

**MARCHAM SOCIETY WALK**

**Midweek Walk, Thursday March 11th**

The next Marcham Society Midweek Walk will be on the second Thursday of March. We will meet in the Killingworth Castle Inn at Wootton by Woodstock (Map Ref: SP 4382033) at 12.30pm to eat or 1.30pm for 3.5 mile walk in the Cotswold valleys of the Dorn and the Glyme. New walkers are always very welcome. Members free, non-members £1. Ring Eric Dunford on 391439 for lifts and further details.

**HOME-START**

Home-Start Southern Oxfordshire is a voluntary organisation offering support, friendship and practical help to families with pre-school children. Being a parent is not easy whatever your situation; many parents feel exhausted and overwhelmed by the stresses of family life with under fives. Home-Start volunteers are all either parents themselves or have parenting experience. We can offer you a free course of preparation which will include topics such as child development, relationships, confidentiality and community resources. Could you offer 2-3 hours a week on a regular basis to visit one or two families in their own homes? We have been based in Didcot for fourteen years and our service now covers most of the Vale and Southern Oxfordshire.



If you would like more information about the scheme or becoming a volunteer, please contact: Hilary, Lynn or Pat on (01235) 511152 Home-Start Southern Oxfordshire 197 The Broadway, Didcot, OX11 8RU (first floor, Didcot Library)

**EASTER EGGS WITH A DIFFERENCE!**

*An alternative and very special Easter gift available from Transrural Trust*

The tradition of decorating eggs at Easter has been traced back thousands of years and a gift of a painted egg has always been a sign of love and friendship. Why not give decorated eggs to your friends and family this Easter? Real duck and goose eggs decorated with exquisite geometric and pictorial designs are available from Transrural Trust and make a wonderful Easter gift for all ages. Transrural buys the decorated eggs from Romania, where the art has been developed to an extraordinarily high level of craftsmanship with an astonishing variety of designs and colours. Painting and selling the eggs provides an income for women in some of the poorest mountain areas and all proceeds are used to provide more help to those communities. Come to our annual Easter Egg sale at Crawley Mill, Witney, open Friday and Saturday 26/27 March and Friday and Saturday 2/3 April, and see the vast array of eggs and other egg crafts and presents. A catalogue is also available or visit our website and click on the sign of the egg at [www.transrural.org](http://www.transrural.org). Transrural Trust (reg charity 1085765), 16a Crawley Mill, Crawley, Witney, OX29 9TJ, 01993 771230, [gillian.rose@transrural.org](mailto:gillian.rose@transrural.org)

**FREE REUSABLE CALICO SHOPPING BAGS**

Around 49,000 fewer carrier bags should be sent to landfill over the coming year, thanks to the free calico shopping bags currently being given away by Oxfordshire County Council. Waste Reduction Packs are free to all Oxfordshire residents and people can get them from the Waste Reduction hotline on 01865 816070 or emailing [waste.management@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:waste.management@oxfordshire.gov.uk). The bags can be obtained when householders return the vouchers within the packs.

**LIGHT BULBFLUORESCENT TUBE RECYCLING**

You can now recycle everything from normal household bulbs to energy-saving bulbs, spotlights and fluorescent tubes at all eight of Oxfordshire's Waste Recycling Centres. Any size or colour of bulb can be deposited for recycling and 100 per cent of any bulb can be recycled. They are eventually broken down into their constituent parts, including glass metal and mercury, and the materials recycled.

**ANSWERS TO FEBRUARY CROSSWORD**

- |                |                   |                |                 |
|----------------|-------------------|----------------|-----------------|
| <b>ACROSS</b>  | 11 Blackbird Leys | <b>DOWN</b>    | 7 The Farthings |
| 1 Library      | 15 Tetrachords    | 1 Lawn         | 12 Lettuce      |
| 4 Acute        | 17 Futile         | 2 Beef tea     | 13 Cothill      |
| 8 Weevil       | 18 Nearly         | 3 Rollerblades | 14 Endorse      |
| 9 Hawker       | 19 Keble          | 5 Cowbell      | 16 Dyes         |
| 10 Stonesfield | 20 Useless        | 6 Tuesday      |                 |

**WRITE A STORY FOR CHILDREN COMPETITION**

The 19th annual competition for an unpublished story by a UK author (must be over 18) – closing date 31 March 2004. 1st prize: £1000; 2nd prize £200 and 3rd prize £100. For more details contact [per\\_ardua@lycos.co.uk](mailto:per_ardua@lycos.co.uk) or send SAE to ACW, PO Box 95, Huntingdon PE28 5RL



Petronela Iurniuc  
decorating eggs



Tony Davy from the *Wilts & Berks Canal Society* will be talking about the history of the canal, which runs just south of Marcham, and the society's plans to re-open it.

*The Institute, North Street  
Tuesday March 16th 2004, 7.45pm*

Non-members £1  
Further details: Eric Dunford (391439) or Judith Fontaine (391275)