

Dear Readers

I have been scanning through early copies of MADNews from 1979 and found these hilarious comments from the editor, Jonathan Page:

Still no 'letters to the Editor' have arrived, but I am still hoping that one day.....

With regard to the series on the history of the area, we still need someone to fill in between Roman times and the Ninth century, also from the eleventh Century onwards...

Plans for an early summer MADNews birthday party are now underway and I am looking forward to inviting you all to share in the celebration.

Until next time



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Advertising: 5pm 15th month
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ADDITIONAL COPIES

These are available free from Marcham Post Office or the Editor. Postal copies are also available – contact the Editor.

NOTES The Editor reserves the right to alter, omit or hold over copy to another issue. The views expressed in the Marcham & District News are not necessarily those of the editorial team.

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PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Post Office

The Council has written to the Post Office Authorities stating the importance of retaining a Post Office facility within the village. The Authorities have recognised the need for a Post Office in Marcham given that it was not one earmarked for closure under the network review, and is very keen to keep a Post Office in Marcham. However, the Post Office Authority has a responsibility to make sure every branch makes the best possible use of resources while ensuring that customers can still access products and services. To this end, the Council has been given an assurance that the Post Office will continue to work to find a solution that will provide a Post Office presence in the community in Marcham. In fact the Council understands that the Post Office authorities are cooperating with the owners of Marcham PO and Stores in trying to find a temporary sub post master to provide a stand-in service while the property is advertised. **The current Post Office in North Street will close on 22nd April.** Until the situation has been fully considered and a decision made, residents can use the facilities at the branch in Abingdon at 5-13 West St. Helen Street, Abingdon Monday to Saturday 09.00 – 17.30 or the Kingston Bagpuize branch in Faringdon Road, Kingston Bagpuize Monday to Friday 09.00 – 17.30 and Saturday 09.00 – 12.30. These Post Offices are served by buses 31 to Abingdon and X15 to Kingston Bagpuize. The Parish Council is in correspondence with the Post Office Authority trying to ensure that the closure of the Post Office in Marcham is kept to a minimum and asking that it is fully involved in working together for the best solution for community.

Oxfordshire County Council - Bus Routes X30 and X31 and Street Lighting

The Council would thank those parishioners who took the trouble to reply to the articles last month and let the Council know their views on the proposed premium bus routes and the switching off of street lighting overnight.

Bus Stop at Duffield Place

As part of the improvements to the no. 31 bus route, it has been proposed that a bus shelter be sited at the Eastbound (Abingdon direction) stop at the start of Howard Cornish Road near North Street/Sheepstead Road opposite Duffield Place. In addition real time information is being considered for all 4 Eastbound stops in the village, as well as a cycle rack at the Budgens garage for those who like to use the X30 service along the A338.

Annual Parish Meeting

The annual meeting for all electors in the parish will take place on Wednesday 20th May at 7.30 p.m. in the hall at Marcham Primary School. The guest speakers have been confirmed as the Vale of White Horse District Council who will talk about its

development framework for the district and how Marcham is affected. The District Council produced its strategy document last year, and has now published its preferred options as far as locations for new homes, jobs, shops, roads and leisure and community facilities are concerned. For those who wish to do some background reading the Core Strategy document is available on the District Council's website at www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk under planning policy. In addition, Mr. Malcolm Denton, Chairman of the local Neighbourhood Action Group will give a presentation on the work of the group in the area.

North Street junction with A415 – Telegraph Pole

The Council has written to Scottish Southern Electric regarding the location of the telegraph pole at the junction of North Street/A415 which was causing some concern for motorists leaving North Street and turning right. Unfortunately they do not share the concern of the motorists and cannot fund its relocation. They were happy to provide a quotation for the Parish Council to fund its removal. The Council thought that the costs, should it be able to fund such work, would be extremely expensive and it was therefore agreed at the last meeting not to pursue this idea.

Thames Valley Police – Community Policing Awards

Thames Valley Police has launched a competition to highlight the contribution its staff makes to communities. There are five award categories including community police officers, special constables, police community support officers, police volunteers and student officers. The competition is an opportunity for the public to put forward a member of staff who they think deserves recognition for their service to the community. The deadline for entries is 17th April. Nomination forms are available on the Police website at www.thamesvalley.police.uk

Surviving the downturn advice and guidance

The District Council has set up a page on its website to help residents and businesses access local information about how to survive the current economic downturn. The information can be found at: http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk/Business/Surviving_the_downturn_-_help_and_advice/default.asp

Date of Next Council Meeting:

Wednesday 8 April 2009 at 7.30pm. in the residents' lounge, Duffield Place.

Clerk to the Council: Mrs. L. Martin,
90 Howard Cornish Rd, 01865 391833

www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk

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