
TOWER AND TOWN



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JUNE 2022

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TOWER^{AND}TOWN

THE MAGAZINE OF MARLBOROUGH'S COMMUNITY AND CHURCHES

NUMBER 726 JUNE 2022



You're not from around here, are you!

'We will, by an unavoidable error, bring ourselves along to every destination we'd ever wanted to enjoy.'

How to Travel – The School of Life

For this June edition of Tower and Town, I invited my contributors to use the phrase, *'You're not from around here, are you'*, thinking eventually I would find a more appropriate title. After acquiring the first couple of pieces, I realised it was perfect. It's what people say, almost word for word.

I invited the following contributors to use the title and a list of questions to help them talk about their thoughts on being originally from somewhere else and settling here in Marlborough.

Many of the people who took part, shared similar thoughts about living here including:

- The people of Marlborough are friendly,
- They don't [don't make me] feel like a foreigner here,
- The high street is unusual,
- The town feels like home,
- And a wish for more basic less expensive shops.

Thank you to all those who found a moment to contribute to this edition and thank you to the Tower and Town magazine committee for providing us with an opportunity to sing the town's praises.

April Nobes

Ozlem, Originally from Kigi, Turkey

Originally from the town of Kigi in the district of Bingöl Province in the Eastern Anatolia region of Turkey, Ozlem (Oh-z-lem) Goksal has lived in Marlborough for the past 10 years.

Ozlem lives in Marlborough with her husband and their three children Rojin, Rojda and Mizgin. The youngest, Mizgin, will join her sisters at St John's at the beginning of the next academic year.

When asked what she likes about Marlborough, Ozlem described the town as small, beautiful, historical, safe, nice shops, and the people are very kind. When asked to offer some negative attributes, Ozlem said the shops could be expensive.

In response to whether she feels like a 'foreigner' in the town, Ozlem said she likes living here, she belongs, she is happy, and again, the people are kind. The reaction from people she meets for the first time is always positive.

Ozlem is happier now that her English has improved. Trying whenever possible to speak English has helped her improve her command of the language.

Ozlem is here to stay because, in addition to being a British national, she is also Kurdish, and in Marlborough, she is accepted and no one questions that freedom.

During our chat, Ozlem described the difficulty of being Kurdish in Turkey including having her father arrested and imprisoned. After her local school was closed, her family moved to Istanbul so that Ozlem could continue her schooling.

'This is my second home' offered Ozlem. This is also, she stressed, where her children are.

What would she tell someone wanting to relocate to Marlborough? 'It is small, there are kind people, and we have everything here.'



"Marlborough is small, there are kind people and we have everything here."

Marijke, Originally from Wormerveer, The Netherlands

Originally from Wormerveer in The Netherlands, Marijke (Ma-ray-kuh) Craig has lived in East Grafton near Marlborough for 42 years.

Marijke's history goes something like this: Marijke met her English husband while working as an assistant to the purser on a P & O Liner. She was employed to offer translation services to Dutch passengers en-route from The Netherlands to Sydney, Australia.

Her husband's job brought them to the Marlborough area and they chose to settle in East Grafton because the house, among other attractive features, had a swimming pool. In spite of the lovely situation, they didn't plan to stay forever.

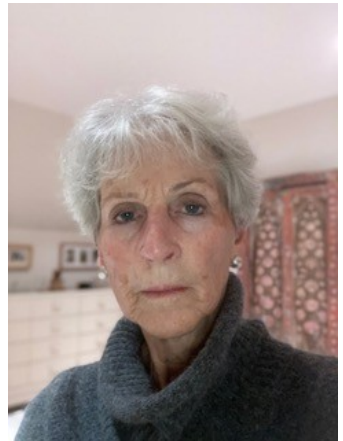
When invited to talk about the town of Marlborough, we exchanged stories of shops we loved and lost including Wardrobe and In the Red, two independent boutiques. Still, Marijke asserted, "It's a pretty town with pretty shops, and although the shops have opened and closed over the years, it's still inviting". The new florist's **Feather Moss Flowers** in Hughenden Yard is a particularly nice addition to the town.

Marijke doesn't feel like a foreigner here although the bureaucracy of having to apply for settled status after Brexit brought up some of those feelings.

In conversation about how she stays true to her culture, we talked at length about food including Dutch pancakes served with a special Dutch syrup that are adored by Marijke's grandchildren. Marijke also mentioned Hagelslag, which are chocolate sprinkles served on bread with butter, another Dutch treat.

When asked what keeps her here? Marijke replied, "It's home". What would she suggest to anyone wanting to settle in Marlborough? "When we first came here, we really loved the fact that people gave us a chance to feel at home by inviting us for drinks, coffee, and or a meal to meet lots of people. It was so helpful. So my advice would be to accept those invitations."

Finally Marijke suggested to newcomers, "Don't start pining after your own country because life is here!"



*"Don't start pining after
your own country.
Life is here.."*

Darlene Staples, Originally from the city of Calgary in Alberta, Canada

How long have you lived here?

I have lived in Pewsey for the past 3 years.

What brought you to the Marlborough area?

My daughters asked me to live in England. My grandchild was also part of that offer. Soon after I arrived, one of my daughters gave me lessons in how to pronounce 'Marlborough' instead of 'Marlboro'.

What do you like about Marlborough?

I really like the people.

Do you feel like a foreigner here?

I feel more at home here than anywhere else I have lived including my beautiful home country. People don't realise what a paradise this area is for walkers. Compared to encountering signs in Canada warning walkers of bears, there's much more freedom to hike here.

What do you dislike about Marlborough?

This isn't a question I've spent much time contemplating, but if I had to offer a criticism, it would be I wish there were a few more 'normal' shops selling basics. There used to be an interesting shoe shop on the high street that is now gone.

How do you stay true to your culture while being a resident of the Marlborough area?

Having also lived in the USA, Singapore, and South Africa, I'm more international. I have a different mind-set.

What keeps you here?

I love it here. Even if my daughter left, I don't know that I would leave.

Are you treated differently?

My accent is a big plus. It is a key to conversations in the same way everyone's accent is a key to opening up conversations.

What were your first impressions of the town of Marlborough?

I was amazed by the High Street. It didn't look like England. It reminded me of places I'd lived previously including Texas and Calgary.

What tips would you give someone from your home country who planned to settle here?

Get involved in the community, take advantage of the footpaths, and explore the area. Also, be prepared to be amazed. There's so much history here.





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April, Originally from Rochester, New York

It's an afternoon in May and warm enough to sit on the steps outside the town hall where my son can finish eating the burger we bought from the open grill in front of the butchers. The ketchup runs down his chin.

A man approaches and says something about the lovely weather and I agree. He stops and asks me where

I'm from, what brought me to Marlborough, and how do I like living here. I dispense my usual replies hardly having to think about my answers: I'm originally from Rochester, New York. I married an English man while living and working in Japan, and I love living in the town of Marlborough.

The man continues on his way, and my son, having finished his burger, asks me how the man knew I was American.

It's true. I met and married a guy named Guy whom I met while teaching English in Japan. Wanting to have children and preferring the support of family, Guy applied and accepted a job back in the UK. We eventually had two children, Phoebe and Max, and have lived in the town since 1995.

When I arrived, the one-horse-town didn't immediately strike me as special. Where were the winding roads leading to the off-the-beaten-track shops? Where was I supposed to buy bedding and underwear? And why didn't any of the shops stock peanut butter or molasses? And finally, what about a cinema? The nearest one was 25 minutes by car.

I've since discovered, through patience, children and friends, I love living in Marlborough. The town has everything my heart requires.

When I think of newcomers, I am reminded of 'The Parable of the Two Villages':



"The town has everything my heart requires.."

Turn to the bottom of page 9 for April's parable

Saleha, Originally from Paris, France

I will never forget when I first arrived in Marlborough in January 1999. My first thought was, 'What have I done?'. I could only see a wild-west-like High Street surrounded by nothing. I hadn't chosen Marlborough. I had only contacted a work-placement agency and 'voilà', I landed in 'Sleepy Town', at the wonderful Ivy House Hotel.

My name is Salèha. I am originally from Paris and I had never lived or been in the countryside before. Now, Marlborough has a special place in my heart. It is also where I met my husband Michael.

I was only supposed to stay one year in the UK to learn English, but fate and love decided otherwise. After meeting my husband, we moved a lot before deciding to come back to Marlborough to settle as a family. After Enzo my son was born, it seemed the right place to be.

Marlborough has always been a very welcoming place. I remember people saying, 'You look so French', and 'Your background is so interesting. Tell me more'. This was so different from France. Being from an Algerian Kabyle (Berber) background meant that growing up in France was not always easy. Between the constant questioning of my origins by the 'Français de souches', or white French, and the heart-breaking attitude from the Algerians, not wanting anything to do with the French-born Algerians, I always felt that between the two countries, I was never accepted. Marlborough was the only place where I was welcomed open-armed, and I am proud to call it home. It is where I belong.

I am not pretending it has never been difficult. Being from a French, Mediterranean background, our attitude towards life is different and culturally at odds at times. The most challenging for me was the playground. When my son started primary school, I did not have the best experience. I clashed a lot with some parents.



"Marlborough has always been a very welcoming place."

My take on English culture is, 'Always look on the bright side', because here, I have made long lasting friendships and I would not change a thing. This is my home. I proudly retain my French and Algerian citizenship, my husband keeps his Anglo-Austrian roots, and religiously we nurture our mixture of three religions, Islam, Church of England and Jewish. I feel patriotic towards the United Kingdom and have adopted the Queen. This is our cultural gift to my son and a precious identity that we cherish as a family.

I don't believe there is a recipe to finding happiness as a foreigner. One must adapt, be open minded, be prepared to learn, discover and adopt others' traditions and ways of living. But one must never refute, neglect and compromise with their own origins and culture. It's a fine balance and the result is amazing.

Oldies Radio Sit-Com Quiz

A little light relief in these troubled times and the older you are the better your chances! Answers on page 21 but test your memory first. Below are the initials of radio programmes of that golden era of comedy from the late 1930s to the mid 1960s, when comedians said funny things and didn't depend on obscenities or on insulting members of the audience to raise a laugh (clue)..

B	ITMA	SE	MBITM	KS	TIFH
RAL	EA	TARS	MTH	TGS	HHH
LWTL	BOK	TCK	TNL	TMFTM	TMW
RTH					

And can you remember the comedians and comedy actors who were featured?

April's parable (continued from page 7)

A man who was travelling came upon a farmer working in his field and asked him what the people in the next village were like. The farmer asked "What were the people like in the last village you visited?" The man responded "They were kind, friendly, generous, great people." "You'll find the people in the next village are the same," said the farmer.

Another man who was travelling to the same village came up to the same farmer somewhat later and asked him what the people in the next village were like. Again the farmer asked "What were the people like in the last village you visited?" The second man responded, "They were rude, unfriendly, dishonest people." "You'll find the people in the next village are the same," said the farmer.

Claudius, Originally from Bad Homburg, Germany

My wife, two daughters (7 and 10) and I came to Marlborough from Germany in the summer of 2021. And boy, I tell you, moving as an English-German family post Brexit and during Covid makes any move I had done before feel like a walk in the park. But we made it and could not have been received by the town with arms wider open.

Our neighbours invited us over and offered help or a chat whenever they could. I have been accepted as a committee member for the Marlborough Town Football Club, and found some awesome guys to play football with, our team: 'Old Farts, Run Free'.

We discovered Park Runs on The Common on Saturdays and the school as well as church communities could not have been more inclusive or offered better ways of meeting wonderful people. We have already made very good friends that we hope to stay in touch with for a very long time. Last, but not least, we found our locals, The Green Dragon for drinks and The Royal Oak for football. After less than a year, we feel truly at home.

There are a few things I love about Marlborough that were peculiar to me in the beginning, things I probably won't notice in the future and I want to share them before I am fully used to them. Here are my top 3:

1. Marlborough Notice Board on Facebook: The way people engage about not such big matters, 'Yarn bombers', and big matters, 'Savernake Forest', with equal passion. And there are always some contributors with a great sense of humour. Even when discussing the untouchable topic of parking space on the High Street.

2. Wellies are common footwear anytime and anywhere. This is Wiltshire to me. People are out and about because they work outdoors or enjoy nature. And this is an integral part of life here. So walking in muddy boots through the High Street or into a pub doesn't raise any eyebrows – unlike, I believe, in other parts of this



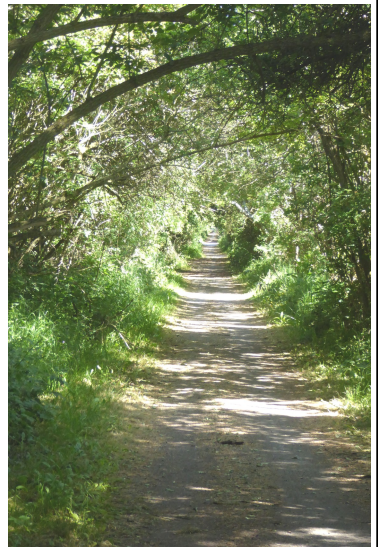
"Walking in muddy boots through the High Street or into a pub doesn't raise any eyebrows."

country. This leads me to my next point:

3. There are more pubs per capita in this town than anywhere I have been before. There is a pub for every occasion no matter what you are after and what you feel like; from the ones where you want to make sure you will not stick out, (no matter what you do or how you behave after a few pints), to the ones you would take high-level business partners to; from watching football pubs to eating out pubs; from family-friendly pubs to dog-friendly pubs. There is always the right pub to go to.

Last but not least, I would like to draw your attention to the ‘Marlborough Stammtisch’. In Germany, a “Stammtisch” is a meeting of a group of people on a regular basis and at the same place. It took me no time to get together a surprisingly large group of people who speak German as a first or second language and who like to discuss life in Marlborough or life back home - wherever that might be. If you are interested, come and join our Marlborough Stammtisch Facebook Group to find out more.

Perhaps some countryside reasons why people like Marlborough?



It is a universal fact that whatever people leave behind when they migrate, they always take with them their cooking', A history of the world in 100 objects, Neil MacGregor.

Sometime during my first few years in Marlborough, things I couldn't find included:

Peanut butter without added sugar and emulsifiers,

Molasses to make gingerbread cookies, gingerbread cake and pioneer hotcakes,

Cornmeal until I discovered polenta was virtually the same product,

Large oats as opposed to the finely ground stuff that when cooked turns to something more similar to wallpaper paste,

Butternut squash not costing the earth,

Beets which turned out to be a translation issue and not a scarcity. Ferreting through the produce department at Waitrose, I asked the shop assistant where I could find beets. He replied 'Beets?'. 'Yes, beets.' No, he hadn't heard of such a thing. A woman overhearing my request informed me I was asking the wrong question and should be searching for Beetroot and 'ta-da', there they were on the top shelf complete with stems, roots and a smattering of earth,

Reese's Peanut Butter Cups which are now everywhere and I'm sorry I ever wished for them because they are a treat and not a food and the expanding waistline of the British public can blame the Americans for importing such things,

Toll House chocolate chips for making chocolate chip cookies. Although not essential, they are superior in flavour and size to chocolate drops or nibs for making true, soft and delicious chocolate chip cookies. Peanut butter and molasses (see above) were also useful for making cookies.

On the flip side, I've adopted the following: An electronic weighing scale for measuring everything that isn't described as being portioned out in American cups and 1/2 cups.

Roasted cobnuts and kalettes (a kale sprout hybrid) when in season. Thick oatcakes and black pudding year round. There's a lot I would miss if I didn't live here, but thankfully, I don't intend to leave any time soon to find out what I'd miss most.



by Paige Hayden-Tubbs

There is a new group of people who have moved to the Marlborough area. None of them knew at the start of this year that within months their lives would be shattered and they would find themselves living far from home separated from their loved ones. Notwithstanding the UK government appearing to make the *Homes for Ukraine* scheme as inaccessible as possible, with the support of a small team helping match Ukrainians with local residents, more than 20 families have found homes in the Marlborough area. Many are still waiting for visa applications to be processed to enable them to enter the UK.

For most people in our community, we chose to live here. For newly arrived Ukrainians, they just need a safe place to call home. Many families are from vibrant cities in the Ukraine. It is taking some adjustment to embrace country life particularly as they are without cars, dependent on public transport and lifts from their host families. When they left their homes, they packed what they could carry. It was February and very cold. There was no space in their luggage for luxuries, just the bare essentials.

Two families travelled to Marlborough in a small car. Two adults, two teenagers and a young child left limited space for luggage. The computer hard-drive was prioritised over clothes demonstrating one member's desire to be able to work wherever she landed.

There is a mix of emotions amongst the Ukrainian community about being here. For some, they will be on the first plane or train home as soon as it is safe to do so. They are desperate to be reunited with their sons, husbands, fathers and elderly parents who were unable to travel. For many, they are only here for as long as it is necessary to protect their children from the horrors of what is happening in Ukraine. For others, they are trying to put a positive lens on the situation and see this as an opportunity. No one knows how long the war in Ukraine will last and what will be left of their homes when it is safe to return. For now, they are focusing on building a new life here. For the duration of their 3 years visa, they are safe, they can work, their children can attend school and they can start to rebuild a life for themselves.

What's On in June

2nd (Thursday)

2pm-5pm High Street, Marlborough. The Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations. Street party with live music, street entertainers, children's activities and more. See Marlborough Town Council website, www.marlborough-tc.gov.uk for more details

2.45pm Priory Gardens. Ceremonial tree planting. The Mayor will plant a tree; one of 70 to be planted in Marlborough across the year to mark the Monarch's 70-year reign, all to be added to the map for The Queen's Green Canopy

9.45pm The Common. Beacon lighting. Marlborough's beacon will be lit along with more than 1,500 across the UK and the Commonwealth. See www.marlborough-tc.gov.uk for further information

2nd (Thursday) - 5th (Sunday)

10 am-4pm St Peter's Church will be open all weekend for the Festival of Flags and Flowers with Tower Tours available too

3rd (Friday)

3.30pm Recreation Ground, Marlborough. Family Afternoon Tea to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. Featuring live music, games, stalls and a delicious cream tea. Bring a picnic rug – all are welcome! Carparks on Salisbury Road and St Margaret's Mead. More details on the website, www.emmanuelmarlborough.org *See page 3.*

4th (Saturday)

9.30am-12.30pm Marlborough College. Royal Connection Tours. Self-directed walking tours, will take about 30 minutes. No booking required. Pick up a leaflet in Court, read the stories and follow the map

10am High Street, Marlborough. U3A is organising a classic car parade around the town centre, ending in the High Street alongside the market

The Parade. Pop-up food stalls, fun and games. See www.marlborough-tc.gov.uk for further details

5th (Sunday)

2pm-4pm Town Hall. All entries of The Great Jubilee Bake-Off can be viewed, with judging from 4pm, led by Danny Kruger MP. £5 entry fee. For more information, to enter and receive the cupcake recipe, email jubileebake2022@gmail.com *See page 21.*

2pm-5pm High Street, Manton. Street party, live music, food and drink.

2pm-10pm The Common. Marlborough Rotary Club's Platinum Picnic with a host of activities, games, entertainment, food and drink. *See page 18.*

5th (Sunday)

Marlborough College: return from Half Term (to Friday 1st July)

6th (Monday)

St John's: Term 6 starts (to Wednesday 20th July)

7th (Tuesday)

St Mary's: Term 6 starts (to Friday 22nd July)

9th (Thursday)

2pm Mildenhall Village Hall. Marlborough Floral Club. Martina Coleman: Anything Goes. Treat yourselves to an enjoyable afternoon out on the first Thursday of each month (second Thursday in June, due to Jubilee celebrations). There is a Guest Demonstrator and the arrangements are raffled at the end of the demonstration. For more information, please call Micky Graham 01672 514301

11th (Saturday) - 12th (Sunday)

10am-5pm Rainscombe Park, Oare SN8 4HZ. Rainscombe Country Show. Set in the stunning grounds of Rainscombe Park, this show comprises an expansive range of exhibits, tractors, cars, motorcycles and machinery of all ages, with local crafts and produce. Admission £5 (accompanied under 16s free). Free Parking

12th (Sunday)

Open Farm Sunday at the Gourmet Goat Farmer, Avebury SN4 9NW. Tractor rides, meet the animals, crafts, face-painting, sheep shearing, spinning and weaving demonstrations. BBQ, cakes and beer. www.spacefornature.net

25th (Saturday)

11am-11pm Manton Grange Watermeadow, Preshute Lane. MantonFest. A great day out for all the family. Great music, food and drink. Advance tickets available now, see website for further details www.mantonfest.co.uk

Future events

3rd July (Sunday)

6pm St Peter's Church. Annual Choral Evensong. Guest preacher: The Revd Mark Philips, formerly Team Rector of the Roxteth Team Ministry in Harrow. All welcome

30th August (Tuesday) - 2nd September (Friday)

9am to 12.30pm Christchurch, Marlborough. Eternity and Beyond Summer Holiday Bible Club. Bookings open now. Open to all finishing school years Reception to Year 6. Join us as we go on an adventure through time and space! There will be games, crafts, activities, songs and Bible stories. Contact Stephen@EmmanuelMarlborough.org for further information. £10 per family for the week. Registration necessary, via the website, www.emmanuelmarlborough.org/eternity-and-beyond.

Peter Norman Hancock, very much loved husband of Jeanette and much loved uncle, passed away at the Great Western Hospital aged 88 on 13th March. He was well-known in the town as a former manager of Lloyd's Bank, a member of St Mary's Church and also a keen walker.

Peter moved to Bristol when he was 16 months old, his father returning to his place of birth. He lived in Bristol attending the Grammar School as one of the Scholarship boys after the war.

Taking banking exams he worked his way up to become the manager at Lloyds in Marlborough. He was very active in the Marlborough Rotary Club.

Jeanette & Peter met at a dance at the Winter Gardens in Weston Super Mare and were married on 27th June 1959. They were blessed with a long & happy marriage.

The funeral service, attended by the family, took place at Bristol South Crematorium on April 5th. Peter will be much missed by his family and friends.

Harry Drabble of Back Lane, Marlborough, who came to the town in 1987 sadly passed away on May 10th. An accountant by profession, he was also a musician, and was very involved in the Merchant's House where he provided early music for many events. He gave guitar lessons both privately and in local schools. If you wish to contact the family please email karendrubble.kd@gmail.com or phone daughter Helen on 07871 203644.

We send our condolences to the families of Peter and Harry.

Family afternoon tea

celebrating the Queen & her Christian faith

Friday 3rd June at 3.30pm

Marlborough "rec" Recreation Ground

Music & Cream Tea. Games & Stalls

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Royal Platinum Picnic

2pm - 10pm Sunday 5th June 2022

On Marlborough Common



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Face Painting



Punch and Judy Show

and Food

Robert's Famous Hog Roast

Farm Shop Tasties

Jelly and Ice Cream

Cakes

Sandwiches

Hotdogs

Barbeque Chicken Rolls



Climbing Wall

Sports Events

Football

Cricket



Rotary



One of the advantages of growing older is that you can be excused physical intrepidity (yes, it's a word, I checked). Though I like to imagine myself the kind of stern character who strides up mountains and hacks her way through jungles, the fact is I'm simply *not*. So I enjoy books about tougher types than me, like Alice Morrison. A few years ago I watched (twice) a BBC documentary in which she walked through the desert from Morocco to Timbuktu. Her new book **Walking with Nomads** describes three further journeys through Morocco. With three Amazigh (Berber) men and their camels the author trekked through desert and dried river beds. She describes and explains the effects of climate change and politics on the lives of the local people. As a woman, she also has access to women and the domestic area that a male traveller would not, learning about the challenges of the nomadic life. But what I enjoyed was the humour, generosity and friendship she enjoyed with her travelling companions. Initially, she writes, she was concerned that she would be lonely, as a Western, Christian woman with three Muslim men from traditional backgrounds, but they immediately develop a matey, teasing relationship – and she introduces them to Father Christmas!

From rolling down the golden sand, to Greenland's icy mountains, so to speak – I didn't think I was particularly interested in glaciers, other than knowing that their melting is a Bad Thing. **Ice Rivers**, by Gemma Wadham (short-listed for the Richard Jefferies Prize) taught me more than I remember from long-ago Geography O-level, yet manages to be entirely accessible and readable. The author is a glacial biogeochemist, and describes a series of field trips, over a number of years, and is another forceful message about climate change – an alarming, disturbing description of these ice -rivers retreating, and perhaps being lost forever. It's 'proper science', but with personal and psychological depth, from an author who describes how it's possible for even a scientist to recognise that our interaction with the natural world can have a real emotional and even spiritual aspect. A book that was an unexpected pleasure for me.

To finish, a novel. **The Whalebone Theatre** by Joanna Quinn took me by surprise. It's immersive, playful and sharp, a story of interwoven lives in the inter-war years, comic and heart-breaking, thoroughly satisfying. The scenes set during the liberation of Paris in 1945 are as good as any I've read, the characters are both realistic and fantastical, and this is a book I'm going to re-read for years.

Our songbirds have been chortling away since April, and with the arrival of more summer visitors singing even more vociferously in the merry month of May. Birds use song to attract mates, defend territories and warn of dangers, but in June things quieten down, and the contact calls of the adults and the sibilant twittering of youngsters take over. Why do they stop? Well, single and double-brooded species have little need to continue singing and birds begin moulting in the summer and need to avoid advertising their presence to predators.

I'm often asked for tips in identifying song: some are easy to remember, such as the “little bit o’ bread and no cheese” of the yellowhammer, even if lazy birds sometimes forget the no cheese bit! The chaffinch song resembles a bowler running up to the crease and delivering a ball with a final flourish, and the tiny goldcrest with its thin, circling strain also concludes with a final twiddle. Then there’s the monotonous and mournful “U-**ni**-ted” of the collared dove (suitable for a team having a bad season) and the rather nicer “Be **care**-ful, Sylvie!” of the woodpigeon. The fairly similar looking thrushes are easily separated by sound: the song thrush is like a diligent chorister repeating its phrases: “bo-peep” x3, “shulair” x3 etc., while the mistle thrush has a mournful, drawling strain even during adverse weather, hence the nickname “stormcock”.

The easiest are those whose name derives from their call: cuckoo, peewit and **jack**daw for example, and the chiffchaff, who sometimes absent-mindedly misfires with “chaff-chiff”!

What with “Tweet of the day” and an app called “Wablr”, which recognises and identifies a species when you play its song into your phone, there is plenty of help out there. “UK Birds Sounds” allows you to play a whole range of songs to aid recognition, even to stimulate a bird to sing by playing to it, but **beware**, for a bird hearing a recording of its song may believe its territory is being invaded.

Someone once said to me “if you don’t recognise a call it’s probably a great tit.” At Marlborough I set out for College on my bike past an orchard. A great tit called with a mocking “tea-cher, tea-cher” and I thought...” well actually teaching is positive, interesting, rewarding...., so there!”

I came back in the evening after a day of frustrations, difficult pupils and rain wetting my books. That damned great tit called again, but with a different strain: “told yuh, told yuh!”.

JUBILEE BAKE OFF

in support of The Mayor's Jubilee Fund for Marlborough charities.

Sunday 5th June The Town Hall, Marlborough

To enter please bake either:

Jubilee Cup Cakes - you must use our special recipe but decorated in your own style

A Jubilee Show Stopper - must be baked and spectacular

(£5 entry fee per bake)

Viewing of entries 2-4pm

Judging at 4pm by Danny Kruger MP

For info on recipe, entry, deadlines and more, email jubileebake2022@gmail.com

Oldies Sit-Com Answers

Bandwagon	Arthur Askey, Richard Murdoch
It's That Man Again	Tommy Handley
Stand Easy	Charlie Chester and the Crazy Gang
Much Binding In The Marsh	Richard Murdoch, Kenneth Horne, Sam Costa
Keep Smiling	Charlie Chester and the Crazy Gang
Up The Pole	Jimmy Jewel, Ben Warris, Julie Andrews (yes)
Take It From Here	Jimmy Edwards, Dick Bentley, June Whitfield
Ray's A Laugh	Ted Ray, Kitty Bluett, Peter Sellers
Education Archie	Peter Brough, Tony Hancock, Julie Andrews!
The Al Read Show	Al Read
Meet The Huggets	Jack Warner, Kathleen Harrison
The Goon Show	Harry Secombe, Peter Sellers, Spike Milligan
Hancock's Half Hour	Tony Hancock, Sid James, Hattie Jaques, Bill Kerr
Life With The Lyons	Ben Lyon, Bebe Daniels, Barbara & Richard Lyon
Beyond Our Ken	Kenneth Horne, Kenneth Williams, Hugh Paddick
The Clitheroe Kid	Jimmy Clitheroe
The Navy Lark	Leslie Philips, John Pertwee, Heather Chasen
The Men From The Ministry	Richard Murdoch, Deryck Guyler
Thirty Minutes Worth	Harry Worth
Round The Horn	Kenneth Horne, Kenneth Williams, Hugh Paddick

Everyone likes receiving gifts. But gifts can be deceptive. We all know that feeling you get when in the supermarket or at the petrol pump or in the newspaper you come across a notice which proclaims: "FREE GIFT". The first reaction might well be of interest as we all like to get something for nothing, but, as likely as not, the second will be one of caution as none of us likes to be duped. What's the catch, we wonder.

But there is one kind of gift which has no catches and which we are always ready to receive. It is the gift that expresses love - the gift of a child to its parents, of a friend to a friend, of a husband to his wife or vice versa. It might be argued that even here there are strings attached, but these are strings of the most delightful kind, strings that draw us closer to the one we love.

Sunday, 5th June, in the Christian Calendar, is the celebration of Pentecost. The free gift is the Holy Spirit - the gift promised is the gift of love, for Holy Spirit is the burning love that flows between God the Father and God the Son, and so to receive the Spirit is to have God's own love poured into our hearts, drawing us ever closer to God and to each other.

Because the Holy Spirit is a "free gift", costing us nothing, that we may take the Spirit for granted. As Saint Paul explains, the presence of the Holy Spirit produces a whole variety of gifts, many of them so unspectacular that we hardly notice them, like the gift of being a good listener, the gift of being cheerful even when things are difficult, the gift of being a good and patient parent, the gift of being able to say "Jesus is Lord" when troubled by sickness or hurt. When we open our lives to the Holy Spirit, things begin to happen, lives change, things that seemed impossible become possible: "Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth". (Psalm 103:30). May this prayer echo and re-echo in our hearts, minds, words and actions not only on the 5th June but always.

Local News and Comments

People like to know what's going on in our town and district so if you have family news or news of forthcoming events that you would like to share with our readers, do please contact Jessy Pomfret or the relevant compiler as listed on page 28.

Also if you would like to comment, commend or complain about anything we publish (or fail to publish) do contact the chairman.


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FROM THE REGISTERS

Funerals - *we pray for the families of:*

9 March	Andrew Turnell (74)	Churchill Court, Marlborough <i>St Mary's, Marlborough</i>
11 March	Charlotte Snook (20)	Savernake, Marlborough <i>St Mary's, Marlborough</i>
15 April	Rosemary Hawes (87)	River Park, Marlborough <i>St Georges, Preshute</i>
16 April	Paul Fern (67)	Rabley Wood View, Marlborough <i>St Mary's Marlborough</i>
21 April	Sarah Bernays (82)	Froxfield, Marlborough <i>St George's, Preshute</i>

News from the Churches - June

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

Afternoon Tea: 3.30pm Friday 3rd June at the Marlborough Youth and Community Centre.

St Mary's celebrates the Jubilee on Sunday 5th June at St Mary's at 10.30 am sharing with the Christchurch congregation and the Town Council.

Pentecost

At 5.30pm on Sunday 5th June the Anglican team will be celebrating Pentecost at their informal worship.

Women's Fellowship

meets on **Tuesdays 7th & 21st June** at Christchurch, New Road at 2.45pm for tea, coffee and chat.

Confirmation classes

Classes start on Wednesday 8th June at the St Mary's Rectory, Rawlingswell Lane at 5pm or 7.30pm.

If you are interested, would like more information or to talk to someone, please contact Penny at the Anglican team office. (01672 512357)

The Confirmation service will be on Sunday 26th June at 5:30 pm.



Messy Church at St George's

The next Messy Church will be taking place at St George's, Preshute on Saturday 11th June at 2pm. For more information please contact Amanda Brown, amandabrown46@hotmail.co.uk

Marlborough Churches Together Fraternal

meets at the Rectory on Wednesday 8th June at 12.30pm.



Marlborough Area Poverty Action Group (MAPAG)

Plan to have their next open meeting on Monday 27th June.



Christchurch

While Rev Stephen Skinner remains on Sabbatical the congregation is continuing with their 10:30 Services through the summer. Stephen writes " We were delighted that the Tongan Church celebrated their UK Easter Gathering at Christchurch and that we have been able to send Toys & Games to children in Ukraine."



Emmanuel

We are grateful to meet for a weekly Sunday service at 4pm at Christchurch, New Road, with crèche and Sunday School groups. All are welcome to stay afterwards for refreshments and a sandwich tea for children. Mid-week we are also delighted to offer a variety of activities including homegroups meeting in Marlborough, Pewsey and Ogbourne St George and community groups as detailed below:

EMMANUEL
MARLBOROUGH



Little Friends Toddler Group, Thursdays, 10-11:30am at the Marlborough Community and Youth Centre. Come and enjoy free play, singing and story time, snacks for children and refreshments for carers.

Sparklers 20 June 3:45-4:45pm (Doors open at 3:30pm) at the Wesley Hall, Oxford Street, Marlborough. A monthly kids club for school years Reception to Year 2. Games, Snacks and Bible Stories! For more information or to join, please email sparklers@emmanuelmarlborough.org.

Explorers, Fridays, 6-7:15pm at the Wesley Hall, Oxford Street, Marlborough. Our kids club for school years 3-6. Fun, games, tuck and a short Bible talk (bring 50p for tuck) Friday Nights 7:30-9pm at the Wesley Hall, Oxford Street, Marlborough.

Youth Club for school years 7-11. Friends, fun & faith – everyone welcome! Hope Explored A 3 session short introduction to Christianity, from Luke's Gospel. All welcome to come and ask any question or just listen! For more details, email office@emmanuelmarlborough.org

Future dates

To Eternity and Beyond!

Join us as we go on an adventure through time and space! There'll be games, crafts, activities, songs and Bible stories!

30th August – 2nd September. 9:00-12:30 at Christchurch, Marlborough
Open to all finishing school years Reception to Year 6

Registration is necessary. Bookings open now. The cost is £10 for the whole week per family. If you're bringing multiple children you only need to pay once!

Contact Stephen@EmmanuelMarlborough.org if you have any questions.

Sign up on our website: <https://www.emmanuelmarlborough.org/eternity-and-beyond/>



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Contributions and comments from readers are welcome.

Please send articles and letters to the Monthly Editor or the Chairman, other notices or announcements to the compiler. All items for the July issue by Tuesday 7th June 2022 please.

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