

WS

**World news**  
Shakespeare  
is a co-writer  
All's Well?

PAGE 19



Comment

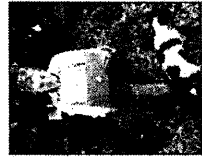
In Egypt, even  
the Islamists are  
playing nicely

PAGE 25

Features

The villagers  
digging for  
victory

PAGE 26



Business

Double dip  
dashes  
recovery hopes

B1

TV & Radio

Exotic servant  
who charmed an  
ageing queen

PAGE 34

# Mobiles may cause cancer, says study

**Stephen Adams  
of Correspondent**

...TERM use of mobile phones could  
cancer, government scientists have  
ted after a major health review.

...study, published today, is by a  
Protection Agency group set up to  
ne the safety of mobile phones,  
nitter masts and Wi-Fi.

...researchers found "no convincing  
evidence" that the technology caused any  
se health effects.

...ever, members of the Advisory  
on Non-ionising Radiation (Agnir)

said they could not be sure of the long-  
term effects of mobiles, because there  
was "little information beyond 15 years  
from first exposure".

A few individual studies have found  
evidence of a link between heavy mobile  
phone use and increased brain tumour  
incidence. Most studies have found no  
such association though.

However, brain tumours can take dec-  
ades to develop. Launching the report,  
which reviews hundreds of studies, Prof  
Anthony Swerdlow, the group chairman,  
said: "I think there's a need to keep a  
watch on national cancer trends in rela-

tion to this, particularly with brain  
tumours. So far brain tumour rates are  
not rising in the sorts of age groups who  
have had exposure for 10, 15 years.

"But if this is something that takes 15,  
20 years or more to show up... we need  
to keep watch over rates just in case."

The study found no evidence that Wi-Fi  
had harmful side-effects or could be  
detected by those who claimed to be sen-  
sitive to it.

Neither did it find any evidence that  
mobile phone mast transmitters caused  
health problems. However, the health  
agency is continuing to adopt a "precau-

tionary approach" to mobile phone use,  
in particular advising that children avoid  
their "excessive use".

Dr John Cooper, director of the agen-  
cy's Centre for Radiation, Chemical and  
Environmental Hazards, said: "There is  
still no convincing scientific evidence  
that radiofrequency fields exposures from  
mobile phones and other radio technolo-  
gies affect human health at exposure  
levels below internationally agreed  
guidelines.

"However, as this is a relatively new  
technology, the HPA will continue to  
advise a precautionary approach and

keep the science under close review.  
Excessive use of mobile phones by chil-  
dren should be discouraged and mobile  
phone specific energy absorption rates  
values should be clearly marked in the  
phone sales literature."

Dr Simon Mann, a member of Agnir,  
said: "We continue to discourage non-  
essential use by children."

John Cooke, the executive director of  
the Mobile Operators Association, said:  
"The public will be reassured by this  
conclusion that there is still no convinc-  
ing evidence that mobile phones cause  
adverse health effects."

## Protect wildlife before it's too late, says Duke

**London Raymer, Chief Reporter**

Duke of Cambridge has warned that  
wildlife will be "too late" to save Afri-  
lephants and big cats in a passion-  
ate speech in his role as patron of a con-  
servation charity.

Accompanied by the Duchess of  
Cambridge at the London premiere of  
the film *Cats*, a nature film, the Duke said

