

Marcham & District News

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

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

July / August 2008 Vol: 30 No: 7 / 8

READ & RECYCLE!

FREE



▲ **Marcham Shame**
see Parish Council News page 3



▲ **Oyez at Marcham WI**
see page 9



▲ **Pre-school celebrates Fathers' Day!**
see page 11



▲ **Marcham Parishioners of the Year**
see page 5 ▲



Visit the Dig!
6 – 26 July
9.30am – 4pm
closed Saturdays
Fun for all the family
see page 11



▲ **Where is this? Can you identify this bike, house or garage? If yes, call Sheila Dunford on 391439**

DIARY FOR JULY / AUGUST

Thur 3	Midweek Walk: Perch and Pike Inn, S Stoke, 12.30pm lunch /1.30pm walk	9	Fri 25	MP's Surgery: Faringdon, 5.30-7pm	7
Wed 9	Parish Council Meeting, Duffield Place, 7.30pm	3	Fri 25	Real Ale Night, MSSSC, 8pm	13
Fri 11	MP's Surgery: Wallingford, 5.30-7pm	7	Sat 26	BBOWT/Lions, Boot Sale, Carterton 8am-12 noon	15
Fri 11	Summer Dance, MSSSC, 8pm	13	August		
Sat 12	BBOWT Chimney Meadows, 8.30-11.30pm	15	Thur 7	Midweek Walk: The Maybush Inn, 12.30pm lunch /1.30pm walk	9
Sat 12	Fyfield Fete, Manor Farmhouse, 2pm	15	9/10	Woodland Festival, Harcourt Aboretum, 10am – 5pm	15
Thur 17	Marcham WI, Denman College, 7.30pm	9	Sun 24	Garage and Car Boot Sale, E Hanney, 10am – 4pm	15
Sun 20	National Archaeology Day, Trendles Field 10-4pm	11	26/27	Tennis Coaching, Marcham Tennis Courts, 10am – 12pm	15
Thur 24	Sunshine Club outing to Brighton	11			
24, 25, 26	Marcham Society Norman Conquests, The Crown Garden	9			

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

Dear Readers


At last summer is here!

There are lots of things going on – sport, plays, dances, fêtes, walks and lots more – I hope you all enjoy the next couple of months of sunshine (and maybe the odd shower!).

Marcham Parish Council has a new website so we can keep up to date with parish business – do any of the other villages have websites that could be advertised and have links from the MADNews website? Just let me know.

The next issue will be September and the deadline for articles, notices and reports etc is 5pm on 20 August. Adverts should be in by 15 Aug.

Until next time



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ADVERTISING

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DEADLINES

Advertising: 5pm 15th month
Other copy: 5pm 20th month
except for Jan when it is 15th Dec for both

ADDITIONAL COPIES

These are available free from Marcham Post Office or the Editor. Postal copies are also available – contact the Editor.

NOTES 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.

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www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk

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July/August 2008

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Parish Council - Anson Trust

Mr. Malcolm Denton, one of the Parish Council's nominees on the Anson Trust has retired from the Trust as a Director. The Council is therefore required to nominate a successor. The nominees are able to assist in steering the work of the Trust. The nominees serve for a three year term. The Council is inviting expressions of interest from anyone who wishes to be considered for nomination. Anyone who can offer the Trust both time and expertise may be eligible. 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 for the charitable operations of the Trust. However, if you believe you have an expertise e.g. legal, finance, management, social etc. that can benefit the Trust and would like to be considered please contact the Parish Clerk – Mrs. L. Martin 90 Howard Cornish Rd, Tel: 01865 391833.

Hills Aggregates

Hills aggregates are about to lodge a planning application for sand extraction on the east side of the A338 at Upwood Park in the northern part of the parish. The company will be giving a presentation at the next Council meeting about its proposals and will answer questions. The meeting is open to the public.

Website

The Parish Council is developing a website with information about the Council's activities, the agendas and minutes of meetings supported by other information. An email address is also being acquired and should be available shortly. For those who wish to view the beginnings of the website this is available at www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Allotments

The Council's attention has been drawn to the fact that some allotment tenants have let others share their plots. The Council requires that the names of all users be jointly on the tenancy agreement. If you are an allotment tenant and are sharing your plot please contact the Clerk to change

the tenancy arrangements.

Recycling Bins

The Council is concerned that plastic bags and cardboard are being left at the Recycling bins in Howard Cornish Road. These items should not be left there and are not collected. The Parish Council has asked the District Council to review the situation, and also to consider a hardstanding. Please would residents not leave cardboard and plastic carrier bags at the recycling bins as these just blow around in the wind causing more problems elsewhere.

See panel on page 15 for what you can and can't put in your green box and brown bins.

Marcham Recreation Ground Play Area Refurbishment *(see cover)*

The play area until recently had a broken scale swing, a bent helicopter climbing frame, wooden animals in poor condition and stones covered in algae which were slippery. A refurbishment project was started with the permission of the Anson Trust as owners of the recreation field. The old broken and damaged equipment was taken away and several new pieces of play equipment suitable for toddlers and young children have been installed, including a much needed roundabout and springy animals. The hedge surrounding the site has been removed and new bow top fencing put in. The project has much improved the play facilities creating a much needed safe site for young children. Everyone is delighted with the new amenities. A new bench seat too provides seating for parents and those less mobile. The new refurbished site was formally opened on 10th June by the District Councillor Cllr. Jane Hanna cutting the ribbon watched keenly by the pre-school and reception class children from the school. The Trust and the Parish Council would thank Waste Recycling Environmental (WREN) for its financial support and help in enabling the project to reach fruition.

Date of Next Council Meeting:

Wednesday 9 July at 7.30pm. in the residents' lounge, Duffield Place.

Clerk to the Council: Mrs. L. Martin, 90 Howard Cornish Rd, 01865 391833

MARCHAM ANNUAL MEETING OF ELECTORS

This meeting took place on 28 May in Marcham School. Various reports were given but the highlight (apart from the cheese and wine!) was the presentation of the Marcham Parishioner of the Year (see cover for photo). Here is the citation:

**MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Parishioner of the Year Award**

Marcham Parish Council wishes to recognise and honour the achievements and contribution to the life and well being of Marcham made by

Eric and Sheila Dunford

Their founding of the Marcham Society and their immense contribution to its functioning in so many ways, including the holding of offices, organising meetings and undertaking research have provided parishioners with knowledge, pleasure and joy.

Their contribution to the life to All Saints' Church, in particular to its music, through membership of the choir and through the playing of the organ, is warmly and deeply appreciated by the congregation and adds greatly to the prevailing welcoming atmosphere.

Their selfless commitment and their informed and enthusiastic efforts have been pre-eminent in the establishment of the Jubilee walks in Marcham, whilst their many other contributions to the life of the village, including leading walks, running the village 'Café' and serving on the Parish Council are welcomed by all.

As a token of its appreciation and on behalf of the civil parish of Marcham, the Parish Council has presented this certificate to Eric and Sheila Dunford on the twenty eighth day of May two thousand and eight.

William Cumber, Chairman Marcham Parish Council

**DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S
REPORT TO THE ANNUAL
MEETING OF ELECTORS**

I promised last year to do what I could to ensure residents are kept informed and have an opportunity to express their views on the future of village facilities and the Anson Field. I met with the Anson Trust and the Neighbours around the Field and have set up an independent working party which has met three times. We are planning a public meeting and a follow-up questionnaire to Marcham residents as soon as possible after any application is lodged. This consultation exercise is with a view to informing myself and the parish council of the views of the village before any representations are made to the Vale Planning Committee. The timing of any application is not known, but the working group has received assurances from the Anson Trust that there will be sufficient notice to enable the consultation exercise to take place.

The Vale has retained its position this year as the 9th lowest charging District Council in England, but every year there is the same problem of sharing out the pie between an increasing number of services that the Vale is required to provide. The Vale has looked to do as much as possible to achieve efficiencies. Joint working with other authorities in areas such as benefits and

waste collection have demonstrated that we can keep the Council Tax low whilst continuing to deliver vital services. Doing what we can to help the environment whilst causing minimum inconvenience to residents is part of every policy area. We are committed, in the future, to weekly collections of food waste but will be asking waste contractors to run a scheme that continues to significantly decrease the amount of waste collected.

The Government scheme for bus passes has cost the council an additional £300,000 per annum and this combined with another statutory requirement to make up a deficit in the staff pension scheme has swallowed up the 4.9% increase in the Vale element of the Council Tax. I have made representations concerning the complaints I have received about the half hour delay in the use of the free bus pass. One option the Vale had was to increase the Council Tax for all residents – In South Oxfordshire, where the use of free passes is less than in the Vale it has cost an extra £13 to all residents to do this. To do this we would have faced an additional financial penalty from government, and we would have lost an ability to campaign to government to pay the full costs of the statutory scheme. We hope in the meantime to work with bus companies for reconsideration of the

COW LANE PADDOCKS

Marcham Parish Council is inviting tenders for letting for one year, the two pony paddocks at the corner of Cow Lane and Sheepstead Road. If anyone is interested in either or both plots, contact the Clerk stating the amount of the tender.

Please note the Council is not obliged to accept the highest or any offer.

Clerk: Mrs. L. Martin
90 Howard Cornish Rd. Marcham.
Tel: 01865 391833

HOLIDAY WASTE COLLECTIONS

Please ensure your rubbish bags aren't left vulnerable to animal and/or bird attack.

August Bank Holidays

Normal Day	Will be...
Mon 25 Aug	Tue 26 Aug
Tue 26 Aug	Wed 27 Aug
Wed 27 Aug	Thur 28 Aug
Thur 28 Aug	Fri 29 Aug
Fri 29 Aug	Sat 30 Aug

timetables and we will also continue to lobby for a fair local taxation scheme which will fully benefit people who are struggling financially.

Flooding remains a real concern for Marcham. I visited many of the home affected last year and appreciate the devastation caused. When an emergency flooding crisis occurs across the whole of the Vale, resources are necessarily prioritised to save life and areas with large populations at risk. The work of the parish council working group on flooding has a vital role to play and, working with the range of agencies involved including the Vale, has already produced an excellent flooding pack specific to Marcham residents.

During the year there has also been a full case load of housing and planning issues. The need for effective scrutiny of health services by local councillors also continues to be vital and an important part of my workload. I represent the Vale on the Oxfordshire Joint Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee and will be taking forward recent concerns about the proposed closure of a local pharmacy service.

JANE HANNA

District Councillor for
Marcham & Shippon

01235 772782

janehanna@dial.pipex.com

DENMAN COLLEGE

The college has been busy over the past couple of months, with a very full programme of residential courses, day visits and other activities.

Our building project – a new 16 bedroom accommodation block, and a 120-seat meeting & teaching room – is well underway, and we will have the new rooms in use by late Summer. We are delighted that the Lord Lieutenant of Oxfordshire, Hugo Brunner and two of his brothers – the sons of Lady Brunner, a driving force behind the establishment of Denman College, and national Chairman of the WI in the 1950s – will lay a memorial foundation stone for the accommodation block in July.

Plans are also well in hand for our week of celebrations – Denman’s Diamond – in September (23-28th), when we mark the college’s 60th birthday.

We are always delighted to host Marcham WI at the college, and in June we welcomed a group of young people from the church who came to have a look round the college’s gardens.

STEPHEN HACKETT, Principal

RED CROSS APPEAL

I would like to pass on my thanks to all collectors and donators for this year’s Red Cross appeal. I’ve had a very nice letter from the Red Cross and they have informed me that the total amount collected for Marcham was £443.32 Well done everyone and thanks again.

JO BLACKLER

**MARCHAM & DISTRICT
EX-SERVICEMEN’S
CLUB (“THE CLUB”)
NOTICE TO LIFE MEMBERS**

To enable the Club to keep a current Register of all Life Members, would those entitled and wishing to register as such, including widows and widowers of Life Members, please contact Hodsons, the Club’s Solicitors in writing by 30 September 2008 and the Club Secretary by 01 April in each subsequent year. Those indicating a wish to register will be sent a Registration Form for completion and return. Those failing to respond by the dates mentioned will no longer be considered Members of the Club.

Dated this 18 day of June 2008

**Hodsons, The Greenhouse,
Stratton Way, Abingdon, OX14 3QP**

July/August 2008

ED VAIZEY WRITES...

Locally, we seem to have scored a victory by preventing the Highways Agency from routing heavy traffic through Marcham during the road works. The sheer hell this would have caused once again highlights the need for a solution to the problem of having a major road running through the centre of Marcham.

On national issues, as so many people wrote to me with their concerns about the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Bill, I thought I should let you know how I voted on some of the main issues, and why.

Hybrid Embryos In my view, much of the debate around this issue was misleading. Most hybrids involve the animal part acting as a “vessel” for human cells, and the need has come about because of the shortage of human eggs available for research. There is no mixing of animal and human genetic material. However, I did have concerns about “true hybrids”, where there does appear to be some mixing of material, because an animal egg or fertilised by a human sperm, and vice versa. Accordingly I voted for a Conservative amendment that would have prohibited “true hybrids”, but this was defeated. **Saviour Siblings** I do not oppose saviour siblings. Saviour siblings are not children created to order so that their body parts can be harvested. It is simply the case that where a mother is receiving IVF, she will be able to choose the embryo who most closely matches her existing child in terms of tissue. This already happens in other countries in any event, so it is right that the practice is properly regulated here. I therefore supported the Government on this issue.

Need for a Father At present, a doctor assessing any one seeking IVF is required to consider the “need for a father”. The Bill proposed changing this to the “need for supportive parenting”. I supported the change for many reasons. First, I do not think single mothers or lesbian couples should be denied such treatment. Knowing both examples very well, they can make very good parents, and do not take the decision to have a child lightly. Second, the “need for a father” arguments did not stand up to scrutiny. It was argued that the provision would not discriminate as lesbians already receive treatment, and it was there simply to send a signal. In my view, legislation should not be used to send signals, but to achieve specific aims. To use it for the former purpose is to encourage bad law-making.

Abortion I am not anti-abortion, and would not vote to make it illegal. It is clear however, that our abortion limit is too high. Babies do survive at 23 weeks (including a constituent of mine) and some at 22 weeks. I am confident many will survive at 20 weeks in a few years. I therefore voted to lower the

abortion rate to 20 weeks, and to 22 weeks, but both amendments were defeated.

Thank you for allowing me to set out my views. The debates can be seen in Hansard, on the website www.parliament.uk (just click on House of Commons, then Hansard, and look for the relevant dates, 19 and 20 May) or I may be able to send you hard copies of the debates if you so desire.

ED VAIZEY, MP Wantage (Con)

MP’S SURGERY WITH ED VAIZEY

5.30-7.00pm, unless stated otherwise

11 July	Wallingford , Town Hall
25 July	Faringdon , Corn Exchange
5 Sept	Grove Old Mill Hall, Old School Lane
26 Sept	Shrivenham , Memorial Hall
Contact Ed Vaizey by	
Post	The House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA
E-mail	vaizeye@parliament.uk
Web	www.vaizey.com
Tel	0207 219 6350

Dear Editor

Just a few days after the litter around the recycling bins in Howard Cornish Road was cleared (by volunteers?), I noticed two large cardboard boxes had been left there. May I suggest that the people responsible, who were public-spirited enough to recycle their bottles and paper, go one step further and hire a brown bin or take their cardboard to Tesco’s recycling facilities?

JEAN PAGE See cover photo

**MARCHAM EX-SERVICEMEN’S CLUB
OAP MYSTERY TOUR
Saturday 16th August 2008.**

Leaving the Club at 2pm

Forms will be available from the Post Office and Club from the 1st August 2008, closing date 13th August.

**CEDAR Zimbabwe
children’s clothes sale**

Thank you to everyone who donated, bought and helped to make the afternoon such a success.

We raised £104.00 which will be used to buy medical supplies for the mobile clinic. The clinic provides basic health care to those who wouldn’t normally be able to afford medication.

RACHEL GAISFORD

FREE TO A GOOD HOME

A tradition drop-side cot with newish rarely-used mattress and some bedding. Could deliver if necessary. No longer required by grand-parents!
Contact Sheila Dunford on 391439



Marcham WI July / August 2008

Our speaker this month, Mary Bates, will tell us about all her travels and experiences in China and bring colourful examples of Chinese kites. Kite flying is a favourite pastime in China with people of all ages and Mary will demonstrate how to make a simple kite and the principles of flying them.

Our June meeting started with the loudest noise heard in Denman College for a long time. Abingdon's Town Crier, Tony Legge, entered ringing his bell and crying in rhyme that he was "Instructed to bring the best wishes of the Mayor and Town Council of Abingdon". He wore his full official regalia, which had been made by Jean Anns who is one of our members (see cover for photo). He then told us about his duties for the Mayor at official functions.

During June Marcham W.I. took part in a county quiz at Didcot and visited the New Theatre, Oxford, to see a new production of the Pirates of Penzance. Eight members had a most enjoyable day at Salisbury Cathedral and also visited the home of the Earl of Pembroke at Wilton. Wilton House has an excellent art collection and extensive landscape gardens.

There is no meeting in August, but we have arranged a visit to view the house and gardens at Friars' Court, Clanfield, followed by afternoon tea (details at meeting).

Future Events

- 1 July London Square Mile visit
- 30 July Life drawing classes
- 29 June London Diana Walk
- 12 Aug Garden Tour and Afternoon Tea at Friars Court, Clanfield
- 1 Sept Watercolour workshop for beginners
- 8 Sept Fantastic plastics lecture at RAL
- 18 Sept Open meeting - Bridge on the River Kwai
- 29 Sept Group meeting - Nell Gwynne

NEXT MEETING

7.30pm Thursday 17 July

China and Kites

Denman College: Teaching Block

Contacts for: Sonia Edwards 01865 391442
more information Christine Whild 01865 391270

MARCHAM SOCIETY MIDWEEK WALK

Thursday, 3rd July.

The July walk will revisit the Perch and Pike Inn in South Stoke, near Goring (Map Ref: SU 599836). As well as walking part of the Thames Path, this time we will explore some of the open country on the slopes of the Chilterns. We will meet at 12.30pm for lunch or 1.30 for the walk of about 4½ miles.

Thursday August 7th.

The August walk will be another summer walk along the Thames, this time taking advantage of a recently re-opened local path from The Maybush Inn. We will meet at 12.30pm for lunch or 1.30 for the circular walk of about 4 miles

New walkers are very welcome. Members free, non-members £1. Ring Eric Dunford on 391439 for lifts and details.

If you run or are a member of a group, why not write a short report about it?

MARCHAM CRICKET CLUB

The 1st and 2nd XIs presently occupy a mid-table position in their respective Divisions. One match which took place recently was a particularly entertaining affair; Shrivenham set a very creditable 238 for 3 and, at first, thing did not go well in Marcham's reply.



However, the 1st XI was initially successful – greatly helped by an impressive and speedy innings of 172 not out from Matt Launchbury.

Fixtures for July and August are as follows:

July	1st XI	2nd XI
5	Horley Home	no match
12	Letcombe Away	Kilkenny Home
19	Charlbury Home	E & W Hendred II Away
26	Westbury Home	Garsington II Away
August		
2	Minster Lovell Away	Westbury II Home
9	Great Horwood Home	Kennington II Away
16	Shrivenham Away	Hook Norton II Home
23	Oxford Caribbean Away	Sunningwell Home
30	Tetsworth Home	E Oxford III Away

Now, turning to the past: Jackson Oxford Journal of 14th July 1855 reports "The Steventon Club and Marcham Juniors played a Match at Marcham Park on Monday last, when Marcham were beaten in one innings. Score: Marcham 20 and 32; Steventon Club 60.

The Parties afterwards partook of an excellent supper at the White Hart, and a very pleasant evening was spent."

It appears that Marcham were more successful the next month as Jacksons Oxford Journal of 11th August 1855 records:

"A friendly game of cricket was played on Wednesday last, at Marcham Park, between the Abingdon and Marcham Clubs, when Marcham were victorious, in one innings and 25 runs to spare. Score: Abingdon 1st innings 46; 2nd 48; Total 94. Marcham 1st innings 119."

For information relating to the Marcham CC (including playing for, or umpiring on behalf of, the Club) may be obtained from Graham Hill (391415) or Terry Whitaker (391317).

CSB

MARCHAM PLAYERS

Exciting new venue for July production of Alan Ayckbourn's *Living Together!*

At 7.30pm on the 24th, 25th and 26th July

The Marcham Players will be presenting another of the Alan Ayckbourn's *The Norman Conquests* comedy trilogy in the *Garden of The Crown*.

Several years ago our last production in the Institute was one of the other two plays *Table Manners*. Three of the original cast are taking part again. Tickets costing £5 and £4 concessions for Thursday 24th, and £6 and £5 concessions for Friday 25th and Saturday 26th will be available from the Post Office from 14th July, or contact Joey Maclean (391242). We are very grateful to the new team at The Crown for supporting us - putting on a production in a marquee in a pub garden has many interesting aspects and will be an exciting challenge! Do come along and enjoy an evening of comedy by one of our most respected and entertaining playwrights.

If you would like information on our events or if you are interested in joining the Marcham Players as an actor, helping out backstage or with front house please get in touch with Joey Maclean (Secretary - 391242) or Dave Hutchinson (Chairman - 391964).

JOEY MACLEAN

www.marchamplayers.co.uk



JUNE CROSSWORD ANSWERS - BY ALISA

ACROSS 1 Torches 5 Jeep 8 Leigh 9 Citizens 10 Elbe
11 Citizens 13 Soda 16 Yeti 19 Summer 21 Help
22 Seaplane 23 North 24 Scan 25 Drayton

DOWN 2 Orotund 3 Crazes 4 Solstice 5 Joinery 6 Exhibit
7 Uncles 12 Enmeshed 14 Oceanic 15 Aspirin 17 Embargo
18 Insect 20 Replay

MARCHAM SENIOR CITIZENS' CLUB

Our last meeting was a very hectic one, all the committee members were kept very busy with one activity or another. We had two raffles, our main one and extra one as various people had given us extra items to raffle separately and make a little more income for the club. We do appreciate these donations and thank to everyone who gave them.

We also had a large table top sale, I'm sure a few people had bargain or two as there was so little to sort out afterwards. Its great to have such support from everyone by bringing, buying and giving a helping hand at the meetings when needed thanks from all the committee.

We had a few birthdays during the month. Trust everyone who had a good day. Our July meeting will be on the 31st.

JOYCE PARRY

SUNSHINE CLUB

June Owing to time of year with holidays coming up etc, have been down on numbers a bit. We hope those who have had holidays have enjoyed them and weather was kind, and others about to go will also have a nice time.

On Thursday 19 June, Club is having an outing to Basingstoke to a place called "Milestones" which takes one back in time and only old money is used, so could be interesting. Will let you know how it went later. The Club will be having an outing on July 24 to Brighton – a notice will be put in shop window. Everyone interested can get in touch with the Chairlady on 391536 for further details.

It was nice to see Violet Gawler back at Club after her spell in hospital and hope will improve and feel better soon. We hope Alice is on the way to feeling better after her two unfortunate falls on holiday – so having to cut short and return back home and is now resting.

Will be back in September with an update.

JOY CROOK

MARCHAM/FRILFORD DIG JULY 2008

This is a reminder that this year as before the public are welcome to visit this fantastic and large Oxford University Training Dig. Archaeologists are at work every day except Saturdays for the 4 weeks from Sunday 29th June and the site is open to visitors from 6th July onwards.

The best day to come will be **NATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGY DAY - SUNDAY 20th JULY 10-4** when there will be guided tours and other attractions. Watch out for posters! You can look at www.arch.ox.ac.uk/research/research_projects/marcham to find out more about the dig.

It is not too late to apply to dig in the 'People's Trench' – six days a week (Saturday is a rest day) - from Sunday 29th June to Friday 25th July - intended to give an ENJOYABLE hands-on archaeological training and experience to local people. Those who do not want to dig all day or at all can sit down and 'pot wash' (wash finds) - pot washing is on offer on the following dates in July: Tuesdays 8th, 15th and 22nd; Thursdays 3rd, 10th and 17th; Sunday 13th.

For further information please contact Janey Cumber on 01865-391327/391840 or by email janey.cumber@tiscali.co.uk.
July/August 2008

ON THE BUSES

Less than a year since changes to the X15 meant we no longer had through buses to Berinsfield / Wallingford, Thames Travel have given up on Abingdon to Berinsfield / Wallingford as well. Heyfordian operate Abingdon Bridge Street to Berinsfield with just 4 or 5 through journeys to Wallingford.



During the day connections at Berinsfield are no longer convenient - Bus Spotter has tried it! Timetable information is sparse.

Getting to Wallingford from Garford, Frilford and Marcham (and back!) is quicker, easier and more frequent via Oxford. Get Stagecoach 31 to Oxford and change to Thames Travel X39 / X40 for Wallingford every half hour, and on to Reading, and hourly connections to Henley (139). If you prefer go into Oxford and change at St Aldates but its even quicker to change buses in Abingdon Road, Oxford at Canning Crescent - the stop after the Park and Ride. There is a traffic light controlled crossing at the stop which makes it easier to make the connection (but we did just miss our 31 home!)

Two Thames Travel timetable leaflets are in Marcham Post Office - please refer to them there and leave them for others to use. Copies are available from Abingdon Town information centre.

BUS SPOTTER

MARCHAM PRE-SCHOOL NEWS

We have had 2 exciting events this month which we would like to share with you.

Firstly, we were all delighted to be invited to the opening of the refurbished play area on the cricket field. The children from Marcham Pre-school and the Reception children heard about the history of the park and all about the people who had helped fund the work and had been involved in making the play area look so wonderful and new!



The ribbon was then cut and the children couldn't wait to have a go on all the equipment. We then had squash and biscuits and each child left with a balloon and a big smile... Thank you to everyone involved, let's hope the park sees a lot of fun and smiles in the future.

With the celebration of Father's Day recently, the staff at Pre-school thought it would be a great opportunity to focus on dads, granddads, uncles, brothers, etc who play such an important role in our families. We often have mums coming in to help throughout our sessions but rarely any dads or other relatives so during the week of 16-20 June we invited them all in and were lucky enough to have 6 dads take up our offer. They played football with the children, made sandcastles, and did some bricklaying (with sand!), read stories, built a fab train track, and generally had a good time. The children really enjoyed seeing different faces and especially having their daddy at school. We hope they will offer again!

If you would like more information about Marcham Pre-school, or have a 'skill' or hobby you would like to share with us please contact us on 07749 245313.

TASK FOR THE MONTH

Are you, like me, struggling to keep up with all that work that needs doing out there in the garden?

Unfortunately, my own garden leaves a lot to be desired at this time of year, as me and my growing team of gardeners are busy keeping all my clients' gardens tidy, to think too much about my own. Which is why I will keep this article short, as time is against me. Especially as the wife is patiently waiting nearby to do our nightly slug and snail patrol around the most delicate plants in our own garden. Anyways, you are all probably to busy out there in garden to have much time to read my ramblings anyhow!

Things you can be doing this month, although you probably know all this anyway, are sowing more turnips which you can store through the winter. If you can find the seed, the dark skinned turnip called Chirk Castle has a fantastic flavour even after a long period in storage.

With your tomatoes, feed, feed, feed and feed some more, and you must keep the watering even and constant. If long dry spells occur between waterings it can cause the tomatoes to put on a growth spurt and split.

Sow some Parsley, which will also be used during the winter. It is worth growing this in a rectangular patch, so that a wooden frame covered in polythene can be put on it in bad weather. Attack weeds to keep them in check and do not let them seed, remember the old saying "Ones years seeding means seven years weeding". In the strawberry patch, early-layered runners should now be ready for severing from the parent plant. Do not allow them the dry out either.

This is also a great month for increasing your stock of Pinks in the flower garden, by taking, what my grandfather used to call "Pippings". These are the tips of growths, which are 2 inches long, which are cut off and inserted into boxes of sandy soil. Finally, if your Jerusalem artichokes have become very tall with the danger of them blowing over, cut off a foot or so at the top. I assure you this will not have a detrimental effect on your crop.

That's it for this time, as I can see an army of slugs and snails marching up our garden and my wife poised to grab them as soon as I have finished typing.

More next time..... *Happy Gardening*

STUART MABBUTT

WELCOME PACKS

It is the time of year, again, when I speak to the named contacts about all village organisation mention in the Welcome Pack. The Welcome Pack is full of local information, contact details and a daily record of all the events which happen in Marcham.

My job is to update the packs regularly and make them available to everyone who asks for one. If you know of any person of family who is new to the village please call me and I'll bring a pack so that you can take it to them. It is a good way to meeting new people and I'm sure they will appreciate you for being a good neighbour.

DENIS ASHER

24 Fettiplace Road, 391727.

July/August 2008

**MSSSC: Marcham Sports, Scouts & Social Club**

The pavilion & field off Morland Road

LOGO COMPETITION

If you read our article last month you will know we are looking for a logo for our club. Thanks for all those already received, there are some excellent ideas. There is still time to enter, designs should be submitted by email to geoff.dix@hotmail.com or by post to 19 Orchard Way. Please supply your name address & age. **Prize?** The honour of your design featuring on our letterheads, posters, MADNews articles, etc. Entries by the end of July please. *Good Luck.*

Please see our advert for the Summer Dance. This is our grand event for the year & we hope hundreds of you will attend. There will be a marquee alongside the pavilion so we won't be at the mercy of the weather. Lots of effort is going into arrangements to ensure everyone has a fantastic night. Please tell your friends & order your tickets.

REGULAR BAR OPENING TIMES

Every Friday - 8pm to 11pm

Every Saturday - after Football or Cricket

JULY SOCIAL EVENTS

Quiz Night There is no quiz night this month due to the Summer Dance. Please see the box advert

Real Ale night Fri 25th July, 8pm (Last Fri every month)

FUTURE EVENTS

August Bank Holiday Real Ale Festival starting on the 22nd. There is no MADNews in August so make a note of this event in your diaries

We look forward to seeing you at the club

For more info contact Geoff Dix, secretary on 391577

Summer Dance

Friday July 11th 8pm 'til late Over 18s only

With local band Shameless + Black Box Disco

Tickets £5 BBQ food available

Entry by Ticket only available from the bar or from:

Trevor Hill

391321 trevor3chancel@aol.com

Chris Ricketts

391329 chris.ricketts47@btinternet.com

WAS IT WASN'T IT?

Yes it was! A **CUCKOO** calling across the Marsh (on 20/05/08 at 8.30pm) heard for the first time in several years. Enquiries established other Marchamites had heard it during the past 2-3 weeks, though weeks, though some wondered, at first, if it was a Collared Dove which can sound similar from a distance.

A pair of **SKYLARK** were up and singing their hearts out on 24/02/08. They seemed to disappear during the cold, wet spell in March, rarely heard in April but have made a welcome return in May - more of a *murmur of skylarks* than an *exhibition!*

Glad to report to the Editor that mixed, small flocks of **SWALLOW**, **SWIFT** and **HOUSE MARTIN** have been circling during April and May. No news yet of the latter two nesting in Anson Close - they generally prefer older properties.

Other specials in Feb/March, 3 **COMMON SNIPE** and 1 **CURLEW** calling, also in flight. An immature **GREY HERON** put in two brief appearances in late May checking out the fish menu in the brook. Fingers crossed for Grey Wagtail and Kingfisher in coming months.

GG



BBOWT

Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust

Sat 12 July 8.30 – 11.30 pm
Moth Trapping and Bat Tracking at Chimney Meadows

Sat 26 July 8 am – 12 noon

Carterton Lions Club Boot Sale

Sat/Sun Aug 9/10 10 am – 5 pm

Woodland Festival at Harcourt Arboretum

BBOWT WORK PARTIES :

DRY SANDFORD PIT, NR ABINGDON

First Sunday of every month 10am – 1pm

Varied conservation tasks in one of Oxfordshire's finest and most intriguing reserves. Children Welcome Meet: Reserve car park in Cothill village, 100m west of Honeybottom Lane/ Church Lane junction. SU 467 997.

Contact: Stephen Grigson 01865 390 540

Support your local wildlife trust
www.bbowt.org.uk



WHAT CAN I PUT IN MY RECYCLING BINS?

Green Box



- Paper but not yellow pages, see *brown bin*.
- Glass bottles and jars
- Empty Cans and aerosols
- Clean Aluminium foil
- Clean Plastic bottles but not any other plastics
- Clothing and textiles - in carrier bags
- Batteries and mobile phones - in a clear bag in your box.

The following items *cannot* be put in your green box:

- Cardboard - this goes in the brown bin
- Window or broken glass
- Other plastics



Brown Bin



- Cardboard
- Grass mowing
- Tree branches & leaves
- Prunings and twigs
- Flowers and plants
- Moss and weeds
- Shredded paper
- Wrapping paper
- Yellow Pages

The following items *cannot* go in a brown bin:

- Food or kitchen waste
- Cat or dog faeces
- Vacuum dust or fire cinders
- Soil or stones
- Wood that has been treated
- Tetrapak cartons (milk, juice, etc)



In Marcham the recycling facilities on Howard Cornish Road are for:

- **paper**
- **glass**
- **clothes**

Please use your green box, brown bin or the council provided facilities for all other recycling.

VALE OF THE WHITE HORSE SUMMER SPORTS PROGRAMME

There is a huge range of activities on offer over the summer all arranged by the Vale.

Local Event:

Tennis at Marcham Primary School

26-27 August 10am - 12pm Cost: £14.00 per child

For more details call 01235 547646 or go to

www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk

and follow the links to Sport Development

Other things to do are:

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| • Adventure Day | • Kayaking |
| • Athletics | • Kung Fu |
| • Badminton | • Laser Tag |
| • Cricket | • Lords Cricket Trip |
| • Dance | • Mini Olympics |
| • Disability Sports Camp | • Mini Soccer |
| • Golf | • Squash |
| • Gymnastics | • Tennis |
| • High 5 Netball | • Tri Golf |
| • Judo | |

Fyfield Village Fete

2:00pm Saturday, 12th July.

In the garden of Manor Farmhouse, Fyfield.

Stalls will include: Plants, Cakes, Teas, Gifts, Tombola, Books, Raffle, Jewellery, Haberdashery, White Elephant and Games. There will also be a "Silent Auction," and sale of small furniture items, with entertainment provided by the **Kennington Brass Band**.

ChildCare

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Individual care for babies and children up to 14 years

Term-time and holiday time • Flexible hours to suit.

Separate playroom, outdoor play area offers health lifestyle approach

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Garage & Car Boot

In aid of Cancer Research

Sun 24th Aug 10 till 4

Book in advance 01235 868527

Cars £8 Vans £10

Malthouse Bungalow, Main street, East Hanney

To get a notice or small advert included please contact the editor 01865 391725