

Dear Editor

The two articles on the Institute in the July issue of MADNews were most informative. It is a welcome development that the village is now being told what the issues are. Much less welcome is what we were told on the details of the current impasse. It seems both parties are being forced into positions not of their own choosing and that money that should be used for more constructive purposes is being diverted into legal fees.

The time must be coming, if it hasn't come already, when the village will regretfully have to conclude that the Institute is lost as a local facility, and that we should be exploring ways of financing a replacement. Other local villages have been able to build modern halls for themselves. Surely Marcham can too.

JESSICA AND MANFRED BROD



Dear Editor

Approx 2 years ago our long haired male ginger cat went missing from Garford. The MADNews at the time kindly published our letter asking people to contact us if he was possibly sighted in the Garford/Marcham area. Regretably whilst we had a number of calls we have never found him. Whilst it is a long shot, could the ginger cat causing problems at Anson Close be him or does the cat in question belong to someone? We would welcome any information.

Please phone 07900 527917.

Name and address supplied

Dear Editor

The description of the cat in the July/August nature watch rather worries me. On the one hand its said it appears to be a well fed marauding tom entering homes uninvited and apparently biting people who feed it and yet it is said it clearly responds to affection and sole attention.

Has anyone taken the time to find out if the cat is actually a stray looking for food and shelter? It seems the most sensible thing to do in the circumstances

Name and address supplied

Dear Editor

The Apprentice

It gives me great pleasure to write for MADNews as your County Councillor.

Sir Alan Sugar has a catch phrase "you're hired!" and so I am.

I represent The Hanneys and Hendreds Division, which has Marcham located in the middle. The Division is going to be busy place during the next four years and beyond.

South East England Regional Assembly (Seera) has announced the decision to build 578,000 new houses across the South East region over the next 20 years (see societyguardian.co.uk Tuesday 9 August – A Balancing Act). Pressure on land will be great as developers hunt for potential building sites. This large number of houses will impact on employment, roads and water supply among other things. Despite Thames Water having lots of leaks to fix, the decision by Seera, I believe, signals the start of the reservoir project.

More immediately, I am informed work on the A415 pelican crossing from the cycleway to Howard Cornish road will start on 30 August and is expected to take 6 - 8 weeks. Well done to my predecessor Andrew Crawford.

Traffic in Packhorse Lane is under review and the County Traffic Department (Southern) will be reporting back to Ed Vaizey and me in a few weeks time.

Ed Vaizey is a great help to me in my new position and incidentally he is getting married on 17 September, so he will be the apprentice on the 18!

If you need to get in touch with me, please use the following contact details:

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IAIN BROWN



A new green waste collection service is available to residents of Marcham – find out how to enrol.

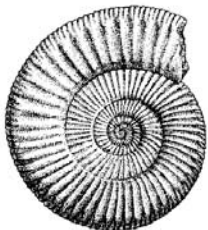
This summer a pilot scheme for the collection garden waste and cardboard was introduced to householders in the Vale of White Horse, and the service is now in full swing, with collections already taking place in many areas of the District, including Marcham.

Householders taking part in the service receive a brown 240 litre wheeled bin to put their garden waste and cardboard in. The bins will then be emptied fortnightly all year round for an annual rental charge of £29, and the material collected will go to a local site for composting, then used on local fields as a soil supplement. In addition to providing a service which has been requested by many residents, it is hoped that the scheme will contribute towards the Vale meeting its current target to recycle or compost 29% of waste in the District.

Supply is, however limited to the 4000 households, and wheel bins will be allocated where demand is highest. Many residents of Marcham have already registered for this service and have started using their brown bins, so if you would like more details of how to enrol please visit the Council's website at www.whitehorsedc.gov.uk, where you can download enrolment forms, e-mail waste.team@whitehorsedc.gov.uk or call 01235 520202 and ask for the Waste Team to receive a joining pack.

Yellow Pages

There are no special local recycling facilities for yellow pages this year due to costs and no grant being available from Yellow Pages as there was in 2004. However, there are banks available for residents to use at Waste Recycling Centres in Drayton, Stanford in the Vale and Redbridge, off the Abingdon Road in Oxford.

 <p>The Marcham Society</p>	<p>Evening Meeting & AGM <i>Nick Hance</i> The history of the Harwell site Pt. II <i>If you heard Pt I you will look forward to the sequel.</i> The first meeting of the new season – new members welcome Next meeting 11th Oct The geology of Oxfordshire</p>
<p>All Saints' Church Tuesday 13th Sept 2005, 7.45pm</p>	<p>Non-members £1 www.marchamsociety.org.uk Further details: Eric Dunford (391439) or Judith Fontaine (391275)</p>