

*The
Marcham
Society*

JULY 2022
Volume 5, Issue 7

Newsletter

The Marcham Society Summer BBQ



Our Annual Summer BBQ will be held this year on **Saturday 16th July** by kind invitation of Di Hutchings in her beautiful garden in Cothill.

Before the BBQ Eric Dunford will lead a short walk at 4pm around the Cothill area for those who would like to join him and the BBQ will start promptly at 5pm.

There is ample parking and if the weather is wet, we will have the shelter of a marquee. All food and drinks are provided - please let us know if you have special dietary needs.

If you would like to come, we are asking for prepayment of £8 per member. Please contact Shirley Eccles by email: shirley.marsoc@gmail.com

We are expecting large numbers for the BBQ and so for catering reasons, we must have **PREPAYMENT**. Please do not turn up on the day if you haven't booked and paid!

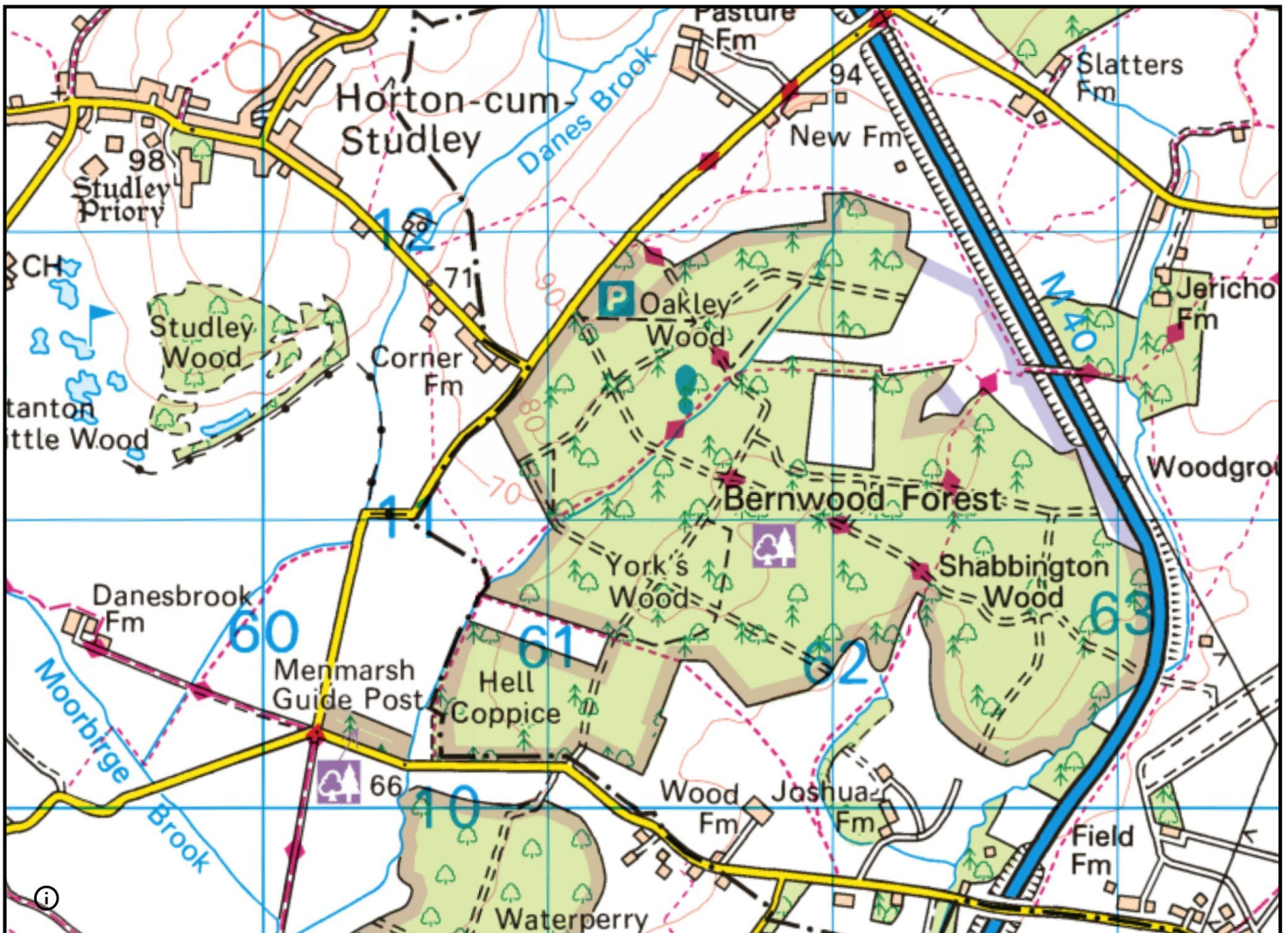
The June Mid-Week Walk

Eric and Sheila Dunford organised another midweek walk on Thursday 9th June. The walkers met for a 12.30 lunch at the 'Abingdon Arms' in Beckley.

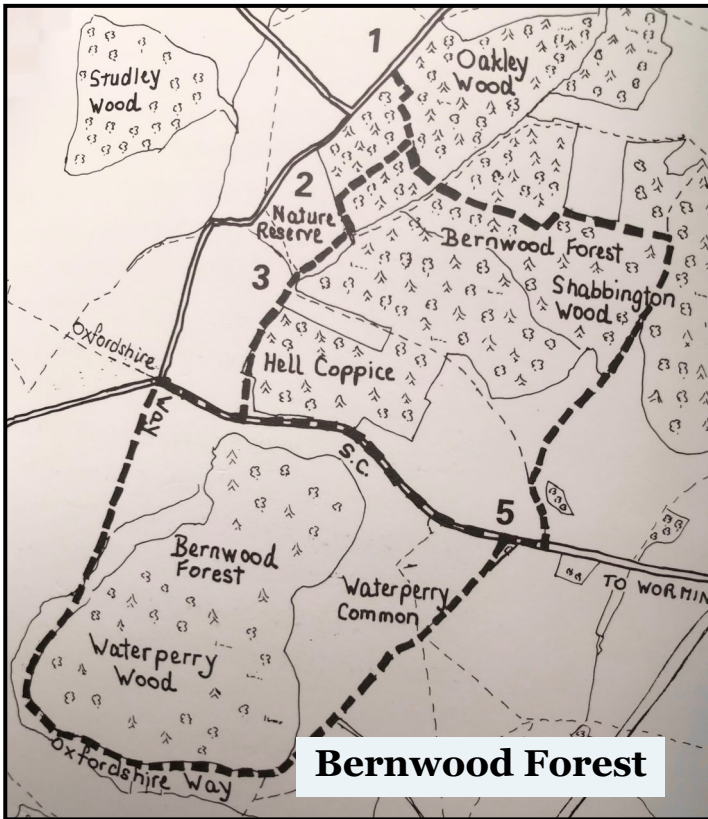
After a good lunch, cars were parked in Oakley Wood and the group walked through York's Wood towards Hell Coppice appreciating the multitude of Orchids growing beside the paths. Although we were close to the M40 the peace of the woodland was not disturbed. Some were happy that there were few stiles to be climbed. On the return walk via Shabbington Wood, we met three groups of DofE students carrying heavy backpacks and pondering over their maps. They were given lots of useful advice and encouraging comments.

(See the map below for the location, with thanks to the Ordnance Survey).

For information about the next Midweek Walk please email Eric : e.dunford@btinternet.com



PHOTOS FROM THE JUNE MID-WEEK WALK



THE JUNE TALK IN THE MARCHAM CENTRE

Unfortunately Virginia Grant was unable to give her talk on the History of Kingston Bagpuize House due to Covid but, to avoid cancelling the evening and to save us at the last moment, Muriel Pilkington offered to give us a talk on *The Mitfords in the Cotswolds'*

For over an hour and with over eighty slides, Muriel enthralled us with the history of the family, their different homes and an account of the lives of the famous Mitford Sisters. Many of her pictures were from the family albums and she amazed us by the depth of her knowledge and her memory for names and dates. Her talk was peppered with anecdotes and amusing stories.

Over sixty members and guests enjoyed the evening - most of the audience were in the main hall of the Marcham Centre though some were logged on from home via Zoom.



Swinbrook Church where most of the family are buried

THE JUNE TALK IN THE MARCHAM CENTRE

Muriel speaking in the
Marcham Centre



**David and
Sydney
Mitford's
children**
(with date of birth)

Nancy 1904
Pamela 1907
Thomas 1909
Diana 1910
Unity 1914
Jessica 1917
Deborah 1920



Five Sisters
Jessica, Nancy, Diana, Unity and Pamela
in 1935 perhaps taken by Deborah

FUTURE DATES AND EVENTS

The Marcham Society in the Shop Window



Look out for the new window display planned for the first two weeks of August that will feature various aspects of the Marcham Society's activities.

To offer ideas, suggestions and help, please contact Sheila Dunford

sheila.dunford@btinternet.com

MARCHAM SOCIETY ARCHIVES

Work organising, collating and recording the Society's archives continues and there are regular sessions in the Marcham Centre.

If you are interested in helping, please email: sheilajtilley@gmail.com

New Programme 2022-23

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

Monday 26th September

Annual General Meeting followed by:

"The Making of the Marcham Centre Sign" by Suzanne O'Driscoll

"Looking back at the Sky" by Jim Asher

There will be an interval for cake and refreshments. Jim will lead a Skywatch outside after his Astronomy talk.

Monday 24th October

"High Society Scandals in Oxfordshire" by Julie Ann Godson

Monday 28th November

"The Commonwealth War Graves Commission" by Karen Elliott

Monday 12th December

Christmas Party in the Marcham Centre

2023

Monday 23rd January

ANNUAL LECTURE by Michael Worthing

"Sourcing 2nd century lava paving stones from Trajan's Market in Rome subsidized by plunder from the Dacian Wars"

Details on other talks and future events can be found on:
www.MarchamSociety.org.uk