

# Marcham & District News

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

Your Independent Local Newsheet – [www.madnews.co.uk](http://www.madnews.co.uk)



January 2013 Vol: 35 No: 1

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MADNews  
in  
2012



▼ Little Angels Nativity see page 11 ▼

▼ Marcham FC see page 13



Diary for January		
4 Fri	Deadline for comments on Zebra Crossing plan for Packhorse Lane	5
5 Sat	Zumba for Helen & Douglas House, Southmoor Village Hall, 10.00	Adverts 9
8 Tue	Singing, 62 North Street, 14.00-15.30	11
9 Wed	Marcham Parish Council Meeting, Duffield Place, 19.45 [Note Time]	5
10 Thu	Midweek Walk Swan Inn, Compton 12.30 Lunch :: 13.30 Walk	7
15 Tue	Mobile Library Duffield Place: 10.05, Sweetbriar: 10.20	7

15 Tue	Marcham Society, All Saints' Church, 19.45	7
17 Thu	Marcham WI, Denman College, 19.30	11
20 Sun	<b>Deadline for February MADNews, 17.00</b>	
22 Tue	Singing, 62 North Street, 14.00-15.30	11
24 Sun	BBOWT Winter Walk, Sydlings Copse, 10.00	13
26 Sat	Mr Playford's Delight, St Denys Church, Stanford-in-the-Vale, 19.30	Adverts 9
29 Tue	Mobile Library Duffield Place: 10.05, Sweetbriar: 10.20	7

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

Dear Readers

It's been an exciting year with a new shop, post office local, planning applications glaire and now plans for a zebra crossing...



I wonder what 2013 has in store for us? Wishing everyone a very happy New Year.

Until next time

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

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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.

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Call Free from any phone - 111

**POLICE**

PCSO Carly Milward C6517

Call 101 (non-emergency)

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Marcham and Shippon

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4 Charlton Road, Wantage OX12 8ER

Tel: 01235 772782

Email: [janehanna63@googlemail.com](mailto:janehanna63@googlemail.com)

For other councillors go to

[www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk](http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk)

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January 2013

**MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWS**

**A415 Proposed zebra crossing**

Initial discussion has been had with the County Council regarding the possibility of a crossing over the A415 from The Crown across to Mill Road. Sufficient funding seems to be available for a zebra crossing. The plan for the proposed crossing can be viewed on the Parish Council's website at [www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk), together with the formal notice for the proposal. Anyone with comments on the scheme can write to Mr. Lee Turner, Principal Traffic Technician, Oxfordshire County Council, Speedwell House, Speedwell Street, Oxford. OX1 1NE. Would anyone contacting the County Council please also let the Parish Council have your views by emailing [clerk@marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk), or telephoning 01865 391833

**The Priory**

Manor Oak Homes Ltd is proposing to build 19 houses on the field off Priory Lane adjacent to The Priory. The planning application can be viewed on the Vale of White Horse District Council's website under reference P/12/V2447/FUL. The Parish Council will be discussing the application at its meeting to be held on Wednesday 9th January, 2013 at 7.45 p.m. in the residents' lounge, Duffield Place. The Parish Council would encourage anyone with any views to write to the planning officer, Mr. S. Walker, at the Development Control Department, Vale of White Horse District Council, Abbey House, Abingdon, Oxon. OX14 3JE or by sending an email via the District Council's planning application section of its website. Residents' are also encouraged to let the Parish Council know their views contacting the parish clerk at [clerk@marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk). There will be a public participation section on the agenda at the Parish Council meeting on 9th January, and anyone wishing to address the Council is advised to contact the clerk by 9.00am. on the day of the meeting, either via the above email address or by telephoning 01865 391833.

**Council Tax 2013**

The Parish Council has started to consider its budget for 2013/14. However the current council tax benefit scheme is going to be replaced with a local council support scheme. The Department of Communities and Local Government is funding some of the change by way of a grant to the Vale of White Horse District Council. Government expects that Council to pass on a relevant proportion to parishes in their area, and to work with the local Parish Council. The Parish Council is waiting to see what effect

the changes will have on its budget, the parish precept and the amount of the Parish Council element of the council tax before finalising its budget.

**Parishioner of the Year Award**

The Parish Council back in 2003 discussed the giving of an annual award for community effort. This was to recognise the efforts of local people from anywhere within the parish who had contributed to local community life. Marcham Parish covers the wide area from the A420 in the north to the River Ock in the South and from the A338 in the West across to and including most of Gozzards Ford in the East. The Council gives the award to anyone who, at any time, has significantly contributed to life within the parish. Should there not be any appropriate nominations, then the award need not be made. The certificate is presented at the annual meeting for electors each year.

The scheme has been running for the past 9 years and the Council is again inviting nominations for the next award. There are many people who have devoted much time and energy giving to the community now or in the past, who would be worthy recipients, 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. All nominations to be received by 31 Jan 2013.

**Stay Warm and Well this Winter in Oxfordshire - see page 7**

The Vale of White Horse District Council has been awarded funding from the Department of Health to help vulnerable residents keep warm and well this Winter. An information helpline has been set up and advice can be sought by telephoning 0800 107 0044. Leaflets with details are available in the community shop. Please do think of your neighbours, make sure they are all right, and see whether they need assistance with anything.

**Additional rubbish**

Christmas is a time when we all seem to accumulate extra packaging and items for the recycling bin. Please take note of the re-arranged collection days over the holiday period. See page 5.

**Dog Faeces**

The quantities of dog faeces left around the village seems to be increasing. Would owners please clear up after their dogs and put the mess in the bins provided.

**Planning Applications**

The following planning applications have been considered by the Parish Council  
**P12/V2284/EX** Extension of time limit of P12/V0114/EX for the demolition of the existing bungalow and erection of 3 bed house. Rushey, Mill Road. The Council had no objections

**P12/V2348/FUL** Demolition of brick storage building. Proposed internal alterations to existing dwelling. Erection of new 2 bed dwelling. 25 Fettiplace Road. The Council objected owing to the impact on the street.

**Date of Next Council Meeting: Wednesday 9th January 2013** at 7.45 p.m. [NOTE CHANGED TIME] in the residents' lounge, at Duffield Place.

**Clerk to the Council:** Mrs. L. Martin, 90 Howard Cornish Rd, 01865 391833 clerk@marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk [www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk)

**The Chairman, Council members and Clerk wish everyone a happy new year..**

**Increase in rural crime**

In recent months there has been a steady increase in rural crime in the area. Horseboxes/trailers have been stolen from Wootton, Sunningwell and Boars Hill and there have been burglaries in Wootton, Dry Sandford, Whitecross and Marcham.

It is vitally important that residents report any suspicious behaviour and **report this to the Police** on the non-emergency number 101 or 999 if you think a theft or burglary is taking place. Times, vehicle details and descriptions of person/s should be passed via this number as soon as you see it, which could enable us to do checks on the person/s and vehicle/s involved.

Burglars take advantage of the dark winter nights so it is advised that when leaving your house unattended to make the premise look occupied. You can do this by keeping lights on, keeping a talking radio station on and speaking to neighbours and asking them to keep an eye out on the house. Any crime reduction advice can be given by PCSO Carly Milward C6517 on 101.

**PCSO Carly Milward C6517**  
**Abingdon Outer**  
**Neighbourhood Team**  
**NAG7 Marcham, Wootton,**  
**Shippon and Boars Hill**  
**Police Non-emergency**  
**number: 101**

January 2013

**HOLIDAY WASTE COLLECTIONS**

Normal day	Revised day	Which bin?
Monday 31 December	Wednesday 2 January	Green
Tuesday 1 January	Thursday 3 January	Green
Wednesday 2 January	Friday 4 January	Green
Thursday 3 January	Saturday 5 January *	Green
Friday 4 January	Monday 7 January	Green
Monday 7 January	Tuesday 8 January	Grey
Tuesday 8 January	Wednesday 9 January	Grey
Wednesday 9 January	Thursday 10 January	Grey
Thursday 10 January	Friday 11 January	Grey
Friday 11 January	Saturday 12 January *	Grey

**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.

**PACKHORSE LANE, MARCHAM, PROPOSED ZEBRA CROSSING**  
**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that Oxfordshire County Council as the local highway authority under the Road Traffic Regulations Act 1984 and all other enabling powers proposes to construct a zebra crossing at the following location to improve pedestrian safety when crossing Packhorse Lane:

i. Zebra crossing on Packhorse Lane, Marcham, 8.5m east of its junction with Mill Road. This location is within the 30mph speed limit.  
 \*All dimensions are approximate taken from the centre of the junction to centre of the feature.

A plan showing the proposal is available for inspection at the offices of Oxfordshire County Council, Southern Area Office, Milton Road, Drayton, Nr Abingdon, Oxon OX14 4EZ from 8.30am to 4.00pm Monday to Friday.  
 Any comments to the proposal should be sent in writing to Lee Turner, Principal Traffic Technician, Traffic Advice & Design, Oxfordshire County Council, Speedwell House, Speedwell Street, Oxford OX1 1NE by no later than 04 January 2013.  
 The County Council will consider each response to this Notice. They may be disseminated widely for these purposes and made available to the public; however any personal information will be treated in complete confidence and will not be used for any other purpose.  
 Mark Kemp, Deputy Director – Commercial, Environment & Economy  
 Oxfordshire County Council, 12 December 2012  
 The plans can also be seen at [www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk) and [www.madnews.co.uk](http://www.madnews.co.uk)

**MARCHAM PLAYERS**

**The Oxford Waits**

It was a cold and windy night when Marcham was taken back to the 17th century by a marvellously entertaining concert by the Oxford Waits in the church. Playing lute, violin, hurdy-gurdy, tabor and shawm, and dressed in period costume, Edward Fitzgibbon, Caroline Butler, Ian Giles and Tim Healey gave us a mix of catchy ballads, rounds and rumbustious ditties, instrumental and a capella. These were intermingled with readings from Pepys and extracts from Oxford diarist Anthony Wood, giving us a picture of life, both rowdy and sad, around the time of the Restoration, ranging from feasts in the colleges, and antics of the King to frolics on the frozen Thames in London.



We were delighted to hear some old Christmas songs and carols. After an encore ballad of a Newbury man who died from over-speed custard eating, the evening was rounded off (we had sung two rounds earlier) with the marvellous Boars Head Carol richly sung by the Waits with chorus provided by the audience in full voice.

A big thank-you to Marcham Players for laying on this concert and for providing wine and mince pies at the interval. A great evening - don't miss the next one!

For information about the Oxford Waits:

[www.bejo.co.uk/bejo/html/artWaits.htm](http://www.bejo.co.uk/bejo/html/artWaits.htm)

Any enquiries regarding Marcham Players can be made to Dave Hutchinson on 01865 391964 or Cheryl Sewell on 01865 391200

.....  
 w w w . m a r c h a m p l a y e r s . c o . u k

JA/DA

**A COMBINED MESSAGE FROM AGEUK AND OXFORDSHIRE PCT**



**‘Keep Warm, Keep Well’  
in Oxfordshire this winter**

Taking steps to keep warm is not just for when you are heading outside. Cold homes have a significant impact on people’s health and one of the best ways of keeping well during winter is to stay warm.

The Warm Homes Healthy People Partnership, an initiative involving community and voluntary sector organisations from across Oxfordshire,

aims to tackle the adverse effects of cold housing during the winter months and protect people across the county to stay warm and avoid serious illnesses such as flu and pneumonia.

The chances of these problems are higher if you are vulnerable to cold-related illnesses because of one or more of the following:

- You are over 60
- You struggle to find enough money for fuel bills
- You have a long-term health condition such as heart disease
- You are disabled

Follow these top five tips to stay warm and well this winter:

1) Keep the heat in your home: Insulating your home helps to keep the heat where you want it, and ensures your money goes as far as possible. Ensure your heating is set for the right time and temperature – 21 degrees Celsius.

2) Get financial support: There are grants, benefits and sources of advice available to make your home more energy efficient, improve your heating or help with bills. Financial help, such as the Winter Fuel Payment, is available to people finding it hard to meet their heating costs. For more information call **0800 107 0044**.

3) Eat well and keep moving: Food is a vital source of energy, so try to ensure you have hot meals and drinks regularly. Keeping active will generate body heat, helping to keep you warm.

4) Get a flu jab: Available free from your GP to protect against seasonal flu if you are over 65, have a long-term health condition or care for someone.

5) Look after yourself and others: On cold days, try to avoid going outdoors; but when you need to, remember to wrap up warm. If you have older friends, neighbours or relatives, look out for them during winter to make sure they are safe and well.

**USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS:**

Oxfordshire County Council

Customer Services Team Office Hours: 0845 050 7666

Out of hours emergency number: 0800 833408 (freephone)

Age UK National 0800 009966

(open 8am to 7pm over the holiday period)

Age UK Oxfordshire helpline 0844 887 0005

re-opens Wednesday 2nd January 2013



**TOP TIPS FOR THE WINTER**

**How you can help:**

- Offer to get in an extra loaf and some milk for an elderly neighbour,
- Ask if your neighbour has a pendant alarm and if they would like one, offer to be one of their contact numbers,
- Check if a neighbour would like you to acquire some grit for their path,
- Offer to sweep the snow away from their path
- Check if they have an alternative source of heat and light should the power fail
- Check they know what to do if the pipes freeze - where’s the stop-cock?
- Offer to let them know when you are going shopping.
- Suggest they get some provisions in for reserves
- Offer to collect prescription/arrange for delivery- remember to get enough in for any holiday.
- Check they know what events are on in the area over the Christmas period- eg WRVS dinner etc
- Offer to walk the dog!

**How to help yourself:**

- Make sure you have all of your contact details up to date (friends, family, neighbours)
- Try to have a little stock of non-perishable foods (tins are very good)
- Eat regular meals to help keep your energy levels up during winter
- Heating is being used more so give thought to your ventilation
- Wear plenty of thin layers, rather than one thick one
- Are you receiving all of your benefits and winter payments? Call Age UK Oxfordshire to find out.

**Could your village group make use of a small grant?**

The Harding Bequest is a small charitable trust which for some years has made grants to a variety of community causes in the parish.

Any village group may apply to the Bequest for a grant. If you are involved in a village organisation that may benefit from a small grant you are invited to contact Jenny Warwick (392 076), Secretary to the Harding Bequest, for an application form.

**MARCHAM SOCIETY MIDWEEK WALK**

**Midweek Walk, Thursday, January 10th.**

For this month’s walk we will explore the Downs south of the Ridgeway. We will eat at the Swan Inn (Map Ref SU521799) in High Street, Compton (which is a short drive east from East Ilsley) at 12.30pm for lunch, starting the walk of about 4 miles at 1.30 on fairly flat drove roads up to the Ridgeway and back. Members free, non-members £1. We always welcome new walkers, so do start the year in good company. Ring Eric Dunford on 391439 for lifts and further details.



*The*  
**Marcham Society**

**Marcham Society Annual Lecture**

**Mary Embleton**

**Britain & the Middle East**

**The lasting legacy of World War One**

Come & hear someone from the village speak on a very topical issue of the moment

*All Saints’ Church Marcham*  
*7.45pm 15th January 2013*

Non-members £2

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

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

**ED VAIZEY WRITES...**

I recently visited **105.5FM** in Swindon, an amazing community radio station that can be heard in the west of the constituency. One of the things they mentioned to me is **Weeeuse**. This excellent idea means that corporate companies can support organisations such as Swindon 105.5FM, merely through channelling their unwanted IT inventory through the Weeeuse process. Any charitable project which would benefit from a donation of IT equipment, or any institution looking to channel their old hardware through a reuse process, can read more at [www.weeeuse.org](http://www.weeeuse.org). I know that Weeeuse would be delighted to hear from you.



There's another opportunity for local groups with the **Carnegie Trust**, which is launching a new project 'Neighbourhood News' in January 2013. The Trust will be seeking applications from local commercial and civil society organisations across the UK and Ireland to become a Carnegie Partner and develop new and innovative ways of producing local news. The Trust will make £10,000 of funding available to five Partner organisations during 2013. This funding will enable each Partner organisation to deliver a local news project in a clearly defined geographic area. There are many local organisations that might benefit from such funding, so please do pass the information on.

If you are looking for another way to help others, the **Charity Commission** recently contacted me because they are looking for more people to consider becoming charity trustees. Charities do a huge range of very important work and cover just about every conceivable interest, both locally and nationally so there is bound to be something to interest everyone. In fact, there are 513 registered charities in Wantage and Didcot, and you can see them all at [charitycommission.gov.uk/ShowCharity](http://charitycommission.gov.uk/ShowCharity). There are also charities such as Helen and Douglas House and Creation Theatre, which do great work for people in the constituency but are based just outside. There is more general information about what is involved at in being a trustee at [trusteesweek.blogspot.co.uk/p/becoming-trustee](http://trusteesweek.blogspot.co.uk/p/becoming-trustee). It may not be as complicated or difficult as you think, so do have a look. If you are interested, you might like to look at the trustee finder service which allows people to enter areas of interest and run a postcode search so they can find opportunities in their local area:

[trusteenet.org.uk/jobs-search](http://trusteenet.org.uk/jobs-search). If becoming a trustee is more of a commitment than you want to make at the moment, then why not consider volunteering with one of those 513 local charities?

I asked in a recent newsletter where else in the area constituents might obtain impartial advice in relation to energy efficiency. I've been told by Mike Edmunds that the **Blewbury Energy Initiative** (BEI) website [www.blewbury.co.uk/energy](http://www.blewbury.co.uk/energy) offers general information about climate change and green energy, as well as impartial advice about improving your home's energy efficiency and installing renewable energy systems to cut your bills and reduce carbon emissions. It's run by Sustainable Blewbury, a very active local group.

Surgery details can be found at [www.vaizey.com](http://www.vaizey.com).

**ED VAIZEY**, MP Wantage and Didcot (Con)

Contact Ed Vaizey MP by	
Post	The House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA
E-mail	<a href="mailto:vaizeye@parliament.uk">vaizeye@parliament.uk</a>
Web	<a href="http://www.vaizey.com">www.vaizey.com</a>
Tel	0207 219 6350

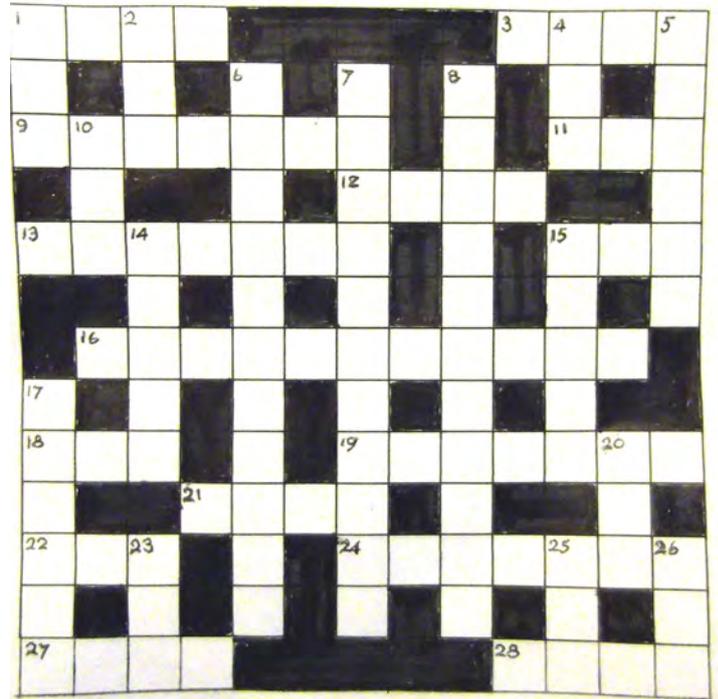
**CROSSWORD BY ALISA**

**ACROSS**

- 1 Fruit (4)
- 2 Instrument (4)
- 9 Greeting (7)
- 11 Winter glider (3)
- 12 Despatch (4)
- 13 Ivor, who wrote musicals (7)
- 14 Vehicle (3)
- 15 Frilford's cattery (4.7)
- 18 Vegetable (3)
- 19 Cold, hanging spikes (7)
- 21 Mint or game (4)
- 22 Not high (3)
- 24 Central part (7)
- 27 Goose, drift or drop (4)
- 28 Vegetable (4)

**DOWN**

- 1 Seat (3)
- 2 Every one (3)
- 4 Donkey (3)
- 5 Marcham road (6)
- 6 Where the school is (7.4)
- 7 Seasonal intentions (11)
- 8 Place for greetings cards (11)
- 10 Self (3)
- 14 Instrument (5)
- 15 Waterway (5)
- 17 Fruit (6)
- 20 Bird (3)
- 23 TV Doctor (3)
- 25 Sheep (3)
- 26 Big star (3)



**Marcham Village Shop and Post Office**

**Mon - Fri: 07.30 - 13.00**

**& 15.00 - 18.00**

**Sat / Sun: 07.30 - 13.00**



We stock all you expect in a local shop and a bit more... You can also order newspapers & magazines for collection. If you can spare an hour or more per week, please drop into the shop and talk to us about volunteering.

**New Year:**

**1 Jan CLOSED**

**2 Jan - 6 Jan 07.30 - 13.00**

**7 Jan Back to Normal**

**Happy New Year To All Our Customers**

Bank Balance  
£15,310

Local Events  
£10,124

Donations  
£5856

2012 - 2013 Membership  
Voting: 104 Junior: 20

5p Coins  
3896



Happy New Year

## Still no news

At the time of writing there are still no details on the exact location of the new site the Anson Trust has chosen for its proposed leisure facilities, or of the access routes to it. It is two months since they announced in the November issue of MADNews that they would apply for planning permission by the end of October. Informal feedback from Anson Trust (included here with permission) is that they continue to make progress with their negotiations, and now expect to submit a new planning application in mid- to late January. MCG remains very concerned at the lack of any consultation.

### An update

The MCG committee has now received a response from the Anson Trust to its letter raising some concerns on aspects of the new proposed site. The response referred MCG to the letter of 20 April 2007 to the Anson Trustees from their solicitors, which can be read in full at [http://www.madnews.co.uk/anson/farrer\\_response200407.pdf](http://www.madnews.co.uk/anson/farrer_response200407.pdf). It explains the responsibilities of the Anson Trustees. If anyone without internet access would like a printed copy please contact us — contact details below.

Marcham Community Group: Company No 7470307  
391193 (Suzanne) 391727 (Jim) 391507 (Jessica)

Charity No 1144407  
mail@marcham.org

[www.marcham.org](http://www.marcham.org)



## Marcham WI

17th January 2013 at Denman College. Liam D'Arcy Brown will talk about a Grand Canal Cruise.

This is a members meeting when the President and Committee have a night off, and ordinary members run the meeting. It is always great fun. Come along and see!

THURSDAY, 17TH JANUARY

at Denman College. 7.30pm

**The W.I. - Empowering Women**

**Make a new Year resolution to join us!**

Contacts for new members or visitors

Christine Whild 01865 391270

## ABINGDON LITTLE ANGELS

Wow, what a fabulous December we have had at Little Angels, We started the month with a great carol



**Abingdon Little Angels**  
building blocks for life

concert put on by the children, with over 60 people watching and all our Little Angels in great song, it was a fabulous afternoons, singing, Away in a Manager, We Will Rock You and When Santa Got Stuck Up The Chimney to name but a few. Our Angels also enjoyed a great festive Christmas dinner at Cafe on Wednesday, Our little angels sang a few of their songs dressed in their nativity costumes and joined in with the Christmas celebrations (Thank you to cafe for a great year of wonderful food and social learning).

This was followed with our Christmas Party, Dizzy dream magic show and puppet show and with plenty of food and Father Christmas, all the children including the After School Club had fun and laughter .

The After School Club spent December making a variety of Christmas craft activities and joined in with the carol concert playing tambourines to jingle bells. A fun packed December for us all.

**A Happy New Year to all our friends in Marcham.**

If you would like any further in formation about Abingdon Little Angels Nursery, After School Club, Holiday Club or Art Club please feel free to call in or telephone us on 07516 474287 or at [info@abingdonlittleangels.co.uk](mailto:info@abingdonlittleangels.co.uk).

### SINGING IS GOOD FOR YOU!

Tuesday, 8th January 2 - 3.30pm  
Tuesday 22nd January 2 - 3.30pm



Songs you probably know. The Tea and Cake afterwards is not compulsory if you re dieting!

Look forward to seeing you!

Christine Whild, 62 North Street Marcham Tel 391270

**Bubble Wrap** - regular quantities from local business.  
Free with a donation to Keith's India charity.  
Abingdon Blinds & Curtains  
Marcham 391881

**MARCHAM FOOTBALL CLUB**

Marcham travelled to RAF Benson to play against the Benson Lions on the 24th November in a Division 2 clash. In horrendous weather conditions Marcham were made to battle hard for a 2-0 win. After a first half stalemate defender James Foster broke the deadlock just after half time and then Wez Coster sealed the win with 5 minutes remaining. The Reserves went down by 2 goals to 1 at home to Faringdon Reserves with George Wood having a debut to remember. After putting Marcham into the lead Wood then replaced keeper Peter Fox in the nets when the aging gloveman saw red after half an hour. Wood then twice saved penalties but was unable to prevent a defeat for the battling Reserves.

The following week saw both Marcham sides play Faringdon teams. Marcham first team lost 4-0 to their Division 1 opponents in the North Berks Cup. The Reserves lost by 4 goals to 1 away to Faringdon Reserves in a Division 3 clash. The Reserves goal being scored by Russ Comley.

On the 8th of December Marcham again travelled to play against the Benson Lions, this time in The War Memorial Cup. Marcham came away with a convincing 7-0 victory. Goal scorers being Shane Northcott 3, Mathew Banks 2, Rob Fathers and Tommy Cousins. Special mention for Rob Fathers and Tommy Cousins in particular for 2 stunning goals. Midfielder Fathers, playing up front for the first time for the club found the top corner with a wonder strike from 35 yards. Cousins, making his first start of the season after injury picked up the ball in his own half and ghosted past 4 Benson players before tucking the ball in the bottom corner of the goal past the despairing keeper. The Reserves lost 3-1 at home to Blewbury. A game marred in controversy after Blewbury scored a goal after Marcham had played the ball out of play for one of the Blewbury players to receive treatment for a head knock. Instead of playing the ball back to the home side Blewbury threw the ball to their striker who stuck the ball into the net!! The Reserve scorer was Leighton Jackson.

**Fixtures**

Jan	Marcham First Team	Marcham Reserves
5	Ardington	Kintbury Reserves
12	Harwell International	
19	Lambourn Reserves	Stanford in the Vale
26	Steventon	Milton United Reserves

LINDSAY MUDIE, Chairman, Marcham Football Club

**Happy New Year!**

*Did you enjoy your Christmas lunch?*

Can you remember when once upon a time you bit on the silver charm in the pudding and that wobbly tooth came out? And do you remember what you did with it?

When my sister and I were little we used to wrap the precious pearly object in a scrap of tissue paper (with a pinch of salt of course) and before we went to bed mother or father would help us to throw it up the chimney. In the morning when the fire had died down we would use the poker to search in the ashes and lo and behold, we'd find a warm shiny farthing.

Riches! Should we buy a sherbet dab or two gob-stoppers or a little packet of dolly mixtures or maybe just keep it as a secret treasure in a safe hidey hole.

*How much did your tooth earn?*

J&D Creasy



**MADAGRAMS by Jay**

Answers from last month...



DOCTOR HAD COLA = OLD COACH ROAD Tubney

CUFFED IDLE PAL = DUFFIELD PLACE

FROTH ETC = THE CROFT

LORD FAIRFORD = FRILFORD ROAD

A HARDY CROW = ORCHARD WAY



And that's it folks! Best wishes, everyone, for a score and a baker's dozen.

**Poem for January**

The Roman god Janus is a strange looking man,  
Often shown with two faces -  
one, the future to plan;  
The bearded face looks backwards, recalls what has been done,  
The god of doorways, of gateways - the coming, the gone.



At this time of year humans do much the same,  
We sum up what has happened, who to praise, who to blame;  
We make resolutions that twenty thirteen  
Will be best year for effort that we've ever seen.

So let the coming New Year be a time when our aim  
Is to be a good person, always playing the game;  
Following those ten rules which still ring like a bell,  
And their summary - Love God, and your neighbour as well.

Christine Whild

**MARCHAM CRICKET CLUB**

Recently published Oxfordshire Cricket Association Fixtures for the 2013 Season confirm that both the 1st XI and the 2nd XI have been promoted. The first game at Marcham is scheduled to be a 1st XI match in early May. More details of Fixtures and Cup matches will be given at appropriate times in due course.

Please contact Trevor Hill (391321) for information relating to the club - including playing or umpiring for Marcham.

CSB



**WINTER WALK AT SYDLINGS COPSE  
SUNDAY 24 February 2013 10 am - 12 noon**

Join OOS member, Tom Wickens, for a walk on fairly easy paths at Sydlings Copse Nature Reserve near Beckley.

Tucked away to the north-east of Oxford and packed into a steep valley, Sydlings Copse is a treasure trove for wildlife enthusiasts. A place of sheer magic for all the family - yet small enough to ensure that young or old legs don't get tired as you take a circular wildlife walk through all of the different habitats. **Does include some steep steps.**

To book please contact:

Shirley Jarvis 018965 371297 shirley88jarvis@gmail.com

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# M and Q

Here we are on the threshold of a new year but as you look back on 2012, what have been the abiding memories for you? The Diamond Jubilee and the London Olympics, the incredibly unusual floods, the New York Hurricane, or the unbelievable and horrendous slaughter at Sandy Hook Elementary School? It certainly has been a year for major news events.

As we look forward to another year, what does the future hold for us? Just before writing this, I heard of supposed Mayan predictions for the impending end of the world and out of curiosity looked it up on the internet. The predictions were all geared to the ancient Mayan calendar that was started in 355BC but which ran out on 21<sup>st</sup> Dec 2012, with some who picked up on the Mayan calendar predicting the end of the world on that date. The Mayan doomsayers surmised the destruction of the world by solar flares, or an asteroid smashing into the earth, or an overload of the earth's magnetic field and a whole host of other ways that the earth might reach its end on that date. Well, we are still here. However, the Bible does foretell a time when the world will come to an end but it also says that no man would know when that would be.

What does the future hold? ..... 'God only knows' is the common throwaway response often made when we haven't got a clue. In this case it is absolutely the right response. God is indeed the only one who knows when this earth will come to an end and more immediately he knows what this next year and even today holds for you. God stands outside of time, sees the beginning from the end and on a personal level knows your past, all that you are going through now and what the future holds. It's about trust in The One who holds the keys to the future and to life and death itself. To gain an understanding of God, what He has done for us and how He wants us to trust Him, we need to look to how he has spoken to us in the Bible.

**An Introduction  
to Matthew**  
Marcham Baptist  
Church  
Jan 6<sup>th</sup> 10.30am

Starting at the beginning of January and going through the year, we will be studying week by week, verse by verse through Matthew's gospel to understand more about God and what He has done for us in Jesus Christ. On the first Sunday in January, we will be seeking to answer the questions -

- *Who was Matthew?*
- *Who was he writing to?*
- *What was his background?*
- *What was the purpose of his book?*

But you might be thinking what does *gospel* mean? Well, it simply means *good news* and I'll come back to that in a bit.

Like those who predict doom in connection with the end of the Mayan calendar, the Bible too does talk much about the end of the world and Matthew records the fullest account of what Jesus said about that in chapter 24, as He spoke of *the signs of the end of the age*. However, the difference between the Mayan doomsayers and what Jesus said is that Jesus said that no man would know the date but that we are to watch for the signs. In Matthew chapter 25 are recorded parables that Jesus spoke about the judgement to come and our need to trust in Him and Him alone. This is what is meant by *gospel* – the good news of what Jesus came to do and to offer us.

One of the many things that Ruth and I did this year was to go and see Skyfall, the latest James Bond movie in which M meets her demise and Q is the young computer whizzkid who works with Bond to track down the film's villain. At Marcham Baptist church, we too will have an M and a Q. Our M is Matthew but who or what is Q?

Matthew's gospel is widely regarded as the one of the four gospels that the early church leaned heavily on, in teaching about Jesus; who He was; what He said and did and how we need to trust in Him for our future. Why not join us on 6<sup>th</sup> January, as we introduce you to Matthew and then over the coming weeks and months, allow Matthew to introduce you to the most significant man who has ever lived?

Have no fear about the end of the Mayan calendar and predictions of the date of the end of the world..... the calendar that matters is the one we use today, which started with the assumed year of Christ's birth.

As you put your 2013 calendar on the wall, why not note the 6<sup>th</sup> January at 10.30 to come and start investigating Matthew's gospel with us?

Oh ..... and come and find out about Q too!!

Every blessing for 2013

**Keith Mersh, Pastor Marcham Baptist Church**

For more information, contact

Keith Mersh - Pastor 01865 391881

Bill Dyer - Elder 01235 814986

## Speakers in January

6 Jan - Keith Mersh

13 Jan - Paul Revell

20 Jan - Stephen Milford

27 Jan - Ralph Green

**Join us on Sundays at 10.30am,  
or call Keith if you want to chat  
about life and faith.**



# All Saints' and St. Luke's Parish Page

Dear Friends,

*'And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year: "Give me a light that I may tread safely into the unknown." And he replied: "Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the Hand of God. That shall be to you better than light and safer than a known way."*

*So I went forth, and finding the Hand of God, trod gladly into the night. And He led me towards the hills and the breaking of day in the lone East. So heart be still:...*

So begins the famous poem by Minnie Louise Haskins, published in 1908, and entitled 'God Knows'. And here we are, on the threshold of a New Year – 2013!

Our political leaders warn us that we will be facing austerity measures for a number of years – not a happy prospect, necessary though it may well be. And it would be all too easy to begin this New Year with an air of resigned belt tightening and gloom! But ...

May I encourage you to take a leaf out of Minnie's 'book', and place your hand into the hand of God. He hasn't gone on holiday or wandered off to a distant place, but is here, Emmanuel, God with us.

What an adventure this coming year will be, as we trust the One who holds the future, knowing we are in His constant care and love. The road ahead may not be easy for any of us, yet Jesus promises those who trust Him, that He will never leave us or forsake us: 'I am with you always, to the very end of the age.'

May you know the peace and strength of God this year – for each step of the way – however unknown or hard. I would be glad to welcome you to any of our regular services.

With my warmest greetings for 2013,

**Revd Richard Zair**

## JANUARY Events:

**Sat 5<sup>th</sup> Jan: Men's Breakfast** - 8.30 am at the Sports, Scouts and Social Club

**Sat 12<sup>th</sup> Jan: The Changing Room – Women's Breakfast** – 8.30 am at Manor Farm Boardroom.

## Parish People:

The funeral of John Rayson took place in All Saints on 20<sup>th</sup> December. A former Churchwarden, John lived with his wife Pam in Frilford for many years before retiring to Abingdon Marina. We offer our sympathy and prayers to his family and friends.

## Regular services:

**Sundays at All Saints':** 10 am and 6 pm

**Wednesdays:** 10.30 am HC at Duffield Place

**Sunday at St. Luke's:** Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> Jan, 10.30am

## Contact:

Revd Richard Zair 391319  
41 North Street, Marcham ([r\\_zair@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:r_zair@yahoo.co.uk))

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

Deborah Flint *Churchwarden* 391056

Janey Cumber *Administrator* 391327

Jenny Warwick *PCC Secretary* 392076

**[www.marcham-with-garford.org.uk](http://www.marcham-with-garford.org.uk)**

## Prayer for the Month:

Heavenly Father, Lord of life and Giver of peace, may we know your strength each day as we tread into the unknown of a New Year. Help us to trust you with all that lies ahead, and strength our faith in your Son, that we may know your peace amidst the challenges and joys of life in the year ahead. We ask in Jesus' all powerful name. Amen.