

MAD News

www.madnews.co.uk



Cothill - Frilford - Garford - Gozzards Ford - Marcham - Tubney

November 2026 Vol 48 No. 11

Your Independent Local News Source



GARDEN & HOUSE SERVICES



Oxford Wood Recycling

We have your DIY wood needs covered - timber, tool hire, friendly advice and low prices.

"Simple, easy and makes the world a better place."
Morgan, Wood Shop customer



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



- Scarification • Hollow Tining
- Lawn Aeration • Over Seeding
- Top Dressing • Weed Removal
- Moss Control • Professional Service



Contact Steve:
07894 983801 / 01865 331501
cotswolds@greensleeves-uk.com



Professional Tree Management throughout Oxfordshire

Tree removal
Crown thinning
Crown reduction and lifting
Sectional tree removals
Fruit tree pruning
Stump grinding
Hedge cutting

Seasoned logs and kindling delivered
£5M Public Liability Insurance
All work carried out to BS 3998:2010



Proud members of
Checkatrade.com
Where reputation matters



andrew@admtrees.co.uk
01865 391859
@admtrees

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

Shaun Guard TV AERIAL & WIFI SERVICES

- Aerials - supplied, repaired and poor reception solved
- Satellite - Sky Q dish upgrades, discreet dish installations
- WiFi - blackspots cured, internal & external data cabling
- TVs - hung on your wall or set up & tuned

OXFORD AERIALS

www.oxfordaerials.co.uk shaun@oxfordaerials.co.uk

Call us on 01235 642689

DIRTY CARPETS, UPHOLSTERY, RUGS



Most carpets dry within the hour
Unbeatable results, removes almost all spots & stains

GRIMEBUSTERS

**OXFORD
ABINGDON
WITNEY**

**01865 726983
01235 555533
01993 868924**

www.grimebusters.co.uk



Oxfordshire Mould and Damp Services

a good honest and reliable firm
Call today for a free estimate **07885 882689**

Small Jobs Welcome • Discount for OAPs
Tel: 01865 392106 • Mobile 07885 882689
oxfordshireroofing@yahoo.co.uk

Hi Everyone,

November has a lot to think about,
Lest We Forget, Remembrance Day and
Guy Fawkes night.

PUBLISHER / EDITOR

Kay McKeown

c/o Marcham Village Shop
16 North Street, Marcham OX13 6NG

Email: editor@madnews.co.uk

Website: www.madnews.co.uk

ADVERTISING

Fran Russell & Katsuaki Inoue

At adverts@madnews.co.uk

*Adverts are not endorsed and MADNews makes
no guarantees as to accuracy or authenticity.*

DISTRIBUTORS

Kirstie Phipps and Simon Talbot

PROOFREADING

The MADNews Team

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.

© Marcham & District News 2026

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

POLICE

PCSO Rich Osborn C9323 for Marcham

Richard.Osborn@thamesvalley.police.uk

Tel: 07980 924693

Or just dial 101 (non-emergency) and omit
the C from his number to leave a message.

CRIMESTOPPERS

Call 0800 555 111 (anonymous calls)

NHS NON-EMERGENCY

Call Free from any phone - 111

COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Marcham and Cumnor

James Plumb

Tel: 07779 386205

Email: james.plumb@oxfordshire.gov.uk

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Marcham and Shippon

Robert Clegg, 42 Harding Way, Marcham,
OX13 6FJ Tel: 07784 225290

Email: robert.clegg@whitehorsedc.gov.uk

Other DCs

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

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

MP

Layla Moran layla.moran.mp@parliament.uk

MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

8TH NOVEMBER

The Parish Council has applied to the Vale of White Horse District Council for a Road Closure Order on Sunday 8th November, to close New Road, Church St and the section of the A415 between North St and Church St between 10.30 a.m. and 12.15 p.m. to permit the parade from the Church to the war memorial for wreaths to be laid after the service in Church. The roads, may not necessarily be closed for the full duration of the Order. The diversion route will be Sheepstead Road, Faringdon Road and the A338

WHITE HORSE RESERVOIR SURVEY RESIDENTS' QUESTIONNAIRE

A Vale of White Horse District Councillor wishes to collect views of residents from the 9 parishes close to the reservoir site, and has developed a survey to give local residents in these areas an opportunity to share their views on the reservoir, and its potential impacts such as construction and traffic, flooding and water quality, wildlife and landscape, wider water-supply proposals, effect on homes, and the business costs involved. This is independent of any consultation undertaken by Thames Water. Marcham Parish Council has agreed to publicise the survey. The link to the survey can be found at

<https://ee-eu.kobotoolbox.org/x/fXVdNek>

ANSON FIELD LITTER BINS

FOR DOG FAECES

Further to the report in the September issue that there was a proposal to install 2 new litter bins in the Anson field, these have now been ordered and hopefully will be installed in a few weeks' time.

Football season is here and we kindly remind residents that dog fouling on playing fields is unacceptable and poses health risks especially to the sports teams and children who play in the area. Please take dog waste bags with you when out exercising your dog, and pick up after your dog immediately, disposing of waste in the nearest appropriate bin. Let's keep our playing fields clean, safe, and enjoyable for everyone. Your cooperation makes a big difference.

OXFORD CONGESTION CHARGE

It is understood that residents may be receiving letters from Oxfordshire County Council regarding the old congestion charge, even though they held a valid permit.

Some congestion charge permits were affected on 27th September by a technical issue at the time of the switch to the new traffic filter scheme. The County Council is endeavouring to contact those affected directly to cancel any fine issued. However, if you are someone that has received a penalty notice which was incorrectly sent, please do contact the County Council yourself.

PARKING

Cllr. James Plumb is looking to identify locations where on street parking was causing issues such as obstruction to vision, or hazards. If you know of any issues then please contact him. Remember, according

to the Highway Code you should not stop or park near a school entrance, at or near a bus stop, opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction, or where the kerb has been lowered to help wheelchair users and powered mobility vehicles, in front of an entrance to a property, or on a bend.

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING

The Parish Council is supporting the District Council's christmas tree recycling scheme. More in December.

GARDEN WASTE 4TH NOVEMBER

Reminder - Please remember that during the Christmas period, garden waste collections are suspended to allow crews to focus on collecting all extra waste. Therefore, if you are a garden waste permit holder, you will be able to have extra garden waste collected on Wednesday 4th November, your normal collection day. You can put out a maximum of four additional sacks of garden waste per brown bin subscription, next to your brown bin. To be eligible for a collection:

- only present garden waste, such as cut grass, plants or small branches as set out in the garden waste service terms and conditions;
- please use standard sized (60L) black refuse-style sacks with a combined total no more than a standard bin when its full.

Crews will only collect up to a maximum of four sacks per household. Additional sacks will not be emptied.

FIREWORKS

Again, the annual reminder for those of you who may have purchased fireworks and intend letting them off in your garden, please be considerate for neighbours, the many pets and animals, and wildlife in the village. Please notify others when any fireworks are going to be lit so that villagers are aware and arrangements can be made to keep pets indoors.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

The Parish Council has considered application P26/V3639/FUL Dalton Barracks. Which is for temporary permission for allowing car boot sales, airsoft games, bicycle race days, electric vehicle testing, formula E testing, flying model aircraft, and testing of laser and radar systems and storage for a period of 3 years. The Council appreciated that these activities had already been taking place in one form or another. It did not have any objections as such, but did ask for traffic impact and noise to be taken into account.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 9th November 2026 at 7.30pm at Marcham Centre. **Please check the Council's website as arrangements may change.**

Clerk to the Council:

Mrs. L. Martin, 90 Howard Cornish Road

Tel: 01865 391833

clerk@marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk

www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Cover photo: The Wayside Cross
by Simon Blackmore
also page 5

HOUSE & GARDEN SERVICES

PROFESSIONAL GARDEN SERVICES

Stephen R Matthews

Tel: 01235 766412

Mobile: 07796 532356

Email: stephenmatthews.pgs@gmail.com

All aspects of work undertaken, including:

- garden clearance and restoration
- fruit tree, shrub and rose pruning
- hedgecutting
- fencing and landscaping.

Frilford Decorators

Painters & Decorators

Decorative Treatments

Telephone: 01865 392866 (Frilford Heath)

Mobile: 07775 690523

References Available

Proprietor: Mr A Bunce



WASPS &
ALL INSECTS

SOLAR PANEL
PROOFING

**PEST
WIZARDS**
YOUR LOCAL PEST CONTROL SERVICE



RATS, MICE,
MOLES &
SQUIRRELS

PROMPT SERVICE

MARK DEARLOVE • 07446377816

01235 642689 • info@pestwizards.co.uk



theshop.ws
Classic Car Restoration & Race Prep



**Automotive Fabrication
and Welding**

Got a classic car in the garage, rusting away?

Get it back on the road with The Shop

From minor welds to full restorations



MOT welding

Rust repairs



Commercial or Domestic

From Classic Cars to Race Cars



Special projects



Family business

Fair pricing



Call Andy @ The Shop 07739 337562

Email: theshop.ws@gmail.com

www.TheShop.ws

GT Carpentry Ltd

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

Stuart Gardner

07885 266965

01865 391110

Nick Trinder

07831 773804

01235 224177

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

Give us a call today for a quotation.

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

www.gtcarpentry.com



**Oxfordshire Roofing
and Building Services**

a good honest and reliable firm

Call today for a free estimate 07885 882689

Flat Roofing

Chimney Repointing

New Roofs

De-Mossing

Guttering

Tiling

Slating

Facias

Small Jobs Welcome • Discount for OAPs

Tel: 01865 392106 • Mobile 07885 882689

oxfordshireroofing@yahoo.co.uk

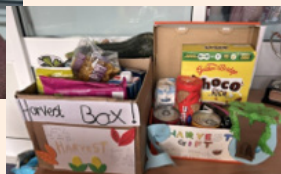
NEWS FROM MARCHAM SCHOOL

It has been a busy and exciting time during the first half term of this academic year, with lots of opportunities for the children to learn, celebrate and take part in activities both in and out of the classroom.

One of the highlights of the term was our Harvest Festival (8th October). The children came together to



celebrate the harvest through a wonderful collection of songs, poems and thankful prayers. It was a lovely opportunity to reflect on the importance of



harvest, show gratitude for the food we enjoy and think about those who may be less fortunate. This event was attended by many parents who also donated a large selection of produce for the Abingdon Foodbank.

Our extra-curricular clubs continue to be popular, with children enjoying opportunities to develop new skills, build confidence and work together as a team. The choir has been busy sharing the joy of singing, while our running club and netball club have encouraged children to stay active, challenge themselves and support one another. We were also delighted to see 20 children (Years 3, 4, 5 & 6) take part in the Abingdon Partnership cross-country event. It was fantastic to see the children showing determination, perseverance and great team spirit as they took on the challenge. Well done to everyone who participated!

We enjoyed welcoming parents and families to our half-term open morning (Thursday 15th October). Visitors had the opportunity to spend time in the classrooms, explore the children's displays and look through their books to see the progress they have been making in their learning. It was lovely to celebrate the children's hard work and share some of the exciting things happening across the school.

On Friday 16th October, we welcomed our local Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) into school. Their visit provided a valuable opportunity for the children in Years 1 & 3 to learn more about their role in the community and the importance of keeping themselves and others safe. In addition, on Monday 19th October, preschool and the Reception class took part in Ride on Time road safety sessions. These sessions helped our youngest learners begin to understand the importance of road safety through role play using small driveable cars and a simple road system with pedestrian crossing and lights.

We have open mornings for children due to start school in September 2027 on Tuesday 3rd November 2026 at 9.30 am and Thursday 3rd December 2026 at 9.30 am. During these open mornings there will be 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.

LINDSAY PRIDDLE

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



CALLING ALL SERVICE PERSONNEL

Young or old, serving, ex-service or voluntary, wearing uniform or civvies.

Come to Remembrance Sunday service at All Saints' Church 10am on Sunday 8th November.

If you can't make it to the church, please meet us at the Wayside Cross just before 11 am and then either back to the church for refreshments or come along to The Crown for a drink and catch-up (or both!)

Many thanks

Ruth Mander, Ex-Royal Navy

THE WAYSIDE CROSS, MARCHAM

The Wayside Cross is a Grade II listed First World War memorial situated beside the Frilford Road in Marcham. The aftermath of the First World War saw the biggest single wave of public commemoration ever, with tens of thousands of memorials erected across England. One such memorial was raised at Marcham as a permanent testament to the sacrifice made by the local communities of Frilford, Garford and Marcham, who suffered losses in the First World War. It is an eloquent witness to the impact of world events on this part of the community in the First and Second World Wars.

The memorial was donated to the Parish by Sir Francis Gore-Browne of Oakley Park. The Wayside Cross is an imposing memorial of particular architectural interest, made of Portland stone and designed by Mr R. C. Coulson, an architect in the Art Workers' Guild in London. An added interest is the detailed carving carried out by George Havard Thomas MC, a sculptor at the Slade School in London. Both Architect and Sculptor had first hand experience in the War and fought in the trenches, being commended for their bravery.

After the Second World War, a further inscription was added on the front-face of the plinth TO/ THE MEN/ WHO DIED FOR/ ENGLAND/ 1914 – 1918/ 1939 – 1945.

The remaining faces of the plinth are incised in turn with MARCHAM, FRILFORD and GARFORD.

SIMON BLACKMORE

From Coral Rag 12, available from Marcham Society, see page 7



MARCHAM AND DISTRICT POPPY APPEAL 2026

Remembrance Sunday Service will be on the 8th November

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 07342 812801 and collected from Longfields in Marcham.

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

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, email help@nspcc.org.uk or go to www.nspcc.org.uk

Call the police on 999 if you think a child is in danger.

Rowes News

**Family Run Newspaper Delivery Service
Delivering In Marcham &
Surrounding Areas.**

**Get your favourite newspapers and
magazines delivered.**

**Please call or email us to start
your delivery.**

**If you are over 13 years old and would be
interested in delivering newspapers for
us please call or email us.**

**Call: 01235 763134
Email: contact@rowesnews.co.uk
www.rowesnewsmarket.co.uk
18 Wallingford Street, Wantage**



Callum Hodnett
07588 337730

www.secure-electrical.co.uk
info@secure-electrical.co.uk

Installation & Maintenance - Inspection & Testing
Single & 3 Phase



HANDYMAN SERVICES

Semi retired 35+ years experience professional tradesman
now offers handyman services including:

Electrical Work, Flat Pack Furniture Building, Fencing,
Grass Cutting, General Property Maintenance, DIY + much more.

Telephone: 07894 955438

Email: HandymanServicesOx@gmail.com



THE WINDOW REPAIR &
RENOVATION SPECIALISTS



Call 07880 560403 for a free estimate,

or for more information visit our website www.oxfordwindowrepair.com

How to Spot, Help, and Record Insects over Winter

When the weather turns cold, it might seem as though most wildlife has disappeared until spring. But if you take a closer look, you'll find that plenty of insects and other creepy crawlies are still around.



Ladybirds often spend the winter sheltering together in places such as conifers, old seedheads, and hollow plant stems, clustering together to stay warm. Various species can also be found on ivy, such as the 7-spot, 22-spot, and harlequin ladybird.

Bees have different ways of getting through the colder season. On milder days, you might spot buff-tailed bumblebees

out and about, as this species is being seen flying more often during the winter months, and bumblebee queens may emerge from hibernation during these mild spells. Honeybee queens usually stay inside their hives for the winter, only venturing out on particularly sunny days, while solitary bees leave their nests when they are ready to mate. For any bee active in winter, finding nectar is vital, as there is a real risk of starvation if food is scarce. One of the simplest ways to help winter pollinators and other insects is by growing plants that flower during the colder months. Single-flowered hellebores are particularly useful because their open blooms make pollen and nectar easy to reach. Crocuses are another good choice, especially when planted in a sunny position where the flowers can fully open. Snowdrops and aconites also provide valuable food, while ivy offers both shelter and a late nectar source.



You don't need to be a keen gardener to make a difference. Leaving fallen leaves where they land or creating small piles of twigs and leaves can provide important habitats for insects. And if you come across a queen bee that appears to be struggling, you can gently move her to nearby flowers or offer a 1:1 sugar and water solution.

To find out more, visit <https://www.wildoxfordshire.org.uk/guidance/helping-nature-on-your-patch> for guidance on helping pollinators on your patch

Go a step further and record what you see!

Everyone can play a part in submitting wildlife observations to local Environmental Records Centres. They then appear on the "official record" that is consulted by planning authorities and used by other parties to track changes in distribution and abundance. Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre (TVERC) are always looking for people to submit the wildlife they see to add to their database. tverc@oxfordshire.gov.uk

WILD OXFORDSHIRE

Wild Oxfordshire is a charity seeking to create a more natural, resilient, and biodiverse Oxfordshire for the benefit of all.



Living well with dementia

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



Scan Me

We welcome enquiries from anyone who feels they would benefit from a family member with a diagnosis of dementia attending the club. For more details of what we offer please take a look at the website www.kenningtonmemoryclub.org.uk or contact Kay, organiser@kenningtonmemoryclub.org.uk or call **07852 883496**. We look forward to meeting you.



THE MIDWEEK WALK

Thursday 5th November at 12.30pm

Please contact walks@marchamsociety.org.uk

THE MARCHAM ASTRONOMY GROUP

Wednesday 18th November at 7.30 pm
in the Small Hall, Marcham Centre

'Where are we really from?'
a talk by Kevin Langley



Every atom in your body has a cosmic history

For more information please contact:
astronomy@marchamsociety.org.uk

THE MONTHLY MEETING

Monday 23rd November: at 7.30 pm
in the Main Hall

'Otters' a talk by Lesley Wright



*Our history with otters, how we nearly lost them
and how we got them back*

The Annual Membership is £15 per person.
Guests are welcome at £5 per event.

Please contact: membership@marchamsociety.org.uk
www.marchamsociety.org.uk
Facebook: marchamsociety

Thirsty Community Café

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



NOVEMBER

4th Stay and Play, 9 to 11:30

21st Farmers' Market 9 to 12

25th Games Cafe 9 to 11:30

Date tbc Community Lunch 12 to 1:15

We open at the centre on Wednesday (8:45 to 11:30) and
Saturday (9 to 11:30) serving delicious local food and hot drinks.

Pay it forward with 'Cup of Love'.

Thank you to everyone who has donated cafe items to the **Cup of Love**, pay it forward scheme. It is our hope that people will feel free to use these little post-its should they wish to.

To donate, please ask at the till.

To redeem, simply take a sticker of your choice and hand it to one of our servers by way of payment.

VOLUNTEERING

Thirsty Café thrives upon the generosity of its volunteers.

Is there any possibility you could help us once a month?

Please email Nicci Sawney at

hello@thirstycafemarcham.co.uk

Website: www.thirstycafemarcham.co.uk

E-mail: hello@thirstycafemarcham.co.uk

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

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/thirstycafemarcham>

NEW COMMUNITY BUS SERVICE



A new shopper weekly bus service from Eynsham to Tesco and then to Abingdon on request, will commence on Tuesday 24th November.

The Council has been advised that this will serve Cothill and Gozzards Ford. This will be a mid morning service to Tesco, returning at lunch time.

A route map and further details are awaited.

Quiz

1. What is the biennial golf tournament for professional women golfers between Europe and the USA called?
2. Which actor played the title role in the film Forrest Gump?
3. Who wrote the song Red Red Wine?
4. What is the name of the fictional detective created by Agatha Christie who is famous for his distinctive moustache?
5. Which two cities are commonly regarded as being at the western and eastern ends of the M62 across northern England?
6. What is the chemical symbol for gold?
7. The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment is based on the southern edge of which London Park?
8. Which simple dish is known as insalata verde in Italian?
9. Mark Carney, the current Prime Minister of Canada, was previously Governor of which major UK financial institution?
10. Which James Bond theme was the only one to reach Number 1 in the US charts?
11. Which American author wrote East of Eden?
12. The Wayside Cross war memorial in Marcham commemorates the fallen from which three local villages?

Answers on page 19

HOUSEHOLD SERVICES

We Clean Ovens



...so you don't have to!

Call us today to have your cooking appliances sparkling, using our own eco friendly products.

Our oven cleaning experts will leave you free to enjoy your valuable leisure time.

oven
oven valeting service
Local | National | Affordable



Call TODAY for **01235 239938**
LOCAL Service: oven.co.uk/oven_cleaning/south-oxon

Local Renewable Installers



AES
ALTERNATIVE
ENERGY
SOLUTIONS
www.aespv.com
07739 313994

Solar PV • EV • Batteries

Sharman Roofing

GRP fibreglass flat-roofing specialist
tiling, slating, leadwork, guttering and fascias,
new builds, re-roofs, extensions and sheds
all work considered, call Mark on
07979 791075
msharmanroofing@gmail.com

Martin Gilbert

Motor Repairs Ltd
Local Family Run Business

VEHICLE REPAIR & SERVICE CENTRE

For all Makes & Models
Hybrid & Electric Vehicle Repair & Service Centre
Cars & Light Commercial Repairs Including;
17 Seater Minibuses & Vans up to 3.5 Tonnes
Engine Management & Electrical Repairs
MOTs WHILE YOU WAIT

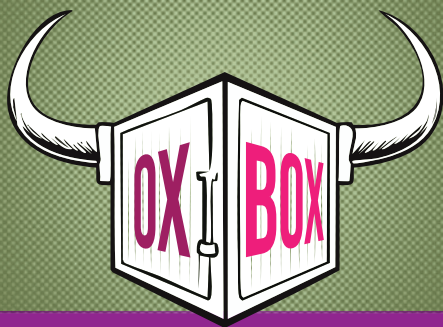
Carried out to a High Standard by Qualified Technicians

Tel: 01235 553055 - Radley Rd Industrial Estate

Abingdon, Oxon, OX14 3RY

www.martingilbertmotorrepairs.co.uk

E: richard@martingilbert.co.uk



OX BOX CONTAINER STORAGE

BEST VALUE STORAGE IN OXFORDSHIRE

NEW 20ft CONTAINERS
ANTI CONDENSATION TREATED
ON SITE 24h SECURITY
SECURITY GATES LOCKED OVERNIGHT
ACCESS FROM 8am-8pm

IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF SHORT OR
LONG TERM, CLEAN & SECURE STORAGE
FOR YOUR PERSONAL POSSESSIONS
CALL TODAY: 07799 183119

PRICES FROM ONLY £110/MONTH

Thomas Cleary & Sons

Est 1976

Independent Family Run Business
Wood • Carpet • Vinyl • Sanding

- 07940 517 990 | 01865 821 311
- mail@thomascleary.co.uk
- www.thomascleary.co.uk
- 21 West St Helens Street,
Abingdon, OX14 5BL

MARCHAM PRE-SCHOOL

We often spend time thinking about the teaching and learning opportunities within early years, and we have the most amazing resources available at Marcham Pre-school to help us to engage and interest the children. However, it is really clear that our most valuable resources are our staff. The current team of Nicky, Nik, Lisa, Hollie and Angi display warmth, care and genuine interest in each and every child as an individual and this shines out through each of these photographs; the ease at which these children spend time with the adults shows the secure environment and family feel that we provide. Our staff team is growing and we are already thinking ahead to September 2027. Don't delay in contacting us for an application form, admissions will be confirmed in February 2027 - just 16 weeks away. You can find out more about Marcham pre-school by visiting marcham-preschool.weebly.com or by emailing admissions.mps@outlook.com

Nicky Sanford, Early Years Teacher

Marcham Pre-school
01865 392101

marcham-preschool@hotmail.co.uk
www.marcham-preschool.weebly.com



The last posting dates for Christmas are listed below (for DPD, please check in the Post Office):
UK Inland services

Friday 18 December	2nd Class and 2nd Class Signed For
Saturday 19 December	Royal Mail Tracked 48®
Saturday 19 December	DPD 2 day
Monday 21 December	1st Class, 1st Class Signed For, Tracked 24
Monday 21 December	Parcel Force Express 48
Monday 21 December	DPD Next day
Tuesday 22 December	Parcel Force Express 24
Wednesday 23 December	Special Delivery Guaranteed®
Wednesday 23 December	DPD Gold

POST EARLY and DON'T MISS THE DEADLINE

If you are sending parcels overseas with Royal Mail or ParcelForce in time for Christmas, please check online for last posting dates. For certain destinations, Royal Mail International Standard starts from November.



Marcham Village Shop & Post Office
16 North St, Marcham OX13 6NG

Call us: Shop 01865 391993 / Post Office 01865 391940

Facebook: [marchamvillageshop](https://www.facebook.com/marchamvillageshop) Shop and Post Office



Shop and Post Office Opening Hours

Monday – Friday: 0830-1700

Saturday: 0830-1200

Sundays & Bank Holidays: Closed



Winter is fast approaching, the clocks have gone back and Christmas is on its way! We've done our homework and found some novel gifts to help with that Christmas shopping load. Check us out for some interesting and different ideas for Christmas and, of course, for traditional Christmas items such as cakes/mince pies, cards and wrapping paper.



As in the past, from the beginning of December the Naughty Elf will be paying us a visit. We will run our usual quiz for the younger visitors to our shop. Each week the Naughty Elf will move around the shop and we will be asking where you can find him. Quiz forms will be available at the counter and the Elf will find a new location on each Monday, starting from 30th November, with the last location being on Monday 21st December. There will be prizes for all children who have correctly completed the quiz form and returned it to the shop by 6 January 2027.



In addition to normal meat orders, you will be able to order your Christmas meat from Hedges towards the end of November. Christmas prices and order forms will be available from the shop and Christmas orders will be



available for collection between 0830-1700 hrs on Tuesday 22nd, Wednesday 23rd and 0830-1200 hrs on Thursday 24th December. If there is anything specific that you would like, not listed, please ask and we will do our best to help.

Christmas stamps will be on sale from Monday 3rd November and the last posting dates for Christmas are listed to the left. Don't forget that your Post Office is here to serve you and aims to cover most of your daily postal and banking needs.



If you are sending parcels overseas in time for Christmas, please check online or in the Post Office, and see the table to the left for last posting dates. For certain destinations, Royal Mail International Standard starts from November.



If you are posting abroad, you can complete your customs forms (typically CN22) online, in the comfort of your own home. Simply scan the QR code or visit postoffice.co.uk/icdc. We will then print the customs form for you at and fill in your customs form online. The Post Office – this makes the process at the Post Office much quicker. If you are unable to complete the form in advance, please note that we require senders' details, recipients' details and contents details including weights & values to enable us to process the customs declaration.



Remembrance Day is Wednesday 11th November, and we will be observing the 2 minute silence. The poppy tin and display are in the shop – your donations go to a good cause and will be most welcome

Christmas opening hours will be included in the December issue of MADNews

**Thank you, as always,
for your continued support**

PERSONAL, SOCIAL & COMMUNITY

Need **help** with your PC?

- Support for Macs & PCs
- Laptops, Desktops & Tablets
- Supply of New Computers
- Home & Office Visits
- Remote Help Option (no visit required)
- Monthly Cover Option
- New Installations



*Fully qualified,
locally based business
offering a personal &
professional service
with a smile*

**FREE local
callout &
diagnosis**

- Software Repairs & Upgrades
- Hardware Repairs & Upgrades
- Internet Security & Antivirus
- Wireless Setups & Networking
- Data Recovery
- Backup Solutions
- Web Design & Hosting

Call: 01865 349057

www.pc-help-4u.co.uk

support@pc-help-4u.co.uk

**Slimming
World**
with *Grace*

**PRESTON ROAD
COMMUNITY CENTRE**

**Mondays
5.30pm & 7.00pm**

MARCHAM CENTRE

**Tuesdays
5.30pm & 7.30pm**



*Warm,
welcoming,
supportive
groups*

For more information contact
Grace: 07807 707925



Abingdon and Marcham Slimming World with Grace

MOVIE NIGHT

£5.00 ENTRY + SNACK

Friday 13th Nov 6pm

MARCHAM CENTRE, BIG HALL

STICK MAN



Edward Carter
FUNERAL DIRECTORS

24 HOUR SERVICE

DEDICATED CHAPEL OF REST

A private, family business, upholding the
traditional values of dignity and respect

info@edcarterfd.co.uk



Golden Charter
Funeral Plans



Abingdon's Longest Established Independent Family Funeral Directors

107 South Avenue, Abingdon, OX14 1QS

01235 528293

www.edcarterfd.co.uk

MARCHAM FARMERS MARKET

SATURDAY 21 NOVEMBER

The next Marcham Farmers Market is on Saturday 21st November, 9am–12pm at Marcham Centre, on the patio

Producer Spotlight: *Hedges Butcher*



Hedges has been part of the Oxfordshire food scene since 1896, supplying locally produced meat, poultry and game and working with local farmers. They're exactly the kind of local business we love having at the Farmers Market – keeping good food close to home and supporting local producers.

They've also been supplying Thirsty Café since its early days, so you may already have enjoyed Hedges meat in one of our breakfasts or BBQ's!

If you're planning your meals for the coming weeks, be sure to pop along and take advantage of Hedges' popular 3 packs for £10 deal. All the meat is freshly prepared for the market, so you can stock up and freeze it for later.

And with Christmas fast approaching, we're also asking people to register their interest in getting their Christmas meat from Hedges, with collection from Marcham. If you'd like to register your interest, simply scan the QR code. Marcham Farmers Market will also be at the PTFA's Christmas Fayre on Saturday 12th Dec with our usual produce from a selection of fantastic local suppliers.



So come along on Saturday 21st November, 9am–12pm, and stock up on great local meat while supporting a long-established Oxfordshire business.



NOV PRODUCE

MEAT

Lamb Kofte
Sausages
Beef Burgers
Sausage Meat
Bacon
Chicken Breast

DAIRY

Refill Bottles
Whole Milk
Icecream
Greek Sheep's Yoghurt
Brown Cow Yoghurt
Butter

FRUIT & VEG

Cauliflower
Cabbage
Broccoli
Kale
Leeks
Pumpkin & Squash

EVERYTHING ELSE!

Samosas
Honey
Apple juice
Preserves
Gluten free bread
Eggs



LOCAL FOOD, LOCAL PRODUCERS,
LOCAL COMMUNITY

For more information please contact
farmersmarket@thirstycafemarcham.com

Marcham Farmers Market
local food, local producers, local community



Autumn is here, and we are fully embracing all the wonderful opportunities that nature brings at Little Angels!

Who says maths is boring? Certainly not us! Our children have been busy exploring quantities, shapes and number correspondence using autumn sensory trays filled with leaves, sticks, conkers and other seasonal treasures. Add in a variety of utensils and different shaped bowls, and suddenly maths becomes an exciting investigation full of sorting, counting, filling, emptying and discovering. Our youngest Little Angels have also been enjoying some wonderfully messy mark-making with spice-infused paints. Imagine painting whilst being able to smell cinnamon, nutmeg, paprika and Chinese five spice! Not only was it a fantastic sensory experience, but it also helped develop fine motor skills and early writing movements.

These are the moments we love at Little Angels, moments where children are curious, engaged and completely absorbed in their learning. Our curriculum is built around curiosity and wonder, using natural resources both indoors and outdoors to create meaningful experiences that children will remember.



And it's something we're passionate about sharing with the next generation of Early Years professionals too.

If you're thinking about a career change, looking for a more rewarding role, returning to work, or leaving school or college next year and wondering what comes next, why not come and see what makes Early Years such a special profession?

We're opening our doors for our **Little Angels Careers Event:**
Friday 13th November, 5.30pm - 7.00pm

Saturday 14th November, 9.00am - 1.00pm

The event will be held at our Southmoor nursery and is open to anyone interested in opportunities across both our Southmoor and Marcham settings. Whether you're interested in an apprenticeship, starting your Early Years journey, or taking the next step in your career, we'd love to meet you. We're looking for people who share our passion for creating moments of awe, wonder and belonging for children. Find out more and book your place at www.littleangelschildcaregroup.co.uk/careers

P.S. We recently welcomed Ofsted for our latest inspection at the end of September and are eagerly awaiting the final report. We're hoping to have some exciting news to share in the next MADNews edition... watch this space!

Contact us at joinus@littleangelschildcaregroup.co.uk

PERSONAL, SOCIAL & COMMUNITY



21-27 Coxeter House Abingdon OX14 5AJ

Tel 01235 530577

www.abingdonchiroprody.com

HCPC Registered Chiroprodists & Podiatrists

Surgery and Home Visits available. Free Parking in Coxeters Yard

Slimming World
With Becky

SOUTH ABINGDON
Preston Road
Community Centre
OX14 5NR

SATURDAYS
8.00am & 9:30am

For more information contact
Becky: 07789 991112

feel
real
good



Kilbey & Clarke
Will Writers and Estate Practitioners



- * Wills from £175
- * Lasting Power of Attorney from £195, £350 for 2 LPAs
- * Inheritance Protection
- * Probate
- * Will storage: Annual or lifetime
- * Local, friendly, professional with home visits

Nigel Kilbey Member SWW
07734 051258 / 01235 868266



Safe to do
business with
Code Compliant

www.kilbeyandclarke.co.uk
wills@kilbeyandclarke.co.uk

Mumby's
Live-in Care

Specialist Live-in Care

At Mumby's Live-in Care, we are passionate about providing outstanding care. We believe everyone deserves to live safely in the comfort of their own homes. Our bespoke live-in support is designed to maintain independence, dignity, and personal routines.

Dementia | Respite Care | Complex Care | Palliative Care

Speak to us today:

☎ 01865 391 187
✉ info@mumbys.com



£105,000 IN GRANTS APPROVED IN 5 YRS
ANOTHER £16,000 STILL AVAILABLE

**Does Your Organisation, Society, Group or Club
Need Help with Funding Marcham Area Activities?**

**IF THE ANSWER IS "YES" TO THIS QUESTION THEN THE
ANSON TRUST MAY BE ABLE TO HELP YOU**

For more information on our grant application process and policy please visit ansontrust.org/grant-giving or email us at ansontrustinquiries@gmail.com
Reg'd Charity No. 1107174



VANQUISH
PRINT SOLUTIONS

20% OFF FIRST ORDER

Free Local Oxfordshire Delivery (Subject: T&C's)

Booklets • Business Cards • Business Stationery • Banners
Cards & Invites • Flyers & Leaflets • Newsletters • Posters
Point of Sale Print • Presentation Folders • Seasonal
Signage & Displays • Stickers & Labels • Duplication Pads

Drop us a message for more info

Call: 07809 566692
info@vanquishprintsolutions.co.uk





Marcham Centre

Autumn is well under way, and there is a great deal of positive momentum at the Marcham Centre. As we look ahead to the coming year, we have several exciting projects taking shape, alongside key opportunities for residents to get directly involved in shaping the future of our village hub.

WELCOMING THE MARCHAM COMMUNITY FRIDGE!

We are delighted to announce that the Marcham Community Fridge is officially coming to the Marcham Centre, with sessions scheduled to begin on Saturday 31st October!

Why Tackling Food Waste Matters

According to estimates from The Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP), UK households wasted around 6 million tonnes of food and drink in 2022. Astonishingly, roughly 4.4 million tonnes of that, nearly three-quarters, was perfectly good food that could have been eaten. When food ends up in the bin, all the water, energy, and land used to produce and transport it are wasted too.

Making an Impact Locally

Marcham Community Fridge collects quality surplus food from local retailers that would otherwise go to landfill and redistributes it directly to the community. Across the area, the initiative has already diverted an incredible 19 tonnes of food, regularly welcoming 50 to 70 people each week.

To give you an idea of the sheer scale of surplus rescued, their single largest collection from Tesco one Saturday evening yielded approximately half a tonne (500kg) of food – enough to fill three large estate cars to the roof! Based on FareShare estimates, saving that much food prevents around one tonne of CO₂ equivalent emissions.



Open to Absolutely Everyone

The fridge is completely free and open to all, regardless of personal or financial circumstances. There are no means tests, no vouchers, no referrals, and no questions asked.

Their ethos is simple: "Take what you need, leave what you can."

Donations are always welcome to help cover running costs if you are able, but there is never any obligation. Keep an eye out for final confirmed session times on Saturday evenings and come down to see how it works!

GOING GREENER: OUR ECO PROJECTS NEED YOU

Sustainability is firmly at the top of our agenda at the centre, but we need local insight, hands-on support, and enthusiasm to turn our ideas into reality:

Solar Panel Project: We are actively exploring installing solar panels at the centre to significantly reduce our environmental footprint and protect against rising long-term electricity costs. Assessing, sizing, and implementing a system suited to our large roofs and substantial facilities requires careful planning. If you have a background in renewable energy, electrical engineering, facilities management, or simply an analytical mind and a passion for green tech, we would love your help on our solar working group.

Wildflower Areas & Biodiversity: Enhancing our grounds and supporting local wildlife is another key ambition. We are keen to expand and manage wildflower areas around the centre to create rich habitats for pollinators and bring extra colour to the site. Whether you have green fingers, practical gardening know-how, or just enthusiasm to get your hands dirty, you are very warmly invited to join in.

STEP FORWARD AS A TRUSTEE

The Marcham Centre only exists and thrives thanks to the energy and commitment of local volunteers. The Marcham Community Group (MCG) is currently looking for new trustees to join the board. Whether your background is in finance, property maintenance, legal compliance, event organisation, community outreach, or you simply bring sound common sense and a love for Marcham, serving as a trustee is an exceptionally rewarding way to make a tangible difference in the village. We welcome fresh energy, varied life experience, and new voices around the table.

GET IN TOUCH

If you can spare an hour or two a month, whether joining the board of trustees, helping steer the solar panels project, lending a hand with wildflower planting, or supporting the Marcham Fridge, we would love to hear from you at admin@marcham.org. The centre belongs to the whole village, come and help us shape its future!

INDOOR SHORT MAT BOWLS

Indoor Short Mat Bowls – has started again in the main hall of the Centre on Wednesdays, Starting at 2pm. All bowlers and potential ones are invited to join a happy informal bunch of players, who have over recent years increased their numbers in an enjoyable and welcoming environment.

Colin Trinder co-ordinates the sessions. He looks forward to meeting any new potential bowlers. This is an excellent opportunity to have a go at this popular sport. No need to register, just turn up on a Wednesday, though Colin will be more than happy to have a chat if you want. (c_trinder@btinternet.com).

QUIZ NIGHTS

Monthly quizzes have started again. The next two being on Fridays 9 November, and 4 December in the main hall of the Centre, starting at 8pm sharp, with the bar open beforehand and throughout the evening. Teams of up to six members are invited to come along for a friendly night of banter. New teams are welcome to supplement those regulars of recent years. We look forward to seeing you all, no need to let us know, just turn up on the night.

FAMILY BINGO

Friday 20th November Eyes Down at 7:30 pm

Marcham Centre, Barrow Close, Marcham OX13 6TY
enquiries@marchamcentre.org www.marchamcentre.org
Operated by Marcham Community Group (MCG)
Registered in England 7470307 Charity No. 1144407



Games Morning

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

Newcomers of all ages always welcome and we like learning new games!

Every Monday
10.30-12 noon
Duffield Place Lounge

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

PERSONAL & SOCIAL

Town Furlong Cattery



Kingston Road, Frilford
01865 391864
www.townfurlong.co.uk

B&B Rafters



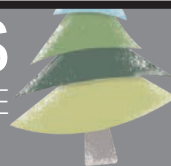
Abingdon Road
Marcham
Abingdon, Oxfordshire
OX13 6NU

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

Join us and discover
a place to relax

FOOD AND DRINK

Millets
FARM CENTRE



FIELD | FAMILY | FORK

Outstanding
Christmas Meat!



Don't forget to place your Christmas meat order online or with our expert butchers at the butchery counter!

Kingston Road | Frilford | Nr:Abingdon | OX13 5HB



SAUNA AT THE FARM

A wild spa experience in the heart of Frilford, Oxon.

A secluded oasis with a wood fired sauna, hot tub, cold immersion tub, warm showers, changing facility, outdoor kitchen and bar. Available for rental for private events all year round.

Drop in Communal Sauna sessions available every week.

@saunaatthefarm



The right care,
in the home
you love.

L A Care provides personal, round-the-clock live-in support that puts **dignity, continuity** and **warmth** at the heart of every day.

Also offering trusted hourly home visits across Oxfordshire.

01235 606 200
enquiries@lacare.co.uk
www.lacare.co.uk



SPORT REPORT

As the dark nights set in, the cricket season starts to feel a distant memory, whilst the football teams have had to become nomadic. This month has seen all the teams playing away from home to allow as much grass to grow as possible on the field, not helped by the continued lack of rain.

The adults have begun life in the Witney District League being able to visit some new pitches. The first team have come out of the month with two wins and two defeats showing that the Premier League is going to be a good challenge for all involved; one victory in the Berks and Bucks cup means that they move into the third round. The reserves have only had 2 fixtures which has been a challenge as they try and bed in together as a team with lots of new faces. The Vets have picked up their first win of the season beating Holyport 4-0 playing home games out of Tilsley Park.

The Colts have been excellent with a variety of results amongst all the age groups. Particular shoutouts go to the under 8 blues and the under 13 girls who have picked up their first points of the season this month. They continue to develop their understanding of football and have great fun on Saturday mornings.

The Minis continue to grow from strength to strength with lots of two to five year olds playing. Despite having to use the MUGA for a few weeks they are now back on the grass where it's much easier to get nice and muddy.

DAN BARNES



VOLUNTEER A LITTLE TIME, MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE THIS CHRISTMAS

Across Oxfordshire, nonprofit organisations are busy preparing festive events that bring people together, support those in need and help make this time of year special. Many of these events rely on the time, enthusiasm and generosity of volunteers to make them happen.

To help connect people with events to get involved with, Oxfordshire Community and Voluntary Action (OCVA) has launched its Christmas Volunteering Calendar, <https://ocva.org.uk/volunteering/christmas-volunteering-calendar/>.

The online calendar highlights the festive opportunities where people can volunteer. Whether you have a few hours to spare, want to try something new or are looking for a meaningful way to give back this Christmas, volunteering can be a rewarding way to get involved.



The Arts Society Abingdon LECTURE

Wednesday 18th November
10.30am and 2.00pm
Abbey Cinema, Abbey Close,
Abingdon OX14 3JD

Insatiable Appetites Eating out in Georgian London

Peter Ross

Georgians of all classes dined out in pubs, coaching inns, French ordinaries and confectioners. They also ate all kinds of street food and had an almost insatiable appetite for buns. On a journey through London we will discover the early morning drinks consumed on the street before dawn, 'nunchions' served at coaching inns, Billingsgate dinners, confectioners' cakes, syllabubs and ices, the proverbially thin ham dished up to diners at Vauxhall Pleasure Gardens, as well as the Jewish takeaway foods of the East End and even London's first 'Indian' restaurant. Our journey will be illustrated from prints, paintings and broadsides of the period, some long neglected as a source for a forgotten but fascinating part of our Georgian ancestors' way of life.

For more information on future lectures and other activities see

theartsocietyabingdon.org.uk
or email info@theartsocietyabingdon.org.uk



MARCHAM BRIDGE CLUB MOVING FORWARD

Marcham Bridge Club was founded almost 60 years ago, initially playing in The Institute in North Street, before relocating to Manor Farm. This remained home until the advent of COVID in 2020. Since then, Marcham Community Hall has been its base and we are grateful to the Marcham Community Group for the availability of this facility. Likewise, we thank the Anson Trust for help offered recently.

Over the years, membership has fluctuated, but has always embraced a broad range of Bridge experience.

In the post COVID era a number of new members have joined the group and we are currently seeking to increase membership further. The growth in numbers is in contrast to the experience of many Bridge Clubs which have faced closure or had to move on line.

The Bridge group is an eclectic mix of individuals who share a wish to challenge their brains, in a friendly and supportive environment. Alongside the Bridge, there are opportunities to socialise during the year. In the summer, there is a club barbecue, a popular event hosted by our members and funded by the club. All members, and their partners, are invited.

Prior to Christmas, there is a competition and party in the village hall and after weekly Bridge evenings (Monday 18.45 to 21.30) a number of players retire to The Crown for a drink and focus on improving the state of the world; alas, to date, no progress on that front!

We hope that we can continue to grow and provide an outlet for likeminded people. All Bridge players welcome, irrespective of experience of playing in a Bridge club. Come along and give it a go. Any newcomers will be made very welcome.

PTFA Events Update

Movie Night – Pre-school & KS1

Join us for a cosy showing of Stick Man!

6pm start Friday 13th November,

Marcham Centre Big Hall

£5 per child tickets on the door; includes a snack and drink package. Just turn up on the night and enjoy the film!

Christmas Fayre

2–4pm Saturday 12th December, Marcham Centre

Come along for a festive afternoon packed with:

Local crafts & makers, Bouncy castle fun, Christmas disco

Christmas stories, and plenty of festive cheer!

And keep your eyes peeled for our Christmas raffle tickets!

Our Christmas and Summer raffles are a huge part of PTFA fundraising, together bringing in around a third of our annual funds. This money goes straight back into supporting the children at Marcham Primary, helping us fund trips, activities, equipment and extras for the school.

A huge thank you to everyone who supports our events, buys raffle tickets, donates prizes and helps us make them happen.

Come along, bring your friends and family, and help us raise even more for Marcham Primary School!

Thanks,

THE PTFA COMMITTEE

marchampta@gmail.com



FOOD AND DRINK

THE CROWN FREE HOUSE

1 Packhorse Lane, Marcham, OX13 6NT



**REAL ALES
STREET FOOD
LIVE MUSIC
CRAFT BEERS
WEEKLY QUIZ
BEER GARDEN
DOG FRIENDLY
EVENTS & WORKSHOPS**

www.crownmarcham.com

facebook.com/CrownMarcham

Crown@oaktaverns.co.uk

01865 259333

Oak Taverns

EVENTS

mostly BOOKS

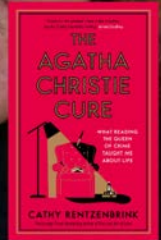
Cathy Rentzenbrink

Tuesday 3rd November 2026, 7pm

Trinity Church, Abingdon

Tickets £7/ £20

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



COME AND BE A PART OF OUR MARCHAM SCHOOL FAMILY

Open mornings for September 2027 admissions are at 9:30am on Tuesday 3rd November or Thursday 3rd December. Please email the school office to book a place.

We pride ourselves on being the primary school for the pupils of Marcham and the surrounding villages and we hope that, meeting us, you will feel that you belong. Come and join us!

Why not visit the school office, phone (01865 391448) or email us office.3235@marcham.oxon.sch.uk for an opportunity to speak to us and arrange to see the school at work. You can also find out more about our school - our vision, values and passions - by visiting our website <https://www.marcham.oxon.sch.uk/>.

We look forward to welcoming you and showing off what we think is the BEST school in the world!



KELMSCOTT MANOR, THE VILLAGE, MAY MORRIS & THE FIRST OXFORDSHIRE WI

Tuesday, 24th November 2026, 10.30-12.30

Marcham Centre OX13 6TY

We are thrilled to be able to present this brand-new talk by Gillian Cane who has created it especially for this occasion.

Gillian will explore the beautiful Oxfordshire village of Kelmscott and all that it has to offer, including the link to the very first Oxfordshire WI, the very talented May Morris and the impact she had on the period. May's work was often misattributed as that of her father, William Morris. Gillian will also tell us more about the manor and the village. Everyone welcome!

Book here www.oxfordshirewi.co.uk/what-s-on or telephone the WI Office on **01869 331081**



Tickets £12
WI members
or £14 Non
Members

The Great Bungalow Caper A Fly's Tale of Autumn Adventures

As a fly on a frigid autumn day, I have only one thought on my mind: warmth. My tiny wings quiver with anticipation as I buzz around the garden, desperately scanning for an entrance to the cozy bungalow sitting just beyond the hedge. The air is sharp, and I can sense that the other creatures in the garden share my plight.

First, there's Barry the Bumblebee. His fuzzy form buzzes with frantic energy as he looks for any last remnants of summer flowers, but with winter breathing down our necks, even the petals are gone. "Why did I have to be born a bee?" he mutters to himself. "All the good flowers are on holiday!" I buzz closer, wishing I could tell him that the bungalows are where the real party is. Lucky for me, Barry and his buddies have sticky little legs, ideal for slamming into the window of warmth that is so tantalizingly close.

Next up is Gerald the Garden Gnome. Don't let his bright red hat fool you; Gerald is one cold and miserable gnome. He's been stuck in that flower bed since last spring, guarding nothing but the faded memory of tulips. "My hat isn't even warm anymore!" he complains, casting an envious gaze toward the bungalow. Poor guy doesn't know that winter is coming, and his decorative life is about to go from charming to tragic. He tries shaking his fist at the sun but only manages to rattle a few leaves. I can't help but laugh, what kind of threat is that to autumn?

Finally, there's Marge the Mouse. She's been scurrying around the base of the bungalow looking for a way in, while dodging Gerald's glaring gaze. "I just need a place to curl up and nibble on some crumbs!" she squeaks, but there's no sign of creativity in her approach. She stops, eyeing a tiny crack in the door that would be a mouse sized utopia, then ponders her chances of getting caught. "I could always blame it on Barry," she chuckles to herself, glancing over at the beleaguered bumblebee.

As I hover mid air, it suddenly dawns on me that I, too, can join the party. Who needs to be cute or crafty when you have the advantage of being small and annoyingly persistent? With a final zoom, I dart toward the door, dodging Barry's hapless attempts to buzz his way inside and sidestepping Gerald's grumpy glares.

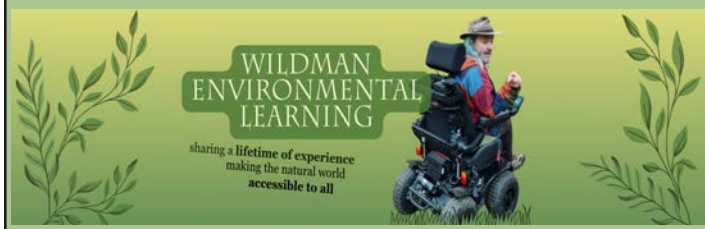
In a twist of fate, just as I'm about to land on the warm doorknob, someone inside decides to open it! With a flurry of wings and a burst of joy, I dart inside the cozy bungalow, leaving behind all my companions in the garden.

"Goodbye, Barry! Sorry, Gerald! Better luck next autumn, Marge!" I shout with a chuckle, settled on the edge of a warm windowsill, basking in the glory of my successful escapade. Life is good for a fly, even on a cold autumn day!

Happy Gardening!

The People's Countryside Environmental Debate Podcast

Stuart Mabbutt,
Wildlife Gardening Specialist
01865 747243
www.wildmaninspires.co.uk



ALL SAINTS' & ST LUKE'S CHURCHES

www.marcham-with-garford.org.uk

There will be Remembrance services on Sunday 8th November in Marcham starting at 10am at All Saints Church, concluding at the wayside cross on the A415 at 11am, and in Garford at the village war memorial at 12 noon. "When you go home, tell them of us and say: **for your tomorrow, we gave our today.**" These words are often repeated in the season of Remembrance. They are perhaps less well known than the very familiar "we will remember them", but they convey a poignant message of thankfulness for our forebears who gave so much for the freedoms we enjoy today. It is called the Kohima Epitaph, written by the poet John Maxwell Edmonds in 1918, but made famous in 1944 by being etched onto a British war memorial in a cemetery in India following the Battle of Kohima. For me, thankfulness is the primary emotion at this time of year: remembering and being thankful, because things could have been very different were it not for answered prayer at time of war and for those who gave their todays for our tomorrows. Thankfulness is good for our todays as well – our well-being, our outlook, how we engage with those around us, as well as showing us where our faith lies. At the end of Psalm 50 in the Bible, God challenges his people to continue to sacrifice thank offerings to him and to remember his past faithfulness to them. The challenge is there because so often we are tempted to forget him and live ungrateful lives. There are plenty of reasons to say life is hard in the UK in 2026, but there are more reasons to remember and be thankful.

REVD NICK WELDON

Contacts:

Revd. Nick Weldon *Vicar* vicar@allsaintsmarcham.org 01865 391962
Phil Rowlandson *Curate* curate@allsaintsmarcham.org
Rob Finch *Youth Worker* youth@allsaintsmarcham.org
Jill Rowe *Children & Families minister* families@allsaintsmarcham.org
Tamsin Gilbert *Parish Administrator* info@allsaintsmarcham.org
Ruth Atkins *Safeguarding Officer* safeguarding@allsaintsmarcham.org
Website: www.marcham-with-garford.org.uk

Regular Sunday services

10.30am: Morning Service at AS
11am-12pm: Quiet prayer at St. Luke's
6pm: Evening Service

Wednesday Holy Communion

10.30am: at Duffield Place

Special Events

1st November 10:30am: Jill's last All-age Service
28th November 9-12:30am: Christmas Wreath Making Event

St Luke's Services

1st November 6pm: Service of Light for loved ones (remembering those who have died)
8th November 12:00am: Act of Remembrance at War Memorial
15th & 22nd November 11:00am: Quiet Prayer
29th November 6pm: Advent Carol Service



St Lawrence Church, Tubney

Join us at 9:30 am on every second Sunday of the month for a Traditional Prayer Book Service in this beautiful Chapel of Ease.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

PLANNING DECISIONS

Residents will likely be aware that the Vale is responsible for deciding on most planning applications in the area, except for infrastructure projects that go to the County Council or to the Planning Inspectorate. While most applications that come to the Vale were already decided by officers, the Planning Committee had an important role to play in deciding large or particularly contentious applications.



Local representatives could, until recently, use their right to "call in" an application to committee. While I can't claim that any Planning Committee is ever perfect, having a contentious application decided at committee is a valuable opportunity for applicants and communities to air their opinions and for the decision-making process to be carried out in public.

The Government decided to severely restrict this right and so, from now on, far fewer applications will go before Planning Committee. Meanwhile, the power of local councils to decide what sort of housing they want in their area via the Local Plan process is being stripped away: more and more of this policy will now be decided by Westminster. This is the same Government that claims to be devolving power out of central government and into local communities.

AIR POLLUTION

A request to anyone lighting bonfires to please be considerate of others. I've received numerous reports of foul-smelling smoke across the village, occurring at nights and causing considerable discomfort to residents. While not every night, it is a recurring problem. I've unfortunately not yet been able to locate the source of the problem on late-evening walks, so if you have any direct sightings (preferably photos) then please email me. Anyone wishing to report nuisance smoke can find more information at www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/bonfires-and-nuisance-smoke/

GARDEN WASTE

Lastly, garden waste permit holders can have extra garden waste collected for free in early November, which for Marcham means on the normal recycling & garden waste collection day on Wednesday 4th November. Up to 4 extra loads per subscription will be collected, so long as the garden waste is left in standard black bin bags (up to 60L) which must be left untied, or tied loosely if the weather is stormy.

CLLR DR ROBERT CLEGG

District Councillor for Marcham Ward

Phone: 07784 225290

Email: robert.clegg@whitehorsedc.gov.uk

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

In previous years, many residents have experienced unacceptable levels of congestion before, during and after the Abingdon Fireworks Event on Dalton Barracks Airfield, with significant impacts on the local area. Following concerns raised with me by residents, I have been working directly with the event organisers and their traffic management team to help ensure this year's event runs smoothly and minimises disruption for local communities.



I recently met with the organisers to review the traffic management arrangements for this year's event, which will take place on Saturday 14th November, and I'm delighted to report that they have introduced a number of changes this year, which should help reduce the strain on the local road network. In response to lessons learned from previous years, colour-coded arrival routes based on visitors' postcodes have been allocated, alongside staggered arrival times, improved signage, additional traffic management staff, live traffic monitoring and a revised exit strategy, designed to help traffic leave the site more efficiently at the end of the evening.

Temporary road closures and parking restrictions will be in place around Shippon, Gozzards Ford, Cothill and other surrounding areas,

but residents will continue to have access to their homes via staffed access points. I'm hopeful that the changes will discourage event traffic from using local villages as shortcuts and keep vehicles on the designated routes wherever possible. I will continue to engage with organisers and monitor the arrangements closely to ensure residents' concerns remain at the forefront of planning for the event. Full details of the temporary traffic restrictions can be viewed on Oxfordshire County Council's website: www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/eventorders and residents can also see a list of the improvements this year on the Abingdon Fireworks website: www.abingdonfireworks.co.uk

Turning to buses next and as I reported last month, a number of residents in Marcham have contacted me over recent weeks regarding changes to local services, particularly the decision for the new X35 service to remain on the A415, rather than serving North Street and Howard Cornish Road.

In response to this, I have been in direct contact with the bus operator to ensure that residents' concerns are heard. I highlighted the impact on those who rely on village bus stops, particularly older residents, people with mobility difficulties, and others who now face a longer walk to access services. I also raised concerns about the earlier evening finish of the X15 service, which has reduced travel options for those returning from work, social activities, or appointments later in the day. The operator has confirmed that it is actively monitoring the performance of the X35 and will keep under review whether the service could be routed through the village in the future. Concerns regarding the reduction in evening X15 journeys have also been noted and will form part of ongoing discussions. The company has advised that these issues will be considered alongside Oxfordshire County Council as part of the next service review, which is currently expected to take place in January 2027. While no immediate changes are planned, I am pleased that the operator has agreed to review both matters and consider the feedback received from Marcham residents.

As always, 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 Cummor

Email: james.plumb@oxfordshire.gov.uk

MP'S REPORT SERVICE CHARGES

I visited Marcham with Councillor Rob Clegg to hear directly from residents who had suffered from terrible service from the management company on their estate. This is a problem which is becoming more widespread. But even where residents are willing and able to take over management themselves, developer obligations must be completed first to avoid huge liabilities. I will continue to work with the Vale of White Horse Council and the Housing Ombudsman to enforce planning conditions, hold the developer to account, and bring these issues to the attention of ministers as the Government considers leaseholder and freeholder reforms. If you have issues with your estate management, please do get in touch.



OVERDIAGNOSIS DEBATE

Mental Health provision for young people continues to dominate my inbox. The Health Committee held a session this month with Professor Fonagy, who led the national review exploring the reasons why mental health conditions, particularly among young people have risen so much in recent years. Professor Fonagy dismissed claims of overdiagnosis and made it clear that the reasons for the increase are much more to do with how the childhoods young people experience now are radically different from the one I and older generations experienced. Social media and the displacement of traditional play and recreation is partly to blame. My own committee's inquiry will be looking at suggestions such as focusing on a needs-based system rather than one based on diagnosis as a starting point. We will be making recommendations to the

Government in due course on how to better support young people's mental health.

EU AMBASSADOR

With a closer relationship with Europe on everyone's lips, I met the EU ambassador and the Head of their Parliamentary Delegation to discuss how we can work more closely, particularly on Health and Social Care. Experts believe it is a matter of when, not if, the next pandemic strikes, and preparedness is best performed as a joint exercise with international partners. As Chair of the Health Committee, I agreed with the ambassador my ambition on the need to work with counterparts across Europe to identify weaknesses and bring forward recommendations to ensure we are in a much better place to respond quickly and effectively next time.

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

LAYLA MORAN

MP Oxford West and Abingdon

MP'S REPORT

With Parliament in recess for a few weeks, I've enjoyed meeting many brilliant local charities and businesses this month.

The Witney and District Museum, run entirely by local volunteers, does an excellent job of preserving and sharing Witney's history, and it's well worth a visit if you haven't been – and great for school visits too! I met up with the team at Witney Food Revolution. What began as a single community fridge now has more than 70 volunteers, rescuing surplus food from local supermarkets.

Solar farms are popping up like mushrooms. Many residents will have heard about Low Carbon's proposals for the West Oxfordshire Energy Park around Langford and Cearn's proposal for another one between Lyford, Garford and the Hanneys. These are both very large projects with solar and battery storage developments of up to 500 megawatts, which means the final decision rests with the Secretary of State rather than our local council. I have met, and will continue to meet, with local representatives and Low Carbon to discuss residents' concerns. Please do let me know your thoughts. Thames Water remains a top priority. I had a briefing with Ofwat on the White Horse Reservoir (SESRO), and I remain very concerned about its spiralling costs and whether Thames Water can be trusted to deliver it.

I was also very honoured to receive the national Rivers and Seas Award at the Nature 2030 Political Purpose Awards for my campaigning on water. Thank you to everyone I have worked with, including Windrush Against Sewage Pollution (WASP), whom I also met in Parliament this month. I will keep pushing for Thames Water to be put into Special Administration and run in the interests of its customers.

In Westminster, the Health Bill completed its Commons stages. I tabled amendments to protect NHS Foundation Trust Councils of Governors, which give patients and communities an independent voice, and I've asked colleagues in the Lords to keep pushing on this. The Assisted Dying Bill was also debated again. I voted in favour, as I have throughout, but it did not pass. Thank you to the hundreds of you who wrote to me with such deeply held views on both sides. I've also been working cross-party on how we prepare for the rapid progress of AI, including calling for a much stronger framework governing AI Security, which I am very concerned about.

As ever, this is just a snapshot of everything I've been working on, and everyone I've met with over the last few weeks. A huge thanks to everyone who gets in touch and takes time to meet me or just chat when out and about. It is always appreciated and helps me be the best representative I can of our area.

CHARLIE MAYNARD

MP Charlie Maynard charlie.maynard.mp@parliament.uk



OTHER REPRESENTATIVES DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

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

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

**Booking required
Limited Spaces**

Christmas Wreath Making

Saturday 28th November

9.30am-11.00am *OR* 11.30am-1pm

All Saints' Church, Marcham

Hot drinks and festive treats provided
Donations towards cost on the day

Y7 and above only

Scan the QR code now to secure your session.

Answers to this month's Quiz from page 7

1. Solheim Cup
2. Tom Hanks
3. Neil Diamond
4. Hercule Poirot
5. Liverpool and Hull
6. Au
7. Hyde Park
8. Green salad
9. Bank of England (2013-2020)
10. A View to a Kill – Duran Duran
11. John Steinbeck
12. Marcham, Frilford and Garford



BAZAAR

In aid of



**CANCER
RESEARCH
UK**

SAT Nov 14th

Hanney WMH 10 till 2pm

RAFFLE

Xmas gifts and decorations,

Glassware, crafts, Tombolas,

Toiletries, Toys, games, jewellery

Hot/cold Food

Hanney Fundraisers for CRUK

01235 868527/470/772114

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
SLC St Lawrence Church, Tubney,
DP Duffield Place, MC Marcham Centre

NOVEMBER 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 AS Jill Rowe's last All Age Service 10.30am (17) SL Service of Light 6pm (17) AS Evening Service 6pm (17)	2 DP Community Games Group 10.30am-12.00 noon (13) MC Bridge 6.50pm	3 Marcham School Open Morning 9.30am (5 & 16) AS TiddleyPeeps 10-11.30am Mostly Books, books signing, Abingdon 7 pm (16)	4 Extra Garden Waste collection (3 & 18) MC Thirsty Café Stay and Play 8.45-11.30am (7) DP Holy Communion 10.30am (17) MC Short Mat Bowls 2pm (13)	5 Millers Farm Classic car meet 9.30am-noon Marcham Society Midweek Walk 12.30 pm (7)	6 MC Quiz Night 7.45pm (13)	7 MC Thirsty Café with Natural Bread 8.45-11.30am (7)
8 SLC Traditional Prayer Book Service 9.30am (17) AS Remembrance Sunday service 10am with Marcham Wayside Cross Act of Remembrance 11am (17) SL Quiet prayer 11am-12 noon (17) Garford War Memorial Act of Remembrance 12 pm (17) AS Evening Service 6pm (17)	9 DP Community Games Group 10.30am-12.00 noon (13) MC Bridge 6.50pm MC Marcham Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm (3)	10 AS TiddleyPeeps 10-11.30am	11 Remembrance Day MC Thirsty Café 8.45-11.30am (7) DP Holy Communion 10.30am (17) MC Short Mat Bowls 2pm (13)	12	13 Little Angels Careers Event 5.30-7pm (11) MC Movie Night (Stick Man) 6 pm (10 & 15)	14 Little Angels Careers Event 9am-1pm (11) MC Thirsty Café with Natural Bread 8.45-11.30am (7) CRUK Bazaar, Hanney WMH 10am-12noon (19)
15 MADNEWS DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE 5pm (LATE ENTRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED) AS Morning Service 10.30am (17) SL Quiet Prayer 11am-12noon (17) AS Evening Service 6pm (17)	16 DP Community Games Group 10.30am-12.00 noon (13) MC Bridge 6.50pm	17 AS TiddleyPeeps 10-11.30am	18 MC Thirsty Café 8.45-11.30am (7) DP Holy Communion 10.30am (17) MC Short Mat Bowls 2pm (13) MC Astronomy Group 7.30pm (7) Arts Society Abingdon 10.30am & 2pm (15)	19	20 MC Family Bingo 7.30pm (13)	21 MC Thirsty Café 8.45-11.30am (7) MC Farmers' Market 9-12 (7 & 11)
22 AS Morning Service 10.30am (17) SL Quiet Prayer 11am-12noon (17) AS Evening Service 6pm (17)	23 DP Community Games Group 10.30am-12.00 noon (13) MC Bridge 6.50pm MC Marcham Society 7.30pm (7)	24 AS TiddleyPeeps 10-11.30am MC W! Talk 10.30am-12.30pm (16)	25 MC Thirsty Café Games 8.45-11.30am (7) DP Holy Communion 10.30am (17) MC Short Mat Bowls 2pm (13)	26	27	28 MC Thirsty Café 8.45-11.30am (7) AS Christmas wreath making 9.30-11am & 11.30am-1pm (17 & 19)
29 AS Morning Service 10.30am (17) SL Advent Carol service 11am-12noon (17) AS Evening Service 6pm (17)	30 MVS Elf on the Shelf begins (9) DP Community Games Group 10.30am-12.00 noon (13) MC Bridge 6.50pm					

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