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October 2025 Vol 47 No. 10

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Hi Everyone

October already, clocks go back and Hallowe'en. Have a great month.

Cheers

Kay

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DEADLINES

All entries including articles, notices, reports and advertising:

5pm 15th of the month

ADDITIONAL COPIES

These are available from Marcham Village Shop. Postal copies are also available – contact the Editor.

DISCLAIMER

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

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MP

Layla Moran layla.moran.mp@parliament.uk

October 2025

Kay

MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

GRANTS FROM THE PARISH

COUNCIL – LAST CHANCE TO APPLY

The Parish Council reviews grant requests annually during its November meeting. If there is a deserving organisation that benefits Marcham residents and is considering applying for a grant, please use the application form available in the publications section on the Council's website: www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk. Be sure to include a copy of your organisation's accounts. The Council's grant policy is also available on the website.

The deadline for submissions is 15th October, 2025. Applications received after this date or not submitted on the application form will not be considered.

MARCHAM CEMETERY

The Parish Council has formed a small working group to investigate and plan for a new burial area. If you are interested in helping in the village plans for the future, and would like to join the group, then please contact the clerk to the Council whose details are below.

OVERHANGING SHRUBS

The Parish Council has had reports of footways and pavements being affected by shrubs and hedges that are overhanging. It is appreciated that occupiers may not necessarily be aware of the difficulties. Where growth overhangs a public path or highway, it is the landowner's responsibility to cut it back. The Council would ask for assistance from landowners, to cut any overgrowth back, if you find your property is one of those causing problems.

ALLOTMENT RENT COLLECTION

The Clerk will soon be collecting allotment rents for the year 25/26. 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.

APPEAL TO BE CONSIDERATE TO NEIGHBOURS

As Halloween approaches, children may be eager to go out trick or treating. While this is usually a fun activity, it can be unsettling for some residents who receive unexpected visitors. If you plan to go out, please respect those who do not wish to participate. For those who receive unexpected callers, ensure your door chain or bar is secured before opening the door. Only allow entry to individuals whose identity you are comfortable with. For police assistance, call 101 or dial 999 in an emergency.

FIREWORKS

Although it is only October, fireworks night in early November is fast approaching. Please plan ahead and be considerate of your neighbours and the many pets and animals in the village when setting off fireworks.

ELECTRIC BLANKET TESTING

With autumn and winter approaching, now

MADNews is online: www.madnews.co.uk

is the perfect time to make sure you're ready for the colder nights ahead. Oxfordshire County Council is reminding residents about free electric blanket testing happening across the county this month.

Last year, over 30% of blankets tested by the Council did not pass the safety check – so it's really important to have yours tested before winter. You can book your free electric blanket test today to stay safe and warm this winter on the Oxfordshire County Council website, or by calling 01865 519 800 (and selecting option 4). Dates in October are:

- Tuesday 7th October in Didcot
- Thursday 9th October in Witney
- Friday 10th October in Wantage

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Parish Council has considered the following applications.

P25/V1709/LB and **P1745/HH** Proposed alterations to first floor windows on north elevation at Marcham Park (formerly Denman College). The Council had no comment.

P25/V1846/AG Prior notification of new agricultural track and removal of single bay from existing agricultural building at Manor Farm, Mill Road. The Council had no comment.

P25/V1550/FUL Demolition of existing dwelling and garage and erection of replacement self-build dwelling, separate annexe and garage at Snowdrop Cottage, (formerly Hitchcopse) Cothill Road. The Council was concerned about adequate screening, and it did not wish the annexe to become a separate independent dwelling. The site is very close to Cothill Fen, so the Council sought assurances that drainage from the site would not affect the fen in any way.

DATE OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

The next meeting of the Parish Council is Monday 13th October, 2025 at 7.30p.m. in the village hall. Currently it is planned that a representative from Community First Oxfordshire will give a presentation on community-led housing.

Please check the Council's website in case arrangements change.

Clerk to the Council:

Mrs. L. Martin, 90 Howard Cornish Road

Tel: 01865 391833

clerk@marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk

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This month's cover photo

Pumpkins

by

Dafydd Davies

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MRS HUTCHINSON SAYS GOODBYE

How time flies! It is hard to believe that I have been head at Marcham School for 18 years. It doesn't seem that long ago that I walked into the small, 4 class school with 4 teachers looking at me, expectantly, on the first INSET day. Since then, we have become one-form entry, with a class allocation for each year group, an extension for our reception classroom and an additional classroom block built. When I arrived, I was the only visible minority in school but now we have a board celebrating the heritage and identity of our many pupils whose roots are from all around the world. It is a beautiful and enriching thing. Part of our vision statement talks about our children *"contributing positively to a fast-changing, vibrant society"* and it is hoped that we are beginning to do so and reflect that.

Since 2007, we have been through 6 OFSTED inspections, 4 SIAMS inspections and come out of each of them unscathed and often smiling. But that is not what marks us out or even what drives us. Our vision at Marcham Primary School has evolved over the years but it is embraced by the whole school community and underpins all that we do. It is rooted in our school story – that of Noah's Ark – and our tag-line is *Living and learning with Faith, Community and Hope*. There are many things, as school leader, that have brought me much joy but I have been proudest when I've seen our children giving their learning their best shot (faith), serving those around them (community) and seeing them do things that will make the world a better place (hope). It's what we are about, and I have been delighted when it is seen in action. It is the Marcham way...

It has been an honour to serve as headteacher at Marcham School and doing so has been an enormous part of my life. However, I haven't led alone and I'd like to give a virtual hug to so many of you. Thank you to those who have served as governors or on the PTFA committee, and have given freely and generously of your time and efforts to help the school be the best that it can be. Many of you as parents or members of the community have volunteered and offered time and given help and general assistance, heard children read, run after-school clubs and helped out on school trips and visits. There are also many of you who have contributed to the school's success through simple kind words, deeds or supporting financially by coming to our fayres and fêtes. There are so many people to thank – and I am avoiding mentioning names – but a special mention has to go to Jill Rowe and Nick Weldon for all their dedication, generosity of spirit and willingness to serve. They have helped to maintain the special relationship that exists between the church and the school, which is also a beautiful thing. Lastly, enormous gratitude goes to our school staff for their passion, commitment and fortitude. Day after day, they come with new and renewed enthusiasm to lead, direct and guide the children academically, socially, physically and emotionally. Thank you. There is that saying: **"It takes a village to raise a child"** and I do believe that it has been us all working together that has made Marcham CE Primary School the special place it is.

I have to admit that I'm still in a bit of denial that I am actually leaving: it is strange for me to think that I won't be at Marcham at the start of this academic year. But I have been given the most wonderful send-offs at school: children, ex-pupils, parents, friends of the school and colleagues have said things that have made me feel both humble and special. Your gifts have left me staggered by your generosity and I thank you from the bottom of my heart. I have loved my time and work at Marcham and I too have benefited by seeing my own personal growth and development as I have aimed to promote the growth and development of the school community. I also know that I have made friends for life.

After 18 years, however, it's time for a change - both for the school and for me. The school could not be in safer hands as Lindsay Priddle takes the helm, supported by Emma Callahan, and I am genuinely excited about its future. All the very best is wished for you as parents, friends and supporters; for our dedicated staff and, of course, for our wonderful children who, I pray, will fill the world with light.

VIV HUTCHINSON



October 2025

Marcham and Districts Poppy Appeal 2025

Donation boxes will be located at:

- Marcham Village Shop & Post Office
- The Marcham Centre
- All Saints Church
- The Crown
- Appleton Shop & Post Office
- Budgens (Frilford)



Collection points will be available in Garford village, Local Pubs in Appleton & Eaton as well as Millets and Webbs Garden Centre.

Pin Badges can be reserved/ordered by messaging me on 07342812801 and collected from Longfields in Marcham.

Your support and generosity last year helped us raise just under £5,000 this is a tremendous amount and we thank you in advance for your donations for this years Poppy Appeal. All your donations are invaluable in enabling the Royal British Legion to provide life-long support to serving and ex-serving members of the British Armed Forces and their families.

Thank you

JAMIE BUTCHER

**This years Poppy Appeal will run from 23rd October
With Remembrance Sunday being 9th November**

EXHIBITION



Saturday 18th October 1330-1800
Sunday 19th October 1000-1700

The Marcham Society celebrating 30 years

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THE MIDWEEK WALK

Thursday 2nd October 12.30pm

Please contact walks@marchamsociety.org.uk

THE ASTRONOMY GROUP

Wednesday 15th October at 7.30pm

Small Hall, Marcham Centre, Barrow Close, OX13 6TY

A round-up of astronomy sightings followed by

Close encounters of the telescopic kind by Pat Wallace.

Please contact: astronomy@marchamsociety.org.uk

THE MONTHLY TALK

Monday 27th October at 7.15 for 7.45pm

Main Hall, Marcham Centre, Barrow Close, OX13 6TY

The Port of Wantage

Sem Seaborne

Why would anyone want to bring boats into Wantage and continue doing it for 85 years? This is a story of why the Port was vital and the impact it had on life in Wantage, including some that were unintentional. Discover the effect that canal 'visitors' had in the days when the best faggots in Berkshire could be found at the Jolly Waterman on Wantage Wharf.

The "Port" of Wantage 1810 - 1895



Dr Sem Seaborne is a scientist and volunteer at the Vale & Downland Museum in Wantage. He has researched aspects of Wantage life in the early nineteenth century when the town was known as *Black Wantage*, one of the most depraved and corrupt towns in the south of England!

Members free of charge, Guests welcome at £5

For more information contact
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Monday – Friday: 0830-1700
Saturday: 0830-1200
Sundays & Bank Holidays: Closed

Well, here we are again – the end of the month will see us with ghosts, ghouls, pumpkins and fireworks. It doesn't seem 12 months ago that the kids were trawling the streets and knocking on our doors trick and treating. And, thanks to Guido Fawkes we should be in for some amazing technicolour in the sky (fireworks to you and me).



We try to stock seasonal goods as best as we can, but Hallowe'en and Bonfire Night pose us a challenge. However, we do have limited supplies from 'various' sources (see left) for something different, so come and see for yourselves, before it disappears off the shelves before your very eyes. And, for the trick and treaters, we have bags of sweets at £1 a bag. Come and grab yours before they all go.

On a lighter note, in addition to our lovely, fresh, free-range, local eggs from Billy's farm, we are now trialling his 'triangular' eggs! The eggs themselves are not triangular in shape, just the boxes. However, these eggs are part of his 'Natural and Honest' range. The chickens are free-range and enjoy the same excellent welfare and roam freely in the woodland. They are fed on a natural diet that is free from soy, palm oil, GM ingredients and artificial colours. Billy's Eggs have worked diligently to achieve a net-zero carbon footprint by 2020 and are proud to be accredited by FSC (Forest Stewardship Council). We are delighted that we are able to promote Billy's Eggs and sell them directly to you.



Don't forget that our Post Office offers almost as much as your local bank did. You can withdraw and deposit cash, buy foreign currency, bank your cheques etc, and still buy your stamps and post your parcels. We are pretty flexible and, if we're not sure, we will find a way to help you out. And, if you're driving, we have free parking outside the shop!

We don't really want to go down the 'Christmas' route just yet, but it will soon be upon us. We are constantly looking for new ideas, so watch this space and do check us out. Our shop is quite small, so we are restricted to the amount of produce that we are able to stock and display. However, if you have any ideas or preferences, please do let us know.

We look forward to seeing you soon....

**THANK YOU, AS ALWAYS,
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Autumn and winter bring additional challenges for us all, especially when the hills are covered in snow, the weather conditions close in, the air and water temperatures drop significantly, the winds increase the chill factor and our waterways (rivers, lakes, canals) begin to freeze over. Paddling one of our many waterways, exploring the coastline or venturing into the hills and mountains in winter brings with it a truly unique and rewarding experience but remember that days are short and weather conditions can change quickly....so you need to plan for all conditions.

To 'make your good day better' in winter you will require additional GEAR, SKILLS & KNOWLEDGE and a greater understanding of the WEATHER, beyond those needed in the summertime.

In winter, whether heading out for a walk with the dog; venturing into the hills to walk and/or climb; or braving the coastal or inland waters for a swim, paddle or sail, make sure you ask yourself 3 questions before you set off:

- Do I have the right GEAR?
- Am I confident I have the KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS for the day?
- Do I know what the WEATHER will be like?

Take the AdventureSmart quiz at www.adventuresmart.uk

MARCHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

As the autumn breeze sweeps through the village, Marcham CE Primary School has opened its doors to a new term filled with exciting changes, fresh faces, and an invigorated focus on learning. With the summer break behind us, pupils and staff alike are looking forward to an engaging and productive year ahead.



I have become the new Headteacher at Marcham and am excited to continue to develop the school to be the very best it can be. As a whole, our vision is to further enhance provision through best practice teaching and ensuring our curriculum is inspiring and innovative. Throughout the year we will share some of the exciting learning that takes place within our classrooms.

This year we are placing a strong emphasis on developing positive learning behaviours that encourage our pupils to take ownership of their learning and build strong foundations for life-long learning. These behaviours are not only about academic achievement but also about fostering a growth mindset, responsibility and respect for their own learning and appreciating that of others. We are embracing a new mantra '**REACH for learning**' where each letter represents a learning behaviour we are encouraging; **R – Resilience, E – Enthusiasm, A – Ambition, C – Curiosity, and H – Hard-work.**

Even though we have only just returned to school, we are already look forward and will have **open mornings** for children due to start school in September 2026 on **Wednesday 12th November 2025 at 9.30am or Wednesday 14th January 2026 at 9.30am.** During these open mornings there will be the opportunity to tour the school and listen to a short talk from myself. We also have some spaces within other selected year groups, please do contact the school office (office.3235@marcham.oxon.sch.uk) if you would like to visit the school and discuss available places.

We continue to welcome volunteers from the village, and further afield, to assist with reading, supporting the continued development of our garden area and offering help in a variety of ways. If you are interested in supporting our school, please do get in touch with the school office.

LINDSAY PRIDDLE

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

MARCHAM WI

Monday 20th October

7.30pm at Marcham Centre

Talking Watches

Speaker: Penny Andrews from Bonhams

For our October meeting, we will be welcoming Penny Andrews from Bonhams who will talk about hidden timepieces - watches that don't look like watches.

Penny is Head of Watches, London, at Bonhams, where she leads the department's sales at New Bond Street and Knightsbridge. We are sure she will have some fascinating tales to tell about some unusual watches, so do come along to find out more.

Visitors always welcome

marchamwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk



Don't forget...

Clocks go BACK one hour on 26 October when 2am becomes 1am!




Another brain teaser (mostly) from The Crown, Marcham where there is a weekly quiz every Tuesday. Answers on page 19!

1. What is the name of country residence of the UK Prime Minister?
2. Who was the first female artist to achieve a number one UK single with an entirely self-written song?
3. What is the northernmost Baltic state?
4. What is the white grape variety that originated in the Rhine region?
5. In what year did the RMS Titanic sink in the North Atlantic Ocean?
6. What is the name of the official national airline of Indonesia?
7. What is the highest of the five ranks in the UK peerage?
8. What is the maximum break possible in a standard frame of snooker?
9. What term describes words like 'deed', 'level', and 'rotator' that mirror themselves?
10. Who was the second man to walk on the moon?
11. What is the name of the instrument used to measure atmospheric pressure?
12. Which two countries have won both the FIFA Men's and Women's World Cups to date?



EVENTS



mostly BOOKS

CLARE BALDING
Pastures New

Clare Balding

Monday 3rd November, 7pm
Amey Theatre, Abingdon
Tickets £10 / £25 with book

<https://mostly-books.co.uk/events/>



Oxfordshire Hospices join forces to increase vital 'Gifts in Wills' donations

Three Oxfordshire hospices are joining forces with Hospice UK to encourage people to consider a more accessible way of supporting local end-of-life care services – by leaving a gift in their will.

Sobell House, Helen & Douglas House, and Katharine House say that legacy fundraising - when a person leaves money to a charity in their Will – is an increasingly vital source of revenue and they are now reliant on it to form a significant portion of their overall fundraising income.

The nature of giving to charity via your will means people can make a crucial difference to hospice care in Oxfordshire without it impacting finances now, when many households and families are financially stretched and making charitable contributions can be difficult.

Beth Marsh, Sobell House Hospice Charity's Director of Fundraising said: *"Income from regular donations is increasingly unpredictable. Legacy gifts are an alternative way to give and are vital as demand for hospice services continues to grow. Even the most modest of gifts makes a significant impact. It's not only financial donations - physical items, land, shares and many other assets can be left to a charity in a Will."*

Around 25% of Sobell House's fundraised income currently comes from gifts in Wills. Trustee, Greg Birdseye, made the decision to update his will to include the charity after his wife passed away at the hospice. Greg said: *"My wife Penny was referred to Sobell House after a number of treatments in hospital for lung cancer. After Penny died, I was more than happy to update my Will to include a legacy to the charity. I would encourage anyone to consider doing the same. I've seen first-hand the difference it makes."*

For more information on leaving a gift in your Will to your local hospice go to:

Sobell House sobellhouse.org/wills, call 01865 857007 or email legacies@sobellhospice.org

Helen & Douglas House legacy@helenanddouglas.org.uk, or call 01865 799150

Katharine House legacies@khh.org.uk or call 01295 816484

The Music At The Unicorn (MATU) 2025

programme of acts on Thursdays:

The Lost Trades - 16th October

Chris Fox – 6th November

Knight & Spiers - 20th November

IOTA – 4th December

www.musicattheunicorn.org.uk




SECRETS OF THE SOIL
DIGGING DEEP FOR NATURE'S
RECOVERY

Wild Oxfordshire

Local Environment Groups Conference

SAVE THE DATE
Saturday 8th November 2025
Rose Hill Community Centre

Wild Oxfordshire

Come and join us for Wild Oxfordshire's Local Environment Groups Conference, **Secrets of the Soil: Digging Deep for Nature's Recovery** on Saturday 8th November at Rose Hill Community Centre.

We have some exciting speakers lined up who will talk about the role earthworms play to keep soil healthy, Oxfordshire's changing geology over the last 200 million years, and bees and wasps who nest underground!

Following the conference, we will visit Oxford City Farm to hear about the history of farm, how they approach soil management and composting onsite, no dig, composting veg and grounds with local roastery/care home, grass-lined swales for flood mitigation, hot composting in polytunnel and planned soil sampling through OxFarm2Fork. Places are limited. Please email jessica@wildoxfordshire.org.uk if you are attending the conference and would like to book a spot on the visit.

Follow this link to find for more information and to book your ticket: Secrets of the Soil: Digging Deep for Nature's Recovery. Tickets will be available until the beginning of November.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/secrets-of-the-soil-digging-deep-for-natures-recovery-tickets-1601297787789>

At the very start of the month, our wonderful team of childcare professionals came together for our annual Staff Development Day. It was such a valuable time for us to train, share best practice and reflect on how we can continue to be the very best for our Little Angels.



Since then, we've been busy filling our days with laughter, learning and plenty of adventures. Our Little Angels have loved pulling on their wellies and heading outdoors, whether it's sunshine, rain or even a rumble of thunder in the sky, they've been eager to explore it all. Splashing in muddy puddles has been a favourite pastime, reminding us that joy can be found in every season.

A real highlight has been playing the classic game *What's the Time, Mr Wolf?* in the garden. The giggles have been endless as our Little Angels learnt about patience and taking turns while chasing each other around in the fresh air. Alongside this, we've also been keeping our eyes peeled for the very first signs of autumn creeping in, noticing the changes all around us as the seasons shift.

Indoors, our Little Angels have been busy little chefs, making their very own playdough. They've loved scooping, weighing and mixing ingredients, adding herbs and spices to create exciting new scents and textures, a true feast for the senses.

We've also been kicking off our football fun with **Serious4Sport**, practising ball skills, teamwork and lots of energetic play. Who knows, perhaps we have the next Lionesses or Lions in training among us!

As we move forward, we're all really looking forward to what autumn will bring. From golden leaves to crisp mornings, there's so much more to discover together.

The Marcham Little Angels Team

For more information:

T: 01865 819992

E: info@littleangelschildcaregroup.co.uk

W: www.littleangelschildcaregroup.co.uk

Facebook @MarchamLittleAngels

Instagram @Little_Angels_Childcare_Group

MARCHAM PRE-SCHOOL



September has been a busy month as we settle back our children, welcome in new families as well as introduce and implement our carefully designed curriculum. Our dedicated Curriculum Manager, **Nik** has shown her passion for the natural world, being healthy, inclusion and developing life skills and these are our main focus over the coming term.

The children have been exploring our Wild Patch Forest School area learning how to stay safe as they play, showing great excitement at the discovery of a toad living deep in the woods.



Our Manager, **Nicky** has recently completed a Bowel and Bladder Champions scheme and we are teaching all the children how to keep themselves healthy and maintain good toileting habits. We know that keeping hydrated is essential for a healthy body and so we have introduced a water station to allow the children to drink more, moving on from sipping from bottles to drinking larger quantities from an open cup. Follow our Facebook page for more information about Bowel and Bladder health.



Angi, our Deputy Manager has an interest in supporting children learning English as an Additional Language and we have a range of resources to assist children in making links between their home languages and the English they hear at pre-school.

Lisa continues to explore creativity, allowing the children to use all their senses to investigate, paint, draw, dance and sing! **Hollie** continues to work through her Early Years Apprenticeship and we are incredibly proud of her dedication and willingness to try new things and support the children in her care.

October promises to bring more excitement and incredible learning as we celebrate autumn and harvest, poetry and Percy the Park Keeper!

Applications for September 2026 are now open and we recommend that you apply as soon as possible. Places are limited and will be confirmed in early 2026. Apply by emailing admissions.mps@outlook.com.

Nicky Sanford, Early Years Teacher
 Marcham Pre-school

01865 392101 email marcham-preschool@hotmail.co.uk
www.marcham-preschool.weebly.com

Concerned about a child?

If you're worried about a child, even if you're unsure don't delay... Call the NSPCC helpline and speak to a professional counsellor - you do not have to give your name. Available for advice and support 24/7. Call 0800 800 5000 or email help@nspcc.org.uk www.nspcc.org.uk

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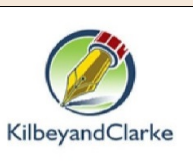
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Does Your Local (to Marcham) Organisation, Society,
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Vicky Hickman Tel No: 07887711454
Email: info@vickysafterschoolclub.co.uk
website: www.vickysafterschoolclub.co.uk

**Playworker Vacancies available
please get in touch for more information**



Marcham Centre

COMMUNITY GRANTS

A reminder that Marcham Community Group (MCG) provides grants to community groups within the village. These grants are totally funded from bar profits generated from the village hall bar. Marcham Community Trading Limited (MCT) manages the bar, with all its staff, including Geoff Dix and Trevor Hill as its Directors, being volunteers. MCT's profits at the end of the year are donated via a Gift Aid arrangement to MCG for the purpose of grant giving.

A total of over £27,000 has been paid out in grants since the awarding of grants commenced in January 2023. These have included grants to the cricket club for about £15,000, including a recent £5,000 towards the purchase of a brand new square roller, replacing the historic 'Big Bertha', which has amazingly performed this task 'year in, year out', despite its decades of work, the survival of every winter, and of course the enjoyment of youngsters who dreamt of one day sitting on her when moving!



Other grants have included £4050 to Marcham School; £3800 to Marcham Football Club; £1450 to Marcham Community Mini-Bus; £1250 to the Church's Children's 'Friday Club' in lieu of room hire at the 'Centre'; £500 to Sweet Briars Resident Association; £300 to the Church's Flower Festival and £250 to the Harmony Inspires choir.

MCG and MCT are keen to receive new grant applications from any groups. As the above shows, the grant applied for can be as little or as much as needed. The fund has a considerable sum set aside, including further profits from the bar for the 2024-25 financial year. These profits are to a large extent generated by you, so it's only right and proper that these are used by community groups to support activities within the village.

An application form can be arranged by contacting coordinator@marchamcentre.org

MARCHAM COMMUNITY GROUP AGM AND OPEN MEETING – THURSDAY 16 OCTOBER AT 7.30PM

MCG, the charity running Marcham Centre under a long lease from Marcham Parish Council, is holding its AGM on Thursday 16 October in the small hall at Marcham Centre.

This is an opportunity for local people to find out how the facility is run and used, its finances and how the facility may evolve in the future. Although only MCG members will be able to vote in the AGM part of the meeting (which is a relatively short time), there will be a Q&A session open for everyone.

We therefore look forward to welcoming as many residents as possible, irrespective whether you want to become more involved in the future. Though, of course, we would love fresh input and impetus from as many as would like to help.

EVENTS

Friday 24 October – **Quiz Night** in the main hall. Adults only. 7.30pm for prompt 8pm start. Questions are structured to include everyone's knowledge and interests. We look forward

to seeing our usual teams of contestants, along with hopefully some new faces. Individuals can be easily added to teams, so you don't have to organise a team yourself (though that would be great), just turn up.

Indoor Short Mat Bowls – Wednesdays at 2pm

These are held in the main hall of the Centre every Wednesday, commencing at 2pm. Contact Colin (c_trinder@btinternet.com) to give this popular past-time a 'go' or just turn up on any Wednesday. Whether you are an existing bowler or entirely new to the sport, this is a good opportunity to meet new friends in a very relaxed environment.

Colin looks forward to seeing you.

SKY SPORTS IN THE BAR

The bar will be showing football matches throughout the winter months, covering Premier matches as well as some Oxford United games (depending on Sky coverage).

Coverage of Premier games will usually involve matches kicking off at 5.30pm on Saturdays and 2pm and 4.30pm on Sundays, though these times will vary depending on Sky. Other coverage will take place outside of these times if desired.

All matches to be shown will be advertised in the bar and weekly on the Marcham Village Facebook Page. Everyone welcome, irrespective of your team allegiance! We look forward to seeing you in the bar.

Opening Times

Wednesdays	7pm until 11pm
Fridays	5pm until 11pm
Saturdays	3pm until 10.30pm
Sundays	Midday until 6pm

The bar staff look forward to seeing you.

Marcham Centre, Barrow Close, Marcham OX13 6TY
enquiries@marchamcentre.org www.marchamcentre.org

Operated by Marcham Community Group (MCG)

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www.bnb-rafters.co.uk

Join us and discover
a place to relax

SPORT REPORT

As we approach the end of the cricket and Aunt Sally season, and the beginning of the football season there is much to consider.

FOOTBALL

Great Expectations After the success of Marcham's footballers at the end of last season we are hoping that they will at least match if not exceed their triumphs. We wish them well in their future endeavours. *Thanks to Dan and Zoe Barnes for the following report:*

Marcham Football Club is looking forward to another season. This year the club has grown to include a men's first team and reserves team playing on a Saturday afternoon with games kicking off at 2. It would be great to see people coming down to support and the bar is invariably open for half time and post-game refreshments

The Colts have a new u7s and u9s team starting in the Oxfordshire youth league with more than 150 children having the opportunity to play football competitively for the village. Mini football for 2 years and up is off and running with all welcome. Information for this can be found on the Facebook page, Marcham Colts Mini Football.

CRICKET

Since the last MADNews Marcham first team have won two, lost one and there has been one abandoned match (reason unknown). Marcham second team have lost 4 games – sometimes by a narrow margin. *Thanks to Matt Ainsworth for his summary of the season:*

It's been a mixed season for Marcham's cricketers. The first team consolidated last season's promotion by finishing 7th in a tightly fought league and provided a strong foundation for next year. This season's fixtures have seen several close, competitive games of cricket with narrow results decided by a handful of runs or the fall of a single wicket.

Despite the second team finishing at the wrong end of the table games have been tighter than previous seasons, and the twos secured two memorable wins. Furthermore, the team demonstrated fantastic spirit, with some much improved batting and bowling displays to build on for next season.

Off the pitch the club secured funding, via the Anson Trust and Marcham Community Group, to purchase a replacement for the much loved "Bertha". With such a show of support from the local community the club hopes to continue to grow over the coming seasons.

AUNT SALLY

At the time of writing the final round of Aunt Sally takes place on 10th September. If a report appears on the website before the MADNews deadline (15th of the month) it will be included.

I rely on Roger Nichols (<https://abingdonauntsally.com/summer-league-2025-now-its-all-over-all-been-said-and-now-its-done/>) for the following exciting news:

' ... E section which is another section going right to the wire this week. Bystander currently lead the table by just 1 point from Marcham Centre A and the Waggon & Horses. Hanney RBL still have a theoretical chance of claiming one of the 2 top spots, but to do that they will have to win 6-0 at home to Marcham Centre this week and that, in turn would deny Marcham their hopes for top spot.'

and

' ... F section has been led for most of the season by Grove RFC and they just need 4 points from this week's home tie against Marcham Centre B to secure the F section title.'

As might be guessed from the previous information, Marcham A have won all their games since last reported, sadly Marcham B lost all theirs. Marcham Crown A lost 3 and won 1 and Marcham Crown B won 2, lost 1 and drew 1.

THE CROWN SECOND AUNT SALLY TEAM

From left back row: Allan, Adam, Stuart, Simon, Andy, Phil, Paul
Front row L – R Sam, Jamie, Glen, Andy, Tom.

Jamie Butcher reports: We had a great first season, captained by Jamie and we finished a respectable 7th in the F league out of 10 other pubs with a total of 495 dolls hit, Top doll scorer Sam Coughlan with 79 dolls. 7 Wins, 3 Draws and 8 losses.... Bring on 2026!

Thirsty Community Café

Thirsty Community Cafe continues with our twice weekly cafe session at the Marcham Centre on Wednesday and Saturday. Natural Bread is with us every Saturday morning, serving freshly baked goods.



Upcoming on Saturday the 18th of October, Thirsty are launching a new, truly local event on the patio of the Marcham Centre! From 9am to midday, come and visit our brand new local market – run by local people, offering local produce. We will also have a community craft table, so if you are a local crafter and would like to have something displayed, please get in touch via Facebook or email.

Our upcoming October dates are as follows:

- Stay and play on Wednesday 1st October
- Community lunch on Wednesday 15th October
- Local farmers' market on Saturday 18th October
- Games cafe on Wednesday 22nd October

We are closed on the 29th October.

If you are planning to come to community lunch, we would greatly appreciate it if you let us know via our Facebook page.

As ever, we are always eagerly accepting new volunteers. If you are interested in helping out as a chef or barista, washing up or taking orders out front, or simply just giving a hand setting up / packing down, please reach out to hello@thirstycafemarcham.co.uk and Nicci or Sasha will get back to you. We are very flexible with our dates and times!

Website: www.thirstycafemarcham.co.uk

E-mail: hello@thirstycafemarcham.co.uk

Facebook: <https://facebook.com/thirstycafemarcham>

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EVENTS



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Hours: 7.5-15 hours per week
Salary: £16.33 per hour

- Are you looking for a rewarding role working with disabled children and their families?
- Would you enjoy working within a small, friendly and dedicated team?
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A medical, nursing, childcare background desirable.

If so this unique and varied role might be for you!

Flexicare is an Oxfordshire based charity providing a home sitting service for families with severely disabled children. A sit typically involves a 2-4 hour period supporting a disabled child usually with their home setting or in the community.

If you are interested in applying for this post, please email a copy of your CV and a covering letter to: admin@flexicare.org. For an informal chat phone Maureen Tossi on 07342 041388. A full job description is available on our website at www.flexicare.org/work-with-us

This vacancy does not have a formal closing date, it will remain open until a suitable candidate is appointed.

www.flexicare.org
Registered Charity no. 1172635



Games Morning

Enjoy a chat over a friendly game of
Scrabble, Mexican Train dominoes,
Rummikub,...



All welcome!

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No charge (optional small donation for
coffee/tea/biscuits)



The Arts Society Abingdon LECTURE

**Wednesday 15th October,
10.30am and 2.00pm
Abbey Cinema, Abbey Close,
Abingdon OX14 3JD**

The Baroque Country House Amy Lim

Many of Britain's best loved houses were created during the 'Baroque' period. Visiting some of the most iconic houses of the period, including Chatsworth, Petworth, and Blenheim, we will meet the patrons who created them, and look at some of the highlights of their sumptuous interiors, gardens and collections.

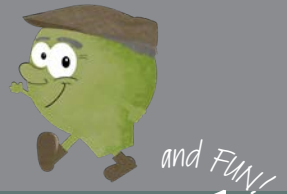


Dr Amy Lim is an art historian and curator, specialising in British fine and decorative arts from the seventeenth to twentieth centuries. She is curator of the Faringdon Collection at Buscot Park, Oxfordshire, and of the Stanley Spencer Gallery, Cookham.

The talk will be held at The Abbey Cinema at 10.30 and 2pm. Visitors are very welcome to attend this lecture, cost £6.00. Lectures last 1 hour but allow extra time for announcements. For more information on future lectures and other activities see theartsocietyabingdon.org.uk or email info@theartsocietyabingdon.org.uk

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The Autumnal Gossip of the Wasp Nest

By a nosy garden gnome with excellent hearing



As September tiptoes in wearing a scarf and sipping pumpkin-spiced everything, the wildlife garden begins its annual transformation. Flowers fade into dramatic seed heads like ageing rock stars, leaves burst into autumn colours as if auditioning for a foliage fashion show, and the days grow shorter — because even the sun needs a nap.

But while humans are busy Instagramming coloured leaves and debating whether it's too early for mulled wine, something far more scandalous is happening in the wasp nest.

Yes, that papery penthouse tucked under your shed roof is not just a buzzing nuisance — it's a hotbed of autumnal secrets.

Secret #1: The Queen's Retirement Plan. By October, the reigning queen has stopped laying eggs and is sipping fermented fruit like a tipsy monarch at a harvest festival. She's done her bit. Her legacy? A battalion of grumpy worker wasps with no job security and a sugar addiction. They now spend their days gate-crashing picnics and interrogating your jam sandwich.

Secret #2: Indian Summer Shenanigans. A warm spell in late September — classic Indian summer — confuses everyone. Wasps think it's spring again and start redecorating the nest. "Let's expand the nursery!" they buzz, ignoring the fact that winter is basically peeking through the curtains. Meanwhile, the garden's confused daffodils pop up like, "Did we miss something?"

Secret #3: The Great Leaf Conspiracy. Coloured leaves aren't just pretty — they're nature's way of distracting you from the fact that your lawn is now currently 80% of the compost heap. The wasps, however, see them as camouflage. They hold secret meetings beneath maple leaves, plotting their final sugar raids before November turns them into frozen garden confetti.

Secret #4: Seed Head Surveillance. As flowers fade, seed heads become the new hangout spots. Wasps perch on them like tiny bouncers, watching the seasonal cycles unfold. "Oi, that squirrel's back," one mutters. "He's burying acorns again. Classic." The seed heads, meanwhile, whisper among themselves about which plants will make it to spring and which are just pretending.

Secret #5: The Harvest Festival Heist. Every year, the local wildlife garden hosts a harvest festival. There are apples, cider, and enough baked goods to feed a small village. Wasps treat it like Ocean's Eleven. They coordinate aerial manoeuvres, distract toddlers with decoy buzzing, and make off with half a pear tart before anyone notices.

The Final Buzz. By November, the nest is quiet. The workers have succumbed to cold nights and existential dread. The new queens have flown off to hibernate in your attic insulation. The cycle resets. And while you rake leaves to add more variety to the compost heap, and sip tea, the secrets of the wasp nest remain tucked away — until next year, when the gossip begins anew.

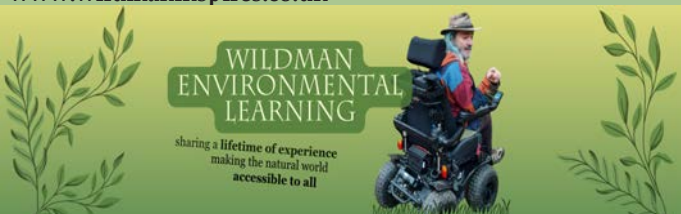
So next time you admire the autumn colours or marvel at the seed heads in your wildlife garden, remember: somewhere nearby, a wasp is judging your snack choices and planning its next move.

And honestly? It's probably winning.

Happy Gardening!

Stuart Mabbutt, Wildlife Gardening Specialist
01865 747243

www.wildmaninspires.co.uk



ALL SAINTS' & ST LUKE'S CHURCHES

www.marcham-with-garford.org.uk

The annual season of remembrance is approaching. There will be a **Service of Light for Loved Ones** at St Luke's Garford at 6pm on Sunday 2nd November with Revd Prebendary Jane Haslam. This will be a time of quiet reflection and prayer for the bereaved. A week later there will be services on **Remembrance Sunday** (9th November), starting at 10am at All Saints Church Marcham, concluding at the wayside cross at 11am, and in Garford at the village war memorial at 12 noon. All welcome.

But additionally this autumn, we will be commemorating an event that happened 1700 years ago at Nicaea, an ancient city in present day Turkey. In 325AD, about 250 church leaders from across the world came together for the First Ecumenical Council. They sought to resolve disputes about the identity and ministry of Jesus, who had become, and remains to this day, the most influential person in history. They studied the Scriptures, prayed and debated for nearly three months, after which the Nicene Creed was written, one of the foundational statements of Christian belief. It is still shared across most Christian traditions, and is repeated in Christian gatherings all over the world to this day. Not many things have stood the test of time quite like that. On Wednesday 12th November Revd Dr Justyn Terry from Wycliffe Hall Oxford will give a talk at All Saints Church on *The Nicene Creed – historical and theological importance for today*. All welcome, church-goers and non. See www.marcham-with-garford.org.uk for further details

Contacts:

Revd. Nick Weldon Vicar vicar@allsaintsmarcham.org 01865 391962

Rob Finch Youth Worker youth@allsaintsmarcham.org

Jill Rowe Children & Families minister families@allsaintsmarcham.org

Tamsin Gilbert Parish Administrator info@allsaintsmarcham.org

Website: www.marcham-with-garford.org.uk

Regular Sunday services at AS

10.30am: Morning Service • 6pm: Evening Service

Wednesday Holy Communion 10.30am at Duffield Place

ST LUKE'S, GARFORD

St Luke's is open for quiet prayer 11am-12pm on Sundays with no morning service.

Sunday 5 October, 11am Communion Service led by Revd. Campbell Paget

Sunday 2 November, 6pm Service of Light for Loved Ones led by Revd. Preb. Jane Haslam

Sunday 9 November, 12 noon Remembrance Service, Garford War Memorial

Sunday 21 December, 5pm Carol Service

In a year of heightened difficulty for farmers, the well attended Harvest Festival service on 7th September offered both a moment of reflection on the challenges and the thankful celebration of harvest. This point in the Christian year always feels particularly meaningful in Garford, given the rural setting of the church which sits cheek by jowl with the farmyard and bears quiet witness to the busy rhythm of the farm.

With the mellowing and changing of the seasons we look forward to the poignancy of upcoming services and welcome you all to join us at St. Luke's.

Contact: st.lukes@allsaintsmarcham.org



DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

DALTON BARRACKS REDEVELOPMENT

I expect most residents are aware that the land at Dalton Barracks is due for redevelopment into a "Garden Village" once the military vacate the site in a few years' time; public engagement events were held, including at the Marcham Centre, in November last year. With the outputs of the engagement now largely complete, the Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) and their partners are preparing for the next steps:



1) An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping report is expected soon, which is a precursor to the actual EIA report. The purpose of EIA Scoping is to identify key issues to be assessed in detail, which could include impacts on biodiversity, local flood risk, and visual appearance. It's worth noting that the EIA Scoping will be written in the context of the "worst case scenario", and not necessarily what is planned, so please don't panic when this is eventually published!

2) The key themes that emerged from the public engagement were around land use (amenities & open spaces) and movement (road traffic & active travel). The DIO are organising workshops to explore these topics in more detail; these won't be open to the public but rather will be attended by a small group of representatives, including me. If you have any particular questions or opinions you'd like me to raise during these workshops then please contact me, preferably via email.

A415 AIR POLLUTION

Residents living around the A415 through Marcham are likely aware that the area is designated as an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA), due to the volumes of traffic travelling through a relatively enclosed space. Sensors have been in place for several years and show a steady decrease in pollution levels, but I know from many residents that this trend does not reflect their lived experience, especially around the tight bend on Packhorse Lane. The national legislation around AQMAs is clear that they must be formally revoked after a certain time of such decreases, but this does not necessarily mean that the sensors must be removed: I have managed to secure an agreement from the Vale's Environmental Services team that they will remain in place and be monitored for the foreseeable future, regardless of the status of the AQMA.

CLLR DR ROBERT CLEGG

District Councillor for Marcham Ward

Phone: 07784 225290

Email: robert.clegg@whitehorsedc.gov.uk

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Starting with an issue outside of the division but one that will no doubt have a significant impact on local residents. At a meeting of the Oxfordshire County Council Cabinet on Wednesday 10th September, the Liberal Democrat administration approved plans to introduce a temporary Congestion Charge in Oxford. This was despite a recent consultation on the subject, to which more than 7,000 people responded, indicating that two-thirds of residents opposed such a scheme. Even more frustrating was the fact that as local councillors – elected to represent our communities – we were not even given a vote on such a controversial scheme. Under the plans, which will come into effect by early November, users will be charged £5 for driving through a number of zones in and around the city centre. There are various exemptions to the scheme and a number of permits available for local residents, so do be sure to check how it will impact you by visiting the County Council's website www.oxfordshire.gov.uk.



Turning to local issues, at the meeting of full council in September

I questioned the Cabinet Member for Transport Management on two road issues facing the local area: the delayed A338 Frilford Lights Scheme and the planned safety review of the A415 through Frilford and Marcham. On the former, it was confirmed that a report detailing options for the scheme should (finally) be completed by the end of September, so I will provide a further update once this has been finalised.

On the safety review of the A415, I was told this should be finalised towards the end of the year with proposals being brought forward for consultation shortly thereafter. I also pressed on the possibility of introducing a weight limit for HGVs along the A415 and was able to get the Cabinet Member to agree to meet with me to discuss the feasibility of conducting a study into this, which I will keep residents updated on.

As always, a big thank you to residents who continue to raise issues with me, however big or small. Please do keep sending in casework and if you'd like to stay up to date with what I'm doing around our division, do follow me on Facebook where I post regular updates:

www.facebook.com/JamesRPlumb

JAMES PLUMB

County Councillor for Marcham and Cumnor

Email: james.plumb@oxfordshire.gov.uk

MP'S REPORT

BOTLEY WEST SOLAR PROPOSAL

Many residents have written in about this proposal and we continue to raise serious concerns about the size and scale of this proposed solar farm, which would see large areas of Green Belt and agricultural land impacted in Cumnor parish.

The Planning Inspectorate, rightly asking the developer a significant number of questions about the proposal, particularly in relation to the Southern Site in the parish. We were disappointed that the Planning Inspectorate rejected requests for a full site visit to the Southern Site at Farmoor Valley, but we welcome their decision to visit Hill End Outdoor Education Centre, which provides valuable learning and outdoor education activities for children across Cumnor and more widely across Oxfordshire. There will be Open Hearings for anyone who wishes to attend or follow these on Wednesday 8 to Friday 10th October 2025. More about these hearings can be found on the Planning Inspectorate website <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN010147>

ABINGDON SEWAGE WORKS VISIT

Thames Water continues to cause much concern to many residents – both for their track record in keeping our rivers clean but also the alarming increases in bills. In July, Layla visited Abingdon Water Treatment Works with local councillors and Thames Water representatives to see how sewage should be managed when systems are properly resourced. Rubbish is filtered out, water is carefully treated through a series of tanks, and microbes are used to safely clean the water before it is released back into local watercourses. However, heavy rainfall can overwhelm facilities like this, leading to sewage spills. It's clear that we need to invest more in our water treatment infrastructure and press our water providers to focus on fixing the leaks and stopping the sewage discharges. On the visit, Thames Water explained the practical steps we can all take – primarily, making sure we only flush the '3 Ps' down our toilets (pee, poo, and paper).

OUR LADY'S ABINGDON CLOSURE

Like many local families, we were shocked at the suddenness of the closure of Our Lady's Abingdon, and appreciate just how worrying it is for families trying to secure school places at short notice during the summer holidays. Oxfordshire County Council were quick to respond, and the schools admissions teams have been working hard to help secure new school places. We have written to the Secretary of State at the Department for Education raising concerns about how this situation was handled, and calling for stronger regulation around independent school closures, to ensure that families are better protected in future.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANISATION

There are currently three proposals being developed for how local

government in Oxfordshire could be reorganised. One would create a single countywide unitary, replacing all six councils with a single authority. This is being promoted by Oxfordshire County Council.

A second option would create two unitaries- a North Oxfordshire Council (Cherwell, Oxford City and West Oxfordshire) and a Ridgeway Council (South Oxfordshire, Vale of White Horse, and West Berkshire). This is being promoted by the Vale of White Horse District Council.

The third would create three unitaries, with Oxford City on expanded boundaries and separate northern and southern councils (including West Berkshire). This is being promoted by Oxford City Council, though it doesn't appear to be a very good fit with the Government's criteria. The councils have each carried out informal public consultations and will be submitting their detailed cases to the Government later this year. There will then be formal consultation with the public before a final decision is made next year.

HALVING YOUR ENERGY BILLS

Energy bills remain a huge challenge for households. The Liberal Democrats are campaigning nationally to halve bills by 2035, focusing on making homes cheaper to heat and fixing the way energy prices are set so consumers benefit fairly.

In the meantime, residents can find practical advice on reducing energy use and costs via the Vale of White Horse District Council's support page: [How to reduce your energy use and costs](#).

As ever, if you have any issues we can help with, please email us at: layla.moran.mp@parliament.uk

For regular updates you can follow me Bluesky: [@laylamoran.bsky.social](#) Facebook: LaylaMoranUK




OTHER REPRESENTATIVES DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Frilford Garford Jill Rayner jill.rayner@whitehorsedc.gov.uk

Tubney Mark Coleman mark.coleman@whitehorsedc.gov.uk
MP

Witney (for Frilford, Garford and most of Tubney)
Charlie Maynard charlie.maynard.mp@parliament.uk



GROUP AGAINST RESERVOIR DEVELOPMENT

GARD is a local community group formed to campaign against Thames Water's proposals to build a reservoir south-west of Abingdon.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

JOIN GARD and HELP with fundraising. With the latest developments (including costs spiralling to over £7 billion), GARD must campaign hard now, researching and planning to contest the Development Consent Order.

ACTION: Please assist us with money to do this. Just one example, to commission a report from our consultant on Thames Water's submission to RAPID (delivered August 15th, in which the cost increases were revealed) will cost us £10,000. Please go to our website to donate [Group Against Reservoir Development | GARD](#)

ACTION: Write to your MP and your Councillors, and to the new DEFRA Secretary of State Emma Reynolds emma.reynolds.mp@parliament.uk The Leader of the VWHDC has issued a statement opposing the planned reservoir, shocked at the cost rise. OCC is in supportive talks with GARD. Our District Councillor Sally Povolotsky has issued a statement. We are encouraging all Parish Councils to voice their opposition – or even better – to join forces to voice their collective opposition. Details and emails are on our website: [Group Against Reservoir Development | GARD](#)

WHAT IS GARD DOING?

RAPID: GARD is replying to the latest Thames Water submission: the RAPID Gate 3 consultation about the mega-reservoir. Thames Water revealed the huge rise in costs here.. Councils are also replying to this.

DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER: the Consultation on Thames Water's application for a DCO will be published soon. Individuals can reply to this consultation and GARD will publish details once they are known (see website).

CAMPAIGNING: new directions for the campaign are emerging.

Payment methods for Membership or Donations Bank transfer to Group Against Reservoir Development Account Number: 71266438 Sort Code: 40-45-36 Please include your name as a reference & email gard.secretary@gmail.com

DEREK STORK, Chairman GARD.

For more information www.gard-oxon.org.uk
Facebook: [@abingdonreservoir](#), Twitter [@GARD_OXON](#)



Kennington Memory Club



Providing safe and supportive day care for people with dementia and respite for their carers

Scan Me

Kennington Memory Club Blog for October

Have you noticed? This late summer and early autumn has been a particularly abundant one for all fruits, be they apples, pears, blackberries, sloes, rowan berries, conkers or acorns. The ground is littered with windfalls and nuts, and the branches of trees are bowed down with the sheer weight of the fruit they are carrying. In some cases branches have even broken off as they cannot support their load. As a carer for a loved one with dementia, it sometimes feels as though one is under such a heavy burden. Well before that breaking point comes is the time to consider whether attendance at Kennington Memory Club would give the breathing space and respite so necessary for a carer to be able to continue in their role. The person with dementia has a fun day in different surroundings, meeting up with people who become familiar and trusted, and enjoying a variety of activities, games, reminiscences and music – all the time providing the necessary break for their carer. For more information, please visit the website, www.kenningtonmemoryclub.org.uk or contact the Club Organiser, Kay, by email organiser@kenningtonmemoryclub.org.uk or telephone 07852 883496 (if no reply, please leave a message). It might just be the catalyst to make those with dementia and their carers feel less like the 'forgotten army'...

Isobel Birse *Chairman, Kennington Memory Club*

www.kenningtonmemoryclub.org.uk



CRIMESTOPPERS

0800 555 111

Call anonymously with information about crime

Tell them what you know, not who you are

Answers to this month's Crown Quiz from page 7

1. Chequers or Chequers Court in Buckinghamshire
2. Kate Bush debut single *Wuthering Heights* in 1978
3. The northernmost Baltic state is Estonia
4. Riesling
5. April 15, 1912, during its maiden voyage from Southampton to New York City
6. Garuda Indonesia
7. Duke
8. 147
9. Palindrome
10. Edwin Eugene Aldrin, Jr also known Buzz Aldrin
11. Barometer
12. Germany and Spain



OCTOBER 2025

The number in brackets refers to the page number where you can find more details

Abbreviations:

AS All Saints' Church, Marcham, **SL** St Luke's Church, Garford

DP Duffield Place, **MC** Marcham Centre

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 MC Thirsty Cafe with Slay & Play 9-11.30am (15) DP Holy Communion 10.30am (17) MC Short Mat Bowls 2pm (13)	2 Milleets Farm Classic car meet 9.30am-noon Marcham Society Midweek Walk 12.30pm (7)	3	4 MC Thirsty Cafe with Natural Bread 9-11.30am (15)
5 AS Morning Service 10.30am (17) SL Communion Service 11am (17) AS Evening Service 6pm (17)	6 DP Community Games Group (16) 10.30-12.00 MC Bridge 6.50pm	7 Electric blanket testing (3)	8 MC Thirsty Cafe 9-11.30am (15) DP Holy Communion 10.30am (17) MC Short Mat Bowls 2pm (13)	9 Electric blanket testing (3)	10 Electric blanket testing (3)	11 MC Thirsty Cafe with Natural Bread 9-11.30am (15)
12 AS Morning Service 10.30am (17) AS Evening Service 6pm (17)	13 DP Community Games Group (16) 10.30-12.00 MC Bridge 6.50pm MC Marcham Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm (3)	14	15MADNEWS DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE MC Thirsty Cafe 9-11.30am (15) DP Holy Communion 10.30am (17) MC Community Lunch 12-1.30pm (11) MC Short Mat Bowls 2.30pm (13) MC Astronomy Group 7.30pm (7) Arts Society Abingdon 10.30am & 2pm (16)	16 MATU- The Lost Trades (10)	17 Electric blanket testing (3)	18 MC Thirsty Cafe with Natural Bread & Local Market 9am-12noon (15) MC Marcham Uncovered 1.30-6 pm (5)
19 AS Morning Service 10.30am (17) MC Marcham Uncovered 10am-5 pm (5) MC Craft and Gift Fair 10am-5 pm (5) AS Evening Service 6pm (17)	20 DP Community Games Group (16) 10.30-12.00 MC Bridge 6.50pm MC Marcham WI 7.30pm (9)	21	22 MC Thirsty Cafe with Games and Puzzles 9-11.30am (15) DP Holy Communion 10.30am (17) MC Short Mat Bowls 2pm (13)	23  ROYAL BRITISH LEGION Poppy Appeal starts (5)	24 MC Quiz Night 7.30pm (13)	25 MC Thirsty Cafe with Natural Bread 9-11.30am (15)
26 Clocks back 1 hour 	27 DP Community Games Group (16) 10.30-12.00 MC Bridge 6.50pm MC Marcham Society 7.15pm (7)	28	29 MC Thirsty Cafe CLOSED (15) DP Holy Communion 10.30am (17) MC Short Mat Bowls 2pm (13)	30	31 Halloween	

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