

Marcham & District News

COTHILL – FRILFORD – GARFORD – GOZZARDS FORD – MARCHAM – TUBNEY

Your Independent Local Newsheet – www.madnews.co.uk

November 2008 Vol: 30 No: 11

READ & RECYCLE!

FREE



▲ Nell Gwynne entertains the WI see page 9



▲ Pre-School Mice see page 13 ▲



◀ Marcham – award winner see page 7



◀ One of the Marcham Angels see page 13



This Month's Mystery Photo ▲
The attached picture is listed as being in Church St, Marcham but does anyone know where exactly?
Contact Sheila Dunford on 391439.

DIARY FOR NOVEMBER

Thur 6	Midweek Walk: The Blowing Stone, Kingston Lisle, 12.30pm lunch /1.30pm walk	9	Sat 15	Abingdon European Society, Guildhall, Abingdon, 7.15pm	15
Fri 7	MP's Surgery: Faringdon, 5.30-7pm	3	Wed 19	Pride and Prejudice, Abingdon Drama Club,	15
Sat 8	Craft Fair, Grove 10am – 4pm	15	- Sat 22	Unicorn Theatre, Abingdon, 7.30pm	
Sun 9	Remembrance Sunday	5	Thur 20	Marcham WI, Denman College, 7.30pm	9
Tue 11	Marcham Society, All Saints' Church, 7.45pm	11	Fri 21	MP's Surgery: Didcot, 5.30-7pm	3
Wed 12	Parish Council Meeting, Duffield Place, 7.30pm	3	Sat 22	Finstock School Christmas Fair 2 – 5pm	15
Fri 14	Quiz Night, MSSSC, 8-11pm	11	Thur 27	Senior Citizens' Meeting	9
Sat 15	BBOWT Christmas Market, 9.30am - 2.30pm	15	Fri 28	Real Ale Night, MSSSC	11
Sat 15	Cancer Research Christmas Bazaar, Hanney	11	Sat 29	Sat Festival of Massed Male Voices, Town Hall, Oxford 7.30pm	15

Details of events may change after publication, please check with the relevant organisers before attending events.


Dear Readers

The front cover looks a bit bare this month, but with your help, I hope that we will have lots of pictures to put on the cover of the December issue of MADNews.

Send in your pictures of festive events from the last 30 years to get our 30th birthday celebrations off to a great start.

Then look out for glimpses of past issues of MADNews from January onwards.

Until next time



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DEADLINES

Advertising: 5pm 15th month
Other copy: 5pm 20th month
except for Jan when it is 15th Dec for both

ADDITIONAL COPIES

These are available free from Marcham Post Office or the Editor. Postal copies are also available – contact the Editor.

NOTES The Editor reserves the right to alter, omit or hold over copy to another issue. The views expressed in the Marcham & District News are not necessarily those of the editorial team.

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For other councillors go to
www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk

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November 2008

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

The Big Tidy Up

The village has been awarded a certificate for its efforts in the Big Tidy Up. This has been displayed in the Post Office window.

Remembrance Sunday

The Council has been busy tidying the war memorial in readiness for the Remembrance Sunday service. A new base layer has been put under the loose gravel to prevent weed growth, all weeds removed and more new gravel put down. The Council would thank the volunteers who gave their time to prepare the war memorial in this way.

A415

The Parish Council has been interested in newspaper reports that Suffolk and Somerset County Councils are to pilot a “truck friendly” satellite navigation system, and noted that they have been working with Sat Nav providers in an attempt to minimise the effects that road traffic has in rural areas. The new system will suggest truck routes and pinpoint localised problems to stop trucks rumbling through small streets and lanes. The Parish Council has therefore written to Oxfordshire County Council to see whether it too can join the scheme, to improve the quality of information provided on the Sat Nav systems. Hopefully the A415 through Marcham could be identified as a road not suitable for HGVs. The County’s reply is eagerly awaited.

Fireworks

A reminder to be considerate for neighbours and the many pets and animals in the village when letting off your fireworks. Please notify others when any fireworks are going to be lit so that villagers are aware and arrangements can be made to keep pets indoors.

Cemetery Maintenance Works

Further works to continue the improvements to the Cemetery are about to start. This will include clearing brambles from the Western side of the old section, clearing the boundary alongside the stream and clearing some nettle growth behind the seat in the new section. A working party of some committee members has been set up who will be looking at budget recommendations for next season as far as the costs of maintenance are concerned to ensure that the Cemetery is kept in a tidy condition. It will also be looking at the preparation of guidance notes for families who maintain plots in the Cemetery.

Soldiers of Oxfordshire

Soldiers of Oxfordshire exists to set up a military museum in Oxfordshire, and to find a permanent home for the county’s military heritage. All Oxfordshire families have been, are being, or may in the future

be affected by the Nation’s conflicts. The project is to become the county clearing house for information about people of the county and their part in the conflicts and to hold records and information. At the moment the SOFO Research Centre is in a temporary home at MOD Caversfield, Bicester, and will be transferring to Woodstock to the County Museum. Its volunteers will look after the collections of the county’s regiments, catalogues the archives and participate in and help with research. For further information contact Soldiers of Oxfordshire Trust, DE&S Caversfield, Skimmingdish Lane, Caversfield, Bicester, Oxon OX27 8TS

Parish Council-Anson Trust

Mr. Malcolm Denton, one of the Parish Council’s nominees on the Anson Trust has retired from the Trust as a Director. The Council is therefore required to nominate a successor. Although the Council has advertised for nominees in previous editions of MADNews, no one has yet come forward. The nominee will serve for a three year term. The Council is inviting expressions of interest from anyone who has the time and expertise to become involved at what is an active time for the Trust in developing its future strategy for the charitable operations of the Trust. If you are interested in being considered please contact the Parish Clerk

Date of Next Council Meeting:

Wednesday 12 Nov at 7.30pm. in the residents’ lounge, Duffield Place.

Clerk to the Council: Mrs. L. Martin,
90 Howard Cornish Rd, 01865 391833

www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk

FOR SALE

Mothercare Toddler Bed (Pine) including mattress with washable cover. Very good condition. £30 ono
Telephone 01865 391693

Pine rocking chair
£10 Telephone 01865 391693

Boys Bike (Reflex) looks as new. Suit age 8 - 11 years. £30.00 o.n.o Tel 01865 390777

MP’S SURGERY WITH ED VAIZEY
5.30-7.00pm, unless stated otherwise

7 Nov	Faringdon , Corn Exchange
21 Nov	Didcot , King Alfred Drive Community Centre
12 Dec	Grove Old Mill Hall, Old School Lane
Contact Ed Vaizey by	
Post	The House of Commons, London SW1A OAA
E-mail	vaizeye@parliament.uk
Web	www.vaizey.com
Tel	0207 219 6350

Dear Editor

Please find below the text of a letter I received from Thames Valley Police, after escalating my concerns about the incident on "The Bends" I highlighted in last month's MadNews.

Dear Mr Rowe,

Thank you for your letter regarding the traffic incident you were involved in, in which as a pedestrian you were struck on the arm by a passing vehicle, causing reddening to the skin.

I acknowledge that you reported the incident, in person, at the front counter of Abingdon Police station at approximately 7pm the following day and spoke with a female station duty officer.

I apologise that details were not taken from you. I understand that all police officers were committed and unable to complete a formal statement. However, a record should have been taken by the counter staff. I will ensure that this officer receives any necessary advice.

In view that you obtained the index number of the vehicle which struck you I will forward your letter to...the Administration of Justice Department at HQ. The Traffic Enquiry Team may be able to conduct further enquiries into this incident.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you feel you wish to discuss the matter further and I hope that your arm is no longer in any discomfort.

Yours sincerely, Ian Money

Sector & Neighbourhood Inspector, Abingdon

Vale of White Horse Police Area.

Inspector Money rang me to explain further his response to my escalation and I have also received a statement form to allow me to officially detail the incident in support of any "further enquiries".

PETER ROWE

MARCHAM AND FRILFORD BURIAL COMMITTEE AND MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Both the above bodies have recently approved expenditure to improve the Burial Ground as many people have been concerned about the condition of the area as it has become overgrown especially in the original part of the area. Apart from regular maintenance we need to clear a considerable amount of overgrown vegetation and then set a regular maintenance programme to keep the area in good condition.

Already new bins have been installed to allow dead flowers and other matter to be disposed of properly.

Part of the clean up meant that we had to November 2008

clear graves of items that could be caught by the contractor's strimmer. A working party carried out this work as sensitively as possible and dead flowers and loose items were removed for safety but unfortunately this action offended some people.

Let it be made very clear this was never an intended consequence and it is deeply regretted if it did cause offence. We believe everyone that had cause to complain has been visited personally and the circumstances explained.

We believe for future clarity it will be sensible to draw up some simple guidelines to help people understand what is acceptable to place on graves so as they can be maintained by our contractor in a safe and proper manner. A working party has been established to review the advice we can give and this will be circulated as soon as possible.

We hope all parishioners agree the Burial Ground does need more maintenance and we trust the village fully supports this initiative.

As part of the improvement programme we hope to have help from some community groups from the probation service to clear the path running from the Burial Ground up to the Church although this may not happen until the New Year.

We will keep the village informed of the work as it takes place.

Thank you for your understanding:

MALCOLM DENTON Chairman

Marcham Parish Council

MURRAY MAC CLEAN – Chairman

Marcham and Frilford Burial Board

Dear Editor

The Big Village Tidy Up.

Following the success of the "Big Village Tidy Up" it may be time to consider setting up a Volunteer group to undertake various tasks around the village to improve or environment on a regular basis.

We have already proved that a few people devoting a few hours time can make a real difference and if this was to be carried out on a regular basis we could really make a huge improvement to our home. May we draw attention to the gentlemen of Duffield Place who have made such a difference to the appearance of the complex by just devoting a few hours each week. It is this community spirit that makes a difference.

We live in an age where as much as we would like to think our County, District and parish councils will fully maintain our infrastructure we know because of financial pressures we

will not have all the jobs done that we would like.

If anybody is interested in putting in a few hours once a month could they please contact Malcolm Denton by phone or E Mail. Once we have gauged interest we will hold a meeting in a local hostelry to discuss the best days and times to progress this initiative.

We should take heart from other local villages that have already established Volunteer Groups and Shipton-under-Wychwood now boast a group of 50 willing people undertaking many different projects going beyond the normal weeding and litter picking. Charney Basset also has a well established group called the Charney Army.

We would like to think that it is not just retired people that volunteer but let's have some youngsters as well. We all know of jobs that need doing so let's not wait for others but take the initiative and do something for ourselves.

MALCOLM DENTON 01865 391497

malcolm_denton_954@msn.com

Dear Editor

The thanks of all of us are due to the team who have cleared up the area round the War Memorial on the main road, cutting back the bushes and putting down fresh gravel. It will make such a difference for the wreath laying on Remembrance Sunday, 9 November. Thank you

EDDIE SHIRRAS

DENMAN COLLEGE

The celebration of Denman College's 60th birthday all went very well: it was lovely to be joined by so many of our neighbours on the Sunday. I do hope everyone enjoyed the chance to look round: and I hope we can find other occasions to do something similar before too long. Special thanks to all the children from Marcham School who charmed us all with their delightful singing and dancing.

We still have builders working on site - refurbishing the 1970s Brunner/Gwalia accommodation block. There should be little in the way of 'heavy' traffic as a result, as it's a much smaller job than the last one. By April 2009 we will be all en-suite: something that might have amused (or perhaps appalled?) the ladies who were here when we opened in 1948.

Looking forward to the next 60 years...

STEPHEN HACKETT Principal

COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORT

A new classroom is to be built at the school and will be called Phase 2, as Phase 1 was completed and paid for by school funds. OCC have agreed to fully fund the building element in the Phase 2 project. It will be a tight schedule to get this built by September 2009, but OCC officers and the Headteacher are committed to do their best. I will press OCC planning and Regulation Committee to pass these plans as soon as they are available to OCC officers.

As far as other plans for houses or whatever else speculators may believe is good for the future of the school, for the foreseeable future - the next five years or so - the school will be expanded as needed for the growth within the catchment area.

This should ensure that OCC stays true to its aspirations of sustainable transport options within the "Better Ways to School" strategy which encourages walking and cycling to school, and hopefully not driving miles to another school by car! Marcham is blessed with a growing young population, and deserves a growing school with the facilities needed for the future, I hope I can help deliver this worthwhile project for Marcham.

The plans for sand extraction at Upwood Park may come before the Planning and Regulation Committee at OCC on November 24th, unless they are delayed for reports from technical and ecological experts. As far as the proposed site entrance goes, I am concerned by the addition of up to 80 heavy lorries per day entering and leaving the A338 at the access opposite The Ride. The road is not, as some might suggest, straight, but it is a fast piece of de-restricted road at that point. Should this proposal by Hills Aggregates be approved, I will press OCC officers to insist on another entrance be used off the A420 instead, and failing that, speed limits be lowered on the A338 from the A420 down to Frilford.

With the economic situation across the financial world looking less than settled for the next few years, the financial settlement from central government to OCC may be less than generous again this year. Although this may turn out to be the case, I am pressing OCC to repeat the grant to causes and projects that support our military personnel and their families in this County.

Last year, OCC granted £100k to a fund that was distributed by Brigadier Miles Wade to the various establishments in Oxfordshire. £20k was allocated to the Community Centre at Dalton Barracks, and at Easter the Army kindly hosted an open day to celebrate the completed works. Hopefully, funds permitting, another grant for this section of our community, that are often overlooked and undervalued, can be awarded. With remembrance day approaching, this provides all of us with another opportunity to show our support to our servicemen and women and their families.

CLLR IAIN BROWN

Tel: 01235 751210 Email: iainbrownconservatives@yahoo.co.uk
Janus, Westcot Lane, Sparsholt, Wantage, Oxon OX12 9PZ.

ED VAIZEY WRITES...

I have had a busy start to the new parliamentary term. Despite the credit crunch - more of which later - there have been a number of debates on issues that fall within my portfolio.

The very first session in Parliament was culture questions, and I raised the issue of world heritage sites. We have 27 in this country, and amazingly 7 are threatened with blacklisting by the international cultural organisation, UNESCO, including Westminster itself. Westminster and the Tower of London are at risk from a series of tall buildings that are planned for London, which would wreck London's historic skyline. I am pushing the Government to turn down these applications and have a proper policy in place to protect world heritage sites.

We also debated digital switchover recently. This is a huge scheme to convert all our television signals to digital, so that by 2012 you will have to have a digital television or a freeview box to watch telly. The scheme won't be coming to our part of the

November 2008

world for a while, but it is important to get it right as it is already underway.

Finally we had a debate on the BBC licence fee. Every so often, an MP suggests it should be abolished, and this provides an opportunity to debate the whole BBC and have fun at its expense. As far as I am concerned, we need the BBC now more than ever, and provided the licence fee is kept at affordable levels, and the BBC does not overextend its remit, there is no reason why the BBC cannot continue in its present form.

Affordable is a word that is important these days. We are in the middle of the credit crunch, and a looming recession. I have already had constituents contact me concerning their savings in Icelandic banks, and am doing all I can to help. Our part of the world has a concentration of small hi-tech businesses, and I hope that their specialist nature means that they will be able to see through the recession as well as possible. I am always available to speak with or meet constituents facing difficulties.

ED VAIZEY, MP Wantage (Con)

CALOR OXFORDSHIRE VILLAGE OF THE YEAR 2008

Marcham didn't quite make it to the national finals this year, but was presented with £100 in recognition of Care and Consideration for Village Residents for our Parishioner of the Year Award and Affordable Housing Development - see the certificate on the cover. Chris Ricketts and I went to collect this and the cheque at the Oxfordshire Rural Community Council AGM at Steeple Aston (last year's winner) in October.

For more details about the competition go to <http://www.calorvillageoftheyear.org/england/index.htm>

MERIEL LEWIS

If you'd like to see your writing in MADNews, contact the Editor on 01865 391725

The Cat

Aloof and superior is the cat
With a haughty and inscrutable
stare,
Sleek and sinuous, or fluffy and fat
She sleeps in the sun or in your
best chair.

She might condescend to sit on
your lap,
Contentedly purring, gentle and
warm,
Or curl up on the hearth to take a
nap -
A sleeping cat brings a feeling of
calm.

She'll play, if you like, with a
rubber mouse,
Or kill one maybe with her cruel claws,
And present it to you within the house,
And then fastidiously wash her paws.

Do you own a cat? You think that you do,
I'm afraid you will find the cat owns you!





Marcham WI November 2008

Autumn has arrived with the mist's and colours and at our last meeting we were fortunate to be able to use the new Ferris Room at Denman College which was a great privilege, our speaker Gillian Franklin was also very seasonal with her talk on apples, she gave us the history of the apple and bought along several varieties for us to try.

Since my last report on the happenings of Marcham WI we have had the Denman Diamond celebrations (60 years) with many of our members acting as stewards for the thousands of WI visitors from all over England and Wales. The six day event was a great success and gave many people in the village a chance to see the beautiful house and grounds as well as the opportunities available on our doorstep. Part of the musical entertainment was skilfully performed by Christine Whild in the newly refurbished sitting room. It was also interesting to see the newly finished Ferris room and accommodation building. At the end of September members attended a WI group meeting in Drayton, the speaker, Lesley Smith gave a stunning talk/performance as Nell Gwynne, the orange seller, actress and mistress of Charles II. She enacted the role in full costume and make-up with an accurate and witty account of her life in the 17th century. (See picture) During October visits were made to the Cider Museum in Hereford and the gardens at Stourhead in Wiltshire.

Future Events

- Nov 11th Pudding Club "Buffet Lunch"
- Nov 14th W I Quiz at Drayton
- Nov 20th American Thanksgiving 'Oxfordshire Style'
- Dec 2nd Christmas Songs – Oxford Town Hall

NEXT MEETING

7.30pm Thursday 20 November

Rivers, Flooding and the Environment

Jed Ramsey

Denman College: Teaching Block

Visitors welcome - £3 voluntary contribution

Contacts for: Sonia Edwards 01865 391442
more information Christine Whild 01865 391270

MARCHAM SENIOR CITIZENS' CLUB

At our last meeting we had quite a good attendance of members and a busy afternoon. A speaker from Age Concern came along to explain what help senior citizens could get from different sources if they needed it and that help is available to fill in forms etc. It proved very interesting and questions were asked and answered. Leaflets were also given out, I'm sure they were most useful. We then had two raffles, extra gifts having been given for us to raffle off and make extra contributions to funds. Many thanks to the people who gave the gifts it is greatly appreciated. Our next meeting will be on November 27th and this will be the last meeting of the year. Trust, we will see you there.. **JOYCE PARRY**

MARCHAM EX-SERVICEMENS CLUB OAP CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

Forms will be available 1st December 2008 from the Club, Post Office and Wednesday Lunch. Any enquiries please contact the committee.
November 2008

MARCHAM SOCIETY MIDWEEK WALK

Thursday, 6 November

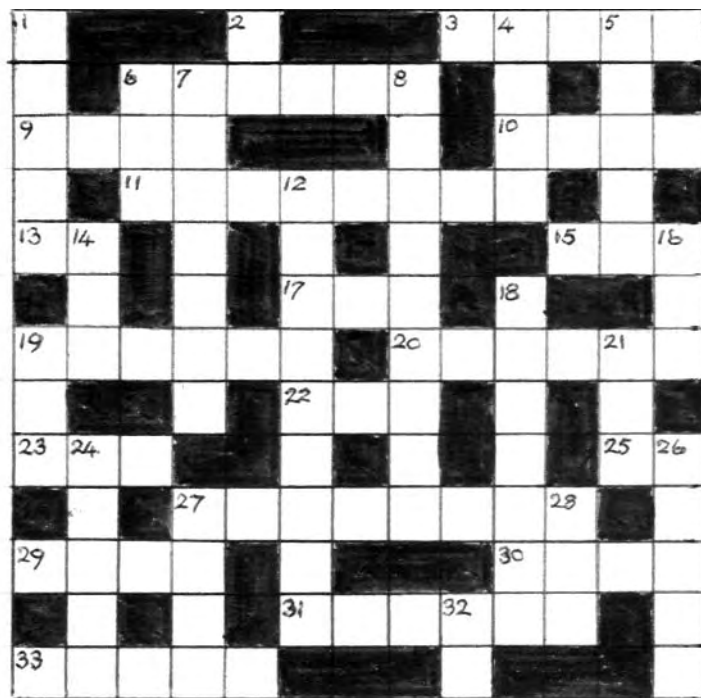
For this month's walk we will meet at The Blowing Stone Inn in Kingston Lisle (Map Ref: SU 327878), just off the B4507 west of Wantage, at 12.30 for lunch and 1.30 for the walk of about 4 miles just a glimpse of the Berks and Wilts Canal and a visit to the splendid medieval effigies in Sparsholt church

New walkers are very welcome. Members free, non-members £1. Ring Eric Dunford on 391439 for lifts and details.

SUNSHINE CLUB

Oct: This month we had a Tombola, we would like to thank all those that brought things along. It was a really nice table which is always a help for Club funds. We will be having an outing in November for members, the cost of coaches has gone up like a lot of other things and we will be having a Christmas party - more on that later. We've had a few birthdays over the month and hope they all had an enjoyable day - each received a card. It won't be long before the early dark nights set in, throwing on an extra thermal or two this winter! Close for now, till next month

JOY CROOK



NOVEMBER CROSSWORD BY ALISA

ACROSS

- 3 Clean air (5)
- 6 Stress (6)
- 9 US president (4)
- 10 Standard required (4)
- 11 Affecting a big area (8)
- 13 When (2)
- 15 Throw (3)
- 17 Pull (3)
- 19 & 20 cleaners (6.6)
- 22 Animal (3)
- 23 Spinner (3)
- 25 Marcham organisation (2)
- 27 Animal (s)
- 29 Asterisk (4)
- 30 Cleaner (4)
- 31 Number (6)
- 33 TV programme (5)

DOWN

- 1 Shinbone (5)
- 2 Parish council (2)
- 4 Metal (4)
- 5 Street in Marcham (5)
- 6 Snake (3)
- 7 Kindness (7)
- 8 TV programme (9)
- 12 Cleaner (9)
- 14 Ocean (3)
- 16 Affirmative (3)
- 18 Versus (7)
- 19 Animal (3)
- 21 Rule (3)
- 24 Surpass (5)
- 26 Suggest (5)
- 27 Cupid (4)
- 28 Breed of dog (3)
- 32 Not any (2)

MSSSC: Marcham Sports, Scouts & Social Club
The pavilion & field off Morland Road

We held our AGM early in the month, thanks to all those that attended. For those who couldn't attend and as a general update, the following will keep you up to speed with current issues. During a moment of poor concentration on the top table the existing officers were reappointed without challenge! they are: Chairman - Steve Shellard; Treasurer - Trevor Hill; Secretary - Geoff Dix

It was agreed that we continue with the increased level of social activity. We reaffirmed our aim to continue to encourage and support youth and sporting activity and to work with any/all relevant organisations to achieve this. With these uncertain and challenging times in mind, our chairman Steve came out with the quote of the week, that is, to remain:

"... a beacon of reasonableness in sea of anarchy..."

It must have taken him all morning to come up with that. Our Treasurer reported on another challenging financial year, income depressed and costs up. Our ongoing commitment to fundraising however enabled him to table a budget for the coming year that forecasts a modest net profit. Our aim is to remain strong, the ongoing support of committee members, club members, parents, supporters and socialites remains essential. Towards the end of the meeting as the beer flowed, decision making became easier; still didn't manage to get the installation of a lap dancing pole approved by the Treasurer. Maybe next year.

Sad to report the untimely death of one of the earliest members of the club. Keith Speight, a cricketing legend in Marcham whites sadly passed away recently. Our thoughts go out to his family and many friends

REGULAR BAR OPENING TIMES

Every Friday - 8pm to 11pm

Every Saturday - after Football or Cricket

NOVEMBER SOCIAL EVENTS

Quiz Night Fri 14th Nov 8.30pm

Real Ale night Fri 28th Nov (Last Fri every month)

We look forward to seeing you at the club

For more info contact Geoff Dix, secretary on 391577

MARCHAM CRICKET CLUB

The AGM of the OCA will take place before the end of the year and information will then be available regarding fixtures for the 2009 season.

As some readers will have noticed, work on the field, and in particular the square, is proceeding in preparation for next year.

Information relating to Marcham CC (including playing for, or umpiring on behalf of the Club) may be obtained from Graham Hill (391415) or Terry Whittaker (391317).

CSB

MARCHAM PLAYERS

Remember The Gunpowder Plot, Remember Trafalgar!

Watch this space for news of more historical re-enactments, This time it will be close to home and personal!

The Marcham Players bring you

THE MARCHAM GHOST WALK!

Coming soon to a street corner near you!

(Around about March/April)

Joey Maclean (01865 391242), or Dave Hutchinson (01865 391964), are the people to contact for membership details.

www.marchamplayers.co.uk



CANCER RESEARCH FUNDRAISING TEAM

The Hanney Volunteer charity team is on course to meet a historic target in 2008. Kath Carter, sister Lyn Johnston and friends Dulcie Parfoot and Marion Carter have worked to continue the work started in Hanney over 20 years ago by Rene Nobes, a cancer survivor herself, to raise money for Cancer Research.

Rene's work raised over £17,000 and over the years since then the group had raised a total of £42,000 by the end of 2007. The target for 2008 is to reach £50,000(cumulative) by the end of the year.

The groups main charitable income derives from garage sales, tabletop sales, the Christmas Bazaar, the sale of Annabelle Dolls, raffle of Christmas Hampers also events through the year such as live music nights organised by Kath's son Dave, Becci and their friends at the Legion, Some local businesses such as shops in both Wantage and Abingdon stock the groups knitted products to assist the fund raising efforts.

The event scheduled to push the groups fund raising total through £50,000 barrier will be the Christmas Bazaar to be held at Hanney Memorial Hall on Sat Nov 15th.

Anyone who would like to assist these ladies in their worthy cause by donating unwanted useful items should call Kath on 01235 868527 or Dulcie on 01235 858470.

PC GROUP NEWS

- Have you got a Windows 98 computer? And would you like to reduce your ink consumption to one third of the usual? If so, I have some software which will do this FREE!
- Would you like a FREE Windows 98 SE computer, for backing up your files or for a youngster?

Contact David Fraser, 01235 532049.



The
Marcham
Society

The Parish of
St. Thomas the Martyr, Oxford
Liz Wooley

All Saints' Church

Tuesday 11th November 2008, 7.45pm

November 2008

Non-members £2

www.marchamsociety.org.uk

Further details: Sheila Dunford (391439) or Judith Fontaine (391275)

MARCHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

On 25th September, pupils from Denman Class and the School Councillors went to Denman College to share in their Diamond Jubilee celebrations.

Denman Class were going to Denman College to represent Marcham School, and to celebrate 60 years of the Women's Institute. We made up our own song to the tune of 'An English Country Garden'. We also decided to do Maypole Dancing, which didn't go well in rehearsals! The dances we did were Double Plait and Spiders Web. In rehearsal the Maypole Dancing was terrible. We were all quite annoyed about the Maypole Dancing because we had only done it a few months back, it was like we had completely forgotten. So we kept practising and practising. Finally we got it right, once! But then we realised our time was up, we had to go to Denman college after lunch.

At Denman College Maypole dancing was first. To our amazement it went absolutely perfect. The song went really well too. After the performance the women from all around the world clapped and clapped, it went really well. After we all had a drink and a look at the things the women had made. Then it was time to go because it was home time at school. It was an enjoyable afternoon and I think everyone enjoyed the performance, especially Mrs Hutchinson.

Lauryn Turnbull.

Denman class went to Denman College to perform Maypole dancing. We performed the Spiders Web and the Double Plait. We also sang a song to Denman College about their institute. We really had trouble practicing the Maypole dancing but it turned out excellent. School Council came to sing a song as well but they didn't have enough time. We rehearsed the Maypole Dancing loads of times but something always went wrong so Mrs Capel nearly cried her eyes out so did Mrs Hutchinson. But then Mrs Hutchinson did a big speech and we tried again and nothing went wrong and then we all enjoyed it.

Jasmine Ricketts

I went outside to draw a picture of Denman College. We went on the laptops for some ideas. Then we printed it. Then we drew the building and plants then added some details to the picture. Then Mrs Hutchinson glued our pictures on a card. After the Maypole Dancing, that Mrs Hutchinson loved, we gave them the card.

Dylan Hornsby

Denman Class made a song up and showed Denman College. We made the song by picking a tune and then made some words to go with it. We even had to do some Maypole Dancing. When we practised Mrs Capel wasn't impressed because we all got it wrong. All of the pressure was on our shoulders, but luckily we got it right, the song went well and the Maypole Dancing went well. Denman College thanked us so much.

George Sharrock

The rehearsal was bad and everybody got it wrong. After we came back from playtime we were good. At Denman College the dancing was brilliant and the song went well. They said the dancing and singing were excellent and gave us a huge clap. When we got back to the classroom our Headteacher, Mrs Hutchinson, gave us the biggest clap in the world. Year 4s did the double Plait and Year 5s did the Spiders Web.

Luke Swain

On the 25th September we went to Denman College for their 60th anniversary. First we danced the Double Plait then the Spiders Web, I think the people liked it although the practise was frustrating for Mrs Capel. After that we sang a song which we made up as a class which was in the same tune as An English Country Garden. At the end we ended the performance with a card made for Denman College by School Council. We walked back through the gates with a round of applause following us and happily reached Marcham School.

Lawrence Mizen.

Last month Denman Class and the School Councillors went to Denman College. Denman Class sang a song, which was An English Country Garden. We also did some Maypole Dancing, which the whole class enjoyed. Before we went to Denman College we were November 2008

rehearsing in the hall with Mrs Capel. Mrs Capel was nearly crying because we couldn't get it right, so we had to keep on trying and trying. If we didn't get it right at Denman College we would just humiliate ourselves, but we pulled it off. Mrs Hutchinson was so proud of us and Mrs Capel was too, so it all turned out all right in the end. The School Councillors were going to say a poem out loud but we didn't have time to. Everybody who went had an excellent time and we were proud of ourselves. Some of us loved it and wanted to stay longer. When we got back to the school all of us wanted to go to Denman College on Saturday or Sunday. We couldn't wait to tell our Parents about it, and share with them what we had done.

Hannah French.

In Marcham School on the 25th September, Denman Class (Years 5 and 6) went to Denman College. We went there because they were celebrating the Women's Institute. But a couple of weeks before we were starting to make up a song that everyone was happy and excited to sing. On the day we were leaving to go there, we practised two Maypole dances. We had no idea which ones until Mrs Capel told us and at 2pm we left to perform. Everybody loved it, also we made a card for Denman College. After giving the card we had lovely drinks, yum! The whole celebration was all about the Diamond Jubilee.

Rachel Plant.

MARCHAM PRE-SCHOOL NEWS

Having had such wonderful success with our home-grown pumpkin (remember last month?) the children at Pre-school have been using the story of Cinderella to develop their creativity and their play. They have made paper plate clocks, dressed dolls ready for the ball and made sugar mice (see photo). Good fun has been had by all and we look forward to finding out which story will be the next favourite....



If you would like to find out more about what we do at Pre-school, or have a 'skill' or hobby you would like to share with us please contact us on 07749 245313 or e:mail marcham-preschool@hotmail.co.uk.

LOCAL AUTHOR'S NEW BOOK

The Old Place, Twixt Thames and Chilterns, £14.95 + £3.55 p&p. This new 'factional' history of Oxfordshire is by Angela Spencer-Harper, author of the renowned Dipping into the Wells. Please phone 01491 641379.

ABINGDON LITTLE ANGELS

At Abingdon Little Angels we have been busy spending the summer months sorting out or garden, trips out and about to Millets farm, Abbey meadows and group outing to Beal Park. Our new term has seen us looking at Ramadan and now we are looking at people who help us, teachers, Doctors, police, and fire service. The Home Corner has been transformed in to a police station.

We now have lots of Marcham village little angels which is great. We continue to visit the cafe and toddler group in the village every week along with visits to the book shop in Abingdon.

However we would like to announce that the little angels are taking part in operation christmas child 2008, this involves the children filling shoeboxes to send out to children in need in poor area of the world. If anybody would like to fill a shoebox or just pop in with a few items for our little angels to fill their boxes with it would be great, we are also looking for any empty shoe boxes which you may have and don't need – any support would be greatly received from us and our little angels.

We need to complete this task by 10th Novemebr so please feel free to contact us on 07516474287 if you can help.

BBOWT Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust
Saturday 15 Nov 9.30am-2.30pm



BBOWT's Upper Thames Region volunteer group will be holding a Christmas market and coffee morning with children's activities, refreshments, homemade cakes, gifts, books, china, bric-a-brac and lots more. Admission: 20p
Meet: Corn Exchange, Market Square, Witney OX28 6AB
Contact: Shirley Jarvis 01865 371297 shirley.jarvis88@btinternet.com No dogs please.

BBOWT WORK PARTIES :

DRY SANDFORD PIT, NR ABINGDON

First Sunday of every month 10am – 1pm
 Varied conservation tasks in one of Oxfordshire's finest and most intriguing reserves. Children Welcome Meet: Reserve car park in Cothill village, 100m west of Honeybottom Lane/ Church Lane junction. SU 467 997.

Contact: Stephen Grigson 01865 390 540

Support your local wildlife trust www.bbowt.org.uk

QUIZZING

Any pubs/clubs in the Marcham area interested in entering the Abingdon/South Division of the Oxfordshire Winter Quiz League please visit our website at www.oxfordshire-quiz-league.co.uk or contact James Carr 01865 712028.

Grove Craft Fair
Old Mill Hall, Grove
Saturday 8 November 2008
10.00am - 4.00pm



A wide range of stalls including:-
 Hand-made cards & gifts, home crafts,
 children's toys, jewellery, cakes, jams,
 Raffle and much more...

Refreshments provided by Grove District Guides

Supporting Helen & Douglas House

Entry £1 (under 16 free if accompanied by an adult)

Contact Jen Brown on 07880 714008 for further details

OXFORD WELSH MALE VOICE CHOIR

present a

FESTIVAL OF MASSED MALE VOICES
WITH GUEST SOLOISTS AND

COMPERE: HANNAH SHELLSWELL,
ITV THAMES VALLEY

A COMBINED CHOIR OF MORE THAN 100 VOICES
FROM THE PORTHCAWL, RHAYADER AND
OXFORD WELSH MALE VOICE CHOIRS

SATURDAY 29TH NOVEMBER 2008 7-30pm

OXFORD TOWN HALL St Aldates

Tickets: £15 Available from:

Blackwells Book Shop Broad St Oxford
Wells Store, Peachcroft Farm, Abingdon
DCS Joncare, Radley Rd Ind Est, Abingdon
Music Stand, High St, Witney

Oxford Welsh Male Voice Choir:

www.oxfordwelshmvc.org.uk

Ron Salter 01869 331245

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 2005-6 winners "best programme of films"
 (British Federation of Film Societies awards)
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Abingdon European Society

John Arbuthnot 1667 - 1735

The Most Universal Genius

Dr John Ward

Saturday 15 November 7.15 for 7.30 p.m
 Council Chamber, The Guildhall, Abingdon
 AES Members & Students £4 Visitors £6.

Includes refreshments.

Contact: AES Secretary 01235-534561

Abingdon Drama Club presents
"Pride and Prejudice"



It is a truth universally acknowledged...

at the Unicorn Theatre, Medieval Abbey Buildings, Abingdon. Wed 19 to Sat 22 Nov, 7.30pm. Tickets £7 (concessions £6). from The Bookstore, Abingdon Precinct or from ADC Ticketline 01235 524538.

Finstock School Christmas Fayre
Friends of Finstock School

Saturday 22nd November 2pm - 5pm
 Finstock Village Hall - Well Hill Finstock
 (Just off B4022 Charlbury - Witney Road)



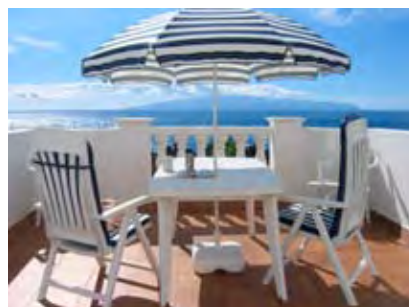
Come along and enjoy the atmosphere of a lovely Christmas Fayre. Father Christmas will be coming to visit and the children can come and tell him their Christmas wishes, the air will be filled with the lovely smell of Spiced Apple Juice and Mince Pies. Lots of lovely stalls selling Toys, Jewellery, Cards, Childrens Clothes plus more.



Teas and Cakes on sale

Tenerife Holiday Home

www.tenerifebliss.com or 01865 391730



Beautiful seafront town house in quiet resort with blue flag beach near Los Gigantes. 1 double & 1 twin bedrooms. Fully equipped kitchen. 2 Balconies. Superb sun terrace. Fabulous sea views. Swimming Pool. Beach, shops & restaurants close by. Advice on flight & car hire. From £350 per week, discount for longer.

To get a notice or small advert included please contact the editor 01865 391725