

Marcham & District News

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

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

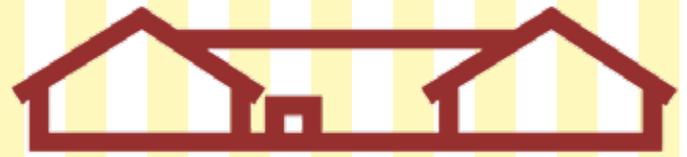
SEPTEMBER 2020 VOL: 42 NO: 9

READ & RECYCLE!

FREE



▲ Little Angels - Breakfast and After School Clubs open this month see page 15



Marcham Centre

▲ Opening Soon... see page 11



▲ Pre-School Safari – Marcham invaded by wild animals (and tame ones too)! see page 7



▲ Who was celebrating a 'Ruby' anniversary in August? see page 9



▲ Flash flooding on Howard Cornish Road

Photos by
Pete Narramore



Diary for September

Date	Event	Page
1 – 3	Sheepstead Road Closure	3
9 Wed	Marcham Parish Council Meeting, Online, 19.30	3
19 – 20	Abingdon Heritage Weekend	5
20 Sun	Deadline for next issue of MADNews, 17.00 Email editor@madnews.co.uk	
28 Mon	Marcham Society: Balls, Bedrooms and Banquets, Zoom Online, 19.30	5

October

15 Thur	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

Don't Forget!

Bank Holiday Waste Collection
Wednesday 2 September
Thursday 3 September
 Green, food and garden waste

GARDEN SERVICES



Professional Tree Management throughout Oxfordshire

Tree removal	Seasoned logs and kindling delivered
Crown thinning	
Crown reduction and lifting	
Sectional tree removals	£5M Public Liability Insurance
Fruit tree pruning	
Stump grinding	All work carried out to BS 3998:2010
Hedge cutting	



andrew@admtrees.co.uk
01865 391859
@admtrees

For a full list of services visit:
www.admtrees.co.uk

Home & Garden Maintenance

All garden maintenance covered from lawn cutting to lawn care

- * small garden designs * flower beds tidied/shrubs/bulbs planted
- * tree work - pruning/lopping/shaping etc * patios laid /cleaned
- *fencing & gates erected/repaired/painted *sheds erected/repaired

Most property maintenance covered

- * painting / decorating including outside
- * tiling * all indoor jobs covered * small carpentry work
- * guttering/replaced/cleaned * house removals& clearance

Mr G. TIERNEY Tel. 01865 730428 Mob. 07885550075

Free quotes & estimates Email Gavin.Tierney42@hotmail.co.uk



- Scarification
- Hollow Tining
- Lawn Aeration
- Over seeding
- Top-Dressing
- Removal Weeds
- Moss Control
- Professional Service

NO CONTRACT
Contact Steve 01865331501 / 07894983801
Email cotswolds@greensleeves-uk.com

Garner's Estates & Landscapes

Landscaping for over 25 years

- Soft & hard landscaping
- Landscaping works including patios, paths, steps, driveways, decking, installing gates, turfing, stonework & drainage work
- Fencing, all types carried out including: close board, panels, trellis, willow hurdles, post & rail
- Tree & hedge planting
- Free Estimates
- Fully Insured & hold a Waste Licence

Tel: 07751 764144 01865 730936
Email: mjgarner26@btinternet.com

1st CLASS TREE SURGEONS

07889 881 525 or 01491 651052
quote@firstclasstreesurgeons.co.uk
www.firstclasstreesurgeons.co.uk

- tree removal • tree thinning • tree reduction
- dead wood removal • stump grinding
- landscaping
- £10 million public liability
- City & Guilds Certified



SEASONED LOGS

locally sourced & sustainable

For details visit:
www.admtrees.co.uk
or call
01865 391859

Dear Readers

After the usual summer break, MADNews is back and I am so excited that the new Hall will soon be open. It is a great tribute to all those people, past and present, who have given up so much time over the last 16+ years to make it a reality.

I am also pleased that there are so many new faces who have joined the Marcham Centre crew to make it a huge success for years to come.

And now I can cross it off my Christmas list!

Until next time – keep safe



PUBLISHER / EDITOR

Meriel Lewis
8 Orchard Way, Marcham
Abingdon OX13 6PP
Tel: 01865 391725
Website: www.madnews.co.uk
Email: editor@madnews.co.uk

ADVERTISING

Fran Russell: adverts@madnews.co.uk
Adverts are not endorsed and MADNews makes no guarantees as to accuracy or authenticity.

DISTRIBUTORS

Paula Utting and Claire Wright
13 Parkside, Marcham
Abingdon OX13 6NN Tel: 01865 391443

PROOFREADING

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.

POLICE

PCSO Rich Osborn C9323
Richard.Osborn@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk for Marcham
07980 924693

Or just dial 101 (non-emergency) and omit the C from his number

CRIMESTOPPERS

Call 0800 555 111 (anonymous calls)

NHS NON-EMERGENCY

Call Free from any phone - 111

COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Richard Webber, Orchard Barn, Sutton Wick Lane, Drayton OX14 4HJ
Tel: 01235 534001

Richard.webber77@ntlworld.com

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Marcham and Shippon

Catherine Webber, Orchard Barn, Sutton Wick Lane, Drayton OX14 4HJ
Tel: 01235 534001

catherine.webber@whitehorsedc.gov.uk

For other councillors go to

www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk

© Marcham & District News 2020

The copying of any part of this publication without written authorisation is not permitted.

MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

We are pleased to be able to report that Linda Martin our Clerk is beginning to return to work and is covering some of her usual duties. However, please continue to contact Wendy Quigley our interim Clerk for the next few weeks. She can be contacted by email to Interim.MarchamPC@gmail.com. Alternatively you can contact the Chairman of the Council by email to David.Walton@MarchamParishCouncil.gov.uk. It would be appreciated if contact can be limited to essential matters for the time being.

Casual Vacancy

There is a now a vacancy on the Parish Council. Anyone interested in joining the Council is invited to contact the Clerk whose details are below. The Council meets 11 times in the year and has a wide range of powers relating to local matters. So if you are interested in making decisions about the area in which you live and supporting the community, and would like further information about the role then please contact the Clerk.

Grants

The Parish Council considers any 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 use the application form available in the Publications section on the Council's website www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk, and enclose a copy of your organisation's accounts. The deadline for submissions is 15th October 2020.

15 Bus Service

The 15 bus service between Abingdon and Witney will be operated by Pulhams Coaches from 1 September. This replaces Stagecoach who were the previous operator. All services will now call at Millets Farm.

Planning Applications

The Council has considered the following applications:

P20/V1480/MPO, 70 Howard Cornish Road, Marcham. Modification of a section 52 agreement in connection with application P89/V0804/FUL to remove clause 2 which prevents the property from being leased to a registered provider. The Council made comments regarding noise control and reinstating the agreement at such a time that the proposed use ceases.

P20/V1388/O, outline planning permission for a residential development of up to 90 dwellings on land off Packhorse Lane on the south east edge of Marcham. The Council objected, citing access onto the A415 which was considered to be dangerous, the adverse affect on the nearby Air Quality Management Area and that there is insufficient capacity in Marcham Primary School which would result in

village children needing to be transported to other schools.

Play Area – Anson Field

The play area is now open. Please be careful to read the notice before entering the play area in order to minimise the risks associated with the coronavirus.

War Memorial

Unfortunately the team who have tidied the war memorial in the past won't be available this year. Would one or more people be prepared to volunteer to tidy it before Remembrance Day in November? If so, please contact the Clerk.

The Countryside Code

You will be aware of reports of litter in the countryside and farm animals being chased by loose dogs as more people enjoy our beautiful countryside - residents and landowners may well have been affected by these problems. Please remember to follow the Countryside Code - Respect, Protect, Enjoy. For more details, please visit <http://www.cpreoxon.org.uk/news/item/2823-care-for-the-countryside>

Road Closure – Sheepstead Road

Oxfordshire County Council will be closing Sheepstead Road between Howard Cornish Road and Cow Lane from Tuesday 1st to Thursday 3rd September inclusive in order to carry out essential road repairs. There will be diversion signs in place.

Date of Next Council Meeting:

The next scheduled meeting of the Parish Council is Wednesday 9th September 2020 at 7.30 p.m. To be held virtually via Zoom. However, please check the Council's website for the latest information.

Interim Clerk to the Council:

Mrs. W. Quigley
Interim.MarchamPC@gmail.com
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.

Dear Editor

I am a resident in Duffield Place, Marcham. We have a cut through road which is used frequently by all traffic , also many parked cars for the residents. Many of us are concerned at the speed in which through traffic drives, even though there are speed humps at one end.

We are also very concerned about local residents not putting their dogs on leads for their own safety for the reasons above. It's would be devastating to see for all concerned, it is an accident waiting to happen. We would like you to put a cautious note in the next edition of MADNews as a very polite concern.

PAMELA THORPE.

HOUSEHOLD SERVICES

Your home affects your health



Find out what support is available to help keep you safe and well in your home.
www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/homerepairs

Get help with home repairs

There are services and funds available to help people (owners and private tenants) stay independent, safe and well in their homes, and Oxfordshire County Council has developed a referral service to help residents (or carers) access the right organisations in their area, to get the help they need.

The type of help that can be provided are services such as new boilers, repairs to boilers, loft or cavity wall insulation, access to a local and trustworthy repairs service and general advice on how to stay safe, well and affordably warm in your home.

For more information or to make a referral visit
www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/homerepairs



GARY CUDDON
 Painter and Decorator
 Fully qualified with 30 years experience
 Providing a high quality service
 Free quotations and fully insured
Local and friendly service
 07827 752904 garycuddon@aol.com

Frilford Decorators
 Painters & Decorators
 Decorative Treatments
 Telephone: 01865 392866 (Frilford Heath)
 Mobile: 07775 690523
References Available
 Proprietor: Mr A Bunce

Whatever you want to store...

...for whatever reason - house sale and purchase not coinciding, travelling, house building work, paperwork overload or just "de-cluttering" to sell your house more quickly - we offer a friendly and flexible service at Kingston Bagpuize.

With competitive rates, secure storage all on one level, and hassle free 24/7 access, contact us now!

Only 10 minutes from Abingdon, Wantage, or Faringdon



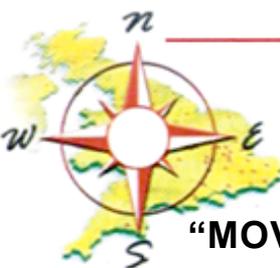
01865 821250
www.barn-store.co.uk

LOTTERY WINDOWS
 Quality Double Glazing & Conservatories
 Fascias & Soffits
Mark Berry
 9 Start Close, NEW Tel: 01235 510608
 Didcot, OX11 7UR Email: info@lotterywindows.co.uk

Shaun Guard TV & WIFI SERVICES

- Aerials - supplied, repaired and poor reception solved
- Satellite - Sky Q dish upgrades, discreet dish installations also foreign TV
- Internet - blackspots cured, data cables to your TVs / computer
- TVs - hung on your wall or set up & tuned
- CCTV & Door Entry - domestic installations

OXFORD AERIALS
www.oxfordaerials.co.uk
 Call Abingdon 01235 239622

SP COURIER SERVICES

"MOVING ASSISTANCE"
 House - Flat - Apartments - Office
FURNITURE MOVED / TRANSPORTED
Ebay COLLECTIONS - DELIVERIES
 Tel 07721 679487 + 01235 524589

Oxfordshire's best source of reclaimed wood

One stop wood shop for your DIY projects 

Good quality soft and hard wood reclaimed timber in many sizes and at economical prices. Scaffolding boards, pallet wood, plywood, natural edge native hardwoods and a fabulous range of reclaimed wood furniture.



good with wood

Find us at: 4 Suffolk Way, Abingdon OX14 5JX
 Tel: 01235 861228
www.oxfordwoodrecycling.org.uk

Opening Hours:
 Mon-Fri: 8.30am-4.30pm
 Sat: 9.00am-3.00pm

MARCHAM CENTRE

MCG has commissioned an artist to create a new sign for Marcham Centre

Suzanne O’Driscoll is a local artist who has worked on many public art projects around Oxfordshire. She is going to create some different artwork options for signage for the new Centre and we will be approaching village groups to help choose the final design. We will also be asking YOU to vote for your favourite design in October so watch this space. For more information about Suzanne and her work go to www.marchamcentre.org where you can also read more about Marcham Centre.



Marcham WI

We hope that you have all been fit and healthy over the summer and that it won’t be too long now until we are able to resume our monthly meetings. As soon as we are able, we are looking forward to seeing you all in our new meeting location, which will take place on the 3rd Monday of the month, in the new community centre. We will be in touch with all our members to let them have the details as soon as we are able to do so. If you have not already done so, we would encourage all our members to sign up for the Oxfordshire Federations’s newsletter on their website. These special editions of the News and Views monthly magazine contain lots of information, including the opportunity to sign up for a range of fascinating, upcoming Zoom talks. Further information can be found on their website: <https://www.oxfordshirewi.co.uk> We look forward to seeing you all again as soon as possible, but meanwhile hope you are all keeping well.



For further information, please contact:
Pippa Hoath 01865 391349 pippahoath@gmail.com



Balls, Bedrooms and Banquets

John Vigar

will be broadcast live online on Monday 28th September at 7.30pm
Members will automatically receive an email invitation to join using Zoom.
Non-Members wishing to receive an invitation should email Simon Blackmore membership@marchamsociety.org



www.marchamsociety.org.uk
Facebook: marchamsociety

These are truly unprecedented times indeed. Marcham Society is undertaking a project to record the coronavirus lockdown and its affects on people of all ages and their everyday lives in the village. To achieve this we are contacting as many of the villagers as we can to ask them to write a few lines or more, anecdotes or even a poem, with photos if possible, and share their experiences showing how village life has changed for them. Some ideas are to describe home schooling issues, online exercising experiences, social distancing escapades, shopping queues, neighbourhood spirit, isolation, missing family, not to mention panic buying and the temporary closure of The Crown and so on.

This will all become an historical record held for posterity so people in the future will be able to see how we coped. It may be used in future exhibitions, put on a website or published in book form at some point and if you wish to remain anonymous, that’s fine. We would really appreciate your help with this project, we can’t do it without you. Please email your article to marchamlockdown2020@gmail.com

Marcham Society annual subscriptions are due from 1st September.
Our rates are unchanged : Individual £12, Family £21
The programme details are available on the website:
www.MarchamSociety.org.uk
Existing members will automatically receive an email reminder – new members please contact:
Membership@MarchamSociety.org.uk

Abingdon Heritage Weekend 19 - 20 September 2020

European Heritage Days were set up in 1991 – the principle was to throw open the doors to historic monuments and buildings, in particular those normally closed to the public, in order to raise appreciation of Europe’s rich and diverse cultural assets and the need to care for them. Heritage Days are now held annually in September in 50 European states.

Abingdon’s first big Heritage Open Day was in 2003 and since 2007 they have been run by volunteers, mainly from the Friends of Abingdon Civic Society and the Abingdon Area Archaeological and Historical Society. During the early years Abingdon Heritage Open Days (HODs) mainly involved giving people the opportunity to see inside buildings not normally open to the public – in some cases private householders bravely opened up their homes to visitors. Since then the event has expanded to include heritage-themed guided walks, and often an exhibition, usually running for a full week. In some years we have had a mini-festival with family activities as well as the regular elements.

This year’s event will of necessity be rather different. Plans include:

- Short Videos of aspects of Abingdon’s heritage
- Video tours of properties which would otherwise be open
- Live-streamed events from the County Hall Museum
- Information in windows of historic properties
- Self-guided walks using either leaflets or mobile phone technology
- A Market Place stall with information and leaflets

Full details of the event, held on 19th and 20th September, can be found at: <https://abingdonheritage.org.uk>

COVID Considerations - Take note then take part!



heritage open days

HOUSEHOLD SERVICES

Bathroom specialist

All trades covered

All household plumbing and heating needs

Call Simon: 07765 654303

Email: info@scpplumbing.co.uk



Open by
appointment only
Please call
01865 326009



- Damp Proof Coursing
- Timber Treatment
- Dry & Wet Rot Treatment
- Woodworm Treatment
- Waterproof Re-Plastering
- Cellar & Basement Tanking
- Beetle Treatment
- Environmentally Friendly Products Used

Tel: 01865 735555 or 07774 233033

Free Survey and Advice: 01235 762525

Email: lizeverley@aol.com

www.preservationspecialisttreatments.co.uk

18 Sugworth Lane, Radley, Abingdon OX14 2HY



01865 326009

info@oxfordkitchens.co.uk

www.oxfordkitchens.co.uk

1st Floor, Besselsleigh Road, Wootton,
Abingdon, Oxfordshire, OX13 6DN



T: 01235 221012

M: 07974672579

E: darren.downes72@gmail.com



Oxfordshire Roofing and Building Services

a good honest and reliable firm

Call today for a free estimate 07885 882689

Flat Roofing

New Roofs

Guttering

Slating

Chimney Repointing

De-Mossing

Tiling

Facias

Small Jobs Welcome • Discount for OAPs

Tel: 01865 392106 • Mobile 07885 882689

oxfordshireroofing@yahoo.co.uk

NB Office Services

Qualified Bookkeeper with over 10 years' experience in Office Management and PA

Telephone: 01865 392866

Mobile : 07775 690522

Email: Nicola.bunce@nbofficeservices.co.uk

CONTAINER STORAGE

- 2 miles off the A34 Abingdon
- 24 hour CCTV
- Easy Access
- Clean, dry and secure



Tel: 01865 390267 or 07980 262210

Email: enquiries@oxonstorage.co.uk

www.oxonstorage.co.uk



Suppliers of aggregates and concrete for every need

Our products include:

- ready-mixed concrete
- sand cement floor screed
- decorative aggregate
- sand, gravel and stone

Upwood Quarry open six days a week

T: 01865 390838



www.hills-quarry.co.uk



What an amazing Safari day we had!
The whole village was brightened with decorations,
animals, butterflies and birds!
Although the weather was a bit temperamental to
start with it soon brightened and we had a great
couple of hours to explore and take part!

The following people won a prize for the best
decorated house...

The Lambles, Meriel Lewis, Claire and Paula,
Alice Narramore, Jill Rowe, Marion Whittaker,
Eileen Donnelly

With the overall winner being **The Lambles** for their
amazing ice scene and huddle of penguins!
Well done everyone and thank you to all that took
part and got creative!

We raised an amazing £523.15

I hope everyone it enjoyed it - and thank you once
again for supporting Marcham Pre-school



HOUSEHOLD SERVICES

architectural and planning services
party wall surveyor

john martin mciob mfpws

- ▲ planning & building control approvals
- ▲ extensions, new homes, conversions
- ▲ party wall surveyor services
- ▲ award winning designer
- ▲ free initial consultation
- ▲ over 30 years of improving homes and the built environment

tel 01865 391833 mob 07710 858668

email john.gmartin@hotmail.co.uk

90 howard cornish road marcham OX13 6PU



AUTO-CHECK
OXFORD LTD



YOUR LOCAL GARAGE

M.O.T. STATION - NOW OPEN

Servicing – Diagnostics

General Repairs

Tyres – Exhausts

Air Conditioning – M.O.T.s

Courtesy Cars Available

t/a Bob Nichols Vehicle Services
Unit 3 Cuebar Court, Lashford Lane,
Dry Sandford OX13 6EB

Call Bob Tel: 01865 730011 Mobile: 07715 707830

VALE



CURTAINS & BLINDS

Bespoke Made to Measure

Free Expert Advice

Friendly Family run Business

Call: 01235 758010

Email: enquiries@valecurtainsandblinds.co.uk
www.abingdonblinds.co.uk

Sharman Roofing

GRP fibreglass flat-roofing specialist
tiling, slating, leadwork, guttering and fascias,
new builds, re-roofs, extensions and sheds
all work considered, call Mark on

07979 791075

msharmanroofing@gmail.com

Gabi's Cleaning Service

If you need help to keep
your house tidy please don't
hesitate to ring Gabi.

References are available

Cleaning

Ironing

Contact me by

WhatsApp

07771 391209 or

07917 192554

or Email gabipapp@icloud.com

JEM

**CHIMNEY SWEEPING
COMPANY LTD**

★ NO FUSS ★ NO MESS ★ NO PROBLEM ★

OXFORD: 01865 772996

DEDDINGTON: 01869 337500

MOBILE: 07711 443050

STADHAMPTON: 01865 400244

GT Carpentry Ltd

Your traditional carpentry firm local to you, who cover all aspects of carpentry
with just some examples mentioned below:

Stuart Gardner

07885 266965

01865 391110

Nick Trinder

07831 773804

01235 224177

ROOFING
LOFT CONVERSIONS
FACIAS & SOFFITS
WINDOW MITTING
BLINDS
UPVC
TIMBER
RESPOKE JOINERY
FENCING
DECKING
KITCHENS
DOOR HANGING
FLOORING

Give us a call today for a quotation.

Unit 116 Grove Business Centre, Wantage, Oxfordshire, OX12 9FA

www.gtcarpentry.com

RUBY - 100 NOT OUT!

Ruby was born on 4 August 1920 in Thornton Heath, Surrey, moving to Iver, Bucks, when she was 5. She had a 1.5 mile walk to the fearful Miss Bright's school with older sister, Mabel – unless the milkman came along and gave them a lift in his horse drawn milk float. In 1938 Ruby started nurse training, in St Giles Hospital, Camberwell but, when the hospital was bombed, it was evacuated to an ex-army base in Kent and her training ceased. She married Albert Russell in 1941 (when nurses were not allowed to be married). As a war time bride, coupons had to be saved for the white velvet for her wedding gown, and for cake ingredients but, without icing sugar, her wedding cake was covered with a cardboard replica. All coastal resorts were closed, so their honeymoon was spent in the Surrey countryside. Ruby and Albert were married for 72 years before Albert died (aged 95), 18 months after they moved into Sweetbriar - following 27 years in Benson.

Ruby and Albert had four children, Ruth, David, Heather and Philip, moving to North Somerset in 1952. Ruby was "mum" to so many children and adults, over the years, always ready to welcome anyone who needed love and somewhere to call home.

Ruby still loves knitting and has raised hundreds of pounds, in the past few years, making toys for charity. She enjoys crosswords, and Scrabble every week with her friends in Sweetbriar (before lockdown). She's felt very much at home in Marcham, over the past 9 years, making so many new friends in the village and All Saints Church. She can't quite believe she's reached 100 – and neither can anyone who knows her! If you ask Ruby the secret of her long, happy life, apart from a healthy diet, she can't tell you why she's lived so long; but her happiness comes from her absolute trust in Jesus, knowing that, whatever happens, God wants the best for her and will always be with her. So she doesn't worry and never feels alone.

A BIG THANK YOU to Rosemary Siebert & the Sweetbriar Committee and Residents who made her Big Day so special with a garden party, and a beautiful cake decorated by Liz Mason; and all the friends who dropped in to see her during the day or sent greetings (over 100 cards) including Ruth Mander who brought a beautiful bouquet on behalf of the Parish Council. You all made her feel very loved and valued.

Happy 100th Birthday Ruby!



HOUSEHOLD SERVICES

Martin Gilbert Motor Repairs Ltd

Call us today for a no obligation quote

 01235 553055

Did you know we offer:



Servicing



MOT



Air Con refill



Bodywork



Diagnostics



Repairs



Recovery

Cars & light commercial (up to 17 seater), mini buses & vans up to 3.5 tonnes.
Trailer, horseboxes and Caravans. Courtesy cars & vans available.

Radley Rd Industrial Estate, Abingdon, Oxon, OX14 3RY

www.martingilbertmotorrepairs.com

Email: richard@martingilbert.co.uk



Like us on Facebook for regular offers and updates

ALS ELECTRICAL SERVICES

We are a small local electrical company, specialising in electrical and renewable products for the domestic and commercial markets. Contact us for a FREE QUOTE.

ELECTRICAL

All household electrical works undertaken
Fault finding & repair
Replacement consumer units
Earthing & bonding
Underfloor heating
Electric showers
Electrical inspections for home buyers & lettings
Visual inspections
Portable appliance testing

RENEWABLE

Solar electric panel installations
Maintenance for solar panels
Electric car charging & Government grants

CONTACT US

Alternative Lighting Services
Email: info@als-ltd.net
Office: 01865 391241
Mobile 07739313994



"Don't let tax, tax you"

BBPS Accountancy Service
Bookkeeping
Self Assessment, Payroll,
CIS, VAT
Auto Enrolment

Call: 01865 730064
07890 503392

Email: Alison@berrybps.co.uk

Preservation Specialist Treatments

Local Company Trading for 30 Years

All Plastering works undertaken internal & external
To include plastering walls, ceilings and external rendering

Smooth, wet dash, pebble dash

& K-Rend (assortment of colours)

Tel: 01865 735555 or 07774 233033

Email: pauleverley@aol.com

DIRTY CARPETS, UPHOLSTERY, RUGS



Most carpets dry within the hour

Unbeatable results, removes almost all spots & stains

GRIMEBUSTERS

**OXFORD
ABINGDON
WITNEY**

**01865 726983
01235 555533
01993 868924**

www.grimebusters.co.uk

M&A ELECTRICALS

The original electrical/lighting shop in Wantage
Established in the early 60's

Unit 8, Arbery Arcade, [behind Costa]
Market Place, Wantage, OX12 8AB

*** WE ARE NOW OPEN ***

9am - 2pm

[see website for latest details]

We specialise in all things
electrical particularly -

SPECIALIST LIGHT BULBS
RESTORATION & REPAIR OF LAMPS
AND OTHER ITEMS

BESPOKE HAND MADE LAMPS-

ACCIDENTS HAPPEN, THINGS BREAK IF YOU NEED
HELP/ADVICE PLEASE CONTACT ME [Peter]

VIA THE E-MAIL BELOW OR

PHONE 01235 771695/07770586877

[You can leave a message]

01235 762468

sales@mandawantage.co.uk www.mandawantage.co.uk

Professional Window Cleaning/ Carpet Cleaning Service

Also: Gutter Clearance, Post/Pre-occupancy
Cleans and Conservatory Valets

For a thorough and reliable service call Tim

Mobile: 07725002777



Marcham Centre

Here's some very good news for the Village.....

Marcham Centre Hall will begin to open from Monday 14th September

Using the Hall will become a reality for some established organisations with regular bookings and which offer activities permitted under Covid rules.

Bookings for private events will be possible later on, provisionally from October (subject to Covid rules). Unfortunately the Bar is not open yet for community use. Once regular bookings have all been confirmed and timetabled, the online booking system will be available to use. Until then, to make an enquiry or ask any questions about bookings please email: enquiries@marchamcentre.org

Covid-19 All organisations will be required to have a Covid-19 safety policy and operate within Covid-19 guidelines set by the trustees and agreed in advance with the Hall Committee (responsible for running the hall operations). We are continuously monitoring the evolving regulations and will communicate any notable changes. Before the 14th September, there will be a few one-off bookings to test our Covid-19 procedures. Keep an eye on the Marcham Centre Facebook page, the website: www.marchamcentre.org and the October edition of MADNews for updates.

Hall Visits: on the 16th August, more than 80 people took advantage of the chance to visit the Hall in small groups. They learned about the Events that are proposed for when the Hall is more fully open and had a chance to make suggestions.



Other news...

The Heras fencing is staying up over autumn and winter for the grass to grow and mature. New fencing will be put up along the field boundary with Tower Close in September.

Where have your funds been spent? We have already purchased tables, chairs, curtains and blinds, hand driers, security and storage equipment, and WiFi - and there is more to come. We are hugely grateful for your help in raising funds and making donations. It all helps!

Last but not Least... Marcham Centre has an identity. Take a look at our new Logo at the top of the Page. It was designed by **Jasmine Ricketts**.



HOUSEHOLD SERVICES

THE SEWING LADY - Local Seamstress

Tel: 01235 847846 Mob: 07754265326

Sewing services including ...alterations and mending

zippers and hems, ... invisible mending

dresses, coats, jackets, ball gowns, party,

wedding denim, suede plus more...



Check out my work...

www.simplycoralwood.co.uk

simplycoralwood@gmail.com

.... FREE limited offer up-cycled fabric carrier bag with every repair or purchase!!

Kilbey & Clarke

Will Writers and Estate Practitioners



- * **Wills & Will storage from £125**
- * **Lasting Power Of Attorney from £195 to include certified copy for each attorney**
- * **Inheritance Protection**
- * **Probate**
- * **Guaranteed Funeral Plans**
- * **Local, friendly, professional with home visits**

Nigel Kilbey Member SWW
07734051258/01235868266



www.kilbeyandclarke.co.uk
kilbeyandclarke@btinternet.com

Costcutter

Rowes News

01235 763134
www.rowesnewsmarket.co.uk
18 WALLINGFORD STREET, WANTAGE

Wake up to your favourite Newspapers & Magazines

Family Run Newspaper Delivery Service
Delivering 364 days a year

We provide an efficient delivery service in Marcham & Surrounding Villages

POST OFFICE

Hopkins Home & Garden

Maintenance

Our Services

Minor electrical	Mowing, hedge trimming
Plumbing	Landscaping
Carpentry	07865492813
Decorating	hopkinshomeandgarden@gmail.com

No Job Too Small!

PRICES STATIONERS

We are now OPEN
Monday – Saturday
9:00am to 5:00pm

general stationery, school and office supplies, printer ink, craft and art materials

You may also order direct from us*
Please contact us on shop@pricesstationers.co.uk
or call 01235 520067
31 – 33 Stert Street, Abingdon OX14 3JF

Please stay safe * depending on stock available

M: 07748 407302

e: cleanerdifferenceoxford@gmail.com

f [cleanerdifference](https://www.facebook.com/cleanerdifference)

- regular cleaning
- one-off cleaning
- deep cleaning

Have you got a business that could benefit by being advertised to over 1000 homes in the Marcham area every month?

Contact us for more details

adverts@madnews.co.uk



Marcham Village Shop & Post Office
16 North St, Marcham OX13 6NG
Call us: Shop 391993 / PO 391940

Facebook: marchamvillageshop



Opening Hours

Mon - Fri: 08.00 - 17.30
Sat: 08.00 - 10.00
Sunday: Closed

Post Office Services available:

- Mobile Top Ups**
- Free Cash Withdrawals**
- Cash and Cheque Deposits**
- Pay your bills - phone, council tax etc**
- Travel Money Cards : Gift Cards**
- Postal Orders : Rod Licences**
- Online Shopping Returns**
- as well as the usual postal services**

Would you like to win £100 gift card?
Just tell us what you think of us or what services you would like us to do – Car Tax, Lottery, etc.

Go to www.postoffice.co.uk/feedback or call free on 0800 047 2322

We'd love your feedback.
 Share your opinion and you could win a One4all Gift Card worth

£100

Marcham Café Accounts

When Marcham Café closed back in March our Bank Account stood at **£3,028.95**

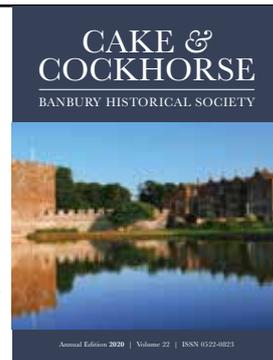
We have given £500 to The Thirsty Café to help them start up. We have also given £500 to Sofea, a charity which re-distributes surplus food from supermarkets.

The remaining £2,028.95 will be spent on kitchen equipment for the new hall at the discretion of the team running the new cafés. If any of you wish to see the final accounts please contact Sheila Dunford on 391439 or email at sheila.dunford@btinternet.com



Cake and Cockhorse Archive

Banbury Historical Society's Journal, *Cake and Cockhorse*, has been published continuously since 1959, since when there have been 193 issues, and more than 600 articles on the history of Banbury and the surrounding area. All issues have now been uploaded to their website. There is a search facility, almost a complete index and the contents have all been listed per volume so browsing is easy.



banburyhistoricalsociety.org/index.php?page=archive

For Sale

Performance Power bench grinder NLH150BG.
 Rarely used. £30 ono. Phone 01865 391121.



ThirstyCafé – Marcham Community Café

Have you ordered one of our afternoon teas yet? Think golden-crusted scones with homemade jam and dollops of clotted cream. Or perhaps you'd prefer a decadent chocolate brownie or zesty lemon drizzle cake? For the savoury palate perhaps cheese and chutney, coronation chicken, or salmon and cream cheese filling in fresh homemade bread. To finish off, a hot cup of freshly brewed tea or coffee. With our fully customisable service, only order what you love. With prices starting at £1 and free delivery to anyone who receives MADNews through their letterbox, you don't have to wait for a special occasion. *Want to surprise someone with an afternoon tea but let them choose what to order? Buy one of our gift cards, listed on our menu page.*

www.thirstycafemarcham.co.uk or

email us hello@thirstycafemarcham.co.uk

Marcham Community Café Limited is a registered Community Benefits Society, society number 8384

What our customers think

"It did not disappoint it tasted even better than it looks, great value, smiley and prompt service, definitely would do it again." – Christine Munro

"10 out of 10" – Debbie Cope

"The sandwiches had the perfect ratio of fillings and the cakes were light and delicious. Loved the way we could order each component separately so we could pick our favourites." – Amy

Full reviews on our website



PERSONAL CARE



FITNESS AT THE FARM

Personal Training & Group Exercise Classes



Collins Farm
Kingston Road
Frilford
OX13 5NX

FIRST CLASS FREE
USE CODE:
FITFREE19
AT CHECKOUT

WWW.FARM-FIT.CO.UK

LEAH@FARM-FIT.CO.UK

PET CARE

Town Furlong Cattery



Kingston Road, Frilford

01865 391864

www.townfurlong.co.uk

**We are seeking part-time help
Must love cats!
Contact Shaun on
townfurlong@gmail.com**

Andrea Buckingham

PILATES - YOGA - MASSAGE

**Classes now on Zoom! Email for details
Newcomers welcome**

Daytime and Evening classes in
Abingdon and Marcham

Andreabuckingham.co.uk

07939 523083

andreabkm@btinternet.com

The Abbey Chiropody Clinic

**Mr P J Neighbour &
Mr P A Neighbour**

Members of The Society of Chiropodists & Podiatrists
HCPC Registered Chiropodists & Podiatrists

nail clipping, corns and hard skin
verrucae and everyday foot problems
manipulation/mobilisation of the foot and ankle
orthotics (insoles) and gait analysis
minor surgery, diabetes and wound care

Surgery and Home Visiting Practice

14 Bath Street, Abingdon OX14 3QH

Tel. 01235 530577

www.abingdonchiropody.com

FOOD AND DRINK



Hand crafted wines from Oxfordshire's oldest vineyard

Shop now OPEN on Saturdays 11-5

Tours for groups of 8 -20 welcome

Also open by appointment:

Please ring or email us with your order and we'll
prepare your wines in advance of your arrival
We deliver to Abingdon and Oxford – bank transfers
gratefully received

01865 390067 office@bothyvineyard.co.uk

Bothy Vineyard, Frilford Heath, OX13 6QW

www.bothyvineyard.co.uk

Facebook: bothyvineyard Instagram: bothy.vineyard



We have had an amazing few months back at nursery. Since the 1st of June all our little angels have returned. By staggering the return in three phases it has really helped all the children, families and staff to settle well back into nursery life. All our little angels have become accustomed to their new normal at nursery with their temperature checks upon arrival, room bubbles, handwashing and social distancing, we are so proud of everyone in our little angels family.

Our little angels have been getting messy since they returned. They have all loved getting creative in our mark-making corners and getting messy with sensory play. Our babies have been exploring gloop and even making mark-making with toothpaste, it was messy but lots of fun was had. Our toddlers and preschool room have been exploring lots of water play emptying, filling and pouring enjoying our garden in all weathers.



We are really excited to announce our Breakfast and Afterschool Club will be reopening THIS SEPTEMBER! We are delighted to be running both our clubs in the brand new Marcham Village Hall.

Our **Breakfast Club** will be open from 7:30 - 8:45am, all children are provided with a nutritionally balanced breakfast made by our amazing on-site chef. Our **After School Club** will be from 3:15 - 6:00pm. We have a range of self selecting activities for them to enjoy, a homework station and a lovely big outside space for them to burn off energy after the school day. A nutritious afternoon tea will be provided by our chef, snacks such as Cheese and Tomato Muffins served with side salad and Homemade Shortbread Biscuit, Roasted Vegetable Gallette served with salad and Seasonal fruit salad – it's a delicious afternoon snack.

If you are interested in securing a place for your child please contact us: T: 01865 819992

E: info@littleangelschildcaregroup.co.uk

www.littleangelschildcaregroup.co.uk

and follow us on Facebook: [littleangelsmarcham](https://www.facebook.com/littleangelsmarcham)



Organise fuel bills, suppliers before winter – Citizens Advice tip

Did you know that **Citizens Advice** has advisers who can help you sign up with a new fuel or electricity company, or switch to a better tariff?

There's no charge for our time and you won't be steered towards one particular supplier because we're impartial, having no links with any of them. We offer one-on-one sessions (by telephone at present) and we'll take a close look at your individual situation.

Now is the time to sort it out before winter closes in with cold autumn gales.

We can help you understand energy bills and various kinds of tariffs, supporting you if you want to switch and calculating the savings you might make. If you've fallen behind on bill payments, we can advise you on ways to reduce your debt by budgeting or trying a new payment scheme, for example.

We can also tell you about energy efficiency measures around the house, like draught-proofing windows and doors and installing LED light bulbs. Grants may be available to pay for thermal insulation.

We can check your benefit entitlements and help you to claim them if you're eligible. There are several helpful schemes like the Priority Services Register and the Warm Home Discount.

And if you have any complaints against your current supplier, we can help you resolve them.

You can find the relevant information on our website at

www.citizensadvice.org.uk/energy

or phone our Adviceline on **0300 330 9042**.

The race is on to encourage over-75s to claim the Pension Credit and free TV Licences they are due



As the curtain fell on the free TV licence scheme for over-75s, the Government Pension Credit take-up figures show that around 3,500 older people in Oxfordshire are still failing to get the Pension Credit they are due. Pension Credit is a welfare benefit for people who are over state pension age on a low income.

Without the award of Pension Credit Guarantee Credit, they will not be able to get a free TV licence either, which will leave people on already low incomes struggling to find an extra £150 this year and every year.

Age UK Oxfordshire is therefore calling on everyone aged over 75 to see without delay if they are eligible for Pension Credit, if they haven't already done so.

To check if you are eligible and to apply for Pension Credit, you will need to find the following:

- ▶ National Insurance number
- ▶ Bank account details
- ▶ Information about your income, savings and investments
- ▶ Information about your pensions (if you have any)
- ▶ Details of any housing costs (mortgage, interest, service charges)
- ▶ The same details for your partner (if they live with you)

If you can get online - the Age UK benefits calculator is easy to use: <https://benefitscheck.ageuk.org.uk/>

If you already think you are eligible – you can apply online here www.gov.uk/pension-credit/how-to-claim or call the Pension Credit claim line on **0800 99 1234**. If you are unsure and need someone to check on your behalf – call our Age UK Oxfordshire helpline on **0345 450 1276** (10am – 4pm, Mon – Fri) or the national Age UK Helpline on **0800 169 65 65** (8am – 7pm daily).

Or you can write to us at: **Age UK Oxfordshire, 9 Napier Court, Barton Lane, Abingdon OX14 3YT.**

HOLIDAYS

B&B Rafter's



Abingdon Road
Marcham
Abingdon, Oxfordshire
OX13 6NU

Contact Mrs Sigrid Grawert
Tel 01865 391298
enquiries@bnb-rafters.co.uk
www.bnb-rafters.co.uk

Join us and discover
a place to relax

PUBLISHING

Book publishing from Stanford Publishing
Do you have a story you'd like published?
A manuscript in a drawer waiting to
be printed?

Stanford Publishing is experienced in all aspects of publishing and can provide advice and guidance through the process from the first thought to the finished book. Assistance can also be provided for marketing the book, having an online presence, etc. Working with professional typesetters and printers, we can convert your Word file or handwritten manuscript into print and also into an e-book if required.

Call Richard on 01367 710677
or email richard.astell@stanfordpublishing.co.uk



Avoid the gloomy weather
and holiday in Florida –
Stay in our villa near Orlando

- Located in a private gated community
- Close to Disney World, all other major attractions and many golf courses
- 4 double bedrooms, 3 bathrooms
- Sleeps up to 10
- Air conditioned and fully equipped
- Own swimming pool and covered patio
- Rent the villa from £495 per week

Tel: Mike & Vicki on 01865 823026
or email vicki.jack702@gmail.com

Would you like to advertise your business or
service in MADNews?

**MADNews is delivered to all homes in the
Marcham area including Garford, Tubney,
Frilford, Cothill and Gozzards Ford - 1250
copies printed each month.**

Contact adverts@madnews.co.uk for more
details

2020 - 2021 Advertising Rates
40mm (height) x 90mm (width) – £65 pa
80mm (height) x 90mm (width) – £108 pa

Denman At Home

Join our new series of informative, entertaining, shared virtual experiences in the comfort of your own home. From cookery courses, craft demonstrations, history lectures and activities for all the family. We have something to suit all tastes, and best of all, they're only **£5 per session**. Find out more at www.denman.org.uk



PTA ROUND-UP

So, after an unusually long break for some, school returns on 2 September. I know the staff have been working extremely hard to be ready for what will be a very different school year to the one that began 12 months ago. And with what can only be described as perfect timing, the school will have two new classrooms. At the time of writing I don't have photos of the furniture paid for from PTA funds, but I'm sure we'll have something for you next month. What I do have is our huge thanks to everyone who baked a cake, bought a raffle ticket, attended a school disco or quiz night, or who simply helped out with their time or muscle-power at one of our events – your support has meant that we have been able to fit out the new classrooms with equipment fit for the years ahead, and I know that the children will benefit from your efforts.

Hopefully we'll be able to get back to organising fun-packed fundraising events soon, but until we can, you can help raise funds for the school by signing up to Amazon Smile. It's simple: instead of using the AMAZON.CO.UK website to make purchases, use the SMILE.AMAZON.CO.UK website instead. The first time you use it, you'll be asked to select your chosen charity. Choose "Marcham Ce (Vc) Primary School Parent Teacher Association". And that's it. Every purchase you make from the Amazon Smile website from then on will send 0.05% of your purchase price to the Marcham PTA bank account, money that we will be put to good use by the school. If you spend £100 at Amazon Smile, they'll give us 50p.

How many thousands of pounds does the village spend at Amazon each year? Imagine how many hundreds of pounds the school would receive if every MADNews reader used SMILE.AMAZON.CO.UK instead of AMAZON.CO.UK, and it takes no more effort than using a different URL when shopping. Please help if you can. And don't forget to bookmark Amazon Smile so that you can use it again. And again and again and again. Thank you.

See you on the school run.

PETER KIDD, PTA Chair

07708 251312 peterkidd2708@gmailcom



Parent Teacher Association

ENJOYING OUR COUNTRYSIDE RESPONSIBLY

Thanks to Wendy Tobitt, a volunteer with the Thames Path National Trail, for the following advice on access to the countryside.

Walking in the countryside can be very helpful to reduce stress and improve mental health, and walking is good exercise too.

There are many miles of footpaths and bridleways through beautiful Oxfordshire countryside, farmland, villages and towns, just waiting to be explored.

#RespectProtectEnjoy by following the Countryside Code.

- Respect local communities and other people enjoying the countryside
 - Be prepared to give way to others where paths are narrow
 - Leave farm and property gates as you find them
 - Protect the natural environment
 - Leave no trace of your visit, take all your litter home
 - Don't light fires or have BBQs
 - Keep dogs under effective control, bag dog poo and take it home
 - Enjoy Oxfordshire's villages and towns
 - Know which facilities are open before you go on your walk.
- Look for the 'We're Good to Go' symbol on pubs and cafes.

There's more information on Experience Oxfordshire website <https://www.experienceoxfordshire.org/know-before-you-go/>

And finally, please follow social distancing measures so that everyone can enjoy being outdoors.

Content from Oxfordshire All In, All rights reserved

September 2020

MADNews is online: www.madnews.co.uk

Nature Provides For Us, If Only We'd Listen.

Are you, like me, feeling strongly restless? This Covid-19 situation seems likely to go on for a long time and may effect a permanent change on our lives!



Many of us have spent more time in our gardens, or at least, being aware of the nature we can see from the window. There seems to have been a new found connection to nature on our very doorstep, judging by the messages I'm getting through anyway.

I've heard some people couldn't get out to buy their normal plants and seeds to grow this year. So, some gardeners have been doing less in their gardens, and witnessing nature responding.

Veg plots have been left to grow, and all types of flowers and unexpected plants have appeared, having germinated from the natural seed bank in the soil. Some sections of lawns have been left and allowed to stretch their legs and grow.

The result, more bees, more moths, more and better food chains.

Whether we are aiming to get back to traditional gardening, developing a wildlife garden, or getting some sense of normality back in life, after initially adapting to Covid-19. It can all seem so big, unachievable, out of reach. Its just incremental steps though, and about not getting caught up in expectations of how it should be, how it should be progressing.

Take notes, keep articles, collect ideas, contacts and collaborators, and proactively build a foundation. If we wait to build foundations when we have the funds or time, its unlikely to ever happen. Subtly build your foundations as you go, it'll feel less onerous, more achievable.

Mother nature has adapted to our new way of living, and we can adapt to our new way of gardening, whether its traditional or wildlife gardening. Its in our own hands, our new future is there for the taking, we just need to reimagine ourselves, our lives, our gardens and our communities going forward.

Happy Gardening!

Stuart Mabbutt

01865 747243 www.wildmaninspires.co.uk

RECYCLE CORKS FOR WILDLIFE

Bothy Vineyard has signed up to the UK's only natural wine cork recycling programme – Recorked UK. For every cork collected Recorked UK will donate at least 1p to nominated charities. They also recycle corks and supply free corks to various charities and schools for use in craft projects. Please help us gather corks so that we can benefit local wildlife charity – Wild Oxfordshire (www.wildoxfordshire.org.uk), which builds active and innovative partnerships for wildlife.



Corks – only natural corks please – can be deposited at the front door of the Bothy Shop (Frilford Heath) or at the Marcham Shop.

Many thanks, **BOTHY VINEYARD**

www.bothyvineyard.co.uk

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Over the last few weeks the Government has published its very radical White Paper on Planning which is going to affect everyone of us in the future. I thought I would try to summarise the main points: The Planning White Paper ('Planning for the Future') was published on 6th August. It proposes a complete replacement of the current planning system that was established in 1947 and it has been published for consultation, with an end date of 29th October. You are urged to put your opinions forward*.

It starts from the assumption that the current system is unfit for purpose and stands as a significant block on the development that the country needs, and, in particular, that it is responsible for the current housing crisis. The motivation for the overhaul is therefore to remove barriers to development.

The White Paper is based around the following three pillars:

- Pillar One – Planning for Development
- Pillar Two – Planning for Beautiful and Sustainable Places
- Pillar Three – Planning for Infrastructure and Connected Places

At its heart, it proposes a form of zoning system, whereby the use of all land is defined at the plan-making stage, which means that the planning application process is substantially reduced. Zoning systems exist in many other countries, including most European countries, but the current proposals do not seem to be based on any existing systems from elsewhere

Local Plans would be fundamentally changed, to become first and foremost map-based, using a standard national template and software, dividing all land in their area into three categories: 'growth', 'renewal' and 'protection'.

Land for 'Growth' will be where the major development would happen.

Land for 'Renewal' will be suitable for development, which would cover existing urban areas, and include infill, town centre development etc.

Land for 'Protection' will be land where more stringent controls apply, either defined nationally or locally, eg Areas of Outstanding Beauty, Green Belt etc.

Local Plans will be expected to take 30 months to produce instead of the 5 years it takes now.

There will be faster decision-making through new technological solutions (e.g. more automated validation, machine-readable documents)

A National Model Design Code will be published in autumn 2020, accompanied by a revised Manual for Streets.

There will be a fast-track process for developments which comply with design codes in areas for 'growth' and 'renewal' in the Local Plan. There will also be a widening of permitted development rights to allow "popular and replicable" forms of development, according to a pattern book, in 'Renewal' areas.

There is continued commitment to various elements of the Environment Bill, including biodiversity net gain, as well as a national expectation on trees, and the continued push for the Future Homes standard and development to be net zero carbon by 2050.

The CIL and S106 agreements will be abolished, and replaced with a new Consolidated Infrastructure Levy.

Alongside this document is another paper which focuses on:

- A revised standard methodology for calculating housing need; the Vale appears to be expected to have the biggest contingent of houses in Oxfordshire because of the growth expected in Science.
- The introduction of 'First Homes' whereby first time buyers will be able to buy a home with a minimum of 30% discount
- An increased threshold for requiring affordable housing. So instead of a threshold of 10 units before a developer has to put in affordable houses, it has been increased to 40 to 50 units.

Although the government has said that this will be reviewed in 18 months, their history suggests that this will be rolled forward and become permanent.

So, there are good and bad points in this paper, depending on your viewpoint, but there is no doubt that Planning needed to be shaken up. Generally, the main themes are as follows:

1) There is a very significant level of deregulation, trying to remove barriers to development and create much greater certainty within the planning process.

2) There is also a very significant centralisation of powers on government.

3) Removal of opportunities for democratic oversight and local consultation, which for many developments will only take place as part of a slimmed down local plan process. The roles of Planning Applications Committees would inevitably be substantially reduced.

4) The proposed procedures are in many cases highly dependent on as-yet-untested technological solutions.

5) There would need to be significant investment in design skills. Much of the day-to-day work of planning sections may change from general policy and development management to drawing up strong design codes, and skills would need to improve in these areas.

Two points are worth noting. First, for every proposal, the White Paper sets out alternative options, which are usually watered-down versions of the proposal. No change is rarely an option. Second, the timetable for introducing changes is not set out in detail, but the government have stated that they would like to see the new generation of local plans in place by the end of this parliament, which would require legislation to be in place by the beginning of 2022 at the latest.

This is a very brief look at the White paper, but if you want to see more detail and take part in the consultation then go to:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/907647/MHCLG-Planning-Consultation.pdf

CATHERINE WEBBER Cllr VWHDC - DC for Marcham Ward
01235 534001 or catherine.webber@whitehorsedc.gov.uk

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

The local news on Covid in Oxfordshire continues to be mostly encouraging. There has been a spike in figures in part of Oxford City - almost certainly the result of partying by under 30s. This is reflected across the Country with an increase in under 30s cases. The message from the Director of Public Health is clear. Covid is far from over for any of us and if we are to avoid a second spike this winter, we need to maintain social distancing, wear masks when required and to follow Government advice as it is published. The problem of A level and GCSE grades is firmly in the headlines as I write. Add in the issues around the reopening of schools for the new academic year, and it is clear that Education is going to dominate the news for some time. Allowing all predicted A level grades to stand rather than relying on a hastily drawn up algorithm looks like the only fair way to treat thousands of youngsters. Using algorithm moderated GCSE grades is also going to produce outcomes riddled with unfairness. It is likely that Schools will have to make judgements on who should take which A levels based on their own estimates of pupils' capabilities.

Now that the HIF (Housing Infrastructure Fund) has been signed off guaranteeing enough money to pay for the new roads around Didcot and the new bridge over the Thames, people are beginning to be concerned about some of the consequences. Will this mean yet more houses? How will the road system in our area in Abingdon, around Culham Bridge and at the Frilford crossroads cope?

The OCC Highways team (many of whom live in the area and

are well aware of the issues we all face) are committed to visiting every parish to explain their thinking and their traffic modelling to everyone. I very much hope that all interested residents will be able to attend the presentations. The timetable for the consultation will be announced very soon.

As the lockdown has progressed, the impact on the mental health of all of us is beginning to show itself. Anti social behaviour and domestic violence is on the increase. Unemployment is rising, the economy is badly damaged and all age groups are affected. It is all too easy to become very depressed. And yet, families have shown enormous resilience to it all, and local communities and Covid Groups have thrived and brought people of all types and all ages closer together than they have been since the last world war. I reckon people are being kinder and more caring towards each other than I ever remember. I wonder how history will treat this period.

RICHARD WEBBER Cllr OCC SC & Marcham Division.

Richard.webber77@ntlworld.com or 01235 534001



Abingdon Reservoir – Latest News from GARD

It has been six months since our last update but despite the limitations of Covid lockdown and the cancellation of our AGM and planned meetings with water companies, regulators and local stakeholders, GARD officers have continued to mount vigorous opposition to the reservoir:

Officers have participated in virtual meetings with Thames Water's Water Resource Forum, the new managing director of RAPID (a group which brings OfWAT and other water regulators together) and representatives from both Water Resources East and Water Resources South-East. These meetings are all ensuring that we stay in touch with policy and development issues. GARD is most definitely seen by water professionals and the regulators as a well-informed group who have a significant role to play in monitoring and informing the research that has been required by the regulators before any decision on a reservoir can be made.

GARD's professional consultant has completed a detailed critique and concluded that the proposed reservoir would not be resilient to long droughts. We remain very worried that the reservoir plan is deeply flawed and that this limited approach to future needs could result in serious supply issues in a long period of drought. Elsewhere, we note that the Chalk Stream and Angler interest groups have come out in favour of an alternative, early deliverable scheme to remove the need for abstraction from the Chiltern streams. This scheme uses water transfers from existing Thames Water reservoirs, and would be available a decade earlier than even the earliest Abingdon reservoir date. Their scheme can be seen at <https://www.dropbox.com/s/u4s4a8ef919lyim/CHALKSTREAMS%20FIRST%20%28V3.5%29%2022.2.20%20FINAL%20copy.pdf?dl=0> GARD believes that this scheme, similar to the one we suggested last year, would remove any need for the Abingdon Reservoir as a scheme to 'save' the Chalk Stream habitats.

The flood risk study that GARD has commissioned has been completed and shows that Thames Water's estimates of the necessary flood compensation volume have been underestimated by around 60 – 70%. This was well worth doing and will strengthen our position still further.

Sadly, our AGM has had to be postponed. The committee members have all indicated a willingness to continue in post. We plan to send out a full report to members of activities since the last AGM in Spring 2019 and we are also planning a virtual 'Meet the Officers' gathering in October, which will provide an opportunity for you to ask questions and join in discussion about GARD's future direction and activities.

To avoid costly printing and postage, it would be really helpful to have email addresses for all members. If you have not been receiving updates by email, it is probably because we need to update our contact details.

Please email gard.secretary@gmail.com so that we can do this.

www.abingdonreservoir.org.uk

SCAM WARNING

We have received reports of a scam circulating where residents are receiving phone calls from someone posing to be a police officer, advising recipients that there has been fraudulent activity at their bank and they believe their bank is using fake bank notes. The recipient is asked to withdraw money from their account and take it home. They then receive another phone call asking for the serial numbers on the bank notes when the caller confirms that the notes are fake and they will send a courier to come and pick them up.

The notes are not fake and the resident loses the money.

The police or other reputable organisations will never ask you to withdraw money or move money to a safe account, they will not ask you to reveal your banking PIN, password or send anyone to your house to collect cards or cash.

Challenge any question whereby you think the call could be fake, It is ok to reject, refuse or ignore any requires and hang up. Only criminal will try to rush or panic you. Do not share your information.

- Do not trust the caller ID displayed on the phone.
- Never share your PIN with anyone- not even by tapping it into the key pad on your phone.
- Your bank, the police and the tax office will never arrange to attend your home to collect cash, bank cards or ask for your PIN. They will also never ask you to withdraw or transfer money, or buy items.
- Speak to someone if you are unsure.
- Don't be pressured into making quick decisions- if it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.
- Stop and think, take five minutes to consider what you are being told. Hang up if you think it is a scam.

For more information visit <https://takefive-stopfraud.org.uk/> advice

Always reports scams and fraud to Action Fraud either online at www.actionfraud.police.uk or by phone on 0300 123 2040.

Contact Thames Valley Police:

E-mail: AbingdonNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Twitter: [@tvpsouthandvale](https://twitter.com/tvpsouthandvale)

Facebook: www.facebook.com/tvpsouthandvale

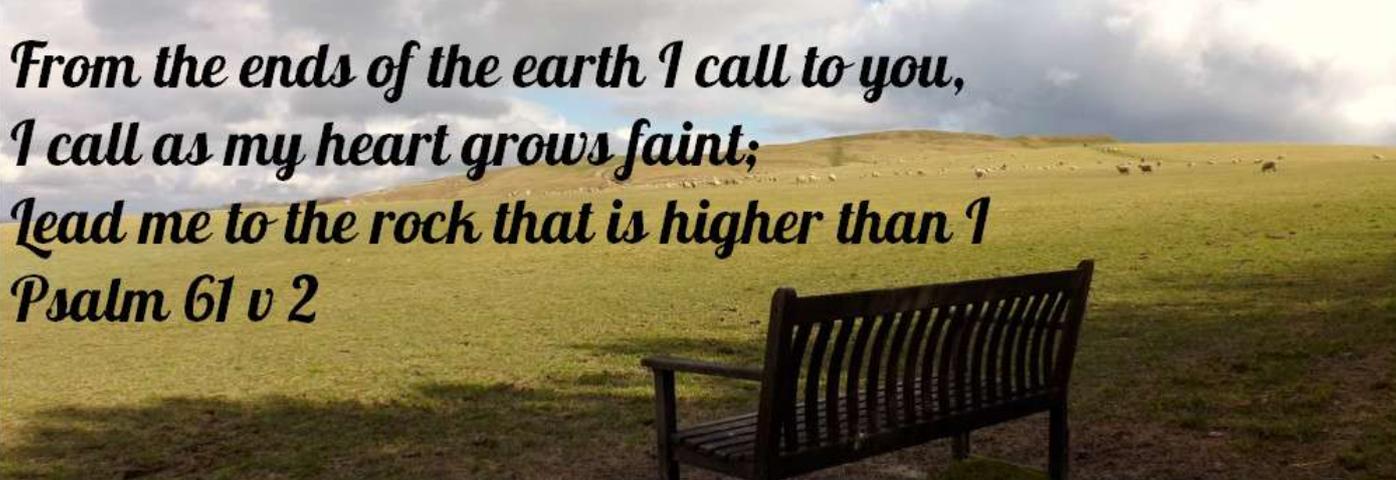
Phone: 101

Website: www.thamesvalley.police.uk



ALL SAINTS' & ST. LUKES CHURCHES

www.marcham-with-garford.org.uk



*From the ends of the earth I call to you,
I call as my heart grows faint;
Lead me to the rock that is higher than I
Psalm 61 v 2*

Back to church? Over the summer we have taken a very cautious approach to opening up our building again. The church is now open each morning between 9.30am and 12pm. We have also restarted live evening services with social distancing and face coverings and so far, these have gone well. It is strange meeting together again in this way, but it is good to be able to offer this opportunity, especially for those who find the virtual services difficult to access. Our morning services continue to be live streamed at 10am on a Sunday morning via our YouTube channel at present, but we are hoping to restart them in church within the next few months. Please keep an eye on our website for details.

Community Larder Box deliveries – we will be stopping deliveries of the larder boxes from SOFEA at the end of August as they will be resuming more normal patterns of working. Those who have been using the system regularly will be pointed in the direction of other sources of help. Thank you to those who have contributed to this scheme over the past 5 months.

The Marcham Covid-19 Hardship fund, administered by the church is still open for applications. If you are struggling to make ends meet because you have lost a job, or life has been made more difficult by the pandemic please do contact us. More information is available via our website.

Hungry? For those who are missing the food and friendship offered by the Village Café for so many years, please know that we are busy behind the scenes, planning to relaunch this in the new centre with a new name and a new way of working. We hope that we will be able to do this still on Wednesday lunch times and it will still be open to all within the village, but will let you know more soon.

YouTube Church

10am Sunday morning on our YouTube channel and then available to watch anytime.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzLePXEjyP7_WRWfyHr1rmg

Evening Services at 6pm

We are running live evening services. Please do join us if you feel able to. Social distancing measures are in place and face coverings should be worn.

Contacts:

Mark Newman Chaplain to the Parish chaplain@allsaintsmarcham.org **Jill Rowe** Children's and families Minister 391168 families@allsaintsmarcham.org **Rosemary Siebert** Associate Priest 07763330113 **Rob Finch** Youth Worker 07888331708, rob@marchamyouth.org **Tamsin Gilbert** Parish Administrator & Churchwarden info@allsaintsmarcham.org **Neil Rowe** Churchwarden 391168