



Marcham & District News

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

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



November 2014 Vol: 36 No: 11

READ & RECYCLE!



FREE



▲ The Guides go to London see page 15



▲ Do you know this cat found in Haines Court? see page 5



▲ Jessica Brod receiving thanks for her work with MCG at the AGM see page 9



▲ Please don't be too tidy in the garden! see page 7



Lest We Forget
9th November
Wreath Laying



Congratulations to
Wynne McKay
on her
100th birthday

and also to
**Marcham Village Shop
and Post Office**
on our 2nd
anniversary

◀ The new **MVS** sign
on the green
see page 11



◀ Pre-School under
the microscope!
see page 15

November		
1 Sat	Abingdon Hydro Shares on sale	5
4 Tue	Mobile Library Duffield Place: 10.05, Sweetbriar: 10.20	
4 Tue	Southmoor and KB Gardening Club, 19.15	15
6 Thu	Midweek Walk: Blue Boar, Longworth 12.30 lunch / 13.30 walk	11
7 Fri	Marcham Players: With Great Pleasure, Manor Farm, 19.30	7
11 Tue	Singing is Good For You, Duffield Place, 14.00	11
11 Tue	Marcham Society, All Saints' Church, 19.45	11
12 Wed	Marcham Parish Council Meeting, Duffield Place, 19.30	5

15 Sat	Bazaar in aid of CRUK, Hanney, 10.00-14.00	17
16 Sun	Wantage Orchestra, Parish Church, Wantage, 15.00	17
18 Tue	Mobile Library Duffield Place: 10.05, Sweetbriar: 10.20	
20 Thu	Marcham WI, Denman College, 19.30	7
21 Fri	History Meeting, St Laurence Church, Tubney, 19.30	17
22 – 23	Sobell Christmas Fair, Radley College, 10.00	13
22 Sat	Tool Sale, 14 Mill Road	15
25 Tue	Singing is Good For You, Duffield Place, 14.00	11
28 Fri	Coffee Morning, 50 North Street 10.30-12.00	5
28 Fri	MSSSC Quiz Night, 20.15	7

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

Dear Readers

The clocks have changed so it is time to get out my bike lights and hi-vis jacket! I am always amazed at the number of people who run/bike/walk in the winter evenings (and mornings) without some sort of reflective clothing or accessories - bright pink is great but doesn't show up quite so well!

I am looking forward to hearing from the Community Facilities Steering Group - thanks to all those who have taken on the task to trying to find our missing village hall!

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

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also available – contact the Editor.

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

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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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richard.webber@oxfordshire.gov.uk

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www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk

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November 2014

MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Community Facilities in Marcham

There have been various groups in the past – joint users planning group, community facilities group etc. who have been looking at the needs of the village in regards to new amenities. Since the Anson Trust's article in September edition of MADNews which announced their new plans, the members of the groups have come together again under the title Community Facilities Steering Group, to consider the requirements of the village. The Parish Council has 2 members who attend the Steering Group meetings, and the Council is working closely with others to progress matters and to find an acceptable solution. In addition Cllr. Richard Webber, County Councillor, chaired a meeting of all interested groups on 13th October. See his report elsewhere in this issue.

Remembrance Sunday Road Closure A415 Frilford Road, Church St, New Rd

A road closure order for the section of Frilford Road between Church Street and North Street, Church Street itself and new Road is being obtained for the latter half of Sunday morning 9th November. This is to allow the parade from the Church, after the Church service, to the War Memorial in Frilford Road, in order to lay wreaths. Please note that the diversion will be along North Street to St. Peter's cross roads, then left to the junction with the A338, and left again to the Frilford Service Station.

Public Transport Bus Review – 31 bus Wantage / Oxford and 43 Eaton to Abingdon via Gozzards Ford

Oxfordshire County Council is reviewing the subsidised 31 and 43 bus services. These are the evening services Monday to Thursday Wantage/Oxford, and Oxford/Wantage, together with the Sunday and Bank Holiday evening services in both directions. In addition, service 43 runs on a Thursday via Gozzards Ford to Abingdon. The Parish Council has responded to the consultation asking that the subsidy remain. There is to be an increase in the number of houses in the village, some currently under construction, and others about to be built. This will increase the number of residents and the number of bus users.

The Council would encourage residents to use the bus services, particularly the evening services, wherever possible, to ensure that the County Council does not withdraw its subsidy. The saying "use it or lose it" is very apt.

School Admissions – Entry to primary or infant school September 2015

If you are a parent or carer of a child born between 1st September 2010 and 31st August 2011 then you need to apply

for a primary school place now. You still have to apply even if your child already attends a nursery attached to the school. For further information and to apply online go to www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/admissions. The closing date for applications is 15th January, 2015. If you do not have internet access, then you can access the internet at many of the County Council's libraries, or telephone 01865 815175 for information about applying via a paper form.

Mobile Libraries

The County Council has recently reviewed its mobile library service. The service is very much appreciated by those who use it, but statistics show that some stops are not used very much. The County Council is not proposing financial cuts, but is looking very carefully at the way the mobile library service is delivered. The County Council is consulting on the mobile library service until 31st December 2014. The current proposal is to have just one stopping place at Sweetbriar, North Street for 20 minutes, and to cease stopping at Duffield Place. The service would remain fortnightly. Further information can be found at <https://consultations.oxfordshire.gov.uk/consult/ti/mobilelibraryserviceconsultation/consultationHome> where a response form can be completed. If anyone has comments on this proposed change, then please not only let the County Council know, but also the Parish Council, as the matter will be debated at the next Council meeting on 12th November.

Parishioner of the Year Award

The annual award for the parishioner of the year is presented in May each year. It therefore seems possibly a little early to begin to consider worthy recipients, but from next month the Parish Council will be inviting nominations for the next award. Please therefore begin to think about who you would like to put forward

Superfast Broadband

Open Reach are working towards updating cabinets within the village to allow for superfast broadband. The estimated date when the work will be finished is December 2014, however this is only an estimated date and it could well change. Hopefully, at least at some point during 2015, the village will have access to a much better broadband connection.

Fireworks

Please 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 Parish Council has considered the following application:

P14/V1997/HH Erection of single storey rear, two storey side, and single storey front extensions at 2 Orchard Way. The Council had no objections..

Date of Next Council Meeting:

Wednesday 12th November, 2014 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

Dear Editor

Jim Asher and others in the Marcham Community Group must be congratulated on the informative meeting held on 25 September, and on the positive approach they are taking to the future of the Anson Field and the Institute. But I am not the only person to be dismayed by the current plan of the Anson Trust that is limited to assuring that the village has a sports field (but where?) and disclaims any role for the Trust in providing a hall to act as a centre for the whole community.

Sadly, the Trustees must still be influenced by a mistaken legal opinion they obtained as long ago as 2007. This opinion, from the Queen's solicitors no less (Farrer & Co), gave advice that was incomplete and did not understand a major High Court decision in 1991 on charity law. That case (details available if required) involved a challenge to policies of the Church of England Commissioners in managing the church's massive investments.

The judgment is indeed of great importance for charity trustees. Their primary duty (said the judge) is to further the purposes of the trust to which they are appointed.

But, the judge continued, property held by charity trustees falls into two categories: (1) property held for functional purposes, for example historic houses held by the National Trust or Salvation Army hostels; and (2) property held by trustees as an investment. The judgment was solely concerned with the second category.

Plainly, the Anson Field and the Institute are property held for functional purposes. They are not assets held as an investment or for the purpose of generating money. The primary duty of the Anson Trust is, we may conclude, to ensure that Marcham continues to have a playing field and a village hall in place of the Institute.

We learned on 25 September that because of new housing developments, large sums of money will soon be available for purposes benefiting the village. If these are used to enhance or renew the Trust's

ROYAL BRITISH LEGION POPPY APPEAL 2014

This years appeal will run from

**Saturday 25th October 2014 until
Saturday 8th November 2014.**

We hope that everyone will give as generously as possible to commemorate the 100 years since the start of the First World War in 1914 and remember all those who gave their lives for us then and to the present day.

Christine and Malcolm Denton 01865 391497



functional property, Marcham can have a sports field and a community centre – for which there is an urgent and growing need. I suggest that the primary duty of the Anson Trustees is to cooperate fully in making this a reality. They should then hand over responsibility for this functional property to a new charitable trust – one that is representative of the community and is committed to openness in all its affairs.
ANTHONY BRADLEY

**A Coffee Morning
and mini Christmas Bazaar
50, NORTH STREET, MARCHAM
10.30 - 12.00
FRIDAY, 28th NOVEMBER
in aid of
Nyakabungo Girls' School,
Kunugu, Uganda
Gifts Cakes Raffle**

CAT FOUND

A brindle coloured cat has been found in Haines Court. It is thin so it may be lost, or perhaps just gone for a walk around Marcham!

If you have any information please either go on to the Marcham Village Facebook page or email editor@madnews.co.uk

**Does anyone know
Dr and Mrs Buckley
who have recently celebrated their
3rd wedding anniversary?
If so, please ask them to
contact the Editor.
editor@madnews.co.uk**

I knit for the **Helen and Douglas House** charity shop in Abingdon and this is an appeal for any wool you no longer need. I knit anything from dolls clothes, baby clothes (up to 2 years), scarves, hats etc. I can make use of any quantity or ply and I do not waste any I get! If you can help please contact me on 391384 or at 33 Fettiplace Road, Your help would be appreciated. **JEAN DIX**



ABINGDON HYDRO

The power station using the flow of the Thames at Abingdon Lock is going to be built. Volunteers and early investors have spent years negotiating with all river users and refining the engineering. Shares will be on sale on 1 November. This "community interest company" is both green and ethical and hopes to give a return of up to 4% on your investment.

If you want to know a bit more talk to me, Alice Narramore 391584 or go online at **www.abingdonhydro.org.uk**



**Pop in and see how much fun volunteering
in Marcham Village Shop can be.
Try a few shifts and see if you like it.**

THE CROWN

Now open with new management

**Carlos and Beatriz welcome you
to your cosy, local family PUB**

Now serving food!

**Lunch menu from 12.00 – 14.30
Evening menu from 18.30-21.00**

**Come and try our
Portuguese specials**

AUTUMN WILDLIFE GARDENING

Autumn seems to be upon us suddenly this year and it's easy to view any small garden differently. An impending sense of decay followed by regeneration is in the air.



Much of what we do for wildlife at this time of year is about providing hibernation or shelter spaces to over-winter, it's a matter of life and death.

An amount of tidying up is inevitable, but try to resist it and not do too much. Let perennials remain, so their hollow stems can shelter invertebrates - and even provide fixed points for spiders' webs. Prune them down when we are moving into spring when all the creatures have emerged again. Many of what will inhabit those hollow stems are what we consider the predators or what we consider pests. So allowing them to re-emerge next year is beneficial to many gardeners.

It's great to see a group of neighbours gardening with wildlife in mind and thinking about hibernation zones at this time of year. This neighbourhood network of gardens is the name of the game. It's not just about what you do in your garden - it's about what we all do together. Many of us can't begin to hope to fit all the wildlife features into our own gardens - but between us all, we could achieve so much..

Happy Gardening **STUART MABBUTT**

Wildlife Gardening Specialist 01865 747243

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

Quiz Night Fri 28 November at 8.15pm

This month's quiz will be held on Friday 28 November in the Sports and Social Club on the Anson Field, starting at 8.15pm. Questions are on a range of subjects and aimed at everyone's ability! The quiz nights run on the last Friday of each month.

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

Everyone welcome - members AND non-members

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

We look forward to seeing you at the club

MARCHAM PLAYERS With Great Pleasure

Just a reminder of our "With Great Pleasure" reading evening to be held on Friday 7th November in the Board Room at Manor Farm, Marcham - 7.30pm start - nibbles and wine provided. This time our theme is "wartime" so if you want to come along and share a favourite reading around this theme - however tenuous - please do come and join us!



On a more serious note, the long drawn out debate regarding the provision of a community facility building in the village which may or may not have a stage as part of its facilities, is causing us serious concern about our long term future. It is now some five years since our last production and as Chairman this gives me and the Committee serious food for thought. I am proposing to debate this matter more fully at our Annual General Meeting in February 2015. Please give some thought to the future of the "Players" and let me have your views - either prior to the AGM (01865 391964) or by attending the AGM in person - date will be announced early in the New Year.

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

www.marchamplayers.co.uk

November 2014

ED VAIZEY WRITES...

I was delighted to hear that TRAIN, a great organisation which works with young people in Didcot, has been Highly Commended in the Kids Count Inspire the House Awards. I am always inspired by the hard work and dedication of the staff and volunteers at Didcot TRAIN, as I am by so many of the voluntary and charitable groups across the Constituency, and it is fantastic to see them being recognised in this way.



I was recently sent information about another group that relies on volunteers to do much of its good work. Healthwatch Oxfordshire, is an independent organisation that listens to your views and experiences of health and social care in Oxfordshire, and they've asked for my help in letting you know about 3 big opportunities for local people and organisations

Firstly, Healthwatch gives grants of up to £5,000 to local organisations to help you research the issues your members face trying to access health and social care services. On a smaller scale, if you want to run a local event you can apply for £500 towards the cost, so long as Healthwatch can attend and talk to your visitors about their health and social care experiences. Finally, you can volunteer with Healthwatch: more details are at www.healthwatchoxfordshire.co.uk

More widely this month I have received around 300 emails on national issues and campaigns. The largest batch have been on the Bill to allow the recall of MPs. I also have many constituents concerned about assistance to the Iraqi Government against ISIL. I firmly believe that the UK must play its part in destroying these evil extremists. Other issues that I've been contacted about this month include the rights of pedestrians, Palestinian recognition and the matters arising from the Scottish referendum.

I send out occasional general interest emails about developments in the Wantage and Didcot Constituency. If you would like to be added to the distribution list, please do email me at vaizeye@parliament.uk or sign up at www.vaizey.com.

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)

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

Marcham WI

Next Meeting

Date: Thursday, 20th November

Time: 7.30pm

Venue: Denman College



The topic for our next meeting on Thursday 20th November will be **"The Sugar Box"** with **Kelsie Hall**. Kelsie will be demonstrating how to use sugar paste for cake decoration. Following her demonstration, there will be a hands on session with the chance to participate and make your own sugar paste Christmas cake decorations. All materials will be supplied, so just come along and have a go!

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

Bank Balance
£17,560

Local Events
£11,131

Donations
£6,814

2014 - 2015 Membership
Voting: 71 Junior: 18

5p Coins
5586

Marcham
Community
Group



Community facilities – a new way forward

Open Meeting

At the AGM and Open meeting on 25th September, attended by over 80 members and non-members, the Chair of MCG presented the latest position regarding community facilities. There is an urgent need to find a way to move forward, to take advantage of the Section 106 infrastructure funds available from the various recent planning approvals for housing in Marcham. The meeting also discussed the latest proposals from the Anson Trust, in the context of the wider community interests.

Whether or not the latest Anson Trust proposals succeed, there is a need now for the community to bring forward its own plans for new facilities. A proposal was presented for MCG to work together with other community groups in Marcham to do so. We see it as crucial that we do work together as a community if we are to have facilities that meet our wider needs and receive support from all residents in Marcham.

The meeting voted unanimously (54 MCG members and 34 non-members) to back this new approach to developing community facilities.—a big thank-you to all who came to the meeting and contributed to these positive discussions.

Community Facilities Steering Group

Three meetings have already been held of a new Community Facilities Steering Group, drawn from the Parish Council, the Parochial Church Council, the Baptist Church, Marcham School Governors, Marcham Scouts, Sports and Social Club and Marcham Community Group. This group is working on a range of options and outline plans for new community facilities. The group has also met with the Anson Trust to understand their proposals in more detail. Rapid progress is being made, although there is much still to do. The Steering Group will report progress towards new facilities in future MAD News editions. *Watch this space!*

Apple Day

A big thank you to all who helped with the organisation of Apple Day on Saturday 18th October and another big thank you to all who supported us - the weather defied the forecast and all who came enjoyed the day.



Membership forms are on the website www.marcham.org

You can also email your views to admin@marcham.org

A new way forward for community facilities in Marcham





The
Marcham
Society

All Saints' Church Marcham
7.45pm Tuesday 11th November

Foray to the Falklands

Tony Hadland

*January meeting: John Leighfield Putting Marcham on the map
From Gough to Google*

Non-members always welcome £2

www.marchamsociety.org.uk

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

GARD THE PRESENT POSITION

The activities of GARD continue to concentrate on holding Thames Water to account in their researches into the options for a major new water resource to supply the needs of London from 2030 onwards. The options being researched are re-use of waste water after treatment, storage of water in times of plenty (new reservoirs), transfer of water from the river Severn to the Thames, and desalination.

The short term solution, the current plan, involves greater reliance on re-use of waste water until 2030 with considerable research going on at the London sewage treatment works at Deephams. This work includes both conventional treatment and reverse osmosis, the latter being much more expensive but more reliable, with variations of these processes. Considerable time will be needed, so no outcome is expected until 2017. If successful the re-use option could be expanded as a long term solution. Desalination is a more extreme and expensive form of treatment using saline water from the Thames Estuary.

The reservoir option has not progressed since the 2009 plan was overturned by the 2010 Public Inquiry. Several sizes of reservoir are envisaged, but for over 75 million cubic metres capacity Abingdon is the most viable option. There are other suitable sites available for smaller reservoirs. GARD contends that a massive storage capacity is not needed.

The Severn to Thames transfer option is the one which GARD put forward at the Public Inquiry and it was found that Thames Water had dismissed it with minimal research. There are a range of versions of the transfer option and GARD's consultant has a detailed knowledge of the alternatives. His computer models show several of them to be much cheaper, less damaging and more effective than the other proposals. GARD is in regular contact with Thames Water, their consultants and the Environment Agency monitoring the work.

It will be 2017 before there is a clear winner but GARD is allowing no cheating!

Further updates will be provided as and when there is something new to report.

NICK THOMPSON HON CHAIRMAN GARD

MARCHAM SOCIETY MIDWEEK WALK.

Thursday, November 6th.

For this month's walk we will meet at The Blue Boar Inn in Longworth, (Map Ref: SU389995) at 12.30 for lunch and 1.30 for the walk of about 4½ miles by Harrowdown Hill to New Bridge on the Thames. If the river is flooded we will do an alternative route on higher land.

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



MARCHAM CRICKET CLUB

The Club held a very pleasant and well-attended Presentation Dinner at a well-known local hostelry on 18th October 2014.. Please contact Trevor Hill (01865 391321) for any information relating to the Club, including playing or umpiring for Marcham.

CSB



SINGING IS GOOD FOR YOU!

2.00-3.30 pm Tuesday 11th November

2.00-3.30 pm Tuesday 25th November

We meet in the common room at Duffield Place. Come and join us, you will be sure of a warm welcome ... and tea and cake!

Phone 391270 for more details

Christine Whild



Marcham Village Shop and Post Office

Mon - Fri: 07.30 - 18.00
Sat: 07.30 - 13.00
Sun: 08.00 - 13.00



OUR
MVS
MARCHAM VILLAGE SHOP

POST OFFICE

On Friday 16th November 2012 Marcham Village Shop (MVS) and Post Office Local were officially opened by Ed Vaizey MP, and it's hard to believe **TWO YEARS** have gone by. We continue to advertise for villagers to shop with us and are now trying to attract passing trade with our new sign (see photo on the cover).

What's new this month: Small parcel weight and size limits have just changed, and now you can send more in the UK for less! Pudsey is in the Post Office this year collecting foreign money for **Children in Need**. If you have coins or notes from any country **including ours**, please pop them in the box on the Post Office counter. We have already received a very kind donation both to the shop and Pudsey, from a lady who brought in two pots of mixed coin – **Thank you**.

Look out for the **100 Years of Remembrance** poppy display in the shop window. Please give generously.

This month we will be holding a **Christmas Raffle** with a prize of a hamper full of shop goodies. The draw will be held on Monday 1st December. **Tickets on sale NOW!**

Last posting dates:

By Sea – Tuesday 4th November for Cyprus, Eastern Europe, Greece, Iceland, Malta and Turkey.

By Sea – Tuesday 18th November for Western Europe

BFPO - Friday 28th November for International Standard to operational HM Forces.

Airmail - 3 Dec: Asia, Far East & Singapore and 4 Dec: Australia
more dates next month

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

The Ryder Cup

I am well aware that many people find golf slow, tedious and boring. I don't agree, but I am not going to try to dissuade them. However, no-one can have missed the news that Europe has just won the Ryder Cup. It wasn't the fact that the European team was well-led, better prepared and, man for man, just plain better, that most struck me. I don't know of any other event – sporting or artistic – which gives people the chance to gather under the European flag, cheer on people from many European nations for their joint efforts and celebrate victory on behalf of Europe. In the team was a quirky Frenchman, a jokey Spaniard, a Scandinavian, Irishmen (leading the way in management and play – please note my Irish ancestors) and English and Welsh stalwarts. All seemed delighted to be representing Europe, and the constant chanting of “Europe! Europe!” I found heartwarming – but then I would, wouldn't I!

However you may feel about the European Court of Human Rights, the financial difficulties in which the EEC finds itself, the undoubted need for major reform, the fact remains that we are a nation less than 25 miles from mainland Europe, with a pro-European Scotland and Ireland and a “wait and see” England and Wales. We can no more draw anchor and sail away to friends across the Atlantic (assuming they would find that helpful) than we can lay a minefield down the Channel. The other European nations are our neighbours, like it or not. We do not serve our own purposes in hurling abuse and making enemies of them. Some of the current rhetoric on the issue is doing just that, and our children will not thank us for it.

So, well done Europe! If you can win like that, maybe you can sort out your current problems. And you never know, maybe we will want to join in too and be part of the solution.

Anger Management

I am finding that there are so many issues, which make me, and/or the people I represent, angry. It's not affecting my heart, touch wood, but attending a dozen or so meetings a week means that, when I arrive, I have to try to remember “why” I'm angry – and it takes a moment or two to do this. I hope this isn't just a sign of old age, but more an indication of just how many contentious issues there are around at the moment. It is very easy to become pessimistic in the prevailing atmosphere. We need the support of calm, reasonable, thinking people if we are to find solutions to our problems and there are plenty of them out there.

If this month's contributions seem a bit off beam and over-generalised, I am well aware of planning issues in Sutton Courtenay, Appleford, Milton, Milton Heights and Marcham. I am aware of outstanding issues around the Drayton Neighbourhood Plan and the enormous planning complexities in Marcham. I am also aware that traffic is an issue all over the Division. I have to be careful what I say here, as I am on the Vale Planning Committee – but I will write what I feel, when I can.

In the meantime, please help me to be patient and keep calm!

RICHARD WEBBER CLLR, OCC

Richard.webber77@ntlworld.com or 01235 534001

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

VWHDC Chairman's Awards

These are given to thank people whose volunteer work in their communities might otherwise go unnoticed. Last year all those on the Marcham Shop Committee received one of these awards (the certificate is on display in the shop). This year the Wednesday café group was recognized for their wonderful work serving healthy meals to anybody who arrives at the hall door; this may mean serving between forty and sixty plus meals. Peeling potatoes, washing vegetables and cooking imaginative meals is now their forte! Meriel Lewis also received an award for her unstinting efforts

as Editor of MADNews over many years – one of the most highly respected publications in the Vale – but as she could not come to the presentation her award was picked up by Sandra Davies and Marg Hall who do a fantastic job of collating and stapling the issues every month.

Serving behind the Counter

Richard and I have progressed from absolute beginners to being of some help behind the shop counter. Its been a fascinating experience learning how to cope with the till, vouchers and credit/debit cards; juggling with the weighing machine as one weighs out a quarter of bonbons; refilling the shelves; checking the dates on items; passing the time of the day with customers etc. , and what delightful people we have met behind and in front of the counter. And here is the sting in the tail. We still need more of you to come forward to help keep the show on the road. Once a week will make so much difference, so do contact Ruth Mandel if you feel you can offer some of your time to the shop.

As the Secretary to a recent Marcham meeting, I have been asked to publish the following on behalf of all those present.

Statement on the recent Anson Trust proposals

Representatives of interest Groups met in All Saints Church on Monday 13th October 2014 at 8pm to discuss the latest Anson Trust proposals and seek a way forward. The meeting was Chaired by the County Councillor for Marcham. The following Groups were represented:

The Parish Council
MSSSC
Anson Trust
All Saints Church
Baptist Church
MCG
Marcham School

The meeting was conducted in a constructive atmosphere in which each Group was able to voice their concerns and hear the concerns of others.

A number of risks and opportunities were identified. It was agreed that the problems of Anson Field and the shortage of village recreational and social facilities have been around for more than 10 years. The Anson Trust proposals have severe time constraints and although the village has a strong sense of community, the divisive nature of these issues must now be addressed and solutions found as a matter of urgency. The role of each of the interest Groups was identified. As the elected body responsible and answerable to all Marcham residents, it was agreed that the Parish Council should take a pro-active role in finding a solution. Having decided the immediate actions necessary, there will be a further meeting of this Group in the near future and regular announcements made on progress made.

CATHERINE WEBBER, CLLR

01235 534001 or catherinewebber@hotmail.co.uk

*THE SOBELL CHRISTMAS GIFT FAIR at
RADLEY COLLEGE*

Saturday 22nd November 10am – 5pm

Sunday 23rd November 10am – 4.30pm

** Over 60 stalls * Refreshments*

** Unique Gift Ideas*

Come and support

Sobell House Hospice Charity

www.sobellhospicecharity.org.uk

Entrance £5

Concessions £2.50



Newcomers to Marcham may be interested to discover that the village is involved in a long-standing project in Moldova, eastern Europe – the poorest country in Europe. Since 2007 people from Marcham have worked on a church-led partnership with a charity in Moldova that supports some vulnerable people – children, the elderly and disabled – in a society with some unbelievably basic needs.



Groups and individuals from Marcham go out to Moldova on a regular basis, to help administer the support we send. In addition to money, we send warm clothing, vegetable seeds and school supplies, and Paul Davies has worked on some house improvement projects.

Mary Embleton and Paul have just returned from a recent visit on behalf of Marcham Moldova Lifeline, where we found our partners, Nicu and Lili, in good heart and very busy. It has subsequently been agreed that the project will support a major new development to help the Association for the Deaf in the capital, Chisinau. The deaf are a very neglected group in Moldova, and we will be providing 6 months of training in sign language and business skills, as well as emergency help with winter food parcels and fuel, at a total cost of £4000.

If you would like to provide a food parcel that will see a deaf Moldovan household through one month this winter, the cost is just £10 pounds.

Please contact our Treasurer, Eric Dunford, on 391439.

MARY EMBLETON

TOOLS FOR SALE

Come to the garage at 14 Mill Road on Saturday 22nd November. You may well find bargains among Donald's tools. All proceeds will go to his favourite charity, **Marcham-Moldova Lifeline** and we hope you'll inherit some of his skills as you use them!

Jean Creasy

MARCHAM BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

We meet every Tuesday at All Saints' Church, Marcham 09.45-11.15. It is a great chance for the children to play and explore. Many of our toddlers have now moved on to nursery so we have lots of space to welcome new parents/carers with little ones. First week is free then £2 per family which includes refreshments. In **November** a photographer is coming if you would like a special photo ready for Christmas. Our **Christmas** party is on December 16th, there will be music, food and a visit from Santa. We are a very friendly group so please come along, bring a friend if you wish.

Sue Gibbling [Treasurer]. **Do come and join us!**



Southmoor and Kingston Bagpuize Gardening Club

Our next meeting on Tuesday 4th November at 7.15 for 7.30 pm at the Village Hall in Draycott Road Southmoor. OX13 5BY. This will be the important Annual General Meeting, yes there will be the usual official business but also this year we are offering something different, there will be a glass of wine and some nibbles but there will be another surprise waiting! We will hold our usual raffle and our members' table where you may pick up a plant or garden goody with all donations going to our chosen charity.

Annual membership to the club is £10 which includes admission to all the regular monthly meetings, visitors are always welcome at £3 per regular meeting, including tea or coffee and biscuits. Tickets will also be on sale for the Gardening Clubs Christmas party on December 2nd with entertainment. For more information about S&KB Gardening Club call Steve or Sharon on 01865 820399 or email skbgardeningclub@gmail.com

November 2014

MARCHAM PRE-SCHOOL NEWS

The children have been bringing in lots of natural items found in their gardens and around the village we explored our nature table with microscope and magnifying glasses. It was fascinating to see all the detail. If you are interested in a place at pre school please contact us on 01865 392 101.

We can be contacted on 01865 392101,

marcham-preschool@hotmail.co.uk,

or via our website www.marcham-preschool.weebly.com



Part-time Administrator Required

At Little Angels, we are looking for a part-time administrator, for 12 hours per week. Working hours and hourly rate to be negotiated depending on experience.



The role would include maintaining files and ensuring contact details are up to date, letters to parents/carers, newsletters and supporting all required documentation for a childcare setting.

We are looking for someone who is confident using Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint, training would be provided on our computer system. A GCSE grade A-C in English and Maths is desirable but not essential.

Here at Little Angels our children's safety is our priority. Therefore, the satisfactory candidate will require an enhanced DBS.

For further information and to request an application form, please contact Kaye on 07516 474287 or little-angels@hotmail.co.uk

Closing date for applications is 21st November 2014.

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@abingdonlittleanimals.co.uk

On Saturday 18 October, **1st Marcham Guides** took a trip up to London.

In London we went to the IWM (Imperial War Museum) There we looked at the effect war caused on Britain in the **First World War Galleries** and looked at art that was drawn to represent the war. Then we took the Guides to the Tower of London to see the poppies around the tower. It was a great trip and I really enjoyed it and would love to go again. I want to give a big thank you to Jill, Emma, Trish, and Sally for taking us on the trip.

ALICIA DAVIES

On the 18th October, 1st Marcham Guides visited London as part of our 'Poppy' badge. We got the train from Didcot to Paddington, when we then go the tube to the Imperial War Museum. Here we had a look round the new World War I gallery, which told us all the stages of the war in an interactive format. Here we also learnt about trench warfare, as there was a trench that we could look over the top at, for intruders! We then had lunch outside the museum followed by a bus trip to Embankment. Here, we got on a boat, passed the London Eye and HMS Belfast, before stopping by the Tower of London. The first thing we did in the tower was admire the poppies, which looked so much better in person than in photos. We visited the Tower Remembers gallery, which was situated on one of the walls. We also watched a recruitment re-enactment, that told us how and why so many people signed up. After this long day, we got the tube back to Paddington, just caught our train home, and exhausted, arrived back in Didcot. It was a great day and I would like to thank Jill, Emma, Sally and Trish for organising it all!!

JESS HAWKINS



Bazaar

Saturday 15th November
Hanney WM Hall
10 till 2pm



Grand Raffle
Christmas Decorations and Gifts
Toys, CDs, DVDs, Books Crafts, China
Refreshments, Sweets and Cakes
Hanney Fundraisers for Cancer Research

St Laurence Church, Tubney History Meeting

7.30pm Friday 21st November 2014

The Hayloft, Great Park Farm, Besselsleigh

Rosemary Kitto will give a talk on Sarah Jennings who was abandoned by her parents as a child but became one of the most influential and richest women in Great Britain and lived in Oxfordshire....

Refreshments and Raffle

Julie Thorne reveals the true story of Betty Ridge, the fisherman's daughter who married a viscount in 1766. Illustrated talk. It was thought that Betty lived at Hart's Weir, the inn at Rainbow Bridge in Fyfield parish but apparently not....

Tickets £5.00 in advance, £6.00 on the door.

Contact Rosemary on 01865 390466

or rosemarykitto@gmail.com.

Sunday November 16th 2014

Wantage Orchestra Autumn Afternoon concert. Wantage Orchestra are giving their Autumn concert on Sunday November 16th, in the afternoon. This is a wonderful opportunity to hear Schumann's Konzertstück for 4 french horns, featuring soloists Tony Copus, John James, Amy Thakurdas and Jon Dempster from the Oxford Horn Choir. Other pieces in the programme are Weber Freischütz Overture, Bruch Symphony No 3 and Weber Invitation to the Dance.

The concert starts at 3 pm and will be held in the Parish Church, Wantage. Tickets in advance are £8 (£6 concessions), available from the Information point at the Vale and Downland Museum, members of the Orchestra or online at www.wantageorchestra.org.uk. Tickets at the door are £9 (£7 concessions). Accompanied school children are free. For more information see our website www.wantageorchestra.org.uk.

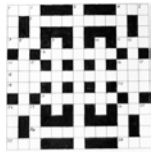


Wantage Orchestra

CROSSWORD ANSWERS BY ALISA

Across: 1. Motive 4. Amused 8. Atomic
10. London 11. Latin 14. Woodstock 16. Ra
17. Up 18. Day centre 21. Story 24. Eaglet
25. Second 26. Nodule 27. Friday

Down: 1. Meanders 2. Tool 3. Veil 5. Moon
6. Soda 7. Dons 9. Caldecott 10. Listeners 12. Coral 13. Scarf
15. Apple day 19. Venn 20. Aged 21. Seal 22. Year 23. Toad



KICK START YOUR AUTUMN

If gym and exercise classes seem a bit too vigorous but you want to be doing some exercise, then AGE UK Oxfordshire has the perfect



solution – a new seated exercise class specifically designed for those who would like to improve their fitness, balance and strength.

Maybe you have been a little hesitant at the thought of going to an exercise class because you aren't sure what to expect. So here's a quick guide to the session:

- It's fun
- It's friendly
- It's deceptively effective
- The routines are easy to pick up
- The exercises can be done standing or sitting to suit everyone
- No special clothes required, just wear something comfortable and non slip shoes.
- It will improve your fitness, strength and balance
- There's no age limit so it's never too late to start!

It lasts for one hour in the Marcham Sports and Social Club every Thursday at 10:30am to 11:30am. Age UK Oxfordshire classes are very popular and run by our friendly qualified staff, and you'll come out feeling better for it.

What's more the first session is **FREE** to newcomers and thereafter each class will cost just £3.50.

Come along, bring a friend or make a friend there and you might be surprised at how much you will enjoy it.

For further details contact AGE UK Oxfordshire on 01235 849403.

Tubney Church Gift and Table-Top Sale

Southmoor Village Hall

Saturday 6th December 2014

at 2.00 pm

£1 entrance to include a cup of tea or coffee

Stalls include:

**Books, Cakes, Cards, Craft, Games, Gifts,
Produce, Raffle, Toys, White Elephant
plus Private Table-Top Sales.**

**Rosemary Kitto on 01865 390 466 rosemarykitto@gmail.com
if you would like a Table Top. £5.00 per table**

VACANCY FOR

DIRECTORS OF THE ANSON TRUST – PARISH COUNCIL NOMINEES

The Articles and Memorandum governing the Anson Trust provide for the Parish Council to nominate up to two Trustees to serve on the Anson Trust as Directors. The nominees serve for a three year term. This term has just expired after the last nominations, so the Council is inviting expressions of interest from anyone who wishes to be considered for nomination. Candidates should have an open mind about the Trust's work and be prepared to devote time attending meetings during what is currently a very active time for the Trust in developing its future strategy and plans. So, if you believe you have an expertise e.g. legal, finance, management, social etc. that can benefit the Trust, or generally interested in supporting the work of the Trust, and would like to be considered please contact the Parish Clerk - Mrs. L. Martin 90 Howard Cornish Rd, Tel: 01865 391833.



All Saints' and St. Luke's Parish Page

Dear Friends,

As the days shorten and the temperatures begin to fall, autumn is heralded by chilly, misty mornings, and the dew drips off the leaves and covers our cars. Once again the seasons are changing as we cross the monthly boundary into November.

Our minds inevitably turn to Remembrance Sunday, and to the 100th anniversary of the First World War. As the Royal British Legion says: 'Remembrance transcends all boundaries. It is a small yet important individual and collective act, a rare moment when the nation can stand together and reflect on the price of freedom. That price is still being paid.'



Collective courage and individual acts of bravery and self-sacrifice are remembered. The prayers of many across this nation and the world were offered in faith, in the belief that God exists, that He cares, and that He knows us, and through Christ we can know Him. And that because of Jesus, we can know life after death.

Such faith across the world communities is alive and stronger today than it was those 100 years ago. It is a faith that undergirds and strengthens us when we, too, face life's challenges and struggles. It is in that faith that our own lives can be lived. God offers us the gift of peace of heart and mind in Jesus, together with the knowledge of his companionship and constant presence and provision.

May our remembrance run deep and true, and may our faith remain strong and alive.

With my warmest greetings,

Revd Richard Zair

Prayer for the Month:

Heavenly Father, Thank you for your gift of peace of heart and mind in Jesus. As we remember events 100 years ago, and the conflicts of subsequent years and generations, and those serving in our armed forces today, please help us to hold on to you in faith. Help us to work together for peace in our time. We ask through Jesus Christ, Amen.

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.

Regular services:

Sundays at All Saints': 10 am and 6 pm

St. Luke's, Garford: Sunday 9th November at 12 noon
- a short service of Remembrance at the War Memorial.

Wednesdays: 10.30 am Holy Communion at Duffield Place

November Dates:

Saturday 1st: 8.30am, Men's Breakfast at the Sports and Social Club

There is something about the ~~Psalm~~...

..That reassures...resonates...and renews

Come along and listen to your favourite Psalm being read. Share thoughts & learn from each other

10.00- 10.30am Psalm reading 10.30-12noon - crafts, games and refreshments

Duffield Place Lounge

Friday 14th Nov, 12th Dec

Contact Rachel on 391432 for more information

Parish People:

Funerals:

Our thoughts and prayers for the families and friends of Joan Steptoe, Louisa Mary Freeman, George Lloyd and Ralph Horton.

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
Tamsin Gilbert *Administrator* 391319

MORE TO LIFE THAN THIS

Marcham
Baptist
Church

*Why is this world so full of hate?
People dying everywhere and we destroy
what we create
People fighting for their human rights
But we just go on saying c'est la vie.....
so this is life.*

*There must be more to life than killing.....
..... a better way for us to survive
What good is life.....
..... if in the end we all must die?
There must be more to life than this.*

*There must be more to life than this.
I live and hope for a world filled with love.
Then we can all just live in peace.*

Recently I was surprised to hear on the radio a posthumously released recording sung by Freddie Mercury. I later discovered it to be a result of a collaborative venture in the 80's by Michael Jackson and the former Queen frontman. Apparently a demo tape exists of Jackson singing and Mercury playing piano. My ears pricked up when I heard Freddie sing - *'there must be more to life than this'* I soon checked the lyrics online.

The words are somewhat poignant in the light of the recent horrendous happenings in the Middle East. News broadcasts over recent months have highlighted the capture and subsequent beheadings of Alan Henning and other western aid-workers and journalists. However, what has not hit the major news headlines, but which has been circulating through Christian prayer networks, has been the deliberate slaughter of thousands of the Christian community in Iraq and Syria by

the so called Islamic state. There are many accounts of Islamist militants going from town to town, forcing Iraqi and Syrian Christians to renounce their faith, or else be killed. Christian teenagers have even been beheaded in front of their parents for refusing to deny Jesus Christ. In the wake of these atrocities, tens of thousands of Iraqi Christians have fled their towns and villages, as the Islamists advanced towards them.

In North Korea, it is reckoned that a quarter of the Christian population there is in prison, starved, tortured or killed for refusing to denounce their faith, or even for being found to own a Bible. Worse is the apparent fact that it is not just the person owning the Bible but three generations of their family who can suffer the same fate, as extended punishment for anyone even possessing Christian literature. In India, Pakistan, Indonesia, Iran, Nigeria, Egypt, China and in many other countries, Christians are persecuted, imprisoned or killed, not just by Islamists but by Marxists, or Hindu militants or radicals of other faiths.

WHY? Why kill anyone for their faith? But even more interestingly is a different and tangential question. **Why would teenagers in Iraq rather be killed than renounce their faith in Jesus? Why would North Korean Christians suffer imprisonment and torture rather than deny Christ?**

The answer lies in the fact that for many millions of Christians around the world, their faith in Jesus is not about tradition, nor is it just head knowledge or religious ritual. No their faith in Christ is a genuine life transforming experience a real relationship with the God who created us, which brings meaning, purpose and hope in a world that is full of violence, hunger and greed. Christ came to bring life that is radical and transformational and a relationship which leads to an eternal and joyful future beyond our temporal and brief existence in this world with all its sufferings. Even after his own torture, crucifixion and subsequent resurrection Jesus promised that until the time of His return, He would be with those that put their faith in Him. Many Christians around the world experience that reassuring presence even until death.

In reflecting upon the final verse of their song, I wish I had had the opportunity to tell Freddie Mercury and Michael Jackson that YES *'There is more to life than this and we can hope for a world filled with love, where we can all just live in peace.'* All that is needed is a transformational trust and faith in Jesus Christ.

Keith Marsh Pastor
Marcham Baptist Church

Contact:- Keith Mersh 01865 391881

or Bill Dyer (Elder) 01235 814986

Speakers in November

2 Nov	-	Wendy Manley
9 Nov	-	Joint Remembrance Day Service at All Saints 10.00am
16 Nov	-	NO MORNING SERVICE - Baptismal service 2.30pm
23 Nov	-	James Gilbert from All Saints
30 Nov	-	Keith Mersh

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