



Marcham WI October 2005

What a month! Two great evenings: Gervase Phinn, ex-Yorkshire schools inspector had 50 people sliding off their seats with mirth as he regaled us with tales of his encounters with youngsters and their literal take on life. Included in the £10.50 were very tasty bits prepared by the Oxon Fedn WI Trustees. Then Drayton WI hosted a visit by Queen Elizabeth the First who sailed in adorned in replica finery weighing over 4 stones (see cover). Slim, 5' 10", the 'virgin queen' addressed her audience in language of the period and woe betide subjects who didn't pay attention to her dictats! She made no secret of her favouritism toward the Earl of Leicester. Queen Elizabeth the First's pearl earrings are incorporated into Queen Elizabeth the Second's coronation crown. In real life Lesley Smith, medical historian from Warwick University, also brought Tudor contraception devices... members decided these were probably effective deterrents to nuptials. This time the refreshments reflected food for the era and all for £3 – a most stimulating evening.

Other recent events:

- a delightful walk round the historical village of Long Wittenham and Thames reaches followed by a superb Wittenham's WI – The Randolph could take lessons on quality, service and value for money (summer 05 report).
- Marcham WI visited Eynsham for a riverside amble including beautiful Saxon chapel with lunch taken at The Trout
- Day trip to Greenwich: Nelson and Napoleon exhibition, Greenwich Observatory, Greenwich Market and Fan Museum being among the choice of venues.

This month's talk was on the City of Florence, excellent speaker and slides. Some amazing religious buildings including The Cathedral which took 800 years to complete. Many have striking marble veneers. The City attracted talented authors, artists and sculptors who had to be members of a Guild to practise.

Coming up

- Pub club The Crown, Mon 3 Nov 12ish-2ish. Come and join a small friendly group.
- Quiz Evening: Drayton WI, Fri 11 Nov
- Theatre: Guys and Dolls, Tue 22 Nov

Future Events:

- Walking with Wolves, Mon 24/4/06 Steventon
- Pam Ayres, Tue 26/9/06 Oxford
- Two Blokes and a Piano, Mon 9/10/06 (Think *Flanders and Swann*)

NEXT MEETING

7.30pm Thursday 17 November

Denman College - Craft and Cookery Building

Sugarcraft

Mrs Pamela Marchbanks

Competition: Christmas Tree Decoration (Home-made!)

Contacts: Greta Goulding 01865 391592
Christine Whild 01865 391270

Visitors always welcome

FRILFORD ST PETER'S WI

Our next meeting will be on Friday 18 November at 2.00pm in Duffield Place. **White Water Rafting**, Mrs Betty Collins. *WEH*

SUNSHINE CLUB

September: Our social table was anything and lots we had. Thanks to all who gave. Afraid didn't do very well, we are looking into making some changes in this area. After sale we had a very nice ham salad with tea and cakes. The afternoon ended with the raffle. We had two ladies with birthdays each had a card from the club, hope they enjoyed their day. Edna Wright as been in hospital and now home, a card and flowers were given, a letter of thanks was given to the club. Not much news this month.

Monday Meetings 2.30pm.

JOY CROOK

MARCHAM SENIOR CITIZENS' CLUB

Firstly apologies for no letter in the last edition of MADNews, entirely my fault due to holidays, I forgot all about it.

Some time has passed since we went to Bognor in September, we had a lovely day once again, real deck chair weather, everyone I spoke to said they had really enjoyed the day.

Two new members joined us at our last meeting Mr and Mrs Wood, we hope they enjoyed the afternoon, we look forward to seeing them each month. The table top sale was very popular once again.

The competition proved rather nerve-racking again, Joyce passed round twenty sealed individual bags with small objects inside, for us to decide what was within. We did have some amusing answers, no one had them all right.

Pleased to say, Eve is now home from hospital, it will be nice to see her back at our meetings. Joyce and Reg have gone on a well-deserved holiday we hope they are having a lovely time.

Our meeting in November will be the last before Christmas, there will be a tombola and treasure hunt and no charge for tea.

We are having our Christmas Party in January once again, with so many parties going on in December we feel our members prefer this.

November Meeting 24th at 2.30pm.

EDNA CADLE & BETTY REED

MARCHAM CRICKET CLUB

In early October, on a mainly bright but decidedly cool morning, the work of applying seed and loam to the cricket square was completed. This work is an annual activity which, together with much other on-going maintenance, is aimed at preserving a high standard of facilities for the Club's fixture commitments (mainly O.C.A.) during the following playing season.

This month's contribution from our historian comes from the Marcham and Garford Church News of November 1928. It was reported that: "The playing members of the Marcham Cricket Club have presented Mr. W. Long with a case of pipes in affectionate memory of his long and valued membership of the team".

As always information regarding Marcham Cricket Club may be obtained from Terry Whittaker (391317) or Graham Hill (391415).

CLIVE BENNETT



WOULD YOU LIKE TO PLAY WHIST?

Then why not come to the Abingdon Hospital League of Friends whist drive on the first Friday of each month, starting at 7 pm in the Day Hospital. Friendly company, good prizes and refreshments provided. All profits go to the hospital, so you can enjoy yourself and support a very good cause at the same time.

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