

MONTHLY MAGAZINE MARSTON MAGNA



AND RIMPTON



**THE PARISHES OF
ST MARY THE VIRGIN, MARSTON MAGNA
and RIMPTON**
www.marstonmagnachurch.org.uk

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RIMPTON SERVICES: These will vary month by month. Please refer to page 4 for full details.

MARSTON MAGNA SERVICES: These will vary month by month. Please refer to page 4 for full details.

CHURCH OFFICERS

RIMPTON

MARSTON MAGNA

CHURCH WARDENS

Mrs H. J. Stephens, Home Farm Cottage	851860	Vacant
Mr J Tricker, Lessenden	850922	Vacant

TREASURERS

Mrs Pam Hopkins, Ash Cottage, Marston Magna	850949	Mr Hugh Privett, The Manor	Tel: 850294
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P.C.C. SECRETARIES

Mrs. M Green, Lark Rise, Woodhouse Lane	01963 220943	Mr Jon Pengelly, 7 Townsend	Tel: 851385
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ORGANISTS

Mr Hugh Privett, The Manor	Tel: 850294
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LIAISON OFFICER of the BELL-RINGERS

Cathy Civill,	Tel: 07514 258054
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CHURCH ROTAS

MARSTON MAGNA

Flower/Church Cleaning	Sidesmen/Readers	
Mr. Richard Venning Park Farm	Tel: 851104 - Mr. Richard Venning Park Farm	Tel: 851104

RIMPTON

Flower Rota/Brass Cleaning	Church Cleaning	
Mrs M Le Hardy	Mrs Green	Tel: 01963 220943
Tel: 850212		

THIS MAGAZINE IS DELIVERED FREE OF CHARGE TO EVERY HOUSE IN THE TWO PARISHES AND IS PUBLISHED ON THE FIRST DAY OF EACH MONTH. MATERIAL SHOULD BE SENT TO THE RIMPTON AND MARSTON MAGNA CONTACTS NOT LATER THAN THE 20TH OF EACH MONTH. IT IS PRINTED AROUND THE 26TH MONTHLY. VOLUNTARY DONATIONS TOWARDS PRODUCTION COSTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

THE MAGAZINE IS ALSO AVAILABLE ONLINE AT marstonmagnaparish.co.uk AND AT rimpton.net

Dear All,

A grand total of NINE people correctly recited last month's Memory Verse to me and were rewarded with a sweetie from my perpetual pocket packet. Now, that's not bad for a first time but I'm sure we can do better with this month's - here it is:

"Seek first the Kingdom of God, and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well." (Matthew 6:33)

Those words come from a famous speech that Jesus made called the Sermon on the Mount. (In this case "mount" means he was on a mountain, not on horseback.) When he says "all these things" he's referring to some of the things he's just been talking about - things that affect us all. Daily essentials like food and clothes; natural concerns like our health; common anxieties like our appearance and our reputation. It's normal and right that we should be concerned about such things, but concern can easily become distorted into over-anxiety and even obsession. In the Christian faith this time of the year is called "Lent" and it's a good time to take an honest look at ourselves and ask ourselves if we've got our priorities right. Are we applying the right amount of practical and emotional effort in the right places? Those of us who are Christians should remember the promise that Jesus made - that if we keep the Kingdom of God as our primary goal, we'll get on better in the other parts of our lives as well.

"That's all very well, Vicar," I hear you say (because I can read your minds, you know), "But what does 'the Kingdom of God' actually mean?" Well, you'll have to come to church to find out. In the meantime, I've refilled my pocket with sweets - memorise the verse and claim yours.

With best wishes and prayers,

Richard

richardtherector@hotmail.com

MARSTON & RIMPTON HOME GROUP

A small, friendly group meeting fortnightly for fellowship, prayer, and bible study. All welcome. Please contact Penny Holt on 01935 850354 for more details.

Mid-week Prayers at Rimpton

A brief service of morning prayer and silent prayer time. Rimpton church, Wednesdays, 8.00 am. All most welcome

FIR VILLA COMMUNION

Home Communion is celebrated once a month with residents & staff. Please call Penny Holt for more details on 01935 850354.

CALENDAR OF SERVICES

APRIL 2025					
Sunday 6th April MARSTON MAGNA RIMPTON		VIOLET No service at Marston Magna Morning Worship at 10.45 am		LENT V Readers: Mrs Le Hardy & Mrs Green	
SUNDAY 13th April MARSTON MAGNA ASHINGTON RIMPTON		RED No service at Marston Magna Holy Communion at 11 am Holy Communion at 10.45 am, 10.30 Procession starts at Home Lane Farm		LENT VI – PALM SUNDAY Readers: Mr Benbow & Mrs Holt	
THURSDAY 17th April MARSTON MAGNA		No Colour Holy Communion at 6.30 pm		Sidesman; Mr R Venning Reader: Dr R Gardener	
FRIDAY 18th APRIL MARSTON MAGNA MUDFORD		No Colour An hour at the cross – 12 noon Music and Poetry at 6.30 pm		Sidesman; Mr R Venning	
SUNDAY 20th April MARSTON MAGNA RIMPTON CHILTON CANTELO MUDFORD		WHITE Holy Communion at 9.30 am Holy Communion at 10.45 am Holy Communion at 9.30 am Holy Communion at 11.00 am		EASTER SUNDAY Sidesman; Dr T Smith Reader: Dr R Gardener Readers: Mr Kemp & Mr Green	
SUNDAY 27th April MARSTON MAGNA MUDFORD RIMPTON		GREEN No service at Marston Magna Holy Communion at 11.00 am No service at Rimpton		EASTER II	
THURSDAY 1st MAY		Benefice Celebration at Rimpton VH at 6 pm			
SUNDAY 4th May MARSTON MAGNA RIMPTON		WHITE No service at Marston Magna VE Day Church Service at 10.45 am		EASTER III	
MARSTON MAGNA APRIL 2025	<u>Church Cleaning</u> <u>(Now for services)</u>		<u>Church Flowers</u> <u>High Altar</u>		<u>Locking Up</u>
6 th April	Mr & Mrs Bateman		Lent – No flowers		Dr T Smith
13 th April					Mr & Mrs Jackson
20 th April	Mr & Mrs Whittell		Mrs Venning and all flower team		Dr T Smith
27 th April					Mr & Mrs Bateman
4 th May	No Service				Mr H Privett
RIMPTON APRIL 2025	<u>Church Cleaning</u> <u>(Now fortnightly)</u>		<u>Church Flowers</u> <u>High Altar</u>		
5 th April	Mr & Mrs Green		Lent – No flowers		Mr Snowden
12 th April	Mrs Millington & Mrs Walton		Lent – No flowers		Mrs Celia Gould
19 th April	Mrs Le Hardy & Mrs Stephens				Mr Tricker
26 th April					Mrs Williams
3 rd May					

RIMPTON VILLAGE HALL DIARY – What’s on? – Regular items and contacts

Sundays (First Sunday of each month)

9.00 am - 10.30 am Yoga, coffee, and cake Kate Whittell 07881 628780

Tuesdays

9.30 – 10.30 am Yoga Classes Kate Whittell 07881 628780

Wednesdays

7.00 - 9.00 pm Badminton Lindsey Maguire 07903 297712 Lindsey@studio-6.co.uk

For the Diary

16th April - Ladies Walking Group – 9.30 am from VH Car Park – first of 2025

25th April - Pop Up Pub - Rimpton Village Hall from 7.00 to 9.30 pm

1st May - Benefice Celebration at Rimpton Village Hall at 6 pm

24th May - Ceilidh - Rimpton Village Hall

16th August - Marston Magna & Rimpton Flower & Produce Show

For hall bookings please contact Frances Burton on 07944 365261 or by email rimptonvhbookings@btinternet.com

MARSTON MAGNA VILLAGE HALL DIARY - What's on? - Regular items and contacts.

Mondays

10.00 am – 11.00 am Exercise Class. Steph Edwards 07444 979297

7.00 p.m. - 2nd Monday monthly W.I. Pam Goodwin 01935 850571

Thursdays

2.30 – 4.30 p.m. Short Mat Bowls Tony Green 01963 220943 (Suspended until September)

6 pm – 7 p.m. Table Tennis Judy 01935 851418

Fridays

10.30 a.m. – 12 noon Marston Village Café every Friday morning

5.00 p.m.- 7.15 p.m. Pilates Contact Mo 07815 748518

Various classes – do check on the notice board in Village Hall

For the Diary.

4th April - Village Café at the Village Hall 10.30 to Noon

11th April - Village Café at the Village Hall 10.30 to Noon

16th April - The Marston Inn at 20.30 Quiz night, £4 per person, includes Chilli or Curry

18th April - Village Café at the Village Hall 10.30 to Noon

25th April - Village Café at the Village Hall 10.30 to Noon

~~26th April - BINGO at MMVH from 5.30 pm~~ Postponed – new date to be given soon.

26th April - The Marston Inn at 20.30 - Country & Western night

1st May - Benefice Celebration at Rimpton Village Hall at 6 pm

21st June - MM Midsummer Fair – more details to follow.

16th August - Marston Magna & Rimpton Flower & Produce Show

For Village Hall bookings – please contact Judy Suckling Tel. 851418 - bookings.marstonvillagehall@gmail.com

The Mobile Library WILL BE IN Rimpton on the **9th April**. It will be in Home Farm Lane, BA22 8AS between 12.30 pm and 1.00 pm. The next after that will be **7th May**. The Mobile Library calls every four weeks and really must be used, or we will lose it.

Re-cycling and Waste Collections

Recycling is complicated! If in doubt check the following web address – enter your postcode with a gap.

<https://www.somersetwaste.gov.uk/recycling-collections/>

RE-CYCLING IS NOW EVERY FRIDAY in both Marston Magna and Rimpton from 6 a.m. on 4th, 11th, 18th and 25th April. **Garden Wheelie Bin** Collections are collected from 6 a.m., on Thursdays the 10th and 24th April. **Refuse bins** will be collected once every three weeks and the next one is on 11th April, then 2nd May.

This all does depend upon available staff. Recycling Sites will move to their summer opening hours from Tuesday 1 April. All sites will remain open from 9am to 4pm on weekends. Midweek, sites will be open from 9am to 6pm. Opening days vary from site to site, check online before you visit

Letter from Ruth Worsley
Bishop of Taunton
'God is good... all the time!'

When I was a priest in Nottingham, I remember thinking that as a parish we seemed to reflect more of the story of the crucifixion of Christ rather than His resurrection. Ours was a parish which had many personal stories of loss and suffering, of challenge and trial, and sometimes this made it difficult to lift our faces to the horizon to see the triumph and glory beyond the grave.

As we approach Easter, I want to encourage us to take time to 'walk the way of the cross', to notice God's grace as we do so, even in the painful moments as well as keeping our eyes fixed on the coming glory.

As I write this, I am catching glimpses of the kingfisher on its perch outside my study window. Always a delight! It sits on the branch across the moat in stillness, watching for the sign of a fish before it suddenly dives and then crests the water with its prize. A splash of colour rarely seen by many. It fills me with hope and joy, two gifts which I think Easter inspires.

Walking through Lent we are continually called to become conscious of our mortality and are reminded of the price Jesus paid on our behalf. Giving himself in death that we might have life. And we have that life because his death was not the end but the beginning of a new chapter, of life in all its fulness.

So, whatever the circumstances of your life this Easter, allow yourself to fully recognise and experience the challenges but never lose the prospect of the glory to come! 'God is good... all the time!'

Bishop Ruth
+ Bishop of Taunton

THE RAIN REPORT (February 2025)

February rainfall totalled 70.5 mms (2¾ inches) with 13 wet days, just above the February average of 61 mms (2½ inches). There was no particularly heavy rainfall during February. The last 9 days of the month saw the majority of this total with 48 mms (2 inches) spread evenly over the last 9 days of the month.

There have been some very wet Februarys since 1991 with 148 mms (5¾ inches) in 2014 and 141mms (5½ inches) in 2020, and last year with 119 mms (4¾ inches). The driest I have recorded was 1993 with just 5.5 mms (¼ inch) and 1998 and 2023 having 7mms each.

Ricky Gibbs

Diocese News in brief

Jane Austen's 250th Birthday

Bath Abbey presents 'Austen's at the Abbey', a unique celebration of Jane Austen's life and legacy, running from 5 April - 27 September 2025. This special program includes an exhibition exploring Austen's connections to the Abbey, interactive family fun days, and exclusive after-hours tours featuring costumed guides bringing 18th-century Bath to life. [Visit bathabbey.org/austen for details and tickets](https://bathabbey.org/austen-for-details-and-tickets).

Caring for creation

Snowdrop Extravaganza at Keinton Mandeville Church brought visitors from around the area to learn all about this tiny popular flower. Mickey Little, a well-regarded snowdrop specialist shared his knowledge with visitors who were invited to stay and enjoy a hot meal in the church. The day also provided an opportunity to share information about the eco initiatives undertaken and the work carried out to improve natural habitats in the churchyard.

Offering comfort and support

A bereavement support course hosted by St Mary's Church in Frome is helping people in their community to navigate their grief by providing a supportive space for sharing and reflection. The group, which meets at St Mary's, follows the six-week facilitated programme, 'The Bereavement Journey'. The course is for anyone bereaved at any time and is led by volunteer facilitators many of whom have experienced grief themselves. Philip, one of the participants, reflected, "It's about serving the whole community and the individuals within it in things that matter most."

Rimpton Ladies Walking Group

The next walk will be on Wednesday,
16th April 2025. We will meet in the
Village Hall car park, at 9.30 am.

For full details contact
Sue Walton - Telephone 851818

RIMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

The full Minutes of all meetings, including all Appendices, can still be viewed and/or downloaded from the Village Website by going to the Rimpton website (<http://rimpton.net/parish-council/parish-council-meetings/draft-parish-council-minutes/>) and (in part) on the village noticeboard, and you can also see them by getting in touch with the Parish Clerk.

If you do not have an internet device, you should find the minutes on the noticeboard by the bus shelter, or you could ask the Clerk for a copy, the Parish Clerk is Mrs Anne Tuck of "Merryfield", Camel Street, Marston Magna, 01935 850632 or mobile 07538 502812 or email to rimpton.parish.council@outlook.com.

Candles for Ukraine

It is over three years ago that Russia invaded Ukraine and despite the recent attempts to initiate a cease-fire, the war continues. The infrastructure in Ukraine is still under immense pressure; huge areas of the country are regularly without electricity – families with young children and/or elderly family members, hearing missiles and drones obliterating nearby houses.

With contributions from parishes in the Yeovil Deanery, Lufton Church has managed to deliver six carloads of used and unwanted candles to the Swindon Humanitarian Aid Programme who make trench candles and large blocks of wax from odd ends that are then sent to volunteers in Ukraine who make huge numbers of candles for heat and light for those in need.

Our Benefice has been collecting all we can over the past year – but the need is just as great now as when I first asked for your help.

If you have any new or partly used candles – any colour, size and scent - that you could donate to this very worthy cause, please contact me and I will arrange collection. Alternatively, you can leave them in Rimpton church.

Thank you again for your care and support.

Marlene Green 01963 220943

RIMPTON VILLAGE WEBSITE

The current Rimpton Village Website at rimpton.net will be going off the air shortly.

Up until now, the website has been sponsored by Rimpton Parish Council and has contained information not only about Parish Council business, but also Rimpton Village Hall, St Mary's Church and other village organisations. However, it has been

decided that the Parish Council and Village Hall will be having their own dedicated websites in future – partly triggered by a new requirement for all Parish Councils to have a website in the gov.uk domain.

Final decisions about the content and naming of the new websites have not yet been made. Please look out for further announcements soon.

SHORT-MAT BOWLS

With the outdoor bowling season now upon us and with several of our short-mat bowlers not being available during the summer months, the Thursday afternoon short-mat bowls will not be meeting from May to September – the restart date will be published in the August/September magazines.

Tony Green

Norman Holt

We would like to Thank all those who have & are continuing to support us around the passing of Dad (Norman Holt), particularly for all the wonderfully heartfelt sympathy cards, messages of wonderful memories and happy stories of his & Mum's life in and around the lovely community Marston Magna is.

Thank you for being of great friendship & support to Dad, Mum & us while they've lived in the village, particularly when we couldn't be with Dad in the worst of covid times.

There will be a garage sale in the next month or so which we'll put on the village Facebook group so please come along & see what bargains you can find! & have a chat.

Many thanks for being such great friends & villagers.

Ben, Melanie & Jude Holt

MARSTON MAGNA PARISH COUNCIL

Full Minutes including all Appendices can be viewed and/or downloaded from the Village Website, by going to: -
<https://marstonmagnaparish.co.uk/agendas-minutes/>

Anybody unable to use the website who needs to see a hard copy of the full Minutes please contact any of the Councillors.

The Draft Minutes of meeting held are on the website. Do watch the Parish Council website for dates and more details.

A reminder that the public may speak at the start of a Parish Council meeting in the Public Session, even if the meeting is held online with Zoom. Please contact me for details.

Lucy Gibbons – Clerk to Marston Magna Parish Council. Rose Cottage, Pendomer, Yeovil, Somerset, BA22 9PH. T: 01935 863106 - Email: l.gibbons@btinternet.com

Rimpton Village Hall Diary

28th March - Pop Up Pub – Rimpton Village Hall from 7.00 to 9.30 pm

25th April - Pop Up Pub – Rimpton Village Hall from 7.00 to 9.30 pm

24th May - Ceilidh – Rimpton Village Hall

Last Saturday's "A Night at the Races" was an enjoyable evening. A big thank you to our race sponsors: A R Blaze, The Red Barn Farm Shop, The Mitre Inn, Sherborne Turf, Dirty Hounds Pet Services, Studio 6 Design & Print, Roxy Ryall and Ricky Gibbs.

Look out for more details on the Ceilidh planned for 24th May.

Marston Magna & Rimpton Gardening Club

Last month, the Club held its AGM. We currently have 33 members. We looked at the programme for 2025 which includes talks, outings and discount shopping events at Castle Gardens. Also, of course, the Flower and Produce Show on 16 July. (If you'd like to take part and grow an award-winning fuchsia, plug plants are available at the Friday Cafe for £1.)

We also had an introduction to "The Wild Garden" at Galhampton, where we have a visit in June. Tia and Nick were inspirational and told us about how they have developed their smallholding to provide seasonal fruit, veg, salad stuff and herbs which they provide to many local outlets as well as selling directly from their farm shop (Fridays from June). They've also developed a variety of oils, dressings, kimchee etc. It sounds wonderful and exhausting!

Our next event is in April and is an afternoon at Castle Gardens where we have a short talk and then receive a 25% discount on any purchases we make.

There will be Club programmes in the Hall for the next cafe so do pick one up. If you fancy joining us, it's only £10 for a year's membership. And you'll be very welcome!

Julia Phillips
07770 827263

QUEEN CAMEL BOWLS CLUB

The Recreation Ground, off England's Lane, Queen Camel, Yeovil, BA22 7NN

Are you looking for a new form of gentle exercise?

Would you like to play a competitive but easy, and enjoyable, game?

Why not try Lawn Bowls and make some friends at the same time?

We hold a number of social events throughout the year and have a subsidised bar.

All are welcome, even if you do not wish to play Bowls.

Get in touch to find out more today.

howard.davies121@yahoo.com

07957 834717

THE MARSTON INN

Another slow month, although the restaurant seems to be picking up a little, and as the weather improves, we hope to get a few more regular diners. The main bar area refurbishment is well underway, and certain measures have been introduced to avoid future water problems. We have the space both inside & out to accommodate various activities and could be open to suggestions. The stone dining room is fully operational and can accommodate functions and meetings.

Dates for the diary, April.

Wednesday 16th April

Quiz night, £4 per person, includes a bowl of Chilli or Curry with rice.

Saturday 26th April at 8.30 pm

Country & Western night, bring the cowboy hat & boots for a fun evening

As always, thanks to everyone who encourages us to keep improving for the benefit of all.

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

Carrie & Colin - 01935 850361

RESIDENTS OF RIMPTON – if you are not currently on the email distribution list for notifications and news affecting our village and would like to be, then please email jrmtownsend@icloud.com to get your name added.

RBL – Somerset Festival of Remembrance
1st November 2025

The Somerset Festival of Remembrance, which will commemorate the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II, will be taking place on Saturday, 1st November 2025 from 7:00 pm to 9:30 pm at Wells Cathedral, in collaboration with the Somerset Royal British Legion (RBL).

The festival will honour the bravery and sacrifice of those from Somerset who served and those who gave their lives during the war, and will feature the Somerset Book of Honour, recognizing their invaluable contribution. The event will also include performances by the Central Band of the Royal British Legion and the Yeovilton Military Wives Choir, making it a poignant and inspiring evening for all who attend.

With the stunning setting of Wells Cathedral, and with participation by a wide range of contributors, including serving personnel, veterans, cadets and civic dignitaries, this event should provide an impressive focus for Somerset's Remembrance activities at a time when the very last veterans might be available.

Marston Magna & Rimpton
WI Report for March 2025

For more information please contact - Vivien Bateman vivien.bateman@icloud.com 01935 841225

Having a party or a big family do?

Why not hire your village hall? For residents of Marston Magna the hall is £10 per hour including use of the catering fridge, the kitchen and lots of tables and chairs. In the summer you can open the doors and use the play area for children.

You can use the meeting room for £8 per hour for get togethers or craft meeting for smaller groups.

Why not join us at the coffee morning on Fridays or run your own!

Just let us know by emailing
bookings.marstonvillagehall@gmail.com"
Thanks

Judy

Marston Magna Action Group

Dear Fellow Villagers

Despite the excellent efforts of the Parish Council, there are plenty of areas of the village that we must

keep up and tidy ourselves. Would you be able to help for an hour or so on any of the following days?

Saturday 7th June

Saturday 20th September

Saturday 8th November

We will gather at village hall from 9.30am, but in truth I will take any help at all. Imagine if every household gave the village 90 mins once a year? We'd have the best kept village in England!

We will also have short Village Team meetings on the following days at 7.30 pm to plan ahead – 10th July, 18th September and 6th November.

Paul Copp

MARSTON MAGNA VILLAGE HALL
COMMITTEE

Table Tennis

Table tennis will now be 6 pm to 7 pm on Thursdays.

Do come and play soon.

Paul Copp, Chair
Paulfcopp@gmail.com

FULL CALENDAR FOR MMVH EVENTS 2025

26 th April	- Bingo from 5.30 pm New date to come.
13 th September	- Wine & "surprise" at 7 pm
28 th September	- Tabletop Sale 11 am to 1 pm
4 th October	- Harvest Supper from 7 pm
26 th October	- Tabletop Sale 11 am to 1 pm
15 th November	- Curry night from 7 pm
23 rd November	- Tabletop Sale 11 am to 1 pm
6 th December	- Bingo from 5.30 pm
22 nd December	- Kids Christmas Party 2 – 4 pm

Tickets from Committee members and will be on sale at the Friday Coffee mornings.

Hair at Home - yours or mine

Grace has over 30 years' experience in all aspects of hairdressing services. She is able to come to your home or if you prefer that unique salon experience you can come to her studio at her home in Mudford.
Email_grace.isbell@hotmail.com
Mobile 07738 636489

SOMERSET COUNCIL COMMUNITY MINI-BUS
SERVICE TO YEOVIL - FRIDAYS

10.40 am, Bus leaves Rimpton bus stop, request stops at Mudford and Yeovil Hospital.
11.00 am: Arrives top of Middle Street, Yeovil
1.00 pm: Leaves Yeovil Bus Station
1.20 pm: Arrives Rimpton

Service is free for Bus Pass holding pensioners, others £2.00 each way. Currently only used by one resident. If we don't use it we may lose it.

OUR HENRY'S COLUMN (from April 1998)

Most residents must now be aware of the Marston Magna Church Restoration project with details of the work to be done, and what has been completed so far and the financial position to date which has been comprehensively covered in this Magazine and received publicity in the local press and The Grapevine (official newspaper of the Bath & Wells Diocese).

In 1924, the Vicar at that time, the Rev. G F C Peppin, published a most interesting booklet - 'Marston Magna and its Church' - and I am sure he would have had no objections to the following extracts being used for the benefit of present-day residents.

"The Church is dedicated to St Mary the Virgin and consists of a nave, chancel, a lady chapel on the north side of the nave, and a western tower. It possesses features of unusual interest; the four main great periods of English ecclesiastical architecture being represented.

That a Saxon church existed on the site prior to the Norman Conquest is proved by the existence of two small pre-Norman stone window-heads built in on each side of the central arch. The remains of the Norman church are very distinct, the whole of the north wall of the chancel belonging to this period. A part of this wall has herring-bone masonry, an isolated patch with ordinary random work below and around it. The lower part of the eastern wall below the east window also belong to this period, as well as a small piece of work under the south window of the chancel where the sill of an earlier window still remains.

In the north wall of the chancel there is a small Norman window, square outside, rounded, and with a deep splay inside. Originally there were two Norman windows in this wall, the one farther west having been blocked up for the insertion of a later (15th century) window to give more light to the chancel.

Another complete feature of this period is the fine Norman font with scallop moulding round its sides. Standing on its original stem and base it is lined inside with the original lead. The remains of a sundial can be found on the 14th century buttress of the south wall, commonly known as a "scratch dial".

The present church clock was erected to celebrate the conclusion of the Great War - (World War I) - and was dedicated by the Lord Bishop of the Diocese on November 11th, 1919, the first anniversary of Armistice Day. It was by the

unanimous vote of the whole parish that this was made the public memorial of so great an event, and all the parishioners had entered heart and souls into the scheme. At the same time there was dedicated a brass tablet in memory of the nine men of the village who had lost their lives during that war. In recent years the clock was modernised, and the working and winding is controlled by electricity instead of by hand.

Having finished the history lesson I can now re-tell the corniest tale of the month which would come under the heading of a "shaggy dog" story if it wasn't about a herd of cows. It was the time of year when the cattle stayed in the field all night but there occurred a very sharp and unforecasted frost and in the morning when the farmer went out to round up the dairy cows for milking, he found them all frozen to the ground and unable to move. He could think of nothing but pouring some hot water around their feet, but this did not release them. Suddenly a little old lady approached him from across the field and noting his predicament asked if she could help.

The farmer explained the problem to her and said that although he would welcome any assistance, he did not see what she could possibly do. However, not to be deterred, the old lady walked round the herd placing a hand on the forehead of each cow in turn, and lo and behold, the animals were freed. The farmer was profuse in his thanks and then mentioned that her face seemed very familiar to him. "Perhaps so", answered the old lady, "my name is Thaw a Herd". (Thora Hird for anyone needing help!)

A neighbour of mine recently had a very narrow escape when attempting to start a new sport which would have been called Open Cast Potholing. And it came to pass that the ground opened, and she was swallowed up, and disappeared from the sight of men. Providence was with her however, and she eventually re-surfaced with feathers ruffled but luckily no serious injury. Happily, all is Al at Lloyds and she has no need to Sue.

HJT

ADVERTISEMENTS & NOTICES.

Dirty Hounds Dog & pet services. Professional Qualified Dog Groomer, Collection/ drop off service. Dog walking, pet sitting/ holiday cover, massage, microchipping. fully insured, Dirty Hounds 07566 255890

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ssmotormedic@gmail.com –
 Rimpton, Yeovil.

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 Services offering not limited to -
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 Appointments and shopping trips,
 Companionship, and social activities
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07815 748518

mospilates@yahoo.com



Come along to a VE Day 80 celebration

A church service will be held at St Mary's Rimpton to commemorate VE Day on Sunday 4th May at 10.45 am.

The church service will be followed by tea, coffee, cake and a glass of fizz in Rimpton Village Hall from 12.00 noon onwards.

Please come along to the church service, the refreshments in the village hall, or both, to celebrate this important anniversary.





Join the fun in Marston Magna

Saturday 21st June

Make sure that you have Saturday 21st June – Super Saturday – in your diary!

The day kicks off at 1.00 with the now famous Duck Race starting from outside The Mill on Rimpton Road and ending at the Village Green. More than 500 ducks will be battling it out for valuable cash prizes and a trophy.

Duck Race tickets will be on sale soon.

The Midsummer Fair opens in the Moat field at 1.30 - ENTRY IS FREE.

The Stoke Sub Hamdon band will get us off to a great start.

The ever-popular Fun Dog Show will feature with several categories for your dog to enter! And Temptation Alley will be back. Time to get in training!

There will be lots of entertainment and activities – including Axe Throwing and Archery, Circus Skills, Skittles and a Tug of War - and plenty of games for the children.

We will have familiar and new stalls with a wide range of produce and goods.

There will be a wide range of food– including BBQ, teas, and homemade cakes - and to drink - the ever-popular Pimm's and Prosecco and of course the Beer & Cider tent.

If you want to take a stall at the Fair to promote your own crafts or produce let us know.

For more information contact Ann at ann-mckee@outlook.com.

Remember the Midsummer Fair is run by the Village for the Village. All funds raised go to support Village good causes.