

Celebrating Marcus in image, in song and invention.

Few people shine as brightly as Marcus did and leave this world with such a strong impression. Marcus is remembered by his friends for his wit, intelligence, inquisitiveness and for his resourcefulness, thoughtfulness and invention. He was cerebral while he was also caring, but first and foremost he was a gentle, gentle man.



Marcus's wit was encapsulated as writer of the satirical 'Ledbury Socialite' - a yearly self-published pamphlet that accompanied his intimate Burns Haggis Nights. Marcus loved the odd occasion, whether it be a boozy Paddy's Day, wassailing in the orchards, the Newent Onion Fayre or the annual night hike to Midsummer's Hill with the usual candidates Dave Thomas and Mark Stephenson. And it was all the better if it involved a tipple or two.



Marcus loved music and was a regular at the Prince of Wales Wednesday sessions. He also accompanied Angie Hughes and played bass guitar for *the Fylthe* with Bryn Chegwiddden, Angie Webb and Rob Murray-Mason, and mandolin with

A Month of Sundays

with Nick Trigg, Adrian Whiles and Andrew Findlay.

He shared both bands with guitarist Eric Porter.

Marcus had much of the creative input into the [Fylthe’s medieval design](#) :

“With a name redolent of the dirty foulness and rank ordure of yore, surely there be dark spirits abroad, flying vile things which through the land rove, sly winks, grimaces and many a creepy tale to be told - a bit like the time John Dowland got a bit of ergot in his muffin.&rsdquo;



Marcus was a surprisingly active chap. His preferred mode of transport was the bicycle and you would often see the Mongoose chained to the railings outside the Prince of Wales. If I needed to talk to Marcus, this would be my first port of call - I was rarely disappointed.

Marcus was also a trained scuba diver and often visited the Red Sea to go diving and shortly before his death he and his partner, Sue Wayland, spent a diving holiday in Thailand. Although Marcus had been nervous about going - I think it might have had something to with the lack of real ale in Phuket - he enjoyed the holiday of a lifetime.

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