

MARLINGFORD AND COLTON COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Issue 12, September 2024

COMMUNITY GRANTS?

Community grants for '25/'26 are now open to groups based in Colton and Marlingford. An application form and instructions on how to complete the process are available on the Parish Council website or by contacting the Parish Clerk on the details over page.

Be quick, applications will close on **Monday 9th September**

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Don't forget our next Parish Council Meeting will be on Tuesday 10th September in Marlingford Cricket Club Pavilion. Everyone is welcome

DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING?

Unfortunately, we have postponed the planned CPR and First Aid Training until early 2025. We have applied, through Heritage Lottery Funding, to fund the courses and pay for replacement defibrillators, and are awaiting the outcome of our application

CHOICES, CHOICES ...

Following a request, please let us know by [email to the address over page](#) if you would prefer to receive your Newsletter, by e-mail, rather than by hard copy. Thanks.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Please make a note in your diary of these upcoming Village Hall events:

Colton

- Saturday 14th September - Beetle Drive
- Saturday 5th October – Quiz Night
- Saturday 26th October – Harvest Supper
- Saturday 2nd November – 10:00 - Coffee Morning and Art Exhibition
- Saturday 7th December - Christmas Bingo & Colton Fuel Allotment Payment

Marlingford

- Saturday Sept 28th - 10.30 till 13.00 - Macmillan Coffee Morning. All are welcome.

A47 - CONTINUING "RAT RUN" ISSUES

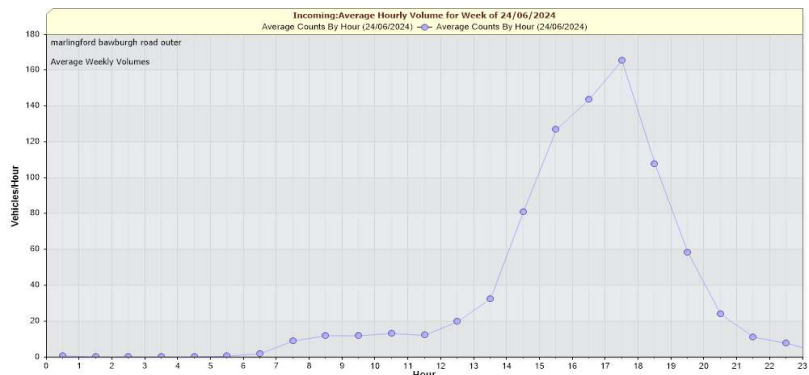
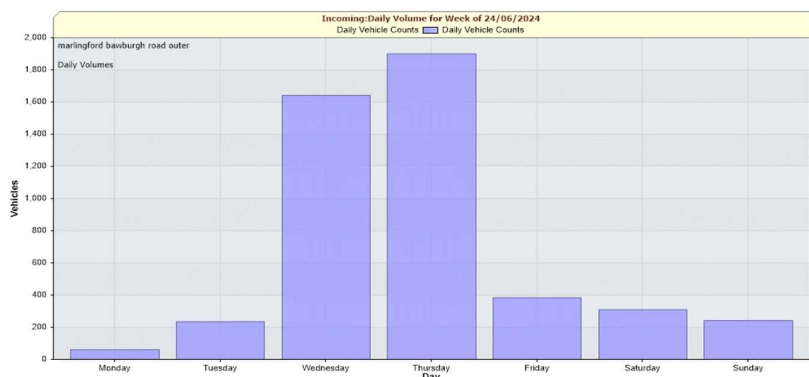
This seems to be almost a monthly update! Residents, and particularly those in Colton, have been acutely aware that despite assurances to the contrary from National Highways, traffic still seems to be using the village as a rat run, whilst the installation of flood prevention tanks is continuing. To date, nobody seems to have come up with a solution to mitigate this issue, and we continue to be deeply worried that the problem will continue throughout the actual dual carriageway construction phase.

Could we therefore ask our residents to let us know of any issues that may occur with the increased traffic flow. We will continue to lobby National Highways, and their representatives, until they come up with a more workable solution.

ROYAL NORFOLK SHOW TRAFFIC

Whilst Colton seems to bear the brunt of A47 traffic issues, Marlingford yet again had to contend with excessive traffic through the village during the Royal Norfolk Show. This time, the Parish Council gathered data from a speed camera which had been placed on the Bawburgh Road approach to the village.

As you will see below, although virtually everyone kept to the speed limit, traffic volume over the two days, and particularly when visitors were on their way home, increased by approximately 720%.



We believe that there will be an opportunity to discuss this issue, at a forthcoming event at the Norfolk Showground, on 24th September, at 10:30, where they want to provide details of upcoming events taking place at the Showground and Norfolk Events Centre.

Colton Village Hall's seasonal showpiece event, the summer barbecue, was a great success - after the weather changed its mind and let the sun shine just before the event started!

DAVID WILDON – AN APPRECIATION

On 27th July, our friend and neighbour David Wildon sadly passed away at Hethersett Hall Care Home. From the many messages of condolence, it was evident that he was a much respected and admired member of the Colton community. David, and his wife Gilly moved to Colton in 1974 and since then, through his years of service on, and chairman of the Marlingford and Colton Parish Council, he had made a significant contribution to our neighbourhood.

David had been instrumental in the development of the Parish Plan, which led directly to the construction of the Social Housing on Marlingford Road. He was active in opposing Norwich City Council's abortive bid to absorb several rural parishes, R.G. Carter's attempts to re-open Colton quarry, and objecting to the Food Hub, subsequently helping to negotiate amelioration measures. David also took part in various consultations over plans and proposals for the Greater Norwich Local Plan, highways development and many other matters.

As many residents will recall, David was originally from Australia, having been born in 1937 in Naracoorte, South Australia. He was educated at Sydney Boys High School and the University of Sydney, where he graduated in 1960 with a B.Sc. in Agriculture.

Having completed further research, in 1967, he was awarded his PhD and a travelling fellowship. It was for this reason that he came to the UK and became a lecturer at the School of Biological Sciences in the newly constituted University of East Anglia.

David remained at the UEA for the rest of his academic career, culminating in a three-year appointment as Dean of the School of Biological Sciences. He retired shortly afterwards,

David and Gilly married in 1968, and their son Mark, from early beginnings at primary school in Barford, has gone on to become professor of Mathematics at the University of Bristol.

Of the many tributes made to David, members of our community have described him as “*remarkable, gentle, kind, a fantastic intellect, charming, a great friend, lovely, wonderful, genuine, thorough, remarkable, fair...*”

David has been a valued and much-missed member of our village. Our thoughts and prayers will be with Gilly, Mark, and the rest of his family both here and in Australia, at this sad time.

There will be a private (family only) committal and burial at 10am on Wednesday 18th September, at St Andrew's Church. This will be followed by a memorial service at 11am, also at St Andrew's, to which all are welcome. There will be refreshments afterwards at the Old Horse and Groom, The Street, Colton, to which all are invited.

NEW SCHEME TO IMPROVE OUR ENVIRONMENT AND SAVE MONEY!

Of particular interest to Marlingford residents might be the new District Council and Natural England backed scheme to replace older septic tanks or digester systems with the latest wastewater treatment plants. These replacement systems are provided at no cost to residents (subject to site survey) and are paid for by local developers who need to mitigate the environmental impact of their developments.

On 17th July, Darren Wood from Harrison Civils Ltd., the business tasked with carrying out this work, gave a very informative and well attended talk at Marlingford Village Hall. He wanted to emphasize that this scheme requires as many homeowners as possible to express interest for the project to move forward. In effect a village is converted to the new systems as a one-off project. Once Marlingford has been upgraded to the new system it is unlikely that Harrison Civils will return to our village for a number of years. There is no compulsion to register but anyone interested in doing so should go to <https://www.norfolknutrientneutrality.co.uk>. There is also a FAQ page with more details about the scheme and proposed equipment. If anyone struggles to register, I am happy to help. Just call Mark Pfeiffer on 07930-335180.

It would be great if Marlingford were one of the first villages in South Norfolk to take this step towards cleaner rivers.

COLTON VILLAGE HALL HIRE

If you're thinking of hosting a party and don't necessarily want your guests filling up your home, why not hire the Colton Village Hall? There's plenty of room for up to 50 people, tables, chairs and a kitchen area with crockery, cutlery and glassware available. With our newly installed acoustic paneling, it makes for a civilized space to entertain. Hirers from the village can hire from £7.50 per hour.

Contact Vicky Green on 01603 881336 vicky@mgarchery.co.uk

We would appreciate your comments on any of the issues raised in this Newsletter. Please contact any of the Parish Council, whose details will be found on the Notice Boards in both villages, or our Clerk, Maria Hutson on 01603 850118, via our website: www.marlingfordandcoltonpc.co.uk or by E-Mail to marlingfordandcoltonpc@gmail.com