

JUNE 2016 VOL: 38 NO: 6

READ & RECYCLE!

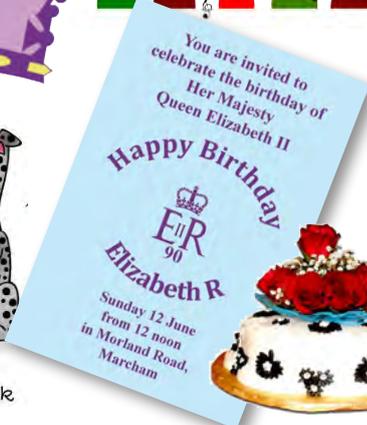
FREE



▲ Little Angels page 17



best trick



▲ Look out for your invitation to Q90B celebrations page 9



▲ ISIS Chamber Orchestra page 7



◀ Summer Dance page 5

▼ Marcham School Summer Fete page 17



▲ Holiday Club Moldova! page 15



Holiday Waste Collections

Normal day	Revised day	Which bin?
Wed 1 June	Thurs 2 June	Green, food, brown
Thurs 2 June	Fri 3 June	Green, food, brown
Fri 3 June	Sat 4 June*	Green, food, brown

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.

Diary for June

2 Thur	Midweek Talk: The Radnor Arms, Coleshill, 12.30 lunch / 13.30 walk	7
2 Thur	Mobile Library, Sweetbriar 14.35 – 15.00	
4 Sat	Wantage & Grove Lions, Jumble Sale, East Hanney, 13.30	15
8 Wed	Marcham Parish Council Meeting, Duffield Place, 19.30	3
9 Thur	National Carers Week Launch, Abingdon, 10.00-16.00	11
11 Sat	Litter Pick in Marcham, Anson Field Car Park, 09.30	9
12 Sun	Marcham Q90B Celebrations, in and around Morland Road, from 11.00	9

14 Tue	Singing is Good for You, Duffield Place, 14-15.30	9
16 Thur	Mobile Library, Sweetbriar 14.35 – 15.00	
16 Thu	WI Garden Party, 24 The Farthings, 19.30	7
17 Fri	Progressive Supper, starting at All Saints' Church, 18.30	11
18 Sat	Marcham Summer Dance, MSSSC, 19.30 – 00.00	5
20 Mon	Deadline for July/August MADNews, 17.00	
24 Fri	Marcham School Summer Fete, 18.00 - 20.00	17
24 Fri	Quiznight, MSSSC, Anson Field, 20.15	7
28 Tue	Singing is Good for You, Duffield Place, 14-15.30	9
30 Thur	Mobile Library, Sweetbriar 14.35 – 15.00	

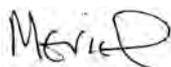
Details of events may change after publication, please check with the relevant organisers before attending events.

Dear Readers

There will be lots of fun this month with a whole afternoon of lunch, singing, games, football, cricket, CAKES and a DOG SHOW (thanks Boundary Vets!) on Sunday 12 June to celebrate the official birthday of Her Majesty. We are also having a clean up on 11 June to make sure Marcham will be spotless for our party.

If you can help by making a cake, picking up litter, bringing your dog along to the show or just coming along with your picnic to lunch - it will be a wonderful event.

See you there



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DEADLINES

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

ADDITIONAL COPIES

These are available free from Marcham Post Office or the Editor. Postal copies are also available – contact the Editor.

DISCLAIMER

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
Tel: 01235 534001

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

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**MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWS
Annual Council Meeting**

At the annual council meeting held on 11th May, Miss Ruth Mander was elected Chairman for the forthcoming year and Mrs. Sandra Hill as Vice-Chairman. Various appointments to outside committees and internal working parties were made. The contact details of the Council members can be found on the Council's noticeboard outside the Institute.

Parish Council resignation – Mr Colin Bough has resigned his seat on the parish council. He has served the parish for over 17 years working enthusiastically on behalf of the residents, being involved not only with the Parish Council, but other village organisations as well. He devoted much time to community issues, as well as attending Council meetings. The Council would like to express its gratitude for his dedicated service to the parish. There is now a vacancy on the Parish Council, so anyone who is interested in joining the Council, please contact the Clerk.

Welcome to Mr Peter Steere – Peter was co-opted at the May meeting of the Council to fill the seat vacated by Sam Turney who resigned a few weeks ago. Peter is a newcomer to the village, moving into a home on the Vanderbilt site off Sheepstead Road. Whilst not having been in local government previously, he has been a student of local history at Oxford University, and is therefore very much interested in local communities. The Council welcomes his enthusiasm and wishes him every success in his new role.

Grant from Vale of White Horse District Council for The Queen's Birthday Celebrations

The Parish Council has been fortunate in obtaining a small grant from the Vale of White Horse District Council towards the costs of village events during the Queen's Birthday Celebrations. It is working with Marcham Community Group who is organising the events, to see how this could be best spent.

Sheepstead Road – street lights

Two street light columns in Sheepstead Road were rusting and becoming a danger. The County Council has cut these down. Unfortunately the County Council is only able to carry out emergency works at the current time and they are on a list to be replaced when it is able to carry out this type of work. The County Council is unable to provide a timescale at the moment.

Planning Applications

The Council has considered the following planning applications:

P16/V0825/HH Two storey extension and detached store/hobby room in the

rear garden at 5 Haines Court. Council supported the application.

P16/V0992/RM Reserved matters for the construction of 36 units at Priory Park on land off Packhorse Lane. Council objected to the proposals as set out. Council's previous concerns regarding access to the site had not been taken into account, there were no bungalows on the site, the houses were too close to the Priory affecting the setting of the listed building, the allocated open space on the site appeared to the attenuation pond, and there seemed to be no access to all properties for the dustcart, nor provision for a bin area near the road edge, if there were to be no dustcart access.

Date of Next Council Meeting:

Wednesday 8th June 2016 at 7.30 p.m. in the residents' lounge, at Duffield Place. This will be the annual meeting of the Council
Clerk to the Council: Mrs. L. Martin, 90 Howard Cornish Rd, 01865 391833
clerk@marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Any member of the public is most welcome to attend any of our meetings. There is a section near the start of each meeting for public participation, where any member of the public is able to speak about any topic which is relevant to the work of the Parish Council (for a maximum of three minutes). Members of the public are also welcome to observe some or all of the rest of the meeting.
www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk

URGENT LODGINGS REQUIRED

I am looking for a house to lodge in within the Marcham area because I work in locally and am very involved the Marcham community. Preferably with people under the age of 30. I am looking to move in as soon as possible so if you know anyone who might be able to help please contact me on 07880 493177 or by email amyLou.102@hotmail.co.uk. Many thanks, Amy.

**NOISE & NUISANCE
WARNING**

Brian & Mary Tearney are hosting a party to celebrate Tor's marriage on Saturday 25th June in Farm Close (the roadside field at Manor Farm)

There will be a disco, music & dancing 5pm - midnight.

We hope this won't cause anyone too much inconvenience but wanted to give people nearby advance warning to purchase earplugs!

**MARCHAM MILL BRIDLEWAY 17
BRIDGE OVER THE RIVER OCK**

Oxfordshire County Council understands that local people are concerned about the delay for works to reopen Marcham Mill bridleway bridge and this has caused some of them to attempt to use the bridge and cause damage to the barriers and potential harm to themselves. Please be assured that the County Council is doing everything we can to work with the landowner to find a way forward and get the bridge repaired and open as soon as possible.

This bridleway is closed because the bridge is unsafe for all public and private users – there is a big hole in it and unsafe stonework all around it that could mean one or both stone arches may collapse without warning at any time.

Unfortunately there is no ability to install a temporary bypass structure to keep the route open. The fencing is there to ensure public safety as we do not want you or your children/pets getting killed or seriously injured. The council is taking all reasonable steps which is why the fencing has recently been reinforced as adults and children have attempted to gain access to the bridge and have caused damage to the fencing meaning the money available to spend on repairs is having to be spent on improved barriers. Note that by attempting access you are endangering your safety and compromising the safety of others.

The bridge is a grade 2 listed structure so has complicated the extensive works required to repair the bridge and make it fit for all public and pedestrian, cycle and equestrian use. OCC has commissioned detailed engineers survey and report about repair and strengthening options and is working hard behind the scenes to take these forward with the district council's conservation officer and the landowner.

Oxfordshire County Council is seeking a safe and open crossing as soon as is reasonably possible and it is hoped that some solution will be possible in 2016/17 financial year.

A special message to local parents: Please speak to your children and discourage them from trying to access the site. There are many hazards that are not visible and could endanger their lives.

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

*Oxfordshire County Council
Countryside Access Team*

Personal adverts in MADNews are free so if you want to put in a notice or have something to sell, call the editor on 391725 or email editor@madnews.co.uk
The deadline for all personal adverts is 20th of the month.

The Downes Family ...

Would like to thank friends, family and perfect strangers who have offered their love and support in the tragic loss of our beautiful boy Ellis.

Thank you for all the cards, food, tea and coffee left on the door step with cakes, etc. and donations of money in memory of Ellis. He truly was an amazing boy. We love and miss him so much. We are a strong family and together we will get through this with all your support.

Thank You

Community Facilities Steering Group

There has been a delay at the Vale Planning Office in completing an external report on the planning application, so it was not ready for the planning meeting on 18th May. We understand that it is now likely to be heard on one of the following dates: 8th June / 15th June or 6th July. We hope that it will not be delayed for too much longer.

It will be good if we could have a turn-out of people from Marcham to show the community support for this plan. Please let us know if you may be able to come to the meeting (email: jim.asher@btinternet.com) and we will let you know when the date has been confirmed.

The Community Facilities Steering Group (CFSG) was set up with the clear objective of developing plans for new community facilities in Marcham and is made up of representatives from local groups with an interest in village facilities. If you wish to have more information on the CFSG, or you think you can help, please contact Jim Asher (391727).

CFSG - Opportunities without Obstacles

MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL - VACANCY

The Council has a vacancy for a councillor. It is the tier of local authorities closest to the people and provides local services within the parish. It acts as a consultee on many issues putting forward the views of residents. The Council meets 11 times in the year to discuss matters relating to the village and immediate surrounds. If you are interested in joining or just want to find out more about the role, then please contact Linda Martin, Clerk to the Council, on 01865 391833 or email clerk@marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk

*Marcham Summer
Dance
Marcham Sports
and Social Club
Saturday 18th June
7.30pm - Midnight
Dancing to "Nevada"*

*Tickets £7.50 each
Available from
Marcham Pre School
Chris Ricketts 01865 391329
Hayley Cousins 01865 391024
There will also be a raffle and
food available on the night*

Please support this event as this will be the last one in the social club that has supported the community for several years



**MID-WEEK WALK:
THURSDAY, JUNE 2ND**

Join us for another summer walk. We will meet at 12.30pm for lunch at The Radnor Arms (Map Ref SU236937, SN6 7PR, which has its own micro-brewery!) in Coleshill, west of Faringdon. We will start our walk of 4 miles at 1.30 and will be walking on some of the National Trust's Coleshill Park Estate. Members free, non-members £1. We always welcome new walkers.



Ring Eric Dunford on 391439 for lifts and further details or check website, especially if you are not on our email list. Sometimes late changes have to be made.

MARCHAM CRICKET CLUB

OCA Fixtures for June are as follows:

June	1st XI	2nd XI
4th	Kilkenny (Away)	Britwell Salome II (Home)
11th	Stanton Harcourt (Home)	Chaddington II (Away)
18th	Westcott (Away)	Stanton Harcourt II (Home)
25th	Fringford (Home)	Dorchester II (Away)

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

And finally ... a cricket commentator once noted: "A very small crowd here today. I can count the people on one hand - Can't be more than 30." **CSB**



Marcham WI

Next Meeting - Garden Party

Date: Thursday, 16th May

Time: 7.30pm

Venue: 24, The Farthings, Marcham



The next meeting on Thursday June 16th will be our **Garden Party**. We will be having a 'bring and share' supper, so please bring along a plate of food to share. To celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday, please also come along wearing a union jack - it could be anywhere, so just use your imagination! Let's hope for some nice weather and we look forward to seeing you all there for an enjoyable social evening..

New members and visitors are always welcome.

For further information, please contact:

Pippa Hoath 01865 391349 pippahoath@gmail.com

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

Quiz Night

8.15pm FRIDAY 24 June

Questions are on a range of subjects and aimed at everyone's ability! Teams of up to four people, but if you are alone or a couple, come along, and we could fit you into an existing or even new team! Just turn up on the night for a friendly evening of fun and banter.

Further details from Trevor Hill - 01865 391321

Everyone welcome - members AND non-members

We look forward to seeing you at the club

ISIS Concert in All Saints' Church

It was lovely to welcome the ISIS Orchestra back to Marcham for what has now become an annual charity event when they generously donate the proceeds to one of Marcham's deserving causes. This year the money will be donated to the Marcham Community Group and, as Jim Asher explained, there will be great demands on its funds to help kit out the new facilities when the hoped for day finally arrives and building actually happens.

It was super that there was a large audience in the church to hear a programme which featured Baroque music and some more modern music it inspired. Sadly it didn't work out quite like that because the guitar soloist, Raymond Burley, who was to have starred in two of the pieces, had suffered an injury to his arm the previous day and was unable to play. With some remarkable adaptability and spontaneity, the orchestra was able to slot in an extra Concerto Grosso by Handel, but the balance of the programme suffered as a result and the baroque rather dominated the evening.

However the orchestra were in very good form, with the strings very nicely in tune and the woodwind providing some lovely solos. The 'Arrival of the Queen of Sheba' gave us a rousing start and there were some very jolly moments in the Handel and Boyce pieces which followed. A shortened second half started with the only 20th century work, by Respighi, which was quite a challenge, but with some really crisp pizzicato from the strings, and we finished with a Rameau Suite with some virtuoso playing by Sharon Curtis on the trumpet.

We had a lovely evening and all enjoyed the refreshments during the interval provided by the MCG, when we had ample opportunity to socialise and meet the performers. Triumph over adversity; what will they do next year? **ED**



VILLAGE CAFE
EVERY WEDNESDAY
MSSSC



Do you like a roast dinner followed by home-made pudding? If so **Marcham Village Café** is the place for you. Join us at the Scouts, Sports and Social Club building on the Anson Field at about 12 o'clock? Bring a friend if you don't want to come alone. If you need a lift please ring Sheila Dunford on 391439.

It's not just for the elderly, all are welcome and we have a group of children from the nursery next door

We don't make a charge for the meal but rely on contributions.

Community Information Network

Stay involved, informed, in touch

A free information service in Oxfordshire to help

you stay independent and live life to the full.

Whether you need help at home, want to

discover local activities in your area, or find out about

benefits and support services to help you live independently

- your local Community Information Worker can help.

Your Vale of White Horse team:

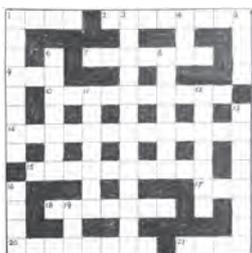
Mandy Richens: Call Mandy on: 07827 235429

Email: amandarichens@ageukoxfordshire.org.uk

Sonia Robinson: Call Sonia on: 07827 235414

Email: soniarobinson@ageukoxfordshire.org.uk

CROSSWORD BY ALISA - ANSWERS



Across: 1. Tuba 2. Adequate 7. Defamed 9. Elf 10. Fishing rod 14. Gabis cleaning 15. Lyric poems 17. Inn 18. Joncare 20. Parakeet 21. Isis

Down: 1. Tutelage 3. Duffield Place 4. Use 5. Exit 6. Affably 8. Magnate 11. Session 12. Omits it 13. Ugliness 16. Harp 19. Ova

Bank Balance
£20,295.80

Local Events
£11,830

Donations
£8,260

2016 - 2017 Membership
Voting: 72 Junior: 18

5p Coins
7047

Marcham
Community
Group



Marcham Community Street Party—Q90B Sunday 12th June—Don't miss it!

Q90B—Sunday 12th June: We are holding a community-wide event for all the family, to mark the Queen's 90th birthday on the same day as the big lunch on The Mall in London. The event will be centred on Morland Road for a village street party, with a bring-and-share lunch and a range of activities in the afternoon for all ages. Many people are working hard to prepare for this so please come out to support this special day and bring all the family. Look out for your invitation being delivered soon.

Events and activities (with approximate timings);

11:00 Open Air Service (Anson Field)

12:00 Church bells and Fancy dress and crown parade (front of school)

12:30 Formal opening and Bring-and-share Lunch starts

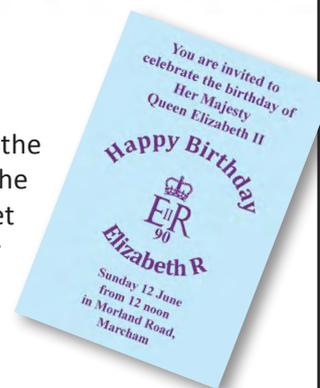
3:00-4:30 Tea and cakes

17:00 (approx.) event finishes

We are inviting people to make a **cake** with a 'Royal' theme to be displayed and eaten with the afternoon teas.

There will be a **DOG SHOW** at 2.30pm with various categories: Prettiest Bitch, Most Handsome Dog, Best Veteran, Best Trick, Waggiest Tail, Dog that looks most like its owner, Dog that looks most like her Majesty, Best behaved, Dog the judge most wants to take home, Best in Show.

During the afternoon, there will be **The Marcham Games** - fun events with something for everyone, PLUS • Children's Activities • Treasure Hunt • Quiz • Penalty Shoot Out & Kwik Cricket • School Dancing • Vehicle Displays • Trendles Archaeology Display • Marcham Remembered in Pictures • Local Organisations Displays • Ice Cream • MSSSC Bar
If you can help setting up, come along to Morland Road at 9.30am and prepare for action.



Queen's 90th Birthday—Marcham Community Street Party

Marcham Community Group: Company No 7470307 Charity No 1144407
391727 (Jim) admin@marcham.org

www.marcham.org



Come and join us for a village-wide Litter Pick

To keep our village looking lovely, we organise a litter pick and tidy up a few times per year. Everyone is welcome - we will provide rubbish bags and grabbers. We also have some hi-vis jackets but please bring your own if you have one. Meet in the car park on Anson Field at 9.30am on Saturday 11 June - we aim to finish by 11am.

For Sale

Girls Apollo Pure Mountain Bike,
Suit 6-9 years **£40.00**

- * 20" wheels, lovely condition
- * Great for age 6-9 years
- * 6 Shimano gears,
- * Front and middle shock absorbers.
- * Bought from and put together by Halfords.
- * Light use

Fyfield 07968 707342

Marcham Village Shop and Post Office Opening hours

Mon - Fri: 07.30 - 17.30

Sat - Sun: 08.00 - 12 noon

Come and get your picnic for the bring and share lunch from the shop - lots of lovely bread for sandwiches, eggs for your quiches and terrific flour from Wessex Mill for your cakes - plus we have icing for your decorations so you can produce a wonderful Royal Cake.

OUR
MVS
MARCHAM VILLAGE SHOP

POST
OFFICE

SINGING IS GOOD FOR YOU!

2.00-3.30 pm on 2nd and 4th Tuesdays

Tuesday 14th and Tuesday 28th June

We meet in the common room at Duffield Place. Come and join us, you will be sure of a warm welcome ... and tea and cake!

Phone 391270 for more details *Christine Whild*



These are really fun evenings where you move around to different houses for different courses of the meal and meet different people along the way. A great way to meet new people, have a good meal and raise money at the same time.

For more details and to RSVP for tickets to Jill on 07811 165351 by Friday 10th June.

Proceeds will go towards Moldovan children's holiday club.

St Lawrence Church, Tubney Sunday Services in June

June 5th 6.00 pm Big Question Evensong

A shortened Evensong 6.00 – 6.45 followed by a talk by Mrs Anne Curtis on "Refugees".

June 19th 10.30am Holy Communion

The traditional service using the Book of Common Prayer. *All Welcome*

Parking is available in the field opposite the church but do take care crossing the road or if you can then please use the Bus, there is a stop adjacent to the Church.

Fun, friendly and affordable physical activity sessions for people aged 60+

Zumba Gold

Mondays, 11am-12pm

At Kingston Bagpuize with Southmoor Village Hall
£5 per session

Yoga / Seated Yoga

Wednesdays, 10-11am

At Kingston Bagpuize with Southmoor Village Hall
£5 per session

Walking Football (55+)

Mondays, 11-12pm, starting 6th June

At Kingston Colts Pitches
£2 per session

Tai Chi

Wednesdays, 10-11am

At Longworth Village Hall
£5 per session

Table Tennis

Start date TBC. Please contact us if interested.

To book or for more information please contact Luke on 07717 346351 or via goactivegoldvale@southandvale.gov.uk



National Carers Week

Help us build Carer Friendly Communities The Big Event

To be opened by The High Sheriff of Oxfordshire

Thursday 9th June 10.00-16.00

Abingdon Health and Wellbeing Centre

Audlett Drive, Abingdon, OX14 3GD

FREE

Information Fair and Stalls

First Aid Course

Moving and Handling Course

Pottery

Mindfulness

Meditation

Rally Round Launch

Rally Round is a FREE and easy way for Family & friends to come together and help a loved one stay safe and well at home.

Tea and Coffee

We can help organise care for your loved one if you need it to attend - Bookable in advance

Call 01235 520463 or traceydesmond@carersoxfordshire.org.uk

UPDATE FROM GARD

At the GARD AGM Nick Thompson stood down as Hon Chairman after 10 years, and Dr Derek Stork was elected, having been Vice Chairman for the past year, and he has been attending many of the Thames Water Forums recently. These briefing sessions were introduced as a result of the defeat of Thames Water at the 2010 Public Inquiry which called for more transparency. We continue to be supported by our Consultant, Dr John Lawson FREng, and to hold Thames Water regularly to account.

The possibility of a large reservoir between Steventon and East Hanney to supply London still looms over us. However, the long term resilience of such a huge construction project can now be challenged as it seems the Thames flow alone may simply be unable to refill it during a 3 year drought. The possible solutions for London include a supply of new water from the Severn and Wales to supplement the flow in the Thames and/or much more treatment of waste water, possibly with another desalination plant in the Thames estuary.

Variations and combinations of these options, and the costs involved, are being considered in detail but Thames Water will not come up with their favoured solution until 2018. Meanwhile we are monitoring their work closely and asking all the vital questions.
NICK THOMPSON Hon Chairman GARD

ARE YOU DIABETIC?

The InDependent Diabetes Trust (IDDT) has published a recipe book, Diabetes – Food, Meds and More, to help people with diabetes and their families to learn more about living with the condition with an emphasis on lifestyle, dietary information and recipes covering real life, day-to-day situations. For more information about the new book, call IDDT on 01604 622837, email enquiries@iddtinternational.org or order online at <http://iddt.org/iddt-shop>

ED VAIZEY WRITES...

I have been out and about in the constituency this month. I met with Drayton Parish Council to discuss their neighbourhood plan, and attended the grand opening of Millbrook Primary School's new library, with Winnie the Witch (aka the head teacher!) and the book's illustrator Korky Paul. I was also able to meet with John Marston and Rachel Warwick, heads of St. Birinus School and Didcot Girls School to catch up on local education issues.



I also visited Harwell Campus, which is always an interesting and informative trip. I met with Element Six, the world's largest supplier of synthetic industrial diamonds, who have invested £20million in a new headquarters and created almost 200 jobs. I also discussed infrastructure and digital services with Jisc, who provide digital services for education and research establishments. My breath was taken away by the Campus's newest addition, the UK's largest Thermal Vacuum Chamber (used for testing satellites).

Oxfordshire's place at the forefront of scientific innovation could result in the 'Holy Grail' of energy production – nuclear fusion-being developed in the County. Fusion is the opposite of nuclear fission, and, with no CO2 emissions, no risk of meltdown, and no radioactive waste, fusion could one day solve our energy needs. Atoms are joined together rather than split, in a process that usually only happens in the Sun and Stars. An impact study into benefits that this research brings to our county has been published, and can be read here: <http://bit.ly/1TuFSPd>.

Towards the end of the month, I also had the wonderful opportunity to meet year 10 students from Wallingford School who were visiting Parliament for the day. The Parliament Education Service runs fantastic tours of the House of Commons and House of Lords for visiting schools, and I was able to meet with them to discuss my role as their MP. If you think your local school would benefit, let me know.

I would also like to pass on my congratulations to local sculptor David Harber, whose company have been awarded the Queen's Award for International Trade. In March I visited David at his studio in Aston Upton and saw some of his very impressive work.

This month I have received 625 items of correspondence (emails and letters) from constituents. Many of these were relating to national campaign and policy issues such as the Academies Program, the ban on bee pesticides, and the UK Steel industry.

I will be taking part in a number of debates on the EU referendum across the constituency between now and polling day on 23rd June. The first will be held at Didcot Civic Hall on Friday 27th May at 7pm. The second will be held in Faringdon on Friday 3rd June at 6pm, with the location to be confirmed. The third debate will be in Wantage at The Beacon on Friday 17th June at 7pm. These events are being organised by the respective Chambers of Commerce, so for any further information please contact them..

Please feel free to contact me if you have any pressing issues that you would like help with. Either myself or one of my team will get back to you as soon as possible and do what we can to assist. You can contact me on any matter at the House of Commons, SW1A 0AA, 020 7219 6350 or dicksonce@parliament.uk. Email is the quickest and most reliable way to get in touch, as I keep a very close eye on my emails and can reply very quickly.

ED VAIZEY, MP Wantage and Didcot (Conservative)

COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORT**Cumulative Impact**

Oxfordshire is one of the most economically successful counties in the UK with thriving growth - particular in the area of IT and

Science. We have very low unemployment and we have very little crime. The government (rightly in my view) recognizes the need to push for more housing, and this housing should go where there is most employment. Oxfordshire is thus a prime target for accelerating housebuilding.

Our problem is that Oxfordshire is deemed to be one of the most rural counties in Southern England. In our part of Oxfordshire, we have large swathes of Oxford Green Belt and areas of outstanding natural beauty (AONBs). The amount of land, which is not constrained by these areas, is quite limited. Hence the growth is happening in a very uneven manner. The area around Abingdon and Didcot are being asked to take ever more housing, and our system of infrastructure (roads, schools, drainage, sewage and so on) is coming under ever more strain.

Whilst our Local Plan is not in place, there is a window for landowners and developers and they are having a ball. Applications are stacking up. In my county division, Marcham is due to expand more than 40% in the next few years, and Drayton (with a Neighbourhood Plan) by 20%, but nothing beats the pressure on Sutton Courtenay – due to expand by 100% and counting. Given that the same village has to cope with an expanding Didcot, a growing Milton Park, an imminent 900sq.ft warehouse, the FCC recycling operation and Didcot B, it is hardly surprising that the village infrastructure is groaning, and the residents are increasingly depressed at the changes to their once beautiful and ancient village. Thames Water has plans to dig up the High Street to enlarge a culvert, so that the Sewage system will cope with the 130 houses already being built -sensible planning one would have thought. However, it seems that no account has been taken of the 300+ houses due to arrive if these speculative applications are granted permission (and history suggest that this is almost certain). The present system allows for this by arguing that the incremental impact of each development is just about acceptable and no account can be taken of the ones down the line.

Recognising this problem, the planning system does now pay lip service to the concept of "Cumulative Impact" of development. So far, cumulative impact has not been deemed to be sufficient to refuse a planning application anywhere in this area. It seems to me that, in the case of Sutton Courtenay at least, Government and Councils of all types should urgently consider allowing a "cumulative impact" argument to be used to challenge and refuse further speculative development in that village at least or until, plans are in place to allow the delivery of infrastructure to catch up with development and one day, match it.

If there is not the will to do it in Sutton Courtenay, I fear "cumulative impact" in planning terms has no meaning.

RICHARD WEBBER CLLR OCC

SC & Marcham Division.

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DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT**Fairness**

Last Wednesday, 8th May, I attended a full District Council meeting at the Beacon, Wantage where the hot topic was Unitary councils, and the District Council was accusing the County Council of being irresponsible and incompetent. This warfare that has broken out between the two Councils is not good for the residents of Oxfordshire. So how did it come about?

All Councils seem to be agreed that Unitary Government (a council responsible for everything that the present District and County councils combined are responsible for) are the way we should go. Because they cannot agree on how many Unitary Councils we should have, each side is paying for its own separate "independent" study on which to base a final decision. Apart from the problem of how on earth we will decide which study is right

(let's hope there is a large measure of agreement over the pros and cons), we have to ask how did we get to position that tens of thousands of public money is to be spent on two studies? Wasting public money on endless documentation is not, I fear, a new thing for either council. There is already an OCC-sponsored study by Ernst Young on the pros and cons, which concluded that a single Unitary makes the most savings by some way. Is that no longer relevant? Furthermore, the VWHDC Part 1 of the Local Plan has cost the public purse more than £3m and is still not in place.

The only way any sensible person can make up their mind would be to have an independent study, which has explored all possible options. However, I have some worries about the VWHDC sponsored study.

First, the District Council's terms of reference all but state that they are not interested in a one Oxfordshire solution, thereby diminishing the perceived independence and integrity of the study itself. **Secondly**, when asked by OCC to include a full study of a single Oxfordshire Unitary together with all other options in their terms of reference, the District Councils declined. **Thirdly**, having declined, the Districts argue that it is the County that has caused the need for a second study. **Fourthly**, on closer examination, it seems that the District Option was arrived at with no consultation with county at all. It came as a complete surprise to OCC and even to District Councils and backbench cabinet benchers.

The Districts can, of course, argue that the original EY report, sponsored by the County, was not run past them before publication – but none of this reflects well on either Councils or how we run local government in Oxfordshire.

At the end of that meeting I came away feeling rather disillusioned by the whole subject. Hopefully, Unitary Councils of the future, however many we eventually arrive at, will do better..

CATHERINE WEBBER Cllr VWHDC

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WILDLIFE GARDENS FOR OUR MENTAL HEALTH

When a downturn comes in any of our lives, be it in work, home life, health etc, then that's when mother nature steps forward with her helping hands. We in return need to take a step toward her, being receptive to her often 'free' assistance.



We need to start seeing and not just looking, we need to start hearing and not just listening, we need to start feeling and not just touching, we need to start smelling and not just sniffing, and we need to start tasting and not just eating.

Sounds simple eh! If we succeed in all this then we soon start to see the bigger picture – that our lives are more than getting the next report completed at work, getting the next mortgage payment made, or popping the next pill in an attempt to keep that virus under control. Achieve that and we ourselves feel like we have some semblance of control back.

Connections to green space around us have been associated with lowered levels of stress and reduced symptoms for depression and anxiety, while interacting with nature can improve clear thinking for children with attention deficit and individuals with depression. My aim with this article is to keep it short this time and to get you away from reading for a while, filling your mind with more thoughts. My aim is to get you outside for a while, in amongst nature. Be it out in your wildlife garden, in your local park, the beautifully landscaped gardens around the business park where you work. In fact anywhere.

Nature gets everywhere, as I've said before; we need to learn to start appreciating it in as many ways as is possible..

Happy Gardening STUART MABBUTT

Wildlife Gardening Specialist

Contact: 01865 747243 stuart@wildmaninspires.co.uk

SOBELL HOUSE HOSPICE BEREAVEMENT SERVICE are seeking to recruit a new group of VOLUNTEER BEREAVEMENT WORKERS

If you are interested in finding out more please contact Julian Bond, Bereavement Service Co-ordinator on 01865 225857 or **Julian.Bond@ouh.nhs.uk**

The Bereavement Service will offer you a 70 hour induction training course starting in October 2016 and then ongoing supervision and team meetings designed to support your casework with allocated bereaved clients.

The use of a telephone and car are essential requirements; and all legitimate expenses will be reimbursed

Two 'Open Evenings' have been scheduled to help prospective volunteers to find out more about the role, the Bereavement Service and the wider hospice organisation. These will take place at Sobell House in the Churchill Hospital in Oxford on Tuesday 21st June (6pm to 8pm) and Wednesday 6th July (4pm to 6pm).

The Bereavement Service was set up in 1985 in response to the demand for continuing psychological and social support from family members. Volunteers are an integral part of the service, and currently we have 21 working with bereaved clients in the client's own home or in 'counselling' rooms here at the hospice. We ask Volunteers to give 12 to 16 hours per month to the role.

We do not encourage those who have experienced a significant bereavement in the last two years to apply.



The **Alzheimer's Society** in **Oxfordshire** is holding a fund-raising sale in Saint Nicolas Church Abingdon (the church in the Market Place) on Saturday 30th July from 9.30am to 12.00 noon



Wantage & Grove Lions are holding a jumble sale at East Hanney British Legion on Saturday June 4th. Doors open 1.30pm
Get your summer outfit here



All Saints' Church Holiday Club 2016

Tuesday 30th August – Friday 2nd September

Do your kids love the All Saints Holiday Clubs? Wouldn't it be great if kids from other places could have a holiday club like our kids? Well, this summer a group of teenagers and adults from All Saints' Church are going out to Moldova to do just that. We will be taking a group of about 20 kids from Moldova up into the Romanian mountains for a 4 day holiday club.

We need your help!

Some of the children that would really benefit from this cannot afford to come. It will cost about £60 for each child for travel, food, accommodation. Would you help by sponsoring a child? Any amount you could give would be so gratefully received and would enable a life changing experience for a Moldovan child. Think how much fun our kids have each summer!

Please contact Jill Rowe for more details on 07811 165351, or leave donations at the post office.



Thank you so, so much.

All Saints' Church Page

www.marcham-with-garford.org.uk

June 2016

Dear Friends

All being well we should receive news of the planning application for the new community facilities this month. The possibility of these new facilities is both important and exciting as it opens to us all the door of new opportunities as a community.

On Sunday June 12th we share the celebrations of our Queen's 90th birthday, and these celebrations will include an open air service on the football field, prior to the festivities and lunch along Morland Road, next to the school. You are warmly invited to come to that service which will be at 11 am.

June will also see many of us thinking about and longing for a summer break. 'Down time' is so important, not just once a year in the summer, but as a regular part of life. Jesus encouraged his followers to take time out regularly in order to find space for prayer, to listen and to reflect on their 'journey' so far. It can also be space to think ahead, to dream dreams, to do some mapping of the way ahead (as far as we can foresee). Such 'Sabbath' times re-energise us and can strengthen us for the road ahead.

I hope you will be able to plan some 'down-time' into your schedules this month and that as a result you will be energised for the opportunities that lie ahead.

With my warmest greetings

Richard

Regular church services

Sundays: 10am & 6pm at All Saints'
Wednesdays: 10.30am at Duffield Place

Open Air service to celebrate the
Queen's 90th Birthday



Sunday 12th June
11am on the football field

Men's Breakfast, 8.30am at the Baptist Hall, Saturday 4th June: 'Builder, Curate and Captain Trotter' by Mark Newman

Women's Pamper Evening



Thursday 23rd June
7.30-9.30pm
All Saints' Church

Come and enjoy some indulgent activities in a calm and relaxing atmosphere.

*Open to all women and girls in Y7 and above.
Free entry (though donations welcome)*

Contacts: Canon Richard Zair 391319 (r_zair@yahoo.co.uk) * Jill Rowe Youth and Children's Minister 390885 * Tim Jack Churchwarden 01865 864900 * Tamsin Gilbert Parish Administrator 391319 * Parish Office: parish_office41@yahoo.co.uk

Parish people Last month we celebrated the baptisms of William and Martha. Apologies to the family of Deidre Mayton for getting her name wrong in last month's MAD news.