

Marcham & District News

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JUNE 2018 VOL: 40 NO: 6

READ & RECYCLE!

FREE

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY
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1968 - 2018**



▲ A big thumbs up to everyone who ▲ helps keep Marcham tidy by clearing paths and turning out for our regular Litter Picks – and thanks to those who organise them too!

See the back cover for wedding photos! ►

Diary for June

2 Sat	Sunningwell Garden Club, Plant Sale, Sunningwell Village Hall, 10.00-12.00	17
2 Sat	Wantage and Grove Lions Bingo, Grove Village Hall, 18.45	15
3 Sun	Colton's Garden Open, Tuck's Lane, Longworth, 15.00-17.00	17
7 Thur	Midweek Walk: The White Hart Inn, Minster Lovell, 12.30 lunch / 13.30 walk	7
9 Sat	Surgery with our Councillors, Marcham Village Shop, 09.00-11.00	9
9 Sat	Music in the Vale: From the Italian Romantics, St Denys' Church, Stanford-i-t-Vale, 19.30	2
12 Tue	Singing is Good for You, Duffield Place, 14.00 - 15.30	7
13 Wed	Marcham Parish Council Meeting, Duffield Place, 19.30	3

14 Thur	Music at the Unicorn: Anna Ryder, 19.00	15
16 & 17	Mapledurham at War - all weekend	2
16 Sat	Table Top and Car Boot Sale, Hanney WM Hall, 10.00 - 14.00	7
20 Wed	The Arts Society Lecture, Trinity Church, Abingdon, 10.30 & 14.00	2
20 Wed	Deadline for next MADNews, 17.00: editor@madnews.co.uk	
21 Thur	Marcham WI, Denman College, 19.30	7
22 Fri	Pirates of Penzance, All Saints' Church, 19.00	5
26 Tue	Singing is Good for You, Duffield Place, 14.00 - 15.30	7
29 Fri	Quiz Night, Club Room, MSSSC, 20.15	7
23 Sat	PTA Family Quiz Night	11

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

THINGS TO DO



The Arts Society Abingdon (ex ADFAS) is holding its monthly lecture on **Wednesday 20th June, 10.30am and 2.00pm**, at Trinity Church, Conduit Road, Abingdon, OX14 1DB.

Mackintosh and the Glasgow Four

by The Arts Society Lecturer Anne Anderson

Charles Rennie Mackintosh is now regarded as one of Britain's greatest architects, but it is well known that his potential was never fully realised during his lifetime and he died in obscurity. The role played by his wife Margaret and his two collaborators Francis Macdonald and Herbert McNair has also been obscured. This Lecture explores the Four's work in Glasgow through their major commissions for the Glasgow School of Art, the Hill House Helensburgh, and Miss Cranston's Tea Rooms.

Non-Members welcome, £6.00 including coffee/tea. The lectures are one hour long, but leave extra time for announcements etc.

July Jubilee Event 18th July

The Arts Society Abingdon is celebrating its national Golden Jubilee on Wednesday 18 July 2018 at 6.30-8.45pm in the Amey Theatre at Abingdon School OX14 1DE. There will be a Reception in the adjacent Jekyll Garden with drinks, canapés and music – harpist Pervin Shahin will perform music from Baroque to Jazz – followed by a lecture by David Phillips on 'Who Says? Can we trust the experts on good and bad art?'

Non-members most welcome. Free parking. Tickets £12.50

For more information on future lectures and other activities see our website or

**email info@theartsocietyabingdon.org.uk
www.theartsocietyabingdon.org.uk**

MUSIC IN THE VALE PRESENTS

From the Italian Romantics

The concert features John Kane – violin, Emma Sheppard – viola, Manus Noble – classical guitar and Coral Lancaster - cello

in a programme of duos, trios & quartets by Molino, Paganini...

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

When: 7.30pm Saturday 9th June

How much: £12.00

Admission is by programme from Vogue Hairdressing, 28 High Street, Stanford in the Vale, telephone 01367 710476, by reservation on 01367 718420, email djpedderpa@btinternet.com, or at the door.

Tickets are expected to sell rapidly so do make your bookings in good time

www.musicinthevale.net



MAPLEDURHAM AT WAR 16 & 17 JUNE 2018

Come to the Mapledurham Estate near Reading and see re-enactors camping as if it were World War II showing how life was during

that time, in the location where Jack Higgins' exciting book 'The Eagle Has Landed' was filmed. There will be displays of army trucks, tanks and cars while amphibious jeeps will be *swimming* in the pond of the watermill. Authentic battles will take place each day and musicians and dancers from the period will entertain the troops. Christine Wallace and Jill Vallis will be sharing recipes and memories, plus Battle of Britain Memorial Flight which includes Spitfire, Hurricane, Lancaster, Dakota and Chipmunk aircraft!

Tickets in advance from www.mapledurhamatwar.co.uk

The winners of the May competition are:

James and Jasper Bayley

Bob and Michele Anderson

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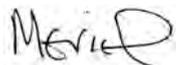
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Dear Readers

A big thanks to our friends at **Mapledurham at War** for the family tickets for our competition last month and congratulations to our winners – see opposite page.

Lots of photos from wedding celebrations were taken last month – a few of them are on the back cover. If you have any good photos from events, please send them in, we are always looking for something eye-catching to put on the cover!

Until next time



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Jane Mander

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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DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

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Webbercatherine1@gmail.com
For other councillors go to

www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk

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June 2018

MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWS Annual Council Meeting

At the annual council meeting held on 9th May, Miss Ruth Mander was elected Chairman for the forthcoming year and Mrs. Sandra Hill as Vice-Chairman. Various appointments to outside committees and internal working parties were made. The councillors will serve in these roles for one year until the first meeting of the new council. Elections are taking place next year, so a new Council will be formed.

Grass Verges

The Parish Council, a few weeks ago, reported the length of the grass verge at the junction of the A415 and Howard Cornish Road to the County Council, and requested that it be cut. The length of the grass causes vision difficulties for motorists joining the main road. The County Council cuts the verges only twice in the season, but it is very much hoped that, as in previous years, a third cut will be done.

Litter Pick /Litter Bins

The Parish Council arranged a litter pick on Saturday 12th May. This was aimed at clearing all litter dropped in the village, but happened to coincide with The Great Plastic Pick Up Weekend. The Council would thank those that volunteered and took part, as giving an hour or two of their time has made a real difference. Several sacks of litter were collected. The Council too, in view of comments about dog faeces not being picked up, has considered additional litter bins, where both litter and dog faeces can be deposited. It is first contacting the Vale of White Horse District Council to encourage that authority to fund the emptying of additional bins, if the Parish Council were to purchase them, and will consider the response from the Vale of White Horse District Council in due course.

Potholes and other highway matters

Anyone having concerns about potholes or other highway matters can report them by going to www.fixmystreet.com and posting a note about the problem together with a photo. For those without access to the internet, these can be reported by telephone on 0345 310 1111.

Street Lights

The Parish Council has supported the idea of keeping the street light outside the Post

Office on all night to aid security. Other street light problems reported to the Parish Council are those which are not coming on at all and those which have suffered damage by being hit. Unfortunately the County Council has no term contractor, and has to arrange each repair on a piecemeal basis, prioritising as appropriate. The County Council does appreciate the concerns with lighting outage, and are doing what they can to ensure that repairs and replacements are carried out as soon as is reasonably practicable.

Planning Applications

The Parish Council has considered the following applications:

P18/V0981/HH Single storey rear extension at 13 Chancel Way. The Council asked that all materials be in keeping with the existing property.

P18/V0953/HH Replacement of north side extension. Single storey rear extension and first floor rear dormer window at 19 Mill Road. The Council asked that all materials be in keeping with the existing property, and for an electric charging point to be fitted as there was the potential for additional vehicles within an area designated as an air quality management area. g.

Date of Next Council Meeting:

Wednesday 13th June 2018 at 7.30p.m. **in the residents' lounge, 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.



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Dear Editor

Broadband Blues

I have now almost completed my move to Infinity 1 which appears to be giving me speeds around 35 Mb/sec, enough to be able to use my smart TV. The package is cheaper than my previous standard broadband deal - but it did take a lot of conversation with BT sales. You have to haggle and ensure you are getting all they say in their offers.

However there are still several contacts who are not happy with their broadband. I have heard that the telephone exchange has been upgraded recently (BT wrote to one of my contacts stating this) and it would be good to hear if any readers have experienced any improvement this month. I do not understand why BT would write to one customer when they upgrade the exchange and not to our local Parish Council. Surely that is the best way for all of us villagers to know what is going on
JOHN WOODS

RUTH ATKINS AT THE PALACE!

Ruth's sister, Lynda, had been invited in her role as Chair of the Oxfordshire branch of the British Legion to a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace. Ruth went along as her guest:

It was an amazing day, a pleasure to walk around the Buckingham Palace gardens and we could not believe how close we got to the Queen and other members of the Royal Family



Personal adverts in MADNews are free so if you want to put in a notice or have something to sell, call the editor on 391725 or email editor@madnews.co.uk

For Sale
Men's dinner jacket. White, single breasted Marks & Spencer, 42" medium. Excellent condition, £25.
White wash basin and pedestal with chrome taps and waste. Perfect condition, no chips or cracks. £15.
Telephone: 01235 522877

ST NICOLAS CHURCH SALE
Try our weekly sale of fresh seasonal produce, baked goods, garden plants, preserves and handicrafts at St Nicolas Church, Abingdon on Friday mornings from 11.00am to 1.00pm - in the church yard weather permitting, otherwise in the church. The production team is a diverse group mainly based in Abingdon. A share of the proceeds goes to the church. Contact Geoffrey Currey for further details on geoffrey@tgcurrey.plus.com

Bubble Wrap - regular quantities from local business. Free with a donation to Keith's India charity. Abingdon Blinds & Curtains Marcham 391881

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It's June - spring into a bag of mint imperials only 60p a quarter!

Pirates of Penzance
Friday 22nd June
at 7.30pm (doors open 7pm)
All Saints' Church, Marcham
Tickets £20 / £15 / £8 (child)
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Marcham WI

Next Meeting

Date: Thursday, 21st June

Time: 7.30pm

Venue: Denman College

Speaker: Paddy Roche,
'A Life of Crime'



Have you ever sat in a room alone with a murderer who tells you that he would quite happily murder again? Come along to the next WI meeting on Thursday, 21st June at 7.30 in Denman College to find out more tales from our speaker, Paddy Roche, telling us about his life as a Solicitor dealing with criminals.

New members and visitors are always welcome

For further information, please contact:

Pippa Hoath 01865 391349 pippahoath@gmail.com

Marcham Sports, Scouts & Social Club
Anson Field



QUIZ NIGHT - FRIDAY 29 JUNE - 8.15pm

A QUIZ NIGHT is being held on Friday 29 June in the club room. As usual teams of up to four persons. Everyone welcome. Don't worry if you are on your own or just a team of two, we will make sure that you join another team!

We have a wide range of questions to suit everyone



- which are not too difficult!!!!

We look forward to seeing you,

For further information call Trevor Hill on 01865 391321

MARCHAM SENIOR CITIZENS' CLUB

Our April meeting was particularly entertaining with a visit from 'Singing is Good For You' with Christine leading the way. All our members attending enjoyed having a sing along and afterwards they were all smiling.

Our end of May (31st) outiing is to Chilton Garden Centre which promises to be a good day for all of us. I will let you know what plants etc were brought back on the village bus in the next MADNews!

New members are very welcome; just come along at 2.30pm on the last Thursday of the month or give me a ring.

John Woods (Secretary) 391705

SINGING IS GOOD FOR YOU!

From 2 – 3.30pm

Tuesday 12th & Tuesday 26th June

Come and join us in the common room at Duffield Place, you will be sure of a warm welcome ... and tea and cake! Phone 391270 for more details

Christine Whild



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Saturday June 16

Hanney WM Hall

10 till 2pm

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MARCHAM SOCIETY MIDWEEK WALK: THURSDAY JUNE 7TH

Join us for another summer walk in the Cotswolds.

We will meet at 12.30pm for lunch at The White Hart Inn (Map Ref SP316110; OX29 0RA) on the old A40 at Minster Lovell (not in the old village!).



Starting at 1.30, our walk will be about 5 miles, walking up the River Windrush valley to Worsham and returning near the famous Charterville Allotments.

Ring Eric Dunford on 391439 for further details and car-sharing, 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.

MARCHAM CRICKET CLUB

The season has started with some mixed fortunes as far as results are concerned. A summary of which are:



1st Team – OCA Division 3

28 April – After travelling to Carterton to play Kilkenny, frustratingly the rain seeped beneath the covers to render the pitch unfit and a wasted journey!

5 May – At Marcham – Chadlington were bowled out cheaply for 71 runs, with Andrew Horseman taking 4 wickets for 11 runs with his spin. We won by 5 wickets, scoring 72 for 5.

12 May – Another frustrating day as we posted 249 runs for the loss of 7 wickets at West Ilsley. `Geordie` Armstrong top scoring with his maiden century, scoring 135 not out. Young Ethan Davie scored 44, before taking 3 wickets for 26 runs, when the rain caused stoppage of play for the day, with West Ilsley on 84 for 4. A `no result – draw` being the result, when an undoubted win was `on the cards`.

19 May – At Marcham – We struggled on a not ideal day for batting, only scoring 92 runs, of which `Geordie` Armstrong again top scored with 43. Opponents Brill scored the 93 to win, losing just 3 wickets.

2nd Team – Division 7 South

28 April – Home match with Sunningwell `rained off`.

12 May – As per the first team, a `no result draw` was the outcome. Watlington scored 156 all out, with veteran Deepak Patel taking 5 wickets for 35 runs. We were 81 for 3, with Steve Hill scoring 30, when the umpires decided the rain had `won the day`. A shame, because a close finish was likely.

19 May – A hot day at Steventon saw the hosts score an impressive 205-6, though Gary Butler`s spin did take 4 of those wickets for 58 runs. A spluttering batting display meant we scored 128 runs in reply, losing by 77 runs, with Neil Cotterell top scoring with 27.

The club are pleased to have welcomed some new players from the village to its numbers. Any others interested should contact the secretary Trevor Hill on 07748696733.

TH

June	1st XI	2nd XI
2	Dorchester Home	Bampton II Away
9	Bampton Away	Kennington II Home
16	Kidlington Home	No Match
17	No Match	Watlington II (Cup) Home
23	Broughton and North Newington Home	No Match
24	Kilkenny Home	No Match
30	No Match	Kilkenny II Away

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ED VAIZEY WRITES...

The Prince's Countryside Fund is now open for grant applications of up to £50,000, available to support community led projects that improve the quality of life in rural areas and that help to support farming families. The Fund is committed to supporting projects which will reinvigorate and sustain community networks by providing services and amenities. It is open for applications until June 14th. You can apply at princescountrysidefund.org.uk/grants.



RWE Generation, the operators of Didcot B power station, are looking for apprentices to work in the gas-fired power station. They are looking for enthusiastic science, maths or engineering students to take up positions as engineering apprentices, including working on non-destructive testing. You can find out more here rweukjobs.com/entry-level-schemes/engineering.

Congratulations to Didcot Railway Centre, which has been given a Queen's Award for Voluntary Services. The award is equivalent to an MBE for voluntary groups and only 30 organisations have received it since it was created 15 years ago. Very well done!

Similar congratulations to Williams Advanced Engineering in Grove for a Queen's Award for Enterprise in Innovation. The award is for the Company's innovation in successfully transferring technology into commercial applications from designing, developing and delivering the batteries for all the cars racing in the Formula E championship. Excellent work.

This month I attended a meeting of Didcot First, an organisation that promotes Didcot positively and ensures it is a good place to work and live. You can find out more about their work at didcotfirst.org.uk. I also met with GARD, the Group Against Reservoir Development about the proposed new Upper Thames Reservoir and took part in a BBC Oxford discussion on Didcot.

In April I received 623 items of correspondence (emails and letters) from constituents. Subjects raised with me include local rail, infrastructure and Brexit.

ED VAIZEY, MP Wantage and Didcot (Conservative)

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Deal or No Deal

There has been much talk of "The Growth Deal" – Government's Deal with Oxfordshire County Council in which Oxfordshire will get £215m towards infrastructure and affordable housing in exchange for undertaking to build 100,000 homes by 2031. More than a quarter have already been built and 5 out of 6 District Councils have already signed up to build the rest in their Local Plans. So this is just extra money we didn't know we were getting, isn't it? At last we can get some infrastructure before the housing goes up. True, it is predicted we need around £1.5b of infrastructure by 2031 but there are several other pots of money that could well raise another £0.6b, and Government says that the £215m is only a downpayment. So it's a pretty good deal, isn't it?

Well, not everyone thinks so. The problem is that under the new NPPF (National Planning Policy Framework) Oxfordshire's target should be around 65,000 new homes by 2031 – not 100,000. The District Council's Local Plans were formed on the old NPPF figures. Although many tried to challenge them at the time on the grounds that extra housing numbers for economic growth were wildly exaggerated, we were not allowed to do so. So the government offer of £215m in return for building 35,000 more homes than their own figures say we need to, may not be quite the offer it first seemed. Have our Council Leaders sold us short? Given the dependence of Government on Growth in Oxfordshire, should we not have asked for far more?

It seems a number of things could derail the Growth Deal. Government has demanded as part of their offer that all Local Plans are in place within a year. Recent developments in South Oxfordshire make that highly unlikely. Council Leaders are hoping that Government will give SODC more time.

It is not clear where the Deal would be if the "downpayment" turns out to be all there is. Could the District Council claim that they are no longer obliged to deliver the extra housing?

What if there is a change of Government? 2031 is a long way away. As a result of Council pressure, a new combined Scrutiny Committee with representatives from all Councils is being set up to scrutinize the Growth Deal and its progress. This is a most welcome development as too much has been discussed and decided behind closed doors. At last we should find out how the Deal was agreed, why it was signed and most importantly what the "get out" clauses say should happen if either side defaults.

RICHARD WEBBER CLLR OCC SC & Marcham Division.
Richard.webber77@ntlworld.com or 01235 534001

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

This month, my report will be slightly different as I am writing a little bit on several Vale issues rather than on a single subject.

Fun and Music in the Park

This fun event is going to be held on 2nd June on the Abbey Meadows with child centred- activities and picnic opportunities all morning and for part of the afternoon, and then everybody will be asked to vacate the area so that the music event can be set up. Note that to attend the music event you will need to buy tickets. On a practical note, for those with severely disabled children there is going to be a superior 'changing places' toilet – a Mobiloo – on site which has its own attendant. This will be in addition to the 4 disabled toilets already there.

The other event on the Abbey Meadows that might interest you this Summer is the opening of the open-air swimming pool on 16th June.

What to do with your used cooking oil

The Vale are going to set up a new scheme whereby you can dispose of your used cooking oil by putting it into a plastic bottle, no bigger than a litre capacity, and then placing it into your green food caddy for Biffa to collect. Notice that they stipulate a plastic bottle and not glass.

The LPP2 examination

The Vale's Local Plan Part 2 is about to undergo a thorough examination by Planning Inspector David Reed, BSc, Dip TD, MRTPI which starts on Tuesday, 3rd July at 10.00 in the Advanced Skills Centre of Abingdon and Witney College, Wootton Road, Abingdon. The actual sessions will run from 10 – 1 and then 2 – 5 with mini breaks mid-morning and mid-afternoon. The examination will run from the 3 - 6 May and 24 - 27 May, and then it will change its venue to The Beacon in Wantage for 4 – 7 September. If you are interested to witness how an examination works then do go along to watch. If, on the other hand, you, as an individual or as a representative of a group, wish to speak then you need to confirm this in writing to the Vale by 5.00 on Tuesday 12th June.

Change of Leaders

Finally, there have been some radical changes in the Vale with some major restructuring of departments, and added to this is news of the resignation of the Vale Leader, Matthew Barber, who is taking up a full position as the Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner. However, he will keep his role as a District Councillor. Cllr. Roger Cox will take over as Leader with Cllr Ed Blagrove as his deputy.

The Opposition Leader, Cllr Debby Hallett, is also resigning her position, and Cllr Emily Smith is taking over as the new Leader with Debby as her deputy.

CATHERINE WEBBER Cllr VWHDC
01235 534001 or Webbercatherine1@gmail.com

COUNCILLORS' SURGERY

Richard and Catherine will be at Marcham Village Shop on 9th June from 9 - 11 am. If you have anything that you would like to discuss with them, please pop along.

They can help with all sort of issues and if they can't help directly, they will be able to advise you on who else you can talk to.

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NEWS FROM LITTLE ANGELS

Baby Room The babies have loved being out in the sunny weather this month splashing in the water tray and digging in the sand! They have been enjoying their sensory play. As always the spaghetti play was a big hit this month, messy but lots of fun! We have welcomed lots of new babies this month, welcome to our Little Angels family! Our baby room has been very musical this month with lots shakers and rattles, singing their favourite nursery rhymes and even using the nursery rhyme puppets! They have enjoyed joining in with our wedding theme week, watching all the role play weddings take place!



Pre-School Room We have had a busy month in the preschool room! The archaeologists paid us a visit this month and talked to us about what they have found. The children loved seeing all the old pottery and even some bones! The children then got to bury some artefacts in the sandpit, try on the hard hats and become archaeologists themselves! We have also been busy getting ready for the royal wedding! Each day in the week leading up to the wedding we held a different traditional wedding from countries around the world. The children learnt about African, Jewish, Muslim, Indian and Christian weddings. The children loved learning all about the different traditions, trying new food, different clothes and acting out new traditions, what a great month!

After School Club After School had a big move this week, temporary move into the school while building work is taking place. Thank you to Marcham School for your support during this time, it is much appreciated. On moving into the school we have spent the last 2 weeks enjoying and preparing for the royal wedding, the children have had a variety of craft activities e.g. 3D cakes, commemorative plates, balloons. We finished off with a royal wedding party having our own Meghan and Harry at the top table, we played pin the tail on the corgi and had a great time. The archaeologist from the dig on the field also popped in to talk to the After School Club, showing fossils, goat skull and pots etc. It was really interesting to hear what they had found. Thank you to Rose who gave up her time to talk to the ASC. It has been a great start in our new room

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, see www.littleangelschildcaregroup.co.uk and follow us on Facebook: littleangelsmarcham

PTA Dates for your Diary

Family Quiz Night Saturday 23 June
Summer Fete on Friday 13 July



Parent Teacher Association

Want to help organise events to raise money to support our children's education? Of course you do! We're always looking for new faces to join our friendly team, so don't be shy – drop me a line or give me a call.

Peter Kidd
PTA Chair 07708 251312 peter.kidd61@btinternet.com

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

MARCHAM PRE-SCHOOL

Marcham Pre-school are celebrating their 50th year in 2018 and on 13th May we welcomed past, present and future families to join us for a birthday celebration. The weather was kind, and the company even better. All our activities were FREE and everyone brought along a picnic. Magic Peter performed throughout the event and was enjoyed by all. With time and space to chat with friends, catch up, play games, run around, eat cake, build, splash and decorate, and remember events from the past 50 years - it really was the most perfect day. 50 golden balloons were released which so far have found their way to Tamworth and Solihull!! Thank you to everyone who helped make this day so very special, to families who shared their old photographs, to the Primary School children for designing posters, to those that came along and to those that entertained!



Please contact us for more information on 01865 392101 or marcham-preschool@hotmail.co.uk

www.marcham-preschool.weebly.com

Sculpture in the Vineyard is BACK for another amazing display of metal, glass, ceramic, stone... and more. This year we will have workshops, demonstrations, talks, singing, lots of lovely food and delicious wine!

Carter Jonas, the estate agent, is supporting the show with sale boards, so we are looking for hosts for the boards advertising the show. These will go up at the end of August and come down after the show finishes on 23rd September.

If you would like to support this event by having a board in your garden, please email sculpture@bothyvineyard.co.uk or call Sian on 01865 390067

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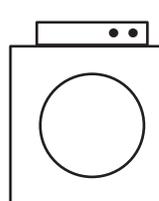
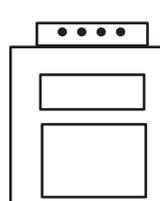
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MarchamCentre — archaeology in progress!

Ahead of any building work starting on the site of the new community hall and nursery, the archaeology explorations started in April with the removal of topsoil, exposing the layer below plough depth for investigation. The Oxford Archaeology unit has been carrying out investigation digs during May.



These include the outlines of two round houses, boundary ditches and pits, dating from the Iron Age. A separate item in this month's MADNews describes the findings in more detail – see page 15.

The first of two new storage buildings has been erected on the field (picture: right) and the second will follow shortly.

In the event of any health and safety concern during the building project, please email or phone the project coordinator acting for The Anson Trust, Mark Patchett on 07801-187987 or Mark@mpconsultancy.org.uk

Detailed plans for the building have been finalised in a working group, drawn from MCG, CFSG and the Parish Council, with Anson Trust and Thomas Homes.



The Community Facilities Steering Group (CFSG) continues to oversee the project. MCG will keep people in Marcham updated regularly on the project and will be happy to answer any questions you may have as this project moves forward. We are keen to recruit more members for MCG. This helps to support our case for external fund-raising to complete/equip the new facilities. Annual subscriptions are £5 (single) and £8 (family). Please contact Jim Asher (jim.asher@btinternet.com) for details and a membership form.

Marcham Centre—archaeology in progress!



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VISITING THE DIG ON ANSON FIELD

For six weeks the Archaeologists from Oxford Archaeology have been excavating on Anson Field in the area where there are to be new houses and a car park built for the long awaited Community Centre – this is officially called the ‘Mitigation Area’ where all remains from the past will be destroyed once the developers begin their construction.

As they draw to the end of their rescue project, noting and evaluating any archaeological features, an invitation was issued to the Marcham Society members and the Volunteers from the ‘Trendles Project’ to visit the site to see what has been found.

John Boothroyd, the Project Manager, and Rachael Daniel, the Site Supervisor, received our two groups and carefully led us onto the site, warning us of the hazards of ancient pits and postholes. These postholes delineated the outline of three Iron Age round houses, each with their front porch orientated towards the South East – to catch the rising sun at breakfast time! Slightly apart, four postholes in a rectangle represented the grain store, a pantry on stilts that raised the food supply above ground level and out of the reach of rodents.

Large deeper pits had been dug in ancient times for rubbish and also for grain storage. John explained how the pits would have been sealed at ground level and the grain itself would have formed a hermetic seal where it touched the moist earth inside,

allowing the majority of the autumn crop to be perfectly stored through the winter months.

The round houses would have perhaps formed a small rural community but other remains of their every day lives had been lost through later ploughing and agricultural activities on the land. There was some bone evidence however which might eventually give us an idea of their diet and the few sherds of typical hand made Iron Age pottery. These included the base of a colander – or was it a ‘cheese press’, John suggested.

Rachael explained that they had found two human burials – a young boy and a little child. With modern DNA testing these remains might tell us something of their ethnic origins. She also showed us one prize discovery, saved to the end – a blue glass bead from one of the pits, perhaps part of a necklace – it could well have come from a treasured ornament that had been traded from some distance. Once the experts had studied it in detail, she said, we may be able to give it a more definite origin.

The Dig is now finishing. However once the excavation is over there is much more work to be done interpreting the finds. John assured us that the official report to be produced by Oxford Archaeology will eventually be available online for the public to study.

SIMON BLACKMORE

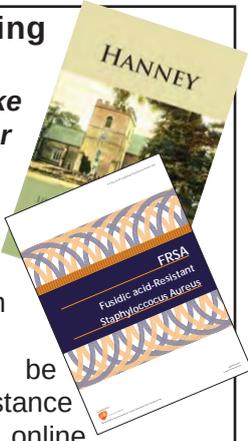


Wantage & Grove Lions are holding a cash bingo on Saturday June 2nd at Grove Village Hall
Doors open 6.45pm, eyes down 7.30pm
great raffle & refreshments
hope to see you there



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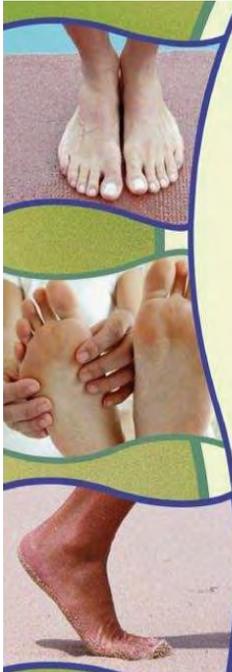
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Here is the latest neighbourhood team newsletter from PCSO Rich Osborn



'You said, we did' - speeding

After receiving complaints about speeding in the White Cross area I carried out a Speed Indication Radar (SIR) survey on 12 April in the afternoon and stood well into the 30mph zone by the second bus stop. The results were that out of 297 vehicles that went past 184 were going over 35mph. The highest speed picked up was 57 mph. This information has been passed to the Inspector and the Traffic Management Team in Bicester. I would like to carry more of these surveys out along this road, however it's finding a safe place to set up. If you could offer me your driveway to use please let me know! I can pass all the information gathered onto the Traffic Management Team and we should see the enforcement van along the road. If you are interested in setting up a community Speed Watch I can help with this so please contact me.

Keep your home safe and secure!

- keep front and back doors locked, even when you're at home
- install a burglar alarm with a visible alarm box
- fit a door chain and spyhole for extra security
- keep all valuables and keys out of sight and out of reach of doors and windows
- store high value items in a hidden safe
- mark your belongings and register them for free with Immobilise
- fit energy efficient security lighting
- don't leave spare keys in obvious places such as under doormats or plant pots
- keep items that could be used to break into your property such as ladders, tools and wheelie bins stored safely away
- lock side gates to prevent easy access to the rear of the property
- check fencing regularly to keep it in good repair
- use pea shingle on driveways or under windows, as it crunches loudly when stepped on
- trim overgrown hedges and plants to remove hiding places and improve surveillance
- use a timer switch to make your house look occupied, even when it isn't
- consider joining or forming a Neighbourhood Watch scheme

Contact us If you are on Twitter please follow us for daily updates from the South and Vale Policing Teams @tvpssouthandvale. If you want any advice or would like to contact the neighbourhood team you can call us on the police non-emergency number 101 or if it is an emergency then dial 999. You can also contact us via email AbingdonOuterNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk. Please note this email address cannot be used to contact Thames Valley Police to report crimes or for any urgent matters. To view information on your neighbourhood team visit the Thames Valley Police website at: www.thamesvalley.police.uk. Receive free local crime alerts and crime prevention advice by registering at www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk today. This allows anyone who signs up to choose what updates they receive and how they would like to receive it.

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 "bacon butties". Come and support shopping and eating locally!

Book Sale - June 30

If you love good books, reserve JUNE 30 10am-2pm at Sutton Courtenay Church for a major and unusual quality sale of the kind of books some of which are hard to find elsewhere.

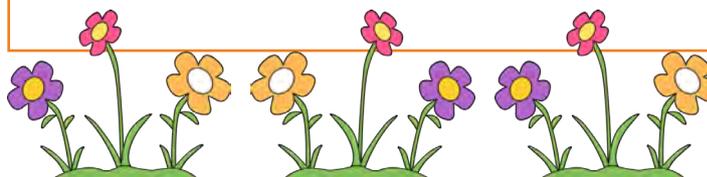
Yes, there will be some used paperbacks as bargains but the main thrust is to offer you quality books, mostly hardbacks, including some leather bound and some antiquarian and rare.

This is to give you the chance to buy collector items not easily found, and quality modern and recent publications. The money is for local charitable causes, a church extension and a specialist academic library.

The range will be extensive: from science to natural history, from literature to art, from signed copies to inexpensive leather books, from antiquarian to limited editions, from novels to religion and theology, from specialist items to a substantial section of local history, from garden and cookery to early as well as modern children's books. *Come and see the whole range of books.* Many of the books on offer have come from major libraries including two from cathedrals.



Colton's Garden, Tuck's Lane, Longworth will be open in aid of Tubney Church on Sunday 3rd June 3.00 - 5.00 pm Teas. Bric-a-brac stall. Admission £5.00. All Welcome.



SUNNINGWELL & DISTRICT GARDENING CLUB Plant Sale

on Saturday 2nd June 10.00 - 12noon in Sunningwell Village Hall. Everyone welcome. www.sdgc.org.uk



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Please don't leave it to someone else. Most people can give blood. If you are generally in good health, age 17 to 65 (if it's your first time) and weigh at least 7st 12lb you can donate. You can give blood every 16 weeks, and it only takes a few minutes.

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Dear Friends,

What a joy to have some warmer weather and sunshine!!

June really is the beginning of summer – whatever the weather!

Life is constantly changing, with all kinds of twists and turns, some expected, others a bit of a surprise! A month ago I wasn't expecting to be told that I needed urgent treatment for cancer, and would need at least 6 weeks to rest and recover from a long operation! So, for me, June this year is going to be very different!

So how do I reconcile these happenings with my trust in God and His love? Three thoughts:

First, as a Christian, I believe that Jesus has revealed to us the heart of God – as a heart of the deepest love, and a love that is willing to give, and go on giving, not counting the cost – even the cost of Jesus' death on the cross.

Second: that our faith in God does not mean that we are somehow immune from the suffering and illnesses that are part of our natural human existence. Indeed, Jesus warns us that, if we follow Him, we will experience suffering – as we follow in the path of His suffering. So, as a Christian, I am as prone to these illnesses as anyone else.

Third: However, it does not mean that God abandons us, or that our illnesses are some kind of punishment. Jesus clearly stated that He came to this world not to condemn it, but to rescue it. He promises to be with us always, even in the darkest and most testing times of life, and that I / we can know His presence, strength and peace at all times. As Psalm 23 states, our Good Shepherd is with us, therefore we need fear no evil, even in the darkest of life's valleys.

I trust that your June is a full and happy one, and whatever life throws across your path, that you know, as I do, that God is love, and that in Jesus He is constantly present, and that we can trust Him – always.

With my warmest gratitude,

Richard

Revd Canon Richard Zair – Vicar of Marcham and Garford

Be still and know that I am God...

Do you feel the need of some peace and quiet with God?

Maybe you feel the need of some inspiration, to step aside from the everyday world, and draw near to the Divine.

Maybe you want some uninterrupted prayer time.

Or you just long to bask in His Presence in quietness, surrounded by beauty.

To be still, and know He is God.



If something like this appeals to you, then consider this opportunity (more events in July):

Garden Quiet Morning on either Wednesday 13 June or Saturday 23 June

Take a morning in silence in a stunning local garden. The time is for you to do whatever you want: praying, Bible Study, spiritual journaling, sketching, photography – or sleeping! Mid-morning refreshments. No charge but suggested donation to our Mission Partners.

Contact the Parish Administrator to book.

Regular Sunday services at 10am & 6pm

Men's Breakfast - next one in JULY - not June

Men's Night, Monday 4th June, 8pm at the Crown

Youth Drop-in from 3.30pm on Wednesdays

Changing Room (Women's Breakfast), Saturday 14th July, 8.30am at the Baptist Hall.

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 **Rachel Gaisford** Older person's worker 391432 **Tamsin Gilbert** Parish Administrator 391319 info@allsaintsmarcham.org

WEDDING PHOTOS

A lot of people celebrated, waved flags, dressed up and ate cake on 19th May ... here are a few of them!

At the church ... Great event, over 100 people. Cream teas, Pimms and beer, making corsages, lots of other activities. Even Harry and Meghan were there (in cut-out form)!

Thank you to everyone who helped make the event such a fun time.



At Litte Angels ...

