

MARCHAM SENIOR CITIZENS' CLUB

At our last meeting on March 31st, the date of our trip to the Windmill was decided which was the 14th April, so of course we have now been. I think we can safely say it was enjoyed by one and all, it's always a popular venue with our members.

After lunch, we carried on to Lechlade Garden Centre, which has now been extended after having a good look round and purchasing plants etc, most of us enjoyed a cuppa in the newly refurbished restaurant.

A raffle was held on the coach before returning home. Nice to see Eric Russell back at our meeting, also on the trip, after his operation.

We would like to thank Joyce and Hubert Smith for their donation to the club and wish them both well in the future.

Ivy McGrath is now in Marcham Road Hospital, we send her all our love and best wishes.

A table top sale at our last meeting helped swell our funds (once again), thanks to all who contributed to it.

Our competition was to create a garden on a plate, sadly not many took part, so Edna Cadle who won it, didn't have much competition, she had some chocolate as a prize.

People wanting to join our Senior Citizens' Club will have to go on our waiting list (it is NOT solely for Duffield Place residents) we are a club independently run.

Meetings are held in Duffield Place on the last Thursday of every month.

EDNA CAUDLE (Tel: 391837) & BETTY REED (Tel: 391268)

SUNSHINE CLUB

APRIL Our social table this month was cakes, tins, jars and anything – a table which soon clears, thanks to all who gave and brought. For the social part club photo albums were passed round, which was very interesting to see with lots of comments etc. Sadly some members no longer with us, but was nice to remember them.

After this we had a nice buffet tea, thanks to the committee who prepared it. We had three ladies with birthdays this month, each had a card from the club, trust they all enjoyed their day. Our donation for April has gone to Marcham Road Hospital which is £30, we hope will be a little help. They do great work and many of our club member have been there at times. At the moment Faith is in, afraid not too good, but hope won't be too long before starting to improve a little. Ivy, we understand has improved and will also be coming to Marcham Road. We all wish them well.

With the lighter evenings now here, it has been decided to return back to evenings, so from May 2nd 2005 we will be starting at 7pm. Socials will also be evenings 7pm. This means we shall lose one or two but gain those unable to do afternoons. Sorry about this but we can't win all round. Notice will be put up on board.

JOY CROOK

GRETA'S TWEETERS

One large local tabby with an impressive white penguin-shirted chest (giving him zero camouflage) stalking eight peahens chaperoned by a magnificent (male) pheasant. Evidently not in the "Big Cat" league when the hens spotted him, they flew up landing a mere 8' further on – at which juncture Barney gave up the chase... perhaps overwhelmed by choice.

In between, Barney sits for hours beneath a "bird station" looking down-cast until a mouse ventures by to source birdseed. Still he seems to be discouraging the sparrowhawk raids. More recently a very plump woodpigeon and sometimes a pheasant have taken turns at clearing up the left-overs – so far no sign of a pile of bones and feathers.

Pond Alert

A heron seen quartering the village surveying likely ponds, alighting atop a Leylandii hedge and later on a Howard Cornish rooftop down which it gently slithered.

GG

May 2005



**Marcham WI
March report**

The highlight of the OFWI (Oxfordshire Federation of Women's Institutes) AGM was an amusing talk by Paul Whittaker. Born profoundly deaf, an Oxford graduate in music and an organist he founded Music and the Deaf in 1988 which holds workshops in dance, mime and drama and produces educational publications. Paul is a professional signer for shows enabling deaf people to follow the storyline as well as the action.

Website: www.matd.org.uk

The National Federation of WI President hold of the many WI achievements as it celebrates 90 years. A debate on FairTrade in the developing world followed and the finalé saw a cheque for £18k handed over towards the equipment for Oxford Children's Hospital.

Website: www.womens-institute.co.uk

Polly Vacher, who at 61 has flown solo in a single-engined plane twice round the world in 2001 and 204, gave an inspiring illustrated talk at the April half-yearly group (of seven WIs) meeting. We learnt of her gruelling survival preparation (in the event of a forced landing) route planning, sourcing sponsorship and her fundraising for Flying Scholarships for the Disabled.

Website: www.toreachforthesky.org

This month Marcham WI invited Jane Bowler to talk about 'Promoting Local Food'. The evening included a food quiz compiled by a member and a cake stall (to raise funds towards the annual bursary). Members with delinquent ovens were happy to buy from a scrumptious selection. During the summer OFWI have arranged a varied programme of outing eg trips to Tate Modern, Shakespeare's Gardens, NT properties, short walks in Oxon, followed by tea, a Literary Lunch to celebrate 90 years of WI – something for everyone.

Ladies – if you think any of these activities appeals to you ring a contact or just come along on the 3rd Thursday of the month. You'll be sure of a warm welcome. (On some coach trips males are allowed.)

NEXT MEETING

7.30pm Thursday 19th May

Denman College: Craft and Cookery Building

Resolutions

followed by

"Teenage Years in a Japanese Internment Camp"

Joyce Cotterill

Plant stall

We are a friendly group, just come along or ring a contact:

<i>Contacts:</i>	Greta Goulding	01865 391592
	Christine Whild	01865 391270

FRILFORD ST PETER'S WI

Our next meeting will be on Friday 20 May at 2.00pm in Duffield Place. AGM Resolutions to be discussed. All members are invited to bring their "favourite things" to show and talk about for a few minutes.

WEH