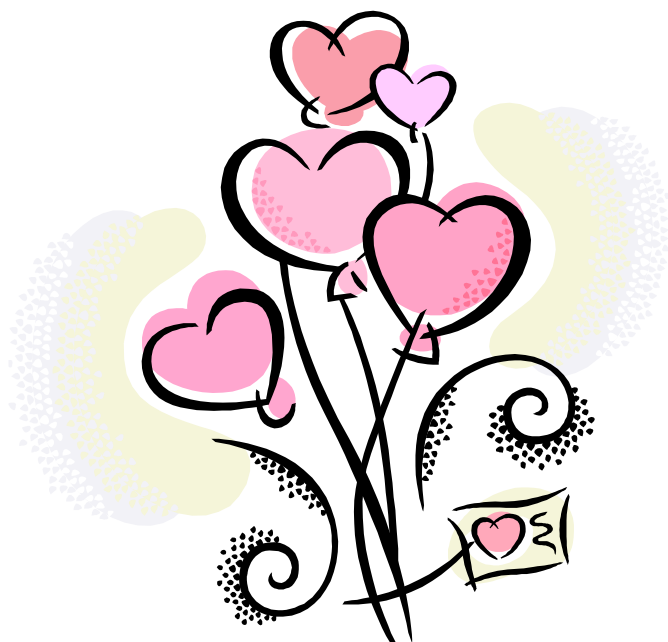


# Tower & Tap

February 2012



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## February 2012

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		<b>1</b> Tots 'n' Toddlers 9-11am Village Hall	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> <i>Mixed Plastics  Wheelie Bins  Green Waste</i>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> All Sorts SM School 1.30 - 2.45	<b>8</b> Tots 'n' Toddlers 9-11am VH  Craft Co 2 pm Dryden Hse  SMRA 7.30 pm Village Hall (tbc, see website)	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Youth Club 6.30 Village Hall	<b>11</b> Meeting Point 10am - 12.30pm Village Hall  Saturday Scene 4 pm Village Hall	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> Youth Club 6.30 Village Hall	<b>14</b> Friendly Club 2 pm Village Hall	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> <i>Mixed Plastics  Wheelie Bins  Green Waste</i>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> All Sorts SM School 1.30 - 2.45  Parish Council 7.30 pm Village Hall	<b>22</b> High Five 10 am  Tots 'n' Toddlers 9-11am Village Hall	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Youth Club 6.30 Village Hall	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> Youth Club 6.30 Village Hall	<b>28</b> All Sorts SM School 1.30 - 2.45	<b>29</b> Tots 'n' Toddlers 9-11am Village Hall				

Dear Friends,

As you read this letter I am packing up my home at the Vicarage in South Marston to move into the Rectory in Kenwin Close following my appointment at Priest in Charge of Stratton Team Ministry.

Its amazing how many memories are stirred as we take down pictures and pack up ornaments. We remember people who have given us gifts, places we have lived and worked, and holidays that we enjoyed. Not only do we remember with thanksgiving the past but we take the opportunity to clear out collected rubbish because George and I tend towards a 'magpie' lifestyle.

I found as I prepared for my Mothers' funeral with my four siblings, that we can sometimes hold on to unhelpful things like old hurts and misconceptions. The Bible tells us to forgive and it amazes me how often we seem to bury the hurts and not deal with them or just hold onto to them. I know its not always easy to forgive but unforgiveness holds us in chains and keeps us as victims. There are also long term implications for our physical, mental and spiritual health. I recently read about a study that showed people who forgive are physically healthier and live longer. The Lord's prayer shows us that there is a spiritual link between giving and receiving forgiveness.

Ash Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> February, is the start of Lent. It is an opportunity for spiritual spring cleaning in preparation for the celebration of the forgiveness and freedom won for us on the cross. Perhaps you have done your spring cleaning already or maybe you manage to keep your house very spick and span with a regular cleaning plan. But have you remembered your Spiritual Spring clean?

George and I take this opportunity to thank you for all the kindness, good wishes and offers of help we have recently received.

God Bless,  
Vicky Fleming

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# Church News

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## Christmas Gifts

At Christmas there was an opportunity to give a gift towards the church's fabric fund. I would like to thank you for your generosity; the appeal raised £798 some of which was 'gift aided' and will eventually yield more from the taxman. This is the best response we have had for a Christmas appeal so thank you again.



On Christmas Eve we had such a wonderful Christingle service with standing room only—we were able to send £200 to the Children's Society. Thank you for your support. Vicky Fleming



The next **High Five** service for children up to 5 years will be on 22nd February at 10am



**Saturday Scene** meets on the 11th February 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

## 'Craft Company'

It is so good to get together with others of like mind and share ideas, inspire and encourage each other and enjoy a natter while doing our crafts. Please come and join us on **Wednesday 8th February 2-4pm** at

Dryden House. More details from Mary Cooper or Vicky Fleming.



## Moving experience!

George and I will be sad to move to the Rectory in Kenwin Close—all of 2.2 miles but we still hold you very much in our hearts. I am still the Vicar of South Marston and hope to continue to build the relationships between church and village. Please do keep in contact and don't forget to come to Meeting Point so that we can have a chat. God Bless, Vicky

## Lent Course

### 'God is closer than you think'

Our Lent course begins on Ash Wednesday 22nd February, 7pm at St. Margaret's Church.

We shall then be meeting every Monday at 7.30pm in St. Margaret's Centre, Kenwin Close. The six sessions are as follows:

- |                                      |                                   |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. God's great desire for people     | 2. Where is God in my world?      |
| 3. Partnering with God today         | 4. Listening to the voice of God, |
| 5. God wants a relationship with you | 6. Heaven breaking through.       |

This is a journey that will help you to experience God's presence in the busy matrix of your life, hear God speak in ways you can understand, and discover God's desire to be with you in this moment.

We look forward to welcoming you!

## The Meeting Point

### Coffee morning with table top sales

(Please book your table by 9th Feb: £2.50 for people who live in the village, £5 for those outside and free to village organisations )



11th February from 10 –12.30pm

In the Village Hall

Refreshments provided by South Marston Church

Those who come often remark about the enjoyment of sitting down with a neighbour they haven't seen for a while with a cake in one hand and a coffee in the other.

We look forward to seeing you

## 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:

Priest in Charge	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

## Church Services

(at South Marston Church unless otherwise stated)

5th February	11.00am	Family Service	
12th February	8.00am	Holy Communion BCP	
	9.30am	Holy Communion	
19th February	10.00am	Team Service	St Margaret's
22nd February	7.00pm	Ash Wednesday Service	St Margaret's
26th February	8.00am	Holy Communion BCP	
	9.30am	Morning Worship	
4th March	11.00am	Family Service	
11th March	8.00am	Holy Communion	
	9.30am	Holy Communion	
18th March	9.30am	Morning Worship	
25th March	8.00am	Holy Communion	
	10.00am	Team Service	South Marston

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# Friendly Club

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## Recent Events

On **Tuesday 6th December** members attending the Highworth Warneford School annual **Christmas Concert** were greeted by the children and treated to a pleasant performance of music song and dance. All people invited were given a Christmas card produced by the children together with a Christmas Pudding. Refreshments were served during the interval.



Our **Christmas Lunch** (a carvery) was held at the Barrington Arms Hotel in Shrivenham on **Tuesday 13th December**. Members considered the venue and food to be a good choice. We were entertained by the Highworth Songsters which made the event most enjoyable. The raffle for the Friendly Club Christmas Hamper together with a Swindon Town football team shirt signed by team members was held after the lunch.

The hamper was won with ticket number 330 - Mrs M Hopkins and the shirt was won by ticket number 551 - Mr D Manners.

The South Marston School concert on **Thursday 15th December** was very entertaining. All year classes took part with some children giving solo performances. The effort made by the children and adult helpers was very much appreciated. Refreshments were served after the performance.

Our **New Year** entertainment began on **Tuesday 10th January** with a talk was given by **Lewis Lawton** on "**The Terracotta Warriors**". The talk was very informative exploring the known history and the efforts made by the Chinese in their restoration work. If you are able to visit the site you will be suitably impressed at its scale and size. Many areas are still to be excavated to show the whole army.

## Future Events

**Tuesday 14th February at 2.00pm in the Village Hall**

A talk will be given by **Alix Booth** on "**The history of Punch and Judy**"



### Tower & Tap

Please email items for the Tower & Tap to [kaylong@btinternet.com](mailto:kaylong@btinternet.com) .

The deadline for March 2012 issue is 15 February.

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# South Marston Parish Council

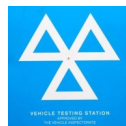
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## Parish Council Meetings

Members of the public are welcome to attend Parish Council meetings which are held on the third Tuesday of the month, at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. There is an "Open 10 Minutes" section at the start of the meeting where you are invited to ask questions or discuss an agenda item. It would be helpful if you could inform the Chairman at the start of the meeting of any items that you wish to raise or discuss. All agendas are published on the village website and on the village notice boards, prior to the meetings.

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

The Clerk can be contacted on 01793 820529 or email: [clerksmpc@aol.com](mailto:clerksmpc@aol.com)



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# South Marston School News

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**We would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year!**



The children are enjoying their new topics. The older children are even having a topic all about chocolate, learning about how it was invented and the famous Roald Dahl story of 'Charlie and the Chocolate Factory'. They are especially looking forward to trying some unusual chocolate recipes!

A sub-group of the governing body are in the process of looking into school travel arrangements. The school travel plan was written in 2009 and the sub-group would like to update the travel information that we have and then use this to formulate an action plan and prioritise improvements. Parents and pupils have been asked to complete a survey which has been developed in conjunction with the school travel advisor for Swindon Borough Council.



As a school, we are having a focus on The Arts and are looking forward to having extra visitors in and activities based around Music, Drama and other arts. Our whole school learn to learn day will be based around 'George and the Dragon' this term and we are all excited to see the creative ideas shown by the children. We are also looking forward to having our school sculpture completed which the children were involved with designing last year. The sculpture has been developed by local artist Diccon Dadey. Keep an eye out for it arriving in our school entrance soon!

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*OUTREACH SAPLINGS CHILDRENS CENTRE - Come to an **All Sorts** session where you Stay and Play with various activities, enjoy a healthy snack, sing songs and rhymes:*



## South Marston All Sorts

### at South Marston Primary School

Children 0 to under 5yrs. Expectant mums welcome

Tuesdays 1.30 pm - 2.45 pm (Term Time Only)

Drop in, no need to book. 50p charge per family

For further details please call Saplings Children's Centre on 829996

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# South Marston Recreation Association

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## Village Hall Christmas Tree

As usual, the lovely Christmas tree which was outside the Village Hall this year was donated by Dale Wildern. Many thanks go to him for another year.

Usually put up by Steve Case and other members of the Case family, this year our thanks go to Lionel Cave-Ayland, Mike New, Colin and Jenny McEwen for cutting the tree down and putting it up outside the Village Hall. Also to Ben Case and Mary Case for putting up the lights in what was rather cold windy weather just before Christmas.



## 100 Club Winners

### December 2011

£10 winners:  
Margaret Turner  
Steven Case  
Jean Franklin  
Lisa Haine

£100 Christmas winner:  
Ted Hayward

### January 2012

£10 winners:  
Ray Holcombe  
Audrey Lewis  
Ben Case  
Lionel Cave-Ayland



Congratulations to all winners and thank you for your continued support.

### About the 100 Club

Anyone is welcome to join. It's £1 per month, collected £12 annually. There are 4 x £10 prizes each month, with an additional £30 every quarter and £100 in December.

The **100 Club** is effectively the village lottery, with profits going to South Marston Recreation Association (SMRA) and used towards the upkeep of the playing field including grass-cutting and hedge trimming, and the purchase of new benches etc. It also helps to raise funds for the upkeep of the Village Hall.

At present the co-ordinator is Rachel Case, tel 01793 832719. She will be delighted to give you a number for the draw and arrange for someone to collect your 100 Club money.

We have 6 collectors at the moment - Jill Comley, Mike New, Richard Sansum, Joan Hayes, Rachel Case and Jenny McEwen. If anyone else would like to help with this (not too time-consuming a task!) please let us know.

**Good Luck!**

**SMRA meetings** are on the 2nd Wednesday of the month, usually in the Village Hall, but occasionally elsewhere if the hall is already booked. Please check on the village website to confirm the location if you would like to come to a meeting, or phone either Mary Case on 01793 826038 or Julie Hatherall on 01793 979287.

## Diamond Jubilee celebrations in South Marston 1952-2012



There are early plans to hold a street party in South Marston over the Jubilee weekend: June 2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> 2012.



A first meeting has taken place. We are now asking anyone who has any ideas, any interest in taking part in plans, or would like to be involved in any way to come to a Jubilee meeting on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February at 7.30pm in South Marston Village Hall.

Early ideas include road closure outside the school with a street party and Jubilee picnic tea; also a display in the Village Hall of old photos of villagers and village buildings from the 1950s onwards.

It would be lovely to see a good group of people interested in making the Jubilee celebrations special.

### Old photographs and memorabilia of South Marston

We are hoping to put together a fascinating collection of old photographs, memorabilia etc. of South Marston from the 1950s for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee weekend on Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> – Sun 3<sup>rd</sup> June.

If you have anything suitable, we would love to hear from you. We can copy photographs and other documents straight away, so you would not have to part with them for more than a couple of minutes, and we promise to take good care of them! We hope to put this display on in the Village Hall so there should not be any danger of damage by heavy rain etc.

Please contact: Mary Case 826038  
Jenny McEwen 825312  
Ray Harley 821793

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## South Marston Youth Club



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

February dates:

DAY	DATE	VENUE
Mondays	13 & 27 February	Village Hall
Fridays	10 & 24 February	Village Hall

## Great British Fish and Chip Supper – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2012



Want to do something different? Eat Fish & Chips, while raising money for charity? Hold a fish and chip supper on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2012 whilst raising awareness of spinal cord injury and supporting SIA's information and support services.

You can hold a fish and chip supper in your own home, at work or hold a larger supper at your local community centre. SIA will provide a fundraising pack containing hints and tips, recipes, invitations and donation envelopes. By inviting 7 friends and asking them to donate an additional £5.00 you will raise at least £35.00 from your supper but we will also give you additional fundraising ideas to raise even more money for SIA.

Last year over 100 suppers were held in England and Wales, raising £6,000. In the 3 years we have been running the event we have raised £20,000. The money helps the Spinal Injuries Association offer support to individuals who become paralysed and their families, from the moment a spinal injury occurs, and for the rest of their lives by providing services and publications which enable and encourage paralysed people to lead independent lives. Every year in the UK over 1,000 people experience a spinal cord injury and there are an estimated 40,000 spinal cord injured people in the UK alone.

For more information or request a fundraising pack call Elizabeth Wright on 0845 071 4350 or email [fishandchips@spinal.co.uk](mailto:fishandchips@spinal.co.uk) or visit [www.spinal.co.uk/fishandchips](http://www.spinal.co.uk/fishandchips)



**“Hold a Fish and Chip Supper to help spinal cord injured people live full and independent lives.”**

## MAD MARCH HARE

If your new year's resolution is to get fit, then the Mad March Hare event is just for you. This is our 5<sup>th</sup> year holding the Mad March Hare event and it takes place on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2012 in aid of Breakthrough Breast Cancer Wiltshire.



The 2012 event will include two distances of 5km and 10km that entrants can walk, power walk or run (fancy Dress is optional as in previous years!) around Lydiard Park, starting at Greendown School in Grange Park.

To find out more about the Mad March Hare events please visit our website [www.madmarchhare.org.uk](http://www.madmarchhare.org.uk) or contact the Organising Team on 0845 680 8064 or [info@madmarchhare.org.uk](mailto:info@madmarchhare.org.uk). Book soon to avoid disappointment—places are limited.

Profits from the event go direct to Breakthrough Breast Cancer Wiltshire.

If you wish you can also collect sponsorship money.





## Bluebird Care Swindon

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# R

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

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



## Useful Contacts

<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 07857 310624
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
Priest in Charge	Vicky Fleming	T 827021
Church Wardens	Richard Sansum	T 831473
	Donald Page	T 825693