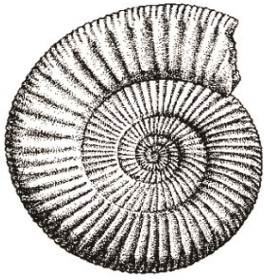


www.marchamsociety.org.uk



*The
Marcham
Society*

JANUARY 2025
Volume 8, Issue 1

Newsletter

A very Happy New Year 2025...

**Happy
New
Year
2025**

**...to all Marcham Society members
and their families!**

Photos from our Christmas Party *Page 2*



Thanks to Malvin and to Rosemary for the quizzes!



Following the round-up of recent news and Members Matter images, we looked at a series of favourite images, one for each month of the last year, including the Marcham aurora show in May and the comet captured during our October meeting.

Eric Dunford also showed us a telescope that has been gifted to the Society following a talk that he gave to a local Astronomy group.



The highlight of the evening was the Christmas Astronomy quiz, organised and hosted by Simon Blackmore. We were divided into two teams, with all team members encouraged to help answer twenty multiple-choice questions on a wide range of topics, all linked with an astronomy theme.

Many thanks to Simon for his ingenious questions, and to all who took part in the spirit of the season. The result was a narrow win (by the other team!).

Jim Asher

A link to the Quiz is on the Astronomy page of the Marcham Society's website (Answers are available on request)

The next meeting will be on Thursday 16th January 2025 starting at 7:00pm.

After the usual monthly round-up of news and sightings, we will have a talk from Prof Andy Bunker (Oxford Physics) about *"The James Webb Space Telescope at the Edge of the Universe - seeing the most distant galaxies yet"*.



Mars photographed from Marcham on 17th December 2024 – the snow covered south pole area is clearly visible.



Marcham Society Annual Lecture 2025

Monday 27th January

Dr Andrew McDowell



"World Youth Service and Enterprise Charity"

a talk by Dr Andrew McDowell

*Monday 27th January 2025 at 7.15 for 7.45pm in the 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.

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.

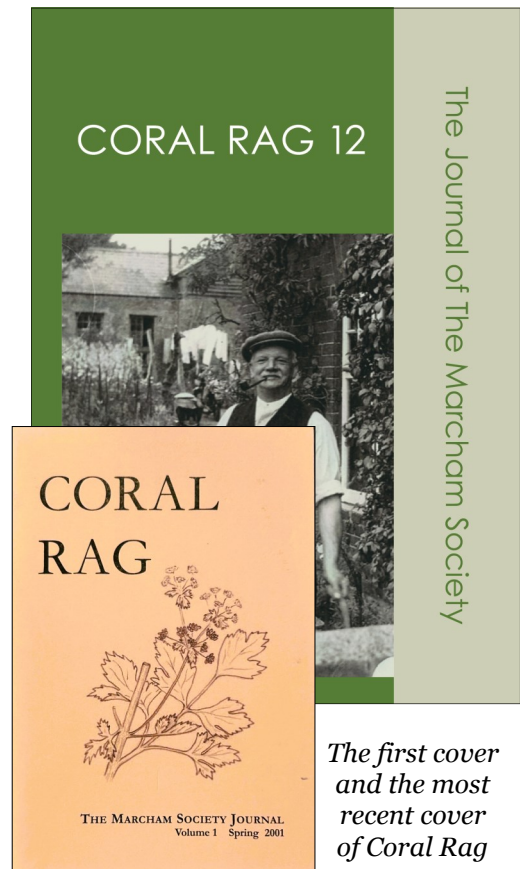
The Link to the WYSE website : www.wyse-ngo.org

Coral Rag is the Journal of the Marcham Society and its name is taken from the local coral rag-stone (Corallian limestone) on which Marcham stands. To quote Eric Dunford who wrote the foreword of the first volume in 2001:

"This title was chosen to show that we want to contain some lighter material as well as the more serious reports, but it also draws attention to the fact that our whole environment is based on the Corallian rocks beneath our feet and that most of our old buildings are made of this 'rag' stone."

Since then there have been another eleven volumes published with a variety of articles covering Archaeology, Natural History, History and many other topics that relate to the parish of Marcham and the surrounding countryside.

Most of these past volumes are still available in the Village Shop or from Sheila Tilley at our regular meetings.



The first cover and the most recent cover of Coral Rag

CORAL RAG 13

To celebrate the 30th year of the Marcham Society, we would like to publish a further volume, Coral Rag 13. We have a few articles already submitted but we would like to invite the members to write a contribution that involves the natural history, the past or more recent history of the village or its parish.

We would hope to review and collate articles by the end of January with the plan to be in print by Summer 2025. If you have a suggestion or an interest in writing a short piece, please contact:

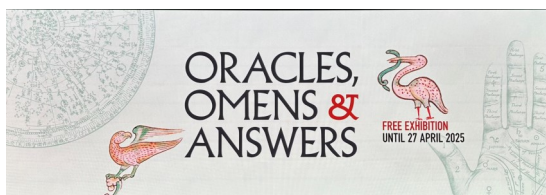
Sheila Tilley: sheilajtilley@gmail.com

The Midweek Walk

The January Midweek Walk will start at 12.30 on **Thursday 9th January 2025**

For more details on this or future walks please contact Eric Dunford:
e.dunford@btinternet.com
 01865 391439

WESTON LIBRARY EXHIBITIONS



Magna Carta 1215 1225

The 800th anniversary of the definitive issue of Magna Carta in 1225

Free, no ticket required
<https://visit.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/events-exhibitions>



Wednesday 5th February 2025:
 A visit to the Energy Recovery Facility at Ardley 10am - details will follow.



www.viridor.co.uk/energy/energy-recovery-facilities/ardley-erf

Programme

*Unless otherwise announced, evening meetings will be held in the Main Hall of the Marcham Centre.
 Doors open at 7.15 pm for 7.45 pm start.*

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2025

Thursday 9th January: Midweek Walk 12.30pm

Thursday 16th January: Astronomy Group 7pm
"The James Webb Space Telescope at the Edge of the Universe - seeing the most distant galaxies yet" a talk by Prof Andy Bunker

Monday 27th January: Annual Lecture: *"World Youth Service and Enterprise Charity"* a talk by Andrew McDowell

Wednesday 5th February: Trip to the Energy Recovery Facility at Ardley 10am (*see on the left*)

Thursday 13th February: Astronomy Group 7pm
"Solar missions and the role of RAL" a talk by Richard Harrison

Monday 24th February: *"Coleshill: Nerve Centre of British Resistance"* a talk by Gillian Cane

Thursday 13th March: Astronomy Group 7pm
"A History of the Calendar - What happened to the Missing Ten Days" a talk by Kevin Langley

Monday 24th March: *"A History of Christ's Hospital, Abingdon"* a talk by Jackie Smith

Thursday 10th April: Astronomy Group 7pm

Monday 28th April:
"George Owen, Royal Physician" a talk by Paul Whitton

Look out for links, photos and reminders on the Marcham Society Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/marchamsociety/>



Marcham and District News

MAD News for January and also past issues are available on line:

<https://www.madnews.co.uk/index.php>

If you would like to help with the production of MAD News please contact the editor : editor@madnews.co.uk