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Mad as a March Hare!

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MARCH 2018 50P

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THE MAGAZINE OF MARLBOROUGH'S COMMUNITY AND CHURCHES

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## Mad as a March Hare!

How often do we use well-known sayings such as the title for this month's edition without giving it a second thought? Have you ever stopped to wonder where such sayings originated? This one of course is obvious, you only have to look at the cover photo. However, in his article, Garry Pells gives us an insight into the provenance of a few more such sayings. We also continue with James Milsom's memories of growing up in Marlborough. Debby Guest of the White Horse bookshop has put together a fascinating review for us of some of the bookshop's latest titles, which if you're anything like me, will have you hot-footing it to the shop to have a closer browse. There is also a personal contribution – a behind the scenes look at a typical day for a LINK co-ordinator. Will you be tempted to join us? You will have noticed that instead of a running 'theme' this month, we have a mixed bag of topics. As well as our 'sensible' articles, we also have a whimsical message to dieters everywhere, a tasty recipe, and some thoughts on entertaining unexpected guests - something we can all relate to...and possibly recognize! And finally, a message from your pets!

So hopefully there will be something to interest and amuse everyone. I just hope this month's edition will be "up to scratch". Go and look that one up!

**Sue Pells, Editor**

**Front Cover:** Russell Savory

# What's in a Word? Garry Pells

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Isn't language funny? How, we might wonder, does Johnny Foreigner ever make sense of using *bow* [down], *bough* [tree], *bow* [ship], *bow* [tie], *bow* [and arrow]?

Which word in English has the most different meanings? Answer: *set* – check it out.

Curious too isn't it how a BBC reporter treks for days to a remote mountainside, 300 miles from the nearest toilet and the person interviewed expresses his views ... in English. Trek to some parts of the UK and one might ask (about native English speakers) "what language is he/she speaking?" Some meanings are of course lost in translation, although when Poirot asked Inspector Japp about his curious English, Japp replied "Stripe me, ain't nothing wrong with my lingo!"

Over time, words have changed meanings and as we are told each year, the Oxford Dictionary 'new' word of the year is ...! Terry Wogan used to comment how people sat at home listening to the wireless waiting to be offended. Maybe nothing better shows this than the adverts for the clothing firm French Connection UK which received numerous complaints because their slogan FCUK caused offence to those waiting diligently to be offended.

We use sayings in everyday speak, but from where did they emanate? Here are a few:

1. *Let the cat out of the bag* – meaning to reveal a secret.  
Origin: when taking a suckling pig to market it was taken in a sack. If one could surreptitiously swap the pig for a cat ... you can guess the rest.
2. *He gets my goat* – meaning he/she irritates me.  
Origin: putting a goat in with a fractious racehorse had the effect of calming it down. Stealing the goat could have the effect of making the horse again fractious and reducing its chance of winning.
3. *Give one the 'cold shoulder'* – meaning make them feel unwelcome.  
Origin: Cold shoulder of mutton was the most unappetising meat available. Offering it to a guest was a form of insult.
4. *Nineteen to the dozen* – meaning very fast.  
Origin: 18th century Cornish mine pumps could pump 19,000 gallons of water using 12 bushels of coal.
5. *A wild goose chase* – meaning a lost cause.  
Origin: A horse race where the runners started in a > formation like flying geese. Starting other than at the front was, essentially, a lost cause.

# More 'Memories of a Misspent Youth'

by James Milsom

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Several households, ours among them, kept chickens for their eggs and meat and my mum, a country girl, always kept a couple of pigs in a corner of Mr Halliwell's field in Stonebridge Lane. Mr Halliwell was a bookmaker who ran his business from a timber-built office opposite the old Mayfield College in London Road. Mum was interested in horse racing and was very knowledgeable on the subject. Marlborough was, and is, in the centre of horse racing country and the industry employed large numbers of stable lads locally. The presence of the army at Ogbourne and Chiseldon, together with the stable lads and local youths, made for a good deal of competition to attract the attention of the young women who attended the weekly dances in the Town Hall, and many were the fist fights that broke out on these occasions. The Town Hall was also the venue for the annual stable lads' boxing tournament which my dad always attended, taking me when I was a little older so that I might learn something about the noble art. I fear he was disappointed!

Highlights of the year for us children were, of course, the mop fairs. Teachers at St Peter's Boys' School, in what is now the Library, found that on the Fridays before the fairs their attempts to teach us were wasted as our attention was firmly fixed on the showmen's wagons passing the windows. Miss Shelton was the 1st form teacher, followed by Mr Anfuso in the 2nd form, Mr Lovett (Headmaster) in the 3rd and Mr Bristow in the 4th. Mr Bristow had taught my father and I recall that he was very accomplished with the cane. PE lessons were taken in the College gymnasium with the College's PE master, and games with our teachers on the College Meadow – a real privilege, though we didn't realise it, to have access to such luxurious facilities; a good deal better than anything to be found in Marlborough Grammar School which I attended after leaving St Peter's.

While at St Peter's, a number of us, including the Frayling twins, Ian Reeves, Tim Williams and Keith Waite, were invited to join the St Mary's Church choir as trebles, and we were privileged to be there during the Queen's Coronation in 1953. Again, the choirmaster, Trevor Gartside, was supplied by the College! Not many have had the chance to sing Zadok the Priest, The Hallelujah Chorus and Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring in one service, even if it was in St Mary's and not Westminster Abbey. Choirboys at St Mary's were paid about five shillings per quarter depending on 100% attendance. It always came as a pleasant surprise when the choirmaster put the money into our hands, because a quarter seems like a year to a nine year old.

# A review of some new titles from The White Horse Bookshop by Debby Guest

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My top recommendation at the moment is actually, ‘officially’, a children’s book, but I’m confident that adults buying it for children will enjoy it as much as (possibly even more than) their offspring will. A good book for children can convey a moral message, but a really good one disguises it in comedy, fantasy and roller-coaster (literally at one point) story-telling. *Wed Wabbit*, by Lissa Evans is a down-the-rabbit-hole, through-the-wardrobe fantastical, funny, and occasionally scary story about family love, bravery, tolerance and team-work. It’s for readers of 8+, but I’m 57+ and I absolutely love it. You’ll want Ella Elephant as your life-coach, and Dr Carrot as your therapist. (Don’t ask, just take my word for it and read the book.)

For my next two choices I give you meta-fiction, time-travel and detection. The premise of *Miss Blaine’s Prefect and the Golden Samovar* by Olga Wojtas is that Shona, old girl of the Marcia Blaine School for Girls (the institution made infamous by Miss Jean Brodie) travels back in time to Imperial Russia to investigate a crime. A credit to her *alma mater*, Shona, it seems, may have got hold of the wrong end of the stick about her mission – or is she being deliberately escorted up the wrong garden path? Dryly humorous, this debut novel is (I hope) the first of a series.

In late 19th century London, crimes are investigated by Sherlock Holmes - if you can afford his fees. Those for whom money is tight, and life generally less glamorous, turn to *Arrowood*. A classic literary private eye (frequently the worse for wear, moves in dubious circles, could do with a good wash), Arrowood travels the mean streets of South London, in the first of a witty and energetic new series by Mick Finlay. Apparently a television adaptation is in the pipeline - I can’t wait.

Finally, two novels by local authors for you to look out for when you’re in the shop(!). *Belvoir’s Promise*, by Susanna M Newstead, is a mediaeval murder mystery set in Savernake Forest (again, the first of a series), and *Fall Out* by Lizzie Mumfrey, examines the long-term effects of a terrorist incident on a small community.

	<b>FILMS AND LIVE SCREENING MARLBOROUGH TOWN HALL</b>
<b>Thursday 8th March 7.30 pm.</b> Movie night: <b>Hampstead</b> (12A)	
<b>Tuesday 27th March 7.15 pm. Bernstein Centenary:</b> New ballets by McGregor and Wheeldon. Live screening from the ROH	
<b>Tickets</b> on line from <a href="https://marlboroughonscreen.events">https://marlboroughonscreen.events</a> or from The White Horse Bookshop or Sound Knowledge. Also tickets at the door.	

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# A Day in the Life of a LINK Co-ordinator

Sue Pells

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It's 8.30am, and I switch on my laptop 30 minutes before LINK is technically 'open for business' to see what the day ahead holds and how juggling drivers is going to pan out. Although LINK is a "good neighbour" scheme, the bulk of what we do is taking clients to where they need to go, medical appointments, shopping, etc, if they would otherwise be unable to get there, e.g. the elderly, incapacitated or unable to use public transport. Having mentally assigned which driver I am going to try to match up with which job, I go to put a load of washing into the machine, and put the kettle on. This is the beauty of working from our own home as a volunteer, life around the house can continue as long as we have the phone with us. In the summertime I usually co-ordinate sitting in the garden. Often clients on the phone ask where the bird noise is coming from!

At 9am I turn the phone on and deal with any voicemail messages first. There may be new requests, cancellations or queries from drivers for that day. We now have a super duper state-of-the-art database which houses LINK's day to day diary of appointments, which makes life very, very easy, so this needs updating first with those messages. Then it's time to start phoning round to see which drivers are available and willing to drive the following day, and the database duly filled in. We work a day ahead, so that each day the co-ordinator is filling trips for the following day. This can take a couple of hours or all morning depending on the number of trips requested and the availability, and generosity, of our volunteers. It is an enjoyable task as I get to chat to, and catch up with, the drivers. We all soon get to know each other very well and it becomes like dealing with old friends.

Depending on how well I've got on in finding my drivers, I stop for lunch. We co-ordinators don't technically have a lunch break, it needs to be fitted in when clients, hopefully, are having theirs and so the phone is quiet. Post lunchtime breather, it's time to contact the clients for the following day to let them know who their driver will be and what time to expect them. As with the drivers, it's nice to chat to clients, and if regulars, catch up with them. During the day the phone is also busy with clients making new requests for various trips.

At the end of the day, usually around 5pm, I transfer the phone to the following day's co-ordinator and switch off my laptop. Time to put my feet up with a cuppa ... or a glass of wine - depends on what kind of a day I've had! However the day has gone, it feels hugely rewarding and a job well done.

If you feel you would like to know more about volunteering for LINK, please contact Vicky Sullivan, tel. 01672 288007.

# Be Prepared A Poem by Judy Rose

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For some efficient types I know, well nothing could be easier  
than making sure they've always got a very well-stocked freezer.  
They know if unexpected guests should show up day or night  
they can say with total confidence, "You must stay for a bite".  
There'll be a home-made pie or two, some soup, a cake, a stew...  
and pop it in the microwave is all they'll have to do.  
Their larder will be brimming with the kinds of things you spy  
in those fancy delis ... but you'd never ever buy;  
the sauces and the marinades, six different types of rice,  
oriental things in tins and jars of most exotic spice.  
Their fridge will yield fresh pasta, pesto sauce and things in brine,  
sun-dried tomatoes soaked in oil, and of course some chilled white wine.  
There'll be a good French cheese or two, some salami, and pâté  
and a choice of salad leaves (and vinaigrettes, needless to say!).  
And finally some nice fresh herbs, coriander, thyme and dill  
can just be plucked from little pots along the window sill.  
They will fling all this together and in the twinkle of an eye  
a gastronomic feast appears for those who just dropped by.

But if quite unexpectedly you dropped in to *chez-nous*  
let's take a look to see what I might have in store for you...  
the freezer's always worth a try, and yields the odd surprise...  
and yes, I've found some ice-pops and a big bag of French fries!  
And you just can't beat fish fingers for a quick and easy meal,  
I could always do them *gratinée* depending how you feel.  
And what is this right at the back? I've seen that tub before...  
it's labelled puréed baby food ... that baby is now four!  
Well now let's try the larder, take a look to see what's there...  
(though that Mother Hubbard feeling tells me I will find it bare).  
Well, here's a tin of best baked beans, we can split it if you're willing...  
or what about these taco shells, though sorry, I've no filling.  
There's a packet of basmati rice, with some sauce it would be fine  
I can just make out the sell-by date ... October '89.  
And finally, I'll check the fridge though I'm mortified to say  
my last sun-dried tomatoes all got used up yesterday.  
Apart from that there's a pack of lard, one egg, a sausage roll,  
and I cannot quite identify what's in the little bowl.

So all potential visitors, there's one thing I would say;  
if you're planning to surprise me, do please bring a take-away!

*(All my attempts to contact the author for permission to print were unsuccessful – editor)*

## Painless Dieting

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Trying to lose those few pounds before we head into the holiday season needn't be the depressing thought, or the struggle it once was. Try these simple and painless tips below for a happier experience of dieting.

Ten Rules on How To Combine a Successful Diet With Life as a Normal Human Being!

1. If you eat something and no one sees you then the food has no calories.
2. When you eat with someone else, the calories do not count if they eat more than you do.
3. If you drink a diet cola with a chocolate bar, the diet cola cancels the calories in the chocolate.
4. Broken biscuits contain no calories – the process of breaking causes calorie leakage.
5. Food used for medicinal purposes never counts, e.g. hot chocolate for relaxation; brandy for fortification; toast and cheesecake as antidepressants.
6. It is recommended that you fatten up everyone around you so that you appear slimmer.
7. Food licked off cutlery or out of a bowl has no calories if you are following a recipe, e.g. butter icing on a cake; the remains of scone mixture; cream for the top of a trifle.
8. TV and cinema food contain no calories as they are part of the whole entertainment package.
9. Foods of the same colour have the same number of calories, e.g. spinach and mint ice cream; mushrooms and white chocolate, water and a large gin and tonic.
10. Athletes eat huge amounts of pasta before races like the marathon. It's a myth that you have to run 26 miles to work it off. One brisk trot around the settee is quite sufficient to wipe out one bowl of spaghetti. Twice round the living room will use up so much energy that a chocolate bar is required to supplement your sugar level and rebuild your strength.

Good Luck!

# What your Pets write in their Diaries

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## *Excerpts from a Dog's Diary...*

8am Dog food! My favourite thing!  
9.30am A car ride! My favourite thing!  
9.40am A walk in the park! My favourite thing!  
10.30am Got stroked and petted! My favourite thing!  
12 noon Lunch! My favourite thing!  
1pm Played in the garden! My favourite thing!  
3pm Wagged my tail! My favourite thing!  
5pm Milk-Bones! My favourite thing!  
7pm Got to play ball! My favourite thing!  
8pm Watched TV with the people! My favourite thing!  
11pm Sleeping on the bed! My favourite thing!

## *Excerpts from a Cat's Diary...*

Day 983 of my captivity...

My captors continue to taunt me with bizarre little dangling objects. They dine lavishly on fresh meat, while the other inmates and I are fed hash or some sort of dry nuggets. Although I make my contempt for the rations perfectly clear, I nevertheless must eat something in order to keep up my strength. The only thing that keeps me going is my dream to escape. In an attempt to disgust them, I once again vomit on the carpet.

Today I decapitated a mouse and dropped its headless body at their feet. I had hoped this would strike fear into their hearts, since it clearly demonstrates what I am capable of. However, they merely made condescending comments about what a 'good little hunter' I am.

There was some sort of assembly of their accomplices tonight. I was placed in solitary confinement for the duration of the event. I overheard that my confinement was due to the power of 'allergies'. I must learn what this means and how to use it to my advantage.

Today I was almost successful in an attempt to assassinate one of my tormentors by weaving around his feet as he was walking. I must try this again tomorrow...but at the top of the stairs.

I am convinced that the other prisoners here are flunkies and snitches. The dog receives special privileges. He is regularly released – and seems more than willing to return. He is obviously retarded. The bird has got to be an informant. I observe him communicating with the guards regularly. I am certain that he reports my every move. My captors have arranged protective custody for him in an elevated cell, so he is safe. For now ... !

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# Recipe Leek & Chorizo Puff Pastry Tart

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*Feeds 6 people, takes around 40 mins and is very easy.*

March 1st – St David’s Day, and what do we think of when we think of Wales? Leeks of course!

Here we have a lovely recipe celebrating the delicious leek. Now leeks can be a little boring on their own but the following recipe just might make you fall in love with this humble vegetable.

- 320g ready-rolled all-butter puff pastry (easy already!)
- 150g cooking chorizo (the roll), sliced
- 2 large leeks, chopped into 4cm lengths
- 1 large onion, sliced
- A knob of butter
- 15 fresh sage leaves, sliced
- A squeeze of lemon juice
- 100g goat’s cheese log, sliced



## *Method*

Heat oven to 200 C/fan180 C/gas 6.

Unroll the puff pastry sheet onto a baking sheet and score a 2cm border around the edge. Bake for 20mins until golden.

Meanwhile, slice the chorizo and fry over a medium heat until golden. Remove the chorizo with a slotted spoon to a large bowl.

Add a knob of butter to the pan and gently fry the onion and leeks with the sage leaves for 10 mins until soft. Add to the chorizo, season well and mix in a squeeze of lemon juice.

Remove the pastry from the oven, press down the centre, then spread the leek and chorizo mixture inside the border. Dot all over with slices of goat’s cheese log. Bake for another 10 mins. Remove from the oven, leave to cool a little, then cut into 6 squares and serve.

# Clergy Letter Andrew Studdert-Kennedy

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*Things fall apart; the centre cannot hold*

The days of big supra-national institutions seem to be on the wane. We hear less today of the World Bank, the United Nations, the World Council of Churches than we did even five years ago. For a supposedly ever more global world, it is ironic that it seems to be more fractious and less united than before.

Separatist movements in Europe and the rise of identity politics almost everywhere suggest a world where, as WB Yeats wrote almost a century ago:

*Things fall apart; the centre cannot hold*

In a book about the importance of place in our lives, which I read recently, I was struck by the observation that

*If a society's borders have gone haywire, we can be sure something is badly wrong at the centre.. for boundaries are merely the extension of our core vision and purpose.*

The writer went on to suggest that when the soul of a community is secure, then its borders can afford to be less so, the ultimate example of which is a neighbourhood of trust where we can leave the front door open.

I am sure there is much truth in this observation and I also believe that what is true of a society is almost certainly true of the individuals that constitute it. The more secure we are in ourselves, the more open and generous we are likely to be towards others. It is therefore worth pondering what lies at our centre and what if anything holds it together. For the Christian the answer is the person of Christ, to whom the early church sang a hymn of praise which included these words:

*He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. Colossians 1.17*

If we believe that Christ holds us together and that he is the key to our identity we should have the confidence and trust to look out on others as brothers and sisters and delight in what we have in common. For those who cannot make this claim about Christ, it is still worth exploring what it is that holds the centre and ensures that things don't fall apart.

Whatever it is that holds the centre, it is surely something given to us, something received, rather than something dependent upon our own achievements; if our identity is dependent upon our levels of success we have a house built on sand!

Whether it is provided by history, or place, or community, or family, or faith, humans need a sense of rootedness and the conviction that we belong. It was true in St Paul's day when he wrote to the Colossian church (63AD approx.) and it is true for us now.

**The Rev. Canon Andrew Studdert-Kennedy  
Team Rector, Marlborough Anglican Team**

# What's on in March

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## Regular events

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### **Every Monday**

7.30pm: Christchurch. Marlborough Choral Society.

7.45-9pm: Bell-ringing practice at St George's, Preshute.

### **Every Tuesday**

10-11.30am: Christchurch. Friendship Club.

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

7.30-9pm: Bell-ringing practice at St Mary's, Marlborough.

### **Every Wednesday**

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

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

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

7.30-9pm: Bell-ringing practice at St John's. Mildenhall.

2-3pm: St George's, Preshute (*every 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wed*) Teddy Prayers & Picnic. A service, tea & cakes for U5s & carers.

### **Every Thursday (or some Thursdays)**

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

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

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

2pm Mildenhall Village Hall. Marlborough Floral Club. £30 a year membership. £5 guest. 520129. (*1st Thursday*).

### **Every Friday**

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

### **Every 2nd Saturday**

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

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## March calendar

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### **2nd (Friday)**

8pm Town Hall. Marlborough Folk Roots. Concert: 'Steve Knightly'. £18 from Sound Knowledge.

### **3rd (Saturday)**

6.30pm Town Hall. Marlborough College. Concert by Director of TARUD: 'Thriving in the Tropics: Exploring the potential for export from Gambia to the UK'. Refreshments available. Numbers limited. RSVP asap

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### **4th (Sunday)**

3pm Marlborough College Church. Concert. MC Symphony Orchestra. Sinfonia: Giustav Holst's 'The Planets'. Free Admission – All welcome

### **5th (Monday)**

2pm Kennet Valley Hall, Lockeridge. Talk by Cherrilyn Tyler: 'Journey of a Lifetime'

### **6th (Tuesday)**

5pm (Tea 4.30pm), Quaker Meeting House. Open meeting with speaker: 'Migration'. See page 26

### **7th (Wednesday)**

7.30pm Wesley Hall, Oxford Street. Supper & Beetle Drive. Guest speaker

### **8th (Thursday)**

7.30pm Town Hall. Film: 'Hansel & Gretel' on door.

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### **11th (Sunday)**

7.30pm St Peter's Church. Brunch

### **12th (Monday)**

7.30pm Bouverie Hall, Pewsey. Lecture by Nicholas Watkinson: 'Art from Stubbs to Mark Wallinger'. Free welcome (£7). 07775 683163

### **14th (Wednesday)**

10am-12.30pm Merchant's Hall. Lecture by David Evans: 'Artistic Paintings and collections'. £1.50 coffee & cake, from MH (advance booking). 12.30pm 40 St Martins. Widow's Walk. Free welcome. 514030.

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to: burdenallison@gmail.com

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apel. 175th/50th Birthday  
estra with Southbank  
Planets Suite (with readings).  
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eridge. Embroiderers' Guild.  
ney Cloths'. All welcome.

Meeting Hall, The Parade.  
Refugees and Forced

Street. WI AGM, Pot Luck  
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nger'. Members' visitors

ouse. The Georgian Age>  
stocratic Patronage –  
5 (£12 Friends) including  
ance booking essential).  
ws' Friendship Lunch. All

7.45pm Wesley Hall, Oxford Street. Gardening Association.  
Talk by Lynda Warren: 'Nature's Poisoners.'

**15th (Thursday)**

7.30pm St Peter's Church. History Society. Lecture by Alan  
Turton: 'The History of the Mary Rose'. Guests £4, students  
£2.

**16th (Friday)**

7 for 7.30pm Marlborough Town Hall. Mayor's Charity  
Lecture by Michael Hart. See page 22.

**17th (Saturday)**

7.30pm St Mary's Church. Marlborough Concert  
Orchestra's Spring Concert. £10, £2 students. See page 17

---

**19th (Monday)**

11am Ellendune Community Centre, Wroughton. The Arts  
Society: Kennet & Swindon. Lecture by Clive Stewart-  
Lockhart: 'The Art Market: how does it work?'. Guests  
welcome (£7). 01793 840790

7.30pm Kennet Valley Hall, Lockeridge. KV National Trust  
Association. Lecture by Mark Routledge: 'An Anglo Saxon  
Fashion Icon'. £3, £4 non members.

**20th (Tuesday)**

6.30pm St Peter's Church. AGM for members only.

**21st (Wednesday)**

Marlborough College: End of Lent Term.

10am-12.30pm Merchant's House. 'The Georgian Age'  
Lecture by Christopher Rogers: 'Palladio Revisited'. £15  
(£12 Friends). Advance booking essential. See page 18

---

**25th (Sunday)**

7.30pm Kennet Valley Hall Lockeridge. Film 'The Party'. £6.

**27th (Tuesday)**

7.15pm Town Hall. Live screening from ROH: 'Bernstein  
Centenary New McGregor/The Age of Anxiety/New  
Wheeldon'. £15 in adv, £17.50 on door.

**30th (Friday)**

St John's Academy: End of Term.

**31st (Saturday)**

The Merchant's House reopens for guided tours.

# Marlborough Churches Together

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**See page 25 for Easter Service times**

## **Usual Sunday Service times**

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

- 9.00am Worship
- 10.30am Morning Service with Junior Church and crèche

### **Society of Friends, Friends Meeting House, The Parade**

- 10.30am Meeting for Worship

### **St George's, Preshute (C of E)**

- 8.00am Holy Communion (1st and 3rd Sunday)
- 10.00am All Age Service (3rd Sunday)  
Parish Communion (other Sundays)

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

- 8.00am Holy Communion BCP (2nd Sunday)
- 9.30am Parish Communion (1st and 3rd Sunday)

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

- 8.00am Holy Communion (BCP on 4th Sunday)
- 10.00am All Age Worship (1st Sunday); Parish Communion and Junior Church and crèche on all other Sundays
- 5.30pm Informal service except on 1st Sunday.

### **St Thomas More, George Lane (Roman Catholic)**

- 11.00am Sung Mass (See also below)

**Marlborough College Services** are shown at the College Chapel

## **Weekday Services**

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**St Mary's** Holy Communion: 10.30am Wednesday

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

**St George's** Tea Time followed by Evening Prayer: 4.30pm Weds.  
Teddy Prayers and Picnic: 2-3pm every 2nd & 4th Wed

Marlborough Concert Orchestra  
Saturday 17 March 7.30pm  
St Mary's Church, Marlborough

Conductor Roselise Gentile  
Leader Edward Judge

Haydn

Fauré

Ferdinand David

Kevin Riley

Symphony No 103 The Drumroll

Pavane

Concertino for trombone and  
orchestra

In Flanders Fields

Soloist Joe Arkwright



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present

### *Bach's St Matthew Passion*

Sung in English. Chamber Orchestra and Professional Soloists

**Saturday, 24 March, 6:30pm**

Marlborough College Chapel, Marlborough SN8 1PA

**Conductor** : Greg Hallam

Tickets £15 (one under 18 free with one full paying adult)

Retiring collection in aid of **Thriving Through Venture**



Tickets available on the door, from Sound Knowledge, White Horse Bookshop  
[www.swindonchoral.org.uk](http://www.swindonchoral.org.uk) [www.bracknellchoral.org.uk](http://www.bracknellchoral.org.uk)



## The Merchant's House Marlborough

### SPRING STUDY SERIES 2018, Continued **THE GEORGIAN AGE**

Wednesday 7th March, 10am - 12:30pm

David Evans 'Aristocratic Patronage—Paintings and Collections'

Wednesday 21st March, 10am - 12:30pm

Christopher Rogers 'Palladio Revisited'

Wednesday 28th March, Time TBA

Visit to Basildon Park with Christopher Rogers

Advance booking essential. Tickets from the Merchant's House Shop or Trust office. Contact 511491 [victoriae@merchantshoustrust.co.uk](mailto:victoriae@merchantshoustrust.co.uk)

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### **THE MARLBOROUGH FAIRTRADE GROUP**

**'MANGOES TO MARLBOROUGH FROM THE GAMBIA'**

Marlborough Town Hall, 6.30 pm Saturday 3 March 2018

Admission free – retiring collection

With partners we are exploring the potential for importing mangoes from The Gambia. We will be addressed by the Director of TARUD, Marlborough Brandt Group's partner NGO in Gunjur and others. Refreshments by Tesco. Numbers are limited. Please let us know by 24th February if you wish to come: [burdenallisonc@gmail.com](mailto:burdenallisonc@gmail.com)

# Marlborough Church Contacts

---

**Fr John Blacker**

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

**The Revd Dr Janneke Blokland**

515970; jblokland@gmail.com  
*Assistant Chaplain, Marlborough College*

**The Revd Heather Cooper**

512457; heather.cooper432@btinternet.com  
*Minister, Christchurch Methodist*

**The Revd Dr David Maurice**

514119; david\_maurice2000@yahoo.com  
*Associate Minister, Marlborough Anglican Team*

**The Revd Tim Novis**

892209; twgn@marlboroughcollege.org  
*Senior Chaplain, Marlborough College*

**Rachel Rosedale**

512205; rachelrosed1@gmail.com  
*Member, The Religious Society of Friends*

**The Revd Canon Andrew Studdert-Kennedy**

514357; andrewsk1959@btinternet.com  
*Team Rector, Marlborough Anglican Team*

---

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*Christchurch Office, New Road, SN8 1AH*

**Laura Willis**

512357; marlb.anglicanteam@tiscali.co.uk  
*Anglican Team Office, Church Cottage,  
Silverless Street, SN8 1JQ*

## **The Arts Society, Pewsey Vale**

**Monday 12 March 2018**

**'The Horse and Modern Art: from Stubbs to Mark Wallinger'**  
by Nicolas Watkins

In the Bouverie Hall, Pewsey SN9 5QE. The hall is open from 7 pm with the lecture beginning at 7:30 pm for approximately one hour.

Coffee/tea and wine are served from 7 pm.

To apply for membership and for information contact:  
[pewseyvale@theartssociety.org](mailto:pewseyvale@theartssociety.org).

Website: [www.theartssociety-pewseyvale.com](http://www.theartssociety-pewseyvale.com)

# Family News compiled by Audrey Peck

---

**Kay and Michael Cripps** have a New Year's Eve great-grandson Noah, born in Torquay to Alex and Anna Cripps. Anna is a doctor and Alex, who is still in medical training, is the son of Peter Cripps who locals will remember at St John's School at the time when our secondary schools became comprehensive. Congratulations and best wishes to all the family.

**Deirdre Rix** had settled down in Highfield Care Home (See April 2017 edition of Tower and Town) but sadly she died less than a year later. She had been physically frail for some years but her strong, caring character shone through and we will always remember her lovely smile. Our deep sympathy to Alan and their daughter, Alison, and her family.

**Stephen 'Flash' Gilbert** was born and died in the excellent care of Savernake Hospital. He was a carpenter and worked as a premises supervisor at St. John's School. He had enjoyed playing football and golf, and followed horse racing. But most of all he was a family man, a great support to his mother Joyce, and he enjoyed spending time with his partner Hannah's grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Joyce, his sister Jane, Hannah, and his step-children Marcus, Matthew, Nicky and Chris were comforted by the very large number of friends celebrating his life at Kingsdown Crematorium.

**Frank Nash** died on December 12th after a long illness. In 1954 he left his large, close family in Limerick to work at Gordon Richards' stables in Ogbourne Maizey. He was Jockeys' Boxing Champion for six years running. He and Wendy met at Marlborough swimming pool and they married in 1961. They had six children, twelve grandchildren and three much loved great-grandchildren. He was a keen and successful gardener. The funeral was at St. Thomas More Church. Our sympathy to Wendy and all his family.

**Noel Waite** and his wife Margaret had both been ill at home in Manton for a long time. He died in Bassett House, Royal Wootton Bassett. He was born in Lockeridge. the family moved to Elcot Lane in the 40's. He was an electrician at James Shop in the High St. After training at night school to be a draughtsman he worked at Vickers, Swindon and then Scorpion Engineering in Elcot Lane. He was a Town Councillor for some years. He thoroughly enjoyed life and had many hobbies, gardening, poetry, bowls, football, rugby and he had always collected local and Wiltshire postcards and photographs. He will be sadly missed by Margaret, his son, Nick and daughter-in-law, Jayne, their daughters, Amy and Laura, and his brother Neville.

**Diana Devonshire**, who died recently, will be remembered as a teacher at

Ramsbury and St. Mary's Schools in the 80's. After retirement she trained in Fine Art and created beautiful pottery; she was part of the annual Open Studios. Another of Diana's legacies was the creation of the much acclaimed play area in Minal which has proved to be extremely popular across a wide area. She was much loved and an inspiration to her husband, Brian, children, Sarah, Andy and Sophie, and grandchildren. They celebrated her life in Mildenhall Church.

**Peter and Elaine Emery**, next year's captains at Marlborough Golf Club, organised a team of former captains to enter the quiz *Egg Heads* on BBC2, and named themselves *The Thistle Heads*. The thistle is the golf club's emblem. The other team members were Ruth Hodgson, Richard Pickles and Alan Prior, and Jilly Hunter was the reserve. They stayed overnight in Glasgow and had an interesting and exciting time. They were sworn to secrecy about the result. The programme will be aired in late summer.

## FROM THE REGISTERS

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### **Baptism**

21 January Robin Johnson at St Mary's

### **Departed**

16 January Noel Frederick Waite (87) of 21 High Street, Manton  
*Kingsdown Crematorium*

18 January Audrey Patricia Brodrick (93) of Savernake View Care Home,  
Marlborough  
*St Mary's and Kingsdown Crematorium*

20 January Stanley Radnedge (86) of 14 Smiths Court, Purton, formerly of  
Marlborough  
*West Berks Crematorium, Thatcham*

20 January Joan Letts (94) formerly of Tree Toft, Salisbury Road, Marlborough  
*St Mary's and Kingsdown Crematorium*

23 January Stella Elizabeth Ward (90) of 11 Clarendon Court, Marlborough  
*Kingsdown Crematorium and St Mary's*

26 January Sheila Patricia 'Pat' Robinson (86) of 1 Cardigan Road, Marlborough  
*St Mary's and Marlborough Cemetery*

1 February Mary Anne Palmer (21) of Lansdowne Place, Marlborough  
*St Mary's and Marlborough Cemetery*

# Mayor's Charity Lecture

In conjunction with Marlborough History Society



Friday 16th March 2018

7:00pm Marlborough Town Hall

Lecture starts at 7:30pm

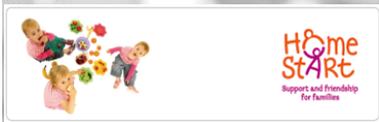
**'The Awkward Place of World War One in German History'**

by

**Michael Hart**

Free Entry Charity Collection

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## Marlborough Telescope

Annual Sun-Earth Lecture

*'Victorian Phoenix—A Tale of Astronomical Discoveries'*

by **Charles Barclay** BSc, FRAS, FRSA

Director Blackett Observatory

Vice President of the Royal Astronomical Society

**21 March at 6pm in the Garnett Room,**

on the top floor of the History Block on the east side of the College Court.

Free entry, all welcome.

Discover the history of the  
Marlborough Telescope and

Observatory, and have an

opportunity to join up as a Friend





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**Easter Services 2018** - All the churches of Marlborough wish you  
a very Happy Easter and warmly invite you to worship with us:

**Palm Sunday, 25 March**

6.00pm Sacred Music & Readings with the Dodecantus Choir (St Mary's)

**Monday, 26 March**

10.00am Mass (St Thomas More)

7.30pm Night Prayer with Address (St Mary's)

**Tuesday, 27 March**

10.00am Mass (St Thomas More)

7.30pm Night Prayer with Address (St John the Baptist)

**Wednesday, 28 March**

7.30pm Night Prayer with Address (St George's)

**Maundy Thursday, 29 March**

7.00pm Section Communion Service (Christchurch)

7.30pm Mass of the Last Supper followed by vigil until:

10.00pm Night Prayers (St Thomas More)

8.00pm Sung Eucharist and *The Watch until midnight* (St Mary's)

**Good Friday, 30 March**

10.30am Worshipping at the Foot of the Cross (St Mary's)

10.30am Reflective Service (Christchurch)

11.30am Procession of Witness Marlborough High Street

12.30pm Stations of The Cross (St Thomas More)

1.00pm – 3.00pm Devotional Service (St George's)

3.00pm Commemoration of the Lord's Passion (St Thomas More)

**Saturday, 31 March**

9.00pm The Easter Vigil Mass (St Thomas More)

**Easter Sunday, 1 April**

6.00am Sunrise Service at Martinsell Hill

8.00am Holy Communion (St Mary's)

8.00am Holy Communion (St George's)

9.30am Family Communion (St John the Baptist)

10.00am Family Communion (St Mary's)

10.00am Family Communion (St George's)

10.30am Holy Communion (Christchurch)

10.30am Quaker Meeting for Worship

11.00am Mass (St Thomas More)

4.00pm Kite Flying (College Playing Fields, off Leaze Road)

# NEWS from the Churches

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*See page 25 For Easter Service times*

## **Women's World Day of Prayer**

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Friday 2nd March at 2.00pm, Women's World Day of Prayer Service at St John the Baptist Church, Pewsey. All are welcome, men, women and children. The Service will be followed by refreshments. Celebrating God's Creation in solidarity with Suriname. Visit: [www.wwdp.org.uk](http://www.wwdp.org.uk)



## **Seniors' Sunday Lunch Club**

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Sunday 4th March at Christchurch, Wesley Hall at 12.15. To book, please ring the office before 10.00am on the Friday before: 513701. Cost £7.50.



## **Marlborough Churches Together Fraternal**

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meets at 12.45pm on Monday 5th March, open to all or please contact the clergy if you would like anything raised. <http://marlboroughchurchestogether.uk/mct/>

## **Marlborough Area Poverty Action Group (MAPAG)**

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meets 7.30 on Monday 5th March at the Friends Meeting House, the Parade. All welcome to attend the meeting.

## **Refugees and Forced Migration.**

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Marlborough Quakers will be hosting a further open meeting on this topic on Tuesday 6th March in the Friends Meeting House, The Parade, Marlborough, SN8 1NE. Tea from 4.30pm. The meeting will start at 5.00pm, to around 6.15pm.

The meeting will explore the experience and work of three organisations in Swindon: The Harbour Project, The Medaille Trust and Swindon City of Sanctuary. Each will be providing speakers. Please come if you can: so much goes on in our names without our realising the consequences of what is happening.

## **Lent Talks** Unheard Stories: Hope in a Challenging World

---

Admission free, donations welcome! Marlborough Churches Together Lent series, 7.30-9.00pm on these Wednesdays at Christchurch:



7th March: James Woodward, Principal of Sarum College

James Woodward, author of the book *Between Remembering and Forgetting: The Spiritual Dimensions of Dementia*, will reflect on where we may see hope when people around us seem to fade away.

14th March: Geoff Green, Open Doors UK

Geoff Green, presenter of the *Hope for the Middle East* petition to the UK parliament will speak on how to serve and support persecuted Christians.

## **Mothing Sunday** 11th March with the gift of flowers

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All Age Worship. 9.30am St John the Baptist; 10am St Mary's; 10am St George's; 10.30am Christchurch led by Chrissy Whittingham.

## **Filling Station**

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Wednesday 21st March at 7.30pm at the Marlborough Community and Youth Centre, film night: *The Shack*, a Hollywood dramatisation of William Young's novel. Please come and invite your friends! Free, open to all. Refreshments, booklets to take away and the opportunity to chat.



## **Women's Fellowship** at 2.45pm in Christchurch

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- 6th Revd Heather Cooper
- 13th Members' Meeting – Bring and Buy
- 20th Eileen Gilbert – Easter Egg Service
- 27th Revd Heather Cooper
- 3rd April No meeting



## **Good Friday** 30th March

---

Join us outside the Town Hall just before 11.30am for our Procession of Silent Witness. We hope that many of you will give a few minutes to mark this special day in togetherness. Prayers and procession along the High Street to St Peter's and St Paul's Church.

## **Messy Church Saturday** 31st March

---

St George's and St Mary's Church will both be running Messy Church - an opportunity for families to come and enjoy Easter activities, informal worship and refreshments together. All welcome! For further information or to register interest:

For St George's Messy Church from 10am to 11.30am at St George's Church, Preshute, please contact Amanda Brown: [amandabrown46@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:amandabrown46@hotmail.co.uk)

For St Mary's Messy Church from 11.30am to 1.30pm at St Mary's Church, Marlborough, please contact Caroline Philps: [cphilps2@gmail.com](mailto:cphilps2@gmail.com)

## **Easter Sunday** 1st April

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**The Sunrise Service** on Martinsell Hill takes place on Easter Morning; 6.00am in Martinsell Hill car park, walk to the hill top for sung communion and watch the sunrise due at 6.43am; followed by hot breakfast via the Methodist Church, Pewsey.



**Kite flying** is a way of celebrating the risen Christ, a tradition from the Caribbean. Join in by flying a kite at the Marlborough College Playing Fields (off Leaze Road) on Easter Sunday afternoon at 4.00pm.

# Tower and Town staff

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<i>News from the Churches</i>	Alison Selby	church.news@towerandtown.org.uk Crossmead, Kingsbury St, SN8 1HU	511128
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**Contributions and comments** from readers are welcome. Please send articles and letters to the Monthly Editor or the Editorial Coordinator, other notices or announcements to the compiler. All items for the April issue by 13th March please.

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

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