



# The Greyhound

The Official Newsletter of Marlborough Town Council

Issue no. 14 March 2006



**The Town Mayor Councillor Mrs Hilary Cripps**

The whole town of Marlborough and the community beyond, are greatly saddened by the news that their Mayor and friend, Councillor Mrs Hilary Cripps has died in office. Our first thoughts must go to her family at their loss of a much loved wife, mother, grandmother and great grandmother.

Away from Hilary's family circle the ordinary townsfolk also shared in the sense of loss that a good friend has been taken away from them. A woman who has loved and served the community well, as a friend and neighbour, a hard working Councillor and finally as a Mayor of this warm and generous town.

Following the private family funeral, a Civic Memorial Service for the life of Hilary was held on Tuesday 7th March. An event in which all the community, throughout the town and beyond came together to pay their respects and recall some warm moments in the life of this remarkable woman.

The Town Flag was flown at half mast from the highest point of the Town Hall until the evening of the day of her funeral, in honour of our well loved Mayor.

A book of condolences was opened and placed in the main entrance to the Town Hall.

## Remembering a life

### Well-Lived



## **NORTH WESSEX DOWNS – Sustainable Development Fund**

People living in and around Marlborough are privileged to live in a magnificent landscape. You'll know it as the Kennet, Savernake Forest and the Marlborough Downs, but it is all part of the larger North Wessex Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

The North Wessex Downs was designated an AONB in 1972 and is the third largest AONB in England. In 2004 the newly-formed Council of Partners agreed a 20 year vision for the area and a Management Plan which can be reflected in local parish and town plans. The AONB is a nationally-important landscape which is protected so that we can all enjoy it : walking, cycling, horse-riding, admiring the beautiful flora and fauna, and learning about history.

The North Wessex Downs AONB runs a Sustainable Development Fund grant scheme which aims to support local community groups carrying out environmental projects that help to deliver the Management Plan. All the projects will increase people's understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the North Wessex Downs AONB.

In 2005 more than £88,000 in SDF grants were distributed to projects in the AONB- you can read about them on the website [www.northwessex.org.uk](http://www.northwessex.org.uk) and go to SDF Grants. This year's grant scheme will be open from the end of February. To make an application for your project, please read the guidelines on the website before completing the Expression of Interest form. Successful projects will have the demonstrable support of the local community, and may involve young people.

### **THE ANNUAL RETURN FOR MARLBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL**

The Annual Return for Marlborough Town Council has now been signed off by the External Auditors please find a summary of the Statement of Accounts below as presented in Section 1 of the Return

	£	£
Balances brought forward	202,394.00	
Total receipts including precept	430,962.00	
Total payments		(443,343.00)
Balance carried forward	190,013.00	
Total cash investments	205,969.00	
Total fixed assets and long term assets	6,527,549.00	

The Town Council records with sadness the recent death of Mrs Thelma Feather. Mrs Feather was to be Mayoress in May at 'Mayor Making' when her partner Councillor Bryan Castle is formally declared the next Mayor of Marlborough. Councillor Castle wishes to thank everyone for their kind memories of a remarkable lady.

The Picture shows Bryan and Thelma sharing in the Christmas Day lunch held at the Town Hall.



### NEW HORSE TACK INITIATIVE MAKES ITS MARK & HELPS AIR AMBULANCE

Marlborough Police has successfully launched a campaign for marking horse tack, which aims to offer more protection for equipment should the owner be unfortunate enough to have it stolen.

Horse owners can take a number of measures to increase security around fields and the yards—locked gates and buildings, secure fences and hedging, CCTV if possible, guard dogs on so on, however if you should be unlucky and still fall victim to a thief at least if your equipment is marked in some way there is a chance it could be returned to you.

Horse trailers can be painted on the roof to be easily visible from the air, rugs can be embroidered with a postcode or even sprayed with a highly visible car paint. A fluorescent spray paint also helps to see your horse in the dark. One effective measure is to mark the tack permanently with a stamped code.

Only saddles are stamped, as the leather on the bridle is too thin.

Marlborough Police is keeping a register of identification marks, so that if tack is recovered it can be traced back quickly to the owner.

Officers from Marlborough Police Station will visit equestrian yards and premises in the Kennet area of both private and commercial enterprises and mark tack free of charge, although donations will be invited to go to Wiltshire Air Ambulance.

Marlborough and the surrounding area is frequently targeted as there are so many rural racing yards, livery yards and private stables. Without being able to identify the property stolen there is little chance of being able to charge them for the offences. By marking the tack and installing a sign to this effect we are discouraging the offenders from committing the offence in the first place. If a theft does take place, marking tack improves the chances of returning the property to its rightful owner.

If anyone else would like to arrange a visit to their yard, please contact PC Emma Brown at Marlborough Police Station on 0845 408 7000.



*Pc Emma Brown & C.S.O. John Bordiss working their way through a mountain of saddles*

## How Your Money is Spent

The amount of money Marlborough Town Council request annually from Kennet District Council is called the Precept. This year's Precept is £200,279, which equates to approximately £1.24 per week per property based upon a band D. The tables below show the predicted expenditure and income for 2006/07, compared with 2005/06.

<b>EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>2005/06</b>	<b>2006/07</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Administration	119,003	135,056
Grants	4,178	4,228
Corporate Property	3,082	6,000
Town Hall	63,565	66,820
Cemetery	18,868	20,150
Allotments	7,463	7,835
Open Spaces	71,715	75,050
Ground staff Maintenance	27,215	28,150
Chantry Lane Toilets	0	10,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>315,089</b>	<b>353,289</b>

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>2005/06</b>	<b>2006/7</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Administration	3,200	3,275
Corporate Property	67,820	70,677
Town Hall	30,658	27,658
Cemetery	12,000	12,000
Open Spaces	47,000	39,000
Allotments	350	400
Sub-total	161,028	153,010
<b>PRECEPT</b>	<b>154,061</b>	<b>200,279</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>315,089</b>	<b>353,289</b>

### **Marlborough Town Council**

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Copies of The Greyhound are available from The Library or Council Offices.

## YOUR TOWN COUNCILLORS

### *The Deputy Mayor*

Councillor B. Castle	513955
Councillor S. R. Dobson	512691
Councillor M. P. Cooper	514747
Councillor W. B. Cavill	516479
Councillor G. Francis	519067
Councillor Mrs E. M. Hannaford	513181
Councillor Mrs P. A. Dow	512074
Councillor N. Fogg	512656
Councillor M. Gray	514392
Councillor Mrs C. V. Jackson	515700
Councillor M. C. Curtis	515391
Councillor D. I. Parker	514004
Councillor R. J. Allen	511184
Councillor P. B. Cossey	512587
Councillor A. R. Ross	512169

### ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

The Annual Parish Meeting for Marlborough will be held on Monday 3rd April in the Marlborough Town Hall at 7pm

### SURGERIES

Councillors hold a regular surgery every month in the Library from 10.00am to 11.00am.

The dates and Councillors due to be present in March, April and May are:

#### **Saturday 4th March 2006**

Councillor P. Cossey (West Ward)

Councillor R. Allen (West Ward)

#### **Saturday 1st April 2006**

Councillor B. Castle (West Ward)

Councillor P. Cossey (East Ward)

#### **Saturday 6th May 2006**

Councillor B. Castle ( West Ward)

Councillor D. Parker (East Ward)

Compiled by Linda Chapman (Civic Secretary)