

Marcham & District News

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MAY 2018 VOL: 40 NO: 5

READ & RECYCLE!

FREE



▲ Marcham Pre-school waiting for new shoots to appear see page 11
▶ Pre-school's 50th birthday party see page 20



▲ Little Angel project managers and engineers ▶ checking the building site on Anson Field see page 11



Happy May Day



May Bank Holidays 2018 Waste Collection Change

~~Wednesday 9 May~~ Thursday 10 May
Rubbish and Food Waste



~~Wednesday 30 May~~ Thursday 31 May
Recycling, Garden and Food Waste



Diary for May

3 Thu	Music at the Unicorn: Gilmore & Roberts, 19.00	15
5 Sat	Wantage and Grove Lions Garden Sale, East Hanney BL Hall, 10.00 – 13.30	17
6 Sun	Abingdon Air and Country Show, Dalton Barracks, 10.30 – 17.30	5
8 Tue	Singing is Good for You, Duffield Place, 14.00 – 15.30	7
8 Tue	Marcham Society: William Wintle, All Saint's Church, 19.30	7
9 Wed	Marcham Parish Council Meeting, Duffield Place, 19.30	3
10 Thu	Midweek Walk: The Hand and Shears, Church Hanborough, 12.30 lunch / 13.30 walk	7
10 Thu	Sunningwell Gardening Club, 19.30	17
11 Fri	Eclectic Cabaret, Wootton Community Centre, 20.00	15
12 Sat	Village Litter Pick, Anson Field, 09.30	5
12 Sat	RDA Plant Sale and Mini Fête, Southmoor, 10.00 – 13.00	17
12 Sat	Vale Chairman's Charity Fundraising Show, Beacon, Wantage, 19.00	5

13 Sun	Marcham Pre-School 50th Birthday Celebration, School, 11.00 – 15.00	20
13 Sun	YoCO Buttercup Family 5K Run and Walk, Manor Farm, Eaton 12.00	2
16 Wed	The Arts Society Lecture, Trinity Church, Abingdon, 10.30 & 14.00	2
17 Thu	Marcham WI, Denman College, 19.30	7
18 Fri	Deadline for entry to win tickets to Mapledurham at War, 17.00	2
18 Fri	Quiz Night, Club Room, MSSSC, 20.15	7
20 Sun	Plant Sale and Tea, Prior's Corner, Marcham, 14.00 – 17.00	5
20 Sun	Deadline for next MADNews, 17.00: editor@madnews.co.uk	
22 Tue	Singing is Good for You, Duffield Place, 14.00 – 15.30	7
22 Tue	Garford AGM, Garford Village Hall, 19.30	3
23 Wed	Annual Marcham Parish Meeting, Marcham School, 19.30	11

Details of events may change after publication, please check with the relevant organisers before attending events.

THINGS TO DO



The Arts Society Abingdon (ex ADFAS) is holding its monthly lecture on **Wednesday 16th May 2018, 10.30am and 2.00pm**, at Trinity Church, Conduit Road, Abingdon, OX14 1DB.

Henry VII's State Bed

by The Arts Society Lecturer Dr Jonathan Foyle

When Arts Society Lecturer Dr Jonathan Foyle was invited to inspect a member of the public's antique bed he assumed that the varnished Pre-Renaissance styled object must have been a late Victorian revival. It was just too improbable a survivor to really represent anything from the Tudor period. After two years of collaborative research to help find its identity, his initial impression that it was too good to be true was completely undermined.

Non-Members welcome, £6.00 including coffee/tea. The lectures are one hour long, but leave extra time for announcements etc.

The Arts Society Abingdon is celebrating its national Golden Jubilee on Wednesday 18 July 2018 at 6.30-8.45pm in the Amey Theatre at Abingdon School OX14 1DE. There will be a Reception in the adjacent Jekyll Garden with drinks, canapés and music – harpist Pervin Shahin will perform music from Baroque to Jazz – followed by a lecture by David Phillips on 'Who Says? Can we trust the experts on good and bad art?'

Non-members most welcome. Free parking. Tickets £12.50

For more information on future lectures and other activities see our website or

**email info@theartsocietyabingdon.org.uk
www.theartsocietyabingdon.org.uk**

BUTTERCUP FAMILY 5K RUN AND WALK 2018

SUNDAY 13th MAY Midday

Manor Farm, Eaton OX13 5PR

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MAPLEDURHAM AT WAR 16 & 17 JUNE 2018

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that time, in the location where Jack Higgins' exciting book 'The Eagle Has Landed' was filmed. There will be displays of army trucks, tanks and cars while amphibious jeeps will be *swimming* in the pond of the watermill. Authentic battles will take place each day and musicians and dancers from the period will entertain the troops. Christine Wallace and Jill Vallis will be sharing recipes and memories, plus Battle of Britain Memorial Flight which includes Spitfire, Hurricane, Lancaster, Dakota and Chipmunk aircraft!

Tickets in advance from www.mapledurhamatwar.co.uk

OR Win TWO FAMILY TICKETS by completing this wordsearch. Once you have ticked off all the words on the list you will be left with one hidden word relating to Mapledurham at War. Email this to editor@madnews.co.uk and all correct answers will go into the hat and the two drawn out will win family tickets.

Deadline for entries: 5pm Friday 18th May

O	U	K	J	B	Q	E	J	K	L	CHRISTINE
V	K	J	V	B	Y	A	S	I	L	WALLACE
W	S	U	O	O	C	P	R	K	I	JILL
A	S	N	D	F	I	U	A	I	M	VALLIS
L	O	E	I	T	Y	V	W	K	R	JACK
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A	N	I	E	L	G	A	E	O	T	EAGLE
C	R	W	L	N	J	I	L	L	A	JUNE
E	N	I	T	S	I	R	H	C	W	WAR
D	S	X	H	Y	U	I	H	Q	C	WATERMILL
										WWII

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Dear Readers

There are lots of great things to do inside and out this month, with the Air Show taking over our skies, a Buttercup walk, lectures, plant sales, music and a 50th birthday party for Marcham Pre-school! Not to mention all the usual activities that happen every month of the year.

Not so usual this month, we have a competition to win tickets to **Mapledurham at War** – see opposite – that will be a great day out for two families.

Until next time



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Jane Mander

DEADLINES

Advertising: 5pm 15th month
Other copy: 5pm 20th month
except for Jan when it is 15th Dec for both

ADDITIONAL COPIES

These are available free from Marcham Post Office or the Editor. Postal copies are also available – contact the Editor.

DISCLAIMER

We apologise in advance for any errors that may creep into MADNews (online or print), or omissions that creep out - we don't do it on purpose!

The Editor reserves the right to alter, omit or hold over copy to another issue. The views expressed in the Marcham & District News are not necessarily those of the editorial team, who are all volunteers.

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Richard.webber77@ntlworld.com

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Marcham and Shippon

Catherine Webber, Orchard Barn, Sutton
Wick Lane, Drayton OX14 4HJ
Tel: 01235 534001
Webbercatherine1@gmail.com

For other councillors go to

www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk

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May 2018

MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Annual Meeting of Electors – 23rd May 7.30 p.m. Marcham Primary School

See notice on page 11. The guest speaker this year Mr **Andy Brett, Emergency Planning Officer** from Oxfordshire County Council, will talk about emergency planning and what the community can do to help itself.

No Elections this Year in the Vale of White Horse

The Vale of White Horse District Council has been approached by some people making enquiries about elections in May. Unlike other parts of the county, there is no election here on 3rd May. No poll cards or postal votes will be sent out. The next elections which are due in this area will be in 2019. These will be Parish and District Council elections.

Oxford Cambridge Expressway

Highways England has given a briefing to the County Council on the Oxford Cambridge expressway proposals. The Parish Council has had sight of the slides shown. There are 3 main broad corridors undergoing study. The information available to date is not detailed, and it is therefore difficult to form a view on how Marcham will be affected. The Council has written to the Department of Transport requesting that it be formally consulted in due course, and has received an assurance that the Parish Council and others in the community will have the opportunity to express views on the scheme during the development process.

Abingdon Flood Alleviation Scheme

Modelling of the rivers Ock, Stert and Thames are still ongoing, as well as studies to use Abingdon Common, west of the A34 Marcham interchange, as a flood storage area. The results of studies will update the flood map. The Environment Agency's newsletter about the whole project including the Oxford Scheme is available from them. To contact the project team or to request to be added to the newsletter mailing list, email enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk

Thames Water Utilities – Water Resources Management Plan

Thames Water's plan has been considered by the Parish Council. Of note, of course, is the proposal for a reservoir in years to

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Tel	01235 768 888

come, on land south of Marcham. The Council is concerned that it would have transport impacts in the area, yet there was no reference to a bypass or road improvements. Of concern too, was the volume of leaks elsewhere which should be addressed as well as trying to justify the need for a reservoir.

Planning applications

The Parish Council has considered the following applications:

P18/V0624/HH Demolition of existing garage, construction of two storey extension to form grandparent annex. Construct new garage and extend dropped kerb to A415 at Stone Cottage, Abingdon Road. Council requested an electric charging point owing to the existence of the air quality management area, screening alongside the A415, and materials compatible with the existing.

P18/V0769/HH and P18/V0770/LB Alterations to wall to form new access, drive and erection of bay open port garage at 12 Frilford Road. The Council requested an electric charging point owing to the existence of the air quality management area, confirmation that the conservation officer was in agreement, and materials compatible with the existing.

Date of Next Council Meeting:

Wednesday 9th May 2018 at 7.30p.m. in the residents' lounge, Duffield Place. Please check noticeboard outside the Institute and/or the Council's website www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk in case arrangements change.

Clerk to the Council: Mrs. L. Martin, 90 Howard Cornish Rd, 01865 391833 clerk@marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk

www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk

FRILFORD NOTICES

Please Note:

All members of the Frilford Parish Mailing List will receive an opt-in request in early May
as per GDPR requirements

For more information or to join the Frilford Book Club, Parish Email or WhatsApp Group email frilfordparish@gmail.com

GARFORD AGM

Residents of Garford are invited to attend the 126th Annual General Meeting at the Village Hall at 7:30pm on Tuesday 22nd May. It is anticipated that representatives of OCC and the Vale will be present. In addition to the regular agenda items, the recent publication of the Thames Water 5 year Draft Water Resource Management Plan which again includes the proposed construction of the Abingdon Reservoir will be discussed.

Rob Treadgold
Chair Garford Parish Meeting.

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**Vale Chairman's Charity
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**Saturday Night at the Wantage Beacon
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including singing, comedy, music and more ...

Tickets cost £13.50 each or £10 for concessions available from the Beacon 01235 763456 or Karen Dodd 01235 422082 or karen.dodd@southandvale.gov.uk All profits from the show will be shared between the Children's Air Ambulance and the Alzheimer's Society.



**Abingdon Air and Country Show
Sunday 6 May 2018
10.30am - 5.30pm.**

One of Abingdon's largest events a fun day for all the family. Flying displays, Static aircraft, Classic cars, Military Vehicles, Steam, Dr Who Daleks, Tank and Pony rides, Helicopter rides. Trade and Craft stalls. Live Music, Arena Displays, Free Parking.
Save £££s get your tickets early for more information visit www.abingdonairandcountry.co.uk

**Countryside Champion needed for
Vale District**

The Campaign to Protect Rural England is looking for a new Chairperson to help co-ordinate its activities in the Vale of White Horse, including Abingdon, Wantage, Faringdon and all the surrounding areas. CPRE works to protect and promote the countryside. We have a very friendly and experienced Vale District committee, but would love to find someone to come on board as Chair. It's a great way of getting to know your local area and helping to influence local decision-making on issues as varied as planning policy, affordable housing, litter, minerals and water. With so much development scheduled to come through in the area in the next 20 years, it is vital that someone is in place to speak up for the countryside and make sure that we can keep thriving village communities. The role is voluntary and needs a commitment of just a few hours a week. No particular knowledge or qualifications are required, but it would suit someone with leadership or organisational experience and good people skills. Full details are available on the CPRE Oxfordshire website - www.cpreoxon.org.uk Or by calling the CPRE Branch Office on T: 01491 612079 To find out more about CPRE Oxfordshire see our website (www.cpreoxon.org.uk) or follow us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/CPREOxfordshire) or Twitter (@CPREOxfordshire) and sign up to our monthly e-news bulletin (E: administrator@cpreoxon.org.uk / T: 01491 612079).

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Visit us on Facebook: marchamvillageshop

We will be closed over the bank holidays, 7th and 28th May.

If you're going away don't forget you can order your foreign currency from Marcham Post Office. Euros are usually in stock but order before 1pm and collect the next day

May - why not have a go at the Vimto bonbons?

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Pirates of Penzance



**Friday 22nd June
at 7.30pm
(doors open 7pm)
All Saints Church
with
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Tickets £20 / £15 /
£8 (child)**

www.OperaAnywhere.com



Plant Sale & Tea in the Garden

Sunday May 20th 2-5pm

Prior's Corner, Priory Lane

In aid of the new village facilities



**Wednesday 12pm in the Baptist Hall
All welcome - term-time only**

**It's time for a
Village Litter Pick
Saturday 12th May
starting at 9:30 am
Meet on the Anson Field**

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Marcham WI

Next Meeting

Date: Thursday, 17th May

Time: 7.30pm

Venue: Denman College

Discussion on WI Resolution

Speaker: Sam from Notcutts,

'How to Connect with Gardening'

We look forward to seeing you at our next meeting on Thursday 17th May when we will discuss this year's WI resolution, following which our speaker, Sam, from Notcutts will be talking on 'How to connect with gardening'. We hope to see you at the meeting for a lively discussion and then to enjoy listening to our speaker.

New members and visitors are always welcome

For further information, please contact:

Pippa Hoath 01865 391349 pippahoath@gmail.com



MARCHAM SOCIETY MIDWEEK WALK: THURSDAY MAY 10TH

This month's walk will start in the pretty hamlet of Church Hanborough and explore the low hills between it and Freeland. We will meet at The Hand and Shears Public House in Church Hanborough (Map Ref: SP426128, OX29 8AB) at 12.30pm for lunch or 1.30 for the walk of about 4½ miles.



Ring Eric Dunford on 391439 for further details and car-sharing, especially if you are not on our email list as sometimes late changes have to be made. Members free, non-members £1. We always welcome new walkers.

MARCHAM SENIOR CITIZENS' CLUB

At our March meeting we had a talk by Thames Valley Recycling which gave our members a really good insight into what could and could not be recycled. A very informative talk. After the talk we had our usual tea and biscuits during which our raffle was held with all present receiving at least one prize.

At our April meeting we had a sing-along with our local 'Singing is Good For You' group (see advert opposite). New members are very welcome; just come along at 2.30pm on the last Thursday of the month or give me a ring.

John Woods (Secretary) 391705

SINGING IS GOOD FOR YOU!

From 2 – 3.30pm

Tuesday 8th & Tuesday 22nd May

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Place, you will be sure of a warm welcome ... and tea and cake! Phone 391270 for more details *Christine Whild*



Marcham Sports, Scouts & Social Club
Anson Field



QUIZ NIGHT - FRIDAY 18 MAY 8.15pm

A QUIZ NIGHT is being held on Friday 18 May in the club room. As usual teams of up to four persons. Everyone welcome. Don't worry if you are on your own or just a team of two, we will make sure that you join another team!

We have a wide range of questions to suit everyone - which are not too difficult!!!!



We look forward to seeing you,

For further information call Trevor Hill on 01865 391321

MARCHAM CRICKET CLUB

The season has started with two league matches on the 28 April, the first team playing Kilkenney (Away) and the seconds against Sunningwell seconds at home. Outcomes will be reported in next month's report. The fixtures, starting at 1.30pm on Saturdays, for the rest of May are:



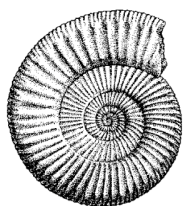
May	1st XI	2nd XI
5	Chadlington Home	No game
12	West Ilsley Away	Watlington II Home
19	Brill Home	Steventon Away
26	Combe Away	Faringdon II Home

The Club are looking forward to the development of the community's new facilities, though dwelling over so many happy memories of its existing. However, just as we all were saddened when the previous thatched, wooden pavilion was replaced forty plus years ago, the changes are for the long term betterment of sport and facilities within the village. We hope and expect a wider membership of our club, welcoming more non-playing as well as playing members in the future.

In the meantime, the Club will be pleased to welcome any 'passers by' to its matches or bar during match days. Whether its en-route to the children's playground or walking the dog, we would be pleased to see you, albeit for a brief chat. During this early period of change, the Club are pleased to continue maintaining the playing and remaining non-playing areas of the field for the use of everyone, until formal arrangements are in place for Marcham Community Group to take over the management of the areas.

Any general queries can be made to the secretary Trevor Hill (07748696733). **TH**

Have you got a view on recent events or future plans? Write to MADNews and share your ideas. You can send an email to editor@madnews.co.uk, put a letter in the envelope in Marcham Village Shop or drop a note through the door at 8 Orchard Way, Marcham. Deadline is 5pm on the 20th of each month ... *looking forward to hearing from you.*



The Marcham Society

The Iron Age and Romano-British landscape of the Vale of the White Horse

William Wintle

All Saints' Church, Marcham

7.30 for 7.45pm

Tuesday 8th May

Non-members always welcome £3

Further details: Sheila Dunford (391439)

or Judith Fontaine (391275)

www.marchamsociety.org.uk

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ED VAIZEY WRITES...

Three pieces of excellent news on new investment in roads and infrastructure this month. The first is about the A34, the bane of many of our lives. After months of campaigning by myself, local MPs, councils, LEPS and the A34 Action Group, the government has agreed to fund some much needed safety improvements. Upcoming changes will include improved laybys and digital signage, which will change depending on traffic flow. A new sign has also been recommended, to make it clearer to HGVs where they are not allowed to overtake. Removal of vegetation from junctions was another recommendation and this will be improved.



The second piece of news concerns support for new infrastructure for the new homes being built in our area – an issue that is raised with me regularly. The government has announced up to £150 million to build much needed bridges, roundabouts and roads and £60 million to support new affordable homes. In total the government has committed up to £215 million of funding.

Finally, I was very pleased to open the Harwell Relief Road last month. The road will provide a route from housing development west of Didcot at Great Western Park and Valley Park to Harwell Oxford Campus and support delivery of planned housing growth. The road will make the journey to work easier for the five thousand people who work at Harwell Campus and I am particularly pleased that it will relieve the pressure of through traffic on Harwell village.

Other news - the National Lottery tell me that they are funding 4 projects in Wantage worth £30,905. Well done to all those who applied for funding, you can still do so at www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/funding. Last month I met with Fyfield and Tubney parish councils about the A420, and visited local social enterprise Maymessy in West Challow, which offers gardening, kitchen craft and family-style sit-down meals and picnics for disadvantaged children and volunteer groups. I received 523 items of correspondence (emails and letters) from constituents. Subjects raised with me included local infrastructure, Brexit and new data protection rules.

ED VAIZEY, MP Wantage and Didcot (Conservative)

COUNCILLORS' REPORT

Notes on the AQMA Meeting on Wednesday, 4th April 2018

The panel was made up of:

Rachel Roberts, The VWHDC Air Quality Officer (RR)

Jason Sherwood, a senior OCC Highways Officer (JS)

Richard Webber OCC Cllr for Marcham (RW)

Catherine Webber VWHDC Cllr for Marcham (CW)

More than 40 Marcham residents attended to hear presentations and answer questions.

RR began by explaining how the 1995 Environment Act first gave a legal status to the quality of air we breathe. Marcham was declared an AQMA 5 years ago, as measurements of NOx gases in some parts of the pinch-points in Packhorse Lane were in excess of 40micrograms per/l – the EU agreed safety limit. RR pointed out that 2 years ago the measured figure was well over 50. Last year the figure had reduced to below 45. There has been a countrywide decrease in Nox Levels over the past year, but we are not sure why, although the improvement in diesel engines in HGVs and the increase in the number of electric cars on the roads will have helped.

The District Council's role is to measure and publish the measurements. They are also charged with presenting ideas which could be investigated to bring the measurements down. One such suggestion was an HGV weight limit through the village. This was the thinking behind the Marcham residents' traffic survey of 2017.

JS followed by explaining that the County Highways Department had modelled the effects of removing the HGVs from the AQMA on the traffic movements in the wider network, based on the figures that were collected over a year ago from the residents' 24hour survey. He said that this could result in 60 more HGVs in Abingdon's AQMA, 417 more HGVs diverting through Grove and Wantage and cause extra

congestion in Wootton, Dry Sandford, Denchworth and the A34 at Botley. So, he concluded that an HGV ban through Marcham would have an unacceptable impact on the whole surrounding network – which was already severely stressed.

JS explained that in 1990, the County looked in detail at Faringdon Road as a possible alternative route ... the state and quality of the road, the pinch points etc ... and came to the conclusion that compulsory purchases would have to be made to make the road safe, and the road itself would have to be rebuilt. He said the cost would be the same as a bypass!

The meeting was then opened to questions.

Why can't an HGV ban be set up for a month as a trial to get a definitive answer?

This is possible but would be difficult and expensive. We would still have the problem of impact on surrounding network

Why can't gating traffic lights be set up?

There would be multiple things to consider such as how much queuing would result with standing traffic belching out fumes and how long would be the delays? How would the slip roads be affected? This would result in long queues, and now, at peak times, traffic backs right into Marcham from the Frilford junction! Also, the traffic at the junctions onto the AQMA would need to be controlled. Long waits.

How can money be raised to pay for a by-pass?

a) Thames Water are keen to build a reservoir near Marcham and a condition could be made for them to pay for a by-pass. Many listeners did not like the idea of a reservoir, especially as it was expected to attract over one million people to the area each year with their cars.

b) The Growth Deal would release millions of pounds to deliver infrastructure for the new houses ...the new roads would relieve Marcham's AQMA, but not until 2030!

c) The proposed Oxford Cambridge Expressway too would generate a lot of money and also would take a lot of traffic travelling east....this may relieve the AQMA but not until 2040!

Can we have a 20mph in the AQMA?

Yes, but now the traffic here tends to be forced to travel at about this speed. It would probably make little difference.

Can we have car plates- recognition to allow only low-emission vehicles through the AQMA?

Very expensive. This is a successful cities' solution, but not so successful in rural areas.

Conclusions

Despite the general message that we won't be able to get an HGV ban in the AQMA, the meeting ended with some positive messages.

RR is insisting that all new housing developments in the Vale have to have electric charging points.

New HGVs are cleaner than many cars ... that is if it hasn't been fitted with an illegal emulator or other system to fudge the figures!

A suggestion put forward by Mike Blanch, a Marcham resident, was enthusiastically received ... to put up notices at each end of the AQMA saying: "You are entering an Air Quality Management Area.

We welcome drivers of low emission cars."

In the summer, OCC is setting up an all air quality action group – made up of councillors and officers from all councils to make recommendations. The levels of poor air quality in the Marcham AQMA have dropped quite significantly in recent years. Although he is not optimistic, JS agreed to look into a one- way system through the AQMA. A proposal to reduce the speed limit on the A415 might well reduce the stop/start behaviour of traffic in Packhorse Lane.

The meeting concluded with thanks to both Jason and Rachel for their very sympathetic and knowledgeable contributions and to All Saints for hosting. Everybody had the chance to put forward their points, and many came up to speak to the officers at the end. Incidentally, this was Rachel's last official meeting, as she is now on maternity leave, expecting her baby next month. We wish her and her family all the very best!

RICHARD WEBBER CLLR OCC SC & Marcham Division.

Richard.webber77@ntlworld.com or 01235 534001

CATHERINE WEBBER Cllr VWHDC

01235 534001 or Webbercatherine1@gmail.com

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NEWS FROM LITTLE ANGELS

Baby Room Our babies have really enjoyed their new layout baby room this month. Lots of our little angels have just started walking, we are very proud! So, to meet their needs we have rearranged our baby room and they have loved the new-found exploration space! The babies particularly loved the ice sensory tray this month, a great tip for cooling down in this warm weather. Our wonderful baby room staff placed ice cubes into the sensory tray with different minibeast toys, the babies loved feeling the ice and moving this around and splashing the bugs in as the ice melted – great fun! Our babies have also really enjoyed the musical instruments this month, we have heard lots of singing, banging and shakers from the baby room. Well done babies!



Preschool Room We were very busy over the Easter break and transformed our garden ready for summer! The children have loved playing in our new mud kitchen making mud pies, riding their bikes and cars around our road and filling them up at our new petrol station. We now have a sensory garden where the children can smell and feel different plants to stimulate their senses! Our new book area has been a big hit where we tell stories that fuel our little angels' imaginations. Our little angels have loved being outside in the wonderful weather learning and exploring and they have been particularly inspired by the diggers and turned into builders using our dumper trucks and recreated the building work in the sandpit! We always follow our little angels' lead here and have therefore transformed our role play room into a building site with construction bricks, hard hats and high vis jackets, what a fun month!

Breakfast and Afterschool Club Our Breakfast and Afterschool Club have been very creative this month, making various models from junk modelling – we have seen robots, cars and even castles! What a great way to wind down after school by getting messy and creative and getting busy making! The afterschool club have been making the most of the sunshine this month and loved being out on the field making daisy chains for each other, playing football and cricket, a great way to burn off all that energy! It's great to see you all back after the Easter Break, we have missed you!

If you would like to be part of Little Angels Family, where our home is your home, please contact us on 01865 819992 or marcham@littleangelschildcaregroup.co.uk, see www.littleangelschildcaregroup.co.uk and follow us on Facebook: littleangelsmarcham

PTA Round-up

Many thanks to everyone who bought a ticket for our Easter Raffle. You raised a total of £71, so thank you all. And thanks to the Abingdon Air and Country Show for donating the prize. Those who came to our Family Bingo Night had a fun evening and helped us raise another £120, so thanks to you, too. A good start to the year.

Our next **School Disco is on Friday 11 May (KS1 children: 5.50-6.50. KS2 children: 7.00-8.00.)**, so get your kids' boogie boots on. Next month we'll be holding a **Family Quiz Night Saturday 23 June**, so watch out for further details in the next few weeks.

And please make a note in your diary for our **Summer Fete on Friday 13 July**. I'll keep you up to date with more details here, on the Marcham Facebook pages and in the regular school newsletters.

Want to help organise events to raise money to support our children's education? Of course you do! We're always looking for new faces to join our friendly team, so don't be shy – drop me a line or give me a call.

Peter Kidd
PTA Chair 07708 251312 peter.kidd61@btinternet.com



Parent Teacher Association

NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL MARCHAM PARISH MEETING

This year the **annual meeting** for electors will take place on **Wednesday 23rd May at 7.30 p.m.** in the hall at **Marcham Primary School**.

This is the meeting, open to all registered electors of Marcham where you can raise issues about the village or wider parish, and discuss any local topics. The guest speaker will be Mr. Andy Brett, Emergency Planning Officer from Oxfordshire County Council who will advise the village on how to be prepared for unexpected events.

Light refreshments will be served.

You are invited to take part

SUNSHINE CLUB

We meet on Mondays at 2 o'clock in The Residents' Lounge, Duffield Place. Any new members will be very welcome. We play some games of bingo, enjoy a cup of tea or coffee with biscuits and finish off with a raffle about 3.30pm.

Any further information, please contact me on 391384 or just come and join us on a Monday afternoon at 2pm for a social afternoon.

ALL WELCOME

JEAN DIX

MARCHAM PRE-SCHOOL

Pre-school have been exploring plants and growing over the last few weeks... each child chose what they would like to grow and planted their seeds, taking home their pots to wait for the first shoots to appear... which they have now started to do! It's all very exciting! We've just received a special delivery of caterpillars to rear and observe as they change into butterflies and I'm sure that these will provide to be another amazing experience for these children.



We are now full for September 2018 but we're taking applications for September 2019 so please do get in touch if you have a young child - it's never too young to register with us! There's no commitment and no registration fees to pay. Please contact us for more information on 01865 392101 or marcham-preschool@hotmail.co.uk

www.marcham-preschool.weebly.com

MARCHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

If you have young children and would like to register an interest in your child attending Marcham School in the future, please fill in and return this form to school as soon as possible.

This form is not an application to school and does not guarantee a place, but will allow us to plan the future of the school and help with our discussions with the Admissions Team at Oxfordshire County Council.

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Marcham Community Group



Marcham Centre — on-site work has started at last!

After many years of working and waiting, on-site work to prepare for the building of new community facilities for Marcham has now started. Fencing was put up and topsoil is being removed from the area to start the first stage of the work, the archaeology investigations of the parts of the field that will be built on. We will have a better idea of the finish date for that work once the archaeological dig is underway.



The main gate to the site will be locked for normal vehicle access to the field to ensure the safety of pedestrians entering and leaving the field from Morland Road. There is no public access to the fenced-in area during the site work. Access to the rest of the field and the nursery is on foot from Morland Road, Tower Close, the North Street footpath, or Packhorse Lane. Parents of nursery school parents are being informed by Little Angels of changes in arrangements for drop-off and pick-up.

In the event of any health and safety concern during the building project, please email or phone the project coordinator acting for The Anson Trust, Mark Patchett on 07801-187987 or Mark@mpconsultancy.org.uk

We continue to work through detailed plans for the building, with the main layout agreed. These are being discussed in a working group, drawn from the CFSG working group, the Parish Council Working Party and the MCG team, with Anson Trust and Thomas Homes.

The Community Facilities Steering Group (CFSG) will continue to oversee the project. MCG aims to keep everyone in Marcham updated regularly on the project and will be happy to try to answer any questions that people may have as this project moves forward.

We are keen to recruit more members of MCG. This helps to support our case for external fund-raising to complete/equip the new facilities. Please contact Jim Asher (jim.asher@btinternet.com) for details and a membership form. Annual subscriptions are £5 (single) and £8 (family).

Marcham Centre—on-site work has started!



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YOULBURY

A few weeks ago, on the 5th of March, Years 5 and 6 travelled to Youlbury. Youlbury is located near Wootton. It is a camp surrounded by a forest, with lots of fun activities. We went to learn to work as a team, and face our fears.

On our first day, my team did high all aboard. High all aboard is a tall wooden pole with metal rods sticking out, and a tiny platform on top. We each had teams of 4, and one at a time we would climb up onto the platform. We all had to hold hands, and lean back then jump; we had a lot of fun. After that activity, we did abseiling and it rained the whole time. Everyone had fun until they got cold and muddy; some of us had another go. After, we all went back to our dormitories and waited for dinner.

The next day the weather was still cold and rainy. Our next activity was Jacob's ladder and as a team we cheered each other on. Me and my friends got up to the 7th step as the gaps got wider every time.

After the Jacob's ladder, we did the 3G swing. As we were excited to go on the 3G swing, all of us were determined to finish. At first the swing was broken, but it was soon fixed.

When the swing started it went really high and everyone screamed. After, we had lunch and got changed. For the last activity, we did pioneering; pioneering is when you build something out of wood. We built a car that worked as a team and it was so cool. Then, we went to a campfire and sang songs and danced. By far this activity was the best.

Early in the morning, we got up and started to pack. After we had breakfast, our first activity was team building. I didn't like this one so much because it involved catching things and I'm not good at that. Then we did sensory trail when you find your way around a forest with weird blindfolds - this activity was amazing. Then, we had lunch and went home.

Over all, it was really fun and educational and I wish I was still there. The instructors were extremely kind I loved it.

By B. Sanders, Year 6, Marcham Primary School



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Here is the latest neighbourhood team newsletter from PCSO Rich Osborn



Priorities

I have had reports of damage to fields in the Shippon area and it is believed that young people are driving onto the fields and causing damage to the crops. This is criminal damage and anti-social behaviour and if you see this going on call 101 and report it.

'You said, we did' - speeding

I have had reports about speeding in and around the area. We have a Speed Indication Device (SID) and I will be carrying out some speeding checks in the area and report back the findings. If speeding is found to be an issue then this will be passed over to Highways who will monitor it further.

What the neighbourhood team have been doing

I have been out and about patrolling the area and meeting up with you. I gave a cybercrime and prevention talk to the Wootton and Dry Sandford Lunch Club on the 9th April which was well received. If you are a group and would like a chat from the team please let me know!

Spring into action and secure your home!

Help us to keep crime down this spring by making it harder for criminals by following our crime reduction advice:

- Cut back your shrubs and hedges to aid visibility.
- Secure access to your garden, maintain your gates & fences.
- Consider a time switch for your radio and lights.
- Service/maintain your burglar alarm.
- Keep gardening tools and ladders locked away.
- Ensure sheds and garages are fully secured.
- Consider joining Neighbourhood Watch – Please contact us using the email at the bottom of the page if this is something you would be interested in.
- Please report any suspicious people or vehicles by calling 101 (999 if a crime is in progress).

Contact us If you are on Twitter please follow us for daily updates from the South and Vale Policing Teams @tvpsouthandvale.

We will also have a stand at the **Abingdon Air Show on 6th May**. We will have the **Police Cadets** with us, if you have any questions about joining the cadets you can ask them.

If you want any advice or would like to contact the neighbourhood team you can call us on the police non-emergency number 101 or if it is an emergency then dial 999. You can also contact us via email AbingdonOuterNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk. Please note this email address cannot be used to contact Thames Valley Police to report crimes or for any urgent matters. To view information on your neighbourhood team visit the Thames Valley Police website at: www.thamesvalley.police.uk. Receive free local crime alerts and crime prevention advice by registering at www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk today. This allows anyone who signs up to choose what updates they receive and how they would like to receive it.

IS IT HIDING IN PLAIN SIGHT?

Ever wondered where colour goes in winter or where it comes from in spring? Is it hiding away or staring at us in plain sight? Maybe it actually does disappear at some times of the year?



A philosophical start to another article but something I've been thinking about recently as we emerge from the long, cold, dark days of winter to the long, warm, bright days of spring.

The colour palette may seem less varied, obvious or in your face in winter but there is still plenty out there. On a windy winter day, the bramble patch varies from shades of green to bronze as the breeze passes through. The underside of the leaves flash silver if you care to look and see. Now the colour is appearing in the spring distance like an old friend appearing off a steam train and walking towards us in the mist on the railway platform.

Stop for a moment and question.

Where has the colour been for so long? What is colour?

What processes are in place to make the colours we actually see?

Do we all see colour in the same way at the same time?

These reflections have led me to realise that no matter how familiar we get with our own wildlife gardens, some mysteries and surprises always remain. Like during a walk in the woods or an African safari, we have no idea what wonders Mother Nature will present to us around the next corner or on our own doorstep.

So your challenge today is to take a philosophical walk around your own garden and see what you find.

Happy Gardening.

Stuart Mabbutt, Wildlife Gardening Specialist

01865 747243 www.wildmaninspires.co.uk

MADNews has sponsored Stuart to make 10 radio show podcasts in 10 days and you can listen to all the programmes via the link on www.madnews.co.uk or Stuart's Patreon page www.patreon.com/stuartmabbutt

SUNNINGWELL & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB

Jonathan Ford will talk about Garden Design

Thursday 10th May at 7.30pm in Sunningwell Village Hall

New and Non Members welcome.

Entrance fee: Members £2 Non members £3 www.sdgc.org.uk



The Marcham Society

**MARCHAM SOCIETY TALK
10TH APRIL 2018**

On 10 April, the Marcham Society heard an interesting talk on the architecture of the Radcliffe Camera by Geoffrey Tyack, who explained that "camera" is the Latin word for "room".

John Radcliffe was a very successful 18th century doctor, with royalty on his patient list. He left his large fortune to Oxford University, stipulating that a new building be provided to encourage the study of medicine, which was not a popular choice then. Nicholas Hawksmoor provided the initial design for the Radcliffe Camera, but died before building commenced. The project was taken over by James Gibbs, an architect who had trained in Italy. The result was a less heavy design, with alternating niches and windows on the first floor. Inside, there is vaulting over each ground-floor window and a beautiful iron-work staircase. It is built of Burford and Headington stone and was completed in 1747.

Unfortunately, there was little increase in the number of medical students, so the building was taken over by the Bodleian Library. Such as John Radcliffe's generosity, there was enough money left over from the project to build the Radcliffe Infirmary and the Observatory. JF

Wantage & Grove Lions are holding a grand plant sale plus secondhand garden pots & other garden things on

Saturday May 5th 10am-1.30 pm
at East Hanney British Legion Hall
Refreshments too!

Get your summer plants here *hope to see you there*



Plant Sale and Mini Fête

Saturday May 12th 2018
10am to 1pm

Lower Lodge Riding Centre, Charney Road,
Southmoor OX13 5HW

Refreshments, Raffle, Tombola etc.

In aid of the Riding for the Disabled Association,
Abingdon Group

HOLIDAYS, FOOD & THINGS TO DO

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Contact: Mrs Sigrid Grawert

Abingdon Road
Marcham
Abingdon, Oxfordshire
OX13 6NU

Tel 01865 391298
Fax 01865 391173
enquiries@bnb-rafters.co.uk
www.bnb-rafters.co.uk

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Frilford Heath

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Best in our field



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www.milletsfarmcentre.com

Sunday 13th May 2018
Classic Oxfordshire Bike Ride
Ride for Research in our 25th year!

There is still time to sign up!

Website: www.bike-events.co.uk

Location: Harwell, Oxfordshire

Contact the Team: Richard & James

events@againstbreastcancer.org.uk / 01235 858282



Mix 96 Tour de Vale Charity Bike Ride

The Tour de Vale Bike Ride is WheelPower's largest annual fundraising event and is taking place on Sunday 10 June starting and finishing at Stoke Mandeville Stadium. We have two new routes of 60k and 100k which both pass through some of the most scenic villages in Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire with some challenging climbs along the way. And as ever we have our classic family friendly 25k route.

Funds raised will help disabled children and adults take part in sport at Stoke Mandeville Stadium, the birthplace of the Paralympic movement.

Enter online and promote the ride by downloading the poster from our website:

www.wheelpower.org.uk/events/mix96-tour-de-vale-bike-ride



We are a friendly group who meet for lacemaking and the practice of other needlecrafts

e.g. crochet, knitting, cross-stitch, beading.
We welcome the beginner as well as more experienced practitioners.

We meet on the 3rd Tuesday of the month between 9.30 and 15.30 at Preston Road Community Centre Preston Road, Abingdon, OX14 5NR
On site parking is available.

Please see our website for more details
www.abbeymeadowlacemakers.co.uk

or for further information email:
chairman@abbeymeadowlacemakers.co.uk

ST NICOLAS CHURCH SALE

Try our weekly sale of fresh seasonal produce, baked goods, garden plants, preserves and handicrafts at St Nicolas Church, Abingdon on Friday mornings from 11.00am to 1.00pm – in the church yard weather permitting, otherwise in the church. The production team is a diverse group mainly based in Abingdon. A share of the proceeds goes to the church. Contact Geoffrey Currey for further details on geoffrey@tgcurrey.plus.com

ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

www.marcham-with-garford.org.uk

Dear Friends,

At last we can celebrate some warm sunshine, blue skies, and fresh early summer breezes!! It is such a relief to emerge from the cold and wet of the early spring!

May is a celebration month in other ways this year, as it heralds the Royal wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan, as well as three significant events in the Christian calendar: the Ascension, plus Pentecost and Trinity Sundays.

The Royal wedding: Saturday 19th – which is also **Cup Final** day! We are planning to show the wedding on the big screen in All Saints', and the church will be open to the whole community to come and enjoy the celebration! Bring a packed lunch and enjoy the occasion!

Then the three significant Christian celebration of the Ascension, Pentecost and Trinity,: Thursday 10th, and Sundays 20th and 27th May respectively.

- **The Ascension of Christ** celebrates the moment when Jesus was lifted up to heaven, returning home after the resurrection. There will be an Ascension Day service of Holy Communion in All Saints' at 7.30pm on Thursday 10th May, to which you are warmly invited.
- **Pentecost** is the wonderful celebration of the coming of the Holy Spirit, sent by God following the Ascension, and in fulfilment of His promise to the first disciples; and
- **Trinity Sunday** celebrates the Being of God, revealed as God the Father, Jesus [God the Son], and the Holy Spirit – three persons in the family of the Godhead, but essentially One.

So May is truly a month of celebration, whether from a Christian perspective or as members of our wider community – from Royal family to football supporter.

Further details of the Royal wedding viewing can be found elsewhere in MADnews. Do come along and enjoy the occasion. And whether you have come to a Sunday service before or not, you are warmly invited to the Jesus-centred celebrations in All Saints' throughout this month!

With my warmest greetings for a wonderful May!

Richard



Wednesdays, 12pm at the Baptist Hall (term-time only). All welcome.

Regular Sunday services at 10am & 6pm

Men's Breakfast, Saturday 5th May, 8.30am at the Baptist Hall

Men's Night, Monday 7th May, 8pm at the Crown

Youth Drop-in from 3.30pm on Wednesdays

Ascension Day HC, Thursday 10th May, 7.30pm

A Royal Family Friday, 18th May, 5.30pm at All Saints' Church.

The Royal Wedding on the Big Screen at All Saints' Church, Saturday 19th May - Look out for more details soon.

Changing Room (Women's Breakfast), Saturday 19th May, 8.30am at the Baptist Hall.

St. Luke's: Pentecost Celebration, Sunday 20th May, 10.30am

Contacts:

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vicar@allsaintsmarcham.org

Jill Rowe Children's and families Minister 390885
families@allsaintsmarcham.org

Rob Finch Youth Worker 07888331708,
rob@marchamyouth.org

Rachel Gaisford Older person's worker 391432

Tamsin Gilbert Parish Administrator 391319
info@allsaintsmarcham.org



1968 – 2018

You are invited to our 50th Birthday celebrations

On Sunday 13th May 2018

11am – 3pm

To include all residents, friends and neighbours of the village,
who have been part of the pre-school history.

Join us for our free event at Marcham Pre-school and enjoy....

Bring your own picnic and join our 'mad hatter's tea-party'. Anyone wishing to make a decorated hat can enter our competition - there will be a prize for the best hat from each decade! (adults and children!)

Magic Peter Entertainment throughout the event
Tea and cakes available

Fancy Dress Hat Competition Contribute to our family crafts area
Beer Tent Meet the Llamas Egg Throwing Water Stocks
Free side shows & activities Decorate Gingerbread People
Sports activities

Explore the history of pre-school (bring along any photos)
Showcase of our "50 things for 50 years" sponsored events!
Collect the letters from our posters around the village and collect a prize
LOTS FOR ALL THE FAMILY! ALL AGES WELCOME!

Win a prize with our '100 square' competition and/or furthest
traveller in our 'balloon release' - £1 to enter.

Any profits/donations taken on the day will go to Breast Cancer
Research in memory of Louisa Borg.

For more information: please ring 01865 392101 or
email marchampreschool50years@hotmail.com