

*Dear Readers*

The MADNews website now has a "search" so you can (we hope) find articles from back issues on a particular topic. It has been running since June and the top search words and phrases so far (in alphabetical order) are:

- |                   |                       |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| advertising       | marcham cricket club  |
| best kept village | minibus               |
| bus               | para olympics         |
| bypass            | parish council clerk  |
| club              | personal              |
| cricketresult     | police                |
| doctors           | post office           |
| dog               | sportresults          |
| farm              | starlings             |
| fete              | stores                |
| footpaths         | the crown             |
| gardens           | time team dig         |
| heron             | village council clerk |
| institute         | villagecricket        |

An interesting selection and gives us all a better idea of what people would like to read about in MADNews – food for thought!

*Until next time....*



**PUBLISHER/EDITOR**

Meriel Lewis  
8 Orchard Way, Marcham  
Abingdon OX13 6PP  
Tel: 01865 391725  
*Web site:* www.madnews.co.uk  
*Email:* editor@madnews.co.uk

**ADVERTISING**

Please contact the editor.

**DEADLINES**

Advertising: 5pm 15th month  
Other copy: 5pm 20th month  
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.

**DISTRIBUTORS**

Judith & Peter Fontaine  
14 Tower Close, Marcham  
Abingdon OX13 6PZ  
Tel: 01865 391275

**ADDITIONAL COPIES**

These are available free from Marcham Post Office or the Editor.

**POLICE**

PC Ben Peach  
Tel: 0845 8 505 505

**COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

Iain Brown  
Tel: 01235 751210  
Email: iainbrownconservatives@yahoo.co.uk

**DISTRICT COUNCILLOR**

*Marcham and Shippon*

Jane Hanna  
4 Charlton Road, Wantage OX12 8ER  
Tel: 01235 772782  
Email: janehanna@dial.pipex.com  
For other councillors go to

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

© **Marcham & District News 2005**

*The copying of any part of this publication without written authorisation is not permitted.*  
September 2005

**PARISH COUNCIL NEWS**

**Best Kept Village Competition**

Marcham has been awarded third place in the large village class of this competition which covers the whole of Oxfordshire. The Council thanks the residents who responded to its request to keep the outside of their properties tidy, the contractors and many volunteers who undertake litter picking. A combined community effort this year has ensured that the efforts have been rewarded. The judges' full report is printed on page 13.

**Best Kept Garden Competition**

The Council was pleased to welcome Mr. Andrew Bowler, the Deputy Manager at Frosts Garden Centre at Millets Farm as the final round judge this year. Most of the winning gardens are listed below, some however, have requested no publicity.

**Overall Winner: 25-28 Sweetbriar**

First place prizes have been awarded to:

- 22 The Farthings
- 25-28 Sweetbriar
- 13 Parkside
- 10 Duffield Place
- 30 Anson Close
- 20 Orchard Way
- Beansheaf Cottage, Mill Road

Second place prizes have been awarded to:

- 33 Kings Avenue
- 62 North Street
- 24B Fettiplace Road
- 69 Howard Cornish Road
- 21 Tower Close
- 7 Mill Road

Third place prizes have been awarded to:

- 28 Kings Avenue
- 19-21 Sweetbriar
- 36 Fettiplace Road
- 20 Anson Close
- 17 Orchard Way
- White Hart Cottage, 22 Frilford Road

Highly Commended: 23 Anson Close

Prizes to be awarded at the next parish council meeting on 14th Sept.

**Vale of White Horse District Council's Half-fare Bus Pass Scheme**

If you are a resident of the Vale of White Horse area and are aged 60 or over and/or have certain disabilities, you could be entitled to a half-fare bus pass. The pass will entitle the holder to half-fare bus travel within the Vale of White Horse area and within Oxford City. This includes the Park and Ride service.

For further information about this scheme

May I please thank everyone who send cards or offered their condolences for the loss of my mum on the 16 July 2005. They meant a great deal – thank you. Can I also please thank our vicar, Eddie Shirras who kindly offered and performed a wonderful service for us.  
**DAVID**, Marcham Village Stores

please contact the Vale of White Horse District Council on 01235 520202 ext. 463 or visit the Local Services Point in Abingdon or Wantage.

**Is Your Electric Blanket Safe?** sponsored by the Vale of White Horse District Council and Oxfordshire County Council

Free safety checks are taking place in Wantage on Friday 9th September or in Abingdon on Friday 14th October. This is strictly on a first come first served basis by pre-booked appointment only. To book your appointment telephone 01865 815607.

**Thames Water:** Small scale ecological studies and site investigations in the area. The Parish Council has been informed that the work is being undertaken as part of studies into the need to secure water supplies for the future, including the possibility of a new reservoir. Shortly Thames Water will be starting some site investigations that involve drilling boreholes and digging pits to get more information about the ground conditions. The work will take place on weekdays, with some weekend work, and continue until December 2005.

During the study period small numbers of vehicles, such as transit vans and trailers, and workers in and around the local area may be in evidence as the work is carried out. As part of the same project, Thames Water has ecologists walking footpaths and farmland carrying out surveys that will also continue until the Autumn. There should be very little inconvenience to residents. If you have any questions relating to this work, please call Thames Water's Customer Centre on 0845 9200 800 quoting Bulletin Board Number: 683173, for other enquiries about the project please quote Bulletin Board Number: 669903.

**Date of Next Meeting:** Wed 14th Sept in the residents' lounge, Duffield Place at 7.30 p.m. Clerk: Mrs L. Martin, 90 Howard Cornish Road, Marcham Tel: 01865 391833.

*Dear Editor*

I am writing to plea to the residents of Parkside to park their cars more thoughtfully. Twice recently the recycle lorry has not been able to get down onto Parkside due to vans and cars being parked opposite or too close to each other causing the recycle lorry not being able to collect the green boxes. This has also affected the refuse collection and delivery lorries. If this was a fire engine how do the residents think the engine would reach the bottom of the estate?

If a resident is having work done and the workman turns up in a van, please ask them to park where it is not affecting other residents or other road users to the estate. Your co-operation would be much appreciated in this matter.

**CLAIRE WRIGHT**, a Parkside resident