

▲ Pre-School celebrate the Year of the Horse see page 13

	March	
2 Sun	"Healing" Evensong, Tubney Church, 17.00	17
4 Tue	Singing is Good for You, Duffield Place, 14.00	11
4 Tue	A Garden of Edible Delights, Southmoor Village Hall, 19.15	11
5 Wed	ILC 'The Bedroom', Peachcroft Christian Centre, 10.00 - 15.00	12
7 Fri	Women's World Day of Prayer, Baptist Chapel, 11.00	11
8 Sat	Councillors' Surgery, 09.00 - 11.00 Marcham Village Shop	9
9 Sun	Margarita and the House of Love, Holywell Music Room, 19.30	17
10 Mon	Have Your Say, Marcham Village Shop, 17.00 – 18.00	3
11 Tues	Mobile Library Duffield Place: 10.05, Sweetbriar: 10.20	
		NV

▲ Flooding in Marcham see letters page 3

11 Tues	Marcham Society, All Saints' Church, 19.45	11
12 Wed	Marcham Parish Council Meeting, Duffield Place, 19.30	3
13 Thur	Midweek Walk, The Seven Stars, Marsh Baldon 12.30 lunch / 13.30 walk	11
20 Tue	Deadline for April MADNews, 17.00	
20 Tue	Marcham WI, Denman College, 19.15	11
22 Thur	Peppa Pig comes to Millets	18
22 Thur	District Council Local Plan Exhibition, Abingdon Precinct	3
25 Tue	Singing is Good for You, Duffield Place, 14.00	11
25 Tues	Mobile Library Duffield Place: 10.05, Sweetbriar: 10.20	
26-29	Abingdon Drama Club, Dangerous Corner, Unicorn Theatre, Abingdon, 19.30	17
28 Fri	Quiz Night MSSSC, 20.15	11
Details of events may change after publication, please check with the relevant organisers before attending events.		

Dear Readers

The Winter Olympics and Chinese New Year have inspired Marcham to some terrific achievements last month - and it is great to be able to share images of these events with the whole community.

If you would like to submit a photo to MADNews of an exciting event, a moment in history or just something worth sharing, it's worth taking a bit of time to make sure your photo is up to scratch.

- Is everyone looking at the camera?
- Focus on the action and check the background for unwanted items (or people!)
- Compose the subject(s)
- Look at the light
- Don't be afraid to talk to the subjects and ask them to look at the camera, the back of someone's head *may* make a good photo... or it may not! MEVIE

Until next time

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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.

POLICE

PCSO Andy McCormack C9461 PCSO Myra Stokes (for Garford) Just dial 101 (non-emergency) CRIMESTOPPERS Call 0800 555 111 (anonymous calls) NHS NON-EMERGENCY Call Free from any phone - 111 **COUNTY COUNCILLOR** Richard Webber, Orchard Barn, Sutton Wick Lane, Drayton OX14 4HJ

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richard.webber@oxfordshire.gov.uk DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Marcham and Shippon Catherine Webber, Orchard Barn, Sutton Wick Lane, Drayton OX14 4HJ Tel: 01235 534001

catherinewebber@hotmail.co.uk For other councillors go to www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk © Marcham & District News 2014

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Residents are reporting again that they have having to dodge dog mess as people do not clear up after their dogs. Faeces are being left on pavements and even entrances to private dwellings. Whilst there is a chance of avoiding it during daylight hours, this is less so after dark. Please would dog owners act responsibly and clear up. To leave it behind is a nuisance and health hazard, and in fact fixed penalties can be issued to those failing to obey the law, and even prosecution. The matter has been reported to the Envirocrime wardens at the Vale of White Horse District Council.

Footpath

The Council has received comments regarding the surface of the footpath alongside the Anson field and the steps which lead into North Street. It has referred the matter to the County Council's rights of way office to seek its advice and to see if anything can be done.

Biffa – Waste and Recycling Collections

Comments have been received that Biffa, when emptying the wheelie bins, is dropping rubbish and recyclables including broken glass on the roadways. Reports have come in too regarding damaged bins, particularly the larger food bins which are put out for emptying. Biffa is keen to hear reports of problems that are occurring as it helps them identify if incidences are occasional, or if there is a wider problem that needs addressing. Would anyone who is experiencing problems email admin. vale@biffa.co.uk or telephone 03000 610 610 to help keep Biffa informed of issues that arise.

Vale of White Horse – Local Plan 2031 – **Housing Delivery Update**

The Local Plan will shape the future of the Vale. The updated proposals are at a draft stage, and the District Council is inviting comments on the proposals, as there are changes to the Plan published last year. The Plan is available for viewing at www. whitehorsedc.gov.uk/localplanpartone or is available at Abingdon library or the District Council's offices at Abbey House, Abingdon. Local exhibitions and meetings are being held. An exhibition will be held in premises at the precinct, Abingdon on Saturday 22nd March between 10.00 a.m.-3.00 p.m. See also the District Council's website for further information.

Planning Applications

The following planning applications have been considered by the Council:

P14/V0077/HH Single storev side extension - 4 The Green The Council had no objections

P13/V2695.HH Demolish existing single storey rear outbuilding and form new kitchen dining and family room - 7 The Gap. The Council had no objections

P13/V2046/FUL Erection of 16 dwellings with associated garages, new access

MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL REPORT

road and associated works at The Priory, Packhorse Lane. Council believed this application had not changed significantly from the previous one, and therefore maintained its objections. It expressed concern regarding a detention basin being located within a public open space.

P13/V2731/O Erection of 54 dwellings at Willow Farm, Abingdon Road. Council had concerns about the impact at the entrance to the village and the protection of this area, the capacity of the sewage system and the ability of the primary school to accommodate any children from the development. Should the development be granted consent it suggested links with the adjacent proposed development at The Priorv.

Date of Next Council Meeting:

Wednesday 12th March, 2013 at 7.30 p.m. 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



Have Your Say Monday 10 March

Marcham Shop 1700-1800

- Thursday 17 April **Duffield Place** 1700-1800
- Monday 15 May Marcham Shop 1700-1800

PCSO Andy McCormack C9461 Abingdon Outer Neighbourhood Team NAG7 Marcham, Wootton, Shippon and Boars Hill Police Non-emergency number: 101 www.thamesvalley.police.uk

DOG WALKER NEEDED

I am in need of a dog walker 3-4 days per week for a short walk with two elderly dogs. Any interested people could contact me by email or phone elise.ejc@gmail 01865 391080. We would consider responsible teenagers experienced with dogs.

FOR SALE

An almost brand new small round wicker table and 2 armchairs. Natural colour. Would suit a conservatory or kitchen. Have moved and have no where to put it now! Would accept any reasonable offer. Contact Liz Mason on 01865391643

Dear Editor

This was the scene confronting us in the gardens behind us at Kings Avenue on Friday 9/2/2014 (see cover).

Current proposals demand the removal of mature trees at this field making matters much worse and I have complained about this previously in correspondence with The Vale of White Horse Planning department and Mr Vaizey. I hasten to add that this is not a recent development but has occurred regularly over past years. However the threat of development has not been present before.

Thames Water have already expressed reservations concerning matters relating to local ground and foul water management. Some of this undoubtedly conditioned by the sewage flooding we experienced in Marcham two years ago.

I have already been in contact with the insurance company who advise that premiums will need to rise dramatically if flooding occurs, as supported by recent events elsewhere. With such an occurrence to whom should I send the bills covering the cost of higher premiums?

The illustration is clear in my mind in that mass development of the character proposed only serves land owners and developers with the local population suffering as a result of this flawed approach. This leads to the conclusion that this policy of mass housing development requires urgent and complete review by local planners and national government.

COLIN EVANS



Dear Editor

I am writing on behalf of Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum to ask for your support.

I am curating an HLF funded First World War exhibition 'Oxfordshire Remembers 1914-18' to open at Woodstock in August. The museum's collection in naturally made up of mainly regimental artefacts, documents and ephemera.

However, I am looking to represent the 'Home Front' in the galleries.

I would be interested to hear from anyone who would be willing to share memorabilia relating to Oxfordshire, particularly during the years 1914-16 (this is the first of two exhibitions - this covering the first two years of the conflict).

I have included a list of themes below: a. A nurse's story. I have artefacts from the Oxfordshire Museums Service, yet require a good story along with some strong images. March 2014 b. Home front stories. In particular, I'm looking for stories and ephemera relating to:

- Belgian refugees in Oxford.

- 'Land children' relating to the county's 'Education Committee' and 'County War Agicultural Committees' pronouncements regarding the use of children in agricultural work between November 1914 and January 1916.

- 'Land Girls'

- Rationing

- Munitions. I'm involved with a Centenary project relating to 'Filling Factory No. 9' at Banbury and have some material, but would love to hear more.

- Hospitals.

- Defence of the Realm Act (DORA)

c. Ephemera relating to the military on the Home Front. I'm looking for postcards, posters, advertisements, leaflets relating to the county regiments in particular. I have a collection of my own relating to the East Lancashire and Cheshire Regiments so know that it's out there. Abingdon Museum has a collection of posters that I shall be drawing on.

Happy to travel, talk on the phone. *STEPHEN BARKER*

Heritage Advisor Centenary Projects Manager - Soldiers of Oxfordshire

07775 974976 history@stephen-barker.com www.stephen-barker.com www.sofo.org.uk

The Marcham Moldova Lifeline recently sent out its latest donation to our partners in Moldova – Europe's poorest



country. The donation of £2,600 was made possible by the giving of many people in Marcham's church and wider community, and also benefited enormously from last year's Marcham-to-London Cycle Ride, involving Paul Davies, Ian Wilson, Gordon Brown, Tim Jack and Nick Porter.

The donation has benefitted 200 households, including some of Moldova's poorest people, especially the elderly and disabled. It has paid for 150 emergency winter food parcels and 50 donations of winter fuel. It also provided a local school with a computer and printer for the use of the teachers. Many of the recipients express their amazement that people so far away in England would bother about their needs. They send "a thousand thanks"!

THE MARCHAM MOLDOVA LIFELINE TEAM

Simon's News are looking for a newspaper delivery person in Marcham. Must be aged 13 or over, or would suit retired person. Please phone Petra or Paul on 01235 553001 for more information.

Red Cross 2014



Another Year, Another Week!!!

Yes, It's that time already!!! (Well, soon anyway!)

Red Cross Week 2014 starts on Sunday 4th May.

Last year, you, the villagers of Marcham, raised nearly £500 towards the Oxfordshire total of over £35,000 and a nationwide total of £1,121,000 - a brilliant effort on your part and very much appreciated by those who were helped in some way.

We have had a number of regular volunteers over the years, some of whom will once again be knocking on your doors during that week. Unfortunately, through age or infirmity or even through just moving away, this number is getting smaller. We are now looking for 2 or 3 (or even more!) willing helpers prepared to spare an hour or two during that week (yes, that's all) to help ease the load on the remainder. (Evenings are best, to catch people at home).

If you can help, please give us a call on 391519 (any time).

JO & TONY BLACKLER

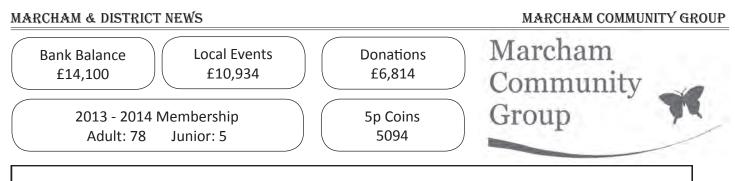
Dear Editor

There is no doubt that a many of your readers will have Type 1 or Type 2 diabetes. Unfortunately we have found that many people do not have enough information to help them with their diabetes. With this in mind, the Independent Diabetes Trust (IDDT) has produced a range of **FREE booklets**, including '**Understanding Your Diabetes**' and '**Diabetes** – **Everyday Eating**' to provide information in non-medical language, to help people with both types of diabetes to understand their treatment, to improve their health and make life easier.

Being diagnosed with diabetes may mean a stay in hospital at some time, either at diagnosis or as a result of the management of the condition and its complications. Many people have difficulty managing their diabetes while they are in hospital, so we have a **FREE 'Hospital Passport**' for people to take into hospital with them. It provides hospital staff with vital information about the person with diabetes and how their condition is managed. It also makes it easier for people to receive the treatment they want.

We are happy to send your readers with diabetes a **FREE Information Pack** containing our publications. Contact us on 01604 622837, e-mail martin@ iddtinternational.org or write to IDDT, PO Box 294, Northampton NN1 4XS

5



Chinese New Year Dinner – Year of the Horse

"Let's do a Chinese New Year dinner celebration, as a change" was suggested. My first thought was I don't do Chinese food – it doesn't agree with me. So, I went along to the first organisers' meeting with a heavy heart. We came up with various ideas for entertainments and decorations, and by the end of the meeting I was feeling motivated – but still not sure about the food!

A couple of meetings later and I really was looking forward to a great, but different, night out. Paper flowers and lanterns were made, the gold napkins were bought and the red banqueting paper was ready to cover the tables, which we set up in the afternoon. I was still nervous about the food. Never mind, I thought - I can just have a little bit and it wouldn't do me any harm to eat a bit less.

WELL, I ate everything there and enjoyed it so much that I feel sorry for all those who couldn't come. Here is the menu:





Sorry if you missed it

After the main course(s) we were entertained by some doggerel poetry written and recited by Jim and then three little maids: Joey, Sheila and Tina sang for us in a most flirtatious manner (did I say maids?) – all to much laughter. After dessert, Christine played and sang "Tit willow" with everyone joining in the Tit willow chorus.

To follow this, we were all given a sheet of origami paper and instructions to make a horse's head, the new year theme. Suffice to say, some results were better than others but at least we all had a go.

The evening ended with everyone chatting and smiling as they left, saying what a lovely evening it had been and how fantastically delicious the food was and I agree wholeheartedly.

A huge thank you to everyone who came and everyone who helped make it such a huge success (and we made a helpful surplus too) but a specially big THANK YOU to Suzanne who planned and cooked the entire meal for all and to sous-chef, James!

I will definitely be eating oriental food again!

DA

Marcham Community Group: Company No 7470307 391193 (Suzanne) 391727 (Jim) 391507 (Jessica) Charity No 1144407 mail@marcham.org



REPRESENTATIVES' REPORTS

MARCHAM & DISTRICT NEWS

ED VAIZEY WRITES...

As regular readers of my newsletter will know, as an MP I receive many interesting snippets of news about the Didcot and Wantage Constituency. I recently heard from the National Lottery that they have given grants totaling more than £500,000 in the last year to good causes across the constituency. The recipients were hugely varied,



with two rewards of just under £1,000 to individuals under the 'Heroes Return' programme that helps veterans of World War II to take part in commemorative visits at one end of the scale and £365,000 going to Circles South East, whose aim is to reduce the harm caused by sexual abuse in our communities. In all there were 18 projects across the Constituency supported by the National Lottery: you can see more about lottery-funded projects here: www.lotterygoodcauses.org.uk/

Quite apart from the good news about funding, each of those 18 projects represents a huge amount of effort from volunteers and campaigners across the Constituency. Applying for a lottery grant is never easy, and each application in itself is the result of many hours of work gathering the right information and presenting it in the right way. Behind that effort, is the work each group or organization does day to day, providing services, facilities, activities or support for many other individuals and groups in our communities – a network of effort and help for others. As your MP I am able to meet many of these fantastic people, and see and hear about the work they do and I am constantly amazed by the dedication of the people I meet.

So much of this voluntary work is unsung, and can pass unnoticed, so I'd like to take a small opportunity to say 'thank you' to all those who work for others, in any way at all. We are all grateful!

This month's postbag has been a real mix of domestic and international affairs, with issues such as autism, blasphemy laws in Pakistan, transparency in politics, wildlife crime and animal rights in South Korea featuring frequently.

I also received many emails and letters from constituents concerned about the plight of Syrian refugees. As the conflict in Syria continues to force millions from their homes, it is vital that we do our utmost to assist those suffering at this time of great need. I therefore welcomed the Home Secretary's commitment to provide refuge to some of the most vulnerable refugees here in the UK. Following the announcement, I received an email from a local family who wish to offer their home to a refugee, which provides just one example of why the UK has such a proud tradition of supporting those most in need.

As ever please feel free to contact me at the House of Commons, SW1A 0AA, 020 7219 6350 or vaizeye@parliament.uk. Surgery details can be found at www.vaizey.com.

ED VAIZEY, MP Wantage and Didcot (Con)

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

On Flooding....

In July 2007, we in Drayton were able to look down on Abingdon from the summit of Oday Hill (all 10m of it) at the devastation caused by the floods. 200 Abingdon residents forced out of their homes, the various authorities – Police, Fire Service, Environment Agency, local councils all rushing around doing their best in a well-meaning but hopelessly uncoordinated way. – and the overwhelming feeling of anger. Why had it happened? Why were we not prepared for it? Who was going to pay for it? Who is to blame?

One thing is certain. In an atmosphere of blame and recrimination, it is very difficult to draw sensible conclusions or make sensible plans for how to prevent (or at least reduce the risk of) it happening again. Once we had all calmed down, we could make sensible plans. The authorities could work out how to co-ordinate better, Central Government could work out how much money to spend and where to spend it and local people could do their bit by forming Flood Groups.

In January 2014, here we are again. The authorities are working together much better. We are all much better informed and warned *March 2014*

than we were in 2007. The simple act of removing supermarket trolleys and other debris from the rivers has helped enormously. Of course, there have been other problems and anything could happen yet. My own patio has flooded (it didn't in 2007) and the pool in Abingdon Road has caused one serious accident, but we have had nothing like the Somerset Levels. It seems that it will take an enormous amount of cash to sort out their problems. The traditional solution of dredging worked well when labour was cheap and the process could continue all year round.

The EA have been desperately underfunded for years, so I have some sympathy for Lord Chris Smith as he faces a barrage of anger and abuse for deciding that dredging was not the best way of using his limited budget. I also have little time for senior politicians "apologising" for taking the EA's advice on dredging.

I can't wait for the anger to die down, so that sensible conclusions can be drawn and sensible decisions taken.

RICHARD WEBBER CLLR, OCC

Richard.webber77@ntlworld.com or 01235 534001 DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

The Surgery

Both Richard and I are thoroughly enjoying our regular monthly surgeries at Marcham's Community Shop (what a lovely shop run by such wonderful people!) and have found them very valuable. Set up at a table in the window, each clutching a necessary cup of coffee, we have had the chance to meet quite a few of you already either for a casual chat or for a more in-depth discussion. These surgeries help us to understand how Marcham works and gives us the opportunity to hear worrying problems directly. However, we are aware that there may be people who would rather voice their worries more privately, in which case we are happy to come to your home for a chat. Just pick up the phone. (01235 534001). Our next surgery is 9.00 - 11.00 on Saturday, March 8th.

Air Pollution

As you will remember, I have been taking a special interest in Packhorse Lane with its air quality issues. There are several air collection tubes at certain sites along the road, but I discovered that the one at the most critical point of the S bend had been removed, as it was considered too dangerous for the officers to take readings there. Of course this reduced the level of the pollution readings! With a certain amount of persistent badgering of the officers and with the kind permission of local residents to use their premises to collect that particular tube, the good news is that tube has been restored to the critical site. Now we wait to see whether the readings will mean that Packhorse land qualifies as an AQMA (Air Quality Management Area).

You will be aware that one of the major contributors of air pollution in that area is the HGV traffic. I am bending the County Councillors ear to try to do something about HGV traffic, such as divert it.

Grants

Recently the Vale has been awarding the New Homes Bonus Grants, but there has been some confusion as to who qualifies for these. So here is a summary of grants that are available:

- 1. Festival Grants available for music and arts festivals of up to $\pounds 1,000$ each.
- 2. Capital Grants available for capital projects only (e.g. halls, equipment etc.) of up to £10,000 each.
- 3. New Homes Bonus Grants available for capital or revenue schemes. Total pot of £100,000 divided into areas, depending on how many houses have been completed in an area. Given the number of houses that are going to be built in Marcham, it is vital that organisations in Marcham should apply for this grant when the next round comes.

For further details contact the Vale (01235 520202) CATHERINE WEBBER, CLLR

01235 534001 or catherinewebber@hotmail.co.uk

The Marcham Society

Sir Clive Elliott Oxfordshire and Madagascar, Experiences with Wildlife 'Home and Away' All Saints' Church Marcham 7.45pm 11th March

Non-members always welcome £2 www.marchamsociety.org.uk

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

Marcham WI

Next Meeting



Date: Thursday, 20th March Time: 7.15pm Venue: **Denman College**

Please note the earlier time for this month.

Our meeting in March is our AGM, so please note the slightly earlier start at 7.15pm.

Following the official business and election of Committee and President, our speaker this month will be Rosemary Barlow, who will thrill us with stories behind the scenes during her time in the theatre.

New members and visitors are always welcome.

For any questions, new members or visitors, contact Pippa Hoath 01865 391349 pippahoath@gmail.com

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Friday 7 March

This year's service has been prepared by the women of Egypt and we will be celebrating it in the Baptist chapel at 11am. Emma Dipper will be our speaker and there will be a simple lunch in the

Baptist Hall afterwards.

DO COME!

Abingdon couple, hoping to build their ideal home, seek a small piece of land or a building suitable for conversion (or re-building) in this area.



If you own, or know of, a suitable property please call Trish on 01235 535984



Coming soon: Pippa Greenwood from BBC Gardeners' Question Time For more details email skbgardeningclub@gmail.com or call Steve on (01865) 820399

Southmoor and Kingston Bagpuize Gardening Club

MARCHAM CRICKET CLUB

In preparation for the 2014 Season, Nets are to be held at Abingdon School as follows: 2nd and 9th March at 12.30 6th April at 14.00 13th and 20 April at 12.30



Please contact Trevor Hill (01865 391321) for any information relating to the Club, including playing or umpiring for Marcham. **CSB**

CRICKET UMPIRE(S) REQUIRED - £40 PER MATCH

The cricket club needs an umpire(s) to officiate at league matches on Saturday afternoons from the start of May until the end of August. Whilst it would be ideal to cover most Saturdays, the club would be interested in anyone that could officiate at eight or more matches. Cricket knowledge essential, though informal (or formal) training can be given to supplement that knowledge. A fee of £40 per game is payable.

Please contact club secretary, Trevor Hill, for further information on 01865 391321 or at trevor3chancel@aol.com

SINGING IS GOOD FOR YOU!

2.00-3.30 pm 4th March and 25th March This group is going from strength to strength and now meets in the common room at Duffield Place. Do come and join us, you will be sure of a warm welcome. Tea and cake follow the singing. Phone 391270 for more details **Christine Whild**



MARCHAM SOCIETY MIDWEEK WALK

Midweek Walk, Thursday, March 13th. For this month's walk we will go to The Seven Stars Inn (Map Ref SU563993), recently reopened as a Community-owned Pub, by the Green in Marsh Baldon, at 12.30pm for lunch and 1.30pm for a four mile circular walk



linking the two Baldon villages and Nuneham Courtenay. Members free, non-members £1. We always welcome new walkers. Ring Eric Dunford on 391439 for lifts and further details.

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

Quiz Night Fri 28 March at 8.15pm

The Club is holding quiz nights on the last Friday of each month. Questions are on a range of subjects and aimed at everyone's ability! Teams of up to four people are invited.

Everyone welcome.

Just turn up on the night for a friendly evening of fun and banter.

Further details from Trevor Hill – 01865 391321 We look forward to seeing you at the club

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Generation Games is a fantastic initiative from Age UK Oxfordshire and partnered with the Oxford University Hospitals



NHS Trust. Its prime function is to get over 50 year olds more active and reaping the many benefits of exercise. This service will create a personal programme of activities for you, provide support and help to ensure your safety. We also have a home based exercise DVD which is FREE to the over 50s in Oxfordshire and can also be viewed online; it is a fantastic exercise video that is suitable for everyone whatever your ability or fitness level. The DVD works in tandem with the Generation Games website; an excellent tool to create your ideal exercise and activity programme with information on over 1000 activities.

Activity/Exercise Providers Wanted!

We are looking for more activities and exercise classes located in the Marcham area to be added to the Generation Games Website. If you run an exercise class or organise activities where the emphasis is on physical exercise then we would love to hear from you. We will add your activity details to our website for FREE and you can reap the benefits of increased awareness for your activities.

Contact us today and register your class details to the Generation Games website - www.generationgames.org.uk

generationgames@ageukoxfordshire.org.uk - 01235 849403

The CONSUMER PARTNERSHIP in OXFORDSHIRE

The Consumer Partnership brings together a network of all Oxfordshire's CABs, Trading Standards, and a range of other advice agencies and support groups, housing associations, consumer bodies, Victim Support, etc. CEP is based at Oxford CAB and managed by David Soward.

May - Scams Awareness month

One recent scam was adverts for non-existent jobs, which wasted applicants' time, money and emotion, just in the hope that they might also click on a CV-writing service for which the scammer would be paid a pound! You will all have your pet examples. We would love to have yet more helpers throughout Oxfordshire for our May campaign: can you help to raise awareness in your local library or church or sports club?

Get in touch through www.caox.org.uk/consumer or call David on 01865 304125.

www.caox.org.uk/consumer

Guideposts 5 March from 10 am to 3 pm.

The theme for this open day will be **The Bedroom**. Come and see aids to help get in and out of bed, aids for sitting up in bed, specialist beds

and specialist bed linen.

As always all are welcome to attend our Open Days. Just drop in. Refreshments available.

Guideposts Trust Independent Living Centre

Peachcroft Christian Centre, Lindsay Drive, Abingdon OX14 2RT Call 01235 856212

www.guidepostsilc.org.uk



Sightsavers and The Rotary Club of Oxford North

Blenheim Palace Sponsored Walk Sunday 13th April 2014

Join us in the beautiful grounds of Blenheim Palace from 10am on Sunday 13th April. Enjoy the great outdoors and raise money to help save sight in some of the world's poorest countries. For further information and to take part, please visit

www.sightsavers.org/walk

TAKE TWO MINUTES TO HELP YOUR NHS TO HELP YOU

Winter is a traditionally busy time for the NHS but even with spring approaching it is still important to use the right health services. By choosing well, it could save both you and NHS services a lot of time and inconvenience.

So if you become ill or suffer an injury, take two minutes to decide which NHS service is most appropriate for your needs. Many minor ailments can be easily treated at home or with advice from your local chemist or NHS 111. A wide range of conditions from fractures to sprains and strains can be treated at a Minor Injuries Unit rather than in the Hospital Emergency Department and there are times when your GP would be the best place to go.

Where to go:

- 1. Your first aid kit –many minor ailments such as bruises, grazes, sore throats, colds, coughs, minor cuts, hangovers, and indigestion can be effectively treated yourself. Remember to have a well-stocked medicine cabinet or first aid kit. For details of what to keep in stock ask your pharmacist, or visit www.nhs.uk/chq/pages/990.aspx
- 2.Pharmacies many people forget that their local pharmacist or chemist can provide treatments and advice for a wide range of complaints. If you have diarrhoea, a minor infection, headache, tummy upset, an insect bite or sting, a cough, a cold or even if you want travel advice, your pharmacist can help.
- 3.GP Surgeries if you are feeling generally unwell, have feverish children, a rash, ear pain, an infection, persistent symptoms then your GP is the right choice. If your surgery is closed but you can't wait for help or advice, call 111.
- 4.111 This is the free, 24 hour a day, 365 day a year NHS advice line. You should call 111 when you are feeling unwell or have been hurt but it is not a 999 emergency. If you are unsure where to go or what to do, 111 can provide valuable advice on the most appropriate action to take. It is also a valuable service for people who are not registered with a GP or who just need information or reassurance about what to do next.
- 5. Minor Injuries Units (MIUs)– these centres can often treat many of the complaints people go to A&E for. Deep cuts, eye injuries, broken bones, sprains, minor burns and scalds can all be effectively treated at an MIU. In Oxfordshire we have MIUs in Abingdon , Henley and Witney. For details follow this link http://bit.ly/sIEI2A or call 111.

Accident and Emergency/Emergency Department (ED). – This is ONLY for genuine emergencies. Life threatening conditions such as severe chest pains, breathing difficulties, choking, and serious bleeding injuries.. If you attend the ED with a minor cut or a bad hangover you are taking up valuable time of the Emergency doctors and nurses who are there to treat those who are badly hurt and severely unwell.

Take two minutes to think and Choose well.

If you have event to publicise or information for our community, contact the Editor on 01865 391725 editor@madnews.co.uk

BABIES AND TODDLERS GROUP

Tuesday mornings in the Church 10.00 - 11.30.

Please do come and join us, we have toys for babies, activities for toddlers and refreshments for all. First visit is free, then £2 per family.

For more details call 0777 565 4445 *CHARLIE AND SUE*

MARCHAM PRE-SCHOOL NEWS

The children of Marcham Pre-school we have been celebrating Chinese New Year this term with a variety of activities, crafts and role-play. The home corner has become a restaurant,

with chopsticks, fortune cookies and rice. We followed many of the New Year traditions including cleaning the whole kitchen! We've cooked noodles, dressed up, made our own dragons dance, created orange blossom trees, listend to traditional Chinese music and presented each child with their very own red packet, lucky money envelope!

It has been a fun and exciting two weeks and we have all learnt lots about China and the New Year celebrations.

Kung Hei Fat Choi to all MADNews readers!

If you would like more information about Marcham Preschool please e:mail marcham-preschool@hotmail.co.uk or telephone 01865 392101 or visit www.marcham-preschool. weebly.com Allocations for September 2014 will begin shortly - it is never too early to register your child - we expect spaces to fill guickly!!

MARION, NICKY, KATHARINE, NATASHA AND LOUISA marcham-preschool@hotmail.co.uk

www.marcham-preschool.weebly.com

Early Birds

Seen locally, 19th February:

- Sparrow with beak full of nesting material (tiny twigs, wisps of hay etc)
- Starling busy preparing this year's home in roof eaves.

Anyone heard a cuckoo yet?? JAY



Fly Fishing for Beginners

Farmoor Flyfishing Club will be holding training for beginners in the evenings of the following dates:

Wed 21st May – Wed 28th May Wed 4th June – Wed 11th June From 19.00 till 21.00

All equipment needed will be available free, coaching will be done by professional coaches. Girls and boys over the age of ten, and any adults who would like to try are welcome.

For further information phone Joe Featherstone 01865 391426

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





ABINGDON LITTLE ANGELS

This month has been an exciting month at Little Angels with all the children getting involved, as our topic of winter has led nicely into the Winter Olympics.



The children have been enjoying all the craft activities from painting the Olympic rings to creating our own model of Sochi.

In the main room the children recreated events in their own handmade bobsleigh, laughing exuberantly as they pretended to fly down the course. The children re-enacted their own Winter Olympic events even making their own podium to receive their medals. In the baby room the children have also been helping with the Olympic activities, by helping to paint and colour the medals and athletes for the children's Olympic village.

The afterschool club has been hard at work creating their own dens, some even marking out a small garden for themselves. Alongside this several children have been making collages of equipment for a regional competition, producing lovely posters for the benefit of the club. The children also took great enjoyment from teaching each other a variety new games which they played enthusiastically together.

Overall it has been a good month at Little Angels and as the games continue in Sochi so shall the wonderful activities Olympic experience for all children.

If you would like any further information 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 email info@abingdonlittleangels.co.uk

NEWS FROM 1ST MARCHAM GUIDES



During last term the girls have been working **Girlguiding UK** towards their Communicator Go For It badge. They have been learning about different methods of communication which has taken them around the village in their patrols to plan and draw a trail for the other patrols to follow, with great success as noone got lost!! They have also been learning about Braille, sign language and Morse code. We had a visit from ex-Guides Beth and Alex Simmons who kindly talked to us about their obstacles in

communication. The Guides were enthralled and learned valuable lessons in communicating with deaf people. We also played some very fun games based around the Communicating theme! And, at the end of term, the Guides held a fundraising Valentine's Disco at the school for children in Years 2-6 at Marcham. One of our Guides, Maisy Summers, has been selected for an international trip and is going to Mexico this summer with Anglia Region (of which Oxfordshire is a part). She needs to raise £2,400 to cover the cost of the trip, and the disco was the first of our events. It was very successful, and we would like to thank the children and their parents for supporting this event. We would also like to thank Ashley Hillier for DJ-ing, ably supported by his mum Sam, and other members of the PTA who generously gave up their time to help. Thanks also go to other members of the community and the older Guides for their help. Last, but not at all least, thank you to Teresa Sandall for her services! And before we sign off, we must mention the feedback from the ladies serving refreshments: they

were overwhelmed by how polite all the children were. Thank you. *JILL ROWE, SALLY FATHERS, TRISH SUMMERS*

SAVE THE DATE 7.30pm Saturday 28 June 2014 Summer Dance, MSSSC Organised by Hayley Cousins, Marcham Pre-School 07748 120601 More details to come later MARCHAMPLAYERS

Good turn out on a filthy night at our AGM on 14th February. Financially we had an excess of income over expenditure of £196.

The Chairman reported that during the last twelve months we had made four

theatre visits, visited Marcham School for a "With Great Pleasure" evening with some of the pupils and also engaged in one Play Reading evening. He also said that with the continued absence of a permanent "stage" pending the outcome of the various ongoing planning initiatives, it was difficult to envisage when we might next actually tread the boards ourselves.

Some of the above factors were partly behind a recommendation that for the time being no annual subscription would be levied for the coming twelve months - this would be reviewed at the 2015 AGM, meanwhile paid up members from 2013 would be deemed to be in membership for the current year. Newcomers wishing to participate in our activities would be welcomed with free membership until at least February 2015.

The Committee was re-elected en bloc with the exception of Tina Hill now being a full member as opposed to being co-opted, this situation arising from Cheryll Sewel's departure from the village. She will be missed greatly and appropriate thanks for all her sterling efforts on behalf of the Players have been made in several other scenarios already. She is succeeded as Secretary by Joey McLean - welcome back!

Next year it is intended to continue our theatre trips, Play Readings and "With Great Pleasure" reading evenings. We are also looking for opportunities to consider in relation to promoting musical fund raising evenings and the like. Any enquiries relating to that or for any other Player related matter please telephone either Dave Hutchinson - 01865 391964 or Joey McLean - 01865 391242

For more details about joining in with the Players, call Dave Hutchinson 01865 391964 or Joey McLean 01865 391242. www.marchamplayers.co.uk

AN OVER-LOOKED ECO SYSTEM

What a hard year it's been for garden wildlife, so let's all make a few changes to help our visiting friends thrive. Our gardens are an important eco system



we so easily overlook. Being over-tidy can be counter-

productive as lots of insects need somewhere to hide during the winter months. If you've spent the whole summer attracting insects into your garden and building the food chain, you need to give them somewhere to hibernate. Predators of what gardeners see as pests, often hide under leaves, long grass and deadwood. All these things we often clear away during winter.

Give what you have attracted somewhere to hide and they will emerge and be with you again in spring.

You don't have to grow massive wild flower meadows to be a wildlife gardener – if you only have a balcony or window box wild flowers can be grown in them to.

A wildlife garden may bring visions of a messy, overgrown garden with nettles and native species only. However, if the garden is managed properly and with non-native plants, it will provide a habitat for lots of invertebrates, insects, amphibians, birds and mammals all year round. People always ask for gardens with year round interest, yet overlook wildlife gardening.

The value of an animal-friendly and chemical-free area for all creatures, should not be underestimated – so even if you don't have a garden you can get involved even in a small way.

Happy Gardening STUART MABBUTT Wildlife Gardening Specialist 01865 747243 March 2014

PLAYERS, WILDLIFE & CROSSWORD ANSWERS

CROSSWORD ANSWERS BY ALISA

Across: 1 Toss 6 Chef 8 Warpath 10 Antarctic 13 Sprat 16 Spiral 17 Mirror 18 Yeast 21 Mousehole 24 Carport 25 Bush 26 Harp Down: 2 Off 3 Swine 4 Great Pleasure 5 Marcham School 6 Chair 7 Elm 9 Dresser 11 Correct 12 Six 13 Say 14 Tit 15 Dry 19 Torch 20 Sloth 22 Gnu 23 Fir

MARCHAM AND DISTRICT EX SERVICEMEN'S CLUB NORTH STREET, MARCHAM OX13 6NG

NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS

At a committee meeting on Tuesday 4th February 2014, a proposal was passed that:

All members must register **INDIVIDUALLY** at the Club between 9pm and 11pm and pay their subscription fee if they wish to remain on the list of current Members.

Members not able to attend the Club must submit their individual subscriptions by post to the secretary at the Club.

The closing date of this registration is April 1st each year.

Please note that those failing to respond by April 1st 2014 will no longer be considered Members and their names will be removed from the current Members' register.

Current Subscription fees: Under 65 $\pounds 10$ Over 65 $\pounds 6$

Family Table Top Horse Racing

Saturday 12th April 2014 Members, Their bona fide guests and family

THE STORY OF SALTER'S STEAMERS – MARCHAM SOCIETY MEETING, 11 FEBRUARY

A large audience braved the weather to hear a very entertaining talk by Simon Wenham, who began working on Salter's boats as a holiday job and now acts as their archivist.

The Salter family lived in Wandsworth, where they were wellestablished boat builders. Brothers John and Stephen Salter moved to Oxford in 1858, where they began a boat-building business at Folly Bridge. They also hired out all kinds of river craft, from canoes to pleasure boats.

John's three sons, John, James and George became prominent Oxford citizens (two serving as Mayor). As devout Methodists they helped establish chapels in and around Oxford - the boatyard even produced a Methodist missionary steamer for use on the Congo. The company built college barges and boats for the crews of the annual Boat Race, but perhaps the most bizarre item made was a motorbike with a canoe sidecar!

Motor boats were produced for the Navy during World War I and landing craft during World War II. Having helped build these, an apprentice had the dubious honour of travelling in one to the Normandy landings.

A link with Great Western Railways helped boost hiring of boats for holiday trips along the Thames and other rivers. Although Salters could not match Morris Motors for wages, they looked after their staff and ensured that they had work during the winter months, often at the gasworks.

Five generations on, the company is still family-run. Although their main business is now in property, it is the summer steamer trips along the Thames for which they are still best known. *JF*

EMERGENCY CARERS' SUPPORT SERVICE is a support service for adult carers of adults in Oxfordshire. They can provide experienced staff to look after the cared for person if the carer has an emergency and is unable to do so

Just call 0845 050 7666 for more details and register your details,

Marcham Village Shop and Post Office

Mon - Fri:	07.30 - 18.00
Sat:	07.30 - 13.00
Sun:	08.00 - 13.00





Marcham Village Shop – How do we compare?

	MVS	Poundland
120g large bars of Cadburys chocolate	£1	£1
500 ml Rentless energy drinks	£1	£1
500 ml Rockstar energy drinks	99p!	£1
300 ml Mr Sheen multi surface spray polish	£1	£1
400 ml Alberto Balsam shampoo and 400 ml Alberto balsam conditioner	£1	£1
Huggies 64 wipes	£1	£1

We also have many other products at £1 or less. So why not check us out! It pays to shop with MVS

ABC Bike RIde!

Against Breast Cancer's Great Western Bike Ride, Sundav Mav 18th 2014

The Great Western is Against Breast Cancer's new fundraising bike ride, taking place on Sunday the 18th of May in Swindon, SN3 1TX. In the last year alone, Against Breast Cancer successfully raised over £20,000 through its participation in cycling challenges in the UK and overseas. With your help we hope to make this year's inaugural event our biggest and best to date.

There are currently 136 women and 1 man diagnosed with breast cancer every day in the UK. It is our aim to find vital information to increase survival after diagnosis and ultimately to discover a vaccine against breast cancer. The sponsorship raised by participants in the Great Western bike

ride makes a real difference to our continued research, and with your help we hope to be able to sign up more participants than ever before.

The ride has something to offer riders of all abilities, with four fantastic routes to choose from:

FUN: 30 miles - Great for leisure cyclists and families

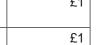
SHORT: 50 miles - A beautiful route for seasoned cyclists MID: 70 miles - A real challenge that comes with the reward of cycling over White Horse Hill!

FULL ROUTE: 100 miles - This route takes you south through the Avon valley towards Avebury and passes right though the ancient stone circles before heading back up towards the White Horse.

What's more, if you enter a team of 5 or more, we'll send you FREE tickets for a day out paintballing at any one of 35 centres nationwide. You will get everything you need to be Rambo for a day: body armour, helmet and goggles, combat suit and combat armour!

Join our team today and help to make our dream of a vaccine against breast cancer a reality!

www.againstbreastcancer.org.uk March 2014



breast cancer

GARD AGM

The GARD AGM will be held at Stocks Lane Farm Steventon on Tuesday 22nd April 2014 at 7pm followed by a Committee Meeting.

All who wish to be updated are welcome to attend, however there is no immediate plan for a reservoir in the Upper Thames area although it remains one of the three stated options for the 2019 plan. In the meantime the alternative of re-use of waste water is the short term favoured option. GARD continues to monitor very closely the integrity of the work Thames Water is planning and required to do in the next couple of years, and we will report developments.

Abingdon Drama Club Dangerous Corner By J. B. Priestley



Directed by Lin Crowley

Wednesday 26th - Saturday 29th March 2014. 7.30pm at The Unicorn Theatre, Checker Walk, Abingdon

Have you ever wished you hadn't said something and as you watch the results of your careless words, wish you could turn back time? Dangerous Corner, one of J. B. Priestley's time plays, explores what might happen if you could do just that! www.abingdon-drama-club.com

Casa-Margarita presents: Margarita and the House of Love Sun 9th March - 7:30pm Holywell Music Room, Holywell Street, Oxford Tickets: £14 (£12/ £10) Phone: 0773 344 8279 Email: margarita@casa-margarita.co.uk More information: www.casa-margarita.co.uk This is the last chance in Oxford to see this brilliant, witty,

passionate, dark and light tale of an old house in Seville, and those who have lived there. Fabulous music-making, innovative approach to the music of Granados, Lorca, de Falla, Rodrigo and much more...

Marcham Bridge Club

Season has started. Anyone 2014 interested in playing or learning to play the game is welcome to join us in the Board Room above the shop at Manor Farm. Play starts at 19.30 Monday nights, followed by a social gathering at The Crown pub.



For further information please ring Jennie Hobbs 01865 391772 or Joe Featherstone 01865 391426

St Lawrence Church, Tubney

Special Evensong

Sunday March 2nd at 5.00pm

John Walker from Tubney will talk about

Healing

My God is Bigger Than Your god.

Boy George has been on the music scene since around 1980, most notably with Culture Club and their chart hits including '*Do you really want to hurt me*'. His newly released album has spawned the single *My God is Bigger than Your god*.



I love music of many different genres and almost always home in on the lyrics,

especially when my ears prick up on words of a spiritual nature. A fellow church leader I knew in Bedfordshire had Boy George's brother in his congregation and I know that another of his brothers also has put his faith in Christ. So I was particularly intrigued by the words in George's latest single. After one or two failed attempts, I finally found the lyrics online.



In an attempt to find out the meaning behind the lyrics, another web search showed details of an interview that George had with emusic magazine. He said

"I was in a bar in New York It was everyone's favorite haunt. I was drunk and messy, and this guy came up and gave me a Jesus pamphlet.' At the time his reaction was negative but he went on to say "back then, if people said, 'Oh, I'll pray for you,' I'd shudder. Now I'm a bit more open to that."

Throughout the world, many people have different ideas of who God is and what He is like, from multiple gods in Hinduism to no god in Buddhism, to the monotheistic faiths of Islam, Judaism and Christianity. Then there are those with no ostensible 'religious' faith in the common understanding of the term but who revere celebrities as pseudo-gods for nothing more than musical, sporting or acting prowess.

Surely, the only One who deserves our adoration is The One who stands outside of space and time, who flung stars into space, created this amazingly complex and integrated world we live in and ultimately revealed Himself to us in person. The One True God, who created us, knows us and loves us, came to live amongst us and gave Himself for us in the person of Jesus Christ. As Boy George says so eloquently, this God is bigger than all other 'gods'. This might sound arrogant but no more so than insisting that 2 + 2 = 4. It's the truth, so it has to be stated as such.

I encourage you to be open to this God who knows, you, loves you and wants you to know Him. He enabled that possibility through Jesus Christ. 'My God' is a celebration of faith and the tale of a man who lost faith and found it," said Boy George. "It could be me – but it might be you!" and as the words of his song goJesus loves you, don't you know?...... Put your faith in the good Lord

From March, on the third Sunday morning of each month, we are joining with our friends at All Saints in a celebration of this God - our Creator who became our Saviour and welcomes us into His family. This is the One True God that we have jointly found relationship with. **Why not join us too?**

Every blessing

Keith Mersh, Pastor Marcham Baptist Church

Keith Mersh	- Pastor	01865 391881
Bill Dyer	- Elder	01235 814986

Speakers in March

2 Mar -	Ralph Green	
9 Mar -	Keith Mersh	
16 Mar -	JOINT SERVICE AT ALL SAINTS	
23 Mar -	Phil Mader Grayson	
30 Mar -	Stephen Harrison	
Join us on Sundays at 10.30am,		

or call Keith if you want to talk about life and faith.







All Saints' and St. Luke's Parish Page

Dear Friends,

What a joy to have the days gradually lengthening!

The month of March this year heralds the beginning of Lent (Ash Wednesday being March 5th). Traditionally a time of reflection and penance in preparation for Holy Week and Easter, many people these days struggle to know what to do with this 'season'. May I suggest the following:

- a. Take time out to reassess things in your life: priorities, pressures, commitments, and the place of God and faith in the mix of life for you.
- b. Each day to find time to be quiet, even if it's for only a few minutes. Calm your thoughts, breathe deeply, and ask God to meet you in the stillness. Try reading a Psalm, or part of a Psalm, from the Bible (e.g. Psalms 19 and 23). Pray.
- c. Try to make time to do something special for someone else each week A meal? Visiting? An act of kindness?
- d. Try going without something you really like for Lent and giving the money saved to charity.

There are lots of possibilities. Most importantly it is a time to reflect upon our relationship with God. How would you describe your relationship with Him? With Jesus Christ?

Distant? He invites you to draw near

Occasional? He invites you to know His presence everyday Close? He invites you to come even closer

If you would like help with the adventure of faith, then please ask and don't let the opportunity slip by.

May Lent this year be a special 'season' for you, and may there be great fun on the adventure, even joy!

Happy exploration! Revd. Richard Zair

A prayer for Lent:

Heavenly Father, thank you for this special time of year. Please help me to make space for you in the busyness of life, and help me to think of others as well as myself. Please strengthen my faith, and help me to know you more. I ask in Jesus' name. Amen.

New Sunday sermon series in Lent:

Do you find the Old Testament a difficult part of the Bible? Our series of sermons during Lent will unpack events in the Old Testament which show that God was planning the amazing events of Holy Week and Easter right from the beginning! Come and deepen your appreciation of Old Testament, and its relevance to our faith. March 2nd: God comes to rescue March 9th: A lamb March 16th: A scapegoat March 23rd: The suffering servant in Psalms April 6th: The suffering servant in Isaiah

Special March dates:

- Men's breakfast, Sat 1st, 8.30am at the Sports and Social Club
- Ash Wednesday service of Holy Communion: at Kingston Bagpuize at 7.30pm.
- Marriage Preparation day: March 15th
- Wednesday 19th 7.30pm, Manor School Shippon. The Filling Station an opportunity for reflective prayer and worship. Open to all.
- Changing Room (Women's Breakfast), Sat22nd, 8.30am Manor Farm Boardroom
- Mothering Sunday: March 30th All Age service

Special Notice:

Church kneelers: would you like a church kneeler at home to remember someone special? Please have a look at the kneelers at the back of All Saints, and if you would like to choose one then please help yourself. We are keeping a number for continued use in church, but the others are available, free of charge. Questions? Please contact Richard or Tamsin in the parish office.

Regular services:

Sundays at All Saints': 10 am and 6 pm St. Luke's, Garford: 10.30am March 9th Wednesdays: 10.30 am Holy Communion at Duffield Place (except on March 5th due to redecoration work, HC at 11 Sweetbriar)

Contacts: Rev. Richard Zair 391319 (r_zair@yahoo.co.uk) Parish Office: parish_office41@yahoo.co.uk Jill Rowe *Youth and Children's Minister* 390885 Andrew Haines *Churchwarden* 01235 868946 Deborah Flint *Churchwarden* 391056 Tamsin Gilbert *Administrator* 821142 Ellie Montgomery *PCC Secretary* 391868