

ED VAIZEY WRITES...

I'm delighted to wish readers of MADNews a merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I was pleased to learn that plans for the development of the Anson Trust land are now being taken forward with the whole community, and I am sorry to have missed the meeting where this was all discussed. DO please keep me informed of all developments.



It's been an interesting few months, slotting in my ministerial responsibilities with my on-going commitment to you as your constituency MP. In the constituency the main issue of concern remains housing, with vigorous debates taking place in Wantage, Grove, Didcot and the surrounding villages, and Wallingford, about the amount of housing and where it should be built. No one is ever going to be happy when new homes are built near where they live, and I do not envy our local councils having to make these decisions. In the coming months, Parliament may pass a Bill to give villages and towns the right to apply for additional housing where they want it, which may change the nature of the debate.

Despite the recession, this area continues to do well economically. The huge investment in science at Harwell and Culham is being maintained, which means more businesses will open at Milton Park, and the new business park at Harwell. I visit a lot of the businesses at Milton Park, and am constantly amazed at the innovation which is taking place on our doorstep.

The war is never far away, and in Didcot a plaque has been dedicated at the war memorial for the bomb disposal regiment based there, as well as an express train run by First Great Western. It was a privilege for me to visit one of our local soldiers in Birmingham who had been recently injured.

As ever, please feel free to contact me.

ED VAIZEY, MP Wantage and Didcot (Con)

MP'S SURGERY WITH ED VAIZEY

5.30-7.00pm, unless stated otherwise

10 Dec	Wantage , Civic Hall
Contact Ed Vaizey by	
Post	The House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA
E-mail	vaizeye@parliament.uk
Web	www.vaizey.com
Tel	0207 219 6350

MSSSC: Marcham Sports, Scouts & Social Club
The pavilion & field off Morland Road

Both teams play in the North Berks Football League (track their latest progress on the web site <http://www.nbfl.co.uk>). As I write Marcham FC are currently 3rd in Division 2, having played fewer games than both teams above them. Marcham Reserves are 2nd in Division 5, but more impressively have a 100% record, played 7, won 7. I apologise now for the inevitable curse I have just inflicted on both sides.

Don't forget we are open every Friday night from 8pm, now with the added interest of the weekly Bonus Ball Raffle most Fridays. There is a £15 prize and the winner also has the chance to win the accumulating jackpot. Full details are available in the club. The last Friday in the month is always a real ale, adults-only night.

• **Friday 10th Dec** – Christmas Quiz Night starting at 8.30. Don't forget you can also enter the Friday Jackpot Raffle!

• **Saturday 17th Dec** The Annual Christmas Draw
We look forward to seeing you at the club
For more info contact Geoff Dix, secretary
on 391577 or geoff.dix@hotmail.com

NOVEMBER CROSSWORD ANSWERS

ACROSS: 3 Ash 6 Disarm 3 Clock 1 Sion 11 Bored 14 Ornate 16 Radley College 17 Peewit 19 Elder 21 Zero 22 Aback 24 Scull 25 One

DOWN: 1 Cupboard 2 Erse 4 Senior Citizen 5 PC 7 Midweek walk 8 Cornflowers 9 Kid 12 Reader 13 Uttered 15 Tendrils 18 Tea 20 Lock 23 BT

MARCHAM CRICKET CLUB

Although Christmas and the New Year are yet to come, the start of the 2011 OCA Season is not that far away. Accordingly, Marcham CC would be pleased to hear from those interested in playing for the Club – any age and level of ability welcome.



Information (including the commencement of Nets) may be obtained from Trevor Hill (391321). Also, Trevor may be contacted by those interested in umpiring on behalf of the Club.

Best Wishes for the Festive Season.

CSB

MARCHAM PLAYERS

We are pleased to report that the society remains very active despite our lack of dramatic productions in recent times.



Recent theatre visits to see Giles Brandeth and Hamlet proved most enjoyable and other outings are being organised for the future. Regretfully, our Great Pleasure evening of ghost stories, hocus pocus and the like, planned for Halloween was cancelled. Sunday, upon which Halloween fell, proved to be an unpopular day of the week for a social gathering and we will bear this in mind for the future. We will organise a similarly themed evening some time next year, probably on a Friday which seems a more convenient day.

Also planned for next year, **Friday 28th January** to be exact, is a play reading of the Monkey's Paw. Many people will remember that the Players put on a production of this a few years ago and we all suffered sleepless nights afterwards as a result – I believe this was due to scary content of the play rather than the quality of the acting, although the memory does tend to play tricks on you. However, I can promise a really exciting evening, enlivened by the usual refreshments, and hope that you will be able to join us at the boardroom, Manor Farm for this occasion. Starting time will be 7.30pm

Finally, one other date for your diary is our Annual General Meeting to be held on **Friday 25th February** at All Saints' Church. It is an important evening for us and we do hope that all our supporters will be able to join us. Start will also be 7.30pm

TIM OWEN

If you would like further information about the Marcham Players then please contact Dave Hutchinson, our chairman, on 01865 391964 or Joey Maclean, our secretary, on 01865 391242.

www.marchamplayers.co.uk



NEARLY THE GOAT ...
AND HIS UNEXPECTED ADVENTURE
(suitable for 5 upwards)

A Christmas play by Nigel Forde
Performed by

RIDING LIGHTS THEATRE COMPANY
at All Saints', Marcham, OX13 6PE

Monday 20 December at 2pm

Information and tickets available from Janey Cumber 391327

11 and under £4 over 11 £6

Riding Lights is an independent theatre company based in York, touring nationally with over 30 years of professional experience.
www.ridinglights.org