

Parish Council News  
Sports and Social Club

Church News

Village Hall

Gardening Club

Book Club

## The end of an era at the Horseshoe

A packed pub and a night of live music was the perfect opportunity to say a heartfelt "Thank You" to Pam and John Desmond as they make their plans to retire from the pub after 22 years as landlords. A specially commissioned water colour of the Horseshoe, complete with its colourful summer garden, was presented to them by villagers and friends along with vouchers to help their next garden carry on John's tradition of a beautifully kept green space.



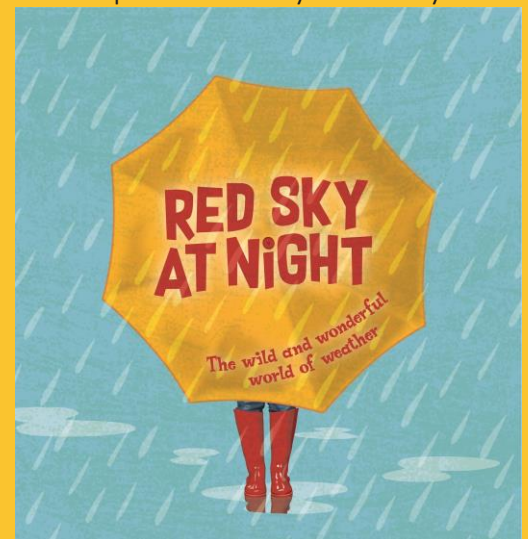
Over the years, Pam and John have hosted countless weddings, funerals, parties, festive celebrations, New Year's Eves, music events, pub quizzes, pool and crib tournaments, village club and society meetings, barbecues, and even occasional days out to the races. A lake of beer and wine has passed across the bar, thousands of meals served, hundreds of plants tended, acres of grass mown. The bar has seen the whole glorious spectrum of joy and sadness that village life creates – stories have been shared, gossip passed on, contacts made and friendships have blossomed.

The walls have rung with laughter.

**Minal raises a glass to Pam and John to say thanks and wish them the very best for their next chapter.**

**Save the  
date !**

**Mikron Theatre return with  
Red Sky at Night**  
7pm on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July



**AND the Village Fete**  
2pm on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> July

**it's all going to be going on  
at the Sports Field that  
weekend.**

## Sports Fixtures

The Marlborough Youth Football league games are played every Saturday and Sunday morning at 9am on the Minal Sports field.

The cricket season resumes at the end of April with a first home game on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Why not come and join the Minal team?**

Contact Ashley Miles on  
07594 762541 for details.



## MINAL CHURCH

Church services are held every Sunday at St. John the Baptist Church, Minal at 9am. Other dates to note :

2 March – Ash Wednesday  
27 March – Mothering Sunday  
10 April – Palm Sunday  
14 April – Maundy Thursday  
15 April – Good Friday  
17 April – Easter Sunday

Lent group is taking place on Fridays 11th March - 8th April at 11am -12 noon, each week. This year we're talking about the film/book Les Miserables and all the themes raised with in it like kindness and forgiveness. All welcome. Contact Sarah Musgrave on 01672-511286

Get involved with some 'citizen science' through [www.fruitwatch.org](http://www.fruitwatch.org)



Reading University, with Oracle Research, are asking as many people as possible to contribute to an important national project by simply logging the times of the opening of blossom on your fruit trees this spring. All details in the link above.

### BOOK CLUB

The next meeting will be on Thursday 31 March, to share thoughts on "The Heart's Invisible Furies" by John Boyne. We meet on the last Thursday of the month, usually in The Horseshoe. New members welcome. Please contact Deirdre Watson on 512729 or [dwatsonweavers@gmail.com](mailto:dwatsonweavers@gmail.com)

### Acoustic Night at The Shoe

*There will be a temporary break from our monthly music night whilst the new pub owners get acclimatised.*

### Fiesty Fish Van

At the village Hall car park on Wednesday evening, March 2<sup>nd</sup> 5pm – 8pm. More info at [www.fiesty-fish.co.uk](http://www.fiesty-fish.co.uk)

### Lavender Row Plants

Returning to the village Hall car park on Saturday mornings soon. Keep an eye on [www.facebook.com/lavenderrownursery](https://www.facebook.com/lavenderrownursery)

## Helping People in Ukraine

These are two key routes to make donations: **The British Red Cross Ukraine crisis appeal** and **HelpUkraine Emergency Appeal**, set up by the Association of Ukrainians in Great Britain (AUGB)

The country has urged the wider public to be selective about the news stories they read and share, to help curb the spread of disinformation, which is a known tactic of war.

**Please only share trusted information**

### Climate Action Day

Marlborough Town Council are hosting a day of events across the town on Saturday April 2<sup>nd</sup> to encourage everyone to get involved in climate action Look out for details here <https://marlborough-tc.gov.uk/climate-and-environment>

## Marlborough Community Fridge

Tucked down in the George Lane car park, the Community Fridge is open on Thursday, Friday and Saturday mornings from 9am.

It is free to access and open to everyone to help reduce food waste. Donations are welcome from households with surplus food that is unopened and in date or home grown produce.

You can bring it along during opening hours or drop off in Minal at 1 Honeysuckle Cottages anytime. Since opening in June 2021, the fridge has redistributed over 2.5 tonnes of great, edible food that would otherwise have gone to waste.

Please visit the Minal website [www.mildenhallwiltshire.org.uk](http://www.mildenhallwiltshire.org.uk) for more info