

# TOWER<sub>AND</sub>TOWN

---

NUMBER 651 AUGUST 2015



## WHY I GO TO.....

People in Marlborough are busy and there are so many different ways of being busy! If you want to know about the activities that are available, read the local papers, see the adverts in the library and shops, or scan the internet. If however you want to know *why* people are singing, reading, fishing, meeting over shared soup, swinging golf clubs, driving the community bus, meeting former presidents, or are volunteering at Savernake Hospital read your Tower and Town!

Things are always changing, but the human desire to be part of something beyond the self is ever present in most people, quietly or strongly. In Marlborough and in the surrounding area we are fortunate to have such a wide range of opportunities for participation in things big or small, quietly or in full voice. There are of course many more clubs, organisations and groups than this issue can accommodate, but here is a taste. You might be fully engaged in your own pursuits or, after reading this, be tempted to give a new venture a try.

Whatever you do - enjoy!

**Ilse Nikolsky**, *Editor*

Front Cover: KCT minibus, by Ilse Nikolsky  
Compiler: Milly Goddard  
Proof readers: Mike Jackson and John Osborne

---

## **Caroline Sadler tells us why she goes along to a book group**

---

Back in the heady days of 2001 I saw a small notice pinned in the Library advertising a book group. I had been looking around for a new interest that would fit with looking after a young child and, as I always have enjoyed reading, I went along.

The first book the group read was *The Unbearable Lightness of Being* by Milan Kundera. Not the easiest of reads to begin for me but, although I didn't join in the discussion at the group that time, I was not silent for long.



As the years rolled by the book group at the Library ceased and the remaining members decided to form the **Marlborough Readers' Group** and now meet in the Lamb pub.

We have read approximately 170 books since then on a huge range of subjects and authors, but what keeps me coming back for more are the people and the discussion of the group. There are around 10 or so members; over time some people leave, new ones join. The one thing in common is the love of reading and talking about books.

We have been to the Marlborough Literary Festival, seen Shakespeare performed, recommended and argued (albeit good naturedly).

I love hearing others' thoughts and opinions which are often so different from mine. Some people may get a lot out of one book, which leaves others cold. Occasionally we all like or dislike as one - I won't divulge details. In August we will be discussing *The Fault in Our Stars* by John Green. I am sure I will be joining in the discussion on that book!

Marlboroughreadersgroup@gmail.com

---

Wise words on Reading:

**There comes a time when you have to choose between turning the page and closing the book.**  
Josh Jameson

**That is a good book which is opened with expectation and closed with profit.**  
Amos Bronson  
Alcott

## Marlborough LitFest: 2-4 October 2015

---



The sixth annual Marlborough LitFest (2-4 October) takes pride in celebrating the best in good writing, whether from established best-selling authors or new emerging writers. The 2015 programme has something for everyone, with more than 25 events over three days offering fiction and non-fiction authors, as well as children's events, poetry events and creative writing workshops.

The 2015 line-up includes bestselling author of *The No 1 Ladies' Detective Agency* series **Alexander McCall Smith**, prizewinning novelist **Helen Dunmore** and Golding Speaker, **Salley Vickers**. *Wolf Hall* fans can see director **Peter Kosminsky** interviewed by Channel 4's **Jon Snow** about the TV adaptation. History buffs can choose between historical biographer **Alison Weir** or medieval historian and Magna Carta expert, **Sean McGlynn**; human rights journalist **Bidisha** will discuss contemporary asylum and exile issues.

Choose from a mix of new young authors and contemporary novelists; a biography of Vita Sackville-West or a new translation of Anna Karenina. Budding poets can join the open mic **Poetry in the Pub** session or catch Welsh poet **Gillian Clarke**; children can tune into author **Ian Whybrow** of *Harry and his Bucketful of Dinosaurs* fame. Current political commentary will be provided by a parliamentary satirist and top tips on how to navigate the current financial markets from a financial journalist.

Our recommended summer read is *The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry* by **Rachel Joyce**, who is our 2015 **Big Town Read** author. An international bestseller long-listed for the Man Booker Prize, this is a great Book Club suggestion so that readers can join in with Rachel's LitFest Q&A session.

Tickets and programmes are available from The White Horse Bookshop, Marlborough High Street, or Pound Arts Tel: 01249 701628 / 01249 712618 ([www.poundarts.org.uk/](http://www.poundarts.org.uk/)).

For further information, visit [www.marlbroughlitfest.org](http://www.marlbroughlitfest.org).

The Marlborough LitFest committee would like to thank our Founder Sponsor ALCS Authors' Licensing and Collecting Society, lead sponsor Brewin Dolphin and events sponsors Hiscox Insurance, and Duncan Morris Solicitors for their continued support.

## Paul Maslin goes fishing and tells us why

---

‘Going fishing’ has been a large part of my life since I was a boy, catching sticklebacks in my local woods and being fascinated by watching them in my jam jar. From an early age I was attracted to the mysteries of running water. I learnt to understand its moods and found, whilst in solitude and contemplation, that a river would reveal its secrets.

Time spent fishing is time free from the stresses and strains of modern living – when senses are harmonious with the natural world.

The pursuit of trout takes me to places I would not otherwise go to: beautiful, scenic countryside. Where there is water there is almost always fish and while there are fish in our waters there will be people who dream of catching them.

Whilst angling is, in essence, a solitary sport there are times when I enjoy the company of fellow anglers, and indeed, many long lasting friendships and a common bond have been formed.



We are competitive by nature with hunter instincts and there can be great satisfaction fishing against other anglers to catch more or bigger fish.

A main attraction must be the thrill of the take to the fly; that pull on the line, those few fleeting moments of joy when attached to

an unlucky fish. The adrenalin-rush of a successful capture is addictive.

As a Coach and Guide I want to pass on my enthusiasm to my pupils and clients – once hooked it can be a passion for life.

---

The editor could not resist these:

*Two parrots sitting on a perch. The first one says to the other “Can you smell fish?”*

*What is the best way to communicate with a fish?... Drop it a line!*

Boom boom!

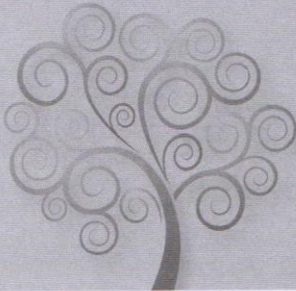
# A niche firm of Lawyers focussing on Private Wealth

Providing advice on:  
Wills  
Powers of Attorney  
Estate Administration  
Trusts/Succession Planning  
Elderly Client Work  
Court of Protection  
Tax Planning

At **DUNCAN MORRIS SOLICITORS**, we combine up-to-the-minute knowledge of all the latest legal issues with a down-to-earth approach to advise private clients on a broad range of issues relating to estate and succession planning.

Our wide range of individual clients highly regard our service based on our legal expertise and the close relationships we have built up over a number of years. We pride ourselves on our ability to seek clear and simple solutions to complex challenges, guiding our clients using sound and practical advice.

Our clients include businessmen, entrepreneurs, professionals, landowners and farmers.



TELEPHONE: 01672 515193 or 07917 177647

EMAIL: [info@duncanmorrissolicitors.co.uk](mailto:info@duncanmorrissolicitors.co.uk)

29 HIGH STREET, MARLBOROUGH, WILTSHIRE SN8 1LW

[www.duncanmorrissolicitors.co.uk](http://www.duncanmorrissolicitors.co.uk)



### **CHRIS WHEELER CONSTRUCTION**

For fencing and associated work  
Contact the specialists  
All types of fencing supplied and erected  
Driveways and road construction  
Site clearance  
Quality assured to ISO 9001:2000  
Tel: 01672 820315  
Email: cw.cw@btinternet.com

### **ANDREW BUMPFREY** *Chartered Architect*

2/3 Silverless Street  
Marlborough, Wiltshire SN8 1JQ  
Telephone & Fax: (01672) 512465



The **Hair and Trichology** Clinic  
Hair & scalp consultant who can treat and advise you about  
scalp disorders, psoriasis, dermatitis, itching, hair loss etc.  
Wigs, Hair Design, Affordable hairdressing.  
7 High Street, Chiseldon only 7 miles from Marlborough  
01793 740147  
[www.hairandtrichology.co.uk](http://www.hairandtrichology.co.uk)



## **KFR**

refurbishing furniture  
reviving communities

### **Kennet Furniture Refurbiz**

The Furniture and White goods charity.  
To donate items or purchase please call:

**01380 720722 / 720200**

Unit 6B, Hopton Industrial Estate,  
Devizes, SN10 2EU.

# **C.E.W. BUILDERS**

## **Complete building services**

---

***New build, extensions, alterations,  
brickwork, patios, carpentry,  
joinery & loft conversions***

***Fully insured, Est 18 years***

***For a free quote***

**07818 233249 01672 516760**

## Nick Fogg responds to emergencies

---

In recent times I've been asked to present discussion papers to a remarkable body – the Council of ex-Heads of State and Government. Bill Clinton is a member. Two years ago, in Bahrain, I wrote a piece on 'The Risks of Sectarianism', which was published by the United Nations Press as part of a composite volume.

At the council's recent meeting in Wales, one of the two themes considered was 'Responses to Emergencies'. With great help from the Wiltshire teams, I submitted a paper on contingencies for dealing with emergencies (pandemics, flooding, terrorism, etc.) in this county. The results were reassuring.

The most interesting aspect of the conference was, however, the presence of Viktor Zubkov, the former Prime Minister of Russia and Viktor Yushenko, the former President of the Ukraine. In public, they knocked bits off each other. It was depressing to hear the language of the Cold War revived. Hopefully, there was more amenable contact in private. It was interesting to hear the Russian case for their actions in Ukraine, which is stronger than Western media and politicians give credit for. It is claimed that a legitimately elected Government was overthrown by force, with the connivance of western powers. The new Government banned Russian as an official language on the second day it was in power, which, since at least 40% of the population was Russian-speaking must be regarded as a provocative act. Thus the Russian-speaking Eastern provinces and The Crimea chose to opt out of the fait accompli. They also cite the disastrous Western intervention in Iraq and Libya and the imposing of self-determination on Kosovo.

Be that as it may, the situation in the Eastern Ukraine is clearly fraught. The Minsk Agreement was much referred to. This was negotiated between the leaders of Russia, Ukraine, France and Germany, together with the leaders of the rebel provinces, last February. While this was a good basis for further negotiations that have not so far happened, publicly, at least, like many such concordats, it contained potentially contradictory detail. It's not always easy to reconcile the concept of 'self-determination' with that of 'territorial integrity', for example. The former Irish Prime Minister, Bertie Ahearn (who knows a deal about peace processes), suggested that the two sides might usefully work out the detail together. This was a sound suggestion. Not only would it ensure that they continued to speak, it would also ensure that whatever divided them could be addressed directly. We can but hope that this will happen.

## Nick Fogg (cont.)

---

The danger of the current dispute is that the nations are walking unwittingly back into a cold war – and that a cold war can lead to a hot war. The lesson of 1914 should teach us that where there are issues of nationalism combined with territorial disputes, the situation is dangerous indeed, capable of spreading into a wider conflict. For this vital reason, it is important to maintain dialogue, particularly under the auspices of neutral and experienced bodies like the one I just attended. As a result of participating in such a dialogue, I also realised the necessity of keeping Russia within the concert of nations. ‘War’, said von Clausewitz, ‘is the continuation of politics by other means.’

Let’s pray otherwise.

---

## Marlborough Medical Practice: Patient Participation Group (PPG) Update

---

Marlborough Medical Practice now has a **Patient Participation Group** (PPG), the purpose of which is to represent the views of patients. It includes representatives from Marlborough and surrounding villages who ensure that people who may not normally have a voice in the practice have a say. The PPG is a two-way forum run by patients, with administrative support provided by the practice.

Meetings are held regularly, and representatives are encouraged to raise items for discussion. In between meetings, the PPG is kept informed of any developments and news from the practice via email.

If you are registered with the practice and you have any comments, suggestions or thoughts that you would like the PPG to discuss, please send these to the group through our email address [MarlboroughPPG@gmail.com](mailto:MarlboroughPPG@gmail.com). Alternatively, any comments can be posted to: The Patient Participation Group, c/o Amy Lacey, Marlborough Medical Practice, The Surgery, George Lane, SN8 4BY.

Please note, the PPG is not a conduit through which to send complaints, and these should be directed through the usual complaints process.



## Volunteering at Savernake Hospital by Trudi Granger

---

The Friends of Savernake Hospital and the Community is a charity supporting individuals and organisations involved in healthcare both at Savernake Hospital and the wider community. It aims to enhance the quality of life of those affected by ill health and or disability, and to support their care and well-being.

We meet bi-monthly to consider health-related grant applications. Recent grant applications included a portable ECG machine for the community nurses use at home visits, new wheel chairs and dementia aids for patients on Ailesbury Ward, physiotherapy equipment for the Savernake Hospital Falls Clinic, a grant to the Jubilee Centre and another to Cotswold House (the eating disorder unit at Savernake Hospital) for patient-led craft and gardening initiatives.



Probably the most high-profile financial support given in recent months has been the £20,000 matched funding pledge we gave to the ‘Prospect at Savernake Appeal’. Our Chair, Janet Louth, was involved in various profile-raising photographs and interviews both for newspapers and local radio. This was supported by our mascot on Facebook ‘Where’s Matron?’. As a result Prospect well and truly smashed their appeal target and have publicly acknowledged that this was in no small part due to our efforts to get the local

community to rally behind them.

Behind Janet and the committee there is a large group of volunteers who run the Savernake Hospital Shop, conducting a daily trolley run to Ailesbury Ward. All Shop profits go back into the work of the Friends. We also collect snippets of fascinating local history relating to Savernake Hospital: In the foyer now stands a musical collecting cottage, donated by Dr and Mrs Nick Maurice, and made by Jack Spratt, the Clockmaker of Wootton Rivers who was a patient at the hospital. On our website are recorded memories of former patients and staff at Savernake Hospital – “some amusing, some sad, and all thought provoking,” says Janet.

When asked about her hopes for the future, Janet is quite direct: “We must be ever changing, just as healthcare is. Most importantly I would like extra committee members to provide new ideas and manpower to help us continue the proud work of the Friends – to support healthcare at Savernake Hospital and in the local community, with common sense and compassion.”

## **Anne Blackwell sings with the Marlborough Community Choir and tells us why**

---

Much of our lives are taken up with work, family and chores so that sometimes we lose sight of the simple things that give us pleasure. Trapped in an endless routine of work, taxiing children, cooking, cleaning... you get the drift. I had reached bursting-point and struggled to see a way out of it.

Someone asked a simple yet wise question: What used to give you most pleasure when you were younger? For many people that is a particular sport, but for me it was music. I had been an average clarinet player, a less than average pianist and a member of the school choir who was enthusiastic but who never got a part in the school musical.

I put up barriers: I haven't played for thirty years, I wasn't any good; barriers to change and finding 'me' time. Luckily the person who asked the question was tenacious and suggested a local choir; perhaps there was one near me. There was! Marlborough Community Choir has a motto that shouted out to me "Anyone can sing". Would they really welcome anyone? Of any age?

The first time I turned up I was terrified, but people were immediately welcoming and we started off by just being silly. Being silly hadn't been part of my routine and I had no idea that laughing is apparently good for the voice. It was fantastic to let go and then to sing simple warm-up songs before we split into groups. The choir teaches by ear so no technical skills were required. I wasn't keen on performing and there was no pressure to do so and for a couple of years I didn't. Funny how time and finding myself changed that! Now that I have done 'being silly' and found that I love singing, I enjoy performing. We sang for the Olympic Torch, for charity concerts, at a choir festival in Stratford-on-Avon, and at the Marlborough Jazz Festival. Our repertoire ranges from Bob Dylan to Gospel, Adele to Joe Jackson, 13<sup>th</sup> century rounds to Ukrainian lullabies... any music that is fun to sing.

Much to my surprise I have also moved into a supporting role for one of the choir sections. Now I get the pleasure of seeing new people experiencing the magic for the first time. I discovered that it is true: Anyone can sing. You too can sing, and you would be very welcome to come along.

[www.marlboroughcommunitychoir.org](http://www.marlboroughcommunitychoir.org)

## Vicky Sullivan meets once a month with others to share more than soup

---

I look forward to the second Wednesday of every month when I meet up with sometimes as many as ten other widows who share the same experience of having lost a loved one.

We gather at Pauline Berryman's home for a light lunch, and much enjoyed conversation on all topics of current affairs. Because we all share a similar loss, we know and understand each other's feelings and therefore find it comforting to know that we are not alone. The help and support we give each other is immeasurable. We are able to share advice and guidance. It is by no means morbid, but a lot of fun, and an overwhelming gratitude for life prevails.

We were called the 'Widows' Soup Group' but we are now known as the 'Widows' Friendship Group' – we seem to eat a lot more than soup!

For more information, please contact Pauline on 01672 514030.

---

**Soppa Tal-Armla** comes from Malta and is named widow's soup as it used to make a hearty meal for a lone widow with cheap ingredients from her garden. However everyone else might enjoy it too!



In a large soup pot, sauté in butter until soft: *4 cloves crushed garlic; 1 chopped onion*  
Add to pot and stir to mix: *2 diced potatoes; 2 diced carrots; 1 diced kohlrabi (or celery)*  
*1 cup cooked broad beans; 1 small cauliflower in bite-sized pieces; 2 sliced celery ribs*

Add to pot: *Chicken or vegetable stock to cover; 2 Tbs tomato paste*

Bring to a boil, reduce heat, and simmer for 15 or 20 minutes, until vegetables are just cooked.

Add: *1 cup green peas and ½ cup chopped parsley*

Now here's the tricky part. Make sure there is plenty of liquid in the pot. Break gently into the simmering water: *1 egg for each serving*. Poach egg to the consistency you like; remove and set one in each soup bowl. Set next to egg in each bowl:

*1 gbejna (Maltese cheese) each, or 1 lump of fresh mozzarella or mild feta.*

Ladle hot soup on top of the cheese, along with vegetables. Garnish with more parsley, and enjoy.

## James Webb (age 17) tells us about his passion: Golf

---

I have always loved sport and have played a wide variety of team and individual games, both at school and at local sports club. However, my current passion is definitely golf.

For me, being able to flog that little ball far into the distance is a great alternative to staying indoors staring at a screen. Golf has provided me with the opportunity to meet people of all ages whilst being able to enjoy the delights of Wiltshire's beautiful countryside.

I got hooked four years ago after playing pitch and putt with my Dad and brother during the school holidays. Currently I am a member at Marlborough Golf Club which, being so close to the town centre, means that it is very easy to get to and there is a great team of people who look after the pro shop and clubhouse.



Golf has helped me to mature as an individual by providing lots of opportunities to develop my social skills whilst respecting the game's etiquette and standards of behaviour. I definitely think much more about my personal appearance as a result of playing golf; you have got to look and think smart as well as play smart.

If I'm honest I do get a bit of stick from some of my friends about playing golf, which seems rather harsh as it is a game that can be enjoyed by all ages. I would encourage anyone giving golf a try: just get a bucket of balls at the driving range, buy a cheap set of clubs and then go out on the course and try nine holes.

During the school holidays I am hoping to play most days at the Club as well as taking part in a number of competitions at other courses around Wiltshire. I recently achieved the qualifying standard for the Wentworth Junior Open, so I am really looking forward to playing there.

I am very lucky to share my love for the game with my younger brother, Charlie. He managed to get a hole in one on the 17th at Ogbourne when he was 12. Keen not to be outdone, I aced the same hole three months later! Whilst it is great to be able to talk about the game and swap ideas at home, all of that stops when we step onto the first tee. Whether we are playing for a coke or something more substantial, brotherly love gets put aside for a few hours. But it is a rivalry that helps us both and I am sure that our shared passion for the game will carry on for many years to come.

## Janet shares her experience as a Home-Start Kennet volunteer

---

I first heard about Home-Start more than 30 years ago when I saw an item about it on our local television news. It really struck a chord. As I was at home with my first baby and a husband who travelled a lot with a new job, I really and truly knew the value of a good support network.

Luckily I had very supportive friends and family. My family wasn't nearby, but I used to spend hours on the phone to my sister, who had a baby of a similar age, and also to my mother, who was a great support and would come and stay from time to time. Their help and advice was invaluable. My lovely mother-in-law was also only six miles away. Our village and local community was very strong and provided lots of opportunities for making friends with other mums and getting out and about with a baby, even though I didn't have a car. I could see it would be really tough for young mums who weren't so lucky and thought that one day I'd like to be a Home-Start volunteer. That opportunity eventually presented itself two years ago when I retired and found I had a bit more time.

It's early days for me as a volunteer and I have been assigned to two families so far; it has been very rewarding and a privilege. Home-Start is a brilliant idea as it allows you to get to know the families in their own homes as a friend and supporter and there is no suggestion of 'authority' or 'officialdom'. There is great trust involved and I have found that as we get to know each other the relationship evolves into friendship at whatever level is right for that family. It's quite hard not to get too attached! What a volunteer can offer varies enormously: from a listening ear to accompanying the mum to appointments or toddler groups and, should more challenging situations arise, then the Home-Start team in the office is there to guide. I really think Home-Start offers unique and invaluable support to young families and I'm proud to be involved.

The logo for Home-Start features the word 'Home' in a large, black, sans-serif font. The letter 'o' in 'Home' is replaced by a stylized human figure with arms raised. Below 'Home' is the word 'START' in a smaller, black, sans-serif font.

**Support and friendship  
for families**

If you would like to know more phone Alison on 01672 569457 or visit  
[www.homestartkennet.co.uk](http://www.homestartkennet.co.uk)

## What's on in August

---

### 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

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

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

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.

#### Last Sunday in Month

10am-3pm High Street Marlborough Communities Market

## August calendar

---

1<sup>st</sup> (Saturday) until 28<sup>th</sup> (Friday)

Daily. St Peter's Church. Exhibition: 'Exploring the Mystery and Beauty of Crop Circles'.

2<sup>nd</sup> (Sunday) – 8<sup>th</sup> (Saturday)

Marlborough College. Week 4 of Summer School.

A comprehensive entertainments programme of concerts, lectures, recitals and talks throughout the week. Full details from the Summer School office, or [www.summerschool.co.uk](http://www.summerschool.co.uk)

## August calendar (cont)

---

3<sup>rd</sup> (Monday)

10am Priory Gardens. Litter-Picking & Painting Day.

5<sup>th</sup> (Wednesday)

7.30pm Wesley Hall, Oxford Street. WI Talk by Mr Pope: 'Larkrise to Candleford'.

8<sup>th</sup> (Saturday) – 23<sup>rd</sup> ((Sunday)

10.30am-5pm daily. Education Room, Great Barn, Avebury. Book Sale in aid of improvements to visitor access to the Old Farmhouse at the National Trust estate.

To donate books ring 539054.

12<sup>th</sup> (Wednesday)

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

7.45pm Wesley Hall, Oxford Street. Gardening Association. Talk by Brian Davis: 'Low Growing Shrubs'.

16<sup>th</sup> (Sunday)

9am Marlborough Common. Car boot sale.

17<sup>th</sup> (Monday)

7.30pm Kennet Valley Hall. Kennet Valley National Trust Association Summer Social.

22<sup>nd</sup> (Saturday)

10am-4pm Ramsbury Triangle. ARK: Children's river-themed craft day. Free, but booking essential. 511028.

## Dates for your diary

---

Thursday 10 September: 7.30pm Classical guitarist Jonathan Prag will be performing at The Merchant's House. Tickets from The Merchant's House Shop.

Sunday 13 September: 7.30pm In aid of the 2015 Mayor's Charity, The Brain Tumour Charity, piano recital by Berendina Cook and Matthew Stanley (piano duet) at St Peter's Church, Marlborough. Tickets from The White Horse Bookshop, Sound Knowledge or Henry George.

## **Fr John Blacker**

### **Parish Priest, St Thomas More RC Church**

---

WHY I GO TO... CHURCH - where else would you expect to find me?

The word CHURCH is used in many different senses: to mean a building, a parish, a denomination, its leadership and often a church service ('going to Church'), and so the Church is a gathering community professing its faith, preserving and passing on what it has received.

Words do not suffice to explain the important things of life, so, too, signs and gestures are needed to express faith - the sign that shows what is believed, the 'what we do in Church'.



The Church is not only the building but also the assembly and gathering of God's people - His flock. The Parish Churches that I have served and loved during my 47 years (so far!) as a priest have been in Bristol, Salisbury, Stroud, Calne, Cirencester, Cheltenham and now in Marlborough (with Pewsey). Each of these has been a place of celebration and joy of the Lord's presence.

Sunday last, for example, included Saturday Evening Vigil Mass at Holy Family, Pewsey, Sunday Masses at Holy Family, Park North, Swindon (covering the holiday absence of a fellow priest) and St Thomas More, Marlborough and then an afternoon Baptism. Although a full day, I always try to spend an hour in Church on Sunday morning before beginning these occasions, preparing in prayer, reading Matins and Lauds (Office of Readings and Morning Prayer) and the rest of the time in silent prayer in the presence of the Lord. 'Wasting time with God', as a priest once said!

The Church is the most wonderful place to meet God and His people... the ultimate union with God and with humanity, and I enjoy being there for the times of joy, sadness, hope, faith and God's infinite love as this is what, I believe, God has called me to do.



## **Alexander Kirk Wilson** writes how to get out and about with KCT and a tea party

---

August 3rd will be the Silver Jubilee - the 25th birthday - of Kennet Community Transport's incorporation. KCT runs the white minibus you see around the town and the surrounding villages and on the front cover of this issue of Tower and Town. So there will be tea and cake for anyone passing the Jubilee Centre around 5pm on that day.

It all started before then with the setting up of the New Road Centre for local people with a wide range of disabilities. As it was clear that attendees would need transport to bring them to the centre, John Spanton chaired a steering group which led to the setting up of East Kennet District Community Transport, with much support from both District and County. The 'East' and the 'District' have since been deleted for simplicity. Sue Findlay was (I think) the first Chair, and other early Chairs were Joyce White (the source of much of this information), David Watson and Stewart Dobson. A highlight of those early years was when the ship's company of HMS Marlborough pulled the then red bus up and down the High Street.

Tower and Town has been generous over the years, and in 2013 donated £500 towards the cost of the white bus you see today. Up till then the bus had been supplied by East Kennet District Council, and later by Wiltshire Council, but in that year we were on our own and had to raise the money to buy our own vehicle.

Although we have a full time driver, as we work five days a week starting quite early to bring people in to the New Road Centre and the Jubilee Centre, we are always in need of relief drivers for when he is on leave or sick. And relief drivers get paid, although not much. Obviously it is only occasional work, and often unpredictable, so it would not suit someone with a family to feed, but for a recently retired woman or man, it gets him/her out of the house and gives his/her spouse a bit of peace!

If you would like to have a go, call either Roger Hagerty on 01672 540698 or Alexander Kirk Wilson on 01672 513861.

## Family News from your local community, by **Audrey Peck**

---

**Teresa and Roger Wheeler** have visited their first grandchild, Myra Teresa, born to Jeremy and Jessica on Easter Monday, at their home in the Rocky Mountains. Paul and Lucy, who married in Hampshire in October last year and live in London, have also visited as part of a holiday which included a trip to Inuvik in the Arctic Circle at the summer equinox, lots of hiking and a visit to the Calgary Stampede.

**Brian Wilson** died at home in May. He was proud to be a Yorkshire man but loved Marlborough. He and Edwina came here with their children Janine, Karen, Fiona and Alasdair in 1971 when he retired from the RAF. Edwina taught at St. Peter's School while Brian worked as a navigator and pilot with commercial airlines. In his retirement he volunteered with the Citizens Advice Bureau, where he tried to find practical solutions to emotional problems. He played, directed and taught bridge, was a keen golfer and enjoyed long distance walks including the Pennine Way. His many friends joined the family for a Service of Thanksgiving at St. George's Church on 11<sup>th</sup> June.

**Graham Ward** died in Savernake Hospital in June after a long illness during which his wife of 55 years, Jean, cared for him. He came to Marlborough in 1947 and after school joined his father and brother, Leslie, at Wingrove & Edge leather factory in Angel Yard, retiring as leather finisher after 40 years. Sadly their son, Paul, died in 1988. Their daughter, Linda and her three sons, who live in Australia, celebrate the life of a kind and loving grandfather.

**Ian Neilson** has celebrated two events recently: He and Alison were married on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 1945 and marked their Platinum Wedding Anniversary with a party at home with all their family. Also, Ian was awarded the Legion d'Honneur by the French Government for his services at the time of the D-Day landings.

**John Cooper** died peacefully in the GWH on 9 June. He was born in Swindon in 1928 and moved to Marlborough in the early 1960's after serving in the Korean War with the 10<sup>th</sup> Hussars. He then joined the family business, Cooper's Metals in Swindon, until retiring to paint at the age of 52. He was well known as an enthusiast, actively involved in many of the town's societies - his hobbies were art, gardening and motor cars. However, above all he was a much loved and loving family man. He had four children, three boys and a daughter (who predeceased him), five step-children, 17 grandchildren and three great grandchildren. Our sympathy goes to Diana and all the family.

## Family News (cont)

---

A family with its roots in Marlborough has returned. **Mike O'Regan** grew up in Marlborough and came back last year after more than 40 years living in Oxford. He and his wife, Jane, live at Killycoonagh, a house built in 1911 by Mike's grandfather, John O'Regan, as an English version of a Roman villa and which they are renovating. Mike's father Michael ('Paddy') taught at Marlborough Grammar School and then St John's for most of his working life and is remembered for his devotion to his profession; his mother Friedel came to England from Germany in 1933 and worked in a Marlborough antique shop; his uncle John lived at Lower Lloran after retiring from the diplomatic service and was a founder member of St Peter's Trust. Mike himself is now mostly retired from his business interests and runs two educational charities of which Jane, a nurse for many years, is also a trustee. They have three grown-up children.

---



2015 marks Christian Aid's 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Initially formed by the British Council of Churches to help those in war-torn Europe, Christian Aid is now a global humanitarian organisation. The local Christian Aid Committee endeavours to keep a high CA profile in Marlborough with a photo montage display showing rebuilding work after the Haiti Earthquake, one-off appeals for Gaza, the Ebola Crisis and Kenya, as well as fund-raising support from the Good Friday Simple Lunch, College Confirmation Service, Annual Christian Aid Service and the Marlborough High Street collection during Christian Aid Week in May. Over the past year £9,500 has been raised locally with an additional £874 from gift aid.

If you want to find out more or would be interested in helping our local Committee, contact the Chairman: Bryan Castle ([castle.bryan@yahoo.com](mailto:castle.bryan@yahoo.com)).

## News from the Churches

---

At the **Marlborough Churches Together** Annual Meeting last month, Janneke Blokland was welcomed as the new chair and Heather Cooper was thanked for her chair(man)ship last year. We look forward to more talks in Lent 2016. We are keen to involve church members in the activities supported by MCT. In the coming meetings we are going to revisit our 'Walk of Witness' which is held on Good Friday and would value any feedback on this activity, and more especially any willingness to be involved in implementing changes. We are also hoping to provide 'Street Angels' at the Mop Fair (see below).



Please speak to your minister or MCT Secretary, Alison Selby (511128 / [alison@crossmead.net](mailto:alison@crossmead.net)) with any ideas.



**Marlborough Street Angels** is a ministry on the two Saturday nights of the Mop fairs, where groups of young teenagers have been noticed under the influence of alcohol and in a vulnerable position. We aim to be a prayerful listening and caring presence of Christians between 9pm and 11pm, not there to preach at people, simply to care, to listen and to help: to show the love of Jesus in practical ways. It is simply the local church in action on the streets. A new coordinator is needed for this year to oversee the planning as well as supervising on the evenings. Angels who have taken part in this initiative in previous years have found it rewarding and even enjoyable! Why not give it a go?

The Revd Janneke Blokland, Team Curate, Marlborough Anglican Team writes:-  
*"On Saturday 28th June I was ordained Priest in Salisbury Cathedral. It was a lovely occasion, and it was really nice to see many people from Marlborough who made it to the service to support me, which was a great encouragement. Also the many good wishes, prayers and cards have been of great value to me. Fortunately my ordination doesn't mean I have to leave Marlborough, and I'm looking forward to continuing to grow and learn together in this quite extraordinary town."*

## News from the Churches (cont.)

---

### Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> September

Bear Grylls, adventurer, Chief Scout, Wiltshire resident and supporter of **Ride+Stride**, writes:

“Many historic churches, chapels and meeting houses are battling to survive. Roofs leak, ancient timbers rot and medieval stonework crumbles. Now you can help by joining the Ride+Stride adventure, a sponsored bike ride or walk discovering beautiful churches, which also raises money for their repair and preservation.”



Half of all money raised goes to one's own chosen church, and the other half is used by the Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust to award grants to churches with special maintenance needs. You don't have to be as fit and energetic as Bear Grylls: just being sponsored to walk between one church and another can constitute participation in Ride+Stride. For the more competitive, however, there are cash prizes for the best achievements, including several for under 15-year-olds. For most, it is an opportunity to enjoy visiting beautiful churches on foot, bike or horseback whilst raising money for a very worthy cause.

Last year Ride +Stride raised over £58,000 for Wiltshire's churches. Why not join in... or sponsor someone who is taking part to help reach this year's target of £60,000!

For more information, please contact Charles Graham (01672 514301 or [ctg100@hotmail.com](mailto:ctg100@hotmail.com)) or visit [www.wiltshirehistoricchurches.org](http://www.wiltshirehistoricchurches.org).



The regular Sunday services continue over the summer, but the informal services take a break during August. There will be a **Civic Service** on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September in St Mary's at 3pm, followed by refreshments in the Town Hall. All are welcome to attend.

## News from St Mary's Tower

---

In June there were many special ringing dates: for the Archdeacon's Visitation, for Magna Carta Day, for the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Waterloo and we also welcomed visiting ringers from Maidstone in Kent.

On Sunday afternoon of the 28<sup>th</sup> June, a Quarter Peal of 1260 changes Grandsire & Plain Bob Doubles was rung to celebrate the Ordination as Priest of Revd Dr Janneka Blokland, our Team Curate. The ringers were Charlotte and Colin Woodley from Chiseldon, Ian Wyld from Preshute, Dorothy Blythe, Jenny Moore and Julie Miles, the conductor.

We are short of ringers and need to find some recruits. We just about manage to raise the tenor, which is the heaviest bell, but could do with a few younger stronger hands. Anyone can learn to ring at any age: It takes a few months to learn the first stage of 'bell handling' and we arrange special teaching sessions with the student.

We would also like to encourage any lapsed ringers to return. Ringing is a bit like riding a bike - once you have learnt it usually only takes a few pulls to remember how to do it. It is important to at least once a week, so it does require some commitment, but as we practise every Tuesday from 7.30 to 9.00pm, and ring on Sundays from 9.30 to 10.00am it does not take up too much time.



There are a few younger ringers, mostly in the larger cities, but in rural areas it's difficult to find recruits. One of the really good things about ringing is that a team is made up of people from a wide range of ages and interests and meets ringers from other local towers, and members on holiday can visit churches in any part of the country.

Please ring me or email me if you are interested, or would like to make sure that the bells keep ringing for future generations.

Dorothy Blythe, Tower Captain. 01672512993.

[dorothy.blythe@gmail.com](mailto:dorothy.blythe@gmail.com)

# The care you need, the way you want it.



Whether you need help with the ironing or more extensive help coping with an illness, you can trust us to provide exactly the kind of quality homecare services you want in the way that suits you best.

Amongst other services, we offer:

- Long term, short term and emergency care
- Cleaning, ironing and help preparing meals
- Support while recovering from illness
- Live-in, sleep-in and night care
- Escorts to events and social activities



Call Joanna on: 01672 870 747

Audley White Horse Care Ltd, Inglewood House  
Templeton Road, Kintbury, Hungerford, Berkshire, RG17 9AA

[www.audleycare.co.uk](http://www.audleycare.co.uk)



Servicing the following locations with no additional mileage charge:  
Marlborough, Lockeridge, Aldbourne, Ramsbury, Manton, Fyfield, Avebury, Burbage, Great Bedwyn,  
Shelbourne, Collingbourne Ducis and surrounding areas

## MARLBOROUGH Podiatry Clinic

10 The Parade, Marlborough SN8 1NE

Christine M J Stiles

DPodM, MChS, SRCh - HCPC & BUPA reg.

Treatment of all foot problems  
for

Children and Adults

01672 514581

07910 525376

Professional advice .Routine & Specialist Care  
Nail Surgery .Orthotics

## See For Miles Ltd

Counselling & Psychotherapy Services

### IT'S GOOD TO TALK ...

The Affects Of Trauma | Forced Changes in Lifestyle  
Bereavement | Managing Pain  
Depression | Difficulties With Relationships | Stress  
Sleep | Hidden-Recurring Issues  
Resolving Presenting Issues | Anxiety | Phobia  
Overcoming Obstacles

### APPOINTMENTS & ENQUIRIES

01672 511043

07885 201972

[seeformilesLtd@gmail.com](mailto:seeformilesLtd@gmail.com)

[www.seeformilesLtd.co.uk](http://www.seeformilesLtd.co.uk)

2 Old Hughenden Yard, Marlborough, Wilts, SN10 3QD

## Dianne Mackinder Funeral Service



**ON CALL DAY & NIGHT**  
**01672 512444 / 512516**

WAGON YARD LONDON ROAD  
MARLBOROUGH WILTSHIRE SN8 1LH

Tay Adams is a professional  
massage therapist and  
reflexologist, with a  
background in nursing.



Tel: 07789 529884  
tayadams@massage2health.co.uk  
www.massage2health.co.uk

## CARPET CLEAN

**Ricky Flint (est 1997)**

Friendly local service based at Great Bedwyn  
Professional work at sensible prices

**Call for no obligation quote**  
**07799 215837 or 01672 871414**

*If you use the services of any  
of our advertisers, please tell them  
that you saw their advertisement  
in Tower and Town.*

**quality**  
**Q**  
stationers  
& printers

## DISCOUNT OFFICE SUPPLIES

- STATIONERY
- PHOTOCOPYING
- PRINTING
- ALL INK & TONER BRANDS
- FILES, FOLDER & ENVELOPES
- SCHOOL & CRAFT ITEMS
- RUBBER STAMPS
- FAX SERVICE

**BUSINESS ACCOUNTS WELCOME**

**OFFICE SUPPLIES**

**PRINTING**

**COMPUTER SUPPLIES**

**Find us at: 8 OLD HUGHENDEN YARD, MARLBOROUGH SN8 1LT**

TEL: 01672 512617 FAX: 01672 512617  
sales@qualitystationers.co.uk www.qualitystationers.co.uk



## Marlborough Churches Together

### **Usual Sunday service times.**

#### **Christchurch, New Road (Methodist)**

9.00am Worship

10.30am Morning Service with Junior Church & 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 (1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays)

10.00am All Age Worship (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday)

Parish Communion (other Sundays)

#### **St John the Baptist, Minal (C of E)**

8.00am Holy Communion BCP (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday)

9.30am Parish Communion (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays)

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

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP on 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday)

10.00am All Age Worship (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday)

Parish Communion, Junior Church & crèche on all other Sundays

5.30pm Informal service (except on 1<sup>st</sup> 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 George's**

Tea Time followed by Evening Prayer: 4.30pm Wednesday

#### **St Thomas More**

Mass: 10.00am Mon, Tues, Wed & Sat

Holy Days: 10.00am

# Marlborough Church Contacts

---

**Fr John Blacker** 513267  
marlborough@catholicweb.org.uk  
*Parish Priest, St Thomas More RC Church*

**The Revd Dr Janneke Blokland**  
515970; [jblokland@gmail.com](mailto:jblokland@gmail.com)  
*Team Curate, Marlborough Anglican Team*

**The Revd Dr David Campbell**  
892209; [dc@marlboroughcollege.org](mailto:dc@marlboroughcollege.org)  
*Chaplain, Marlborough College*

**The Revd Heather Cooper** 512457  
[heather.cooper432@btinternet.com](mailto:heather.cooper432@btinternet.com)  
*Minister, Christchurch, Methodist*

**The Revd Miri Keen**  
513408; [miri.marlbroughteam@gmail.com](mailto:miri.marlbroughteam@gmail.com)

*Team Vicar, Marlborough Anglican Team*

**The Revd Dr David Maurice** 514119  
[david\\_maurice2000@yahoo.com](mailto:david_maurice2000@yahoo.com)  
*Associate Minister, Anglican Team*

~~~~~  
**Alison Selby** 511128  
[alison@crossmead.net](mailto:alison@crossmead.net)  
Crossmead, Kingsbury Street, SN8 1HU  
*Secretary, Marlborough Churches Together*

**Andrew Trowbridge** 513701  
[office@christchurchmarlborough.org.uk](mailto:office@christchurchmarlborough.org.uk)  
Christchurch Office, New Road, SN8 1AH

**Laura Willis** 512357  
[marlb.anglicanteam@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:marlb.anglicanteam@tiscali.co.uk)  
Anglican Team Office Church Cottage  
Silverless Street SN8, 1JQ

**Rachel  
Rosedale**  
512205  
[rachelrosed  
1@gmail.co  
m](mailto:rachelrosed1@gmail.com)  
*Member, The  
Religions  
Society of  
Friends*

**The Revd  
Canon  
Andrew  
Studdert-  
Kennedy**  
514357 [andrewsk1959@btinternet.com](mailto:andrewsk1959@btinternet.com)  
*Team Rector, Marlborough Anglican Team*

**Angela & Paul Mc Grorty Trading as the**  
**Marlborough Care Company**  
LOCAL CARE FOR LOCAL PEOPLE

We are a local husband and wife Partnership providing a small, private care service to the people of Marlborough and the surrounding villages. We have many years of experience working in the Health and Social Care services.

We can provide support with . . .

- Personal Care
- Recovery from illness or surgery
- Cooking, shopping, housework & laundry
- Transport for appointments, shopping, visiting friends or family etc.
- Filling in Benefits forms
- Overnight stays if you are unwell
- Respite care in your own home, if required by the family
- Palliative care
- Someone just to have a chat with and anything else you may require

We offer competitive rates for our services and excellent references. We are both fully police checked. You can contact us on either of the following numbers:  
**Angie: 07766 091629 Paul: 07449 795705**  
or email: [marlboroughcarecompany@gmail.com](mailto:marlboroughcarecompany@gmail.com)

## From the Registers

---

### **Baptisms:**

- 14 June Maren Clare Evans at St Mary's  
12 July Chloe Nichols, Kayden John Hodder, Elsie Poppy-Mai and  
Maddison-Marie Louise Williams Birmingham at St Mary's  
19 July Elizabeth Rose and Maximilian Edward Robson Gill at St George's

### **Weddings:**

- 18 July Jennifer Witt and Thomas Whant at St George's

### **Departed:**

- 9 June John Bailey Cooper (86) of Rawlings Well, St Martins, Marlborough  
*West Berkshire Crematorium, Thatcham*  
11 June Joyce Lilian Buisinne (93) of Merlin Court Residential Home,  
Marlborough  
*Kingsdown Crematorium*  
15 June John 'Jack' Robinson (82) of 41 Barrow Close, Marlborough  
*Kingsdown Crematorium*  
1 July Barbara Florence Sanders (85) of Highfield Residential Home,  
Marlborough  
*Kingsdown Crematorium*

### Short-Term Advertising in *Tower and Town*

It is now possible to take out short-term advertising in *Tower and Town*. If you, or anyone you know, are interested in placing an advertisement on a single month or multi-month basis, please contact Andrew Unwin.

Email: [afunwin@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:afunwin@yahoo.co.uk) Tel: 01380 860120

Space for these short-term ads is limited and needs to be booked at least three weeks in advance of the publishing date, so please enquire in good time.

## Tower and Town staff

---

|                                      |                                                                                                                    |              |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>Chairman</b>                      | John Osborne, 36 St Martins, SN8 1AS<br>jeo66@btinternet.com                                                       | 514364       |
| <b>Vice Chairman</b><br>(Operations) | Andrew Unwin, Sarsen House, The Street, All Cannings<br>Devizes, SN10 3PA                      afunwin@yahoo.co.uk | 01380 860120 |
| <b>Advertising</b>                   | Andrew Unwin (as above)                                                                                            |              |
| <b>Distribution</b>                  | Rosemary Spiller, 2 Shakespeare Drive SN8 1UF                                                                      | 512338       |
| <b>Subscriptions</b>                 | Norma Dobie, 112a Five Stiles Road, SN8 4BG                                                                        | 513461       |
| <b>Treasurer</b>                     | Peter Astle, 4 Laurel Drive, SN8 2SH                                                                               | 515395       |

**Editorial Coordinator**    Andrew Unwin

### Production Teams

#### *September*

|          |                                       |              |
|----------|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| Editor   | Andrew Unwin: as above                | 01380 860120 |
| Compiler | Milly Goddard:    millygoddard@me.com | 513913       |

#### *October*

|          |                                                  |        |
|----------|--------------------------------------------------|--------|
| Editor   | Jo Ripley:            joripley@phonecoop.coop    | 513950 |
| Compiler | Peter Noble:        peter@kingsburysquare.org.uk | 519034 |

### **Every Month**

|                  |                                                                      |        |
|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| <i>What's On</i> | Karen Osborne:    karenos64@btinternet.com<br>36 St Martins, SN8 1AS | 514364 |
|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|

|                                   |                                                                              |        |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| <i>News from<br/>the Churches</i> | Alison Selby:        alison@crossmead.net<br>Crossmead, Kingsbury St SN8 1HU | 511128 |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|

|                    |                                                                              |        |
|--------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| <i>Family News</i> | Audrey Peck:        rogandaud@aol.com<br>7 Castle Court, Marlborough SN8 1XG | 289065 |
|--------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|

**Contributions and comments** from readers are always welcome. Please send articles and letters to the Editor; other notices or announcements to the Compiler. All items for inclusion in next month's *Tower and Town* must be submitted by **Tuesday 12 August**.

**Our Advertisers support us.** Contact Andrew Unwin if you would like to join them.

*Tower and Town* is available at St Mary's, Christchurch, St Peter's,  
St George's, Preshute and Mustard Seed.

**Annual subscription** £5 for 11 copies a year delivered to your address.  
Please ring Rosemary Spiller (512338)