

Dear committee members,

As part of my licence application I kindly ask whether the following 2 policy stipulations can be excluded from my licensing agreement. I would appreciate it if the committee could read my thoughts and reasons behind why I think these items should be removed.

**1. Trading prohibited in the following streets or parts of streets: (k) Evesham Road and roads adjacent to Pittville Park.**

I am asking for a special condition to be made with regards to the above policy stipulation, but I am looking to trade in only one specific location. For 8 years I used to be able to trade at the gates to Pittville Park along Pittville Lawn and it is my hope to gain the committees permission to trade there again. I have enclosed some media documents from when I was originally told I could no longer trade at the gates. As you can see my presence was very well received at this location as for those spending time in the part of the park nearest to the Pump Rooms I was a lot closer so parents didn't need to walk all the way to the small hut which is a 1km round trip from that area of the park. Also from my 20 years experience I know people enjoy the experience of purchasing an ice cream from a real ice cream van, its fun for the children and always produces a great photo opportunity.

In this location I am far enough away from the hut not to encroach on their business, there is no danger imposed to customers as there is no road to cross to visit the van and our current fleet of vans run silently so there is no noise to disturb local residents (this last concern was the main reason for my removal 8 years ago).

**2. Trading prohibited within 75 metres of the gates of all schools, except Bournside School (see Special Condition 1) on both sides of the road in any direction during the period half an hour before school opening to one hour after closing during school terms.**

Although I can understand why this stipulation was made part of the policy it does not always necessarily make trading outside a school any safer. Again in my 20 years experience I have found that the further away from a school I have to park the more dangerous it is as some times it involves the children having to cross a road or walk around a corner so they are out of sight from their parents. There are many schools in Cheltenham which are more than happy to have us park right outside the school as consider it safer and more convenient for their pupils and schools such as Lakeside, Airthrie and Naunton Park invite us to attend sports days, fairs, parties and leavers events.

On this occasion I am not asking for this stipulation to be left out altogether I am just asking for a slight change. I think it will make sense to let the school decide whether or not they are happy to have an ice cream van park outside their school. This way each school Head can make the decision based on their own individual circumstances, they can take into consideration their schools geographical location and then listen to parents feedback as to whether they are happy to have us there selling ice creams.

I appreciate you taking the time to read this and I look forward to hearing your thoughts.

Bambas Shaouna



there should be a full public inquiry into any expansion of activities on this site, primarily on the grounds of safety, but also taking into consideration noise and harassment.

*R Evans  
Churchdown*

## How petty

**MADAM** - I cannot believe Cheltenham Borough Council has stopped Shaouna Bambas from selling ice cream in Pitville Park (Echo, August 2).

How petty. Hasn't the council anything more important to do? *Margaret Whitehead,  
Cheltenham.*

**MADAM** - I was incensed to read the articles concerning ice cream seller Bambas Shaouna and flower seller Malcolm Rogers (Echo, August 2).

Who are the members of Cheltenham Borough Council Licensing Committee? How can they deprive Mr Shaouna, an honest trader, of his livelihood?

Mr Shaouna was providing an essential service to Pitville Park visitors and was not causing an obstruction or damage to the area. Now the council has taken his

# Give him his licence back

licence away.

Who or what has prompted a challenge to his licence, which has been renewed annually for the past nine years?

Could common sense not have prevailed? Instead of revoking the licence why not amend the wording to allow Mr Shaouna to continue trading from his present pitch?

Secondly, nothing personal against Mr Rogers, but does the town centre and the public really need another flower stall?

Why did the committee not respect the opinions of its own highways enforcement officer and the police and reject the application?

On one hand the licensing committee removes the only ice cream seller in the area and leaves us with nothing, while, on the other hand, is willing to allow another flower seller in an area which is well provided for by stalls and shops.

*Gordon Gould,  
Cheltenham.*

recruitment of 100 students in the University - about 35 students.

- The highest score in the university for undergraduate teaching by government inspectors (23 out of 24).
- The highest research rating in the university - four out of five in research assessment exercise.
- The only humanities department in Gloucestershire to come in The Times 2003 list of top 20 departments in its field.

To close such a department just because it does not recruit as many students as, say, English or media, seems to us misguided if the university wishes to merit its title.

*Nigel Scotland,  
Gordon Wenham,  
University of Gloucestershire.*

# WIN A FAMILY PASS TO THE SANDFORD PARKS LIDO

The Echo has teamed up with the Sandford Parks Lido and 15 selected retailers to offer this great promotion - we have 30 family passes to the Lido to be won - that's two family passes for every shop!

All you have to do is buy your Echo from one of the retailers listed on this page and you will be given a token. Just collect 3 tokens between Wednesday 6th and Friday 9th August, fill in the coupon on this page, answer the simple question, and return it with your tokens to one of the participating retailers.

The first two correct entries drawn from each retail outlet will win a fabulous family pass to the Lido. The Lido is open 11.00am to 7.30pm every day from now until 5th October. For further information, please call them on 01242 524430.

**Participating retailers:** One Stop Shop, 62 Alma Road, Hatherley, Leckhampton Post Office, 149 Leckhampton Road; The Corner Shop, 234 Bath Road; The Forge Newsagents, 2 Church Street, Keynsham; 78 London Road; Burgess Stores, Linden Avenue, Presbury; Smith & Mann, 19-23 Presbury Road; Clevevount Stores, 24 Clevevount Road; Lynworth Stores, 3-4 Lynworth Exchange, Mendip Road; Hewlett Stores, Hewlett Road; Andrews News, 39 Glos Road; Springbank Stores, 124 Springbank Road; Aile Stores, 154 Aile Road; Tamnyson News, 66 Tamnyson Road, St Marks; The Corner Shop, 156 Swindon Road.



## ENTRY FORM

Once you have collected your three tokens, fill in this form and return it with your tokens to one of the participating retailers.

Question: In which park can you find the Lido? Answer: .....

Name: .....

Address: .....

Postcode: .....

Tel: .....

### Terms & Conditions

1. No purchase necessary - tokens can be obtained by applying in writing to The Echo office, only one token per person per day.
2. Tokens can only be collected from the participating retailers - one token per purchase.
3. Completed entry forms, with 3 tokens should be returned to one of the 15 participating retailers. Closing date 13/8/03.
4. The editors decision is final. There is no alternative prize.
5. Normal Echo competition rules apply.

GLoucestershire  
**ECHO**



MADAM - When the secret of Sharon Davies' wee secret, I was mildly amused that she owned up to urinating in the pool to put off opponents (Echo, July 25). However, as soon as I had time to take it on board, I was disgusted and horrified.

She not only admitted it, she boasted about it. "It's a great trick if you've got someone behind you who you particularly don't like," she said.

When my 10-year-old son asked me what I thought was so awful, I didn't want him to read about it. Most kids would think this a great idea to copy, especially if it's advocated by an Olympic swimmer and former Gladiator.

I just hope my fellow swimmers at Sandford Lido haven't decided to follow her example.  
*Maureen Quarry, Brockworth.*

## Brian Jones was an icon

MADAM - I write in reply to the letter which asked what did Brian Jones achieve (Letters, July 26)? He was one of the originators of rock music and founded one of the most famous bands in the world. He was a musician of note and introduced instruments such as the dulcimer to pop. He was also an icon for the Sixties. Not bad going really. It's a good idea to name a street after him.

*Ian Stewart, Cheltenham.*

## Thanks to all

MADAM - Please can I thank everyone who helped me when I fell in the Regent Arcade recently. I'm very grateful.  
*Andy Laurie, Cheltenham.*

GOVERNMENT: THE GOVERNMENT'S...  
The second is what is causing such shocking behaviour? The number of rapes began to increase gradually from the late Fifties and there has been a steep rise since the mid-Eighties. It can be no coincidence that the incidence of sexual crime in the UK has increased as the amount and degree of explicit sexual material in

these issues at our peril. We should be pressing the Government to answer these questions and do something to stem the tide of pornography and corruption which only benefits the multi-billion dollar porn industry.  
*Pippa Smith, Safeguard a Family Environment, Cheltenham.*

All my family had a wonderful evening and there was something for everyone's taste. Hopefully, the numerous charities involved will also have benefited from the evening and I hope next year's event will be equally entertaining.  
*Pamela Goodwin, Cheltenham.*



Picture: Jo Havell E2326968  
**FROZEN OUT:** Bambas Shaouna says he might have to close due to council red tape

## Let ice cream man stay

MADAM - What a sad state of affairs when the most important thing on Cheltenham Borough

Council's agenda seems to be enforcing rules which could mean the closure of ice cream man Bambas Shaouna's business at Pittville Park (Echo, July 26). He has been selling ice creams and lollies at Pittville Park for nine years. What harm is he doing? He's not

robbing anyone or obstructing the road. He's just earning an honest living rather than scrounging off the state. I say the ice cream man should stay and some of the jobsworths at the council should go.  
*Mrs P Cordon, Cheltenham.*



mitted drink driving. William Panton, 29, of King William Drive, Cheltenham, appeared before town magistrates.

The court heard he was stopped by police at 5am on Sunday June 29 for driving through a red light in Shur-dington Road, in Brockworth.

A breath test showed he had 65 micrograms of alcohol in 100 millilitres of breath. The legal limit is 35.

Leo Goadley, defending said: "He had been out the night before and had drunk about six pints. He hadn't appreciated how long it takes to eliminate alcohol from the body."

Panton was disqualified from driving for 18 months and fined £250 with £55 costs.

### Event marks

#### School progress

PUPILS and staff at Brockworth School had a celebration to mark its remarkable progress.

There was a day of special activities, including a murder mystery and an It's a Knockout contest at the end of the academic year.

The school - formerly on special measures - was celebrating after its January Ofsted inspection confirmed the progress it had made.

Lucy Cox, a year 10 pupil, said: "It was great to see the staff involved with everything and great that the school wanted to celebrate."

### Lorry taken

A LORRY with a sealed container was stolen from the Ashchurch Industrial Estate. Police said the lorry was taken from Alexandra Way between 5pm on Sunday and 5am Monday.



■ CHEERS: Mike Hancock and Felicity Terrett

forces branch of the national MS Society.

Attending the event with his wife Felicity, he said: "I'm delighted. It was a complete surprise."

Gloucester and Stroud branches, which included entertainment, a tombola, bric-a-brac as well as food and refreshments.

any easier by Plaskitt's removal of the offence which forced Mr Scriven to re-live his ordeal in court."

# Bambas ban is criticised

■ By JOHN WARREN

LES Godwin says the borough council's decision to ban an ice cream man from a Cheltenham park is heavy-handed.

Coun Godwin (PAB, Prestbury) says the licensing committee was wrong to stop Bambas Shaouna from selling in Pittville Park.

Mr Shaouna had his permit cancelled two weeks ago by the council licensing committee after nine years of trading in Pittville Park. He was banned because he broke the terms of his licence by selling in the Pittville area.

The 50-year-old, who lives in Tewkesbury Road, now plans to apply for a new £588-a-year licence.

Coun Godwin said: "Mr Shaouna was providing a service to the community and was, by all accounts, very popular with children."

"It seems to me that we are becoming a nation of killjoys. While the terms of any licence issued must be adhered to, there are often ways to mitigate the affect on others."

## Ice cream seller was so popular

"Mr Shaouna could have been warned and advised to apply for a variation which allowed him to operate outside the park.

"The council appears to crack a nut."

A spokeswoman for the council said if it relaxed licensing laws it would open the floodgates to other traders.

She said: "If Mr Shaouna re-applies for his licence, then his application will be considered by licensing committee."

"If the conditions of the licence to sell ice cream are relaxed to include the Pittville area, all ice cream vendors in the town would also be allowed to trade there."

Ice seller is not licked yet

I want a new licence, says banned man



■ FLASHBACK: August 7 2003



■ FURIOUS: Bambas Shaouna

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