



Marcham WI *February 2006*

Yes it really is* despite last month's edition being headed Feb '05 (instead of Jan '06) must have been the lack of sunlight.

An enjoyable **coffee morning** was held at Sonia's house to raise funds for our annual bursary for a Denman course. The draw takes place at our AGM, almost the highlight. There was a great selection of items, cakes and home-made cards on sale but no marmalade – a sign of the times.

10 went to **Oxford Playhouse** to see Alan Ayckbourn's new comedy "Improbable Fiction". Initially slow but with wicked dialogue, the second half became really hectic. The cast of seven appeared as 11 other characters with scene changes depicting the era defined by alternating telephones (magically appearing on the sideboard)! Clever and superbly acted.

Tuesday short walkers have been lucky with the weather and Thursday pub visitors have enjoyed log fires, food and good chat.

Two energetic members joined in the "**day of dance and fitness**". This was an opportunity to try such dance routines as Salsa, Belly Dancing, Country Dancing etc. Tiring day but very enjoyable!

Occasionally the membership run an evening, instead of the committee laying on a speaker competition. This month Jeremy Denton, s/o a member, presented a superb **quiz** which 33 members joined in enthusiastically. A really enjoyable evening.

Coming up

- Area meeting – Mon 24 April, Steventon VH.
 - "Walking with [live] wolves" £2.50
 - Oxford Playhouse "The Gondoliers" 15-20 May.
- Contact Anne-Marie.

NEXT MEETING

7.30pm Thursday 16 March

Denman College – Craft and Cookery Building

Hazzaz Belly Dancers

AGM and draw for Denman course

Display: Unusual Earrings

Contacts: Greta Goulding 01865 391592
Christine Whild 01865 391270

Visitors always welcome

SUNSHINE CLUB

As we no longer have "social meetings" we have decided to only do "write-ups" every other month as there is not enough for each month. So starting next month, we will include two months in one.

JOY CROOK

MARCHAM SENIOR CITIZENS' CLUB

Not a lot of news this time as we still have to have our first club meeting of 2006. In January we had our New Year's Party which everyone enjoyed, a buffet was prepared and served by the committee and we were then entertained by a singer who was a great success, with everyone. Thanks to all the committee and helpers for a lovely party. Our next meeting will be the AGM on 23rd February.

J PARRY

FRILFORD ST PETER'S WI

Friday 17 March Duffield Place, 2.00pm
AGM and Bring and Buy Sale.

WYN HARMAN

MARCHAM CRICKET CLUB

Preparations for the forthcoming 2006 Season continue and, in this context, please remember to contact Terry Whittaker (391317) or Graham Hill (391415) for information regarding Nets or playing for the Club or if you are interested in umpiring on Marcham's behalf.



This month's item of history relates to fairly recent times and concerns the "Spanish Tour" of 2001. Thanks are due to Terry for supplying details of a report which appeared in an issue of the *Costa Blanca News*. It was reported that a 26-strong contingent from Marcham visited Javea and played three games; two against Javea CC. and one against the Forty Club of Spain. Saturday 3rd March saw a victory for the Visitors (Marcham 223, Javea 215).

The second match, on Sunday, resulted in a reversal of fortune with a win for the home side. The match against the Forty Club scheduled for the following Wednesday was not reported, but recollections indicate a victory for the Visitors; so Marcham players and supporters returned home victorious — albeit possibly somewhat physically drained.

CLIVE BENNETT

MARCHAM PLAYERS PRESENTS... AGM

The chairman of The Marcham Players.

Dave Hutchinson, welcomed members and friends to the Annual General Meeting of the group, which was held in the church on Friday, February 17th. He gave a brief resume of activities during the past year, which included theatre



outings, play readings, a summer barbecue, a visit from the writer of "The Vicar of Dibley", an autumn production of "The Canterville Ghost, a Christmas dinner at The Crown, and a new venture – "With Great Pleasure" – individually chosen readings from favourite books. A very busy year for a group without a permanent home. He thanked the Vicar for making the Players so welcome in the Church. Dave mentioned that ways have to be found to encourage the young people of the village to become involved. He went on to list the plans in hand for the rest of the year – more theatre outings (including The Globe, in London), a possible late spring production with a musical theme, a summer barbecue, a jumble sale in the autumn, an autumn theatrical production, and the annual Christmas dinner. Play readings and more "With Great Pleasure" evenings will be fitted in where possible and will be advertised in the MADNews.

The treasurer, Tim Owen, informed the members that there had been an overall loss on the year, due to the extra expenses of putting on a production in the church and the fact that The Marcham Players now have insurance, the extra annual cost of which will have to be covered by fund raising – hence the jumble sale. Second-hand lighting tripods (which enable lights to be erected and used wherever there is a source of electricity) have been purchased – two-thirds of the cost was covered by a donation.

The chairman, while acknowledging that the Players have no future in The Institute, and that it will be many years before another facility is in use, thanked the members and friends for their support during the past year and looked forward to another varied and interesting twelve months.

JOEY MACLEAN, secretary.

www.marchamplayers.co.uk

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