

December 2011 Vol: 33 No: 12



▲ ▲ Little Angels:
Quiz Night, Pizza and
◀ Pudsey see page 15

With Christmas in mind, Donald and Jean Creasy would like to remind you that Donald has a good many turned wooden items available for sale. All proceeds are for charity. If you would like to see the bowls, candlesticks etc. Please ring 391398 and visit us at 14 Mill Road.



READ & RECYCLE! FREE



MERRY CHRISTMAS

HOLIDAY WASTE COLLECTIONS

Please ensure your rubbish bags aren't left vulnerable to animal and/or bird attack.

** Please note on these days collections will start from 6am, an hour earlier than usual, so remember to put your bins out the night before.*

Normal day	Revised day	Which bin?
Monday 26 December	Wednesday 28 December	Grey
Tuesday 27 December	Thursday 29 December	Grey
Wednesday 28 December	Friday 30 December	Grey
Thursday 29 December	Saturday 31 December *	Grey
Friday 30 December	Tuesday 3 January	Grey
Monday 2 January	Wednesday 4 January	Green
Tuesday 3 January	Thursday 5 January	Green
Wednesday 4 January	Friday 6 January	Green
Thursday 5 January	Saturday 7 January *	Green
Friday 6 January	Monday 9 January	Green
Monday 9 January	Tuesday 10 January	Grey
Tuesday 10 January	Wednesday 11 January	Grey
Wednesday 11 January	Thursday 12 January	Grey
Thursday 12 January	Friday 13 January	Grey
Friday 13 January	Saturday 14 January *	Grey

DIARY FOR DECEMBER

1 Thur	Midweek Walk Talbot Inn, Eynsham, 12.30/13.30	13
2 Fri	Marcham Players and Vale Voices Christmas Concert, All Saints' Church, 19.30	13
2 Fri	Marcham School Christmas Fayre, 18.00-20.00	15
3 Sat	Litter Blitz, MSSSC, 09.30	5
4 Sun	MCG Family Afternoon, MSSSC, 13.30-16.30	11
9 Fri	Carol Singing, from Parkside, 19.10	5
9 Fri	Deadline for Return of Anson Trust Questionnaires – see back page	
9 Fri	MP's Surgery, Wantage, 17.30 – 19.00	9
9 Fri	MSSSC Christmas Quiz, 20.30	15
13 Tue	Christmas Singalong, 62 North St, 10.00	5

14 Wed	Have Your Say, Wootton, 18.00-20.00	9
14 Wed	Marcham Parish Council Meeting, Duffield Place, 19.30	3
15 Thur	Deadline for all submissions for January issue of MADNews	
15 Thur	Marcham WI, Denman College, 19.30	13
17 Sat	Cricket Club Christmas Raffle, MSSSC, 18.30	15
17 Sat	Ex-Servicemen's Club Draw	15
22 Thur	MCG Carols Around The Village	11
January 2012		
20 Fri	MP's Surgery, Faringdon, 17.30 – 19.00	9
21 Sat	MCG Burns' Night Supper	11

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

Dear Readers

**Merry Christmas to all
MADNews Readers
Everywhere!**



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ADVERTISING

Contact the Editor
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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

We apologise in advance for any errors that may creep into MADNews (online or print), or omissions that creep out - we don't do it on purpose!

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, who are all volunteers.

POLICE

PCSO Carly Milward
Call 101 (non-emergency)

COUNTY COUNCILLOR

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

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Marcham and Shippon
Jane Hanna OBE
4 Charlton Road, Wantage OX12 8ER
Tel: 01235 772782
Email: janehanna63@googlemail.com
For other councillors go to
www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk

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MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Taylor Wimpey

The presentation by Taylor Wimpey to Members of the Council, as mentioned last month, has now taken place. The presentation was the same information as available at the public exhibition

Vale of White Horse District Council – Free Parking

The Vale of White Horse District Council has agreed to allow 2 hours free parking. The decision will be subject to scrutiny, and a new car parking order being made. Residents will be able to park for up to a two hour period free of charge anytime between 8.00 a.m. and 6.00 p.m. in the district council car parks. During this time people wishing to park will need to display a valid ticket, including during the free two hour period. Once people have parked for the free two hours in a particular town they will have to pay the standard fee if they wish to park again during the charging period. Parking will remain free of charge between 6.00 p.m. and 8.00 a.m. It is anticipated that the scheme will be launched on Friday 9th December.

Oxfordshire County Council – Waste Recycling Centres – Drayton and others

Christmas & New Year Opening Hours
Christmas Eve 8am to 3pm
Christmas Day CLOSED
Boxing Day CLOSED
Tuesday 27.12.2011
- Friday 30.12.2011 8am to 5pm
New Year's Eve 8am to 3pm
New Year's Day CLOSED

Monday 02.01.2012 onwards - normal opening hours apply, 8am-5pm

Fly Tipping

There has been an increasing amount of fly tipping recently, particularly along Cow Lane. This time it is items that appear to have come from garden maintenance work such as shrub cuttings, trees and fence panels. Should anyone have a contractor undertake work for them, please check where any waste is being taken. It is possible to take vans into the Drayton recycling centre. However you will first need a permit. The van and trailer permit was introduced to make sure that only household waste is deposited, and to stop traders using them to illegally dispose of trade waste. Permits can be obtained from Oxfordshire County Council. The application form is available on its website, or further information can be obtained from waste.management@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Vale of White Horse District Council – Interim Housing Supply Policy

The Vale of White Horse District Council has drafted an interim housing supply policy which seeks to resolve a deficit in annual housing requirements. This seeks to relax some of the current Local Plan policies to enable some housing development within and next to towns and villages. Two parish councillors attended, by invitation, a workshop evening in the middle of November hosted by the District Council, and their report on the event will be given at the next Parish Council meeting.

Parishioner of the Year Award

For the past 8 years the Council has awarded a Parishioner of the Year Award to a local person or persons who have devoted much time and energy working within the community. There are many people who would be worthy recipients, and the Council is now inviting nominations for the next award. Would anyone who wishes to submit a nomination, please contact the clerk, whose details appear below, sending a short statement of not more than 200 words, as to who he/she wishes to nominate and the reasons why the person should receive the award.

The Council wishes everyone a happy Christmas

Date of Next Council Meeting:

Wednesday 14 December 2011 at 7.30pm. in the residents' lounge, Duffield Place.

Clerk to the Council: Mrs. L. Martin,
90 Howard Cornish Rd, 01865 391833
clerk@marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk
www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Have you lost your hoodie?

A child's grey hooded jacket was left behind at Marcham Masks in September. If you have lost one, please call 391727.

FOR SALE

Girls 16" bike. Light blue and white. With a white basket and blue tassles. £30. If interested call 07910812755.

Matching Thakat large coffee table (75cm x 135cm) and side table (45cm x 45cm) with metal studding, height 40cm. Good condition £60 ONO.

Tel. 01865 391386

Snooker Table 2'x6'x5'

complete with snooker balls and pool balls and 2 cues, triangle etc £20 ono can be seen in the post office.

Table Tennis Table Full Size

with net £20 ono. Ask Anne in the PO

Aluminium ladder: 2 x 13 foot £30

Qualcast 32 **electric lawn mower £10**

Frigidaire under worktop **freezer**

FVE 3803B £40

Two-man **antique saw £10**

Call 01865 390634

Creating a period bathroom?

Vintage iron roll top bath with period taps £70

Vintage "Noiseless" toilet cistern with pull handle £10

Vintage hand basin, large (needs TLC) £10

Also, metal brackets to hold workshop shelving £15

Mantlepiece mirror, wooden frame £15

For more information, call Mary on 391006

Personal adverts in MADNews are free so if want to put in a notice or have something to sell, call the editor on 391725 or email editor@madnews.co.uk

Dear Editor

ANSON FIELD SPORTS FACILITY UPDATE

Further to our MADNews article last month we considered it prudent to update you as to what has been undertaken in the last month in relation to our proposals.

We are continuing to work up our schemes for both the residential development and also the replacement sports facility. To inform our work we have also discussed our proposals with the Parish Council and the Head and Governors of Marcham Primary School. We hope to be able to present the latest schemes to you at a second consultation event in early 2012.

Finally, whilst we have sought your opinions as to what facilities should be provided at the replacement sports pitch we welcome the consultation event being undertaken by the Marcham Community Group and also ask that you also respond to the questionnaire enclosed herein as provided by the Anson Trust.

We trust this update is of use, but should you have any questions then please contact Taylor Wimpey Oxfordshire at Windrush Court, Suite J, Abingdon Business Park, Abingdon, Oxon, OX14 1SY or by e-mail to TWOmarcham@taylorwimpey.com

TAYLOR WIMPEY OXFORDSHIRE

GARD SUCCESS

As most readers of the Abingdon Herald and Oxford Times will have seen, Thames Water has recently notified its stakeholders that the plan which was rejected by the Public Inquiry Inspector and Secretary of State for the Environment, and will be re-published in revised form shortly, will NOT include the smaller 50 million cubic metre reservoir suggested as an option. So our work has been successful in the short term thanks in large part to the efforts of the GARD Committee and especially our consultants.

We would expect Thames Water to bring the full sized Abingdon reservoir back into its 2014 plan as one of its options, so our task is now to monitor the work which was directed by the Secretary of State relating to the cheaper, less damaging and more sustainable options of water re-use and water transfer from the Severn to supply London. Much will depend on the outcome of any increased water demand figures to be agreed by the Environment Agency. As local residents we now have some respite, but the GARD Committee will continue to do their best to protect the local landscape and avoid the massive protracted disruption which construction of a reservoir would involve.

NICK THOMPSON
Hon Chairman **GARD**



December 2011

Dear Editor

Many thanks to those who gave generously, and to those who joined the sponsored walk to raise funds for Marcham's Community Leisure Facilities. It was a lovely route on the Jubilee Footpaths around Marcham, and we ended with juice and cakes on the village green. We were pleased with the financial result of our efforts.

BARBARA MICKLEM

Dear Editor

I would like to thank all your readers for their support of Anchor's Grey Pride Campaign.



Thanks to support from this region, our national petition calling for a Minister for Older People to help end the prejudices faced by the elderly has now been signed by more than 100,000 people.

Now that we have more than 100,000 signatures, it's more likely the campaign will be discussed in the House of Commons so we will be taking our campaign to 10 Downing Street on 28 November and I hope readers, young and old, who haven't signed the petition will do so online: www.greypride.org.uk

The campaign has already been supported by prominent voices, such as Richard Wilson, Tony Robinson and Anita Dobson. Leader of the Opposition, the Rt Hon Ed Miliband MP, has also shown his support, with the appointment of Ms Liz Kendall MP to the newly-created role of Shadow Minister for Care and Older People. A further 77 MPs have backed the call.

We are now calling on the Coalition Government to listen to our combined voices and appoint a Minister who can take responsibility for ensuring older people's issues are given the priority they deserve. We hope that a Minister will go some way to improve the lives of older people and help transform communities into better places to grow older.

Thank you for your support.

RUTH MANDER



ARE YOU READY?

Last year every household in the village and surrounding area received a copy of this booklet. With cold and harsh weather soon to be upon us, we urge each family to review the contents and act upon them to ensure that in an emergency you are prepared and able to cope. Please fill in the details and discuss the contents with each family member. Please read the I.C.E. section and make sure your numbers are entered into your mobile phone. The information in the booklet has been compiled using information gathered from previous emergencies and its guidance can be a real life saver.

Keep the booklet in a safe place and update and review the contents on a regular basis. **You know it makes sense.**

If you need a copy, contact Linda Martin, Clerk to Marcham Parish Council: 01865 391833 clerk@marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk

LITTER BLITZ

Sat Dec 3rd
from 9:30am

Meet at Sports & Social Club
on Anson Field, Marcham.

Call Malcolm Denton if
you need more information
391497

All Welcome

Singing is Good for You!

Come and enjoy a Christmas Singalong
With Christine Whild

Tuesday 13th December 10.00am
Carols and Christmas songs
Coffee and mince pies
62, North Street, Marcham
Ring 391270 for more details



**Marcham Guides, Cubs,
Brownies and Rainbows**

**Invite you to
O Come, O Come...
and join us in good tune with
young and old singers.**

Hark I hear you say, "When?"
On the night of Friday 9th December
We will gather at Parkside from 10
past seven, then go our merry way to
Sweetbriar for half past seven
A gathering there then will be at
eight o'clock at Duffield Place, in the
warmth of their meeting room.
Where we will rejoice before we
retire glad in the knowledge of
spreading Good Cheer.



ANSON TRUST UPDATE ON REPLACEMENT COMMUNITY FACILITIES

Following the consultations undertaken by the Anson Trust and Taylor Wimpey in September, the Trust has been progressing the proposals for the community facilities. These have included:

- Discussing transitional arrangements with Taylor Wimpey to safeguard the provision of facilities during their development phase(s);
- Considering the landscape and design specifications for the new Community facilities;
- Considering the landscape and design specifications for the retained open space at the Anson Field (the cricket pitch side);
- Meeting with and continuing to meet with local community groups to understand their criteria for the replacement facilities;
- Resolving the delivery of the replacement community facilities.

Notwithstanding the above, the Trust is keen to finalise the specification of the community hall and we would invite you all to contribute your ideas and suggestions. We would also like to confirm that your participation in this is not being viewed as being in support of the planning applications or of the principle of the proposals but are being used to understand what facilities you want in Marcham, how you want to use them and how you want to manage them. We can confirm that our responses will be shared with the MCG and the Community Led Plan steering group to help them with their own respective activities. In other words, your efforts will not be wasted no matter how events turn out.

With regard to the retained half of the Anson Field, the Trust has already sought to initiate discussions with the Parish Council about securing this open space for the village and your thoughts on how this space could be used and landscaped would be welcomed. Following receipt of any comments we will complete a design specification for our architects and consultants that will achieve a deliverable scheme within prescribed budgets, that incorporates as many of your requirements as possible, includes sustainable technologies, considers "in-life" maintenance and will be self

funding in the long term.

We shall then present our designs at our joint Anson Trust and Taylor Wimpey consultation event in early 2012 for your review. In the meantime, we will be pleased to respond to any questions that you may have and we look forward to collating your feedback – so please take a moment over the next few days to fill in the **form at the back of this issue of MADNews** or email your ideas and suggestions to us at ansontrustmarcham@yahoo.co.uk.

ANSON TRUST ACCOUNTS

The Anson Trust company (the Arthur Anson Memorial Trust Limited) has received the final accounts for the year ended 31.12.2010 and these have been submitted to Companies House. In accordance with the Directors' policy of providing as much information about the Trust as possible to parishioners, the full accounts are being made available on the MAD News website (and on the Trust's website www.ansontrust.org).

For those who do not have access to the website or find detailed accounts difficult to follow, the principal figures are noted below:-

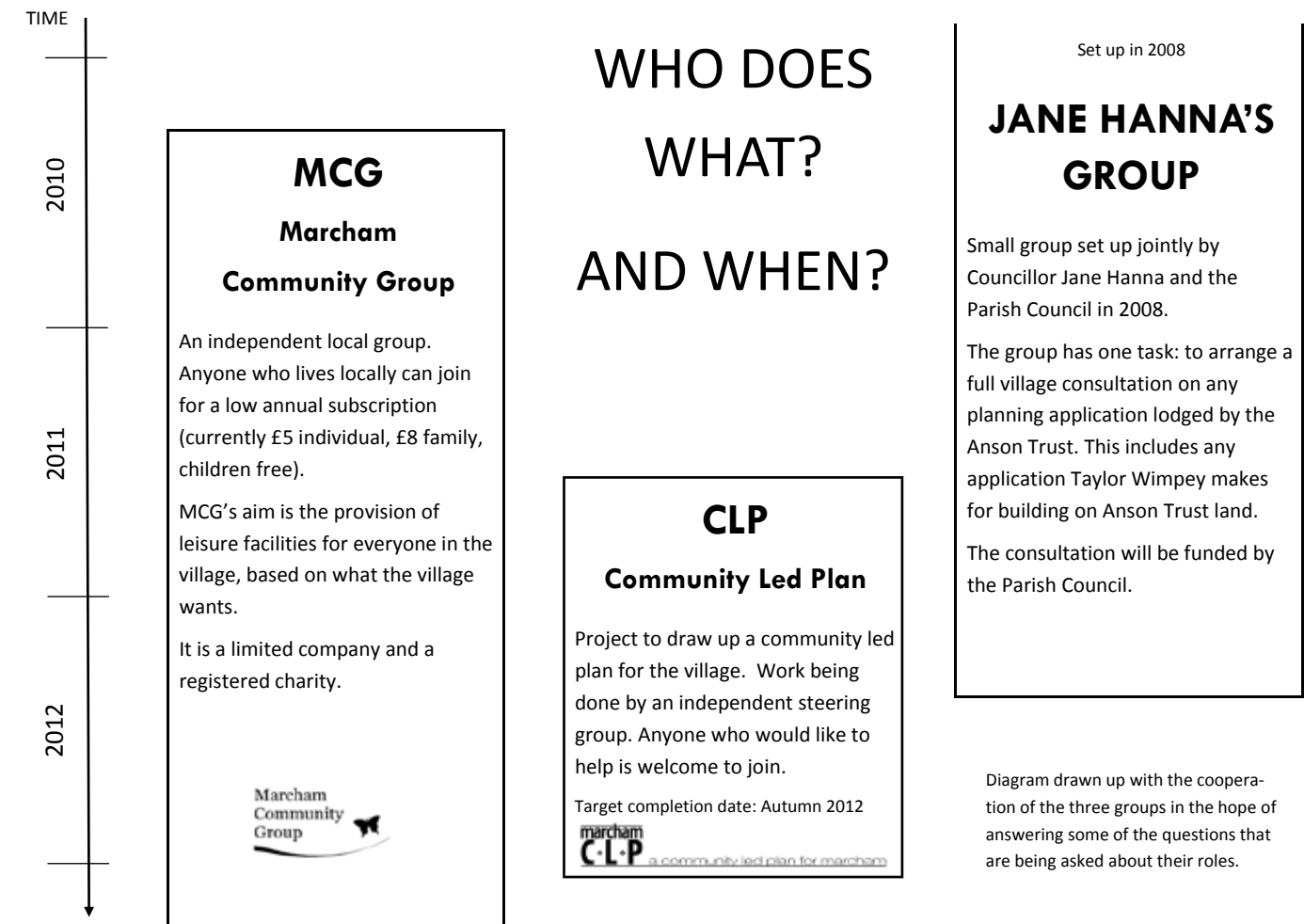
Anson Field	Income	£17,298
	Expenditure	£21,374
Institute	Income	£6,754
	Expenditure	£5,726
Trust operations	Income	£4,154
	Expenditure	£11,402

This means the Trust made a 'loss' of £10,296 in 2010.

Even if expenditure, which could be attributed to the Trust's future scheme (£554 – consisting of legal fees and charges for the hire of the school hall) were excluded, the 'loss' would still amount to over £9,500. The figures demonstrate that the present situation is unsustainable and that radical action is required.

Anyone wishing to see the full accounts, but who does not have web access, can obtain a paper copy from the Company Secretary, Louise Butt. 8 Hyde Copse, Marcham OX13 6PT ansontrustmarcham@yahoo.co.uk

Are you confused about all the organisations asking you for opinions on village facilities? This might help!



ED VAIZEY WRITES...

It's been a busy month in the constituency. I've met with the Headteachers of all the secondary schools in my constituency to talk about all the issues they are facing. We are lucky to have five excellent secondary schools which achieve outstanding results – though they are all ambitious to do more. I recently presented awards at **TRAIN**, a youth project which helps provide activities for teenagers in Didcot. I have made donations to TRAIN in the past and I really admire the work they do. I spoke to the kids at Faringdon Community College about politics and talked about internet safety to a number of primary and secondary schools at an event in Oxford. I met with a group of farmers to hear the issues affecting them; and I visited the bomb disposal heroes stationed at Didcot's Vauxhall Barracks, and made a donation to the **Felix Fund**, a new charity set up to provide R&R for soldiers from the Regiment coming back from Afghanistan.



There are a number of railway issues I am pursuing: controversy in Steventon over changes to the level crossing, which would mean it was operated from Swindon; and the number of reserved seats on commuter services between London and Didcot (too many!)

There are a number of national schemes recently announced which could be of use, so I thought I would tell you about them.

The **Money for Life Challenge** is a scheme which provides money management skills to students in further education and to community groups. So, if you know an institution or group that would be interested then please visit their website at www.moneyforlifeprogramme.org.uk/.

I'd also like to let you know about an initiative that the **Heritage Lottery Fund** is launching across the UK. With Remembrance Sunday just passed and the centenary of World War One fast approaching (2014), the HLF have set up a fund to support new memorials commemorating the sacrifices of men and women during the Great War. I can think of many people who would jump at the chance to commemorate the service of men and women in our towns and villages– so please visit the HLF website at www.hlf.org.uk/FirstWorldWar to see if there is an opportunity for a World War One scheme in your community.

I'm also proud to say that the **Olympic torch** will be passing though. The Torch relay route has been painstakingly worked out so that 90% of the UK's population will be within ten miles of the route. It starts at Land's End in Cornwall and will even visit Jersey and Guernsey; and on day 52 of the relay, which will be July 10th, the torch will come out of Abingdon, pass close to Didcot and make a stop in Wallingford! And for those of you who will not be able to make it on that date there will also be a stop in Swindon on May 23rd and also an 'Evening Celebration' in Oxford on the July 9th.

I also recently launched **Festival 2012**, the arts festival that will accompany the Olympics. There are loads of great events, but one in particular I think you should be aware of and participate in – '**All the Bells**'. As the website says "We need you to make musical history. Help us ring all the bells in the UK on 27 July 2012 to welcome the London 2012 Olympic & Paralympic Games. At 8.00am people all across the UK will ring bells to perform Martin Creed's Work No. 1197: All the bells in a country rung as quickly and as loudly as possible for three minutes, a piece specially commissioned as part of the London 2012 Festival – the culmination of the four-year Cultural Olympiad. "Hand bells, door bells, bicycle bells, church bells, town hall bells, sleigh bells, cow bells, school bells, last orders bells, dinner bells... where there is a bell, we need someone to ring it!" Please visit www.allthebells.com to take part.

ED VAIZEY, MP Wantage and Didcot (Con)
December 2011

MP'S SURGERY WITH ED VAIZEY

5.30-7.00pm, unless stated otherwise

Dec 9th	Wantage , Civic Hall, OX12 9BX
Jan 20th	Faringdon , Pump Rooms, SN7 7HL
Contact Ed Vaizey MP by	
Post	The House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA
E-mail	vaizeye@parliament.uk
Web	www.vaizey.com
Tel	0207 219 6350

POLICE NEWS

On the 7th November there were 3 thefts from vehicles in Marcham. This was in Longfields, Hyde Copse and Haines Court. Vehicles were broken into and various objects were stolen. At this time nobody is sought in connection with these crimes however if any residents have something to report please call **101 (NEW non-emergency number)**. As these incidents can happen at any time it would be a good idea for residents to either join Community Messaging or Neighbourhood Watch. These are great deterrents of crime as residents are informed of crime that has happened in the area and also brings the community together as residents are able to communicate with each other, keep each other updated and even keep eyes out for each others property.

If you would like to join Community Messaging or Neighbourhood Watch please contact either carly.milward@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk or carol.rudd@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk.

PCSO Carly Milward has recently trained to become a Crime Reduction Advisor, if any residents require crime reduction advice on their property; vehicles etc please let Carly know by calling 101. Due to the recent theft from motor vehicles in Marcham it is strongly advised that tools left in vehicles overnight should be stored elsewhere and locked away, and where possible putting up 'no tools stored in this vehicle overnight' stickers, available either from the neighbourhood team or from Abingdon Police Station. This time of the year before Christmas is where crime trends tend to soar, especially burglaries/ theft from motor vehicles etc, please be extra vigilant and **report any suspicious behaviour on 101**. The Neighbourhood Team wishes everyone a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Have your say...police surgery

- Wednesday 14th December 1800-2000
Wootton Office

PCSO Carly Milward C6157

Abingdon Outer Neighbourhood Team

NAG7 Marcham, Wootton, Shippon and Boars Hill

NEW Non-emergency number: 101

(was 0845 8 505 505)

www.thamesvalley.police.uk

Abingdon Police Station, Colwell Drive OX14 1AU



Do something amazing today – give blood

96% of us rely on the other 4% to give blood. Please don't leave it to someone else. Most people can give blood. If you are generally in good health, age 17 to 65 (if it's your first time) and weigh at least 7st 12lb you can donate. You can give blood every 16 weeks, that's approximately every four months.

www.blood.co.uk 0300 123 23 23



15th November
TOTALS TO DATE

Local Events
£3231.00

Donations
£3552.00

Membership
283

Bank Balance
£7,012.22

5p Coins
2164

It's your village

This is being written before the MCG Open Meeting on 24th November but you will be reading it after the meeting has taken place. After years of inaction on village facilities things are certainly moving very fast:

- ◆ Taylor Wimpey say they will be holding a second consultation event in January /February on revised proposals.
- ◆ The Vale District Council is proposing a drastic relaxation of planning regulations. By the time you read this you will have missed the very brief consultation period but you can see the draft proposals on the Vale website www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk under 'Draft Interim Housing Supply Policy'.

MCG believes that everyone who lives locally should be in a position to take an informed view of the Taylor Wimpey proposals. At the meeting the committee will have put forward its understanding of the situation and the issues and options. One major concern is that Taylor Wimpey says it will be applying for full planning permission for a proposed new community building but that the community at large has not been engaged in the design process. There is now not much time for people to consider what new activities there could be in a new building or what facilities it should have. Those at the meeting will have been asked for their views.

To follow on from the meeting, and for those unable to get to it, we are holding a family afternoon on Sunday 4th December. Details are below. Come and plan your own village hall and say what you want it to be like. MCG will collect all the responses and has arranged to pass them on.

MCG FAMILY AFTERNOON - PROPOSED VILLAGE DEVELOPMENTS
SUNDAY 4TH DECEMBER 1.30 - 4.30 PM SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB
PLAN YOUR OWN HALL CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES REFRESHMENTS
ALL WELCOME - COME AND FIND OUT MORE

NEXT EVENTS

Thursday 22nd December

CAROLS

3.30—4.30 pm Duffield Place tea & mince pies 7.00 pm Sweetbriar mulled wine & mince pies
 8.00 pm The Black Horse 9.00 pm The Crown
 Come and join in Everyone welcome

Saturday 21st January

BURNS NIGHT

3 course meal & entertainment
 Early booking essential £20 per head
 Tickets from Denise Asher Please phone 391727
 Proceeds to MCG

MCG is now a registered charity. Registered number: 1144407

FAMILY EVENT PLAN YOUR OWN HALL REFRESHMENTS MSSCC 1.30 - 4.30 PM SUN 4TH DEC.



Marcham WI December 2011

Our meeting in November was very well attended and the talk about Antiques was presented with great style and eloquence by Christine Whild. She showed us a few of her prized possessions, with interesting stories and anecdotes. We raised some money during the evening towards the Denman Fund for a new Central Heating Boiler. After refreshment, there was a short quiz about musical instruments.

NEXT MEETING

7.30 pm Thursday 15 December 2011
Denman College

Carole Richardson will talk on Russian Fairytales
The "crafty" ones among us are encouraged to create
"Your own Russian Headdress" Sounds Fun!

There will be a bring and share Christmas Buffet and we are invited to contribute to a bran tub with a small present for another person, "Secret Santa" in action, obviously!

Some future events at County level

5 Dec Christmas Songs, Oxford Town Hall
27 Jan Poultry Day, Aston Village Hall
17 Feb Beginners Patchwork, OFWI Office Tackley

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

Visitors and New Members made very welcome
Come and join us - We are a very active Group!

STOP PRESS :: STOP PRESS :: STOP PRESS
Congratulations to Marcham WI's Team O
for winning the Drayton Quiz

MARCHAM SOCIETY MIDWEEK WALK

Thursday, December 1st.

This short winter walk will explore the quiet fields and waterways in and around Eynsham. We will meet at the Talbot Inn (Map Ref SP440089) which overlooks Eynsham Wharf Stream and lies on the B4044 just beyond the Swinford Toll Bridge, at 12.30 for lunch or 1.30 for the start of the 3 mile walk. Members free, non-members £1. New walkers always welcome. Ring Eric Dunford on 391439 for lifts and further details.



MARCHAM SOCIETY MEETING, 8 NOVEMBER

A large audience greeted Martin Buckland when he arrived in boatman's dress to talk about the restoration of the Wilts & Berks Canal.

The canal opened in 1810 and ran for 52 miles from the Kennet & Avon Canal near Melksham to the Thames at Abingdon. Like other canals, it declined after the introduction of railways and was finally closed by Act of Parliament in 1914. This Act has caused problems with restoration of the canal, as it enabled the land on which it ran to be sold off. A certain town called Swindon did not exist in 1810 and the original route of the canal ran along part the shopping centre and through the "magic roundabout"! So, some alterations to the route have been made and individual landowners approached for permission for the canal to pass through their property.

Dedicated volunteers have and continue to put in many hours of hard work in restoring bridges, locks, slipways and several stretches of canal. In 2006, a short length was cut as a link into the Thames near Abingdon and it is already proving popular

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with wildlife. If Thames Water ever build a new reservoir, they must pay for the canal to be constructed around it, as the original ran straight through the middle of the proposed site.

Towpaths are very popular with walkers and several of these have already been installed - there is one at Childrey. So, even if the completion of the Wilts & Berks may be a long time coming, we can still enjoy walking along parts of the route. **JF**

MARCHAM CRICKET CLUB

Please contact Trevor Hill (391321) for general information relating to the Club and for information regarding playing and umpiring for Marcham CC in the 2012 Season. **CSB**



MARCHAM PLAYERS

This is a final call for our Christmas Concert on Friday 2 December at 7.30pm in All Saints Church, Marcham at 7.30pm in conjunction with The Vale Singers. Tickets are just £5 with free admission for under 12s and the price includes drinks and mince pies in the interval. Come with the family and join us for an evening of Christmas carols and readings, both seasonal and comedic. Tickets can be obtained from Cheryl Sewell 01865 391200 or Dave Hutchinson on 01865 391964 or on the door on the night.



We held a most successful "With Great Pleasure" evening at Manor Farm on 28 October when the evening was themed, not surprisingly, around Ghosts. There were a mixture of readings plus a few "real life" experiences which all provoked considerable debate and thought. A most enjoyable evening but I did notice no-one seemed to walk home alone! Thanks to all who contributed!

Finally, just an early notification of the Annual General Meeting which will be held on Friday 17 February 2012 in All Saints Church, Marcham. Further details will be circulated in due course but all are welcome. Any enquiries regarding "Marcham Players" please contact either Cheryl Sewell on 01865 391200 or Dave Hutchinson on 01865 391964.

www.marchamplayers.co.uk



MADAGRAMS by Jay

Is Your Road Hidden Here??

SEEDY CHOP



TONING FORD KA'S
(includes initial of village)

A UK'S EVENING

Answers from last month...

HAT PEG = THE GAP



WE ARE SOLD = ELWES ROAD



CHAPEL'S NEAR, OK = PACKHORSE LANE

MARCHAM BAPTIST CHURCH

Keyboard player required for
Sunday Morning Services at 10:30am.

(1 to 1 1/2 hours duration).

Remuneration by agreement.

Please contact

Mrs. Janet Lay (01865 390417).

If you are holding an event within
or near the MADNews area,
please contact the editor for more publicity!
01865 391725 or editor@madnews.co.uk

MARCHAM BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

We meet on Tuesdays at the back of the church, 10 - 11.30am. The first visit is free, then just £2 per family each week. There is a drink and biscuit for the children and a warming cup of tea or coffee for the grown-ups, and a friendly welcome for all. **Do come and join us!**

MARCHAM PRE-SCHOOL NEWS

It's never too early to register..

Marcham Pre-school Playgroup can offer flexible attendance between 8.55am - 3pm, Monday to Friday

Do you need childcare before or after these times? We have linked up with a local Nursery and Childminder who are planning to be here and are happy to discuss any additional childcare needs.

For more information please ring 01865 392101 or e:mail marcham-preschool@hotmail.co.uk.



MARCHAM AND DISTRICT

XMAS DRAW

TICKETS NOW ON SALE AT 50p PER SQUARE.
DRAW ON DECEMBER 17th

CELEBRATE INTO THE NEW YEAR WITH

“NOW & THEN”

LIVE MUSIC KEYBOARD/GUITAR DUO
MUSIC FROM 60S TO PRESENT DAY

Doors Open 8.30

CHRISTMAS BAR PRICE REDUCTION
BEGINS ON DRAW NIGHT 17th December
Members and Bona Fide Guests Only

EX SERVICEMEN'S CLUB



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

Please remember there is a sports fixture almost every Saturday afternoon & you are welcome to join us after the game for a drink.

We are also open every Friday night from 8pm. Families are welcome. Note the last Friday in the month is always a real ale night.

Christmas Quiz
Fri 9th Dec at 8.30

Cricket Club Christmas Raffle
Sat 17th Dec at 6.30 (after football)

Thanks to members who attended the AGM & to the Anson Trust for taking part in a very useful question & answer session. We will continue discussions with the Anson Trust & keep members informed regarding developments

For more information tel: 391577
email geoff.dix@hotmail.com

“We look forward to seeing you at the club”
For more info contact Geoff Dix, secretary
on 391577 or geoff.dix@hotmail.com
We look forward to seeing you at the club

Marcham Post Office

Open daily 9am - 1pm

Christmas times

Friday 23rd Dec 9am - 1pm Sun 1st Jan Closed
Sat 24th Dec Closed Mon 2nd Jan Closed
Sun 25th Dec Closed Tues 3rd Jan Back To Normal
Mon 26th Dec Closed
Tues 27th Dec Closed
Sat 31st Dec Closed

Last posting dates for UK
1st class: 20 Dec / 2nd class: 17 Dec

Local free range eggs for sale
Selection of 2nd hand books

Anne wishes you
a Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year



ABINGDON LITTLE ANGELS

This month the little angels have been busy looking at shapes, particularly, circles, squares and triangles the children have been looking at street signs and searched for different shapes around the nursery, eg plates, wheels and cups for circles, bricks and tables for squares. The children have created their own collages of shapes and incorporated shaped puzzles, drawings and constructions.



Abingdon Little Angels
building blocks for life

The after school club has continued to grow and this month they have enjoyed experimenting and making pizza, building a bus and becoming hairdressers for the session, painting, drawing etc and helping to make a great Pudsey bear poster for our quiz night. We have ensured that the children have a fun time and this month has certainly allowed the children to develop and make their own choices.

We have had fun this month with the parents by raising £117.00 for Children in Need with a quiz night in the sports and social club, this was really well attended and everybody had good fun. A big thank you to all our angels who supported us to raise money for this special children who need our help. If you would like any further information about Abingdon Little Angels please feel free to call in or telephone us on 07516 474287 or at info@abingdonlittleangels.co.uk.



MARCHAM SCHOOL
CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Friday 2nd December 6-8 pm

- Food and Drink
- Christmas gifts
- Tombola, Raffle and Bingo
- Nail and Face Painting
- WI Homemade Gifts
- ... and MORE

Children FREE
Adults £2 includes a mince pie and mulled wine, tea or coffee

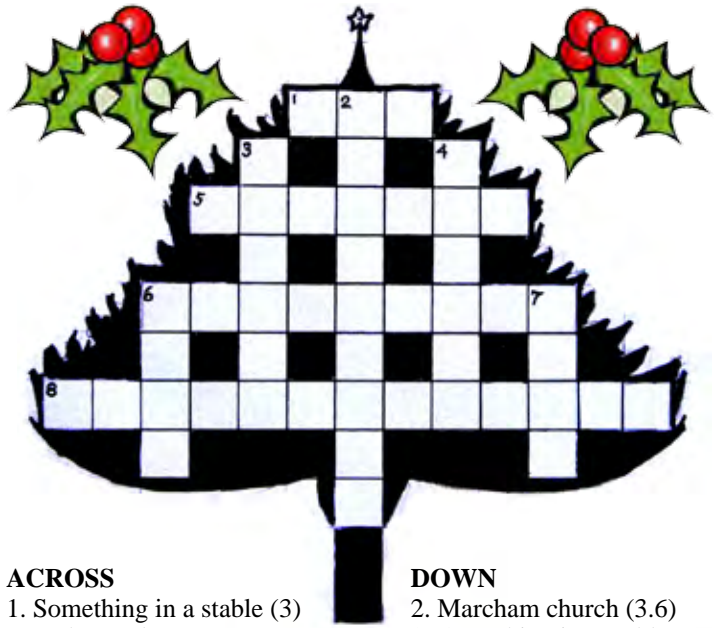


Marcham School PTA thanks you for your support

TOP TIPS FOR ONLINE SHOPPING FROM OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S TRADING STANDARDS SERVICE

- Make sure the company behind the website provides a full street address for their business, not just a Post Office or mail box number. Try its UK landline phone number. Be wary of buying from a site that only gives an email address or mobile phone number. Just because a website ends in .co.uk it does not necessarily mean that it is based in the UK.
- If you wish to deal with a UK company, check the web address via a 'WHOIS' website such as Nominet. This should give a UK address as the registrant.
- Check for spelling and grammatical errors.
- Read the terms and conditions - inadequate terms and conditions imply the site may not be as it seems.
- Put the website name into a search engine such as Google or Ask to see what you can find out.
- Genuine sites often state what the counterfeit sites are and to avoid them.
- Secure site providers such as VeriSign or McAfee SECURE are there to protect your sensitive information, such as transaction details, and ensure you are not redirected to a scam website. Where websites claim to be secured by them and others, click on the symbol to ensure they are genuine, since scammers are putting up fake ones. On the VeriSign symbol, it should show the current time, date and give the specific website address you are viewing and that the site has been scanned for malicious software. McAfee SECURE trustmarks should take you to the verification page showing the subscribing merchant name and show the current date. For more details on these and other secure site providers, look on their websites.
- Make sure that 'https:' begins the webpage address at the top of your screen before you key in your credit card information at checkout. That final 's' at the end of http means that a secure, encrypted connection is in place between your computer's browser, eg Internet Explorer, and the website you're visiting. If you don't see the final 's' starting the address when checkout time occurs, stop the transaction.
- Visit Brand-i, a shopping directory that only lists webstores selling genuine products.

DECEMBER CROSSWORD BY ALISA



ACROSS

1. Something in a stable (3)
5. Where sleepers get run over (7)
6. Event on the 22nd (3.6)
8. Lucky birds produce them (4.5.4)

DOWN

2. Marcham church (3.6)
3. Something in a stable (6)
4. Temporary release (6)
6. Encouter (4)
7. Herb for a wise man (4)

SEND-A-COW NEWS

I have, in the last two months, introduced you to the Charity Send-a-Cow. Here are some practical "presents" that you could give to very hard pressed African families in rural communities.



For £6 - A Rabbit - because they breed - like rabbits! and provide exceptional food.

For £20 - Four Chickens - 200 eggs a year, a vital source of protein and an income too.

For £45 - A Beehive - To harvest airbourne bounty, and for the family to sell wax and honey.

If you are well off, how about giving a Cow - The original and best of all presents, at £750.. Milk to drink, to pay for schooling and medicine, and manure for the land.

And, say you have just received an inheritance - Give a complete farmyard for £2000 !!!

There are lots of other "gifts" in the 2011 Catalogue.

Ring Christine Whild on 391270 and I will drop one round.

- And yes, I've really been to Jesus' birthplace,
- Seeing the shepherd's fields that He'd have seen,
- And Oh your Daddy hated crackers, too!
- And it's quite true I am a gravy Queen!
- To bigger souls I can be really useful,
- To ferry (sober me) or baby-sit,
- I bring a cake that's luscious, iced and ready,
- And sew those dolls clothes to a perfect fit.



Come, listen to "Nine lessons" while we're baking,
And celebrate those sounds and tastes and scents,
There's such a lot to cherish and remember,
for everything that Christmas represents.

So Welcome Yule, don't tire of December,
No matter just how many you've been through,
Become the ancient weaver of this magic,
Through younger eyes, you'll relish it anew.

Christine Whild December 2011.

A Community Led Plan for Marcham

The Community Led Plan group is continuing with the work that is needed to create the questionnaire. We hope to be able to distribute the final questionnaire to every household in Marcham some time in March/April of next year. The Community Led Plan itself should then be ready by Autumn 2012.

We are also still collecting issues that could be included in the questionnaire. If you have views about what you like in the village or how it could be improved, then please collect a **green** form from the Post Office (on the table to the left as you go in the door) and fill it in at your leisure. The completed forms can be posted back to us in the box that is next to the blank forms. Who knows, if other people in

Marcham feel the same way then your idea or suggestion could be the start of something big. We will be closing this part of the village consultation at the end of December 2011.

For more information
or to volunteer to help,
please contact:

Jim Asher (tel 01865 391727) or
David Walton (tel: 01865 391239)

ABINGDON ACTIVITIES FOR CHRISTMAS

Thursday 1st December

Christmas Extravaganza, Abingdon Town Centre from 5pm
A traditional evening of late night shopping & entertainment with a theme of Kings & Queens.
Parade at 6:45, lights turned on at 7:00 by Nicola Blackwood MP, prize giving & fireworks at 8:15. Music & entertainment throughout the evening.

Saturday 10th December

Abingdon Market Place 10am - 3pm
Father Christmas will be visiting Abingdon, bringing 2 of his live reindeer with him. Professional photographer, roasted chestnuts & Christmas trees for sale

Saturday 17th December

Nativity in the Market place 10am - 3pm,
The Church in Abingdon will remind us of the real spirit of Christmas. come & feed the donkeys. Music from the sea cadet band & a cake sale by Dunmore Pre School

Saturday 24th December

Abingdon Market place 9am - 3pm
Last minute shopping service. We will be offering general shopping advice & a gift wrapping service.

BUY FROM AMAZON AND HELP MADNEWS

MADNews has registered as an Amazon Associate and gets 5% commission on anything bought through the link on the MADNews website – www.madnews.co.uk.

Every little helps towards the upkeep of the duplicator, the cost of printing, the colour cover, envelopes, stamps etc. It's easy, just click on the link, and then use Amazon in your normal way.

RECYCLE YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE

E & R Goff Newsagents, will be offering a Christmas Tree collection service to the people of Marcham this year. People can contact us on 01235 553001 to book a collection which will be made during the first week of January. The trees collected will then be recycled. We will also be offering the service in Drayton, Steventon, Shippon & Milton.

December 2011



CRIMESTOPPERS - HELPS YOU FIGHT CRIME

Some people with information about crime or criminals don't want to get involved with police. They may know something about a family member, neighbour, or work colleague they may be afraid of reprisals. But those fears and concerns need not stop them reporting what they know. By calling the independent Crimestoppers charity on 0800 555 111 can pass on information anonymously. No caller is asked for their name and no call is traced or recorded. But the information received through Crimestoppers does help to solve crime.

Since Crimestoppers was set up in the Thames Valley in 1999, 16,000 callers have given valuable intelligence anonymously and as a result more than 1,800 people have been arrested and charged. Their offences ranged from murder, arson and serious assault to drink driving, theft and vandalism. The largest number of calls is about drug dealing which still remains a major problem. Nationally, an average of 19 arrests are made each day and one person four days is charged with murder – all as a direct result of anonymous calls to Crimestoppers.

In many cases, the piece of information given by an anonymous caller is the final piece jigsaw of intelligence and the police rate the material provided from Crimestoppers as being very significant to them.

Of course it is always best to speak directly to the police, to make a statement and willing to appear in court as a witness. But it is a fact that many people don't want get involved so, for them, Crimestoppers 0800 555 111 is the alternative to speaking the police. Whatever the situation, the police can't solve crime alone and those who Crimestoppers 0800 555 111 anonymously are helping to make communities safer.

More information can be obtained from

www.crimestoppers-uk.org

and there is a special web site for young people:

www.shadowcs.co.uk

RUSH HOCKEY

Do you love the rush of a team sport, but never find the time to commit to one? Come and try Rush Hockey which is fast, furious and fun! Whether you join as a team or an individual, have played hockey before or are new to the sport come along in your sportswear ready to have fun! All equipment will be provided! Tasters will run Wednesday 18 and 25 January and 1 February at Tilsley Park from 8.00-9.00pm costing £3 per person. For more information please contact Cath Dale, Shared Participation Officer on 01235 540367 or Cath.Dale@southandvale.gov.uk

Marcham Baptist Church

(Packhorse Lane)

December 2011



**Sunday Morning Worship
at 10.30 am**

(Communion every first Sunday)

Our Speakers for December are:-

Dec. 4th Miss Janet Quarry of Abingdon

Dec. 11th Mr. Keith Mersh (one of our members)

Dec. 18th 10:30am - Mr. Paul Revell of Cholsey Baptist Church



Come and sing your favourite carols as we

Celebrate Christmas

Followed by seasonal refreshments in the Church Hall

Everyone welcome

*Glory to God in the highest and on earth
peace to men on whom his favour rests*

Luke 2 v14

No room at the Inn.....?

A story is told of a little boy who was to play the part of the Innkeeper in the annual Christmas play at his church. Each time during the rehearsal it came time for him to tell Joseph and Mary that there was no room, he couldn't say his lines. The director finally asked him why he was having so much trouble. He told him, "I just can't send Jesus away! He can have my room!"

The scene is in a stable; Mary and Joseph and a wooden manger before them in which the baby Jesus is lying; around them are shepherds with their canes and with some sheep beside them.

It is a scene that is unmistakable. A scene that is recognised, even in our secularised society, inextricably linked with the Christmas season and all its hype and activity. A scene that speaks to us of God's willingness to become involved in every aspect of our lives, to enter our homes, our hearts, and our neighbourhoods. But does it do more than fill a space in our very busy lives, full of activity as they so often are? Does it provide us with the chance to stop, think and reflect on the real meaning of Christmas?

The answer is, of course, "Only if we are prepared to make room **ourselves** for the Christ to enter in..."

Is there room in your home, your life and your heart for Him?

Rev. Bory Pilgrim

For further information on church activities:

Contact Mr R Barrett 01865 391356
Mr W Dyer 01235 814986

Marcham Baptist is affiliated to the Baptist Union of Great Britain



All Saints' and St. Luke's Parish Page

Dear Friends,

Prophets foretold His coming hundreds of years before His birth, and yet ...

He was born away from home, in the most humble of circumstances, and yet ...

shepherds were awestruck, wealthy astrologers from distant lands brought Him expensive gifts and honoured Him, angelic choirs heralded His birth and worshipped Him.

And yet ... within weeks He was a refugee with his parents in Egypt, to escape a brutal killing of innocent children by a fanatical and threatened ruler.

And yet ... over 2000 years later many millions of people all over the world, from every walk of life, culture and nationality honour His birth and refer to Him as 'Saviour' and 'Lord'. Emmanuel – 'God with us'.

This Christmas discover more about Jesus.

We warmly invite you to our celebration services,
the details of which are in the next column.

I wish you, and those you love, a truly joyful Christmas and a peace-filled New Year.

With my warmest greetings,

Revd Richard Zair

Prayer for the Month:

Almighty God and Father,
Thank you for the amazing event of the birth of Christ.
Help us to understand more about Jesus, and why He is so important to our world today. Help us to unwrap the greatest gift of all, and know the security of your love in this very uncertain world in which we live.
For His name's sake, Amen.

NEW!! - Special Christmas Tree Event

Youth & children's organisations in the village are decorating Christmas Trees, which will be on display in All Saints' over the Christmas period. Please join us for a short "lighting up" service on Friday December 9th at 6.30 pm. All welcome. Refreshments afterwards.

DECEMBER calendar:

Sat 3rd Dec: Men's Breakfast 8.30 am at the Sports, Scouts & Social Club

Fri 9th Dec: Special Christmas Tree Event 6.30 pm at All Saints' (see box at bottom of the page)

Wed 14th Dec: Christmas Village Café – carols from 11.30 am, followed by Christmas dinner at the Sports, Scouts & Social Club. To help with catering, please let the café team know if you are planning to attend.

Christmas Services at All Saints:

Carols by Candlelight: Sun. 18th Dec at 6.00 pm

Crib Service: Sat 24th Dec at 4.00 pm

Midnight HC service: Sat 24th at 11.00 pm

Christmas Day: Holy Communion at 8.00 am

Christmas Day: Family Communion at 10.00 am

[Please note that there will not be an evening service on Christmas Day.]

Christmas Services at St. Luke's, Garford:

Carols by Candlelight: Sun 18th at 4.00 pm

Christmas Day: Family Communion at 10.30 am

Please note:

Sunday Jan 1st: A shared service with St. Mary's, Shippon – 10 am, All Saints'. There will be no evening service that day.

Parish People:

A Memorial Service took place at St. Luke's Garford on 29 November to give thanks for and to celebrate the life of Mrs. Jean Ethel (Paddy) Dawson, formerly of Garford.

Regular services:

Sundays at All Saints': 10 am and 6 pm
(8 am first Sunday)

Wednesdays: 10.30 am Holy Communion
at Duffield Place

Sundays at St. Luke's: 10.30 am (resuming Jan 15th)

Contacts:

Rev. Richard Zair 391319 (r_zair@yahoo.co.uk)

Jill Rowe *Youth and Children's Minister* 07811 165351

Chris Nutman *Churchwarden* 01235 521698

Deborah Flint *Churchwarden* 391056

Janey Cumber *Administrator* 391327

Jenny Warwick *PCC Secretary* 392076

Tick as applicable

To help us collate your responses please indicate next to your suggestions which "area" they relate to

1 2 3

1 = New Community Centre

2 = New Sports Pitches

3 = The Anson Field

STRICTLY OPTIONAL

If you want to provide us with your name and contact details please enter them here:

Name:

Telephone No. and/or Email Address:

**PLEASE REMEMBER THAT YOU CAN ADD MORE SUGGESTIONS ON ADDITIONAL SHEETS OF PAPER IF REQUIRED
PLEASE DO NOT FORGET TO RETURN YOUR FORMS BY 9TH DECEMBER 2011**



WHAT FACILITIES WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE PROVIDED?

We need your help to build as full a specification as possible for the following facilities in Marcham. We have posed some questions to get you started but please feel free to make any suggestions that you want to.

A New Community Centre – What facilities do you want within the building? What sort of activities or sports would you use it for? How (and how often) would you use any bar/recreational area?

New Sports Pitches – We are proposing to provide a football pitch and cricket pitch to Sport England standards. Would you like and use a Multi Use Games Area? What other sports would you like to see catered for? Subject to certain restrictions in terms of timing, would you want floodlighting to make them useable all year round? Do you have any other ideas for the remaining open space around the pitches and community centre?

The retained Anson Field – Would you like the landscaping of the retained playground / cricket pitch side improved and if so how? What sort of youth facilities would you like it to have?

This form is not just about what the Anson Trust is hoping to provide – your responses will also be shared with both the MCG and the Community Led Plan steering group. In other words, it is all about canvassing your opinions to ensure that whatever is built/provided meets Marcham’s needs both now and throughout the rest of this century.

When completing the form please consider not only what **YOU** (*either individually, as a family or as a member of a group or organisation in Marcham*) would like to see provided but also what you think **OTHERS** in the community would like to see provided, especially those in the village who may not be able to complete the form for themselves?

Please can we have your completed forms returned to us by 9th December?

These can be delivered to us by dropping them off at the following locations: **The village Post Office, the office at Marcham Primary School and 8 Hyde Copse, Marcham, Oxon., OX13 6PT**. Please feel free to attach additional pages of suggestions if you want or, if you’d prefer, email all your suggestions to us at ansontrustmarcham@yahoo.co.uk.

Thank you for taking the time to help us and we look forward to sharing the results with you all in the New Year.

Tick as applicable			To help us collate your responses please indicate next to your suggestions which “area” they relate to
1	2	3	

1 = New Community Centre

2 = New Sports Pitches

3 = The Anson Field

Continued on the reverse side