



MARCHWOOD VILLAGE NEWS

Issue 171



In this issue:

Chairman's Report; District and County Councillors Reports.

Nominate Local Volunteers.

St John's Church Appeal.

Priority Services Register - How to Register.

Published by Marchwood Parish Council

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Marchwood Village News

This Magazine is for the Parishoners of Marchwood. Individual points of view expressed in the contributions are not necessarily those of the Parish Council or the editor. The Village News is published by print dimensions.

If you would like to provide an article for the village news
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Chairman's Spring Report



Spring seems to have arrived in recent weeks, and with it, the many green open spaces around Marchwood are again bursting back into life. The first real splash of colour after a grey winter, daffodils are a sure sign that spring is coming. The mild weather this year has brought them out early.

As the weather gets warmer, our native hibernating hedgehogs and bats begin to venture out for food.

Just before dawn, early risers will awake to hear the blackbirds, robins, wrens and an orchestra of other birds announcing the new day. The dawn chorus builds throughout spring and peaks in May.

For more information on how we can help our endangered hedgehogs and give them a fighting chance to survive and increase in number, please check out the Parish Website and Notice Boards for contacts and practical advice.

Whilst nature works its magic, our Landscape & Groundwork Team is also working hard to help things get on their way. They work tirelessly to maintain and, where necessary, improve the amenities available to everyone around the village.

Springtime is my favourite time of the year. Nature's regeneration, new beginnings, and much to look forward to as the clocks go forward and we herald in the lighter evenings.

Over the last few years, the winter storms have required our Landscape & Groundwork Team to work hard to maintain our treasured green open spaces, but sadly, we had to cut down more trees than we wanted.

Our independent annual inspection regularly identifies more trees needing attention during the coming months.

The last few years have seen an unprecedented draw on the Parish Council's tree budget. Tree maintenance and ensuring a safe environment are legal requirements, so taking no action wasn't a viable option for the problem.

The Parish Council isn't immune to the financial pressures we are all facing. We have endeavoured to keep our running costs to an acceptable level. We can no longer borrow from our reserves to offset operational costs and increased energy and fuel expenditure.

The Council operates and manages five playparks, approximately 85 acres of open space with over 1,000 trees, hedgerows and fencing, a skatepark, and 27 dog bins.

As sole trustees of the Lloyds Recreation grounds, the Council also maintains the pavilion, sports facilities and open space.

Five employees are employed to manage all of these assets and the statutory administration of the Council; our Landscape & Groundwork Team consists of 3 full-time employees and two full-time Management and Finance personnel.

After careful consideration, the Parish Council decided at its meeting in December that an increase in the precept could not be avoided. We took the tough decision to raise the precept for 2025-26. A band D property will see an increase in the Council tax of £9.04 per annum or £0.75p monthly.

When our volunteers delivered this magazine, you might have already received your Council Tax Bill from the New Forest District Council.

Imposing increased charges is never popular, but all those who work and are involved in delivering public services work very hard to keep costs down and strive to maintain or improve the services they provide.

Your councillors and parish staff are very committed to high customer service standards and care greatly for the community in which they work or live.

Therefore, sharing what we are doing to keep our costs down and maintain our service delivery standards is essential for our parishioners to continue to trust what we do on their behalf.

If you have read my previous Parish Chairman Reports, you will know how many times I have written about the number of trees in our village. They are both a blessing and a curse.

We love trees because they provide numerous environmental benefits like clean air, shade, and combating climate change, along with their aesthetic appeal, connection to nature, and the calming effect of being surrounded by greenery; essentially, trees contribute significantly to our well-being and quality of life.

Unfortunately, nature, or our impact on the planet, has necessitated the Parish Council to make tough decisions for the 2025-26 budget.

Marchwood has proportionally the same or greater density of trees and green open spaces as our neighbouring parishes. But, unlike them, we have fewer Council Taxpayers, thus making it harder to spread the cost of ensuring a safe environment and meeting the legal requirements.

Our landscaping and ground staff do an excellent job, and your Council has decided that we will ensure they have the proper equipment to keep costs to a minimum.

Working with the guys is an absolute pleasure as they are proactive, always coming up with practical ideas to save time and money. Marchwood is very fortunate to have them on the payroll.

We have decided to sell our two diesel vehicles and move to greener options. Our two silver trucks have proved uneconomical to run and would cause an unacceptable future burden on the Council's financial resources. They were becoming unreliable and required increasing days in the repair shop.

We are pledged to become more carbon neutral and are actively engaged in switching to electric vehicles and leasing rather than incurring significant capital expenditure each time we buy vehicles.

This move will save the parish significant short- and long-term money and make sound financial sense.

My colleague, Counsellor Nigel Buckett, Chairman of the Amenities Committee, provided compelling evidence in his report to Council, dated 16 December 2024, on why our approach is financially sound and proportionate.

In the coming weeks, you will hopefully witness our new vehicles in operation.

After consultation with our staff, we will be leasing a fully electric drop-sided Ford E-Transit and a plug-in hybrid Ford Connect van, which are fit for purpose for the workloads we have.

One of the first priorities where we can utilise the new features will be to undertake a 'spring clean' for all our playparks, making them cleaner and even safer for our younger parishioners.

This combination of these utility vehicles provides us greater flexibility to undertake the outdoor jobs we undertake at an affordable price, which leasing offers, as it makes financial planning and forecasting a lot easier in these uncertain times.

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

Unfortunately, we have had to make one difficult decision. So, starting this year, we will reduce the publication of the Marchwood Village News to three editions.

Reducing to three editions was difficult, but our recent distribution audit highlighted that a significant proportion of Marchwood had not received a copy for many years. Therefore, something had to be done to correct the situation, and reducing the number of editions was the most sensible outcome.

We would love to revert to quarterly publication, but we need to explore further opportunities to increase our income streams before considering this.

It is challenging to balance the books and still deliver on our promise to make Marchwood a great place to live, work, raise a family and retire.

There have to be checks and balances to ensure the tax you pay is put to good use and provides value for money for the service you require.

Our staffing is at the lowest level to maintain service delivery, and all other budget expenditures are constantly under review.

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

Although The Treasury are “conscious that this will impact the finances of town and parish councils”, they have confirmed that councils like us will not be included in a package to compensate public sector bodies for this rise.

Fortunately, due to staff retirements this year the effect of this increase will have no significant impact on our salary costs.

Once again, I want to thank Colette and Tony for their long and dedicated service. Still, as we say farewell, I am pleased to announce that Angela Woodward is now our combined Deputy Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer, a role she has already demonstrated she enjoys and excels in.

Marchwood Parish Council has two key committees open to the public to hear what is being planned and allow participation in the decision-making process.

Our Amenities Committee’s key priority is maintaining our open spaces, recreation facilities and biodiversity. It is a forward-thinking and proactive committee that understands the community’s needs, aiming to deliver a wide range of facilities that make living enjoyable for all ages.

Oversight of the Council’s finances rests with our Policy and Resource Committee, chaired by Councillor Daryll Hindle and supported by Angella’s excellent financial advice, guidance and expertise, which undertakes forensic analysis of the Council’s expenditure and plans to ensure financial probity and transparency of our income and spending.

Undertaking financial cautiousness gives us an ideal opportunity to explore more community engagement.

I know those who attended appreciated and enjoyed our *Party in the Park* and *Christmas Fayre*. So, we want to replicate how we can organise and run these events with minimal cost to the council funds to make these an annual event.

Indeed, the surplus from the Christmas Fayre has enabled more festive lights to be purchased to make next year’s Christmas Fayre even better.

We have moved the event to Saturday, 13 December 2025, to allow our younger parishioners to attend and enjoy knowing they don’t have school to attend the next day.

It often goes unsaid, but Marchwood prospers from the many unsung heroes and community champions who go under the radar, undertaking a range of community service in their own time.

They are modest folk who enjoy what they undertake without expectation of reward or recognition.

We must respect that, but it shouldn’t stop us from showing gratitude. Therefore, at our Annual Parishioners Meeting, we want to showcase how much we appreciate what they do and say, “Thank you”.

See the following page for more about this exciting initiative.

Another crucial function of your Parish Council is to comment on planning issues that affect us.

With excellent stewardship from our clerk, Tina Dudley, we are becoming more forensic in our deliberations on the planning issues we are invited to comment on. We aim to be balanced in our opinions and recommendations but will not flinch to stand up for our community.

Our Planning Committee Chairman, Councillor Mike Saxby, regularly reminds everyone if you see a green planning application pinned to a lamppost or telephone pole, don’t just rely on the Council to make its feelings clear on your behalf – your comments are equally relevant and welcomed by the planning authority.

I want to thank all Parish Committee Chairs and fellow councillors for supporting me and helping make Marchwood a great place to live.

We are unpaid volunteers who have stood for public office, wanting to give back to the community where we have worked or lived for many years.

Being a Councillor is rewarding and fulfilling as it helps ensure our village issues are heard at the county and district level, especially as there will be many challenges ahead.

Having a full complement of councillors ensures the best representation of our collective concerns and issues and safeguards the viability of a sustainable and proactive council.

We encourage and welcome new volunteers to join us in our desire to continue to stand up and represent the parish of Marchwood.

If you want to join us, don’t hesitate to contact the Parish Office for further details.

John Case

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Marchwood, Southampton
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<https://marchwoodparish.gov.uk>**

Nomination for – Community Volunteers

The Parish Council would like to formally thank our hidden heroes – our community volunteers who give up their time to make a difference in the village.

Nominations must be received by no later than 7th April 2025.

- *Let us know who you are nominating.*
- *Let us know why you are nominating this person.*
- *Why the volunteers help was important to the community.*
- *What is exceptional about the contribution made by the volunteer.*
- *How is the nominee an inspiration.*

A presentation will be held on Monday 28th April 2025 at the Annual Parishioners meeting, in the Pine Room, Marchwood Village Hall at 7.00pm.

Please send your nominations to office@marchwoodparish.gov.uk



Councillor David Harrison

Hampshire County Council



This report is in two parts. An update about things at Hampshire County Council and things that are happening locally that you might find of interest.

It is fair to say that things are challenging at Hampshire County Council (a British understatement!)

As I write this, on February 4th, I am very much aware that things can change a lot before you get to read this. I don't think things have ever been so turned upside down as now.

I don't know today if there be elections for County Council seats on May 1st. HCC have applied to go on a priority list for local government reorganisation and devolution. I don't know (today) if they will be accepted.

There is a financial crisis, mainly because of the unsustainable way Social Care, Children's Services (including SEND provision) is taking up all the money that is available. HCC will balance the books for this financial year but having made savings of some £800 million in recent years, still needs to find a further £180 million.

Government have turned down a request to increase the Council tax by 15%, without a referendum, which would have added about £230 to your average council tax annual bill. The Council Cabinet have decided not to recommend holding a referendum, realising that most people won't vote for such a large increase.

The consequence of all this is that there will be a further round of cuts, the hardest yet. I really don't see how they can possibly do anything other than run those services which they have to do by law and even those will be cut down to minimal service levels.

I don't have any money for community grants now. We might have seen the last of them.

It is all a pretty depressing picture I'm afraid.

Locally, there are a few issues that spring to mind. On transport, there is still a bit of lobbying to try and improve bus services through the village. This includes an effort to get a couple of new stops on the A326, near the Twiggs Lane junction, so that people can take advantage of the Bluestar 9 service, which otherwise bypasses the village.

The off-road walking and cycling route from the village to Eling remains really popular and is enhanced now that we have a safe crossing at the Trotts Lane crossroads, complete with traffic lights so you can stop the traffic.

My ambition is to extend the route towards Hounsdown and access to Sunnyfields farm. However, this will rely on developer contributions from house building. This is likely to happen on the former quarry site, with plans for significant numbers of housing to be brought forward in a couple of years.

I am still very unhappy about the lack of existing safe cycling and walking routes between Marchwood and Hythe. The big hope here is that the community might be offered something by landowners in exchange for realising their ambitions for development. There will likely be some serious opposition to any plans made for developing Dibden Bay for port use. However, if it is imposed by a government minister then we will have to try and realise some benefits such as safer walking and cycling routes and perhaps a country park.

There is a possibility, (I am not putting it stronger than that), that an organisation called Alliance Rail Southern will succeed in introducing an hourly passenger rail service to Marchwood within a couple of years.

Plans to widen the A326 are progressing. The Officers who work on these things tell me that they have managed to design a scheme that retains the tree buffers on the east side of the road. However, the controversial bit is that it involves taking up some National Park land. It is frankly very hard to see how Board Members of the National Park Authority could ever agree to it, given their duty to protect and enhance all the park land. I expect we will see a further consultation later in the year.

Hope that helps give a flavour of things happening and likely to happen. Interesting times!

E-mail : david.harrison@hants.gov.uk. www,dharrison.org.uk
Facebook "Councillor David Harrison"

Councillor Richard Young

New Forest District Council



The new year is quickly upon us and already it heralds the arrival of truly significant potential change across Hampshire following the announcement from Government just before Christmas of Local Government Reorganisation, and the creation of new Strategic Authorities lead by a directly elected Mayor.

In early February it was confirmed that the current "top tier" local authorities of Hampshire County Council, Southampton City Council, Portsmouth City Council, and Isle of Wight Council had their joint bid accepted by Government to be on the fast track for becoming a new Strategic Authority. Resultingly, the current District and Borough councils across Hampshire, like New Forest District Council, will likely cease to exist come the next scheduled District elections in May 2027. Exactly what the constitution of the new Unitary Authority will be for the New Forest area is not yet known, but it will have to be determined and formally proposed to Government before September 2025. My focus is as always first and foremost working to achieve the best possible outcome for our Marchwood community.

Engaging regularly with residents as I do I know that there is significant and reasonable local community concern about waterside communities like Marchwood being subdivided from the New Forest and potentially being made part of a "greater Southampton". I am however confident that this is NOT going to happen as in the governments white paper a clear instruction was given that all new Unitary Authorities must respect existing authority boundaries and not trigger a Boundary Commission review.

Whilst I do not believe that the change being imposed upon the way in which the New Forest is governed is necessary or indeed wanted by a majority of our residents, part of my duties over the coming months will be to help shape what our new Unitary Authority will look like. My starting position and personal preference is that we therefore explore linking up with similarly constituted authorities which share our mix of rural and semi-rural communities. To my mind Test Valley and Winchester are obvious potential partners with the New Forest having a combined population of around 465,000 and further shared interests with regards our precious National Parks (New Forest and South Downs). I will of course continue to keep all local residents fully updated on this important local matter via frequent updates to my social media feed just as soon as new information comes to light.

Onto other matters, I continue to work closely with numerous local residents and businesses alike on potential and substantive developments taking place in and around our community. The new care home under construction near the Pilgrim Inn is now well underway and I have maintained an open channel of communications with the developer, nearby residents, and the council's planning officers to try to ensure that any issues arising from the construction phase are resolved or mitigated swiftly for all concerned.

In recent weeks the "reserved matters" planning application for building 150 new homes at Corks Farm (adjacent to Admiralty Way) has been submitted and as such I very much encourage residents to comment upon this application which focuses largely upon the design and layout of the proposed new homes, as well as significant areas of open space.

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Applemore Health and leisure centre,
Marchwood Scout Hut

Marchwood also recently hosted the launch event of the Waterside Partnership, a coming together of local landowners and businesses including Barker Mill Estates, ABP Southampton, ExxonMobil, Solent Gateway, Fawley Waterside, and Solent Freeport. The idea being that through cooperation and engagement with our communities we can collectively create new opportunities that enable our residents to prosper and to help ensure the Watersides long term sustainability.

I particularly look forwards to seeing from Hampshire County Council later this year their finalised future proposals for the A326 and the opportunities that might afford Marchwood in terms of removing HGV's from far more sensitive village centre roads, and perhaps even stopping through traffic near the Infant School, plus finally making a much-needed safe walking and cycling route between Marchwood and Dibden.

There is undoubtedly much to be aware of for members of our community over the coming year. For all the very latest updates I highly recommend following my Facebook page "Councillor Richard Young", and if you have any queries or concerns that I might be able to assist you with please do email me at any time via richard.young@nfdc.gov.uk

I wish you and your families well for the year ahead.

Councillor Richard Young

Marchwood Parish Council

Calendar of Meeting 2025 - 2026

April 2025	14 April 2025 28 April 2025	Planning Committee Parish Meeting
May 2025	12 May 2025 19 May 2025 27 May 2025 (after BH)	Planning Committee Annual Council Policy & Resources
June 2025	2 June 2025 9 June 2025 16 June 2025	Planning Committee Amenities Committee Lloyds Annual General Meeting
July 2025	7 July 2025 28 July 2025	Planning Committee Policy & Resources Committee
September 2025	01 September 2025 22 September 2025 29 September 2025	Planning Committee Full Council Amenities Committee
October 2025	06 October 2025 13 October 2025	Planning Committee Policy & Resources Committee
November 2025	3 November 2025	Planning Committee
December 2025	01 December 2025 08 December 2025 15 December 2025	Planning Committee Policy & Resources Committee Full Council
January 2026	05 January 2026 26 January 2026	Planning Committee Amenities Committee
February 2026	09 February 2026 16 February 2026	Planning Committee Policy & Resources Committee
March 2026	09 March 2026 16 March 2026 30 March 2026	Planning Committee Full Council Amenities Committee

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Did you know that there are a group of volunteers who work with the Waterside PCN GP practices to support patients through community activities?

The patient champions run and support groups to help provide patients with information and activities, promoting healthy lifestyles aimed at improving their health and wellbeing.

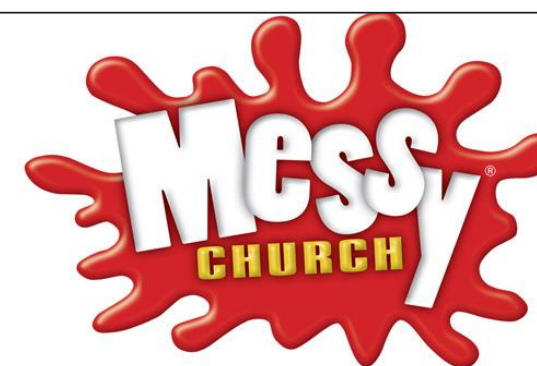
We are currently running an IT for health group, supporting patients to use the NHS APP and other patient access websites to help them manage their own health online, this could be ordering repeat prescriptions to being able to look up their medical records and accessing appointments online. This group runs on the 3rd Thursday of each month at Hythe Library.

We run a book group in Marchwood on the 2nd Tuesday of each month, this is a chance to meet like minded people and enjoy not only chatting about the books you have read but enjoying being in the company of others in a relaxed friendly environment.

Every 1st Friday of the month we hold a walking group, this group meets at Dibden Enclosure at 12pm and enjoys a leisurely walk around the forest for around an hour, giving people the confidence to be outside whilst being with other people, who can also bring along their 4-legged friend 🐾

Our Monthly drop in Coffee mornings run on the last Thursday of each month at St. John's Hall in Hythe from 11.30-1.30pm. People can pop in and enjoy the opportunity to chat and meet with people and enjoy tea/coffee and cake and have a chance to meet with our patient champions and get more information on the groups we run.

For more information please do get in touch by scanning the QR code below or coming along to our coffee mornings.



We held our Messy Christingle service on December 23rd at St John's Church, Marchwood. This is always a lovely event as the church is decorated for Christmas and the candles shine brightly in the fading light of December. We made our very own Christingle, along with various Christmas crafts. We then had a short service to celebrate Jesus, the Light of the World, who brings hope to us all.



Our next Messy Church will be on **Saturday April 5th at 2pm in St John's Church Hall, Marchwood** where we will be celebrating Easter. Everyone is welcome and it's free!

Hope you can join us for a few hours of fun, creativity and refreshments.



Messy Church is a collaboration of the three churches in Marchwood and takes place 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 or contact messychurchmarchwood@gmail.com

Marchwood WI Spring 2025

“ONE VOICE”

The theme for this piece is “**One Voice**” and it will be purely prose.

In December at the Marchwood Village Christmas Fayre, this year organised by the Parish Council (well done, chaps!)...the community group Singing with Friends, who meet on a Monday morning in the Village Hall, was asked to join with the Junior School Choir to sing some Christmas songs at the start of the Fayre, the group has sung with the Juniors before and it is a lovely meeting and amalgam of voices and ages. The “sing”, taking place in the area outside the Junior School, amongst the very festive stalls, kick started the Fayre adding to the Christmassy atmosphere, many people joined in with the singing, bringing back memories of their childhood maybe...

Afterwards the WI choir (part of the SWF group) went into the hall to sell cakes and hot drinks in a packed crafty hall.

Thanks to Dulcie, Tanya and Vanessa who held the fort at the sales table and kitchen, while other WI'ers were singing their Xmas socks off outside.



Suffragettes in Trousers”

Whilst in the past the **Forestside Group** of WIs would have had a concert on Twelfth Night, this year there was a musical written and staged by third year drama students from Solent University.

It was called “Suffragettes in Trousers” ...alluding to the fact that some suffragettes dressed in trousers to see what attitudes to them would be like if they were men or perceived as men. The story follows a young journalist looking for a good story. He is asked to write an article about the suffrage movement and discovers the untold stories of a group of women involved.

The singing and drama were interspersed with unusual modern ballet dance.... (in fact, quite Peaky Blinders ballet in style)

Suffragism was the beginning of women starting to have a voice with regard to their status in the world... hence “**one voice**” ...

In January the speaker was **Peter Sewell**, a volunteer skipper for the **Ellen MacArthur Cancer Trust**...the trust gives young people recovering from cancer a chance to sail for a four days off the **Isle of Wight** or **Largs in Scotland** (reasonably close to the shore...phew) and meeting with other young people from all over the country, it's a good chance to mix with other youngsters who are in that “getting back to some kind of normal” phase of their lives.

It is so successful and life affirming that some of the young adventurers return, not only to enjoy and gain from the experience but possibly to train as skippers on these boats themselves.

For further info. www.ellenmacarthurcancertrust.org

Our **WI Choir** which is the hub of the **Singing with Friends** group, continues to meet every other Monday evening in the Church Hall for practice...current sing is “**The Hills are Alive**”**project**.... Yes, you've got it...the songs from the Sound of Music musical (and no, we aren't all dressing as nuns), we are singing other songs from musicals as well because, well, other musicals, like West Side Story, for example have got such good songs!

But we are practising **The Sound of Music** together with **John Bell** (he is our leader) providing a narration, for a concert later in the year. No one is specifically soprano or alto...we all have different voices and magically when we sing, we come together as “**One Voice**”.

As there is a slightly longer gap between the Village News editions this year...here is a part of Marchwood WI programme for the year. Obviously, some of these meetings will have taken place, but it gives an idea of the things that happen at a WI meeting.

February 11th Talk and Cheese tasting with Jonathan Broomfield

March 11th ACWW Associated Women of the World talk by Maureen Levenson.

April 8th Its our 104th Birthday!...WOW

May 13th AGM and “Test your Tastebuds”

June 10th Plant and Produce Auction

July 8th Talk by Paralympian Aaron Phipps M.B.E (not to be missed!)

Marchwood WI meets on the second Tuesday of the month in the Village Hall at 7.15 and all are welcomed.

Marchwood WI are proud to be members of the largest women's voluntary organisation in the UK..... and we say it with **ONE VOICE!**

Judy Saxby
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**St John's Church Marchwood is in urgent need of a new roof
and needs your help!**



The years have taken their toll, particularly to the south-facing section of the roof. Severe storms over the last decade or two have caused many roof tiles to become dislodged and fall and rainwater is entering the building. Repairs have been carried out, but a long-term solution is necessary. To ensure its ongoing presence in our village it will be necessary to completely replace the south section of the roof.

The Church has stood for over 180 years and is a beautiful building that commands an elevated position within our village. As well as providing weekly Christian services the Church is open seven days a week for quiet reflection and prayer. It is a genuine heritage community asset.

Costs have been estimated at £209,792 including VAT. £63,250 has already been found with a likely VAT grant of £34,965 awarded on completion of the works, meaning that £111,577 still needs to be raised. We are reaching out to the congregation, Church preservation trusts and local organisations but we also need help from the village community of Marchwood. Any help you can give by making a financial donation would be very welcomed. Also, we would welcome anyone with fundraising experience to join our fundraising committee. If that is you, please contact the Church office at 02380 669254 or email StJohnsandStMarys@gmail.com.

Financial donations can be made by direct bank transfer -

St John's Building & Maintenance Fund A/C 01998317, S/C 30-98-73 or by scanning the QR code below.



Thank you.

Marchwood Litter Pickers

Thank you to everyone who came to the January litter pick. 25 volunteers collected 22 black sacks full. We also collected 3 bags of crushed cans to raise money for Hampshire Air Ambulance. In 2024, the total raised for the charity through this initiative was over £12,000 and it is great that Marchwood can play a small part in this.

Due to the change in circulation of the village news, I thought it would make sense to publish the dates for the rest of the year. These are as follows:

Saturday 26th April.

Saturday 12th July.

Saturday 11th October.

For all picks, we will be 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 to find out more, or if you want me to add you to the mailing list.



Marchwood Men's Shed

Since the last edition of the Village News, the primary focus of the Men's Shed was on all things Christmas. We would like to thank everyone who supported us at the Christmas Fayre, by purchasing from our stall. None of us could believe quite how popular our Christmas Trees and other items were. The money raised has put us in a healthy position to work on more projects to benefit the community over the course of the year.

To finish off a successful 2024, we very much enjoyed our first Christmas meal at the Anchor in Eling, and our a celebration with food and music on the last shed day before Christmas.

Thanks to all of you who put your blue tokens in our pot for the Tesco Community Grant scheme, we were also able to purchase the materials to overclad our shed roof. This should prolong the life of the cabin and give us many more years of happy shedding! Thanks to RAD Engineering Ltd for supplying the materials at an excellent price and to Jon Mahoney who gave up one of his work volunteering days to help with the installation.

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 or drop us an email marchwoodmensshed@gmail.com



Marchwood Conservation Volunteers

The weather has not been on our side this season, with storms Bert and Darragh forcing us to cancel 2 out of 3 recent workdays.

We did however have an excellent session at Cork Field in January, reclaiming some of the meadow from the brambles. The brambles have been cut into 'scallop' shapes. This maintains much of the bramble habitat, provides areas of shelter for butterflies, and stops the whole meadow being overrun by the brambles.



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.

Christmas Goodie Bags

The tradition to deliver goodie bags to members of Solid Silver and to nominated members of the community was started in 2020 when we had some left over 'We Love Marchwood' bags from the project to raise money for the Waterside Foodbank and the NHS.

We ran out of these bags in 2023, so it was great to have Marchwood Men's Shed sponsor some bags in 2024 so that the tradition could continue.

Many thanks to Adam and the team at Welcome co-op for generously supplying the goodies, it is always such a pleasure to deliver them and chat to the recipients.

If any local businesses or organisations are interested in sponsoring the bags for this year, then please get in touch with me at gary_james_wright@hotmail.co.uk.



Home care that helps to fund your local hospice

Established eleven years ago as a social enterprise, 100% of any profits made by Oakhaven Care help to fund Oakhaven Hospice.

This is innovative and unique; Oakhaven Care is the only home care provider in the area that funnels all its profits into a local charity rather than into the pockets of investors!

Oakhaven Care provides first-class visiting and 'live-in' home care services to help you or your loved ones maintain independence at home. From 30-minute drop-in visits to multiple daily visits, extending to live-in and 24-hour care as and when required, Oakhaven Care Assistants can support you to remain in the comfort of your own home and maintain your chosen lifestyle.

The friendly, highly trained team tailors care to your exact needs and wishes. This includes help with daily life, such as personal care; support with medication, nutrition and fluids; assistance with getting up and going to bed; light domestic duties; outings to the shops, appointments and social activities.

Live-in care provides companionship and full-time support - and reassurance for loved ones. It can be an excellent alternative to moving into a care home, providing more choice and independence, in familiar surroundings.

"Oakhaven Care provides my mother with a fantastic service. They are very reliable, conscientious and kind. They go out of their way to provide a first-class service. I strongly recommend."

-Andy, son of an Oakhaven Care client

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- ✓ Visiting care
- ✓ Respite care
- ✓ Palliative care
- ✓ Convalescence
- ✓ Companionship



Care in your **own home** when you need it - with 100% of any profits donated to Oakhaven Hospice.

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Our friendly, highly trained Care Assistants provide a wide range of paid care services, tailored to your exact needs and wishes.

For live-in or visiting help in your own home, call us for a chat today

01590 646 440 Lymington office

023 8180 0505 Totton office

Find out more by visiting

OakhavenCare.co.uk





We've had a very a busy few weeks at Marchwood C of E Infant School! We really enjoyed the lead up to Christmas. The children all worked hard learning about the true meaning of Christmas through their RE work and by putting on Christmas performances for their families. They were treated to a 'special' Christmas performance, with a difference, from their teachers too! Some Children visited the Oaklands Rest Home to spread a little Christmas cheer by singing carols, performing dances and sharing hand made Christmas cards with the residents. We visited St John's Church for our school Christingle service. All of the children were taught about the significance of the Christingle to Christian people. We enjoyed having parents into school to help us with Christmas Craft Day.

Our school looked very sparkly in the lead up to Christmas. Our PTA have been very busy raising valuable funds for our school through a Christmas Raffle, Christmas Shopping Day, the Village Traders Evening and the regular sale of after school tuck on a Thursday. The money raised will be used to purchase 12 new ipads for use in school and for subsidising upcoming educational trips. PTA are currently challenging children to raise £20.25 for 2025! We're very excited to explore the exciting new learning opportunities in the next few weeks!



Children singing Christmas Carols, dancing and handing out Christmas cards to the residents at Oaklands Rest Home.



Children and staff enjoyed putting on a Christmas Nativity performance.

The children thought about the symbolism of the Christingle for Christians at Christmas time at St John's Church.



Year 2 Children experienced a Victorian day in school and learnt about Victorian times in Beaulieu Motor Museum earlier this half term.





Marchwood Village Fete 2025

Saturday 5th July 2025

Lloyd Recreation Ground 12pm-4pm

You'll be pleased to know that the Marchwood village fete is back again, having taken a break in 2024!

This year we have chosen '**Celebrating New Forest Life**' as our theme, and the fete will have a countryside flavour.

The Fete Steering Group are busy organising lots of entertainment and activities for you to enjoy.

In keeping with our rural theme, we are delighted to be joined by **Popell Barns Mobile Farm** where everyone can meet their favourite animals and learn more about them.

We are also pleased that we will be joined by local favourite the **New Forest Brass Band**, as well as Morris Dancers, **New Forest Meddlars**, who will be treating us to traditional dancing with their colourful costumes and bells. Also joining us again will be **Benny Balloon**, giving magic shows and balloon modelling for the children throughout the afternoon.

Regular favourites **Stacey T White's School of Dance** will be giving us two sessions in our arena with ballet and modern dance and gymnastics and **Shine Performing Arts School** will be bringing a touch of theatre to our arena with their performances.



There will be lots of stalls with all kinds of activities and things to buy from our local schools, community groups, charities and small businesses, who will welcome your support of them.

This year there will be a competition to design a poster, being run through Marchwood Junior School - watch out for an announcement soon. Winning posters will be displayed at the fete. There will also be a treasure hunt on the day.



Food and drink will include the usual tasty BBQ, provided by our own **Scouts and Guides**, Teas and cakes from **Marchwood WI**, Pizza and Sandwiches as well as delicious coffees, ice cream and sweets!

As always this event could not take place without our fabulous sponsors, donations of raffle prizes from local businesses and individuals, and volunteers - both before and on the day. Any help is always greatly appreciated.

If you would like to offer your assistance with any of these things or would like to have a stall at the fete, then please do get in touch via marchwoodfete@gmail.com or at www.facebook.com/marchwoodfete. Also keep a look out for the posters appearing around the village.

**See you there on
Saturday 5 July 2025
to 'Celebrate New Forest Life!'**

Here's hoping for a sunny countryside day!

Marchwood Fete Steering Group





Marchwood Village Fete

'Celebrating New Forest Life'

Saturday 5th July 2025
Lloyd Recreation Ground 12pm - 4pm

Come and meet:
Popell Barns Mobile Farm Animals
New Forest Brass Band
New Forest Meddlars - Morris Dancers
Benny Balloon, Magician & Balloon Modeller
Stacey T White School of Dance
Shine Performing Arts School
Children's races, Rides, Bouncy Castles
Treasure Hunt, Poster Competition,
Activities and Crafts.

Lots of stalls, food and drink from local groups, small businesses and charities, and much more!

For all enquiries contact
marchwoodfete@gmail.com **or**
www.facebook.com/marchwoodfete

Parish of Marchwood & Eling

St John's & St Mary's

We have received news that Revd Lauren Cheshire has been appointed Vicar and it is anticipated she will take up her duties in April.

During the period of the vacancy, we had been extremely fortunate to have been supported by visiting clergy who have enabled us to continue regular worship at both churches.

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 stjohnsandstmarys@gmail.com or Tel. 023 8066 9254.)

You will see that we have finally been able to have the fallen tree branch removed from the churchyard and to have the large oak made safe.

On Saturday, 15th March we will be launching our Roof Fund appeal with a Spring Fair in our Church Hall from 11am - 2pm. There will be plants, books, cakes and produce on sale as well as our usual, very popular tombola, and refreshments. As part of our fundraising for a donation of £5 you will be able to reserve a roof tile to go on the roof once the work commences.

Our next fundraising event will be at Marchwood Village Fete on Saturday, 5th July.

Dates for your diaries:

Wednesday 5th March at St John's	6pm	Ash Wednesday service to mark the beginning of Lent led by Revd Steve Pittis
Sunday 30th March: at St John's	10am	Mothering Sunday led by Archdeacon, Venerable Jean Burgess
Sunday 6th April: at St John's	10am	Holy Communion Led by Rt Revd Rhiannon King, Bishop of Southampton
Sunday 13th April: at St Mary's	10am	Palm Sunday led by Revd Ian McGill
Friday 18th April: at St John's	2pm	Good Friday devotional service led by Carol Lee, Licensed Lay Minister
Sunday 20th April: at St John's	10am	Easter Sunday led by Revd Stuart Goddard

Saturday, 13th December: 3.00pm - 8.00pm - Marchwood Village Christmas Fayre

Rosemary and Ann
Churchwardens



The Handy Trust provide a team of youth workers in the local area offering support, guidance, sign-posting and activities. You can find us every week at Marchwood hub on Lloyds Recreation ground on Tuesday's during term time – check out the poster attached!

But that isn't it! You will also see us out and about in the village, working to support local young people but to also target any challenging behaviour you might be experiencing as residents. Please do not hesitate to get in touch to raise any concerns or questions you have regarding local young people.

We also go into Marchwood Junior School every week to chat with the students and joining in with a game or two! Mentoring is also a key part of what we do, so if you are a young person who needs support, or you know someone who needs the support please do get in touch.

The fun continues during school holidays with Marchwood hub open Monday and Friday, 11:30 to 1:30. This is an open access scheme for the whole family, those who are year 5+ can attend without an adult if they want to. We will provide a fully funded lunch and lots of themed activities, as well as our usual offerings including the x-box and pool table.

Head over to our website Thehandytrust.co.uk or search for us on any socials to find out more or to get in touch.





New Forest

DISTRICT COUNCIL

Who does what in the New Forest

	New Forest District Council	Hampshire County Council	Town and parish councils	New Forest National Park Authority	Forestry England
Roads and highways					
Car parks					
On-street parking					
Fly tipping clearance					
Housing and homelessness					
Waste and recycling collection					
Waste disposal and public tips					
Other services, A to Z:					
Adult social care					
Allotments					
Building regulations					
Births, deaths, and marriages					
Burials, cremation, cemeteries					
Children's services					
Concessionary travel					
Elections and electoral services					
Emergency planning					
Environmental health					
Litter, bins, street cleaning					
Libraries					
Licensing					
Local planning					
Parks and open spaces					
Public toilets					
Public health					
Schools and education					
Trading standards					
Trees					

newforest.gov.uk

Report a flood



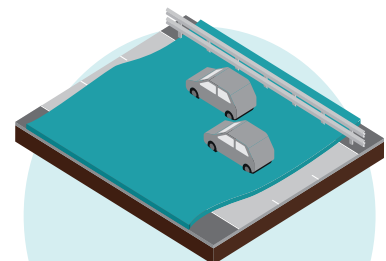
Tidal/Coastal

Report to ›
Environment Agency



River

Report to ›
Environment Agency

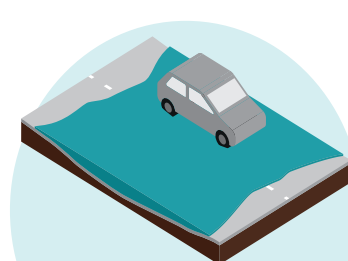


**Motorways/
Major A roads**

Report to ›
National Highways

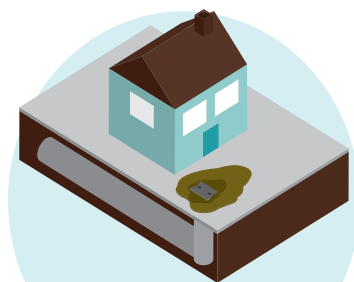
Who do I contact?

If a danger to life call 999



Local roads

Report to ›
**Hampshire County Council
as the Highways Authority**



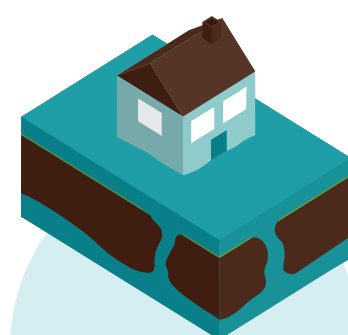
Sewer

Report to ›
Water company



Surface water
(rainfall that cannot drain away)

Report to ›
**Hampshire County Council as
the Lead Local Flood Authority**



Groundwater
(underground water risen to surface)

Report to ›
**Hampshire County Council as
the Lead Local Flood Authority**



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Marchwood Wartime Memories

VE Day in 2025 marks the 80th anniversary of the end of the Second World War, with two key dates to remember - Thursday, 8th May and Friday, 15th August.

Thursday, 8th May, is Victory in Europe Day (VE Day) when the German forces surrendered to the Allied powers.

Friday, 15th August, is Victory over Japan Day (VJ Day). This was the day Imperial Japan surrendered, ending World War Two.

For many Marchwood parishioners, the Second War evokes many bittersweet memories, and we are grateful to the Marchwood Women's Institute for sharing some of their notes and stories.

Personal War Time Memories

During World War 2, the Air Raid Precautions (ARP) office was a shelter opposite Fred LONGMANS Garage where Les HAYES, the chief in a white helmet, Toby GODDEN, Toby ELDRIDGE, Frank CORNWALL, Alf KEATS & Arthur EMERY, the messenger were based. They were known for their distinctive helmets.

A poster nailed on a telephone post opposite the forge along Main Road read –

It is an offence to fraternise or talk with troops

As a young boy in 1944, Brian HINTON remembered a battle in the skies above Marchwood Primary School one lunchtime. All the children were ushered inside and told to hide under their desks or benches until it was over. A Spitfire crash landed in the fields behind the old Vicarage, and after school, many children ran up Twiggs Lane to see if they could see it, but they were kept back by the ARP wardens.

Brian recalled a convoy of American soldiers passing through Main Rd in early June 1944. One called Brian over and gave him 12 pennies from his pocket, saying, "I will not need these where I am going".

One day in the spring of 1944, 10-year-old Nora GRACE nee WOODS (known as Woodsy) was out playing with her friends Tilly NUTBEAM, Betty McCLAREN and Doris BROOMFIELD, and they were curious about the Americans who were camped in Howells Lane, just before the railway crossing in Trotts Lane and went to see them.

In fact, they were probably the 9th Infantry Division US Army with chocolate bars to give away, hence the visit. The girls were asked if they had any older sisters and to let them know they also had pairs of nylon stockings in their possession.

These men were shortly to join the D-Day Landings, and undoubtedly, not all would have returned to America.

They Landed on Utah Beach on 10th June 1944 (D-Day +4) to cut off the Cotentin Peninsula. Because the 9th Infantry Division went through several battles before, they did not land on the beaches during D-Day.

While other forces occupied Cherbourg, the 9th Division cleaned up the Cap de la Hague by 1st July 1944, the 9th Infantry Division had accomplished the opening chapter of the invasion drama.

As a young girl living in "Barrie" Main Rd, Joy DRAKE nee BRIDLE remembered having to sleep in the front lounge with her sister Doreen so that their bedroom could be used to sleep serving soldiers. An appeal had gone out requesting spare bedrooms for the troops.

On one occasion during an air raid, the locked front doors of Joy's neighbours were blown halfway up the stairs, but because hers and the next-door neighbours were not locked they were only blown open.

During air raids, the place to go was the Anderson shelter in the field next to the White Horse, built initially to accommodate bus passengers caught in a raid en route to Calshot or Southampton.

The field behind Philpot Farm was covered in shrapnel after one air raid which had totally flattened the dairy. Many a time, Joy had to step over shrapnel lying on the pavements on her way to school.

It was said that Ralph WHEELER and his sister Sissy of "April Cottage" Pooksgreen slept in their air raid shelter nearly every night till the end of the war.

In 1942/3, Churchill and Sherman Tanks came down Twiggs Lane towards Marchwood Primary School after training in the Forest at Longdown. Mr CHICK, the Headmaster, called his pupils out to wave. There were over six tanks and many excited children.

The field behind Philpot Farm was covered in shrapnel after one air raid which had totally flattened the dairy. Many a time, Joy had to step over shrapnel lying on the pavements on her way to school.

It was said that Ralph WHEELER and his sister Sissy of "April Cottage" Pooksgreen slept in their air raid shelter nearly every night till the end of the war.

oO-Oo

Extract from the Southern Echo 30th October 1939

Antoinette De Titherly, aged 15 months, was playing in the kitchen at her home in Pooksgreen, Marchwood, with her father on Sunday when they upset a saucepan in which potatoes were boiling on the fire.

The child was severely scalded, and after being seen by Dr C. E BRIERLY, Antoinette was taken in the Calmore ambulance to the Royal South Hants and Southampton Hospital.

oO-Oo

Marchwood Womens Institute 1940-1945

The following extracts were taken from the WI's committee meetings.

- 4th April 1940- A letter was read by the National Federation of WI that "sugar" for Fruit Preservation would be allowed by the Ministry of Food to each WI in England and Wales.
- Another from St. Dunstons relating to the Blind Soldiers is asking if it is possible to arrange a house-to-house collection in aid of the same. Mrs HARVEY, KEATS, CURTIS, W BROOMFIELD, TAYLOR and WEBB agreed to collect.
- The house-to-house collection for St Dunstons was very successful. The amount collected was £8 19s 3 3/4p. A cheque for £9 was sent to the home in Brighton.
- 2nd May 1940 - A letter from the Matron of the Fenwick Cottage Hospital acknowledged the eggs received and said how grateful she was for the members' help in these difficult times and thanked them very much.
- 6th June 1940 - A letter was read from the New Forest Women's Institute asking for our help in growing, cooking, and preserving food.
- 4th July 1940- Mrs HOOPER and Mrs TAYLOR kindly offered to take names for knitting comforts for the Army, Navy and Airforce so that the wool could be obtained as soon as possible.
- 3rd October 1940 - A letter from New Forest Rural Council said that the Ministry of Supply has now made it compulsory to collect waste materials throughout our district and thanked us for work already done. The President had received two cheques for waste paper amounting to £1 9s 9d.

- 7th November 1940 - A card was read from Mrs Sauly regarding food production, also from the Matron of Hythe Hospital, thanking our members for the collection of potatoes sent.
- 2nd October 1941: A letter was read relating to the vegetable seed collection and another to the gathering of rose hips. A cheque for £1 0s 9d was received for Waste Paper. 40lbs of Rose Hips had been gathered by several members, and these had been packed and sent by Mrs POYNTER
- 4th December 1941 – The President informed members that a receipt for 6s and 3d was received for rose hips collected.
- 5th February 1942 – Two requests for help from the Ministry of Food were received concerning carrots and wild rabbits and their skins.
- 3rd June 1943 - The Whist Drive arranged by Mrs WHITE and Mrs DUNNINGS in aid of St Dunstons realised £4 5s.
- 2nd September 1943 - WI were informed that only one member from each WI may apply to the Clothes Renovation School. 3rd February 1944 The President would ask ARP members to test the children's masks.
- 2nd March 1944 – An evening Dance in aid of "Prisoners of War Funds was to be arranged.
- 6th April 1944 - Several members volunteered to mend soldiers' socks.
- 5th April 1945 - A letter was read by Lady CONGLETON to Mrs WHITE asking her to arrange a collection of comforts for HMS Whirlwind.

Footnote - Finally, a note for your diaries: on Sunday, 8th June 2025, at 5:pm we will gather at our Falklands Memorial to pay our respects to those killed on board the Sir Galahad and Sir Tristram, which were attacked by Argentine fighter jets on 8th June 1982.

We would like to thank Carolyn Bianchi for this historical look in to the lives of villagers during the time of the Second World War.

Judy Saxby from the WI has kindly provided some interesting recipies from the 1940's that are available on our website.

<https://marchwoodparish.gov.uk>





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Could you be an Oakhaven Neighbours Volunteer?

Could you spare a few hours a week to offer companionship and support to someone locally?

'Oakhaven Neighbours' are volunteers who help patients with a life-limiting condition in their own homes for a few hours a week.

Neighbours help in a variety of ways, such as picking up prescriptions, shopping, accompanying on walks and companionship - maybe sitting with a patients so their carer can take a much-needed break, safe in the knowledge that their loved one is in good hands.

Being a neighbour is very rewarding. You will receive full training and be a valued part of Oakhaven's clinical team. Your visits will make a huge difference to a patient's quality of life.

"My Neighbour and I share the common interest of flying, which we both enjoy talking about...its the highlight of my week, which would otherwise be lonely." - Bill

"I get back as much as I give. It's a commitment but provides a great sense of purpose." Linda, Neighbour

For more information email Sara at neighbours@oakhavenhospice.co.uk

Oakhaven Neighbours support patients in their own homes making a real difference to their quality of life

Full training provided

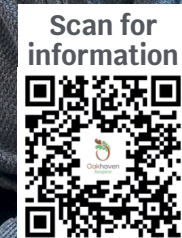
Make a real difference and gain valuable experience

Find full details at oakhavenhospice.co.uk/volunteer

Email neighbours@oakhavenhospice.co.uk



Charity Registration No.
900215 (England & Wales)



The Gospel Church

It was the 30th of October 1938, and across America people were gathering around their radios. At 8 in the evening, CBS Radio broadcast a dramatization of H. G. Wells' famous novel *The War of the Worlds*. There was a brief introduction by the actor and director Orson Welles, after which a live concert band performed some music. After a while, the music was interrupted by a newsflash reporting the arrival of a spaceship from Mars. The bulletins continued, periodically updating the audience on the progress of a Martian invasion. Many of those who'd tuned in after the introduction unfortunately mistook these bulletins for the real thing, and widespread panic ensued.

We hear a lot about the danger of being taken in by fake news and scams. The problem is not a new one, though with social media such deceptions have the ability to spread faster and further than ever. It's important, therefore, to examine the facts.

Two thousand years ago, a man called Jesus was crucified and buried. Amazingly, the tomb in which he was placed was later found to be empty. So what happened to the body? His disciples claimed that Jesus had risen – his enemies that the body had been stolen by his friends while the soldiers tasked with guarding it were asleep. But which of these explanations was true? The stone in front of the tomb was heavy and sealed, and the soldiers professional. Could anyone really have rolled away the stone to remove his body without disturbing them? Besides which, in the days that followed, no less than five hundred people declared that they had actually seen Jesus alive again. The most compelling evidence, however, is that of those accused of stealing the body, many were later to die as martyrs – still insisting that Jesus had risen.

At the Gospel Church we believe that Jesus is alive, and that by trusting him as our Saviour, we too can have eternal life. Why not join us this Easter to remember his death and resurrection? Our Good Friday Communion (18th April) and Easter Sunday (20th April) services will be held at our Church building in Long Lane at 10.30 am. You may also be interested in the following, details of which can be found on our website: www.gospelchurchmarchwood.org.uk



Sunday 10.30: Morning Worship. (Held at the Infant School in Twiggs Lane during term time, or at the Church building in Long Lane during School holidays.)

Tuesday 10.30 – 12.30: Connect Café. (Hot drinks & homemade cakes for all.)

Wednesday 10.30 – 11.30: Tots, Tales & Tunes. (Babies & Pre-schoolers with their parents/carers.)

Friday 6.00 – 7.30: Beans Club. (Fun activities & a meal for all the family.)

Marchwood Village Hall

Marchwood Community Association Charity no: 1049276

New- Children's play session!

Tiny Town pop up role play village will be coming to the Village hall every Wednesday (except the 2nd Wednesday of the month).

Sessions from 12.45pm-2.30pm & 3.15pm-4.45pm

For children up to 7years of age.

To book e-mail: tinytownbookings@hotmail.com

Or find us on f/book Tiny Town Play.

Phoenix Country Music Club

Meet on the 1st Saturday evening of every month @ 7.00pm. Every one welcome.

Afternoon Tea Dance

Every second & fourth Saturday afternoon @ 2.00pm-4.00pm. Come along to dance or just sit and enjoy the music. £3.00 per. person.

We would like to thank Marchwood Parish Council for their kind donation towards a replacement battery for the Village Hall de-fib machine. This is accessible 24 hours a day and is located on the outside of the building by the front entrance.

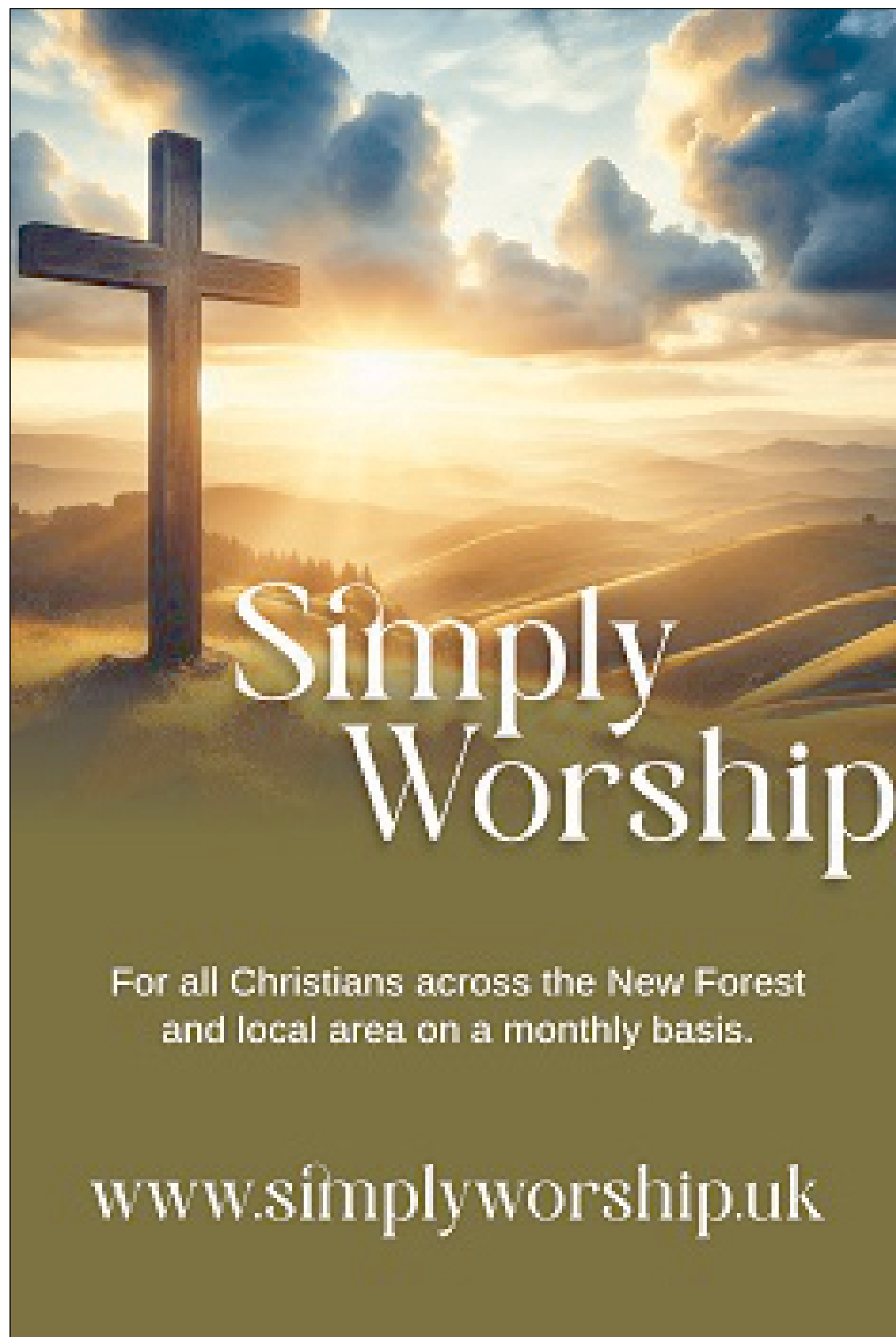
We would also like to thank the team at the Co-op for their kind donation of Christmas goody bags for our Solid Silver members. Gary Wright organised this and dropped them off to us to hand out at our Christmas lunch. Our members were thrilled!

The Solid Silver club, for the over 60's, meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 2.00pm-3.30pm, cost just £2 per. person. We have entertainers, speakers and other social events. We are a very friendly group so why not pop along and give it a try?

We have availability for new groups so please get in touch to discuss days/times.

To book the village hall: e-mail: info@marchwoodvillagehall.co.uk

Tel: 023 8066 7027



Simply Worship

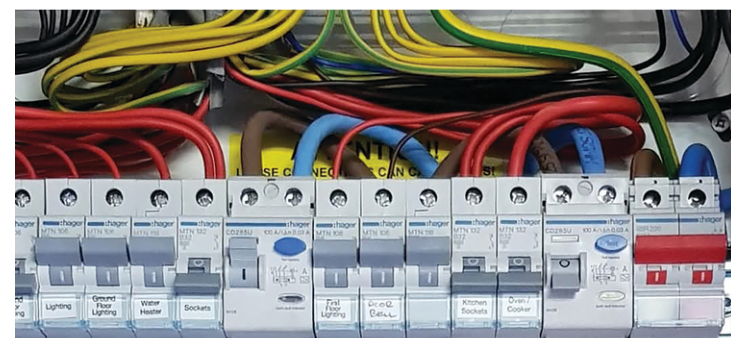
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"Qualifying from Birmingham Uni in 1994, I've worked for the NHS, Army & BUPA. I specialize in musculoskeletal conditions such as arthritis, back pain, whiplash, shoulder injuries, tennis elbow, ankle sprain, knee pain & joint replacement rehab. If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

Clinic Location:
40 Kingfisher Way
Marchwood
Southampton SO40 4XS

The Priority Services Register (PSR) is a free UK wide service which provides extra advice and support, including when there is an interruption to your electricity, gas or water supply.

The Priority Services Register (PSR) is free to join. It helps utility companies, including energy suppliers, electricity, gas and water networks to look after customers who have extra communication, access or safety needs. It helps tailor services to support households who need extra help with everyday energy matters like bills, and also in the event of a power cut, gas or water supply interruption.

Working together to make sure that your property receives all the support services covered by the Priority Services Register. By registering:

<https://www.thepsr.co.uk>

your PSR request with your energy supplier (the company you pay your bills to) and your regional network companies including electricity, gas and water.

The PSR promise is made by all participating energy companies in England, Wales and Scotland. They will always follow privacy laws and your PSR information will never be used for marketing.

You are eligible for free PSR services if you:

- Use medical equipment reliant on electricity or water
- Live with children under five
- Are blind or partially sighted
- Are deaf or hard of hearing
- Have a chronic illness
- Have anxiety, depression or any mental health condition
- Have a disability
- Are of pensionable age
- Loss or impairment of smell
- Need documents translated into another format or language
- Temporarily need extra support



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Useful Contact Numbers

<u>Emergencies</u>	
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
<u>Local Authorities</u>	
Hampshire County Council	03005 551375
New Forest District Council	02380 285000
Marchwood Parish Council	02380 860273
National Park Authority	01590 646600
<u>Helplines</u>	
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
<u>Health and Medical Services</u>	
Southampton General Hospital	02380 777222
Royal South Hants (minor injuries unit)	02380 634288
Rethink (mental health advice and support)	0300 5000 927
<u>Schools</u>	
Marchwood C of E Infant School	02380 868819
Marchwood Junior School	02380 863105
Applemore College	02380 848804
Noadswood School	02380 840025
Hounsdown School	02380 862981