



Marcham & District News

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

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

OCTOBER 2022 VOL: 44 No: 10

READ & RECYCLE!

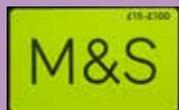
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Photographs © Ruth Atkins



◀ Marcham Commemoration Service for ▲ Queen Elizabeth II



▲ Clocks go back at 2am on Sunday 30th October



▲ Have you been down to Marcham Village Shop and Post Office lately? There may be more there than you thought!



▲ Little Angel: Read a Book Day and making an octopus see page 11



October Diary

| Date | Event | Pg | | | |
|--------|---|----|--------|---|----|
| 17 Mon | Marcham WI, Marcham Centre, 19.30 | | 17 Mon | Marcham WI, Marcham Centre, 19.30 | 9 |
| 2 Sun | Silver Sunday: silversunday.org.uk | 19 | 19 Wed | Abingdon Arts Society: Cezanne, Abbey Cinema, Abingdon 10.30 & 14.00 | 9 |
| 6 Thu | MCG AGM, Marcham Centre, 19.30 | 15 | 20 Thu | Deadline for next issue of MADNews, 17.00 Email editor@madnews.co.uk | |
| 8 Sat | Jumble Sale & Raffle, Southmoor, 14.00 | 19 | 24 Mon | Marcham Society: Scandal in High Society Oxfordshire, Marcham Centre, 19.15 | 9 |
| 9 Sun | Climate Crisis Exhibition, Garford Village Hall, 12.00-17.00 | 17 | 29 Sat | Family Halloween Disco Night, Marcham Centre, 18.00-20.30 | 15 |
| 10 Mon | Marcham Parish Council Meeting, Marcham Village Hall, Marcham Centre. 19.30 | 3 | 30 Sun | Clocks go back 1 hour at 02.00 | |
| 11 Tue | Climate Crisis Exhibition, Garford Village Hall, 18.00-21.00 | 17 | 31 Mon | Deadline for applications for Marcham Centre Caretaker | 15 |
| 14 Fri | Big MAD Quiz, Marcham Centre, 19.30-22.00 | 13 | | | |
| 15 Sat | Deadline for applications for grants from Marcham Parish Council | 3 | | | |
| 16 Sun | Pilgrimage Walk, St Lukes Church, Garford, 11.00 | 20 | | | |

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

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Dear Readers

I am very grateful to Jeremy Collins and the Wright family for their photos of Her Majesty's visit to Denman College in 1979. It is sad that both The Queen and Denman Collage have now come to the end of a life of serving the community in their own distinct ways.

Now autumn has arrived – a time to celebrate the abundance of nature, to prepare for winter and look forward to the new seasons to come.

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.

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We apologise in advance for any errors that may creep into MADNews (online or print), or omissions that creep out - we don't do it on purpose!
The Editor reserves the right to alter, omit or hold over copy to another issue. The views expressed in the Marcham & District News are not necessarily those of the editorial team, who are all volunteers.

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Marcham and Shippon
Catherine Webber, Orchard Barn, Sutton Wick Lane, Drayton OX14 4HJ
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catherine.webber@whitehorsedc.gov.uk

For other councillors go to www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk

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October 2022

MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

H.M. Queen Elizabeth II

The parish Book of Condolence is being held currently in the Parish Council's archives, and will be transferred to the County Council's archives in due course. The Chairman, on behalf of the Council, councillors, staff and residents of the parish has offered condolences and sympathy to all members of the Royal Family on the death of H.M. Queen Elizabeth II.

Parish Council meeting 12th September

Owing to the period of notice required for a Council meeting to take place, and the period of public mourning for H.M. Queen Elizabeth II, the scheduled September meeting had to be postponed.

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, and has not yet done so, then please note the deadline for submissions is Saturday 15th October, 2022. Applications received after that date will not be considered.

The Council's grant policy and grant application form are available in the publications section, on the Council's website www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk. Please complete the application form and return it to the Clerk – details are on the form. Please also enclose a copy of your organisation's accounts.

Buses

A network review has been conducted in association with Oxfordshire County Council. As a result, several changes to the buses which serve Marcham and the immediate area have been made. The S8 became the X1 and is now operated by Oxford Bus Company. The S9 which runs along the A338 will continue to be operated by Stagecoach. Alterations to the timetable and the current timetable can be viewed at www.oxfordbus.co.uk

Oxfordshire County Council – Consultation on trial traffic filters 2022

The County Council is undertaking consultation on trial traffic filters. Traffic filters are designed to reduce traffic levels across the city, making bus journeys quicker and more reliable, and walking and cycling safer and more attractive. When they are operating, private cars will not be allowed through without a permit. The consultation can be found at https://letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/traffic-filters-2022?tool=map#tool_tab. Please let the County Council have your thoughts, as your car journey into the centre of Oxford could be affected.

Allotment Rent Collection

The Clerk will soon be collecting allotment

rents for the year 22/23. It would be helpful in due course, if tenants could arrange to transfer the rent amount due straight into the Council's account via online transfer. Details of the amount payable will be available shortly. Any tenant not having on line banking can still send a cheque payable to Marcham Parish Council for the amount due to the Clerk's address at 90 Howard Cornish Road, Marcham.

Planning Applications considered by the Council

P1757/FUL Works to Frilford Junction A415/A338 incorporating: Widening of A415 Kingston Road and A338 Oxford Road with provision of 3 metre wide cycle way. Comments: The proposal did not solve long term issues. It did not address air quality, traffic volumes and did not provide for the safety of non motorists using the area.

P22/V1359/HH Two storey rear extension and single storey side extension (amended plans) 35 Anson Close. Comments: Council had no further comments to add.

P22/V1545/FUL Improvements to public open space, including footpath connections, landscaping, and swales. (amended plans)

Public Open Space - Pointer Place. Comments: Council reiterated earlier concerns regarding lack of connectivity, path surfacing, and drainage being agreed by the relevant authorities.

22/V0246/FUL open fronted steel frame portal building with walls and roof clad in box profile sheeting for personal use only. (amended plans). at White Hart Wood, Blackgate Lane. Comments: Whilst the building had been made smaller, the Council's earlier concerns regarding access off the A338, impact on the footpath, effect on wildlife and lack of bat survey were still valid.

Details pursuant to Condition 19 (Annual Water Monitoring) of permission MW.0014/22 Upwood Quarry. Comments: The site was upstream of nature reserves. There was no independent check that discharges would not adversely impact the reserves, and concerns were raised that levels of cadmium were higher than those permitted.

Date of Next Council Meeting:

The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Monday 10th October, 2022 at 7.30p.m. in the Village Hall, Barrow Close OX13 6TY. This date may vary. Please check the Council's website www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk in case arrangements change.

Clerk to the Council:

Mrs. L. Martin, 90 Howard Cornish Road
Tel: 01865 391833

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www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk

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4 APRIL 1979 – THE DAY THE QUEEN CAME TO MARCHAM

HM The Queen came to Denman to open the new Home Economics department

Despite the late arrival of details of the Queen's route through Marcham on April 4th, hundreds of people lined North Street and New Road to see her. Luckily, after a foggy start to the day, the sun came out and it was warm and sunny. The houses along the route were decked with Union Jacks and North Street decorated with bunting, erected by the Ex-servicemen. All the pupils of Marcham

School were given flags and some were also given to other children. Claire, Nicola and Paula Wright (grandchildren of Marcham Residents Mr. and Mrs. H. Steptoe of Parkside) had their photographs in the local press, and were also filmed for independent television. As the Queen drove back down North Street at about 4.50pm, she stopped the car to accept a posy of flowers from 9-year-old Julia – niece of Jeremy and Heidi Collins.

Extract from Marcham and District News May 1979 No 5



◀ The Queen with Lady Brunner, past National Chairman of WI

The Queen ▶ meeting Mrs Wilson, a fellow Sandringham WI Member who was on a crochet course at Denman College



▲ The Queen accepting a posy from Julia May 1979



Denman Opening Ceremony
Principal, Hilda Jones, presented the Queen with a lead crystal vase, engraved with a view of the college and the words, 'National Federation of Women's Instituites. Denman College 4 April 1979.' Specially designed and hand made, it stands eight inches tall and is seven inches in diameter, engraved by Bryant and Kate Fedden, Denman lecturers.



◀ Portrait of The Queen by Paula Utting, September 2022



◀ Claire, Nicky and Paula in May 1979

Thanks to Jeremy Collins and Paula Utting for the images

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Marcham Parishioners of the Year

This year Marcham Parish Council presented two awards to villagers – **Neil Rowe and Jim Asher** – in order to recognise their immense contributions to life in Marcham, all for the benefit of the community.



Jim Asher has made a major contribution to many aspects of Marcham's life over the years. Jim was a founder member of Marcham Society and served on the committee and as vice-Chairman – it is tribute to his and other founding members' work that the Society continues to flourish. Jim was a Parish Councillor and Chairman during some major initiatives – particularly

the development in Longfields. He was part of the team who produced the Community Led Plan – work which involved an enormous amount of effort. Jim was the initiator and prime mover of the Marcham Community Group (MCG). His drive and determination, coupled with a constant commitment to openness to the whole community, helped to break the impasse of several decades in bringing consensus to the village, leading to the realistic way forward for Marcham Centre. His leadership of MCG, to bring the ideas to a reality, with plans and fundraising has been outstanding. Since the completion of the Centre, Jim has overseen the difficult transition to running it as a viable business while, at the same time, coping with the severe restrictions on its use due to the Covid epidemic. Together with Denise, Jim has fostered a community spirit by organising village events including several Great Marcham Weekends and bringing in a Scottish flavour with Burns Night suppers. These have brought so many people great pleasure, and involved many village organisations working together.

Outside of the village, Jim has worked on Butterfly Conservation and he has brought his enthusiasm in this field into Marcham by actively surveying the parish for butterflies and moths, enthusing volunteers to carry out coppicing in Kiln Copse, developing a conservation strategy for All Saints' Church churchyard and cemetery, and helping to construct the Jubilee Paths.

Jim is an amazingly hard-working man – he has led groups who have achieved an enormous amount within our village and his sense of humour has seen us through difficult times.

He can be very proud of the work that he has done for Marcham – and, in return Marcham is grateful for his contribution.

Neil's contribution to Marcham is immense. He has been instrumental in major projects, fundraising and improvements for the benefit of the community.

Indeed, Neil started his community involvement not long after he moved to the village – during the heavy snowstorms in January 1982 he collected prescriptions, by tractor, for those in need.

He actively got involved in the local primary school by being a member of the Parents' and Teachers' Association, later joining the school's Governing Body.



Neil even turned his hand to the 'arts' by participating in the school's plays and arranged the breathtaking Mikado production in the farm's beef unit for Opera Anywhere. Neil is also known for his numerous catering events, mainly involving fire, meat and alcohol! Such events include Burns Suppers, weekend celebrations, bonfires, barn dances and village BBQs; his barbecued beef is unsurpassed! In supporting village events (and those further

afield) he has always been willing to lend his small marquees and bouncy castles.

Neil's charitable virtuous deeds also embrace the local church – he spearheads the church's charities for Send a Cow and Moldovo Lifeline. Indeed, he has worked tirelessly as Church Warden, is a member of the Parochial Church Council and has been Lay Chair of the Deanery Synod; for which he was made a Fellow of St Birinus.

Neil is Chairperson of the Anson Trust and through his vision and tenacity (over a 20-year period) has resulted in the creation of the new Marcham Village Hall. Neil's latest venture takes him back to his love of food and BBQs – he was instrumental in the creation of the village's Thirsty Café and engages in its day-to-day management and operation – whereby he can be seen actively making his famous breakfast rolls or standing behind a smoky BBQ!

Neil is an amazing warm-hearted and generous man of deep Christian faith, always willing to put himself forward to help anybody, whatever their need.

Past Parishioners of the Year

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 2004 Martin Thorne | 2012 Donald and Jean Creasy |
| 2005 Jack Spicer | 2013 Janey Cumber |
| 2006 Chris Ricketts | 2014 Meriel Lewis |
| 2007 Christine Whild | 2016 Marjorie Evans |
| 2008 Eric and Sheila Dunford | 2017 Malcolm Denton |
| 2009 Eddie and Pamela Shirras | 2018 Judith and Peter Fontaine |
| 2010 Jessica Brod | 2022 Neil Rowe |
| 2011 Jill Rowe | 2022 Jim Asher |

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Marcham WI

Next Meeting:

7.30pm Monday, 17th October 2022

At the Marcham Centre



Sadly, the speaker we had been looking forward to welcoming to our next meeting has had an operation and is unable to come along in October. His talk has now been postponed until next February, when Al Sylvester will be giving his talk 'The Southern Reach' at an Open Meeting with everyone welcome. We are however in the process of arranging a replacement for October and will let all our members know as soon as something is organised and additionally put a notification on Facebook.

Visitors are always welcome.

For further information, please contact:

Pippa Hoath 01865 391349 pippahoath@gmail.com



The
Marcham
Society

Monday
24th October
7.15 for 7.45pm
Marcham Centre



Scandal in High Society Oxfordshire

Secret love affairs, murder, blackmail, poisoning and extortion: most of us enjoy a good scandal. And it's even more fun when it involves our so-called 'betters'.

Julie Ann Godson will present a selection of tales of Oxfordshire toffs in trouble, from the Tudor period right up to the modern age. Few will fail to be impressed by the sheer variety of ways in which the upper classes of the county have contrived over the centuries to behave badly – and often to get away with it.

All Julie's Oxfordshire history books are available on Amazon.

For more information contact membership@marchamsociety.org.uk

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The Arts Society Abingdon LECTURE

Wednesday 19th October,
10.30am and 2.00pm

Abbey Cinema, Abbey Close, Abingdon
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Cezanne

The unlikely father of
modern art

by Jacky Klein



Cézanne is renowned as the great 19th-century painter working in the most traditional of genres,

from landscape to portraiture. But in his work of the 1880s, to early 1900s, he began a revolution in painting. His courageous 'modern' mode of painting – which insisted on conveying the essence of a subject rather than its mere 'impression' – showed a radical disregard for the realism dominant since the Renaissance. How was it that a reclusive, deeply devout anti-modernist, came to be the founder of modern art? And where is his influence still in evidence today?

Lecturer: Jacky Klein is an art historian, publisher, writer and broadcaster, specialising in modern and contemporary art. After studying at Oxford University and the Courtauld Institute of Art in London, she worked as a curator at a number of leading galleries: Tate, the Barbican, the Courtauld and the Hayward.

Visitors are very welcome to attend this lecture, cost £6.00. A link to Zoom will be sent to every member 24 hours before the scheduled talk for those members unable to attend in person. Please email info@theartsocietyabingdon.org.uk for further information on the venue, any latest changes and updates. Lectures last 1 hour but allow extra time for announcements etc.

For more information on future lectures and other activities see www.theartsocietyabingdon.org.uk or email info@theartsocietyabingdon.org.uk



Mostly Books has two events taking place in October.

Leif Bersweden - Where the Wildflowers Grow - Wednesday 5th October, 7pm, tickets £8

Crime Author Panel - Thursday 27th October, 7pm, tickets £12

The full details of each can be found on their website:

www.mostly-books.co.uk

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POEMS FOR OUR QUEEN

Quietly determined to lead the way,
Understanding and wise, every day,
Earned our respect through loyalty and care,
Enigmatic, reserved, yet always there,
Never forgotten, our gracious Queen.

Quick-witted, sharp-minded, respected by all,
Unwavering through problems, large and small,
Embraced the roles of sovereign and mother,
Encouraging us to support each other,
Never forgotten, our noble Queen.

by Aoife

Rest in peace your majesty

I cannot help but stop and think
About this historical moment.
The moment that has changed our lives.
We strive and find answers
That makes sense in times of sorrow.
We must be full of the love she shared
And cherish her memories
That she has left with us.

I cannot help but stop and think
about The Queen's achievements
Joining the girl guides aged eleven,
Giving her first public broadcast at fourteen
And being the first female royal
To serve in the military
aged only 18.

I cannot help but stop and think
About how kind and generous The Queen was
Writing a letter when someone turns one hundred
Choosing to continue her reign,
Until the very end.

But now

I cannot help but stop and think
That her Majesty Queen Elizabeth
is now resting with her husband
Watching over us

As she once said
'Grief is the price we pay for love.'

by Zara

We have now entered September with many new families joining us. We hope you all have a wonderful time on your journey at Little Angels and welcome to our join our Little Angels family.



Yellow Room

The babies have had many new children start as the older Yellow Room children have all moved up into the preschool rooms. We have welcomed lots of new babies, the team are happy getting to know the new babies and they are going out for walks around the village, exploring the environment, Garden play is the main feature as the weather stays fine with lots of sensory and physical activities for the children to enjoy. The babies really embrace the textured sensory tray.

We fill our various trays with different materials each day to expose our Little Angels to different textures for them to explore during their sensory play. Here we have soil, oats and sand. Our Little Angels love moving their hands around in the tray, pouring, scooping, filling and so much more. The Yellow Room embraced **Read a Book** day and the children had books available inside and outside in their reading garden,

Green Room and Teal Room

The Green and Teal Rooms have been looking at the ocean and encouraging role play of ships and boats. Our Little Angels are always busy at our creation station making props for their imaginary play and we make sure they have access to lots of different creative materials for them to use in their creations, often making props to use within their imaginary play. Using lots of different skills such as mark making, gluing, cutting, folding and many more! Making octopus and telescopes etc.

The telescopes and treasure maps have been well used and they have been going on adventures around nursery on the hunt for treasure! X marks the spot, so exciting searches around our garden and in the sand pit for hidden treasure (buried by the team) and the very excited shouts of "I have found the X spot". It was fun for all, along with embracing books on the topic and in particular, our Little Angels have loved learning all about the different animals that live in the ocean through the book *Commotion in the Ocean*. The Green and Teal Rooms also created their very own ocean and our Little Angels told us all about the facts they had learnt about the animals of the ocean!

In this sad month we have all been feeling very reflective. Our Queen represented something different to all of us and we are all feeling reflective in many ways.

We have been celebrating the wonderful life of our Queen outside our nursery where you may have seen a photo and a poem, along with flowers and drawing to show our thoughts are with the royal family. The children have discussed the new King Charles and learning the national anthem of God Save The King.

RIP Queen Elizabeth II

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

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Parallel Worlds

Writing this particular article about wildlife in everyday gardens, as I am, with the backdrop of the passing of Queen Elizabeth II, I'm thinking about the parallels of these two worlds.



Losing a monarch, and getting used to another, and moving over from a traditional gardening mindset, to a wildlife gardening one, instantly changes lives, and we humans don't like change. It's hard to quickly know the true impact of either situation, as both, in their own ways, are a reality check, that nothing is permanent, except change. Absorbing too much media, in both situations, can expose us to unhelpful subliminal suggestions, about what we think and feel, whilst we're in the middle of processing this fresh newness.

Behind it all, there can be a shared psychological disbelief regarding both scenarios, and the shared experience of a familiar rug being pulled from under us. As humans we're always grasping for permanence.

The late Queen's image and presence is all around us, in a dizzying number of ways, on coins, stamps and wider branding, that underpins our societal structures. Mother Nature is also everywhere too, if we care to be more aware of it. Even if like me, you are not a monarchist, or say you don't care about the royal family, we all have a shared experience of change at some level. Likewise, if you exclude nature, or let nature into your life, there will be a shared experience of change on some subtle level.

Although, not a royalist myself, I respect the late Queen of 70 years as a person, but feel sorry that she was unable to reveal her true self to the wider world. Although she did give us glimpses of that over the years.

I never personally met the Queen, although I did have to prepare some Oxford College gardens ready for her visit to the City. Spreading black peat around white roses, to make the white, still whiter.

I've heard one commentator say that the Queen advised a Lady in Waiting, that to do the job, you need to like the smell of fresh paint, because everywhere the Queen went, smelt of fresh paint. I was one of those slightly ahead of the Queen, with a paint brush, painting all before her!

"Why do we assume that monarchs want everything perfect, like in gardens?" Nature doesn't mind, she just wants balance. Like the Queen seemed to as well, maybe? As somebody who was shielding, I appreciated the Queen's message to the nation during the Covid-19 pandemic. Who else could have said what she said so

concisely? A politician would have likely used so many extra words, to express what the Queen did, in a handful. I feel sorry for King Charles III. No matter how old your mother was, how good a life she has had, and no matter how prepared you are for her death, grief still hurts. A celebrant once said to me, grief is love burrowing up close. It seems unfair somehow, for King Charles to be expected to transition to being king, whilst mourning his mother. So we must support him.

We are all looking for stability after Brexit, Covid, The Ukrainian War, the fuel crisis and the climate crisis, and now, the loss of the Queen.

We all need to pull together, like the Queen pulled people together, devoid of politics. Who can forget her going to Ireland, speaking Gaelic, and shaking the hand of Martin McGuinness. Mother Nature binds us together, which again, subtly shows where the two worlds run in parallel. Going forward we need to reach out to our armed forces, who have a personal relationship with the late Queen. They swore allegiance to the Queen and not the government, so we must not forget them.

We often overlooked the Queen as a woman, instead, just seeing her in her role. Subtly she has been a woman of status for 70 years, and maybe even without noticing, she has been waving the banner for women's rights. Now, for the foreseeable future, the monarch is going to be a man with King Charles, Prince William and Prince George, so we mustn't lose the ground the Queen achieved for women's equality. Although, she did take steps toward a more equal monarchy, by signing the Crown Act in 2013, making sure the line of succession did not favour male heirs.

We also need to ensure our government does not take its eye off the ball in facing the fuel crisis, as it could easily be distracted by the death of the Queen.

Finally, going forward, we mustn't exclude nature from our lives, we are part of it and it is part of us. Like we were part of the Queen, and she was part of us.

Queen Elizabeth II was the first head of state to send an email in 1976. She was also the first Queen in the world to be a motor mechanic. We shouldn't forget how she, and nature, are relatable to all our lives on some level.

I reflect on writing this particular article about wildlife in everyday gardens, as I have been, with the backdrop of the passing of Queen Elizabeth II, I've been thinking about the parallels of these two worlds.

Happy Gardening!

Stuart Mabbutt

01865 747243 www.wildmaninspires.co.uk

MARCHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

Here's a message from **Mrs Burson**, our new Deputy Headteacher:

"Hello everyone, it is an absolute pleasure to have joined the Marcham Primary School team and I am really excited about beginning my journey as the new Deputy Head. Marcham has shown itself to be a very welcoming school with polite children who are eager to learn and share. I have loved watching the all the children play so caringly with each other and can't wait to see how they all flourish this year. Alongside the Deputy Head role, I will be teaching Year 1 two days a week. I have previously taught across KS1 and KS2 and been both a SENCo and Deputy Head at another Oxfordshire primary school. I am a big fan of all things crafty like crochet and card making. I also enjoy fair rides and rollercoasters. I will be outside KS2 entrance every Monday-Wednesday mornings and afternoons when possible, so do come and say hello. I'm looking forward to meeting parents and get to know everyone in our school community."

To see what the school has been up to go to www.marcham.oxon.sch.uk/class-pages/

1st Annual Big Mad Quiz



Friday 14th October 2022

7.30pm – 10pm

Tickets £9 per person
(Maximum Team of 8)

Includes a Ploughman's Supper
There will be a raffle
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or contact: marchamwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk

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for more information

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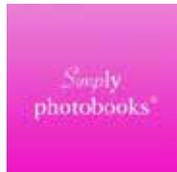


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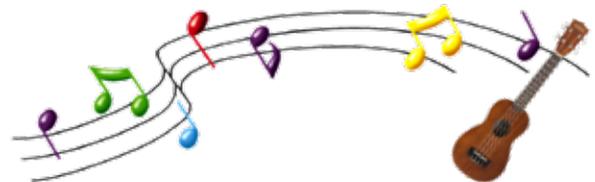
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or 07958180838

Community grants: Our community grant scheme is open. Visit our website to find out more and apply for a grant of up to £300.

Membership: Thirsty Café is a Community Benefit Society. This means it is a membership organisation, owned and run by its members. Find out more about community membership on our website.

Café open Wednesday and Saturday, 9 – 11:30 am

Website: www.thirstycafemarcham.co.uk

Email: hello@thirstycafemarcham.co.uk

Phone: 07871 208811



Bookings have built up for the Hall facilities – it looks like it will be a busy time over the next three months.

MCG AGM – Thursday 6th October 2022 at 7:30pm

The 11th Annual General Meeting of Marcham Community Group will be held at 7:30pm on Thursday 6th October in Marcham Village Hall. Formal notice and the agenda for the meeting has been sent out to all MCG members. Although only members will be able to vote at the meeting, the meeting is open to all in our community with an interest in our facilities with an open session for all to have a chance to ask questions. Please contact Jim Asher (jim.asher@btinternet.com) if you wish to find out more about membership. We will be presenting plans for the future of Marcham Community Group and we would welcome your input to discussion of our proposals for the way forward.

Caretaker Post

MCG is advertising for a new part-time Caretaker post for Marcham Centre and has extended the period for applications. Please see the advert below for further details.

Coming events at Marcham Centre

The events programme is underway again. Here are the upcoming events in the calendar:

Indoor short-mat bowls restarted on 28th September in the Large Hall on Wednesday afternoons 2pm–5pm. Please contact Colin Trinder (391718) or just turn up. Beginners and experienced players are equally welcome.

Family Halloween Disco Night: Saturday 29th October – 6.00pm to 8:30pm

Quiz night: Friday 4th November – 7:30 for 8pm prompt start

If you wish to book a room at Marcham Centre, please use the booking request system on www.marchamcentre.org or contact our Coordinator: coordinator@marchamcentre.org

Abingdon Traditional Craft Fair 4th – 6th November Abbey Buildings, Checker Walk

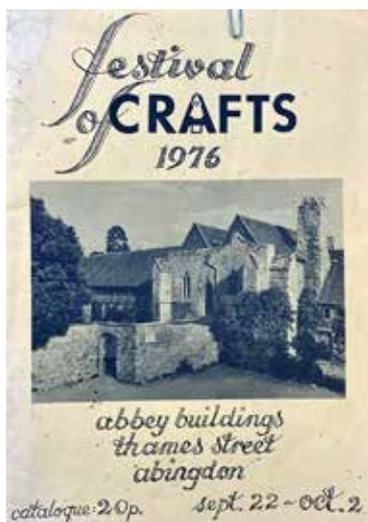
Possibly...the oldest craft fair in the country?



When I took on the Abingdon Traditional Craft Fair in 2017 I knew it had roots that went back a fair way. I had been to it several times over the years I had been working in Abingdon. The support base for it reaches far and wide;

we see craft enthusiasts coming from neighbouring counties in all directions, Gloucestershire, Northamptonshire, Buckinghamshire and beyond. Locally it is well supported too; for many, buying a ticket for the show is their annual way of donating a little to the upkeep of the Abbey Buildings, one of the most important historic buildings in the town.

Still, it was a jaw-dropping moment for me when, in the middle of the Craft Fair in 2021, someone handed me a pair of original programmes, one from 1976 and one from the 80s. I was fascinated by the care and craft that had gone into the production, bearing in mind setting up artwork was a much more laborious process back then, and also interested to see the number of town centre businesses taking part, rural trades like leather workers still operating from the heart of Abingdon and serving the farming community around the town.



It has occurred to us that we might be the oldest craft fair in the country, by which we mean continuously operating on an annual basis (excepting pandemics!). Does anyone out there know of another one that might be able to challenge us on this?

Obviously, I am disappointed that it was on my watch that the unbroken tradition took a pause due to Covid in 2020, but we managed to return with some of our craftworkers in 2021 and this year all of them are keen to come back and offer a full-on crafts experience including demonstrations and free have-a-go sessions. You will be able to try out spinning and weaving for yourself, roll a wax candle and watch our potter at her wheel; we are also talking with wood-turners and sock-makers to confirm what they would like to bring in the way of hands-on activities; and, as it has been for the past 46 years at least, it will be a fabulous opportunity to buy one-of-a-kind Christmas gifts, made with skill and love, for friends and family.

HEATHER BROWN, Abingdon Events Partnership,
www.abingdoncraftfair.org.uk

Marcham Centre Caretaker

Marcham Community Group (MCG) is looking to recruit a good communicator, who is confident and able to work on their own initiative, whilst liaising with MCG's Trustees, the Centre's Coordinator, volunteers, and hirers to ensure the smooth running of the Marcham Centre facilities.

Working at the Centre, you can expect to meet and work with all local community groups, clubs and residents. Your duties will be wide ranging, but will include preparation and removal of hall needs for hirers; opening and closing of the building; minor building and site maintenance and undertaking routine daily tasks. This is a new role, and as such, you will need to demonstrate flexibility to cater for the evolving needs of the position. The successful candidate is likely to be familiar with Marcham and its surrounding area and live locally to respond to short notice, potentially urgent, needs.

If you think you have the qualities and enthusiasm to undertake this exciting new role, then please obtain a copy of the information pack by contacting the Chair of MCG via jim.asher@btinternet.com. You may also contact Trevor Hill (Hall Committee Chair) for an informal chat, prior to submitting an application, on 07748696733. In any case, your application should be in the form of a letter and/or CV sent to the e-mail address above. Closing date for applications will be the end of October, with interviews likely to be held in mid-November.

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He claimed asylum in 2013 and was moved by the Home Office to Sheffield. Jean’s daughter, Jillian, and son-in-law, Jim, met him in 2015 when he was helping at the ASSIST drop-in for other asylum seekers in Sheffield. He was running the clothes bank, where Jean’s grand-daughter, Roisin, also volunteered and he was very kind to her.

In 2016 he was detained by the Home Office. Jillian and Jim helped spearhead a campaign for his release. He was almost deported but gained a reprieve at the last minute and submitted a fresh asylum claim. In 2017 he was granted refugee status which enabled him to undertake an Access Course in sciences in 2018 and start a degree course in Biomedical Sciences in 2019 (just before Covid hit). He supported himself by working night shifts in a children’s home and was also supported by his friends, members of his Sheffield community and his church.

This year Pride has graduated and now hopes to work for the NHS doing laboratory work.

Jean would like to thank everyone in Marcham who wrote letters or signed petitions to support his asylum claim to allow him to be recognised as a legitimate refugee and create a home in Britain.

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What can I do about climate change?

Climate change: evidence, challenges and solutions

How can YOU get involved?

A Climate Crisis Exhibition in the Garford Village Hall, on Sunday 9th October 12.00-17.00 and Tuesday 11th October 18.00-21.00

This summer’s heatwave might be remembered in times to come as a signal that Climate Change (CC) truly arrived in Britain . It was a wakeup call to everyone to deal with this existential crisis,



puncturing complacency and trust in government and media. But we might feel powerless and overwhelmed by the sheer global nature of it all, and the conflicting information we hear: what can an individual do against this all-encompassing, global threat, and who and what can we believe?

This climate exhibition will provide the necessary tools to confidently engage with climate change, on a personal, practical, local/communal and political level. It is addressed at everyone and uses non-technical language. It describes

1. the science of climate change, its causes, impacts, and which sectors of society are responsible for it ;
2. the difficulties in responding to CC, posed by business, politics, economics and “human nature” (psychology)
3. the many solutions and remedies for CC - both fake and real
4. and the actions you, the citizen and consumer, can take politically, locally/communally, at work, and individually .

This exhibition in Garford Village Hall will be in the form of texts, cartoons, photos and graphs and it can be explored in any order or emphasis.

There will be seven local organisers on hand for discussion on various topics, ranging from science to agriculture, food supply, diet, politics, local biodiversity, sustainable energy in your house and car... and much more.

Beverages and soup on offer on Sunday; drinks on Tuesday
 Please email: beatricemhoffman@gmail.com if you would like to attend.

Facebook: “**Climate Change Exhibition**”

Join us on the first Tuesday of each month between noon and 1.15pm for a delicious **lunch** in a friendly atmosphere at **Long Furlong Community Centre, Abingdon**.

Our facilities are easily accessible with onsite parking.

Also **Saturday Brunch** second Saturday in the month 9.30-11.30

We serve exciting vegetarian and vegan recipes using unusual pulses, beans, grains and interesting spices. We hope to convince meat-eaters that a vegetarian meal can be a delicious and exciting taste experience that will not disappoint!

www.blueskyecocafe.org.uk

From Monday 3 October, South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils will have a new temporary home at Abbey House in Abingdon until their new headquarters on the Didcot Gateway site is ready.

The councils have been based at Milton Park since 2015, a few months after an arson attack on their headquarters at Crowmarsh Gifford, near Wallingford. Most council staff can and prefer to work remotely, which means we need significantly less office space than before, so needed to downsize from our Milton Park offices. We therefore took the opportunity to bring the lease to an end earlier to save significant sums in rent by operating out of much smaller office space at Abbey House, which the Vale owns.

Our new address will be:

Vale of White Horse District Council
Abbey House, Abbey Close, Abingdon OX14 3JE

All phone numbers for our services will remain the same and are available on our website.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

I am writing this on the day of Queen Elizabeth's funeral, to which over 4 billion people from all over the world tuned in to watch on the television. This intensely moving and wonderfully choreographed event was the culmination of 2 weeks of public mourning and paying our respects to a very great monarch. This may have included joining that massive queue in London that snaked its way for over 5 miles to Westminster Hall where the Queen lay in state for several days, or lining the roadsides to witness the processions of the Queen's coffin, or signing books of condolence found in many public buildings and churches with personal messages to the Queen. We all have our own memories of the Queen and ways of thanking her.



Now, we are looking ahead to a new monarch, King Charles III, whose coronation will be next year, 2023. All councils were sent a historic proclamation which has been read out in the centres of all towns:

"Whereas it has pleased Almighty God to call to His Mercy our late Sovereign Lady Queen Elizabeth the Second of Blessed and Glorious Memory, by whose Decease the Crown of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland is solely and rightfully come to The Prince Charles Philip Arthur George: We, therefore, the Lords Spiritual and Temporal of this Realm and Members of the House of Commons, together with other members of Her late Majesty's Privy Council and representatives of the Realms and Territories, Aldermen and Citizens of London, and others, do now hereby with one voice and Consent of Tongue and Heart publish and proclaim that The Prince Charles Philip Arthur George is now, by the Death of our late Sovereign of Happy Memory, become our only lawful and rightful Liege Lord Charles the Third, by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of His other Realms and Territories, King, Head of the Commonwealth, Defender of the Faith, to whom we do acknowledge all Faith and Obedience with humble Affection; beseeching God by whom Kings and Queens do reign to bless His Majesty with long and happy Years to reign over us.

Given at St. James's Palace this tenth day of September in the year of Our Lord twenty thousand and twenty-two. GOD SAVE THE KING"

We not only have a new king but we also have a new prime minister, who, with her new cabinet, will need to make some very difficult decisions on the economy, the energy crisis etc. against a background of increasing strikes by deeply unhappy groups of people. Councils too are waiting to hear what financial help they will be getting to fulfil their commitments to the people of their districts and counties.

So, the death of a wonderful Queen and the accession of a new King

heralds the beginning of some turbulent times ahead.

DISTRICT COUNCIL NEWS IN BRIEF

Voter Registration

Households across the Vale and SODC are being urged to respond as soon as possible if they receive a reminder to update their voter registration details. A "Canvass Communications Form" has been sent to all homes asking the occupants to check their voter registration details. Households whose occupants over the age of 16 are believed to have changed since the last election should have received a yellow letter requiring them to confirm or update their details online.

The two councils are now sending reminders to the 13,460 households who failed to respond to the yellow letter. It explains exactly what occupants need to do – it is very important to read it and follow the instructions carefully to confirm any changes. The easiest way to do this is by visiting householdresponse.com/southandvale – you will need the two-part code found on the letter.

By law, councils must ensure the electoral register is up to date and so may need to visit households that fail to respond to the reminder in order to confirm the details.

Waste Bin Collections

Biffa has confirmed it is introducing new waste collection routes across both of our districts from 10 October to make their rounds more efficient and environmentally friendly.

It will only affect around 20 per cent of residents but there will be some changes in most district council wards.

Biffa is sending letters to all affected residents with specific details of how the changes will affect them. These should arrive between 20 September and the end of the month.

Affected households will have one of the following:

- a different bin day
- a week change – where rubbish and recycling weeks will swap but the actual bin day remains the same*
- a new bin day and a week change*

*People with week changes will receive new calendars with their letter.

We have a dedicated web page containing more information about the changes that you can direct your residents to. Very soon we will also be launching an online look-up function so people can type in their post code and find out if their collection details will be changing and if so, how it will affect them. We will send you a link to this as soon as it is online.

www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/collectionchanges

Please feel free to contact me about anything I write or any issue that is troubling you with which the District Council might be able help.

CATHERINE WEBBER Cllr VWHDC

District Councillor for Marcham Ward

Phone: 07357 464699/ 01235 534001 or webbercatherine1@gmail.com

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

A PERSONAL REFLECTION

Catherine and I made a big decision this week. We would make an effort to witness directly one of the events in London commemorating the passing of Queen Elizabeth II and to pay our respects to her memory. The prospect of possibly queuing up for 24 hours or more to attend Westminster Hall was a bit beyond us,



but the procession from Buckingham Palace to the Houses of Parliament and the predicted 4 hours of queuing to get a position on the Mall seemed just about manageable. Catching the 6.30am Oxford Tube into London and via Hyde Park and Green Park, we found a position by 10.30am and waited for the procession start time of 2.22pm precisely. It was well worth the wait. We met a

variety of people of varying opinions on the issues of the day, but all were agreed that our Queen was indeed a very special person and witnessing a part of her send-off was something we would talk about for years. We discussed the major world issues, the cost of a living crisis, the change of government and Paddington Bear.

What was it about the Paddington sequence in the Platinum Jubilee celebrations that had made such a big impression on all of us? We agreed that it wasn't simply the humour, but was as much the coming together of two characters, gentle, kind and caring - both with the ability to bring people together. For all the journalists and commentators words and reflections over the many events of the past week, it was Paddington's final words "Thank you Your Majesty, for.... everything" summed up our feelings better than any of them. Yes, it was a long wait, but we all agreed that it had been well worth it. The conversation flowed and the time passed quickly.

The parade and procession was incredibly moving and despite watching two buses drive past us full, and not getting home until midnight, we would not have missed any of it for the world.

We now face a time of upheaval and great change. A new King, a new Prime Minister and Cabinet, a fully stretched economy, a major war, a climate emergency and the tail end (we hope) of a major pandemic. Locally we face the threat of major new infrastructure, roads and reservoirs. It all seems a bit of a mess. But it must have felt the same when Queen Elizabeth was a young girl and she helped to ensure things got better. We owe it to her memory to stay positive, to find the best in people and to work as tirelessly as she did, to work together to make things better ourselves.

RICHARD WEBBER Cllr OCC SC & Marcham Division.

Phone 01235 534001 or email Richard.webber77@ntlworld.com

MP'S REPORT

When the announcement was made that Her Majesty had passed away, I cried in the way I do when told someone I am close to has passed away, even though she was not someone I had ever met. It felt like we had lost our anchor, the person who has seemingly always been there to help get us through whatever troubles the country has been facing, most recently Covid.



Parliament does not usually sit on Fridays or Saturdays, but it did so both days in order that MPs could give their tributes. In total across the 2 days, 321 MPs gave their tributes to Her Majesty, including myself, shortly before 10pm on the Friday (you can watch it at www.davidjohnston.org.uk). Before that, we received the live broadcast to the nation from our new King in the House of Commons, a perfectly pitched, moving address.

The MP speeches were emotional, funny and heartfelt. Over and over the same themes emerged: that even when you hadn't met her you felt like you knew her; that she had given an incredible service to our nation; that she was sharp, passionate, selfless and mischievous, with twinkling eyes.

I bounced between different ceremonies in the constituency and in Parliament during the period of mourning, each of them poignant, but none so emotional as filing past Her Majesty's coffin in Westminster Hall when she was lying-in-state. This truly brought home what had happened, although I think it will take some time to properly sink in yet.

It is a momentous time for our nation and for the Royal Family. Our new King assumes his responsibilities at a time of great sadness for him and his family. I've no doubt he will be an excellent King. He has shown in his time as Prince of Wales the care and concern he has for this country and has had decades to learn from Her Majesty (who became Queen at just 25) the best way to conduct the role.

May Queen Elizabeth II Rest In Peace and God Save the King.

The period of mourning of course affected the activities that I undertook this month, but around it were still several visits and events, including the Didcot Twinning Association's reception for the Mayor of Meylan, an area of France Didcot is twinned with, and a fundraising launch for a 14th century chantry window in All Saint's Church, North Moreton. Two other things to note: September was Alzheimer's Month and I know a lot of your families - like my own - have been affected by related conditions, so as a 'Dementia Friend' I encourage people to take part in activities supporting this. Similarly, the 2nd of October is Silver Sunday, the national day for older people, with plenty of events going on which I have been asked to encourage people to participate in or run. You find out more at <https://silversunday.org.uk>

As ever, if I can help with anything do get in touch via **David Johnston** david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk

DAVID JOHNSTON OBE MP, Member of Parliament for Wantage, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA
0207 219 3858 Email: david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk

Have you been asked to donate money to help people of the Ukraine, Pakistan floods or another disaster? Please protect yourself with the following information:

- Scammers will pretend to be legitimate well-known charities, creating their own charity names, and impersonating people impacted by the war in Ukraine.
- Scammers will be cold-calling, direct messaging and creating fake websites and pages on social media to raise funds. Avoid clicking on links or downloading attachments in unsolicited emails, texts or social media messages. They may attempt to lure you into unwittingly downloading malware onto your device or take you to a fake website to steal your money and personal information.
- Do not donate via fundraising pages on platforms that do not verify the legitimacy of the fundraiser or that do not guarantee your money will be returned if the page is determined to be fraudulent.
- Be careful about crowdfunding requests as these may be fake and also come from scammers.
- Check the terms and conditions of funding platforms and ensure you are dealing with official organisations. If you are unsure, make your donation to an established charity instead.
- If you think you have paid money to a scammer, please contact your bank immediately.



<https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/charities>

You can donate safely to Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) at the Post Office using cash or a card

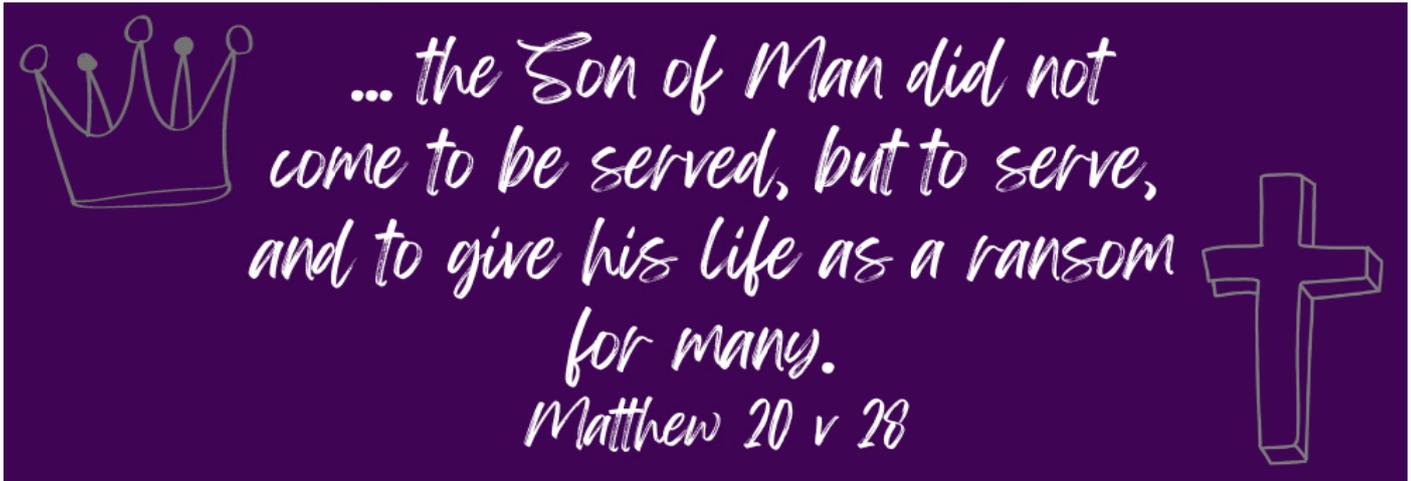
**Grand Jumble Sale and Super Raffle
Saturday 8th October,
Southmoor Village Hall OX13 5BY
Doors Open 2pm Entry 50p**

If anyone has any Jumble they wish to donate to this very worthy cause it can be delivered to the Hall on the day between 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. or collection can be arranged by calling Yvonne – 01235 868276 or Hazel – 01865 820817. All donations will be very much appreciated. We can accept anything except large furniture items or electrical goods. In the past our fund raising events have been extremely successful due to the generosity of the general public, much better than taking items to the tip!!



ALL SAINTS' & ST. LUKES CHURCHES

www.marcham-with-garford.org.uk



We've all known this time would come, and yet it still seems unbelievable. The Queen is dead. Long live the King! Throughout our lives there are a few "I remember where I was when I heard..." moments: the assassination of JFK, the moon landing, the death of Diana, 9/11. Over the course of that recent Thursday, the news of our unwell Queen seemed to be getting serious with the family rushing to her side. And yet as I quickly re-read our parish's Operation London Bridge plans, and forwarded a reminder to a few key people, it felt premature. But then, as I was driving through Shippon on the way to a school parents evening with Jane, the devastating news came on the car radio. I immediately pulled into a bus stop and we just looked at each other, open-mouthed. Since then, there have been numerous seismic moments... King Charles' poignant first broadcast to the nation, the grand accession ceremony, the solemn lying-in-state at Edinburgh and Westminster. As I write, the funeral is still a few days away, and it promises to be another unforgettably historic day.

It has been an emotional roller-coaster. Sadness at her loss, but thankfulness for her life. Grief for her family, but joy and pride in a new King. However, one aspect of the last few days has come as a welcome surprise to me. There has been a clear, simple reaffirmation of the faith and traditions associated with monarchy and the history of our country. I thought that wouldn't be so. I thought it would be much more guarded or qualified for fear of offence. But Charles has been bold about his Christian faith, pledging to "uphold the constitutional principles at the heart of our nation", and "serve with loyalty, respect and love" as his mother did. And, by and large, the people of multicultural Britain have been very glad to hear of it. It has been a welcome reminder of who we are as people of the United Kingdom. Of course, the divisions and difficulties of life in modern Britain remain and will soon resurface. But perhaps in grief, and maybe even because of it, we are now better placed to face the future together. I hope so. So let's put the kettle on, keep calm and carry on, and sing with one heart and voice, God Save the King!

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| <p>Regular services (ALL WEEKS) 10am: Morning Service at All Saints' 11am-12pm: Open church at St. Luke's 6pm: Evening Service Wednesday Holy Communion 10.30am at Duffield Place</p> | <p>St. Luke's Garford Sunday 16th October</p> <p>Pilgrimage Walk: starting at St. Luke's at 11am. This will be a walk to All Saints' and then a loop back to St. Luke's with regular stops for prayer. Those wishing to join in from Marcham can join the group when they get to All Saints (around 11.30am).</p> <p>St. Luke's Patronal Service at 6pm in St. Luke's Church</p> |
| <p>From the Registers: Funeral: Joan Downing Baptisms: James & Harry Bailey, Arthur Kirtley</p> | <p>Contacts: Revd. Nick Weldon Vicar vicar@allsaintsmarcham.org 01865 391962, Rob Finch Youth Worker 07888331708, rob@marchamyouth.org Jill Rowe Children and Families minister families@allsaintsmarcham.org Tamsin Gilbert Parish Administrator info@allsaintsmarcham.org</p> |