



# Marcham & District News

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

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



OCTOBER 2017 VOL: 39 NO: 10

READ & RECYCLE!

FREE



▲ **Holiday Club at Marcham:**▶  
75 children 34 teenage leaders...  
plus a few oldies!



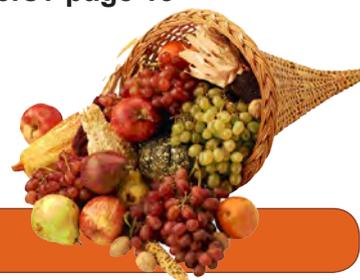
▲ You can be fined up to £1000 for not picking up after your dog, and paths may be closed page 5



▲ Are you sitting comfortably Pre-Schoolers? page 13



▲ Little Angels getting arty and thinking about a transport policy page 13



## Diary for October

1 Sun	Harvest Celebration, All Saints' Church, 10.00 followed by lunch	19
5 Thu	Midweek Walk: The Harrow Inn, West Ilsley, 12.30 lunch / Lands End 13.30 walk	7
6 Fri	PTA Disco, Marcham School 17.50 - 20.00	13
7 Sat	Messy Play, Little Angels 09.30 - 11.00	13
7 Sat	Craft Fayre, Grove, 10.00 - 16.00	15
7 Sat	Bazaar and Table Top Sale, Southmoor Village Hall, 10.30 - 12.00	9
7 Sat	Choral Evensong, St Nicholas, Fyfield, 17.00	2
8 Sun	Marcham Dog Walking Group, Marcham Village Shop, 09.30	5
9 Mon	Anson Trust AGM, Baptist Hall, 19.45	9
10 Tue	Singing is Good for You, Duffield Place, 14.00 - 15.30	7
10 Tue	Marcham Society: Oxfordshire and the Spanish Civil War, All Saints' Church, 19.45	17
11 Wed	Allotment Rent Collection, Duffield Place, 18.30 - 19.30	5
11 Wed	Marcham Parish Council Meeting, Duffield Place, 19.30	5

12 Thu	Sunningwell Gardening Club, Sunningwell Village Hall, 19.30	9
14 Sat	Abingdon Country Market, SA Hall, W St Helens Street, 10.00 - 12.00	7
15 Sun	Music in the Vale: The Grand Tour, St Denys' Church, Stanford-i-t-Vale 15.00	2
19 Thu	Marcham WI: Denman College, 19.30	7
19 Thu	Women's Pamper Evening, All Saints' Church, 19.30 - 21.30	7
20 Fri	<b>Deadline for November MADNews, 17.00: <a href="mailto:editor@madnews.co.uk">editor@madnews.co.uk</a></b>	
21 Sat	Messy Play, Little Angels 09.30 - 11.00	13
21 Sat	Didcot Rail 2017, Civic Hall, 10.00 - 17.00	7
24 Tue	Singing is Good for You, Duffield Place, 14.00 - 15.30	7
28 Sat	Start of 2017 Poppy Appeal Collection	5
28 Sat	Didcot Food Festival, Civil Hall, 10.00 - 16.00	20
31 Tue	Deadline for grant applications to Marcham Parish Council	3

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

## THINGS TO DO

# FABULOUS CHRISTMAS PARTIES

Enjoy your Christmas party in our  
Lakeview Restaurant

Visit our website for the list of party nights!



[www.milletsfarmcentre.com](http://www.milletsfarmcentre.com)



### Fancy a Family Stitch Up?

What better way to start the festive season than a day of fabulous fabric fun?

Join us with your 8-12 year olds at Denman in Marcham (right by the Church!) on Sunday 3 December & get ready to make some beautiful Christmas gifts!

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### Choral Evensong

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[www.littleangelschildcaregroup.co.uk/holiday-club](http://www.littleangelschildcaregroup.co.uk/holiday-club)

### Eclectic Cabaret

8 - 11pm Friday 10th November  
free entry

and fantastic entertainment including

The Ponderosa

The Band Of Hope

Alex Falconer & Jess Marshall

BenAvison

Jane Beinart - artist in residence



And, just because it's The Eclectic Cabaret and we like doing this sort of thing, we will have an artist in residence for the evening. Jane will be creating original abstract art as the evening progresses, inspired by the artistes performances and the reactions of the audience.

There is no bar although the venue is licensed, so bring your own drink food on sale. Collection in aid of WADS-Stock 2018. The Eclectic Cabaret is held at Wootton and Dry Sandford Community Centre, OX13 6DA. Plenty of parking at the Centre.

You get your money's-worth at an Eclectic Cabaret (and that's saying something as it's free entry).

[www.facebook.com/eclecticcabaret](http://www.facebook.com/eclecticcabaret)

### MUSIC in the Vale presents Taking the Grand Tour

Valerie Hartzell and Rod Faulkner – classical guitar

Where: St. Denys' Church, Stanford in the Vale SN7 8HU

When: Sunday 15th October 3pm

How much: £10.00

Admission is by programme from Vogue Hairdressing, 28 High Street, Stanford in the Vale, telephone 01367 710476, by reservation on 01367 718420, email [djpedderdpa@btinternet.com](mailto:djpedderdpa@btinternet.com), or at the door.

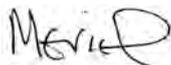
[www.musicinthevale.net](http://www.musicinthevale.net)

Dear Readers

Another month ticks by and we are getting nearer to a Marcham Village Hall. Well done to all those people who are carrying on planning and making the best use of grants and other sources of money (generous donors included see page 17) to keep the project going.

We will have an opportunity at a public meeting in November to hear more about the plans and developments, but in the meantime if you would like to join Marcham Community Group or CFSG, please contact Jim Asher on 391727.

Until next time



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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.Osborn@thamesvalley.pnn.  
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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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October 2017

**MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWS  
Vale of White Horse District Council –  
Local Plan Part 2**

Readers will remember the consultation undertaken by the District Council earlier this year on its Local Plan Part 2, and as far as Marcham was concerned, the inclusion of sites north and south of the A415 at the Eastern side of Marcham for a further 520 houses. The final draft Plan has just been completed and after a period of publication will be sent to the Planning Inspectorate for the next stage in the process, which involves consideration by a Planning Inspector before the Plan can be adopted.

Two parish councillors and the clerk attended a meeting hosted by the Vale of White Horse District Council to hear more about the consultation and the final Draft Plan. It has been revealed that the proposed site north of the A415 for 400 houses has been removed, and the site to the south, originally planned for 120 houses, has been reduced in size and now provides for 90 dwellings. The reduction in the total number of houses is as a result of Oxfordshire County Council having concerns over traffic and air quality in the area, and also some land needing to be saved to be used in connection with a Marcham ByPass at some future date. Many local residents wrote in too expressing their worries about more housing, and the Parish Council thanks those that took the trouble to do so, as local opinion is very much taken into account.

Whilst Marcham's sites have been removed or made smaller, other sites elsewhere have been confirmed as being in the Plan. These include a site East of Kingston Bagpuize for 600 dwellings, with a new link road from the A415 to the A420, 2 sites at East Hanney, others north west of Grove with plans for a new Grove railway station, plus 1200 more houses on the Dalton Barracks site by 2031. At the time of writing, the Plan is going to the Scrutiny Committee so information can be found at <http://democratic.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CID=103&MID=2365>

The District Council will publish its Draft Final Plan from 11th October for a period of 6 weeks. Comments on the Final Plan can be submitted to the District Council, but will then be sent to the Planning Inspectorate. All these sites present significant development in the immediate area, and the Parish Council, would, once again encourage you to make your views known. Responses can be made preferably on line, via the response form soon to be published on the District Council's website, or via the form available in the village shop from 11th October.

**Grants**

The Parish Council considers requests for grants at its November meeting. Grant requests are considered usually just once a year. Therefore, if there is any worthy and needy organisation where Marcham residents benefit which is considering applying to the Parish Council for a grant, then please write to the Clerk by the end of the month, stating the purpose of the grant and supplying a copy of your organisation's accounts.

**Trick or Treat - 31st October**

It is approaching that time of year when children can be tempted into going out trick or treating. Normally it is a harmless pastime for children, but it can also be both frightening and intimidating. Much distress is caused by unexpected knocks on the door or loud noises. Some residents may welcome treat

or treating, others do not. If your children do go out, please encourage them to call only on those whom they know and to respect the wishes of anyone who does not wish to participate. If you do get an unexpected caller, make sure the chain or door bar is on before you open the door. Do not let anyone in your house unless you are happy with their identity. If you need to talk to the police call 101 or dial 999 in an emergency.

**Play Area**

The RoSPA play area inspection took place a few weeks ago, and the report has now been issued. Some minor issues relating to the repair of rubber tiles and levelling access were reported, and the Council has obtained prices for dealing with these. A contractor has been instructed to carry out the necessary works.

**Oxfordshire County Council – charging at recycling centres**

From 1st October, all non-household waste deposited at recycling centres will attract a small charge. Until now up to 3 non-household items such as sinks, baths, window frames, fence panels etc could be left free of charge. Owing to the difficulties experienced by Oxfordshire County Council in disposing of these items, a charge of £1.50 per item will now be payable. Slightly more for plasterboard sheets, and car tyres. Full information can be found at:

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/charges-non-household-waste>.

**Planning applications**

The Council has considered the following applications:

P17/V2023/HH Single storey rear extension at 1 The Gap. The Council had no objections  
P17/V2112/FUL Variation of condition 4 of planning permission for works on the Anson Field. Council had no objections but required to be consulted on internal layout and materials.

P17/V2159/RM Reserved Matters applications following outline approval for nursery on the Anson Field. The Council maintained its concerns regarding weather boarding, and all materials and design needed to be fully compatible with that of the hall.

P17/V2155.HH Single storey extension to rear, and conversion of outbuilding and erection of lean to roof at 2 Parkside. Council commented that the application appeared confusing as drawings differed from the application form.

P17/V2296/LB Replace 2 pvc pipes with cast iron pipes, works to roof and replace roof over balcony at Sheepstead House, Sheepstead Road. The Council had no objections

P17/V2297/LB Add base kitchen cupboards, stove, sink, fridge and dishwasher to existing living room at Sheepstead House, Sheepstead Road. The Council had no objections.

P17/V2072/HH The demolition of the existing attached outbuilding. Erection of new outbuilding for kitchen-dining area, sitting room, two bedrooms and a shower room. Demolition of existing conservatory to the rear of the main property and replacement with both single and two storey rear extension that would accommodate a new kitchen-dining area and an office space on the ground floor and an additional bedroom to the first floor at 5 Priory Lane. Council objected owing to the lack of onsite parking, flood risk, and dominant building close to the listed Priory.

continued overleaf

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**Date of Next Council Meeting:**

Wednesday 11th October 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](http://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](mailto:clerk@marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk) [www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk)

Dear Editor

**A Thank You to Marcham**

I would like to thank all the people who sent me cards, letters, and also gave me so much sympathy, while talking to them, when out in our village, regarding my Brenda's passing on 17th August 2017. Special thanks to Rachel Gaisford for her help while Brenda was ill, Richard, our vicar, Cumbers Farm for letting us park cars on the field next to our house, to Eric Dunford for his organ music, all the ladies for the wonderful flowers in the church and to Jane Jack for her love and help when I needed it most.

Thank you Marcham

**BRIAN GOWER**

**NEW DOG WALKING GROUP**

Meet at Marcham Village Shop on Sunday at 0930 or contact [marchamdogwalkers@gmail.com](mailto:marchamdogwalkers@gmail.com) starting on Sunday 8th October

**DOG WALKERS**

**Warning to dog walkers, the Jubilee Paths are in danger of closure** as the land owner is fed up with being showered with dog faeces as he cycles around his farm. These are permissive paths and can be closed at any time at the discretion of the land owner. In 2003 members of Marcham Society and friends spent a lot of time, energy and money building bridges and installing gates to enable a series of circular walks to be created around the village. It will be a great loss if these are closed due to the selfish behaviour of a few. So please clean up after your dogs and take the bags home or put them into a bin.

**THE VALE WEBSITE SAYS:**

**Dog fouling:** We take dog fouling very seriously as dog mess is not only unpleasant but it spreads diseases, which can cause illness and even blindness.

It is a crime to allow a dog to foul in any public area without clearing it up. Read more at [www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk](http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk)

**ALLOTMENT RENT COLLECTION**

The Clerk will be in attendance from 6.30 – 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday 11th October in the residents' lounge at Duffield Place for the purpose of collecting allotment rents.  
*Please remember to bring your rent card.*

Dear Editor

What a pleasant surprise to receive the September MADNews with its neat centrefold, efficient paper stapling and good quality paper.

Thank you, dear Editor and support team, we appreciate your hard work on our behalf.  
**A READER**

**Royal British Legion "Poppy Appeal" 2017**

This year's appeal will take place from 28<sup>th</sup> October to 11<sup>th</sup> November 2017. Collecting boxes will be available around the area and there will be a house to house collection wherever possible. With the village population increasing we would be grateful for some additional collectors and in particular from the new estates. Please give us a call if you could spare a few hours to collect for us. This is a very important charity and we urge you all to give as generously as you feel able.

In addition to the traditional poppies there will be large silk poppies, wrist bands, badges and remembrance crosses available and we urge you to support these items with an appropriate donation.

We would like to thank everybody in advance for the generosity you show  
**Malcolm and Christine Denton, 01865 391497, 07516761040**



**Community Facilities**

**Steering Group Progress on new community facilities**

Preparations are being made in advance of building work next spring on the new community facilities. One momentous step was taken at the CFSG meeting in September, when the steering group agreed that the new facilities would collectively be called 'Marcham Centre' and the website for the facilities will come under that name. The building will be called **Marcham Village Hall**. The group strongly preferred clear names to 'keep it simple'.

The steering group, along with Marcham Community Group (MCG), has taken legal advice on options for election and appointment of trustees. Formal arrangements will be put to the MCG AGM in November. MCG will take on the future role of overall management of all the community facilities under a lease agreement and it is important for MCG to be answerable to the community for effective operation of the new facilities.

There is much work to be done behind the scenes before work on site starts next Spring and we will keep you informed of progress as we move forward..

*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-*

**VINTAGE TEA**

Thank you to EVERYONE who helped and supported the Vintage tea. We served just over 100 teas and raised £540 for Balsam Family Project, Didcot - that is a real encouragement and will make a tangible difference to the vital work that Balsam do. Thank you again. Rachel & Kate  
[www.balsamfamilyproject.co.uk](http://www.balsamfamilyproject.co.uk)

**FRILFORD NOTICES**

**Parish Email**

If you would like to be added to the Parish Meeting email list, then let Shaun know at the Parish Meeting email address, [frilfordparish@gmail.com](mailto:frilfordparish@gmail.com)

**WhatsApp Group**

If you would like to join the WhatsApp Group for Frilford Residents, email [frilfordparish@gmail.com](mailto:frilfordparish@gmail.com).

**Planning updates:**

P13/V0724/FUL - Change of use to crush concrete for recycling at Stonepitt Barn (OCC ref: MW.0048/17)

P17/V2318/FUL - Overflow carpark at Frilford Heath Golf Club

P16/V2940/O - Appeal against refusal of planning permission on agricultural land between Town Furlong and Cradle Barn (APP/V3120/W/17/3179026)

**Social Events**

New Book Club, email [frilfordparish@gmail.com](mailto:frilfordparish@gmail.com) for more information

**Larch Wood Logs For Sale**

Larch tree felled mid September '17  
1.2m<sup>3</sup> wood in total.

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

**Quiz Nights**

**Friday 3rd November (note change of date)**  
**starting at 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!

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*

**Marcham WI**

**Next Meeting**

**Date:** Thursday, 19th October

**Time:** 7.30pm

**Venue:** Denman College

*Next Meeting: Kamran Irani on 'Blood, Babies and Bikers'*



This month, we will be welcoming Kamran Irani who will  
 be giving his talk 'Blood, Babies and Bikers' - intrigued,  
 come along to find out more. Our October meeting is an  
 'open evening', so we'd be delighted if you bring along  
 your husbands, partners and friends to hear our speaker.  
 Following the talk we shall enjoy wine and cheese and a  
 chance to chat.

*New members and visitors are always welcome*

*For further information, please contact:*

Pippa Hoath 01865 391349 pippahoath@gmail.com

**MARCHAM SOCIETY MIDWEEK WALK:**  
**THURSDAY OCTOBER 5TH**



Do join us for a breezy walk on the Downs. We  
 will eat at The Harrow Inn (Map Ref SU450826)  
 in Main Street, West Ilsley, RG20 7AR, at 12.30pm  
 for lunch, but start our walk from a point on the road just over a  
 mile to the west at Lands End (Map Ref; SU447833) at 1.30 for the  
 walk of about 4 miles taking in a length of the Ridgeway.  
 Ring Eric Dunford on 391439 for lifts and further details, especially  
 if you are not on our email list as sometimes late changes have to  
 be made. Members free, non-members £1. We always welcome  
 new walkers.

**ABINGDON COUNTRY MARKET HAS MOVED!**

The Market will now take place on the the 2nd Saturday of the  
 month from 10am to 12 midday at The Salvation Army Hall in  
 West St Helens Street.

There will be refreshments available and even be "bacon butties".  
 Come and support shopping and eating locally!

**MARCHAM SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB**

Our club does not meet in August so there is little to report.  
 The September meeting (Thursday 28th) was scheduled to  
 be discussion of members favourite books, poems, films and  
 plays but due to sickness this was reduced to a tea and chat  
 afternoon.

The October Meeting (Thursday 26th) is a visit from Sobell  
 House with their Christmas goodies and the usual quiz.

Christmas Lunch has been provisionally booked for Thursday  
 30th November in The Crown at 12.30pm.

We meet in the lounge at Duffield Place at 2.30pm on the last  
 Thursday of the month.

**NEW MEMBERS VERY WELCOME**

For more information contact

John Woods (Secretary) 391705

**SINGING IS GOOD FOR YOU!**

**From 2 – 3.30pm Tuesday 10th & Tuesday 24th October**

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



*We now have over 150 songs in our song book!*

**Phone 391270 for more details Christine Whild**

**SOUTH CENTRAL AMBULANCE SERVICE  
 DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING**

**10am Saturday 18th November Marcham School Hall**

South Central Ambulance Service will be running a training  
 event (rearranged from June) to create awareness of the issues  
 surrounding treating a patient in the community. They will  
 explain how to recognise the symptoms of sudden cardiac arrest,  
 and demonstrate the use of the defibrillator. *The more people  
 that know how to use the portable defibrillators installed in  
 our community, the more chance there is of saving a life.*  
 Please make a note of the new date in your diaries.

Everybody is welcome, and no special skills are required.

**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**

**DIDCOT RAIL 2017**

The Abingdon & District Model Railway Club  
 will be holding a Model Railway Exhibition at the  
 Didcot Civic Hall, Britwell Road, Didcot, OX11 7JN  
 Saturday 21st October 2017.

Opening Times: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Entrance Fee: £6 for an Adult

Children less than 16 years of age can enter for free,  
 if accompanied at all times by a full fee paying adult.

The Exhibition will feature Quality Layouts, Supporting  
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Demonstrations, Displays and Refreshments.

Free Car Parking.

Visit our Website: [www.admrc.org.uk](http://www.admrc.org.uk)

*Women's  
 Pamper Evening*

*Please join us for a chance to chill out and be pampered  
 over a glass of wine, nibbles and live music*

Thursday 19th October

7.30-9.30pm

All Saints' Church

Organised by the Changing Room Team. For more details contact Rachel on 391432  
 Any profits will be donated to Marcham Primary School new classroom project

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**MARCHAM CRICKET CLUB**

OCA results for the season put Marcham 1st XI in 4th position in Division 4 and Marcham 2nd XI in 7th position in Division 8 (South). Congratulations to both teams.

*Clive Bennett is currently in hospital.*



**MARCHAM 'TALENTS' AT WORK IN MOLDOVA**

A year ago the Marcham Moldova Lifeline, which has raised funds for projects in Moldova (Eastern Europe) for the last 9 years, distributed a total of £400 of free money amongst some volunteers from the Marcham community! Each recipient was challenged to invest their seed money (£10, £5, or £1 depending on their age) in some productive enterprise, and to bring back the fruits of their investment a few months later. This fund-raising venture was dubbed 'Talents4Talents'.

Through all manner of ingenious ideas - ranging from making jewellery, to cake sales, to a sponsored hymn singing marathon - the original £400 seed money grew into £4000, a ten-fold increase! Many members of the Marcham community generously supported all these micro-ventures, for which we are extremely grateful.

This year the £4000 has been sent out to Moldova to support a long-term project to improve 3 village schools in this, one of the poorest countries in Europe. Working through our local partners in Moldova, we are supporting the further professional training of teachers and the purchase of much-needed resources for these 3 schools. The goal of this project (which we have found to work very effectively elsewhere in Moldova) is to improve morale and motivation in villages where people often believe there is no alternative but to leave the country.

There will be a full evaluation when the project comes to an end, but in the meantime the Marcham Moldova Lifeline would like to thank all Marcham residents who supported this exciting venture.

**The Great Marcham Clothes Exchange**

A fun morning where you can change your old wardrobe items for a new looking collection with a café and some pampering

**All Saints' Church Marcham**  
**10am-12pm**  
**Saturday 25th November**  
**£4 booked in advanced**  
**or £5 on the door**

All money made is going to Moldova for winter food parcels to help feed families, so why not start putting aside clothes and accessories you would like to exchange. More information to come.



Marcham Moldova Lifeline



**PETYPTER HOUSE AT KINGSTON BAGUIZE**

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Soha, Royal Scot House, 99 Station Road  
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**NOTICE OF ANSON TRUST AGM**

The Annual General Meeting of the Anson Trust will be held at 7:45pm on Monday 9th October in the Baptist Hall. Members of the public are welcome to join us and the principal item on the agenda will be the presentation of the Trust's 2016 year end accounts. For those unable to attend the full accounts will be available online at Companies House shortly afterwards and here is a brief summary of the draft numbers:

Income	£14,463
Expenditure	£20,047
Operating Profit/Loss	£(5,584)
Investment Gains	£4,295
Overall Profit/Loss	£(1,289)

The Trust has been working hard to keep Operating Losses to a minimum in the hope that the facilities on the Anson Field can remain open until the new ones are built (subject to transitional arrangements) and within the figures above are some costs associated with the provision of these new facilities.

**CHRIS HILLIER**, Director, The Arthur Anson Memorial Trust Ltd

**AUTUMN BUTTERFLY HUNTING**

Autumn is certainly in the air but many British butterflies are still on the wing in October - Small Tortoiseshell and Comma can be found in gardens and other habitats throughout the UK. Peacock is widespread all over the UK as is the Large White. Small Copper are often found in open habitats all over the UK (except northern upland areas). Speckled Wood can be seen in woodland, gardens and lanes throughout England (except far north), Wales and northern Scotland.



It can still be challenge to spot them though, so watch the forecast as most butterflies fly only on days over 18°C. Those days can otherwise be varied in weather but normally sunny, calm, or overcast. Select your observation sites well, flowery places with long grass are often good, but to see rarer species you need to go to the right habitats.

Think like a butterfly and escape the stresses of daily life for a while—most like warm, sheltered, south-facing spots. Binoculars for scanning the canopy, the tops of hedgerows and the middle of nettle and bramble patches. You know the sort of thing, those hard to reach areas. Move slowly, butterflies have keen eyesight and sense movement in the air, and watch your shadow so it doesn't cast one straight on them.

Educate yourself about the plants on which the caterpillars and adults of each butterfly prefer to feed. Some species remain close to their larval foodplants as adults.

Plan ahead to see a particular species as different butterflies fly at different times of the year. Carry a field guide to help you identify the species you see. Take a photograph for reference (especially if you've seen something unusual) including what the habitat is like and confirm the sighting when you get home.

Don't leave it too late to see a butterfly as sightings reduce in the late afternoon, even on warm, sunny days.

**Happy butterfly hunting STUART MABBUTT**

Wildlife Gardening Specialist stuart@wildmaninspires.co.uk  
 Contact: 01865 747243 www.wildmaninspires.co.uk

**Free Entry**  
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 Southmoor Village Hall  
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 Please contact Rosemary Kitto on 01865 390466  
 or [rosemarykitto@gmail.com](mailto:rosemarykitto@gmail.com) for more details.

**SUNNINGWELL & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB**  
 Darren Lerrigo will talk about 'What to do with this space'  
 Thursday, 12th October at 7.30 pm in Sunningwell Village Hall  
 New and non-members welcome Members £2 Non-members £3  
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**ED VAIZEY WRITES...**

**Housing cash injection**

I am delighted that Housing Minister Alok Sharma has announced a £6.2 million government cash award for South Oxfordshire District Council. This will accelerate delivery of Didcot's much needed Northern Perimeter Road, a vital piece of local infrastructure and key to the success of Didcot Garden Town. The infrastructure investment promises to boost economic growth across the Science Vale and enterprise zone, increasing employment by 20,000 over the next 20 years.



Didcot Garden Town's delivery plan sets out a vision for the development of high quality housing and the transformation of the local area. Good design is at the heart of the plan, prioritising high quality public and green spaces. In keeping with its location at the heart of Oxfordshire's Science Vale, cutting-edge technology will underpin and enable development.

**Rural Broadband**

I am pleased that the 'Better Broadband for Oxfordshire' programme is on course to achieve above 95 per cent coverage across Oxfordshire. This places the county in the top quartile of counties in the UK. Since its launch, this £38 million collaboration between Oxfordshire County Council, Government, BT and local councils has provided 72,309 homes and businesses with access to broadband with a speed of over 24Mbps. Some 488 new fibre broadband cabinets have been installed and a total of 460km of fibre laid. In June there was an additional £4 million boost to the programme. This will provide an additional 3,000 of the most remote households and businesses with access to super-fast broadband. In addition to the £4 million, a separate fund of up to £600,000 from programme efficiency savings has been set aside for co-funding projects where communities are willing to share the costs of the installation work. Under the scheme, the council will contribute up to £1,700 per premise.

**HLF funding for WWI projects**

The Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) helps people across the UK to explore, enjoy and protect the heritage they care about. In Wantage alone, more than £6.7 million of National Lottery money has been invested in over 65 local heritage projects since 1994. HLF is now encouraging people in Oxfordshire to apply for grants between £3,000 and £10,000 to undertake projects exploring the exploring the impact and legacy of the First World War beyond 1918. Just like many towns and cities across the UK, the area we live in today was shaped by the First World War. For instance, as I am sure many of you will be aware, the army's Central Ordnance Depot was built on the site of what is now Milton Park. During the war, some seven million rounds of ammunition were sent to the Western Front from Didcot. I strongly encourage local people to make use of the money available from HLF to explore its legacy further. More info can be found at: [www.hlf.org.uk/firstworldwar](http://www.hlf.org.uk/firstworldwar)

**Oxfordshire LEADER programme**

As you may have read in local newspapers, £100,000 has been made available through the Oxfordshire LEADER programme. Farmers, foresters, businesses and community groups, in rural parts of the county, can apply for projects up to £100,000 that support their local community. In exceptional circumstances, they may qualify for even more financial support.

Applications are open until March 2019. For more information on the programme please email Sophie Milton ([oxfordshire.leader@southandvale.gov.uk](mailto:oxfordshire.leader@southandvale.gov.uk)) or phone 01235 422245.

**Constituency visits**

In the constituency recently, I have met with GARD a local pressure group campaigning against the proposed reservoir at Steventon. I have also met with SUDEP, a local charity of which I am President, which campaigns to prevent sudden deaths in epilepsy. I have also met local GPs at their surgeries, including Wantage, Shrivenham and Faringdon, to discuss their concerns.

This month's mailbag

This month I have received 185 items of correspondence (emails and letters) from constituents. Subjects raised with me included the Brexit, factory farming and the protection of pubs.

With regards to the protection of pubs, through the Asset of Community Value scheme, communities can list facilities of local importance, such as pubs. This means that if a pub owner wishes to sell, the community has six months to come up with a plan and

funding in order to try to save it. I am glad that there are now around 2,000 pubs across England listed as assets of community value.

Many pubs have also benefited from the Government's package on business rates for small businesses. The Spring Budget also provided a £1,000 discount on business rates bills in 2017 for pubs with a rateable value of less than £100,000 - 90 per cent of pubs in England.

You can contact me on any matter at the House of Commons, SW1A 0AA, [dicksonce@parliament.uk](mailto:dicksonce@parliament.uk) or 01235 768 888. 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 COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

**Come on Oxfordshire Highways – sort it all out!**

Spare a thought for hard-pressed Highways Officers – mostly themselves residents of Oxfordshire, but as likely to get caught up in traffic as any of us. The pressures they are under are immense ...

... from Government, hell-bent on growth, particularly in economically successful Oxfordshire, demanding that ways are found of coping with tens of thousands of extra houses and the car journeys they generate.

... from District Councils, themselves under pressure from Government to find places for all the houses.

... from residents, tired of early morning and evening gridlock.

... from businesses, from environmentalists and from local councillors – all with their own interests and motivations – some admirable, some less so.

Then there are calls for new roads and by-passes, calls to fix potholes, calls for more buses and cycleways, and a Council with only a fraction of the money needed to do any of it.

**But things are changing...** Faced with housing applications, one on top of another, all pouring vehicles onto a stressed highway system, options for local, small-scale traffic solutions are running out. The implications of an application on a wider area are now being reflected in Council responses. Recommendations to reject housing applications are beginning to happen where they would have been accepted a year or two ago. Thus the 500 houses destined for Marcham have now been reduced to 90 on the basis of traffic and Air Quality impact. The OC traffic survey in Sutton Courtenay has resulted in recommendations to refuse applications in Sutton Courtenay on the grounds of cumulative impact on congestion at Culham. The 900 houses allocated for North Abingdon have only been allowed because of the guaranteed long-awaited funding to make Lodge Hill a 4 way junction.

**So where are we going?...** And with this change of emphasis, even more interesting conversations are taking place. Is more road building going to solve the problem? New roads generate more traffic. The hard fact is that there are too many cars on our roads already. So how do we get people out of cars?

Would our money be best spent on better bus services, better cycle ways and better trains? What about in and out trams to Oxford City centre with a car free zone, and make all Park and Rides multi-storey? Electric cars replacing all petrol cars? It is no longer a pipe dream – I expect to live to see it. Even a society where people no longer own cars but call up driverless vehicles when they need them. With a fixed number of publicly owned vehicles on a road system no more complex than the present. It was all science fiction 10 years ago – our children and grandchildren may well know nothing else.

**RICHARD WEBBER CLLR OCC SC & Marcham Division.**

[Richard.webber77@ntlworld.com](mailto:Richard.webber77@ntlworld.com) or 01235 534001

**DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

**Good News**

At a recent briefing for District Councillors on the LPP2 (Local Plan Part 2) I was delighted to be told that Marcham is NOT going to have the extra 500 new houses that we had originally been allotted. Instead we will have 90 only. The reason is that the County Council Transport officers could not support this development because of all the extra traffic it would generate in the AQMA (Air Quality Management Area) of Packhorse Lane. Not only would the traffic become overwhelming, but the air would become dangerously poisonous, well above EU safety levels. It is so good to see that at last the Management part of the AQMA is actually happening and that air quality is being properly addressed. So well done to all those who have worked hard to help realise this day.

*continued on page 13*

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**MARCHAM PRE-SCHOOL**

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The laughter and giggles can be heard all around the setting! At the time of writing, we have only been back to pre-school for 1 (and a bit) weeks... and it's as if we've never been away! All the children have settled back brilliantly, and our new children/families are finding their feet - so we're concentrating on making friends, being kind and learning new skills. We're enjoying our new reading area, with a comfy sofa and chair, just perfect for a cuddle and a story, or just hanging out with friends.

Communication and language skills are key - whatever your age - and at Marcham Pre-school these hold a strong focus in all that we do ... listening, speaking, questioning and thinking... from the children and from the staff! Essential skills in learning, assessing and challenging ourselves and others.

If you would like to find out more about what we do at pre-school, why we do it, and how we achieve it, please get in touch at [marcham-preschool@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:marcham-preschool@hotmail.co.uk) or by ringing 01865 392101. [www.marcham-preschool.weebly.com](http://www.marcham-preschool.weebly.com)



**PTA Round-up**

Our next event will be the first PTA disco of the new school year, to be held on Friday 6 October - KS1: 5.50-6.50pm; KS2: 7.00-8.00pm. Open to all current Marcham School pupils, £2 entry, with free refreshments.



Parent Teacher Association

And another date for your diary is Friday 1 December, when we'll be holding this year's Christmas Fair from 6.00 to 8.00pm. This is one of our biggest fundraisers, so we hope to see lots of you there for sackfuls of family fun. More details nearer the time.

We're still looking for some new faces to join our committee. A number of our long-standing PTA members have moved on to various new undertakings, which has left a BIG hole in our numbers, so we really do NEED some fresh faces to join us to continue the great work of raising funds to support Mrs Hutchinson and her team. If you can spare some time - usually only a couple of hours or so once a month plus help on the day with the events we organise - we would love to hear from you. If you think you can help or would like to learn more, give me a call or drop me a line and I'll be glad to have a chat. Many thanks.

See you on the school run

Peter Kidd

PTA Chair 07708 251312 [peter.kidd61@btinternet.com](mailto:peter.kidd61@btinternet.com)

**NEWS FROM LITTLE ANGELS**

**Baby Room** In our Baby room we have been looking at animals!



Firstly we looked at farm animals

to see what we already knew and new things we could learn about them involving lots of books and songs, Old MacDonald is our favourite! We then moved on to zoo animals exploring lots of animals we hadn't seen before and creating some amazing animal puppets and pictures. We also used lots of animal cutters and toys to make our own animal shapes out of play dough. We have had some new friends join us in our Baby room recently so we're welcoming them to our Little Angels family and helping them settle in.

**Pre-School Room** We recently said goodbye to some of our long serving Pre-School children as they set off to start a new adventure at primary school! This means some of our younger children have moved up into the Pre-School group to start teacher sessions and join in with our Wednesday lunch time at Café with some of the local community. In our Pre-School room we have been looking at transport, we love playing with the transport toys we already have in nursery and this inspired us to create some cars and planes using the junk modelling materials, we came up with some fantastic ideas that we loved so much we took them home to show everyone. We also took our transport fun outside into the garden where we made trains and trucks out of the crates and used them in our role play games.

**Breakfast & After School Club** The new school year has started which means we are back at breakfast and afterschool club! We have some new members in our family as some of the Little Angels have started school and joined us as Big Angels! We have been learning about the post office and all the things they do there like measuring and weighing parcels and post using scales to show off our amazing maths skills. Now that we're back at school we are all trying hard to write our letters which some of our smaller angels are now able to do all on their own! With the new school year starting it also means Coach James is back with us! Coach James comes in to teach us sports and so far, we have been playing football, practising some new skills and scoring lots of goals!

Look out for news of our **10th Birthday Party** in November to celebrate being in Marcham for 10 years.

**Messy Play** We now provide a messy play session fortnightly at the nursery. It started on 16th September and will continue fortnightly on Saturday mornings from 9.30am-11.00am. It is a great session for families with children under 5 years old to come and join us to have a range of messy activities - play-dough, crafts, sand, water, painting. Next sessions: **7th Dinosaurs** and **21st October Halloween & fireworks**.

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](mailto:marcham@littleangelschildcaregroup.co.uk), see [www.littleangelschildcaregroup.co.uk](http://www.littleangelschildcaregroup.co.uk) and follow us on Facebook: [littleangelsmarcham](https://www.facebook.com/littleangelsmarcham)

**DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT** *continued from page 11*

**Children's Air Ambulance**

Last Tuesday, 12th September, Richard and I were invited by Mark Pawsey, the MP for Rugby, to a Parliamentary dinner at the House of Commons in support of the Children's Air Ambulance charity. There must have been about 80 people there from all over the country and from all walks of life and they were all passionate about this very worthy charity. There we learnt that a specially built and fully equipped children's air ambulance helicopter (an Augusta Westland 169) is going to be based in Kidlington next year. Very exciting news.

So, what is this charity about and why do we need it?

The charity enables critically ill children or babies to be transferred in a flying intensive care helicopter to the nearest paediatric intensive care unit or to the hospital that is the best treatment centre for their condition. The patient may need urgent heart surgery, not be able to breathe, be suffering from a life threatening allergic reaction, need brain surgery or be suffering septicaemia to name a few examples, but what they all have in common is the need for fast, urgent transport to save their lives. This unique helicopter travels at 185mph and transfers patients four times faster than by road. The patient is transported on a specialist stretcher (only 7 are in existence) with a specialist crew of 2 pilots, a doctor and a nurse, and the recent helicopter now has room to allow the parents on board too. It is estimated that 600 children could benefit from this service but only one in three are getting it. Sometimes the helicopter is used to rush a specialist and his team to the sick child.

So how is this all funded? Each transfer costs £2,800, though free of charge to the patient, and it is estimated that over the next seven years it will cost the huge figure of £32,000,000! So far this young charity (five years old) has managed to raise the necessary money, but as it receives no funding from the government it has to think up new ways to keep abreast of the cost. Here, Reg Waite, the Chairman of the Vale, has made this charity one of his two chosen charities and is raising money in a variety of ways. One rather fun way is by asking as many people/children as are willing to fill a smarties tube with £12 or more of change. He hopes that this might appeal to maybe 10,000 people or more. So, if you are interested in helping please contact the Chairman's office at the Vale.

**Open Air Swimming Pool**

To complement the other improvements in Abbey Meadow, a £1.3million project is about to start at the end of August to refurbish the outdoor swimming pool. The small pool combined with a larger pool will create a beach effect, allowing easy access to the shallow water for small children and those with disabilities, but giving more experienced swimmers a deep-water area. Two improved features of the pool will be newly refurbished changing rooms and a new energy efficient system to run the swimming pool. The work is expected to last for 28 weeks and will open in time for the Summer season 2018.

I wonder if any of you have ideas of how we can use this pool area during the winter months?

**CATHERINE WEBBER Cllr VWHDC**

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**Report from GARD - October 2017**

**Proposals for Oxfordshire's future water supply**



As readers will know, the proposed mega-reservoir that is on Thames Water's shortlist for new water resources for the 2020-2024 period, is justified almost solely (over 90%) by the predicted future needs of London. It is GARD's view, and that of the Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) and the Vale of White Horse District Council (VoWHDC), that this reservoir is not a secure and drought-resilient option. We are continuing to challenge Thames Water's position on this – of which more below.

There is a predicted, but much smaller, water shortage for Oxfordshire in the 2030s and 2040s. There are clear, secure and drought-resilient options to supply this which do not use the 'left-overs' from a mega-reservoir to achieve them (this is Thames Water's only idea). GARD has made a proposal for re-use of water from Oxford, Abingdon and Didcot water treatment plants. This would be purified and piped over to the Thames upstream of Farmoor, to be abstracted into Farmoor for Oxfordshire supply. This source IS completely resilient to drought, and would also improve the river flow conditions in the Farmoor-Oxford stretch of the Thames in times of low rainfall. GARD have notified Thames Water (TW) of this option, but TW are reluctant (for obvious reasons) to explore it seriously. After our representations, the Environment Agency have informed TW that they should give it serious consideration. We await further developments – this scheme would supply Oxfordshire's needs to the late 2030s (its capacity is in the region of 20-30 million litres per day). Anyone wanting to delve into the technical details of our consultants report can visit our website at [www.abingdonreservoir.org.uk](http://www.abingdonreservoir.org.uk).

Residents may also be interested to know that RWE (the owners and operators of Didcot Power Station) have made a 'pre-application' to the Vale for advice on making a proposal to supply purified drinking water from the water used to cool Didcot B. This scheme is said to be capable of 20-40 million litres per day. It could operate either alone or in parallel to a GARD-type scheme – between them the predicted shortfall in Oxfordshire would be more than covered even out to the 2080s – completely removing any local justification for a mega-reservoir. We view this as an interesting development and have written to the Environment Agency pressing for a transparent process to examine this option. The last thing we want is for two huge private, and foreign-owned, corporations to do a deal 'behind closed doors'. The potential for TW to 'head-off' the RWE proposal clearly exists. We will remain vigilant.

The Oxfordshire Infrastructure (OXIS) stage 1 plan has been out for consultation (closed on 10th September). This is commissioned by the 'Oxfordshire Growth Board' (on which the County, District and Oxford City councils are all represented) and is intended to analyse and itemise the infrastructure needs of the county for the period to 2031 and beyond. The Stage 1 report is very confused about the needs and issues regarding water supply for Oxfordshire. In a situation like this it is easy for a huge concern like TW to insinuate its pet projects (viz the reservoir) into a mix that the OXIS planners come to support almost by default. GARD, supported by CPRE, have tried to clarify the situation, and to make it clear that the proposed reservoir would be a burden for Oxfordshire to no benefit. We have written to leaders of OCC and VoWHDC to explain our position.

**Reservoir study shows it is not drought-resilient**

GARD's consultant has completed an analysis that shows, contrary to TW's claims, that the proposed mega-reservoir will not provide a secure supply to droughts that are longer than those of the last century. The government has asked water companies to make their proposals more resilient against predicted climate change and especially longer and more severe droughts. We believe that TW's figures put forward in their reports to date are in error, and that the proposed reservoir would not survive droughts longer than about 18 months (the longest 20th century droughts were of this length). We have written to the Chief Executive of Thames Water, to OFWAT (the water regulator) and the Environment Agency giving them our findings. We have been told by TW that they will reply 'within one month'. We will let residents know what they say, and, after we have received their reply, we will probably post the report on our website.

**Joining GARD** Thanks to all those who have recently joined GARD, and to existing members who have sent donations into our fighting fund. You can contact me (email [gard.chair@gmail.com](mailto:gard.chair@gmail.com)) or our secretary, Deborah Bennett (email [gard.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:gard.secretary@gmail.com)) if you would like to help, or to join GARD (lifetime membership is only £5). As we have said previously, part of Thames Water's game is to try and reach a selected number of consumers (most of whom will not be local – so that they can be sold a biased view of the reservoir) to try to show to OFWAT that they have 'public support' for the reservoir. This is a numbers game, and we need to show we have large numbers of consumers on our side. It is thus important to like our Facebook page (@ abingdonreservoir), and above all, to join GARD if you oppose the reservoir.

**DEREK STORK**, Hon Chairman, Group Against Reservoir Development

October 2017

**GETTING AHEAD**



A series of mini workshops to be held in  
Duffield Place lounge  
Mondays, 11am - 12noon

**2<sup>nd</sup> October: What does prayer mean to me?**  
*Tim & Jane Jack*

**9<sup>th</sup> October: Gadget drop in**  
Are you having trouble with texting/emails/photos etc  
with your smartphone, tablet or laptop?  
If so, come along with your device.  
*Chris Nutman & Tamsin Gilbert*

**16<sup>th</sup> October: Questioning the Vicar**  
No question too big or too small.  
*Rev Canon Richard Zair*

**30<sup>th</sup> October: The Lord's Prayer**  
Unpacking the meaning and purpose of how  
Jesus taught us to pray  
*Rosemary Siebert*

**6<sup>th</sup> November: Mindfulness and Mental Health**  
*Christine Brown*

For more information please contact  
Rachel Gaisford on 391432



**ABCD Film Society**

Thursday screenings this month



ABCD Film Society's new season begins this month. Come to any one film for £6 (£3 full-time school and college students) or join for the season or half-season. Newcomer offer: see the four October screenings below for £20 (£10 students), deducted if you convert to longer term membership.

**Oct 5 ARRIVAL** ufos and aliens: how do you communicate with them? Amy Adams seeks the answer in this intelligent science fiction story. (USA, 2016, 116mins, Cert 12).

**Oct 12 MUSTANG** set in a Turkish village, a tale of five young orphaned sisters being brought up by their uncle and straining at the leash of traditional values. (Turkey, 2015, 97 mins, Cert 15).

**OCT 19 A UNITED KINGDOM** starring Rosamund Pike becoming the wife of Seretse Khama, played by David Oyelowo. (UK, 111 mins, 2016, Cert. 12A) + 2 min short film.

**OCT 26 VERTIGO** judged by many critics as the greatest film ever made, this is the thrilling Hitchcock classic starring Kim Novak and James Stewart. (USA, 1958, 128 minutes, Cert PG)

All screenings at 7.45pm at Abingdon Health & Wellbeing Centre, Audlett Drive, OX14 3GD. Adjacent parking. Have a hot drink before the film – donation requested. More information (and a glossy paper brochure) from [www.abfilms.org.uk](http://www.abfilms.org.uk) or [info@abfilms.org.uk](mailto:info@abfilms.org.uk) or 01235 521976 Registered charity No. 292723

Wantage & Grove Lions are holding

- a **Craft Fayre** on **October 7th** at Old Mill Hall Grove. Doors open 10 am to 4pm. Home made cakes, children's tombola, refreshments, & lots of other stalls, come and buy your Christmas presents early

*hope to see you there*

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## New Community Facilities – how you can get involved now

As Marcham Community Group will take on the management of the new community facilities, on behalf of the community, it will be important that local people have an opportunity to shape the make-up of the trustees, who will have prime responsibility under the terms of the lease being negotiated.

### Public Meeting and AGM

A public meeting and AGM will be held at the school at 7:30 pm on Thursday 23rd November — please put this date in your diary now! Details of the new arrangements and plans will be shared at the public meeting. Some amendments to the constitution of MCG (to best fit the new arrangements) and how we will run membership will be put to the MCG Annual General Meeting, which will be held during the public meeting. MCG members will be able to vote on the proposals and the elections. Given its importance to the community, we strongly encourage more people (and those whose membership may have lapsed) to join MCG now (or at the start of the meeting) to participate in the votes and help put MCG on a firm and democratic footing. This is your best opportunity to shape the way that the newly named Marcham Centre is set up and run in the future!

In preparation for this, we are seeking individual nominations and proposals from user groups in Marcham for potential trustees, who will be prepared to stand for election at the AGM. Some people have already come forward. We will also need people to help with practical input on the committees running the community building and the playing field activities, as well as help seeking grant funding, finances and governance. We will be keen to welcome volunteers but, if necessary, we may need to be persuasive.

### Fund-raising news

We were delighted to receive £1000 from a private donor in Marcham towards the community facilities and would like to take this chance to say 'thank you' here for such a generous donation.

Another big thank-you goes this month to **Lucy Stevens**, whose Scarecrow Trail project in July raised £111 for the new community facilities (see MADNews, September). Well done, Lucy, and a big thank you to all who took part. Lucy is talking about making the Scarecrow Trail even bigger next year, so watch this space...

If you have new ideas for more fund-raising events, especially those involving the wider community and all ages, please let us know. We have a significant funding target to cover furniture and fittings in the new Marcham Village Hall, so that we can make the new Marcham Centre work well for all user groups. Now is an opportunity for the community to play a part in the successful delivery of this much-needed project.

We are grateful also to **Marcham Parish Council** for a grant of £960 towards legal costs in adjusting our constitution to fit the new arrangements.

### 5p coins

Last month saw our biggest-yet increase in 5p coins collected, with 220 coming in. Another big thank you to all of those who are collecting them for us. We would welcome even more people helping with this — please drop them off to Denise at 24 Fettiplace Road.

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

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



Date for your diary Thursday 23rd November — we need your input

 <p><b>The Marcham Society</b></p> <p><i>All Saints' Church, Marcham</i> <i>7.45pm Tuesday 10th October</i></p>	<p><b>Oxfordshire and the Spanish Civil War</b> <i>Liz Woolley</i></p> <hr/> <p>Non-members always welcome £2 <a href="http://www.marchamsociety.org.uk">www.marchamsociety.org.uk</a> Further details: Sheila Dunford (391439) or Judith Fontaine (391275)</p>
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Dear Friends,

All too quickly we are into that time of the year once again when we think about harvest, and have the opportunity to pause and say 'Thank you' for another year of harvests of many different kinds – from the world of agriculture, and gratitude for the crops that this year have been safely gathered in – to the complete variety of 'harvests' that our different skills, gifts and work environments provide on a day by day basis.

Appreciation for all the good things that our lives benefit from is soul nourishment. Encouraging an attitude of gratitude, even for the small and apparently 'every day' aspects of life is part and parcel of spiritual health. The traditional harvest hymn that contains the words 'All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above, so thank the Lord, oh thank the Lord for all His love' is a gentle reminder that the Christian faith acknowledges God's goodness and provision as indicators, pointers if you like, to the love with which He holds us. Praise and thanksgiving to God is releasing and health-giving.

Sadly the world is also too prone to other harvests: harvests of greed, bitterness, hatred, outbursts of anger, suspicion, and we suffer the resultant conflict. These destroy the soul, harm others, and impair our relationships with one another, and with God.

Thankfully it need not be like this because God has come to the rescue in Christ. Jesus' death on the cross is the victory over evil and darkness, and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit brings about a complete change and transformation of the human heart. The qualities of love, joy, peace, patience, gentleness, self-control, faithfulness and more are all available in limitless bounty through God's Spirit. This harvest of great beauty is one we can increasingly experience through the Spirit.

This harvest time let us say a heart-felt 'thank you' for all the good gifts of life around us, and with renewed determination avail ourselves of the resources that only God can provide, that will enhance our relationships, and nourish our souls.

Enjoy this wonderful time of year.

With my warmest best wishes,

*Richard*

## Baptist Hall Hire

Marcham Baptist Hall is available for hire by individuals or community groups.  
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**Regular Sunday services** at 10am & 6pm

**Friday Club** for primary-aged children, 5.30pm on Fridays at All Saints'.

**Village Café** Wednesdays from 11.30am at the Sports and Social Club

**Men's Breakfast**, Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October, 8.30am at the Baptist Hall

**Women's Pamper Evening**, Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October, 7.30pm at All Saints'

**Youth Drop-in**, Wednesdays after school until 6pm in the Baptist Church Hall

## Contacts:

**Rev. Canon Richard Zair** 391319  
[vicar@allsaintsmarcham.org](mailto:vicar@allsaintsmarcham.org)

**Jill Rowe** Children's and families Minister 390885  
[families@allsaintsmarcham.org](mailto:families@allsaintsmarcham.org)

**Rob Finch** Youth Worker 07888331708,  
[rob@marchamyouth.org](mailto:rob@marchamyouth.org)

**Rachel Gaisford** Older person's worker 391432

**Debbie Flint** Churchwarden 391056

**Tamsin Gilbert** Parish Administrator 391319  
[info@allsaintsmarcham.org](mailto:info@allsaintsmarcham.org)

# DIDCOT

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# DIDCOT

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10.30am - 4pm  
Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November  
Didcot Civic Hall

Our annual event with some very talented food, gift and craft producers, unique gifts, great prices and something for everyone

# DIDCOT

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- High quality in-house laboratory for blood tests
- In-house digital x-ray and ultrasound facilities
- 24 hour emergency care
- Comfortable kennels for in-patients overnight on-site

**See the same vet each time**

**We care for your pet 24/7 on-site**

**You will never be asked to travel to another vet practice outside normal hours**

**Boundary Veterinary Centre, 67 Oxford Road, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 2AA**