



Marcham & District News

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

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

DECEMBER 2017 VOL: 39 NO: 12

READ & RECYCLE!

FREE



▲ Where is Pudsey going? page 15

▲ Marcham Football Club in their new kit sponsored by Marcham Village Shop



▲ Marcham Village Shop is 5!



▲ Marcham Rocks! page 20



▲ CPR and Debrillator Training with Ian and Ruth page 9



Little Angels is 10! ▶



Diary for December

1 Fri	Coffee Morning & Raffle, 50 North St, 10.30-12.00	13
1 Fri	Wreath Making at The Earth Trust, 13.00, 14.00, 15.45	17
1 Fri	Marcham School PTA Christmas Fayre, 18.00-20.00	19
1 Fri	Wantage Dickensian Evening, 18.00-21.00	2
2 Sat	Abingdon Extravaganza, 09.00-16.00	2
2 Sat	Christmas Craft Morning, All Saints' Church, Marcham, 09.30-12.30	2
7 Thu	Midweek Walk: Trout Inn, St John's Bridge 12.30 lunch / 13.30 walk	7
7 Thu	Music at the Unicorn, Hannah and Ben, 19.00	9
7 Thu	ABCD Film Society: Late Spring, Abingdon, 19.45	13
8 Fri	Wreath Making at The Earth Trust, 13.00, 14.00, 15.45	17
8 Fri	Carols at The Crown, Marcham, 19.30	20
9 Sat	Didcot Community Gospel Choir in aid of The Air Ambulance, Benson, 17.00	2

12 Tue	Singing is Good for You, Duffield Place, 14.00-15.30	7
13 Wed	Daytime Carol Service, All Saints' Church, Marcham, 14.00	20
13 Wed	Marcham Café Christmas Tea, 15.00	15
13 Wed	Marcham Parish Council Meeting, Marcham Baptist Hall, 19.30	3
13 Wed	Carols at The Black Horse, Gozzards Ford, 19.30	20
14 Thu	ABCD Film Society: Inside Out, Abingdon, 19.15	13
14 Thu	Marcham WI Christmas Party, Denman College, 19.30	7
15 Fri	Deadline for January MADNews, 17.00: editor@madnews.co.uk	
20 Wed	Last posting date for 2nd class mail	7
21 Thu	Last posting date for 1st class mail	7
24 Sun	Crib Service, All Saints', Marcham, 16.00	20
31 Sun	New Year's Eve Dance, MSSSC, 20.00	13

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

THINGS TO DO



**ICE RINK
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Millets
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www.milletsfarmcentre.com

**Looking for stocking fillers
or Christmas presents?**

The Denman gift shop is stacked full of little gifts and edibles which will help pad out your Christmas pile.

Open from 9-5 until the 20th December (closed for 18th December) we're open for local residents to drop by to have a browse.

For weekend opening times please call us on 01865 391991




Abingdon Extravaganza Saturday 2 December

Free Parking
Christmas Market in Bath Street, from 9am – 4pm.

The Parade will leave Queen Street at 12 noon, then travel along Stert Street, East St Helen Street, Lombard Street, West St Helen Street, High Street and then the Market Place.

Come and Meet Father Christmas!

For more information see the Christmas page of the Abingdon Chamber of Commerce website:
www.abingdonchamber.co.uk

Thames Valley Air Ambulance needs £2.2m annually to stay in the air and every single bit of fundraising helps, since it's funded entirely by charitable donations. **Didcot Community Gospel Choir** will be performing for the Air Ambulance on **Saturday 9 December in Benson Parish Hall**, starting at 5pm so that all the family can come. Their concert, "Glad Tidings" will feature straight Gospel and ballads and be accompanied by seasonal refreshments and the chance to win sumptuous Christmas hampers in the raffle. Tickets £8/£6 from didcotgospel@gmail.com or 01235 834295.



**THAMES VALLEY
AIR AMBULANCE**

Wantage Dickensian Evening

6-9pm Friday 1st December

Wantage Market Square

The Heartstone Fund will have a stall

- so come along and see what we have on offer

(and say Hi to Meriel)

Come dressed in Victorian costume!



Heartstone Fund



**Women's Christmas
Craft Morning**

Saturday 2nd December
9.30am – 12.30pm

All Saints' Church

Come along and have a go at making a wreath for your door, a table decoration, candle holders and more. You do not need to be artistic or crafty—there will be people to help you create something amazing!

All are welcome.
Refreshments will be provided.



*Didcot Community Gospel Choir
presents*

**GLAD TIDINGS
A GOSPEL CELEBRATION**

Saturday 9th December 2017

Benson Parish Hall
Sunnyside, Benson, OX10 6LZ

Doors open 4.30pm

Proceeds to Thames Valley Air Ambulance
Charity number 1084910

Musical Director Mark Stanley
Accompanist Phil Coull
Tickets £8/concessions £6

To purchase tickets
please call 01235 834295
or email didcotgospel@gmail.com

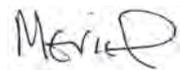
Dear Readers

Another December, another year nearly over and another 11 issues published!

I leave 2017 with some wonderful memories of the year and some sad – but if I look to the distant horizon, I can see something taking shape ... and it might just be our new Marcham Centre!

I wish you all a very merry, peaceful, joyful, most wonderful time of the year!

Until next year



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DEADLINES

Advertising: 5pm 15th month
Other copy: 5pm 20th month
except for Jan when it is 15th Dec for both

ADDITIONAL COPIES

These are available free from Marcham Post Office or the Editor. Postal copies are also available – contact the Editor.

DISCLAIMER

We apologise in advance for any errors that may creep into MADNews (online or print), or omissions that creep out - we don't do it on purpose!

The Editor reserves the right to alter, omit or hold over copy to another issue. The views expressed in the Marcham & District News are not necessarily those of the editorial team, who are all volunteers.

POLICE

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

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

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Wick Lane, Drayton OX14 4HJ
Tel: 01235 534001

Richard.webber77@ntlworld.com

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

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

Webbercatherine1@gmail.com

For other councillors go to

www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk

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December 2017

MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Parishioner of the Year Award

The Parish Council is again inviting nominations for the Parishioner of the Year Award. This is to recognise the efforts of local people from anywhere within the parish who have contributed to local community life. Marcham Parish covers the wide area from the A420 in the north to the River Ock in the South and from the A338 in the West across to and including most of Gozzards Ford in the East. The Council gives the award to anyone who, at any time, has significantly contributed to life within the parish. Should there not be any appropriate nominations, then the award need not be made. The certificate is presented at the annual meeting for electors each year. Would anyone who wishes to submit a nomination please contact the clerk, whose details appear below, sending a short statement of not more than 200 words, as to whom he/she wishes to nominate and the reasons why the person should receive the award.

Grants

Applications for grants were considered at the November meeting of the Parish Council. The Council was pleased to be able to support the following organisations: Marcham Senior Citizens Club £175
Marcham Parochial Church Council – Children’s Friday Club £250
South and Vale Carers Centre £150
Marcham Football Club £300
Marcham Cricket Club £500
Marcham Rainbows £400
Marcham Bellringers Society £250
Wantage Independent Advice Centre £100
In addition, further sums were set aside for organisations which had requested financial support in previous years, but had not done so during 2017, and also for organizations who had applied for grants, but where additional information had been requested.

Defibrillator/CPR Course 18th Nov

Approximately 25 local residents attended the CPR/Defibrillation course given by the South Central Ambulance Service. There are many different scenarios and it was impossible to cover everything in the time available, but the course provided all those attending with the confidence to act quickly and effectively, how to perform CPR, and use the defibrillators in the village. See photographs on the cover. The Ambulance Service are willing to organise another course, so if there is anyone still interested in attending who missed the November session, then please contact the Clerk who will start a waiting list.

School Admissions – Entry to primary or infant school September 2018

If you are a parent or carer of a child 3

or 4 years old then you need to apply for a primary school place now. This is for children born between 1st September 2013 and 31st August 2014. You still have to apply even if your child already attends a nursery attached to the school. For further information and to apply online go to www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/admissions The closing date for applications is 15th January, 2018. If you do not have internet access, then you can access the internet at many of the County Council’s libraries, and children’s centres.

Halloween

Halloween can be a time of fun for some, but also a worrying time for those who do not wish to be disturbed. The Parish Council would thank the children and their parents for the responsible way in which they behaved this year, only calling on houses where they were known to occupants, and behaving with courtesy to those who did not wish to participate.

Longfields: House for Sale

Longfields is a development created in 3 phases, supported by the Parish Council and for people with a local connection to Marcham as defined in various planning agreements completed as the time of each phase. A shared ownership house on the first phase has become available for sale to a local person. If anyone is interested in this property then please contact Andrews Estate Agents 01235 555553. Please see advertisement on page 5 and via the internet at Rightmove.

The following planning applications have been considered :

P17/V2932/HH Demolish side garage and build new single storey extension to the front and rear with a double storey side extension at 21 Fettiplace Road. The Council had concerns regarding parking provision and queried the use of a new room.

P17/V2490/LDO Local Development Order for Didcot Technology Park. Council had no comment to make on this application.

Date of Next Council Meeting:

Wednesday 13th December 2017 at 7.30p.m. **at the Baptist Hall, Marcham.** Please check noticeboard outside the Institute and/or the Council’s website www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk in case arrangements change.

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

www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk

The Council wishes everyone a happy Christmas

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Dear Editor

For many years the Alzheimer’s Club went from strength to strength under the care of excellent staff, managed by community volunteers and supported by a fundraising group. The group raised a considerable amount of money with a lot of hard work, applying for grants and running events in the local area. About four years ago, the running of the Unit was taken over by the national Alzheimer’s Society. The local group no longer had any influence.

Subsequently the Unit moved to Audlett Drive in Abingdon, charges were introduced and we were informed that all monies raised could no longer be restricted to the Unit but would go to Bucks, Berks and Oxon. Supporters were unable to specify that the money they donated would go to the Unit. However, the group continued with its fundraising activities.

At the end of May, the group was informed that the Unit was to close at the end of August due to fluctuating numbers. The members of the group were extremely upset at this decision.

The group would like to thank the people of Marcham and district who have over the years so generously supported the Club and the Unit. You have attended our fundraising sales, given your Christmas cards to be used both for therapy at the Unit and for recycling for sale. Oxford Flower club, provided money for armchairs by making the Unit their charity of the year and Oxford Inner Wheel gave money for the dining room chairs to have easy moving wheels fitted and local churches made regular donations. The benefits of all this goodwill and practical kindness to those in our neighbourhood and their carers who have had to cope with dementia at first hand have been real and tangible. Thank you all so much.

EILA CURREY.

on behalf of the local Alzheimers Society fund raising group:

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Brand new handmade Nimbus sofa covered with Linwood Iona fabric.
 Feather back with arm caps and scatter cushions.
 Length 170cm, Height 90cm, Depth 92cm
 Sadly won't fit in the space!
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SUPPORT FOR LOCAL PEOPLE INTO EMPLOYMENT FROM SOHA HOUSING

Soha Housing, based in Didcot, is offering training to people – whether or not they’re a Soha tenant – to help them into employment. Soha’s Launchpad project, funded by the European Social Fund offers:

- Individual employment support – An individual assessment to identify the right support to help applicants get a job. This includes referral to any support agencies where required.
- Getting online – Targeted training to give those it supports the tools to search and apply for jobs online as well as preparing for interviews. Soha also runs free, regular public sessions for anyone wanting to ‘go digital’ for the first time, or increase the computer skills they already have.
- Training – Soha works with training providers and other agencies to identify and deliver training that best helps applicants towards a job. Training is held at Soha’s head office in Didcot, in the community or online.

If you think you would benefit from Soha’s Launchpad support and training, please contact the Resident Involvement Team at ri@soha.co.uk or on Freephone 0800 014 15 45.



ROYAL BRITISH LEGION “POPPY APPEAL” 2017

On behalf of the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal may we say a huge thank you to everyone that gave so generously to this year’s collection in the villages of Marcham, Frilford, Garford and Cothill. We are pleased to announce that we collected £5,534.00. May we say a special thanks to the businesses and door to door collectors that helped us achieve this significant total.

Malcolm and Christine Denton,
 01865 391497, 07516 761040



MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

Thank you very much to everyone who attended the coffee morning organised by 7-year-old Isla Cousins. Isla worked very hard and was overjoyed to raise a massive £481. Thank you also to everyone who helped on the day and made cakes to sell. Special thanks to both men’s football teams for contributing and helping clear away.



ANNE COUSINS

FRILFORD NOTICES

Frilford Book Club

The first meeting took place on 23rd November.

Parish Email & WhatsApp Group

To be added to the contact list, email frilfordparish@gmail.com

Planning updates:

VoWH Local Plan 2031 Part 2 publicity period is now live at <http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/services-and-advice/planning-and-building/planning-policy/local-plan-2031-part-2>

LONGFIELDS, MARCHAM SHARED OWNERSHIP RESALE

For sale to a local person 2 bedroom house at Longfields, Marcham £191,820 for a 69% share plus rent of £179.54 pcm on the remainder. To view and apply, please contact Andrews, 16 High Street, Abingdon O1235 555553. The houses at Longfields were a joint project between the Rural Housing Trust, Marcham Parish Council and The Vale of White Horse District Council.



Merry Christmas



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Visit us on Facebook: [marchamvillageshop](https://www.facebook.com/marchamvillageshop)

We would like to thank all our customers and volunteers for supporting us over the past 5 years. Come and support us for Small Business Saturday on 2nd December 2017. smallbusinessaturdayuk.com

Christmas Closures

We will be closed on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and Boxing Day, we are open 8am - 12 noon for the rest of week. We will also be closed on New Year's Eve and New Year's Day.

Back to normal hours from Tues 2nd Jan.

If you are shopping online for Christmas, have your parcels sent to the PO for collection. No more trekking in to Abingdon to get them plus you are supporting the shop as we get a few pennies for every parcel you collect from us ... and when you send them back too!

December – it's Yuletide!

Time for chocolate - come in and see what we've got!

International Standard (formerly Airmail) and all International Tracking and Signature Services (formerly Aisure® and International Signed For®)

Saturday 2 December	Africa, Middle East
Wednesday 6 December	Cyprus, Asia, Far East (including Japan), Eastern Europe (except Poland, Czech Republic and Slovakia)
Thursday 7 December	Caribbean, Central & South America
Saturday 9 December	Greece, Australia, New Zealand
Wednesday 13 December	Czech Republic, Germany, Italy, Poland
Thursday 14 December	Canada, Finland, Sweden, USA
Friday 15 December	Austria, Denmark, Iceland, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland

Saturday 16 December Belgium, France, Ireland, Luxembourg

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Friday 22 December	Special Delivery Saturday Guaranteed



Marcham WI

Next Meeting

Date: Thursday, 14th December

Time: 7.30pm

Venue: Denman College

Christmas Party

We hope to see you all at our **December Christmas Party** on Thursday 14th December. Please note that this is on the 2nd Thursday of the month and not the usual meeting night of 3rd Thursday of the month. Join the fun, wear something Christmassy and bring your contribution towards our bring and share supper for a festive evening with friends old and new. We have planned an exciting party minus our speaker who has had to cancel.

Once again we will be having a Christmas bottle raffle, so it would be much appreciated if you would bring along a contribution. Instead of the bran tub, we will again be repeating the collection of non-perishable Christmas treats for the food bank, perhaps wrapped in cellophane so the item can be seen, or decorated with ribbon. There will also be a donations box for The Stroke Association rather than exchanging Christmas cards.

New members and visitors are always welcome

For further information, please contact:

Pippa Hoath 01865 391349 pippahoath@gmail.com



MARCHAM SOCIETY MIDWEEK WALK: THURSDAY DECEMBER 7TH

For this short winter walk of about 3 miles we will be eating at the Trout Inn at St John's Bridge (Map Ref: SU 223991, GL7 3HA) on the A417 near Lechlade. We will meet at the usual time of 12.30 for lunch and start the walk at 1.30. We will be walking in three Counties by the Rivers Coln and Thames. Absolutely no hills, but ring for a revised route if there has been heavy rainfall and flooding!

Ring Eric Dunford on 391439 for further details and car-sharing, especially if you are not on our email list as sometimes late changes have to be made. Members free, non-members £1. We always welcome new walkers.



MARCHAM SENIOR CITIZENS' CLUB

Our November meeting was held on Thursday 30th with us having our Christmas lunch in The Crown. As usual we have no meeting in December.

The January meeting, on Thursday 25th, will be our **Christmas/New Year party** and will include an afternoon snack of sandwiches, trifle & jellies, cakes and other festive nourishment. All are welcome.

New members are always welcomed. Please call the Secretary, John Woods Tel 391705.

We meet in the lounge at Duffield Place at 2.30pm on the last Thursday of the month.

NEW MEMBERS VERY WELCOME

For more information contact
 John Woods (Secretary) 391705

SINGING IS GOOD FOR YOU!

From 2 – 3.30pm Tuesday 12th December

but **NO SINGING** on Tuesday 26th!

Come and join us in the common room at Duffield Place, you will be sure of a warm welcome ... and tea and cake!

We now have over 150 songs in our song book!

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**MARCHAM SOCIETY REPORT
MADE IN ABINGDON – ECHOES FROM THE
SHOP FLOOR AT MG**

On 14 November, Bob Frampton talked to the Marcham Society about the stories told to him by those who worked at “the Gs” as the factory was popularly known locally. These have been amalgamated into a book, which is due for publication in February 2018.

MG production began in Abingdon in 1929 and was an immediate success, building up a loyal workforce, often from the same families. Youngsters often joined the firm from school as tea boys and girls and worked their way up. During World War 2 the factory made engines for Lancaster bombers and wings for fighter aircraft, earning it a respectful fly-past by the RAF.

From the 1950s onwards, rallying became important at MG. Special teams acted as back-up for rallies such as the one from London to Mexico in 1970. They were away for many weeks at a time, making hair-raising journeys through challenging terrain. Back in Abingdon, wicked humour sometimes surfaced, such as the time when the workforce whistled the theme tune to Z-Cars* during a visit by a group of policemen. Fun was also had at the MG Social Club in Caldecott Road, which boasted a bar, ballroom and sports ground.

Golden jubilee celebrations were held in 1979, but a few days later it was announced that the factory was to close. Theories vary about the reasons, but the sense of sadness and betrayal is still felt 38 years on. MGs are now made at a specialist works in Steventon at a cost of £80,000 each.

JF

**For the benefit of younger readers, this was a popular police series during the 1960s.*

Aladdin

By Joe Graham
Directed by Susi Dalton

Evenings: Friday 12th,
Saturday 13th, Thursday
18th, Friday 19th, Saturday
20th January | 7:30pm

Matinees: Saturday 13th,
Sunday 14th, Saturday 20th
January | 2:30pm.

Tickets available from:
The Bookstore, The Abingdon
Precinct (15 Bury St)
Tickets: £10, £8 concessions
(60+, students, ADC members)
Email: tickets@
unicornboxoffice.org.uk
Telephone: 0845 4636638
enquiries@abingdon-drama-
club.com



Hannah Sanders & Ben Savage
Thursday 7th December
www.hannahbenmusic.com
Support: Jake & Sarah
Doors: 7pm | Music: 7:15pm | Main act: 8pm | £14
Abingdon Unicorn Theatre
Tickets: www.musicattheunicorn.org.uk
& REMADE GUITARS, (Stratton Way) Coxeter House



SUNSHINE CLUB

We meet on Mondays at 2 o'clock in The Residents' Lounge, Duffield Place. Any new members will be very welcome. We play some games of bingo, enjoy a cup of tea or coffee with biscuits and finish off with a raffle about 3.30pm.

Any further information, please contact me on 391384 or just come and join us on a Monday afternoon at 2pm for a social afternoon.

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CPR / DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING

Ian Jones of South Central Ambulance Service came to the school on 18 November to give training to enable us to use any of the THREE defibrillator machines (AEDs) in Marcham. He is a very engaging trainer and it was great to see him roll the Chair of the Parish Council around on the floor to get her in the recovery position! There were several dummies to test our CPR skills on, including one that lit up when we gave the correct amount of pressure to pump blood to the brain. Ian told us a useful acronym DRAB to help if we came across an emergency situation:

Assess the **D**anger

Is the patient **R**esponsive?

Is the **A**irway clear?

Are they **B**reathing?

But I think the most important thing he told us was to call 999 – even if you have to leave the patient to do so – and get help as quickly as possible. The operator on the phone will talk you through assessing the patient and if you need to use the Defibrillator.

There are THREE Defibrillators in the village, one outside the shop, one outside the school and one inside Denman College – so you will never be far away from one if it is needed.

The Clerk may arrange further training if there are enough people who would like to learn more about CPR – see page 3 for details.

#numberup?

Can ambulance and emergency crews see your house number at night?

Lives are at risk because emergency crews cannot see house numbers and property names easily. As illness and injuries can occur at any time, make sure your house name or number is clearly visible from the road by day and night, so that, when you need them most, they can find you quickly and easily.

- Check your house name or number is visible from the road
- Make sure that there are no trees or bushes obstructing the sign
- Switch on, when possible, an outside light.

It is essential that when the emergency services are called they can find the address as quickly and as easily as possible.



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ED VAIZEY WRITES...

In October, I spoke in Parliament alongside my fellow Oxfordshire MPs about the future of healthcare in the county. Wantage Hospital is currently in a state of limbo – Oxford Health announced in April 2016 that they would be closing the hospital due to concerns over legionella in the old pipe system. This decision is subject to a consultation by Oxfordshire CCG – a consultation which was previously promised in October 2016. Phase one of the consultation did not take place until January 2017, three months after the full consultation was promised. As Wantage is a community hospital it is not covered by this phase. Phase 2 of the consultation has yet to take place, and no date has been announced for when it will begin. This leaves the hospital effectively closed with no end in sight.

After an online petition was signed by almost 4,000 people it was agreed to keep the hospital's physiotherapy and maternity services open. However, Oxfordshire CCG re-tendered the hospital's physiotherapy services and the contract passed to HealthShare. The company has since had to close all physiotherapy services provided in Wantage, leaving the hospital with just limited maternity care. Whilst we all recognise the pressures on local health authorities, it is clear that the entire consultation process by Oxfordshire CCG has been completely unacceptable. We must have an open and transparent conversation about the services needed in our towns and communities and this should include full public and stakeholder engagement at every stage.

Also in October, the Communities Secretary Sajid Javid announced £2.5 million allocation funding for 9 garden towns across England. After a successful bid, I am delighted an additional £295,000 of capacity funding has been allocated to support the delivery of Didcot Garden Town in 2017/18. This additional funding is specifically for ongoing work on place-making, community engagement and the development of an arts and culture strategy. The Government recognises the important contribution the project will have on its central ambition of delivering more homes and I am pleased by the support for Didcot's ambitious, community-led plans for growth.

It is also worth noting that Public Health England and NHS England have now launched their Stay Well This Winter campaign, which helps the most vulnerable people prepare for winter and avoid having to visit hospital due to common winter illnesses. If you're in one of the groups who are particularly susceptible – such as pensioners and pregnant women – or the parent of a young child, go and speak to your GP or pharmacist as soon as possible to give yourself the best chance of avoiding flu this year. More people than ever before are eligible for that free vaccination this year, including more young children and everyone who works in care homes. To check if you or your loved ones are eligible, and for other tips on staying well this winter, head to: www.nhs.uk/staywell.

ED VAIZEY, MP Wantage and Didcot (Conservative)

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**AIR QUALITY****No more talk and much more management please**

For many years, concerns over Air Quality were confined to our largest cities. The Clean Air Acts of the 1950s solved (or at least reduced) the scale of the problem in those cities. As the impact of more and more cars and HGVs on our Air Quality began to be felt, concern spread way beyond the traditional centres of industrial smog. Not only does the centre of Oxford (one of the nation's smaller cities) now have a generally accepted problem of poor air quality, the problems are being felt in towns and villages all across the County. In our immediate area alone, Botley, Abingdon and Marcham have "Air Quality Management Areas" where NOX gas levels breach European safety limits. Several other areas are likely to join them in the next few years. There is a growing awareness from Government at all levels that economic

December 2017



growth must take some account of Air Quality. There is plenty of talk about electric cars, even electric HGVs, Clean Air Zones, better bus services and cycle lanes. There is also talk of just how many people's lives are being cut short by poor air quality.

The trouble is, it is just talk! Everyone knows something needs to be done. No-one seems quite sure how to set about it. Meanwhile, we build more and more houses, our roads become more and more congested and our health becomes more and more affected.

At this November's Full Council Meeting a motion was passed unanimously calling for urgent action. A Group of Councillors and officers from all Councils (District, City and County) is to be set up to come up with practical solutions to the County's Air Quality issues and instigate them as a matter of urgency. There will be some tough decisions to take including limits to which routes vehicles can take through the County – Clean Air Zones, HGV diversions, the refusal of planning developments where air quality solutions cannot be found and an end to the argument that a little more housing won't make much difference.

Above all, it will involve an end to the years of talking about the problem and an end to the trend of different groups (including politicians) attempting to make the Air Quality their own. The problem belongs to all of us – the environmentalists who truly care, the District Councils who are responsible for measuring Air Quality, the County Council which is responsible for traffic management and all levels of Government responsible for planning.

RICHARD WEBBER CLLR OCC SC & Marcham Division.
Richard.webber77@ntlworld.com or 01235 534001

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Below is a summary of my response to the Local Plan Part 2 consultation as it affects Marcham and Shippon.

Marcham

We are delighted that the Vale has finally taken full account of the AQMA running through Marcham and have removed 410 houses due to be built east of the village. These extra houses, they reasoned, would generate heavy traffic, which would in turn exacerbate the air quality to totally unacceptable levels in the AQMA. Why, we ask therefore, has the Vale seen fit to allow a further 90 houses to be built along the end of Packhorse Lane? Surely the argument NOT to build 410 houses also applies to the 90 houses, especially as nearby, Kingston Bagpuize continues to expand sending much of its west-east traffic through Marcham's AQMA.

Shippon, Dalton Barracks and Airfield

Shippon is a very small village with houses dating back to medieval days. The residents are proud of its history and the fact that it is partly protected by being in the Green Belt. So the LPP2 with its plans to swamp the village of Shippon, Dalton Barracks and the Airfield with 1,200 houses initially, with the likelihood of up to 5,000 houses eventually, has come as a very rude shock to them! To do this, the Vale has removed these areas from Green Belt and instead has placed Brownfield status on them so that they can legally build the houses. I have to congratulate the residents of Shippon for being so accommodating, and even joining with Wootton to form a joint Neighbourhood Plan. It therefore seems very disappointing of the Vale not to bend to Shippon's one request to keep the village in the Green Belt and so preserve some of its unique character. Therefore, we would ask the Vale to reconsider and to reinstate the village into the Green Belt, as they have done for Whitecross.

We are also concerned by the massive impact this development will have on the surrounding roads, especially as we understand that nothing much will happen to these roads with the first tranche of houses. It is essential that such a big development be supported by all necessary infrastructure, especially roads which are already heavily used.

CATHERINE WEBBER Cllr VWHDC
01235 534001 or Webbercatherine1@gmail.com

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New Countywide Volunteering Website Launches!

Oxfordshire Volunteers (oxonvolunteers.org) is a brand new countywide volunteering website designed to link you with your perfect volunteering opportunity! Whether it's a regular weekly slot or a one-off opportunity, you'll find them all on the website. You might even want to apply for a position on a trustee board, helping to manage a local charity that you are passionate about. The website is great for groups too, who at last have one central place on the web to advertise their wonderful opportunities.

What do you need to do?

If you are a volunteer: go to oxonvolunteers.org, register yourself using the blue 'Try Volunteering' button and start searching for opportunities. It's as simple as that! If you are an organisation: use the 'Need Volunteers' button to register as a provider and start posting your opportunities!

This site is run as a partnership by Oxfordshire's three Volunteer Centres, funded by Oxfordshire County Council, Oxfordshire City Council and Cherwell District Council.

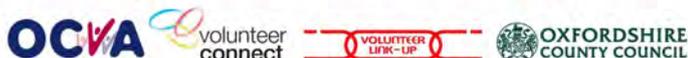


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ABCD Film Society

Thursday screenings this month



ABCD Film Society has two very different films this month. Admission to each is £6 (£3 full-time school and college students).

Dec 7 LATE SPRING, a tender and poignant story about an aged father and his daughter – a classic of world cinema made in 1949 by Yasujiro Ozu. Introduced by Japanese films expert, Alex Jacoby. (Cert U, 108 mins). Starts at 7.45pm

Dec 14 INSIDE OUT (animation) – our Christmas special. "A humane and heart-wrenchingly beautiful film. Even measured alongside Pixar's numerous great pictures, it stands out as one of the studio's very best" - (Robbie Collin, Telegraph). (USA, 2015, 91 minutes, Cert U). Join us for cheese and wine from 7.15pm (bring own bottle, collection to cover other costs). Film will start at around 8pm.

All screenings at 7.45pm at Abingdon Health & Wellbeing Centre, Audlett Drive, OX14 3GD. Adjacent parking. Have a hot drink before the film – donation requested. More information (and a glossy paper brochure) from www.abfilms.org.uk or info@abfilms.org.uk or 01235 521976 Registered charity No. 292723

MSSSC: Marcham Sports, Scouts & Social Club The pavilion & field off Morland Road

NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE

FRIDAY 31 DECEMBER

8PM TILL LATE

£7.50 including Food.

EVERYONE WELCOME

(18 years and above)

Tickets available from:

Marion Belcher (07507 797757)

Trevor Hill (07748 696733)

Chris Ricketts (07850 463863)

Or The Village Shop

Everyone welcome - members AND non-members

We look forward to seeing you at the club



You are invited to a coffee morning with RAFFLE

50, NORTH STREET, MARCHAM

FRIDAY, 1st DECEMBER

From 10.30 - 12.00

In aid of The Mary Wood

Trust.

The Mary Wood Trust

supports girls from very underprivileged backgrounds enabling them to access secondary education. Nyakabungo School is situated in a remote part of S.W. Uganda. At the moment we support 30 girls, all boarders, and we hope in the near future to extend our help so that 10 girls from the local community can benefit from a good education.



Ann Gover

Artweeks

CLOSING DATE for entries

Oxfordshire Artweeks May Festival 2018 is the 31st December 2017.

Contact Jo Golding - Artweeks Administrator

01865 865596 artweeks@artweeks.org

or see www.artweeks.org for more details.



There is a new app for **Fix My Street** - which makes it really easy to

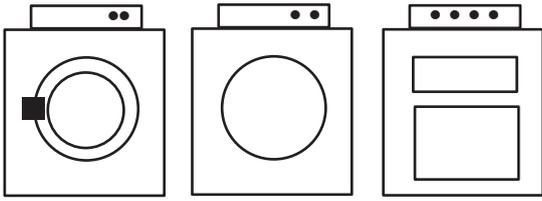


FixMyStreet

pinpoint a problem and send it off to the council so they can then send it on to the correct organisation to deal with it. You can download it from their usual website for reporting problems: www.fixmystreet.com

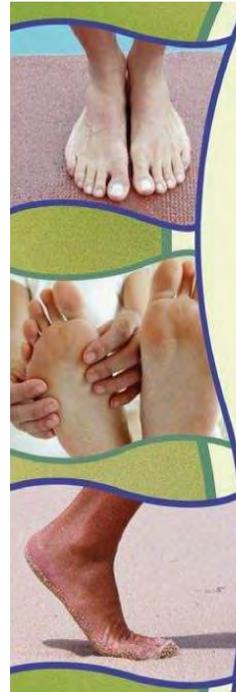
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Dear Friends

Christmas is just around the proverbial corner and no doubt this is already capturing our attention, either through the excitement of children, the arrival of the first cards, involvement in school activities, or indeed from the onslaught of the media attention and in the shops. The hype that invariably runs alongside this wonderful and significant event can distract us from the central meaning and at times, even turn us away from wanting anything to do with Christmas.

With all the hype and distractions it is all too easy to disregard, dismiss or ignore what lies at the heart of the message of this festival from a Christian perspective. The birth of Jesus Christ is an event that underlines important truths:

- a. That God exists and actively cares for this world in which we live.
- b. That God's care extends to everyone and the birth of Jesus demonstrates and is, a profound expression of his love
- c. That God is willing to walk alongside us as one of us - a human being - willing to experience and get to know what life is like for us, even in the toughest of circumstances, both personally and nationally.
- d. That God can make, and is making a difference, and will continue to make a difference in the lives of those willing to accept his presence and care, to those willing to walk with him, to be guided by him and to see the world from his perspective.

The birth of Jesus and his subsequent life, death and resurrection lie at the heart of God's purposes of love for the world. May we welcome Christ back into our Christmas this year and experience for ourselves the real difference he makes – not just at this festival but every day in the real world we inhabit with all its pressures and demands.

As the well-known carol says: 'O come to us, be born in us, our Lord Emmanuel!'

May I wish you and those you love, every joy and peace this Christmas and New Year

Every Blessing

Richard

Christmas @ All Saints'

Saturday 2nd December, 9-12:

9.30am-12.30pm - Craft Morning

Friday 8th December, 7.30pm

7.30pm *Carols at The Crown*

Wednesday 13th December

2pm - Daytime Carol Service

3pm - Café Christmas Tea

7.30pm - *Carols at The Black Horse*

Friday 15th

5.30pm - Christmas Family Friday

Sunday 17th December

6pm - Carols by Candlelight

Wednesday 20th December

6pm - Contemporary Carols Service

Friday 22nd December

2-3.30pm Village-wide Nativity Quest

Christmas Eve

4pm - Crib Service

11pm - Midnight Holy Communion

Christmas Day

10am - Family Communion

10.30am - Christmas Day Communion

Regular Sunday services at 10am & 6pm

Friday Club for primary-aged children, 5.30pm on Fridays at All Saints'.

Village Café Wednesdays from 11.30am at the Sports and Social Club

Men's Breakfast, Saturday 2nd Dec, 8.30am at the Baptist Hall

Youth Drop-in, Wednesdays after school in the Baptist Church Hall. Y7-9: 3.30-6pm, Y9+: 6-8pm

Contacts:

Rev. Canon Richard Zair 391319

vicar@allsaintsmarcham.org

Jill Rowe Children's and families Minister 390885

families@allsaintsmarcham.org

Rob Finch Youth Worker 0788831708,

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References are available



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Neighbourhood Team Newsletter for Marcham

Anti-social behaviour (ASB)

Calls about ASB have dropped which is good news. However, I expect this to pick up with Halloween trick or treaters going about the villages and Bonfire night coming up. I would like to ask parents to talk to their children before going out as the person behind that door may be elderly, vulnerable or very frightened. If you see a home in darkness please don't knock, also with fireworks please try to keep them to the 5th November as there are people in our community with PTSD and may be suffering as a result of miss use of fireworks. *[This was written for November but the advice applies all year round - ED]*



Fly Tipping

I have seen an increase in fly tipping in our area. Fly tipping is illegal and carries a fine of up to £20,000 (for trade waste) and it is the responsibility of the person getting rid of the waste to ensure that you are using a reputable company. If the Environmental Heath Team (EHO) finds any items that they can trace back to an individual or company, then further action will be taken. If you do not have the waste transfer receipts received when handing it over to the disposal company, it will be the original individual or company that gets fined.

Thefts from Vans

We have received increased reports of tools being stolen from vans across the area. I know it is not always easy if you have an early start or no secure storage but please do not leave tools in your van overnight if possible. Consider taking basic target hardening steps to reduce your chances of becoming a victim of this crime. Consider fitting CCTV or floodlights at your home and an alarm and extra locks on your vehicle.

Fireworks for Parties and New Year's Eve

• Fireworks can cause serious damage or injury if not used correctly, so always follow the instructions. Keep them away from property, trees, fences, bushes or vehicles and always stand a safe distance away when setting them off. An organised display is the best way to enjoy fireworks safely. If you do decide to have your own display remember:

- you must be over 18 to buy fireworks
- letting off a firework in a public place is an offence
- you are breaking the law if you let off fireworks between 11pm - 7am (this is extended to midnight on Bonfire night)
- make sure fireworks conform to British Standards BS 7114, EN 14035 or EN 15947

Remember not to forget your pets. Keep them safe indoors and make sure they have a comfortable, quiet space to relax in.

Crime Prevention Advice With Autumn upon us we are spending less time in our gardens and we are packing away lawn mowers, garden tools and push bikes. It is a good idea to take a look at your sheds and outbuildings and make sure they are in a good state of repair. You can fit anti-tamper screws to the hinges if they are on the outside, and investing in a good padlock should help reduce the shed break-ins.

Contact us If you want any advice or to contact the neighbourhood team you can call us on the police non-emergency number 101 or if it is an emergency then dial 999. You can also contact us via email AbingdonOuterNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk. Please note this email address cannot be used to contact Thames Valley Police to report crimes or for any urgent matters. To view information on your neighbourhood team visit the Thames Valley Police website at: www.thamesvalley.police.uk. Receive free local crime alerts and crime prevention advice by registering at www.thamesvalleyalert.co.uk today. The Thames Valley Police Twitter account is kept up to date with what we are up to; please follow us @TVPSouthandVale

RECYCLE CORKS FOR WILDLIFE

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



Many thanks, **BOTHY VINEYARD**

www.bothyvineyard.co.uk

Earth Trust Events

Wreath Making

Friday 1st and Friday 8th December, 1pm and 2pm each day



Make a beautiful festive wreath for your home or to give as a gift. All materials are provided but feel free to bring along any additional foliage or decorations you would like include. If children would like to take part please book on to Wreath Making for Families at 3.45pm. Price includes a hot drink and a mince pie! £20 per wreath; booking essential: book online (incurs a fee) or call 01865 407792 during office hours.

Wreath Making for Families

Friday 1st and Friday 8th December, 3.45pm

Make a beautiful festive wreath for your home or to give as a gift. All materials are provided but feel free to bring along any additional foliage or decorations you would like include. Adult only workshops are at 1pm and 2pm. Price includes a hot drink and a mince pie each! £20 per wreath; booking essential: book online (incurs a fee) or call 01865 407792 during office hours.

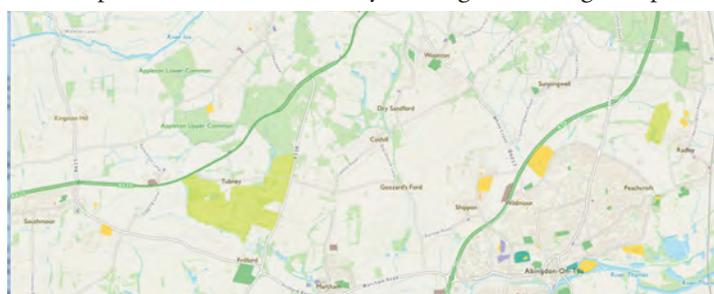
More details www.earthtrust.org.uk

Little Wittenham, Abingdon, Oxfordshire, OX14 4QZ 01865 407792



OS Open Greenspace – free map of all green spaces

Ordnance Survey has launched a new, free map of all the publicly accessible greenspaces in Great Britain and the importance of this can hardly be over-stated. For the first time ever we know how many public parks, gardens, playgrounds, playing fields, woods, allotments etc there are; where they are; how big they are. Not only will it help people find their nearest green space – and this was the Government's motivation for undertaking the project - this information is vital for green space management. You can search for walks, cycle routes, family activities in your area. <https://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/getoutside/greenspaces/>



HOLIDAYS

B&B Rafter's



Contact: Mrs Sigrid Grawert

Abingdon Road
Marcham
Abingdon, Oxfordshire
OX13 6NU

Tel 01865 391298
Fax 01865 391173
enquiries@bnb-rafters.co.uk
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www.bothyvineyard.co.uk
www.facebook.com/bothyvineyard

2 exciting challenges for children and families this December. Watch out for an advent puzzle outside school from Friday 1st December, and Hunt the nativity - Friday 22nd December



Village-wide Nativity Character Quest

Friday 22nd December
Start at All Saints' Church at 2pm



See if you can find all the characters hidden around Marcham. Suitable for all ages, but young children should be supervised.

Refreshments available at All Saints' Church.

Images from The Greatest Journey used with written permission from Bible Society®

NEWS FROM LITTLE ANGELS

We celebrated our 10th Birthday!! What a celebration it was, all of us at Little Angels



were very proud and touched with the number of families who came to join us in our celebration. Over the last 10 years Little Angels has cared for over 440 children, predominantly from the local Marcham Parish. We have provided jobs for many members of the village, with now 50% of our Nursery team living in Marcham. Our Little Angels family from the past, present and future turned out in style to celebrate our milestone birthday, with sparklers, a disco and a special magic show from Dizzy Dean.

We are very excited for the next 10 years continuing to care and welcome many more families and team members into our Little Angels family.

Baby Room One of our core values is communication and in our baby room this has been our focus, supporting our littlest angels to continue to develop their understanding and speech. We use a variety of methods from open ended sensory play, allowing their exploration with our commentary, musical singing circles including making our own sounds. We have also had small amounts of time on the large computer to support the learning of numbers in songs in a different method. There has also been lots of outside play on the slides, spending time at the park and walks around the village.

Pre-School Room We really enjoyed learning about Diwali, it was a great day making our lamps and lighting the way for Rama and Sita. There have also been lots of fires in the pre-school room!! The imagination of our Little Angels is fantastic, we followed their interest and made a town on fire with shaving foam from which they all learnt about using water to put the fire foam out! What amazing fire fighters we have! Halloween was celebrated with making our very own spider sandwiches and a pumpkin pepper with sticks to eat! They were delicious.

Breakfast & After School Club With the dark evenings drawing in, it means we are spending less time outside and more time inside with a range of fun games to play. There have been lots of board games, which can get competitive! We have been doing lots of painting and craft activities. Most importantly we have been voting for Marcham Little Angels award ceremony for the team in December. We have all voted on who we believe is the adult that supports and helps at the Breakfast and After School Club, a very important job.

If you would like to be part of Little Angels Family, where our home is your home please contact us on 01865 819992 or marcham@littleangelschildcaregroup.co.uk, see www.littleangelschildcaregroup.co.uk and follow us on Facebook: littleangelsmarcham

MARCHAM GUIDES - BLANKETS FOR BABIES

Marcham Guides have been sewing up squares for the baby unit at the JR. They have been edged by members of the Trefoil Guild and are now ready to be given to the hospital.



PTA Round-up

Hopefully this MADNews reaches you in time for a last-minute reminder that Friday 1 December is the PTA's last big fundraiser of the year. The Christmas Fair will be held from 6pm to 8pm and there will be LOADS of fun for all the family.



Parent Teacher Association

Children will be able to visit Santa's Secret Store and buy their own Christmas presents for Mum and Dad or Gran and Granddad. There'll be Lucky Dip and Tombola stalls, Goody Cups and Cake Stalls, the chance to get a glitter tattoo or a new hairstyle or have your face painted. Mums and dads can pick up some early Christmas goodies, like Christmas cards, jewellery, liqueurs and bath bombs!! All that and balloon modelling and a visit from Santa too!!

We'd REALLY like you to come along and join the fun. Bring a friend. Bring LOTS of friends!! Everyone is welcome. Every penny raised goes towards the school's education of our children, so it really is a very worthy cause. I hope we see you on 1 December, when we'll begin celebrating a very Merry Christmas for all our readers and their children.

See you on the school run

Peter Kidd

PTA Chair 07708 251312
peter.kidd61@btinternet.com



FRIDAY CLUB

Pudsey came to visit Friday Club in November!



Friday Club have also have filled nearly 30 shoeboxes with donated items which will be heading off to children in Iraq. Well done everyone and thank you for your generosity.



CAROLS AT CHRISTMAS

Daytime Carol Service
 Wednesday 13th December
 2pm All Saints' Church

Carols and Christmas readings

THE GREATEST JOURNEY

CRIB SERVICE
 4pm Christmas Eve

Come dressed as a Nativity character!

Images from The Greatest Journey used with written permission from Bible Society®

Carols at the Crown

Friday 8th December
 7.30pm

Carols at the Black Horse

Wednesday 13th December 7.30pm



PET CARE

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HOLIDAY FUN

MARCHAM ROCKS

Hello, some of you may have noticed some colourful rocks hidden around the village. These are from members of the new Marcham Rocks group.

I set the group up after seeing some other rock hunting groups and thought it would be a great idea for us to have our own.

It's lots of fun and the children (and adults) really enjoy painting and decorating them. Next time you are having a walk around the village, keep a look out and see if you can find any.

We have our own Facebook page, "Marcham Rocks". Feel free to join and when you find a rock, post a picture for all to see, then either leave it for others to find or hide it somewhere else!

Happy Hunting everyone

LN

(Snowman painted by Danielle Castle).

