

Marcham & District News

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

Your Independent Local News Sheet – www.madnews.co.uk

November 2011 Vol: 33 No: 11

READ & RECYCLE!

FREE



▲ Little Angels Paper Models see page 15



Bird Boxes for The Theatre of Wildlife Dreams see page 19 ▶



▲ Marcham Masks see page 11

▼ Guides at The Big Gig see page 15



▲ Cathy Dyer travelled to Zimbabwe to meet her sponsored child, *Advance*, page 17 ▶

◀ Toddlers enjoying the leaves page 15



DIARY FOR NOVEMBER

2 Wed	Have Your Say, Duffield Place, Marcham, 14.00-16.00	9
3 Thur	Midweek walk, The Plough Inn, Long Wittenham, 12.30/13.30	13
8 Tue	Marcham Society, All Saints' Church, 19.45	13
9 Wed	Marcham Parish Council Meeting, Duffield Place, 19.30	3
11 Fri	Family Bingo, Marcham School, 18.30	17
11 Fri	MP's Surgery, Didcot, 17.30-19.00	9
13 Sun	Marcham - Road Closure for Church Parade	3
13 Sun	Marcham ESMC, Quiz, 20.00	13
14 Mon	RDA Christmas Fair, Fallowfields, 11.00-16.00	21
16 Wed	Marcham Pre-School Open Day, 13.15 - 14.45	15
17 Thur	Have Your Say, Wootton, 10.00-12.00	9
17 Thur	Marcham WI, Denman College, 19.30	13
18 Fri	MP's Surgery, Wallingford, 17.30-19.00	9
19 Sat	Christmas Bazaar, Hanney Memorial Hall, 10.00-14.00	21

19 Sat	Tubney Church Bazaar, Southmoor Village Hall, 14.00	21
20 Mon	Deadline for Dec issue of MADNews, 17.00	
23 Wed	Have Your Say, Dalton Barracks, 10.00-11.30	9
24 Thur	MCG Meeting, All Saints' Church, 19.30	11
26 Sat	Tour of Solar and Wind Farms, Westmill Farm, 14.00-15.00	21
26-27	Sobell Christmas Gift Fair, Radley College, 10.00	21
29 Tue	Have Your Say, Duffield Place, Marcham, 14.00-16.00	9
December		
2 Fri	Marcham School Christmas Fayre, 18.00-20.00	15
2 Fri	Marcham Players and Vale Voices Christmas Concert, All Saints' Church, 19.30	13
9 Fri	MP's Surgery, Wantage, 17.30-19.00	9
14 Wed	Have Your Say, Wootton, 18.00-20.00	9
22 Tue	MCG Carols Around The Village	11

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

Dear Readers

What a fantastic autumn... the colours are only just starting to appear so I am looking forward to a wonderful November display!

I hope we have all had time to consider the developments proposed by Taylor Wimpey and are ready to give our views via Jane Hanna's group (see page 5) or MCG (see page 11). You can see the proposals online at www.dhaarchitecture.co.uk/marchamvillage/ or in the Post Office window.

Until next time



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Other copy: 5pm 20th month
except for Jan when it is 15th Dec for both
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These are available free from Marcham Post Office or the Editor. Postal copies are also available – contact the Editor.

NOTES

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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4 Charlton Road, Wantage OX12 8ER
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www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk

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November 2011

MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Taylor Wimpey – Consultation event

The Parish Council has received a reply from the Anson Trust regarding its query over the amount of the field to be developed. The reply states “the Trust has stated publicly that it foresees selling only one half of the field in pursuit of its proposal and sees no reason why it would depart from that in the future”. Taylor Wimpey has stated that it would welcome the opportunity to meet with the councillors to present its proposals. A meeting is being arranged so that the councillors can better understand the issues involved.

Grants

The Parish Council considers any requests for grants at its November meeting. Grant requests are considered usually just once a year. Therefore, if there is any worthy and needy organisation where Marcham residents benefit which is considering applying to the Parish Council for a grant, then please write to the Clerk immediately stating the purpose of the grant and supplying a copy of your organisation's accounts.

Fireworks

A reminder to be considerate for neighbours and the many pets and animals in the village when letting off your fireworks. 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.

Oxfordshire County Council – Bus Subsidy

The Parish Council has heard that the financially subsidised sections of the service 31 Wantage – Marcham – Abingdon – Oxford continues largely unchanged as does the service 43 Eaton - Gozzards Ford – Abingdon. New timetables will commence with effect from Sunday 11th December. Please see public transport section at www.oxfordshire.gov.uk for timetable updates and possible changes.

Remembrance Sunday – Road Closure Frilford Road, Church Street, New Road

A road closure order for the section of Frilford Road between Church Street and North Street, Church Street itself and new Road has been obtained for the latter half of Sunday morning 13th November. This is to allow the parade from the Church to the War Memorial in Frilford Road after the Church service in order to lay wreaths. Please note that the diversion will be along North Street to St. Peter's cross roads, then left to the junction with the A338, and left again to the Frilford Service Station.

Dial a Ride

Changes are likely to take place in the provision of the Dial a Ride service within Oxfordshire. If there is anyone locally who uses this service then please contact the clerk as the Parish Council would like to know the numbers of people who may be affected if changes go ahead.

Anson Trust - Vacancy

The Parish Council has certain nomination rights to put forward to the Anson Trust

the names of those people interested in becoming a Trustee. If anyone, at any time, is interested in the work of the Trust and would like to be put forward, then please contact the clerk.

Date of Next Council Meeting:

Wednesday 9 November 2011 at 7.30pm. in the residents' lounge, Duffield Place.

Clerk to the Council: Mrs. L. Martin,
90 Howard Cornish Rd, 01865 391833
clerk@marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk
www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk

RAY BILLINGTON
18.05.19 -08.06.11

Jill, Jan & Lynn would like to thank everyone who attended Ray's funeral & sent condolences. He had very fond memories & lots of tales about his years as a 'Bobby on a bike' & the friends he made in Marcham & the surrounding villages.

B&B Rafters in Marcham

is looking for reliable housekeeping staff working to a high level of cleanliness. We need someone for 2 to 3 days a week, 9am - 12/1pm. Please phone Sigrid on 01865 391298 for more details.

FOR SALE

Blackwall composter £10
Single wooden bed, Ikea, 90 x 200 cm £12
Clothes rail, freestanding, metal. £5
Dog guard £5
Diamond Back Mountain Bike
17" frame £20
Tel: 01865 390634

FOR SALE

2 x BRITAX CHILD CAR SEATS
Suitable from approximately 9mths (9kgs/20lbs) to 4yrs (18kgs/40lbs). Both in great condition, involved in no accidents.
Britax First Class – Black/grey
Britax Eclipse si – Navy
£40.00 each ono

BABYSENSE II Breathing Monitor
Double mat, baby breathing alarm. Excellent condition
£40.00 ono

Marcham 01865 391747

FOR SALE

Artificial green Christmas tree - £10 ono
Extendable to about 8ft Call 391725

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

Dear Editor

I have just looked at the proposals for the Marcham village community facilities renewal website. I am shocked and saddened by the Anson's trust decision to approach a developer to build on the Anson field. I agreed with the majority of the villagers' viewpoint that the Anson field should be used for the new community facilities and NOT for housing. This opinion was aired by a large number of people at the successful public meeting in 2010 when the Marcham Community group was created. The Anson trust appeared to support this so their new proposals seem to be a complete U turn and another questionnaire of the village for the same opinion is a pointless and expensive waste of time. There are many reasons for not supporting these proposals:

1. There will be more traffic on Howard Cornish Road which is an already busy road.
2. New housing means more children for a school which is already too small for the existing population.
3. These expensive community and sports facilities e.g. drama workshop are not needed by a village as small as Marcham and will take years to fund raise and build. We only need a basic village hall.

Enough time has gone on with arguments over the Institute and I thought everybody was being supportive of developing the Anson field for the community NOT for housing development, how wrong I was!!

VICKY PHIPPS

Howard Cornish Road

Dear Editor

Many residents will have had the opportunity to view and respond to the options proposed by Taylor Wimpey for development of the Anson Field. The options are different versions of the preferred option that was presented by the Anson Trust in their original consultation document in 2010. I sought advice from planning officers at the Vale at the time and they confirmed to me that a Planning Committee would be unlikely to approve unless there is overall support for the proposal from village residents. Villagers who have attended public meetings may remember that this was the advice that I gave on each occasion. I also have written on many occasions in MADNews about the independent working group that I set up some years ago to undertake a consultation should any planning application be submitted.

The working group is made up of Anthony Bradley, Ian Charles, Marjorie Evans, David Hutchinson, David Walton any myself. We met shortly after recent exhibitions by Taylor Wimpey and reviewed our proposed consultation. There is, of course, a new administration at the Vale so I was anxious to seek the advice again of Vale officers. The opinion that I have been given is that although the weight of public comment is *November 2011*

not material in its own right, there is no doubt that members of the committee will not contemplate making what would be a highly significant departure from planning policy if the village is not behind it. In this sense the stance that the village takes will clearly influence members of the Planning Committee greatly. It is also clearly in the spirit of the 'new' localism that the views of the village are heard.

In the light of this advice I am writing to remind residents of the commitment of myself and my independent working group to undertake a consultation once any planning application(s) has been submitted. The parish council is funding the consultation and we hope that everyone in the village will participate.

Residents should also be aware that the new Conservative administration at the Vale is consulting on a new Interim Planning Policy (available on the Vale's website from Friday 21st October) which aims to relax current development restrictions and identifies a shortfall of 62 dwellings for Marcham and invites landowners to promote their schemes to meet this perceived shortfall.

JANE HANNA, District Councillor

Dear Editor

Anson Field Sports Facility Update from Taylor Wimpey Oxfordshire

On behalf of Taylor Wimpey and the Directors of the Anson Trust can we thank everyone who attended the recent consultation event and also those that provided feedback via the online facility. We had circa 225 attendees across the 2 days and have received 166 completed questionnaires. The online facility is now deactivated.

You will recall that it was our intention to host a second consultation event in November to enable us to report back the results from the first questionnaire. However, given the number of responses received, the comments raised, and to enable us to address as many of your concerns and suggestions as possible we have decided to delay this consultation event until early 2012.

It is apparent from an initial look at the questionnaire responses that there are some common themes raised, including:

1. Concerns about primary school places

Delaying the consultation will allow us to discuss the proposals further with the school and where possible the locally elected Parish, District and County Council representatives so we can come back with a more definitive answer.

2. How can the delivery of the new facilities be guaranteed if the Anson Field is developed for housing?

If planning permission is granted for a residential development and also for the

replacement sports facility there would be a legally binding agreement (a section 106 agreement) that will tie in the need for the replacement facilities to be provided prior to certain elements of the residential development being undertaken i.e. there will always be the provision through an agreed strategy for football and cricket and all other existing activities.

3. What will happen to the children's play equipment?

The short answer is nothing. The intention is for the play area to remain where it is untouched. If, for any reason e.g. to accommodate a re-landscaping of the half of the field which will remain as open space, it is proposed to relocate the play area., then this will be done on the Anson Field. The play area will be reinstated to a standard, at least equal to the existing one. In such circumstances careful consideration would be given to enhancing the existing equipment and lay out.

4. What will happen to Little Angels?

The feedback received was supportive of the Little Angels Nursery and provision will be made for them within the new facilities.

We trust this update is of use, but should you have any questions then please contact Taylor Wimpey Oxfordshire at Windrush Court, Suite J, Abingdon Business Park, Abingdon, Oxon, OX14 1SY or by e-mail to TWOmarcham@taylorwimpey.com



GARD UPDATE

Thames Water are still working out the revision of their already twice revised Water Resources Management Plan 2009! All GARD can do at present is to monitor their work for accuracy and thoroughness, which we are doing with the help of our experts. We do not expect a Thames Water announcement until the very end of this year.

The critical study which has just started is the analysis of the future flow in the River Thames from which there is a great deal of water abstraction. The Thames flow studies are directed towards the 2014 Plan which is the really important one as far as GARD is concerned. They also include climate change considerations, and only when the results are known will it be possible to assess which new water resource options are appropriate. These options will include a reservoir, Severn-Thames transfer and much more recycling of water. All have to be studied by Thames Water and we will endeavour to ensure they are properly and fully researched and the true costs identified. Our experts are keeping in close touch with progress.

NICK THOMPSON

Hon Chairman **GARD**

A Community Led Plan for Marcham

Why we value our independence

The idea of creating a Community Led Plan was proposed jointly by Marcham Parish Council and the Marcham Community Group. The process is now completely independent of those two bodies, although quite a few of the people who are working on it are also Parish Councillors or members of the MCG. The Steering Group also includes several other people from the village, and its job is to organise the whole thing, from collecting views to publishing the final Plan.

We say it is independent because we have no allegiance to any other group, and all the members of the Steering Group have agreed to put aside their personal views to make sure that the whole process is fair and impartial. Only by doing that can we be sure that everyone, from Oxfordshire County Council to individual residents will take the Plan seriously.

The process for any village to create a Community Led Plan is well set out, and we have to check everything we do with several outside bodies. Two of our neighbours, Kingston Bagpuize and the Hanneys have completed their Plans within the last year, and we aim to get ours finished some time in 2012.

The story so far

Just in case you missed this page in either of the last two editions of MADnews, here is a quick reminder of the story so far and where we are going next.

A Community Led Plan is a step-by-step process which enables everyone in a community to be involved in, and contribute to improving their local area. It covers every aspect of village life, such as transport, education, the environment and community facilities. We held two public meetings to collect people's views on their 'Likes', 'Dislikes' and 'Suggestions for improvement'. We have also invited people to fill in a simple form to let us know their views and to post it back to us in one of the boxes round the village. In addition, we are continuing to gather issues from different groups in the community.

We will use these views to draw up a questionnaire which will be distributed to every household in Marcham. We will then collect the completed questionnaires from as many people as possible; the

more responses we get, the more effective the Plan will be.

The Steering Group has met four times and we expect to continue meeting on the first Wednesday of each month until the Plan is completed.. There are also small groups who meet separately to get on with the detailed work.

Membership of the Steering Group is open to anyone in Marcham. **It is not too late to join**, especially if you can offer time and skills to help complete the project.

May you live in interesting times

If Confucius suggested that one should live in interesting times, he probably wasn't thinking of Marcham. However, the wish seems to have come true for us these last few weeks.

In an ideal world we would have collected the results from our whole village questionnaire and published our Community Led Plan just in time to use it to help decide about Taylor Wimpey's plans to build houses on the Anson Field in exchange for a new Sports Facility behind Hyde Copse.

As it turns out we won't be anywhere near ready to help, as we don't expect to send out the questionnaire until March or April of next year.

As you may know Jane Hanna, our District Councillor, is planning to hold a whole village consultation on Taylor Wimpey's plans and so the Community Led Plan Steering Group has decided to take a back seat until that process is complete. In the meantime we will carry on collecting views on what people in the village think is important and we will continue work on designing the final questionnaire.

For more information
or to volunteer to help,
please contact:

Jim Asher (tel 01865 391727) or
David Walton (tel: 01865 391239)

ED VAIZEY WRITES...

I am very pleased that both King Alfred's school and Wallingford school have become academies, amongst the firsts in the County to do so. Becoming academies will give the schools much greater freedom to run themselves, and they will also see an uplift in the amount of money they control, which they can spend on the needs of their pupils. Our secondary schools are thriving. I remain very concerned about the pressure on primary school places, and I hope this issue can be addressed as soon as possible.



Other news around the constituency – I attended two very successful events as part of the Wantage Literary Festival which took place in September, talks by Max Hastings the former editor of the Daily Telegraph, and the poet Pam Ayres. Pam grew up in Stanford-in-the-Vale and has written an autobiography which takes us up to her life at the point she became famous, winning Opportunity Knocks in 1975. So it is a very good piece of local history giving a window into Wantage life in the 1950s and 1960s by a very good writer.

In London, in the House of Lords, Lord Ashcroft held a reception to launch a new charity, the Felix Fund, which aims to raise £1 million to provide extra support for soldiers in the bomb disposal regiment 11 EOD. They are based in Vauxhall Barracks in Didcot, and this seems a very worthy cause to support. I will be making a donation.

I'd also like to let you know about some good news for the voluntary sector in South Oxfordshire; Microsoft is trying to expand its software donation programme by appealing for more applications from charities.

Through the Charity Technology Exchange Service (run by the Charity Technology Trust), Microsoft has put on offer a range of software packages and licenses to provide affordable computer hardware to charities in need of a freeing up a little extra cash.

I would encourage anyone in South Oxfordshire, whether setting up a new charity or extending the reach and scope of their existing charity, to take advantage of this offer. It is so important at this time for local groups to help recover our communities and develop our local autonomy from Whitehall. This scheme is just one of many that can help people realise these goals. (visit <http://ctxchange.org/> for details).

ED VAIZEY, MP Wantage and Didcot (Con)

MP'S SURGERY WITH ED VAIZEY

5.30-7.00pm, unless stated otherwise

Nov 11th	Didcot , King Alfred Drive Community Centre, OX11 7NU
Nov 18th	Wallingford , Town Hall, OX10 0AD
Dec 9th	Wantage , Civic Hall, OX12 9BX
Contact Ed Vaizey MP by	
Post	The House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA
E-mail	vaizeye@parliament.uk
Web	www.vaizey.com
Tel	0207 219 6350

Oxfordshire Artweeks will be celebrating its 30th Anniversary in May 2012. If any artists or craftspeople in your parish would like to take part, we are now taking exhibition entries for 2012 - with the closing dates being 2nd December 2011 for paper entries and 31st December 2011 for on-line entries. Each May, Oxfordshire artists and craftspeople open their studios to the public for the county's most important arts festival. Nearly 500 free exhibitions showing work by over 1000 local artists. For more details visit our website www.artweeks.org or contact the Artweeks office: Oxfordshire Artweeks, PO Box 559, Abingdon Oxon OX14 9EF
Tel: 01865 865596 [The Artweeks office is open Monday/Wednesday/Friday 9.30am-2.30pm]
November 2011



Have your say...police surgery

- Wednesday 2nd November 1400-1600
Duffield Place, Marcham
- Thursday 17th November 1000-1200
Wootton Office
- Wednesday 23rd November 1000-1130
Dalton Barracks
- Tuesday 29th November 1400-1600
Duffield Place, Marcham
- Wednesday 14th December 1800-2000
Wootton Office

PCSO Carly Milward C6157
Abingdon Outer Neighbourhood Team
NAG7 Marcham, Wootton, Shippon and Boars Hill
Non-emergency number:
0845 8 505 505 OR 101
www.thamesvalley.police.uk

THAMES VALLEY GOES LIVE WITH 101

Thames Valley Police is due to go live with 101, the new national single non-emergency number on 14 November 2011, which will replace the 0845 8 505 505 number. Both numbers will run side by side until the end of March 2012, but if demand for the 0845 8 505 505 number drops it may be discontinued earlier. Calls to 101 (from both landlines and mobile networks) cost 15 pence per call, no matter what the duration or time of day the call is made.

Everyone calling the police for non-emergency matters will now know exactly how much a call will cost them, and can be assured of equal access whether they are on a pay-as-you-go mobile or a home landline

The routing will be based on the same system as 999 calls. If a caller is using a landline the routing will be based on the caller's postcode and the call will be directed to the police force for that area. If a caller is using a mobile, the call will route using the mast that the phone is transmitting from.

If a call is made to 101 within a force area that has not yet 'gone live', the caller will hear a recorded message telling them to redial using the relevant non-emergency number.

KEEP SAFE

Thames Valley Police is working in partnership with Local Authorities to keep you safe as the darker nights draw in. Neighbourhood teams will also be patrolling in burglary hot spot areas and leaving calling cards at people's homes if they come across a house in darkness to ensure the occupants receive some crime prevention tips.

If no light is on in your home, curtains are not drawn, and no car is in the drive, it's an obvious sign to an opportunist burglar that no-one is in. At this time of the year more than any other it pays to secure your home. There are a number of simple and free ways to do this, all of which will help reduce the chance of your home becoming the next target.

Visit a local retailer to pick up a 24 hour segment timer for under £5. The timer can be used with a lamp, radio or TV to give the impression that someone's home. Remember to use an energy efficient light bulb

Register your valuables on www.immobilise.com - it's free and takes just a few minutes and if your valuables are stolen, will allow you to tell the police, your insurer, and the second-hand trade to assist in recovering your property and catch the thief.

Keep valuables out of sight and lock your doors and windows, if you have a UPVC door make sure you have double locked it.



MARCHAM MASKS

Saturday 1st October was a wonderful summer day. Many families made the most of it by coming to the children's activities in the afternoon and staying on for the barbecue and the band. Our thanks for the support from the village and to everyone who worked so hard to make the event a success. We raised £850.

NEXT EVENT—CAROLS AROUND THE VILLAGE THURSDAY 22ND DECEMBER



Taylor Wimpey planning application

IN AN IDEAL UNIVERSE Marcham would have a completed community led plan(CLP). All development issues would have been subject to the full community consultation that is the essential part of the CLP process, and any development proposals would have had to be consistent with the plan.

BUT WE ARE WHERE WE ARE:

- ◆ Taylor Wimpey is proposing to apply early next year for planning permission for a building development on the Anson Field and new community facilities north of Hyde Copse.
- ◆ The planning application for the proposed new village hall will be for a fully designed building not just for an outline plan.
- ◆ The Anson Trust is working on a last-minute design specification for the proposed new building based on input from its main user groups.

Once the planning application is submitted there is a mechanism in place, through Jane Hanna's village consultation, for all local residents to say whether they support it or not (see p. 5). MCG believes that the whole community should be in a position to make an informed choice.

MCG remains committed to community participation and consultation.

We are concerned that there is no proper opportunity for input from the whole community to the new building design to ensure that a new hall would meet the community's wants and needs. This consultation process is also key to creating a building the community will feel ownership of and will want to use.

We believe that our best course of action in the community interest is to work within our membership and in the wider community on a number of ideas to help develop the design specification. We will be holding one or more information events before the next Taylor Wimpey exhibition, now moved to the New Year, to raise awareness of the issues involved and encourage people to contribute ideas. See box below for first event.

MCG MEMBERS MEETING - PROPOSED VILLAGE DEVELOPMENTS
THURSDAY 24TH NOVEMBER 7.30 PM ALL SAINTS' CHURCH
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ALL WELCOME

As a separate input to the design specification MCG, as a village organisation, will draw up its own list of 'must haves' and 'nice to haves' based on the views of its members. This information will be useful wherever and whenever a new hall is built.

If you would like to participate in this, contact MCG now - contact details below.

What you can do

You can see the initial Taylor Wimpey proposals at <http://www.dhaarchitecture.co.uk/marchamvillage/>. Tell Taylor Wimpey and the Anson Trust what you think needs to be provided in any new facility. Contact details are in the panel on the right. Please also tell MCG—you can contact us at mail@marcham.org.

IF THE PLANNING APPLICATION IS ACCEPTED the village will have to live with Taylor Wimpey's village hall design. It is in all our interests to make the design specification for the hall as good as possible in the time available.

TWOMarcham@taylorwimpey.com HAVE YOUR SAY ansontrustmarcham@yahoo.co.uk



Marcham WI November 2011

Our meeting in October proved to be very interesting, with our speaker, Dr. Susan K Williams from the Royal School of Needlework, talking to us. The title of her talk was "Just a needle and thread", and members brought examples of unusual pincushions and thimbles for a display.

NEXT MEETING

7.30 pm Thursday 17 November 2011

Denman College

Members Miscellany

Demonstration of Food, Flowers and Crafts

Some future events in the County

3 Nov Festive Fun - "Freestyle Stitchery" at Sonning

11 Nov Flower Demo with lunch, Yarnton Village Hall

17-19 Nov A Derbyshire Holiday

25 Nov All About Iceland at East Challow

Contacts for: Sonia Edwards 01865 391442

more information Christine Whild 01865 391270

Visitors are always welcome - Why not come and see?

YOUR LOCAL W.I.:

BROADENING HORIZONS - EMPOWERING WOMEN

Babysitter available in Marcham and surrounding area

Feel free to ring Cathy to find out more on 07985 681564.



VILLAGE CAFE
EVERY WEDNESDAY
MSSSC



MARCHAM SOCIETY MIDWEEK WALK Thursday, November 3rd.

For this month's walk we will eat at The Plough Inn in the High Street in Long Wittenham (Map Ref: SU547937) at 12.30 for lunch, but will start our walk at the nearby Northmoor Trust Car Park (SU554938) at 1.30 for the walk of just under 4 miles using permitted paths by the Trust's woods and arboretum to Wittenham Clumps. . Members free, non-members £1. New walkers always welcome. Ring Eric Dunford on 391439 for lifts and further details.



MARCHAM PLAYERS

Marcham Players will be presenting a Christmas Concert, in conjunction once again with The Vale Voices, on Friday 2 December in Marcham All Saints' Church at 7.30pm. Come and join us in an evening of carols, poems and readings.



Drinks and mince pies in the interval and all for only £5 with free admission for under 12's. Tickets/reservations can be made via Cheryll Sewell on 01865 391200 or Dave Hutchinson on 01865 391964 or pay on the night on the door - though early booking would assist us with catering!

Paid up members are invited to join us for the Annual Christmas Dinner which this year will be held at The Prince of Wales Public House in Shippon, 7pm for 7.30pm. Members wishing to attend should please contact Deidre Maton on 01865 391885 for details of menu choice - cost £17 2 course meal or £20 3 courses. Please book early for this event!

Finally, for anyone interested in a theatre visit in January/February 2012 to an, as yet, unchosen show, please contact Andrew Paxton on 01865 391198 so that details can be sent to you in due course.

Anyone interested in joining Marcham Players do please contact either our Secretary, Cheryll Sewell, on 01865 391200 or our Chairman, Dave Hutchinson on 01865 391964

www.marchamplayers.co.uk

MARCHAM CRICKET CLUB

Please contact Trevor Hill (391321) for general information relating to the Club and for information regarding playing and umpiring for Marcham CC in the 2012 Season.

CSB



MARCHAM AND DISTRICT

GENERAL KNOWLEDGE QUIZ
COME ALONG TO NORTH STREET
Sunday 13th November
DOOR OPEN 8.00 PM
QUIZ STARTS ABOUT 8.30 PM
UP TO 4 PER TEAM

EX SERVICEMEN'S CLUB



MADAGRAMS by Jay
Is Your Road Hidden Here??
Answers and more madagrams next time...



HAT PEG
WE ARE SOLD
CHAPEL'S NEAR, OK



The
**Marcham
Society**

The Wilts and Berks Canal

Past and Present

Martin Buckland

All Saints' Church Tuesday 8th November 2011, 7.45pm

Following meeting 13th December 2011
Christmas Social - Manor Farm

Non-members £2

www.marchamsociety.org.uk

Further details: Sheila Dunford (391439) or Judith Fontaine (391275)

MARCHAM BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

We have been enjoying the beautiful autumn weather this month with a romp through the leaves in the churchyard, followed by a rather blustery outdoor attempt at leaf collage! As the weather becomes colder we will retreat indoors to more cosy activities, with the opportunity to share toys with friends, listen to stories and sing songs. There is a drink and biscuit for the children and a warming cup of tea or coffee for the grown-ups, and a friendly welcome for all.

We meet on Tuesdays at the back of the church, 10 - 11.30am. The first visit is free, then just £2 per family each week. **Do come and join us!**

MARCHAM GUIDES GO TO THE BIG GIG

The big gig. It's not just big. It's massive! It only happens once a year and this time it was bigger and better than ever before. In fact the tickets for the gig were in such high demand that they had to book a whole other concert just to keep people happy, and 1st Marcham guides was lucky enough to get tickets this year.

The whole experience could only be described as magical, we travelled down to London on the train and even that was enjoyable, everyone was laughing and discussing how excited they were to be going to the gig and we were nowhere even near the venue yet! As we approached the building I could see more collections of girl guiding units waiting to get in and enjoy the event. Once inside the establishment there were crowds of people soaking up the fantastic atmosphere. There was guiding merchandise being sold, people were waving their tickets and talking excitedly amongst their groups. We entered into the actual arena and there was flashing bunny ears and groups of girl guides and you could feel the excitement bubbling up before the music even began.

And when the music did start, well it was like nothing any of us had ever experienced before, the music was amazing, the performances were breath-taking, and the artists were outstanding. The Wanted. Olly Murs. Ed Sheeran. And when Pixie Lott came onto the stage in a brownie uniform, no one could believe it.

The event was exceptional, and not only was it a brilliant chance to see big stars performing live, but it was also a chance for all the guides in the UK to celebrate the girl guiding community, to come together and embrace the life we're all living.

SOPHIE



Tickets for The Big Gig

I found the concert really fun and entertaining. There were amazing acts like; Ed Sheeran, Olly Murs, Pixie Lott, Wanted and many more. We had to meet at school at 9:30, then drive to the station where we got a train to London. When we got to London we went straight to Wembley Arena, where we got our seats and enjoyed the amazing atmosphere.

This event was a non-uniform one, which made it more fun to see all the other Guides in different outfits. Me and my friends bought some bunny ears to make our selves stand out, but then we noticed everyone else was wearing them to! The show started at 1pm which gave us loads of time to eat lunch. We took loads of pictures of the amazing acts. I went mad over Ed Sheeran as he was my favorite of the night so was Olly Murs. After the Gig, we went outside and had a chance to buy any posters if we wanted to, but unfortunately there weren't any of Ed Sheeran :(Then we got back on the train to go home. We were back by 6 ish. Over all I had one of the best days of my life!!!!

RACHAEL

November 2011

MARCHAM PRE-SCHOOL NEWS

**Open Afternoon
Wednesday 16th November
1.15pm - 2.45pm**



This invitation is open to all parents/carers and their children of any age who may be interested in attending Marcham Pre-school!!

It's never too early to register..

Come along and join us

play, create, imagine, build, explore, enjoy!!

Marcham Pre-school Playgroup can offer flexible attendance between 8.55am - 3pm, Monday to Friday. Do you need childcare before or after these times? We have linked up with a local Nursery and Childminder who are planning to be here and are happy to discuss any additional childcare needs.

For more information please ring 01865 392101 or e:mail marcham-preschool@hotmail.co.uk. No need to 'book' just come along and see us in action, collect a prospectus or application form, talk to the staff and have some fun.

ABINGDON LITTLE ANGELS

This month at Little Angels we have been enjoying the warm Autumn weather by exploring the village with walks. Throughout October



Abingdon Little Angels
building blocks for life

our Topic has been Nursery Rhymes and we have had great fun role-playing Jack and Jill, making a well in the garden with our tyres, Humpty Dumpty, making finger puppets and horses, Little Miss Muffet and we had great fun making curd tarts and pretending to be frightened, lots of screams (ha ha). We marched around the nursery to the Grand Old Duke Of York, finishing with the dish running away with the spoon and a cow jumping over the moon. All great fun and nice to look really closely at the traditional nursery rhymes. The fair in Abingdon was great fun and as always we took all our little angels on the bus into town to see all the attractions finishing with a ride which was great fun.

Our after-school club is beginning to pick up and you can see us daily collecting children from school. During October we have been looking at Autumn, collecting leaves, leaf printing and collaging, along with our topic of transport chosen by the children. We have been busy making paper aeroplanes, 3D planes, cars, boats, hot air balloons to name but a few.

If you would like any further information about Abingdon Little Angels please feel free to call in or telephone us on 07516 474287 or at info@abingdonlittleangels.co.uk.

MARCHAM SCHOOL CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Friday 2nd December 6-8 pm

- Food and Drink
- Christmas gifts
- Tombola, Raffle and Bingo
- Nail and Face Painting
- WI Homemade Gifts
- ... and MORE

Children FREE
Adults £2 includes a mince pie and mulled wine, tea or coffee

Come and see me !!



Marcham School PTA thanks you for your support

CATHY'S TRIP TO ZIMBABWE

Cathy Dyer travelled to Zimbabwe to meet her sponsored child, Advance.

My trip began with an overnight flight to Johannesburg and then an hour-long flight over to Bulawayo where I spent a night with family friends. The next day Plan staff collected me to take me to visit Advance, and to see some of Plan's projects in his community. From Bulawayo, it was about a two hour car journey to the village. My first visit was to the secondary school. I met the deputy head teacher and was taken to meet Advance in his class. Luckily, I spotted him in the back row after a few seconds, avoiding any embarrassment, and everyone cheered!



Singing and dancing

Advance came with us to see the local primary school. The villagers had gathered and ladies and gentlemen from the whole community were waiting outside the school in the shade under a tree. There was singing and dancing to welcome me. I was then taken to say hello again to the deputy head in his office before we went round to the back of the school where there was more dancing and singing. There were children sitting in the shade under a big tree and tables had been laid out with white tablecloths and artificial flowers.

Speeches welcoming me were then given to the assembled audience. Plan and their sponsors were praised highly for all that they had done to help the community. Then the children danced, sang and read poetry. I was given a chance to stand up and say a few words – I thanked everyone for such a lovely welcome and told them what a special visit it was for me. I was invited to give out my presents and I gave a wind-up radio to the kraal head. The deputy head said this was a very good present as it didn't need batteries.

A special gift

I was invited to hand out the pencils, pens, paper, balloons, whistles, little notebooks and colouring-in books that I had brought with me. I had also brought some baby cardigans and knitted hats which I was able to give to some mothers. I was given presents from the ladies in return – many baskets, two floor mats and two wall hangings and a lovely wooden carved elephant from Advance himself.

Advance was lifted up in front of everyone and praised as a special person. After all the gifts we enjoyed more singing and dancing and I was invited to join in. It was a bit embarrassing, but it was good fun! There were hugs, smiles and laughter all round and it felt very special.

Sanibonani

We then drove from the school to the village where it was mostly ladies sitting in the shade waiting for me along with just two men. I went to each, shook hands and said "Sanibonani. Unjani?" "Good day. How are you?"

I was shown around the kraal by a young man who is from the village but now lives in Bulawayo with his family. He said he was a musician and had played at the Edinburgh Festival. The kraal consisted of five or six huts, including a kitchen hut with a fire going and a main hut with a sofa and three chairs. This hut had very beautiful decorations on the walls and home made shelves. I was shown the maize field and told how the rainy season had stopped prematurely in January causing many crops to fail. If people plant their maize in different stages then there is more chance of a later successful crop. They also grow beans and groundnuts and pumpkins too.

Good food and goodbyes

I was treated to a meal in the hut. We had cooked beans and nuts and pumpkin leaves and cooked corn meal (also called pap or isitshwala in Ndebele) and corn on the cob with water to drink. We washed our hands, put food on our plate using serving spoons and then ate with our fingers as is traditional. A lovely cool breeze was coming through the doorway as we sat and ate.

November 2011

I gave Advance two tops and a football book and I gave his granny Edina food we had bought and some head scarves and woollen hats. They thanked me kindly. Advance showed me two photos of his mother, now sadly deceased; one of when she was a girl and one of her as a young woman. Then it was sadly time to say goodbye to Advance and his family. It had been a very special visit to Zimbabwe. Thank you so much to Plan for facilitating it and to the family and villagers who made me so welcome. **CATHY DYER**

How you can get involved

By visiting Advance, Cathy was able to see first hand how sponsorship contributions are helping his community. Sponsoring a child, like Cathy does, enables you to make a lasting difference to the lives of those who need it most.

Plan is a global children's charity. We work with children in 48 of the world's poorest countries to help them build a better future. For over 70 years we've been taking action and standing up for every child's right to fulfill their potential. We have over 114,000 sponsors in the UK, generating £25 million a year, and 1.5 million sponsored children worldwide. Sponsorship starts at £15-a-month and, rather than going to individual children and their families, funds projects to improve schooling, health, nutrition and livelihoods across communities.

To find out more or to sponsor a child please contact Plan on 0300 777 977 and mention either Cathy's visit or the code MGMVT2

PlanUK: 0300 777 9777 www.plan-uk.org

Have you got a snippet from your life you would like to share? Send it in to The Editor - either by email Editor@madnews.co.uk, drop it into the Post Office envelope by 20th of the month, or you can send it to 8 Orchard Way, Marcham, Abingdon OX13 6PP.

SEND-A-COW NEWS

Last month, I introduced readers to the Charity called Send-a-Cow. I hope you noticed my little paragraph! This month, I am going to explain the PASS IT ON scheme.



Sometimes, when you are very poor, it is hard to accept Charity from others, even if you are desperate. However, every family who receives a gift of a cow, a goat or some hens, promises to pass on a gift of the first female calf, a kid or some chickens to another family in need. Thus a chain is started - a chain of giving - that continues to grow and grow - and, importantly, restores dignity and pride to the original receiver as they themselves become donors. Then the original family want to share their success with others, so they pass on knowledge and skills to nine other people - friends, family or neighbours. It's all like ripples on a pond! Would you be able to send a donation, or help in any other way - or would you like to have the latest catalogue? Ring Christine Whild on 391270 for more information.

OCTOBER CROSSWORD ANSWERS BY ALISA

ACROSS: 1 Cup 6 Cab 8 Salamander 9 Leg 10 Ant 11 October 3 Walnut trees 16 Tilsley Park 22 Bampton 23 Boa 24 Cam 26 Supersonic 27 Top 28 Den

DOWN: 2 Use 3 Pagoda 4 Fasten 5 Intently 6 Crab 7 Bothy 9 Low 12 Sera 14 Lily 15 Unleaded 17 Petrol 13 Rancid 19 Orbit 20 Jem 21 Wasp 25 Ace



FAMILY BINGO
FRIDAY 11TH NOVEMBER.
MARCHAM SCHOOL HALL.
DOORS OPEN AT 6.30.
EYES DOWN AT 7PM.
HOT DOGS AND CHIPS AVAILABLE
HOT AND COLD DRINKS.
GREAT PRIZES UP FOR GRABS!

ALL WELCOME!

THEATRE OF WILDLIFE DREAMS

Stuart Mabbutt, a long established Oxford gardener couldn't believe his luck when he was given the rare opportunity to care for a garden originally set out in the mid to late 1800s on Boars Hill.

It has its own amphitheatre which is overlooking a lake set in dense woodland and teeming with wildlife which Stuart has to care for as part of his brief. Stuart Mabbutt says "As a company, we specialise in wildlife gardening but often gardening and conservation inhabit two different worlds. We strive to make them interlinked, and this garden clearly demonstrates it's possible".

Old photos exist to show the site was clearly more open than what we see today. Over the years, previous owners stamped their own mark on it by putting in tennis courts, dells, amphitheatre and used bricks from a former local brickworks to form banks between the terraces. Alan Powell, gardening assistant adds "We were called in during late 2010 and presented with a huge hillside garden with encroaching dense woodland full of English Bluebells".

The owner said "the garden is a fantastic habitat for lots of creatures. I wanted to maintain and enhance that. I also wanted Stuart and his team to improve the visual aspect of the grounds. Encouraging the birds, butterflies and other creatures gives as much to the landscape as managing the flowers and trees."

As possibly Oxford's only truly wildlife gardening specialists, the company is suited to making the management of this huge garden affordable. Other companies offer wildlife friendly options but Stuart's company only take on new projects that have wildlife at the top of the agenda. Stuart says "to manage the area is the key, not garden in it. It is better for the whole garden and woodland environment, (and cheaper as well) to manage an area so a number of species thrive but nothing actually dominating than it is to use labour intensive manicuring gardening techniques. This is as applicable in a tiny garden as it is to a huge plot like this. Clients just have to be brave, have thick skins and resist the temptation to prune to make things look nice and straight and leave things slightly rougher around the edges. Wildlife doesn't like too much house work to be done".

It quickly became obvious that the best approach was to maintain the footpaths to the remaining features and sensitively develop a footpath through the woodland so access was gained and management was possible. Stuart uses his contacts in the conservation world who specialise in areas from bats to moths, birds to mammals, to build an eco system rich in bio diversity to give the client a wondrous slice of the countryside in which to live.

Stuart continues "We have a former Senior Countryside Ranger on the staff so we are blessed with people who care about the countryside. We will work with the clients children to build bat and bird boxes and use bat detectors to listen for hunting bats. We will help the client monitor the boxes and the land and send the data off to the Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre so the garden forms part of the wider picture of the countryside at Boars Hill". "If we can build an eco system from the insects upwards everything else should hopefully follow. We hope to roll this out to all future clients. "What better job can there be than making a contribution that really matters and is important".

Contact Stuart Mabbutt on 07798 825469 or 01865 747243 Shotoverhermit@hotmail.com

See Stuart's regular column on page 19: this month it is all about wildlife gardening for YOUR garden!

November 2011



STUART MABBUTT GARDENING LTD

'Wildlife Gardening Specialists'

Gardening Professionally since 1988

**Our company's philosophy is that the
'Wildlife comes first!'**

**Projects sought of a
minimum of 8 hours per week**

A budget of £24 per hour within a 20 mile radius of Oxford

**Let us transform your garden into something that's
a credit to you and is flourishing with wildlife**

**Listen to Stuart presenting "Going Wild With Wildlife"
on Radio Cherwell**

**Call Stuart now on
07798 825469
01865 747243**

Email: shotoverhermit@hotmail.com



WILDLIFE GARDENING

Gardens are not just about having well manicured lawns with crisply trimmed edges, bedding flowers in nice tidy blocks of colour, and nor is it to have perfectly straight rows in the vegetable garden. Just as much enjoyment I believe is gained by sharing the space with other living creatures from birds to moths, bats to badgers.



You don't have to have a large garden to attract wildlife, small gardens are just as important, especially when you put together an entire row of small gardens that in the eyes of wildlife looks just like one big, linked up habitat. They don't care if there is a fence dividing your garden from your neighbours. Wildlife sees it as one block of space, uniting entire communities.

A good place to start is to have a lawn that has varying lengths of grass in different areas, not just mown within an inch of its life all over. Although birds like to feed on short grass, insects love longer areas. To increase the bio-diversity in your garden, build from the insects up as they are near the foot of the food chain. Then everything else will follow.

Grow as many varieties of plant as possible, and leave some seed heads when you are dead heading, as this will increase the insect and bird life in your garden. When pruning down all your herbaceous perennials in autumn after they have finished flowering, leave about 5 inches of stem uncut above ground. Not only will this protect the crowns of your plants from the severe winter weather, but it will also give insects somewhere to hibernate which in turn are a good food source with which to attract birds in winter.

Maybe you have room for a small tree that fruits or berries, and can again be a good food source for birds. If you are growing trees and shrubs, try and focus on native plants that naturally grow in this country, and they are more attractive to wildlife that is also native. Ponds are always great ways of attracting wildlife to pay your garden a visit, but never plant overly invasive plants that will soon over run, and keep in mind fish in a pond will reduce some of the insect and amphibian populations you may wish to attract and enjoy.

The main thing to consider when you are gardening with wildlife in mind is not to be too tidy, wildlife doesn't like too much housework to be done. Leave some piles of dead wood and some piles of rocks, to give small creatures places to hide, and if you have a large garden, standing dead wood is very valuable. By that I mean if you have a tree that is dead or dying, leave it standing for as long as possible as long as it is not dangerous. That encourages insects and other animals that live higher up and off the ground. Green Woodpeckers love standing dead wood as they have very soft bills so can't hammer very easily into hard wood. Which is often why you can observe them feeding on the ground and they try and find ant nests in your lawns and borders.

Have a go at gardening a little differently and see if you too can attract more visitors into your garden.

Happy Gardening

STUART MABBUTT

See Stuart's column about The Theatre of Wildlife Dreams **opposite**



Do something amazing today – give blood

96% of us rely on the other 4% to give blood. Please don't leave it to someone else. Most people can give blood. If you are generally in good health, age 17 to 65 (if it's your first time) and weigh at least 7st 12lb you can donate. You can give blood every 16 weeks, that's approximately every four months.

www.blood.co.uk 0300 123 23 23

November 2011

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Treat Yourself In Your Own Home**

Bio Sculpture Gel Nails
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Many More Other Treatments Available
For Enquiries/Appointments
Call: 07902 406884

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**** NOW ON MONDAY EVENINGS 7 - 8 pm ****
Marcham Scout, Sports and Social Club
Key Benefits



- Improve Posture
- Improve Fitness Levels
- Improves Strength
- Increases Energy Levels
- Great Fun!

CALL OR EMAIL TO FIND OUT MORE 07547 464113
or wagstaff_helen@hotmail.co.uk

HEDGEHOG STREET

Through Hedgehog Street, we are asking people to become Hedgehog Champions to



rally support from their neighbours and work together to create ideal hedgehog habitat throughout their street, estate or communal grounds.

Please sign up to receive a pack which will help you get started. The pack contains hedgehog factsheets which can be handed out to neighbours, posters to help advertise the project, tips and hints on how to get neighbours involved and how to keep them interested and a pack of action cards which explain what people can do in their gardens.

Sometimes people want to help wildlife but they either aren't sure how to go about it or they think that doing something in their small patch won't make a difference. This is why we are providing everything you need to do the project and explaining what you can do to make your whole street good for hedgehogs.

www.hedgehogstreet.org



**Thames Valley & Chiltern
Air Ambulance Trust**

Charity Number: 1084910

The Thames Valley Air Ambulance provides a life saving service seven days a week, 365 days a year, covering the three counties we serve, Berkshire, Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire.

Lottery

Win £1000.00 every Wednesday and save a life? Then join our TVAC Lottery, or perhaps become one of our Volunteers. Interested? Then please call us on: 0300 999 0135 or email info@tvaca.org.

www.tvaca.org

WE RELY ON YOU - SO YOU CAN RELY ON US

OXFORDSHIRE CARERS FORUM

We provide three very special services to Carers as follows:



1. Carers Voice – we support Carers to have their voice heard and influence services by keeping the informed about changes, finding out what they think about them and making sure their views are passed on to those who can do something about them.

- Face to face meeting, workshops and consultations,
- In writing or by email,
- By networking with other carers and service providers.

Services and support for carers developed with the involvement of carers are better services.

2. Confidence 2 Care - is aimed at improving support for carers aged 18 and over. They can develop their caring knowledge and skills by taking part in free local group sessions.

Confidence 2 Care will:

- help build on your strengths as a carer
- give you the opportunity to share experiences and learn from others in similar situations
- provide you with up to date information about services available to you as a carer
- help you decide what you may like to change about your caring role

Confidence 2 Care consists of 5 free sessions lasting 2.5 hours.

The programme covers the following subjects:

- The essentials of caring for someone each day, from medication to emergencies at home.
- Information about up-to-date resources and services available to you as a carer and how to get the most out of them.
- Emotions involved in looking after someone. What strategies you use and what you could do to cope with stress more effectively.
- How your caring role fits with other aspects of your life and the balance between your caring commitments and other needs.

The final session will enable carers to discuss the opportunity of moving forward and developing their own group.

3. Telephone support and Signposting opportunities

We provide a telephone support service on 01235 520440 between 09:00 and 16:00 daily. We also work in partnership with Carers Oxfordshire a newly established organisation in Oxfordshire who provide support to Carers who are new to the role or established carers when things have changed, they can also give benefits advice and support through home visits.

WWW.OXONCARERSFORUM.ORG.UK

**WESTMILL SUSTAINABLE ENERGY TRUST
SATURDAY 26TH NOVEMBER**

Tour of solar and wind farms at
Westmill Farm SN6 8TH 14.00 – 15.00
Presentation in Watchfield village Hall 15.30 – 16.30
Tea and biscuits provided

WeSET trustees will explain the work that they have been doing locally and how they may be able to help you or your organisation.

WeSET is currently working with local schools, organising tours of the wind farm for interested groups, supporting local organisations to save energy (WeSET paid for and organised the fitting of roof insulation to Watchfield Village Hall) and providing free expert advice and support for individuals and organisations who wish to save energy or want to generate renewable energy.

There will also be a presentation by Adam Twine of Westmill Solar Co-operative about the forthcoming public share offer for the solar farm and the opportunity for individuals and businesses in Faringdon to own a slice of the solar park and join the renewable energy revolution.

For further information please call Liz Rothschild – 01367 240508 or visit www.weset.org

November 2011

The Wood Shop

Second hand timber, scaffold boards, plywood and more

Why buy new? Lightly used and unwanted new timber and off cuts at HALF new price. Hardwoods too!

Visit us at: 46A Milton Park, Abingdon, OX14 4RU



www.oxfordwoodrecycling.org.uk

Tel: 01235 861228



ST LAWRENCE CHURCH – TUBNEY

Saturday 19 November Church Bazaar and Table Top Sale Southmoor Village Hall - 2.00 pm.

Wide range of stalls. Table tops available - £4.00 each.

Contact:

Rosemary Kitto 01865 390 466 rosemarykitto@gmail.com



Christmas Bazaar

Sat 19th November

Hanney War Memorial Hall

10.00 - 14.00

Raffle :: Hot and Cold Food

Christmas Decorations :: Tombola :: DVDs & CDs

Toys :: Dolls & Doll Clothes :: Craft Stalls :: Jewellery

Gifts :: Toiletries :: Bric a Brac

Cake Stall



Together we will beat cancer



Do your own pink fundraising

Visit www.jointhefight.org.uk

where you can find your perfect fundraising activity and register for a fundraising pack containing everything you need for a fantastic event.

You can also call our hotline, 08701 60 20 40, for fundraising advice and to register your event.



Riding for the Disabled

RDA ABINGDON GROUP

CHRISTMAS FAIR

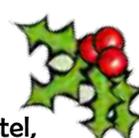
Fallowfields Country House Hotel,

Southmoor OX13 5BH

Monday 14th November 2011

11am – 4pm

Adults: £3.00



THE SOBELL CHRISTMAS GIFT FAIR

at
RADLEY COLLEGE

Saturday 26th November 10am – 5pm

Sunday 27th November 10am – 4.30pm

Entrance £4 Concessions £2

* Over 60 stalls * Refreshments

*Unique Gift Ideas

Come and support

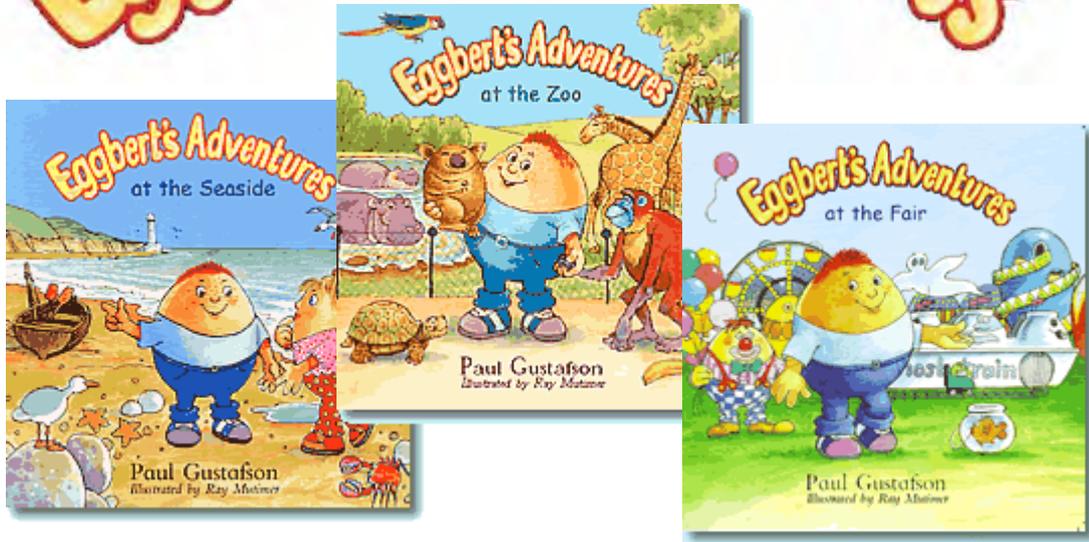
Sobell House Hospice Charity

www.sobellhospicecharity.org.uk



Charity number 1118646

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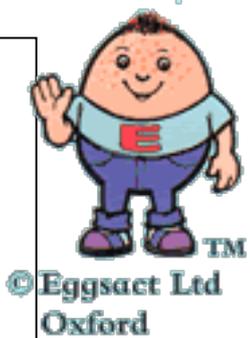
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This offer is subject to availability*



Marcham Baptist Church

(Packhorse Lane)

November 2011



**Sunday Morning Worship
at 10.30 am**

(Communion every first Sunday)

Our Speakers for November are:-

6th November Mr. Roger Frith of Wantage Baptist Church

**13th November Remembrance Sunday - Mr. John Maxwell
of Swindon**

20th November Mr. Keith Mersh (one of our members)

27th November Mr. Paul Revell of Cholsey Baptist Church

Everyone welcome

Bedlam (Read Romans 12:19-21)

The Imperial War Museum in London is housed in a building that was the former location of the Bethlem Royal Hospital, a care centre for the mentally ill. The hospital was commonly known as "**Bedlam**", which gradually became a term used to describe scenes of chaos and madness.

It's ironic that the War Museum should occupy Bedlam's former location. As you walk through the museum, in addition to stories of heroism and sacrifice in wartime, you also find bone-chilling accounts of the madness of man's inhumanity to man. From the exhibits about modern genocide and ethnic cleansing to the Holocaust.

Solomon observed mankind's propensity for evil, describing it as those who "**rejoice in doing evil, and delight in the perversity of the wicked**" (Prov. 2:14). While this may describe much of the world around us, followers of the Lord Jesus have a refreshingly different way to handle life. Paul challenged us: "**Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good**" (Rom. 12:21). Christ-centred actions such as **living morally** (v.17), **making peace** (v.18), and **treating our enemies with care** (v.20) will affect the world for good.

If each of us were to live as a reflection of God's love, perhaps there would be a lot less bedlam.

Rev. Bory Pilgrim

For further information on church activities:

Contact Mr R Barrett 01865 391356
Mr W Dyer 01235 814986

Marcham Baptist is affiliated to the Baptist Union of Great Britain



All Saints' and St. Luke's Parish Page

Dear Friends,

It hardly seems possible that we are approaching the winter months already! Where has this year gone?! November is a month of shortening days and often colder weather; the trees are shedding their leaves, revealing their skeletal outlines against the sky; our gardens need clearing of old stems and shrubs need pruning back. November has a quiet beauty and a sense of expectation – a time of preparation for new things.

The great season of Advent is only weeks away. This turns our minds towards the promised return of Christ and asks the question: 'Are we ready?' Good question! How can we be ready for such a cosmic event?

Of course we don't know when Jesus will return – even he said he didn't know when God the Father would give the command for him to return. But Jesus does call us to be ready and to be watchful for that great day.

There is always the danger that scepticism creeps in on us, our faith dulls, and the celebration of Advent becomes too familiar, too routine. It's come round again and ...!

Yet – the question remains: are you ready? Could it be that delay in Jesus' return is a means of grace? It's not too late – yet. 'If you return to me, I will return to you' is God's promise in Jesus. Knowing Jesus (and being known by him) transforms the whole of life – but does require our turning to him – recognition - repentant faith - embracing new beginnings – the great adventure! Don't miss out!

Advent – here we come! Maranatha!

With my warmest greetings,

Revd Richard Zair

Prayer for the Month:

Heavenly Father,
Please renew in me the gift of faith, to recognise Jesus as your Son and to turn to him in trust and thankfulness.
Thank you for the joy of new beginnings, and the wonder of your love. Help me to be ready for that great Advent Day – whenever it bursts into our lives.
Thank you in Jesus' name.
Amen.

NOVEMBER calendar:

SATURDAY 5th NOVEMBER: 8.30 am at Carswell Golf Club House Special Men's Breakfast joint with Fyfield, Tubney and Kingston Bagpuize. Dr. Allan Chapman will speak on "Science and Secularism". (There is a charge of £6.50 for a Full English or Continental Breakfast.) Please RSVP to Ian Bensted (390 955) by 2nd Nov if you are planning to attend.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY - 13th NOVEMBER: 10.00am in **All Saints** followed by prayers and wreath-laying at the Wayside Cross at just after 11.00am, **and at GARFORD:** a service at the War Memorial at 12.00 noon

[Please note: There will be a said service of Holy Communion at 11.30am in **All Saints** after the wreath-laying at the Wayside Cross.]

Sunday 27th November is ADVENT SUNDAY.

Youth & Children's Groups

The church runs a variety of weekly groups for young people during term time:

- Friday Club for primary age children (Friday 5.30 pm)
- TAG for years 7,8,9 (Tuesday 4 pm)
- TAG PLUS for years 10+ (Tues, fortnightly 7-8.30 pm)
- ASK for ages 9-12 (Sunday 5.15-6.15 pm)
- CONFIRM for ages 11-14 (Sunday 6.30 -7.30 pm).

Children of all ages are also welcome at our Sunday services. For more details of any of our Youth & Children's work please contact Jill Rowe (07811 165351).

Regular services:

Sundays at All Saints': 10 am and 6 pm
(8 am first Sunday)

Wednesdays: 10.30 am Holy Communion
at Duffield Place

Sundays at St. Luke's: 10.30 am on November 20th

Contacts:

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Deborah Flint *Churchwarden* 391056
Janey Cumber *Administrator* 391327
Jenny Warwick *PCC Secretary* 392076