

November 2025

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 normally be on the first Sunday of the month. Please refer to page 4 for full details.

MARSTON MAGNA SERVICES: These will normally be on the third Sunday of the 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

P.C.C. SECRETARIES

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

ORGANISTS

Mr Hugh Privett, The Manor Tel: 850294

LIAISON OFFICER of the BELL-RINGERS

Cathy Civill, Tel: 07514 258054

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 Tel: 850212 Mrs Green Tel: 01963 220943

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 new Archbishop of Canterbury has been named. When she takes up her post, she will find herself pulled in four ways: Up and down, left and right.

First, up and down. The Church of England has an “Upstairs Church” and a “Downstairs Church”. The Upstairs Church is a complex structure of institutions and titles, synods and councils. There’s a central hub in London; 42 “Dioceses” (regional groupings of churches), each with its Cathedral, Bishops and Diocesan Office, home to a well-intentioned army of administrators, managers, “facilitators”, and “enablers”.

The Downstairs Church is made up of faithful Christian pilgrims at prayer and worship. They serve their communities in the name of Christ, running playgroups and cake sales; visiting their neighbours in hospital; arranging flowers, making coffee, filling rotas, cleaning the church, cutting the grass – and in many cases maintaining the crumbling fabric of beautiful medieval buildings.

The upstairs and downstairs churches misunderstand each other - upstairs genuinely believe that they are there to support downstairs; downstairs sees only increasing requests for money and decreasing deployment of clergy. The new Archbishop will be under great pressure to spend most of her time upstairs (where she has spent most of her professional life). The more time she can spend downstairs, the better the leader she will be.

Meanwhile, she will also be pulled from left and right. Worldwide, the Anglican Church has millions of members with widely differing views. One of the most significant fault lines lies between:

- Conservatives - who hold that the Christian message is timeless and therefore should challenge changes in society’s attitude and behaviour which depart from it; and
- Liberals - who think that the Christian message should be reinterpreted as society changes, in order better to engage with modern people.

Since WW2, and especially since the 1960s, this conflict has become ever more pronounced. It is a “forever war” with no sign of resolution. The war is internecine, but its battles become visible to non-combatants when they are fought in the theatre of sex and sexuality. This happened in 1992 over the ordination of women as Priests; in 2002 over the remarriage of divorcees in church; and in 2015 over the consecration of women as Bishops. The current battle is over the marriage of same-sex couples. Each time, liberals push for change; conservatives express opposition.

Up and down, left and right. These vertical and horizontal lines are a cross on which every Archbishop of Canterbury has to suffer. I therefore cannot bring myself to “congratulate” the new holder of that ancient and impossible role, but I wish her well and we must all pray for her and for her family. May she, and we, in the words of this month’s Memory Verse . .

“Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ” (Galatians 6:2)

With all good wishes,

Richard

richardtherector@hotmail.com

**CALENDAR OF SERVICES for The Ark Group - We are one church congregation,
meeting for worship at 10.30 am every Sunday**

<u>NOVEMBER 2025</u>			
<u>SUNDAY 2nd NOVEMBER</u> RIMPTON MUDFORD		GREEN Holy Communion at 10.30 am ALL SOULS Service at 16.00	TRINITY XX Reader: Mr Kemp
<u>SUNDAY 9th NOVEMBER</u> MUDFORD		GREEN Morning Worship at 10.30 am	REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY
<u>TUESDAY 11th NOVEMBER</u> MUDFORD		ARMISTICE DAY COMMEMERATION 10.55 am at MUDFORD	
<u>SUNDAY 16th NOVEMBER</u> MARSTON MAGNA		GREEN Holy Communion at 10.30 am	TRINITY XXII Sidesman. Dr T Smith Reader: Dr T Smith
<u>SUNDAY 23rd NOVEMBER</u> CHILTON CANTELO		GREEN Holy Communion at 10.30 am	TRINITY XXIII
<u>SUNDAY 30th NOVEMBER</u> <u>ASHINGTON</u>		GREEN Advent Carols by Candlelight at 5 pm	ADVENT SUNDAY
<u>SUNDAY 7th DECEMBER</u> RIMPTON		PURPLE Holy Communion at 10.30 am	ADVENT I Reader: Mr Gatrill-Smith
MARSTON MAGNA NOVEMBER 2025	<u>Church Cleaning</u> <u>(Now for services)</u>	<u>Church Flowers</u> <u>High Altar</u>	<u>Locking Up</u>
2 nd November			Mr & Mrs Knott
9 th November			Dr T Smith
16 th November	Mr & Mrs Venning	Mrs Venning	Mr & Mrs Bateman
23 rd November			Mr H Privett
30 th November		Mrs Venning	Mr & Mrs North
RIMPTON NOVEMBER 2025	<u>Church Cleaning</u> <u>(Now fortnightly)</u>	<u>Church Flowers</u> <u>High Altar</u>	
2 nd November		Charmian McCreight	Marion Kemp
9 th November	Mrs Walton & Mrs Millington	Charmian McCreight	Michael Harding
16 th November		Chris Hale	Bill Headford
23 rd November	Mrs Hale	Chris Hale	Jill Billings
30 th November		ADVENT – No flowers	Sue Gould

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.

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

2.30 – 3.30 pm Pickle Ball Ed Walton 07871 185102

Wednesdays

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

For the Diary

10th November - Marston Magna & Rimpleton WI – Christmas Lunch

19th November - Ladies Walking Group - 9.30 am from the Village Car Park

14th November - Quiz Night - Rimpleton Village Hall

28th November - Pop Up Pub - Rimpleton Village Hall - 7.00 - 9.30 pm

29th November - Christmas Fayre - Rimpleton Village Hall 12 noon - 3.00 pm

For hall bookings please contact Frances Burton on 07944 365261 or by email rimpletonvhbookings@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 pm – 9 pm - 2nd Monday monthly W.I. Vivien Bateman 01935 851225

Thursdays

2.30 – 4.30 p.m. Short Mat Bowls Tony Green 01963 220943

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.

5th November - Firework display at the Marston Inn from 18.30, food available

7th November - Village Café at the Village Hall 10.30 to Noon

8th November - Village action day from 9.30 am at MMVH

10th November - Marston Magna & Rimpleton WI – Christmas Lunch

14th November - Village Café at the Village Hall 10.30 to Noon

21st November - Village Café at the Village Hall 10.30 to Noon

22nd November - Curry night from 7 pm in the Village Hall

23rd November - Craft Fair 11 am to 1 pm -

24th November - Village Café at the Village Hall 10.30 to Noon

28th November - Village Café at the Village Hall 10.30 to Noon

30th November - Marston Inn – Sunday Lunch 12 noon to 2.30 pm, please book

6th December - Bingo from 5.30 pm in the Village Hall

7th December - Quality Clothing Sale in Marston Magna VH from 10 am

19th December - Carol Singing on the Village Green from 18.00

22nd December - Kids Christmas Party 2 – 4 pm in the Village Hall

27th June 2026 - Midsummer Fair at Marston Magna

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

The Mobile Library WILL BE IN Rimpleton on the **19th November**. It will be in Home Farm Lane, BA22 8AS between 12.30 pm and 1.00 pm. The next after that will be **17th December**. 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 Rimpleton from 6 a.m. on 7th, 14th, 21st & 28th November. **Refuse bins** will be collected once every three weeks and the next ones are on 7th & 28th November. Garden recycling is by subscription and dates are not publicly published. If anyone knows them – do please let me know.

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

Letter from Bishop Michael Beasley
Bishop of Bath & Wells
Let's walk into the light

A story that's often told in our churches comes from the fourth chapter of John's Gospel. It tells of Jesus, in the blinding heat of midday meeting a Samaritan woman at the well in a town called Sychar. The woman is hoisting up heavy buckets of water in the hot sun. She's there because she's a woman with 'a reputation' and it's the only time of day she can avoid the muttering of her neighbours who meet at the well at cooler hours.

In an extraordinary encounter, Jesus sees deep into the woman's heart. Through their conversation Jesus brings about her healing and restoration into the community from which she is estranged. It's a story of life, possibility, new beginnings and forgiveness.

The woman at the well is not the only Biblical story set in Sychar. There's another, contained in the 34th chapter of the Book of Genesis. This is a tale of terror that's never heard in our churches; the rape of a girl called Dinah. It's a dark, nasty tale of violence that wrecks the life of individuals, families and the entire community. So, we don't speak about it. We keep it hidden.

Sometimes people say to me of safeguarding 'It's just a tick box exercise', an onerous compliance requirement. Rather I would say that our work in safeguarding asks fundamental questions about the kind of places we want our churches to be. Just like the Bible passages I've mentioned, we can be places of hiddenness, silence, and hurt. Or places of life, new beginnings and restoration.

Accounts like the Makin review have shone light on our story. We've also been working hard to bring about change. While we cannot be complacent, I am intensely proud of all that was revealed about safeguarding in Bath and Wells by our independent audit that happened earlier this year. This told us that we are moving towards a much better story. So let's build on the momentum we have created. Let's walk into the light.

+ Michael Beasley
Bishop of Bath and Wells

The Bishop's response to the appointment of the new Archbishop of Canterbury can be found [here](https://www.bathandwells.org.uk/news/welcoming-the-new-archbishop-of-canterbury.php)
<https://www.bathandwells.org.uk/news/welcoming-the-new-archbishop-of-canterbury.php>

THE RAIN REPORT (September 2025)

September rainfall totalled 92 mms (3½ inches) with 15 wet days, well above the September average of 64 mms (2½ inches), but only half of last year's September total of 187 mms (7 inches). The majority, 84 mms (3¼ inches) of this rain fell in the first half of the month with 44 mms (1¾ inches) falling in the first 4 days. The second half saw just 8 mms (¼ inch) with 4 wet days.

Last year's 187mms (7¼ inches) was by a long way the wettest September I have recorded. 1999 is second with 134mms (5¼ inches). There have been several relatively dry Septembers. 2003 the driest with just 9.5 mms (3/8th inch) with 1997 just behind on 12 mms (½ inch).

The total rainfall this year to date (Sept 30th) is 492 mms (19 ½ inches). It would take another 373 mms (14 ½ inches) in the final 3 months to reach the annual average of 865mms (34 inches). You never know, we shall see.

Ricky Gibbs

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Rimpton Ladies Walking Group</u> The next walk will be on Wednesday, 19th November 2025. We will meet in the Village Hall car park, at 9.30 am. For full details contact Sue Walton - Telephone 851818</p>
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Diocese News

Capturing creation

This autumn's Chew Valley Nature Photography Festival at St Andrew's church, Chew Magna brought people together to give thanks for God's creation and renew their commitment to care for it. Stunning photography, conservation displays and children's activities helped visitors reflect on the beauty and fragility of God's world.

A new film honouring local naturalists Richard Brock opened the weekend. Bishop Michael led the closing service in which he spoke about trusting in God and working together to protect His world. Despite the showery weather, the festival drew steady crowds who engaged in conversations about faith, the environment, and

how the Church can help nurture and care for creation.

Coming together in worship

More than 2,500 pupils and staff came together to worship online recently. Led by Bishop Michael who opened the service by lighting a candle. The event brought Church of England schools together from Bath to Exmoor in song, prayer and reflection. Speaking with those gathered Bishop Michael spoke of Zacchaeus. He said, "It's a story that tells us that God never gives up on us, whoever we are and whatever we've done. All of us are always welcomed into God's family."

Director of Education Ed Gregory said, "The online gatherings will now be a regular opportunity for schools to worship together, celebrate faith and grow in community."

82 years of service to the church

When 94-year-old Roy Jukes first began playing the organ in church, the Second World War was still underway. Roy was just 12 years old. Little did he know then that he would still be playing in his nineties. "By the time I was 10 or 11, I was playing short voluntaries before the morning service. Occasionally the organist failed to turn up, and I would play the hymns. Eventually my father came back from a trustees' meeting to tell me that I was appointed organist, that was on my 12th birthday!" Roy has no plans to draw the final stop, he says, "It's a way of life."

RIMPTON PARISH COUNCIL

The Agendas and Minutes of meetings can be viewed on our new website www.Rimptonpc.org.uk

If you do not have internet the minutes and agendas can be viewed on the village noticeboard, or contact the Clerk, Anne Tuck of Merryfield, Camel Street, Marston Magna, Yeovil, Somerset BA22 8DD or 07538502812 or clerk@Rimptonpc.org.uk

News from Rimpton Village Hall Committee For the Diary

Friday 31st October - Pop Up Pub - Rimpton Village Hall - 7.00 - 9.30 pm
Friday 14th November - Quiz Night - Rimpton Village Hall (more details in next month's edition)
Friday 28th November - Pop Up Pub - Rimpton Village Hall - 7.00 - 9.30 pm
Saturday 29th November - Christmas Fayre - Rimpton Village Hall 12 noon - 3.00 pm

News from Rimpton Village Hall Committee

The brand-new heating system has been tested recently with the start of some chilly days, and it is working brilliantly.

Hope to see you at the Pop-Up Pub on Friday 31st October. This will be a Halloween special. To all the lovely children who usually knock on the doors of some of the committee members we will be attending the pub night so if you'd like to come and see us there, we will have plenty of treats for you trick or treaters!

We will be hosting a Quiz Night on Friday 14th November. Look out for more details in next month's magazine.

We are down to the last couple of Sellers Tables (6ft) available for our Christmas Fayre on Saturday 29th November (12 noon until 3.00 pm). £10 per table payable in advance. These can be reserved by emailing rimptonvhbookings@btinternet.com or phoning 07944365261. At this year's Fayre, as well as local arts and crafts for sale, there will be mulled wine, tea, coffee and mince pies available plus for the first time a Santa's Grotto. And of course, a Christmas Fayre in Rimpton would not be complete without Val and her delicious cakes.

Frances Burton, Chair

RIMPTON VILLAGE HALL

AVAILABLE FOR HIRE

A great facility with lots to offer

The Hall can be hired out for various activities, and all the following are available to hire:

Main hall (with tables and chairs if needed). Small stage available.

Committee room (with tables and chairs if needed)

Fully fitted kitchen with oven, high speed dishwasher, two fridges, crockery, glassware, cutlery etc.

Badminton equipment

Table tennis table

Please contact Frances Burton 07944 365261 or email rimptonvhbookings@btinternet.com with any booking enquiries.

Rimpton Poppy Appeal 2025

The British Legion Poppy Appeal collection commenced on Saturday 25th October.

As in previous years Lisa and myself will be collecting in Rimpton, so we might well come knocking on your door with our collection boxes and poppies. Alternatively, you are very welcome to call in at my house (Chez Nous) and make a donation to this very worthy cause.

Lisa and Ricky

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

Marston Magna & Rimpton WI Report for November 2025

Marston Magna & Rimpton WI Programme for its Centenary Year. The Village WI is celebrating its Centenary Year from December 2025. We will have a selection of talks on offer.

All women are invited to attend and their first visit as a guest is free, thereafter there is a small charge, or an annual fee.

The meeting starts with an introduction to our speaker for the evening, this could take the form of a talk, a demonstration or a musical entertainment. After which there is a break for refreshments after our speaker. This is a good time to chat to WI members, perhaps finding things in common and making friends. After this there is a quick run through of WI events and visits. This could be a trip to a theatre or local Christmas Market, summer picnics etc.

The next couple of months events.

10th November - This will be our Christmas lunch.

8th December - Start of our Centenary Year.
Mocktail making evening.

All talks are advertised in the village notice boards.

If you would like to attend our next meeting, please arrive for a 7.00 pm start on 8th December.

More details from Vivien Bateman 01935 851225.
vivien_bateman@yahoo.com

SCARECROWS IN RIMPTON

The Annual Rimpton Village Scarecrow Competition has taken place during the month of October. Scarecrows will be judged over the weekend of 1st/2nd November.

A VOLUNTEER IS WANTED

A new Treasurer for St Mary's, Rimpton, this little village gem.

You will need basic computer skills including Excel, record keeping abilities, to be able to work with a small group and above all, discretion. You do not need to be a member of the Church.

The accounting year is from the 1st January to 31st December so there is plenty of time to learn the "ropes" from the current Treasurer.

If this interests you, you can discuss the role with Pamela Hopkins on 01935 850949.

CAROLS IN MARSTON MAGNA

A date for your diary is that at 6.00 pm on Friday the 19th December 2025, there will be carol singing around the Christmas tree on the Green in Marston Magna.

The Christmas tree, with lighting, will be erected early in December and this year it is being financed by a grant once more from the Midsummer Fair Committee. We are very grateful.

A big thanks to the Church for providing power for the lights, Hugh Privett for the organ accompaniment from his house and Edd Jackson for the amplification. Thanks as well go to Paul Copp who has agreed to keep us all in check on the night.

There will be a collection for the Children's Society, locally organised by Pam Goodwin, which does so much good work, often unnoticed, so bring your loose change! Wear warm clothing and carry a torch and if the weather is bad on the night, the event will move to inside the church.

Mulled wine will be served in the Church after the carol singing, a great way to get into the mood of Christmas.

Lawrence Hopkins

Play Pickleball **the Fastest Growing Sport**

If you are interested in playing one of the fastest growing sports that is growing in popularity we play on a Tuesday afternoon 2.30 pm at Rimpton Village Hall BA22 8AD

If there are more than 4 people we rotate so everyone gets a few games, there are no membership fees or commitments just turn up and pay £2. We are all relatively new to the sport so come along and learn why this fun packed sport is so popular together.

Contact Ed Walton - walton_edward@hotmail.com or phone 07871 185102

MARSTON MAGNA VILLAGE HALL **SHORT-MAT BOWLS** **THURSDAYS 2.30-4.30PM**

Our new season commenced on Thursday 11th September 2025. Why not come along and try short-mat bowls.

We are a small friendly club and play for fun. No joining fee. No experience needed, just a pair of flat shoes. Bowls can be provided. For more information contact Tony Green on 01963 220943/07801028022. We would love to see you!

Tony Green

QUEEN CAMEL BOWLS CLUB

FUTURE EVENTS IN 2025

1st November is Quiz night. There are still a few places left. Clubhouse Coffee and Tea Mornings start on 6th December and more in 2026. Several indoor matches have been arranged against local bowls clubs.

The first on 16th November and a few more early in 2026

GENERAL INFORMATION

Please visit our new website: QueenCamelBowlsClub.co.uk for various details of the club's activities.

We currently have vacancies for both associate members and for full members. So please contact our Club Secretary for further details on 01935 850563 or email him at the club at: QueenCamelBowlsClub@Gmail.com

THE MARSTON INN

With winter round the corner, we have had the log stove on early this year, and that is making a noticeable difference to the cosy warm glow inside. The improvements I made during the year certainly seem to be working and is making a huge difference.

The pool team are continuing with their success & the skittles teams are also enjoying a good run so far. Food sales are improving slowly, as more people are giving us a chance. Full roast dinners are still the last Sunday of the month.

Further to our dream, being on the market, this no more than a get out clause for us. We are actively looking for investment; the business is viable and will improve with the B&B rooms or contractor's weekly accommodation.

We have no intention of closing and if we do sell, we will ensure as best we can, the new owners also have the enthusiasm and drive to keep the only pub around open, alive and kicking.

I have an (approx.) 4m x 4m secure lockable storage unit to rent, it could even be used as a workshop, I can add light, power & heating, if necessary. Contact us to discuss any requirements.

Dates for the diary, November.

Wednesday 5th November, Fireworks display night, sponsored by DJ Transport, start 7.00 pm, baked potatoes with various fillings & hotdogs will be available, at the usual prices.

Sunday 30th November - Full roast dinner today 12.00 to 2.30pm, please make your bookings in the usual way.

We are taking bookings for Christmas lunches from 3rd December to 21st December. We can cater for individuals or groups. Group bookings for 6 and above a 10% deposit is required.

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

Carrie & Colin - 01935 850361
<https://www.themarstoninn.co.uk/>

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2025 in **Marston Magna**

This year the Poppy Appeal runs from 25 October - 8 November, culminating with Remembrance services in the community over the weekend of 8-9 November.

The local Poppy collection will be conducted primarily through local services and business, such

as schools, village halls, shops etc. There will be very limited (pre-agreed) 'door-to-door' collection activity, following feedback from the local community.

If you are part of a local service or business and wish to support the appeal by having a collection tin, poppies etc, or by making a donation, then please do contact me.

If anyone would like to order specific items such as wreaths, crosses, village 'silhouettes' etc these are available for a donation, again please contact me.

Ash Philpin, 07799 865526
Ash.philpin@hotmail.com

ANYONE FOR BADMINTON?

Would you be interested in playing this sport for fun? Rimpton Badminton Club would like to encourage new members for weekly or occasional games.

We play on a Wednesday evening from 7.00 – 8.30pm in Rimpton Village Hall BA22 8AD.

We have one court and if more than four people turn up, we rotate so you should get to play a few games and have a breather in between! There are no membership fees and no commitments; just turn up and play for £2 a session. The standard is moderate, and beginners are welcome.

If you are interested in any way, please drop me an e-mail:

Mr Lindsey Maguire: Lindsey@studio-6.co.uk or [give me a call on 07903 297712](tel:07903297712).

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 irmtownsend@icloud.com to get your name added.

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

Hire Marston Magna Village Hall

Your village hall is available for hire at a very reasonable rate with facilities such as Wi-Fi and

table tennis equipment, all the normal facilities plus 2 ovens and a big commercial fridge. See the availability on the parish council's website.

Please book by emailing me on Bookings.marstonvillagehall@gmail.com

Marston Magna Action Group Action Group Saturday November 8th

Thank you to all the brilliant volunteers who helped clear up the village in September. We will try again Saturday November 8th 9-11am. If you haven't done this before, it is a lovely way to meet your neighbours as well as clear parts of the village the council does not touch.

Meet village hall with tools and coats 9am.

Paul Copp

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

4th October - Harvest Supper from 7 pm
22nd November - Curry night from 7 pm
DATE CHANGE
23rd November - Craft Fair 11 am to 1 pm
ADDED TO DIARY
6th December - Bingo from 5.30 pm
7th December - Quality Clothing Sale 10 am
ADDED TO DIARY
22nd December - Kids Christmas Party 2 – 4 pm

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

Craft Fair on Sunday 23rd November 11 am – 1 pm

Craft Fair in the village hall. Come and do some early Christmas shopping. Tables £10. Teas and coffee and bacon sandwiches!
bookings.marstonvillagehall@gmail.com to book.

The Marston Magna Scarecrow competition will run all October.

I hope that you can get yours up early to maximise the impact.

The last few years have been a festival of creativity and fun. Thank you for building our village reputation.

Anyone doing "high viz" scarecrows that slow traffic will get extra point

Judging will take on 12th November at 12 noon, meet at the Village Hall.

Quality clothing sale at Marston Magna Village Hall

We are having a sale of quality clothing including nearly new shoes, hats, party wear, jackets, coats, dresses and more. Sale starts at 10 am on 7th December.

Our bingo night is on 6th December.

Our curry night is on 22nd November starting at 7:00 pm. Please book your place with one of the committee members.

We are also having a craft fair on 23rd November so book your table with [bookings.marstonvillagehall@gmail](mailto:bookings.marstonvillagehall@gmail.com)

Refreshments and bacon butties will be available.

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.

100 years of the WI in Marston Magna

The Women's' Institute in Marston Magna and Rimpton is our oldest village organisation. From November we'll be starting to celebrate and mark our Centenary!

Back in 1925, (10 years after the Institute started in the UK) a group of village ladies met to discuss whether a WI could be established (to include Rimpton). The idea of this club for the village came from a man! The Reverend Alfred Bartlett, who is buried in Marston Magna churchyard - his grave is just opposite the door.

Having decided that the club should go ahead, the inaugural meeting was held on the 8th of December in the Schoolroom (on the bend on Camel Street diagonally across from the church). A Mr Irish was paid 1 shilling to provide 16 cakes which were then sold for 1 penny, with a cup of tea for a second penny. As today, funding the club was a necessity

so on that evening a 'white elephant' stall was set-up which, after a few years, reverted to an annual fee for members.

The club was popular, and in 1927 moved to the new Foresters Hall, on the site of our current hall. That hall opened in 1926 and was bought by the Village Hall Committee in 1948.

The intention back at the start was - and remains - to provide a women's social club that would also offer opportunities for learning (don't forget that 100 years ago, formal education for women was limited and rural life could be quite isolating). In the early years, topics such as dressmaking, food growing and cooking, were important. There were also outings in Messrs Birds charabancs which must have been popular. These went as far as Southampton, Cheddar and Torquay!

Sport also played a part with a cricket team being formed which regularly played Montacute and, occasionally the village team! I wonder where the cricket pitch was? There was also a Ladies skittle team which apparently was very successful.

Competitions were popular and in the early years included best peeled apple, the most wildflowers in a jam jar, best darned sock and, of course, jams and jellies. Since 'Jerusalem' was sung at every meeting (a tradition that has largely stopped in UK WI's) it's presumably where the term 'jam and Jerusalem' came from - often viewed unfavourably.

But what about today? The late Queen Elizabeth was an active member of the Sandringham WI. Her words are very apt:

"Women have been granted the vote, British women have climbed Everest and the country has elected its first female prime minister. The Women's Institute has been a constant throughout, gathering women together, encouraging them to acquire new skills and nurturing unique talents."

Of course, many women take part in education without the WI but thinking back to those early years, these were significant and accessible opportunities that wouldn't have otherwise existed.

Our meetings now are very informal. Like all organisations, the WI has had to evolve to stay relevant and interesting to women of all ages. We're a group of village women who enjoy each other's company and enjoy listening to interesting speakers. In the coming year, we will be hearing about creating natural flood defences, the Dorset coast, Yeovil 100 years ago, as well as visits to The Smokery and Lyme Regis (not in a charabanc!). We'll also be hosting an Anniversary Tea in the village hall for villagers in July. Some of the meetings are open to all villagers (even men!) and we're always happy to see visitors. There are over

100 WIs in Somerset and we regularly get to together with some of the more local ones for quizzes, meals etc.

WI facts:

- In the 1890's a Canadian woman started a movement aimed at educating women in household science and child-rearing. She had lost a child through contaminated milk and did not want others to suffer that fate. This was the start of the WI.
- During WWII, our WI had 67 members, the most ever for probably obvious reasons. Members donated biscuits and cigarettes which were sent to the troops. The first and only meeting cancellation (aside from COVID restrictions) was in September 1939, as war was declared.
- In the 1940's, a competition was held to peel a potato blindfold. There's no record of any injuries!
- In 1955 Rimpton formed their own WI
- In the swinging 60's, our WI shrunk in size. I wonder if this is perhaps because it had become more common for women to work and drive
- Today the WI is the largest women's voluntary organisation in the UK.

My mother was a WI member and President of Steeple Morden WI in Hertfordshire, for many years. I know it helped her integrate into the village when we moved there in 1970. It inspired her and I recall the strong bonds that she felt with other members in the village, that led to lifelong friendships.

Why not join us?

Julia Phillips

President: Vivien Bateman (01935 851225 / vivien_bateman@yahoo.com)

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Contact Mo for details on:

07815 748518

mospilates@yahoo.com

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Doors open 7.00pm**

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Contact Pamela Hopkins – 07795 076789/01935 850949

CAROLS IN MARSTON MAGNA

A date for your diary is that at 6.00pm on Friday the 19th December 2025, there will be carol singing around the Christmas tree on the Green in Marston Magna.

The Christmas tree, with lighting, will be erected early in December and this year it is being financed by a grant once more from the Midsummer Fair Committee. We are very grateful.

A big thanks to the Church for providing power for the lights, Hugh Privett for the organ accompaniment from his house and Edd Jackson for the amplification. Thanks as well go to Paul Copp who has agreed to keep us all in check on the night.

There will be a collection for the Children's Society, locally organised by Pam Goodwin, which does so much good work, often unnoticed, so bring your loose change! Wear warm clothing and carry a torch and if the weather is bad on the night, the event will move to inside the church.

Mulled wine will be served in the Church after the carol singing, a great way to get into the mood of Christmas.

Lawrence Hopkins

STOP PRESS – There is no Ladies Walk in Rimpton during November. They should start again in March 26.

STOP PRESS 2 – The deadline for articles for the January 2026 Magazine is 17th December 2025.



Rimpton Village Hall
Back Lane
Rimpton BA22 8AH

CHRISTMAS FAYRE

*Saturday 29th November 2025
12 noon until 3.00 pm*

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