

Marcham & District News

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

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



October 2013 Vol: 35 No: 10

READ & RECYCLE!

FREE



▲ Trish Wagstaff paraglides for charity see page 3



▲ Tosca see page 11



▲ Ras Dejen see page 19



▲ Oliver!



▲ Sweeney Todd



▲ VE 50



▲ School 1992

▲ *The Martin Thorne videos now available at the shop* see page 17 ▲



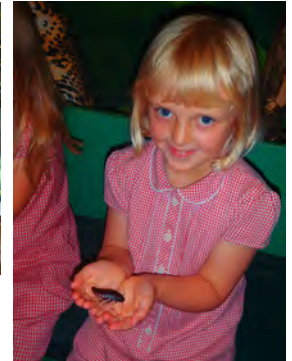
▲ Little Angels baking



▲ PreSchool walkabout



▲ Kangaroos and creepy crawlies at the zoo! ►



October		
2 Wed	Guideposts Open Day, Abingdon 10.00-15.00	16
2 Wed	WARP Meeting, Civic Hall, Wantage, 14.00	16
3 Thur	Midweek Walk Plough Inn, Appleton, 12.30 / 13.30	11
4 Fri	Coffee Morning Bring and Buy, Brushwood Farm, 10.30 – 12.30	17
6 Sun	Abbey Chamber Concerts, St Nicolas Church, Abingdon, 15.00	15
8 Tue	Mobile Library Duffield Place: 10.05, Sweetbriar: 10.20	
8 Tue	Singing, 62 North Street, 14.00 – 15.30	19
8 Tue	Marcham Society, All Saints' Church, 19.45	11
9 Wed	Allotment Rent Collection, Duffield Place 18.30 – 19.30	3
9 Wed	Marcham Parish Council Meeting, Duffield Place, 19.30	3
11 Fri	MP's Surgery, Faringdon, 17.30 – 19.00	11
12 Sat	RDA Autumn Fair, Abingdon 10.00-16.00	16
12 Sat	Wantage and Grove Lions Autumn Craft Fayre, Grove, 10.00 – 16.00	16

13 Sun	Christminster Singers, Appleton Village Hall, 19.30	17
14 Mon	Police and Crime Commissioner Public Meeting, Didcot, 19.00	9
17 Thur	Marcham WI, Denman Collge, 19.30	11
18 Fri	MP's Surgery, Wantage, 17.30 – 19.00	11
19 Sat	MCG Apple Day, Marcham School, 11.00 – 16.00	7
19 Sat	Family Race Night, Ex-Servicemen's Club, 20.30	17
19 Sat	Tosca, All Saints' Church, 19.30	11
22 Tue	Mobile Library Duffield Place: 10.05, Sweetbriar: 10.20	
22 Tue	Singing, 62 North Street, 14.00 – 15.30	19
23-24	Sobell Christmas Gift Fair, Radley College, 10.00	16
26 Sat	A Splash of Pink in Abingdon 10.00 – 16.00	19
26 Sat	Have Your Say, MVS 11.00-12.00	3
26 Sat	Poppy Appeal runs until 9 November	5
26-27	Stowe House Christmas Gift Fayre, 10.00	16

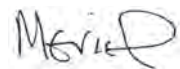
Details of events may change after publication, please check with the relevant organisers before attending events.

Dear Readers

I had hoped that there would have been some information about the proposed housing development and leisure facilities this month. *SOME* information, even if just to say "we can't say anything at the moment" is better than *NO* information at all.

But there are lots of things to see and do in October, fairs and fayres, concerts an Apple Day, an open day and a pink Abingdon ... and hot drinks in Marcham shop – what more could you possibly ask for!?

Until next time



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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

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Marcham and Shippon

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Wick Lane, Drayton OX14 4HJ

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For other councillors go to

www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk

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October 2013

MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Parish Council Vacancy: Casual Vacancy

Jane Fabes has resigned from the Parish Council. The Council would thank her, for her efforts and contributions on behalf of the community. As a result a casual vacancy has occurred on the Parish Council. A formal vacancy has been declared and the District Council will advise in due course whether an election is demanded. If an election is not called for, the Parish Council will be able to co-opt to fill the vacant seat. If there is anyone therefore interested in joining the Council, then he/she is invited to contact the Parish Clerk for further information about the role.

Recycling Facilities: Duffield Place Eastbound bus stop/Howard Cornish Road

The District Council's recycling bins have now been removed. The Parish Council is considering alternate uses for the area, and has written to the Vale of White Horse District Council to seek permission for a bus shelter and seat. There is a litter bin close by which unfortunately seems to have become a dog waste bin. This was particularly unpleasant during the warmer days of Summer, and the Parish Council has received a request to relocate the bin.

It is asking the District Council whether it would give permission for it to be installed about 20 feet further eastwards, and whether the District Council would still continue to empty the bin.

Real Poppy Campaign

The 100th anniversary of World War I is on 4th August 2014. The real poppy campaign is aiming to plant poppies to remember the sacrifices made during that war. The Parish Council is keen to support the idea, but is looking for suggestions as to planting areas where the poppies can grow, but where they are not a nuisance for agriculture. The Council would welcome ideas of where there are suitable soil conditions, and where to sow the seed.

Grants

The Parish Council considers any requests for grants at its November meeting. Grant requests are considered usually just once a year. Therefore, if there is any worthy and needy organisation where Marcham residents benefit which is considering applying to the Parish Council for a grant, then please write to the Clerk by the end of the month, stating the purpose of the grant and supplying a copy of your organisation's accounts.

Trick or Treat - 31st October

It is approaching that time of year when children can be tempted into going out trick or treating. Normally it is a harmless pastime for children, but it can also be both frightening and intimidating. Much distress is caused by unexpected knocks on the door or loud noises. Some residents may welcome treat or treating, others do not. If your children do go out, please encourage them to call only on those whom they

know and to respect the wishes of anyone who does not wish to participate.

If you do get an unexpected caller, make sure the chain or door bar is on before you open the door. Do not let anyone in your house unless you are happy with their identity. If you need to talk to the police call 101 or dial 999 in an emergency.

Fireworks

Whilst it is only October, fireworks night at the beginning of November will soon be upon us. A reminder to think ahead and to be considerate for neighbours and the many pets and animals in the village when letting off your fireworks. Please notify others when any fireworks are going to be lit so that villagers are aware and arrangements can be made to keep pets indoors.

Planning Applications

The following planning applications have been considered :

P13/V1867/LB conversion of part of garage to provide ground floor bedroom. 14 Mill Road – The Parish Council had no objections.

P13/V1796/LB replace rotten frames of existing windows and doors. Morland, Sheepstead Road – The Parish Council had no objections.

Date of Next Council Meeting:

Wednesday 9th October, 2013 at 7.30 p.m. in the residents' lounge, at Duffield Place.

Allotment Rent Collection

The Clerk will be in attendance from 6.30 – 7.30 p.m on Wednesday 9th October in the residents' lounge at Duffield Place for the purpose of collecting allotment rents.

Would allotment holders please remember to bring their rent card with them.

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



Have Your Say

- Saturday 26 October
Marcham Village Shop
1100-1200

**PCSO Andy McCormack C9461
Abingdon Outer
Neighbourhood Team
NAG7 Marcham, Wootton,
Shippon and Boars Hill
Police Non-emergency
number: 101**

www.thamesvalley.police.uk

If you are holding an event within or near the MADNews area, contact the editor for more publicity!
01865 391725
editor@madnews.co.uk

Dear Editor

The Wayside Cross is our focus of Remembrance and it is an important feature in our village. The cross is located close to the A 415 and can be seen by passers-by as they drive through the village.

It is more difficult for pedestrians to access the cross for peaceful reflection because of the frequency and noise of passing traffic.

With the remembrance of the 100 years since the commencement of World War One taking place next year the cross will no doubt be the focus point for several services.

A recent inspection has highlighted considerable damage to the base of the cross caused by cracking of the stone and water ingress. It is not helped by the proximity to the road and the general pollution caused by traffic vibration and fumes.

The Parish Council would like to restore the cross and the ground surrounding the cross but would like to pose a question to the village first.

A recent visit from a volunteer from War Memorials Trust questioned as to the siting of the cross and asked if the village would benefit from the wayside cross being moved to a more accessible position and away from the traffic that is causing so much damage.

We would welcome the thoughts of parishioners and especially families associated with the names we remember on November 11th every year.

In particular we would like suggestions as how we should proceed with this initiative and potential sites that could be considered. Could you please send your considered thoughts to Linda Martin – Clerk to Marcham Parish Council at 90 Howard Cornish Rd, 01865 391833 or clerk@marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk

If you have any questions about the history of the Wayside Cross please contact Malcolm Denton (391497)

MALCOLM DENTON

Dear Editor

A huge "Thank You" to everyone who so kindly and generously sponsored me for my paraglide. I really enjoyed the experience in beautiful weather and seeing such lush and lovely countryside – could see for miles – the worst part was the trudge up to the top of Firle Beacon before I took off!

Your wonderful contribution towards the total of £10,000 has been handed into the Oxon Age UK and Oxbel.

My sincere thanks

TRISH WAGSTAFF

Oxfordshire Befriending for Life

www.oxbel.org.uk/

AgeUK Oxfordshire

www.ageuk.org.uk/oxfordshire/

October 2013

Dear Editor

Thank you for featuring our event details in the Summer edition of your newsletter. It contributed to the undoubted success of the coffee morning on 6 September, and I would be grateful if you could include the following message in the next edition.



Thank you to all the stall-holders, organisers and the many guests who supported the YoungDementiaUK Coffee Morning in Tubney on 6 September. The generous support of all involved raised over £1600 for this award winning Oxfordshire-based charity. The money will enable the charity to continue to provide and expand its landmark support to younger people with dementia and their families, on behalf of whom we send you a heartfelt

THANK YOU

Local newsletters such as yours are such a lifeline to community events and residents and play an important part in keeping us all in touch with what is going on upon our doorstep so, from one newsletter coordinator to another (who understands the tribulations it can entail!) *a hearty pat on the back to you, your contributors and all your deliverers!*

SHARMAN OLDHAM

MILK AND MORE – A TRIBUTE TO RON HUSSEY

In July of this year Marcham lost one of its longest serving and possibly most loved Dairy Crest milkmen.

Ron had delivered milk – first in pints and then in litres – to Marcham over a 30 year period. Riding proudly on his electric milk float he was always ready to greet you with a smile and a cheery word. He could readily have vied with a Lord Mayor of London in a golden carriage or Julius Caesar in his latest chariot. He really enjoyed his job. But Ron brought more than milk to and good cheer to the doorstep. His specialty was a large bleached willow basket filled with wondrous goodies. 'Have you tried our latest fruit yoghurt, biscuits for cheese, smoked back bacon, or multi-pack cereal?' he would ask. There was always something worth having from his 'little store at the door'.

In the spring he would carry into my greenhouse bags of peat-free compost for potting on my enlarging geraniums. He was mortified when he discovered I no longer required tomato growing bags as I felt my days as a tomato producer were over. He would often



**THE ROYAL BRITISH LEGION
POPPY APPEAL 2013**

The appeal this year runs from
Saturday 26th October to
Saturday 9th November 2013.

We will be contacting all collectors before this date to arrange delivery of boxes etc. If any body in the village is willing to help with this appeal we are always looking for helpers, please contact us on 01865 391497

CHRISTINE DENTON

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, contact the editor 01865 391725 editor@madnews.co.uk or pop a note in the PO envelope

find me in the greenhouse when there was no response from the front door and it was always a pleasure to see him. All his customers received a letter from one of his line managers (Dave Lewis) informing us of his sudden sad death in hospital. He said of Ron – 'he was not just part of the neighbourhood, he was part of the families. It is hard to put into words how popular and loved he has been. He touched the lives of so many people in so many ways and usually left them smiling'.

As his family (three girls and a boy) recorded – 'Dad was dedicated to looking after his customers, always wanting to give the best service possible with the biggest smile, a smile we will never forget'.

Thank you Ron for all your care and help over the years here in Marcham and may you in turn enjoy a heavenly relaxation possibly served by those former customers who knew you well and who may like still to leave you a batch of fresh mincepies at Christmas time!

You will be sadly missed.

MARJORIE EVANS

Bank Balance
£14,100

Local Events
£10,934

Donations
£6,814

2012 - 2013 Membership
Voting: 115 Junior: 18

5p Coins
4841

Marcham
Community
Group



Saturday 19 October

at

Marcham Primary

School

11am - 4pm

Where Gladstone meets Bismarck and Bess Pool meets Edward VII

Bring apples (with leaves if possible) for expert
IDENTIFICATION

Bring your apples (and a bottle) and get them
PRESSED

FAMILY LUNCH

Roast pork and apple sauce rolls
Barbecued pork and apple sausages
Pork and apple burgers

PLUS

Apple cakes, apple tarts, apple chutneys

Cider tasting

Games and activities for everyone

**Have you got the pip? Get down to the core.
Try something more appealing. Take your favourite apple
recipes to the shop. Copies will be available free on Apple Day.**

Apple Day – an MCG fun-raising event

We haven't forgotten! More on leisure facilities next month.



ED VAIZEY WRITES...



When the Government introduced Police and Crime Commissioners, one clear aim was to increase public accountability. While we have a low crime rate in the Constituency compared with many other parts of the UK, I know that local residents do have concerns about many police issues, so the opportunity to make sure that those in charge of the police is very important indeed.

I am very pleased, therefore, to be able to publicise an event on 14th October. The Police and Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley, Anthony Stansfield, will be holding a public meeting in Didcot. This is an open public meeting, which anyone can attend.

The event will be an opportunity for the Police and Crime Commissioner, along with the local police commander, Supt Andy Boyd, to meet residents and deliver presentations about the role of the PCC and local policing in South Oxfordshire. A representative from the Community Safety Partnership will also be in attendance to tell everyone more about the work they carry out in the area. Residents will be able to ask questions and feed back any concerns you may have about policing and crime.

The meeting will take place at 7pm on Monday 14 October at Didcot Civic Hall. Please do go along if you can both to hear about what is happening with policing locally and to put your own views to Anthony Stansfield and his colleagues.

If the subject of crime is one that gets your blood pressure up, you might like to hear about some statistics I recently came across. High blood pressure is one of the leading causes of a variety of illnesses, and it does not have any obvious symptoms but 1 in 3 people in the UK suffer from high blood pressure. It is easily picked up with a quick check, which most GP surgeries will carry out on an ad-hoc basis. Why not get your blood pressure checked next time you see your GP, or make an appointment to do so if you may not be at the surgery for a while? It takes very, very little time but might save your life ...

Since Parliament has returned from the summer recess I've been getting your emails and letters thick and fast, on Syria, bovine TB and the Transparency of Lobbying, Non-Party Campaigning and Trade Union Administration Bill.

On Syria, Parliament, reflecting the view of the British people, has made it clear that they do not want to see military action. I respect this opinion and the way it has been put. We must, however, ensure the continued taboo around the use of chemical weapons, so I support the Government's move to work with all the organisations we are members of, NATO, the EU, the G8 or the G20, to address what happened in Syria.

On Bovine TB, pilot badger culls are proceeding in Somerset and Gloucestershire. As I understand it, the monitoring of their effectiveness, humaneness and safety will be overseen and evaluated by an independent panel of experts who will report their findings to Ministers. I will be carefully looking at their findings.

On The Lobbying Bill, my view is that Government must keep the lines of information open from all parts of society. However, we must also bring transparency to the way third parties interact with the political system and reduce the undue influence of "Big Money" in politics. In my view the bill will achieve these aims.

As ever please feel free to contact me at the House of Commons, SW1A 0AA, 020 7219 6350 or vaizeye@parliament.uk. Surgery details can be found at www.vaizey.com.

ED VAIZEY, MP Wantage and Didcot (Con)

COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT

With an Officer team many times larger than the District Council, and a budget of nearly £1 billion, it is understandable that decisions and actions take much longer to reach at County than at District. There is some good news for Marcham and Shippon over weed clearance and some sprucing up of the Village White Entrance Gates in the coming months, but we all (me included) will need to be patient.

There is a small pot of money available for community schemes. I have already received some interest, but would welcome more, so that I can co-ordinate the applications. Any community activity needing support or start-up help to the tune of £100 - £500 may be eligible. Please let me know if you are interested by the end of October.

Home to School Transport

It seems that this issue is not going to go away. OCC spends some £17m every year on School Transport. It needs to save over £100m across its budget and most areas are protected. I suspect that we will wind up with Schools themselves taking responsibility for the funding (or not) of school transport – starting with Academies. There is a gradual move towards making schools responsible for their own budgets and taking away the responsibilities of County Councils for Education provision. The interim changeover period is going to be painful and contentious, but OCC, in common with all County Councils has got some tough decisions to make in the next year or two. Marcham has been heavily involved in the debate over the past eighteen months and I am keen that we should stay involved.

Spare a Thought

The County Division of "Sutton Courtenay & Marcham" seems a very large and disconnected area with each village having its own, quite separate problems. Some of the problems are similar simply because all 3 of the larger villages are of similar size. There are many other shared problems, however, and all the villages including Appleford, Milton and Shippon have an interest in sharing their experiences and their ideas. Abingdon's problems are our problems, too. Increasingly, Didcot's problems are becoming ours. All are under threat of speculative planning applications. Sutton Courtenay is under special pressure from the expansion of Milton Park, a potential 1m square foot warehouse, the steadily increasing activity at the FCC waste recycling site, not to mention the demolition of Didcot A.

All these things have implications for housing and transport in all the villages. It must be in all our interests for the villages and their Parish Councils to get together to share experiences, problems and solutions. I wonder if we all live too much in our own bubbles at present. We would surely have much more clout together.

RICHARD WEBBER CLLR, OCC

Richard.webber77@ntlworld.com or 01235 534001

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT

The hot, sunny weather of the last few months brings out the best in all of us, a sense of bonhomie, and in this frame of mind it is very satisfactory to be able to thank some very deserving people who have worked hard and selflessly for the village. The Chairman of the Vale's Community Awards allows us to do this and names have already been submitted. More on this next month.

All of us are now very aware of the new building developments which are coming to the Council's Planning Committee, but are we clear about the S106 which comes with each development and is our compensation for accepting them? There is some misunderstanding about why agreements seem to have been made on what compensation will be paid before an application comes in front of a Vale Planning Committee. This can lead to suspicions of underhand behaviour, bribery etc. The truth is that the Planning Committee has nothing to do with the compensation, and although it is presented with the whole package at each planning hearing, it is simply making a decision on planning criteria only.

The large pot of S106 money does have certain restrictions on it, but it is our right to say what we would like some of the money to be spent on in the village. To make sure that our voice is heard, it is vital that we have a wish list and it is important that these wishes get into the negotiations at an early stage. So if any of you want to suggest something, please let your parish councillors know.

CATHERINE WEBBER

01235 534001 or catherinewebber@hotmail.co.uk



The
**Marcham
Society**

Evening Meeting and AGM
The Story of Northcourt
Judy White

All Saints' Church Marcham 7.45pm 8th October

Following meeting:
Members' Evening 12th November

Non-members always welcome £2 www.marchamsociety.org.uk

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

MARCHAM SOCIETY REPORT

At their September meeting, members of the Marcham Society were introduced to the world of the otter, courtesy of Graham Scholey, a conservation specialist with the West Thames Environment Agency.

Otters swim low in the water, making them more difficult to spot than mink. Their thick fur helps them cope with cold water, but they frequently come onto dry land to shake themselves in order to avoid becoming chilled. They breed at any time of year, but their holts - beneath the roots of trees in river banks - are vulnerable to flooding. Graham amused his audience by apologising for not bringing along some otter poo - apparently it smells like jasmine tea!

Otters were widespread throughout Britain in 1950, but by the 1970s they had all but disappeared. This was mainly due to pesticides entering the food chain and water courses and changes due to land drainage. Changes in farming practices and cleaner river water have helped a gradual improvement in numbers. The otters' diet is about 70% fish, so Graham and his colleagues are working with anglers to help allay concerns and protect fisheries. The otter population along the Ock is doing well, so if you go out on a mild night next summer and sit quietly near the river, you just might be lucky enough to see one. JF

MARCHAM SOCIETY MIDWEEK WALK

Thursday October 3rd.

This month's walk will be a new one, but close to home, thanks to permissions from the landowner and the Environment Agency. We will meet at the Plough Inn (Map Ref SP443014) in Eaton Road, Appleton at 12.30 for lunch or 1.30 for the walk of just over 4 miles. We will cross the Thames at Northmoor Lock, then up river to Ten-foot Bridge and back via Appleton Lower Common. Members free, non-members £1. We always welcome new walkers. Ring Eric Dunford on 391439 for lifts and further details.



**MARCHAM AND DISTRICT
EX SERVICEMEN'S CLUB
NORTH STREET, MARCHAM**

All members, registered members and registered partners

"IN TO WIN"

Every Saturday night
Between 9.30 And 10.45.

Prizes Won To Date (16 September 2013)
£50, £90, And £120

There Have Been 20 Draws Since May
16 Registered Members Who Were Not In The Club
At Time Of Draw Have Missed Out On Collecting!
You Must Be In The Club At Time Of Draw To Win
Full Set Of Rules Are Displayed In The Club

**EX SERVICEMEN'S CLUB
NORTH STREET, MARCHAM**

Marcham WI

The October meeting of Marcham WI will be **AN OPEN EVENING**. Please feel free to come along and enjoy a talk by Graham Horn on **THE KENNET AND AVON CANAL**. Afterwards, cheese and wine will be served.



The date is **Thursday, 17th October** - the time is 7.30pm - the place **DENMAN COLLEGE**. (look on the gate to see which room we are in) **LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING OUR VISITORS - BOTH MEN AND WOMEN.**

OXFORDSHIRE EVENTS

Tuesday 29th October - "GOING ONLINE" - Tackley.
Tuesday, 5th November - Sugarcraft workshop, Yarnton
Wednesday, 6th November - Music Tasters Chadlington.
Contacts for any queries, new members or visitors
Christine Whild 01865 391270



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

Tosca

All Saints' Church
Saturday 19th October, 7.30 pm

Enjoy the Royal Opera House Performance
in Blu Ray format*
Tickets £15 each

(family ticket £40 - 2 adults and 2 under 18s)
Available from Jenny Warwick on 01865 392 076
or from the village shops

Ticket includes interval canapés and soft drinks
wine available

Come dressed for the Opera (optional) - dig out those
tiaras! Prize for the best outfit!

* Please note this is not a live performance.

The Royal Opera House production was recorded and Opera
Anywhere has a license to show this recording (Blu Ray is like a
high quality DVD). Think cinema not cabaret!

MP'S SURGERY WITH ED VAIZEY

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

Oct 11	Faringdon , Pump Rooms, SN7 7HL
Oct 18	Wantage , Civic Hall, OX12 9BX
Contact Ed Vaizey MP by	
Post	The House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA
E-mail	vaizeye@parliament.uk
Web	www.vaizey.com
Tel	0207 219 6350

THE FUTURE OF BABIES AND TODDLERS

We (Anne and Tess) have both got new jobs so we are very excited about our family futures. However, it is with great sadness we therefore have to come off the Babies and Toddlers committee at the AGM on the 30th September. Anne has been coming to toddlers for five years, been on the committee for four years and been Chair for three years. Tess has been coming to toddlers for four years, on the committee for three years as Treasurer. Dalvinder has also left the committee as her children are now school-aged, but has been coming to toddlers for three years and been Secretary for one year. We have all really enjoyed being part of Babies and Toddlers. We have benefitted from the early days when we came with our babies, having a friendly face to talk to when life as a parent is very hard, and all wanted to give something back to the community of Marcham by volunteering to be on the committee and help to run our group.

In our new jobs, we are now not able to come on Tuesdays on a regular basis, so from Tuesday 1st October 2013, Babies and Toddlers will cease to run unless the required two committee members volunteer for the roles of Chair and Treasurer. More members would be welcome and would benefit the running of the group. **Being Chair and Treasurer is really not scary!**

Chair involves: regular attendance to the group, setting up the session and packing away, welcoming new members, countersigning cheques, planning with the committee the weekly activities (play dough every other week!) and having a 3 or 4 meetings a year, planning the Christmas party and an AGM.

Treasurer involves: regular attendance to the group, setting up the session, bringing the weekly book, checking the money at the end of each session, welcoming new members, paying the money into the bank 4 times a year, writing out the rent and insurance cheques that are countersigned by the Chair, paying for refreshments and activities and planning the Christmas party.

Having a secretary does benefit the group as things do run more smoothly and social events run more often!

If you are interested in forming the new committee and want to ask Anne or Tess anything about the roles, please do approach us before the AGM on 30th September 2013.

Anne and Tess would like to thank **Denise and Jenny** for all their support and commitment to the group over the years. The cups of tea, friendly faces, holding of our screaming babies and also a shoulder to cry on have been invaluable and we are eternally grateful.

Babies and Toddlers has been an essential part of Marcham and surrounding villages for many years, with Health Visitors recommending our group to locals, due to its friendly nature, welcoming atmosphere and the fact that it traditionally runs all year. We are sad that we cannot run the group for the above reasons and hope for the future parents in the village that it continues for many years to come.

Many Thanks

ANNE AND TESS

ABINGDON LITTLE ANGELS

Little Angels Pre-school room have been busy as always focusing on the topic of Farms this month. The children have created their very own farm, with cows, sheep, pigs and other animals. We have joined in with songs of Old MacDonald and the children have learnt how to sign the song which is great. We also spent time looking at crops, harvesting crops and finishing by making our own bread, which they all took home to eat and share.

We welcome lots of new families and Babies in particular in our Baby room, all the babies have spent time playing with bricks, puppets and

October 2013



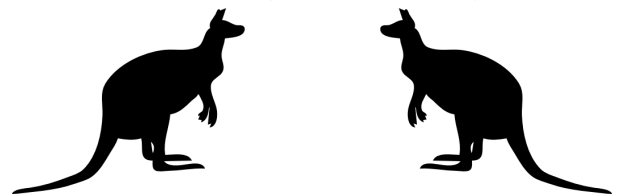
exploring the new environment with paint, sand, water and all the messy things to have fun with. The four seated buggy has been put to good use when taking the babies out for a walk around the village. **AFTER SCHOOL CLUB** has returned to start the new school year after their holidays and we are spending the next few weeks looking at Europe, Africa and Asia. The children at After School Club have looked at the map of the world and created pictures of France and Italy. They also had the opportunity to make their very own croissants which was a big hit. Football session with **serious 4 sport** have started again and the after school children are as keen as ever to join in.

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@abingdonlittleangels.co.uk.

MARCHAM PRE-SCHOOL NEWS

Only two weeks in and already well into the swing of things! We have had a very busy start welcoming all our new families and reacquainting ourselves with our returning families. How lovely it has been to see the changes and new developments for all the children. So much has been going on it is difficult to know what to share!! Here is just a sample..... a letter from the tooth fairy, discussions on how to keep your teeth healthy, painting, light box colour changing, banana smoothies, sorting the mummy bears, daddy bears and baby bears, musical instruments, marble runs and much much more, including our Weekly Walkabout where the children searched for natural and manmade objects around the school and made pictures with their findings! If you would like to join Marcham Pre-school now or any time in the future, please contact us to discuss availability - places are going fast! You can contact us on 01865 392101, marcham-preschool@hotmail.co.uk or via our website www.marcham-preschool.weebly.com

MARION, NICKY, KATHARINE, SAM AND NATASHA
 marcham-preschool@hotmail.co.uk
www.marcham-preschool.weebly.com



NEWS FROM THE KANGAROOS

On Friday July 12 Kangaroo Class of Marcham School visited Bristol Zoo. We had raised the money to go by doing a sponsored silence and organising the Kangaroo Cafe where we cooked a 3 course meal for our parents.

'I liked Bristol Zoo because I liked the animal talk and I liked holding the cockroach because it did a poo on my hand'. Lara
Our trip was really interesting because we saw Jock the Gorilla on his island with his family. Hannah

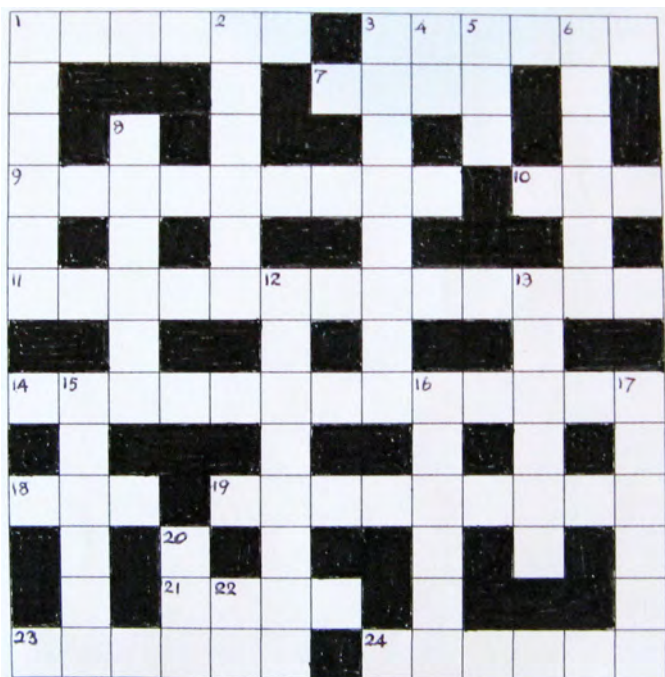
Bristol Zoo was really fun because some of the animals looked really funny. There was an animal that was half zebra, half giraffe. Mollie Mae

I didn't know snakes could grow so big. Tristan

I never knew there was such a thing as an Okapi. Ollie

We have adopted a Slender-tailed meerkat called Babushka. If you visit Bristol Zoo, look out for our name on the adoption board by the enclosure.

CROSSWORD by ALISA



ACROSS

- 1 Rouse up (6)
- 3 Farmers' implement (6)
- 7 Bird (4)
- 9 Place near Southmoor (9)
- 10 Period (3)
- 11 Fortnightly visitor (6.7)
- 14 Presenter of Tosca (5.8)
- 18 Gardener's tool (3)
- 19 Halfway to Swindon (9)
- 21 Cast off (4)
- 23 Crushed to a pulp (6)
- 24 Food for a stick insect (6)

DOWN

- 1 Badge (6)
- 2 Gardener's tool (6)
- 3 Attractively (8)
- 4 Archaic look (2)
- 5 Bird (3)
- 6 Cat colour (6)
- 8 Make possible (6)
- 12 Originated (8)
- 13 List of items (6)
- 15 Illogical fear (6)
- 16 Walk about (6)
- 17 Boy's name (6)
- 20 Tree (3)
- 22 That man (2)

**Abbey Chamber
Concerts 2013**

**St Nicolas Church
Abingdon OX14 3HF
Sunday 6 October
3.00pm**

**John Haworth violin
Marcus Andrews piano**

**Stravinsky
Suite Italienne for Violin and
Piano**
I Introduzione: Allegro
Moderato
VI Minuetto e Finale

**Janacek
Sonata for Violin and Piano**
**Beethoven
Sonata for Piano and Violin in A
major Op. 30 no.1**

**Tickets £10 (£9 conc) on
door or from 07775 904626**

www.abbeychamberconcerts.org

A Community Led Plan for Marcham

It's here!

A printed copy of the 24 page Community-led Plan for Marcham was delivered to every house in the village during September. Hopefully your copy arrived safely, but if you didn't get one then please contact either of us and we can drop one round.

Just to remind you, the Plan was put together by more than 70 volunteers in Marcham, and it is based on the answers that were given by 1207 people in the village. We hope that you will find time to read the Plan, and even to keep it for future reference.

We need more volunteers

Producing this Plan is only half the story. The Plan will only be a success if it makes a difference. The next stage is to make sure that as much as possible actually gets done. With that in mind, we are looking for more volunteers! We are about to set up a Community-led Plan Implementation Group that 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 would also welcome support from any member of the community in helping to achieve any of the actions in the Plan.

If you are willing to help in any way, please telephone either of us.

Find out more on our website

If you would like to see more details about what we've done so far and our progress in the future, then please visit our website:

www.marchamforward.org

If you would like more information
please contact:

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



HOME & GARDEN

Home & Garden Maintenance

All garden maintenance covered from lawn cutting to lawn care

- * small garden designs * flower beds tidied/shrubs/bulbs planted
- * tree work - pruning/lopping/shaping etc * patios laid /cleaned
- *fencing & gates erected/repaired/painted *sheds erected/repaired

Most property maintenance covered

- * painting / decorating including outside
- * tiling * all indoor jobs covered * small carpentry work
- * guttering/replaced/cleaned * house removals& clearance

Mr G. TIERNEY Tel. 01865 730428 Mob. 07885550075
Free quotes & estimates Email Gavin.Tierney42@hotmail.co.uk

Wantage Association of Retired Persons (WARP)

welcomes retired people over 50 from Wantage and surrounding areas.

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

2 Oct Administration of Guildford Cathedral, presenter Lt.Col. (ret'd) Jon Fleming OBE FRGS

6 Nov Not So Bleak Midwinter, presenter Tim Walker

4 Dec Christmas Lunch for Members at Drayton Golf Club
Guests are welcome at the door with an entrance fee of £4 per person. Go to 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 a meeting.

THE SOBELL CHRISTMAS GIFT FAIR at RADLEY COLLEGE

Nr Abingdon, Oxon

10am – 5pm Saturday 23rd Nov

10am – 4.30pm Sunday 24th Nov

- * Over 60 stalls
- * Refreshments
- * Unique Gift Ideas

'Something for Everybody'

Come and Support Sobell House Hospice Charity

Entrance £5 Concessions £2.50

(Charity no. 1118646)



EVENTS



Christmas Gift Fayre

Saturday 26 and Sunday 27

October 2013

10.00am - 5.00pm

Adults £6.00 Children £4.00

Includes entry to the magnificent State Rooms of Stowe House, plus free parking and minibus transfer to the event.

Enquiries and group bookings please call 01280 818282 or email events@stowe.co.uk

Wantage & Grove Lions Club are holding an

Autumn Craft Fayre at

Old Mill Hall Grove on

Saturday 12th October

from 10.00am till 4.00pm.

Entry is Free

Refreshments available throughout the Day

Further information from 01865 391257



RDA AUTUMN FAIR

10am – 4pm Saturday 12th October

Christ Church, Northcourt Road,

Abingdon OX14 1PL

Entrance £3 with a chance to win a luxury hamper

Under 12 years free

Coffee/Tea and light lunches available

Silent Auction to held on the day –

to look at the list of prizes visit

www.rda-abingdon.org.uk



**7 & 8 DECEMBER 2013
DENMAN, OXFORDSHIRE**



Sequence Dance Club

Drayton Village Hall

Thursdays, about 7 for 7.30pm

Would you like to join this vibrant club?

We meet weekly and also have Saturday functions and a Christmas "do".

Please call Brian Stimpson on (01235) 531701

to find out more.



Our next **Open Day** will be on Wednesday, 2 October 2013 from 10 am to 3 pm. The

theme for this Open Day is "**Stairs and Steps**". 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

THE MARTIN THORNE VIDEOS

Children at Work!

A day in the life of Marcham Primary School - November 1992

Were you at school during this month? If so it is almost certain that you were captured on video!

This is the uncut version, now transferred to DVD.

It records what a day at Marcham School was like in 1992 and also shows many of the other activities during this busy term. There is a visit to Buildings Farm, sports day, dinner time, in-class teaching, entertaining the adults, the end of term service in All Saints, and much more.

NOW AVAILABLE FREE FROM MARCHAM SHOP

All I ask in return is a donation to MADNews funds if you can afford it.

Also available from the shop are:

- * V E Day Remembered
- * Marcham Cubs "Oliver"
- * Marcham Players "Sweeney Todd"

MT

MARCHAM EX-SERVICEMENS CLUB

North Street, Marcham

Saturday 19th October

Family race night starting at 8.30pm

Saturday 16th October

Music by Mark Jones starting at 8.30pm

Saturday 21st December

Christmas draw

New Year's Eve

Now and Then

Further details nearer the time

St Lawrence Church, Tubney

Coffee Morning and Bring & Buy

10.30 am – 12.30 pm Friday 4th October

At Brushwood Farm

£3.00

Plenty of parking – Dogs welcome

Concert

Christminster Singers

7.30 pm Sunday 13th October

Appleton Village Hall

Licensed Bar - Raffle

Free Admission – Donations welcomed

See www.christminster-singers.org.uk for more details

GARD UPDATE

RESERVOIR OR NEW CITY OR AIRPORT

Thames Water (TW) staff are currently gestating the comments on their draft plan for 2015 to 2040 and the company will respond next month. It seems there were many submissions!

Meanwhile there are already solar farms on the reservoir site, which are sensible and environmentally friendly, with more planned and those have a 25 year contractual generating life but preserve the land for the landowners. Good luck to them. In the past few months there has been a development plan for a new Garden City submitted by an ex-VWH Officer based in Newbury which we sincerely hope will fizzle out. Also the proposal for an alternative hub airport has been revived after a prolonged dormancy and we are grateful to Ed Vaizey our MP, Nicola Blackwood MP for Abingdon and others for their criticism of that idea which for many reasons is "daft" and not thought through but will be considered by the Airports Commission along with all the other sites. Inevitably our area will attract other proposals but GARD's mission is to block a massive banded reservoir over the whole site to serve London.

At present all the indications are that Thames Water is short of funds, is under scrutiny by Ofwat for trying to raise its charges to pay for its debt repayments (as reported in the press) and to fund the proposed Thames Tideway Tunnel costing upwards of £4 billion to prevent sewage flowing into the Thames during heavy rain. All Thames Water customers would have to pay for this. Our interest, however is in water supply for London. All GARD's evidence amassed by our consultants shows that transfer of water from the Severn and Wales to top up existing reservoirs, when needed, via pipeline (or canal) provides a cheaper, more flexible, quicker, more sustainable and far less damaging solution. Understandably there are a lot of engineering studies to be undertaken to refine the work and routes, but the water quality and ecological studies are presently proving favourable but incomplete, GARD is prodding hard at Thames Water who appear to be making haste very slowly! 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

October 2013

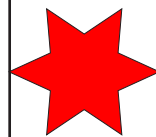
Marcham Village Shop and Post Office



Mon - Fri: 07.30 - 18.00

Sat: 07.30 - 13.00

Sun: 08.00 - 13.00



NOW SERVING HOT DRINKS!

Come in and have a coffee, latte, hot chocolate or tea - only £1.20. And if you drink it in the shop you can enjoy the luxury of a real cup and saucer.. and why not have a Chelsea bun to go with it!!

Last Surface Posting Dates

Tuesday 1 October: Far and Middle East

Tuesday 15 October: Canada, Hong Kong, Singapore, South Africa, USA

Tuesday 5 November: Cyprus, Eastern Europe, Greece, Iceland, Malta, Turkey

Tuesday 19 November: Western Europe

PARCELS

As Christmas is coming, you might want to think about the **SIZE** of parcels you are packing up to send by post.

Format	Max weight	Max Length	Max Width	Max Thickness
Letter	100g	240mm	165mm	5mm
Large Letter	750g	353mm	250mm	25mm
Small Parcel	2000g (2kg)	450mm	350mm	80mm
OR The Cube	2000g (2kg)	160mm	160mm	160mm
Medium Parcel	20000g (20kg)	610mm	460mm	460mm

Rolled and cylinder shaped parcels: the length + 2 x the diameter must not exceed 104cm, with the greatest dimension being no more than 90cm. Rolled and cylinder shaped parcels that measure up to 45cm and 8cm in diameter and less than 2kg can be sent as small parcels.



At the end of October, Shaena Porter will be travelling to Ethiopia to climb the 4th highest mountain in Africa. MADNews finds out more.....

So Shaena, where exactly are you going?

To the Simien Mountains, one of the major highlands of Africa including the highest point in Ethiopia, Ras Dejen (4,620m - the fourth highest peak in the African continent). I will be trekking to the summit of Ras Dejen and also topping several 4,000m peaks en route. The climb down the near vertical Devil's Staircase with a 900m descent is a particularly scary prospect...

Presumably you've got a good reason?

The trek is being organised to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the charity Send a Cow (Marcham church and community have been involved with the charity for over 20 of those!). Over the last 25 years Send a Cow have been able to transform a million lives in seven African countries - helping thousands of African families work their way out of poverty through gifts of livestock and training in sustainable agriculture. Its "pass it on" principle then empowers those it helps to help others. Whilst in Ethiopia, I will get the opportunity to visit one of the Send a Cow projects and see the work in action myself.



How can we support you?

I'm only putting myself through this in order to raise lots of money for Send a Cow - so any sponsorship would be gratefully received. Thanks to some generous backers, any money you donate will go to Send a Cow - none of your donation will be used to pay for the trip.

If you would like to sponsor me, please either contact me on 01865 392 076 or visit www.justgiving.com/Sharena-Porter.



Thanks Shaena. We look forward to printing a photo of you at the top of Ras Dejen on your return!

MARCHAM PLAYERS

Marcham Players are pleased to be supporting All Saints' Church in the presentation of Opera Anywhere's screened production of **Tosca**. **October 19th, 7:30** in All Saints' Church.



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

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

MARCHAM CRICKET CLUB

OCA Fixtures for this Season have now ended. The 1st XI finished fourth in its Division and the 2ns XI in the lower half of its Division. Please contact Trevor Hill (391321) for any information relating to the Club - including playing or umpiring for Marcham.

CSB



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 of ways you could support them, from holding a cake sale to taking part in a sponsored silence, dyeing 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.

Could you beat a Guinness World Record..?

Against Breast Cancer are inviting you to take on the challenge of breaking a world record... for the most bras worn and removed in one minute! They'll provide the bras and the professional timekeepers; all you need to do is come along and see if you can beat the existing world record of 9! How hard can it be?! Men and women are welcomed to give it a go, and don't worry, you'll be keeping your t-shirts on throughout.



The world record attempt will be taking place at **Against Breast Cancer's Splash of Pink Day on Saturday 26th October in Abingdon's Market Square, between 11am and 2pm**. If you would like to find out more about the world record attempt or about the Splash of Pink Day, please contact Emily or Alison on 01235 354211 or events@againstbreastcancer.org.uk.

To find out more about getting involved, email info@againstbreastcancer.org.uk visit www.againstbreastcancer.org.uk

SINGING IS GOOD FOR YOU!

2pm to 3.30pm
8th and 22nd October.
Tea and cake follow the singing.
62 North Street, Marcham
Men and women welcomed - do come and give it a try.

For more details: Christine Whild Tel 391270



Church - Fun and Messy !!



At the beginning of September, we had a Fun Day to celebrate the refurbishment of our church buildings. Burgers were eaten, faces were painted (mine included!), children bounced on a bouncy castle and engaged in a quiz, good conversations were had, the weather held out until just after we had packed up (Divine intervention perhaps!!) and in summary, many people had a good time.



The following day was the first of a series of events called Messy Church. This is a nationwide initiative, with craft, quizzes, games and chat, all with the aim of helping folk to think about the reality of God in a relaxed, fun, family friendly environment. We hope that this was only the first of a line of Messy Church Watch this space for further details.

If this edition of the MAD News comes through your door in time, then do join us with our friends at All Saints, as we invite you to take part in our joint harvest celebration us on 29th Sep at 10.30 on the Anson Field (in the school in the event of inclement weather). Alongside the traditional elements of a Harvest service, children from the school will be singing and Steve Legg is joining us on the day to speak. Steve is a renowned international act, using a range of amazing feats to baffle, entertain and provoke thought. Do join Marcham Churches as together we celebrate harvest and consider the reality of the God who created, provides and sustains, who knows each one of us as individuals and who wants us to know Him.

During the spring and summer, some of us from the Baptist Church have been going through a course called Christianity Explored. Going into the autumn, we again join with our friends at All Saints, this time to participate in the Alpha Course together. Please do join with us, for an opportunity to discuss with others issues such as prayer, reading the Bible, how God guides us and a chance to ask those difficult questions about faith. More information on the All Saints page.

Keith Mersh Pastor Marcham Baptist Church

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

Speakers in October

- 6 Oct - Healing Service - John Fosker
- 13 Oct - Ralph Green
- 20 Oct - Keith Mersh
- 27 Oct - Janet Quarry

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



All Saints' and St. Luke's Parish Page

Dear Friends,

Welcome to October! October is a month in which I try to look forward – with hope and expectation. As the advancing autumn makes its mark on our countryside, and the signs of berries and falling leaves indicate the ending of another season, there are already the beginnings of new life for those who look hard enough.

Harvest has come and gone, the fields once golden with corn are now ploughed and being made ready for a new season of growth and fruitfulness. The rhythms of nature and our agricultural cycles beckon us to look forwards.

The Christian faith also encourages us to look ahead – with anticipation. 'I know the plans I have for you ... plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future' – God's message in Jeremiah 29: 11-14.

God wants the best for each of us and constantly invites us to trust ourselves to His loving care in Christ at every point in our lives. Yes, there may be change, uncertainty and challenge, but God promises to be with us as we trust Him, to give us hope and a future!

So may I encourage you to hold fast in faith to the One whose love is totally trustworthy and faithful, who has our best on His heart. Enjoy this autumnal season!

With my warmest greetings

Revd Richard Zair

P.S. A reminder that our Alpha course is due to start on Thursday Oct 3rd. Please contact me for more information or to register your interest (01865 391 319).

Prayer for the Month:

Heavenly Father, thank you that you always want the best for us and, in Jesus, want to give us hope and a future. Help us to trust you, even through the times of uncertainty and challenge. Lord, please help us to know your peace in the middle of full and busy lives. Amen.

OCTOBER Events:

Sat 5th October – Men's Breakfast

8.30 am at the Sports, Scouts & Social Club

Sun 13th October – St. Luke's Harvest and Patronal Festival 10.30 am at St. Luke's

Sat 19th October – Opera on the Big Screen

The Royal Opera House production of **Tosca** in **Blu Ray format, 7.30 pm at All Saints'**

Tickets: £15 each or a family ticket £40 (2 adults and 2 under 18s). From Jenny Warwick on 01865 392 076 or from the village shops.

Come dressed for the Opera (optional) – prize for the best outfit!

Sermons now on-line!

If you would be interested in following the teaching at All Saints' but find it difficult to make it our Sunday services, many of our sermons are now recorded and made available via our website (www.marcham-with-garford.org.uk). You can download them and listen at your leisure – in the car, whilst walking the dog, whenever!

Parish People

We celebrated the weddings of Michelle Whittaker to Mark Dickson (24th August) and Clara White to Simon Abbott (6th September).

Regular services:

Sundays at All Saints': 10 am and 6 pm

Wednesdays: 10.30am HC at Duffield Place

Sunday at St. Luke's: 13th October at 10.30 am

Contact:

Revd Richard Zair 391319
41 North Street, Marcham (r_zair@yahoo.co.uk)
Jill Rowe *Youth and Children* 07811 165351
Deborah Flint *Churchwarden* 391056
Andrew Haines *Churchwarden* 01235 868946
Jenny Warwick *PCC Secretary* 392076

www.marcham-with-garford.org.uk