
TOWER AND TOWN

Pleasures and
Challenges of a
Headteacher



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Pleasures and Challenges of a Headteacher

As the seasons of the year, one academic year comes to an end and another begins with no doubt a hugely welcome respite for all teaching staff during July and August when ‘batteries can be recharged’ before the start of the next round of responsibilities for the children and young adults in their charge.

I am sure all would agree that we are beholden to our teachers for the knowledge, skills and attitudes that they imparted to us and imprinted on us during our schooldays, some perhaps having a greater impact than others, but that maybe as much a reflection of our individual abilities (or lack of same) as their ability to get the information across. And perhaps we take for granted what we have been taught and the extra-curricular activities that were provided for us and the impact that they had on our later lives and in particular our professions, and do not adequately express our gratitude for the legacy our school years left to us.

I felt it would be useful to hear from our local head teachers and others how they see their responsibilities, what they see as the pleasures and challenges of being a head teacher or school chaplain and perhaps how they see the broad function of education and how they would define “success” in the education of an individual student.

I am very grateful for their fascinating and varied contributions.

Having done a little work recently with Claire Roberts Lamont from the United Nations High Commission for Refugees, I have asked her to write for us, thus moving from local schools to bringing this major global problem to the Tower and Town readership. I hope you will respond by signing the petition calling for greater concern and care for so many people.

Nick Maurice - Editor

Nicky Edmondson, Principal of St Johns Academy

The job of a Headteacher in the 21st century brings with it many challenges and rewards, some of which would be recognised by those who have held the position in centuries past, others are new, even to those of us of with years of experience of modern headship!

There is no doubt schools have changed a great deal over the years. Should a headteacher from a century ago visit St John's today, they would be astonished by the wonderful light, airy and well equipped buildings; baffled by the myriad computers and smartboards, and the cashless biometric catering system; and impressed by the quality of resources, smartly dressed pupils and huge range of opportunities available outside the classroom. They would be less surprised by the content of the curriculum, the examination system or the government's influence over what is taught and how it is tested. Although the world has changed so much over the past 100 years, children still learn the three Rs, do grammar exercises and revise for examinations. In fact, over the past couple of years, GCSE and A Level courses have reverted to a more traditional approach, with terminal examinations and little or no coursework.

The joys of this job are what they have always been: working with lively young, enquiring minds and seeing them learn and grow with each passing year. The lows are still a sense of disappointment when young people throw away opportunities or fail to fulfil their potential. The pressures on children to succeed academically are possibly greater now than they ever have been, and this may be reflected in the increase in young people suffering from mental illness, anxiety and depression. On the other hand, the opportunities available outside the classroom at St John's are remarkably varied and exciting, and I am often in awe of the talents, commitment and determination our students demonstrate in all areas of school life, from art, drama and music to sport, technology and languages.

I have always believed that education is about building character as much as about passing examinations, and I am delighted that so many St John's students complete the Duke of Edinburgh Award and involve themselves in leadership activities, as well as studying hard and achieving highly in academic subjects. The truth is, the fundamental function and aim of education never changes: to develop in young people the knowledge, skills and strength of character to live a life of purpose and fulfilment and to make a contribution to their communities and beyond. For all its demands, headship is still an absolute privilege.

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Jonathan Leigh, Master of Marlborough College

The chance to be head of a school is something hugely privileged and unique. It is not without risk, and demands a mixture of all-round skills. No individual can possibly be blessed with the full range of answers to cope with a relentless series of demands. As is life's way, the toughest times have a remorseless way of impacting just when life is most stretched.

Over 25 years in post has seen the job change hugely. Parents are more involved than was the case a generation ago. Then, there was a certain belief that you handed over your child to be developed during their adolescence. Five years later the finished all round article was handed back, ready to take their place in the wider world. It was likely that the next step was University but never guaranteed. Since then secondary schooling has reached a point where almost all from the private sector went on to tertiary education. However recent years with the impact of tuition fees bedding in, have seen a commendable reversion to more creative thinking, as alternatives to the treadmill of going straight on to a degree is now open to scrutiny.

Academically the need for strong results has increased. A generation of parents and youngsters are increasingly obsessed with measurement. The demands that this places on youngsters has intensified. This is reaping concerning results through the pressures created. Heightened mental anxiety is a consequence. Also the wider parameters of a broader education have become more constrained. If success is reduced to mere results, then the system has taken over. However, if education means the development of the whole person, whilst affording teenagers the space in which to think things through, then this narrowing of focus is in danger of producing less thinking individuals. The wider consequences for broad, cultured individuals is less.

In an age where the internet affords ever wider opportunities for research, there is an irony in finding that it may well be confining broad thinking, albeit unwittingly. Concentration is at a premium in an age of quick fix solutions and the hidden shallows of the click of a button leave pupils under-informed. Thinking skills are the victim of this fate. In short, the inequalities exposed through global connectivity are creating a more bitter and less contented world view. Each individual is endangered by anger associated with the insecurities that have been exposed.

Having had the opportunity to Head three hugely different schools and the honour of concluding at Marlborough where the College and the town are truly remarkable, there is one thing which is certain. Service of young men and women at a formative time in their lives is a major opportunity.

continued page 4

Anne Schwodler, Headteacher, St Mary's CE Primary School

If you are looking for a job that is never boring then the role of a Headteacher may be something worth looking at! Suddenly, from being trained as a classroom teacher, you are plunged into a world of leadership and management: dealing with staff, controlling budgets, managing building projects and most importantly ensuring that the education of all the children in your care is outstanding.

Being a Headteacher is perhaps one of the best, and sometimes, most challenging jobs around. Every day is different and when you arrive in the morning you never know what the day will bring – a breakthrough in someone's learning, a broken arm or even the dreaded (but much loved by the children) snow! Each week can be quite a roller coaster of highs and lows!

At its best, education can enthuse and inspire young people to think for themselves and grow up as informed, interesting and intelligent world citizens who can make a positive difference to the lives of others by their insight and also by their kindness and empathy.

I would define "success" in an individual subject, or in education as a whole, as having instilled a lifelong love of learning, or passion for a subject in a young person. School is only the start of a journey and particularly today, with access to the internet, the possibilities of continuing to learn throughout our lives are there for everyone.

Children approach life's ups and downs with an enthusiasm and energy that is rarely seen in adults and brings an element of fun and humour to every day. The pleasure of working with an outstanding team of staff to really make a difference to the lives of young people is an amazing challenge and a wonderful opportunity that anyone would be privileged to be a part of.

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Jonathan Leigh continued...

The chance to set cultural norms for each generation during the secondary years is both challenging and rewarding. However, the pupils are full of optimism, and this remains the case year in year out. They can make this a better world and the promotion of rigour, responsibility and respect is something well understood. The real price of privilege is the realisation of the need to give back in a world which is improved when the best of what has been learnt is freely made available to others.

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Availability and more information about each development - Osprey Court (NW3 7AA) near West Hampstead, Heathside (NW11 7SB) near Golders Green, Challoner Court (BR2 0AB) in Bromley and Town Mill (SN8 1NS) in Marlborough - can be viewed on the website www.ospreymc.co.uk



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Daisy Broomfield offers some delights of being a teacher

- Teacher “Work stopped on the Clifton Suspension Bridge for a few years because they ran out of something. Can anyone think what it was?”
- Pupil “Was it Weetabix?”
- Teacher “Our Maths word of the day is symmetry. Can anyone explain what symmetry means?”
- Pupil “It’s where they bury dead people.”
- Teacher “Can anyone tell me what an ammonite is?”
- Pupil “It’s a fossil of a sea creature with long testicles to help it swim”
- Teacher “My parents are going to visit Denmark”
- Pupil “I’ve been shopping there with Mummy but we don’t call it Denmark, we call it Primark.”

Can You Help?

Drivers wanted at Kennet Community Transport to cover holiday/sickness leave of the full time driver in taking the elderly to/from the Jubilee Centre. Call Alexander Kirk Wilson 01672 513861

Marlborough College Concert Series

The 2017/2018 programme of concerts by world class performers will open on Sunday 17 September with a recital by the renowned pianist, Stephen Hough.

Because the much loved Memorial Hall is undergoing a £6 million programme of modernisation this concert will be held in the College's more intimate Ellis Theatre. This offers excellent facilities but seating is more limited. Early booking is therefore recommended.

Tickets are available from the Box Office on 01672 892566 or through the MCCS website: www.marlboroughconcertseries.org

Readers' Responses

Tower and Town welcomes readers' responses to any items in the magazine and undertakes to give serious consideration to publishing them subject to suitability and space.

Please correspond with chairman@towerandtown.org.uk (18 Kelham Gardens, SN8 1PW).

Sophie Shepard of College Fields Montessori Nursery School

Is Your Child a Little Schema?

In Early Years education we use the term Schema to describe the patterns of behaviour of a child who is learning and developing by repeating actions and then adapting them to different environments and situations. The act of repeating a certain action stimulates the child's brain, allowing them to embed their understanding into their long-term memory so identifying schemas in child's play and responding to them with carefully presented activities can really increase their development and understanding.

The following groups of physical and mental actions have developed over time as examples of schemas in action. Parents can look out for preferred schema actions at home and provide relevant materials and activities to help their child's development.

Trajectory: An interest in movement; vertical and horizontal and forming arcs. The child is learning about the way they move themselves and objects. He may consistently throw or drop objects, reach out for objects, climb up and down, push, pull or swing.

Rotation: An interest in turning, rolling, spinning or twisting objects or themselves. She may like to roll toys along the carpet, turn on taps or knobs or consistently like to draw or paint circles or spirals.

Enclosing: Creating sides and boundaries, building them around objects or around themselves. He may repeatedly build boundaries for farm animals or hide inside dens or cupboards.

Enveloping: Covering, dressing or wrapping up objects or themselves. Repeatedly wrapping or folding objects or pictures, tucking up dollies in to bed putting things into bags or playing dressing up.

Transporting: Moving things from one area to another. She may enjoy moving sand or water from one place to another, collecting things in little bags or tins, using wheelbarrows to move objects or diggers in the sandpit.

Connecting: Constructing or linking or joining objects or themselves. He consistently chooses to play with building bricks or enjoys tying furniture with string or linking objects together like trains and tracks or using ties, laces and Sellotape to create new things – and often taking them apart is just as important.

Continued next page

Positioning: Carefully placing objects or themselves in certain orders and shapes. She may line up cars in rows, stack books or put similar objects in order of sequence – colour or size. Balance objects along the edges of tables or fit things under or inside compartments or boxes.

Orientation: Seeing things from a different angle or point of view. Children who repeatedly like to lie down when they play or turn their toys or furniture up-side down, hang from climbing frames or climb high for a new view.

If you would like more information, do contact us on 01672 515486

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Rachel Rosedale explains a Quaker point of view

As you may know, we have a book of *Advices and Queries* which we are encouraged to read regularly to challenge and inspire us in our daily lives.

Two particular strands stick out for me, the importance of being guided by the inner spirit, God or whatever you call it, where we are encouraged to:

“Bring the whole of your life under the ordering of the Spirit of Christ. Are you open to the healing power of God’s love? Cherish that of God within you, so that this love may grow in you and guide you. Let your worship and your daily life enrich each other. Treasure your experience of God, however it comes to you. Remember Christianity is a notion not a way.” A&Q 2

And the call to social action:

“Remember your responsibilities as a citizen for the conduct of local, national and international affairs. Do not shrink from the time and effort your involvement may involve.” A&Q 34

In times of worship I am often guided in actions I should take. I find the space in which the ‘still small voice’ of God can speak, and sometimes through the ministry of others in our meetings can find inspiration to act, be comforted or feel discomfort.

For me time given to Marlborough Poverty Action Group has been driven by the spirit and led me, through networking and providing activities, to support people less fortunate than me and that in itself makes me feel better. It is often easier to give than to receive.

In 2002 Green Advices and Queries were brought together, calling us to be much more involved in issues of Climate Change and sustainability.

Over the years, we at home have become better at composting and recycling, improving insulation of our house and converting to solar and air sourced power. We try to reduce our energy usage and dress more warmly.

Continued page 13

Gabriella Venus on Art at the White Horse Bookshop



Every month, The White Horse Gallery has a new exhibition attracting many people to see new, fresh work and explore the fantastic White Horse Bookshop.

During August, *All Along The Watershed – Photographs exploring the Wiltshire Watershed* by photographer Richard Draper, explores the underlying tensions between beauty and utility within our natural surroundings. Draper explores the undulated connections between the landscape and previous generations who developed it, fought

for it, passed through it, and lived off it. This exhibition traces The Wiltshire Watershed, journeying across the highest point in Wiltshire, encountering some familiar landmarks, and some less familiar views. A remarkable exhibition that finishes **1st September 2017**.

July's exhibition, *Recent Works by 3 White Horse Tutors* was a selection of work by: Jenny Arthy, who specialises in figure and equestrian drawings, collage and mixed media artist Vincent Stokes and watercolourist Paul Weaver. Each artist's work was hung on separate walls, allowing spotlight emphasis on individual pieces, as well as collectively showing a diverse range of art forms and techniques. Paul Weaver's ambient and highly atmospheric watercolour landscape, street and café scenes of bustling towns and cities including Marlborough, hung opposite a selection of Vincent Stokes' iconic creations of abstract collages. Complex, balanced and allusive, these mixed media pieces conveyed many themes and expressions. The display included a selection of his most well-known collages that thematically derive from the idea of a small paper boat that makes imaginary journeys - constructed using newspaper cuttings, acrylic paint and pencil. Jenny Arthy's life drawings depicted fluidity and movement. The sensual, graceful images of the young woman for example, back dropped by the use of hot colour and soft, unstructured lines, accentuated notions of freedom and movement. They were mastered by a variety of mediums including charcoal, goose feathers, watercolour and calligraphy pens.

Upcoming exhibitions:

September: Annie Monk, *Acrylic Landscapes*

October: Juliet Wood, *Music, Beaches, Family*

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Claire Lamont, UN High Commission for Refugees

2017 is not a good year to be a citizen of a failed state, especially if the conditions become so unsafe that you have no choice but to cross a border.

The likelihood that the crisis that you fled from being quickly resolved is low, and you could spend on average twenty years waiting for a solution—either it being safe enough to return home, integrating in the country that provided asylum or being resettled in a third country. Going home (voluntary repatriation) is the most common solution for a refugee. The global refugee population hit its highest level for two decades standing at 22.5 million (including 5.3 million Palestinian refugees registered with UNRWA) at the end of 2016. Statistics like these often make me wonder if famous refugees like Sergey Brin, co-founder of Google or Michael Marks, Co-Founder of Marks and Spencer, reflect on the good fortune of seeking asylum at a time in history when not so many people were forced to flee.

To respond to this crisis, world leaders will come to the UN to adopt a new way to manage refugee crises in the fall of 2018. This agreement about the new way to manage refugees is called the *Global Compact for Refugees* and is about responsibility sharing, increasing international co-operation and reinforcing the rights of people to seek safety when conflict or persecution forces them from their homes.

Addressing burden sharing is important, as 84 per cent of the world's refugees under UNHCR's mandate are currently hosted by developing regions. Lebanon continued to host the largest number of refugees relative to its national population, where 1 in 6 people was a refugee. Jordan (1 in 11) and Turkey (1 in 28) ranked second and third, respectively. The least developed countries provide asylum to a growing proportion of the world's displaced. Uganda is being held up as a model for refugee protection. It is not only hosting 977,746 South Sudanese refugees, as of June 2017, but it has one of the most progressive refugee policies. Refugees go to school alongside local children, are allowed work and are even provided with a small plot of land.

To try and **demonstrate international solidarity with refugees**, UNHCR launched the **#WithRefugees Campaign and Petition**. The Campaign will run until the global compact for refugees is adopted and will serve to articulate public support for the commitments it contains. Our goal is to demonstrate this global solidarity to send a message to world leaders and decision makers everywhere to work together to help refugees. We hope to show world leaders that the public stands with refugees - and for that we will need your help.

Continued at top next page

The petition asks decision makers to:

- Ensure every refugee child gets an education.
- Ensure every refugee family has somewhere safe to live.
- Ensure every refugee can work or learn new skills to support their families

Please stand together #WithRefugees and sign the petition:
<http://www.unhcr.org/withrefugees/petition/>

Pewsey Vale DFAS is now retitled in line with national rebranding:

The Arts Society Pewsey Vale

Next meeting Monday 4th September 2017 at 7.30 pm

Bouverie Hall, Pewsey SN9 5QE

‘Romans and Roses: A History of Italian Gardens’ by James Bolton.

Coffee and wine served from 7.00 pm.

Guests are welcome for a small fee. New members welcome. For more information and to apply for membership please contact:- 07775 683163

pewseyvale@theartssociety.org

Website www.pewseyvalenadfas.org

Quaker point of View continued...

But in two major areas I am aware of mega failures to reduce our carbon emitting behaviour. We still fly to far-away places to meet friends and family. We enjoy learning about and engaging with people of other cultures and gain more understanding of the diversity of the world in which we live. My family have always travelled. I and five of my siblings did voluntary service overseas, leading to work and lives in India, Nepal, Africa and Thailand. It's in our blood.

We still have a diesel motor car, bought at a time when the government were encouraging such moves. At some point we will replace it, but not immediately. We walk to the shops and around town, but our families need support and help with childcare and live where public transport is impossible.

I feel inadequate in my response to the unsustainable, unequal society in which we live but am sustained by my faith and the support of my faith community, nudging me, reminding me there is so much more I can do.

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What's on in September

Regular events

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 over 55s.

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

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

2-3pm St George's, Preshute (*every 2nd & 4th Wed*). Teddy Prayers & Picnic.

A service with tea & cakes for U5s & their 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 of month*)

2pm Mildenhall Village Hall. Marlborough Floral Club. £30 a year membership.

£5 guest. 520129. (*1st Thursday in the month*).

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.

September Calendar

24th August (Thursday) – 4th September (Monday)

Marlborough Common. Gifford's Circus: 'Any Port in a Storm'. 0845 4597469.

2nd (Saturday)

2pm The Roebuck, London Road. BuckFest2T! Live Bands, Hog Roast, Bar.

4th (Monday)

Marlborough College: Start of Michaelmas Term.

2pm Kennet Valley Hall, Lockeridge. Embroiderers' Guild; 861658.

Talk by Amanda Clayton: 'My Blue Suitcase'.

7.30pm Bouverie Hall, Pewsey. Pewsey Vale Arts Society. (See page 13)

5th (Tuesday)

St John's: Start of Term 1.

6th (Wednesday)

2-5pm The Merchant's House. Bridge Afternoon. £40 per table including Tea, Raffle & Prizes. In aid of MH Appeal. 511491 (Victoria Egerton).

7.30pm Wesley Hall, Oxford St. Talk by Maura Rossini: 'A Walk into the World of Italian Style'.

7th (Thursday)

7.30pm Town Hall. Film: 'Viceroy's House' (12A). £5 in adv, £6 on door.

9th (Saturday)

1pm onwards. Stonebridge Wild River Reserve. The Big Picnic.

10th (Sunday)

11am-4pm The Merchant's House. Open free.

11th (Monday)

8pm Marlborough College Ellis Theatre. Marlborough Mound Trust Annual Lecture. Nigel Bryant: 'Marlborough Castle & William Marshal – the greatest knight who ever lived'. Entrance free.

13th (Wednesday)

12:30pm 40 St Martins. Widows' Friendship Group Lunch. 514030.

7.45pm Wesley Hall, Oxford Street. Gardening Association. Talk by Roger Turner: 'Make Room for Fruit'.

15th (Friday)

7.30pm St Peter's Church. Merchant's House Lecture. William Egerton: 'Cipher to Cyber'. £12, £15 (non members).

16th (Saturday)

9.30am-12.30pm Marlborough Library. 'Jamming in Marlborough': (see page 27)

11.00am - 2.00pm Mistral, High Street, Book launch (see page 16)

7.30pm St Peter's Church. Classical Guitar Concert. £10 (£8 concessions).

17th (Sunday)

8am The Common. Car Boot Sale. Cars £8, Vans £10. In aid of Wilts Air Ambulance Appeal.

7.30pm Marlborough College Ellis Theatre. Concert: Stephen Hough (piano). £20, £10 (students).

18th (Monday)

11am Ellendune Hall, Wroughton. Kennet Arts Society. Lecture by Jeremy Barlow: ‘Nursery Notations: The Illustration, Music and History of Nursery Rhymes’. Guests welcome (£7) 01793 840790.

7.30pm Kennet Valley Hall, Lockeridge. KV NT Association. Talk by Stephen Wells: ‘Butlins – A Personal and Business Life Story’. £3, £4 non-members.

20th (Wednesday)

7.15pm Town Hall. Live from ROH. Opera: ‘The Magic Flute’. £15 in adv, £17.50 on door.

21st (Thursday)

7.30pm St Peter’s Church. History Society. Lecture by John Byrom: ‘The Wiltshire Countryside 200 years ago. Guests welcome (£4).

22nd (Friday)

7.30pm Kempson Rosedale Enterprise Trust. St John’s.

Illustrated talk. James Lam: “Spitsbergen Retraced”. (see page 21)

23rd (Saturday)

9.30am-12.30pm Marlborough Library. :‘Jamming in Marlborough’: (see page 26)

28th-1st October (Thursday-Sunday)

Marlborough LitFest. www.marlboroughlitfest.or. Tickets from WHB.

30th (Saturday)

11.00am - 2.00pm St Peter’s Church, Book Launch (see below)

Book Launch

Local author Debi Evans presents her new book

The Secret Adventures of Rolo book 4 ‘Jewel Dog and the Dragons’

Saturdays 16th September

Saturday 30th September

Mistral, High Street, Marlborough

St Peter’s Church, Marlborough

11am – 2.0pm

Marlborough Area Poverty Action Group (MAPAG)

MAPAG continues to monitor and make efforts to relieve poverty in the Marlborough area.

We have had a busy summer thanks to grants from Tower and Town, St. Mary's Garden Trust and the Area Board and we thank these organisations for supporting our work.

In July, we organised a coach trip to Bournemouth for families who might not otherwise be able to experience such an outing. Over the summer we have enabled children from less well-off families to participate in Camp Activate sessions at the Leisure Centre and piloted a project to enable teenagers to participate in sports activities run by Innov8 Sportz CIC. We will be able to give feedback in a later edition of Tower and Town.

We monitored the progress of the plans for the redevelopment of the Clarke and Rodway site and the efforts of the Town Council to object to the way Macarthy and Stone were able to wriggle out of the commitment to pay £330,000 for affordable housing. We have to look at the reasons why and hope that efforts to create a Neighbourhood Plan that reflects the wishes of Marlborough citizens can be used to defend future development plans and ensure they include affordable housing.

We have been keeping an eye on the state of the Youth Centre and are delighted that the Town Council has taken this on and are refurbishing the premises in St Margaret's Mead over the summer.

We gave a presentation of MAPAG to the Area Board in January and fed into the consultation on the Joint Strategic Assessment process.

We continue to meet monthly to share information on projects serving our community. Amongst the speakers in the last year were Peter Brearley giving an update on the Foodbank and Blayze White, St Mary's Youth Worker. Refurbiz provided a speaker reported in Feb T&T. Also, Sarah Johnson, the Outreach Assertiveness Officer for Wiltshire, talked about her work with homeless people acting as a support and spokesperson enabling them to access medical services and articulate their needs to service providers which is slowly decreasing the numbers of homeless on our streets. A previously homeless person spoke of his journey into homelessness and out again, which gave us a better understanding of the challenges homeless people face.

Continued page 21

News from the Churches – September 2017

Teddy Prayers and Picnic

On Saturday 9th September at 3pm the Teddy Prayers group will be organising a fete and a picnic. Then they will meet on Wednesdays 13th and 27th September in St George's from 2 to 3pm. An opportunity for children (and their teddies ?) to be given a lovely introduction to our church services. "We have a song followed by a Bible story, usually one of Our Lord's parables told simply. We then say our prayers including the Lord's Prayer and followed by our popular " band" of bells and shakers with more hymns and songs. We finish with a special blessing. Visitors are always welcome and invited to stay for tea."

Prayer Opportunities

St Mary's, St George's and St John the Baptist are all open in the daylight hours should you want to find a quiet place to pray or just stop and think. In St Mary's there is a prayer box at the back of the church near the inner entrance and prayers posted in this box are read out at the midweek 10.30 am communion service and the Sunday 5.30pm informal service. Immediately after the Sunday morning service there are two people in church who are there to pray with you.

At 8am on Mondays in St George's there is an informal time of prayer and likewise at St Mary's on a Wednesday morning. There are also "quiet prayer" groups which meet in the week. For more details contact David Maurice. (see Marlborough Church Contacts page).

MCT Fraternal

The next fraternal, now an open meeting , will be at 12.45 on 4th September at the Quaker Meeting House in the Parade.

Women's Fellowship

Meetings restart this month on Tuesdays in Christchurch at 2.45:

5 th Holiday reminiscences	12 th Rev. Heather Cooper
19 th Tea and Chat	26 th Mission Aviation Fellowship

Harvest Festivals

Sunday 24th September Christchurch Harvest Festival at 10.30: in 2016 an appeal was made for unused tools, sewing/knitting utensils, sewing machines, etc for donation to 'Tools with a Mission' where they will be made usable and sent to countries where they can be used more effectively. This costs a lot of money, and this year we are appealing for monetary donations to help with those costs. Also if there are any further tools now unused we will accept those.

Sunday 1st October

All Age Worship for Harvest at St Mary's at 10.00am

All Age Worship for Harvest at St George's with the Georgian Choir at 10.00am

All Age Worship for Harvest at St John the Baptist at the later time of 11.15am

Philosophy in the Pub

The Lamb, Marlborough, 3rd Thursday of the month at 7.30pm.

On 21st September: "The Soul, does it exist and what does it look like?"

In many religious and philosophical traditions the soul is the essence of a living being. But does it actually exist, or is it just a way of trying to make sense of who we are? Has science made the concept of a soul outdated? Do animals have souls? And what happens to our soul when we die?

Join us to discuss these and other questions. It will be an informal discussion, whilst enjoying a pint or two. Do come along and bring others who may be interested.

For more information, contact Janneke (jblokland@gmail.com / 01672 515970).

Sunday Lunch Club

On Sunday 3rd September: all enquiries to Christchurch Office – 01672 513701.

The Mustard Seed Book Group:

Author Evening; Mustard Seed welcome author Mike Hollow on Thursday September 28th at 7.30pm. *Direct Hit*, the first volume in the Blitz Detective series (set in the Second World War) was discussed by the Book Group last month.

The Ark

St Mary's Church is starting a Baby and Toddler group from 9.30-11.30am, every Monday morning in term time in St Mary's Church Hall, Silverless Street.

More information from Caroline (cphilps2@gmail.com / 07593 267519).

Wiltshire Historic Churches Ride and Stride

Saturday 9th September – ride, walk or cycle around churches locally and raise money for the Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust as well as your local church.

If you aren't able to participate you can sponsor St George's Church online at: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/charles-graham9> and

St Mary's Church online at: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/laura-willis13>

Filling Station

With the closure of the St Peter's school building, Filling Station is relocating. If you are not on the e-mail distribution list but would like to be, please contact either Helen or Vincent Stokes for up-to-date information. (hcstokes@gmail.com)

continued page 26

News from Churches continued....

Janneke Blokland discusses School Chaplaincy

'Education is what remains after one has forgotten what one has learned in school.'

On Education – Albert Einstein

It seems pretty obvious to ask a School Chaplain to write a reflection on school chaplaincy. However, in some way, I feel that I am even less qualified to write something about this now – with the little experience I have – than I was a term ago, without *any* experience. So I asked myself the question: what would I hope that pupils, and staff for that matter, remember when they think about the chaplaincy at Marlborough College a good few years after they have left? What remains after they have forgotten what was actually said?

The first association I hope people would have when they think back, is the feeling that they were welcome. That the Chapel was a place where they could go, just to sit, just to be. And that the chaplain was a person who was welcoming too. Someone they could talk to, someone who was interested, and maybe most of all, someone who cared. Not someone who cared about how good they were, or even how religious, but who cared about them, and the things they cared about.

That leads me then to the second aspect that I hope people would have noticed about the chaplaincy, and that is that everyone is welcome as they are. One's teenage years are a time to discover who you are, to discover what it means to flourish as a human being, to realise the potential you have and how to bring this potential to fruition. Amidst the many pressures that young people experience, the chaplaincy can offer a place where there is no expectation, where you can be who you are and realise that you are welcomed, loved and wanted exactly for who you are. Knowing this, I think, is the key to knowing who you truly are.

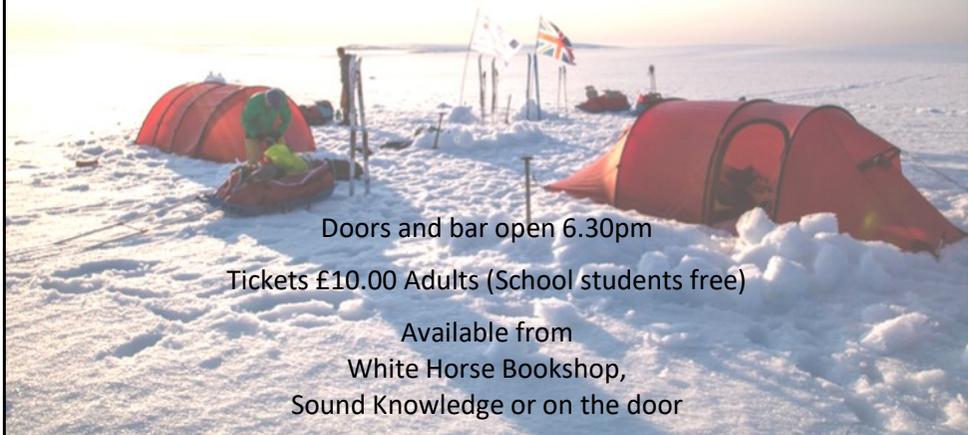
There is not much mention of the word 'God' in the paragraphs above, and I think that is also characteristic for school chaplaincy. I guess many of us have heard the stories of how off-putting public school religion was, and it is the reason a good number of people never went back to Church. Chaplaincy is therefore, I would suggest, not trying to *tell* what God is like, but trying to *show* what God is like, of course acknowledging our own limitations in this as well.

Lastly, I would be interested to know what people remember of their own school chaplaincy, if anything. So, next time you see me, please don't hesitate to let me know!

- - - - -

Kempson Rosedale Enterprise Trust
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MAPAG continued....

Four years since our first meeting we are now a group of people interested in issues that can make a difference to our increasingly unequal society. We have become an Unincorporated Charitable Institution and welcome newcomers who share our concerns. We usually meet on the first Monday evening of the month at 7.30pm in the Friends Meeting House in the Parade.

In the coming months we hope to spend time on campaigning issues and hope to arrange a screening of “The Divide”. We also hope to expand our reach into the villages surrounding Marlborough and would particularly welcome new members from our wider catchment area.

For more information contact Rachel Rosedale rachelrosed1@gmail.com

More Tower and Town Articles on Marlborough schooling

We would like to point readers to two online articles by Pamela Horril (née Stedman) recalling her experiences of being schooled in Marlborough. They can be found at:
<http://towerandtown.org.uk/main.asp?varFunction=showonlines>

Ruth and **Neil Hodgson's** daughter, **Sarah** and **Lawrence Wood** were married at Rockley Manor on July 22nd. Sarah is now an editor at Adam Matthew Digital in Pelham Court, the groom works in London & they have made Reading their home. Family came from far and wide but her cousin, Captain Tom Berry, missed out because he was on duty with his Marine company. Ruth had a busy weekend arranging the wedding and her father, **Peter Berry's**, 90th birthday.

Val Pinker called her life memoires 'Only The Pink Bits' because most of her life she has lived in the old British Empire shown in pink on world maps. It was published in 2015 and is on sale in the White Horse Bookshop. Val's family urged her to read it for them and her daughter, Ianthe, goes to her flat in Castle Court and is gradually recording it.

Our sincere sympathy to **Anthony and Margaret Dobie** on the death of their son, **Simon**. He was part of a large, caring local family with uncles, aunts and cousins on both sides. He was a successful business man and an enthusiastic and high achieving sportsman, especially in football and golf. He loved the natural world. Having grown up here he went to Tennessee after his marriage to Katherine. They restored and lived in a house which is on the National Register of Historic Places with their young daughters, Claudia and Evelyn. Our thoughts are with all the family, especially Anthony and Margaret, his sister Helen and brother Paul.

Martin Harrison died in June. He came to Marlborough College in 1957. He spent the war years on a farm in Cornwall, then school at Whitgift, Croydon, and Brasenose College, Oxford before National Service with the Department of the Scientific Adviser to the Ministry at Bomber Command. He and Anna were married in 1966 and spent a year in USA before coming back to the College where he taught Physics, coached games, ran the Air Corps, was Chapel Warden, organised groups of pupils to visit a school for disadvantaged children, was a Samaritan and helped in the Technology Centre. An able sportsman himself he enjoyed outings with his sons to live matches and always encouraged his six grandchildren in their exploits. He is greatly missed by his family and in the town where he worked within St Mary's Church, stewarding at the Jazz Festivals, singing in choirs and Riverfly monitoring for ARK



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Marlborough Churches Together

Usual Sunday service times

Christchurch, New Road (Methodist)

9.00am Worship

10.30am Morning Service with Junior Church & 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 Sundays)

10.00am All Age Service (1st 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 & 3rd Sundays)

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

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP on 4th Sundays)

10.00am All Age Worship (1st Sunday):

Parish Communion, Junior Church & crèche on all other Sundays

5.30 pm Informal service (except on 1st Sunday)

St Thomas More, George Lane (Roman Catholic)

11.00 am Sung Mass (See also below)

Marlborough College Services are shown at the College Chapel

Weekday Services

St Mary's Holy Communion: 10.30 am Wednesday

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

St George's Tea Time followed by Evening Prayer : 4.30pm Wednesday

Teddy Prayers and Picnic: 2-3pm every 2nd & 4th Wed

Tea Time followed by Evening Prayer: 4.30pm Wed

From the Registers

Baptism:

16 July Jessica & James Rolfe at St George's

Weddings:

12 August Samantha Walter and Oliver Palmer at St George's

Departed:

21 June Martin John Harrison (83) of 30 Stonebridge Close, Marlborough
Kingsdown Crematorium and St Mary's

24 June Simon Dobic (48) of Franklin, USA, formerly of Marlborough
St Mary's

6 July Brian 'Douglas' Cotton (73) Aldbourne Nursing Home, formerly of
Marlborough Kingsdown Crematorium

8 July Beatrice Walton (95) of Coombe End Court, Marlborough
Kingsdown Crematorium

12 July Shelagh Mignon Attwood Maye (84) of 18 Manton Hollow,
Marlborough Kingsdown Crematorium and St George's

28 July Peggy Adriana Snell (96) of 45 Priorsfield, Marlborough
Kingsdown Crematorium

Anytime

For young people aged 10 - 14. Meets weekly (apart from the first Sunday of the month) at 4.15pm at Christchurch and moves to St Mary's Church to join the 5.30pm Informal Worship service.

Devotion and Youth work

The need to review aspects of the church Youth Work in the Town means that we are not yet in a position to recruit a successor for Blayze White. However, through the commitment of a number of volunteers, we do expect to maintain many parts of the work, specifically the **Devotion Hang Out** Evenings held on Thursdays, the St Mary's Church **Anytime Group** on Sunday afternoons (as above) and **Fusion** the club that meets at lunchtime in Marlborough St Mary's Primary School.

Marlborough Church Contacts

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Assistant Chaplain, Marlborough College

The Revd Canon Andrew Studdert-Kennedy

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Team Rector, Marlborough Anglican Team

The Revd Heather Cooper

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

~~~~~

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**Laura Willis**

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Silverless Street, SN8 1JQ

**The Revd Dr David Maurice**

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*Associate Minister, Marlborough Anglican Team*

**The Revd Tim Novis**

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

# Marlborough Church Websites

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St Mary's, St George's, St John the Baptist make up the Anglican Team:

[www.marlboroughanglicanteam.org.uk](http://www.marlboroughanglicanteam.org.uk)

Christchurch is the Methodist denomination:

[www.christchurchmarlborough.org.uk](http://www.christchurchmarlborough.org.uk)

The Society of Friends (Quakers):

[www.marlboroughquakers.org.uk](http://www.marlboroughquakers.org.uk)

The Roman Catholic Denomination:

[www.cliftondiocese.com/location/marlborough-st-thomas](http://www.cliftondiocese.com/location/marlborough-st-thomas)

## Jamming in Marlborough

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### Every Month

|                               |               |                                                                        |        |
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| <i>News from the Churches</i> | Alison Selby  | church.news@towerandtown.org.uk<br>Crossmead, Kingsbury St, SN8 1HU    | 511128 |
| <i>Family News</i>            | Audrey Peck   | family.news@towerandtown.org.uk<br>7 Castle Court, Marlborough SN8 1XG | 289065 |

**Website - online edition:** [www.towerandtown.org.uk](http://www.towerandtown.org.uk) [info@towerandtown.org.uk](mailto:info@towerandtown.org.uk)

**Contributions and comments** from readers are welcome. Please send articles and letters to the Monthly Editor, other notices or announcements to the Compiler.

All items for the October issue by **Tuesday 12th September**.

**Our Advertisers support us.** Contact Andrew Unwin if you would like to join them.

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

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