

# Marcham & District News

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

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



September 2013 Vol: 35 No: 9

READ & RECYCLE!

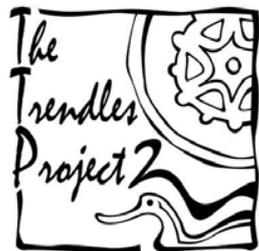
FREE



▲ New Wine by Alicia Davies see page 13



▲ Cub Camp, Isle of Wight see page 13



◀ Open Day 21 September see page 15



◀ Around the World with Little Angels see page 13

▲ Lest we forget see page 13

September		
1 Sun	Evensong, Poetry & Pimms, Tubney, 18.00-19.40	14
1 Sun	Have Your Say Duffield Place, 11.00-12.00	3
4 Wed	Guideposts Open Day, Peachcroft Centre, 1000-1500	17
5 Thur	52nd Light Infantry 1914-1915, Edward Brooks Barracks, 18.15	11
6 Fri	Coffee Morning and Sale, Young Dementia, Tubney Farm House, 1030-1230	14
7 Sat	Fun Open Day, Marcham Baptist Church, 12.00-16.00	18
8 Sun	Messy Church, Marcham Baptist Church, 10.30-11.30	18
10 Tue	Mobile Library Duffield Place: 10.05, Sweetbriar: 10.20	
10 Tues	Singing, 62 North Street, 14.00-15.30	15
11 Wed	Homeworkers Hub Meeting, Cornerstone Arts Centre, Didcot, 11.00-13.00	17
11 Wed	Marcham Parish Council Meeting, Duffield Place, 19.30	3
12 Thur	Blackberry Walk, Abingdon Arms, Beckley, 12.30 lunch / 13.00 walk	11

13 Fri	Have your Say, Marcham Shop, 17.00-18.00	3
14 Fri	Deadline for Vale Awards for Young People	13
17 Tues	Marcham Society, All Saints' Church, 19.45	11
18 Wed	The Filling Station, Manor School, 19.30	11
20 Fri	MP's Surgery, Wallingford, 17.30-19.00	15
21 Sat	Councillors' Surgery, Marcham Shop, 09.00-11.00	9
21 Sat	Trendles Project Open Day, 10.00-16.00	15
24 Tue	Mobile Library Duffield Place: 10.05, Sweetbriar: 10.20	
24 Tues	Singing, 62 North Street, 14.00-15.30	15
25-28	William Tell, Abingdon Drama Club, 19.30	5
26 Thur	MCG Open Meeting, Marcham School, 19.30	7
28 Sat	Save the Children Gala Dinner Dance, Williams Conference Centre, 18.00-01.00	17

## October

11 Fri	MP's Surgery, Faringdon, 17.30-19.00	15
18 Fri	MP's Surgery, Wantage, 17.30-19.00	15
19 Sat	Apple Day, Marcham School, 11.00-16.00	7
19 Sat	Tosca, All Saints Church	11
26 Sat	Abingdon Splash of Pink Day, 10.00-16.00	17

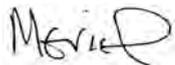
*Details of events may change after publication, please check with the relevant organisers before attending events.*

Dear Readers!

“... And summer’s lease hath all too short a date”

Time rolls on but we still seem a long way from having any new village facilities in which to entertain the existing and ever-expanding number of inhabitants in Marcham. I hope the other villages will guard their amenities well and not let them disappear.

With approximately 16 weeks until Christmas, I wonder what will have happened by then!?



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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.

**POLICE**

PCSO Andy McCormack C9461  
Just dial 101 (non-emergency)

**CRIMESTOPPERS**

Call 0800 555 111 (anonymous calls)

**NHS NON-EMERGENCY**

Call Free from any phone - 111

**COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

Richard Webber, Orchard Barn, Sutton Wick Lane, Drayton OX14 4HJ  
Tel: 01235 534001

[Richard.webber@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:Richard.webber@oxfordshire.gov.uk)

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*Marcham and Shippon*

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[Catherinewebber@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Catherinewebber@hotmail.co.uk)

For other councillors go to

[www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk](http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk)

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September 2013

**MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWS  
Recycling Facilities - Howard Cornish Road**

These facilities took over from the bottle banks and have been provided for residents to dispose of additional recyclable waste. There is evidence that such sites are being misused with large amounts of non recyclable waste being found in and left next to the containers. The level of contamination is such that the contents of the bins cannot go for recycling and end up in landfill. There is already the opportunity to put out additional materials for recycling adjacent to your own green wheelie bin which will be taken by the District Council’s contractor. The Scrutiny Committee of the Vale of White Horse District Council has supported the proposal to remove the recycling banks in the district, to stop the indiscriminate dumping of waste and to improve the general appearance and tidiness of these areas. The recycling facility containers are likely to be moved later in the year, but the Salvation Army textile bank will remain.

**Winter - Adverse weather**

The July meeting of the Parish Council seemed slightly early to be considering the winter weather, but the Council had been offered a free tonne bag of salt by the County Council in case of adverse weather conditions later in the year or over winter in the early part of 2014. The Council has accepted the offer and Mr. William Cumber has kindly agreed to store the salt at Manor Farm. Once delivered, there will be a total of 3 bags in storage, so in case of a very severe winter, the community will be better equipped to deal with icy conditions.

**Howard Cornish Road – Bus Shelter at Longfields**

This shelter was becoming quite dirty and had debris deposited on it. The Council has arranged for it to be pressure washed, so its appearance has much improved and hopefully it will remain clean for the foreseeable future.

**Superfast Broadband**

Mr. Ellerton, the business development director from BT gave a talk at the last Parish Council meeting about bringing superfast broadband to the area. Oxfordshire County Council has now awarded a contract to BT. The aim is to build on the existing commercial network within the county so that at least 90 % of all premises including homes will have access to superfast broadband at speeds of 24mbps and above by the end of 2015.

**Planning Applications**

The following planning applications have been considered :

P13/V1313.HH Demolish existing conservatory and replace with a single storey rear extension over existing ground floor at 30 Parkside. The Council had no objections

P13/V1367/FUL Demolish existing

dwelling and erect new dwelling. Beechfield House, Frilford Heath. The Council had no objections  
P13/V1266.HH Demolish existing conservatory and form rear single storey kitchen extension at 7 Fettiplace Road. The Council had no objections  
P13/V0575/O This application for 43 houses at Kings Field off Sheepstead Road was considered by the District Council’s planning committee on 24th July, where it was debated and a resolution to approve the application agreed, subject to first entering into a planning agreement.

**Date of Next Council Meeting:** Wednesday 11th September, 2013 at 7.30 p.m. in the residents’ lounge, at Duffield Place.

**Clerk to the Council:** Mrs. L. Martin, 90 Howard Cornish Rd, 01865 391833  
[clerk@marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk)  
[www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk)

**FOR SALE**

Topflite “carrying” type golf bag, stand up facility, blue/black. Very good condition. - £8

Neff integrated cooker hood/fan/light. Will require décor panel. Good condition. - £10

Single wardrobe with shelf. Maple effect. Perfect condition. - £15

Call 01235 522877

**SURGERY WITH  
DISTRICT AND COUNTY  
COUNCILLORS**

Richard and Catherine Webber will be holding a surgery every other month, starting on Saturday 21st September. It will be held in “the cupboard “ in Marcham Shop between 9.00a.m and 11.00a.m.  
Please come along if you need to discuss any problem.



**THAMES VALLEY  
POLICE**

**Have Your Say**

- Sunday 1 Sept  
Duffield Place, Marcham  
1100 - 1200
- Friday 13 Sept  
Marcham Village Shop  
1700-1800

**PCSO Andy McCormack C9461  
Abingdon Outer  
Neighbourhood Team  
NAG7 Marcham, Wootton,  
Shippon and Boars Hill  
Police Non-emergency  
number: 101  
[www.thamesvalley.police.uk](http://www.thamesvalley.police.uk)**

Dear Editor

**Barking Dogs**

Perhaps it's because of the hot spell we've had but I can't help noticing the level of noise from barking dogs in the village has increased substantially.

I can only imagine that dog owners have left their dog at home alone as surely they wouldn't be able to put up with the noise. It really is a shame that peaceful summer evenings that you would like to spend in your garden are ruined by constant dog barking.

Please dog owners, have a thought for your neighbours and help Marcham return to the peace and quiet we all deserve.

ALISON YOUNGMAN

**Community Mini Bus**

The Mini Bus is available to any organisation or resident of the village in return for a donation replacement of the diesel used. The driver must have passed their driving test before 1997 to be able to drive the Mini Bus. Please contact Marion Belcher 07507 797757 (who has taken over the running of the bus from Chris Ricketts).

MARION BELCHER

Dear Editor

How sad to see a three hundred year old wall alongside the public path to the sports field in Marcham vandalized twice recently. Big, heavy and little stones pulled from the top and sides and dropped onto the pathway - very dangerous for all the people walking up there including children and dogs.

*Whatever pleasure does that give anyone to do that? I am mystified...*

The hollyhocks growing along the path have *yet again* been hacked down just as they are about to add some colour and joy to the village. North Street has had the strimming of the beeloving wildflowers and the pesticide treatment again and the dead foliage is such an eyesore especially alongside the Institute.

We all live in such a pretty village, please can we all protect it rather than destroy its features.

DINNY PAGAN

*See page 13 for an idea to commemorate the Great War and make our village beautiful next year.*

**ABINGDON  
DRAMA  
CLUB**

ADC - in 3D since 1944

[www.abingdon-drama-club.com](http://www.abingdon-drama-club.com)

William Tell

Based on the play

by Friedrich Schiller

Directed by Michael Ward

Wednesday 25th - Saturday 28th  
September 2013.

7.30pm at The Unicorn Theatre,  
Checker Walk, Abingdon

Tickets £8.00 (concessions £7.00)

The Bookstore, Abingdon Precinct.

For more information email:

[tickets@unicornboxoffice.org.uk](mailto:tickets@unicornboxoffice.org.uk)

Telephone: 0845 4636638

If you have a view on a local issue, want to thank people, congratulate success or publicise an event within or near the MADNews area, please contact the editor 01865 391725 or [editor@madnews.co.uk](mailto:editor@madnews.co.uk)

## A Community Led Plan for Marcham

We have finally completed the Community Led Plan and it is currently being printed. A copy of the Plan will be delivered to every house in Marcham during September.

We hope that you find the Plan a useful document, and one measure of success for us will be how few of them end up in the following week's recycling bin!

The next step after delivering a copy to every household will be to set up a new group called the CLP Implementation Group. We will be seeking volunteers to join this new group which will meet regularly to monitor what has been achieved, to identify the obstacles and to exert pressure on Councils and other bodies to carry out the 39 actions in the Plan.

The Implementation Group will also provide an up-to-date progress list for each of the actions on the Marcham Forward website. We will also welcome support from any member of the community in

helping to achieve any of the actions in the Plan.

More details about the Implementation Group will be in next month's MADnews.

### Find out more on our website

If you would like to see more details about what we've done so far and what we're doing next, then please visit our website:

[www.marchamforward.org](http://www.marchamforward.org)

If you would like more information please contact:

Jim Asher (tel 01865 391727) or  
David Walton (tel: 01865 391239)

Bank Balance  
£14,100

Local Events  
£10,934

Donations  
£6,814

2012 - 2013 Membership  
Voting: 115 Junior: 18

5p Coins  
4678



## So what is MCG for?

**What is it raising money for?**

**Hasn't it been overtaken by events and superseded by users' groups?**

**All very reasonable questions given the twists and turns on leisure facilities during the past year.**

Over three years ago, after nearly six years of no apparent progress on replacing the Institute, there was a growing feeling that a community-based group independent of the Anson Trust would bring a different approach to providing new village facilities. Since then MCG has:

- ◆ initiated the Community Led Plan process as a necessary condition for applying for outside funding and been a partner with the Parish Council in seeing it through.
- ◆ provided detailed responses to the now lapsed Anson Trust / Taylor Wimpey proposals, based on a number of community consultations and workshops.
- ◆ started the leisure facilities users' group which has become the Community Facilities Group (CFG) and is open to all village organisations. Both the Anson Trust and MCG are active members of the CFG.

## So what is MCG's role now?

MCG is working with other groups on the CFG on two approaches to community facilities. The first is to keep the current facilities on the Anson Field in community use in the event that the Anson Trust becomes unable to operate them through lack of funds. The second is to develop longer term plans and to be in a position to take advantage of any opportunities that may arise. At the same time MCG is continuing to promote community events – see below.

## And the fundraising?

If the current facilities do come under community control the money will certainly be needed!

Where Gladstone meets Bismarck  
and Bess Pool meets Edward VII

### APPLE DAY

Saturday 19 October

11am - 4pm

at Marcham School

Apple fun for all the family

Games Activities Food Drink

### MCG OPEN MEETING

Thursday 26 September 7.30pm

Marcham Primary School

### Leisure facilities – the options

The main meeting will be preceded by the MCG AGM

**ALL WELCOME**

Thursday 26 Sept. 7.30 pm Marcham School Leisure facilities – the options



**ED VAIZEY WRITES...**

The Wantage and Didcot Constituency is a fascinating place! I've recently been reviewing some of the statistics which are provided to MPs and have seen that we are one of the most prosperous areas in the UK. 83% of people locally between the ages of 16 and 64 are employed and nearly 89% are economically active, with around 7% running their own businesses. That compares with an employment rate of 74% across the South East and 71% nationally. Of those working in the constituency, 83% work full time compared with 74% nationally, meaning our workforce has more stable and often more rewarding employment, with average local incomes 10% above the national level. That's due, in some part, to the fact that 34% of local residents have a degree or higher qualification and just 3% have no qualifications at all. Businesses set up locally do better over their first five years than in other places too. We are home to some of the most exciting and innovative scientific enterprises in the world.



What that string of statistics actually means is that the Constituency is not only a very attractive area in which to live, but also a vibrant and successful one. We do have some real challenges, such as the fact that house prices are very high in relation to our incomes, and finding a decent home in the area can be a real challenge. Helping people with housing problems is one of the areas where I am kept busy, and identifying suitable places to build the new homes we need is a real challenge. On that last point, I am continuing to lobby ministers nationally to try to have planning laws and guidance made really fit for purpose so we can build the homes we need without imposing inappropriate growth on rural communities. The Minister who leads on planning, Nick Boles, will be visiting the Constituency at my invitation in September to hear directly from constituents about the problems we have here with the current system.

This month my mailbag has been a little lighter than other recent months. Parliamentary recess has begun and the House of Commons won't sit again until the 2nd of September. Of course, I am still working, and while my emails from constituents may have slowed, it has definitely not stopped. There are two main issues about which people have been writing to me. A campaign to ensure the fast sealing of the new Royal Charter for press regulation and a campaign to get Britain cycling.

A Royal Charter to implement a tough new system of press self-regulation, which gained cross party agreement in Parliament, was concluded and sent to the Privy Council for sealing on the 18th March. Shortly after this, the press petitioned the Privy Council Office with an alternative Royal Charter. This is now being fully considered by the Privy Council to ensure that the process of implementing Leveson is as robust as possible. We must now wait for the Privy Council's conclusions.

A number of constituents have also contacted me about getting people in Britain cycling, an issue which the Government has already taken significant action on. However, an area of great concern for people considering starting to cycle is the safety for drivers on the road, so I am pleased to hear that the Government has allocated £107m to support cycling safety, loosened rules so Local Authorities can introduce 20mph speed limits in residential areas, and made it easier to install Trixi mirrors to improve the visibility of cyclists at junctions.

And one final note! I was astonished to hear about the plans being put forward by a developer for an international airport south of Marcham. There are many reasons why this is a very daft idea, most of which have been reported widely. Please rest assured that if the concept doesn't disappear of its own accord very swiftly, I will do all that I can to ensure that it never gets beyond the drawing board.

**ED VAIZEY**, MP Wantage and Didcot (Con)  
September 2013

**COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT**

School Transport – As I write, decisions are about to be taken which will give us all more time to debate this issue and come up with a fairer, and more understandable scheme than what had been proposed. After all the effort that had been put in by local residents over the “safe route to school” issue, it seems incredible that we could be arguing the whole thing again so soon. I am hopeful as I write that there will be a postponement of the issue to give more chance to arrive at a system which achieves the savings OCC needs but at the same time is seen to be fair.

The PC requested that I urge OCC to consider diverting s106 money from the Priory Road development from improving bus services for s106 funding to upgrading the pedestrian crossing. The PC made the very fair point that this would go some way to creating a safe route for residents in the new houses to access the village facilities. I tried, but I am afraid I failed. The area need for better bus services through Marcham was deemed more important. I will continue to fight for s106 monies to be closely tied to alleviating the impact of the development concerned. And next time, I will be quicker off the mark. The good news is that the new pedestrian crossing is now built and will certainly help to connect residents in the North and the South of Marcham. Much credit should go to former OCC Councillor Iain Brown.

The Appeal for 160 houses in South Abingdon having been granted, the implications for traffic on the Drayton Road and hence on the traffic in all the surrounding villages will now have to be considered. It is becoming ever-more essential that notice is taken of the cumulative effects on Schools and our road system of all these houses and that these effects are planned for. OCC recently passed a motion calling for infrastructure to be planned to coincide or precede housing rather than follow it as at present. This must at least be a step in the right direction.

The area Stewardship Fund - £15K per county division has allowed me to ask the Highways department to treat all roadside weeds throughout the villages of Sutton Courtenay, Drayton, Marcham, Milton, Shippon and Dry Sandford. Where there are village gates these two will be getting a new lick of paint. Although £15K does not go far over such a wide area, there is still money left over. Any suggestions for improvements to our highways would be gratefully received. I am also given a Community Grant of some £10K across the division. This is for start up projects of any type – so again, if anyone has suggestions or need of help up to say £500 for a community project, please let me know. At least I can promise plenty of help with the form-filling!

**RICHARD WEBBER CLLR, OCC**

Richard.webber77@ntlworld.com or 01235 534001

**DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT**

Back from hot, humid Hongkong, where our dear little grand daughter was born on July 17th, things have moved on in Marcham. A new zebra crossing now spans Packhorse Lane, applications for new houses keep coming in and, despite the effort of many of us, the Kings Field application has been passed. We now have to make sure that s106 measures alleviate the impact of the new homes all over Marcham as far as possible. In fact, given the number of houses Marcham is being asked to take, it seems only reasonable that the s106 money should be pooled so that Marcham can gain the maximum benefit from the new developments. This is certainly what is proposed in the new Local Plan. Also, I have been in discussions with planning officers over the siting of a pumping station in the development on Kings Field and have been assured that if a pumping station is deemed necessary, which is not certain yet, we will be given plenty of notice to voice our opinions.

Finally, can I draw your attention to the new surgery that Richard are holding every other month, starting on Saturday 21st September. It will be held in “the cupboard “ in Marcham Shop between 9.00a.m and 11.00a.m. Please come along if you need to discuss any problem.

**CATHERINE WEBBER**

01235 534001 or catherinewebber@hotmail.co.uk



The  
**Marcham  
Society**

Join us for the first talk  
after our summer break

Non-members £2

[www.marchamsociety.org.uk](http://www.marchamsociety.org.uk)

Further details: Sheila Dunford (391439) or Judith Fontaine (391275)

**MARCHAM SOCIETY MIDWEEK WALK**

**Marcham Society 16th Annual Blackberry Walk. Thursday September 12th.**

The next walk will be on Thursday September 12th. We will be meeting again at the Abingdon Arms in Beckley (Map Ref: SP 565113) at 12.30pm for lunch or 1.30 for the 4 mile walk. As usual on this walk, we hope to be able to pick blackberries from the abundant bushes on Otmoor. We have had two bad years, but the fruit promises to be much better this year! Here's hoping.

Members free, non-members £1. We always welcome new walkers. Ring Eric Dunford on 391439 for lifts and further details.



**Marcham WI**

Our September meeting is about Jewellery and is called "Gold and Flowers! Come and join our group, or try us out as a visitor instead.

Contacts for new members or visitors  
Christine Whild 01865 391270

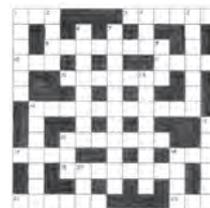


**SUMMER CROSSWORD BY ALISA**

Answers

Across: 1 Bus 2 Red 8 Tractors 10 Sonic 12 ango 13 Ovule 15 & 4 Marcham School PTA Summer Fete 18 Large 19 Carol 20 Robin 22 Football 23 Fan 26 Lay

Down: 1 Blossom 2 Standard 3 Pa 4 see 15 5 JR 7 Demon 9 Sea 11 Cothill 12 Teacher 14 Hornbill 16 Laundry 17 Scarf 20 Off 23 Ox 24 AD



**Wantage Association of Retired Persons (WARP)** welcomes retired people over 50 from Wantage and surrounding areas.

Their popular monthly meetings are usually held at Wantage Civic Hall on the first Wednesday of each month at 2pm, which includes a topical presentation from a guest speaker followed by refreshments and a raffle. The group also organises monthly pub lunches, line dancing, outings and holidays.

Hazel Stevenson will be talking about the History of Charlton Garden Centre on 4 September.

Guests are welcome at the door with an entrance fee of £4 per person. Go to [www.ocva.org.uk/warp](http://www.ocva.org.uk/warp) to view the full programme of upcoming events; telephone Mary 01235 764573 for more information; or just pop along to Wantage Civic Hall on the first Wednesday of each month at 2pm.



**52nd Light Infantry  
(Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire)  
1914-1915**

**Retreat from Mons, the Battles of the Aisne,  
Ypres 1914, Festubert, Loos and Bosschen Wood  
A talk by Simon Harris**

September 5th 2013 6.15pm

Edward Brooks Barracks, Cholswell Road,  
Abingdon OX13 6HW

Tickets £15.00.

Call 01993 813 832 (Kate or Sue) or visit [www.sofa.org.uk](http://www.sofa.org.uk)  
All proceeds of this event will support the Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum project.



**WHAT IS OXFORDSHIRE ADVOCACY?**

We are looking for volunteers to attend our next training course to become an advocate for Oxfordshire Advocacy. Oxfordshire Advocacy is an independent, confidential free service that supports adults living in Oxfordshire people to get their voice heard and their wishes taken into account. Our volunteer advocates work with people who need support in a meeting, writing a letter or making a complaint, or making sure that correct procedures are followed.

Recently we have provided advocates for

- A man with severe depression to attend a medical assessment to check his eligibility for benefits
- The wife of a man with dementia who is struggling to access enough support so that she can continue to look after him at home

Our next training course for new volunteers is in Banbury on 14th 15th and 22nd November 2013 and Oxford on 3rd 4th and 11th October 2013. If you would like to find out more about volunteering for OA please contact us:

Tel: 01865 741200, email: [jacinta.sands@oadg.org.uk](mailto:jacinta.sands@oadg.org.uk), or look at our website on [www.gettingheard.org](http://www.gettingheard.org)

**SAVE THE DATE - SATURDAY OCTOBER 19th 2013**

Opera Anywhere, in association with  
All Saints' Church & Marcham Players,  
proudly present

**TOSCA**

Enjoy the Royal Opera House performance  
in Blu Ray format at All Saints'

Wednesday 18th September, 7.30 pm  
Manor Prep School, Shippon, OX13 6LN  
A new informal way of expressing the  
Christian Faith.

We meet for teaching, contemporary  
worship and prayer. All welcome.  
[www.thefillingstation.org.uk](http://www.thefillingstation.org.uk)



**NEW WINE**

Last week Jill and Neil Rowe took a group of young people from Marcham Church to New Wine; a Christian camp. It was lots of fun going to the sessions and being surrounded by people our age with the same beliefs. I would like to say thank you to Jill and Neil Rowe for giving up a week to take us and to everyone who gave donations to help us to go. Thank you.

**ALICIA DAVIES** - see Alicia's drawing on the cover

**CUB CAMP 2013**

In the first week of the summer holidays 11 Marcham Cubs went to the Isle Of Wight Corf Scout Camp. On the ferry we were allowed to walk around the deck. We all had loads of fun, going to the beach and swimming in the sea every day. We did tree climbing and we really enjoyed this.

We went to Dinosaur World where we had to fill in a quiz and there was a really cool robot dinosaur. We went to Butterfly World which wasn't just butterflies – there was a Japanese section with fish that we fed with our hands! We thoroughly enjoyed cub camp at Corf. Thank you to Chris Mike and Clare for taking us – we would love to go again!

**ASHLEY HILLIER**



**ABINGDON LITTLE ANGELS**

What a great summer we have had at Little Angels, our topic has been Holidays around the world, we visited a different



country every day travelling around Europe, role playing Paris and Montmartre with the artists and cafés, Germany with walking sticks and festivals, India with rice for tea and dressing up in a sari, Africa where we went on safari and America creating our own fast food restaurant and becoming the Statue of Liberty. We looked closely at Canada with the Mounties and maple leaf flag along with Australia which we recreated with a boat trip around Sydney Harbour, finishing with a game of boomerangs on the field, South America was fun with our very own Brazilian carnival and finished the week with Mexico, where we shared Mexican food and played with a Piñata, great fun. If you would like any further information about Abingdon Little Angels Nursery, After School Club, Holiday Club or Art Club please feel free to call in or telephone us on 07516 474287 or at info@abingdonlittangel.co.uk.

**PLANT A POPPY**

*Commemoration of the outbreak of WWI and beyond.*



The 2014 Real Poppy Campaign to commemorate the outbreak of the First World War could also see the British countryside turn itself back into how it looked in 1914. I feel that if the public engage with this in large numbers, social benefits could far exceed the original aims.

I normally write solely about wildlife gardening, but this project should perhaps be focused on and rolled out as a well-oiled larger campaign, which I am hoping to start in these articles.

To commemorate WWI, The Real Poppy Campaign is distributing Poppy seed to the public to scatter them in random places, ie: hedgerows, traffic roundabouts, empty back garden borders, planters, preferably not somewhere mown regularly. Then this time next year when they all flower, we will be looking at a display of poppies in remembrance of all that happened during The Great War. We could make this a global movement. This not only benefits the countryside but if communities get involved this could be the trigger that ignites a lifelong interest in nature for children.

Poppies are a poignant reminder of The Great War, as the battle fields after the war were colonized soon with poppies.

I must warn though, care needs to be taken in this project. Although I am not aware of Poppies being on any list of prescribed weeds that can be a pest (like Ragwort and Creeping Thistle), this needs doing methodically. Some areas may contain rare species in themselves, which need protecting from unfocused acts of seed sowing. Many areas could benefit from an increased plant diversity to improve food chains. It's the balance we strive for. To do nothing isn't always going to help that balance either.

Many of our wildflower meadows have disappeared so this could be a step in redressing that, as long as an imbalance is not caused in doing so. Much of our soil contains poppy seeds so they just need a bit of encouragement to germinate.

Avoid spreading the seed near Sites of Special Scientific Interest and farmland (unless with the permission of the farmer) to reduce the need of herbicides to control the Poppies.

An additional problem with sowing near crops is that in previous times, crops were harvested in late August and September. By this time, the Poppy seeds had burst out of their pods and were lying on the ground so they would not get mixed in with the crop seed. Nowadays, crops are harvested much earlier, before the Poppy seeds have dispersed, so the crop seed gets mixed with the Poppy seed.

I'm promoting this idea in all the wildlife gardening tutorials and lectures I give. In all the articles I write and even in the independent wildlife radio show I make. I'm happy to assist with anyone who wants to get involved with this. After all, engaging people with Mother Nature is my job.

It is my belief that we should start a campaign to build on the Real Poppy Campaign, to sow seed every year until we get our poppies back. If you sow annually, you need to be aware that the bare soil you sow onto needs to be disturbed each year and not compacted otherwise the seed just won't germinate. How can this fail if we all do our bit?

If this works, we can all in some small part experience the countryside as a past generation did, and in the process bringing communities together with grandparents working alongside children.

**Happy Gardening**  
**STUART MABBUTT**

Wildlife Gardening Specialist, 01865 747243

see [www.realpoppy.co.uk](http://www.realpoppy.co.uk) for more details

District Councillor, Catherine Webber, would like to draw the attention of all young Marcham residents to the following:

**VALE AWARDS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**

Aged 11-18? The Vale is offering awards of up to £100 for young people for:

- ARTS: art, dance, drama, music, photography etc.
- SPORTS: competing at County level or above
- CITIZENSHIP: volunteering, community work, politics and getting involved

For more information visit:  
[www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/grants](http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/grants)  
Or call 01235 540490  
Apply by 14th September.

**MARCHAM PLAYERS**

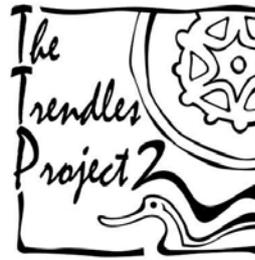
Not much to report over the summer but personally, I managed to visit the Watermill Theatre at Newbury to see "Laurel and Hardy" and more recently, "Witches of Eastwick". Both productions were of the usual high standard which is the hallmark of all productions at this theatre. For those readers who have never been to the "Watermill" you really are missing a unique theatrical experience - the venue and setting is delightful, the staff always helpful and the bar and restaurant most welcome. We (the Players) usually manage to make at least one group visit to this venue in the year.



Any enquiries re membership or suggestions for theatre visits, please contact either Dave Hutchinson on 01865 391964 or Cheryl Sewell on 01865 391200!

**DAVE HUTCHINSON**

.....  
 www.marchamplayers.co.uk



**The Trendles Project invites you to join them for their first annual Community Archaeology Open Day on Saturday 21st September 2013 between 10am and 4pm.**

Excavations at Trendles Field, Marcham between 2001-2011 produced a wealth of artefacts and uncovered evidence for Iron Age and Roman settlements and religious sites. The Marcham-Frilford excavations encouraged the community to visit the site each year as well as enabling some to actively participate in the excavations.

Not many members of the public however know what happens after an excavation has finished. The Trendles Project was specifically created to address this issue. Now thanks to a 3-year National Lottery Heritage Grant local people are participating in a crucial stage of the post-excavation process, including pottery identification, the analysis of animal bone, and the interpretation of the original site records. The volunteers have been working alongside professional archaeologists since October 2012 developing the skills necessary to enable them to contribute towards the analysis and interpretation of the finds and records and the production of the final archaeological report.

The Community Archaeology Open Day will be held in Trendles Field, located on the A338 Wantage Road behind the former Noah's Ark Inn (use postcode OX13 5YN for directions). There will be guided walks of the former excavation site at 11am and 2pm, which will be led by Site Director Professor Gary Lock.

Visitors will be able to talk to the project volunteers and archaeologists to find out how they go about identifying and processing finds. Some of the exciting Iron Age and Roman artefacts found on the site will be on display, and there will an opportunity to handle some of the artefacts and learn about how they were used. The project will also be holding its second finds identification session where local people can bring along any archaeological artefacts that they might have found in their house, garden or while out walking and our archaeologists will endeavour to identify them.

There will also be plenty to keep families amused, including a children's activity trail, a kiddies spoilheap containing real archaeological artefacts, and a hands-on pottery workshop. If you are feeling adventurous then you might like to visit the food stand to sample some fine Roman cuisine. Before you leave, make sure you visit our living history expert who will help you experience Iron Age life through stories, music and objects.

Admission is free and plenty of parking is available.

To find our more, visit our website at <http://trendlesproject.com> or email us at [trendlesproject@gmail.com](mailto:trendlesproject@gmail.com)

**EMMA GOWANS**

**MP'S SURGERY WITH ED VAIZEY**

5.30-7.00pm, unless stated otherwise - no appointment necessary

Sept 20	Wallingford, Town Hall, OX10 0AD
Oct 11	Faringdon, Pump Rooms, SN7 7HL
Oct 18	Wantage, Civic Hall, OX12 9BX
<b>Contact Ed Vaizey MP by</b>	
Post	The House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA
E-mail	<a href="mailto:vaizeye@parliament.uk">vaizeye@parliament.uk</a>
Web	<a href="http://www.vaizey.com">www.vaizey.com</a>
Tel	0207 219 6350

**THE MARTIN THORNE VIDEOS**

**VE Day Remembered,**

**Marcham Street Party & Evening Beacon.**

The free DVD this month is a 'Blockbuster', so I am preparing a few more copies. Marcham can be proud in its enthusiasm to celebrate the 50 anniversary of VE Day in 1995. We were one of the few villages in Oxfordshire to have a street party. Both the daytime party and the lighting of the evening beacon were well attended. The footage shows many local characters (some sadly no longer with us), and also a host of very hungry children. They soon cleared the food from the line of trestle tables that ran from the Institute almost to the Crown. With a Punch & Judy show, Morris Men and a touching 2 minutes silence at the end, this DVD is part of our recent history that you will not want to miss.

As with all these videos now being transferred to DVD, they are totally free by emailing [martinthorne@hotmail.com](mailto:martinthorne@hotmail.com) or from now onwards they are

**ALSO AVAILABLE IN MARCHAM SHOP.**

All I ask in return is a donation to the Madnews if you can afford it.

Also available:

Marcham Players "Sweeney Todd"

Marcham Cubs "Oliver!"

**MT**

**SINGING IS GOOD FOR YOU!**

Dates for July and August  
 2pm to 3.30pm  
 10th and 24th September.  
 Tea and cake follow the singing.  
 62 North Street, Marcham  
 Come and join us! For more details:  
 Christine Whild Tel 391270



**MARCHAM CRICKET CLUB**

The end of the OCA Season is soon to be upon us. Remaining Fixtures for this year are:

Sept	1st XI	2nd XI
7	Hanborough Home	Chesterton II Away
14		Ducklington II Home



Please contact Trevor Hill (391321) for any information relating to the Club - including playing or umpiring for Marcham. **CSB**  
 September 2013

**GARD UPDATE**

The public consultation closed on 23rd July 2013 for Thames Water proposals for the next 25 years. The thrust of the Thames Water plan is to make up the very significant forecast shortfall in supply by much more re-use of treated effluent, provided the customers in London will accept this. It will be 100% safe but there is an inevitable "yuck" factor in the public perception of re-use.

The Thames Water proposals really only address the supply for the next 15 years and say that the next plan covering 2020 to 2045 will involve a new major resource to meet forecast population increases and climate change. This new resource will be one of three options: a reservoir, more re-use of waste water or transfers from the Severn to the Thames. These options are listed and costed in the documents provided by Thames Water and put the Abingdon reservoir back onto the agenda. GARD has responded in a detailed and robust criticism of the plan and the costs which will be put onto our website shortly :- [www.abingdonreservoir.org.uk](http://www.abingdonreservoir.org.uk) . Things will now go quiet until Thames Water respond to the consultation in November, but we will keep on pressing them on many unanswered questions.

We hope that defra and the Environment Agency will analyse our input and support our alternative suggestions which show that transfers from the Severn are economic and far less environmentally damaging than a reservoir.

Finally I would encourage anybody from the affected villages, with technical or engineering aptitude, who would like to join the GARD Committee to contact me on 01235 832077

**NICK THOMPSON** Hon Chairman GARD

**Would you like to make your community Dementia Friendly?**

Get involved with the Dementia Friendly Communities project through ORCC and we can support you to do just that. We can support you to;

- Galvanise support for making your community dementia friendly where you live
- Provide your community with FREE training to help you have a better understanding of dementia
- Support you to devise a practical plan that will make a difference for those living with dementia in your area

We need your help to make communities across Oxfordshire better places for people with dementia to live.

To find out how you can make a difference contact Beth Weston at ORCC on [beth.weston@oxonrcc.org.uk](mailto:beth.weston@oxonrcc.org.uk) or 01865 883488

Save the Children in association with the Williams F1 Team, are holding a **GALA DINNER DANCE on Saturday 28th September 2013, from 6.00pm to 1.00am**, at the Williams Conference Centre, Grove, Oxon, OX12 0DQ. Put yourself in pole position for a place at this exclusive Black Tie/ Lounge Suit event at the home of the Williams F1 Team.



From 6pm, attendees will hear a presentation by Kirsty Andrew of Williams Advanced Engineering, have an opportunity to visit the Williams F1 Grand Prix Collection, and experience driving a F1 Simulator (at extra cost). In addition they will enjoy a Sparkling Wine Reception and a Gourmet 3-course Fine Dining Dinner, including wines.

There will be an Auction overseen by Jonty Hearnden, the BBC Celebrity Auctioneer for two sets of two tickets for Williams Race Days, and other valuable lots. There will also be a Raffle of many prestigious prizes.

Tickets priced at £95 each, (10% discount on 10 or more tickets i.e. £850.00 for a table of 10) are on sale; just call 01993 842983 or email [graham.evans29@btinternet.com](mailto:graham.evans29@btinternet.com) to make sure that you are on the grid.

September 2013



Our next **Open Day** will be on Wednesday, 4 September 2013 from 10 am to 3 pm. The theme for this Open Day is "Seating and Pressure Care". We hope to have a range of reclining chairs, armchairs, pressure cushions, office chairs, chair supporting systems etc. As always all are welcome to attend our Open Days. Just drop in. Refreshments available.

Guideposts Trust Independent Living Centre  
 Peachcroft Christian Centre (new venue)  
 Lindsay Drive, Abingdon OX14 2RT  
 Call 01235 856212 (our new phone number)  
[www.guidepostsilc.org.uk](http://www.guidepostsilc.org.uk)

**Against Breast Cancer are turning Abingdon pink to mark Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and they want you get involved!**



Breast Cancer is the most common form of cancer in the UK, with 136 women and 1 man being diagnosed with the disease every day. As this number continues to increase, the unique research funded by Against Breast Cancer, which aims to find vital information to improve detection and increase survival after diagnosis, is more important than ever.

With your help this October, Against Breast Cancer can get closer towards reaching their goal of a future free from breast cancer. There is no end to ways you could support them, from holding a cake sale to taking part in a sponsored silence, dying your hair pink, or running 10k... and there will be something for everyone to enjoy at the annual Abingdon Splash of Pink Day on Saturday 26th October when the Market Square is turned pink to mark Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Join the celebrations between 10am – 4pm.

**To find out more about getting involved, email [info@againstbreastcancer.org.uk](mailto:info@againstbreastcancer.org.uk) visit [www.againstbreastcancer.org.uk](http://www.againstbreastcancer.org.uk)**

**NEW INITIATIVE TO SUPPORT HOMEWORKERS**

A new initiative is to be introduced to help those who run businesses from home. The first homeworkers' hub meeting for businesses in and around Didcot will take place on Wednesday 11 September 2013 at Cornerstone arts centre in Didcot between 11am and 1pm. The meeting aims to provide help, advice, meeting rooms and informal networking opportunities for those who work from home by providing a business environment for people to meet and work with like-minded people from across the districts.

It is hoped that the initiative will build on the excellent groundwork started by Jennings, who launched a homeworkers hub at 'The Picnic Hamper' café and business lounge at Monument Business Park, Chalgrove, last year. Jennings is fully supportive of this latest initiative.

The idea stemmed from feedback from home-based businesses at a joint event held by South Oxfordshire and the Vale of White Horse District Councils last year. Businesses suggested they would welcome opportunities to meet with other home-based businesses and get access to advice and facilities.

The first meeting will feature a guest speaker followed by a tour of Cornerstone. The tour will highlight the different spaces available within the venue for home-based businesses to use.

If you are a home-based business and are interested in attending homeworkers hub meetings, then please contact Fiona Burn at Cornerstone on [Fiona.Burn@southoxon.gov.uk](mailto:Fiona.Burn@southoxon.gov.uk) or 01235 515132.



# All Saints' and St. Luke's Parish Page

## Dear Friends,

I hope you have enjoyed seeing something of the sun this summer – at least during July!

September is the busy beginning of another academic term and of the autumn programme of events in the life of both community and the church. There's always a lot going on, and this autumn is no exception!

In the busyness it is all too easy to put one's head down and 'get on with it' – without looking up, and catching again the stillness of a larger vision or the quietness of moments when reflection would help clarify the way ahead. Faith encourages us to look up – to the Son, and seek His way forward – in all things.

Please may I extend the warmest invitation to our forthcoming **ALPHA** Course? It provides the opportunity for open questions, discussion, exploration and pleasant company. There are no hidden agendas – simply open exploration of Christian things – what we believe and why, how the 'big' pieces of the picture fit together. If you would like to come, do let me or Jenny Warwick know. The dates of the course are on this page – opposite.

And **HARVEST** is this month too! We are holding a special open air harvest celebration on the Anson field on **SUNDAY 29<sup>th</sup> Sept. at 10.30am**. Do come and join in the fun!

And so as the hues of summer give way to the colours of autumn, the wonder of nature calls us to marvel again at the majesty and beauty of God's creation – to looking up in praise and worship, and in thankfulness for His love.

With my warmest greetings

**Revd Richard Zair**

## Prayer for the Month:

Heavenly Father,  
Thank you for the beauty of autumnal colour, the wonder of creation, and the grace we can experience through your Son, Jesus Christ.  
Amen.

## September Events

**Sat 14<sup>th</sup> September: Special Men's Breakfast – with families welcome – to celebrate the Ride and Stride event!** 8.30 am at All Saints'. For more info, contact James Allan on 391 373.

**Sat 21<sup>st</sup> September – "Here and Now" – a musical based on the Sermon on the Mount** 7 pm at All Saints' – performed by the Witney Inter-Church singers. All welcome – no ticket required.

**Special OPEN AIR HARVEST celebration: Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September at 10.30am on the Anson Field** Do come along and join us!

## ? ALPHA COURSE ???

**Initial "Taster" Evening - Friday Sep 20<sup>th</sup>, 7.30 pm at Manor Farm Boardroom.** All welcome – feel free to come and explore whether Alpha is for you. The course proper will be on Thursday nights at All Saints' (7.30 pm) starting on 3<sup>rd</sup> October.

## Parish People:

We celebrated the weddings of Helena Rodger and Thierry Ashworth (13<sup>th</sup> July) & Maria Beetles-Hill and Sebastian Madronal (27<sup>th</sup> July).

Funerals have taken place for Rodney Rogers, Harry Stephen Dore and Mrs Jennifer Hurford. We offer our prayers and condolences to all their families.

The funeral of William Lay, of Mill Road, who died tragically and suddenly, took place at Kingston Bagpuize. Please remember his family in your prayers.

## Regular services:

**Sundays at All Saints':** 10 am and 6 pm

**Wednesdays:** 10.30am HC at Duffield Place

**Sunday at St. Luke's:** **8<sup>th</sup> September** at 10.30 am  
[including a baptism ]

## Contact:

Revd Richard Zair

391319

41 North Street, Marcham ([r\\_zair@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:r_zair@yahoo.co.uk))

[www.marcham-with-garford.org.uk](http://www.marcham-with-garford.org.uk)

*Join us for a fun weekend at MBC -  
on the bends of Packhorse Lane -  
but for safety, please come across  
Anson Field and follow the signs  
from the far corner.*

Marcham  
Baptist  
Church

**Fun Day  
Open Day**



**Craft Fair**

*Craft Fair - Bouncy Castle - BBQ -  
Face Painting & take a look  
around our refurbished church*

**Sat 7 Sept  
12.00 - 4.00**



**Sun 8 Sept  
10.30 - 11.30**

*Children must be accompanied by an adult on both days*

**I trust that you had a great summer. Do come and join us  
for a fun weekend on 7 / 8 Sep.**

**Keith Mersh    Pastor Marcham Baptist Church**

Contact	Keith Mersh	Pastor	01865 391881
Or	Bill Dyer	Elder	01235 814986

**Speakers in July / August**

1 Sep	- Colin Norris
8 Sep	- MESSY CHURCH
15 Sep	- Paul Revell
22 Sep	- Ian Millgate
29 Sep	- HARVEST FESTIVAL - Joint event with All Saints on the Anson field

Join us on Sundays at 10.30am,  
or call Keith if you want to chat about life  
and faith.