



Marcham WI May 2007

36 ladies squeezed into Denmans' craft building for an evening with a difference – **Circle Dancing** (see cover). Lovely, gentle exercise (for the fit), requiring stamina, and great fun. Our two visitors gamely joined in.

In April Will Cumber gave an entertaining talk (on the dusty subject) of Romano-British Archaeology. Over the 7 years the **Oxford University dig on Will's land** has revealed remains of several of several unspecified religious buildings but no conclusive evidence of a settlement yet. Excellent pictures of ancient brooches and a 1600-year-old Roman shoe. Joint **visit to dig** with Marcham Society on Tues 17 July, 6.30pm Manor Farm. **People's Trench** volunteers welcome 5-24 July – see page 13 for more details.

Six WI groups and friends converged on Steventon village hall for an informative and amusing talk on **antiques by Jonty Hearndon** (Cash in the Attic). He based the evening on items brought in by members. The audience were asked to record their estimate of insurance values with prizes nice a superb antiques book. (Sadly, it looks as though it will be some years before Marcham WI can take a turn at hosting one of these bigger events in our village hall.)

The **pub club** has resumed and is meeting at the bar in Abingdon Four Pillars Hotel. Contact Sylvia H. **Monthly short walk** on a Tuesday, contact Jean S.

Looking forward to:

May Trip to Kew Gardens and newly refurbished Kew Palace, July 'Lunch with Lars' from Antiques Roadshow in Oxford June or July

Still Bookable: Marcham WI Coach trip to London Bank of England Museum etc, near Tate Modern. **Tues 7 Aug.** Members, friends, more details July.

NEXT MEETING

7.30pm Thursday 21 June

Summer Garden Party in member's garden

Members and Guests

If you would like to know more about

Marcham WI or any event, contact any member or

Contacts: Greta Goulding 01865 391592
Christine Whild 01865 391270

FRILFORD ST PETER'S WI

15 June 2007 Summer Lunch at Mrs Amey's House.

WYN HARMAN

NATURE NOTES

The skylarks returned to the marsh on 1 March such a wonderful uplifting song. Let's hope any fledglings have flown before the hay is cut in June. Great excitement when the kingfisher returned mid-Feb and was perching looking down into the brook waiting for the tiny fish. I'd watched it for 5 mins when ... the paper-boy cometh (bless his little trainer-clad feet)! He now knows what a kingfisher looks like and is on the case.



Peacock, Brimstone, Orange-tip butterflies appeared March/April as it became hotter. Less welcome was the queen wasp which stung me!

Mrs Great Spotted Woodpecker has been feeding on nearby peanuts regularly – hope she'll return with youngsters as last year. Robins and chaffinches nesting in the ivy-clad willows, blackbirds everywhere, grey wagtails have just made their reappearance and on 20 May a cuckoo was heard in Anson Close area, for the first time in 5 years. Keep the bird baths topped up! *Happy Watching*

GG
June 2007

SUNSHINE CLUB

We were all very sorry to hear that Jean Revee, our new treasurer, had to go into hospital a few weeks ago and has undergone an operation and will remain for a few weeks. Card from the club was sent and we all wish her a speedy recovery. Also our new chairlady Maureen Tilbury has been in hospital for a few days, now back at home although must take things steady. So we trust will soon feel better. Kath Norton who was our chairlady, stepped down at the AGM in February 2007 due to poor health. She took a holiday and went to see her daughter in the USA taking her eldest grandson with her, they had a lovely time and while we were enjoying nice sunshine, they had deep snow and plenty of it.

We are having an outing on May 24th going to Dobbies Nursery which is near Cirencester. Our first one this year, just hope we had nice weather. Let you know how things go next month their have been a few birthdays over the last month and each one has received a card from the club.

JOY CROOK

MARCHAM SENIOR CITIZENS' CLUB

We had quite a busy meeting in April, it was good to see so many attending There are still a few members under the weather, we all wish them well and hope to see them soon.

Names were taken for our tea-outing on June 12th when we are going to visit Aston and Cote WI, with tea in the village hall. A very well stocked table top was held and this kept Bet and Muriel pretty busy during the afternoon. A memory game followed which did prove a little tough for some. The winners were Barbara 19 out of 20 objects remembered and Barbara who named 18. Thanks to Doris and Tom who brought in a bottle so we could toast their Golden Wedding Anniversary being celebrated recently. Very best wishes go to both of them.

Our meeting, on June 28th will be Garden Party with a competition for best Ascot Hat. See you all there!

JOYCE PARRY

ON THE BUSES

Has the X15 been 'saved' or 'cut'? Depends on who you ask – a bit of both really. The service through Marcham, from Abingdon to Witney, has been reduced to every two hours during the day and the service has been divided at Abingdon: X15 Witney run by RH Transport, and 140 Wallingford by Thames Travel. **All this from 4 June.**



The good news is that the X15 will run via Howard Cornish Road not along Packhorse Lane. Timetables will be on the stops but we expect there will be journeys to Abingdon at 0840, 1010, 1210, 1410, 1610 and returning from the War Memorial at 0905, 1025, 1225, 1425, 1635. Check the timetables for earlier / later journeys and Saturday variations or phone 01993 869100. Connections to Wallingford off 1010 bus etc can be best made at Fairacres, coming back at War Memorial.. See 140 timetable in Post Office window.

BUS SPOTTER



Ian Smith and Christine Whild would like to thank all those who supported their Classical Soiree in the Drawing Room of Denman College on the evening of 30th April 2007, and to announce that the splendid sum of £634 was raised for two charities – Abingdon Alzheimers Club, and Cecily's Fund, an educational project in Zambia. Thanks you also to the other musicians involved Gig Thomas, Tony Bradley, Phil Ward and Jayne Dimmock.