

# marlow museum

Court Garden, Pound Lane, Marlow SL7 2AE

[www.marlowmuseum.org](http://www.marlowmuseum.org) Reg. Charity No. 1187853

Affiliated to the Association of Independent Museums

Working Towards Accreditation with Arts Council England

## WINTER NEWSLETTER 2023



### Stewards: Summer Hours!

Our Summer hours start next week on March 1<sup>st</sup> and we will then need about **10** volunteers on duty each week until the end of October. At the moment we have only **25** names on the list of stewards. This means that, allowing for people being away or ill, **everyone needs to be on duty for two hours every other week!** So would you please:

- 1) ask all your neighbours, family and friends if they might consider volunteering for the museum.
- 2) consider planning your shifts into your diary for the months ahead. This would help a great deal.
- 3) look at the rota and tell Della, Sue Cheetham, or Barbara when you can volunteer:

[rota@marlowmuseum.uk](mailto:rota@marlowmuseum.uk)

Sue Cheetham, who you may know as a steward, has kindly offered to assist Barbara with organising the rota this year.

### Volunteers Get-togethers at Court Garden Café

These are going well, with 12-14 people each time so far. It's particularly good for introducing new volunteers to the team. We've welcomed Sue and Ed in the last two months. Hope to see more of you at the next one on **Wednesday March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 2pm.**

### Message from our Chairman, Mike

There is a certain buzz about Marlow already this year. When I walk through the town the streets are busy and the shops look welcoming. Numbers of visitors to the museum are slowly improving, just as we move to our Spring/Summer schedule of openings. That means of course that we need lots of availabilities from our volunteer teams of Managers and Stewards, so please do not hesitate to come forward.

A special welcome to new volunteers who have joined us recently.

I think we are all agreed we need enlarged premises to entice and interest visitors, so this is one of our main aims, as well as seeking to improve our standing in the world of museums.

Della will be explaining in this newsletter how we need to show we have local support from the community in our quest for funding. Read on.

### Our Community Survey 2023

Please take the time to complete our **4-minute Community Survey**, to help us find out what people really want from the museum. **You can find it here:** <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/DG3ZW9M> or on our website at <https://www.marlowmuseum.uk/> It would be very helpful for us to analyse the results, if you would complete it **online**.

However, if you would like to complete it on **paper**, it is available at the end of this newsletter, and next week copies will be in the Museum, Marlow Library, and Tin Town café in Marlow Bottom. If you complete it on paper you will need to return it to the museum by post, or pop it into our yellow post-box. Your feedback really helps us, especially when we apply for funding, when it can make our case more convincing since it comes from the community. Thank you. There's a prize draw too!



## Things to do in 2023



(Or perhaps to avoid?)

5-16 April	Children's hunt for Easter eggs in museum
5-8 May	Coronation weekend
18-21 May	Pub in the Park
13-14 June	Marlow Town Regatta
24 June	Rock Bottom in Marlow Bottom
July 27-30	Bucks Culture Weekend at museum
August	Children's activities at museum
8-17 Sept.	Heritage Open Days
Sept.	Marlow Carnival
31 Oct.	Halloween
27 Nov.	Medieval Day at Duke of Clarence
3,10,17,24,31 Dec.	Christmas Sundays at museum

We are looking for an **Events team** to staff stalls at local events. Are you interested in being part of it?

## Booklet Update – Fancy a walk?

I have just finished a complete revision of the booklet '**A Stroll Around Marlow, Then and Now**'.

It now contains two separate walks, one a riverside walk and the other a town walk. For each place on the route, there are images of it in years gone by and now. Useful perhaps when you have visitors.

As a bit of fun for a family outing, I've also added in a Quiz on each walk, so take a pencil with you. The answers, which can all be discovered in the booklet, are listed at the back of the book. The cover is now dark red, so you will know which version is which. The new one is £5.

## Research

Do you love local history? Would you be interested in spending some time finding out about a topic for a future exhibition? Finding pictures too, to illustrate the subject. It can be a really fascinating project to undertake.

It could be recent history, medieval, prehistoric or any century you like, as long as it relates to Marlow and its environs. It could be to celebrate the anniversary of a particular event. For example, Higginson Park is 100 years old in 2026.

We are always keen to hear from people who would like to prepare items for a new exhibition for the museum. We can also tell you what objects we have in store that might illustrate the subject.

Do get in touch with one of us if you think you'd like to try.

**Meanwhile, whatever 2023 holds for us, we wish you well and hope to see you soon at the museum.**

*From Mike, Della and all the Trustees*



## Community Survey



Marlow Museum has been in a small building near the entrance to Court Garden Leisure Centre since 2009. We would love to have bigger premises to provide a better service to local residents and worldwide visitors alike. We are all volunteers, have to raise all our own funding, and need to provide funders with evidence of community support.

### So would you please help us by completing a short survey?

You can do it **online** if you scan the QR code above to our website. If **on paper**, please return it to us by post **by April 7<sup>th</sup>** at the latest.

Completed surveys can be entered into a prize draw to win Two Tickets to Pub in the Park in May 2023 or a Book Token.

1. Marlow Museum is situated near the main entrance to Court Garden Leisure Centre. **Which of these describes your own experience and knowledge of Marlow Museum?** Please tick one box:

I have visited it at least once in the last 12 months  
I have visited it but not in the last 12 months  
I have seen or heard of it but have never visited it  
I have never seen or heard of it  
I'm a Marlow Museum Trustee, Member, Friend or Volunteer

<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>

Any other comments:

2. This and the next few questions are things that people have said about Marlow Museum. For each one, please tell me whether you agree, disagree or don't know.

**"A place like Marlow should definitely have a museum"**

Agree

Disagree

Don't know

Any other comments:

3. **"The museum really needs to be bigger"**

Agree

Disagree

Don't know

Any other comments:

4. "The museum needs a refit to make it more attractive."

Agree

Disagree

Don't know

Any other comments:

5. "The museum should be open more often."

Agree

Disagree

Don't know

Any other comments:

6. So that we know we have replies from a cross section of the community, please tell us your age:

16-24

25-34

35-54

55-64

65+

7. Do you live in Marlow or further afield?

Within 5 miles of Marlow

More than 5 miles from Marlow, in the UK

Not in the UK

Any other comments:

8. As you may know, Marlow Museum is run entirely by volunteers. If you would be interested in finding out **how you might be able to help**, please enter your details below and we will get back to you.

9. Thank you very much for completing the survey.

If you would like to be entered for our prize draw, please enter your name and contact details (phone or email) below.