on this development but there is no further information at this time if or when we may see the required further application to cover the "reserved matters" of this site such as the design.

Onto other planning matters. I have been in frequent ongoing contact with a number of residents living in St Contest Way and Hythe Road regarding the construction of the new care home which has commenced between St Contest Way and The Pilgrim Inn. I have also made a number of representations directly to the developer of the care home and to council officers in an effort to help ensure that wider adverse community impacts from the build are minimised as far as is reasonably possible (especially with the known parking issues upon Hythe Road relating to school run traffic). I have also reaffirmed to NFDC planning officers my material objection to the proposed conversion of the former Avondale Lodge care home into a 14 bedroom House of Multiple Occupation (HMO). In my view the development would have a significant detrimental impact upon local neighbours quiet enjoyment of their homes, and upon local highway safety. Onto the subject of wheelie bins. NFDC have now been operating wheeled bins for the "paid for" garden waste collection service for over 6 months. In the first three months of this service over 23000 households had signed up to and are utilising this service. This has helped deliver a 60% increase in the volume of recycled garden waste in comparison to the same period from the previous year. All garden waste collected by NFDC is sent to Hampshire County Council for composting. The latest timeline for wheeled bins being introduced to communities in the east of the district (including Marchwood and Eling) for regular household waste and recycling suggests we are most likely to see their implementation here in spring 2026. Prior to that happening I continue to hold officers and decision makers to account so that residents are fully informed as to how the changes will impact them.

I am pleased to confirm NFDC will continue to provide the assisted collection service, for households who need help putting bins and caddies out for collections. Residents can apply for the service if they have a disability, illness, or injury. The service is for residents who do not have anyone else in the household to help put out waste. Households will also be able to apply for a larger or smaller bin. Before NFDC roll out the new service, they will confirm how residents can apply for a different sized bin, and any criteria which will need to be met. Officers are in the process of reviewing data from visual property and street assessments across the district, to confirm properties that will use communal bins, and as an exception, sacks instead of wheelie bins. This information will be confirmed and communicated to residents before the new service is due to start in our area.

Onto Household Waste Recycling Centres. After months of lobbying, campaigning, and reasoning with Hampshire County Council I am pleased that our collective shared concerns over the potential closure of Marchwood HWRC were heard and the decision was taken in October to keep it open. I remain in ongoing correspondence with HCC members and officers over local road safety concerns, particularly regarding the safety of the youngest members of our community when walking to and from school. At the time of writing there is no further update on the future of plans for the A326 (north), and/or the inclusion of a spur road south of the Pilgrim which could serve the military port and the part of Dibden Bay which has been outlined for potential use in the Solent Freeport. If this all does happen it would also enable the "stopping up" of Twiggs Lane so that parents and young children no longer have to deal with the hazard of through traffic passing directly outside of the school gates. As always, once I know any more details on this I will happily share it with the community.

I have over recent months supported a number of local community activities by means of my Councillors Community Engagement Grants budget, making awards to the "Party In The Park" live music event, the village fireworks event at Marchwood Junior School, and to "Singing With Friends" at Marchwood Village Hall which helps to support a number of vulnerable and elderly members of our community. I also very much look forwards to the next Parish Council event in the shape of the Village Christmas Fayre on Tuesday 3rd of December.

Finally I would like to wish Mrs Colette Cockeram, Marchwood Parish Councils Deputy Clerk, a very long, happy, and healthy retirement after over 26 years of serving Marchwood. Colette has not only been the Deputy Clerk to the Parish Council but amongst other roles she has also been the editor in chief of the Village News, and the event coordinator of Marchwoods much loved "Party in the Park" live music event. Thank you so very much Colette for everything that you have done for Marchwood over the years.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year. Please do come back to me if you have any further queries or questions that I can potentially assist you with. I can best be reached either by emailing [richard.young@nfdc.gov.uk](mailto:richard.young@nfdc.gov.uk) or searching "Councillor Richard Young" on Facebook.



## Councillor Patrick Mballa

I am very delighted that our campaign to stop the closure of our local Household Recycle Centre was backed up by New Forest District Council, the New Forest National Park Authority and Hampshire County Council. Thank you to everyone who signed the petition and to all

Fellow Councillors who stood with me to save our tip. This will massively help reduce fly tipping and protect the habitat and environment across the New Forest.



I would like to say thank you to the New Forest District Council waste collection team, for promptly responding to the request of some of our residents who contacted me to have their waste cleared.

A big thank to our residents who reported about some signage being obstructed by foliage around the village. Also, for keeping up with reporting incidents using the Hampshire County Council App. Most of these issues are being tackled by Hampshire County Council but do recognise there is a backlog of works to be done.

I have been working with fellow Councillors and some of our residents to minimise the risk of flooding in some areas around the village.

I was honoured to lay a wreath on the Remembrance Day, to commemorate the sacrifice of the Commonwealth forces who sacrifice their lives for our freedom. Lest we Forget!

Through the charity I co-founded for international development in Cameroon West Africa, I help orphans and the least fortunate children. Boxes of clothing and toys were shipped earlier in October to hopefully arrived on time to make this Christmas special for many children. My heart also goes out to innocent families and children in Ukraine, Gaza, Lebanon, Sudan etc. In desperate needs. Let's embrace kindness this Christmas and extend our thoughts to those who may be struggling, even close to home.

Will be continuing our Councillors Q&A in the new year. The meeting dates and venue will be published on social media, in the Parish Hall display board and hand posted to you. I look forward to seeing you in due course and continue working together to build a strong and resilient community.

## Councillor Nigel Buckkett - Amenities Chairman

It's been a busy year around Marchwood, and the team have been working hard to keep the village looking neat, tidy and colourful. Tony, our previous head groundsman has retired after over 31 years of faithful service to the village, he has earned his rest and will be missed, Dave Bartlett has stepped into the breach and is leading the team of Rob, and our newest recruit Gal Tsarfaty, welcome Gal.



As reported last month we have had a £15K grant for improvements around the village and the grounds team have done a wonderful job in improving the Falklands Memorial and flower planting, and we are exploring other ideas to make this village more attractive and a pleasant place for all of the residents. The Men's Shed have built a magnificent new planter for the village center, the canals in Admiralty Quay have now been restored to their former condition, a team effort from volunteers and our grounds team, so a big thank you for the tremendous hard work that went into this.

Last year we put forward plans to improve the 5 miles of pathway around the village to NFDC, as we have money allocated by funds held by them for this work. We are aiming to enhance areas where water puddles, and leaves behind mud, remove trip hazards and generally make the pathways safer and a pleasanter place to walk. We have finally had a response from the district council regarding the design and costs and hope to have the work started next spring.

We are currently looking at changing the Parish Councils pick up trucks to electric vehicles, and are scrutinising costs to achieve this, as well as gaining operational and capital savings. This will reduce pollution as the current transport is diesel, and improve efficiency, as most trips are short and so expend more fuel, plus cause the filters to clog regularly. If all goes well, we expect to deploy these by the New Year.

And finally, the team are now gearing up to deploy the new Christmas tree and decorations for the Christmas Fayre in the Village from 6pm to 9pm on 3<sup>rd</sup> December, please come along as it promises to be a magical evening full of seasonal spirit for the whole family, and I'll see you there!



## RESTORATION OF PAINTINGS - MARCHWOOD PARISH CHURCH

Dear Marchwood Residents

### Background

St John's Parish Church, Marchwood, was built in 1843. The Church became a Listed Building (Grade II) in 1987. Repair and restoration work was carried out to the church in 2005 and 2006. Also, the wooden louvre slats to all four faces of the tower were replaced with wider slats in 2020 to minimise the effects of worsening weather.

### Update

The latest Quinquennial Report included recommendations about preventing the ingress of rain through the South Aisle roof. In short, the roof needs to be replaced and costs of some £200,000 are likely to be incurred. The architect is helping the local Church Council with this, which needs separate fundraising.

### The Paintings

That apart, seven paintings depicting the Nativity were removed from niches at the East end of the Chancel. Experts have examined these which were painted oil on linoleum. The evidence showed that they were painted c1896. Not only is painting on lino unusual but what makes them unique for that era is that they were painted by a woman, Isobella Sarah Coghlan, the wife of the then incumbent, Rev Charles Coghlan.

Photographs are enclosed. Although the paintings have no significant monetary value, the Chancellor of the Diocese decided at a Consistory Court that they are historically and culturally important. He ordered that the three central pictures be cleaned, restored, and reinstated and the remaining four be cleaned, restored and stored in the church in a way which continues to allow them to be appreciated.

### Phasing the work and costs (including VAT)

Priority is being given to the three central paintings and will cost £11,000. Work on the other four will follow which will cost £2,000. The final phase will be to restore the polychrome in one of the niches costing some £3,000. So, indications are that total costs would be about £16,000.

### Fundraising

Our church generously supports causes such as the Foodbank and is involved in resettling the homeless. However, the costs of restoring the paintings is beyond the resources of our congregation. Please would you help us by giving a donation? And if you could Gift Aid it that would add 25% to the amount. Please ask our Church Office for a form giving details of how to pay. The email address is [marchwoodpcc@gmail.com](mailto:marchwoodpcc@gmail.com)

Thank you in anticipation of your help.

Yours sincerely  
Reg Martin





*Worship*

Upper Room  
Marchwood  
Village Hall  
SO40 4SX

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2025

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2025

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## Parish Council Officers & Information:

Mrs Tina Dudley – Clerk to the Council  
Mrs Angie Woodward – Responsible Finance Officer

Mr Dave Bartlett - Ground staff Team Leader  
Mr Rob Cochrane - Groundsman  
Mr Gal Tsarfaty - Groundsman

The Parish Council office is located in the  
Marchwood Village Hall  
Village Centre  
Marchwood  
SO40 4SF

Phone: 023 8086 0273  
Website: [marchwoodparish.gov.uk](http://marchwoodparish.gov.uk)  
Email: [office@marchwoodparish.gov.uk](mailto:office@marchwoodparish.gov.uk)

### Village News:

Marchwood Village News is published quarterly and delivered via volunteers to all households in the Parish.

Deadline for the next edition will be March 2025  
If you would like to contribute to your village magazine, please let us have your articles, adverts, poems, local news, events or local issues by this date.  
Contact on 023 8086 0273 or  
email [office@marchwoodparish.gov.uk](mailto:office@marchwoodparish.gov.uk)

### Ava Bennett

Ava is 10 months old in this picture. Even our young residents enjoy reading the Marchwood Village News.  
Thank you to John and Hannah for allowing us to publish this lovely picture.



## What do Councillors do?

Councillors are elected members of local government; they conduct their business within a legal framework and are responsible to all the residents within the area. Councillors serve a four-year term, they are community-minded people with a desire to participate in shaping the future of their area.

Councillors work to identify issues which are important to the lives of the residents they represent. They bring about improvements through local projects, lobbying other service providers and working in partnership with other parish and towns and public bodies. They can influence and shape the long-term development policy for the area, and as part of the planning process, comment on planning applications.

### Councillor requirements:

You can become a councillor if you are 18 or over on the day you submit your nomination paper and are a British, Commonwealth or European Union Citizen\* and at least one of the following:

- A registered local government elector in the parish area in which you wish to stand as a candidate
- Occupied as owner or tenant any land or other premises in the parish area during the whole of the 12 months before the day of your nomination and the day of the election
- Your main or only place of work during the 12 months prior to the date of your nomination and the day of election has been in the parish area
- You have lived in the parish area or within three miles of it during the whole of the 12 months before the day of your nomination and the day of the election

### The Parish Council has two Councillor vacancies.

If you are interested in serving as a Parish Councillor, please send your application to [clerk@marchwoodparish.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@marchwoodparish.gov.uk). The vacancies will be filled by co-option at a Council meeting. Nominations are invited and should be sent in writing to the Clerk at the address below.

**Tina Dudley**  
**Clerk to the Parish Council**  
**Address: Marchwood Village Hall**  
**The Village Centre**  
**Marchwood**  
**SO404SF**





# DAVID PURDUE



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## Hampshire County Councillor, David Harrison

Recent months have been particularly challenging for your County Councillor. I am so pleased that I don't have a full time job. My role at Hampshire County Council, along with commitments at District & Town keep me incredibly busy. It isn't something that can be done on days off!



You are probably aware of the the extreme financial challenges facing the Authority, the need to make £174 million of savings in order to balance the books (a legal requirement.) All the political parties recognise that the current system whereby the rising cost and demand for Adult Social Care is outstripping the capacity to fund things isn't sustainable. The last government didn't provide a solution, perhaps this one will.... we shall see.

The immediate sticking plaster being provided is that Hampshire County Council is cutting back nearly every thing that it does other than statutory obligations. A whole range of services have been affected, from cuts made to Library services, school crossing patrols, grants to voluntary organisations, street lighting, community transport, even support for homeless people.

The one saving grace I can point to (for the moment) is that the latest threat to close the Marchwood Household Waste Recycling Facility has been avoided once again. I am grateful to everyone who has signed a petition or made representations to myself or the formal consultations. What will happen after the elections in May, who knows. I will keep on fighting for it to remain open. The consequence will be more fly tipping, if it closes.

Much of the improvements to walking and cycling and bus routes via the £60 million Transforming Cities Fund (TCF) have been completed. There are mixed opinions about the need for bus lanes, largely depending on whether you are a bus user. The changes benefit people working on the Hounslow Industrial Estate, but other people (including those working on the Rushington business Park) lose out ! Overall journey times have been reduced.

I was pleased to have won the argument about the wisdom of opening up Junction Road in Totton. That element of the scheme has been dropped, saving £1.5 million - money that can be used for improvements elsewhere.

At long last we are seeing the traffic lights installed at the new cycle and walking crossing at the Trotts Lane / Bury Road crossroads. I think it will make things safer.

The improvements to Rushington roundabout have been generally welcomed. The chances of anyone being crushed by a tipping lorry have been reduced, especially by the adjoining pavement having been moved back and raised up. That said, I was nearly a victim myself four weeks after a lorry tipped over towards my car on the opposite side of the roundabout. Drivers ignore the warning signs about the camber and speed at their peril! You cannot make things safe by road engineering solutions alone.

I am actively campaigning (with others) for better bus services, especially for Marchwood village. This includes a deputation to the full County Council meeting as well as examining a suggestion for a new stop on the A326, near Twiggs Lane.

Sadly, the "Restoring our Railways" project has been scrapped by government on affordability grounds and this includes the very popular Waterside Rail Passenger service that I have been promoting for many years. It seems such a waste of the £7 million already spent. It may come back at a later date. I am in discussions about other potential uses of the line south of Marchwood. In particular, it might make a good active travel route linking the village with Hythe and Dibden, especially for cyclists.

As always, very happy to hear from you. My Facebook Page is "Councillor David Harrison". My web page is [dharrison.org.uk](http://dharrison.org.uk) My e-mail address is [dauid.harrison@hants.gov.uk](mailto:dauid.harrison@hants.gov.uk)

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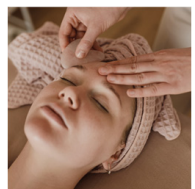
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## Starting school in September 2025



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If your child is 4 or will turn 4 before **1 September 2025**, they can start school in **September 2025**.

For more information go to [www.hants.gov.uk/admissions](https://www.hants.gov.uk/admissions)  
Applications open for Hampshire residents on **1 November 2024**

**THE NATIONAL CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS  
IS WEDNESDAY 15 JANUARY 2025**

**DON'T MISS IT!**



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## Marchwood Hedgehog Watch

Hibernare is the Latin word for passing the winter

🦔 Hedgehogs, bats and dormice are the only mammals on the UK that may hibernate.

🦔 Male Hedgehogs usually enter hibernation before female hedgehogs.

🦔 Hibernation is a prolonged state of inactivity or torpor to enable the Hh to preserve energy consumption by over 90% as its natural food sources decline over the colder months. It is not simply a long sleep.

🦔 The nest built for hibernation is called a Hibernaculum and is more robust than the usual day nest and consists of leaves, twigs and grass tightly bound together, under sheds, brambles, hedges or in special nest boxes provided by us humans.

🦔 Their metabolic rate slows to conserve energy, their heartbeat slows to less than 20 beats per minute. Up to an hour may elapse between short bouts of breathing, their temperature falls from 35 degrees Celsius to 10 degrees or less to match their surroundings, although their body metabolic rate will kick in to keep them above 1 degree to prevent them freezing if it is extremely cold.

🦔 They may wake several times during hibernation and may leave the nest to seek food, water or to even make a new hibernaculum in a different location.

🦔 Some hedgehogs may not hibernate at all, and do not need to in order to survive, especially if the winter is mild and they have a good food source and shelter. Or they may wait until January or even February for colder spells to hibernate (particularly in the South of the UK).

🦔 It is important to still provide food and water all year round to support Hedgehogs that do not hibernate or those that wake briefly. (dried kitten kibble is ideal).

🦔 Please remember that Hedgehogs will not hibernate in the open and any seen during daylight hours are not ok and need help from a rescue as soon as possible. Please contact us if you are concerned on our Facebook Page.

## Marchwood Hedgehog Watch





## Marchwood Twinning Association

Marchwood is twinned with St Contest, Normandy in France. You have probably seen the signs as you enter the village declaring this fact but I am also sure many of you are not clear what it means.

Twinning became popular after the second World War as a way to build relationships and promote reconciliation and prosperity after years of conflict. Towns and cities are twinned for a variety of reasons, but the main purpose is to promote cultural and commercial ties between two geographically and politically distinct localities.

St Contest signed the twinning charter with Marchwood twenty five years ago. Since then, our Association has organised exchanges to France and then in England in alternate years. People travelling to each country are hosted in each other's homes and get to experience the other country's culture and way they live. It is far better to see each other's way of life by staying with a family rather than going to a hotel for example.



During this year's trip to France we visited La Cité de la Mer in Cherbourg which is a museum dedicated to the sea, we had an evening entertainment hosted by the Mayor, attended a BBQ and we also visited the Normandy beaches to commemorate the anniversary of D-Day. Our French friends are making a return visit from the 7<sup>th</sup> to the 9<sup>th</sup> June 2025. We are busy

organising activities for the weekend and we are also seeking host families to take part in the exchange weekend.



The Association have regular French conversation classes on a Monday night and we always welcome new members. We also hold social activities during the year not only to have a get together but also to fund raise for the exchange weekends.

If you would like to find out more about the Twinning Association or would like to take part in our exchange weekend next year, please contact Keith on 07986 353362.



**Adam Smith-Connor**  
**Chartered Physiotherapist**  
**T: 023 8008 9120**  
**[www.newforestphysio.co.uk](http://www.newforestphysio.co.uk)**  
**[contact@newforestphysio.co.uk](mailto:contact@newforestphysio.co.uk)**

"Qualifying from Birmingham Uni in 1994, I've worked for the NHS, Army & BUPA. I specialize in musculoskeletal conditions such as arthritis, back pain, whiplash, shoulder injuries, tennis elbow, ankle sprain, knee pain & joint replacement rehab. If you're suffering pain I can help you."

**Clinic Location:**  
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**Marchwood**  
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**247**  
**ELECTRICS**

## Parish of Marchwood & Eling - St Johns & St Marys

It doesn't seem like six months have passed since Simon Hones moved to pastures new, but we have been most fortunate in being able to continue our worship each Sunday with the support of visiting clergy. We have started the process to find a new Vicar and trust that this won't take too long.

St John's is still open every day between 9am and 4pm and weddings, baptisms and funerals can still take place at both churches. (Contact: [marchwoodpcc@gmail.com](mailto:marchwoodpcc@gmail.com) or Tel. 023 8066 9254).

We are now making our Christmas preparations beginning with the Village Christmas evening where we will have our usual tombola stall with all proceeds going to our church roof fund.

Our services over Christmas are as follows:-

6<sup>th</sup> December – Infant School Christingle – St John's – 1-3pm  
12<sup>th</sup> December – Infant School Nativity – St John's – 1-3pm  
15<sup>th</sup> December – Marchwood Village Carol Service – 6pm – St John's  
23<sup>rd</sup> December – Messy Church Christingle – St John's – 3pm  
24<sup>th</sup> December – Christingle – St Mary's – 4pm  
25<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Day Communion Service with Carols – 10am – St John's  
29<sup>th</sup> December – Joint Communion service – 10 am – St Mary's

Please do come along to any of our services - you will be made most welcome.

Wishing a Happy Christmas and Prosperous New Year to all.

Rosemary and Ann  
Churchwardens



### WATERSIDE SCRAPSTORE

**CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR Opening Times**  
**and QUILTING SUPER SATURDAY in JANUARY 2025**

The Waterside Scrapstore is based at Sunnyfields Farm, Jacobs Gutter Lane, Totton. Normal opening hours are Mondays from 3-5pm, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays from 10am-12noon.

**Over the 2024 Christmas Holidays the Scrapstore will be open as usual up to and including Saturday 21st December, and then closed until it reopens on Thursday 2nd January.**

Waterside Scrapstore is a not-for-profit organisation run entirely by volunteers. Annual membership for individuals is just £6, for small groups/schools/businesses it's £20 and large groups/schools/businesses pay £30 a year. Members have access to a vast choice of materials, scrap, dressmaking and upholstery, full and part balls of wool, paper, card, sail cloth, leather scraps, bias binding, ribbon, pens, pencils, craft books, sewing, knitting and crochet patterns, model making items, boxes, tubes, the list is endless! You can fill a bag for as little as £1.50.

We are all about recycling and diverting waste from landfill and are entirely reliant on donations from generous individuals and local businesses for all of our stock. In 2023 the Scrapstore saved over **3400m of fabric** and **1200 balls of wool** from going to landfill, as well as over **1200 bags of mixed craft materials**. 2024 is on track to exceed these figures!

An early date for those brand new 2025 diaries...

We have been kindly donated fabric, thread, and haberdashery items from the retirement of a local quilting business. **QUILTING SUPER SATURDAY SALE** will be on **Saturday 18th January, 10am to 2pm**, at Sunnyfields Farm. You'll find amazing quilting cotton fabric from £2 a metre, reels of cotton from £1, fat quarters from 50p ...and lots, lots more! Please follow us on Facebook **/WatersideScrapstore** for more details closer to the event. Come early for the best choice and if you're not already a member you can join on the day!

We hope to welcome you soon.

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year from all the Scrapstore volunteers!

🌐 [www.watersidescrapstore.co.uk](http://www.watersidescrapstore.co.uk)    [f /WatersideScrapstore](https://www.facebook.com/WatersideScrapstore)    ✉ [watersidescraps@gmail.com](mailto:watersidescraps@gmail.com)





## Marchwood Village Hall.

### Marchwood Community Association charity no: 104926

We would like to thank the 'Singing with Friends' group and the WI for coming along to entertain our Solid Silver club on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October. Their compilation and story- telling of the songs from Sleepless in Seattle was thoroughly entertaining, and the homemade cakes they donated were also well received. The Solid Silver club meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month from 2.00pm-3.30pm. This is a club run for the over 60's and we enjoy quizzes, bingo, entertainers and speakers. It is a very social and friendly group and all are welcome. The cost is £2.00 per. session.

The Singing with friends group meet every Monday morning from 10am to 11am and all are welcome. This is a free event.

Marchwood Tots is a play session for pre-schoolers on a Thursday morning, 9.30am-11am. The cost is £1.70 per. child and 20p for any extra children, including tea/coffee, juice and a biscuit.

We currently have time slots available in the Maple hall and Pine room-so if you are thinking of starting a fitness class or social group please get in touch. A prime early Wednesday evening slot has just become free in the Maple hall, which is very rare!

Our small Fern room can also be hired for just an hour at a time for £5. So if you are a small business and need a space for staff training or meetings this could work for you. Free wi-fi is included.

We were lucky enough to have the Unique Theatre group here for their amazing, interactive Halloween event. Please look out for their Christmas event starting on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December!



For bookings please contact Alli on 023 80667927 or e-mail : [info@marchwoodvillagehall.co.uk](mailto:info@marchwoodvillagehall.co.uk)

### A calendar of meetings for Marchwood Parish Council and its committees January 2024 – March 2025

|                  |                                                |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| 5 February       | Planning                                       |
| 12 February      | Amenities                                      |
| 19 February      | Policy & Resources                             |
| 4 March          | Planning                                       |
| 11 March         | Parish Council                                 |
| 10 April         | Personnel                                      |
| 15 April         | Amenities                                      |
| 22 April         | Policy & Resources                             |
| 29 April         | Annual Parish Meeting*                         |
| 20 May           | Annual Council Meeting                         |
| 29 May           | AGM of the Lloyd Recreation Ground Trust (Wed) |
| 17 June          | Amenities                                      |
| 24 June          | Policy & Resources                             |
| 1 July           | Planning                                       |
| 18 July          | Personnel                                      |
| 22 July          | Parish Council                                 |
| 2 September      | Planning                                       |
| 9 September      | Amenities                                      |
| 16 September     | Parish Council                                 |
| 23 September     | Policy & Resources                             |
| 30 September     | Planning                                       |
| 4 November       | Planning                                       |
| 11 November      | Amenities                                      |
| 18 November      | Policy & Resources                             |
| 2 December       | Planning                                       |
| 16 December      | Parish Council                                 |
| 13 January 2025  | Planning                                       |
| 20 January 2025  | Policy & Resources                             |
| 17 February 2025 | Planning                                       |
| 24 February 2025 | Parish Council                                 |
| 3 March 2025     | Amenities                                      |
| 17 March 2025    | Planning                                       |
| 24 March 2025    | Policy & Resources                             |

Meetings of the Parish Council and its Committees are normally held in the Pine Room of Marchwood Village Hall, unless otherwise stated on the notice of agenda they commence at 7.30pm. Members of the public are very welcome to attend the meetings. Please look out for our next agenda on the parish notice boards.

\* Annual Parish Meeting is a meeting of the electorate and is not a Parish Council meeting.



Christmas shopping. Love it or loathe it, the time for selecting suitable gifts for those hard-to-please friends and relatives is now upon us. Whether we choose to take a trip into Southampton, or to shop online, the object of the exercise is the same: to seek out something that will show love and appreciation to the recipient.

Presents need not be expensive, though to some it would seem that the price tag is everything! Angelina Jolie, for example, once gave her (then) husband Brad Pitt a Californian waterfall, something he'd apparently always wanted, and would later build a house across. Similarly, David Beckham gave Victoria a Hermes Birkin crocodile handbag, encrusted with 245 diamonds on its golden frame. Her penchant for handbags is well known, of course, and this was reportedly one of the most expensive in the world. More bizarrely, the boxer Mike Tyson gave his wife a 24-carat gold bath-tub, but in spite of the generosity of his gesture, their marriage later failed.

The tradition of giving presents at Christmas time reminds us of the three wise men who visited the baby Jesus. The gift of gold would certainly have come in handy when the family had to escape into Egypt, fleeing from the murderous King Herod. The other gifts, frankincense and myrrh, were perhaps rather strange ones for a baby. The first was used in worship, and the other at a burial, showing that Jesus was not only God, but that he would later die as our Saviour.

The best Christmas present of all, though, was Jesus himself. The Apostle John wrote in his Gospel that 'God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.'



Why not join us at The Gospel Church this year to learn more about God's amazing love for us in sending Jesus? You will receive a warm welcome at any of the following events:

- 7<sup>th</sup> December 6.30pm Carol Singing outside the church building
- 15<sup>th</sup> December 10.30am Family Celebration at the Infant School
- 6pm Carol Service at St John's with the village churches
- 22<sup>nd</sup> December 6.30pm Candlelight Service
- 23<sup>rd</sup> December 3pm Messy Church Christingle at St John's
- 25<sup>th</sup> December 10.30am Christmas Day Family Service

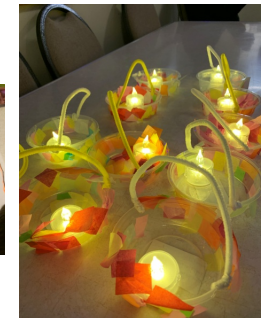
More information, including details of our regular services, Connect Café, Tots group, Beans Club, Ladies' group, Games Café and Men's Breakfast can be found on our website: [www.gospelchurchmarchwood.org.uk](http://www.gospelchurchmarchwood.org.uk).



At the end of September we celebrated ten years of Messy Church Marchwood with a harvest themed afternoon and a huge birthday cake. Thank you to all the families who have joined us over the years for fun, games, craft and community - we hope you have enjoyed it as much as we have.



On October 31<sup>st</sup> we held our annual Light Party with special UV lights at the Gospel Church. Everyone had great fun with lots of games and glow fun and also a big bag of sweets to take home.



Our next event will be our lovely Messy Christingle service which takes place at St John's Church, Marchwood on December 23<sup>rd</sup> at 3pm. Everyone will be able to make their own Christingle, Christmas craft and this will be followed by a short service and refreshments. All are welcome.



*Messy Church is a collaboration of the three churches in Marchwood and takes place around three or four times a year. It's a time of games, craft, celebration and a positive message; appealing mostly to children of preschool, infant and junior school age and their families.*

For more information about Messy Church see: [www.messychurch.org.uk](http://www.messychurch.org.uk) or contact [messychurchmarchwood@gmail.com](mailto:messychurchmarchwood@gmail.com)

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## In The Shop

Christmas Bouquets Table Arrangements

Garlands Wreaths Christmas Cards

Mini Trees Festive Raffle



## Opening Times

We are open most days from except Wednesday 9am until 4pm (On Occasion I do have to pop out to do a delivery or go to the Flower Market)

## Fawley RFC

### Fawley RFC kick off the new season with a strong turn out for all age groups

The senior team kicked off the season with a double bill of rugby; Fawley 1<sup>st</sup> XV vs Hook and Oliham RFC and Fawley Centaurs vs Southampton 2 RFC. A fantastic turn out for a small club and in the true spirit of rugby they had enough players to lend some to Southampton to make the 2<sup>nd</sup> fixture playable.

The teams included a number of players moving up from last year's Colts. They were the founding members of Fawley's first Colts team in a number of years, strengthening the connection between the junior and senior sections of the club with some having joined Fawley as U6's.

Meanwhile the new season's Colts saw 27 players travel to the Isle of Wight to play Vectis, another fantastic representation. Vectis scored first, but were held off for the remainder of the first half. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> half our boys showed determination to score their first try early on and their confidence grew, resulting in a win with a score of 22-10. A promising start for this year's Colts making this their third win of the season already.

The U13's hosted several of Hampshire's finest rugby clubs for a tournament. Their 16 man match squad were winners of a tough group, beating both Andover and Havant. In the cup semi-final Fawley faced a strong Winchester team, however the boys really stepped up their game, producing a dominant winning performance. Fawley's final game was against another Winchester side, a tough first half where both teams were level with one try a piece. However, some fresh legs on the Winchester side were too strong for the tiring Fawley boys, who proudly finished runners up.

The fast growing girls section continue to forge links with regular friendly games with New Milton and match against Dorset under their belts already. Any girls or women interested in joining this friendly and welcoming group of players, please contact Petina 07788 174962 – no rugby experience is necessary.

Fawley RFC always welcome new players of any age and experience; men, women, girls and boys. Training is held on weekday evenings and Sunday mornings, with regular social events throughout the year. If you'd like to try it out, contact [enquiries@fawleyrfc.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@fawleyrfc.co.uk) for more information.

This year's Christmas Fayre will be held on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December at the club from 10am to 4pm – Santa Visits, Tombola, Cakes, Bric-a-Brac and much more, everyone welcome



## Marchwood Litter Pickers

Thank you to everyone who came to the October litter pick. 34 volunteers collected 21 black sacks full. We also collected 6 bags of crushed cans to raise money for Hampshire Air Ambulance. For the third quarter of this year, £3918.10 has been raised by groups /individuals / businesses across the county.

Our next pick will be on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> January, meeting at 10am behind the church. As usual, all equipment will be provided, and I look forward to seeing everyone there. Please contact me at [gary\\_james\\_wright@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:gary_james_wright@hotmail.co.uk) to find out more, or if you want me to add you to the mailing list.



In addition to the regular community pick, a few of us gathered at Cracknore Hard with Lisa and Mark from Team Totton in September, to clear an area that we tackled last year.



## Marchwood Men's Shed

After lots of planning and design work, we have finally got the 3 tier planter installed into the Village Centre. We hope that people are enjoying the splash of colour that it adds to the area. Thank you to the landowner Goulden Properties for allowing us to site the planter here and for sponsoring the materials. Thanks to Marchwood Parish Council for providing the plants.



We have also delivered the two boot scrapers and the first of the wheeled benches that we are making for Marchwood Junior School. The wheeled bench has a book basket to facilitate outdoor reading sessions. Thank you to Councillor David Harrison who helped to fund the materials with a portion of his community grant.





As we approach Christmas, the team are working on a couple of different items that we hope to sell at our stall at the Christmas Fayre. Making items to sell help us to pay our bills and fund the community projects.

We meet on a Wednesday from 09:00 at the Lloyd Recreation ground. The shed is open to all, whether you want to get involved in the hands-on projects, or just meet up for a chat and a coffee, it would be great to see you. Take a look at our website for more information [www.marchwoodmensshed.org](http://www.marchwoodmensshed.org) or drop us an email [marchwoodmensshed@gmail.com](mailto:marchwoodmensshed@gmail.com)

### Marchwood Conservation Volunteers

At the time of writing, we have completed our first two workdays of the season.

The annual cut and rake of the Cork Field Meadow in September helps to reduce the fertility of the soil, which inhibits the growth of grass, allowing the more delicate wildflowers to establish. This has been completed on this site for over 30 years, with the number of flowering species increasing every year.



Coppicing in Crooked Hayes is done in different areas on a 7/8 year rotation. Coppicing involves cutting the Hazel down to ground level. This increases light to the woodland floor which in turn improves biodiversity. Coppicing also increases the life of the trees. Our first session in October was very successful and we look forward to working in the Copse again later in the season.



The MCV meet once per month during the Autumn and Winter. The work days are relaxed and there is no pressure to attend all of them. We are looking for more volunteers, so if you are interested in getting involved, please get in touch via [marchwoodconservation@gmail.com](mailto:marchwoodconservation@gmail.com).

The Handy Trust – all about us and details of our Christmas plans!



For those who don't know who we are – we are THE HANDY TRUST. A full youth support service running in the Waterside area offering youth clubs, holiday clubs, detached work, individual support and much more!

In Marchwood, we run regular youth sessions, as well as holiday clubs for the whole family. Our next holiday clubs will run in February half-term as follow:

Monday 11:30 – 1:30

Wednesday 11:30-1:30

These sessions are free for the whole family and include a meal! Those under 10 must have an adult attend with them. Those who are 10 and over just need to have a Youth membership form completed, which can be done in-person or online. From January, our Youth sessions are changing days and times and will be –

On this poster you can find all the details for our online platforms.



**Marchwood hub sessions return Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2025, with the last Monday session being 9<sup>th</sup> December 2024.**

**CHRISTMAS!** We will, again, be taking part in the partnership project 'Waterside Christmas Appeal' supporting families in the Waterside area with presents and food. We welcome donations of gifts, food or funds to purchase either. We have a Facebook page 'Waterside Christmas appeal' which also has an application form for those of you who might need our support this year. You will also see us out on our 'Christmas minibus' on the 16<sup>th</sup> of December – look and listen out for us!





## Marchwood WI Winter - Judy Saxby

I'm trying something different,  
'Cos, I'm usually quite verbose.  
I'm writing in rhyme,  
Just a change this time,  
Instead of a chunk of prose.

Well, Marchwood WI has been "chocka" of late,  
October ending with an Event of Education.  
There was Sleepless in Seattle and Sea City Stories...  
Members made malas, and created Christmas crafts  
I like words, but LOVE alliteration!

In September, Andy Skinner, came and he regaled us,  
With tales of shipping and the Titanic.  
This Sea City guy gave us stories with slides,  
And facts dynamic and quite oceanic!  
His family's distant relative, it seems,  
Was an infant on board... and survivor.  
In the Sea City museum, all lives are told there,  
And the memories will live on for ever.

Our weekly sing is such a good thing,  
Lifts our spirits and does our hearts good.  
We are "Singing with Friends"  
And in such perfect pitch...  
Well, I'm sure that we would if we could!  
It's all run by John and he's clear as a Bell...  
That he just wants us all to have fun  
He wants us all to enjoy, lift our voices ahoy!  
And go home with a smile, when we're done.

At our Education Day  
(You don't have to pay!)  
All our members can learn something new  
With all of the knowledge we're gaining  
To make presents and gifts...  
To give friends a lift.  
And all with not very much training.

We made small felted sheep,  
And cute beaded stars.  
Lovely roses made out of fine clay.

We made Dorset Buttons,  
And made hearts of slate,  
Gained new skills, on our learning day.

We learned how to take good photographs,  
On our phone, with a couple of clicks.  
It's not so much to chat upon, it seems  
It's actually quite a box of tricks  
The canine model Lucy  
Was the portrait subject matter.  
She caused a stir among the students  
"Photographic natter".

Our WI choir is so joyful to hear,  
Our singing is very harmonic.  
John sits and sings from afar,  
Playing his guitar and thinking  
Our sol-fa's a tonic.  
We did a great gig,  
For our family and friends  
And members of a local group.  
All fifteen songs of Sleepless, we sang  
And our "Back in the Saddles" a WHOOP!  
Our fortnightly choir  
Lifts our spirits much higher  
It's lovely and causes much laughter.  
With a Good Tune and a Song  
You just can't go wrong  
Of course, voices are hoarse , a bit after.

In October, we held an evening of crafts  
That some of our members were sharing  
Twiggy stars, hazel wreaths,  
Christmas baubles and beads  
Skill teaching shows "Sharing is caring"

We are Arty and Crafty  
We think we're quite cool  
We are singers and bakers and makers  
We'll be at the Xmas Fayre  
But if we don't see you there  
We just wish you all...A GOOD YULE!

P.S.  
Hope you don't think verse is worse!  
The lack of scan...was not the plan!





WI Education Day







## KID'S CHRISTMAS TRIVIA

1. What is Santa Claus's traditional mode of transportation on Christmas Eve?  
a) Sleigh b) Car c) Bicycle
2. What do people traditionally place on top of a Christmas tree?  
a) Candy Canes b) Star c) Santa Claus
3. In the song "Jingle Bells," what kind of ride is it?  
a) Sleigh b) Horse c) Car
4. What is the name of the famous snowman brought to life by a magical hat?  
a) Frosty b) Blizzard c) Snowball
5. What is the name of the Christmas ballet that tells the story of Clara and her Nutcracker Prince?  
a) The Nutcracker b) The Sugar Plum Fairy c) The Snow Queen
6. In the song "Frosty the Snowman," what material makes Frosty come to life?  
a) A magic hat b) A magic scarf c) A magic button
7. What treat is often left out for Santa on Christmas Eve?  
a) Cookies and Milk b) Carrots and Water c) Candy Canes
8. In the song "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer," what makes Rudolph's nose so special?  
a) It glows b) It sings c) It talks
9. What is the name of the villain in "The Grinch Who Stole Christmas"?  
a) Scrooge b) Grumpy c) The Grinch
10. What popular Christmas song features the lyrics "Dashing through the snow, in a one-horse open sleigh"?  
a) "Silent Night" b) "Jingle Bells" c) "Deck the Halls"



## KID'S CHRISTMAS TRIVIA

11. What classic Christmas character is known for sneaking into people's houses through the chimney?  
a) Frosty the Snowman b) Santa Claus c) Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer
12. In the movie "Frozen," what is the name of Elsa's magical snowman companion?  
a) Olaf b) Sven c) Kristoff
13. What is the name of the Grinch's loyal dog in "How the Grinch Stole Christmas"?  
a) Max b) Buddy c) Rex
14. What holiday figure is known for having pointy ears and working with Santa's elves?  
a) Easter Bunny b) Tooth Fairy c) Elf
15. In "The Polar Express," what does the conductor punch to symbolize the children's belief in Santa?  
a) Train tickets b) Candy canes c) Bells
16. What Christmas movie features a young boy named Kevin McCallister who is accidentally left behind by his family?  
a) Home Alone b) The Santa Clause c) Elf
17. In the movie "Elf," what is Buddy's favorite food group?  
a) Candy b) Sugar c) Sweets
18. What is the name of the reindeer who thinks he's a dentist in "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer"?  
a) Bumble b) Yukon Cornelius c) Hermey



Score



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## ANSWER KEY

- 1.a) Sleigh
- 2.b) Star
- 3.a) Sleigh
- 4.a) Frosty
- 5.a) The Nutcracker
6. a) A magic hat
7. a) Cookies and Milk
8. a) It glows
9. c) The Grinch
10. b) "Jingle Bells"
11. b) Santa Claus
12. a) Olaf
13. a) Max
14. c) Elf
15. a) Train tickets
16. a) Home Alone
17. a) Candy
18. c) Hermey

## Useful Contact Numbers

|                                            |                |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Emergencies</b>                         |                |
| Police (non emergency)                     | 101            |
| Flood line                                 | 02380 833000   |
| Gas Leak emergency                         | 0800 111 999   |
| Electricity                                | 105            |
| Southern Water                             | 0330 303 0368  |
| The Environment Agency                     | 0800 807060    |
|                                            |                |
| <b>Local Authorities</b>                   |                |
| Hampshire County Council                   | 03005 551375   |
| New Forest District Council                | 02380 285000   |
| Marchwood Parish Council                   | 02380 860273   |
| National Park Authority                    | 01590 646600   |
|                                            |                |
| <b>Helplines</b>                           |                |
| Age Concern                                | 0238 036 8636  |
| NHS (non-emergencies)                      | 111            |
| Citizen Advice Southampton                 | 0808 278 7863  |
| Childline                                  | 0800 1111      |
| Crimestoppers                              | 0800 555 111   |
| Victim support                             | 0808 178 1641  |
| Domestic Violence helpline                 | 0808 200 0247  |
| Council Tax Advice                         | 02380 83009(2) |
| Universal Credit                           | 0800 328 5644  |
| Home Heat Helpline                         | 0800 336699    |
|                                            |                |
| <b>Health and Medical Services</b>         |                |
| Southampton General Hospital               | 02380 777222   |
| Royal South Hants (minor injuries unit)    | 02380 634288   |
| Rethink (mental health advice and support) | 0300 5000 927  |
|                                            |                |
| <b>Schools</b>                             |                |
| Marchwood C of E Infant School             | 02380 868819   |
| Marchwood Junior School                    | 02380 863105   |
| Applemore College                          | 02380 848804   |
| Noadswood School                           | 02380 840025   |
| Hounslowdown School                        | 02380 862981   |

All numbers and details listed above are correct at the time of going to press. If any are incorrect please let us know via email: [deputyclerk@marchwoodparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:deputyclerk@marchwoodparishcouncil.org.uk) Thank you.