

# Weaving a Rich Pattern Together

I do hope you will be able to come along to St. Leonard's May Market on 16th May. It is a lovely community event, and one of its highlights is the maypole dancing performed by the children from Marston Green Infant Academy. It was my first visit to the May Market last year and I have to say I was particularly impressed by the dancing. It was so wonderful to watch the children holding their ribbons, skipping and dancing, weaving in and out in time to the music. It was only afterwards I noticed the ribbons wonderfully wrapped around the pole. It was a beautifully weaved pattern, and it occurred to me that no one person could ever do that on their own. It really was a team effort. It got me thinking about the complicated lives we all live, and how they relate to one another. In a thriving community, individual lives interweave with other people's lives and like the maypole dancing, produce their own unique pattern. As we care for one another; have respect and regard for each other; as we join and participate in the many social activities on offer in our village; as we seek to volunteer and lend a helping hand; as we seek to simply enjoy life, may our individual ribbon help weave a beautiful pattern for Marston Green and continue to make it a lovely place to live.

*Rev. Tony Rindl, Vicar of St. Leonard's*

Eco Church

Nothing says 'Spring' like the buzz of a bee! But these precious pollinators are declining due to habitat loss, climate change and agricultural intensification. Wednesday, May 20th is World Bee Day, so look around to see how you can improve habitats for bees and other pollinators. Sow a pollinator-friendly seed mix, make or buy a bee hotel, let some wild flowers grow in your garden, and don't use pesticides. Let's support pollinators and pray that our pollinators populations will increase.

Dates for your diary

Date	Time	Event
Sunday, May 3rd	10:00	Parish Communion
Sunday, May 10th	10:00	Parish Communion
Thursday, May 14th	19:30	Ascension Day Service - Hampton in Arden
Saturday, May 16th	10:00 - 14:00	May Market
Sunday, May 17th	10:00	Parish Communion
Sunday, May 24th	10:00	Parish Communion
Sunday, May 24th	12:00	The Annual Parochial Church Meeting in the Elmdon Lounge
Sunday, May 31st	10:00	Parish Communion
Sunday, June 7th	10:00	Parish Communion

St Leonard's major event of the year is the **May Market** in the Parish Hall on **Saturday, May 16th** between **10:00 and 14:00**. There will be a wide variety of stalls and activities; pupils of the infant Academy will perform maypole dancing and there will be a line dancing demonstration; Jim

Campbell will run his model railway, which is always a popular attraction; refreshments will be served in the Elmdon lounge Cafe.

#### Our Folk

Please pray for those who are sick, housebound, or in care homes: Lesley Farndon, Ethel Gough, Marie Hartley, Shirley Mellish, Patricia Musgrove, Beryl Robinson, Rick Smallwood, Vicky Spedding, Rob Sale and Jim Williams. **RIP:** John Halton **Birthdays:** Lily Hewitt (18), Doreen Rose, Becky Smith, Pat Musgrove, Mary Swindell. Happy Birthday everyone. **Margaret Walton**, who does a fantastic job running the Parish Hall, is also making an impact as a fund-raiser. She recently organised an Afternoon Tea which raised £600, plus a further £250 from a Curry and Beer night. The next Curry and Beer night is on May 8th. The proceeds from these events go towards the cost of the excellent redecoration of the hall. A sponsored **10,000 Steps** event is being planned this month.

## Community News

### Marston Green 50 Plus

Members have a day trip on May 14th to The Quays, Manchester, home of the Imperial War Museum. There is also an optional one-hour canal trip around the Quays. On May 25th there will be a Social Evening with a quiz.

### Literary Society

On Friday, May 15th, the subject is **Gardens and Gardening**. Be inspired by the Chelsea Flower Show! 19:30 Elmdon Lounge. Please bring own drinks and refreshments.

### The Gardening Club

The speaker on Monday, May 11th at 19:30 is Gary Lever and his subject is **Late Season Perennials**. This month's competition is a Tied Posy of Spring Flowers. The club reaches its 100th anniversary later this summer.

### Marston Green Library

Date	Times	Event
May, 7th	14:15 - 15:15	Reminiscences Group
May, 14th	10:15 - 12:15	Reading Cafe - topic <b>Schooldays</b>
May, 16th	10:00 - 12:00	Knit & Natter
May, 21st	14:00 - 15:30	Writers' Group
May, 28th	14:00 - 15:00	Half Term Craft Session - book online or ring the Library 0121 779 2131. <b>Places are limited.</b>

Story times are 14:30 to 15:00 on Monday as usual, but only on the **11th and 18th** due to the Bank Holidays.