

Marcham & District News

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

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

November 2006 Vol: 28 No: 11

READ & RECYCLE!

FREE



▲ Marcham Cubs set off on an Adventure Weekend see page 13



◀ Anson Trust
▼ Exhibition
see inside for letters
and reports



▲ A lion and a teddy from the toddle last month see page 13



▲ Chopsticks on World Food Day at Marcham School see page 13

Do you need the jab? ►
see pages 3 and 17



DIARY FOR NOVEMBER

Wed 8 Wed 15	Parish Council Meeting, Duffield Place, 7.30pm	3
Thur 9	Midweek Walk: The White Horse Inn, Laughton Hill, 12.30pm lunch/1.30pm walk	11
Thur 9	NAG Meeting, Marcham School, 7pm	7
Fri 10	MP's Surgery: Didcot, 5.30-7pm	3
Fri 10	Rosetta, Talking Science, RAL, 7pm	17
Sat 11	An Evening Of Poetry and Welsh Male Choral Music, Dorchester Abbey, 7.30pm	17
Sun 12	Remembrance Parade, Marcham 10am	

Tue 14	Marcham Society, All Saints', 7.45pm	11
Wed 15 - Sat 18	The Glass Menagerie, Abingdon Drama Club, Unicorn Theatre, 7.30	17
Thur 16	Marcham WI, Denman College, 7.30pm	11
Fri 17	Frilford St Peter's WI, Duffield Place, 2pm	11
Fri 24	MP's Surgery: Wallingford, 5.30-7pm	3
Sat 24	Marcham Players, Board Room, Manor Farm, Marcham, 7.30pm	9
Thur 30	Senior Citizens Club, Duffield Place	11

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

ANSON TRUST COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

We would like to thank all those who attended the public exhibition on 12th October.

Almost 300 residents came to express an interest in this exciting new development for Marcham. For residents who were unable to attend, we would like to take this opportunity to share the latest news on the proposals and explain how everyone can get involved in shaping the future for leisure and recreation in Marcham.

The Trust has developed a vision which it hopes will provide first class facilities for the village for the foreseeable future.

These proposals consist of a new, modern community building on the edge of the village, adjacent to Hyde Copse, with playing fields of the highest quality. This will provide facilities to satisfy the needs of the existing users and also offer a wider range of social and sporting functions (both indoor and outdoor), for a larger number of people, than the current facilities. Moving facilities to a new location within walking distance of the village centre means there will be much more space in which to develop a wide range of activities to meet the needs of generations to come. The new development will also utilise modern energy conservation techniques which will help to improve the economic viability of the scheme.

All of this will be made possible through new homes on the Anson Field. As well as funding the new facility, the housing will help deliver a significant endowment for the Anson Trust to continue its charitable work and invest in the new facilities for years to come.

The exhibition did highlight some concerns about the housing and the Trust would like to reassure villagers that the sensitive design of this development is of paramount importance. Around 45 homes are proposed, which means that at least half of the existing recreational ground will be retained and used to form an open green space and play area, open to all residents of Marcham. At least 40% of the new homes will be affordable, and the Trust is looking into the possibility of managing these on behalf of the village so priority is given to Marcham residents.

The Trust is keen to involve the community from this early stage. Thanks to the great turn out at the exhibition this two-way process has already begun. We are listening

Neighbourhood Policing is coming to Your Area

Let us know what issues most affect you by attending the public meeting

- Tell us what would really make a difference to how safe you feel
- Let us know which issues you want us to tackle first
- Get involved and help us find the right solutions
- Meet your local Officers

**Thursday 9th November 2006
7pm at Marcham Primary School**

This meeting has been organised by your Neighbourhood Action Group which includes representatives from local parish and district councils, Housing Associations, Thames Valley Police, Neighbourhood Watch, the youth service, schools in the area, other community groups and local residents.

A Neighbourhood Action Group is a problem solving group that will work with the community to address the issues you identify and communicate the results to our communities.



to the views and opinions of the local community and we will endeavour to take these on board as the plans evolve. We will require the input of local villagers to ensure that the plans meet the needs of the existing community. It is for this reason that the Trust would like to encourage all residents to attend forthcoming meetings to discuss the proposals. It is hoped there will be more detailed plans to share with the community in the coming weeks and dates for forthcoming public meetings will be posted on the website (www.ansontrust.co.uk).

In the meantime, to find our more information, please call Samantha Donaldson on 020 7357 6606, or email samantha@localdialogue.com.

THE DIRECTORS OF THE ARTHUR ANSON MEMORIAL TRUST LIMITED.

RAP

Statement by the Reservoir Affected Parishes (RAP) Group

Thames Water wants to build a massive new reservoir in this area, primarily to supply London. The plan unveiled on 13 September indicated that they would like a reservoir to be sited on land bounded by Steventon, East Hanney, Marcham and the railway line. It showed a land take area of about 18 sq km – equivalent to about 1200 football pitches – and the reservoir would have a working capacity of about 150 million tonnes of water. Its embankments would be over 80 feet high. This would have a major impact on the surrounding landscape and villages. Construction alone could take at least 8 years.

Thames Water is intending to apply for a Compulsory Works Order in 2008. The application would be considered by Defra. There would be a Public Inquiry, after which a decision would be made by the

Secretary of State. A Compulsory Works Order means that the usual requirement to negotiate planning gains via a Section 106 Agreement would not exist. However it is highly likely that Thames Water would be required to provide sailing, fishing, walking and nature reserve facilities.

The Reservoir Affected Parishes (RAP) Group, consisting of representatives of all the local Parish Councils, believes that all possible alternatives should be thoroughly assessed, and the results published, before such a project goes ahead. These include a much greater emphasis on reducing leakage and encouraging householders and industry to reduce consumption.

RAP believes that a project of this enormity – the estimated cost is £1 billion – is difficult to justify while leakage rates remain so high. Thames Water loses 320 million tonnes a year. This is more than twice the capacity of the proposed reservoir and equivalent to about three times the leakage rate of the other water companies. Yet OFWAT, the water industry regulator, is only calling for Thames Water to reduce its leakage rate by 17% by 2010. For the last six years Thames Water has missed its leakage reduction targets.

This is by no means a 'done deal'. The Environment Agency and OFWAT will need to be satisfied.

YOUR VIEWS CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

THIS IS THE START OF THE CONSULTATION PROCESS - MAKE YOUR VIEWS KNOWN TO YOUR PARISH COUNCIL.

Contact: RAP, PO Box 266, Abingdon OX14 4RJ

RAP represents the parishes of Ardington & Lockinge, Garford, Drayton, East & West Hanney, Frilford, East Hendred, Steventon and Sutton Courtenay.

If you represent a local pressure group, let us know your point of view

MARCHAM PLAYERS

Following our previous two very successful evenings, Jean and Donald Creasy have undertaken to provide readings for another **"With Great Pleasure"**. This will take place on Friday 24th November at 7.30pm in the Board Room at Manor Farm. Do please come and join us for what promises to be a very enjoyable time. Liquid refreshments provided in the interval. No admission fee.



"SECRETS!!!" An evening of three one-act plays

7.30 pm Friday 8th December & Saturday 9th December

All Saints Church

Tickets £5 and £4 concessions

(from Post Office last week of November)

Light refreshments

If you would like information on our events or if you are interested in joining the Marcham Players as an actor, helping out backstage or with front house please get in touch with Joey Maclean (Secretary – 391242) or Dave Hutchinson (Chairman – 391964).

JOEY MACLEAN

www.marchamplayers.co.uk

MARCHAM CRICKET CLUB

An excellent Centenary Dinner Dance was held at the Four Pillars on the evening of 6th October 2006. This was a most enjoyable occasion with just short of seventy people attending – including, very pleasingly, some senior ex-players. As with all Club events, many thanks are due to the organisers. Many items from the Club's long history were mentioned during the evening and a few historical items are reported below. Thus, at a Committee Meeting of 20th March 1906, *"it was proposed and carried for new Club colours to be scarlet cap, belt and sash, members to pay for their own, and use them regularly."* Although the use of sashes has fallen into abeyance, scarlet caps are still worn by Club players a century later.



Also it was stated that, *"The Club shall be called the Marcham Cricket Club and shall consist of President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and Committee."*

A few years later, at a Committee Meeting held in May 1912, "Mr Etty proposed and Mr R Long seconded that Miss Anson be elected President of the Club. Mr Etty also spoke of the great loss the Club had sustained by the death of Mr Anson who had done so much for the Club and had always taken such a keen interest in its welfare."

Also at this Meeting, *"Mr Gall said it was the wish of Miss Anson that the members of the Club should have full enjoyment of the field..."*

Regarding the 2006 Season, the 1st and 2nd XIs each finished third in their respective Divisions. The presentation of Club awards for this Season took place as part of the Centenary proceedings at the Four Pillars. Following preparative work by Terry and Graham, a few others joined them on a brisk morning recently to assist in the spreading of loam on the cricket square. This is, of course, part of the on-going field maintenance programme necessary to provide good playing facilities for the 2007 O.C.A. Season.

Please contact Graham Hill (391415) or Terry Whittaker (391317) for information regarding the Club.

CLIVE BENNETT

MARCHAM SOCIETY MEETING REPORT

Our speaker on 10 October was Peter Higginbotham, who gave a most interesting talk on Abingdon Workhouse.

In January 1835, Abingdon had the dubious honour of opening the first union workhouse in the country. There had been parish relief schemes since Tudor times, but these were often corrupt and

inefficient. The government set up a Royal Commission, which led to the passing of the Poor Law Amendment Act of 1834, establishing a system of Poor Law Union Workhouses, supervised by locally elected boards and following national standards. Coincidentally, Abingdon had been planning to build a new workhouse at the time the Act was passed.

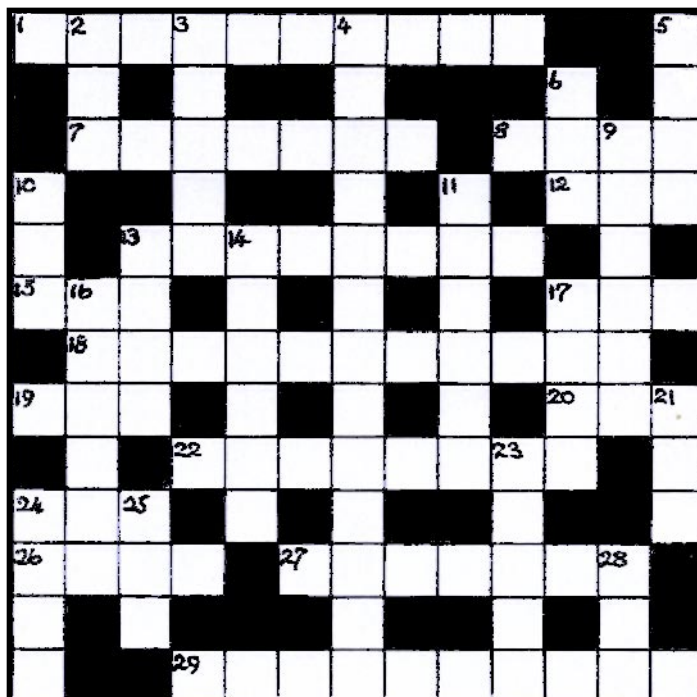
The Abingdon workhouse was on the Oxford Road, diagonally opposite St Edmund's church. It was a 4-storey, Y-shaped building, enclosed by a hexagonal outer wall. The master could watch all that went on from the windows of his parlour in the central hub of the building.

Workhouse inmates were divided by age and sex. Men worked at stone picking, bone crushing and gravel digging. Women did cleaning, cooking and laundry work. Children were often taught skills such as shoemaking and tailoring. Workhouse life was strict and monotonous, but inmates did at least have food, clothing and shelter. Abingdon workhouse finally closed in 1932 and the building was demolished soon after.

JUDITH FONTAINE

This is a very brief summary of a very entertaining talk. Visitors are most welcome at our meetings so, now that the evenings are drawing in, why not come?

NOVEMBER CROSSWORD BY ALISA



ACROSS

- 1 One who wishes one well (10)
- 7 The Way to Morland Road (7)
- 8 Stitched (4)
- 12 TV doctor (3)
- 13 Wantage MP (2.6)
- 15 Sweet potato (3)
- 17 Public Service Vehicle (3)
- 18 Marcham Society activity (7.4)
- 19 Flying mammal (3)
- 20 Yes (3)
- 22 In a supple way (8)
- 24 Snake (3)
- 26 As soon as (4)
- 27 Cheese (7)
- 29 Bed (10)

DOWN

- 2 Self (3)
- 3 Clear (5)
- 4 Local carpet cleaner (13)
- 5 Floor covering (4)
- 6 Not old (3)
- 9 Drink (6)
- 10 No (3)
- 11 Plover (6)
- 13 Discharge (4)
- 14 Letters (6)
- 16 River (6)
- 17 Drama (4)
- 21 Tree (3)
- 23 Water lily (5)
- 24 Weapon (4)
- 25 Card (3)
- 28 Born (3)

Finstock School - Christmas Fayre

Saturday 4th November

Finstock Village Hall

There will be Stalls:

Teas, Cakes, Tombola, Lucky dip

and a Visit from Santa

Children, Parents, Grandparents all come along

If you would like a stall to sell your Craft then

please contact Lorraine on 01993 869187

An Evening Of Poetry and Welsh Male Choral Music

With The

Archbishop Of Canterbury

Dolgellau Male Voice Choir

Oxford Welsh Male Voice Choir

Dorchester Abbey Dorchester on Thames

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 11TH 2006 7.30pm

Tickets £14 (£12 concession) available from:

Dawsons High St. Abingdon; DWR Music St Aldate's Oxford;

Wallingford Information Centre, Market Place

Ron Salter Oxford Welsh MVC 01869 331245

In Aid of: Oxfordshire Alzheimers Society & Poppy Appeal

Coordinated by the Oxford Welsh Male Voice Choir

talking science @ CCLRC RAL

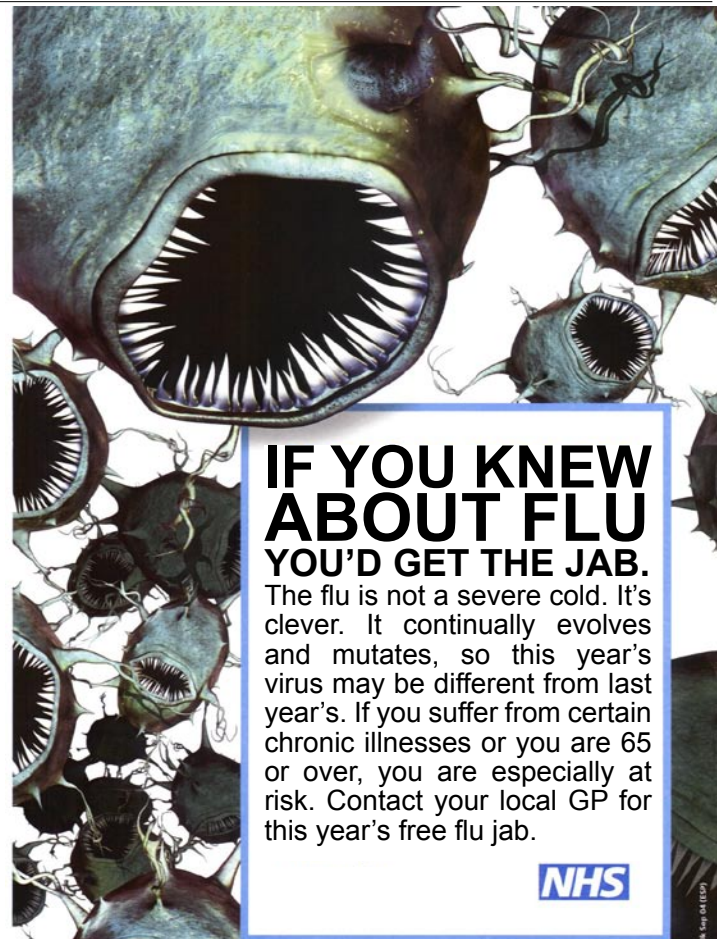
Friday 10 November 7pm **recommended for children 11+**

Rosetta on the road *Sim Barber, Open University*

Did life on earth start with micro-organisms brought by a comet? This is one of the questions which Rosetta may help answer. Rosetta is the first mission ever to land on a comet. After its lander reaches the comet, the main spacecraft will follow the comet for many months as it heads towards the Sun. Rosetta's task is to study comets, which are considered the primitive building blocks of the solar system.

Rutherford Appleton Laboratory and the Open University collaborated to produce the Ptolemy instrument that will fly on the Rosetta lander. It will analyse samples from the surface of the comet to establish what the cometary nucleus is made from thus providing valuable information about these most primitive objects in the Solar System.

Admission is free but booking is essential as places are limited. Booking opens four weeks prior to the lecture. To reserve places please either email talkingscience@rl.ac.uk or phone 01235 445959 (24hr answerphone).



IF YOU KNEW ABOUT FLU YOU'D GET THE JAB.

The flu is not a severe cold. It's clever. It continually evolves and mutates, so this year's virus may be different from last year's. If you suffer from certain chronic illnesses or you are 65 or over, you are especially at risk. Contact your local GP for this year's free flu jab.

NHS

FREE TO ANYONE WITH AN INTEREST IN LOCAL HISTORY

Berkshire Family History Society magazines.

Summer 1987 - Sept. 2006. 4 per year.

Oxfordshire Family History Soc. magazines.

Spring 1983 - August 2006. 3 per year.

Bucks Family History Society magazines.

Spring 1986 - December 1997. 4 per year.

Family Tree Magazine. Monthly.

October 1991 - April 2000.

Ring 01865 391328. Must go - or be recycled.

A CHANCE FOR MEN TO SING THIS CHRISTMAS

For men who have wanted to try singing four-part harmony in a choir, or perhaps come back to singing after a few years in the wilderness, the Wantage Men's Christmas Choir may be a great opportunity.

Some experienced singers, who perform regularly around the Wantage area, have decided to organise a special Choir to sing Carols in Wantage Town centre on Saturday 23rd December, between 10am and 3pm. The purpose, apart from having a good fun time and bringing smiles to the faces of last minute shoppers, is to raise funds for that worthy local cause, the Wantage Nursing Home Charitable Trust.

It's free to join the Choir and the only commitment is to attend five rehearsals on Wednesday evenings in Wantage, starting November 8th from 8pm to 10pm.

Music, learning materials and rehearsal tuition will all be provided by volunteer singers. To register for the choir just phone Jan Bridgeman on 01235 764898 or email b.bridgeman@virgin.net as soon as you can so that they can prepare sufficient tapes, CDs and music.

Be prepared for some uplifting harmonies and some serious fun. Wives and partners may also well appreciate you being out of the house for five weeks, doing something useful!

please contact the editor 01865 391725



Abingdon College & District Film Society

new season

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some old, many new • talks • special events

free brochure: Ab 522163 or info@abfilms.org.uk

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(British Federation of Film Societies awards)

www.abfilms.org.uk

Reg. Charity 292723

ABINGDON DRAMA CLUB presents

The Glass Menagerie

by Tennessee Williams

at the UNICORN THEATRE,

Medieval Abbey Buildings, Abingdon.

Wed 15th - Sat 18th November at 7.30 pm.

Tickets: £7 (concessions £6) from Dawson's Music or from Ticketline 01235 524538.

To get a notice or small advert included

November 2006

