



**Michael Eagleton**

1943 – 2024

Michael was born and bred in Marlow and is well known to everyone in our town who loved music, football, history, great photos, or who read his regular Nostalgia page in the Marlow Free Press. His collection of postcards and photos and other items of local historic interest from the last two centuries was unrivalled, and he was always ready to make them available and share his knowledge with any researcher or event promoter who asked for his help.

He supported Marlow FC from the age of 10 and was chairman of the club for a time. He attended Borlase School but always claimed not to have enjoyed his time there. He married Ann at the end of 1968 and they set up home in his parent's bungalow where they have lived ever since. He never went abroad but enjoyed his holidays all over the UK, scouring shops and markets for material relating to Marlow, particularly old postcards. He also amassed a large and impressive collection of clocks.

After several jobs in local industry in Slough and at Jacksons Paper Mill, he and Ann decided in the 1970s to open a music shop in Spittal Street. Chiltern Sounds became a legend in Marlow with amazing personal service and a music museum upstairs, holding his personal collection of jukeboxes. His love of jazz, publicly proclaimed by his car number plate, must have been kindled about this time and he set up the Chilterns Jazz Appreciation Society, still going strong and well known today as the Marlow Jazz Club at the Royal British Legion. He was a founder member of Marlow FM in 2007 and his weekly music programme led to a slot on an online New York jazz station loved by thousands around the world. He also hosted a Marlow Memories programme on the station, interviewing many local residents about their earlier lives.

Michael was a long term member and great supporter of the Marlow Society, and was always keen to support our exhibitions and events with his wonderful material. He also gave several illustrated talks himself over the years which were always a guaranteed capacity audience. He co-published the popular series of six "Trip Back In Time" books from 2006 to 2012 and also spin-offs such as "Best of..." and "Marlow in the First World War". All worth reading if you can get hold of a copy.

Michael suffered from several niggling health issues in his last years but his sudden death on the 9<sup>th</sup> September was a shock to us all. He will be very much missed.