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January 2025 Vol 47 No. 1

Your Independent Local News Source



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This month's cover photo
Long-tailed Tit
photo by Phil Robson on Unsplash.com

Dear Readers

Happy New Year!

Until next time...

**TEMPORARY
PUBLISHER /
EDITOR**

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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.

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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

January 2025

MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

CHRISTMAS – VILLAGE GREEN

A very big thank you goes again to Andrew MacLean, of AD MacLean Tree Management Ltd of Kingston Rd Frilford <http://www.admtrees.co.uk/> for the very kind donation of the Christmas tree on the village green. A big thank you also, to the Parish Councillors and residents who helped erect it and decorate it. Unfortunately the tree became a victim of the strong wind in early December, but was erected again. The Council is very grateful to Andrew for his generosity, and to all those who have helped.

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING

Real Christmas trees for recycling can be taken to **Millets Farm by Saturday 11th January, 2025**, or left on the hardstanding by the Salvation Army textile bank in Howard Cornish Road – opposite Duffield Place, by Tuesday 14th January in order to meet the collection dates. If taking your tree to the Howard Cornish Road location, please do not obstruct the textile bank, or the bus stop area. Also please do not leave your tree after this date, as it will not be collected, and will be regarded as fly tipping.

ALLOTMENTS (COW LANE/PARKSIDE)

If you have an allotment you are reminded that allotment rent collection for the 24/25 financial year is taking place. Thank you to those who have paid promptly, but for those who have not yet paid, please transfer the sum due to the Council's bank account (details in the letter sent out, or available from the clerk if needed), or let the Clerk have a cheque payable to Marcham Parish Council. Those in arrears with rent, or found not to be utilising their plot, could lose it by the service of a Notice to Quit.

COUNCIL TAX 2025/26

The Parish Council held an additional meeting on Wednesday 18th December 2024 to carefully consider the budget for 2025/26. Once finalised, the Council will set the amount of council tax that comes to the parish from the total amount paid by residents to the Vale of White Horse District Council.

CASUAL VACANCIES

Casual vacancies exist on the Parish Council. The Council is a tier of government closest to the community, and is the first contact point for anyone with concerns or ideas. It represents the community, delivers some local services, and strives to improve the area for all who live here. Help is needed to represent the area. Please speak to a local councillor or attend a Council meeting to find out more about what is involved.

DALTON BARRACKS DEVELOPMENT

The former airfield is no longer required for military purposes and the Defence Infrastructure Organisation, part of the MOD, is working on proposals to bring forward a new development at Dalton Barracks. Information is available at daltonbarracks.com. Plans are at the very early stage of what will be a long-term, phased project, resulting in a garden village. The intention is to provide a vibrant, diverse area, and not create a dormitory

commuter area. The public have been invited to put forward ideas, suggestions and comments, all which can influence the future design. Feedback is important for the preparation of the comprehensive site wide masterplan and the development of the outline planning application for phase I. The Parish Council would encourage you to complete the survey form under Have Your Say at daltonbarracks.com and take up the opportunity to respond to the consultation. Please make your thoughts known.

SCHOOL ADMISSIONS SEPT 2025

If you are a parent or carer of a child 3 or 4 years old then you need to apply for a primary school place now. This is for children born between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021 (inclusive). You still have to apply even if your child already attends a nursery attached to your preferred school. For further information and to apply online go to Apply for a school place | Oxfordshire County Council. The closing date for applications is 15th January, 2025.

PARISHIONER OF THE YEAR AWARD – MARCHAM PARISH

The Council is again inviting nominations for the Parishioner of the Year Award. The award is given to a local person or persons, group or organization, who have devoted much time and energy volunteering within the community, and helping create the community that we all enjoy. There are many people and groups who would be worthy recipients, so if you have someone in mind, then please contact the clerk, whose details appear below, and send a short statement of not more than 200 words, as to the reasons why the person or group should receive the award.

NEIGHBOURS

As we continue through winter, please give a thought for your neighbours, particularly the elderly and those without transport. Bad weather can bring chaos to businesses, travel delays, school closures etc, but also affects those who are unable to get out. Do please check on your neighbours, make sure they are all right, and see whether they need assistance with anything.

ADDITIONAL RUBBISH

Christmas is a time when we seem to accumulate extra packaging and items for the recycling bin. Please take note of the re arranged collection days over the holiday period.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There were no applications this month.

DATE OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

The next scheduled meeting of the Parish Council is Monday 13th January at 7.30p.m. in the village hall. **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

**The Council wishes everyone
a happy new year**

MADNews is online: www.madnews.co.uk

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December 2024 was a busy month for Thirsty Café and our last session was on Saturday 21st December and everyone was encouraged to wear their Christmas jumper. Earlier in the month we celebrated our 4th birthday and enjoyed a birthday cake and music. We also held a competition to guess how many bacon butties we had sold since we opened in December 2020. The winner of the special hamper was Adam Grady who had the nearest number of 3,539 bacon butties. That is about 389 kgs of bacon or about 43 pigs worth! In case you were curious like us, if you include combinations of bacon with egg and/or sausage we have sold over 7,105 butties over the four years.



Adam Grady receiving his hamper and the musicians who entertained us all on our birthday

We continue to be open on Wednesdays and Saturdays at the Marcham Centre from 9-11.30am (with last orders at 11.15). Please follow us on Facebook at Thirsty Café Marcham www.facebook.com/thirstycafemarcham and you will be able to see what we are doing each week.

As we start 2025 it is an opportunity to give a big thank you to everyone who has come and had a cuppa and food with us – we really appreciate you supporting us. We also give a BIG SHOUT OUT to our team of wonderful volunteers who make our pop-up café a success. If you would like to chat about becoming a volunteer, please email us hello@thirstycafemarcham.co.uk and Ruth, our new administrator will get in touch with you.

Dates for January 2025

- Re-open on Saturday 11th
- Wednesdays 15th, 22nd and 29th
- Saturdays 11th, 18th and 25th
- Community lunch: Wednesday 15th

Thirsty pop-up café is open Wednesday and Saturday, 9-11:30am, last orders 11.15

Website: www.thirstycafemarcham.co.uk

E-mail: hello@thirstycafemarcham.co.uk

The Music At The Unicorn (MATU) 2025 programme of acts is....



- The Rosellys – 16th January
- Phil Beer – 13th February
- Mishra – 20th March
- Sound of the Sirens – 3rd April
- The Salts – 1st May
- Iona Lane – 12th June
- Roswell – 4th September
- The Lost Trades -16th October
- Chris Fox – 6th November
- Knight & Spiers - 20th November
- IOTA – 4th December

www.musicattheunicorn.org.uk



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Trinity Church, Abingdon
Tickets £15 / £25

mostly BOOKS

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Tickets (£15, or £25 including the book) are available from the shop, or online: <https://mostly-books.co.uk/event/an-evening-with-jojo-moyes/>

Bank Holiday 2024/25
Waste Collection Changes

~~Wed 1 Jan~~ **Friday 3 Jan**

~~Wed 8 Jan~~ **Thursday 9 Jan**

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Pledge to make a difference this year

The arrival of a new year often means a time of reflection. For many they think about what they would like the next 12 months to bring and what changes they can introduce. Volunteering is often a popular choice and one that can be tailored completely to your skillset, experience, interests and commitments.

Whether you have a little or a lot of time to offer, charities are delighted to welcome volunteers from all walks of life.

The best place to start is the Oxon Volunteers website. This hub for volunteering vacancies enables you to search by distance from your home to find very local opportunities and remote, homebased ones: <https://oxonvolunteers.org/>

Volunteers Needed to Support Our Community

Our village flourishes thanks to the incredible energy and dedication of our volunteers. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has generously given their time and effort over the years. Whether it's supporting the Parish Council, joining working groups, organizing local events, or lending a hand at Thirsty Café and The Community Centre, our volunteers are the heartbeat of our community.

To keep these wonderful activities alive, we need more volunteers. If you're interested in local governance, or projects like MADNews, footpaths, or Speedwatch, or if you have new ideas to suggest, there's a role waiting for you. Volunteering is vital and deeply rewarding. It's a fantastic way to meet new people, learn new skills, and make a real difference in our village.

If you're keen to volunteer or want to learn more about getting involved, please speak to 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 significant impact.

Thank you to all our volunteers, past and present – your help is the reason our community is such a good place to live.

marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk



Age UK Oxfordshire's Homeshare Service

carefully brings together an older person (or couple) who would benefit from companionship or practical support at home, with another person (usually a professional, a keyworker or a mature student) who is happy to lend a helping hand and who is seeking affordable accommodation.



In this safe and mutually beneficial living arrangement, the Householder provides a spare room in a welcoming home and, in return, can expect around 10 hours of help each week as a combination of companionship

and practical support. The reassuring presence of another person in the house overnight also brings peace of mind.

Each Homeshare match is individual and carefully agreed and may include any of the following - cooking, shopping, gardening, help with technology and mobile phones, along with time spent together over a cup of tea or a maybe an evening meal. The occasional lift, trip or excursion might also form part of the agreement. A Homeshare arrangement does not involve any personal care but can sometimes sit quite comfortably alongside care provision from elsewhere.

Monthly fees are payable to Age UK Oxfordshire by both Householder and Sharer and cover the costs of the safety checks, the setting up and facilitation of the match, and the provision of regular, ongoing in-person support.

Homeshare Oxfordshire is the local Homeshare provider for Oxfordshire, offering a personal, face to face service and providing ongoing contact and support for the duration of the Homeshare arrangement.

To find out more please contact Homeshare Oxfordshire
Phone: 01865 410670

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Visit: <http://www.homeshareoxfordshire.org.uk/>

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Monday – Friday: 0830-1700

Saturday: 0830-1200

Sundays &

Bank Holidays: Closed

To all our lovely customers, volunteers and staff:
We hope that you had a peaceful
and enjoyable festive break.
Welcome to 2025, and we look forward
to seeing you again in the Shop very soon



Thank you and congratulations to all the under 10's who took part in the Naughty Elf quiz. Note that you will receive a prize if you've correctly completed the quiz and handed it in over the shop counter by Monday 6 January – Good Luck!

Thank you also to Tracy again for the fabulous Christmas window display – we have received lots of extremely favourable comments and

we're very grateful for her continued support.

Christmas is now over and the slump of January is upon us, so... what's your New Year's resolution? Join a class and start a new activity at Marcham Centre? Volunteer in the village? Eat and drink more sensibly and plan some nice things to look forward to for the year ahead? To aid with the health kick, we have some low-fat energy bars, healthy drinks, gluten-free products and more at reasonable prices!

We hope that you enjoyed the lovely seasonal gift ideas that we had in stock – watch this space as we will soon be stocking Valentine's gifts, followed by Mother's Day and Easter. You will struggle to find some of our special gifts elsewhere!

Dates to remember:

Burns Night – Saturday 25 January
2025

Chinese New Year (Year of the Earth
Snake) – Wednesday 29 January 2025



Don't forget, that in addition to your traditional groceries, you can get a hot drink & cake for just £2, alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks, locally produced products, Hedges meats to order, fabulous gift ideas and of course the service of our wonderful

Post Office – all provided on a completely voluntary basis.

Thank you for supporting your local Village Shop and Post Office. We are always open to additional support – you could become a **shareholder**. Shares cost £10 each and include an invitation to the Annual General Meeting where you will meet the Committee Members, hear how the shop is managing and have your say. Ask in the shop for further information and pick up a shareholder form.

New Year Opening Hours

Wednesday 1 January 2025 – CLOSED

Tuesday 2 January – 08:30-17:00

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MARCHAM WI

Monday 20th January

7.30pm at Marcham Centre

Zumba with Gill



Feeling those post Festive, January winter blues? Come along to get those feet tapping with a Zumba taster with Gill!



No experience (or co-ordination!) needed

All abilities welcome

Visitors always welcome

marchamwi@oxfordshirewi.co.uk



Fungi of Oxfordshire's Golden Triangle a review

Judy Webb began her fascinating talk on "Fungi of Oxfordshire's Golden Triangle" by explaining that the term had been coined because of the number of rare plants, not just fungi, found in the sandy heaths around Frilford and Cothill. She stressed the importance of fungi in recycling nutrients – without them leaves would just lie on the surface smothering new growth and the chemicals in them would be locked there and unavailable to other plants.

Judy explained that the bit of the fungus seen above ground is the fruiting body, usually produced in the autumn. The bulk of the fungus lives underground and consists of fine threads known as mycelia. One of the largest plants in the world is 9km of mycelia in a National Park in Oregon.

Plants with small seeds such as orchids also need fungi to feed them until they can develop leaves and photosynthesise, food then travels in the opposite direction as the plants feed the fungus. Gardeners can buy mycelium to add to the soil when planting shrubs to help their root systems establish.

Before going hunting for fungi Judy stressed the need to be able to identify which species are poisonous, though she pointed out that touching the fungi wasn't dangerous but eating even half a death cap toadstool (*Amanita phalloides*) was enough to kill an adult. Identification is aided by smell, discolouration on being cut and also by creating a spore print, leaving a toadstool cap lying on paper overnight as different species produce different colour spores. She also told us about the importance of fungi to forensic science, citing a case of badger baiting where the earth from a suspect's boots contained spores of truffles, a woodland species and a great favourite with badgers, not likely to be found in fields apart from near badger setts, not conclusive proof but one more piece of evidence.

Judy illustrated her talks with lots of super photos and also brought along a wide range of specimens for us to see, touch and smell. I always think an interesting talk generates lots of questions and this one certainly did that. **SHEILA DUNFORD**

Judy Webb gave her talk to Marcham Society on 28th October January 2025



The
Marcham
Society

The Midweek Walk

will be on Thursday 9th January

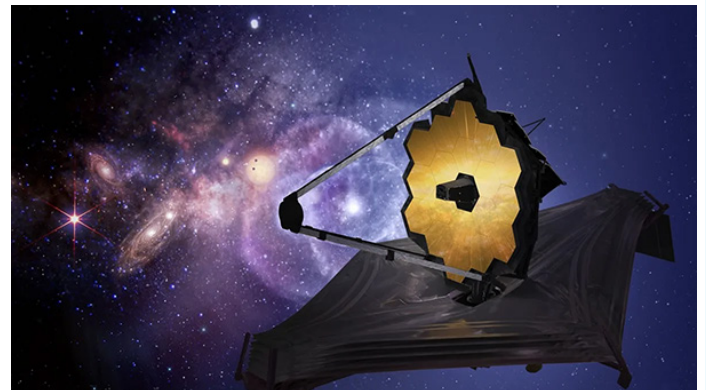
For more details contact

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The Astronomy Group

Thursday 16th January 2025 at 7pm

Small Hall, Marcham Centre, Barrow Close, OX13 6TY



Artist's impression of the fully deployed JWST (© NASA)

A round-up of astronomy sightings during December, followed by *What the James Webb Space Telescope is teaching us about galaxies*, a talk by **Professor Andy Bunker**

THE ANNUAL LECTURE

"World Youth Service and Enterprise Charity"

Andrew McDowell

Monday 27th January 2025 at 7.15 for 7.45pm

Main Hall, Marcham Centre, Barrow Close, OX13 6TY

In this year's Annual Lecture, Andrew McDowell will talk about his role with WYSE International, describing the rationale for the work, the activities of the charity, and some examples of its work to support emerging leaders around the world for positive global change.



www.wyse-ngo.org

Andrew is a Psychologist, Coach and Leadership professional with more than 30 years experience working in the private, public and humanitarian sectors. He is also the pro-bono CEO of WYSE International, a global leadership charity that is affiliated with the United Nations. Andrew and his family are recent arrivals to the Marcham community.

Members free of charge, Guests welcome at £5

For more information contact

membership@marchamsociety.org.uk

www.marchamsociety.org.uk

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

MARCHAM PRE-SCHOOL

November saw the pre-school exploring all things Scottish...



We held our own Highland Games accompanied by bagpipes music, there were events including tossing the caber, hammer throw and a tug of war, which the children loved! We thought about what we thought the Loch Ness Monster might look like... and made our own "That's not my Nessie" book which everyone was very proud of. Check out our Facebook page to view our book. <https://www.facebook.com/marchampreschool>



We wish all our families and MADNEWS readers a wonderful 2025.

If you are interested in your child joining Marcham Pre-school (from age 2), please email your details to marcham-preschool@hotmail.co.uk and I will be in touch. Admissions will be finalised in February... And spaces are filling fast!

Nicky Sanford
Early Years Teacher
Marcham Pre-school
01865 392101
www.marcham-preschool.weebly.com



This December has been truly magical at Marcham Little Angels, filled with celebrations, joy, and festive cheer!

We started the month by honouring our incredible team at our annual **Little Angels Awards Ball**, a special evening to celebrate the hard work and dedication of our amazing staff. A special Recognition Award was given to the wonderful **Amy Burfitt**, who has been with us for an incredible 10 years. We celebrated her outstanding contributions and the incredible progress she has made – well done, Amy!



Our festivities continued with a beautiful **Nativity at All Saints Church**, Marcham, where our little angels stole the show. Dressed in their delightful costumes, they retold the story of Christmas with heartwarming songs and performances that truly brought the festive spirit to life.



Next, we hosted our **Christmas Party**, complete with a very special visit from Santa himself! Every child received a lovingly handmade knitted angel from our amazing Marcham Elves – such a thoughtful keepsake! The children then tucked into a delicious Christmas dinner, followed by dancing and singing to their favourite Christmas tunes. The joy and laughter were infectious!



This year has been truly incredible for us. Alongside creating so many wonderful memories, we also reached a huge milestone by opening our second nursery setting in Southmoor. It's been a year of growth, love, and happiness, shared with all our little angels and their families.

As we reflect on a fantastic 2024, we want to wish all of you a very Happy New Year! Thank you for being a part of our journey – we can't wait to see what 2025 has in store for us.

**With love and festive cheer,
The Marcham Little Angels Team**

For more information:
T: 01865 819992
E: info@littleangelschildcaregroup.co.uk
W: www.littleangelschildcaregroup.co.uk
Facebook @MarchamLittleAngels
Instagram @Little_Angels_Childcare_Group

The Arts Society Abingdon LECTURE

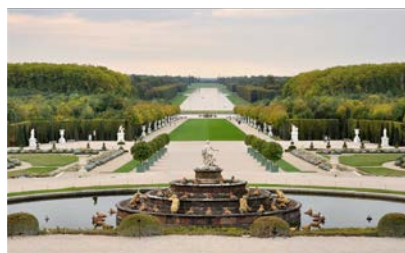


**Wednesday 15th January,
10.30am and 2.00pm
Abbey Cinema, Abbey Close,
Abingdon OX14 3JD**

The Gardens of Versailles

Jane Gardiner

During this lecture we will look at the work of André le Nôtre, royal gardener to Louis XIV and the magnificent gardens he created for the 'Sun King' at Versailles. We will examine the laying out of the formal terraces, the great tree-lined walks and the vast expanses of water. We will discuss the glorification of the King through the iconography of the statues and great fountain groups. We will also look at the extravagant entertainments that took place within the grounds; and the summer houses and pleasure pavilions where the King was able to escape from the thronging crowds.



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. or email info@theartsocietyabingdon.org.uk](http://www.theartsocietyabingdon.org.uk)

MARCHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

Everyday is a beautiful day at Marcham School, but Monday 25th November was especially beautiful. We had a very special visitor come to school. Most of our children could recognise his illustrations from Winnie The Witch series of books and the Leopards are looking at his work in their English lessons at the moment.



Korky Paul came to visit – and it was great!

He has just illustrated a new book for Christmas, called "One Snowy Christmas Eve" It is written by Marc Bratcher and Marcham School has played a significant part in its development...

Last year, at about this time, we were asked by Mrs K to draw some pictures of what of what we imagined Santa was like. Korky Paul was looking for a school who would be able to supply some drawings for his next book and Miss K answered that call. So, almost every child in the school drew a picture of Santa and they were submitted to Korky for his perusal. He then chose 12 drawings for the front of the book and 12 drawings for the back (because of the 12 days of Christmas) and he came to give a signed copy of his book to each of the artists chosen. They were:

Yr1 Fern, Arlo, Ed and Sylvia; Yr2 Clayton, Lottie, Darcie and Teddy; Y3 Isla, Sam, Thomes and Scarlett; Yr4 Chester, Aurora, Michaela and Mamadou; Yr5 Emmy, Jacob, Maddalena and Ally; Yr6 Oliver, and Ruby; Yr7 Ellie and Dexter

(In the book, it has the year group the children were in when they drew the pictures—so it has last year's year group printed.) Well done to all our published artists. How exciting! What an amazing achievement! !



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

VIV HUTCHINSON

MARCHAM GUIDES

We've had a very busy term. Here's a taste of what we've been up to: an apple pie making competition in September, our own fair night in October, first aid training in November and Christmas crafts and cooking in December.

We also had 2 enrolment ceremonies – **Sophie and Fizz** were enrolled at the Remembrance Day service and had their badges presented by Layla Moran, then **Willow, Florence and Bella** made their promise at the cinema after watching a special guiding showing of Moana 2!!

Our grateful thanks to **Paul Tiney** for first aid training, **Paula and Clare Wright** and as always **Christina Berry** for our traditional Christmas fudge evening (and with her family judging the apple pies - star baker awarded to **Felicity Finch**).

Happy Christmas everyone and if you'd feel you'd like to volunteer at marcham guides in the new year, do get in touch with me.

JILL ROWE



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 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!

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Museum

E.H. Shepard
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BEYOND**
WINNIE-THE-POOH

Exhibition in collaboration with
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COLLECTIONS**
UNIVERSITY OF SURREY

Share your Bear!



Ahead of our next major exhibition, *E.H. Shepard: Before & Beyond Winnie-the-Pooh*, we'd love to see your treasured teddies for inclusion in a community display - to go on show alongside the artists' work!

The exhibition will run from 18 January - 31 August 2024

If you have a Winnie-the-Pooh or Wind in the Willows character teddy you'd like share with us, please get in touch:

frontofhouse@sofo.org.uk

01993 810 210

Soldiers of Oxfordshire Museum, Park Street, Woodstock, OX20 1SN



£75,000 IN GRANTS APPROVED IN 2 YRS
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Does Your Local (to Marcham) Organisation, Society,
Group or Club Need Help with Funding?

**IF THE ANSWER IS "YES" TO THIS QUESTION THEN THE
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For more information on our grant application process and
policy please visit ansontrust.org/grant-giving
or email us at ansontrustenquiries@gmail.com

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**Would you like to advertise your
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**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



MINIBUS

Planning a trip out? 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

SPORT REVIEW

Welcome to the January 2025 edition of MADNews Sport

January is a time for reflection of the year just gone and hope and resolutions for the future.

This report has asked Dan Barnes, Zoe Barnes and Matt Ainsworth to give us their perception of the success of the various sporting activities that have taken place under the 'Marcham' banner during 2024, and how they hope that their fortunes will develop in 2025.

FOOTBALL

2024 was a year of progress for the football club. It has seen an increase in numbers of players in the colts and adult teams. The adult team battled for the league title, eventually finishing 3rd and had the disappointment of losing in the cup final. However the club is in a great place due to the commitment of more players building a collective welcoming ethos.

Colts saw both u9s teams promoted into higher leagues with the Maroon reaching the A league. Minis football is continuing to boom on a Saturday morning and we hope the eldest minis will be ready for entry into the league in the summer ahead.

Thanks to all the volunteers and coaches who have made 2024 such a successful year for the football club.

MARCHAM COLTS GIRLS UNDER 11

This is the team's third season and we have grown in numbers each season; we now have 16 girls in the squad. We had a summer laden with trophies from multiple tournaments and retained our place in the top league. A big thank you to **Thirsty Cafe** for their continued sponsorship of the girls' team.



CRICKET

Marcham Cricket Club enjoyed a successful summer with both teams improving on results from recent years. The first team were within a single game of an undefeated season, eventually finishing second in their division. The Seconds were also competitive, managing several wins during the season, and displaying great team spirit. Hopefully this momentum will continue into the 2025 season, and indoor winter nets will be restarting in the New Year.

The club is always looking to welcome players, of all ages and abilities. Anyone interested in joining should contact **Matt Ainsworth 07807770888**

RICHARD OLIVER

If you have an event to promote
email editor@madnews.co.uk with the details
Deadline is the 20th of the month before publication
(except the Jan issue when it is 15th December)

Winter Is A Magical Time

Winter is a magical time, not just because of snowflakes and hot chocolate, but also because of the amazing wildlife that visits our gardens. So, grab your warm coats, hats, and maybe a pair of binoculars as we explore the wonders of winter wildlife right in your backyard!

Birds on the Move

During winter, many birds come to our gardens looking for food. You might spot red-breasted robins, cheeky blackbirds, and even blue tits with their bright blue and yellow feathers. They're all searching for seeds, berries, and insects to keep them warm and full. Try hanging a bird feeder with some seeds or fat balls. You'll be surprised how quickly they find it!

Squirrels and Their Stashes

Have you ever seen a squirrel in your garden? These furry acrobats are busy in winter, digging up the nuts they buried earlier in the year. Squirrels have an excellent memory for where they've hidden their food. Watch them scurry around, climbing trees and making daring leaps. Sometimes, they even visit bird feeders, showing off their clever tricks to get a snack.

Hedgehogs Taking a Snooze

Winter is hibernation time for hedgehogs. If you have a pile of leaves or a cosy corner in your garden, you might be providing the perfect spot for a hedgehog to sleep through the cold months. Hedgehogs curl up into a ball and use their prickly spines to protect themselves. If you spot one, let it rest peacefully. It's catching up on some much-needed sleep!

Foxes on the Prowl

Foxes are some of the most adaptable creatures around. In winter, they grow a thick, fluffy coat to keep warm. You might hear a fox's call at night – it sounds like a yip or a bark. Foxes are curious and sometimes venture into gardens looking for food. They're usually shy, so if you're lucky enough to see one, watch quietly and enjoy the sight of these clever animals.



Magical Moths and Winter Bugs

Even in winter, not all bugs disappear. Some, like winter moths, are still active. Winter moths have a special antifreeze-like substance in their bodies that helps them survive the cold. You might also find spiders hiding in corners, waiting for milder days. Look closely and you might spot these tiny survivors braving the chilly weather.

Helping Our Garden Friends

You can be a wildlife hero this winter by making your garden a haven for these creatures. Here are some simple tips:

- Food and Water: Keep bird feeders filled and put out a shallow dish of water for animals to drink.
- Shelter: Leave piles of leaves or twigs in a corner for hedgehogs and insects.
- Safe Spaces: Avoid using chemicals that can harm wildlife. Let nature do its thing!

Final Thoughts

Winter in the garden is full of surprises. By helping our garden friends, you're making sure they stay healthy and happy through the cold months. Plus, you get to see some incredible wildlife up close. So, next time you step outside, take a moment to enjoy the winter wonders right in your own backyard. Happy wildlife watching!

I hope you enjoy discovering the amazing wildlife in your garden this winter! .

Happy Gardening!

Stuart Mabbutt 01865 747243 www.wildmaninspires.co.uk



SOCIAL & COMMUNITY



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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, contact:

Vicky Hickman Tel No: 07887711454

Email: info@vickysafterschoolclub.co.uk

website: www.vickysafterschoolclub.co.uk

FOOD AND DRINK



Kennington Memory Club

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



Scan Me

Happy New Year, everyone

By the time you read this the Club will have held its Christmas celebrations for Members and their families. After a Christmas dinner on Thursday 19th December St Swithun's School choir joined us for a programme of their own Christmas music and some traditional carols, while on Monday 23rd Emma Partington accompanied us for a selection of favourite carols chosen by the Members. Emma gives regularly of her time and talents on Monday afternoons and is a source of great enjoyment for us all.

Which brings me to a suggested "New Year's resolution" for our readers! **Do YOU have time and or talents which you might be willing to offer occasionally at Kennington Memory Club?** If so, please contact Kay our Club Organiser on 07852 883496 or Susan, our Volunteer Organiser on 01235 522898. (Training and support will be available).

On 2nd January we shall be saying goodbye to a much loved member of the staff team. Kathryn Baggott has been a loyal and supportive care assistant from Day One of the Club's existence in 2018. We wish her well in her new post.

www.kenningtonmemoryclub.org.uk

Isobel Birse

Chairman, Kennington Memory Club



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Marcham Centre

Welcome to 2025. A quick resumé of current matters being dealt with by the Trustees of Marcham Community Group (MCG) and the Hall Committee, which will be continued during the next several months. This is followed by a few dates for the diary.

MCG

The Trustees tend to focus on the overall management of the Marcham Centre. This includes its financing; the short, medium and long term matters that need to be reviewed as an on-going basis; health and safety; provision of utilities (gas, electric, water and waste) and an oversight of the day to day running of the building, its car park, the Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) and the field with its surrounds, including maintenance.

To enable this, the Trustees will be focussing their attention on updating MCG's Business Plan to cover the next few years, which will link into its new Business Strategy. One aim is to widen MCG's remit, to encourage wider community engagement and involvement. Over the next twelve months, Trustees will be looking to involve as many groups and individuals as possible to 'kick start' its aim.

HALL COMMITTEE

Whilst some of the matters discussed at the committee will need ratification by the Trustees, much of the work undertaken is delegated to the committee for decisions and action. It is the 'doing' part of the 'day to day' running of the building and MUGA.

Therefore, we would be pleased to hear from any of you that feel you would like to help, either by being a committee member or just offering help in any particular expertise and/or experience you may be able to offer. Alternatively, you may just want to 'roll up your sleeves' and help in whatever needs looking at. Specific matters currently being tackled and continuing through 2025 are:

- Provision of more acoustic panels, particularly in the two halls, to deal with the ongoing need for better acoustics
- Provision of more sound panels to mitigate noise disturbance between differing parts of the building
- Consideration of improving the patio area(s) to provide a better experience for those using the building (including the bar)
- Consideration of providing wider facilities for the community, as per the recent addition of a barbers' experience
- The replacement and repairing of hall furniture, particularly chairs, which are showing signs of over three years of continuous use
- General minor maintenance
- Consideration of hire charges
- The marketing and ongoing use of the building, including a greater use by new regular hirers and the local community generally.

These are only some of the matters that will be discussed and dealt with over the coming months, but hopefully provides an insight into the interesting and necessary work faced.

MARCHAM CENTRE RE-OPEN

The Centre will re-open on Saturday 4 January (the bar Friday 3). A few regular hirers may have arranged for usage before these dates, in which case they will advise their clients accordingly.

GREAT MARCHAM WEEKEND

Friday 9 and Saturday 10 May

Early dates for the diary! More detailed information ongoing up to the weekend.

QUIZ NIGHTS

Fridays 10 January; 7 February; 28 February; 4 April

Adults only, 7.30pm for prompt 8.00pm start. (Time to get a drink or two in before 8pm!) Teams of up to six, with bottle of wine or similar for each winning team member.

Normal quiz rules apply, plenty of banter and the quiz master is always right!

FAMILY BINGO NIGHTS

Fridays 24 January and 28 March

Eyes down at 7.30pm

INDOOR SHORT MAT BOWLS

Held Wednesdays, restarting on 8 January at 2.00pm. All dates start at 2pm, except 15 January, when it starts at 2.30pm. Contact Colin Trinder (c_trinder@btinternet.com) to give bowls a 'go', whether existing bowler or a new recruit. Alternatively just turn up on the day and give it a try! This is a good opportunity to see whether you may like the outside version in the summer. Colin knows a good club!

TABLE TENNIS

The table tennis table is available for hire for periods of one hour or more. This can be made by booking a slot in the meeting room via the www.marchamcentre.org website. Please note this room is used for other purposes, so you will need to book the room and pay the 'local user' rate of £8 per hour. Please remember to bring your own bats and balls.

MCG Trustees would like to wish everyone in the Marcham Community a Very Happy New Year.

We hope to see you in the Centre in 2025 and remember we are open to suggestions on how we may be able to improve the facilities for your use.

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



FRIDAY 31ST JANUARY & SATURDAY 1ST FEBRUARY

BANKBUSTER PRODUCTIONS PRESENT



YELLOW PERIL



REMASTERED

This hour-long, action-packed feature film, shot in and around Marcham in 1989, has been restored over 3 years and can now be seen and heard as never before!

All Saints Church, Marcham, OX13 6NP

Friday 31st January & Saturday 1st February 2025

Time: 6.00 p.m. and 8.00 p.m. on both days.

Admission: Adults £5 — Under 18s £3

Tickets: On the door or in advance from **Marcham Village Shop**, North Street, Marcham, OX13 6NG

Post-film refreshments included in the ticket price.

Proceeds to All Saints Church



*Where has the traffic gone? What is going on at the mysterious Dreadall College?
Can Marcham be saved from the yellow peril? Come along and find out!*

To view the trailer, scan the QR code, or go to: https://youtu.be/5_N24DM7KyU

VISITORS COMING OR THINKING OF HOLIDAYS?

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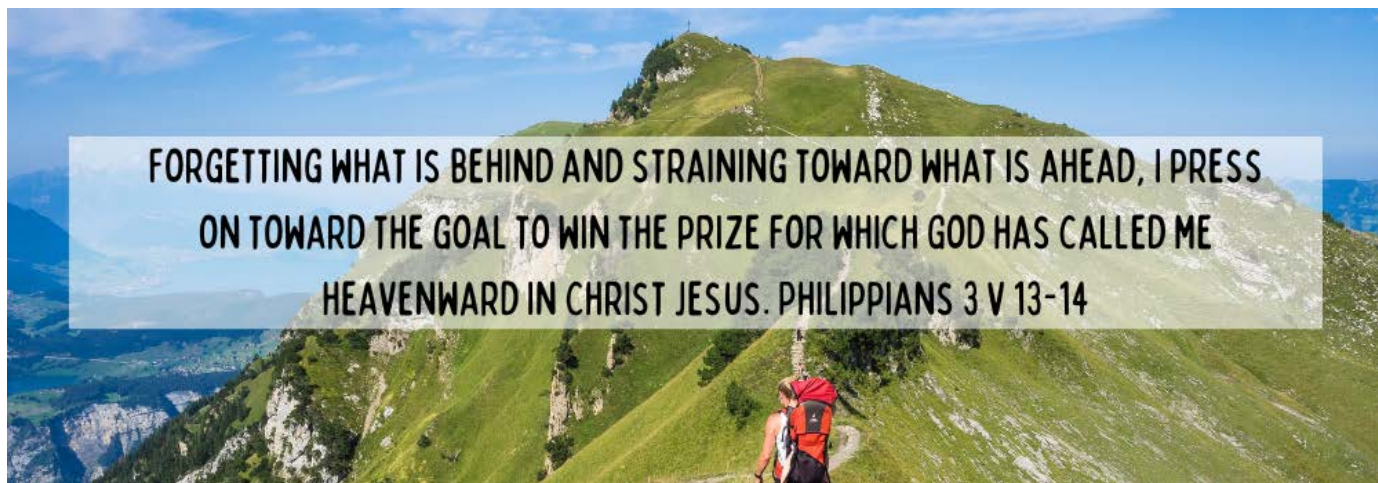
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ALL SAINTS' & ST. LUKES CHURCHES

www.marcham-with-garford.org.uk



FORGETTING WHAT IS BEHIND AND STRAINING TOWARD WHAT IS AHEAD, I PRESS
ON TOWARD THE GOAL TO WIN THE PRIZE FOR WHICH GOD HAS CALLED ME
HEAVENWARD IN CHRIST JESUS. PHILIPPIANS 3 V 13-14

Who would have thought it? A church wanting to look squarely at Jesus. That is what we shall be doing at our main Sunday gatherings at All Saints Marcham throughout January and February. A more contemporary approach, perhaps, would be to come to the historical Jesus with our 21st century questions. For instance, “what does Jesus say about...?” Or “what keeps people from considering Jesus today?” Those are very valid approaches that we take often in our churches. But really, we should let Jesus speak for himself, shouldn't we? Surely the most influential figure in history should be permitted to speak on his own terms. He should be asking us the questions. So Sunday by Sunday this new year, we will be looking at the gospel accounts, asking Jesus what he is saying to us today about himself and the world about us. In those ancient texts he is presented as the Son of God – how does that work? – the Teacher – is he worth listening to? – the Healer – really? – the Friend, the Radical, the Bridegroom, the King, the Sacrifice. And once we have seen how the eyewitnesses give account of him, then we will ask the question that Jesus asked his followers once – “who do you say I am?” It has been said that contemporary Britain, even Gen Z, is more interested now in the person of Jesus than at anytime since the 1950's. They (we) are looking for authenticity like never before. We are less interested than ever in religious institutions, and one can understand why, but the Man himself is fascinating people more and more. This gives hope to our fractured and fractious world.

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE FOR DETAILS ABOUT OUR UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

www.marcham-with-garford.org.uk

Regular Sunday services

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

Wednesday Holy Communion

10.30am at Duffield Place

Contacts:

Rev'd. 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

ST. LUKE'S, GARFORD

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

Sunday 5 January 2025, 11am Epiphany 'The return of the Kings' - Rev'd Jan Radford
Children are particularly welcome at this service

Sunday 2 February 2025, 11am Candlemas - Rev'd Rosemary Siebert

Sunday 23 February 2025, 6pm Compline - led by Ben Skipp

NEWS FROM ST. LUKE'S

Looking back on the many joyous and also reflective services and events in St. Luke's in 2024 it is clear that whilst the church provides the comforting and steadfast core, it is the sense of the wider community that brings us together. The anticipation building through Advent (with thanks to Rev'd Preb Jane Haslam, Associate Archdeacon for leading our service) and the celebration of the birth of Jesus, lead us to look forward to 2025 with a spirit of renewal from the message of Christmas. We look forward to welcoming you to St. Luke's in the New Year.

Contact: Carolyn Whiting st.lukes@allsaintsmarcham.org



DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

THAMES VALLEY FLOOD SCHEME

Given the heavy rains that we experienced last year, it was disappointing to hear that the Environment Agency has almost completely cancelled the proposed Thames Valley Flood Scheme on cost grounds. At time of writing – and I hope this stays true – there were three major storms in 2024; some houses in the Vale were flooded on every one of these. While Marcham ward was less badly affected than the worst-hit areas of Abingdon, for example, some residents were affected directly and more hindered in their ability to travel. A motion at full council on 18th December (which took place after I write this) calls on central government to reconsider where it is providing sufficient resources to prevent and mitigate future floods. As the climate changes, I'm afraid we can expect weather patterns to stray even further from normal.

HIF1 SCHEME APPROVED

The HIF1 road scheme proposal has now been approved by central government, having previously been rejected by OCC's Planning Committee. This scheme includes a new road bridge over the Thames between Didcot and Culham, which will be the first 'modern' road bridge to be built across the Thames between the Oxford ring road and the Wallingford bypass. The Vale's Local Plan 2031, prepared under the 2015-2019 Conservative administration, 'baked in' this extra infrastructure as part of the deal for the huge levels of housing development we have seen over recent years. While those of us worried about the climate crisis are hesitant about the implications of building more roads, this scheme will provide much-needed relief to traffic congestion in the area and removes the threat to the Vale's position as a Local Planning Authority in influencing where housing can and cannot be built over the coming years.

IN-HOUSING SERVICES

As we transition into a new year, it's a good time to reflect on 'the bigger picture' than the usual day-to-day (or month-to-month, as for these reports). There is a long-term shift in the Vale's way of doing things underway, which still has several years to go before completion. This shift is a trend towards 'in-housing' services that were previously 'out-sourced' to external organisations. Notable examples on the horizon include the Vale's customer call switchboard and much of the Parks maintenance work (pruning trees, etc). While there are always likely to be examples of where others can perform services better and cheaper than the Vale, reversing outsourcing where this is not the case allows us to do more for less and improves accountability.

AND FINALLY...

I wish you all a Happy New Year!!.

ROBERT CLEGG

District Councillor for Marcham Ward

Phone: 07784225290

Email: robert.clegg@whitehorsedc.gov.uk



COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Happy New Year!

I attended the councillor consultation event on proposed redevelopment of Dalton Barracks and the Abingdon airfield, which I found informative. I await to hear what people raise during the consultation. I did raise the added disruption if SESRO builds at the same time, and the DIO said they were liaising with SESRO to coordinate effort and minimise disruption. I see SESRO have added Dalton Garden Village to their plan maps and indicate a combined junction for both access roads. I still believe the SESRO scheme to be deeply flawed in many respects, but this is at least in some respects reassuring.

I also attended a briefing by the Environment Agency on the Thames Valley Flood Scheme, which was disappointing, as they were announcing they had not found a viable scheme for flood water storage - to alleviate local flooding - from the 17 high potential sites assessed. Given the floodwater is still around us as I write, it seems incredulous that the scheme could be disbanded when it

is clearly a major issue, which I have stressed to them. There is just one scheme they are recommending to take forward which is for the Ock near Abingdon where the identified flood storage site would be part of the SESRO scheme. They are communicating with Thames Water (who they also regulate) to request that this is put in their SESRO plans. I don't think this is sufficient and I think they under-estimate the economic damage to our area when flooding occurs. The district council are raising a motion which I am seconding next week to push back on the results of this report, and I intend to find out more about the county's plans as they are the local lead flood agency. I do get regular updates from the Climate Resilience Forum whenever a storm occurs and the measures being taken by the emergency services, so I know it works well, but what we need is more strategic resilience project investment to minimise future flood impacts. The council is now preparing its budgets for the next financial year for approval in February, and although the vast majority of its budget is tied up every year with statutory duties like social care, I want to see if there is anything we can find to further support local flood resilience. I will report back with more next month.

Otherwise, enjoy the rest of the festive season!

PETER STEVENS

County Councillor for Sutton Courtenay & Marcham

peter.stevens@oxfordshire.gov.uk

OTHER REPRESENTATIVES

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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 (for Marcham & Cothill)

Layla Moran layla.moran.mp@parliament.uk

Witney (for Frilford, Garford and most of Tubney)

Charlie Maynard charlie.maynard.mp@parliament.uk

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RESERVOIR AND WATER NEWS

RESERVOIR SURVEY

I'm a sixth form student taking part in a project exploring the impacts of building the Abingdon Reservoir. Our report will be presented to a surveying firm called **Dalcour Maclaren**, who are working with Thames Water on plans for the Reservoir. I am focusing on the impact this project will have on the community. I have created a questionnaire to gather feedback and ensure that local people have an opportunity to express their views. You can use the short URL or QR code to take you to the survey.

<https://tinyurl.com/2yf72t3x>

Thank you
ALICE WILLIAMS





GROUP AGAINST RESERVOIR DEVELOPMENT

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

GARD News: we continue the fight. Join us!

GARD is a small organisation compared to Thames Water and it needs your support. Join GARD – you do not have to do tasks; counting you as a member is a service in itself. Helping is welcome too. Contact the secretary gard.secretary@gmail.com or see the website.

Would you like a poster to display in your window or car? Contact the secretary gard.secretary@gmail.com



We must continue the fight against the reservoir, preparing for either Legal Action or, if that fails, for an eventual Development Consent Order proceedings in 2027, where the final approval for the reservoir would be sought by Thames Water. So, GARD has formed an incorporated company SAFERWaterS – Sustainable Answers For Resilient Water Solutions. Any GARD member can become a member of the Company. We'll be providing details in the coming weeks.

DEREK STORK, Chairman GARD.
For more information www.gard-oxon.org.uk
Facebook: @abingdonreservoir, Twitter @GARD_OXON

An essential new reservoir for the South East What's happening in your area?

We're conducting site surveys and ground investigations in the local area, including near Steventon, East Hanney, Drayton, and Sutton Courtenay. You may see our surveyors conducting various investigations, such as winter bird surveys and traffic surveys.

We're also carrying out a clay compaction trial on land off Hanney Road, near East Hanney, to support our reservoir design plans. We have begun excavating the clay to build temporary embankments up to three metres high to test the clay. We're aiming to finish by February 2025, weather permitting. For more information on what's happening in your area, please visit: thames-sro.co.uk/sesro.



Wanted: Monthly River Water Quality Testers



Are you concerned about pollution in our local rivers and streams? Do you have 30 minutes to spare a month?

If the answer is yes, then you could be a water watcher! River charity Thames21 are looking for volunteer citizen scientists across the Vale of White Horse to monitor the health of local waterbodies every month. The data will be used to detect pollution hotspots and hold Thames Water, local councils and the Environment Agency to account. All training, equipment and ongoing support is provided free of charge. There are two upcoming training events to hear in more detail about the project, meet other volunteers and learn how to take samples. Pre-booking is essential.

Saturday 11th January, 10am - 12pm, Letcombe Regis Village Hall, OX12 9LJ. Booking link: <https://www.thames21.org.uk/event/freshwater-watch-training-ock-catchment/>

Friday 17th January, 10.30am - 12.30pm, One Planet Abingdon, OX14 3HG. Booking link: <https://www.thames21.org.uk/event/freshwater-watch-training-abingdon-and-the-ock/>

Or alternatively, email / call Claire for more information: claire.robertson@thames21.org.uk / 07856715542



HEDGEROW HIGHWAYS

Hedges are a vital part of our local nature, providing shelter and resources for many species of mammals, insects, and birds (from hibernating hedgehogs to the smallest of beetles). They're crucial wildlife corridors that allow safe travel between isolated habitats.

The benefits that hedgerows provide for biodiversity are endless. In a heavily fragmented landscape, hedgerows link up valuable habitats for wildlife such as woodland, grassland and ponds. This connects populations that would otherwise be isolated and vulnerable and allows relocation to better habitat. Over 100 priority species utilise hedgerows for a variety of reasons such as for shelter, food, or navigation. Birds and small mammals nest in hedges, bats use hedgerows as foraging grounds and navigational markers, and reptiles hide in the long tussocky margins associated with hedgerows.

November through to March is the best time of year to plant new hedges. The first step is to acquire your roots. In Oxfordshire we recommend planting Blackthorn, Spindle, Buckthorn, Guelder Rose, Hawthorn, Wild Privet, Cherry Plum, or Hazel. Plant 4 or 5 plants per metre, about 25cm apart using the slit planting method, ensuring all fibrous roots are completely buried in the soil. To see a detailed tutorial of this planting method, head to our website where you can watch a demonstration from expert Nigel Adams. <https://www.wildoxfordshire.org.uk/guidance/hedgerows-guidance>

Aftercare for hedgerows is crucial. Keep weeds and grass away from the hedge plants for the first 2-3 years to give them plenty of space to absorb moisture and light. Thoroughly water the plants during dry spells. Compost can be very helpful to maintain vigour due to the competition for nutrients between such closely situated plants. Try to trim your hedge annually in the first three to five years to encourage bushy growth. Once your hedgerow is fully established (approximately 5 years) you can trim every year or every two or three years but make sure you don't trim your hedge to the same place every cut. More detailed aftercare information is also available on our website. Good luck with your new hedges!

NEW YEAR – NEW NATURE!

Why not make some green themed resolutions this new year! Perhaps yours is to cultivate new hedge life. Maybe you're going to reduce your meat intake, find eco-friendly cleaning products, or make your garden more wildlife friendly using native plants. There are endless ways to make a difference!

Why not sign up to our monthly email Bulletin, visit our website, and follow us on social media for the latest nature news and ways you can join others in helping nature in Oxfordshire <https://www.wildoxfordshire.org.uk/news>

JESS BOUWER
Wild Oxfordshire Hedgerows & Partnerships Officer



JANUARY 2025

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 NEW YEAR'S DAY 2025 Village Shop closed until 2 Jan (7)	2	3 Revised refuse collection MC Bar re-opens (15)	4 MC Centre Reopens (15)
5 AS Morning Service 10.30am (17) SL Epiphany Service 11 am (17) AS Evening Service 6pm (17)	6 DP Community Games Group 10.30-12.00 Last entries for MVS Naughty Elf (7) MC Bridge 6.50pm	7	8 DP Holy Communion 10.30am (17) MC Short-mat Bowls 2pm (15)	9 Revised refuse collection Millets Farm Classic car meet 9.30am-noon Marcham School Open Morning 9.30am (11) Marcham Society Midweek Walk 12.30pm (9)	10 MC Quiz Night 7.30pm (15)	11 MC Thirsty Cafe 9-11.30am (5) Christmas Trees at Millets for recycling (3) River Water Training, Letcombe (19)
12	13 MC Bridge 6.50pm MC Marcham Parish Council Meeting 7.30pm (3)	14	15 MC Thirsty Cafe 9-11.30am (5) DP Holy Communion 10.30am (17) MC Community Lunch 12-2pm (5) MC Short-mat Bowls 2.30pm (15) Last Date for School applications (3) Arts Society Abingdon 10.30am & 2pm (10)	16 MC Astronomy Group 7pm (9) MATU: The Roselys (5)	17	18 MC Thirsty Cafe 9-11.30am (5) EH Shepherd @SOFO Woodstock (12)
19	20 MADNEWS DEADLINE 5PM FOR NEXT ISSUE DP Community Games Group 10.30-12.00 MC Bridge 6.50pm MC Marcham WI 7.30pm (9)	21	22 MC Thirsty Cafe 9-11.30am (5) DP Holy Communion 10.30am (17) MC Short-mat Bowls 2pm (15)	23	24 MC Family Bingo 7.30pm (15)	25 MC Thirsty Cafe 9-11.30am (5) Burns Night (7)
26 AS Morning Service 10.30am (17) AS Evening Service 6pm (17)	27 MC Bridge 6.50pm MC Marcham Society 7.15pm (9)	28	29 Year of the Snake (7) MC Thirsty Cafe 9-11.30am (5) DP Holy Communion 10.30am (17) MC Short-mat Bowls 2pm (15)	30	31 AS Yellow Peril 6 & 8pm (16)	AS Yellow Peril 6 & 8pm (16)

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