www.marchamsociety.org.uk



^{The} Marcham Society

SEPTEMBER 2023 Volume 6, Issue 8

Society Newsletter

AGM and the first talk of the new 2023-24 programme Monday 25th September 2023

Alfred the Great: Local Lad Made Good

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This talk will be an introduction to the life and times of one of the best know Anglo Saxon kings. Alfred the Great was born in Berkshire, fought a strategic battle at Reading and some would say saved England from the Vikings.



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Heritage Weekend in Abingdon



Abingdon loves to celebrate its rich and very visible heritage. Every year in September joining in the Heritage Open Days programme which runs across the country, there is a diverse and entertaining programme to learn about Abingdon's past.

https://www.abingdonheritage.org.uk

The programme for Heritage Weekend 2023 includes:



All-Weekend Information Stall

The Heritage Weekend Information Stall will be in the centre of the Market Place for you to register for walks and talks, pick up trail leaflets and find out more about Open Properties and displays around the town.

Saturday 16th September 10am-4pm Sunday 17th September 10am-3pm



The word 'monument' can mean many different things. In this exhibition, we take it to mean major buildings and other structures which served public purposes, and which were deliberately designed to be impressive – to make an impact. All the Abingdon monuments in this exhibition were once very impressive constructions, but have now vanished completely.

https://www.abingdon.gov.uk/event/exhibition-lost-monuments-of-abingdon

The Astronomy Group

Meetings are once a month at 7pm on a Thursday evening and held in the Small Hall of the Marcham Centre — there is more information on page 4



Saturn 'at opposition' at 10.30 in the evening



Jim Asher took these two photographs from Marcham on Sunday 27th August 2023. Although there was some atmospheric interference, you can still see the 'Cassini division' in the rings on Saturn and the banding on the planet surface.

The Midweek Walks

Eric and Sheila Dunford will be leading their walks once a month on a Thursday, meeting at 12.30



Details of the next walk and where to meet are regularly circulated to members but for more information about arrangements, please email Eric: *e.dunford@btinternet.com*



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FUTURE DATES AND EVENTS

The next Midweek Walk is planned for **Thursday 14th September** We will be meeting at 12.30 pm.

Once the pub and the walk have been decided, Eric will email us with the details well in advance.



CORAL RAG 12

The latest issue of Coral Rag will be available in soon. The cover above features George Leader Fairbrother, a Marcham WW1 hero. There are many other people and items of local interest. *Order your copy in advance!*

Programme 2023-24

Unless otherwise notified, meetings will be held at 7.45 pm in the Main Hall of the Marcham Centre

Monday 25th September :

AGM followed by refreshments and talk "Local lad made good - Alfred the Great" talk by Mike Cooper

Thursday 28th September : Astronomy Group 7pm in the Small Hall "Summer Round Up, Solar Eclipse and Colour in Space"

Wednesday 18th October : Visit to Nuffield Place - 10.30am

Thursday 19th October : Astronomy Group 7pm in the Small Hall "*When the Chips are down*" talk by Chris Frost

Monday 23rd October : *"It's a bat's life"* talk by David Endacott

Monday 13th November : Visit to Aston Pottery - 10.30am

Thursday 23rd November : Astronomy Group 7pm in the Small Hall *"The Visible Universe"* talk by Max Whitby

Monday 27th November : *"Stonyborow - a clue to a Roman settlement in rural Oxfordshire?"* talk by Abigail Lloyd

Monday 11th December : CHRISTMAS PARTY in Small Hall at 6.30pm

Thursday 14th December : Astronomy Group 7pm in the Small Hall *"The Christmas Star"* - studies into its origin via a 'balloon debate'

The dates for 2024 are available on the website:

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