

Dear Readers

I hope you all enjoyed Christmas and are looking forward to a peaceful New Year. It seems to have come round so quickly and 2006 marks the beginning of my third year of editing. What has changed? We have colour on the cover, page numbers and, I am glad to say, a thriving community who take the time to write reports, articles, poems and letters that provoke, delight and inform us every month.

I recently had the pleasure of meeting some of the distributors and have the utmost admiration for their dedication to delivering MADNews to us through snow, rain, hail and, occasionally, sunshine!

So as you sit flicking through the pages, spare a thought for the army of volunteers that has brought you this issue and the next, and the next.....

Until next time....



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PLEASE RECYCLE AFTER READING
January 2006

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Parishioner of the year

The Parish Council is considering the Parishioner of the year award and proposes to present the award at the Annual Meeting of Electors to be held next Spring. The Council is inviting nominations to be submitted for consideration. There are many people within the parish who have devoted much time and energy working for the community who would be worthy recipients. Names to be put forward together with a brief description, not exceeding 200 words, of why that person deserves the award should be sent to the Clerk to the Council as soon as possible and by 7th February at the latest.

Diary 2006

A village diary is normally kept in the Post Office where local organisations can enter their events and meetings etc. Anyone who is planning a village event can then check to see what else might be happening and try to avoid clashes. It also gives advance notice of activities. The Parish Council intends to provide a diary for 2006. Please would anyone who is planning events remember to enter them in the diary.

Queen's Birthday

The Queen is inviting people who turn 80 on the same day as her to join her at Buckingham Palace to mark the occasion. People who were born on 21st April 1926 are being asked to write to local authorities for the chance of being selected to attend a special birthday lunch with the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh. The lunch will take place at Buckingham Palace on Wednesday 19th April. People in Oxfordshire should write to the Assistant Clerk, Oxfordshire Lord Lieutenancy Office, County Hall, Oxford. OX1 1ND or email hugo.brunner@oxfordshire.gov.uk. All applications must be returned to the Lieutenancy office by Monday 16th January 2006 and should include a copy of the applicant's birth certificate, so that eligibility can be verified.

Date of Next Meeting: 11th January, 2006 in the residents' lounge at Duffield Place. Clerk to the Council: Mrs. L. Martin, 90 Howard Cornish Road, Tel: 01865 391833
Anyone wishing to bring anything to the attention of the Council can do so by writing to the Clerk who will place the item on the agenda for the next meeting. Alternatively the Council has a public participation section early in the meeting, so anyone is welcome to come along and have their say.



Dear Editor

Brian Gower should not have to worry about the appearance of a Village Hall near his bedroom window, we already have an excellent hall in North Street.

At the first and only meaningful public meeting on the subject, the overwhelming majority voted to retain and refurbish the beautiful Village Hall, such an integral part of the village.

A wealthy and generous benefactor has offered to finance the project, so I cannot comprehend why the work has not already been undertaken. Why is a minority group being allowed to defy the majority and pursue the destruction of this lovely old building.

Where are the people pledged to protect the interests of the people of Marcham?

Ed Vaizey, where are you?

Iain Brown, where are you?

Jane Hanna, where are you?

Parish Council, where are you?

Come on, let's be having you. Save this priceless jewel.

F W BUCKINGHAM

**HOLIDAY WASTE COLLECTIONS
REFUSE, GREEN BOX & BROWN BINS**

Normal Day	Will be...
January 2006	
Mon 2nd Tue 3rd Wed 4th Thur 5th Fri 6th Mon 9th Tue 10th Wed 11th Thur 12th Fri 13th	Wed 4th Thurs 5th Fri 6th Sat 7th Mon 9th Tue 10 Wed 11th Thur 12th Fri 13th Sat 14th

MP'S SURGERY WITH ED VAIZEY

5.30-7.00pm, unless stated otherwise

Jan	
13	Wantage, Civic Hall, Waylands Room
20	Wallingford, Town Hall
27	Faringdon, Corn Exchange
Contact Ed Vaizey by	
Post	The House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA
E-mail	vaizeye@parliament.uk
Tel	0207 219 3000

FOR SALE



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F Reg
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Good runner, bodywork needs some attention. Offers to 01865 391725.