

---

# TOWER AND TOWN

---



**What's Your Business Here?**

---

FEBRUARY 2024

Single copy £1  
Annual subscription £7

---



# KFR

refurbishing furniture  
reviving communities

IMAGINE A WORLD WHERE WE CAN ALL DO OUR PART TO SAVE MONEY,  
SAVE THE PLANET, AND HELP OTHERS IN NEED.



SAVE MONEY



SAVE THE PLANET



HELP PEOPLE IN CRISIS

#REUSEREVOLUTION

REFURBISHING FURNITURE AND  
WHITE GOODS SO THAT QUALITY  
ITEMS ARE AVAILABLE TO FAMILIES  
WITH LIMITED INCOME.

SO WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?

JOIN THE REUSE REVOLUTION TODAY!

TOGETHER, WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

SCAN OUR QR CODE & DONATE TODAY



Registered Charity 1056649



info@kfr.org.uk



01380 720200

# TOWER<sup>AND</sup>TOWN

THE MAGAZINE OF MARLBOROUGH'S COMMUNITY AND CHURCHES

NUMBER 744 FEBRUARY 2024



## Editorial

From time to time someone surveys the towns of England and we find that Marlborough comes in the top ten of the most-something-or-other places to live. So we feel smug for a bit because a newspaper finds that we are contented with our town or good at community relations.

I wondered partly to what extent businesses here have us, the public, in mind. So I put myself about recently, not in any systematic way but just to get a few snapshots. The results for what they are worth are inside these covers. They are not intended to be advertisements.

I got in touch with some new arrivals: The Funghi Club, Sassy and Boo, and Vinegar Hill in the High Street and Mrs Brown's Bakes. I tried to be positive and not judgemental, and I apologize if I have omitted a business that you think – or they think - deserved a visit and a mention.

I went to Fermoie because they were the Lit Fest's lead sponsors in 2023, to Greatwood because they are there for young humans as well as old horses, to The Green Machine Company because they save stuff in this world of waste, and to David Chandler who knows the history of the town and writes about the Free family. ARK is just one of the voluntary and charitable organizations who do so much here. And if you'd like to find what it was like in the floods of 1947 go to the Tower and Town archive online and look up Muriel Cobern's reminiscence published in April 2019.

We welcome the Gardening Association, who send the first of what will be regular contributions, and thank the Reekies, who are the only people I know in Marlborough who know Gaza. Huge thanks to all the contributors and for their stunning photographs.

**John Osborne, Editor**

Cover picture: "People Helping Horses" and "Horses Helping People"  
*See page 8 - Greatwood*

# John Osborne Pays Some Calls in the High Street

---

## The Funghi Club

“No chips, no burgers, no Sunday roast,” says Laurent emphatically, with a touch of humour. The French style of this bistro, which opened in Hughenden Yard in the autumn, is obvious and – from the number of those who have tried it out and been back again – well liked. I wondered what the difference was between the Funghi Club here in Marlborough and its ancestor in Hungerford: “None, except there’s more space here.”

The emphasis is on relaxed style and fast service, with a quality menu “not quite like a restaurant” and a limited list of well-chosen wines, reasonably priced. They offer home delivery and a take-away delicatessen counter, too. It amazed me that the one kitchen is in Hungerford. The efficiency implied by this is at the heart of what they do.

The atmosphere is light and bright, with the café-style white-topped tables where you can perch, and lower, extendable oak tables where slightly larger groups can sit. It is fascinating to imagine how the summer will be, when people will be sitting outside in the flagged yard in that lovely suntrap.

Laurent and Janie like Marlborough: she reels off “vibrant”, “captivating town”, with “the wide High Street”, a “mix of people” and a “mix of shops”. In return, their customers clearly appreciate them, experienced, busy and aware, and offering something with a different style

## Sassy & Boo

“It’s all about colour,” says Marie, as she explains what Sassy and Boo offer. I am wondering what the difference may be between this and Marlborough’s other boutiques, and what the attraction of the High Street is to anyone setting up this sort of business. To my eyes there is a lot of competition, and we have had Covid and a recession...

This Sassy & Boo has been here over a year and as one of eight shops with their base in Cirencester it has been the most successful and always in the top four. High rents do not help, as all traders in Marlborough will tell you, but Marie tells me that they have “taken off”: people know ‘Luella’, their main brand, it is not aimed only at the middle-aged, but schoolgirls, too, and prices are reasonable. “We are not too flash,” she says. They are on line, there is a sales row in the shop “to keep interest”, and shortly there is to be a ‘Changing Seasons, Changing Bodies Workshop’, with a

psychotherapist present to advise with insights about well-being, to boost confidence and to have some fun. I can imagine the Spring Collection round the corner? “It is in the warehouse.”

And Marlborough? “We have a good, regular client base.” Marie clearly does not mind that there are “so many nice shops”. It helps that people come here to meet up, to lunch and to browse. She is “very comfortable with Marlborough.”

## Vinegar Hill

“It was deliberate to open at the Christmas period,” says Dessi, the energetic manager of the High Street’s latest shop. With its bright and cheerful window, and a great variety and mass of colourful stock, this addition to Marlborough’s retail scene was instantly popular. I wondered how Vinegar Hill differentiated itself from, say, gift shops in town and Dessi’s answer was that they were instantly recognizable from their shop window and are not in competition.

Vinegar Hill is a family business, with sixteen outlets, based in Stratford-upon-Avon. Dessi’s most recent experience was in a superstore in a big town and so Marlborough, this shop and its clientele are very different. She says nice things about their customers, notes that the majority are happy to spend, not just to browse, and is surprised sometimes at what they buy. Kiri, her assistant, mentions the “old-fashioned” aspect of the High Street, and Dessi appreciates the police, too, who keep in touch and provide friendly support.

I ask Dessi what gives her most satisfaction. “Making people feel special,” she says. Dessi and her staff – a blend of part-time as well as full-time – aim to provide “a friendly environment”, so that people feel welcome, “as if they are walking into a living room, not just a store.” And your dog is welcome, too.

---

## Mrs Brown's Bakes    Secret Diary of a Local Business

Amanda Brown

---

*July 2022:*

On the point of 'retirement' but the word seems premature - is there another challenge awaiting?

*August 2022:*

Could my penchant for baking be turned into a business? The family make encouraging noises.

*Continued over*

## *Continued from page 3*

*September 2022:*

With a family tradition of shortbread making, I decide to start with packets of this perennial favourite ... but before turning on the oven, there is much to do ...

*October 2022:*

... food hygiene and allergen training, registering the business, insurance, ingredients, pricing ...

*November 2022:*

'Mrs Brown's Bakes' becomes a reality as our son, Rory, works magic on the branding - pitches booked for two December markets in Marlborough.

*6 December 2022:*

Trading begins! Various crises occur - oven failure saved by the technical wizardry of local engineer, Mr Clemens. Cornflour-gate (a national shortage of this vital ingredient) rescued by my long-suffering husband scouring the county for supplies ... but the market stalls happen with much camaraderie ... and people seem to like eating shortbread!

*Jan/Feb 2023:*

More days on the markets. Orders from individuals for cakes and bakes, as well as shortbread. February ends with an exciting approach from St Peter's Trust: wanted - local supplier of cakes for the new Cardinal Coffee Shop.

*22 April 2023:*

A red letter day as the first cakes are delivered to Cardinal Coffee Shop for their opening ... two days later I break my ankle. Arrgh! I keep going ...just!

*April 22 onwards:*

I'm soon back on two fully-functioning ankles and settling into the seasonal rhythm of supplying the coffee shop - raspberries and blueberries for summer cakes, comforting spiced toffee cake in the autumn and all things Christmassy in December. Private orders for bakes grow - Parmesan shortbreads for a drinks party, coffee cake for a family gathering or mince pies at Christmas. Tuned in to Radio 4, clad in my cheffy clothes I enjoy the creativity of cooking, emerging at the end of a day from a cloud of icing sugar amidst a Proustian smell of buttery shortbread.

Mrs Brown's Bakes is a small solo artisanal business in Marlborough. Would it attract a Dragon's investment? Probably not. Would I recommend such a project? Definitely! Later this year I turn 60 and I'm hoping that the challenges - creative, mental and physical - will keep me young. As long as I can bring enjoyment with a packet of shortbread or a fluffy Victoria Sandwich cake, I'll keep baking! Visit my website!



MARLBOROUGH COLLEGE  
SUMMER SCHOOL

# Discover - Create Learn - Celebrate

Over **400** courses are waiting for you  
7th July – 3rd Aug 2024

Visit [summerschool.co.uk](http://summerschool.co.uk)  
to find out more



# CLARIDGE

## Funeral Service

Local independent family funeral directors  
*Proudly supporting our local community*



*Daniel, Mary & Richard Claridge and team welcome you.  
Every funeral is individual and tailored entirely to your wishes,  
within all budgets.*

Parade Mews | The Parade | Marlborough | Wiltshire SN8 1NE | T: 01672 511836  
E: [daniel@claridgefuneralservice.co.uk](mailto:daniel@claridgefuneralservice.co.uk) | [www.claridgefuneralservice.co.uk](http://www.claridgefuneralservice.co.uk)  
Available 24 hours a day all year round, for information, help and advice



**Snowdrops at Welford Park**



**Delivered by  
Royal Mail**

ALL TOTALLY FREE OF CHARGE

## **MARLBOROUGH & DISTRICT TALKING NEWSPAPER**

For blind and visually-impaired people

**If you know someone  
who has not heard about  
us, a word from you could  
brighten up their life**

**Contact:**

**Jenny Lyall (Listeners' Officer)  
01672 513524  
lantern65@uwclub.net**

**TO ADVERTISE HERE**

**please contact Chris Rogers**

**at**

**[advertising@towerandtown.org.uk](mailto:advertising@towerandtown.org.uk)**

# Snowdrops

## Deirdre Watson - Marlborough Gardening Association

---

I was clearing leaves yesterday and saw some snowdrop stems pushing up through the soggy soil; a promise of a burst of delicate white jewels to come, and a herald that Spring is just around the corner.

The plant is in fact originally a native of mainland Europe, even mentioned in ancient Greek literature. The best known species of the genus is officially called *galanthus nivalis*: *Galanthus* from two Greek words meaning ‘milk’ and ‘flower’ and *Nivalis* from the Latin word for ‘snow’. It is believed to have been introduced to England around the beginning of the 16th century. Mentioned in John Gerard’s *General Historie of Plantes* printed in 1597, the snowdrop was originally listed as *Leucojum bulbosum praecox minus* – ‘Timely Flouring Bulbous Violet’. It wasn’t until 1753 that the Swedish botanist Carl Linnaeus reclassified the snowdrop using the Greek/Latin term still used today. The snowdrop was eventually placed in the *Amaryllidaceae* family in 1805 and remains classified as such to this day.

Snowdrops rapidly gained popularity in the 19th century and, with the surge of both botany and floral symbolism, became associated with hope and purity. There was, however, a dark superstition associated with it, probably developed from swathes of the bulbs being planted in and around graveyards during the Victorian era. In many areas of the country, the snowdrop became a harbinger of death and impending doom if cut and brought into the home and this superstition persisted well into the 20th century.

But for those who weren’t superstitious, just like the tulip-mania of the 17th century but on a somewhat smaller scale, *Galanthus* bulbs have since the mid-19th century attracted their own fan club. The great horticulturalist and plantsman E A Bowles, an avid *galanthus* collector, wrote a letter to a fellow enthusiast entitled ‘*Dear Galanthophil*’ and it’s assumed this is where the word *galanthophile* originated.

In 2011 a single *Galanthus plicatus* E A Bowles bulb named after the great man himself sold for £357. This may seem pretty steep to us non-Galanthophiles where one snowdrop looks pretty much the same as another, but it’s by no means the highest price paid. In 2015 someone forked out £1,390 for a lone snowdrop bulb off eBay!

Happily, you don’t have to spend a fortune to view beautiful snowdrops locally. They grow prolifically in small dense clumps, creating great swathes of white carpet under deciduous woodland and indeed anywhere that can provide them with a bit of dappled shade. Apart from the tremendous display at Welford Park, you can spot prolific clumps in local woodland, and even by the Kennet in Minal (opposite my cottage, as it happens).

# The Editor visits Greatwood

---

It says ‘Greatwood’ on the board at the turn off the main road at Clench Common. On your way to Pewsey you’ll spot that it is a home for retired racehorses. But what is Greatwood like and what do they do? Suspecting that there is more to it than just old horses being put out to grass, I went to find out.

Sasha showed me round what used to be a dairy farm, but whose cattle sheds now house horses. There are thirty of them at the moment and for the winter they are accommodated, not in stalls, but in such a way that they have plenty of room and can make contact with their neighbours over barriers of medium height. They may have been injured, have become temperamental or just old, but the immediate impression is one of calm and contentment, with horses at ease among each other and quietly ready to greet a visiting stranger. Some are re-homed and Greatwood carefully vets anyone offering a horse a second retirement home.

But as their website says, Greatwood is not just “people helping horses” but “horses helping people.” (*See the Front Cover picture.*) They run educational programmes for individuals or small groups of young people of school age. Disadvantaged children who may have emotional or physical problems and who have had difficulty fitting into mainstream education can gain enormously in confidence through interaction with horses; anxiety is reduced, communication skills improved and self-esteem raised. Expert, trained staff assess children and manage them as individuals; in addition, one-on-one lessons in Maths and English are provided for some, with the aim they may return to mainstream schooling. On my tour through some, well-adapted and well-maintained rooms, I passed a young boy having a cookery lesson, too. Not surprisingly, Greatwood also runs courses for young adults who want professional qualifications to make a career with horses.

Sasha impressed me with her intelligence and energy, and described to me the constant efforts Greatwood makes to engage with the public and to raise money. One horse can visit a care home; another can spend a day at Newbury races... The impressive work of this invaluable establishment, founded by the practical and visionary Helen Yeadon 25 years ago, costs half a million pounds a year to run. You can contribute - and visit Greatwood - by becoming a Greatwood Guardian.

I left the medical practice in Marlborough in 1992, looking for a change, and joined Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP) as a volunteer for the next three years.

I spent my first year in Hebron in the West Bank which then had a population of 250,000 Palestinians with a heavily protected settlement for 400 Jews in the City centre. I used to feel the tension as I walked from my tiny flat above a welder's shop to the paediatric hospital where I had a teaching role. There I worked in particular with Sharif, one of its consultants. He and his family generously invited me to spend many Fridays (the Islamic day of rest) with them, often working in his olive grove. Soon after I left, this was taken from them and is now on the other side of the wall built by the Israelis. I have vivid memories of being in one of their rooms lit by a single lamp, pressing their olives – the wonderful smell of new oil!

The next two years I spent in Gaza giving courses to primary care doctors. I visited all the hospitals in Gaza City but got to know best the doctors in the Ali Ahli Arab Hospital (run by the Anglican Diocese of Jerusalem), now very badly damaged. I was overwhelmed by the hospitality given me – wonderful dishes of baba ghanoush – when I knew that the families I visited often had little to give.

I shared a house with three other MAP volunteers on the edge of Jabalia Refugee Camp, the largest in Gaza city. The UN said it was the most densely populated place on earth.

In the evenings, I swam off the beach with the Palestinian men (but not women), with the risks of the sewage outflows. My only real breaks were to travel by bush taxi to Jerusalem. I was allowed through the check points with my British passport but had to watch most of the Palestinians being turned back, unable to leave Gaza to work, or indeed for anything else. I shall never forget hearing that the Chief Medical Officer's son who had a brain injury from a flying bullet was denied entry to a more sophisticated Palestinian hospital in Jerusalem, and subsequently died.

Hamas was a rudimentary organisation then, working alongside three other Palestinian political groups in Gaza. They all had clinics. One of my last tasks was to supervise the allocation of one million euros worth of drugs. The three took their shares and sold them on the black market but Hamas made sure they were used in their clinics.

I could feel the tensions and frustration from all the restrictions upon daily life imposed by Israel, which were building up when I was there thirty years ago. Sadly, these have been left to grow and the political scene has completely changed.

# An Early Lent

Revd Pete Sainsbury

---

Easter is dated according to ancient practice. For the western church, using the Gregorian calendar, Easter always falls on a Sunday between 22 March and 25 April, within about seven days after the astronomical full moon. (The eastern (Orthodox) tradition dates Easter using the Julian calendar, which in our Gregorian calendar puts Orthodox Easter between 4 April and 8 May.)

Over the past ten years or so, the dating of Easter has been the topic of renewed conversation between some of the major western Christian traditions. Within as little as five years, we could have moved to a fixed Sunday for Easter, perhaps the second or third Sunday of April according to a proposal by Archbishop Justin. Eastern Orthodox, Catholic and many Protestant traditions have discussed this extensively and agree that different dating does nothing for our global unity.

But for now, according to the traditional western method of dating Easter, Lent starts early this year with Ash Wednesday somewhat clashing with Valentine's Day! Easter Sunday falls on the 31st of March.

'Any old how...' on all of that: what is Lent for?

Like Advent, Lent is a penitential season (coming pretty quickly, this time, after Advent!), a time for reflection alone and with others on the grace and love of God and our own frailty and our natural self-focusedness. Lent's a time to watch things come to life, and to enliven our own faith by engaging with the Word (Christ), through the word of God (the Bible) and through the activity of the Holy Spirit.

We have a marvellous opportunity this year to focus our walk through Lent in some of the writings of the great C.S. Lewis. Do look out within this edition of Tower & Town and the newsletters and websites of the individual churches to see what small group opportunities are being offered.

You'll gain some new friends - at the least - and you might gain a very great deal more than that, neither early nor late, but right on time.

With every blessing,

**Revd Pete Sainsbury**  
**Team Vicar of St George's Preshute**



“

I'm happy to stay in my home

”

### Home and Live-in Care, just as you like it.

You love your home and you feel safe there. Needing additional care and support shouldn't change that.

You may be in a situation where you need an extra pair of hands, or you may have complex needs that require more dedicated care. Our well-trusted care packages are built around you and your individual needs which means that you and your family can rest assured you'll receive care and support exactly as you need.

Our care ranges from a 30-minute daily visit through to full Live-in care.

**Call our friendly team today.**  
Bluebird Care Wiltshire South  
[bluebirdcare.co.uk/wiltshire-south](http://bluebirdcare.co.uk/wiltshire-south)  
01722 568930  
[wiltshiresouth@bluebirdcare.co.uk](mailto:wiltshiresouth@bluebirdcare.co.uk)

your life  
your home  
your care  
your way



Strong winds in December, floods in January, then colder, the possibility of snow for a few days and soon it's February, never a month for reliable weather. Can the natural world lift our spirits and banish the gloom of grey winter skies? Well, of course it can, given a few hours of sunshine and warmth. Flowers appear, the first butterflies are on the wing, and a few of our resident birds are beginning to clear their throats and sing: robin, hedge sparrow and chaffinch for example.

Then from the high branches of a bare tree a more persistent songster starts up: bo-peep, bo-peep, bo-peep!...shurlair, shurlair!...chuh-chuh-chair, chuh-chuh-chair!

Such a varied collection of loud piping calls, repeated in little sets, is the speciality of the song thrush or 'throstle', to give it its old-fashioned name. Someone described its performance as that of a chorister, diligently repeating and perfecting his musical phrases, one by one. The nightingale may be the premier songster in the British countryside, but for sheer variety of calls the song thrush takes some beating, and it brightens up a cold February morning.

The mistle thrush has a quite different song: a prolonged series of drawling, mournful phrases uttered from its perch on a tall tree, throstling away as early as January and continuing into February. A traditional name for the mistle thrush is "stormcock", for it is one of very few birds that will continue to sing during a thunderstorm.

On bright, sunny mornings blackbirds are trying out the first of their sweet, fluty tones: what a striking bird the male is at the start of the breeding season, with his shiny black body and bright orange-yellow bill and eye rim! In February, too, fieldfares and redwings have stripped the berries from the hedgerows and are venturing into garden orchards to feed on fallen apples under the trees. These gregarious thrushes arrive in autumn from colder climes - Scandinavia, Russia and Iceland - following warmth and the promise of food.

In late March keen birders will sometimes spot several thrush species together, as a migrant ring ouzel mixes with departing blackbirds, fieldfares and redwings that have wintered here. Something disturbs them - perhaps a sparrowhawk or a merlin - then they are up and away, becking, chattering, chacking and seeping.



**Song thrush**

by Chris Gomersall, RSPB images

# The Green Machine Company

Natalie King-Barnard

---

In our tech-centric world, electronic devices have become our faithful companions. From the moment we wake to our smartphone alarms, to the late-night Netflix binge on our smart TVs, technology is ever-present. But there's a dark side to this relentless innovation: a colossal pile of electronic waste, which takes up valuable space and poses a significant environmental threat.

The impact on our environment: manufacturing a single desktop computer requires around 539 pounds of fossil fuels, 48 pounds of chemicals, and at least 1.5 tons of water. That's a staggering quantity of resources for just one piece of technology. But it doesn't stop there. The process generates roughly 150 kgs of greenhouse gases, too, and inside your electronics are rare earth materials such as gold, silver, copper, and cobalt. There are limited supplies of these resources which are often hazardous to extract.

What's the answer to this growing problem? Recycling and reuse. The number of electrical items that get thrown away is constantly growing, and currently only 17.5% of this waste is recycled. When we recycle our old devices, the precious materials can be extracted and reused.

For 12 years, Green Machine Computers have been on a mission to help businesses dispose of obsolete IT equipment securely. Based at Whittonditch, the company is committed to proper e-waste recycling and disposal. They handle both data and waste materials in a safe and environmentally friendly way. They repair and reuse everything possible (down to screws and office furniture), and work with a number of charities to rehome useful hardware. They break down irreparable IT equipment to their core materials, so that these can be melted down and reused.

Green Machine Computers, with its customers' help, has cut CO2 emissions by 13,500 metric tonnes in the last five years. That's equivalent to powering 1,701 homes for a year. The team tests, repairs and reuses every useable component from the devices collected, ensuring that nothing goes to waste.

But what about your data? Many businesses worry about recycling their devices because of the data they contain. Green Machine takes data security very seriously and wipes all the data from every device and provides certificates to prove this.

Green Machine Computers have been able to refurbish thousands of devices and donate them to schools, charities and non-profit organisations across the UK. Their donations have supported a wide variety of people, from refugees to local youth groups, from women's shelters to children's hospices. Their work has ensured that all of that 'waste' has not been wasted.

# What's On in February

---

## Through February to (*Tuesday*) 26th March

136 High Street, Marlborough. **Spring Workshops at The White Horse Bookshop**, The White Horse Spring Workshop Programme begins for 2024. If you are ready to take up a new hobby, or learn a new skill, now's your chance! A superb range of one-day classes explores a variety of media and interests, with opportunities for all abilities. Workshop examples include Watercolour for beginners, crochet, a silver ring workshop (materials supplied!), Life drawing, Chinese ink painting and an introduction to book binding. Full details on: <https://www.whitehorsebooks.co.uk/art-workshops?sort=created>  
To book, please call the bookshop on 01672 512071, or pop in.

## 1st (*Thursday*)

2pm Mildenhall Village Hall. **Marlborough Floral Club**  
Treat yourselves to an enjoyable afternoon out on the first Thursday of each month! This month features a demonstration by Katherine Kear, entitled 'Doofers'.  
For more information, please call Micky Graham on 01672 514301.

## 7th (*Wednesday*) and 11th (*Sunday*)

7.15pm (*Wednesday*) and 2pm (*Sunday*) Parade Cinema. '**Event Cinema**' – **The Royal Ballet: Manon**. Kenneth MacMillan's passionate ballet tells the story of Manon, who is torn between her desire for a life of splendour and riches, and her devotion to her true love Des Grieux.  
Full details: <https://www.theparadecinema.com/movie/the-royal-ballet-manon>

## 14th (*Wednesday*)

7pm for 7.30pm Marlborough Town Hall. **Marlborough Gardening Association**. There will be the AGM this month, and 'Wildlife on Tropical Islands' with John Hughes. Further details: <http://www.marlbga.org.uk/index.htm>. (*See also article on page 7*)

## 15th (*Thursday*)

7.30pm St Peter's Church. **Marlborough History Society**. 'The Ancient Olympic Games and their Modern Successors' by John Osborne.

## 17th (*Saturday*)

8pm. St Mary's Church Hall. **Marlborough Folk-Roots**: Sykes Martin.  
Marlborough Folk-Roots proudly presents a new collaboration from two of the UK's finest folk singers, Miranda Sykes and Hannah Martin. Miranda Sykes, acclaimed singer and bass player with Show of Hands, is one of the UK folk's

most respected musicians. Hannah Martin is best known for her work in the BBC Folk Award-winning duo Edgelarks. Playing fiddle, banjo and tenor guitar, she has been described as having “one of the best voices on the planet” (FATEA).

For Details and Booking Information see website:  
<https://www.marlboroughfolk-roots.co.uk>

### **18th (Sunday)**

7pm to 9.30pm St Peter’s Church, Marlborough. **Brilliant International Musicians.** St Peter’s Trust continues its programme with Elena Topogonova (piano) and Elisabeth Turmo (violin) promising us something special – works by Grieg, Rachmaninov and Clara Schumann, alongside some possibly lesser known names such as Madsen, Beach and Frolov, as well as pieces by Ole Bull written for the Norwegian national instrument, the Hardanger fiddle. Elena Topogonova received a Master of Performance degree from the Royal College of Music. She is based in London and has taken part in many international festivals. Elisabeth Turmo is a Norwegian violinist who received 2nd prize at the Grand Virtuoso International Competition and 1st prize at the Norwegian National Youth Competition.

Tickets from The White Horse Bookshop or on the door on the night. Ticket prices: £10 Members/£15 Non-members. Full details:  
<https://stpetersmarlborough.org.uk/event/brilliant-international-musicians-series-elena-topogonova-piano-elisabeth-turmo-violin>

### **27th (Tuesday)**

7.15pm Parade Cinema ‘Event Cinema’ – **Hamlet** with Q&A. Shakespearean titan Ian McKellen stars in this thrilling and uniquely modern take on The Bard’s classic tragedy. The screening includes an exclusive Q&A with Ian McKellen and Director Sean Mathias. Cast includes Jonathan Hyde, Jenny Seagrove, Steven Berkoff, Francesca Annis and Frances Barber.

Full details: <https://www.theparadecinema.com/movie/hamlet-with-qa>

**School Dates** – please see school websites for any updated information.

**St John’s School, Marlborough St Mary’s and Preshute Primary:** Term 3 ends Friday 9th February, Term 4 begins Monday 19th February.

**Marlborough College:** Half-term 12 noon Friday 9th to 9pm Sunday 18th February.

# The Stonebridge Lane Mural

Anna Forbes

---

Summer 2023 saw the transformation of the wall along the well-used Stonebridge Lane public footpath in Marlborough.

Local charity Action for the River Kennet (ARK) worked with T H White (owners of the wall) and The G C Charitable Trust to create the beautiful mural that faces onto the water meadow at Stonebridge Wild River Reserve.

ARK volunteers worked really hard using donated masonry paint, rollers and PPE from T H White to create a blank canvas for London-based artist Janey Louise Fletcher, who specialises in spray-painted murals and was commissioned to create the mural by Martin Gibson from The G C Gibson Charitable Trust. The positive responses from the community have been amazing.

All ages have stopped to admire the work, often photograph it and ask lots of questions. This is excellent because it's another way to connect people with their river and help them learn more about it. Sometimes people think there is nothing living in the Kennet but the mural showcases some of the variety of life in it and by it, from bullheads to mayfly. It also educates visitors too and is becoming quite the landmark.

There are also some local landmarks featured, as well as a local schoolboy, Luke Gifford, who has been spray-painted standing on the bridge over the river. ARK ran a competition for local school children to send in their own artwork to inspire what would feature on the wall. It was pleasing to see they'd remembered lots from their River School workshops with us!

Put on your wellies to visit the reserve at the moment. You are greeted by a range of chalk stream creatures and other wildlife that we are so lucky to have on our doorstep. There will be an official celebration of the wall at the reserve later in the year. In the meantime take a stroll to Stonebridge and take a look, and see how many plants and animals you can identify.

ARK is a registered charity, to support ARK you can join and become a member. Visit [www.riverkennet.org](http://www.riverkennet.org) or to volunteer contact: [anna@riverkennet.org](mailto:anna@riverkennet.org)



**The Stonebridge Lane Mural (detail)**

**The Hair and Trichology Clinic  
(Cameo Hair Salon)**

**All your hair solutions in one location – we  
really do understand your hair inside and out!**

**Member of the Institute of Trichology**

**7 High Street Chiseldon SN4 0NQ**

**Telephone: 01793 741136**

**Open Tuesdays to Saturdays**

We offer all aspects of hairdressing including a wide range of cutting and colouring techniques, balayage, foiling, perming, unisex salon, hair extensions and wigs.

Consultations for all scalp disorders and hair loss within one of our private consultation rooms.

Visit our websites [www.cameo-hair.co.uk](http://www.cameo-hair.co.uk)

or [www.hairandtrichology.co.uk](http://www.hairandtrichology.co.uk)

Find us on Facebook under Cameo Hair Salon, Chiseldon.



**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](mailto:hello@homestartnorthwiltshire.org.uk)

W: [www.homestartnorthwiltshire.org.uk](http://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

## **Katherine (Kitty) Styles 1924 – 2023**

Katherine Styles, known to all as Kitty, sadly passed away in August at the age of 99. Kitty lived in Alexandra Terrace, Marlborough, for nearly 65 years. She went to St Mary's Church regularly, delivered Tower and Town for many years and was a member of the Townswomen's Guild.

Born in Mere, Wiltshire in 1924, Kitty was the only child of Ewing and Kate Edmunds. Her father managed the local Crown Printing works and Kitty was employed there until her marriage in 1949 to Gordon Styles. Kitty started her married life in Gillingham, Dorset, where their two children (Elizabeth and Roland) were born. The family moved to Marlborough in 1956 when Gordon was offered a new job as manager of a men's outfitters.

Once the children were settled at the Grammar School, Kitty worked firstly as a 'colourist' for a school photographer on Kingsbury Hill and then for the local Adult Education Service based in the former school in Chopping Knife Lane, where she was a secretary for many years until her retirement.

After Gordon died in 1989, Kitty remained firmly independent. She enjoyed watching her family develop – two grandchildren, followed by four great-granddaughters – but was always content in her own company. She walked down to the High Street every day – and then back up the hill again, refusing to take the bus. Kitty was always smartly dressed in outfits including a variety of berets – her red beret, hand knitted red gloves and red scarf were her signature attire.

In 2020, when Covid came, she moved to Hertfordshire, initially to stay with her daughter Liz and son-in-law Mike. She spent her last three years in Shenleybury House, a small, cosy, residential home, where she was expertly looked after by a wonderful, loving team of dedicated and professional carers. 'Quietly determined' is what kept her going to the grand old age of 99, providing an excellent role model for future generations.

Her presence and her lovely smile are sadly missed by her family, her carers in Shenleybury House and by her friends in Marlborough.



# Marlborough Church Contacts

---

## **Fr John Blacker**

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

## **Reuben Mann**

07894 048146  
office@emmanuelmarlborough.org  
*Minister, Emmanuel Marlborough Church*

## **Canon Sarah Musgrave**

511286 sarahmusgrave99@hotmail.com  
*Lay Minister, St John the Baptist, Minal*

## **The Revd Tim Novis**

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

## **The Revd Pete Sainsbury**

512364; revpetesainsbury@gmail.com  
*Team Vicar and Worship Director,  
St George's Preshute & The Marlborough  
Anglican Team*

## **The Revd Stephen Skinner**

512457; rev.stephen.skinner3@gmail.com  
*Minister, Christchurch Methodist*

## **The Revd Chris Smith**

514357; revcjsmith@outlook.com  
*Rector; Marlborough Anglican Team*

## **Rachel Rosedale**

512205; rachelrosedale1@gmail.com  
*Member, The Religious Society of Friends*

---

## **Penny Reader**

### **Anglican Team secretary**

marlb.anglicanteam@tiscali.co.uk  
Church Cottage, Silverless Street, SN8 1JQ  
512357; 07593 815609  
*(Weekdays, 0900 to 1300)*

## **Methodist Office Coordinator**

07564 082092  
office@christchurchmarlborough.org.uk

---

## **FROM THE REGISTERS**

---

### **Weddings** - we congratulate

4 January Helen Parry and Michael Reynolds, at St Mary's Church

### **Departed** - we pray for the family of

27 November	Betty Rixon (92)	Mill Lane, Clanfield	St Mary's
1 December	Patrick Lane (85)	High Street, Manton	North Wiltshire Crematorium
10 December	Phyllis Pegrum (90)	Coombe End Court	St Mary's
16 December	Margaret Bull (88)	Van Diemens Close	St Mary's
30 December	David Harrison (66)	St Martins, Marlborough	St Mary's
30 December	Vivienne Cook (83)	Saddlers Way, Burbage	St Mary's,

When publishers' sales reps are trying to convince me to buy a novel ("it's going to be huge ....serialisation in the Sunday papers ....TV rights....Radio 4 Book of the Week..") they drop lists of hyperbolic adjectives. Stunning. Erudite. Moving. Provocative. I end up asking, crossly, "Yes, yes, but what is it about??" Which isn't actually any more helpful, because what a book is about and what the story is and how it unfolds are often very different things.

Take my current read, *Babel* by R F Kuang. If asked what it's *about* I'd say colonialism, power, loyalty and compromise, language and manipulation, institutions, elitism and friendship. Throw in racism and economics and it all sounds rather bleak and worthy. But it's such a good read. I've been on the sofa, wrapped up in the story, completely immersed. It tells of a boy drafted into an Oxford institution in an alternate reality England of the 1830s, in which languages are used in the creation of the magic which fuels the Empire. Anyone vaguely interested in etymology will enjoy the discussions about the imperfect nature of translation and interpretation. It's dense and compelling with 'real' history being highlighted and subtly altered, and an appealing and flawed central protagonist who is forced to make terrible yet understandable choices and compromises. *Babel* has been hugely popular – it's won prizes, and is selling furiously, yet people don't seem to be asking for it, or saying they've heard about it or had it recommended to them. They just come into the shop, pick it up and bring it to the counter. I think I know why – it's because the jacket is silver coloured. If you read it, you'll understand why I think that.

Outside my usual reading range is *Edible Economics* by Ha-Joon Chang. Using various foodstuffs as a jumping-off point this is a series of essays explaining economic theories. What I know about economics amounts to pretty much zero, and while I'm aware there are lots of alternative theories, please don't feel obliged to share them with me. This is the first and might well be the only economics book I'll ever read, and I'm very much enjoying it, even if my sole takeaway is that the people of South Korea eat an eye-watering 7.5kg of garlic per person per year.

Finally, not a 'resolution', but an 'intention' for this year is to read Trollope's *Palliser* series. Not sure if I've still got the stamina for dense C19th novels, but we'll see.....

# Hughenden Yard and the Free Family

David Chandler

---

Hughenden Yard, the delightful yard of shops and cafes off Marlborough High Street, was narrowly saved from demolition in the 1970's by a speculator developer who fortunately went bankrupt. Local businessmen, led by Frank James, then saved the site and it became what we see today.

The name 'Hughenden' comes from the Free family who are responsible for the beautiful buildings (104 to 107), fronting onto the High Street. The Frees were originally from the Hughenden Valley in Hertfordshire; they had discovered methods of working sarsen stone and were attracted to Wiltshire.

Sarsen stone is that very dense and hard rock which used to exist in profusion on the Marlborough Downs, but are visible now only at Lockeridge Dene and Piggledene, where they were saved by the National Trust from destruction in 1907.

The Free family moved to Fyfield in the mid 1840's and set up their business of stone for building and crushed stone for road making. Marlborough College Chapel and the wall surrounding the old Borough cemetery are built with 'Free's Stone'.

Thomas Free, born in Hughenden, set up business in Fyfield with his brothers in 1893 and then moved to Marlborough as sole owner in 1908. The original business was at 106 and 107 High Street (now McFarlane, Estate Agents, and Merriman, Solicitors). Some years later 104 and 105 High Street were purchased (now Greggs and Crewe clothing). In 1925, 104 & 105 were rebuilt to copy the style of 106 and 107 to give the beautiful properties we have today.

The window fronts of 104 and 105 have carved detail on them and between the properties is a door with twelve carved panels which have royal and civic themes. One panel on the door has masonic symbols and another has the legend of the cat who saved her kittens from the Great Fire of Marlborough of 1653. This work is perhaps little noticed today, but it is beautiful and was done by John Rawlings, a cabinet maker craftsman, who was employed by Frees. They were undertakers as well as furniture makers and so there was plenty of work in wood going on.

The door is almost a hundred years old and is in need of some TLC. Marlborough History Society have engaged a local cabinet maker, Andrew Brennan, to restore the door and are grateful to the property owner who has given permission. In this way the Free name can be celebrated in the town, besides having an avenue named after them.



# The Editor Visits Fermoie

---

It is perhaps fair to say that not many people in Marlborough had heard of Fermoie until September 2023, when the company appeared on all the publicity for the Marlborough Literature Festival as the lead sponsor.

Knowing little about the company except that they produce top quality furnishing fabrics, and not sure how to pronounce their name, I went along to their premises in Hertford Court off the Salisbury Road to meet their Managing Director, Jamie Shawcross.

I found a smart, intelligently run business, with everything on one site, from design to manufacturing, from office to showroom, and a friendly and purposeful working atmosphere among the calm but busy staff.

I was especially interested to know why Fermoie, not a firm with a presence on the High Street, had been interested in sponsoring the LitFest. Jamie told me that he felt that Fermoie “should be part of the community” and that people “should feel welcome” there. Clearly, he would like people in Marlborough to be as aware of them here as any prospective customer at their shop in London. Indeed, they take pupils from St John’s on work experience, they have local callers as well as visitors from further afield such as Cornwall and Wales, and online. The emphasis is on service and small orders are received as enthusiastically as large ones.

I was impressed at Jamie’s insistence that their supplies and their manufacturing process are managed with a constant eye on sustainability. He writes: “Linen, the least impactful fabric in our range, is the most popular, cotton proves more challenging from the sustainability side, but Fermoie are using regenerated yarn where possible, and working on a move to organic in 2024.”

Jamie showed me the wide range of fabrics, outstanding in design and colour, as you may judge from the image that Fermoie have supplied. He also showed me fabrics being printed – a traditional method but carried out on their hyper-accurate and efficient modern machinery.

Fermoie, he hopes, are “seen as an employer that people want to work for” and Marlborough, he adds, felt “like a good place to be.” So visit the gorgeous showroom. And don’t worry about the pronunciation.



**Quality control at Fermoie**

***Leathercraft of Marlborough***

**JEAN UPTON**

*FINE QUALITY LEATHER GOODS  
& PRESENTS LARGE AND SMALL*

**OLD HUGHENDEN YARD, HIGH STREET  
MARLBOROUGH SN8 1LT  
TEL (01672) 512 065**

**MARLBOROUGH PODIATRY CLINIC**

**Niki Thompson**

BSc(Hons) PodMed, MRCoP, HCPC Reg.

**Treatment of all foot problems**  
(We also offer home visits)

10 The Parade, Marlborough SN8 1NE  
Tel: 01672 514581 or 07910 525376

[Marlboroughpodiatryclinic.com](http://Marlboroughpodiatryclinic.com) [podiatrycare1@gmail.com](mailto:podiatrycare1@gmail.com)



**AD DRAUGHTING  
ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES**

Extensions | Conversions | New Builds  
Planning Permission | Building Regulations

01672 511412 | 07791 341698  
[www.addraughting.co.uk](http://www.addraughting.co.uk)

**CHRIS WHEELER CONSTRUCTION**

For fencing and associated work  
Contact the specialists

All types of fencing supplied and erected  
Driveways and road construction  
Quality assured to ISO 9001:2000

**Tel: 01672 810315**

**Email: [cw.cw@btinternet.com](mailto:cw.cw@btinternet.com)**

# Dianne Mackinder Funeral Service



On Call Day & Night  
01672 512444 or 512516

Wagon Yard, London Road,  
Marlborough, Wiltshire SN8 1 LH

Volunteering  
is fun and  
rewarding!



Marlborough & District

## VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED



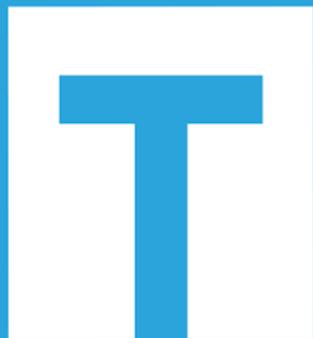
Could you be a LINK driver taking people for medical appointments, shopping or social activities?

*If you could spare time please contact us*

Call **01672 288007**

Visit [marlboroughlink.org.uk](http://marlboroughlink.org.uk)

Registered Charity No. 1069752



**Tuttle**  
architectural  
services

- Planning applications
- Building Control approvals
- Extensions & alterations
- Loft & garage conversions
- Listed applications
- New dwellings

01672 518 278

[info@tuttlearchserv.co.uk](mailto:info@tuttlearchserv.co.uk)

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

# News from the Churches

---

## **Marlborough Churches Together**



MCT AGM will be held on Thursday Feb 8th at 4 pm in the Upper Room of Church Cottage in Silverless Street.

### **'Lent with Lewis'**

This year Lent begins early on Valentine's Day and Marlborough Churches Together will be offering their annual Lent course, this year focussing on the works of C S Lewis.

Most people know Lewis for his Narnia books but sometimes aren't aware of his many books for adults. So, beginning with Edmund and his Turkish Delight this year we will take a tour of some of Lewis's best works ending up thinking about heaven.

We are also showing two films as part of the course. First, Surprised by Oxford, on Thursday February 15th at 7:30pm in St Mary's and second, Shadowlands, on Friday 22nd March at 7:30pm in St Mary's. All are welcome.

One of the joys of Lent is joining in discussion groups to share our thoughts and hear what other people think. For details of the times and dates and to sign up please visit St Mary's or the Church Office. Groups will meet once a week for five weeks.

A workbook will be available from January with the excerpts for you to read. Please do sign up!

## **Emmanuel**



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](http://emmanuelmarlborough.org).

All are welcome to join us!

**B.L.T (Bible Lunch Time)** 5 February, 12.30 pm. Pop in briefly if you're busy, stay & chat if you can. Light lunch + short Bible talk, meeting in the Wesley Hall, Oxford Street, Marlborough.

**Sunday Morning Service** 18 February, (every 3rd Sunday morning), 10-11 am – Main Church Hall, New Road, Marlborough, SN8 1AH. Join us for refreshments afterwards.

**Ladies Bible Study** Friday, 2 February, 10 am- 11.30 am. Friends discovering God's truth in the Bible (All ladies welcome - onsite crèche available). For more details, email [ladies@emmanuelmarlborough.org](mailto:ladies@emmanuelmarlborough.org)

**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 pm. Our youth club for school years 7-11 at the Wesley Hall, Oxford Street, Marlborough. Friends, fun & faith – everyone is welcome!

**Sparklers** Monday, 19 February, 2.30-3.45 pm. A kids club for School Years Reception to Year 2 Games, snacks and Bible stories. Meeting in the Wesley Hall, Oxford Street, Marlborough.

**Homegroups** Thursdays during term time, Pewsey – 7.30 pm, Marlborough – 7.45 pm, Ogbourne St George – 7.45 pm. Bible study, prayer and fellowship. For more details, email [office@emmanuelmarlborough.org](mailto:office@emmanuelmarlborough.org)

## **Marlborough Anglican Team**

---



**Marlborough  
Anglican Team**

### **Ash Wednesday Holy Communions** 14 February

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

Holy Communion 7:30pm at St George's Church, Preshute

### **St George's Church**

Saturday Informal Family Service on 17 February at 4pm

### **The Gift**

Christmas 2023 saw St Mary's Church filled with a celebration of the gift of Jesus to the world. Children from local schools decorated gift boxes and considered a gift they would like to give to an individual or even a nation. What gift would you like to give? Their white boxes were hung alongside those of gold that contained the name of someone in need of a touch from Jesus at this time. Hundreds of these gifts were suspended and beautifully lit in the church!

The high point of The Gift was an awe inspiring, decorated and beribboned giant gift box at the altar, splendid and golden. The door



of this beautiful gigantic gift box was open as an invitation for one and all to come inside and experience the gift of the baby Jesus, a life changing gift for all who will accept it. St Mary's would like to thank everyone who contributed to The Gift.

**Informal Worship** All-age service, Sunday 4 February, 5pm, and at 4:30pm for Children's tea beforehand. Join us for fun and informal activities, all welcome at this new family friendly service.

**Friendship café** Flyer attached: dates, 3 and 17 Feb

**Welcome Wednesdays** Flyer attached, weekly 10:30am in St Mary's Church – do join our friendly group for coffee and doughnuts in the warm with a Thought for the day. All welcome.

**Energize Children's church** Flyer attached: part of the 5pm Informal Worship service, meet weekly during term time apart from the first Sunday of the month when it's all age – all welcome

**Friendship Cafe**

10:30AM TO 1PM  
ST MARY'S CHURCH HALL, SILVERLESS ST

SATURDAY 2ND & 16TH DECEMBER  
SATURDAY 6TH & 20TH JANUARY  
SATURDAY 3RD & 17TH FEBRUARY

A WELCOMING SPACE FOR ANYONE LOOKING FOR FRIENDSHIP AND A CHAT, WITH COFFEE AND REFRESHMENTS.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:  
LOUISE SEDDON 07917 248 339  
MARK WHITEHEAD 07814 895127

**MARLBOROUGH ANGLICAN TEAM**

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

**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

**ENERGIZE**

St Mary's is delighted to invite you to Energize Children's Church alongside the 5pm Informal Worship service.

Bible teaching  
Crafts, Games  
Music, & prayer in friendly groups  
Everyone is welcome

Children stay with us for the start of our family-friendly service, then go out to their groups.

New children are welcome at any time, even if just visiting

**ST MARY'S MARLBOROUGH**  
WITH CHRISTCHURCH METHODIST FELLOWSHIP

PART OF MARLBOROUGH ANGLICAN TEAM

# Tower and Town staff

---

<b>Chairman</b>	Sarah Bumphrey	chairman@towerandtown.org.uk 16 George Lane, SN8 4BX	516862
<b>Advertising</b>	Chris Rogers	advertising@towerandtown.org.uk	
<b>Distribution</b>	Sue Tulloh	distribution@towerandtown.org.uk	288912
<b>Subscriptions</b>	Peter Astle	4 Laurel Drive, SN8 2SH	515395
<b>Treasurer</b>	Peter Astle	treasurer@towerandtown.org.uk	515395

## Production Teams

### *March*

Editor	David Du Croz	mar.editor@towerandtown.org.uk	511726
Compiler	Rob Napier	mar.compiler@towerandtown.org.uk	512333

### *April*

Editor	Marlborough College		
Compiler	Rob Napier	apr.compiler@towerandtown.org.uk	512333

## Every Month

<i>What's On</i>	Carrie Melbourne	whats.on@towerandtown.org.uk	
<i>News from the Churches</i>	Alison Selby	church.news@towerandtown.org.uk Crossmead, Kingsbury St, SN8 1HU	511128
<i>Family News</i>	Naomi Painter	family.news@towerandtown.org.uk	
<i>Arts</i>	Gabriella Venus	arts.correspondent@towerandtown.org.uk	
<i>Books</i>	Debby Guest	books.correspondent@towerandtown.org.uk	
<i>Nature</i>	Robin Nelson	nature.correspondent@towerandtown.org.uk	
<i>Gardening</i>	Deidre Watson	gardening.correspondent@towerandtown.org.uk	

**Website, searchable article archive** <https://www.towerandtown.org.uk>  
**Webmaster, IT** [hugh@towerandtown.org.uk](mailto:hugh@towerandtown.org.uk)

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

Please send articles and letters to the monthly editor or the chairman, other notices or announcements to the compiler.

All items for the March issue by Tuesday 6 February 2024 please.

**Our Advertisers** support us. Contact Chris Rogers if you would like to join them.

Tower and Town is available at St Mary's, St Peter's, The White Horse Bookshop, Mustard Seed, Kennet Pharmacy and St George's, Preshute.

**Annual subscription** £7 for 11 copies a year delivered to your address.

Please ring Sue Tulloh (288912) or use [www.towerandtown.org.uk](http://www.towerandtown.org.uk)

MARKETING  
DESIGN  
PUBLISHING  
WEBSITES  
ADVERTISING  
PRINT



We now cater for your every communication need, from websites to wedding invites, book publishing to business cards, advertising campaigns to branding campaigns, Google ads to TV ads, posters to social media, photography to video. Why not take a look at our new website [originzone.studio](http://originzone.studio) or even better pop in for a chat and a coffee.

[www.originzone.studio](http://www.originzone.studio) • 01793 430006

# A niche firm of Lawyers focusing on Private Wealth

Providing advice on:

**Wills**  
**Powers of Attorney**  
**Estate Administration**  
**Trusts/Succession Planning**  
**Elderly Client Work**  
**Court of Protection**  
**Tax Planning**

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

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

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



TELEPHONE: 01672 515193 or 07917 177647

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

106 HIGH STREET, MARLBOROUGH, WILTSHIRE SN8 1LT

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

