



The EXCHANGE and M-ARROW



OXTON ORGANICS CUSTOMER NEWSLETTER
01386 860477 - www.oxtonorganics.co.uk - email boxes@oxtonorganics.co.uk

Once again I can feel the festive season's brandied breath on the back of my neck and am irresistibly drawn to this out of the way PC to do battle with the Xmas newsletter. By now the vast majority of you will be well aware that, as the publisher of E&M, I could easily be prosecuted under The Trades Descriptions Act for calling this minestrone of unrelated rantings a newsletter but the bullshit gene is strong in me so who am I to obstruct what might prove an important Darwinian adaption. What's different about the Xmas ish is that I drop all pretence that I am providing useful information. This can be positively liberating, equivalent to taking a mental laxative and getting it all out of my system. Now some of you actually like this stuff in which case might I suggest you seek psychiatric help fairly soon whilst the remainder will already have consigned it to the purple recycling bag.

In recent years a large proportion my Saturnalian mitherings have been dedicated to an almanac. An innocent enough endeavour one might think, but last year I made mention of a tsunami generated by John Prescott jumping in the sea whilst on holiday in France. In the light of what subsequently took place on Boxing Day I must apologise unreservedly to anyone I offended. Despite taking a certain pride in the depth of my own bad taste even I wouldn't knowingly stoop so low! That said I shall take care to steer clear of any apocalyptic predictions. So here goes 2006 according to Vegman.....

January - Under the weight of criticism leveled at him over his failure to acknowledge climate change, George W. quotes US government findings which prove conclusively that there is no such thing as the environment. In a keynote speech to the UN he speculates "if the environment really does exist then why ain' it mentioned in the Bible?"

February - Leading economists gather at 11 Downing St. to discuss with the Chancellor, Gordon Brown, his latest proposals for maintaining growth in the British economy. Measures proposed by Mr. Brown include a tax "holiday" for celebrity chefs and design show presenters with the aim of stimulating the unnecessary kitchen utensil market and to boost DIY sales. Shortly afterwards Mr. Brown is hauled before the Commons Standards Committee for failing to declare his controlling interest in British Rag Rollers Ltd.

March - John Prescott confirms press rumours that he plans to accept an invitation to appear on Strictly Come Dancing. "I was after 'I'm a Celebrity, Get Me Out of Here' but the other contestants complained I'd have an unfair advantage during the bush tucker challenge". The BBC announces plans to commission a new Attenborough series aimed at an adult audience called "Life in the Underwear".

April - The Houses of Parliament are evacuated after a suspicious package addressed to Tony Blair arrives in the Commons mail room. This proves to be a false alarm but postal workers justify their suspicions by pointing out that the parcel had been sent from The Chancellors office with the return addressee marked as "a friend". When opened the contents turn out to be Mr. Brown's preferred colour scheme for No. 10's interiors.

May - Tory leader David Cameron attends Prime Ministers questions sporting a newly pierced navel and a "hip-hop kicks ass" vest. In response to criticism from back benchers Mr Cameron justifies the new look as an essential part of the new, caring Conservatism. Later, in the main lobby, he can be seen modeling the rapper style Conservative Central Office hoody which, he reveals, will be worn by all prospective Tory candidates on drive-by canvassing excursions in the up coming council elections. The BBC commissions a new Attenborough series about the myriad of species which exist only on stale bread to be called "Loaf in the Undergrowth"

June - Harry Patch, last survivor of World War 1, finally passes away. His dying words are "can't we talk about summit else?" England's footballers scrape through the group stage of the World Cup. Firstly it's a narrow win via a last minute Rooney penalty against Trinidad and Tobago. The Trinidad goalie later accuses the English supporters' brass band of cheating by playing reggae tunes behind his goal so he couldn't keep his feet still. Then a nail biting nil-nil against Parguary with a final controversial win over Sweden via a last minute Rooney penalty. The Swedish goalie later accuses the brass band of disrupting his concentration by playing Abba's Greatest Hits really badly. After the post match interviews Match of the Day pundits observe that the Swedish goalie's English is easier to understand than Wayne Rooney's.

July - Encouraged by the popularity of the movies March of the Penguins and The Chronicles of Narnia among America's Christian right, Disney unveils plans for an evangelical blockbuster to be released in time for the Christmas market called March of the Born Again Penguins of Irania. Loosely based on newly unearthed Biblical texts the film charts the exploits of a group of crusading Emperor penguins who stumble upon a chaotic, mythical world called Irania where they defeat it's evil ruler, Osama the Black Mullah, an turn it into a functioning western democracy.

August - With Parliament in recess all the party leaders set off on holiday. After last year's West Indian sojourn the Blairs once again fly off to Sir Cliff Richards' villa in Barbados. Before boarding the plane Mr. Blair is heard to remark "I'll soon be on top of a cliff overlooking the Caribbean" sparking rumours that there may be rather more to his holiday choice than a liking for salt fish and dumplin's. French snail farmers bring cross Channel traffic to a standstill. Their blockade occurs in response to the French government's plans to cut snail subsidies.

September - EU ministers meet to discuss European farm policy. As always the proceeding are translated into the respective attending countries' native language with the exception of French. The EU official responsible quips "we thought we'd save on a translators salary as they (the French) never take a blind bit of notice anyway!" In answer to accusations directed at the French government implying they are afraid of their own militant farmers a spokesperson from The Elysee Palace denies that a recent 2 billion euro subsidy awarded to French snail producers had anything to do with capitulation.

October - David Cameron, just back from a fact finding trip to Los Angeles South Central, furthers his campaign to widen the appeal of the Tory party by having his name changed by deed poll to DJ Cool Dave and astonishes MP's by rapping his way through Prime Minister's questions. High fiving his way along the front bench he chants "Hey there Tone, ain' it a fact that Britain's rebate's no longer intact. So what ya gonna do 'bout that. It's jus' 'bout time they gave you the sack!"

November - Strictly Come dancing edges towards the final with John Prescott still in the running. Recording is delayed whilst engineers strengthen the stage for his forthcoming tap routine. Lib dem leader Charles Kennedy ignores suggestions from within his own party that he needs to take a higher profile. Critics point out that despite leaving his wife and child to move in with his lover, a transvestite arc welder from Bradford, his only mention in the press was a line on page 2 of Arc Welding News under the headline "Notorious transvestite welder weds MP".

December - Missing organic veg grower is found wandering naked through a Worcestershire onion field muttering incoherent obscenities. His rescuers manage to make out the words "...are the John Prescott jokes funny? Please say they're funny! They were funny last year, I know they were....."

Have a good one. Don.t forget, next boxes WEDNESDAY 11TH/THURSDAY 12TH JANUARY – VEGMAN