



## Marcham WI October 2009

There is a nautical theme to our meeting this month. The speaker, Stephen Griffiths, will retell the story of Henry VIII 's flagship The Mary Rose which was raised from the seabed in 1982. There will also be a display of nautical items brought by members.

Our September meeting began with the singing of Jerusalem in memory of Elsa Spicer. Elsa was a past president of Marcham WI, an Oxfordshire committee member and a keen supporter of the WI. This open meeting was well attended with 8 visitors and 2 new members. A tasty harvest supper prepared by the committee was enjoyed by all. Congratulations were given to Christine Denton on becoming a WI advisor and also a member of the Oxfordshire Federation Board of Trustees.

Activities for the Autumn are to include a new book club for members and also card making and needlecraft days in members homes.

### Future Events

- Oct 5th Group meeting Steventon Village Hall
- Oct 7th Speakers selection day at Benson Village Hall
- Nov 25th Malaysian Day at Weston on the Green Village Hall
- Nov 26th Good Food Show N.E.C. Birmingham

### NEXT MEETING

7.30pm Thursday 15 October Open Meeting

*The Mary Rose*  
Stephen Griffiths

*Display of nautical items by members*  
Denman College: Teaching Block

Visitors welcome - £3 voluntary contribution

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

### MARCHAM SOCIETY MIDWEEK WALK

Thursday, October 8th.

For this month's walk we will meet at The Carpenter's Arms in Fulbrook (Map Ref: SP256127) just north of Burfordon the A361 at 12.30 for lunch and 1.30 for the walk of about 5 miles. We will be exploring the hills and little valleys leading down to the River Windrush between Fulbrook and Swinbrook.

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

### Will you share your wartime memories?

Would you be interested in talking about your memories of the Second World War? The Second World War Experience Centre is carrying out a nationwide project, recording the personal experiences of people who lived through the war years, to ensure these stories are preserved for future generations.

With the recent passing of the last veterans of World War One, this has brought into focus the increasing urgency to record people's memories before it is too late.

The Centre is a registered museum and charity, and more than 4000 people have been interviewed for the Centre's oral history archive. The Centre would like to record the stories of ex-servicemen and women, civilians, children, factory workers, or anyone who has first hand memories from that time. Its website can be found at

[www.war-experience.org](http://www.war-experience.org)

If you are interested in having your wartime memories recorded for posterity and inclusion in **The Second World War Experience Centre archive**, or would like further information, please contact the Centre's volunteer recorder in the Oxfordshire area:

Matthew Smaldon, 4 St Edmunds Lane, Abingdon OX14 5BU  
Tel: 01235 526734 (please leave a message if there is no answer)  
email: [matthew.smaldon@gmail.com](mailto:matthew.smaldon@gmail.com)



### SUNSHINE CLUB

Another month has flown past, we are now looking forward to Milton Keynes for Christmas shopping. We still have some seats left on the coach if anyone would like to go. It is on Thursday October 22nd and the cost is £10 per person. We leave Duffield Place at 9.30am, for more information phone 01865 391536. **MAUREEN (MO) TIDBURY**, Chairlady

### MARCHAM SOCIETY REPORT

After the Marcham Society AGM on 8 September, members and visitors enjoyed a fascinating talk by **Tim Healey about the Green Man**. Carvings of this mysterious character started to appear on churches and cathedrals in this country after the Norman Conquest, but there are similar carvings in Assyria dating from 300 BC and also in India.

There are two distinct types:- The *foliate* green man has leaves or branches spreading from his head like hair. The *disgorging* green man has leaves or branches streaming from mouth, eyes and nose. They are not always male - there are green women and also some cat-like images.

There are plenty of green men to spot in our area at churches such as Iffley, West Hanney, Eynsham, Charney Bassett and Dorchester Abbey, as well as the Oxford colleges. There are even some above the former Cherries amusement shop in The Square, Abingdon. He even has his own website [www.greenmantrail.co.uk](http://www.greenmantrail.co.uk) **JF**



The  
Marcham  
Society

## Pedro Collins Fungi in our Gardens

*All Saints' Church Tuesday 13th October 2009, 7.45pm*

Next month's meeting 10th November  
Gary Locke: *Update on the Dig*

Non-members £2

[www.marchamsociety.org.uk](http://www.marchamsociety.org.uk)

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