



The  
Marcham  
Society

FEBRUARY 2022  
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# Newsletter

## A Marcham Society Outing



### Kingston Bagpuize House - Tuesday 15th February

Virgina Grant has kindly offered Marcham Society members a tour of the gardens at Kingston Bagpuize House to see the spectacular display of snowdrops. We hope to have a gardener on hand to answer questions.

There will be tea and cakes available after the tour at a cost of £5 (payable on the day).

For more information contact Shirley: [shirley.marsoc@gmail.com](mailto:shirley.marsoc@gmail.com)



## JANUARY TALK IN THE MARCHAM CENTRE

### MARCHAM SOCIETY ANNUAL LECTURE Monday 24th January 2022



During his talk in the Marcham Centre, James Gilbert described his life and work as 'Consultant Transplant and Vascular Access Surgeon'. He works as a Surgeon at the Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust and is a specialist in Kidney & Pancreas Transplantation and Vascular access surgery. He has an interest and expertise in patients with central vein pathology.

His PowerPoint presentation had many pictures of his private and professional life, photos of his past and his family, cartoons and graphs as well as graphic diagrams and even pictures from hospital operations. He spoke of the pressures and challenges of his work but his enthusiasm and total dedication were apparent too. His humour also shone through even the more gory moments especially as he described himself as a medical 'plumber'.

In one of his slides, he summarised his life very simply with these heading:

*Summer of 1976 birth*

*Proud Brummie*

*Sports enthusiast*

*Life-long Aston Villa Fan, Skier, F1 fanatic*

*Keen runner and very amateur triathlete*

*Follower of Jesus*

*Husband & Dad*

*University Southampton Graduate 2000*

*Love to travel and photography*

*Keen cook and enjoy good wine, friends & odd cigar*

*Consultant Transplant & Vascular Access Surgeon 2010*



## JANUARY TALK IN THE MARCHAM CENTRE



*The audience in the Main Hall and James Gilbert giving his talk*

His talk was very well attended with over 90 in the audience—half present in the Marcham Centre hall and the other members online, linked in by Zoom. There were many questions, medical and moral from both groups - James answered all of them knowledgeably and with conviction.

Even though some members still preferred to stay at home, it was good to have a meeting in number and share a glass of wine together in the Marcham Centre. Our thanks to James for such an interesting ‘Annual Lecture’ and to all those who helped in the organisation and shared the evening with us.



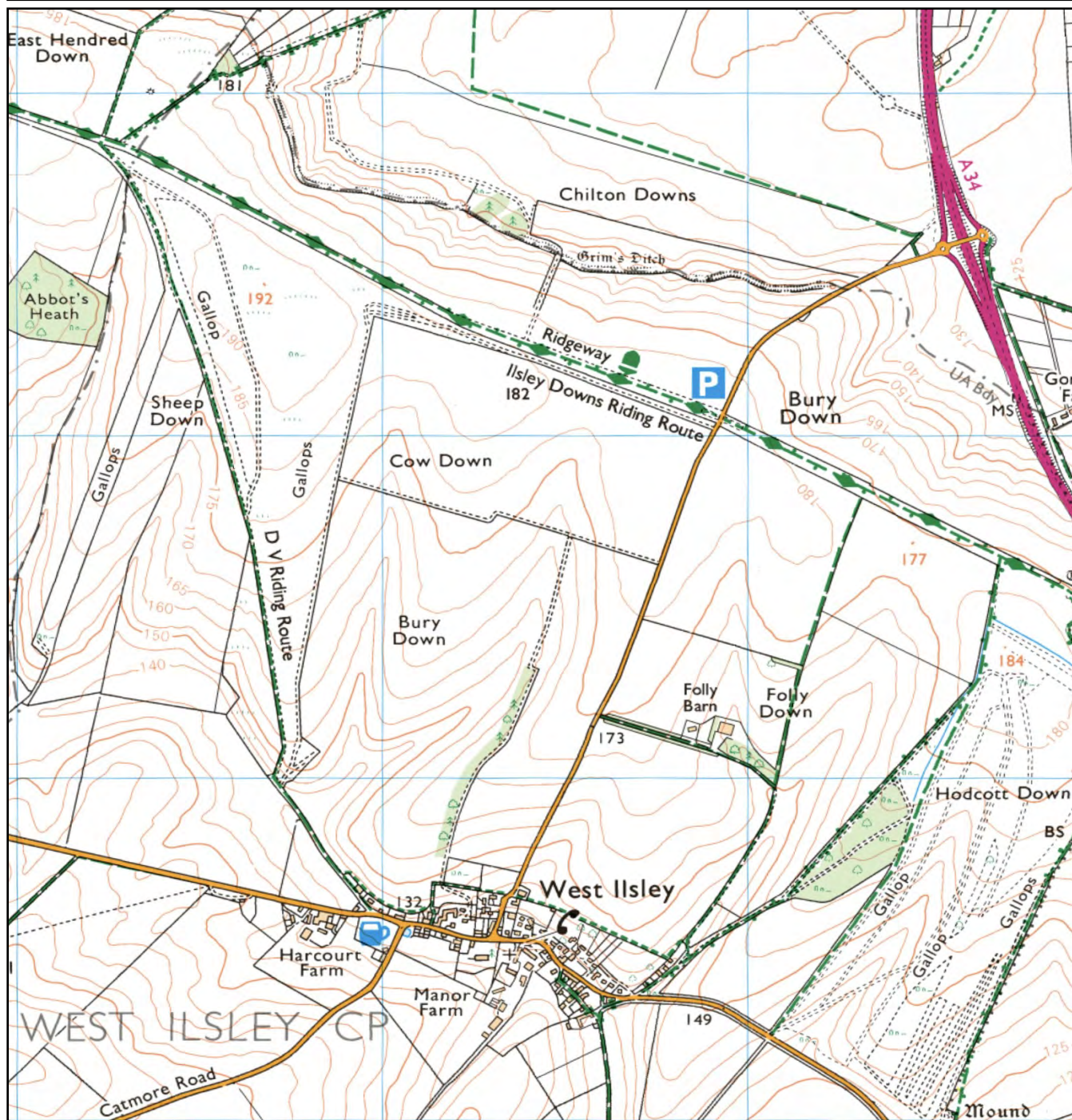
*Two less gory illustrations from James’ PowerPoint presentation!*



## Mid-Week Walk on the RIDGEWAY

Eric and Sheila Dunford organised another enjoyable midweek walk on Thursday 20th January. Rather than have lunch in a crowded pub and also to make the most of the short winter daylight, the walkers met at the Bury Down car park on the Ridgeway for a five mile circuit anticlockwise via West Ilsley. The route passed west along the Ridgeway, down alongside the gallops towards the Harrow pub returning near Hodcott Down to the carpark. *(See the map below with thanks to the Ordnance Survey).*

For information about the next Midweek Walk, planned for Thursday 10th February, please email Eric : [e.dunford@btinternet.com](mailto:e.dunford@btinternet.com)





**TWO PHOTOS FROM THE JANUARY MID-WEEK WALK**





## NEXT EVENT and FUTURE DATES

This publicity for February's talk is also to be found in MAD News and on Facebook



**Monday**  
**28th February**  
**7.15 for 7.45pm**  
**Marcham Centre**

**Treasures beneath our feet and finding the Watlington Hoard**  
*James Mather*

The Watlington hoard was discovered by James Mather in 2015. During his career in Marketing, James developed a hobby in metal detecting and has had numerous exciting finds including individual Treasure items and several hoards. Once retired, he achieved his most important find to date, the very valuable and archaeologically significant Watlington Viking Hoard, now on permanent display in the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford.

Over the years James has published numerous magazine articles and has appeared on Radio Berkshire in "The Big Dig" and on National TV in Professor Alice Roberts' "Digging For Britain" series. His talk will cover some background information on responsible metal detecting, a selection of interesting local finds and the discovery, excavation, conservation and significance of the Watlington Hoard.



For more information contact  
[membership@marchamsociety.org.uk](mailto:membership@marchamsociety.org.uk)  
[www.marchamsociety.org.uk](http://www.marchamsociety.org.uk)  
Facebook: [marchamsociety](https://www.facebook.com/marchamsociety)

### *Dates for the Diary*

*Unless otherwise notified, future meetings will be held in the Main Hall of the Marcham Centre*

#### **2022**

#### **Monday 28th February :**

**"The Watlington Hoard"**

by James Mather

#### **Monday 28th March :**

**"The Lost Villages of Oxfordshire"**

by Dr Muriel Pilkington

#### **Monday 25th April :**

**Members' Evening - speakers to be announced**

#### **Monday 23rd May :**

**"High Society Scandals in Oxfordshire"**

by Julie Ann Godson

#### **Monday 27th June :**

**"The History of Kingston Baguize House"**

by Virginia Grant

#### **Saturday 16th July :**

***Summer BBQ***

#### **IN THE HALL:**

The Main Hall will be open at **7.15 pm** and we will aim to start the talk at **7.45 pm**. As for previous meetings, there will be Covid Protocols in place for the meeting (details are to be found on the website).

Please could all those attending in person be sure to sign in with Shirley Eccles. Guests attending the talk in the hall should see the Treasurer, John Guast, upon arrival.

#### **ON ZOOM:**

For those at a distance, safeguarding or feeling cautious about Covid, there will be a Zoom link sent out by email beforehand. Those on Zoom will be held in a waiting room until **7.30 pm**. and during the talk will be muted. If they have questions at the end of the talk, they will be able to use the chat function. These questions will then be relayed and repeated by the speaker for the audience in the hall.

If you have friends wishing to join online, please ask them to email: [membership@marchamsociety.org.uk](mailto:membership@marchamsociety.org.uk)