

June 2014 Vol: 36 No: 6

READ & RECYCLE!

FREE

Brownies

1ST MARCHAM BROWNIES
NEED YOU see page 11



▲ Little Angels investigate see page 13



▲ Pre-School on a mini beast hunt see page 13



▲ A Day at the Races see page 15



▲ Toughmudder see page 5 ▲

▲ Editor suprised at Parish Meeting by Parishioner of the Year award
presented by Ruth Mander, new Chair of Marcham Parish Council



June			
3 Tues	Mobile Library Duffield Place: 10.05, Sweetbriar: 10.20		
3 Tue	Southmoor and KB Gardening Club, 19.15	15	
5 Thu	Midweek Walk, The Bull Inn, Lower Heyford lunch 12.30/walk 13.30	11	
6 Fri	Marcham Mill Road School Reunion, Boundary House, Abingdon, 19.30	7	
7 Sat	Music in the Vale "Summer Breezes" St Denys Church, Stanford, 19.30	13	
10 Tue	Singing is Good for You, Duffield Place, 14.00 – 15.30	7	
11 Wed	Marcham Parish Council Meeting, Duffield Place, 19.30	3	
13 Fri	MP's Surgery, Didcot, 17.30-19.00	9	
14 Sat	Councillors' Surgery, Marcham Shop, 09.00-11.00	9	
17 Tues	Mobile Library Duffield Place: 10.05, Sweetbriar: 10.20		
19 Thu	Marcham WI, Denman College, 19.30	11	
21 Sat	Marcham Village Litter Blitz, Anson Field, 09.30	3	
21 Sat	Gabriel's Dream to Walk Concert, Abingdon Prep School, 19.30	13	
22 Sun	Home Start Sponsored Walk, 10.30	13	
22 Sat	Appleton School Fete, 14.00-16.30	17	
23-27	MS Therapy Centre Open Week	17	
24 Tue	Singing is Good for You, Duffield Place, 14.00-15.30	7	
27 Fri	MP's Surgery, Wantage, 17.30-19.00	9	
27 Fri	Music for a Summer Evening, Tubney Church, 19.30	17	
27 Fri	Quiz Night, MSSSC, 20.15	15	
28 Sat	Trendles Project Open Day, Manor Farm, 10.30-16.30	17	
28 Sat	Marcham Summer Dance, MSSSC, 19.30	7	
July			
6 Sun	Pirates of Penzance, Miletts Farm, 16.30 picnic / 18.00 start	13	
9-12	Abingdon Drama Club, Unicorn Theatre, Abingdon, 19.30	15	

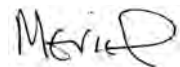
Details of events may change after publication, please check with the relevant organisers before attending events.

Dear Readers

I was completely taken aback to be presented with the Parishioner of the Year Award at the Annual Marcham Parish Meeting on 21 May – I am still recovering! Thank you to the Council and whoever nominated me in the first place.

On a much sadder note, we record the passing of two stalwarts of Marcham life – Glyn Davies, ex-headmaster of Marcham School and Mike Hudson who played a key role in getting our Village Shop up and running. My condolences to all those who have lost someone dear to them.

Until next time



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Other copy: 5pm 20th month

except for Jan when it is 15th Dec for both

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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

PCSO Myra Stokes (for Garford)

Just dial 101 (non-emergency)

CRIMESTOPPERS

Call 0800 555 111 (anonymous calls)

NHS NON-EMERGENCY

Call Free from any phone - 111

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Wick Lane, Drayton OX14 4HJ

Tel: 01235 534001

richard.webber@oxfordshire.gov.uk

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For other councillors go to

www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk

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June 2014

MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Annual Council Meeting

At the annual council meeting held on 14th May, Miss Ruth Mander was elected Chairman for the forthcoming year and Mr David Walton as Vice-Chairman. Mr William Cumber will represent the parish on the Hills Aggregates Liaison Committee. This Committee acts as a forum for discussion on the operation of the sand extraction site at the northern end of the parish. Mr Walton will be the parish transport representative at meetings with the county council on public transport issues. Various other appointments were made to internal working parties and to other outside bodies. The contact details of the Council members can be found on the Council's noticeboard outside the Institute.

Bus Service Review

The new timetable for the X15 Abingdon to Witney service has now been issued. The new service commences from 1st June. Unfortunately it seems that only one journey in each direction is to travel around the village via north street and Howard Cornish Road. This is the 10.55 journey from Abingdon, and the 14.00 journey from Witney. (see page 17 for details)

Churchyard – Grass Cutting

For many years the same grass cutting schedule has been followed keeping the strips closest to the paths cut short and leaving the grass in other areas to remain longer for conservation purposes. Discussions are being had with the Parochial Church Council and Marcham Society, now that some tree and clearance work has been carried out in the Churchyard, to see whether the pattern of grass cutting should be altered.

Planning Applications

P14/V0800/FUL Seasonal holiday accommodation, green infrastructure, and informal public open space, visitor centre and cafe on Land adjoining Hitchcopse Farm, Cothill Road. The Parish Council objected to this application on grounds of creating housing development in the green belt, and the impact on the ecology of the area.

Date of Next Council Meeting:

Wednesday 11th June, 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

www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Village Litter Blitz on June 21st

Start Time 9:30 am

Anson Field

Call Malcolm Denton 391497

Glyndwr (Glyn) Davies

We hope to have an account of Glyn's life in Marcham in the next issue of MADNews.
Our condolences go to his family and friends.

Further to Jeremy Collins' letter last month, here is some more correspondence on the matter: a reply to Jeremy from a Marcham resident, Ed Vaizey's reply to Jeremy, a letter from Ed Vaizey to Nick Boles MP, Department of Communities and Local Government (nick.boles@communities.gsi.gov.uk) and a reply from Jeremy to Ed Vaizey.

Thanks to Ed Vaizey for the permission to reproduce his letters.

Dear Mr Collins

Thank you so much for your letter to MADNews regarding the village, and in particular the dreadful loss of trees from the copse.

I too am distressed about this, having so much enjoyed watching them season by season over the past 45 years. When the destruction was in full progress, I couldn't even look out of my windows and just kept the curtains drawn.

Thanks to the radio turned up really loudly. I drowned out some of the horrific sounds, but it must have been far worse for you being closer. I am SO sad for the wildlife who are displaced. Squirrels have started visiting my garden again after several years absence and I hope the foxes will be next.

Name and address withheld

Dear Jeremy

Over recent months, I have been involved in many local campaigns about additional housing, and have made specific objections both to the Planning Committee and to Planning Inspectors about a number of planning applications which clearly were not in the interests of local communities. Through that engagement, and other events such as the public meeting I arranged so that constituents could put their points of view and questions about planning directly to the Planning Minister, Nick Boles, I am very aware of the huge anxiety that is caused both to individuals and communities through inappropriate plans for housing. Since the current plans were announced, my staff have attended both exhibitions and meetings about the plans on my behalf, and I have met with the leader of the local council, Matt Barber.

It is in that context that I have considered the plans put forward by the Vale of White Horse District Council for more than 7,000 additional homes across the area, with

developments imposed on almost every community of any size. While we do undoubtedly need more homes, I believe that this plan is for too many. It is also clear to me that plans for infrastructure, such as roads, sewerage and schools need to be much better developed before any actual planning permissions can be considered, let alone granted.

I am hopeful that a recent letter issued by Nick Boles, the Planning Minister, will help to limit the problems at least to some extent as it clarifies, for example, that 'windfall' housing sites do count towards overall numbers and strengthens the rules on building on areas prone to flooding. I also believe that it may be necessary to review the Green Belt surrounding Oxford so that we are not protecting views there at the expense of my constituents.

I will be writing to Nick Boles to press for an urgent review of the planning methodology that leads to such massive numbers of homes being planned, and to the Vale of White Horse District Council to say that I believe the number of homes planned is too high. If the numbers were lower, the impact on communities such as yours would be much reduced.

Ed Vaizey MP

Dear Nick

The Strategic Market Housing Assessments for my Wantage and Didcot constituency have recently been revised as part of a county-wide review of housing need.

Following that review, Oxfordshire as a whole is assessed to need a further 100,000 homes and the Vale of White Horse District Council is planning for an additional 20,560 to be built between now and 2031, of which around 4,000 need to be built within 5 years.

I am in no doubt that more houses are needed in this area. However, there is concern that the standard national methodology that has led to these numbers is over-estimating the actual demand locally. Demographic trends show that the Vale needs 468 houses per year, yet the methodology leads to a figure of 1028, with front loading in the first 5 years possibly seeing 1460 houses being built each year once planning processes have been completed. There are significant consequences for many local communities which are now faced with levels of growth that will fundamentally change the nature of settlements.

I would be very grateful if you and your officers could consider an urgent review of the planning methodology that leads to such massive numbers of homes being planned so that more realistic outcomes result.

A further problem is being created locally because of the way that the Five Year Housing Supply is calculated. For planning permissions to count towards the Five

Year housing supply, outline planning permission is not enough. All delivery plans have to be in place, such as roads and schools. Because developers take so long to negotiate these, the Vale is consistently behind its target for Five Year Housing supply, and so more opportunistic planning applications are encouraged,

If outline permissions were included in the calculation in some way this would alleviate this problem to some extent and, incidentally, speed up the delivery of new homes. I have included a more detailed explanation of this point in the appendix to this letter. *[not included here]*

Further, a study by Nathaniel Litchfield and Partners shows that a number of authorities have adopted plans following examination providing for less than their 'objectively assessed' need. These authorities, in all cases, cover large areas of nationally protected land such as Green Belt, AOMB or National Park. As over half of the South East Vale area is designated the North Wessex Downs AONB, we have Oxford Green Belt to the North and include areas of the Thames and Ock flood plains, a case can surely be made for reducing the population projections in my Constituency accordingly.

I would also be grateful for specific assurances that the need for infrastructure such as roads and schools to be provided in advance of housing developments being occupied is covered by the guidance included in your letter of 10th March this year. At present, infrastructure needs associated with developments are generally funded by the developers when large numbers of houses are built and occupied. Unfortunately there is then a lead time on the construction and installation of schools, medical facilities, roads etc which means new and existing residents suffer a severe decline in services for a number of years.

Ed Vaizey, MP for Wantage and Didcot

Dear Mr Vaizey,

It was most kind and thoughtful of you to have found the time to respond to my letter, regarding woodland destruction and possible further residential development in Marcham. Yours was a most carefully thought out reply for which I am grateful.

As you say – "we do undoubtedly need more homes" – however hundreds if not thousands of good homes together with many in need of restoration remain empty. On our doorstep are many ex-R.A.F. married quarters shuttered up and derelict for what reason? Those at Harwell being a prime example.

No comment is ever made that perhaps there are just too many of us, and like the animal kingdom Homo Sapiens should perhaps adjust their breeding habits so as to not over-crowd and live within the space

available, thereby avoiding hunger and all the misery that too many people in too little space create.

Mr. Nick Boles has an unenviable brief as Planning Minister. As I said in my letter to the Editor of M.A.D. News, greed, avarice and undoubted corruption appears endemic in our society, so his (Mr. Boles') job is hard to keep the reins on.

Your thoughts on the Oxford Green Belt are well founded, but in the current climate of almost unrestricted development I cannot see how the Green Belt can be sustained.

My view is that we have to slow down, take stock and adjust to what we have. We just cannot allow ourselves to be swallowed up by manic building without thought to appropriate infrastructure, roads, drainage, schools, hospitals etc.

Jeremy P. Collins

Dear Editor

BROOKE'S MEADOW, COTHILL ROAD (GREEN BELT)

The old quarry, never backfilled, is the subject of planning application P14/V0800/FUL to build 12 "seasonal lodges" and a visitor centre with office, cafe and shop, and to import about 90,000 m3 of "engineering soil" for backfilling at the expense of existing flora and fauna. Details and a number of objections can be read on the Vale DC's website. On 14 May the Marcham Parish Council decided to oppose the application which was withdrawn on 20 May. However, given the money at stake, it is almost certain that a revised application will be put in. Potential objectors, some in Marcham parish, some not (and including many dog walkers), should remain on guard and continue to prepare their opposition. It may be advisable to form a co-ordinating group.

JUDITH AND JIM HAWORTH

haworths@waitrose.com 01865 390739

Dear Editor

On Saturday 26 April we took part in Tough Mudder in Henley in aid of Kingfisher School in Abingdon which our youngest son Arthur attends. We started as a team and finished as a team and very proud of our achievement not to mention exhausted. I can honestly say it was the hardest thing I have ever done in my life, the hills and mud were immense making the obstacles feel like a break!!!

We have raised nearly £1200 which will go towards a multi-media theatre for the school. This will allow the children to experience a whole wonder of environments within the safety of school - it will be invaluable to their education. I want to say a huge thank you for all of you who have donated so far. Our page will be open until 26 July for those of you who would still like to give, <https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/karenandmarksharman>

Again a massive thank you!!

MARK AND KAREN SHARMAN

MARCHAM PLAYERS With Great Pleasure

The evening of Friday 9th May saw a group of Marcham Players gathered round the table in Manor Farm Board room, the table was furnished with wine and nibbles, the players were prepared with readings which they hoped would amuse. It's not an easy matter to decide which of your own personal rib-tickling favourite will make your friends and neighbours chortle. Our assortment was amazingly varied - from the trials of the nouveaux riches attempting to cope with a simple rural life to the utterly incomprehensible answers of those who were Universally Challenged, from crisp and witty letters to the Daily Telegraph to the pathos of Pam Ayres lamenting the life (and death) of hedgehogs.....not to mention dipping into some of the poems of Carol Ann Duffy and Roger McGough and the prose of Alan Bennett and J.K.Jerome. We all chortled very merrily and had an excellent evening. Like singing, laughter is good for you as well as the company of friends - why not join us next time? What will YOU choose to read?

J M C

For more details about joining in with the Players, call Dave Hutchinson 01865 391964 or Joey McLean 01865 391242.

.....
w w w . m a r c h a m p l a y e r s . c o . u k

PARKING

The annual Marcham Parish Meeting was held in the school on Wednesday 21st May.

The subject of **parking** was raised and could we ask all residents of the village to park with consideration to others. There is an increasing trend to **park straddling onto the pavements**. For those owners that feel the necessity to park like this can you please ensure there is enough clearance for pedestrians, prams, push chairs and wheel chairs to pass on the pavement without the need for them to go into the road.

We have several instances reported where a disabled person has had to dismount the pavement and walk around a parked car on the road to pass by which causes great difficulty.

Let's try to adopt the slogan

"Pavements are for people"

Thanking you in anticipation of more consideration.

MALCOLM DENTON

MARCHAM SUMMER DANCE

SATURDAY 28TH JUNE 2014

7.30 UNTIL MIDNIGHT

MARCHAM SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

Dance the night away to the rock/funk

band vinyldaze (www.vinyldaze.co.uk)

and disco.

Tickets £7.50 in advance or £10.00 on the door.

Tickets available from Marcham Village Shop and Marcham Preschool or from Hayley Cousins 391024,

Peter Kidd 391515, Chris Ricketts 391329

or Anna Hillis 392145

Food available raffle on the night

All proceeds to Marcham Preschool
registered charity number 1062332



SINGING IS GOOD FOR YOU!

2.00-3.30 pm 10th and 24th June

We now meet in the common room at Duffield Place. Do come and join us, you will be sure of a warm welcome. Tea and cake follow the singing.

Phone 391270 for more details

Christine Whild



Bank Balance : £14,100
Local Events: £10,934
Donations: £6,814
5p Coins: 5218
Membership: Adult: 78 Junior: 5

Marcham
Community
Group



www.marcham.org

Dates for your diary

THURSDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 2014

AGM and OPEN MEETING

7.30 pm Marcham School

ALL WELCOME

UPDATE ON COMMUNITY FACILITIES

MCG's FUTURE ROLE

SATURDAY 18 OCTOBER — APPLE DAY

12 noon — 3.00 pm Marcham School

FUN WITH APPLES FAMILY LUNCH

COME AND JOIN IN

Update – community facilities

MCG sees its present role as trying to facilitate what we believe is some necessary communication on leisure facilities between different active groups in the village.

In the April MADNews we said we had written to the Anson Trust proposing a meeting to discuss any possible issues on the Taylor Wimpey proposal that was the subject of an exhibition last October. (For details see MADNews, November 2013, p.7.) In its response the Trust said it did not feel a discussion at this stage would be appropriate. In the meantime, the recent placing of a Tree Preservation Order on the whole of Hyde Copse by the Vale District Council has complicated the issue (Vale reference number: 14V07). However, we are approaching the Trust again urging it to talk to representatives of local groups and to treat the local community as a partner because we believe this is in everyone's interest.

Marcham Community Group: mail@marcham.org
Company No 7470307 Charity No 1144407
391193 (Suzanne) 391727 (Jim) 391507 (Jessica)



Marcham Mill Road School Reunion

It's been 60 years since we were at Marcham School

For any ex-pupils, from any year, please join us at:

The Boundary House

Friday 6 June, 7.30pm

For more details contact:

Jenny (Gosling) 01235 769708

ED VAIZEY WRITES...

As the summer approaches (we all hope) there are many events being planned across the constituency, most run by volunteers. The government has recently concluded that event guidance was unclear and inconsistent and often focused on what people can't do rather than what they can. This lack of clear guidance has resulted in an inaccurate perception that it can be near to impossible to run an event without ploughing through masses of red tape. In order to overcome these obstacles, a new, simplified set of guidance has been put together, which can be found at: www.gov.uk/government/publications/can-do-guide-for-organisers-of-voluntary-events. This provides straightforward advice to help anyone planning to run an event and is well-worth looking at.



If your idea is a bit broader than a single event, then you might also want to take a look at www.justact.org.uk, where lots of advice about how to get involved in all sorts of ideas, plans and projects locally can be found on one website. Both sites will be an enormous help both to those who are already involved in all sorts of things and those who are just dipping their first toe in the waters.

Those are excellent supports for adults, but my final signpost this month is for younger constituents. We have armed forces cadet units across the Constituency, and I recently learned that there are Army Cadet Units in Didcot, Shrivenham, Wallingford and Wantage. All parade on a Wednesday evening at 7.30 pm, and all provide young people from the ages of 12 to 18 with a fantastic opportunity to develop in all sorts of ways. As well as adventure training and Duke of Edinburgh awards, there are opportunities to travel and learn a huge range of skills. If you'd like more information, do visit www.oxonacf.org.uk or call them on 01869 259681.

This month I have received many emails from constituents wanting to know what action the Government is taking to ensure that the Public Forest Estate (PFE) is on a sustainable footing for the future. Other issues raised range from the use of wild animals in circuses to energy policy in the UK. As a society, we must never underestimate the value of trees and woodlands. I am therefore delighted that England's PFE will remain in public ownership, and that finding is to be maintained. Longer term, the Government is committed to setting up a new public body to hold the PFE for the nation. This body will have greater independence from government, and greater freedom to manage its resources and maximise income.

A number of constituents have welcomed email updates I've been able to send about specific issues such as plans for new housing or concerns about the electrification of the railway line. I plan to send occasional emails which I hope will be of general interest. If you would like to receive a copy, please do email me at vaizeye@parliament.uk and I will add you to the distribution list.

As ever please feel free to contact me on any matter - email is the quickest and most reliable way to get in touch, as I keep a very close eye on my emails and can reply very quickly. Surgery details can be found below and at www.vaizey.com

ED VAIZEY, MP Wantage and Didcot (Con)

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Please forgive the brief and generic appearance of my report this month. It is not that things are quiet on the Council front – far from it. What with FCC planning appeals, giant warehouse applications, the Drayton Neighbourhood Plan, further housing applications for Marchamthe Vale's Local Plan (and the "SHMA" figures on which it is currently based) all of which I will return to next month. Taking a break in the foothills of the Pyrenees (back on 12/5) does at least allow me to reflect on a recent personal experience I have just been through. About a month ago I received an early morning phone call from a close friend who said "Ah! Good, glad you're there, not stuck in the Crimea without a passport and money and needing a few thousand pounds to get you home -I am afraid you have just been hacked." This was followed by a whole day of phone calls from friends and contacts telling me the same thing. In that time I watched my email list slowly emptying. Every email contact address gone, every past email gone. Calls to bank, to Councils and to urgent contacts took up the next few days.

Having established that everything was safe and now secure, passwords changed, and security systems checked, I set about trying to understand how it had happened. It seems that the way the crooks operate is to take a guess at passwords and they are very good at this. Family names, addresses, birthdays, everything backwards etc etc are just some of the things they guess at. Clearly, the level of security of your passwords really does matter, and mine were not secure enough. Having guessed the password to my email account, it is then an easy operation to change the settings such that all emails go to some other account including anything transferring money.

Thankfully, all my friends are far too sensible to have been duped and no-one sent any money. It is, of course possible, that I need to find a new set of friends.

Anyway, the point of all this is that I have been made to feel rather foolish and I want to share what I have learnt. Like anyone born deep in the 20th century, I find memorising passwords a complete pain. The more of them and the more complex they are, the less likely I am to remember them. The official 20th century advice of "never write down your passwords" just doesn't work – I must have changed some of them 20 times or more.

Now it just so happens that May was "SCAMS AWARENESS MONTH" (a bit late for me, but in time for anyone reading this, I hope.) So here are my suggested tips on how to survive the 21st century:-

Think of one place, don't tell anyone, not at all obvious - where you write down your password(s) – make sure you write them down in such a way that you know which is which.

Now make sure that your passwords are as secure as possible. Use every character and number possible. Use numbers, letters – lower case and capitals. Make the password as mixed and random as possible. To get hacked now, the crook must a) break in b) find the secret place you hide your password(s) c) hope they are guessing the right one. I reckon you are now about as secure as you can be. If anyone knows better please let me know as I would quite like to get back to normal life as soon as possible.

RICHARD WEBBER CLLR, OCC

Richard.webber77@ntlworld.com or 01235 534001

[Editor's note: There are ways of remembering cryptic passwords, e.g. choose a phrase, line of a poem or something personal to you, and take the first letter of each word - then add a number! It may not be completely foolproof but it is better than trying to remember something like ?5/8:08GNNQ8oC3 !! See www.getsafeonline.org for more tips]

SURGERY WITH COUNCILLORS

Richard & Catherine Webber hold a surgery every other month in Marcham Village Shop 9.00a.m and 11.00a.m. Just pop in if you need to discuss any problem. Next surgery: **14 June 2014**

MP'S SURGERY WITH ED VAIZEY	
5.30-7.00pm, unless stated otherwise - no appointment necessary	
13th June	Didcot Cornerstone OX11 7NE
27th June	Wantage Vale and Downland Museum, OX12 8BL
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



Coffee Morning & Sale

Date 10.30-12.30 Friday 5 September

Venue Tubney Farm House Abingdon Road Tubney OX13 5QL

Enjoy a cuppa and cake, and a chance to buy from stalls selling a selection of exciting, quality gifts, goodies, plants and produce. *Plenty of free parking.*

Details from Gwyneth on 01865 390483

Fundraising in aid of Young Dementia UK

www.youngdementiauk.org

The Abingdon on Thames Chamber of Commerce

is pleased to announce that this year's Christmas Extravaganza will be held on Saturday 29th November. There will be many attractions in the town all day, culminating in the big switch on of our wonderful Christmas lights, followed by a fantastic firework display. We are currently looking for local bands, dancers and performers to get involved & promote themselves during the day. We also have spaces available for businesses, charities & community groups to promote themselves and raise funds. This is an ideal opportunity to show off just how great the Abingdon area is. For more information or to book a stall please email Christmas@abingdonchamber.co.uk

HELP

We need an adult(s) – not just any adult as you need to be FEMALE – to help with a group of 7 – 10 year old girls. Once a week on a Wednesday from 5.30 – 7pm term time only – occasional Church services and meetings. No experience needed, just lots of ideas, energy and patience! Perks of volunteering – six weeks holiday in the summer, all half terms and **LOTS OF FUN**. If interesting please visit us on a Wednesday at 5.30pm in Marcham Baptist Church Hall, Packhorse Lane during Term Time

Thanks 1ST MARCHAM BROWNIES

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED AT ABINGDON COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

Volunteers are a very important part of the running of Abingdon Hospital. Both staff and patients greatly appreciate all that our volunteers contribute. We currently have vacancies for the following volunteers:

In the Coffee Shop Mondays 12.00-14.00.

On the Wards

- Serving patient's mid-morning refreshments 10am-12noon, Fridays and Weekends
- Assisting with patients' lunches 12-1.30pm, Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays
- Answering the phones/taking messages 5-7pm, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Sundays

If you are interested in helping and wish to find out a bit more about these roles, please contact the Voluntary Services Organiser:

Laura Hodges, telephone: 01235 205705, email: Laura.Hodges@oxfordhealth.nhs.uk

Abingdon couple, hoping to build their ideal home, seek a small piece of land or a building suitable for conversion

(or re-building) in this area.

If you own, or know of, a suitable property please call Trish on 01235 535984



MARCHAM CRICKET CLUB

OCA Fixtures for Marcham Cricket Club for June are as follows:

June	1st XI	2nd XI
7	Hailey Away	Chadlington II Home
14	Swinbrook Home	W. Ilsley II Away
21	Charlbury II Away	Hanborough II Home
28	Hanborough Home	Uffington II Away

June Charles Hoile Downs League Fixtures are as follows

Start 18.15 Wednesday Evenings

4	Falkland Home
11	Bradfield Away
18	Steventon Away
25	Uffington Home



Relatively few Fixtures have been played at the time of writing. It is intended to present details of results in due course. Please contact Trevor Hill (01865 391321) for any information relating to the Club, including playing or umpiring for Marcham. **CSB**

Marcham WI

Next Meeting: Garden Party

Date: Thursday, 19th June

Time: 7.30pm

Venue: Denman College

Please come and join us for our **Garden Party June meeting**, which is to be held in a marquee in the gardens at Denman College. The theme this year is 'Vintage', so come along in your favourite vintage outfit and bring a plate of food for our 'bring and share' supper.

At the May meeting we enjoyed a fascinating talk by our speaker, **Keith Jansz**, who gave an insight into the history of Mouth and Foot painting and as to how painting had transformed his life following paralysis after a car accident. Aided by his wife, he showed us some very varied and outstanding examples of his work, including paintings of Cornwall and Venice, all of which had been painted by mouth using a specially adapted mouth piece with arrow shaft attachment for the brushes..

New members and visitors are always welcome.

For any questions, new members or visitors, contact Pippa Hoath 01865 391349 pippahoath@gmail.com



A Sweet For All Seasons

When the weather is bitter, an extra strong mint is warming and comforting.

When temperatures are soaring towards a heat wave, an extra strong mint tastes refreshingly cool.

JAY

Extra strong and other mints are on sale in Marcham shop!!

MARCHAM SOCIETY MIDWEEK WALK

Midweek Walk, Thursday, June 5th.

Join us for another summer walk along the River Cherwell and the Oxford Canal. We will meet at 12.30pm for lunch at The Bull Inn (Map Ref SP486247 in Lower Heyford, on the B4030, two miles to the east of the Banbury Road. We will start our walk of 4 miles at 1.30, taking in Steeple Aston and Upper Heyford. Members free, non-members £1. We always welcome new walkers. Ring Eric Dunford on 391439 for lifts and further details.



MARCHAM PRE-SCHOOL NEWS

Recently, the children have helped to clear and tidy the garden area, where we found a variety of wildlife, including a milipede, a woodlouse and the largest slug you have ever seen! And finally as we swept behind the recycling bins we spotted 2 little frogs, we then carried out a our very own bug hunt! We fetched a large tray, and lay white paper in the bottom, placed the tray beneath the hawthorn hedge and banged it gently with the spatula (although this wasn't too successful, so we resorted to a large stick!) At first glance it looked as though we hadn't 'caught' anything, but then things started to move!! However, amongst our 'catch' were.... 8 SPECIES OF SPIDER, 4 SNAILS, 5 SPECIES OF LADYBIRD, INCLUDING THE DREADED HARLEQUIN!, 4 CATERPILLARS, ANTS, FLIES, BUGS, WOODLICE, AND A NUMBER OF UNIDENTIFIED THINGS THAT MOVE!! The children were very engaged in this activity and just wanted to repeat the exercise to see what else we could find. They were all so gentle and looked carefully through their magnifying glasses, sharing them around so that everyone could have a look. We are now 'growing' our very own painted lady caterpillars, waiting for them to pupate!

If you would like to join Marcham Pre-school please do get in touch. We have a small number of sessions available for September 2014 and are taking applications for September 2015 and beyond. Please register your interest as soon as possible! marcham-preschool@hotmail.co.uk, 01865 392101, www.marcham-preschool.weebly.com, or call in to see us.



ABINGDON LITTLE ANGELS

Baby Room The Babies have been out and about a lot this month, enjoying the weather with walks around the village and picking flowers on the field and enjoying the garden. The babies have been making finger painting flowers and playing with flower and mini beasts peg puzzles and small world insects, well done baby room.



Abingdon Little Angels
building blocks for life

Pre-School Room This month has seen the pre-school children looking at mini beasts, creating collages of flowers, pressing flowers picked on the field and creating daisy chains, the pre-school children also created their own garden centre in the garden, building giant sunflowers and role played shops, We had a few good sessions walking around the village and on the field picking wild flowers. We also looked at vegetable gardens and created a great new number display with our vegetables which we collages, painted, printed and coloured.

After School Club The month has been fun out on the field, we had fun flying a kite and playing with our new cricket and rounders' equipment and going to the park. The children have also been searching the area for mini beasts, creating their own little garden for them and looking them up in our books to discover what they are. We also had sessions of searching the field for wild flowers, making daisy chains and finding out who likes butte with the buttercups, a great month. 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 email info@abingdonlittleangels.co.uk

MARCHAM BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

Have you just had a baby or recently moved to the area with children under 3? Do come and join us at All Saints' Church on Tuesdays 9.45 - 11.15, we are a small friendly group and would welcome new families/child-minders/carers. Many of our babies are now toddlers, 5 will be celebrating the 2nd birthday shortly, so it would be lovely to introduce some new babies to the group. We have toys for babies and toddlers, refreshment, singing/story time and it's an opportunity to meet others for a chat. First visit is free then £2 per family. If you are waiting for your happy event, do pop in for a coffee and chat. Sue Gibbling [Treasurer].. **Do come and join us!**



Home Start Southern Oxfordshire
Sponsored Walk
10.30 am 22 June 2014
Join us for a walk around
Dorchester and Wittenham Clumps

If you would like to join us, please meet us at the car park by the bridge in Dorchester.

Donations welcome!
For more details, contact Emma at
homestartso@btconnect.com or 01235 511152

St. Denys Church, Stanford in the Vale
Saturday 7th June 2014 at 7.30 pm

MUSIC IN THE VALE presents

"Summer Breezes"

Music for woodwind & piano by Arrieu, Quilter, Shostakovich, Farkas, Mozart and Gershwin...

The Loxley Quintet

Admission by programme £10.00 or at the door
by reservation 01367 718420 DJPedderDPA@btinternet.com

From the makers of THE OPERA IN THE COW SHED



The Pirates of Penzance

performed by Opera Anywhere

Sunday 6th July at 6 pm
(picnics from 4.30 pm)

at Millets Farm Centre



You are invited to bring a picnic to enjoy before the performance, along with chairs and/or rugs (from 4.30 pm). Fancy dress encouraged – a prize for the best dressed pirate!

Tickets: £15 (£12.50 concessions and £5 under 18s) available from Jenny Warwick (392 076), www.ticketsource.co.uk or at the village shop. Ticket sales in aid of Send a Cow.

Small print: The performance will go ahead whatever the weather so come prepared!

Join us for an adventure on the high seas.....

"Gabriel's Dream To Walk" Concert

7.30pm Saturday 21st June Abingdon Preparatory School

Free complimentary glass of Pimms or fruit juice on arrival

Crafts for sale

Featuring Nicki Rogers singer/ songwriter plus support band

The concert is being held to raise much needed funds for 14-year-old Gabriel Masih Gill from Oxford who has Cerebral Palsy and is hoping to have an operation in the USA next year to enable him to walk. **Come along and have a wonderful evening.**

Tickets £8 Concessions £6.50 child £5. contact Sue Porter. 01235 529142 or andyandsuep@aol.com to see Gabriel's story go to

www.justgiving.com/paula-masih-gill1



Southmoor and Kingston Bagpuize Gardening Club

On Tuesday June 3rd **Dr Jayne Manley** from the Earth Trust at Little Wittenham will give a talk about the trust's initiative ways in helping Oxfordshire's biodiversity, growing and conservation. We meet in The Village Hall Draycott Road Southmoor OX13 5HX. 7.15 pm to start at 7.30 pm. Our annual membership is £10 includes FREE admission to our regular monthly meetings plus a cup of tea or coffee with biscuits. Visitors are very welcome at £3 per meeting. We hold a grand raffle, and a members' table with a selection of plants and gardening goodies for sale with donations going to our adopted charity. Tickets will be on sale for our annual Garden Party, taking place on Tuesday 1st July, also details and tickets of our special evening on October 17th with **Pippa Greenwood**.

For more details about S&KB Gardening Club, call Steve or Sharon on 820399 or email skbgardeningclub@gmail.com

MSSSC: Marcham Sports, Scouts & Social Club The pavilion & field off Morland Road

Quiz Night Fri 27 June at 8.15pm

The Club is holding quiz nights on the last Friday of each month. Questions are on a range of subjects and aimed at everyone's ability! Teams of up to four people are invited.

Everyone welcome - members AND non-members

Just turn up on the night for a friendly evening of fun and banter.

Further details from Trevor Hill – 01865 391321

We look forward to seeing you at the club

70 YEARS: 1944-2014 Proudly presents the UK premiere

ABINGDON DRAMA CLUB

of *I Do, I Do, I Do.*

By Robin Hawdon

Directed by Keith Hales

7.30pm Wed 9th – Sat 12th July

at The Unicorn Theatre, Checker Walk, Abingdon

Wealthy banker's daughter **Diana (Hayley Jones)** has it all ... beautiful, intelligent, sweet-natured. She's the sort of girl men swoon over. There are three men in her life ...

Tickets: £10, £7 concessions

tickets@unicornboxoffice.org.uk / 0845 4636638

www.abingdon-drama-club.com

enquiries@abingdon-drama-club.com

Sobell House are looking to recruit new volunteers for roles across the hospice. We provide a structured induction programme, including communication skills training alongside the shadowing of experienced volunteers, and ask that each volunteer commit for at least 12 months. Travel expenses are available. Support your local hospice, develop new skills, join our friendly team. There are many volunteering roles across Sobell: drivers, gardeners, listeners and organisers for our Day Services activities.

To express your interest please call Rebecca Norris on 01865 225868 or email rebecca.norris@ouh.nhs.uk. You can find out more about Sobell House on our website:

www.sobell-house.org.uk



DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

It is now one year since you elected me as your District Councillor, and on the night I was elected I remember two main feelings. One, full of nervous anticipation facing this strange world of local politics. Two, as you had put your trust in me, I dearly wanted to represent you the best I could. And now looking back, what has happened this year?

First, I have got to know many of you through the monthly Parish Council meetings, which involve really committed people and are generally excellent; at our regular surgeries held in your very go ahead Community shop - Richard (your county councillor) and I are very excited by the number of you who are coming to these surgeries now, be it for a casual chat or to discuss a serious problem; or individual visits to your homes where we can talk more privately. I am hoping to get round more of Marcham in the future. If you would like a visit please let me know.

Secondly, the major concern all year has been around planning and Marcham has seen more of its fair share of new developments and applications. I have spoken to many of you about your concerns about different imminent developments and followed up those where I can. Clearly with the pressure on building more homes, this is a very difficult time for villages like Marcham and there are planning dictates that I find difficult to support. At the same time the plans for the Anson field, sports facilities and a new village hall seem to have tossed backwards and forwards in a most upsetting way with little or no results - in fact we seem to be stuck in the mud now. Let's hope that in my second year a happy solution will be found.

Thirdly, Packhorse Lane with its S bend and poor air quality readings has been high on my agenda. There is some sign that the Vale is taking air quality more seriously than it has done in the past but we keep highlighting this issue as often as possible.

So that is a short resume of my first year as your DC. I look forward to the next year and hope to meet many more of you. Please don't hesitate to contact me and remember that the next surgery is on Saturday, 14th June.

CATHERINE WEBBER, CLLR

01235 534001 or catherinewebber@hotmail.co.uk

MARCHAM AND DISTRICT IT'S A WINNER !!!

A WINNING DAY FOR MEMBERS AND GUESTS OF THE EX SERVICEMENS CLUB AT NEWBURY RACES ON SATURDAY 17th MAY

Coach departed from the Club at 11am, after a pleasant journey arrived at the course at about 12 noon.

Seven races on the card plus there was a beer and food festival. With the weather being so wonderful everybody enjoyed a great day out. At the end of racing the coach returned to the Club where ordered food was delivered, drinks were available and a pleasant evening ensued

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Music entertainment in July,

date to be confirmed and advertised in MADNews

Horse or turtle racing 31st August

Christmas draw tickets will be on sale in September

New Year Eve entertainment from Colin Shore

www.shorelineagency.co.uk

EX SERVICEMEN'S CLUB NORTH STREET, MARCHAM

If you have event to publicise for MADNews, contact the Editor on 01865 391725 editor@madnews.co.uk

Changes to the X15 service as from 1 June 2014 Witney - Southmoor - Abingdon X15 Mondays to Saturdays

Stops at Marcham War Memorial or Howard Cornish Rd where indicated by H

Please check bus times before you make your journey as they may change!

To Abingdon	7.41	8.37	10.38	12.38	14.38 H	16.36	17.43	18.53
To Witney	8.15	9.12	11.07 H	13.07		15.07	17.14	18.07



Concert at Tubney Church

7.30 pm Friday 27th June 2014

Music for a Summer Evening

A selection of summer song and readings

by young local musicians

arranged by Mrs Jenny Charlton

Donations in aid of a Children's Charity and Church.

Refreshments

Parking in the field opposite the church – adjacent to the Coach Road – please take care crossing the A420.

Trendles Project Archaeology Open Day

10:30-4:30 Saturday 28th June 2014

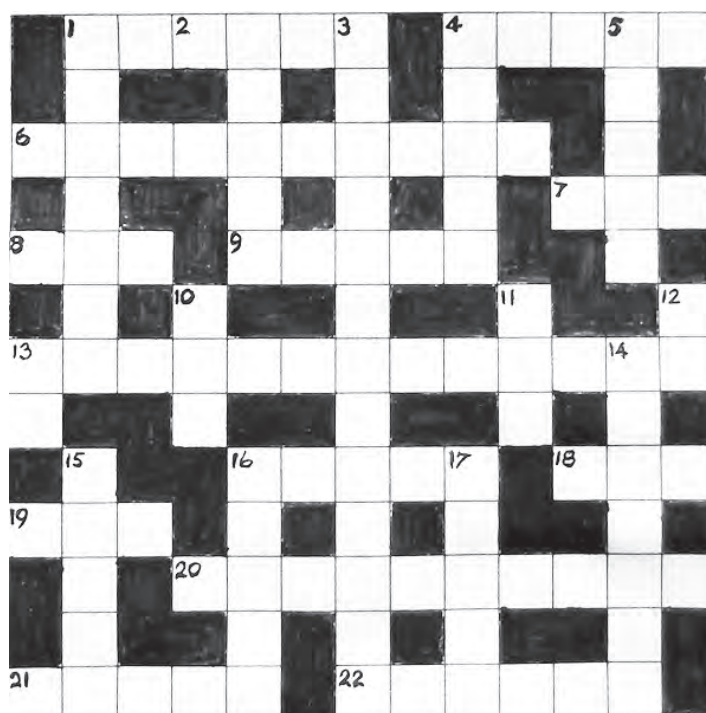
Manor Farm, Mill Road, Marcham, OX13 6NZ

The Trendles Archaeology Project is now in its second year. Join us for our annual Community Archaeology Open day at Manor Farm in Marcham on the 28th June to find out what happens after an archaeological excavation has finished.

This is an event for all ages, so bring the family along and join in with some of the activities we have planned. Project Director Gary Lock will be giving a talk at 11am and 2pm. Our finds experts will be on hand to identify your own archaeological artefacts, so bring them along and let them help you discover your own piece of history. Get a taste of the past by sampling our Roman food. Experience what life was like in the Iron Age with our living history expert Celtic Chris, and make sure you don't miss our ancient craft demonstrations. Family activities will also be available throughout the day. Be a hands-on part of the team by taking part in some archaeological finds washing. Alternatively if you are feeling artistic why not make an ancient pot or try your hand at a kid's Roman craft activity.

Admission is free and parking is available. We look forward to seeing you all there. For more information please see our website www.trendlesproject.com

CROSSWORD by ALISA



Friends of Appleton School
Summer Fête at Appleton School
2 - 4.30 Sunday 22 June
50p entry
BBQ, Bouncy Obstacle Course, Magician,
Cream Teas, Tombola, Raffle, Pimm's Tent
plus lots more

1984 - 2014

MS
 therapy centre
 oxfordshire
 therapy, information & support
 for people with Multiple Sclerosis

MS Therapy Centre (Oxford) Ltd

**Celebrating
30 Years**

OPEN WEEK
Mon 23 - Fri 27 June

Mr Ed Vaizey MP will be officially opening our new rehabilitation gym on Friday 13th June at 4pm. He will be joined by Mr James Dipple, Managing Director of Milton Park.

Events taking place throughout the week

- Health Advice
- Fitness Day
- Benefits Advice
- Carers' Advice
- Therapies Taster Day
- Daily Coffee Morning

Call 01235 832023

info@omsc.org • www.omsc.org
 37e, Innovation Drive, Milton Park
 Abingdon, Oxfordshire, OX14 4RT

ms.therapy@btinternet.com

MS Therapy Centre (Oxford)
 Registered Charity No: 900278
 Company No: 2318549

Across

- 1 At all times (6)
- 4 Morland club trains you for this (5)
- 6 Farmoor club trains you for this (3.7)
- 7 Fastener (3)
- 8 In the past (3)
- 9 Period of history (5)
- 13 Venue for 3 down (8.5)
- 16 Uncertainty (5)
- 18 Strange (3)
- 19 Insect (3)
- 20 Offender (10)
- 21 Notes (5)
- 22 Relative (6)

Down

- 1 Italian musical term (7)
- 2 Nimble (5)
- 3 Get together on the 6th (6.7)
- 4 Keys or grapes together (5)
- 5 Flower (5)
- 10 Number (3)
- 11 Fish (3)
- 12 That boy (2)
- 13 Beside (2)
- 14 Church for Summer Breezes (2.5)
- 15 Defence you were elsewhere (5)
- 16 Hope, like Gabriel does (5)
- 17 Woman's brimless hat (5)

Pentecost - The Birthday of the Church



Does the word Pentecost mean anything to you? I have only been a Christian for around a third of my life and if you are anything like I was before I came to faith in Christ, then Pentecost might be a word you have heard but have no clue to its meaning. That certainly was the case for me twenty years ago. So what does this term that is an important point in the Christian calendar actually mean?

So many people dismiss Christianity without having really considered some of the extraordinary fulfilments of prophecies spoken hundreds, or even thousands of years before the birth of Jesus Christ of which over two hundred were fulfilled during his lifetime and very soon afterwards. The place of Christ's virgin birth, the method of his death, his resurrection from the dead, many other details about his miraculous healings and ministry were all prophesied in detail in the Old Testament hundreds of years before Jesus was born but the outpouring of God's Spirit at Pentecost was also foretold by the ancient prophets in the Old Testament. On the day of Pentecost, seven weeks after the resurrection of Christ, the Bible records '*a great wind*' and '*tongues of fire*' that came upon many in Jerusalem and many spoke in languages unknown to them, exactly as had been foretold by the prophet Joel around 700 - 900 years before.

To understand some of the significance of this, let's think about the apostle Peter. He was one of the three central disciples of Jesus and what happened to Peter before and after the crucifixion of Jesus is an object lesson for us. On the night before going to the cross, Jesus foretold that he would soon be arrested and several times had predicted that he would be crucified. That evening Peter said that he would lay down his own life for Jesus but Jesus predicted that before morning came, Peter would three times deny that he even knew him. This is indeed what happened as Peter effectively sought to save his own skin. After the death of Christ, Mary, one of the followers of Jesus went to the tomb and discovered it empty and the body of Jesus gone. After she had ran to tell the disciples, an out of breath Peter was the first to arrive back at the tomb and stumbled inside to discover the truth for himself that Jesus was indeed risen from the dead. Subsequently Jesus many times appeared to the disciples and hundreds of others over the space of forty days before his ascension into heaven. But before he rose, Jesus told them to '*wait in the city, until you are clothed with power from above*'.

Ten days after the ascension of Jesus to heaven, came the fulfilment of Joel's prophecy - the powerful arrival of God's Holy Spirit and Peter's consequent speech before thousands in Jerusalem. The resurgent Peter, who had gone from coward to crusading evangelist told the crowd about the many ways that Jesus had fulfilled Old Testament prophecy and about how the coming of the Holy Spirit that day was yet another fulfilment of the prophets' writings. On that day, scripture records that 3,000 people came to faith in Christ and were baptised. The church was born. The fulfilment of ancient prophecies, the realisation of the meaning of the life and death of Jesus and the coming of God's Holy Spirit in power convinced Peter's hearers of the truth that Jesus was indeed the promised one.

The church was born and many came to faith, often living their lives to the point of martyrdom because of the certainty of the faith they had. The same is true today in many areas of the world. Christians do not have mere blind faith. It is backed up by solid historical evidence, as well as personal experience of the way that God has impacted their lives.

On 8 June, we welcome all to our Pentecost service, when our friends from All Saints will be joining together with us at the Baptist Church to celebrate the coming of God's Spirit and the birthday of the church.

Keith Mersh Pastor
Marcham Baptist Church

Contact:- Keith Mersh 01865 391881

or Bill Dyer (Elder) 01235 814986

29 June 3.00pm

Anniversary Service followed by tea

Everyone Welcome

Speakers in June

1 Jun	-	Francis Blood
8 Jun	-	Pentecost Service - Keith Mersh
15 Jun	-	Janet Quarry
22 Jun	-	Ian Millgate
29 Jun	-	No Morning Service - afternoon Anniversary Celebration

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,

Many of us know that prayer changes things! But I wonder if we have ever paused to ask why? Could it be that God really does listen? Maybe He really does exist, and is listening out for any cry for help, or request for blessing?

If you are or have been a parent, you will no doubt remember how our ears are, or were, keenly attuned to the slightest noises and sounds coming from our children, especially when they are small. These days many homes with small children have devices that pick up any sound from the child's bedroom, so that Mum and / or Dad can be alert to any needs the child might have.

The Bible tells us that our heavenly Father is attentive to the cry of His people. He listens intently for our prayers, and delights to respond when we call. He really does care! He loves us – not because we have any status, or a particular upbringing, or background – but simply because, as human beings we are made to be in relationship with Him, and He longs for us to know for ourselves that He is there for us.

God is a wonderful person. In the June calendar we have two key celebrations, which are celebrations of God's character: the first is Pentecost (or Whitsuntide) – when we celebrate the outpouring of God the Holy Spirit, and rejoice that we live in the 'Age of the Spirit'. Please see the highlighted box opposite about the 'Power Party'. **Please note: On Pentecost Sunday (8th June) the congregation of All Saints' will be joining our Baptist friends at the Baptist Church, and therefore there will NOT be a service at All Saints' in the morning.**

The second is the celebration we call 'Trinity Sunday' (15th June), when we rejoice in God being in community, and celebrate all that flows from this.

Prayer changes things – because God cares for us!

With my warmest greetings,

Richard

We warmly invite you to any or all of our services in the Parish Church of All Saints', and to our monthly service at St. Luke's in Garford.

In June we will be continuing our sermon series on the book of Colossians.

Regular services:

Sundays at All Saints': 10 am and 6 pm

St. Luke's, Garford: 10.30am June 8th

Wednesdays: 10.30 am Holy Communion at Duffield Place

POWER PARTY (Family Friday)

Friday 6th June, 5.30-7pm at Marcham School

There will be food and drink,
fun, games and activities.

All welcome, whatever your age!

June dates:

- **Men's breakfast, Sat 7th**, 8.30am at the Sports and Social Club
- **Wednesday 18th** – 7.30pm, Manor School Shippon.
The Filling Station – an opportunity for reflective prayer and worship. Open to all.

Garden Gig

29th June, 5-7pm @ Buildings Farm

Tickets £7.50 adult, £5 children -
from Jess Dipper

All proceeds will go to fund Becca Rowe's forthcoming
trip to Zambia with Tearfund.

Funerals:

Our thoughts and prayers for the families and friends of:

Glyn Davies: on 21st May

Geoffrey Amey: on 29th May

Baptism:

Olivia Heneage was baptized on 4th May. Our prayers are with her and her family.

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

Parish Office: parish_office41@yahoo.co.uk

Jill Rowe Youth and Children's Minister 390885

Tim Jack Churchwarden 01865 864900

Deborah Flint Churchwarden 391056

Tamsin Gilbert Administrator 821142