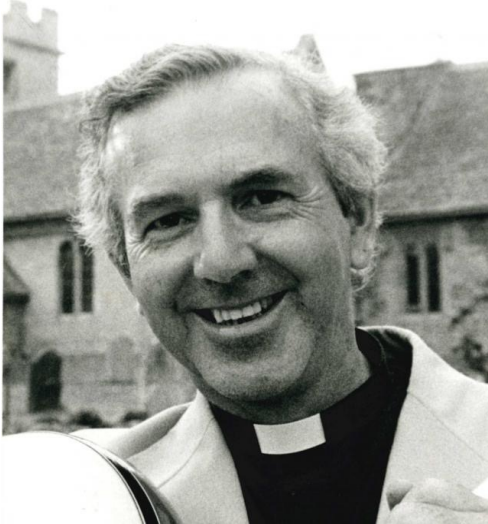


MARSTON TIMES

November 2018

stnicholasmarston.org.uk

30p



According to the Collins Dictionary, a saint is someone who has *died and been officially recognized and honoured by the Christian church because his or her life was a perfect example of the way Christians should live*. So a saint is a *perfect example* of living a Christian life. Wow, no pressure on us then! No wonder most of us feel so far removed from the whole concept of saints. Saints have become something not quite human; indeed something *superhuman*, with special Christian powers, which enable them to be a perfect example!

However, many of us must wonder whether the stories we tell about the saints, the ones for whom our churches are named, are likely to be true. For me, I love the idea that saints were simply really good men and women who were obedient and courageous. I think if they are *not* super humans, if they had all the imperfections that we have, then it is even more amazing to see the footprints they left behind for us to follow. If they were perfect and superhuman, where would the risk and challenges lie?

I think saints are simply those who loved God and followed Christ's example, as best as they could with all their heart. I'm sure they made mistakes and I'm sure they weren't always

sunshine to live with, but I am also certain it isn't their perfections we try to follow but their obedience and courage, their boldness and joy. The Christian Church gives us a date to think about saints - it's called All Saints' Day and falls on 1 November just before All Souls, when we remember those who have departed and are safe in God's heavenly care. All Saints' is also known as All Hallows' Day, Hallowmas, Feast of All Saints, or Solemnity of All Saints; it is a Christian festival celebrated in honour of all the saints, known and unknown. So why am I writing all this, you are wondering? Well, my thought is that All Saints' should not exclusively be a celebration of famous saints, but a time to remember those people in our lives who have demonstrated an exciting, challenging and joyous example of living a Christian life. Because all those who lived a life loving God are saints.

I recently had the honour of attending Rev Paul Rimmer's funeral service. Paul had previously been a vicar at St Nicholas Church and served the community here for 30 years. I was also involved in organising his Interment of ashes service, which took place in St Nicholas Church with Bishop Jonathan (Bishop of Lynn). Paul was a saint, not because he was perfect (Joan will inform you otherwise if you claim that) but because he was a person - with imperfections like all of us - who led a life full of joy and courage and he was devoted to God. Yes, he was an example in how to live a Christian life but I think in remembering him he would want us to try to do the same and live our life in loving God, as best as we can.

Skye Denno

Parish Councillor Peter Williams has contributed some of his memories of Paul Rimmer on page 3 of this edition of the Marston Times.

Parish Calendar for November 2018

St Nicholas, Marston

4 All Saints Sunday

8am Holy Communion (BCP) Revd Skye Denno
10am All Age Worship
6pm Healing Service with Holy Communion
Revd Skye Denno

7 Wednesday

9.30am Holy Communion (CW) Revd Skye Denno

8 Thursday

6.30pm Confirmation Service.... Bishop Stephen

11 Remembrance Sunday

8am Holy Communion (BCP) Revd Skye Denno
9.45am Parish Communion (CW) Revd Skye Denno
followed by Act of Remembrance
6pm Evensong (BCP).....Revd Andy Gosler
followed by Pints of View in the Red Lion

14 Wednesday

9.30am Holy Communion (CW) Revd Skye Denno

18 Second Sunday before Advent

8am Holy Communion (BCP).....Revd Skye Denno
10am Parish Communion (CW) Revd Skye Denno
6pm Scouts ServiceRevd Skye Denno

21 Wednesday

9.30am Holy Communion (CW) Revd Skye Denno

25 Christ the King

8am Holy Communion (BCP) Revd Skye Denno
10am Parish Communion (CW) Revd Stephanie
Bullock
6pm Celebrating 90 years of RSCM – with our
choirs – come and enjoy their singing!

28 Wednesday

9.30am Holy Communion (CW) Revd Skye Denno

Bible Readings for Parish Communion

11 Jon 3:1-5, 10; Heb 9:24-end; Mark 1:14-20
18 Dan 12:1-3; Heb 10:11-14(15-18)19-25; Mar 13:1-8
25 Dan 7:9-10, 13-14; Rev 1:4b-8; John 18:33-37

St Thomas of Canterbury, Elsfield

2 Friday

6pm All Souls Service (CW).....Revd Skye Denno

25 Christ the King

10am Matins (BCP).....Joel & Revd Skye Denno

Churchwardens

James Lawrie 276177; Eileen Palayiwa 725423
James Plunket 358170; Justine McCool 358578

Vicar

Revd Skye Denno437852

Marston Times editor

Jan Lawrie..... marstontimes@gmail.com

Subscriptions and circulation

Colin Harris.....colingharris31@gmail.com

COFFEE POT

Coffee Pot meets at the Parish Hall on Mon 12 Nov 12-2pm for lunch this month. Come to an informal, friendly gathering where you will be most welcome! Contact Eileen (725423) or David (246959) if you need a lift.

WI MEETING

The W.I. meets on 13 Nov at 7.30pm in the Parish Hall at 7.30pm. Gillian White will give a talk on *Bess of Hardwicke and Hardwicke Hall*. Come and join us!

OVER 50s CLUB

5 Nov: *Nostalgia and why we love it so much*
17 Nov 10am – 12pm: Christmas Sale
19 Nov: A Christmas Quiz with mince pies

CHURCHES TOGETHER ECUMENICAL QUIET DAYS

The next EQD is on Thur 15 Nov, led by David and Hilary Blair at Marston URC, 352 Oxford Road, OX3 12- 4pm; please bring your own lunch. All welcome.

ELSFIELD'S QUIET DAY

A Quiet Day with the theme *The Grace of Waiting* will take place on Sat 24 Nov 10am-3.45pm at Elsfield Church, led by the Rev Canon Dr Margaret Whipp: open to all! Please book a place with David Bullock (722926) or Linda Innes (247956). Donations to Elsfield Church; tea and coffee provided. Bring lunch to share and warm clothes for walking or sitting in church.

ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY, ELSFIELD

Christmas Gift Fair on Saturday 1 Dec 10am - 12 noon In Elsfield Village Room: please come to St Thomas' ever-popular selection of stalls including flowering bulbs, Christmas door wreaths, quality bric-a-brac, wrapping paper and cards, home-made cakes, raffle and refreshments. Free entry: proceeds go to Stonework Repair Fund. And to follow: a concert of English country carols by the Shotover Carol Choir will take place on Sat, 1 Dec at 4pm at St. Thomas': the congregation will be able to participate. Followed by refreshments. Donations to the Stonework Fund.

SEPTEMBER'S RIDE AND STRIDE

Thank you to *everyone* who helped! We had a full compliment of welcomers at St. Nicholas and St. Thomas, but not many visitors: we hope for better next year! Approx £400 was raised for Oxford Historic Churches Trust.

COURT PLACE FARM ALLOTMENTS

Vacant plots available; help and advice given. Visit site shop on Sunday mornings 8.30-11am. Autumn sown onion sets & Aquadulce broad beans available.

NINE LESSONS AND CAROLS SERVICE

This year our Nine Lessons and Carols Service will take place on Sun 16 Dec at 6pm: well-known carols and special music from our augmented choirs combine; the candlelit church looks particularly beautiful. We hope you will be able to join us. Every year we invite anyone who does not normally sing with our choirs to join us for this event. This year the practices will be on the three Thursdays before (29 Nov, 6 & 13 Dec) 6.30 - 8pm in the choir vestry before a final rehearsal on 16 Dec from 4pm. Contact Neil Barker, (musicdirector@stnicholasmarston.org.uk) if you are interested in finding out more.

PETER WILLIAMS REMEMBERS PAUL RIMMER

Paul Rimmer, whose ashes were interred in the Garden of Rest on 8 Oct, was vicar here for 31 years and a hugely popular figure, not just among the congregation of St Nic's, but amongst all parishioners, who saw him as a friend and confidante. Always with a ready smile, joy appeared to radiate from him. A former Bishop of Oxford once said of him "If you want to know what happiness is, go and visit Paul Rimmer".

Himself the son of a rector from the Lake District, he married his childhood sweetheart, Joan, who was a source of support throughout his life. After reading English at Jesus College he trained for the Ministry at Wycliffe Hall. Spells in the Isle of Man, Windermere and Southern India culminated in his appointment here in Marston in 1959 where he remained until 1990.

Integral to his personality was his sense of fun. For those of us who remember the TV commercial, *The Man from Del Monte*, it was Paul who donned the suit and hat. He attracted interest at the church bazaar by announcing it would be opened by His Excellency, the Emir of Tabaq. It was, of course, his nephew in disguise, but many were taken in. While a chaplain in India, he ministered to both the rich and poor. Once the Maharaja of Porbander invited him and Joan to a splendid vegetarian banquet, but when the Maharajah appeared unexpectedly at Marston Vicarage one lunchtime, it had to be fishfingers from Hayles' shop!

A keen flyer, he enjoyed seeing his parish from on high. The story goes he went out to buy a lawnmower and came back with a hang glider, much to Joan's dismay. His interest in things aerial extended to kites. He and David Cranston built a huge one and then realised they couldn't get it out of the door! He loved painting, usually pen and ink and watercolour, on small cards that he gave as gifts, and made models out of Lakeland stone. He loved poetry and was always glad to be introduced to new voices.

He and Joan retired to Wolvercote, where he was an active member of the congregation at St Peter's. They remained our firm friends from the time we arrived in Marston in 1988; Paul baptised two of our children. My wife Elinor and I, along with many others, will miss the Man from Del Monte.

PARISH COUNCIL OCTOBER MEETING NOTES

The Council considered planning applications for 15 Clays Close and 22 Elms Drive to which the Council had no objections. There were also applications from 9 Gordon Close and 1 Lewell Avenue both of which the Council felt were an over development of the site.

The Parish Council acknowledges the need for the additional school places the Swan School promises, but has serious concerns about the safety of access cutting through the Marston Ferry Road cycle track.

It was pleasing to see so many people at the October Council meeting, with some wishing to speak. Where possible and appropriate the Council will try to answer questions and help resolve any issues.

The local Thames Valley Police team reported that they are looking at incidents of noise, drug-taking and ASB in and around Fane Road and Arlington Drive. There has been a drop in calls for the incidents of ASB around Salford Stores and the cricket pavilion at the end of Edgeway Road. In the last month here have been no house burglaries reported but a couple of sheds broken into; power tools were taken from one on Purcell Rd. In Marston Road a number of paving slabs have been removed. So please ensure that valuables stored externally have appropriate security. Please report any problems to the police via 101.

The Council is planning to clear out Marston Brook, (behind Arlington Drive); unmaintained for a while, it presents the risk of flash flooding.

Resurfacing work for the Marsh Lane and Cherwell Drive junction was scheduled to begin on 15 Oct for 9 nights (7pm to 6am). A gateman at each end of Marsh Lane allows visitors to Court Place Farm and residents in and out but delays were expected.

There will be a free brass band concert on **Sat 10 Nov at 7pm** in OXSRAD to commemorate the Armistice of Nov 1918.

The Parish Council will meet again on Monday 5 Nov at 7.30pm in the Mortimer Hall. All parishioners are welcome to attend meetings.

Parish Clerk: Tim Cann – 01865 203139
Chairman: Duncan Hatfield - 07706 998224
Vice-Chairman: Tony Greenfield - 07876 205200
www.oldmarston-pc.gov.uk

Parish Organisations

Allotments Associations

Court Place Farm, Boults Lane. Secretary: Mr. T. Cann.
Sunday mornings 8.30 am – 11.00 am 01865 202104
Mill Lane Chairman: Dr. M. Unkovskaya 07771 702548
Treasurer Dr David Bullock 07902 805784
Secretary Christine Mitchell 07789 991051

Baby and Toddler Club

Gill Hale, 64 Arlington Drive 01865 248260

Bellringers:

Practice Friday 7.30pm Learners welcome
Anthony Hughes, 2, Oxford Road 01865 244570

Choirs and Musicians at St Nicholas

Junior Choir, SATB Choir, Music Group
Practices at various times.
Neil Barker 01865 604617 or 07774 050056

Coffee Pot

Coffee morning, monthly, Monday
David Blair 01865 246959 or 07917 298408
Eileen Palayiwa, 27 Ouseley Close 01865 725423

Rainbow, Brownie, Guide and Ranger Units

Evenings throughout the week. Adult volunteers as well as girls welcomed!
District Commissioner, Lesley Dentry, 01865 07765 418067

Leisure:

OXS RAD Sports and Leisure Centre,
Court Place Farm, Marsh Lane. 01865 741336

Library (Mortimer Hall)

Tuesday 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm 5.30 pm to 7.00 pm
Thursday 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm 5.30 pm to 7.00 pm
Friday 10.00 am to 12.00 noon. 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm
Saturday 9.30 am to 12.30 pm 01865 726823

Hedena Health Medical Centre. 01865 227788

Marston Community Gardening

Alistair Morris 01865 724081
Kate Robinson 01865 766620

Marston Saints Football Club

John Page. www.msfc.org.uk

Mortimer Hall (Village Hall)

Chris Crane, 2 Raymund Road 01865 727995

Over 50's Club

Alternate Mondays, 2.30 pm in Church Hall.
Secretary, Jane Madden 01865 209086

Oxford City Council (Marston Representatives)

Mary Clarkson, 8 Dunstan Road, Oxford OX3 9BY 01865 751493
Mick Haines, 3 Croft Road 01865 421600

Oxfordshire County Council (Marston Representative)

Mark Lygo 07765 665 726

Oxford Preservation Trust, Marston Area

Lucy Hughes, Cross Farm. 01865 244570

Parentline

Confidential helpline for parents 01865 726600

Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Tim Cann, 8 Nicholas Avenue 01865 203139
(Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 9.00 am – 1.00 pm)
Chairman: Duncan Hatfield 07706 998224
Vice Chairman: Tony Greenfield 07876 205200

Pre-school at Mortimer Hall

open 9 sessions a week 07818 236348

Royal British Legion Club Hall:

Steward 01865 243991

Schools

Friends of St Nicholas School 01865 242838

Scouts — 43rd Oxford (St. Nicholas) Scout Group, Boults Lane

Chair, Tracy McAteer 07714 653088 tracymcateer@hotmail.co.uk
Group Leaders, Rob & Lisa Pocock
07841 577567 lisapocock@hotmail.co.uk
Beaver Scouts Leader, Sue Springett 01865 251515
Cub Scouts Leader, Karen Holliday 01865 760559
Scouts Leader, Linda Phillips 07804 925705

St. Nicholas Church Hall and Committee Room

Alison Heard, Parish Office 01865 580354

Women's Institute

Second Tuesday in month, 7.30 pm in Church Hall.
President, Sue Hawes 01865 247106
Secretary, Mavis Curtis 01865 351325

Trade Directory

Airport transfers

MJM Airport transfers 07983 225474

Building/Builders Services

Colin Simpson: High Class Painting, Decorating and Covng etc:
10 Dent's Close OX3 ONP 01865 742842
Trevor Dines: No job too small - plumbing, complete bathrooms
from fitting a door to building an extension. Free estimates.
8, Raymund Road 01865 452851, 07889 263140
Daniel Kelly: Painting and decorating services: All interior/exterior work
covered. Free quotations 01865 738958
73, Coniston Ave. Headington OX3 0AW 07725 819264

Cleaning Carpets & Upholstery

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Complementary Medicine

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www.oxford-therapies.com 07913 503257

Electricians

Brian Turner: Registered NICEIC domestic installer 01865 728729
All work guaranteed. 33, Salford Road 07538 382683
brian.r.turner@ntlworld.com
Craig Holloway Electrical Ltd: 07868 706392
6 Clays Close, Marston OX3 0NX enquiries@craigholloway.co.uk

Foot Clinic

Oxfordshire Foot Clinic: We provide fast & efficient foot treatments,
including nail cutting and corn/callus removal. We visit you at home.
Appointments 07742 964282

Funeral Directors

D L Hancock Ltd Oxford's ONLY Independent Family Run Firm.
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126 London Road, Headington OX3 9ED www.dlhancock.co.uk
Homewood Funerals (Family-owned and managed)
14 Cherwell Drive, Marston OX3 4LY 01865 570000
S & R Childs NAFD, part of Dignity plc. A British Company
69 London Road, Headington, OX3 9AA 01865 427272

Hair and Beauty

Dee: Ladies mobile hairdresser 07736 668681
Fiona's Hair Salon:
Salford Road, Old Marston OX3 0RX 01865 241632
Lynette: Fully qualified mobile hairdresser, friendly and professional
offering excellent rates, in the comfort of your own home
..... 07977 403775, 01235 539245

Monumental Mason

Reeves Memorials: New memorials, removal for burials, added
inscriptions & renovations.
147A Magdalen Rd, Oxford. OX4 1RL 01865 251231

Locksmith & speciality car keys

Keyfit Security Products: 24h emergency call-out for vehicles & houses
13 Salford Rd, Old Marston OX3 0RX 01865 242898

Pharmacy

Northway Pharmacy: 2 Cherwell Drive, OX3 0LY 01865 763706
Marston Pharmacy: 11 Old Marston Road 01865 243824

Plumbing, Heating & Gas

A. Exell: Gas Safe installer,
34 Campion Way, Witney OX28 1ES 07779 298030
S. J. Moore: Installation and servicing for all gas appliances.
Gas Safe Reg. 146337.
76, Arlington Drive. 01865 724037. 07970 470176
Andrew Job Plumbing & Heating Ltd:
Gas Safe Registered Engineer 125206.. 01865 761896, 07710 390980

Tree Surgery, Fruit Tree Pruning

R. Timms: 80 Oxford Road 01865 244608
Forewood: Tree Surgery. Hedge Cutting and Tree Pruning.
Mark Baldwin, 07765 935767, 01865 769917

Window Cleaning and Gutter Maintenance

Mick Fry: 37, Green Hill Oxford OX4 7UD. Fully insured member of the
Federation of Master Window Cleaners.. 01865 777889, 07887 515168

Copy deadline for December's issue is
Thursday 15 November