

*Dear Readers*

I am sorry if some of you receive your copy a bit later than normal this month, but I have been on holiday looking at animals in Namibia (on the bottom left hand side of Africa). The kudu on the cover is like a big red deer with curlier horns! The weather was extremely hot and I am almost glad to see the rain clouds this week!

I expect quite a few of you would like to send in a response to the notice on the right of this page, so I will be keeping some space ready for letters in the November issue.

Don't forget to put your clocks back on 30th October – I am planning a bit more snoozing but I expect other people will be a bit more constructive!

*Until next time....*



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October 2005

**THE ANSON TRUST  
AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT**

After careful consideration and debate, the Directors of the Anson Company have decided to adopt a vision for the Anson Trust that will best serve the needs of Marcham for the foreseeable future. The only means of realising such a vision is to adopt a single site policy. This will involve selling the Institute site for development and, with the funds realised, building a modern facility on the Anson Field, which is capable of accommodating Marcham's recreational, leisure and sporting needs. This decision was not arrived at lightly and the Directors appreciate that not all parishioners will welcome this.

How and why have the Directors come to this decision? There are a number of reasons.

- One factor has been the professional advice received. This has been unambiguous in support of the single site solution. The economics of the situation are clearly in favour. The costs and benefits of operating a single site as compared with two sites overwhelmingly point to the former.
- Next the money, which would be raised by selling part of the Institute site for housing, would be insufficient to fund the refurbishment of the Institute and provide a suitable facility on the Anson Field.
- Furthermore there is the fact that the majority of user groups, who have used the temporary buildings on the Anson Field, have found them to be perfectly adequate (in some cases preferable to the Institute) so the temporary loss of the Institute facilities will not have the impact that was originally feared whilst the Anson Field as a location for facilities within the village has been demonstrated to be very suitable.
- Finally, and most importantly, the Directors believe that their duty and obligations to the Company and the community require them to take this decision which is in the long term best interests, even if it may result in unpopularity in some quarters.

The Directors have given user groups and other interested parties prior notice of this announcement and intend to keep all villagers abreast of developments in the future.

*Dear Editor*

In response to a letter from CR in September's MADNews, (why can't contributors sign their name, it would save having to guess who they are).

If it was possible for the Ex-Serviceman's Club to resolve the problems amicably with the Anson Trust, I sure this would have been done months ago, but if you have a confrontation between two groups who both know they are right, then a stone wall will be hit. Perhaps the only solution is for the Ex-Serviceman's Club to throw in the towel, after all they only have five years lease left. CR seems to know more about this than me but as a member of the Ex-Serviceman's club I would hope the committee and it's officers would apply for a lease renewal.

Also CR you do not have a monopoly on voluntary work. The Ex-serviceman's Club has been in the Institute small hall 45 plus years and all work carried out from then to the present has been done entirely by volunteers. Many of the Sports and Social Club members are members of the Ex-Serviceman's Club and Vice Versa, which indicates that members from the Ex-Serviceman's Club also helped in the building of the Sports and Social Club as I did myself.

If the Sports and Social Club is unable to

cope with the excessive use then maybe the Parish Council could be approached to use their influence to get the Institute re-opened. I might suggest this would be a waste of time as at all the meetings that have been held a Parish Councillor has been present and no consideration has been given to re-opening the Institute. Perhaps it's time that the Parish Council distanced itself from the Anson Trust. The Institute has been used as a village hall since it was built, maybe now is the lime for the Parish Council to look into providing a village hall for the community. Surrounding villages have halls built and run by the Parish Council perhaps now it's our turn to do the same. I can hear the shouts now, "Who's going to pay for it?" Let's start fund raising. I just feel that our Parish Council should be doing more and be seen to be more impartial.

According to CR the Anson trust are broke win or lose as are the Ex-Serviceman's Club. As a member, committee member and son of a Founder member of the Ex-Serviceman's Club this is purely my personal view. I would like to see an amicable conclusion to the situation for the good of the community, making it back into a community unlike the divided village it has become.

**NS (THAT'S NEIL STEPTOE)**

8 Park Side