

MAD News

www.madnews.co.uk

Cothill - Frilford - Garford - Gozzards Ford - Marcham - Tubney

November 2024 Vol 46 No. 11

Your Independent Local News Source



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

1st CLASS TREE SURGEONS

- ☎ 07889 881 525 or 01491 651052
- ✉ quote@firstclasstreesurgeons.co.uk
- 🌐 www.firstclasstreesurgeons.co.uk

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

CONTAINER STORAGE

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



Tel: 01865 390267 or 07980 262210
Email: enquiries@oxonstorage.co.uk
www.oxonstorage.co.uk

PROFESSIONAL GARDEN SERVICES

Stephen R Matthews
Tel: 01235 766412
Mobile: 07796 532356
Email: stephenmatthews.pgs@gmail.com

All aspects of work undertaken, including:

- garden clearance and restoration
- fruit tree, shrub and rose pruning
- hedgcutting
- fencing and landscaping.



Suppliers of aggregates and concrete for every need

Our products include:

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

T: 01865 390838



hills-quarry.co.uk

ELECTRICIAN

DANIEL KERR
M: 07817 457 832
E: Daniel-Electrician@outlook.com
87, HAMFIELD, WANTAGE

KEEP IT LOCAL !
Discount For Neighbours & Over 65's

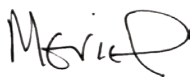
DK ELECTRICAL SERVICES

City & Guilds / Insured / 7 day Service / No Call-Out Charge / Emergencies / No Higher Rate For Sundays/B.Holidays

Dear Readers

We really need volunteers – see the notice on page 14 !

Until next time...
maybe



TEMPORARY PUBLISHER / EDITOR

Meriel Lewis

c/o Marcham Village Shop
16 North Street, Marcham OX13 6NG

Email: editor@madnews.co.uk

Website: www.madnews.co.uk

ADVERTISING

Fran Russell: adverts@madnews.co.uk

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

DISTRIBUTORS

Paula Utting and Claire Wright
13 Parkside, Marcham OX13 6NN

Tel: 01865 391443

PROOFREADING

Jane Mander

DEADLINES

Advertising: 17.00 15th of the month
Other copy: 17.00 20th of the month
except for the Jan edition when it is 15th Dec for both.

ADDITIONAL COPIES

These are available from Marcham Village Shop. 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.

© Marcham & District News 2024

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

POLICE

PCSO Rich Osborn C9323 for Marcham

Richard.Osborn@thamesvalley.police.uk

Tel: 07980 924693

Or just dial 101 (non-emergency) and omit the C from his number to leave a message.

CRIMESTOPPERS

Call 0800 555 111 (anonymous calls)

NHS NON-EMERGENCY

Call Free from any phone - 111

COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Marcham

Peter Stevens

peter.stevens@oxfordshire.gov.uk

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Marcham and Shippon

Robert Clegg, 42 Harding Way, Marcham, OX13 6FJ

Tel: 07784225290

robert.clegg@whitehorsedc.gov.uk

For other representatives see page 18 or go to www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk

Cover photograph by Bartle Frere

November 2024

MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

PLAY AREA

Further installation work has been carried out, and this is now complete. Unfortunately the weather was against the project, and there were some days when the contractor could not get on site. At the time of writing, post installation inspections are ongoing, and minor adjustments are being done, to ensure full safety for public use.

REMINDER – ROAD CLOSURE

SUNDAY 10TH NOVEMBER, 2024

New Road, Church Street, and the section of the A415 between Church Street and North Street will be closed for a short while on Sunday 10th November, to allow the parade from the Church to the war memorial in order to lay wreaths. The closure Order has been granted for between 10.45 a.m. and 11.15 p.m., but it should not have to be closed for the full duration. The diversion will be via North Street, Sheepstead Road, Faringdon Road and the A338. Bus services should not be too affected, as the X1 in both directions passes through the village around 10.40 a.m. just prior to the closure. Please plan your travel accordingly. Thank you for your understanding.

VALE OF WHITE HORSE DISTRICT

COUNCIL – JOINT LOCAL PLAN

The Local Plan for the area is now out for public consultation until 12th November.

Vale of White Horse District Council and South Oxfordshire District Council have joined together to produce one Plan looking at the next fifteen years and has looked at how much development is needed, new homes, employment, roads and schools etc. and has preferred sites for their location. It has also set standards for environmental protection and sustainability. Visit the District Council's website for more information and to have your say on the proposals. The section can be accessed at

<https://theconversation.southandvale.gov.uk/>

VALE OF WHITE HORSE DISTRICT

COUNCIL – STREET TRADING

POLICIES

South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils are in the process of reviewing the joint Street Trading Policy. It was last reviewed in 2011, and as street trading, and trading from multiple locations such as The Crown in Marcham, has become more popular, gaps within the policy have been identified. Amendments to the Policy have been made, and the document is now out for consultation. This is available for viewing and comments at <https://theconversation.southandvale.gov.uk/>

The consultation closes on 26th November, 2024.

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

– FIX MY STREET AND HIGHWAY

SUPER USERS

Fix My Street is an independent website, which makes it easy to report problems

in the community, regardless of whether you know who is actually responsible for undertaking any repair or clearing. If you are aware of a street problem, such as an abandoned vehicle, broken street light, potholes, fly tipping, traffic signs, or other road issue, then go to **www.FixmyStreet.com** where matters can be reported. Fix My Street then passes on any report to the relevant authority for further investigation.

In addition to using the Fix My Street website, the County Council has Super Users. These are, in effect, the eyes and ears of the County Council's Highways Officers, and are trained to report and action certain road repairs, specifically potholes and damaged kerbs, on low-speed, minor roads.

Although County Council highways officers inspect their areas regularly, additional help from local people increases the number of defects that can be repaired and makes the process more efficient. Marcham, currently has one Super User. So if you are interested in becoming a highway Super User then email volunteercoordinationteam@Oxfordshire.gov.uk for further information.

FIREWORKS

Again, the annual reminder for those of you who may have purchased fireworks and intend letting them off in your garden, please be considerate for neighbours, the many pets and animals, and wildlife in the village. Please notify others when any fireworks are going to be lit so that villagers are aware and arrangements can be made to keep pets indoors.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

CONSIDERED BY THE PARISH

COUNCIL

P24/V0351/FUL Single storey front and two storey side extension (additional information regarding bats) at 10 The Gap. The Council asked for bat boxes to be located, and mitigation measures to be taken.

DATE OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

Monday 11th November at 7.30pm in the Village Hall, Barrow Close OX13 6TY.

The Council meetings are open to the public, and the Council welcomes anyone who has issues to raise on parish matters to attend, or speak to their local parish councillor.

Councillors: Mark Harvie (Chairman), Sheena Bigden, Sandra Hill, Mike Hoath, Ruth Mander, Joe Withers.

Please check the Council's website in case arrangements change

Clerk to the Council:

Mrs. L. Martin, 90 Howard Cornish Road

Tel: 01865 391833

clerk@marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk

www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk

MADNews is online: www.madnews.co.uk

HOUSE & GARDEN SERVICES

Oxfordshire Bespoke Furniture
Custom built by hand, by head, by heart.

Offering a thorough and transparent approach to your joinery project.



Contact Sean Lewis via:
Mobile: 07932 303034
Email: o.bespoke.furniture@gmail.com
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61556163747112>

Martin Gilbert
Motor Repairs Ltd
Local Family Run Business

VEHICLE REPAIR & SERVICE CENTRE
For all Makes & Models
Hybrid & Electric Vehicle Repair & Service Centre
Cars & Light Commercial Repairs Including;
17 Seater Minibuses & Vans up to 3.5 Tonnes

 Engine Management & Electrical Repairs 
MOT's WHILE YOU WAIT

Carried out to a High Standard by Qualified Technicians
Tel: 01235 553055 - Radley Rd Industrial Estate
Abingdon, Oxon, OX14 3RY
www.martingilbertmotorrepairs.co.uk
E: richard@martingilbert.co.uk



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

Frilford Decorators
Painters & Decorators
Decorative Treatments
Telephone: 01865 392866 (Frilford Heath)
Mobile: 07775 690523
References Available
Proprietor: Mr A Bunce

Michael Ball
DECORATORS

Michael Ball Decorators are a small team, carrying out interior and exterior work to the highest standards, using both traditional and modern techniques, including dustless sanding. Fully insured and local references available.

www.mballdecorators.co.uk

Mobile: 07785 308488
Tel: 01235 534743
Email: info@mballdecorators.co.uk



theshop.ws
Classic Car Restoration & Race Prep



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 restorations



MOT welding
Rust repairs



Commercial or Domestic
From Classic Cars to Race Cars



Special projects



Family business
Fair pricing



Call Andy @ The Shop 07739 337562
Email: theshop.ws@gmail.com
www.TheShop.ws

OXFORDSHIRE COUPLE CYCLE FOR WILDLIFE

An Oxfordshire couple Richard and Sian Liwicki (aged 65 and 62 years) have just completed a month-long cycling trip along the longest river in France to raise funds for local charity, Wild Oxfordshire. In spite of the unseasonably inclement weather they pedalled over 1,150km along the Loire, climbed a total of 11,200m, carrying all their belongings in panniers.

The couple planned the trip and organised all the logistics themselves. Richard said, "We had cycled the Rhine before so we knew what we needed to pack, and how to organise and navigate all the stages in this long trip. We trained for weeks. What we had not planned for was the wettest September in France in 25 years. We cycled through two icy storms and faced strong headwinds in the mountains. We regularly got wet so getting dry for the next day was an added challenge. However, we knew we could not stop and the French locals were incredibly helpful and kind. Motorists are used to a vibrant cycling culture in France".

Sian who has been a supporter of Wild Oxfordshire for many years added, "We wanted to really spend time getting to know this beautiful part of France and travel sustainability. We used public transport to get to the start and for our return journey. We wanted to raise funds for nature in Oxfordshire because we knew it would spur us on during this challenging trip. We were even more determined when we heard that Butterfly Conservation had declared a Butterfly Emergency in September.

"Cycling is our way of experiencing and celebrating nature up close. We wrote a wildlife and travel blog along the way, and it was inevitable that we would make comparisons between our county along the Thames, and the Loire countryside.

"Our friends and family have been very encouraging and we are over half way to hitting our target of £7,000. We have just got to get around to telling everyone that we made it!"

"As a long-term supporter of Wild Oxfordshire, we're so delighted and grateful for Sian and Richard's fundraising efforts. The funds will contribute towards our work enabling more people to take action for nature across Oxfordshire. Our sincere thanks to all those already contributing to nature's recovery, and we look forward to working with even more people in the future," said Camilla Burrow, Chief Executive Wild Oxfordshire.



We are still accepting funds through the fundraising page: www.justgiving.com/page/sianandrichardscycleforwildlife
Watch out for the tip requested by the site.

Thirsty Café is a popup café that takes place in the Marcham centre on Wednesday and Saturday mornings from 9am – 11.30am. The Café is run by a Manager Nicci and wonderful volunteers, come and enjoy warm drinks, homemade cakes and cooked food. We are always in need of volunteers whether it is helping in the café or making cakes. If you are new to Marcham Village come and join us and meet members of the community.



Duke of Edinburgh

Come and do your volunteering hours in the café, we have a lot of experience supporting people through the programme. Email us at hello@thirstycafemarcham.co.uk. To find out more information.

Thirsty Café would like to thank **Jennamarie** for her hard work as the café Administrator and wish her best wishes in her new job. We will be looking to recruit a new Administrator in November, details of the job and timetable for the process will be posted on the café and village face book pages in the near future.

On Wednesday 2nd Oct the Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) joined us for the morning, they were well received and answered many questions and enquires that were put to them. They will be joining us regularly in the cafe the dates to be arranged.

The Café will be CLOSED on Saturday 2nd November.

Dates for your diary

- 2nd November closed.
- Wednesday 6th Nov Stay and Play 9am-11.30 am.
- Wednesday 13th Nov SEND session 9am-11.30am.
- Wednesday 20th Nov Community Lunch 12-2pm.

Thirsty Café is open Wednesday and Saturday, 9 – 11:30 am

Website: www.thirstycafemarcham.co.uk

E-mail: hello@thirstycafemarcham.co.uk

♀ FITNESS AT THE FARM, OXFORD

CHRISTMAS AT THE FARM

SUNDAY 1ST DECEMBER
10 AM - 4 PM

BOOZE & BRATWURST
LOCAL CRAFT STALLS
WREATH MAKING
SAUNA & HOT TUB SESSIONS
BUY YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE

farm-fit.co.uk/fair
OPEN TO ALL - NO TICKETS REQUIRED

A photograph of a man and a woman wearing Santa hats, sitting in a hot tub. They are holding glasses of beer and smiling. The background shows a snowy landscape with evergreen trees and a white sweater hanging on a line.

If you have an event to promote
email editor@madnews.co.uk with the details
Deadline is the 20th of the month before publication

HOUSEHOLD SERVICES



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
---	---



Give us a call today for a quotation.

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

www.gtcarpentry.com

DIRTY CARPETS, UPHOLSTERY, RUGS



Most carpets dry within the hour

Unbeatable results, removes almost all spots & stains



OXFORD	01865 726983
ABINGDON	01235 555533
WITNEY	01993 868924

www.grimebusters.co.uk



WASPS & ALL INSECTS

SOLAR PANEL PROOFING



PEST WIZARDS

YOUR LOCAL PEST CONTROL SERVICE



RATS, MICE, MOLES & SQUIRRELS


PROMPT SERVICE

MARK DEARLOVE • 07446377816

01235 642689 • info@pestwizards.co.uk

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



MINIBUS

Planning a night out with friends?
A birthday trip with the kids?
A family trip to the beach?

Whatever your plans, why not use the
Community Minibus!!

14 seats plus your driver
(aged between 25 and 70)
(you will need to ensure that your licence covers driving a minibus)

A standard donation is requested for each booking to cover diesel/maintenance.

Contact Marion Belcher on 07507 797757 for more information



OXFORD

KITCHENS & BATHROOMS



☎ 01865 326009

@ info@oxfordkitchens.co.uk

🌐 www.oxfordkitchens.co.uk

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

Volunteers Needed Help Support Our Community

Our community flourishes thanks to the dedication of volunteers. We extend our gratitude to everyone who has contributed their time and energy over the years. Whether it's supporting the Parish Council, participating in working groups, organising local events, or helping out at Thirsty Café and The Community Centre, volunteers are the backbone of our village.

To sustain these activities, we need more volunteers. If you have an interest in local governance, event organisation, or other projects like MAD News, the play area, footpaths, or Speedwatch, there's a role for you. Volunteering is not only crucial but also fulfilling. It's an excellent way to meet new people, acquire new skills, and make a significant impact in our community.

If you're interested in volunteering or want to learn more about how you can get involved, please contact your local councillor or the Parish Clerk. Contact details are available on the Parish Council's website. Even a few hours of your time can make a big difference.

Thank you to all our current and past volunteers—you are the reason our community is such a good place to live.
marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk



ROYAL BRITISH LEGION MARCHAM AND DISTRICT POPPY APPEAL 2024

This year's Remembrance Sunday
will be on 10th November

Donation boxes are located at:

- Marcham Village Shop & Post Office
- The Marcham Centre
- All Saints Church
- The Crown
- Appleton Shop & Post Office
- Budgens (Frilford)

All your donations are invaluable in enabling the Royal British Legion to provide life-long support to serving and ex-serving members of the British Armed Forces and their families.

Thank you
Jamie Butcher



Monday – Friday: 0830-1700
Saturday: 0830-1200
**Sundays &
Bank Holidays: Closed**

**Marcham Village Shop
& Post Office**
16 North St, Marcham OX13 6NG

**Call us: Shop 391993 /
Post Office 391940**
Facebook: marchamvillageshop

The clocks have gone back and we're settling in for winter. Along with winter comes Christmas! We have some lovely gift ideas this year – liquid hand soaps, jars of fruit, gloves, scarves, fancy chocolates, truffles and biscuits, and some different bottled drinks. All suitable as a great present for that special friend. And, from the beginning of December the **Naughty Elf** will be paying us a visit. We will run our usual quiz for the younger visitors to our shop. Each week the Naughty Elf will move around the shop and we will be asking you where you can find him. Quiz forms will be available at the counter and the Elf will find a new location on each Monday in December. There will be prizes for all children who have correctly completed the quiz form and returned it to the shop by 6 January 2025.

In addition to normal meat orders, you will be able to order your **Christmas meat from Hedges** towards the end of November. Christmas prices and order forms will be available from the shop and orders will be available for collection between 0830-1200 hrs on Saturday 21 December, 0830-1700 hrs on Monday 23 and 0830-1200 hrs on Tuesday 24 December. If there is anything specific that you would like, not listed, please ask and we will do our best to help. Remembrance Sunday is 10 November, however we will observe the 2 minutes silence on Monday 11 November at 11 o'clock. The poppy tin and display are in the shop – your donations go to a good cause and will be most welcome.



Your Post Office is there to serve you and aims to cover most of your daily needs ie posting of letters & parcels, stamps, postal collections, deposits, returns, cheques and cash deposits into your bank accounts, free cash withdrawals, pay some of your bills (council tax, electricity etc), phone top-ups, foreign exchange, moneygrams, postal orders, All4One cards and much more.



Christmas stamps will go on sale from Tuesday 5 November. If you still have stamps without barcodes, you can swap them by sending them off to Royal Mail, who will exchange them for new ones. Forms are available in the Post Office. Special picture stamps, however, are still valid even without the barcode.

Last posting dates for Christmas are listed below

UK Inland	Wed 18 Dec	Thu 19 Dec	Fri 20 Dec	Sat 21 Dec	Mon 23 Dec
Royal Mail	2nd class 2nd class signed for 1st class signed for		1st class 1st class signed for Tracked 48	Tracked 24	Special delivery guaranteed
Parcel Force		Express48	Express24 ExpressAM		
DPD				Next Day and Next Day by 12*	
*excludes certain post codes -see list in PO					

If you are posting abroad, remember that you can fill in your customs forms (typically CN22) online, in the comfort of your own home – postoffice.co.uk/ICDC or scan the QR code. We can then print the customs form for you at the Post Office - this will make the process at the Post Office much quicker.



DON'T MISS THE DEADLINE. If you are sending parcels overseas with Royal Mail or ParcelForce in time for Christmas, please check online or in the Post Office for last posting dates. For certain destinations, Royal Mail International Standard starts from Tuesday 26 November.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support and especially to all of our customers that have been donating to the Disasters Emergency Committee. You can use the Post Office to donate any amount.

HOUSEHOLD SERVICES



Solar KW

Award Winning Home Solar Panel Installers

- Free & Friendly Site Surveys & Quotations
- Generate, store & use your own electricity
 - Become 'Self-Sufficient'
- Do your bit for the environment

Proud members of
Checkatrade.com
Where reputation matters

www.solarkw.co.uk

Tel: 01235 838616 | sales@solarkw.co.uk

SAVE £££ DAY AFTER DAY AFTER DAY...

Shaun Guard TV AERIAL & WIFI SERVICES

- Aerials - supplied, repaired and poor reception solved
- Satellite - Sky Q dish upgrades, discreet dish installations
- WiFi - blackspots cured, internal & external data cabling
- TVs - hung on your wall or set up & tuned

OXFORD AERIALS
www.oxfordaerials.co.uk shaun@oxfordaerials.co.uk
Call us on 01235 642689



Embrace the sunny season with Stuart's Flooring! Refresh your home for summer with our range of flooring options! Whether your looking for the plush comfort of carpet, or the durability and versatility of LVT, we have the perfect solution to freshen up your space. Visit Stuart's Flooring today and transform your floors into a summer oasis!

Contact us for a free Consultation

☎ - 07824 617809

🌐 - Stuarts-flooring.co.uk

Architectural Design Services

Over 40 years experience in the Building Industry .
Plans and Specification prepared on Autocad for
Planning Permission and Building Regulations Approval.
For all kinds of Building Work

**Architectural
Design
Services**

Contact Steve Lester
stevelesterads@gmail.com
Mobile 07818-751526



Oxford Wood Recycling

We have your DIY wood needs covered - timber, tool hire, friendly advice and low prices.

"Simple, easy and makes the world a better place."
Morgan, Wood Shop customer



4 Suffolk Way, Abingdon, OX14 5JX
Tel: 01235 861228
www.oxfordwoodrecycling.org.uk



Does your business need help with Book-Keeping?

Gemma is an experienced Book-Keeper in Marcham
Hourly rate Book-Keeping (anything from daily to annually)
Bank Reconciliations, VAT and CIS Returns

☎ 07766 078506

✉ gemma@varen.co.uk



Moss Removal & Roof Cleaning
Patio & Driveway Cleaning
Render & Brickwork Cleaning
Solar Panel & Skylight Cleaning
Installation of Bird Protection
Chimney Cowl Installation



Enhance the appearance of your property
with our quality assured friendly service
info@mossinator.co.uk - 01865 362797

MARCHAM WI

Monday 18th November 2024,
7.30pm at Marcham Centre

Chris Bovington

My 52 year career
Policing in the Thames Valley

Come along to hear about Chris's
colourful and varied career



Visitors always welcome
marchamwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk



The Arts Society Abingdon LECTURE

Wednesday 20th November,
10.30am and 2.00pm
Abbey Cinema, Abbey Close,
Abingdon OX14 3JD

Les Trois Grandes Dames' of Impressionism: Marie Bracquemond, Mary Cassatt, and Berthe Morisot Sarah Burles

The Impressionists were an innovative and radical group of artists who took Paris by storm in the 1870s, creating paintings of modern life which shocked and horrified the art establishment. From the start the group included women artists but their contribution to impressionism has often been overshadowed by their male contemporaries. Marie Bracquemond, Berthe Morisot and Mary Cassatt all exhibited regularly. In 1894 they were given the title "**Les Trois Grandes Dames d'Impressionisme**" by the art critic Gustave Geffroy. The lecture discusses their lives and work revealing their skill and originality.



Berthe Morisot: Summertag (Wiki) Commons

The lecture will be held at the Abbey Cinema at 10.30 and 2pm. Visitors are very welcome to attend this lecture, cost £6.00. Lectures last 1 hour but allow extra time for announcements.

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



The
Marcham
Society

Marcham Society Midweek Walk

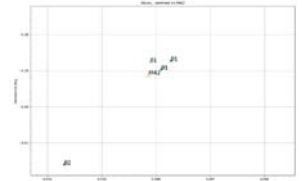
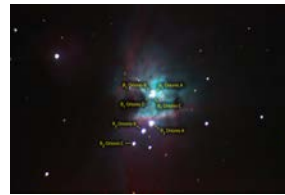
The next Midweek Walk will be on
Thursday 7th November

For more details contact
e.dunford@btinternet.com 01865 391439

The Astronomy Group

Thursday 14th November 2024 at 7pm
Small Hall, Marcham Centre, Barrow Close, OX13 6TY

A round-up of astronomy sightings during October,
followed by



"DIY Star maps" – a short talk by Bob Anderson
and a short talk/Q&A on how to choose a telescope

"Conflict and good living: excavations at Besselsleigh"

Jane Harrison

7.15 for 7.45pm Monday 25th November
Main Hall, Marcham Centre OX13 6TY
Members free of charge, Guests welcome at £5

This talk will discuss the deserted Besselsleigh Manor and village site in its wider Oxfordshire context. Besselsleigh is a great example of a place we now overlook that was once of considerable local significance.



Photo : Adam Stanford, Sumo Services

Now a peaceful parkland area, the site was occupied from the Roman age to the nineteenth century and continuously from the Anglo-Saxon period. Over the years it saw advances in comfortable living, park design and women's education, as well as playing host to some important visitors and a significant role in the English Civil War.

Jane Harrison is an Early Medieval specialist and fieldwork director who has run excavations across Britain. She has taught at Oxford University's Department for Continuing Education, worked with Newcastle University, published widely and most recently excavated on Hadrian's Wall, and sites in Oxfordshire and North Northumberland.

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

MARCHAM PRE-SCHOOL

Autumn is here and each week we have been taking a group of children out and about for a nature walk. It's a chance to look at the changes occurring around us, look at the leaves as they are falling, see what mini-beasts are relocating, and talk about the world around us. The children have been learning about trees and discussing the different shapes and colours in the leaves. We've found snails, slugs and caterpillars as well as some tiny eggs on a leaf which we are patiently waiting to hatch! We are thrilled to be able to put our waterproofs and wellies (thanks to a previous grant from The Anson Trust) to good use, meaning we are always prepared and the weather does not stop our explorations!



With autumn comes the traditional abundance of pumpkins which have provided a range of activities from examining the seeds and pulp, to hammering in golf tees and singing songs with pumpkin stories... Covering all areas of the Early Years Curriculum.

If you would be interesting in joining Marcham Pre-school in the coming years, please do get in touch as soon as possible. We have an ever increasing waiting list and would welcome an early application in order that we can consider your needs. There are no registration fees and no obligation so please contact us today marcham-preschool@hotmail.co.uk or via our website at www.marcham-preschool.weebly.com
Nicky Sanford
 Early Years Teacher
 Marcham Pre-school
 01865 392101



We have been in the full swing of autumn here at Marcham Little Angels. We have spent lots of time outside in the crisp, fresh autumnal air. Our Little Angels have loved getting out and about in the local village going for walks and spotting signs of autumn all around. From collecting fallen leaves, twigs and conkers for the art projects to stomping and crunching in the golden leaves!

The beauty of the natural world has inspired us to create lots of beautiful nature art from printing and painting leaves, using twigs as paintbrushes to conker rolling painting. We love seeing the pride on our little angels faces when they show us their artistic creations!

At the end of October we held a 'Pumpkin Party' where the children came dressed up in their favourite pumpkin, autumn or Halloween inspired costumes. We had a magical day filled with pumpkin themed activities. The children designed and carved pumpkins, explored the gooey insides of a pumpkin in tough tray scooping and pouring and making a magical pumpkin soup, autumnal baking and enjoying some delicious baked treats!



We have really leant into and embraced the change of seasons and we are very much looking forward to welcoming winter and all the joy this brings our Little Angels!

For more information:
 T: 01865 819992
 E: info@littleangelschildcaregroup.co.uk

Website www.littleangelschildcaregroup.co.uk
 Facebook @MarchamLittleAngels
 Instagram @Little_Angels_Childcare_Group



COME AND JOIN US FOR OUR OPEN MORNINGS FOR PROSPECTIVE PARENTS OF NEW PUPILS
 Including a welcome from the Headteacher, tour of the school and Q&A sessions starting at 9.30am

Tuesday 5th November 2024 and Thursday 9th January 2025

Contact office.3235@marcham.oxon.sch.uk or ring 01865 391448 to reserve your place.

We look forward to welcoming you and showing off what we think is the BEST school in the world!

MARCHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

We celebrated Harvest Festival on Tuesday 1st October and it was great to be able to celebrate together – even though it couldn't be held outdoors this year. The children had worked really hard to share their thanksgiving with parents and carers and it was a delight. Artwork, songs, poetry and expressive interpretations all featured and both services – EYFS/ KS1 and KS2 brought much joy. Thank you to Rev. Nick Weldon for his talk (and the discussion about butternut squashes...)

Families are asked to decorate a box to put their donations in and every year we are amazed by the work that is put into them. May I say an enormous thank you for all the Harvest gifts that were given. At this time of economic uncertainty, when things are tighter for everyone, this generosity is appreciated, and I know that the Abingdon Foodbank and many families are grateful for our gifts.



*Thank you for the Harvest
Thank you for Your goodness
For all of the fruit and vegetables
And the wonderful things that grow.*



Yr5 Wolves Class news

We went on a trip to Oxford on the bus. We were learning about the history of Oxford. We went to a museum, the Old Prison and the Castle Mound. I didn't know that the Old Hotel had been the prison. The trip was fun because we got to play on the mound. *Heidi*

Yr6 Giraffes Class news

On Tuesday, we played handball in PE where we had mini matches. On Thursday, we were on a school trip to the Earth Trust, and we used willow sticks to build a fence like in Saxon times. Then we made wool from a sheep's fleece. *Lucas G*

In year six this week in our English lessons, we have been writing our 500 words story for the BBC competition. *Ruby*

To see what the school has been up to go to
www.marcham.oxon.sch.uk/class-pages

CHRISTMAS CRAFT & GIFT FAIR

FREE ADMISSION
CRAFTS, JEWELLERY,
UNIQUE GIFTS, RAFFLE,
WREATH MAKING
AND SO MUCH MORE!

2pm - 4.30pm
Saturday 16 November
Marcham Centre

COME ALONG & FIND THAT
SOMETHING SPECIAL FOR
YOUR SOMEONE SPECIAL!

BAZAAR

In aid of



CANCER
RESEARCH
UK

SAT Nov **23rd**

Hanney WMH 10 till 2pm

RAFFLE

Xmas gifts and decorations,

Glassware, crafts, Tombolas,

Toiletries, Toys, games, jewellery

Hot/cold Food

Hanney Fundraisers for CRUK
01235 868527/470/772114

PERSONAL, SOCIAL & COMMUNITY

Mobile Foot Health Professional covering
10 mile radius around Wantage

Alison Love MCFHP MAFHP
Foot Health Professional
07768276718



Treatments include diabetic assesment
Corns Calluses Verrucas & Nails

alison@foothealthwithlove.co.uk

www.foothealthwithlove.co.uk

Kilbey & Clarke
Will Writers and Estate Practitioners



KilbeyandClarke

- * Wills from £175
- * Lasting Power of Attorney from £195, £350 for 2 LPAs
- * Inheritance Protection
- * Probate
- * Will storage: Annual or lifetime
- * Local, friendly, professional with home visits

Nigel Kilbey Member SWW
07734 051258 / 01235 868266



Safe to do
business with
Code Compliant

www.kilbeyandclarke.co.uk
wills@kilbeyandclarke.co.uk



**anson
trust**

£75,000 IN GRANTS APPROVED IN 2 YRS
AND ANOTHER £5,000 STILL AVAILABLE

Does Your Local (to Marcham) Organisation, Society,
Group or Club Need Help with Funding?

**IF THE ANSWER IS "YES" TO THIS QUESTION THEN THE
ANSON TRUST MAY BE ABLE TO HELP YOU**

For more information on our grant application process and
policy please visit ansontrust.org/grant-giving
or email us at ansontrustenquiries@gmail.com

Reg'd Charity No. 1107174

**Would you like to advertise your
business or service in MADNews?**

MADNews is delivered to all homes in the
Marcham area including Garford, Tubney,
Frilford, Cothill and Gozzards Ford.
1500 copies printed each month.

Contact adverts@madnews.co.uk for details



21-27 Coxeter House Abingdon OX14 5AJ

Tel 01235 530577

www.abingdonchiroprody.com

HCCP Registered Chiroprodists & Podiatrists

Surgery and Home Visits available. Free Parking in Coxeters Yard

Private English Tuition

www.andrewjamison.co.uk

*A qualified, experienced teacher, my goal is to help students gain confidence in
English, through engaging and enjoyable lessons.*

What I Offer:

- Online or in-person
- 1-2-1 or group sessions
- 11+ & 13+ entrance exams
- GCSE, IB and A Level
- Oxbridge Preparation
- UCAS Personal Statements
- Creative Writing
- Homeschooling
- Adult English Learning

Contact me for a free consultation today:



info@andrewjamison.co.uk



07821417729

**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
www.rowesnewsmarket.co.uk
18 Wallingford Street, Wantage**

SPORT REVIEW

Marcham village is very lucky to have the new Marcham Centre adjacent to the extensive playing field which accommodates football and cricket (with a small overlap during the appropriate seasons). The Centre houses the changing rooms, with separate rooms for officials. There is a bar which opens during and after matches, and a large patio area for spectators conveniently situated for the cricket enthusiasts.

Football

Football is thriving in Marcham. There are an impressive seven teams representing Marcham, so many that they have over-spilled from the playing field by the Centre into Abingdon Prep School, and Tilsley Park:

Adult team who play in the North Berks League

The following teams are collectively known as the Colts:

- Under 11 Boys and Under 11 Girls who play at Abingdon Prep School (due to shortage of space in the Village)
- Under 10s
- Under 9s Blues
- Under 9s Maroons

The Vets team (nothing to do with poorly animals as far as we know, just humans over 35-years-old) play in the Hellenic Vets League Div 1 W and their home ground is Tilsley Park.

There is also Mini football that takes place on the field by Marcham Centre at 9.00AM on Saturday mornings, open to all, that is well attended with enthusiastic players and parents.

The adult team had a stutter at the start of the season, losing to Woodcote Development, but since then they have won their last 2 games against Watlington Town Reserves and Berinsfield Reserves 4-0 and 3-1 respectively. There is a home game against Long Wittenham Athletic on 26 October, and an away Cup game against the same opponents on 2 November. On 9 November they are at home to AFC Grove First. Sadly the North Berks League do not publish the fixture list beyond that date at time of writing.

The Vets have played 2 matches this season, a home loss to Clanfield (85) Vets 1-3 and an away draw to Chinnor Vets 2-2. There is a local derby on 30 October where Abingdon Town Veterans Exiles play Marcham Vets at Thame. Further Vets games through November comprise home games against Bicester Town Vets First (6 November), Icarus Veterans Masters (13 November) and Chinnor Veterans (20 November).

Marcham Cricket Club – 2024

2024 was a very successful season on and off the field. Off the field a great deal of hard work improved the playing areas, especially the 'hallowed square'. Nathan Warne, ably supported by many members, undertook the envious task of improving the playing surface. Not that the square was in a poor state, but it needed someone to lead on the weekly responsibility of pitch preparation, assisted by those that had very diligently worked on the surfaces during previous seasons. Nathan undertook this task with the utmost care and attention.

Since Covid the club had struggled each week to get sufficient players to enable two teams to play in the Cherwell Cricket League on a Saturday. 2024 saw a vast improvement in membership and players committing to playing regularly due to a recruitment push by members. The need for cancelling second team matches was therefore eradicated.

On the playing side, the first team finished second in its Division 8D league. Winning 15 of its 18 matches, performances with the bat by Mike Palmer of 120 not out -v-Wolvercote and 87 -v Witney Mills stood out. Other 'fifties' were made by Harry Phipps (74) and Ed Warwick (69). Ed was the top scorer with total runs for the season of 365.

First team bowling saw new club captain Dan Hill take a 6-49, with other 'fivers' during the season from Neil Cotterell 5-23; Will Clerk 5-24; Tom Finnie 5-25 and Mike Palmer 5-31.

The 'second' team finished 8th in their Division 8B, winning five of its 18 matches, but importantly, as mentioned before, managed to play almost every fixture. Individual batting scores during the season included an 81 by Nathan Warne (before he was nabbed by the first team!); 47 by Johnny Moore; 43 by Matt Mugglestone and Deepak Patel and 41 by Neil Cotterell. 'Fifers' included a Deepak Patel 5-31; youngster Isaac Davies 5-34 and Adam Webb 5-44.

Secretary Matt Ainsworth took the role of captaining the 'seconds', contributing in so many ways to the improvement and functioning of the team. Matt is the person to contact about membership for 2025. Contact details will be in future editions of Madnews. Other club information, including winter indoor 'nets', will be covered on the Club's Facebook page.

November 2024

Aunt Sally 2024

Mid March, half a dozen guys stood at the village hall bar and spoke about the possibility of having an Aunt Sally team at the Marcham Centre. This was just two weeks before the registration deadline, so it was agreed to put a poster up in the bar with the aim of getting twelve interested people, this being deemed the minimum necessary for a team of eight. A week later there was 25 signatories! Of this, at least 15 had never played the game before. A decision was made to enter two teams in the Abingdon Aunt Sally League, with fixtures taking place every Wednesday from early May until mid September. A 'home' game every week.

Aunt Sally is a local Oxfordshire-only pub game, the details of which I'll leave you to 'google'! The A team played its sixteen fixtures in 'E-section', finishing a respectable 4th, winning nine matches and losing seven. In simplistic terms each player throws a stick at a 'dolly', this being a wooden doll type figure on a piece of iron. You do really have to 'google' to fully understand! Each player throws six sticks, and at our level, six misses (a 'blob') is quite common. I explain that because it puts the stats into perspective.

In winning nine of its sixteen matches, the following players in the A team averaged decent scores and scored four 'dolls' (i.e. hit the doll with a stick) on some occasions.

Brian Boseley – Averaged 1.92, scoring four dolls on three occasions

Lee Hutton – Averaged 1.59, scoring four dolls on three occasions

Kieran Beesley – Averaged 1.58, without scoring over three dolls

Tom Ricketts – Averaged 1.46, scoring four dolls on three occasions

Tristan Barratt – Averaged 1.42, scoring four dolls on one occasion

Meanwhile the 'B' team finished a very respectable third in its 'F' section, winning eight matches, drawing one and losing seven.

Top scorers were:

Richard Wiltshire – Averaged 1.83, scoring four dolls on three occasions

Brett Phipps – Averaged 1.73, scoring four dolls on two occasions

Dan Boyle – Averaged 1.46, scoring four dolls on two occasions

Though both teams did very well for the first season, there were two major 'wins' in addition to the results. Those being getting people together, many participating in a fun pub game for the first time, meeting people they didn't previously know, and the other, visiting pubs and clubs which many of us hadn't visited before.


The Village Hall bar (Marcham Community Trading Company) supported the introduction of Aunt Sally by paying for all the new kit required. This was ably supported by the likes of Tom Ricketts, Harry Moore and Brian Harrow, using their technical expertise to build some of the kit required on a voluntary basis. Thanks to them, but the biggest thanks goes to Brian Boseley for pulling together all the kit required for two teams. No mean feat!

2025 season will start at the beginning of May. Marcham Community Trading Company (Directors Geoff Dix and Trevor Hill) will continue to financially support Aunt Sally, albeit the capital outlay of this year will not be needed next.

All new players will be welcomed next year, details will be made available in the spring.

Thanks to Dan Barnes and Trevor Hill for their help in the preparation of this report.

RICHARD OLIVER



Freegle
it's like online dating for stuff
Got stuff you don't need? Looking for something?
We'll match you with someone local
All completely free
ilovefreegle.org

SOCIAL & COMMUNITY



SAUNA AT THE FARM

A wild spa experience in the heart of Frilford, Oxon.

A secluded oasis with a wood fired sauna, hot tub, cold immersion tub, warm showers, changing facility, outdoor kitchen and bar. Available for rental for private events all year round.

Drop in Communal Sauna sessions available every week.

@saunaatthefarm



Vicky's After School Club

Playworker Vacancy for Breakfast and After School Club at Marcham C of E Primary School (can be split for part-time work or as job-share)

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 through play? This position would be to support the existing breakfast club team in preparing and serving breakfast as well as supporting the children's play before starting school in the morning.

Vicky's After School Clubs are privately owned and Vicky will ensure you receive the training you will need to succeed in your role and encourage you to be the best you can be. We are seeking an engaging, reliable, caring and enthusiastic Playworker to work with children between the ages of 4-11.

You will be working in a fun and engaging environment as part of a fantastic team.

Hours are: Breakfast: 7.30 – 8.45am Monday-Friday

After School Club: 2.45-5.45 pm Monday-Thursday (Term Time only)

Salary dependent on experience and qualifications.

Full training will be given

Minimum age 18 years (Ofsted requirement)

Please note that an enhanced DBS check will be undertaken as part of the recruitment process.

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

FOOD AND DRINK

Millets
FARM CENTRE



FIELD | FAMILY | FORK

Outstanding
Christmas Meat!

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

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

MERRY MILLER

COTHILL NR ABINGDON, OXFORDSHIRE OX13 6JW
01865 390390 EMAIL: INFO@MERRYMILLER.CO.UK



OPEN WEDNESDAYS FOR LUNCH

THURS - SUN FOR LUNCH & EVENING MEALS

SUNDAY CARVERY • A LA CARTE MENU • SPECIAL EVENINGS

LIGHTER LUNCH OPTIONS

PRIVATE PARTIES, CORPORATE EVENTS & FUNERALS CATERED FOR



Do you like reading MADNews?

We need to get a new team to keep MADNews going, with more people it is more likely that there will be another issue!

If you would like to have a chat about helping, email editor@madnews.co.uk and join in the decisions about how to keep it going.....



MARCHAM COMMUNITY GROUP AGM AND OPEN MEETING – THURSDAY 31ST OCTOBER

This is a late reminder that MCG, the charity running Marcham Centre under a long lease from Marcham Parish Council, is holding its AGM and Open Meeting at 7:30pm on Thursday 31st October in the Small Hall at Marcham Centre.

This is a good opportunity for local people and those new to Marcham to find out about how the facility is run and used, its finances and the way forward. Although only MCG members will be able to vote in the AGM part of the meeting, including the election of trustees, there will be a Q&A session open to everyone. This is a community facility, so please join us and let us know what you think and ideas you may have for how we can extend what we offer and the facilities we provide.

For those who are not yet members, we are keen to bring you on board and support us. Please use this QR code to download a membership form for 2024-25.



MCG Community Investment Fund (derived from the gift-aided profits from Marcham Community Trading, which operates the bar run by volunteers) is able to provide funds for other local groups. If your club or group activity needs support to further the interests of our community, please email admin@marcham.org for further details and a grant application form.

Events

- Friday 8th November: Quiz Night: Adults only 7:30 for 8pm prompt start.
- Friday 29th November: Family Bingo: Eyes down at 7:30pm.
- Indoor short-mat bowls at Marcham Centre: 2pm on Wednesdays. New bowlers will be welcomed.

Volunteers

We rely heavily on volunteers to run Marcham Centre, supporting hall operations, opening and locking the building, routine maintenance, organising events and volunteering to run the bar. We are looking for volunteers with finance experience to assist us with day to day book-keeping. We also have vacancies on the trustee board of Marcham Community Group and we are looking for people with some time available who may be interested in becoming a trustee.

Please contact jim.asher@btinternet.com, if you are able to help, even in what may seem like little ways - it could be making a real difference. What can **you** do to help?

If you wish to book a room at Marcham Centre, please use the booking request system on www.marchamcentre.org or contact our Coordinator: 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



Providing safe and supportive day care for people with dementia and respite for their carers



Scan Me

November Monthly News Blog

November is the month of Remembrance. On Remembrance Sunday there are many solemn ceremonies and services recalling the sacrifices made by so many for their country in times of war. Lest we forget is an oft-quoted phrase at this time of year from the famous author and poet Rudyard Kipling. For anyone who has been personally involved in conflict, they may not want to remember too much of what they went through.

Forgetting and not being able to recall events are both part of the condition of dementia - even the pleasant and happy memories of the past. It is so important that those with dementia have the opportunity to experience rewarding and joyful moments in the present. Kennington Memory Club Day Centre aims to provide these for its members. On Mondays and Thursdays the Day Centre sessions are filled with fun, laughter, games, music and reminiscences. There is also the important aspect of respite for carers on those days..

If you'd like to know more about the Club and Day Centre for people who are living with dementia, or to arrange for someone to come along for a visit or a free taster day, email the Club Organiser Kay organiser@kenningtonmemoryclub.org.uk or phone her on 07852 883496. If the phone is not answered straight away, please do leave a message and she will always get back to you very shortly. More information can also be found on the website www.kenningtonmemoryclub.org.uk. We look forward to welcoming you to the Club.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Following the very successful Quiz Night held at The Vine pub in Cumnor in aid of Kennington Memory Club earlier in the year, this is to be repeated in November.

QUIZ NIGHT in support of Kennington Memory Club

When: Sunday 10th November, 7.30pm

Where: The Vine Inn, 11 Abingdon Road, Cumnor, OX2 9QN

This is the Vine's monthly Sunday evening charity quiz in aid of local groups and they've kindly agreed to run this one in aid of KMC again. You, family and friends are invited to come along for a fun evening. If you need encouragement - there will be a £50 prize for the winning table, plus several raffle prizes. Raffle tickets cost £5 a strip. There is plenty of parking in the car park. The important information: Tables are for teams of 2, 3 or 4 people and entry costs £2/person. Tables should be booked directly with The Vine, by calling the publican Richard on 07749 233450 or the pub during opening hours on 01865 862567.

Isobel Birse *Chairman, Kennington Memory Club*

Abingdon Drama Club are proud to present

A Christmas Carol
by Charles Dickens

Adapted by David Edgar
Directed by Susi Dalton



Unicorn Theatre Abingdon

Wednesday 27th to Saturday 30th November 7.30pm plus 2.30pm matinee on the 30th November.

Tickets: £12, £10 concessions (60+, Under 12s, students, ADC members)

Group Bookings: Groups of 10 and over – All tickets £10 (£10.60 when booked online – just select the concession rate ticket and choose the number you require). Please let us know if you have any problems with your booking.

Tickets available from:

The Bookstore, The Abingdon Precinct (15 Bury Street), Abingdon or online at

Website: www.abingdon-drama-club.com

Email: enquiries@abingdon-drama-club.com

Time to try a different type of exercise?

Zumba classes at Marcham Centre
Thursday Nights
18.30 – 19.30



files
to book a place or just come along

email gill.malloy@yahoo.co.uk

To check eligibility and register for the Home Library Service or for further information call 01865 810259 or email homelibraryservice@oxfordshire.gov.uk

This library comes to you.



Home library service.



QUIZ Night

Are you ready for a night of trivia and fun?
Join us for a fundraising Quiz Night! All proceeds going to Citizens Advice Oxfordshire South & Vale.

£10 a ticket
Teams up to 6 people
Food available to purchase from the food truck

THURSDAY 21ST NOVEMBER

Opens at 6.30pm to start at 7.00pm.
Loose Cannon Brewery
Suffolk Way, Abingdon
OX14 5JX

Email: sara.rivera@citizensadviceosav.org.uk

Don't forget about 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.**



VISITORS COMING OR THINKING OF 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](http://www.bnb-rafters.co.uk)

Join us and discover
a place to relax

Town Furlong Cattery



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

ALL SAINTS' & ST. LUKES CHURCHES

www.marcham-with-garford.org.uk



*** Booking required ***
Limited Spaces

Christmas Craft Morning
Saturday 30th November
9.30am-11.00am *OR* 11.30am-1pm

All Saints' Church, Marcham
Hot drinks and festive treats provided - Donations towards cost on the day
Scan the QR code now to and secure your session and your craft.



There will be Remembrance services on **Sunday 10th November in Marcham starting at 10am at All Saints Church and concluding at the wayside cross at 11am**, and in **Garford at the village war memorial at 12 noon**. All are welcome to these important annual commemorations as we remember the sacrifice and service of parishioners past.

“Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.” (John 15:13) It’s one of the most well-known of Jesus’ phrases, and it is often quoted at this time of year. They are familiar but surprising words. You would have thought that love between lovers would be the greatest love, but according to Jesus it is love between friends that is uppermost. That is wonderfully inclusive. If we will reach out in friendship to those around us, then open to all is the best possible form of human love. He goes on to say to his followers, “I no longer call you servants... instead, I have called you friends.” It is one of the many amazing things about knowing God through Jesus – we can be friends with the author of life, the one who would lay down his life for his friends. As we commemorate again those who laid down their lives in past wars, we remember that their sacrifice is an echo of the greatest sacrifice made by Christ for all his friends. So maybe this season could also be time to consider our present friendships; with God, if we so desire one with him; with those around us here in our parishes; or perhaps with people far away whose friendship has meant the world to us in times past but now seems distant. On Remembrance Sunday, as we connect with friends past whose sacrifice we treasure, let us reconnect with friends present too. They need our sacrificial love, our greatest love, and we theirs. Above all, let us connect with the greatest Friend and the greatest Love of all... Jesus.

Regular Sunday services

10.30am: Morning Service at AS
6pm: Evening Service

Wednesday Holy Communion
10.30am at Duffield Place

Contacts:

Rev. Nick Weldon *Vicar* vicar@allsaintsmarcham.org **01865 391962**

Rob Finch *Youth Worker* youth@allsaintsmarcham.org

Jill Rowe *Children and Families minister* families@allsaintsmarcham.org

Tamsin Gilbert *Parish Administrator* info@allsaintsmarcham.org

**Nov 3rd -
All-age
service
at MCC
10.30am**

St. Luke's is open for quiet prayer 11am-12pm on Sundays with no morning service.

Sunday 3 November, 10.30am Patronal Service - Rev'd M. Dilly. The Patronal Service will begin at 11.00am, preceded at 10.30am by a prayer and dedication of the church bell which was restored and re-hung earlier this year. Parishioners, and especially children, will then be very welcome to ring the bell to announce the 11.00am service.

Sunday 10 November, 12.00 noon Remembrance Service, Garford War Memorial

Sunday 1 December, 6pm Advent Carol Service - Rev'd O. Graham

News from St. Luke's

The choir has continued to thrive and grow under the stewardship of Ben Skipp, introducing thoughtfully selected, beautiful pieces of sacred music to support the services at St. Luke's. Songs of Praise on 6th October focused on praise and thanksgiving through the music, hymns and readings. Choir members also

enjoyed a social evening with croquet (many thanks to Tony and Pam for hosting) to mark the end of summer and rejuvenate for a busy season of services – we would love to welcome you to one at St. Luke's.

Contact: Carolyn Whiting st.lukes@allsaintsmarcham.org



DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

RESERVOIR

As mentioned in my MAD News column last month, Thames Water published a draft Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report for consultation. The Vale responded and raised several concerns, but two these we felt to be so worrying that I also proposed a cross-party motion at all council on 23rd October. Firstly, TW appears to believe that it can “design out all credible and significant embankment failure modes”, i.e., that its design is so perfect that the reservoir embankments could never fail and so they do not need to bother (publicly) assessing the risk of this happening or planning for how to respond if it did. I don't think I need to spell out how devastating an embankment failure could be to the local area, potentially including Marcham. Secondly, TW accepts that they would need to be able to lower the water level by 1m per day in the event of an emergency, and that this could lead to flooding along the Thames valley (the discharge rate would be about 75 m3 per second, which is similar to – and might be in addition to - a typical winter flood). However, by law they do not need to assess this risk and plan for its mitigation until they want to fill the reservoir, rather than before they start building it. What would be the point of building it if they cannot fill it? We are therefore calling on TW to address both of these major concerns and on government to support us in this.

FOOD TRUCKS AT PUBS

Another previously discussed topic: the Vale's licensing of food trucks operating from the car park of The Crown in Marcham (and other sites across the district). The new draft Joint Street Trading Policy is currently out for consultation and I'm please to report that it contains a section on “Multiple site traders” specifically aimed to simplify the process for venues such as The Crown. Resident are welcome to respond online at www.southandvale.gov.uk/StreetTrading until the 26th November.

SHEEPSTEAD ROAD FOOTPATH

Many Marcham residents have been in touch with concerns about the footpath along Sheepstead Rd, which has been extended north to the junction with Cow Lane. Pye Homes carried out this work as part of the Davies Edge housing development and, in principle, I am fully supportive of it. The concern, however, comes from the reduced width of the roadway, particularly since it lies on the inside of a corner bend. Pye Homes and the Oxfordshire County Council Highways team are aware of the concerns, and I will continue to work with Cllr Peter Stevens, the Parish Council, and others to get this resolved somehow.

DR ROBERT CLEGG

District Councillor for Marcham Ward
Phone: 07784225290 or robert.clegg@whitehorsedc.gov.uk



COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Work has now started on building the new slip roads onto the A34 at Lodge Hill Interchange north of Abingdon so traffic can go both ways. Before building, they check for archaeology, and the archaeologists have indeed uncovered evidence of ancient river systems and early human life half a million years ago. Worked flints were found, probably from the Neolithic to Bronze Age periods, along with quantities of Roman pottery and medieval tile fragments. These flint tools give an insight into the mobility of these ancient humans, since flint raw material would not have been available locally. The human species involved was probably *Homo heidelbergensis*, ancestors of the Neanderthals, who periodically occupied Britain in warmer climatic episodes between c. 800,000 and 400,000 years ago.

These days we need to recycle old stuff rather than throw away. I am pleased to say Oxfordshire has a 57.2 per cent recycling and composting rate, making our residents the best in England for 10 years in a row. This year's annual Recycle Week theme is 'Rescue Me, Recycle'. Around half of the average rubbish bin is made up of items that could have been recycled. So, the ask is for people to

look for things that could be recycled (like old aerosol cans or any plastic) and put them in the recycling. Please see if you can.

Now that autumn is with us, the county's Tree Service are starting their annual planting, so look out for new trees across highway network, which help both bio-diversity and climate change.

On roads, there is often dissatisfaction over the regular traffic queues on the Sutton Courtenay – Culham bridge, so I have investigated improving the flow rates – letting more traffic flow north during the morning rush hour and south for the evening rush. An Engineer has checked the operation of the signals and found them to be working correctly without any current faults. I can confirm the site does run VA (vehicle actuated) mode so the lights will stay green longer when there are more vehicles detected on the approaches to the signals. The maximum available green times have been set to allow for more flow northbound during the morning peak and then more southbound during the evening peak. They will continue to monitor but the current timings are the best achievable at this location for now.

Last month saw historic levels of rain. We were hit with more than a month's worth of rainfall in the space of 36 hours, which created many localised flash floods, and general flood levels rise to heights not normally seen until late winter. Climate change means that for some time now this country has been seeing more intense spells of rain and increased instances of flooding. None of the issues are Oxfordshire specific – all of our neighbouring areas have experienced the same incredibly difficult impacts this week. Indeed, drainage systems across the UK and Europe were overwhelmed by extreme rainfall last month. Unfortunately, this has been compounded by underinvestment by water companies. To help, Oxfordshire County Council, have diverted extra funding to flood prevention, and there is a national programme funding flood defences.

We know that climate change is accelerating, and this will get worse for at least 30 years while we get to net zero emissions. Even if it were possible or affordable, replacing all of our drainage pipes with bigger ones, won't work when a month's rain can fall in a day. We need to work out with every local landscape, how you hold back rainwater wherever it lands, slowing down the rate at which it hits or flows down our streets, flooding rivers and highways. We need to look at smarter 'water farming' practices, putting trees and other water holding measures on hillsides, and breaking up impermeable paved areas in villages, towns and cities. Fortunately, all of these can also make better places to live and work, and protect against air pollution and other weather extremes like heat, and gales. It is going to be a long term thing.

If residents or businesses are in a flood risk area, they can access the council web site's flooding toolkit (www.oxfordshirefloodtoolkit.com), which provides advice and support, including on preparing for instances of flooding. Residents can call the Environment Agency's flooding hotline for advice and support at any time on 0345 988 1188. **NB. Please avoid driving through flood water, as just 30cm of flowing water is enough to lift and move a car.**

We continue to feed into Thames Water's strategic water management plans which includes a massive new reservoir to serve the South East called SESRO. If this reservoir was overwhelmed during flooding, it could double the worst floods we see. This risk needs to be addressed and mitigated properly. There are several other issues which I have fed into the consultations for Thames Water to address ahead of building SESRO, including:

- Sewage discharge – Thames Water must prioritise stopping this first, and along with stopping spills, better waste treatment means recycling more
- Recycling water – if we matched what Los Angeles and Australia already achieve, we would not need SESRO
- Fixing leaks – if we stopped losing so much water, apparently, we could save more water than SESRO would provide
- Transport water from areas of oversupply – it would be more environmentally friendly to transport excess water from wetter areas in the UK to London than build a reservoir that would take years to build and fill and may struggle to keep filled if the South East does continue to get drier
- Turbid flood water - currently large amounts of flood water go to waste - strategy should be developed to manage turbid flood water, and treat it for consumption ahead of new reservoirs, as

this would also help alleviate local flood levels.

- Use local gravel pits first - Thames Water should take the water held in local gravel pits and use these first ahead of building new reservoirs. Given the ongoing strategic need for gravel extraction, there is a plentiful supply of gravel pits for water reservoirs.
- Focus on grey water – a lot of water is never drunk – by enabling businesses and homes to use rain and grey water locally collected – would reduce demand for clean tap water, and reduce demand for new reservoirs. Strategically, Thames Water should help develop local grey water suppliers, rather than making everything drinkable.
- We are also concerned about the impact of construction and ongoing operations for local villages and those downstream of it

Lastly, the new Joint Local Plan is now for open for public consultation. The plan identifies just one major redevelopment – the brownfield site of Dalton Barracks on Abingdon Airfield – as we believe enough house-building has already been authorised to meet central government targets. The rest of the plan focuses on driving better standards for house building and better places to live.

With that ambition for building better places to live, I sign off for this month – Enjoy the Autumn

PETER STEVENS

County Councillor for Sutton Courtenay & Marcham
peter.stevens@oxfordshire.gov.uk



**OTHER REPRESENTATIVES
DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

Frilford Garford Jill Rayner jill.rayner@whitehorsedc.gov.uk
Tubney Mark Coleman mark.coleman@whitehorsedc.gov.uk

COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Frilford Garford Juliette Ash juliette.ash@oxfordshire.gov.uk

MPS

OxW & Abingdon Layla Moran layla.moran.mp@parliament.uk
Frilford Garford Charlie Maynard charlie.maynard.mp@parliament.uk

RESERVOIR NEWS

**An essential new reservoir for the South East
Progress Update**

Thanks to everyone who participated in our summer 2024 public consultation on the new reservoir proposals. We received over 1,500 responses and more than 1,200 people joined our community events.

In August 2024, we secured government approval for our Water Resource Management Plan which sets out the action and investment needed to make sure your water supply is resilient and sustainable for the next 50 years and beyond. To inform our design plans, work has now begun on geological surveys, including a clay compaction trial on the proposed reservoir site.

You can discover more on our progress by visiting: thames-sro.co.uk/sesro.



**The Great Green Tomato
Chutney Adventure**

The humble green tomato, that you pick off your plants out in the garden at the end of the year. Often overlooked, sometimes mistaken for a rogue apple, and usually left to ripen into its more popular red counterpart. But what if I told you that these unripe green gems could be the star of your next culinary escapade? Yes, we're talking about making chutney with green tomatoes. Buckle up, because this is going to be one tangy ride! If the season has already passed for this escape, consider doing it next autumn.

Step 1: The Tomato Hunt

First things first, you need to gather your green tomatoes. This might involve a stealthy raid on your neighbour's garden or a dramatic rescue mission from your own tomato plants. Picture yourself as Indiana Jones, but instead of a whip, you're armed with a colander.

Step 2: The Chop Shop

Once you've secured your green bounty, it's time to chop. And chop. And chop some more. Green tomatoes are notoriously firm, so this step doubles as a workout. Who needs a gym membership when you have a pile of green tomatoes to dice? Just be careful not to lose a finger in the process – we want chutney, not a horror movie.

Step 3: The Spice of Life

Now comes the fun part: spices. Think of yourself as a mad scientist in the kitchen. A pinch of this, a dash of that. Mustard seeds, cumin, coriander, and maybe a hint of chilli for those who like to live dangerously. Remember, there's no such thing as too much garlic – unless you're planning to kiss someone later.

Step 4: The Simmering Saga

Combine your chopped tomatoes and spices in a pot and let them simmer. This is where the magic happens. As the mixture bubbles away, your kitchen will be filled with an aroma so divine, even your cat will be impressed. Just don't forget to stir occasionally – burnt chutney is a tragedy no one should endure.

Step 5: The Taste Test

After what feels like an eternity (but is probably just an hour), your chutney is ready. Now comes the moment of truth: the taste test. Grab a spoon and dive in. If it makes your taste buds do a happy dance, congratulations! You've just made green tomato chutney. If not, well, there's always ketchup.

Step 6: The Grand Finale

Finally, jar up your chutney and admire your handiwork. You've turned those unripe, unloved green tomatoes into a tangy, spicy masterpiece. Serve it with cheese, slather it on sandwiches, or just eat it straight from the jar – no judgment here.

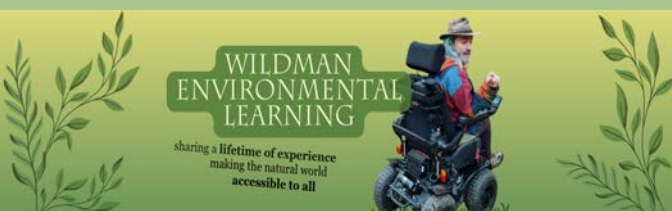
So there you have it, folks. Making chutney with green tomatoes is not just a recipe, it's an adventure. And who knows? You might just start a new trend. Move over, red tomatoes – green is the new black.

Happy Gardening!

Stuart Mabbutt

01865 747243

www.wildmaninspires.co.uk



NOVEMBER 2024

The number in brackets refers to the page number where you can find more details
 Abbreviations:
 AS All Saints' Church, Marcham, SL St Luke's Church, Garford
 DP Duffield Place, MC Marcham Centre

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 MC All-age Service 10.30am (17) SL Patronal Service 10.30am (17) AS Evening Service 6pm (17)	4 MC Bridge 6.50pm	5 Christmas stamps go on sale Marcham School Open Morning 9.30am (10)	6 MC Thirsty Café Stay & Play 9-11.30am (5) DP Holy Communion 10.30am (17) MC Short-mat Bowls 2pm (15)	7 Marcham Society / Midweek Walk 12.30pm (9) Milletts Farm Classic car meet 9.30am-noon	8 MC Quiz Night 7.30pm for 8pm start (15)	MC Thirsty Café CLOSED (5)
10 AS Remembrance Service, 10.00am (17) Remembrance Service, Garford 12.00 (17) AS Evening Service 6pm (17) Kennington Quiz Night 7.30pm (15)	11 MC Bridge 6.50pm MC Marcham Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm (3)	12 Joint local plan consultation ends (3)	13 MC Thirsty Café SEND Session 9-11.30am (5) DP Holy Communion 10.30am (17) MC Short-mat Bowls 2pm (15)	14 MC Astronomy Group 7pm (9)	15	16 MC Thirsty Café 9-11.30am (5) MC Christmas Craft and Gift Fair, 2-4.30pm (11)
17 AS Morning Service 10.30am (17) AS Evening Service 6pm (17)	18 MC Bridge 6.50pm MC Marcham WI 7.30pm (9)	19 MADNEWS DEADLINE 5PM FOR NEXT ISSUE	20 MC Thirsty Café 9-11.30am (5) DP Holy Communion 10.30am (17) MC Community Lunch 12-2pm (13) MC Short-mat Bowls 2pm (15) Arts Society Abingdon 10.30am & 2pm (9)	21 CA Quiz Night 6.30pm (16)	22	23 MC Thirsty Café 9-11.30am (5) CRUK Bazaar Hanney WMH 10am- 2pm (11)
24 AS Service 10.30am (17) AS Evening Service 6pm (17)	25 MC Bridge 6.50pm MC Marcham Society Meeting 7.15pm (9)	26 Street Trading Consultation Ends (3)	27 MC Thirsty Café 9-11.30am (5) DP Holy Communion 10.30am (17) MC Short-mat Bowls 2pm (15)	28 27-30 7.30pm Christmas Carol, Unicom Theatre (15)	29 MC Bingo 7.30pm (15)	30 MC Thirsty Café 9-11.30am (5) AS Christmas Craft Morning 9.30- 11am / 11.30am-1pm AS (17) 2.30pm Christmas Carol, Unicom Theatre (15)

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