

Wind turbine protest

So many people have been kind to this novice protester over the last three difficult weeks for which I Thank You. I love our Vale of the White Horse so much that when its gentle friendly rural beauty, so little changed over hundreds of years, was punctured by five enormous wind turbines, I felt moved to mourn its pain. Environmentalism to me is looking after our Planet in all its beauty – landscape, seascape, forests and yes, atmosphere. The politicians say we should sacrifice our landscapes for massive new 'clean' electricity generation plants. But these are the same 'green' politicians who would continue to bulldoze over much of our Environment with massive new building sites! Is this enormous sacrifice of our most priceless rural asset justified? Only if the politicians dispense with Orwellian propaganda just for a second and tell us honestly:

- *How much electricity will the wind refineries really produce – not capacity but real output?*
- *How much back-up will these unreliable plants require from coal and gas fired plant, i.e. how much CO₂ will really be saved?*
- *What is the real financial cost of the huge subsidy paid by all of us via our electricity bills to keep this political ideology going?*

In the end my protest on that cold Sunday on White Horse Hill was about my wish that one of the most beautiful Vales in the whole world could be admired and cherished by my children and grandchildren – will they understand why we turned it into a Brownfield site?

Joanna Lambert, Shrivenham E-mail: JRJLambert@aol.com

Seeking South Marston photos

I am looking for old photographs and stories of the village. The aim is to produce a small historical book. I am looking in particular at the airfield and 'airside', but anything to do with South Marston would be most appreciated, including any stories you may have. Great care will be taken with any photos or documents, which will be returned promptly and safely. Please contact me on (01793) 823513 or 07825 445 646 if you can help.

Gavin Hoffen, South Marston

Doggy Walking Social Club

Would your dog enjoy a walk with other dogs and their owners? We have two puppies under seven months old that would benefit by socialising with other dogs.

This is a new club so bear with us in the early stages. During the winter months we will meet on a Saturday morning at 9.15 at Badbury Woods, near Faringdon. When the better weather arrives we plan to organise early evening walks and different venues in the area. There is no charge for this club.

Get in touch if you are interested. Tel. 07753 856446 or E-mail: doggywalkingsocialclub@fsmail.net

Sarah-Jane

Supporting Marsden School in The Gambia

I would like to thank Highworth Pre-School for their continued support in raising funds for Marsden School in The Gambia. Also, 'Thank You' to 4th Highworth Rainbows who held a sponsored 'Sing-along'. I can also report the fantastic news that a Benefactor has come forward with a donation which means that we can now go ahead and buy a plot of land to build a new school.

In November 2007 I returned to The Gambia. During my visit a plot of land for the new school was identified and after some negotiations the deal was made. I shall be going to The Gambia in April with more donations from Highworth. Mr Jammeh, the headmaster, will then return with me for a 2 week visit to Highworth. He is very keen to say 'Thank You' in person.

For further information on the School Project or Sponsorship Scheme please contact me on Tel. (01793) 861457.

Charmaine Gallimore