



## Marcham WI March 2007

We were so pleased to welcome two visitors from the village. In April Will Cumber, local farmer and benefactor will be telling us about 'our local dig' on his land. Great speaker – **ALL WELCOME.**

This month we had our Annual Meeting with a resumé of the past year's activities, outings, speakers The **Denman College Bursary** was won by Mrs Irene Wheeler. Christine Denton, last year's winner gave a brief account of her Digital Photography course. Our March speaker, an enthusiastic employee told us how **Waitrose** set up their foundation in 2005. 18 small traders in South Africa have been vetted and receive protection from **Waitrose Foundation** giving them a stable income (even when world prices drop). This enables the farmers to cover their costs, support their families and invest in the future.

**Waitrose** together with the importer, exporter and grower sit on a Board of Trustees with the aim of improving social, educational and health facilities in their communities with funds raised by **Waitrose Foundation**. Many of the principles – ethical trading, consistent quality, employees' conditions, impact on the environment are similar to **Fair Trade**. and **Send a Cow** (March MADNews). All bananas sold by Waitrose now come from the Windward Isles under the Fair Trade label. Citrus fruit, avocados and grapes are now sold through **Waitrose Foundation**. There is no extra charge for fruit sold through **Waitrose Foundation**. Members enjoyed a selection of fresh products at the end and left with a LongLife bag and Waitrose magazines.

### Don't Forget

**Design for Life** – 30 textile panels depicting viruses on display

Wantage Museum: until Fri 30 March

John Mason School: Tue 24 April – Sun 30 May

**Creative Writing Workshop:** Thur 3 May 10-15.30 Tackley £18.50 (members)

**GM Crops – Good or Bad:** Thur 3 May 10.45- 13.00 Oxford £5/£6 (non-members)

**Coach and Boat Trip, visits to Mapledurham Working Watermill and Elizabethan Manor:** Wed 11 July £22.50/£26.50

**Scrabble Beginners' Golf, Indoor Bowls, Coach Holiday in Eire:** you name it, the WI does it!

### NEXT MEETING

7.30pm Thursday 19 April

Denman College – Craft and Cookery Building

**Romano-British Religious Centre of N Berks**

**Will Cumber**

**Display:** *Anything connected with Rome!*

**Contacts:** Greta Goulding 01865 391592  
Christine Whild 01865 391270

### FRILFORD ST PETER'S WI

20 April 2007, 2pm Duffield Place

**Scrapbooking:** Mrs A J Atkins.

**WYN HARMAN**

### MARCHAM & DISTRICT EX-SERVICEMEN'S CLUB

**Notice Annual Subscriptions** These are NOW due. Payments may be paid in the Club during normal opening hours.

**A.G.M.** This will be held in the Club on Tuesday 24th April at 8:00 P.M. All members are urged to attend.

**Saturday 14th April** Grand National Race Evening

**Sunday 22nd April** Brain Strain Quiz Night.

### SUNSHINE CLUB

**March:** We didn't hold the Monday Club on the 19th this was due to the funeral of Jahn Mansell held on that day. We would like to pass on our condolence to Peggy Kinchen on her very sad loss. Our thoughts are with her and her family. Also our thoughts go out to Julia at the Post Office whose Mother sadly passed away, We would like to extend our condolence to her and her family from The Sunshine Club.

We wish everyone a nice Easter – lovely to see the spring flowers in bloom.

*Be back with an update next month.*

**JOY CROOK**

### MARCHAM SENIOR CITIZENS' CLUB

Our last meeting was our AGM which was quite well attended. The committee were all re-elected and all reports were accepted by members. An outing has been arranged for April 12th (not April 29th) as stated earlier, to have lunch at the Windmill Carvery and afterwards a visit to a grade centre. So we are all looking forward to our first outing of the year, and hoping funds will allow a few more during the year.

**JOYCE PARRY**

### NATURE NOTES

The Robins sang until 3am throughout Oct – Jan, perhaps it isn't the street lights but the 'mild' nights which fool them? Many song birds are uttering mating calls and nesting earlier. Three mall pheasants, two with white neck bands, are strutting their stuff. No sign of a heron lately or the male sparrowhawk, since he skimmed along a thick, mixed hedge – boy did the sparrows complain!

Wonder if the two immature grey wagtails seen in Dec-Jan will return to the brook. We live in hope of spotting a kingfisher passing through again.

**GG**



### MIDWEEK WALK THURSDAY APRIL 5TH

This month's walk will start at The Bear Hotel in The Market Place, Wantage (Map Ref: SU 398879). We will be looking at another piece of the Wilts and Berks Canal, this time to see some of the restored sections and some of the hidden rural parts of Wantage. The walk will be about 4½ miles. We will meet at 12.30 pm for lunch or 1.30 for the walk, but you are encouraged to join us on the 11.51 bus from Marcham which stops just outside the hotel. As always, new walkers are very welcome. Members free, non-members £1. Ring Eric Dunford on 391439 for lifts and details.



The  
**Marcham  
Society**

**Antonia Catchpole**  
will be explaining the  
development of medieval Burford

**All Saints' Church**

Tuesday 10th April 2007, 7.45pm

April 2007

Non-members £1

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

Further details: Janey Cumber (391327) or Judith Fontaine (391275)