

Dear Editor

*The Anson Trust's influence on village life.*  
 An article in MADNews (April edition) regarding the lack of spaces for local children in our own village school could be seen as yet another example of the interference that the Trust, inadvertently or otherwise, imposes on residents. I am quite sure that when the Anson Family generously bestowed the benefits of the Trust to the Residents of this Village, little did they realise what a "monster" they unwittingly created. In the last few years the current trustees have overseen the closing down of the Institute, have embarked upon totally unnecessary, lengthy and costly legal disputes with the Ex-Servicemen's Club, and have caused antagonism with local residents and the sports and social club over its ill advised plans to build on the Anson Field. It now appears that their meddling in the future of our village school may have resulted in the Education Authority being reluctant to offer funding to adequately provide places for our local children. Thankfully this problem has now been satisfactorily resolved.

I firmly believe NOW is the time for the Trustees to meet with the residents of this village, and to "openly" discuss its current plans and situation with us. I then challenge those Trustees to offer every resident a vote on whether this village is willing to accept "THEIR" vision for our futures. I would remind them that the NAF survey in April last year found that only 12% of the residents were in favour of their proposals, hardly an overwhelming endorsement.

**COLIN P. TRINDER.**

**GARFORD PARISH PLAN**

Garford village is currently engaged in the process of developing its own Parish Action Plan. The scheme, which is promoted and part funded by Oxfordshire Rural Community Council, is designed to help villages and small towns to produce an action plan which represents the wishes and aspirations of residents for the future of their community. It can include a wide range of issues from development control to traffic calming and amenity usage to safety and the environment.

Garford is holding an event on 21st June at 4pm to which all residents of the village, including children of course, are invited. This will be a further opportunity, following the questionnaire which was circulated last autumn, for everyone in Garford to "have your say" for the future of the village, in both the long and short terms.

Further updates on progress will appear in future editions of MADNews

**ROB TREADGOLD** Chairman

Garford P.A.P Steering Group

June 2008

**ED VAIZEY WRITES...**

Three enduring themes seem to be ever present this year - with both a local and a national impact.

The first is Post Offices. While Mrcham is not directly affected, we heard recently that all 22 Post Offices earmarked for closure in Oxfordshire will indeed close. That includes five in the immediate area, which will have an impact on the quality of life of many people in the villages. Local people campaigned very hard to keep their services, and I worked closely with them. For one Post Office in particular, I received more than 150 letters, but to no avail. I think that as more and more services are withdrawn from the Post Office, more Post Offices will close in the future. We have not heard the last of this issue by any stretch.

The second issue is science. Problems with the science budget have seen voluntary redundancies at Harwell, and there has been huge concern in the physics community across the country about what is happening. I have been very involved with the campaign to try and restore some of the funding. Now the House of Commons' science and technology has weighed in and called for the funding to be restored and jobs to be saved. We will see what happens.

Third, flooding. Neighbouring MP David Cameron held a debate on the floods in the House of Commons at the beginning of May, and highlighted the need for more to be done to clear brooks and ditches to try and minimise the impact of future floods. I also participated, but did not get the chance, in the short debate, to raise concerns about the impact of local developments on flood risk.

Finally, I have received several e-mails concerning the proposals to close GP dispensaries. Rest assured I will fight these proposals all the way. I have no objection to pharmacists being given greater powers, but I do not see why local GPs who provide an important service like this should be penalised.

**ED VAIZEY**, MP Wantage (Con)

**MP'S SURGERY WITH ED VAIZEY**  
 5.30-7.00pm, unless stated otherwise

6 June	<b>Didcot</b> , King Alfred Drive Community Centre
20 June	<b>Wantage</b> , Civic Hall
11 July	<b>Wallingford</b> , Town Hall
25 July	<b>Faringdon</b> , Corn Exchange
<b>Contact Ed Vaizey by</b>	
Post	The House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA
E-mail	vaizeye@parliament.uk
Web	www.vaizey.com
Tel	0207 219 6350

**BARNEY**

As most of our regular customer probably know by now, our beloved Old English Shepdog, Barney, died on Saturday 26 April after suffering a stroke. He was over 14 years old and we are sure he enjoyed his life. He used to love sitting on the house steps watching everything going on in the shop. We would like to thank you all for the love and affection you gave him.

**He will be greatly missed**

Julia and David  
 Marcham Village Stores

**Marcham School PTA**

**Fri 6 June: Bingo**

Arrive 6.30pm Eyes Down 7pm Refreshments available

**Sat 14 June Car Wash**

10am-12.30pm (weather permitting) £4 per standard car

**HOUSE FOR SALE**

3 bed semi-detached  
 5 Orchard Way, Marcham

- Extended bedrooms
- Garage for 2 cars
- Conservatory added
- Very long garden



Call Duncan Reeve 07880 800988

**FOR SALE**

Trailer (camping or luggage) 4x3ft. Fibreglass body with extra (removable) wooden sides to give added height. Complete with wooden fitted lid, waterproof cover and spare wheel. £30 or best offer for quick sale. Tel 391710.

(Sorry – last month we described this as a "trainer")

**HOUSE SWAP OR RENT**

**Adelaide, Australia** – 4 bedroom house with pool and scenic views. Contact 391096

**FREE**

26" TV  
 Free to good home, call 391754



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