

MARCH 2022 VOL: 44 No: 3

READ & RECYCLE!

FREE



▲ Burns Night Supper at Marcham Centre see page 9



▲ The Airshow is back, tickets on sale now see page 5



▲ Marcham Society Lecture: The Lost Villages of Oxfordshire see page 7



▲ Marcham PreSchool go Tartan for the Highland Games see page 13



▲ Mothering Sunday gifts all wrapped up at Marcham Village Shop see page 5



▲ Little Angels: a library for all and a garden reading room for the children see page 13

## Diary for March

Date	Event	Pg
14 Wed	Deadline for Reservoir Consultation	19
14 Wed	Marcham Parish Council Meeting, Marcham Centre. 19.30	3
14 Wed	Start of 6 week application period for Climate Change Grants	18
16 Wed	Abingdon Arts Society: STEAM, Online, 11.00 & 14.00	7
18 Fri	Deadline for Flexicare Manager applications	17
18 Fri	Gin Festival and Bingo, Marcham Centre, 19.30	11
20 Sun	Deadline for next issue of MADNews, 17.00 Email <a href="mailto:editor@madnews.co.uk">editor@madnews.co.uk</a>	
21 Mon	Marcham WI: Puddings & Quiz, Marcham Centre, 19.30	7
25 Fri	Quiz Night with Trevor, Marcham Centre, 20.00	7
26 Sat	Table Top Sale, Marcham Centre, 10.00-12.00	7
28 Mon	Marcham Society: Lost Villages, Marcham Centre, 19.15	7
31 Thu	Deadline for CPRE Trustees applications	15

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

## GARDEN & HOUSE 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](http://www.admtrees.co.uk)

### G T Property & Landscapes

- All Landscaping Covered
- Fencing & Sheds
- Property Maintenance Covered Inc
- Painting & Decorating Inside / Out

Tel:01865 730428 Mob:07885 550075

Email:[g.tierney@btinternet.com](mailto:g.tierney@btinternet.com)

Fully Insured / Free Quotes & Estimates

### 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](mailto: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](http://www.oxfordaerials.co.uk)

**Call Abingdon 01235 239622**

### Garner's Estates & Landscapes

*Landscaping for over 30 years*

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

Tel: 07751 764144 01865 730936

Email: [mjgarner26@btinternet.com](mailto:mjgarner26@btinternet.com)

[www.garnersestatesandlandscapes.co.uk](http://www.garnersestatesandlandscapes.co.uk)

## 1st CLASS TREE SURGEONS



07889 881 525 or 01491 651052



[quote@firstclasstreesurgeons.co.uk](mailto:quote@firstclasstreesurgeons.co.uk)



[www.firstclasstreesurgeons.co.uk](http://www.firstclasstreesurgeons.co.uk)

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

## 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](mailto:enquiries@oxonstorage.co.uk)

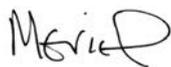
[www.oxonstorage.co.uk](http://www.oxonstorage.co.uk)

Dear Readers

It's spring! Yes, the snowdrops have been out for a few weeks, daffodils are *dancing in the breeze* and the birds have been tuning up as well, getting ready for the full orchestral manoeuvre!

There are lots more events at our lovely new centre to enjoy including gin and Easter eggs, what a combination!

Until next time



**PUBLISHER / EDITOR**

Meriel Lewis  
8 Orchard Way, Marcham  
Abingdon OX13 6PP  
Tel: 01865 391725  
Website: [www.madnews.co.uk](http://www.madnews.co.uk)  
Email: [editor@madnews.co.uk](mailto:editor@madnews.co.uk)

**ADVERTISING**

Fran Russell: [adverts@madnews.co.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:Richard.webber77@ntlworld.com)

**DISTRICT COUNCILLOR**

*Marcham and Shippon*  
Catherine Webber, Orchard Barn, Sutton Wick Lane, Drayton OX14 4HJ  
Tel: 07357 464699

[catherine.webber@whitehorsedc.gov.uk](mailto:catherine.webber@whitehorsedc.gov.uk)

For other councillors go to

[www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk](http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk)

© Marcham & District News 2022

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

**MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL Functions of the County Council, Vale of White Horse District Council and Parish Council**

With so many different Councils including Boroughs and Unitary Authorities, it can often be confusing as to which Council has responsibility for what items. In Oxfordshire there is the County Council, 5 District Councils and over 300 parish/town councils and parish meetings. To help guide residents to find who to contact when they have an issue, the following information may be helpful. The County Council manages county wide services such as education, social care, highways, fire services, some strategic planning and overall waste management. In our area the District Council is the Vale of White Horse, and that Council, whilst managing some of its functions jointly with the adjacent South Oxfordshire District Council, is responsible for planning applications, collecting the council tax, recycling and waste collections, environmental issues, housing, some benefit assessments, and licensing. A Parish Council helps with a number of local issues and in Marcham, manages the cemetery, the allotments, the play area and undertakes grass cutting in the village. It also owns the new village hall which it has leased to Marcham Community Group.

If you have a query relating to local government matters then you can contact your local elected representatives.

For **county** matters your local county councillor is Richard Webber email [Richard.Webber@oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:Richard.Webber@oxfordshire.gov.uk) or telephone 01235 534001

For **district** matters your local district councillor is Catherine Webber email [Catherine.Webber@Whitehorsedc.gov.uk](mailto:Catherine.Webber@Whitehorsedc.gov.uk) or telephone 01235 534001

For **parish** council matters please contact your local parish councillor whose telephone details can be found at [www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk) or via email at [clerk@marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk)

**Annual Meeting of Electors**

This is a public meeting open to all electors in the parish. They are entitled to attend and ask questions or raise issues affecting the parish. There is usually a guest speaker on a topic of local interest and reports from local village organisations such as the Parish Council and Primary School. Unfortunately, the meeting has not been able to be held for the past 2 years owing to Covid. The Council is currently looking at arranging the event for this year, and has provisionally booked the village hall for **Tuesday 17th May** at 7.30 p.m. So please put this date in your diaries.

**Consultation Documents**

The Parish Council is taking part in consultation by the County Council on its

Transport Connectivity Plan, and by the District Council on its joint design guide with South Oxfordshire, and has submitted comments on both documents. In regards to transport, it seemed unclear how local businesses would be supported, as a major push for using public transport would impact trades who use vehicles for work. The document also did not take into account the fact that there may be no practical reduction in the actual number of vehicles, or new types of vehicles such as electric. Residents would still use vehicles for essential visits to supermarkets, hospitals etc.

In regards to the planning design guide, it was thought that adequate parking spaces should be a key focus as should electric charging capacity. There seemed to be no reference to local styles being included to allow for slight differences in different parts of the Vale. There seemed to be no recognition of an increase in working from home, and therefore no recognition of the need for pre-installed electrical connectivity such as fibre, or electrical charging capacity at new dwellings. It was thought that housing should be located close to office hubs and employment areas. No reference was made to recognise the impact of flooding such as designs for water absorption to reduce fast run-off. There was no reference to acknowledging Neighbourhood Plans in the design process, and the need to take these into consideration from an early stage.

**Planning applications**

The Council has considered the following planning application:

P21/V3498/HH Single storey, flat roof, garden room comprising sauna, changing room and toilet/shower, with decking at Beechfield House, Woodside. The Council requested that the tree screen remain, and that the building be used solely as ancillary to the main dwelling.

**Date of Next Council Meeting:**

The next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council is Monday 14th March, 2022 at 7.30p.m. Please check the Council's website [www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk) for the latest information in case arrangements change.

**Clerk to the Council:**

Mrs. L. Martin, 90 Howard Cornish Road  
Tel: 01865 391833  
[clerk@marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk)  
[www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk)

**SAVE THE DATE**

Frilford Parish Meeting AGM  
at 7pm on Wednesday, 20th April

*More details to follow*

## HOUSE & GARDEN SERVICES

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](http://www.barn-store.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](http://www.hills-quarry.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

**"MOVING ASSISTANCE"**  
House - Flat - Apartments - Office

FURNITURE MOVED /  
TRANSPORTED

Ebay COLLECTIONS - DELIVERIES

Tel 07721 679487 + 01235 524589

Bathroom specialist

All trades covered

All household plumbing and heating needs

Call Simon: 07765 654303

Email: [info@scplumbing.co.uk](mailto:info@scplumbing.co.uk)

**SCP**  
Ltd  
Plumbing  
Services



## Oxfordshire Roofing and Building Services

*a good honest and reliable firm*

Call today for a free estimate 07885 882689

Flat Roofing

Chimney Repointing

New Roofs

De-Mossing

Guttering

Tiling

Slating

Facias

Small Jobs Welcome • Discount for OAPs  
Tel: 01865 392106 • Mobile 07885 882689

[oxfordshireroofing@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:oxfordshireroofing@yahoo.co.uk)

CJI

CHARLOTTE JANE  
INTERIORS

01865 326164

07817 397070

Specialists in Made to Measure  
Curtains and Soft Furnishings

[www.charlottejaneinteriors.co.uk](http://www.charlottejaneinteriors.co.uk)  
[charlotte@charlottejaneinteriors.co.uk](mailto:charlotte@charlottejaneinteriors.co.uk)



## Frilford Decorators

Painters & Decorators

Decorative Treatments

Telephone: 01865 392866 (Frilford Heath)

Mobile: 07775 690523

*References Available*

Proprietor: Mr A Bunce

## Liz Buckingham

Last November we were sad to say goodbye to our good friend Liz Buckingham. She had lived in and around Marcham for over 30 years although she grew up in Africa and always considered this to be her real home.

When she was old enough Liz joined her older sister in England to start her nursing career in Oxford which only ended when she was physically unable. Liz, or Lil, as many of her friends knew her, was always the life and soul of any party or gathering and even though she suffered from the effects of early onset multiple sclerosis she was still determined to enjoy life with great stoicism. She was a loyal and thoughtful friend and felt particularly close to "My church family in Marcham" as she always referred to them.

Her interests included: Riding for the Disabled with her beloved horse William, sailing with friends and swimming when she felt free to move around in the water without the constant fear of falling.

Anyone who visited her in the final months of her life will have had no doubt of the pleasure and pride that she enjoyed with family visits especially with the grandchildren. We remember Liz with affection and for all the times we laughed together enjoying her generous outlook on life

**K J & T H**



Saturday 10 September 2022

Abingdon Airfield/Dalton

Barracks, Oxfordshire

**Online tickets available from end of March**

[www.abingdonairandcountry.co.uk](http://www.abingdonairandcountry.co.uk)

2022 Prices:

Adult £20; Senior Citizens (60+) £10;

Children 5 - 15yrs £5; Under 5s Free

*All online tickets are subject to a transaction fee set by the ticket provider.*

## SUNDIAL



Dear Editor

The Institute site was sold before the sundial from the old Institute building was lost / stolen. The Anson Trust therefore has no legal right or means to intervene and as the Anson Trust has not suffered a loss of property itself there is no basis for it to make any sort of insurance claim.

**CHRIS HILLIER**, Director

The Arthur Anson Memorial Trust Ltd.



The winner of February's Wordsearch is

**Mori Neshat**

Congratulations

The hidden phrase was: Millets Farm Centre Field Family Fork! Hidden in plain sight!



### Usual Opening Hours

**Mon – Fri: 08.00 – 17.30**

**Saturday: 08.00 – 10.30**

**Sunday: Closed**

**With Mother's Day on 27 March and Easter Sunday on 17 April, we have a lovely selection of drinks, chocolates, biscuits and cards to give as gifts to your friends and loved ones. We can also gift wrap too, just give us 3 days' notice.**

**We also stock a selection of local beers and a variety of wines including Prosecco and Cava and the last few bottles of the Bothy wines.**

**And, we have all of your stationery needs to post that special parcel.**

**If you would like to volunteer to help, leave your details in the shop and Tash will be in touch. Just 2 hours per week can make a big difference – to the shop AND you!**

**Marcham Village Shop & Post Office**

16 North St, Marcham OX13 6NG

Call us: Shop 391993 / PO 391940

Facebook: marchamvillageshop



# 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

## 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](http://www.martingilbertmotorrepairs.com)

Email: richard@martingilbert.co.uk



Like us on Facebook for regular offers and updates



**MOSSINATOR**<sup>®</sup>  
ROOF CLEANING SYSTEMS

- Moss Removal
- Roof Cleaning
- Softwashing
- Biocide Treatments

Contact Jake  
07971 669 751  
info@mossinator.co.uk  
www.mossinator.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



T: 01235 221012

M: 07974672579

E: darren.downes72@gmail.com

 Find us on Facebook

## 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

 OXFORD  
PLASTERING  
SOLUTIONS

CRAIG KANE

Mobile: 07984295094

Email: info@oxfordplasteringsolutions.co.uk

Website: www.oxfordplasteringsolutions.co.uk

PROFESSIONAL PLASTERING CONTRACTOR

## 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

**Fitted Curtains,  
Blinds and  
Shutters**

We supply and fit  
made to measure Curtains,  
Blinds and Shutters  
throughout Oxfordshire

- ✓ Free Home Consultation
- ✓ Made to Measure
- ✓ Professionally Installed

[www.valecurtainsandblinds.co.uk](http://www.valecurtainsandblinds.co.uk)

**VALE**  
CURTAINS & BLINDS



Contact us:  
**01235 758010**

Radley Road Industrial Estate  
Abingdon OX14 3RY



## Marcham WI

Next Meeting:

7.30pm Monday, 21st March 2022

At the Marcham Centre

Annual Meeting, Puddings and a Quiz

March is our Annual Meeting and we'll be starting at our usual time of 7:30pm. Once the business of the meeting is concluded, when you will be voting for the **President** for the next year, we'll be having a sociable evening with puddings to eat and a fun *quiz* with prizes.

If you would like to bring along a *pudding*, already portioned, or cut up ready to share, that would be much appreciated.

For further information, please contact:

Pippa Hoath 01865 391349 pippahoath@gmail.com



The  
Marcham  
Society

Monday  
28th March  
7.15 for 7.45pm  
Marcham Centre



## The Lost Villages of Oxfordshire Dr Muriel Pilkington

The Lost Villages of Oxfordshire is based on the fact that there are nearly one hundred Oxfordshire villages mentioned in Domesday Book and in the records of the 12th and 13th centuries which have been lost. They have completely disappeared or are now just preserved in the name of a street or a few buildings—sometimes a church, a farm or just some ruins and ridges.

Muriel Pilkington will try to explain why this has happened and she will look at the main reasons why rural Oxfordshire remained a poor county right into the 19th century. It is really only in the recent past that it has become relatively more prosperous.

Muriel read History at Oxford and then taught the subject for over 30 years, becoming head teacher of Wycombe High School. In her partial retirement, she has maintained her keen interest in the local history of Oxfordshire.

For more information contact  
membership@marchamsociety.org.uk  
[www.marchamsociety.org.uk](http://www.marchamsociety.org.uk)  
Facebook: marchamsociety



The Arts Society Abingdon are presenting a LIVE ONLINE Webinar **Wednesday 16th March, 11.00am and 2.00pm**

### Tinted S.T.E.A.M.: Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Maths in the Work of J.M.W. Turner by Nicola Moorby

Turner's lifetime coincided with an age of scientific discovery and technological advances. This lecture explores the ideas and events which informed his paintings, and the interesting intersection between art and science in nineteenth-century intellectual circles. We will look at Turner's fascination with the forces shaping the landscape, and examine the way he addressed the complicated, evolving relationship between humans and the natural world, particularly within his images of steam-powered technology in Industrial Revolution Britain. The talk ends with an intriguing question. What would Turner be painting today?.

Non-Members welcome, £6.00, **PLEASE BOOK** via email [info@theartsocietyabingdon.org.uk](mailto:info@theartsocietyabingdon.org.uk), links to the online lecture will be sent out a day or two before.

For more information on future lectures and other activities see [www.theartsocietyabingdon.org.uk](http://www.theartsocietyabingdon.org.uk) or email [info@theartsocietyabingdon.org.uk](mailto:info@theartsocietyabingdon.org.uk)

**TABLE TOP SALE**  
**SATURDAY 26TH MARCH 10-12**  
**MARCHAM CENTRE**  
For further details contact  
**Eileen Esther Donnelly or Liz Mason**  
**07474 022137**  
In support of Marcham Centre

**QUIZ NIGHT- ALL WELCOME**  
**FRIDAY 25 MARCH – VILLAGE HALL**



A Quiz night will be held on the last Friday of the month in the Main Hall in Marcham Centre, starting at 8.00 pm

Questions are on a range of subjects and aimed at everyone's ability! Teams of up to five people. £10 per team.

Everyone welcome, just turn up on the night for a friendly evening of fun and banter.



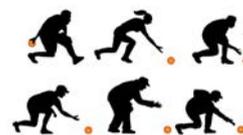
**Bar Open, for those interested!**

For further information call Trevor Hill on 01865 391321

### MILTON HILL BOWLING CLUB

Potash Lane, Milton Heights, OX14 4DR  
(next to Football Club)

The club is holding an **open afternoon** between 14:00 – 17:00 on **Saturday 7th May 2022**. Come and try your hand at Green Bowling, no booking is required, just turn up. Bowls are for all ages and a fun way to keep fit and flexible. No experience is necessary! We would prefer you to wear trainers, but overshoes can be provided. See our website for more details or contact Colin Trinder 01865 391718



[www.miltonhill.go-plus.net](http://www.miltonhill.go-plus.net)

# HOUSEHOLD SERVICES

**DIRTY CARPETS, UPHOLSTERY, RUGS**



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

**GRIMEBUSTERS**

**OXFORD 01865 726983**  
**ABINGDON 01235 555533**  
**WITNEY 01993 868924**

[www.grimebusters.co.uk](http://www.grimebusters.co.uk)

**THE SHOP**  
[www.theshop.ws](http://www.theshop.ws)

**Automotive Fabrication and Welding**

Got a classic car in the garage, rusting away?  
Get it back on the road with The Shop

From minor welds to full restoration

MOT welding  
Rust repairs

Commercial or Domestic  
Classic Cars to Race Cars

Special projects  
Family business  
Fair pricing

Call Andy @ The Shop 07739 337562  
Email: [theshop.ws@gmail.com](mailto:theshop.ws@gmail.com)  
[www.TheShop.ws](http://www.TheShop.ws)

**M&A ELECTRICALS**  
The original electrical/lighting shop in Wantage  
Established in the early 60's

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

\*\*\* WE ARE NOW OPEN \*\*\*  
8.30am - 2pm  
Monday - Saturday

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](mailto:sales@mandawantage.co.uk) [www.mandawantage.co.uk](http://www.mandawantage.co.uk)



**Gabi's Cleaning Service**  
[www.gabiscleaningservice.co.uk](http://www.gabiscleaningservice.co.uk)

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

07771391209 ~ [gabipapp@icloud.com](mailto: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  
LOFT CONVERSIONS  
WINDOW FITTING  
GLAZING  
BLINDS  
KITCHENS  
UPVC  
TIMBER  
FLOORING  
DOOR HANGING  
BESPOKE JOINERY  
FENCING  
DECKING

Give us a call today for a quotation.

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

[www.gtcarpentry.com](http://www.gtcarpentry.com)



## Marcham Centre

Work continues to improve and equip the facilities at Marcham Centre. We are now working on the décor and acoustics in the bar and hub areas. Most of our regular hirers are back using the facilities and it is encouraging to see more activities taking place. If you have any new activities you would like to see happening in the centre, please let us know, as we are keen to encourage an even wider range for all ages and stages of our local community.

### Burns Supper

After two years of postponement, we were delighted to hold our first Marcham Centre Burns Supper on 5th February – and all tickets were sold. Although a few people had to drop out because of positive covid tests, we had an enthusiastic turnout, even if the bagpipes set off the auto fire door closers! Much haggis was eaten, a little whisky was consumed, and Scottish dancing rounded it off. A huge thank-you to all who helped in any way and to all who donated food for the evening, which has raised over £750 towards facility projects. (see cover for photo)

### Coming events at Marcham Centre

Friday 18th March: Gin Festival evening; Bingo from 7:30pm – see page 11

Friday 25th March: Quiz Night 7.30pm to 11pm (Adults only, max 6 per team) – see page 7

Saturday 16th April: Easter Egg Hunt from 3pm (all welcome) – page 11

**Indoor short-mat bowls** in the Large Hall on Wednesday afternoons 2pm–5pm – contact Colin Trinder (391718) or just turn up. Beginners and experienced players are equally welcome.

**Table Tennis** the table tennis table is available to hire, for periods of an hour or more. This can be made by booking a slot in the meeting room via the [www.marchamcentre.org](http://www.marchamcentre.org) website. Please note: this room is used for other purposes, so you will need to book and pay the 'local user' fee of £8 per hour. Whilst the room may not be quite large enough for the serious league player, it has proved fine for social games. Please give it a try and let us know your views.

Look out for our new information panel in the foyer with a replica of our new sign – coming soon.



If you wish to book a room at Marcham Centre, please use the booking request system on [www.marchamcentre.org](http://www.marchamcentre.org) or contact our Coordinator: [coordinator@marchamcentre.org](mailto:coordinator@marchamcentre.org)

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



Meeting with friends, getting a job and going on holiday are experiences that everyone should be able to enjoy, however, for people with learning disabilities and autism these experiences are met with challenges.

### YELLOW SUBMARINE

believe people with learning disabilities and autism deserve to live life to the full. They run projects that focus on building social skills, confidence and independence for people with additional needs in Oxfordshire from the age of 11.

The South region has seen the largest growth and now comprises 40% of Young People and 30% of Adults in Yellow Submarine's membership. With such high demand, it is difficult to support members in the South region and with a predicted surge in referrals, it is essential there is a dedicated space to carry out projects.

Yellow Submarine are soon going to be taking occupancy of the ground floor of the 'Charter' in central Abingdon. The intention is for this space to become a Community Hub, housing Yellow Submarine, but also meeting the needs of the wider community. They will be using the Charter as an opportunity to collaborate with local like-minded organisations and build relationships.

For more information or to be involved please contact [ella@yellowsubmarine.org.uk](mailto:ella@yellowsubmarine.org.uk) or visit [www.justgiving.com/campaign/abingdon](http://www.justgiving.com/campaign/abingdon)



### PLANTS FOR SALE

As well as holding a plant sale on Sunday May 8th, Anne Smithson and Sheila Dunford will be putting out plants for sale at their gates. (18 Frilford Rd and Prior's Corner, Priory Lane respectively). The charity they will be supporting this year will be the gardening charity **Perennial**.

**Perennial** is the UK's only charity dedicated to helping everyone who works in horticulture, and their families, when times get tough. Formed 180 years ago, Perennial provides free and confidential advice, support and financial assistance to people of all ages working in, or retired from horticulture. This help extends to spouses, partners and children.

### Lawn Bowls have you tried it?

#### Kingston Bagpuize and Southmoor Bowls Club

If you are new to bowls or returning after a break. Come and try our all weather outside green and play all year round

For more information contact : Tom Byrne 01865 391430  
[kbsbc.co.uk](http://kbsbc.co.uk)

# HOUSEHOLD SERVICES

## 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](mailto:enquiries@mansbridgeconstruction.co.uk)  
[www.mansbridgeconstruction.co.uk](http://www.mansbridgeconstruction.co.uk)



## 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

266

### CONTACT US

Alternative Lighting Services  
Email: [info@als-ltd.net](mailto: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](mailto:Alison@berrybps.co.uk)

## MR. Guy's

Architectural Design

07762160547

[guy@mrguys.co.uk](mailto:guy@mrguys.co.uk)



[www.mrguys.co.uk](http://www.mrguys.co.uk)



**Kilbey & Clarke**  
Will Writers and Estate Practitioners



KilbeyandClarke

- \* IHT Planning
- \* Wills & Will storage from £145
- \* Lasting Power Of Attorney from £195
- \* Inheritance Protection
- \* Probate
- \* Guaranteed Funeral Plans
- \* Local, friendly, professional with home visits

Nigel Kilbey Member SWW  
07734051258/01235868266



Safe to do  
business with  
Code Compliant

[www.kilbeyandclarke.co.uk](http://www.kilbeyandclarke.co.uk)  
[wills@kilbeyandclarke.co.uk](mailto:wills@kilbeyandclarke.co.uk)

## Rowes News

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

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

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

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

**Call: 01235 763134**  
**Email: [contact@rowesnews.co.uk](mailto:contact@rowesnews.co.uk)**  
**[www.rowesnewsmarket.co.uk](http://www.rowesnewsmarket.co.uk)**  
**18 Wallingford Street, Wantage**

## UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE MARCHAM CENTRE

Friday 18th March 2022

Gin Festival &amp; Bingo



Buy a drinks voucher for £15 and get 5 x gins and mixer

Eyes down for Bingo at 7.30pm

**Saturday 16th April** – 3pm start (Bar opens at 3pm)

Easter Egg Hunt – All welcome

Free event, prize for each child

Please email [coordinator@marchamcentre.org](mailto:coordinator@marchamcentre.org) to register your child/children's place

## MARCHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

Last month we introduced The School House Captains and since then they have been very busy! They organised and held a competition for the whole school – everyone was asked to create a poster or write a paragraph about “Why Marcham School is amazing”. Well done to all the children that entered. Everyone who did received House points for their houses. The House Captains shortlist to 8 winners, two from each House, KS1 and KS2:

**Anson - Olivia W (KS1) and Daisy-Sue S (KS2)****Denman - Zara G (KS1) and Jacob R (KS2)****Duffield - Heidi W (KS1) and Ruth H (KS2)****Morland - Chloe L (KS1) and Kristina B (KS2)**

2 overall winners were also decided: KS1 – **Zara G** (Denman) and KS2 – **Kristina B** (Morland). Well done to them both – they were awarded a £10 book voucher for their amazing hard work and efforts. Look out for their masterpieces on the school website and Facebook page. The children will also see them displayed in the school hall. Well done, also, to our fabulous House Captains: **Bella, Daniel, Emily, and Scarlett** for organising the event. Next month we will introduce you to members of our Worship Committee

The School Councillors were also busy this month, and organised with staff our involvement in an NSPCC ‘mega-Maths’ fundraising day on Friday 4th February. What a great day we had! We pitted our mathematical wits against other schools nationally and had great fun dressing up as Rock Star characters in order to raise money for and support the NSPCC, who do such great work supporting children who find themselves in need.

The maths event itself was extraordinary. Phenomenal. Amazing. I am soooo very proud... 60, 240 classes across the country took part up – each competing against each other at their own levels. I knew, with Marcham's mathematical skills, that we could be contenders... Well, the whole school scored within the top 15% of all the classes nationwide, and the Giraffes (year 6) only just missed out on being within the top 1% of scores. It's brilliant! It's magnificent! Well done to them all!

To see more about what the school has been up to go to <https://www.marcham.oxon.sch.uk/class-pages/>

**VIV HUTCHINSON, HEADTEACHER**

Well it was another quiet year for the PTA, sadly we haven't been able to do our usual fundraising events. With the Covid cases increasing locally, we decided not to hold the Christmas Fayre in December, instead we decided to organise a rainbow raffle. We would like to thank everyone for all of the fantastic donations for the raffle and to all of those who bought raffle tickets. We raised an amazing £478.16!!!! Well done to all of the lucky winners!

We know the children had it tough again last year and so the PTA gave them all a little gift which we hope they enjoyed.

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 again and many people are choosing to shop online during these current times, did you know that you could still support the school in other ways?

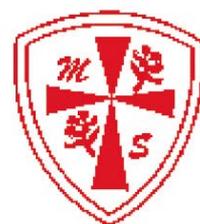
If you are thinking of making any purchases from Amazon, you could help the school by signing up to ‘Amazon Smile’. With every purchase you make from the Amazon Smile website, they will send us 0.05% of your purchase price to the Marcham PTA bank account! How great is that! Please go to: [SMILE.AMAZON.CO.UK](https://smile.amazon.co.uk),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

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

**LISA NEWPORT**, PTA Chair

[lisa\\_newport@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:lisa_newport@hotmail.co.uk)



**Parent Teacher Association**

Who knows where the time goes....

Just a line to say I'm living  
And not among the dead  
That I'm getting more forgetful  
And mixed up in my head  
I've got used to my arthritis  
To my dentures I'm resigned  
I can cope with my bifocals  
But goodness, I miss my mind.  
Sometimes I can't remember  
Why I'm standing at the stair  
If I should be going up for something  
Or have just come down from there  
And stood before the fridge so often  
My mind is full of doubt  
Now did I just put some food inside  
Or did I just take it out?  
Don't let me get you worried  
Or put your mind in doubt  
Stay peaceful, calm, collected  
There's a lot of us about!

Source unknown  
courtesy of Jean Creasy

# HOUSEHOLD SERVICES

## Hopkins Home & Garden

### Maintenance

#### Our Services

Minor electrical	Mowing, hedge trimming
Plumbing	Landscaping
Carpentry	07865492813
Decorating	hopkinshomeandgarden@gmail.com



**No Job  
Too Small!**

### KT Contracts

Your local village Master Carpenter,  
Cabinet Maker & House Renovator  
Make **2022** the year to get all those little  
(or bigger) jobs done

- Buy a kitchen bargain and have it fitted by a local expert
- Fitted wardrobes that work for you
- Get a new bespoke shed or woodstore
- Shelves & cupboards made & fitted for any nook
- Upgrade your cloakroom or bathroom
- Creative solutions for all your home projects

No job is too small if it makes your life easier.  
50 years experience combining traditional  
& new techniques to improve your home.

Call today for a free estimate; flexible working to suit & a chance  
to see my work in the village. Enhanced DBS (CRB) cleared  
Anytime 07557766200ktcontracts@btinternet.com

### 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](http://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](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/homerepairs)

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](mailto:adverts@madnews.co.uk)



**OXFORD**  
KITCHENS & BATHROOMS

*Luxury fitted kitchens bathrooms  
and accessories*

phone: **01865 326009**

email: [info@oxfordkitchens.co.uk](mailto:info@oxfordkitchens.co.uk)  
[www.oxfordkitchens.co.uk](http://www.oxfordkitchens.co.uk)

Visit our showroom:

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

## PET CARE

### Town Furlong Cattery



Kingston Road, Frilford  
01865 391864

[www.townfurlong.co.uk](http://www.townfurlong.co.uk)



**COUNTRY PAWS**

Dog walking | Home visits

Fully insured ✓ Canine first aid trained ✓ DBS check ✓

Price list

£12 for 1 hour group walk

£18 for 1 hour solo walk

£12 for a 20 minute home visit

For more

information contact:

[country.paws@aol.com](mailto:country.paws@aol.com)

[07979257038](tel:07979257038)

## MARCHAM PRE-SCHOOL

Despite having a rather bumpy start to the year, we have been pleased to offer a range of unusual and exciting experiences for the children.... we had a Chinese feast as we celebrated Chinese New Year... listened to bagpipes, donned our kilts and held our own highland games competition. We have been getting physical with balancing, running, dancing and ball games, as well as using our senses to explore a range of fruits and vegetables! For Valentine's Day the children were helped to sew their own little bags. This is all in addition to maths games, construction, painting, drawing, role play, forming friendships, mud kitchen, singing, stories ... and so much more!

We will be allocating places for September 2022 very soon, if you have a child who is turning two in 2022, please get in touch to join our interest list.

Please contact us for more information or for an application form.

Contact us 01865 392101

Marcham-preschool@hotmail.co.uk

www.marcham-preschool.weebly.com



### Lucky bags for Chinese New Year

# 福袋



## The Little Library

The Little Library outside the Little Angels Nursery is available for everyone in the village to use. Please feel free to come and have a look at a range of books from adult novels, teenager and older children to under 5s. If you would like to donate books please bring them over and pop them into the library and take a new one away to enjoy, it is a great way to share the wonderful world of books in our village community. **Happy reading.**



February has been full of learning opportunities and culture in all areas of the nursery. In the yellow and green/teal gardens the children have been exploring their new reading garden, which have been created for them with cushions, flower boxes filled with rosemary, thyme, and lavender to help them explore and relax with the aroma which these herbs give. It is proven that they are good for the children's wellbeing and mindset. And give the children a cosy area to embrace the world of books.

**Yellow Room** In the yellow room the children have been focusing on Chinese New Year, they created lanterns and used stencils to create some wonderful Chinese writing. They explored the Chinese New Year with books and photos and watched a dragon dance performed by the older children in the nursery.

Valentine's Day was focused on the shape of a heart, with painting hearts, collaging with heart stickers and of course every child made a card. Heart shaped fruit was provided throughout the day to add to the Valentine's experience.

**Green Room** What a February the Green room have experienced, Chinese New Year was celebrated in style, the room was transformed with Chinese dragons, tigers, woks, chopsticks and noodle play to name just a few. They created a dragon and danced around the nursery to Chinese dragon dance music allowing all the nursery to watch, they explored the animals of the Chinese New Year and read books. Every child made a mask of the animal relating to the year they were born and one of the highlights for the children was recreating the celebration fireworks by using glow stick in the garden when it was dark, photos and videos were taken so that the children could look back at their creative glow stick display, such fun for all.

Valentine's Day was celebrated again with card making and heart shaped fruit and sandwiches along with discussions reflecting on how we care for each other. Red rice and hearts were in the sensory tray along with heart shaped paper and varied materials for collaging,

**Teal Room** The Teal Room's Chinese New Year celebration throughout the month have been led with a variety of reading books including a day spent on the Julia Donaldson book "The Magic Paintbrush" looking at rhyming words e.g., fish and dish along with exploring a magic paintbrush of their own. Rice play in the sensory tray and Chinese writing along with lanterns have added to the Chinese New Year experience for the Teal Room.

### HIGHLIGHT – CHILDREN'S CHINESE TAKE AWAY

The Teal and Green rooms both experienced a great activity. Two children set up a counter and had a menu to with two selections of Chinese food, the children all lined up and choose which food they wanted, the children made marks and when everyone had chosen, counted how many for each was required. The adult dialled the number to the local Chinese takeaway (OUR KITCHEN) and the children spoke on the phone and ordered the food which arrived 30 minutes later. Such fun and all the children had fortune cookies and Chinese food for tea. It was great to see all the children make choices, communicate by phone, take turn and wait and use maths to get the takeaway..

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](http://www.littleangelschildcaregroup.co.uk)

follow us on Facebook: littleangelsmarcham

**Mothering Sunday Afternoon Tea**  
Celebrate with a special afternoon tea at Marcham Centre from 3pm on Sunday, 27th March. A variety of packages available ranging between £5 and £15 per person.  
Book via our website or call us.

**Pop up café**  
Closed on Saturday, 19th March.  
Café: 9–11:30 am every Wednesday & Saturday

**Website:** [www.thirstycafemarcham.co.uk](http://www.thirstycafemarcham.co.uk)  
**Email:** [hello@thirstycafemarcham.co.uk](mailto:hello@thirstycafemarcham.co.uk)  
**Phone:** 07871 208811, Mon–Fri, 9 am–12 noon

# PERSONAL CARE



OUTDOOR GROUP EXERCISE CLASSES, YOGA & PERSONAL TRAINING

## FITNESS AT THE FARM

BOOK ONLINE

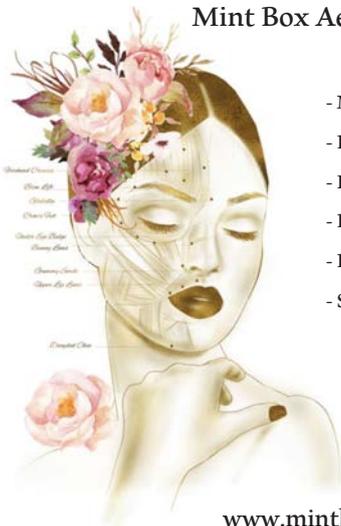
Collins Farm  
Kingston Road  
Frilford  
OX13 5NX



WWW.FARM-FIT.CO.UK

@FITNESSATTHEFARM

### Mint Box Aesthetics



- Microblading
- Dermal Fillers
- Lip Fillers
- Botox
- PDO Threads
- Skin Tag Removal

A fully insured and certified Advanced Aesthetic Practitioner with a registered studio based in Marcham Village.

www.mintbox.uk

07428 717000

**Small Group**  
Yoga/Pilates blend classes,  
for the personal touch

Marcham Centre  
Mondays 0900-1000

Also on ZOOM Thursdays 0900-1000

✉ [scv.mcrae@gmail.com](mailto:scv.mcrae@gmail.com)

☎ 07985 137116

📱 SuPilates with Su

<https://scvmcrae.wixsite.com/website/home>



2022

New **PUSHCHAIR PILATES**  
Thursdays 1030-1100  
Marcham Field by the playpark  
wrap up warm, bring your  
buggy and take some time for  
you again!



Must be 6 weeks postpartum and  
declared fit to exercise by your  
GP.

## Andrea Buckingham

PILATES - YOGA - MASSAGE

Good posture "The ability to move in any direction at a moments notice , using a minimal amount of effort to do a given task" *Moshe Feldenkrais*

Supporting you **In Person** and  
**on Zoom** with a range of class times

Newcomers welcome

AndreaBuckingham.co.uk

07939 523083

Andreabkm@gmail.com

## 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](http://www.abingdonchiropody.com)

Simply  
photobooks®

I create photo books for all occasions:  
for a big birthday or a special occasion,  
a memorable holiday or an annual book.  
Whether for yourself, a friend or a loved one,  
I can help you to preserve those memories.

Facebook/Simplyphotobooks [simplyphotobooks@gmail.com](mailto:simplyphotobooks@gmail.com)

- *Simply* Yearbooks
- *Simply* Birthdays
- *Simply* Weddings
- *Simply* Babies
- *Simply* Holidays
- *Simply* Memories
- *Simply* Portfolios



### Can You Care More?

Are the colours you are attracted to out in your garden, fixed each year, and always the same? Or flexible, and annually altered? Are you a creature of habit when gardening, or always looking to do new things? Whatever your approach, does either option mean you are obsessive or indecisive?



I don't really think either label, and that's what it is, a human-centric label, needs to be attached to us, however we choose to garden, but we are all creatures of habit, even if we see ourselves as adaptable.

There's room for all sorts of approaches in gardening, a little of everything is a healthy and balanced thing. If you are a first-time gardener, or a long-in-the-tooth gardener, this coming season, just get out there and give it a go.

Whether you do the same thing as all previous years, or try something new, or maybe even try gardening for the first time, just give it a go.

The approach, enjoyment and outcomes, are as varied as the nature your efforts attract, or even dissuade. All I ask, is consider everything you do, or don't do, has positive and negative impacts on the ecosystem around us, that we're part of and not separate to.

It's impossible to always know the true and measurable impacts we'll have, and interpreting it all is another major challenge. Just being aware of the hidden intricacies is a good first step though, to us all starting to care that little bit more.

Do you care about the environment? Do you not care at all? Could you care just that little bit more?

**Happy Gardening!**

**Stuart Mabbutt**

01865 747243 [www.wildmaninspires.co.uk](http://www.wildmaninspires.co.uk)

## JEFF BURLEY

**16<sup>th</sup> October 1936 to 27<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

Jeffery "Jeff" Burley was born in Portsmouth, and attended Portsmouth Grammar School and later Oxford and Yale Universities.



After a period working in Africa and then in the British army, he spent much of his professional life back in Oxford, as Professor of Forestry, a Don of the University and Fellow of Green Templeton College. He was President of IUFRO, the world forestry body, for five years. He was a prolific author and editor and his heavyweight contributions to global forestry can be found on shelves around the planet. Amongst his multiple recognitions, he was awarded a CBE by the Queen for services to forestry. He worked in over 100 countries during his career.



Jeff took home life seriously too, including his contributions to the local community. A stalwart of Tubney Church, he and his wife Jean, who survives him, were also involved with the local council and neighbourhood watch. The door to their historic house in Frilford was always open to friends, and to visitors who had a particular matter to discuss. Jeff's wise head and acute political acumen often allowed folk to leave with a solution to hand.

Jeff had known for two years that he had cancer spreading and bore the entire horrible process in a wholly dignified and uncomplaining manner. He died peacefully at home with his family by his side. His funeral and cremation were held on the 20th January at Tubney Church and Garford Crematorium respectively. His ashes will be interred at Tubney.

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



**The countryside charity**

**TRUSTEES WANTED**  
Campaign to Protect Rural England - Oxfordshire

**Do you care about your local countryside?  
Want to make a difference?**

CPRE Oxfordshire is the voice of the countryside in Oxfordshire. Due to retirement of current members, we are looking for new trustees to join our team.

This is an excellent opportunity to play an influential role in a respected and long-standing environmental charity, applying your experience to make a real difference and to be part of a friendly group that is passionate about the Oxfordshire countryside.

Application deadline is Thursday 31 March 2022 in the first instance, but we are happy to receive expressions of interest on an ongoing basis.

For further info, please contact our Branch Secretary Dorian Grier.  
E: [dorian.cpre@gmail.com](mailto:dorian.cpre@gmail.com)

T: 01491 612079

See our website for more information: [www.cpreoxon.org.uk](http://www.cpreoxon.org.uk)

## PERSONAL CARE

### SINGING LESSONS



ELIZABETH FITZPATRICK

CLASSICAL  
MUSICAL THEATRE  
POP  
FOLK

Based in Gozzards Ford or online, I work with both adults and children. Building confidence and technique is my speciality!

ABRSM, Trinity & LCM Exams Auditions

07388 877 208

fitzpatrickssinging@gmail.com

www.elizabethfitzpatrick.co.uk

Scan here to book your FREE taster lesson



## FOOD AND DRINK



FIELD | FAMILY | FORK

### “Fabulous local meat”

An exceptional selection of local meats available in our Butchery Counter

Kingston Road | Frilford | Nr. Abingdon | OX13 5HB  
www.milletsfarmcentre.com



Claire Sweeney DipFH MCFHP MAFHP  
Covid-19 double vaccinated & boosted



Special Offer 10% off in February & March

Covid secure home visits to manage:

- Regular nail care
- Ingrowing and thickened nails
- Corns, callus, cracked heels
- Diabetic foot care

t: 07762 369472

w: www.personalfootcare.uk

e: Claire@personalfootcare.uk

personalfootcaremobile

## HOLIDAYS

### B&B Rafters



Bed & Breakfast



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

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

### Charlotte Jane Cakes

Established 2011



Bespoke Wedding Cakes  
www.charlottejanecakes.co.uk

01865 326164 07817 397070

Charlotte Jane Cakes

**FULL-TIME MANAGER POST**

Flexicare is an Oxfordshire based charity providing a home sitting service for families with severely disabled children. Flexicare is exhilarating, always different and can be challenging: the rewards, however, are significant. Everyday, you will see the real difference you are making.



**FLEXICARE ARE RECRUITING A FULL TIME MANAGER**

In the first instance, email [admin@flexicare.org](mailto:admin@flexicare.org) stating your suitability for the role. Closing date 12:00 noon Friday 18th March 2022, with interviews towards the end of March.

The charity has always been run from the home of the manager, and ideally this will continue. However, do not let this be a bar to chatting to us. A full job description is available via our website, [www.flexicare.org](http://www.flexicare.org)

**Duties include**

- Carrying out sits in family’s homes
- Arranging sits as requested by families
- Leadership and support for the team, ensuring high standards of care
- Assessing prospective new families and volunteers
- Facilitating training
- Management of the governance of the charity, including liaison with Oxfordshire County Council, the Care Quality Commission, and the Charity Commission
- Managing and assuring the running of the charity, including financial management and fundraising
- Working with the Trustees to develop and deliver the current and future objectives of the charity

**We are looking for someone who:**

- is confident and forward thinking
- has experience of working with disabled children, in a health, social care, or educational role
- is experienced and capable in managing people and relationships
- can work flexibly (including some evenings and weekends)
- has use of a car for work purposes

- Flexible hours (approx. 37hrs per week – including weekend and evening work) to fit around your life demands.
- £33,500pa Salary plus travel costs.
- Full training and support provided
- Pension scheme, including employer contribution
- 28 days annual leave
- Fuel costs and travel time reimbursement

Flexicare (Oxford and Abingdon), registered Charity no. 1172635.  
[www.flexicare.org](http://www.flexicare.org) 61, St Gabriel’s, Wantage, OX12 8FL Tel 01865 321881

**CONNECTING COMMUNITIES**

Laying the foundation for the future of Marcham with full fibre broadband

**Coming soon**

A high-quality, full fibre broadband network enabling residents and businesses with ultrafast speeds - all day every day.

We are currently working to future proof connectivity across Marcham for you and generations to come.

Visit our website to find out when Gigaclear will be live in your area.

**FIND OUT MORE AT**  
[gigaclear.com/mycommunity](http://gigaclear.com/mycommunity)



**DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

**FULL COUNCIL...16TH FEBRUARY**

You may remember that when the present administration took over the Vale of the Whitehorse District Council in 2019, it inherited a large deficit (£3m+ over the medium term Financial Plan)- not a happy position to be in. So, at full council on 16th February, it was very pleasing for the leader to announce:

“One of my top priorities has been getting this council’s finances under control. Despite a backdrop of real terms cuts in government funding (6.2%), ongoing Covid related costs and losses, the budget for 2022/23 as approved this evening is a significant step towards financial stability. Our medium-term financial plan no longer runs out of money in 2024.”

“Officers and Cabinet members have worked together to identify significant savings without impacting delivery of services to the public. I am really pleased that this work will enable us to invest more in our corporate plan priorities and infrastructure such as leisure and open spaces for residents across the district.”

**PROJECTS**

Spending has been allocated to areas identified as important to residents in the Vale’s new Corporate Plan and will be funded through a combination of housing developer contributions (CIL and S106) and the council’s own reserves. Projects include:

- £525,000 on environmental projects including a 5year programme of Climate Change grants and for tree planting across the Vale
- £1,572,000 for leisure projects in Faringdon, Wantage, Abingdon and Botley
- £450,000 on improvements to play areas and open spaces
- £185,000 to upgrade CCTV to state-of-the-art technology
- £328,000 for resurfacing and better lighting in public car parks.

As cabinet member for Climate Emergency and the Environment, I am particularly pleased that we have signed off a Climate Action Plan, setting out steps we are taking to make this council carbon neutral by 2030. Also, we have allotted £50,000 to our new Climate Action Fund this year and are planning to put this same amount in the next 4 budgets. This grant will be open for applications from Wednesday 14th March and will run for 6 weeks, so if you have a project which will help combat the Climate Change and increase people’s awareness and knowledge of the Climate emergency, please do apply for funding via your parish council. The work could focus on areas such as the natural environment, energy, waste and consumption, or transport and travel. For example, you may want to plant a patch of ground for community vegetables which are appropriately labelled. And do let your friends and neighbours know about this grant.

**COUNCIL TAX**

It is never an easy decision to raise the council tax, but after much thought and discussion it has been decided to raise it by £5 this year. The Vale has one of the lowest council tax rates in the country for a district council, charging only £146.69 per annum to each Band D household for the services it provides, which is more than 25 per cent lower than the national average.

**CAR PARKING**

Important measures to make parking more sustainable in the Vale of White Horse will be introduced. Council taxpayers have been subsidising district council car parks for many years now, with the service typically running at a loss of about £300,000 a year. The shortfall has now risen to almost £450,000 following the Covid-19 pandemic. As a result, it has been agreed to take a significant step to reducing our car parks deficit and to move towards making this service financially viable. Like South Oxfordshire, the Vale carparks will now offer one hour of free parking, a reduction from the current two hours each day, so local businesses will still remain

supported. A new charge of £1.50 will apply for up to a further two hours (except for Southampton Street car park in Faringdon). Current fees across all car parks will also rise by 40p.

It is worth pointing out that the Vale’s fees remain cheaper than many other areas, including Oxford, Swindon and Newbury, and usage of the carparks will be monitored to see if these changes have any impact on the number of people visiting our towns.

As a final point on carparks, to improve the management of them and help meet demand, all new and renewed permits will be non-transferable and therefore only valid for the specific car park for which they are issued.

I hope you are all keeping well and please do not hesitate to contact me if there is a problem with which you think I might be able to help.

**CATHERINE WEBBER** Cllr VWHDC

District Councillor for Marcham Ward

Phone: 07357 464699

or [catherine.webber@whitehorsedc.gov.uk](mailto:catherine.webber@whitehorsedc.gov.uk)



**COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

For the past 15 years, my colleague, Cllr Bob Johnston of Kennington and Radley has been trying to persuade me to explore Thrupp Lake as a haven of peace and wildlife. This last Valentine’s weekend, my wife and I went on a bicycle ride to see if he was right. In spite of the mud and rain, we thoroughly enjoyed the journey and would recommend it to anyone on foot or bicycle. Living next door to Sutton Wick gravel pits, as we do, still a major active quarry site, it was great to imagine how our area might look after many years of restoration.

Havens of peace are in short supply in my own area at present. With the threat of the Thames Water Reservoir, whose banks may well cast early evening shadow over Drayton, and the proposed HIF1 Road between Sutton Courtenay and Appleford potentially affecting traffic, noise and air quality in both villages, peace, quiet and wildlife could all become distant memories. The two projects together have a cost tag amounting to billions and dwarf any other projects in the whole of Oxfordshire. It begins to feel that the infrastructure gods have got it in for us. Decisions on both will be made in the next few months.

In the case of the Reservoir, it is important that all those of us who have views on the need and advisability of the scheme should engage with and support GARD\* – the group of scientists who believe there are better options, and also respond to the Thames Water consultation. Silence from local residents can be used as acquiescence by those who wish to see these schemes coming about.

In the case of the HIF Rd, please engage with your Parish Council and write in to OCC\*\*, the planning authority, with your views on this scheme. I am aware, from residents who contact me, that there is a great deal of concern over already growing noise disturbance from Appleford Sidings. Few complaints have been received by the environmental health team so far, so please write in to them with your concerns if you have them. Given the potential addition of noise from the HIF road together with any reverberation from the banks of the proposed flyover, it is essential we have a full understanding of the present baseline noise levels before we inflict any more on local residents. In the end, it will be the data which decides if, when and how these massive projects materialise. The more data we can give them, the more we will be heard.

**Points of contact for any of the above:**

\*\*To register your response to the TW Reservoir consultation:

[wrse.uk.engagementhq.com](http://wrse.uk.engagementhq.com) (you only need to answer the questions you wish in this overlong document).

If you cannot cope with the questionnaire, email your response/ feelings to: [contact@wrse.org.uk](mailto:contact@wrse.org.uk) and please copy your email to

your MP and local Councillors

\*To contact GARD with help/IT expertise/Video modelling:

Gard.secretary@gmail.com

For full details on the HIF1 scheme and how to make comments on the planning application, go to: **Oxfordshire.gov.uk** / Current planning applications / Planning application reference number :R3.0138/21

**RICHARD WEBBER** Cllr OCC SC & Marcham Division.

Phone 01235 534001

or email Richard.webber77@ntlworld.com



## MP'S REPORT

I took part in a productive meeting regarding the proposed Abingdon reservoir (which continues to be an odd name for it given where it is actually proposed to be located) with GARD and other local politicians. I know that not everyone who writes to me feels the same about the proposal, but it continues to be true that Thames Water have failed to adequately make the case for the reservoir, or to demonstrate they have properly considered alternatives or to show they have truly measured the environmental impact of it. I'll be using my platform in Parliament to try and ensure we can get better answers to the questions local residents have.

I'd much prefer to spend all of my time on infrastructure that people actually want, like Grove Station and improved health facilities. I'm having discussions in Parliament about how to fix the fact that our population has fast outgrown our infrastructure, particularly our GP surgeries. This is a constituency-wide issue although it's particularly frustrating to hear the long-overdue GP surgery on Great Western Park is still no further forward, despite assurances I'd be given by local health leaders at a meeting I chaired in September. It's very difficult to understand what is so difficult to deliver this, as both council leaders and health leaders say they're supportive and it was part of the original proposal for the development. It won't solve the problem we have by itself but it is the minimum we need to ease a bit of the pressure in the Didcot area.

For what it's worth I think we should be very proud of the role the UK has been playing in trying to support Ukraine in this period. No-one wants to see a war and if one happens it will be due to unprovoked aggression from Russia, rather than anything Ukraine has done. In addition to warning Putin of the consequences should he attack, we've been providing training and capacity-building through Operation Orbital which has helped to train over 20,000 Ukrainian personnel as well as provide anti-armour weaponry and encouraging other countries to take a more robust response. Having attended a session with the Ukrainian Ambassador in Parliament, I know our efforts are appreciated.

It's not often one of our councils makes it into the national news and for Oxfordshire County Council, it's unfortunately not for the right reasons! I have nothing against anyone deciding to choose veganism if that's what they want to do, but eating vegan meals should be just that, a choice. It does not help the environment if we shun locally reared meat in favour of imported meat or imported avocados. We have many farmers in this constituency and across Oxfordshire who produce high-quality meat yet often struggle to make a living. I regularly visit farms and it is very hard work for small profits; they are frequently subject to theft and abuse/vandalism from animal rights activists. They deserve our support and I hope the Council will reconsider.

As ever, if I can help with anything do get in touch via **david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk**

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



GARD is a local community group formed to campaign against Thames Water's proposals to build a reservoir south-west of Abingdon.

## PUBLIC MEETINGS

Thank you to everyone who came along to our public meetings. It has been great to be able to update you on the latest plans and to get your ideas on more ways to fight this mega reservoir.

### Meetings with MPs and Councillors

Huge thanks to Councillor Sally Povolotsky for pulling together a zoom meeting with MPs David Johnston and Layla Moran and a multitude of councillors from the Vale of the White Horse District Council and Oxfordshire County Council. All voiced support for GARD and it was great to hear the leader of OCC, Cllr Liz Leffman, update us on the ways in which OCC plan to make sure local government and residents views are properly reflected in water plans for the region.

## THE CURRENT CONSULTATION

The southeast water plan is being developed by Water Resources Southeast (WRSE – a group comprised only of water companies). Unsurprisingly, the plan favours their profits over customers and local residents. After years of saying the Thames Valley is the most water stressed region of the UK, WRSE now plan to sell water out of the region for profit – so the reservoir isn't just for London as we have always been told.

We asked the adjacent grouping, Water Resources East, why they weren't offering water transfer to the southeast. Their answer: WRSE had independently concluded they didn't need it. How can it be cheaper to spend £2-3 billion on a reservoir than simply connecting to WRE?

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

We need everyone to respond to the consultation to tell WRSE that their plan is not fit for purpose and must be rethought:

- Register at [wrse.uk.engagementhq.com](http://wrse.uk.engagementhq.com) and complete the consultation by 14 March
- Email [gard.chair@gmail.com](mailto:gard.chair@gmail.com) for a PDF to help you, or find facts at [www.gard-oxon.org.uk](http://www.gard-oxon.org.uk)
- If you don't have a view on a question, "no comment" is fine
- A few questions start 'Do you agree..?' The answer is always no. Boxes for 'other comments' are a chance to say you oppose the reservoir as unproven and unsuitable
- Once completed, please email your MP [david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk](mailto:david.johnston.mp@parliament.uk) and local councillors ([Richard.webber77@ntlworld.com](mailto:Richard.webber77@ntlworld.com) and [catherine.webber@whitehorsedc.gov.uk](mailto:catherine.webber@whitehorsedc.gov.uk)) to tell them you oppose the reservoir. Contact details are on our website and please cc: [gard.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:gard.secretary@gmail.com)

If you prefer not to complete the consultation, email [contact@wrse.org.uk](mailto:contact@wrse.org.uk) direct:

- You oppose the WRSE plan as not fit for purpose
- You believe the environmental, carbon and financial cost of the reservoir is unacceptable
- The plan is not adaptable or transparent
- Calculations of population increase, and sustainability reductions are not credible
- Please cc: your email to your MP and councillors and [gard.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:gard.secretary@gmail.com)

For more information go to [www.gard-oxon.org.uk](http://www.gard-oxon.org.uk) and Facebook [@abingdonreservoir](https://www.facebook.com/abingdonreservoir).

# ALL SAINTS' & ST. LUKES CHURCHES

[www.marcham-with-garford.org.uk](http://www.marcham-with-garford.org.uk)



## FLIPPING OUR MINDSET

March sees the beginning of the Christian season of Lent which runs until Easter. Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> is Shrove Tuesday and marks the day before the season begins. Historically this was the last opportunity to use eggs and fats before a period of fasting – and a tradition of making pancakes came about.

I love to flip pancakes. My success rate is not 100% and I will often have to eat a ball of bundled dough made palatable with a showering of sugar and lemon. However, there is something satisfying about executing the perfect flip. Beyond a celebration of pancakes and favourite toppings (Biscoff spread, anyone?), Lent has always been a time of reflection where Christians will often undertake special study or prayer, undertake a positive habit, give to charity, or forego particular luxuries.

As a church, this year we are focusing on a particular Bible verse;

Romans 12:2 *Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is – his good, pleasing and perfect will.*

For Christians, Lent offers a golden opportunity to pursue this verse wholeheartedly. Allowing ourselves the time and space, even in a busy and hectic life, to pray, read and to open our minds and spirit to God.

Nationally, the Church of England is running a campaign called *LiveLent2022*, and encourages us to reflect on the world's injustices and ask what God wants us to do about them. You can find out more about the campaign at [churchofengland.org/livelent](http://churchofengland.org/livelent) along with details of a companion iOS and Android mobile app.

This Lent, I will be engaging with these resources and asking what in my thinking and actions needs to be challenged and flipped. As great as it is to land the perfect pancake flip, it will be much greater to do a flip that helps to love and serve victims of injustice whether that is in our local community, nationally or around the world.

## For the diary

### 15<sup>th</sup> April, Good Friday

10am: Family Event (details tbc)

2pm: Service of prayer & reflection at St. Luke's

### 17<sup>th</sup> April, Easter Day

6am: Sunrise Service at St. Luke's

10am: Easter Family Communion

6pm: Easter Communion

## From the Registers:

### Funeral

Paul Kentish

### \*All Age service

Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> March

10am at Marcham  
Community Centre

All welcome

(No morning service at  
church, 6pm as usual)

## Contacts:

Revd. Nick Weldon [vicar@allsaintsmarcham.org](mailto:vicar@allsaintsmarcham.org) 01865 391962, Rob Finch Youth Worker 07888331708, [rob@marchamyouth.org](mailto:rob@marchamyouth.org) Jill Rowe Children and Families minister [families@allsaintsmarcham.org](mailto:families@allsaintsmarcham.org) Tamsin Gilbert Parish Administrator & Churchwarden [info@allsaintsmarcham.org](mailto:info@allsaintsmarcham.org) Neil Rowe Churchwarden 07915527563