



▲ Marcham School's new classrooms see page 15

▲ Pre-School with their new equipment see page 15



◀ Marcham Guides create wreaths for Remembrance Day see page 5



▲ Little Angels have fun with pumpkins see page 15



Diary for December

Date	Event	Pg		
1 Tue	First Marcham Advent Windows opens	7	25 Dec – 3 Jan	Marcham Village Shop and Post Office CLOSED 5
5 Sat	Marcham Pre-School Messaging Centre	15	30 Wed	NO WASTE COLLECTION – it will be on Sat 2 Jan (Rubbish and Food Waste)
9 Wed	Marcham Parish Council Meeting, online, 19.30	3	January	
12 Sat	Bothy Mini Market, 11.00-17.00	7	6 Wed	NO WASTE COLLECTION – it will be on Fri 8 Jan (Recycling and Food Waste NOT Garden)
14 Mon	Marcham WI: 'Sex, Secrets, Scandal and Salacious Gossip of the Royal Court, 1660 to 1830', online, 19.30	9	9 Sat	Christmas Tree Recycling, Millets Farm 3
15 Tue	Deadline for next issue of MADNews, 17.00 Email editor@madnews.co.uk		13 Wed	NO WASTE COLLECTION – it will be on Thur 14 Jan (Rubbish and Food Waste)
16 Wed	Carols on the Doorstep, 18.00	7	15 Fri	Deadline to register for a primary school place 3
18 Fri	Last Posting for 2nd class mail	5	19 Tues	Christmas Tree Recycling, Howard Cornish Rd 3
19 Sat	Bothy Vineyard Mini Market, 11.00-17.00	7	25 Mon	Marcham Society: The Marcham Community Hall, Chris Brotherton 9
21 Mon	Last Posting for 1st class mail	5	<i>Details of events may change after publication, please check with the relevant organisers before attending events</i>	
23 Wed	Last Posting for Special Delivery for Christmas	5		

GARDEN SERVICES



Professional Tree Management throughout Oxfordshire

Tree removal	Seasoned logs and kindling delivered
Crown thinning	
Crown reduction and lifting	
Sectional tree removals	£5M Public Liability Insurance
Fruit tree pruning	
Stump grinding	All work carried out to BS 3998:2010
Hedge cutting	

andrew@admtrees.co.uk
01865 391859
@admtrees

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





Garner's Estates & Landscapes

Landscaping for over 25 years

- Soft & hard landscaping
- Landscaping works including patios, paths, steps, driveways, decking, installing gates, turfing, stonework & drainage work
- Fencing, all types carried out including: close board, panels, trellis, willow hurdles, post & rail
- Tree & hedge planting
- Free Estimates
- Fully Insured & hold a Waste Licence

Tel: 07751 764144 01865 730936
Email: mjgarner26@btinternet.com

1st CLASS TREE SURGEONS

07889 881 525 or 01491 651052
quote@firstclasstreesurgeons.co.uk
www.firstclasstreesurgeons.co.uk

- tree removal
- tree thinning
- tree reduction
- dead wood removal
- stump grinding
- landscaping
- £10 million public liability
- City & Guilds Certified

Home & Garden Maintenance

All garden maintenance covered from lawn cutting to lawn care

- * small garden designs * flower beds tidied/shrubs/bulbs planted
- * tree work - pruning/lopping/shaping etc * patios laid /cleaned
- *fencing & gates erected/repaired/painted *sheds erected/repaired

Most property maintenance covered

- * painting / decorating including outside
- * tiling * all indoor jobs covered * small carpentry work
- * guttering/replaced/cleaned * house removals& clearance

Mr G. TIERNEY Tel. 01865 730428 Mob. 07885550075
Free quotes & estimates Email g.tierney@btinternet.com



SEASONED LOGS

locally sourced & sustainable

For details visit:
www.admtrees.co.uk
or call
01865 391859

Have you got a business that could benefit by being advertised to over 1000 homes in the Marcham area every month?

Contact us for more details
adverts@madnews.co.uk

Dear Readers

It is so wonderful to see a full diary section reappearing on the cover. We have adapted to the Covid situation so well with use of technology, but that doesn't mean that we don't need to keep in touch using the traditional methods of a wave, a chat when out on a walk (suitably distanced!), or a phone call!

Don't forget it is an earlier deadline of 15th December for the January issue to give all our deliverers a chance for a bit of a break!

Wishing you all merry Christmas

Until next time – keep safe

PUBLISHER / EDITOR

Meriel Lewis

8 Orchard Way, Marcham

Abingdon OX13 6PP

Tel: 01865 391725

Website: www.madnews.co.uk

Email: editor@madnews.co.uk

ADVERTISING

Fran Russell: adverts@madnews.co.uk

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

DISTRIBUTORS

Paula Utting and Claire Wright

13 Parkside, Marcham

Abingdon OX13 6NN Tel: 01865 391443

PROOFREADING

Jane Mander

DEADLINES

Advertising: 5pm 15th month

Other copy: 5pm 20th month

except for Jan when it is 15th Dec for both

ADDITIONAL COPIES

These are available free from Marcham

Post Office or the Editor. Postal copies are

also available – contact the Editor.

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

CRIMESTOPPERS

Call 0800 555 111 (anonymous calls)

NHS NON-EMERGENCY

Call Free from any phone - 111

COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Richard Webber, Orchard Barn, Sutton

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

catherine.webber@whitehorsedc.gov.uk

For other councillors go to

www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk

© Marcham & District News 2020

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

December 2020

MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Christmas Tree Recycling

For those of you who have real Christmas trees, and are signed up to the District Council's garden waste service, your trees, when you no longer need them, can be put out next to the brown bin provided they are less than 6 ft or 1.8m. They need to be cut into sections if taller than this. If you do not have a brown garden waste bin, then your real Christmas tree can be placed by the Salvation Army Textile bank in Howard Cornish Road (opposite Duffield Place). All Christmas trees will need to be by the textile bank by the end of the day on Tuesday 19th January, 2021. Trees left after this date will not be collected. Also there is to be a Christmas tree collection from Millets Farm on Sunday 10th January, so this is another opportunity for local residents to recycle their tree. Trees need to be dropped off at Millets by the end of Saturday 9th January, 2021.

At the time of writing what the Government restrictions owing to Covid 19 will be in January, are not known, so please adhere to whatever is in force at the time.

Parishioner of the Year

The Council is again considering the possibility of an award for 2020, to be presented at the annual meeting of electors should one be able to be held in Spring next year. The Award recognises the efforts of local people who at any time, have significantly contributed to life within the parish. Previous nominations have been carried forward, however the Council would invite anyone, who wishes to put forward a new suggestion, to submit 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. All nominations to be emailed to the Clerk at the email address below.

Grant Applications

Applications for grants were considered at the November meeting of the Parish Council. The Council awards grants, subject to certain conditions, where there is benefit for the residents of Marcham. The Council was pleased to be able to support the following organisations:

Be Free Carers Centre – £150 towards running costs

South and Vale Citizens Advice Bureau - £1000 towards running costs

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal - £120

Marcham Colts Football Club - £300 towards the purchase of shelters

Marcham Pre School - £765 towards the purchase of equipment (see page 15)

Marcham Thirsty Cafe - £200 towards the purchase of equipment

Marcham Community Group - £6800 towards soundproofing within the hall, and outside maintenance including fencing

Christmas Tree – Village Green

It has been suggested to the Parish Council that there should be a Christmas tree on the village green, and this was discussed at the November meeting. The Parish Council was supportive of the idea of trying to bring seasonal cheer to the village and to raise spirits during the period of the pandemic. 2 parish councillors have been asked to investigate the possibilities, so watch this space.

Primary School Admission September 2021

If you are a parent or carer of a child born between 1st September 2016 and 31st August 2017 (inclusive) then you need to apply for a primary school place. 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

oxfordshire.gov.uk/primary_admissions

The closing date for applications is 15th January, 2021. If you do not have immediate internet access, then you can access the internet at many of the County Council's libraries when they are open, or telephone the schools' admissions team on 0345 241 2487 for further information.

Harding Way – Public Open Space

The tarmac path in the public open space on the south side of Harding Way has not long been laid by the developer, but does not appear to be in a very good condition. The Council is monitoring its state and condition, but is considering removing it and returning the area to grass. There is a public sewer which runs under the area, so in any event, it will likely be dug up in due course when the new development to the north by Mactaggart Mickel gets underway.

Planning Applications considered by the Council

P20/V2702/HH Roof extension to form additional habitable space at Trinafour, Abingdon Rd. The Council had no objections.

Also considered was a licensing application for the Happy Plaice fish/chip van to continue trading from its usual weekly place in Orchard Way. The Parish Council had no objections.

Date of Next Council Meeting:

The next scheduled meeting of the Parish Council is Wednesday 9th December 2020 at 7.30 p.m. To be held virtually via Zoom. However, please check the Council's website for the latest information.

Clerk to the Council:

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

clerk@marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk

The Council wishes everyone a happy Christmas.

www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk

HOUSEHOLD SERVICES

Your home affects your health



Find out what support is available to help keep you safe and well in your home.
www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/homerepairs

Get help with home repairs



There are services and funds available to help people (owners and private tenants) stay independent, safe and well in their homes, and Oxfordshire County Council has developed a referral service to help residents (or carers) access the right organisations in their area, to get the help they need.

The type of help that can be provided are services such as new boilers, repairs to boilers, loft or cavity wall insulation, access to a local and trustworthy repairs service and general advice on how to stay safe, well and affordably warm in your home.

For more information or to make a referral visit
www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/homerepairs

Whatever you want to store...

...for whatever reason - house sale and purchase not coinciding, travelling, house building work, paperwork overload or just "de-cluttering" to sell your house more quickly - we offer a friendly and flexible service at Kingston Bagpuize.

With competitive rates, secure storage all on one level, and hassle free 24/7 access, contact us now!

Only 10 minutes from Abingdon, Wantage, or Faringdon



01865 821250

www.barn-store.co.uk

GARY CUDDON

Painter and Decorator

Fully qualified with 30 years experience

Providing a high quality service

Free quotations and fully insured

Local and friendly service

07827 752904 garycuddon@aol.com

Frilford Decorators

Painters & Decorators

Decorative Treatments

Telephone: 01865 392866 (Frilford Heath)

Mobile: 07775 690523

References Available

Proprietor: Mr A Bunce

LOTTERY WINDOWS

Quality Double Glazing & Conservatories

Fascias & Soffits

Mark Berry

9 Stort Close,

Didcot, OX11 7UR

NEW Tel: 01235 510608

Email: info@lotterywindows.co.uk

Shaun Guard TV & WIFI SERVICES

- Aerials - supplied, repaired and poor reception solved
- Satellite - Sky Q dish upgrades, discreet dish installations also foreign TV
- Internet - blackspots cured, data cables to your TVs / computer
- TVs - hung on your wall or set up & tuned
- CCTV & Door Entry - domestic installations

OXFORD AERIALS

www.oxfordaerials.co.uk

Call Abingdon 01235 239622

Oxfordshire's best source of reclaimed wood

One stop wood shop for your DIY projects



OXFORD WOOD RECYCLING

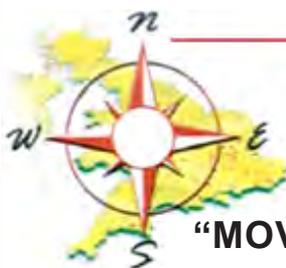
Good quality soft and hard wood reclaimed timber in many sizes and at economical prices. Scaffolding boards, pallet wood, plywood, natural edge native hardwoods and a fabulous range of reclaimed wood furniture.



Find us at: 4 Suffolk Way, Abingdon OX14 5JX
 Tel: 01235 861228

www.oxfordwoodrecycling.org.uk

Opening Hours:
 Mon-Fri: 8.30am-4.30pm
 Sat: 9.00am-3.00pm



SP COURIER SERVICES

"MOVING ASSISTANCE"

House - Flat - Apartments - Office

FURNITURE MOVED / TRANSPORTED

Ebay COLLECTIONS - DELIVERIES

Tel 07721 679487 + 01235 524589



Marcham Village Shop & Post Office
16 North St, Marcham OX13 6NG
Call us: Shop 391993 / PO 391940

Facebook: marchamvillageshop

Celebrating 8 years of serving the community!

Christmas & New Year Opening Hours

Thurs 24th Dec: 08.00 - 12.00
Fri 25th Dec until Sun 3rd Jan CLOSED
Mon 4th Jan: 08.00 - 17.30

Queuing

To keep everyone as safe as possible, we only allow 3 people in the shop at one time, 2 in the shop and 1 at the Post Office counter - *listen out for the recorded announcement!* As we get busier towards Christmas, please be patient, we are doing our best! **And please wear a mask**



Christmas Opening Hours

We would like to publicly thank our staff and all our volunteers who have done such a great job, in ensuring near-continuous service for the shop in this most difficult of years. We feel that they all deserve a break and hopefully to spend time with their families and so we will be closing the shop from Thursday 24th Dec at noon until Monday 4th Jan, full opening hours are:

Thursday 24th Dec: 8.00am – 12.00pm
 Friday 25th Dec – Sunday 3rd Jan Closed
 Monday 4th Jan: 8.00am to 5.30pm

We look forward to serving you as you prepare for Christmas and the New Year break, *don't forget to top up your utility bills.*

Thank you to all our customers for their continued support of the village shop, your patronage is appreciated.

Seasons Greetings to you all.

Last posting dates for Christmas

International Standard and International tracking and signature services*	
Friday 4 December	Australia and New Zealand
Wednesday 9 December	Africa, Asia, Caribbean, Central and South America, Far and Middle East
Thursday 10 December	Canada, Cyprus and Malta
Friday 11 December	Greece, Eastern Europe (except Czech Republic, Poland and Slovakia) and Turkey
Saturday 12 December	Czech Republic, Finland, Italy, Poland, Sweden, USA
Wednesday 16 December	Austria, Denmark, Germany, Iceland, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland
Friday 18 December	Belgium, France, Ireland, Luxembourg

HM Forces Mail - British Forces Post Office® (BFPO)	
Monday 30 November	Operational HM Forces
Monday 7 December	Static HM Forces

UK

UK Inland Services	
Date	Service
Friday 18 December	2nd Class and 2nd Class Signed For
Monday 21 December	1st Class and 1st Class Signed For and Royal Mail Tracked 48**
Tuesday 22 December	Royal Mail Tracked 24**
Wednesday 23 December	Special Delivery Guaranteed



The 2020 Poppy Appeal in Marcham Garford, Frilford and Cothill raised £4,974.00.

Considering we had no door to door collections we are very pleased with this result and on behalf of the Royal British Legion we would like to say a big thank you for your support !

Malcolm and Christine 391497

Marcham Guides commemorated Remembrance Day this year with wreaths and poems. The poems will be published in the January issue of MADNews.

December 2020



Eddie Davies

Sandra and family would like to thank everyone for their kind wishes and support after their sad loss of Eddie.

He will be much missed

HOUSEHOLD SERVICES

Bathroom specialist

All trades covered

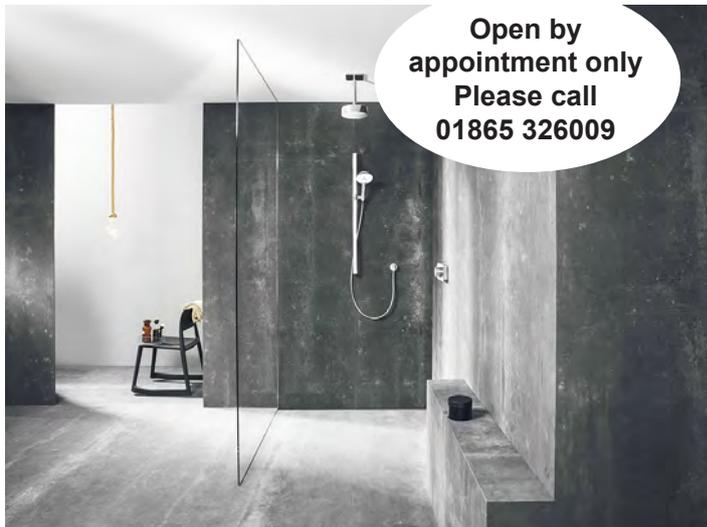
All household plumbing and heating needs

Call Simon: 07765 654303

Email: info@scpplumbing.co.uk



Open by
appointment only
Please call
01865 326009



01865 326009

info@oxfordkitchens.co.uk

www.oxfordkitchens.co.uk

1st Floor, Besselsleigh Road, Wootton,
Abingdon, Oxfordshire, OX13 6DN



T: 01235 221012
M: 07974672579
E: darren.downes72@gmail.com

Find us on Facebook



**Preservation
Specialist Treatments**

- Damp Proof Coursing
- Timber Treatment
- Dry & Wet Rot Treatment
- Woodworm Treatment
- Waterproof Re-Plastering
- Cellar & Basement Tanking
- Beetle Treatment
- Environmentally Friendly Products Used

Tel: 01865 735555 or 07774 233033

Free Survey and Advice: 01235 762525

Email: lizeverley@aol.com

www.preservationspecialisttreatments.co.uk

18 Sugworth Lane, Radley, Abingdon OX14 2HY



Oxfordshire Roofing and Building Services

a good honest and reliable firm

Call today for a free estimate 07885 882689

Flat Roofing

New Roofs

Guttering

Slating

Chimney Repointing

De-Mossing

Tiling

Facias

Small Jobs Welcome • Discount for OAPs

Tel: 01865 392106 • Mobile 07885 882689

oxfordshireroofing@yahoo.co.uk

Hopkins Home & Garden

Maintenance



Our Services

Minor electrical

Plumbing

Carpentry

Decorating

Mowing, hedge trimming

Landscaping

07865492813

hopkinshomeandgarden@gmail.com

No Job
Too Small!

CONTAINER STORAGE

- 2 miles off the A34 Abingdon
- 24 hour CCTV
- Easy Access
- Clean, dry and secure



Tel: 01865 390267 or 07980 262210

Email: enquiries@oxonstorage.co.uk

www.oxonstorage.co.uk



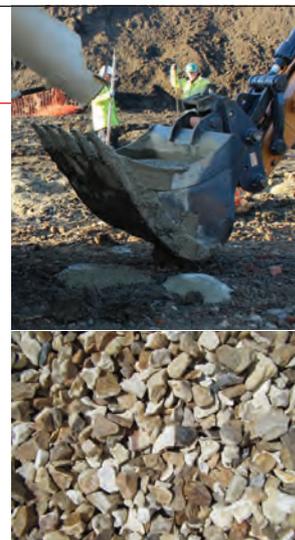
Suppliers of aggregates and
concrete for every need

Our products include:

- ready-mixed concrete
- sand cement floor screed
- decorative aggregate
- sand, gravel and stone

Upwood Quarry open
six days a week

T: 01865 390838



www.hills-quarry.co.uk



A selection of notices and adverts for Christmas...



A.D. Maclean
TREE MANAGEMENT LTD

Collins Farm, Kingston Road
Frilford, OX13 5NX

Farm Fresh Christmas Trees

Order your tree now and collect on one of the following days:

Saturday 5th Dec 10.00 - 16.00
Saturday 12th Dec 10.00 - 16.00
Saturday 19th Dec 10.00 - 16.00

Please state in email:

- > Quantity
- > Size
- > Date of collection
- > Time of collection

2020 Prices

4FT NORWAY SPRUCE	£25
5ft NORWAY SPRUCE	£35
6FT NORWAY SPRUCE	£40
7FT NORWAY SPRUCE	£50
8FT NORWAY SPRUCE	£60
9FT NORWAY SPRUCE	£75
10/11FT NORWAY SPRUCE	£90

email your order to: admchristmastrees@gmail.com

Buy Local This Christmas
Bothy Mini Markets
Handmade wines from
Oxfordshire's oldest vineyard
PLUS a few select
local producers.
Green ideas galore!
Open Sat 12 & 19 December
11 am - 5 pm.
Bothy Vineyard, Frilford
Heath, Abingdon OX1 6QW
t:01865 390067
www.bothyvineyard.co.uk



FOR SALE - IDEAL CHRISTMAS PRESENT!

DeWalt heavy duty staple gun
and box
of 14mm staples
As new, used only once.
Easy-Squeeze Technology,
Anti-Jam Magazine,
Lightweight Die-Cast
Aluminium.
£25 ono.
Telephone: 01865 391121



Keep your eyes open around Marcham during advent, as we create an advent calendar using different windows around the village.

Maps will be available in the shop and on the church website, from 1st December, and windows will be displayed until epiphany.

Have fun finding the windows day by day, week by week as we lead up to Christmas.

THE FRIDAY CLUB TEAM.



Artwork by Saffron Russell - saffronrussell.co.uk

6pm Wednesday 16 December
On Your Doorstep!

Join Us On Your Doorsteps Across
The Nation This Christmas To
Sing Carols Together And Spread
Some Much-Needed Cheer!

www.doorstepcarols.co.uk
Download the song sheets and
music from madnews.co.uk

NEED IDEAS FOR CHRISTMAS BOOKS?

Mostly Books has secured a second series of their successful podcast **Mostly Books Meets...**, talking to special guests about their favourite books.

The podcast has hosted guests including Elizabeth Day and Emma Gannon, chefs Tom Kerridge and Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall and authors Heather Morris (The Tattooist of Auschwitz) and Robert Harris (Fatherland).

Sarah Dennis, owner of Mostly Books and producer of the podcasts says, "We wanted to do something different from Zoom events which were completely saturated in Lockdown, and so we decided to create a podcast as a way to talk to authors about their books and the reading recommendations they had for others." Mostly Books Meets is available on Spotify, iTunes & Soundcloud.

Mostly Books is an independent bookshop at 36 Stert Street, Abingdon OX14 3JP Call 01235 525880 or email books@mostly-books.co.uk



PRICES STATIONERS



Are you looking for
general stationery, calendars, diaries, school
and office supplies, printer ink,
craft and art materials
this Christmas?

31 - 33 Stert Street, Abingdon OX14 3JP

You may also order direct from us
Please contact us on shop@pricesstationers.co.uk
or call 01235 520067

www.pricestationers.co.uk



HOUSEHOLD SERVICES

architectural and planning services
party wall surveyor

john martin mciob mfpws

- ▲ planning & building control approvals
- ▲ extensions, new homes, conversions
- ▲ party wall surveyor services
- ▲ award winning designer
- ▲ free initial consultation
- ▲ over 30 years of improving homes and the built environment

tel 01865 391833 mob 07710 858668

email john.gmartin@hotmail.co.uk

90 howard cornish road marcham OX13 6PU



AUTO-CHECK
OXFORD LTD



YOUR LOCAL GARAGE
M.O.T. STATION - NOW OPEN

Servicing – Diagnostics

General Repairs

Tyres – Exhausts

Air Conditioning – M.O.T.s

Courtesy Cars Available

Unit 3 Cuebar Court, Lashford Lane,
Dry Sandford OX13 6EB

Tel: 01865 730011 Mobile: 07715 707830

VALE



CURTAINS & BLINDS

Bespoke Made to Measure

Free Expert Advice

Friendly Family run Business

Call: 01235 758010

Email: enquiries@valecurtainsandblinds.co.uk

www.abingdonblinds.co.uk

JEM

**CHIMNEY SWEEPING
COMPANY LTD**

★ NO FUSS ★ NO MESS ★ NO PROBLEM ★

OXFORD: 01865 772996

DEDDINGTON: 01869 337500

MOBILE: 07711 443050

STADHAMPTON: 01865 400244

Sharman Roofing

GRP fibreglass flat-roofing specialist
tiling, slating, leadwork, guttering and fascias,
new builds, re-roofs, extensions and sheds
all work considered, call Mark on

07979 791075

msharmanroofing@gmail.com



Gabi's Cleaning Service

www.gabiscleaningservice.co.uk

Cleaning at its finest
High quality, friendly and flexible
cleaning service.

Ironing~Carpet cleaning

07771391209 ~ gabipapp@icloud.com

GT Carpentry Ltd

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

Stuart Gardner

07885 266965

01865 391110

Nick Trinder

07831 773804

01235 224177

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

Give us a call today for a quotation.

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

www.gtcarpentry.com



Lecture Report Salt Production, Distribution and Use in Prehistoric and Roman Britain

Dr Janice Kinory

(School of Archaeology, University of Oxford)

Today, the availability of salt is not usually something we think too much about as the supermarket (or preferably the village shop) will help us out if our stocks run low: in contrast, our Neolithic ancestors had to hunt and source meat for their health needs of 1 to 2 gm of salt per day. We learned this surprising fact during the interesting and informative talk in October which was given to the Marcham Society by Dr Janice Kinory, School of Archaeology, University of Oxford and to whom we are most grateful. Not all questions could be answered though due to the passage of time and a lack of evidence: e.g. was salt used for ritual purposes, dowries possibly?

We heard that salt was used in butter making during the Iron Age and milk production too. In Roman times it would have been used to cure meat (a great invention) and in animal farming practices.



Map of Oxfordshire Briquetage finds
Red diamonds from Droitwich,
Black stars from South Coast →



← Reconstruction of Iron Age
Salt Making

Before the introduction of money, a Roman soldier would have been paid partly in salt, a very valuable commodity which was produced on an industrial scale with the use of slaves and prisoners. Interestingly, the word ‘salary’ is derived from the word salt.

In the British Isles salt production could not be carried out all year. We heard that it tended to flourish along the shoreline and tidal creeks, e.g. in Teeside, Cheshire and Lincolnshire. Droitwich was an important area too. Tribal groups tended to cluster around areas of high salt production. Further afield, salt mining in Germany was even in existence as long ago as the Bronze Age.

With regard to the drying methods in salt production, one important way was through the use of clay pots, known as “briquetage”. These were produced in shades of grey or orange but few complete examples remain today. Interestingly, small finds of briquetage have been discovered in Abingdon.

Was salt produced in Marcham? Its sea celery bed and salt spring lie not far from the site of the Roman temple (situated to the west of Marcham) which Janice Kinory helped to excavate. If so, perhaps the salt was given as a ritual offering at the temple? Geo-physical and further archaeological investigations might be able to shed further light on this theory.

Finally, sea salt is 2.6% sodium chloride and contains five other types of salt which makes it taste bitter. By the way, an interesting thought for the shopping basket: pink salt is made up of tiny crustaceans that were caught in the drying process!

ROSEMARY HARWOOD

Do join us for our next meeting – all welcome.

Monday 25th January 2021 – “Annual Lecture” The Marcham Community Hall

by **Chris Brotherton** (*Land and Sales Director of Thomas Homes Ltd.*)

www.marchamsociety.org.uk

Facebook: [marchamsociety](https://www.facebook.com/marchamsociety)



Marcham WI

Next Meeting: 7.30pm Monday, 14th December 2020 via Zoom

Speaker: Sarah Slater

‘Sex, Secrets, Scandal and Salacious Gossip of the Royal Court, 1660 to 1830’



Have you ever wanted to know the secrets, scandal and salacious gossip of the Royal Court of the 17th & 18th Century? We hope you’ll join us for our Zoom talk from Sarah Slater for our December meeting to find out more. Sarah is a guide lecturer at Historic Royal Palaces and a costumed tour guide at Hampton Court Palace. In her talk she will disclose all the naughty bits of history you would probably not have learnt about at school! Do join us for what we hope will be a fun evening, which comes with a warning “*not for the prude, it is fun but rude*”.

Also in December, we will be having our annual collection for the Foodbank in Abingdon. A box will be available for any unwrapped, in-date donations, on the bench outside 19 Kings Avenue from 1st December until 7th December. Whether you are a WI member, or not and would just like to contribute, any donations will be gratefully received..

For further information, please contact: Pippa Hoath 01865 391349 pippahoath@gmail.com

HOUSEHOLD SERVICES

Martin Gilbert Motor Repairs Ltd

Call us today for a no obligation quote

 01235 553055

Did you know we offer:



Servicing



MOT



Air Con refill



Bodywork



Diagnostics



Repairs



Recovery

Cars & light commercial (up to 17 seater), mini buses & vans up to 3.5 tonnes.
Trailer, horseboxes and Caravans. Courtesy cars & vans available.

Radley Rd Industrial Estate, Abingdon, Oxon, OX14 3RY

www.martingilbertmotorrepairs.com

Email: richard@martingilbert.co.uk



Like us on Facebook for regular offers and updates

ALS ELECTRICAL SERVICES

We are a small local electrical company, specialising in electrical and renewable products for the domestic and commercial markets. Contact us for a FREE QUOTE.

ELECTRICAL

All household electrical works undertaken
Fault finding & repair
Replacement consumer units
Earthing & bonding
Underfloor heating
Electric showers
Electrical inspections for home buyers & lettings
Visual inspections
Portable appliance testing

RENEWABLE

Solar electric panel installations
Maintenance for solar panels
Electric car charging & Government grants

CONTACT US

Alternative Lighting Services
Email: info@als-ltd.net
Office: 01865 391241
Mobile 07739313994



"Don't let tax, tax you"

BBPS Accountancy Service
Bookkeeping
Self Assessment, Payroll,
CIS, VAT
Auto Enrolment

Call: 01865 730064
07890 503392

Email: Alison@berrybps.co.uk

Preservation Specialist Treatments

Local Company Trading for 30 Years

All Plastering works undertaken internal & external
To include plastering walls, ceilings and external rendering

Smooth, wet dash, pebble dash

& K-Rend (assortment of colours)

Tel: 01865 735555 or 07774 233033

Email: pauleverley@aol.com

DIRTY CARPETS, UPHOLSTERY, RUGS



Most carpets dry within the hour

Unbeatable results, removes almost all spots & stains

GRIMEBUSTERS

OXFORD
ABINGDON
WITNEY

01865 726983
01235 555533
01993 868924

www.grimebusters.co.uk

M&A ELECTRICALS

The original electrical/lighting shop in Wantage
Established in the early 60's

Unit 8, Arbery Arcade, [behind Costa]
Market Place, Wantage, OX12 8AB

*** WE ARE NOW OPEN ***

9am - 2pm

[see website for latest details]

We specialise in all things electrical particularly -

**SPECIALIST LIGHT BULBS
RESTORATION & REPAIR OF LAMPS
AND OTHER ITEMS**

BESPOKE HAND MADE LAMPS-

**ACCIDENTS HAPPEN, THINGS BREAK IF YOU NEED
HELP/ADVICE PLEASE CONTACT ME [Peter]**

VIA THE E-MAIL BELOW OR

PHONE 01235 771695/07770586877

[You can leave a message]

01235 762468

sales@mandawantage.co.uk www.mandawantage.co.uk

Professional Window Cleaning/ Carpet Cleaning Service

Also: Gutter Clearance, Post/Pre-occupancy
Cleans and Conservatory Valets

For a thorough and reliable service call Tim

Mobile: 07725002777



Behind the Scenes As you know, because of the current lockdown, our wonderful new Centre has been closed. Yet the work goes on behind the scenes to prepare the halls for the eventual opening. No group is more active than the **Hall Committee**, under the chairmanship of a very hard-working **Trevor Hill**. This Committee is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the building and facilities. They meet regularly to plan and discuss, as well as carrying out a long list of important jobs in the hall. So far they have equipped the building with everything from storage cupboards and shelves to hand dryers and hot water heaters. As well, they manage the cleaning, carry out routine maintenance and in particular they manage the booking system and all Covid safety requirements. Last but not least, **Natasha Kingsbury**, our Co-ordinator, makes all the difference to the team as she prepares to run the booking system and keep everyone working efficiently around her.

Public Meeting and Marcham Community Group AGM This took place on 12th November. As you can see it was a great turnout of residents (50), some of whom have lived in Marcham for many years and some who have lived here for just a matter of weeks. It was great to see so many friendly faces, albeit virtually. If you would like to see the recording of the meeting contact enquiries@marchamcentre.org for the link. The minutes will also be available from **Simon Talbot** (Membership Secretary) – email: membership@marcham.org



The AGM included a fantastic visual review of the last 12 months, the re-election of Mike Hoath and Dan Barnes as MCG Trustees and a review of the Marcham Centre finances - which remain in reasonably good health despite Covid and thanks mainly to the incredible fundraising efforts within the village, as well as a number of successful funding and grant applications. There was a productive discussion about the Community Art Project and Trustees took feedback from members and non-members about the future of Marcham Centre. A big thank-you to everyone who took part.

Presentation of the Marcham Centre Art Project A couple of days before the AGM, we held a meeting to introduce Suzanne O'Driscoll, the artist commissioned to design the new Marcham Centre sign. Also present was Abigail Brown, the Arts Development Officer of the Vale of the White Horse District Council. Suzanne described the Sign artwork and we took questions and comments. A few more images have now been added to the design (see Village Shop and www.marchamcentre.org). See page 13 for more details.

We will keep you updated as and when we can open up the Centre again.

For now, the Trustees of MCG and all the Committees wish you a very Happy Christmas and we look forward to better times ahead in 2021.

Marcham Centre enquiries@marchamcentre.org www.marchamcentre.org

Operated by Marcham Community Group Registered in England 7470307 Charity No. 1144407



HOUSEHOLD SERVICES

THE SEWING LADY - Local Seamstress

Tel: 01235 847846 Mob: 07754265326

Sewing services including ...alterations and mending

zippers and hems, ... invisible mending

dresses, coats, jackets, ball gowns, party,

wedding denim, suede plus more...



Check out my work...



www.simplycoralwood.co.uk

simplycoralwood@gmail.com

.... FREE limited offer up-cycled fabric carrier bag with every repair or purchase!!

Kilbey & Clarke
Will Writers and Estate Practitioners



- * **Wills & Will storage from £125**
- * **Lasting Power Of Attorney from £195 to include certified copy for each attorney**
- * **Inheritance Protection**
- * **Probate**
- * **Guaranteed Funeral Plans**
- * **Local, friendly, professional with home visits**

Nigel Kilbey Member SWW
07734051258/01235868266



www.kilbeyandclarke.co.uk
kilbeyandclarke@btinternet.com



M: 07748 407302

e: cleanerdifferenceoxford@gmail.com

[cleanerdifference](https://www.facebook.com/cleanerdifference)

- regular cleaning
- one-off cleaning
- deep cleaning

MANSBRIDGE

GROUNDWORK AND BUILDING CONTRACTOR

**Home Extensions, Alterations
and New Builds**

**Plumbing and Heating
Gas and Oil Boiler Servicing,
Repair and Installation**

We are a family run, local business with over 35 years experience. No job too big or too small.

**Contact us for a quotation on
01865 321183**

Email: enquiries@mansbridgeconstruction.co.uk
www.mansbridgeconstruction.co.uk



Costcutter

Rowes News

POST OFFICE

01235 763134

www.rowesnewsmarket.co.uk
18 WALLINGFORD STREET, WANTAGE

**Wake up to your
favourite Newspapers
& Magazines**

**Family Run
Newspaper Delivery
Service
Delivering 364
days a year**

**We provide an efficient
delivery service in
Marcham & Surrounding
Villages**

CHARLOTTE JANE INTERIORS

**Made to Measure Curtains and Soft Furnishings
Supply your own fabric
Free Estimates and Measuring**

Call 01865 326164 Mobile 07817 397070
www.charlottejaneinteriors.co.uk

MARCHAM CENTRE

A new sign for Marcham Centre

Thank you to everyone who has commented on the new sign for Marcham Centre. Here is the latest version of the design.



More details can be found on www.marchamcentre.org along with a video about the artwork and how Suzanne chose the imagery. We hope to have an unveiling ceremony sometime next year once the sign has been manufactured and installed, and we are all able to meet..

ThirstyCafé – Marcham Community Café

Pop up café

We were disappointed not to open our pop up café in Marcham Centre as planned at the beginning of November. However, we are ready and raring to go as soon as it is safe. Keep an eye out for a leaflet through your door letting you know when we are open.



Christmas menu



Browse our new Christmas afternoon tea menu online or pick up a menu in Marcham Village Shop. *Photos courtesy of local photographers Lee Phillips and Gemma Gerring.*

Volunteer with us

As a community-run group, we are only as good as our volunteers. If you are interested in getting involved, we would love to hear from you. What's it like being part of the Thirsty team? *"I love being part of an enthusiastic team and being able to dream up exciting ideas."*, *"I've loved meeting new people and feeling more involved in the community."* *"Trying all the food and drinks!"*

Milletts Farm virtual 5k in partnership with Thirsty Cafe

A massive thank you to everyone who took part in our virtual 5k. With your help we raised over £360 for the café. Visit our website to see details of the winners and a lovely montage from the event. Thank you again to Lindsey from Shift Fitness for her fun warm up video, Milletts Farm for the support, and Zest Podiatry and Physio for donating first prize. For any enquiries including if you are interested in volunteering with us, please contact us at hello@thirstycafemarcham.co.uk or call 07871 208811.

www.thirstycafemarcham.co.uk
Find us on Facebook or Instagram and email us at hello@thirstycafemarcham.co.uk

Marcham Community Café Limited is a registered Community Benefits Society, society number 8384

**Oxfordshire County Council
Marcham Mill 'Rushey' Bridge
Update on the continued closure**

Many of you will be aware of the continued closure of the old stone bridge at Marcham Mill over the river Ock which forms part of Bridleway 17 and a link into the network of routes beyond. As we head into another winter with the route still closed the Parish Council have requested an update for the local community on the current situation.

As many of you are aware this is a private bridge owned by the landowner; Oxfordshire County Council as Highway Authority is only responsible for the public bridleway which crosses it. Clearly you cannot have one without the other and after a significant delay the council is in discussion with the landowner's representative about how we move the project forward to repair the bridge and reopen the public right of way.

Matters are progressing well and we had been working towards implementing a permanent repair this summer, however due to complications, of which the current Covid-19 pandemic has not helped matters, progress has slowed and we are now looking to proceed next summer as the work needs to be undertaken when water levels are low.

In the meantime some remedial repairs have been undertaken to safeguard vulnerable parts of the structure to prevent further deterioration this winter including potential partial collapse.

A temporary bridge for pedestrians was investigated during lockdown with a design & costings prepared, however in the end there wasn't agreement to proceed. In the meantime the bridge must remain closed on public safety grounds. The Parish Council will be kept informed as matters progress.

We understand the frustration the continued closure is causing, for which we apologise, however please note this matter remains a priority to address and the project is progressing.

HUGH POTTER

Group Manager, Infrastructure Operations,
Oxfordshire County Council

TIDDLYPEEPS

A GROUP FOR SMALL PEOPLE AND THEIR GROWN-UPS



Tiddlypeeps is an inclusive group! we aim to cater for all. We welcome all Pre-school children and their carers (mums, dads, grandparents, guardians, foster carers...)

We also want to encourage anyone who is expecting a baby to join too. You don't need to wait until the baby arrives. This is a safe place to meet people who live nearby.

www.facebook.com/groups/373734473286724

PERSONAL CARE



OUTDOOR GROUP EXERCISE CLASSES, YOGA & PERSONAL TRAINING

FITNESS AT THE FARM

BOOK ONLINE

Collins Farm
Kingston Road
Frilford
OX13 5NX



WWW.FARM-FIT.CO.UK

@FITNESSATTHEFARM

Andrea Buckingham

PILATES - YOGA - MASSAGE

Classes now on Zoom and in person!

Email for details

Newcomers welcome

Daytime and Evening classes in

Marcham and Abingdon

Andreabuckingham.co.uk

07939 523083

andreabkm@btinternet.com

On ZOOM now - recordings available to use in your own time

Yoga/Pilates Blend
Classes, ZOOM, at home or out and about... you choose!

Meet for a walk, a chat and 20 mins 1:1 Outdoor Pilates to feel revived with "Strength through Stretch"

SuPilates with Su

Small Groups Mondays
9-10am
Marcham Centre back for December

✉ scv.mcrae@gmail.com
☎ 07985 137116
📘 SuPilates with Su

NB Office Services

Qualified Bookkeeper with over 10 years' experience in Office Management and PA

Telephone: 01865 392866

Mobile : 07775 690522

Email: Nicola.bunce@nbofficeservices.co.uk

The Abbey Chiropody Clinic

**Mr P J Neighbour &
Mr P A Neighbour**

Members of The Society of Chiropodists & Podiatrists
HCPC Registered Chiropodists & Podiatrists

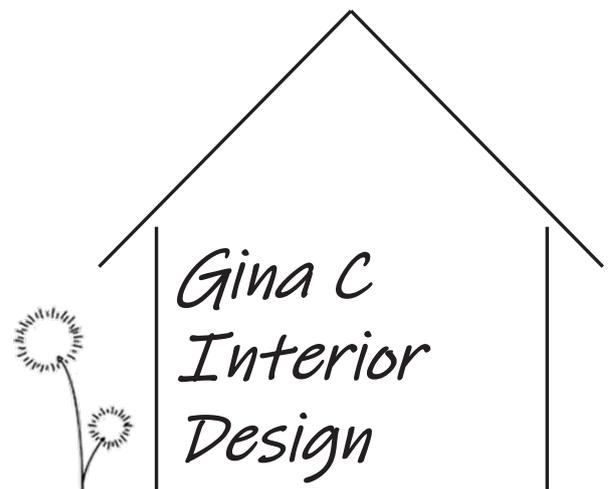
nail clipping, corns and hard skin
verrucae and everyday foot problems
manipulation/mobilisation of the foot and ankle
orthotics (insoles) and gait analysis
minor surgery, diabetes and wound care

Surgery and Home Visiting Practice

14 Bath Street, Abingdon OX14 3QH

Tel. 01235 530577

www.abingdonchiropody.com



Beautiful. Sustainable. Simple

- Mood boards
- Colour schemes
- Product sourcing
- Floor plans and drawings
- Styling tips

Let's bring your home to life

ginacram@live.co.uk 07880 717405

PTA ROUND-UP

Hello everyone, I'm Lisa and I'm the new chair of the Marcham school PTA having taken over from Peter.



What a crazy year it's been so far! Unfortunately due to the coronavirus, we have been unable to hold any of our fundraising events. We were keeping our fingers crossed that we would hopefully be able to do our Christmas Fayre but sadly we are unable to this year. We are really sorry, but hopefully we will be back with a bang next year!

The PTA are always on the lookout for new committee members. If you have a child at Marcham Primary school and would like to join the committee then please do contact me.

We know that this has been a difficult year especially with Christmas fast approaching. Many people are choosing to shop online during these current times, did you know that you could still support the school in other ways?

If you are thinking of making any purchases from Amazon, you could help the school by signing up to 'Amazon Smile'. With every purchase you make from the Amazon Smile website, they will send us 0.05% of your purchase price to the Marcham PTA bank account! How great is that! Please go to: [SMILE.AMAZON.CO.UK](https://www.amazon.co.uk/smile), if it's your first time using it you will be asked to select your chosen charity. Please choose 'Marcham ace (Vc) Primary School Parent Teacher Association'.



You can also shop using 'easyfundraising'. They have an app which you can download for free, every time you shop using easy fundraising they will also donate money to Marcham primary school pta. If you choose to sign up please choose 'Marcham CE (VC) Primary School Parent Teacher Association.'



The PTA would like to thank you all for your continued support.

LISA NEWPORT, PTA Chair
lisa_newport@hotmail.co.uk

MARCHAM PRE-SCHOOL

We are delighted to have received a grant from Marcham Parish Council and would like to express our thanks to all those involved. Pre-school have always enjoyed lots of outdoor play (whatever the weather!) but this has never been more important than through the pandemic... we have refurbished our outdoor area and made good use of all the space that we have and now with the help of MPC we have purchased new outdoor signs, non-plastic outdoor kitchen plates and bowls as well as some PE equipment to promote the children's physical skills! The children have loved their new basketball hoop and we are excited about receiving the rest of the resources we have purchased.



We are also very excited about our **Christmas Elves Messaging Centre** taking place on 5th December... please check out our Facebook page to make your booking!

Nicky Sanford,

Early Years Teacher, Marcham Pre-School
 01865 392101 Marcham-preschool@hotmail.co.uk
www.marcham-preschool.weebly.com



We are so pleased to remain open through this lockdown as we all know how important it is for our children that they have routines and interactions with their friends. We have all been enjoying coming into the nursery each day too, keeping a sense of normality. We have been having lots of fun as always, learning all about Autumn.

Our babies have a new Sensory area and it is providing a lot of entertainment! We have a new light disc, noisy objects such as shakers and rainmakers, and lots of textures. The babies particularly like looking at their distorted reflections in the reflective objects like spoons, pans and mirrors.

We have been learning about the seasonal fruits and vegetables, and our older children helped Jess and Nikki to scoop out the inside of pumpkins to look and feel the flesh and seeds. Our creative pre-schoolers have been making their own juice to drink from various seasonal fruits, which they have absolutely loved! We do like to get messy!

We have been creating autumn masterpieces this month with all the wonderful things we have found outside. Our children each chose some leaves, and they explored the shapes and patterns of them, sticking them together to create collages. There was a lot of laughter whilst we did conker paint rolling, and we enjoyed making handprint hedgehogs.

We are lucky enough to still have our football coach coming to see us who leads socially distanced football training outside. Our children always look forward to their sessions with Coach James and they love learning ball skills.

We are getting ready for Christmas with a difference, and we are currently filming our nativity to create our '**Little Angels Nativity Film**' which we are very excited about. We still want make it special even though we can't meet together to watch the children, so each of our families will be receiving a 'nativity goodie bag' with all the things they will need to enjoy the nativity film together as a family.

We would like to wish you all a **Very Merry Christmas**, a wonderful new year, and we all hope 2021 will bring joy, and a bit more predictability!

If you are interested in securing a place for your child please contact us: T: 01865 819992

E: info@littleangelschildcaregroup.co.uk

www.littleangelschildcaregroup.co.uk
 and follow us on Facebook: [littleangelsmarcham](https://www.facebook.com/littleangelsmarcham)

SCHOOL NEWS

Many of you will have walked passed the school and seen the new look of our school. We are pleased that the building works have finally been completed and are delighted with the outcomes. We have two new classrooms, spacious and bright, and both staff and pupils are enjoying them. We are also excited about our new kitchen and meeting room, and we are relishing the extra storage space that has been created.

It has been a long time coming and has taken many more years than I care to remember. We would like to thank you all for your support in pleading our cause in the various ways (through the village plan, to individual construction companies, to local government etc.) and hope that you feel your efforts have been rewarded. In particular, we'd like to thank our long-suffering neighbours for putting up with noise, dust, debris, traffic congestion and all the things that come with a project of this nature. It has been a protracted affair but we thank you for your patience and understanding.

Onwards and upwards!
VIV HUTCHINSON

HOLIDAYS

B&B Rafters



Abingdon Road
Marcham
Abingdon, Oxfordshire
OX13 6NU

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

Join us and discover
a place to relax

FOOD AND DRINK

FABULOUS CHRISTMAS MEATS

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

Milletts
FARM SHOP

www.millettsfarmcentre.com

Avoid the gloomy weather and holiday in Florida – Stay in our villa near Orlando



- Located in a private gated community
- Close to Disney World, all other major attractions and many golf courses
- 4 double bedrooms, 3 bathrooms
- Sleeps up to 10
- Air conditioned and fully equipped
- Own swimming pool and covered patio
- Rent the villa from £495 per week

Tel: Mike & Vicki on 01865 823026
or email vicki.jack702@gmail.com

Charlotte Jane Cakes

Established 2011



Bespoke Wedding Cakes

www.charlottejanecakes.co.uk

01865 326164 07817 397070

Charlotte Jane Cakes

PET CARE

Town Furlong Cattery



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

EMPLOYMENT



Are you a good home sewer?

Would you like to earn some extra cash?

I need someone to neatly make-up pleated face masks using their home sewing machine.

You can work from home because I'll deliver everything you'll need & collect the completed masks too.

Please contact Simon on 07932 055051 or email me at: s.a.brown@virgin.net

Nature Is Calling Us

In early November 2020, we headed into the second English national lockdown, and once again, nature came to our aid. Offering an escape, either on our socially distanced walks, in our gardens, or just that which we see out of the window.



We realised it during the first lockdown, and we're appreciating it again this time too, but during the period of relative freedom between the lockdowns, I saw people easily forgetting the lessons we'd learnt from nature.

Until we truly learn something, lessons will often repeat, and keep knocking on our door. Will we remember to keep allowing nature into our lives when this second lockdown is over? Which it will be at some point, I assure you!

Many of us are now working from home more, and maybe more able to take regular breaks out in nature to recharge, which maybe wasn't so easy when office based? One homeworker said to me the other day that they are doing ridiculously long hours now they are based at home, with no breaks! Even longer hours than when they were working in the office it seems. I suggested they take a walk in nature now and then, ensuring they get the break they so craved. They shrugged this off saying they didn't have time to go for walks and have breaks. There is always time though! Now, their employer wouldn't be expecting them to forgo their breaks, and reduce their productivity, would they?

It's our own responsibility to take breaks and look after ourselves when working from home, and factoring them in. There is always time for breaks, and for allowing nature into those periods of time. The fact this person who was now working from home was working, working, working, was largely down to their misaligned self-discipline, and obsessive tendencies, not their employers slave driving culture.

The nature in our parks, our streets, our gardens, out of our windows, it's calling us, we just need to allow ourselves to take a break, and hear it.

Mind how you go, and be sure to look after your wellbeing during these strange times. Maybe stop, ask yourself how you actually feel. If we know how we actually feel, we stand a chance of being able to do something about it, and enjoy the good moments more.

Happy Gardening!

Stuart Mabbutt

01865 747243 www.wildmaninspires.co.uk

POLICE NEWS

Anti-social behaviour (ASB)

PCSOs Ali Blood & Maddie Highmoor were on late shifts

over the Halloween weekend and were out patrolling Abingdon on foot and in a vehicle. In terms of reports of anti-social behaviour we are pleased to say that we received very few reports and the majority of people were enjoying the evening with no issues.

Burglary Between 6pm and 7pm on Saturday 10th October, an attempt to gain entry to a property in Welland Close, Shippon, was made. Marks were found on the door frame and damage was caused to the lock.. If you would like any crime prevention advice, including a home security assessment, please contact the team by emailing AbingdonNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Alternatively, you can download our free Home Security Guide



by visiting <https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/police-forces/thames-valley-police/areas/advice/home-security-guide/>

Drug dealing and suspicious behaviour On Monday 19th October, a male was arrested in Drayton for being concerned in the supply of Class A drugs and possession of a Class B drug. The male was remanded in custody to appear at court the following day.

What the team have been doing On Sunday 11th October, PCSOs Maddie Highmoor and Ali Blood conducted a knife sweep in Abbey Gardens, Abingdon. Knife sweeps are carried out to search for discarded or hidden weapons that could cause harm if they fell into the wrong hands. Luckily on this occasion, no knives were found.

PCSO Rich Osborn has been carrying out patrols in the village of Appleton after several reports of criminal damage taking place. 'Police Operation' signs will be displayed.

Following reports of street drinking and anti-social behaviour in the Botley and North Hinksey areas, PCSO Rich Osborn has been working with Oxford City Council, homeless charities and police teams to tackle the issues.

PCSO Maddie Highmoor is currently working on a project to tackle speeding along Ock Street, Abingdon. She had planned to set up a Speed Indicator Device (SID), to record the speed of vehicles travelling along the road. Unfortunately, due to torrential rain, the weather was not on PCSO Highmoor's side. Therefore, another date will be arranged for the SID to be deployed.

Staff changes This month we say farewell to PCSO Selene Moquet who is leaving the team to begin her training as a police officer. She will be returning to the South and Vale police area once she has completed her training. We welcome PCSO Jamie Horner to the team. Jamie has just finished his training

Have Your Say Meetings

Due to the current social restrictions in place, face to face 'Have Your Say' meetings are currently not being held until it is safe to do so again. Please use the details below to contact the team about any concerns you have.

Contact Thames Valley Police:

E-mail: AbingdonNHPT@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk

Twitter: @tvpsouthandvale

Facebook: www.facebook.com/tvpsouthandvale

Phone: 101

Website: www.thamesvalley.police.uk.

Looking for an unusual charity Christmas gift?

This little poetry book reflects one man's day-by-day view of the unique times we have lived through this year through some 100 poems. It's both witty and thought-provoking – a clever record of so many details we shall soon be looking back on and hardly believing: the closed churches, the quiet, the hunt for lo-rolls, the isolation, the little kindnesses, the freedom of time on our hands, the fear...

The poems are a roller-coaster of ups and downs from laughter to tears. It is a volume to treasure and to pass on to future generations who will ask 'what was it like Grandad, living through 2020?'

This not-for-profit hard-back poetry book by Clive Fewins of East Hanney, illustrated by Stuart Roper, will be available from November for £12 with at least £5 of every copy sold going to the 'NHS Charities Together Covid-19 Appeal' (and much more than that if all 500 first editions sell quickly).

Contact judy@piepowder.co.uk to reserve your copy!

JUDY DEWEY

Historian, publisher and Curator of Wallingford Museum

Life under Lockdown

A (not too serious) diary in verse:
March-July 2020



Illustrations by Stuart Roper
All proceeds to go to NHS Charities Together Covid-19 Appeal



DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**WASTE IN THE VALE**

As we have a climate Emergency facing us, it is even more important that we recycle as much as we can and turn non-recyclable waste into energy. So, this month, I thought I would write about the waste we generate in the Vale and employ Biffa to control. So what should we do with our waste? What goes in what bin? Where does it end up? How has COVID affected our collections?

Garden Waste Your garden waste can be recycled fortnightly in your brown bin (supplied by the council for £49 a year) and in exceptional cases, where a resident can't store a brown bin, it can be recycled in bio degradable sacks, which are supplied by the council (£49 for 50 sacks... a year's worth). An officer has to check the site to see if it is really unsuitable for a brown bin. Then all the garden waste is recycled outside using Open Window process and then sold on to farmers. Please note that you can recycle your Christmas tree if it is 6 foot or under - see page 3 for collection details.

Food Caddy Wasted food can be put into a caddy using a couple of sheets of paper to line it, or a compostable liner, or plastic bag. Cooking oil too can re-cycled in a 1 litre plastic bottle which needs to be put into the caddy.

An Anaerobic Digestion facility in Wallingford is where this food is turned into power (methane gas) enough to power 4,800 homes. It takes 85 days for the food to break down, emitting gas in the process, when it is finally sold on to farmers as a nutrient rich fertiliser.

Green Bin Waste All your recyclable rubbish is put into this bin... that is plastic, paper and cardboard, glass (separate lids from bottles), metals (aerosols, clean foil, food tins and cans, steel and aluminium cans, metal lids). There are exceptions in all these categories which are listed under the Black Bin Waste paragraph

All this waste is taken to a material recovery facility in London (Edmonton) where it is separated, processed and sold on to companies. **It is vital that this waste is NOT contaminated by a misplaced article**, like a dirty nappy or food, as it means that that whole collection will have to be thrown away into the non-recyclable collection. Roughly 9% of this waste in the Vale is contaminated, and although this is less than in many districts, it would be so good to reduce this even more.

Black Bin Waste This is the bin where non-recyclable waste goes, and I thought it would be useful to list what should go in here:

Plastic:	black bags, cling film or film from tops of food trays hard plastics eg coat hangers, children's toys plastic wrappers for sweets, crisps, biscuits polystyrene pouches for pet and baby food dirty nappies and sanitary products
Paper and cardboard:	kitchen roll, tissues and toilet paper
Glass:	window panes glass cookware eg Pyrex spectacle lenses broken drinks glasses
Metal:	coat hangers picture wire kitchen knives pots and pans

All this waste goes to Ardley near Bicester, where it is burned and generates enough electricity to power over 60,000 homes across Oxfordshire. This District is proud of the fact that none of it goes to landfill.

Small electrical items Like an electric iron, should be placed in a carrier bag and put next to the black bin.

Textiles Old sheets or duvet covers (not duvets), should be placed in a carrier bag and put by the green bin.

Batteries should be put in a bag on top of the green bin.

Bulky waste such as old mattresses, TVs, washing machines, can be placed outside your house and collected by the council. It costs £40 to collect up to 3 items and a further £8 for any more items.

Missed bins If by the end of your collection day your bin(s) hasn't been collected, you should report it to the council online or on 03000 610610 and it will be collected.

I hope you have found this a useful update on how waste is dealt with in the Vale and if you would like more detail then go to the VWHDC website: www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk > **rubbish**.

During these COVID times, the amount of waste generated has increased significantly as so many people are working from home. The council has continued to deliver all its services, except for Bulky waste, which might explain the increase in fly tipping. However there have been some successful prosecutions against fly tippers, which, hopefully, will deter others. If there is only one message to take from this, it is:

To help save our planet, please put the right waste into the right bins.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO YOU ALL!

Remember to recycle your Christmas Tree!

CATHERINE WEBBER Cllr VWHDC -

DC for Marcham Ward

01235 534001 or catherine.webber@whitehorsedc.gov.uk

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

COVID, LOCKDOWN, AND VACCINES With the news that a vaccine or vaccines may be closer than we thought, it is very tempting for us all to take our foot off the caution pedal, but there remain many immediate threats which have to be addressed before we can indulge in mass celebrations. Our own Oxfordshire data suggests that the problem has moved away from the behaviour of the young to the behaviour of older people. It is the tendency of them (or perhaps I should say "us") to want to get together with friends and family in our houses and gardens that seems to be the source of local spread of COVID-19. The second national lockdown gives us a window to get the figures under control. There are signs that the rate of increase is slowing, but we need it to flatten (or get the "r" number below 1). All of us our feeling anxious to see friends and family but if we are to get together at Christmas and/or as soon as possible in the new year, the health message is clear. We owe it to friends, family and each other to accept it.

INFORMATION OVERLOAD? In the meantime, the local community COVID groups continue to perform a vital function in looking after people of all ages, ensuring everyone is fed, has access to medicines and advice on where to go for specialist help. Given the hundreds of contact names and numbers and the detailed pages of instructions and guidelines from government and Councils, it would be easy to get lost in the plethora of well-meaning advice.

The simple message is that the local Community Group are the ones who can point us at any advice or help that may be needed.

ROADWORKS AND CONGESTION One of the predictable outcomes of the Drayton Neighbourhood Plan was that the ambitions to improve road safety in the village would wind up with a period of traffic bedlam and hold-ups while improvements are carried out. Anyone driving through the village recently will have been held up outside the development in the village centre. It was unfortunate that it has taken three attempts for the developer to get it to the correct design in the right place. However, the work is now done and the result is a "table" that should act as a traffic calming device. Given the ambition to have at least two similar tables elsewhere on Drayton's roads in the next two years, we probably need a year to recover from the frustration that roadworks cause, before the next table is constructed!

One consequence of all the development in and around Drayton, Marcham, Milton and Sutton Courtenay is that services have to be

upgraded – particularly water and sewage services – and this also involves temporary roadworks which can wreak havoc with local congestion and threaten local businesses already hard-pressed by COVID.

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

MP'S REPORT

I was pleased to hold my first adjournment debate, where a backbench MP can raise any issue and require a minister to respond, in the House of Commons recently. My subject was safety and littering on the A420 and the A34 and I laid out in detail the safety problems we know exist on both roads. In the last 6 years there have been 1057 accidents on the total stretch of the A420 and 2593 on the A34; these are just the ones that involved injury to people – it doesn't include the accidents involving vehicle damage alone. I also wanted to raise litter issues as I regularly receive complaints about that, too. I will now sit down with the relevant minister to discuss how to improve both matters on both roads.

I took the opportunity to get in yet another plug for my bid for Grove Station, which the ministers at the Department are very used to be raising! I was pleased to hear there should be a decision soon about whether we will get money to explore how it could reopen. You can watch the debate on my Facebook page. In other transport news, the Government has just given the County another £3 million for cycle paths and footpaths.

Like I'm sure most of you, I did not want to be in another lockdown now. As some of you will know, the Oxfordshire Conservative MPs had not supported the request of Council Leaders for us to go into Tier 2 in October as we felt it was premature and would have a detrimental effect on mental health, other health conditions and on our local businesses. The cases in Oxfordshire remain much lower than in other parts of the country and I hoping this will be the final lockdown and we can re-emerge into Tier 1, rather than Tier 2, but as always it will be the analysis of the Chief Medical Officer and Joint Biosecurity Centre that is crucial here.

The thoughts of all of us are of course on whether we will get to see our families in the way we like to at Christmas. I know the Prime Minister and the rest of the Government are keen that we will get to and I am hopeful this will be the case. The Government has set a window for university students to return home in time and is currently exploring what can safely be allowed. I think this may be my last message before it, so Merry Christmas when it arrives.

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

GOING SPARE!!!!

- Extending, (to seat 10), Dining Table plus 6 Padded Chairs (2 Carvers). Excellent Condition.
- 2 Matching Glass Fronted Display/Storage Cabinets.
- Both approx 72ins tall; both 17ins deep; 1 x 36ins wide, 1 x 22ins wide. Excellent Condition.

NB *Ornaments not included!*

Sensible offers requested, as ALL monies raised will be donated to the new Marcham Centre Fund.

Inspection invited. Please call Tony Blackler (OX 391519) or at 7 Elwes Rd. (Any reasonable time of day)



SCHOOL VACANCIES

We are seeking a school cleaner to assist Mrs Sandall in her role. This is a part-time opportunity set at 7½ hours a week (either 6:30am – 8am or 3:30pm – 5pm) Monday – Friday during term-time. If you are interested, please go to the school website or contact the school office for details.

We are also looking for a KS1 and a KS2 Teaching Assistant who would be willing to work on a one-to-one basis with some of our pupils. If this is something you think you are qualified to consider, please see the school website for further details. These posts are also advertised on the OTSA website and the Oxfordshire County Council jobs page online.

<https://jobs.otsa.org.uk/>

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/children-education-and-families/working-children-and-young-people/teaching-and-school-vacancies>

INDEPENDENT DIABETES TRUST 
PO Box 294 Northampton NN1 4XS Telephone: 01604 622837

While this year Christmas is going to be different from usual for many of us but it is still a time for preparations and extra food. As a charity for people with **Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes**, we recognise that it can be a difficult time for people with both types of diabetes, especially if it is their first Christmas with the condition. It can be a time of temptation, unpredictable or delayed meals, extra nibbles, excitement and stress, all of which can make managing their diabetes more of a problem.

We have just published our **FREE December Newsletter** and we also have a FREE booklet, '**Diabetes at Christmas**' to help families who live with the condition. It gives various options for Christmas dinners, a recipe for homemade, lower carbohydrate and calorie Christmas pudding and many other tips. We also have a booklet, '**Diabetes – Everyday Eating**' which may also be useful. We hope that the Newsletter and these two booklets will help to make life easier over the festive season.

We are happy to send out these, free of charge, to you, just contact IDDT on 01604 622837 or email enquiries@iddtinternational.org

ALL SAINTS' & ST. LUKES CHURCHES

www.marcham-with-garford.org.uk



“Once in royal David’s city ...” The words that traditionally open Carol Services, especially those here at All Saints! Carol Services are a great source of wonder and delight – the warmth; the candlelight; the Christmas tree; the holly; the familiar hymns, carols, and readings; mulled wine perhaps; and the time to enjoy friendships. This year, however, the covid-19 restrictions mean it won’t be happening. How sad! Yes ...

BUT, fortunately, Christmas is not just about Carol Services. You are probably sitting at home as you read this. If so, why not light a candle to remind you of Jesus, bringing light into the darkness of our world, and then make time to focus your attention on him? For Jesus, once he has grown up through all the usual excitement and trauma of childhood and adolescence, will, by his death and resurrection, offer each of us the chance of a *new* life, a *different* life. Really? Yes! For by his death he takes on himself our wrong-doing and failures, allowing us to have a personal relationship with a perfect God. The only death in world history that has ever done that! The result? We find a wonderful sense of forgiveness, purpose, fulfilment and peace. It is real, life-changing stuff! More than that, Jesus provides hope in a virus-ridden world, where so many feel hopeless: by his resurrection he shows us that there *is* a life to come! This is not the only life. What a relief! Some may not be so happy with that idea, for it includes the certainty of Judgement, when right and wrong, good and evil, will be seen for what they are. But, in Jesus, those who have put their trust in him will pass that test and enjoy an eternity with him.

So, despite the fact that there is no Carol Service this year, be encouraged! As you sit at home, don’t focus on the Christmas you feel you are missing. Instead go for the heart of the Christmas story! Go for Jesus himself! Ask him to come and live with you, and in you, and watch him transform your life!

Celebrating Christmas

Because of the coronavirus pandemic we are having to do things quite differently this year and may need to adjust events at the last minute if government restrictions change.

To see the latest on all our Christmas events and services please go to our website and look for **Christmas 2020**. We advise you check this page before any event in case there have been changes.

Virtual services will be streamed on our YouTube channel below.

Please note that there will be restrictions on numbers at any face-to-face event.

YouTube Church

10am Sunday morning on our YouTube channel and then available to watch anytime.

www.youtube.com/c/AllSaintsMarcham



Throughout advent we will be revealing a new window around the village each day. Visit our website to find out more...

Contacts:

Mark Newman Chaplain to the Parish chaplain@allsaintsmarcham.org **Rob Finch** Youth Worker 07888331708, rob@marchamyouth.org **Tamsin Gilbert** Parish Administrator & Churchwarden info@allsaintsmarcham.org **Neil Rowe** Churchwarden 391168