

Startling News from Ascott-under-Wychwood

Monkey Business

Can I make people living in other villages in the Evenlode Valley aware that, should they visit Ascott at dusk most evenings, there is every possibility they will see people taking monkeys for walks on long leads?

There seems quite a craze at the moment for people to keep these creatures. I do not think they make ideal pets. Their habits leave much to be desired. Vandalism is on the increase. People leaving their vehicles in the street have had their wing mirrors and wipers ripped off. Of course the adolescents have been blamed but I think it is people who cannot keep control of their monkeys.

Yes there are no Bananas

I have been told that some people are keeping these animals because their DNA is so close to humans. They are being kept to avoid paying the bedroom tax. If this is true I am totally against this practice. I do not see why I should pay my council tax to subsidise those who allow apes to leap around the house. And the problems do not end there. If one does not get to the Ascott Village Shop early in the morning,



there is no chance of buying bananas. I do not think this is fair on our young children who are being robbed of vital proteins and potassium. Do we want them to suffer from rickets with bow-legs, looking like a jockey who has lost his donkey?

A Carol-singing Warning

I have heard another reason why people are keeping these monkeys is to teach them to do housework. In other words become skivvies - the RSPCA ought to be informed. Do we really want to return to Victorian ideas whereby a monkey is given one day a week off, on a Sunday, providing they first attended a place of worship? How are we to know if a monkey is Catholic or Protestant?

May I wish everyone a merry Christmas, with this warning. If you are thinking of carol singing around Ascott, when you knock on any door after your angelic rendition of 'Silent Night', do not be surprised if the door is opened by a monkey holding a banana.

Fred Russell

Christmas Farmers' Markets

We all like to shop locally if we can and this time of year is the time to do it! Go no further than our local farmers' markets for the pick of locally produced food.

Charlbury Saturday 14th December on the Playing Close 9.00 to 13.00.

Chipping Norton Saturday 21st December in the Market Square, 8.30 to 13.30.

Witney Thursday 20th December in the Market Place, 8.30 to 13.30.