
TOWER AND TOWN



Old Year, New Year

FEBRUARY 2017 50P

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TOWER AND TOWN

THE MAGAZINE OF MARLBOROUGH'S COMMUNITY AND CHURCHES

NUMBER 667 FEBRUARY 2017



Old Year, New Year

One hundred years ago the people of this country were half way through the most appalling war. The brief biographical details of the local men who died in combat in 1916, compiled by Andrew Ross and published here with his kind permission, help us imagine the impact of their deaths upon their families and the community here in Marlborough. Lauren Bird, of St John's Academy, reflects the horrors of war in the fine, powerful poem that she has voluntarily submitted to us.

Richard Shaw takes a longer view of the Brexit controversy by putting it in a deeper historical context. Andrew Studdert-Kennedy suggests that in the New Year we can improve upon the Old Year, with its divisive, polarising arguments, by dropping our defensive posture and attending more confidently to other people's views and listening to them without anxiety. Rachel and Deborah, the team at Mustard Seed, recommend three worthwhile books to encourage us to step outside and beyond ourselves.

More of Mark Clements' recollections of his boyhood in Marlborough complete the lively article he sent to us last year and will remind many readers of growing up in this town. But we should take nothing for granted. A volunteer who drives people who need transport from LINK to reach their surgery or hospital appointment reminds us that this much valued organization needs recruits; and Clare Napier appeals for help for Kennet Furniture Recycling.

John Osborne , Editor

Front Cover by *Trans-Globe*: **The Roman Mosaic at Littlecote**

*The fine Roman mosaic at Littlecote shows Orpheus - with his lyre - at its centre, with four goddesses each riding on a different animal around him. Part of a 4th century AD extension to the villa, was it the centrepiece of a dining room or, more likely, of a chapel dedicated to a cult of either Orpheus or even Dionysus? (Ed.). See Peter Noble's *A Pleasant Stroll*, page 4.*

Marlborough Childhood by Mark Clements

Mark Clements from Yorkshire continues his boyhood memories of Marlborough in the 1960s and 1970s (continued from Tower and Town, February 2016).

Where was Health and Safety when we were able to buy catapults, peashooters, spud guns and a 6-inch bowie knife for scout camp? I also melted lead in a saucepan to make ledgers. My loving Mum allowed us to range freely into the surrounding countryside with a “be home for tea”. We took tin baths into the River Og, and strapped oil cans together for a raft. I waded about in the River Kennet at Stoney Bridges and my other Nan took me in to dry my clothes by her fire before going home. At Nan’s house by the Common I caught butterflies for fun, hundreds of them, always letting them go. Stones were painted gold to be gold nuggets. Rose petals were plucked to make perfume. At home, Mum used to string Pelham puppets while I made the boxes up.

During the power blackouts in the early 1970’s Dad brought home a generator and a car headlamp, saving on candles but making up for it with the noise. At that time we lived in The Parade opposite Hart’s Bakery with their enticing window displays. One of the highlights of Christmas was gazing at the window of Duck’s toy shop in the High Street, or climbing the stairs at WH Smith’s, when it was in the Merchant’s House, to see all the toys and goodies. The George Lane blacksmith’s shop had all the tools hung by the stable door and a brazier going inside. The talk was that Cromwell had his horse shod there.

We bravely walked through the abandoned railway tunnel at Postern Hill and learnt the true meaning of the light at the end of the tunnel; it was cold, dark and it took for ever to get through. At the other end we sat down while one of our number recounted the ghost train, which you could see if you returned on 25 October at midnight to where it had crashed and the passengers were killed. I never saw it...but I never went back at midnight.

We dug for old pot lids by the Victorian dump near Savernake Hospital and our diggings somewhat changed the landscape. We cycled everywhere. We fished at the column pond in Savernake Forest and at the carp pond. Who remembers visiting the town dump by the Common? We went playing over there, until one day we found dozens of poisoned rats. We found stray golf balls in the verges by the golf course and sold them for a few pence. We made a guy with newspaper stuffed into clothes and pushed him round in a wheelbarrow for our pennies.

Tennis at the old Marlborough club’s wooden hut by the Common was great: a few friendly matches, then a civilised cup of tea by grass courts. I remember seeing David Milford, the famous College rackets player who won world titles, playing

there. He was nearly 80 at the time but it was a pleasure to watch him and his still silky shots.

Who could leave out Treacle Bolly by the College? Sticklebacks sucking onto worms with no hooks required; sledging down the hill, trying to stop before the river and coming home with hands so cold they were agony. We went to the College assault course to try it out... jumping gaps, scrabbling through tunnels and swinging on ropes ... and to the range to find spent bullet cases for polishing. I jumped down from the brick wall at the back of the range, which seemed about twenty feet high to me then.

Marlborough Mop meant braving the rotor, a spinning cylinder from which, when it was fast enough, the floor went away leaving you pinned to the cylinder walls. I seem to recall motorcycles going round walls at the Mop as well, with the rider parallel to the ground. The boxing ring by St Peter's Church had the trainer standing outside with his boxer offering any fool £50 or similar if they could stay standing after three rounds. We all duly paid and watched the ordeal of the poor sop who had volunteered, with the Queensberry rule book seemingly surplus to requirements.

I'd like to thank, without naming you as you know who you are, the friends who shared these good times free-ranging with me. I like the fact that Marlborough has changed relatively little since my childhood and Samuel Pepys if he returned could still get his bearings. A lovely town and a great place to have grown up.



Marlborough History Society 2017 Programme

Marlborough History Society has an exciting programme of lectures for 2017 including Lord Owen in March and Kate Adie in November.

Lectures are on the third Thursday of the month at 7:30pm at St Peter's Church, High Street, Marlborough. The AGM is at 7pm on February 16th (before the lecture). Joining options:

- Join at first meeting
- Contact our Treasurer: Andrew Ross, Monks Rest, Salisbury Rd., SN8 4AE; andrew@monksrest.co.uk
- Via our website: www.marlboroughhistorysociety.co.uk

Cost of Membership: £14 for the year or £4 per guest visit

A Pleasant Stroll and a Wonderful Mosaic

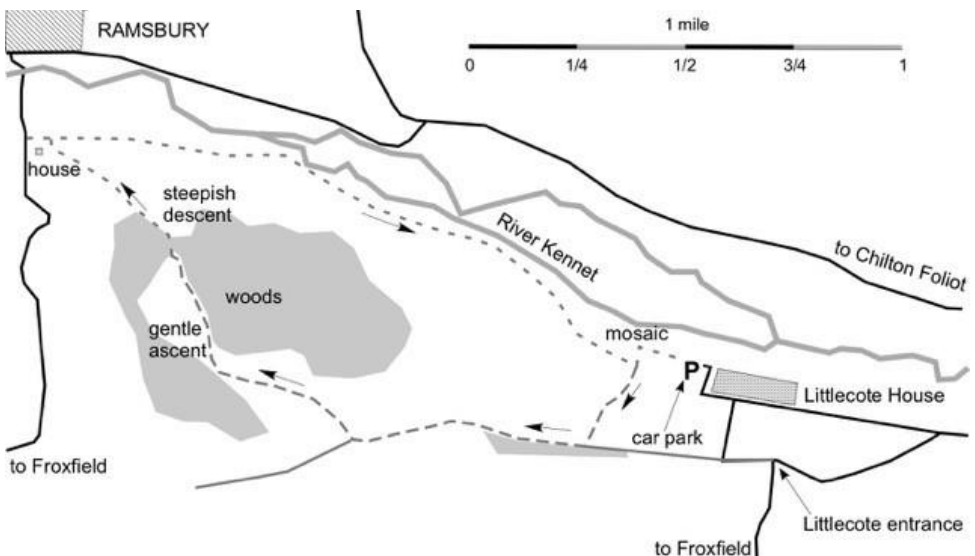
At a tad over three miles this stroll provides a pleasant saunter on quiet paths and lanes (maybe one tractor max.) in addition to a magnificent Roman mosaic floor.

Leave your car at Littlecote House public car park and head west (away from the house) to view the mosaic under the prominent wooden shelter. Allow plenty of time to enjoy the whole site then turn south (left from your original direction) cross a pathway with a tempting gate on your right (you'll use that on the return), pass a small building on your left then, at a vehicle track, turn right. Continue for about half a mile past trees on your left and pleasant fields to your right until you reach a fork in the track - take the right hand one.

There follows an easy ascent of another half mile into woods where you ignore any tempting right turns but keep on to the top of the hill. The track narrows and deteriorates but continue and descend diagonally left into and across open fields with Ramsbury ahead of you. The first part as you leave the trees is somewhat steeper than the ascent and could be slippery in the wet... but if you want to enjoy the circuit don't do it in the wet!

At the bottom of the hill you join a more significant path near some houses where, declining the temptations of Ramsbury tea rooms or pubs, you turn right. This is the path you ignored near the start so follow it back to Littlecote where you can now indulge in tea and cakes at Oliver's Bistro, the Popham Restaurant or the Kennet Bar, all in the stately house hotel a short walk from your car.

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Monsters of Men by Lauren Bird

From up high we watched aghast as the night
Turned ablaze and war summoned a new dawn,
Embers in the breeze sparked our fright
As beyond our reach a new country was drawn.

Cloaked in shadows the invaders crept through
The sleeping streets of home,
And with weapons sharp and inhuman they drew
Human blood and splintered bone.

Powerless we watch our mistakes from above
Commit their sins over and again,
And as silent screams fill the air with lost love
We know we have made monsters, not men.

As embers cool to a crumbling dust
The ghosts of innocents stand tall,
Knowing that also among ashes and rust
Their enemies too shall fall.



Over a glass of wine you are invited to hear author

Katharine Swartz

talking about her novels

The Vicar's Wife

and

The Lost Garden

7.30pm Thursday 23 February In Mustard Seed

Absorbing and heart-warming stories - thoroughly captivating and very readable.

In Memoriam 1916:

Marlborough in the First World War

January

Private **Alfred Hatton**. 2nd Battalion Wiltshire Regiment. Died of wounds on 30 January 1916. Alfred was the elder of two brothers to be killed in 1916.

April

Private **Henry Hutchins**. 2nd/4th Battalion Wiltshire Regiment. Killed in action on 4 April 1916 in Mesopotamia.

Private **Hugh John Middleton**. 5th Battalion Wiltshire Regiment. Died of wounds on 4 April 1916 in Mesopotamia.

Private **William Henry Taylor**. 24th Battalion (2nd Sportsman's Battalion) Royal Fusiliers. Killed in action on 30 April 1916 when a mine exploded under the battalion front line trench.

May

Boy 1st Class **Wilfred Sidney Dobson**. HMS Queen Mary. Killed in action when the Queen Mary blew up at the Battle of Jutland on 31 May 1916. Wilfred was among 1266 members of the crew to perish that day.

Corporal **Fred Ford**. 29th Battalion Canadian Infantry (British Columbia Regt.) Killed in action on 31 May 1916. Fred enlisted in Vancouver. His mother lived at The Lodge, Bath Road, Marlborough.

June

Leading Stoker **Ernest Walter Ponting**. HMS Tipperary. Killed in action when the Tipperary was sunk by gun fire at the Battle of Jutland on 31 May 1916. Ernest was among 185 members of the crew to perish that day. He was the second Marlborough man to be killed at the Battle of Jutland. (His death was recorded as 1 June.)

Private **Lionel Crow**. 1st Canadian Mounted Rifles. Killed in action on 2 June 1916. Lionel enlisted in Brandon, Manitoba in December 1914. He had previously been employed by his father, a leather manufacturer in Angel Yard. Lionel was killed in a local action known as the Battle of Mount Sorrel. Mount Sorrel was a highly prized elevated position in the Ypres Salient. Whilst the Canadians were preparing to improve their position they were hit by a massive artillery barrage, which killed 620 men in Lionel's battalion. Major General Malcolm Mercer, the Divisional Commander, was killed in the same barrage.

July

Captain **Percival Beckwith Wace**. 5th Battalion Royal Berkshire Regiment. Died of wounds. 3 July 1916 on the Somme. Captain Wace was an assistant master at the College.

Captain **Freeman Archibald Haynes Atkey**. 9th Battalion Yorkshire Regiment on 5 July 1916 on the Somme. Captain Atkey was an assistant master at the College. He was shot by a sniper observing the progress of his battalion attacking the German trenches.

Private **Charles Hutchins**. 1st Battalion Wiltshire Regiment. Killed in action. 7 July 1916 on the Somme.

Private **Thomas Henry Dobic**. 1st Battalion Wiltshire Regiment. Killed in action. 11 July 1916 on the Somme.

Private **Reginald William Dobson**. 1st Battalion Wiltshire Regiment. Killed in action. 15 July 1916 on the Somme.

Private **Philip Alan Gale**. 10th Battalion Gloucester Regiment. Killed in action. 22 July 1916 on the Somme.

Lance Sergeant **Evan Eckhard Meyrick**. 1st Battalion Cambridgeshire Regiment. Died 30 July 1916. Evan was what is delightfully known as a 'gentleman ranker'. His father was a distinguished assistant master at the College. The family lived at Thornhanger, an imposing house overlooking the Common. Evan was educated at the College and gained a classics scholarship to Trinity College, Cambridge. With twelve other undergraduates he joined up with the local territorial battalion. Evan served as an ordinary soldier, turning down the opportunity to take a commission, which was easy at the early stages of the war. Evan was taken ill whilst serving in the trenches. He walked out of the lines to be confined in hospital at St Omer, where sadly he died.

August

Sergeant **Reginald Tom Reddrop**. 1st/4th Battalion Royal Berkshire Regiment. Killed in action. 14 August 1916 on the Somme.

2nd Lieutenant **William Robert Hill Merriman**. 8th Battalion Rifle Brigade. Killed in action. 15 August 1916 on the Somme.

Private Arthur **James Milsom**. 8th Battalion Royal Warwickshire Regiment. Killed in action. 29 August 1916 on the Somme.

Continued on the next page

In Memoriam 1916 *continued*

September

Lance Sergeant **Ernest Augustus Head**. 17th Battalion Kings Royal Rifle Corps. Killed in action. 3 September 1916 on the Somme.

Guardsman **Willis Robbins**. 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards. Killed in action. 25 September 1916 on the Somme.

October

Corporal **Harward Henry Baverstock**. 43rd Battalion Canadian Infantry (Manitoba Regiment). Killed in action. 1 October 1916 on the Somme.

Gunner **Gerald Edward Ellis**. 9th New Zealand Field Artillery. Killed in action. 15 October 1916 on the Somme. Gerald's widowed mother was a servant living at the College.

Private **Frank Hatton**. 2nd Battalion Wiltshire Regiment. Died of wounds. 18 October 1916. Frank was the younger of two brothers to be killed in 1916. The brothers enlisted together at Le Marchant barracks at Devizes. They were the only sons of Charles and Rebecca, who lived in the London Road at the time.

Lance Sergeant **William George Humphries**. 10th Battalion Devonshire Regiment. Killed in action. 28 October 1916 on the Salonika front.

November

Lieutenant **James Mundy**. 19th Battalion Durham Light Infantry. Killed in action. 26 November 1916.

(Research and text kindly supplied by Andrew Ross: Ed)

Readers' Responses

Tower and Town welcomes readers' letters, or indeed articles, and undertakes to give serious consideration to publishing them subject to suitability and space. Please correspond with the editor of the month or chairman@towerandtown.org.uk, 18 Kelham Gardens SN8 1PW.

Book Reviews

by Rachel Maurice and Deborah Reynolds

Rachel Maurice reviews 'Dethroning Mammon' by Justin Welby

You may have caught a glimpse in the press of Mark Carney (Governor of the Bank of England) reading the Archbishop of Canterbury's Lent book. *Dethroning Mammon* is Justin Welby's first full-length book and addresses the issue of money, Mammon, and its power. His previous experience as treasurer of an oil exploration group has given him an insight into and understanding of the business world and how money 'works'. Over the last few years he has reflected at depth on the subject of money and materialism: on their impact on our attitudes and the pressures that surround us. He explores the tensions that arise in a society dominated by economics and finance and the pressure to conform to Mammon's expectations. Following the Gospels towards Easter, the book prods us to explore what it means to 'dethrone' Mammon in the values and priorities of our lives, of our society. Who directs our attitudes and actions? God/Mammon? Jesus Christ promises to bring life, truth, hope, freedom. Is Mammon so attractive that we follow a path that tangles, trips and deceives?

A challenging book but not a guilt-inducing one. It offers positive, practical ways forward and I look forward to journeying with it through Lent to Easter.

And now a journey of a different kind: Deborah Reynolds reviews 'Jesus: A Pilgrimage'

James Martin of the Society of Jesuits is a New York Times bestselling author of *Jesus: A Pilgrimage*. Fr Martin is a gifted writer and in an honest, personal but light-hearted way he describes his pilgrimage to the Holy Land in the company of his friend, George, at the same time giving fascinating insights into the historical Jesus combined with profound and wise spiritual reflections. There is never a dull moment in this book and whether I was reading a little or a lot of it I learnt much about Jesus in a refreshing way. A travelogue with a difference and one to savour and read and re-read.

... and 'Out of the Silence' by Terry Waite

- a book of memories, poems and reflections by a remarkable man who has led a remarkable life. From his ordeal as a hostage to his humanitarian work that followed, he gives us glimpses into the depths of faith, hope and love that have sustained him. An inspirational book to be savoured and to return to again and again.

The Work of LINK by a Volunteer Driver

Marlborough & District LINK is a Good Neighbour Scheme which is run by volunteers in our local community.

I am a widower living alone, and in addition to many other interests, I became a volunteer driver for LINK when I relocated to Marlborough, and I have never looked back! The people I meet and the places I go are quite remarkable. I use my own car and I offer my time for as long as I can, when I can and if I can. It is indeed one of the most rewarding interests I have experienced. Those we help are such interesting people from all walks of life and who enjoy recounting stories of past times. I feel proud to belong to such a practical effort to help our local community.

I shall always remember my first task when I became a driver. I was asked to collect a lady from Christchurch at 2.00 p.m. take her home and then be available for the next task at Savernake Hospital at 3.00 p.m. On expressing surprise at the time scale in driving back from Christchurch in Hampshire as I thought, I was told Christchurch was our local Methodist Church.

Another task I was asked to do at an instant was to collect a gentleman from the Marlborough Medical Practice and take him to A&E at Great Western Hospital. He was alone and bewildered with no family support. I stayed with him for the regulation 4 hours in A&E and after he was admitted, I returned home 'empty'. What a joy it was to have been there for this gentleman all alone and fearful. I thought, as most of our volunteers think, what if it had been me? So I hope LINK will continue for the years to come.

Of course, this will only be the case if we attract more volunteers. So if anybody wants more information about our organisation, please do give LINK a ring on 01672 288007. I hope you will be there for me when I am in need.

A Listening World by Andrew Studdert-Kennedy

'Nothing true about God can be said from a posture of defence', wrote Marilynne Robinson in her great novel *Gilead*.

Reading this once again in the early weeks of 2017, I couldn't help thinking how apposite it is for people of faith. For 2016 was so full of confounded assumptions and expectations, the world seemingly awash with fear and division, that many of us face 2017 more with trepidation than confidence.

If nothing true about God can be said from a posture of defence, it raises the question whether the same applies to other areas too. The reason for this is that *if we feel defensive, our instinct is to speak before we listen*.

One of the persistent features of the past year is how difficult people find it to listen to those with whom they disagree. Neither the US Presidential election, nor the referendum campaign in the UK were edifying spectacles, since both too readily demonised the opposition and thereby turned the world into one of 'Goodies v Baddies'. Terrorism takes this to its extreme, not merely by not listening to, but by seeking to destroy those who hold different opinions.

So one wish for 2017 is that the world might become a better listening place. This is a wish in which we can all play our part and one where people of faith ought to be able to set an example.

People listen better when there is a sense of expectation. When a raffle prize is being drawn, we pay attention when the ticket numbers are being read out. We know we won't always win, but we know that we might. We have something to gain by listening carefully. That same degree of attentiveness should characterise the way we listen to other people – we have something to gain from their opinions, some way in which we might learn afresh or have our own minds altered. For people of faith, this truth stems from the belief that *all humans bear the image of God and that therefore something of God is to be discovered and learnt from all whom we encounter*.

It's not just theory that tells us this, it is also experience. For our scriptures contain so many incidents when people learn about God from unexpected sources – none more so than encounters with Jesus himself, who always seemed to change the way people thought about themselves!

To encourage us to have such confidence in our encounters with others, here are some more words from Marilynne Robinson's main character in *Gilead*:

'I would advise you against defensiveness on principle. It precludes the best eventualities along with the worst. At the most basic level, it expresses a lack of faith. As I have said, the worst eventualities can have great value as experience. And often enough, when we think we are protecting ourselves, we are struggling against our rescue.'

What's on in February

Regular events

Every Monday

7.30pm: Christchurch. Marlborough Choral Society.

Every Tuesday

10-11.30am: Christchurch. Friendship Club.

2.45pm: The Parlour, Christchurch. Women's Fellowship.

Every Wednesday (or some Wednesdays)

10am: Jubilee Centre. Drop-in, Tea/Coffee. 12.30 Lunch.

1.30-3.30pm: Town Hall. Sunshine Club for the over 55s.

2-3pm: St. George's. Teddy Prayers & Picnic for under 5s and carers (2nd & 4th Weds)

7.30-9pm: St Peter's Church. Marlborough Community Choir.

Every Thursday (or some Thursdays)

10am: Jubilee Centre. Drop-in, Tea/Coffee. 12.30 Lunch.

10:30-12 noon: Kennet Valley Hall, Lockeridge. Singing for the Brain. Alzheimer's Support. 01225 776481. (Every Thursday during term-time.)

1.30-3.30pm: Wesley Hall, Christchurch. Macular Society (last Thursday in the month)

Every Friday

10-12 noon: Christchurch Crush Hall. Food bank and coffee morning.

Every 2nd Saturday

10-12 noon: Library. Marlborough & District Dyslexia Association. Drop-in advice. Help line: 07729 452143.

February calendar

1st (Wednesday)

7.30pm Wesley Hall, Oxford Street. W.I.: Cooking Demo by Sarah Hicks helped by Vicky Sullivan.

5th (Sunday)

3pm Marlborough College Chapel. Concert: The Choir of St John's College, Cambridge. £20 (students £10).

6th (Monday)

2pm Kennet Valley Hall, Lockeridge. Embroiderers' Guild: Talk by Bryony Rose Jennings: 'The Textile Menagerie' 861658.

8th (Wednesday)

12.30pm 40 St Martins. Widows' Friendship Lunch. 514030.

7.45pm Wesley Hall, Oxford St. Gardening Club. Talk by Michael Lear: 'Oare Arboretum'.

10th (Friday)

Marlborough College: Half Term

11th (Saturday)

St John's Academy: Half Term

12th (Sunday)

7.30pm Kennet Valley Hall. Film: 'Bridget Jones's Baby' (15). £6.

13th (Monday)

7.30pm Bouverie Hall, Pewsey. Pewsey Vale DFAS. Lecture by Anthea Street: 'Thomas Heatherwick: The Leonardo da Vinci of our Time?'. 07775 683163.

16th (Thursday)

7.30pm St Peter's Church. History Society. Lecture by David Collison: 'A Local Chronicle: Filming Archaeology in Wiltshire 1968-1972'. Guests £4 (£2 students).

7.30pm Town Hall. Film: 'Bridget Jones's Baby' (15). £5 in adv. £6 on door.

19th (Sunday)

Marlborough College: Half Term ends.

St John's Academy: Half Term ends.

20th (Monday)

11am Ellendune Hall, Wroughton. Kennet DFAS. Lecture by David Tovey: 'Creating a Splash – The St Ives Society of Artists (1927-1952)'. 01793 840510.

7.30pm Kennet Valley Hall, Lockeridge. National Trust Association. Talk by David Dawson: 'Neolithic Henges and Saxon Kings: The Archaeology of Pewsey'.

22nd (Wednesday)

7.30pm Town Hall. Exhibition on Screen: 'I, Claude Monet'. £10.

26th (Sunday)

7.30pm St Peter's Church. Adrian Oldland: Piano Concert; Schumann, Beethoven and Liszt. £10, £8 for members of MBG & St Peter's Trust. See page 19.

28th (Tuesday)

7pm Town Hall. Live Screening from Covent Garden. The Royal Ballet's 'Sleeping Beauty'. £15 in advance, £12.50 on door.

Loneliness and Brexit? by Richard Shaw

This letter, in response to the October edition, was received too late for the November edition, and there was no space in the December/January edition. Nevertheless, it remains topical.

It is little wonder The Revd Heather Cooper benefited from her retreat at Lindisfarne. I have been fortunate to enjoy the peace there and Iona, and Glendalough - all on the track of the Celtic missionaries. All lovely places to be, even when alone, but never lonely. The Gospel taken to Ireland in 432 by Patrick, returning from a time in slavery, spread rapidly throughout Ireland. Monastic learning developed such that Glendalough was rated as the first university west of Prague. Columba left Ireland to found Iona in 563 from whence Aiden in 635 went to found Lindisfarne and convert Northumbria. Use of the vernacular had made a start - only to be doomed for centuries

From Canterbury after his arrival in 597, Augustine's teachings under the direction of Rome led eventually to the encounter of the those with Ionian and Roman versions of practices and beliefs. As The Revd Cooper says, Rome won the day at the Synod of Whitby in 664. All of those missionaries were canonised, and sadly their foundations were sacked by Vikings in the 700s. Nevertheless, rebuilt, used and worshipped in for centuries they all hold an aura of sanctity we can feel today whether seen as ruins, partial ruins or full mediaeval splendour.

For the next 900 years, Roman Catholicism reigned supreme in the British Isles with its cathedrals vying with castles to awe with its power. Gradually Rome strengthened its influence; similarly, in Europe and by involvement in the choice of some kings, and then expecting all kings to come there for anointment by the Pope to confirm their succession. It took Thomas Cromwell to encourage Henry VIII that in a sovereign state the monarch should have no rival within his state. The schism of 1534 led to freer scientific thinking, translations of the Bible and the Prayer Book in safety, and led the way to the Age of Enlightenment both in England and other protesting areas of Europe. That, our first Brexit from Rome, has been an unquestionable success and we have certainly not been lonely!

In 1973 we joined the EEC (confirmed by referendum in 1975, known as the Common Market) which renamed itself the EC and then 1993 morphed into the EU. Today our second Brexit from Rome (the Treaty of), for us to boldly leave the EU may yet I suggest also have profound effects on continental Europe and beyond. Interestingly a speech of Mrs May's had echoes of Cromwell: to state that Brexit would make us "a fully-independent, sovereign country, a country that is no longer part of a political union with supranational institutions that can override national parliaments and courts". We shall not be lonely. While there may then only be 27 countries left in the EU, there will be at least 168 outside it.

FROM THE REGISTERS

Baptism

- 15 January Lincoln Whiting at St George's
15 January Isabella Lucy Anne Williamson at St Mary's
22 January Reggie Matthew Hall at St Mary's

Weddings

- 20 December William Cook and Amanda Hutchings at St George's.
7 January Michael Clapham-Jones and Roberta Fox at St George's

Departed

- 10 November Frank Conroy Summers (82) of 20 Dando Drive, Marlborough
St John the Baptist and Marlborough Cemetery
30 November Marie-Dominique Stewart (76) of Wellsummers, Clench Common
St Mary's and South Oxfordshire Crematorium
24 December Sarah Frances Bowyer (54) of 10 New Road, Marlborough
St Mary's and West Berkshire Crematorium, Thatcham
24 December Daisy Witts (93) of 78 Windsor Road, Swindon (formerly of
Marlborough)
St Mary's and Marlborough Cemetery
2 January Ernest Allan Hazelgrove (94) of 8 Purcells Court, Marlborough
West Wiltshire Crematorium, Semington



What's on?

Marlborough Town Hall

Thursday 16th February 7.30 pm 'Bridget Jones's Baby' (15)

Tuesday 21st February 7.30 pm 'I, Claude Monet' an Exhibition On Screen

Tuesday 28th February 7 pm 'The Sleeping Beauty' Live from The Royal Ballet

Tickets on line from marlboroughonscreen.events or from The White Horse Bookshop or Sound Knowledge. Also tickets at the door for films.

Marlborough Churches Together

Please check pages 26 and 27 for special services and events.

Usual Sunday Service times

Christchurch, New Road (Methodist - URC)

9.00am Worship

10.30am Morning Service with Junior Church and crèche

Society of Friends, Friends Meeting House, The Parade

10.30am Meeting for Worship

St George's, Preshute (C of E)

8.00am Holy Communion (1st and 3rd Sunday)

10.00am All Age Service (1st Sunday)

Parish Communion (other Sundays)

St John the Baptist, Minal (C of E)

8.00am Holy Communion BCP (2nd Sunday)

9.30am Parish Communion (1st and 3rd Sunday)

St Mary's, behind the Town Hall (C of E)

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP on 4th Sunday)

10.00am All Age Worship (1st Sunday); Parish Communion and Junior Church and crèche on all other Sundays

5.30pm Informal service except on 1st Sunday.

St Thomas More, George Lane (Roman Catholic)

11.00am Sung Mass (See also below)

Marlborough College Services are shown at the College Chapel

Weekday Services

St Mary's Holy Communion: 10.30am Wednesday

St Thomas More Mass: 10.00am Mon, Tues, Wed and Sat
Holy Days: 10.00am

St George's Tea Time followed by Evening Prayer: 4.30pm Weds.

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“Brilliant Young Pianist in St Peter’s Church”

Adrian Oldland

Sunday 26 February 7.30pm

Schumann - Novelletten No 1

Beethoven - Sonata No 30

Liszt - Après une Lecture du Dante

Adrian Oldland began his musical studies at the age of seven. In 2008 he gained a place at Trinity Laban Conservatoire and in only his second year he won the Alfred Kitchin piano competition. Adrian has played in Germany, Russia, Austria and Italy. He has participated in master classes with Peter Donohoe and Melvyn Tan. Tickets £10 from the White Horse Bookshop and Sound Knowledge.

Have you heard of Kennet Furniture Recycling?

By Clare Napier on behalf of MAPAG

Kennet Furniture Recycling (KFR) is a registered charity and an amalgamation of Kennet Furniture Cycling and ReFurbiz. Its advertisement is on page 6, and you may have received one of their free information leaflets through your letterbox. Their showroom is on the Hopton Industrial Estate in Devizes; it is open Mondays to Thursdays 08.30-4.30 pm, Fridays 08.30-4.30 pm and on the first Saturday in the month 9.30-12.30 pm.

Furniture and white goods are donated by households; these are assessed for suitability before being collected. Upholstered furniture and mattresses have to be fire retardant. Donors are encouraged to give a donation of £5 to £10 to cover collection costs. KFR has to pay the Council fees to recycle items which don't sell. It may take up to two weeks for items to be collected. All styles of furniture are welcome; items of value may be put on e-bay to generate income. All goods are checked over and white goods are cleaned, repaired and given a safety 'Portable Appliance Tested' (PAT) test, with a 3 month warranty.

Items are priced at two levels – a higher price for people not on benefit and an indicated lower price for those in receipt of benefit. KFR recognise there is a group who are low earners but not on benefit, so are open to negotiation.

The annual turnover is in the region of £200K. The main costs are: maintaining two vans, which you may have seen around Marlborough (they are here two days a week); and the salaries of the paid manager and two full time paid drivers. Otherwise it is staffed by volunteers. KFR are always looking for more volunteers. Volunteers have the opportunity to add to their skills which can be useful work experience and for their CVs. One volunteer was an ex-prisoner who has proved to be very reliable and has successfully finished a PAT testing course.

Anyone can visit their store and purchase. You do not have to be referred through Social Services or other agencies. KFR has several primary goals:

- To reduce poverty in Wiltshire and to support disadvantaged citizens.
- To enable employment opportunities through training and support to volunteers.
- To respect the environment through reduction of waste and encouragement of re-use.

Contact details:

Unit 68 (5) Hopton Industrial Estate, London Road, Devizes, SN10 2EU

General and donation enquiries: info@kfr.org.uk

Volunteer enquiries: volunteer@kfr.org.uk. Tel: 01380 720200; 01380 720722.



Marlborough Medical Practice Patient Participation Group (PPG) Update

Did you know...?

There are many services on offer to patients besides General Practice, which patients may find are able to help with some ailments.

Pharmacies can help with a range of common conditions and minor injuries, such as aches and pains, cystitis, colds and skin rashes. They can also promote health and wellbeing, and provide access to stopping smoking, sexual health and alcohol support services. Pharmacists can give advice and medicines, if appropriate, or direct you to see your GP or another service as required.

Sometimes, particularly out of hours, it can be difficult to decide which of the many services on offer is best for your situation. **If you do not know where best to seek help, you should call 111** - a free national phone number that can provide advice at any time on where and how to receive the most appropriate treatment.

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COULD YOU PLEDGE SOME TIME IN 2017 AND HELP BY ...

Businesses: Adopting us as your 'Charity of Choice' or supporting us in other ways?

Individuals: Help spread the word in your community, join our 'friends' scheme, run a fundraiser for us, help promote our work?

Groups: We have plenty of ideas to support group involvement.

liz.lavender@artstogether.co.uk 07780 860922 www.artstogether.co.uk

Family News compiled by Audrey Peck

Tom Birkill, a house tutor at the College, ran the Salisbury marathon in August and raised nearly £1,000 for New Road Day Care Centre where his mother-in-law, Hazel, is a volunteer.

John O'Keefe was a very well known figure in the town. Born above his mother's small grocery shop in The Parade he was an assistant at the golf course before, age 16, he joined a merchant ship on the Tyne. He married Tess in 1947. They opened a grocers in The Parade. He went back to sea in 1970 on the Union Castle and then the QE2, retiring in 1988 and was our Town Crier for many years. He was always a keen and competent golfer. Even at 90 he enjoyed coach holidays and a nightly walk from York Place down the High Street for a drink with his friends. He is sadly missed by his daughter, Angela, and her family and by the family of his late son, Kevin.

Brian Norris died in November just after he and Sylvia had celebrated their Diamond Wedding. They married at Milbourne, Malmesbury. They moved from Fyfield to Barrow Close 22 years ago. At the funeral in Christ Church his son, Derek, spoke of Brian's light-hearted nature; whether he was showing Derek how to milk the cows, playing cards or darts or board games, or shooting his air rifle it was always fun. Our sympathy to Sylvia, Derek and their grandson, Matthew.

Alf Johnson, former Town Crier, has moved to Coombe End Care Home. He says it really feels like home because he visited every day when his wife Ann was there and continued to call to see people he knew after she died. His daughter, Diane, is gradually taking all his Marlborough memorabilia in boxes to his room. He is always pleased to see visitors to keep up to date with local news and talk about old times.

Allan Hazelgrove died on January 2nd aged 94. He and his wife Mavis came to live in Stonebridge Close in the 1980's and moved to Purcells Court when she died 15 years ago. He worked for the Red Cross lecturing on First Aid and ambulance driving and was proud to receive a medal for 55 years' service. His interests were wide: cricket, other sports, music, card games, etc. He attended an exercise class at the Leisure Centre and was by far the oldest! He went to the College Subscription Concerts, which he loved. He made many friends in Marlborough and will be greatly missed.

On a personal note, I am delighted to be a great-grandmother. Trevor and his partner, Sheralyn, had a son, Aspen, on January 7th, making Caroline (Carrie) a grandmother for the first time. They live in Southampton.

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WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

(International and Interdenominational)

Am I being Unfair to You?



On **FRIDAY 3 MARCH** over 5,000 services will be held in the British Isles on the theme of 'Am I Being Unfair to You?' The Christian women of the Philippines wrote the service and it has been translated into 1,000 different languages and dialects, to be used throughout the whole world on 3/3, starting at sunrise over the island of Samoa and continuing until sunset off the coast of American Samoa.

In 2013, Typhoon Haiyan, locally named 'Yolanda', struck the Philippine islands in the western Pacific Ocean. This is mentioned in the service but you will also hear stories of a girl, a mother and an older woman recounting their situations and their hopes and fears. The service focusses on the Bible story of the workers in the vineyard: Matthew 20 verses 1-16. There is reflection on the artwork designed by Rowena 'Apol' Laxamana-Sta.Rosa. It is very thought-provoking and illustrates contrasting scenes.

Why not find out more about the theme, the Philippines and the service? The Day of Prayer is not just for women. Everyone is welcome to attend the service. To find out further information, resources and services near you, please visit the WWDP website www.wwdp.org.uk and see below.

All primary school children in the Marlborough area will receive an activity sheet, related to the service, through their school.

MARLBOROUGH: at 10.30 am on Friday 3 March there will be a half hour Prayer Session led by a local member at The Friends Meeting House in The Parade. This will be followed by refreshments.

PEWSEY: at 2pm on Friday 3 March you are invited to attend the service, written by the women of the Philippines, at Pewsey Methodist Church, North Street, Pewsey SN9 5ES. There will also be refreshments after this service.

All are welcome at both these services – men, women and children.

NEWS from the Churches

Marlborough Churches Together



Open Council Meeting 8th February 7.00pm in St. Mary's Church Hall. Open to All. Bring and share supper with discussion 'What Marlborough Churches Together Means to Me'.

March: Fraternal Meeting at noon on Wednesday 8th March.

Book Group

The next book is *Seeking Allah, Finding Jesus* and the discussion will be on Thursday 2nd February. Mustard Seed can order the book for you. (511611)

Marlborough Area Poverty Action Group

MAPAG meet on Monday 6th February at 7.30pm in Friends Meeting House, the Parade. All are welcome.

Women's Fellowship Tuesdays at 2:45pm in Christchurch:

7th Revd Heather Cooper	14th Fr John Blacker	21st Tricia Cavill (Quilting)
28th Members' Meeting	7th March Sandra Wylie.	

Alabaré

On Thursday 9th February at 7.30pm in St. Mary's Church, Ann Yates will give an illustrated talk on her Land's End to John O'Groats 1100 mile cycle ride. £3,500 was raised for the charity Alabaré. Following Ann's presentation the senior chaplain of Alabaré, Rev. Keith Thomasson, will give a talk about Alabaré's work. Wine and nibbles will be served.

Filling Station

Meets on Thursday 23rd February in what was the St Peter's School building at 7.30pm and welcomes Revd Keith Powell, who is the Renewals Adviser for Bath & Wells Diocese.



George Herbert

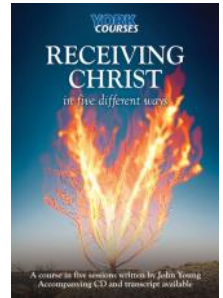
On Monday 27th February at 7.30pm in St Mary's Church, Edwina Fogg will give a talk about George Herbert and read some of his poems. Free entry.

Ash Wednesday

is celebrated on Wednesday 1st March. Please see church newsletters for details.

Lent 2017

This Lent there will be discussions in people's homes, using the York Course material, "Receiving Christ in 5 different ways." The groups will start in the week beginning 5th March and all are invited to join a group. The booklets and CDs will be available from www.mustardseedbooks.com (511611). For more information go to www.yorkcourses.co.uk/course.aspx?id=3bc93431-c142-43c7-a7f5-73dbe26f3331



Seniors' Sunday Lunch Club

Please contact Christchurch Office for the February date and to reserve a place. (513701).

Hangout@Devotion

Meets on Thursday evenings. To find out more about Marlborough youth groups please contact Blayze White: youthworkermarlborough42@gmail.com.

Congratulations

to The Revd Dr Janneke Blokland (the curate in the Marlborough Anglican team) who will be taking up a post as Chaplain at Marlborough College, working alongside The Revd Dr David Campbell, starting this Summer Term 2017.

Women's World Day of Prayer Friday 3rd March

Services will be held throughout the world, starting at sunrise over the island of Samoa and continuing until sunset off the coast of American Samoa. See page 25.

Marlborough: at 10.30am there will be a half hour Prayer Session at The Friends Meeting House in The Parade.

Pewsey: at 2pm the service will be at Pewsey Methodist Church, North Street, Pewsey SN9 5ES.

Marlborough Community Passion Play

In the afternoon and early evening of Easter Eve Saturday 15th April the High Street and The Parade of this market town will witness three hundred and fifty people telling the age old story of Blood and Passion, Love and Betrayal.



To learn more go to: www.marlboroughpassion.uk.

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<i>News from the Churches</i>	Alison Selby	church.news@towerandtown.org.uk Crossmead, Kingsbury St, SN8 1HU	511128
<i>Family News</i>	Audrey Peck	family.news@towerandtown.org.uk 7 Castle Court, Marlborough SN8 1XG	289065

Website, online edition www.towerandtown.org.uk; info@towerandtown.org.uk

Contributions and comments from readers are welcome. Please send articles and letters to the Monthly Editor or the Editorial Coordinator, other notices or announcements to the compiler. All items for the March issue by 7th February please.

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