

MARCHAM PLAYERS

presents an evening of comedy drama with a theme of... **“SECRETS!!!”**
Three one-act plays based on intrigue, suspicion, falsehood and even treachery..

- ▶ *What shall we do with the body?*
- ▶ *What brutes men are!*
- ▶ *Open Secrets*



At All Saints Church

7.30 pm Friday 8th December & Saturday 9th December

Tickets £5 and £4 concessions from Post Office or on the door

Light refreshments will be served

For more details call Joey Maclean 391242

or Dave Hutchinson 391964

TIM OWEN

www.marchamplayers.co.uk

MARCHAM CRICKET CLUB

Some readers perhaps will have noticed that the Cricket square is already starting to show signs of new growth following the recent application of loam and seed.



The new playing Season is still some months away; however, if any reader is interested in playing for, or umpiring on behalf of the Club during the 2007 Season please contact Graham Hill (391415) or Terry Whittaker (391317).

Historical items relating to cricket in England for the month of December appear to be, perhaps not surprisingly, somewhat scarce. However, our historian has unearthed an item from around the time of the Suez Crisis. Thus, a report from a Committee Meeting of 11th December 1956 contains the following:

Petrol. Owing to the present petrol rationing, it was agreed that Mr. Steptoe try to obtain four gallons for use in the Club's motor mower.

Also, another “winter” item has come to light in the form of a report from Jacksons Oxford Journal of 14th November 1835.

Thus: *“Abingdon Nov. 12. On Tuesday last a Match of single cricket, which for various reasons excited unusual interest, was played on our Race Course, by Mr. Thomas Ware and George Brown, both of Marcham, and which came off as follows.*

First innings, Ware 1 Brown 0!

Second innings, Ware 3 and Brown 2, which very plainly proves, either that the bowling was particularly good, or the batting amazingly bad. Those who know the parties will feel little difficulty in deciding this point”.

CLIVE BENNETT

THE MARCHAM KNITTING PROJECT EXTENDS ITS VISION

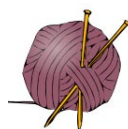
The village knitters are proceeding apace, with quite a few jumpers being transported to Moldova since the summer and a large number of soft toys and blankets being taken out to South Africa in October.



As well as the toys and blankets, we were generously given some surplus kit by West Ham United Football Academy and we were able to donate it to two football teams in the Hoedspruit / Acornhoek area (Limpopo Province). The team members range from about 10 years old to pretty-well fully grown, but we had a variety of sizes, which was perfect.

HOWEVER, we noticed that football boots were in very short supply amongst the players Does anyone in the village have one (or more!) pair(s) of old boots (in reasonable condition, obviously!) that they would be prepared to donate for us to take out to South Africa? If so, please contact Alison or Nick Lawrie on 391540 and we will be very happy to collect them.

PS: Please don't stop knitting though!!!



NEIGHBOURHOOD ACTION GROUPS (NAGS)

What is neighbourhood policing?

Neighbourhood policing is about making sure that the police, working together with other agencies, provide the service that people want by tackling the issues that are important to them.

How does neighbourhood policing work?

Each neighbourhood, or group of neighbourhoods, will have its own dedicated policing team made up of uniformed police officers, special constables and Police Community Support Officers.

These teams will work closely with representatives of other agencies to tackle issues of concern that residents have identified following consultation. The issues may not all be police matters but the NAG team has access to the Vale, Housing Authorities etc and can request that action be taken to address an issue.

Neighbourhood Action Groups (NAGs) will also be formed to help look at the priorities that have been identified, and determine how they can be tackled. These working groups will have representatives from the community, police, local councils and other agencies depending on the priorities.

What is a neighbourhood?

For the purpose of introducing neighbourhood policing, the definition of a neighbourhood is: “A geographic area defined through local agreement of police, partners and citizens and of a size and character that best serves the needs of the local community and permits effective delivery.”

Marcham is part of a larger area covered by 1 sergeant, 3 PCs and 1 Police Community Support Officer (and hopefully more to follow) – this means that if Paul is not available we still have access to the rest of the team via **0845 8 505 505 – the non-emergency number**. This will connect you with either Kidlington or Windsor control centre.

What are the advantages of neighbourhood policing?

The main advantage is that members of the public will know who their local officers are and know how to contact their neighbourhood team. Neighbourhood policing will also ensure that the issues causing communities the most concern will be tackled.

A leaflet called ‘Your guide to Neighbourhood Policing’ is also available, and copies can be requested by calling 01865 846542 or by visiting <http://www.tvpa.police.uk>.

Meeting held on 9 November

Five police officers attended the meeting along with approx 30 residents including 4 under-18s. We met our new area beat officer – Paul Reece (see cover for his photo) and other members of the Neighbourhood Team including Sgt Price who is in charge!

Each officer introduced himself (the female PCSO wasn't able to attend) and we were told that Carterton has had NAG for about 18 months and crime has reduced by 27%.

This first meeting identified the issues that are most important to Marcham and these will be combined with those voted from the other areas and a priority list created. Regular NAG team meetings will decide how to take action and monitor progress. The other items on our list won't be forgotten but will be addressed as and when possible.

The group discussion and voting identified these issues for Marcham (listed in order of importance):

- **Speeding**
- **Parking**
- **Littering and Fly-tipping**

I am one of the representatives on the NAG Team so I will keep you informed of any progress and if you would like to suggest anything to the team, let me know in the usual way – please make sure you mark it NAG (I won't take it personally!). The next NAG Team meeting is on 6 December.

MERIEL LEWIS