

*Dear Readers*

**CAT FOUND** A young female black cat (not micro-chipped) is living in our garden in Orchard Way. She belongs to someone as she has recently been treated for ticks and fleas and is in good condition. (See cover for her photo.) If you know where this cat should be, please contact me so we can reunite her with her family!

**June Issue**

Any contributions for the next issue should be put through my door – or call me and I can collect.

*Until next time*



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**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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[www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk](http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk)

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May 2009

**MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWS**

**Post Office**

At the time of writing, the latest news from the Post Office Authorities is that they are still very keen to keep a Post Office in Marcham. They are trying to find a temporary sub-postmaster to provide a stand in service while the property is advertised, and they are optimistic of being able to find someone to operate the service as soon as possible.

**Bottle Banks – Howard Cornish Road**

The bottle banks are very much in use at the moment. In fact residents are taking their glass and cans in plastic carriers and cardboard boxes and leaving the containers behind. Unfortunately there is no plastics or cardboard recycling facility in Howard Cornish Road. These items should be taken home. Cardboard can be recycled in the brown wheelie bins available from the Vale of White Horse District Council and Tesco carriers can be recycled within Tesco. It has been noticed that garden rubbish too is being taken to the bottle banks and left on the ground. Again there is no facility for taking garden waste. Garden waste can be recycled in the brown wheelie bins which are collected fortnightly from the kerbside. The Parish Councillors are currently finding that they personally having to tidy the bottle bank area owing to the items discarded there, so would ask that if there is not a designated bin to take your item, then take it home.

There have been problems too with broken glass in the grass, and the grass growing in between the bottle banks is difficult to keep short. The Parish Council has obtained permission from the Vale of White Horse District Council to lay a tarmac base under the bottle banks to enable the area to be swept and kept tidier. This is being arranged at the moment. The bottle banks will have to be moved a little further down the road, on a temporary basis, to allow the hardstanding to be laid.

**Longfields**

The Longfields housing development has been built in 3 phases over several years. As this is a site that would not have normally been granted planning permission as it is in an open area, there are planning restrictions attached to the site, namely that the properties should be allocated to people with a Marcham connection, before being offered to others on the District Council's housing waiting list. Should you be considering moving out of your property whether a shared ownership property or rented, it would be helpful if you could let the Parish Council know. The Parish Council was a supporter of the housing

scheme at the outset and it is concerned to ensure that Marcham people have first option when a property becomes vacant. If the Parish Council is advised when your property becomes available, then it can contact the District Council to remind the staff there about the planning restrictions which apply to this site.

**Dial a Ride**

The Dial a Ride bus scheme has received funding to enable it to continue for the foreseeable future. This is an Oxfordshire Community Transport Bus Service which operates with financial support from the District Councils and Oxfordshire County Council. The service is available between 9.00a.m. – 5.00p.m. on the days it operates. It is available on a first come first served basis. Dial a Ride is for those who are unable or find it difficult to use public transport such as the elderly or disabled. The drivers are trained in first aid and assistance of those with wheelchairs or have mobility problems. In order to qualify for the scheme you must be unable to use other forms of public transport and in order to become a member of the scheme have the support of your G.P. For further information contact 01865 876176 or see the District Council's website at [www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk](http://www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk)

**Cemetery**

Concerns have been raised about the theft of flowers from the Cemetery. The Cemetery is at one side of the village and so it is difficult to keep a very close eye on the activities there. Please keep a watchful eye on your plot and report any problems to the Clerk. It is suggested items such as wreaths could be tied on the headstone to try and ensure that they are not blown away. In an attempt to maintain the tidier state of the Cemetery, the plot holders are asked to remove flowers from the graves once the flowering period is over.

**X15**

At very short notice the Parish Council was advised that the X15 bus will no longer travel around the village, but will go along the main road instead. It will stop only at the war memorial. The Parish Council is writing to both the County Council and RH Transport about this as it believes that the chances of residents not using the X15 are much increased if the bus does not go round the village. The timetable for the bus is on the Parish Council's website.

**Date of Next Council Meeting:**

Wednesday 13 May 2009 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](http://www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk) **3**