

# Tower & Tap

June 2011



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# June 2011

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1	2 SM Enterprise Group 7.30 pm	3 Youth Club 6.30 pm Village Hall	4	5
6 Youth Club 6.30 pm Village Hall	7 All Sorts SM School 1.30 - 2.45	8 Tots 'n' Toddlers 9-11am Village Hall  Craft Company 2 pm	9	10 <i>Mixed Plastics</i> <i>Wheellie Bins</i> <i>Green Waste</i>  High Five Service 10 am	11 Meeting Point 9.30- 12 Village Hall  Saturday Scene 4 pm Village Hall	12
13	14 Friendly Club AGM 2 pm Village Hall  All Sorts SM School 1.30 - 2.45	15 Tots 'n' Toddlers 9-11am Village Hall	16	17 Youth Club 6.30 pm Village Hall	18 Conservation Site Working Day 2 - 5 pm	19
20 Youth Club 6.30 pm Village Hall	21 All Sorts SM School 1.30 - 2.45  Parish Council 7.30 pm	22 Tots 'n' Toddlers 9-11am Village Hall	23	24 <i>Mixed Plastics</i> <i>Wheellie Bins</i> <i>Green Waste</i>	25	26
27	28 All Sorts SM School 1.30 - 2.45	29 Tots 'n' Toddlers 9-11am Village Hall	30			

Dear Friends,

Do you think God has abandoned you? Do you think that God doesn't care about you? Or maybe you think he's too busy for your problems and worries.

We all go through phases when God feels far away—even Vicars! Jesus felt the same on the cross—remember he said 'My God, my God why have you forsaken me?' He went through all that so that we would never again feel the same depth of despair.

On Ascension Day, 2nd June we will be celebrating the fact that Jesus returned to heaven and sits at God's right hand interceding for us. He hasn't forgotten us, nor has he left us helpless. He has given us his Holy Spirit and we celebrate this incredible gift on Sunday 12th at the Feast of Pentecost. God's Holy Spirit enables us to know God's love, the peace and assurance that we are never alone and it is through his Spirit that he guides us. Sometimes the Holy Spirit is called the Comforter—this word comes from the Latin 'cum forte' meaning 'with strength.' He strengthens us.

When we feel that sense of distance from God its not because God has moved—its us. God knows when we are going to let him down but he still loves us and stays with us. We choose whether to accept that love or not. Peter and Judas both let Jesus down at Easter—Peter chose to accept the gift of grace, love and mercy but Judas did not.

What will be your choice? Perhaps these festivals are opportunities to move back closer to God and let him into your life again instead of going it alone.

God Bless,  
Vicky Fleming  
Team Vicar

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# Church News

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The next **High Five** service for children up to 5 years will be on Friday 10th June at 10am

**'Craft Company'** we are meeting again at Mary Cooper's house (Dryden House) 2pm Wednesday 8th June. More details form Mary or Vicky Fleming.



**Saturday Scene** meets on 11th June in the Village Hall 4-5.15pm. An exciting church event for young families. Stories, songs, crafts, games and food. Contact Donald Page on 825693

## Church Funds

Many of you will remember **Mrs Win Smith**. She was very involved in village life and is remembered with great affection. Win loved this village and its church. Sadly Win died last year but she remembered her church to the last and has left £1,000 for Church funds. We wish to express our deep gratitude for this generous and thoughtful gift.

We are also grateful for other donations we have received for our guttering appeal—wouldn't it be good to get this work done before the winter comes? Damp brings so many problems to old buildings and the more we can do to prevent it the better. Its is after all our heritage we are looking after. We can't do it without your help.

## The 7.30 Club



for 10 to 16 year olds from Stratton, Stanton & South Marston On alternate Sunday Evenings - 7.30 - 8.45pm, St Margaret's Centre. The 7.30 club, preparing young people for Confirmation - if you are interested please contact Vicky Fleming for more information.

## POLITE NOTICE

Have you noticed how tidy the church grounds are now? A huge thank you to Colin and Jenny McEwen for cutting the Glebe grass and Richard Sansum and William Hiscocks for working hard in the churchyard. PLEASE help us to keep it tidy by disposing of non-biodegradable things in the bin provided and compost the rest in the designated area. Thank you.

### From the Registers:

**Marriage:** 21st May Jonathan Rawlins & Marianne Lucy Ellen Maynard

**Baptism:** 8th May Emily Catherine Baber Todman  
Hollie Jennifer Learoyd

**Burial:** 14th May Patricia Ann Taylor. Burial of Cremated Remains

## The Meeting Point

Coffee morning with table top sales

(Please book a table by 6th June: £2.50 for people who live in the village, £5 for those outside and free to village organisations )



11th June from 9.30 –12 noon in the Village Hall

Refreshments provided by South Marston Church

We look forward to seeing you

## Church Services

(at South Marston Church unless otherwise stated)

5th June	11.00am	Family Service
12th June	8.00am	Holy Communion
	9.30am	Holy Communion
19th June	9.30am	Morning Worship
26th June	8.00am	Holy Communion
	10.00am	TEAM SERVICE St Margaret's
3rd July	8.00am	Holy Communion
	11.00am	Family Service & Baptism

## Church Office

South Marston Church is part of Stratton Team Ministry. The office is located at St. Margaret's Centre, Kenwin Close, Stratton St. Margaret and it is open on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 8.30am to 12 noon.

Email: [stmargaretsoffice@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:stmargaretsoffice@tiscali.co.uk) or tel: 826505.

If you would like to talk to a priest or book a Christening or Wedding please contact Rev Vicky Fleming on 827021 between 6 and 7pm any evening except Thursdays or Sundays.

Members of the team:

Team Vicar	Rev. Vicky Fleming	827021
Asst. Priest	Rev. George Fleming	827021
Asst. Priest	Rev. Richard Burston	822403
Lay Minister	Mrs Christine Burston	822403
Lay Minister	Mr Dan Read	763016

### South Marston Enterprise (SME) Group

This small group of villagers has been meeting to talk about and share experiences of being in business for about 18 months. We come from a variety of backgrounds and our experience of being in business varies from a few months to several years; but we all have something to contribute.

In 2010 the group members were able to share knowledge and skills on subjects as diverse as business processes, presenting your business and time management. It's not a formal group – we meet in each other's homes, chat and usually indulge in something good to eat and drink.

We'd like to invite anyone with an interest in business or enterprise (you don't have to run a business) to join us at our meetings, which take place on the first Thursday of each month. You don't have to commit to every meeting and it costs nothing.

In **June** we will be learning how to use **PR to promote your business** – we will be sharing ideas, tips and techniques, which you will be able to take away and put into practice. We will meet at **7.30pm** on **Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June** at **1 Byron Court**.

If you'd like to come please call Hannah Jones on 01793 823035 or e-mail her at [hannah@bluekitecoach.com](mailto:hannah@bluekitecoach.com)

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# South Marston Parish Council News

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## **New Chairman**

At the Parish Council AGM on 17<sup>th</sup> May, Mr Neil Burchell was elected as Chairman of South Marston Parish Council, with Mr Stuart Young remaining as Vice Chairman. The Parish Council thanked Mr Colin McEwen for all of his work and dedication as the previous Chairman for the last five years.

The following Working Parties and representatives on Outside Bodies were also elected:

## **Parish Council Working Parties**

Strategic Planning, Property & Finance: Chairman – Neil Burchell. Sylvia Brown, Ken Millard, Malcolm Phillips and Barry Thunder

Operational Planning: Ken Millard, Brian McGlone, Stuart Young

Environment: Barry Thunder, Neil Burchell, Brian McGlone, Robbie Taylor

Emergency Planning: Ken Millard with SBC

Allotment Liaison: Barry Thunder

Village Expansion Working Party: Chairman – Neil Burchell. At least three Parish Councillors and local residents.

## **Representatives on Outside Bodies**

Highworth United Charities: Brian McGlone

Friendly Club: Brian McGlone

Swindon Area Committee: Sylvia Brown, Ken Millard and Colin McEwen

Tower & Tap/Website: Clerk – Gemma Cheal

Transport & Police: Robbie Taylor

South Marston Recreation Association: Stuart Young

Swindon Community Planning Forum: Stuart Young and Colin McEwen

## **Allotment Update**

The Clerk and the Parish Council Allotment Liaison have recently carried out an inspection of the allotments in South Marston. We are pleased to report that generally, the allotments are being maintained to a very good standard.

*To keep informed of all the latest Parish Council news, including minutes of Parish Council meetings, please go to [www.southmarston.org.uk](http://www.southmarston.org.uk)*



# YOUR VILLAGE YOU!!

**NEEDS**

**SOUTH MARSTON VILLAGE SUMMER FETE**

## TUG OF WAR



**WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS WHO  
WOULD BE WILLING TO TAKE PART IN THE  
SOUTH MARSTON VILLAGE SUMMER FETE  
TUG OF WAR ON SATURDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY.**

**IF YOU ARE ABLE TO HELP, PLEASE CONTACT  
RACHEL ON: (01793) 832719**

## TOTS 'n' TODDLERS

We are a Parent & Toddler group that meets up for a play session, craft table, coffee and chat.

WEDNESDAY MORNINGS (term time only)

9.00am - 11.00am

0 - 4 years

South Marston Village Hall

For further details feel free to call in  
and see us at the group or contact us:

Rachel Case on 01793 832719

or Mary Case on 01793 826038

or email: [totsntoddlers@sky.com](mailto:totsntoddlers@sky.com)





**SATURDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2.00PM - 5.00PM**  
**SOUTH MARSTON RECREATION FIELD**

**CAR BOOT - CRAFT STALLS - FANCY DRESS  
COMPETITION - REFRESHMENT'S - BEER TENT -  
HIGHWORTH SILVERBAND - DANCING - BOUNCY  
CASTLE & LOTS MORE!!..**

**PARTY IN THE PARK!!.. 7.00PM TILL LATE!!**  
**BBQ & BEER TENT**

**PLEASE COME ALONG AND ENJOY THE FUN  
GATES OPEN AT 1PM FOR SET UP  
FOR MORE DETAILS CALL  
RACHEL ON: (01793) 832719**

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# Friendly Club

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## Recent Events

**Tuesday 19th April.** Our outing to **St Fagans, National History Museum, Cardiff** was most interesting: the array of period buildings and artefacts are well planned. The weather was warm and sunny which added to the ambience. The site is being further developed with new acquisitions (old buildings) and it is intended to add more activity areas to show how things were done in the past. Some photographs will be posted on the village web site.

**Tuesday 10th May.** A talk was given by **Jean Campbell on India**. Jean told us about a trip to Southern India, flying into Trivandrum, Kerala state, and staying down the coast at Kovalam, on the Arabian Sea. Moving on from Trivandrum to Bangalore and by coach thereafter to Mysore, and visited Seringpatam where in 1799 British forces captured this fort. Amongst the officers was a certain Arthur Wellesley, later Duke of Wellington. From Mysore they went by coach up the Nilgiri hills to Ootacamund (known to the British as Snooty Ooty) this being the family home location of Jean's husband (Ian). It was where he grew up. She talked about visiting the house (now a school and convent), the Ooty Club (where the first game of snooker was officially played in 1881), and a visit to Ian's old school (Breck Memorial School). They took a trip to the top of Dodabetta - at 8,600 ft, the highest hill in the Nilgiri range. Then down to the plains on the famous Blue Mountain Railway. Finally to Cochin, the only natural harbour on the west coast of India and a very old port from where the spice trade was carried on.



## Future Events

**Tuesday 14th June. – In the village Hall @ 2.00 pm.**

Our Annual General Meeting. If you are interested in becoming a committee member please send your nomination to the secretary B McGlone before 14th June. Following the AGM section of the meeting a talk will be given by **Rosa Matheson** on the subject “*Friends of Angel’s Orphanage*”.

**Tuesday 21st June - Outing**



We will be visiting the **Hawk Conservancy Trust** in Andover. Demonstrations will be given. Pick up time outside the school is 9.00 am and our return to South Marston will be approximately 4.30 pm.

## Tower & Tap

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Please email items for the Tower & Tap to [kaylong@btinternet.com](mailto:kaylong@btinternet.com) or drop any article in to The Maples, South Marston (next to the Vicarage).

The deadline for the July/August combined edition is 15 June.

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or come in and see us at: **32 High Street, Highworth**

[www.conwayandlaker.co.uk](http://www.conwayandlaker.co.uk)



## Conservation Site News

On 19<sup>th</sup> May we worked on tidying up the new season's growth. The newly planted hedgerow is growing well with only a few plants lost to the lack of rain. There are a few meters of hedge still to plant next year.

The new path foundations are settling well and we hope to add the finer top layer of grit after the summer. The design for the two bridges is being worked on and we hope to have enough funds to build these toward the end of 2011. Work on the pond sitting is going well and we hope to be putting it in place over the next few months.

We are still looking for native plants to use on the site and welcome any contributions from the village. Any donations, please call Brian on 826243 or Barry 826697.



We always welcome new volunteers and help them in any way we can. Please come along and see what is going on, between 2pm and 5pm on 18th June.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT**



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**R****S**

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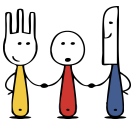
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## South Marston C of E School News

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### We have again been busy...

Our school breakfast club started on 3<sup>rd</sup> of May and is proving to be a great success. The club runs every day from 8am and the children have been really enjoying eating breakfast together before chatting, playing games and taking part in activities. The club is run by our fantastic school cook Caroline Horan and we would like to thank her for making it something that the children really look forward to.



On Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> April the school celebrated the Royal wedding by dressing up in red, white and blue and taking part in a number of activities including flag decorating, learning about members of the Royal family and hat making. We also really enjoyed decorating the school with bunting and having a special lunch complete with yummy wedding cake!



On Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May Class 1 enjoyed a trip to the Indian restaurant 'Jewel in the Crown' in Swindon as part of their topic 'All around the World'. They had a great time learning about the spices, folding napkins into their famous crowns, dressing parents in saris and even got to experience cooking in chef's outfits in their kitchen! We would like to thank the staff at the restaurant for their warm welcome as well as the parents who helped to make the day so successful.



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## South Marston Youth Club

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For more details please contact Julie or Steve Hatherall,  
e-mail: [hatherall24@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:hatherall24@yahoo.co.uk) tel: 07923 441 296  
June dates:

DAY	DATE	VENUE
Mon	6 & 20 June	Village Hall
Fri	3 & 17 June	Village Hall

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## Useful Contacts: South Marston

<http://southmarston.org.uk>

Parish Council Chair	Neil Burchell	T 827009
Parish Council Vice Chair	Stuart Young	T 828775
Clerk to the Parish Council	Gemma Cheal	T 820529
SMRA Chair	Mary Case	T 826038
SMRA Secretary	Julie Hatherall	T 826028
Village Hall Bookings	Julie Hatherall	T 07857 310624
Football Field Bookings	Chris Maull	T 824505
Tots & Toddlers	Rachel Case	T 832719
Youth Club	Julie & Steve	T 07923 441296
Gardening Club	Mike New	T 827807
Friendly Club	Brian McGlone	T 826243
History Society	Darren Cook	T 832999
Marston Minstrels	Maureen Withers	T 825660
SM Football Club	Nigel Franklin	T 766590
Spitfires Football Club	Bev Maull	T 824505
South Marston School	Alison Lowe	T 823379
Pre-School	Pre-School Staff	T 07847 590601
Saplings Children's Centre (All Sorts)		T 829996
Swindon Borough Councillor	Doreen Dart	T 762033
Member of Parliament	Justin Tomlinson	T 522123
Team Rector	<i>to be appointed</i>	
Team Vicar	Vicky Fleming	T 827021
Church Wardens	Richard Sansum	T 831473
	Donald Page	T 825693

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## Useful Contacts Stanton Fitzwarren

Some useful contact numbers for Stanton Fitzwarren are shown below, which our readers may find useful:

Clerk to the Parish Council	Zena May	T 702869
Village Hall Bookings	Alison Charnock	T 762093
St Leonards Church Wardens	Liz Hillman	T 762935
	Sue Mackenzie	T 765538