

Marcham & District News

COTHILL – FRILFORD – GARFORD – GOZZARDS FORD – MARCHAM – TUBNEY

Your Independent Local Newsheet – www.madnews.co.uk

June 2011 Vol: 33 No: 6

READ & RECYCLE!

FREE



▲ Marcham Parishioner of the Year, Jill Rowe see pages 5 and 13



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▲ A Right Royal Tea Party see page 7 ▲



Have you got it?
Holiday Club
2011
see
All Saint's Page



▲ Lest We Forget see page 5

▲ When the circus came to school see page 13 ▲

DIARY FOR JUNE

1 Wed	Open Garden, 62 North Street, 10.00 – 14.00	7
4 Sat	Garford Cream Teas, Village Hall, 15.50-17.00	3
5 Sun	Deadline for registration for Garage & Garden Sale	7
8 Wed	Marcham Parish Council Meeting, Duffield Place, 19.30	3
9 Thur	Midweek Walk: The Greyhound Inn Letcombe Regis 12.30 lunch / 13.30 walk from Play Ground, Letcombe Bassett	9
10 Fri	MP's Surgery, Wallingford, 17.30 – 19.00	9
10 Fri	Quiz Night, Hanney Memorial Hall, 19.30	11
12 Sun	Great Garage & Garden Sale 14.00 – 17.00	7
12 Sun	Open Gardens, Steventon, 14.00 – 18.00	9
16 Thur	Marcham WI, Denman College, 19.30	9
17 Fri	MP's Surgery, Grove, 17.30 – 19.00	9
18 Sat	MSSSC BBQ & Disco, 18.30	9
18 Sat	Abingdon European Society, St Helen's Church Centre, 19.15,	15

20 Mon	Have Your Say, Wootton Community Centre, 12.00 – 13.00	9
20 Mon	Deadline for July / Aug issue of MADNews, 17.00	
26 Sun	Have Your Say, Duffield Place, 18.00 – 20.00	9
JULY		
1 Fri	MP's Surgery, Didcot, 17.30 – 19.00	9
7 Thur	MCG Open Meeting, All Saints', 19.30	7
8 Fri	Tea Dance, Civic Hall, Wantage, 14.00-16.30	15
12 Tue	MCG Open Meeting, MSSSC, 14.00	7
24 Sun	Open Day at The Dig, 10.00 – 16.00	11

HOLIDAY WASTE COLLECTIONS

Please ensure your rubbish bags aren't left vulnerable to animal and/or bird attack.

Normal day	Revised day	Which bin?
Tuesday 31 May	Wednesday 1 June	Grey
Wednesday 1 June	Thursday 2 June	Grey
Thursday 2 June	Friday 3 June	Grey
Friday 3 June	Saturday 4 June	Grey

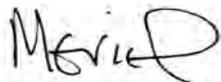
Details of events may change after publication, please check with the relevant organisers before attending events.

Dear Readers

Things are stirring in the undergrowth! The gnomes are contemplating their futures and taking a stand, what next... flowering cherries voting for independence and herons forming coalitions with goldfish?

May you live in interesting times ... but at least there's something yummy still for tea, in Garford Village Hall at least!

Until next time



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ADVERTISING

Contact the Editor

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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.

NOTES

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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For other councillors go to

www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk

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June 2011

MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

First Meeting of new Council

At the first meeting of the Council held on 11th May, Mr David Walton was elected Chairman for the forthcoming year and Miss Ruth Mander as Vice-Chairman. Mr William Cumber will represent the parish on the Hills Aggregates Liaison Committee. This Committee acts as a forum for discussion on the operation of the gravel and sand extraction sites at the northern end of the parish. Mr Walton will be the parish transport representative as meetings with the county council on public transport issues. Various other appointments were made to internal working parties and to other outside bodies. .

Best Kept Garden Competition

As a reminder the Council is organising a best kept garden competition this year. Judging for this year's competition will take place during the early part of June. This will be front gardens only. Final round judging will take place during July.

Vacancies on the Parish Council

Last month 3 vacancies were advertised, one immediate application was lodged which was able to be considered at the May meeting and some subsequent enquiries have been received. The Council was pleased to co-opt Mrs. Jennifer Allan to the Council. These leaves 2 seats still vacant on the Parish Council. If anyone is interested in filling one of the vacant seats and joining the other members in helping improve community well-being, then please contact the Clerk as soon as possible.

New roadside safety barrier – A415

Last month's MADNews brought a mention of children playing in certain roads around the village. It has been noticed too, that some youngsters are rushing from the public footpaths alongside the Anson field and out at the steps next to the Baptist Church and virtually straight into the A415. It has been suggested that a roadside pedestrian guardrail could be installed opposite the steps, to help stop children running into the road and to prevent potentially very serious injury. Should anyone have any views on this, then please contact the clerk. The Parish Council would like to know what you think before it makes a decision.

Review off Subsidised bus services

Oxfordshire County Council will be reviewing the level of its subsidy which supports the non-commercial bus services. Those services in Marcham which could be affected are alternate evening buses Monday to Thursdays and the Sunday evening service. The Parish Council would not wish to see any reduction in the service available and is doing what it can to make sure the timetable is not cut.

A34/A415 junction – slip roads

The Council's attention has been brought to the danger for cyclists when crossing the slip roads to go under the A34 at the Marcham Interchange. Visibility is poor on the Eastern side and it is not easy to continue cycling

through the offset barriers. The concerns have been brought to the attention of the County Council to see if any improvements could be carried out.

Did you receive your postal vote in the recent elections?

Returning officer, David Buckle, has commissioned an independent review of the way in which the recent local elections and AV referendum were conducted. Part of the review will examine the apparent higher than usual non-delivery of postal votes. Contact has already been made with Royal Mail who say that they need specific details of non-delivery in order to carry out a meaningful investigation.

If you were registered for a postal vote in the recent elections that didn't arrive or arrived after polling day we would like to hear from you.

Please email us at postalvotes@southandvale.gov.uk or write to:

David Buckle, Returning Officer,
South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils, Benson Lane,
Crowmarsh Gifford, Wallingford OX10 8ED

Date of Next Council Meeting:

Wednesday 8 June 2011 at 7.30pm. in the residents' lounge, Duffield Place. This will be the first meeting of the new Council

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

www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Colin Gentles
of 23 Duffield Place
died in London after a short illness.
He will be much missed
by all who knew him.

He was a great friend to Marcham

FOR SALE

Cycle Tyre 27" x 1 1/4" (32 630)
Virtually new, good quality
"World Tour" £3

Metal basket, front fixing, good cond £2
Saddle, white (ladies) padded £1
Extending decorating pole for roller £1
2 Glass microwave base plates 31.5cm
Call 391592



Dear Editor

Just two weeks ago we were faced with the very real probability that our daughter would not be attending Marcham C of E Primary School despite living within the village, and attending the attached Pre-school. We have spent the last 4 years building a life for our family and very much feel part of the community in Marcham. So to find that only 20 places were available for school this year and Milly came in at number 21 was very difficult.

Some might shrug their shoulders and say 'so what' but we really believe that being forced to attend a school in a different village would have effectively ostracised Milly from the village community in which she lives - friendships she has made at the Pre-school would wither, and her new school friends would all live miles away.

How prophetic then we read the letter of Mr Harrow in the last (May) edition of MAD news, concerning the demands on our school with the possible development of the Anson Field when it already cannot cope with the number of children in the village now? Since 2008, several properties have been built within Marcham, but apparently for individual small developments of just a few houses the planning authorities do not have to look at the impact on the social infrastructure such as schools.

As it happens we have been very lucky – the County Council had inadvertently used the wrong route to calculate our distance from the school and Milly has now been offered a place at Marcham, but other children from the village and catchment area have not been so lucky.

We have been overwhelmed by the response from our friends and community and would like to thank everyone for their love and support. However, we still feel the plight of the other families who did not get in this year should be brought to everyone's attention, and would like to highlight the fact that this issue will not go away in the coming years unless there is further investment and expansion of the school to accommodate the growing numbers of children in the area.

COLIN AND DEBS FANE

Dear MADNews Readers

As part of our promise is to help other people, we would like to invite you to a Brownie meeting.

No matter what your job is, big or small, we would like you to come and talk about your job which helps other people. If you can spare a few minutes to give a brief description of your job, we would like to meet you. Hopefully this will give us some idea of what we can do when we get older. We meet on a Wednesday from 5.30 – 7.00pm at Marcham Baptist Hall.

If you can help, please contact our Guider Ivy (Claire Wright) on 01865 391443 after 7pm please.

Thank you very much

Jill Rowe - Marcham Parishioner of the Year 2011

Much of Jill's working life has been closely involved with animals, but young people have always been a priority for her. She started helping with 1st Marcham Guides in 1985, and since 1995 she has been the Unit Guider, in charge of weekly meetings and camps. There will be so many girls who will be indebted to her for the time she has given, to enable them to succeed and to reach their full potential.

The hospitality offered to so many from her home, coupled with numerous village BBQs, has always been a joint effort with Neil, and she is the first to acknowledge his whole-hearted support. Jill, Neil, Emma, Jos and Becca make a great family team. Jill's energy is constant and selfless, and her imagination and creativity never ending, whether she is taking school assemblies, or running clubs in the village and the church, where she is Youth and Children's Minister. Her caring gifts, supported by her Christian faith extend to families and individuals of all ages, wherever there is a need. Nothing seems to be too much trouble for Jill.

Dear Editor
 I am disgusted that after numerous mentions in the MADNews, people are **STILL NOT CLEARING UP AFTER THEIR DOGS**, on the sports and social field. I feel it's about time dogs were banned from being exercised in this area, due to **INCOMPETENT OWNERS**. They seem to think that because it's around the edge it doesn't matter. Well **THINK AGAIN** because **IT DOES**. **DISGUSTED OF MARCHAM**

GARFORD & FRILFORD WAR MEMORIAL

On the 1st and 3rd of August 2014 the Nation will commemorate the centenary of the German declarations of war on both Russia and France and its army's subsequent march into "Gallant Little Belgium", marking the start of, what then became known as, "The Great War" and "The War To End All Wars". This, the first ever Mechanised and "Total" war, is now known more unassumingly as "The First World War". The loss of life, ultimately measured in millions, was hitherto unprecedented and was brought about largely by the ability of the opposing entrenched armies to literally mow each other down by the tens of thousands with the, then novel, machine gun, a recently developed weapon that had been demonstrated by its inventor, Sir Hiram Maxim, by the felling of rows of trees at a range of a mile or more.

Great Britain lost three quarters of a million of its young men, France losing double that figure. Nations, shocked and devastated by this loss, erected tens of thousands of memorials to their dead. Almost every City, Town, Village and Hamlet across Great Britain and France has its own memorial, each bearing a staggering number of names when compared to its population. Garford and Frilford, then two tiny farming communities, sent fifty young men, of whom ten were killed in action. The two villages' minute population, and the fact that agriculture was an occupation protected against conscription, illustrates the enormity of the sacrifice that was made right across Britain, Europe and other parts of the World. By comparison, two Garford men were killed in action during the Second World War. Garford and Frilford's war memorial, erected in Garford after the Armistice of

November 1918, had begun to show signs of dilapidation by the early 1990s and by 2010 many of the names were illegible, as was the pledge "*Lest We Forget*". A plan to restore the Garford Wayside Memorial was conceived early in 2010 by Garford resident, the late John Docherty. Sadly, John passed away in June 2010 but his plan was picked up and progressed by the Garford Parish Action Plan Steering Group, led by its Chairman, Rob Treadgold.

An appeal to the village was kindly organised and managed by Sophie Charter and Audrey Barber, which raised over £1700 in individual donations. A 'Garford Come Dancing' event, kindly organised by Denise Brown and Jackie Meadows, and also the carol singing last December, raised a further £1000 towards the appeal. Quotes were obtained from local craftsmen and building restoration companies and work began in January this year, co-ordinated by Ed Kershaw.

Tony Carter had managed to identify from records names that had become illegible through dilapidation of the stone tablets and these were provided to Abingdon Stone and Marble, who carved and supplied the new stones. Structural work, brickwork, finishing and final cleaning was carried out by Reynolds and Hirons of Brize Norton. The Garford Wayside Memorial has now been fully restored and retains all of its original character and heritage. This is a major step in the improvement of the village as a whole and will also help to ensure that the pledge "*Lest We Forget*" is maintained for another hundred years. Tribute continues to be paid to the local men who served and lost their lives and the memorial will stand in all its former glory during the centenary commemorations in August 2014.

EWK 12TH MAY 2011

Marcham Community Group

The community working together
to build and maintain meeting and leisure facilities
for everyone in and around Marcham

www.marcham.org

mail@marcham.org

**LOGO
SOON**
Competition entries
being short-listed
see www.marcham.org for details

15 th May TOTALS TO DATE	Membership	Donations	Local events	Bank balance	5p coins
	189	£1238	£1062	£2087	1052



THE SUN SHONE for the three or four hundred people who came to the **Royal Wedding Tea Party**. It was a real family and community afternoon with a bouncy castle, games and ice cream for the children and a relaxing time sitting in the sun, chatting and drinking tea for their elders.

MCG funds have profited by at least £650 (the final total



will be higher) and a number of people took advantage of the presence of the Treasurer and joined MCG.

MCG is grateful to the many members and supporters who baked cakes and scones and helped on the day to make it such a success. Everything on the Anson Field was cleared up by 7.30 pm, and all the posters and signs around the village were removed.

Great Garage and Garden Sale Sunday 12th June 2.00—5.00 pm

**SHOW YOUR SUPPORT
JOIN MCG**

Why are we asking you to join?
Isn't knowing that you support what we are trying to do enough?

Of course it's nice to know that there is a lot of support in the community but it won't help in applying for grants unless we can measure it, and membership is one very important way of measuring support. We'll need grants for the next important stage—getting architectural advice and advice on preparing applications for major capital grants.

So please, if you haven't joined yet, download a membership form from www.marcham.org, collect one from the MCG display at the Post Office or at any MCG event, or ask for one by phoning 391193 (Suzanne).

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

COFFEE MORNING/OPEN GARDEN

Christine Whild invites you to sit and enjoy a coffee and smell the flowers in her beautiful garden.

62 North Street

Wednesday, 1st June from 10 am to 12 noon

Free admission

All donations will go to Marcham Community Group

Register by 5th June – only a few days left. Fee £5.00

**JOIN IN THE GREAT GARAGE AND GARDEN SALE
throughout the village on Sunday 12th June 2.00 – 5.00 pm**

INCLUDES Arts, Crafts, Cakes, Unwanted Valuables, Toys, Games, Plants, Tools and Equipment, Bicycles, Garden Furniture, Gnomes

Your address will be on the sales list and map. To register phone 391439 (Sheila) or email sheila.dunford@btinternet.com

Donations from sales proceeds welcome.

**Maps & sale lists available free at Marcham PO
from 1.45 pm on day of sale**

NEXT REPORTING BACK MEETING: THURSDAY 7th JULY 7.30 pm ALL SAINTS' CHURCH & TUESDAY 12th JULY 2.00 pm MSSSC

TO CONTACT MCG email mail@marcham.org or phone 391193 (Suzanne), 391727 (Jim) or 391507 (Jessica)

Marcham Community Group, Company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales number 7470307

MCG thanks Marcham Parish Council and the Harding Trust for start-up grants.



Marcham WI June 2011

Our speaker at the May meeting was Victoria North, a local podiatrist. She gave an excellent and informative talk on foot care, sometimes illustrated with graphic pictures of what can go wrong with our feet if we neglect certain issues.

The resolutions on library closures and the proposed "mega-farms" were discussed and our delegate was instructed as to how she should vote at the forthcoming National meeting of WIs at Liverpool this month.

Future Events

- June 21st A visit to hidden London and Regent's Canal
- July 6th Caribbean Evening at Little Milton Village Hall.
- July 12th A day out to Ledbury, plus a stately home called "Hellens".

NEXT MEETING

7.30 pm Thursday 16 June 2011

China Restoration

Michale Coppack

Bring a favourite (whole!) piece of china to show

Visitors welcome - £3 contribution - or why not joins us?

Contacts for: Sonia Edwards 01865 391442
more information Christine Whild 01865 391270

**THE W.I. ARE MUCH MUCH MORE THAN
TEAS AND CAKES, COME AND SEE!**

SENIOR CITIZENS

At our April meeting we had quite a full house, nice to see so many there. Three new members were made welcome. I hope they enjoy the meetings.

We had an entertainer for the afternoon, he called himself The Organ Grinder. He had 3 small organs he had made himself and turned the wheel to make them play. He soon had us singing and our feet tapping and in between the music he told a few funny stories and jokes. Joy was the one he chose to turn the wheel for him and get a signed certificate for her efforts. Well done Joy!. Our usual refreshments followed and the afternoon ended with a large raffle.

JOYCE PARRY

MSSSC: Marcham Sports, Scouts & Social Club

The pavilion & field off Morland Road

Please remember there is a sports fixture almost every Saturday afternoon & you are welcome to join us after the game for a drink.

We are open every Friday night from 8pm, Families welcome
Note the last Friday in the month is always a real ale, adults only night.

Saturday 18th June – BBQ and Family Disco Night

The Cricket team are serving BBQ food from 6.30pm and there will be a family disco in the hall from 7pm
Entry is free, children must be accompanied
For more info contact Geoff Dix, secretary on 391577 or geoff.dix@hotmail.com

We look forward to seeing you at the club

SUNSHINE CLUB

Here we are again and hoping now to plan some outings for the summer. We would like to see some new faces as we are getting low in numbers. We meet Monday afternoons 2-4 o'clock for Bingo, tea and biscuits. For any information you can phone me on 391536.

MO TIDBURY, CHAIRLADY

June 2011

Have your say...police surgery

- Monday, 20 June 2011 1200-1300
Police Office, Wootton Community Centre
- Sunday 26th June 1800-2000
Duffield Place, Marcham

PCSO Carly Milward C6157

Abingdon Outer Neighbourhood Team

NAG7 Marcham, Wootton, Shippon and Boars Hill

Non-emergency number: 0845 8 505 505

MARCHAM SOCIETY MIDWEEK WALK

Thursday, 9th June 2011.

This month we plan another Ridgeway walk. We will eat at **The Lamb Inn (Map Ref SU 396880) in Wantage** at 12.30pm for lunch, but will start our walk of just over 4 miles at 1.30 from the Play Ground in Letcombe Bassett (SP370851), using new permissive paths on the flowery chalk grasslands of the Devil's Punchbowl. Members free, non-members £1. Ring Eric Dunford on 391439 for lifts and details.

GARD UPDATE

After a lull in proceedings the Environment Agency has now given advice to Defra on how to direct Thames Water to change their Water Resources Plan, which was found to be "Not fit for Purpose and Not Compliant" following the Public Inquiry.

The 100Mm³ Abingdon reservoir was ruled out, but a half size one allowed as an option. We have been monitoring the advice given by the Environment Agency and trying to influence it to ensure that all options are properly considered and researched.

As Thames Water have lost over a year by their own failure to produce an acceptable plan, they have been given the minimum work to do to make the current plan acceptable so that they can legally start to implement it. The major changes to preferred options will have to come in the next plan in 2014 covering the period to 2040. Meanwhile GARD will have to ensure that the necessary work is done properly, which is not easy since Thames Water commissions and pays specialist consultants to do the research and to come up with the answers (the dangers are obvious!).

GARD has already met with the Environment Agency team twice recently and made a little progress, but officials do not like to admit they do not have all the answers.

It has been a long battle and only a battle. The war continues and we hope the cheaper Severn – Thames water transfer options will be properly and independently researched. The present shortage of rain will naturally be used to the maximum advantage by Thames Water. I will report when there is news.

NICK THOMPSON, HON CHAIRMAN GARD

MP'S SURGERY WITH ED VAIZEY

5.30-7.00pm, unless stated otherwise

June 10	Wallingford , Town Hall, OX10 0AD
June 17	Grove , Old Mill Hall, OX12 7LB
July 1	Didcot , King Alfred Drive Community Centre, OX11 7NU
E-mail	vaizeye@parliament.uk
Web	www.vaizey.com
Tel	0207 219 6350

Steventon Open Gardens – Sunday 12 June 2011

In aid of charity (£5 - U12 years free)

Gardens open between 2-6pm

Teas in Village Hall Plants for sale

Performances by the Icknield Way Morris Men

Best-dressed scarecrow competition

DEMENTIA INFORMATION LINE AND WEBSITE

Oxfordshire now has it's own Dementia Information Service. The telephone service is 01993 700061 and is available from 9 am to 5 pm, Monday to Friday (answerphone at other times). The website is www.dementiaweboxfordshire.org.uk/

MARCHAM/FRILFORD DIG NEWS 2011

This July will be the eleventh and LAST season for the dig in Trendles field on Manor Farm, Marcham. You can reach it on foot from Marcham village via public and Jubilee footpaths – the site is just off the A338 before it crosses the Ock on the road to Wantage, off the footpath that leads to and from the former Noah's Ark pub. Lots of you will have already visited the site where the University of Oxford is digging a Romano-British site, but we find out more each year about this mysterious major religious centre so it's worth a return visit. It's a remarkable site of national importance – don't miss the last chance of seeing the history that's on your doorstep. After 2011 the archaeologists will start in earnest on post-excavation work, so that they can assess and explain the site and publish their findings.

This year as before the public are welcome to visit (archaeologists are at work every day except Saturdays for the 4 weeks from Sunday 3 July) – but the best day to visit will be THE OPEN DAY (part of National Archaeology fortnight) SUNDAY 24 JULY – 10-4 - when there will be guided tours and other attractions. Parking is available and we do ask for a small donation towards our expenses.

Many schools, societies and groups arrange to make separate day time or evening visits – please let me know if you are interested. You can read about the excavation in back issues of the Coral Rag – on sale at Cumbers Farm Shop. You can find out more on http://www.arch.ox.ac.uk/research/research_projects/marcham

The 'People's Trench' will be operative in 2011 for the three weeks from Sunday 10 July - to give hands-on archaeological training and experience to local people - six days a week (Saturday is a rest day) – for the duration of the dig. We will welcome new volunteers – you don't need any special skills or strength: you will receive some basic training and be fully supervised at no cost to yourself! You can do as little as a day or two. Please note that children must be accompanied.



'Pot washing' is on offer as well on some days – they will be advertised in the next MADNews. Those who do not want to dig all day can sit down and 'pot wash'. If you or someone you know might enjoy getting their hands on finds which have not seen the light of day for a couple of thousand years please let me know.

For booking in and further information please contact Janey Cumber on 01865-391327/391840 or by email janey.cumber@tiscali.co.uk. If you have already put your name down I will be in touch with you during June.

JANEY CUMBER

MARCHAM PLAYERS

Any enquiries regarding membership of the Marcham Players can be answered by phoning either Joey Maclean on 01865 391242 or Dave Hutchinson on 01865 391964 www.marchamplayers.co.uk



Marcham and District Ex-Servicemen's Club

At the AGM held on April 26th attended by 32 members and 2 officers, thanks were given to all the members of the Committee who have run the Club for many years and are not standing for re-election.

A new Committee of ten was elected which includes two new members, four members of the outgoing Committee and a returning member of previous Club Committees, plus three new officers. This is good news for the Club which is able to continue to open.

Club is open at about 8.30 pm Tues, Wed, Fri, Sat and Sun

Membership available. Visitors Welcome

Contact a member in the club to be signed in.

June 2011

MARCHAM CRICKET CLUB

The Marcham Cricket Club OCA Fixtures for June are as follows: **The Club will be pleased to welcome new players or umpires.** Please contact Trevor Hill (391321) for information relating to Marcham CC. **CSB**



June	1st XI	2nd XI
4	Minster Lovell Home 2nd Round Airey Cup	No fixture
11	East Oxford Away	Eynsham 2nd XI Home
18	Shrivenham Home	Sunningwell Away
25	Tetsworth Away	Combe 2nd XI Home

A Cautionary Fairy Tale by Jay

Ivor Grudge, the garden gnome, sat forlornly on his stone toadstool. He'd just heard how local folk would be putting their gnomes up for sale any day now in support of the new-fangled MGC, or whatever it was called. Poor Ivor! Fearing (as well he might) for the future quality of his life if he failed to join the GCM himself, Ivor forked out a fiver immediately to get the CMG off his back until next summer. To his great surprise, he suddenly felt a whole lot safer and happier. He was amongst friends from gardens all around the village who had joined the CGM as well. Ivor knew he had got it right at last when he joined the MCG. He shaved off his beard, put on a flowery frock and changed his name to Ida Grudge.

**MARCHAM SCHOOL SUMMER FETE
SATURDAY 2ND JULY 2-4PM**

CREAM TEAS, BBQ, BEER TENT

STALLS, GAMES, FACE AND NAIL PAINTING

TOMBOLA AND RAFFLE

ALL WELCOME – WHATEVER THE WEATHER!

MAY CROSSWORD ANSWERS BY ALISA

ACROSS: 3 Eggs 6 Poor 8 Kew 10 Haiti 11 Use 12 Nightingale 15 Community Shop 19 Velvet glove 21 Nod 22 Overs 24 Lah 25 Newt 26 Each

DOWN 1 Open 2 Doh 4 Goulash 5 Sue 7 Radium 8 Kirtlington 9 Witney 13 Espy 14 Scavenge 16 Melodic 17 Useful 18 Severn 20 Kite 23 Set

The BBQ season is already looming.

If your own BBQ just isn't big enough for those family/friends gatherings then we have 3 rustic, authentic oil drum BBQs that will do the job. Donations for the village minibus on booking. Call Charles or Rachel on 391432.



**Quiz Night Friday 10 June
8pm - 10pm Doors open 7.30pm
Hanney War Memorial Hall
Teams of 3/5 £3 entry each
Hot / Cold Food Raffle
Call 01235 868527**

SCHOOL NEWS

Roll up! Roll Up! The circus is in town!

For two days Marcham C of E Primary School was transformed into a big top. Acrobats big and small balanced precariously on stilts, tightropes, mini bikes and wobble boards. Diablos, flower sticks, feathers and scarves were flung high into the air and caught with ease and grace. To continue the air of celebration surrounding the royal wedding the school played host to a circus skills workshop. The children were entertained and then trained by a professional circus skills instructor (what a great job!). During the two day workshop staff and children were taught how to ride a unicycle, juggle with scarves, walk along a tightrope, throw and catch a ball in a cup. The children all found the experience enjoyable and still talk about it with great enthusiasm.

Jess (11) I liked it all. I was best at the tightrope I went all the way along.

Daniel (5) the tightrope was scary then I liked it.

Flynn (11) I found the circus skill really exciting because it was different and something I had never done before.

Hannah (5) I liked the small bikes they're very tricky to go on.

Joe (8) I liked the mini-bikes, sometimes when I got on it I did a wheelie and fell on my back it was fun.

Mrs Ferryman (21) I liked the plate spinning because I couldn't do at first and then I learned how.

Mrs Quinn (21 too) I was quite good at balancing the peacock feather on my hand.

Kat Lamb

We are very sad to inform you that we will be losing Kat Lamb as a member of staff at Marcham School. She worked here for some 10 years and made an enormous contribution to the school and completely revolutionised the work in Early Years – for which she was well known; teachers from other schools were often to be found in her class, observing her good practice. Many of you will have known her lively and passionate approach to education and she will be genuinely missed by both the staff and the pupils. She will be spending more time with her young family and we wish her, and her family, all the very best for the future.

Message from Kat:

You will all have heard that after ten wonderful years at Marcham School I am now taking some time out to concentrate on my two boys. I cannot leave without expressing my thanks to you all - Staff, Teachers, Governors, Parents and especially the amazing children I have had the opportunity to work with over the years. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at Marcham School and take away with me so many cherished memories. I send my best wishes to you all, with a particular thank you to Viv for her understanding and support. **KAT LAMB** x

Many of you may have heard about the continuing difficulty the school is experiencing in providing places for all the children of Marcham. We have been oversubscribed for places in the Foundation Stage (Reception) for September 2011. However, I would like to stress that decisions about the allocation of places are not made by the school and is not within the jurisdiction of the staff or the governors. All such decisions are made at County level.

In the past, applications for places at school were delivered directly to the school and so the school had a strong indication of numbers. However, applications are now made to the Education Department of the County Council, often electronically, and so this makes it difficult for the school to make projections about admission numbers. What would be really helpful to the school – so that we don't find ourselves in this predicament again - would be to know how many children intend to apply. Therefore, we are encouraging any parents in the village who wish for their children to attend Marcham School over the next 4 years to contact the school directly, so that we, as a school, can appeal to County as we look strategically at the provision of education for the children of Marcham village and the catchment of Marcham School.

VIV HUTCHINSON

WALK THE WALK

On 14th May Ceri Hopgood, Helen Richardson, Teresa Sumner and myself joined 17,000 walkers to walk 26.2 miles through the streets of London for breast cancer charities. We finished in a respectable 5 hours 59 minutes, which was much faster than expected. We would like to thank everyone who waved or beeped their horn in support as we trained around the village and further afield in the weeks leading up to the walk (we were even spotted in Dorchester at 7am on a Sunday morning!). We would like to say a big THANK YOU to all who sponsored us, we will have raised in excess of £1000 your support is greatly appreciated.

Roll on next year!

JANE JEFFERIES

ST GEORGES DAY PARADE, 1ST MAY 2011

We all arrived at church in a minibus at around 9.30am. we had just come from camp so we were all tired, and we all smelt of smoke – it wasn't pleasant! But we were having a good time anyway! As it got to 10am the parade started. I was carrying a flag, our unit flag, so I was one of the first to go in. Once we had given our flags we found our seats and listened to Janey Cumber, when she had finished Gig started speaking. Most of us were so tired it was hard to concentrate, but later on a man called Dave Walton came to the front. He was from the Parish Council and had come to talk about the award for Parishioner of the Year 2011. We sat in silence listening to him explain what the winner had done for the church and the community, and how they go the extra mile. I hadn't really been paying attention, but when Jill Rowe's name was called I wasn't that surprised, mostly because Jill is one of the most caring generous people I know! Jill on the other hand nearly had a heart attack! We all cheered and whooped for our Guide Leader. We were so proud of her. She deserved the award.

After that there was a Christening, then it was back to camp to pack up, and have lunch. It was a fun and enjoyable day for all of us.

MAISY SUMMERS, 1st Marcham Guides



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.

Name of Parent/Guardian _____

Address _____

Name of Child _____

Date of Birth _____

Male/Female _____

digitaluk digitaluk

The Switchover to Digital Television is Coming.....

This September, the analogue television signal will be switched off forever and replaced with a digital signal. Your TV equipment will need to be digital-compatible, otherwise you will not be able to watch TV!

Oxfordshire Rural Community Council is working with Digital UK, a not for profit organisation formed by broadcasters, to assist Oxfordshire residents in the conversion to digital TV. There are two Switchover dates for Oxfordshire. 14 September (BBC2) and 28 September (all remaining analogue channels- ITV, BBC1, Channel 4, Channel 5).

If you already have Freeview, Freesat, cable TV, or satellite TV you don't need to worry, you're already digital-compatible. If not, you'll have to convert your TV, which can be as easy as connecting a digital box to your existing TV. Equipment suitable for Switchover will be marked with the digital tick logo. Remember, every TV you want to watch after the Switchover will have to be converted.

The role of ORCC is to get the Switchover message out to everyone in Oxfordshire, rural or urban, with a particular focus on the elderly, people with disabilities and those with English as a second language. We are contacting, training and working with a huge range of community organisations, ensuring that everyone is aware of the Switchover.

In addition, ORCC is spreading the message about the Switchover Helpscheme. This scheme will assist people to convert their TV to digital if they are aged 75 or over; get or could get Disability Living Allowance, Attendance Allowance, Constant Attendance Allowance or mobility supplement; have lived in a care home for six months or more; or are registered blind or partially sighted. All those eligible will be sent a letter about the Helpscheme.

Visit the Digital UK website for more information about Switchover: <http://www.digitaluk.co.uk/>

If you are not connected to the Internet you can telephone 08456 505050 for information about the Switchover or Freephone 0800 408 5900 for information about the Switchover Helpscheme. You can also contact ORCC on 01865 883488.

Tea Dance

Civic Hall, Portway, Wantage OX12 9BX
 14.00 – 16.30 Friday 8 July
 £3 including tea and biscuits.
 Parking nearby £1 for 3 hours
 3mins from 31 bus stop
 Call 01235 763 456 for more details



your Sexual Health Oxfordshire

No matter what your age, if you are sexually active you need to look after your sexual health. www.yoursexualhealthoxon.nhs.uk is a new website providing information about contraception choices, treatment and testing for sexually transmitted infections (STIs), unplanned pregnancy, emergency contraception and sexual assault support in Oxfordshire.

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All Saints' and St. Luke's Parish Page

Dear Friends,

June is an amazing month in the church's calendar – there are so many festivals and times for celebration! Brilliant!

Early on we celebrate the Ascension (Thursday 2nd), then towards the middle of the month we celebrate Pentecost (Sunday 12th), and a week later we celebrate Trinity Sunday (19th). Jesus enjoyed celebrating the good moments in life – weddings, feasts, parties with friends. Joy and celebration are integral to our faith!

June is also a busy time for those who are gardeners – as the growing season is in full swing. Jesus once likened His heavenly Father to a gardener – who longs for our growth and blossoming spiritually, in our relationship with Him, our lives bearing fruit to His honour and glory as the 'sap' of the Holy Spirit courses through us.

There is so much to explore and enjoy about our faith and, praise God, we have the freedom to do so. We mustn't be afraid of asking questions, of 'testing the water', of giving God a chance, of daring to believe against the odds. With this in mind, we are starting a young people's **confirmation preparation** this month. Please see the advert below for further information.

I hope you enjoy this month, and can enter into the celebration that is so central to our Christian faith and at the heart of life itself.

With my warmest best wishes,

Revd Richard Zair

CONFIRMA ION

Do you believe in a God who loves you?

Do you have questions about faith?

Do you want to explore what your faith means to you?

Have you been baptised and now want to know more?

Are you aged about 11 – 14?

If you agree with any of the questions above, then come along and find out more.....

Sundays 12th, 26th June and 10th July

6:30 – 7:30 pm

Venue to be confirmed

Please RSVP to Jill 07811 165351 or Richard 01865 391319

JUNE calendar:

Thurs 2nd June: 7.30 pm Ascension Day service at All Saints'.

Sat 4th June: 8.30 am Men's Breakfast at the Sports and Social Club.

Sun 12th June: Pentecost – 10 am Holy Communion and 6 pm Evening Prayer.

Parish People:

On 1st May we welcomed in baptism:

Ollie Jay Liam Cook and Harry Daniel Potter Cousins.

The funeral of Olive Stimpson of Mill Road, aged 95, was held on 20th May – we extend our sympathy to her daughter Pat Nicoll and to all the family.

SUMMER HOLIDAY CLUB: August 30th to September 2nd.

10am - 2pm (with evening entertainment on Friday)

£25 for the week or £7 a day

Register your interest - call 07811 165351

Email: jill.rowe.ycm@googlemail.com

Regular services:

Sundays at All Saints': 10 am and 6 pm

(8 am first Sunday)

Wednesdays: 10.30 am Holy Communion

at Duffield Place

Sundays at St. Luke's: 10.30 am on June 5th

Contacts:

Rev. Richard Zair 391319 (r_zair@yahoo.co.uk)

Jill Rowe *Youth and Children's Minister* 390885

Chris Nutman *Churchwarden* 01235 521698

Deborah Flint *Churchwarden* 391056

Janey Cumber *Administrator* 391327

Jenny Warwick *PCC Secretary* 392076

Prayer for the Month:

Heavenly Father,

Thank you for this month of June, and for the abundance of life we see in the natural world around us. Help us to enjoy Your presence, to celebrate Your love and life in Jesus, and to welcome the constant outpouring of Your Holy Spirit into our lives.

Help us to bear the fruit of Your Spirit's presence in love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Help us to live differently – to Your honour and the well-being of others.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

Marcham Baptist Church

(Packhorse Lane)

June 2011



Sunday Morning Worship at 10.30 am

(Communion every first Sunday)

Our speakers for June are:-

5th June Pastor Paul John of Grove
12th June Peoples' Praise
19th June Mr. Nigel Chown of Abingdon Baptist Church
26th June 139th Church Anniversary
at 3-00pm Mr. Tony Valente of Abingdon Baptist Church

This will be followed by a celebration tea in the hall.

(There will be no Morning Service this Sunday)

Everyone welcome

A few years ago I arose early to work in my garden but found dense fog over the entire landscape, limiting my vision to only a few centimetres. It was so wet that work was out of the question. But my early rising was not in vain. As I sat on a bucket in the garden, I was to see one of the grandest of all heavenly spectacles, the sunrise.

First there was a brightening of the fog. As the sun shed its light and warmth, the mist began to move upward, and at last the sun burst through in all its glory. The trees dripped with moisture, and a thousand dewdrops on the grass and shrubbery sparkled like so many diamonds as they reflected the sun.

I sat transfixed, forgetting the work I was going to do. I saw in the sunrise my own experience. Once I too was in a fog, lost and confused until the Sun of Righteousness arose in my heart. First a glimmer of hope, and then one day in a moment the light burst through and I saw the One who scattered all my doubts and fears.

O that we today, like the sparkling dewdrops, would reflect His light and glory. As **“we walk in the light”** (1 John. 1:7), may men and women see the Son of God, Jesus Christ, shining brightly through our lives and words.

Rev. Bory Pilgrim

For further information on church activities:

Contact Mr R Barrett 01865 391356
 Mr W Dyer 01235 814986

Marcham Baptist is affiliated to the Baptist Union of Great Britain