
TOWER_{AND}TOWN



**PRESHUTE SCHOOL
EDITION**

JULY 2023

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TOWER^{AND}TOWN

THE MAGAZINE OF MARLBOROUGH'S COMMUNITY AND CHURCHES

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Preshute School Edition

Dear Readers,

Firstly, thank you to Tower and Town for this fantastic opportunity to publish the children's articles.

Class 6, at Preshute Primary School, have had a brilliant year of learning. We have explored the Victorians, Growth Mindset, Sustainability, the Tudors, and Shakespeare to name a few, as well as several topics across science including Light and Evolution.

To celebrate the learning, the children have chosen their favourite subject, topic or person to write about. They meticulously planned, researched and produced the articles. I hope you will agree they are a fantastic and lovely reflection and consolidation of their learning across the year.

We hope you enjoy the articles, facts and pictures.

Mrs F Ottaway
Class 6 Teacher
Preshute Primary School

Cover picture by Daisy
winning entry for age group in St Mary's Art Competition

Who has been waiting for 70 years?

King Charles III has been destined to be king since he was born, but his mother (Queen Elizabeth II) had ruled for over 70 years, so he had to wait for a long time. What did he do while he waited?

King Charles Early Days

King Charles was born on the 14th November 1948, his mother (the late Queen Elizabeth) and his father (the late Prince Philip) had four children. King Charles went to Cambridge University and studied: archaeology, anthropology and history. Before he became king, he was the Prince of Wales, since 1969! Wanting to follow in his father's and grandfathers' footsteps he served in the Royal Navy for 5 years. (1971 – 1976)

Coronation Day!

King Charles was crowned on the 8th May 2023 in Westminster Abbey. "When I went to see the king in London it was an amazing atmosphere, with the whole royal family and the bands and horses." Coronations have been taking place in Westminster Abbey since 1066.

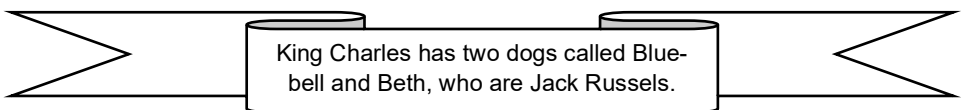
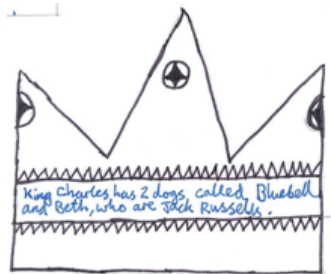
Did you go to London to see the coronation?

King Charles Famous Family

King Charles has had two wives. Not at the same time though! On the 29th July 1981 Charles married his first wife (Lady Diana) but she tragically died in a car crash in Paris. On 9th April 2005 Charles married his second wife (Camilla, now Queen Camilla). King Charles has two lovely children Prince William and Prince Harry.

Environmentalist or not?

King Charles is indeed passionate about the environment, in fact over the last 50 years he has been a royal patron for over 400 environmental organisations. Whilst waiting to take the royal throne, he has spent his life helping people, exploring his passions for art and music, raising an ever growing family and speaking up for the planet.



written by Charlotte

Terrific Wonders of William Shakespeare

How did Will's historical words change our future?

To be or not to be, that is the question? William Shakespeare was an amazing writer, actor and playwright. His exciting productions led to brilliant inspirations. Shakespeare was baptised in Holy Trinity Church, Stratford-upon-Avon on the

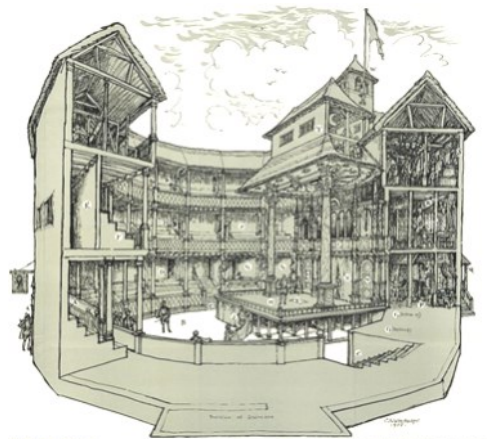


Did you know?

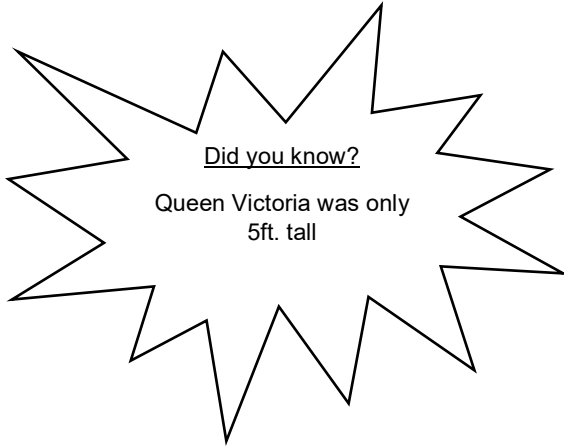
Shakespeare's Globe Theatre was rebuilt to be as similar to the original globe as possible.

26th April 1564. Also, he was the eldest son of John Shakespeare, a glover. Mary Shakespeare had eight children, of whom five survived into adulthood – William, Gilbert (1566-1612), Joan (1569 – 1646), Richard (1574 – 1613) and finally Edmond (1580 – 1612). Nobody knows Shakespeare's true birthday. Based on church records, we know he was baptised on April 26th 1564 and using tradition and guesswork it is predicted that Will was born three days earlier on April 23rd 1564- which is now celebrated as his birthday. Shakespeare also amazingly had three healthy children: Susanna, Hamnet and Judith. Will's plays were so powerful that we still watch and learn about them today!

Written by Annabelle



Courageous Queen Victoria



Queen Victoria was not the tallest person of all, but she was one of the strongest. She ruled some of the loveliest places in Europe, such as: Canada, Jamaica, India, Australia and England.

When she was 21 she fell in love but because she was a queen she had to ask him. She went on to have nine children

and forty grandchildren. Her husband was Prince Albert.

Queen Victoria was called the Grandmother of Europe.

Written by Tom

Plastic Needs to Stop!

It has come to all of our attention that plastic is a key item in our everyday lives. But it is time to put a stop to that!

We desperately need to put a stop to climate change. Plastic is taking over our world. What used to be mainly grass, and big trees, with leaves blooming from branches, is now a toxic wasteland full of plastic waste. Everywhere we walk and bike there is plastic. Everywhere we swim, guess what...PLASTIC! I think you get the idea now. Our roads, pavements and our oceans are filled with the junk and waste. What could you do? Recycle to avoid more wildlife dying. We need to make a change!



Plastic isn't biodegradable (breaks down naturally), so it just floats around waiting for precious animals to eat it. What have they done to deserve that?

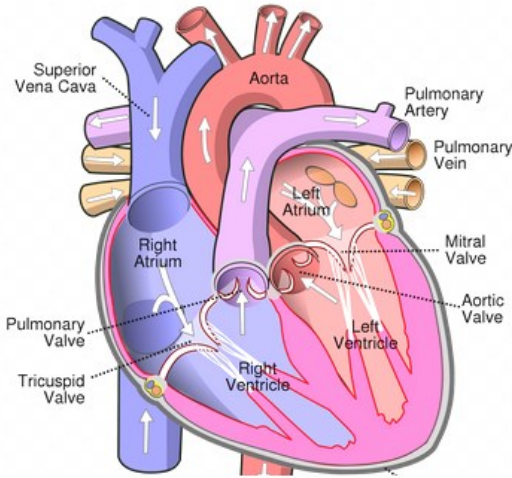
It's easy to do all of these things. It's not climate changes fault, it is ours.

Written by Finn

Fabulous Facts about the Human Heart

You thought you knew all about it, think again!

The human heart, it is the most important part of your body. Your heart weighs about nine to twelve ounces. Here's something that'll blow your mind, newborn's hearts beat twice as fast as an adult. Have you ever wondered how big your heart is? Well it's as big as a large fist (or two hands clapped together).



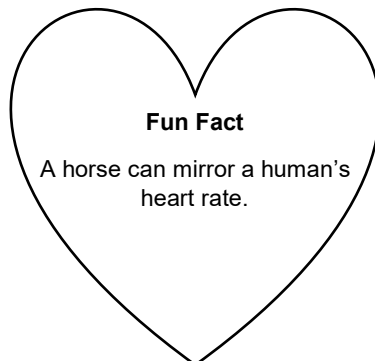
I'm going to blow your mind!

However, these are only some facts, let's talk about the big ones. There are sixty thousand miles of blood vessels in your body. Crazy, right? Laughing is good for your heart, the more you laugh, the more your heart is happy.

Heart beats

To answer your question of how many times your heart beats a day: it beats one hundred thousand times. An average adult heart beats seventy times a minute. Oh, and something that you didn't know: heart attacks happen most commonly on Monday mornings, which I'm sure you can understand.

Written by Eleanor





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EVEREST



The Vast Giant

Everest – The tallest peak on the face of the Earth

Take a dive through the history of this phenomenal place.



Planted in the white-covered region (The Himalayas) between Nepal and Tibet is Mount Everest, the tallest, largest mountain to ever live. It towers over its fellow brothers and sisters. Sitting at a staggering 8,848m above sea level (29,028ft) it clearly surpasses any peak on our planet...but not on Mars! The tallest mountain/volcano is a whopping two and a half times as big!

Everest is 60million years old and it was known as Peak XV in 1856 AD.

Key Facts

Tibet is on the border of China?

Nepal covers most of the Himalayas.

Two paths
snake their

Did you know?

In 1956AD Everest was given the name of 'Sagarmatha' meaning 'Forehead in the Sky'!

way up to the summit and from there it's a free for all. Winds can get up to over 200mph and temperatures drop to -80F, making it a near-impossible journey to the peak. Would you attempt this scenic yet dangerous adventure?



Written by Ben

Fabulous Facts about Light!

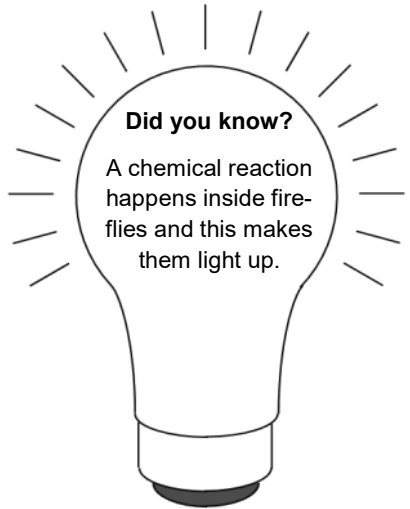
That can brighten your day.

How does the eye detect light?

Our eyes are very interesting when it comes to facts. But what happens when the eye sees light? Light is an energy that zooms around very quickly. It bounces or reflects off most objects or materials; however, when light hits your eye it shoots right into your eye through the pupil at the front. The eye then sends signals to your brain. That's what we call seeing.

Where does the light come from?

Light can come from lots of different sources, such as: the sun, stars, torches, lamps and candles. Some sources of light are so powerful that they can damage our eyes if we look directly at them. Light always travels in straight lines and is faster than anything in the universe.



And I
thought I
was fast!

What is a light year?

Light year is the distance light travels in one year. Light zips through the interstellar space at 186,000

miles per second and 5.88 trillion miles per year.

Light and Heat

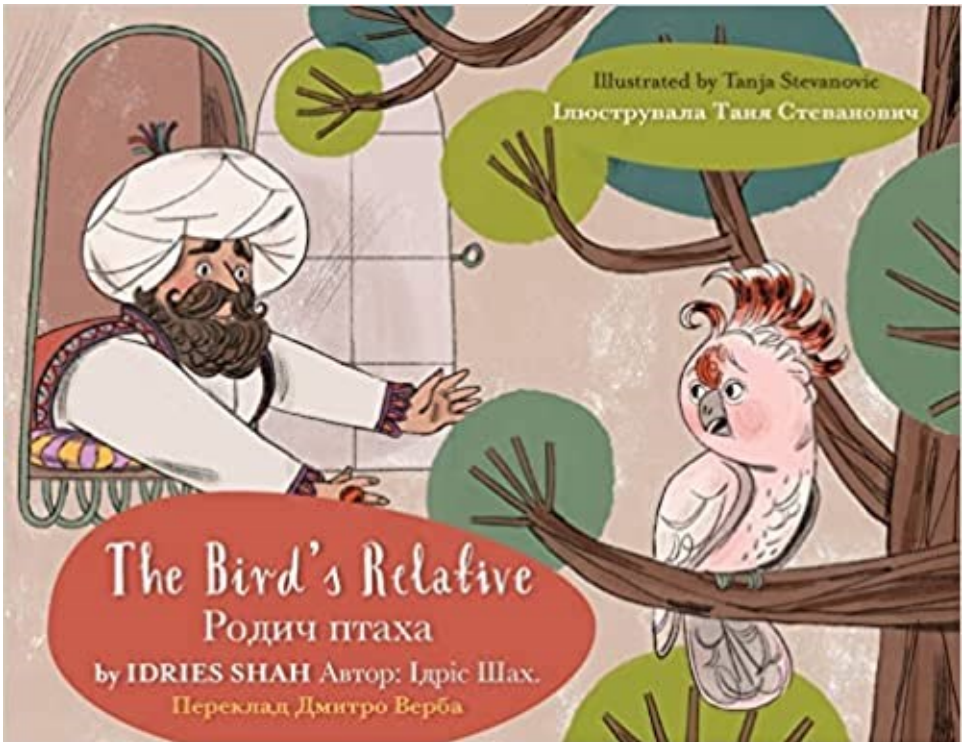
Light is one of the important ingredients to our Earth and Universe. On the one hand, heat is a very general term, which includes all sorts of energy associated with temperature. On the other, it includes: the kinetic energies of particles jiggling around and the potential energy connected with the forces between them.

Hopefully these facts have brightened your day and not blinded you.

Written by Jessica

Books for Children in Ukranian and English

Hoopoe Books, based in Wincanton, have published a delightful series of children's tales in English and Ukranian. These traditional stories are retold by Idries Shah and each book is beautifully illustrated. They are being distributed, free of charge, and are already available in a number of Wiltshire libraries including Marlborough, Ramsbury, Pewsey, Chippenham, Westbury, Warminster and Calne. If anyone is in contact with Ukranian children who would like some free copies – there are 9 different tales - please call Neil Hall on 07748431178.



Children are a great comfort in old age; and they help you reach it faster - Lionel Kaufman

If you want children to keep their feet on the ground, put some responsibility on their shoulders - Abigail van Burren

Too often we give children answers to remember rather than problems to solve - Roger Lewis

Don't handicap your child by making their lives easy - Robert Heinlein

Did you know these facts about Henry VIII?

King Henry VIII was born 28th June 1491. Sadly, he died January 28th 1547. King Henry VIII was born at the Palace of Placentia, in Greenwich, but when he turned 18 his life changed: he became King. He was known for always getting his own way.

Fascinating Facts

Did you know he had six wives but... Catherine of Aragon and Anne of Cleves were divorced? Anne Boleyn and Catherine Howard were beheaded, Jane Seymore died after childbirth and luckily, Catherine Parr escaped because he died first.

The reason he started the divorce chain was not just because he didn't like them, it was also because he wanted a son. So, he started the Church of England so people could get a divorce. He died at the age of 58.

Could you be King or Queen at 18?

Written by Indianna



HS2: Innovation or Disaster

Is this a real achievement for the UK?

It's full speed ahead to build the first operational phase of HS2, Britain's new low-carbon high speed railway. UK businesses are being encouraged to get ready for the next stream of multi-million-pound contracts that will soon be released. However, in order to get this train going, staff members will have to discuss with the owners of



properties in order to make the tracks. To showcase the new contract opportunities, which start to be released this summer, HS2 and its construction partners are inviting UK businesses to meet the contractor.

Did you know?

Over 3000 UK businesses are already helping to build the network of viaducts, tunnels and businesses.

In readiness for the next stage of the construction program, HS2 is searching for more UK companies to progress its civil engineering works, start fitting out the first of the new state of the art stations, and support the manufacture of its fleet of high-speed trains.

Do you think that HS2 is an achievement?

Written by Elizabeth



Amazing Animal Classification

Explore Charles Darwin's excellent theory.

Charles Darwin was born in 1809. His father was a doctor and he wanted his son to earn a medical degree at Edinburgh University in Scotland.

As he grew older he became more interested in natural history than medicine. That's when he had a theory of animal classification. He decided to classify animals into five different groups: fish, mammals, amphibians, reptiles and birds.



Also, he had a theory on vertebrates and invertebrates. Vertebrates have a backbone like: cows, cats and dogs. Invertebrates don't have a backbone like: jelly fish, worms and snails.

Fun Fact!

When Charles Darwin died he was buried in Westminster Abbey.

Written by Daisy



Children - who'd have 'em

Making the decision to have a child is momentous. It is to decide forever to have your heart go walking around outside your body - Elizabeth Stone

Your child needs your presence more than your presents - Jesse Jackson

Don't worry that children never listen to you; worry that they are always watching you - Robert Fulghum

Before I got married I had six theories about bringing up children; now I have six children and no theories - John Wilmot

It would seem that something that means poverty, disorder and violence every single day should be avoided entirely, but the desire to beget children is a natural one - Phyllis Diller

It behooves a father to be blameless if he expects his child to be - Homer



From Byrd to Michael Jackson

An Evening of Song by

The King's Men of Cambridge

16th July at 7.30 pm

St Mary's Church, Great Bedwyn

Tickets for reserved seats (£30) and for unreserved (£20)

from Meriel Larken 07825 380884 or at yavarilarken@gmail.com,

Langstrath House, Back Lane, Great Bedwyn, Wilts SN8 3NX

Cheques to Friends of Great Bedwyn Church

bank transfer to J W Flecker, 20 25 36, 10802069, ref: King's and your surname.

If you send Meriel an SAE, your tickets will be posted to you or collect them at the door.

UNRESERVED SEATS also available on the door Doors open at 6.45 pm

Pimms Bar from 6.45 and in the interval.

“SINGALONG” with the King's Men at 4 pm at the Church (£6)

Profits to the Friends of GB Church for work on the church.

BRING A CUSHION!!!

1st (Saturday)

Marlborough Concert Orchestra – St Mary's Church 7.30pm

Programme to include Vltava by Smetana, Beethoven's Egmont Overture and Romance for Bassoon by Elgar.

Tickets on sale at Sound Knowledge, Hughenden Yard, Marlborough, online and on the door – adults £12, students £2.

1st to 23rd (Saturday/Sunday)

Marlborough Open Studios, 11am – 5pm (Free).

In July each year, artists across north Wiltshire open up their studios for you to visit, meet them and enjoy their artwork.

Open Studios runs on the first four weekends in July. <https://www.marlboroughopenstudios.co.uk>

6th (Thursday)

Marlborough Floral Club, Mildenhall Village Hall, 2pm.

Demonstration by Carole Stables: DIY SOS for flower displays. Treat yourselves to an enjoyable afternoon out on the first Thursday of each month.

For more information, please call Micky Graham on 01672 514301.

The Merchant's House, Marlborough, 7pm – 9pm.

Anthony Wilson will be reading from and talking about his sixth collection of poetry, *The Wind and the Rain*. The poems narrate the story of losing a loved one to dementia and investigate how we live within family and community. *For more information see website <https://themerchantshouse.co.uk> Tickets £12-15.*

8th (Saturday) – from 12 noon until 10.00pm.

Family Festival at The Parade, Marlborough. Free Entry.

Enjoy good vibes, good atmosphere and (hopefully!) good weather, with live music from *Ann Liu, Nothing Rhymes with Orange, Hip Route, The Vooz, Crystal Tides and The Zoots*; pizzas from an outdoor wood-fired oven, and draught Asahi beer. The cinema will also be showing *Indiana Jones and The Dial of Destiny* throughout the day. *See website for further details <https://www.theparadecinema.com>*

From 9th July (Sunday) to 5th August (Saturday)

Marlborough College Summer School – children and adults.

Action-packed, fun-filled courses for Juniors (ages 3-6) Children (ages 6-9), Young Adventurers (ages 9-12) and Teenagers (ages 13-17). A great mix of outdoor sports and indoor activities ensuring variety and enjoyment! Adult courses include Arts & Crafts, Science, Computing, Photography, Music, Walks & Sports and Well-being.

<https://summerschool.co.uk/> welcome for full details.

16th (Sunday)

St Mary's Church, Great Bedwyn – 7.30pm

From Byrd to Michael Jackson – an Evening of Song from the exquisite voices of The King's Men of Cambridge, from the Choir of King's College. "SINGALONG" at 4pm! *Tickets available at:* <https://www.kingsmencambridge.co.uk>

26th (Wednesday)

In the garden at Maizey Lodge, Ogbourne Maizey, Marlborough SN8 1RY

The Rain or Shine Theatre Company presents an open-air production of Shakespeare's *The Comedy of Errors*. Pack your bubbly, chairs and picnics and witness the comical confusion and chaotic capers of Shakespeare's hilarious masterpiece! *Gates open from 6.00pm for picnics. Performance starts at 7.30pm.*

Tickets in advance only: 01672 512125 / maizey50@gmail.com Please see website: <https://www.rainorshine.co.uk> In aid of KHLARPP – Support Ukraine.

29th (Saturday)

Marlborough Folk/Roots, Marlborough Town Hall 8.00pm

Peter Knight's Gigspanner Trio and Peter Knight & John Spiers.

Described by Folk Radio UK as one of the "most quietly brilliant sets of musicians in the folk world and beyond", legendary fiddle player Peter Knight (Steeleye Span) performs with his Gigspanner Trio, then also in a duo with melodeon player John Spiers (Bellowhead) – "one of the most intriguing and exciting collaborations on today's folk scene". An enchanting evening of improvisation and invention!

<https://www.marlboroughfolk-roots.co.uk> See website for booking details.

29th (Saturday) and 30th (Sunday)

Crofton Beam Engines Steaming Weekend, 10:00 am – 16:30 pm

Step back in time and explore this hidden gem in Wiltshire's history. Learn of the station and its restoration. Bring your own picnic and enjoy the extensive grounds with views over the Kennet and Avon canal and Wilton Water Reservoir. *Pre-booking recommended.* <https://www.croftonbeamengines.org/event/july-steaming-weekend/>

28th September to 1st October.

Book Early: Marlborough Literature Festival

Joining the 2023 Golding Speaker, Sebastian Barry, will be award-winning novelist, screenwriter and children's author, Frank Cottrell-Boyce, Charlotte Mendelson, who has been longlisted for the 2022 Women's Prize for Fiction, and ex-England cricket captain, author and psychoanalyst, Mike Brearley.

Booking for Friends of the LitFest opens 3rd July; general booking from 13th July.

For full Festival programme visit <https://www.marlboroughlitfest.org>

St John's School and Preshute School: Term 6 ends Tuesday 25th July

St Mary's School: Term 6 ends Friday 21st July

I thought my angling days were over, but a chance meeting with a keen member of The Piscatorial Society in the snow by my house in Avebury made me think again. It subsequently led to an invitation to join him for a day on a prime stretch of the Wiltshire Avon.

It was balmy weather when we met up below the Society's rod room at midday. We began by walking along three stretches of water, my friend using Polaroid glasses to detect the fish. A few mayflies and sedges were spotted, an indication as to what artificial flies to use. Whilst he searched for fish "rising" on the surface of the water I was quietly noting the birds in this beautiful and unspoilt habitat: a pair of Little Grebes, a family of Grey Wagtails, Blackcaps, Reed, Garden and Cetti's Warblers chattering in the dense vegetation, and suddenly a flash of iridescent greenish-blue: a Kingfisher!

The rod room, with its imposing committee round table and circle of surrounding chairs, is a fisherman's shrine: a selection of tied flies offered for sale in little boxes, various fly-fishing books, a log book in which to record your catch, a stuffed trout in a glass case and a portrait of Izaak Walton, author of "The Compleat Angler."

Now it was time to cast our lines: my fly was tied, a French Partridge Mayfly, neatly trimmed with a pair of snippers and sprayed with a dry fly dressing. Though my delivery was erratic and unpredictable I just about demonstrated the required basic level and was good to go. I needed to relax and lengthen my back flip and adopt more of a hammer action on the return. Then there was a drag on the line as it moved downstream, requiring a little flick to prevent unnatural movement. It was all too easy to snag your fly on the vegetation behind, or the flag irises and reed stems at the water's edge.

Happy to have some time on his own, my friend landed a two-pound trout. The society recommends hooks without barbs, which means keeping the line taut until the fish is landed, and fish are put back slowly and carefully, head upstream.

Not totally outdone I hooked a small trout and then a grayling, slim and silver-grey.

I am not sure what next with my return to the river bank, but I left the water's edge as beautiful banded demoiselles danced over the Avon's clear waters in the golden evening light.

From the Registers

Penny Reader

Baptisms

21 May	to Christopher and Emily Hurd: Alfred Peter Argali and Laurence Stephen Orkhon	<i>St George's</i>
4 June	to Tom and Sophie Meeson: Oliver Robert	<i>St John's</i>
11 June	to Sam Swayne & Simon Maynard: Jack Benjamin George	<i>St Mary's</i>

Funerals

12 May	Susan Hillier (78) of Savernake View Care Home	<i>St Mary's</i>
23 May	Brian Wallis (83) of Golding Avenue, Marlbro'	<i>N Wilts Crematorium</i>
29 May	June Scott (87) of Aldbourne Nursing Home	<i>St Mary's</i>
29 May	Kathleen Harrison (101) of Coombe End Court, Marlborough	<i>Kingsdown Crematorium</i>

St Mary's Organ Update

David du Croz reports:

Although there is still work to do, the organ will be up and running (if that's what organs do!) by early July. This is wonderful news for those who have missed its music at our services.

Many different factors have contributed to the delay, not least of all the fact that with so many parts organ restoration is a very complicated business, so I am most grateful to you for your patience. Rest assured that your very generous donation is being put to the purpose for which it was intended, the fruits of which will be there for all of us to enjoy in the not too distant future.



Can you Help Families in your area?

Home-Start helps families with children under five who are experiencing tough times. We are recruiting volunteers to offer weekly support which is tailored to the family's need. Often, just listening makes all the difference.

We're looking for volunteers with:

- ✓ A friendly, positive nature
- ✓ Great listening skills and empathy
- ✓ Parenting skills/relevant life experience
- ✓ Time to visit families weekly, for 2-3 hours



We offer professional training & personal development. Expenses paid. Volunteer group, fundraiser, trustee roles also available.

Next Volunteer training starting soon. T:01672 569457

E: hello@homestartnorthwiltshire.org.uk

W: www.homestartnorthwiltshire.org.uk

Home Start North Wiltshire is committed to equality, diversity, and safe recruitment. This volunteering post is subject to an enhanced DBS check. Charity number: 1106736

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News from the Churches

Marlborough Anglican Team

St George's

10.30am Morning Worship - activities for children –

Children are always warmly welcome at any of our services at St George's, but of special interest may be the All-Age service on the first Sunday of the month and a children's activity table at our Morning Worship on the third Sunday of each month. Looking forward to seeing children and their families at these services!



St George's Duck Race, Saturday 8th July starting at Preshute House, 3pm. St George's church invite everyone to join in with their Duck Race. They are fundraising to provide a defibrillator for St George's and the local community. Buy a duck for £10 from St George's or Preshute school and decorate it before racing on the day. The race starts at Preshute House and finishes at the footbridge in the churchyard. There are prizes for the best decorated duck as well as race prizes, refreshments and ice creams. All are welcome.



Choral Evensong, 16th July at St George's, Preshute 7pm. A restful and refreshing service of Choral Evensong with The Georgians Choir in the beautiful setting of St George's, Preshute. All welcome.

St Mary's with Christchurch Methodist Fellowship

Sandra Wylie writes :- June 4th saw Christchurch Methodist Fellowship (CMF) meet together for their first Annual Church Meeting, following their joining with St Mary's. The atmosphere of the meeting was overwhelmingly positive. All members feel that God is honouring our worship each Sunday as we meet together with the Anglican community. There is a real sense of being empowered by the Holy Spirit; in the words of Charles Wesley - there is a real kindling of the flame!

Friendship café

meets on Saturdays 1st and 15th July from 10.30am to 1pm in the Church Hall in Silverless Street. A welcoming space for anyone looking for friendship and a chat, with coffee and refreshments.

(see advert p.25))

Welcome Wednesdays: Thought for the day

Wednesday mornings, 'Thought for the Day' followed by coffee and doughnuts, at 10:30am in St Mary's Church. All are welcome.

Energize Children's Church, as part of the 5:30pm Informal Worship service at St Mary's Church. Bible teaching, crafts, games, music and prayer in a friendly group – cake and refreshments afterwards.

Relaxed Summer Worship: Summer nights, Sundays 23rd July to 26th August in St Mary's Church, from 5:30pm .



MAPAG

The next Open Meeting is on Tuesday 27th June at 5 pm on Zoom. All welcome. Please contact Rachel Rosedale (rachelrosed1@gmail.com) for details of zoom link.

John Wesley Museum

If you are visiting Bristol over the next few months and are looking for new places to visit I can highly recommend 'The New Room' at 36 The Horsefair BS1 3JE. In 1739 John Wesley was asked by the members of two religious societies in Bristol to create 'a new room' where they could meet. It was pioneering in Methodism and is very much as it would have been. There is a museum and cafe. Over the summer there are many events and exhibitions - do have a look at the website for more information: newroombristol.org.uk.

Marlborough Churches Together

The next Fraternal is on Wednesday 5 July at 12.30 at 7 Golding Avenue. Please contact your clergy if you wish anything to be raised at the meeting.

Emmanuel

EMMANUEL
MARLBOROUGH



All are welcome to join us every Sunday at 4 pm for our weekly church service located on New Road in Marlborough, SN8 1AH. Our service includes crèche and Sunday School groups, followed by refreshments (for adults) and a sandwich tea for the children.

In addition to our Sunday service, we also offer various activities throughout the week including home groups in Marlborough, Pewsey and Ogbourne St George, as well as community groups. For more information and updates on our events, please visit our website at emmanuelmarlborough.org. continued over

Emanuel continued:

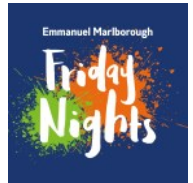
Weekly/one-off Events:



CY (Christian Youth), Sunday 2 July and 16 July, 5-5.30 pm, Our Youth group for school years 7-11. We're a friendly group and enjoy meeting for a short Bible study on themes relevant to young people. Meeting in the Müller Room (Youth Room) at Emmanuel Marlborough after the main service.

Little Friends Toddler Group, Thursdays during term time, 10-11.30 am 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 during term time, 6-7.15 pm 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 during term time, 7.30-9.00 pm. Our youth club for school years 7-11 at the Wesley Hall, Oxford Street, Marlborough. Friends, fun & faith – everyone is welcome!

Homegroups, Thursdays during term time, Pewsey 7.30 pm, Marlborough 8.00 Ogbourne St George 8.00 pm. Bible study, prayer and fellowship. For more details, email office@emmanuelmarlborough.org

Hope Explored, A 3-session short introduction to Christianity, from Luke's Gospel. All are welcome to come and ask any questions or just listen! For more details, email office@emmanuelmarlborough.org

Holiday Bible Club,

29th – 31st August 2023, 9.00-12.30 pm at Emmanuel Church on New Road, Marlborough, SN8 1AH.

Emmanuel Marlborough is becoming the Heroes Academy! There'll be games, crafts, songs, snacks and Bible stories as we learn to become superheroes, and learn about Jesus, the greatest superhero of all!

Open to all finishing school years, Reception to year 6.

The cost is £10 per family.

Email: office@emmanuelmarlborough.org to book your place!




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Welcome Wednesdays

Wednesdays at 10:30am
St Mary's Church, Marlborough

*Please join us for a Thought for
the day followed by coffee and
doughnuts*



MARLBOROUGH ANGLICAN TEAM

ST MARY'S | ST GEORGE'S | ST JOHN THE BAPTIST
WITH CHRISTCHURCH METHODIST FELLOWSHIP

Drop-in for Teenagers

Weekly in Church Cottage, Silverless Street. 3-5pm (term time only – last session for this term will be Monday 24th July) with Youth for Christ Youth Worker Steve Dewar. A safe space to relax, have refreshments, chat with others and be encouraged.

If any adults are interested in volunteering with Steve in any way – please do get in touch, more volunteers means we can offer more opportunities. steve@wiltshireyfc.org.uk 07340 930845

A collage of images including a person's feet on a stone wall, a person with a backpack walking, and graffiti. The text is overlaid on a purple and yellow background.

NEW
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Drop In FOR TEENAGERS

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and Local Partnership Support Team

Email: steve@wiltshireyfc.org.uk
Tel: 07340 930845

It's summer (hurrah! As I type there's brilliant sunshine and everyone sniffing with hay-fever, what it'll be like when you read this is anyone's guess.) So, put down that challenging little post-modern novella translated from the Lettish, and be diverted with something light and undemanding. May I bring to your attention *The Three Dahlias* by Katy Watson? What's known as 'cosy crime', it's a C21st take on the Golden Age country-house murder mystery. Three actresses, all celebrated for playing the lady detective Dahlia Lively are thrown together at a fan convention and promotional event for a new film, taking place in the family home of the late author. A murder occurs, the three actresses shelve their differences, channel their character and investigate. Hares are started running, red herrings are...I don't know, kippered? – and it's all secrets and lies and general double-crossing and bad behaviour. Just great fun, it'll slip down without touching the sides, but that's no bad thing. Pack it in your beach bag.

If you want more entertainment, the documentary *Mad About the Boy* about Noel Coward prompted me to read *Masquerade* by Oliver Soden. The first full biography for over 30 years, it's a creative look at 'the Master's' life; a life which seems to have been self-invented and re-invented till he became most comfortable wearing the mannered public face, and leading what the author describes as 'an enacted life'. The book is painstakingly researched, making full use of the two major Coward archives which have been collated since the turn of this century. Neither a hagiography or a hatchet job, it's lucid, readable, and what comes across most strongly is the phenomenal energy which Coward deployed in a variety of formats -plays, songs, screenplays, revues, painting and novels. We think of Noel Coward as epitomising a certain period; Soden demonstrates that to a large extent he helped to create our view of the inter-war artistic scene. He was also more involved than most people are probably aware in war-time intelligence and propaganda (and I was fascinated to discover that one of his plays received its world premiere in a POW camp in 1944).

But if you absolutely insist on something literary and stretching, *Trust* by Hernan Diaz might be your book for July. Four different versions of the life and career of a Wall St businessman before the 1929 Crash, it's about the willingness to be deceived, the fantasy of money, inconvenient truths and I suppose, the nature of fiction itself.

"Try your best to enter by the narrow door, because I tell you, many will try to enter and will not succeed."

Not long ago I was enjoying a five day visit to Rome, the "Eternal City". The visit had been planned for three years ago but due to the pandemic it was only this year that it was possible to go there. When I came to some magnificent building, be it a basilica or museum, with a wide impressive doorway, entry into that building seemed easy. Yet I would probably only be visiting for a short time. To really enter a building, that is to really belong to that place, it needs more than just a grand entrance. I needed to find some indication that this is a place where I belong, a place that has been prepared for me. Perhaps this is behind the idea of the narrow door that Jesus asks us to enter through. How narrow is it? Just as narrow as we are, because it fits us and no one else.

What exactly that doorway means in our own lives is something we have to discover for ourselves. It probably means accepting some sort of sacrifice in our lives. Our lives are limited, and that is as it should be. We waste a lot of time and energy thinking of the things we do not have and haven't done, and miss out what is laid out before us. This is the way we are to go. The great doorway, the magnificent arch we might want to walk through, can give us the delusion that we are great, as the doorway is great. The small way teaches us humility, but it also shows us that we enter the Kingdom of Heaven through a doorway shaped by God just for us.



Volunteers Wanted at Savernake Hospital Inpatient Ward Duties

Inpatient Ward Volunteers will assist staff to provide an environment, which is both conducive to the recovery and rehabilitation of the patients and welcoming to their relatives and other visitors to the ward. The postholder will carry out the role under the day to day supervision of the nominated "Volunteer Buddy" and will only undertake tasks for which the postholder has been trained and is deemed competent.

Further info from Suzanne Bennett at suzanne.bennett7@nhs.net
01985 220779 or 07810 836065

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Please send articles and letters to the Monthly Editor or the Chairman,
other notices or announcements to the compiler.

All items for the August issue by Tuesday 11 July 2023 please.

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