

An Italian's Child's View of Marcham

This essay was written by my Italian grand-daughter aged 8 and translated from the Italian by my daughter. My grand-daughter chose to write about Marcham for her weekly essay, when given the title "Describe your town, or a own or village you know".

MARGARET WILLIS

I would like to describe a village where my English grandparents live called Marcham. It is in the region of Oxfordshire in Great Britain and it is a small village on the plain surrounded by countryside.

You wouldn't say that it is agricultural industrial or touristy: the people usually work in one of two bigger towns: in Abingdon or in the more famous Oxford. In Marcham the only commercial activities of the village are a garage and two farms. One a pig farm where the pigs run freely in the fields surrounded by fencing which is different from here (once I saw a pig galloping!) and a very modern cow farm. The cows, when they need to be liked, line up and go into a sort of cabin where a machine washes their udders and then milks them. Then they go out by themselves without the farmer doing anything.

There are two shops to do your shopping which don't only sell food but a bit of everything. One is also a Post Office.

The transport service which is mostly used is the bus which goes through the village often. There are not any sports centres but there is a football pitch and a cricket field. If people want to do other sport they need to go to Abingdon which is about 5 km away. The only place for fun is a park with a few play activities.

Marcham does not offer many public services: it has just a primary school. People often meet in the church where my brother was christened.

Marcham is a nice quiet small village and even if there isn't a lot to do this is not a problem. The only problem is that the village is crossed by a very busy road and it can be dangerous when you go for a walk. Every now and then there is an accident: but what can you expect if they keep driving on the left!

EMILY LUPPARELLI

Dear Editor

**District Council Elections
Conservative Candidate**

I would like to express my grateful thanks to the residents of Marcham/Shippon who voted for me in the District Elections on the 3rd May.

It was a great pleasure to meet and speak to many of you during my election campaign and I thank you for receiving me so graciously. Although I was not elected, it is

my intention to keep myself up to date with issues that affect our communities. I will be supportive and helpful to those people and groups committed to improvements in services and infrastructure.

LES MITCHELL

Anson Trust recently wrote to a lawyer asking for guidance in the event that the Trust

became insolvent. The reply is too long to be reproduced in MADNews but copies are available in the Post Office and also online at www.ansontrust.co.uk and the MADNews website www.madnews.co.uk

ANSON TRUST



**A MESSAGE FROM
DAVID PRITCHARD**

I shall be celebrating the 25th anniversary of my ordination at the 10.30 am Eucharist in Ely Cathedral on Sunday 1st July. Tricia and I would be delighted to welcome parishioners from our previous parishes to this celebration. There will be a reception in the Lady Chapel after the service to which everyone is invited.

FOR SALE

38 piece bone china tea and coffee service, by Aynsley. White with floral design and gold rim. Perfect condition. £15

Telephone: 01865 391961.

POLICE NEWS

Hello everybody, I hope you are all fit and well and enjoying spring. As I write this I can hear cats and dogs falling down upon the tin roof of the police station- a change from the very warm and dry April.

To let you know what has been going on from a police perspective in your areas, I will kick off with speeding. One of the your most important issues to come out of the NAG (Neighbourhood Action Group) is speeding. I and PCSO Nicola Beltran have been out and about in the area trying to establish where the problem areas are, and have been utilising the SID (speed indication device) to compile a database of vehicle volume and speed. I am aware however that once motorists have passed by the SID, headlights are being flashed to warn vehicles coming the other way that the police are up ahead. Please make sure that it is not you doing this. Firstly it is an offence that you could be reported or fined for, and secondly it defeats the objective of trying to compile accurate data in determining where our potential hotspots are. Misleading information

could cause accidents and even worse death. Please be sensible.

Mindless petty criminal damage keeps rearing its ugly head on our area. I seem to be speaking to victims of this type of crime almost daily, and know the upset and expense that is caused. I will be working hard to combat this criminal behaviour, but wouldn't it be better if it didn't happen in the first place?

A number of reports have been coming in recently of suspicious persons looking over fences into private gardens and going door to door enquiring if the residents have any scrap metal for sale. This has been predominantly in Marcham and Boars Hill. The persons often have the use of vehicles. We need to know who these people and what their intentions are. If you see anything which you feel just 'isn't right' please ring us and let us know about it.

I have received a few reports about fly-tipping in the area. With our gardens receiving a fair sprinkling of rain recently, our lawns are likely to start growing like mad, and our redundant lawnmowers could be called into action. Please don't empty your clippings over someone else's hedge for them to deal with. Rotting grass cuttings smell dreadful, and can damage fencing. I bag my clippings up and a few times a year when Mrs Reece's nagging becomes too much for me to tolerate, I take them to the recycling centre. The VOWH will for an annual fee of £29.00 for bin rental and emptying, provide residents with a brown recycling wheelie bin specifically for green waste and cardboard. Or you could try composting it and enriching your soil! Please show consideration for your neighbours and your community. We live in a lovely part of the world- lets work together to keep it so.

If you do see or hear anything which you think could be of use to the police, please let us know about it. If a crime is happening, then 999 is the only number you need, however if it has already happened or if you have some information that you think is relevant then 0845 8505505 or paul.reece@thamesvalley.pnn.police.uk is more appropriate.

As ever, take care and be safe out there! **PC5193 PAUL REECE**

SID IN MARCHAM

SID – the speed indicator device – was in Sheepstead Road on Monday 21 May and counted 222 cars passing from 7.50 - 9.20am. Of this sample

78% were on or under 30mph

17% 31-35 mph

5% over 35 mph

This is an on-going part of the Neighbourhood Action Group activities that have been initiated since the police discussed problems in the parish last year. More details about NAG soon.

NAG7

Write to MADNews and let others know what you think about current events