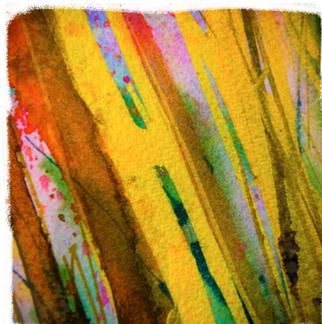


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# TOWER AND TOWN

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Marlborough Open Studios July 2022

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JULY 2022

Single copy £1; Annual subscription £5

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# TOWER AND TOWN

THE MAGAZINE OF MARLBOROUGH'S COMMUNITY AND CHURCHES

NUMBER 727 JULY 2022



A highlight of the Wiltshire calendar and one we all look forward to is the Marlborough Open Studios event, celebrating the incredible local talent across the North Wessex Downs. From its origins in 1995 with 15 artists exhibiting during the Marlborough Festival, it has now become an integral part of the local summer scene. This year we have 63 artists opening the doors of their studios to visitors during the first 4 weekends of July. Best of all, this is a free event and all are welcome to drop in.



Geographically, studios are spread from Devizes to Hungerford, and from Chirton to Wroughton, and with such beautiful countryside in between you are sure to have a wonderful day out visiting our artists and discovering the treasures they have to show you. The expression of their creativity is very diverse - from painters to sculptors, ceramicists to photographers and mixed media specialists, there is something for all tastes. But probably the most exciting part is seeing them in their studio environment, finding out how they work, where their inspiration comes from and really appreciating the skill that goes into every piece. Who knows, you could fall in love with something completely unique that graces your home or garden for years to come, or is the perfect gift for a dear friend or relation. *Tower and Town* have enabled us to give you a taster of what is to come over the next pages, and we hope it entices you to visit. To find out more go to <https://www.marlboroughopenstudios.co.uk>, or follow us on Instagram and Facebook with the latest updates. We will be distributing our coveted **brochures** during June to local shops, cafés, and centres around the area so pick one up and have a browse to plan your route. We very much look forward to welcoming you.

**Paul Oakley** Chairman, Marlborough Open Studios

## A Visitor's Experience

**The best way to understand the thrills of Marlborough Open Studios is through the eyes of a visitor – here's what one visitor from 2021 described to us.**

“On a beautiful sunny July weekend last year we set off for an artistic adventure – a leisurely tour of some Marlborough Open Studios, meeting the artists, admiring their work and having a spot of lunch along the way. And what a delight it was.

Looking through the brochure in June a smorgasbord of talent lay before us, and after much discussion we agreed the artists we most wanted to see and planned our route across the Wessex countryside.



Starting in Devizes we headed off to All Cannings, a typical chocolate box village and found the studio of Paul Oakley in a ‘retired’ cricket pavilion on the edge of the village. Paul’s landscapes and still life oil paintings were so impressive, and it was wonderful to speak to him about his artistic process as we looked at some pieces in progress. We were inspired to join one of his oil painting courses later in the year, although we haven’t painted since school!

Next we worked our way through the Downs spotting the crisp outline of a white horse at Alton Barnes before we arrived in Pewsey at the home and studio of Mini de Kersaint. Her charming studio was alive with visitors deciding which piece they loved most, and many walking away with prints of the most popular pieces. Her work in mixed media manages to capture the essence of the Pewsey Vale, so joyful that we too joined the ranks of leaving with a cherished print for our wall at home.



With rumbling tummies we headed north towards Marlborough and after a bite to eat at The Food Gallery (gorgeous lunch!) we strolled down the High Street to find The Wagon Yard artist collective. Tucked away in a courtyard at the end of the town this gem of a studio was home to several MOS artists.

Upstairs we browsed the wonders of intricately decorated ceramic lights by Jane Renwick, uplifting artworks by Kate Wade, funky splash plates and raku vessels by Jacqui Melhuish and stylish bowls and stoneware by Mary Thorne. Downstairs we could see all the ‘workings’ of a ceramicist’s workshop, and understood better the incredible skill (and jeopardy!) that goes into creating these pieces.



With some birthday gifts purchased it was back in the car and on our way back to Devizes, but not without a final studio visit to Alison Bowyer, and her daughter Bronte Adam just outside Marlborough. Their garden, studio and home was filled with amazing glass sculptures crafted by Alison using fused glass and wire. From tiny blue ‘tits on sticks’ to wall mounted salmon and a stunning showpiece of a 3D peacock, it was all enthralling. But the highlight was seeing inside the studio at the bottom of the garden where Alison works, with the full rainbow spectrum of ‘frit’ she uses to replicate nature and make the pieces come alive. Inside the house we saw works by Bronte, who is a printmaker. As a nature enthusiast her work uses a limited and vibrant colour palette with a variety of subjects. Each one is so perfectly depicted we were in awe of the skill it takes to craft each image, particularly when she explained her painstaking process.

On our journey home we reflected on our day, agreeing it had opened up a whole new world of understanding. We could not quite believe how much was on offer and the very high quality of what we saw. Plus we had explored parts of the local countryside we had never been to before.

We shall make this an annual event, and of course we now know where to go for unique Christmas presents.”

## A huge diversity of talent

One of the main features of the Marlborough Open Studios event is the huge range and diversity of artistic skill on show. We aim here to give you a flavour of what is available, but this is only a fraction of what we have in store for you. So by way of an introduction, here we go...

A large proportion of our artists are **painters and drawers**, using a wide range of media including oils, acrylics, watercolour and pastels, with some using mixed media to showcase their signature style. Lets take a look at some of their work.

### Landscapes and countryside

With such beautiful countryside surrounding us, is it surprising that many artists turn to our local landscape for inspiration? Although the hills and vales may seem familiar, the artists' treatment of them is very different.

#### 'Alton Barnes White Horse' by Simone Dawood

Simone is based at Bushton, and works mainly in oils on hand stretched Belgian linen. Her signature style is bold colourful landscape paintings and prints, with many of the images relating to nearby walk locations.



#### 'Marlborough Downs' by Meriel Balston

Meriel paints in oils, mainly using palette knives - and the always useful fingers! She paints landscapes, including the Marlborough Downs which surround her, and is particularly interested in the building up of colour and texture. She is based in Alton Barnes.

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### **'Anti-Twilight Arch' by Cathy Pearce**

Based in Netherstreet, Cathy works with pastels producing visually arresting landscapes and still life pieces which fizz with colour.

She is totally absorbed by the physics of light, particularly atmospheric optics which have enriched her experience of painting the landscape.

### **'Olivers Castle' by Mini De Kersaint**

Mini lives in Pewsey, and walks regularly in the landscape, documenting what she sees on camera and in sketchbooks which become references for paintings and mixed media projects. She particularly loves colour, light, shade, texture, the contours of the land and reflections on water.



### **'Autumn's Extrovert' by Julie Bolton**

Julie is based in Calne, and tells us “Over the last two years I have discovered the joy of soft pastel painting. The pure pigment and versatility of this medium lends itself to fur and foliage. I love to experiment with colour, mark making and texture. My

landscapes are a place for exploration and play.”

## Portraits and faces

**Faces are fascinating, and have been called "the organ of emotion".** Whether it's human or animal, the face portrays our feelings and responses to stimuli and is key in our interaction with those around us. Perhaps that is why we love to look at and interpret portraits. Here we showcase some wonderful faces our artists have created.

### **'Self Portrait at Nineteen' by Alexander Kai**

An outstanding young talent, Alexander's work focuses primarily on the human form. Working with a wide variety of media such as oil paints, pastels, ink and clay, he enjoys experimenting with different techniques in order to reflect the energy and soul of the subject, capturing it so that it may resonate further through his art. He is based in All Cannings



### **'Tyson' by Sofie Baker**

Sofie works in her garden studio in Chisbury, often on commissions. She mainly uses pastels but also experiments with all sorts of media from textile to oils, lettering and bookbinding. Her subjects vary from wildlife to landscapes to animal portraits.

### **'Colour Me Happy- Cornflower Blue' by Sophie Derrick**

Sophie's work focuses on portraiture, but with the use of the transformative properties of paint and photography this genre is skewed and manipulated. She photographs the act of painting on to skin and then paints on top of the printed photographs, creating a layering of image of paint and painted image, blurring the boundaries between the two. She is based in Burbage.



## Flowers and foliage

**Ralph Waldo Emerson once said “The earth laughs in flowers”,** and how well represented that sentiment is by our artists who have chosen to portray these wonders of nature in their art.

### **‘Pandemonium of Parrots’ by Ann Swan**



Based in Rowde, Ann champions the coloured pencil and loves the flexibility and colour brilliance that can be achieved with quality pencils. She often combines colour with pure graphite drawing and is constantly experimenting to develop new techniques and approaches in her contemporary botanical plant portraits. She has been awarded 4 RHS Gold Medals for her work.

### **‘Agapanthus by the Bay’ by Karen Lawrence-Bright**

Also based in Rowde, Karen enjoys painting in watercolours and oil. She works mostly to commission on landscapes, still life and garden paintings.



### **‘Elecampane’ by Jenny Trussell**

Jenny paints in oils and acrylics on larger canvas. Her inspiration has come recently from the pattern, colour and texture of plant growth. She loves using bright colours and looking at the negative spaces formed by the tangles of stems and flowers. Jenny is based in Pewsey.

## Whimsical and illustrative

**Whimsical - how to summarise this genre?** It's not of this world, but one we know (or hope) exists! How wonderful to open the door into a place of magic and fantasy! Or if you prefer something a little more literal, we give you an intimate view of the everyday world brought so charmingly to life through illustrations.



### **'Leap of Faith' by Ann Richmond**

Ann creates totally unique and unusual pieces – they have to be seen first hand to appreciate the detail that is captured in each depiction. She calls this style 'Magic Realism', and it transports you to an imaginary world of fantasy and wonder that will have you captivated and mesmerised. Ann is based in Ramsbury.

### **'Glow up' by Charlotte Dryden Kelsey**

Charlotte will be exhibiting at St Peter's Church in Marlborough. She is interested in storytelling and capturing a moment or memory in each artwork. This exhibition of work has a strong sense of place and is centred in telling everyday small stories around family and childhood. She works primarily in ink and watercolour with touches of collage and stitched detail.



### **'Not a Creature Was Stirring' by Chris Dunn**

Chris is a watercolour artist and children's book illustrator, influenced by Beatrix Potter, Arthur Rackham and Norman Rockwell. He will be showing a collection of original illustrations, drawings, signed limited edition prints, cards and books, including his illustrated 'The Wind in the Willows' published by Editions Caurette. He is

showing at the White Horse Bookshop on Marlborough High Street.

## Photographers

**“Photography takes an instant out of time, altering life by holding it still” - Dorothea Lange**

And that is certainly what our fabulous photographers achieve, sharing heart-stopping images that highlight the beauty around us. Here are a few of their jewels.



### **‘Savernake Trees’ By Stephen Davis**

Stephen’s studies of Savernake Forest are born out of a deep fascination with the forest ecosystem, inspired by the antiquity and manifest stories that are written into the dramatic shape and form of the ancient Oak and Beech Trees. Photographing in early morning light and atmospheric weather conditions he brings the forest to life, with imagination and emotion. He is based in Devizes.

### **‘Water Music’ By Nigel Hudson**

Nigel’s passion is the 'live' situation - opportunities that present themselves in a split second...an expression gone in a moment. His goal is to create images that invite the audience to enjoy the sense of excitement that he felt when he took the picture. He is based in Great Bedwyn.



### **‘Ranunculus’ by Deborah Husk**

Deborah’s studio in Alton Priors, just under the Alton white horse is where you will find a display of her still life photography. Her work is executed with precision and an eye for composition. Breathtakingly beautiful it is a feast for the eyes! She is more than happy to share secrets of her studio techniques.

## Sculptors

**Working in the 3 dimensional presents many challenges**, not least the technical feat of balancing the piece and ensuring it will stand! But our sculptors have mastered these techniques and present to you works that will delight and enthrall, for garden and home.

### **‘Contemplation 2021’ by Tom Hiscocks**

Tom is interested in the parallel experiences of constancy and change. His work is an attempt to reflect the essential nature of things, to create a form that is constant, but which also changes as the viewer engages with it, or as the context of the work changes. Tom is exhibiting in Avebury with Pascale Stacey.



### **‘Cockerel’ by Sarah MacCall**

Sarah works freehand so each sculpture is unique. She says “I love the effects different wires can produce from thick frameworks to delicate textures depicting feathers and hair. I find inspiration in gardens and the countryside; birds, hares and hens being my favourite subjects. I also enjoy making human figures.” Sarah is based in Bishops Cannings.

### **‘Bronze Construction 2’ by Richard Atkinson-Willes**

Richard is based at the Talos Gallery in Heddington near Calne. He tells us “Over the years I have made sculpture from plastics, concrete, glass, plaster, ceramics, fabrics, bronze, wood, stone – and just about anything interesting that I have found lying about.”



## Ceramicists, woodcrafters and glass specialists

**And now to the master-crafters**, those who work with texture, colour and form and wed them with functionality to produce wonderful pieces that have purpose in our lives as well as bringing joy to our homes. Here is a selection to tickle your tastebuds.



### **Nick Pearce- ceramicist**

Nick is based in Netherstreet at ‘The Gallery at Poppins’. He makes an eclectic variety of stoneware ceramic forms. They range from flat wall pieces to highly coloured functional mugs, jugs, bowls and vases. Always stylish, sophisticated and a joy to behold.

### **Karen Jackson – woodcrafter plus..**

Karen creates beautiful wooden platters with pictures which often reflect the local landscape or wildlife. The platters are hand made from locally sourced wood, usually Oak and the pictures are burned into the wood by hand. But there is much more to this talented lady: visit her studio to see other amazing expressions of her artistic skill.



### **Rhianon Beardsall – glassworker and ceramicist plus..**

Nature inspired, Rhianon celebrates colour in her joyful artwork. She creates colourful, contemporary mosaics in stained glass and ceramics, ranging from large panels to wearable art. A Fauvist at heart, she creates vibrant paintings in mixed media acrylic, from contemporary to layered abstracts. Rhianon works from her compact studio in Wroughton overlooking the Downs.

# What's On in July

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## **1<sup>st</sup> (Friday)**

Marlborough College: Summer Term ends (to Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September)

## **3<sup>rd</sup> (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

## **7<sup>th</sup> (Thursday)**

2pm Mildenhall Village Hall. Marlborough Floral Club. Stephanie Peniket – Wonderlust. Treat yourselves to an enjoyable afternoon out on the first Thursday of each month (no meeting in August). 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

## **Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th; Saturday 16th and Sunday 17th; Saturday 23rd and Sunday 24th**

### **11am - 5pm Open Studios in St Peter's Church**

Charlotte Kelsey, illustrator, will be exhibiting work that has a strong sense of place and is centred on storytelling. She will be demonstrating work in progress and offering 10 minute live illustrated portraits.

## **10<sup>th</sup> (Sunday)**

10.30am and 2pm Merchant's House. How Does your Garden Grow? Ask the Expert. A garden event hosted by Anya Medlin a local award winning garden designer, and held in one of Marlborough's beautiful private gardens, just off the High Street. This is a unique event in a setting not normally available for public access. *There are two sessions; a morning session at 10.30am and an afternoon session at 2pm.* Please see the MH website for further information and to book, [www.themerchantshouse.co.uk/events](http://www.themerchantshouse.co.uk/events). Tickets £12/Friends of MH £9

## **11<sup>th</sup> (Monday)**

Marlborough College Summer School starts (to Friday 5<sup>th</sup> August)

## **15<sup>th</sup> (Friday)**

7pm in St Peter's Church, A Climate Change event with Danny Kruger MP

7.30pm Ogbourne Maizey. 'An Inconvenient Wedding', an open air interactive murder mystery by The Walking Theatre Company, in aid of Youth Adventure Trust. Tickets in advance only 01672 512125/maizey50@gmail.com. *See further info on page 16.*

**20<sup>th</sup> (Wednesday)**

St John's: Term 6 ends (to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September)

**22<sup>nd</sup> (Friday)**

St Mary's: Term 6 ends (to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September)

**Sunday 24th - Sunday 31st 10am-4pm in St Peter's Church**

The Guild of Wiltshire Artists' annual Summer Exhibition

**30<sup>th</sup> (Saturday)**

10am – 6pm Wilton Windmill. 200<sup>th</sup>/201<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Celebration Open Day

**Future events:**

**30<sup>th</sup> August (Tuesday) - 2<sup>nd</sup> 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



**FROM THE REGISTERS**

**Weddings - we congratulate:**

14 May Sarah Osborne and Joel Hillier at St Mary's

21 May Florina Garleaunu and Richard North at St Mary's  
*(wedding blessing)*

**Departed - we pray for the families of:**

25 May Helen Anderson Fry (92), Blowhorn St, Marlborough  
*North Wilts Crematorium*

**Erratum**

Paul Fern lived in St Margaret's Mead, not Rabley Wood View as printed in the June edition. Our sincere apologies for this error.

## Printmaking and textiles

Finally, the printmakers, who have to think backwards as they design their images (imagine that?), and the textile specialists who stitch life into material and tell stories with their work.

### Jane Temperley – printmaker

The beautiful rural location near Jane's home in Heddington provides the inspiration for her artwork. She mainly uses monotype methods of printing as it allows a more expressive approach to her prints. Core themes of Landscapes, Birds, Fish, and Flowers are revisited often.



### Bronte Adam - printmaker

Bronte specialises in relief printing; her preferred method of printing is lino and woodblock. Bronte is a nature enthusiast and her prints bring to life galah cockatoos perched in eucalyptus trees or plump ripe grapefruits nestled in leaves. She studied printed textiles and surface pattern design at Leeds Arts University; the bold stylised foliage and strong colours are a note to her discipline. Her work will be shown in Marlborough at the Studio of Alison Bowyer.

### Ann Louise Smith – mixed media and textiles

This year Ann is taking inspiration from the abundance of colours and shapes found whilst walking in the countryside and woodlands near her home. Ann loves mixing painting, printing and stitch to create the rich textures and patterns seen on plants, trees and lichen. At the studio in Marlborough you will be able to see art cards, covered artists sketchbooks and hand painted and dyed accessories.





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## Special events and getting involved



Many artists offer something a little bit extra to their studio visits, including opportunities to get closer to the creative process and ‘have a go’. If you have a secret hankering to explore your creative side, are ready to try something new, or just want to observe the creative process how about these events?

- **Ceramicists Jane Renwick and Mary Thorne** of Wagonyard Gallery in Marlborough Studio 17, invite you to have a go at lino cutting and printing on Sunday 10th July.
- **Wire sculptor Sarah McCall** (Bishops Cannings, Studio 32) will be holding ‘have a go at making a simple flower’ sessions - 10 minute tutorials on Saturday 2nd, 9th and 23rd July, 11am-12pm. Wire provided. Just turn up.
- **Painter Penny Stanley** (Devizes, Studio 33) is running a children’s workshop on Sunday 3rd 2-4pm - try some mixed media and take your creation home.
- **Painter Cathy Pearce** (Netherstreet, Studio 42) is offering pastel taster sessions on Friday 15th July 10-12pm and 2-4pm - an opportunity to try pastel mark making, free of charge - just turn up.
- **Sculptor Gillian Reeve** (Aldbourne, Studio 6) will be giving ongoing soapstone carving demonstrations
- **Painter Charlotte Dryden-Kelsey** (Marlborough, Studio 16) will be offering 10 minute live illustrated portraits during studio opening hours. These will be available for a donation to the St. Peter’s Trust. Charlotte is happy to draw individuals or family groups and chat about her process to any aspiring artists.

And for something a little different, **photographer Deborah Husk, sculptor and painter Belinda Harding and painter Meriel Balston** are combining forces on 16 July 5.30pm - 7.30pm to offer a late opening and Garden Walk between Studios 25 and 26 in Alton Barnes. Refreshments available and fabulous gardens, where landscape designer Michael Balston will be available to answer any questions.

**If you find weekends are difficult to visit our studios and don’t want to miss out, it’s worth checking the brochure and website entries for the artists you are keen to see, as often artists have added extra opening times during the week to accommodate you.**

## Marlborough Open Studios—What to expect?

Firstly, a very warm welcome from our artists, who love nothing more than sharing their passion with you and seeing your response! Some visits may take a while as the conversation flows and you relax into their environment, diving deeper into what makes the artist tick and how they produce such incredible pieces. You will be intrigued at their creative spaces, often messy and chaotic (as they will attest!) but vibrant and dynamic – the place where their imaginations run riot and their art is formed.



Jane Renwick – ceramicist



Jenny Trussell – painting



Penny Stanley – painting

Many studios offer light refreshments, and have beautiful gardens and interiors setting off their work. Parking arrangements are highlighted in the MOS brochure, as are the detailed opening times, but generally studios are open from 11.00am to 5.00pm on the Saturdays and Sundays of the event.

**We will leave the last word to our visitors from 2021, who said....**

*'This is an unique and brilliant event'*

**'Jaw-droppingly good'**

**'Don't be too swayed by the artist's picture in the brochure. Give it a go as what lays behind those studio doors was breathtaking.'**

**'All the studios I visited were excellent'**

**'The personal interaction was great'**

**'I like to buy local art and this is the best way I've found to do so'**

*'We thoroughly enjoyed the studios we visited and found the artists approachable, friendly and refreshing'*

## “Well-being”

At the Marlborough Summer School tutors and their students are encouraged to display their work at the end of each week. Members of my Birdwatch and Music Appreciation Courses have nothing to offer after roaming the Wiltshire countryside or following a Mozart Concerto with a score, but they come back enlightened about a piece of music or thrilled to have seen a pair of Stone Curlews rise up from a bare field- leaving them with a palpable sense of well-being.

It is well known that time spent in the countryside is good for us. Research has verified a link between exposure to nature and stress reduction: it has restorative properties, increasing energy and improving feelings of vitality and focus. Composers have found ways of tapping into nature for inspiration. Vivaldi’s Four Seasons, Beethoven’s Pastoral Symphony and Benjamin Britten’s Peter Grimes for example reflect the composer’s contact with the natural world.

Britten walked his dog along the beach at Aldeburgh and came back with a whole passage of the opera in his head, complete with orchestration. Joseph Haydn, musical servant to the super-rich Esterhazy family, began his daily ritual with breakfast at eight, sat at the piano, prayed to God for inspiration and made sketches of compositions till mid-morning. A walk until lunchtime followed and he returned to his music later, taking sketches he had made in the morning and scoring them. The countryside around Esterhazy Palace, formerly a hunting lodge, must have inspired the great man, composer of the Bird and Lark quartets and symphonies “La Chasse” and “La Poule.” Nature inspired much of his word painting: the sun, the moon, and all God’s creatures in his oratorio “The Creation”, composed in his mid-sixties.

My summer schoolers might hear a Quail bleating or encounter a family of Yellow Wagtails, and in recent years Red Kites, Little Egrets and Ravens have been regularly spotted. But July is a quiet time for birds, with song much reduced, parents moulting and bedraggled after the exertions of the breeding season and the duck species “in eclipse plumage”. But then, with the sun out, and the downland flowers a riot of colour we suddenly focus on the butterflies: Skippers, Ringlets, Meadow Browns and the dainty black and white Marbled White fluttering by. For those coming from more urban environments they provide a true “sense of well-being.”

**Marbled White**

# Marlborough Church Contacts

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## **Fr John Blacker**

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## **Reuben Mann**

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## **The Revd Tim Novis**

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## FROM THE REGISTERS

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### **Weddings - we congratulate:**

- 14 May Sarah Osborne and Joel Hillier at St Mary's  
21 May Florina Garleaunu and Richard North at St Mary's  
*(a blessing)*

### **Departed - we pray for the families of:**

- 25 May Helen Anderson Fry (92), Blowhorn St, Marlborough  
*North Wilts Crematorium*  
03 June Michael Ponting (94), Castle Court, Marlborough  
*St George's, Preshute*

**Erratum** - Paul Fern lived in St Margaret's Mead; not in Rabley Wood View as printed in the June edition. Our sincere apologies for this error.

**“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.”** (Matthew 11:28)

July is the month when people are often hanging on for a holiday. Fortunately, schools break up, we take time off from work or courses, and we go on holiday or just relax at home. Ideally, the weather is sunny, and we spend more time with children and grandchildren. Being busy can be exciting and stimulating, but it can mean little time to listen to God, to others, or to ourselves. There may be times when we need more than a sunny day to feel replenished; times when we're in need of a different and deeper kind of rest.

*“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens and I will give you rest”.* Shortly before Jesus spoke these words, he was venting his frustration about the crowd's lack of understanding. So, what did he do to calm and replenish himself? He prayed. It's an important reminder that prayer *is* the answer when things are a struggle, even for Jesus. Prayer is a way of recharging our batteries and lifting our spirits. It's an opportunity to reflect on what we're doing and why. It offers us time to think and to listen and to see our lives reflected in the eyes of God.

Jesus followed this with *"take my yoke upon you and learn from me...; my yoke is easy, and my burden is light"*. A yoke was the wooden collar that ran across the shoulders of a pair of oxen and enabled them to pull enormous weights between them. Initially, it may seem odd that Jesus is offering us rest and yet suggesting we take another yoke - but the yoke offers us an image for our relationship with Jesus. It presents a picture where we are united with him, receiving his power, strength and wisdom, while he carries the main weight of our burden.

When we are vulnerable, God will hold us and help to carry our load. It is a yoke of love and commitment, rather than a yoke of duty. His yoke holds forgiveness, mercy, compassion, justice - and above all, love.

So, maybe we need to ask ourselves *'how am I, really? And 'do I truly share my worries with God?'* For many of us, we're so used to managing difficulties alone that we don't bring them to God in prayer. Through our prayerful relationship with God, we *can* be replenished and find rest and peace. With God alongside you, I wish you a wonderful summer.

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## **Kathryn (Kate) Maulik - 14<sup>th</sup> February 1964-31<sup>st</sup> December 2021**

Kate was born in Chelsea to Peter and Gillian Morgan, the second of what would become four daughters, Vanessa, Kate, Juliet and Alex. The family moved to Tunbridge Wells when Kate was still a baby. The Morgan girls had a very happy childhood; Kate always wanted to be a nurse or ballerina! And in 1982 she left her home which was now Marlborough to train to be a nurse at the prestigious University College Hospital in London.

Kate, now a qualified nurse, and with a family of her own was settled in Marlborough as a full-time mum to Tom and Henry. She became an important part of the community, at Edward Bear Club, as playgroup treasurer and a Sunday School teacher. She gained the trust and respect of all she knew for her commitment, reliability and efficiency.

When Henry started school Kate became a special needs teaching assistant, a role she was superb at; her ability to be calm but firm with both children and parents whilst still having fun helped all she came into contact with. She later returned to nursing as a staff nurse at GWH and was soon appointed a ward sister, then a senior sister and ward manager. Kate was instrumental in setting up the Falcon Acute stroke unit where she remained until her health forced her to retire. The ward was a shining example of how things should be done and winner of the hospital's ward of the year.

Five years ago Kate was diagnosed with breast cancer. The cancer returned and she again endured the treatment. There were some low times but the strength and support of family and friends saw her and her husband, Robin, through. Kate took ill health retirement two years ago and last summer was saying how for the first time in years she felt well. When her cancer returned again it was devastating. She never blamed anyone and instead of saying "Why me?" she said "Why not me?" making every moment matter. Two days before she died she was at the enchanted garden light show with her grandchildren drinking mulled wine! Kate will be missed by so many but her legacy of caring for and helping others and the love for her family and friends lives on.



# News from the Churches

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## Women's Fellowship

meets on **Tuesdays 5<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> July** at Christchurch, New Road at 2.45pm for tea, coffee and chat. They will then have a break until September.

## The Quakers

are organising a meeting with Danny Kruger, our MP, to discuss the action we would like the government to implement on Climate strategy, particularly as regards things we can do to save energy, by subsidising fitting solar panels, insulation, air source heat pumps and the like.



St Peter's Church, **Friday July 15<sup>th</sup>** 7-9 pm. Please come and support this event.

## Marlborough Area Poverty Action Group (MAPAG)

The next MAPAG open meeting will be on **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July** at 5pm, at The Paddock, Kingsbury St. Tea and cake will be provided.



## Christchurch

The recent Jubilee Celebrations saw Christchurch gathering for prayers before walking up to the Common for the lighting of the Beacon and enjoying sharing a table at the Marlborough Jubilee Street Party.



**Sundays at 10.30am** – visiting preachers

- July 3rd sees Neil Marshall from Swindon taking the service;
- July 10th Rev Tony Barnes from Swindon for Action for Children Sunday - members from Aldbourne/Ramsbury and Pewsey will join us for a service of Holy Communion;
- July 17th will be organised by our own members;
- July 24th Deacon Stephen Roe from Swindon
- July 31st David Easter from Chiseldon

## St Mary's Church

All Age service on **10<sup>th</sup> July**, at 10:30am will be a pet service.

**St. Mary's Church** are holding a service on **Sunday July 17<sup>th</sup>** at 10.30 am to **welcome the Ukrainians** . This will be followed by a welcome lunch. All churches are invited to participate in and attend the service. Please contact Penny in the church office (see page 21) for more details and information.



# 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:

**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.

**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** Fridays, 7:30-9pm at the Wesley Hall, Oxford Street, Marlborough. Our 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](mailto:office@emmanuelmarlborough.org)



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### **Contributions and comments** from readers are welcome.

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