

ANSON TRUST

Over the last couple of years the Trust has worked hard to ensure that the Village is kept up to date with the Trust's thoughts and plans. More recently it has held a number of very constructive meetings with various interested parties in the Village and sincerely believes that there is light at the end of what has seemed a very long tunnel to all of us.

Following last month's MADNews we have also spoken to Iain Brown regarding our hopes for the future and expressed how keen we are to build on the progress that has been made recently. With that in mind it's probably worth providing an update on where we are, particularly for those of you who are unable to make it to the public meetings.

The Trust is actively seeking a number of ways of alleviating its current cashflow difficulties and it is only natural that, in the absence of any significant income streams, it looks at how it could maximise the realisation of some of its assets to help preserve the remaining assets and provide much needed community facilities. Unfortunately the assets that we speak of, namely the Institute site and the Anson Field, are rightly cherished by the Village and therefore whatever is proposed and finally agreed will not necessarily be to everyone's liking. However, the Trust's directors have legal responsibilities under Company and Charity law/regulation that mean that doing nothing is not an option.

One enormous and unavoidable fly in the ointment is Father Time. In the meeting in November 2009 the Trust made it clear that it believed that it had an 18 month window of opportunity to exploit before it would potential run out of the cashflow needed to maintain what facilities there currently are. We are now just over a year on from that assessment and our view has not materially changed. So where does that leave us as a Trust and, more importantly, us as a community?

As its preferred course of action the Trust continues to consider a range of development options for both the Institute site and the Anson Field because the opportunities, the enhanced facilities and the long term financial stability that would result from them are most definitely worth pursuing.

Running alongside this is the valuable work that the Marcham Community Group is doing and we would encourage all residents to support them in their efforts. This support needs to be more than simple moral support - it needs to be committed, active support because they have much to achieve in a very short timeframe (ideally a viable business plan by the end of March) and even more to achieve in the future. And why is the Trust suggesting that we all back what many might consider to be a rival scheme? It's because irrespective of the ultimate outcome of the Trust's deliberations the Trust, like many of us, is of the firm belief that our community needs a more representative voice in the running of its facilities and the Trust believes the MCG could be at the heart of this in the future. In other words, your efforts will not be in vain whatever amenities we, as a community, eventual end up with.

Over the coming months we will keep you informed as best we can about the progress we are making and we certainly hope that we can all work together and, where necessary, compromise so that as a community we end up with the best possible outcome - one that meets the future needs of our steadily growing community and is financially viable in both the short and long terms.

May we close by hoping that you all had a very Merry Christmas, that England are victorious at the other "MCG" and that you have a Happy New Year.

THE ANSON TRUST
January 2011



MARCHAM PLAYERS

Now that the Marcham Community Group is "official," the Players will be turning their not-inconsiderable fund-raising talents towards inventing novel ways of relieving you of your money – to ensure that the next generation of thespians have somewhere to call home.



Reminders of dates for your new diary – Friday, January 28th, 7.30 pm in the Board Room for a reading of the play "The Monkey's Paw"; Friday, February 25th, 7.30pm in the Church for the Annual General Meeting, with refreshments.

The committee wish their loyal supporters a very happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year

Any enquiries regarding membership of the Marcham Players can be answered by phoning either Joey Maclean on 01865 391262 or Dave Hutchinson on 01865 391964

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MARCHAM GUIDES

On Monday the 6th of December, Marcham Guides hosted a Christmas party for around 70 guests. The evening consisted of many fun games, and extremely entertaining puppet shows performed by the guides for the parents and visitors. To add to the Christmas theme, festive refreshments were served. At the end of the evening, we saw the oldest girls in the unit presented with their well earned Baden-Powell awards; congratulations to Rebecca Rowe, Jenny Fathers, and Zoe Walton. At the beginning of their guiding journey, Rachel Plant and Sarah-Jane Lewis made their promise and were welcomed into the unit. Overall, it was a very enjoyable night, full of fun and laughter. (see cover for photo)

Don't wait to send in your report to MADNews, better early than miss the deadline

WANTED! VIPS!

Fancy joining the ranks of VIPS and being somebody really special?

Well now's your chance, we are on the look out for VIPS!

V olunteer
I ndependent
P arental
S upporters

Just what makes an Independent Parental Supporter so important? Any parent of a child with Special Educational Needs will tell you what a difference it makes when they have someone with them at a meeting about their child's education; someone who can take notes; someone who can explain the jargon; someone who listens and someone by their side.

Join the VIPS and you could make a real difference!
FREE Training is provided, so you're not thrown in at the deep end.
ALL expenses paid so you won't be out of pocket.

Interested?

For more information and dates of next training course available,

phone Parent Partnership Oxfordshire
on 01865 810516
or e-mail parentpartnership@oxfordshire.gov.uk

If you are holding an event within or near the MADNews area, please contact the editor for more publicity! 01865 391725 or editor@madnews.co.uk