

Marcham & District News

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

Your Independent Local Newsheet – www.madnews.co.uk



NOVEMBER 2016 VOL: 38 NO: 11

READ & RECYCLE!

FREE



▲ School investigates page 17



▲ Friday Club's Funny Faces



▲ PreSchool gets a sign! page 17



▲ Before and After Brave the Shave! Sponsor Jen at www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Jennifer-French2 or in Marcham Shop



▲ Apple Day Art page 19



▲ Everyone at Marcham School ▲ would like to thank **Emily Ratcliffe** for designing and painting this amazing mural! The animals on board are all the classes in school!



◀ Marcham Guides - having fun round the campfire page 17

Diary for November

2 Wed	After School Drop In, Baptist Hall, until 18.00	15	15 Tue	OSJ at The Ashmolean, 19.30	11
3 Thu	Midweek Walk: The Bull Inn, Charlbury 12.30 lunch / 13.30 walk	7	17 Thu	Marcham WI: Christmas Craft, Denman College, 19.30	7
3 Thu	Music at The Unicorn: Charlotte Campbell, 19.00	7	18 Fri	Hamper Raffle Tickets on sale in Marcham Village Shop	7
4 Fri	Jive Lessons: Con Club, Abingdon 10.00-11.00	9	19 Sat	CRUK Christmas Bazaar, Hanney WM Hall, 10.00-14.00	11
8 Tue	Singing is Good for You, Duffield Place, 14.00 – 15.30	7	19 Sat	Rowe's Pop Up Restaurant, Buildings Farm	9
8 Tue	Marcham Society: Drove Roads in Oxfordshire, Tim Healey, All Saints', 19.45	9	20 Fri	Deadline for December MADNews, 17.00	
9 Wed	Marcham Parish Council Meeting, Duffield Place, 19.30	3	22 Tue	Singing is Good for You, Duffield Place, 14.00 – 15.30	7
10 Thu	MCG AGN and Open Meeting: Village Facilities, Marcham School, 19.30	19	25 Fri	Quiz Night at MSSSC, Anson Field, 20.15	11
12 Sat	Bazaar and Table Top Sale, Southmoor Village Hall, 10.30-12.00	15	26 Sat	Abingdon Extravaganza, Abingdon, 10.30	7
12 Sat	Wantage and Grove Lions Jumble Sale, Hanney BL Hall 13.30	9	26 Sat	Wantage and Grove Lions Grand Christmas Bingo, Grove Village Hall, 19.30	9
12 Sat	Rowe's Pop Up Restaurant, Buildings Farm	9			

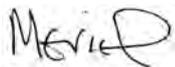
Details of events may change after publication, please check with the relevant organisers before attending events.

Dear Readers

We had so many photos sent in for November that we weren't able to put them all on the cover this month – but I hope we chose some good ones!

If you want to see the others, click over to our website at madnews.co.uk. You can also find a complete archive of issues going back to January 2004 and a search facility ... so all newcomers can see what Marcham has been up to over the last 12 years (and the rest of us can refresh our memories!).

Until next time



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

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

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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 Rich Osborn C9323
Richard.Osborn@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk for Marcham
Just dial 101 (non-emergency)

CRIMESTOPPERS

Call 0800 555 111 (anonymous calls)

NHS NON-EMERGENCY

Call Free from any phone - 111

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For other councillors go to

www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk

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MARCHAMPARISHCOUNCILNEWS

October Parish Council meeting

The Council heard a presentation from Virgin Media at its last meeting. A completely new fibre network enabling internet speeds of up to 200mb per second is being planned for Marcham, with even faster speeds for local businesses. The work will take approximately 3 months, and it was hoped that it would be finished by the end of March 2017. It is appreciated that there would be short term disruption, but we were told that this would be for longer term benefit. The Clerk will be notified by Virgin Media of any start dates in due course, and information will appear in Marcham and District News.

Remembrance Sunday – Road Closure A415 Frilford Road, Church Street, New Road

A Road Closure Order for the section of Frilford Road between Church Street and North Street, Church Street itself and New Road has been obtained for the latter half of Sunday morning 13th November. This is to allow the parade from the Church, after the Church service, to the War Memorial in Frilford Road, in order to lay wreaths. Please note that the diversion will be along North Street to St. Peter's cross roads, then left to the junction with the A338, and left again to the Frilford Service Station (Budgens).

Fireworks

Please be considerate for neighbours and the many pets and animals in the village when letting off your fireworks. Please notify others when any fireworks are going to be lit so that villagers are aware and arrangements can be made to keep pets indoors.

Parishioner of the Year Award

The annual award for the parishioner of the year is presented in May each year. It therefore seems possibly a little early to begin to consider worthy recipients, but from next month the Parish Council will be inviting nominations for the next award. Please therefore begin to think about who you would like to put forward.

Central Government - Consultation on Local Government Finance Settlement

Central Government has been consulting on various Local Government finance matters. The one that affects Marcham mostly is a possible proposal to introduce a referendum in the parish where a Band D council tax, rises by more than 2%, on parish element of the tax. The Parish Council believes that the cost of referendum for a small increase in the council tax element for Marcham is disproportionate. The cost of the referendum being greater than the cost of a 2% rise. The Council has written accordingly to Central Government.

The following planning applications have

been considered :

P16/V2555/HH Single storey side extension at 50 North Street. The Council supported the application but asked for materials appropriate to the conservation area to be used and to ensure that the remaining parking area met with District Council's requirements.

P16/V2533/HH Conversion / extension of outbuilding to create artist's studio at 1 Gozzards Ford. Council supported the application, but asked that it remain ancillary to the main dwelling and that any permitted development rights be withdrawn. New planning application for Marcham. Catesby Property Group held a public exhibition on 19th October in Denman College, regarding its plans to develop 55 houses on land south of the A415. Information about the proposal can be found at <http://catesby-property.co.uk/marcham-public-exhibition>.

Date of Next Council Meeting:

Wednesday 9th November 2016 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



**Annual Royal British Legion
"Poppy Appeal"**

This year's appeal will continue until Saturday 12th November 2016. Marcham and District has always been a great supporter of this charity and we again look forward to the generosity shown by the village every year.

Christine and Malcolm Denton, 10 Kings Ave, Marcham
You can contact us on **01865 391497**
malcolm_denton_954@msn.com



**From November,
we'll only empty your
green wheelie bin
if your recycling
is loose
or in clear sacks**

Dear Editor

A belated thank you and farewell to all our friends and neighbours in Marcham. We lived in Kings Avenue for 38 years and our children were born and grew up in Marcham. It also means we have spent the majority of our married life in Marcham. So the village will always hold a very special place in our hearts, as will the people we have known there.

Our special thanks go to the various clubs and organisations in the village, especially those which our children benefited from when growing up – Mother and Toddlers, Playgroup, Brownies, Cubs, Guides, Church Choir, and Marcham Players to mention but a few. We hope all the new families moving into the village will appreciate them as much.

We are just settling in to our new home and life in Norfolk and have the pleasure of living within a mile of our grandchildren. Thank you for all the cards and best wishes. They have been much appreciated.

We send our best wishes to all and trust that the new hall project will soon come to fruition.

COLIN AND MARGARET BOUGH

**Kingfisher School, Abingdon
Governors Needed**

Kingfisher School is an all through (3-19) special school with about 80 pupils on roll. No experience of special education is necessary to be a governor - just a desire to help these very special young people to have a good education and better chance in life. It doesn't need to be a time-consuming activity as the full governing body meets only three times a year at 6 pm for about 2 hours. Please contact Terry Stock for an informal chat:
terryastock@hotmail.com

Councils binning black and coloured sacks in recycling bins

From November, South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils will only empty green wheelie bins if the recycling in them is loose or in clear sacks. Despite a recent campaign to raise awareness of the issue, some people are still putting in things like food waste and dirty nappies, contaminating whole truckloads of recycling - when these things are put into recycling bins in black or coloured sacks they're not spotted until it's too late. If there's a sack in a recycling bin and the waste crews can't see what's in it, they'll have to assume it contains contamination and won't empty it.

Dear Editor

Having read a letter about dog mess in last month's issue, may I remind cat owners that there is no cat poo fairy either. Neighbours have to deal with the consequences of your cat using their gardens as toilets. Does anyone know of a deterrent that works?

RELUCTANT TINKERBELL



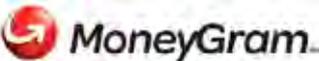



**Marcham Village Shop
and Post Office**
16 North St, Marcham
OX13 6NG

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

Come in for your weekend breakfasts of pain au chocolat or treat yourself to a lardy cake! We also stock all the usual items - tea, coffee, bread, eggs - oooh the list is endless!

If you are planning on sending cards and parcels this year, here is the list of the recommended last posting dates. Come in and talk to the post office staff about the best way to send your mail. Christmas stamps on sale soon! If you are sending money - have you considered MoneyGram? It's quick with money arriving in only 10 minutes and some of the best rates around!



November - the month of mellow moustaches ... and jelly babies -
only 50p a quarter

International Economy (formerly known as Surface Mail)

Thursday 3 November	Eastern Europe, Greece, Cyprus, Turkey, Malta and Iceland
Thursday 17 November	Western Europe

International Standard (formerly Airmail) and all International Tracking and Signature Services (formerly Airsure® and International Signed For®)

Saturday 3 December	Africa, Middle East
Wednesday 7 December	Cyprus, Asia, Far East (including Japan), Eastern Europe (except Poland, Czech Republic and Slovakia)
Thursday 8 December	Caribbean, Central & South America
Saturday 10 December	Greece, Australia, New Zealand
Wednesday 14 December	Czech Republic, Germany, Italy, Poland
Thursday 15 December	Canada, Finland, Sweden, USA
Friday 16 December	Austria, Denmark, Iceland, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland
Saturday 17 December	Belgium, France, Ireland, Luxembourg

International Standard HM Forces Mail - British Forces Post Office® (BFPO)

Monday 28 November	Airmail to Operational BFPOs
Monday 12 December	Airmail to Static BFPOs

UK Inland Services

Tuesday 20 December	2nd Class and Royal Mail Signed For®
Wednesday 21 December	1st Class and Royal Mail Signed For®
Thursday 22 December	Royal Mail Special Delivery Guaranteed®
Friday 23 December	Special Delivery Saturday Guaranteed

**MARCHAM SOCIETY MID-WEEK WALK:
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD.**

For this month's walk we will meet at The Bull Inn in Sheep Street, Charlbury, (Map Ref: SP397195, OX7 3RR) at 12.30 for lunch and 1.30 for the walk of about 3½ miles with a visit to the hamlet of Taston over some rolling Cotswold countryside. Parking in the town car-parks. **Ring Eric Dunford on 391439 for lifts, further details and to check for any last-minute changes. Members free, non-members £1. We always welcome new walkers.**



MARCHAM CRICKET CLUB

When the OCA AGM has been held Fixtures for the 2017 Season should be available, and it is intended to present relevant details in the M&D News in due course.



The OCA Annual Presentation Dinner is set for 11th November at The Kassam Conference Centre.

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

And finally ... Ian Chappell once observed:

"The other advantage England have got when Phil Tuffnell is bowling is that he is not fielding." **CSB**

Abingdon-on-Thames Chamber of Commerce

The Abingdon Christmas Extravaganza will this year be held on Saturday 26th November starting at 9am with the Market and finishing with The Big Switch On at 6pm. This year we will be joined by Tina, Jo & Bradley from S Club 7 who will be performing a number of hits, and then switching on the Christmas lights. We are offering 1 lucky competition winner the chance to join them on stage for the switch on. To enter, just test your knowledge of Abingdon with our quiz which can be downloaded at www.abingdonchamber.co.uk and don't forget to like us on Facebook / follow us on Twitter for all the latest updates.

Download the Extravaganza brochure from our webiste NOW!

**Community Facilities Steering Group
Following up on the planning permission...**

Following the passing of the plans for new community facilities by the VoWH Planning Committee in September, the Community Facilities Steering Group has been working hard on a number of action areas to try to ensure that we will be able to progress the plans as soon as possible.

This includes work on various legal agreements, design specifications for the hall and new management arrangements for the facilities. It will be good to see this whole plan moving forward at last and further offers of help will be welcome. Please watch this space for future developments. For more information about the project, please come to the MCG Open Meeting at the school on Thursday 10th November at 7:30 pm (see page 19).

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 WI

Next Meeting

Date: Thursday, 17th November

Time: 7.30pm

Venue: Denman College

Christmas Craft'

For the November meeting we will be having a Christmas craft evening. Come along and get some unusual ideas for things to make for Christmas. We'll look forward to seeing you there.

New members and visitors are always welcome.

For further information, please contact:

Pippa Hoath 01865 391349 pippahoath@gmail.com



SINGING IS GOOD FOR YOU!

2.00-3.30 pm on 2nd and 4th Tuesdays

Tuesday 8th and Tuesday 22nd November

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



CHARLOTTE CAMPBELL

www.charlottecampbell.co.uk

Support: Wednesday' Wolves

Thursday 3rd November

Doors: 7:00pm Music: 7.15pm | £12

Abingdon Unicorn Theatre

Tickets: www.musicattheunicorn.org.uk

& REMADE GUITARS, (Stratton Way) Coxeter House



You are invited to a coffee morning and cake market

at
50, NORTH STREET, MARCHAM

on
FRIDAY, 2nd DECEMBER

From 10.30 - 12.00

Coffee Raffle

In aid of

Nyakabungo Girls' Secondary School,
Uganda



**MARCHAM WI
GRAND CHRISTMAS
HAMPER RAFFLE**

**IN AID OF THE
DENMAN COLLEGE
RESTORATION FUND**



Tickets £1 each, available in the village shop.

On sale from 18th November. Raffle to be drawn on 16th December in the shop.

MARCHAM SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB

Our October meeting was an outing to Abingdon Police Station which was organised in liaison with PCSO Richard Osbourn.

We had two hours at the Station being briefed by the various team leaders which included The Chief Constable, the Control Room supervisor, the Neighbourhood Watch administrator, uniformed police leader and CID. A tour of the CCTV room was cancelled due to live action in that area. Our visit ended with a tour of the outside area where we were able to see and handle the large door 'hammer' (used to gain access, as seen on TV), the contents of a Police patrol vehicle and a shield used by police to ward off vicious dogs.

The visit was followed by lunch in The Crown in Marcham. All members attending had a very good time.

NEW MEMBERS VERY WELCOME

Please contact John Woods (Secretary) 391705

MODERN JIVE LESSONS

Modern Jive is one of the easiest dances to learn and slower than the original jitter bug or rock and roll. Not as serious as ballroom but tremendous fun and exercises both the mind and body! No partner needed.



Lessons will run from 10 - 11 am at the Conservative Club from Friday 4th November, 59 Ock St, Abingdon, OX14 5AG (access by the rear car park from Conduit Rd.). Each session costs £4. To find out more or to book your place, contact Generation Games Tel: 01235 849 403

www.generationgames.org.uk

“Rowes Pop Up Restaurant” will be open for up to 10 people on two Saturdays in November 12th and 19th.

£20 a head for fine dining at Buildings Farm.

All proceeds will go to Marcham Moldova Lifeline, raising money to equip a small village school in Moldova

More details contact Jill or Neil on 390885

Wantage & Grove Lions are holding a **grand jumble sale and second hand sale** on Saturday November 12th at Hanney British Legion Hall

Doors open 1.30 pm

Lots of bargains

AND a **grand Christmas bingo** on Saturday 26th November at Grove village hall doors open 6.45pm eyes down 7.30pm *hope to see you there*



Did you have some Grow Wild seeds last year? If so... Did you grow the seeds successfully? Did you learn anything new?



Find out more at www.growwilduk.com



The Marcham Society

*All Saints' Church, Marcham
7.45pm Tuesday 8th November*

Drove Roads in Oxfordshire and beyond
Tim Healey

Non-members always welcome £2 www.marchamsociety.org.uk
Further details: Sheila Dunford (391439) or Judith Fontaine (391275)

Wildlife Experiences in the Upper Thames Region

The Marcham Society October talk

Having observed and recorded wildlife in the Upper Thames Region for 50 years or so, **Malcolm Broadsword** was well equipped to illustrate the diversity of the natural world in this area. He showed photographs of stunning orchids and butterflies and the rare and perhaps less appealing leopard slug. There was the delight of a green woodpecker feeding its young and the macabre spectacle of 2 wood ants dragging a meadow brown butterfly, so many times bigger than themselves, away to their nest. And was there an embarrassed expression on the face of the dormouse which was being sexed? It was a talk to inspire us to get out and have our own wildlife experiences, whether to go to Hartslock near Goring to see rare orchids, to Bernwood to see purple emperor butterflies (relishing the by-product of dog walking) or up the road to Dry Sandford Pit to see aquatic life, solitary bees, marsh helleborines and much more.

Visitors are very welcome at our meetings. The charge is £2, which includes light refreshments.

JUDITH HAWORTH

Report from GARD - November 2016

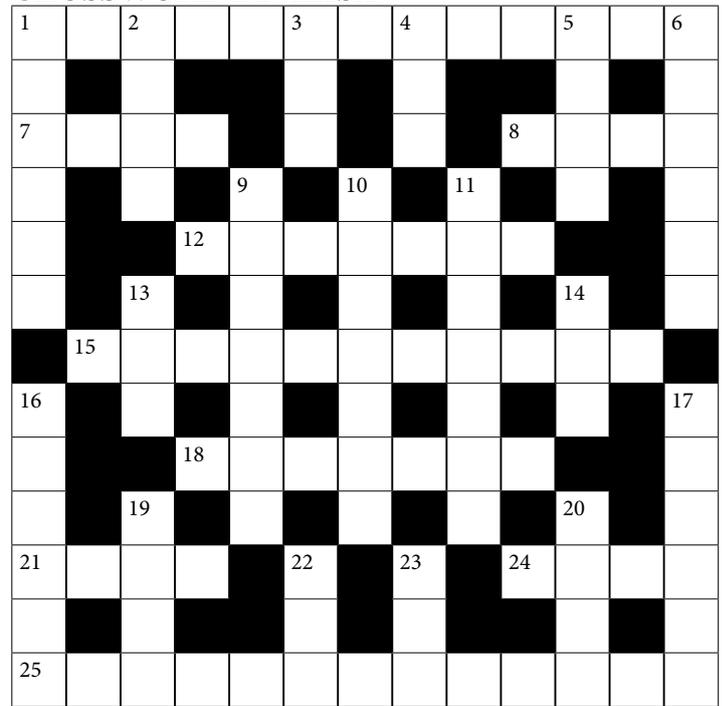
Thames Water has issued a draft report refining the list of options for its 2019 Five-year Water Resources Management Plan. Readers will be well aware that the 2010 Public Inquiry resulted in the rejection of the proposed massive Abingdon reservoir to be sited on the land between Steventon, Hanney, Drayton and Marcham. The 2014 five year Plan did not bring back the proposal, but it is once more 'on the table'. In the new draft plan, Thames Water has calculated that there will be a large water supply deficit in the south-east by 2045 and a much larger deficit by 2080. This is mainly caused by increased demands from population growth in London, and the need to plan for more severe droughts due to climate change. There will also be a much smaller deficit in our Swindon and West Oxfordshire area. GARD does not dispute these forecasts but we are strongly debating with Thames water about how the forecast shortfalls can best be tackled. In this we work alongside organisations such as CPRE and the Cotswold Canals Trust.



All now agree that the problem can only be solved by a balance between a range of water sources including much more recycling of treated water, a second desalination plant in the Thames, reducing demand by tackling leakage losses and metering, transfer of water from the River Severn and (Thames believe) **a large new reservoir**. This last item is very much on the cards again. Thames are still undecided about the capacity, but the maximum proposed size is as big as the rejected 2010 proposal. Once again the only reservoir site being considered is the Abingdon site between Steventon, Hanney, Drayton and Marcham. Thames Water invested a lot in this option pre 2010 and clearly wants to capitalise on this, although it only stores water fed by the Thames and is not a new source of water.

GARD is challenging many aspects of the emerging Plan, and is supported by the expertise of our consultants. We believe there is no case for a reservoir of this type in this area. The work of our consultants shows that such a reservoir is not proof against climate change and could not survive more prolonged drought periods. Only water re-use, desalination and water transfers can help in these cases. We will need strong public support, as in 2010, in the looming battle. We are also keen to add talent to our committee. Please get in touch if you feel you can offer either technical input or administrative/secretarial help. You can contact me (email thestorks@btinternet.com or telephone 01235 831390) if you would like to help, or to join GARD (lifetime membership is only £5). **This is a battle to preserve our countryside, and the next two years will be crucial if we are to succeed in resisting a massive reservoir looming above our villages.**
DEREK STORK, HON CHAIRMAN, GARD

CROSSWORD BY ALISA



- ACROSS**
- 1 Place near Tubney (8.5)
 - 7 Animal (4)
 - 8 Group of competitors (4)
 - 12 Stopping place (7)
 - 15 These can be used in Florida (4.7)
 - 18 Soft seat (7)
 - 21 Shellfish (4)
 - 24 Lofty (4)
 - 25 Village near Appleford (4.9)
- DOWN**
- 1 Birds of prey (6)
 - 2 Press (4)
 - 3 Not in (3)
 - 4 Noise (3)
 - 5 Last word (4)
 - 6 Shakespeare play (6)
 - 9 More rigid (7)
 - 10 Orchestra performing at the Ashmolean (2.5)
 - 11 Periodical (7)
 - 13 Farm Animal (3)
 - 14 Farm Animal (3)
 - 16 Rogue (6)
 - 17 Place near Sutton Courtney (6)
 - 19 Chess Piece (4)
 - 20 Good swimmer (4)
 - 22 Slider (3)
 - 23 Perform (3)

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

Quiz Night

This month's quiz will be held on **Friday 25 November** in the Sports and Social Club on the Anson Field, starting at 8.15pm. Questions are on a range of subjects and aimed at everyone's ability! The quiz nights run on the last Friday of each month. Teams of up to four people are invited, but if you are alone or a couple, come along, and we could fit you into an existing or even new team!

Everyone welcome, members and non members. 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

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR
Saturday Nov 19
Hanney WM Hall
10 till 2pm

Craft Stalls	Jewellery	Hot and Cold Food
Raffle	Games	Christmas Decorations
Tombola	Gifts	
Cakes	Toys	
CDs DVDs	Toiletries	



Orchestra of St John's
Prom concerts at the
Ashmolean Museum Oxford

Tuesday 15 November 7.30: OSJ with Francesca Saracino soprano
Mahler and Mendelssohn

Sunday 18 December 7.30: OSJ Ashmolean Voices
Christmas carols

Tickets www.osj.org.uk 01865 305305



ED VAIZEY WRITES...

Since Parliament's return from the summer recess I have used my new role as a backbencher to ask a number of questions and hold debates in the chamber.

I have asked the Home office about cyber crime – an area of increasing concern, and one where I am keen to see more specialist recruitment into the Police. On Brexit, an issue of huge concern to so



many of my constituents, I also questioned the new Secretary of State for Exiting the European Union about reassurances for the creative industries after Brexit. Finally, I asked the new Justice Secretary about how the arts can help rehabilitate offenders in the criminal justice system. I also attended the debate on the BBC Charter and asked about diversity, and made a speech in the debate on the Digital Economy Bill, focusing on the success of the rural broadband programme in my constituency. The new broadband Universal Service Obligation will be of great importance to rural areas such as Wantage and Didcot.

On constituency issues, I used Transport Questions to secure a meeting with the Minister responsible for highways, John Hayes, to discuss issues with safety on the A34. This meeting is to be held next month, and I am looking forward to discussing some ideas on how safety on the A34 can be improved.

I also hosted a debate on funding in the arts, where I called on the Government to increase funding and support to the arts and heritage.

Thames Water have contacted me to let me know about their new 'Bin it don't block it' campaign, aimed at alerting the public of the problems created when fat, oil and grease is poured down drains and when wet wipes are flushed down toilets. Over the last year there were 3025 blockages in our area. Over the next 6 weeks, Thames Water will be contacting residents to encourage them to change their behaviour, and prevent these blockages and their consequences from occurring.

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, dicksonce@parliament.uk or 020 7219 6350. 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. Details of my activities in Parliament can be read on my website, <https://www.vaizey.com>. I also send out occasional general interest emails about developments in the Wantage and Didcot Constituency. If you would like to be added to the distribution list, please complete the online form at <http://bit.ly/EdVaizeyMP>

ED VAIZEY, MP Wantage and Didcot (Conservative)

COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORT

Still struggling to stay optimistic...

In a recent Planning bulletin, I read that there is a Council in Yorkshire whose planning officers have advised their Council to delay their local Plan because their future housing growth figures on pre-Brexit assumptions. Living in an area such as ours, where we have been desperate (for more than 5 years) to get our Local Plan in place to protect us from yet more speculative planning, many will want to throw up their hands in despair.

Our Local Plan is based on assumptions about future housing growth which many of us have questioned for some time. Are we capable of building the number of houses assumed in the Local Plan? Do we have the builders and the bricks? What makes us think we can build at nearly twice the rate we have achieved at any

time in the last 20 years? Now we are told that some of the experts believe that Brexit may mean the figures on which a Local Plan is based may be all wrong. Of all the possible impacts of Brexit, that one had not occurred to me. The Government has plenty to occupy it at present (and spare a thought for the Civil Servants is being asked to run around in small circles in trying to work out the possible effects of Brexit). The possible effect on Planning and Housing is, I fear, one more thing they need to sort out as quickly as possible. Asking towns and villages to take a mass of housing for which there may not be the demand will not go down well.

And it isn't just Government that has the headaches. Councils are settling down to worry about their next budgets in an atmosphere of unprecedented uncertainty. We may hope that the Chancellor's Autumn Statement will not contain any nasty surprises. "No changes" seems to be the best we can hope for. No-one is expecting any good news. It is all too easy to get very depressed about the immediate future.

Ah well, we have the election of a President to look forward to....:

RICHARD WEBBER CLLR OCC SC & Marcham Division.

Richard.webber77@ntlworld.com or 01235 534001

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT

The Unitary Debate – your District Councillor's view

I am aware that your County Councillor has been talking endlessly about this with his County hat on and I have thought carefully before deciding to give you my views as your District Councillor, especially as it was raised at last Wednesday's full Vale council meeting. It is an important issue for Local Government in Oxfordshire. It will effect all our futures. Indeed, it will effect how far our not inconsiderable Council Tax will stretch in providing services the future.

The two reports commissioned – one by the County Council (Grant Thornton), one by the Districts (Price Waterhouse Cooper) – came to many of the same conclusions.

1. The status quo should not be an option ... a three tier Local Council arrangement (County/District and Parish) is expensive, unaffordable, and makes it very difficult to make the big strategic decisions (particularly planning and infrastructure decisions) that have to be made.
2. Of the 1,2,3,4 or 5 Unitary council options, the best ones are a single or 3 Unitary councils.
3. Unitary councils would make very useful savings, which could be used to maintain, even restore services currently at risk. A single Unitary Council would save the most....more than £20m per year; 3 Unitary Councils would save around £10m per year; (more than that would deliver minimal savings.)

Lets look at the arguments on 1 and 3 Unitary councils more closely: 3 Unitary Councils would be very difficult to deliver, concluded the District-commissioned "Price Waterhouse Cooper" report, because a separate stand-alone Oxford City Council would not be viable, even if the City was allowed to expand by swallowing up surrounding areas, possibly including Abingdon.

So what are the objections to a single Oxfordshire Unitary?

1. It would be one of the largest in the Country. There is mounting evidence that the larger Unitaries which currently exist (Wiltshire, Cornwall and the Metropolitan Unitaries) are almost all in a much stronger financial position than those areas with our present system– so being large does not rule out a single Oxfordshire Unitary.
2. Large Councils become distant from their residents with a consequent loss of "democratic accountability".

I have some problems with this argument. A single Unitary would probably have about 125 Unitary councillors, each of whose divisions would be smaller than the current County divisions. In other words, a Unitary Councillor would be responsible for many

continued on page 15

fewer residents than a current County Councillor. Before I became involved in local politics, if you had asked me who my District or County Councillor was or what the different councils actually do for me I would not have had a clue. Everyone I ask says the same. It seems that “distance and loss of democratic responsibility” argument simply does not seem to hold.

However, to answer that criticism, the report from Grant Thornton has suggested another Option (Option 6) whereby single Unitary councillors would also sit on one of five Area Committees which would reflect the current district areas and would have powers to deliver actions for that area. As someone who values the Districts, this appeals to me.

So where are we?

I am left with Option 6 ...a one Oxfordshire Unitary solution with District sub – committees, one council to go to for advice and help, to complain to and to blame. A One Oxfordshire solution that produces the most savings, that protect vital services and gives us all the best possible value for money. Furthermore, Parish and Town councils would stay as they are with possible extra powers and money devolved to them.

It is often said that trying to re-organise and simplify local government is asking turkeys to vote for Christmas. Your County Councillor and I would happily vote for Christmas and take our chance with the other turkeys .

CATHERINE WEBBER Cllr VWHDC

01235 534001 or Webbercatherine1@gmail.com

**St Lawrence Church, Tubney
Services in November**

Sunday November 6th 4.00pm Evensong

Sunday November 20th 10.30am Holy Communion

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.

**10.30 – 12.00 Saturday November 12th
Bazaar and Table Top Sale
In Southmoor Village Hall**

Contact: Rosemary Kitto to book a table top (£6.00 each, £10.00 for 2) on 01865 390 466 or rosemarykitto@gmail.com

Abingdon Drama Club

Proudly presents

A Man For All Seasons

By Robert Bolt.

Directed by Terry Atkinson

7:30pm Wednesday 16th – ADC – in 3D since 1944

Saturday 19th November

at the Unicorn Theatre

A Man For All Seasons by Robert Bolt is based on the true story of Sir Thomas More, the 16th-century Chancellor of England, who refused to endorse King Henry VIII’s wish to divorce his wife Catherine of Aragon (who did not bear him a son) so that he could marry Anne Boleyn, the sister of his former mistress. The play portrays More as a man of principle, envied by rivals such as Thomas Cromwell and loved by the common people and by his family.

Tickets £10, £8 concessions available from:

The Bookstore, Abingdon Precinct (15 Bury St)

Email: tickets@unicornboxoffice.org.uk

Telephone: 0845 4636638

www.abingdon-drama-club.com

enquiries@abingdon-drama-club.com

**ABINGDON
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CLUB**

ADC – in 3D since 1944

www.abingdon-drama-club.com

PTA Round-up

As chair of the Parent–Teacher Association, I have set myself the personal goal of improving the PTA’s communications, and

so I’m very grateful to the editor for allowing me to bring you regular updates from the PTA in MADNews.

Many of you have children at the school. Some have children who have attended the school in the past or will attend it in the years ahead. Indeed, many readers will have been pupils at the school themselves – as I was – so I know the school is close to many of our hearts.

This year we face a particular challenge. Six major developments are adding around 250 more homes (an estimated 575 additional residents) to the village. The school has been planning for this increase in population for some time, and last academic year secured a commitment from the County Council to build two new classrooms, increasing the school’s capacity by approximately one-third.

While the building of new classrooms is a significant investment by the Council, the school itself has to find funding to equip the classrooms: from chairs and desks to IT equipment and everything in between. The PTA will be doing its best to meet this funding requirement, working with the governors to organise additional fundraising activities over and above our usual events. But the additional funds required are significant.

So if you’re planning any form of charitable fundraising this year – be it running a marathon, abseiling down a tall building, jumping out of an aeroplane, climbing a mountain or bathing in baked beans! – we would be thrilled if you did it to help support Marcham PTA. Doing so will help the staff to continue providing the full and rounded education for the children of the village this year and well into the future. We will be extremely grateful for any and all help we receive.

See you on the school run!

Peter Kidd, PTA Chair



Parent Teacher Association

AFTER SCHOOL DROP-IN FOR SECONDARY AGED YOUNG PEOPLE.

Starting on Wed 2 Nov. Come join us at the Baptist Chapel on Packhorse Lane after school for any amount of time (until about 6pm). There will be the chance to play games and generally spend time with friends. Contact Rob, the Parish Youth Worker for more information, rob@marchamyouth.org

YOUNG AND FEELING ANXIOUS?

If you’re at secondary school and experiencing high levels of anxiety, whatever the cause then this could be for you. We would like to start small group sessions for young people to get support with anxiety. Please contact Rob, the Parish Youth Worker for more information about the content or to register interest, rob@marchamyouth.org.

MARCHAM PRE-SCHOOL

HOME AND AWAY!!

Home is where the.... signage is! We are pleased to unveil our new sign, depicting our home within the Primary school. What better way to celebrate our partnership.



Working together we ensure the children start school confident and secure familiar with the teachers, spaces, routines and ready to learn. So far on this journey we have visited the Queen and the jungle with Simon the Magic Train, explored a variety of painting techniques and develop our fine motor skills through our daily Funky Fingers!

Away from Pre-school we have enjoyed our first termly trip.... At the end of September we travelled from Didcot to Reading on the train, an exciting experience especially as Thomas the Tank Engine was waiting at Didcot to welcome us back! A huge thank you to GWR at Reading who made our trip extra special with a visit behind the scenes.

We have many more trips and adventures planned as well as supporting the children in all areas of their learning and development through a variety of activities. Coming next time --- news from our Bedtime Hour. If you would like to find out more about Marcham Pre-school, please contact us on 01865 392101 or Marcham-preschool@hotmail.co.uk.

www.marcham-preschool.weebly.com

NEWS FROM LITTLE ANGELS

Here at Little Angels one of our core values is Friendship, we support and accept everyone



in our family to be themselves, encouraging and celebrating their uniqueness. In honour of this in October we have been looking at Diwali, an important festival for some members of our family.

Nursery Room

In our nursery room we have been looking at the festival of light in a variety of ways, especially the aspect of light. Just like was done for Rama and Sita who had candles to light their way home we have made stars in our room from the ceiling to light our way to our home from home. We also made paper lanterns, enjoying the experience of glue and tissue paper! We then took them home to light our way. The lovely sunny days we have had allowed us to be outside in the garden, exploring the slide and sit and ride toys we have, the seesaw created lots of laughter to our rhymes and songs. All the babies especially enjoyed the sensory play with a range of items in relation to India, both inside and outside.

Pre-School Room

The pre-school room has been very busy, we re-enacted the story of Rama, the reason he exiled and his triumphant return 14 years later. Each little angel had their role to play and embraced their roles, to even through self role play in the garden outside themselves! We made pictures of each character - Rama, Sita, Lakshman, Ravana and Hanuman with a range of resources - crayons, felt tip pens, paints etc. We created our very own Indian restaurant in the garden, it was a very popular restaurant with lots of guests - it must have been the pink Buns (that was all that was available from the menu) that the Indian restaurant was famous for!

Breakfast & After School Club

It's been a great end to the first term of school, the after school club is in full swing with a range of events going on! We also looked at Diwali over the last few weeks and the celebratory customs that take place. However, our true emphasis on friendship is shown, when the older children bring their instruments and perform to their friends, then teach the reception children how to play the instruments as well. A great session of child-led activities that encompassed the Little Angels values of friendship - supporting each other to explore and understand everyone's interest with respect.

Our breakfast club has relocated to the Social Club on a Monday to Thursday, this provides a much larger space for our school children to have a relaxed breakfast with suitable activities before we take them to school. Contact us now for more information.

Wizards School - come and join us in October Half term for fun

packed week of 'classes' at Wizards School!!!!

To find out more and see what we have been up to follow us on Facebook- www.facebook.com/littleangelsmarcham and take a look at our new website: www.littleangelschildcaregroup.co.uk.

MARCHAM SCHOOL NEWS

The school year is back in full swing and the children at Marcham School have been enjoying their new classes and new topics.

Children in Key Stage 2 enjoyed a fantastic WOW starter to their topic 'A Stitch in Time' with a visit to the Victoria and Albert Museum in London. There they stepped back in time and became clothing detectives, finding out about the clothes we used to wear. On a tour of the museum, they discovered a fabulous 'Mantua' dress from the 1750s and learnt that the incredible width in the skirt is created by the insertion of panniers (wooden baskets worn as part of an underskirt). A little further on in time, children found and tried on crinoline skirts and corsets, neither of which were found to be very comfortable! The boys weren't left out and enjoyed being transformed into Georgian princes (completed with wigs and hats) and mini Sherlock Holmes adorned in long coats, top hats and accessorised with a walking stick. A great day was had by all who attended and whilst the children admired the outfits there was relief, on the whole, that modern materials are so much more comfortable to wear!

Children across the school have also been celebrating Harvest culminating in our Harvest Festival earlier this month. This year, our celebrations took on a global dimension with each class choosing a page from the text 'The World Came to My Place Today' as the starting point for exploration into the production of the foods we eat. During our festival, children shared their findings and thoughts with the school community. We were also treated to reports from a group of Year 6 children who had visited Waitrose in Abingdon to find out more about how our foods are sourced and sold as well a report from Year 4 children who had visited the local food bank in order to learn more about the charities that benefit from our harvest donations. Many thanks to all that contributed to our harvest collection for your generosity.

Our visit to the foodbank

On Friday 7th October we went to the foodbank to discover what happened to all our Harvest boxes. We found out that first all the items have to be put into groups of 10 so that it can all be counted easily. Next we had to find all the 'best before' dates and record it with letters and numbers to show the year and month. There is also a table which you can put food on, to show it's almost, or is just out of date for customers to help themselves to.

Then we put different foods into labelled boxes to be stored in a huge cupboard. At harvest time, and also at Christmas there are a lot of donations, so they have another storeroom to keep all the sealed boxes. Thank you to everyone for all your donations, we found out that the foodbank is always very grateful.

By Ellie, Rosie, Emmanuel and Isaac.

Marcham School is holding two open sessions for Parents of prospective pupils who will start in Reception in September 2017.

Please come along for a tour and meet the staff and children on either: Wednesday 16th November 2016 between 1:30 - 2:30pm or Monday 9th January 2017 between 10:00 - 11:00am

We look forward to meeting you.

Marcham Guides: We have been having a lot of fun - camping back in July and this term working on a theme of "All about me". So far we've had a dentist in to tell us how to look after our teeth and a podiatrist to look at our feet. We'll be looking at nails and skin and body image after the half term break. Also looking forward to learning how to play the hand bells, and maybe performing!

If you are 10 or nearly 10, and would like to join the largest female organisation in the world, contact Jill Rowe for more information.



Bank Balance
£22,225

Local Events
£11,830

Donations
£8,260

2016 - 2017 Membership
Voting: 72 Junior: 18

5p Coins
7388

Marcham
Community
Group



Progress with facilities... a public meeting

Marcham Community Group continues to play its part within the Community Facilities Steering Group (to develop new community facilities).

Open Meeting and AGM - Marcham School

Thursday 10th November at 7:30 pm

An open meeting—open to all residents of Marcham—to discuss the latest progress on community facilities and the way forward will be held at **Marcham School, on Thursday 10th November, starting at 7:30 pm**. This will include a presentation on the latest stage of the project to build new community facilities, and proposed management arrangements for the new facilities. The meeting will also provide an opportunity to ask questions about the project and how we are progressing with the design details.

The meeting will also include a brief formal AGM for Marcham Community Group, including accounts and election of director/trustees—members will receive separate notice of this. We will also discuss the future role of MCG and fund-raising ideas to support the new facilities.

We are keen to encourage as many people as possible to come and hear about progress with these developments and to contribute to the next stages of the project. We are inviting you to renew your membership again to support our efforts and we are also looking for help with fund-raising. We continue to be grateful for the support of all our members and of the wider village — it is much appreciated — many thanks!

Apple Day — a big thank-you!



Firstly, a big 'thank-you' to all who helped and all those who supported Apple Day. After the heavy rain of the early morning, the skies cleared to give us welcome October sunshine. The event raised over £300 for community facilities.

Amongst the many activities, we pressed huge numbers of apples with the MCG Apple press and produced lots of fresh apple juice, all of which was sold instantly!

Thanks to all the 'Pressers'!



Open Meeting — 10th November — please come

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

www.marcham.org



APPLE DAY 2016 QUIZ ANSWERS

Here are the answers to October's general knowledge takeaway quiz, all beginning with an A.

- 01 AUTUMN is described by poet John Keats as the 'season of mists and mellow fruitfulness'.
- 02 The capital of AFGHANISTAN is Kabul.
- 03 Bees are kept in an APIARY ...
- 04 ... and birds in an AVIARY.
- 05 Nestlé make bubbly AERO chocolate.
- 06 The AARDVARK is an ant-eating African nocturnal mammal.
- 07 ADELE first shot to fame with her 2011 song 'Someone Like You'.
- 08 Burt Lancaster (oops, sorry, not the other US movie star Burt) played 'The Birdman of ALCATRAZ' prisoner Robert Stroud.
- 09 1970s star footballer Johann Cruyff played for Dutch team AJAX.
- 10 Baku is the capital of AZERBAIJAN.

- 11 The South Pole was first reached by Norwegian explorer Roald AMUNDSEN in 1911.
- 12 The AYE-AYE is a lemur-like nocturnal mammal living on the island of Madagascar.
- 13 The initials AKA (aka) stand for ALSO KNOWN AS.
- 14 APPLEBY in Westmorland (Cumbria) has been holding an annual horse fair for donkeys years!
- 15 A popular novel about English middle class country life is called an AGA SAGA.
- 16 Eggplant is the vegetable Americans call an AUBERGINE.
- 17 A-HA were the pop group on 1987 'The Living Daylights' James Bond theme music.
- 18 India's Taj Mahal is at AGRA.
- 19 The Roman place name for Bath was AQUAE SULIS.
- 20 ABBA's nine UK No. 1 hit singles between 1974 and 1980 were 'Waterloo', 'Mamma Mia', 'Fernando', 'Dancing Queen', 'Knowing Me Knowing You', 'The Name Of The Game', 'Take A Chance On Me', 'The Winner Takes It All' and 'Super Trouper'.

All Saints' Church Page

www.marcham-with-garford.org.uk



Dear Friends,

We live in a world of instant communication, our mobile phones and iPads bringing news from across the world almost the moment something happens. Our social networks are buzzing constantly, almost to the exclusion of personal conversation! We can order almost anything online, and it will be delivered the same day or the day after. In so many ways life couldn't be easier, and I, for one, am profoundly grateful for this ease of access to information and communication.

However, I think there are hidden costs: we come to expect instant responses to e-mails and text messages; the pressures of life in this 'instant world' appear to be greater; the pace of life is faster; and the real art of person to person conversation is in danger of fading. The number of times, when in the course of a conversation, someone's mobile phone bleeps, and immediately the conversation is put on hold in order to respond to the phone! I confess to being irritated by it!

And I wonder how God feels about all this? How often we allow our 'agendas' to crowd out any thought of God's? How frequently we are so busy with our instant communications that we don't listen for God's voice, or the nudge of his Spirit? The month of November heralds the beginning of Advent – perhaps the most profound season of communication between God and human beings – the encounters that lead to Jesus's arrival – to God stepping into our world. But are we listening?

And how about reading God's text message? Through Scripture God communicates, through his Spirit he 'speaks', nudges, and prods us, if we are willing to hear. In All Saints', in the run up to Christmas, we are going to follow the events and encounters that lead to God stepping into our world. You are warmly invited to come on the journey with us.

With my warmest best wishes for November,

Richard

Revd Canon Richard Zair, Vicar

Regular church services

Sundays: 10am & 6pm at All Saints'

Wednesdays: 10.30am at Duffield Place

**Remembrance Service, Sunday 13th
November at 10am.**

Other events:

**Men's Breakfast: Saturday 3rd
November, 8.30am at the Baptist Hall**

Men's Night: Monday 5th November

**Marcham Motor Club: Tuesday 15th
November**

**Changing Room (Women's Breakfast),
Saturday 19th November, 8.30am at the
Baptist Hall**

**Village Café: Wednesdays 12pm at the
SSSC**

Contacts: Rev. Canon Richard Zair 391319 (r_zair@yahoo.co.uk) * Jill Rowe *Youth and Children's Minister* jill.rowe.ymc@googlemail.com 390885 * Rob Finch *Youth Worker* 07888331708, rob@marchamyouth.org * Tim Jack *Churchwarden* 01865 864900 * Debbie Flint *Churchwarden* 01865 391056 * Tamsin Gilbert *Parish Administrator* 391319 * Parish Office: parish_office41@yahoo.co.uk

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Abingdon, Oxfordshire
OX13 6NU

Tel 01865 391298
Fax 01865 391173
enquiries@bnb-rafters.co.uk
www.bnb-rafters.co.uk

SITUATIONS VACANT

NOW RECRUITING

If you are a hard working individual who is passionate about local food we might have the job for you. We are looking for new people to join our team within the Farm Shop and Restaurant in the following roles:

- Bakery Kitchen Assistants
- Bakery Counter Assistant
- Deli Assistant
- Butchery Counter Assistant
- Sunday Restaurant Supervisor

All of the above are permanent positions and vary from full time to part time hours.

For more information on each role visit our website or drop us an email for an application form:

www.milletsfarmcentre.com
sally@milletsfarmcentre.com

Millets
FARM CENTRE

THINGS TO DO



DENMAN'S ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS

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13 December 2016

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01865 391 991 and quote the code: MADNews

www.denman.org.uk

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DENMAN

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For more information contact the Hills recruitment hotline on 01793 781193 for an application pack or email your CV to join@hills-group.co.uk



Wizarding School

October Half Term

Monday 24th - Friday 28th October

Come and join us to learn magic spells, make potions and explore a magical world.

For more details, please contact Kaye at little-angels@hotmail.co.uk or 01865 819992

