

Marcham & District News

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APRIL 2017 VOL: 39 NO: 4



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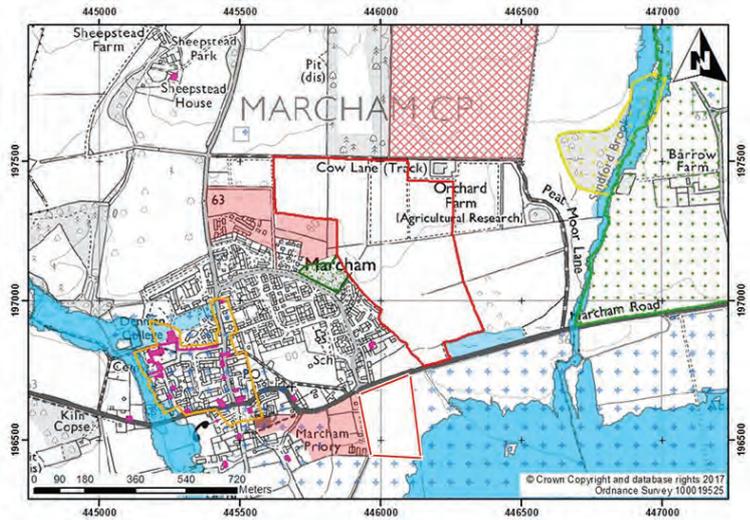
FREE



▲ Easter Basket – get your raffle tickets at MVS page 5



▲ Pancakes at Pre-School page 13



▲ Vale Local Plan 2 – areas for new housing outlined in red pages 3 and 11



▲ Little Angels become Firefighters and Chefs page 13 ▲



▲ Support our local charities, Cycle Ride page 17 Visit a Garden page 13

Diary for April

3 Mon	Getting Ahead: how to keep warm, Duffield Place, 10.20-11.30	9	20 Thu	Marcham WI: Cheese, Denman College, 19.30	7
6 Thu	Music at the Unicorn: The Urban Folk Quartet, 19.00	15	22 Sat	Sewing Workshop, Baptist Church Hall, 10.00-16.00	5
6 Thu	ABCD Film Society: Moonlight, Abingdon, 19.45	15	22 Sat	Public Exhibition Community Hall Facilities, All Saints' Church, 11.00-13.00	5
8 Sat	Wantage & Grove Lions: Bingo, Grove, 18.45	7	23 Sun	Plant Sale and Tea, Prior's Corner, 14.00-17.00	5
8 Sat	Music in the Vale: Crossing Oceans, St Denys' Church, Stanford-i-t-Vale, 19.30	15	25 Tue	Singing is Good for You, Duffield Place, 14.00-15.30	5
11 Tue	Singing is Good for You, Duffield Place, 14.00 - 15.30	5	25 Tue	GARD, AGM, Steventon, 19.30	11
11 Tue	Marcham Society: City Farm, Alan Larkman, All Saint's Church, 19.45	9	27 Thu	Marcham Senior Citizens' Club, Duffield Place, 14.30	7
12 Wed	Marcham Parish Council Meeting, Duffield Place, 19.30	3	28 Fri	MSSSC Quiz Night, Anson Field, 20.15	7
13 Thu	Midweek Walk, The Wheatsheaf, E. Hendred 12.30 lunch / 13.30 walk	7	May		
13 Thu	Sunningwell and District Gardening Club, 19.30	15	3 Wed	League of Friends Quiz, Abingdon, 19.15	9
20 Thur	Deadline for May MADNews, 17.00: editor@madnews.co.uk		4 Thu	Deadline for Comments on Vale Local Plan 2	3, 11
			12-13	Abingdon Jazz Festival, Abbey Buildings	15
			13 Sat	Isis Chamber Orchestra, All Saints' Church, 19.30	17

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

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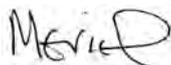
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Dear Readers

COUNTY COUNCIL ELECTIONS THURSDAY 4 MAY
 On Thursday 4 May 2017, all 63 seats on the county council will be up for re-election. Polling stations will be open 7am - 10pm. Exactly who will be standing for election in each division will be known after the close of nominations at 4pm on Tuesday 4 April. MADNews will not be publishing any electioneering or promotional material on behalf of any of the candidates.

But there are lots of lovely things to do before then – open gardens, plant sales, quizzes, films, singing, lectures, meetings and have a good look at the Vale Local Plan 2 - and make your view known!

Happy Easter to you all



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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.

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Richard Webber, Orchard Barn, Sutton Wick Lane, Drayton OX14 4HJ
 Tel: 01235 534001
Richard.webber77@ntlworld.com

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Marcham and Shippon
 Catherine Webber, Orchard Barn, Sutton Wick Lane, Drayton OX14 4HJ
 Tel: 01235 534001
Webbercatherine1@gmail.com

For other councillors go to

www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk

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MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

520 more houses for Marcham

Vale Local Plan Part Two Preferred Options Consultation. The Local Plan Part Two Consultation is now taking place on part two of the District Council's Local Plan. The Local Plan prepared by the Vale of White Horse District Council is a policy document which sets out the vision, strategy and core objectives of the Council for its area. Included in the document just released, is a proposal to allocate land behind Hyde Copse up to Cow Lane, and land behind Anson Close down to the A415 for 400 houses, and also earmark the field on the south of the A415 next to the new Pye development as a site suitable for future development. Also on the South side of the A415 there is a proposal to protect some land for a route for a bypass one day. The documents are available for viewing at <http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/services-and-advice/planning-and-building/planning-policy/local-plan-2031-part-2> You can respond with your comments via the online questionnaire, or fill in a comment form available from the District Council's offices on Milton Park, the Abingdon Library, or from Marcham village shop. One form is required for each policy that you are commenting on. The deadline for comments is 4th May, 2017. The Parish Council will be debating the draft document at its meeting on 12th April, so in addition to letting the District Council have your thoughts, please let your local parish councillor know too.

Annual Meeting for Electors

The Vale of White Horse District Council has agreed to be the guest speakers at the annual meeting for electors, following its announcement regarding housing proposals. This meeting was previously set for 24th May, which is after the comment deadline, but the Parish Council is trying hard to bring this forward to after Easter, at the end of April, to allow residents to hear first hand from District Council officers about the proposals for Marcham. Please look in due course, at the Council's website www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk and also look out for posters for the actual date for the annual meeting of electors. This meeting is a public meeting for all local government electors in the parish, and you are invited to take part.

Defibrillator

With the kind permission of Marcham Primary School, a new defibrillator is being installed behind the car park area at the front of the school. This will enable anyone who needs it, to have easy access to it. Once installed and functioning, its location will be given to the Ambulance Service, so that 999 operators can quickly identify the device when dealing with emergencies.

Tennis Courts

A reminder that the tennis courts within the grounds of Marcham Primary School, and used by the village, are no longer available as the Licence to the Parish Council has been terminated to allow the construction of 2 new classrooms on one of the courts. The nearest public courts for anyone wishing to play tennis over the Easter holidays and in the Summer are at the White Horse Leisure and Tennis Centre in Audlett Drive, Abingdon.

Marcham Garden Competition 2017

Reminder that the Best Kept Garden Competition will be running again this year. First round judging will take place at the end of June, with second round judging early in July. No entry forms will be required and judges will assess gardens from the roadside without the need for entering properties. The Council would encourage parishioners to think about the competition when putting out their bedding plants, and help improve the appearance and environment of our village. Don't forget the lucky winners will be presented with their prizes at the September meeting of the Parish Council.

Footway alongside A415

A year has passed since the Council was able to confirm that Persimmon Homes who was developing Priory Park, would be constructing a footway Eastwards from their site to link with the traffic light controlled crossing point over the A415, as per the planning consent granted for the development. Whilst the required legal agreements with the County Council have been signed and the base of the path installed, there seems to be a considerable delay in relocating the utility poles that carry the power and cables. The Parish Council has been corresponding with both the County Council and the utility companies in an effort to get the poles relocated and the final surface of the path installed. The County Council has taken up the matter with Persimmon Homes.

Youth Shelter – Litter Bin

Unfortunately the litter bin at the youth shelter has been damaged again and is no longer serviceable. The Council is looking to replace this with a heavier duty, harder wearing bin which should be installed around the end of the month.

Planning applications

The Council has considered the following planning applications:
 P16/V3250/HH Demolish existing conservatory and replace with single storey rear extension at 28 North Street. The Council had no objections.

Date of Next Council Meeting:

Wednesday 12th April 2017 at 7.30p.m. in the residents' lounge, at Duffield Place. Please check noticeboard outside the Institute and/or the Council's website www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk in case arrangements change.

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

FOUND

A set of keys on a key ring with a black pom pom was found at the Cow Lane allotments. Please contact the Parish Clerk 01865 391844

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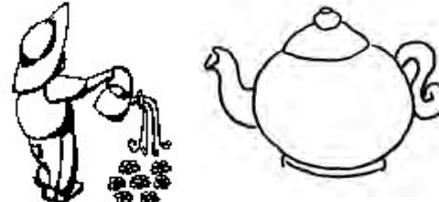


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It's not just for children or retired people, if you're in the village on a Wednesday midday, come over and have lunch
 We don't make a charge for the meal but rely on contributions.



Plant Sale & Tea in the Garden
 Sunday April 23rd 2-5pm
 Prior's Corner, Priory Lane
 In aid of the new village facilities



Stamps for Young Dementia UK
 Please bring in your stamps from all your cards and letters to Marcham Village Shop to aid Young Dementia UK - the box is just inside the door.
GWYNETH GOSS

Community Facilities Steering Group
Public Exhibition: Saturday 22nd April, 11:00-13:00

Legal agreements between key parties (The Anson Trust, The Vale of White Horse District Council, Marcham Parish Council and Thomas Homes) are being finalised. The working group of CFSG has finalised design specifications and the architect is developing detailed drawings for the hall, so that the new facilities are fit for the needs of our local community.

There will be a public exhibition of the updated design drawings for the community hall facilities in the church on **Saturday 22nd April from 11:00-13:00**. CFSG encourages you to come along and see the proposed plans before they go in for final planning approval..

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



Make a Beautiful Fabric Tote Bag or Pen Pot
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Marcham WI

Next Meeting

Date: Thursday, 20th April

Time: 7.30pm

Venue: Denman College



At our next meeting on Thursday 20th April, we will be welcoming **Gill Draycott** as our speaker. Gill, former proprietor of Wells Stores at Peach Croft Farm and judge at the British Cheese Awards will give us a talk on 'Cheese'. Come along and learn more about the subject and enjoy having a taste of some delicious cheeses.

For further information, please contact:

Pippa Hoath 01865 391349 pippahoath@gmail.com

MARCHAM SOCIETY MID-WEEK WALK: THURSDAY, APRIL 13TH.

For this month's walk we will eat at the Wheatsheaf Inn (Map Ref SU460888) in Chapel Square, East Hendred (OX12 8JN) at 12.30pm for lunch, starting the walk of about 4 miles at 1.30. We will be walking in the rolling country around the two Hendreds and the Ginge Brook.

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 SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB

Our AGM was held on 23rd February with reports from Club officials regarding our activities during 2016. Our Treasurer reported a satisfactory year with expenses being covered by our own generated income and a grant from Marcham Parish Council.

After the AGM members present spent an enjoyable half hour remembering WWII and the various experiences from many parts of the UK including Anderson shelters, convoys in coastal areas in June 1944 and many instances of V1 & V2 'doodle bugs'

This was followed by refreshments and our usual raffle.

Our March meeting will be held in Duffield Place lounge on Thursday 30th March at 2.30pm and will include some video funnies.

Our April meeting will be held in Duffield Place Lounge on Thursday 27th April at 2.30pm with members recalling happy, or otherwise, memories of our early school days.

NEW MEMBERS VERY WELCOME

For more information contact
John Woods (Secretary) 391705

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

Quiz Night 28 April 8.15pm

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!

Quiz nights usually take place on the last Friday of each month. Everyone welcome, members and non members. Just turn up on the night for a friendly evening of fun and banter. Questions are on a range of subjects and aimed at everyone's ability!

Further details from Trevor Hill – 01865 391321

Everyone welcome - members AND non-members

We look forward to seeing you at the club

Wantage & Grove Lions are holding a cash bingo on Saturday April 8th at Grove village hall doors open at 6.45pm eyes down 7.30pm also great raffle
hope to see you there



DUFFIELD SUNSHINE CLUB

We meet on Mondays at 2 o'clock in The Residents' Lounge, Duffield Place. Any new members will be very welcome. We play some games of Bingo, enjoy a cup of tea or coffee with biscuits and finish off with a raffle about 3.30pm.

Any further information, please contact me on 391384 or just come and join us on a Monday afternoon at 2pm for a social afternoon.

ALL WELCOME

JEAN DIX

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Call Bob Tel: 01865 730011 Mobile: 07715 707830

MARCHAM CRICKET CLUB

The Oxfordshire Cricket Association 2017 Season begins for the Club at home with a 1st XI match against Swinbrook on 29th April. The Season starts for the 2nd XI on 6th May when Watlington II visit Marcham. In preparation for the Season, Nets are being held. Please contact Trevor Hill (01865 391321) for any information relating to the Club, including Nets, or playing or umpiring for Marcham.



And finally.....after one of Geoffrey Boycott's characteristically long and dogged innings John Arlott once commented that: "No man is an island, but he has batted as though he was a particularly long peninsula".

CSB

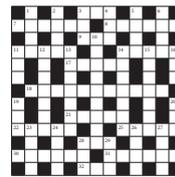
The History of Garford

On March the 14th the Marcham Society were host to Mike Greig, a resident of Garford, who gave a talk on its history. In the introduction he was referred to jokingly as the world expert on Garford, but with the level of detail and the timespan presented, from pre-history through to the 1920s, there was more than enough to suggest that what was said in jest, may indeed be true. From the icy tundra landscape of c. 9700 BC there eventually sprung human habitation (from around 3,000 BC) which seems to have been continuous from that point onwards. Two roman villas have been discovered and it is believed that the A338 was a roman road. The earliest documentary evidence is from the 10th century and this includes an original charter from 960 confirming the grant of Garford to Wulfric. The population has grown only slightly over nearly 1,000 years of documented habitation, although it has followed the population shocks of firstly the Black Death and then, in the 19th century, the inexorable move towards the towns in search of employment that the rest of the country experienced. The village was held by Abingdon Abbey at the time of the Domesday book and after its dissolution became crown property until sold to Sir Thomas White, who gave it to St. John's College Oxford as an endowment at the college's inception. Mike has been fortunate to discover many original manuscripts and documents in his searches and the sources he has used to construct the narrative timeline are the normal tools for all local historians; charters, cartularies, Domesday records, lay subsidy, poll tax and hearth tax records, terrier descriptions of the boundaries of the parish, tithe maps, enclosure maps and then in later years directories, ordnance survey maps and even photos from the 1920s. What was extraordinary was the fact that *all* these sources were referenced in order to construct a narrative history of Garford.

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

PETER STEERE

CROSSWORD BY ALISA



Across: 3. Bat 7. Potato 8. Icebox 9. Act 11. Cocks 14. Niche 17. Whale 18. Planetarium 21. Obama 25. Dusty 28. Chimney sweep 30. Active 31. Animal 32. Top
Down: 1. Pole 2. Task 3. Boa 4. Tit 5. Semi 6. Both 10. Craft sale 11. Cod 12. Cellist 13. Swindon 14. New Road 15. Columns 16. End 19. Gas 20. Ray 23. Arch 24. Isis 26. Unit 27. Team 28. Jet 29. Map

THE MARCHAM PLAYERS

Many thanks to all who attended the Marcham Players get together last month. We enjoyed an entertaining read through of the murder-mystery play "Who killed the director?" (suspects included the washed up leading lady, the young starlet, the bossy business woman and the secretive stage manager).



At the brief AGM which preceded the play reading we agreed to continue in "hibernation" mode for another year - with a view to re-embarking on productions once the new village facilities are in place. However, we are always happy to hear from people interested in theatre and amateur dramatics, so if you would like to know more or get involved please contact Jenny Warwick on 392 076, j.warwick21@tiscali.co.uk!

For details about joining in with the Marcham Players, contact Jenny Warwick on 392 076, j.warwick21@tiscali.co.uk

May Quiz

3rd May 7.15 pm White Horse pub
Ock Street, Abingdon-on-Thames

Please support your Abingdon Community Hospital by entering a team in a general knowledge quiz. The quiz is organised by the League of Friends. To join in please phone 01235 520768 or 820874. You can be a team of six or an individual.

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Matt Neal – Affordable Warmth Network

- For more information contact Rachel Gaisford on 391432



The
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All Saints' Church, Marcham
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Further details: Sheila Dunford (391439) or Judith Fontaine (391275)

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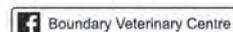
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ED VAIZEY WRITES...

March saw the final Spring Budget as the Chancellor, Philip Hammond, announced a few months ago that future budgets will be delivered in autumn. Within the budget there were announcements to freeze fuel duty for the seventh successive year, an increase in the national living wage to £7.50, a rise in the personal allowance to £11,500, £2 billion more for social care over the next three years, and £100 million for A&E departments to help them better manage demand ahead of the next winter.



I was especially pleased to see that the Chancellor announced an extra £270 million for Research and Development, which is an important boost to our local and national economy. The Chancellor also announced new T-levels for 16-19 year old technical students from autumn 2019, and area of education that our constituency is leading in. £200 million was also announced to further support the roll out of broadband, along with £16 million for a national 5G Innovation Network to trial the new technology.

In other news, the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service, dubbed the "MBE for voluntary groups", is currently open for nominations. The Queens Award for Voluntary Service is awarded annually, and currently there is a maximum of 200 awards per year. Any member of the public can nominate a group of volunteers for the award by completing the online form <https://qavs.direct.gov.uk/>.

Finally, congratulations to Oakman Inns and Restaurants, operators of the Old Post Office in Wallingford, as their exceptional staff policies and human resources record got them to the eight position in the Sunday Times 100 Best Companies Awards 2017. The list of other winners is <http://appointments.thesundaytimes.co.uk/article/best100companies/>.

ED VAIZEY, MP Wantage and Didcot (Conservative)

Contact Ed Vaizey MP by	
Post	The House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA
E-mail	dicksonce@parliament.uk
Web	www.vaizey.com
News	http://bit.ly/EdVaizeyMP
Tel	0207 219 6350

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT

First thoughts about the Draft of Local Plan 2

The Local Plan 2031 Part 2 is primarily setting out the policies and locations for housing for the proportion of the city of Oxford's housing need up to 2031 which cannot be met within the city boundaries. Of these 2,450 houses, it seems that Marcham and Shippon (with Dalton Barracks) will take the bulk of the houses in their patches.....both part of the same district. Marcham is designated to take 520 houses- 400 to the N.E. of Marcham and 120 S.E. of Marcham- and the small village of Shippon will take at least 1,200 houses on the MOD land at Dalton Barracks. This has come as a great shock to both villages, and we have until May 4th to put forward our responses.

Clearly, Marcham is a very sustainable, large village with its own school, community shop, new village hall and sports facilities in the pipeline, reasonable bus services, thriving church and so on, which therefore has made it vulnerable to being allotted new houses. However, the District and County Councils know that the centre of Marcham is an AQMA, which means that any extra transport generated by new housing developments, both in the village and surrounding areas, will send up the air pollution considerably. Both councils are very aware of this and are talking about a bypass again.....that mythical road around Marcham which has been discussed since the 1930s! I, for one, don't believe that this will happen, however much we would like it to, so we must make sure that both councils execute a viable plan to control/reduce the pollution in this AQMA BEFORE any extra houses are built. Fortunately, with the guidance of the County Council and thanks to the generous help offered by about 50 volunteers, we are about

to carry out a 24hour traffic survey to see how the figures taken in 2011 compare to the traffic today. This will give us some evidence of how the traffic is affecting the pollution levels now. The future development of 120 houses S.E. of Marcham will mean that cars from here and travelling west are going to spill out into the AQMA, so increasing the air pollution levels, and if the cars from the other development of 400 houses N.E. of Marcham also get access onto Abingdon road, the levels of air pollution will rocket. We must make sure that this does not happen, so please put forward your comments to the Vale before May 4th, 2017.

Responses to the Local Plan 2 can be made by:

1) using the consultation system accessible via www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/LPP2 This website also gives you details of public events explaining the Local Plan 2.

2) downloading the comment form available from the above website and emailing it to: planning.policy@whitehorsedc.gov.uk

HAPPY EASTER TO YOU ALL

CATHERINE WEBBER Cllr VWHDC

01235 534001 or Webbercatherine1@gmail.com

Report from GARD - April 2017

As we reported before Christmas, Thames Water has issued a draft report refining the list of options for its 2019 Five-year Water Resources Management Plan. Amongst the list of options is the massive 'Abingdon' reservoir to be sited on the land between Steventon, Hanney, Drayton and Marcham.



As readers will know, GARD has long opposed this reservoir (successfully at the Public Inquiry in 2010), and continues to do so. Over the next year Thames Water will develop their plan to select a few (perhaps 3 or 4) new water resources to put forward to the government at the beginning of 2018. The government will then put that plan out to public consultation. There is still a very strong possibility that the reservoir will be one of these new water resources proposed, alongside one or more of: more recycling of treated water, a second desalination plant in the Thames, reducing demand by tackling leakage losses and metering, and transfer of water from the River Severn. *It is GARD's view that these other sources are less costly, less damaging to the environment, less disruptive to our local communities and more robust against climate change than the reservoir.* GARD will oppose a reservoir if it becomes one of the proposed 'shortlist' and will demand a new Public Inquiry. The reservoir was opposed by 83% of the respondees to the Steventon Neighbourhood Plan, and we will seek your help in mobilising this opposition and that of other villages, who were united in opposition at the 2010 Public Inquiry.

We need as much active help as we can possibly get, although we are already supported by Council for the Protection of Rural England and by local councillors at Parish, District and County level, the residents can be a powerful force if we all combine.

GARD will be holding its Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 25th April at 7.30pm in St Michael's Church Hall, Steventon. You are all welcome to attend and listen to the news on the latest situation. If you cannot get along, and you have any questions or want further information, then please contact me at chair@abingdonreservoir.org.uk. I am very interested to hear from our members in the local villages.

We expect that there will be developments in April which will give an idea of Thames Water's thinking, you can see the briefing on the present situation on the GARD website at www.abingdonreservoir.org.uk. GARD will be continuing to brief local Parish Councils and our District and County councillors, all of whom are being very supportive.

Please get in touch if you feel you can offer either technical input or administrative/secretarial help. Please contact me (email chair@abingdonreservoir.org.uk) if you would like to help, or to join GARD (lifetime membership is only £5).

DEREK STORK,

Hon Chairman, Group Against Reservoir Development

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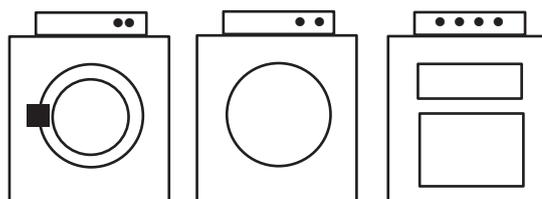
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MARCHAM PRE-SCHOOL

Pre-school had a busy Shrove Tuesday - first the children cooked and tasted their own pancakes, and then each child had a go at pancake tossing, which was very exciting! In the afternoon we held our own pancake races, which again, the children loved - especially when the adults had a race too!!

Lots of pancake pictures were added to our secure online system (Tapestry) which records the children's activities and development.

At the beginning of March we also celebrating World Book Day, with all the children over a whole week being invited to bring in their favourite book to share - and dress up if they wished to - we got to read some old favourites and discovered some new stories!! What lovely memories we made - and we are looking forward to making many more over the next few weeks.

If you are interested in registering your child for Marcham pre-school, please do get in touch as soon as possible on 01865 392101 or email marcham-preschool@hotmail.co.uk

We welcome visitors at any time, and would welcome the opportunity to share more information about our values, our setting and the outcomes we plan for all children at Marcham Pre-school.

www.marcham-preschool.weebly.com

NEWS FROM LITTLE ANGELS

In the **Baby Room** we are really enjoying the warmer weather which has allowed us to look at the flowers around Marcham. We



took a lovely stroll around the village, where we could we stopped and looked at the different colours, felt their different texture and smelt them as well!

It has also been busy with water play, learning to wash with sponges and ducks and we especially enjoyed the song 5 little ducks while cleaning them! It is important in families to look after each other, at the Little Angels family it is no different so looking after and washing our ducks was not only fun but part of being a family. Including the new words we learnt, the reactions that water has with our actions such as splashing and also we start respecting others to take it in turns to make big splashes or clean the ducks- the start of friendships right here in our baby room.

In our **Pre-School Room**, they have also been looking at helping each other. We were all very excited when a big red, fire engine came down our drive! We met the local firemen and they even allowed us to have a go at their water hose, it was great to see how far it reached across the field. They were very friendly all the firemen, we had a look at the engine and we now know who we need to call if there is a fire.

We are also looking at keeping ourselves healthy - we had our very own healthy chefs! They made everyone a fun dinner (just like Café we were told by the children). We then looked at pineapple, it was very bumpy and spiky, but the inside was soft - here we included maths looking at half, quarters and shapes. So much from just one pineapple!

It did not stop here, it is important to us at Little Angels that children learn through fun child initiated play- which is exactly what we did! The children with the support from our team made a Tea Shop outside! We then expanded to have a market stall selling lots of fruit and vegetables, and bottles of water! It was great fun.

Here at the **Breakfast and After School Club** we also have been looking at people who help us! We have had lots of visitors over the last few weeks! There has been the local PCSO, who were very



helpful (check out our Facebook page for the criminals we had to find!) and also the Army medics. It was great to have them show us the different equipment they have. We also had a nurse come and help show us some skills on first aid!

It is also important to us that we support all the children, our homework support is in full operation. Everyone can help each other supporting homework, friends as well as the adults!

In September we have limited spaces available in the breakfast and afterschool club, if your little angel is joining Marcham Primary School in September or you are new to the area, please contact us for more information about how we can support you on 01865 819992 or marcham@littleangelschildcaregroup.co.uk.

Also if you would like to be part of Little Angels Family, where our home is your home please contact us on 01865 819992 or marcham@littleangelschildcaregroup.co.uk.

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

PTA Round-up

Since the last MADNews the PTA has held two successful fundraising events. Our latest school disco raised the tidy sum of £193, so a big thank you to the parents who helped organise and run the event and to the children who put on their dancing shoes and threw some moves on the dance floor.

The second event was a departure for us when, led by Victoria North, we put on a Saturday afternoon film show in the school hall. We have yet to work out the income-cost arithmetic, but we took £340 in ticket sales and a very healthy (if that's the right word!) £183 on the bar, making a total of £523 before expenses.

Together, my educated guess is that these two events will have raised around £500, money that will go towards supporting the school in providing a full and rounded education for the children. For example, Key Stage 1 pupils will be visiting Warwick Castle in June, and the PTA is subsidising the cost of this trip by covering the cost of coach travel. So a big thank you to everyone for supporting the PTA's activities - it really is making a difference. Our next event is the spring school disco on Friday 28 April. Details will be publicised nearer the time.

If you would like to learn more in how you can help with our school fundraising, either drop me an email at [peter.kidd61@btinternet.com](mailto:kidd61@btinternet.com), or call me on 07708 251312. Every bit of extra help is very welcome

See you on the school run

Peter Kidd, PTA Chair



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 The Festival will take place in the ancient Long Gallery of the old Abingdon Abbey Buildings on the 12th and 13th May 2016.



Yes, jazz is alive, well and kicking up a storm in "jazztown" Abingdon-on-Thames.
The festival will include at least 6 main concerts in the centre of the town.
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 FOR MORE INFORMATION AND A RUNNING LIST
www.abingdonjazzfestival.org.uk
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ABCD Film Society
Thursday screenings this month



April 6: MOONLIGHT (USA, 2016, 111 mins, Cert 15) – the film which really did win the Oscar! "In his masterfully handled second film writer/director Barry Jenkins aligns us with a lonely soul, slowly teasing out the true sexuality of a repressed young African-American named Chiron. Combining style and subtlety, Moonlight illustrates a liberating journey of self-acceptance that derives tension from the contrast between the tough Miami backdrop and the secret this shy boy keeps inside". (Radio Times)
 7.45pm at Abingdon Health & Wellbeing Centre, Audlett Drive, OX14 3GD. Adjacent parking. Admission £6 – school and full-time college students £3. This completes our 2016/7 season – please let us know if you would like to receive a copy of our 2017/8 programme, which will be published in September. Registered charity No. 292723.
www.abfilms.org.uk or info@abfilms.org.uk or 01235 521976

Take Your Own Sensory Walk
 Walking out in nature, whether that's down to the local shop, or across fields and hillside, the transition from one season to another is often stark and obvious.
 As I write this piece we are moving into Spring, from a personally, rather challenging Winter. I have been walking and deeply watching my thoughts and feelings as I try to really experience and know what this particular seasonal transition is like.



What does it feel like? Fresh, new, warmth on my neck. Don't really think the sun lost all its warmth during the Winter just past as there always seemed to be some warmth remaining. Did you feel that too? What does the transition from Winter to Spring sound like? Well, this was a hard one to start with but I feel there are more tones and frequencies out in nature as Spring starts to beckon. What does its smell like? Plants like Daphne out in the gardens produce wonderful scents and aromas. So the transition brings up smells I'd forgotten which need a conscious effort to remind ourselves what they are. What does the transition feel like? Warmer and delicate as new foliage emerges. Taste. What does the transition from Winter to Spring taste like? More depth I'd say. Winter is about heavy root veg, soups and stews. A certain amount of sweetness appears in our gardens edible produce in Spring. Get out there yourself, go for a walk, and see what your senses pick up as Spring marches forward.
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www.tvairambulance.org
WE RELY ON YOU - SO YOU CAN RELY ON US

Sunningwell and District Gardening Club
 Thursday 13th April at 7.30pm
Talk by Paul Williams on
Petunias, potatoes, peppers and poisons
 Venue: Sunningwell Village Hall
 New and non-members welcome
 Entrance fee: Members £2 Non-Members £3
 Visit our website at www.sdgc.org.uk

AFTER SCHOOL DROP-IN FOR SECONDARY AGED YOUNG PEOPLE.
 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

PERSONAL SERVICES

Town Furlong Cattery

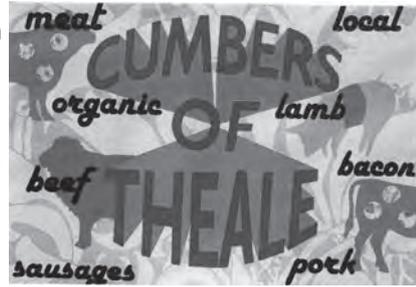


Kingston Road, Frilford
01865 391864
www.townfurlong.co.uk

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Your friendly village local
We have a dart board, pool table and a garden

Children are welcome until 9pm
Dogs are welcome in the bar area



OPENING HOURS		FOOD SERVED
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Tues - Sat	Noon - 11pm	
Sunday	Noon - 11pm	

1 Packhorse Lane, Marcham OX13 6NT
01865 391735

www.thecrownmarcham.co.uk

Facebook: TheCrownatMarcham

Sue and Duncan - in The Crown until 2021

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Marcham
Community
Group



Fund-raising Burns Supper

Community event coming soon — Fund-raising concert

We are delighted that Marcham will again have the pleasure in May of playing host to a concert by the Isis Chamber Orchestra, which has generously offered to support community facilities.

ISIS Chamber Orchestra

Saturday 13th May 2017, 7.30pm

All Saints' Church, Marcham

Conductor: Chris Gill

Flute: Rachel Wright

Clarinet: Ruth Foxman

Music: Vaughan Williams - Two Hymn Tune Preludes (Dominus regit me, Eventide) for small orchestra
Danzon - Sinfonia Concertante for flute, clarinet and orchestra, Grieg - Holberg Suite, Haydn - Symphony no. 80
MCG will provide food and refreshments for the concert, with proceeds from the evening going to support community facilities through MCG. Please come along, support the event and enjoy this evening of great music - tickets will be available from the shop in early May.



ISIS Chamber Orchestra
Saturday 13th May 2017, 7.30pm

Marcham Community Group: Company No 7470307 Charity No 1144407
391727 (Jim)

admin@marcham.org

www.marcham.org



St. Helen's 2017
Spring Plant Sale
Sat., 20th May
10am-12.30pm

St. Helen's Church, Dry Sandford
Church Lane, OX13 6JP

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www.sthelensdrysandford.org

Sunday 21st May 2017
Classic Oxfordshire
Cycle Ride
Use Your Pedal Power
for Against Breast
Cancer!



A fabulous cycling event and a wonderful opportunity to explore Oxfordshire's stunning countryside. Choose either the 30, 60, 75 or even the 100 mile route for those brave enough! And if all that sounds like too much like hard work we have the family friendly 12 mile Great Escape ride.

All 5 routes pass through pretty villages & lush spring countryside alongside the River Thames as you ride from South Oxfordshire up to Abingdon and into the Vale of White Horse. Taking in beautiful half-timbered cottages, green riverbanks and colourful marketplaces, it's a great start to the cycling season! Starting and finishing at Harwell, the route is suitable for seasoned cyclists, leisure cyclists and families looking for a fun day out together. Refreshments and toilet facilities are available throughout all routes.

This year we are proud to launch our very own cycling jersey that is all yours when you raise sponsorship for completing your ride*.

Help fund our unique research into discovering a vaccine Against Breast Cancer, contact us today!

*conditions apply

Website: <http://bit.ly/1SIKzZp>

Location: Harwell, Oxfordshire

Contact: Events Team: Richard & James

Email: events@againstbreastcancer.org.uk

Telephone: 01235 858282

DENMAN SHOP



Thinking about Easter presents or just looking for something for yourself?

The Denman shop has it all!

From gifts, souvenirs and children's gifts to confectionery, books and top of the range cookery products, the Denman shop has plenty to offer. Pop by during our opening hours for a browse!

Just ask at reception for the shop.
Open 09.00 – 17.00
(lunchtime closure at 12.15 – 13.15)

Please call us on 01865 391 991 ext. 1 and speak to Claire L for more details..

SITUATIONS VACANT

Do you inspire early years children to be the best they can be?



At Marcham Little Angels, we are looking for someone who is passionate about early years, with a sound knowledge and understanding of children development to join our family, focused Nursery as our Early Years Practitioner.

You will also be flexible, motivational and able to use your initiative to support the continual development of the children aged 6 months to 11 years.

It is essential to have a qualification equivalent to a minimum of Level 2 Early years Educator and experience of providing a range of stimulating and fun activities within an Early Years setting. Qualification in playworker or experience with primary school children is desirable, however training will be provided to support the progress to fulfil all requirements of supporting our after-school club.

The role is part time, Monday to Friday 2.00pm -5.30pm.

We are focused on the continual improvement of both team members and children alike, the award winning team at Little Angels is committed to being the very best they can be, and being recognised for enhancing the lives of future generations. If you are someone who can achieve our ethos then please contact Kaye Merriman on 01865 819992 or via email at kaye@littleangelschildcaregroup.co.uk for an application form by Friday 21st April.

Family orientated we pride ourselves on our open, honest and dedicated "home from home" approach.

Safeguarding the children in our care is paramount to us therefore the successful candidate will be required to complete an enhanced DBS disclosure.

HOLIDAYS

B&B Rafter's

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Contact: Mrs Sigrid Grawert

Abingdon Road
Marcham
Abingdon, Oxfordshire
OX13 6NU

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

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All Saints' Church Page

www.marcham-with-garford.org.uk

Dear Friends,

Do you long for some kind of freedom?

But what is freedom? Perhaps freedom from addiction, freedom from fear, freedom from wrong relationships, freedom from drugs, freedom from drudgery, freedom from ... and the list could fill this whole page! So often thoughts of freedom are accompanied by 'if only' ... we had more money, if only I didn't have to work, if only I wasn't ...

Constraints are an important and necessary part of civilised human life, they help to bring order, enable us to live together in community, and to value what we enjoy ... and the freedoms we do have. Anarchy is not freedom, it is chaos, and a chaos that is dangerous as boundaries are ignored, and shared values dented, self-interest rules at the expense of everyone else.

The coming celebrations of Holy Week and Easter are about freedom, but freedom at a huge price. Jesus gave up his freedom, to die on a criminal's cross - out of the deepest longing to set human beings free! Good Friday and Easter Day must be held together, for it is as a result of Good Friday that Easter is such a wonderful vindication and triumph! Through these momentous events our truest freedom is secured.

Jesus is recorded to have said: 'So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.' He was referring to being free from slavery to 'sin', a freedom to truly belong to the greatest family alive, the family of God. Because of all that Jesus accomplished through his death and resurrection, God offers us freedom from sin and death, freedom to live in the closest relationship with God, freedom to know a love far greater than any human expression of it, freedom to be the person God made you to be, freedom to become the person God made you to become. St. Paul writing to friends in Galatia said: 'It is for freedom that Christ has set us free.'

And 'yes' this freedom in Jesus can mean freedom from addictions, freedom from fear, freedom from the things that bind us in a wrong sense. Most importantly Jesus offers us freedom to know God and enjoy him for ever! Want to know more? Simply contact us or join the celebrations this Easter at your parish church of All Saints'.

With my warmest Easter greetings,

Richard

Revd. Canon Richard Zair, Vicar



GOOD FRIDAY ALL AGE EVENT 10am - 12pm

We will be starting this with hot drinks and hot cross buns. After this, there will be the opportunity to take a contemplative walk as families or as an individual using a series of images based on the 'Stations of the cross'. There will be activities and questions along the way. If you prefer not to walk, there will be the option for quiet contemplation using the same paintings in church. At 12pm a simple lunch will be served in church.

Easter at All Saints'

Palm Sunday, 9th April

10am: Family Communion

6pm: Evening Prayer

Maundy Thursday, 13th April

7.30pm Holy Communion

Good Friday, 14th April

10am-12pm: All age event (see left)

2-3pm: *Hour at the cross at St. Mary's, Shippon*

Easter Sunday, 16th April

Sunrise service TBC

10am: Easter Communion

10.30am: Easter Communion at St. Luke's,
Garford

6pm: Easter Praise

Contacts: Rev. Canon Richard Zair 391319 vicar@allsaintsmarcham.org * Jill Rowe *Children's and families Minister* 390885 families@allsaintsmarcham.org * 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: info@allsaintsmarcham.org

THINGS TO DO

Earth Trust Events

Lambing Weekend

Saturday 1st - Sunday 2nd April, 11am-4pm

Come and see us down on the farm during our annual Lambing Weekends! Meet lambs, piglets, goats and more. Craft activities and refreshments available. £7 adult, £3 child, £17 family (discount for online bookings), FREE for Earth Trust Friends.

Newts, Frogs and Toads

Friday 7th April, 7.45pm-9.30pm

A guided walk to Little Wittenham Wood to find out all about the amphibians that live there. £6 adult, £3 child; booking essential: 01865 407792 or online at www.earthtrust.org.uk/whatson (incurs a booking fee).

Beginners Wildlife Photography

Saturday 8th April, 10am-3pm

Professional photographer Andrew Walmsley will help you get to grips with your camera and provide guidance on capturing images of wildlife. There are a series of workshops running throughout the next few months – book one or more as a course: first workshop £80 per adult, £70 per child (14-16 yrs), subsequent workshops 15% off. Booking essential: 01865 407792 or online at www.earthtrust.org.uk/whatson (incurs a booking fee). This workshop was originally advertised as taking place on Saturday 18th March.

Intermediate Wildlife Photography

Sunday 9th April, 10am-3pm

In each of these workshops professional photographer Andrew Walmsley will cover a different aspect of photography so you can build up a more in-depth knowledge. Future intermediate workshops: 22nd April, 14th May and 18th June; book one or more as a course: first workshop £80 per adult, £70 per child (14-16 yrs), subsequent workshops 15% off. Booking essential: 01865 407792 or online at www.earthtrust.org.uk/whatson (incurs a booking fee). This workshop was originally advertised as taking place on Sunday 19th March.

Creepy Crawly Comics

Monday 10th April, 10am-3pm

Explore the nature reserve to find a natural hero then create a comic with popular cartoonist Neill Cameron. For 7-11 year olds; parents welcome to stay. £30 (ask about our discount for siblings); booking essential: 01865 407792 or online at www.earthtrust.org.uk/whatson (incurs a booking fee).

Clumps Club

Tuesday 11th and Wednesday 12th April, 9am-5pm

School holiday club for 7-11 year olds! Different outdoor activities each day, please see website for details. £30 per day; booking essential: 01865 407792 or online at www.earthtrust.org.uk/whatson (incurs a booking fee).



Little Explorers

Thursday 13th April, 10am-11.30am

Buggies and slings welcome for a ramble around our nature reserve. £4 suggested donation per child, accompanying adult(s) free.

Night Safari

Tuesday 18th April, 7.30pm-9pm

Discover Wallingford Castle Meadow's wildlife by night and set up live traps ready for tomorrow's event. FREE thanks to Whittard, through TOE2, with funds raised by the 5p plastic bag charge.

Wildlife Wednesday at Wallingford Castle Meadows

Wednesday 19th April, 10am-2pm

Our roving Wildlife Wednesday visits a different Earth Trust community nature reserve each school holiday. Come out and play and learn about your local wildlife! FREE thanks to Whittard, through TOE2, with funds raised by the 5p plastic bag charge.

Woodland Adventure

Wednesday 19th April, 10am-12pm

An expedition for 5-8 year olds. Use your detective skills to explore, build and play in the woods! £4 suggested donation per child, accompanying adults free.

Family Bushcraft

Thursday 20th April, 10am-4pm

Bring the whole family and go wild in the great outdoors! Learn to make shelters and light a fire. £20 per adult, £15 per child; booking essential: 01865 407792 or online at www.earthtrust.org.uk/whatson (incurs a booking fee).

Discover and Play

Friday 21st April, 10am-12pm

Forest School fun for the under 5s. Join us for a morning of play and discovery in our woodlands. £4 suggested donation per child, accompanying adults free.

Intermediate Wildlife Photography

Saturday 22nd April, 10am-3pm

In each of these workshops professional photographer Andrew Walmsley will cover a different aspect of photography so you can build up a more in-depth knowledge. This workshop will cover long lens technique. Future intermediate workshops: 14th May and 18th June; book one or more as a course: first workshop £80, subsequent workshops 15% off. Booking essential: 01865 407792 or online at www.earthtrust.org.uk/whatson (incurs a booking fee).

Basket Weaving

Sunday 30th April, 9.30am-4.30pm

A practical workshop with Catherine Tregaskes from Crafts for a Sustainable Future. £45; booking essential: 01865 407792 or online at www.earthtrust.org.uk/whatson (incurs a booking fee).

More details www.earthtrust.org.uk Little Wittenham, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, OX14 4QZ 01865 407792

Citizens Advice: are you entitled to sick pay?

People often ask us for advice on sick pay they haven't received but to which they thought they were entitled.

It seems that some unscrupulous employers avoid paying sick pay to people who are too ill to work. They do this by using tactics such as taking them off rotas and cutting their wages. People are entitled to be paid if they are off work for four working days or more and earn more than £112 a week. However, some employers are exploiting the confusion surrounding the rules on statutory sick pay and occupational sick pay. Tactics often used by employers include:

- Cancelling staff shifts after they call in sick, so that it looks as if they aren't intended to be working;
- Reducing staff members' working hours so they don't meet the £112 threshold;
- Saying that a GP's note is needed for even a few days off. In fact, people can actually self-certify for up to seven days.

Statutory Sick Pay is the Government's minimum level of pay for employees who are absent from work due to illness. To qualify, the employee must earn at least £112 per week and provide proof of sickness for absence exceeding 7 days. Occupational Sick Pay is where an organisation chooses to provide sick pay that is more generous than the statutory minimum.

With the cold and flu season still under way, Citizens Advice is urging people who are too ill to work to check their sick pay eligibility and to seek advice if their employer won't pay. For further help, visit www.citizensadvice.org.uk, telephone 03444 111 444 or drop in to your nearest Citizens Advice. For locations and opening hours see www.citizensadvice.org.uk/local/oxfordshire-south-vale. Citizens Advice Oxfordshire South and Vale is an independent charity. Our 150 skilled volunteer advisers and 10 staff advise over 8,000 clients each year.