



Marcham WI February 2007

Winter is fading and spring beckons. With warmer evening we are hoping to recruit some more new members to Marcham WI. So, if you when you read our monthly column you may

have thought of joining us one day – now is the time. Whether you are new to Marcham, a local village or Abingdon, or have lived in the area for ages we would welcome you. **Come along as a visitor and try us out!**

Our **March meeting** should be lively. We have a speaker from Waitrose on A Different Way of Doing Business; so a golden opportunity to quiz a supermarket rep. Waitrose have just introduced a new colour code on fat, carbo and salt.

This month we started on a sad note remembering lovely Gwen Grant, one of our founder members who died in February. We chose to sing Jerusalem as our tribute to her.

36 lively ladies of all ages enjoyed Neil Rowe's informative illustrated talk on the **Send a Cow (SaC)** scheme. Started by six Welsh farmers in 1988 it is now a thriving, respected charity. Originally cows were air-freighted from Britain at £3k a time (All Saints sponsored a cow for Uganda in the 1990s). Following BSE in 1996 all live-stock is transported from S Africa for £650 now. (Semen is donated by America.)

SaC operates in Central Africa where there is very little electricity, pressure on the environment (forest), great poverty, many orphaned children (due to AIDS) often without education and little employment.

Local ambassadors for SaC select a local person who can benefit from having an animal which could be a pig, goat or hens. They train and supervise the animals' care and weeds of the individual or family. All feed is locally grown with the dung made into compost for crops and the urine converted into insecticide – there are no vets or drugs down the road.

Surplus milk/eggs are bartered/sold to pay school fees enabling disabled people and destitute families to support themselves, gain improved health and happiness, self-esteem and respect in their community. Sometimes cottage industries develop providing local employment.

Finally, a founding principle is the first off-spring is given to another selected family, so the drive for sustainability continues.

Design for Living Exhibition – as trailed in January's MADNews – display panels on view at **Wantage Museum 6-30th March 10-4.30pm Mon-Sat**. (Refreshments are good too!)

Looking forward to

Visit to Chelsea Hospital and National Army Museum, March Coach trip to Key Gardens and refurbished Kew Palace, May.

NEXT MEETING

7.30pm Thursday 15 March

Denman College – Craft and Cookery Building

A Different Way of Doing Business *Waitrose*

Annual Meeting and Denman College Bursary Draw

Contacts: Greta Goulding 01865 391592
Christine Whild 01865 391270

MARCHAM & DISTRICT EX-SERVICEMEN'S CLUB

Notice Annual Subscriptions These are due by March 31st 2007. Payments may be paid in the Club during normal opening hours. **A.G.M.** This will be held in the Club on Tuesday 24th April at 8:00 P.M. All members are urged to attend.

Saturday 24th March 2007

**Dave Newton will be playing in the bar:
8.30pm onwards**

SUNSHINE CLUB

Our AGM was held on February 5th in Duffield Place. 21 members attended, committee members agreed to stay on. We are very sorry to say our Chairlady Mrs Kathleen Norton has resigned due to health reasons on her part. We shall be sorry to lose her but understand she must put her health first, she has also been treasurer which added to her workload. With our thanks from the Club a presentation was made of two rose bushes which she was delighted with. She will be staying on as a member and enjoy the Bingo. We now have a new Chairlady and Treasurer. Our Monday afternoon meetings are going well. We would always be pleased to welcome new members. We are a friendly club. If you were interested, phone me on 391 695 (Secretary, Joy Crook). *Be back with an update next month.*

JOY CROOK

MARCHAM SENIOR CITIZENS' CLUB

Our last meeting in January was our New Year's Party. The committee provided a buffet lunch with various drinks and all seemed to enjoy. Afterwards we were entertained by a singer who sang songs from the shows and other old favourites, inviting all to join in, which everyone did. At the end of the afternoon all received a small gift. Our March meeting will be on 29th at 2pm.

JOYCE PARRY

ABINGDON COUNTRY MARKET...

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

FRILFORD ST PETER'S WI

16 March 2007, 2pm Duffield Place

AGM: Bring and Buy Sale.

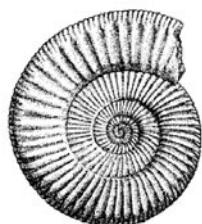
WYN HARMAN

MIDWEEK WALK THURSDAY MARCH 8TH

This month's walk will start at The Romany Inn in Bridge Street, Bampton (Map Ref: SP 314031). We will be walking in the area of the Shil Brook and the hamlet of Weald, 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.



Note that this walk was originally scheduled for February, but snow dictated a local walk instead!



The
**Marcham
Society**

Frances Watkins
will be introducing us to some of
Oxfordshire's rarer plants

All Saints' Church

Tuesday 13th March 2007, 7.45pm

Non-members £1

www.marchamsociety.org.uk

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