

THE MARLOW SOCIETY



Autumn 2023

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Front cover - Temple Footbridge notice see p.5 for transcription of the text

Co-Chair's Report

I hope you are enjoying a relaxing British summer! Thank you for all that came along to our recent AGM. It was a record attendance and we had an excellent talk from Parliamentary candidate, Anna Crabtree.

Your Executive Committee has been running our monthly meetings and we have been pleased to share our concerns with our local Town and County councillors. There is no sign, at the time of writing, on the "Film Studios" Planning meeting. The Society is again planning an objection to the latest iteration of their plans. The development, if it goes ahead, would create impossible congestion on the A404 and A4155, apart from the fact that it would destroy an important local lung of our green belt. These are plain facts.

Marlow seems increasingly marginal to the County Council agenda and the demise of Wycombe District Council has certainly made this worse. We have decisions being taken by individuals who have no investment in the town. This is clear from the peculiar nature of the Trust arrangement for Higginson Park. Income is derived from events in the Park but little investment is seen in return, with many areas in bad repair. A new Park Manager has just been appointed so we will wait to see if this makes any difference.

We will be focussing on key campaigns over the next year. Higginson Park is one of these. It's no surprise that our iconic Marlow Bridge is another. After the failure to install ANPR cameras the Bridge is still suffering from frequent over-weight vehicle use. The painting and repair to walkways has again been postponed and bearings replacement is very overdue. That's one campaign - another is river water quality and it's encouraging to note that Henley is already on the case here.

Look out for an enhanced social media profile from the Society as we make more noise about these issues. It is tantamount to neglect to keep postponing essential maintenance work. The outcome of this "false economy" is the poor state of Newt Ditch, the seemingly permanent closure of the pedestrian bridge at Temple and the parlous state of our town centre pavements. On a more positive note I am looking forward to the long awaited opening of our new Everyman Cinema, which as many of you have noticed is adjacent to a never ending series of Thames Water leaks!

I hope to meet as many of you as possible at our forthcoming Garden Party (details on the back page), and we will be setting out our stall as ever at the Marlow Town Carnival.

Andrew Wood

The Obelisk

Here I was, risking my life by standing in the road to take the picture on p.15. In my Chairmans' piece I refer to what is now becoming straightforward neglect of the assets of our beautiful town. The poor restoration of the obelisk (and the Frohman statue) sum this up very clearly.

/continued on p15

Planning

Film Studios

Dido, the offshore property company behind the Film Studios application, has at the beginning of July submitted new documents attempting to refute the findings of experts' reports by Bucks Council officers and third-party advisors. The updated documents cover Traffic, with a proposed traffic lights system at Westhorpe roundabout, new proposals for cycling and walking and information on Education and Training. The Society at the time of writing has not had time to examine these documents in detail.

On Traffic and Transport the Society contributed towards an independent review of the Dido proposals. The report highlighted multiple areas where the application failed to meet planning guidelines. Based on this report and our initial review of the new reports it is clear that Dido have grossly under-estimated the volume of traffic and the consequent impact on traffic flows and safety, especially on the A404.

There still appear to be no 'Very Special Circumstances' to set aside the Greenbelt restrictions. In addition, Bucks Council officers have objected to the visual impact and Thames Water have set very stringent conditions to cope with the extra sewage demand of 3000 people.

Seymour Court Road

Plans have been submitted for 8 properties on 89 Seymour Court Road. Members may remember that a previous application for 28 properties was rejected a few years ago. The application was refused because the density of housing was outside the Local Plan requirements and created traffic issues. The new application complies with the Local Plan and the applicant has engaged with Bucks Council to deal with traffic issues. The Society is not commenting.

Tree in Beaufort Close

The Society lodged an objection to the felling of a tree on Highways ground in Beaufort Close. The owner wants to fell the tree because there are pigeons pooing on her car. The tree is very old, established and subject to a TPO. The owner moved in recently knowing the tree was there.

5G Masts

Work started on a 5G mast in Henley Road despite planning permission being refused. Local residents raised the issue wrote to Bucks Council, our MP and the Town Council asking how can this be permitted. As a result, Bucks Planning spoke to the CEO of the mobile company and obtained a pause on all 5G mast installations in Marlow. There will now be a consultative approach about the siting of 5G masts.

Lack of Planning enforcement

There is a lack of enforcement of planning conditions. Examples include Lidl signage, disabled access into Portlands Alley and unapproved loft design in Claremont Gardens. These breaches of planning conditions have not been enforced despite being raised by residents and by the Society and others. We continue to draw attention of these issues to our local councillor.

Liston Gardens

Members may have noticed that work has started in tidying the gardens. We have been verbally informed that a contract has been signed between Bucks Council and Sorbon Estates (SE) for their use of part of the Gardens in front of the shops, but details are confidential according to Bucks Council. We were also informed that the work will be based on the original plans which showed restricted access, in particular these plans showed removal of the path which goes diagonally across the Gardens. This lack of communication and consultation caused confusion and is inappropriate as the Gardens are a bequest held for the benefit of Marlow.

In order to unblock the impasse, The Society reached out to SE directly. They have confirmed that there are updated plans. These take account of all of the Society's concerns. The diagonal path is being denoted as a Right of Way and will be retained but the main access route to the High Street from Liston Road and Cromwell Gardens will be in front of the shops to the north side of the gardens.

The Society is pleased at this development. The remaining concern is what Bucks Council will do with the rest of the Gardens In front of New Court.

Richard Parker

TEMPLE FOOTBRIDGE

THIS BRIDGE WAS OPENED ON 24th MAY 1989
THAMES WATER INSTIGATED AND LED THE PROJECT
WITH CONSIDERABLE PRACTICAL ASSISTANCE FROM
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL AND GRANT
FROM THE COUNTRYSIDE COMMISSION.

DONATIONS TOWARDS THE COST OF THE BRIDGE
WERE ALSO GRATEFULLY RECEIVED FROM:

Royal County of Berkshire
Ramblers Association
Wycombe District Council
Residents of Temple Mill Island
Thames Heritage Trust
Marlow Town Council
Hurley Parish Council
Doris Bunce Memorial Fund
R.A.F. Danesfield Club
Chiltern Society

Numerous individual members of the public

THIS BRIDGE WHICH PROVIDES A CONTINUOUS
RIVERSIDE FOOTPATH LINK BETWEEN HENLEY
AND MARLOW IS ON THE SITE OF THE TEMPLE
FERRY WHICH CEASED TO OPERATE IN 1953.

Janet Smith



Janet was born in nearby Wheeler End in August 1945 and lived all of her life in Marlow. After studying at Wycombe High School, she joined the County Library Service as a trainee librarian. Subsequently she attended Ealing Polytechnic, where she took Library Association exams, qualifying as a librarian in 1970.

She spent most of her professional life as a Children's Librarian, first in Slough, then for twenty-eight years in High Wycombe. In retirement she was secretary of the South Bucks Children's Book Group. As a teenager Janet had been a Guide, and then a trainee Guider and for over twenty years was associated with the movement, either as a Guide Guider or helping with local organisation.

Her father, who had been born in Bovingdon Green, took a keen interest in the history of Marlow and was concerned that much of it was being lost. Janet continued this interest in her retirement. She researched and talked on many topics including Marlow's Medieval Manor Hall, demolished in 1878 and today replaced by Tierney Court, Locks and Weirs, Mealing's, A High Street Furniture Business, Marlow Band, the author Kenneth Grahame, and the painting *The Roll Call* by Elizabeth Thompson. Most recently she spoke on Cromwell House and presented Zoom talks on Marlow's Career as a Pocket Borough and, in November 2022, Home Brewed, a fascinating and well attended talk on the history of Marlow's brewers and pubs.

In addition to her history research Janet played a very active role in the administration of the Marlow Society Local History Group taking on a variety of roles including preparing publicity material, Secretary, and, most recently, Chair of the group. She also spent many hours researching and responding to the history queries which came to her from the Marlow Society website or which were passed to her by other groups interested in the history of Marlow. As Val Beadle has so rightly said 'she will be much missed by everyone in the Society, especially those who value the richness of Marlow's past'.

Fuller information about Janet is available on our website in the 'In Memory' section.

Adam Baxter

Supporters

The Marlow Society is very grateful for the generous support given by local businesses

Burger's Artisan Bakery - burgersartisanbakery.com

Heighway Associates - haa-ltd.co.uk

LGP Solicitors - lgpsolicitors.co.uk

Mark Taylor Design - marktaylor.com

MKB Designs - mkbdesigns.co.uk

Seymour Taylor Accountants - stca.co.uk

Temple Island Management

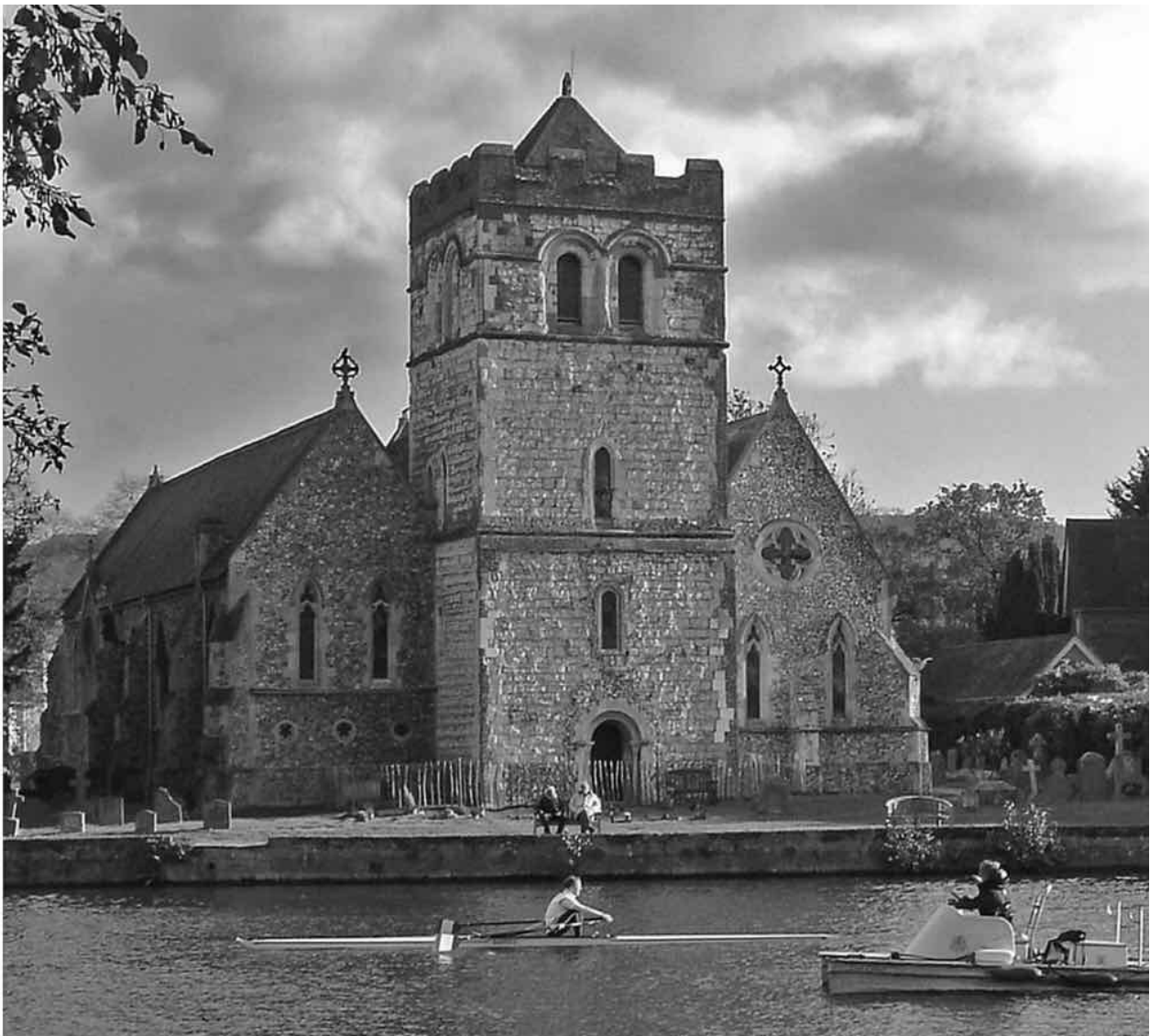
BCF

Bisham Church, Church Lane, Bisham, SL7 1RW

THURSDAY 24TH AUGUST - 1pm-3pm
ALL SAINTS BISHAM - CHURCH TOUR

**Be taken through the amazing heritage of this beautiful church
situated on the bank of the River Thames near Marlow
with Sheila our local historian**

£5 per person includes Tea & Biscuits
Book via Bisham Church Friends Website



www.bishamchurchfriends.org

Marlow Society Local History Group Talks

We have held a series of talks on a variety of topics over recent months. In late March we had a Zoom talk by Bill King who comes from a naval family with many local connections. Since his retirement he has expanded his interest in history and has been an advisor to numerous national and local television and radio programmes the best known of which are *Countryfile* and *The Thames, Britain's Great River* with Tony Robinson. He took us on walk down the Thames from around Wargrave to Maidenhead pointing out places of historic or other interest.

In April Keith Le Page, custodian of the Stanley Spencer gallery in Cookham, gave us a fascinating insight into the life and works of Stanley Spencer via Zoom. This included an explanation as to how he set so many of his paintings in Cookham, including religious paintings, and how, having had two wives, and being careless with money, he had a need to make money which he did by painting landscapes on commission.



In May three members, Sue Cheetham, Heather Adams and Adam Baxter gave an 'in person' talk in Liston Hall on three significant Marlow personalities of the early nineteenth century, William Francis, Headmaster of Sir William Borlase school, Percy Bysshe Shelley, poet and 'Hermit of Marlow', and Pascoe Grenfell, Businessman and Member of Parliament for Greater Marlow. All three were involved in the convoluted and contested politics of Marlow at that time. This was also the first occasion, since Covid, when we returned to 'normal' and provided tea, coffee and biscuits for attendees at the end of the meeting.

Adam Baxter

LHG Mailing List

We are continuing to develop and improve our e-mail list so that we can update interested members regarding events such as talks, walks and visits.

You may already have been receiving e-mails from MarSocLHG@gmail.com If you have not already done so and want to be included in the distribution please send your name and e-mail address to MarSocLHG@gmail.com and add that address to your e-mail address book/contacts list so that any messages from us don't get interpreted by your e-mail system as Junk/Spam/Bulk mail.

Visit to Penn House

On Friday 16 June, 15 members of the Marlow Society visited Penn House where we were met by The Earl Howe and The Countess Howe. We were shown around the house and key items of interest were pointed out. Penn House contains a number of important paintings and other artefacts relating to the history of Lord Howe's family and in particular to The First Earl Howe, who earned the title for his role commanding the British fleet at the sea battle in 1794, known as the Glorious First of June. This was a critical naval battle which defeated the navy of the First French Republic and introduced new naval tactics which were later adopted by Nelson.



After an absorbing tour, Lady Howe generously provided tea, coffee and homemade cakes while Lord and Lady Howe chatted to us and answered questions about various aspects of the history of the house including the period during and just after World War Two when it was converted into a boy's school which had been evacuated from London.

The visit proved to be very popular with members and, since numbers were limited, not everyone who would have liked to was able to attend. Lady Howe advised that the house will be accessible on 16 and 17 September as part of the Heritage Open Day programme.

Thanks are due to Lord and Lady Howe for giving us access to their home and generously giving up their valuable time to host us personally. Thanks are also due to Keith Ray, who made the original arrangements for the visit, pre-Covid, but who sadly passed away in 2022. Those attending gave a donation to the charity Heart of Bucks as suggested by Lady Howe.

Adam Baxter

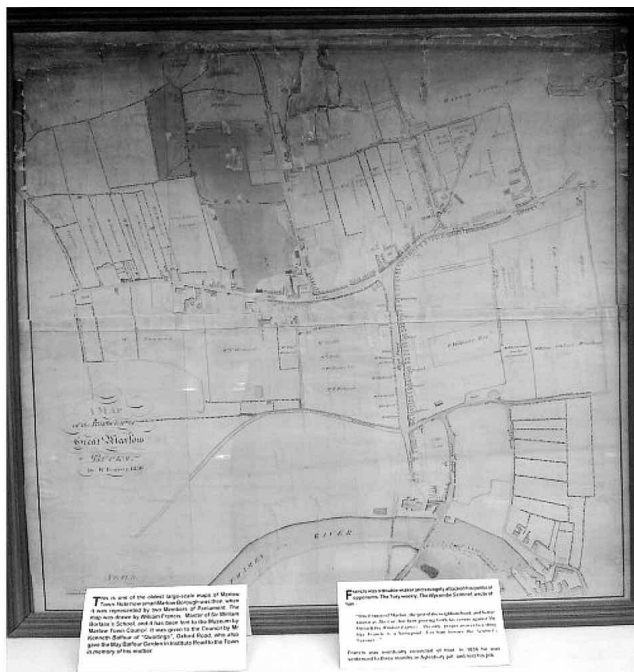
William Francis and the Parliamentary Borough of Great Marlow

William Francis (1774-1843) lived in Marlow for 28 years until he died in 1843. He was the headmaster of Borlase Free Grammar School for almost 20 years. He was jailed twice; for one week in 1830 for a breach of the peace and for three months in 1834 for libelling the wealthy Marlow brewer, Thomas Wethered. These incarcerations may have dented Francis's otherwise impressive reputation in society, but his story has several layers. After Francis's death, *The Reading Mercury* remembered him in this way. 'Of capricious intellect and various acquirements he contributed to literature and science, and energetically promoted the establishment of public rights and privileges having been mainly instrumental in opening the borough in which he resided.' The final part of the tribute to him reminds us that until 1868 Marlow was a parliamentary borough that elected two MPs to the House of Commons.

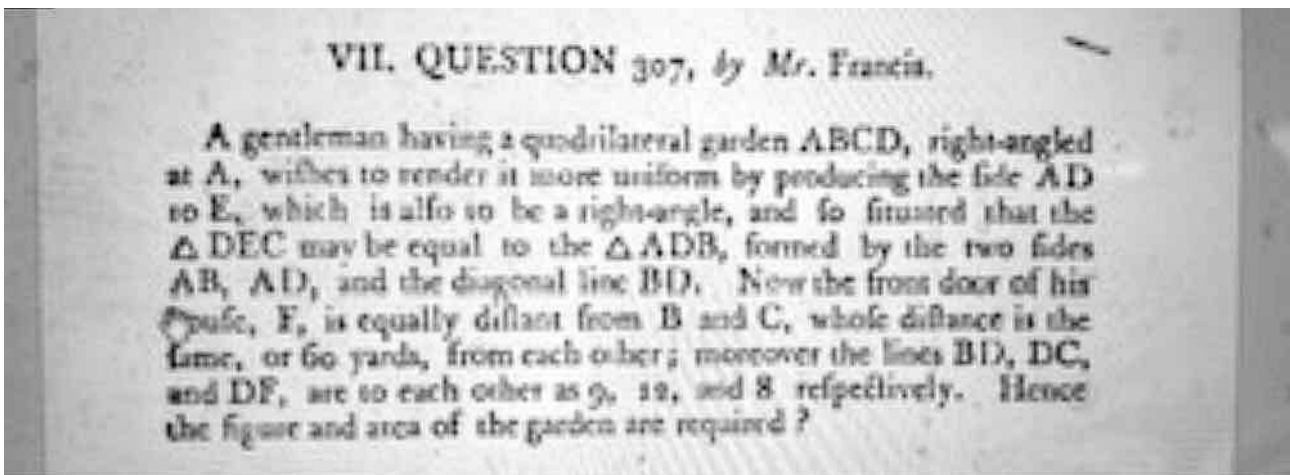
Francis had a gentlemen's education, becoming skilled in mathematics, literature, classics, and cartography. By 1793, he was a teacher at Hungerford Grammar School alongside his Headmaster father. In 1800 Elizabeth Banbury and Francis were married, and by 1813, they had two children, William Emerson, and Sarah Ann. From an 1803 testimonial he sent to a prospective employer, we know he was well respected by his contemporaries; his referees described him as a man of 'exemplary moral character.' In 1806 Francis wrote a book, "The Gentleman's, Farmer's & Husbandman's Most Useful Assistant, in Measuring and Expeditiously Computing the Amount of Any Quantity of Land, at Various Given Prices Per Acre.' It must have been popular as he added a chapter on Timber and Wood Measuring to a later edition. In 1814 he expressed interest to the head governor of Borlase, Thomas Wethered, in taking over the headship of Borlase. He started at the school in 1815. Borlase was lucky to have found him, paying him £50 per year and use of a house.

He was a respected member of the community, helping to uncover difficulties during the building of the suspension bridge. In January 1830, the Bucks Gazette wrote of him, 'We

owe, in common with others, a debt of justice to Mr. Francis of Marlow, for his bold and fearless attempt to unmask the pretensions of our Trans- Atlantic engineer [Mr. Millington]...' Tierney Clark replaced Mr. Millington, and it is to him that the construction of the bridge is credited. Francis also completed the map of prominent landowners of the town in 1830. It shows the location of the old bridge and can be found in Marlow Museum in Higginson Park. As his obituary in the *Reading Mercury* suggests, by the mid-1820s, Francis was involved in local politics, supporting the Whig faction led by Colonel William Clayton. The chief governor of Borlase, Thomas Wethered, supported Owen and Thomas Peers Williams, the opposing Tory faction.



The first event which led to Francis's imprisonment for one week happened in 1830 when he got into a fight with local baker William Hatch. Francis was 56 years old and slight in build. Hatch was a younger man nicknamed Buffer because of his size. The case went to the Quarter Sessions, and the jury found that Francis threw the first punch. The matter was controversial, with political undercurrents leading Sir Thomas Freemantle to say, 'This is one of those distressing cases in which two on one side and two on the other had sworn so contradictorily, leaving no doubt but that one party or other had perjured themselves. It was much to be regretted that party feeling could lead to such gross indecency.' The governors of Borlase did not dismiss Francis. Lawyers advised them that they must bring specific charges against him and were reluctant to do so. By 1835 Buffer Hatch was discredited, having been found guilty of several violent offences. By then, it was believed that Hatch had intimidated his witnesses to lie during the 1830 trial.



A maths puzzle set by William Francis in Leybourn's Directory

His conviction for breaching the peace and time in jail, most likely as a consequence of false witness testimony, must have been difficult for Francis. Additionally, his was involved in local politics supporting the opposite political faction to Thomas Wethered.

Nevertheless, inexplicably, in January 1833, he wrote to the *Windsor and Eton Express*. The letter was published anonymously accusing Thomas Wethered, whom he named 'Perfidy,' of political duplicity, among other things. Francis was quickly exposed as the writer. Wethered's son Edward had unexpectedly died only weeks before, and the family was mourning, so the letter appeared timed to hurt the family most deeply. Much of the letter was politically motivated, usual for the time. Still, Francis concluded the letter, 'Although the laws of the land cannot reach such odious misconduct the laws of the Almighty will, and relying upon the scared truths of the Decalogue, I think I already see the iniquity of the Sire has been visited upon the head of the son.'

Thomas Wethered brought a criminal libel prosecution against Francis rather than a civil case for damages. It took 17 months to reach the Court of the King's Bench. A jury found Francis guilty in June 1834, although he remained headmaster at Borlase until November when he was sentenced to three months in Aylesbury jail. The letter published in the newspaper was deeply offensive, but he had little opportunity to defend himself during the trial. Criminal libel law had something called 'the rule of truth.' The truth was always a defence in a civil action, but not in criminal libel. Indeed, it was believed that choosing to prosecute for criminal libel rather than sue for damages was tantamount to

admitting the allegations were true. As a result, Francis could not present any evidence to support the claims he had made against Thomas Wethered. Nor could he explain why he wrote the letter. It would be similar to accusing one of our newspapers of dishonest journalism, being sued by them for doing so, and subsequently, in court, being unable to explain that the allegation was made because they hacked your phone.

When William Francis left prison in 1835, he re-engaged with local politics by maintaining informal oversight over annual voter registration within the borough. His objective was to ensure electors were qualified to vote. The yearly process took many months, and the voter eligibility rules were complex. Challenging the legitimacy of an elector required organisational skills and courage to stand up to those who believed they had the right to vote. Additionally, the process required Francis to argue in front of the revising barristers. It was these men who made the final decision on contested votes. In 1841 the election result was referred to Parliament when William Clayton lost by one vote. The 1842 Great Marlow Election Committee reveals much about Marlow at the time. Francis was cross-examined several times about his voter objections and was not always impartial, as the following extract shows:

Are you in the habit of signing these objections?

William Francis - Yes, Sir.

A great many?

William Francis - I have signed a great many of them for three or four years past.

Are you the objector-general?

William Francis - The general objector.

I suppose to bad votes?

William Francis - To those I consider bad votes.

This is the blue votes [Whig], I suppose?

William Francis - No, the coppers [Tory]; when I have considered them bad, and occasionally to the blues when I considered them very bad.

William Francis died shortly afterward in 1843. His behaviours suggest he was impulsive, self-righteous, and curmudgeonly. Nevertheless, he was a defender of those less fortunate in the parish and, despite personal hardship, a champion of free elections, drawing attention to rotten election practices.

Sue Cheetham

Note:

Janet Smith helped me with an early draft of a longer article. Janet's comprehensive knowledge of Marlow's history saved me from making too many mistakes. If you want to read more, the longer piece about William Francis is on the Marlow Society website.

There is one matter I still need to resolve. My research revealed that William and Elizabeth Francis had only two children, but JC Davis's History of Borlase, published in 1932, refers to another son. If you have any information, I'd love to hear from you.

[Email may be sent to Sue via tmssecretary@marlowsociety.org.uk - Ed]

Editor's Notes

Society activity after AGM can seem a bit of an anticlimax with everything slowing down for the summer holidays. But the autumn programme is well advanced and is waiting for us to get back from sea and sun - please see page 19.

Our June weather allowed the Twinning Association to present Marlow at its best to our twin town visitors from Marly le Roi during Regatta. We even managed a tasting of *local* méthode champenoise wine. Saturday evening we enjoyed an excellent fish & chip supper (with mushy peas) at the George and Dragon. The visit finished on the Sunday night with a lively dinner and dance with a coronation theme at Christ Church URC (photo below).



Copy date - the next Newsletter should be coming through letterboxes early in December. To give time for editing, printing and distribution, please let me have pieces for consideration by Sunday 12th November.



Temple Footbridge.

On the cover is a photo of the noticeboard by the now closed bridge. The text is reproduced on p5. How our approach to the public realm has changed in the last thirty-four years!

George Lawrence

New Members

The Society is delighted to welcome the Members who have joined recently:

Roger & Jane Pryor

Riyad Tibi & Clare Booth

Sue Cheetham

South West Chilterns Community Board Environment

Marlow Energy Group is holding a Smart Energy show. The show will be held on Saturday 7th October at the theatre in the Court Garden Leisure Centre. Trade bodies will be there to sell their heat pumps etc. There may be a stand for Bucks energy assessors to give advice to low-income households on insulation etc.

Bucks Council (BC) have been asked if a Solar compacting bin can be sited on Marlow Causeway and is looking for a date. BC is looking for a sponsor for a further bin - these cost £4,500. [In Hamburg very similar bins can be found every few hundred metres, there is minimal litter on the streets - Ed]

Plans are being made for a Flood Fayre which was put on a few years ago by the Town Council and Bucks Council. Potential dates are Tuesday 19th September, 2pm to 8pm and Wednesday 20th September 9.30am to 12.30 pm. The morning session would be educational and aimed at schools It is hoped that the Environment Agency vehicle will be at the event to provide an interactive experience

Signage and air quality sensors have been installed at Holy Trinity School Marlow as part of the County Initiative on reducing car idling. Data is available online but is not reported to the action group. [Data: airqualityengland.co.uk, and select Bucks -Ed]

The A/G is keen to learn of other potential projects. Please contact TMS Chair with your ideas.

Richard Parker

Community, Economy & Transport



There's not been much to report from the Community Action Group since the last magazine, but Ray (left) notes that the Wycombe Talking Newspaper has joined with Marlow and Bourne End Libraries to inform groups of local visually impaired people about its service.

Economy has met once, George was unable to attend and the meeting minutes are awaited. County coffers have been boosted by heavy fines on Thames Water for un-notified disruption to the Town's roads - including the prolonged obstruction in Market Square.

Transport met and Olwen attended. A difficult but important decision will be needed on whether to accept the inadequate response of the County's previous Highways contractors to the dangerous conditions in Wethered Road outside Holy Trinity School when students are arriving and leaving.

George Lawrence

The Team

President

Sir Keith Stuart

Vice President

Dr Peter Diplock

Committee *(and some roles)*

Richard Parker, Co-Chair (planning / environment), Andrew Wood, Co-Chair (publicity / Chamber liaison), Graham Fletcher, Hon Treasurer (records), George Lawrence, Hon Secretary (*Newsletter*), Sue Cheetham, Olwen Elliott (transport), Ray Isted (community), Julia Pendlebury (outreach), Geoff Wood (heritage)

Local History Group

Adam Baxter, Group Chair, Heather Adams, Group Secretary

Trustees

Michael New OBE, Richard Parker, Geoff Wood

Behind the Scenes

Magazine distribution - Liz Fenley and the distribution team: Geoff Wood, Jane Savidge, Brian Ward, Trevor Kippax, Deborah Murphy, Michael Eagleton, Graham Sweet, Adam Baxter, Mike Post, Guy Greenhaus, Alan Crease, Roger Wilson, Mrs Lavers, Linda Niven, Alison Rae, Dottie Baynham, Andrew Milsom, Enid Briggs, Richard Pearson, Ray Isted, Gill Townend. *Website* - Kelvin Warne and *Hospitality* - Enid Briggs

To contact anybody on the team, please send an email directly (see Contacts on p2), or via Hon Sec who will ensure that your message gets through promptly.

The Obelisk, continued from p2



Although these structures were restored just a few years ago, there is already visible deterioration. We have reported the Obelisk damage to “FixMyStreet” on the advice of a County Councillor. The Frohman statue features in the Town Council’s rather vague plans for the Causeway, so we will have to see what they are intending to do there.

In this picture the Obelisk has centre stage but you can get a peek at the ever-approaching Everyman cinema on the left. Its sobering to think that the Cookshop on that site closed over 5 years ago.

To the right of the picture is the latest Thames Water “Whack a mole” leak and attendant cascading water across the road surface!

Andrew Wood

Local Voluntary Organisations

Transition Marlow

TTM (Transition Town Marlow) is a community-led initiative on sustainability and climate change that aims to strengthen the local community and reduce our environmental impacts through projects that are enjoyable, constructive, inspiring and produce positive change. It's constituted as a Community Incorporated Organisation (CIO) charity.

It's not a 'membership' organisation, but a group of local volunteers (including three trustees who are also on the Marlow Society executive). Anyone can get involved. The projects and groups are ever-changing and evolving, and TTM always welcomes new ideas. Marlow was the 200th community to join the movement in August 2009.



Market - TTM has organised Marlow Market since 2017 with local businesses selling their produce, food and crafts. In 2022 a second market per month has been possible thanks to the support of the South West Chilterns Community Board.



Wombles - keen to make Marlow better by tidying and gardening where needed. The group aims to help the well-being of those involved by providing exercise, socialisation and improving the community!



Repair Café - is an opportunity for people to learn how to fix their own items, rather than throwing them away. This can range from electronics to furniture, or from jewellery to bikes. Meets at Christ Church URC from 10am-1pm on the first Saturday of the month.



Relief - the new Free Family Trees Scheme means anyone with a garden can help increase the number of trees in Marlow by planting a variety of native species.



Active Travel - this TTM group created the Marlow Loop, a 4 mile circular route that's lamp post signed around the town, in 2017 with support from the councils. The group lobbies to maintain and improve cycling and walking infrastructure.



Community Grants - the purpose is for TTM to provide seed funding for projects which strengthen the local community and reduce our environmental impacts in ways that are enjoyable, constructive, inspiring and produce positive change. Grants of up to £500 are available.

Garden Party 2023

Your Committee is looking forward to welcoming Members old and new to this year's Garden Party. Sadly we are no longer able to make use of Barrie Lea's wonderful garden (see the photo below!), but have found a new venue at Marlow Sports Club. Here we will have the option of moving indoors, if the weather is inclement. There is also ample parking for Members coming from a distance.



The arrangement is slightly different this year - we are following the successful format adopted at the Sports Club by the Chamber of Trade. We will be issuing tickets to manage numbers (and so to ensure we can move indoors if necessary) and also allow the light buffet to be planned. But there will be room for considerably larger numbers than in previous years.

Drinks will be from the Club's bar, which has a wide choice of beers, wines and soft drinks. To cover hire of the venue and to provide the buffet a £6 charge will be made for the advance ticket that will be available from Eventbrite. The pay bar, please note, will be card only.

So please look out for the email with the details - and come along to help round out Carnival Day, where the Society will have a pitch.

Add to your diary: **Saturday 16th September, 5.30pm-7.30pm.**

Heritage Open Day



Saturday 9th September sees the Marlow Society celebrating 150 years of the railway coming to Marlow. This event is part of the national Heritage Open Days programme and will be held at a venue to be notified from 10am to 4pm. Entry is completely free and there will be something for everyone from nostalgic photos of long departed steam locos to railway related craft activities and games for children. Please look out for our posters round town and take a look at our website nearer the time for more information.

Geoff Wood

Calendar Notes

First and third Saturdays - 10am-3pm **Market** on Causeway; also **Repair Café** first Saturday 10-1pm at Christ Church URC, Oxford Road

Second Monday 7:30pm - **Society's Executive Committee** (not August)

Third Thursday 2pm-4pm - **Green Coffee** informal environmental matter - all welcome. Hosted at Ark Café in Marlow Methodist Church, Spittal Street. More about the Market, Repair Café and Green Coffee at transitionmarlow.org

Calendar

August

Su 13th	Town Walk	2pm at the Museum
Su 20th	Little Marlow Walk	2pm Spade Oak public car park, Coldmoorholme Ln
Tu 22nd	LHG Talk 8pm Liston Hall	Sheila Featherstone-Clark <i>Bisham Abbey - Estate to Elite Sports Centre</i>
Th 24th	Tour of All Saints Bisham	1pm-3pm, see: www.bishamchurchfriends.org

September

Sa 9th	Heritage Open Day celebration of 150y of the Marlow Donkey	See p18
	Victorian Marlow Walk	2pm at Donkey pub
Sa 16th	Garden Party for Society Members	Marlow Sports Club see the Society's website for ticket details
	Carnival, including the Green Village	Higginson Park
Th 21st	MAG Zoom Talk	<i>The Archaeological legacy of Lucy Lawrence - HS2 in Buckinghamshire</i>
Tu 26th	LHG Talk: Keith Parry <i>Marlow Bridge has fallen down. Who will put it up again?</i>	8pm Liston Hall

October

Tu 10th	MEG Talk: Martin Fry (ETSA) <i>The Energy Conscious Organisation</i>	7.30pm Liston Hall small charge for non-MEG
Tu 17th	LHG Zoom Talk	Julian Hunt - <i>Thomas Williams and the Williams Family</i>

November

Sa 18th	Smart Energy Show	Court Garden (free)
Tu 21st	LHG Zoom Talk	Ray Isted - <i>Cliveden and the Astors</i>



QR to list of Society events

Society Garden Party

Meet Members and the Committee on
Saturday 16th September



Carnival Day



from 5.30pm to 7.30pm

***Marlow Sports Club
Pound Lane***

**Advance ticket £6 to include entry and finger buffet
See page 17 for details**

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www.marlowsociety.org.uk

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