

Your views

POST: Newspaper House, Faraday Road, Newbury, RG14 2AD EMAIL: editor@newburynews.co.uk

My neighbours both have four or five and this is the norm.

Children are staying at home longer and their cars have to have to park on the road.

You are lucky if there is a space at the side of a new build for two cars in tandem.

Luxury might include a garage but find a garage than can actually accept a car and cars are so much bigger these days that you might get the vehicle in but unable to open the doors.

Most of the garages we have around our area, my 'double' included, though I can get my Aygo in at a push, are full of rubbish, some full to the ceiling.

When I brought up this subject of inadequate parking allowed for in construction – land being the biggest outlay – I was told by one of the directors at this open evening, wait for it: "We are adopting the Netherlands style, actually building a five-metre-wide cycle path down the side of the main road and encouraging the use of bicycles."

Now I have played at a jazz festival in Holland many times over the years and the roads there are like billiard tables and there are no hills, so quite how these developers can imagine bringing this in to their plans beats me – and they were serious.

Alongside this development is the Roman Road, a straight north to south access which would make a great dual carriageway (looking to

the future) but having brought the suggestion up I was advised there would be a road going through the new development.

On the plans I counted eight roundabouts – that should keep the traffic moving

Another really big issue in the Manydown site is fields of chalk and you only have to drive along Roman Road to see these enormous heaps already forming.

Written in to the planning layout is the fact that – and there will be huge amounts of chalk dug out once the footings for all these houses start – mounds of chalk will be disguised around the development to enhance the scenery, where they will eventually be home to a number of wildlife occupants.

It is difficult to believe these plans are compiled by intelligent people – are we 2026 or 1900?

GRAEME HEWITT
Oakley

Who saw the Golden Hind on the tracks?

WE wonder how many people waiting for their trains on the stations from Theale to Bedwyn on Saturday, May 23, 2026, noticed that the train they were told to stand clear of the platform edge was not the same as usual.

It brought back memories to me signalling these class 52s pass the



boxes in the 1970s and to Marion who used to come out photographing them with me in other parts of the region.

D1015 Western Champion is the only one as far as I know allowed to run on the main line out of a few preserved examples of the once mainstay fleet that ran the Paddington to West and South Wales trains in the 1960s and 70s.

The Golden Hind was one of the two crack expresses of the time, the 17.30 Padd to Plymouth along with the 10.30 Padd Cornish Riveira express.

Stop one of those without good reason and you were for the high jump.

The train was run by Vintage Trains and ran from Birmingham Snow Hill to Plymouth and back via Paddington.

Our photo was taken at Aldermaston in the morning on the

outward run.

DAVID AND MARION CANNING
Aldermaston

The church should be speaking out now

WE are all shocked by two recent events, the rape of two girls by three teenage boys and the murder of Henry Nowak.

There has been considerable concern expressed by the public and politicians.

What has really concerned me is the failure of senior church leaders to say anything publicly.

I believe this is one time when church leaders can and should give moral and spiritual guidance to this nation.

This is a time to remind people of the Ten Commandments, (Bible – Exodus 20), the need to take them seriously and believe in them.

More important, the church is meant to be encouraging people to turn to our Lord Jesus Christ.

Whatever you believe about Him, there is much that we can all learn from everything He said and did.

As the Son of Man (a name which He used about Himself), He said that He did not come to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many (Bible – Mark 10:45).

REV RICHARD MILLER
Newbury

Pet of the Week



Name: Jasper

Breed: Long-haired Persian

From: Newbury.

Owner: Marina

Likes/dislikes: Jasper dislikes being on his own. He likes being brushed and chatting.

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Thatcham

FAMILY FUN DAY

SUNDAY 28TH JUNE, 11AM - 4PM
HENWICK WORTHY SPORTS GROUND, RG18 3BN



Thatcham's favourite family event returns for 2026, bringing a day of fun for everyone to enjoy! Head to Henwick Worthy Sports Ground for a fantastic community day packed with free entertainment, exciting activities, and a wide variety of stalls and attractions for all ages.



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