

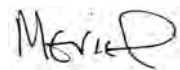
Dear Readers

I hope you have got all your mince pies and crackers ready to go! Every year Christmas and New Year just seem to creep up on me, like a Ninja Santa (or Shinobi Omiyage as my pedantic friend says).

But this year I have 5 puddings, 3lbs of mincemeat and a cake under my belt (figuratively speaking) courtesy of the Yuletide Elf (thanks mum!)

Wishing you all condiments of the season

Until next time



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except for Jan when it is 15th Dec for both

ADDITIONAL COPIES

These are available free from Marcham Post Office or the Editor. Postal copies are also available – contact the Editor.

NOTES

We apologise in advance for any errors that may creep into MADNews (online or print), or omissions that creep out - we don't do it on purpose!

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, who are all volunteers.

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December 2010

MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Oxfordshire County Council concessionary fares scheme

The concessionary fares scheme is part of a national scheme which provides free off-peak travel on local buses throughout England to people currently aged 60 and over, and eligible disabled people. Up to now, the scheme has been administered by the Vale of White Horse District Council, however the Government has decided that the responsibility should now sit with county councils. Therefore from 1st April 2011 Oxfordshire County Council will take over responsibility for concessionary bus passes, and it will create a common scheme for the whole of Oxfordshire. This will mean some changes

- A common 9.00 a.m. weekday start time is proposed
- Alternatives to the concessionary bus pass such as a Senior Rail Card or National Travel Tokens will not be offered.

The bus pass will not be eligible for use on dial-a-ride and door-to door community transport services. Passes for companions to enable disabled people who cannot travel independently to have assistance will continue. You can find further information <http://myconsultations.oxfordshire.gov.uk>. Comments on the proposed changes can be left on the website or sent to Concessionary Fares Consultation, Freepost, Oxfordshire County Council (no further address required). The deadline for receipt of comments is Tues 14th December 2010.

North Street - Sewers

Residents may have noticed a large yellow lorry, equipped with hose reels and other machinery, in North Street. On enquiry, it transpired that the team was clearing out the main sewers, which as one operator said “had so much congealed fat in them you would think there were three restaurants in Marcham all going full tilt”. Householders are reminded that waste cooking oils and fats should not be poured down the drain as they will solidify and block the main sewers. Spent oils and fats, when cold, may be put on a compost heap, or can be placed in the food waste bin. Larger quantities may be delivered to Dix Pit Recycling Centre at Stanton Harcourt, or may be collected by Green Fuels (tel: 0777 200 4474) who convert it into diesel fuel. Remember: a blocked main sewer means your drains won't run!

Parishioner of the Year Award

For the past 7 years the Council has awarded a Parishioner of the Year Award to a local person or persons who have devoted much time and energy working within the community. There are many people who would be worthy recipients, and the

Council is now inviting nominations for the next award. Would anyone who wishes to submit a nomination, please contact the clerk, whose details appear below, sending a short statement of not more than 200 words, as to who he/she wishes to nominate and the reasons why the person should receive the award.

Date of Next Council Meeting:

Wednesday 8 December 2010 at 7.30pm. in the residents' lounge, Duffield Place.

Clerk to the Council: Mrs. L. Martin,
90 Howard Cornish Rd, 01865 391833
clerk@marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk

The Council wishes everyone a happy Christmas

www.marchamparishcouncil.gov.uk

Keep Safe at Christmas

Most burglars are opportunists and target houses that look unoccupied. As the evenings are getting darker and people are beginning to buy Christmas presents, take a few simple precautions to keep yourselves safe such as leaving a light on and making sure your doors and windows are secured when you go out. www.thamesvalley.police.uk website has some useful tips. If you get a message through the door or on the phone about an undelivered parcel, check the phone number on the internet or Yellow Pages BEFORE you call – it could be a premium rate telephone scam.

**Homecoming for Heroes
Exercise of the
Freedom of Abingdon
8 December 10.30am**

12 Logistic Support Regiment
and attached personnel from 150
Transport Regiment RLC (volunteers),
23 Pioneer Regiment RLC and
7 Regiment RLC

To mark their return from the Helmund Province in Southern Afghanistan a medal parade will be held on Wed 8 December with a march through Abingdon town centre at 10.30 am, followed by the presentation of operational medals in the Market Place.

COME AND SHOW YOUR SUPPORT

FOR SALE

Ski jacket, Gortex, Black with Green/ purple panels.
Size Medium, worn once. £15.
Black Salopettes
size Medium, worn once. £10.
Black leather Motorbike Jacket
size 40. £15.
Tele: 01865 391961

=====

Oil-filled electric heater
approx 2ft 6" x 18" high £15
Breadmaker £10
(only used a few times)
All proceeds to Helen and Douglas
House, hospice care for children and
young adults
Call Bob Parsons 391844