

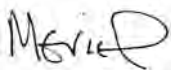
Dear Readers

There were a lot of items to try and squeeze in this time – so apologies to all the photos and letters that didn't make it in this month.

On the positive side, we should very grateful that so many people do write on such a wide range of topics; along with the thought-provoking letters of all shades and sizes – it is the variety that makes MADNews so interesting and has kept it going for 30 years.

Don't forget to put your clocks forward on 29 March.

Until next time



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Advertising: 5pm 15th month
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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.

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March 2009

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Bus Routes X30 and X31

Oxfordshire County Council is planning to change the bus routes X30 and X31 to “premium routes”. These routes have been earmarked where there is to be improvements to the services. New low floor buses will operate on these routes from mid 2009 and they will be fitted with equipment to supply “real time information” as to the bus’ whereabouts and arrival time. Kerb heights will be raised, new bus shelters are a possibility and paint put on the roads to mark the bus stopping area, as well as the RTI information display screens at certain stops. The County Council is also considering cycle racks at some locations to encourage more use of public transport. As the County Council only has a limited amount of money to provide the facilities it will prioritise what it can do on each route and in which locations.

The Parish Council is inviting your comments on where these improved services could go within the parish. e.g. at which stops would you like to see “real time information” displayed? Does this need to be on both the East to West (Abingdon to Wantage) route and West to East (Wantage to Abingdon). Please let the Clerk know your views by telephoning on the number below or email: clerk@marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk.

Street Lighting

The County Council in June 2007 launched its Carbon Action Plan to try and reduce carbon emissions by 18% from its 2005/06 levels by 2011/2012. During 2005/06 street lighting produced 19% of the Council’s carbon emissions. The County Council is currently considering changing its policy of keeping street lighting on all night in rural areas and instead switching off some lighting from 12.30 a.m. to 5.30 a.m. If there are any street lights that you consider should be switched off, or alternatively left on all night then could you please contact the Clerk as soon as possible with your views. The Parish Council will be discussing this at its March meeting on 11th March and will take into account all comments, before making recommendations to the County Council. The County Council will liaise with the Police regarding the reduction in lighting before making a final decision.

Annual Parish Meeting

The annual meeting for all electors in the parish will take place on Wednesday 20th May at 7.30 p.m. in the hall at Marcham Primary School. This is an opportunity for residents to hear reports from the Parish Council, District Councillor, County Councillor on their activities over the previous year. The Parish Council has invited the Neighbourhood Action Group / Police to give a presentation on their work in the area and also a representative from the Vale of White Horse District Council

to talk about its development framework where new homes, jobs, shops, roads and leisure and community facilities are planned to be placed and how this affects Marcham. Please put a note of the date in your diary now.

Best Kept Garden Competition

A reminder that the Parish Council has again decided to run a best kept garden competition in the Summer. This will be front gardens only where judges can walk along pavements without entering private property. Please bear the competition in mind when considering your garden planting this year.

Post Office

Following the letter last month regarding the possible closure of the Post Office and shop, the Parish Council would reassure the village that it will do what it can within its power to keep a facility somewhere which is easily accessible and local. It has already contacted the village shops development worker at the Rural Community Council to seek advice on steps to be taken and the Council’s role, and will be writing to the Post Office Authorities to press for the retention of the service within the village.

Clerk to the Council: Mrs. L. Martin,
90 Howard Cornish Rd, 01865 391833

clerk@marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk
www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Date of Next Council Meeting:

Wednesday 11 March 2009 at 7.30pm. in the residents’ lounge, Duffield Place.

MP’S SURGERY WITH ED VAIZEY

5.30-7.00pm, unless stated otherwise

13 Mar	Wantage , Civic Hall
Contact Ed Vaizey by	
Post	The House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA
E-mail	vaizeye@parliament.uk
Web	www.vaizey.com
Tel	0207 219 6350

Women’s World Day of Prayer

Friday 6th March 2009

11am service in the Baptist Chapel followed by a simple lunch in the Baptist Hall.

Speaker – Mrs Jenny Kelsey.

The service has been prepared by the women of Papua New Guinea and is an opportunity to join with them and women of all nations in prayer and praise.

Jean M Creasy 391398

MARCHAM & DISTRICT EX-SERVICEMEN’S CLUB

Annual Subscriptions These are due by March 31st 2008. Payments may be paid in the Club during normal opening hours.