

CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate change is no fun at all,
It's all blamed on mans pollution.
He points, discusses and argues,
And yet he still has no solution.

He collects his waste in boxes,
Black, Green and Brown.
But secretly behind his back,
Much is still buried underground!

His conscience is quite clear,
He has done his little bit.
His Green box is filled right up,
And that's not going to the tip!

Man dumps his rubbish anywhere,
Just take a look around.
There is hardly any place left,
Where his rubbish can not be found.

We are all polluting the world in which
we live,
And we must have more than we
need.
It will be painful in the long run,
Because this world is run on speed and
greed.

M.SHEPHERD 04/2008

ED VAIZEY WRITES...

One national issue that annoyed me recently was the decision by the National Union of Teachers, at their annual conference, to vote to ban the armed services visiting schools. This was really politics by the back door - the union clearly feels the Iraq war was wrong (a perfectly respectable view) and has decided to take it out on the armed services.

As some of you may know, I am a member of the Armed Forces Parliamentary Scheme. It gives MPs the chance to work with the forces close up, and needless to say I have been very impressed. I cannot imagine a better career or experience for any one, whatever their background.

So I wrote to all our local schools and asked them what they thought of this idea. I am delighted to say that every single secondary school in my constituency wrote back to say that they received visits from the armed services, and would continue to do so. I am absolutely delighted!

On local matters, I gather that there has been success in ensuring that parents who could not get a place at the primary school will be able to do so. I hope I have not spoken to soon, but I know that County Councillor Iain Brown worked incredibly hard on this, including at least two meetings at the school and getting the Cabinet officer responsible involved. I think it is vital that we ensure parents can send their children to their local school, and we shouldn't let bureaucracy get

in the way. Parliament remains quiet at the moment. We debated the Government's anti-terrorism legislation at the end of March. I remain opposed to the proposal to allow terrorist suspects to be detained for 42 days, but we will not have a vote for this for a while. The Finance Act is being debated at the end of April, but there is no date yet for the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Bill, which concerns a lot of people.

Finally, there is a private members' bill to ban the advertising of fatty foods, which I will be opposing. We won't make people healthy by banning adverts, only by ensuring that everyone, particularly our children, have access to sporting facilities.

ED VAIZEY, MP Wantage (Con)

MP'S SURGERY WTH ED VAIZEY

5.30-7.00pm, unless stated otherwise

9 May	Didcot , King Alfred Drive Community Centre
23 May	Grove Old Mill Hall, Old School Lane
6 June	Didcot , King Alfred Drive Community Centre
20 June	Wantage , Civic Hall
Contact Ed Vaizey by	
Post	The House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA
E-mail	vaizeye@parliament.uk
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Tel	0207 219 6350

MARCHAM/FRILFORD DIG NEWS 2008

This July will be the eighth season for the dig in Trendles field on Manor Farm, Marcham. You can reach it on foot via public and Jubilee footpaths - the site is just off the A338 before it crosses the Ock on the road to Wantage, off the footpath that leads to and from the former Noah's Ark pub. Lots of you will have already visited the site where the University of Oxford is digging a Romano-British site, but we find out more each year about this religious centre so it's worth a return visit. It's a remarkable site - don't miss the chance of seeing the history that's on your doorstep.

This year as before the public are welcome to visit (archaeologists are at work every day except Saturdays for the 4 weeks from Sunday 29th June) - but the best day to visit will be

NATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGY DAY

SUNDAY 20th JULY - 10-4 -

when there will be guided tours and other attractions. Many schools, societies and groups arrange to make separate day time

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or evening visits - please let me know if you are interested. You can read about the excavation in back issues of the Coral Rag - on sale at Marcham P.O. and Cumbers Farm Shop. There is also a free Lottery-funded booklet available from me or at the site.

In 2005 and 2006 we were able to offer local amateurs the chance to get involved thanks to an award from the Heritage Lottery Fund. The Vale and Ridgeway Trust was awarded a Local Heritage Initiative grant for 'The Trendles Project: Exploring Marcham's Past', to help us investigate and promote the heritage of the Trendles site. We ran a 'People's Trench' to give hands-on archaeological training and experience to local people; those who do not want to dig all day can sit down and 'pot wash' (wash finds), and in 2007 the Trust as able to fund this again.

The 'People's Trench' will be operative in 2008 - six days a week (Saturday is a rest day) - for the duration of the dig. We will welcome new volunteers - you don't need any special skills or strength: you will receive some basic training and be fully supervised at no cost to yourself! You can do as little as a day - but more is preferable! Please note that anyone under 16 must be accompanied. Pot washing is on offer as well - dates to be confirmed.

For further information please contact Janey Cumber on 01865-391327/391840 or by email janey.cumber@tiscali.co.uk. If you have already put your name down I will be in touch with you during June.

EX-SERVICEMEN'S CLUB

Date for your Diary.

May 17th: John Wheeler Entertains, very popular at his last appearance.