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# TOWER<sup>AND</sup>TOWN

THE MAGAZINE OF MARLBOROUGH'S COMMUNITY AND CHURCHES

NUMBER 685 SEPTEMBER 2018



## **Marlborough a Member of the Global Community**

**I have to come clean and admit to being a hoarder! You should see my study!  
On reflection, perhaps you shouldn't!**

But amongst the many scrapbooks, CDs, minutes of distant meetings, letters sent while a VSO volunteer in Togo and Papua New Guinea to my parents in 1961 and 1967 respectively, shelves of books, photograph albums etc. I have back numbers of every edition of Tower and Town dating back to 1977, the year I arrived (back) in Marlborough as a GP.

I thought it would be interesting to pick out a few articles and reflections from past editions and in some cases 'passed' contributors which particularly appealed to me. I have reflected the Tower and Town of our title by including both Faith and Secular articles. I make no apologies for the selection, in particular the international content of some of those chosen, and have no doubt that another editor would have chosen a very different selection (there are so many excellent articles to choose from), but I hope you will find this selection as interesting as I do.

It has not been possible to contact all the authors to obtain their permission to reprint what they wrote all those years ago. I hope I shall be forgiven if they discover that their name is once again "in lights" on the page.

***Nick Maurice - Editor***

# Three Continents in One Evening

## (Tower and Town 1988)

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**This article was written by the late Pat Lovelace, one of the founding members of the Marlborough Brandt Group and the link with The Gambia. It was in her garden in Oare near Pewsey that the following took place.**

“There were strange and dreamlike events in Oare on a summer evening a week ago which should be recorded. The story of Genesis was unfolded in Classical Indian dance on the lawn of an English country garden with a foreground of lupins and foxgloves and the backdrop of Martinsell.

One hundred and thirty members of the global community had come together to celebrate after a weekend conference held at St John’s School on the subject of “Interdependence”. They included Krishna Bhat from Mysore, Ousman Cham from The Gambia, Zahn Rahman from Bangladesh, Heather MacMillan from Scotland, Victor from Bombay, Bai Bojang from Gunjur, Naomi Brown from Hull, Chandra Kumar from Bangalore and Jan Polack from Avebury.

Genesis portrayed by Rav D’Souza and other Indian colleagues with such exquisite expression in this setting was particularly poignant. Weren’t we witnessing the creation of true internationalism?

After a presentation of Indian yoga which stretched both limbs and imagination to their limits, Gambians, Britons and Indians sat on the grass grouped in sixes and sevens around a communal bowl eating traditional Gambian benechin (a spicy fish, vegetable and rice dish) with our right hands.

We disco danced in the dusk to Reggae and Senegambian pop, feeling uncoordinated and gawky after the grace and athleticism of the Indian traditional dancing.

Zahn Rahman it was who commented, as we watched this diverse group of people coming together in music, food and dance, that culturally the gap between India and Africa was greater than that between Britain and either continent (shades of our past colonial ties) and for all Gambians and Indians present this was the first time they had met people from their respective continents (in an English country garden on a summer evening in 1988!).

We had all been amazed and awed by the grace of Genesis but the Indians were excited by the utterly natural and innate sense of rhythm of the Africans which was unmatched by us all.

I am not sure where it left the British present, but at least we could be proud that we had acted as a catalyst in this extraordinary and timeless evening”.

# Putting a Smile on the Face of God

## (Tower and Town 2008)

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A few of us had the privilege of attending a packed meeting in the House of Commons with Nobel Peace Prize winner Archbishop Desmond Tutu on June 12<sup>th</sup> to discuss linking communities across the world. Many readers of Tower and Town have been either involved in or supporters of Marlborough's link with the predominantly Muslim community of Gunjur in The Gambia or to other parts of the world through e.g. the Salisbury Sudan link. The Archbishop's words are addressed particularly to them.

**“You are putting a smile on the face of God. I know! – I have a hotline to God!”**

“The media are too ready to report the bad news. We don't hear enough about the good things. If people heard more about the good things such as the benefits of linking people across the world, it might help to relieve the gloom. You are the cat's whiskers! You put a smile on God's face – and I have a hotline! Be more exuberant – celebrate – celebrate!

People often say “my little bit, what difference does it make? The problem is so massive, it is insignificant what I am doing”. But don't be inveigled by that argument. Every individual is of infinite worth. You are all God-carriers – into whom God has breathed the breath of life.

Do you know the starfish story? A child is walking along a beach covered with thousands of starfish that have been washed up and are waving their legs in the air but can't get back into the waves. The boy walks along and one by one turns them over and gently puts them back into the waves when along comes an old man – someone like me – and says to the boy, “*You must be crazy! This whole beach is covered with starfish!*” “*Ah but for this starfish*”, the boy replies “*It really matters.*”

There is only one way to eat an elephant....a piece at a time. The sea is made up of individual drops of water; but what a lot it can do when all those drops come together.

Share your stories more widely. Applaud yourselves. Some people think that God made a mistake in creating us. No! When God had finished his job of creation, he was rubbing his hands. “This is pretty good ---This is lovely!” You shouldn't be going around as if you were an apology. You aren't! You are the best thing that God created: YOU. You are not an afterthought. You are not an accident – some of us might look like accidents! – but you are not an accident. God has known us all from eternity and has placed us here.

(continued over)

We won't win the war against terrorism as long as there are conditions in the world that make people desperate. I can tell you that.

The Jews think that God made the world slightly imperfect, so that people can make it perfect. Humans can only be human by learning from other humans. A person is only a person through other persons. "I need you to be all that you can be, in order for me to be all that I can be". A totally self-sufficient person would be sub-human.

You have found this out from your international links and you are saying "We are family!" And if we don't learn this lesson pretty quickly we are candidates for extinction. When I use my hotline God says, "Thank you. Thank you for putting a smile on my face" "

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## Meeting Joel Joffe (Tower and Town 1999)

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**This article was written by Elton Madupe a member of a group of eight young South Africans who spent three months in Marlborough undertaking voluntary work. It describes an extraordinary and moving meeting between the young South Africans and the late (Lord) Joel Joffe, instructing solicitor to Nelson Mandela's defence lawyers at the 1963 Rivonia Trial before Joel came to Britain where he founded Hambro Life in Swindon in 1965 which later became Allied Dunbar, was Chairman of Swindon Health Authority and Chairman of Oxfam. The meeting took place in a small room in No 1A London Road.**

Elton Madupe writes:-

"In life, every man has twin obligations – obligations to his family, to his parents, to his wife and children, obligations to his people and also his community and country". In a civil and human society, man is able to fulfil these obligations according to his ability and inclinations.

Unfortunately in South Africa, race and skin colour were used to determine who was human and who sub-human. For people like Nelson Mandela, Lillian Ngoyi, Bram Fischer, Joel Joffe and many others who fought for the emancipation of the oppressed and the equality of human rights, it was impossible to fulfil both obligations.

(continued over)

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Meeting Joel Joffe continued....

They were forced to live in the twilight of their existence in prison, underground and exile.

Meeting Joel Joffe, a former human rights lawyer from South Africa, in Marlborough on 25<sup>th</sup> June 1999, made me realise that I am from a very special nation. A nation of sung and unsung heroes and heroines, who would not allow the fear of death, torture, imprisonment, persecutions or the coldness of exile to obstruct them in their pursuit of justice for all.

All this and more dawned on me as Joel Joffe took us all through his life and the Rivonia Trial (the State vs Nelson Mandela, 1963-4) the trial that sent Nelson Mandela, and ten others accused, to 27 year long prison sentences. Bram Fischer, George Bizos, Arthur Chaskalson and Joel Joffe himself formed the defence team for this trial. This led Joel Joffe to introduce us to the political life of one of South Africa's finest sons and lawyer, the late Bram Fischer.

The meeting with Joel Joffe formulated a belief within me. A belief that one's race, gender, complexion of skin or historical origins does not even begin to define one's South Africanism. A belief that one's love and allegiance is but a mere start to the definition of what it really means to be part of the 'Rainbow Nation'.

I owe the root of this belief to the great masses, both living and deceased, who would not tolerate oppression. Nor allow the unjust ways and actions of the minority to result in our country being branded a country of barbaric people.

Whatever darkness and sadness they went through, they endured. Therefore it's through their triumph that I can exercise my right to formulate my own definition of what it means to be a South African.

As the end of our interesting meeting with Joel Joffe drew to a close, we found ourselves marvelling at our young democracy and its rainbow people. A democracy that frees both the oppressed from oppression and the oppressor from hate and fear.

As we parted, Joel Joffe's *Ubuntu* "I am because you are" – his humility and humanity –which oozed out during our meeting, left me pondering, concluding in my own definition of what it means to be South African. A few answers came up, but the one that stood out the most was, "Yes, he is still, in every way, a South African"

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# Aid – to Community or Individual?

## (Tower and Town 1980)

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I hope I [Nick Maurice, editor] can be forgiven for reproducing an article I wrote for the August 1980 edition of *Tower and Town* on my return from working as a nutritionist for four months with Oxfam's emergency team in Kampuchea (Cambodia) following the overthrow of Pol Pot and the Khmer Rouge, who, during the five years of their appalling regime, had been responsible for the deaths of 2 million out of a total population of six million people in what became known as the "Killing Fields". The issues raised in my article seem as relevant today as they were nearly 40 years ago particularly in the context of migration and the refugee crisis.

"When I left Kampuchea I 'smuggled out' letters from Khmer friends I had made, to their relatives in Australia, France, Canada and Britain and posted them on my arrival back in Marlborough. There is no mail service in Kampuchea, and attempts by Khmers to communicate with relatives outside the country are considered to be an indication of intent to flee to the West and are threatened with reprisal. Indeed Khmers who befriended us in the Oxfam team were threatened, and in one case thrown into prison.

The letters I brought out were the first news that relatives overseas had received for five years and, although signalling the survival of the writer, they also inevitably carried the news of the death from starvation, disease or brutal murder of close relatives and friends.

With each of the letters, I enclosed a short letter from myself, explaining that I had seen the writer, a sister, brother, mother, etc. in the preceding week or so and that they were in good health.

Ten days after posting these letters I received a telephone call from Sydney, Australia while sitting in the Marlborough surgery. Arun Hang told me she had left Cambodia in 1975 on a three month scholarship to Australia, leaving her five year old son and her husband behind. While she was out of the country, Cambodia fell to the Khmer Rouge and all communication ceased. The letter I had sent was from her sister Rumani who had been my interpreter while I was working in Phnom Penh.

Over the phone to Sydney I told Arun Hang that there was no news of her husband and that it seemed likely he had died at the hands of the Pol Pot regime, but that I had seen her son, now aged ten, two weeks before and that although he had chickenpox he was recovering well.

I leave to the imagination the emotional content of that conversation across the

world, telling a mother who has had no news of her son for five years and did not know whether he was alive or dead that I had seen him a few days before and that he was alive and well albeit with chickenpox and that almost certainly her husband was dead.

But I shall never forget her repeated demand ‘You must help me to get him out!’ and the reaction to my response that there was nothing I could do to help.

Attempts by aid agencies to help individuals flee from such a politically oppressive regime would, if discovered, totally jeopardise a humanitarian programme designed to improve the lives of the people living under that regime. One therefore sacrifices the individual for the good of the community – ironically applying the same principle as was applied by Pol Pot when he murdered the elite, the professional classes, the intellectuals, for the political ideal of ‘purifying’ Cambodian society and bringing everyone to the level of the peasant and the growing of rice.

The dilemma of individual versus community confronts us in almost everything we do. The phrase ‘we have to draw the line somewhere’ is on everyone’s lips.

Surely the ideal is that we, as individuals, ought to be working for the principle of erasing the line, rather than drawing it.

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## Marlborough Civic Society – John Osborne (Tower and Town 1977)

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**There has been a Civic Society in Marlborough for eight years now, and I wonder what you know of it?**

Sorry, if you’re a member, of course (there are nearly 200) and even if you’re not you get the Society’s Newsletters distributed with the morning papers.

Well, what do you think of it? Not about the Civic Society, I mean, but about Marlborough, because that’s what the Society is all about, not just about our old buildings, either, as though who lived in them or what went on in them wasn’t important, but about the surroundings that we residents continue to prefer to our daily lives.

(Continued over)

Ask any tourist and he’ll tell you about the High Street and clearly that’s a focus

of everyone’s attention. Why do passers- by admire it? Why do we like it? It can’t just be a matter of individual taste – red brick, tile hung walls, red-tiled gables, the market, the Town Hall, the two Churches and so on – making a harmonious whole. Not only can we see what we like, we can know why we like it, and we’d know, too, if any detail was wrong or out of place.

This sounds like a recipe for smugness, for traditionalism and getting “conservation” a bad name. But we change and must do so, and the Civic Society recognises this; individuals have their freedom to design, build and develop their own properties as well as their lives, but as we are not “islands” so inevitably there are conflicts of interest.

Believing, as it does, that what surrounds us affects the way we are, the Civic Society makes its views known to, disagrees with, or supports (variously) the Town and Kennet District Councils in their attempts to solve these conflicts, and it maintains, on the whole, that the colours, shape and textures of the Marlborough that we have is more or less what we like and need in the future.

To be specific (after all it’s the specific issue that stirs us here), would you like a river walk by the Kennet, are you concerned about the number of vacant or dilapidated buildings in the Town Centre, could you be a paid up active member of a St Peter’s Church “Trust”? There’s a lot to think about and do, and we’re all involved.

John Osborne adds today “The Marlborough Civic Society was the busy and influential brain-child of Michael Gray. The town owes him an enormous debt, but at the moment there is no active Civic Society in Marlborough”.

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### **Kennet Community Transport**

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**Capturing the natural landscape never ceases to inspire, motivate and stimulate artists who, like Andrea Allen, want to celebrate the colours, textures and beauty of our (though currently still a little parched) green surroundings.**

Andrea's work has a style of deceptive naivety. The overall appearance of the paintings could at first seem a little illustrative, however, the design, shape, and overall composition are far more vivid, detailed and closely observed than one might initially suppose.

Growing up in the Yorkshire Dales, Andrea was captivated by acres of rolling hills, dramatic scenery and stone wall boundaries. A combination of fascination and desire led the artist to emulate these humble scenes in her own style. Arguably, it is the glorious use of oil paint that makes these imaginatively vivid depictions of the great outdoors memorable and attractive – the viscosity and richness of the oil is the perfect finish.



Proven typically popular in landscape paintings are scenes of nature, children, farmland and the feeling of freedom and escape. Although the size of the paintings is comparatively very small to a lot of other exhibitions we've had, Andrea Allen has conveyed this sense of freedom, spaciousness and outdoor enchantment wonderfully. Reflecting on her life as a working mother, these paintings are intended to be understood (through their title as well as subject) as a nostalgic journey that translates thought on climate, nature and ordinary adventures.

'Andrea Allen, *Say Goodbye To High Days and Holidays* An Exhibition of New Paintings' was at The White Horse Gallery from 1<sup>st</sup> August - 1<sup>st</sup> September 2018.

# What My Religion Means To Me

## (Tower and Town 1996)

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Contributed by the Revd John Sargant.

**I have been a Christian all my life. I have also been interested in other major world religions, but never had a chance to study them until the 1980s. Many people can be followers of Jesus Christ all their lives, without knowing anything about other religions.**

It used to be quite simple: Christianity was right, so all the other religions must be wrong. A few Christians studied other religions, as a hobby called Comparative Religion. It didn't affect one's Christianity much. Now we can no longer keep other religions at a safe distance. We are into a dangerous phase where all the major world faiths affect each other.

Not surprisingly, Christians disagree about how other religions affect our own. Some take an exclusive view, that Christianity is the only true religion. At the other end of the spectrum are those who take a pluralist view that all major world religions are of equal value.

I find that my faith is in between these two views. I want to find out more about the millions of people who still follow the major world religions which have been around for centuries: Hindus, Buddhists, Jews, Sikhs, Muslims and Christians (there are others but the major six are all I can cope with.) As I meet members of these faiths, and find out more about what their religions means to them, the exclusive view seems to give them too little credit and the pluralist view leads to the very widespread modern attitude, that it doesn't matter what you believe – and none of the six has ever taught that!

There are two very precious fruits of this inter-faith experience. First, the more I learn about any of the other five faiths, the more deeply I appreciate Christianity. For instance, God as Trinity, God as tremendous. Is God more real when experienced in other faiths as well as mine? And secondly, shouldn't a Christian, especially a Christian Priest be telling other people about Christianity? That is exactly what I do in interfaith dialogue. Followers of other religions don't want to know about church trivialities: they want to know about Jesus Christ, his Resurrection, the Holy Spirit, the Incarnation, all the central beliefs of my religion – that is what I am asked about as I learn more about other people's religion.

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# What's on in September

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## Regular events

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### Every Monday

7.30pm: Christchurch. Marlborough Choral Society.

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

### Every Tuesday

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

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

### Every Wednesday

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

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

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

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

2-3pm St George's, Preshute (*every 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wed*) Teddy Prayers & Picnic. A service with tea & cakes for U5's & 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 in the month*).

2pm Mildenhall Village Hall. Marlborough Floral Club. £30 a year membership. £5 guest. 520129. (*1<sup>st</sup> Thursday in the month*).

### Every Friday

10-12 noon: Christchurch Crush Hall. Food bank.

### Every 2nd Saturday

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

## September Calendar

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### From (*Friday*) 31 August to (*Monday*) 10 September

Gifford's Circus: 'My Beautiful Circus'. Box Office 01242 691 181.

**1<sup>st</sup> (Saturday)**

White Horse Bookshop. Last day of Andrea Allen's Exhibition of New Painting.  
Whitefield Farm. Friends of the Railway Path: Grassland Conservation Day.

**3<sup>rd</sup> (Monday)**

St John's Academy & Marlborough College: Start of Term.

2pm Kennet Valley Hall. Embroiderers' Guild. Talk by Jennifer Hughes: 'Culture at their fingertips – Hill tribe people of Thailand'. Everyone welcome.

7.30pm Bouverie Hall, Pewsey. The Arts Society Pewsey Vale. Lecture by James Bolton: 'All Nature is a Garden: William Kent and the Birth of the English Landscape Movement'. Visitors welcome £7. Membership Secretary: 07775 683163.

**4<sup>th</sup> (Tuesday)**

2pm Mildenhall Village Hall. Demonstration by Margaret Heal: 'Hearts & Flowers'.

Guests £5.

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

7.30pm Wesley Hall, Oxford Street. WI. Talk by Helen Laye: 'Wiltshire Farm Foods'. New members and guests welcome.

**7<sup>th</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> (Fri/Sat/Sun)**

'Marlborough Rising:' The new music festival. Various venues. (see p. 16)

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

12.30pm 40 St Martins. Widows' Friendship Group Lunch. All Welcome. 514030

7.45pm Wesley Hall, Oxford Street. Gardening Association. Talk by Rosy Hardy: 'Autumn Flowering Perennials'.

8pm Town Hall. Marlborough Folk Roots. Concert: Daphne's Flight. £20 from Sound Knowledge.

**14<sup>th</sup> (Friday)**

7.30pm St Mary's Church, Gt Bedwyn. Organ Celebration. £15 (members £12), children free. 870970.

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

15<sup>th</sup> September – 20 October

Rabley Gallery SN8 2LW. Exhibition of New Drawings & Paintings by Eileen Cooper RA.

**16<sup>th</sup> (Sunday)**

7.30pm Marlborough College Memorial Hall. Subscription Concert. BBC Big Band.

**17<sup>th</sup> (Monday)**

11am. Ellendune Community Centre, Wroughton. Guests welcome £7. Membership Secretary:01793 840790. Lecture by Brian Macdonald: 'Treasures of the Black Tent: Antique Tribal Rugs & Dowry Weavings of the Persian & Central Asian Nomads'.

7.30pm Slade House, St James' Gardens, Devizes SN10 1EL. KV National Trust Association. Lecture by Andy Thomas: Crop Circles.

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

7.30pm St Peter's Church. History Society. Lecture. Graham Bath: 'Wolfhall'. £4 for non-members who are most welcome.

**23<sup>rd</sup> (Sunday) – 6<sup>th</sup> October (Saturday)**

St Peter's Church. Guild of Wiltshire Artists. Free entry.

**28<sup>th</sup> (Friday)**

Friday 28 – Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> September  
Marlborough LitFest. Multi events, various locations.

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

2.00pm Three Trees Shop Chiseldon. Friends of the Railway Path: Family Forage Day.

***MARLBOROUGH RISING***

**The new music festival**

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## **Church Notice Board**

Don't let worry kill you - let the church help.

Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our church and community.

For those who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

Thursday night is Pot Luck Supper. Prayer and medication to follow.

# Marlborough Church Contacts

---

## **Fr John Blacker**

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

## **The Revd Dr Janneke Blokland**

01672 892291; jblokland@gmail.com  
*Assistant Chaplain, Marlborough College*

## **The Revd Heather Cooper**

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

## **The Revd Dr David Maurice**

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

## **The Revd Tim Novis**

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

## **Rachel Rosedale**

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

## **The Revd Canon Andrew Studdert-Kennedy**

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

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## **Andrew Trowbridge**

513701; office@christchurchmarlborough.org.uk  
Christchurch Office, New Road, SN8 1AH

## **Laura Willis**

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

# Family News from Audrey Peck

---

**Marlborough Penguins** held a party recently to celebrate 60 years since it was formed as Marlborough Amateur Swimming Club at a public meeting on May 21st 1958. They swam in the open-air unheated pool where Town Mill houses are now. It was eventually heated in 1968 and they moved to the new Leisure Centre in 1992. Two of the instigators in 1958 were Claude Yeoman, Borough Surveyor, and Councillor (later Mayor) Bill Winchcombe. Many parents, grandparents and friends of the young swimmers have given hours of their spare time to teaching, arranging competitions and galas, and the plain grind of organising and recording results. **Alan Crook** has gone from his home in St Martins to the swimming club at least three times a week since his eldest child was 5 about 58 years ago. He has inspired the swimmers and encouraged successions of parents to take on important roles. I wonder if he has put in more hours over the years than any other Marlborough volunteer? Joan says she is a swimming widow. Look up the Penguins website to find out all about them.

**Caroline Peck** (Carrie) went with the family to her son and my grandson, Tre-

vor Clarkson's, wedding to Sharyn Kent at Poole Guild Hall and afterwards at Sandbanks Hotel. It was a really happy sunny day. Trevor's son, Aspen, was a miniature groom's man and his niece, Harper, was a doll like figure among the four adult bridesmaids. The main groomsmen were Trevor's old Marlborough friends, Chris Paley, Matt Eggans and Dan Miller. He, Sharyn and Aspen are living in Eastleigh

**Enid Peck** celebrated her 80th birthday at a tea party in Mildenhall Village Hall arranged by her sons Richard, John and Matthew. She was surrounded by family and friends old and new but she was especially pleased to have her grandsons there, Jack, Harry, Ollie and Freddie. Jack told us he would be running two marathons the next day and he did. He ran one in four hours and the second in five and a half hours, 52 miles altogether. She is a very proud Grandmother.

**Sharon and Dean Hartop's** son, Shane, had spinal muscular atrophy but lived his life as full as possible. He was full of fun and banter with his brothers, Jamie and Scott. He played boccia (a game like garden bowls) at the Leisure Centre and became a Paralympian. He died more than a year ago and his family recently held a Fun Day at the Football Club to raise funds, in his memory, for DREAM FLIGHT which sends terminally ill children to Florida. Shane had been there in 2007. They raised over £2000. They are still working for less able people by supporting the Fun Day for New Road Centre at the Football Club on August 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Enid Wise** was 90 years old when she died in July. She was a Marlborough girl, attended local schools and worked as a proof reader in the Marlborough Times Printing Works when it was in Waterloo House in the High St near where the Jubilee Centre is now. She married Alan Wise, a local television engineer, and they lived most of their lives in their newly built bungalow in Forest Dale Rd. She loved gardening, producing bedding plants to share with friends. Her funeral was held at St. Mary's.

### **And more from the Church Notice Board**

The ladies of the church have cast off clothing of every kind. They can be seen in the church basement on Saturday.

Weight watchers will meet in the church hall. at 7.00pm Please use the large double doors at the side entrance.

This afternoon there will be meetings at the north and south end of the church. Children will be baptized at both ends.

## Letter to Tower and Town

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### On Music

Congratulations to Sarah Bumphrey on putting together such a stimulating edition of Tower and Town entitled “Music in Marlborough” which provided an extraordinary picture of the diversity of music that is provided in the town and the impact that it has on its audiences and its performers.

It is such a tragedy that most state school education does not allow the time or money to enable young people to experience the joy of playing classical music in an orchestra or chamber group or even sing in a choir.

In a study into well-being amongst students in schools undertaken by the New Economics Foundation it was found that there was a direct correlation between the amount of team activity that went on in schools including music, drama, football etc and the sense of well-being experienced by students in those schools. And we all know about the rise in mental health problems in the young....!

Clearly it would have been impossible for Sarah to include all the musical activities that go on in our “Town of Culture” and I make no apologies for drawing the attention of the Tower and Town readership to the wonderful series of “Brilliant Young International Musicians in St Peter’s Church” which is about to begin its seventh season of seven recitals between October 2018 and May 2019 with a performance by the young Portuguese pianist Inês Costa on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> October at 7.30pm. She, by the way, has performed in the Royal Albert Hall so obviously where next but St Peter’s Church, Marlborough!!

Not only do these recitals provide an opportunity for the wonderfully appreciative audiences we get to hear glorious music, brilliantly performed by the young classical music stars of the future in the superbly intimate environment that St Peter’s Church provides, but, by their own admission, the musicians say that performing in Marlborough in these surroundings really adds significantly to their professional development. Do come and help them!!

And do drop into St Peter’s Church where you will find the free brochure for the next season and of course you can have a nice cup of coffee there while you read about the musical delights to come in the next year. By the way, tickets are only £10 or £60 if you wish to purchase tickets for the whole season.

Nick Maurice

drnickmaurice@gmail.com

# Marlborough Churches Together

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## Usual Sunday Service times

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

10.30am Morning Service with crèche

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

10.30am Meeting for Worship

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

8.00am Holy Communion (1st and 3rd Sunday)

10.00am All Age Service (3rd Sunday)

Parish Communion (other Sundays)

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

8.00am Holy Communion BCP (2nd Sunday)

9.30am Parish Communion (1st and 3rd Sunday)

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

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP on 4th Sunday)

10.00am All Age Worship (1st Sunday); Parish Communion and Junior Church and crèche on all other Sundays

5.30pm Informal service except on 1st Sunday.

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

11.00am Sung Mass (See also below)

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

## Weekday Services

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

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

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



## **Kennet & Avon** MEDICAL PARTNERSHIP

### **Patient Participation Group (PPG) Update**

Did you know.....

Information about the surgery, the services we provide, and further health advice is available on our website: [www.kamp.nhs.uk](http://www.kamp.nhs.uk)

We hope you find our website easy to navigate, and a useful source of information about our opening hours, helpful phone numbers, practice policies and procedures and practice news about any changes or upcoming events, including any opportunities to join the practice team.

The website also gives you the opportunity to contact the surgery through completing online forms. Enquiries can be directed to the relevant department by clicking on the *Online Requests* option and making your selection from the list provided. For example, you can update us on any changes to your personal details without needing to come to the surgery.

You can also access the System Online services through our website, which allows you to order repeat prescriptions and book appointments online. To set up this service, please visit the surgery with photographic identification, such as passport or drivers licence, and our reception team will be able to activate your account, and issue you with a unique username and password.

The PPG would like to encourage patients to use these online services, however, patients are still able to use the telephone or call in to the surgery for any of these services as well.



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# NEWS from the Churches

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## Women's Fellowship at 2.45pm in Christchurch

4 <sup>th</sup> September	Revd Heather Cooper
11 <sup>th</sup> September	Tea and Chat
18 <sup>th</sup> September	Brenda Smith
25 <sup>th</sup> September	Gill Davies from Dar-es-Salaam
2 <sup>nd</sup> October	Harvest Festival



## Sunday Lunch Club

Next date: Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> September at Christchurch, Wesley Hall at 12.15. To book a place, please ring the office before 10.00am on the Friday before: 513701. Cost is £7.50.



## Marlborough Churches Together Fraternal

Meets at 12.45pm on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September, open to all or please contact the clergy if you would like anything raised. <http://marlboroughchurchestogether.uk/mct/>



## Marlborough Area Poverty Action Group

(MAPAG) meets at the Friends Meeting House, The Parade, Marlborough at 7.30pm on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September with a talk from the Fire & rescue service: safety & well-being. All welcome to attend the meeting.

## Mustard Seed Book Group

Will be meeting on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September, 7.30pm at Mustard Seed. The book being discussed will be 'Seize the Day: living on purpose and making every day count' by Joyce Meyer.



## Devotion

The Youth Club for 11-17 year olds starts back again on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> September, 7-8.30pm, in the Wesley Hall. Volunteers to help the leaders run this group are needed, please contact Janneke: [jblokland@gmail.com](mailto:jblokland@gmail.com) or Keith: [skylarkhome@btinternet.com](mailto:skylarkhome@btinternet.com) for more information.

devotion

## **Wiltshire Historic Churches Ride and Stride**

takes place on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2018 between 10am-6pm. Please support the work of the Trust by contributing to this sponsored fundraising event through participation on foot, on a bicycle or on a horse. Great fundraiser, as money raised by participants is divided between their own church and the Wiltshire Historic Churches Trust. For more information, please visit: [www.wiltshirehistoricchurchestrust.org.uk](http://www.wiltshirehistoricchurchestrust.org.uk) or contact Charles Graham: [ctg100@hotmail.com](mailto:ctg100@hotmail.com)

A group of people from the churches in the Marlborough Anglican Team will be walking from St John the Baptist, Minal, to St Mary's via Christchurch then onto St George's via the College Chapel from there into West Woods, to the foundations of the church at Shaw, up to Knap Hill before dropping down into Alton Priors Saxon church for a cup of tea and quiet reflective act of worship. If you would like to join this group, for some or all of the walk, please contact Simon Mills ([simon@clatford.org.uk](mailto:simon@clatford.org.uk), 07982 199583).

## **Meditation/Silent Prayer**

Comments have been made to me along the lines of 'We Christians are missing a trick. People are flocking to yoga to learn about stillness and meditation...' Many of us yearn for some stillness but find it INCREDIBLY hard to do ... So, Judy Howard, who some of you know, and who has done a lot of leading groups in discovering the roots of Christian meditative prayer, is coming to lead a taster session on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> September, 7.30pm at Isbury House, Kingsbury Street. If you are interested please contact Rachel Maurice [mauricerachel@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mauricerachel@yahoo.co.uk).

## **The Filling Station**

Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm at the Marlborough Community and Youth, St Margaret's Mead, Marlborough.



## **Farewell Evening for the Studdert-Kennedys**

You are all welcome to join the Farewell Evening, with wine and nibbles, for Andrew, Annie and their family in St Mary's Church on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 6.30 – 8.00pm.

Andrew's final Service will be a Team Communion Service on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> September at 10.00am in St Mary's. All welcome.

## **Harvest**

Harvest Festivals will be held on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> September at:

10.00am All Age Service for Harvest at St George's, Preshute

10.30am Harvest Service at Christchurch, Marlborough

*St Mary's All Age Harvest Service led by The Brownies will be at 10.00am on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> October*

*St John the Baptist's Harvest Service will be at 11.30am on Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> October*

## **From the Registers**

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Baptism:

22 June - Harry Jacques at St George's

29 June - Harry William James Rumbold at St George's

Wedding:

14 July - Sarah-Jane Francis and Harry Robinson at St John the Baptist

14 July - Lily-Alice Oliver and Billy Lund at St George's

11 August - Rebecca Pike and Jordan Welch at St George's

Departed:

7 July - Enid Claire Wise (90) of Forest Dale Road, Marlborough  
*St Mary's and Marlborough Cemetery*

11 July - Belinda Mary Graham Kwiatkowska (64) of Tin Pit,  
Marlborough *West Berkshire Crematorium, Thatcham*

2 August - David Leach Parker (85) of Hawkins Meadow, Marlborough  
*St Mary's and Kingsdown Crematorium*

## **Letter to Tower and Town - On the High Street**

I was delighted to read Sarah Bumphrey's support for improving our town car park, known as The High Street. Yes, times are changing especially in retailing and the welfare of communities. Traditions such as town events are important but there should be compromise (especially where those traditions, like Mop Fairs, are somewhat bogus). For the sake of 4 brief days of 'fun in the fumes' each year we accept 361 days of a pretty boring town centre. Isn't it time we made the centre *of* our community a centre *for* the community - the people not just fairground rides and cars.

Peter Noble

Tower and Town staff

**Chairman** Hugh de Saram chairman@towerandtown.org.uk 516830  
18 Kelham Gardens SN8 1PW

**Vice Chairman** Andrew Unwin operations@towerandtown.org.uk  
**Operations** Sarsen House, The Street, All Cannings, Devizes, SN10 3PA  
01380 860120

**Advertising** Andrew Unwin advertising@towerandtown.org.uk

**Distribution** Sue Tulloh distribution@towerandtown.org.uk 288912

**Subscriptions** Peter Astle 4 Laurel Drive, SN8 2SH 515395

**Treasurer** Peter Astle treasurer@towerandtown.org.uk 515395

### Production Teams

#### *October*

Editor Hugh de Saram oct.editor@towerandtown.org.uk 516830

Compiler Hugh de Saram oct.compiler@towerandtown.org.uk 516830

#### *November*

Editor David Du Croz nov.editor@towerandtown.org.uk 511725

Compiler Peter Noble nov.compiler@towerandtown.org.uk 519034

### Every Month

*What's On* Karen Osborne whats.on@towerandtown.org.uk 514364

*News from the Churches* Alison Selby church.news@towerandtown.org.uk 511128  
Crossmead, Kingsbury St, SN8 1HU

*Family News* Audrey Peck family.news@towerandtown.org.uk 289065  
7 Castle Court, Marlborough SN8 1XG

**Website, online edition** www.towerandtown.org.uk; info@towerandtown.org.uk

**Contributions and comments** from readers are welcome. Please send articles and letters to the Monthly Editor or the Editorial Coordinator, other notices or announcements to the compiler. All items for the October issue by 11th September please.

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**Annual subscription** £5 for 11 copies a year delivered to your address. Please ring Sue Tulloh (288912) or use www.towerandtown.org.uk

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