



Marcham WI April 2007



Phew! The last few weeks have been action-packed. Coach trip to **National Army Museum** with talk on rôle of 'women followers' who looked after their soldiers' needs ie food, laundry etc. The earliest female soldiers disguised themselves as men. Lunch was taken in the King's Road, tasty Lebanese in my case. Then an entertaining tour by guide Bernie, 83, round the **Chelsea Royal (Pensioners) Hospital** (see cover). To enter this unique residential care home applicants must be single/widowed with a minimum of 21 years unblemished Army service. Rooms are known as berths, small by today's standards despite which the first **female** has taken up residence – brave or foolhardy lady!

Five members entered the WI Federations **Easter Parade**, theme **"Two for Tea"** (see picture above) entailing a display of decorated Easter Biscuits, a flower arrangement, embroidered napkin rings. It came **8th out of 29** entries. **WELL DONE LADIES.**

March Federation **AGM in Oxford** was brisk, informative with speakers including: **Liz Eaton on group cycle trip to Cuba** in aid of **Denman College** refurbishment with £80k raised; **Sara Thornton** now **Chief Constable of Thames Valley** (only 5th female CC in country) and some achievement after 21 years' service. Finally an amusing comedian of Polish descent born in Wolverhampton, Gabriela Leoniwicz. Four two-day Denman course bursaries were balloted this year.

Have you seen the **textured panels** for the Diamond Light Source atrium yet? Do pop in to **John Mason School** (until 13 May 9-3.30pm Mon-Fri, w/e by arrangement) before they go to see the Queen for the June opening. **They are truly stunning and tactile.**

News on this month's entertaining talk by William Cumber on local dig and recent group antiques talk by Jonty Hearndon, in June edition.

NEXT MEETING

7.30pm Thursday 17 May

Denman College – Craft and Cookery Building

Circle Dancing

Resolutions for Albert Hall National AGM!

Come on ladies, have-a-go at Circle Dancing, Visitors very welcome, new charge of £2 inc refreshments.

Contacts: Greta Goulding 01865 391592
Christine Whild 01865 391270

ON THE BUSES

At the time of writing there is no news about continuing financial support for Thames Travel X15 which not only goes to Witney but also provides a second bus each hour to / from Abingdon and connections from there.



A great Bank Holiday / Sunday outing (when there is no X15 to reach so many places on the river) was to get Stagecoach 31 (19 past from Marcham from 0919) to Boundary House, Abingdon. From there we walked along Appleford Drive and then the footpath due east through Peachcroft (off the roads), out on to Radley Road, then on to Radley, following the signs to Lower Radley and the river at the Boat House.

The Thames Path is signposted all the way to Folly Bridge in Oxford, passing Sandford Lock (or stopping at the pub). Walk up to St Aldates for Stagecoach 31 home (10 past each hour). *To check this year's bus services call Thames Travel 01491 837988 or Stagecoach 01865 772250*
BUS SPOTTER

MARCHAM SENIOR CITIZENS' CLUB

Our end of March meeting had a real Easter feel about it. We had a competition for a decorated Easter Egg. Joyce and Val were the card winners both receiving the same amount of votes and Kath the winner of the egg competition. Joy won the egg rolling, all the winners and participants received a small prize. Our first outing of the year was on the 12th April to lunch and a garden centre and was very enjoyable. It was a lovely day to be out in the countryside and quite a lot of new plants are blooming in Marcham if the purchases that appeared on the coach are anything to go by. Good luck to all the growers! A few of our members were ill and unable to go with us we wish them better health soon and hope to see them at our next meeting. It was with deep regret that we heard of the death of Olive Hobart, one of our club members. Our thoughts go out to Roy and his family at this very sad time.

JOYCE PARRY

FRILFORD ST PETER'S WI

18 May 2007, 2pm Duffield Place

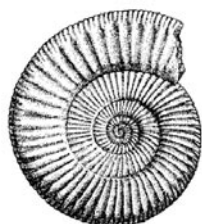
AGM Resolutions and Life On The River: Mrs A J Atkins.

WYN HARMAN

MIDWEEK WALK THURSDAY MAY 3RD

This month's walk will start at The Bull Inn in Sheep Street, Charlbury (Map Ref: SP 358194). We will be walking a variant of a previous walk taking in the quiet Cotswold villages of Spelsbury and Taston and a stretch of the Cotswold way near the River Evenload. This is a lovely area for spring flowers which should be at their best. The walk will be about 4½ miles. We will meet at 12.30 pm 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.



The
**Marcham
Society**

Members' Evening

Short talks by members about their research into various aspects of local history –
The cricket club, local people's memoirs and more.

All Saints' Church

Tuesday 8th May 2007, 7.45pm

Non-members £1

www.marchamsociety.org.uk

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