1 John 4:16

Christ Church URC, Marlow

New Forum

Sept - Oct 2021



See page 3 ...

Dear friends

All good gifts around us, are sent from heaven above.

As we say goodbye to the raging heat and burning summer sun (don't you remember the 3 days we had!), we turn to the autumn now and part of our tradition in church life is to celebrate harvest (October 10th). I'm sure that at some stage of that service we will sing the line above!

It's such a comforting line that reminds us of past celebrations and harvests.

But you may also have noted that I have sometimes used it to give thanks for an offering. The gifts that are kind given to church through yourselves, money and other, are all good gifts.

So this line may take us further in our thinking.

What is ours? Our money? Our home? Our clothes? What if *all good gifts* around us were actually sent from heaven above? It changes so much.

Basically, nothing is ours, we may be just stewards of everything that is already God's.

We cannot help but be disturbed by the news of refugees from Afghanistan and other places. So many people trying to get to England. But the conviction and language of a believer surely cannot use the language of 'them' coming here to 'our' land. All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above. Possession is God's, always.

We must, at some stage, have been disturbed by thinking of life and death. We sometimes use the phrase 'someone lost their life'. We are so used to controlling so much of our life, but ultimately our life is a gift – interestingly – that none of us asked for! Is life ours, or a gift from heaven above?

So, what do we make of this gift, bearing in mind discussions about possible changes to end-of-life laws?

Our world is so beautiful... especially because we didn't create it! But we are damaging it. What is our reaction as disciples to what is going on with God's creation?

There is a really important conference taking place in a couple of months where important people will grapple with important global questions... But we must all take our place in caring for God's creation and remember that it is a gift.

Finally... harvest! Harvest is a time when we give thanks. We give thanks for food that we can enjoy throughout the year. Very little is only available to us at the time of 'harvest' – strawberries available all year round!

Does any of this match anything from the Bible? Consider the role of Adam and Eve in the garden... Consider Jesus sharing a packed lunch... Consider Peter's vision of food... Consider the early church sharing... I can't think of anything in the Bible that contradicts disciples having a very clear responsibility in such issues.

All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above...

So many things here, and all of them link to events taking place over the next couple of months, and all mentioned elsewhere in the magazine.

An important few months lie ahead of us.

May God bless us.

David

Sustainable Me (see front cover!)

Karin Feakin, founder of Sustainable Me writes:

Over the last two months, hundreds of Sustainable Me posters have been provided for the public at the Marlow Market, FourState, Satolla Cafe, Sara Hughes and Tin Town Coffee. Along with this, 2000 went home with children from nine primary schools across Marlow. Marlow FM have been talking about the poster and the different suggestions and actions we can take to help reduce our carbon emissions. We are down to our last few hundred.

3000 copies were funded by Marlow Environmental Trust, the Marlow Wombles, Transition Town Marlow, Marlow FM and FourState.

The idea behind the poster is that it is a gift, can be pinned up and enjoyed and encourages us all to take action. They are printed on recycled paper using vegan inks and the whole process is carbon neutral. I am in the process of making a few small amendments to the poster in order to do an A3 size print run. I have been offered funds from a few individuals to support the costs of this.

Churches Together in Marlow has now also offered to make a contribution. We at Christ Church are hoping to obtain enough copies to be able to distribute one per household to our members.

Churches Together in Marlow

- In August, St Peter's Church said farewell to Father Michael and welcomed Father John as their Parish Priest.
- St John the Baptist, Little Marlow, is hosting the next **CTM Prayer Meeting** on **Saturday 11 September at 9 am**. All are welcome. Please come along and join us in prayer for the church, the world, and your local community.
- The completion of the building project at Marlow Methodist Church will be celebrated by a service of rededication on 12 September and the opening of the Ark Café.
- A Harvest Supper will be held at All Saints Church Hall on Friday 22
 October, details to follow.
- The celebration and AGM that was due to take place last January will be held on Sunday 7 November. We will welcome new members of the clergy team and also formally elect John Rumble as the new Chairman of Churches Together in Marlow.

Lament

The last 18 months have seen lots of changes in our lives. Some have been good, but some have not been. Many of us have lost. We may have lost loved ones, opportunities, moments to celebrate, or moments to remember.

It can be helpful to have times when we lament, find an expression for our grief or sorrow. It was helpful for people in the Old Testament, and it can be a great sign of strength to confront our ourselves in the midst of our loss. With this in mind, on **Sunday 3 October at 5 pm**, we will be holding a time of lament in church. It isn't a service. It will be a time where there will be silence, candle lighting, prayer and music to guide us.

It will only be 45 minutes long, but there will be the chance to stay and sit in the church in silence towards the end for as long as anyone needs.

In an article I was reading the other day by Kennel-Shank, this section really struck me:

Taking the incarnation seriously means asking how our faith guides us to address the problems that affect all people. Christians are not lifeguards, Webber argues, safe and dry on the side of the water, throwing out flotation devices. Instead, we are "also swept along by the flooding currents of life" and in need of rescue by Christ as much as anyone else in danger of drowning.

As we move from pandemic to post-pandemic, I wonder how you are feeling? Tired? I'm not sure I see or hear of enough people saying how tired they are. Perhaps it feels like you have had an 18-month sabbatical and are now ready to jump into the deep end of life... or maybe not.

It could be that we are feeling tired. We may feel tired spiritually; and neither Zoom worship, nor worshipping back in our building has helped.

The reason why the above Kennel-Shank quote struck me is because it is possible that church has become tired over the years; tired of throwing out flotation devices to others who are struggling. This could drain us because we sometimes end up pretending that we are safe and sound on dry land, and not being swept along ourselves.

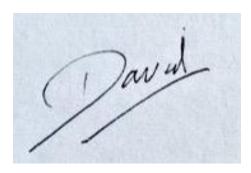
If you feel you have been swept along by life and that you should be the one giving out flotation devices to others, but can't understand why you feel a bit lost, or in a swirl... take a breath. It could be that you 'feel' that by being part of church your life should be sorted and everything should be tickety-boo — but what if it's not? If this is you, take a breath and brace yourself: you are human. Church is the worst place to have to pretend. If life has been tough, and if life still is tough, it's OK to reach out first and foremost to God and to be honest.

The institution of the Church has sometimes made people feel that they can't be honest, and what a spiritual crime that is. What does it mean to praise God,

hiding who we are? What does it mean to share bread and wine, pretending all is well? What does it mean to pray and offer ourselves... when maybe we are hoping that God doesn't realise what is going on in our lives?

One thing we can do, is bring ourselves to God – and grab a flotation device from God!

This time of lament on **Sunday 3 October** is open to anyone, people of faith and no faith; people who have answers and those who have so many questions. Feel free to let others know that it is happening. If you feel that this time will be helpful, then we look forward to seeing you, friends, neighbours, and maybe family.



Autumn worship at Christ Church Marlow

We continue to hold physical worship at both the Marlow and the Maidenhead churches on the first and second Sundays of the month. Maidenhead will have communion on the first Sunday or the month, then Marlow on the second Sunday of the month. For the third Sunday of each month, we will continue to use Zoom for digital worship. Then for the fourth (and fifth) Sundays we will continue with physical worship. All services start at 10.30 am.

Until further notice, all services in the church building will require you to book a place and wear a mask. Please use the hand sanitiser in the foyer on entering the building. To reserve a place, please contact either Valerie or David. For communion services, please bring your own bread and wine.

We are beginning to offer refreshments after services, but please continue to socially distance.

September

- 5th The Revd Alan Bolton will lead us
- 12th David will lead our communion service, followed by Church Meeting and election of Elders
- 19th Zoom worship (see details below)
- 26th Mr Colin Ferguson will lead us

October

- 3rd Mr Scott Wheeler will lead us in the morning service. There will also be a time of lament at 5 pm (see page 4)
- 10th David will lead our Harvest Festival and communion service
- 17th Zoom worship (see details below)
- 24th The Revd Daphne Williams will lead us
- 31st Joint worship with Methodists at Marlow Methodist Church

November

7th David will lead us (different pattern this month)

Third Sundays are Zoom Sundays!

You can use either a computer or your regular home phone. Zoom services are followed by a chance to chat over coffee. It is always the same link:

Topic: Sunday Worship Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82345181397

Meeting ID: 823 4518 1397

To join Zoom services by phone, please dial one of these two numbers and follow the instructions: 0203 481 5240, or 0203 901 7895.

Flowers and Coffee

We like to give the opportunity to people to help with flowers by dedicating the flowers on a particular Sunday, offering to pay for the flowers for a Sunday, or actually arranging them. But this does need to be organised. So, if you would like to be a part of this in any way, please speak with Janet.

Similarly, if you could help with coffee after church on a particular Sunday, Judith would love to hear from you. Volunteers for the coffee rota are currently needed for 5 Sept, 26 Sept, 3 Oct and 24 Oct. There are a sign-up lists in the upstairs foyer.

Tuesday Morning House Group

The morning house group is meeting on the first and third Tuesdays of the month in the morning at 10 am at Doreen McGechan's flat at 2 Baron's Court, Dedmere Rise, Marlow SL7 1XX.

At these meetings we pray together, read bible passages, discuss current affairs, and generally offer each other support in whatever our individual needs may be. We also enjoy a cup of coffee and a biscuit. But, most importantly it is the sense of fellowship which we enjoy together.

Sheila Blair, Helen Smith and George share the leadership of the group. If you would like to join us and need to be picked up, we can easily arrange this.

Please contact Sheila (01628 474447), Helen (01628 486030) or George (01628 481820).

URC Buildings Forum Conference – 14 October 2021

The third and final conference for 2021 is being planned for 14 October from 7.00pm to 8.30pm, the conference will focus on environmental issues for church buildings, including Eco-Church and Eco-Congregation. Please email mission@urc.org.uk to sign up for this event.



The next annual Ride + Stride (and jog) event will take place on Saturday 11 September 2021

Ride + Stride is the single largest source of income for many Historic Churches Trusts, enabling them to make grants to places of Christian worship. Taking place on the second Saturday of September, the funds raised can be split between the nominated Trust and the participant's chosen church or chapel.

Participants may be cyclists, walkers, horse-riders or drivers of mobility scooters. They can be of any age, but under-13s must be accompanied by an adult. All denominations are welcome, and local churches that take part include All Saints Marlow, All Saints Bisham, St John the Baptist Little Marlow, Christ Church Marlow and Marlow Methodist Church. You can visit as many churches as you like, planning your own route. Seek sponsorship from friends, relations and colleagues, so much per church visited or a lump sum.

See https://ridestride.org/ and click the direct link to Buckinghamshire. Details are also available on the notice board in the church foyer.

Ride+Stride is a wonderful way to enjoy getting out and about safely as well as raising much-needed funds to support grant applications from churches and chapels across the country.

Churches are encouraged to make applications to BHCT for grants to help with church repairs and restoration.

Lighthouse Marlow August 2021

Taking into account the difficult time that parents, and their children, have had since March 2020, and recognising the 'screen overload' that most of us have faced during this time, the Lighthouse Marlow Trustees were very keen to run a face-to-face Lighthouse this year. We are so glad that we took this decision as Lighthouse 2021 was a great success.

We made a lot of changes. There was no large Mainstage tent where everyone could congregate at the start and end of the day, and also no specific tents for craft and sports. Instead, every year group had their own space, where they were based for most activities. These tents were arranged as an amphitheatre so the children and their helpers could look out at the 'stage' where Cat, Gill and the band were based.



We still had a creche for pre-school children, a refreshment area for helpers, a first aid tent and registration area. But, to avoid mixing of age groups, there was no 'Lifeboat' (special needs) area and no centralised support for the children of helpers at the start and end of the day.

Parents were not allowed on site at all.

Some other measures were put in place to keep children and volunteers as safe as we could. The number of children was reduced, from 450 in 2019 to under 240 this year, and their arrival and departure was staggered to avoid large crowds at the gates onto the site. The timetable was also amended to stagger the lunch breaks for different age groups. We asked all volunteers to take and register a lateral flow covid test before coming on site and part way through the week; we were delighted that no volunteer had a positive test during the week.

However, the overall ethos was still there, with the same mix of energetic singing, shouting and messy games plus well organised sessions of Craft, Sport, Drama and Discovery. In the latter, the messages in Bible stories were linked to our lives, and those of children, in today's world.

This year the overall theme of the week was Hope, explored through daily episodes of a story featuring a team taking part in a pentathlon challenge. Screens in each tent were used to stream videos created by Lighthouse Central explaining the day's challenge for the team and how they overcame it.

Each day also featured a Bible story linked to the day's theme.

- Monday was the story of Noah, with the phrase 'I am brave' reflecting that Noah's decision to go against what everyone else was doing took a lot of bravery and guts.
- On Tuesday we had the story of David and Goliath, with the children being encouraged to consider what skills they have, perhaps a loving nature, intelligence, charm, a creative edge or just a willingness to do what is right. All these skills can be used to overcome our personal Goliaths.
- On Wednesday we considered how 'I can make a difference'. The story
 was of the Good Samaritan and in different ways throughout the day the
 children thought about how they can make the world a better place
 through selflessness and working together.
- On Thursday we focused on the phrase 'I am not alone' and the story of the Last Supper.
- Finally, on Friday whilst considering how the disciples felt after the crucifixion, the phrase was 'I have hope'. The children were told that hope is always there as long as God is behind us, and better times are always coming if we keep faith.

The 236 children who came all had an amazing time, as did our 183 volunteers. But the best way of sharing it with you is through pictures of some of the things that went on. If you want to see more, there are many more photos, videos from the 'Mainstage' sessions, and a video summing up the week on the Lighthouse Marlow Facebook page.

Thanks are due to our many volunteers and to the parents, church members and organisations who have supported us financially and/or in kind this year. These include Marlow Town Council, Marlow Methodist and Baptist Churches, Marlow Bottom Methodist Church, Tower Garage and the Co-op, Bourne End. We reduced our costs where we could, however this year our costs were greater than donations received to date and additional financial donations would help secure the future of Lighthouse in Marlow.

We know that it has been a difficult 18 months for church finances, and for the financial situation of many of their members. However, if you are able to provide a donation to support a place at Lighthouse for a child next year, please could you consider doing so. Each day at Lighthouse costs £15 per child. If any of the churches who have not made a donation this year are able to do so, that would be very welcome. Donations can be made through our website https://lighthousecentral.org/lighthouses/marlow/donate or by contacting us at marlow@lighthousecentral.org.

Sarah Jones Chair of Trustees, Lighthouse Marlow Lighthouse Marlow is a registered charity 1178062



Painting the Holy Land

WORTH WATCHING!

https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p062lmkz/p062lhxs

One of the best programmes I have recently seen via the BBC iPlayer recommended by a friend, is Lachlan Goudie's *Painting the Holy Land*.



He said, quote: 'I don't think there has been a time when I didn't know what Jesus looked like. Long hair, beard and moustache, often blond and blue eyed — right? Well, on a recent trip to the Holy Land to form a two-part Easter special for BBC One, I didn't meet many of this type of face. The European artists who first painted Jesus's portrait had no idea what a Middle Eastern carpenter's son would look like, but they did know what gods looked like — classical gods such as Zeus and Poseiden. Those were the first faces that became a template for the Christian Messiah, an image that has endured, whether on canvas, film or miraculously burnt onto pieces of toast.'





Lachlan treats this subject with the dynamism and vibrancy of contemporary impressionism, using block colour and loose strokes to evoke the city as a living organism. For those who have become dismayed by our seeming ever-shrinking congregation, this programme will surely lift the spirits. It shows Christianity is thriving outside our four little walls in other parts of the world. I see this in the faces of our ArtPeace friends despite their unimaginable problems. You do not have to be a lover of art to enjoy this programme as the people Lachlan meets and the places he paints are inspiring. His enthusiasm is infectious!

Johnston Simpson



Dear Master, in whose life I see
All that I would, but fail to be,
Let Thy clear light forever shine,
To shame and guide this life of mine.

Though what I dream and what I do
In my weak days are always two,
Help me, oppressed by things undone,
O Thou whose deeds and dreams were one!

John Hunter, 1889

Martin's updates

Garden

I've recently spoken with the contractor who is due to lay the 'Walk of Life' for us, and we are still on track for that to be done in October. The supplier of the paving bricks has advised a further delay in their availability but again we *should* have them in time so long as the firm sticks to their revised delivery date.

There will be 21 engraved single bricks when first laid, and 22 doubles. Thanks to everyone who contributed to the appeal by 'buying a brick': in all, this has raised just over £3,000. If you missed out, or change your mind later, there will still be the opportunity to have an engraved brick inserted at a later date – but not for some time!

By the way, our water bottle filler has now been used over 600 times – so that's a few plastic bottles saved from going into rubbish.

Treasurer's report

More cash has been going out than coming in recently, so please do remember that the work of the church needs your continuing financial support. Need I say more?

Autumn concerts

On the next page you can see the flyer for a lovely teatime recital for flute, violin and piano on 12 September – it would be good to have some support for this, our first concert in more than eighteen months. If you can bake, please let me or Jean know. Thank you!

After that, we have confirmed dates in the diary on Saturday 9 October (Brompton Quartet) and Friday 29 October (*Hoagy!*) which I told you about last month, and a new one of Saturday 27 November for a vocal recital by Fran Stafford. Obviously, there is some uncertainty about those later dates so we just have to hope that life will still be reasonably normal.

Flyers for all events are available in the church foyer, please do take them and pass them on to your friends!



Sunday 12th Sept, 3.30 pm

At Christ Church URC, Oxford Road, Marlow SL7 2NL

The Chiltern Collective

Programme includes Elgar's violin sonata, Borne's Fantaisie Brillante for flute on Bizet's Carmen, and trios by Nino Rota and Martinu



Nicola Summerscales, flute Samantha Wickramasinghe, violin Marisa Cornford, piano

Ticket includes interval tea and cake

Tickets £12 from www.ticketsource.co.uk/musicinmarlow(no fee) or phone 01628 486227. See more at www.musicinmarlow.org.uk

From recent Wessex Synod Newsletters ...

Area Gathering

On **Wednesday 15 September** there will be an 'in person' Area Gathering at Wheatley URC Wheatley URC. Topic: Reporting back from General Assembly. Tea/Coffee at 6.30pm for a 7pm start – finishing by 9.15pm. All welcome.

Richard Becher

Congratulations to **Richard Becher** (currently in West Midlands Synod) who has been appointed to serve at Lymington URC. Richard will start his new ministry on 1st October.

URC Wessex Synod - Big Day Out - change of date

This will now be on 7 May 2022 from 11 am to 5 pm at Hollycombe Steam Fair and Museum near Liss. Wessex Synod will have sole use of the whole site.

Theme: Jubilee: 50th anniversary of the URC!

Holy Family, Blackbird Leys, Oxford – New Build news and fundraising appeal

Planning Permission was granted by Oxford City Council both to demolish and rebuild the site. It is extremely rare for permission be given to demolish a Listed building, but after 4 years of hard work by their team they are very pleased that they can start the major fundraising and soon be able to start on the project.

Their lovely church was condemned in December 2018 but they now have planning permission, subject to the Secretary of State's final approval, to go ahead and build a new church and community cafe, hall, and incubator spaces along with 20 flats as affordable housing.

The community will be well served going forwards with a fit-for-purpose, environmentally and user-friendly building, taking us forward into the next decades.

To read about the project take a look at this link:

https://wessexsynodurc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Holy-Family-Church-in-Blackbird-Leys.docx

Little Amal

Do you already know about Little Amal, the giant puppet walking from Turkey to Manchester (some 8,000 kms) to draw attention to the challenges faced by refugees? If you haven't already heard about her and her amazing journey, see all the background at <a href="https://doi.org/10.2012/nate-1

Currently, Amal is on her way through Greece. You can keep up with her journey and see where she's reached at key moments on several social media platforms, including <u>facebook.com/walkwithamal</u>

An inspiring read:

Meet Little Amal, the puppet girl refugee about to walk 8,000km

https://www.theguardian.com/stage/2021/jul/04/meet-little-amal-the-puppet-girl-refugee-about-to-walk-8000km



Pessimism is for lightweights

by Salena Godden

Think of those that marched this road before And those that will march here in years to come. The road in shadow and the road in the sun, The road before us and the road all done. History is watching us and what will we become.

There is power and strength in optimism,
To have faith and to stay true to you
Because if you can look in the mirror
And have belief and promise you
Will share wonder in living things,
Beauty, dreams, books and art.
Love your neighbour and be kind
And have an open heart.

Then you're already winning at living, You speak up, you show up and stand tall. It's silence that is complicit, It's apathy that hurts us all. Pessimism is for lightweights.

There is no straight white line, It's the bumps and curves and obstacles That make this time yours and mine. Pessimism is for lightweights.

Pessimism is for lightweights.
This road is never easy and straight
And living is all about living alive and lively
And love will conquer hate.

A week on Iona

It was a nostalgia trip back to Iona this summer. I'd visited the island several times as a student and one year I worked in the Abbey for a month as musician. The last time I was there it was just a short visit with the family nearly 20 years ago. But in 2019 when Martin and I were in the Lake District I met up with an old friend of mine who had worked with me in the Abbey, and we decided we needed to pay a return visit. So we got in touch with the Abbey and booked. Then Covid struck and the trip was postponed. It seemed we would never get there – but we did!



This was the view from my window, looking across the sound to Mull. The weather was wonderful all week, lots of sunshine and only a few spots of rain. We even swam off the west coast!

The accommodation for guests in the Abbey has recently been upgraded following a major appeal, and though basic it was clean and comfortable. There were only nine guests in the Abbey the week I was there, so the staff (mostly volunteers) outnumbered us by at least 2 to 1. We ate communally at long tables in the refectory, socially distanced but not so far apart that we couldn't chat, and we shared a few household chores – my job was sanitising the choir stalls!

There was quite a full programme for Abbey guests. The week I went on was titled 'Time and Space'. The idea was to experience 'life in community', learn about the concerns of the Iona Community (for inclusion, sustainability, and mutual accountability) and share thoughts and wisdom about the challenges we face in our lives and our world. There was worship (including singing!) and reflection every morning and evening, daily discussions, a pilgrimage around the island, and 'creative expression' (this consisted mainly of doodling and painting stones, a deliberate effort to slow the pace). The pilgrimage included a visit to the marble quarry (rusty relics of an industry that operated until WW1) and St Columba's Bay where we collected smooth pebbles of Iona marble with the tell-tale serpentine (greenish) tinge. We also had a tour of the Abbey by Historic Environment Scotland which gave us all the history we needed to know.

One thing I found rewarding was setting about writing my own Psalm, well not exactly writing, but amending and updating a Psalm to make it relevant to my experience of lockdown and the climate crisis. Maybe this is something we could do in our church. You might like to read a Psalm written by one of our group. This was used in our worship on the final evening.

Lockdown Psalm 23

You, oystercatcher, are my guide I need nothing more.

I follow your call up to the North End across the machair to the strand -

you sit on a rock while I paddle in still waters.

All through these dark months I've not been afraid -

my ferry was booked my bed was waiting.

You spread your wings to fly off over the sound

and I return home with sand between my toes.



Michael Portillo was on the island while we were there, filming for a series on the British coastline to be shown next year. His tall-masted ship was anchored in the sound for two days.

In our spare time we explored the island, climbed Dun-I (the only hill) and paddled up at North End and at Sandeels Bay. A huge bonus was the trip to Staffa (half an hour by boat from Iona) to see Fingal's Cave and the puffin colonies. What a magical day that was! The puffins were adorable, and it was amazing how close they let us get to them. Martin was able to join us for the Staffa trip (he was walking on Mull while I was on Iona).



Because our group was to lead worship on the final evening, I decided there was a need to re-acquaint myself with the music loft in the Abbey. If you know Peter Maxwell-Davies's 'Farewell to Stromness' you can imagine how much I enjoyed playing.

There is a quote from Samuel Johnson outside the Heritage Centre on Iona: "That man is little to be envied, whose piety would not grow warmer among the ruins of Iona". If you can make the trip, you won't be disappointed. No TV, no traffic, no pubs, no cinema, just time and space and lots of fresh air!

Jean Ashford



Hugging – The Perfect Solution

No moving parts to go wrong
No batteries to replace or recharge
No servicing or upgrades required
No insurance or monthly repayments to consider
Non-taxable and inflation-proof
No small print, passwords or cookies to worry you
Totally organic and non-polluting
Free and Fully Returnable

Contributed by Vic Sharp



Christ Church United Reformed Church Oxford Road, Marlow, Bucks SL7 2NL

Sundays 10.30 am – Morning Worship Holy Communion normally every second Sunday in the month

Joint Worship with Maidenhead URC on Zoom every third Sunday in the month

Minister

Revd David Downing

Manse phone: 01628 634281 Mobile: 07967 502710 Email: revmandm@gmail.com

er
d
se
m
N
'

www.christchurch-marlow.org.uk

New Forum

Please send copy for the next issue to the editor by Sunday 24 October – email jeanashford@yahoo.com