

ED VAIZEY WRITES...continued

I have visited Benson, and been taken up in a Merlin, which is one of the most modern helicopters available. In this respect at least, our troops are well provided for. It is home to Flt Lt Michelle Goodman, the first woman to win the Distinguished Flying Cross. In Didcot, we have Vauxhall Barracks, which I have also visited, home to the bomb disposal team, who sadly lost Warrant officer Gary O'Donnell earlier in the year. Grove resident Claire Griffiths received national prominence when as staff sergeant she was the only woman in Afghanistan to drive an armoured vehicle in combat conditions. In Abingdon, we have Dalton Barracks which will become part of the constituency at the general election, and which I have recently visited. And in Shrivenham we have the Defence College, effectively the "post-graduate" university of the armed forces, which I have been to on several occasions. Most poignantly of all, every serviceman and woman who is returned from Afghanistan travels along the A420 on their way to the John Radcliffe. Many members of the Royal British Legion stand salute in Watchfield and on the A420 at Faringdon, and I have been privileged to stand with them on several occasions.

In Parliament I am a member of the Armed Forces Parliamentary scheme, which means that I spend time with the Royal Marines and try and get a better understanding of the pressures our Forces face. I have visited them at their headquarters, and in Afghanistan and the Falklands.

This is not the right place to discuss the politics of the conflicts our armed forces are involved in, simply to take the opportunity to salute them and pay tribute to some of the bravest men and women in our country. It is a privilege to know just a few of them.

On local matters, I was delighted that the meeting I chaired on the Anson Trust proposals went so well. It was well-attended, and on the whole a polite affair. The two things that came out most strongly, I felt, was the desire of villagers to be consulted on all options, not just on the details of one option; and the willingness of villagers to support the Anson Trust financially through the parish precept, within reason and with clearly defined aims. I hope the meeting helped to clear the air, and would be delighted to chair a subsequent meeting in the future if that is what is wanted.

ED VAIZEY, MP Wantage (Con)

MARCHAM PLAYERS
Remember, Remember, Remember!
Don't forget that Marcham Players are presenting "An Evening with the Oxford Waits" in Marcham Church on **FRIDAY 6 NOVEMBER at 8.0pm** - this is a concert in aid of the Marcham Moldova Lifeleine.



Oxford Waits specialise in providing a "charming and witty romp through 17th Century England" by performing in costume street ballads, dance tunes, airs and rounds. They regularly receive top rate reviews so do come along for an enjoyable, unusual evening in aid of a very worthy cause!

Tickets can be bought by telephoning either of the following two numbers: Joey Maclean on 01865 391242 or Dave Hutchinson on 01865 391964. Cost for this fund raising event will be £10 and £8 for under 12's. Do come along and support this very worthy cause!

We recently enjoyed another in the series of "With Great Pleasure" evenings in the Board Room at Manor Farm when the subject of the readings by members and friends was "My Favourite Children's Book". The response to this was so good we were unable to fit in all the contributions - we intend to repeat this topic with the extracts we were unable to fit in last time and others - this will be early in the New Year and the date will appear in this column in January. Why not encourage your children to contribute so that we can compare old with new! A good night for the family to enjoy! Don't forget though - Friday 6 November in the Church - Oxford Waits - be there!

DAVE HUTCHINSON

Any enquiries about us will be willingly answered by our Secretary, Joey, on 01865 391242 or, Dave Hutchinson on 01865 391964.

www.marchamplayers.co.uk
November 2009

NOVEMBER CROSSWORD

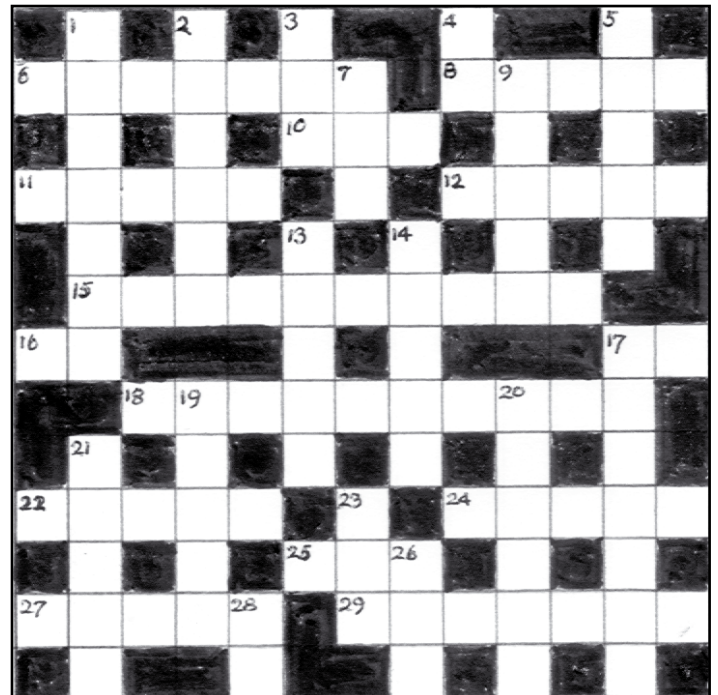
BY ALISA

ACROSS

- 6 Rustic (7)
- 8 Animal (5)
- 10 Plaything (3)
- 11 Flier (5)
- 12 Gastropod (5)
- 15 Marcham Society event (4.6)
- 16 Beside (2)
- 17 Not out (2)
- 18 Marcham Society event (10)
- 22 Cereal (5)
- 24 French farewell (5)
- 25 Sheltered part (3)
- 27 Fastening (5)
- 29 David's wife (7)

DOWN

- 1 Cradle song (7)
- 2 Pacific island (6)
- 3 Bird (3)
- 4 Turn (2)
- 5 Danger (5)
- 7 Fish (3)
- 9 Garment (5)
- 13 Tartan cloth (5)
- 14 Bulb (5)
- 17 Succeed (7)
- 19 Hospital photos (1-4)
- 20 Colour (6)
- 21 Ledge (5)
- 23 Ocean (3)
- 26 Flow back (3)
- 28 Italian river (2)



MARCHAM SOCIETY EXHIBITION & BOOK LAUNCH

Thanks to an Awards for All lottery grant The Marcham Society will be offering a free copy of *Marcham Remembered: a village in pictures* to all households in the MADNews area. Tokens for free copies will be delivered early in November. If you haven't received your token by **10 November** please phone Sheila Dunford on 01865 391 439.



A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY: Marcham Society exhibition and book launch at Marcham school - come and collect your free copy

Sat 21 Nov 11am - 6pm OR Sun 22 Nov 12 noon - 4pm

Free entry Free refreshments

Official book launch on the Saturday at 3pm

Books on sale at the special exhibition price of £8 (normal price £10)

Over 100 pages and more than 250 pictures - an ideal Christmas present.

After the exhibition free copies can be collected from any of the following places where the books will also be on sale at £10.

Marcham Post Office 9.30-13.30 Mon-Fri	Marcham Society meetings	Cumbers Farm Shop 10.00-13.00 Mon-Sat
Elwes Road phone 391746	Frilford Road phone 391372	The Farthings phone 391420
Frilford phone 391242	Garford phone 391280	Tubney phone 390483