

Marcham & District News

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

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

SEPTEMBER 2021 VOL: 43 NO: 9

READ & RECYCLE!

FREE



▲ Little Angels enjoying the garden see page 17



▲ Thirsty Café volunteers enjoyed an evening picnic in August by way of a 'thank-you' for their help and support – for all Thirsty Café news see page 9



▲ The new picket fence at Marcham Centre see page 11

Who has been at Pre-school ▶ for 25 years? see page 12



Diary

September		
Date	Event	Pg
1 Wed	NO WASTE COLLECTION – it will be on Thu 2 September (Green and Food Waste)	
3-24	Wessex Airscapes Exhibition, Radley College	7
4 Mon	Family History Course, 10.30-12.30	5
4 Sat	Abingdon Healthfest, Abingdon Marketplace, 10.30-14.30	9
11 Sat	Abingdon Air and Country Show, Abingdon Airfield, 10.00-17.30	9
11 Sat	Faberdashery Sale, Marcham Centre, 10.00-15.00	11
12 Sun	Marcham Open Gardens, 14.00-17.00	15
13 Mon	Marcham Parish Council Meeting, Marcham Centre, 19.30	3
15 Wed	Abingdon Arts Society: The Guggenheims, online, 11.00 & 14.00	11

15-18	ADC Presents: Good and Faithful Servants, Abingdon Unicorn Theatre, 7.30	7
18 Sat	Community BBQ, Marcham Centre, 17.00-20.00	9
20 Mon	Deadline for next issue of MADNews, 17.00 Email editor@madnews.co.uk	
20 Mon	Marcham WI: Ballooning, Marcham Centre, 19.30	7
23 Thu	Music at the Unicorn: Elizabeth & Jameson, 19.00	7
23 Thu	Thirsty Café AGM, Marcham Centre, 19.30	9
25 Sat	Environmental Debate, Bothy Vineyard, 16.30-18.30	15
27 Mon	Marcham Society AGM and Talk, Marcham Centre, 19.30	7

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

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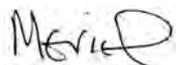


Dear Readers

This issue will go to print just before the Big Marcham Weekend, so I am crossing fingers for some lovely bank holiday weather and hope to have some photos in the next issue.

It has been wonderful to see people using the new Marcham Centre more and more and seeing how much work the team put in to keep it running smoothly – a **big thanks** to everyone who is working hard behind the scenes.

Until next time



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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.

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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

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MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Electric blanket testing

How safe is your electric blanket? Testing will take place in Oxfordshire between 20-24th September and 4th-8th October. Owing to Covid regulations, you will not be able to visit the testing station. Instead a plastic bag will be posted to you and your blanket will be collected from and returned to your house. To book your collection please telephone **01865 895999** option 1, or email communityengagement@oxfordshire.gov.uk

Grants

The Parish Council considers any requests for grants at its November meeting. Grant requests are considered usually just once a year. Therefore, if there is any worthy and needy organisation where Marcham residents benefit which is considering applying to the Parish Council for a grant, then please use the application form available in the publications section, on the Council's website www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk, and enclose a copy of your organisation's accounts. The Council's grant policy too can also be found there. Details of where to send the application are on the form. The deadline for submissions is 15th October, 2021. Applications received after that date, or not on the application form, will not be considered.

Move Together

Have you been shielding owing to the Covid 19 pandemic? Has your physical or mental health and wellbeing been negatively impacted by Covid 19? Move Together is new for Oxfordshire and is here to support you to move more, to help improve your physical health, mental health and wellbeing. The programme can offer support, advice and guidance tailored to what you need in the way you need it. Anyone interested in the programme can find out more information from the local Move Together co-ordinator for the Vale of White Horse on **07717 714477**.

Garden Waste Update

At the time of writing, the suspension of the garden waste collection is still continuing. It is rare that the District Council has to activate the business continuity plan, but it is intended to protect other kerbside waste collection from significant disruption. The District Council offers apologies to the garden waste customers. They are continuing to monitor the situation with Biffa, but unfortunately, at the moment, there has been no significant change to the driver shortage situation.

Council tax checks on single person households

If you currently claim the single person household discount on your council tax, you should receive a letter from the District Council to check that there is still just one person living in the property, and that you are paying the correct amount of council tax. Anyone who thinks they are eligible to receive the Council Tax reduction and

is not currently claiming it should get in touch with the Council Tax team via vowh.counciltax@secure.capita.co.uk or telephone **0345 302 2315**

Planning Applications considered by the Council

P21/V1806/HH Front and side extensions and alterations to garage at 5 Hyde Copse. The Council had concerns regarding the loss of on site parking.

P21/V0564/FUL Widening access into Manor Farm field, off A415. Council wanted a restriction imposed that if permission were given, it would be used for agricultural purposes only. Concerns were raised regarding access onto the busy A415 and the material proposed for the road surface.

P21/V1238/FUL Single storey extension to The Nursery, 1 Barrow Close, and increase in the number of children accommodated. Council expressed concern regarding access to the site off Morland Road given the number of pedestrian movements, and increased parking needs.

P21/V1846/O Erection of semi-detached dwelling at 19 Mill Road. The Council commented that there had been flooding in the vicinity in the past. It wanted assurances from the County Council that it was content for 3 properties to share the same driveway, and wished to see parking and amenity space indicated.

P21/V1928/HH Conversion of garage to habitable accommodation and erection of conservatory at 22 Gozzards Ford. The Council wished materials to be compatible with the listed structure, and wished to know where the replacement parking following the conversion was to be located. It would not wish to see the accommodation become an independent residential unit.

P21/V0965/FUL Steel framed external storage unit at Oxford Instruments, A338. The Council had no objections provided the District Council's environment and tree officers were happy that there was no adverse impact.

Date of Next Council Meeting:

Monday 13th September, 2021 in Marcham Village Hall, Barrow Close.

Please check the Council's website www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk for the latest information

Clerk to the Council:

Mrs. L. Martin, 90 Howard Cornish Road

Tel: 01865 391833

clerk@marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk

www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Any member of the public is most welcome to attend any of our meetings. There is a section near the start of each meeting for public participation, where any member of the public is able to speak about any topic which is relevant to the work of the Parish Council (for a maximum of three minutes). Members of the public are also welcome to observe some or all of the rest of the meeting.

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Dear Editor

Gillian and Konrad Fredericks would like to thank the charming people of Marcham for their kindness and friendship over the last 16 months.

We were staying temporarily with Gill's mother Anne (Smithson) while looking for a new home in London when Covid struck, extending our original 6-month plan. The pandemic notwithstanding, we've really enjoyed our stay, wandering the bosky lanes and open farmland around the village. We've also been blessed with Anne's support and all-seasons garden and allotment.

Of course, things would have been entirely different had we not had the shop and post office with everything one needed and super fun people running things.

We're now back in the maelstrom of London N4 where we belong and that suits us fine, but it's difficult to shake the wealth of happy memories, so we'll be back.

Many thanks

GILL & KON

recently of Frilford Road



Dear residents

The parish council has reported to us that there is a growing dog fouling issue across our districts.

Although there are many benefits that come with owning a dog (especially during lockdown), there are also responsibilities which include cleaning up after your dog. Please be aware that it is an offence to not clean up after your dog or leave used dog waste bags anywhere other than in an appropriate bin. Under the Dog Fouling of Land Act 1996, allowing your dog to foul can result in an on-the-spot fixed penalty notice of £50 and incorrect disposal of dog waste bags e.g. not putting them in the bin can result in an £80 fixed penalty notice. If fines are not paid, cases can be escalated to court resulting in fines of up to £1,000.

There are some council owned litter bins within your parish. These can be used for both litter and dog waste bags – you do not need to find a specialist dog waste bin. You can also put dog waste bags in your black general waste wheelie bin so if you cannot find a bin or bins are full, please take it home.

We know that most residents take a lot of pride in their local area and we encourage everybody to take extra steps in keeping your parish clean and tidy.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact the waste team at waste.team@southandvale.gov.uk

Best wishes,

WASTE TEAM

Waste and Recycling Officer
South Oxfordshire District Council and Vale of White Horse District Council
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Waste.team@southandvale.gov.uk

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BERKSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

For those interested in tracing the history of their family, Berkshire Family History Society offers a number of online talks, workshops and courses, aimed to help you to get going or to further hone your skills. As a registered charity, number 283010, most events are open to all, whether you're a member of the society or not.

Coming up soon ...

From Monday 4th Oct: **Beginners' Family History Course** (tickets £35) 6 sessions: Oct 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th, Nov 1st & 8th, 10.30am-12.30pm.

This course comprises a series of six workshops for those new to researching family history including where to start, how to progress and good research practice. Learn how to work with core records of civil registration, censuses, parish registers and modern wills. Discover the different genealogy websites, the content they offer and their strengths and limitations. This is also a good refresher for those who want to make sure they have covered all bases.

For more information about these and all other events, and to book a place, see <https://berksfhs.org>



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Clicking on the link within the email, takes you to a convincing but fake NHS website that asks for personal and payment details **for an admin fee**. When one website is taken down, it is likely that similar emails/websites will appear.

Vaccination status is obtained FREE through the NHS App, website or by calling the NHS on 119 and they will **NEVER** ask for your PIN or payment details.

More information can be found on the gov.uk website;

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/demonstrating-your-covid-19-vaccination-status-when-travelling-abroad>

Any Phishing scams can be reported to SERS (Suspicious Email Reporting Service): report@phishing.gov.uk

If you believe you are the victim of a fraud, please report this to Action Fraud as soon as possible by calling 0300 123 2040 or visiting www.actionfraud.police.uk.

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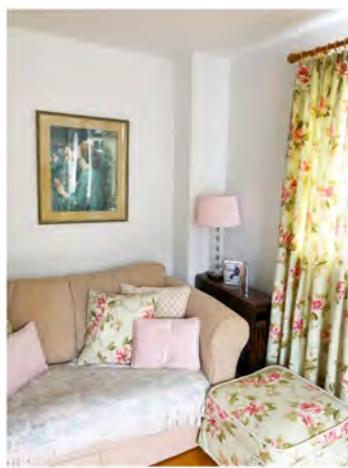
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Marcham WI

Next Meeting:

7.30pm Monday, 20th September 2021

At the Marcham Centre

'Up, Up and Away in my Beautiful Balloon'

We are looking forward to seeing you all again after the summer break. At our September meeting, we will be having an interesting insight into the world of hot air ballooning and, weather permitting, the chance to get up close to an inflated balloon.

We hope to see you there..

For further information, please contact:

Pippa Hoath 01865 391349 pippahoath@gmail.com



The
**Marcham
Society**

AGM and Talk
7.30pm Monday
27th September
Marcham Centre

Butterflies, Marcham and Lockdown

Jim Asher

September is the start of our new season of talks, walks and other events – we welcome new members. Come along and join up to learn more about Marcham and its past – prehistory, history and natural history.

For more information contact
membership@marchamsociety.org.uk
www.marchamsociety.org.uk
Facebook: marchamsociety



Holly Blue butterfly

WESSEX AIRSCAPES

3rd to 24th September - Open daily -
Sewell Centre Gallery - Radley College



Wessex Airscapes is a two year collaboration between **Hedley Thorne** and **Anna Dillon**. Hedley is an aerial photographer and Anna is a landscape painter. They both live in Oxfordshire.



Contact Amanda Jewell acj@radley.org.uk / 01235 543039 to book an appointment.
www.annadillon.com www.hedleythorne.com

Sewell Centre Gallery. Radley College.
Abingdon. OX14 2HR



Puzzle Corner

??

TEA TIME TEASER For this teaser we have song lyrics about summer and/or holidays. Can you work out what they are, and the song they come from??

1. W all G O A S H
2. I G T S I M pocket, G T G S I M F
3. I T S when T W I H, Y C S right U A T T S
4. S A T livin' I E
5. O I I T sun, W T M by M F H
6. I W took A H, T S T T C
7. S dreams R A T S B O T S N

Answers to phrases from Shakespeare's plays from last issue:

1. The Course of True Love Never Did Run Smooth
A Midsummer Night's Dream
2. To Be, Or Not To Be: That Is The Question *Hamlet*
3. Now Is The Winter Of our Discontent *Richard III*
4. Is This A Dagger which I See Before Me *Macbeth*
5. All that Glisters Is Not Gold *The Merchant of Venice*
6. Uneasy Lies The Head That wears The Crown *Henry IV part 2*
7. Some Are Born Great, Some Achieve Greatness, And Some Have Greatness Thrust Upon Them *Twelfth Night*
8. What's In A Name? A Rose By Any Other Name Would Smell As Sweet *Romeo and Juliet*

At Abingdon Unicorn Theatre OX14 3JB this month

7.30pm Wed 15th - Sat 18th Sept

Good and Faithful Servants

By Tony Green

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There will be a 3-hour flying display including the iconic 'Sally B' (one displaying and one static), Eurofighter 'Typhoon', the 'Blades' amazing display team and more but there's plenty to see on the ground too – static aircraft displays, cockpits to sit in, classic, vintage and military vehicles, country fayre traditions, music, children's amusements, food and drink *or bring your own picnic.*

Covid regulations will be in place.

Please remember you cannot gain access to the show without a prior purchased ticket.
For tickets and more details go to www.abingdonairandcountry.co.uk

Pop-up Café

Find us in Marcham Centre from Wednesday 8th September onwards at the usual times:

- Wednesday 9-11am
- Saturday 9-11:30am



Afternoon Teas

After 15 months of delivering homemade afternoon teas we are now ending our everyday service to focus on the pop up café. We have loved being a positive part of your lockdown, celebrating special occasions and everyday moments. If you have an outstanding gift voucher, we will contact you to make sure you do not miss out.

Community BBQ

Join us on Saturday, 18th September between 5 and 8pm for a community BBQ at Marcham Centre. Grab a table on the patio or bring a picnic blanket for Anson Field. Inside seating available if it rains. Marcham Centre bar will also be open. Pay on the day but pre-order to choose a timeslot, guarantee your food and benefit from our advance order discount. Details on our website or scan the QR code in red.



Community Membership

Thirsty Café is registered with the Financial Conduct Authority as Marcham Community Café Limited (registration number 8384). The society is organised by a Management Committee drawn from the membership. Committee members are elected annually at the AGM. The Management Committee wish to encourage as much community participation as possible in this exciting venture and are pleased to offer membership shares to the community.

What your membership share(s) gives you:

- life membership of the Society – no annual subscription required
- an opportunity to vote in café business
- the satisfaction of knowing that you have helped to fund this community enterprise.



See our website for more information and membership application forms or scan this QR code.

Annual General Meeting

All members are invited to our AGM on Thursday 23rd September at 7:30pm at Marcham Centre. Please contact us by 9th September if you are interested in standing for the Management Committee.

Milletts 5k Fun Run

Save the date! Keep an eye out for sign up details for the annual Milletts 5k fun run. Hosted at Milletts Farm on Saturday 2nd October. Check out our video from last year's virtual 5k on our website.

Website: www.thirstycafemarcham.co.uk
Email: hello@thirstycafemarcham.co.uk
Phone: 07871 208811, Mon–Fri, 9 am–12 noon

Abingdon Healthfest 10.30 - 2.30 Saturday 4 Sept

Healthy Abingdon (healthyabingdon.org.uk) brings together community groups with health service providers with the aim of improving the health and well-being of people in the town. On Saturday 4 September we are taking over the Market Place for **Abingdon Healthfest** which will showcase some of the many great groups available in the town.

Some of the community groups with stands will be active in walking, cycling, yoga, singing and athletics. Health service providers will cover areas like mental or dental health and much more. You can also hear about the social prescribing services now provided by GP practices. There will be some demonstrations in addition to being able to engage with people on the stands.

Penlon ♦

The event is sponsored by Penlon.

Have your say on Oxfordshire's future



The Oxfordshire Plan 2050 is a long-term plan that will set a framework for future planning decisions.

We want your views on the policies we've suggested to help Oxfordshire:

- Address climate change
- Improve environmental quality
- Create strong and healthy communities
- Plan for sustainable travel and connectivity
- Create jobs and provide homes

The consultation is open until **Friday 8 October**

www.oxfordshireopenthought.org

Copies are available from Abingdon Library



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The Arts Society Abingdon (ex ADFAS) are presenting ONLINE Webinars
Wednesday 15th September 2021,
Live at 11.00am and 2.00pm

The Guggenheims: a dynasty of art collectors

by Andrew Hopkins

What other family in the 20th Century has managed to amass such extraordinary art collections, and design or purchase such astounding buildings in which to display their collections? Andrew's lecture traces the development and expansion of the Guggenheims' collections over more than half a century, by which time their name had become synonymous with some of the most inspiring art and museums in the world.



Visitors/non-members are very welcome to view this lecture, cost £6.00. If you would like to view online please email info@theartssocietyabingdon.org.uk for further information on payment and to receive the link. (approx. 48 hours before the lecture along with Arts Society Members)

For more information on future lectures and other activities see www.theartssocietyabingdon.org.uk or email info@theartssocietyabingdon.org.uk



Marcham Centre

Marcham Centre – operations from 19th July 2021

Government removed a number of Covid-related restrictions on 19th July. MCG trustees gave much thought regarding how to operate after this date, bearing in mind that Covid cases were still rising; concerns remain and there are still vulnerable people whose health we wish to safeguard.

Therefore, until further notice, we ask people entering and moving around inside the hall building to continue to **use hand sanitiser, wear a mask** and respect **social distancing** with people in other groups. When within a hired space, it will be up to the relevant hirer to let you know how they wish you to act within that space.

When new hires are requested, we will discuss safety with the hirer, while recognising the relaxation of government-imposed rules about numbers of people involved.

We hope in this way to retain the confidence of people in our community in the safe operation of Marcham Centre.

If you have any questions or booking requests, please contact coordinator@marchamcentre.org

The **Marcham Centre Bar** continues to be well supported by the village. As a reminder, the Bar is open outdoors as well as indoors for table service. Regular Bar opening times are as follows:

Wednesday: 7pm - 11pm; Friday: 4pm - 11pm; Saturday: 4pm - 11pm; and Sunday: Midday - 3pm.

Thirsty Café See page 9 or visit www.thirstycafemarcham and [@thirstycafemarcham](https://www.instagram.com/thirstycafemarcham) for the latest information.

The **MUGA** is open from 9:00 am until 9:00 pm for people playing sport or other physical activities or coaching. It is not available for social gatherings. If you are keen to play **Tennis** and be part of the new Tennis Club, (better still, if you are also interested in helping to organise it in some way), please contact Zoe Barnes. Her number is 07452 944949. The new **football** season kicks off in September, with matches on our new pitches.

We continue work on fitting out Marcham Centre. The most obvious addition in early August is the new **patio fence** which has already 'fielded' some cricket balls! [see photo on the cover]

Please keep safe by remembering:

Hands – Face – Space - Air

Marcham Centre, Barrow Close, Marcham OX13 6TY
enquiries@marchamcentre.org
www.marchamcentre.org
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 Registered in England 7470307
 Charity No. 1144407



FABERDASHERY

SALE

Saturday 11th September
 10am - 3pm
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 Barrow Close
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 and neighbours

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There is one thing left to say to you
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 You've been fantastic
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 A photo book
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 Just take a look
 At all the things
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 We've said goodbye
 To everyone!
 We'll miss you all
 But here's our rule
 Be happy and nice
 When you get to 'BIG' school!
 Congratulations to all our 'Experts'.
 With love from Nicky, Marion, Nik, Angi and Lisa
 Contact us 01865 392101 Marcham-preschool@hotmail.co.uk
www.marcham-preschool.weebly.com



MARCHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

At the end of the school year, we took every opportunity to celebrate the achievements of the students. They had amazing levels of perseverance despite the fractured nature of the past 18 months. As a school, we stayed true to our Values - particularly those of responsibility, friendship (community), and courage.

The staff also need to be celebrated. In yet another turbulent school year, they continued with an unflinching sense of moral purpose and duty, guiding the children so as to meet their academic, spiritual and emotional needs.

We said goodbye to **Mr Clack, Miss Ferryman, Mrs Vaughan** (formerly Miss Bowles who is not returning to us from maternity leave) and **Mrs Choroba**. They have all touched and influenced the lives of so many of our school community – both pupils and staff. We thank them for all that they have done and wish them the very best in their future endeavours. Both Mr Clack and Miss Ferryman wrote farewells that reflect fondly on their time at Marcham. They can be found in the school news on the website (9th & 12th July respectively). The school has also said goodbye to two long-serving members of the Governing Body – **Dalvinder Haire Mulley** and **Rob France**.

Of their time with the Governors, the Vice-Chair says *'Dalvinder is an example of the self-effacing, quiet majority who modestly gives their time for the benefit of the school and to the better of our community. She has supported the school and the Governing body as Clerk to the Governors with expertise and professionalism which will be sorely missed. In his term in office as Chair of Governors, Rob has been a strong advocate and spokesperson for the school, its staff, pupils and its vision and ethos. He was instrumental through the long process of planning, securing and reaching construction of the new classrooms. Along with the school's leadership team, Rob helped set out the longer-term vision for the school to move to single form entry whilst still maintaining its strong, village community ethos.'*

Now as we look to the new school year ahead, we can welcome the children back to their new classes – especially those joining us in Reception as 'Pandas'. We will also be welcoming new members of staff to our school community. **Chloe James**, who has taught right across the primary age range and comes to us with a great deal of experience, will be teaching in Year 6. **Cathy Taylor**, already working with us as a TA while doing her Masters degree, will be returning as a teacher in Year 3. And **Mrs Hannah Hughes**, who many of you may remember teaching in Reception/Year 1 a few years ago, is returning to Marcham. It is great to welcome her back as a part-time teacher in Reception.

It is all very exciting! We will return with an update of how we are getting on in the next issue.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: The school and its Governors were delighted when some headway was made towards the provision of Wrap around care in Marcham. An experienced provider, Vicky Hickman (of 'Vicky's After School & Holiday Club'), agreed to expand her business and open a new club in the village. We are all aware of the impact on the school and its community given the news that the club has had to delay opening due to a lack of response to its staffing advertisements. Vicky will be continuing with her staffing drive in September. Please see the details on this page and spread the news far and wide! If you know of someone who might be interested in this type of work – even if they are unsure of their suitability – encourage them to get in contact with Vicky to discuss it more.

VIV HUTCHINSON, HEADTEACHER
www.marcham.oxon.sch.uk



Staff Vacancies for our Breakfast and After School Club in Marcham

Manager role

We are looking for a highly motivated Manager to take responsibility for planning, organising and running the After School Club. At Vicky's After School Club we aim to provide a safe, secure and relaxed environment, offering a range of activities to reflect the interests of the children in our care. Our clubs are privately owned and Vicky herself will ensure you receive the best support and training to encourage you to be the best you can be.

First and foremost you must enjoy working with children aged between 4 – 11 years old. You must be prepared to plan and organise varied and creative play, taking the children's own interests into account. Are you responsible, enthusiastic and reliable? Are you a team leader? If this sounds like you, please do get in touch.

Playworker role(s)

We are also looking for Playworkers. Do you enjoy working with children and having fun? Are you a good team player and do you love to support children in their learning and development? If the answer is yes, this could be the job for you.

We are looking for engaging, reliable, caring and enthusiastic members of the community who would love to be part of our team. You can bring your own ideas and vision to our new clubs in Marcham – you will be given the freedom to be creative with activities.



Hours from 2.45 – 6.15 Monday-Friday, term time only.
(School Holiday work is available but not contractual)

Salary offered at a competitive rate -
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We pay pensions and holiday pay.

Minimum age 18 years (Ofsted requirement)

Please note that an enhanced DBS check will be
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If you are interested and would like further information,
please contact Vicky Hickman

Tel No: 07887711454

Email: info@vickysafterschoolclub.co.uk

website: www.vickysafterschoolclub.co.uk

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Is It About Individual or Collective Acts?



Recently, I've visited a couple of local projects, where people are actively trying to increase the biodiversity, and give the ecosystem a helping hand, so it's healthy and thriving.

Biodiversity being a focus on having a range of species, co-existing, forming healthy food chains, from a local, national, and international basis. It's not about focusing on rarities, rather, it's a focus on everyday stuff, that could attract the rarities.

Rare species is an interesting area. Is it locally rare, nationally rare, or internationally rare? Is one more important than another?

Is it about individual acts or collective acts?

I'd argue, collectively we can have more of an impact, but unless we have our own house in order, on an individual basis, how can we even hope to begin to relate to, impact on, and positively contribute to effective collective efforts?

That's why local projects, like the ones I've been visiting, are so very important. They help people make a collective difference, by giving them an arena to grow in, find confidence in, and thrive in, as they find their feet as individuals.

The local projects focusing on helping the ecosystems that we are part of, and not separate from, showcases nature isn't 'out there' somewhere'. It's on our doorstep, right in front of us, and part of the collective whole.

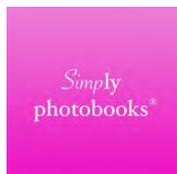
So whilst tending your gardens over the next month, hopefully keeping wildlife in mind as you do, peer over the fence and see what's going on over there. Our gardens aren't isolated islands, they are part of the collective whole, just as we and our lives are.

Happy Gardening!

Stuart Mabbutt

01865 747243 www.wildmaninspires.co.uk

When you dispose of any face masks, snip off the ear straps before you throw them away. Hundreds of tangled animals have had to be rescued from them. Takes a moment, makes a huge difference



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Environmental Debate Live & Unscripted

In collaboration with the People's Countryside (thepeoplescountryside.co.uk). A pilot event for anyone wanting to explore the big issues, by stretching your thinking in a safe and supportive setting.

Saturday 25th September 2021 4:30pm-6:30pm.

Bothy Vineyard, Frilford

Tickets: £15 per person, no concessions. Booking essential via Eventbrite <https://bit.ly/3s4Z0xf>



Vineyard Shop now open on Saturdays 11-5

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Marcham Open Gardens Day Sunday 12th September 2021 2-5pm

We are holding an "Open Gardens" event on Sunday 12th September from 2pm-5pm. Tickets, teas & cake and a map of all the participating gardens will be available from Priors Corner, 2 Priory Lane (just off Mill Road) All proceeds to the Marcham Moldova Lifeline.

Would you be interested in opening your garden?

Please contact

Sheila Dunford (sheila.dunford@btinternet.com) or Julia Davies (jldav13s@msn.com)

No extra work needed - just open the gates!



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Small group classes back in person
Mondays Marcham Centre 9-10am
6 September

Meet at Marcham Village Field playground
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Confident and comfortable at home on Zoom? Stick with it!
Thursdays 9-10am
9 September

scv.mcrae@gmail.com
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<https://scv.mcrae.wixsite.com/vetbaile/home>







Monday 9am, Zumba Gold Toning, on Zoom
Zoom recording of the class is included which lasts 7 days

Friday 10.45, Zumba Gold at Marcham Centre

All classes are £5 and are streamed on zoom, recordings are available too. for more info please contact Stu
stu-zumba@hotmail.co.uk

Drop-ins are welcome, See you In class!!

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The past months have been difficult for all of us but for people with diabetes and other long-term conditions, it has been especially difficult. It has also been an anxious time for people with diabetes for several reasons, for example because they have been unable to have their routine health checks. This can result in difficulty sleeping.

Many of us have the odd restless night and although it may leave us feeling tired and irritable the next day, it does not have the negative impact that long-term disturbed or poor quality sleep has on our health. Most of us need between 7 and 9 hours sleep per night and getting more or less than these amounts can cause of a range of health problems, some of which are more serious than others. They can include sleep apnoea, heart disease, obesity, stress and depression.

The InDependent Diabetes Trust has published a new booklet, 'Diabetes – The Importance of Sleep', which discusses the benefits of improving the quality of sleep, how to get more sleep and also change their habits to try to make longer term improvements. The booklet also discusses Restless Leg Syndrome, a common disorder that can affect anyone and causes people to want to move their legs, again this can lead to long sleepless nights.

All our booklets are FREE, and you can obtain copies of 'Diabetes – The Importance of Sleep' and any of our other booklets by contacting IDDT: telephone 01604 622837 or email: jenny@iddinternational.org



Using interpreters - tell us your views!

Have you, your family members or friends used interpreters for health and care appointments or treatments?

We'd like to hear from you about what it's like using interpreters in Oxfordshire.

Whether you've used interpreters for GP, dentist, hospital appointments and treatments or for other health and social care services, we want to hear your views!

Please tell us what worked well, and what could be better.

We'd particularly like to hear from you if English isn't your first language, or you use British Sign Language (BSL) interpreters.

You can give your own views or help give the views of relatives or friends or someone you support in your work.

Please take time to fill in our short, anonymous survey at www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/usinginterpreters

We will share what you tell us with local health and care decision-makers to help shape the support people need and improve services.

Please ask us if you need this survey in another language, a paper copy or in large print.

If you want our help filling in the survey or to tell us your story of using interpreters, please contact us by calling 01865 520520 or emailing hello@healthwatchoxfordshire.co.uk

September 2021



Following our amazingly successful *Come to Sing* course over the summer **Harmony InSpires** – the Marcham-based women's chorus – has **8 new members** (you may recognise Michele & Barbara from Marcham Shop!) and hoping for a few more!

We have been thrilled to start using the main hall in Marcham Centre with the amazing acoustics. We have had a great welcome from the management team and thank them for all their help in getting us here. We have also appreciated the bar after rehearsals on Wednesday nights!

If you would like to hear our latest recordings or read more about the choir go to our website

www.harmonyinspires.org



What a wonderful summer have had. The restrictions have eased, and although we have remained cautious, we have had huge amounts of fun as a larger family, and it has been wonderful to feel a sense of normality again through the nursery.

We held a wonderful graduation ceremony for our school leavers at the end of July. We are so proud of our biggest angels as they have shown such bravery, resilience, and most of all joy through their pre-school year. We wish them the very best in their move to school, and we will miss them immensely.

We have had a lovely summer making the most of our outside space. Our babies have been exploring all sorts of sensory activities from ice pools with our sea creatures, to an edible mud bath for our farm animals. They have been able to experience touch, feel and taste of seasonal fruits and veggies, creating soups and smoothies with their hands...which we declined to try but they looked delicious.

Our older children have been using their imaginations and creativity to explore what shapes they can see in the clouds. The children have been taking care of their growing garden, watering their plants and watching them grow and change through the season. They have found this fascinating. They have also continued to learn about minibeasts and have enjoyed the bugs who have been visiting our garden this summer.

We have enjoyed getting back out into the community this summer making the most of our wonderful Anson Field, the playground and the woods, and we look forward to getting back to our community activities into the Autumn.

If you are interested in securing a place for your child please contact us: T: 01865 819992E: info@littleangelschildcaregroup.co.uk

www.littleangelschildcaregroup.co.uk

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

Stay Safe

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**WHY IT IS IMPORTANT THAT MARCHAM MAKES A NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

When I first became the District Councillor for Marcham in 2013, I was struck at how vulnerable it was to developers putting in Planning applications on possible sites in the village, as it did not have any legal powers to say where it wanted any development to happen. But at that time your Parish Council was very involved with another development ... your new village hall ... which needed much guidance and expertise to help it along a very rocky path. Now that development has been completed and we have a spanking new hall on Anson Field, the Parish Council is looking at developing a Neighbourhood Plan, which is a right it was afforded through the Localism Act of 2011.

A **Neighbourhood Plan** will give Marcham direct powers to develop a shared vision for its neighbourhood and help shape the development and growth of the local area. It will not stop development in the village, but instead of developers or land owners deciding where houses should be built, Marcham village can have a major say in where it wants new homes, shops and offices to be built, and in what those new buildings should look like and what infrastructure should be provided. It provides a powerful set of tools for the local people to plan for the types of development to meet their community's needs and where the ambition of the neighbourhood is aligned with the strategic needs and priorities of the wider local area.

I think it is even more important for Marcham to have a neighbourhood plan now, as it looks as if the government may be reducing the say of local people in the forthcoming planning white paper. A Neighbourhood Plan will be the main way local people can be heard and in the long run this is recognized in the work that is going on in the OxPlan 2050, the future plan for Oxfordshire.

The Local Council is very keen to assist villages and towns to make their own Neighbourhood Plan ... all that is needed is the willingness of locals to volunteer to help shape and make a plan. So, if you think you could give some of your spare time to help please contact your Parish Council via the clerk (clerk@marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk)

WEEKLY TIPS ON REDUCING YOUR PERSONAL CARBON FOOTPRINT FOR THIS MONTH

I wonder how many of you have been following this **Friends of the Earth** advice? Personally, I have to make a real effort to remember, but the more of us who try to remember, then the smaller will be our carbon footprint. Imagine how big the reduction would be if everybody joined in! This month we are focusing on clothes and how we shop for and wash our clothes.

Keep for longer How long we wear our clothes for has reduced drastically (36%) whereas clothing production has doubled. This "fast fashion" – buying cheaper clothes more regularly – results in many clothes being thrown away within a year. Inevitably, this puts pressure on resources, pollutes the environment, creates waste and increases global carbon emissions. By spending a bit more on clothes that will last (as Coco Chanel once said, 'Fashion goes out of fashion, style never does'), your clothing use increases and your clothing purchases decrease, helping to reduce your carbon footprint whilst saving money in the long run.

Recycle or Give to Charity If you have some clothing which you think still has some life left in them but they do not fit you any longer or you have fallen out of love with them, then take them to a charity shop. But if your clothing is spoilt or unusable, then parcel it up in a bag and leave it out on top of the recycling bin for the council to pass on for rags. None of your clothes should go to landfill via the black bin.

Washing and Drying our Clothes accounts for 120 million tonnes of CO₂ each year! So, try to avoid **Plastic Micro Fibres**.. As you ensure that any new (or second-hand) clothes that you buy are built to last, consider the material that the clothes are made out of. Polyester, acrylic and nylon clothing shed plastic micro fibres during each wash which then pollute the ocean. Buying clothes made from natural material such as wool and linen, that do not pollute and will eventually biodegrade, can help reduce your environmental impact.

Wash Smart In the UK we have improved at washing at lower temperatures, but further savings can be made, by ensuring to wash certain clothes (such as jeans and jumpers) less often, and putting more garments into each wash. If you can hang dry as much as possible. By turning the washer down from 40 to 30 degrees and hang drying rather than tumble drying, can bring the emissions per wash down from 2.4kg CO₂e to 0.6kg CO₂e*.

*The convention is to express a carbon footprint in terms of carbon dioxide equivalent or CO₂e.

That's it for now.

Hope you are all staying safe and well.

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COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT*Some reflections on watching villages grow.*

One of the major concerns of those who sat down to begin the Drayton Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) nearly 10 years ago now, was the need for the village to be more interconnected as this would generate a better sense of community. For decades village planning had been obsessed with all homes being immediately connected to the main highways. This led to endless ribbon developments with people living far apart from one another. The villages of Drayton, Sutton Courtenay and Appleford have all suffered. The Drayton NDP has ensured that each of the three main new developments is well connected within and also the main highways. There are now a range of interesting circular walks all round the village.

The new developments in Sutton Courtenay are less well connected to each other and the distances some have to walk to get to village services are a challenge, particularly to the elderly. The concerns of residents at one end of the village are often very different from those at the other end. Appleford has the same issues but being a much smaller village, generating a feeling of community is less of a challenge.

Marcham is rather different and, in planning terms is far more compact. Whilst like all families, Marcham is not above disagreeing with itself, it is not surprising that Marcham generally has a strong village community feeling. However, even here there have been issues within some of the new developments over some residents resisting planned connecting roads and paths.

The Drayton experience is that connecting roads and paths is the secret to generating functioning communities.

Covid has made it easier for all of us to hide from each other and to stop meeting and talking to one another. However, our village communities and their Covid Groups have done a magnificent job in minimising this damage. Indeed, our communities are probably better at caring for each other than ever before. As we come out of the pandemic, it would be tragic to slip back behind our front doors. There are very powerful economic reasons for encouraging working from home but not at the expense of community life.

Holiday news

1. The long awaited "build out" on Drayton Rd, Sutton Courtenay has now been agreed and is funded. Various legalities have to

be gone through, but the project should be fully operational by spring next year.

2. The application for Mill Rd Bridge has been passed and work should begin shortly. This will restore the pedestrian path between Drayton and Marcham.
3. The repainting of all the white lines on the Milton interchange roundabout will be done in September.
4. Appleford continues to fight for an adjustment to the new HIF Road. We expect to be see the formal application very soon.
5. In common with many councils across the country, the national shortage of HGV drivers, together with the “pingdemic”, has led to the temporary suspension of the Brown Bin service for the month of August in order to ensure there is no threat to other waste services. It is hoped to be able to reinstate the garden waste collection in early September. In the meantime, residents are asked to be patient and take their garden waste to the Drayton recycling depot where possible.

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MP’S REPORT

I held a very productive pre-COP26 summit for Wantage and Didcot constituents this month. We had a great range of speakers, including the CEO of the independent Climate Change Committee. Interesting fact: the UK is currently 20 years ahead of the global average for cutting emissions, as well as cutting them faster than the other G20 countries. It won’t surprise you that the way we build houses featured regularly.

I put the event on because tackling climate change is very important to me, very important to a significant number of constituents and we have a big opportunity to demonstrate leadership when the world’s leaders come to Glasgow for the actual UN summit in November. It was also a great chance to showcase good local organisations like Greencore Construction, Westmill Wind and Solar and the Earth Trust. I am sending a summary of the concerns and ideas raised at the event to Alok Sharma, President of COP26, and will let everyone know how he responds.

As you might have seen, I held my debate in parliament on Royal Mail’s performance recently, making clear again that I don’t blame their workers for the problems. The following day I visited the Didcot Delivery Office. It’s clear that Royal Mail HQ have taken the criticisms seriously and have worked to try and improve the service – many people have told me it has. But you should let me know if you continue to encounter problems.

My first ‘10 minute rule bill’ will be on behalf of the AEAT Pension Campaign. This constituency has more of the AEAT Pensioners than any other constituency and they were all encouraged – via assurances that turned out to be false – to transfer to a pension scheme that has meant their pensions are now worth considerably less than they should be. It is a tale that sounds familiar, but a unique case in that it was advice from the Government’s Actuary Department in the 1990s that was strengthened to encourage the transfer and, at the moment, the advice can’t be investigated as the Ombudsman in question doesn’t have the powers to. The Bill would enable the Ombudsman to investigate the advice given and was first introduced by Ed Vaizey not long before he stood down. It is a long and difficult route to pass a law this way, but I am full of admiration for the campaigners who have been dogged in seeking to right the wrong.

Recess is fast approaching. I will be back home in Didcot for most of it, albeit working, contrary to the suggestion MPs are on holiday! In addition to regular meetings, surgery appointments and visits, I’ll be holding some roundtables on issues constituents have raised repeatedly with me (including on GP appointments) and trying to attend as many of the events that couldn’t take place last September 2021

year as I can – let me know if you think there is a good one for me to attend near you.

As ever, if I can help with anything then do email **david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk**

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ABINGDON RESERVOIR – LATEST NEWS FROM GARD

Despite restrictions, GARD has continued to monitor the activities of the water companies, engage with local and national stakeholders and provide informed and robust opposition to the proposed reservoir.

As a result of GARD and others’ opposition, the regulators have required the water companies to undertake research to evaluate the reservoir and alternative strategies, before a final recommendation can be made. This is a ‘gated process’ which is when projects are phased, each phase marked by a ‘gate’ at which reports are provided to decision makers who then decide on next steps.

Gate One reports are now available for all options, but, most importantly, the reservoir (now being called ‘South East Strategic Reservoir Option – SESRO), London Effluent Reuse and Severn – Thames Transfer. The reports are, in our view, flawed. Figures are quoted with almost no justification, there is no reference to key documents relating to embedded and operational carbon budgets, capital and operational costs, resilience claims and, most crucially, no reference to recent flooding studies. In all three reports, the proposal is to advance the projects to Gate Two. GARD has now submitted a detailed response to the Gate One reports. The reports, and our response, can be read here. <http://www.abingdonreservoir.org.uk/downloads.html>

GARD’s response also expresses concerns that the documents were released in an opaque manner and without, as far as we know, any notification to local Oxfordshire organisations who have asked to be kept informed throughout the process. This all indicates that OFWAT and RAPID (the umbrella group that brings the regulators together) are not committed to a transparent process.

GARD AGM – Date for your diary

7.30pm 1st December at St Michael’s (Church) Hall, Steventon. We do hope to see you there.

www.abingdonreservoir.org.uk



Callers don’t have to give their name or any personal information and calls are not recorded and cannot be traced.

Tell them what you know, not who you are

ALL SAINTS' & ST LUKE'S CHURCHES

www.marcham-with-garford.org.uk



Following the lifting of restrictions, we have made a number of changes to the way we run our Sunday services. If you wish to attend a service, you no longer need to book – just turn up. We are still currently asking that people continue to wear a face covering whilst moving around the building when there is a service and use the hand gel provided. We are also singing again, but again, behind masks for everyone's safety.

Our regular services are as follows:

Sunday 10am: Morning service at All Saints'

Sunday 11am-12pm: Open church at St. Luke's, Garford

Sunday 6pm: Evening service at All Saints'

Wednesday 10.30am: Midweek Holy Communion at the Marcham Community Centre meeting room

News from St. Luke's, Garford

Taizé service: In July Mark led us through a wonderful Taizé service. The music was exceptional with Ben accompanying the choir and then James accompanying Ben whilst he played his oboe. Carolyn's flute solo was delightful. We were totally candlelit and St. Luke's looked stunning. We followed our service with a glass or two of wine which made it a very social evening thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Intercessory Prayer Seminar: Last month we organised a seminar led by Charles, Head of Rural Parish Development for the Diocese. This was attended by 7 of us and was both interesting and informative. I think everyone felt much more confident of their prayer leading abilities after we had listened to Charles and discussed our thoughts.

Celtic Service: Our next service is a Celtic Service on 15th August at 6pm, which will be led by Rosemary.

Harvest Service: Our Harvest Service on 26th September, will be led by Mark and followed by a bring and share lunch. It will, in fact, be a Plough Service with the centre piece of a vintage plough and tractor strategically parked by the church entrance door.

As always, we thank Neil Walker of Manor Farm for all his support and help with access, tractors etc which enable us to hold these wonderful services.

If anyone has mobility issues, please let Carolyn know before a service so that we can arrange with Neil for you to have access to park in the farmyard, close to the church entrance.

Everyone is welcome at St. Luke's and we look forward to seeing you all during the coming season.

Contacts:

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