

Dear Readers This is the time of year when I have to get Christmassy far too early for my liking - one of the downsides of publishing in advance. However, I do wish you all a very happy holiday season whether it be Bhaubeej, Bodhi Day, Chahar, Christmas, Diwali, Dong zhi, Eid ul-Adha, Feast of Fools, Hanukkah, Holy Innocents' Day, Imbolc, Lupercalia, Matariki, Modranect, Sadeh, St Basil's Day, St John the Evangelist's Day, St Nicholas' Day, St Stephen's Day, St Sylvester's Day, Samhain, Saturnalia, Shanbeh Suri, Tu Bishvat, Watch Night, Winter Solstice, Yalda, Yule or whatever you prefer to celebrate!

Don't Forget: The deadline for the January issue is 15th of December for articles, notices, adverts and anything else you might like to send!
Until next time



PUBLISHER/EDITOR

Meriel Lewis
8 Orchard Way, Marcham
Abingdon OX13 6PP
Tel: 01865 391725
Website: www.madnews.co.uk
Email: editor@madnews.co.uk

ADVERTISING

Contact the Editor

DISTRIBUTORS

Judith & Peter Fontaine
14 Tower Close, Marcham
Abingdon Tel: 01865 391275

DEADLINES

Advertising: 5pm 15th month
Other copy: 5pm 20th month
except for Jan when it is 15th Dec for both

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.

POLICE

PCSO Laura Schmid
Tel: 0845 8 505 505

COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Iain Brown
Janus, Westcot Lane, Sparsholt, Wantage,
Oxon OX12 9PZ Tel: 01235 751210
Email: iainbrownconservatives@yahoo.co.uk

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Marcham and Shippon
Jane Hanna
4 Charlton Road, Wantage OX12 8ER
Tel: 01235 772782

Email: janehanna@dial.pipex.com
For other councillors go to

www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk

© Marcham & District News 2008

The copying of any part of this publication without written authorisation is not permitted.
December 2008

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Parishioner of the Year Award

For the past 5 years the Council has awarded a Parishioner of the Year Award to a local person or persons who have devoted much time and energy working within the community. There are many people who would be worthy recipients, and the Council is now inviting nominations for the next award. Would anyone who wishes to submit a nomination, please contact the clerk, whose details appear below, sending a short statement of not more than 200 words, as to who he/she wishes to nominate and the reasons why the person should receive the award. The deadline for receipt of nominations is 31st January, 2009

Youth Shelter

The Parish Council has instructed a contractor to carry out some renovations to the youth shelter in the Anson field. Work should start in a few weeks so that the shelter can be used again once the better weather is here. The roof will be cleaned and a finial placed in the centre. The plywood will be covered with coloured panels, an extended base installed which will improve the area and allow for it to be better swept. The columns will be repainted and the seating area improved.

Longfields – play area

The Parish Council has agreed to take a Licence from W. Cumber & Son (Theale) Ltd for the piece of land on the Eastern side of Longfields near the latest phase of housing development for use for public recreation purposes. The intention is to create a safe area for children to play away from the road, and it hopefully will provide a secure area for young children away from the fast traffic in Howard Cornish Road.

Weed Killing

The Parish Council has been very concerned at the lack of weed treatment on the footways in the village. The County Council has not sprayed the weeds for 2 seasons and it shows. That authority sets its road maintenance budget in March each year, so it will not be known for some months whether the spraying will be done or not in 2009. In view of this, the Parish Council has obtained a quotation to undertake weed spraying in the village. It, however needs the permission of the County Council to do the work under an agency agreement. The Council feels the spraying will need doing at least twice in the season, so has written to the County Council for permission and has also asked them to fund at least 50% of the cost.

Air Quality Action Plan for Abingdon

The town centre has been found with high levels of nitrogen dioxide owing to traffic. Officers from local authorities are researching



We would like to extend our thanks to the village and Church communities for the enormous support we received following Sarah's fatal accident.

Your help with the Thanksgiving Service and afterwards at the Sports & Social Club were greatly appreciated as were all the cards, messages of condolence and other gifts.

On behalf of the Marcham Guides and Wantage Silver Band we thank you for your generous donations.

We are finding the loss of Sarah enormously difficult to come to terms with and we hope that you will continue to remember Sarah in your thoughts and prayers.

**Gill, John
and James Waterhouse**

measures which might form part of an action plan. A draft plan is being produced for consultation. One idea put forward to reduce the number of vehicles in the town centre is to possibly create an HGV park at the Marcham Interchange just west off the A34. The Parish Council has a representative who will be attending future meetings of a working group to closely monitor any proposals that may affect the village.

Date of Next Council Meeting:
Wednesday 10 Dec 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

**The Council wishes everyone
a happy Christmas**