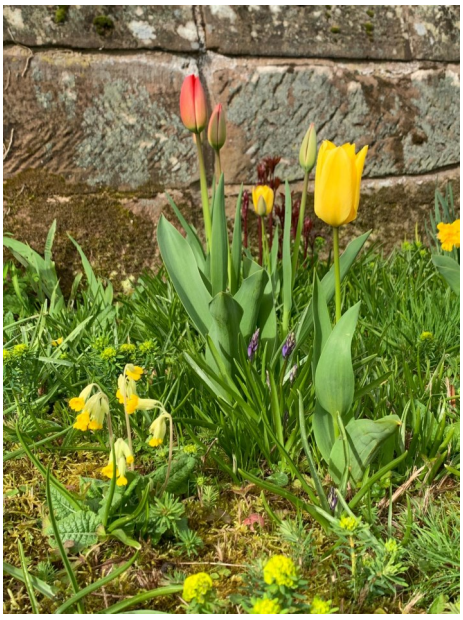
MARBURY ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH

AND

PARISH MAGAZINE

APRIL & MAY 2025



Clergy: Revd. Veronica Green (01948 663758)

Lay Reader: Ali Hunter Johnston (07967 955669)

Churchwarden: Jane Lunt (01948 662910)

APRIL SERVICES

St. Michael's Marbury

6th	9.00 a.m.	HC		
	Readers &		Beryl Fletcher	Isaiah 43: 16-21
	Sidespersons:		Jean Gregg	John 12: 1-8
13th	**10.30 a.m.**	SW		
	Readers &		Peter Hunter Johnson	TBA
	Sidespersons:		Harry Paton-smith	
20th	5.45 a.m. Sunrise Service & Breakfast			
	11.00 a.m.	HC		
	Readers &		Harry Shaw	Luke 24: 1-12
	Sidespersons:		Julie Shaw	Acts 10: 34-43
27th	6.30 p.m.	EP	Diana Thomas	Acts 5: 27-32
			Jane Lunt	Revelation 1: 4-8

St. Chad's Tushingham

6th	6.30 p.m.	EP
13th	9.00 a.m.	HC
17th	*6.30 p.m.*	*Last Supper Old St. Chad's*
20th	9.00 a.m.	Family HC
27th	11.00 a.m.	MP

St. Mary's Whitewell

6th	11.00 a.m.	MP
13th	11.00 a.m.	SW
20th	9.00 a.m.	Family HC
27th	11.00 a.m.	HC

St. Wenefrede's Bickley

6th	6.30 p.m.	Evensong
13th	11.00 a.m.	MP
18th	*2-3 p.m.*	*Good Friday Meditation & Prayers*
20th	11.00 a.m.	Family HC
27th	9.00 a.m.	HC

St. Nicholas's Chapel

27th	6.30 p.m.	EP

HC – Holy Communion EP – Evening Prayer
BCP – book of Common Prayer MP – morning prayer
SW - Service of The Word

Reflective Prayer is held every Tuesday Morning at St Michael's at 9.30am. Tea/Coffee and Space to Rest in God.

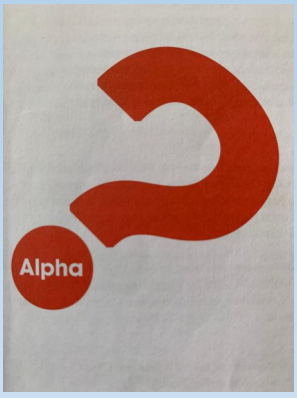
Advance Notice:

Is there more to Life than this?

The Alpha Course will be running later this year in Autumn.

Alpha is a series of interactive sessions to discuss life and the Christian Faith in an informal, fun and friendly environment.

Interested?



MAY SERVICES

St. Michael's Marbury

4th	9.00 a.m.	HC		
	Readers & Sidespersons:		Peter Thomas Steve Wood	Acts 9: 1-6 John 21: 1-19
11th	9.30 a.m.	MP		
	Readers & Sidespersons:		Trishaw Harvey Diana Thomas	Acts 9: 36-43 John 10: 22-30
18th	11.00 a.m.	SW		
	Readers & Sidespersons:		Sofie Paton-Smith Penny Allington	Acts 11: 1-18 John 13: 31-35
25th	6.30 p.m.	SW		
	Readers & Sidespersons:		Richard/Sue Evans Kath Johnson	TBA
29th	Ascension Day: Services TBA			

St. Chad's Tushingham

4th	6.30 p.m.	EP @ Old St. Chad's
11th	9.00 a.m.	MP
18th	9.00 a.m.	HC
25th	11.00 a.m.	SW

St. Mary's Whitewell

4th	11.00 a.m.	MP
11th	11.00 a.m.	SW
18th	11.00 a.m.	SW
25th	11.00 a.m.	SW @ Little Green Farm

St. Wenefrede's Bickley

4th	6.30 p.m.	EP	
11th	11.00 a.m.	MP	
18th	11.00 a.m.	HC	
25th	11.00 a.m.	SW	Moss Farm

St. Nicholas's Chapel

25th	6.30 p.m.	SW

Ascension Day Walk – May 29th Look out for details to be published on the Church Notice Board.

‘Early on Sunday morning, while it was still dark.’

Are you an early riser? I am. Mornings are the best part of the day for me - from hearing the first song of the blackbird, to experiencing the quietness and stillness before the rest of the world awakes. I find space to enter, and time to think and pray until the world catches up with me and the day breaks open!

The words above will be familiar words, especially to those who belong to a church family, for on Easter Sunday they begin the reading from John’s gospel and lead on to the dramatic and miraculous account of the resurrection of Jesus. They introduce Mary Magdalen as the first witness to discover the risen Jesus, no longer wrapped in funeral clothes and lying in the tomb but now in the garden, living, breathing and speaking.

Just as a spring bulb is buried in the earth and bursts out this time of year, at no ones doing but God the Creator’s, we hear of Jesus stepping out into the daylight from the darkness of the grave.

The mighty stone that blocked the way between Jesus and Mary had been rolled away, reflecting the significance of the barrier of death no longer holding us back from the Lord and His promise of New Life with Him.

There may be some of you reading this that question it – saying no learned discussion or research, no presentation of contrived evidence, no amount of listening to sermons and thoughtful reflections, no mutterings about mystery or miracles will make me believe that giant boulders move by themselves or that dead bodies walk and talk. I don’t believe it; I can’t believe it.

But these are not words to explain – these are words to live by.

A little like the Bible itself we can simply read its pages or we can live by its pages, learning from what it must share with us. God’s Word is ‘a lamp to our feet’, this means that it is there to guide and lead us. Without light there can be nothing, no growth, no understanding…

Mary Magdalen’s hopes were dashed with the death of Jesus on that first Good Friday. Like his other friends, the darkness of grief entered her heart until that moment of truth when the light of Jesus, the Son of God, dawned upon her.

The Joy and celebration of Easter comes from the recognition that Jesus, the Light of the World, can overcome everything, even death's sting and pain.

Mary found comfort, peace, delight, and purpose early in the garden that morning through the risen Jesus. She was the first to see and truly understand the events that had taken place and why they took place. Light poured into her life that morning in a way she could never have dreamed possible.

Each and everyone of us is given the same opportunity as Mary, but note that she had to make the first move, she came to find Him, and her reward for doing so was life changing.

May you know God's Light in your own life this Easter as it overcomes the darkness.

Veronica. x

On behalf of the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal 2024 I would like to thank all those who gave so generously; the amount collected was £163.

Thank you …. Lynda Bebbington

MEETING OF PARISHIONERS & ANNUAL PAROCHIAL CHURCH MEETING

A reminder that the meeting to elect Churchwardens (Meeting of Parishioners) and St. Michael's APCM will be held in Church at about 11.30 am on Palm Sunday, 13th April, immediately following the service. Anyone who is on the Government electoral roll for the Parish and those on the Church Electoral Roll are entitled to attend and vote at the Meeting of Parishioners. The APCM will immediately follow this at about 11.45 am, and although everyone is welcome to attend, only those on the Electoral Roll of St. Michael's are entitled to vote on the matters discussed.

If you would like more information about either of the meetings please contact Carol Sheard :-

text to 07960 748476 or email – richardandcarol.sheard@btinternet.com .

EASTER SUNDAY…

Easter Sunday is Special, so special that we begin by welcoming Easter Day with a Sun Rise Service here at St Michael's on the Church Terrace at 5.45am, yes, you read that correctly 5.45am! Come and welcome the dawn of the day with us as we light the Easter Candles, then join us for Easter Breakfast in the church…x

We then invite you to our Family Easter Communion Service at 11am, where the welcome to this special day and the Risen Lord Jesus continues. We're planning to celebrate in style, with songs old and new, prayers of thanksgiving, words of wonder, hope and love—and oh, did I mention the Bubbly and Chocolates?

The Joy of Giving…

Have you ever thought about supporting St Michael's but weren't sure how to get started?

We'd like to share a couple of meaningful ways you can contribute to the life of our beautiful church.

The Gift of Time: Your time and talents are incredibly valuable to us. Whether it's lending a hand to maintain the churchyard, helping with one of our projects, cleaning the interior of the building, or joining our efforts, your involvement makes a world of difference.

Financial Support: Every contribution, no matter the size, is deeply appreciated and helps us continue our work. You can make a one-time donation or set up a direct debit – whatever feels most comfortable for you. Regular support also helps us to plan ahead and continue serving our community with confidence.

Thank you for considering how you can be part of our mission.
Your generosity, in any form, truly matters.

Revd Veronica.

MOBILE LIBRARY every 3 weeks at
Holtridge, Pear Tree Farm; 2.30-2.50
Norbury, Gauntons Bank; 3.00-3.20
Marbury Village Hall; 3.45-4.00
Thursday, 10th April, 1st May.

PARISH COUNCIL

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be Thursday, 10th April—a postponed date.

Councillors have been working hard, liaising with Highways/C.E., to achieve improvements in local roads. Thanks to ALL those who have supported their efforts; it is very important to support your P.C., and is much appreciated

The P.C. is not responsible for highways, but does liaise with the authorities to bring problems to their attention, and will continue to apply pressure for recognition of the poor state of the infrastructure.

A Defibrillator/Emergency Aid course will be arranged for the springtime.

Residents are welcome to attend meetings; however, if you wish to speak at the meeting, please contact the Chair or the Clerk beforehand. Public speaking time is limited and only Councillors may take part in discussions/ decisions. Agenda and Minutes can be viewed on the Parish Council web-site: **www.marburyanddistrict.org.uk**

TO REPORT POTHOLES, HIGHWAYS PROBLEMS, etc., PLEASE USE WHAT3WORDS TO ENABLE THE PRECISE LOCATION OF THE PROBLEM.

PILATES: Mondays, 12.30—1.30 p.m. at The Village Hall: £5 per session. All abilities catered for.

THE VILLAGE HALL IS ALSO AVAILABLE FOR PRIVATE HIRE. Please contact Penny Allington, **07749 808308** for dates and hire terms.

The magazine has been printed by **Audlem Printers of Whitchurch**: 9 Watergate Arcade, Whitchurch. Tel: **01948 665920**

Items for the next magazine, June & July, should be submitted to Janet Makin, makinatmarbury@aol.com, by 15th May.

VILLAGE HALL

You are invited to the VERY popular **Bingo, Fish & Chips evening:** Friday, 25th April

Tickets: contact Maz, 07949 784308

Pay by BACS 20-77-85 80359807

Dates to look forward to !! :

Summer Hog Roast: Saturday, 28th June, 4.00 p.m.

Back to the 70s evening: Saturday, 18th October

MARBURY KNIT AND NATTER group meet every other Wednesday at the Village Hall, 2pm till 4pm.
Contact Beryl on 01948 664889

To book The Village Hall contact Penny Allington 07749 808308

Police are investigating a suspected 'courier fraud' scam in Malpas targeting elderly residents. This involves suspects impersonating Police officers and persuading people to hand over sums of cash or valuables.

Please be advised that Police officers will never ask you to hand over cash or valuables under any circumstances.

If you have any concerns, or believe that you or someone you know may have been targeted, please call Cheshire Constabulary on 101, or complete an online report on our website www.cheshire.police.uk

ATTENDANCE ALLOWANCE:

Try Age UK, Attendance Allowance : https://www.ageuk.org.uk/information-advice/money-legal/benefits-entitlements/attendance-allowance/

Successful claims are payable from the date of application.

Village **E**mergency **T**elephone **S**ystem (**VETS**) -
for defibrillator or other community emergency: First ring **999** then Marbury: 01948 302103
Norbury: 01948 302707

Care information is often time-consuming and difficult to access, so we are happy to share some of our questions and answers with you.

Question - I was told that the WaterSure Scheme might be of interest to me, but the details were sketchy, what is WaterSure?

Answer - WaterSure is a scheme which helps some people with their water bills. To apply for the scheme, you must be on benefits and need to use a lot of water either for medical reasons or because your household has a certain number of school-age children. You also need to be on a water meter or be waiting to have one installed.

If you get help through the WaterSure scheme, your water bill will be capped. This means you will not pay any more than the average metered bill for the area your water company deals with.

For further information contact your local Water supplier, details will be on your annual bill.

Question – Can I make a complaint about a local NHS service, to Healthwatch?

Answer - Yes, you can complain to your local Healthwatch if you are unhappy with the service you received from, for example, GP's, hospitals, dentists, chemists, care homes, care support services, etc. Healthwatch is an independent body that helps people raise concerns about NHS services, it can provide guidance and support in making a complaint against a service.

There are 151 Healthwatch organisations throughout the UK. To find your local one, just Google Healthwatch and your County.

Question – I wish to appoint two people as my Power of Attorney. What happens if one of the individuals dies, can the one who is left, still carry out my wishes?

Answer - Under Section 13(6)(b) and (7) of the Mental Capacity Act 2005, if multiple attorneys are appointed **'jointly',** the death of one makes the LPA ineffective. However, if appointed **'jointly and severally'**, the remaining attorneys can continue their duties.

Question – I want to purchase a pre-paid funeral plan, what advice can I have about purchasing one?

Answer - If you have a pre-paid funeral plan, your provider must be registered with the FCA (Financial Conduct Agency) and authorised to administer your plan. All providers must follow certain rules which include making sure your money is looked after and used responsibly.

The Financial Conduct Authority is controlled by the U.K.'s Treasury and Parliament.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: WHAT'S ON

APRIL:

Tuesday 1st	**COFFEE & CHAT**, The Swan, 10.15 a.m. Everyone welcome.
Tuesday 8th	**W.I. MEETING: 7.30 p.m.,** Village Hall Speaker: Stephen Shakeshaft: Chester Uncovered 2 Competition: Horse related item
Thursday 10th	**PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**, 7.30 p.m. Village Hall. Members of the Public are welcome to attend. Please contact the Chair or Clerk if you wish to speak at the meeting.
Thursday 10th	**MOBILE LIBRARY** at Holtridge, Gauntons Bank and Marbury Village Hall
Friday 25th	**BINGO & FISH & CHIPS** night, Village Hall
Tuesday 29th	**MERRY DAYS FINAL MEETING**: 7.00 p.m., VH.

***MAY*:**

Thursday 1st	**MOBILE LIBRARY** at Holtridge, Gauntons Bank and Marbury Village Hall
Tuesday 6th	**COFFEE & CHAT**, The Swan, 10.15 a.m. Everyone welcome.
Saturday 10th Sunday 11th	**MARBURY MERRY DAYS**
Tuesday 13th	**W.I. 98th Birthday MEETING, 7.30 p.m.,** V. Hall Speaker Matthew Lepp: A history of Soap & Bathing Competition: A soap dish

Tuesday, 3rd June: **COFFEE & CHAT** at The Swan 10.15-11.45

COFFEE AND CHAT
at The Swan in Marbury

On Tuesday 1st April,
Tuesday, 6th May,
Tuesday, 3rd June
from 10.15am to 11.45am.

All our community are welcome to come for coffee and cake and to meet friends and neighbours - a great way to get to know everyone in the lovely environment of the Swan.
We look forward to seeing you.

MERRY DAYS MEETING – TUESDAY 29th APRIL 2025

The next – and final ! – meeting before the big event itself will be on Tuesday 29th April, at 7 pm in the Village Hall – please put this in your diaries. Even if you haven't been able to get to any of the other meetings please try to come to this one – everyone's welcome, and it's never too late for offers of help!

The main attraction – and new to Merry Days this year – is the Ridgeside Falconry display team and their high-speed Little Nippers terrier racing. Ridgeside Falconry have an impressive static display of Birds of Prey together with breathtaking aerial demonstrations, and Little Nippers demonstrate fast-paced terrier racing, together with dogs navigating obstacles and chasing an electric lure at full speed. All dog owners are encouraged to bring their own dogs along on Sunday for the Fun Dog Show which Steve Leonard has kindly agreed to judge for us again, and of course Merry Days wouldn't be the same without Pinxton Puppets.

MARBURY MERRY DAYS - Saturday & Sunday, 10th & 11th May

Merry Days weekend is only a few weeks away – and it will be lovely to see as many of you as possible over the weekend, together with your families and friends.

Please remember that all contributions will be very gratefully received for the following stalls:-

Plants *- Sofie Paton-Smith is kindly organising the Plant Stall, which has always been a major attraction as well as a major fund-raiser over the years, but of course it has to have plants to sell so please start potting on cuttings, and generally looking out for flowers, fruit or vegetable plants that you would be happy to give. Bring them to the field on Saturday morning please.*

Cake Stall *- Jeanette Lawson (07795 171913 - jeanettelawson@hotmail.com) has very kindly agreed to co-ordinate arrangements again for us this year. Of course, it's very important that we have cakes to sell! If you are willing to do some baking for the stall please let Jeanette know. All contributions will be very gratefully received – sponges, flap-jacks, fruit cake, scones (savoury or sweet) and anything else – but no fresh cream please.*

Refreshments *- Ursula Stoddart (666109) would love to receive cakes, biscuits and offers of help for the tea tent.*

Tombola *- prizes to Bev & Frank Tanner (666036) or Carol Sheard (663087) please.*

Bric-a-Brac *- please bring contributions to the field on Friday evening, or Saturday morning as early as possible.*

Jigsaws - donations to go to Kathy - 01948 663838.

PARISH COUNCILLORS: contact details

Joe Briggs	Wood Farm, Wirswall	SY13 4LF
Chair		01948 663733
John David	Rowan House, School Lane, Marbury	SY13 4LH
	john.david@marburyanddistrict.org.uk	01948 666065
Tracy Leese	5 School Lane, Marbury	SY13 4LH
	tracy.leese@marburyanddistrict.org.uk	07525 976790
Janet Makin	1 Heath Lane, Marbury	SY13 4NE
	janet.makin@marburyanddistrict.org.uk	01948 665724
Rob Perry	Pear Tree Farm, Norbury	SY13 4HZ
	rob.perry@marburyanddistrict.org.uk	01948 666350
Philip Shakeshaft	The Croft, Norbury	SY13 4HS
	phil.shakeshaft@marburyanddistrict.org.uk	01948 666221
Marian Turnbull	Ginger Cottage, Swanwick Green	SY13 4HL
	marian.turnbull@marburyanddistrict.org.uk	07949 784308
Fiona Wilson	2 Bradeley Green Cottages	SY13 4HE
Vice Chair	fiona.wilson@marburyanddistrict.org.uk	07801 928925

CLERK, PARISH COUNCIL:

Debbie Foulkes clerk@marburyanddistrict.org.uk

Web Site: www.marburyanddistrict.org.uk

BOROUGH COUNCILLOR:

James Pearson	Beechwood, 151 Hale Road, Hale, Cheshire	WA15 8RU
	James.pearson@cheshireeast.gov.uk	07947 572785

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT:

Aphra Brandreth aphra.brandreth.mp@parliament.uk

Useful phone numbers and contacts for residents

PCSO 7149 Sharon Jones	sharon.jones@cheshire.pnn.police.uk or 07773 196887
Potholes	0300 123 5020 www.cheshireeasthighways.org FIX MY STREET: APP
Bus services:	Go-Too: 0300 123 5103 http://www.go-too.co.uk Flexilink: 0300 123 5110
Crimestoppers	0800 555 111(you can call anonymously)
Childline	0800 1111
Samaritans	116 123

vicar@stmichaelsmarbury.org
churchwardens@stmichaelsmarbury.org
admin@stmichaelsmarbury.org (Carol Sheard)
treasurer@stmichaelsmarbury.org (Nigel Green)