



Marcham WI December 2006

November saw coachloads of Oxon members going to **Birmingham** to visit the **German Christmas market** where lot of nice nibbles and gifts were on offer. The Bullring has been transformed, vast with escalators everywhere!

Marcham WI organised a trip to the new Theatre (Apollo) to see Oxford Operatic's version of **West Side Story**. A huge cast of versatile dancers, singers and actors did credit to this 1960s American musical. Amazing choreography.

In early December the hugely enjoyable annual **Christmas Songs** at Oxford Town Hall were again **conducted by** Marcham's multi-talented glamorous gran, **Christine Whild**. Some beautiful poems and amusing monologues were read by Oxon Fedn Trustees with some delightful operative arias by Claire and Stephen Barratt of Charity Opera. They were accompanied by a talented young man, Jamal Sutton.

Lots of tasty (and wicked) morsels were brought to our bring and share finger buffet for our **Christmas party**. This is held in the spacious foyer of the craft and cookery building and gives us a change to enjoy the displays of craft, needlework and paintings. Stories and poems were read and some rousing Christmas carols accompanied by Christine Whild – we are so lucky to have hers as a member of our WI. We all left with a gift from the bran tub, grateful to our committee (and other members) who arrange such an interesting year of speakers, outing, raffles, birthday cards, hospitality, theatre, pub lunches, walks (The coach trips, which have been particularly interesting in 2006, and Pam Ayres-type events are arranged by Oxon Fedn in Tackley.) We are indebted to Denman College who prepare various rooms for our meeting throughout the year.

Best wishes to members and visitors for the New Year. If you are retiring in 2007 and would like to meet new friends and join in (or introduce) new activities, do ring a member or just come along.

NB We have working members and talented individuals but there is no pressure to do crafts, make jam, scones, sing Jerusalem etc, we are a friendly, informal, sometimes irreverent group – **and we don't read the Minutes!**

NEXT MEETING

7.30pm Thursday 18 January

Denman College – Craft and Cookery Building

Renaissance Splendour David Locket

Display: favourite Christmas Card picture

Contacts: Greta Goulding 01865 391592
Christine Whild 01865 391270



Marcham WI Christmas Party entertainment ▲ ABINGDON COUNTRY MARKET...

... sells delicious cakes, jam, quiches, etc etc in the Roysse Room, Abingdon (near St Nicholas' church) every Friday from 0930-1100.

The Country Market restarts on January 19th and Farmers Market on 15th January 2007.

FRILFORD ST PETER'S WI

There is no January meeting, next meeting will be on 16 February 2007.

WYN HARMAN

ON THE BUSES

The good news is that Oxford Bus has restored the link between Abingdon and JR Hospital. Oxford X13 runs every 20 minutes during the day (10, 30, 50 from Stratton Way) and 30 minutes evenings and Sundays (15 and 45).



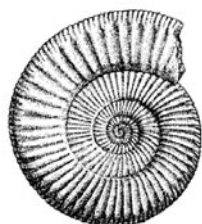
X13 is timed at Boundary House 5 minutes later which is convenient for the public car park in Northcourt Road, next to the Football Ground. Thames Travel X15 at 28 past from Frilford Road (not Sundays) would connect into the 50 past X13 from Abingdon - be sure to get off the X15 at the last stop in Bath Street, walk down and turn right to the Stratton Way X13 stop. Oxford X13, and X3, use smart, comfortable Mercedes buses with 'state-of-the-art low emission engines. Check bus services over New Year:

Thames Travel 01491 837988, Stagecoach 01865 772250
BUS SPOTTER

MIDWEEK WALK THURSDAY JAN 11TH

This month's walk will start at The General Elliott Pub in South Hinksey (Map Ref: SP 511043), which can be reached via a slip-road off the A34 just past the Hinksey Interchange (mind you don't miss it!). We will be walking up the Chilswell or Golden Valley Nature Reserve with a splendid view of Oxford on the return leg, about 4 miles in all. We will meet at 12.30pm for lunch or 1.30 for the walk. As always, new walkers are very welcome.

Members free, non-members £1. Ring Eric Dunford on 391439 for lifts and details.



The
**Marcham
Society**

Oxfordshire has a united platform for nature conservation. Does this make us unique in the country?

**Tom Butterworth will be talking
about the work of the
Oxfordshire Nature Conservation Forum**

All Saints' Church

Tuesday 9th January 2007, 7.45pm

Non-members £1

www.marchamsociety.org.uk

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